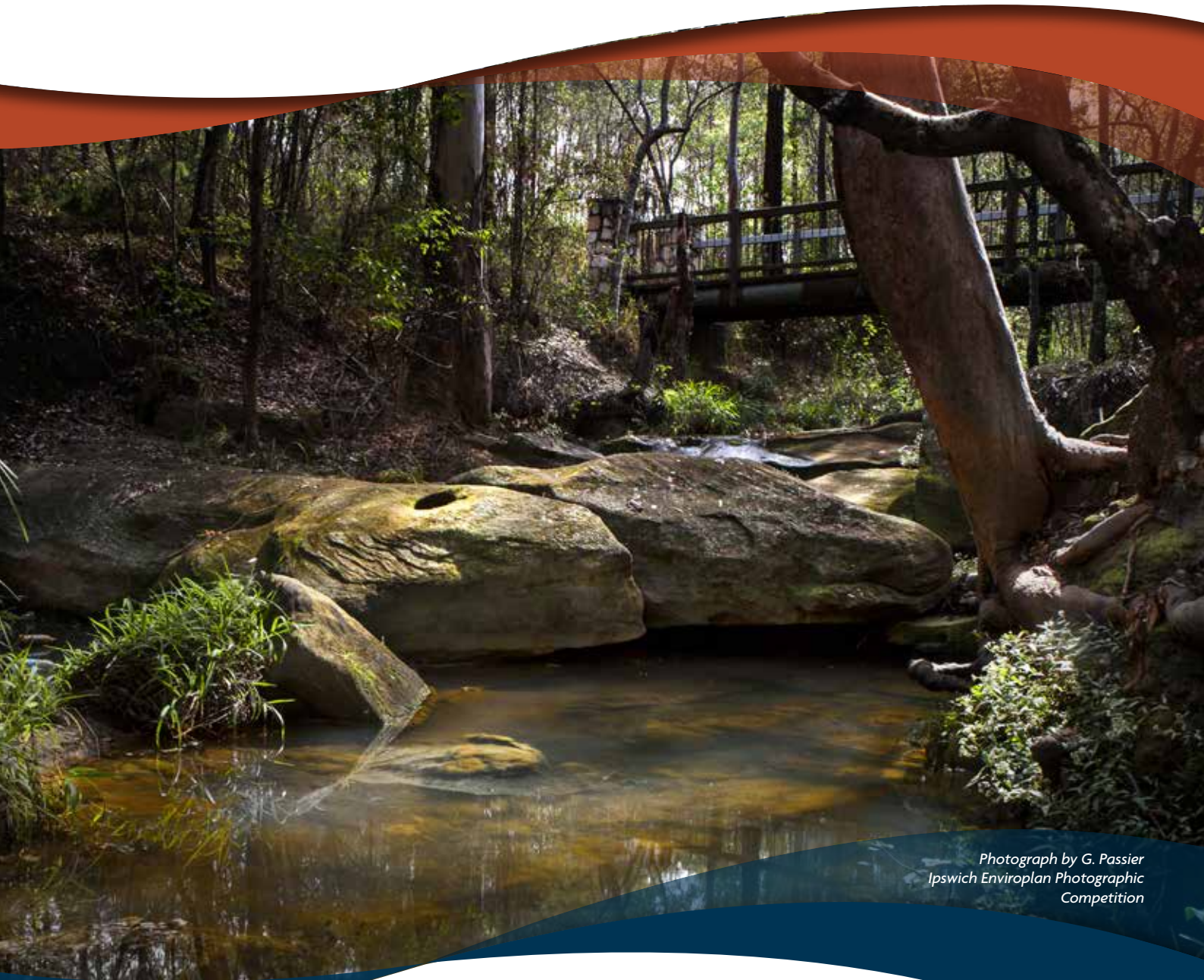


IPSWICH ENVIROFORUM 2015 PROGRAM



*Photograph by G. Passier
Ipswich Enviroplan Photographic
Competition*

Sharing water wisdom for
a sustainable future

Friday, 1 May 2015 | 8.00 am – 5.30 pm
Brookwater Golf and Country Club

www.ipswich.qld.gov.au



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WELCOME

Message from Mayor and Committee Chairperson

Ipswich City Council is proud of its record of achievements in caring for the environment while at the same time striking a delicate balance between preserving and nurturing our waterways and sustainable development.

In 2015 we welcome delegates to the second Ipswich EnviroForum, following the success of our inaugural event last year.

Whether you will be travelling from outside of the Ipswich local government area or a resident of Ipswich, your participation will contribute to this year's theme of Sharing Water Wisdom for a Sustainable Future.

Ipswich is built around its waterways with the Bremer River having played an important role in the city's history as a source of drinking water and a navigation route between Ipswich and Brisbane as well as its traditional importance to the Yagara People.

The purpose of this year's EnviroForum is about coming together and sharing our collective water wisdom for a sustainable future.

It is about collaborations and partnerships, sharing ideas and exploring new territory.

We hope the EnviroForum will leave people feeling empowered to work together to create positive outcomes for our waterways and the broader natural environment.

While delegates are visiting Ipswich we hope you will take time to enjoy some of our outdoor attractions including River Heart Parklands, Queens Park, Ipswich Nature Centre, Nerima Gardens and Robelle Domain in Springfield Central.



Mayor Paul Pisasale
City of Ipswich



Cr Heather Morrow
Chairperson Environment and
Conservation Committee

TRADITIONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY FOR IPSWICH

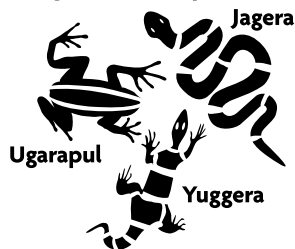
Ipswich City Council would like to respectfully acknowledge that this meeting will occur on the traditional lands of the Yagara People, consisting of the Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul and also pay respect to the Elders both past and present.

The Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul People are the Traditional Owners of the land and waters which have been occupied and cared for by their ancestors for countless generations. The Traditional Owners today maintain an interest in the waterways located within the Ipswich Region; these interests are best described as 'Caring for Country' and 'Maintaining their Connection to Country'.

While Cultural Heritage is usually identifiable as artefact scatters, resource sites and quarry sites (to name a few); other culturally significant places such as, dreaming tracks, pathways, massacre sites or creation places are not as readily identifiable without Traditional Owner assistance. The latter described Aboriginal Cultural Heritage is predominately at or in close vicinity to the water ways.

