

# Newsletter

Quarter 1, 2024

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

2024

Here's to a brand new chapter filled  
with hope and possibilities.



## WELCOME TO 2024

From our family to yours - we at Gympie Landcare hope you all had a lovely Christmas.

We hope 2024 will be a good year for everyone and we look forward to seeing you in our nursery or at one of our workshops.

Check us out on Facebook and stay in touch – we'd love to hear from you.

# Presidents Message



## HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS AND READERS

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Hi everybody!

I think it is safe to say that 2023 was a challenging year for many people, organisations and businesses in our region. I for one am glad to see the back of it and am hoping that 2024 brings us all a lot more positivity and time to relax and enjoy life.

A quick review of 2023.

However, while 2023 was definitely trying, it wasn't all doom and gloom, and here at Gympie Landcare we had some big wins.

In the nursery, with thanks to Phil and Leigh out at Goomboorian for the space, we completed our first ever large grow contract. Most importantly, we had a brand new addition to our nursery staff: our staff member Chloe had a lovely little girl! We've also had changes in the nursery staff, having to say goodbye to our nursery manager, Andrew Mackenzie. We would like to say thank you Andrew for your dedication over the years.

Our environment and conservation crew totally outdid themselves last year, getting some major new clients and doing some rather "out there" jobs, such as fire watch for HQ plantations. For the most part though, you will see them out and about in our region, focused on planting new habitat and fighting the good fight against invasive weed species.

Biological services had some big achievements and is now selling dungbeetles (take note graziers and horse lovers – these little fellas are for you!). With Yvonne achieving her certification in soil biology testing, we will also shortly be offering soil testing as a brand new service. A healthy soil microbiology truly is key for improved plant growth and resilience.

And finally, we have a brand-new website! If you haven't linked into it yet, please do check it out.

Resolutions and aspirations for 2024.

Our first aspiration this year is improve our communications with our membership base. We are well aware you heard very little from us last year, but this year, we're aiming to do much better. Be prepared to hear from us regularly!

Additionally, we are hoping to do a lot more in the education space this year. While we did manage some Cat's Claw information sessions, worm workshops, and a few other bits and pieces last year, our aim is to grow our education space into a comprehensive program focused on sustainable land management and environmental rehabilitation, for both small and large areas. This is something we are passionate about, and while we envision small steps along this path, from little things, big things grow!

Finally, this year we are also aiming to strengthen each of our core business areas and increase our own resilience as a social enterprise. Working in the environmental sector is truly a "bumpy ride" and ensuring the longevity of Gympie Landcare (we turn 37 this year!) is something we continue to work on.

We need you – we are seeking management committee members.

We need more like-minded people to take the step up to community leadership and join our management committee team. Yes, it is challenging. But it is also hugely rewarding, satisfying and you never stop learning. While we encourage all to put in an EOI through our website, or by contacting our operations manager on [operations-manager@gympielandcare.org.au](mailto:operations-manager@gympielandcare.org.au). We are particularly in need of business, governance and other professional skills, to help us stabilise and strengthen as a social enterprise.

So, let's greet 2024 together with open arms, a positive mindset and the knowledge that when enough people work collectively to a common goal, we can achieve what seems the impossible.

Happy New Year everybody!

Alexandra van Beek

President Gympie & District Landcare Group



## OUR NEW WEBSITE

Exciting News! Gympie Landcare's NEW website is now LIVE!

Hello, Nature Enthusiasts! We're thrilled to announce the launch of Gympie Landcare's revamped website! Dive into a world of sustainability, biodiversity, and community engagement as we unveil our hard work and dedication to environmental conservation.

🔗 Explore the New Site here: <https://gympielandcare.org.au/>

### What's in Store for You?

**Community Initiatives:** Discover how Gympie Landcare is making a positive impact in the Gympie Region. From growing native plants, restoring ecosystems and working with our community, we're fostering a greener, more sustainable future together.

**Project Showcases:** Witness the transformation! Check out stunning visuals and stories showcasing our ongoing projects. Every tree planted, every habitat restored - it's a testament to the power of collective action.

**Get Involved:** Ready to roll up your sleeves? Learn how you can actively participate in Gympie Landcare initiatives. Whether you're a seasoned green thumb, a nature enthusiast or just want to be part of a great group of people, there's a place for you here!

**Connect with Us:** Stay in the loop! Follow us on social media, sign up for newsletters, and engage with like-minded individuals who share a passion for environmental stewardship and our beautiful region.

Join us in celebrating this milestone and be a part of Gympie Landcare's mission to create a healthier, more sustainable environment for generations to come.

👉 Don't miss out! Visit our new website now: <https://gympielandcare.org.au/>

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS NOW LIVE!

*Check it out!*

Gympie & District Landcare Group

Our Vision  
Restoring and supporting an abundant, healthy and self-sustaining biosphere.

Welcome to Gympie & District Landcare

[GYMPIELANDCARE.ORG.AU](https://GYMPIELANDCARE.ORG.AU)



## WE NEED YOU

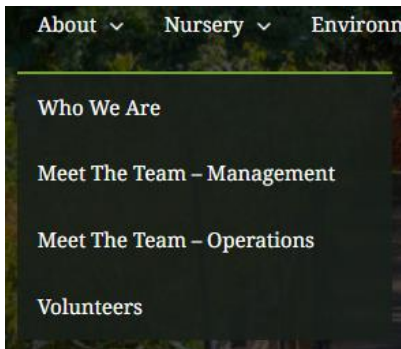
Want to improve your health? They say volunteering is good for you, which in turn is good for your health 😊.

