

Sutherland Shire  
Environment Centre Inc.

*Annual Report*  
*2009-10*

*The Sutherland Shire Environment Centre works with others  
in the community – including business, council, government  
and residents – to achieve a sustainable environment  
in the Sutherland Shire and its bio-regions.*



*Patron*

R.D. (Bob) Walshe, OAM

*Board Members 2009-10*

Jenni Gormley (Chairperson)

John Nelson (Treasurer)

Phil Smith (Secretary)

Roger Bramble

Jonathan Doig

Tassia Kolesnikow

Michael McInerney

Ruth Zeibots

*Development Officer*

Graeme Booth

*Natural Areas Campaigner*

Dave Burgess

## **Chairman's Report**

September 2010 sees us facing environmental threats on many sides.

In the past 12 months we have seen the world fail at Copenhagen to reach any consensus that would see a demonstrable reduction in global carbon emissions.

We have seen massive expansion of coal mining operations across New South Wales and even under the nearby Woronora Catchment area.

We are confronted with a combination of developers and government who, through use of Part 3A and Joint Regional Planning Panels make a mockery of democracy and undermine all legitimate attempts at Council planning controls.

In Sutherland Shire we not only have a huge development looming at the Kirrawee Brickpit (a development which completely ignores the community agreed MasterPlan), but even worse a proposal by the Gandangara Land Council for a 5000 lot development in West Menai. On a smaller scale, we face higher and higher developments at Cronulla and the possibility of the loss of remnant bushland at Kareela.

The members of Sutherland Shire Environment Centre will need to dig deep into their wealth of campaigning experience to prepare timely and well-substantiated submissions, to encourage attendance at public meetings and rallies, to work tirelessly writing letters to newspapers, politicians, obtaining signatures on petitions.

We are fortunate in Sutherland Shire that 20 years ago there were people with foresight who came together to set up an organisation that would stand ready to help the community fight these battles when required.

For the past few years, the board of Sutherland Shire Environment Centre has worked diligently to ensure an improvement in our financial situation. And so in 2010 Sutherland Shire Environment Centre is in a sound financial position, with operational and management systems that are able to quickly respond to the needs of the local community when its natural environment is threatened.

Our 2009-10 Annual Report details the many ways we have been able to fulfil this role over the past 12 months, and we are able to look forward with confidence to the challenges ahead.

Jenni Gormley  
September 2010

## **Statement of Purpose**

The Sutherland Shire Environment Centre will work with others in the community – including business, council, government and residents – to achieve a sustainable environment in the Sutherland Shire and its bio-regions.

## **Statement of Functions**

The Board agrees that the following list comprises the priority functions of the SSEC:

1. Establish the SSEC as the Peak Environment Group in the Sutherland Shire and its bio-regions, one that supports low-impact lifestyles, practices and behaviours in the community.
2. Establish efficient communication processes with the community.
3. Develop and conduct education initiatives.
4. Campaign publicly for protecting and improving the quality of the environment in Sutherland and its bio-regions.
5. Support members and local community organisations in their efforts to protect their local areas.
6. Establish efficient information, operation and management systems for Sutherland Shire Environment Centre.
7. Strengthen relationships with Sutherland Shire Council, other councils and other community and environmental organisations.
8. Raise funds to carry out the functions of Sutherland Shire Environment Centre.

For all of the above, the principles of working in partnership with others and in concert with other initiatives apply. Consultation and collaboration are vital elements of effective partnerships.

The overall aim is to create an environment centre! One that is welcoming and useful for the community. And one that models and demonstrates environmental and sustainability values in its decisions, practices and actions.

## **Achieving our Purpose in 2009-10**

The “Statement of Purpose and Functions” (upon which this report is based), is the statement that guides all our actions and the implementation of our strategic initiatives.

