

2023-2024 – 6.0 - Office Manager's (full) Annual Report for 9 November 2024 meeting

(Last updated – 9 November 2024)

Summary of key items from sub-headings below:

- Quarterly meetings – 4 Ordinary Meetings; 1 Special Meeting; and, of course, the 2023-24 AGM
- 12 Newsletters produced
- 16 Media Releases issued
- 3 Feature Articles circulated
- Grant applications – pending and current
 - 16/11/23 - Issued 'Expressions of Interest' letter re: another Nest Boxes project → Unfortunately, there was insufficient interest to proceed.
 - 16/02/24 - Submitted online acquittal of GCBF grant for Nest Boxes Project
 - 18/02/24 - Eol to 2024 Volunteer Grants program unsuccessful.
 - Feb-Mar 24 – A total of 3 online grant submissions made re Publishing a "booklet of profiles" on Male Environmental Champions of the Region (i.e. Toowoomba Regional Council jurisdiction)
 - ➔ 2 grant applications with TRC were unsuccessful
 - ➔ We're still awaiting a response from the Brisbane Airport's Community Giving Fund
 - 25/03/24 - Unsuccessful grant application to Queensland Community Foundation re: Website Upgrade
 - Submitted grant application to Hamer Sprout Fund re: Developing a Booklet and Podcast series on male Environment Champions of the Toowoomba region
- Volunteer movement – 15 new; and 9 ceased or lapsed!

Significant office highlights:

- 14/11/23 Canvased UniSQ for voluntary assistance with our media and communications activities 'Alliance/Partnership' program – Issued invitations to Transition Australia and Community Gardens Australia National "Sustainable Living Festival (SLF)," Feb 2024 – Applications now open
--- I've suggested to various parties that they take the opportunity to promote themselves and their key initiatives to a national audience. If they agree to host a webinar during SFL month, then we will assist in promoting their webinars via our usual channels.
➔ *Dr Geoff Woolcock, UniSQ, is interested in submitting a proposal*
Biodynamic Agriculture Australia Ltd commission – Booklet of Profiles completed and handed over on 20 Nov 2023
➔ *And, the podcasts series has also been completed and handed over on 22 Nov 2023*
- 11/11 Meetings: AGM; followed by 1st Ordinary Meeting of 2023-2024 Management Committee
- 12/11 Radio interview with 2GB re: National Recycling Week
- 21/11 Attended ZOOM meeting – 3pm: Volunteering Queensland's AGM
- 15/12 The 'migration' of our website has been completed. Hooray!
→ I have given Yaoyao, our website administrator, the go ahead to start 'updating' various menu pages and sub-sections with items from August 2023 onwards.
- 15/12 The office officially closes at 5pm today and reopens on Monday 15 January 2024.
- 20/12 Completed review of HOPE's Work Plan for 2023 – with 95% of activities successfully actioned
- 21/12 Submitted Office of Fair Trading (OFT) Qld Annual Return
- 22/12 Submitted 2023 REO (Register of Environmental Organisations) Statistical Return
- 15/01/24 Thanks to Anna for preparing our submission to the 2023-24 State & Territory Landcare Awards
- 15/01 Issued nationally notice re HOPE's new website
- 15/01 Issued nationally notice from CSIRO Publishing re Summer Sale of Books
- 23/01 Submitted online membership/insurance renewal form to QWaLC
- 27/01 Issued Notice & Agenda for 2nd Ordinary Meeting, 10 February 2024
- 10/02 Held quarterly Ordinary Meeting
- 17/02 Yaoyao has done a fantastic job bringing the website maintenance up-to-date
- 17/02 Callum Fisher has volunteered on work on the Special Report into the Circular Economy
- 17/02 The management committee has agreed to participate in this year's Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) being held on Sunday 2 June 2024.
- 22/02 Submitted online application to attend Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) 2024
- 07/03 Issued nationally an information item entitled "**Outrage and Optimism podcast series: Our Story of Nature: from Rupture to Reconnection**"
- 12/03 Issued nationally information on Australian Industry's "Product Stewardship" Schemes
- 15/03 Issued nationally information on Screening of "Climate Changers" documentary
- 21/03 Submitted online application to "2024-25 AICD Not-for-Profit Scholarship Program" for Anna Kula

- 21/03 Our "Environmental and Climate Philanthropy Award" nomination to Philanthropy Australia was unsuccessful
- 13/04 Special Meeting of HOPE Executive and HOPE Public Fund Management Committee to ratify changes various administrative changes required by Australian Tax Office (ATO)
- ➔ 15/04 Submitted paperwork to Westpac re Name Change of HOPE Public Fund to HOPE Gift Fund
 - ➔ 22/04 Submitted 'Form 8 – changes to Constitution' to OFT Qld with payment of \$23.45
- 01/05 Screening of Climate Changers documentary at UniSQ, Toowoomba campus
- 20/05 Issued an Open Letter to Members and Supporters signaling my intention to step down as President at the end of this current term.
- 07/05 Attended ZOOM meeting of Volunteering Queensland's "State of Volunteering in Queensland 2024" report launch
- 07/05 Attended ZOOM meeting of QCC's General Meeting
- 21/05 Issued nationally information on Household Batteries recycling options
- 21/05 Issued "thank you" certificates to volunteers
- 25/05 Attended 2023/24 Landcare Awards presentation in Toowoomba ... and, to my surprise, our nomination was short-listed in one of the 9 award categories.
- 29/05 Application to AICD re Scholarship for Governance course for NFPs was unsuccessful
- 02/06 Held a successful information stall at Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) event
- 04/06 Issued email letter Alliance/Partner program invitations to 20+ agencies – both nationally and internationally:
- 08/06 Held quarterly Ordinary Meeting
- 23/06/ Sent letter to Independent Multicultural Media Australia (IMMA) requesting complimentary support and promotion of HOPE and its activities. → *No response to date*
- 03/07 Lots of 'actions to be taken' from quarterly Ordinary Meeting of 8 June 2024
- 18/07 Projects:
- Insufficient interest to pursue 2nd Nesting Boxes project
 - Southern Cross University sociology student field placement – Jessica Nettle signed up to review "Greenwashing" issue
- 20/07 Circulated email to Australian universities requesting information on their environmental policy and practices
- 20/07 Circulated email to Australian LGAs requesting information on their environmental policies, climate change and support for UN SDG
- 24/07 Attended QCC ZOOM meeting – "Meet & Greet" session
- 05/08 Issued annual Questionnaire to our members and supporters → *Minimal response to date*
- 12/08 Issued request to members and supporters re Financial Support via sponsorship or donation to Gift Fund
- 26/08 Issued meeting agenda for September's quarterly meeting, 14 Sept 2024
- 11/09 Add admin@hopeaustralia.org.au to our HOPE domain name. This email address will be utilised by Anna Kula for our 'sponsorship' campaign.
- ➔ 12/09 CCS added admin@hopeaustralia.org.au to our website domain.
- 12/09 Anna has started issuing 'Corporate Sponsorship' requests (via admin@hopeaustralia.org.au) à *117 email requests sent (14/09)*
- 12/09 Issued nationally urgent message from Places You Love Alliance re: Reforms to Australia's national nature laws are being negotiated right now in federal Parliament and we need your help.
- 23/09 Issued nationally media release re: The Growing Threat of Plastic Pollution (*written by Pooja Devi*)
- 25/09 Contacted Colmac Computers re "This app is preventing Windows from closing down or restarting" → *run System File Checker to correct corrupt files*
- 10/10 Sent letters to the Australian National Audit Office (ANOA) and each State Premier and Territory Chief Minister asking how they account for abandoned mines in the respective jurisdictions. → *These letters were drafted by Samy Leyton, a volunteer researcher from NT.*
- 16/10 Attended Condamine Catchment Management Association (CCMA) AGM. Whilst there, I upgraded our membership to CCMA from Associate to Community Group which gives us voting rights.
- 21/10 Disposed of old Dell laptop to Good Guys e-waste collection service
- 22/10 Circulated email from Andrew Gaines re: Stable Planet Alliance

