



## Annual Review 2021-2022



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# President's Report

The past twelve months has been very busy and productive for WaCC. Our Pooh Corner Environment Centre (PCEC) and onsite projects have been proudly supported by Brisbane City Council's Community Conservation Partnerships, Jamboree Ward Councillor Sarah Hutton and some private and organisational generous donations.

WaCC is committed to protecting and enhancing the natural environment and resources within and around Wolston and Centenary Catchments. We endeavour to include and involve all those who live in the nearby suburbs. WaCC hosted a range of successful community events, including World Environment Day; National Tree Day for schools; the Big Butterfly Count, and a Community Planting in Newcomb Park with a wildlife presentation.

We can only present these activities with a committed management committee and volunteers. I would like to thank the management committee and our dedicated volunteers for their hard work and commitment to WaCC's objectives and ideals throughout the past year. Each one of you has been essential to the ongoing success of our group.

Volunteer numbers fluctuate as individuals have a variety of commitments and some move on with their life stages. Julie, was Vice-President but retired committee work and Matthew hadn't renominated due to other commitments. Our Secretary, Cassy left earlier in the year our Treasurer and Anna has left her position as Treasurer at the AGM. Cassy and Anna had both been with WaCC for two years and we have been very fortunate to have their valuable assistance with administration and accounting responsibilities. Thank you both for keeping the organisation running efficiently and we wish you all well in your new ventures.

Two very welcome new additions who joined our team at the AGM, are Dhuvarka (Dhuva) Ravishankar, as Secretary and Lewis Luong as Treasurer. We look forward to working with them throughout the next year and beyond. Thank you for joining our team.

Our Environment Centre is managed by WaCC under a licence with Brisbane City Council and it functions as a base for WaCC's operations. The Centre is also available for use by other environmental and community organisations. New bookings are always welcome and enquiries can be made by emailing [info@wacc.org.au](mailto:info@wacc.org.au) Our PCEC Co-ordinator, Ed Parker, ensures the facility is well maintained.

We are grateful for the support and assistance of the many more volunteers who make up the WaCC community. Three amazing volunteers who especially work many hours on bushland regeneration are Colin, Michael and Julie. A big thank you and welcome goes to our BCC Creek Catchment Officer, Wesley (Wes) DeMuth. Wes has been a great team member, providing valuable advice, support and assistance with our projects.

Lenore

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# 1 Our Creek Catchments

**The Wolston and Centenary Catchments** consist of the Wolston Creek Catchment and the Centenary Catchments. These catchments cover 66 square kilometres. They stretch across three City Council areas: Brisbane, Ipswich and Logan.

**The Wolston Creek Catchment** covers 44 square kilometres and has three tributaries that feed into Wolston Creek e.g. Sandy Creek, Bullockhead Creek and Ric Natrass Creek. This catchment forms part of an important wildlife corridor from the Brisbane River through, Pooh Corner Bushland Reserve, Wacol Bushlands into the Greenbank Military Training Area 11 kilometres to the south and to the suburb of Richlands.

Much of the vegetation found in this catchment area has been classified as Endangered Regional Ecosystems. This classification means that the plant species and the soil types are rare and significant.

**The Centenary Catchments** have a combined area of 22 square kilometres and consist of two main creeks, Mount Ommaney Creek and Jindalee Creek. This area is highly urbanised, mainly residential but with some natural bushland reserves.

## 1.1 Suburbs within Wolston and Centenary Catchments



## 2 Wolston and Centenary Catchments (WaCC) – the Catchment Group

In 2008 WaCC became community-based catchment group with Brisbane City Council (BCC). A number of local organisations and volunteers were involved in the formation of WaCC, including: Friends of Pooh Corner (FoPC), the Centenary Districts Environment Action group (CDEA), Save Our Riverfront Bushland (SoRB), and Wolston Creek Bushcare Group (WCBG). Later BCC purchased former military in Wacol land which became Pooh Corner Bushland Reserve and later built the Pooh Corner Environment Centre (PCEC).

As a one of 13 Catchment Groups in the Brisbane City Council Creek Catchment Program, WaCC volunteers continue to work tirelessly to regenerate the local bushland to protect and increase biodiversity and sustainably manage waterways. The total contribution of all these Catchment Groups resulted in 23946 hours of volunteer work. In total, Brisbane's Catchment groups contributed over \$2.71 million to the city in 2021-2022.

