



THE GAP SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE INC.



COMMUNITY NEWS: JANUARY 2023

TGSI held a **working group meeting** on the 24th of January discussing multiple grant opportunities ranging between \$5000 and \$500,000 in value. Some of these are highly relevant to each of our three working group topics of Elevating the awareness and impact of local sustainability activities and volunteer organisations; The Platypus project; and Energy independence.

It was fantastic to see many new faces especially student leaders from The Gap High School and volunteers of Bushcare groups attend. Also, a very big thank you must go to Jonty Bush, MP, Member for Cooper, who came equipped with printed versions of the grant guidelines and suggestions for essential stakeholder contacts for each of the grants.

We discussed each grant's eligibility criteria, decided what project would be competitive for each and then started to consider the grant application sections on the night. This was followed by formation of writing groups to continue each of the applications ready for submission in February.

It's great to report that The Gap High School will accommodate us for our evening seminars and working groups. We thank the Principal Anne McLauchlan for offering to host our future events at the school, which will allow us to forge deeper links with the school community.

NEXT EVENTS:

On the 21th of February, TGSI will hold a community seminar on the topic of Platypus conservation. We are very excited that Dr Tamielle Brunt will be our guest speaker. Tamielle made several recommendations about our Platypus rewilding project, especially regarding suitable habitats and monitoring targets such as water quality and invertebrate availability. She recommended we consistently assess these targets over a 3-to-5-year plan and within different seasons/climatic events. Once there is sufficient evidence of sustained suitable resources over that time, we can then think of reintroducing platypus! It's great to hear that SOWN is already collecting water quality measurements, and that The Gap High School students are also doing water quality measurement as part of the biology curriculum. We hope to report on these data on our website soon.

On the 20th March we will then hold our next working group meeting.

MEMBERSHIP:

If you have not yet done so, please consider becoming a member - we just need another 15 members to be eligible to a tax-deductible charitable status. The membership fee is \$5 per financial year (increasing to \$20 next financial year) to cover costs such as insurance, website hosting fee, room hire and facilitated meetings. Please use 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.

FUNDRAISING:

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

SOCIAL MEDIA:





THE GAP SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE INC.



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

