



**6 June 2019**

## **The Early Days Of Gympie Landcare – 1988 – 1993**

After the AGM, Graeme Elphinstone, one of our foundation members gave us a short history of Gympie Landcare's early days. He particularly focused on field days and information sessions. His talk left me with the impression that Gympie Landcare even in it's early days was very much focused on regenerative agriculture, giving members knowledge on some of the latest thinking and trends in farming. Some of the field days that he mentioned were:

- Trees and farm planning
- Landslip stabilisation demonstration
- Organic farming techniques
- Horticulture farming systems
- Yeoman's keyline plan
- Sustainable farming practices
- Gully control in grazing land
- Earthworms
- To burn or not to burn
- Soil structure decline & productivity



He also shared what the organisation considered the priority areas for information and education those focus areas included: halting declining soil productivity, practicing sustainable farming while ensuring farm viability, to establish and monitor land rehabilitation demonstration sites, monitor sub-division of good agricultural and grazing land, promote land care awareness and education.

Graeme even included a handwritten letter by one of our honorary life members Gillian Crossley. Presentations such as this give the current management committee an idea of the intention and history of Gympie Landcare and any successes are build on the shoulders of all the committee members who have come before.

## **Meet Our Two New MC Members**

At our recent Annual General Meeting in May, we welcomed two new faces to our Management Committee! Meet Maree, our new President, and Karen whom has come on board as General Member of the Committee.

### **Maree Gillott – President**

After 31 years running my own legal practice in Logan, together with other business interests, my husband David and I moved to Wolvi just a year ago. Now that life has moved into (slightly) less frenetic gear, I've got the time and space to involve myself again in the things that matter. I've always been involved in community organisations of one type or another and the opportunity to combine my experience in not for profit management and my long-held interest in sustainable land management was too good to pass up. I've got a particular interest in permaculture and regenerative agriculture, as it has long been apparent to me that industrialized methods of farming are making us, and what we eat, sicker than we have ever been.



My Husband and I were lucky enough to find our way to a well -watered cattle property in the foothills of Mt Wolvi which will be keeping us well occupied in our “non-retirement”. At last, I have both the means, and the opportunity to put all the theory I have accumulated from the permaculture/ sustainable agriculture reference books sitting on my shelves and apply them to our new place. The aim is simple- I am just looking to leave our small patch of the world in better shape than we found it.

Becoming a part of Landcare will hopefully allow me to help spread the seeds of change even further.

### **Karen Jarling – General Management Committee Member**



With a ‘paid’ work history that covers retail and hospitality, it was always my ‘unpaid’ work that felt like the better personal fit. The unpaid job had terrible hours, no holiday pay or super, but it did have excitement, fun and personal satisfaction in spades. What was that job? FARMING – the best job on the planet.

Learning beside my father as a very young person, later beside my now husband and more recently from Australian and International experts, “Farming” has come to mean much more than just growing food.

What happens below the surface of our soils is where the true story of farming anything lies these days. Soil health, microbiology and the interaction between plants and the soil life is a vast subject and the discoveries about these interactions are happening at a breakneck pace due to vastly improved technology.

When time permits, I attend industry workshops, field days and information sessions to feed the knowledge bank. These workshops and other regional food and agriculture events are also an opportunity to network with other like-minded farmers and graziers.

Like many women on the land, in my day-to-day working life I have become an accountant, research officer, minister for finance, marketing director and salesperson along with caring for my two rapidly growing boys.

I will continue to seek information and cutting-edge techniques to improve upon farming challenges and am excited to be able to share what I learn to the wider community through Landcare Gympie. I am always eager to connect with other farming families, but also those who are asking questions about how they can take the next step towards a farm that is a growing lifeforce, in all it’s amazing forms.

### **Our Own Volunteer Appreciation Day**

In celebration of National Volunteer Week, Gympie Landcare have planned an exciting field trip for our volunteers next week (even though a little belated)!

