

Healesville Community Renewable Energy Inc.

# 2021 Annual Report



Healesville  
**CoRE**





## Acknowledgment of Country

Healesville CoRE acknowledges and pays their respects to the Wurundjeri people as the original custodians of the Healesville lands and waters.

We honour their elders, past, present and emerging, whose knowledge and wisdom has ensured the protection of this place and the preservation of the cultural traditions practised within it.

Healesville CoRE acknowledges and respects the wide range of indigenous cultures throughout Australia and the Torres Strait and recognises their unique and enduring spiritual connection to the lands in which we live.

Healesville CoRE is committed to genuinely partner and meaningfully engage with the Wurundjeri people, and other local traditional owners, to further the protection of Aboriginal lands, help preserve indigenous cultural practices and support the broader aspirations of all First Nations People.



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## **Our Vision:**

**We see Healesville as a conscious and resilient community that provides all its own energy - renewable and affordable.**

## **Our Mission:**

**Healesville CoRE will engage and empower the local community to be energy efficient and increase production and use of renewable energy. Through partnerships, commitment to the environment and social equity, we will lower carbon emissions and retain money in the community. By working with the community on renewable energy, we will strengthen environmental and economic sustainability whilst building community resilience.**



# Our Journey So Far

**January 2017** •••••

Healesville CoRE began as an idea

**November 2017** •••••

First community education event with Alan Pears

**October 2018** •••••

Strategic Plan and an Action Plan for 2019-21 completed

**August 2019** •••••

Received letter from Tony Smith MP of \$90,000 Federal Government grant to put solar panels on the roofs of three not for profits (two now completed with another pending)

**January 2021** •••••

Partnered with Komo Energy to submit a grant application for a \$2.5 million Federal Government grant for a feasibility study into a microgrid in Healesville

**July 2021** •••••

Grant award from Sustainability Victoria for Healesville CoRE to host a regional Greater Yarra Valley & Ranges Community Power Hub

**June 2017** •••••

Inaugural community meeting. 230 community members in attendance

**June 2018** •••••

Report from Monash University team on Healesville, Net Zero

**January 2019** •••••

First community solar panels and batteries installation offer

**July 2020** •••••

Integrated online administration system completed with funding from Sustainability Victoria

**March 2021** •••

Suite of 40 governance policies completed (paid for by grant from FRRR)



# Our Achievements in 2020-21



## Grant Awarded

We were awarded a grant of \$428,500 by the Victorian Government, via Sustainability Victoria, to create and host the Yarra Valley Community Power Hub (YV-CPHub) to employ 4 part-time-staff to support 8 community energy groups in 5 LGA's in the roll out of renewable energy projects across the Greater Yarra Valley and Ranges region till June 2022



## Transition to Digital

We successfully transitioned our events to online webinars, to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions, with videos for post event viewing – a big step up in our technical skills



## Consolidation

In addition to substantially strengthening the Secretary position, we consolidated our Central Committee to now include the roles of IT Manager and Project Manager. This, along with finalising our suite of 40+ policies, enabled us to provide a stronger governance backbone to our organisation and community work



## Major Installation

We successfully installed solar panels and a monitoring system on two Healesville not for profit buildings – the Robyn Jane Children's Centre and the Healesville Living & Learning Centre with \$90,000 funding from the Commonwealth Government through our local MP for Casey, Tony Smith, with a third project pending. We also worked to create a 'Revolving Fund' with this grant to ensure ongoing community benefits in perpetuity



## Community Options

We continued to offer to our local community renewable energy options for homes and businesses – solar panels and batteries and solar hot water systems (heat pumps) and we established our Home Energy Efficiency Advisory Service for community households, using Healesville CoRE trained volunteers, administering this program via our newly established CivICRM software system



## Member of Parliament Presentation

We held our first event with a Member of the Federal Parliament, Independent MP for Indi, Dr Helen Haines, introducing the Bill she has before the Federal Parliament, the Australian Local Power Agency Bill 2021, "which would simplify and supercharge the roll-out of community renewable energy projects across the country ... with the establishment of a \$467 million Agency to support regional communities to develop and invest in their own renewable energy projects"



## Industry Alliance

We formed a strong alliance with our industry partner, Komo Energy, enabling us to apply for two substantial government grants to expand the development of our community renewable energy work





# What Lies Ahead



**We will continue with our dynamic focus on the local community** in delivering renewable energy initiatives such as community offers and bulk buys of solar panels & batteries, solar hot water (heat pumps) and our home-grown, Home Energy Efficiency Advisory Service, with our trained community volunteers

**We will establish and administer the Yarra Valley Community Power Hub (YV-CPHub)**, funded by the Victorian Government through Sustainability Victoria, with a grant of \$428,500. Through the staff employed by the Hub we will engage with and support 8 community renewable energy groups across the Greater Yarra Valley and Ranges, to roll out a range of community renewable energy projects in 5 LGAs, till July 2022, with support from other community groups, other LGAs and our industry partner, Komo Energy

**We will work with Monash University's Net Zero team**, which recently won a Federal Government grant for \$1,934 million to develop feasibility studies for 6 communities, and we will work with them on the feasibility of establishing a microgrid in the Yarra Ranges municipality.

