

HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS LTD

2022

ANNUAL REPORT



**Highways
and Byways**

HEALING THE LAND.
HEALING OURSELVES.
TOGETHER.

HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS

ABOUT US

Highways and Byways Ltd is a national charity established by the Missionary Sisters of Service to support people and communities experiencing disadvantage and inequality across Australia. We do this through our annual small grants and longer-term partnership programs. Our programs are developed to strengthen community relationships and networks, develop local leadership, and empower people to meet the challenges confronting them.

Highways and Byways is an Australian public company and registered charity governed by a Board of Directors.

Our head office is based in Box Hill, Melbourne, and we have volunteer branches in Tasmania, Queensland and Victoria.

OUR MISSION: HEALING THE LAND, HEALING OURSELVES, TOGETHER

Highways and Byways continues the vision and mission of the Missionary Sisters of Service, acknowledging and connecting with the Indigenous people of this land, reaching out in hope and love to people socially and geographically isolated, strengthening community relationships and cultural identity, contributing to the regeneration and healing of our earth, developing local leadership and empowering people to respond to the challenges that confront us.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that we live in an ancient Land. We acknowledge and honour the first peoples of this whole land, their Elders past, present and emerging, who have lived and cared for Country with understanding, skill, sophistication and respect. They knew, understood and treasured the land with intimacy. We commit to walk with First Nations people, to listen to the truth of our history and to grow in our understanding and our healing.

FRONT COVER IMAGE: Courtesy of Gondwana Link, Western Australia. A cultural burn is underway near Nowanup. On the horizon is Koi Kyenunu-ruff (the Stirling Range). Picture: Jim Underwood.



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and Byways**

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OUR ACHIEVEMENTS



SMALL GRANTS

- Small grants valuing \$119,939.50 were provided to 44 projects impacting more than 55 communities in rural, regional and remote Australia. This represents growth in the value of small grants expenditure of 37% from 2021.
- Small grants were distributed in Western Australia, Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania.
- Small grants supported a diversity of projects aligned to the theme of *Healing the Land, Healing Ourselves, Together*, including: land and water rehabilitation and restoration initiatives, youth engagement programs, community events, new equipment, education and training, and research.
- Grant recipients included local Landcare groups, Indigenous land managers, reserve managers, community houses, progress associations, agricultural alliances, gardening clubs, community gardens, a scouting group, women's shed, youth residence and a student council.
- 15 grants valued at \$38,858 were provided to assist recipients of grants from the 2021 Small Grants Program to extend or grow their projects.

PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

- The **Restoring Nature and Communities Program** in partnership with North East Bioregional Network in Tasmania provided employment for four local men to undertake ecological restoration work at Skyline Tier, Diana's Basin and Bay of Fires.

The **Seeds of Connection** program in Roma in south west Queensland, a six hour drive west of Brisbane, delivered several initiatives:

- *Healing and Belonging through Culture*, a program for Indigenous children to learn about language, food and cultural practices.
- *Wandering Spirits*, a camp for Indigenous women to reconnect with their culture and share knowledge and wisdom between generations.
- A *Community Wellbeing Program* for isolated residents in Wallumbilla, Roma, Injune and Mitchell including mindfulness and yoga classes.
- We were fortunate to receive grants from the **Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal**, **Mary Mackillop Today**, **Religious of Queensland** and **Australia Post** to support these initiatives.

EVENTS

- **Yarck to Yea Walk-Ride-Run** attracted over 50 participants, and 40 locals for a post-event celebratory BBQ.
- At the **John Wallis Winter Walk** in Hobart, walkers reflected upon on the life and achievements of Missionary Sisters of Service founder Fr John Wallis.
- Dr Elissa Roper spoke at the **John Wallis Memorial Lecture** in Tasmania on **Baptismal Responsibility, a Spirit-led Church for Today's World**.

FROM THE CHAIR

MARG CASEY

I am delighted to report that Highways and Byways has, yet again, been able to grow its programs and continue to thrive during the 2021-22 financial year, despite the ongoing nature of Covid19. It has been a bonus to have most of our meetings face-to-face, enabling more robust discussion without the constraints of Zoom.

The Highways and Byways Board is continuing to strengthen its relationship with the Stewardship Council. The Board met with the Council earlier this year to discuss governance structures and communication, and as the Chair I am invited to attend meetings in areas pertaining to Highways and Byways activities. The strategic plans we have implemented will serve Highways and Byways well into the future, one of which is the formation of a Mission Integration Committee which is charged with taking the mission of the Missionary Sisters of Service (MSS) well into the future.

As the mission entity of the MSS, Highways and Byways was to participate in an audit conducted by Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd, and I am happy to announce that we gained a 100% positive outcome.

Stancea Vichie mss along with the Executive Officers, both Liz McAloon and now Jane Collopy, have been working closely with Mary MacKillop Today (MMT) on the possibility of developing a

partnership of some kind in areas where we have common interests and projects. The Board has also met with the two Melbourne-based Directors of MMT and those discussions will be continued.

Liz McAloon, our exceptional Executive Officer for eight years, tendered her resignation at the end of 2021 and we pass on our formal thanks to Liz for her outstanding leadership over that time, building Highways and Byways into the outstanding organisation it is today. We warmly welcome Jane as our new Executive Officer who commenced working in January 2022 and has 'hit the ground running' taking on her role with vigour.

As always, my sincere thanks to all the Directors for their hard work this year. The three committees, Finance and Administration, Communications and Fundraising and Projects Committee, have all achieved much, and the new Mission Integration Committee is developing its Statement of Purpose and working well as a team. Brian Lennon took a year's leave from the Board and we also welcomed Alicia Deak to the Board.

Also, my thanks to Liz, Jane and the staff for their exceptional work, and the Missionary Sisters of Service and Stewardship Council for their continued support and encouragement.



EXECUTIVE OFFICER

JANE COLLOPY

2022 has been a great year of change for everyone as we adapt to a new post-lockdown way of life. We have been fortunate to have many of our small grants projects and longer-term partnership programs thrive despite the ongoing challenges and changes to the way we live and work, and the loss and hardship endured by some of our rural and remote communities following the floods.

Our commitment to *Healing the Land, Healing Ourselves, Together* is so pertinent, as we look for ways to rebuild our connections to each other and to the land in ways that promote healing, hope and community. We are especially focused on growing this healing and hope for those who find themselves living isolated lives, both geographically and socially. Our Indigenous, cultural and wellbeing programs have grown even further in Roma, and our ecological restoration work in North East Tasmania continues to flourish.

Highways and Byways itself has also seen enormous change in 2022, with many of our staff handing over their roles to newcomers. We give tremendous thanks for the amazing work of Liz McAloon, Paul Jackson, Andrea Butler and Jill Elliot in establishing and growing Highways and Byways over many years. Marnie Wylde continues her amazing work managing our small grants, and will extend her reach by assisting our longer-term partnership programs to access more funding for 2023, as well as supporting our communications work. We also welcome Jo Winton as our Administration and Finance Officer, and appreciate her hard work in this time of great transition.