Starting here at our office, we will be bussing our volunteers to visit Natives R Us in Traveston, then heading to Barung Landcare Nursery at Landsborough for morning tea.

From there, we will be going to Mary Cairns Cross Reserve for lunch and a bush walk, then onto Montville for a quick stop over before heading back to Gympie.

Each year we try to reward and celebrate our volunteers by shouting them to an exciting outing. We’ll be sure to share photos of our trip in the next newsletter!

## 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](http://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.



## Permaculture Principle 4 – Apply Self-Regulation & Accept Feedback

Permaculture is a way of life and a journey, not a destination. As a Permaculturist, you continue day in and day out to be guided by nature and what would translate into leaving a lighter footprint on the earth. Nature is never static and we can overlook or misinterpret a situation on the ground when planning or designing a certain area. It could be a lack of knowledge, not spending enough

time observing (principle 1), or simply experience with regard to that particular piece of land. The important thing is to notice, reflect and review what is happening. Be open to possibilities that you would not have expected and make the necessary course correction. Be curious and ask why? Don't be afraid to try different solutions and continue to seek knowledge and solutions to things that are simply not thriving. Accept feedback from nature and use it as a teaching moment. Speak to people who have more experience on the land and be prepared to try something that might seem completely counter intuitive.



We live in a world where we are encouraged to buy the next shiny thing and thus, we now find ourselves in a consumer society where we buy things we do not need and discard them almost as quickly as we have bought them. Our landfills are getting out of control spewing out tonnes of methane and other gases into the atmosphere. Not to mention, the resources that were wasted making a lot of those unwanted products that simply end up in landfill. Principle 4 encourages us to regulate our own consumption. Some of the things we can do is to eat in season which avoids

those thousands of food miles as a result of something that is required to travel halfway around the world because it is not the growing season where you are. A big one is to try as far as is possible not to use single-use plastic. We have all seen what is happening to our oceans and wildlife due to our indiscriminate use of plastic. Another way to apply self-regulation is to select perennial and self-seeding plants instead of a plant that only produces its crop once.

Allow yourself to make mistakes in your garden or on the land but don't allow yourself to not take action to correct it. Be present in the moment, notice and observe, the solutions are mostly right in front of you. In Permaculture, we say that the problem is the solution.

If you are interested in obtaining more in-depth knowledge about Permaculture and Permaculture design, Gympie Landcare will be hosting a 2-day workshop in July 2019.

Mel Marx | Management Committee Member

## **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](mailto: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!



## News from the Nursery

### Germinating Seeds in Winter – Tips From the Nursery

Winter is here! Time to give up on germinating seeds and shift to knitting little jumpers for the seedlings we already have. Or perhaps I'll organise an old-sock-drive, the ones with threadbare holes in the toe would do the job nicely; slip them over a pot and leave an escape hatch for any masochistic seedlings to grow out the top and brave the winter chills if they dare!

Honestly though – winter doesn't spell the complete end to seed germination. There are probably quite a few seeds out there in the wild still glad for an opportunity with the good soil moisture, to have a go a life. But the rate of germination and growth for most species is very much reduced with the cool nights and mornings that herald winter.



In the nursery, there is still plenty of bench space to keep filling with more plants – the autumn rain gave the landcare CLS field crew a good opportunity to plant a few project sites that were waiting patiently for the summer dry spell to end. Plenty of other landholders have also been getting into autumn planting as well; the result is a considerable dent in our stock numbers for several popular species.

So, propagation goes on and this is where a certain bit of physics comes to the fore.

Thermal inertia.

It's not all that technical, but it does wonders for plant production. Inertia is in lay-terms the tendency of something to keep going, or doing, what it is already doing. Thermal inertia means something will keep being warm, until the rest of the universe convinces it to cool down.

If you have solar-heated hot water at home, you're tapping into thermal inertia. Using the sun's energy to warm water, then store it away for it to release that warmth later, when you turn on a tap. Thermal inertia is also what's behind the 'passive heating' or 'thermal mass' designs in architecture.

