



Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia
Queensland Division Inc

Excellence Awards 2002 – 2004



Nominations and Results

celebrating living success stories



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The IPWEAQ Excellence Awards were introduced to give recognition to engineers and other practitioners working in the local government and public works industries and their Councils and organisations for outstanding achievements.

There are many benefits to submitting an entry for the IPWEAQ Excellence Awards, and we recommend all councils consider nominating their people and/or projects. While you may perceive that many of the projects undertaken during the year are 'just part of being public works practitioner' they may be examples of industry best practice and, therefore, assist a fellow practitioner in undertaking projects that may otherwise not happen. People are our most valuable asset, and the attributes of your staff can be recognized for their excellence by nomination.

In the inaugural year of 2002 Awards were made in an "overall" category, which recognised projects within:

- Design and/or Construction of a Local Government Project
- Innovation or Introduction of New or Improved Techniques
- Environmental

Since that time the Awards have been modified and now recognise:

- Projects over \$1 Million
- Projects \$100,000 to \$1 million
- Projects under \$100,000
- Innovation and/or New or Improved Techniques

Another category to recognise people has been introduced:

- IPWEAQ Engineer of the Year
- IPWEAQ Young Engineer of the Year
- IPWEAQ Works Supervisor of the Year

Each of these categories was selected to represent the diverse nature of the work of local government and public works practitioners, and the range of nominations received clearly show this diversity.

The presentation of the Awards is made during the Excellence Awards Dinner, held at the IPWEAQ State Conference in October each year. Winners of the IPWEAQ Excellence Awards will be awarded with a Certificate, with a special plaque being awarded to the council/organization. Winning project entries may be considered for nomination in the IPWEA National Awards, with the winning "people" award being considered for nomination in the IPWEA National Emerging Leaders Award.

The Judges of the Excellence Awards nominations believe the calibre of the projects submitted in each year have been outstanding.

IPWEAQ acknowledges its grateful thanks to the Queensland Foundation for Public Works Engineering for its sponsorship, and to the Judges for the time they spend and expertise they bring on assessing the nominations:

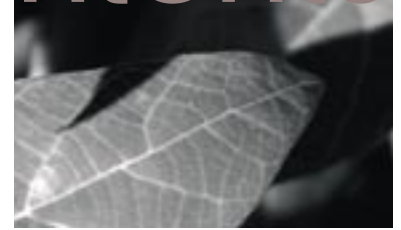
2002 – Bill Reilly (Chair) and Gil Holmes (Trustee), *Queensland Foundation for Public Works Engineering*.

2003 and 2004 – Peter Way (Chair) and Gil Holmes (Trustee), *Queensland Foundation for Public Works Engineering*.

We trust that you find the book interesting and informative and we welcome any feedback.

Suzanna Barnes-Gillard
Executive Manager

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Winners



Overall Winner

NOOSA COUNCIL
Eenie Creek Road Stages 2 and 3

Eenie Creek Road is bounded by the Noosa National Park. The planning of the project, a challenge for engineers Cardno MBK, considered resident concerns through consultation, and overcame the obstacles of crossing a fish habitat area and the habitat of koalas, as well as avoiding significant feeding areas of the glossy black cockatoo, ground parrot, acid frog, rare and threatened flora and fauna.

PROJECT ENGINEER
John Lee

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Highly Commended

BEAUDESERT SHIRE COUNCIL
Tamborine Mountain Hangglider Toilets

Perched on a clifftop on Tamborine Mountain, where eagles and hang-gliders soar, is a spectacular hangglider shaped 'dunny'. This public toilet, funded by the Queensland Government and Beaudesert Shire Council, uses little water and can be used in remote locations where finding a reliable water supply is a challenge.

PROJECT ENGINEER
Noel Hodges

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Highly Commended

TOWNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Louisa Creek Stormwater Management Program

The Townsville City Environmental Planning section engaged Citiworks to project manage the design and construction of both pollution control systems. Sinclair Knight Merz was retained to design one system, while Maunsell McIntyre was responsible for the design of the other system.

PROJECT ENGINEER
Adam Sadler

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Adam Sadler

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nominations

DALBY TOWN COUNCIL *CBD Revitalisation Project Stage 1*

The Dalby CBD Revitalisation Project (Stage 1) has been an initiative of the Dalby Town Centre, conducted in conjunction with the CBD traders and general community. The project has involved the construction of formal entrance 'gateways' to Cunningham Street, being Dalby's civic heart. Bell towers significant of the town's agricultural heritage have been placed at either end of the street and are enhanced by intensive tree planting in formed gardens and extensive paving with construction of bollards and associated block work.

