



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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Healesville Vic 3777





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:











MAY
24

AUG
24

Prepare to Switch event showcasing speakers from My Efficient Electric Home and Rewiring Australia

Yarra Valley FM became the next community group to receive an interest-free loan with our Community Revolving Fund

?

A Few Words from our President

At our last AGM I made the bold statement that the year had been one of reviewing and consolidation, and that the next financial year would be a year of action. I'm pleased to report that this has indeed been the case, and although some in our community may not be aware of it, the team at Healesville Community Renewable Energy Inc has been busy bringing several major projects to completion and commencing new ones, as well as running a couple of free community events, and continuing our community engagement in many different ways. This would not be possible without the dedication of our committee, and once again it has been a delight to work with this group of passionate people who have continued to work tirelessly and are determined to make a difference in our community. Most of them have taken on dual roles, and all of them have become close friends. Although from time to time this role can be challenging, a job shared is a job halved, and overall, it is the satisfaction of knowing we're working together to help our community become more resilient in the face of the climate change emergency that makes my job so rewarding.

Further on in this report you can read further about the many exciting developments we've had this last year, so this will be just a brief overall summary.

- Our Home Energy Efficiency Advice program has ramped up with the training of new advisors and a new brochure designed, printed and distributed through Healesville and Yarra Glen.
- Our Revolving Fund is firmly established. The fourth not-for-profit organisation to take advantage of no upfront costs and an interest-free loan has recently had their new solar system installed and are enjoying lower energy bills.
- Two free community renewable energy events were held at The Memo
- A much-loved community hall has received free retrofitting to make it more energy efficient and comfortable, and now has lower energy bills
- A community home purpose built by a provider of affordable housing has also received these energy efficient upgrades
- We engaged with our local businesses to explore what the barriers may be to installing solar, produced a report of the findings and are now taking the next steps of advocating and engaging further with a few select businesses.
- We appointed a consultant to research renewable energy options such as solar, batteries, heat pumps, electric vehicles etc, extract relevant information and update our website.
- Ongoing community engagement - we held stalls at several community events, produced an updated general brochure and regularly shared news to our mailing list, as we continue to spread the word about renewable energy options.
- Collaboration with other nearby community renewable energy groups has continued, as well as supporting organisations further afield which are dedicated to representing people, households and communities, such as Rewiring Australia.

The coming year will be more of the same, with several things already in the pipeline as we continue our goal of accelerating Healesville and surroundings to NetZero – renewable and affordable. We will continue to offer home energy efficiency checks to the community – a completely free service for our members and available to others for a small fee. We will continue to run free informative community events - (the next one planned is an Eco Expert chat session), and we will continue to support and promote other groups whose focus is on sustainability, including the Repowering the Dandenongs festival to be held in March next year. We have completed the solar system installation on the Yarra Valley FM building and will actively search for the next community group to help. We will assess the before and after energy bills of the retrofitted community hall and house in order to prepare a business

case for applying for more funding to repeat the process elsewhere. We will continue to engage with the local government, other community renewable energy groups and the local community and work together to mitigate the effects of the climate change emergency and be a part of the clean energy revolution.

Early next year we will be ready to delve into our third 3 year Strategic Plan, which will help guide us with future goals and projects. All our members will be invited to take part in the workshop and I'm looking forward to seeing what we all come up with together. There is so much more we could do, provided we have sufficient resourcing and support to do so.

To all of you who have supported us on our journey so far, whether by attending events, joining our mailing list, becoming a member, or one of the many organisations we've partnered with over the years, our sincere thanks. A special thanks to Healesville Living & Learning Centre for providing a space for us to hold our regular meetings, and to Yarra Ranges Council and Sustainability Victoria for providing funding for our projects. It's been an honour to have chaired Healesville CoRE over the past two years and I know we all look forward to seeing what the next year brings for us.

