

QWaLC Board Quarterly Update June '25

Board Meeting Date: 11 June 2025

Welcome to New QWaLC Members

Over the past three months, QWaLC has welcomed new members from three regions: South East Qld: Queensland Wattle Association Inc, Tide and Place Limited, Koala Rescue Redlands & Surrounds Inc, Aussie Wildlife Limited / Condamine: Killarney Community Gardens Inc. / Fitzroy: Friends of Boyne Valley Inc / We're excited to have you on board!

QWaLC Membership Renewal

Renewals are up from last year—thank you to all groups for your ongoing support and engagement. All registered groups should have received their 3 Insurance certificates. If you don't have your copy, please contact Darryl.

Blue Card Hosting

QWaLC is now registered with Blue Card Services to host eligible member organisations and individuals. If your group or volunteers need assistance, please contact Darryl or Mary-Lou for more information.

2025 QWaLC Board Elections

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) for the following regional director positions will open later this year: Queensland Murray-Darling & Condamine; Northern & Southern Gulf; South West Qld; South East Qld Wet Tropics. Please note: The current directors for Northern & Southern Gulf and Condamine will be stepping down after completing their terms. We thank them for their service.

Inquiry into Volunteering in Queensland

QWaLC submitted a report on behalf of our members, incorporating insights from the recent membership renewal process. The Chair and Vice-Chair presented at a public hearing in Kawana on 26 March 2025. The inquiry is chaired by James Lister MP, Member for Southern Downs, and is due to report on 18 September 2025. If your group made a submission QWaLC would be interested in receiving a copy.

Naturally Together Sessions

QWaLC has held two over the last few months. Topics: Social Media and Keeping our Volunteers Safe. The PowerPoint presentations are on QWaLC website if you were not able to attend. Thank you to those who are supporting these webinars. If you have a topic you would like to review, please contact Darryl with your idea. The next round of Naturally Together webinar is on 30 June 2025 12.30 – 1.30 pm online. Governance & Compliance Support register here https://qwalc.org.au/naturally-together-2/

QWaLC Chair Mary-Lou Gittins OAM and CEO Darryl Ebenezer will be available to assist your group with key aspects of governance and compliance, including:

Preparing for your AGM;

End-of-year reporting to the ACNC, ATO, or Office of Fair Trading (as appropriate for your organisation)

YarnUp Session

QWaLC has introduced YarnUp sessions to provide members with an opportunity to discuss topics relevant to their groups. These informal sessions are attended by Darryl, Mary-Lou, and other QWaLC directors. Recent discussions have included: Weed and feral pest control, Group membership, The need for a wildlife hospital North Queensland, The impact of wind farms on native animals, Not-for-profit status and ATO matters. YarnUp is also a great chance to connect and network with other member groups. The next session will focus on Blue Cards and Child Safety, scheduled for 9 July 2025.

Celebrating QWaLC's 21st Anniversary

2025 marks 21 years of QWaLC—an exciting milestone that celebrates the dedicated volunteers and leaders who have shaped our strong and vibrant organisation. Join QWaLC at one of the 4 venues to **Recognise, Celebrate, Grow - QWaLC.** We will be celebrating across 4 locations, BRISBANE, INNISFAIL/CAIRNS, YEPPOON, TOOWOOMBA and ONLINE. Saturday August 30, 2025 from 10am. **REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!** https://gwalc.org.au/gwalc-21st-celebrations/

National Scene

At a national level, the NLN continues to strengthen a unified voice for Landcarers across Australia. NLN is advertising for the position of Executive Officer.

<u>Landcare Short Film Festival</u> - people are invited to submit a short film for the first time ever Landcare Short Film Festival which will be held as part of the 2025 National Landcare Conference. This is a chance to shine a light on the incredible work being done in landcare and environmental stewardship through the power of film. This event will take place on Sunday 21 September from 6pm to 8.30pm, tickets will go on sale in mid-June. Learn more here: Landcare Short Film Festival – National Landcare Conference. <u>Landcare Week Photo Campaign:</u> Opens 11 June and Closes 1 August. 'Invitation to share your landcare photos, bringing landcare to life through the click of a lens'.

https://landcareaustralia.org.au/resources/campaigns/landcare-week/landcare-through-the-lens/
National Landcare Week Survey: Opens 13 June and Closes 18 July. 'Landcare Australia in partnership with the National Landcare Network and the Landcare State and Territory Organisations are asking people involved in landcare to participate in a national survey. The insights and data will be announced during Landcare Week. The survey insights will help us identify the challenges, the opportunities and what is required to support landcare activities across Australia'.

https://landcareaustralia.org.au/resources/campaigns/landcare-week/2025-landcare-week-survey/

The QWaLC Team - Thank you all to our members for your contributions and continued efforts to care for Queensland's land, water, and communities.

Upcoming Events

- 📆 QWaLC Webinar Governance & Compliance Support 30/06/2025
- QWaLC YarnUp Blue card; Child safety chat 9/07/2025 tbc
- QWaLC YarnUp talk with the QWaLC Board 03/08/2025
- iii QWaLC Board Meeting 10 /09/2025
- iii Landcare Week 4 –10 August 2025
- QWaLC 21st Celebrations 30/08/2025
- iii National Landcare Conference: 21-24/09/2025 Gold Coast