Newsletters:

- 01/12/23 Issued nationally HOPE's December 2023 newsletter
- 02/01/24 Issued nationally January 2024 newsletter
- 03/02 Issued nationally HOPE Enews Bulletin 2024 #02.2 --- February 2024
- 01/03 Issued nationally HOPE Enews Bulletin 2024 #03 --- March 2024
- 01/04 Issued nationally the April 2024 edition of our newsletter
- 01/05 Issued nationally Enews Bulletin 2024 #05.3 --- May 2024
- 05/06 Issued nationally Enews Bulletin for June 2024
- 08/07 Issued nationally Enews Bulletin for July 2024
- 01/08 Circulated nationally HOPE's August 2024 newsletter

- 26/08 Issues nationally Enews Bulletin for September 2024
- 26/08 Circulated nationally September 2024 newsletter
- 08/10 Issued nationally HOPE E-news Bulletin 2024 #10 --- October 2024

Feature articles:

- 30/11 Circulated nationally a feature article by Gabriel Malandu entitled “There exists a global environmental crisis, and levels of consumption and consumerism (overdevelopment and the culture of capitalising) are major, if not the only, causes.”
- 29/12 Issued nationally email from Biodiversity Council re: “We need transformational environmental law reform - here's how to do it”
- 16/02 Issued nationally Charmaine Turnbull’s feature article “Earth’s Destruction by a Thousand Cuts”
- 25/04 Issued nationally Georgy Hadwen’s feature article “Managing wild dog populations”
- 24/05/24 Issued nationally feature article re: Advocating for the Care and Protection of the Environment through Ecologically Sustainable Development
- 16/08 Issued nationally – Review of “Later is Too Late” report by Georgy Hadwen – HOPE researcher Qld
- 18/10 Issued nationally special reports on Coas Seam Gas (CSG) Mining in Australia (written by Georgy Hadwen, HOPE researcher Qld)

Volunteer movement:

- 03/11 Welcome new volunteer researchers – Nadean Kelly (Qld), Amanda Ainley (Qld) and Rob Nebodi (ACT)
- 29/11 Welcome Gabriel Malandu, student at UniSQ on an Industry Placement. Gabriel will provide up to 110 hours researching and drafting articles for us.
- 03/12 Welcome Callum Fisher – a new researcher from Warwick, Qld
- 10/12 Volunteer resignations – Rob Nebodi (ACT)
- 05/02 Welcome new admin support volunteer Sagar Pokhrel who will be designing banners, etc. for social media and our website
- 11/02 Jigna Ghosh has resigned from her researcher position. So, we’ll now need to recruit someone else to handle this special report on “Circular Economy progress in Australia”
- 19/02 Amanda Ainley has resigned her volunteer research position due to work and study commitments
- 20/05 We welcome 3 new researcher volunteers – Georgy Hadwen (Qld), Karyne Maurmann (Qld) and Beltran Labougle (NSW).
- 03/06 Welcome new volunteer researcher – Lizzie Pennington (Qld)
- 05/06 Lapsed volunteers – Daniela Dal’Castel (Qld) and Nisha Wajid (NSW)
- 11/06 Welcome new volunteer Jamie Houldsworth to our Publications Team
- 18/07 In recent weeks, we have received 13 volunteer applications – 5 for TikTok officer, 4 for researchers, 2 for Media Officer, 1 for Publications Team and 1 for Admin support.
 - ➔ However, as yet, we have only signed up one volunteer Rachel (Ria) Telan as an extra media officer.
 - Lapsed volunteer: Mazibar Rahman has resigned due to increased PhD study load
- 15/07 Welcome new volunteer *Media Officer* Rachel ‘Ria’ Telan
- 23/07 Welcome Megan ‘Meg’ Bernard to our volunteer Publications Team
- 17/09 Megan Bernard has withdrawn as a volunteer researcher
- 19/09 Welcome new volunteer Shuri Matsumoto who will be helping with various admin tasks
- 29/09 Lapsed volunteers – Jamie Houldsworth, Nadean Kelly & Sagar Pokhrel
- 23/10 Welcome new media volunteer – Josie Jarvis (NSW)

Media Releases:

- 01/11 Issued nationally media release re: National Recycling Week, 13 – 19 November 2023
- 23/11 Issued locally Media Release re: Volunteering for HOPE
- 23/11 Issued nationally Media Release re: Volunteering for the Environment
- 06/01/24 Issued nationally Media Release re: AVAAZ
- 31/01 Issued nationally media release on Battery Recycling
- 24/02 Issued nationally media release re: World Wildlife Day, 3 March 20204
- 27/02 Conducted an interview with 7 Toowoomba regarding our requests for used postage stamps and unwanted stamp album collections
- 12/04 Issued nationally media release re Decade of Biosecurity, 2021-2030
- 22/04 Issued locally media release re: Screening of Climate Changers, 1 May 2024
- 27/07 Circulated nationally media release re: IAVE World Volunteer Conference 2024
- 30/07 Circulated nationally media release re” Keep Australia Beautiful Week, 5-11 Aug 2024
- 28/08 Circulated nationally media release re: International day Against Nuclear Tests, 29 Aug 2024
- 06/09 Circulated nationally media release re: Threatened Species day, 7 Sept 2024

- 28/09 Issued nationally media release re: Empower Your School with HOPE's Sustainable Living Resources (*written by Shuri Matsumoto*)
- 30/09 Issued nationally 2 media releases: World Habitat Day, 7 Oct 2024 | World Cotton Day, 7 Oct 2024 (*written by Rachel Telan*)
- 06/10 Issued nationally Date Claimer -- The Global Nature Positive Summit 2024, 8-10 Oct 2024 -- Sydney, NSW (*written by Rachel Telan*)

Grant information:

- 16/11 Issued 'Expressions of Interest' letter re: another Nest Boxes project
 → *Unfortunately, there was insufficient from the environment sector interest to warrant a grant application to Ergon Energy 's Community Fund*
- 18/01 EoI to 2024 Volunteer Grants program unsuccessful
- 17/02 2 online grant submissions made re Publishing a "booklet of profiles" on Male Environmental Champions of the Region (i.e. Toowoomba Regional Council jurisdiction)
- 16/02 Submitted online acquittal of GCBF grant for Nest Boxes Project
- 16/02 Submitted online application to TRC Environment Grants' program re: Creating a booklet of profiles "acknowledging the contribution that Menfolk have made, and are making to positive contributions to protecting and conserving our environment
 → *16/02 - Submitted a shortened version of the above project proposal to Brisbane Airport's Community Giving Fund*
 → *19/02 Notified by TRC that our application to council's Environment Grants Program was unsuccessful*
 → *20/02 Submitted fresh application to TRC's Community Support Grant Program for booklet of Stories of Male Environmental Champions of our Region → 04/04 Unsuccessful grant application to Toowoomba Regional Council (TRC) re: Booklet of "Stories of Environmental Champions"*
- 25/03 Unsuccessful grant application to Queensland Community Foundation re: Website Upgrade
- 26/06/24 Received notification that our funding application to Australian Community Foundation for a new laptop was unsuccessful
- 28/06/24 Submitted grant application to Hamer Sprout Fund re: Developing a Booklet and Podcast series on male Environment Champions of the Toowoomba region
- 15/10 Received notification from Volunteering Queensland (VQ) that our Expression of Interest (EoI) application was accepted; and that we should proceed to submitting a grant application for 'governance' training for our incoming President. → *Application submitted by Frank Ondrus, current President – HOPE Inc.*

