

A combination of methods will be necessary for the bigger jobs, such as tackling failing stream banks, restoring connectivity, protecting threatened species, monitoring changes, developing value-added products, arranging for projects to happen, finding funds ... a joint effort, requiring organisation, experience, supervision, education, sharing and more.

The offered comment that “we don’t seem to be a community any more” is disturbing, but often true when applied to resource management issues. There is a mounting challenge and it is unlikely that “they” are going to fix it. Your help is needed. Find a group to join and make a difference, together.

Coming Events at CREEC

5 October -	Frog workshop	7.30 pm
6 October -	Volunteers’ morning	9.00am
20 October -	Permaculture Caboolture AGM	3.30 pm
27 October -	Fire & Biodiversity workshop	8.30am

For more information, contact Wayne at CREEC on 3888 8751

National Water Week 21 - 27 October

8 Months to go...

Caboolture Sustainable Living Fair - Saturday 7 June 2008 - for more information contact **Wayne** at CREEC
Phone - 3888 8751

This newsletter is produced and distributed by volunteers. We believe in its value in communicating information to members of our community who are interested in the environment and the work of CREEC. Contributions welcome

We thank the Caboolture Shire Council for their assistance.

Please recycle this newsletter by passing it to friends or neighbours.



Caboolture Region
Environmental
Education Centre

**This Newsletter is
on the web at
www.creec.org.au**

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**Managing Fire &
Native Vegetation**
on your property.
27 October
8.30 am
At CREEC

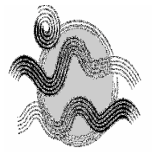
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caboolture shire

Winner of Excellence in Business
Award 2005

October 2007

The Need for Community Action

I attended a country meeting recently where results of a survey of a number of natural attributes, good and bad, of several creek catchments, were presented. These were discussed in some detail.

Those present were invited to list their main concerns, such as feral animals, weeds, water quality, siltation, flooding, erosion, litter, subdivision, over-clearing, riparian buffer widths, urban encroachment, loss of biodiversity, etc, which might need to be addressed, with an emphasis on water resources management.

One may well ask why all these issues have been allowed to become so bothersome. Haven’t we cared enough in the past, or are these very recent concerns, just now rearing their ugly heads? Are they the result of population growth, or the partial demise of productive agricultural land use, or cost-price squeezes, or because higher standards are being applied to the nurture of the natural environment?

If we are prepared to acknowledge that there are problems to be confronted, that business as usual will make things worse, what’s to be done? There is always scope for each property owner to make changes – some are doing magnificent work already, with Land for Wildlife, targeting weeds, controlling ferals, planting trees ...

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Healthy Waterways Strategy

JP

If you were given the job of ensuring that, in the long term, our waterways and catchments were healthy ecosystems, what would you do? Where would you start?

It is fairly obvious that there would need to be a partnership between state and local governments, industry and research organisations, community groups and individuals. It would be most preferable for everyone to agree about goals, priorities, timelines, financial arrangements and responsibilities. You might even have a wish list of 600 individual actions, as did the Healthy Waterways strategists by the end of the planning process.

The planners grouped these 600 actions into twelve plans – five issue-based, four area-based and three enabling plans. The **issues** of concern relate to:

- Point source pollution - effluents and wastes from industrial operations, wastewater treatment plants, intensive animal industries, mine sites - from nutrients entering the waterways and Moreton Bay, has to be reduced significantly
- Non-urban diffuse source pollution - sediment and nutrients from erosion of farmland and stream banks, and stormwater runoff from rural residential properties, must be minimized
- Urban diffuse loads of sediment and nutrients from poorly designed developments, require the adoption of new technologies to minimise their negative impacts on the natural water cycle and protect the health of aquatic ecosystems
- The loss of natural habitats from over 75% of South-east Queensland requires protection of the remnants of riparian vegetation and bushland, wetlands and estuaries against further loss and degradation
- Coastal algal blooms in the Bay impact on human health, the fishing and tourism industries as well as the marine environment. The blooms are associated with high levels of nutrients from both point discharges and diffuse sources; their frequency and extent must be reduced.

lantern on a night patrol. The burning of coal and use of oil to produce electricity and transport systems have contributed to the emission of more carbon dioxide than the land and oceans can handle.

