



# The Dambusters

Newsletter of the Save the Mary River Coordinating Group Inc.  
August—September 2009

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**Congratulations  
to Steve Posselt,  
who has  
completed  
another epic  
kayak paddle,  
this time to  
protest the  
construction of an  
environmentally  
disastrous  
water pipeline  
in Victoria.**

### RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP YET?

If not, you can download  
the form at  
[www.savethemaryriver.com](http://www.savethemaryriver.com)  
or visit the Save the  
Mary Info Centre in  
Kandanga.

Full, Associate and Jun-  
ior memberships are  
available.

## From the President

Well it feels like spring has arrived in the Mary Valley with the warmer weather and storms on the horizon. It's entering the time when the river takes on a special role to nurture our endangered creatures - the Mary River cod starts to lay its eggs with the rise in water temperature in the pools, the Australian Lungfish gather to spawn in the riffle zones between the pools and the Mary River turtles will begin to leave trails on the sandbanks before laying their eggs in the next few months. The winter season has been good with flushing flows keeping the water quality high. It's just the right time to enjoy Ian Harling's new tourism venture to paddle the Mary (p 4) and see first hand what we are trying to save for future generations.

It's but a few weeks until Paradise Dam has its day, or rather its several weeks, in court. The case initiated by Wide Bay Burnett Conservation Council with the support of number of environment groups challenges Sunwater over ineffective fish passage for the Australian lungfish. It is set to be something of a landmark case for the federal EPBC legislation and starts on 7th September in the Federal Court Brisbane. The legal costs of this challenge will be considerable, and (tax deductible) donations to WBBCC's Paradise fund are urgently needed. The special Paradise dam donate button is at [wbbcc.wordpress.com/donate/](http://wbbcc.wordpress.com/donate/) or come down to the Save the Mary Info Centre with your donation.

This legal case will have direct flow on effects for our campaign as it challenges the fish passage that is proposed as 'state of the

art' for the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam.

An event not to be missed is our Kandanga 1000 horseshide (p3) and more details are at [traveston-swamp.info/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4637](http://traveston-swamp.info/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4637). Saturday 19th September (night before the ride), will be a great night out at the Imbil public hall with all funds in support of the Paradise Dam court case. We are looking for things to auction on the night so let us know if you can help.

Corruption seems to be on everyone's lips as we follow the Rainbow shores latest scandal being swept under the carpet. It is an appalling act of hypocrisy that environmental impacts are being used to back away from the Rainbow Shores Development project yet full steam ahead on the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam whose likely impacts are far worse.

One does have to wonder why did the government form Queensland Water Infrastructure (QWI) as a \$1 government owned Pty Ltd company, outside the oversight of both the Public Service Commission and the Attorney Generals department, to purchase land in the Mary Valley? The Public Service Commission says they are not responsible for their staff. The Office of Government-owned Corporations isn't responsible for this either. QWI can funnel half a billion out of state funds but don't seem to fall easily into any of the management structures that have been put in place to ensure corruption doesn't creep in.

Who stands to benefit from the

purchase of land allotments for the dam currently standing at over 14,000 ha and actively chasing more? What could be the relationships between senior political figures, the dam building contractors and QWI management? Well enough of that speculation.

The Northern Pipeline Interconnector (NPI) stage 2 supplementary EIS is now available at [projects.linkwater.com.au/?id=177](http://projects.linkwater.com.au/?id=177) with a timeline to get state and federal approval in Oct 09. The most interesting fact to surface is that the entire design of the NPI has changed to allow for sending water from Brisbane TO the Sunshine Coast rather than the original plan to only send water to Brisbane. Their latest studies show that in a drought there will not be sufficient spare water in the upper Mary River Basin to send to Brisbane. This is exactly what we have been trying to emphasise - that the reliability of water in drought conditions is not here in the Mary River.