1. *Establish the SSEC as the Peak Environment Group in the Sutherland Shire and its bio-regions, one that supports low-impact lifestyles, practices and behaviours in the community.*

- **Rivers SOS** – David Burgess, our Natural Areas Campaigner, is focussed on Rivers SOS campaign against damage caused by mining which includes threats to our own Woronora Reservoir, O’Hares Creek area and the upper Georges River Catchment. David is also helping to create on-line maps as another tool we can use to highlight and preserve our natural areas.
- **Parks and Native Animal Protection Coalition** – This continuing campaign has SSEC establishing itself as the Sutherland Shire representative in a coalition of major environmental groups. Other members are Blue Mountains Conservation Society, Invasive Species Council, Humane Society International, National Parks Association (NSW), WIRES, Nature Conservation Council of NSW, The Wilderness Society, Colong Foundation for Wilderness and Total Environment Centre.
- **NSW State Plan** – In November 2009, SSEC was invited to attend a review of the NSW State Plan with the then Premier Nathan Rees. This invitation was passed on to our members, many of whom grasped this opportunity to raise questions about a wide range of environmental concerns.
- **Kurnell 2020** – Sutherland Shire Environment Centre continues to be involved in meetings of stakeholders for consideration of the “Kurnell 2020” project which will rehabilitate and create biodiversity corridors in the Kurnell Peninsula over the next decade. SSEC was invited to a meeting with Breen Holdings and Australand at Sutherland to discuss the Environment Centre’s concerns to ensure the development was in line with the desired outcomes of the Centre and of the 2020 project. 2020 will be the 250th anniversary of the arrival of Cook at Kurnell and the project aims to restore (at least some) of the natural environment to its pre-European state. Other stakeholders included Council, state and federal government, indigenous community, bushcare workers, NPWS, Lands Department, and Sydney Catchment Authority
- **Pathway to the Sea** – Together with local cycling group SharkBike, SSEC has continued its push for a shared path/cycleway between

Sutherland and Cronulla. However, like so many worthwhile infrastructure projects the path awaits funding from Council and/or State Government.

- **A Sustainable SSEC** – A very important achievement this year was the establishment of a new mortgage over the Merton Street property. This re-financing sees SSEC well on the way to long term financial sustainability, hopefully seeing the Centre debt free in 7-10 years. The uses of the office in Durban Court are being closely monitored to identify any unnecessary expenses and to ensure space is used for storage of relevant records and equipment only. Minimisation of expenses makes more funds available for environmental projects and additional mortgage repayments. (See financial report for more detail.)

## 2. *Establish efficient communication processes with the community*

- Recent approaches to the Centre that have come through the website have voiced concerns about the Brickpit site at Kirrawee, West Menai Lands and a unit overdevelopment at Cronulla. Types of enquiries are monitored and the websites regularly updated in an attempt to stop misplaced enquiries, while at the same time increasing interest and enquiries on issues that fall within the objects of SSEC.
- Our e-news *Your Local Voice* is distributed electronically to all members of the Centre, directors and managers of Sutherland Council departments, Mayor and councillors, and to all local MPs, as well as a number of other environmentally focussed individuals.
- Email networks continue to be the most important and effective method of communication with our members and associates. Our mailing lists are growing with each campaign we are involved in and are continually being monitored and updated to ensure SSEC is exchanging current and useful information with like-minded community and environmental organizations.
- Public meetings held by SSEC and SCAN have had an excellent response from attendees and the media highlighting the fact that SSEC has the ability to respond quickly and effectively to threats to the local environment.

## 3. *Develop and conduct education initiatives*

- A number of seminars and forums have been conducted, e.g. Global Warming – Facts & Fictions, Hughes Climate & Energy Election Forum as well as sponsoring Jonathan Doig's participation in presenter training with Al Gore in Nashville.

4. Campaign publicly for protecting and improving the quality of the environment in Sutherland and its bioregions

**a) Your Local Voice**

Our campaigning toolbox includes our website, our e-newsletter *Your Local Voice*, letter writing, and media releases. To subscribe, or contribute, to *Your Local Voice* email [yourlocalvoice@ssec.org.au](mailto:yourlocalvoice@ssec.org.au)

**b) Tourist Development Bill becomes Law** (Extracts from *Colong Bulletin* June & September 2010) by Keith Muir

The *National Parks and Wildlife Amendment (Visitors and Tourists) Act 2010* was passed by Parliament on June 9, 2010 with Bipartisan support.

