

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

 AUSTRALIAN
WIND ALLIANCE





PHOTO (COVER): Salt Creek Wind Farm. © AWA.

PHOTO (THIS PAGE): Blade delivery at Murra Warra Wind Farm. © RES Australia.

CONTENTS

Note from the National Coordinator	2
Member Snapshots	3
The Year that Was: By the Numbers	4
Supporting the Supporters	5
Connecting Community and Industry	6
Communicating	7
Highlights of the year	7
Video	8
Facebook	9
Instagram	10
Twitter	11
Personnel	12
Staff	12
Board	13
Financial	14
Statement of profit and loss	14
Statement of financial position	14
Statement of changes in equity	15

NOTE FROM THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR



This year's massive build out of new wind farms marked a turning point for wind power in Australia. The cost of new wind energy is now well below wholesale prices in all states. The federal government's

Renewable Energy Target has been fully met and is no longer required to drive new projects. Australia will now turn to wind power, together with solar power and a range of storage and smart energy technologies, to replace ageing coal-burning plants and reduce our carbon emissions. This is good news for regional communities who stand to benefit from the jobs and investment that comes with hosting wind farms.

This also marks a shift for the Australian Wind Alliance. Now that wind energy proves itself day after day to be a reliable contributor to our power grid, we have been able to move from explaining how wind works to instead charting its rise and reporting on its local benefits.

Planning how to get the most out of renewable energy development concentrated in specific rural areas has become another area of work for us. We have focussed on the Moyne Shire in south western Victoria, one of the regional areas the market operator has dubbed 'Renewable Energy Zones.' Consulting closely

with wind developers and key community stakeholders, we are playing a strategic role in ensuring that community benefits keep pace with new wind development.

There will continue to be a need to work with supporters in the regions to argue the case for good projects. We have been doing this in new wind areas around Tamworth in NSW and Gippsland in Victoria, providing reliable information and assisting with organisation.

The year saw a series of elections at both federal and state levels. While there is little in the way of positive climate and energy policy direction coming from the federal sphere, state governments are showing a greater sense of responsibility. We continue to urge state governments to implement policy to shore up their own energy supplies with clean, renewable energy.

I want to thank all those volunteers, members, donors, staff and supporters who have contributed to our work this year. In particular I want to thank Phil Burn, who stepped down from our Board this year after three years of solid service.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Bray".

Andrew Bray, National Coordinator

“ THE COST OF NEW WIND ENERGY IS NOW WELL BELOW WHOLESALE PRICES IN ALL STATES. ”

PHOTO (BACKGROUND):
Turbines at Crookwell 2
Wind Farm, NSW.
© Andrew Doran.

MEMBER SNAPSHOTS

The Australian Wind Alliance is a member-based, community advocacy group for wind energy. We work in regional communities to educate people about wind power, promote the climate benefits of wind and work to maximise the local benefits of wind farm projects.



Lindsay Marriott

Lindsay farms beef cattle and prime lambs in the Bald Hills in South Gippsland. Since the construction of the Bald Hills Wind Farm he has redesigned the farm paddocks around the access tracks which has greatly enhanced the efficiency and productivity of on farm activity. The animals live and breed around the turbines without stress or care and achieve very high performance levels.



Lorraine Bull

Lorraine is an ex-hospital worker who is active with local climate change groups in the Latrobe Valley and actively supports the transition to clean green power. “Wind is a force of nature that humans have used since ancient times, and now it serves us today to provide emission free power for our modern lives.”



Cyrus Davies

Cyrus Davies, Site Supervisor at the recently constructed Lal Lal Wind Farm, has been maintaining wind turbines at plants across Western Victoria for 16 years, all the while living on some land outside Ballarat. “I think the major benefit to wind farms is the ability to work in a country location with the security of working for a major company. I’ve also been able to travel for work, to India, Spain and Germany.”

PHOTO (BACKGROUND):
Lindsay Marriott. © AWA.