The government is now really justifying the NPI by saying we need a big pipeline to shunt water around to the massive new growth area written into the SEQ regional plan at the Moreton/Sunshine Coast border - and not specifying where the water comes from - Traveston, Marcoola, Bribie, North Pine etc. However that area is one of the most reliable rainfall areas of SEQ, and that *all* the predicted demand is from new growth and developments which do not exist yet.

There is a strong case that water-sensitive urban design (catching  
*(Continued on page 4)*

**To do this month: be part of the Kandanga 1000...volunteer at the Save the Mary Info Centre...hand out Save the Mary stickers to drivers and cyclists...read Steve Posselt's book...volunteer at an event...bake for the Poet's Breakfast...spot new Save the Mary signs...donate to the Paradise Dam legal case...write a letter to the editor...book for the train and film fundraiser events**

## Release those dam documents

Ninety-two percent of respondents to a Courier Mail Poll agree Tony Fitzgerald is right on the money in his scathing criticisms of the Beattie and Bligh governments practices – and the lead group in the fight to prevent the proposed damming of the Mary River at Traveston Crossing agrees with them.

Save the Mary River Coordinating Group President, Glenda Pickersgill said that the group had experienced frustration and anger at the treatment it had received from the government during the last three years.

She called on the government to immediately release all the “Cabinet in Confidence” documents it had relied on to arrive at the decision to dam the Mary River. “The Beattie/Bligh decision was based purely on political expediency and would be a total waste of billions of taxpayer dollars if it was ever allowed to proceed,” Ms Pickersgill said. “Let’s get all the information out there for the public to see so they

can see what went on. After all, it was paid for by taxpayers” she said.

“It took a 4-day Senate Enquiry in mid -2007 to force the government to reveal some key reports that it had been denying to us. It also made the startling revelation that the desirability of the Traveston Crossing site was based on the briefest of desktop studies, many pages of which were either maps or blank. Many of the reports commissioned since then would appear to be predicated that they must come out in favour of the dam and the site.”

“It really does seem that this government’s approach is that a well-oiled (and well financed) media department will cover a multitude of shortcomings.”

“It would seem that the people of Queensland are now echoing the cry that’s been ringing through the Mary Valley for these last three years, ‘Enough is Enough’.”

- Save the Mary River Coordinating Group media release

## Let’s get smart about our water use

The rainfall earlier this year has brought the combined level of SEQs three main dams (North Pine, Wivenhoe and Somerset) to 76.5%.

It’s clear Brisbane’s water supply is no longer in a crisis. There is time for Premier Bligh and the new Minister for Infrastructure Stirling Hincliffe to take a moment to reflect on the direction they take SEQs water security.

In the panic, when the dam levels were close to 20% the government said they couldn’t risk future water security on peoples willingness to use water more smartly. They labeled the proposal which the Mary River Council of Mayors put to them in 2007 regarding ways to make Brisbane’s water security “smart” as overly optimistic.

The Mary River Council of Mayors proposal identified savings of approximately 190 billion litres every year (that’s more than double the yield of the first stage of Traveston and 40 billion litres more than the second stage!)

Early indications were that the rebate scheme had far exceeded predictions of uptake in the Mary River Council of Mayors report. Such trends provided further evidence that the proposal was not overly optimistic or as high risk as the Queensland Government had suggested. Interestingly, Treasurer Andrew Fraser ended the rebate scheme six months early, despite the report recommending it should be extended.

It’s clear that the people of Brisbane are willing to be responsible water users. The responsibility now lies with the government to reward the people of Brisbane with smart decisions on water use rather than expensive unnecessary infrastructure that Brisbanites (and the rest of us) will have to pay for.

The Mary River Council of Mayors report was completed two and half years ago, just as the drought was biting and before the Target 140 program was introduced. If the numbers were to be crunched again, it is likely that the analysis would show that the proposed Traveston Crossing dam is an even more unnecessary and an even greater waste of money than it appeared to be in 2007.

