



SOWN member Jim Lewis at the SOWN Nursery with a collection of plants.

Photo: Glenn Withers.

Save Our Waterways Now (SOWN) Nursery

With plants bursting out of their tubes, now is the time to grab those Black Beans, Waterhouseas, Lomandras and other goodies before Santa does.

SOWN members can collect their free plants on Wednesday 8am – 2pm, on Friday by appointment and on Saturday from 9am-11am.

For more information please contact Glenn Withers – Nursery Manager and Ithaca Intact Coordinator at: glenn@ithacaintact.org or on 0423 763 361.

Community day success

Music, local history talks and Capoeira were part of activities at Glen Harding Park, Ashgrove West, during the successful re-launch of Ithaca Intact on Sunday, October 17.

A sausage sizzle ended a fun and productive day where 400 local native plants were put in the ground.

The sun shone brightly. Participants were enthralled by stories of the creek told by long-term local Nurdon Serico.

If you would like to be part of this local action to restore the creek to its former glory, please contact

Ithaca Intact Coordinator Glenn Withers
glenn@ithacaintact.org
or on 0423 763 361.

If you would like to be involved at Glen Harding Park please contact group leader Adam Richardt at adam.richardt@y7mail.com or on 0403 758 801.



Photos: Mark Crocker.



Just a few of the SOWN team working on our local creeks.

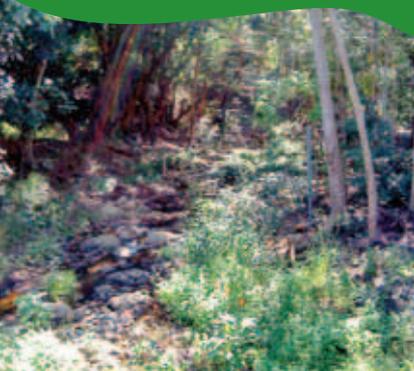


Photo: Glenn Withers.

Stonebrook Group Upper Ithaca Creek

The Ithaca Intact Stonebrook group on upper Ithaca Creek between Purtell Park and Carwoola Street in Bardon is restoring a beautiful site where large Waterhouseas frame the waterway and many important remnant native species are found in amongst the weeds. The weeds are disappearing fast.

There have been two working bees in 2010. **The next event is in February 2011 and then once a month on Sunday morning from 8am-10am.** All are welcome. For more information please contact group leader Maggie Magafakis at: mags.magafakis@gmail.com or on 0413 973 011.

Crimson-spotted Rainbowfish

SOWN member Leo Lee is currently studying the genetics of Crimson-spotted Rainbowfish *Melanotaenia duboulayi* as part of his post-graduate studies in molecular ecology at Griffith University. He takes DNA samples by clipping off a small piece of the tail. It grows back in about 3 weeks.



Leo Lee.

Leo spent his early years in the 1950s near Ithaca Creek, back in the days when Crimson-spotted Rainbowfish were in abundance.

The closest park to his Arthur Terrace home was Gilbert Park. Woolcock Park was a Chinese Market Garden. As Leo's interest in native fish grew, the local fish populations in the Enoggera catchment drastically declined.

Leo joined SOWN because he wanted to learn about local plants used in bush rehabilitation. He believes environmental rehabilitation is the best way to regenerate native fish populations and it's important to strategically



Crimson-spotted Rainbowfish *Melanotaenia duboulayi* caught in Ithaca Creek near the bridge crossing at Coopers Camp Road.

Photo: Leo Lee.

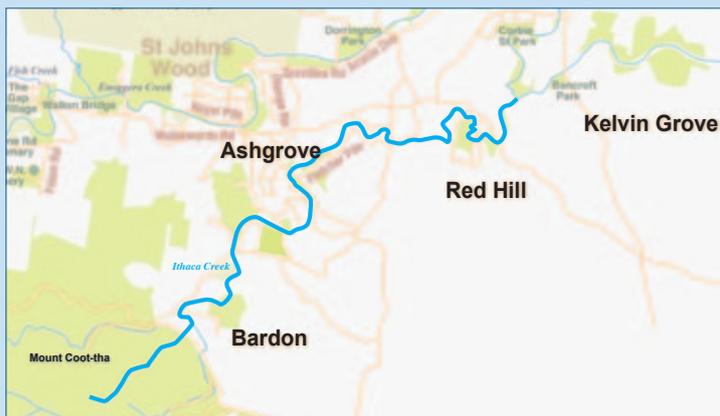
manage the removal of pest plants, making sure to leave some for protection rather than removing everything.

Leo's first activity as a member of SOWN was helping the Yoorala Street group plant trees and shrubs. He was a volunteer at the Ithaca Intact re-launch at Glen Harding Park, where a population of Crimson-spotted Rainbowfish also lives.



Searching for the rare Ornate Rainbowfish

SOWN is trying to confirm the sighting of a small population of the very rare Ornate Rainbowfish *Rhadinocentrus ornatus* near Bowman Park, Ithaca Creek. The Ornate Rainbowfish is a fairly small rainbowfish, body length to 6cm. Their typical habitat is tannin-stained streams and creeks with little or no flow. The Brisbane City Council has a recovery plan for this native fish.



Aim of Ithaca Intact

Ithaca Creek runs from the base of Mount Coot-tha through the suburbs of Bardon, Ashgrove and Red Hill where it joins Enoggera Creek. The aim of Ithaca Intact is to restore all 7 kilometres of Ithaca Creek to a sustainable, near natural state.

Save Our Waterways Now together with Brisbane City Council have removed weeds and replanted areas along the creek with locally native species. Ithaca Intact will build on this foundation, continuing to assist locals restoring both private and public land along the creek and in the catchment.

Save Our Waterways Now's Ithaca Intact project gratefully acknowledges the support of the Queensland Government through the Department of Environment and Resource Management and the Estate Late Harold Corbould managed by Perpetual.