

**STATE OF THE JOHNSTONE SHIRE  
2001 UPDATE**



*The Beautiful Johnstone Shire*

**JUNE 2002**

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## GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Last year saw the release of the first State of the Shire Report – a report compiled from extensive research and community consultation. The report embraced a new philosophy of considering social and environmental issue in all future planning.

The original report provided a benchmark against which the future development of the Shire could be measured – this update report provides the first of the reviews.

Much has happened in the past twelve (12) months to impact the natural built and social environment of the Shire and an assessment of these and future development will assist Council to do their job better.

Work is about to commence on setting indicators that specifically indicate improvement. The participation of the community in the process is again much appreciated – your contribution makes this document a useful and worthwhile community report.

I have no doubt that with your continued support and commitment that our State of the Shire Report will have a significant role to play in ensuring that Johnstone Shire's future planning best meet the needs of residents and ratepayers.



Mr Peter Roberts  
General Manager  
Johnstone Shire Council

## A WORD FROM THE PROJECT COORDINATOR



Ms Tennille Catchpole  
Environmental Project  
Officer  
Johnstone Shire Council

Welcome to the State of the Johnstone Shire Year 2001 Update Report. This is a report card on progress with implementation of recommendations from the Benchmark Report and updates readers about changes in the State of the Shire which occurred during 2001.

The 2001 Update Report is presented using a report card format, providing readers with a rapid assessment of the State of the Shire. The criteria for grading each chapter includes:

- Action on recommendations
- Filling deficiencies in data
- State of the Shire
- Goal Achievement
- Community Awareness

An explanation of the grading system is provided below:

- **A (Excellent)** - all criteria satisfied and in some cases exceeded. Vast improvement noted.
- **B (Good)** - most criteria satisfied and improvements recorded.
- **C (Average)** - little progress but no deterioration in the State of the Shire.
- **D (Poor)** - no progress made and possible decline in the State of the Shire.

It is with great pleasure that Council provides this State of the Johnstone Shire 2001 Update Report.

## **BIODIVERSITY—FLORA AND FAUNA IN 2001**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Johnstone Shire is comprised of 54% World Heritage Area which is known for its outstanding Biodiversity value and significance. The Johnstone Shire is home to the endangered Southern Cassowary, and its preservation is the driving force behind many conservation efforts in the Shire. The efforts for 2001 are outlined below.

### **AT A GLANCE**

The major developments regarding Biodiversity in 2001 included:

- An additional 4 protected areas designated during 2001 covering an area of 285.81 ha.
- Preparation of cassowary habitat maps by QPWS.
- 20 crocodiles were sighted during 2001, with only 3 crocodiles removed.
- Revegetation of 4 ha of Walter Hill Range.
- The Johnstone Shire Community Revegetation Unit revegetated 16.4 ha in 2001.
- Work commenced on regional ecosystem mapping.
- Information on invertebrates and land clearing within Johnstone Shire is available but has not been provided due to budgetary constraints.
- Updated lists of flora and fauna in the Shire are available via QPWS Wildnet database.
- Completion on the Draft Environmental Management Plan for the Port of Mourilyan,.
- During 2001, 6 cassowary deaths were recorded in the Mission Beach area, 2 of which were in the Johnstone Shire.
- A total of 455 cassowary sightings were reported, comprising 246 Adults, 112 sub adults and 97 chicks.
- The Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers were responsible for weed removal and revegetation along the Mission Beach foreshore between Clump Point and Porters Creek as part of the Mission Beach Vegetation Reinstatement Program.



