



THE GAP SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE INC.



COMMUNITY NEWS: AUGUST 2023

A heartfelt thank you must go to our August seminar guest speaker Mr Leo Lee. Leo is the current president of Safe Our Waterways Now (SOWN), the groundbreaking and leading bushcare organisation in The Gap.

Leo is exceptionally knowledgeable about the local creek fauna and flora, and presented data about Enoggera creek salinity, oxygenation, temperature, and Ph. He explained that Enoggera Creek is home to many invertebrate and fish species, but due to a wide range of factors, their number and the diversity of species are in decline. These include issues such as pollution, habitat destruction, feral animals and plants, and imported diseases just to name a few.

However, Leo also was hopeful given the success of SOWN and the planting that has been undertaken over the past 30 years that things can still be turned around. One positive sign is the reemergence of Rakali – a native water rat which is again been seen along Enoggera Creek. With regards to our Platypus project, Leo recommended that the health of the creek and the available food source for the Platypus need to be much better before they can return.

A focus of our work must be the education of the community on the many ways they can support the regeneration of the creeks, besides planting, this includes reducing the use of fertiliser, herbicides and pesticides, and being very mindful about any chemicals or toxic substances that could reach the creeks through the stormwater drains. This is particularly important during times of drought when the water is stagnant.

Leo discussed the pros and cons of water releases from the dam, highlighting that this may be potentially detrimental especially if the water comes from the bottom of the dam, where it is very cold and lack oxygen.

Thank you once again Leo for an insightful presentation.





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In other news, we are currently undertaking a redesign of our logo and website, so that it can serve the community better. The new logo, created by **local agency Absolute Media**, was revealed during the evening and you can see it again below. Local photographer Colin Bushell also kindly agreed to do the photography for our new website. We will run a photography session at Yooralla Street Park Saturday 26th August at 8.30-9.30am and would like to invite as many of you to attend. The idea is to do several community group shots by the creek that we can feature on the website. We would love a range of ages, so bring your kids if you can. Please email thegapsustainability@gmail.com if you can participate. The next few months look like they are very busy, please see the list of activities and events at the bottom of the page.



Fanny is now a facilitator for [Climate Fresk](#), a fun and collaborative game where you learn about the elements driving climate change and work on solutions collectively. Aimed at anyone with an interest in the issue, whether beginner or veteran, you will come away feeling re-energised and empowered! Fanny and the Brisbane Climate Fresk team will facilitate a workshop at The Gap State High School library on the 19th of October 6-9pm. All welcome to attend, places are limited pls [register](#) through this link:

https://association.climatefresk.org/session_invitations/4ef1a2dd-33fd-437b-a4fd-41ad7cbcdc38

NEXT EVENTS:

- 1) **26th August:** Yooralla Street Park photography session Saturday 26th August at 8.30-9.30am
- 2) **10th September:** Yooralla Street composting event 9.30-11.30
- 3) **19th September** 7.30pm: Next working group meeting – please note: [Payne Road State School](#)
- 4) **17th October:** next The Gap Sustainability Initiative seminar
- 5) **19th October:** Climate Fresk workshop– for all interested in understanding the science behind climate change in a fun and collaborative way
- 6) **2nd November:** 150 years uniting church – sustainability day
- 7) **4th November:** 150 years uniting church festival
- 8) **5th November:** Fundraising Barbecue Bunnings
- 9) **21st November:** AGM and informal get together, finger food and drinks
- 10) **2nd December:** Social barbecue – tentative

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS NOW DUE:

If you have not yet done so, please consider becoming a member. The membership fee for FY24 is \$20 to cover costs such as website maintenance, administration, project costs, and facilitated meetings. Please use





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our Bank Account Name: The Gap Sustainability BSB124001 Account No: 23277186 and send us your name, DOB, and address to thegapsustainability@gmail.com for the membership registry. Existing members due for renewal pls also use the bank account to transfer your membership fee or use your credit card with our tap and go Square reader at the next forum. Many thanks.

FUNDRAISING: TGSi now is an official fundraising team with **Containers for Change**. Please consider donating your refund to our cause by using our Member ID: C10826699.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Please stay updated about our activities by visiting our website www.thegapsustainability.org. We now also have an active presence on [Facebook](#).

Yours sincerely, The Gap Sustainability Initiative Mgt Committee