We have also relocated our office from Vermont to the magnificent building of the old Franciscan monastery in Box Hill, now home to the University of Divinity. Here we continue our work in the spirit of the MSS, and give thanks to all of you who enable this through your support of Highways and Byways.

SMALL GRANTS

Each year Highways and Byways provides small grants for projects that address disadvantage and exclusion within towns and communities, especially in rural and regional Australia.

In 2022 our Small Grants Program theme was *Healing the Land, Healing Ourselves, Together*. We chose this theme, which we had commenced in 2021, in recognition of the ongoing challenges confronting remote communities living through a second year of a global health pandemic and the impacts of ongoing drought, climate change, bushfire and flood. We had also entered the second year of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems across the world, and we are committed to making a difference to restore the planet.

Forty four grants totaling \$119,939.50 were provided to community organisations across Australia for practical projects focused on healing of land, the earth, its ecosystems, and its people. The map following demonstrates the reach grants across Australia. These projects are diverse, from land and

water rehabilitation and restoration initiatives, to projects engaging and mentoring our youth. All bring the community together in some way: whether it be at local gardens, at workshops or events, and many aim to impart knowledge, skills and support local leaders. A strong theme running through this year's projects was the recognition and protection of Indigenous knowledge and wisdom, especially in relation to land management and cultural burning.

We also placed a particular emphasis on supporting several of the projects we had funded in 2021. We had been encouraged by the caliber of projects undertaken in 2021 but we recognised the challenges many were experiencing in gaining momentum in a year where Covid19 restrictions and lockdowns were commonplace for many. This meant that many of our 2022 grant recipients were quick to action, and images of their completed project outcomes appear throughout this report. But we also supported many new endeavours too. These are outlined in further detail in the following section.





PROJECTS FUNDED IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

1. USING DRONES FOR TWO-WAY FIRE MANAGEMENT IN KIWIRRKURRA INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AREA

Desert Support Services

Kiwirrkurra Indigenous Protected Area, WA, \$3,000

A new drone will support the Kiwirrkurra Indigenous Ranger program in its management of fire across Kiwirrkurra Indigenous Protected Area through the combination of traditional fire knowledge and a science management approach. The drone will monitor on-ground patch burning and large wildfires, and search for fire-sensitive areas, both environmental and cultural, where Indigenous patch burning is to be undertaken. It will also be used for tracking threatened species and feral animals after fire, and examining cultural sites that are not easily accessible.

2. NATIVE SEEDLING PLANTING AT BARNARD PARK EAST

Busselton Dunsborough Environment Centre Inc

Busselton, WA, \$3,000

A tree planting day involving local youth has rehabilitated bushland within degraded areas of Barnard Park East in Busselton. The day involved planting out 500 native seedlings and an educational component via a wildlife rehabilitation and education organisation to raise awareness of the importance of native and its habitat. This initiative is part of a five-year project to transform Barnard Park East into a nature-based area open to the local community, alongside a protected conservation area for the critically endangered Western Ringtail Possum and other wildlife.

3. COMPOSTING

Kulungah Myah Community Centre

Kardinya, WA

\$800

Kulungah Myah Community Centre will deliver three-hour workshop 'Rethinking Organic Waste' to give participants knowledge and skills to implement simple waste management and soil regeneration strategies in the home. The session will be led by experienced waste management educator, Peg Davies, and will address issues such as composting, worm farming and Bokashi bucket use.

4. KAARL NGARA: CULTURAL BURNING NOONGAR WAY

Gondwana Link Inc
Jacup, WA, \$3,000

Gondwana Link has delivered an initiative focused on the cultural, ecological and asset protection role of cultural fire management practices in central Gondwana Link remnant vegetation landscapes. A workshop for land managers was held on country to share Noongar fire knowledge and explore ongoing opportunities for cultural burning as part of fire and conservation management in the region. With the recent South-West Native Title Settlement there will be significant conservation lands transferring to Noongar and joint management, and the workshop aimed to equip Noongar Rangers for managing these lands in the future. The project builds on a successful first workshop funded by Highways and Byways in 2021 which commenced a dialogue between fire and land managers to embed Noongar wisdom into fire management in the region.

PROJECTS FUNDED IN QUEENSLAND

5. HEALING ANNAN/ENDEAVOUR CATCHMENT'S COMMUNITY & CAPACITY BUILDING

Cape York Weeds and Feral Animals Inc
Cooktown, QLD, \$3,000

Cape York Weeds and Feral Animals Inc will provide land managers, traditional owner groups and the public with on the ground training to reduce the prevalence of high priority weeds across the Cape York region. The project will enhance community knowledge, capability and skills which are not readily available in the region. This, together with property pest and weed management planning, will provide the foundations for long term weed and pest control for improved economic and environmental impact. The project continues the work of Cape York Weeds and Feral Animals commenced through a Highways and Byways small grant in 2021.

6. ROSE FLICK MEMORIAL GARDEN PROJECT

Thallon State School Student Council
Thallon, QLD, \$3,000

Thallon State School Student Council will revitalise the Rose Flick Memorial Garden. The Garden was established in 2011 to honor the memory of local Elder Rose Flick who contributed many years of service to the Thallon State School. The garden has suffered under drought conditions and many plants and bush tucker species need to be replaced or regenerated. Students will be responsible for designing, planting and maintaining the garden through a weekly gardening class.

7. GREENHIDE RESERVE FOREST REGENERATION PROJECT

Friends of the Forest Inc
Linville, QLD, \$3,000

A series of monthly community working bees will rehabilitate approximately 1.5 ha of critically endangered remnant forest within Greenhide Reserve. Weed removal and new plantings will stabilise an exposed bank of the Brisbane River to prevent further erosion, and will provide habitat and food for native wildlife that use the forest permanently as well as seasonally, including a grey headed flying fox colony. The removal of flammable and invasive species will mitigate bushfire risks. Several experts including botanists, scientists and land care professionals will also be involved.

8. THE GRASS GROWS GREENER

Warrego Wildlife Rescue Rehabilitation and Education Inc
Mungallala, QLD, \$2,300

The community of Mungallala in Queensland will acquire a small rototiller to remove buffel grass which has overtaken nature strips, footpaths and lawns across the town. With the removal of weeds and restoration of lawns and gardens, it is anticipated that locals will experience a sense of restored pride in their township and that passing tourists may be encouraged to stop and experience the community. The reintroduction of plant life into the area will also provide important habitat and fodder for native animals.

9. COVER CROPPING FIELD DAY FOR REGENERATIVE CROPPING

Macintyre Ag Alliance

Goondiwindi, QLD, \$3,000

Macintyre Ag Alliance convened a field day to educate the agricultural community on the benefits of cover cropping and bio-fertilisers as natural resource management tools. The event was held at “Kioma”, a large mixed livestock and cropping property which is trialing and integrating new approaches in cover cropping. Ninety attendees viewed cover crops in situ, learnt about techniques utilised on the farm, and heard from several guest speakers with expertise in cropping and agronomy.

