



Gladstone
Healthy Harbour
Partnership

2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Gladstone Harbour

All community members of the Gladstone Region have an intrinsic relationship with the Gladstone Harbour. The Harbour serves as a hub for resource exports, gateway to the Great Barrier Reef and is valued as a local icon. The Harbour is also culturally significant to local Traditional Owners of the land and sea in the Port Curtis Coral Coast region, the Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng, Taribelang Bunda and Bailai people.

As part of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area, the Gladstone Harbour (a sheltered natural deep water harbour) significantly contributes to both the Queensland and national economy as one of Australia's busiest ports. By accommodating for its various functions, it endures major pressures that impact on the environmental, social, economic and cultural health of the Harbour.

The health of Gladstone Harbour is extremely important to the local community. This needs to be maintained and where possible improved as development and user expectations increase with time.





Paul Birch,
GHHP Chair

A Message from the Chair

I am pleased to present my first Annual Report as Chair of the Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership (GHHP). This year has been both challenging and very rewarding.

Since the GHHP was officially formed in November 2013, key stakeholders from the community, industry, science, government and statutory bodies have continually worked together to deliver milestones linked to evaluating the health of Gladstone

Harbour. We continue to progress towards our vision of a healthy, accessible, working harbour.

The GHHP Pilot Report Card 2014 is the key document delivered by the Partnership, and includes information on Environmental, Social and Economic indicators in addition to materials on several programs established to ensure the ongoing success of the GHHP.

One such program is the Community Waterway Citizen Science Program, an initiative developed by the GHHP to involve and empower the Gladstone community in the sustainable use and management of waterways and the environmental assets in and around Gladstone Harbour.

Other programs GHHP have invested in that will be presented in the first complete Report Card in 2015 relate to fish health research and stewardship practices by ports and industry.

We will be working with the community over the next few months to gather feedback on the information contained within the Pilot Report Card. Comments received will be used to inform the design of the first complete Report Card.

I sincerely thank the Partnership, Management Committee members, Independent Science Panel members and GHHP staff for their dedication and hard work over the past twelve months. The journey of GHHP has commenced and hopefully will provide positive outcomes for the health of Gladstone Harbour for many years to come.



Dr Ian Poiner,
ISP Chair

A Message from the ISP Chair

The Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership (GHHP) is informed by open, transparent and independent peer-reviewed science, through an Independent Science Panel (ISP). One of the roles of the ISP is to ensure the quality and credibility of the scientific data used to inform the Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership (GHHP) Report Card.

The ISP comprises experts from a range of disciplines including: ecosystem health; hydrodynamics;

marine biodiversity; ecosystem modelling; environmental informatics / statistical modelling; dredge technical expertise; environmental sociology and social impact assessments; resource economics; water quality; and marine toxicology.

In the past twelve months several GHHP Science Program projects have been completed that have assisted in the development of a number of the indicators across three of the four components of the planned Report Card. This sub-set of indicators that relate to the Environmental, Social and Economic components are reported in the Pilot Report Card. All data obtained through each project has undergone rigorous review and analysis prior to being graded and included as results within the GHHP Pilot Report Card. The ISP has also developed a Technical Report to accompany the GHHP Pilot Report Card. The Report provides further details on the methods used to determine the indicators for the environmental, social and economic components, the statistical methods used to aggregate indicators, and, guidance around the interpretation of the Pilot Report Card results.

Compiling the scientific information contained within the GHHP Pilot Report Card and GHHP Technical Report has been a lengthy process, and I would like to thank my fellow ISP Members, the GHHP team, Management Committee members, and partners for their assistance over the past twelve months.

VISION

'Gladstone has a healthy, accessible, working harbour'

A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

The Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership (GHHP) represents 25 partners from the community, industry, science, government and statutory bodies who have an interest in the health of the Gladstone Harbour. All 25 partners have the opportunity to provide leadership for GHHP through decision making that is based on open, honest and accountable management including annual reporting of the health of the Gladstone Harbour. All management recommendations are based on rigorous independent science and strong stakeholder engagement and are signed off by the Partners to ensure the ongoing improvement in the health of Gladstone Harbour.

The Partners elected a Management Committee of 10 members and a Chairperson from the 25 Partners to govern the organisation and to oversee GHHP's operations. There is equal representation on the Management Committee from government, industry and the community, as well as a research representative.

The Management Committee is advised by and works in conjunction with an Independent Science Panel (ISP) who provide the rigorous science used to develop the framework for the Gladstone Harbour testing/monitoring, analysis and reporting.





PILOT REPORT CARD

GHHP's role, in conjunction with the Independent Science Panel (ISP), is to provide an annual Report Card for the Gladstone Harbour. Report Cards are a highly effective and an increasingly popular way to disseminate findings of long term ecosystem health monitoring programs.

