

PROJECT PLATYPUS



UPPER WIMMERA LANDCARE

2015-16 Annual Report

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Project Platypus would like to thank and acknowledge our sponsors and partners in 2015-2016:

**ANZ Staff Foundation
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Wimmera Catchment Management Authority**

The Upper Wimmera Catchment

The Wimmera River in Western Victoria forms part of the Murray Darling Basin. It is Victoria's largest land locked system and terminates at Lake Hindmarsh and Lake Albacutya south of the Wyperfeld National Park. The Upper Wimmera Catchment refers to the catchment area upstream of the Mt William Creek and Wimmera River junction encompassing an area of 3,027km².

The main land use in the region is made up of mixed farming practices, largely sheep and dryland cropping, but also includes enterprises such as grapes, olives, forestry, vegetable production, cut flowers and other livestock production such as goats, cattle, pigs and poultry. The region is also home to mining industries and boasts a large tourism industry, especially within the Grampians and Pyrenees Ranges. The population of the Upper Wimmera is estimated to be around 15,000 people and is predicted to remain relatively stable into the near future.

The Upper Wimmera has a strong indigenous cultural history and contains many significant sites. Traditional owner groups from the region include the Jardwadjali, Djab Warrung, Djadja Wurrung and the Wotjobaluk People.

The region is home to an extensive array of flora and fauna including a large number of threatened and endangered species. Since European settlement, the region has been subject to significant clearing of native vegetation, which has resulted in numerous environmental issues. These include loss of biodiversity and a degradation of water quality through over-extraction, saline discharge and soil erosion.

Wimmera River Catchment



Project Platypus

Project Platypus was founded in 1994 by Upper Wimmera Catchment Landcare group members who saw the need for a network to deliver larger scale projects across the region. The chosen icon was the platypus as it was identified that much of the network's activity would focus around improving water quality, which in turn would benefit the platypus.

Since its inception Project Platypus has achieved massive results attracting over \$7 million to undertake activities such as erosion control work, revegetation, protection of remnant vegetation, establishment of perennial pastures, control of pest plants and animals and raised community awareness of environmental and land management issues.

The success of Project Platypus can be attributed to its community support, its grass-roots approach to problem solving and its ability to relate to land managers and investors. Project Platypus has been adaptable and flexible, which has enabled it to maintain its strength and vitality over the years. In 2015-2016, Project Platypus's capacity to support Landcare groups and achieve on ground results is better than ever.

Project Platypus's mission is to support and empower the community to improve the environmental health of the Upper Wimmera River catchment while maintaining and improving productivity

Chair's Report

It is fantastic to see water lying in the paddocks and the creeks and streams flowing after two very dry years. Have you been bogged? I know I have more than once.

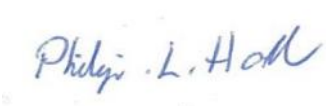
While reviewing the past year, it is amazing to read the number of volunteers and the amount of unpaid time put in by our local Landcarers. I think this is the strength of Project Platypus.

As we all know, it is becoming increasingly difficult to source our grant funds every year. With all tiers of government running up huge debts, the environment budget is getting smaller in real terms. This has caused some concern for Project Platypus. With no base level funding to run the management of the organisation, just relying on the administrative percentage of all our grants, will see a reduction in staff hours. This we hope will only be a short term problem as all board members are working on plans to rectify the situation.

This year brings the conclusion of the Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink. This project has been run for the past three years with a budget of just under two million dollars and has achieved all targets.

Thanks to our manager Amanda Kilpatrick for the great job she has done over the past year, leading our splendid staff and managing a budget of in excess of one million dollars.

In closing I would like to thank all Landcarers in the Upper Wimmera River Catchment, all employees of Project Platypus and in particular the Board members for their support and many hours at meetings over the past twelve months.



Phil Hall
Chair, Project Platypus



Project Platypus Board

Project Platypus is governed by a volunteer Board which meets on a monthly basis.

The Management Committee is made up of Landcare Group representatives with a range of experience, skills and local knowledge which serves to guide the organisation's activities and provide strategic direction.

Board Members (Oct 2015 - Sept 2016):

Chair Phil Hall - Concongella Landcare Group
Vice-Chair Angela Turrell - Jallukar Landcare Group
Secretary Leanne Jackman - Northern Grampians Landcare Group
Treasurer Michael Greene - Elmhurst Landcare Group

Members:

Michael McMurtrie - Jallukar Landcare Group
Mark McKew - Crowlands Landcare Group
Rosie Nater - Moyston Landcare Group
Ian Nicholson - Stawell Urban Landcare Group
Rod Vearing - Crowlands Landcare Group
Tricia Sweeney—Navarre Landcare Group

Ex officio members:

Joel Boyd - Wimmera Catchment Management Authority
Amanda Kilpatrick - Project Platypus (Manager)



Manager's Report

It gives me great pleasure to report on the 2015/2016 financial year, my first as Manager. I believe we have had some fantastic achievements over the year not only within our organisation but also within the Landcare community.

Leigh Blackmore has continued working with Project Platypus after resigning from his role as Manager by taking on the role as Project Manager for the Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink. I am most grateful to Leigh for the support he has have given me over the past 12 months.

The eleven Upper Wimmera Landcare Groups continue to implement great projects in the local area for public and biodiversity benefits with Bob Wallace offering his assistance to help them achieve this.

Thanks to Bronwyn Bant, we continue to provide educational workshops to engage the community to offer information and best practice techniques across a broad range of topics. These workshops have been well attended and are much appreciated.

Four plantouts were well supported by volunteers and I thank Al Stephens for successfully coordinating these event.

The Project Platypus Invasive Plants and Animals Team managed by Loki McIntyre and on ground works Weed Control Supervisor Dene Marshall have continued to work with Landcare groups, landholders and other agencies for excellent results.

I also need to thank Cathy McDermott for her wonderful support in her dual role of Landmate Coordinator and Administration/Finance Officer. Cathy has been my right hand person for the past 12 months and can't thank her enough.

Community support is at the core of Project Platypus. Many of the contributors are listed in this Annual Report, but there's others as well who contribute through attending events, being involved with their local Landcare groups and in a multitude of other ways.

Thanks must also go to our stakeholder and landholders for supporting us.

Lastly to the Board thank you for your time and support and entrusting me with the role as the new Manager.

The Project Platypus team looks forward to continuing to provide a range of opportunities for people to learn, connect and get active in landscape restoration over the next 12 months and beyond.