In 2007 the Government didn’t come clean about why Traveston was a better option than the scheme proposed by the Mary River Council of Mayors. We are still waiting for proof that Traveston is necessary.

It does make you wonder who really stands to benefit from the construction of the dam and the associated pipeline.

Now that there is no need to panic about Brisbane’s water security, there is time for the Government to rethink its knee-jerk reaction to the water shortage and get smart about water use. The answers are there. It is just a matter of political will.

If you would like to know more about the original Mary River Council of Mayor Report the executive summary is available at: [www.isf.uts.edu.au/whatwedo/SEQ\\_Review\\_Exec\\_Sum.pdf](http://www.isf.uts.edu.au/whatwedo/SEQ_Review_Exec_Sum.pdf)

A presentation based on this report and also looking at a water saving opportunity in the power generation sector can also be viewed at: [www.slideshare.net/greatermary/awa2007c3-presentation](http://www.slideshare.net/greatermary/awa2007c3-presentation)

- Tanzi Smith



# The **KANDANGA 1000**

**Sunday 20 September '09**

Ride starts 9am sharp Sunday morning  
at **IMBIL SHOWGROUNDS**

**Saturday Night Entertainment**  
*Country, Rock & Blues*  
**& Auction Spectacular!**

Licensed Bar 'til late & Roast Dinners



*Set up camp & spend the night!*

***We need your support!***

**[www.savethemaryriver.com](http://www.savethemaryriver.com)**

*There will be serviced camp sites at the Imbil Showgrounds -  
toilets, showers, horse water and plenty of room for camping.*



Contact Robyn (07) 5484 3290 Brett (07) 5484 3532 Neville (07) 5484 3697

Saving the  
Mary River?

It takes  
people power!



## President's Report

(Continued from page 1)

water where it falls) could provide most of this new water demand.

Another example of incompetence is in the Queensland Water Commission. A draft SEQ water strategy was out March 2008, submissions closed July 2008 and it is now well over a year and still no final strategy. In the draft, 230L/day was used as a target water use. In the week ending Friday 1st August, central SEQ is using just 133L/p/day with the average for SEQ at 155L/p/day. At 200L/day the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam is rendered completely superfluous for SEQ urban supply for the next century.

And lastly to wind up - where is the over due

Coordinator General's report for the Traveston Crossing Dam...still there is no indication on when it will be out and off to the Federal government for a decision. Why is QWI stalling on giving information to the Coordinator General?

Could it be the Paradise Dam court case?  
Could it be the next federal election?

We are calling on Premier Anna Bligh to stop mucking around with greenwash mitigation measures and get on with the approval's process so that the disastrous Traveston Crossing Dam project can be stopped once and for all!

As always, a big thank-you to all our Volunteers and Supporters especially our sign writers who have had a battle to keep our signs up

## New Chance to Paddle the Mary

What makes an inveterate traveller finally put down roots? It's a long way from Surrey, England to the Mary Valley but Ian Harling reckons he's found one of the best places to call home.

Maybe it was encountering his first inquisitive platypus, one misty morning on the Mary, or just entering the different world of the river, its different pace, where the only sounds were the rhythmic strokes of the paddle or the periodic splash of a water dragon startled. Or maybe it was exploring some of the giants of the nearby forest.

Whatever it was, Ian would be the first to agree that "there's something about the Mary" and is poised to open a new business that will help others find the same pleasures.

"I found it hard to believe that not long after I had really come to love the beauty of the river, the government announced plans to destroy it forever by damming it," says Ian. "I'm still hopeful they'll eventually see reason, but in the meantime, I just want to help others see and experience the river."

Ian's new business "Ride on Mary Imbil Kayak and Bike Hire" offers a friendly, relaxing and environmental way to explore the Mary Valley.

## Yet another poll vetoes Traveston...but is the government listening?

There's been no shortage of polls that gauge public opposition to the TCD proposal and while QWIPL have claimed the community is "coming to accept the dam", recent polls suggest otherwise.

