

7th January 2007



Priorities for B4C, 2007

In 2006 the B4C made good progress across the board. Education in schools particularly was successful and progressing the Sustainability Centre important. Twinning was the new factor and it has had its inception with B4C working with people in France, Thailand and the Gregory River. Progress will continue with these three programs in 2007.

The following are the **current programs** and initial priority actions for 2007:

Sustainability Centre: Development application in; SALA home construction will require funds for building. Nursery is progressing well.

Education (Schools): School Education Program needs professional evaluation to progress to finalization. Funding needed to build on field day success in 2006. Forge links to Twinning as opportunities arise.

Twinning:

River Foundation: More involvement by W Cameron in the new **Confluence** group set up by river foundation.

Thailand: Steven Cameron's green English program is progressing with research/resource assistance from B4C. Yadfon has gone quiet and is proving disappointing. New direction is – that a redefining of our involvement is required. We have links to several groups in Thailand and Laos. Our efforts should be one of awareness and networking, not necessarily in line with the strict Twinning guidelines by Riverfoundation. We have a possible role of welcoming South East Asian delegates to the River Symposium. It is a role not played by other community groups. We can achieve something here.

Gregory River: Contacts active and encouraging. A visit sooner than later by B4c is required for face to face initiation of progress. Funding needed.

France: The real success story of 2006. Web sites are working together, good relationship between WC and Roberto Epple is bearing fruit. Good recent flow of information in both directions. Forward plans need to be addressed. Interesting events in Europe in future.

Environmental Services Unit: Good number of contracts in pipeline and approved. Maintenance on Powerlink major projects. New team makeup. Need to look to volunteer support and training. Need to evaluate business planning and management. Staffing also needs to be watched as trainees are running out of time.

Foundation: Progress made but little response by donations in 2006.
- Act on recommendations of sub-committee (check minutes).

- Reprint amended brochure and distribute.
- Grant application for catchment tour for prospective donors and organizations.

NEW PRIORITIES FOR 2007:

State of Bulimba Creek: We were given an “F” by Healthy Waterways. We need to refocus on the reason we are here – Bulimba Creek and its condition and physical needs. BCC is reprinting the Bulimba Creek Booklet. Input by B4C is a priority early.

- Identify existing reports and collate and prioritize.
- Review our science – Waterwatch review. Biodiversity reporting.
- Review Strategic Plan and update with new information.
- Identify gaps in information and address, where possible (funding, manpower).
- Identify existing and develop required *recommendations* for actions.
- Identify and prioritize key investment areas and seek *implementation*
- Identify funding sources for projects – government grants, corporate, foundation.

Calendar of Events:

- A collaborative approach with other catchments, BCN and networks.
- Work with Bayside to hold joint events, projects.
- Seek funding at an early stage – Grant applications targeted.

Website:

- Include stories from Confluence group, Europe and Thailand, Gregory.
- Seek funding for Web master.
- Bushcare schedule and group profiles developed.
- Fortnightly editorial for short term posting (2 weeks).

Networking:

- Form a closer working relationship with Healthy Waterways – seeking scientific assistance for “State of Bulimba Creek”.
- Assist Natural Area Alliance reach its potential
- Work for cooperation between groups and coordinators at BCN.
- Identify active and potentially active community members and encourage local projects to involve them actively.
- Rationalise assistance to Bushcare Groups. Unsustainable groups may have to go, new group formation opportunities identified. Address 2004 Review.
- Seek active partnership with Bayside and Redlands.

Volunteers:

- Upgrade our assistance by more training and celebration days. More regular bbqs and pizza days for core volunteers. Look for local projects for new members (eg Lee Baas).

Compiled by W Cameron