



Trading Hours: Wednesday - Friday 8.30am - 3.30pm

350 Old Maryborough Rd, Araluen, QLD 4570

Gympie Landcare - Newsletter May 2022

Dear valued readers,

Welcome to the May 2022 bi-monthly edition of Gympie Landcare's Newsletter.



Marine and Litter Debris Clean Up June/July

[Gympie Landcare](#), in partnership with [Burnett Mary Regional Group](#) have planned a marine and litter debris clean up for the Gympie Region, kicking off at the end of June.

Our region has experienced some of the worst flooding and destruction in history and we are urging our caring community to join us in a major clean up on the Mary River and our east coast waterways.

[Tangaroa Blue](#) have already undertaken extremely successful major clean ups of our coastlines in the area but there are still small plastics and rubbish that are of real threat to our marine life. If you have a few hours to spare, and you would like to contribute to protecting our marine life and threatened species, please consider joining us on one of several clean up days planned from 20th June to 8th July.

Areas we will be targeting include specific locations on:

- The Mary River in Gympie and Tiaro
- The Tin Can Bay Waterways
- Cooloola Cove Inlet
- Inskip Point to Rainbow Beach.

Wonderful organisations such as [Cooloola Coast Care](#) and [Tiara Landcare](#) are also supporting this fantastic project. For more information or to register your interest please, reach out to Virginia Kelleher at business-dev-manager@gympielandcare.org.au or contact our office on (07) 5483 8866.

We will also be hosting a community BBQ to thank all of our amazing volunteers for your help, so come along, get involved and help make a real difference during flood recovery!



Burnett Mary
REGIONAL GROUP
Practical Solutions for Natural Resource Management



Welcome

We'd like to welcome the newest addition to the Gympie Landcare's Management committee, **Sandi Cohen (General Committee Member)**



I have always had a sense of adventure, fun, a love of nature and the natural world, and a passion for growing and providing people with clean nutritious food and promoting healthy, happy lifestyles.

My husband David and I were certified organic from 2000 until 2022 operating a commercial intensive horticulture farm supplying quality food to Australia and at times overseas.

Having now sold the farm I still have a passion for developing local sustainable clean food and supporting farmers and landholders to manage our environment and ecosystems, to ensure the profits we make from farming is not at the expense of the planet.

I have always had a strong belief in Land Care and I am keen to contribute from my business, farming and community experience. I have also spent many years working in the government and private sectors as a Local Area Coordinator and have received a great deal of training in building sustainable and inclusive communities.

Hiring Now

We are currently seeking the perfect people to fill these roles.

GDLG is an inclusive organisation and we encourage people from diverse backgrounds to apply.

[Operations Manager](#)

For more information or to apply, please submit your CV and a short cover letter addressing the selection criteria to:

secretary@gympielandcare.org.au by 13 June 2022

[Bush Regenerator](#)

Please email your cover letter and resume to:

business-dev-manager@gympielandcare.org.au

Nursery News

In late April, Gympie & District Landcare Group supplied 7,250 assorted native plants to Ecosure as part of the [Cooroy to Curra Highway Bypass](#) revegetation plantings. Ecosure planted an area of approximately 2 hectares!



Despite setbacks after being smashed by the heavy rains in February, we managed to fulfill the order and we have another happy customer.

In Need of Seed

Here at Gympie Landcare we are always seeking donations of native seed and we appreciate the efforts that our wonderful seed collectors go to.

These species are currently in high demand. If you have access to these species or have them on your property, please consider collecting seed and donating it to Landcare.

Unable to collect the seed yourself? We may be able collect seed from your property with your permission. For further information call the nursery on 5483 8866

- [Jagera pseudorhus – Foambark Tree](#)
- [Melia azedarach – White Cedar](#)
- [Casuarina cunninghamiana – River She-Oak](#)
- [Ficus coronata – Creek Sandpaper Fig](#)
- Any Eucalyptus species



Nursery Feature Plants

[Protea "White Ice"](#)

This gorgeous shrub is Native to South African and features Large creamy white flowers tinged with peach, making them a desirable feature plant for any garden or pot and ideal for floral arrangements. These Protea are available in Maxis from the nursery in limited numbers.