Hot on the heels of a Gympie Times poll that showed a 94% rejection rate, the Sunshine Coast Daily found, in its "Your Coast Your Say" survey, that no fewer than 91% of respondents were against building Traveston Crossing Dam.

Somewhere I seem to recall a somewhat humbled post-election Premier pledging to listen.

- Ian Mackay

(even on private property). Adrienne is doing a wonderful job at keeping those stalls going out in the community and is often looking for help (p8). Keep up the great work!

Please let the committee know if you have an idea or can help at any time. For those not sure how to become involved in the Save the Mary campaign, we encourage membership (either full or associate) to be more informed. Committee meetings are held fortnightly every second and last Thursday of the month and members are welcome.

Glenda Pickersgill

Ian has one double and five single kayaks and can arrange drop-offs and pick-ups for trips on either the Mary or Yabba Creek, with safety equipment and maps provided.

As an alternative to kayaking, Ian also hires mountain bikes to explore some of the trails (varying lengths available) in the nearby forest.

Contact Ian on 0400 297 678 to arrange your visit.

## Ride on Mary

**Imbil  
Kayak & Bike Hire**  
**0400 297 678**



- Pick up & drop off • Safety equipment • Route maps
- If you have your own Kayak or Bike we can pick you up and drop you off where you like!

Email [imbilkayakandbike@hotmail.com](mailto:imbilkayakandbike@hotmail.com) Website [imbilkayakandbike.com](http://imbilkayakandbike.com)

Ride On Mary, Leave No Tracks!

P. 081 3751144

# Greater Mary Association Report

GMA has been keeping busy since the last Dambusters was released.

We have two new members on our executive. We welcome Wilson Thomsen as the new assistant treasurer and Gene Merrill as the new assistant secretary. Congratulations to Wilson and Gene on their new roles.

Recent highlights of GMA activities include:

- ◆ a meeting with Glen Elmes MP in

which we had the opportunity to explain the concerns of downstream communities

- ◆ our “Win a Ham Stop the Dam” raffle which was a great money spinner at our successful Tiaro Landcare and Lifestyle Field Day in July. Thanks to Tiaro Meats and Bacon and Tiaro Fruit stall for donation of prizes

- ◆ Our stall at the recent Whale Festi-

val which showed support for campaign remains strong in Hervey Bay.

- ◆ Participating in Queensland Council of Unions and Electrical Trade Union events and helping their members see the waste of taxpayers money the proposed dam would be.
- ◆ GMA social BBQ held in Queens Park

- Tanzi Smith

## Government accused of hypocrisy

Groups fighting the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam on the Mary River say the Queensland state government will be guilty of “blatant hypocrisy” if it presses on with its plans for the dam after its decision to veto the Rainbow Shores development on environmental grounds.

While the Rainbow Shores development had been at the centre of the Labor mates scandal, the Premier said her decision was based on the need to protect the significant environmental values of the 200ha site.

Save the Mary River Coordinating Group President Glenda Pickersgill said the impacts of a dam, where already over 14,000 ha of land had been purchased by Queensland Water Infrastructure (a \$1 government owned Pty Ltd company), had received enormous attention since the proposal was announced back in 2006.

“There’s been no shortage of scientists and scientific studies condemning the Traveston Crossing Dam proposal,” Ms Pickersgill said. “Last year the Senate called for the project to be scrapped but the government just thumbed its nose at that call and continued to pour money into property purchases and develop-

ing the Environmental Impact Statement to send to Peter Garrett for approval.”

“The impacts of a dam are far wider than just the dam area itself. Just recently a comprehensive study of all 18 estuaries between Miriam vale and Rainbow Beach highlighted the risks for the Mary and the importance of maintaining good environmental flows.”