10. COMMUNITY SEED BANK

Jimboomba Community Garden Inc

Greenbank, QLD, \$2,990.50

Jimboomba Community Garden will create a Community Seed Bank. The Garden will support and encourage members of the community to participate by donating heirloom seeds which will be stored and regrown at the community garden and in the home gardens of those who choose to participate. The Garden will also stage 10 monthly ‘crop swap’ events, with the aim of collecting 100 new seedling varieties. These events will encourage the sharing of knowledge and skills in food production, preparation, nutrition and self-sufficiency. The Garden will also purchase several raised garden beds to enable people with physical disabilities to be involved as well as provide additional growing space.

11. MIRAMALI-BAA (MAKING WELL PLACE)

Walking Story

Conondale, QLD, \$3,000

Walking Story will create an outdoor space for Indigenous people to come together to discuss and share knowledge of culturally-centred food/medicine growing and land rehabilitation issues. A one-day workshop will also focus on knowledge and resource sharing, land rehabilitation, and the planting of various native food/medicine plants/grasses for ongoing community use. Revegetation of the degraded ex-logging and grazing land will provide an ongoing supply of resources, such as seeds and cuttings, that can be shared/accessed by Indigenous people and communities. The produce will also be used as materials for future workshops and learning around food/medicine production and use.



PROJECTS FUNDED IN NSW

12. HEALTHY LIVING

Purfleet Taree Local Aboriginal Land Council Purfleet, NSW, \$3,000

Purfleet Taree Local Aboriginal Land Council will enhance its community garden to provide the local community with a sustainable and affordable source of bushfoods and vegetables. Children and their families from the local Indigenous preschool, Girrawong, will be engaged in all aspects of the project, including the preparation of garden beds, seed propagation, planting, maintenance and the harvesting of produce. Participants will also learn how to prepare and consume bush foods.

13. GARUWA CARING FOR COUNTRY

Karuah Local Aboriginal Land Council Karuah, NSW, \$3,000

Karuah Local Aboriginal Land Council will enhance its land management capabilities by acquiring a zero turn mower. A new mower will enable the community to tender for mowing jobs with Council and private vendors and provide opportunities for employment for local Indigenous people. It will also enable the Land Council to maintain fire breaks across its lands and clean up its grounds, with longer-term goals to introduce cultural camps, events and a new community garden with native foods.

14. GLENHOPE TREE PLANTING 2022

Nari Nari Tribal Council Ltd Hay, NSW, \$3,000

Nari Nari Tribal Council will host a community tree planting event to extend an environmental corridor across Glenhope Station, in Hay NSW. This will create a lasting corridor of habitat for native animals, stabilise the earth and promote natural revegetation. The event will expand the revegetation area commenced in 2021 through a Highways and Byways small grant to rehabilitate part of the Station that had been adversely impacted by past pastoral practices.

15. NATIVE BUSHFOOD ORCHARD & NEST BOXES

1st Cootamundra Scout Group Cootamundra, NSW, \$2,000

1st Cootamundra Scout Group will create an orchard of bushfoods at a site adjacent to its Hall, and plant native vegetation to regenerate the ecosystem of nearby Muttama Creek. Indigenous Elders will be consulted to identify plants for the orchard and their various uses. Signage will be put in place to denote plant types and will feature QR codes linked to further information about each species. Scouts and leaders will construct, install and monitor the use of nesting boxes by wildlife in nearby trees.



IMAGE: A community tree planting event was held in 2021 to extend an environmental corridor across Glenhope Station. A second event will extend the corridor further. Courtesy of Nari Nari Tribal Council.

16. REGENERATING BROKEN HILL'S REGENERATION AREA

Landcare Broken Hill Inc
Broken Hill, NSW, \$3,000

Landcare Broken Hill will recommence the regeneration of Broken Hill's National Heritage Listed Regeneration Area. Extreme drought and a significant increase in the number of dust storms has led to significant loss of trees and plants across the region. Action to mitigate these impacts will include rehydrating the area through the control of erosion gullies, installation of new leaky dams, and replacing lost trees with new plant species better suited to arid conditions. New methods will also be trialled to increase soil carbon and soil biota, and recover scalded areas.

17. PURCHASE A DATA PROJECTOR

Weemelah Hall Committee
Weemelah, NSW, \$1,299

Weemelah Hall Committee will purchase a data projector for use by training organisations who access the hall to offer a wide range of environmental and land management activities. The small rural community hall is a venue for bore water meetings, Landcare meetings and workshops, Country Women's Association agricultural and environment information days and chemical accreditation training. After an extensive period of drought, followed by more recent floods, local landholders are keen to keep abreast of land management and environmental protection and restoration issues.

18. SCONE WETLANDS

Scone and District Garden Club
Scone, NSW, \$3,000

In 2021, Highways and Byways provided Scone and District Garden Club with a small grant to undertake planting works and install nesting boxes across public recreation areas in Scone, NSW. This year Scone Garden Club will establish and install a wet area habitat for frogs, turtles, lizards and smaller birds in a degraded, weed infested area. The site, which is adjacent to the 2021 revegetation area and incorporates a popular walking and recreation path, will have an observation area with seating for meditation and contemplation with accompanying signage including appropriate Indigenous content. Additional nesting boxes will also be installed across the location.

19. HUNTER RIVER RESERVE RENEWAL

Hunter Region Landcare Network
Greta, NSW, \$3,000

Hunter Region Landcare Network will promote and encourage community awareness and use of the Hunter River Reserve and engage locals in revegetating and maintaining degraded areas across the site. The project involves several environmentally focused activities, including a "Nature in the Park" art journaling activity and a nature spotlighting evening, plus a tree planting day, and monthly sessions to remove rubbish and weeds and to maintain the site.

20. SUPPORTING KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS ON SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT

Gwymac Landcare
Inverell, NSW, \$3,000

Gwymac Landcare will stage a competition to identify and engage with champions of sustainable land management. A field day will be held at the winner's property to showcase management approaches and techniques in situ, and guest speakers will support knowledge and skills exchange on various approaches to manage landscapes and biodiversity. The initiative aims to build positive community relationships by facilitating networking between land managers and natural resource management organisations in the region. It also provides competition entrants with the opportunity to become leaders in their field and to mentor and encourage others as they implement sustainable management practices



21. POST FIRE DUNE VEGETATION & ENHANCEMENT

Broulee Mossy Point Dunecare
Broulee North, NSW, \$2,900

In 2019/20, bushfires destroyed much of the frontal dunes at Broulee. Post fire monitoring shows some regenerating ground cover species, but fewer shrub species, some of which have been deliberately removed by vandals. Broulee Mossy Point Dunecare has undertaken approximately 250 square metres of revegetation works at the site, has removed and replaced burnt fencing, and has installed a sign to provide community education on the importance of dune vegetation and regeneration efforts.

