



Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network Australia Inc.

ABN: 92 929 665 880



Annual Report 2013-14



Chairperson's Report



Stamping Gawler loan agreement

CORENA has had a busy 18 months since incorporation in late April, 2013, with the committee meeting every three weeks. I thank them all for their time, their contributions to decisions, and their efforts in promoting CORENA projects.

We applied for tax deductible donation status as an environment group in August 2013. In May this year we received feedback saying we would have a better chance of approval if we changed some of

the wording in our constitution. We have now done that and our application is now continuing on its way through the application process.

CORENA had a presence at a number of events and rallies, including 4 days at the Womad festival in March. We have had articles in local newspapers, and in *RenewEconomy*, the online national Greens Magazine, and ATA's *ReNew* magazine, amongst others.

We currently have 87 financial members, about half of whom have joined the members-only Facebook group and take an active part in discussions. We currently have 1,326 Facebook Likers. Recently we shot past the 1,000 mark when Scott Ludlam posted about our solar thermal 'REAL Climate Action' strategy for the September 20-21 rallies on his own Facebook page. We went from about 800 Likers to 1,200 in about 24 hours.

Altogether we have raised just over \$35,000 for the Quick Win projects. In November 2013 we lent \$12,000 to Tulgeen Disability Services, in Bega NSW, towards their two solar PV systems, totalling 7kW. Already they have made three quarterly repayments of \$1,000 each, with the first two of those helping to fund our second project, which was at the Gawler Community House in SA.

For the Gawler project we lent \$17,560. That paid for a 10kW solar PV system and for LED replacements for two of their halogen security lights. The third repayment from Tulgeen and the first from Gawler are now swelling the funds we are raising for our third project, solar PV for the non-profit Beechworth Montessori School in northern Victoria.

Special thanks must go to Embark for their generous matching donation challenge, which resulted in well over 1,000 people chipping in to the Gawler project and \$5,000 from Embark. Thank you too to the generous individual donors, the 'solar stars', who have contributed a whole panel to one or other of the Quick Win projects, and in particular members Marty Vaher and Bill Gresham, both of whom have contributed a solar panel to all three projects.

While we concentrated on getting the Quick Win projects rolling, the solar thermal Big Win project did not get much of a look in. As of July 1 this year, that account stood at \$7,500. However, over the last couple of months we turned our attention to making the September 20-21 climate rallies a day of 'REAL Climate Action' across Australia. The strategy was to ask everyone going to rallies and events on that weekend to chip in \$100, or set up smaller recurring contributions, towards a citizen-owned solar thermal plant.

Unfortunately we didn't manage to inspire anywhere near enough collaboration from other climate groups to achieve as much as we had hoped, but our thanks go to the Greens and Save the Planet, and also to 350 Australia and a handful of smaller groups, for their endorsement and support. We now have over \$20,000 in the Big Win account, and a lot of new supporters who feel excited and empowered by the opportunity to help fund a solar thermal plant. We are now looking at strategies for achieving genuine broad-based support for the solar thermal project.

Finally, we would not have been able to achieve anything at all if it weren't for all the climate-concerned citizens who have chipped in to help fund our practical renewable energy projects. I thank them not only for their financial contribution, but also for building our social capital by demonstrating faith in our project models.

*Margaret Hender
Oct 7, 2014*

Quick Win Projects Report

CORENA's first Quick Win project was completed in November, 2013, at the [Tulgeen Disability Services](#) premises in Bega, NSW. Altogether about 125 people contributed the \$12,000 for this project, including 11 [Solar Panel Stars](#) who each 'bought a panel'. Project details are [here](#).

Tulgeen are repaying the interest-free loan at a rate of \$1,000/quarter. The first two repayments helped pay for the second Quick Win project, and the third is helping with the current project.



Tulgeen installation almost completed



Tulgeen opening ceremony

The second Quick Win project, at the [Gawler Community House](#) in SA, was completed in July, 2014. Around 210 people donated via the website to raise the \$17,560 for this project, but in practice well over 1,000 people contributed mainly small amounts as part of a \$1 Challenge. [Embark](#) challenged us to raise \$5,000 from at least 1,000 people, then matched it with a \$5,000 matching donation from them. Project details are [here](#), and the monitoring system displays the output so far [here](#).