The price of crude oil is soon expected to reach \$100 US per barrel, with world demand of 85 million barrels per day. That means we'll spend over 3 trillion dollars on it next year. If the climate of 100 million years ago, when oil was formed, was like it is now, there wouldn't be any oil.

Black and White Dive Bombers

BR

It is that time of year again, when people paint 'eyes' on their hats and bike helmets or walk around with raised umbrellas. It is Magpie breeding season and the black and white dive bombers are back in business. In fact only about 10 percent of Australian Magpies are aggressive towards humans during the nesting season but that is of little comfort if you have to walk past the nest of a "bomber" in spring or early summer. The only helpful advice I can give is find another route or carry an umbrella!



Magpies are found Australia wide, with the black-backed form found across the northern parts, the white-backed form in Victoria and South Australia and the western magpie in southern Western Australia. Some authorities identify a Tasmanian magpie (similar to the white-backed). Morecombe in his field guide suggests there are as many as seven different races! - as if we didn't have enough trouble identifying three.

Of course it will soon be time for that other "kamikaze", the Masked Lapwing, to start its breeding season. Last summer we had a pair raise their chicks on our front lawn and "dad" would wait on the front drive ready to fly at us the moment we opened the front door. At least, unlike magpies, lapwings are 95 percent bluff and hardly ever make contact. Whoever said that our local wildlife is uninteresting ?

plants and animals are named according to genus and species e.g. *Homo sapiens* (humans), *Felis domesticus* (house cat), *Solanum tuberosum* (potato), which are their names accepted world-wide. His final edition of names grew to 1300 pages by 1758.

His mother was Christina Broderonia, which sounds remarkably like a plant name. His intended wife was Sara Lisa Moraea, another botanical name. He ran out of latinised descriptions for plants (he was in trouble for the sexual connotations of some of his names) and later often honoured the finder, as now often practised. It was regarded as a significant compliment for a gentleman or professional botanist to have a genus or species named after him by the Swedish professor of Botany at Uppsala.

Interestingly, this great man was born Carl Ingemarsson, was known as Carolus Linné, Carl Linnaeus, Carolus Linnaeus, Caroli Linnaei and, when made a noble in 1761, Carl von Linné. It is written that “he was married to a domineering woman and did not have a tranquil domestic life”, so he was almost certainly called by other names. We still recognise his contribution by the L in brackets after the names of plants and animals he first classified and described.

Climate Change Snippets

JP

The latest forecast from the UK Met. Office: After 2009, the temperatures will be even higher than the 1998 high. Expect a 0.3°C rise between 2010 and 2020, as the Southern Ocean and East Pacific Ocean warm up a bit more.

Prof. Tim Flannery, 2007 Australian of the Year : Within 10 years, there’s a 20% chance of triggering a serious stress to the earth’s systems. Those who have ratified the Kyoto Protocol will sign a Copenhagen Treaty, which will set targets and agree a tax rate for carbon. All nations will accept that there needs to be a threshold for carbon emissions.

Thomas Edison patented the carbon filament light globe in 1879. In commercial production in 1885, electric lights meant the end of kerosene fuel for lighting, although scouts are still arguing about who carries the

Action plans target four specific areas such as Moreton Bay (shipping, boating, dredging, sand and gravel extraction), Sunshine Coast (population growth impacts on catchment waterways), Logan-Albert (population growth, soil erosion, salinity, carp, turf farming, poultry and horses) and the Bremer river (stormwater runoff, wastewater discharges and rural diffuse sources of pollution).

As these plans are put into action, their effectiveness will need to be assessed, refined, communicated and rewarded. The three action plans for this section of the strategy include:

- The Ecosystem Health Monitoring Program, in which are measured the condition and trends of the physical, chemical and biological indicators, which assess waterways health
- A Management Strategy Evaluation Action Plan, in which the various options for multiple-use management of natural resources are assessed, using complex models of pollutant loads and various scenarios
- A Communications, Education and Motivation action plan aimed at informing us of the need to protect, conserve and maintain the health of our waterways, in the face of increasing population and development pressures

For more information, check www.healthywaterways.org or order a copy of the CD-Rom on (07) 3403 4206 or email info@healthywaterways.org.