22. TINY HOMES FOR NATIVE WILDLIFE

Container of Dreams
Tabulum, NSW, \$3,000

Container of Dreams will host workshops on the construction of wildlife nesting boxes. Participants will construct two boxes each and install them across their properties or the Container of Dreams worksite. This region was significantly impacted by the 2019–2020 bushfires, with 200 homes and two lives lost. The fires also destroyed significant habitat for local wildlife. The workshop will provide participants with technical skills to create nesting boxes, and will provide a social opportunity for people experiencing social isolation. It also aims to promote well being and assist in post-trauma recovery.

23. POLLINATOR AND SENSORY GARDEN

Drake Village Women's Shed Inc
Drake, NSW, \$3,000

Drake Village Women's Shed will establish a bee pollinator and sensory garden in the grounds of the Drake Community Hall. The garden will feature native flora to attract and support the re-establishment of the local bee population, which was significantly impacted by the bushfires of 2019–2020. Members of the Shed will monitor the local bee population over time, and contribute its observations to the iNaturalist Native Bee Repopulation Project. The local Indigenous community will be consulted on the selection of healing/ medicinal plants for the garden, and the local Landcare group will provide input on weed control.

24. PERMACULTURE DESIGN CERTIFICATE

Wambool Permaculture
Yetholme, NSW, \$3,000

Wambool Permaculture will offer two placements in its sustainable and regenerative living program. This is a 72-hour course held over eight weeks which is lead by accredited permaculture teachers and examines strategies to reduce human impact on the earth, and encourages participants to live within the environment, rather than apart from it, in order to thrive in the future. Participants will learn about sustainable/regenerative food production, solar passive house design, reading landscapes for passive water access, storage and release, and community design, development and enhancement.

25. HEALING OUR COUNTRY, CONNECTING OURSELVES

Connective Indigenous Corporation
Dubbo, NSW, \$2,350

Connective Indigenous Corporation will stage a second 'Healing our Country, Connecting Ourselves' event in Dubbo. The event will be hosted by Aboriginal people as a positive community activity to encourage the recognition of Indigenous culture and reconnection of Indigenous people with the earth and environment. It will be held on the banks of the Macquarie River, on a weekend at a date to be confirmed. The event will feature a range of interactive and information sharing workshop sessions plus entertainment activities. The inaugural event, which was supported by a Highways and Byways small grant, was held in February 2022.

26. MOWING WITH SOLAR ENERGY

Pambula Wetlands and Heritage Project Inc
Pambula, NSW, \$3,000

Pambula Wetlands and Heritage Project will acquire an electric zero turn mower to assist in the maintenance of walking paths and control of invasive weed species across the Panboola Wetlands. Control of invasive weed species is crucial in protecting environmental areas and threatened ecological communities. Revegetation projects also require maintenance to ensure that new plantings are not smothered by weeds and climbing grasses.

27. BAAKA/DARLING RIVER RUN

Western Landcare NSW Inc
Western NSW, \$3,000

Western Landcare NSW will deliver a series of river themed workshops for remote primary schools along the Darling/Baaka River in far western NSW. Through a range of hand-on activities the program will promote an understanding of the Baaka/Darling river, including the river ecosystem, the impact of introduced species, and cultural and environmental issues. Eight primary schools between Pomona and Bourke will be engaged in the program. Students will participate in activities such as water quality testing and water bug surveys, and will learn how they can contribute, care and heal the environment around them. Local Indigenous presenters will undertake cultural story telling. Given their remote location, these schools generally cannot access organised group activities offered by external providers.



IMAGE: Nelligen Rural Fire Service and Bateman's Bay Local Aboriginal Land Council brought the community together to learn about cultural fire management practices . It included a demonstration burn on Country. Image courtesy of Nelligen Rural Fire Service.

28. GREEN THUMBS

Byron Youth Service Inc
Byron Bay, NSW, \$3,000

Byron Youth Service will deliver a 10-week program engaging local youths in creating a food forest at the Youth Activity Centre. Participants will gain skills in permaculture, habitat restoration, sustainable garden principles and Indigenous bush tucker. Young people in this region have experienced climate change firsthand, including drought, bushfires and floods, along with the Covid19 pandemic. The project aims to address issues arising from these experiences and provide a means to support young people managing eco-anxiety.

29. CULTURAL LEARNING SPACE

Hay Plains Landcare
Hay, NSW, \$3,000

Hay Plains Landcare will create a cultural learning space and yarnning circle at Hay Public School. The space will be a place where students and the community can visit to develop an awareness of Indigenous culture. Wiradjuri artist Owen Lyons will work with students to create a design for the space. The initiative aims to encourage the students to develop an understanding of how paintings represent the dreamings and spiritual beliefs of Aboriginal people. The project also provides a way for an Aboriginal artist to connect with the wider community and introduce art and culture to an isolated community.

30. MAINTAINING TRACKS ON ELIZABETH ISLAND

Susan & Elizabeth Islands Recreation Land Manager
Grafton, NSW, \$1,620

While Elizabeth Island is home to some impressive floodplain forest remnants and redgum forest, it is also vulnerable to a range of problematic weeds. Pest vine species are continually encroaching on mature and regenerating forest, smothering individual native trees, and obstructing access to many areas. Left unchecked these have the potential to cause significant environmental damage. A contractor will be engaged once every two months for 12 months to maintain tracks on the island to provide safe access to workers and visitors.

31. HEALING GALLARINBARAAY LAND & PEOPLE – TOGETHER

Colly Gamilaraay Indigenous Corporation
Collarenebri, NSW, \$2,883

Colly Gamilaraay Indigenous Corporation will bring together traditional and contemporary land management knowledge to support the long-term conservation of the local environment and culturally significant sites. The project involves: 1) Tree replanting at Collarenebri Aboriginal Cemetery; 2) Weed control at the Cemetery and Barwon River; 3) Community workshops to share knowledge on cultural fire management and burial sites; 4) Mapping of the Barwon River to identify areas and items of environmental and cultural significance; and 5) Promotion of environmental awareness at community events. Local Gallarinbaraay people will be actively engaged. The initiative builds on related project completed in 2021 with the support of a Highways and Byways small grant.



IMAGE: A didgeridoo performance was a highlight of the inaugural Healing our Country, Connecting Ourselves event held in Dubbo in February 2022. A second event has been funded through the 2022 Small Grants Program. Courtesy of Connective Indigenous Corporation.



IMAGE: A gardening workshop in May 2022 taught pre-schoolers about the joys of gardening. A second workshop supported by Highways and Byways is for adults and coincides with International Mental Health Day. Courtesy of Food is Free Inc.

PROJECTS FUNDED IN VICTORIA

32. MONITORING BANDICOOT CORNER

Cardinia Environment Coalition Inc
Bayles, VIC, \$2,916

Cardinia Environment Coalition Inc will use motion-sensing wildlife cameras to monitor the Bandicoots in their native habitat at Bandicoot Corner Reserve to gain insights into the threats this species faces. Findings will inform future management and protection decisions. The project will be supported by students studying environmental management at Deakin University, who will gain hand-on research and wildlife management experience.