Submissions:

Nil

Account's activity:

- 21/11 Received part 2 of 3 payment from BAA Ltd -- \$2,000 with GST = \$181.82
- 13/11 \$100 donation to HOPE Public Fund
- 04/12 Paid \$244.73 (with GST = \$22.15) to CCS for toner cartridge
- 12/12 Paid \$1,350 to TWMS for 30 nest boxes
- 12/12 Received \$2,000 (3rd and final payment) from BAA Ltd
- 13/12 Paid \$1,983 to A. Nicholson (consultant2) for BAA podcast work
- 20/12 Privately paid invoice from Communications & Computer Support for Dropbox problem fix. (\$80)
- 20/12 Privately paid invoice from Communications & Computer Support for Website Migration exercise (\$800)
- 20/12/23 Paid OFT Qld \$60.05 re Annual Return (cheque no. = 200764, No GST)
- 02/01/24 Paid CCS to fix email problem with Bigpond addresses (cheque no. = 200765, \$80.00 with GST = \$7.27)
- 05/01 Transferred \$800 from HOPE Public Fund to HOPE's general account
- 08/01 Deposited HOPE Public Fund's cheque into HOPE general account
- 23/01 Reimbursed Miriam \$223.90 (cheque no. 200766) for paying the ZOOM annual subscription
- 14/04 Paid \$275 to Totem Films P/L (cheque no. 200768 with GST = \$25)
- 22/04 Submitted 'Form 8 – changes to Constitution' to OFT Qld with payment of \$23.45
- 10/05 Paid \$110 to Nextmedia P/L for 6 cartons of back issues of Gardening Australia magazines
- 05/06 Paid Colmac Computers \$80 (GST = \$7.27), cheque no. = 200772 re: Troubleshooting on researchers laptop
- 05/06 Paid Volunteering Queensland \$110 (GST = \$10), cheque no = 200773 re: Membership renewal 2024-2025
- 06/06 Received notification from Westpac that the HOPE Public Fund account name has been changed to HOPE Gift Fund
- 04/07 Paid QCC \$33 (cheque no. 200774 with GST - \$3) for 2024-2025 membership à *Cheque cancelled as QCC no longer accepts cheques*

→ 22/07 Queensland Conservation Council (QCC) no longer accepts payment by cheques. Sand, since we don't currently have online banking. I've cancelled cheque no. 200774 payment for our 2024-25 membership renewal ... and, I've paid the invoice privately.

19/07 Submitted 2023-24 accounts to auditors - JG Audit & Assurance

01/08 Collected 'audited accounts and paid JG Audit & Associates \$440 – with GST = \$40 (cheque no. 200775)

03/08 Posted 2023-2024 BAS statement to ATO. – We should receive a refund of \$125

12/08 Received \$100 donation to HOPE Gift Fund from Peter Davies

15/08 Received \$125 GST refund from ATO

12/09 Paid CCS \$40 (GST = \$3.64), cheq. no. = 200776

26/09 Paid Colmac Computers \$40 (cheq. no = 200777, GST = \$3.64) re S/W fix

Office Updates compilation for the past 6 months

24 Nov 2023

Wow! What a busy and productive couple of weeks it has been for us.

Items actioned from 1st Ordinary Meeting of 2023-2024 Management Committee:

- 14/11 Canvased UniSQ for voluntary assistance with our media and communications activities
- 'Alliance/Partnership' program – Issued invitations to Transition Australia and Community Gardens Australia
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- National "Sustainable Living Festival (SLF)," Feb 2024 – Applications now open
 - I've suggested to various parties that they take the opportunity to promote themselves and their key initiatives to a national audience. If they agree to host a webinar during SFL month, then we will assist in promoting their webinars via our usual channels.
 - *Dr Geoff Woolcock, UniSQ, is interested in submitting a proposal*
- Biodynamic Agriculture Australia Ltd commission – Booklet of Profiles completed and handed over on 20 Nov 2023
 - *And, the podcasts series has also been completed and handed over on 22 Nov 2023*

Office highlights:

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11/11 Meetings: AGM; followed by 1st Ordinary Meeting of 2023-2024 Management Committee
12/11 Radio interview with 2GB re: National Recycling Week
21/11 Attended ZOOM meeting – 3pm: Volunteering Queensland's AGM
21/11 I will need to buy a new toner cartridge for our printer. Approx. cost is \$240.
21/11 Received part 2 of 3 payment from BAA Ltd -- \$2,000 with GST = \$181.82
23/11 Issued locally Media Release re: Volunteering for HOPE
23/11 Issued nationally Media Release re: Volunteering for the Environment

15 Dec 2023

The 'Biodynamic Agriculture Australia (BAA) Ltd' commission is now completed.

The 'booklet of profiles' and podcasts material have been handed over to BAA; and monies received from BAA has been distributed to our project consultants.

A huge thanks to Anna Kula who produced the booklet of profiles; and to Andrew Nicholson who produced the podcasts material. Both aspects of the commission were well received by BAA.

A note from Andrew Nicholson

I want to thank warmly the various HOPE members I have worked with in 2023, and let you know I have decided to take a complete break from community level environmental protection advocacy work for an extended period next year. I shall however continue to monitor a range of environmental protection initiatives with a system level reform focus, regionally, nationally and internationally. I shall give advance notice to the HOPE president when I am available to return to active, ongoing volunteer work with the organisation.

The 'migration' of our website has been completed. Hooray!

I have given Yaoyao, our website administrator, the go ahead to start 'updating' various menu pages and sub-sections with items from August 2023 onwards.

Once all the maintenance is completed, we'll do an official launch of the new website – calling for feedback on the design and content of the site.

The office officially closes at 5pm today and reopens on Monday 15 January 2024.

I will, of course, be dealing with email, postal and phone correspondence as required.

Office highlights:

29/11 Welcome Gabriel Malandu, student at UniSQ on an Industry Placement. Gabriel will provide up to 110 hours researching and drafting articles for us.
29/11 Purchased printer toner cartridge from CCS (Communications & Computer Support)
30/11 Circulated nationally a feature article by Gabriel Malandu entitled "There exists a global environmental crisis, and levels of consumption and consumerism (overdevelopment and the culture of capitalising) are major, if not the only, causes."

- 01/12 Issued nationally HOPE's December 2023 newsletter
- 03/12 Welcome Callum Fisher – a new researcher from Warwick, Qld
- 10/12 Volunteer resignations – Rob Nebodi (ACT)

Account activities:

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- 13/12 Paid \$1,983 to A. Nicholson (consultant2) for BAA podcast work

15 Jan 2024

Although the office officially reopens today, several of us have been 'beavering' away at our assigned tasks. Firstly, with the 'website migration' exercise completed; Yaoyao has been working diligently to bring the maintenance tasks up-to-date.