If you've ever watched a snake or lizard warm themselves in the sun, you've witnessed nature being crafty with thermal inertia. The animal will circulate their blood near their skin, gather the warmth of the sun, then when they've warmed up enough, they can redirect most of their now-warm blood flow internally and retain that warmth for a decent period of the day (or night).

These same techniques come in handy for the nursery also. The days are still warm enough in a sunny spot to promote decent germination and growth. But the nights are longer.

The challenge really, is to catch and keep some of the day's warmth to keep the night chills at bay.

I noticed this challenge being well met last week, as I moved the afternoon's effort of seed-sowing to a new home – some spare space in one of the Biocontrol propagation 'tunnels'. That particular area faces the sun for most of the day, with a dry gravel floor. As I entered, I could feel the warmth not only in the air but also in the gravel. Through the day, both the air and gravel had absorbed warmth from the sun. Gravel, having a far better thermal inertia than air, would be radiating its warmth back into the propagation area throughout the evening, probably enough to still keep the tunnel several degrees warmer than outside by sunrise the next day. The few degrees difference, spread across the night, will hopefully prompt the seeds and seedlings in that location to grow as fast as their comrades did outdoors back in March.

Not all the nursery can be boosted along by such a method – or at least, not without considerable outlay in infrastructure. Trying to gather daily warmth to keep all our plant stocks growing faster through winter would also give us plants that were not 'hardened'. We could nurse seedlings to a plantable size in a warm sheltered place, but they'd not fare well if taken out into the wilds! So to keep our stock suitably ready for field conditions, there has to be an element of exposure to the prevailing conditions, be that summer heat or winter frost. The slower growth, in the end, is better than growing a plant that doesn't survive after planting.

Our plants have it a bit tougher than they need to though; a side-effect of growing them above ground in little containers. Naturally, a plant would have its green bits exposed to these chilly nights, but the roots would be in a more temperature-stable setting – mother earth. Nursery plants have the added challenge of their roots being in a small volume of earth up on a bench, where the night air can circulate around and cool both the shoots and roots. There are ways to alleviate this of course, but again it can mean added infrastructure/costs (heat-mats, solar-heated water circulating under benches, etc), or seasonal changes in procedure (e.g. placing stock on ground instead of benches). Each 'solution' comes with its own extra challenges. So for now at least, we'll continue with our usual grow out process. If the threat of frosty mornings becomes a concern, we can make use of the thermal inertia of our water supply: our tanks will be warmer in the mornings than the air, so running irrigation in the coldest spell (usually a few hours either way from sunrise) can lift the temperature in and around our plants. Just as long as we don't drown them in warmth!

Shane Litherland | Nursery Manager

### **Nursery Manager's Plant of the Month – *Cyclophyllum Coprosmoides***

Plant of the month – *Cyclophyllum coprosmoides*, Coast Canthium.

I am quite pleased to have a bench full of vibrant young plants of this species to promote this month. Several times I have myself collected up seed and tried to propagate this species, with very poor results. But another landcare member must have brought a great seed sample in from the Widgee/Wonga area that led to our current healthy batch of Coast Canthiums.

The Coast Canthium is one of a few species that taxonomists have re-arranged in recent times, but I won't weigh you down with the semantics of that. Once the dust had settled around the classification,

we were left with *Cyclophyllum coprosmoides* var. *coprosmoides* being the name for this particular type of canthium that grows in our area. It can be found in coastal or littoral rainforest, dry rainforest and also in wet eucalypt forest around the Gympie region.



