

Community groups



Their short and long-term plans in the Valley

Many community groups in the Samford Valley have been active for decades and all have shaped the valley as it is today in a variety of ways.

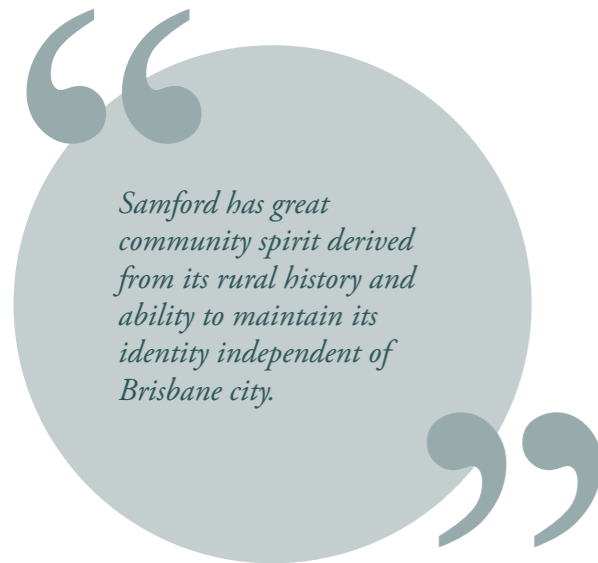
It was important for Samford Futures to engage with this very important part of the community.



What we did

Samford Futures representatives made personal contact with many community, sporting and services groups to explain the Samford Futures Process and to ask two key questions:

1. **What are your 1–3 year plans?**
2. **What are your 3–10 year plans?**



Groups who participated

- Samford and District Show Society
- Samford Farmers Hall
- Samford Retirement Village
- Samford Museum and Historical Society
- Samford Country Women's Association
- Samford Slab Hut
- Samford Catholic Church
- St Paul's Anglican Church
- Samford Valley Community Church
- Samford Rangers Football Club
- Samford Stags Rugby League Club
- Samford Tennis Club
- Samford Valley Pony Club
- Samford RSL
- Rotary Club of Samford Valley
- Samford Bowls Club
- Samford Lions Club
- The Highlands Recreation Reserve Trust
- Society for Growing Australian Plants (Samford Branch)
- Samford and Districts Chamber of Commerce

Partnerships and connections = community!

This list is by no means all-inclusive, but rather represents a cross section of groups active in the valley. Future opportunities for other groups to become involved will be encouraged.

What became clear after speaking with many group representatives were the existing interconnections that exist throughout the Samford Valley and the future opportunity for partnerships and collaboration.

One example of a future partnership is the upcoming native plantings at Samford Parklands (due in 2013) and the RSL Walk of Honour (planned for 2015) that will complement each other so well. Both involve community participation and the planting of trees on either side of the

northern entrance to the village. It's not hard to see that volunteers involved in the native plantings planned for the area near the Samford Bowling Club would be only too happy to be available for assistance with the RSL project if required. The pieces are in place to form a great partnership sharing some common goals.

Another example of these connections is evident in the Show Society seeking ways to increase the use of their extensive facilities at Highvale and that there are some new groups looking for a 'home'.

It became evident that all groups have plans for improvement and are moving forward – a healthy sign of a vibrant community and an exciting future.



Combined community responses

The following is a snapshot of the short- and long-term plans and goals from some of Samford's community groups.