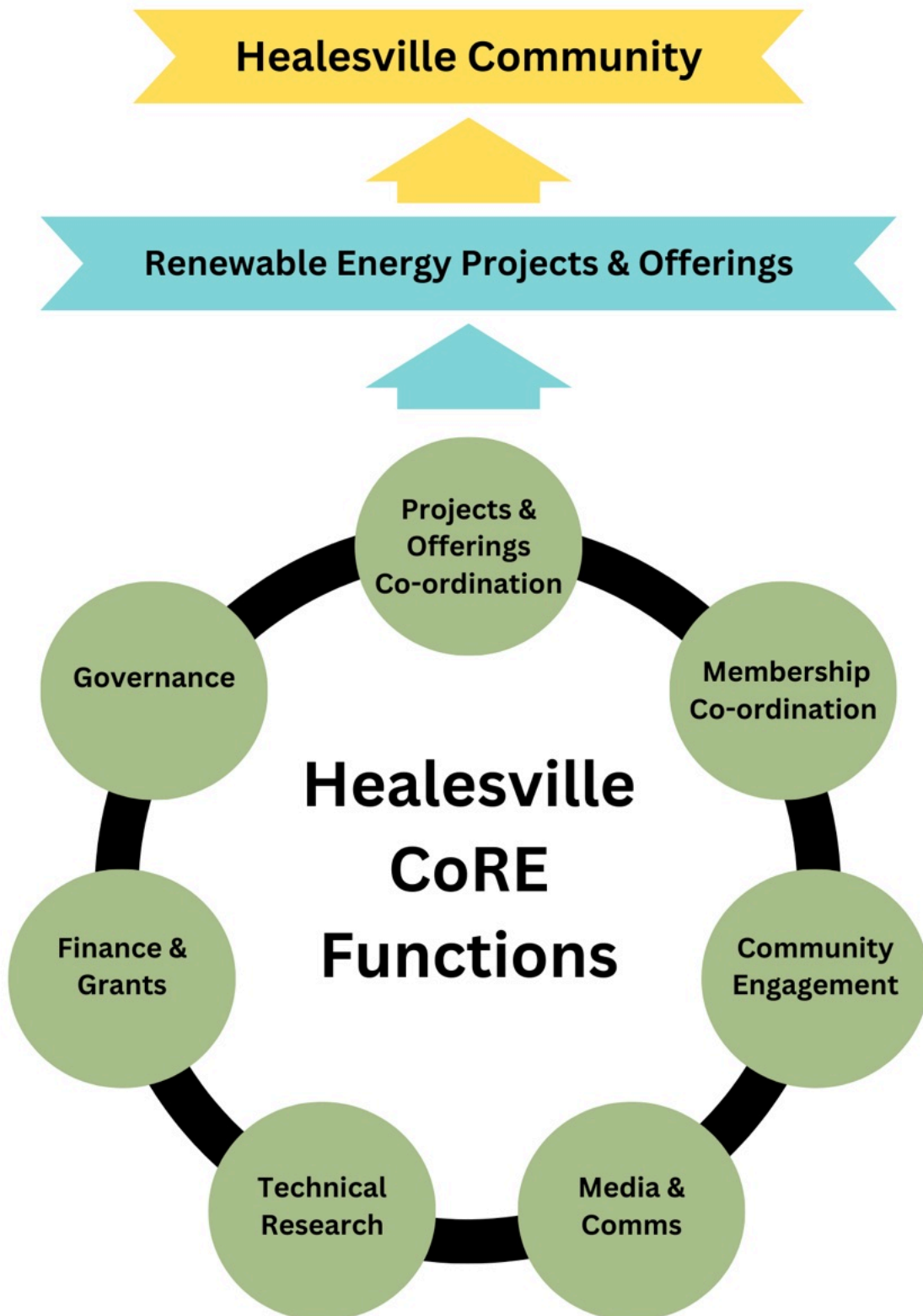
Karen Roberts

President



Our Organisation

Our organisation consists of a team of volunteers who together provide innovative offerings and projects to the Healesville and surrounding community to accelerate the transition to renewable energy.



Our Values



Our Team

Members who held office in 2023/24



Karen Roberts
President



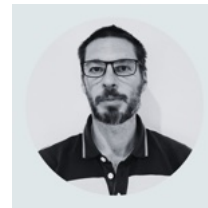
Deb Blaber
Secretary



Julian Higgs
Treasurer



Leo De Jong
Technical Projects Manager



Trent Evans
Yarra Glenenergy Representative



Walter Skilton
Governance



Rod Hysted
IT Manager



Graeme Scott
Sustainability Advisor

Barbara Laug - Membership Coordinator



Committee Members and Speaker at Keeping the Lights On Event

Our Members

Over the past financial year Healesville CoRE's membership has remained steady at around 50-60 members. We truly value our members and their ongoing support for our vision and purpose to help the local community transition to renewable energy options.

Members are occasionally invited to participate in discussions and decisions – for instance, early next year we will run our next Strategic Planning Day and members will be offered the opportunity to help us develop a plan for the next three years. We have also invited our members to let us know what topics interest them, so that we can plan our events accordingly. And of course, members can register for a free Home Energy Efficiency check up so that our trained advisors can visit their home and advise on possible improvements to make it more comfortable, and to save on energy bills.

Healesville CoRE made several small changes to our membership options at the AGM last year. We raised the associate age from 14 to 18 so that if we engage with schools in the future, students of all ages would benefit from free membership. We also introduced a two year membership option, giving our members a choice of renewing for either one or two years. And since we have been around for seven years now, we felt it was high time we offer some of our past and present long-standing committee members Life Membership.

Thanks once again from the team at Healesville CoRE to all our valued members.