This plant first caught my eye along the roadside where I live, when it was decorated in orange-red fruits one summertime. Since then, I have also come to notice the subtler but still beautiful show of small white flowers, anywhere from autumn to spring depending on the seasonal conditions. The other features that struck me included the glossy vibrant green leaves and its iconic 'tree' growth form – a single straight main trunk and tiers of almost-horizontal branches. But 'tree' it ain't – at least, not likely in our lifetimes. According to the identification texts, it can grow to ten metres, but the growth rates I have observed makes me think it would be well suited to a garden shrub or small tree, particularly if grown on the typically hard, rocky soils of our area. It is also well suited for understory or edge plantings in revegetation, adding structure and habitat once the faster plants have captured an area. It would probably require a lot of maintenance if planted in an open/grassy field, unless first grown on in larger pots.

The nursery has a good number of tubestock currently available. If you prefer advanced plants, keep this in mind for your Christmas shopping list as we will be potting-up some of these tubestock to larger tubes and pots. Keep it in mind as a native 'Christmas tree' too, if you decide to have one in a feature pot on the patio!

Shane Litherland | Nursery Manager

## **A Successful Bio-Control Forum**

Gympie & District Landcare Group held their first annual biocontrol forum in May 2019.

Various groups from South East Queensland attended, to discuss the impact of Cats Claw Creeper and Madeira vine.

Dhileepan from Biosecurity Queensland gave a power point presentation on existing bio-control insects and the prospect of future pathogens like a leaf rust, leaf spot and gall rust. Pathogens are currently being tested overseas and if safe for our environment, it can be brought to Australia for further testing before being release.



Leslie from T.E.C.K.nology Environmental use drones for various applications like weed monitoring and spraying and releasing and monitoring of biocontrol insects. Drones particularly come in handy when working and monitoring in difficult locations.

Leslie took the drone on a test flight and snapped some photos of the people attending the forum. The drone has sensors so it cannot crash into trees and can return home when the batteries run low.

The future of releasing insects by drone in difficult areas is already here and we look forward to working with groups who already have this exciting technology available.

Yvonne Hennell | Bio-Control Manager

## **Expression of Interest – CLS Team Member**

We are seeking expressions of interest from enthusiastic, career-minded people to join our Contract Landcare Services (CLS) team.

### **Our Organisation**

Gympie and District Landcare Group is a community-based organisation active in the Gympie.

Region, Queensland. The Group is an incorporated organisation and a registered charity. Members elect an Executive (Management Committee) each year that is responsible for management oversight. Members and volunteers are integrally involved in the group's main activities: operating a local native plant nursery; raising biocontrol insects for invasive plant species control; providing land care services, fostering local land caring activities; and community education.



### **Purpose of Position**

To provide the best environmental outcomes for our clients through a range of specialist landcare services.

### **Person**

This person will be able to implement project objectives as directed. Work well with others in a team environment. Have a passion for land caring activities as it pertains to revegetation, clearing and caring for the environment. This person will have initiative and be open to sharing their practical skills and experiences with a broad range of people and be committed to working safely.

To read the full job description, please visit our website.

Expressions of Interest are to include a cover letter and resume with three references and are to be emailed to [admin@gympielandcare.org.au](mailto:admin@gympielandcare.org.au). Expressions of Interest that do not meet this requirement will not be considered.

## **Upcoming Workshops & Events**

### **Wildlife Protection & Preservation**

#### **Workshop – 8 June 2019, 9am – 1pm**

Come along to our workshop and explore our local wildlife! Learn how to spot our wildlife, where to find them and how to protect them. With resources from both citizen science projects and from the Department of Environmental Heritage & Protection, you will learn how to reference them and what's going on in your back yard.



The basics of our ecosystem and your local biosphere. Some taxonomy and information on each of the most common species from reptiles to marsupials and birds.

Exotic species and how to effectively assist in their control without harm to our natives.

## **The course will cover:**

- What are each of the local family group?
- Where to find them and how to spot the reclusive animals.
- Circadian rhythms and seasonal changes.
- Citizen science – Where to report sightings and get identification of your finds.
- What is your local biosphere?
- Predator/prey relationships and keystone and indicator species.
- Exotic species and their control.
- Basic wildlife first aid for wildlife.

