



Gladstone
Healthy Harbour
Partnership



2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Gladstone Harbour

Gladstone Harbour is treasured by the local community for its recreational value and the significant contribution it makes to the Australian economy. The harbour is a local icon that symbolises the beauty and resourcefulness of a sheltered deep water harbour.

The Gladstone community place significant value on the environmental health of the harbour and hold organisations and individuals, within Gladstone, accountable for its preservation.

The Port of Gladstone is recognised nationally as the largest multi-commodity port in Australia, and internationally as the third largest coal exporting terminal in the world.

The three LNG projects on Curtis Island are now fully operational. There has been a substantial increase in large ship movements including LNG shipping and cruise ships, but a reduction in cross-harbour traffic.



Paul Birch,
GHHP Chair

A Message from the Chair

It is with pleasure I present the third annual report for Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership (GHHP). This year saw us enter the operational phase and we successfully produced the first official report card for Gladstone Harbour and the first known report card for any area that covered environment, social, economic and cultural indicators. This truly shows the health of our harbour in line with the vision determined by the community. All 26 partners should be exceptionally proud of what we have

achieved and it is testimony to the hard work of many individuals over the last four years.

We should all remember the challenge issued to us by the Queensland Government in 2012 and our performance since highlights our commitment to maintain the health of our magnificent harbour by collaboration, transparency, accountability and clear communication. Once again, I would like to acknowledge the diligence of all science staff, communications team, Independent Science Panel (ISP) and the Management Committee. You are all to be commended for your dedication and commitment to ensuring the messages about the harbour are clear and concise while supported by scientific data.

The year also saw major changes with our ISP Chair stepping down in June. Dr Ian Poiner had worked tirelessly since the formation of GHHP and it has been my pleasure and privilege to work beside Ian. His replacement Professor John Rolfe has stepped into the Chair exceptionally well and is already filling the large shoes Dr Poiner left behind. John continues to mould a very successful science panel. The Management Committee has also undergone major changes with seven new appointments until December 2017. Many thanks to Peta Lane, Claire Andersen, Cr Colin Chapman, Garry Scanlan, Kurt Heidecker, John Gunn and Peter Brockhurst. Your commitment has helped shape the future of GHHP.

While we have completed the hard work since 2012, each future year represents a challenge for us to improve. This will require additional information to be available and also continually improving the current systems and procedures. While the 26 partners continue working together, these goals can be achieved and we should continue to improve our performance annually.



Professor
John Rolfe,
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). The fundamental role of the ISP is to assure the quality and credibility of the scientific data and information used to inform the Gladstone Harbour Report Card and associated Technical Report.

The ISP comprises experts from a range of disciplines including: ecosystem health; hydrodynamics; marine biodiversity; ecosystem modelling; environmental informatics / statistical modelling; environmental sociology and social impact assessments; resource economics; and water quality.

With the successful piloting of the report card in 2014 and then the release of the first report card in 2015, the focus of the ISP has been to consolidate the core programs, develop new indicators to better capture measures of harbour health, and to refine some elements for the 2016 report card. Notable achievements have been to add new indicator groups for Fish Recruitment and Indigenous Cultural Health. In 2016, 29 indicators were used, with more to be added in the future as additional monitoring programs are established. All data used to inform the indicators underwent rigorous quality control, analysis and review prior to being graded and included in the 2016 report card.

Producing the scientific information contained within the Gladstone Harbour Report Card 2016 and Technical Report has been a complex but rewarding process, and I would like to thank my fellow ISP members, the GHHP team, Management Committee members, and partners for their commitment over the past twelve months.

THE ORGANISATION

The Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership (GHHP) includes 26 partner organisations that represent government, industry, research and community groups. Each of the 26 partners have a nominated representatives who meet biannually. A nominated subset of these representatives sit on a Management Committee that includes three industry partners, three community, three government and one research partner. All partner organisations have demonstrated their long-term commitment to achieving the Partnership's vision that 'Gladstone has a healthy, working, accessible harbour'.

GHHP has been formed to deliver open, honest and accountable reporting and management of the health of Gladstone Harbour based on rigorous science and strong stakeholder engagement. GHHP's activities are informed by an Independent Science Panel (ISP) comprised of eleven experts covering aspects of harbour health and management.



REPORTING ON HARBOUR HEALTH

The Gladstone Harbour Report Card 2015 is the first of its kind, reporting on the environmental, economic, cultural and social health of the harbour. The report card is based on the results of the testing of 78 measures across the four components, between July 2014 and June 2015.

Overall, the Gladstone Harbour Report Card 2015 revealed environmental health was graded 'C', social health was also 'C', economic health was graded 'B', and the cultural health of Gladstone Harbour was graded 'B'.

