



Gympie Landcare's Achievements

We were one of the first Landcare groups established in the state. At first the focus was on erosion and site restoration under management mainly by graziers. With the formation of a strong local grazier group and the provision of federal grants mainly for environmental work the focus shifted to weed removal and revegetation projects and the group became more urban/rural. Nevertheless, we run educational schools to inform rural dwellers of good practice on the land. We developed a fine nursery noted for the availability of local material and opened a biological control facility early this century raising insects to attack what later became Weeds of National Significance. We now raise a bug, a beetle and a moth to attack cats claw creeper and a beetle to attack Madeira vine, becoming the leading non-governmental agency in the state and having increased our production capabilities in co-operation with other agencies including the Macadamia Nut Society. Our contract services now generate considerable income with their weed-control and vegetation planting activities often in partnership with the local Council.



Conference Room Available for Hire

The Community and Gympie Landcare members are welcome to hire our conference room facility. Our meeting room includes air-conditioning, tables, chairs, a projector, screen, whiteboard and kitchen facilities, as well as kitchen facilities and free wifi on request. The venue can seat up to 40 people configured in cinema style.



Occasional use

1 Hour (minimum 2 hours) – **\$20.00**

Half day (4 hours) – **\$50.00**

Full day (8 hours) – **\$90.00**

Costs for regular use of our venue by clubs or groups will be determined on request.

Please request a copy of our Booking Form and Terms & Conditions and return it to our office to secure your booking.

Permaculture Principle 5 – Use & Value Renewable Resources

This principle encourages us to use nature's abundance. Using biological resources means that they are inherently regenerative. This can range from mulch, cattle to yeasts. Biological resources use energy from the sun to make more of themselves and thus they do not become a waste product. An example of this principle is mulching your garden to suppress weeds. To do that you could choose to use cardboard or black plastic, both will do the job equally well. The difference is that cardboard slowly breaks down into the soil, feeding all the microbial life which will regenerate your soil. On the other hand using the plastic means that it slowly degrades in the sun, leaving bits

of plastic in the soil and at some point what is left would require to be disposed of. It makes no contribution to the soil life and uses petroleum to be produced.

As far as is possible try to limit the need for dependance on outside resources by using what you have on your property. When you need mulch grow it. A good plant for mulch is lemongrass which has multiple uses. It can be used to edge out grass, to cook with, make a healing tea and the tops can be cut for mulch.



This principle applies to larger pieces of land as well. If you need to till consider using pigs, not only do they get rid of weeds and turn the soil at the same time they add to soil fertility through the deposit of manure which will regenerate the soil. The management of pastures is best done by cattle and sheep who through their grazing habit stimulate the pasture and once again drop manure for the microbial soil life to thrive.

When designing for your land or simply having a challenge to overcome ask the following questions

1. How is this problem dealt with in nature?
2. Does my solution rely on non-biological resources?
3. If it does rely on non-biological resources am I able to replace the solution with a biological solution once the solution has matured?

We can all be part of a more sustainable cycle if we all think about and partake in nature's cycles that are much better designed than our own.

Containers for Change

As a state, we're great at many things. However, when it comes to recycling, Queensland can do a lot better. In fact, we have one of the lowest recycling rates in Australia, at around 44%.

Each year, approximately three billion beverage containers are generated in our state alone and are the second most littered item.

So, to help us all improve our recycling efforts and keep our beautiful environment litter-free, Gympie Landcare have registered for the Containers for Change scheme.

Now when you drop off your recycling containers to a drop off point, you can elect Gympie Landcare as the beneficiary of your refund amount! Not only are you helping the environment, you're now donating to Gympie Landcare and helping us continue to do what we do best.



All you need to do is provide our code: C10161523

For more information, please visit www.containersforchange.com.au

Volunteering at Gympie Landcare

Thinking about volunteering with us? Our volunteers are the lifeblood of our organisation bringing lots of different and much-needed skill, experience, and knowledge to our organisation.

To assist with managing incoming volunteers, we are now holding volunteer induction days on the first Friday of every month from 9.00am. Volunteers are able to attend the induction in the morning, have some lunch with our current volunteers (please bring your own) and then continue

to volunteer some hours in the afternoon. Alternatively, you can come for the induction to just to see if it is right for you and we can work with you to arrange which days you would like to volunteer.

