CITIZENS OWN RENEWABLE ENERGY NETWORK AUSTRALIA INC

01/07/20 - 30/06/21

2020-2021 Annual Report





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Message from our Chair



Dear valued members and supporters,

On behalf of the CORENA committee, I'm delighted to present this Annual Report.

In what was a challenging year for many across our communities and country, CORENA marked 8 years of implementing practical climate projects. With our revolving fund growing to over \$495,000 in donations, we have collectively built a powerful, influential asset to continue growing our emissions reduction activities across the community sector.

During the 2020-21 financial year, when organisations many community felt immense financial impacts and strain, we saw less community organisations with capacity to pursue a climate project. Even so, the year saw us provide interest-free loans to three community groups, one of which was a large 89 kW installation. We increased our focus communications. systems on improvement, strategic planning, and volunteer recruitment. I want to extend a special thank you to all the volunteers, past and present, who've helped shape and grow CORENA's reach.

A generous matching donation in 2020, coupled with the small allocation of donations being directed towards expanding CORENA's reach, mean we've been able to invest in increasing our social media presence with the beautiful content you might have noticed on our various social media channels. The talented Dylan Bell, who has been behind our increased social media presence, is a welcome addition to the CORENA team. We also spent considerable time reviewing how to best apply and accelerate our growing impact. One result of this work was to extend our funding offering to new project types including replacing fossil gas use with efficient electric appliances, and electric transport options. CORENA was founded on the principle of supporting emissions reduction projects which wouldn't otherwise happen. We strongly believe that with our financial and technical support, we will be able to assist the implementation of these emerging project types within the community sector.

We have begun fielding enquiries for getting off fossil gas and EV projects, and I am looking forward to our first projects in both of these areas. The enthusiasm behind these two funding opportunities has been incredibly rewarding and allowed us to engage a number of new volunteers. Our newly formed EV Working Group has been meeting regularly throughout 2021 and has developed resources to assist in working with organisations to weigh up the advantages of switching to electric vehicles.

This year we welcomed Georgia Cooke to the CORENA committee. Georgia's extensive experience as a communications and marketing professional has already been of great value to us, and she has coordinated the significant increase in communications related volunteering efforts that CORENA has enjoyed.

Our long-standing committee member, Volunteer Manager and project volunteer, Heather Smith has decided to take a break and won't be standing for re-election to the committee this year. Heather will instead focus on finishing her PhD in 2022. Heather has been an invaluable contributor to CORENA's success throughout her many years on the committee – we'll miss her energy and enthusiasm, but know that she'll remain an integral part of the CORENA community.

Monica Oliphant AO, CORENA's patron and committed Public Funds committee member who has been with us from the start, continues to share her experience, insights, and invaluable support, particularly during this time of change and the establishment of new project offerings.

We're also very grateful to Paul Bartley, CORENA's new auditor, for providing auditing services to CORENA this year.

The next twelve months will be one of considerable change for CORENA as we have been fortunate to receive a significant donation from the Keuneman Foundation, designed to help increase CORENA's impact. This donation will see CORENA employ staff members with the intent to develop our project pipeline and support additional community groups in undertaking climate action.

I'm extremely grateful to Tash and Wendell at the Keuneman Foundation, who've not only provided CORENA with this significant growth opportunity, but have also given us invaluable support, encouragement and advice as we navigate the transition to employing staff. This donation and investment in staff would not have been possible without the many people who have volunteered, donated or helped CORENA in other ways since our inception in 2013. CORENA was built on the concept that many could come together to take impactful collective action in response to the climate emergency. Our success now and into the future is all thanks to the belief and assistance of so many individuals who've journey. supported our We remain committed to the core values that have enabled CORENA's success, and will be relying now more than ever on our supporters as we focus on increasing the impact you've enable us to make.

On that note, I also want to extend my sincere thanks to both the CORENA and Public Funds committee members, who've worked tirelessly to help steer us through a period of significant change.

Looking to the future, I am incredibly excited to see what CORENA achieves on this transformational journey. CORENA is truly a community effort; to all the committee members, donors, volunteers, members and project partners, thank you for your support of our work. Your actions have directly contributed to where CORENA is today, and I hope you'll feel proud of what you've helped to achieve.

