



Whitsunday  
Catchment  
Landcare

# Annual Report

## 2015-2016 Financial Year

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COORDINATOR (P/T): Cath Campbell  
LANDCARE OFFICER : Peter Alden  
NURSERY/VOLUNTEER  
COORDINATOR (P/T): Kathy Burnett  
ADMIN. OFFICER: Harriet Spence

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

Graham Armstrong, Chair  
Wendy Gordon, Secretary  
Jim Dickens, Treasurer  
Bren Fuller  
Scott Hardy  
John Casey  
CR.Ron Petterson

### ***Vision and Goals***

*To promote the planned and sustainable management of the O'Connell/Andromache, Proserpine and Gregory river catchments in a constructive and balanced way by actions such as promoting ecologically sustainable development, developing catchment management strategies, involving the community in NRM decision making, and promoting of the value of a coordinated catchment-wide approach for managing natural resources.*

WCL is a member of the Central Qld Coast Landcare Network, a partnership for the natural resource management of catchments in the Central Qld Coast bioregion: Pioneer, Sarina & Whitsunday Catchments.

## ***Chairperson's Report***

### **Graham Armstrong Chair -Whitsunday Catchment Landcare**

This year was my third term as Chair of the Management Committee for Whitsunday Catchment Landcare and I am happy to report that our organisation has once again met its commitment to support good land management practices alongside consideration of the region's natural diversity.



As you will see from the Landcare Coordinator's report the range of activities and projects that we were involved in during the year was diverse and comprehensive. During the year the hard work of WCL staff on grant-funded and contracted projects has led to a slightly improved overall financial position. On the broader picture the future of funding for community Natural Resource Management groups such as ourselves remains somewhat uncertain but our finances remain strong and our membership continues to grow with new members joining regularly.

There was continuing change at the Management Committee level with the Committee welcoming three new members, Councillor Ron Peterson representing Whitsunday Regional Council, John Casey representing Proserpine Cane Growers and Wendy Gordon who took on the role of Secretary. Scott Hardy and Bren Fuller and Jim Dickens (as Treasurer) continued their longstanding and valuable input on the Committee. I have appreciated the advice and assistance from the members of the Management Committee over the year. Their experience and input is of great value in leading the organisation. With the assistance of the WCL Landcare Officer the committee have been working on our 3 year Strategic & Operational Plans and look forward to bringing this in its final draft form to the WCL membership for consultation in the near future.

We are indeed lucky to have staff with a great depth of knowledge of our local area, high level of expertise in their respective roles and unrelenting commitment. They have ensured that our capacity to deliver on projects remains high and add value to everything they do. Cath Campbell has continued her excellent work as Landcare Coordinator Peter Alden joined the team as Landcare Officer and brought a wealth of local knowledge and expertise to our organisation. Kathy Burnett continues to improve the efficiency and physical aspects of the nursery and Harriet Spence has done an excellent and professional job administering our accounts. Many thanks to our exceptional crew. I would also like to extend the organisation's dearest thoughts and best wishes to Kerri Ward our previous accounts administrator who did the job so well for many years.

In concert with our wonderful volunteers a tremendous amount of good work has been done out across the landscape and at the nursery. I find sharing time with other volunteers is always a very enjoyable and stimulating experience and I look forward to the times I can get to the nursery and pitch in or join up on a field day to discuss the pressing issues of the day and do what we can to make our community stronger, healthier and more productive. Thank you to all the many volunteers



Australian Government  
Department of the Environment



that become involved and committed to our endeavours. Every bit helps and all your efforts are greatly appreciated.

There is no doubt that as the population of the Whitsunday region continues to grow we will see dramatic changes to our urban and peri-urban spaces at some expense of the natural environment. I believe it is essential for WCL to work with Local Council and others to ensure that we don't lose all the biodiversity that surrounds our dwellings, communities and farms. Maintaining as much connectivity as possible in the landscape is critical to ensuring the quality of life we enjoy here in the Whitsundays, not to mention the self evident benefits to the reef and farm sustainability from the environmental services provided by a more natural landscape.

The staff and committee remain committed to helping Council and private landholders improve the integrity of areas of natural bushland and open space through our weed control and revegetation programs. Our Peri-urban program has been well subscribed and our various projects at Galbraith Creek, Cannonvale and Conway Beach and Nelly Bay are examples where we are working to achieve an improved balance between the development of our communities and maintenance of natural areas within our expanding communities.

I think we should take note of the huge effort and cost being incurred across Southern Australia to try to reverse the local extinctions by re-establishing connectivity across the landscape. This is surely evidence that society values natural areas and that a stitch in time along with thoughtful planning is ultimately more effective and cheaper for the taxpayer in the long run. Together with our partners, WCL has a significant role to play in undertaking practical projects that will help our community to avoid the mistakes that have been made in the past by our southern cousins.

