



Annual General Meeting

Thursday 25 November 2021

“Local Food, No Waste”

7pm on Zoom

Present: Ruby Carrodus, Mandy Field, Madeline Hudson, Elaine Atkinson, Ian Lillington, Marita Zen, Keppel Cassidy, Eliza Gilchrist, Brad Stepenson, Ilka White, Grace Nicol

Apologies: Felicity Grosse, Randi Wagner

Chairperson: Madeline Hudson

Notetaker: Grace Nicol

ITEM

1. Acknowledgement of Country

2. Minutes of previous AGM - acceptance of minutes of previous AGM

Motion: Minutes of 2020-21 were true and accurate record of the proceedings

a. Moved Madeline Hudson

b. Seconded Ruby Carrodus

Carried: All

3. Chairperson's Report (presented by Madeline Hudson - attached)

a. Moved Ian Lillington

b. Seconded Keppel Cassidy

Carried: All

4. Treasurer's Report (presented by Keppel Cassidy - attached)

a. Moved Madeline Hudson

B. Seconded Ruby Carrodus

Carried: All

5. General Business

5.1 Election of Committee Of Management (CoM)

Chairperson: Madeline Hudson - Nominated by Grace Nicol Seconded by Mandy Field - Carried by All

Secretary: Grace Nicol - Nominated by Madeline Hudson Seconded by Ruby Carrodus - Carried by All

Treasurer: Felicity Grosse - Nominated by Ian Lillington Seconded by Keppel Cassidy - Carried by All

Ordinary Members

Ian Lillington

Ruby Carrodus

Mandy Field

Marita Zen

Brad Stephenson

Randi Wagner

Eliza Gilchrist (representing the seed library)

5.2 Election of Public Officer

Grace Nicol

6 Next Steps

First Committee Meeting - 10.30am Saturday 4 December

The Hub Garden - 233 Barker St Castlemaine (enter in through Templeton St)

The Growing Abundance Project

A G M 2021

Chairperson's Report

JARRA COUNTRY - Sovereign land of the Dja Dja Wurrung people.

Date: Thursday 25th November, 2021

Time: 7:00pm

It has very been exciting to be a part of the new Growing Abundance committee.

I would like to thank and acknowledge the previous committee members for a smooth hand over, ensuring Growing Abundance could continue and be a viable working collective. A special thanks goes out to Elaine Atkinson for her extra help in the Treasury department. I would also like to thank Grace Brown who held the Chairperson role this year until only recently and was wonderful to work with.

This year found the new committee facing limited capacity for projects due to covid restrictions. Yet enthusiasm has been great and strong connections and relationships formed along with committee members finding their feet in new roles and navigating the flow as a collective.

Thank you Grace Nicol for your dependable warmth as Secretary and Mandy Field similarly for communications and tech facilitation. Thank you Keppel Cassidy for holding the Treasury role and Ostii Ananda for providing a space for our monthly meetings at Castlemaine Co-working.

Although it has been a quiet year we enjoyed a generous Autumn Apple Harvest from a private orchard in Harcourt and held a celebratory 'Apple Pressing Day' at The Hub Garden where hundreds of litres of sweet golden juice flowed from the barrels and was shared amongst the community. Special thanks to Ian Lillington and Marita Zen for spearheading this. Also well done to Elaine Gilgrist for facilitating the Seed Library and a great Spring seedling sale. Bravo!

The issue of Queensland Fruit Fly was also firmly on the radar for the new committee and hampered our fruit distribution aspirations. A challenge to be navigated.

We look forward to a productive Harvest season in 2022 and have our fingers crossed for a successful grant application from FRRR for a funded Harvest Co-ordinator position. Big thanks to Mandy and Ian for the application and I was also grateful to contribute.

My heartfelt thanks goes out to all the GA committee members and volunteers for your good energy and contribution this year. I look forward to creating more community food security abundance in 2022.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge and honour John Reid who supported GA for 10 years and who sadly died in Sept 2021. Thank you Heather Barrett and Lucy Young for this tribute to John.

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Back in 2010 when Growing Abundance was the seed of an idea, John was beside us barracking, he understood the vision of Growing Abundance and the way he contributed, and lived came from this abundance perspective. Everything was possible, everything was worth doing, he backed the vision of Growing Abundance 100%, in words and in deed. His contribution to our re-localing economy was immense. His commitment to the local food economy was always central to his contribution as was his generosity both in spirit and his bountiful gifting of delicious bread.

John joined the Growing Abundance Committee late in 2016 and supported us through a period of expansion when we initiated The Local Cafe. He was deeply committed to community. He always championed our work with the canteen at the Castlemaine Secondary College and our food gathering work central to GA. It was a huge time for GA with expansion and then the necessary contraction as a financial tipping point was reached. John supported us through thick and thin. He finally left the committee in late 2020”

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May John's spirit live on through our connection and care for the earth and each other.

With love and respect,

Madeline Hudson

The Growing Abundance Project Inc.

2020 – 2021 Annual General Meeting Treasurer's Report

Date: 25 November 2021

2020-21 was another relatively quiet financial year for Growing Abundance, as the new committee began the process of renewing the organisation from the ground up, and new activities were curtailed by Covid19 lockdowns. Please refer to the financial reports for details, including comparison with last year's report.

Total income for the year was \$4542.55

The bulk of this income came in the form of a Seed Library grant of \$2971.00. Coolroom usage and sales of Growing Abundance posters continued to provide a small yet steady stream of revenue at \$225 and \$430.50 respectively. A pilot apple pressing workshop generated donations of \$63.25. Further workshops could not be run this year due to ongoing Covid19 lockdowns, however the committee has laid the groundwork for these to resume in time for the fruit harvesting season in the new year. The majority of ongoing costs are associated with insurance, including public liability, voluntary workers' insurance and insurance on our major asset (the coolroom).

End of Financial Year Profit and Loss statement shows a net income loss of \$754.97

This small loss reflects a successful reorientation in Growing Abundance's financial expenditures to reflect our small income stream at present. However the income includes the seed library grant of \$2971 which does not help to maintain Growing Abundance's ongoing operational viability as it is for seed library use. Once this is taken out, the position becomes critical in terms of having sufficient funds to cover operating costs next year.

End of Financial Year Balance Sheet shows total equity of \$16,576.51

Growing Abundance's equity increased this financial year as two pieces of equipment owned by Growing Abundance but not recorded on last year's Balance Sheet were added: the cage trailer and the apple muncher. All listed items are still in good working order and either available to be used by Growing Abundance for future public programs or by our affiliates and friends such as the Harcourt Organic Food Co-operative, who currently pay a usage fee for use of the mobile coolroom.

Once Seed Library-related funds are taken out, Growing Abundance's cash position becomes extremely perilous. There will be an urgent need for additional sources of funding such as grants to be obtained if we are to be able to meet our operating expenses in 2022 without resorting to the sale of assets to cover these costs.

Keppel Cassidy
Treasurer