THE YEAR THAT WAS

BY THE NUMBERS

1,832

CONVERSATIONS
WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS

10 SUPPORTER GROUP
MEETINGS

127 PUBLIC, INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT
EVENTS OR MEETINGS ATTENDED

17 MEETINGS
WITH FEDERAL AND STATE POLITICIANS

20 VOLUNTEERS ENGAGED
IN PROMOTING WIND ENERGY

8 SUBMISSIONS
AND INQUIRY APPEARANCES

56 MEDIA
STORIES

11 COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
MEETINGS ATTENDED

25 PUBLIC EVENT, CONFERENCES AND RALLIES
ADDRESSED

27 BLOG POSTS
WRITTEN

7 FILMS
MADE

PHOTO: Students from St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Hopetoun, visiting Murra Warra Wind Farm. © RES Australia.



SUPPORTING THE SUPPORTERS



PHOTO (ABOVE): Sapphire Wind Farm worker. © AWA.

PHOTO (BELOW): Meeting with residents from Hanging Rock and Nundle. © AWA.

Community dynamics around new wind farm proposals can be complicated. For some residents around new projects where there is community opposition, it can be hard to speak up in support of a project or even just to get clear information about the benefits a project can bring to the local community.

Supporting these supporters continues to be core business for AWA. During this financial year we worked with groups of supporters in the NSW Southern Tablelands, in the NSW New England and in Gippsland, Victoria. Our role was to bring AWA members and supporters together in public meetings, provide information in person or online and assist them to participate in planning processes around the projects in their area.