Greater Mary Association Chairman, Darryl Stewart said in light of their reluctance to accept that the impacts of a dam are beyond any mitigation measures, you’d have to question whether the government’s Rainbow Shores decision isn’t more about protecting mates scalps than protecting the environment.

“If we are to take the Premier’s word that the Rainbow Shores development would pose an unacceptable environmental risk, then we call on her to use the same yardstick for the controversial Traveston Crossing Dam proposal. She needs to act decisively to axe it now.”

- Save the Mary River media release

## Garrett petition on the verge of going to Federal Parliament

*Please return all outstanding petition sheets by the end of August*

The petition requesting an independent study of the impacts of the proposed dam has now exceeded 4600 signatures! Once all outstanding sheets are collected, we expect to reach our target of 5000 signatures. The petition requests an independent study of the impact on Great Sandy Strait and Hervey Bay.

A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered to collect signatures for us and to everyone who signed the petition.

There is still time for a last minute rush on a final lot of signatures before your sheets are added to the pile to go to Canberra.

If you have outstanding petition sheets please return them to Tanzi **by the end of the August**. Here are some options for turning them in:

- Bring them to the next GMA meeting at the Maryborough Town Hall on 25 August
- Drop the sheets into the centre if you are passing through Kandanga.
- Send them to the Kandanga Info Centre

## Steve Posselt completes upstream paddle to strike a blow for water wisdom

Epic kayaker Steve Posselt isn’t one to let the dust build up on his trusty yellow kayak. Not content with paddling halfway across Australia via the Murray, Darling and tributaries, or for that matter paddling the entire length of our threatened Mary River, not resting on his laurels after paddling several thousand Traveston protest letters via the Pacific Ocean to rendezvous with Peter Garrett on the steps of the Opera House, Steve is at it again.

He has just completed a 16-day paddle from Echuca upstream along the Murray River, paddled upstream along the Goulburn River, a 65km cross-country trek, and then a final

100km paddle downstream on the Yarra to Melbourne. His aim in completing the 500km journey was to help Victorians to put a stop to the continued construction of a pipeline that will take water from the Murray River to provide drinking water for Melbourne.

What drew him to Victoria is what sent him down both the Murray and the Mary, to draw attention to some really bad water decisions. His goal was to “bring to the attention of Melbourne people what the North South Pipeline means. It is a pipe that I can stand up in without bending, to pump water from the Murray River system, a system that now does not

reach the sea and is drying out from the bottom up, receding upon itself, so that people and businesses in Melbourne can use the water once and discharge it to the sea on the other side of the Great Dividing Range from which it came.”

“This is wrong,” he says. “It is sheer madness. Due process was not followed. As usual it was a political decision and the water industry is asked to fall in line.”

Check out Steve’s route and itinerary at [www.kayak4earth.com/blog.html#itinerary](http://www.kayak4earth.com/blog.html#itinerary)

## BOOK REVIEW

### “Green Legends” People Power on the Sunshine Coast by Elaine Green.

Launched at this year’s World Environment Day celebrations at the University of the Sunshine Coast, Elaine Green’s book really is a story of people power. And who better to research and write up more of the conservation history of the Sunshine Coast than Elaine, long-time SCEC member and past manager, ex-Maroochy Councilor and pivotal person in both the Maroochy River Catchment group (MRCAN) and the Conondale Range Committee.

The assumption (widely held in the 60’s and 70’s) was that the Sunshine Coast would inevitably dance down the same path of development as the Gold Coast, albeit a decade or so later.

But at every turn, the Sunshine Coast produced heroes that challenged this inevitability... unlikely and tenacious heroes like Kathleen McArthur, Stan Tutt, Heather Melrose, Jim Cash and a host of others.

What comes through Elaine’s meticulous research (she did inherit Stan Tutt’s voluminous collection of newspaper clippings to give her a head start) and compelling style of writing is the long-term commitment these “green legends” had to display. Few of the “battles” were played out quickly.