**We will develop a Community Outreach Program**, transitioning from running our usual community educational events, to sending our trained volunteer speakers as invited emissaries, into other groups and organisations, to present the renewable energy work we are doing for the community, with a view to increasing our community engagement and the take up of renewable energy products

**We will consolidate the management of our organisation**, by increasing our general membership; by strengthening our committee to action our work for the community; by consolidating our governance, our policies, our administration and communication systems, as adaptable models, which we will also roll out to other community renewable energy groups

**We will continue with our 'Collective Impact Strategy'**, by continuing to work with community groups locally, and more broadly, with the Yarra Ranges Council and other LGAs, State and Federal Governments, other community energy groups and stakeholders, and our industry partner, Komo Energy, to explore creative solutions to developing community renewable energy solutions to face the challenge of the 'Climate Emergency'.







## A Few Words from our President



**It gives me great pleasure and a feeling of deep satisfaction to write this report to the Healesville community about the work of Healesville CoRE over the past 12 months.**

It has been a difficult time for all the world with COVID-19, a tiny virus, seemingly taking control of our lives. And it has been difficult for our local community and for Healesville CoRE as we have grappled with how we, as an organisation, can maintain relevance in the time of lockdown and social distancing. But we are fighting this collectively and we are slowly gaining the upper hand. One day our communities will return to a semblance of normality.

There is another crisis we face at the same time. In a time of Climate Emergency, with carbon increasing in the atmosphere, disasters occurring all around the world, with melting ice caps, melting tundra, acidification of oceans, devastating fires, storms, floods and drought, and with the inexorable rise in average global temperature, we do indeed face an emergency of catastrophic proportions. Communities are suffering deeply with many lives traumatised or lost in the disasters. We face, without any exaggeration, the greatest threat to the planet, and to human kind, in human history.

We are in a race against time to win back the planet from the devastating trajectory the earth and humanity are on. The question for each of us as human beings is, "What can I do?" The forces seem so great that it appears there is little that any one person can do. It is not surprising that some people react with apathy, some with fear and others with depression and despair. But these responses can be transformed!

At our first community meeting in June 2017, with 230 community members in attendance, we launched Healesville CoRE and we played a song, 'From little things, big things grow!' At that community gathering I made, what I consider to be, two important points:

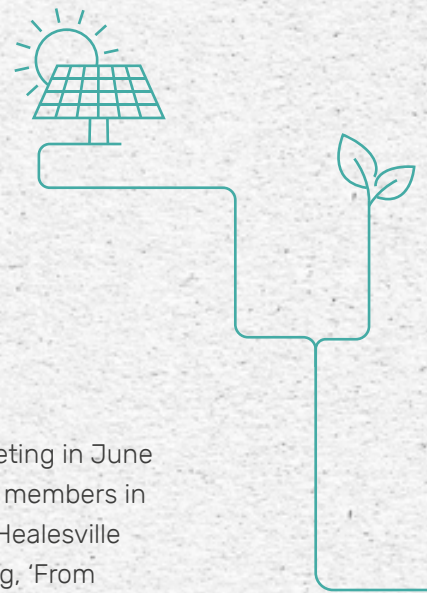
Firstly, the contribution that Healesville as a community makes to global warming is infinitesimally small and if we transition to Net Zero within 10 years it will make no difference to global warming. BUT if what we do is also done by every town and city in Australia, and on this planet, there would be a significant difference. It is all about thinking globally and acting locally.

Secondly, we need to feel empowered, to feel that we can do something, even if only very small in the larger scheme of things, and it is this empowerment and


**...the key is in the collective impact – what we can do as a community and as a country when we all pull together.**

working for the common good of all humankind and for the planet as a whole, that enables us to slough off apathy, despair, fear and the dark dog of depression, that can so easily overwhelm us when we feel helpless and powerless in the face of insurmountable difficulties.

Alone there is little we can do. Collectively, we have much more power, and when a community has leadership to bring us together, to engage with the issues, to guide and support, and to help find solutions, suddenly we begin to see how it is that big things can grow from small beginnings. But the key is in the collective impact – what we can do as a community and as a country when we all pull together.







It is from this vision that Healesville CoRE has grown from an idea in my head in 2017 to an active community organisation, now embraced by a significant number in our community. Healesville CoRE is a community group that arose from the community, that works with the community to support everyone in the community, for the common good. We have seen that when leadership is provided, the community will respond. People do want to attend information and educational events, will discuss issues to do with climate change and renewable energy, will install solar panels and batteries and will try to create energy efficient homes. We see how people get excited about the changes they can make.

However, it is clear that a community group, working with volunteers, with very little money for the work

# Think globally. Act locally

and very little technical or social change expertise, can achieve only limited goals. A much bigger project needs to evolve and we are now beginning to see this happen. In my President's Report in 2018/19 and again in 2019/20, I addressed this issue by stating the following:

*"It has become clear to us over the past two years that a new way of conceptualising community renewable energy and council interaction with community energy groups is required. The urgency and the size of the task in transitioning communities to Net Zero carbon emissions and creating resilient communities is too great for voluntary groups to achieve on their own. The work load is too high for volunteers to be able to achieve this goal without paid labour to run the administration and the projects. Healesville CoRE is of the view that community energy groups are still required, and that they need to be run by volunteers, BUT sufficient funding*

*needs to be provided by Council or Government or both to enable community energy groups to hire administrators to do all the hard, time-consuming administrative tasks.*

*I am even more convinced of this view now and I would advocate establishing a 'Collective Impact' approach to the work of community energy groups. This is a way of working towards social change that involves a range of different 'players' coming together to work towards common goals to resolve difficult and complex social problems.*

*Community renewable energy is a social challenge just as much as it is an energy challenge and it is too important and too big a job to be left solely to volunteers. Central to a Collective Impact approach is having a 'Backbone' organisation with more resources, in particular financial resources, and power, to enable the Collective Impact work to progress and to succeed. Local and State Government could easily fill a Collective Impact Backbone role to support paid workers under a community-controlled board, but for this to occur, new relationships with the community and new ways of thinking about these new relationships will be required. A new paradigm needs to emerge with a focus on collaboration, cooperation and collective intent."*