Learning and enjoying our wildlife is the first step in respect and protection. Learning about our local wildlife will give you and new respect and enthusiasm for how to enjoy and live with our animals. Having a new respect of what is going on in our beautiful ecosystem any time of the year will renew your passion and self-growth.

## **About Your Host:**

My name is Julie and I began my career/ calling about 30 years ago. My great grandfather was the equivalent to a park ranger managing the use of the land with knowledge of the seasons and wildlife. He inspired a passion that has been passed down through my family through the generations.

I studied abroad with a Bachelor of Science and travelled across the globe learning about ecosystems. I settled in Queensland as its diverse wildlife provided me with an endless opportunity to enjoy study and learn about wildlife.

Since being in Australia I have worked in wildlife rehabilitation earning my certificate 4 in veterinary nursing and on sites across Queensland tracking catching and relocating wildlife both as a Ecologist a fauna spotter and I now run my own business specializing in wild life solutions. My motto is we should all be accountable for our wildlife, to do this we need to know how we can manage our local animals without disturbing them.

It is my passion to pass on knowledge of our local neighbor's so we can all love respect and protect them.

## **Where:**

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

## **Session Time:**

Saturday 8 June 2019

9.00am – 1.00pm

## **What to Bring:**

Morning tea will be provided on the day. Please bring a water bottle for refills of cold beverages.

## **Children:**

This is a family-friendly workshop and children are welcome, however, the pricing is still the same per child.

## **How to Register**

Please contact our office to find out how to register.

## **Nursery Working Bee – Saturday 29 June 2019**

In preparation for our upcoming Landcare Festival in September, and after many years of procrastinating, we're upgrading the nursery retail space and need all hands on deck for a working bee to clean up and sort through items as well as cleaning up the grounds.

We would like to invite you to come along and be part of a team and feel a sense of accomplishment with the wonderful assistance you have given our organisation.

Our nursery will still be open on this day, however, our working bee crew will be focusing on areas away from the retail space up until 1pm, and then continue with the retail space once we're closed for business.



### **When:**

Saturday 29 June 2019 from 10.00am – 2.30pm

### **What to bring:**

A smile and an enthusiastic attitude!

Bring a plate to share for lunch at 12pm and wear old clothing because you will be getting dirty!

### **Register:**

To register for our working bee, please contact our office on 07 5483 8866.

## **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.

## **Beeswax Wrap Workshop – 27 July 2019, 9am – 12pm**

**Learn to make environmentally friendly beeswax wraps**

## **What you need to bring:**

Do you prefer using more natural products? Do you want to lessen your environmental impact by reducing your reliance on single use plastic wrap and plastic bags to cover and store food? Then why not come along and learn a simple way to make beeswax wraps? Beeswax wraps are washable, reusable over a long time, can be used in the fridge and freezer and lunch box and

when they have reached the end of their usable life, they can be added to the compost. They are inexpensive to make, can be custom made to size and they are very cute.

**Fabric:**

At least ½ metre, 100% cotton (NOT polycotton), lightweight and tightly woven. When choosing your fabric, patterned or darker colours are recommended because beeswax will give a slightly yellowish finish. The fabric does not have to be new, but it does have to be 100% cotton. You will need to wash and dry your fabric before use.



**Pencil and ruler:** Everyday pencil is fine or a fabric marker if you have one.

**Scissors:** Dressmaking scissors is fine or pinking shears are even better if you have them.

**What's included:**

The workshop will include all other materials and equipment needed, a take home simple instruction sheet for future reference, tips to maintain your beautiful wraps and ideas how to use them. Tea and coffee will be provided but please bring your own water bottle, a small snack if needed and a positive attitude. At the end of a fun interactive 3 hours you will have made at least 3 beeswax wraps to take home for yourself or to give as gifts.

**Where:**

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

**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.

**Session Times:**

9.00am – 12.00pm

**How to Register**

Please contact our office to find out how to register.

**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.



**Register:**

All participants must register with us by Thursday 25 July 2019. Please call our office on 07 5483 8866 to register.