Secondly, thanks to Nina for compiling the bumper edition of our January 2024 newsletter.

Thirdly, the Nest Boxes project is nearing completion. We're awaiting the final 20 nest boxes from the Toowoomba West Men's Shed (TWMS).

Once all of the remaining nest boxes have been distributed, we can acquit the grant.

Fourthly, thanks to Anna for preparing our submission to the 2023-24 State & Territory Landcare Awards.

Fingers crossed, our 'Nest Boxes' project fares well!

Fifthly, thanks to Jason for his regular contribution of media releases and the occasional newsletter article.

Sixthly, thanks to our Social Media Team of Charmaine & Liam for regularly posting information to our Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn accounts.

Lastly, as we resume our voluntary efforts in managing HOPE, I'd like to hear how the rest of the Admin Support Team are progressively with your respective assignments.

Office highlights:

- 20/12/23 Completed review of HOPE's Work Plan for 2023 – with 95% of activities successfully actioned
- 21/12/23 Submitted Office of Fair Trading (OFT) Qld Annual Return
- 22/12/23 Submitted 2023 REO (Register of Environmental Organisations) Statistical Return
- 29/12/23 Issued nationally email from Biodiversity Council re: "We need transformational environmental law reform - here's how to do it"
- 01/01/24 Problem with sending emails (via new hosting service) → Fixed on 02/01/24
- 02/01/24 Issued nationally January 2024 newsletter
- 06/01/24 Issued nationally Media Release re: AVAAZ

Accounts activity:

- 20/12/23 Privately paid invoice from Communications & Computer Support for Dropbox problem fix. (\$80)
- 20/12/23 Privately paid invoice from Communications & Computer Support for Website Migration exercise (\$800)
- 20/12/23 Paid OFT Qld \$60.05 re Annual Return (cheque no. = 200764, No GST)
- 02/01/24 Paid CCS to fix email problem with Bigpond addresses (cheque no. = 200765, \$80.00 with GST = \$7.27)
- 05/01/24 Transferred \$800 from HOPE Public Fund to HOPE's general account
- 08/01/24 Deposited HOPE Public Fund's cheque into HOPE general account

28 Jan 2024

Our next quarterly meeting will be on Saturday 10 February.

The main agenda item is our program of planned and proposed projects, etc. for 2024.

We'll also be discussing options to increase our general membership numbers and the range of envNGO partnerships (see current list at [Partnerships/Alliances – NGOs | Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc. \(hopeaustralia.org.au\)](#)).

So, I'd appreciate your attendance in person or via ZOOM at this important gathering.

Office highlights:

- 15/01 Issued nationally notice re HOPE's new website
- 15/01 Issued nationally notice from CSIRO Publishing re Summer Sale of Books
- 18/01 EoI to 2024 Volunteer Grants program unsuccessful
- 23/01 Reimbursed Miriam \$223.90 (cheque no. 200766) for paying the ZOOM annual subscription
- 23/01 Submitted online membership/insurance renewal form to QWaLC
- 27/01 Issued Notice & Agenda for 2nd Ordinary Meeting, 10 February 2024

17 Feb 2024

There's good news from HOPE; and bad news about my health!

Firstly, here's the good news highlights:

- Yaoyao has done a fantastic job bringing the website maintenance up-to-date
- Callum Fisher has volunteered on work on the Special Report into the Circular Economy
- The management committee has agreed to participate in this year's Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) being held on Sunday 2 June 2024.
- 2 online grant submissions made re Publishing a "booklet of profiles" on Male Environmental Champions of the Region (i.e. Toowoomba Regional Council jurisdiction)

Now, as for my health. I'm still struggling to regulate my body clock and temperature – causing tiredness, fatigue and as my wife Mary would say "irritability."

Consequently, my thoroughness and timeliness in doing HOPE's work is compromised.

So, please bear with me as I deal with my health issues and endeavour to keep HOPE on track in 2024!

Office highlights:

31/01 Issued nationally media release on Battery Recycling

03/02 Issued nationally HOPE Enews Bulletin 2024 #02.2 --- February 2024

05/02 Welcome new admin support volunteer Sagar Pokhrel who will be designing banners, etc. for social media and our website

10/02 Held 2nd quarterly Ordinary Meeting – with the major focus being on reviewing status of 2024 projects and activities

11/02 Jigna Ghosh has resigned from her researcher position. So, we'll now need to recruit someone else to handle this special report on "Circular Economy progress in Australia"

→ Callum Fisher has volunteered to undertake this exercise (14/02/24)

16/02 Issued nationally Charmaine Turnbull's feature article "Earth's Destruction by a Thousand Cuts"

16/02 Submitted online acquittal of GCBF grant for Nest Boxes Project

16/02 Submitted online application to TRC Environment Grants' program re: Creating a booklet of profiles "acknowledging the contribution that Menfolk have made, and are making to positive contributions to protecting and conserving our environment

→ 16/02 - Submitted a shortened version of the above project proposal to Brisbane Airport's Community Giving Fund

22 Mar 2024

There are 4 possible grant funding bodies who may be receptive to our Mark II "Nesting Boxes Project.

So, I've taken the initiative to ask for "letters of support" from politicians, state and regional envNGOs and current list of nest box recipients.

If we receive a substantial number of "letters of support;" and interest from prior nest box recipients to go again, I'd like your permission to submit another project funding application (or two).

Office highlights:

19/02 Notified by TRC that our application to council's Environment Grants Program was unsuccessful

19/02 Amanda Ainley has resigned her volunteer research position due to work and study commitments

20/02 Submitted fresh application to TRC's Community Support Grant Program for booklet of Stories of Male Environmental Champions of our Region

22/02 Submitted online application to attend Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) 2024

24/02 Issued nationally media release re: World Wildlife Day, 3 March 2024

27/02 Conducted an interview with 7 Toowoomba regarding our requests for used postage stamps and unwanted stamp album collections

01/03 Issued nationally HOPE Enews Bulletin 2024 #03 --- March 2024

07/03 Issued nationally an information item entitled "**Outrage and Optimism podcast series: Our Story of Nature: from Rupture to Reconnection**"

12/03 Issued nationally information on Australian Industry's "Product Stewardship" Schemes

15/03 Issued nationally information on Screening of "Climate Changers" documentary

21/03 Submitted online application to "2024-25 AICD Not-for-Profit Scholarship Program" for Anna Kula

21/03 Our "Environmental and Climate Philanthropy Award" nomination to Philanthropy Australia was unsuccessful

9 Apr 2024

I wish to provide progress reports on various admin activities and planned projects, etc.

Firstly, the proposed Toowoomba screening of the "Climate Changers" documentary is progressing well.

I'm in discussion with Kate Reardon-Smith, a Senior Lecturer at the School of Agriculture and Environmental Science, University of Southern Queensland (UniSQ) regarding the co-hosting the event on Wednesday 24 April 2024. Once the costs for the hire of a lecture room and the licensing fee for the documentary (\$250 + GST) have been determined, I'll

contact you for final approval to go ahead with the screening.

Secondly, preparations for our participation at this year's Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) event are going well. I have assembled a modest amount of literature to distribute; organised some display posters; and we have received 5 items so far for a 'mini' raffle. I'm still waiting to hear back from 5 businesses regarding donations of either promotional give-away material and/or raffle prizes. We also have received donations of pkts of seeds from Green Harvest and 2 cartons of Weed booklets to sell at LEAF2024.

