



South Hobart Sustainable Community growing our community together

Annual Report June 2013 - July 2014

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.

www.southhobart.org

South Hobart Sustainable Community, ARBN IA10232, c/o 336 Elizabeth St Hobart 7000, incorporated March 2010, founded 2009.

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South Hobart Sustainable Community Facilitator's Group Report *helping you bring great ideas to life*

The SHSC is a collection of sub groups that concentrate their efforts in areas of common interest. The Facilitators Group, provides support and transition leadership to the smaller sub-groups. The Group includes all the office bearers and representatives of each of the subgroups and manages the promotion, communication and administrative functions of SHSC.

The year has been a consolidation of previous years' success. The inaugural lantern parade was very popular, with about 200 people lighting up the Rivulet - a fantastic sight. The community garden continues to grow, and the monthly local grower's gatherings have been well attended. We made submissions to the Hobart Council on the draft Strategic Plan, the Tara St redevelopment and proposed upgrade to the Hobart Rivulet track. We have been meeting with Bendigo Bank and other community members to establish a South Hobart Community Bank. SHSC partnered with the Tasmania Fire Service, and other community groups, to plan a community forum leading into the bushfire season.

These projects will continue into the future and many more ideas wait on the sidelines. Some ideas for future projects are listed below and if you are interested in these or other projects in South Hobart please contact the SHSC.

Ideas for 2015

- *Seasonal Community Celebrations - Spring Blossom Festival, Summer Picnic in the Park, Autumn Harvest Festival and a mid-winter's lantern parade. These could be the shared memories that our children carry with them. Connecting with friends and neighbours to celebrate the seasons and what is so special about living in South Hobart - all year around!*
- *Foraging from the Footpath - Imagine if our street trees offered fresh fruit and nuts to the hungry passer-by. Cities around the world have begun planting public spaces with edible trees and shrubs. Members of our community could adopt-a-tree to ensure that they are looked after and that the fruit doesn't go to waste. A walk down Macquarie street for breakfast, anyone?*
- *Adopt a Waterway Hobart Rivulet - There is fantastic potential to do more weed eradication, or native tree planting (as part of National Tree Day) and other work to understand and improve the health of the Rivulet. Are you interested in coordinating some Rivulet based activities?*
- *Community solar or wind farms – Imagine a suburb that produces power through community solar or wind farms (such as on the roof of the badminton centre).*
- *A south Hobart food market – A local food market would be a wonderful way to gather the community and inspire people to grow, shop and share locally.*
- *Waste not want not – Are you interested in encouraging South Hobart locals to compost or buy a kerbside Food and Green Collection Service. Are you interested in helping people understand what wastes can be recycled. Are you interested in changing the attitudes of local businesses and the community towards waste? Community involvement in waste is needed.*
- *Community Share - Imagine having a ute, trailer or wagon available to borrow. Car shares can reduce the need for a second car and can make moving house, collecting compost or going on a family holiday so much easier. Tool Share or food swaps could also be useful in the community.*

AGM

The SHSC held their 2012/13 AGM on Tues the 30th Oct at the Darcy Street Park. 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.

South Hobart Sustainable Community Newsletter

The membership of the SHSC has been kept well-informed throughout the year with a monthly email newsletter. Information about the activities of each of the sub-groups is compiled by the secretary and emailed to our ~350 members. Articles from third parties that are relevant to sustainability or social activities in and around South Hobart are also included in the newsletter. A Facebook page for SHSC was set up recently and has been well-subscribed, with over 50 members so far, and a lively thread of posts. Updates are also regularly posted on the SHSC website, www.southhobart.org.

Food Growers Group Report

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

Growers gatherings

The Food Growers 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 Garden

The SHSC has a strong history of supporting people working towards greater local and community food production. After three years of hard work by the SHSC, submitting grant applications, engaging in community consultation and undertaking an Expression of Interest process, 106 Cascade Road was allocated by the Hobart City Council for the South Hobart community garden. The parcel of land is in a central location, with easy access, car parking and a sunny aspect. Other community organisations support the location of the garden.

A celebration was held on Sunday 16 June 2013 to officially 'warm' the site. Over 80 people attended the event to drink mulled wine, eat cake, listen to live music and to hear in detail how the land would be transformed from a grassy plot to a productive garden. Since then the garden has burst forward from concept into reality!

Here are the highlights from the last 12 months:

The signing of a lease for the land from Hobart City Council for 5 years.

A fun and friendly site warming that included delicious food and drinks, tree planting, funky music and lots of great company.

A fencing workshop that helped build a wildlife proof fence for the garden while passing on fencing skills and knowledge.

We ran two Food Forest Workshops with the help of GoodLife Permaculture that helped establish our western section of forest garden and helped introduce many people to this topic.

A Waterwise Gardens Workshop looking at clever ways to minimise water use in the garden.

Sponsoring and planting of fruit trees and personal garden plots.

A successful grant application through Hobart City Council's Dr Edward Hall Grants program, providing funding for a part time project manager to assist with the gardens development through working bees and educational workshops.

A successful grant application to the 2A4 Grants program that provided \$3000 for our hardscaping.

A Successful grant application to the Tasmanian Climate Change office that provided \$500 for plant materials.

Monthly working bees that have been well attended and lots of fun!

We have planted a long row of espaliered fruit trees on the eastern border which are all coming along nicely

The Garden Shed should be up by the end of the year. The foundational slab is being laid in mid november and our builder will be on site soon after. We have a grant application pending which if successful will allow us to purchase tools and materials to stock the shed.

We are now members of the Feeding the Future Guild which gives us access to their grants program and discounts on services that they offer.

Have begun attracting local business sponsors to support our project through material donations, discounts etc.

All our individual plots that have been constructed are fully subscribed, with 13 individual plot holders.

With all these great things happening we're happy to say that the community garden has been brought to life and we are eagerly awaiting a summer full of community garden fun and some great workshops co-ordinated by our project manager, including; Food Forests, Mycopermaculture, Urban Bushcraft, Earth Building and more!

Adopt a Waterway Group Report

building an understanding of the health of our beautiful rivulet

The Hobart Rivulet is an important element of our suburb and 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.

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 local and State 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
- Working with Supporting organisations including 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.

The Adopt a Waterway Group (also otherwise known as Friends of Hobart Rivulet) was formed as a subgroup of the SHSC and in 2012/13,

More information can be found on our website:

- http://www.abc.net.au/gardening/video/video_index_May2013.htm (choose 'A rivulet runs through it')
- <http://www.southhobart.org/hobart-rivulet>
- Case Study – Hobart Rivulet, a natural playground?
- South Hobart Rivulet Native Species List.docx

Treasurers Report

income and expenditure, July 1 2013-June 30 2014

Income		\$ 7940	
	Grants	\$4,000	
	Donations	\$3,200	
	Garden memberships	\$740	
Expenditure		\$7941	
	AGM costs	\$ 137	
	Govt fees	\$ 66	
	Garden establishment	\$ 7,739	
	AGM costs	\$ 137	
	Net Cash Flow	-\$1	
Bank balance	At start	\$15,370	
Bank balance	At end	\$15,369	