

# **PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LTD**

## ***2012 Annual Report to the Albury Wodonga Regional Community***

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# PARKLANDS VISION

*The Vision defines where Parklands seeks to be in the future*

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A restored and diverse bush parkland, supporting the spiritual and physical wellbeing of current and future generations, achieved in partnership with the Albury Wodonga Regional Community.

# PARKLANDS MISSION

*The Mission defines how Parklands will achieve the Vision.*

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**Parklands** will engage the regional community in the planned and cost effective development of the regional bush parklands with a recreational and conservation perspective and will assist in the creation of the linkage of major parks, trails and facilities throughout all bush parks to enhance the lifestyle for everyone.

# PARKLANDS VALUES

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Six core values have been identified that underpin the future planning and activities of Parklands Albury Wodonga.

These values guide the development of Parklands' Constitution, its planning and policies as it undertakes its journey towards achievement of its vision.

**Sustainability:** The principles of sustainable development ensure Parklands' decisions are for the long term.

**Regionality and uniqueness:** The bush lands surrounding and within the urban areas of Albury-Wodonga promoted as a regional asset. These bush parks have a special significance: their open space is part of the regional structure providing diversity of recreational pursuits.

**Accessibility and availability:** Visitors seek to access the bush areas along its tracks, roads and along the waterways. These lands need to project a welcoming and user friendly face.

**Quality and enjoyment:** Parklands aims to provide quality facilities in terms of project design, quality of landscape and quality of openness to enhance the naturalness whilst providing peace and quietness experiences for visitors.

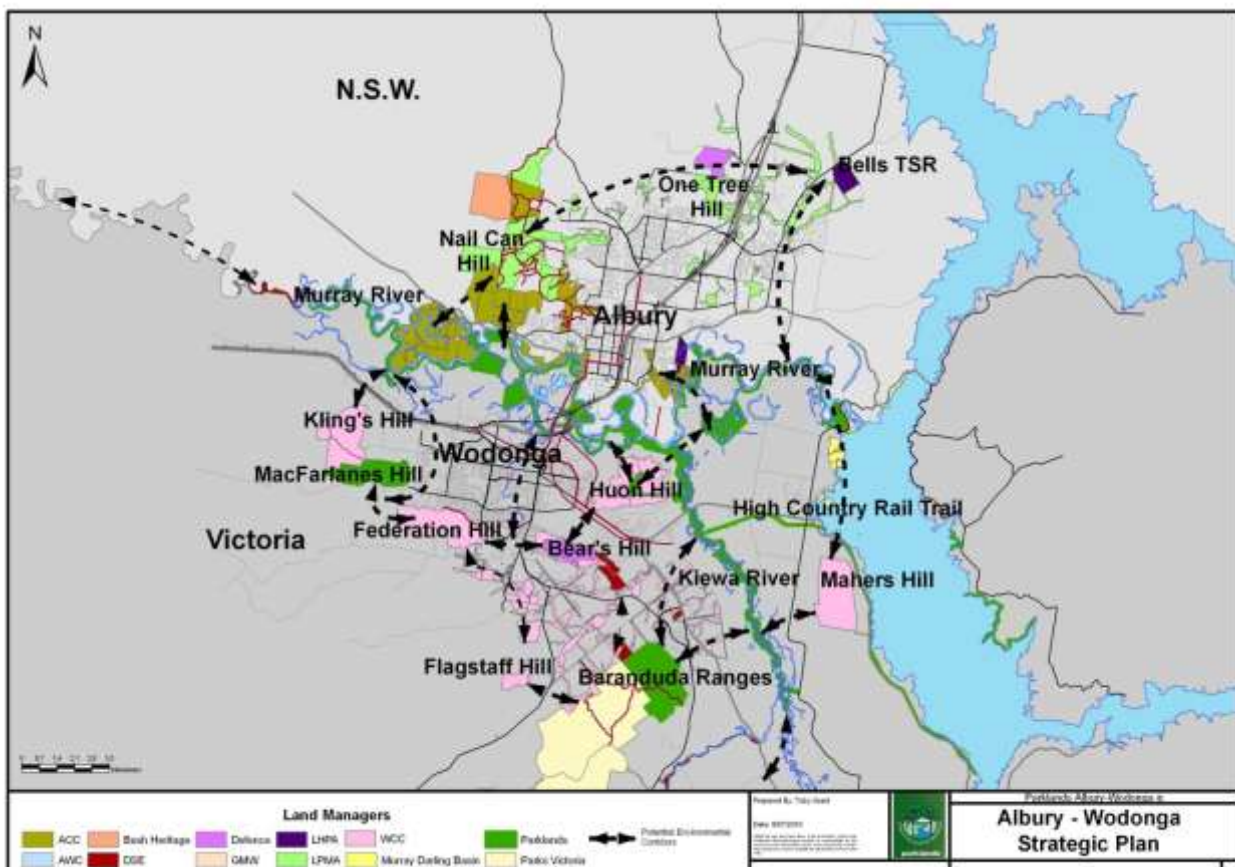
**Innovation and creativity:** Parklands will be innovative in applying techniques to protect and enhance the ecological resources of the bush parks.

**Effective use of resources:** The acceptance of 'quality' as a core value extends to the provision of value for money in what Parklands does within the bush parks.

# PARKLANDS GUIDING PRINCIPLES

## The Board will achieve its Mission by:

- developing policy in accordance with *best practice* social, ecological and recreational principles;
- considering the needs of present and future generations in all policy decisions;
- ensuring that the community has appropriate input into all strategic planning and policy development;
- facilitating a common public vision for the development and management of the **Parklands** in order to ensure community 'ownership'; and
- ensuring **Parklands** achieves financial sustainability.



