

Community Owned Solar on the Bendigo Library

The community enterprise is pleased to support the Bendigo Sustainability Group's (BSG) Bendigo Library Solar Project.

BSG has secured the opportunity to place 20kW (80 solar panels) on the new Bendigo Goldfields Library. Funds generated by the sale of the electricity generated will be used to continue to expand its sustainability projects.

The community enterprise has donated funds to enable the purchase of two solar panels in the project.

BSG regularly run community information sessions to promote the benefits of solar PV and also assist people to identify potential savings and the most suitable sized system for their needs. For further information regarding the Bendigo Sustainability Group visit www.bsg.org.au, email coordinator@bsg.org.au or phone 03 5443 4244.



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Communities Supported by BNDCE



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"Our towns, our future"



Next Major Project - Weeroona College Shade project!

Since forming in 2006, BNDCE has forged a strong relationship with Weeroona College Bendigo. BNDCE is pleased to announce the focus of its next major project has seen the enterprise continuing to work with Weeroona College, the provider of secondary education in the Bendigo Northern corridor.

Weeroona College has recently undergone a re-build, with fantastic new facilities for all students who attend the college. The total re-build of the site has however meant the trees are young and currently do not provide significant shade for students and staff to utilise during break times, especially during the hotter months.

In line with the college's Sun Smart focus, the community enterprise has worked with the college to contribute \$10,000 to realise a new shade project. The project has seen the construction of 3 new shade sails between the office building and the amphitheatre and performing arts centre.

It's fantastic to see the project completed with its positive impact and enhancement of the college.



\$100,000 of Community Investments and Growing!

Last July saw the celebration of a significant milestone for the Bendigo Northern District Community Enterprise, achieving over \$100,000 in community investment grants since forming in 2006. 3BO's Ewan Grant led the night as master of ceremonies and those present enjoyed informative presentations from guest speakers Andrew Cockerall – COGB Strategic Planner - and Matt Agterhuis – Integra Group, the developers of Viewpoint Huntly.

The enterprise has worked with many groups in the Bendigo Northern corridor to improve the facilities in these communities. The enterprise has now funded 90 small projects totalling \$73,273.50, 3 major projects totalling \$32,200 and 15 other projects totalling \$11,209, which comes to a total funding of \$137,982.50. Further grants will be presented at the enterprise's AGM/Grants Night on Tuesday 14 July 2015.

The community enterprise board is grateful for the support of their partners: Bendigo Bank, Bendigo Telco and the Integra Group, the developers of Viewpoint Huntly.

The milestone is a fantastic achievement and the enterprise looks forward to celebrating further milestones in the future.



Photograph courtesy of the Bendigo Advertiser, 8 July 2014.



Community Investment Grants

Funds for the community investment grants program are generated through customers linking their banking and phone business (held with Bendigo Bank and Bendigo Community Telco) to the community enterprise and the Bank and Telco sharing some of their profits from these accounts. And the developers of Viewpoint Huntly also contribute to our pool of grants funds, each time a block at Viewpoint Huntly is purchased. All three supporters contribute, at no cost to customers. Read below about some of the more recent grants provided and the positive impact to these community groups and their members. For more information on the grants program or to read about further grants stories visit the enterprise website at www.bndce.com.au

Active Walk/Ride2School program

BNDCE were pleased to support the local primary schools (White Hills, Holy Rosary, Epsom & Huntly) with the 2014 Active Communities and National Walk/Ride2School Program.

The Walk/Ride2School program is a behaviour change initiative that works to make active travel normal for students, while improving schools educational outcomes. The program aims to tailor its assistance to suit the needs or overcome the barriers faced by each school.

The four local primary schools have a combined enrolment of approximately 1000 children. Initiatives such as this program are a great way to support students with exercise and active travel – riding, walking, skating and scooting.

With today's level of physical activity significantly low when compared to statistics 40 years ago, the Walk/Ride2School program is working to reverse this trend. Every student at each of the four local primary schools received a BNDCE pedometer to encourage them to continue their activity long after Walk/Ride2School Day had passed.



Photograph courtesy of the Bendigo Advertiser, 19th March 2014.

The program was further supported through IGA Long Gully, generously providing fresh fruit for all students at three of the participating primary schools.

Defibrillator Grants

As part of the "Defib your club for Life program" the enterprise has now assisted 10 groups to purchase a Defibrillator. Each machine costs \$2,300 and the purchase includes face-to-face training on how to operate the machine. The machines are easy to use and actually talk you through the procedure via voice instruction.