CONNECTING COMMUNITY AND INDUSTRY

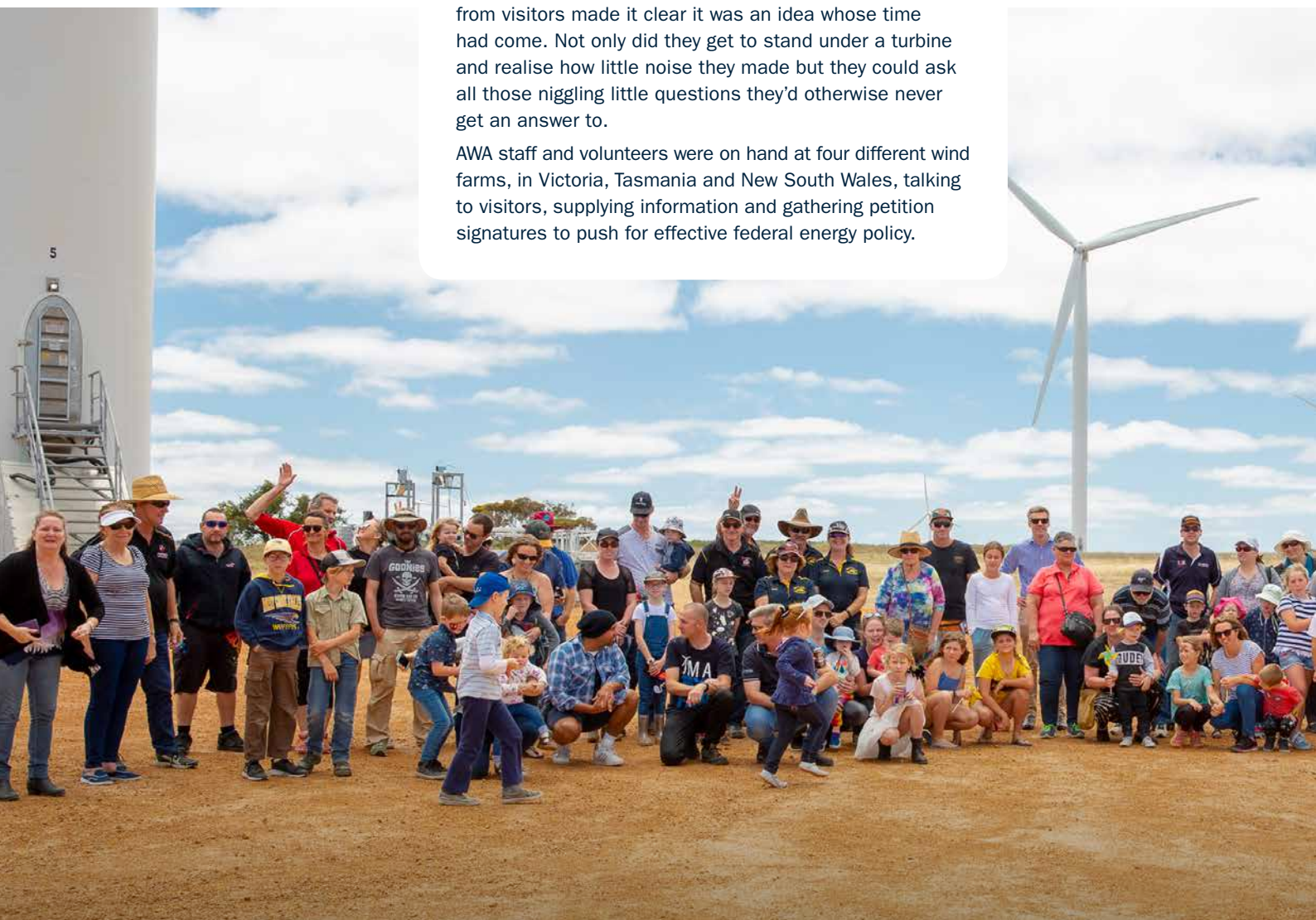


PHOTO (ABOVE & BELOW): Visitors at Mumbida Wind Farm. © Mumbida Wind Farm.

The best way for people to learn about wind power is to experience it for themselves. AWA partnered with the Clean Energy Council and wind farm operators to present the Wind Farm Open Day, the first time wind farm operators have coordinated to this degree to open wind energy facilities to the public.

Hundreds of interested people visited nine wind farms across four states—NSW, South Australia, Western Australia and Victoria, getting up close to the turbines to see and hear them for themselves. The responses from visitors made it clear it was an idea whose time had come. Not only did they get to stand under a turbine and realise how little noise they made but they could ask all those niggling little questions they'd otherwise never get an answer to.

AWA staff and volunteers were on hand at four different wind farms, in Victoria, Tasmania and New South Wales, talking to visitors, supplying information and gathering petition signatures to push for effective federal energy policy.



COMMUNICATING

 **56 STORIES**
IN NEWSPAPERS, ONLINE ARTICLES,
RADIO AND TV APPEARANCES

1 Strong regional media presence

**WIND OVERTAKING BROWN COAL
IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME**



**FARMERS LAUNCH
RURAL FUTURES REPORT
OUTSIDE PARLIAMENT**

Goulburn Post

The Alliance maintained its presence in traditional and social media throughout the year, shaping the narrative around wind energy at the macro and local levels. The take-off of new construction and creation of thousands of jobs, especially in regional Australia, was a central theme.

