



ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020



AUSTRALIAN
WIND ALLIANCE



PHOTO (COVER & THIS PAGE): Waubra Wind Farm © AWA.

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NOTE FROM THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR



As with the rest of Australia, for AWA, 2019/20 was very much a year of two halves—the first half pre-the bushfires and COVID and the second half after.

After plenty of public work and the launch of our updated Building Stronger Communities Report in Ballarat, the second half has been characterised by working from home base, lots of Zoom calls, and lots of time on the phone.

Happily, for wind energy more generally it was a very positive year, with construction continuing in six states across the country on over a dozen substantial projects, totalling thousands of megawatts. Notably, Tasmania saw its first wind farm construction in six years.

Importantly, thousands of workers were employed throughout regional Australia building these new power plants. Concreters, crane operators, machinery drivers, electricians, fitters, civil engineers, cleaners, office managers and a host of other professions all contributed to this nation-building effort.

This construction boom was the culmination of the Renewable Energy Target that the Australian Wind Alliance, with many others, argued strongly for when it was under threat in 2015. Going forward, states and territories are now the ones driving renewable energy policy.

2020 marks 8 years since AWA commenced operations as VicWind. As our updated Building Stronger Communities Report showed, the wind industry has not only grown substantially but has clearly matured since then.

It now prioritises good faith community engagement and has embraced a benefit sharing philosophy that sees substantial contributions flow to communities across the country.

We have strongly promoted these changes and we're pleased to see the uptake of these practices translate into a vastly improved public and political acceptance of wind energy.

Looking forward, wind will be just one part of a bigger picture of energy transformation.

Renewable Energy Zones will see wind farms and solar farms paired together with storage technologies and connected to the grid through new transmission lines. Social licence lessons learned from wind's development will be directly applicable to the development of these zones.

Our vision is that Renewable Energy Zones not only transform Australia's energy supply but also make genuine and long-lasting contributions to the future of regional communities.

We expect to expand our remit to work alongside local communities, state governments and all sections of the renewable energy industry to see clean energy renewal drive regional renewal.

I want to say a big thank you to our board members for their valued contributions throughout the year. To our donors and supporters for their commitment to our work and to Tony Goodfellow and our staff who work alongside me and give so much support.

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

Andrew Bray, National Coordinator

PHOTO (BACKGROUND):
Andrew Bray. © AWA.

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.



Raina Emerson

As a TAFE teacher, gardener and horticulturist, Raina sees how climate change is impacting the natural world. Raina lives out of town and the increased intensity and frequency of bushfires is a real worry for them. Raina is concerned about the future and wants to support clean energy, seeing wind power is an excellent industry for our windy region.



John Bruce

The Bruce family breed and finish beef cattle on the 'Western Plains' property at Stanley for the 'Cape Grim' beef brand. The proposal to install 50MW of wind generation on the property is an exciting future opportunity for them, their children and their grandchildren. The additional benefits for the local community through employment opportunities, community funding from the wind farm, along with the generation of renewable energy, will make the development a positive outcome for Tasmania.



Bilal Khan

Bilal is the General Manager for Property and Trade at GeelongPort, with responsibility for creating a sustainable pathway for the Port's long-term growth. He is a committed supporter of wind power and believes it will play a crucial role in Victoria's energy transition. "GeelongPort's strategic location has allowed us to support many wind farm projects in the past. We will continue to connect supply chains and facilitate the establishment of wind farms across Victoria," Bilal states.

PHOTO (BACKGROUND):
John Bruce. © John Bruce.

THE YEAR THAT WAS

BY THE NUMBERS

 900 CONVERSATIONS <small>WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS</small>	 7 SUPPORTER GROUP MEETINGS
 19 WEBINARS ATTENDED	 143 PUBLIC, INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT EVENTS OR MEETINGS ATTENDED
 12 MEETINGS <small>WITH FEDERAL AND STATE POLITICIANS</small>	 57 VOLUNTEERS ENGAGED <small>IN PROMOTING WIND ENERGY</small>
 5 SUBMISSIONS <small>AND INQUIRY APPEARANCES</small>	 182 MEDIA STORIES
 4 COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ATTENDED	 10 PUBLIC EVENT, CONFERENCES AND RALLIES ADDRESSED
 30 BLOG POSTS WRITTEN	 7 FILMS MADE



PHOTO: The opening of Crookwell 2 Wind Farm. © AWA.

