



AUSTRALIAN CIVIC TRUST

NEWSLETTER

April 2009

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AGM

4.30pm Thursday 18th May 2009

TMK Consulting Engineers
103-105 Waymouth Street
Adelaide

Since its public announcement in The Advertiser on 14th July 2007, the Australian Civic Trust's Public Vision has progressed incrementally, with leads taken from the Awards & Brickbats program and areas of current public interest. Considerable public interest followed the first announcement and some groups took their ideas directly to the media.

PUBLIC VISION

Keswick Precinct (16 Oct 2007)

- Potential site for stadium, to replace AAMI, at Mile End South.
- Potential motorsport or other, e.g. cycling, track at Mile End South.
- Town planning for West Terrace redevelopment with integrated transport hub.
- Retain the RAH and complement with health precincts, starting at Keswick barracks.
- Coordination & enhancement of major sporting facilities, and integration with Wayville.
- Major public events at Ellis Park and car parking above rail lines.

City Stadium (28 Nov 2008)

The Trust has determined that as a basic principle, modern urban needs demand that Adelaide's main stadium be within walking distance of the city.

This has been actively promoted and now is increasingly accepted.

Adelaide's Water Supply (2007-2009)

- Investigate innovative supply methods, e.g. delivery by sea from Tasmania.
- Extend aquifer management regimes to the Adelaide plains.
- Increase efficiency and reduce demand and wastage.
- Ensure environmental flows before market rationalisations – effective management as first priority.
- Plan to avoid desalination and dumping of waste in the sea.

Retaining our History (19 Apr 2008)

A front-page article in The Advertiser by the Civic Trust and journalists highlighted the character that is being lost in Adelaide through lack of planning and explained how precincts need to be preserved through applied town planning.

Lower Lakes (2009)

The Murray conveyance flow for Adelaide's water must be maintained for the Lower Lakes (see separate article).

Garbage Recycling (11 Jun 2008)

A full-page article in The Advertiser by Darian Hiles challenged Adelaide to show the way in garbage recycling for the rest of the nation.

Since then, the Adelaide City Council has implemented residential recycling pickups and raised the profile of community recycling.

Human Wellbeing (2007-2009)

A paper outlining a wider human/environmental approach in 2007 was followed by the consideration of the function of the Upper House as a method of developing and monitoring community and environmental values through subject-area voting.

If interested in this discussion, contact Darian Hiles (M: 0401 122 801).

2009 AWARDS

Examples from 2008:



Coventry Library, Stirling



Pacific Cultures Gallery



studio nine

& BRICKBATS



Stormwater flows out to sea



AAMI Stadium location

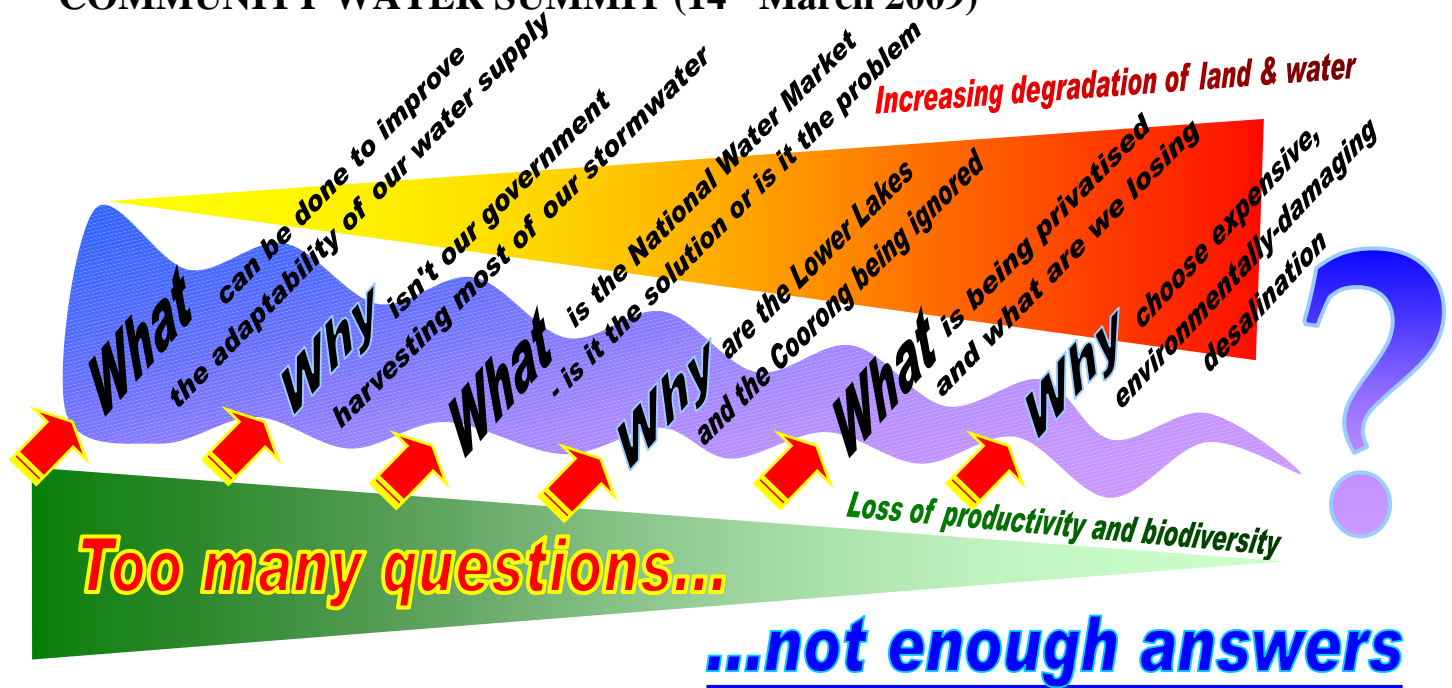
NOMINATIONS

NOW OPEN
FOR 2009

In 2008 a wide range of nominations resulted in a high level of public interest, media coverage and responses across the community spectrum. 12 plaques in brass were ordered by the winners and one in wood.

Download the 2009 nomination form:
civictrust.net.au

COMMUNITY WATER SUMMIT (14th March 2009)



On 14th March a number of community groups comprising the Australian Civic Trust, Cheltenham Residents Association, Land Water Australia, Friends of Gulf St Vincent, Western Adelaide Coastal Residents Association and Save Our Gulf Coalition and 18 supporting organisations presented a Community Water Summit with speakers

including Professor Simon Beecham, Dr Glen Walker, Professor Don Bursill, Richard Clark, Dr Jochen Kaempf and Dr Kristen Benkendorf.

Over 200 people attended the full-day session at the Alan Scott Auditorium, University of South Australia, City West and by the end of the day they were very enthusiastic.

One key outcome was the acceptance of

the need for a unified community voice to address water needs and pressure the politicians (it was noted that David Winderlich MLC attended and Vickie Chapman tendered an apology but no other politicians responded). Details on website.

A second summit is currently being organised.

MAUDE BARLOW in Conversation on Water

The community groups also organised a visit to Adelaide by Maude Barlow, the author of *Blue Covenant – The Global Water Crisis and the Coming Battle for the Right to Water* and a recipient of Sweden's Right Livelihood Award (the "Alternative Nobel") and a Lannan Cultural Freedom Fellowship.

Maude Barlow is head of the Council of Canadians, Canada's largest public advocacy organisation, and founder of the Blue Planet Project.

She is the author of sixteen books and is on the board of Food and Water Watch and the International Forum on Globalisation. She was recently appointed as the first Senior Advisor on water issues by Miguel

d'Escoto Brockmann, President of the 63rd session of the United Nations.

"Maude Barlow has for decades been a leading voice for water sustainability and justice. In Blue Covenant, she shows us the way" – David Suzuki.

WEIR & LOWER LAKES

Historically, the Lower Lakes received 1500GL pa from the Murray but today only 350GL is guaranteed. This is to ensure Adelaide's requirement of 80GL, the difference of 270GL being the "conveyance" flow, which is necessary because of the silt, turbulence and salinity of the Murray and the need for an adequate head for Adelaide's extraction pipe. The excess 270GL then becomes the default environmental flow for the Lower Lakes.

But a weir would provide the head needed and allowing for some new water for evaporation and mixing, much of the 270GL would become excess and sought by irrigators.

In addition, if Adelaide were to eventually remove its dependence on the Murray, then the whole 350GL would be excess, thus greatly increasing the threat to the environmental flows for the region and the Lower Lakes.

The reasons for a weir based on the acid threat also seem to be far weaker than anticipated. In fact the only remaining reason for the weir seems to be the 350GL for the water market. Are we willing to sacrifice the Lower Lakes for this?

The only solution is fresh water by increasing efficiency upstream – simple management improvement.

Darian Hiles