[Callistemon "Purple Splendens"](#)

A stunning large flowering shrub with a naturally compact habit. This gorgeous shrub features pinkish-purple flowers for most of the year attracting bees, butterflies, & birds. They are suitable for most home gardens and can be grown in pots.

These callistemon are available in Maxis from the nursery in limited numbers.

Biological Services May 2022

In 1788 European settlers introduced into Australia, 2 bulls, 7 cows and 44 sheep. Fast forward to 2022, that number has grown to approximately 28 million head of cattle. If each head produces around 12 pats per day that's a lot of dung. Between 1968 to 1992, CSIRO released 43 introduced dung beetles from Hawaii, Europe, Asia and Africa, with 23 species established in different locations around Australia. While Australia has 500 native dung beetles, the natives prefer to feed on marsupial dung and never evolve to remove the larger cow pats which has become a big problem.

Dung beetles increase soil aeration and aid in water filtration, reduce manure runoff into waterways, clean pastures and aid in pest and parasite suppression as well as interrupting the fly life cycles by removing cow pats before the fly larvae can complete its lifecycle. There are 3 types of dung beetles, dwellers that dwell inside the cow pat and raise their young, tunnellers that dig tunnels and lay their eggs in brood balls under the cow pat, and rollers, which roll manure into a ball and roll it away before laying eggs inside.



Regeneration Rangelands forum at Longreach

It has been twelve months since we started our new project, boosting dung beetles to benefit farmers and the environment.

We began our journey in August 2021, to identify which introduced species have remained in our area. We set dung beetle water traps over a 300-kilometer stretch, starting at Cooroy, heading north to Tiaro, and finishing in Kilkivan, and returned 24 hours later, to identify each species, retain a sample of each beetle and release the remaining beetles back into the environment. In some traps we caught up to 9 different introduced species and a few natives. Over the next twelve months we hope to establish dung beetle nurseries around the region to boost populations.

In March this year, Gympie & District Landcare hosted our second Dung Beetle workshop, and I was fortunate enough to be invited to attend the Regenerative Rangelands forum at Longreach to talk about the benefits of dung beetles.

We hope to host or attend many more in the future to help educate and spread awareness of these fascinating beetles.

Yvonne Hennell
Biological Services Manager

Did you know? The *Onthophagus taurus* can lift 1141 his own body weight and that some dung beetles navigate their way using the sun, moon, or milky way? Most dung beetles fly to dung, but the native *Onthophagus parvus* beetle has strong claws for grasping the fur of wallabies. They hang around the wallaby's anus and wait for emerging pellets.



World Environment Day 2022



[World Environment Day 2022](#) theme focuses on living sustainably in harmony with nature by bring transformative changes towards cleaner and greener lifestyles.

This years conference will be hosted by Sweden.

Only One Earth was the motto for the World Environment Day, Stockholm Conference in 1972.

50 years on, the motto holds true -this planet is our only home, whose finite resources humanity must safeguard.

DID YOU KNOW?

NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY LOSS

- Ecosystem degradation affects the well-being of an estimated 3.2 billion people, or 40 per cent of the world's population.
- Restoring 15 per cent of converted lands while stopping further conversion of natural ecosystems can prevent 60 per cent of expected species extinctions.
- Every year, we lose ecosystem services worth more than 10 per cent of our global economic output
- Around one-third of the world's farmland is degraded, about 87 per cent of inland wetlands worldwide have disappeared since 1700 and one-third of commercial fish species are overexploited.
- Food systems are responsible for 80% of biodiversity loss, and 80% of all agricultural land is for livestock and its feed, while providing only 20% of calories.