# PARKLANDS OBJECTS

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## Object 1

Optimizing the biodiversity of the reserved land surrounding the cities.

## Object 2

Educating the regional community about environmental issues and the wise use of resources such as soil, water and vegetation.

## Object 3

Providing opportunities for volunteers and members of the general community to engage with and learn about the natural environment through the implementation of conservation works plans and programs, and the development of passive recreational opportunities in the reserves.

## Object 4

Establishing and maintaining a public fund to be called the “Parklands Public Fund” for the specific purpose of supporting the environmental objectives of **Parklands**.

## Object 5

Providing international best practice environment and passive recreation management guidance to the community through the setting of policies, goals and priorities, by developing appropriate plans and by monitoring on ground outcomes.

## Object 6

Involving the community through regularly seeking their views, advice and participation.

## Object 7

Achieving financial independence through rigorous pursuit of government funding, corporate sponsorship and commercial practices which are compatible with environmental and heritage values; and

## Object 8

**Parklands** shall be organised and operated exclusively for the attainment of, and holds its assets and income on trust exclusively for those objects.

# INSURANCE OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

*At 30 JUNE 2012*

## **Insurance of Directors and Officers**

During the financial year 2011/2012 Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd paid a premium of \$3,630 to insure directors and officers of Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd.

**The Directors of Parklands** covered, include: Darryl Betteridge, Dennis Toohey, John Alker-Jones, Phil Oates and Vern Hilditch.

**Past Directors:** Annelies Willinck, Bernie Evans, Brian Scantlebury, Bob Martin, Bruce Gardiner, Carol Bartley, Christine Nesbit, Cliff Swatton, Craig McIntyre, Darren Baldwin, David Mitchell, David Sexton, Graham Wade, Hamish MacLennan, John de Kruiff, John Riddiford, Julie de Hennin, Julie Hind, Kevan Porter, Kylie Kent, Lyn Coulston, Maurice Grealy, Neil Lipscombe, Peter Joyce, Phil Suter, Ray O'Toole, Richard Kennedy, Rob Fenton, Ron Dennis, Steve Cooper, Stuart Baker, Sue Brunskill, Terry Hillman and Tony Long.

**The Officers of Parklands** covered, include: Ant Packer, Danny Jones, David Saxton, David Stevens, Jill Dawson, Noeline Elvin, Pamela Stevens, Rodney Havik, Tim Alexander and Toby Grant.

**Past Officers:** Annie Tait, Barbara Martin, Ben Berry, Brendon Kennedy, Candy Nichols, Caro Roach, Chris Price, Christine Thorpe, Craig Reid, Darryl Dear, Donna Mitsch, Emma Knezevic, Geoff Robbins, Georgina James, Jessica Aitken, Jessica MacGregor, Joe Birkhead, John Stevens, Lance O'Connell, Megan Graham, Mike Hansen, Narelle Boal, Reg Hinton, Richard Kennedy, Richard McTernan, Rick Pascoe, Sean Lethlean, Steve Pollock, Terry Kelly, Tim Lucas, Toby Alker-Jones, Toni Lancaster (Costello), Tracy Harrison and Wayne Carlson.

The liabilities insured include costs and expenses that may be incurred in defending civil or criminal proceedings that may be brought against the officers in their capacity as officers for Albury Wodonga Regional Parklands Inc. and or Parklands Albury Wodonga Limited.

## **PARKLAND'S STAFF**

*At 30 JUNE 2012*

Ranger – Community / Team Leader

Ant Packer

Ranger – Field / Volunteer Coordinator

Danny Jones

Ranger – Planning & GIS

Toby Grant

Ranger – Land Management

David Saxton

Ranger – Field / Youth Programs

Tim Alexander

Finance Manager

Noeline Elvin

Biolinks Coordinator

Jill Dawson

Bonegilla Migrant Experience Caretaker

David Havik, David Stevens,  
Pamela Steven



# CHAIRMAN'S BOARD REPORT

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## **Overview**

Welcome to the 15<sup>th</sup> Parklands Albury Wodonga Annual Report covering the financial year to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

## **Board Operations**

I thank the honorary Board of Directors for their considerable contributions towards guiding the longer term strategic direction of the organisation.

As Parklands Albury Wodonga evolves as a social enterprise, the diverse backgrounds of our Directors brought a wealth of knowledge, experience and lateral strategic approaches.

## **Relationships**

The Board continues to work at maintaining excellent relationships with its partners. Throughout the year, delegations of the Board made presentations to stakeholders such as Councillors, Members of Parliament and Peak Bodies as part of our strategy to build “buy-in” to Parklands Strategic Plan 2022 and the Corryong to Corowa-Wahgunyah Regional Track Network.

## **Collaborative Partnerships**

We are very grateful for the ongoing support from government, community and corporate partners. The diversity of revenue streams allowed Parklands Albury Wodonga Limited to provide leadership that supported community-led regional parklands development through a diversity of partnerships and collaborative arrangements.

Support from the Australian, NSW and Victorian Governments allowed us to continue to progress large-scale environmental restoration of the Murray River and tributary environs, improve community access and connect Indigenous community with country through co-management.

As Friends Groups and Landcare groups and networks continue to manage the ongoing environmental issues in their local communities, Parklands Albury Wodonga is committed to developing new opportunities and partnerships to help support their activities and strengthen both the land stewardship movement and seek to build a more socially inclusive community during this process.