### 2.1 WaCC Administration

WaCC is an incorporated not for profit volunteer environmental organisation, registered with the Office of Fair Trading. As such, WaCC holds regular Management Committee Meetings and Annual General Meetings (AGMs) with election of office bearers. The Treasurer and Liberty Wealth Accountants prepare an annual Financial Statement. To protect our volunteers, WaCC maintains Q'ld WorkCover and public liability insurance. WaCC acknowledges the importance of the Queensland State Government funding of our public liability insurance provided by Queensland Water and Landcare (QWALC).

The WaCC Management Committee presently consists of five people who manage the organisations affairs including the Pooh Corner Environment Centre (PCEC).

Our Management Team consists of the following members:

President: Lenore Bracey      Secretary/Membership Secretary: Dhuvaraka Vavishankar  
Treasurer: Lewis Luong      Committee Member: Ed Parker:

Membership with WaCC is established through the payment of a fee and is open to individuals, households, and corporations. [info@wacc.org.au](mailto:info@wacc.org.au)



## 2.2 Social Media and Communications

WaCC maintains a website: <https://www.wacc.org.au> and manages a Facebook page with an average of 500 followers. <https://www.facebook.com/WolstonAndCentenaryCatchments/>

Group emails also notify members, friends and volunteers of WaCC about relevant events and relevant environmental news.

## 2.3 Pooh Corner Environment Centre Management

WaCC has been managing and operating the Pooh Corner Environment Centre (PCEC) since opening in 2015 under a licence with the owners, BCC. In addition to providing a base for WaCC's activities, the PCEC facility is available for use by other organisations and local community groups. The Centre has a spacious meeting room which serves as an office, and a breezeway for larger gatherings. The Centre is adjacent to a public picnic area with toilet facilities. For bookings contact [info@wacc.org.au](mailto:info@wacc.org.au)



# 3 Community Engagement

## 3.1 World Environment Day

World Environment Day was celebrated on Sunday 6th June, at Pooh Corner Bushland Reserve and at the PCEC. BCC's Jamboree Ward Councillor, Sarah Hutton hosted the event in conjunction with WaCC and Centenary and District Environment Action (CDEA).

Having the Councillor's support and resources, made the day hugely successful with around 10 stalls showing various sustainable solutions for use in everyday life. Guided bush and bird watching walks, various children's activities organised by CDEA, and a wildlife show were all enjoyed by those who attended. The Breezeway section of the PCEC, in the photo on the left, was the perfect spot to show the native animals to everyone. Approximately 100 people came along to this event.





## 3.2 Brisbane's Big Butterfly Count

WaCC hosted its inaugural butterfly survey in the Pooh Corner Bushland Reserve for Brisbane's Big Butterfly Count. This Reserve has rich biodiversity and this event was a great way of combining fun and learning in the outdoors.

All ages and knowledge levels were welcome. The equipment was supplied and Butterfly expert Cliff Meyer guided us and helped with the identification. Another one may be held in 2023 so keep watch. <https://brisbanesbigbutterflycount.org.au/index.php/contact.html>



### 3.3 National Tree Day for Schools



Our Planet Ark National Tree day event this year was held in Phil Denman Park, Jamboree Heights. A huge thank you goes out to Cr Hutton (second from the right in the below photo) and the Brisbane City Council's Community Conservation Partnership Program's Catchment Officer, Wes on the far right of the photo below. This would not have been possible without their support.

The idea of the planting event originated with Grant (shown on the far left of the below photo) who then contacted Cr Hutton and WaCC's President, Lenore (second left in the below photo). Cr Hutton coordinated with Jamboree Heights Primary School and Jamboree Community Kindy and provided support for a planting event. The school and kindy kids had a great excursion into the nearby Phil Denman Park and planted a total of 250 native species, some grasses and some trees shown in the photo above. All the children were a great team working together and they kept their mind on the job at hand. Older children were paired with the younger kindy kids, and they showed enormous patience and kindness in assisting them with the planting.

Brett came along and brought some frogs that were in his care. The children loved seeing and hearing about the frogs. Each child was offered an opportunity to have a frog placed on their hand and they loved it.