GHHP has produced a Pilot Report Card in 2014 for consultation and review to refine the process for the first complete Report Card in 2015.

The ISP, chaired by Dr Ian Poiner, ensures the integrity and reliability of the science underpinning the Report Card and have selected report card indicators which are currently being trialled. These indicators measure the health of the harbour using numerical values to provide an accurate insight to the conditions of the four

(4) key areas. As the environmental, social, cultural and economic systems are highly complex, indicators provide a simple, practical way to track changes in conditions over time.

The Pilot Report Card 2014 shows environmental grades for each of the thirteen zones within Gladstone Harbour and an overall grade for environmental, social and economic components. The cultural grade will be refined for the first complete Report Card in 2015.

The Pilot Report Card 2014 shows environmental grades for each of the thirteen harbour zones of the Gladstone Harbour and a final grading for environmental, social and economic components. The Cultural grading will be refined for the first complete Report Card in 2015.



GHHP highlights by numbers



25 partners have joined GHHP since its establishment in November 2013.

GHHP has received
\$3,000,000
in funding in 2013/2014 and 2014/2015.

\$2,010,571.00

the total amount of co-investment funding for GHHP Science Projects.



27 indicators are being measured and monitored to determine the environmental health of Gladstone Harbour.



14 media columns published.



400 Gladstone residents were surveyed about their use and perceptions of Gladstone Harbour.

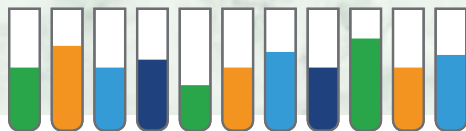
2 issues of   newsletter published.



13 harbour zones will be reported on in the 2014 Pilot Report Card.

30

local primary school students attended a GHHP National Science Week activity learning about catchment and harbour health.



GHHP have contracted 11 Science projects, 4 Communication projects and 1 stewardship project since November 2013.



Community leaders in business, government, science and environmental management were surveyed to compare their perceptions with those of the community they serve.

The GHHP e-PORTAL contains **340** metadata records and over **600** files.



The focus of the Gladstone Harbour Report Card is to report on the health of the harbour within the **four** component areas of Environmental, Social, Cultural and Economic.

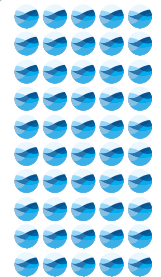
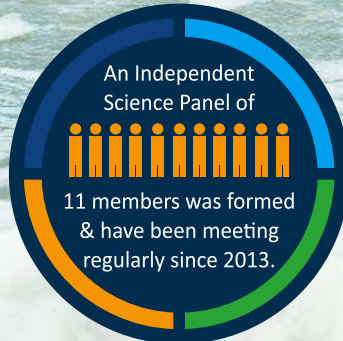
Over **1,000**

water quality measurements, taken from up to

170 water monitoring stations, were used to determine baseline conditions in Gladstone Harbour.



In 2014, **20** indicators will be used to provide a preliminary picture of the health of Gladstone Harbour in a Pilot Report Card.

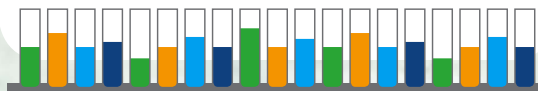


From 2015 on, around **fifty** indicators will be used to provide a more complete picture of the health of Gladstone Harbour in annual Report Cards.

Over **9,000** pieces of data were aggregated to measure the social health of Gladstone Harbour.



19 social scientists from outside the Gladstone region were surveyed to indicate the relative importance of various social health measurements.



Year in Review



COMMUNITY VISION

The Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership (GHHP), alongside the Gladstone Region Environmental Advisory Network (GREAN), came together to develop the community's vision of a healthy harbour by asking the question "What is important to us?" and so the vision of "a healthy, accessible, working harbour" was created. Through community consultation, it was found that the environmental, social, economic and cultural dimensions of the Gladstone Harbour were the most highly valued and these four components would form the means of how the health of the Gladstone Harbour would be measured.



ESTABLISHMENT

GHHP was officially launched in November 2013 and has attracted 25 partners from the community, industry, science, government and statutory bodies and established a Management Committee of 10 members. The Fitzroy Basin Association was nominated as the

host organisation for GHHP. The GHHP bought together 11 experts to establish an Independent Science Panel (ISP) who ensure the rigorous scientific processes are followed. Since its conception, GHHP has developed a Governance Charter and employed seven staff members, including professionals in science, communications and secretariat roles.



SCIENCE FRAMEWORK

Once the science framework was established, science knowledge and gaps were addressed; data and information collected and grades determined using the local water quality standards as a benchmark. A comprehensive program of science activities was undertaken to inform the framework, including the development of conceptual models to gain a better understanding of the key species and habitats in the harbour. Elements within the program design have continually been refined as new data and technologies become available, and throughout the reviewing stage of the Pilot Report Card.