Gawler installation in progress



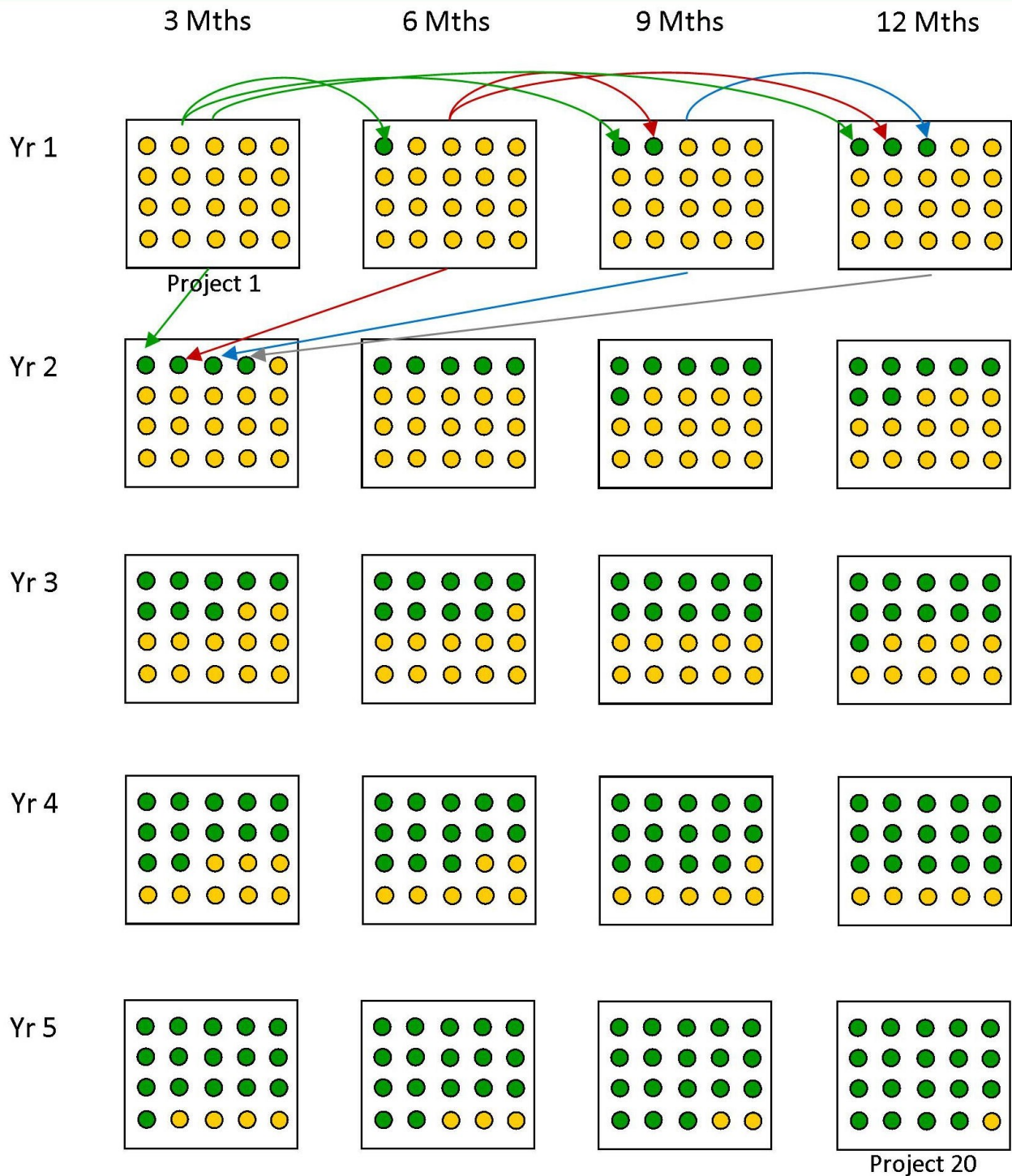
Gawler opening

As of October 7, 2014, we had raised just over \$35,000 for Quick Win projects, including \$4,000 in loan repayments already earned by the first two installations starting to 'pay for themselves', and we are currently working on our [third project](#).

We now estimate that the revolving Quick Win project funds will be sufficient to continue funding one new project every 3 months once we have completed around 20 projects. We think that is pretty exciting. The actual cost of 20 projects would be \$400,000 if we assume \$20,000 per project, but as we complete more and more projects, there are an increasing number of loan repayments coming back into the fund. In practice, the revolving funds will be self-sustaining after we've received around \$200,000 in donations.