When people think of volunteering with us, most people assume the only area they can volunteer in is our nursery, but that's not true! We have many areas and departments that require volunteers, from administration, marketing and education to bio-control and events. Whatever your background is, we're sure we can fit you into an area that works for both of us.

If you intend on attending one of our volunteer induction days, please RSVP by the Wednesday before (the first week of each month) to ensure we are prepared for your arrival.

To enable us to find the right area for you to volunteer in please visit our website and complete a registration form or pop into our office.



Bio-Control – Aphids Competing for Jewel Beetle Food

Cats Claw Creeper vine is grown on site for our Jewel Beetles. Occasionally Aphids move into our growing shade house sucking the sap from the vine, secreting deposits of honeydew. Honeydew often causes sooty mould which need to be removed from the leaves before introducing the Jewel beetles. In good conditions, aphids can reproduce rapidly and can cause extensive damage.



At Landcare, we use Yates Nature's Way or Agro Best Natrasoap which is mixed with water and sprayed directly onto plants.

The soap coats the aphids causing suffocation and any leaves covered in sooty mould is removed by giving them a quick scrub with a toothbrush. Control is not always easy as aphids live on the underside of the leaves.

For home gardeners you could try a mild household detergent mixed with water, neem oil, physical removal, a blast of water or introducing beneficial insects into your garden.

Bugs for Bugs are integrated pest management specialists and rear a variety of beneficial insects to control pest bugs. Some of the insects to control aphids are lacewings, hoverflies and ladybirds.

Check out www.bugsforbugs.com.au for more information on introducing beneficial bugs into your garden.

Fundraising for Gympie Landcare – Drakes Key Tags

Did you know that when you shop at Drakes in the old “IGA complex” and show them one of our Gympie & District Landcare Group key tags, 1% of your total bill is donated towards our organisation?

By using your tag every time you shop, you’re actually fundraising for our organisation!

If you do not have a Drakes key tag currently, please contact our office on (07)5483 8866 or email admin-assistant@gympielandcare.org.au and we will provide one for you to pick up from our office.



Find Us on Facebook!

Here at Gympie & District Landcare Group Incorporated, we recognise that social media is becoming one of the most effective sources of communication and a fantastic way to get our name out there and increase our exposure! Not only is it a means for communication, but it creates an additional platform to keep our community aware of upcoming events and provides further opportunity to provide the community with helpful tips in relation to land care.

We would love to see our Facebook follower base increase and encourage all of our members to “follow us” on Facebook.

If you have a Facebook account, go to our Facebook page and hit the “like” button to follow our posts.

Don’t forget to like and share our posts on our page to assist us in gaining further exposure in our local area!



Introduction to Regenerative Design Using Permaculture Workshop – July 20th & 21st 2019

Are you interested in designing resilient systems with Permaculture principles but not ready to do a full Permaculture Design Certificate? Then this weekend workshop is for you. This two-day adventure will equip you to design and apply Permaculture principles, tools and methods to your property, home, kitchen garden or apartment balcony & will inspire you to create your own sustainable space.

The workshop will highlight how to design, construct and manage a permaculture rural or urban property that is productive, ‘eco-friendly’, organic, healthy and low maintenance. Learn about the systems, techniques and strategies and everything you need to know to create and enjoy your own sustainable property, home garden or other space. The workshop also outlines Permaculture ethics and provides a basic understanding of the environment around us. We balance practical application (getting your hands dirty) with theory elements allowing the ‘Introduction to regenerative design using Permaculture’ workshop to provide you with the confidence to get started on your own journey to become a refuge of organic food and low-energy living.



This workshop will include:

- Permaculture ethics & principles
- Ecology & nature's patterns
- Site planning & analyses
- Basic drawing techniques & symbols
- Zones & Flows
- Soil health & regeneration
- Design for water in the landscape
- Energy cycling
- Animal systems
- Keeping your site healthy



About Your Host:

Mel Marx & her partner own a 40-hectare property in the Wolvi area. Their objective is to regenerate the landscape and live lightly on the earth. They are currently working to implement their property design which includes a food forest, animals, bees, improved energy & water cycling, a large vegetable garden and 2 income streams. Mel has two Permaculture Design Certificates and has been teaching Permaculture for a number of years. She has been lucky to study under Morag Gamble and intern & work for other leading Permaculture organisations such as Northey Street City Farm. Her practical hands-on approach to regenerative design using Permaculture principles will give you lots of ideas on how to design your site to meet your needs, regenerate the landscape and live a more sustainable life.