Amanda Kilpatrick
Manager, Project Platypus

Project Platypus Staff

Amanda Kilpatrick	Manager	1.0 FTE
Allistair Stephens	Project Manager – Native Vegetation/Invasive Plants and Animals	0.8 FTE
Robert Wallace	Regional Landcare Facilitator	0.9 FTE
Loki McIntyre	Invasive Plant and Animal Project Coordinator	0.6 FTE (Casual)
Dene Marshall	Weed Control Supervisor	1.0 FTE
Cathy McDermott	Administration/Finance Officer and Landmate Coordinator	0.6 FTE
Bronwyn Bant	Events Coordinator	0.4 FTE
Rohan Marlow	Weed Control Operator	Casual

Native Vegetation Program by Allister Stephens

After a very dry start to the season which only really broke in mid-June, the 2015 planting season started out as a tough one. The late break and subsequent dry winter and failed spring made growing anything very difficult as everyone would remember. The added complication of little soil moisture made the job of site preparation even more difficult to get fencing, ripping and spraying completed on time for planting in July with some sites coming down to the wire.

Rain did eventually fall with one plantout event being a bit muddy under foot but fortunately the weather on all four of the plantout weekends being favourable and enabled all those involved to enjoy their time planting.

Following from a tried model of running community planting events over the four weekends in July, the 2015 planting events were well enough attended with two of them being a little short on volunteers. We were fortunate to be able to use the Green Army team during the planting season to finish off sites that were not completed on the planting weekend. Four school events were also held during July which are always successful with enthusiastic and energetic primary school age kids. School plantings are also a great opportunity for a bit of hands on environmental education which will hopefully plant many seeds in our region's future adults about why revegetation is so important and worthwhile.

Tree survival has been surprising for most sites considering how dry the planting season turned out to be and the subsequent hot and dry summer. The rain event in January 2016 saved many plants and is responsible for the acceptable levels of survival on most sites. Heavy losses on a few sites has warranted replanting using spare plants from the 2016 season to ensure that these sites will have the planned number of plants to grow to maturity.

This planting season was the second year of our flagship Grampians to Pyrenees (G2P) project which this season funded 20 hectares of revegetation. Other projects for the season included our 20 Million Trees project, Overdale remnant and enhancement project and a number of Wimmera Community grants that were completed for local landcare groups on a fee-for-service basis.

In total, 77 hectare was revegetated in the Upper Catchment for the season for all projects.

Project	Partners	Achievements
Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Federal Department of Environment, · Wimmera Catchment Management Authority · Glenelg-Hopkins Catchment Management Authority · Trust For Nature · Parks Victoria · Upper Wimmera Landcare Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 22 hectares revegetated - 11,035 stems planted - 9 properties involved - 5326m of fencing constructed
Another 15,000 Trees (20 Million Trees Project)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Federal Department of Environment · Wimmera Catchment Management Authority · Jallukar Landcare Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 40.8 hectares revegetated - 15,000 stems planted - 3 property involved
Wimmera Regional Community Grants (WCMA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Wimmera Catchment Management Authority · Concongella, Crowlands, Jallukar and Northern Grampians Landcare Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 11 hectares revegetated - 5525 stems planted - 4 property involved
Overdale Remnant Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Concongella Landcare Group · Victorian State Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 hectares revegetated - 80.5 hectares of remnant vegetation protected - 1000 stems planted - 1 properties involved - 3000m of fencing constructed

Native Vegetation Program cont...



Plantout at Mokepilly 2015



Planting at Rhymney 2015

Invasive Plants and Animals

The Invasive Plants and Animal Committee field crew this year consisted of Dene Marshall and Rohan Marlow with Loki McIntyre coordinating works and helping out during busier times or staff absences. Their commitment to improving the environment through control works, knowing that it only takes one plant to recolonise areas, and their attention to detail ensure a comprehensive job.

The Invasive Plants and Animal Committee is made up of enthusiastic community and agency representatives. The committee is chaired by Project Platypus Board Member Ian Nicholson and attended by David Handscombe from Parks Victoria, Deidre Andrews from the Ararat Rural City Council, Kevin Spence from the Northern Grampians Shire, Mark Farrer from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning as well as community representatives John Stevens, Rosie Nater, Ross McGregor, Neil Marriott, Wendy Marriott, Peter Brazier, Michael McMurtrie, Michael Roberts & George Holden. This group discussed priorities for the Upper Wimmera Catchment, ensured activities across agencies are coordinated and discussed new and emerging issues.

Some of the focus discussions throughout the year have included:

- advocated to Government to list deer as a feral species and allow commercial harvesting of kangaroos
- coordination of Landcare rabbit control works and DEPI compliance activities
- development of a plan for African weed orchid control and discuss other weeds such as Bridal Creeper, Sallow Wattle, Bathurst Burr, Broom, Chilean Needle Grass and many others.

Thank you to those involved in making this subcommittee so valuable.

During 2015-16 the Project Platypus IPA team undertook several different projects from the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority and Landcare groups. The Wimmera CMA funded a Riparian Works project which focused on several sections of waterways in the Upper Wimmera.

- Upper Mt William Creek
- Upper Congongella Creek
- Millers Creek (Pomonal)
- Upper Wimmera River (Elmhurst)
- Wimmera River (Campbell's Bridge to Glenorchy)

This funding allowed us, not only to treat areas not normally funded, but it assisted in landholder reengagement and strengthened relationships in Landcare Groups and smaller communities.

Moyston LCG – continued work on Chilean Needle Grass in and around town. There seems to be no increase in the area covered by Chilean Needle Grass, however, we haven't seen the reduction compared to previous years. A large infestation of Spiny Rush south of the Rocky Point Bushland Reserve near Wills Hill received treatment. The infestation extended further than the initial site inspection indicated.

Jallukar LCG – This was the third year of control works focusing on the extensive Spiny Rush infestation around the Gibblings Bridge area. In 2013 the area covered by Spiny Rush was around 40HA, but through years of continued control works we have reduced this down to around 10HA remaining. The landholder is hoping to begin removal of the remaining Spiny Rush clumps through the use of machinery. A new landholder to the area has also been engaged in works and has joined the Landcare group.

Crowlands LCG – A small project focusing on Gorse was carried out along the Mt Cole Creek.

