



# SEASONS GREETINGS

## FROM Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group

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Issue 4 LBCCG NEWSLETTER December 2007

Dear LBCCG Member, Friend, Supporter,

### Changes for LBCCG:

What a busy and eventful year 2007 has been for LBCCG! Our Project Officer has been increased to a full-time position, with two days a week dedicated to BMRG work and helping the Catchment Supervisor, we have made great strides in streamlining our financial and data storage systems and have been successful in securing several grants from federal and state sources. With the pending changes to council and water body structures, our future is not guaranteed, however our committee and staff have been working to ensure we position ourselves as best we can for the future. Murray has completed the Implementation Plan for the Lake Baroon Catchment, We have developed a Ten Year Financial Plan and the best news is that AquaGen Board and also the Minister have signed contracts for our ten year lease of 455 North Maleny Road as an office for the group and for a total of \$1.8m funding over the next ten years, including an increase of project funding to \$100,000 a year to allow us to undertake large scale projects.

The only change in our committee came when Treasurer Michael Howard resigned; luckily, Darryl Ebenezer stepped in to fill the void. Our thanks to Michael for his time and efforts: thanks to him, our MYOB and general accounting, systems are working superbly.

Sadly, earlier this year saw the passing of Martin Williams who was a great friend and knowledgeable source of information for our area. LBCCG held a successful public tree plant at the King's Lane weir in his memory which has seen an expanded area planted.

### Projects:

During the past financial year, LBCCG initiated 10 new projects, paying a total of \$17, 474. The projects included 2,300 seedlings planted, 65m of fencing along creeks and dams and large areas of weeds cleared. Planting is still ongoing for most of the projects due to a late start last year (projects did not start until late in 2006). Only one project included LBCCG contributions of more than \$3000 – this was for maintenance of Willow Lane (Council land). One project included the development of Landholder Property Management Kits, while another supported research into the biocontrol of mistflower. LBCCG projects from 2003-04 onwards are distributed throughout the different catchments as shown below:

Financial Year	Catchment			
	Obi Obi	Bridge	Walkers	Falls
2003-04	9	6	0	0
2004-05	11	4	1	0
2005-06	12	2	1	0
2006-07	7	0	1	0
<b>Totals</b>	39	12	3	0

**Projects for the coming year**

We will be initiating our first large scale project in the months to come and will update you regularly on progress. We will also be looking for large projects in years to come so if you or your friends would like a project on your land—preferably including installation of fencing, crossings or offstream watering to exclude stock from waterways— give us a call.

**Other 2007 Highlights:**

We will soon have a website thanks to the donated time and efforts of Steve Swayne. We also have two gorgeous banners for displays at shows etc. Please also note that our email address has changed to [lbccg2@bigpond.com](mailto:lbccg2@bigpond.com). The old email will continue to work for a few months.

We recently adopted the Department of Fair Trading’s Model Rules, which meant small changes to our constitution. One change allows local Groups to join LBCCG with the usual \$12, which entitles them to one vote as are individual members.

LBCCG assisted in a funding application under the Community Awareness Grant (NRW). The result was the booklet *Maleny Water: a layman’s guide to the greatest natural resource this region has – water*, produced mainly by Sammy Ringer. LBCCG members have supported the Water Group in its efforts to find an alternative to the proposed pipeline pumping water up to Maleny from Landershute Treatment Plant.

The *Name That Stream* project proposals have gone to the appropriate State authority and the official process begins in early 2008. Gillian Pechey has liaised with Maleny community, in particular the Historical Society, during this project. Enquiries to Gillian on 5499 9288.

The most exciting thing happening in 2007 has been the renovation work on 455 North Maleny Road which, from mid-November, is the new office of LBCCG. This 40 acre property is home to some fabulous bush and fantastic wildlife. We have some new office furniture thanks to AquaGen, a beautiful camphor laurel meeting room table (thanks to a grant from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund) and a data projector (bought using a federal Volunteer Small Equipment Grant). Come and see our new office if you are out and about. The property includes a large meeting room which we are happy for other community groups to use.



Before renovations



After renovations

Members are reminded that their 2007-08 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).

**Merry Christmas**



