

## Creative Samford

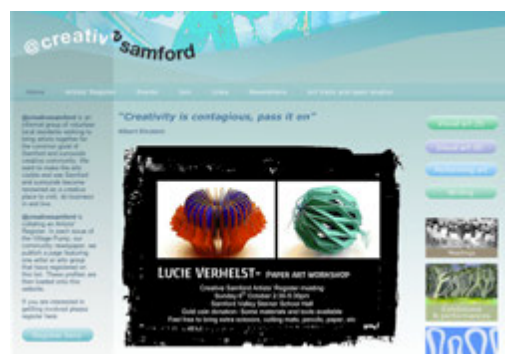
Status Report 30 October 2013. Project Convenor: Wendy Bailye

### Planned activity for 2014

- Incorporation of Creative Samford Inc. Sue Ford and Vanessa Chadwick will be co-convenors of the group in 2014 with Wendy Sinclair as secretary. Wendy Bailye will be assisting but not an office holder
- Facilitating the Samford & Surrounds Arts Trail & Open Studios 2014 : 5 weekends in August 2014 the local area will be immersed in promoting the arts through an Artists' trail and local arts activities.
- Post Card Fundraiser to raise the profile of the artists in the area and provide Samford with some attractive postcards for sale in the local area
- Develop practical workshops in the arts. Activities to encourage friendship building and opportunities to meet and learn and create together. Professional development opportunities. Encourage and support performance platforms and events for dancers and singers and performers
- Planning for an arts precinct utilising spaces we already have and developing great venues, both privately owned and community-based to access and promote the arts and being actively involved with the Samford Commons planning and process
- Artisan Market involvement when the local markets are initiated
- Support the three arts events being organised for Samford in 2014 through the Animating Spaces program funded by Artslink and the MBRC. There will be a Celebrate Samford event, a short film festival and a Sculpture Event.

### Achievements in 2013

- Initiated our first Artists' Register breakfast to develop further our arts community. Many individuals have developed working relationships and friendships revolving around their arts work with each other through being part of our group
- Held regular artists' register meetings and @creativesamford meetings
- Promoted local artists and disseminated arts information through the Village pump profiles
- Created our website [www.creativesamford.com](http://www.creativesamford.com)
- Began a Facebook page to develop and promote the arts community and the activities in our local area that are arts related
- Developed an artists' register of well over 200 local artists
- Sent out a regular newsletter.



## Village Identity

*Status Report 30 October 2013. Project Convenor: Bob Hannam*

A Village Identity Project Group has operated since mid 2011 and its membership was revised at the very well attended public meeting on May 29 this year. The points most frequently made at the meeting included:

### Traffic affecting the Village

- Safety – traffic / pedestrians / comfortable safe environment
- Speed limit down and enforce
- Park n Ride at Parklands
- Utilise existing school bus network
- Pedestrian crossing / shared zones
- Samford bypass link
- Bikeways on verge to Ferny Grove / Dayboro
- Traffic calming Progress & Ingrid Rd
- Join Park & Ride / 399 / School Bus



### Village Identity

- Incorporate beautification – use local artisans / arboretum: Main St
- Pedestrian access through active edges
- Encourage new buildings ‘village image’ – make clear community wants start
- Signage visual improved ‘village image’
- Define image ‘rural’ / ‘contemporary’ in consultation with residents

The outcomes from the May meeting will be available on the Samford Futures website very soon. I would encourage all to update themselves on what this group of citizens thought was important for our Village.

As you can see, one of the major points written up that night was to consider a Park and Ride facility at the Commons site, and I would ask the Commons coordinators to give this serious consideration.

Another point raised under “Village Identity” was to “incorporate beautification” to our Main Street. The Farmers Hall is currently redesigning the stair entry to the upper floor and as part of these works it is intended to re-do the landscaping and gardens at the front and to the car park side of the Hall. Two of our local Architects, Grahame Shelley and Peter Booth have volunteered their time for this work and we should shortly see the fruits of their labor to enhance the streetscape of our beautiful Hall. Upgrades and beautifications have also been undertaken by Four Seasons Organics and the new doctors surgery.

One of the challenges issued that night was “There has been lots of consultation with not a lot happening, start doing!” While I agree to a point, especially the consultation bit, I must also say there are activities happening. Daniel (Traffic, Transport and Trails) has certainly been active in discussions with Main Roads and MBRC, but we do need to push on with a number of the recommendations.

Now that I am back from extended time away the group will meet soon and liaise with the Traffic, Transport and Trails group to focus on enhancing the Village. The group has a number of active and interested persons so we will be giving attention to what needs to be done. Others may also like to put their hand up and add some impetus. Please contact me on bobh66@bigpond.com.