Secretary Deb, HEEA Advisor Peter & Healesville CoRE Peter
team up to work on a special project together

Our Projects

Healesville Community Renewable Energy Inc is no longer a fledgling organisation. We are now well established and known throughout Healesville and surrounding areas, financially secure, have forged many partnerships over the years and developed many ongoing projects. Our impact in our community strengthens every year and there have been many positive outcomes. The following pages provide a snapshot of some of these projects and have been written by various members of our committee.

Home Energy Efficiency Advice

This service is one that we are particularly proud of at Healesville CoRE. It began back in 2019 when we applied for a federal grant to buy an infra-red camera and train four volunteers to be able to give homes an energy efficiency check-up. We called our volunteers Home Energy Efficiency Advisors and sent them off to visit homes and advise on possible improvements to make it more comfortable, to save on energy bills and reduce their emissions. We expanded the program in 2023 by training five more volunteers and purchasing another camera, so we now have a very strong and enthusiastic team of Advisors. To promote this amazing team of volunteers we have designed and printed a brochure which was distributed throughout Healesville and Yarra Glen this year.



As around 40% of energy use in households is linked to heating and cooling, small changes in these areas can make a big difference. Our Advisors examine and explain power bills, check heating and cooling, hot water systems, cooking, lighting and appliances and the building shell itself and then prepare a detailed report for the homeowner or renter. Many people then implement the suggestions and as a result, make savings on their energy bills. To date we have assessed over 60 homes around Healesville and surrounding towns. This service is offered free of charge to our members and is available for a small one-off fee to others.

The Community Revolving Fund

In 2019 the Federal Government awarded a grant of \$90,000 to Healesville CoRE to be used to install solar panel systems on three community buildings in Healesville. Over 2021 and 2022 Healesville CoRE with the assistance of Yarra Ranges Council duly installed three systems on the Robyn Jane Children's Centre (RJCC), the Healesville Living and Learning Centre (HLLC) and St Brigid's Primary School (SBPS).

Rather than just pay for these systems and leave it at that, Healesville CoRE set up a revolving fund. Under this arrangement, the funding of each system was treated as a loan or equivalent with the end client (e.g. RJCC) repaying the loan to Healesville CoRE using the savings made on their power bills. Once the loan is repaid, they have ownership of the system and get the full benefits of the solar system from then on. This arrangement allows Healesville CoRE to recover the money to re-use on other, similar installations. Hence the revolving fund.

Under this arrangement over \$31,000 had been received back by Healesville CoRE as of June 30, 2024, with more than \$1,000 per month now coming in from the three sites. The accumulated funds were more than enough to fund a further system. Yarra Valley FM community radio station (YVFM) was identified as a suitable candidate for funding with a suitable building for installation at their new premises in the Lions Club precinct in Healesville, with this installation also to be set up under a loan agreement.

Installation of this new system was completed in July 2024 and at the time of writing only required independent inspection and grid connection to be fully operational. This will be well and truly in place prior to the AGM with commencement of the loan repayments also taking place by that time. The cost of the YVFM system was approximately \$20,000, so it will not be long before sufficient funds have been accumulated to fund yet another installation. The community revolving fund concept is proving to be a very successful arrangement.



Julian Higgs
Treasurer



Solar abounds at St Brigid's Primary School

Free Community Events

We aim to run two free community events every year and these are usually held at Healesville Memorial Hall (the Memo). Each event covers a certain theme relating to renewable energy. In October 2023 we called our event 'Keeping the Lights One', as it explained the concept of microgrids and also discussed a possible future community battery. Both these would increase community resilience in the face of the climate emergency. Earlier this year the topic was about preparing to electrify your home, and we were very pleased to have two key speakers run through various options to enable the audience to plan how they could transition to having an all electric home supported by a clean energy grid.

Both events featured a Q and A session, giving the audience an opportunity to ask the speakers further questions about the presentation. We have found the questions to be insightful and the conversations lead to a more in-depth understanding of the topic, so we will certainly continue that in future events. Participants are always invited to mingle afterwards for supper and a chat, and it is very satisfying to feel the energetic vibe in the room.



