



## Coordination Group Meeting – MINUTES

Held 1pm Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at Barkly Motor Inn Ballarat

**Chair:** Ian Rossiter (BREAZE)

**Minutes:** Ian Rossiter (BREAZE)

Agenda Items	Discussion	Responsibility
<p><b>1. Welcome/ Apologies/ Introductions</b></p>	<p><b>Attendance:</b> Lucinda Staley (Cultivate Agribusiness), Melanie Robertson (C for B), Ross Irving (SV), Hazen Cleary (PLEA Network), Ian Rossiter (BREAZE), Andrea Mason (Leigh Catchment Group &amp; FORP), Andrew Lang (VBN &amp; World Bioenergy Congress), Ray Draper (BEN), Cherie Draper (BEN), Janene Trickey (DELWP), Peter Gell (Fed Uni), Quenton Gay (BCC), Craig Hurley (Fed Uni), Tim Hudspith (DELWP), Brendan Clarke (CHW),</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Rob Law (CVGA), Cr. Belinda Coates (BCC and CVGA), Jeff Rootes (Friends of Canadian Corridor) La Vergne Lehmann (GCWWRRG), Keith Jackson (GCWWRRG), Laurel Freeland (SHARE), Lisa Kendal (BCC) Scott White (Environment Evolution).</p> <p>Ian read out an email from Craig Whiteford who is leaving DELWP to start a new role with The Melbourne Zoo.</p>	
<p><b>2. Minutes of Previous Meeting</b></p>	<p>Ian tabled the minutes of the Meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> August 2017 which were distributed on 29 January.. Moved Hazen Cleary, Seconded Andrea Mason - Carried.</p>	
<p><b>3. Regional Waste Initiatives</b></p>	<p>As La Vergne and Keith from Grampians Central West Waste and Resource Recovery Group are late Apologies, the item was passed over. Members were reminded that the Waste and Resource Recovery Discussion Session would be held on Wednesday 31/1/18 (evening).</p>	<p>All to note Keith and La Vergne to update at next meeting</p>

<p><b>4. City of Ballarat Carbon Neutrality Strategy Update</b></p>	<p>Ian circulated the Ballarat City Council's report and presentation considered at its meeting of 13 December 2017 as part of the RSAB Agenda . Quenton Gay (BCC) explained that BCC have engaged Environment Evolution to develop a baseline report on emissions and develop a strategy to reduce emissions. Major initiatives to be explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional landfill gas to energy infrastructure</li> <li>• Street Lighting – LED and controlled timing initiatives</li> <li>• Waste to Energy</li> </ul> <p>Discussion on Council's heavy vehicle fleet resolved that there needs to be an incentive to make investment in renewable energy alternatives to diesel powered vehicles.</p>	<p>Further information will be presented by Scott White at future meeting.</p>
<p><b>5. Victorian Renewable Energy Auction Scheme</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Janene introduced her new role with DELWP as Engagement Program Manager for the Grampians Region. She previously has worked with DELWP Renewable Energies and with Simon Corbell (Victorian Govt. Renewable Energy Advocate.</li> <li>• Melanie and Janene explained the reverse auction process and that as bids are open till 14 February and due to probity issues not much can be devolved about any proposals at this stage.</li> <li>• Expect outcomes to announced in July.</li> <li>• Melanie explained that some developers have ignored offers of advice and suggestions from our region and others have engaged.</li> <li>• A peak group for our region has formed to advocate for investment in renewable energy in our region which represents local and state government from Moorabool to the SA Border. Its members include Justine Linley (BCC), Anthony Schinck (RDV) Stuart Benjamin (RDA),Michael Baily (Northern Grampians) Chris Ferguson (DELWP), Wimmera Development Assn.</li> <li>• Meetings have been held with AEMO to advocate for appropriate plans for investment in grid infrastructure. The methodology used in Regulation Investment Test for Transmission.</li> <li>• Interest also in microgrids on the "Blue Diamond" zone of the grid to build capacity.</li> </ul>	<p>For information</p>
<p><b>6. Bunanyung Landscape Alliance</b></p>	<p>Andrea presented the background on the formation of the BLA which arose from a workshop at Narmbool in 2016 and with support of the Natural Resources Conservation League (NRCL) allowed the formation of a landscape scale project proposal for Moorabool, Leigh and Woody Yallock catchments. A power point presentation is included below as an appendix.</p>	<p>For information</p>
<p><b>7. PLEA Network Update</b></p>	<p>Hazen presented the information provided below as an appendix.</p> <p>Key points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Role and content of the PLEA website</li> <li>• Brown Hill Fire Awareness – needs some support from organisations to continue funding of stickers and newsletter printing (see page 2 of report)</li> <li>• World Weather Attribution Program – now a worldwide movement collecting evidence of climate change impacting on extreme weather events thus making a route for compensation claims against major emitters and governments not taking action on climate change.</li> <li>• Hazen is attending a conference on Weather Attribution Program this weekend and will be</li> </ul>	<p>For information</p>