Schedule 11 of the Indigenous Land Use Agreement outlines the procedure for engaging the Traditional Owners when completing management plans; including management plans of waterways for the purpose of protecting the above mentioned Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.

*Home of the
Yagara People*



CONFERENCE SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

Sponsors



Supporters of the Ipswich Enviroforum 2015



ABOUT THE IPSWICH ENVIROFORUM

The inaugural Ipswich EnviroForum was held at the Ipswich Metro International Hotel in May 2014, and focussed on the topic of biodiversity in the region. Over 100 delegates participated from local government, consultancies, community groups and interested community members. The EnviroForum was a very successful event with a high level of delegate satisfaction.

The Ipswich EnviroForum is an initiative of Ipswich City Council's Enviroplan levy and supported by conference sponsors. The Ipswich Enviroplan is funded by the ratepayers of Ipswich and aims to promote important environmental issues and provide innovative and effective programs for the safe-keeping and management of the City's natural resources.

ABOUT THE THEME

Sharing Water Wisdom for a Sustainable Future

The theme of the EnviroForum relates to "water wisdom" and will take delegates on a journey through multiple aspects of sustainable water management, from rehabilitation of riparian areas to the services provided to the community from local water bodies who provide recreational activities, water supply and treatment, hazard reduction and more. The forum has a particular focus on the importance of collaborations and relationships.

The aim of the event is for all delegates to feel empowered to create real positive outcomes.



INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT IN IPSWICH

The EnviroForum presentations are structured around four themes, which are consistent with Council's strategic direction for integrated water management.

Community resilience and liveability:

The community is prepared for and resilient to the impact of severe climatic events such as droughts, floods and the impacts of climate change. The water cycle and the natural resources it supports are valued for their contribution to the community's health, amenity, recreation and long-term liveability of Ipswich as it grows.

Economic development and efficient resource use:

Efficient and effective water management supports a thriving economy and well-managed growth and development, while negative impacts of land use change on the water cycle are minimised or avoided. New developments have access to cost effective integrated urban water services, utilising financially sustainable water sensitive urban design practices.

Water resources are used efficiently to ensure costs to the community are minimised and opportunities for more efficient uses are optimised.

The whole of life cycle costs of decisions associated with water management and activities impacting the water cycle are understood, forecasted, and budgeted for. Costs are shared equitably by those who gain benefits from activities.

Communication and collaboration:

Ipswich's place within a broader water cycle is understood. The community have an increased awareness, understanding and engagement in water management and decision-making.

Council, the community, water providers, industry, government, environmental groups and other water cycle stakeholders have an improved understanding of each other's roles and responsibilities. Opportunities for communication, collaboration and partnerships across the water cycle are encouraged and supported.

Protection and enhancement of the natural environment:

Ipswich's waterways, catchments and riparian areas and the life they support are protected and enhanced, leading to improved environmental and waterway health outcomes, improved water quality, increased biodiversity values, and increased ecological services.

Development in Ipswich occurs in an ecologically sustainable way with regard to water. The multiple values of Ipswich's waterways are maximised – recognising their multiple functions for amenity, recreation, wetlands, economic values, cooling effects on cities, floodplain and ecological purposes.

CONNECT/COMMUNICATE

The goals of the Ipswich EnviroForum are to:

1. Increase awareness of current and emerging natural resource management projects and trends.
2. Bring like-minded individuals/groups together to exchange information, innovative ideas and experiences relating to sustainable management of the City's natural resources.
3. Strengthen the environmental network within Ipswich and provide opportunities for the local community to better understand natural resource planning in Ipswich.

These three goals are based on open communication and networking during and following the EnviroForum.

We hope to provide delegates with ample opportunities to meet new people over the course of the day as well as the associated field trip. We strongly encourage delegates to introduce themselves to other delegates and share in each other's experiences.

PANEL DISCUSSION

A panel discussion will be facilitated at the end of the day, allowing for delegates to pose questions and engage in discussions with representatives from the day's presentations.

LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUP REPRESENTATION

Relevant local community groups will be invited to participate in a poster exhibition, showcasing their goals, activities and achievements. Delegates will be encouraged to view this exhibition during breaks and talk to group representatives.

NETWORK DRINKS

After the forum, delegates are invited to stay for the formal launch of Ipswich City Council's Integrated Water Strategy and network drinks. Network drinks provide a great opportunity to meet new like-minded individuals, as well as catching up with old friends, to discuss the outcomes of the event.

FIELD TRIP

Thursday 30 April 2015

Seqwater's Wivenhoe Dam and Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plant

Seqwater ensures a safe, secure, resilient and reliable water supply for South East Queensland, as well as providing essential flood mitigation services and managing catchment health. They manage more than \$10 billion of water supply assets and the natural catchments of the region's major water supply sources.

Wivenhoe Dam and Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plant are critical infrastructure in Seqwater's bulk water supply network. Delegates are invited to participate in a field trip on Thursday 30 April 2015 to understand their role in the source, store and supply of water in South East Queensland.

The tour offers delegates the opportunity to meet engineering, catchment and water quality experts from Seqwater and take a first-hand look at their assets in operation – from catchment to tap.

Itinerary

8.30 am	Depart (Ipswich)
9.30 am	Arrive Wivenhoe Dam Visitor Information Centre 2470 Brisbane Valley Highway, Fernvale QLD 4306
9.30 am – 9.45 am	Introduction to Seqwater and our role in delivering water to South East Queensland
9.45 am – 10.15 am	Morning tea (catering provided)
10.15 am – 11.30 am	Tour of Wivenhoe Dam and auxiliary spillway
11.30 am - 12.00 pm	Tour of Lake Wivenhoe recreation area and overview of our catchments
12.00 pm – 12.30 pm	Lunch in Lake Wivenhoe Dam recreation area (catering provided)
12.30 – 1.00 pm	Transit to Mt Crosby Water Treatment Plant 328 Allawah Road, Chuwar QLD 4306
1.00 pm – 2.30 pm	Tour of Water Treatment Plant and laboratory
2.30 pm	Depart for (Ipswich)

The safety of staff, visitors and community is a priority at Seqwater.