I would especially like to express the Committee's appreciation to our long term partners Whitsunday Regional Council, Reef Catchments and Proserpine Cane Growers Association, whose ongoing support is integral to our successful operation. We look forward to continuing and strengthening our relationships in the year ahead.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the Grant Funding received during the year which fund some of our important on-going projects such as the support for weed management and revegetation projects and nursery related developments.

1. From QLD State Government– Everyone's Environment Program for the Peri-urban Project
2. From Federal Department Of Environment– 25 year Landcare Anniversary Grant Program for Galbraith Park revegetation
3. From Philmac for Community Nursery Irrigation Upgrades
4. From Wilmar for volunteer equipment & supplies

Our world is an oxygen farm – Breathe deeply.



Graham Armstrong  
Chair -Whitsunday Catchment Landcare

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## Coordinators Report

The 2015-16 financial year has seen Whitsunday Catchment Landcare (WCL) settle into the business of natural resource management projects & community engagement with enthusiasm and diversity. I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to the WCL staff for their dedication to and professionalism in, their roles within the organization. I would also like to thank the WCL Management Committee for their support and confidence in the WCL staff.

To WCL's great benefit, we have employed Peter Alden, as our Landcare Officer. Peter's qualifications & extensive experience have enabled WCL to continue with a variety of projects and undertake contracts, that promote best practice revegetation and impact upon the perennial issue of weed control. Our Nursery & Volunteer Coordinator, Kath Bennett continues to provide a welcoming & interesting program at the nursery as well as producing high quality native tube stock for use in revegetation projects & contracts or for sale to the general public. It was a sad day to have to say goodbye to WCL longest serving employee, Kerri Ward. Kerri had undertaken administrative duties with WCL for nearly 10 years and we wish her all the best. WCL's new Admin Officer, Harriet Spence commenced in early 2016 and undertakes her role with efficiency, accuracy & a great sense of humour.

WCL continues to receive the support of **Reef Catchments (RC)** and we thank them sincerely for their ongoing provision of the office space and IT support and the support of their staff. We have also had the opportunity to provide RC with contract services of plant supply, revegetation site planting/ maintenance & weed control projects. All of the small profits from these contracts, has enabled WCL to employ its staff and undertake community/volunteer based activities and events that are unfunded from other sources. WCL continues to receive generous support from **Whitsunday Regional Council (WRC)**. WRC provides WCL with the Community Nursery site, irrigation water for our tube stock & revegetation sites and free mulch from the tips. The WRC staff continue to provide support & assistance where they are able too and I would like to express our sincere appreciation for all their efforts. We thank **Cane Growers Proserpine** for the generous provision of their boardroom for our General meetings at no charge.

And to our last but **most important** **thankyou— to all our generous Volunteers**. This year WCL had 90 registered volunteers who either attend our regular community nursery mornings, community plantings, seed collecting or site visits. This years' attendance records state **2089 hours in total during the 2015-16 financial year. To put a grant application dollar value on this, it would equate to \$73,115 for this year alone.**

In the 2015-16 Financial Year:

WCL has been continuing to work in partnership with the Central Queensland Landcare Network (CQLN) implementing the QLD State Government's Everyone's Environment Grant— Peri-Urban Project, which ends in December 2016. WCL is also implementing the federally funded 25 years Anniversary of Landcare Project, which has been extended due to judicious expenditure of the funds and this as enabled WCL to increase the revegetation area by 0.3ha, with a total of 0.6ha revegetated at the Galbraith Creek Riparian's Project with this grant alone.

WCL has been successful in obtaining 4 small grants from government and private organizations— Wilmar (Community Safety Grants program) and Bendigo Bank Sponsorship Program for equipment & infrastructure purchases—a new shade shelter (so keep a look out for the green roofed & white walled gazebo with the Landcare Logo) and a new concrete slab for the potting soil bin at the community nursery. Landcare Australia—Capacity Building Grant has enabled 2 of our volunteers to undertake training in the use of chemicals, control weeds & obtain their ACDC license. The Department of Social Security—Strengthening Communities Grants program enabled the purchase of office equipment, folding tables, display boards, tools, first aid and personal protection equipment.

In this years coordinators report I have summarized the range of projects that WCL has either managed or been involved with, in the table on the following page. More detailed information about our major projects can be found in the body of the report.

**So cheers to having had a great year and thank you, for all the hard work, dedication and support of Whitsunday Catchment Landcare.**

**Cath Campbell— WCL Coordinator.**

Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Inc. is:

- An Incorporated and Registered Environmental Organisation which is afforded charity status and entitles WCL to receive tax deductible donations and requires the organisation to fulfil operating obligations determined by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and the QLD Office of Fair Trading.
- A Not-for- profit Community based organisation that has been operating in the Whitsunday region since 1998.
- In 2015-16 WCL had 65 members and over 90 registered volunteers and 115 people receive our monthly newsletter.
- WCL has a Management Committee of 7 members, which include community, local council and industry representatives. WCL also has a Public Fund that is administered by a Public Fund Committee of 5, members of which include current Management Committee members (1) General members (3) and the current Coordinator.