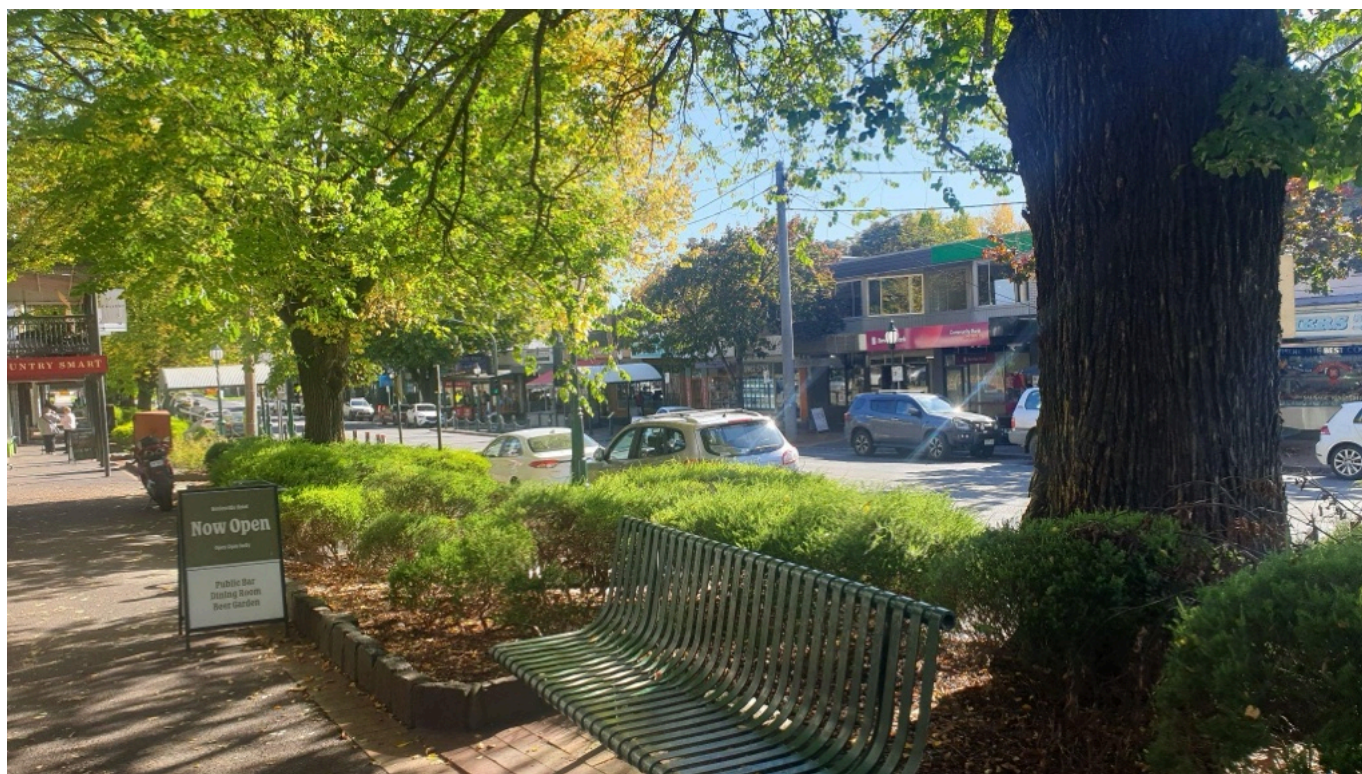
Solar 4 Healesville Business

For some years now, one of Healesville CoRE's goals has been to engage with local businesses to identify the barriers they face when considering the installation of a solar system. Businesses are feeling the effects of the rising cost of living, and energy costs form a significant part of their ongoing expenses. Having access to solar could make a considerable difference to their energy bills.

As part of our 4-year Partnership Grant with Yarra Ranges Council, Healesville CoRE recently completed the first stage of a research project to identify how to encourage and incentivise commercial businesses in Healesville's main street to install solar panels. This is a particular challenge when most business operators are tenants rather than owners of the properties they occupy. There are currently small rebates and low/no interest loans to assist owners and renters of commercial and residential properties, however the uptake is relatively low.

An increase in solar systems by commercial businesses will make a significant contribution to accelerating Healesville's transition to renewable energy.

We engaged Jane Judd, an independent consultant and long-term resident of Healesville to engage with our local businesses.



Local landlords, owner operators and leaseholders in the main business precinct of Healesville were surveyed to find out why the uptake of solar power was low. Jane approached sixty-nine businesses and landlords to take part in the project and achieved a respectable 42.5% response rate, with 23 leaseholders and 7 owner operators and landlords participating in constructive conversations and a survey.

Two key findings were that most Healesville businesses (over 90%) do not have access to cheaper solar power, and the main street of Healesville is dominated by commercial leaseholders.

Participants made it clear that properties with solar systems are more desirable to leaseholders as power is likely to be cheaper, however they reported that the information available is hard to navigate and process, making decisions about investing in solar feel overwhelming. There are also major obstacles for commercial leaseholders to invest in solar power - the landlord needs to approve the idea before installation is legally possible and then they both need to navigate a new rental agreement.

Healesville CoRE is grateful to all the people from our local businesses who gave up their valuable time to participate in this project. The next phase of the project is to collaborate with Yarra Ranges Council and other like-minded organisations and continue to advocate for changes to government strategies, policies and programs at all levels, in an effort to ensure all businesses in Healesville can eventually enjoy the benefits of solar power. Realigning the financial incentive and subsidies to commercial property will directly provide energy relief/cost relief to commercial small business leaseholders, and with the rising cost of living, they need this help now.