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MAROOCHY SHIRE COUNCIL *Coolum Boardwalk Stage 1*

The Coolum Boardwalk Project is a joint initiative of Maroochy Shire Council, the Queensland State Government and the Coolum Beach Progress and Ratepayers Association. The project developed from an equitable Committee and Governance framework, which respected the special qualities of the three sector participants. The outcome was the delivery of economical, environmental and community endorsed infrastructure.

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NOOSA COUNCIL *Noosa Water Treatment Plant*

The upgrading of the Noosa water treatment plant was undertaken to produce treated water at a quality that is well above the Australian drinking water guidelines. This was achieved under a design–build–operate contract, and produced a plant at a minimal cost increase compared to a conventional treatment process.

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ROCKHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL
Central Queensland Plant Management Forum

The forum is a networking process whereby council plant and fleet managers can meet and discuss issues relating to plant management. The core philosophy of the project was to promote knowledge sharing and cooperation between councils.

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SHEPHERD SERVICES PTY LTD
Implementation of an Unsealed Roads Asset Management System for Broadsound Shire Council

Managing unsealed road networks in this environment of change needs a more sophisticated approach to its management. This means a move from a reactive response to program response in managing our unsealed road networks.

For Broadsound Shire Council this meant the adoption of an asset management system that encompassed the whole organisation's involvement.

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THURINGOWA CITY COUNCIL
"Park + Drain = Delighted Community" – Mountview Park Detention Basin

A combination of social, environmental and engineering outcomes converted a flat open space to an attractive parkland, while keeping detention basin functions. The network sand filter drains provide a unique seepage route, acting as an environmental water quality filter and alternative drainage path.

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nominees



THURINGOWA CITY COUNCIL
"Square Pegs in Square Holes" – Will my Dream Home Fit the Block I am Buying?

Frustrated by the limitations of the building design industry to recognise all design constraints, Council prepared the development information package, which collates all data (held by council) relating to an individual parcel of land. This information can be used during the concept, detailed design and prior to purchase stages.

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TOWNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Townsville Biogas: Reduction of Greenhouse Emissions by recycling of greenhouse gases

The two electricity generating units, in operation in Townsville's treatment plants, are powered by methane and associated gases that are produced in the sludge digester tanks. Reuse of greenhouse gases is helping to reduce greenhouse emissions into the atmosphere by 700 tonnes a year.

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TOWNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Victoria Bridge Project

The restoration and redevelopment of Victoria Bridge at Townsville involved the restoration of structural steelwork under the deck of the bridge, and removing the existing enclosed superstructure on top of the bridge with a modern architectural pedestrian footbridge.

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Winners



Projects over \$1 million

COOLOOLA SHIRE COUNCIL
Gold City Centre, Gympie

The project has rejuvenated the CBD, improving traffic flow, public amenities, increasing car parking, incorporating a plaza and public entertainment area and promoting local art.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

This \$2.4 million CBD revitalisation project conceptualised by council's engineering team and constructed within budget, displays a very good use of urban space. The council's project team involved a wide cross-section of community and professional organisations. The strikingly modern project provides a vastly improved traffic flow and parking facilities, as well as giving the local community a focus as a meeting, arts and function centre.

PROJECT ENGINEER
Bob Fredman & Ross Chapman

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Projects under \$100,000

LAIDLEY SHIRE COUNCIL
Laidley Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Septage Receiving Facility pre-treats septage wastes to acceptable limits prior to disposal at the inlet of Laidley's Wastewater Treatment Plant.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

In making this Award, the judges have praised this pre-treatment facility, designed in consultation with industry, which provides a good economic solution to the problem of potential treatment plant overload. The environmental benefits and economical cost should be of interest to rural councils without full town sewerage systems.

PROJECT ENGINEER

Gerry Franzmann

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Innovation

BEAUDESERT SHIRE COUNCIL
Water Saving Innovation

A single tank stores both treated and rain water, with a float switch activated in dry periods. Mains water flows at one litre per minute to the tank, and continuously to the kitchen tap providing potable water, and also making metering feasible.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

This project displayed good lateral thinking to an ongoing problem. The float switch in the single tank system with meter was designed after extensive customer consultation, and resulted in a solution providing environmental plusses. Informative publications have also been provided to residents and industry.