Program Area		Activities	Funded by
<b>Community Program</b>	Revegetation and Seed collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Galbraith Park Riparian Corridor, Coral Esplanade Foreshore Revegetation, Conway Beach.</li> <li>CQLN Peri-Urban Project.</li> <li>Undertake regular site visits by volunteers for endemic seed collection &amp; planting.</li> </ul>	State & Federal Grants, WCL
	Public Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NRM information available at community events- Attendance at Show Whitsunday, Nature Celebration Whitsunday.</li> <li>Monthly Newsletter, Facebook Page and Website. Fielding land management questions over the phone, by email, in person, at the nursery and at the WRC office</li> <li>6 General Meetings with guest speakers.</li> <li>Workshops &amp; Training- i.e. Use of mechanical weed spray equipment, Endemic Seed collection, processing &amp; storage, plant propagation &amp; nursery management.</li> </ul>	WCL NRM Information sourced from various Govt. organisations
	School Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proserpine High School– Student visits to the nursery for 10 practical sessions in plant propagation.</li> <li>National Tree Day- Community event &amp; school events</li> <li>Reef Guardian Program- WCL lead a “Walk back in time along Cannonvale Beach”</li> <li>Proserpine State School– planting event for the School’s Yarning circle</li> </ul>	WCL
	Weed control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CQLN Peri-Urban Project- engage 25 private landholders in the management of weeds &amp; undertake revegetation works by preparing a land management plans &amp; provide training in the use of weed control equipment.</li> <li>Regular site visits by volunteers to undertake bush regeneration activities through the removal of weeds and rubbish removal from environmentally sensitive areas.</li> </ul>	State Government Grant, WCL
<b>Volunteer Program</b>	Community Nursery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Propagation of a wide variety of endemic plants for supply to the community &amp; WCL revegetation projects.</li> <li>Selection of environmentally focussed books for sale.</li> <li>Broad selection of weed identification, control &amp; sustainable land management information.</li> <li>Purchase of 6 nursery benches and completion of irrigation upgrades.</li> </ul>	WCL
	Volunteer Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Twice weekly morning events at the community nursery</li> <li>Site visits to private properties &amp; public reserves to view revegetation projects.</li> <li>Morning bird watching walks at the Peter Faust Dam &amp; Goorganga Wetlands.</li> <li>Galbraith Park Riparian Corridor plantings &amp; maintenance, Coral Esplanade Foreshore revegetation &amp; maintenance, Nelly Bay Beach Scrub Reserve– weed rubbish removal.</li> <li>Annual Christmas BBQ.</li> <li>Community Riparian corridor planting events at Galbraith Creek.</li> </ul>	WCL
	Workplace Health & Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide new volunteers with safety inductions training in the use of equipment &amp; resources for volunteer activities.</li> <li>Purchase safety equipment, first aid kits, tools etc. for staff &amp; volunteer use.</li> <li>Facilitate training for 2 volunteers to obtain their Commercial Operators Qualification for the management of weed &amp; safe handling of chemicals.</li> </ul>	Dept. Social security Grant, Wilmar Community Safety Grant.
<b>Self-generated funding</b>	Contract works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Endemic Plant supply– 8500 tube stock for System Repair projects, 636 tube stock cash sales.</li> <li>Weed control- Pond Apple, Rubber Vine, Itch Grass, Giant Rats Tail grass, Mimosa pigra, Prickly Pear Weed removal</li> <li>Feral Pig Control program- ground baiting &amp; trapping and aerial shoots.</li> <li>Case Studies &amp; Field events- Fish tagging &amp; Feral Cat Monitoring</li> <li>Revegetation Planting &amp; Maintenance– Galbraith Park Creeks, St. Catherine’s College, Conway Beach</li> <li>Revegetation Project signage—Galbraith Park</li> </ul>	Reef Catchments - NRM Whitsunday Regional Council projects. Conservation Trust for Volunteers St Catherine’s College Private Sales.



**In 2015-16 WCL achieved the following :**

### **Revegetation and Seed Collection:**

**Galbraith Creek Riparian Corridor-** this year WCL staff, volunteers and the community planted over 2000 plants at the Galbraith Creeks. These activities were funded by grants—the 25 year Landcare Anniversary Grant and a Reef Catchments contract for 6 months maintenance of the site. Numerous visits by volunteers and two public community planting events (National Tree Day & Anniversary Celebration events) has seen the collection of 2kg of seed and plantings of endemic riparian plant species. The Galbraith Creeks Riparian Corridor Project has been running for since 2008 now and there have been 10000's of local native plants installed at the site. Thanks to the dedication of staff & volunteers this revegetation site is a real credit to our organization.