Conservation Volunteers Australia who worked on the Mission Beach Vegetation Reinstatement Program

## REPORT CARD FOR BIODIVERSITY—FLORA AND FAUNA

Criteria	Grade	Explanation
<b>Action on recommendations</b>	<b>B</b>	All recommendations have been actioned, but to varying degrees. Other organisations have been supported and encouraged to implement their recommendations.
<b>Filling deficiencies in data</b>	<b>B-</b>	Information on flora and fauna has been obtained. Information on land clearing and insects is also available, however, there are costs associated with obtaining this information.
<b>State of the Shire</b>	<b>A</b>	The designation of 4 new protected areas and revegetation efforts have further protected and increased biodiversity in some areas of the Shire.
<b>Goal Achievement</b>	<b>C</b>	No goals were outlined in the Benchmark Report. The preparation of a Biodiversity Strategy is set to be completed in 2003.
<b>Community awareness</b>	<b>B+</b>	Community awareness of Biodiversity issues was increased through the State of the Shire Report and forum and through various activities such as World Environment Day.

**OVERALL GRADE B+**

### CONCLUSION

2001 was a year of achievement for Biodiversity in the Johnstone Shire. The designation of additional protected areas and revegetation works provided significant benefits to Biodiversity in the Shire. The wealth of information provided on Biodiversity related issues emphasise the value of importance of Biodiversity in the Shire.

### FUTURE DIRECTION

The preparation of a Biodiversity Strategy due for completion in 2003 will build upon the improvements in Biodiversity witnessed in 2001. Similarly, the collection of information on sightings and deaths of cassowaries, and sightings and removal of crocodiles will provide a valuable indicator of Biodiversity.

# LAND MANAGEMENT IN 2001

## INTRODUCTION

The Johnstone Shire is a heavily reliant primary/agricultural production area, and Land Management is an important issue. Efforts were underway in 2001 to improve prospects for Land Managers as explained below.

## AT A GLANCE

The following major developments were recorded for Land Management in 2001:

- Partnership between BSES, Bundaberg Sugar and CPPBs to support development of canegrower groups as a focus for new information, technology and issues.

	<b>Mourilyan</b>	<b>South Johnstone</b>	<b>Babinda</b>	<b>Tully</b>
<b>No. of Suppliers</b>	265	312	248	314
<b>Tonnes of Cane</b>	689,135	952,397	499,233	1,537,713
<b>Area growing sugar cane</b>	15,595	20,824	13,290	30,320

- Green Cane Trash Blanketing is practiced on the following area of land: Mourilyan (95.5%), South Johnstone (79%), Babinda (95.5%), and Tully (79%).
- Launch of the Liverpool Creek River Management Plan, and commencement of South Johnstone River Management Plan.
- Johnstone Shire Council committed to the Feral Banana Eradication program and employed a casual worker to implement the program in the Shire.
- A Black Sigatoka outbreak occurred within the region, threatening banana plantations.
- A total of 28 complaints were received by Council in 2001 regarding noxious weeds, with 5 pest complaints recorded over the same period also.
- 5 complaints were received by Council in 2001 regarding erosion., and 1 regarding beach issues. All complaints were dealt with.

Cane and Banana Plantation  
in the Johnstone Shire



## REPORT CARD FOR LAND MANAGEMENT

Criteria	Grade	Explanation
Action on recommendations	<b>B</b>	Most recommendations acted upon and completed or due for completion in the near future. Agencies not progressing recommendations have been contacted and encouraged to implement their projects.
Filling deficiencies in data	<b>D</b>	No deficiencies in data were filled during 2001. There are no plans for these deficiencies to be filled in the near future.
State of the Shire	<b>C</b>	Few changes have been evident. Preparation of the South Johnstone River Management Plan is a step in the right direction.
Goal Achievement	<b>D</b>	The land suitability report for areas north of the Johnstone River is still not yet published. Information on weed infestation reductions is yet to be collated.
Community awareness	<b>A</b>	Significant education regarding pests and weeds has been conducted including Weedbuster Week. The public has been encouraged to participate in the South Johnstone River Management planning process.