Deb Blaber
Secretary



Jane Judd discusses the project with a well-known local business owner.

Badger Creek Hall Energy Efficiency Retrofit

Early in 2023, we were awarded a grant by Sustainability Victoria, and part of this was allocated to carry out energy efficiency upgrade works at two sites in the Healesville district. One of the sites chosen was Badger Creek Hall, a community hall used by the Badger Creek community and other community groups and organisations.



Karen Roberts & Leo De Jong from Healesville CoRE, Kevin Mason & Adam Cole from Badger Creek Hall & Kate Shaw from Sustainability Victoria

The purpose of this project was to:

- Upgrade the energy efficiency of a building that enjoys widespread community use and is operated on a not-for-profit basis by the local community, and that the local community does not have the funds available to carry out such works themselves.
- Provide a demonstration site that can be used to illustrate to the wider community some of the options, costs and benefits of a community building energy efficiency upgrade project.
- Potentially use the learnings from this project to apply for funding to replicate the process with another community building at some stage in the future.

Healesville CoRE's Role in the project was to:

- Be the project manager for the project.
- Determine the upgrades to be undertaken at the Premises within the limits of the budget and in consultation with the Badger Creek Hall committee.
- Prepare specifications and tender documents as appropriate for the works to be undertaken.
- Select and appoint experienced and qualified product providers and installers to carry out the works.
- Supervise the on-site works undertaken by the installers.
- Liaise with the Badger Creek Hall committee
- Pay for all the works undertaken using the awarded grant.



Presidents Kevin and Karen sign the MOU to get the project underway

The improvement work included:

- Making better use of the previously installed solar roof panels by electrifying the hall
- Removal of 2 large gas wall heaters
- Installation of 2 reverse cycle air conditioning units
- Installation of ceiling insulation where none existed before
- Removal of gas instantaneous hot water boiler
- Installation of electric heat pump
- Installation of pelmets and heavy duty curtains
- Installation of fly wire screens to allow cross ventilation of the hall
- Weather sealing of external doors
- Weather sealing of wall ventilation openings

We completed the project on budget and on time. The Badger Creek Hall committee now has a building which will be more comfortable and less costly to run. Over the next twelve months Healesville CoRE will monitor the energy bills and compare them with the bills collected before the improvement work was done. Then we can potentially use the learnings from this project to apply for funding to replicate the process with another community building at some stage in the future.

The Badger Creek Hall committee are very pleased with the improvements, especially the new heaters which heat the hall very quickly and effectively. The timing of this project coincides with the preparations already in progress for the 100th anniversary celebration of the construction of the hall, due to take place in February 2025.

Leo de Jong
Project Manager

Community Home Energy Efficiency Retrofit

We also used part of the Sustainability Victoria funding to do similar energy efficiency upgrades at a community home in Healesville. The home is a shared house, which includes accommodation for three tenants and is managed by Community Housing Limited.

Once again, the purpose of this project was to upgrade the energy efficiency of a house that offers low rent accommodation in our community and is operated and managed by a not-for-profit organisation, and provide a demonstration site that can be used to demonstrate to the wider community some of the options, costs and benefits of a house energy efficiency upgrade project. Healesville CoRE once again managed the project.



The improvement work included:

- Removal of 2 large gas wall heaters
- Installation of 2 reverse cycle air conditioning units
- Removal of old ceiling installation
- Installation of new ceiling insulation
- Removal of gas hot water boiler
- Installation of electric heat pump
- Installation of external shading hood over north facing full height widow
- Weather sealing of front door
- Insulation of 2 skylights
- Replacing gas upright stove with new electric unit

In the next twelve months Healesville CoRE will monitor the energy bills and compare them with the bills collected before the improvement work was done. The Community Home tenants now have a building which is more comfortable and less costly to run.

Leo de Jong
Project Manager

Making Sustainable Choices

Our first community 'bulk buy' was launched back in 2019 with solar panels and heat pumps. We then added Reverse Cycle Air Conditioners (RCAC) to the mix, and in 2022 held an Electric Vehicle launch. More recently we have partnered with Yarra Ranges Council to promote their Solar Savers Program for those who want to find out more about installing solar.

Towards the end of 2023 our heat pump supplier advised that they would no longer partner with us as it was not economically feasible any more for them. This prompted the Healesville CoRE team to consider whether putting the time, effort and finances into finding, vetting and arranging another supplier was the best use of our limited resourcing. We discussed how the climate change narrative has developed over the years, and how solar uptake has increased dramatically across Australia since we began back in 2017 and concluded that what we actually need is good, solid, reliable information to offer to the community and anyone else who comes across our website.