We also continued to partner with organisations who support the park and community development works at a national and state level including governments, Catchment Management Authorities and Natural Resource Management organisations, Educational Institutions and peak representative bodies. By working together, we can provide this vital volunteer movement with expertise and resources to continue the work it's doing in preserving and repairing Australia's natural resources.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the corporate partners and supporters of Parklands Albury Wodonga for their ongoing support. Your financial contributions and staff involvement help us make an invaluable difference.

I would also like to thank my colleagues on the Board and members of the growing number of Friends Groups for their contribution and support steering Parklands Albury Wodonga in building the social inclusion agenda as part of the process of building community and environmental resilience.

### **The Future**

The completion of the 600 metre Sandy Creek Bridge on the High Country Rail Trail is symbolic of the direction the organisation is moving.

Through “bridging the gap”, we are connecting communities with country, with each other and building resilience.

Whilst the past year has seen a tightening of budgets of all levels of government, business and community, the strong partnerships will endure. Through supporting each other and investing in people, there is so much more that we can achieve.

*John Alker-Jones*  
*Chairman*



High Country Rail Trail, Sandy Creek Bridge – 2012  
*Photo Courtesy of Towong Shire*



# OPERATIONS REPORT

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The year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012 was focused on sustainability, which we see as the important process of building inclusive and resilient communities.

***Through our commitment to a “partnership culture”,*** Parklands continued to achieve significant outcomes on the ground with over \$758,010 worth of time contributed towards on ground outcomes during the past year. Thank you to the 3,841 volunteers, 82 partner organisations and supporters, without whom we would not have completed such a diversity of large scale environmental, recreation and heritage bush park projects.

***Managing public land is inextricably linked to investing in people.*** It is through this process of connecting communities with country through community involvement that we build capacity, skills, social cohesion, a sense of belonging and awareness. Ultimately the “buy-in” through community and business involvement builds a sense of community ownership. This means more resilient communities; active stewardship and the environmental restoration efforts are sustained.

## **SOCIAL INCLUSION -HOW WE WORK**

*“If you want to travel quicker, go alone... If you want to travel further, go together”*

This African proverb says in few words, what Parklands Albury Wodonga is all about. Community involvement and participation in all aspects of the organisation means that the social inclusion outcomes are just as important as the physical outcomes.

Whilst it may take longer for youths to install a fence, they are developing both skills and a sense of community and achievement through merely participating. Civic responsibility is built through simple activities which demonstrate just how much communities can achieve by starting with a vision and working collaboratively to see this through to reality.

Parklands Albury Wodonga is a reflection of the resilient communities within which we operate. Resilient communities are able to integrate their resources and capability to respond positively to crisis and adapt to pressures. During the past year, Parklands demonstrated this ability to sustain the organisation whilst also reaching out and supporting others in times of tightened purse strings.



*Fencing at Bonegilla Migrant Centre*

## **BUILDING INCLUSIVE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES**

Social inclusion is about building a nation in which all Australians have the opportunity and support to participate in our community. To achieve this we need to tackle increasingly complex and entrenched forms of disadvantage.

Some of the ways that Parklands has worked to implement this social inclusion agenda include;

**1) Understand the community in terms of its composition, strengths, opportunities, vulnerabilities and attitudes**

Actively sought input and involved the community in the identification, prioritising and staged implementation of Parklands Strategic Plan 2010 to 2022.

**2) Promote community leadership to set priorities and promote a sense of purpose**

Decision-making processes for park projects are guided by local Steward / Friends Groups. Community members apply their insights and knowledge in planning, action, management and review. Parklands acts as a resource that assists and supports local Friends Groups to plan, fundraise and implement community-led projects by swinging additional resources (materials, volunteers, equipment, networks) into community-led projects.

**3) Embrace diversity**

Diversity brings different perspectives and knowledge to the community. This was particularly the case with Albury Wodonga Community College ESL (English as a Second Language) students' reflections on the Bonegilla Migrant Experience Heritage Park and their volunteer experience. There are so many different migrant and refugee experiences.

In order to engage more marginalised groups in volunteering, Parklands provides additional services, such as transport and tailored programs to make the volunteering experience more inclusive, such as programs with long term unemployed and community service orders.

One of these programs includes the weekly Murray Valley Centre dis-Ability volunteer program. In its 6<sup>th</sup> year, this tailored program provides an opportunity for volunteers to "give back to the community" through contributing what they are able to do. This program is one way that Rangers get a myriad of smaller jobs completed.

**4) Build a strong and diverse local economy**

A strong local economy is a foundation for a resilient community. Resources, diversity, leadership, networks, learning and innovation and infrastructure are all elements of a resilient economy as well as a resilient community.

Over the past year, Parklands secured 14 project grants and sponsorships from outside the region and invested over \$0.25 million in the local economy by sourcing goods and services from local businesses. As a financial member of the Albury-Northside Chambers of Commerce and the Parks Forum, the organisation actively kept abreast of industry issues and expanded our networks.

One of our longest partnerships is with the Hume Building Society, who participated in their 8<sup>th</sup> Growing Green Carbon Offset planting activity. Locally-controlled sources of finance and capital can help empower a community to build enterprise and employment opportunities.

Similarly, Workways support for a tailored work experience program saw a number of participants move onto employment and further training. Such was the commitment of Workways staff to this program that staff participated in their 2<sup>nd</sup> tree planting day and won the Corporate Challenge Cup at the inaugural Murray Fun Run and Half Marathon in March 2012. Whilst this fun run was primarily to celebrate the achievements of many volunteers, the event also attracted participants from outside the region. Parklands are keen to see this event become an annual drawcard for the national running fraternity with an organising committee already planning next year's event.

### **5) Build strong networks and support**

In the past year, 3,841 volunteers contributed over \$758,010 hours of on-ground environmental and heritage works. Projects were implemented in partnership with 82 partner organisations and provided opportunities for people of all ages, cultural, language and socio-economic backgrounds and people living with a dis-Ability to participate in social and community networks and feel that they belong in their community.