	<p>able to provide further detail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazen has been appointed to a CSIRO Reference Panel for its Climate Change Website.</li> </ul>	
<b>8. Community Power Hub Pilot Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ian presented the background, role and structure of the CPH program. Presentation slides are provided below as an appendix. Currently the Bendigo, La Trobe Valley and Ballarat pilot programs are working on feasibility studies / business cases for the projects that have been identified through community engagement undertaken in late 2017.</li> <li>• A central website is to be launched next week for the program with dedicated pages for each of the hubs.</li> <li>• Logos and Brand have been developed to be launched next week.</li> </ul>	
<b>9. Integrated Water Cycle Plan</b>	<p>Brendan and Quenton reported on the Ballarat Integrated Water Cycle Plan (Ballarat IWCP): It was completed in 2017 and has won an award Consultation period has finished and the plan is with DELWP for finalisation Projects identified in the Stormwater Harvesting and Flood Management strategy prepared by Peter Breen of E2 Design Lab were ranked and the highest scoring projects have been included in the IWCP including delivery of water from the North Ballarat Class A Recycling plant to BWEZ, Wendouree West Recreation Reserve and additional distribution network to Lake Wendouree, Victoria Park and some schools.</p>	For Information
<b>10. Biodiversity Officer at City of Ballarat</b>	<p>Cherie raised the question of why the City of Ballarat still did not have a biodiversity officer. The absence of such a role was thought to be resulting in loss of biodiversity values across the municipality due to poor planning approval decisions, lack of planning permit conditions enforcement, lack of vegetation management plans for sites with high value and threatened remnant plants and animals. As this has been an issue raised since review of the Environment Sustainability Strategy actions implementation in 2013 to 2016 and no action seems to have been taken, the meeting resolved that the RSAB will write a letter to City of Ballarat expressing concerns about the inability to action relevant strategies, planning permit conditions and maintain biodiversity values without engagement of a dedicated role.</p> <p>Quenton pointed out that Council has a Vegetation Management Officer David Grant who may be able to discuss this issue and the Urban Forest Strategy at a future meeting.</p>	<p>Ian to prepare a draft letter and circulate to members for feedback, before completing final draft and sending.</p> <p>Quenton to discuss with David Grant</p>
<b>11. RSAB 2018 Meetings, Topics and Format</b>	<p>Ian led discussion on the nature of meetings in 2018. The March meeting is proposed to focus on renewable energy and be conducted with delegates of the 3 Community Power Hubs on Wednesday 21 March from 3pm to 5pm and a tour of Gekko Industries' Biodigester demonstration site at a Bungaree dairy farm on Thursday 22 March from 9 till 10.30 am.</p> <p>Members suggested a future meeting topics could be:</p>	Ian to send out a draft calendar for meetings with proposed dates and topics.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding models for projects</li> <li>• Meeting of regional environmental officers from local and state govt.</li> <li>• Meeting in late February post the Waste to Energy Conference to focus on waste to energy, bioenergy and waste management issues</li> <li>• Role of the RSAB in advocacy and community engagement with issues such as waste, biodiversity, climate change action.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>12. Information Sharing</b></p>	<p>12.1. Hepburn – Laurel Freeland emailed information to share from Sustainable Hepburn Association Renewing the Earth (SHARE) that they had conducted a food mapping meeting with stakeholders this week in Daylesford, a tour of the Hepburn Windfarm by a group of Hiroshima visitors from the Peaceboat and Hepburn Shire has a new sustainability officer Glenn Tamblyn and a new biodiversity officer starting next week.</p> <p>12.2. Andrew Lang reported that a group of 9 farmers in Pyrenees Shire (Streatham) are developing an alternative to burning straw stubble. A feasibility study is being undertaken for the Skipton Hospital to convert the heating from LPG to straw (hammer milled). City of Ballarat, Pyrenees and SV have funded the study which is being done by Daryl Scherger also for Langi Kal Kal. 10 Danish delegates are attending the Waste to Energy Conference in Ballarat and a Finnish delegation is coming to City of Ballarat on 28 February to discuss waste to energy possibilities.</p> <p>12.3. Craig Hurley reported that Federation Uni are running a Compassionate Leadership Forum at the Greenhill Enterprise Centre on Wednesday 7 February.</p>	