So we decided to engage a consultant to do some serious research on our behalf. He is trawling through information on solar installations, heat pumps, RCAC and electric vehicles, and sometime before the end of 2024 this will be available for all to see. We have been faithfully promoting renewables and sustainable choices since 2017, so this part of our website should help our community make more informed decisions.



Healesville CoRE Volunteers at a Community Event held in April 2024

Community Engagement

This year we made a special effort to be a part of other local community events such as the Healesville Connect Picnic, the Connecting Community Festival, the Community Garden event and Permaculture Week. We even purchased a branded gazebo for our volunteers to sit under and revised our general brochure to hand out. Having a presence at other local organisation's events enables us to reach a wider range of the community as we continue our goal of driving a faster and fairer transition to clean energy. And we enjoy meeting more people!



Volunteers from Healesville CoRE and Yarra Valley Permaculture share a site at the ECOSS Event in March 2024

Our Communications Strategy

We began this year with the aim to increase our social media presence. A committee was formed to plan our approach and brainstorm what content might be effective. Karen, Graeme and Leo were a wealth of knowledge and experience.

We proposed to set up a regular fortnightly post to our Healesville CoRE mailing list, posting to our Facebook page and four community noticeboards: Chum Creek, Healesville, Yarra Glen and Yarra Valley. We also increased posts to our X (formerly Twitter) account. The aim was to present posts to help our community to save money on power bills, inform about efficient methods of heating and cooling homes and hot water. We also wanted to more effectively inform our community about our events, and encourage greater involvement in Healesville CoRE. We also hope to develop our presence on Instagram and TikTok, to increase our communications to a wider cohort.

We also aimed to further use our YouTube channel as an education tool, to assist people to increase their energy efficiency and take advantage of the information and advice from our community events. Our YouTube channel is really worth a visit if you want to increase your knowledge of, and various options to increase energy efficiency, as well as various options to increase cost savings with energy bills.

We have made significant inroads into our aim, but need further work investigating how to most effectively leverage Instagram and TikTok.

Rod Hysted

IT Manager / Social Media



HEALESVILLE COMMUNITY RENEWABLE ENERGY

Worried about the climate and cost of living crisis?

PREPARE TO SWITCH!

Prepare to Switch!

Healesville CoRE invites you to hear from three speakers who can help you prepare for switching to an all-electric home.

- ✓ Kate Minter, from Rewiring Australia, will explain why we all need to take action now.
- ✓ Tim Forcey, from My Efficient Electric Home, will show you what you can do.
- ✓ Sustainability Department, from Yarra Ranges Council, will present how with 'Your Go Electric Plan'.

Time for questions at the end.
Light refreshments will be provided.

FREE EVENT

www.healesvillecore.org.au

The poster features a green and white color scheme. On the right, there is a photograph of solar panels on a roof. In the center, there is a graphic of a light switch with 'renewables' above it and 'fossil fuels' below it. A QR code is located in the bottom right area.



FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Keeping the lights on

Preparing our community for bushfires & blackouts

Welcome to this interactive discussion on battery and microgrid solutions, enabling community to prepare for blackouts from bushfires and storms.

Be a part of the solution!

The poster features a photograph of several hands reaching up towards the sky. The Healesville CoRE logo is in the top left, and the Yarra Ranges Council logo is in the bottom right.

What Lies Ahead

So what does the future look like for Healesville Community Renewable Energy! And more importantly, what could it look like? These are two completely different scenarios.

Seven years since our inaugural meeting that attracted over two hundred interested residents, we are now well established in the community, financially secure, and have a great track record in the projects we have undertaken. But all this work is being done by a small group of passionate community members who have jobs, family and other commitments. We have some great ideas and could do so much more, but only if we receive more support from other community members, organisations and government.

Let's take a quick look at our projects as they are now and as they could be.

Home Energy Efficiency Program - currently we have eight advisors ready to help those who ask for suggestions on how modifications can be made to improve the energy efficiency of their homes. We've designed, printed and distributed a new brochure. We could ramp this program up and help a lot more residents by reaching out to schools, sporting and community groups - but we need more people to organise this.

The Community Revolving Fund is ticking along nicely averaging one new solar installation per year on a community building. What if we could extend this program of no-interest loans and no up-front costs to include small businesses and organisations? To do this, we need a group of people who can apply for funding, set up the financial module and oversee each installation.

During this financial year we **retrofitted a community hall and community house** with energy efficiency upgrades, with the end result being lower power bills and increased comfort. Wouldn't it be great to replicate this with other community buildings? But once again, we need people to apply for funding, set up the financial module and project manage each building.

We engaged with 69 local businesses to explore what they perceive the barriers to installing solar are and had 30 of them complete our survey which then became the basis for a report. There is now a great opportunity to take this to the next level and work with other groups to advocate to the government. This will however take time, expertise and dedication.

