

GWYMAC INC

LANDCARE NETWORK, INVERELL NSW



PROFILE

GWYMAC INC. (Gwydir and Macintyre Resources Management Committee) is your local Landcare office in Inverell, Northern NSW. We are a non-profit, community owned organisation, a free service

GWYMAC STAFF



Lee Thompson
CEO & Landcare
Coordinator

LEE has been a Landcare Coordinator since 2013 and enjoys being part of a dedicated and enthusiastic team at Gwymac Landcare. Lee's duties include applying for grant funding, event coordination and management, Gwymac member services, social media management, general Gwymac promotion and advertisement and providing general support to Landcare groups

Qualifications and & Employment History: Lee has extensive experience in managing large commercial and residential portfolios and front line management. She is a Licensed Real Estate and Business agent and runs a mixed farming operation with her husband and 4 daughters in the Inverell district.

NSW HSC, Diploma in Business, Cert 1V Front Line Management, Diploma Real Estate Management.



Byron Norman
Landcare Coordinator

BYRON joined Gwymac as a Landcare Coordinator in April 2023. Byron has been involved in Landcare for a number of years, particularly with the Swanbrook Catchment project with the Muloon Institute, and was President of Swanvale Landcare. Byron loves the atmosphere and working environment that Gwymac provides. Byron's duties include coordinating Landcare group, applying for funding and event coordination and management as well as project management.

Qualifications and & Employment History: Byron has 20 years experience in the Social Services sector primarily in the Social Housing sector as well as Employment Services. Byron and his family run a mixed livestock operation in the Swanvale area.

Bachelor of Education (UNE), Bachelor of Social Science (UNE), Advanced Diploma Front Line Management, Currently studying Bachelor of Sustainability (Environment) (UNE)





GWYMAC STAFF

{ Landcare groups bring together landholders with a common interest or issues. }



Nunni Beccu-Portass
Bookkeeper

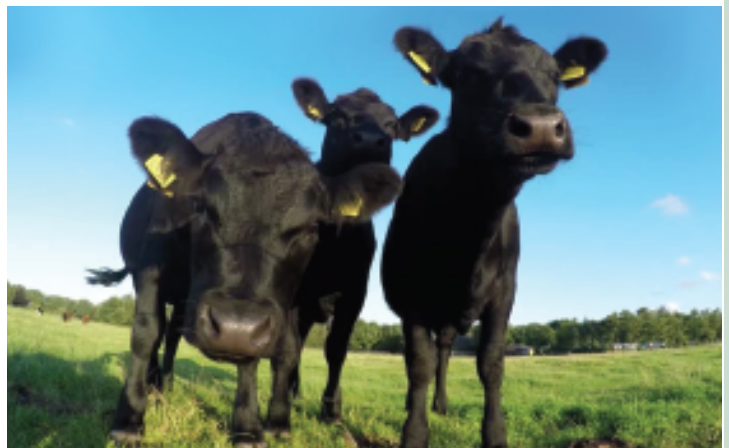
NUNNI is currently employed as Gwymac's Bookkeeper, a role which she has held since 2013. Nunni came to Gwymac with no previous affiliation with Landcare but her forensic accounting abilities were of such value and her understanding of the nature of how Landcare Networks and Projects are devolved is such, that even though she was 'head hunted' by another organisation, she has not been allowed to leave! Nunni is responsible for processing accounts and monthly reporting to the committee.

Education and Qualifications:

Nunni completed her High School Certificate locally with further education completed at TAFE in the areas of Secretarial Studies which developed into an internship with Soil Conservation and with a flair for numbers she became hooked on bookkeeping and accounting duties.

Employment History:

Nunni has worked for numerous local organisations in the capacity of Office Administration with a 12 year stint at Sapphire City Steel only interrupted by entering the family stage. She returned to administrative/bookkeeping duties 13 years ago and Gwymac has been privileged to have her for the last 10years.