**Appendix 1 Bunanyung Landscape Alliance**

# Bunanyung Landscape Alliance

## The story so far....

- ▶ The Natural Resources Conservation League of Victoria (NRCL) convened a workshop on climate change that was held at Narmbool in November 2016.
- ▶ Subsequent discussions about the potential role of a landscape alliance led to a **workshop** about the idea in April 2017.
- ▶ There was significant support for the concept and a **working group** was formed and has met to work on a draft vision and mission for the alliance and to develop and circulate a survey to test the idea.
- ▶ Subsequently an interim committee has been formed.
- ▶ The NRCL has committed to providing ongoing support through the formative stages of the alliance's establishment.
- ▶ Its role is to act as a facilitator and broker as well as providing \$10,000 to support the process of getting the alliance off the ground.



Where:

- Moorabool
  - Leigh
  - Woody
- Landcare  
Networks



# ***Connected Landscapes Project Corangamite CMA***

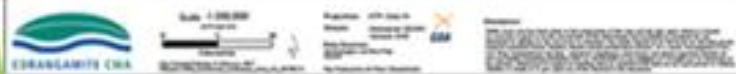
## ***Prospects for alignment with the alliance initiative***

- ▶ *Our Catchments, Our Communities* – new funding initiative from the Victorian Government (response to VAGO's review of CMAs)
  
- ▶ OCOC has five goals
  1. **Effective community engagement** in catchment management
  2. **Better connections** between state, regional & local planning
  3. **Strengthened implementation** of Regional Catchment Strategies
  4. **Clearer roles, strengthened accountability & coordination**
  5. **Improved monitoring, evaluation & reporting**



# Connected Landscapes Project

*Alignment with the Alliance initiative*



**Connected Landscapes Study Area**



## *Connected Landscapes (cont)*

- ▶ Most funding will be allocated to fund onground works (approx. \$350,000)
- ▶ Underpinned by state, regional & local NRM planning
- ▶ Strong emphasis on addressing climate change & strengthening engagement with Traditional Owner & Aboriginal community groups
- ▶ Corangamite NRM Planning Portal to be used as planning/data capture tool
- ▶ The project has key outputs it has to achieve, however, how and where they are done is flexible



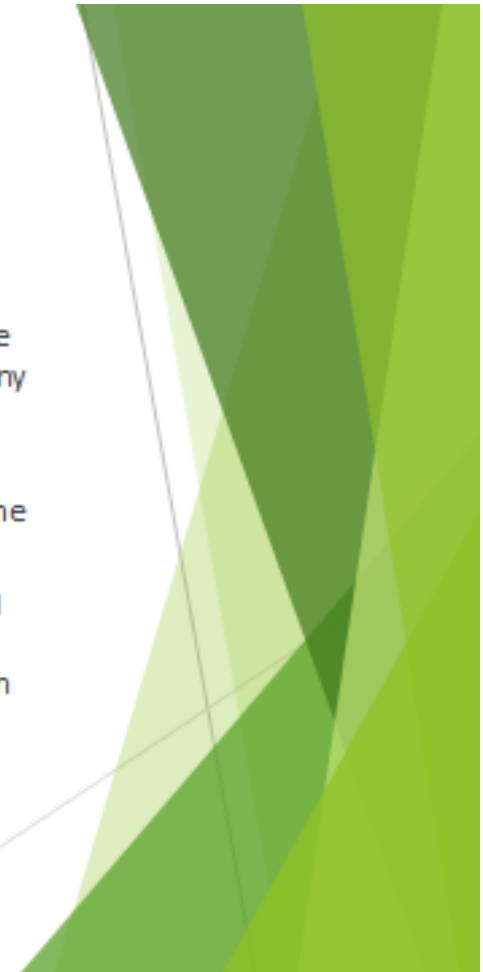
## *Protecting Victoria's Environment - Biodiversity 2037*

