

Cockpit Creek Community Tree Planting



Sunday 26th June saw the completion of the second of 4 planned tree plantings along the banks of Cockpit Creek. Our trees from last year have had to contend with unprecedented floods, cyclones, and a harsh battering from debris over the last 12 months so it's little wonder that we lost a considerable portion of them. It was a good lesson in what trees are capable of withstanding and we

hope to have made wiser decisions this time around. We took the time to replace most of the trees that we lost, as well as continued revegetating further upstream. It was a stunning morning and everyone enjoyed taking their time digging holes, planting trees and carting mulch.

A few standout species worth noting for their resilience were the Melky Tree (*Excoecaria agallocha*), Punga (*Cyathea brownii*) and Abutilon (*Abutilon julianae*). Melky Tree is a native species in the mangrove family so it's no surprise that it's thriving in the swampy conditions. We made sure to include these awesome species in this new planting, as well as equip the more sensitive plants with some windbreaks and extra fertilizer to give them a head start.



With approximately 25 volunteers we planted out 180 trees at a very leisurely pace and then enjoyed a cuppa, some coconut bread and fresh oranges afterward.

Thank you to all the regulars that make these plantings possible: Mark Scott, David Bigg, Booda and his team, Jolene Oliver for the photos, and last but definitely not least, our volunteers!

I look forward to seeing you all at the next planting!

Lilli-Unna King
Environmental Project Officer
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