*25th Landcare Anniversary site— Community Tree planting event July 2015. Photo: C. Campbell*



*25th Landcare Anniversary Revegetation growth -December 2015 Photo: C. Campbell*



*Galbraith Creek Revegetation .  
PHOTO: Google maps*

*25th Landcare Anniversary  
Revegetation growth -March  
2016 Photo: C. Campbell*



*25th Landcare Anniversary Revegetation growth  
Even in the pouring rain our volunteers keep  
planting. April 2016  
Photo: C. Campbell*

**Coral Esplanade Foreshore Revegetation—** This ongoing project was funded initially under the QLD Government's Everyone's Environment Program in 2014. WCL staff & volunteers visit the site to undertake maintenance of the planting site & monitor the outcomes. It is an very exposed site and weed infestation is a perennial problem. Even with the occasional vandalism of our plantings, we continue to have commitment to the project and it will remain on our project list for a few years to come.

**Conway Beach-** WCL was contracted by Reef Catchments to undertake removal of *Opuntia monacantha* & *Opuntia stricta* (Prickly pear varieties) approx. 6500kg (13 trailer loads) of prickly pear was removed from the site— no mean feat for the brave souls that undertook the work— hats off to them and congratulations. It is evident that the impacts of cyclone & storm events assist the spread of prickly pear along the coast line by the “paddles breaking off and being washed up and buried by sand, then regenerating. Where the weed was removed, revegetation works were undertaken and a further 2.8ha surveyed for the extents of weed infestation within the foreshore reserve just north of the residential settlement Conway Beach.



*Volunteers hard at work planting at Conway Beach PHOTO: P. Alden*



*Just one of the 13 trailers full of *Opuntia stricta* removed from Conway Beach. PHOTO: P. Alden*



**Opuntia stricta* Conway Beach PHOTO: P. Alden*

### **Central Queensland Landcare Network (CQLN) Peri-Urban Project:**

This project is in its final year of a 3 year project. The Central Queensland Landcare Network ( made up of Sarina, Pioneer & Whitsunday Landcare Groups) have been engaging local non-commercial landholders in managing weeds and planting endemic plants on their properties. Participants are offered a site inspection from a Landcare Officer to identify the weeds species & endemic vegetation they have onsite and discuss the objective of the landholders. A Land Management Plan (LMP) is then prepared which will assist the landholder to achieve their land management goals. This LMP and a package of site specific information, such weed species control, pasture management, regional ecosystem maps & best practice management of that landscape, is provided to the landholder. An added sweetener is the 40 free native tube stock and access to the WCL Weed control equipment that participation in the project also provides. 25 Landholders participated in this project and 1000 plants have been provided to landholders in 2015-16.

**Undertake regular site visits by volunteers for endemic seed collection & planting.** As part of our volunteer events program we endeavour to provide a regular alternative to the volunteer mornings at the community nursery. Volunteers visited all of our revegetation sites— Galbraith Creek, Cannonvale Beach, Conway Beach, Council reserves at Dingo Beach, Nelly Bay and private property on the O'Connell River to collect seed or undertake plantings. Many of our volunteers also collect seed from their own properties as well. These events enable WCL to collect a wide range of provenance seed and produce the native plant species that we provide for replanting into the diverse regional ecosystems that we have in the Whitsundays.

*Volunteers inspecting a RC Systems Repair revegetation site & having morning tea on the O'Connell River Photo: G. Armstrong*





## Public Education:

**Sustainable Land Management, Weed identification, Control & Landholder Legislative Responsibility information available at community events-** Attendance at Show Whitsunday, Nature Celebration Whitsundays, Uniting Church Flower Show, St. Catherine's College Annual Night Markets. Thank you to Whitsunday Regional Council for allowing us to erect our stall along side their Pest Control trailer. This provided a great opportunity to present a diverse range of information about management of pest plants & animals. The mounted wild pig & wild dog heads always attract attention.



*WCL information stall at St. Catherine's College Night market. Photo: C. Campbell*

*WCL stall & WRC Pest Trailer at the 2015 Proserpine Show.*



**Publications:** Monthly Newsletter, Facebook Page and Website. WCL produces a monthly newsletter that we distribute to our members and many other interested people or organisations. We try to keep our Facebook page & website up to date. Keeping the website up to date has proved a bit difficult than the Facebook page or a social media challenged and time constrained coordinator, all I have to do is find the time & the interest in getting the training— I am working on it -Although a tech savvy volunteer would be a most welcome addition to our office ( only a couple of hours month.....)