- ▶ Establish sustained funding for biodiversity.
- ▶ Leverage non-government investment in biodiversity.
- ▶ Increase incentives and explore market opportunities for private landholders to conserve biodiversity.
- ▶ Adopt a collaborative biodiversity response planning approach to drive accountability and measurable improvement.
- ▶ Support and enable community groups, Traditional Owners, non-government organisations and sections of government to participate in biodiversity response planning



## Key issues

- ▶ There is no one model that fits all situations. Any landscape scale alliance has to be crafted to reflect and respect the unique needs and issues of local groups within any particular landscape or region.
- ▶ There needs to be open communication and trust based on a desire to build collaboration between local groups. Crafting a bespoke alliance that responds to the needs and collective vision of local groups will take time.
- ▶ Any perception that the alliance might take control and autonomy away from local groups need to be addressed early because the purpose of a community based alliance is to strengthen and respect the role of local groups. Important to establish the alliance as the collective voice and expression of the local groups.



## *Interim Committee*

- *Members from MLN, LCG, WYCG, BEN, Fed Uni, NRCL and community*
- *Interim Chairperson – Andrea Mason*

### Key Tasks

- Community consultation via survey - COMPLETE
- Name, Vision and Mission – COMPLETE
- Governance arrangements – legal structure
- Organisational structure and relationship to networks – local groups
- Alignment with Connected Landscapes Project and Agency network



## ***Vision Statement***

***Linking Bunanyung Landscapes Alliance - healthy landscapes and resilient communities.***

## ***Mission Statement***


***Linking Bunanyung Landscapes Alliance is the community's advocate for our environment. In partnership with our stakeholders, we assist in the development and implementation of shared, evidence based, visionary landscape scale projects that protect and/or enhance our land & waterscapes. These projects will reflect the aspirations of our local member groups and our goal of engaging the broader community.***



# Landscape Alliance questionnaire

## Key findings

▶ September 2017

Powered by  SurveyMonkey

## Proposed roles of the alliance

### Top five priorities (aggregation of 4 (important) / 5 (most important))

1. Develop **landscape scale policies and projects in rural and urban areas** that are based on sound science, promote community engagement and adequate resourcing to ensure quality outcomes are achieved.
2. Provide a **collective voice on behalf of the community to advocate** for the environment.
3. Actively **pursue resources and funding** from government agencies, water authorities, research institutions and philanthropic trusts and foundations.
4. **Support local groups** through the provision of assistance with funding applications to release them for local project activities.
5. **Promote collaboration with government and agencies** such as catchment management authorities and water boards.

## Other priorities

- **Represent local groups** in relevant forums in relation to policy and project development.
- **Resource local member groups** with information, support, and strategies for advocacy to relevant authorities and government on landscape scale issues, planning and policies.
- Promote and support **citizen science** and **community awareness** and engagement in environmental issues.
- Establish a **surveillance network** to evaluate the status of regional ecosystems, to prioritise projects and to measure the effectiveness of activities.
- Develop a **research** program (including project monitoring) in collaboration with research institutions and relevant agencies of all projects.
- Undertake **community education** in relation to key issues.