I am delighted that this vision is now emerging as a very real possibility. Healesville CoRE in July 2021, received a grant of \$428,500 to be part of such a Collective Impact project. With funding from the





State Government through Sustainability Victoria, forming the 'Backbone' support, and with support from 5 LGA's including strong support from the Yarra Ranges Council, 7 other community energy groups and their supporting communities, and our industry partner, Komo Energy, we are tasked

with establishing and administering the Yarra Valley Community Power Hub, to employ the staff and to develop the projects, to run such a Collective Impact approach to the development of community renewable energy in the Greater Yarra Valley and Ranges-region. There are also 6 other regions in Victoria, each with \$428,500 to do similar work in their regions. This is indeed a visionary approach by the Victorian Government and is to be applauded.

In addition, the Independent Federal MP for Indi, Dr Helen Haines, has had the Federal Parliament accept a Bill called, the Australian Local Power Agency Bill 2021.

As Dr Haines states:

"Everyday Australians deserve to benefit from

renewable energy. My Local Power Plan will make sure that regional communities benefit from the huge boom in renewable energy that has already started. In Parliament I have been fighting to establish the Australian Local Power Agency (ALPA) which would simplify and supercharge the roll-out of community renewable energy projects across the country."

It seems the time is now arriving when over 100 community energy groups around Australia will be empowered through government funding, and supported by government and industry expertise, to seriously develop a strong, dynamic approach to rolling out community renewable energy projects in their respective communities, including, where possible, community owned renewable energy infrastructure.

We keep saying as an organisation that we are at the beginning of a community renewable energy revolution in Australia. Many countries overseas, Denmark, Scotland, the UK and the USA have actually been developing community based renewable energy projects over many years and we look forward to seeing the outcomes we can create with our local and regional communities as we embrace this revolution, that we hope will eventually have an impact on the damaging effects of climate change.

To all of you who support this work, thank you!

**Jeff Barlow**  
President





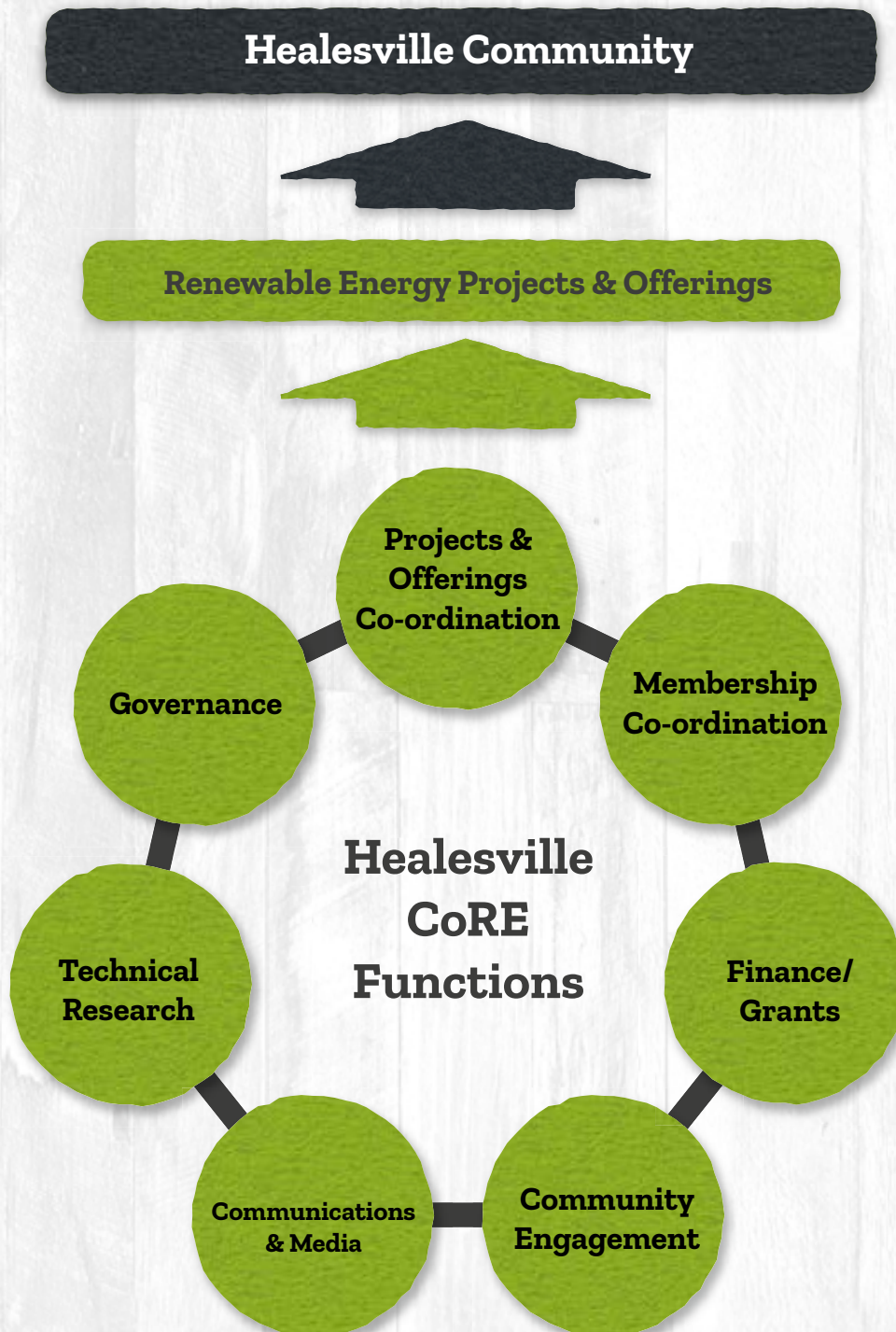






## Our Organisation

Our organisation consists of a team of volunteers who together provide innovative offerings and projects to the Healesville community to advance the local adoption of renewal energy.