GWYMAC COMMITTEE

{ To develop a healthy ecosystem that will
sustain the future needs of our community }



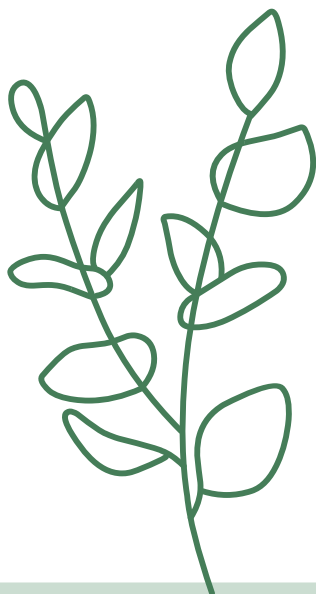
Colin Ritchie
Chair

Colin is a retired Chartered Accountant and financial planner who has lived and worked in Inverell for most of his adult life.

In his professional capacity he has been involved with farmers for the majority of his career and has experienced the highs and lows of rural business from a financial perspective.

Most recently Colin has worked as a business consultant with small business owners, many in rural locations, helping them to “Make the profit they deserve”. He has continued that interest in retirement and presents a short segment on STA-FM each Tuesday around 10am called “Making Money”.

Colin has an interest in the bush and bush regeneration and is a keen birdwatcher having restarted the local birdwatching group. Colin has run birding mornings for Gwymac as well as birdwatching outings and campouts to various areas in the North West of NSW.



Colin Tann
Deputy Chair

Colin is a retired technical scientist having worked with CSIRO Wildlife and Entomology Divisions for over thirty years.

Colin has been involved in a variety of scientific research projects in Victoria, Tasmania, and New South Wales, mainly focusing on vertebrate and invertebrate pest ecology that has significant relevance to agriculture.

Colin has lived and worked within the small agricultural communities where the relevant studies had been focused.

Colin moved to Inverell three years ago after retirement to be closer to family. Colin has a keen interest in conservation and bush regeneration with an interest in the study of insects, and wildlife in general, and is an experienced bushwalker and a keen naturalist.





GWYMAC COMMITTEE

{ Landcare has become an ethic, whereby land managers work to protect or improve the land for the future. }



Julie Clark
Treasurer



Fae Kauter
Treasurer

Julie and Colin moved to Inverell from Armidale twelve years ago when they purchased a property at Sapphire. This enterprise involved growing fat lambs, cattle trading, and wool. Julie joined GWYMAC and became an active and involved member of the Nullamanna Landcare group where she was secretary for several years. She has held the position of secretary and president in various other organisations also.

After downsizing, they now own a smaller property closer to town where they raise fat lambs. The farm has a wildlife corridor and koala sightings are a weekly event. Thee sightings in the wild spurred a passion for preserving and increasing natural habitats for native flora & fauna.

Julie studied at The University of New England where she gained a Bachelor of Economics with Honours and a Diploma of Education. After tutoring economics at UNE, Julie went on to teach mathematics and science at secondary schools in New South Wales.

Julie also holds First Aid Certificate and Chemical Users Certificate.

Julie has been involved in farming enterprises for thirty-eight years and believes in sustainability and the importance of preserving and improving the land for future generations.



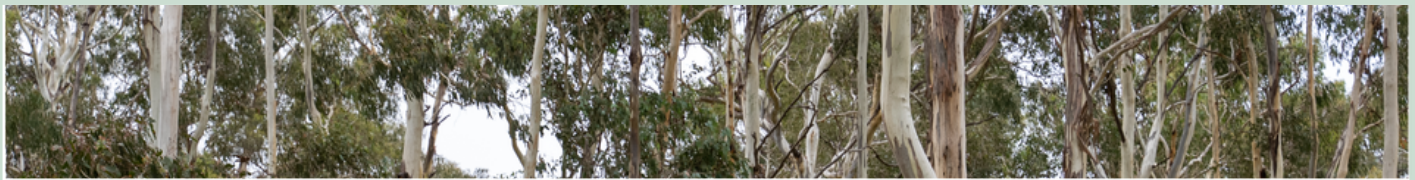
Fae and Neil are landholders north of Inverell, growing grain legumes, fat lambs, and wool production. Key line farming and regenerative practices have been implemented over the years as well as re-establishing populations of native species; animals, grasses, and trees. Fae and Neil are authorities on soil salinity-recognising and treating- after 35 years of on-farm trials with Soil Con, CMA & LLS. And have also been selected for trials by UNE, to combat Coolatai grass, by increasing its palatability through fertilization, diversity, competition, and using minimum till practices.