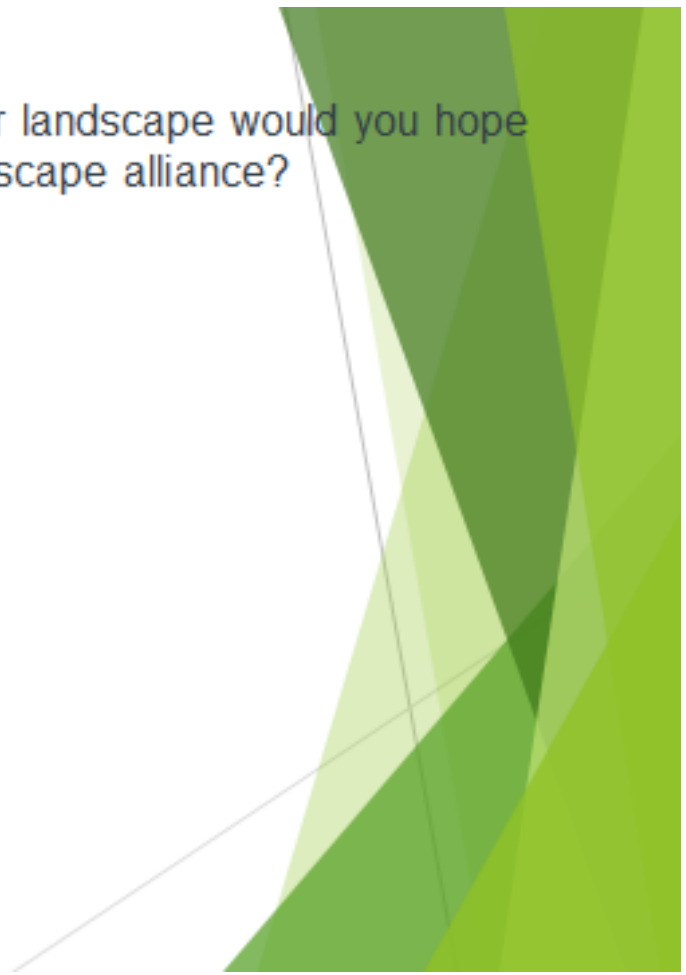
Q4: If you are a member of a group, which of the following functions that might be undertaken by an alliance do you think would assist your group?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Act as an environmental defender/advocate for issues in the area, representing all the member groups as a single united voice.	76.06%	54
Provide resources and expertise on flora and fauna ID, weed ID and control methods, GPS use and mapping and production of information and educational materials, both printed and online.	69.01%	49
Organisation of training and resources for flora or fauna surveys, aerial survey work or similar activities.	63.38%	45
Coordinate the organisation and management of large activities (community plantings, shows, field days etc).	61.97%	44
Provision of support to ensure all projects include a research and monitoring component.	54.93%	39
Act as an auspice for grants that member groups cannot normally access.	52.11%	37
Act as a group supplier/purchaser for revegetation and other materials.	32.39%	23
<b>Total Respondents: 71</b>		



**Q5** Looking to the future, what changes to your landscape would you hope to see in 2037 as a result of the work of a landscape alliance?

Biodiversity enhancement	32
Weed/pest animal control	29
Biodiversity protection	25
Biolinks	22
Environmental Education	10
Productive landscapes	8
Sustainable development	7
Engagement	5
Management practices	5
Project results	5
Landscape resilience	3
Ecotourism	2
Research	1



Q5 Looking to the future, what changes to your landscape would you hope to see in 2037 as a result of the work of a landscape alliance?

Answered: 104 Skipped: 0



A word cloud of terms related to landscape management and conservation. The words are arranged in a roughly rectangular shape, with 'Landscape' and 'Native' being the largest and most prominent. Other significant words include 'Vegetation', 'Trees', 'Local', 'Plantings', 'Weeds', 'Control', 'Ballarat', 'Environmental', 'Sustainable', 'Improved', 'Wetlands', 'Wildlife', 'Corridors', 'Education', 'Reserves', 'Participation', 'Net', 'Habitat', 'Green Spaces', 'Animals', 'Ongoing', 'Recreation', 'Involvement', 'Forest', and 'Yarrowee'. The words are in various shades of blue and green.

Wildlife  
Corridors Participation Education Net Reserves  
Impact Improved Wetlands Vegetation Sustainable  
Control Ballarat Landscape Environmental  
Weeds Habitat Native Green Spaces Trees  
Recreation Local Involvement Plantings Ongoing Animals  
Yarrowee Forest



## A snapshot of the main findings

- ▶ Questionnaire designed by the working group. Its purpose was to establish the level of community support for the concept of a landscape alliance and to identify the roles it might undertake to support and enhance the work of local groups and networks.
- ▶ Questionnaire was open for a fortnight in August.
- ▶ It was distributed via Landcare and environmental groups/networks in the Leigh, Woody Yaloak and Moorabool catchments.
- ▶ There were 104 responses from across the three catchments.
- ▶ Overwhelmingly positive response to the alliance concept.



