

South Hobart Sustainable Community Annual Report June 2011 - July 2012

earth care, people care, limits-aware and surplus-share

- We are a collection of like-minded South Hobart locals.
- We are concerned about the environment, climate change and peak oil.
- We want to empower residents and businesses to lead a more sustainable lifestyle and develop a strong sense of community.
- We want to work together and share what we learn along the way.
- We feel that the most effective change at the moment can happen at the community level, and that the future will bring greater reliance on local resources and local people.
- We remain optimistic and aim for a fun, friendly and fulfilling place to live.

The SHSC is a collection of sub groups that concentrate their efforts in areas of common interest. A facilitating group, called the Architects Group, provides support and transition leadership to the smaller sub-groups. The facilitating group also manages the promotion, communication and administrative functions of SHSC. The facilitating group includes:

- Communications Coordinator,
- Financial Officer and
- Public Officer/Secretary
- A representative of each of the subgroups and
- Other interested members

ARBN (Australian Registered Body Number): IA10232

Website: www.southhobart.org

Address: c/o 336 Elizabeth St Hobart 7000

Incorporation: The SHSC became an incorporated organisation on 18 March 2010.

Formation: The SHSC was founded in 2009

South Hobart Growers Group Report

enthusiastic backyard veggie gardeners sharing ideas, seeds, plants, food, and more!

Community Garden

SHSC has a strong history of supporting and working towards greater local and community food production. The development of a Community Garden within South Hobart is one of the local food concepts that is nearing fruition. This concept has been on the agenda of our community for many years.

The latest bid for a Community Garden site began in 2010 when funding for a Community Orchard was allocated by the South Hobart Carbon Reduction Fund. This led to discussions with HCC about the development of a community orchard on council land. In 2011 the concept arose of pairing a community garden and orchard together on one site. Throughout 2010-2011 SHSC undertook discussions with HCC and other community groups about the various options for the placement of a community garden within South Hobart. This process led to the conclusion that a parcel of land located at 106 Cascade Road was by far the most promising due to its central location, easy access, car parking, sunny aspect and support from other community organisations.

Whilst 106 Cascade Road had been identified as a potential site for a community garden Gurdwara Sahib Tasmania had also expressed interest in this site for the development of a Sikh Temple. It was and still is the view of the SHSC that we are by no means opposed to a Sikh temple being situated in South Hobart. However with all respects to Gurdwara Sahib Tasmania, it is our view that a Community Garden would be the best use of the council owned land at 106 Cascade Road.

In 2012 Hobart City Council sought community feedback on the potential future use of 106 Cascade Road. The SHSC provided HCC with a formal letter stating our interest in the site. The SHSC also used it's community network to notify it's members of our interest in the site and encouraged community members to submit feedback to council stating their views on the future use of the site.

Following the community feedback process HCC requested that SHSC provide HCC with a detailed plan containing answers to HCC's selection criteria for the support of community gardens, a garden design, details of the design, a management plan and a development plan for the proposed community garden. The development of these documents was undertaken as a collaborative project by members of the SHSC and led to the development of a community garden facilitators committee.

Upon considering the results of the community feedback and the detailed community garden documentation provided, HCC announced their support for the development of a community garden at 106 Cascade Road on the 30/7/2012 . This is a fantastic outcome to what has been a lengthy process. We feel this outcome would not have been possible without the hard work of SHSC members and the community network of the SHSC.

In the coming months SHSC will be engaging in discussions with HCC on the details of the development of a community garden at 106 Cascade Road. Throughout this process we will be in close consultation with SHSC members, community organisations, and community members. It is our

hope that this final stage of the development process will be a speedy one that leads to the development of a vibrant and abundant community garden at 106 Cascade Road.

Growers gatherings

The Food Growers Sub Group organises a monthly Growers Gathering for those interested in growing food gardens, everyone is welcome. They meet at a host's garden, and tour the garden with questions and casual information exchange. Participants bring and swap their excess produce, seeds, seedlings and plants, and bring food to share for dinner in the summer, and afternoon tea in the winter. The Gatherings have worked well to create local community belonging. They've been well attended over the years, attracting a great diversity of local residents.

Several other projects currently in various stages of development include garden sharing, tool/skill sharing and working bees. Occasionally the Group organises specific meetings and practical sessions on gardening issues, such as Permaculture for the home garden, apple cider making and pruning fruit trees.

The gatherings have so much goodness - meeting lovely local people who also like to grow food, sharing knowledge and finding out about gardening in the area, sharing extras seeds, seedlings and produce and eating of good food!

Community gathering - Food sustainability in Tasmania

The SHSC held a successful evening of mulled wine, sweet treats and interesting discussion about Food Sustainability in Tasmania on the 15 May at the local school hall. Dion Lester shared stories of his recent trip to Cuba and North America exploring Urban Agriculture projects on a Churchill Fellowship. Lissa Villeneuve from Sustainable Living Tasmania discussed sustainable food systems and Garth Coghlan from Source Community Wholefoods highlighted some of the positive local solutions taking root in our area. Deb Terry from the Scientists in Schools programme also introduced us to the South Hobart Adopt-A-Waterway Project - linking students and the wider community with our beautiful Rivulet.

South Hobart Adopt a Waterways Group Report

building an understanding of the health of our beautiful rivulet

In mid-2012, the SHSC was awarded with an NRM South Grant and a Commonwealth Community Action Grant for the Adopt-A-Waterway Hobart Rivulet project. We are thankful for being awarded these two grants, the Hobart Rivulet is an important element of our suburb and we are delighted to be able to undertake this project. The Rivulet holds great significance for many people whether they be interested in natural or cultural heritage, river health, flora and fauna, stormwater management, recreation, and so much more. We look forward to engaging in this community project and improving the water quality and educating and inspiring our children.