The following sections of our report will provide more detail on our organisation



## Our Values



### Leadership

Provide leadership to inspire and empower the community to implement renewable energy initiatives.



### Environment

Create a sustainable environment at a local level and provide a model for other communities.



### Trust

Achieve community trust through integrity, authenticity, and professionalism.



### Access

Ensure fair and equitable access to renewable energy solutions for all.

## Our Team

### Members who held office in 2021:



**Jeff Barlow**

President



**Carol Taylor**

Secretary



*(position vacant)*

Community  
Engagement Manager



**Chris Sagewood**

Media Manager



**Marnie Gleeson**

Committee Member &  
Membership Co-ordinator



**Simon Prunster**

Vice President



**Julian Higgs**

Treasurer



**Leo De Jong**

Technical Projects  
Manager



**Nathanael Hrabe**

Committee Member



**Walter Skilton**

Governance



**Karen Roberts**

Grants Officer



**Michelle Zwagerman**

IT Manager



**Kenny Gallacher**

Project Manager



# Our 2020-21 Achievements for the Community

**This year has been an incredibly expansive and productive year for our small organisation, as once again, we have 'punched above our weight' in seeking to engage our community with the running of free educational events, the installation of renewable energy products and services, and to explore how we might create larger scale renewable energy infrastructure with support from key stakeholders, industry partners and grants from a range of different sources.**

## Community Offers

We have continued to consolidate and expand our community work, with community offers of solar panels and batteries in collaboration with Solar Savers; solar hot water (heat pumps) in collaboration with Reclaim Energy; and the launch of our Home Energy Efficiency Advisory Program to households run by our locally trained volunteers under the management of our Technical Manager, Leo De Jong.

## Community Solar System Installations

With the help of our local Federal MP for Casey, we were awarded a grant by the Federal Government of \$90,000 to install solar systems on the roofs of three not for profit groups in Healesville.

Two of the three systems have been installed this year - the Robyn Jane Children's Centre and the Healesville Living & Learning Centre. Considerable work was done by our volunteers, Leo De Jong and Simon Prunster to enable this work, with solid support from the Yarra Ranges Council through the Sustainability Team.

The third not-for-profit group dropped out at the point of installation and we are now researching other options for a third solar rooftop installation project.

These solar systems will collectively save the not for profits hundreds of thousands of dollars over the life of

the systems - money that can remain in the community. In addition, as the systems save on energy bills and the installation cost is repaid to Healesville CoRE, the returns will go into a Revolving Fund created by Healesville CoRE to become a source of funding for community renewable energy in perpetuity - a veritable 'magic pudding' of funding.

## Reaching out to the Greater Yarra Valley and Ranges Region

Another major project for us this year was to work with our industry partner, Komo Energy, to develop and submit a grant application to Sustainability Victoria for Healesville CoRE to establish the Yarra Valley Community Power Hub, which will employ four part time staff members to support 8 community energy groups across 5 LGAs, to collectively roll out across the region a number of community renewable energy projects, including projects which could be community owned.

Healesville CoRE was successful in receiving \$428,500 to establish and run the Yarra Valley Community Power Hub and this project will be a major focus for us over the next 12 months. In our Annual Report in 2022 we look forward to reporting our collective achievements!





# Our 2020-21 Team Achievements



## Governance

Maturing our governance and supporting systems has helped us focus on delivering on our core vision. At our 2019 AGM, we reported how Healesville CoRE had prepared a Strategic Plan for the organisation in October 2018. This Strategic Plan 2018-2021 documents the Values, Vision and Mission for Healesville CoRE. The Strategic Plan also identifies five priorities (Key Result Areas) that should be worked on from 2019 over the next three years.

One of the Key Result Areas was to develop and implement a robust governance framework that supports effective management and operations within the organisation. Policies and procedures are an essential component of any organisation. They address issues such as task responsibility, communication practices, acceptable behaviour, issue resolution, values and mission of the organisation, etc. They also provide clarity with regards to activities that are of critical importance to the organisation such as health and safety, legal liabilities, and regulatory requirements.

We have worked on the Governance Key Result Area by appointing a Governance Officer and have a register of over 40 policies. We obtained a grant from FRRR to develop 40 policies which was completed in 2021. The policies include financial, communication, HR, management, and governance policies. The policies are now operational and contribute to the ongoing success of Healesville CoRE as a volunteer organisation.

Furthermore, in August 2020 we proudly released our report "Meeting the Administration Challenges

of a Community Renewable Energy Group: Setting up an Integrated Online Administration System for a Community Energy Not for Profit". This report shares our journey to develop our useful administration system.

We have also provided training for our committee members in the use of Google applications (Chat, Drive, Email) to further make our work more efficient and

effective during lockdowns.


Maturing our governance and supporting systems has helped us focus on delivering on our core vision. A key part of our vision is to advance community knowledge of renewable energy options and deliver community projects. As such, we have provided valuable information to our community on a variety of renewable energy topics: home energy efficiency, solar power, hot water systems, microgrids and an inspiring presentation from Dr Helen Haines on her Local Power Plan.