Stawell Urban LCG – Another successful year from the SULC who's VLG funding saw 73.5HA of weeds treated around the Stawell township. As usual Broom species were the main targeted species, but there was also a lot of work carried out on Bridal Creeper, Gorse and Sweet Briar. Thanks to SULC for their continued efforts in obtaining funding for these works.

Black Range LCG – Due to the drier season towards the end of 2015 and into 2016, works planned with the WCMA Wimmera Regional Community Grant needed to be varied. The focus went from One Leaf Cape Tulip onto St Johns Wort and a large European Rabbit infestation. Several days of ripping and fumigation were carried out by Project Platypus field crew with assistance from Parks Vic and the WCMA Drought Crew. With these partners rabbit control was able to be carried out in the Black Range Scenic Reserve neighbouring landholders also carrying out works.

Northern Grampians LCG—Continued work along the Mt William Creek treating Bridal Creeper and One Leaf Cape Tulip. The work over a few years has seen a huge reduction in these weeds.

Parks Vic – Trial works on Sallow Wattle in the Northern Grampians were carried out at the end of 2015. Parks Vic looked into various methods of controlling this extremely invasive species of acacia including chemical, mechanical and also removal by hand. Parks Vic are hoping to develop a range of methods in the treatment of Sallow Wattle to allow future works in areas of different significance and access.

St Johns Wort on the Ararat Hills was also treated as part of yearly funding over the past few years. The St Johns Wort has seen a large reduction in size in the public land in this area, however we are now seeing the species getting quite large and dense in the neighbouring private land.

Local Government – The Northern Grampians Shire has been working closely with Project Platypus to conduct works on both rabbits and various weeds species within the shire. A lot of rabbit fumigation and ripping has been carried out around Lake Lonsdale with the Project Platypus field crew doing follow up fumigation. Rabbit work was also carried out along Panrock Reservoir Road. The Shire worked closely with Project Platypus around Halls Gap assisting in mapping and funding spray work on Blackberry, Horehound, Sweet Briar and even a small number of Bathurst Burr.

Invasive Plants and Animals cont...

Weeds Species	Area (m2)	Area (HA)
African Boxthorn	31366	3.13
Amsinkia	86850	8.68
Arrum Lily	10134	1.01
Asparagus	4739	0.47
Bathurst Burr	1106705	110.67
Blackberry	644283	64.43
Bluebell Creeper	655044	65.50
Boneseed	30570	3.05
Bridal Creeper	2653282	265.33
Cape Broom	104935	10.49
Chilean Needle Grass	3586	0.36
Flaxleaf Broom	273890	27.39
Gorse	822921	82.29
Hawthorn	6019	0.60
Horehound	133900	13.39
Paddy Melon	100	0.001
Patterson's Curse	8842	0.88
Prickly Pear	144	0.0014
Sallow Wattle	201112	20.10
Spiny Rush	4590928	459.10
St Johns Wort	2220	0.20
Sweet Briar	2671076	267.10
TOTAL	14042646	1404.26



Bridal Creeper along the Wimmera River



Single Leaf Cape Tulip outbreak in the Black Range

Engaging and Involving the Community

The 2015-2016 year has been dominated by drought support events, the majority of which were generously funded through Northern Grampians Shire Council and Grampians Pyrenees Primary Care Partnership. The events delivered were the result of collaborating and working in partnership with a number of other organisations and agencies.

Many of the Landcare Groups based in the Upper Wimmera have met regularly in the last twelve months and held general group meetings. All on ground projects completed by the groups in the last twelve months have been a result of potential projects discussed at these group meetings.

Landcare Group meetings were attended by Project Platypus staff. The Landcare groups were assisted with project design, educational material and reporting and mapping.

Project Platypus offered events for locals to care for the land. Our annual community and school Plantout flagship events provide good examples of this, with a total of 104 volunteers attending the four community Plantouts during July, and 150 students tree planting throughout winter with 6 schools involved.

In July 2015, Project Platypus invited Australian dung beetle expert Dr Bernard Doube to the Jackman's property in Dadswells Bridge. During the workshop, Dr Double discussed the unique benefits dung beetles provide such as improving pasture production, greater carrying capacity, reduced fertiliser use, improved parasite control, increased sub soil water storage, an increase in earthworms, and free clay spreading.

In addition to this, Dr Doube also covered how to increase dung beetle activity and explored the many seasonally active species and their potential geographic range. The workshop was attended by 27 local farmers, with representation across age groups, including young farmers.

The Campbells Bridge Drought Support Workshop was hosted by Bretton Estate in March 2016, where young farmer Scott Nicholson showcased his innovative and award winning Bretton Auto-Feeder which he uses on the properties two stock containment areas.

Project Platypus continues to offer cost competitive invasive plant and animal control for all landholders, our services being particularly suitable for small lot holders who may not have their own equipment for ripping and herbicide application. Small lot holders are quite often interested in revegetating parts of their property and

Project Platypus has a long history of providing this service to local hobby block owners. Out of the 19 revegetation project sites for the 2015 planting season, 7 were for small lot holders.



Event/Project	Objectives	Total Participants
Polyfaces Documentary	To provide rural residents with a family friendly social opportunity; support local community groups, raise the profile of landcare in the upper Wimmera, showcase the farming methods of time magazines 'worlds most innovative farmer' Joel Salatin.	31
Drought Support Workshops - Banyena, Campbells Bridge and Navarre	To provide land managers with best practice techniques for drought management. Create greater awareness of health services available to land managers. Reduce the stigma of mental health illness. Provide land managers with information on current drought and financial assistance available. To showcase the locally produced and award winning designed Bretton Auto Feeder. To showcase a working stock containment area	38
Sheep Nutrition Workshop - Marnoo	Leading Australian livestock nutrition and management expert San Jolly was engaged to deliver a workshop on sheep management issues during drought. The following were addressed: Managing groundcover and optimising winter pasture growth, de-stocking versus biosecurity, stock containment area management - avoiding problems, annual versus perennial pastures - what's the best balance	25
Landcare for Kids - St Arnaud and Great Western	To provide rural residents with a family friendly social opportunity, particularly mums and kids during the school holidays; support local community groups, raise the profile of landcare in the Upper Wimmera,	61
Dung Beetle Workshop	Expert Dr Bernard Double discussed the unique benefits of dung beetles for improving pasture reduce fertiliser use improved parasite control and other environmental benefits	27
School Plantout 2015	To provide school students across the Upper Wimmera with the opportunity to undertake tree plant activities and receive education regarding the environment and biodiversity.	150
Plantout 2015	To connect community, improve biodiversity,	104
Annual General Meeting 2015	Annual report Election of board members	38
Dry Summer Workshop— Joel South	To provide land managers with best practice techniques for drought management. Create greater awareness of health services available to land managers. Reduce the stigma of mental health illness. Provide land managers with information on current drought and financial assistance available. To showcase the locally produced and award winning designed Bretton Auto Feeder.	30
20 Million Trees	Revegetation of three sites in the Upper Catchment	45
Grampians to Pyrenees	Strategic revegetation linking the Pyrenees ranges to the Grampians, community engagement.	103
Fee for Service - Revegetation	Wimmera Community Grants – Concongella, Crowlands and Jallukar Landcare groups	32