All delegates are asked to bring:

- Hat
- Sunscreen
- Closed in shoes
- Long pants and long sleeved shirts
- Water bottle

Note that the cost to attend the field trip is incorporated into the total EnviroForum cost.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

FRIDAY 1 MAY 2015

TIME	EVENT
8.00 am	Registrations open
8.30 am	EnviroForum opens – <i>Cr Heather Morrow</i>
8.45 am	Setting the Scene – <i>Adrian Volders, MC</i>
9.00 am	Keynote Speaker – <i>Jim Soorley, former Lord Mayor of Brisbane</i>
9.30 am	Ipswich's Integrated Water Strategy <i>Emma O'Neill (Coordinator, Integrated Water Management, Ipswich City Council)</i>
STREAM 1: PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	
9.50 am	Waterway condition assessment – how this has been applied in the Ipswich local government area – <i>Dr Steve Skull (Regional Manager, Alluvium Queensland)</i>
10.10 am	Fish in Ipswich waterways <i>Phil Smith (Partnerships Officer, Waterway Health, Ipswich City Council)</i>
10.30 am	Benefits of riparian plantings for water infiltration and reduction of run off (Maleny case study) <i>Susanne Schmidt (Affiliated Professor, University of Queensland)</i>
10.50 am	MORNING TEA
STREAM 2: COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND LIVEABILITY	
11.20 am	Take me to the river – there are lots of things to do there <i>Andrew Davidson (Project Manager, SEQ Natural Resource Management Update, SEQ Catchments Ltd)</i>
11.40 am	Health benefits of water recreation <i>Kurt Martin (Places Project Officer, Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation)</i>
12.00 pm	Flood of Ideas <i>Dr Andrew O'Neill (Executive Manager, Water by Design, Healthy Waterways)</i>
12.20 pm	ICC Integrated Water Strategy Launch
12.30 pm	LUNCH
STREAM 3: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EFFICIENT RESOURCE USE	
1.20 pm	Brentwood Rise Wetlands and adjacent Woogaroo Creek <i>Christoph Pester (Landscape Architect, CUSP Landscape Architecture – Urban Design)</i>
1.40 pm	How well do we really understand urban stormwater issues? <i>Alan Hoban (Principal Environmental Engineer, Bligh Tanner)</i>
2.00 pm	South East Queensland Water Security <i>Jim Pruss (General Manager, Water Supply Strategy and Policy, Seqwater)</i>
STREAM 4: COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION	
2.20 pm	Sharing Catchment Knowledge and Connecting Communities <i>Hannah Collins (Oxley/Bremer Twinning Officer)</i> <i>Melanie Ryan (International Programs Manager, International Riverfoundation)</i>
2.40 pm	Knowledgeable and engaged catchment communities <i>Jana Marschall (Team Leader Community Relations, Seqwater)</i>
3.00 pm	Protecting our waterways <i>Stephani Grove (Program Officer Natural Environment, Ipswich City Council)</i> <i>Cheryl Kempton (Land owner, Waterways Conservation Agreement with Ipswich City Council)</i>
3.20 pm	Re-engaging Citizen Scientists through their phones <i>James Udy (Chief Scientist, Healthy Waterways)</i>
3.40 pm	AFTERNOON TEA
4.00 pm	<i>Urban Creek Recovery in a regional approach</i> <i>Matthew Fullerton (Principal Policy Officer, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection)</i>
4.20 pm	Panel Discussion
4.45 pm	Tying it all together...
5.00 pm	Forum closed
5.00 pm – 5.30 pm	Network drinks and nibbles

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Jim Soorley

Jim Soorley served as the Lord Mayor of Brisbane for 12 years from 1991 to 2003, being the second longest serving Lord Mayor in Brisbane. In his role as Lord Mayor, Jim was a huge advocate for the environment, accessing the river as a resource and promoting best practice for restoration of rivers. The results of this can be seen through many of his achievements, such as:

- Introduction of the CityCat ferries
- Bringing all sewage treatment up to at least secondary treatment standards
- A city-wide recycling program
- Accelerating the purchase of bushland
- Investing into Riverwalk, a network of riverwalk pavements along the banks of the Brisbane River
- Instigating Brisbane's Riverfestival, an annual celebration of Brisbane's people, culture and the environment. In 2003 Riverfestival established the International Riverfoundation in support of the International Riversymposium.



SETTING THE SCENE

Dr Adrian Volders – Master of Ceremonies

Dr Adrian Volders is widely recognised as an innovative leader in catchment management in Australia. He authored the first accredited regional catchment strategy in Australia in the late 1990s before going on to hold a number of senior and chief executive officer positions in the natural resource management and water industries. As a private consultant Adrian has led the development of range of new catchment management tools in terms of water quality and biodiversity offsets and nutrient trading. Adrian is an adjunct professor at Griffith University and holds a PhD from the University of Tasmania and a Masters from Deakin University.



BUILDING A STORYTHREAD

The forum is being graphically recorded by Curious Minds Co. through the use of words and images in real time as the event unfolds. The visual capture of the discussions serves to boost engagement as participants see their points and the issues being recorded, and it will act as a powerful memory anchor after the event to recall and communicate to others the keys points that emerged.

PRESENTERS, TITLES AND ABSTRACTS

Ipswich's Integrated Water Strategy

Emma O'Neill – Coordinator (Integrated Water Management), Ipswich City Council

ABSTRACT:

Ipswich City Council is on a journey towards a more sustainable water future. To achieve this future vision a number of significant water cycle issues have been identified as part of the development of Council's first Integrated Water Strategy. Issues include the rapid pace of growth in the city, climate change, maintaining water quality, the benefits of multiple function waterways, and the need for community resilience to the impacts of droughts and floods. Key stakeholders are becoming increasingly engaged and working together on multiple partnership projects to find sustainable long term solutions to these issues that consider the economic, social and environmental value of water and the benefits that it brings to the growing city of Ipswich.

BIOGRAPHY:

Emma O'Neill is Ipswich City Council's Coordinator (Integrated Water Management). Emma provides leadership to Council's Integrated Water Unit which brings together multi-disciplinary professional staff working on storm water management, waterway health and floodplain management. She has qualifications in environmental management and planning, and has over ten years of professional experience in local government and water management in Australia and New Zealand. Emma has worked on key projects such as groundwater allocation, consideration of impacts of urban storm water on freshwater and estuarine receiving environments, sustainable surface water extraction regimes, working with varied stakeholders on catchment revegetation projects, considering the impacts of oil exploration on the water cycle, and storm water quality offsets. Emma was recently awarded a Healthy Waterways Erosion and Sediment Control Leadership Scholarship to support her participation in the International Water Centre's 2014-2015 Water Leadership Program.