Thirdly, I have convened a 'Special Meeting' for this Saturday morning at 10am to ratify changes to our Constitution and the operation of the HOPE Gift Fund. Your attendance at this meeting, in person or via ZOOM, would be appreciated.

Lastly, I haven't heard from some of you for a while. So, if your volunteering priorities have changed for whatever reason and you are no longer able to regularly contribute, please let me know so that your assignments may be reallocated. Conversely, for those of you still active, I'd appreciate receiving a status reports from you.

Office highlights:

25/03 Unsuccessful grant application to Queensland Community Foundation re: Website Upgrade

01/04 Issued nationally the April 2024 edition of our newsletter

04/04 Unsuccessful grant application to Toowoomba Regional Council (TRC) re: Booklet of "Stories of Environmental Champions"

17 Apr 2024

1. I'd like you to suggest potential additions to our [Partnerships/Alliances – NGOs | Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc. \(hopeaustralia.org.au\)](https://hopeaustralia.org.au) program. Please nominate an agency or two with your reasons for their inclusion in the program.
2. I need some help in revamping our [Sponsoring HOPE | Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc. \(hopeaustralia.org.au\)](https://hopeaustralia.org.au) paperwork with the view of initiating a fresh campaign to attract sponsors nationally. Please contact the office by return email if you would like to assist with this exercise.
3. Good news. We have managed to secure the placement of a Southern Cross University student to work on our of our research projects. A more detailed statement will be made in June 2024.

Office highlights:

12/04 Issued nationally media release re Decade of Biosecurity, 2021-2030

14/04 Go ahead given to book screening of "Climate Changers" documentary
→ 14/04/24 - Paid \$275 to Totem Films P/L (cheque no. 200768 with GST = \$25)

20 May 2024

As winter sets in, I've had to start wearing long trousers and jumpers!

And, Mary has started making warming casseroles and soup to eat ... yum, yum, yum!

We welcome 3 new researcher volunteers – Georgy Hadwen (Qld), Karyne Maurmann (Qld) and Beltran Labougle (NSW). Preparations for attending the 2024 Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) are almost complete – with Miriam and I setting up our display site; and Anna, Charmaine and Andrew volunteering to relieve us intermittently on the day.

Earlier this morning, I issued an Open Letter to Members and Supporters signaling my intention to step down as President at the end of this current term.

Hopefully, a good number of members and supporters will attend the Ordinary Meeting on Saturday 8 June 2024 and contribute to discussions on moving forward – noting that I'm still available to care-take the Office Manager's position until a suitable replacement can be found.

Office highlights:

15/04 Submitted paperwork to Westpac re Name Change of HOPE Public Fund to HOPE Gift Fund

22/04 Issued locally media release re: Screening of Climate Changers, 1 May 2024

22/04 Submitted 'Form 8 – changes to Constitution' to OFT Qld with payment of \$23.45

25/04 Issued nationally Georgy Hadwen's feature article "Managing wild dog populations"

01/05 Issued nationally Enews Bulletin 2024 #05.3 --- May 2024

01/05 Screening of "Climate Changers" documentary at UniSQ

07/05 Prepared report on screening of Climate Changers documentary

07/05 Attended ZOOM meeting of Volunteering Queensland's "State of Volunteering in Queensland 2024" report launch

07/05 Attended ZOOM meeting of QCC's General Meeting

10/05 Paid \$110 to Nextmedia P/L for 6 cartons of back issues of Gardening Australia magazines

2023-2024 – 5.0 - Office Manager’s “Quarterly Report” for 14 September 2024 meeting

(Last updated –26 August 2024)

Summary of key items from sub-headings below:

- 4 Newsletters produced
- 2 Media Releases issued
- 2 Feature Articles circulated
- Grant applications – pending and current
 - Submitted grant application to Hamer Sprout Fund re: Developing a Booklet and Podcast series on male Environment Champions of the Toowoomba region
- Volunteer movement – 4 new; and 2 lapsed!

Significant office highlights:

- 21/05 Issued nationally information on Household Batteries recycling options
- 21/05 Issued “thank you” certificates to volunteers
- 25/05 Attended 2023/24 Landcare Awards presentation in Toowoomba ... and, to my surprise, our nomination was short-listed in one of the 9 award categories.
- 29/05 Application to AICD re Scholarship for Governance course for NFPs was unsuccessful
- 02/06 Held a successful information stall at Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) event
- 04/06 Issued email letter Alliance/Partner program invitations to 20+ agencies – both nationally and internationally:
- 08/06 Held quarterly Ordinary Meeting
- 23/06/ Sent letter to Independent Multicultural Media Australia (IMMA) requesting complimentary support and promotion of HOPE and its activities. → *No response to date*
- 03/07 Lots of ‘actions to be taken’ from quarterly Ordinary Meeting of 8 June 2024
- 18/07 Projects:
- Insufficient interest to pursue 2nd Nesting Boxes project
 - Southern Cross University sociology student field placement – Jessica Nettle signed up to review “Greenwashing” issue
- 20/07 Circulated email to Australian universities requesting information on their environmental policy and practices
- 20/07 Circulated email to Australian LGAs requesting information on their environmental policies, climate change and support for UN SDG
- 24/07 Attended QCC ZOOM meeting – “Meet & Greet” session
- 05/08 Issued annual Questionnaire to our members and supporters → *Minimal response to date*
- 12/08 Issued request to members and supporters re Financial Support via sponsorship or donation to Gift Fund

Newsletters:

- 05/06 Issued nationally Enews Bulletin for June 2024
- 08/07 Issued nationally Enews Bulletin for July 2024
- 01/08 Circulated nationally HOPE’s August 2024 newsletter
- 26/08 Issues nationally Enews Bulletin for September 2024

Feature articles:

- 24/05/24 Issued nationally feature article re: Advocating for the Care and Protection of the Environment through Ecologically Sustainable Development
- 16/08 Issued nationally – Review of “Later is Too Late” report by Georgy Hadwen – HOPE researcher Qld

Volunteer movement:

- 03/06 Welcome new volunteer researcher – Lizzie Pennington (Qld)
- 05/06 Lapsed volunteers – Daniela Dal’Castel (Qld) and Nisha Wajid (NSW)
- 11/06 Welcome new volunteer Jamie Houldsworth to our Publications Team
- 18/07 In recent weeks, we have received 13 volunteer applications – 5 for TikTok officer, 4 for researchers, 2 for Media Officer, 1 for Publications Team and 1 for Admin support.
- However, as yet, we have only signed up one volunteer Rachel (Ria) Telan as an extra media officer.
- Lapsed volunteer: Mazibar Rahman has resigned due to increased PhD study load
- 15/07 Welcome new volunteer *Media Officer* Rachel ‘Ria’ Telan
- 23/07 Welcome Megan ‘Meg’ Bernard to our volunteer Publications Team

Media Releases:

- 27/07 Circulated nationally media release re: IAVE World Volunteer Conference 2024

30/07 Circulated nationally media release re" Keep Australia Beautiful Week, 5-11 Aug 2024

Grant information:

26/06/24 Received notification that our funding application to Australian Community Foundation for a new laptop was unsuccessful

28/06/24 Submitted grant application to Hamer Sprout Fund re: Developing a Booklet and Podcast series on male Environment Champions of the Toowoomba region

Submissions:

Nil

Account's activity:

05/06 Paid Colmac Computers \$80 (GST = \$7.27), cheque no. = 200772 re: Troubleshooting on researchers laptop

05/06 Paid Volunteering Queensland \$110 (GST = \$10), cheque no = 200773 re: Membership renewal 2024-2025

06/06 Received notification from Westpac that the HOPE Public Fund account name has been changed to HOPE Gift Fund

04/07 Paid QCC \$33 (cheque no. 200774 with GST - \$3) for 2024-2025 membership à *Cheque cancelled as QCC no longer accepts cheques*

→ 22/07 Queensland Conservation Council (QCC) no longer accepts payment by cheques. Sand, since we don't currently have online banking. I've cancelled cheque no. 200774 payment for our 2024-25 membership renewal ... and, I've paid the invoice privately.