Landcare Group Activities

Concongella Landcare Group - Mark McLean, Secretary/Treasurer

The Concongella Landcare Group has continued to contribute to the sustainable management of farmland within the Concongella area, with two successful projects completed. The first project was funded through Victorian Landcare (WCMA) and Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink grants and consisted of revegetation of a total of 6ha of farmland with native tree and shrub species at three sites. This revegetation will contribute to increased biodiversity of flora and fauna in the area as well as improve land productivity by providing stock shelter. The project was co-ordinated by Project Platypus who organised a very successful plant out with 35 volunteers that planted 3000 trees and shrubs with guards. Landmate provided assistance in establishing approximately 3km of fencing and planting approximately 1500 trees and shrubs.



Moyston Landcare Group - Rosie Nater, Secretary

Moyston Landcare Group has had another successful year, with a diverse range of activities.

Members attended the Project Platypus Plantout at Eastick's, as well as the annual Planting Day with the Moyston Primary School students and staff. This planting was in June, the great novelty this year for the kids were large puddles! After planting, while waiting for the BBQ to cook, they had great fun.

In November we held the first Small Landholders Day. The aim was to focus on a group in our area previously not specifically targeted, to increase their knowledge and understanding of important environmental issues that they may face. Also to understand they have the same responsibilities to control rabbits and weeds etc. as large landholders do. Topics covered were Rabbits, Fire Readiness, Keeping Bees & Cheese making. There was also a Grasses ID Walk and Soils with a soil pit dug to help to better understand soil structure.

Roger Spratt was elected as our new President, after David Coad being in the role for 2 years. Two meetings were combined with a tour, one on fire recovery on Douglas Menon's property, and the other looking at Bill and Annette Taylor's Agro Forestry, concluding with the christening of their newly constructed pizza oven.

Our group again hosted a very successful Community Meal in April, which increases the community profile of our Group. The main focus of grants was again weeds. Another section of Spiney Rush was sprayed, as well as continuing our Chilean Needle Grass mapping and control. We also received a small grant from the Victorian Rabbit Action Network to deliver training for the new Rabbit app for smart phones. The sightings are automatically entered into a National data base, which helps to show where there are problem pockets, and to assist with funding applications.

Clean-up Australia Day again saw a large amount of rubbish collected; ensuring travelling through our area is only remembered for its natural beauty.



Landcare Group Activities

Stawell Urban Landcare Group - Cathy McDermott, Secretary

In addition to monthly meetings, the Stawell Urban Landcare Group has been actively involved in working closely with community groups, schools and individuals to build ongoing, permanent relationships for the purpose of applying a collective vision for the benefit of our community. Members have devoted much of their personal and precious time to activities which continue to ensure the success of the Landcare group.

There have been some great achievements over the last 12 months. Stawell Urban Landcare was successful with a grant application supported by Wimmera Catchment Management Authority through funding from the Victorian Government's Victorian Landcare Program to develop a project entitled "Landcare's Gift to Stawell" included weed control, rubbish removal, Ironbarks tours and a new Trees for Mum event.

During September Julie Andrew ran the annual Ironbarks walks with three local schools being involved and over 100 students participating in this significant educational program.

Veronica Monaghan instigated the Trees for Mum project where 400 native plants were given away free during the Stawell Mother's Day Classic. The plants were grown and supplied by the local Greenfingers Nursery.

As part of their ongoing planned approach to invasive plants, Stawell Urban engaged Project Platypus to undertake Broom control works in and around the township of Stawell. One member of the group hosted her own working bee busily pulling up Boneseed which was much appreciated.

Group members contributed to discussions with Northern Grampians Shire to develop a strategy for the disposal of rubbish as part of the Clean Up Australia Program.

Rubbish collection along the Western Highway continues to be a priority for the group with a number of working bees held as part of the Adopt-A-Roadside program.

During the year Bob Wallace held a handover day for Stawell Urban members to undertake monitoring and maintenance of the nesting boxes in the Ironbarks Reserve. The nesting box program continues to be an ongoing and successful program which we are very proud of.

Thanks to the male force of the group, working bees were held during the year to undertake maintenance works at Federation Park.

Stawell Urban Members Ian Nicholson, Cathy McDermott and Mandy Smith attended a Jallukar Landcare Group meeting where Ian did a presentation on what activities Stawell Urban does.



Grampians Pyrenees Biolink by Leigh Blackmore

During the 2015-2016 year the Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink project (G2P) achieved many outcomes with the help of Project Partners, Landholders and community volunteers. This period covers Year Two of the federally funded three year project with the final year to be completed in 2016-2017. The Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink has a long term vision of "A healthy and connected landscape between the Grampians (Gariwerd) and the Pyrenees that supports our people and our biodiversity".

In July and August 2016, 107 hectares of previously cleared land was revegetated with 54,180 seedlings using local indigenous species. Project Platypus, Wimmera CMA and Glenelg Hopkins CMA developed revegetation sites with landholders to result in projects that complement individual farm plans and aspirations. Sites were also strategically designed and selected to enhance ecological connectivity for local flora and fauna. More than half of these sites were within a kilometre of a large (>1,000 ha) patch of remnant vegetation, with many sites focused on revegetation of riparian zones. In most cases Landholders prepared their sites by constructing fences, applying herbicide to weeds and deep ripping. Five community groups and their volunteers were involved in assisting with tree planting, with eight events over July and August 2015 attracting 130 volunteers. Groups that assisted in planting G2P sites included Jallukar, Elmhurst and Moyston Landcare Groups, Ararat Scouts and Conservation Volunteers Australia. In addition, 5 school plantings took place in the Upper Wimmera involving 116 students from local primary and secondary schools. The Landmate crews from Hopkins and Langi Kal Kal Correctional Centres were also involved in fencing and planting as part of this project during this time. Ecological monitoring took place at 30% of all project sites to assist in validating environmental gains from the work undertaken.

