

## THE MELBOURNE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY AT LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

The Melbourne Wildlife Sanctuary provides an indigenous natural environment for conservation, education and research activities that support the learning and teaching objectives of La Trobe University. The 28 hectare site, adjacent to the Melbourne (Bundoora) campus of La Trobe University's main campus at Bundoora, Melbourne contains beautiful wetlands and woodlands which include 400 year old river red gums. The Sanctuary is home to 175 species of birds and mammals in a pre-European settlement setting.

The Melbourne Wildlife Sanctuary:

- restores and conserves the indigenous environment of the Melbourne Wildlife Sanctuary and associated reserves
- provides a natural and secure environment for local wildlife;
- facilitates education and research programs of the University and community organisations;
- promotes the University's commitment to environmental best practice and sustainability in visible and practical ways.
- initiates and participates in corporate community relationships, including commercial relationships, that add value to the Sanctuary and enhance its mission.

La Trobe University offers courses specialising in environmental management, including water conservation. All are strongly supported by the physical environment of the campuses on which the courses are taught.

As part of its water conservation program, La Trobe University's Melbourne (Bundoora) campus has provided collection ponds for its stormwater - and that of neighbouring properties - in the form of beautiful lakes in the northern sector of the campus, incorporating the Melbourne Wildlife Sanctuary. The collected water is used to irrigate the University grounds and playing fields.

Within this context, the Melbourne Wildlife Sanctuary provides La Trobe University staff with opportunities to contribute academic expertise to activities of an educational nature that advance the objectives of community organisations involved in conservation and environmental best practice.