Networking can be supported through community meetings, cultural and sporting activities and involvement in community working bees. Parklands jointly implemented projects to support fourteen Friends / Landcare and Special Interest Groups. These included; Albury Wodonga Mountain Bikers, Baranduda Landcare Group, Bidja Bila Indigenous Landcare Group, Bonegilla Rail Trail Advisory Group, Bonegilla Migrant Experience Steering Committee, Bungambrawartha Creek Care, Friends of Padman-Mates Park, Friends of Willow Park, Junction Co-Management Group, Kiewa River Access Action Group, Koetong Shelley Development Association, Tallangatta Rail Trail Advisory Group, Thurgoona Woolshed Creek Landcare Group and Wodonga Urban Landcare Network.

Parklands worked with Baranduda Landcare Group and Friends of Willow Park to support the establishment of the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network. Thank you to the Victorian Government for awarding four years of funding for a Landcare Network Facilitator. Over the first six months, fifteen resident, steward and friends groups met periodically to establish a shared vision, mission and strategic direction that will build an inclusive Landcare network, sharing skills, expertise, resources and building understanding.

### **6) Build strong business networks and support for commercial enterprises**

Networks involving government agencies, community organisations and commercial enterprises can encourage innovation, partnership and sharing of knowledge and experience. By involving workplaces in volunteering that Parklands worked to build understanding with community members not traditionally involved with park projects.

Four hundred Mars Petcare Associates rolled up their sleeves to transform Waterworks Reserve on the Murray River on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2012. An additional 500 metres of water frontage was opened up to the public at this popular swimming spot, with picnic tables, old fences stripped, steel bollards cemented into place to manage vehicular access and tonnes of mulch spread to minimise ongoing maintenance. Thank you to Stephanie Pearce, Howard Masters, Steve Panozzo, Phil Robinson, Reg Hinton and Geoff Robbins for the months of planning and preparation.

Fifty staff and friends of Albury Wodonga Health participated in their 1<sup>st</sup> tree planting day on the new Murray River Parklands.

Lester and Sons Funeral Directors staff and clients participated in their 2<sup>nd</sup> Memorial Planting Day, providing services and facilities the community needs.

## **7) Promote learning and innovation**

It is through the involvement of our youths that we connect future generations to country and raise awareness of the importance of community participation and volunteering in making our communities vibrant, inclusive and resilient.

This has been a particular focus over the past year with a range of regular volunteer programs established with Secondary Colleges in Albury and Wodonga. Regular weekly Ranger programs continued with Wodonga Catholic College and new Ranger programs commenced with Murray High School, James Fallon High School and St Monica's Primary School.

In addition, annual volunteer days continued with a number of Primary and Secondary Colleges in the region, providing hands-on opportunities for youths to learn of the importance of community leadership.

Thank you to Phil Thornecroft from Murray Industry & Community Education Employment Partnership Inc. (MICEEP) and Vern Hilditch from Wodonga Senior Secondary College for their support in expanding these networks.

Wodonga Youth Leadership Program members Sarah Negrin, Jamie Campbell, Lauren Padbury and Liam Matthews interviewed local identities and created audio and video interviews with former residents of farms that are now part of the regional parklands network. Thanks to Susie Taylor from ABC Open for her support of the Youth Leadership Team and for running a customised Summer Workshop to build the digital media skills of staff and friends group representatives. Check out our website!

## **8) Recognise the role of the physical environment and infrastructure**

In a place-based approach, the characteristics of the community and the location can be brought together in an integrated "person and place" approach that focuses on outcomes for people. The Indigo Shire's Community Strengthening program saw the establishment of a group keen to establish a riverside park on the Kiewa River at Kiewa / Tangambalanga. Delegations from KRAAG (Kiewa River Access Action Group) have since met with a range of stakeholders in an effort to resolve the land tenure issues that prevent vehicular access to the river frontage.

The involvement of the local community in planning, selecting, designing and governing their physical and social infrastructure is just as important as the facilities and services themselves.

## **OPERATING A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE BUSINESS MODEL...**

Parklands is not a "funded" organisation. Two thirds of income over the past year was generated through a mix of environmental contracts, sponsorships, grants, donations, licenses, publications and fundraising events. It is through this diversity of revenue types and financial stakeholders that we are able to sustain our core business of community engagement and engaging with marginalised and disadvantaged groups.

## **COMMUNITY - BUSINESS - GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS...**

The social inclusion approach is about all sectors of the community – government, business and the not-for-profit sector, communities and individuals – working together.

Thank you to the following partners for their financial contributions.

### ***Community Financial Partners:***

Baranduda Landcare Group  
Border Trust  
Foundation for Regional Renewal  
Friends of Willow Park  
Myer Foundation  
Wangaratta Out and About Club  
Wodonga APEX Club

### ***Business Financial Partners:***

Albury Wodonga Health  
Hume Building Society  
Lester Funeral Homes  
Mars Petcare  
Workways

### ***Government Financial Partners:***

Albury City Council  
Australian Government's Grants to Voluntary Environment, Sustainability and Heritage Organisations (GVESHO) program  
City of Wodonga  
Corrections Victoria  
Department of Sustainability & Environment (Vic)  
Department of Environment, Heritage, Water, Population & Communities (Federal)  
Fisheries Victoria (Department of Primary Industries)  
Indigo Shire Council  
Land and Property Management Authority (NSW)  
Livestock Health & Pest Authority (NSW)  
Murray Catchment Management Authority (NSW)  
North East Catchment Management Authority (Vic)  
NSW Office of Water  
Office of Environment & Heritage (NSW)  
Regional Development Victoria  
Towong Shire Council



*Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd Annual Report 2011-2012*

## **OUR PARKS AND PARTNERS – WHERE WE WORKED**

### **NSW CROWN LANDS**

A number of small contracts were implemented during the year on various Albury Threatened Species Environmental Lands. These included tackling grass and woody weeds across riparian areas, the bio-diverse Gilgai Wetlands and the steep slopes of One Tree Hill. Parklands have a representative on the Albury Environmental Lands Community Advisory Committee.