The *National Parks and Wildlife Act's* protection of nature has been weakened for the benefit of private tourist interests and commercial gain. The NSW Greens fought to block the Bill and then to amend it. For various reasons, the NSW Coalition did not oppose the Bill, but importantly, the Coalition did support the key Greens' amendment to the Bill that would have removed Ministerial discretionary power over lease approvals. This amendment would have strengthened the community's ability to effectively defend national parks against Ministerial excesses in the courts. Sadly, the amendment was lost in the Upper House by just one vote.

The new Act will allow a broad range of buildings and activities in national parks for exclusive commercial use. Other changes introduced include commercial tours which can be conducted in wilderness for the first time...

The NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water has over 33 fulltime equivalent staff in its Tourism and Partnerships Branch. Few of these staff appear engaged in any sort of community outreach program. The six functions of the Branch are: business development; business operations; commercial partners; oversight of a national parks call-in centre; visitor experience and education; marketing and promotions; and strategic projects and liaison. The call-in centre sells annual passes, and books tours and accommodation, while the visitor experience and education functions are to develop and implement new 'products and experiences.

The whole point of the new Act is to destroy the nexus between uses of the national park and the conservation purposes for which the park was reserved, and with it the power of the Courts to adjudicate

on the Minister's decision accords with those purposes. Under these new laws, it is the Minister, and not the courts, who will decide whether a use accords with the Park's purpose.

Sutherland Shire Environment Centre along with the Colong Foundation and other members of the Parks and Native Animal Protection Coalition will continue to campaign to keep nature's National Parks free of built accommodation or other exclusive developments, a policy that should be a part of any enlightened State Government administration.

This will be an important campaign over the next few months leading to the State election due in March 2011.

**c) Sutherland Climate Action Network (SCAN) report by Jonathan Doig**

Since last year's Environment Centre AGM, the world failed at Copenhagen, Kevin Rudd was kicked out after dropping the "greatest moral challenge of our time" and we now have a minority Labor government dependent on Greens and three independents who support strong action on climate change. Stay tuned for a year of unprecedented progress, especially on renewable energy!

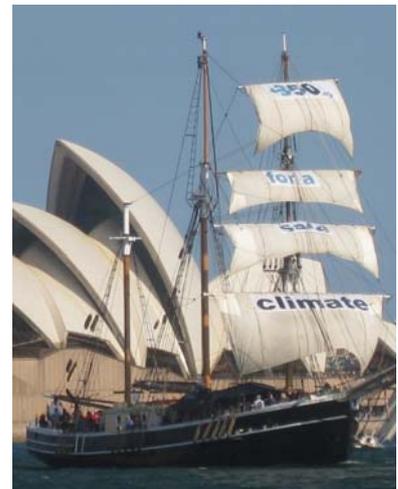
Over the last year membership of Sutherland Climate Action Network has grown 18% to 281. We organised or participated in ten events:

- *October 2009: Sydney Harbour Tall Ship cruise – "350 for a safe climate".*

In the lead-up to Copenhagen, we cruised Sydney Harbour as part of 350 Day, the most widespread day of political action in history, with 5200 events in 181 countries.

Our ship made the TV news, newspapers and even the giant screen in Times Square.

We raised over \$4000 to send Pacific Islander Patricia Corowa to the Copenhagen climate talks.



- *October 2009: Climate Camp in Helensburgh protested the Metropolitan Colliery, with Col and Bill Ryan among arrestees. Jonathan Doig ran a workshop on zero carbon transport with Garry Glazebrook from UTS and Guy Pross from Better Place.*
- *November 2009: SCAN marched in Walk Against Warming.*