**Regenerative Pasture Management Workshop – 7 September 2019, 9am – 2.00pm****This workshop will include:**

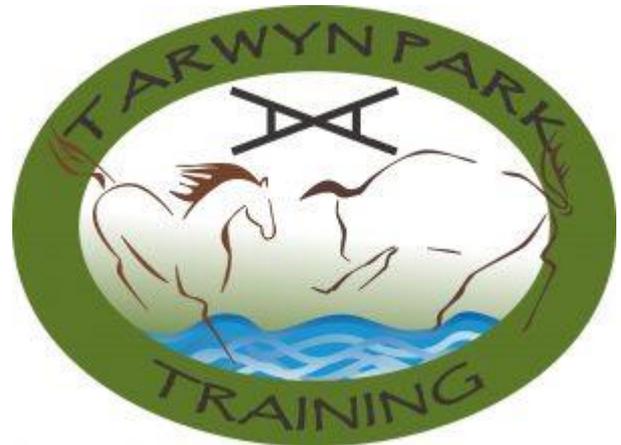
During this four-hour workshop participants will enhance their knowledge of the following:

- 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 Kybong, 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 Kybong. 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.

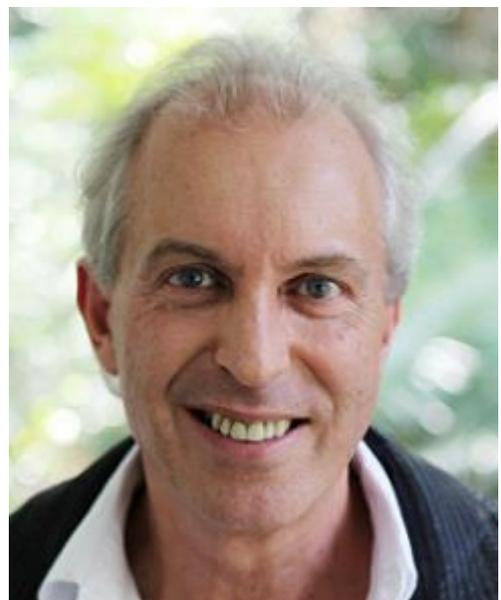
## About Your Host:

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!

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.

## Summary of the May Annual General Meeting



The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting for Gympie Landcare was held on Wednesday 15 May. The well attended meeting saw the presentation of reports from the President and Treasurer, both of which highlighted the sound position in which the organisation finds itself.

There was some respectful debate in relation to the motion regarding adoption of the new constitution, but ultimately the members overwhelmingly approved the motion to adopt the proposed new constitution which had previously been circulated, after amendment from the floor to add the positions

of Vice President and Minutes Secretary to the Management Committee.

There was only one nomination for each of the executive positions on the Management Committee, save for the General Member positions where there were four nominations for three positions.

The New office bearers for 2019 are:

- Maree Gillott | President
- Anoinette Augustinus | Vice President
- Barry Lambooy | Treasurer
- Mel Marx | Secretary
- Suzanne Lanham | Minutes Secretary
- Ernie Rider | General Member
- Louise Watson | General Member
- Karen Jarling | General Member

Ernie Rider was also granted an Honorary Life membership, in acknowledgement of his long and dedicated service to GDLC.

Following conclusion of the formal portion of the meeting, Graham Elphinstone gave a presentation on the early field days of GDLC .Apart from some technological hiccups with a recalcitrant projector, it was interesting to see that even in the 1990's GDLC was clearly way ahead of the rest of the community- the topics canvassed at the 'old' field days are more relevant today than perhaps they have ever been.

As usual, the meeting concluded with refreshments, and the opportunity to catch up with like-minded others.

## Summary of the May Management Committee Meeting

Overview of MC meeting held at GDLC on May 25.

This was a busy meeting, with many issues dealt with.

