

Cooks River Valley Association Achievements 2010/11

Achievements in 2010/11

- The continuing great work of Gayle Adams with the expanding water quality monitoring programs and development of CooksEye pollution reporting process. Gayle has initiated valuable contacts with the Dept Health, Sydney Water, Catchment Management Authority and several Local Councils and has succeeded in making some significant changes to infrastructure and responses to pollution events.
- The CRVA funded the CooksEye program to have a mobile phone to receive pollution reports, equipment (incubators & testing equipment) for water quality monitoring, CooksEye posters to be displayed along the river & business cards to be distributed with pollution reporting details.
- Ongoing work with the *Mudcrabs – Cooks River Eco-volunteers* to improve the health of the Cooks River. This involved the removal of more than 300 bags of litter from the foreshores and the planting and maintenance of over 1200 plants at 5 bush reconstruction sites along the river (Rosedale Reserve, Foord Ave, Ewen Park, Richardson Reserve & Tempe saltmarsh.
- The CRVA has provided the Mudcrabs with over \$2,800 worth of equipment, tools and other resources for ongoing landcare work along the River. These purchases have been made from successful grant applications, from prize money from the CMA and from grant money from Canterbury/Hurlstone Park RSL Club.
- Continued partnership with Canterbury Council and Marrickville Councils to support environmental work along the Cooks River.
- Representation on the Marrickville Council's Cooks River Committee and Canterbury Council's Environment & Sustainability Committee.
- Representation on the Steering Committee of the Cooks River Urban Water Initiative, a federally funded project managed by the CMA developing wetlands and managing stormwater run-off in the Cooks River & Wolli Creek Valley.
- On October 2010 the CRVA was invited to formally open the newly constructed Cup & Saucer Creek wetlands.

- Hosting of formal celebration of the completion of the Cooks River Urban Water Initiative in February 2011, attended by Hon. Tony Burke, Hon. Anthony Albanese, Hon. Carmel Tebbutt & Hon. Linda Burney as well as representatives of the local councils, contractors who worked on the various projects and members of the community.
- In May 2011 CRVA was awarded the Sydney Metro Catchment Management Authority's Urban LandCare Group of the Year Award.
- Nominated for the NSW Urban Landcare Group of the Year 2011.
- Planning & development of the Two Valley Trail Reconciliation Walk with Canterbury Aboriginal Consultative Group – planned for September 18, 2011.
- The CRVA has auspiced a grant (\$4000) from Marrickville Council to the Riverside Crescent Sub-catchment Community Working Group to run an art project with Marrickville Connect, focused on the Cooks River.
- Worked with local schools, including Marrickville West PS, Ferncourt PS Undercliffe PS, Campsie PS, Canterbury Girls HS & Canterbury Boys HS to raise awareness of natural resource management issues related to the Cooks River.
- Ran an information stall at the Cooks River Eco-Fest
- CRVA continues to be a registered & active Landcare group
- Provided insurance cover for participants in all activities connected with the CRVA, Mudcrabs and Friends of Ewen Park
- Ongoing submissions and representations have been made to local councils in relation to the building of a community facility in Ewen Park, the proposed development of Mackey Park & many other issues
- Participation in Canterbury Council's Cooks River Eco-Fest (formerly Cooks River Sustainability Festival) with the running of a stall.
- Organised Clean-Up Australia Day event along the Cooks River.
- Successful funding applications to Marrickville Council Community Grants (\$500 – webpage update & \$980 to purchase tools), Canterbury/Hurlstone Park RSL Club CDSE Fund (\$3800).
- Updated & maintained CRVA webpage and email system.

Peter Munro (President) August 2011