> Briony O'Shea Chair



Total donations to our revolving fund



Projects delivered or funded



Total Megawatt hours

About CORENA

CORENA is a non-profit organisation with a people-powered funding mechanism for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We use donated funds to give interest-free loans to pay for practical projects that reduce emissions (and operating costs). Loans are repaid out of savings on bills and repayments go back into our revolving fund to help fund subsequent projects.

The donations individuals and organisations make to CORENA are never exhausted - they are used over and over again to achieve emissions reductions way into the future.



About The Keuneman Foundation

The Keuneman Foundation is a non-profit that believes the world can get to net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Wendell and Tash Keuneman had similar childhood paths, ten years apart. Both were born in Sri Lanka, grew up in Dubai and have lived the bulk of their lives in Australia. Both come from generations of women and men that got their water from their backyard wells, light from candles and their food from the hours they put into simmering curries in clay pots. Across Australia and the States, their careers were built on setting up businesses for success, with a focus on product, design and technology. Because of this, they believe in the power of an education, of equal rights and how technology can make leaps and bounds for the betterment of humanity and the planet.

We believe that good ideas, when well-funded, can have multiplier effects. We believe that humanity can push itself forward and look after the planet in the relatively short time frame that we have to reduce carbon emissions. With the Keuneman Foundation, we want to do everything in our power to help us all get to net zero carbon emissions by 2050.



A PEOPLE-POWERED MOVEMENT



OUR VOLUNTEERS

This year has seen a fantastic growth in volunteers helping across CORENA's work. In previous years, we have worked with 2-3 volunteers in addition to our committee members.

This year, we started promoting volunteer opportunities amongst our members and supporters. This led to over 10 volunteers joining us nationally and internationally, many of whom will continue to work with us into next year.

We are grateful for the project volunteers that have worked with us, even briefly, because with more perspectives, skills and contributions we can better and further our impact.

In 2020-2021, we tried a number of new approaches. We signed up to work alongside UniSA service-learning students.

Four engineering management students joined us to develop ideas regarding for attracting volunteers, and building our website, marketing, and social media. We collaborated with UniSA for two online projects with Business Administration students. The first group provided advice on avenues to create a reliable project queue and the second focused on advice around our governance arrangements including employment, accounting and insurance.

We are fortunate to have been working alongside the Governor's Leadership Foundation Program throughout 2021. Through the program, a group of experienced leaders across South Australia are volunteering their time to problem solve and enable CORENA to partner with more community organisations.

We are so grateful for all our volunteers, whose time commitment is a highly valuable contribution!

PROJECTS



Project types across Australia



36 Solar projects



4 Solar & energy efficency projects



2 Energy efficency projects



Electric vehicles – calling for proposals



Getting off fossil gas – calling for proposals



1 Solar and battery project

RECENT SOLAR PROJECT



GEELONG BOWLS

The City of Geelong Bowls Club is a community hub, serving a number of local groups. The club provides two bowling rinks, a bistro, function rooms, a retail bowls shop, and is the headquarters of the Geelong Bowls Region.

The project was completed in April 2021 and has been reliably generating electricity since. The project was well supported by both the local and broader communities, funded approximately 50% by new donations and 50% by existing CORENA loan repayments. The installation is our largest loan to date at \$92,000. The system will provide the club with long-term, low-cost electricity which will assist in providing better community services once the loan is repaid.

TECHNOLOGY

- 89 kW Solar PV System
- 210 SunPower 400/440W/P19 Comm Solar Modules
- 4 Fronius Symo 20.0 Solar Inverter
- 1 Fronius Symo 10.0 Solar Inverter
- 1 Solar Analytics monitoring



120 MWh per year anticipated

RECENT SOLAR PROJECT



WALPOLE

Walpole is a small isolated and somewhat remote town on the South Coast, with a permanent resident population of less than 500. Walpole has, an ageing population where over sixty percent of the population is aged over 60 years. Due to the size and age of the community, the Walpole CRC plays a vital role within the community.

They already had some funds to put towards a solar installation but not enough, so they've asked for our help. The total cost of installation was \$26,792. CORENA lent \$12,500. It is expected that installation will save \$4,400 per year and will allow the CRC to use heating and cooling where they have otherwise been unable to afford to.