33. ANZAC PARK REJUVENATION

Redbank Reserves Committee
Redbank, VIC, \$2,901

Redbank Reserves Committee will purchase new equipment, including a hedge trimmer and blower to beautiful ANZAC Park, which is one of few public venues that allows for recreation and social interactions in Redbank. The tools will also be available to be used by members of the community in fire preparedness efforts, including keeping nature strips and road edge grass under control.

34. ECOSS FOREST FOOD

Yarra Valley ECOSS
Wesburn, VIC, \$3,000

ECOSS Yarra Valley will create a Permaculture Food Forest. Planting, maintenance and site tours will be carried out by disabled volunteers from Interchange and Melba Services. The local Indigenous community will provide knowledge on plant selection and informational signage. The Forest will provide ongoing learning opportunities in future Permaculture and Horticulture courses run at ECOSS and various edible horticulture projects run by the disabled.

35. GARDEN PROJECT

Education First Youth Foyer and Launch Housing
Broadmeadows, VIC, \$3,000

This initiative will engage youth residents of the Education First Youth Foyer to develop a sustainable green area and memorial site. Residents will work with Xavier Social Justice Network and Kangan TAFE to rejuvenate a neglected area of the site. As it develops this green space will accommodate small sculptures made by students to reflect milestones during their stay at the Foyer and their growth towards independence. Participants will gain gardening, design, communication and collaboration skills and will develop an understanding of eco-systems and environmental impacts.

36. GARDENING & MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOP

Food is Free Inc
Ballarat, VIC, \$3,000

Food is Free Inc will provide an immersive gardening workshop to coincide with International Mental Health Day. The workshop will provide a hands-on experience for up to 30 people in the basic elements on home gardening, including the importance of soil health, composting and establishing a vegetable patch. It will specifically target people from low socio-economic areas of the Ballarat community through Food is Free networks, including Unity, Salvation Army and Headspace.

PROJECTS FUNDED IN TASMANIA

37. BUILD, HEAL, WATER, NURTURE & GROW

King Island Community Garden
Currie, King Island, \$2,940

King Island Community Garden will engage King Island Men's Shed to construct and install a series of new raised garden beds and an irrigation system. The garden's current metal beds are old, rusty and very dangerous. The site is located on a hill and is exposed, and its coastal proximity and sandy soil mean it is slippery and hazardous. The new garden beds will stabilise the site and increase its productive capacity. Given the Island's remote location, the cost of importing fresh fruit and vegetables from the mainland is often very high. The garden provides an alternate, cost-effective food supply to the community. It is also a social hub that brings people together.

38. RESTORE PEDDER: BIOBLITZING

Lake Pedder Restoration Inc
Lake Pedder, Tasmania, \$3,000

In October 2022, Lake Pedder Restoration Inc undertook a Bioblitz of the Lake Pedder perimeter. A comprehensive data set was collected across 12 x 2km² sites and an 18km deserted walking track, successfully finding evidence of the endangered Tasmanian Devil, spotted and eastern quolls, threatened Tasmanian masked owl and white bellied sea eagle. New expanses of threats, predominantly Spanish Heath were also mapped. Thirty community members participated including walking groups from the University of Tasmania and Landcare, and a team from Roaring 40s kayaking. Each group was supported by the Tasmanian Wilderness Guides Association.



39. COMMUNITY FRUIT LOOPS

Country Women's Association in Tasmania Online Branch

Wynyard, Tasmania, \$3,000

The Country Women's Association (CWA) in Tasmania Online Branch, Devonport Seed Library and Live Well Tasmania (LWT) is collaborating to establish a food forest of fruiting trees and edible natives at the LWT Community Hub in Wynyard. Northwest Tasmania is identified as being in the top ten lowest socio-economic regions in Australia, and for many Tasmanians access to fresh, healthy food can be challenging. Produce harvested from the food forest will be turned into preserves by members of the CWA and will be provided to not-for-profit organisations, such as women's shelters, community houses and other charitable causes, with programs focused on food security. A workshop for women will also focus on food security though seed saving and seed raising.

40. DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY GARDEN SPACE

DiGnity Community Garden Inc
Nubeena, Tasmania, \$2,975

DiGnity Community Garden engaged a part-time Garden Coordinator for a period of seven months to plan and schedule its therapeutic supported community gardening program for community members with physical or mental disabilities, cognitive constraints, and those who are socially isolated due to grief, chronic conditions or other reasons. The role also identified and pursued resources for long term program operations.

41. FREE2B TIME

St Helens Neighbourhood House
St Helens, Tasmania, \$3,000

St Helens Neighbourhood House provided 100 hours of mentoring to support to at-risk and socially isolated teen girls. Mentors engaged with the girls in a one-on-one setting and provided assistance to them to navigate the challenges of life including negotiating peer and family relationships, accessing meaningful activities, such as employment, banking and school work, and facilitating access to other support services including mental health services. The program also encouraged parental support and engagement.

This project was made possible with the support of the Parker Sub-Fund. The Parker Sub-Fund was created in 2021 with the generous support of Caitlin Coleman and her family to honor her uncle Brother John Parker, a Christian Brother who lived and worked in rural Tasmania for many years. Each year the Parker Sub-Fund contributes to a small grant or one of our major initiatives in Tasmania. We thank the Coleman family for their support of Highways and Byways.



PROJECTS FUNDED IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

42. RIDE ON MOWER & TRAILER

Walker Flat & Districts Progress Association
Walker Flat, SA, \$3,000

Walker Flat & Districts Progress Association will purchase a ride on mower to replace its worn out equipment and a cart to carry gardening tools and weeds. For 25 years Walker Flat & Districts Progress Association has actively vegetated and maintained reserves and roadside in the Walker Flats and Wongulla district. It grows native seedlings from local seedstock and is replacing plants impacted by the drought to restore the environment and provide a habitat for wildlife.

43. GRASSLAND & HABITAT RESTORATION SAINT BENEDICTS CEMETERY

Gawler Environment and Heritage Association Inc
Pinkerton Plains, SA, \$1,000

Gawler Environment and Heritage Association (GEHA) will revegetate the St Benedict Cemetery and nearby road verges in Pinkerton Plains in South Australia after the region was extensively impacted by bushfire. The fire burnt out the entire locality and a total area of around 85,000 hectares, resulting in injuries and the loss of human life, livestock, property and flora and fauna. In 2021, Highways and Byways provided a small grant to GEHA to undertake direct seeding and planting around the Cemetery site. So far, it has replanted with 300 tube stock (around 40 species) of native grassland and understory species. The current project will add a further 300 tubestock to the revegetation area. The project promotes the use of local native vegetation in providing amenity and fauna habitat. It also provides a more attractive space for those visiting the site for remembrance and reflection.