In addition to one-off contributions, the Quick Win project fund currently receives \$320 a month in recurring weekly or monthly amounts.

How Quick Win projects eventually fund themselves



● = \$1,000 in donations

● = \$1,000 loan repayment

Assumptions: Each Quick Win project costs \$20,000, there is one new project every 3 months, and loan repayments from each project are \$1,000/quarter. This would mean the 20th project would be funded by \$19,000 in loan repayments and would need only \$1,000 in new donations, and the 21st project would be funded entirely by loan repayments..

Big Win Projects Report

During our first year we concentrated mainly on the Quick Win projects, so at the end of the 2013-2014 financial year we had just \$7,500 towards the Big Win plan to build a citizen-funded 50MW solar thermal plant with storage. This was primarily from one-off contributions, but with \$260 per month in recurring donations.

In the lead up to the Global Day of Climate Action on September 21 we launched a strategy to make that a day of [‘REAL Climate Action’](#) in Australia. The idea was to ask the 50,000 people likely to attend rallies on the day to chip in \$100 towards a citizen-owned solar thermal plant, or to set up smaller recurring contributions. If they did there might have been \$5 million raised, enough to get started right now, but in practice most people at the rallies did not know about this strategy despite our best efforts to get broad promotion of it.

Even so, the strategy did achieve quite a lot, with many people now feeling excited and empowered by the opportunity to be part of a citizen-owned [solar thermal project](#). By October 2014, the account stood at \$21,000, and recurring weekly and monthly contributions now account for around \$600 per month.



Simon, Michael, and David at Adelaide rally



Barb Frey at very wet Perth rally



Geelong people put \$500 in this beautiful donation box they made for their rally



These Coffs Harbour people put \$800 in a donation jar at their rally



Bill Gresham at Canberra rally



Gaby Jung at Melbourne rally

Donors' comments

If the Government won't do it, we'll do it ourselves...

More POWER to the people!

Because there is nothing better to spend my money on, than my future.

This is really important. I wish I could donate more

People power! Thanks for the opportunity to walk the talk!

Thank goodness we don't have to wait for government

Treasurer's Report Paul Harris, Oct 7, 2014

Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS STATEMENTS FOR PERIOD ENDING 30/6/2014

Admin	Opening Bal			\$0
	Receipts for Yr	\$ 8,162.61		
	Payments for Yr	-\$ 5,003.63		
	Results for Yr			<u>\$ 3,158.98</u>
	Closing Bal			<u><u>\$3,158.98</u></u>
Big Projects	Opening Bal			\$0
	Receipts for Yr	\$ 7,506.88		
	Payments for Yr	-\$ 5.00		
	Results for Yr			<u>\$ 7,501.88</u>
	Closing Bal			<u><u>\$ 7,501.88</u></u>
Small Projects	Opening Bal			\$0
	Receipts for Yr	\$ 26,329.73		
	Payments for Yr	-\$ 12,013.40		
	Results for Yr			<u>\$ 14,316.33</u>
	Closing Bal			<u><u>\$14,316.33</u></u>

Audited and Found correct from reconciliation to Bank statements
Viewed a number of source documents for sums received

Des C Ellis
Hon Auditor
Dip.L.G., B.Bus, (Acctg)
3/07/2014

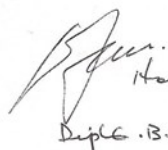


Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network

Bank Accounts reconciliation June 30, 2014

Admin account	
Balance as per statement, June30	<u>\$ 3,158.98</u>
Balance as per books, June30	<u>\$ 3,158.98</u>
Big Win Project account	
Balance as per statement, June30	<u>\$ 7,501.88</u>
Balance as per books, June30	<u>\$ 7,501.88</u>
Quick Win Project account	
Balance as per statement, June30	<u>\$ 14,316.33</u>
Balance as per books, June30	<u>\$ 14,316.33</u>

Note: DGR rules state that project donations must be in separate accounts to other money. Therefore, QWP loan repayments (\$2,000) and non-donation fund-raising amounts (\$170) subsequently used for the Gawler QWP were still in the Admin account at June 30.