**Maturing our governance and supporting systems has helped us focus on delivering on our core vision.**

## Solar Installations for Healesville Not for Profit Groups & Our Home Energy Efficiency Advisory Service

We received \$90,000 Federal Government funding through the office of our local Federal MP, Tony Smith. Also, in the last 12 months, we helped the Living and Learning Centre select a solar system. Together with the Yarra Ranges Council we selected a project manager for the solar installation and assisted with the tendering process and selection of an installer. We are incredibly





pleased that this solar system is now in place and we are seeking an organisation for our third installation.

Additionally, a new free service for Home Energy Efficiency Advice was developed and launched on 22 April 2021. This service offers home visits from our trained volunteers and a follow-up report suggesting options for improving the energy efficiency of the house. To achieve this, we needed to attract and train volunteers, prepare a report template and learn to operate a booking and filing system for visits and reports. To date nine home visits have been registered and six have been completed.

### **Community Events & Community Engagement**

We also researched, developed and planned for Healesville CoRE's first community event on Electric Vehicles, scheduled for August 2021. Our information events had to change due to the pandemic restrictions in 2020 and we moved to offer our information events via webinar. Then, as restrictions eased in 2021, we offered our events in both face-to-face and online formats, with speakers and audience members both in the room and online. A new 'normal' in flexible community engagement!

As our events schedule for the year was revamped to run events as either online webinars or in face-to-face format (and thanks to the great tech support of Rod Hystead and Thom Baselier) we hosted successful events that were run as simultaneous live in-person events and webinars for people to attend remotely. This expanded our potential audience as people living some distance from the venue no longer became an issue, and added

convenience for attendees or even presenters who wanted to participate remotely.

At our Home Efficiency event in April, a guest speaker presented his talk remotely to both an online and in-person audience. To pull it off with only minor technical glitches was a significant technical achievement for a group of volunteers!

Our events have been recorded and are published online to our Youtube account and are then embedded onto our website for people to freely access the educational material we have produced.

Our social media accounts have seen a steady growth, particularly with the number of followers we have on our Facebook page. Overall, our key communication stream remains our email newsletter, which is sent out about every 8 weeks to members of our database. The production quality in this communication has received positive feedback from our community.

In addition, our [healesvillecore.org.au](http://healesvillecore.org.au) website has continued to keep our community informed of what we are doing on their behalf, and how they can be involved. From our program of events, this ranges from, enabling people to find out and register for either the face-to-face or online events, to enabling people to request one of our many offerings (solar power, hot water or our new home energy efficiency advice service).

### **Our Membership in 2020-21**

From a membership perspective, our membership has decreased by 2% in the last year, compared to a 6% increase the year before. However, in the last year, the total number of contacts on our database rose by 3%, from 780 to 801. Membership renewals for the 2021/22 financial year were due by 30 June 2021. For the second year running, we had a prize draw as an incentive for members to renew on time and extended this incentive to any new members who signed up





Healesville CoRE member Karen Roberts with her new Reclaim Heat Pump installed at her home. Feb 2021, Photo by Ron Roberts

by 30 June 2021. Although the number of members renewing by the due date was down 41% (37 compared to 52 last year), 40% of the new members who signed up in the last year did so in response to the prize draw incentive. We extend a huge thank you to the local businesses who donated the prizes for our members – Thank you No. 7 Healesville and Matilda Bay Brewery for your generosity!

As we transition from one membership year to another, we currently have 85 financial members including 58 paid up members and 27 who are 'in grace' and still to pay their renewal fees.

### The Grants that Enable our Work

Finally, grants are a critical part of our ability to achieve our goals for the community. Our understanding of how to successfully gain approval for grants has been critical to moving forward as these grants provide the funding to support our community activities. We have applied for the following grants:

- \$19,910 from FRRR (Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal) to appoint a consultant to develop and implement a Community Engagement Strategy. This was identified in our Strategic Plan three years ago as vital to direct our future efforts of engaging with the community, but unfortunately this application was unsuccessful. We have requested feedback from FRRR and are currently investigating alternative funding possibilities.
- \$1000 from Yarra Ranges Council to produce and print five Community Engagement posters to be used at future events and to enhance our proposed Community Outreach Program in 2022. We were successfully granted half this amount.

**We have been successful with \$15,340 in grant submissions this year**

- \$10,000 from Yarra Ranges Council to develop a Community Outreach Program to be used in 2022. For the past 4 years we have secured funding from Yarra Ranges Council to run our series of free community events. These have been popular and well attended, but we are now of the belief that instead of asking the community to come to us, we need to go out into the community, which will enable us to reach a broader range of people.
- As well as this, we are going to ask for funding to update our website to make it more user friendly, relevant and 'human', and hold a large town meeting similar to the one held in 2017 to further promote our vision. We will hear the result in mid-November.
- \$6800 was received from YRC to continue our program of free community events during 2021. These have been held both face-to-face and online.
- \$428,500 from Sustainability Victoria to establish a Community Power Hub for the Greater Yarra

Valley and Ranges area. Together with our industry partner, Komo Energy, who will provide technical, professional and legal support, we will work with eight community energy groups to develop a range

of small to medium renewable energy projects across the region and assist these organisations in capacity building.

We have been successful with the following grant submissions:

- \$6090 from FRRR to develop a set of 40 governance policies
- \$8250 from YRC for the 2020 program of free events
- \$1000 from YRC to train volunteers in the CiviCRM admin system









# Our Treasurer's Report

## Financial Performance for FY2020/21

The formal Financial Statements are provided later in this report. To provide a more informative picture of our accounts two spreadsheets follow. The first spreadsheet breaks down the total (Consolidated) income and expenditure into the General and Grants' components. GST payments to and from Healesville CoRE are excluded from these figures.