## Appendix 2 PLEA Network Report



### PLEA NETWORK CLIMATE CHANGE RESOURCE WEBSITE REPORT Jan 2018

[www.pleanetwork.com.au](http://www.pleanetwork.com.au) - website launched 4 April 2015

*This site is a research tool that has been specifically created for the community of the Ballarat region in Victoria, Australia. It is designed for individuals that "get it" and are looking for quick access to the latest and most reliable material available on the many interrelated issues of climate change to assist them to respond effectively in their own area of influence.*

#### Updates:

- Information collected daily and the website is updated roughly, every two weeks
- Home page provides date of last update and a short list of highlights recently added
- Also visitors can check latest posts on the "Archive Library" page by date or category

#### Website currently consists of:

- 46 pages
- 1,120 posts

#### Latest pages added:

- Steady State Economy/Universal Basic Income (alternatives to ever increasing growth)
- Law vs Politics (the stick as the carrot isn't working)
- Mainstreaming our changing climate (follows growing field of extreme event attribution)
- Communication – Resource News Sites (contains training material for communicating climate change)
- Links page for Teachers

#### Visit duration (quality vs quantity):

Date	"unique visitors"	Duration 5 mins +	30 mins +	1 hour +
April 2016	491	35	20	13
April 2017	2,734	57	33	12
December 2017	2,118	315	162	48
@ 27 January 2017	2,066	556	333	82

#### Most popular pages over the last 6 months:

- All things carbon and emissions
- BOM Updates
- Population & consumption pages
- Impacts observed and projected
- Global action/inaction

Followed by: "Mainstreaming our changing climate" and "Links for teachers"



#### "ACTING LOCALLY" ACTIVITY..... BROWN HILL COMMUNITY FireAware NETWORK

Initiated July 2016

#### The Network:

- provides a yearly reminder of the need to prepare for the fire season;
- presents in a variety of ways information that is relevant to a specific neighbourhood;
- highlights that it is everyone's responsibility to be aware and prepared to act in a fire event impacting on their community or a community nearby;
- encourages in households the "habit" of preparation

#### This is done through:

- formation of neighbourhood clusters (4 at present);
- information sessions for clusters and letter box delivery of additional information to approximately 430 Brown Hill cluster households (support from CHW & local CFA office; Caledonia & Glen Park schools)
- 600 awareness stickers distributed to cluster households and through Caledonia PS (funding CoB)
- bi monthly articles in Brown Hill Community Newsletter (delivered to 1700+ Brown Hill households);
- Facebook page and "presence" and links within the Brown Hill Community Hub website
- dedicated web pages for the Network on the PLEA website (see below stats)
- Information stall at the Brown Hill Festival annual event (support from Catherine King's office)

#### Highlights & changes for 2<sup>nd</sup> season 2017/18

- Offering of cluster information sessions was decreased from 3 to 1 to ensure that the seasonal activities can be maintained for the long term;
- Powerpoint presentations developed to increase versatility of where the presentations can be shown;
- Four Brown Hill risk evaluation videos produced with Assoc Professor Kevin Tolhurst speaking with Alice Barnes on the high bushfire risk to Brown Hill residents. Videos cover: Brown Hill (overview); bush blocks; sub divisions (primarily north of freeway); actions for residents.
- Automated "phone tree" messaging service investigated and prepared for rollout but currently has failed to get City of Ballarat support

#### Web page stats

Web Pages	Number of visits per page per month 2016/2017 season										TOTAL
	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	
Network	90	116	95	28	29	51	13	17	7	9	455
Clusters	122	52	48	36	34	45	10	6	4	2	359
Risk	34	40	58	36	47	40	21	4	8	6	294
Preparing	80	37	29	41	32	55	24	12	64	54	428
Resources	160	33	28	30	4	63	9	15	3	3	348
TOTAL	486	278	258	171	146	254	77	54	86	74	1884

*Newsletter articles started Mid June 2016*

Web Pages	Number of visits per page per month 2017/2018 season										TOTAL
	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	
Network	29	43	45	59	7	33	12				228
Clusters	6	10	21	50	54	30	52				223
Risk	13	55	52	31	26	40	15				232
Preparing	37	64	54	33	34	38	34				294
Resources	8	10	23	19	49	34	20				163
TOTAL	93	182	195	192	170	175	133				1140

*Newsletter articles started August 2017*

#### External support required:

1. Increase number of clusters: requires a Brown Hill resident to volunteer to be a cluster contact to deliver flyers in their immediate neighbourhood; assist with 1 information session for their cluster;
2. Photocopying of flyers: CHW and Catherine King's office has kindly copied flyers for last 2 seasons. It would be good to extend the love in this regard. *Any businesses or organisations able to help?*
3. Printing FireAwareness stickers: CoB has provided previous funding. For 600 stickers need around \$400. *Any businesses or organisations able to sponsor printing?*
4. Information sessions for organisations: Happy to provide bushfire risk to Brown Hill information sessions.