44. IDENTIFYING & UNDERSTANDING PLANTS INDIGENOUS TO OUR AREA

Corny Point Progress Association
Corny Point, SA, \$1,065

In 2021, Corny Point Progress Association received a small grant from Highways and Byways to propagate plants indigenous to the local area to rehabilitate a roadside verge in Corny Point. In 2022 a new walking and cycling path will connect the township of Corny Point and link with local attractions. Corny Point Progress Association will erect interpretive signage at the midpoint of the pathway providing information on the range of native flora planted through the initial project.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA VISIT

LIZ MCALOON VISITS BUSSELTON

Liz McAloon may have been retired but her love for the work of Highways and Byways is enduring. So much so, that she gave up time on her holiday in Western Australia to meet with a grant recipient of our 2021 and 2022 Small Grants Programs.

Liz and her husband Andrew travelled to Busselton to meet with Silke Rothkamm and Craig Sisson, who both volunteer with the Busselton Dunsborough Environment Centre (BDEC), at sites rehabilitated through projects supported by Highways and Byways.

BDEC has received two small grants from Highways and Byways for community engagement and bushland rehabilitation initiatives: in 2021 for a community tree planting event to restore degraded land within Ludlow Tuart State Forest, and in 2022 for a youth-focused event to revegetate parts of Barnard Park East.

At Ludlow Tuart State Forest, Liz and Andrew spent two hours walking through the areas of planting which were located around a beautiful bird-hide and wetlands. Silke and Craig showed them an area adjacent to the Highways and Byways plantings that was planted out five years ago. In such a short period of time the area has thrived, and they both emphasised the increase in birdlife which had returned to this area quickly.

The regions planted out in 2021 are generally faring well. BDEC has had to manage weeds, and has had to fence areas of planting to protect it from native animals such as kangaroos. A week of hot weather

in January 2022 unfortunately led to the loss of some young plants. Despite this, all areas are being closely monitored and managed, and are a very effective showcase for native revegetation of degraded areas.

In central Busselton, Liz and Andrew toured Barnard Park East where Silke has done a magnificent job in co-ordinating the restoration of some of the last remnant vegetation in the locality, and has been successful in gaining a significant long-term funding agreement from the City of Busselton.

A tree planting day in mid-July 2022 supported by Highways and Byways was challenging, with late cancellations from some expected participants. However, the promise of free movie tickets encouraged a good turnout from members of a local youth organisation, who stayed for hours, and indicated a eagerness to do more.

Liz commented that restoration of Barnard Park East is an ambitious plan and that it is positive that Highways and Byways was a part of this project in its early stages. She added that Silke has a great strength in developing community partnerships and that it had taken many years to earn the trust of the local First Nations Elders who will be engaged throughout each stage of the project.

Highways and Byways extends its thanks to Liz and Andrew for visiting these projects on our behalf and to Silke and Craig for hosting them.



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

SEEDS OF CONNECTION, ROMA, QUEENSLAND



Our *Seeds of Connection* program has flourished in the past 12 months, with our project leader Megan Brown supporting other Indigenous leaders to run programs in Roma and other even more remote communities!

Megan and her cousin David McCarthy ran our Indigenous cultural program for children. *Healing and Belonging through Culture* gave children the opportunity to spend time with members of their local Indigenous communities and learn language, food and cultural practices. The program ran both as an after school experience locally in Roma, as well as a three-day camp out on Gunggari Country at Mt Moffat. The group learnt language and cultural practices together, shared story and art and headed out bush to slow down and really connect to the land. It was only a few hours before the children were happily choosing to leave their mobile phones behind, and venture out with the group to connect with each other and explore their sacred land. As the children progressed through the program, it was clear to see them shift from being shy about their Indigenous identity to becoming proud of it. Because of the long history of suppressing Indigenous culture, many of these children haven't been exposed to their culture, and feel unable to speak of what it means to be Indigenous to their peers.

In line with the *Uluru Statement From The Heart*, *Seeds of Connection* and *Highways and Byways* more broadly are strongly committed to enabling Indigenous communities to empower their children through this gift of culture, and we thank both Mary

MacKillop Today and the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR) for generously supporting this program.

Religious of Queensland funded the second instalment of our First Nations women's cultural camp *Wandering Spirits*. The camp brought women together from far and wide across Queensland; all with a family connection to Gunggari Country and Gungabula Country. The group came together to build connections of trust, so they could share with each other their stories and culture, their values and their lives. The group crossed many decades in ages, allowing this knowledge and experience to be shared and passed from one generation to the next, an opportunity that has been lost over many years.

Across 2022, Jen Coggan collaborated with Megan to run a Community Wellbeing program in the small rural South-West Queensland towns of Wallumbilla and Roma (Mandandanji Country), Injune (Gungabula Country) and Mitchell (Gunggari Country). The program brought together those living very remote lives who rarely have the opportunity to access the wonderful benefits of these programs that were based on mindfulness and the practice of yoga. It was wonderful to see people who live such hard working, isolated lives, choosing to put their own self-care first and make the often long journeys to these towns and experience the benefits of community coming together to look after each other.



IMAGES: Top to bottom, left to right: David McCarthy leads children through the Healing and Belonging through Culture workshop; making a Coolamon bowl from the bark of a tree; the making of the bowl usually a women's activity, so the bowl was given to program facilitator Megan Brown; participants of the Healing and Belonging in Culture Program camp; on country in June 2022. Courtesy of Seeds of Connection.

RESTORING NATURE AND COMMUNITIES ST HELENS, TASMANIA



Our *Restoring Nature and Communities* partnership with Todd Dudley's North East Bioregional Network continues to show how good an ecological approach can be for our whole community of life. By employing four locals to restore the land to its natural state, the project provides economic, social and environmental benefits in the remote rural community surrounding St Helen's – the North East Bioregion - where there are high levels of socio economic disadvantage.

During 2021-2022 the main focus of the initiative has been the restoration of Skyline Tier, primarily in a location known as Alf's Road. Work has been undertaken to control pine wildlings across 55 ha, benefitting approximately 8 ha of remnant *Eucalyptus ovata* forest, a critically endangered forest community. A particular highlight for the workers at the site was the sighting of pair of Tawny Frogmouths, and the uncovering of a live specimen of the Giant Velvet Worm, a listed threatened species in Tasmania.

The crew has also worked to protect Eucalypt regrowth at a former airstrip in Skyline Tier, and to contain the spread of Spanish Heath in coastal heathland and forest around Diana's Basin. Thousands of Mirror Bush and Pittosporum plants were also controlled in high quality coastal *Eucalyptus globulus* forest (forest at the Bay of Fires (Humbug Point Nature Recreation Area and Bay of Fires Conservation Area). *Eucalyptus globulus* is a threatened forest community and also critical foraging habitat for the endangered Swift Parrot.