TECHNOLOGY

- 20 kW grid connect solar PV
- JA solar 370W mono split solar panel (x54)
- Goodwe 3 phase 5 kW inverter
- Goodwe hydbrid 3 phase 10 kW inverter
- 4x plyontech 2.4 kWhr HV batteries



Loan amount





Photo Courtesy: Walpole Parkholme so

PARKHOLME SOLAR

The Parkholme Community Child Care centre provides long daycare services to the local community. In 2016, CORENA loaned the centre funds for LED lighting since fully repaid into our revolving fund. In 2021, we funded a 15 kW solar installation to be installed in mid-2021.

The expected reduction is emissions is equivalent to 4 average households using renewable electricity instead of grid electricity, that is 21,900 kWh per year, and will save \$5,280 per year. The loan will be repaid quarterly.

TECHNOLOGY

- 40 x Longi 370W panels
- 15 kW Solar Edge three phase inverter
- 40 Solar Edge optimisers to minimise the impact of shading



22 MWh per year anticipated



A P P R E N T I C E S H I P S Q U E E N S L A N D

Apprenticeships Queensland (AQ) is a non-profit organisation that offers opportunities for apprentices and trainees across a broad range of vocational areas as well as recruitment and training solutions for AQ partner businesses.

For this 30 kW solar project, CORENA lent \$30,488. The project loan repayments were completed in January 2021.

Overall, the installation reduces carbon emissions equal to 10 average households, that is 55,925 kWh of energy per year. The savings are approximately \$11,994 per year.

TECHNOLOGY

- 30 kW solar PV
- 136 x Q-CELLS Q.prime 280W solar panels
- 2 x Fronius Symo 15 kW inverters
- Clenergy solar monitoring racking

30K Loan amount

206 MWh generated to date



MOSS VALE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Moss Vale Community Garden (NSW) is a demonstration site for sustainable technologies relating to building materials, energy & water capture and use as well as diverse, permaculture & organic food production strategies.

This was CORENA's first off-grid solar installation. The community garden had no electricity on site, so the 3 kW installation enabled them to expand their activities within the community.

Moss Vale repaid their loan in 2020 and can now reliably generate electricity for their services.

TECHNOLOGY

- Suntech STP250/20/WD-SPC polypanel panels
- 1 x SMA 3000TL-21
- 1 x SMA sunny island 4.4 kW inverter /charger
- 8 x Hoppecke 6v 250amp/h gel batteries



16.6 MWh generated to date

LOAN REPAYMENTS COMPLETED IN 2020-21



CLUNES OLD SCHOOL

Located in NSW, Clunes Old School building is a community centre managed by Clunes Old School Association (COSA).

In 2018, CORENA funded a 4.8 kW solar installation for the community building.

Every quarter, COSA repaid a higher amount than specified in the loan agreement because they wished to have their repayments assist with funding other carbon reduction projects.

They repaid the loan in 3, not in 5.5 years! The last installment was paid in October 2020. Annually, the installation saves \$1,525 and avoids 7,000 kWh of grid electricity per year.

TECHNOLOGY

- 15 x Suntech STP325-24/VFW
- 15 x S270 Enphase Micro Inverters
- 1 x Envoy S Metered (Monitoring)
- DPA Solar Roof Mount Racking
- Three Phase Meter



22.7 MWh generated to date



WARRADALE

Warradale Community Children's Centre provides essential childcare services in their South Australian Community. Their curriculum incorporates music sessions, a nutrition program, permaculture and sustainability programs.

In January 2021, the centre fully repaid their zero-interest loan. Their climate project included a 6.6 kW solar installation as well as the installation of energy efficient LED lights in January 2016.

The expected savings from the installation are \$3,044 and 12,260 kWh of grid electricity per year.

TECHNOLOGY

- 22 x Jinko JKMS260P (5.72 kW peak) Solar High performance panels and SolarEdge Optimizers
- 1x SE5K-Euro 3ph SolarEdge string inverter
- 3-phase input-output meter
- Timer for hot water heater
- Replacement of 61 x 36W fluorescent lamps to 18W VIBE LED lamps



68 MWh generated to date



YACK HEALTH

Yackandandah Health is the local nonprofit community-owned hospital in the regional Victorian town.