Where:

At our Gympie Landcare office – 5 Groves Road, Araluen, QLD, 4570.

Session Times:

Saturday 20th July 2019, 9am – 4.00pm

Sunday 21st July 2019, 9am – 3.00pm

Morning tea, lunch, and afternoon tea will be provided on the day.

Children:

Unfortunately, children are not permitted to attend this workshop. However, we do have other workshops and events throughout the year that are family friendly.

How to Register

Please contact our office to find out how to register.

2040 Cinema Screening – 22 July 2019, 7pm

Gympie Landcare present this special screening of 2040 on Monday 22nd July 7:00pm at Gympie Cinemas, QLD!

Please be sure to arrive early as the film will start at 7:00pm sharp!

2040 is a hybrid feature documentary that looks to the future, but is vitally important NOW! Award-winning director Damon Gameau (That Sugar Film) embarks on journey to explore what the future could look like by the year 2040 if we simply embraced the best solutions already available to us to improve our planet and shifted them rapidly into the mainstream. Structured as a visual letter to his 4-year-old daughter, Damon blends traditional documentary with dramatised sequences and high-end visual effects to create a vision board of how these solutions could regenerate the world for future generations.

PLEASE NOTE: Enough tickets must be sold to ensure this screening goes ahead, if it doesn't happen those funds will be refunded – no one loses out! To buy tickets, please visit our website.

National Tree Day – 28 July 2019

In support of National Tree Day, Gympie Landcare will be holding a tree planting event and barbecue at The Sands, along the Mary River Walk. Our aim is to plant 1100 trees in two hours!

Come along and be part of the fun and enjoy a snag at the end of all the hard work!

Where:

The Sands car park entrance (Southbound of Aldi).



When:

Sunday 28 July 2019, 8.00am – 10.00am followed by a barbecue lunch.

What to Bring:

Bring your water bottle, sun protection (sunscreen, hats, sunglasses etc.), gloves, and your favourite garden tool to assist you with planting as many trees as you can.

Member Meeting – 3 August 2019

Members are invited to the next member meeting to be held on 3 August 2019 at 9am. We are excited to introduce the new members of the Board and share the organisation successes and challenges of the past quarter. Going forward we will showcase some of the work done by our members on their properties, for this meeting we kick-off with Janelle Vaughan talking about what is happening on her property.



At our last gathering we had some excellent discussions and suggestions with regard to our organisation and we hope to continue the exchange of ideas. The proposed agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Welcome
2. Guest speaker – Janelle Vaughan
3. Appointment of the Auditors for the financial year
4. Overview of the organisation successes & challenges in the past quarter
5. Member agenda items
6. Questions & Discussions

Please provide your agenda items to the Secretary via email – please call the office for the email address as we do not advertise emails on our website due to spam emails.

For catering purposes, please RSVP by Monday, 29 July 2019, to our office on 5483 8866. We look forward to connecting with you and sharing a cup of tea.

Regenerative Pasture Management Workshop – 7 September 2019, 9am – 2.00pm

This workshop will include:

During this four-hour workshop participants will enhance their knowledge of the following:

- Slow down water movement passively
- Rehydrate landscapes
- Stop erosion
- Reduce sediment movement
- Filter water flow with plants
- Build fertility by increasing biodiversity and complex ecosystems
- Stop losses of fertility, water & matter
- Increase productivity by harnessing more sunlight and working against gravity
- Managing the use of livestock
- Building resilience back into pasture and landscapes



About Your Host:

Stuart Andrews – Bio

Stuart Andrews is a farmer who has dedicated over 30 years of his life to understanding, practicing and teaching land rehabilitation techniques. Stuart was raised on the 1,500-acre property “Tarwyn Park”, Bylong, the celebrated home of Natural Sequence Farming (NSF) pioneered by his father Peter Andrews.