Community Group	1-3 year plans	3-10 year plans
Samford & District Show Society Inc.	<p>Continue to support and develop the Samford Show as the premier annual event.</p> <p>Continue to support the use of the area for regular users such as Riding for the Disabled and the Samford Equestrian Group.</p> <p>Create ways to reinvigorate community involvement in the valley.</p> <p>Plans for new infrastructure such as new toilets and a new pavilion with higher ceilings and more versatility than the existing. These have been subject to a Master Planning process with Moreton Bay Regional Council and are progressing. Finance will be the key issue.</p> <p>The Showgrounds site is a large community resource, which could be used for a wide range of activities, and the Show Society is keen to have this conversation.</p>	<p>Consolidate the success of the Samford Show and the wonderful infrastructure at the site and develop ideas to make use of this community resource throughout the year.</p> <p>Work with Community groups such as Lions and Rotary and the Progress Association, etc.</p>
Samford Farmers Hall	<p>We see the Hall and its precinct as the focal civic centre of the Samford Village. We aim to keep the Hall relevant to modern community needs, while maintaining its historic appearance and history.</p> <p>We have recently added a lift to assist disabled access to the top floor. We are currently planning a new staircase to the side of the Farmers Hall, which will be done in conjunction with a new pathway to link the front of the building to the side and rear of the Farmers Hall. Peter Booth has been asked to provide concept drawings for these works.</p> <p>We also wish to improve the appearance of the front gardens of the hall precinct. We are looking at adding a seating area and or a piece of historic machinery relevant to Samford's rural history. The local branch of the Society for Growing Australian Plants has offered to assist with replanting this area.</p> <p>We are hopeful these works can be completed in the next 6–12 months.</p>	
Samford Retirement Village	<p>The completion of six to eight new houses being built on the land. These residential homes, tailored to retirement living, provide an opportunity for aged residents to continue to enjoy the benefits of living in the Samford Valley without having to leave family and friends.</p>	<p>Include a total of 102 new units. These units will provide even more flexibility for aged residents to live in the valley and allow for more choice between style and size of units.</p>
Samford Museum and Historical Society	<p>The Museum sees an opportunity to create a stronger link with John Scott Park. We envisage an improved flow of people from one space to another if a more inviting entrance was positioned on the park entrance where the land is flatter. The existing path from the road entrance is tricky for wheelchairs, walkers and people with walking aids and is slippery in the wet. As most of their visitors are aged, it is a significant risk.</p> <p>A new train carriage has been brought into the valley by Ven. This will be representative of the actual carriages (and maybe even is an actual carriage) that made the trip along the tracks and has been sited opposite the museum and is home to a new commercial business.</p> <p>Log loading occurred at the trees where park entrance could be located and would form a point of interest.</p> <p>The museum would like 20 metres more of the park to make an entrance road and circular turn where small buses could park on the flat.</p> <p>Village signage – rural style. Not too small. Key historic uses of the valley were timber, bananas and dairy so something to reflect the valley's past where applicable would be good. These elements should be reflected in streetscape if possible but done stylishly, not tacky.</p>	<p>The Museum would like to see the Bocce lawn moved slightly to allow 'Ring Cottage' to be placed where the Bocce lawn currently is. This building is currently situated at the roundabout at Mt Glorious Rd and functions as accommodation B&B style. A verbal agreement for its removal at some later date has been made with the owner and this building could become the 'Samford Information Centre'.</p> <p>The Museum hopes that MBRC funding or community grant funding could pay the salary of one person who could ultimately keep an eye on the Museum and the Information Centre.</p>
Samford Country Women's Association	<p>Working towards building a higher profile in the valley.</p> <p>Looking to maybe include a craft group, as in other CWA groups in Qld.</p> <p>Always striving to meet the needs of the members.</p> <p>Very happy with the building and the central position in the village. It serves them very well.</p>	<p>Long-term plan to attract younger members is appealing.</p>

Community Group	1-3 year plans	3-10 year plans
Samford Slab Hut	<p>Very happy with our position in the village even though extending is impossible due to restrictions of building over heritage railway site and sewerage manhole.</p> <p>Planning a community function in John Scott Park, focusing on arts and crafts; will be on a Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.</p> <p>Sub-group called Quirky Quilters creates beautiful quilts that are often donated to charities. To date they have raised \$27,000.00. This will continue as long as the quilters remain keen.</p>	<p>Wouldn't mind a bit more space in the future if at all possible.</p>
Samford Catholic Church	<p>No plans for extra buildings on the site.</p> <p>Some landscaping planned to make the car park more usable.</p> <p>Columbarium to store ashes of loved ones to be built at the back of the church. (This will look a bit like a wall.)</p>	<p>The church is aware that the Dept of Main Roads has the option of reclaiming some land along the road to widen the street from two lanes to three or four at some time in the future, but pretty sure that won't be for ages.</p>
St Pauls Anglican Church	<p>St Paul's is currently undergoing a process of evaluation and from this there will be plans for the future. Unfortunately, nothing has been decided yet.</p> <p>We would like to continue on with the successful markets and build on the wonderful local community feel of that gathering.</p> <p>The church has no plans for extending and we are happy in our central location.</p>	<p>Unfortunately nothing as yet decided.</p>
Samford Valley Community Church	<p>We are currently doing a planning process within the church to determine some future steps regarding our buildings and facilities. Our intention is that what ever we do on our site will be beneficial to the community and will value add to what is needed locally and regionally. A particular focus of youth and families and supporting community need is high on our agenda.</p>	
Samford Rangers Football Club	<p>We plan to provide spectator seating and shade structures at our new grounds at Samford Parklands.</p>	<p>We hope to provide new clubhouse facilities at Samford Parklands. We also hope to have a couple of new playing fields at Samford Parklands.</p>
Samford Stags Rugby League Club	<p>Field lighting upgrade has been completed, which will improve player safety.</p> <p>Provide a new sealed car park giving members and guests individual safer parking – reducing dust and enhancing the entrance to Cash Oval.</p> <p>Total field resurface – including drainage and sprinkler system providing a neat tidy attractive playing and training surface.</p>	<p>Council have confirmed a longer term plan is to provide separate training field to relieve the load of having only one field to service training and playing for junior teams.</p> <p>Plans to construct a new entrance to the clubhouse making to more accessible for members and guests.</p>
Samford Tennis Club	<p>Intend to resurface the Village tennis courts. This will lead to a Saturday afternoon competition with clubs being accepted now for competition starting 2013.</p>	<p>At the Samford Parklands courts we are planning to create a children's play area with shade sails and extra play areas.</p> <p>Long-term goal is for extra courts.</p>
Samford Valley Pony Club	<p>We continue to build on the strength of an energetic, growing club.</p> <p>We plan to continue building community awareness of horses on the roads and promote a horse friendly area. This will improve safety for horses and riders.</p> <p>The recently installed lights have allowed riding to continue into the evenings and nights. This has opened up new opportunities for members to use the grounds after work.</p> <p>Massive amount of work has been done on the cross-country course to help reduce damage from future flooding. (This course is one of only three pony club cross country courses in South-East Qld and is a great asset to the community.)</p>	<p>To continue to provide an opportunity for members to enjoy riding at well equipped facilities in the Samford Valley</p>