- *December 2009:* Col and Bill Ryan were among 23 arrested blockading coal trains entering Newcastle coal port, protesting the failure of world leaders at Copenhagen to take decisive action on climate change. The protest generated media around the world. Col and Bill were initially convicted but later had their charges dropped on appeal on grounds of good character. SCAN and the Environment Centre raised \$1000 towards the protestors' fines.
- *May 2010:* launch of 100% Renewables (100% SHIRE: Safe, Healthy, Inexhaustible Renewable Energy) campaign with climate action groups across Australia.
- *June 2010:* Global Warming – Facts & Fictions, our seminar with top climate change scientist and IPCC lead author, Professor Andy Pitman attracted a full theatre, including at least a few sceptics and many others with climate questions.
- *June 2010:* Jonathan Doig attended presenter training with Al Gore in Nashville, sponsored by Sutherland Shire Environment Centre.
- *August 2010:* Hughes Climate & Energy Election Forum, with Matthew Wright, CEO of Beyond Zero Emissions and federal election candidates for Hughes.
- *August 2010:* Scan Marched in Walk Against Warming.
- *September 2010:* Jonathan Doig gave his first Al Gore Climate Project presentation, to Engadine Church Group.



Sutherland CAN will continue to work with the Australian grassroots climate movement on the campaign for 100% renewable energy.

**Join us when we doorknock Cronulla on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October with the 100% renewables survey, as part of the Global 10-10-10 Workday.**

SutherlandCAN.org.au      Jonathan Doig 0409 049185

#### **d) Mining under catchments** *report by Dave Burgess*

Around about this time last year, approval was given under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act (1979) for Metropolitan Colliery to continue longwall mining for another 20 years under the Woronora Special Area.

Although mining was approved, it was not the broad scale plan to undermine the Waratah Rivulet & nearby upland swamps that the company had initially planned. Further undermining of the Rivulet was (apart from 2 LW panels for which roads and vents had already been constructed) was stopped, as was mining under some significant swamps. Undermining of the stored waters would continue but with wider pillars. Little victories!

It is known that recent mining of the two longwalls permitted to go under the Rivulet has caused further damage. Peabody is also in breach of its consent conditions regarding consultation in that it was supposed to form a committee (CCC) with invitations to all previously engaged environmental groups and local councils. However the CCC has been appointed and none of the required invitations were acted upon.

Following the Metropolitan approval the focus shifted to BHP Billiton's massive Bulli Seam proposal, which would see mining, expanded into the O'Hares and Woronora catchments. The project was put before a Planning Assessment Commission inquiry at which we presented. According to the Planning Minister (Parliament Sept 2) the PAC report is complete but no decision has been made. In the meantime the project has been referred under the Federal EPBC Act and BHPB has been instructed to prepare a new EIS which should be placed on exhibition very soon.

There are also some documents emerging surrounding a CSM gas operation in conjunction with Metropolitan Colliery in the Woronora catchment. At first glance they appear quite revealing. The issue of the Woronora Plateau potentially becoming a large gas field is a significant one.

#### **e) First National Park** *report by Bob Walshe*

The Campaign for world Heritage Listing of Royal National Park was launched from Sutherland Shire Council Chambers, a community initiative, 11 March 2010, and aims to persuade the United Nations to add RNP to its List of the world's great and unique heritage treasures.

The campaign must first persuade the Commonwealth Government to take up the issue and then make an appeal to the UN's relevant committee, UNESCO. RNP is already listed as a protected heritage by the NSW State Government. We can embrace this and add further arguments to that base.

**Four Great Features.** We need to gather learned papers on the very special features of the Royal. These features have already been generalised under 4 heads:

- **RNP was indeed First.** Our Park was set aside as “The National Park” on 26 April 1879, thus predating the many national parks that have followed worldwide, including mighty Yellowstone in the USA (1883).
- **RNP is unique.** Especially in its location *within* a major city. Its entire extent of about 20,000 hectares lies within the Sydney metropolitan area.
- **Extraordinarily Diverse.** Scientists have distinguished an amazingly rich biodiversity of plants and animals, plus wonderful views and four major rock/soil types.
- **Benefits.** Not only the Royal’s pioneer status but also its intrinsic natural richness makes it a respected leader for all other park areas throughout Australia.

The Campaign has written to six Universities and other institutions inviting the writing of learned studies of the Park. Three universities have so far agreed to invite participation by staff. A major book (coffee-table size) is being prepared by a leader of the Campaign, Bob Crombie (magnificent pictures, with brief supporting text). The Campaign is inviting interested Park users to send their email address so they can be kept informed.