Significant resources were thrown into tackling the thick infestation of Genista and other woody weeds on the Kalianna Reserve that abuts Nail Can Hill. Thank you to the Murray Catchment Management Authority for funding this grant as well as a grant to involve Murray High School students in the design and establishment of bird-scaped gardens within their school grounds.

Thank you to the Office of Environment and Heritage for the opportunity to undertake enhancement work at Oaklands and Urana on sites which are the last remaining habitats for the endangered orchid *Diuris Oaklands*.

Parklands also explored opportunities to partner with Livestock Health and Pest Authority in enhancing Murray River Travelling Stock Reserves. A small contract was implemented on the high conservation value Ten Chain Travelling Stock Reserve.

The Slopes to Summit partnership was successful with a number of larger grants during the past year. These included an Environmental Trust grant, auspiced through NSW Trust for Nature and a six year, \$2 million Biodiversity Grant, auspiced through Holbrook Landcare Network. As a lead partner in the S2S, Parklands looks forward to involvement in these environmental projects, with a focus on public lands.

### **ALBURY CITY COUNCIL LAND**

The flexible annual service agreement arrangement with Albury City Council enabled resources to be allocated to support changes in Albury City priorities and ensure on ground outcomes across Albury City bush parks tallied in excess of the financial support.

Sites included high conservation value roadsides, Eastern Hill, sections of Nail Can Hill, Mungabareena, Padman-Mates Park, Bungambrawartha Creek, Splitters Creek and Woolshed Creek.

Parklands also contributed to discussions on the Thurgoona / Wirlinga Structure Plan.

### **CITY OF WODONGA ENVIRONMENTAL LANDS**

Parklands focus over the past year has included revegetation and pest plant and animal control on developer-funded Vegetation Offset Management Plan sites on Federation Hill, Huon Hill and Klings Hill.

Some of the best views in the region overlooking Lake Hume were experienced whilst removing environmental weeds from the steep eastern slopes of Mahers Hill. The annual Friends of the Rail Trail walk up Mahers Hill and the Albury Wodonga Military Area winter trail running series showcased this bush park to a new audience.

Parklands auspiced a House Creek Bio-links Project Coordinator (Jill Dawson) to focus on establishing Steward Groups along House Creek to become custodians of sections of this

popular Wodonga urban park. This North East Catchment Management Authority funded project was implemented in partnership with Friends of Willow Park and Gardens for Wildlife.

The interface between urban and bush (riparian) zones required developing new strategies to minimise ongoing maintenance of the House Creek corridor. The use of cardboard, newspaper and mulch protected tree plantings and reduced ongoing maintenance. Thank you to Mars Petcare for donating dozens of pallets of cardboard; Clyde Cameron Park Steward Group and Wodonga Girl Guides for collecting newspapers; and City of Wodonga for the numerous truckloads of mulch delivered throughout the year.

## **VICTORIAN CROWN LAND**

### ***Murray River***

Parklands continued to focus efforts on the Murray River, with further sections of Wodonga Creek and Browns Island fenced and revegetated through the year, thanks to the support of NSW Office of Water's Lake Hume to Yarrawonga Riparian Restoration Program.

The Junction Co-Management Group celebrated their Aboriginal heritage by constructing a bark canoe from a River Red Gum on the Murray River near the Kiewa River Junction using only traditional stone tools

This contemporary scar tree was passed by more than 350 participants in the inaugural Murray Fun Run and Half Marathon. This community participation event provided an opportunity to showcase sections of the Murray River which are planned to be incorporated into the Wodonga to Wahgunyah Murray River walking track.

Plans to establish a walking track from Lake Hume to Wodonga and eventually to Wahgunyah have been on hold for nearly three years, arising from unsuccessful efforts to secure external funding to undertake a Cultural Heritage Management Plan of all 60km's of river frontages. In order to progress, the Board approved a less extensive Cultural Heritage Management Plan to advance the establishment of the 11km West Wodonga walking track.

### ***McFarlane's Hill and Swainsona***

Maintenance of this reserve was primarily through Personnel Group's Green Jobs Corp, regular Parklands volunteers and Catholic College Wodonga students.

Thanks to Glen Johnson from the Department of Sustainability & Environment for organising the annual Swainsona Pea recovery event and for his eternal enthusiasm in sharing his knowledge with the Riverina Institute of TAFE's National Environment Centre students.

### ***Baranduda***

The Personnel Group Green Jobs Corp team celebrated the completion of 2km's of an Easy Grade Mountain Bike Track that was constructed using picks, mattocks and rake hoes. With the expertise of mountain bike track builders from Albury, Mt Beauty, Beechworth and Mansfield and the guidance of an International Mountain Bike Association workshop, track building commenced on the intermediate grade track.

Baranduda Landcare Group continued their diversity of community education programs, running their biannual nest box monitoring, Swainsona survey and "Up the Duda Awareness Wildflower & Weed Walk", Bird scaping Your Garden walk, Possum & Glider Spotlighting and Bird Surveys. They also coordinated National Tree Day with Baranduda schools and the community for their 12<sup>th</sup> year.