The most recent recipients of the machines have been the Huntly Fire Brigade, Bendigo Golf Club, Y Service Club of Bendigo and Epsom Primary School.



Weeroona Presentation Night

Since 2010 the Community Enterprise has been supporting the celebration of academic and community achievements of local Weeroona College Bendigo students at their annual awards night.



The successful students have been presented with certificates of achievement and vouchers to assist them with educational costs for the following year.

We congratulate all the award winners to date and look forward to seeing these young people continuing to achieve great things in the future.

May 2014

Huntly Kindergarten- Staying Dry Outfits – Jackets, Bibs & Braces

Huntly Kindergarten was the worthy recipient of a grant for \$1,000 to purchase all weather outfits for attending children, which included jacket, bib & braces sets to wear during their Bush Kinder sessions. These outfits enabled the children to participate in Bush Kinder in all types of weather. Children get to learn, experiment and create in a healthy outdoor setting which encourages active education. The grant has helped enable this fabulous initiative to flourish.



Epsom Playgroup - Sensory Play Equipment

BNDCE were pleased to assist the Epsom Playgroup with much needed new sensory play equipment when they moved premises from the Maternal Health Care site to the Epsom/Huntly Soccer Fields Facility. The young children are able to enjoy building with the giant blocks or play and create with the new sensory sand table and equipment, while parents can use this time interacting and supporting each other.



Bendigo Animal Welfare - A roof for outdoor laundry area

The Bendigo Animal Welfare Community service is assisted by volunteers who help with the animals while cleaning and maintaining the facilities and equipment. BNDCE was able to assist in further improving the facilities with a \$900 grant toward having a roof installed over the laundry/wash area so the volunteers can wash under cover and shade during the various seasons of the year.



Bendigo Field & Game - Solar Panels

Bendigo Field & Game were successful recipients of a \$1000 grant towards improving their facility with solar panels to reduce their carbon footprint and reduce overheads for users of the premises.



November 2013

Northern Bendigo Landcare Group & Huntly Hall Committee - Whirrakee Wattle Interactive Sign

Northern Bendigo Landcare Group & Huntly Hall Committee were successful recipients of \$1,000 towards an interactive sign to inform locals and visitors about the significance and meaning of the Whirrakee Wattle to the Huntly local area. The sign has been installed next to the Whirrakee Wattle statue placed next to the Huntly Hall by the City of Greater Bendigo as a replacement for the historical statement that Huntly was 'the Home of the Whirrakee Wattle'.



Huntly Primary School - BBQ and Landscaping

BNDCE was pleased to assist Huntly Primary School in their development of an Outdoor Educational area which is to be completed in stages, comprising of seating, a bbq, paving and landscaping. BNDCE supported the project by investing \$1,000 in the building of the BBQ which can be used by the school and community for social and educational purposes. The Huntly Primary School community will be able to enjoy the benefits of this improvement to their facilities for many years to come.

Bendigo Obedience Dog Club - Equipment Trailer

Bendigo Obedience Dog Club assist many dog owners throughout the region by teaching people skills in the training of their animals. The club was successful in receiving a BNDCE grant for \$600 to custom build a purpose made trailer to hold equipment required for training and special display events. The trailer makes it possible to store all equipment in one place and is easily transported to required locations.



November 2014 Round of Community Investment Grants

The November 2014 successful community grant applicants were:

- **Bendigo Northern Flames Junior Netball Club** - \$1,000 to assist to build a new club website.
- **Goornong Swimming Pool** - \$288 to make improvements to existing seating and to purchase life jackets and water toys.
- **Vision Australia** - \$499 to purchase an Xbox and musical instruments
- **White Hills Football Netball Club** – \$2,000 to build a perimeter fence around the new playground.
- **Epsom Community Church** - \$1,000 towards the relocation/renovation of existing storage.
- **Bendigo Animal Welfare** - \$995 to improve their car park area.
- **Sandhurst Hockey Club** - \$1,000 to purchase an equipment storage cupboard.

2015 Community Investment Grants Program

The BNDCE offers a twice-yearly community grants program and encourages community groups to apply. The grants program will be open in 2015 as follows:

	Open	Close
Round 1	May 1	May 31
Round 2	November 1	November 30

BNDCE strongly encourage your representative to contact one of the BNDCE committee to discuss their grant application. Applications will be more favourably considered where 10 or more referrals are included.

Refer to the enterprise website at www.bndce.com.au for grant guidelines and application form.