### 3.4 Community Planting – Newcomb Park

The community planting event held on Sunday 30th October was a real success. Local residents came along with their children and following filling all the pre dug holes with native plants (550 of them) they took a break to watch the presentation by Maddy from Wildcall Wildlife Shows. Strangely enough the snake seemed to be the favourite with the children, closely followed by the cute and furry gliders.



Maddy from Wildcall Wildlife Shows



The photos below are the before and final result of the area planted at the front of the park





## 4 Ongoing Bushland Regeneration Sites

### 4.1 Wolston Creek Bushland Reserve (WCBR)

WCBR is the largest management of WaCCs management sites, covering about 47ha next to Sumners Road, Riverhills. The site is co-managed by WaCC within the Creek Catchment Program; and the Wolston Creek Bushcare Group (WCBG) through the BCC Habitat Brisbane Program. This Reserve is a treasure worthy of preserving for future generations. This remnant bushland is home to a range of native flora and fauna species. It has 7 flora species that are rare to Brisbane, with grassed walking tracks from end to end.

WaCC received a generous private donation this year. This funding enabled dedicated residents and WaCC to control some of the major weeds that occur in this Reserve. Given the extensive size of this site, a lot more volunteering is required to increase the work on bush regeneration across the Reserve.

This is one of few sites in the Centenary Suburbs where native plant species will emerge by themselves, as long as we give them space by keeping the weeds away. Their seeds lay dormant in the soil just waiting for some care and the right conditions to grow.

The Wolston Creek Bushcare Group is working to remove weeds. They hold informal working bees from 7.30am to 10am every fourth Sunday of each month, weather permitting. To find a bushcare group near you, phone BCC on 3403 8888.

The photos show some of the native plants that have emerged and are happily thriving when weeds are removed from around them.





## 4.2 Wacol Station Road, Wolston Road and Spine Street Parks

These three sites are prone to flooding and this year at Wolston Road Park, the water reached 5 metres in depth. These three WaCC sites are situated along Bullockhead Creek, running parallel to Wolston Road, in Sumner. Although surrounded by industrial development, the area contains high environmental values. Since 2018 these three sites have been maintained by extensive weeding and planting projects with work funded by the BCC Community Conservation Assistance Program, supported by the Creek Catchment Program and recently Spine St Park through a Public Works Order. Previous WaCC partnerships onsite were with Multicultural Diversity Australia and Challenge Employment worked in these parks.

## 4.3 Wacol Bushlands – Wau Road

Ric Natrass Creek, runs through Wacol Bushlands at Wau Road. The priority for this site is to increase the density of canopy along the Creek to improve water quality for Platypus and other native fauna. The 2021 National Tree Day planting of 700 plants is flourishing.

The area is weeded regularly by a dedicated resident, Michael, and we have been monitoring the type of species that survive the best. Despite the site having been underwater during six flooding events this year, there has been a 70% survival rate. This is a vast improvement from previous plantings. Monitoring information will provide future projects with plants that are more likely to survive and therefore, more quickly provide improved bushland habitats for local fauna. One habitat feature was the frog pond below.



These photos show the frog pond just after it was planted out by the children on the left and then again on the right 7 months later.





In addition to the frogs we want to attract, we know Platypus and Echnida are already there and have been spotted by interested residents who frequently look around for them.



This Platypus has posed for photos in Ric Nattrass Creek and the Echnida above joined a local resident during his morning walk near Bullockhead Creek. WaCC hopes to have more research projects in the coming years to learn more about these local residents.

It is so rewarding for all the hard work volunteers do to see plants flourishing as shown in the photos below. A number of plants from the National Tree Day planting in August 2021 are now nearly 2 metres high and the native grasses are spreading.





## 4.4 Owen Stanley Place Park – Ric Natrass Creek

Further upstream, Owen Stanley Place Park, Ramu St, Darra (Centenary Village) also runs along the banks of Ric Natrass Creek. This site has been continually supported through BCC grants, Public Works Orders, community planting, bushcare activities and currently, a BCC Community Conservation Assistance grant. This current grant is trialling planting suitable species on the lower banks within the flood zone. These plants have survived a number of flooding events already this year.

The aim is to enhance platypus habitat by providing a higher density canopy to shade the waterway and improve water quality, and to manage bank erosion. Managing weeds is also a big part of maintaining the site so plants are given space to grow.