Urban Creek Recovery in a Regional Approach

Matthew Fullerton – Principal Policy Officer, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

ABSTRACT:

Regional strategies for water quality improvement suggest that diffuse sediment in the upper catchment is the highest priority. As most of the population lives near smaller urban creeks and the upper catchment is regarded with little relevance. Local governments that are master planning their urban communities around their creek assets are introducing a new way for local communities to care for creeks and contribute to regional waterway improvement.

BIOGRAPHY:

Matthew Fullerton is a Principal Policy Officer with the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection. His primary role is managing the Queensland Government's Healthy Catchments Program providing \$8million over four years for projects to improve waterway health across South East Queensland.

STREAM 1: PROTECTION & ENHANCEMENT OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Waterway condition assessment – how this has been applied in the Ipswich local government area

Dr Steve Skull – Regional Manager, Alluvium Queensland

ABSTRACT:

This project provided an overview of Ipswich waterways outlining the characteristics, condition and value of waterways within the Ipswich City Council local government area as well as the pressures and threats affecting them. Conceptual diagrams were produced to illustrate the interaction of the values relevant to these waterways and sub-catchment assessments and ratings of the physical and ecological condition of all major waterways located within the area were undertaken. The project identified existing and potential influences on waterway condition and values within each sub-catchment and how these will affect the current and future trajectories of each waterway. To ensure adequate communication of the project results, a rating system/ecological significance scorecard for each waterway was developed across the Ipswich City Council local government area to help inform decision-making and future investment prioritisation.

BIOGRAPHY:

Steve is the Regional Manager of Alluvium Brisbane, and draws on a 20 year career in natural resource management complimented by formal business management qualifications. His work for State agencies spans water resource management and planning, environmental regulation, nature conservation and experience with a wide range of industries including mining and major infrastructure providers. In the local government context Steve has been responsible for the development, delivery and evaluation of environmental policies and programs covering waterway management, climate change, biodiversity, peak oil and sustainability.



Fish in Ipswich waterways

Phil Smith – Partnerships Officer, Natural Resources, Ipswich City Council

ABSTRACT:

Ipswich City Council (ICC) commissioned a consultant to assess the ecological condition of the Bremer River (with specific regards to fauna/faunal assemblages), including major tributaries of the Bremer River (i.e. Western, Warrill, Purga and Bundamba Creeks) in the ICC local government area (LGA).

The creek by creek assessment of aquatic ecological condition, with an emphasis on assessment of aquatic habitat types, in situ water quality, fish assemblages and condition, macroinvertebrate communities, and potential barriers to fish passage e.g. culverts, weirs and bridges within the major waterways in the ICC LGA can help inform management decisions for protecting and enhancing the ecological condition of the Bremer River and major tributaries in the ICC LGA into the future.

BIOGRAPHY:

With a BSc in Ecology and his honours project in Aquatic Beetle communications Phil was bound to end up working with water and things that dwell beneath its surface. Having worked previously for local government, the Environment Agency and the Wildlife Trust in Water and Wetland management roles out of the UK, where he was responsible for delivering some large wetland creation projects in line with the European Water Framework Directive (WFD), Phil has been plying his trade in Australia now for over 3 years and is still everyday learning about this country's weird and wonderful fauna. His enthusiasm for the watery world also manifests itself through his passion for travel and fishing. He lists his career highlight to date as winning the "Longest Other Species" category in the inaugural Ipswich Father's day Fishing Fest with a metre long bull shark.

Benefits of riparian plantings for water infiltration and reduction of run off (Maleny case study)

Dr Susanne Schmidt – Affiliated Professor, Coordinator Environmental Science Program, The University of Queensland

ABSTRACT:

Reforestation of riparian zones is increasingly practiced in many regions for purposes of biodiversity conservation, bank stabilisation, and improvement in water quality. This is in spite of the actual benefits of reforestation for recovering underlying soil properties and function remaining poorly understood. We compared remnant riparian rainforest, pasture and reforestation plantings aged 2–20 years in an Australian subtropical catchment on ferrosols to determine the extent to which reforestation restores key soil properties. Of the nine soil attributes measured, only water infiltration rates were significantly lower in pasture than remnant riparian rainforest. Our results suggest that the main outcome of belowground processes of early reforestation is the recovery of the soils' physical structure, with potential beneficial ecosystem services including reduced runoff, erosion and associated sediment and nutrient loads in waterways. We also demonstrate differential impacts of two commonly planted tree species on a subset of soil properties suggesting that preferential planting of select species could accelerate progress on specific restoration objectives.

BIOGRAPHY:

Susanne is an internationally recognised researcher and educator with expertise in plant biology, ecology and biogeochemistry. She leads a dynamic team of scientists and student who work in close association with government and industry. Advancing knowledge on sustainable land use, including use of native plants, minimising nutrient and carbon losses, and protecting biodiversity are at the core of the research. Susanne has co/authored nearly 100 journal publications and five book chapters.

STREAM 2: COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND LIVEABILITY

Take me to the river – there are lots of things to do there

Andrew Davidson – Project Manager, SEQ Natural Resource Management Update, SEQ Catchments Ltd

ABSTRACT:

Waterways have always been the arteries of civilization and the centre of social and economic systems but they can turn on these structures with brutal consequences. They provide multiple benefits for society and economy but often lie disconnected from the psyche of mainstream society. Most of our waterways are out of balance both hydrologically and ecologically with the integrity of our catchments under siege. Unbalanced and dysfunctional catchments lean on our waterways to take up the slack with often devastating results. This presentation will explore a multiple benefits approach described by the SEQ Ecosystem Services Framework to reconnect the public to our waterways and the need for fully functioning catchments to discharge clean and hydrologically safe flows of water. In this way we can all enjoy the social and economic benefits such as agriculture, tourism and recreation provided by waterways and ecologically sound catchments that feed them.

BIOGRAPHY:

Andrew has a Bachelor of Applied Science (Rural Technology), University of Queensland Gatton College, and a Master of Social Planning and Development, University of Queensland St Lucia. He is currently coordinating an Update of the South East Queensland Natural Resource Management (NRM) Plan 2009 – 2031, which is being coordinated by SEQ Catchments Limited, to incorporate the latest climate change science and to align it to current and emerging legislation and planning. Waterway management for multiple benefits is a key objective of the update following the extreme weather events of 2011 and 2013. Andrew is also the programme manager for the SEQ Ecosystem Services (ES) Framework. The ES Framework and the NRM Plan have both won State and National awards for Planning and have been presented at a number of international conferences to much acclaim.