**OVERALL GRADE C+**

### CONCLUSION

A proactive approach to Land Management in the Johnstone Shire occurred in 2001 with the release of the Liverpool Creek River Management Plan and commencement of South Johnstone River Management Plan. Efforts were made to improve prospects for primary industries with the Banana Eradication program and development of partnerships between sugar industry bodies. Progress needs to be made of filling deficiencies in data and goal achievement

### FUTURE DIRECTION

The preparation of the South Johnstone River Management Plan should be completed in 2002. Efforts will also be made to obtain data not provided for this update and to follow –up recommendations which have not been implemented.

# WATER AND ATMOSPHERIC MANAGEMENT

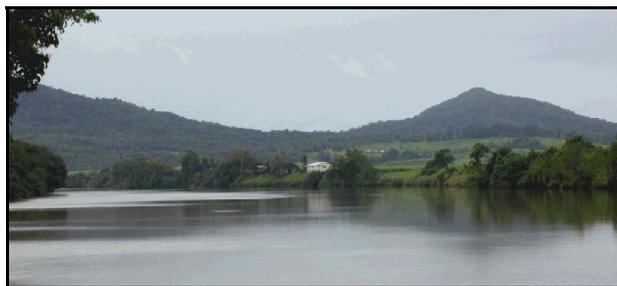
## INTRODUCTION

Water and Atmospheric Management remains an important issue in the Shire. Water is an abundant resource with many livelihoods dependent upon its quality and quantity, whilst atmospheric emissions impact significantly on quality of life everyday. As reported below, 2001 was an uneventful year for Water and Atmospheric Management in the Shire.

## AT A GLANCE

The main events of 2001 with regard to Water and Atmospheric Management include:

- The release of the Great Barrier Reef Catchment Water Quality Action Plan and Great Barrier Reef Water Quality : Current Issues documents.
- Preparation of the Johnstone Basin Stormwater Management Plan (work in progress)
- The quantity of surface water available (mean) and demanded were: 846000ML of water available on North Johnstone River at Tung Oil, with 1903 ha irrigated by the system, 716000ML available on the South Johnstone River at Central Mill for 1576 ha of irrigation, and 142000ML available on Liverpool Creek for irrigating 476 ha.
- 6 business in the Johnstone catchment reported emissions to the National Pollution inventory for 2000-2001, in the following levels (in Kg's): Arsenic and compounds (5.3), Benzene (110), Cadmium and compounds (0.46), Carbon monoxide (1200000), Chromium compounds (0.98), Cumene (2.1), Ethylbenzene (5.2), Fluoride compounds (75), n-Hexane (120), Hydrochloric acid (590), Lead and compounds (36), mercury and compounds (0.03), oxides of nitrogen (330000), Particulate matter 10.0 um (160000), Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (440), sulphur dioxide (150000), Toluene (100), total volatile organic compounds (8300), Xylenes (34).
- A total of 4 complaints were received by Council in 2001 regarding air pollution, 7 complaints regarding noise pollution, 9 complaints regarding water pollution, and 5 for other forms of pollution. 2 complaints were also recorded regarding oil spills.



North Johnstone River

## REPORT CARD FOR WATER AND ATMOSPHERIC MANAGEMENT

Criteria	Grade	Explanation
<b>Action on recommendations</b>	<b>B</b>	Council's recommendations completed through employment of an Environmental Project Officer who has begun preparation of a Stormwater Management Plan.
<b>Filling deficiencies in data</b>	<b>B</b>	Atmospheric data is now available, whilst no additional water quality/quantity data was provided. GBRMPA and DNRM have been contacted regarding supply of this data.
<b>State of the Shire</b>	<b>C-</b>	Lack of data makes it difficult to determine whether the State of the Shire has improved or deteriorated.
<b>Goal Achievement</b>	<b>B-</b>	Water quality targets were not set in the Benchmark report, are to be published and reported in the Stormwater Management Plan.
<b>Community awareness</b>	<b>B+</b>	Preparation of South Johnstone River Mgmt Plan has been publicised and involvement encouraged. Information made available through State of the Shire reporting.