TESTING/MONITORING

From the four (4) components of environmental, social, cultural and economic the ISP have identified individual indicators and indicator groups and the method of aggregating the grades to provide one grade for each of the components. Eleven (11) science projects have been scoped, approved and are currently underway including social, Cultural and Economic Indicator Pilot Project, Gladstone Harbour Model, Connectivity Indicator Pilot Project, Statistical Pilot Project, Data and Information Management System, Statistical assessment of the Fish Indicators and Seagrass Monitoring Pilot Project.



REPORT CARD DESIGN

A workshop was conducted with international report card experts from the University of Maryland to inform the report card design. Using these design principles, GHHP has produced a Pilot Report Card for 2014. A process to gain community feedback on the Pilot Report Card has been developed.



COMMUNICATION

GHHP has developed a logo, branding and a range of promotional resources for use at events. Fortnightly media columns have been published in three separate newspapers, informing the community of the progress of GHHP and the Pilot Report Card. A replica model of the Gladstone Harbour has been constructed to assist with the general public's understanding of the Report Card and its locations. The GHHP 'Harbour Focus' Newsletter is produced quarterly to update GHHP Partners on the progress of the project.



MANAGEMENT TOOLS

A Gladstone Harbour modelling project has commenced and will generate three inter-linked models including 1) Receiving Water Quality Model, 2) 'Atlantis' Ecosystem Model and 3) Socio-Economic Model. The three models will be 'scenario-ready' for testing by February 2015. Scenarios for testing could include further industrial developments, climate, population changes and management actions - activities that have the potential to drive changes in Gladstone Harbour.



OUR HARBOUR OUR REFLECTIONS

Our Harbour Our Reflections was launched on 24th October 2014, where 28 local people were recorded telling their stories in relation to the Gladstone Harbour. These stories have been presented on a DVD available to the community and hard cover coffee table books were presented to the Gladstone Region libraries. The stories range from how locals use the harbour as a recreational hub to how people have seen the harbour change over the years and the pride they have in the harbour.



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

GHHP has conducted displays at Gladstone's Ecofest, Botanic to Bridge Fun Run and National Science Week. GHHP has made presentations to a range of community based organisations, in addition to working in collaboration with a number of local community groups. A Citizen Science project has been developed to conduct a community based water quality monitoring program; an initiative to involve and empower the Gladstone

community in the sustainable use and management of waterways and the environmental assets in and around Gladstone Harbour.



DATA MANAGEMENT

A Data and Information Management System (DIMS) has been developed comprising three components, each with a separate internet interface including 1) Metadata Repository: GHHP e-Portal 2) Data Repository 3) Report Card System. The e-Portal consists of metadata collected as part of the Mapping and Synthesis Project and links to relevant reports. GHHP has worked in collaboration with a number of agencies and organisations to collaborate in relation to data collection.



STEWARDSHIP

Work is progressing on a GHHP funded Stewardship project that will assess the current management of Ports and Industry sectors through a reporting framework. The frameworks will be utilised as part of the 2015 report card.

Statement of Income & Expenditure Report

Fitzroy Basin Association Inc.
(Host of the Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership)

AGREEMENT NAME: GHHP
REPORT START DATE: 1st July 2013
REPORT END DATE: 30th June 2014

Income \$ (GST Exclusive)

Grants Revenue	-
Unexpended Grants	-
Interest Revenue	15,450.21
Memberships Revenue	3,060,200.00
Other Revenue	-
Total Income	3,075,650.21

Expenditure \$ (GST Exclusive)

Projects	4067.27
Contractors	160,767.94
Consultants	586,456.26
Promotions	11,908.36
Salaries and oncosts	131,438.39
Vehicles	126.14
Travel	29,528.03
Governance	24,648.05
Finance	-
Total Expenditure	948,940.44

Surplus / (deficit) **2,126,709.77**

Note: This is an abridged version. A full copy of the Fitzroy Basin Association Inc. Financial Statements for GHHP is available by contacting (07) 4999 2827 e: secretariat@ghhp.org.au

GHHP in Focus



▶ GHHP Staff



▶ GHHP Management Committee
(Absent Commonwealth Government representative and Indigenous representative.)



▼ Independent Science Panel (ISP) and Science Staff

▶ National Science Week

GHHP partnered with Boyne Island Environmental Education Centre, Harbour Watch and Conservation Volunteers Australia to present 'Exploring Environmental Science' as part of National Science Week.



▶ Gladstone Harbour Replica Model

MP Liz Cunningham views the 1:20,000 scale model of Gladstone Harbour, including townships surrounding the harbour, industry locations, seagrass beds, reef and iconic harbour species.





Gladstone
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WANT TO KNOW MORE?
visit our website at www.ghhp.org.au

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