During 2022, we were very excited to receive the report of the University of Tasmania's research on our project, *Ecological Restoration Activities and the Benefit of Human Health and Wellbeing*. In highlighting the specific benefits - see image right -

of the ecological restoration work for Todd's team members, it's a great affirmation that this ecological approach is working on all levels.

And the workers tell us that too. Scott, who features on the far left of the group image above used to work for the forestry company that burnt down

Direct benefits to individuals



IMAGE: 2022 Ecological Restoration Activities and the Benefits for Human Health and Wellbeing: A report on the wellbeing impacts of North East Bioregional Network ecological restoration activities", Pauline Marsh, Emily Flies, Stuart Auckland & Dave Kendal, Healthy Landscapes Research Group, University of Tasmania, 2022.



eucalyptus forests in the region, and planted pine trees to get a greater yield. Working for a global corporate company where the money left the local community, destroying the local environment, was not very fulfilling work. Scott received average pay, worked long hours and didn't form much of a connection to any of the people he worked with. When he came to the Restoring Nature and Communities project, he was experiencing fairly poor physical and mental health - making his own beer, drinking, and not functioning anywhere near his best. These days, he works on the same land, removing pine saplings, and regenerating the native forest. Scott has become a real advocate for conservation in the area. He has formed strong relationships with the people he works with, feels good about his life, and has a much healthier mindset. He hardly drinks any alcohol these days.

Yet Scott is just one of the team that Highways and Byways supports. Every team member has a story –

Nathan was allocated to Todd's team to do community work – he is an Indigenous man who had lit a number of fires in the St Helen's township. He was very withdrawn and unfit, but through the work of the team, became much more engaged, fitter, he started eating better. He ended up getting a job as Parks Ranger Cape York, North Queensland.

One of the other team members Tim had recently split up with his wife and spent a few months in jail. After working with the team his words were: *"To be honest, it was all amazing to be out in amongst the trees, because I suffer from really bad anxiety and depression. So the employment just in itself was great, but there were the people too... I had support... you know, with my mental health, and I had some legal issues at the time. I didn't realize how good it would be for me to just be out in the bush, you know, we'd see eagles and water dragons. Just amazing... It was just life-changing, really was life changing."*

Restoring Nature and Communities is a solid example of the United Nations call to restore our planet, and of Pope Francis' urgent call for our "ecological transition" to actually change how we think, feel and act, not just on a personal level, but in the realities of our work and communities. The work Todd Dudley and his team do in North East Tasmania goes beyond straight forward environmental work; it looks more broadly at where we humans are in the whole ecosystem, and respects each element of that ecosystem as part of the whole; the people, the plants, the animals, the land.

Let us learn from the plants that cooperate with their whole environmental surroundings, and also when they compete, they actually are cooperating for the good of the ecosystem
Pope Francis, September 2022



IMAGES: LEFT: The 55ha restoration site at Alf's Road area of Skyline Tier, pre- and post-harvesting of pines. BELOW, what it looks like on the ground. Great regeneration is occurring. Courtesy of North East Bioregional Network.





EVENTS

YARCK TO YEA - WALK/RIDE/RIN

On a foggy and chilly morning in late August 2022, 50 people were up early to join in the Highways and Byways Yarck to Yea event.

The day marked the return of the annual event after a two year hiatus due the Covid19 pandemic.

The *Yarck to Yea - Walk/Ride/Run* is our annual fundraising event and a valued social and community event in partnership with the Catholic community Yea.

Participants walked, ran and cycled along the Great Victorian Rail Trail starting at various points between Yarck and Yea. Some journeyed the entire

27km length of the trail from Yarck, and others completed 17km, 9km or 5km events.

A further 40 locals joined the walkers, runners and riders at the Old Yea Railway Station at the conclusion of the event for a celebratory barbecue lunch provided by the local Sacred Heart parish community.

Yea is a location of historical significance to Highways and Byways as the birthplace of the Missionary Sisters of Service founder Father John Wallis. We have a special connection with the Yea parish community and we thank them for supporting and welcoming us each year.



IMAGES: Clockwise from top: Members of the Victorian Catholic Bushwalking Group; Yea local John Brick works the barbecue; Bernadette Wallis mss setting off on her walk at Yea; Stancea Vichie mss and Bernadette Hogan along the trail. Images courtesy of Fiona Basile, MSS.



JOHN WALLIS WINTER WALK

On a Saturday morning in July, walkers set out to explore Hobart as part of the John Wallis Winter Walk. The Walk is an annual event organised by the Tasmanian Branch of Highways and Byways to reflect on the impact that Fr John Wallis, Missionary Sisters of Service founder, had on parish and education, especially in Hobart's northern suburbs and his unique achievements as a parish priest supporting the needs of isolated families.

Walkers divided into several small groups to head in different directions (all well planned by branch member Mary Williams) and were given strict

instructions to plan a route length that would enable them to be back in good time for an enticing afternoon tea! Some chose a route towards Cascade Gardens with return via the Female Factory, others tackled the full Rivulet Walk, several stayed close by the church to admire gardens and local architecture.

The Walk attracted over twenty supporters and friends, including Frances McShane mss and Lorraine Groves mss, and one gentle greyhound, Lucy.

JOHN WALLIS MEMORIAL LECTURE

This year's John Wallis Memorial Lecture featured keynote speaker Dr Elissa Roper who spoke on the topic of Baptismal Responsibility, a Spirit-led Church for Today's World.

Elissa's presentation explored the three themes of Communion, Participation and Mission to envision the call of God's People to be missionary disciples, guided by the Spirit as we take up our baptismal responsibility. She led the audience on a journey through the key inspirations of Vatican II, emphasising the contrast with Vatican I documents. Through that exploration, Elissa showed how we can engage today as discerning and evangelising Spirit-filled, joyful People of God, prepared to share that joy with others.

Dr Elissa Roper is an ecclesologist passionate about renewing the Catholic Church's understanding of the People of God as baptismal in identity and missionary in discipleship. She is a sessional academic with Australian Catholic University and works for the Sisters of Mercy. Elissa also manages a Program of Theology in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, which offers tertiary theological education for women.

The Lecture was held on 6 October 2022 at the Don Bosco Creative Arts Centre, Guilford Young College, Glenorchy, Tasmania. It was convened by the Tasmanian branch of Highways and Byways. Those present in the centre were complemented by viewers from around Tasmania and Australia.



FINANCIAL REPORT 2021-22

Highways and Byways further increased its financial support to regional and remote communities across Australia in 2021-2022.

Income was based on donations (including from the Missionary Sisters of Service), grants and returns on our financial assets. Expenditure was made up largely of employment and administration costs, our Small Grants and funding our longer-term partnership programs. Of significance, expenditure on our partnership programs has continued to increase as new partnership opportunities have been identified.

Revenue declined significantly due to the ending of the one-off Government grants in the previous year as part of Covid19 support programs. But against this, there was strong growth in investment income due in part to the receipt of dividend imputation credits from completed tax assessments for prior years.