PROJECT ENGINEER

Noel Hodges

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highly commended

Projects over \$1 million

DALBY TOWN COUNCIL
*Dalby Central Business District
Revitalisation Project*

This capital works project has provided more business and economic stability, increased social activity and injected more vitality into the Town of Dalby.

JUDGES COMMENTS

This project kept in mind a strong community focus, and involved good consultation between business and council. The gateways, landscaping and particularly the local significant bell towers achieved a unique result.

PROJECT ENGINEER

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Projects over \$1 million

GLADSTONE CITY COUNCIL/
QLD ALUMINA LIMITED
Effluent Reuse Scheme

In a unique project, secondary treated effluent from the City's sewage treatment plant is now diverted to the world's largest alumina refinery for use in an industrial process.

JUDGES COMMENTS

This project achieved a win:win solution for Council and industry. It avoids discharge of nutrients to receiving water and saves fresh water for use by industry. A big plus for the environment.

PROJECT ENGINEER

Stuart Doak

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2003



special mention



BRISBANE CITY, CABOOLTURE,
CALOUNDRA, AND
MAROOCHY SHIRE COUNCILS,
NOOSA COUNCIL
*Asset Design and As Constructed Data
Routines (ADAC)*

In a collaborative move, Councils
have joined together to make the
lodging of “as constructed” plans
and documentation by developers
easier, no matter in which
municipality they are working.

PROJECT ENGINEER
Tony Kelly & Bob Peters
*(Initial – Lee Purchase & Damien
McMahon)*

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TIARO SHIRE COUNCIL
*Works Department – Best Local
Government Team*

The Works Management Team
are the best Dave Pemberton has
ever encountered. Although the
team may have been appointed to
positions beyond their skill levels,
they have taken on the challenge
and are undertaking additional
study to improve their skills and
improve their performance.

PROJECT ENGINEER
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living success stor

nominels

CITIWATER TOWNSVILLE
Palm Island Water Supply Emergency
DAF

This project is an example of delivering a working solution in a short lead time through partnering with suppliers and service providers. The delivery was also significant in demonstrating how good planning can assist in delivering effective solutions to remote communities.

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LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL
Yeppoon Foreshore Revitalisation
Stage 1

A significant project which provides the community with modern foreshore facilities including improved safety, accessibility and attractiveness to the foreshore.

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NOOSA COUNCIL
GPS Asset Data Capture

The field asset-mapping software was run on a rugged field computer with a sub 1m DGPS (Differential Global Position System), mounted on a motorcycle or 4WD in a shire-wide effort to rapidly capture spatially accurate electronic asset information, including condition ratings for revaluation.

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NOOSA COUNCIL
Noosa Main Beach Sand Recycling Trial

The sand recycling system technology involves the installation of a submarine sand shifter in the active surf zone and the subsequent transfer of sand to nourish Noosa Main Beach.

PROJECT ENGINEER

Alan Sheridan

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CITY OF THURINGOWA
Kirwan-Bohle Flood Diversion Scheme

The project was to improve flooding immunity of those affected properties; to stimulate further development; to investigate and trial a partnering process and to reduce flows in downstream natural channels.

PROJECT ENGINEER

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Director Infrastructure Services

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TOOWOOMBA CITY COUNCIL
Alderley Street Detention Basin Project
West Creek, Toowoomba

This is the largest basin constructed on West Creek, providing flood protection for the city centre as well as improving water quality, reducing erosion, protecting the biodiversity of the creek corridor and providing recreational space for the public.

PROJECT ENGINEER

Kev Flanagan

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TOOWOOMBA CITY COUNCIL
Ruthven Street Revitalisation Project

Undertaken in three stages over three years, the streetscape works have created a street with a strong sense of place, quality, well-being and community and business confidence.

PROJECT ENGINEER

Greg Dinsey

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Winners



Overall Winner

CAIRNS CITY COUNCIL
Cairns Esplanade Redevelopment

Cairns City is a vibrant, cosmopolitan centre and its residents enjoy an enviable tropical lifestyle. Cairns City Council, with the assistance of both State and Federal Governments, has provided residents and tourists with a prestigious precinct along the famous Cairns Esplanade. The redevelopment is the largest injection of capital funding into recreational facilities for many years, a total of almost \$35 million. The development includes the Esplanade lagoon, Fogarty Park soundshell, Esplanade Roadway configuration, the Foreshore promenade and Muddy's Playground.