Fae has had a varied career and has 15 years in the Health food industry, Herbal Medicine, Aromatherapy and Vitamin Supplementation. Fae is a qualified Early Childhood Worker with proficiencies in Auslan, Autism Awareness, and respite for parents of children with disabilities through the Early Intervention Program. Fae also has a freelance catering business as well as the family farming enterprise.

Along with Gwymac, Fae is currently on the board of the Inverell Club, a Committee member of Eat, Drink, Live, and is an active member of the Bannockburn Landcare group.

Fae has a special interest in the slow food movement, is a zero waste advocate, locovore and has a real belief in "healthy soils, healthy humans"





GWYMAC COMMITTEE

{ educate landholders on sustainable land management and encourage the uptake of these practices }



Matt Gardner
General Committee Member

Matt is locally born and raised, and has been involved in farming since a young age. Matt grew up at Spring Mountain on the family farm and was involved in all farming practices where a passion for the land and conservation was developed.

Before purchasing his own property, Matt leased and agisted land to run cattle and sheep, working 3 jobs at times to save as much as possible to be able to buy his own block.

Over the past 20 years Matt has developed a beef grazing enterprise in the Nullamanna area and is actively working on improving the property with sustainability and conservation in mind.

Matt is a qualified Mechanic and has worked in various fields but is now a full-time farmer. Matt is passionate about sustainable and regenerative agriculture, attending field days and community information sessions, vermin control, fishing & camping, and is the current President of the Nullamanna Landcare group

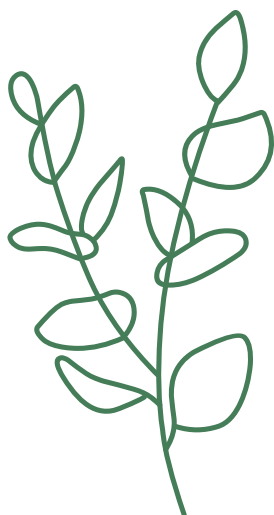


Johannes Meier
General Committee Member

Johannes Meier is a member of Danthonia Bruderhof Community and has been Danthonia's land manager for the past 19 years. Johannes is a member of Gwymac Landcare and Swan Vale Landcare and has a strong interest in practising and promoting regenerative agriculture to increase farm health, productivity and profit.

Danthonia runs a cattle breeding and trading enterprise and has implemented regenerative farming practices such as Holistic Grazing Management, Natural Sequence Farming, Keyline and are advocates for healthy Soils and Soil Biology.

Educating farmers/ landholders in regenerative farming techniques and sharing knowledge and experience in applying regen management is the key to moving toward resilience and profitability in our district and is what Johannes believes Gwymac does very well.





GWYMAC COMMITTEE

{ sharing knowledge and experience }



Michael Mather
General Committee Member

Michael has been involved in Agriculture since 1979 having worked on properties in the Inverell district as a station hand and plant operator and with painting contractors in the Northern Territory.

Michael is currently a self-employed Grazier running beef cattle and merinos in the Nullamanna area along with an off farm contract mulching and earthworks business.

Michael has held various Committee and Chair positions on local and regional Landcare, and is the current Treasurer of the New England Landcare Network. Michael was the Chair of the North West Sustainable Grazing Committee and is the Nullamanna Rural Fire Service Captain and has served on many other local committee's. Michael has been involved in Landcare since 1990 when Nullamanna Landcare Group was formed (and is still a very strong active Group today) and has represented the area at State and National Landcare Conferences. Michael was elected to the Gwymac Committee in 2014.

Michael is interested in Networking, long term sustainable agriculture, technology, Landscape Rehydration, local area history and family as well as any excuse to go fishing...



Gwymac Landcare Country Fair Building 3/18
Sweaney Street (PO Box 18) Inverell NSW 2360

Ph : (02) 6721 1241
www.gwymaclandcare.com.au