BALLARAT PANEL EVENT:

MAKING THE WIND POWER BOOM WORK FOR REGIONAL COMMUNITIES



PHOTO (ABOVE): (L-R) Aubrey Chapman, David Clark, Simon Corbell. © AWA.

PHOTO (BELOW): (L-R) Andrew Bray, Simon Corbell, Taryn Lane, Bill Mundy, Aubrey Chapman, David Clark. © AWA.

At Ballarat's Federation University, the Wind Alliance brought together a range of important voices in wind energy including farmers, local councillors, community wind farm owners, local businesses and Simon Corbell – the architect of ACT's hugely successful 100% renewable energy target.

Over 50 community members heard rich discussions about regional benefits from wind farms, and engaged in important dialogue around the future potential wind energy holds for their communities.

We used the event to share our lessons on how to lock in meaningful benefits for regional Victoria as the wind boom continues to roll out.



CLEAN ENERGY OPEN DAY 2019: **CONNECTING COMMUNITY AND INDUSTRY**



PHOTO (ABOVE): A keen wind farm supporter in North Western Tasmania, Studland Bay Wind Farm. © AWA.

PHOTO (BELOW): Some fun in our wind worker picture frame on the day. © AWA.

We partnered with the Clean Energy Council to run another successful Clean Energy Open Day, with a whopping 15 wind and solar projects across five states opening their gates for community events.

The open day was a fantastic opportunity for AWA to gather petition signatures from across the country, pushing for effective federal energy policy.

These activities not only support our advocacy when we meet with politicians and policymakers, but help us to grow our organisation's base of volunteers and supporters across the country.





BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES REPORT UPDATE:
**TRACKING WIND'S
CONTRIBUTIONS TO
COMMUNITIES**

An incredibly busy 18 months of wind farm construction followed the publication of the Wind Alliance's landmark report, *Building Stronger Communities: Wind's Growing Role in Regional Australia*.

In November 2019 we updated the report to track the new numbers and report on new fund activities. At that point, \$4.8 billion of economic activity was being injected into regional communities through wind farm construction. A number of new wind farm community funds commenced operation, taking annual contributions across the country to over \$5 million per annum.

The report outlined how wind energy jobs had tripled in the past 2 years alongside huge increases in funds contributed to communities by wind farms.



PHOTO (BACKGROUND): Cover photo of *Building Stronger Communities* report. © Pacific Hydro. **PHOTO (ABOVE):** Students from Kairi State School in Far North Queensland, at their Kairi Kitchen Garden sustainable garden project, funded by Mt Emerald wind farm's community fund. © RATCH Australia.

COORDINATING COMMUNITY FUNDS IN RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONES

As the number of renewable energy generators grows, AWA sees the need for clear advocacy to ensure that regional communities properly benefit from hosting wind and solar farms. To this end, we have sought to popularise the idea of cumulative benefits for communities.

Through our engagement with industry, local councils, state government MPs and policymakers, we have explained the need to coordinate community programs across multiple projects where they are concentrated in a single geographic region.

One example of this was working with wind farm developers and operators in South West Victoria to coordinate community funds across projects.

PHOTO (BELOW):

Recipients of Taralga Wind Farm CEF grants for 2018 recognised for their work.
© Adam Chandler, Pacific Hydro.



COMMUNICATING

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

AWA articles in the media

1 FEDERAL TECHNOLOGY ROADMAP LEAVES REGIONAL AUSTRALIA TO FIND ITS OWN PATH ON EMISSIONS—PUBLISHED IN OVER 120 SYNDICATIONS

The Queanbeyan Age

The federal government’s “Technology Investment Roadmap,” released last week, claims to lower Australia’s emissions – but instead it is a push for highly polluting gas-fired generation, a dangerous distraction when we have no time to waste in tackling climate change...

Read more: <https://www.queanbeyanagechronicle.com.au/story/6765880/regions-must-find-own-path-on-emissions/>

2 WILL WIND FILL THE GAP? ecogeneration

The wind industry is in little doubt that tens of gigawatts of additional wind energy can, and should, be added in Australia. “There is a massive opportunity for the industry over the next 10, 20, 30 years to continue to deploy many thousands of megawatts of wind and other technology,” says Tilt Renewables executive general manager renewable development Clayton Delmarter...