Yack Health had already installed a 90 kW solar PV system but required assistance switching to energy efficient LED lights.

CORENA provided funding to do so as improving energy efficiency brought Yack Health and the town much closer to reaching their goal of running on 100% renewable energy.

The cost of the project was \$26,443, with CORENA lending \$20,000 of that.

Yack Health paid back the loan in full in August 2020.

TECHNOLOGY

- Replacing fluro light fittings with 24W LED oyster fittings in all hallways, residents' rooms and ensuites.
- Replacing fluro fittings with 9W LED tubes in utility rooms and skylights.
- Replacing 57 external security lights with 14W LED bunker fittings





PROJECT LOANS

WHO CAN APPLY FOR A PROJECT LOAN?

- Non-profit organisations (other entities with a social or climate purpose may be eligible)
- Well-run, established organisations that are likely to continue operating for many years
- Organisations that cannot afford to finance the desired project themselves
- Organisations that provide broad community benefit
- Organisations consistent with our ethical considerations

PROJECT VIABILITY

General

- Is there a 'project champion' who will be available to liaise with CORENA, provide requested information, seek quotes, confirm approvals, provide project photos, and assist with project promotion?
- If the premises is rented, will the owner give approval for the project, and will the lease be renewed beyond the loan repayment period (eg. 5 years)?

Solar projects

- Do the premises have significant daytime usage (eg. 4-5 days a week)?
- Is the roof in good condition and mostly unshaded?
- Is the electrical wiring in good condition?

OUR SUPPORT

- CORENA will provide technical advice and assist with organising the most effective loan for the group
- The organisation will obtain quotes from accredited suppliers/installers and our technical advisors will check they are of appropriate quality, size, etc
- CORENA will draw up a loan agreement stating the amount of the interest-free loan, the work the money will be spent on, and the loan repayment schedule

FINANCIALS

TREASURER'S REPORT

Because of the volunteer work of the committee members, administration expenses have again been kept low, but as CORENA is expanding beyond what volunteers can manage we have been paying for some social media work from the expansion fund and the committee is looking at employing a Chief Operating Officer and Digital Marketing Manager. Again, there have been some large donations at the end of the financial year, but repayments and memberships are lower.

Membership averages \$74 per month, Donations are running at \$3217 monthly, Repayments are \$7211 per month and CORENA has loaned an average of \$3845 per month to projects. Because projects only usually come one at a time and we received a large administration donation late in the year we now have \$238,796 in our bank accounts compared to \$72,376 at the start of the year.

> Paul Harris Treasurer 12/08/21



Membership, Donations, Repayments and Loans

Monthly Donations, Repayments and Loans



CORENA STATE	EMENT OF	COMPREHEN	SIVE INCOME	
FOR TH	IE YEAR EN	NDED 30 JUNE	2021	
	Note	June 30 2021	June 30 2020	June 30 2019
Income				
QWP donations		\$66,021.65	\$75,759.61	\$52,067.06
BWP donations		\$5,007.19	\$21,996.39	\$17,218.76
Admin donations		\$10,509.42	\$543.68	\$72.30
Membership fees		\$1,275.00	\$1,170.00	\$1,090.00
Government and other grants	Note 1	\$91,022.10	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest		\$0.00	\$362.84	\$85.65
Fundraising		\$0.00	\$452.67	\$680.00
Project admin fees		\$0.00	\$700.00	\$0.00
QWP loan repayments received	BWP/QWP merged	\$131,719.54	\$97,268.81	\$55,312.00
BWP loan repayments received		-	\$17,019.32	\$9,435.32
			_	
Total Income		\$305,554.90	\$215,273.32	\$135,961.09
Expenditure				
Insurance		\$1,411.85	\$1,411.85	\$1,411.85
Memberships		\$210.00	\$210.00	\$203.00
Audit		\$330.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Printing (display signs)		\$0.00	\$85.94	\$75.97
Bank charges		\$3.80	\$7.60	\$4.75
Event costs		\$0.00	\$30.00	\$45.00
Website costs		\$268.00	\$0.00	\$220.00
Payments for services	Social media	\$5,775.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
QWP loans given	BWP/QWP merged	\$138,136.50	\$143,229.82	\$111,877.88
BWP loans given		-	\$70,000.00	\$15,890.00
Total expenditure		\$146,135.15	\$214,975.21	\$129,728.45
Operating surplus/(deficit)		\$159,419.75	\$298.11	\$6,232.64
NOTE 1: Government and other grants				
Keuneman Foundation grant				
On 28 June 2021 we received a \$91,022.10 gr operational expenses	rant from the Keu	ineman Foundation to	be used during the	2021-22FY for