Currently, Stuart’s property “Riverside” in Kybung, marries NSF with other tried and tested models of regenerative agriculture. This trial is intended to establish a model of land rehabilitation that can be scaled up from very small blocks to large acreages, while also allowing the farmer to derive an income from the land. This trial builds upon Stuart’s extensive knowledge of environmentally beneficial farming practices, reflects his commitment to sharing knowledge with others and is guided by models of sustainable agriculture that have been highly successful elsewhere in the world.



Where:

This workshop will be held out at the property of Stuart Andrews, in Kybung. Those who have registered will be transported by bus from our office to the property and back on the day.

Session Times:

The bus leaves at 8.00am from Gympie Landcare office – 5 Groves Road, Araluen, QLD, 4570.

Saturday 7 September 2019, 9.00am – 2.00pm

Lunch – 11.30am – 12.30pm (Lunch will be provided on the day)

The bus will depart the property at 2.00pm to return to our office.

Children:

Unfortunately, children are not permitted to attend this workshop. However, we do have other workshops and events throughout the year that are family friendly.

How to Register

Please contact our office to find out how to register.

Nutrition Farming Workshop – 14 September 2019, 9am -1.30pm

Come along to our Nutrition Farming Workshop! Your soil is your greatest asset. It is the essence of your productive potential and profitability. Soil health is also key to stress-free farming. The common catch cry is, "our soils aren't what they used to be". In this fascinating half-day seminar, internationally acclaimed soil specialist, Graeme Sait, will help you reclaim resilience and profitability on the farm.

**The course will cover:**

- You will understand the mechanics of Nutrition Farming and how your improved management of minerals, microbes and humus can turn around your enterprise.
- You will discover that humus is the cornerstone of soil fertility. Discover how we lost 2/3 of our humus, and acquire the strategies to rebuild organic matter on your farm.
- You will recognise the role of mineral balancing in creating disease-resilient soils and crops. Discover how key mineral ratios in the soil, and in plant tissue, can change your cropping outcome.
- You will learn about the use of specific microbe inoculums to solve problems and boost yield. You will also discover how to support your existing soil life, including earthworms.
- You will understand why multi-species, cocktail cover crops can be a powerful fertility building tool.
- You will discover the many benefits of in-field crop monitoring, including leaf analyses. You will also learn how to use hand-held tools like the refractometer, the sap pH meter and K and N meters to provide invaluable instant feedback.
- You will also learn drought management strategies to improve your resilience amidst increasingly unstable climatic conditions.

About Your Host:

Graeme Sait

Graeme conducts seminar tours across the globe each year. He trains soil scientists and Ag departments and he often consults at ministerial level. He is the author of two books and over 300 articles, and his weekly blog, Nutrition Matters, is enjoyed by thousands. Graeme is a sought-after conference speaker and his presentations are often described as "life changing". Don't miss this rare opportunity to learn from this accomplished teacher.



Where:

At our Gympie Landcare office – 5 Groves Road, Araluen, QLD, 4570.

Session Times:

Saturday 14 September 2019

9am – 1.30pm (Lunch is included, and a half hour lunch break will be at 11.30am)

Children:

Unfortunately, children are not permitted to attend this workshop. However, we do have other workshops and events throughout the year that are family friendly.

How to Register

Please contact our office to find out how to register.

Gympie Landcare Festival – 21 September 2019

We are super excited to announce our second Annual Landcare Festival! Our festival will focus on educating our community about sustainable landcare and environmental practices. With free

presentations by well-known hosts, including Eva Ford from MRCCC, Vic from Valley Bees, Murray Keys from the Gympie Solar Association, and many more. Our hosts will discuss a variety of topics, including revegetation of your block, wildlife, Bio-Control, and a bush tucker cooking class by James Barnden, just to name a few.

We will have over 25 vendors on the day, all of whom are environmentally friendly businesses or organisations, including, all sorts of products and fresh organic produce and materials for purchase on the day, just like your local market! "What's in it for the kids", you say? We've got them covered!

- Kid's Zone Activities (murals, craft, musical instruments etc.)
- Treasure Hunt
- Face painting
- Jumping Castle
- Plant your own seed workshop (and you get to keep it and watch it grow!)
- Petting Zoo with reptiles and fluffy animals too!