Read more: <https://www.ecogeneration.com.au/will-wind-fill-the-gap/>

The Australian Wind Alliance’s website and social media keep the public and our members updated on vital wind news, and is filled with helpful resources that are constantly updated. Check out our website at windalliance.org.au

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

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):
Ballarat.jpg. © AWA.



Instagram

Continual growth of Instagram as a platform, promoting the beautiful visuals of wind farms—1,636 followers

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

Highlights



Twitter

An average of 115,000 impressions (views of our tweets/posts) per month. Total 1.38 million views on Twitter.

twitter.com/AusWindAll

Highlights

 **Australian Wind Alliance**
@AuswindAll

Old Ford factory now manufacturing and assembling #wind turbine parts. Victoria's commitment to #renewables driving investment and new careers in the clean energy future.



 **Australian Wind Alliance**
@AuswindAll

Angus Taylor has spent his entire political career fighting against climate action and undermining renewable energy. As the country burns, he has nothing to be proud of.

 **THE AUSTRALIAN**
Tuesday, December 31, 2019

We should be proud of our climate change

 **Australian Wind Alliance**
@AuswindAll

A message for the Prime Minister @ScottMorrisonMP #DearScotty



15.4K views · From **Matt Pike**

5:42 pm · 24/2/20 · Twitter for iPhone

311 Retweets **33** Quote Tweets **616** 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.



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.



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.



Matthew Curry, Communications Coordinator

Matthew is the Australian Wind Alliance's communications coordinator, focusing on media strategy, digital engagement, and raising the profile of wind energy and its supporters in regional areas through all matter of communications avenues. He hails from windy Western Australia, and has engaged in political advocacy on climate change for the past 6 years.

PHOTO (BACKGROUND):
Wind Technician, Collector
Wind Farm. © AWA.

Management Committee



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.



Dimity Taylor

Dimity is a physio, farmer and mother, who just happens to live very contentedly next door to a wind farm. She sleeps well and finds the turbines an aesthetic bonus to her landscape. Dimity is passionate about supporting other people in wind communities to navigate the fear-mongering around wind farms so they too can enjoy co-locating with these magnificent structures. Dimity has experienced the benefits a wind farm has brought to her community and would like others to be able to enjoy similar benefits.



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.

PHOTO
(BACKGROUND):
Murra Warra Wind Farm.
Used with permission.

FINANCIALS

Statement of profit or loss for the year ended 30 June 2020

Revenue	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
Gifts received	273,163	251,159
Membership fees	11,286	1,264
Merchandise sales	270	3,316
Sponsorships	7,332	6,665
Other Income	20	2,045
	292,071	264,449
COVID-19 cash flow boost	11,132	—
Job Keeper wage subsidy	12,000	—
	23,132	—
Total revenue	315,203	264,449
Expenses	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
Administrative expenses	(249,426)	(157,121)
Marketing expenses	(4,176)	(8,950)
Occupancy costs	(7,849)	(6,146)
Operating activities	(42,165)	(51,302)
Other expenses	(11,470)	(14,153)
Profit before income tax	117	26,777
Income tax expense	0	0
Total comprehensive income	117	26,777

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020

Current assets	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
Cash and cash equivalents	93,639	88,267
Trade and other receivables	14,856	16,830
Total current assets	108,495	105,097
Total assets	108,495	105,097
Current liabilities	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
Trade and other payables	14,885	12,578
Employee benefits	6,112	8,198
Total current liabilities	20,997	20,776
Employee benefits	12,191	9,131
Total non-current liabilities	12,191	9,131
Total liabilities	33,188	29,907
Net assets	75,307	75,190
Equity	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
Retained earnings	75,307	75,190
Total equity	75,307	75,190

Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 30 June 2020

2020	Retained earnings (\$)
Balance at 1 July 2019	75,190
Profit attributable to members	117
Balance at 30 June 2020	75,307

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




THANK YOU


Thank you to our generous members, donors, partners and supporters for the important role you play in building a more sustainable future for all Australians

PHOTO (BACK COVER & THIS PAGE):
Waubra Wind Farm. © AWA.



 AustralianWindAlliance

 @AusWindAll

 www.windalliance.org.au