We have come a long way in seven years, and we could simply continue to do what we can with the few dedicated volunteers we currently have. But we need to keep sight of why our group, and so many community renewable energy groups like ours, have been established over the past decade or so. We are dealing with a climate emergency, and we need to all work together and help each other to mitigate the effects of it on a local level.

Early in 2025 we will run the next Strategy Planning workshop, and although we may have some fantastic ideas come out of that, the most important thing is to have more people come on board so we can carry out some of those ideas. Healesville CoRE can still continue as is, but could make much more progress with a little help. What lies ahead is more of the same, and there is nothing wrong with that! We've kicked some huge goals over the past few years. But what could lie ahead? Only time will tell.

Financial Performance for FY 2023/24

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 following breaks down the total (Consolidated) income and expenditure into General, Grants and Revolving Fund components. GST payments to and from Healesville CoRE are excluded from these figures.

The background to and current status of the Revolving Fund is described elsewhere in this Annual Report. Suffice to say that the Revolving Fund continues to operate as described in that report and will do so for the foreseeable future.

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 typically from membership fees, donations and income from projects and programs we run. A key change here has been the acquisition of the EV charging station in Yarra Glen, as a result of the merger of Yarra Glenenergy with Healesville CoRE. Healesville CoRE is now receiving the income from this charging station. This amounted to \$4,719 in FY2024, which represented 9 months of operation. Thus, we can expect higher returns from this in future years.

By contrast, our effective withdrawal at this time from community offers for heat pump hot water services and the like means that we will not generate sales commissions or the like from such activities so long as this situation continues. However, the EV charging fees are significantly higher than the commissions historically received so the net effect of these two changes will be increased general income in future years.

General Expenditure is for a range of items including 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 other income and expenses provides greatly enhanced visibility of our true financial situation (viability) at any time. A separate bank account is in fact maintained for general funds 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 \$2,509 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 2023/24 financial year and the 2022/23 financial year, for comparison purposes. Some comments that can be made:

1. This year's surplus of \$2,509 is a small increase compared to that achieved last year at \$2,152.
2. This is a satisfactory result for a not-for-profit organisation of our size and nature.
3. There are inevitably variations both large and small in fee income, membership income, donations etc and in some expense items but these are all within the ranges typical of year-by-year variations.
4. On June 30 the General Bank Account held \$9,289 compared with \$5,658 on June 30, 2022.

This is a satisfactory situation.

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.

The consolidated accounts show a surplus for the 2024 financial year of \$13,547, which compares with a deficit of -\$39,394 last financial year. These are however meaningless figures as so much is due to the timing of when grants are received and when they are spent. The Yarra Valley Community Power Hub grant heavily influenced the deficit in FY2023 as the income for this very large grant was received in FY2022, but significant expenditure continued into FY2023, resulting in an overall deficit. By contrast, all of the funds awarded under the substantial 2023/24 Sustainability Victoria Grant (\$60,000) were received in FY2024 but not all were expended in FY2024, hence the surplus recorded in FY2024. The timing of grant income and expenditure for all our grants and the fact that most of our overall income and expenditure is related to grants has this effect every year.

Donations

Donations can be an important source of income for us but vary greatly from year to year. Donations were significant in FY2023 but have been of a minor nature in FY2024. This is something out of our control.

Grants

We do receive and expend a variety of grants and the overall picture for those is included in the financial reports. Specific commentary on our grant activities for FY2024 is provided elsewhere in this Annual Report. From an accounting point of view, the key requirement is that we do not overspend on any grant. We have not done so in this financial year (or any recent financial year for that matter).

The 2023/24 Sustainability Victoria Grant was the only significant grant that remained active on 30 June 2024. This grant was ahead of budget at that date and very close to completion. There are no issues of concern in the Grants Account.

The Revolving Fund

The Revolving Fund now generates income of over \$1,000 per month and the Revolving Fund Bank Account held \$27,821 on June 30. Thus, it has built up to the level where a new solar installation can be funded and this is in train, again on a loan basis thus supporting the revolving fund concept into the future. Again, this will not be expected to add any new or unusual feature to the accounts.

The Future

From an accounting point of view, we are in a sound position with no significant issues of concern. The foreseeable future will in essence likely be “more of the same”.

Julian Higgs

Treasurer, Healesville CoRE Inc.

