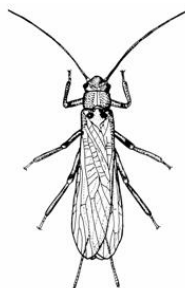


Matt Francey  
Manager of River Health  
Melbourne Water

The Waterbug Company

47 Pottery Road  
Lenah Valley, Tas 7008.

7 May 2009



## RE: Results from the 2009 Waterbug Workshop

Dear Matt,

Thanks for Melbourne Water's involvement in the 2009 Waterbug Workshop. The sponsorship from your organisation enabled us to maintain the standards of the workshop, and this year we even managed to increase the number of participants attending from interstate, so the event is slowly becoming recognised nationally. Which is really rather ace.

This is a brief letter just to keep you in the loop about what happened at the workshop and to reiterate our gratitude for Melbourne Water's involvement. The sponsorship ensures we can provide the waterbug workshop to community groups and students who in most cases have a passion for the stewardship of water resources but are often not quite as well funded as the private consultants and water managers that make up the rest of the course participants.

### Scholarships

Five places were sponsored by Melbourne Water, the recipients were from as far afield as Townsville in Queensland and Yancheep in Western Australia.

### Feedback from the course

The table below shows the average responses (out of 5) from participants. Thirty people attended the workshop. Responses were pleasantly consistent; the lowest scores were threes which aligned with the 'satisfactory' category on the feedback form.

<b>quality of the workshop</b>	4.8
<b>Personal progress with ID</b>	3.9
<b>quality of the facilities</b>	4.8
<b>quality of the demonstrators</b>	4.9
<b>range of specimens</b>	4.6
<b>quality of the art activity</b>	3.8
<b>overall enjoyment</b>	4.7

Additional comments from attendees:

"Being a novice, I struggled a bit....Presenters were all excellent and used humour well to maintain the interest. Always good to attend a course where presenters have obvious knowledge and enthusiasm about the subject."

### **A measure of success**

All of the workshop participants sat a test before and after the workshop to give them a feel for whether or not their abilities had improved over the three days. They were asked to identify 12 animals to the best of their abilities using common names, order level ID's and Family level Ids. The results below show marked improvements across all three levels.

	Before	After
Common names	9.26087	10.78261
Order level	8.304348	10.43478
Family level	2.913043	7.652174

All results were significant using a paired t-test, which is interesting given that 6 of the testing vials lost animals making the maximum score 11 for some participants in the second test...and the averages still showed a marked improvement despite this.

In the next week we will be revising the waterbug workshop website with photos of the event. If you are interested, they can be found at:

[www.thewaterbug.net](http://www.thewaterbug.net)

Once again thank you , and if you have any questions about the workshop don't hesitate to contact me,

Yours sincerely,



for John Gooderham and Edward Tsyrlin  
Joint CEOs  
The Waterbug Company

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