The Grants component refers to activities where we obtain a grant to fund that activity in full. The fact that the Grants' component is showing a loss is not important since it relates to timing issues of when we receive a grant as opposed to when we spend that grant money. It would only be an issue if in fact we spent more money on a given grant than was received for that grant. This has not happened.

The General component refers to General Income and Expenditure, those items that occur as a result of our day-to-day activities. General Income is from membership fees, donations and income from projects and programs we run. General Expenditure is for a range of items including this year advertising for a new secretary, venue hire, consultants' fees, website and general IT expenses, subscriptions and registrations. Our financial viability is dependent on our General Income at least matching our General Expenditure. Separating the General income and expenses out from Grants' income and expenses provides greatly enhanced visibility of our true financial situation (viability) at any time. Separate bank accounts are in fact maintained for each to facilitate this.

Thus the key result is the performance on our General Account Income and Expenditure, which shows we have made a small surplus of \$2,152 for the year. This is the true measure of our financial viability and is thus a satisfactory result.

The second spreadsheet provides data for General Account Income & Expenditure for both the 2020/21

financial year and the 2019/20 financial year, for comparison purposes. Some comments that can be made:

1. This year's surplus of \$2,152 is in fact greater than that achieved last year at \$1,032.
2. Campaign contributions for both solar PV and heat pump programs provided a combined income of \$2,282 this year compared with \$1,490 last year. This is a very satisfactory result given that we are no longer running our own solar PV program but only contributing to the local government run Solar Savers program.
3. Membership income at \$1,650 is down for 2020/21 compared with last year at \$2,282 which is disappointing. However, membership renewals and sign-ups are still coming in and may well recover to be similar to last year overall. Time will tell.
4. Donations are less this year at \$1,645 compared with last year at \$2,598. This will have been influenced largely by the \$1,250 received last year from the EarthArtBeat Festival. That was an unexpected donation which we do not expect to be repeated.
5. Total income is \$5,580 compared with \$6,387 last year which at this stage can largely be put down to reduced membership fees and donations. Whilst disappointing this is not disastrous.
6. This is especially so as our operating expenses have reduced dramatically from \$5,355 last year to \$3,428 this year.
7. The key decreases are in Consultant Fees (which are largely IT related) and Website Expenses. We are less reliant now on outsourced IT services which had previously been an area of significant expenditure and real concern. Hopefully this situation will continue into the future.





8. IT related expenses (consultants, software & website) do continue to be our largest general expense in spite of the reductions achieved. These expenses are also highly unpredictable and the key items to monitor in the coming year.
9. The General Account working capital we had available at June 30 was \$4,427, which gives us a healthy capital buffer.

Overall, we are in a healthy financial position and there is no reason at this stage to be concerned about our financial viability in the near future.

## Donations

Donations are an important source of income for us. We received donations from a number of individual members, from attendees at our events and from some organisations. Of note for this financial year are:

- Healesville & District Community Enterprise (the Bendigo Bank) - \$500 x 2 times
- Keith Wade - \$500

We thank all our donors greatly, large and small.

## Grants

We do receive and expend a variety of grants and the overall picture for those is included in the financial reports. Our Grants Officer, Karen Roberts, is providing a separate report on our grants activities and we refer you to her report.

The 2021 YRC Community Development Grant is the only grant that was currently active at 30 June, 2021. This grant is essentially on budget with \$3,491 out of a total grant value of \$6,800 expended to date. There is no reason to be concerned about this grant going over budget.

## The Future

Whilst everything is proceeding smoothly with the accounts at this stage, our success with the Yarra Valley Community Power Hub grant and the setting up of a Revolving Fund to fund installations of renewable energy projects will have a massive effect on the accounts and the reporting in future years. Next year's accounts will look very different.

## Julian Higgs

Treasurer



*Training session for our Central Committee on how to use our new integrated online admin system. Training with Mick Collopy from Audienceware.*





# Financial Report

## Income and Expenditure

Financial year 2021

	General Account FY2021	Grants Account	Consolidated Accounts FY2021
<b>Trading Income</b>			
Campaign Contributions - Solar/Battery Offer			
Campaign Contributions - Hot Water/Heat Pump	682		
Grants Income		12,800	682
Interest Income (General Account)	1		1
Interest Income (Grants Account)	2		2
Interest Income (Mastercard)			
Membership Income	1,650		1,650
Fee Income - Solar Savers Program	550		550
Fee Income - Heat Pump Program	1,050		1,050
<b>Total Trading Income</b>	<b>3,935</b>	<b>12,800</b>	<b>16,735</b>
<b>Other Income</b>			
Donations	1,645		1,645
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>1,645</b>		<b>1,645</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,580</b>	<b>12,800</b>	<b>18,380</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Advertising	584		584
Bank Fees			
Bank Fees - PayPal	24		24
Bookkeeping			
Catering		131	131
Cleaning Fees		41	41
Consultant Fees	542	11,694	12,237
Event Expenses		910	910
Filing Fees	244		244
Printing & Stationery		510	510
Promotional Expenses		280	280
Software Expenses	433		433
Subscriptions & Registrations	174	388	562
Training Expenses			
Venue Hire	217	268	485
Website expenses	1,210	405	1,615
Workshop Facilitator Expenses		1,800	1,800
<b>Total Operating Instructions</b>	<b>3,428</b>	<b>16,428</b>	<b>19,856</b>
<b>Net Surplus</b>	<b>2152</b>	<b>-3628</b>	<b>-1476</b>