## Twilight Markets

*Status Report 30 October 2013. Project Convenor: Bruce Jones*

- The Samford Futures process in its strategic plan and public meeting on the 15th March , 2013, clearly identified the community's interest in the implementation of an Artists' Markets in the Samford Village. On presenting the idea to the Progress and Protection Association (SPPA) it was agreed that Bruce Jones should undertake an extensive feasibility study on the proposal.
- Over a period of two months and after three public meetings, as well as personal visits to residents and business houses in the Village a draft report was presented to the SPPA in June. The essence of the report took into considerations all presented data, as well as several letters and articles in The Village Pump.
- A Management Committee was formed to consider the issues that arose from the public meeting held on the 10th June 2013. These issues including: the aims and objectives, event name, event ownership, venue options, traffic issues, timeline and frequency, composition of activities, business participation and partnership with the Samford Valley Markets.
- The Management Committee has met twice to consider the viability of such an event and several suggestions have been presented. These include working towards having "Celebratory Festivals" for 2014 on specific themes with one event being linked to the "Animating Spaces" program funded by Artslink and MBRC. An update of the committee's draft proposal will be tabled at the next meeting of the SPPA for its consideration.

## Samford Parklands

*Status Report 30 October 2013. Project Convenor: Peter Storer*

### Progress since the March community event

- Community centre – A new group was formed to develop a proposal to use the existing buildings precinct for the establishment of a community centre. This would be known as the Samford Commons (a place for everyone) and would feature a sustainability, environmental and arts centre, with a focus on community education.
- Urban Farming – The separate group has been developing a proposal for a mix of not-for-profit and community use.
- Rehabilitation and revegetation of the river and gullies – Another new group was formed (partners included MBRC, SGAP, SOWN, Greening Australia), which applied for, and won, a State Government Everyone's Environment Grant to revegetate 5000 m<sup>2</sup> of creekside land behind the Bowls Club. This is the Samford Eco-Corridor project.
- Skate park – concept taken on board and MBRC as a priority and implemented
- Recreational trails – various trails suitable for walking, cycling, horse-riding and for the disabled linking all key components within the Parklands, with further links to the Village and the existing network of trails. The first major trail is well under way, linking the Village with sports fields. This been undertaken as a special project by the RSL and MBRC as an Avenue of Honour to be officially opened on ANZAC Day 2015.

### Other concepts

- Artwork – incorporate public art by local artists at key locations: @creativesamford would coordinate and invite other art groups and artists to contribute ideas
- Recognition of Aboriginal heritage – use educational signage in the Parklands and at the Commons to highlight the cultural significance of the hilltop sites to the Undambi and Gubbi Gubbi people. This would be a significant educational resource for schools and the community
- Large-scale revegetation – revegetate large areas of the parklands using native vegetation in themed plantings (e.g. bush tucker, butterfly host plants, koala trees, bird-attracting species). Also, use native shade trees and screens along trails, around picnics sites, etc. Our local SGAP group would be closely involved.
- Children's playground – a shady area with easy access
- Exercise trail – with distance markers, to suit a range of fitness levels
- Off-leash dog exercise area – to encourage pet owners to use the Parklands
- Campground – the 2004 Council plan suggested the possibility of a campground at Gibbons Road. This concept received mixed feedback from community, so is lowest priority for further investigation.

To ensure an integrated approach that benefits the whole community, it may be useful to expand the Parklands group to have representatives from the other relevant Futures groups, other sporting and recreational groups already using the Parklands, and the community in general. Another possibility is for the Samford Commons group to cover all the Parklands. This warrants further discussion.

## Samford Eco-Corridor

*Status Report 30 October 2013. Project Convenor: Jo Wilkinson*

The planting of native species at the Samford Parklands site is something many people in the community agree is a good thing to do. This is evident in the 2004 Samford Parklands Study, (the result of extensive community consultation in 2003-4) the Samford Futures survey (2010), and the Samford Futures, Parklands Working Group workshop held in 2011.

Words such as 'native botanical gardens', 'native revegetation', and 'native regeneration' have all been used to describe what the community would like to see at the site. However, it's also well worth noting from past reviews, surveys and community consultation, that the open-ness of the site should not be compromised.

### What we've done

**Applied for Funding:** In October 2012, the Samford Progress Association successfully applied for funding from the State Government's "Everyone's Environment" grant to plant a very specific and thoroughly researched, list of native species from the Samford Valley, in an area along the creek near the Bowls Club. The aim is to re-establish a creek side plant community that was previously more widespread and that can support local wildlife.

**Developed a communication plan:** This specific project was named "Samford Eco-Corridor" in June 2013 to encompass the present goals and future hopes for re-establishing native habitats along the South Pine River in Samford. A professional communication plan has been developed that includes, logos, signage, Facebook, Eventbrite and an e-mail account to encourage participation in weeding and planting days and keep the community up to date with our activities.



**Regular volunteer weeding days:** With the guidance of MBRC Bushcare experts we have completed 5 volunteer days, identifying natives and removing invasive weeds along the creek bank. Over summer this weeding will continue using contractor assistance.