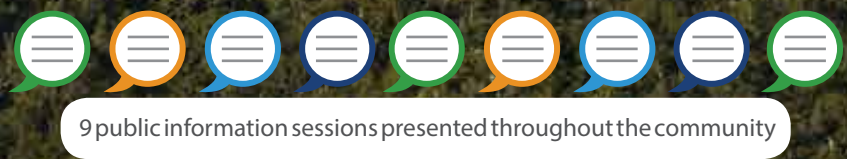
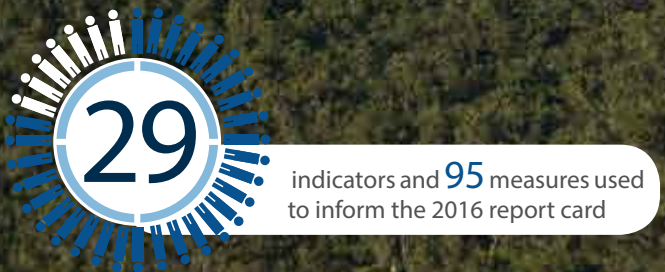
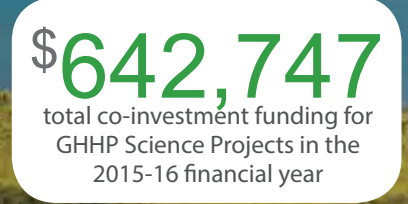
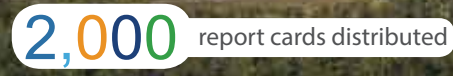
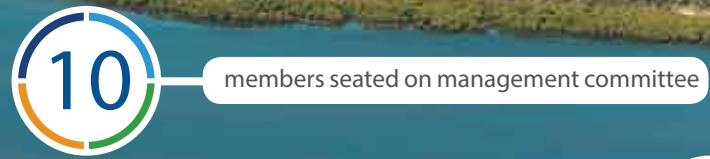
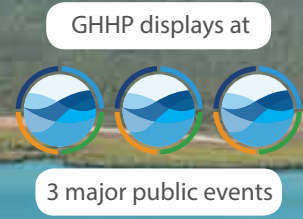
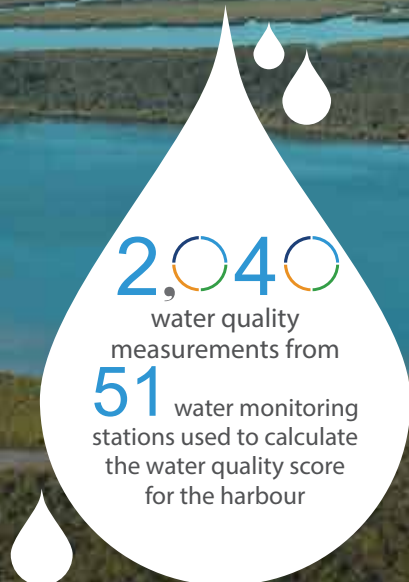
The 2015 report card included a much wider data set and suite of indicators than what was seen in the Pilot Report Card 2014. The data sets and suite of indicators will again increase for the Gladstone Harbour Report Card 2016, to be released at the beginning of 2017.

VISION

'Gladstone has a healthy, accessible, working harbour'



GHHP highlights by numbers 2015-16



Year in Review

GHHP MANAGEMENT

The Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership have settled into an operational phase following the release of the first report card in 2015. GHHP's host organisation, Fitzroy Basin Association continued their role, while the organisation's membership total stayed at 26. The GHHP Management Committee experienced some changes with six new representatives across the government, industry and research fields. New government representatives include Rachel Parry (Federal), Greg Greene (State), Desley O'Grady (Local); new industry representatives include Patrick Hastings (GILG) and Andrew Tapsall (QGC) and the new research representative role was taken on by Owen Nevin (CQU). The Independent Science Panel gained a new Chair, John Rolfe, as well as two new members, Nadine Marshall and Melissa Dobbie. GHHP has two full time science staff and continues its contract with Gladstone-based company, Amarna, to make up the GHHP Media and Communications team.

SCIENCE PROGRAM

The GHHP Science Program consist of a range of integrated projects designed to track the environmental, social, cultural and economic health of Gladstone Harbour by providing grades and scores for the annual Gladstone Harbour Report Card. Since the pilot report card was released in 2014 a range of projects have

been added to the program as we work towards the full set of harbour health indicators identified in the GHHP vision. New projects that will produce results for the 2016 report card include a project to assess the health of Indigenous cultural sites in the Gladstone Harbour area and a project to monitor fish recruitment. The Science program also includes projects designed to improve our understanding of harbour health. New projects that commenced in 2015-16 include, two projects designed to identify world's best practice in fish health assessment. The results of these two studies will ultimately inform the development of a fish health indicator for the report card. The first phase of a coral coring project also commenced this year. This project will collect and analyse coral cores from Gladstone Harbour and surrounding areas. This project has the potential to document changes to harbour water quality over a 50 year plus time period from the present year.