POLLUTION

- Air pollution causes about 7 million premature deaths every year, one in nine of all deaths. Nine out of 10 people breathe unclean air, making it the most significant environmental health risk of our time.
- Only 57 per cent of countries have a legal definition for air pollution. In 2019, 92 per cent of people experienced air pollution in excess of safe World Health Organization guidelines.
- The most recent SDG monitoring cycle revealed that over 3 billion people are at risk because they don't know enough about the health of surface and groundwater resources.

WASTE

- Under a business-as-usual scenario, annual plastic waste entering aquatic ecosystems could nearly triple from 9-14 million tons in 2016 to 23-37 million tons by 2040.
- The total global economic cost of marine plastic pollution on tourism, fisheries and aquaculture is estimated to have been US\$6-19 billion in 2018.
- From 1950 to 2017, an estimated 9.2 billion tons of plastic was produced, 7 billion tons of which has become waste.

Download a copy of [Only One Earth Practical Guide](#) or check out the official website to see how you can make a difference. <https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/>

Volunteer with Landcare

May 16-22 was National Volunteer Week and to show our appreciation for all our volunteers do and give, we decided to buy lunch for the volunteers each day.

We hope you all enjoyed it!

Our volunteers bring a wealth of knowledge and experience with them, and we love how they use their skills to support Landcare. We accept volunteers from all walks of life, you don't need to be on a work agreement, but we are happy to discuss them.

Interested in volunteering? Find out more



Valley Bees Group

Interested in learning about caring for bees, bee food, and hives?

[Valley Bees Group](#) meets at Gympie Landcare on the 1st Saturday of every month at 9am.

[350 Old Maryborough Road, Gympie](#). Just park your car at the office on Groves Road and enter through the side gate.



Please wear light coloured clothing, closed shoes, a hat & a veil if you have one. Please bring a plate to share at morning tea.

[Click here](#) to download a free handy guide to bees and find out more information about Valley Bees Workshops.

Koala Action Gympie Region Team (KAGR)



Planting Environment for
Endangered Koalas

Koala Action
GYMPIE REGION

[Koala Action Gympie Region](#) (KAGR) has a plan to **KEEP** koalas in our area with our new **PEEK** program **Planting Environment for Endangered Koalas**.

Due to a generous donation from Qld Koala Crusaders, our volunteer conservation group is now able to support more habitat planting projects. This might be expanding or enhancing existing habitat or creating a wildlife corridor to link up patchy habitat.

If you live in 'koala-country' and are keen to do a project but just need some help, we are keen to hear from you.

We can assist with free trees, advice, and where landholders need practical help, we can offer volunteer planting days with the support of a qualified bush regenerator.

Interested in **PEEK**?

Go to [Koala Habitat page](#) to complete the form for habitat plantings, or phone President Robyn on 0428 865 172 (not available Wednesdays).



Gympie Community Gardens

Community gardens help people learn how to grow, harvest, and prepare healthy food. Members share their knowledge and skills with the whole community in a fun, sociable and friendly environment.

We would like to encourage everyone interested in helping at the [Gympie Community Garden](#) to come down for a working bee, a cuppa, and a harvest swap. Children are most welcome.

If you would like to be included in our updates, please email gympiecgarden@gmail.com



Located at: 37 Tozer Park Road, Gympie

When: Every second Saturday @ 8.30am

Tiaro Field Day 23 July 2022

When: 9am - 3pm

Where: Tiaro Recreation Grounds, Inman St, Tiaro, QLD

Entry Fee: Adults: \$10 | Kids: FREE

The **Tiaro Field Day** is Fraser Coast's premier farming and lifestyle event.

Held every two years, it attracts over 3,000 visitors and many exhibits.

The Field Day offers visitors a genuine rural experience and country hospitality. Check out [what's on](#), there are some amazing exhibits including a cooking competition judged and mentored by celebrity chef Matt Golinski