PROJECT ENGINEER
Michael Kahler/Andrew Baxter
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Projects over \$1 million

TOWNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
(CITIWORKS)
Townsville's New Railway Station

The aim of this project was to provide a new railway station for the new Tilt Train. An alliance agreement promoting outcomes-based partnering between Townsville City Council and Queensland Rail underpinned a successful contractual arrangement. The end product is the development of the new Townsville Rail Station and its significant and tasteful entrance, car parking, handling and passenger entrance facilities. The contract saw the construction, development and management of major building, earthworks, car parking, drainage, flood mitigation, environmental and catchment management facilities at a target cost of \$2.4 million.

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Projects \$100,000 to \$1 million

STANTHORPE SHIRE COUNCIL
Farley Piazza

Farley Piazza is a public space providing a focal point within the Stanthorpe CBD. It is a beautiful place rich in arts and crafts that reflects the culture and character of Stanthorpe and showcases the talents of members of the community. The community was fully engaged in the project planning process, resulting in great community support and community pride. Like the piazzas in many European towns Farley piazza is a meeting place in the centre of town where residents and tourists mingle in attractive, comfortable and safe surrounds.

PROJECT ENGINEER
Chris Loveday

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Innovation and/or Technology

DALBY TOWN COUNCIL
Dalby Water Supply Desalination Plant

This Project underpins Dalby Town water supply by desalinating low quality water by reverse osmosis. The project included the investigation, study, design, construction and commissioning of a 1.7 megalitre per day desalination plant and associated evaporation pond complex.

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Winners



Engineer of the Year

MICHAEL KAHLER

BEng, Grad Dip. Mun. Eng., M Eng. Sc (Project Management) MIEAust, RPEQ

Cairns City Council

Michael Kahler deserves to be recognised as the Engineer of Year 2003 for a number of reasons. Least of which is the fact, that at 32 years of age, he holds a senior management position in a thriving, cosmopolitan city with responsibility for a multi-million dollar budget and many high profile world renown projects.

Michael has spent at least half of his life building something; from snowmen in the south, to sand castles on the west coast, where at the tender age of 27 years he became the Executive Manager Engineering Services of Esperance Shire Council, and across the continent to Cairns where he focused on managing the operations of Project Services Branch of City Works & Services Division of Cairns City Council. All of this occurred while Michael was also building his family unit,

with one child and another on the way. His personal interests include his two year old daughter, home renovations, working with timber and playing the odd game of golf.

His vision is to build a unique and innovative project management capability within Council that is business focused, quality assured and at the forefront of project delivery in local government.

Michael has now taken up a position at Redcliffe City Council as Director of Infrastructure and Works.

Works Supervisor of the Year

VINCE SPRANKLIN

Cairns City Council

Vince Spranklin, Technical Officer Maintenance for Cairns City Council has implemented a Maintenance Management System within the Cairns Works Branch of City Works & Services that is proactive, effective and efficient. He has revolutionized the way Cairns Works Maintenance crews are going about their business. Vince has done this task almost single handedly.

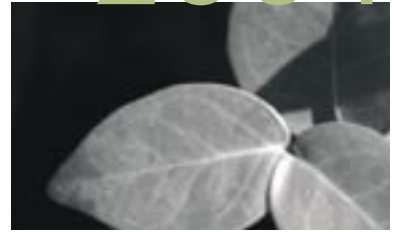
The idea for Vince's Maintenance Management System (MMS) germinated through Vince's membership of IPWEAQ and his attendance at the Noosa IPWEAQ conference in 2002. Inspired by other local governments initiatives, Vince decided to go one better.



The MMS incorporates AUS-PEC 4 activities to specify maintenance activities, and a range of other corporate requirements including Safe Plan and Environmental obligations.

To ensure the effectiveness of the system, Vince has compiled a series of documents detailing procedures and processes which include the Road and Path Maintenance Manual and the Maintenance Management Plan. Tying these together and setting the rules of operation is the Maintenance and Operational Service Level Agreement between Council's Infrastructure Management, Project Services and Cairns Works Branches.

Vince's experience as a Works Supervisor has proven that unless all workers are aware of and experienced in a system, it will not work. He is also aware that crews are more comfortable doing their jobs than being locked up in an office doing paperwork or training. With this in mind, Vince has developed a concise training package suited to the crews and can be delivered in their environment with little impact to their work day.



nominations

CAIRNS CITY COUNCIL *Asset Management Programme*

The Asset Management Program is a whole-of-council project to implement sustainable asset management policies, strategies and policies. The Program is to provide for sustainable community infrastructure that positions Cairns as the premier regional city in Australia.

