

Kedron Brook Catchment Network Community and Environment Project, 2003

This report was compiled by the Kedron Brook Catchment Network's Community and Environment Project Coordinator, Hayley Cambourn, with assistance from Kedron Brook Catchment Network Members. Photographs have been kindly supplied by Network members. The project was made possible through the Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund.



“The Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund provided \$23,138 to the Kedron Brook Catchment Branch of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland for the project facilitation of the 12 month Community & Environment Project. The Gambling Community Benefit Fund, improves the lives of Queenslanders through investing in Queensland's communities.”

Executive Summary

The Kedron Brook Catchment Branch of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland Inc. (KBCN) undertook the Community and Environment Project (C&E Project) following receipt of a grant from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund.



The aims of the project included increasing community involvement in environmental activities along Kedron Brook, particularly people usually not involved in community activities and those with special social needs; fostering an understanding of issues affecting the Brook; and improving networks between people and organisations interested in the management of Kedron Brook. The project was conducted during 2003.

Implementation of the project involved engaging (on a part time basis) an environmental professional to facilitate and coordinate the following activities in conjunction with volunteer members of KBCN; Hayley Cambourn was appointed as Project Coordinator.

Activities undertaken included:

- Fish surveys occurred at five sites in March and September, these were aimed at a wide range of audiences including existing Bushcare and network members, local community members, schools and other catchment groups.
- Waterwatch participants were recruited from training workshops and this activity attracted existing network members, fish snapshot participants and interested community members.
- Investigation of further projects included exploring opportunities for involving senior and other community members in the propagation, potting and growth of native plants in bush houses in the catchment.
- Links to existing programs in neighbouring catchments were made. Riverclean event at



- Grinstead Park, Alderley was co hosted by KBCN and attracted over 100 participants.
- Catchment Bus Tour for over 30 Bushcare and community members was held in October.
 - School activities – talks and field activities were provided at a number of schools and targeted over 300 students.
 - Community education, linkages and networks – through displays, demonstrations and involvement in a range of community events, the broader community were actively engaged in issues facing Kedron Brook.

The project coordinator was located with the Stafford Hub Community Centre, which facilitated direct interaction with broader cross sections of the community – not just those involved in ‘environment’ activities.

Outcomes from the project

The outcomes of the C&E Project have included an increase in membership and diversity of people participating in catchment activities, improved linkages with non-environment based social organisations in the catchment, increased understanding of communication mechanisms and opportunities for their use, improved understanding and skills in the management of volunteers and the creation and enhancement of connections between the KBCN and a number of schools in the catchment. The profile of the KBCN, particularly amongst other community organisations, has been enhanced.

Of the programs trialed through the C&E project, the Fish Snapshot was the most effective at attracting new participants and proved a useful educational tool. Opportunities (and difficulties) with initiating programs aimed at achieving social as well as environmental outcomes have been identified.

Future directions

The project has provided an impetus for on-going community involvement in Fish Snapshot, Waterwatch, educational and promotional activities in the catchment. Opportunities have been identified for improving promotional material and generating educational opportunities both through ad-hoc involvement with schools and curriculum activities. Opportunities for the Kedron Brook Catchment Network in implementing programs to achieve more socially oriented goals have been identified.



Main Report

The total report is 44 pages long and includes graphics. The pdf file of the report takes up 1.7 MB memory but may be sent by email to interested people who are used to this size of attachment. Please send any such request to the News Coordinator at news@kedronbrook.org.au .

People who do not have a suitable email facility but would like to view a full copy should contact our secretary at enquiries@kedronbrook.org.au or by post to The Secretary, Kedron Brook Catchment Branch-WPSQ, PO Box 1385, STAFFORD QLD 4053.