The surplus for the previous year 2020/21 was also restated due to a retrospective adjustment to the treatment of changes in the market value of financial assets in that year. A gain of \$123,810, which had previously been included in total income, has now been included in the revaluation of financial assets. This revision reduced the surplus for 2020/21 from \$153,430 to \$29,630.

The most significant financial downside for the year was a major decline in the value of financial assets due to a substantial decline in the Australian share

market securities where most of our assets are held. It is important to remember, however, that this decline followed an even larger jump in the value of these same assets in the previous year. Nevertheless, the significantly lower end-of-year financial assets value does have the potential to reduce investment income going forward.



Key financial outcomes in 2021-22 were as follows:

- (a) Total income dropped by \$45,114 or 12.1%, with the loss of government Covid19 support being largely offset by increased investment income.
- (b) Total expenditure increased by 21.3%. The major drivers of this were increased expenditure on grants and partnership programs (up \$57,449 or 42%) and increased administration expenses (up \$19,545).
- (c) Net assets decreased by \$406,151 or 20.7%. The key factor was the drop in the value of financial assets (down \$505,098). Against this, current liabilities fell by \$56,935, due in large part to a payout of accrued employment liability to departing long-term staff.

Jeffery Byrne
Chair – Administration and Finance Committee



IMAGE: Members of Broulee Mossy Point Dunecare undertook revegetation works at Broulee North foreshore after bushfire destroyed much of the frontal dunes.

**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE
2022**

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Revenue	166,850	294,019
Investment income	155,924	73,869
Employee benefits expense	(163,677)	(175,125)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	(2,753)	(1,821)
Grants and programs expenses	(194,270)	(136,821)
Administration expenses	(43,855)	(24,310)
Insurance expenses	(5,834)	(185)
Surplus for the year	(87,615)	29,626
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss		
Revaluation gain/(loss) for financial assets held as FVOCI	(318,566)	462,324
Other comprehensive income for the year	(318,566)	462,324
Total comprehensive income for the year	(406,181)	491,950

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

	2022 \$	2021 \$ Restated
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	132,566	124,258
Trade and other receivables	52,362	40,038
Other assets	6,360	830
Total Current Assets	191,288	165,126
Non-Current Assets		
Other financial assets	1,398,778	1,903,846
Property, plant and equipment	4,735	4,125
Intangible assets	2,175	3,075
Total Non-Current Assets	1,405,688	1,911,046
TOTAL ASSETS	1,596,976	2,076,172
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	13,424	36,313
Employee benefits	25,279	59,325
Total Current Liabilities	38,703	95,638
Non-Current Liabilities		
Employee benefits	5,310	21,390
Total Non-Current Liabilities	5,310	21,390
TOTAL LIABILITIES	44,013	117,028
NET ASSETS	1,552,963	1,959,144
EQUITY		
Reserves	(160,481)	338,517
Retained earnings	1,713,444	1,620,627
TOTAL EQUITY	1,552,963	1,959,144

GOVERNANCE - OUR BOARD



MARG CASEY
CHAIRPERSON

DIRECTOR, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE, PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Marg Casey has a background in parish and school administration, vocations ministry at state and national levels, health ethics, social services and homelessness. She has worked in Church organisations, as an administrator, editor, executive director and volunteer program co-ordinator to name a few.



MARTIN ALLEN

DIRECTOR, CHAIR, COMMUNICATIONS AND FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Martin has a wealth of business experience implementing solutions for national and global clients. His roles have included senior client relationships, contract negotiation, business development and technology innovation and implementation.



JEFF BYRNE

DIRECTOR, TREASURER. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE, COMMUNICATIONS AND FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Jeff is a qualified Company Director with extensive experience in government board roles. He has a background in public sector leadership, organisation governance and risk management.



BERNADETTE HOGAN

DIRECTOR, PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Bernadette lives in Birchip, rural Victoria and has taken on many executive roles in local and regional organisations including serving as a Shire Councillor. She is passionate about supporting small regional communities towards strength and resilience and sees very real opportunities for Australian farming communities to lead the way in developing and promoting sustainable, climate-friendly solutions and practices.



BERNADETTE MADDEN MSS



ALICIA DEAK



CHERYLE ROYLE



BRIAN LENNON



STANCEA VICHE MSS

DIRECTOR, PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Bernadette has worked as a social worker and teacher across Australia. She has worked in Indigenous communities in various rural regions and in community services organisations assisting vulnerable families.

DIRECTOR, CHAIR MISSION INTEGRATION COMMITTEE

Alicia Deak has a background in teaching, educational leadership – at both secondary and tertiary levels – and theology. Working in Catholic education, she has held roles in areas of social justice, identity, mission, formation and pastoral care. She is currently the Dean of Newman College at the University of Melbourne.

DIRECTOR, PROJECTS COMMITTEE, MISSION INTEGRATION COMMITTEE

Cheryle has an extensive background in healthcare management having been the CEO of a number of hospitals in Victoria. Prior to retiring/semi-retiring Cheryle was the CEO of St Vincent's Hospital Brisbane. She has served on a number of Boards throughout her career including a National Board, local Government Boards and Health Services in Rural Victoria.

DIRECTOR, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Brian has more than 40 years operational and executive experience covering human resources management, organisation development, and superannuation administration in the mining and finance industries. His qualifications and interests also extend to investment, climate change, hydrology and ecosystems.

MSS CONGREGATIONAL LEADER

Stancea is a member of the MSS Stewardship Council and is currently the Congregational Leader of the Missionary Sisters of Service. She has worked amongst people from many different cultures and backgrounds in urban, rural and outback regions of Australia, as well as periods in other countries. Her work has included pastoral work, leadership formation, human rights advocacy, asylum seeker communities, and working towards the elimination of human trafficking.

OUR PATRONS

Highways and Byways is fortunate to have the support of five patrons who encourage and champion our mission and objectives. We thank them for their continued patronage throughout 2022.



CLARE MCSHANE
TASMANIA



MARY WAGNER AM
QUEENSLAND



BISHOP PAT POWER
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL
TERRITORY



DENIS FITZGERALD
VICTORIA



BISHOP BILL MORRIS
QUEENSLAND

OUR STAFF

Highways and Byways is supported by a dedicated and passionate management and administrative team. This year we welcomed Jane Collopy into the role of Executive Director and Jo Winton as Administration and Finance Officer. Jane and Jo join Marnie Wylde, Grants Administration Officer, and bring wide-ranging skills to the organisation. Both have taken to their new roles with great enthusiasm and commitment. We bid a sad goodbye to Liz McAloon who has retired after eight years as

Executive Officer, and as the MSS operations transition to Emerging Futures Collaborative, we also farewelled long time MSS and Highways and Byways team members Andrea Butler, Jill Elliot and Paul Jackson.

We thank Liz, Andrea, Jill and Paul for their many years of commitment to Highways and Byways and acknowledge that they will be sadly missed.

**HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS - HEALING THE LAND,
HEALING OURSELVES, TOGETHER**



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