The First National Park campaign has provided a gift copy of Alan Fairley’s *Discovering Royal National Park on Foot* to all members of Sutherland Shire Environment Centre. This book will do much to enhance our understanding of the Park. (If you cannot use this book yourself then please pass it on to someone who may benefit from a greater use of the Park.)

Bob Walshe, Chairman, First National Park, 9528 0444

#### **f) Helensburgh rezoning bid** *report by Graeme Booth*

Wollongong City Council and NSW Department of Planning gazetted the WCC LEP 2009 in February this year, implementing the new zoning terms and respective restrictions. However most controversial was the translation of the former high conservation 7D zoning into E3 rather than the original applicable E2. E3 under NSW state planning allows new dwellings and various land uses.

Even if minimum lot size clauses are applied, the E3 zoning does not prevent land clearing, degradation, high boundary fences, or even livestock damage.

Some of the precinct areas marked for E3 straddle tributary creeks on the edge of the Helensburgh plateau, in a direct line of sight from

the Grand Pacific tourist drive. Given the high rainfall of the region, a terrain of clay and coalwash on a sandstone base, and existing negative urban impact held in check by the forest buffer, land clearing would cause enormous soil run-off, and a marked increase in sediment, nitrates and effluent in the tributary creeks and Hacking River .

SSEC organised the initial two meetings of the ‘Royal Connection’ at the Sutherland United Services Club. Sutherland Shire Environment Centre, The National Parks Association and Otford Protection Society were represented at the meetings and submissions were made to Wollongong City Council as a result. A comprehensive submission was also submitted by Sutherland Shire Council and acknowledged in later reports as having a large influence over later action by WCC in preparing new planning documents.

A major Gateway application was made by Otford Protection Society to the NSW government. This is the first and only such application made by a community group and as such the application has not yet progressed to the Planning Departments website.

The initial WCC planning instrument would have allowed up to an additional 350 homes in areas not permitted for residential development. Instead it recommended just 31 additional dwelling entitlements.

We are now awaiting WCC’s next move to a formal planning document.

**5. *Support members and local community organisations in their efforts to protect their local areas***

Sutherland Shire Environment Centre currently supports the following local groups: Sutherland Climate Action Network (climate change), First National Park (world heritage classification of Royal National Park), WaterFirst (mining within catchment areas), SharkBike (local bicycle user group) and from time to time informal groups of residents. Our support includes financial sponsorship of events, provision of equipment, setting up/hosting of websites, networking, wording of petitions, artwork for brochures, etc. Access to banking facilities (including PayPal and credit card), incorporation and our Public Gift Fund (charitable) status are all valuable assets for the local community to draw upon when needed.

**6. *Establish efficient information, operation and management systems for Sutherland Shire Environment Centre***

- Our website now incorporates the opportunity for online membership payments and donations utilising PayPal.

- Email is handled remotely and the information forwarded on a need to know basis. Some campaigners have their email diverted through an SSEC email address to an address they nominate. The SSEC phones are diverted when the office is not manned and are therefore able to be responded to on a 24/7 basis.
  - The SSEC e-newsletter, *Your Local Voice* is a speedy and cost-efficient method of reaching the members. Those without email can request a hard copy of the newsletter. For those with internet access there are many links provided to the subject matter in the newsletter. Contributions to *Your Local Voice* are welcomed.
7. *Strengthen relationships with Sutherland Shire Council, other councils and other community and environmental organizations*
- SSEC continues to work well and often closely with the Sutherland Shire Council. Michael McInerney remains our representative on the Port Hacking Management Panel and continues to work extremely hard to ensure the Hacking River receives the necessary attention. Council are supportive of the First National Park campaign to achieve World Heritage Listing of Royal National Park.
  - Gary Blaschke continues to be a regular guest at our board meetings and ensures that we are kept abreast of threats and achievements in the South West Sydney area.
  - Sutherland Shire Environment Centre has close links with NPA, Rivers SOS, Otford Protection Society, Colong Foundation for Wilderness, Total Environment Centre, Oatley Flora and Fauna Society, and Bicycle NSW. We remain a member of the Nature Conservation Council of NSW.
8. *Raise funds to carry out the functions of Sutherland Shire Environment Centre.*

As mentioned earlier in this report, a primary focus this year has been the re-financing of the mortgage on the property in Merton Street, Sutherland with a view to ensuring the long term financial sustainability of Sutherland Shire Environment Centre.

