

## Office News Report --- January 2016

Welcome to 2016 – a year of great expectations!

The management committee and admin support team will be working hard to secure corporate sponsorship to help defray some of our operating expenses; expand our Partnership/Alliance list; increase our national membership; secure grant monies for a variety of landcare, renewable energy and other projects; provide information displays for local and regional community events; and host a number of community forums when possible. More detailed information on some of these matters is provided below.

### **Corporate sponsorship** (<http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au/about-us/sponsors/>)

In mid-2015, HOPE embarked on an exercise to attract corporate sponsorship to help fund our operations. We seek your help by nominating potential businesses which may be receptive to HOPE's cause.

Individual donations from members and supporters can be made at <http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au/annual-pledgedonation/>. And, we gratefully acknowledge a private donation of \$5,000 received in December 2015.

### **Partnership/Alliance program** (<http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au/about-us/partnershipsalliances/>)

Since 2000, HOPE has established a number of significant partnerships/alliances with international, national, state (Queensland) and local/regional (Toowoomba) organisations with the aim of supporting these groups and to access their expertise and resources. We ask you – our members and supporters – to suggest other organisations who may be interested in aligning with HOPE.

### **Membership**

In recent years our membership numbers have remained steady at around 650 full and associate members. The management committee is keen to increase our membership nationally and so invites you to help promote HOPE and its activities to your family, friends and work colleagues. Remember, membership to HOPE is FREE! More information on the types of membership may be found at <http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au/membership/>.

### **2016 Ipswich Plant Expo, 12-13 March 2016**

HOPE has been invited to provide an information display and some demonstration activities at this 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 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 this 2 day event.*

Your attendance at this meeting is welcome. Please RSVP by 22 Jan to assist with seating and catering arrangements for morning tea.

### **HOPE's 2016 quarterly Ordinary Meetings schedule**

Saturday, 13 February 2016	Ordinary Meeting
Saturday, 11 June 2016	Ordinary Meeting
Saturday, 10 September 2016	Ordinary Meeting
Saturday, 12 Nov 2016	AGM, followed by 1 <sup>st</sup> Ordinary Meeting for new year

### **Community Events supported by HOPE**

\*Ipswich Plant Expo, 12-13 March 2016

\*Toowoomba Languages & Cultures Festival (Aug 2016)

U3A Seniors Expo (Aug 2016)

\* A team of volunteers required for these events. To offer your assistance please contact the HOPE office on 07 4639 2135 or email [office@hopeaustralia.org.au](mailto:office@hopeaustralia.org.au).

Regards,

Frank Ondrus, President – HOPE Inc., ph 07 4639 2135, [office@hopeaustralia.org.au](mailto:office@hopeaustralia.org.au)

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