## Income and Expenditure

Financial year 2021 compared to the previous financial year

	General Account FY2021	General Account FY2020
<b>Trading Income</b>		
Campaign Contributions - Feb 2019 Solar & Battery Offer		
Campaign Contributions - Solar Hot Water/Heat Pump	682	364
Grants Income		
Interest Income (General Account)	1	13
Interest Income (Grants Account)	2	4
Interest Income (Mastercard)	0	
Membership Income	1,650	2,282
Fee Income - Solar Savers Program	550	490
Fee Income - Heat Pump Program	1,050	
<b>Total Trading Income</b>	<b>3,935</b>	<b>3,789</b>
<b>Other Income</b>		
Donations	1,645	2,598
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>1,645</b>	<b>2,598</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,580</b>	<b>6,387</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Advertising	584	
Bank Fees		1
Bank Fees - PayPal	24	42
Bookkeeping		281
Catering		105
Cleaning		
Consultant Fees	542	1,039
Event Expenses		
Filing Fees	244	370
Printing & Stationery		15
Promotional Expenses		69
Software Expenses	433	526
Subscriptions & Registrations	174	240
Training Expenses		18
Venue Hire	217	213
Website expenses	1,210	2,437
Workshop Facilitator Expenses		
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>3,428</b>	<b>5,355</b>
<b>Net Surplus</b>	<b>2,152</b>	<b>1,032</b>



# Financial Statements

## Balance Sheet

As at 30 June, 2021

	2021	2020	See note:
<b>Assets</b>			
Bank: Healesville CoRE Bank Account	9,312	2,237	
Bank: Healesville CoRE Mastercard	102	107	
Bank: Healesville CoRE Paypal	49	24	
Bank: Healesville CoRE Grants Account	4,276	7,169	
<b>Bank Total</b>	<b>8,338</b>	<b>9,537</b>	3
Current Assets: Accounts Receivable	154	66	4
Current Assets: Sundry Debtor	-148	273	
<b>Current Assets Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>339</b>	
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>8,344</b>	<b>9,876</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current liability: ATO BAS Account	-808	0	
Current liability: GST	758	6	
<b>Current liabilities Total</b>	<b>-50</b>	<b>6</b>	5
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>-50</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>8,394</b>	<b>9,870</b>	
<b>Equity</b>			
Current Year Earnings	-1,476	285	
Funds Transferred from HCore Unincorp	4,647	4,647	
Retained Earnings	5,224	4,939	
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>8,394</b>	<b>9,870</b>	





## Income statement

For the period 1 July, 2019 to 30 June, 2020

	2021	2020	See note:
<b>Trading Income</b>			
Campaign Contributions - Solar PV & Battery Offer		364	
Campaign Contributions - Solar Heat Pump Offer	682	636	
Grant Income	12,800	19,590	
Interest Income	3	17	
Membership Income	1,650	2,282	
Sales - Solar PV & Heat Pump HWS Systems	1,600	490	
<b>Total Trading Income</b>	<b>16,735</b>	<b>23,379</b>	6
<b>Gross Surplus</b>	<b>16,735</b>	<b>23,379</b>	
<b>Other Income</b>			
Donations	1,645	2,598	
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>1,645</b>	<b>2,598</b>	
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Advertising	584	480	
Bank Fees			
Bank Fees - Paypal	24	42	
Bookkeeping		545	
Catering	131	637	
Cleaning	41		
Consultant Fees	12,237	10,866	
Equipment less than \$500		127	
Equipment Purchases		720	
Event Expenses	910	209	
Filing Fees	244	370	
Printing & Stationary	510	15	
Promotional Expenses	280	1,812	
Software expenses	433	560	
Subscriptions & Registrations	562	502	
Training expenses		1,018	
Venue Hire	485	603	
Website expenses	1,615	3,307	
Workshop Facilitator expenses	1,800	3,879	
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>19,856</b>	<b>25,693</b>	
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>	<b>-1,476</b>	<b>285</b>	







## Statement Of Changes in Equity

For the for the year ending 30 June 2021

	2020	2021
<b>Equity</b>		
Opening Balance	9870	9586
Current Year Earnings	-1476	285
<b>Total Equity at 30 June 2021</b>	<b>8394</b>	<b>9870</b>

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the for the year ending 30 June 2021

	2021	2020	See note:
<b>Operating Activities</b>			
Receipts from customers	18,320	25,040	
Payments to suppliers and employees	-20,777	-28,620	
Cash receipts from other operating activities	1,645	2,407	
<b>Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>-812</b>	<b>-1173</b>	7b
<b>Investing Activities</b>			
Other cash items from investing activities	421	-126	
<b>Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>-126</b>	
<b>Financing Activities</b>			
Other cash items from financing activities	-808		
<b>Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>	<b>-808</b>		
<b>Net Cash Flows</b>	<b>-1,199</b>	<b>-1,300</b>	
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	9,537	10,837	
Net change in cash for period	-1,199	-1,300	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	8,338	9,537	7a



# Notes to the Financial Statements

## 1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

### a. Statement of compliance

The committee has determined that the incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. The financial report is a special purpose financial report which has been prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with following Australian Accounting Standards:

- **AASB 101** Presentation of Financial Statements
- **AASB 107** Statement of Cash Flows
- **AASB 108** Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
- **AASB 1031** Materiality
- **AASB 1048** Interpretation of Standards
- **AASB 1054** Australian Additional Disclosures

### b. Basis of measurement

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical cost and do not take into account changing money values except where specifically stated.

## 2. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

### c. Impairment

At each reporting date the committee assesses

whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income statement.