In addition to revegetation sites during this period, 230 hectares of remnant vegetation on private land was placed under management agreements and activities were undertaken to help protect these sites from threats. These activities included fencing, weed and rabbit control and at six of these sites a Trust for Nature Covenant was placed on the property title offering a legally binding 'on title' agreement.

This project also included additional resources to assist Parks Victoria to undertake rabbit and weed control work on public land reserves. This included work in Langi Ghiran State Park, Mt Buangor State Park, Landsborough and Landsborough Hill Nature Conservation Reserve, Jallukar Nature Conservation Reserve and Ararat Regional Park. Targeted weed species included Cootamundra Wattle, Early Black Wattle, Gorse, Horehound, African Daisy, Blackberry, Bridal Creeper and St John's Wort. A total of 858 hectares of weed control and 215 hectares of rabbit control activities were undertaken during this period.

During June 2016 the 'Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink Conservation Action Plan' was finalised. This document is a culmination of work that had been undertaken over the last 2 years, bringing together community and natural resources management knowledge and opinions and ecological information to develop a plan for the future of the Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink. The plan has a number of functions including;

- Providing strategic context for the Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink from an ecological and stakeholder organisation perspective.
- It defines the project area and priority functional zones within it and provides a framework for ongoing finer-scale project definition and planning.
- It defines and identifies key ecological and functional assets that were considered to represent the range of biodiversity and functional processes supporting biodiversity, in the region.
- It Identifies key threats to the assets and actions to address threats, and
- Provides key strategic recommendations for the implementation of the G2P project.

This plan was developed by Sophie Bickford from the Central Victorian Biolink Group in consultation with community, government and partner organisations. It was launched in June 2016 at Brambuk in Halls Gap with 40 interested community members and natural resource managers. This document can be found on the Project Platypus website and can be downloaded by any organisation and used as needed. The event also included presentations from partner organisations and with Geoff Wescott from Deakin University as the guest speaker discussing the value of Bio-links in general.

This year has also involved much planning for the final stage of the project with 2016 revegetation sites and management plans developed with 22 landholders. 81,000 tube stock have been ordered and propagated at local native plant nurseries with an expectation of revegetating a further 160 hectares in 2016-2017. During the following year further work will be undertaken to secure funding so that this great project can continue into the future and the Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink Plan can be fully implemented.



Grampians Pyrenees Biolink



Financial Reports

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Revenue		
Fees for Service	136,862	146,144
Grants Received	717,824	746,627
Negotiated Contracts	197,679	156,698
Sponsorship	156	1,864
Interest Received	1,897	5,319
Sundry Income	2,448	5,360
Profit on Sale of Assets	9,066	3,620
Total Revenue	1,065,932	1,065,632
Expenses		
Administration	42,727	51,094
Community Engagement	16,911	18,109
Employment	415,961	382,047
Vehicles	28,646	29,350
Other Project Costs	754,903	421,256
Total Expenses	1,259,148	901,856
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(193,216)	163,776
Net current year surplus attributable to	(193,216)	163,776

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Financial Reports

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	2	201,705	379,573
Receivables	3	19,077	30,371
Total Current Assets		220,782	409,944
Non Current Assets			
Vehicles & Equipment	4	56,529	72,940
Total Non Current Assets		56,529	72,940
Total Assets		277,311	482,884
Current Liabilities			
Payables	5	42,199	58,967
Employee Provisions	6	12,900	8,488
Total Current Liabilities		55,099	67,455
Total Liabilities		55,099	67,455
Net Assets		222,212	415,429
Accumulated Funds	7	222,212	415,429

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Accumulated Funds	Total
Balance at 1 July 2014	251,652	251,652
Net Surplus for the year	163,776	163,776
Balance at 30 June 2015	415,428	415,428
Balance at 1 July 2015	415,428	415,428
Net Surplus for the year	(193,216)	(193,216)
Balance at 30 June 2016	222,212	222,212

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash received from customers		1,052,740	1,049,800
Cash paid to suppliers, grant recipients and employees		(1,241,822)	(880,432)
Net Cash provided/(used) by operating activities	9	(189,081)	169,368
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		1,897	5,319
Proceeds from the sale of vehicles and equipment		9,316	9,091
Payments for vehicles and equipment		-	(25,455)
Net Cash provided/(used) in investing activities		11,213	(11,045)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Cash received from finance agencies		-	-
Cash paid to finance agencies		-	(2,290)
Net cash used in financing activities		-	(2,290)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		(177,868)	156,033
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the financial year		379,573	223,540
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		201,705	379,573

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

The financial statements cover Project Platypus Association Inc as an individual entity. Project Platypus Association Inc is an association incorporated in Victoria and operating pursuant to the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 2 September 2016 by the members of the committee.

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board*. The association is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

(b) Fair Value of Assets and Liabilities

The association measures some of its assets and liabilities at fair value on either a recurring or non-recurring basis, depending on the requirements of the applicable Accounting Standard.

Fair value is the price the association would receive to sell an asset or would have to pay to transfer a liability in an orderly (ie unforced) transaction between independent, knowledgeable and willing market participants at the measurement date.

As fair value is a market-based measure, the closest equivalent observable market pricing information is used to determine fair value. Adjustments to market values may be made having regard to the characteristics of the specific asset or liability. The fair values of assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market are determined using one or more valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise, to the extent possible, the use of observable market data.

To the extent possible, market information is extracted from the principal market for the asset or liability (ie the market with the greatest volume and level of activity for the asset or liability). In the absence of such a market, information is extracted from the most advantageous market available to the entity at the end of the reporting period (ie the market that maximises the receipts from the sale of the asset or minimises the payments made to transfer the liability, after taking into account transaction costs and transport costs).

For non-financial assets, the fair value measurement also takes into account a market participant's ability to use the asset in its highest and best use or to sell it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The fair value of liabilities and the entity's own equity instruments may be valued, where there is no observable market price in relation to the transfer of an identical or similar financial instrument, by reference to observable market information where identical or similar instruments are held as assets. Where this information is not available, other valuation techniques are adopted and, where significant, are detailed in the respective note to the financial statements.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

(c) Property, Plant and Equipment

(i) Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than the estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to the estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses are recognised either in profit or loss or as a revaluation decrease if the impairment losses relate to a revalued asset. A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the association and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are recognised as expenses in profit or loss during the financial period in which they are incurred.