**OVERALL GRADE B**

### CONCLUSION

2001 was an uneventful year for Water and Atmospheric Management. Whilst information on Atmospheric emissions was available, a lack of water quality data made the determination of progress difficult. Lack of progress on recommendations was disappointing. Whilst the public is increasingly becoming involved in water quality issues to the benefit of the greater community, there is room for improvement in the State of Water and Atmospheric Management.

### FUTURE DIRECTION

It is anticipated that the coming year will see progress on those recommendations not acted upon in 2001. The release of the Stormwater Management Plan in 2002 should see progress made toward the setting of water quality goals and targets, and increase the availability of water quality data. Improvement are expected in the following years.

# SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN 2001

## INTRODUCTION

Johnstone Shire Council is committed to the continued improvement of Waste Management practices in the Shire. 2001 saw the Council rewarded for its commitment with improved results in all areas compared with previous years.

## AT A GLANCE

The main information and events of 2001 with regard to Solid Waste Management include:

- 10% of bins inspected during 2001 were contaminated
- 19 schools were visited as part of school education.
- Approximately 3500 chemical containers were collected as part of DrumMuster
- An additional 800 compost bins were issued taking the total to 1800 bins, whilst 60 worm farms were issued.
- 250 volunteers and 200 school children were involved in Clean Up Australia Day.
- The Waste Management Strategy continued to be implemented through programs such as: public education, DrumMuster, composting, commercial waste reduction plan, pre-cyclone cleanup, Clean Up Australia Day, bin surveys, waste stream analysis, greenwaste subsidy and vermiculture.



Worm Farms and Worms



- General trends in waste management included a reduction in wet waste, dry waste and greenwaste contamination, an increase in recyclables
- Waste figures for 2001 are presented in the graph below.

Johnstone Shire Waste



## REPORT CARD FOR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Criteria	Grade	Explanation
<b>Action on recommendations</b>	<b>A</b>	All recommendations investigated and acted upon or ongoing. A Waste Project Officer has been employed by Council to fulfil Waste Management related functions including the composting and vermiculture programs.
<b>Filling deficiencies in data</b>	<b>B</b>	Information is gathered on quantity of waste disposed by category of waste. These figures are presented to Council monthly. More detailed information would be beneficial.
<b>State of the Shire</b>	<b>A+</b>	Initiatives in the Waste Management Strategy continue to be implemented. There has been demonstrated improvement due to correct waste management practices.
<b>Goal Achievement</b>	<b>A+</b>	The composting target has been exceeded. 1800 bins have been issued in comparison to target of 1500. Similarly, wet waste reduction has also been achieved by 7%.
<b>Community awareness</b>	<b>B</b>	Community education resulted in a reduction in wet waste transported, however some 20% of households continue to use bins incorrectly. School visits and public education are critical to improved practices, as demonstrated by results.

**OVERALL GRADE B+**

### CONCLUSION

During 2001, most expectations for Waste Management were met. Of major interest was the commencement and success of the Vermiculture program trialled throughout the year. Composting targets were exceeded substantially, whilst wet waste transport was less than 2000 but exceeding the target for 2001.

### FUTURE DIRECTION

The improvements in Waste Management within the Shire are anticipated to continue and for Council's wet waste reduction target of 5100 tonnes and 3000 compost bin target to be achieved by 2004. These improvements are in accordance with the continued implementation of the Waste Management Strategy due for revision in 2004.

# THE SHIRE COMMUNITY IN 2001

## INTRODUCTION

It was a productive year for the Shire Community in 2001. The State of the Shire Benchmark Report contributed to increased community focus on issues highlighted in the report which stimulated common community outcomes.