## OTHER PLEA NETWORK ACTIVITIES - HAZEN'S CURRENT MAIN FOCUS

For the last year I have been exploring developments regarding the [World Weather Attribution](#) program, its offshoots and implications for Australia. (Access "[Mainstreaming our changing climate](#)" page for more details)

1) I am especially interested in moves to replicate, in Australia, the work being done by [Climate Central/Climate Matters](#) (USA) in regard to providing to TV weather presenters information/ graphics to include in their segments science-rooted climate information that is clear, concise and relevant. Each week, they create high-quality information and graphics for more than 300 local TV meteorologists who routinely reach millions of viewers. This information includes:

- Localised data and analyses that show the ways that the climate is changing in their markets
- TV-ready graphics and multimedia content for use across all platforms – including maps, interactive tools, severe weather trackers, temperature trend charts— that convey climate change powerfully and accessibly to general audiences
- Extreme weather analyses produced in the news cycle so that weather casters have reliable climate data as storms are happening—and when millions of people are paying attention

My question – Why not in Oz??

Most of my enquiries have led to..... yes a good idea, working towards it, complicated, lots of \$\$\$s required – basically in the "too hard basket" (CSIRO/BoM). But I have found some initial steps taking place. Dr. David Holmes, Director of the [Monash Climate Change Communication Research Hub](#), Monash University Melbourne is not only working on the following project but as part of it he also has each semester, a group of university interns working on building a file of "graphic packages" that can be used by weather presenters. He is working in close collaboration with Climate Matters. I have met with David and his latest group of interns and continue to correspond. He will be visiting Climate Matters in the US in April.

TV Weather Presenters as Climate Communicators

In Australia, in 2017, more Australians still received their news and weather from commercial television than any other source. In order to reach such a large audience with climate information, this project is surveying weather presenters and their audiences to evaluate the demand for climate information. The project aims to partner with TV weather presenters around the country to introduce a short 'non-persuasive'<sup>4</sup> climate segment into their bulletins. The first survey of every weather presenter in Australia has just been completed, in which 71% of respondents reported being comfortable with using climate graphics in their reporting on TV. David will be presenting these findings at a workshop at the upcoming AMOS Conference in Sydney.

2) Another avenue of enquiry is the [Weather@homeANZ](#) where anyone with a computer and access to the internet can take part by volunteering their computer's spare processing power to run climate and weather modelling simulations, even while continuing to use their computer normally. Help to answer the question how the odds of getting an extremely hot summer, or extremely severe drought, have changed due to man-made climate change: have past greenhouse gas emissions and other forms of pollution "loaded the weather dice" towards (or perhaps even away from) events of this nature? Prof. David Karoly is leading this project. I have been in contact with him but only fleetingly!

The implications of the attribution work that is key for me can be outlined in this quote from the recent January article: [Scientists Can Now Blame Individual Natural Disasters on Climate Change](#):

*"And as the science continues to mature, it may have ramifications for society. Legal experts suggest that attribution studies could play a major role in lawsuits brought by citizens against companies, industries or even governments. They could help reshape climate adaptation policies throughout a country or even the world. And perhaps more immediately, the young field of research could be capturing the public's attention in ways that long-term projections for the future cannot."*

3) Another slightly related activity is being accepted as a member of CSIRO's User Reference Panel for the Climate Change website. The panel is still in initial stages of formation. John Clarke, Research Team Leader, Regional Projections coordinates the Panel.

From their information sheet for the panel: "A key goal of the Earth Systems and Climate Change (ESCC) Hub Project 2.6 is to improve uptake of existing and new regional climate change projections services and products. We intend to use a range of approaches to achieve this, including targeted workshops, training, webinars and presentations adapted to stakeholder needs. The User Panel is part of the NESP Regional Projections Project. A User Reference Panel will be invaluable in supporting and guiding these activities." The role of the User Reference Panel includes:

- providing advice regarding the suitability and design of proposed activities, products and services
- user-testing new or enhanced web-tools
- reviewing draft guidance and outreach material
- disseminating information about forthcoming activities through professional networks.