But as well as the numerous battles, you can’t help but imbibe the growing environmental awareness on the coast, and through its hinterland, the shifting sands of public attitude. Today you wouldn’t find much support for a chairlift up Mt Coolum, a string of high-rises along the foreshore, a rocked-up river mouth or canal estates on each and every waterway but they very nearly became part of the coast’s landscape.

This is a book that should be widely read. While it plainly recognizes and pays due credit to the “green legends” (and of course their ever widening support bases), it helps the newcomer better understand what has gone before. It goes a long way towards explaining why the Sunshine Coast isn’t a time-lagged duplicate of the Gold Coast and it helps us all to understand why the phrase “We don’t want this to be another Gold Coast” is an oft-repeated refrain among residents, even the most newly arrived.

And no, our battle for the Mary doesn’t feature, but Elaine would be the first to say it will warrant a book of its own when we finally get this dam project scotched. Her recurring themes of people power and long, drawn-out battles sound all too familiar.

Reading this book helps us appreciate why “Save the Mary” has drawn such strong support from across the region. If we owe a lot to our “green legends”, then it behoves us to continue their vision and determination into the future.

*Green Legends: People Power on the Sunshine Coast* is available from SCEC at 3 Porters Lane, Nambour, the Co-Op Bookshop at University of the Sunshine Coast and distribution to Sunshine Coast bookstores is being organized. Buy direct from SCEC (PH 5441 5747) for \$20 – RRP is \$22. Bulk buys for wholesale prices are available for SCEC member groups to re-sell and make a profit. All proceeds from the sale go directly to SCEC.

## Lessons to learn from estuarine health report

A recent report into the health of 18 estuaries from Miriam Vale to Rainbow Beach provides even more compelling evidence to scrap the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam in south-east Queensland.

The detailed study conducted by the Burnett Mary Regional Group in collaboration with the Qld EPA examined data collected over two years to come up with its report card. While some of the smaller creeks receive A ratings, the two largest rivers- the Burnett and the Mary, are rated as D- (extreme estuary health risk) and C+ (moderate estuary health risk) respectively.

Save the Mary River President Glenda Pickersgill said that comparing the Burnett and the Mary rivers provided a valuable insight into the highly likely impact of the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam. “In the Burnett and its tributaries there are more than 30 dams and weirs, the most recent being the controversial Paradise Dam near Biggenden. This report cuts the speculation and allows us to see the end result of such impoundments on the estuary.”

“While the Traveston Environmental Impact Study claims that downstream impacts would be minimal, this report, by examining the track record for the heavily impounded Burnett, clearly finds otherwise.”

“The cumulative effects of how we treat or overuse a river show up in its estuary and it’s to be hoped the government will heed this warning,” Ms Pickersgill said.

Association, Darryl Stewart said that one of the recommendations for ongoing management of the Mary estuary is to ensure it “has an adequate environmental flow allocation”. The Mary Basin Water Resource Plan that the Queensland Government rely so heavily on in their justification for the proposed dam does not consider environmental flow to the estuary. In fact if the dam does go ahead, based on the Government’s own figures, flows to the estuary could stop for more than six months. And this would be operating in accordance with the Water Resource Plan. It is just totally irresponsible!”

“The Mary estuary should not be viewed in isolation, it’s waters intermingle with and nourish the internationally recognised Ramsar wetlands, the Great Sandy Strait and the World Heritage listed marine environment of Fraser Island.”

There is a petition from dam opponents going to federal parliament calling for an independent assessment of the impacts of proposed Traveston Crossing Dam on the estuary.

“The government has a chance to learn from the Burnett. They’ve always been gung-ho in their assertion that a dam at Traveston Crossing would have minimal downstream impacts. Gathering this data from the Burnett should put an end to that,” said Mr Stewart. The real question, though, is whether the Premier and her Sustainability Minister are listening”

- Joint press release, GMA and Save the Mary River Coordinating Group

Chairman of the Greater Mary



## Kenilworth Poet's Breakfast...it's on again

As part of this year's Kenilworth Celebrates! festival, the Conondale Range Committee has taken on some assistance from Save the Mary to present another of their extremely popular Poets' Breakfasts.

