



KUPIDABIN NEWS MARCH - APRIL 2025

Dear Friends and Past and New Members of Kupidabin

February and March have been very eventful months for Kupidabin

28th February was a very exciting day with being chosen at the Top of the List for a Sponsored Painting Make Over for Kupidabin by Paul Wilko and his Team with the paint donated by Dulux. The Editorial written by the Editor of our Local Paper, The Village Pump, is included in my Newsletter this month.

March, we hosted "The White Rainbow Gathering" at Kupidabin with a Retreat with Te Rau Kura A Maori Priestess from the Temple of Kopu in NZ embarking on a Trail of Peace from New Zealand – First stop Kupidabin then on to Uluru and W.A.

Shanna, KCAI Secretary, will put together a record of the weekend with photos of the Retreat for our next newsletter. Visitors at Kupidabin were from the US, Melbourne, New Zealand, many areas of Qld, and Local.

Following are Diary Dates for your Calendar

2025 IS SHAPING UP TO BE A VERY BUSY YEAR WITH WORKSHOP BOOKINGS AND SOME MAJOR EVENTS BEING PLANNED.

Keep an eye on our website, www.kupidabin.org, for updates.

Regular Ceremonies:

Peace Fire Ceremony – a Native American Tradition 7pm on the 7th of every month

The fire is lit traditionally at 7pm in ALL OTHER COUNTRIES – STARTING IN New Zealand and travelling around the world to end up in Hawaii

22 hours later. Still held if the weather is bad in our Cultural Centre with Candles

If the weather is too bad to drive, please join us by lighting a candle in your home.

Full Moon Drumming Circle held on the Sunday Evening closest to the Full Moon. 6pm- 8pm

DATES AND MORE INFO ON OUR WEBSITE www.kupidabin.org

Sherrie and Chris from LYELL Hoops Qld hold Medicine Drum workshops regularly every 2 months. Dates and more info are on our website.

Sunday 4th May is the Day the Children are eagerly waiting for again- Kupidabin Annual Fairy Festival – Fun and Games in the Beautiful Fairy Garden "Boomajarell"

Lovely to see all the little Fairies and Elves AND THE Parents celebrating this Ancient Celtic Tradition which commenced in 2005 at the Lyell Deer Farm

Sadly Woody the Mischievous Wood Elf is no longer with us but is still keeping an eye on things in Spirit. He has a very good apprentice looking after his Gold!!

Saturday 31st May the Samford Arts Trail commences until the 22nd of June which Kupidabin are involved with as Members of their Community Organization

Kupidabin Cultural Centre will be open every weekend for visitors invited to come and visit and view our Indigenous Art Gallery There will also be Craft and Food Stalls

In the middle of all this Friday 20th June is the Celebration by the Maori Community for The Maori New Year "Matariki" will be held Friday evening until 10 am Saturday 21st June when Kupidabin Art Gallery will be open. There will also be beautiful Indigenous and Modern Art for Sale.

Then we come to Kupidabin 9th Bi-Annual Gathering of the Four Winds (School Holidays in QLD) 19th /20th/ 21st September.

We are working on the program now, which will be an Event to remember.

More information about Presenters / Program and the Registration Forms etc with costs etc will be on our website at <https://kupidabin.org/gathering-of-the-four-winds-2025>. Book early to save your space.

We have a lot of interstate interest.

Sunday 21st of September, is The International Day of Peace which we at Kupidabin recognize every year.

This year, it will not be open to the Public due to the Four Winds Gathering Ceremonies.

However there will be Special Exceptions for Tickets and Invitations on request.

If you have any inquiries, please call or text me On 0402 092 741

Maureen Pickstone

Trustee Kupidabin Wilderness Charitable Trust

7 Lyell Court

Mt Samson Qld 4520.

Article by MaryAnne Morgan in The Village Pump 14 March 2025. Copied with permission

WILKO PAINTS IT FORWARD

For over a decade, Wilko Painting has been committed to giving back to the local community through its annual initiative, Paint It Forward. This year, the team set their brushes on the Kupidabin/Whole Self Independent Life Learning Centre in Mt. Samson, with a mission to refresh and complete the final touches of the Kupidabin Cultural Centre built by Des and Maureen Pickstone.

Launched in 2014 by Wilko Painting founder Paul Wilkinson, the Paint It Forward project has become a beloved tradition in the community. Every year, the painting company offers their services free of charge to a worthy local cause, inviting suggestions from the local community on which



organisations or spaces might benefit from a fresh coat of paint. This year, they received more than 10 heartfelt recommendations, primarily from Samford and the surrounding areas. After careful consideration, Kupidabin Wilderness stood out due to its powerful history and mission.

Kupidabin Wilderness is a place of deep personal significance. Des, who built the centre by hand, passed away before he could finish the final touches.

Whole Self Independent Life Learning was founded by Annie Lane and works in collaboration with families to provide a therapy-based program that enables young people with an ASD and/or ADHD diagnosis, to not only successfully transition from adolescence to adulthood, but find their passion in life. Whole Self is based at Kupidabin.



“It’s an honour to help complete the vision Des and Maureen worked so hard to bring to life,” Paul explained. “We’ve heard so many touching stories about their dedication to the centre, and we’re grateful to be part of its ongoing legacy.”

For Paul and business partner Andrew Wilson, the project goes beyond just restoring a physical building because of the therapy-based learning Annie Lane and her team have created, providing teens with confidence, creating a sense of self worth, teaching self-regulation, social and life skills.

The Wilko team worked alongside the teenagers from the program, allowing them to contribute to the final touches. This meaningful experience gave them a sense of pride and accomplishment.

“We’re particularly proud of their involvement, as two of our employees have autism,” said Paul.

Wilko Painting has grown significantly since its inception in 2013, with over 30 painters - from a 17-year-old apprentice to a 70-year-old tradesman with no plans to retire. With this latest Paint It

Forward project, Wilko has once again proven its commitment to making a tangible, positive impact on the community. By supporting Kupidabin/Whole Self Life Learning, they have helped to nurture a space for personal growth, healing and empowerment for teens who need it most.

Paul and Andrew would like to express their gratitude to the following people who helped make this possible.

Gen Frunz from Dare You Design, a local painting business, who kindly volunteered her time to paint for the day. Margarita Pelaez from The Latin Shack for providing a delicious lunch and coffee free of charge for the 20 people involved. Annie Lane from Whole Self and all the dedicated support workers for encouraging the kids to participate and making it such a meaningful experience. And lastly, Dulux, for generously supplying the paint free of charge and sending representatives to assist with the painting. What a great outcome!

MaryAnne Morgan

Editor

The Village Pump