Financial Report

Healesville Community Renewable Energy Inc. Financial Statements

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2024

Account	Note	30 Jun 2024	30 Jun 2023
Assets			
Bank			
Healesville CoRE General Bank Account		11,372	9,289
Healesville Core Mastercard		1,060	500
Healesville CoRE PayPal		0	147
Healesville CoRE Grants account		8,456	5,006
Healesville CoRE Revolving Fund Account		27,821	16,191
Healesville CoRE Yarra Valley Community Power Hub Account		9,809	10,564
Total Bank	3	58,518	41,696
Current Assets			
Accounts Receivable		6,431	1,197
Loan RJCC – Current		3,000	3,000
Loan SBCPS - Current		7,992	7,992
Sundry Debtor ATO			
Total Current Assets	4	17,423	12,189
Fixed Assets			
Plant & Equipment		20,000	20,000
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(5,507)	(3,507)
Total Fixed Assets		14,493	16,493
Non-Current Assets			
Loan RJCC – Non-Current		8,000	11,000
Loan SBCPS – Non-Current		16,690	24,682
Loan Yarra Valley FM – Non-Current		2,631	
Total Non-Current Assets	4	27,321	35,682
Total Assets		117,755	106,061
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable		0	44
ATO BAS Account		382	0
GST		(2522)	(338)
Rounding		(5)	0
Total Current Liabilities	5	(2,144)	(294)
Total Liabilities		(2,144)	(294)
Net Assets			106,354
Equity			
Current Year Earnings		13,546	(41,394)
Funds Transferred from HCore Unincorp		4,647	4,647
Retained Earnings		101,708	143,065
Total Equity		119,900	106,354

Healesville Community Renewable Energy Inc.
Income Statement for the year ended 30 June 2023

Account	Note	2024	2023
Trading Income			
Grant Income		65,000	23,770
Interest Income		149	176
Membership Income		959	1,118
Power Purchase Agreement Sales		2,867	3,258
EV Charging Station Revenue		4,719	0
Revolving Fund Administration Fees		231	238
Commissions – Solar PV & Heat Pump HWS		300	1,350
Commissions – Reverse Cycle Air Conditioning		0	727
Commissions – YV Community Power Hub Sales		0	454
Other Revenue		600	2,688
Total Trading Income	6	74,825	33,779
Gross Surplus		74,825	33,779
Other Income			
Donations – General		311	2,300
Total Other Income		311	2,300
Operating Expenses			
Staff Wages and Salaries		0	23,548
Staff Superannuation		0	2,278
Advertising		0	407
Bank, Stripe & PayPal Fees		28	32
Bookkeeping		0	405
Catering		265	321
Consultant Fees		6,758	22,522
Depreciation		2,000	2,000
Donations Made		250	3,588
Equipment less than \$500		0	323
Equipment Purchases		38,352	0
Event Expenses		787	35
Filing Fees		262	122
Insurance		822	822
Legal Expenses		0	2,660
Motor Vehicle Expenses		218	75
Promotional Expenses		2,184	7,700
Repairs & Maintenance		2,901	0
Software Expenses		479	573
Subscriptions & Registrations		1,022	348
Training Expenses		3,210	6,308
Venue Hire		75	243
Website expenses		1,975	2,789
Commissions Paid to Environmental Groups		0	339
Total Operating Expenses		61,591	77,473
Net Surplus (Deficit) for the year		13,546	(41,358)

Healesville Community Renewable Energy Inc
Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2023

Account	Note	2024	2023
Equity			
Opening Balance		106,354	147,712
Current Year Earnings		13,546	(41,358)
Total Equity at 30 June 2023		119,900	106,354

Healesville Community Renewable Energy Inc.
Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2023

Account	Note	2024	2023
Operating Activities			
Receipts from customers		76,999	40,566
Payments to suppliers and employees		(65,048)	(78,475)
Cash receipts from other operating activities		(3,868)	1,347
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities		8,083	(36,562)
Investing Activities			
Other cash items from investing activities		8,361	9,660
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities		8,361	9,660
Financing Activities			
Other cash items from financing activities		376	(6,383)
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities		376	(6,383)
Net Cash Flows		16,822	(33,285)
Cash and Cash Equivalents			
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		41,696	74,981
Net change in cash for period		16,822	(33,285)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period		58,518	41,696

Healesville Community Renewable Energy Inc.
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June, 2024

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 Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*. Healesville CoRE self-assesses as a Community Service Organization.

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.

8. Related parties

Bookkeeping services were provided for part of the year through ACCSP Pty Ltd a company owned by the then President of Healesville CoRE. The Conflict-of-Interest Register was completed by the Secretary as instructed by the Chair on a motion passed by the Central Committee.

Schedule 1

Regulation 15

Form 1

Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012
Sections 94 (2)(b), 97 (2)(b) and 100 (2)(b)

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

We, Julian M Higgs and Karen Roberts, 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, 2024.

Signed:



Date: July 31, 2024

Signed:



Date: July 31, 2024

Contact Us

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Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/HealesvilleCoRE/

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



Karen Garth from HEWI & Karen Roberts sharing a stall at an event at The Memo