24 October is the date for release of this year’s Report Card for the whole of South-east Queensland. This will cover freshwater, estuarine and marine sites and provide indications of whether we are managing better or not.

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- ◆ Never, under any circumstances, take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night
 - ◆ Don’t worry what people think, they don’t do it very often
 - ◆ Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity
 - ◆ If you must choose between two evils, pick the one you’ve never tried before
 - ◆ If you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip

Learning about Bushfires

JP

The disastrous bushfires which occurred in the alpine forests of North-east Victoria in 2003 and again last summer have highlighted the need to know more about fires and fuel management.

There is a mobile laboratory taking continuous measurement of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide, the greenhouse gases implicated in global warming. There are research projects into high country ecosystems, use of prescribed fire to manage fuel loads, grazing, management for water yield, preventing excessive additions of carbon to the atmosphere, use of fire-bombing, sufficiency of fire tracks and protection of private property.

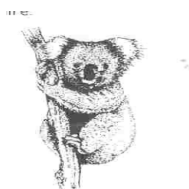
How well are you protected from the ravages of fire? Do you rely on the fire brigade and other emergency services to protect your property? Is your house and gardens a hazard or a barrier? Are you prepared for the unlikely event?

Bushfires are a community problem and their prevention is a shared responsibility. Watch out for opportunities to become better informed. Stunning scenery and wildlife habitats also need your protection from fire.

CSC and SEQ Fire and Biodiversity Consortium are conducting a fire planning workshop on 27 October to help individual property owners plan and manage fire risk and native vegetation. Contact 5420 0294 or email faunawatch@caboolture.qld.gov.au to register your interest in attending.

Do you recognize any of these?

Banjora, borbee, burrendong, carbora, colac, coolabun, coola, bullah, nargoom, nurrumpi, wirngill or yarri? How about colah, kool-ah, or koala? Just a few of more than 20 indigenous names for *Phascolarctos cinereus*.



Caboolture Shire Council in conjunction with Pine Rivers and Redcliffe, is conducting a survey of koala habitats, in addition to the annual community survey of koalas seen by residents in their backyards and nearby parkland. The new survey will help Council improve its planning tools necessary for the protection of our local koala population.

What's its Name?

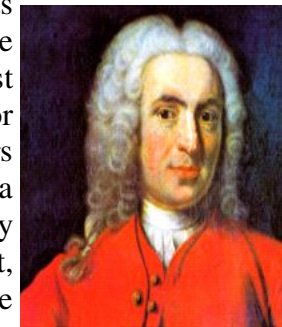
JP

Keith and Rhonda Brett recently presented to the CREEC Library a copy of "The Weed Communities of Europe", an A3-size set of 21 colour photographs produced by Ciba-Geigy, the Swiss-based chemical company.

The 1971 photos were taken of weeds actually growing between the rows of vegetables, wheat and maize, in stages from early seedling emergence through to flowering. 116 different species are depicted, many of them common garden weeds occurring here. They were the targets of the revolutionary chemical weed control research of the post-war period (from 24-D onwards), which has greatly increased the yields of crops through reducing the competition afforded by weeds for space, water and nutrients.

The accompanying text is in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, German and Russian. The weed lists give both their botanical names and common names – with just those seven languages, some plants have more than 20 names. Confusing?

While there is still confusion in the naming of plants (a regular complaint from botanists and lay people alike), much acclaim is due to a Swedish botanist who was born 23 May, 300 years ago. He was a poor student of Latin at the age of 10, one of his teachers suggesting that he might best be apprenticed to a cobbler. Eventually he went to University to study medicine. Here he was befriended by the botanist, Olaf Celsius (uncle of the inventor of the centigrade thermometer), who encouraged him to study the world of nature instead.



In 1732 he made an expedition to Lapland (not the New York version recently in the press), where, over a 6600 km journey lasting for five months, he collected plants and described in detail the animals, birds, insects and minerals that he found there. Three years later, he published his first edition, just 15 pages, of his system of classification of living things into class, order, genus, species and variety.

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Associated with this system was the binomial nomenclature, whereby all