



THE GAP SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE INC.



COMMUNITY NEWS: SEPTEMBER 2023

Thank you to Payne Road State School for allowing us to use the Library for our September working Group Meeting. We had a great update from each working group and a number of new discussion points were raised.

1) Enhancing existing opportunities: The verge garden project was presented to Councillor Steve Toomey, who is now discussing it with the relevant officers in Brisbane City Council. Regardless of the outcome, we have a good plan now on how we can start to engage more people in requesting street trees. This initiative is also important for the Platypus project. Given the lack of water in Enoggera creek even shortly after rain, the Platypus team identified the need for a focus on restoring the watercycle. Verge gardens and street trees can help to retain rain water in gardens for longer so that run off is less rapid, and water flows to the creeks more slowly and for longer.

2) Energy Group: We applied to be a community partner for Rewiring Australia, as an exemplar suburb and are very happy to announce that ***we have been selected*** as one of only two Queensland sites for [mentoring by the Rewiring team](#). We are in contact with Energex as they progress the installation of the Federal Government awarded community battery in The Gap. We work towards having a community meeting at The Gap, where the roll out of the battery and the potential benefits for the community members can be discussed. TGSi wants to become the community sounding board for these matters and is already being contacted by interested members of the community who would like to use a community battery in the future to reduce their Energy bill. In the meantime, Mark Crocker kindly offered to photograph and interview Low Emissions Households in The Gap, so that they could be featured in blogs on our website, allowing to inspire others to undertake similar action. If you are interested to be interviewed, pls let us know thegapsustainability@gmail.com.

3) Platypus Group: We are thrilled to announce that [Dr Gilad Bino](#) will be our next seminar guest speaker on the 17th October. Gilad is a leading Platypus researcher and was involved in the recent rewilding of Platypus at the Royal National Park near Sydney. The Platypus Group has made great progress in formulating a project plan and identifying critical issues that need to be addressed for the habitat of the Platypus. They are now looking for volunteers who would undertake a SOWN/WaterBug Blitz; help with a project to monitor the Creek using eDNA surveys possibly in collaboration with the local schools; coordinate efforts to improve the aquatic plants and animals variety in the creek; produce a map of the creek at different times of the year so that continuous waterholes can be identified. Let us know if you want to take the lead on one or more of these actions? thegapsustainability@gmail.com

Besides the three working groups, we are progressing with Will from [Absolute Media](#) a redesign of our website and logo so that they become more user friendly and effective. Thank you to everyone who came to the photoshoot a couple of weeks ago and **thank you to local photographer [Colin Bushell](#)**, who kindly took the photos for us, they look great.

Member T-Shirts: If you are interested in a The Gap Sustainability Initiative branded T-Shirt, please let us know. To avoid the potential for waste or contributing to unsustainable fashion production, we can embroider one of your T-Shirts or would need your preferred size. Let us know if you want a T-Shirt by emailing us. thegapsustainability@gmail.com





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Upcoming events and activities:

There are many events coming up, especially *the Climate Fresk Workshop*, which is a unique, collaborative and fun way to learn the basics of climate science, the impacts of global climate change and different personal and systemic solutions to combating our most pressing, complex and significant challenge. Join us on the 19th October at The Gap High School, to learn about the elements driving climate change through a fun and collaborative card game, 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! Please use the registration link below.

NEXT EVENTS:

17th October: next seminar – guest speaker Gilead

19th October: [Climate Fresk at The Gap High School](#) – please use the link to register

2nd November: 150 years uniting church – sustainability day

4th November: 150 years uniting church festival

5th November: Fundraising Barbecue Bunnings

21st November: AGM and informal get together, finger food and drinks

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 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