The poster features a vibrant, nature-themed design with illustrations of trees, birds, butterflies, and animals like a kangaroo, a frog, and a lizard. The text on the poster includes:

- Gympie & District Landcare Group Inc. are excited to announce our
- 2nd Annual Landcare Festival!
- Saturday 21 September, 10am – 4pm
- Educating our community about Sustainable Landcare and Environmental Practices!
- Find us on [Facebook](#)
- Environmentally-friendly Stalls including locally grown and organic produce, herbs and spices, solar, essential oils, organic candles and reusable products, art, hand-woven baskets from pest weeds, local fresh butcher and a henna stall to name a few.
- Music & Entertainment
- KIDS ZONE Jumping Castle, Treasure Hunt, Face Painting, Petting Zoo & much more!
- Gold Coin Donation at gate
- ZINC 96.1 NUGGET & AL LIVE
- PLUS for Gympie Landcare ice cream, coffee, wood-fired pizzas, fairy floss & lollies, for the kids!
- FREE environmental & landcare presentations, plus a bush tucker cooking class!
- Extra parking is available at Victory College with a free shuttle bus to and from the event!
- 5483 8866 gympielandcare.org.au

Zinc Radio will be broadcasting live from our event and will be drawing raffles throughout the day! We will be holding a fundraiser barbecue as well, but don't stress if you don't like a sausage sizzle, we'll also have wood-fired pizzas, a coffee van, ice cream, and a fairy floss van for the kids. Live entertainment will be available whilst you eat and relax as well.

PLUS! The Victory Church has graciously agreed to let us use their car park for the event to allow more patrons! We will be shuttle bussing patrons to and from Victory College on Old Maryborough Road every 15 minutes!

When:

Saturday 21 September 2019 from 10.00am – 4.00pm

Where:

Gympie Landcare Nursery – 365 Old Maryborough Road, Araluen

Entry:

There is no entrance fee, however we do request that those attending make a gold coin donation to go towards Gympie Landcare.

Tony's Farewell – Happy Retirement!

Wednesday 3 July, Gympie Landcare and a few secret squirrels planned a surprise BBQ for Tony to farewell him into his retirement.

It was a wonderful turn out, with many members showing up to pass on their congratulations and best wishes to Tony after 10 years with Gympie Landcare.

We would like to extend our congratulations to Tony on his retirement and our appreciation for the many years of service he has given to our organisation. We consider Tony to not only be an asset to our organisation, but an enjoyable presence in the office and nursery as well.

Whilst he will be missed by all of us at Gympie Landcare, he certainly deserves his retirement. His hard work and diligence have greatly benefited our organisation, and we hope that the remaining employees and volunteers will strive to follow in his stellar example.

His contribution to our overall nursery production and the daily operation of the department with the guidance he provided to the volunteers will be sorely missed.

We wish Tony all the best in his future endeavours. Retirement will surely offer him many new opportunities, which we know he will embrace wholeheartedly, just as he did at Gympie Landcare.



Forest Food Gardening Workshop a Success!

Our recent Forest Food Gardening Workshop was a huge hit with tickets being completely sold out months in advance!

Over the weekend, Michael Wardle discussed how you can make your own food forest in your garden as well as ongoing maintenance of a successful orchard ecosystem.

All of our participants had a wonderful time and enjoyed a beautiful catered lunch as well.

We had wonderful feedback from the participants who said that Michael's workshop was really easy to understand and certainly caught their attention. There was a huge amount of information provided on the day and it was very interesting for all who attended. It was also a wonderful opportunity for those who attended to connect with other like-minded people.



Our Tree Planting Day with Cooloola Christian College

On Thursday 20 July 2019, the kids from Cooloola Christian College joined our CLS team in a tree planting event for the morning, and boy did they do a fantastic job! Many little hands make light work!

The school were very appreciative of the opportunity for the kids to get their hands dirty and they all had a wonderful time.

"Many thanks to your wonderful volunteers who helped us achieve a positive outcome for our Mary River. The students, staff and volunteers all had a wonderful time and we look forward to watching another 'patch' of ours grow over the years."

Below are some photos of this successful event.

