



# SEASONS GREETINGS FROM Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group

## Issue 3 LBCCG NEWSLETTER December 2006

Dear LBCCG Member, Friend, Supporter,

### Appointments:

2006 has been another year of change for LBCCG, with Project Officer Susan Baggett-Edols leaving in August to head overseas, and Jane MacGibbon starting in October. Jane is an ex-Kiwi with a background in environmental management and monitoring, having worked for consultants and councils in New Zealand for almost 20 years. She mostly specialised in stream and coastal water quality and ecology, though she has had to be a generalist and has dealt with a huge range of effects of human activities on the natural environment. Since moving to Australia two years ago, she has worked primarily in dry eucalypt forest so is on a steep learning curve in the region's rainforest ecosystems.

During 2006, Lori Sturz came on board temporarily as Treasurer and did a great job with the help of Mary Meadows. In November, Michael Howard took over as Treasurer. With his knowledge of MYOB and general accounting, he has been invaluable in helping Jane ensure that all of our finances now go through MYOB.

### Projects:

During the past financial year, LBCCG initiated 15 new projects, 7 of which have been successfully completed. The new 2005-06 projects included:

- 12,378 seedlings planted;
- 1213m of fencing along creeks and dams;
- 2 offstream watering points installed;
- 25 m<sup>3</sup> of weeds cleared.

Only 4 of the 15 projects included LBCCG contributions of more than \$3000 from the annual budget of \$34,523. LBCCG projects from 2003-04 onwards are distributed throughout the different catchments as shown below:

| Financial Year | Catchment |        |        |       |       |
|----------------|-----------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
|                | Obi Obi   | Bridge | Walker | Falls | Lexys |
| 2003-04        | 9         | 6      | 0      | 0     | 0     |
| 2004-05        | 11        | 4      | 1      | 0     | 0     |
| 2005-06        | 12        | 2      | 1      | 0     | 0     |

We have recently put a call out for new projects, a little late this year due to the change-over in Project Officers. We already have received 7 expressions of interest, and 4 of these will be presented to AquaGen during December.



Dec 2004



Nov 2007

This is what we aim for in our projects — to turn bare eroded or weed-infested land into lush native vegetation (Coral Street site).

### Other 2006 Highlights:

The details of all members and projects are now stored in a database and are being mapped using GIS. This will enable us to, in the future, assess potential new projects more strategically, and identify areas where we need to work more.

The Group is also running a **Name that Stream** project to further raise awareness of our local creeks. We are calling for names for 10 local streams and, so far, have had more than 50 responses. Many suggested names relate to early settlers, and Gillian Pechey is researching the background to these suggestions. Other names are reflective of the wildlife and one reflects the indigenous history. Once we have enough background information to satisfy the Department of Natural Resources application criteria, we will publish the information.

The creek name must be based on one of the following:

- Indigenous life in the area;
- Early white settlement, preferably pre-1900;
- Biological or geological characteristics; or
- A significant event in this location.

Members are reminded that their 2006-07 membership renewal is now due. If you have not already done so, please complete and return the enclosed form along with your membership fee of \$12.00 (individual and family). Also if you have had any changes in contact details, could you please inform us so that we can alter our records accordingly and send out our news electronically.

# Merry Christmas



*All of us here at LBCCG wish you and your families a wonderful and safe Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in 2007. Please pass on information about our work and grants programme to friends and neighbours who might be interested in water improvement projects.*