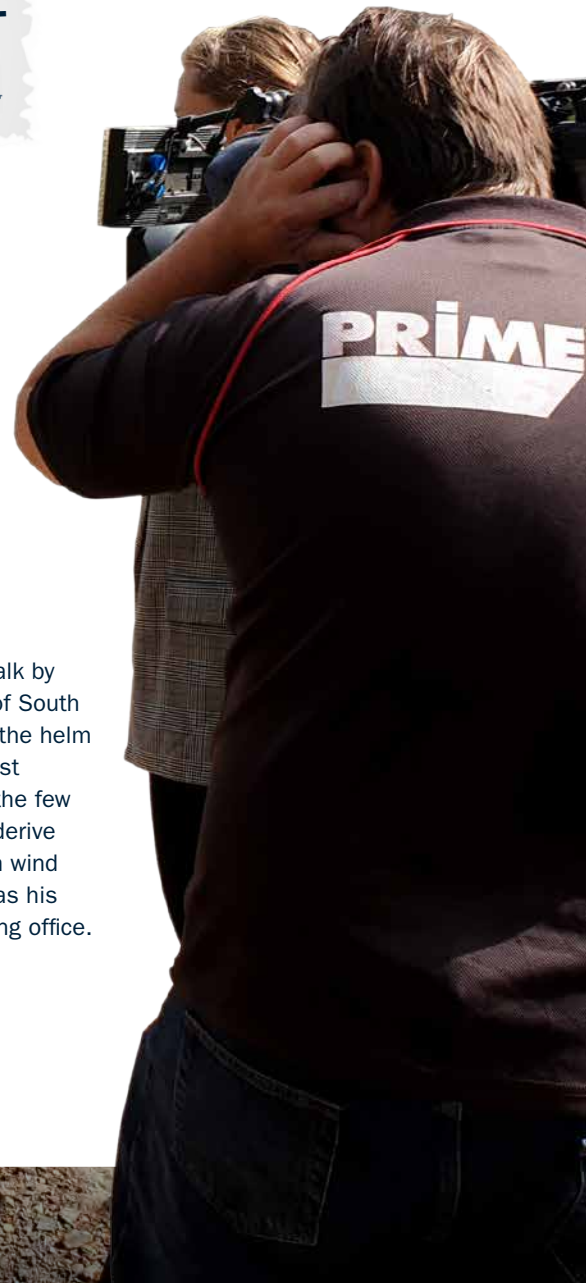
2 Agenda setting events



AWA joined with University of Melbourne to host a special talk by Jay Wetherill, former Premier of South Australia. Mr Wetherill was at the helm when the state became the first Australian state—and one of the few jurisdictions in the world—to derive over 50% of its electricity from wind and solar power. This event was his first public address after leaving office.

PHOTO (ABOVE): Former South Australian Premier, Jay Wetherill, addressing a packed lecture theatre at University of Melbourne. © AWA.

PHOTO (BACKGROUND): Addressing the media. © AWA.



Videos

There are so many inspiring stories to tell around wind energy. We captured a range of them to profile some of the people who work in wind, who talk about wind and who love wind.



Mairin Briody

Profile of painter, Mairin Briody, a Victorian artist with a fascination for wind turbines and a message of hope for our future.



Hepburn Community Leadership Plan

The community at Hepburn, near Daylesford in Victoria have developed a leadership plan to reach carbon neutrality by 2030 and launched it at nearby Hepburn Community Wind Farm.



Ballarat Student Strike for Climate

Youth marching in the Ballarat Student Strike for Climate talk about why they are standing up for climate action and the world they want to live in.

Facebook

424,289 people reached through social media posts and 36,395 actions (liking, sharing or commenting) on Facebook posts.

facebook.com/AustralianWindAlliance

Highlights



PHOTO (BACKGROUND):
Cape Nelson Wind Farm. © AWA.

Instagram

Continual growth of Instagram as a platform, promoting the beautiful visuals of wind farms—1,351 followers.

[instagram.com/australian_wind_alliance](https://www.instagram.com/australian_wind_alliance)

Highlights



PHOTO (BACKGROUND):
Crookwell Wind Farm. © AWA.

Twitter

190,000 impressions (tweet views) per month on average.

twitter.com/AusWindAll

Highlights

 Australian Wind Alliance
@AusWindAll

Wind farms put money directly into the local economy and support local communities.

What are [@AngusTaylorMP](#)'s views on the huge benefits [#wind](#) energy has brought to his electorate? [#HumeVotes](#)



Over to you, Angus: tell us what you really think

 Australian Wind Alliance
@AusWindAll

Two years ago [#wind](#) farms were blamed for a system wide blackout in South Australia. Two years later the wind energy industry is stronger than ever and those opposed to the [#cleanenergy](#) transition continue to be proven wrong. [#windworks](#) [#windpowerforever](#)



4:49 PM · Sep 28, 2018 · Twitter for iPhone

 Australian Wind Alliance
@AusWindAll

What trilemma? Study finds [#wind](#) and [#solar](#) drive down power costs far in excess of any subsidies received. smh.com.au/environment/cl...

9:22 AM · Dec 6, 2018 · Twitter for iPhone

26 Retweets and comments 35 Likes

PERSONNEL

Staff



Andrew Bray, National Coordinator

Andrew joined AWA in February 2013 after spending two years on the 100% Renewable Campaign, building skills and leadership in local communities to help them speak out in support for renewable energy. Andrew moved from one of Victoria's prime wind districts in Ballarat to one of NSW's in Bungendore.



Charlie Prell, Organiser NSW

Charlie is a fourth generation family farmer from Crookwell in NSW. He is passionate about farming and has expanded this passion to include wind farms. Since the construction of the Crookwell I wind farm next to his family property in 1998, Charlie has been aware of the potential to erect turbines on his own farm. He is a committed member of the Crookwell community, and actively contributes to many local causes. Charlie has been championing wind farms and the potential benefits they can bring to regional communities for many years.



Dan Bromley, Communications Officer

Dan is the Australian Wind Alliance Communications Officer, with a focus on social media platforms. Dan comes from a policy background and has a strong personal interest in renewable energy, climate change and politics.



Siobhan Isherwood, Communications Coordinator (March 2017 – September 2018)

Siobhan joined the Wind Alliance team to help shape messaging and communications with all of our stakeholders. Siobhan previously worked in the wind industry, developing large scale wind farms and managing community engagement across a number of projects, as well as engaging in political advocacy.