Parklands also assisted the Baranduda Landcare Group with the implementation of environmental restoration works along Wodonga Yackandandah Roadside and a section of Crown land along the lower Yackandandah Creek. These linear corridors are particularly important for habitat and to enable species to travel in order to adapt to climate change.

### ***Kiewa River Parklands***

The completion of the Killara to Tangambalanga fishing access track is being driven by the newly established KRAAG (Kiewa River Access Action Group) who are focused on establishing a vehicular access riverside reserve in the township.

Negotiations continue with landowners and potential funding bodies. A longer term 12 Year Strategic Plan has identified key community infrastructure and potential revenue sources to fund this.

### ***Bonegilla Migrant Experience Heritage Park***

The site continued to be actively managed through the collaborative efforts of City of Wodonga, Albury City Council's Library-Museum and the Bonegilla Migrant Experience Steering Committee with visitation of around 10,000 over the past year.

Rodney Havik and Pam and David Stevens, our live-in Caretakers contributed significantly to maintaining this site.

We thank the City of Wodonga for their continued support of this project through the operation of the on-site Visitor Information Centre and the team of volunteer guides who have kept the site open seven days a week.

Parklands niche is large scale conservation and heritage restoration. However, managing and marketing of what has grown to a relatively high visitation museum, for regional Australia, requires a much greater level of resourcing. Thank you to the City of Wodonga for formally requesting the transfer of Committee of Management in June 2012 so that this higher level of servicing can be provided to enhance and promote this nationally significant site which is being called the "birthplace of multicultural Australia".

Thank you to the many former migrants who have made Tribute Wall donations. These funds support the ongoing maintenance of the site.

### **HIGH COUNTRY RAIL TRAIL**

Parklands Albury Wodonga acknowledge and thank the significant time and strategic actions that have been invested by the Bonegilla Rail Trail Advisory Group, Tallangatta Rail Trail Advisory Group, Koetong Shelley Development Association and the interested members of the Cudgewa community over the past year. These "champions" will ensure the High Country Rail Trail does eventually become "a popular destination of national significance".

### ***Sandy Creek Bridge***

The highlight of the past year would have to be on 6th January 2012 when the 31st bridge girder was slotted onto the Sandy Creek Inlet Bridge from a customised pontoon gantry that Harings Construction of Wangaratta fabricated specifically for this project. After four years of worry over whether the Victorian Government pledge would be honoured; the funds would be sufficient; who would manage the project; then the logistical challenge of developing a different construction method as the end of the ten year drought resulted in record Lake Hume water levels which then began to quickly drop, just as the installation of the bridge girders began. With the final girder in place, at last, the vision had become a reality.



The significant financial contributions from Regional Development Victoria, Towong, Indigo and Wodonga Councils; and BAG and TAG Committees have made the dream on the Sandy Creek Bridge a reality, a big thank you to all.

Thank you to Towong Shire Council for their leadership and commitment to taking on the Sandy Creek bridge project. Special thanks to Keith Biglin, Project Manager extraordinaire for his tenacity at keeping the various contractors focused and delivering not just a bridge, but a public artwork with the much talked about “red sticks” and viewing platform. We also acknowledge Keith’s partnership approach and consultation with all six partners throughout the implementation of this significant project.

### ***Former Rail Corridors in Wodonga***

In support of the efforts of Albury Wodonga Pedal Power, University of the Third Age and Bonegilla Rail Trail Advisory Group, Parklands Albury Wodonga submitted an Expression of Interest to VicTrack to lease the former Wodonga railway corridors. Whilst this has been positively received and recommended to the Department of Transport, the issuing of this lease won’t proceed until the entire railway infrastructure, such as sleepers and railway iron, has been removed.

It is pleasing to see the Yarra Valley Trains, Puffing Billy Preservation Society and other volunteer train groups successful in their bids to salvage former Wodonga railway material for use in their active railway lines.

### ***Bonegilla Rail Trail Advisory Group (BAG)***

The installation of rocks at bridge abutments and culverts across the Kiewa and Finns Creek floodplain over the summer months has ensured the rail trail remains accessible at all but the highest flood levels. Wodonga Council repaired the Middle Creek section through a flood recovery grant, only to have some of the sheeting materials wash away in unseasonable autumn floods.

Given the ongoing challenges of spring floods on the unregulated Kiewa River, BAG members have agreed to focus energies on securing funding for the more sustaining, but expensive longer term solution of a raised boardwalk. Wodonga TAFE has expressed interest in building the boardwalk with their Timber Studies students.

Regular working bees included the installation of more seating; clearing of overhanging branches; removal of tree guards from revegetation sites; installation of more bollards to manage unauthorised access and slashing of track verges and rail trail entrances.

The Wodonga APEX Club project at Ebdon Station is nearing completion. Wodonga TAFE Timber Studies instructors and students constructed a high wind rated picnic shelter with APEX members installing roofing and clearing a pad in preparation for a cement slab.

BAG members have continued to facilitate quarterly Friends of the Rail Trail events to attract both regular and new participants as well as visitors to the region.

A new strategic plan was developed for the BAG section of the High Country Rail Trail. Delegations have met with City of Wodonga’s Recreation, Infrastructure and Tourism officers on a number of occasions to build a more collaborative arrangement for developing and promoting the rail trail and directional signage throughout City of Wodonga.

### ***Tallangatta Rail Trail Advisory Group (TAG)***

Retiree Phil Coulston has thrown considerable effort into tackling the significant growth in blackberries and all manner of the broadleaf weeds that have been generated by the end of the drought and wet summers.