Johnstone Shire Skatepark

## AT A GLANCE

The main events of 2001 with regard to the Shire Community include:

- 2697 students enrolled in primary public schools, 592 students enrolled in private primary schools, 1437 students enrolled in secondary public school, compared to 540 in private secondary schools.
- 2001 saw the completion of: the Johnstone Shire Skatepark, housing forum, federation celebrations, youth survey, sport and recreation study, club administration training, harmony day, Kulture Karnivale and expansion of family day care.
- 42 family support services were available in 2001 in the areas of counselling services, respite services, child care centres and services, emergency relief, child protection services, income support services, migrant services, legal services and family support and self help groups.
- Police records show a total of 2276 offences were committed in the Shire (including all of Mission Beach division) in 2001. Offences included: sex, drink driving and other driving, liquor, drugs, weapons and good order offences, offences against the person, robbery, unlawful entry, fraud, handling stolen goods, motor vehicle theft, other theft, property damage, trespass and vagrancies, assaults as well as others.
- Commencement of a Community Needs Analysis to find out what services are available and what additional services are required.
- Creation of a support group for parents of children who have disabilities
- Additional funding was received by the Youth Shelter for crisis housing.
- As of 2001, the following emergency housing was available: 1 house and 1 duplex provided by the Domestic Violence Support Service, and 3 single rooms and 2 duplexes provided by Innisfail Youth and Community Care.

## REPORT CARD FOR THE SHIRE COMMUNITY

Criteria	Grade	Explanation
Action on recommendations	<b>B</b>	Most recommendations acted upon and implemented. Remaining recommendations are awaiting funding or due for completion within the next year.
Filling deficiencies in data	<b>C+</b>	2001 Census data will not be released until June/July 2002. This information will be included in future reports as it comes to hand.
State of the Shire	<b>A</b>	An increase in family support services, and recreational opportunities has occurred, with further progress planned. The Johnstone Skatepark was completed.
Goal Achievement	<b>B</b>	No goals were outlined in the Benchmark Report. However, a target for the following year is to obtain funding for and hold an Art Deco forum.
Community awareness	<b>C-</b>	Lack of community awareness of new and existing services was identified as an issue in the Benchmark Report and remains a concern.

**OVERALL GRADE B-**

### CONCLUSION

A slight but noticeable improvement in the State of the Shire Community was detected in 2001. An increase in available family support services was offset by a lack of awareness of those services, however, the existence of such services should be credited. The release of 2001 census data will provide a clearer picture of the State of the Shire Community as it becomes available.

### FUTURE DIRECTION

Many new initiatives are planned for the Shire Community to build upon its present state. These improvements include the employment of a Disability Project Worker, the facilitation of an Art Deco and a Youth Forum, as well as training in cultural sensitivity, cross cultural awareness and suicide prevention, in addition to the many services offered all year round.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN 2001

## INTRODUCTION

The Shire is heavily dependent upon agricultural/primary production for its economic prosperity. Attempts were made in 2001 to diversify the economy and improve economic opportunities, with the results of these efforts presented below.

## AT A GLANCE

The main economic developments during 2001 were:

- Department of Main Roads spent \$3,752,000 on projects in 2001. These have included design of the realignment of Currajah-Pin Gin Hill Rd, resheeting of Bruce Highway at North Johnstone River, and widening of Innisfail-Japoon and Mission Beach-El Arish roads.
- Figures show a decrease of 3.6% in traffic along the Bruce Highway, 200m north of the Kurrimine Beach turnoff. July, August and September are the peak times for travel.
- Nomination of a consultant for the Palmerston Canopy Walkway project.
- In 2000/2001, the Port of Mourilyan handled 26 ships carrying 446,459 tonnes of sugar (down 18.52% on previous year), 74,123 tonnes of molasses (down 40.92%) and 5612 head of cattle (down 19.24%).
- New trade opportunities for Mourilyan Harbour have been/are continuing to be sought.
- Continued support for and research of opportunities for the establishment of an ethanol industry. Bundaberg Sugar conducted a feasibility study into the establishment of an ethanol plant in the Johnstone Shire.
- Commencement of the Cane Cutter Court night markets.
- The inaugural 8 hour retail sale in the Innisfail CBD and the 4KZ Innisfail Garden Fair.
- A study of the relative values of base industries in the Johnstone Shire revealed: sugar (including milling) worth \$65m, other agricultural industries worth \$65m, fishing and aquaculture worth \$30m, manufacturing (excluding sugar milling) worth \$100m, tourism worth \$40m, and defence \$1m, taking the total to an estimated \$311m for 2000/2001.