We are currently looking for volunteers to help us.

There are quite a few areas where you can help out, such as in the Nursery, in our office and also assisting us in our Biological area.

Luke, Elle and Jera would love to show you how our nursery works. Or you could join Yvonne and Randall in our bug facility counting bugs or looking after worms.

If you or any of your family or friends would be interested in helping us, please register on our website under **About, Volunteers** and then **Sign Up Now** to register your interest.



We will offer you training, support and encouragement, along with flexibility, friendship and a great place to come and learn.

We would love to hear from you or your family or friends.



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

Did you make a New Years Resolution to help the environment? If you did, the below is just for you.

We are registered with Drakes Community Dollars.

What does this mean? For every \$1.00 spent, 1¢ will be donated to our organisation.



If this is something you or family and friends can help us with all you need to do is download the *myDrakes* app, enter your mobile number and follow the prompts. Select state and store and scroll down and select Gympie & District Land Care Group Inc. and select Save.



Alternately you can pick up a key tag from our lovely Nursery staff.

When you do your shopping, you can scan either the app or the key tag at the cash register.



Plus, another added advantage of using the app – you have a chance of getting discounts on your shopping.



## MEMBERSHIP

Has your membership lapsed and you'd like to renew?

It's as easy as jumping onto our website and completing your details:

<https://gympielandcare.org.au/product/membership/>

Or alternatively, come and visit our lovely nursery staff, and they will be more than happy to assist you.



## MEET ELLE AND JERA

Meet Our Dedicated Landcare Team Members: Elle and Jera.

Say hello to a dynamic mother-daughter duo here at Gympie & District Landcare!

Elle is one of our nurturing Nursery Hands, tending to the growth and wellbeing of countless plants. She absolutely adores working with all the plants and our amazing volunteers. But did you know she's not just a green thumb? Elle is also a firefighter at the Imbil Auxiliary Fire Station, fighting fires and keeping our community safe.

Jera, on the other hand, started her journey as a volunteer in the Bio Team and Nursery. Now, she's the friendly face you'll meet in our retail section, offering a helping hand and a warm smile to all our wonderful customers. Jera's passion extends to her love for animals, including her own cat and horse, who are her loving companions. When she's not tending to her garden, she's busy taking care of her beloved pets.

Elle's favourite weekend adventure spot is the lovely Amama Walk to Amamoor, while Jera has a heart for traveling. In 2019 she embarked on a humanitarian trip to Borneo and has just come back from an exciting trip to Europe over Christmas and New Year.

Their essential tools for a typical day at Landcare? Elle's trusted secateurs and Jera's favourite pair of snippers.

Elle's eco-friendly advice is simple yet powerful: "Recycle properly, but remember to keep it small, keep it simple, and keep it achievable."

When it comes to getting involved in environmental conservation, our talented duo has sage advice:

Elle suggests picking an area that makes your heart happy.

Jera recommends starting small, reaching out to your local Landcare or conservation group, and having a chat about where to get started – just like she did here at Landcare.

Jera's vision for the future of Gympie Landcare and the community is inspiring. She hopes to see more people igniting their passion for conservation in the area and fostering collaboration with diverse groups in the Gympie District.





## OUR E&C TEAM

Our E&C team have been very busy over the past twelve months.

We had a volunteer planting day with Mindaroo and RACQ at The Sands in early May 2023, which saw over 3,000 plants planted over three days.

The team, in collaboration with Koala Action Gympie Region and Gympie Regional Council's Land for Wildlife program, have also been hard at work on the Planting Environment for Endangered Koalas (PEEK) Project!

Focused on enhancing habitat through Koala food tree plantings, we're reducing risk to isolated Koala populations and fostering connectivity amongst groups. Spanning 11 private properties in the Mary Valley region, carefully chosen for Koala presence and strategic wildlife corridor locations.

Thanks to the Commonwealth Government's Koala Community Grant – Round 1, this project will deliver 5300 Koala food trees, fostering a healthier environment for our iconic Koalas.



Your support is invaluable in making this project a success! Join us in safeguarding Koala habitats and promoting biodiversity.



## DUNG BEETLE PACKS - BIOLOGICAL SERVICES

Elevate Your Farming Game with Gympie Landcare's Dung Beetle Packs from our Biological Services Team!

Unleash the power of nature on your farm! Our carefully curated dung beetle packs are designed to revolutionise your land management. Choose from our specialised options below:

1. Northern Summer Pack: Perfect for maximizing dung breakdown during the warm months.
2. Northern Autumn/Winter Pack: Ensure effective dung processing even in cooler temperatures.
3. Small Farm Pack: Tailored for compact operations without compromising on efficiency.

Why Gympie Landcare Dung Beetle Packs?

- Efficient dung removal
- Soil aeration for healthier crops
- Improved water filtration
- Natural pest and fly control

Ready to transform your farm?

Contact Yvonne now! Call: 5483 8866 or email: [bio-services-manager@gympielandcare.org.au](mailto:bio-services-manager@gympielandcare.org.au)

Don't miss out on this opportunity to enhance your land's health and productivity!



we sell dung beetle packs !

**LOOK  
WHAT  
WE OFFER**



[www.gympielandcare.org.au](http://www.gympielandcare.org.au)