A new slasher more suited to TAG's small Iseki tractor has made maintaining the rail trail and horse trail much easier and safer than the over-sized version for the much revered "mower man" Arthur Trenchard.

Over the past year there have been a number of meetings with representatives of the Country Fire Authority, State Emergency Services, Towong Shire and the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) over the location of the proposed joint Emergency Services premises that is planned to be constructed on rail trail Crown land within Tallangatta Township.

Fencing commenced on the Darbyshire section of the rail trail despite the ongoing wet weather. The loan of a DSE Dozer and Operator for a week proved invaluable in clearing the overgrown corridor and making the otherwise steep and challenging fencing more accessible. Thank you to neighbouring landholders for their cooperation and access through their private properties to these steep and difficult access sites.

Flash floods in March washed away the low level footbridge over Darbyshire Creek. The material has been retrieved. Success with an Our Community Heritage Grant from the Commonwealth Government prompted investigating the option of restoring the original trestle bridge. The Engineer's assessment provided a "cutting list" for girders and cross beams that need to be replaced. It is hoped that this timber can be milled with the donation of some trees from the Department of Sustainability and Environment's State Forest.

The homemade scones at the summit of Jarvis Creek continue to be a crowd pleaser on this annual Friends' of the Rail Trail ride. More than 80 signed up for the 5th annual Tallangatta Tall Trestle Treadle supported ride from Corryong to Tallangatta. Thanks to Team Mt Beauty and the Beechworth Chain Gang for the loan of their customised bike trailers.

### ***Koetong Shelley Development Association (KSDA)***

Risk management signs were printed during the year to install along the rail trail for directional and hazard identification purposes. Every fortnight, a member of the Koetong Shelley Development Association inspects the rail trail between Boggy Creek and Shelley and clears fallen timber. This has been a considerable effort over the past three wet years as large but shallow rooted trees through the forested area simply fall over.

The successful implementation of the three year Upper Murray Blackberry Taskforce has had a major impact on blackberry control through the Hancock Plantations and State Forests lands. However, the wet summer has required continued concerted effort. With only a small pool of volunteers to draw from, the Koetong Shelley Development Association has funded a spray contractor to keep these blackberries under control.

The restoration of the 49 metre Edgars Road timber trestle bridge has crawled along. An Engineers Assessment identified the girders and cross beams that need to be replaced and Puffing Billy Preservation Society's John Shaw provided a "cutting list" of all the materials required. Rob Caddell and Ian Jackson from TAG have been busy checking out various sources of timber. Once a safety harness structure has been secured for use by those working at heights on this bridge, the remaining decking on the Edgars Road will be removed and the works progressed.

A Rural Finance Flood Recovery Grant enabled Parklands to contract Steve Mulcahy, a preferred contractor for North East Catchment Management Authority, to remove flood debris from two Cudgewa Creek trestle bridges, Lucyvale Creek and Tallangatta Creek.

It was fortuitous that the debris removal was coincidentally timed for March 2012, just after another significant flood event in the Upper Murray. This meant we were able to clear twice as much debris at one time.

As the trestle bridge across Tallangatta Creek had collapsed many years ago and more of this structure was washed away in the 2010-11 floods, it was decided to salvage all usable timber beams for use on the Koetong Creek trestle bridge restoration project. Thank you to Parks Victoria for their support and approval. Special thanks to Phil Coulston, Arthur Trenchard, Ian Jackson and David Saxton for the day spent on the end of an impact drill, removing the old railway nuts and bolts, so that the timber could be salvaged without undue damage.

Rob Caddell and Ian Jackson hosted a number of site inspections during the year with Army Reserve Construction Regiment 21 Engineers. A ten day training exercise is planned for 2013. The training planned includes upgrading the rail trail surface between Shelley and Boggy Creek; milling timber for the restoration of a Koetong Creek trestle bridge; and undertaking some of the bridge restoration works as well.

### ***Cudgewa Community*** (potentially Cudgewa Rail Trail Advisory Group or CAG)

A site inspection of the Cudgewa section of the railway corridor was undertaken with local residents keen to improve both local and visitor services. A recently awarded "Communities for Nature Grant" will enable much of this corridor to be fenced over the next two years and public access established.

### ***Planning for the Future***

*"To succeed, you need a vision or objective to understand where you are going and why."*  
(Barry Sullivan)

A delegation from the High Country Rail Trail met with Sarah Quon, the new CEO of North East Regional Tourism Board and both the CEO and Jade Miles, Nature Tourism Project Officer participated in a tour of the rail trail to Cudgewa in March 2012. It is pleasing to report that the High Country Rail Trail has been identified in NERTB strategy papers as one of the three "Hero Rail Trails" in North East Victoria. This will certainly help with our fundraising efforts, as evidenced early in the 2012/13 year with a successful T-QUAL Grant from the Commonwealth Government.

During National Volunteers Week in May 2012, members of BAG, TAG, CAG and PAW participated in a tour of the rail trail from Old Tallangatta to Colac Colac. A detailed Strategic Plan together with priorities was developed, based on specific sites, issues and strategic links. This will guide where resources are allocated. The detailed costing's means we are "shovel ready" should an opportunity arise to secure the balance of the funds required to complete this 123km project.

*Volunteer Tour – May 2012*



## **THE FUTURE...**

Considerable time was spent during the past year discussing Parklands strategic plans with stakeholders, current and potential partners. The “buy-in” through this process will ensure these collaborative plans become reality.

Parklands contributed our detailed twelve year plans to the Hume Region Strategic Tracks and Trails Strategy and look forward to working with this Project Group to develop a sustainable collaborative strategy that builds on this region’s uniqueness and diversity of visitor experiences.

