



# ORMEAU QUARRY COMMUNITY UPDATE

## Celebrating a 20 year Partnership between Boral and Landcare



Boral Environmental Reserve 1994



Boral Environmental Reserve 2014



Bottle Tree on quarry buffer land

## Boral Landcare Partnership

20 years ago, Boral partnered with Northeast Albert Landcare & Catchment Group (Landcare) in the Pimpama River Revegetation Project.

Boral continues to support Landcare in their long-term goal to have a continuous riparian zone along the upper reaches of the Pimpama River, to improve the health of the river and to provide a wildlife corridor. To achieve this goal, the group has undertaken many working bees removing weeds and planting native species along the creek banks. We would like to thank all Ormeau community members who have supported us in working towards a common goal.

In addition to the rehabilitation, the project has delivered the Boral Environmental Reserve, an area of approximately 3 Ha set aside on Boral's land.

This partnership is a demonstration of how industry and community can work together in harmony, creating significant outcomes for the environment, and leaving behind a valued legacy for future generations.

Paul West, Regional Manager - Boral Property Group said, *"the commitment from key individuals has been crucial to the success of the Boral Landcare Partnership. The Landcare President Bob Durance and active member Sue Durance, Steve Pyne - Executive General Manager Boral, and multiple Boral staff members responsible for Environmental Management and Stakeholder Engagement have provided a substantial amount of time and energy to ensure the success of the partnership and environmental projects over the years"*.

## Ormeau Bottle Tree Program

Landcare and Boral are continuing their partnership, with Landcare coordinating community plantings along the Pimpama catchment throughout Ormeau. Future projects include the planting of native and riparian seedlings along the Pimpama Creek as part of the Ormeau Bottle Tree Program.

Boral has recently undertaken further extensive vegetation assessments and mapping, in order to better understand the distribution and diversity of floral species on the site. This information is being used to support a long term staged revegetation program.

In the last twelve months the Ormeau Bottle Tree (*Brachychiton* sp. Ormeau) was listed as a 'Critically Endangered' species under the Commonwealth's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. Boral's partnership with Landcare has resulted in extensive and diverse plantings within the Boral Environmental Reserve and the restoration of the rainforest that once fringed much of Pimpama Creek. This work has improved the habitat of the Ormeau Bottle Tree by restoring rainforest around a large remnant specimen and reinstating more than 10 additional trees through plantings. The Ormeau Bottle Tree has been carefully considered by Boral during their site planning. This has ensured that all natural and planted specimens will be retained and protected as part of ongoing operations.

## Ormeau Quarry Rehabilitation Program Update

Over the last 12 months Boral and their revegetation contractors 'Forest Restorations' have continued rehabilitation works on site at Ormeau Quarry including weed control and some seeding. Most of the work has occurred in the rehabilitated areas along the Pimpama Creek, which were planted via the Boral Landcare Partnership.

The older rehabilitated areas are almost self sustaining now with considerable natural regeneration and only minor weeding work required. The younger areas, particularly the areas planted in the last two years have required extensive weeding and maintenance of seedlings.

Boral will continue its weeding and rehabilitation program throughout 2014 with the aim of revegetating the riparian areas of the Pimpama Creek around the site.

## Crushing and Screening Plant Upgrade

The Development Application to upgrade the Ormeau Quarry Crushing and Screening Plant was approved at the Full Meeting of Gold Coast City Council on 17 October 2011, and all Conditions were ratified under Court Order on 30 November 2012. The Approval is subject to >60 Gold Coast City Council conditions, in addition to State Government Agency conditions.

Upgrade works will start with the quarry entrance, providing an improvement to the quarry access including a re-designed alignment to screen views into the site, and some minor widening of Upper Ormeau Road.



Future Ormeau Quarry Entrance – view from Upper Ormeau Road



Community Planting on Upper Ormeau Road along the Pimpama Creek



Rehabilitation on quarry site



Pimpama Creek  
Boral Environmental Reserve

As part of the works, Energex will realign some power poles. Any community members affected, if any, will be contacted by Energex in advance. Works are expected to start in the second quarter of 2014. Further development works will continue over the coming years on site, with the new processing plant not expected to be commissioned until 2018/19.

## Continued quarrying and staged vegetation clearing

Boral will be continuing operations with staged vegetation clearing around the quarry pit area as part of its usual quarry practices on site.

## Indigenous Cultural Heritage

In late 2013, under the framework of our registered Cultural Heritage Management Plan, Boral undertook a detailed assessment of past indigenous activity on the site. Specialists including archaeologists and experienced indigenous cultural heritage advisors were involved in this study. The study identified how the traditional owners of the land may have utilised the site, and provided some valuable scientific information. Boral is now incorporating content on indigenous cultural heritage into its site inductions (for supervisors, employees and contractors), and is planning to support further scientific studies on some parts of the site.