## **Treasurer's Report**

The 2009/2010 Financial Year saw a modest rise in net income to \$42,690 as a result of slight increases in income and slight decreases in expenditure for the Centre when compared to the previous year. The increase in income to \$128,291 resulted from increases in Donations, Rent Received and Fund Raising Event & Sundry Income, while the reduction in expenditure to \$85,601 largely resulted from decreases in Interest Payments, Rates & Strata fees and Rent (offset by expenses incurred in establishing a new mortgage). This is a sound result achieved on the back of continued generous donations from individuals and organisations coupled with what is now a net inflow of funds associated with the Office premises owned by the Environment Centre.

Of significant note in this year's Financial Statements are the movements in the Balance Sheet as a result of a reduction, via a partial repayment, in the mortgage that the Environment Centre holds.

In the past year the Management Committee approved the negotiation and subsequent transfer of the mortgage on the SSEC owned Office to the Commonwealth Bank. The finalisation of this loan was achieved with the approval of a number of minor changes to our Constitution.

Graeme Booth, as the Centre's representative, negotiated a loan deal which provides a more flexible loan than that which was offered by our previous mortgage provider... and importantly, this loan was obtained at a greater discount than our previous loan and at a better rate than was generally being offered to other businesses. I thank Graeme for his persistence and efforts in obtaining this great result.

In addition to the establishment of this new loan, the Management Committee approved the repayment of a substantial amount of the loan balance. This resulted in the total amount outstanding decreasing from the previous loan amount of \$250,000 to a little over \$150,000. This repayment and resulting reduction loan amount was undertaken as part of the longer term strategy which is being followed with the aim of making the Centre more financially independent.

Attached you will find further commentary and analysis of Year End Financial Statements.

### **SUMMARY**

The Centre continues in its struggle to generate "sustainable, long term" income. This new loan on the premises which are owned by the Centre, with decreased amount owing and associated reduction in monthly interest payments, is a fantastic result for the Centre. The income generated from these premises now exceeds the expenses associated with the property.

However, there is still a way to go to ensure full self sufficiency Centre and until this is achieved we continue to appreciate the generosity of a key donor.

### **SPECIAL MENTION**

I would like to make special mention and extend my thanks to Jenni Gormley for her commitment and effort in completing and tracking financial details on a weekly basis. Also, thanks are again extended Bruce Spaul and Melina Lidis from the accounting firm Munro Spaul for their and their staff's time in auditing the accounts of the Centre.

### **OPERATING SURPLUS**

At 30 June 2010 the accounts of the Centre showed an operating surplus of \$42,690 compared to an operating surplus in the previous year of \$30,500.

### **INCOME**

Total Income for the year was \$128,291, a slight increase when compared to the previous years amount of \$122,181.

Items of note within Income of the Centre included:

- a decrease in Subscription Income;
- a small increase in Donations and Rent received; and,
- an increase in income generated from Fund Raising Activities and Sundry Sources of Income (eg. the Norman Doige event, SCAN activities, etc)

Again, as in past years, we continue to operate financially with the generous donations of individuals and organisations and the time devoted by a solid management team. It goes without saying that without such support the Centre could not afford to continue to operate as effectively as it does.

### **EXPENDITURE**

Total Expenditure for the year of \$85,601 represents a decrease over the previous financial year of \$91,681.

Major areas of variation in expenditure over last year are seen in:

- Audit Fees - associated with the audit of a Return (report) associated with a previously obtained Government Grant;
- Borrowing Expenses – associated with the establishment of the new mortgage with the Commonwealth Bank
- Environmental Projects & Fund Raising Events - which show an increase in expenditure over prior year reflecting larger expenditure associated with major activities such as SCAN, Tall Ships, etc)

- General Office costs (incl Postage, Printing & Stationery, Computer & Software related expenses) increased slightly.
- Rent – decreased due to lower Rental payments associated with the smaller non-shop front office.
- Interest – reduction due to lower average interest rates over the prior year (albeit rising during the year) and lower loan amount outstanding for part of the year.