Healthy Recreational Waters: Benefits to the community and the individual

Kurt Martin – Places Project Officer, Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation

ABSTRACT:

A brief look at the benefits of water based recreation at the community and individual level. Examples of various forms of water based recreation will be given with the potential mental and physical health benefits, and social effects.

BIOGRAPHY:

Kurt Martin has had over 15 years of outdoor education experience using the outdoors to help people learn about the natural environment through first hand experiences. Over the last 10 years he has developed a wide range of recreational and educational programs that have seen students gain first hand experiences on river and lakes around the world, building not only personal skills but social skills along the way.

Flood of Ideas

Dr Andrew O'Neill – Executive Manager, Water by Design, Healthy Waterways

ABSTRACT:

The 2011 floods showed Queensland had forgotten the lessons of earlier disasters and prompted ideas on how to prepare for the next one. Flood of Ideas grew from the challenge to help the community collect and connect these ideas to create a public resource to assist planning and preparedness. The crowd-sourced web project led to exhibitions, workshops in schools, resources and events exploring risks and resilience. Flood of Ideas is an initiative of Healthy Waterways and The Edge, State Library of Queensland to gather diverse and creative ideas from the community on how we can better plan for and respond to future floods. Have we learnt our lesson? Four years on, it's a good opportunity to reflect on the role of community involvement in urban planning and disaster response, the lessons learnt, and the ideas that endure.

BIOGRAPHY:

After completing his doctoral thesis on the biogeochemistry of constructed wetlands treating acid mine drainage, Andrew O'Neill conducted research into the disposal of high level nuclear waste in deep rock aquifers in Sweden, degraded river and lake systems in Indonesia and the USA and natural wetlands and hot springs in Yellowstone and Kamchatka. He delivered high profile water sensitive urban design projects in both the public and private realm throughout Queensland, and supports uptake of sustainable urban water management practice through his work managing the Water by Design programme of Healthy Waterways.



STREAM 3: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EFFICIENT RESOURCE USE

Brentwood Rise Wetlands and adjacent Woogaroo Creek

Christoph Pester – Landscape Architect, JW Concepts

ABSTRACT:

Brentwood Rise is a residential development in Augustine Heights. Due to challenging site conditions, innovative approaches were taken to treat stormwater runoff within a series of wetland systems. Additionally, the adjacent corridor of Woogaroo Creek was rehabilitated to improve habitat value.

The presentation will be a firsthand experience of the benchmark example of constructed wetlands within residential development and supported by photographs to make it more illustrative and outlining the following:

- Site location and site context
- Challenges on site (permeable soils, flooding regime, significant vegetation, managing of water levels during establishment, etc.)
- Innovative solutions (GCL lining the wetland bodies, low design profiles to allow for flooding, tree retention)
- Achievements (Integration of the layout into the constrained site of Woogaroo Creek riparian corridor, retention of existing significant trees, provision of habitat sympathetic to the Woogaroo Creek riparian corridor, successful management of water levels during the establishment period for the macrophyte zone, successful establishment of revegetation areas adjacent to the wetland systems, extensive weed management and waterway rehabilitation, community education and engagement)
- Lessons learned (applicable to planning/ design, construction and maintenance)
- Importance of adjacent revegetation of Woogaroo Creek area and challenges faced during the rehabilitation process.

BIOGRAPHY:

Christoph Pester is a Landscape Architect with over ten years' experience working on a range of environmental planning and urban design projects, as well as community management and stormwater management planning projects, in Germany, New Zealand and Australia.

As part of his professional experience in Dresden, Germany, Christoph worked as a Project Manager on several creek revitalisations for a healthy waterways program 'Stadtverwaltung Dresden'. He has also worked as a Project Manager on environmental studies for flood retention basins, flood dykes and quarries in central Germany. This experience, in addition to his recent Australian experience working in the Toowoomba region in the flood recovery process, has given Christoph a strong interest in biological engineering and water wise design.

Christoph has detailed knowledge of successful species relevant for bushland regeneration and rehabilitation as well as soil protection. He is a qualified Scuba Diver Instructor and is passionate about the marine environment. Christoph's considerable experience exploring the ocean has given him firsthand insight and understanding into the need for healthy and clean waterways.

How well do we really understand urban stormwater issues?

Alan Hoban – Principal Environmental Engineer, Bligh Tanner

ABSTRACT:

Current policy and practice for urban stormwater management is based on a number of assumptions and presumptions about what streams need, what the main sources of urban stormwater pollution are, and how these should be addressed. New analysis suggests we may need to seriously rethink the management priorities for urban stormwater, with a greater differentiation between what is 'good' and 'bad' sediment in urban streams, better prioritising the management of hydrology, and shifting water quality efforts to high impact, low cost activities.

BIOGRAPHY:

Alan Hoban advises governments and developers on how to achieve better managed water in urban environments. He has credentials in engineering and geography, and has a high level of expertise in integrated water cycle management and sustainable urban design. Alan has been behind a number of successful initiatives including Water by Design, Flood of Ideas, Flexicar, Cool Communities, and is the recipient of numerous project and individual awards. He was recently named one of the most influential contributors to the Australian stormwater sector. He is the Principal Environmental Engineer with Bligh Tanner.

South East Queensland Water Security

Jim Pruss, General Manager, Water Supply Strategy and Policy, Seqwater

ABSTRACT:

Seqwater undertakes both short and long term planning to ensure it can meet growing demand for safe, secure, and reliable bulk water supply in South East Queensland (SEQ). In 2015, Seqwater will submit its Water Security Program for South East Queensland to the Department of Energy and Water Supply.

The Water Security Program will facilitate the achievement of the desired Level of Service (LOS) objectives for water security throughout the SEQ region over the next 30 years.

Delivery of the Water Security Program will be a significant achievement for Seqwater, enabling a greater opportunity to provide best value water supply for the South East Queensland community.

BIOGRAPHY:

Jim has more than 20 years' experience in the water industry. He has previously led the former Water Delivery, Operations and Sustainable Water, and Asset Delivery groups within Seqwater. He was formerly with the Redland Shire Council where he was General Manager Water and Waste. Prior to this he spent 15 years with Sydney Water in various roles.