(ii) Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets, including buildings and capitalised lease assets, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life commencing from the time the asset is available for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Motor Vehicles	22.5%
Office Equipment & Furniture	25.0%
Project Equipment	20.0%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing net proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss when the item is derecognised. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation surplus relating to that asset are transferred to retained surplus.

(d) Financial Instruments

(i) Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the association commits itself to either purchase or sell the asset (ie trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs except where the instrument is classified "at fair value through profit or loss", in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately.

(ii) Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, amortised cost using the effective interest method, or cost. Amortised cost is calculated as the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition less principal repayments and any reduction for impairment, and adjusted for any cumulative amortisation of the difference between that initial amount and the maturity amount calculated using the effective interest method.

The effective interest method is used to allocate interest income or interest expense over the relevant period and is equivalent to the rate that discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts (including fees, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) over the expected life (or when this cannot be reliably predicted, the contractual term) of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. Revisions to expected future net cash flows will necessitate an adjustment to the carrying amount with a consequential recognition of income or expense in profit or loss.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

(i) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets are classified at "fair value through profit or loss" when they are held for trading for the purpose of short-term profit taking, derivatives not held for hedging purposes, or when they are designated as such to avoid an accounting mismatch or to enable performance evaluation where a group of financial assets is managed by key management personnel on a fair value basis in accordance with a documented risk management or investment strategy. Such assets are subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value (ie gains or losses) being recognised in profit or loss.

(ii) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial asset is derecognised.

(iii) Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets that have fixed maturities and fixed or determinable payments, and it is the association's intention to hold these investments to maturity. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial asset is derecognised

(iv) Available-for-sale investments

Available-for-sale investments are non-derivative financial assets that are either not capable of being classified into other categories of financial assets due to their nature or they are designated as such by management. They comprise investments in the equity of other entities where there is neither a fixed maturity nor fixed or determinable payments.

They are subsequently measured at fair value with any remeasurements other than impairment losses and foreign exchange gains and losses recognised in other comprehensive income. When the financial asset is derecognised, the cumulative gain or loss pertaining to that asset previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified into profit or loss.

Available-for-sale financial assets are classified as non-current assets when they are not expected to be sold within 12 months after the end of the reporting period. All other available-for-sale financial assets are classified as current assets.

(v) Financial liabilities

Non-derivative financial liabilities other than financial guarantees are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial liability is derecognised

(e) Impairment

A financial asset (or a group of financial assets) is deemed to be impaired if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events (a "loss event") having occurred, which has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset.

For financial assets carried at amortised cost (including loans and receivables), a separate allowance account is used to reduce the carrying amount of financial assets impaired by credit losses. After having taken all possible measures of recovery, if management establishes that the carrying amount cannot be recovered by any means, at that point the written-off amounts are charged to the allowance account or the carrying amount of impaired financial assets is reduced directly if no impairment amount was previously recognised in the allowance account.

When the terms of financial assets that would otherwise have been past due or impaired have been renegotiated, the association recognises the impairment for such financial assets by taking into account the original terms as if the terms have not been renegotiated so that the loss events that have occurred are duly considered.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

(f) Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual right to receipt of cash flows expires or the asset is transferred to another party, whereby the entity no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised where the related obligations are discharged, cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability extinguished or transferred to another party and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

(g) Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the association assesses whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. The assessment will consider both external and internal sources of information. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of that asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and its value-in-use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is immediately recognised in profit or loss.

Where the future economic benefits of the asset are not primarily dependent upon the asset's ability to generate net cash inflows and when the entity would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits, value in use is determined as the depreciated replacement cost of an asset.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the association estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Where an impairment loss on a revalued asset is identified, this is recognised against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that class of asset.

(h) Employee Provisions

(i) Short-term employee benefits

Provision is made for the association's obligation for short-term employee benefits. Short-term employee benefits are benefits (other than termination benefits) that are expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service, including wages, salaries and sick leave. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled.

(i) Cash on Hand

Cash on hand includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

(j) Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from customers for goods sold in the ordinary course of business. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Accounts receivable are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment. Refer to Note 1(e) for further discussion on the determination of impairment losses.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

(k) Revenue and Other Income

Non-reciprocal grant revenue is recognised in profit or loss when the association obtains control of the grant and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the association and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before the entity is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

When grant revenue is received whereby the association incurs an obligation to deliver economic value directly back to the contributor, this is considered a reciprocal transaction and the grant revenue is recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until the service has been delivered to the contributor; otherwise the grant is recognised as income on receipt.

The association receives non-reciprocal contributions of assets from the government and other parties for zero or a nominal value. These assets are recognised at fair value on the date of acquisition in the statement of financial position, with a corresponding amount of income recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument. Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established.

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customer.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

(l) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

(k) Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

Where the association retrospectively applies an accounting policy, makes a retrospective restatement or reclassifies items in its financial statements, a third statement of financial position as at the beginning of the preceding period is presented in addition to the minimum comparative financial statements.

(m) Accounts Payable and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Note 2: Cash & Cash Equivalents		
Investment Account	274,899	220,714
Operating Account	(74,250)	157,516
PayPal	-	692
Petty Cash	684	300
Public Fund Account	372	352
Total Cash & Cash Equivalents	201,705	379,574

Note 3(a) : Receivables

Fee for Service Customers	300	12,480
Grants	2,750	17,325
Reimbursements, Incentives, Equipment Hire & Membership	16,027	566
Total Receivables	19,077	30,371

Credit Risk

The association has no significant concentrations of credit risk with respect to any single counterparty or group of counterparties.

The following table details the association's contributions and other debtors receivable exposed to credit risk with ageing analysis and impairment provided for thereon. Amounts are considered as "past due" when the debt has not been settled within the terms and conditions agreed between the association and the member or counterparty to the transaction. Receivables that are past due are assessed for impairment by ascertaining their willingness to pay and are provided for where there are specific circumstances indicating that the debt may not be fully repaid to the association. All members late in paying their subscription are potentially subject to a late fee.