### d. Income tax

The association is a not-for-profit organisation and is exempt from income tax under section 50-45 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

### e. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits, held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities cash within three months.

### f. Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

### g. Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of expense. Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST.

### h. Borrowing Costs

Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of assets that necessarily take a substantial period of time to prepare for their intended use or sale are added to the cost of those assets, until such time as the assets are substantially ready for their intended use or sale.





All other borrowing costs are recognised in income in the period in which they are incurred

#### i. Trade creditors and other payables

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the company during the reporting period, which remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days on recognition of the liability.

### 3. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2021	2020
Cash on hand		
Cash at bank	8,338	9,537
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,338</b>	<b>9,537</b>

### 4. Account Receivables and Other Debtors

Trade receivables	154	66
Other receivables	(148)	273
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>339</b>

### 5. Trade and Other Payables

Trade creditors		
GST	(50)	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>(50)</b>	<b>6</b>

### 6. Revenue

Grant income	12,800	19,590
Membership income	1,650	2,282
Donations	1,645	2,598
Campaign contributions	682	1,000
Sales	1,600	490
Other income	3	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,380</b>	<b>25,977</b>

### 7. Cash Flow Information

#### a. Reconciliation of cash

Cash at the end of financial year as shown in cash flow statement is reconciled to items in the statement of financial position:

Cash and cash equivalents	8,338	9,537
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,338</b>	<b>9,537</b>

Reconciliation of net cash provided by operating activities to surplus:

Surplus from ordinary activities	(1,476)	3,440
<b>Total</b>	<b>(1,476)</b>	<b>3,440</b>

#### b. Changes in assets and liabilities

(Increase)/decrease in receivables	6,644	(192)
Increase/(decrease) in payables	(7,843)	(1,392)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>(1,199)</b>	<b>(1,300)</b>

### 8. Related Parties

There were no related party transactions conducted during the year.







Schedule 1

Regulation 15

Form 1

**Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012**

**Sections 94 (2)(b), 97 (2)(b) and 100 (2)(b)**

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**Annual statements give a true and fair view of financial performance  
and position of Healesville Community Renewable Energy Inc.**

We, Julian M Higgs and Jeffrey N Barlow, being members of the Committee of Healesville Community Renewable Energy Inc, certify that the statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial performance and position of Healesville Community Renewable Energy Inc. during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending June 30, 2021.



**Jeff Barlow**

*President*



**Julian Higgs**

*Treasurer*



# Committee's Report

30 June 2021

## In the committee's opinion:

the incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. Accordingly, as described in note 1 to the financial statements, the attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* associated regulations;

- The attached financial statements and notes comply with the Accounting Standards as described in note 1 to the financial statements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the incorporated association's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its performance for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the incorporated association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the committees



**Jeff Barlow**

President



**Julian Higgs**

Treasurer





## Acknowledgments & Thanks

**Healesville CoRE, as a not-for-profit voluntary organisation, could not achieve what we do achieve without the generous support of many individuals and organisations who operate behind the scenes to create the organisation's backbone.**

It is with pride and great pleasure as President, that I thank all our financial members, our volunteers, our Central Committee and our Extended Management Group for your dedication and for your work during this past year. Together we have worked well as a team to achieve many projects for our community. It has been a deep privilege to work with you!

As an organisation we also thank the local Healesville and surrounding communities for your support. You have attended our events, read our newsletters and emails, and provided encouraging words of support, with many installing solar panels, batteries, heat pumps and monitoring systems.

We also thank our many other supporters and stakeholders who have provided financial and/or pro bono support to enable us to pursue our vision of a Net Zero Healesville by 2027.

In particular, we owe a debt of gratitude to the Yarra Ranges Council, the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal and both the State and Federal Governments for their substantial financial contributions. Additionally, we have received regular financial support from the Healesville Community Bank (Bendigo Bank) and the Healesville RSL as well as from many private community donors. Our Membership Drive was also kindly supported by Matilda Bay Brewery and No. 7.

We have benefited greatly from the involvement of additional organisations and individuals, and in particular we would like to express our appreciation and our gratitude to the Yarra Ranges Council Sustainability Team, Mondo, Solar Savers, Reclaim Energy, Kubo Solutions, Apricus Australia, Matthew Charles-Jones from Totally Renewable Yackandandah, the Healesville Uniting

Church, the Healesville Living and Learning Centre, the Healesville RSL, the Moora Moora Cooperative and everyone else who has assisted us with Letters of Support for our grant applications.

This year we have been fortunate to have the professional, technical and legal support from our new industry partner, Komo Energy. We thank you for your support and encouragement and for assisting us in our successful joint grant application to Sustainability Victoria for a grant of \$428,500.

For the first time a local business has joined us as a regular supporter – Matilda Bay Brewery. Thank you for your faith and trust in us and for your support.

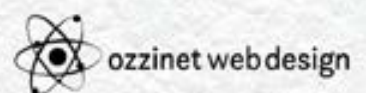
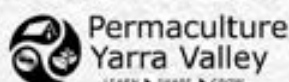
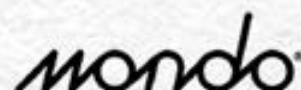
And a very special thank you to James McDermid for his pro bono design work, evident in our logo, posters and our Annual Report.

**It takes a  
community of  
supporters to enable  
an effective community  
renewable energy  
group such as  
Healesville CoRE!**



# Affordable, clean energy for our community is here.

## Partnerships





## Contact Us

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T/A Healesville CoRE  
Incorporation number A0101166X  
ABN 98 988 563 885

