

January 2024 Newsletter

On the 20<sup>th</sup> February, we held our first working group meeting of the year. We reported back on some overarching achievements (submission in response to the Moreton Water Plan; finalisation of our first grant, with final report accepted by the department), and then worked in groups to plan for the year ahead and our next activities. Please feel free to join any of these project components you are interested in.

**The Platypus Group established five priority areas to action:**

1. Develop research proposal for Honours student
2. Water monitoring of the creek
3. eDNA surveys
4. Fundraising for equipment and services
5. Advocacy, especially for banning of Opera house nets

**The Community Energy Group** The community energy working group has a full workload and is looking for more participants to actively engage in the opportunities at hand. Current initiatives include:

1. Working with Energex and Energy Queensland for the implementation of a community battery
2. Trialling an energy app developed by a local company that promotes the use of renewable energy at the lowest cost
3. and joining the Rewiring Australia community partnership program and learn about ways to electrify your home.

**The Sustainability For All Actions are:**

1. Support The Gap State High Schools' Community Garden and Launch Energy projects
2. Continue the TLC for existing street trees and expand the number of volunteers
3. Share information about composting and providing green waste for others to compost
4. Share information about yellow crazy ants and what to expect when they enter your garden
5. Roadkill – investigate the availability of slow down for wildlife signs
6. Advocacy for the Sustainability Hub

For those of you who are not on Facebook, over the last few weeks we posted information about a large variety of topics such as a call by the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly project for gardeners to plant the relevant vine in their garden that these butterflies rely on; and the [ShareWaste](#) app, which allows you to connect with neighbours to either collect or drop off your foodwaste for composting and wormfarming. If you go to our [website](#), and scroll down on the landing page, our social media posts are all listed there and you can click on those you are interested in.

**Member T-Shirts:** If you are interested in a The Gap Sustainability Initiative branded T-Shirt, please email us at [info@thegapsustainability.org](mailto:info@thegapsustainability.org). The t-shirt is free for paid members.

**Upcoming events and activities:**

- We will host a Clean Up Australia event on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March. Meet at 8 at Alfred and Lucinda Best Park (Payne Rd). Bring gloves, water, hat, sunscreen and insect repellent.

- Our next seminar will be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> March hosted by the Energy Working group and focus on how to achieve energy independence in your household. Please see the flyer attached for details.

**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. To become a member or renew your membership, please head to our [website](#) or use our Bank Account Name: The Gap Sustainability BSB124001 Account No: 23277186 and send us your name, DOB, and address to [info@thegapsustainability](mailto:info@thegapsustainability) 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 Member ID: C10826699.

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

**Yours sincerely,** The Gap Sustainability Initiative Mgt Committee