

Annual Report 2013-2014



Contents

- YEAR IN REVIEW
- FINANCE AND FUNDING
- FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The YEAR in review



The 2013/14 year has been an exciting and rewarding period for Warrnambool Community Garden.

Robyn Drechsel and Clare Vaughan have led the impressive development of the communal garden area with more garden beds and a rotational planting system. We now have a working compost system, the worm farm is going well and the wicked weed tea aromas follow us as we work in our plots! The various signs around the garden are great and the ones in the communal plot give us a clearer idea of what's available to share from the communal plots or point to what manure, etc is ok for gardeners to use in their plots. And there's that absolutely beautiful big sign at the communal plots made by Claire Bishop and Caroline Healy.

The monthly delicious shared lunch, coordinated by our chef extraordinaire Mark Wilson, helps complete the cycle – communal growing and sharing of fresh, organically grown, healthy food with the kitchen scraps going to the compost to help build the soil to grow the next lot of vegies! A great example of our garden philosophy in practice.

As the year evolved, we refined the concept of having various working groups or pods to focus on certain work areas as we seemed to be having too many meetings and the roles of the various groups became a bit unclear. Instead we ended up having member meetings for practical at-hand matters like weed management, getting our compost system functioning, planning for our Rotten Day Out. The committee thinks it's timely to find a better working structure and we plan to do this early next year with members input when we do our annual planning. Quite a lot of work came out of the pods or from these more project focused groups. Highlights include the:

- Absolutely wonderful newsletter by our talented editors Claire Bishop and Tina Reilly, which comes out the first week of each season.
- Updating the membership application form and process of orientation - lots of thinking and input and trialling throughout the year by the Governance and Leadership Pod and committee.
- Updating of garden policies and rules with some substantial clarifications and additions – another major piece of work by the Governance and Leadership Pod.
- Workshops and seasonal get togethers such as Fruit Tree Pruning, Preserving, Pumpkin Day, working bees, last year's Dirty weekend and planning for this year's Rotten Day Out.
- Wonderful seed raising happening in the hothouses for the communal plots by John Madden and George Cormack
- Garden member Trent Jackson's art exhibition in the HUB.
- Planning led by the Finance Pod for capital works and grant applications.

The weed management plan, led by Julie and compiled with the assistance of Landtech's Peter Austin, was a major project that has received recognition, praise and funding from Warrnambool City Council and from the State Government.

This has been a significant achievement as it will help us start to address some of the major long-term on-ground issues of weed incursion into the garden plot areas and the exotic woody and non-woody weed seed banks in the upper part of the garden site.

The work will include non-chemical control methods in the vegie garden area. We plan to trial steam - a method that is being used increasingly by local government in areas such as children's playgrounds - and look forward to inviting others to witness how this works.

We plan to clear the large number of weeds out of the quarry so we can begin to see its potential; to do shelter belt planting and other planting of sheoak species to suppress weeds and that in time will provide us with our own mulch supply.

In the coming year, we hope to finally get a shelter built in the vegie plot area and straw bale seating built near the pizza oven. We are still in talks with our Work For the Dole partner agencies for how to increase the opportunities for our work crews to participate in skills development while working at the garden.

The committee has also been researching options for a Community Development Program at the garden that would include giving us more capacity to increase sharing info at workshops and training for our members (and for the general public) –with a focus on improving gardening skills and practice for health, wellbeing and enjoyment.

Thanks to all our members who've taken on responsibilities to help share the volunteer workload. We have a great team.

Geoff Rollinson and Julie Eagles
Convenor and Deputy Convenor



Finance and Funding REPORT



The goal of the WCG Finance & Funding Pod is to make sure WCG is financially sustainable & has enough money to complete all the actions outlined in the strategic plan. Following the updating of the chart of accounts in 2013, the 2013-14 budget was prepared and general operational expenditures were separated from specific project expenditures so that all can be tracked. The updating of records to the electronic financial package continues to present some challenges. Thanks to our Treasurer for his ongoing work on this.

Two priorities for the Finance & Funding Pod for 2013-14 were to develop a funding strategy and research options for a paid WCG coordinator.

The purpose of the funding strategy was to clarify HOW the WCG would finance the co-ordination and operations in 2014 and for the long term. WCG has four income streams: 1. Membership and plot fees; 2. Member fundraising; 3. Grants for projects; 4. Workshop and event revenue.

In early 2014, the Funding and Finance Pod members and Committee members commenced researching options for funding a paid co-ordinator by contacting other gardens. Few had paid co-ordinators. Prospects for funding a paid co-ordinator appear limited. There was agreement that grant applications for projects would include project management components and therefore appropriate sources would need to be identified.