PROJECT ENGINEER

Graeme Offer

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CAIRNS CITY COUNCIL *Stormwater Drain Safety Education Programme*

Prompted by the injury of a boy in a stormwater drain, Cairns City Council devoted funding to a public awareness campaign aimed at highlighting the dangers of playing in these underground systems. To engage the pre-teen target audience, Council commissioned two animated television commercials, involving four frog characters, whose streetwise demeanour and comic rap songs coolly deride the idea of "messing with da drains".

PROJECT ENGINEER

Ross Mckim

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ESK SHIRE COUNCIL *Sewerage Treatment Using a Vetiver Grass Wetland*

The aim of this project is to improve water quality before treated effluent discharges into the local creek. The biggest problem with the quality of the effluent is its high nutrient loading which in turn produced high algae blooms in the sewerage treatment lagoons. Instead of traditional upgrades, a new and innovating phyto-remedial technology using Vetiver Grass was implemented at Toogoolawah to the sewerage effluent. The wetland is capable of removing nutrients and reducing the total amount of effluent being released to the environment. The quality of effluent is now as good as that currently being released from high cost BNR treatment plants.

PROJECT ENGINEER

Ralph Ash

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nominations

FITZROY SHIRE COUNCIL *"The Cutting" - Rosewood Road*

A section of Rosewood Road, locally known as "The Cutting" was the subject of concerns relating to safety and accessibility due to extreme horizontal and vertical geometry. Council consulted with the local community to determine an appropriate solution. During the public consultation process a local resident and user of the road offered to complete preliminary earthworks at his expense to improve the geometry of the section of road. This generous offer was accepted and enabled Council to upgrade the section of road to a higher standard than would otherwise have been possible within the budget provided for the project.

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MACKAY CITY COUNCIL *Pioneer Promenade*

The Pioneer Promenade is the working title for the Dairy Regional Assistance Programme "Mackay and Pioneer River Revitalisation Project". Funding of the project was contingent upon it addressing the regional economic disadvantage caused by the deregulation of the dairy industry. The project addressed significant local and regional strategies identifying the need for safe, open space and a quality walkway along the Pioneer River.

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MACKAY CITY COUNCIL *Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens*

The Gardens, situated on 33ha of alluvial deposits, are constructed alongside an ana branch of the Pioneer River and showcase the rich diversity of the region's flora within a recreational setting of pathways, retaining structures and icon buildings. The building of botanically themed structures for the visitor centre and administration complex provides a focus for visitors to the gardens during the early years of the project and display the design talents of the architects and engineers. The foundations of this project form the framework for a significant legacy to the Mackay Region for future generations.

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NOOSA COUNCIL
Mobile Mapping of Works Assets

Noosa Council has spent the last two years accurately locating and mapping works infrastructure assets by type and condition, to a spatial accuracy of less than one metre. Through the innovative use of Personal Digital Assistants, digital cameras, Bluetooth global positioning System and mobile mapping software, Council is able to accurately map assets at time of installation and conduct routine risk inspections on these assets.

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TOWNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
(CITIWORKS)
Lakes Culvert Connection

A retention lakes system, as a significant element in a major flood mitigation program, has now become a practical example of sound environmental management and a way of value-adding to the community in a diverse and recognisable manner.

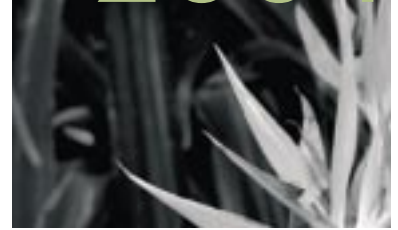
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WARWICK SHIRE COUNCIL
Warwick CBD Streetscape Revitalisation Stage 1

Warwick Shire, with the assistance of the State Government's Regional Centres Program and Ergon Energy's Community Powerlines Project, has undertaken Stage 1 of the Warwick CBD Revitalisation Project. The project consisted of design and full reconstruction, which focused on undergrounding of overhead electricity wires, improvement of stormwater drainage system to mitigate flooding, upgrading footpaths, and creating a modern, attractive CBD by the use of widened footpaths, landscaping and open spaces.

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WIDE BAY WATER
Burrum Heads & Toogoom Wastewater

To keep pace with population growth and community development in two small townships within one of Queensland's fastest growing regions, Wide Bay Water Corporation needed to specify and design two separate but similar wastewater management solutions. The twin wastewater treatment plants located at Burrum Heads and Toogoom are extremely effective hybrid versions of the Intermittently Decanted Extended Aeration process for the biological treatment of waste water. Priority of design was to create a system that was technologically advanced, environmentally friendly, operationally efficient, aesthetically pleasing and transferable to other similar communities.