## **BALANCE SHEET**

Turning to the Balance Sheet, the property purchased in 2002 and its associated mortgage continue to dominate the Balance Sheet of the Centre.

This past year saw the Centre move a number of its core bank accounts back to the Commonwealth Bank, the closure of a number of old ANZ accounts and the segregation of these accounts to enable greater control and management of the Centres direct and associated expenses.

With the expiry of the previous fixed term mortgage, the Centre took the opportunity to negotiate an even more favourable loan with the Commonwealth Bank with a greater interest rate discount. This was achieved on the back of a substantial amount of discussion, negotiation and paperwork (incl a number of small amendments to the Centre's constitution) co-ordinated by Graeme Booth and well supported by Jenni Gormley.

At the same time, the Centre took the opportunity to apply money it was holding in bank accounts to pay down a portion of the total loan amount to be refinanced. This saw a reduction in the size of the loan from \$250,000 to slightly less than \$153,000 with a corresponding reduction in our overall bank balances.

Our Bank balances remain healthy providing sound footings for any Campaign support or other activities. Of the amounts held in these bank accounts, \$5,750 relates to a grant which was not spent and which has, post June 30, been returned to the Government.

John Nelson, Treasurer  
September 2010

**SUTHERLAND SHIRE ENVIRONMENT CENTRE  
INCORPORATED**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th June 2010**

2009

NOTE

<b>INCOME</b>		
767	Subscriptions	645
60,229	Donations	62,351
385	Interest Received	46
	Fund Raising Events &	
143	Sundry Income	3,344
60,657	Rents Received	61,905
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>128,291</b>
122,181	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>128,291</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
-	Auditors Remuneration - Fees	200
454	Bank Charges	555
-	Borrowing Expenses	3,192
25,153	Consultants Fees	25,000
1,806	Depreciation	1,217
338	Electricity	270
296	Education and Seminars	727
2,618	Environmental Projects	9,355
477	General Expenses	73
1,250	Honorarium	5,000
1,779	Insurance	1,403
18,094	Interest	14,742
	Loss on Sale of	
6,992	Non Current Assets	-
721	Meeting Expenses	721
68	Postage	250
-	Printing & Stationery	248
17,263	Rates & Strata Fees	15,982
12,067	Rent	4,789
255	Repairs & Maintenance	310
145	Subscriptions & Licences	82
1,905	Telephone & Internet	1,485
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>85,601</b>
91,881	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>85,601</b>
30,500	<b>OPERATING SURPLUS</b>	<b>42,690</b>

MUNRO SPAUL  
AUDITED

**SUTHERLAND SHIRE ENVIRONMENT CENTRE  
INCORPORATED**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th June 2010**

2009

NOTE

30,500	Operating Surplus	42,690
	<b>OPERATING SURPLUS AND EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS</b>	<b>42,690</b>
307,459	Retained Surplus	337,959
337,959	Brought Forward	380,649
	<b>ACCUMULATED SURPLUS</b>	<b>380,649</b>

MUNRO SPAUL  
AUDITED

**SUTHERLAND SHIRE ENVIRONMENT CENTRE  
INCORPORATED**

**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 30th June 2010  
NOTE**

2009			
	<b>SHARE CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>		
337,959	Reserves Accumulated Surplus		<u>380,649</u>
	<b>REPRESENTED BY</b>		
	<b>PROPERTY PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
506,353	Buildings - at Cost		506,353
23,606	Furniture & Fittings - at Cost	23,696	
18,004	Less Prov'n for Depreciation	<u>19,221</u>	
5,602			<u>4,475</u>
511,955			<u>510,828</u>
	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
25,591	Cash at Bank	1,418	
28,888	Public Gift Fund	5,722	
23,975	No. 2 Account	15,145	
5,670	ANZ SSEC Projects Account	368	
1,778	Security Deposit	1,778	
-	Prepayments	2,718	
1,322	GST on acquisitions	<u>1,175</u>	
87,224			<u>28,324</u>
599,179	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>539,152</u>
	<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
1,539	GST on supplies	314	
4,574	Grants Received in Advance	5,228	
5,107	Rents Received in Advance	-	
11,220			<u>5,542</u>
	<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
250,000	Loan - Colonial First State Investments Limited		
250,000	Loan - Commonwealth Bank	<u>152,961</u>	
337,959	<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>380,649</u>