STREAM 4: COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION

Sharing Catchment Knowledge and Connecting Communities

Hannah Collins –Oxley/Bremer Twinning Officer, Oxley Creek Catchment Association

Melanie Ryan – International Programs Manager, International RiverFoundation

ABSTRACT:

The International RiverFoundation's Twinning Program was developed to enhance the sharing of knowledge and expertise in catchment management across the world.

Oxley Creek Catchment Association (OCCA) won the Riverprize in 2009 for their 13 year commitment to achieving essential links within the community and forming successful partnerships with industry. OCCA's CreekWatch program encourages business partners to participate in restoration works in the catchment and in return gain valuable skills and training in environmental practice. Ongoing relationships with industry have contributed to a positive shift towards sustainability of resources within the catchment.

OCCA was partnered with Ipswich City Council (ICC) as a part of the Twinning Program in order to help improve the health of the Bremer River. Oxley Creek Catchment has faced many similar challenges to the Bremer River Catchment, including rapid urbanisation and industrialisation, consistently poor water quality, flooding and a community that is disconnected with their environment. It is hoped that the ideas and strategies that form the basis of the CreekWATCH program can be applied and altered to suit the Bremer Catchment.

BIOGRAPHY – HANNAH COLLINS:

After graduating from the University of Queensland in July 2014 - Bachelor of Environmental Management (Natural Systems and Wildlife), Hannah is currently working for the Oxley Creek Catchment Association on the Oxley/Bremer Twinning Project. During her university years, Hannah developed a water quality monitoring program for Bundamba Creek. She also developed interpretive and educational material for the Gummingurru Aboriginal Corporation incorporating the connection between people and their environment during her final year industrial placement.

BIOGRAPHY – MELANIE RYAN:

Melanie has worked across and led local to global tiers of projects and has gained experience in multidisciplinary, integrated projects and cross-cultural engagement and awareness. Her career has focused strongly on facilitating stakeholder engagement and collaboration, and opportunities for science and water professionals to achieve tangible on-ground outcomes for the environment and communities. Outcomes have included successful project management of Australia's first national eco-hydrological modelling platform, eWater Source, and conceiving and realising the first ever "Women in Rivers" forum for the International Riversymposium.

Currently working with the International RiverFoundation (IRF) as their International Programs Manager, Melanie leads and expands IRF Programs; including Riverprize, Education programs, Twinning facilitation and collaboration and River Recovery projects; particularly into south east Asia, particularly the Philippines and south-east Queensland, where the IRF is engaging with government, corporates and other non-government organisations to achieve community and river outcomes under the framework of integrated river basin management.

Knowledgeable and engaged catchment communities

Jana Marschall – Team Leader Community Relations, Seqwater

ABSTRACT:

Seqwater is an intrinsic part of South East Queensland and as part of the community we are dedicated to ensuring water for life – now and for future generations. We recognise that two-way dialogue is the key to building long-term, enduring relationships with communities near and surrounding our assets. This means the information we provide helps to build a better understanding of how we secure water now and for the future.

BIOGRAPHY:

Jana has eleven years' experience in delivering all aspects of communication including community and stakeholder engagement, issues management, corporate relations, public affairs, internal communication, brand positioning and digital strategy.

Protecting our Waterways

Stephani Grove – Program Officer, Natural Resources, Ipswich City Council

Cheryl Kempton – Land owner, Waterways Conservation Agreement with Ipswich City Council

ABSTRACT:

This presentation will focus on the efforts of an individual landholder in regards to creek restoration and rehabilitation. The presentation will cover a number of issues, especially in relation to: weed management methods; ongoing maintenance of weed infestations, the long term vision of the property, and how Cheryl's property 'survived' the floods and why she had the desire to restore a weedy creek bank with native riparian species.

These issues will also be discussed in conjunction with the assistance provided through the Waterways Conservation Agreement – specifically on-ground technical advice and grant funding. Council's assistance is an important aspect for support and reliability as general property management and large scale rehabilitation projects can become overwhelming.

BIOGRAPHY – STEPHANI GROVE:

Stephani graduated with a Bachelor of Environmental Management (Wildlife and Natural Resources) with honours in 2011. She started working with Ipswich City Council in 2010, deciphering environmental legislation for the organisation, and is now a program officer specialising in Conservation Partnerships with private landholders. Conservation and community values play an important role in driving Stephani's passion.

BIOGRAPHY – CHERYL KEMPTON:

Cheryl was a secondary school teacher (business subjects and geography) for 16 years at the Ipswich Girls Grammar School and then at the University of Queensland where she was teaching accounting. After retiring from full time work 10 years ago, Cheryl began working on the Riparian Corridor. The floods of 2011 devastated the garden so the incentive was there to repair and replant the entire area.

Re-engaging Citizen Scientists through their phones

James Udy – Chief Scientist, Healthy Waterways

ABSTRACT:

Citizen Science is an important component of data gathering, providing an improved understanding of changes occurring in our environment. Advances in technology during the past decade provide a level of quality assurance to community observations not previously possible. Anyone with a smart phone is able to collect geo-referenced and time-stamped data, relating to environmental observations (water quality, plants or animals). This dramatic expansion in the capacity for community members to collect and provide important observational data to scientists and environmental managers provides new opportunities for improving our understanding of processes that impact on our lives and wellbeing. This presentation will summarise changes to the Healthy Waterways Monitoring Program, highlighting the various ways citizen scientists can contribute as well as providing an overview of various apps being used internationally to assess environmental changes at the local, state and national level, due to climate change and other pressures.

BIOGRAPHY:

James is the Chief Scientist for Healthy Waterways. He previously led the Research and Development team at Seqwater and several research groups at the University of Queensland. He has over 20 years' experience researching natural processes, to improve our understanding of waterways and the impact we have on them. James has developed various waterway monitoring programs and been instrumental in the implementation of novel reporting methods. Most recently he led the redesign of the regional Healthy Waterways monitoring program, to incorporate new opportunities for citizen scientists and expand the monitoring and reporting to include social and economic attributes of waterways.



PANEL DISCUSSION

A panel discussion will be facilitated at the end of the EnviroForum to provide opportunity for the participants to further engage with a selection of speakers from the day and other prominent stakeholders within the water industry.