From humble beginnings alongside the scout hut more than a decade ago, the Breakfasts have been growing steadily each year.

The audience love them, the poets love them, so how could they not continue?

With the proven mix of some really cham-

pion poets along with the delightfully unknown element of an open microphone for poets from the audience, the end result is two and a half hours of rhyming mayhem.

The most frequently heard comment from an appreciative audience is that they didn't think poetry could be that much fun.

The Breakfast runs from 8 am till 10.30 alongside the Kenilworth Hall and entry is just \$5. Breakfast is available, with catering this year by Kenilworth College P&C and refreshments by

Save the Mary.

Host for the breakfast is popular local poet Ian Mackay and special visitors this year include the most welcome return of Shirley Friend, a firm, if rather irreverent, favourite with poetry audiences across the nation.

After the breakfast, patrons are invited to visit the wonderful Art Competition in the adjoining hall and to be part of other festivities around the town.

For further enquiries ring Ian 54 460 124 (evenings, weekends)

Conondale Range Committee & Save the Mary proudly present:

# KENILWORTH POETS' BREAKFAST 2009

SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2009  
8 am - 10.30 am behind Kenilworth Hall

Hosted by popular local performance poet Ian Mackay  
not a former Prime Minister

**ENTRY \$5**

Hot breakfast and great beverages courtesy of  
Kenilworth Community College and Save the Mary

KENILWORTH CELEBRATES  
September 26 - October 4

Overnight camping available Showgrounds ph. 07 5446 0131  
More information phone Ian 07 5446 0124  
or [www.kenilwortharts.org.au](http://www.kenilwortharts.org.au)

## Kandanga 1000 On Again

The Annual Kandanga 1000, a 20km trail ride through the beautiful Mary Valley in South East Queensland, kicks off again at Imbil Showgrounds on Sunday 20 September 2009 at 9am. Camp sites for you and your horse available at the Imbil Showgrounds.

Even if you don't ride a horse you should still come to the night-before (Saturday) entertainment. It includes country, rock and blues music plus an auction spectacular with a licensed bar 'til late and roast dinners. Previous Kandanga 1000 events have been nights to remember. It will be a great time for the children and the adults.

Come and support the people and the horses of the Mary and show your disdain for the Queensland Government's plan to destroy the Mary Valley through the proposed building of Traveston Dam. This dam, if built, will be an environmental, economic and social disaster and must be stopped.

Contact Robyn 5484 3290, Brett 5484 3532 or Neville 5484 3697 for more information and to book.

**Did you know: Membership of the Save the Mary River Coordinating Group runs on a calendar year basis. That means that if you haven't paid a membership fee in 2009, yours is now due. Please contact the Info Centre at Kandanga for renewals.**



Photo: Arkin Mackay



Photo: Adrienne McVerry

### Upcoming Events

#### Saturday 22 August

Save the Mary Stand at Imbil Show.. Volunteers needed.

#### Saturday 22 August - Sunday 30 August

Save the Mary Stall at the Muster, Amamoor (see below)

#### Sunday 30 August—Monday 31 August

Queensland Government Community Cabinet in Bundaberg

#### Friday 11 - Saturday 12 September

Save the Mary Stand at Noosa Show, Pomona. Volunteers needed.