The balances of receivables that remain within initial terms (as detailed in the table below) are considered to be of high credit quality.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Note 3 (b): Credit Risk of Receivables

	Gross Amount	Past Due and Impaired		Past Due but Not Impaired (Days Overdue)			Within Initial Trade Terms
			<30	31-60	61-90	90>	
2016	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Fee for Service							
Customers	300	-	-	300	-	-	-
Grants	2,750	-	-	-	-	-	2,750
Reimbursements, Incentives, Equipment Hire & Membership	16,027	-	-	5,082	-	22	10,923
Total	19,077	-	-	5,382	-	22	13,673

	Gross Amount	Past Due and Impaired		Past Due but Not Impaired (Days Overdue)			Within Initial Trade Terms
			<30	31-60	61-90	90>	
2015	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Fee for Service							
Customers	12,480	-	-	-	8,672	2,311	1,497
Grants	17,325	-	-	-	2,475	9,900	4,950
Reimbursements, Incentives, Equipment Hire & Membership	566	-	-	-	-	566	-
Total	30,371	-	-	-	11,147	12,777	6,447

Collateral held as security

No collateral is held as security for any of the accounts
receivable or other debtor balances

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Financial assets classified as loans and receivables		
Accounts receivable and other debtors:		
Total Current	19,077	30,371

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Note 4(a): Vehicles & Equipment

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Motor Vehicles	115,816	115,816
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(72,365)	(59,750)
Total Motor Vehicles	43,451	56,066
Office Equipment & Furniture	6,186	6,186
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(6,103)	(5,871)
Total Office Equipment & Furniture	83	315
Project Equipment	53,823	54,076
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(40,828)	(37,517)
Total Project Equipment	12,995	16,559
Total Vehicles & Equipment	56,529	72,940

Note 4(b): Movements in carrying amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Motor Vehicles	Office Equipment & Furniture	Project Equipment	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2014	48,079	765	20,698	69,542
Additions	25,455	-	-	25,455
Disposals	(5,471)	-	-	(5,471)
Depreciation expense	(11,997)	(449)	(4,140)	(16,586)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2015	56,066	316	16,558	72,940
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	(251)	(251)
Depreciation expense	(12,615)	(233)	(3,312)	(16,160)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2016	43,451	83	12,995	56,529

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Note 5: Payables		
Accounts Payable	8,191	9,654
GST Liabilities	5,557	20,628
Payroll Liabilities	10,553	15,383
Accrued Expenses	17,898	13,302
Total Payables	42,199	58,967
Note 6: Employee Provisions		
Short Term Employee Benefits	12,900	8,488
Total Employee Provision	12,900	8,488

The provision for employee benefits represents amounts accrued for annual leave.

Based on past experience, the association does not expect the full amount of annual leave to be settled wholly within the next 12 months. However, the amount must be classified as a current liability because the association does not have an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the amount in the event employees wish to use their leave entitlements.

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Note 7: Accumulated Funds

Committed Funds Reserve

Reserve funds are legal obligations owed for committed projects. At Balance date obligations existed in the following projects:

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Dept of Agriculture and Water Resources		
Caring for Our Country Program (Agroforestry Project)	-	6,454
Community Grants - Chicks in Sticks Program	6,010	-
Dept of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport & Resources		
Northern Grampians Shire Council - Moonlight Cinemas	4,444	-
Dept of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (Victoria Landcare)		
Protecting Overdale Remnants	-	23,409
Communities for Nature - Bridal Creeper Control and Revegetation	-	5,630
Capacity Building for Landcare in the Upper Wimmera	4,384	578
Community Group Riparian Works	45,000	-
Dept of the Environment (National Landcare)		
Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink	119,897	249,155
20 Million Trees Programme - Round One	825	19,112
Wimmera Regional Grants (Jallukar Landcare Group - Millers Creek)	-	1,616
Orchid Protection, Bridal Creeper Control & Landcare Works Tour	-	6,241
Regional Landcare Facilitator	(4,828)	16,843
Green Army	-	737
Wimmera Catchment Management Authority Grant - Round 2	2,111	-
Philanthropic		
Helen McPherson Smith Trust - Grampians to Pyrenees	27,674	-
Corporate		
GMW Water Corporation Inc - Maintenance of Waterways	-	3,820
VicRoads - Seed Collection Western Highway	9,930	-
ANZ - Plantout 2016	4,203	-
Total Committed Funds	219,650	333,595
Balance of funds not committed to projects	2,562	81,834
Total Accumulated Funds	222,212	415,429

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Note 8: Auditor's Fees		
Auditing the financial report	1,800	1,800
Total Auditor's Fees	1,800	1,800
Note 9: Reconciliation of Operating Activities		
Net Result for the year	(193,216)	163,776
Non cash flows in result:		
Depreciation	16,160	16,586
Profit on Disposal of Non Current Assets	(9,066)	(3,620)
Expired Finance Charges	-	37
Non cash movements in Assets & Liabilities		
Movement in Payables	(16,768)	6,444
Movement in Provisions	4,412	(1,643)
Movement in Receivables	11,294	(6,893)
Transfer to Investing Activities		
Interest Received	(1,897)	(5,319)
Net Cash Flow Available from Operating Activities	(189,081)	169,368

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 10: FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The association's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, receivables, and payables.

The totals for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 139, as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Financial assets			
Cash on hand	2	201,705	379,574
Accounts receivable and other debtors	3	19,077	30,371
Total financial assets		220,782	409,945
Financial liabilities			
Financial liabilities at amortised cost:			
- accounts payable and other payables	5	42,199	58,967
Total financial liabilities		42,199	58,967

Financial Risk Management Policies

The association's Treasurer is responsible for, among other issues, monitoring and managing financial risk exposures of the association. The Treasurer monitors the association's transactions and reviews the effectiveness of controls relating to credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk. The Treasurer's overall risk management strategy seeks to ensure that the association meets its financial targets, while minimising potential adverse effects of cash flow shortfalls.

Specific Financial Risk Exposures and Management

The main risks the association is exposed to through its financial instruments are credit risk, liquidity risk, and market risk relating to interest rate risk. There have been no substantive changes in the types of risks the association is exposed to, how these risks arise, or the committee's objectives, policies and processes for managing or measuring the risks from the previous period.

a. Credit risk

Exposure to credit risk relating to financial assets arises from the potential non-performance by counterparties of contract obligations that could lead to a financial loss to the association.

Credit risk is managed through maintaining procedures (such as the utilisation of systems for the approval, granting and removal of credit limits, regular monitoring of exposure against such limits and monitoring of the financial stability of significant customers and counterparties) ensuring, to the extent possible, that counterparties to transactions are of sound credit worthiness.