Currently, the panel will consist of representatives from:

- Ipswich City Council
- Seqwater
- Queensland Urban Utilities
- Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
- SEQ Catchments
- Healthy Waterways

LAUNCH OF IPSWICH CITY COUNCIL'S INTEGRATED WATER STRATEGY

Join Ipswich City Council and key stakeholders for the launch of Ipswich City Council's Integrated Water Strategy (IWS). The IWS is a keystone strategic document for Council that sets a long term direction for management of water in the city. It identifies the key water cycle issues facing the city and establishes a framework for working towards solutions in a sustainable way - ensuring that the social, economic and environmental elements of decisions are all incorporated into solutions.

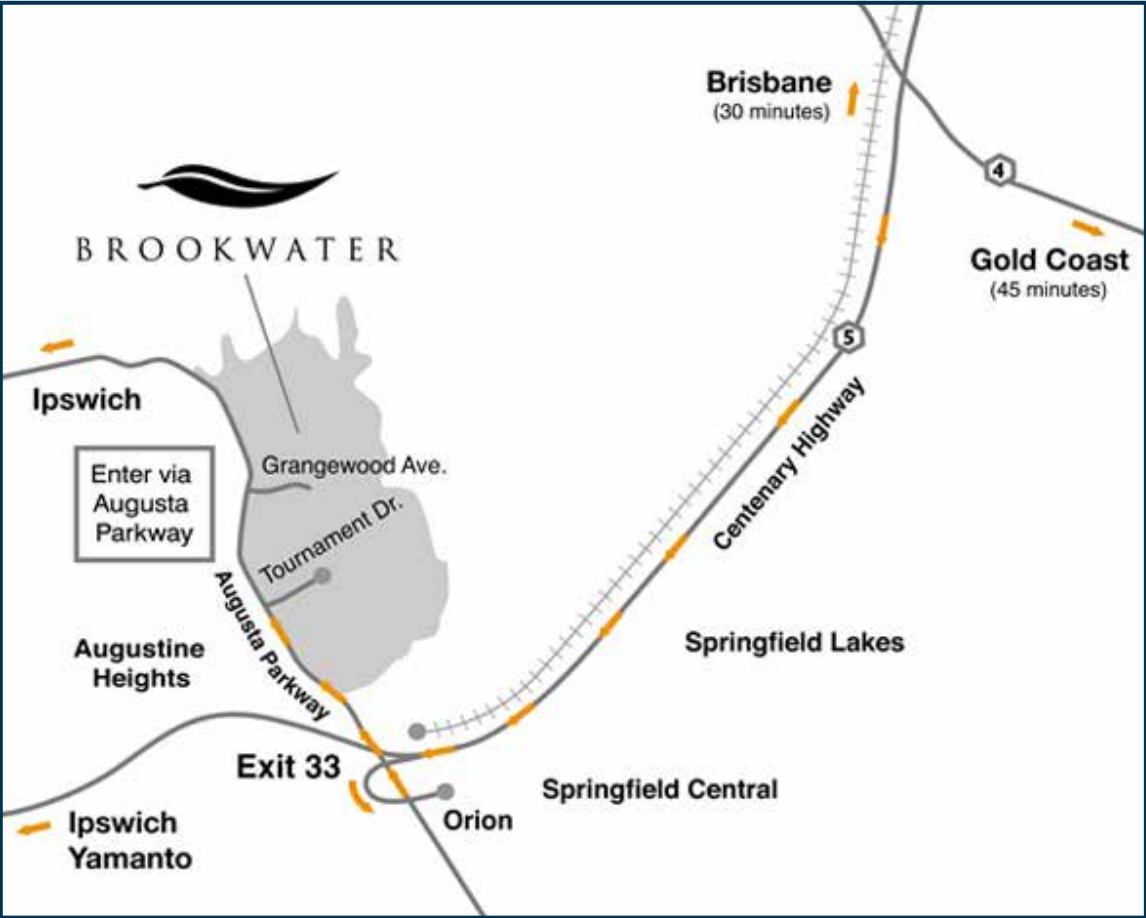
The IWS has been developed with input from many stakeholders, including SEQ Catchments, QUU, Healthy Waterways, Ipswich Rivers Improvement Trust and Seqwater. It sets a platform for ongoing collaboration and partnerships between these stakeholders, Ipswich City Council and the community – recognising that everyone has a role to play in the sustainable management of water.

LOCATION OF THE IPSWICH ENVIROFORUM 2015

Brookwater Golf and Country Club

1 Tournament Drive
Brookwater QLD 4300

The Ipswich EnviroForum will take place at the Brookwater Golf and Country Club. Conveniently located just 20 minutes from Ipswich CBD and 30 minutes from Brisbane CBD.



HOW TO GET THERE

Driving from Ipswich

From Ipswich CBD take Queen Victoria Parade and turn right onto Glebe Road after passing Queens Park on your right hand side. Then it is your sixth exit to the right onto Glebe Road and first left onto Blackstone Road.

Blackstone Road turns into State Route 61 which you follow all the way through until the Woolworth Plaza at Redbank where you go straight through onto Jones Road. Follow this road straight ahead and onto Augusta Parkway.

At the Woolworths Brookwater, turn left onto Tournament Drive and follow this road through to the Brookwater Golf and Country Club car park.

Driving from Brisbane

From Brisbane CBD either take Milton Road in a southwest direction towards Toowong where it joins up with the Western Freeway and Centenary Highway, or head for Ipswich Road/Ipswich Motorway.

Follow the road signage towards Springfield (M5).

Drive past the Springfield Lakes and Springfield exits.

Take exit 33, just past the Orion Shopping Centre (which is on your left hand side). Continue around the off ramp loop, turn left at the lights onto Sinnathamby Boulevard towards Brookwater/Redbank Plains.

Continue along through lights and past the Caltex Service station, at the roundabout turn right into Tournament Drive and follow through to the Brookwater Golf and Country Club car park.

Public Transport from Ipswich

Take the Ipswich Line towards the City and jump off at Redbank Train Station.

From here take Bus 526 towards Springfield Central.

Exit at Brookwater, Stop ID 310251, and walk to Brookwater Golf and Country Club (500 m).

Public Transport from Brisbane

From Roma Street station, take the Springfield line towards Springfield Central.