19/07 Submitted 2023-24 accounts to auditors - JG Audit & Assurance

01/08 Collected 'audited accounts and paid JG Audit & Associates \$440 – with GST = \$40 (cheque no. 200775)

03/08 Posted 2023-2024 BAS statement to ATO. – We should receive a refund of \$125

12/08 Received \$100 donation to HOPE Gift Fund from Peter Davies

Office Updates compilation of the past 3 months

9 June 2024

As you can see from the list of “Office highlights” below, we have been fairly busy in recent weeks.

The big news though, are the actions coming out of yesterday’s quarterly Ordinary Meeting.

A copy of the minutes and those ‘actions’ will be available within a few days.

In the meantime, I’d like you to consider maintaining your support and interest in HOPE and its activities by re-nominating to continue in your respective roles at November’s AGM.

Office highlights:

- 21/05/24 Issued nationally information on Household Batteries recycling options
- 21/05/24 Issued “thank you” to volunteers
- 24/05/24 Issued Agenda for 4th Ordinary Meeting, 8 June 2024
- 24/05/24 Issued nationally feature article re: Advocating for the Care and Protection of the Environment through Ecologically Sustainable Development
- 25/05/24 Attended 2023/24 Landcare Awards presentation in Toowoomba ... and, to my surprise, our nomination was short-listed in one of the 9 award categories.
- 27/05/24 Submitted “Application for endorsement for charity tax concessions” → *Not necessary as we are already tax exempt*
- 29/05/24 Application to AICD re Scholarship for Governance course for NFPs was unsuccessful
- 02/06/24 Held a successful information stall at Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) event
- 03/06/24 Welcome new volunteer researcher – Lizzie Pennington (Qld)
- 03/06/24 Deposited \$305.50 into HOPE general account – donations received at LEAF 2024 event
- 04/06/24 Issued email letter Alliance/Partner program invitations to 20+ agencies – both nationally and internationally:
 - The Climate Reality Project, Greenpeace Australia Pacific, WWF, Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF), Planet Sark, The Wilderness Society, Arid Lands Environmental Centre, Schools Strike for Climate, Fridays for Future, [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) (IPCC), [Earth System Governance Project](#) (ESGP), [International Union for Conservation of Nature](#) (IUCN), [Global Alliance on Health and Pollution](#) (GAHP), Invasive Species Council, Greening Australia, Outdoors WA, 350.org, African Conservation Foundation, Birdlife International, WWF Australia, Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living, Habitat for Humanity Australia, Sustainable Communities South Australia and The Gap Sustainability Initiative Inc.
- 05/06/24 Issued nationally Enews Bulletin for June 2024
- 05/06/24 Paid Colmac Computers \$80 (GST = \$7.27), cheque no. = 200772 re: Troubleshooting on researchers laptop
- 05/06/24 Paid Volunteering Queensland \$110 (GST = \$10), cheque no = 200773 re: Membership renewal 2024-2025
- 05/06/24 Lapsed volunteers – Daniela Dal’Castel (Qld) and Nisha Wajid (NSW)
- 06/06/24 Received notification from Westpac that the HOPE Public Fund account name has been changed to HOPE Gift Fund
- 08/06/24 Held quarterly Ordinary Meeting

3 July 2024

Firstly, here are the highlights from the Ordinary Meeting of 8 June 2024:

- Actions to be taken:
 - Update positions descriptions for President, Secretary, Treasurer, Media Officers and TikTok Social Media Officer; and post to Volunteering Queensland volunteer positions directory (done - FO)
 - Prepare lists of potential sponsors; then start issuing sponsorship requests
 - Explore [GiveNow | About us](#) and [About - Crowdfunding.com.au](#)
 - Seek ‘corporate’ volunteers to assist with administrative and financial matters
 - Prepare fresh ‘survey questions’ to gauge members and supporters viewpoints on what we are doing well, what we are doing poorly, and options for adopting a more strident manner when dealing with government policy, etc. (FO and AN)
 - Consider establishing TikTok account; as well as recruiting a competent volunteer to manage the account
 - Meeting schedule - Should we revert to a monthly schedule with a guest speaker? Perhaps, select a mid-week evening time. We certainly have a full range of topics/issues to choose from. All we need are suitable speakers.
 - ➔ *Your feedback and/or assistance with any of the above items would be appreciated.*

Secondly, here are the matters to be ratified at next Ordinary Meeting on 9 Sept 2024:

- Motion to ratify updated Strategic Plan 2024-2029

- Motion to change bank signatories of both Westpac accounts to one signatory only with account card access

Lastly, as winter sets in and colds, etc. are more prevalent, I hope that any illnesses incurred are not severe!

Office highlights:

- 11/06/24 Welcome new volunteer Jamie Houldsworth to our Publications Team
- 23/06/23 Sent letter to Independent Multicultural Media Australia (IMMA) requesting complimentary support and promotion of HOPE and its activities.
- 26/06/24 Received notification that our funding application to Australian Community Foundation for a new laptop was unsuccessful
- 28/06/24 Submitted grant application to Hamer Sprout Fund re: Developing a Booklet and Podcast series on male Environment Champions of the Toowoomba region

18 July 2024

Here's a 'mixed bag' of items for your reference:

- Projects:
 - Insufficient interest to pursue 2nd Nesting Boxes project
 - Southern Cross University sociology student field placement – Jessica Nettle signed up to review “Greenwashing” issue
 - Submitted online grant funding application to Hamer Sprout Fund to undertake project acknowledging the contribution that menfolk have made, and are making, to the protection and conservation of our environment
 - Ideas sought for projects to undertake nationally. Any suggestions?
- Volunteers -- In recent weeks, we have received 13 volunteer applications – 5 for TikTok officer, 4 for researchers, 2 for Media Officer, 1 for Publications Team and 1 for Admin support.
 - ➔ However, as yet, we have only signed up one volunteer Rachel (Ria) Telan as an extra media officer.
 - Volunteers – lapsed: Mazibar Rahman has resigned due to increased PhD study load
- Admin Support Team – How is everyone handling the cold weather? (Personally, I'm very sluggish at present.) I'd appreciate hearing from you on the status of your respective assignments.
- Sponsorship – Anna and I have started refreshing potential sponsor's lists
- Membership – Jason and I are revamping a 'membership' media release which will be issued to primary and secondary schools throughout Australia
- Containers for Cash – Please consider donating your 'refunds' to us at **HOPE Inc** | Member number: C11107170

Outstanding items from 3 July “Office Update”:

- Actions to be taken:
 - Update positions descriptions for President, Secretary, Treasurer, Media Officers and TikTok Social Media Officer; and post to Volunteering Queensland volunteer positions directory (done - FO)
 - Prepare lists of potential sponsors; then start issuing sponsorship requests (progressing well - FO and Anna Kula)
 - Explore [GiveNow | About us](#) and [About - Crowdfunding.com.au](#)
 - Seek 'corporate' volunteers to assist with administrative and financial matters
 - Prepare fresh 'survey questions' to gauge members and supporters viewpoints on what we are doing well, what we are doing poorly, and options for adopting a more strident manner when dealing with government policy, etc. (FO and AN)
 - Consider establishing TikTok account; as well as recruiting a competent volunteer to manage the account
 - Meeting schedule - Should we revert to a monthly schedule with a guest speaker? Perhaps, select a mid-week evening time. We certainly have a full range of topics/issues to choose from. All we need are suitable speakers.
 - ➔ *Your feedback and/or assistance with any of the above items would be appreciated.*

Secondly, here are the matters to be ratified at next Ordinary Meeting on 9 Sept 2024:

- Motion to ratify updated Strategic Plan 2024-2029
- Motion to change bank signatories of both Westpac accounts to one signatory only with account card access

07 Aug 2024

We have started receiving responses from Australian universities and Local Government Authorities (LGAs) in regards to their 'environmental policies and practices.'

Once, the majority of responses have been received from both the university sector and LGAs, we will issue summary reports to our membership and supporter base.

Our next scheduled Ordinary Meeting is on Saturday 14 September. It will be both an “in person” and ZOOM meeting and I would appreciate as many of you as possible attending.

Lastly, I haven't heard from some of you for quite some time now. Have your work/study/family commitments changed to such an extent that you no longer have the time and interest to actively volunteer with us? Or, are you suffering 'health' related issues which prevent you from volunteering.

Either way, I would appreciate receiving feedback on your current situation and your availability to complete your assigned HOPE tasks.

Office highlights:

- 04/07 Paid QCC \$33 (cheque no. 200774 with GST - \$3) for 2024-2025 membership à *Cheque cancelled as QCC no longer accepts cheques*
→ 22/07 Queensland Conservation Council (QCC) no longer accepts payment by cheques. Sand, since we don't currently have online banking. I've cancelled cheque no. 200774 payment for our 2024-25 membership renewal ... and, I've paid the invoice privately.
- 15/07 Welcome new volunteer *Media Officer* Rachel 'Ria' Telan
- 19/07 Submitted 2023-24 accounts to auditors - JG Audit & Assurance
- 20/07 Circulated email to Australian universities requesting information on their environmental policy and practices à 7 responses to date
- 20/07 Circulated email to Australian university student clubs regarding volunteering opportunities with us.
- 22/07 Queensland Conservation Council (QCC) no longer accepts payment by cheques. Sand, since we don't currently have online banking. I've cancelled cheque no. 200774 payment for our 2024-25 membership renewal ... and, I've paid the invoice privately.
- 23/07 Welcome Megan 'Meg' Bernard to our volunteer Publications Team
- 24/07 Attended QCC ZOOM meeting – "Meet & Greet" session
- 20/07 Circulated email to Australian LGAs requesting information on their environmental policy and practices → Responses to date: 2/7 from ACT; 8/128 from NSW; 0/8 NT; 5/76 from Qld; 3/69 from SA; 2/29 from Tas; 10/103 from Vic; and 11/141 from WA
- 27/07 Circulated nationally media release re: IAVE World Volunteer Conference 2024
- 30/07 Circulated nationally media release re" Keep Australia Beautiful Week, 5-11 Aug 2024
- 01/08 Circulated nationally HOPE's August 2024 newsletter
- 01/08 Collected 'audited accounts' and paid JG Audit & Associates \$440 – with GST = \$40 (cheque no. 200775)
- 03/08 Posted 2023-2024 BAS statement to ATO. – We should receive a refund of \$125
- 05/08 Issued annual Questionnaire to our members and supporters

26 Aug 2024

This is the final Office News update before the next quarterly Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Saturday, 14 September 2024. For those of you attending in person, Mary and I will be providing a light lunch of cold meats and salads.

So, if you are staying for lunch, please RSCP by Thursday 12 September.

Lastly, to minimise the email numbers, I'm including a number of attachments for your reference and consideration.

Office highlights:

- 12/08 Issued request to members and supporters re Financial Support via sponsorship or donation to Gift Fund
- 12/08 Received \$100 donation to HOPE Gift Fund from Peter Davies
- 16/08 Issued nationally – Review of "Later is Too Late" report by Georgy Hadwen – HOPE researcher Qld

2023-2024 – 6.0 - Office Manager's "Quarterly Report" for 9 November 2024 meeting

(Last updated –25 October 2024)

Summary of key items from sub-headings below:

- 2 Newsletters produced
- 6 Media Releases issued
- 1 Feature Article circulated
- Grant applications – pending and current
 - Submitted grant application to Hamer Sprout Fund re: Developing a Booklet and Podcast series on male Environment Champions of the Toowoomba region
- Volunteer movement – 2 new; and 4 lapsed!

Significant office highlights:

- 26/08 Issued meeting agenda for September's quarterly meeting, 14 Sept 2024
- 11/09 Add admin@hopeaustralia.org.au to our HOPE domain name. This email address will be utilised by Anna Kula for our 'sponsorship' campaign.
→ 12/09 CCS added admin@hopeaustralia.org.au to our website domain.
- 12/09 Anna has started issuing 'Corporate Sponsorship' requests (via admin@hopeaustralia.org.au) à 117 email requests sent (14/09)
- 12/09 Issued nationally urgent message from Places You Love Alliance re: Reforms to Australia's national nature laws are being negotiated right now in federal Parliament and we need your help.
- 23/09 Issued nationally media release re: The Growing Threat of Plastic Pollution (*written by Pooja Devi*)
- 25/09 Contacted Colmac Computers re "This app is preventing Windows from closing down or restarting" → *run System File Checker to correct corrupt files*
- 10/10 Sent letters to the Australian National Audit Office (ANOA) and each State Premier and Territory Chief Minister asking how they account for abandoned mines in the respective jurisdictions. → *These letters were drafted by Samy Leyton, a volunteer researcher from NT.*
- 16/10 Attended Condamine Catchment Management Association (CCMA) AGM. Whilst there, I upgraded our membership to CCMA from Associate to Community Group which gives us voting rights.
- 21/10 Disposed of old Dell laptop to Good Guys e-waste collection service
- 22/10 Circulated email from Andrew Gaines re: [Stable Planet Alliance](#)

Newsletters:

- 26/08 Circulated nationally September 2024 newsletter
- 08/10 Issued nationally HOPE E-news Bulletin 2024 #10 --- October 2024

Feature articles:

- 18/10 Issued nationally special reports on Coas Seam Gas (CSG) Mining in Australia (written by Georgy Hadwen, HOPE researcher Qld)

Volunteer movement:

- 17/09 Megan Bernard has withdrawn as a volunteer researcher
- 19/09 Welcome new volunteer Shuri Matsumoto who will be helping with various admin tasks
- 29/09 Lapsed volunteers – Jamie Houldsworth, Nadean Kelly & Sagar Pokhrel
- 23/10 Welcome new media volunteer – Josie Jarvis (NSW)

Media Releases:

- 28/08 Circulated nationally media release re: International day Against Nuclear Tests, 29 Aug 2024
- 06/09 Circulated nationally media release re: Threatened Species day, 7 Sept 2024
- 28/09 Issued nationally media release re: Empower Your School with HOPE's Sustainable Living Resources (*written by Shuri Matsumoto*)
- 30/09 Issued nationally 2 media releases: World Habitat Day, 7 Oct 2024 | World Cotton Day, 7 Oct 2024 (*written by Rachel Telan*)
- 06/10 Issued nationally Date Claimer -- The Global Nature Positive Summit 2024, 8-10 Oct 2024 -- Sydney, NSW (*written by Rachel Telan*)

Grant information:

- 26/06/24 Received notification that our funding application to Australian Community Foundation for a new laptop was unsuccessful

- 28/06/24 Submitted grant application to Hamer Sprout Fund re: Developing a Booklet and Podcast series on male Environment Champions of the Toowoomba region
- 15/10 Received notification from Volunteering Queensland (VQ) that our Expression of Interest (Eoi) application was accepted; and that we should proceed to submitting a grant application for 'governance' training for our incoming President. → *Application submitted by Frank Ondrus, current President – HOPE Inc.*

Submissions:

Nil

Account's activity:

- 15/08 Received \$125 GST refund from ATO
- 12/09 Paid CCS \$40 (GST = \$3.64), cheq. no. = 200776
- 26/09 Paid Colmac Computers \$40 (cheq. no = 200777, GST = \$3.64) re S/W fix
-

Office Updates compilation of the past 3 months

18 Sept 2024

Please find attached the minutes of our September meeting.

Noting that only a handful of you were able to attend this meeting, I ask that you carefully read the minutes and provide your thoughts on the matters raised.

Also, as our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled for 9th November 2024, I'm keen to know which of you will be continuing on in your current role(s) for the 2024-2025 year.

Other office highlights:

- 26/08 Issued meeting agenda for September's quarterly meeting, 14 Sept 2024
- 26/08 Circulated nationally September 2024 newsletter
- 28/08 Circulated nationally media release re: International day Against Nuclear Tests, 29 Aug 2024
- 06/09 Circulated nationally media release re: Threatened Species day, 7 Sept 2024
- 11/09 Add admin@hopeaustralia.org.au to our HOPE domain name. This email address will be utilised by Anna Kula for our 'sponsorship' campaign.
- 12/09 CCS added admin@hopeaustralia.org.au to our website domain.
- 12/09 Anna has started issuing 'Corporate Sponsorship' requests (via admin@hopeaustralia.org.au) à 117 email requests sent (14/09)
- 12/09 Issued nationally urgent message from Places You Love Alliance re: **Reforms to Australia's national nature laws are being negotiated right now in federal Parliament and we need your help.**
- 17/09 Megan Bernard has withdrawn as a volunteer researcher

Accounts:

- 15/08 Received \$125 GST refund from ATO
- 12/09 Paid CCS \$40 (GST = \$3.64), cheq. no. = 200776

9 October 2024

My apologies for the lateness of this Office Update, but Mary and I have been pulling down our back timber fence and preparing the site for the NEW hardwood, post and 3 rail timber fence (see attached photo).

We also have finished cutting up the posts, rails and palings for firewood.

Later today, Mary and I are off to buy a firepit - which we hope to start using shortly.

So, for any Toowoomba regional locals, there's an open invitation to come and have drinks and nibbles with us.

Now, for HOPE news.

"The more we do, the more we are asked to do."

So, I'm very grateful for the effort that longer-term and more recent volunteers have been making to keep the work flowing. Volunteers have been busy preparing media releases, social media posts and newsletter articles – all of which are routinely circulated/published.

Also, just as importantly, I wish to thank those involved in maintaining our social media platforms and website.

HOPE “advocates for responsible stewardship of the environment and supports adopting sustainable long-term solutions to the manifold environmental problems facing humanity”, and I believe it is important for us to maintain this high level of output – in conjunction with our many Mutual Support Partners.

Extra task - I need volunteers to review reports and provide summaries for our newsletter.

So, if you would like to help with matter, please contact me by return email for your first 'report review' assignment.

Lastly, our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is being held on 9 November 2024.

I am stepping down as President, but staying on as Office manager.

Anna Kula-Kaczmarek has volunteered to step as President for at least the 2024-2025 year.

So, I now need to know, which of you are still interested and willing to stay on for another term.

Please let me know your response by 31 October 2024 – so that I know what vacancies we need to fill.

Office highlights:

- 19/09 Welcome new volunteer Shuri Matsumoto who will be helping with various admin tasks
- 23/09 Issued nationally media release re: The Growing Threat of Plastic Pollution (*written by Pooja Devi*)
- 25/09 Contacted Colmac Computers re “This app is preventing Windows from closing down or restarting” → *run System File Checker to correct corrupt files*
- 26/09 Paid Colmac Computers \$40 (cheq. no = 200777, GST = \$3.64) re S/W fix
- 28/09 Issued nationally media release re: Empower Your School with HOPE’s Sustainable Living Resources (*written by Shuri Matsumoto*)
- 29/09 Lapsed volunteers – Jamie Houldsworth, Nadean Kelly & Sagar Pokhrel
- 30/09 Issued nationally 2 media releases: World Habitat Day, 7 Oct 2024 | World Cotton Day, 7 Oct 2024 (*written by Rachel Telan*)
- 04/10 Issued nationally notice launching “HOPE’s Strategic Plan 2024-29” document (*compiled by Anna Kula*)
- 05/10 Issued nationally media release re: Calling for a Global Ban on PFAS Chemicals to Protect Health and the Environment (*written by Pooja Devi*)
- 06/10 Issued nationally Date Claimer -- The Global Nature Positive Summit 2024, 8-10 Oct 2024 -- Sydney, NSW (*written by Rachel Telan*)
- 08/10 Issued nationally HOPE E-news Bulletin 2024 #10 --- October 2024

25 Oct 2024

This is my final “Office Update” prior to our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Saturday 9 November 2024.

For those of you attending in person, please register by Thursday 7 November.

For those of you attending via ZOOM, please do so by Thursday 7 November.

If you are unable to attend, but would like your vote counted, please assign your ‘proxy vote’ to either Frank Ondrus (Office Manager), Kerry Kruger (Secretary) or Miriam Sharp (Treasurer).

Paperwork for the AGM and the 1st Ordinary Meeting of the 2024-2025 team will be issued shortly.

Office highlights:

- 10/10 Sent letters to the Australian National Audit Office (ANOA) and each State Premier and Territory Chief Minister asking how they account for abandoned mines in the respective jurisdictions. → *These letters were drafted by Samy Leyton, a volunteer researcher from NT.*
- 15/10 Received notification from Volunteering Queensland (VQ) that our Expression of Interest (Eoi) application was accepted; and that we should proceed to submitting a grant application for ‘governance’ training for our incoming President. → *Application submitted by Frank Ondrus, current President – HOPE Inc.*
- 16/10 Attended Condamine Catchment Management Association (CCMA) AGM. Whilst there, I upgraded our membership to CCMA from Associate to Community Group which gives us voting rights.
- 18/10 Issued nationally special reports on Coas Seam Gas (CSG) Mining in Australia (*written by Georgy Hadwen, HOPE researcher Qld*)
- 21/10 Disposed of old Dell laptop to Good Guys e-waste collection service
- 22/10 Circulated email from Andrew Gaines re: [Stable Planet Alliance](#)
- 23/10 Welcome new media volunteer – Josie Jarvis (NSW)