**Six General Meetings with guest speakers were held during the year—** Barry Nolan National Parks & Wildlife—Proserpine Rock Wallaby Recovery program. Robin Bell & Kerensa Macaulay—Reef Catchments Climate Adaptation & potential Threatened species Impact. Paul Horner—Frogs & Reptiles Of the Whitsundays. Peter Alden WCL— Managing Guinea grass; Daryl Barnes— Bird Life Mackay, Mike Gregory— Reef Catchments Future funding & Reef Catchments programs. Thank you to all of you for donating your time & sharing your messages with the WCL membership. Six Management Committee meetings were held on alternate months to the General meetings.

**Workshops & Training—** WCL has hosted a Quick spray & splatter gun training event for Peri-Urban project participants to build the skills of landholders in the identification of weeds and the best practice management techniques for differing weed infestation types & landscape contexts. This event covers the use & operation of WCL's Weed spray Trailer ( also available for hire from WCL) mechanical controls Endemic Seed collection, processing & storage, plant propagation & nursery management.



*Peri-Urban project participants at the spray equipment training event. Photo: C. Campbell*

## School Engagement:

**Proserpine High School—** The Community Nursery was used as a venue & WCL Nursery Coordinator provided support & valuable workplace experiences to students from Proserpine High School completing their Agricultural studies. Students participated in the full process of propagating tube stock from seed preparation & storage, pricking out & tubing up to setting out trays & ongoing maintenance. 15-20 Agricultural Studies Students and their teachers, visit the nursery for 10 practical sessions in plant propagation during the year.



**National Tree Day—** Offers of free tube stock is extended to all schools in the WRC area for events that they might be holding within their school grounds.

*Cannonvale State School National Tree Day event. Photo: K. Head*



**Reef Guardian Program-** This program brings children from many of the local primary schools to learn about the environmental impacted the local environment is experiencing and projects being undertaken in the local area. This year WCL lead a “Walk back in time along Cannonvale Beach” looking at the changes that have occurred along the beach over time, how the vegetation used to grow (at the north western end) and about the revegetation project being undertaken at the site.

*Reef Guardian School representatives at Cannonvale Beach.  
PHOTO: C. Campbell*

**Proserpine State School Yarning Circle—** WCL provide the plants & attended the planting event for the School's Yarning circle. Students from the Schools Environmental program undertook the installation of 80 plants to provide the surround landscape for the newly created space. Species include bush tucker plants and endemic natives suitable for the space & safe for the children.

*Proserpine State School plant out the gardens surrounding their Yarning Circle. Photo: C. Campbell*



### **Weed control & rubbish removal.**

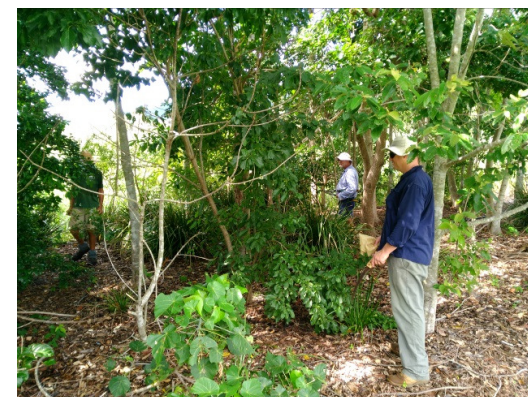
**CQLN Peri-Urban Project—** During 2015-16 this project engaged 25 private non-commercial landholders in the management of weeds & undertake revegetation works by preparing & providing the participants with a land management plans & provide training in the use of weed control equipment and 40 free native plants per property. This project is funded from a State Government Everyone's' Environment Grant and administered by the CQLN over a 3 year period. A total of 75 landholders in the Whitsunday's will have participated in this project when completed in December 2016.

**Regular site visits by volunteers to undertake bush regeneration activities** through the management & removal of weeds, rubbish removal and infill planting where required within environmentally sensitive areas. WCL volunteers & staff achieved the removal of a ute full of weeds & rubbish removed from Nelly Bay Beach Scrub Reserve. This reserve is one of the few remaining sites of this type of endangered littoral rainforest vegetation. Approx. 1 ha riparian vegetation has been replanted and 2.5 ha maintained at Galbraith Park, through the hard work of staff and volunteers. WCL is lucky to have a very dedicated team of volunteers that devote significant amounts of time to the project and this has seen the site flourish. Mention of the support that WRC provides to WCL is appropriate to mention here. Without the provision of free mulch, irrigation water and the cooperation from staff, this project could have faltered. So thank you to WRC again for the continued commitment to supporting this project.



