

## **Brief History of the Waterworks Valley Landcare Group**

The Waterworks Valley Landcare Group first met on September 18, 1993. We became incorporated in August, 2002.

Since 1993, we have successfully improved several areas of our current 20 year Management Plan area, and had a lot of good times along the way.

On the ground, our improvements can be easily seen in zones below the Lower Waterworks Reservoir, in areas along the Sandy Bay rivulet between Romilly Street and Kooyong Glen, and in the Quarry across from 66 Waterworks Road. As a result of our efforts, the Quarry is now the first rock climbing area in Hobart to be sanctioned and promoted by the Hobart City Council.

In addition, we have held a variety of other activities over the years. We have conducted WaterWatch surveys on the Sandy Bay Rivulet for about 10 years. We currently provide an annual guided birdwatch as well as a guided orchid walk, in the spring. We also have an annual BBQ at the Quarry, after the annual March "Clean Up Australia" event,

In 1999, we began working to implement the Waterworks Valley Management Plan, which we jointly developed with the Hobart City Council. The Management Plan was funded through the Federal Government's National Heritage Trust funding. Further National Heritage Trust grants enabled us to employ a project officer for two years, to work with the Princes Street Primary School on Waterwatch and other conservation issues.

Over the years, we have voiced our concerns about other local community issues which arise in our locale: issues of sustainable living at an urban-bush interface, such as feral animals and responsibility for pets.

We are particularly concerned about road kills, and have been keeping track of road kill incidents.

We have worked closely with the Hobart City Council over the years, who have assisted us in developing successful grant submissions, provided us with crucial on-ground support and materials, and helped greatly with excellent advice and other resources. They have also helped us considerably with crucial NHT and Envirofund support from the Federal Government.

We were one of the very first environment care groups to work with the Hobart City Council. Since then, Bushcare has become widespread, and there are now some 15 environment care groups which fall under the HCC's umbrella. We are proud of the role we have taken in facilitating this growth.

Over the past 13 years, many people from Hobart and elsewhere have joined in, and helped with all aspects of our work. This is as good a spot as any to thank everyone who has taken part, for their contributions to date.

Thank you all, for giving us a History!

Robert Rands  
19 April 2006