Community Group	1-3 year plans	3-10 year plans
Samford RSL	The proposed 'Avenue of Honour' that will extend from Burton Lane to the new soccer grounds in the Samford Parklands precinct is the only plan that the RSL has for the next 3 years. This project is slated for 'opening' on ANZAC day 2015. The project is still in development stage and no images are available.	
Rotary Club of Samford Valley	Participating with the Samford Lions Club and Samford Museum on the RSL Avenue of Honour Project (Stage 1). Active support each year with the Samford Show, Christmas in the Village, School Fete, Australia Day Citizenship, Ceremony and other community organisations. Organising the 'Signatures' Art Exhibition to be held at Topiaries in early 2013.	Stage 2 – Avenue of Honour Project. Working with Council on future enhancements to Rotary Undambi Park including additional revegetation projects.
Samford Bowls Club	Samford District Bowls Club has been providing a sporting facility to the people of the Samford District since 1948. With commitment and hard work by many volunteers over 64 years, we continue to offer a welcoming, caring Club for people of all ages to enjoy. We own our land and Clubhouse. Although now located within the Samford Parklands, we have not been part of the Samford Parkland development where many millions of dollars have been spent. We are constantly working to improve our Club to make it more appealing to other community groups or private individuals to consider hiring it for their larger functions. We can seat 130 for dinner with bar facilities and a commercial kitchen. When our road entrance from Mt Samson Road was realigned with the construction of the Netball/Tennis complex we lost the front entrance to our Clubhouse. However, with the recent construction of a new portico over our back entrance we now have a gracious, welcoming front door. We look for opportunities to showcase the Samford District Bowls Club with Village Bowls (Business Bowls), Barefoot Bowls, U3A 'Learn to Bowl' classes, as well as offering membership to those wishing to become more skilful at our game.	We thought the development of the Samford Parklands would afford the Bowls Club the opportunity to bring more people to our Club. We sincerely hope we will be bowling at Samford for many years. We are in a strong position and our wonderful members continue to volunteer to handle a multitude of tasks.
Samford Lions Club	Role of the Club: Lions is a volunteer organisation that responds to a need or crisis as and when such need or crisis occurs to the extent that each particular club and members are able to administer.	
The Highlands Recreation Reserve Trust	The land was set aside in 1924 as part of the Soldier Settlement. We aim to continue as a cricket ground and public recreation area into the future. The trust was established in 1934. We want to replace the fence on the northern boundary, put a verandah on the shed and provide sight boards.	
Society for Growing Australian Plants (Samford Branch)	This year will be our 25th anniversary. Our immediate priority is to assist our co-sponsors with the revegetation of the area of the Samford Parklands close to the creek behind the Bowl's Club using native species found at the nearby Ward's Scrub at Highvale. This is an extremely rare remnant of lowland rainforest and contains some species that are uncommon in the Samford district (such as <i>Niemeyera antiloga</i> , <i>Drypetes deplanchei</i> and <i>Bosistoa transversa</i>). The revegetated area will feature educational signage. We are involved in Samford's 'Sustainability Hub'. Our contribution is to encourage the use of native plants in gardens and public spaces. As part of the Hub activities, we intend to sponsor and help plant a display garden of native plants at the front in the Farmer's Hall in Main Street, Samford. This project is currently at the planning stage.	Provide help to the Samford Show Society who have expressed interest in revegetating a few acres of creekside land alongside the Showgrounds with native vegetation.
Samford and Districts Chamber of Commerce	The Chamber will continue networking to facilitate business-to-business activity. We will continue our partnership with Samford Green Street to extend the Sustainable Business Precinct.	