*A ute load of weeds & rubbish removed from Nelly Bay Beach Scrub.  
Photo: C Campbell*

*Volunteers undertaking maintenance at the Galbraith Riparian Project.  
Photo: P. Alden*





## Community Nursery.

### Propagation of a wide variety of endemic plants for supply to the community & WCL revegetation projects.

We have welcomed 6 new volunteers to the WCL nursery in 2015-16. In the 2015-16 financial year WCL has produced approx. 24,687 tube stock. We have contract grown 8500 plants for Reef Catchments River Systems Repair Program. This tube stock has been planted at degraded sites along river banks in the Mackay Whitsunday & Isaac Region. The remaining 22,000 tube stock have been made available for WCL's Peri-urban Project, Galbraith Park Riparian revegetation corridor, Coral Esplanade Foreshore revegetation, Conway Beach revegetation and for purchase for other revegetation projects undertaken by the WRC, Reef Catchments, local schools and private landholders. The WCL Community nursery has been a reliable supplier of native tube stock to organisations & individuals for the last 4 years and is a focal point for our community of landcarers in the Whitsunday region. Not all have been planted but what is left, is ready to be sold or donated. Twice weekly volunteer events are held at the WCL Community Nursery and these are very well attended with up to 25 volunteers attending regularly. Activities at the nursery include: propagating of endemic plants, processing seed, recording propagation methods & results, nursery site maintenance, social interaction, great morning teas, monthly site visits for weeding, seed collection, botanical identification and other educational opportunities. These activities and resources are funded using WCL finances, grants or plant sales. Volunteers are inducted in workplace health & safety and nursery practices.



*WCL Community Nursery  
Photo: C Campbell*

**Selection of environmentally focussed books for sale.** WCL has a good selection of books available for sale from the nursery. Some of the topics covered include: plant & weed identification, weed control, native animals— birds— reptiles and insects. We even carry some lovely children's books that all have an Australian focus.



*WCL Community Nursery site improvements. Photo: C Campbell*

### Broad selection of weed identification, control & sustainable land management information.

The nursery has a comprehensive library of free pamphlets & information sheets on local weed identification and controls and other sustainable land management advice available on site.

**Purchase of 6 nursery benches and completion of irrigation upgrades.** WCL purchased 6 nursery benches this year to complete the renovated growing area at the nursery. We now have a flexible irrigation & table layout that enables great stock to be produced and easy site management undertaken.

**Volunteer Activities.** WCL has 100 registered volunteers who either attend our regular community nursery mornings, community plantings, seed collecting or site visits. Many volunteer hours have been donated to WCL & the environment—1757 at the nursery, 83 hours spent seed collecting and 81 hours undertaking maintenance at the Galbraith Creek Riparian Corridor Project, 168 hours Management Committee commitment – **2089 hours in total during the 2015-16 financial year. To put a dollar value on this , it would equate to \$73,115 for this year alone.** Volunteer Activities this year have included:

- Site visits to private properties & public reserves to maintain revegetation or undertake bushcare projects.
- Morning bird watching walks at the Peter Faust Dam & Goorganga Wetlands.
- Galbraith Park Riparian Corridor plantings & maintenance, Coral Esplanade Foreshore revegetation & maintenance, Nelly Bay Beach Scrub Reserve— weed rubbish removal.
- Community Riparian corridor planting & maintenance events at Galbraith Creek.
- Annual Christmas Party.

*WCL Volunteer Christmas  
Party. Photo: C Campbell*



## Workplace Health & Safety

All new volunteers are provided with safety inductions & training in the use of equipment & resources for all volunteer activities. Risk assessments and safety management plans are prepared for all events of the nursery site.

Personal protective equipment for staff & volunteers is provided or required as a condition of participation in our projects and activities. First aid kits are upgraded regularly and tools etc. are maintained in good condition for staff & volunteer use.

WCL received funding this year from Landcare Australia to facilitate the training of 2 volunteers to obtain their Commercial Operators Qualification for the management of weeds & safe handling of chemicals. This is an asset to WRC as it enables qualified volunteers to supervise other volunteer during weed maintenance events and frees up our Landcare Officer to undertake other projects. WCL also received a grant from the Department of social Security– Strengthening Communities Program which fund the purchase of office & events equipment, tools & personal protection equipment and first aid kits.

## Self-generated funding

In the last 3 years WCL has undertaken contract work for three local organisations. Reef Catchments, Whitsunday Regional Council (WRC) and St. Catherine's College. This contract work has enabled WCL to earn small profits, which has in turn, been spent on activities untied to external grant obligations such as our volunteer, school and community engagement activities. Contract works in 2015-16 has included: Endemic Plant supply– 8500 tube stock for System Repair projects; Weed control- Pond Apple, Rubber Vine, Itch Grass, Giant Rats Tail Grass, Mimosa pigra, Prickly Pear; Feral Pig Control program– administration tasks; Case Studies & Field events- Fish tagging & Feral Cat Monitoring; Revegetation Planting & Maintenance– Galbraith Park Creeks; Revegetation Project signage-Galbraith Park; Prickly Pear Weed Control & revegetation– Conway Beach. Pond apple Survey & control; Priority Pest Mapping Survey & Twin Creeks Riparian Revegetation, Plant supply for WRC projects.