MUNRO SPAUL  
AUDITED

**SUTHERLAND SHIRE ENVIRONMENT CENTRE  
INCORPORATED**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th June 2010**

**NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

These financial statements are a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the accounts preparation requirements of the Corporations Act 2001. The Committee have determined that the incorporated entity is not a reporting entity as defined in Statement of Accounting Concepts 1: Definition of the Reporting Entity, and therefore application of approved accounting standards is not mandatory in the preparation and presentation of these statements.

The statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001, and the requirements of the following applicable Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 110: Events after the Balance Sheet Date  
AASB 1031: Materiality

No other Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The statements are prepared on an accruals basis from the records of the organisation. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following specific policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of these statements:

- (a) **PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT**  
Property, plant and equipment are included at cost or at independent or Members valuation. The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including capitalised leased assets, but excluding freehold land and buildings, are depreciated over their useful lives or at depreciation rates set by the Commissioner of Taxation commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Properties held for investment purposes are not subject to a depreciation charge.
- (b) **INVESTMENTS**  
Investments are valued either at cost less amounts written off for permanent diminution in the value of the investments, or at Members' valuation. Dividends and interest are brought to account when received.
- (c) **INCOME TAX**  
Exemption from Income Tax has been obtained by virtue of Section 50-9 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

MUNRO SPAUL  
AUDITED

**SUTHERLAND SHIRE ENVIRONMENT CENTRE INCORPORATED**  
110 North Street, Hurstville NSW 2220

Tel: (02) 9570 8999 Fax: (02) 9570 8011

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS**

email: spaulj@munrospaul.com.au

**SCOPE**

www.munrospaul.com.au

We have audited the Financial Statements of **Munro Spaul** Environment Centre Incorporated for the year ended 30th June, 2010 comprising Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Statement and Statement of Retained Funds. The Committee is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the Financial Statements and the information they contain. We have conducted an independent audit of these Financial Statements in order to express an opinion on them to the Sutherland Shire Environment Centre Incorporated.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the Financial Statements are free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgment, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the Financial Statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the Financial Statements are presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 so as to present a view of the Organisation which is consistent with our understanding of its financial position and the results of its operations. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 are appropriate for the needs of the members. While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

Receipts from donations and other fundraising activities are a significant source of revenue for the Sutherland Shire Environment Centre Incorporated. The Sutherland Shire Environment Centre Incorporated has determined that it is impracticable to establish control over the collection of donations and other fundraising activity revenue prior to entry in its financial records. Accordingly, as the evidence available to us regarding revenue from these sources was limited, our audit procedures with respect to donations and other fundraising activity revenue had to be restricted to the amounts recorded in the financial records. We therefore are unable to express an opinion on whether donations and other fundraising activity revenue obtained by the Sutherland Shire Environment Centre Incorporated are complete.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

**INDEPENDENCE**

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

**AUDIT OPINION**

In our opinion, the Financial Statements of the Sutherland Shire Environment Centre Incorporated present fairly the assets and liabilities as at 30th June, 2010 and the income and expenditure of the Organisation for the year then ended in accordance with the basis of the accounting described in Note 1 to the Financial Statements.

Dated this 14th day of September, 2010

**MUNRO SPAUL - Accountants**

1st Floor, 33 MacMahon Street, Hurstville NSW 2220  
Tel: (02) 9570 8999 Fax: (02) 9570 8011  
PO Box 617 Hurstville NSW 1481

email: spaulj@munrospaul.com.au

www.munrospaul.com.au

ABN 70 959 486 153

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER SECTION 307C  
OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30th June 2010 there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor's independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- no contravention of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

**MUNRO  
SPAUL  
Principal**

HURSTVILLE, 14TH SEPTEMBER, 2010.