

# FILM PROJECTS



**GLOBAL WARMING, LAND CLEARING AND COLD BLOODED MURDER**

**SCREENING**      **Tues 6<sup>th</sup> June 7:00pm**      **Civic Hall Mullumbimby**  
**Buy Tickets at The Bookshop Mullumbimby**  
**On-Line**      <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/52553>

**Help us fund the Impact Campaign to screen the film throughout Australia in theatres and community halls to raise awareness of the need for strong environmental legislation to stop broad scale land clearing.**

**The film will be launched by Greens MLC Dr. Mehreen Faruqi who  
Will also conduct the Q&A following the screening.**

***Cultivating Murder* is a new feature documentary that tells the heart-rending story of the murder of Glen Turner, a public servant working for the Office of Environment and Heritage, who was gunned down on the side of a public road in Croppa Creek, 40 kilometers from Moree in 2014.**

Glen Turner was investigating illegal land clearing when he was murdered, and since his death we have seen the NSW Government throw out the Native Vegetation Act and replace it with legislation that will allow even greater broadscale land clearing to occur, much as it has in Queensland. This film offers an insight into what large farming concerns and agribusiness see as the future and it does not include responsible land management and conservation of the natural environment. It reveals the pressure of recent rapid expansion in agribusiness as the laws protecting the environment are weakened across Australia.

The killer, **Ian Turnbull**, a wealthy NSW rural producer, had previously been prosecuted for illegal land clearing. During the murder trial Turnbull pleaded not guilty on the grounds of "substantial impairment" claiming the Office of Environment and Heritage was bankrupting his family agribusiness, and as a result, he was suffering acute depression. In court, both claims were shown to be untrue. Ian Turnbull (82) died on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March in Hospital while serving a 35 year sentence for the murder of Glen Turner.

The film is directed by Gregory Miller and produced by Georgia Wallace-Crabbe, whose mother is a Mullumbimby local and they make frequent visits from Sydney where their independent production company is based. They look forward to screening the film at the Civic Hall in Mullumbimby and have been screening rough-cut versions of the film to community groups to help raise money to complete its production. They even held a rough cut screening at the NSW Parliament House following a demonstration against the disastrous changes the Liberal/National Coalition Government made by scrapping the Native Vegetation Act last November.

Most ecologists agree that the new and badly written Bio Diversity Act will lead to greater destruction of the natural environment and an escalation of broad-scale land clearing across the state, just as similar changes in QLD led to renewed clearing on a massive scale. Land clearing in QLD is a major contributor to the destruction of the Great Barrier Reef and if we can't bring an end to broadscale clearing of native trees shrubs and grasslands, Australia will fail by a large margin to reach its carbon targets agreed to at the Paris Climate summit.

The filmmakers are alarmed that the Lib/Nat Coalition was able to scrap the Native Vegetation Act, so quickly and effectively and many people do not know that all the environment laws in this state have been effectively weakened to allow for broad scale land clearing to increase, especially in the North Eastern Region of the state where much of the filming took place.

The filmmakers are working with many environment groups in NSW and across Australia to raise awareness of the new legislation and are determined to see it repealed. The film demonstrates how a small number of powerful and well financed individuals and corporations used their influence to have the Native Vegetation Act scrapped, so they could enlarge the areas under crop which requires large land clearing operations.

They aim to show the film and conduct Q&A sessions across the country and propose a set of positive actions to raise awareness and change the destructive new legislation.

The film tells the story of four people who are deeply affected by the murder:

**Alison McKenzie**, Glen's partner who is left alone with their two children and is concerned that the killer may escape a just punishment.

**Fran Pearce**, Glen's younger sister, who joins Alison as they attend the Supreme Court trial of Ian Turnbull. The two women struggle with personal grief as they attend each day of the murder trial in Sydney to show the judge, defense and the media that they want justice for Glen.

**Alaine Anderson**, a farmer in Croppa Creek and neighbour of the killer **Ian Turnbull**. She has known the Turnbull's for years but is now concerned that the community has deeply divided.

**Phil Spark**, an environmental consultant, who has taken it upon himself, despite obvious danger, to investigate cases of broadscale land-clearing when the government agencies fail to do so.

#### **Bio:**

**Film Projects** is a Sydney production company making award-winning documentaries and TV programs for all media. The principals are **Gregory Miller** and **Georgia Wallace-Crabbe**. The company works across a wide range of genres including history, science, natural history, social issues, and drama.

**Gregory** has produced and directed many documentaries including (as director): **Besieged-The Ned Kelly Story (2003)** a feature documentary for the Foxtel History Channel (2004); **Angels in New York (2008)** 4 part Series for SBS about two rookie Aussie producers who take on Broadway; **Cool School Antarctica (2010)** Co-Director/Producer for Nickelodeon; NHK; Discovery Canada. Gregory was executive producer on a climate change series **The Tipping Points (2012)** for VPRO and The Weather Channel USA. Most recently he was Co-Producer and Co-Directed the two part history series **Breaker Morant The Retrial (2013)** for The History Channel Australia and Executive Producer of **These Heathen Dreams (2014)**.

**Cultivating Murder (2017)** is Greg's first feature doc. An activist doco about land-clearing and climate change, in the guise of a True Crime genre film, it was made "under-the radar", with crowd-funding and donations through the Documentary Australia Foundation, it has attracted passionate responses from audiences where ever it has screened.

**Media Enquiries: Georgia Wallace-Crabbe m. 0413 014 109 t. 02 8521 7350**

[Georgia@filmprojects.com.au](mailto:Georgia@filmprojects.com.au) [www.cultivatingmurder.com.au](http://www.cultivatingmurder.com.au)

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