Recently two major planting days in October were postponed until Feb 2014 due to lack of rain and hot weather that would have reduced our success. We have completed re-potting many of these young plants so that they will be bigger and stronger on planting day. Volunteers will now care them for until next year.

**Scientific connections:** This project is so much more than just putting any old native plants in the ground and saying job well done!

There is a unique opportunity to study the biodiversity that follows such an extensive planting event. The changes in water quality and general health of the creek are also of interest. The group is busy making connections with many possible scientific partners through QUT, SERF

(Samford Environmental Research Facility), Griffith University and MBRC Environmental Officers. Some initial surveys have already been undertaken including fish and birds. The goal is to survey

as many groups of animals as possible as part of a scientifically based program that contributes a broader understanding of the ecology of the Samford Valley and how these kinds of projects can promote collaboration.



## People movement (transport, traffic & trails)

*Status Report 30 October 2013. Project Convenor: Daniel Nordh*

(text to come)

## Sustainable Samford

Status Report 30 October 2013. Project Convenor: Howard Nielsen

### Overall purpose

- To build the social, economic and environmental capacity and achievements of Samford
- To share in providing the ethical stewardship of Samford for the generations ahead

### Major achievements/activity since 15 March 2013

- Planned and implemented a 'Changing our bag habits' project in Samford which is resulting in significant behaviour change in the community.
- Oversaw an internship by a Griffith University Student to doorknock Village houses re the 'bag habits project. Talked with 50 households of 350 visited.
- Worked in partnership with other groups to develop the Samford Commons concept and proposal which is currently being addressed by Moreton Bay Regional Council. This has been a major shared achievement with the Parklands Group, Creative Samford Group and the Urban Agriculture Group, with strong links to People Movement, Village Identity, Samford Markets and Digital Futures
- Created strong connections with community groups (Transition Towns movement), universities (Griffith, Bond, USQ and RMIT) and an international organisation (United Nations Global Compact Cities Programme) to further sustainable outcomes through Samford Commons.
- Supported the Eco Corridor project, the Samford Sustainability Hub and the Samford Sustainable Business Precinct
- Participated in specialised workshops on sustainable local economies, local food growing and community engagement.



### Level of engagement of community

- The project evolved from the extensive Samford Green Streets and Samford Futures community consultation processes.
- Continuous public engagement through events such as the Samford School Fair, IGA street stalls, and doorknocking village residents regarding the 'Bags' project.
- Conducted a presentation at the recent Chamber of Commerce Small Business Conference on building a Sustainable Business Precinct.



### Planned activity for the coming year

- Complete the 'Changing our bag habits' project
- Establish an incorporated entity for the Samford Sustainability Hub
- Develop the Samford Sustainable Business Precinct
- Continue a leadership role with the Samford Commons project
- Continue support for the Eco Corridor project
- Conduct community education workshops on sustainable communities
- Safe spraying of herbicides
- Begin development of a Samford Sustainability Transition Plan.

## Samford Connect

*Status Report 30 October 2013. Project Convenor: Carolyn King*

The 'Telecommunications and Digital Futures' strand of the Samford Futures process has evolved into what we are now calling *Samford Connect*, focused on the possibilities offered by digital technologies to improve connectedness and communication in the community.

The project group's vision is for a coordinated digital future for Samford - providing a means for people, community groups/projects, businesses, and other interested parties to connect online. A collaborative digital strategy will act as an enabler, bringing together the various project strands from the Samford Futures process, as well as other not-for-profit groups and initiatives.

The group wants to concentrate on education, awareness and accessibility – the opportunities technology can offer, rather than just technology itself. It is not about building a system, more about processes, people, guidance, links and learning.



### Progress since the March 2013 community event

- Broadband Internet access: the change in national government has meant the **NBN** rollout is undergoing review, pending government review and the introduction of new policy
- A meeting with RDA Moreton Bay was held in August to discuss a **Digital Expo** for Samford, provisionally planned for the first half of 2014. The aim of the event will be to improve awareness for people and businesses in the community about how digital technology can help them, especially related to improving communication, getting people involved in local activities, or building links between related groups.
- A proposal for a **social media** awareness/learning programme has been put forward to Council for funding approval. This involves establishing platforms such as Facebook, YouTube, etc, providing guidelines/training, and determining ownership and management policies so it can be used by, and for, everyone in the community.
- A draft proposal for a **digital hub/website** is being prepared and will be submitted to the Progress Association for consideration. Funding will be sought to cover the costs of building and managing the hub. The aim of the digital hub is to act as a focal point for a wide range of websites and social media activities related to Samford, as well as providing a web presence for the Progress Association and an online access point to businesses and community groups in Samford.
- The Samford Connect group welcomes **input** from anyone with an interest in Samford's digital future – if you'd like details of the next meeting, please contact the group via [samfordfutures.org](http://samfordfutures.org).