



## President's Report for 2003-2004

26 August 2004

***This year was my first as President but many of the issues are ongoing and have been around for some years.***

### **Fremont Street residential development**

- The residential proposal for 60 to 90 houses in a conservation and future urban zone according to the previous Brisbane Town Plan was disallowed in the Planning and Environment Court in early 2001 after a successful appeal by Save Our Riverfront Bushland strongly supported by CRAC.
- BCC had changed the zoning to Emerging Communities in its City Plan (2000), Wingate Properties, the original developer, sold the site which is now being developed into 61 lots and is not subject to community consultation. However CRAC has been informed, to some degree, of development approval process.
- Some accommodation of the P&E court case and community requests include:
  - no structures are allowed to be visible from the river
  - the informal walking track along the ridgeline will be formalised into a public walking track
  - a 10m vegetated buffer strip along Fremont St
  - landscape planting to be of local native plant species.

### **Illegal tree clearing along the river**

- Problems with the new Natural Assets Local Law being followed up.
- One contractor and one resident fined.

### **Weed legislation**

- State govt has enacted legislation to help manage environmental weeds.

### **Wallaby deaths**

- Ongoing problem of wildlife being displaced by development and being killed on the roads or dying of starvation.
- Negotiations with council and Julie Attwood continuing.
- Developers should be accommodating wildlife and BCC should be addressing the problem at development application stage.

### **Hospital site**

- lack of bird boxes and problems with development conditions
- developer's construction machinery damaging park
- neglect of park.

### **Feral Deer**

- Ongoing problem that needs much more attention to stop damage to bushland.

### **Web Site**

- In operation and being developed by Brian Korner.

### **Email**

- BCC account difficult to access – seeking alternative.

## **Some new issues**

### **Passionist Fathers' proposed development**

- CRAC is supporting Cr Farmer's drive to have this land purchased by the Bushland Levy as a refuge for wildlife displaced by local development and to protect a significant remnant dry rain forest.

### **New path from Tennant St to Callabonna St**

- Being investigated by CRAC and BCC.

### **Tree clearing in Tennant St**

- BCC is revegetating the area between the park and the river after a misunderstanding about clearing it for lawn.

### **Fauna underpass on Westlake Drive.**

- CRAC had a student interested in doing research on the fauna around Mt Ommaney Ck – since withdrawn.
- BCC has cut funding to fauna crossings but CRAC will continue to follow up this issue.

### **New Bushcare Groups**

- CRAC contacting the two new bushcare groups.

### **Goggs Rd Rainforest Remnant**

- CRAC arranged a planting session of 150 new trees.

### **CCC Festival**

- CRAC participated in festival and is scheduled to do so again.

### **Wolston Creek Parkland**

- This area is now BCC owned and being developed gradually as a bushland park.

### **CRAC's position as a community group.**

- To be discussed.

## **Meetings**

### **General Meetings and AGM**

- We have had an average of 20 people at our general meetings which I'm told is a good turnout for a community group.
- **Speakers**
  - Mike Olsen on Urban Biodiversity
  - Michael Yeates on public transport alternatives.

### **Management Committee Meetings**

- These were trialed on a two-monthly basis but:
  - we couldn't work out a way to combine a management meeting with a general meeting - before or after the general meeting had too many disadvantages
  - due to all the issues that accumulated in the extra time the meetings were rather rushed and long.

### **Sincere thanks to:**

- all CRAC members for their support
- the Management Committee for their commitment
- Julie Attwood MLA and Cr Felicity Farmer who represent us in their respective areas of government
- Noel Wilson in particular for all his organising and administration.

*Shealagh Savage, President*