### Contract Services

Contract services work is moving along well with MRCCC and the Victory Trails project Preparations for the new shed commence next week, and it is anticipated to go up quickly after that. The OHS policy is being re-worked by an external contractor, to ensure it is compliant with local government requirements. Certain tendering requirements also mean we need to show we are moving towards implementing an ISO14001 type Environmental Management System, and a

recent audit conducted by the organisation is the first step towards this process. The yellow Landcruiser is coming to the end of its' working life and Carl has been authorised to obtain a suitable replacement.

### **Nursery**

The seed saving and propagation workshops were well attended. Various ongoing issues for the nursery include the difficulty with gauging and producing the correct amount of stock- where provision of plants for both retail sales, and Contract services is required. It may be necessary to source some plants externally if various contracts come to fruition. The MC and Shane are looking at various options to get the nursery to where it needs to be – these include improvements to the nursery irrigation system , improved retail space, POS software to manage sales and stock, more effective organisation of the volunteers so that the tasks that need doing are attended to, and some changes to the phone arrangements so that customers can contact the nursery directly. The MC considers there is great opportunity for the nursery to become 'the place' to go for native plants in Gympie.

### **Bio-Control**

Yvonne recently presented at the biocontrol forum, and her presentation was very well received. Ernie noted that Gympie Landcare is one of the few in Australia to be undertaking sale of bio-controls on this scale. Given the requirements of the organisation, Yvonne and Shane have been authorised to purchase a modestly priced ute for the joint use of Bio-Control and nursery sections.

### **Administration**

It was apparent (just from the size of Lavina's report) that the administrative workload is currently very heavy. Over the past 18 months, many new policies and procedures have been implemented where none existed before and each of these changes have required a great deal of implementation work. That work is ongoing, but it is apparent that additional support is required, at the least until new systems are 'bedded down'.

### **Finance**

Barry reported on the healthy financial state of the organisation. Budgets for this year need revising however, and the Finance Committee will do that, with the input of the section managers, in the next few weeks.

### **Landcare Festival**

This event is coming up in September. MC authorised expenditure in order to organise, advertise and run the event. Currently 30 vendors booked. MC discussed the potential for this event to become a significant annual event in the region, noting the Logan LEAF festival which similarly attracts large numbers each year.

### **Management Committee Meeting**

Our next Management Committee (MC) meeting will be held at 9.00am, Friday 21 June 2019.

Members are invited to observe and take part in the discussions in the meetings.



If you would like to add any items to the agenda in addition to the usual business of the meeting, please email [admin@gympielandcare.org.au](mailto:admin@gympielandcare.org.au) by the Friday before.

Respectively, if you wish to attend the MC meeting, please RSVP by 5.00pm Wednesday 19 June 2019 to [admin@gympielandcare.org.au](mailto:admin@gympielandcare.org.au) to ensure we cater for all attendees.

## Save the Date – Members Meetings 2019

The Committee hopes you can join us for the quarterly Member's meetings in 2019. This will be your opportunity to keep up to date with what is happening at Landcare and share your thoughts with the Committee and other Members.



The dates for the meetings are as follows:

**Saturday 3 August at 9am**

**Wednesday 27 November at 6pm**

There will be a call for agenda items 2 weeks prior to the meeting.

If you have an item for the agenda, please submit it in writing to [admin@gympielandcare.org.au](mailto:admin@gympielandcare.org.au) for consideration prior to the deadline.

We look forward to seeing you.

## Would you like to become a member?

Gympie Landcare values your involvement and support. Members receive discounts on nursery plants, newsletters, and email notices.

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_ GivenName/S \_\_\_\_\_

Residential Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(If Different from above)

Home

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature:.....

Date:...../...../.....

Membership Price Table	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years
Individual	\$25.00	\$45.00	\$60.00
Family	\$37.50	\$67.50	\$90.00
Community Group/ Organisation	\$50.00	\$90.00	\$120.00

Life Membership: \$220.00

Method of Payment: Cash / Cheque/ Direct Deposit/ Other: \_\_\_\_\_