

ALAN STANGER MEMORIAL PLANTING



In October 2013 Alan Stanger's family and friends held a memorial planting in the Rapid Creek conservation corridor. Alan was a key driving force in the community action that led to the conservation zone on the Jingili side of Rapid Creek. Alan died in March 2013. The City of Darwin installed a plaque acknowledging Alan's contribution to this special place.



Alan was the motivating force behind the Jingili and Millner Residents Action Group (JAMRAG). Together with the Rapid Creek Landcare Group, PAn (the Planning Action Network), Greening Australia NT, the Rapid Creek Catchment Advisory Committee and members of the community, JAMRAG lobbied long and hard for the creation of a formal conservation zone alongside Rapid Creek. This very popular area is well used and highly valued by the community.



This community lobbying led to the *Rapid Creek Planning Concepts and Land Use Objectives* being declared in 2000. They provided for a 100 metre wide conservation zone between McMillans Road and Trower Road. Following much community persistence, led by Alan and JAMRAG, a commitment to purchase all the privately held land within the zone on the Jingili side was achieved. After some years of negotiation the NT Government acquired all the land within the conservation zone on the Jingili side of Rapid Creek for public use.



The acquired land in the conservation zone was then handed to the Darwin City Council and the NT Government provided funds for its rehabilitation. By 2006 fences were moved, earthworks carried out and revegetation works carried out by Greening Australia. Many members of the community participated with keen enthusiasm in a large community planting day.



The City of Darwin (formerly Darwin City Council) continue to maintain the conservation zone for the benefit of the community.

At the memorial planting Jackie Stanger, Alan's wife, Peter O'Hagan from the Rapid Creek Landcare Group, and Margaret Clinch from PAn recalled Alan's tireless commitment to creating the conservation zone. Alan's friends and community members who had been involved in the fight for the conservation zone then planted 5 trees in his honour. They then gathered over refreshments to remember Alan and appreciate Rapid Creek.