## 4.5 Newcomb Park, Sumners Road, Riverhills

The aim for this Newcomb Park site is to replace all the weed infested area (the large bushes in the foreground of the photo below) with native bushland. This will be carried out



gradually and provide a home for local birds. This site does not flood regularly, but being part of a hillside, partly situated under powerlines, and prone to erosion it does present some problems that require innovative thinking. A BCC Public Works Order has been an essential resource for this project site providing assistance with preparation work and plants for a community planting event, sourcing tools for the BushWaCCer's working bees and generally working with WaCC volunteers to regenerate the site.

We thank Brisbane City Council Creek Catchment Program (CCP) because without their support we could not have conducted all the work we have on this site. CCP Catchment Officers have worked tirelessly to provide resources for this site. Colin, is a local volunteer who is dedicated to removing the *Leucaena* weed. This weed appeared onsite following the 2011 Brisbane River floods and is listed on BCC's Natural Asset Register which.

Some areas have been cleared of weeds and have been replaced by native plants. The tree guards placed around the new plantings are visible in the photo above. We are grateful to Save Our Waterways Now (SOWN) for supplying plants from their nursery. SOWN volunteers manage and run the nursery which provides native plant species for Catchment Groups and bushcare volunteers. We could not regenerate the hectares of bushland we have, without their great work.



## 4.6 Phil Denman Park, Jamboree Heights.

Following the National Tree Day for Schools event discussed earlier in this Review, a BushWaCCers School Bushcare group has been formed by WaCC and some parents of the school and kindy. The first day was held in August this year. The group now meets onsite on the first Thursday of each month after school from 330pm to 4.30pm. The main activity is weeding around the plants that were put in at that National Tree Day for Schools event. The group increased to 20 residents in November. Maria and Beth shown in the photo below are keen bushcarers. To join this group email [info@wacc.org.au](mailto:info@wacc.org.au)





## 5 Accountants financial statements



### Income and Expenditure Statement

Wolston and Centenary Catchments Inc  
For the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
<b>Income</b>		
Donations	4,030.00	4,000.00
Grant Income	17,600.00	13,139.13
Interest Received	15.94	19.39
Membership	245.00	185.00
Other Income	362.41	2,091.00
Rental Income	50.00	200.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>22,303.35</b>	<b>19,634.52</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>22,303.35</b>	<b>19,634.52</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Accountancy	696.66	1,723.28
Administration	990.00	6,988.00
Bookkeeping	660.00	-
Cleaning	104.80	148.56
Depreciation	1,014.76	137.13
Entertainment	330.00	43.00
General Expenses	36.84	9.98
Insurance	200.00	200.00
Office Expenses	355.02	163.45
Plants & Regeneration	1,179.67	27,964.64
Postage	144.00	136.00
Registrations, Licences & Permits	57.60	57.60
Rent	495.10	-
Repairs and Maintenance	406.74	-
Subscriptions	242.00	120.00
Telephone & Internet	504.06	459.97
Travel and Accommodation	-	150.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>7,417.25</b>	<b>38,301.61</b>
<b>Current Year Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>14,886.10</b>	<b>(18,667.09)</b>

## Detailed Statement of Financial Position

### Wolston and Centenary Catchments Inc As at 30 June 2022

	NOTES	30 JUN 2022	30 JUN 2021
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>			
Community Access Account		5,982.20	11,402.60
WACC Restricted Fund Account		25,339.00	8,767.74
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		<b>31,321.20</b>	<b>20,170.34</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>31,321.20</b>	<b>20,170.34</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
<b>Plant and Equipment</b>			
Plant & Equipment		6,657.02	1,907.02
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Plant & Equipment		(2,601.81)	(1,587.05)
<b>Total Plant and Equipment</b>		<b>4,055.21</b>	<b>319.97</b>
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>4,055.21</b>	<b>319.97</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>35,376.41</b>	<b>20,490.31</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>35,376.41</b>	<b>20,490.31</b>
<b>Member's Funds</b>			
Current Year Earnings		14,886.10	(18,667.09)
Retained Earnings		20,490.31	39,157.40
<b>Total Member's Funds</b>		<b>35,376.41</b>	<b>20,490.31</b>

Note: the complete Financial Report is available on request from the Secretary or Treasurer of WaCC.