Stage 2 of Innisfail's Town Beautification

## REPORT CARD FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Criteria	Grade	Explanation
Action on recommendations	B-	Many recommendations are awaiting funding to be implemented. Council has supported and encouraged other organisations to implement their projects also.
Filling deficiencies in data	D	Information on accommodation outside of Innisfail is not yet available. This study is due to be completed in 2002. Employment opportunities and figures also not available.
State of the Shire	B-	Progress is being made, however funding for new projects is a major impediment. Agricultural industries continue to struggle.
Goal Achievement	A	The Ulysses Link Walking Track was completed in 2001. Innisfail Scenic Route Signage was also erected during the year.
Community awareness	A	Initiatives such as the 8 hour sale and Cane Cutter Court night markets are heavily promoted and encourage people to shop locally.

**OVERALL GRADE B-**

### CONCLUSION

Issues relating to the productivity and price of industry commodities (bananas, cane, etc) troubled the economy leading to a less than prosperous year.. Progress on Economic Development is heavily reliant on the availability of funding and the results of this progress is often unable to be seen for some time (eg the Palmerston Canopy Walkway).

### FUTURE DIRECTION

The Shire will continue to suffer with the fluctuations in production and price of its primary industries. The importation of Bananas is looming as a significant threat to the well-being of the economy in the Shire, and the livelihoods of many. Efforts will continue to diversify the economy, with projects such as the Palmerston Canopy Walkway leading the charge to promote the Johnstone Shire as a tourism destination.

# COUNCIL ACTIVITIES IN 2001

## INTRODUCTION

Johnstone Shire Council sees the State of the Shire Reporting process as an opportunity to provide the public with information about its many activities. Johnstone Shire Council's Activities for the year 2001 are outlined below.

## AT A GLANCE

The highlights of Council Activities in 2001 include the following:

- An additional 3 properties of 46.2 ha signed up to the Voluntary Conservation Agreement program taking the total to 49 properties of 1340.2 ha.
- 2 additional Land for Wildlife agreements were negotiated in 2001 covering 3.792 ha, taking the total to 6 agreements covering 95.93 ha.
- Council's landfill and transfer operations recorded the following exceedances of licences limits: Stoters (5), Bells Creek (1), and Goondi (6).
- Site inspections with operators have been conducted for Greens Gravel Pit, Innisfail Boat Harbour, Mission Beach Toilet Block and ETTY Bay Toilet Block with Site Based Management Plans prepared.
- A study was commissioned to determine the impact of the Sewage Treatment Plant on Ninds Creek. 12 overflows were recorded during the year.
- New water intake pump installed on the North Johnstone River

Johnstone Shire Council's new Water Intake installed on the North Johnstone River in 2001.



- Few instances of non-compliance were recorded at the Water Treatment Plant and Motor Vehicle workshop, with the Animal Pound and Refuge compliant all year.
- Funding has been received for the Mission Beach Sewage Scheme which is due for completion in 2004.
- An additional 2 kilometres of road were sealed in 2001.
- Additional Landfill Remediation Assessment Program funding was applied for.

## REPORT CARD FOR COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Criteria	Grade	Explanation
<b>Action on recommendations</b>	<b>A</b>	Recommendations were implemented as part of ongoing programs, new initiatives, or awaiting funding.
<b>Filling deficiencies in data</b>	<b>C</b>	No deficiencies in data were identified in the Benchmark Report.
<b>State of the Shire</b>	<b>B+</b>	Few non-compliance issues were recorded in the year, and the area of land protected under conservation initiatives increased, contributing to an improvement in Council's performance.
<b>Goal Achievement</b>	<b>C</b>	The targets set under the Revolving Fund are no longer applicable. A review of the IEMS was commenced in accordance with timeframes. Work has not commenced on closure of Goondi and Bells Creek Dumps
<b>Community awareness</b>	<b>B</b>	The community is informed of Council issues through publication of the State of the Shire Report. Council also advertises important announcements in the Innisfail Advocate regularly.