Small fundraising activities that have been undertaken during 2014 include the preparation and sale of preserves, eggs, worm tea, bales of hay and bags of manure. While funds raised are small, members have willingly undertaken the

activities and benefits are open to all. Plants grown by members and preserves will also be sold at the *Rotten Day Out* and a gold coin donation on entry will entitle community members to a raffle ticket for basket of produce.

In March/April 2014, the Funding and Finance Pod commenced making grant plans to match priorities with funding sources. An application was prepared to The Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR) to fund 2 new mowers and whipper snippers plus 2 years maintenance and repairs. We were unsuccessful with the application and a second attempt was submitted to WDEA Charitable Trust in September 2014 and the result is yet to be announced.

Preparation of 3-year Funding & Finance Plans was commenced in mid 2014 in order to make WCG grant-ready when appropriate sources were identified.

Application for a Local Landscapes enhancement grant from Victorian Department of Environment and Primary Industry (DEPI) and Warrnambool City Council were prepared to cover expenses related to weed management on the whole site including encroachment into garden plots.

Both applications were successful and planning is underway for the projects. An application for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status is currently being prepared.

Thanks very much to our Treasurer Peter Jackman as well as Barrie Baker, Bernadette Northeast and more recently Julie Eagles for being most generous with your time and expertise.

Clare Vaughan
WCG Grants Officer



Artist Trent Jackson and Patrick Tonks.



Volunteers hard at work in the communal garden space



Financial STATEMENTS



FINANCIAL YEAR 2013 - 2014

Warrnambool Community Garden Inc Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2014

2013 Members' Funds	
65,312 Opening Balance	81,529.59
16,218 Add Net Income	-7,419.65
<u>81,530</u>	<u>74,109.94</u>
Represented By	
Current Assets	
506 Petty Cash	250.00
SW C U	
16,712 Cheque Account	3650.84
852 Savings Account	977.39
0 Debit Card	500.00
295 Sundry Debtors	691.47
0 Origin Energy	282.87
<u>18,365</u>	<u>6352.57</u>
Fixed Assets	
7,805 Plant and Equipment - at cost	10059.36
0 Trailer Shed - at Cost	2434.27
56,239 HUB Development - at cost	56,239.23
<u>64,044</u>	<u>68732.86</u>
<u>82,409</u> Total Assets	<u>75085.43</u>
Less Current Liabilities	
109 Trade Creditors	184.59
770 Key Deposits	790.90
<u>879</u>	<u>975.49</u>
<u>81,530</u>	<u>74109.94</u>

Acknowledgments:

Thanks to Julie Eagles, Clare Vaughan, Peter Jackman, Christian Schultink and David Owen for providing information and photographs for the 2013-2014 Annual Report.

Geoff Rollinson, Convenor

November 2014



Warrnambool Community Garden Inc Profit and Loss Statement for year ended 30th June 2014

2013	Income	2014
16,250	Grants	15,600.00
HUB		
0	- Goodwill Credit	368.93
0	- Solar Contribution	1,149.61
3,000	- Grants	0
1,290	- Workshops	0
		<u>1,518.54</u>
1,685	Membership Fees	1,445.00
3,201	Plot Rentals	2,955.23
74	Interest Received	142.75
40	Workshop Income	640.00
2,000	Hothouse Grant	0.00
366	Donations	95.00
2,371	Fundraising	1,396.27
0	Compost Bay Project	715.53
68	Forfeited Key Deposits	0.00
0	Sale of Eggs	215.04
0	Communal Plot -Fundraising	80.91
<u>30,345</u>		<u>24,804.27</u>
Less Expenses		
0	Consultants Fees	500.00
0	Green Guide	5,000.00
0	Compost Bay Project	250.00
3,114	Hothouse	959.20
0	Shelter	575.90
1,046	Fund Raising	673.89
0	Subscriptions	25.00
24	Chook House	375.60
625	DryWall Project	4,700.45
0	Insurance	151.82
284	Administration	583.24
949	Garden Equipment and Supplies	1,747.13
192	Lease of Land	197.00
330	Communal Plot	2,435.62
60	Professional Development	0.00
2,797	HUB	10,690.85
164	Fuel Oil	238.03
2,187	Advertising	473.49
446	Office Supplies	309.73
163	Postage	271.99
573	Repairs	954.56
234	Telephone	517.31
0	Underpayments	1.50
192	Key Purchases	25.00
32	Waste Disposal	183.18
715	Workshop Expenses	383.43
<u>14127</u>		<u>32223.92</u>
<u>16,218</u>	Net Income	<u>-7,419.65</u>