Hon Auditor
3/7/14.
Dip.L.G. B.Bus (Acctg)



Receipts	May 8 - June 30 2013	2013-2014
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Admin account

Balance at July 1	\$ -	\$ 1,306.06
Membership fees	\$ 775.00	\$ 1,360.00
Admin donations	\$ 20.00	\$ 105.00
Interest	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.55
QWP loan repayments	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
QWP non-donation fundraising	\$ -	\$ 790.00
Donations to move to BWP	\$ 516.00	\$ 535.00
Donations to move to QWP	\$ -	\$ 2,061.00
Member fees moved into Admin		\$ 75.00
Total	\$ 1,311.06	\$ 6,926.55

Big Win Project account

Balance at July 1	\$ -	\$ 1,202.46
Donations	\$ 1,155.00	\$ 6,336.80
Interest	\$ 0.06	\$ 10.02
Donations to move to QWP	\$ 2.40	\$ -
Member fees to move to Admin	\$ 50.00	\$ -
Bank charges reimbursed	\$ -	\$ 5.00
Total	\$ 1,207.46	\$ 6,351.82

Quick Win Projects account

Balance at July 1	\$ -	\$ 1,846.11
Donations	\$ 1,526.00	\$ 23,817.99
Interest	\$ 0.11	\$ 13.18
Donations to move to BWP	\$ 300.00	\$ -
Member fees to move to Admin	\$ 25.00	\$ -
Bank charges reimbursed	\$ -	\$ 5.00
Fundraising for QWP		\$ 960.00
Total	\$ 1,851.11	\$ 24,796.17

Note: Occasionally people submitted a donation or membership form but accidentally deposited the money in a wrong account. Or, we received a cheque with a note saying some was a membership fee and some was a project donation. This explains the movements between accounts shown under Receipts and Payments.

Payments	May 8 - June 30 2013	2013-2014
Admin account		
bank charges	\$ 5.00	\$ 3.80
insurance	\$ -	\$ 1,292.88
common seal	\$ -	\$ 34.95
fundraising moved to QWP	\$ -	\$ 620.00
donations moved to QWP	\$ -	\$ 2,061.00
donations moved to BWP	\$ -	\$ 1,051.00
reimbursement of bank charges	\$ -	\$ 10.00
Total	\$ 5.00	\$ 5,073.63
Big Win Project account		
bank charges	\$ 5.00	\$ -
donations moved to QWP	\$ -	\$ 2.40
member fee moved to Admin	\$ -	\$ 50.00
Total	\$ 5.00	\$ 52.40
Quick Win Projects account		
bank charges (to be reimbursed)	\$ 5.00	
bank charges (not reimbursed)		\$ 0.95
donations moved to BWP	\$ -	\$ 300.00
member fee moved to Admin	\$ -	\$ 25.00
Loans to projects	\$ -	\$ 12,000.00
Total	\$ 5.00	\$ 12,325.95

Figures for July1 - Sept 29

- membership fees in = \$880
- insurance payment out = \$1,563.10
- admin donations in = \$92
- donated to BWP since July 1 = \$13, 015.14
- current BWP total = \$20, 617.02
- total raised for QWP's since incorporation = \$35, 084.41 (includes \$4, 086.30 in loan repayments from Tulgeen and Gawler)
- \$17,560 lent to Gawler project

Administration Account Budget

Item	Actual 2013/14	Budgeted 2014/15
Income		
Membership Fees	\$ 1,360	\$ 1,800
Donations	\$ 105	\$ 100
Interest	\$ 1	\$ 1
Total Income	\$ 1,466	\$ 1,901
Expenses		
Insurance	\$ 1,293	\$ 1,563
Bank Charges	\$ 4	\$ 5
Stationary		\$ 250
Total Expenses	\$ 1,297	\$ 1,818
RESULT	\$ 169	\$ 83

Committee Members

Management committee

Chair: Margaret Hender

Deputy Chair: Simon Jones

Treasurer: Paul Harris

Acting Secretary: Michael Benson

General committee members: David Maddern, Jody Moate, Michael Kubler

Public Fund Management Committee (committee member details [here](#))

Monica Oliphant (patron)

Ekkehard Groskreutz

David Lloyd

John Rolls

Simon Jones

Margaret Hender

Project management advisor (Big Win project)

Graham Davies

National Sub-committee

Bill Gresham (ACT)

Gaby Jung (Vic)

Barb Frey (WA)

Michael O'Connell (Vic)

Jacinta Green (NSW)

Contact Details

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