**OVERALL GRADE B**

### CONCLUSION

Council Activities improved in 2001. Fewer non-compliance activities were recorded during the year and a greater area was conserved under its conservation initiatives, contributing to an impressive/improved environmental performance. 2001 activities also laid the groundwork for improved performance in the future (eg Mission Beach Sewage Scheme and additional LRAP funding)

### FUTURE DIRECTION

The first round of Landfill Remediation Assessment Program monitoring should commence in 2002. A study of the environmental impact of the Sewage Treatment Plan on Ninds Creek will be conducted in 2002, with the results of that study providing direction on whether to upgrade the plant to tertiary treatment.

## SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

Since the commencement of State of the Shire Reporting, Council has been responsible for publishing its first State of the Shire—2000 Benchmark Report, and holding of the inaugural State of the Shire Dinner and Forum held in June 2001.

This Report seeks to build upon the success of the Benchmark Report and inform readers of progress made since publication of the initial report. The State of the Shire in 2001 can be summarised as follows:

- **Biodiversity**—the Shire's Biodiversity was boosted significantly by the dedication of 4 additional protected Areas. Revegetation works have also contributed to the conservation of Biodiversity.
- **Land Management**—completion of the Liverpool Creek River Management Plan and commencement of the South Johnstone River Management Plan provided a proactive approach to Land Management in 2001.
- **Water and Atmospheric Management**—atmospheric emission data became available during the year with the 2001 report providing benchmark values. No assessment of water quality was conducted due to a lack of data.
- **Solid Waste Management**—improvement was shown in 2001 with targets for composting exceeded and significant progress made toward meeting the wet waste reduction target.
- **The Shire Community**—2001 saw an increase in the availability and number of family support services, however, a lack of awareness of those services still existed. The Johnstone Shire Skatepark was constructed and opened during the year.
- **Economic Development**—the Palmerston Canopy Walkway project continued to progress, whilst primary industries continued to suffer from the consequences of disease and decreasing commodity prices.
- **Council Activities**—a decrease in the number of non-compliant incidences at Council's licensed facilities combined with an increase in the area protected under conservation initiatives provided a bright outlook in 2001.

To surmise, 2001 saw a slight improvement in the State of the Johnstone Shire, with bigger and better things planned for the year ahead.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Johnstone Shire Council acknowledges the efforts of the following organisations and their staff who have contributed to this publication.

### **Government**

- Department of Natural Resources and Mines
- Department of Primary Industries (incorporating Queensland Fisheries Service)
- Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
- Queensland Police Service
- Great barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
- Families, Youth and Community Care
- Office of Economic and Statistical Research
- Department of Main Roads
- Queensland Transport
- Queensland Health

### **Community Groups**

- Community for Coastal and Cassowary Conservation
- Johnstone River Catchment Management Association

### **Business/Industry**

- Canegrowers
- Ports Corporation of Queensland
- Bureau of Sugar Experiment Stations
- Cassowary Coast Development Bureau
- Johnstone College of TAFE
- Community Support Centre
- North Queensland Afforestation
- Private Forestry North Queensland

### **Council Departments and Staff from:**

- Environmental Services
- Community Services
- Technical Services
- Councillors

## **SNAPSHOT OF THE JOHNSTONE SHIRE**

**Stage 1 of Town Beautification - Edith Street between Fitzgerald Esplanade and Rankin Street.**



**Fitzgerald Esplanade - overlooking the North Johnstone River**

**Warrina Lakes Recreational Facility situated in the heart of Innisfail**



**Crawford's Lookout—site of the Palmerston Canopy Walkway**