Tony Goodfellow, Victorian Community Organiser

Tony comes from Ballarat, Victoria where he lives with his young family. He has extensive experience in advocacy, community education and engagement experience throughout Australia and is passionate about action on climate change and championing wind energy. He has qualifications in environmental studies and a side passion in beekeeping.

PHOTO
(BACKGROUND):
Crookwell Wind Farm.
© AWA.

Board



Peter Dreher

Peter is a corporate and projects Partner at HWL Ebsworth Lawyers and leads the firm's National Renewable Energy Group. Peter has been a lawyer in the renewables sector since 1999 and has advised on more than 50 renewable energy projects in Australia, New Zealand and Thailand. Most of these projects were in wind energy. His expertise is in corporate, commercial and construction and electricity law.



Taryn Lane

Taryn is the Manager at Hepburn Wind, Australia's first community-owned wind farm and a director of the Coalition for Community Energy. She also undertakes research, policy development and advisory work for industry. She has extensive local and international community development experience.



Richard Mackie

Richard is one of the most experienced people in the Australian wind industry, having worked in the industry since 1994 as a project and business development manager. Richard agreed to give his time to be Treasurer of AWA because he believes Australia is missing out on great benefits in regional areas. Richard currently heads the Acquisitions and development team at Goldwind Australia.



Luke Osborne

Luke has been a leading voice in the wind energy industry for over a decade. He entered the industry as a landholder and subsequently played a pioneering role in the growth of Canberra-based wind energy company Windlab, now one of Australia's most successful renewable energy companies with operations in Australia, North America and Africa. He is currently with Canberra start-up, Reposit Power.



Jonathan Upson

Jonathan is a senior manager with over 16 years experience in the large scale wind and solar industry. He has worked in a variety of roles including Project Development, Government Affairs and Energy Markets. Jonathan is currently the Director Origination at Canadian Solar.



Phil Burn

Phil has spent over five years working in the wind energy sector, leading the development and planning for a number of wind energy projects. Phil has also worked for State and local government and is currently a consultant working on a range of renewable energy projects. Phil's skills and experiences are supported by formal qualifications in business, environment and land use planning.

FINANCIALS

Statement of profit and loss for the year ended 30 June 2019

Revenue	2019 (\$)	2018 (\$)
Gifts received	251,159	261,957
Membership fees	1,264	7,341
Merchandise sales	3,316	55
Sponsorships	6,665	7,250
Other Income	2,045	3,470
Total income	264,449	280,073

Expenses	2019 (\$)	2018 (\$)
Administrative expenses	(157,121.00)	(168,239.00)
Marketing expenses	(8,950.00)	(12,888.00)
Occupancy costs	(6,146.00)	(6,708.00)
Operating activities	(51,302.00)	(64,812.00)
Other expenses	(14,153.00)	(12,913.00)

Profit before income tax	26,777	14,513
Income tax expense	0	0
Total comprehensive income	26,777	14,513

Statement of financial position for the year ended 30 June 2019

Current assets	2019 (\$)	2018 (\$)
Cash and cash equivalents	88,267	54,066
Trade and other receivables	16,830	11,971
Total current assets	105,097	66,037
Total assets	105,097	66,037

Current liabilities	2019 (\$)	2018 (\$)
Trade and other payables	12,578	11,534
Employee benefits	8,198	6,090
Total current liabilities	20,776	17,624

Employee benefits	9,131	—
Total non-current liabilities	9,131	—
Total liabilities	29,907	17,624
Net assets	75,190	48,413

Equity	2019 (\$)	2018 (\$)
Retained earnings	75,190	48,413
Total equity	75,190	48,413

Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 30 June 2019

2019	Retained earnings (\$)	Total (\$)
Balance at 1 July 2018	48,413	48,413
Profit attributable to members	26,777	26,777
Balance at 30 June 2019	75,190	75,190

2018	Retained earnings (\$)	Total (\$)
Balance at 1 July 2017	33,900	33,900
Profit attributable to members	14,513	14,513
Balance at 30 June 2018	48,413	48,413

Full Financial Statement available on Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission website:
acnc.gov.au/charity/25184c2ec0a4bb77c812c3e909083aaa#financials-documents



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