

## **Murrindindi Climate Network Inc. – Annual Report 2013**

The Murrindindi Climate Network was formed and incorporated in early 2007 to address climate change related impacts at a local level and to provide the community and businesses with up-to date information on environmental technologies and services. Supported by a wide range of stakeholders, including individual residents and business owners, landcare & community groups, representatives of local authorities, DPI, DSE and the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, the Murrindindi Climate Network is able to draw on a large spectrum of professional expertise.

### ***Key activities from 2007 - 2012***

- One-off workshops on different topics, i.e. climate change and drought, climate change science and solutions, tree farming and biodiversity, environmentally sustainable gardening practices, food miles and local food production, fair trade, “sustainable house days” on passive solar design and energy efficiency.
- A Federal Candidate Forum on Climate Change for the Ward of McEwen (2007) and two public candidate forums in the lead up to the Council Elections (2008)
- Inaugural Murrindindi Sustainability Expo at Yea (2008), Second Murrindindi Sustainability Expo at Marysville (2010)
- Memorandum of Understanding with Murrindindi Shire Council for environmental projects since 2009
- Workshop series on “Climate Change, farming and natural resource management (NRM)” (2008/09)
- Workshop series on “Sustainable Building” for the bushfire affected communities (2009/2010)
- Participation in film documentary by Vasili’s Garden Team (channel 31) on recovery from bushfires (2010) and gardening workshops for bushfire affected landholders
- Start of Community Garden & Community Kitchen Program (2010)
- Start of EPA funded “Voluntary Green Code of Practice program including green business assessments for businesses in Marysville and Yea districts (2010)

### ***Key activities in 2013***

#### **1. Tree Planting Project**

Start of Tree planting project involving high school students. With permission of Parks Victoria, year 7 students and science teacher Cathy Zerbe were allowed to collect seeds for grey box, red stringy bark and narrow leaved peppermint trees at McKenzies Reserve where they also followed a great talk of arborist John Coyne on the value of trees. Debbie from Redgate Revege passed on know how and helped with material, and now approximately 150 seedlings are growing in tubes to be planted in winter. In the meantime, Cathy and John are talking to Parks Victoria, the committee of management of the McKenzies Reserve and Murrindindi Shire Council to find an ideal place to plant the trees.

#### **2. Community garden/community kitchen project**

Started in 2010, the Community Garden/community kitchen is as partnership between Murrindindi Climate Network Group, Murrindindi Shire Council, St John’s Anglican Church, Alexandra District Hospital, Berry Street and Rotary. During 2013 Berry Street and Dame Pattie Menzies have come on board again, to use community garden beds for their staff and members and all other garden beds have also been taken up by community members. Regular working bees and meetings are held every Wednesday morning. A number of workshops on different aspects permaculture gardening practices are planned for 2014.

#### **3. Voluntary Green Code of Practice program**

Throughout 2013, the green business assessments continued in the test areas of Marysville & Triangle and Yea district. The Buxton Primary School and the Yea High School were interested in receiving an assessment. In the case of the Buxton Primary School, the green business assessment of MCN was successfully used by the school to apply for further grant funding for energy efficiency measures. With a total of 40 business assessments the target set by EPA is achieved and the film documentary produced during the assessment period is now used for demonstration purposes. In addition to the individual business reports an overall technical report has been prepared collating the results from the 40 assessments. During 2014, an environmental stewardship guide is being prepared, to present the achievements of the participating businesses to the wider community and to visitors to the area.

## Murrindindi Climate Network Financial Report

### STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

<b>INCOME</b>		<b>2012</b>
Membership fees	420	405
Donations	21	230
Bank interest	1,046	2,483
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	1,487	3,118
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<b>Deduct, EXPENDITURE</b>		
Activities		
-Workshops, Expo's, Meetings	1,517	2,139
-Voluntary Green Code of Practice	11,571	15,507
-Administration	637	567
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	13,725	18,213
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<b>NET DEFICIENCY</b>	<b>\$(12,238)</b>	<b>\$(15,095)</b>
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### BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 2013

<b>ASSETS</b>		<b>2012</b>
Cash at Bank	11,894	3,160
Term deposits	22,322	42,984
Sundry debtor	677	1,889
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	34,893	48,033
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<b>Deduct, LIABILITIES</b>		
Sundry Creditors	636	1,538
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<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS (Note 2)</b>	<b>\$ 34,257</b>	<b>\$ 46,495</b>
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### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

- 1) The Association is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1981.
- 2) Accumulated funds include \$39,184 of the Voluntary Green Code of Practice grant received last year which will be spent over the next year.
- 3) The accounts have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards and are, in the opinion of the treasurer, appropriate to meet the needs of the members.
- 4) The financial report has been prepared using historic costs and does not take into account changing money values.

### TREASURER'S DECLARATION

In my opinion the accompanying Statement of Income and Expenditure, Balance sheet and Notes to the Financial Statements:

- 1) Present fairly the financial position of the Association at 30 June 2012 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
- 2) At the date of this statement there are grounds to believe the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

William R O Jeffreys                      Treasurer  
5 December 2013