TESTING AND MONITORING

The second operational year of the report card program continues to see the number of Gladstone Harbour health indicators grow to address the full suite of indicators identified in the GHHP vision. Two new monitoring programs commenced in 2015-16, these support Indigenous Cultural Heritage and Fish Recruitment indicators for the 2016 report card. Social and economic

indicators, seagrass and coral indicators developed for the 2015 report card will continue to use the same monitoring and analytical methods to generate grades and scores that will be comparable with the 2015 report card. Data to inform water and sediment quality will continue to be provided through a data sharing agreement with PCIMP. Work has also begun to develop monitoring programs for fish, mud crab and mangrove health. In order to ensure consistency in developing report card grades and scores, and to calculate final report card grades, the development of all projects will be supported by the Data and Information Management System (DIMS) and statistical support program. All GHHP science projects are reviewed by the GHHP Independent Science Panel.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

GHHP has been well represented throughout the community while attending various events within Gladstone. GHHP staff took part in the Gladstone Harbour Festival, Boyne Tannum Hook Up and Gladstone EcoFest, where the GHHP stall was awarded the 'Spirit of EcoFest' award. Since the release of the Gladstone Harbour Report Card 2015, feedback has again been sought from the community via focus groups, shopping centre displays, online surveys, rotary meetings and other community events. GHHP continues to seek engagement within the community so as to inform the way in which report

card information is delivered. GHHP continue to ensure results from the testing and monitoring of the harbour are received by the community in a clear and concise manner.

CITIZEN SCIENCE

GHHP's Citizen Science program was undertaken by Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA) to deliver the Creek Watch program. The aim of the project was to engage the community through practical conservation activities to understand the state of Gladstone waterways. Volunteers, community groups and school groups engaged in the program and took part in the following activities: chemical water parameters testing which include temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen percentage, turbidity and conductivity; incidental flora and fauna surveys; macro invertebrate surveys; and photo monitoring. The program assessed the state of waterways while creating partnerships, engaging and educating the community.

GLADSTONE HARBOUR MODEL

The Gladstone Harbour Model is a unique, world-class tool, that once complete will enable the GHHP Management Committee to undertake annual scenario analysis, effectively road testing management strategies. Running scenarios will assist the Management Committee to provide advice on how stakeholders could respond to annual

report card results and provide a tool to explore possible management options. Upon completion the model will have fully functional hydrology, food-web and human sectors. It will include a calibrated representation of the dynamics of Gladstone Harbour and will have the capacity to represent contaminants, dredging, other major disturbances and spills. It is expected that the model will be fully functional in 2017 and that the first of the annual scenario workshops will be conducted early in the year.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

GHHP is developing an educational resource kit to increase awareness of the testing of the harbour in education curriculum. The GHHP Education Resource Kit will be an effective method to educate students and their families about how the health of the harbour is being monitored. The kit will utilise existing GHHP resources, such as the annual report card and children's story book to create a comprehensive package to build the student's knowledge of harbour health testing and the scientific processes involved. The GHHP Education Resource Kit will provide an opportunity, within the scientific education system, for the community to gain an understanding of what is happening within Gladstone Harbour. GHHP have been working with school teachers and relevant organisations to integrate the educational resource kit into the school curriculum. The GHHP Education Resource Kit will aim to be implemented throughout all Gladstone Region schools.

DIMS

The GHHP Data and Information Management System (DIMS) is an essential infrastructure support tool developed by the Australian Institute of Marine Science. (AIMS) This system allows a range of users to store, calculate and visualise report card raw data and results. Given the large volumes of social, cultural, economic and environmental monitoring data used to inform the report card annually, this system will help to systematically and consistently manage the raw and processed data. The DIMS acts as an information source for the GHHP website and collates and analyses different data types, producing graphical outputs and tables. The DIMS consists of four key components.

1. Metadata system - A metadata catalogue that provides access to all metadata records related to report card data.
2. DIMS repository - A web based file sharing and storage application which provides storage for all report card related files.
3. Report card system - The core of the DIMS is responsible for data ingest, script execution and report card score/grades generation for review by the ISP and the management committee.
4. GHHP and Report Card Website - The GHHP website is the primary interface for the public to access all levels of report card information, GHHP activities, and publications.

Statement of Income & Expenditure Report

Fitzroy Basin Association Inc.
(Host of the Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership)
REPORT START DATE: 1st July 2015
REPORT END DATE: 30th June 2016

	2015-16	2014-15
	\$ (GST Exclusive)	\$ (GST Exclusive)
Income		
Grants Revenue	-	-
Carryover	4,162,754.60*	2,126,709.77
Memberships Revenue 14/15	0.00	3,215,200.00
Memberships Revenue 15/16	612,370.00	1,603,200.00
Memberships Revenue 16/17	0.00	0.00
Interest Revenue	27,117.62	59,567.46
Other Revenue	0.00	0.00
Total Income	639,487.62	4,877,967.46
Expenditure		
Projects	1,959,428.35	2,288,888.07
Salaries and oncosts	348,577.01	416,005.37
Promotions	52,305.78	41,658.70
Governance	186,799.24	95,370.49
Total Expenditure	2,547,110.38	2,841,922.63
Surplus / (deficit)	2,255,131.84	4,162,754.60

* Carryover at 1 July 2015 (\$4,162,754.60) includes \$1,603,200 in membership revenue for 2015/16 that was invoiced in the 2014/15 year.

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





WANT TO KNOW MORE?
visit www.ghhp.org.au



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