

Office News Report --- December 2015

Hello folks,

Even though the working year is coming to a close, we've still been busy!

New HOPE logo for front of t-shirts



A funding application to purchase 40 HOPE monogrammed polo shirts was submitted to the Federal Government's 2015 Volunteer Grants program on 17 November. Fingers crossed, our application is successful.

New outdoor furniture for HOPE



We gratefully received a donation of fold-away tables and chairs from Bunning Warehouse Toowoomba West (26/11). A big thanks to Mr Chris Hawley, Activities Organiser, for arranging the donation. These items will be used at HOPE's information displays at local and regional events.

HOPE Social Gathering



Around 20 people attended our end-of-year social at the City Golf Club, Toowoomba (1/12). An enjoyable evening of lively conversation and yummy food! We were delighted to meet Charmaine & Peter's baby, Xavier.

Vale Beth Hortin



The HOPE office was saddened to hear the passing of long time member and friend, Beth Hortin who passed away on 23 November 2015. Beth was an early member of HOPE Victoria and having moved to Queensland, was very helpful to us setting up HOPE in Queensland. Beth moved to NSW a few years ago to be closer to family. Beth's long-time involvement in environmental care is admirable!

Other office highlights:

- We welcome Dan Callan as our Website Administrator, Dan has undertaken training at 1300WebPro (our website host) and he has started website maintenance.
- The office continues with its exercise to obtain corporate sponsorship. So far, several hundred requests have been issued to businesses throughout Australia. To date, we have received a private donation of \$5,000. Of course, we always welcome personal donations from our members and supporters. Further information on how you can make a donation can be found at <http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au/annual-pledgedonation/>.
- Growing our membership – At present HOPE has 630+ members (full and associate). We encourage you to invite your family, friends and colleagues – your networks – to join HOPE. Remember, membership is free-of-charge!

2016 Ipswich Plant Expo, 12-13 March

HOPE has been invited to provide an information display and some demonstration activities at next year's Ipswich Plant Expo being held at the Bundamba Turf Club, Ipswich on 12-13 March 2016.

We have also been granted the raffle concession for the event.

A further planning meeting will be held on Saturday 23 January, 10am at the HOPE office, 22 Vacy St, Toowoomba to review preparations to date and to organise a roster of volunteers for the 2 day event.

Please mark this date on your calendar!

HOPE's 2016 quarterly Ordinary Meetings schedule

Saturday, 12 March 2016	Ordinary Meeting
Saturday, 11 June 2016	Ordinary Meeting
Saturday, 10 September 2016	Ordinary Meeting
Saturday, 12 Nov 2016	AGM, followed by 1 st Ordinary Meeting for new year

Positions Vacant

Two key positions on the Admin Support Team remain vacant after the recently held AGM.

Positions vacant are that of Newsletter Editor and Media Team.

Tasks of the Newsletter Editor include literature review, preparation of articles and the compilation of the monthly Enews Bulletin.

Tasks of the Media Team include reviewing media reports and newsletters with the aim of writing media releases, short information articles, community service announcements and/or date claimers.

So, if you have some spare time and talents to offer, please give the office a call on 07 4639 2135 or email office@hopeaustralia.org.au and register your interest in looking after one of these positions.

A fair portion of the above work would ideally be done by locals (i.e. in the Toowoomba area) because the HOPE office is in Toowoomba, Queensland. However, quite a bit of the literature review, research, publications activity can be done via email.

Regards,

Frank Ondrus, President – HOPE Inc., ph 07 4639 2135, office@hopeaustralia.org.au