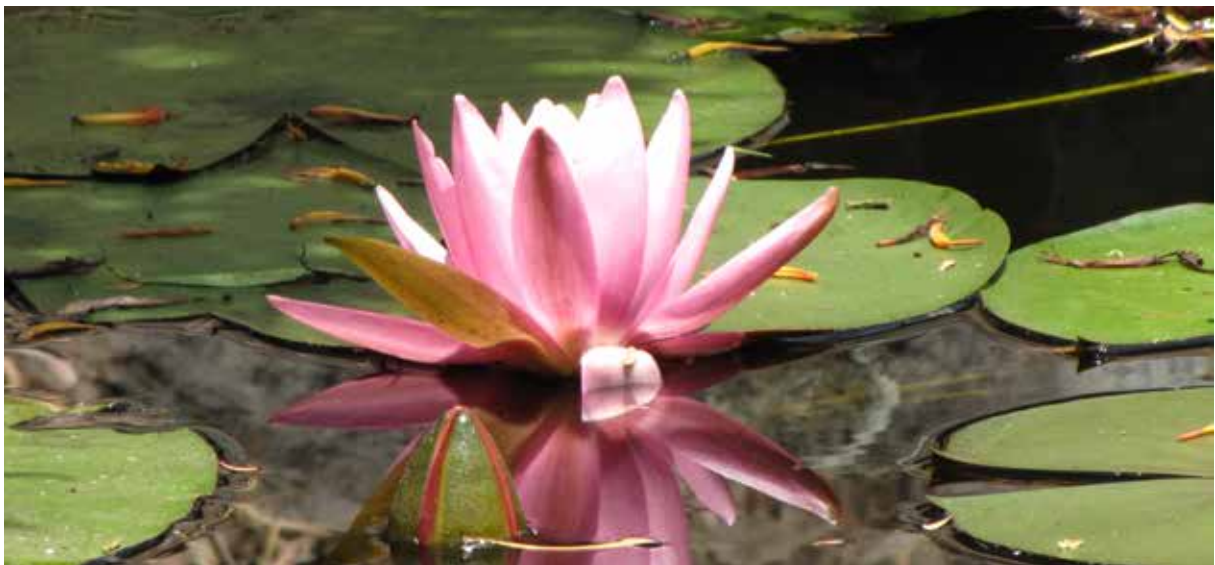
From Springfield Central take Bus 526 towards Redbank Station.

Exit at Brookwater, Stop ID 310251, and walk to Brookwater Golf and Country Club (500 m).

A SUSTAINABLE EVENT

The Ipswich EnviroForum strives to be considered a sustainable event with low resulting carbon emissions and environmental impacts. One of the steps taken by the organisers of the event is to limit the amount of waste generated by the promotion of the event. Therefore, electronic invitations were mainly distributed. There are also some steps that delegates can make to further contribute to the event's sustainability:

- Utilise available public transport or car pool to the event
- Bring your own water bottle to the event; tap water will be conveniently available at the venue
- Bring your own name badge if possible
- Utilise the available recycling facilities for your recyclable waste



WHILE IN IPSWICH

For delegates who travel to Ipswich for the EnviroForum, there are plenty of reasons why they should consider spending some time in Ipswich. Why not stay the night or bring the family out for the weekend?

Ipswich, Queensland's oldest provincial city, is an alluring blend of heritage charm, metropolitan sophistication and expansive green spaces. Early colonial buildings stand proud in the city centre, lovingly restored Queenslanders perch on hills and quaint townships dot the surrounding countryside.

THINGS TO DO

PARKS & GARDENS

With over 500 parks throughout the City, there's plenty of exploring to be done:

The River Heart Parklands brings to life Ipswich's connection to the Bremer River, which runs through the heart of Ipswich Central. The park has been designed to ensure visitors and locals can take advantage of the great outdoors, offering boardwalks for walkers, joggers, cyclists and others on the move. Kids will love the zero-depth water playground, extensive play equipment and the football field sized 'Discovery Forest' in the attached Bob Gamble Park.

Queens Park was the first park to be developed in Queensland, first being surveyed in 1842. Located in the heart of Ipswich, it boasts a wide range of activities to keep you occupied and entertained:

- Take a stroll through the Ipswich Nature Centre which showcases both exotic and native animals. Then there's the world class Frank Manthey Bilby Burrow where endangered bilbies and spinifex hopping mice can be viewed through a specially designed enclosure.
- The Environmental Education Centre shows how to be 'green' and has a wealth of information about other fun local action such as bush walks, bird watching spots, canoeing trips and picnic areas.
- When in need of a quiet moment, the tranquil Japanese-themed Nerima Gardens is a calming cultural experience and a peaceful place to relax after a full day of active play.
- The park also sports a large playground for kids of all ages.



Nerima Gardens, Queens Park

BUSHWALKING

Ipswich provides plenty of opportunities to experience nature by visiting one of the City's numerous conservation estates and reserves for a bushwalk. Here's a snapshot of where to explore and what to expect:

Denmark Hill Conservation Park at the top of Ipswich Central's Ellenborough Street, is the city's most accessible bushwalking destination. Five easy to moderate level circuits, one Waterfall Track, a massive water tower and a Triassic Park fossil display, make this a popular park.

Haig Street Quarry Bushland Reserve is located just five minutes north of Ipswich Central in Brassall. Once a source of sand and gravel, today the quarry is a platform from which to enjoy spectacular views of the Scenic Rim.

Paperbark Flat Picnic Area is located in the White Rock-Spring Mountain Conservation Estate south east of Ipswich Central, offers the region's widest variety of bushwalking tracks - nine in total.

Hardings Paddock Picnic Area, directly south of Ipswich Central, is not just the bushwalking destination with the longest return track, it's a fabulous destination for horse riding, mountain biking, picnicking and team sports. Your legs and lungs will love you for the energy-filled excursion through eucalyptus woodlands.

The Purga Nature Reserve is just 15 minutes south of Ipswich Central and houses the largest protected area of Swamp Tea-tree in Ipswich and is the perfect place for koala spotting. Two tracks, suitable for all fitness levels, are also completely wheelchair accessible.

Flinders Plum Picnic Area is set amidst the Flinders-Goolman Conservation Estate approximately 20km from Ipswich Central and offers four well-defined walk tracks, some through historical logging trails.

MUSEUMS AND ART GALLERIES

The Workshops Rail Museum is an interactive museum full of big machinery, multimedia experiences, glimpses into the future and reflections on the past. The museum sports great kids' activities, hands-on exhibits, multi-media encounters and colourful stories coupled with huge steam locomotives and massive industrial machinery.

The Children's Gallery at the **Ipswich Art Gallery** is Australia's first dedicated art gallery for children. It is a place where children can imagine, create and discover.



For more information about things to do and see in Ipswich or accommodation visit <http://www.discoveripswich.com.au>



www.ipswich.qld.gov.au