CORENA STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS			
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021			
	June 30 2021	June 30 2020	June 30 2019
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from donations and gifts	\$81,538.26	\$98,299.68	\$69,358.12
Grant receipts	91022.1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fundraising receipts	\$0.00	\$452.67	\$680.00
Member and customer receipts	\$1,275.00	\$1,870.00	\$1,090.00
Dividend income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest income	\$0.00	\$362.84	\$85.65
Payments to suppliers (includes loans given)	-\$146,135.15	-\$214,975.21	-\$129,728.45
QWP loan repayment income (QWP/BWP merged)	\$131,719.54	\$97,268.81	\$55,312.00
BWP loan repayment income	-	\$17,019.32	\$9,435.32
Net cash flows from operating activities	\$159,419.75	\$298.11	\$6,232.64
Cash flows from investing activities			
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Net cash flows from investing activities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cash flows from financing activities			
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Net cash flows from financing activities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	\$159,419.75	\$298.11	\$6,232.64
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	\$72,376.56	\$72,078.45	\$65,845.81
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$231,796.31	\$72,376.56	\$72,078.45

CORENA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION				
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021				
	Note	June 30 2021	June 30 2020	June 30 2019
Current assets				
Cash at bank		\$231,796.31	\$72,376.56	\$72,078.45
Total current assets		\$231,796.31	\$72,376.56	\$72,078.45
Non-current assets				
On loan to BWPs		-	\$100,254.17	\$47,273.49
On loan to QWPs	BWP/QWP merged	\$366,546.02	\$259,874.89	\$213,913.88
Total non-current assets		\$366,546.02	\$360,129.06	\$261,187.37
TOTAL ASSETS		\$598,342.33	\$432,505.62	\$333,265.82
Current liabilities				
Non-current liabilities				
TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
NET ASSETS		\$598,342.33	\$432,505.62	\$333,265.82
Funds		\$598,342.33	\$432,505.62	\$333,265.82
TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS		\$598,342.33	\$432,505.62	\$333,265.82

CORENA STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS		
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021		
	General funds \$	
Balance at 1 July 2018	\$65,845.81	
Operating surplus / (deficit)	\$6,232.64	
Balance at 1 July 2019	\$72,078.45	
Operating surplus / (deficit)	\$298.11	
Balance at 1 July 2020	\$72,376.56	
Operating surplus / (deficit)	\$159,419.75	
Current balance at July 1 2021	\$231,796.31	

Independent Audit Report

To the members of the Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network Australia Inc.

Scope of Audit

I, John Paul Bartley have audited the attached special purpose financial report of The Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network Australia Inc. For the year ended 30th June 2021 .

The Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network Australia Inc. is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report and the information it contains and has determined that the accounting policies used and described in the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the requirements of the Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network Australia Inc. and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members.

I have also conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion to the members of the association on their preparation and presentation. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of members.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members and to satisfy the reporting requirements of the Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network Australia Inc. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for reliance on this audit report or the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

B. Audit Opinion (unqualified)

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly the financial position of the Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network Australia Inc. And the results of its operations as at 30/6/2021 in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

Signed

Dated 16/7/2021

COMMITTEES

CORENA INC. COMMITTEE

The Committee has the management and control of the funds and other property of the association.

Adam Karl Briony O'Shea Georgia Cooke Heather Smith Jonathan Maddox John Rolls Margaret Hender Paul Harris

Projects Manager Chair; EV Group Convenor Marketing Manager Volunteer Manager

Public Officer; Memberships Secretary; Admin Treasurer

PUBLIC FUND COMMITTEE

Approval from this committee is required for all project expenditure from the Public Fund, and these committee members also provide project advice.

Briony O'Shea Ekkehard Groskreutz John Rolls Margaret Hender Monica Oliphant Paul Harris Simon Jones



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Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network Australia Inc.