#### Saturday 19 September

Kandanga 1000 festivities and fundraising auction at Imbil

Save the Mary Stand at Kenilworth Rodeo

#### Sunday 20 September

Kandanga 1000 Horse Ride

#### Friday 25 September

Save the Mary Fundraising Film Night, Nambour Civic Centre (see below for details)

#### Saturday 26 September

Tin Can Bay Seafood Festival

Fundraising Poet's Breakfast in Kenilworth (helpers needed, see p.7)

#### Sunday 27 September

Pier Festival Hervey Bay

#### Saturday 10 - Sunday 11 October

Mary River Festival, Tiaro

#### Sunday 18 October

Fundraising Silver Bullet train trip (Gympie - Kandanga)

*Adrienne Mcverry is the Special Events Co-ordinator for the Save The Mary River Coordinating Group. To volunteer a helping hand, please contact Adrienne on 5485 5046, 0407 591 475 or [leamy44@hotmail.com](mailto:leamy44@hotmail.com).*

### Snippets

#### Muster Stall Needs Volunteers

Help is required to man the Save the Mary River stall at Amamoor from Saturday 22nd August to Sunday 30th August for a morning or afternoon or all day. We need your help to show to the thousands of Gympie Muster attendees that we have not packed up and gone away and that the dam is still an issue. Please ring Helga on 5447 9288 if you can help.

#### Movies for Mary

A fund raising film night for Save the Mary is being held at Nambour Civic Centre on Friday 25th September, organised by Jane Davissen. The movie, "The Burning Season", is about a young Australian trying to prevent the destruction of rainforests in Indonesia, and his trying to make an impact on climate change. His determination to succeed is inspiring. This film has won many awards. Movie commences 6.45 bar opens 6 pm and nibbles provided pre movie. We will have a stall in the foyer. Presold tickets are \$15 each and can be purchased by calling Jane on 54855273, the Info Centre on 54884800 or Adrienne on 54855046.

#### Fill-in editor needed for Dambusters newsletter

Help is needed from someone familiar with Publisher to produce the December newsletter (released in the last week of November), while Tilly is travelling overseas. If you're interested, please contact Tilly on 5456 2910 or [tillyhinton@hotmail.com](mailto:tillyhinton@hotmail.com)

#### Breakfast Helpers Needed

As part of the Kenilworth Celebrates Festival, there is a fundraising Poet's Breakfast on Saturday 26 September (see flier on page 7). Help is needed with baking cakes and slices, and also volunteers to set up on the Friday. If you can be involved, please contact Adrienne 5485 5046.

#### Save the Mary Stands

Tremendously successful Save the Mary Stands have featured recently at World Environment Day at the University of the Sunshine Coast and the Pomona King of the Mountain race. Big thanks to all the volunteers who make these stall possible.

### Contacts List

#### Save the Mary River Coordinating Group (STMRCG)

Post: c/o Post Office, Kandanga, Q 4570  
email: [savethemaryriver@gmail.com](mailto:savethemaryriver@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.savethemaryriver.com](http://www.savethemaryriver.com)  
Forum: [www.travestonswamp.info/forum/](http://www.travestonswamp.info/forum/)

#### Save the Mary Info Centre - Open 7 days

Visit: Kandanga Railway Station, Kandanga  
Phone: (07) 5488 4800

#### Greater Mary Association (GMA)

email: [greatermary@gmail.com](mailto:greatermary@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.ourgreatsandy.com/](http://www.ourgreatsandy.com/)

#### Save the Mary River Brisbane Group

Phone: David 0403 871 082  
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The Dambusters Newsletter is published every two months and Dambusters Bulletins are released if there is big news that can't wait until the next edition. All Dambusters can be accessed online at [www.savethemaryriver.com](http://www.savethemaryriver.com).

Contributions and feedback to The Dambusters are welcomed and can be sent to the Editor, Tilly Hinton: [tillyhinton@hotmail.com](mailto:tillyhinton@hotmail.com) or 5456 2910 (a/h).

The Dambusters is distributed by email to Friends of the Mary - everyone on the Save the Mary River mailing list, all members and associate members of the Save the Mary River Coordinating Group and fellow groups involved in saving the Mary River. You can become a Friend of the Mary by contacting the Save the Mary Info Centre in Kandanga. Print copies of the newsletter are available at the Save the Mary Info Centre.

