

perfect plants

HISTORY OF THIS AREA

Parklands and Parklands Grange were once part of local cane lands. In 1870, Surveyor JC Thompson surveyed, laid out and named Bundaberg and by 1872 the population of the growing township and immediate district was about 200.

Timber supplies soon ran short and a new industry, maize (corn) production was established, until pests and disease devastated the industry in the late 1870s. Experimental sugarcane growing followed facilitating a number of new mills.

As productivity and technology increased, areas that were considered marginal or required for other purposes were allowed to return to native vegetation. This vegetation is sometimes called regrowth or emergent forest.

The amazing Grass Tree (*Xanthorrhoea johnsonii*) is a favourite of honey bees.

It was also used as bush tucker by aboriginals, running their hands along the flower to collect the pollen.

CANOPY STRUCTURE

Even though vegetation in this area is classified as re-growth, it has already started to form the layers you find in a mature forest.

As you look around, you will see different levels in the emergent forest structure. These include the trees (the highest of the plants), the shrubs (which are usually less than 2 metres in height) and the ground cover of grasses and smaller plants.

ALL OF THESE PLANTS PROVIDE VALUE TO THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT BY PROVIDING:

AESTHETICS We all feel better when we have green space around us. It contributes to our physical wellbeing, provides shade and even the oxygen that we breathe.

HABITAT The vegetation provides habitat and food for a rich variety of life from insects like butterflies to birds, lizards and kangaroos.

CONNECTIVITY Vegetation enables plants and animals to move along and between habitat areas allowing them to maintain their population even at times of climatic events like drought.

CARBON SEQUESTRATION Around half the weight of a tree is carbon with trees and other vegetation also leading to carbon being sequestered in the soil. Up to 7 tonnes of CO2 per hectare per year of emissions can be mitigated by not clearing non-remnant forest on freehold land.

RECREATION From bushwalking and bird watching to just connecting with nature, the bush provides invaluable opportunities for you and your family.

LOOK CLOSER AND YOU MAY SEE OTHER PLANTS LIVING ON THE TREES

These include vines like the gargaloo (*Parsonsia eucalyptophylla*) and in the canopy, parasitic mistletoe species like the box mistletoe (*Amyema miquelii*) and orange mistletoe (*Dendrophthoe glabrescens*). The fruit of the mistletoe is a rich food source for native birds, possums, gliders and even koalas.

PLANTS YOU MAY BE ABLE TO FIND:

Native grasses such as kangaroo grass and flowering plants like grass trees perennials like the blue-flax lily and daisy-leaved goodenia, shrubs like Dogwood and red silky oak, and trees like the swamp mahogany, Coast Canthium and Queensland peppermint.



Orange Mistletoe

Grevillea Banksia