To further my investigations I will be attending the following two conferences in 2018:

AMOS-ICSHMO 2018 (4-9 Feb, Sydney): The Australian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society and the American Meteorological Society, Joint 25th AMOS National Conference and 12th International Conference for Southern Hemisphere Meteorology and Oceanography. This will bring together experts in meteorology, oceanography and other climate sciences from around the world as well as government representatives, NGOs, businesses and the media to focus on problems specific to the Southern Hemisphere. There will be over 40 thematic sessions covering topics in meteorology, oceanography and other climate sciences under the broad themes of weather, ocean processes, atmospheric processes, climate, land surface processes, Antarctic science, climate services and community engagement.

The primary theme of the conference is translating our science into practical outcomes for the benefit of society. To this end, there will be bespoke sessions on climate service for decision makers, impact and risk assessment of the weather extremes affecting our region, improving urban environments, and integration of renewables into the energy system. We will also be running a number of workshops bringing together early career researchers with industry groups, training educators and scientists how to better communicate their science, and bringing together television weather forecasters to discuss the incorporation of climate change information into broadcasts. The conference provides the opportunity to meet some of the world's leading weather and climate scientists.

NCCARF Climate Adaptation Conference 2018 (8-10 May, Melbourne): NCCARF and Engineers Australia hosting the sixth national Climate Adaptation Conference. The 2018 conference also incorporates Engineers Australia's meeting "Practical responses to climate change". Climate Adaptation 2018 will be the major Australian forum focused exclusively on climate impacts and adaptation.

#### QUESTIONS:

- 1) Would anyone have any further knowledge or contacts about the climate attribution work taking place in Australia?
- 2) Is anyone going to the conferences?
- 3) Is anyone interested in being kept in the loop re the work of the CSIRO Reference Panel?
- 4) Can anyone provide me, or know who I may approach, for some in-kind or other support for the continuation of the FireAware Network? Photocopying; sticker funding; more clusters

Hazen Cleary  
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# Community Power Hubs Pilot Program



# Purpose

- \* Victorian Government has committed, over a two year period, to develop community-owned and operated renewable energy projects in regional areas of Ballarat, Bendigo and the Latrobe Valley
- \* CPH Ballarat is to assist the community in accessing the skills and expertise required to develop and deliver community-based renewable energy projects.
- \* CPH Ballarat is collaborating to support community energy projects in a variety of ways from preparing a business case, to establishing governance arrangements, to finding consultants or developing social license for a project.



# Roles

- **Project Control Group**
  - To ensure that the funds provided by SV are used appropriately.
- **Roundtable Advisory Group**
  - To advise on appropriate projects, from those identified through community consultation processes, for implementation and/or for feasibility studies and to suggest support strategies for other projects.
- **Working Groups**
  - To facilitate and progress each of the community energy projects identified.



# Community Engagement

## Where and When?

Beaufort, Open House/Drop in session, Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, Beaufort Development Centre, 4 – 7pm

Ballan, Open House/Drop in session, Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2017, Ballan Community House, 4 – 7pm

Daylesford, Open House/Drop in session, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October, Daylesford Neighbourhood Centre, 4 – 7pm

Ballarat, Workshop, Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2017, Provincial Hotel, 6.00 for 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Carbon Free Action Workshop, Hepburn Shire Council, Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October, 9.30 – 3.30pm



# Projects

Project	Proponent	Project	Proponent
Microgrid Solar /Small turbines	DHT Consulting - 3 Peel St Sth	Heat Recovery from Crematorium	Ballarat Cemeteries
Biomass Boiler and /or CPH	MacCallum Disabilities Linen Service	Mollinghip Renewable Energy Coop	Local Resident
Solar Powered Operations	Ballarat Cemeteries	Solar Parks Sovereign Hill and Narmbool	Sovereign Hill
Solar PV Array	MacCallum Disabilities Linen Service	Renewable Energy Replacment	East Grampians Health
Social Housing with shared electricity supply	Transition Creswick	Solar Park and EV Charging Station	Buninyong Business Network

# Projects

Project	Proponent	Project	Proponent
Sale of Excess Power from Rooftop PV	CAFS	Community Owned Microgrid with Storage	Leigh Catchment Group
Solar Park on Community Owned Land	Friends of Canadian Corridor	Solar / Wind with Battery Storage	Ballan & District Community House
District Heating / Cooling Civic Hall / Gov Hub / Library	BREAZE		



# Contacts

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[communitypowerhub.org.au](http://communitypowerhub.org.au)