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WIDE BAY WATER
Pulgul Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Pulgul Creek Inlet Works and Lift Station successfully augmented one of Hervey Bay's main wastewater treatment plants using modern automated screening and grit removal facilities. The design has eased the burden on existing facilities, afforded flexibility for future growth and enhanced effluent quality for re-use. The potential environmental impact of the region's wastewater system has been reduced as a result.

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The Queensland Foundation for Public Works Engineering proud sponsors of the IPWEAQ Excellence Awards

The Trustees believe that the Excellence Awards provides an appropriate and necessary mechanism for local government and public works practitioners to showcase their outstanding efforts on behalf of the community, many of which occur in their day to day operations. This publication provides an ideal reference book for practitioners, who can contact their colleagues and gain information prior to their commencing similar projects.

As well as encouraging excellence in projects, each year the Queensland Foundation offers Fellowships to

approved candidates to participate in Study Tours. The purpose of each of the tours is to provide recipients with opportunities to enhance their professional and skills development by attending conferences and participating in visits to local authorities. By participating in any one of the Study tours recipients can broaden their perspectives and how they approach daily work and personal life.

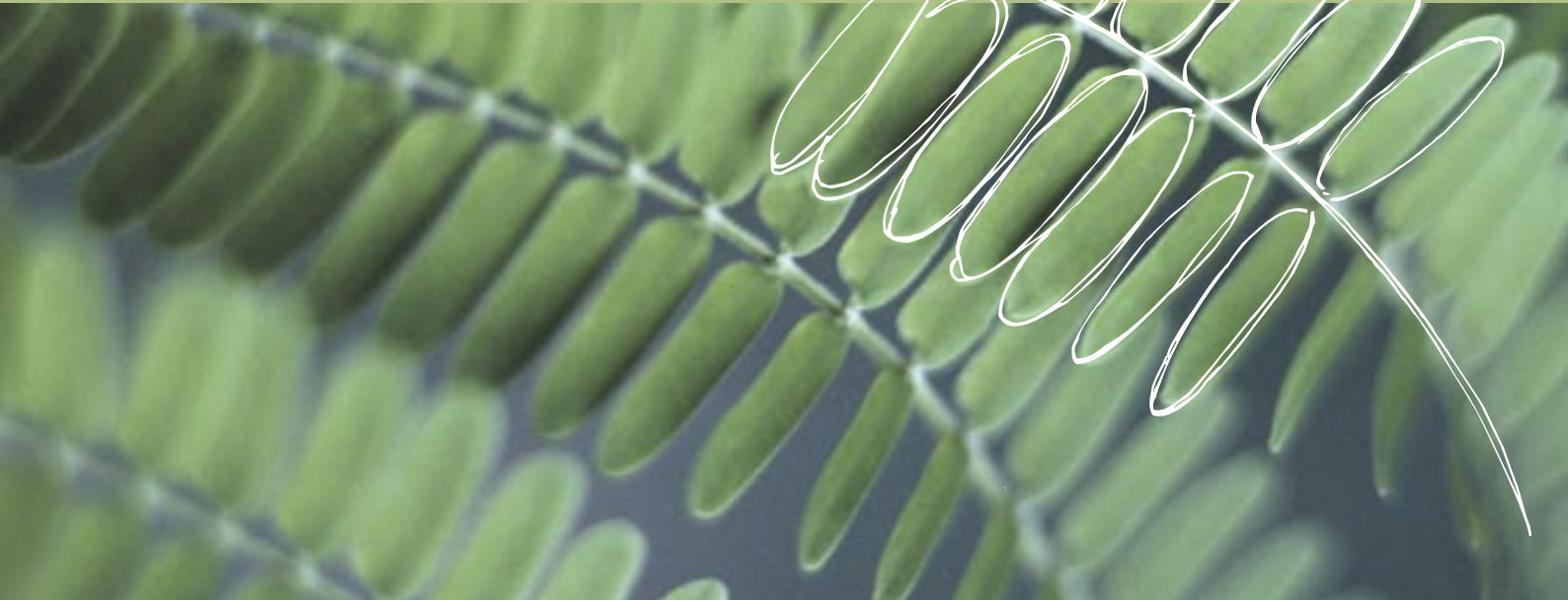


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