The aims of SHSC for the Hobart Rivulet are to provide a vehicle for community engagement in preserving and enhancing the ecological values of the Rivulet and its environs by:

- Working cooperatively with the South Hobart Primary School to support the CSIRO's Scientists in Schools programme to improve the level of understanding of catchment management, waterways and developing an ongoing programme.
- Gathering and assessing information on the ecology of the Rivulet and its immediate environs, focussing on biological and chemical properties of the water and weed management.
- Working cooperatively with Southern Water, local council, government, land owners and the community in the interests of the Rivulet and its environs;
- Promoting public awareness of the values of the Rivulet and its environs and how each of us can engage further with this wonderful resource on our doorstep;
- Obtaining funds and supporting members in obtaining funds for the above purposes and;
- Supporting Organisations include DPIPWE, NRM South, the Derwent Estuary Program, Hobart City Council, the University of Tasmania, Greening Australia, the Understory Network, Bushcare, CSIRO Education, Sustainable Living Tasmania, Hydro Tasmania and the South Hobart Primary School, amongst others.

South Hobart Community Group Report

identifying priorities and opportunities to encourage and sustain positive neighbourhood change

Community mural

The Community Building Group is organising a large community mural on the wall of the Badminton Centre. The project involved a long preparatory period, in which the community was consulted, artist chosen, funding secured, appropriate government approvals secured, and practical matters sorted out. Major sponsors are Tasmanian Community Fund, Hobart City Council, Dulux and Sustainable Living Tasmania. The minor sponsors are South Hobart Progress Association, Southern Tasmanian Badminton Association, Steel-Line, Clennett's Mitre 10, Winning Post Productions, The Paint Shop, Fragments.

Ann Holt, the commissioned artist, is due to put the final work on the wall in late 2012. The design incorporates background landscape with a series of silhouetted figurative elements. The landscape is based on a panoramic view, from Mt Wellington to the ocean, as viewed from a vantage point high up on the hills of South Hobart. It references the enduring quality of landscape in the changing flow of a place. The series of silhouetted figures tell the narrative: the history of South Hobart in the form of a series of icons which make reference to events spanning from the days of the traditional owners, through to today, and making reference to possible futures. At the 'future' end, the design incorporates material from community workshops we held. This material points to some shared values in the area, and invokes contemplation of our shared future.

Film nights

In early 2012, the SHSC ran a series of community film nights. The films and the company were wonderful and we would like to run more events like this in the future, showing inspiring films to interested people. Some of the films shown include Miniscule, Hope in a Changing Climate and The Story of Stuff.

South Hobart Power Technology Group Report

working together to reduce our household energy consumption

Carbon Reduction Fund

Since incorporation, the Power Technology Group of the SHSC have organised bulk purchases of solar hot water and solar power systems, leading to the successful installation of over 250 Solar PV systems, Solar Hot water and Heat Pump Hot water systems. The Committee continues its efforts to reduce carbon emissions in the South Hobart community, albeit with a slight change in program.

The Committee's current focus is the Carbon Reduction Fund, which was established via the \$100 contribution from Rezeko (the Solar PV provider) for each system that it installed through our Bulk Purchase. In late 2010, the Carbon Reduction Fund offered grants of \$500 - \$3000 value for projects that aimed to reduce carbon emissions in South Hobart and the nearby community. The first year's recipients were:

- South Hobart Community Orchard, aimed at providing fruit and nut trees on a Council-owned parcel of land,
- Local and Seasonal Produce Guide, aimed at informing shoppers of best choices for each season, and fresh produce with the lowest food miles, and
- Presentations to Community Groups, aimed at motivating the community to undertake energy efficiency improvements within their homes and workplaces

Following the successful implementation of these programs, the Committee is now looking to undertake another round of funding.



South Hobart Sustainable Transport Group

working together to reduce our reliance on cars

Community gathering - Sustainable transport

SHSC held a sustainable transport forum to explore better ways of getting around in South Hobart. Todd Houstein from Sustainable Living Tasmania discussed Peak Oil and transport as a component of household emissions. Jerry DeGryse, from Inspiring Place, took us through the Masterplan for the South Hobart Rivulet and community members discussed how this opportunity can be used to increase the use of this important recreation and community space, while maintaining access for all. Local South Hobart business, ecoBikes, showed off some of the latest in electric bicycle technology for tackling South Hobart hills and Metro Tasmania brought along one of their busses with bike racks fitted, which they were trialling.



South Hobart Sustainable Community AGM

working together to reduce our reliance on cars

AGM

The SHSC held their AGM on Tues the 21st Aug at the Primary School Hall. It was a nice evening with numerous speakers and plenty of cheery company, mulled wine and cake. Speakers covered our Rivulet's health, how we are going to measure and improve it and what residents can do to be part of this exciting community project. A quorum was present, plus more and the resolution for audit exemption was unanimously passed. The minutes of the AGM are available on our website.

Treasurers Report

Income and expenditure, total period April 2010 – June 30 2011

Income		\$ 10,020	
		\$ 10,000 HCC Mural	
		\$20 Bob Burton	
Expenditure		\$9,676	
Purchase		\$56	Annual Government Return cost
Grant		\$1,000	SLT Carbon Reduction project
Purchase		\$8,500	Annette J (Mural artist)
		\$50	Hall Hire
		\$70	Audit costs
	Net Cash Flow	\$344	
Bank balance	At start	\$19,179	
		\$344	
Bank balance	At end	\$19,523	Solar \$14,717
			Architects \$4,806