Risk is also minimised through investing surplus funds in financial institutions that maintain a high credit rating or in entities that the committee has otherwise assessed as being financially sound.

Credit risk exposures

The maximum exposure to credit risk by class of recognised financial assets at the end of the reporting period is equivalent to the carrying amount and classification of those financial assets (net of any provisions) as presented in the statement of financial position.

There is no collateral held by the association securing accounts receivable and other debtors.

Accounts receivable and other debtors that are neither past due nor impaired are considered to be of high credit quality. Aggregates of such amounts are detailed at Note 3.

The association has no significant concentrations of credit risk with any single counterparty or group of counterparties. Details with respect to credit risk of accounts receivable and other debtors are provided at Note 3

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

b. Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises from the possibility that the association might encounter difficulty in settling its debts or otherwise meeting its obligations related to financial liabilities. The association manages this risk through the following mechanisms:

- preparing forward-looking cash flow analysis in relation to its operational, investing and financing activities;
- only investing surplus cash with major financial institutions

The table below reflects an undiscounted contractual maturity analysis for non-derivative financial liabilities. The association does not hold directly any derivative financial liabilities.

Cash flows realised from financial assets reflect management's expectation as to the timing of realisation. Actual timing may therefore differ from that disclosed. The timing of cash flows presented in the table to settle financial liabilities reflects the earliest contractual settlement dates.

Financial liability and financial asset maturity analysis

	Within 1 year		1 to 5 years		Over 5 years		Total	
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial liabilities due for payment								
Accounts payable and other payables (excluding employee entitlements and income received in advance)	42,119	58,967	-	-	-	-	42,119	58,967
Total expected outflows	42,119	58,967	-	-	-	-	42,119	58,967
Financial assets - cash flow realisable								
Cash on hand	201,705	379,574	-	-	-	-	201,705	379,574
Trade debtors	19,077	30,371	-	-	-	-	19,077	30,371
Total anticipated inflows	220,782	409,945	-	-	-	-	19,077	30,371
Net (outflow)/inflows on financial instruments	178,663	350,978	-	-	-	-	19,077	30,371

Financial assets pledged as collateral

No financial assets have been pledged as security for any financial liability

c. Market risk

(i) Interest rate risk

Exposure to interest rate risk arises on financial assets and financial liabilities recognised at the end of the reporting period where by a future change in interest rates will affect future cash flows or the fair value of fixed rate financial instruments. The association is exposed to earnings volatility on floating rate instruments. The financial instruments that expose the association to interest rate risk are limited to cash on hand.

The association also manages interest rate risk by ensuring that, whenever possible, payables are paid within any pre-agreed credit terms.

(ii) Other price risk

Other price risk relates to the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk) of securities held. The association is not exposed to other price risk as they only invest in excess funds into term deposits

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Sensitivity analysis

The following table illustrates sensitivities to the association's exposures to changes in interest rates. The table indicates the impact on how profit and equity values reported at the end of the reporting period would have been affected by changes in the relevant risk variable that management consider to be reasonably possible.

These sensitivities assume that the movement in a particular variable is independent of other variables.

	Current Surplus	Equity
	\$	\$
Year ended 30 June 2016		
+/- 2% in interest rates	+/- 38	+/- 38
Year ended 30 June 2015		
+/- 2% in interest rates	+/- 106	+/- 106

No sensitivity analysis have been performed on foreign exchange risk or price risk as the association has not significant exposure to these risks.

There have been no changes in any of the assumptions used to prepare the above sensitivity analysis from the prior year.

Fair Values

Fair Value estimation

The fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities are presented in the following table and can be compared to their carrying amounts as presented in the statement of financial position.

	2016		2015	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial assets				
Cash on hand	201,705	201,705	379,574	379,574
Accounts receivable and other debtors	19,077	19,077	30,371	30,371
Total financial assets	220,782	220,782	409,945	409,945
Financial liabilities				
Financial liabilities at amortised cost:				
- accounts payable and other payables	42,199	42,199	58,967	58,967
Total financial liabilities	42,199	42,199	58,967	58,967

Financial Reports

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Note 11: Events after the Reporting Period

The committee is not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.

Note 12: Economic Dependence

The association is dependent on grants provided by the federal & state government. At the date of this report, the members of the committee had no reason to believe that the state & federal governments would not continue to provide financial support to Project Platypus Association Inc.

Note 13: Association Details

The registered office of the association is:

Project Platypus Association Inc.

11A Ararat Road

Stawell VIC 3380

The principal place of business is:

Project Platypus Association Inc.

11A Ararat Road

Stawell VIC 3380

Treasurer's Report

In the opinion of the Treasurer of the Project Platypus Association Inc the financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Project Platypus Association Inc at 30 June 2016 and the results of its operations for the year ended.

Signed at Stawell this 30th day of August 2016


TREASURER

Financial Reports

COMPILATION REPORT TO PROJECT PLATYPUS ASSOCIATION INC

We have compiled the accompanying general purpose financial statements of Project Platypus Association Inc, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016, the statement of profit or loss, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. These have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards

The Responsibility of the Committee

The committee of Project Platypus Association Inc is solely responsible for the information contained in the general purpose financial statements and the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information

Our Responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the committee, we have compiled the accompanying general purpose financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting framework and APES 315

Compilation of Financial Information.

We have applied our expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile these financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110: Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants.

Assurance Disclaimer

Since a compilation engagement is not an assurance engagement, we are not required to verify the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the information provided to us by management to compile these financial statements. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion on these financial statements.

The general purpose financial statements were compiled for the benefit of the committee who is responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them. We do not accept responsibility for the contents of the general purpose financial statements

Capitis Accounting Solutions

Capitis Accounting Solutions
35 McLachlan Street, Horsham VIC 3400



Audited Financial Statement



Crowe Horwath
West Vic
ABN 96 588 679 258
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Stawell VIC 3380 Australia
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Stawell VIC 3380 Australia
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PROJECT PLATYPUS ASSOCIATION INC

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Project Platypus Association Inc (the association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016, the statement of profit or loss, and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the certification by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* (Vic) and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Project Platypus Association Inc is in accordance with the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* (Vic), including:

- i. giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2016 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- ii complying with Australian Accounting Standards as disclosed in Note 1.

Auditors signature:
Crowe Horwath West Vic

Peter Monaghan CPA
Address: 3-5 St George St Stawell
Dated this 31 day of August 2016