*Feral Cat Monitoring Project– At a community engagement event -just on dusk a Proserpine Rock Wallaby came out onto the lawn & that is what we are all looking at.  
Photo: O. Brodhurst*



*Twin Creeks Revegetation Project  
Photo: P. Alden*



*Fish Tagging & Fishway Field Event– O'Connell River.  
Photo: C. Campbell*



*Feral Cat Monitoring Project targeted known Proserpine Rock Wallaby habitat. Photo: B. Nolan*



## Working Groups/ Committees Supported

- Central Qld Coast Landcare Network
- Whitsunday Local Marine Advisory Committee
- Whitsunday Feral Pig Control Steering Group
- Mackay Whitsunday Regional Pest Management Group
- WCL Public Fund Committee
- WRC Citizenship Ceremony
- Mimosa pigra Stakeholders Group

## Formal acknowledgments for support provided thought out the year.

- Reef Catchments NRM, for hosting the WCL Office, providing their ongoing support to WCL activities and grant applications and the opportunity to obtain NRM contracts that facilitate the preservation & enhancement of the natural environment in the Whitsunday Region.
- Whitsunday Regional Council– Parks & Gardens Department , Waste Management Department, Proserpine & Cannonvale Depot staff and Pest Control & Local Laws Officers.
- Canegrowers Proserpine for their continuing support, generous provision of their boardroom for our General meetings and for letting us borrow Christine Peterson back occasionally.
- Kapow Interactive for their ongoing support for the Central Queensland Landcare Network and WCL.
- Bendigo Bank– Cannonvale for their help in the financial management of WCL.
- Wilmar Sugar for providing the Community Safety Grants Program.
- C.E Smith Accountants– for their Auditing of the WCL financials.
- Bennett's Earthworks for giving us great service when we needed things made for us, such as nursery tables etc.
- Irrigear Whitsundays for their assistance with the nursery & revegetation site irrigation.
- JJ Richards & Sons; Kevin Young for his patience in dealing with our frequent calls about mulch deliveries to various places at various times.
- Climate Classics for prompt supply of work & volunteer shirts & hats.
- Down to Earth Landscape Contracting for his help preparing our planting sites.
- Landcare Australia for their Capacity Building Grant program.



To: The Member  
Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Inc

### Scope

We have audited the financial report of the Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Inc for the year ended 30 June 2016 as set out on the attached pages. The committee is responsible for the financial report. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements, and the Associations Incorporation Act, so as to present a view, which is consistent with our understanding of Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Inc financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

### Qualification

Part of the income derived by the body is of a nature that full control of receipts cannot be maintained until amounts are actually recorded through the body's books. As there are no practical audit procedures to quantify the effect of this, we are unable to express an opinion on receipts prior to their being recorded.

### Qualified Audit Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects on the financial report of the matter referred to in the qualification paragraph, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements and The Associations Incorporation Act, the financial position of Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Inc as at 30 June 2016 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.



Date: 22.9.2016.

C.E. Smith & Co Proserpine CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
Vic Carroll

86 Main Street  
PROSERPINE QLD 4800

**Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Inc**  
**Notes to and Forming Part of the Accounts For Year Ended 30 June 2016**

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

These financial statements are a special purpose financial report. They are based upon historic costs and do not take into account the changing value of money. The cash and going concern bases of accounting has been applied.

No regard has been paid to the application of Accounting Standards or other mandatory professional reporting requirements (Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views) issued by Australian professional accounting bodies except where specifically stated.

**DEPRECIATION**

Depreciation has been calculated for the first time in these financial statements. Fixed Assets were valued by the committee and these values are recorded in the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2016.

These notes are to be read in conjunction with the audit report.

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**Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Inc Notes to and Forming Part of the Accounts For Year Ended 30 June 2016**

**STATEMENT BY EXECUTIVE**

The Members of the Executive have determined that the Association is not a reporting entity as defined in Statement of Accounting Concepts 1: Definition of the Reporting Entity, and therefore there is no requirement to apply accounting standards in the preparation of these financial statements. The Members of the Executive have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the accounts.

In the opinion of the Executive the accompanying accounts: Statement of Assets and Liabilities, Statement of Receipts and Payments and Notes to and Forming Part of the Accounts:

Present fairly the financial position of the Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Inc as at  
 30 June 2016 and the results of the Association for the period ended on that date.

At the date of this Statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Executive and is signed for and on behalf of the Executive by:

J. Dickens Committee Member

Dated this 22nd Day of September 2016.

## Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Inc.

## Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2016

Assets	2016	2015
Bendigo Operating Account	63,362.10	89,532.60
Bendigo Statement Account	1,000.52	
Bendigo Online Interest Ac	186,452.98	144,831.50
Bendigo WCL Public Fund	3,679.83	2,696.86
Bendigo Term Deposit	125,685.22	120,000.00
Trade Debtors	2,569.64	32,584.62
Petty Cash	109.85	260.00
Nursery Float	95.00	
Float RC	20.00	
Current Assets	<b>\$382,975.14</b>	<b>\$389,905.58</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Equipment (Various)	10,888.05	12,102.05
Shipping Container	1,605.78	1,785.78
Awning (Donga)	3,273.61	3,639.61
Quikspray	12,460.00	13,849.00
Trailer for Quick Spray	4,670.00	5,189.73
Shadehouse & Irrigation	5,220.79	2,437.15
Nursey Equipment	8,395.00	
Motor Vehicle	21,379.55	26,329.55
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$67,892.78</b>	<b>\$65,332.87</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$450,867.92</b>	<b>\$455,238.45</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Provision for Leave Loading	1,839.63	1,289.88
Provision for Holiday Leave	10,512.19	7,370.75
Provision for Long Service	2,328.74	2,184.22
Trade Creditors	1,104.29	0.01
GST Payable	6,999.00	19,064.24
PAYG Withholding Payable	6,054.00	6,624.00
Payroll Deductions - Super	3,120.90	3,409.92
	<b>31,958.75</b>	<b>39,943.02</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$418,909.17</b>	<b>\$415,295.43</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Retained Earnings	415,295.43	326,936.81
Current Earnings	3,613.74	88,358.62
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$418,909.17</b>	<b>\$415,295.43</b>



**Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Inc.**  
**Profit & Loss Statement.**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2016**

Income	2016	2015
Income	11,132.57	
Contracts	180,815.66	306,995.23
Sales	45.45	4,798.86
Sales - Books, Bags	2,078.53	1,019.12
Sales - Plants	10,727.03	6,729.96
Sales - Contract Work	6,564.25	
Sales - Events I Workshops	589.55	
Fund Raising Income	957.00	442.00
Grants	6,975.18	47,920.62
Donations	257.70	602.32
Vehicle Reimbursement	138.60	
Refunds		100.00
Interest	9,796.96	3,945.99
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>230,078.48</b>	<b>372,554.10</b>

Net Profit	2016	2015
	<b>3,613.74</b>	<b>88,358</b>

Expenses	2016	2015
Accounting I Audit fees	2,285.00	2,210.00
Accum Depreciation	9,646.00	5,307.00
Administration	1,004.36	1,984.63
Admin & Financial Services	5,175.00	9,855.00
Advertising	1,052.56	285.45
Aerial Shooting I Baiting	26,877.27	17,945.00
Bank Charges	166.50	64.10
Written off Bad Debt		(\$10.95)
Baiting program		3,862.18
Books (for on selling)	2,369.46	500.00
Catering I Hall Hire	630.92	418.81
Chemicals	614.71	1,389.08
Committee Reimbursement		1,924.35
Contractor (Landscape Labour)	2,445.46	
Contractor	440.00	45,610.99
Coordinator Wages		17,640.00
Protective Clothing/ Training	298.55	310.36
Displays I Communication	650.27	505.05
Equipment Maintenance/Repairs	2,097.12	395.56
Equipment Purchase	5,336.98	10,214.42
Equipment Hire	200.00	6,513.25
Fund Raising Expenses		13.58
GST		76.91
Meeting Expenses	96.64	47.23
Memberships I Subscriptions	100.00	281.50
Miscellaneous	235.51	16.82
Mobile Telephone	1,428.06	1,208.18
Nursery & Vol Coordination	10,248.00	12,484.50
Nursery Supplies I Materials	2,415.98	12,063.11
Nursery Plants		227.27
Personal Protective Equipment	1,312.64	239.92
Postage, Freight & Office Expenses	761.90	409.40
Project Officer Expenses		807.26
Reference Materials	87.27	254.55
Staff Training, Travel & Accommodation	968.58	3,303.44
Volunteer Network	2,460.53	98.18
Workshops I Events	426.77	35.71
Fuel	2,406.70	4,655.80
Vehicle Expenses	2,078.01	8,115.76
Vehicle /Trailer Registration	1,034.59	958.86
Wages & Salaries Expenses		
Annual Leave Provision increase	3,691.19	7,742.07
Long Service Leave Provision increase	144.52	1,927.22
Superannuation	11,203.68	8,799.62
Wages & Salaries	123,271.42	92,859.14
Workers Compensation Insurance	802.59	645.17
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>226,464.74</b>	<b>284,195.48</b>



*Why we do what we do— part of the Whitsunday Catchment with Galbraith Park in the centre*  
Photo: 2013 Ray White Whitsundays