Parklands will continue to focus on increasing the quantity and diversity of people connecting with country through involvement. A quality volunteer or visitor experience contributes significantly to the economic, social, environmental, health and wellbeing of regional communities.

Thank you to our many ***partners*** for their contributions over the past year. We also thank small team of passionate and flexible staff; regular Friends of Parklands volunteers and Friends Groups. Together we continue to achieve so much more than by working in isolation.

*Ant Packer  
Community Ranger*



*Baranduda Mountain Bike Track*



*International Mountain Bike Association Workshop*



*Murray Valley Centre Volunteers –  
Doctors Point, Albury*



*Darbyshire Wild Dog Fence*

# PARKLAND'S PROJECT PARTNERS

During the year ending 30 June 2012

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Albury City Council  
 Albury Northside Chamber of Commerce  
 Albury Wodonga Community College  
 Albury Wodonga Corporation  
 Albury Wodonga Health  
 Albury Wodonga Home School  
 Albury Wodonga Military Area Trail Runners  
 Albury Wodonga Mountain Bikers  
 Albury Wodonga Pedal Power  
 Albury Wodonga Volunteer Resource Bureau  
 Australian Taxation Office  
 Apex Tools (Cooper Hand Tools)  
 Baranduda Landcare Group  
 Bicycle Network Victoria  
 Bidja Bila Landcare Group  
 Bonegilla CFA  
 Bonegilla Migrant Experience Steering Committee  
 Bonegilla Rail Trail Advisory Group  
 Border Trust  
 Border Bushwalking Club  
 Bungambrawartha Creek Care  
 Catholic College Wodonga  
 Charles Sturt University  
 City of Wodonga  
 Corrections Victoria  
 Country Fire Authority – Region 24  
 CVGT  
 DOJ (Department of Justice)  
 DOT (Department of Transport)  
 DSE (Department of Sustainability and Environment)  
 DEHWA (Department of Environment, Heritage, Water & the Arts)  
 Fisheries Victoria  
 Friends of Padman – Mates Park  
 Friends of Willow Park  
 Goulburn Murray Water  
 House Creek (new Steward Groups)  
 Hume Building Society  
 Indigo Shire Council  
 International Mountain Bike Assoc.  
 James Fallon High School  
 Kiewa River Access Action Group  
 Kiewa Landcare Network  
 Koetong Shelley Development Assoc.  
 Land & Property Management Authority

Lester Funeral Homes  
 Livestock Health & Pest Authority  
 Mars Petcare  
 Murray Catchment Management Authority  
 Murray Industry & Community Education  
 Employment Partnership Inc. (MICEEP)  
 Murray Darling Association  
 Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre  
 Murray High School  
 Murray Valley Centre  
 National Environment Centre (Riverina Institute of TAFE)  
 North East Anglers Inc.  
 North East Catchment Management Authority  
 North East Regional Water Authority  
 NSW Bush Fire Brigade Services  
 NSW Nature Conservation Trust  
 NSW Office of Water  
 Office of Environment and Heritage  
 Parks Forum  
 Parks Victoria  
 Puffing Billy Preservation Society  
 Rail Trails Australia  
 Regional Development Victoria  
 Slopes to Summit Great Eastern Ranges Partnership  
 St Monica's Primary School  
 Tallangatta CFA  
 Tallangatta Rail Trail Advisory Group  
 Tallangatta Secondary College  
 The Personnel Group  
 Thurgoona / Woolshed Creek Landcare Group  
 Towong Shire Council  
 Victorian Bicycle Advisory Council  
 Victory Lutheran College  
 VicRoads  
 VicTrack  
 West Wodonga Primary School  
 Wodonga APEX  
 Wodonga Primary School  
 Wodonga Senior Secondary College  
 Wodonga TAFE  
 Wodonga Urban Landcare Network  
 Workways Association

# FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

## HIGHLIGHTS

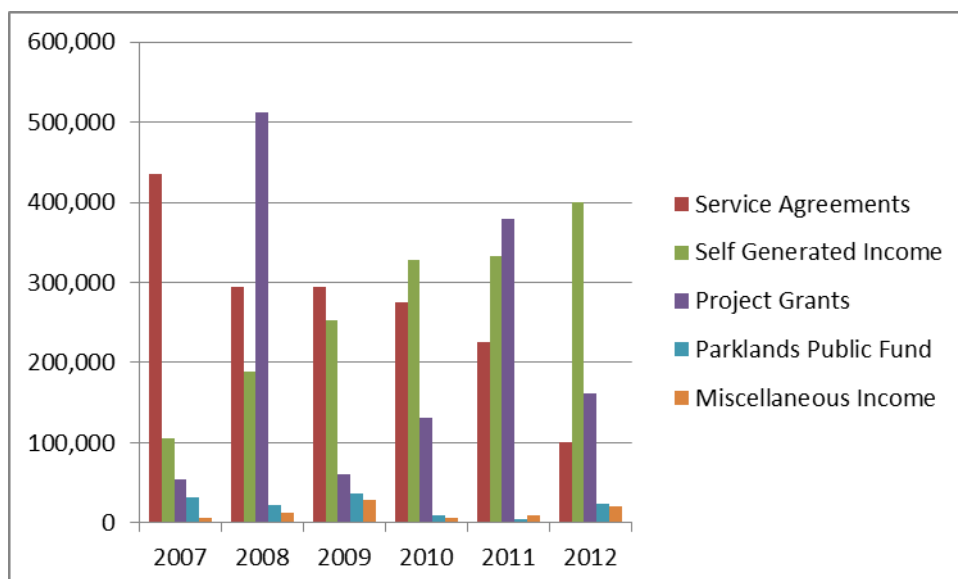
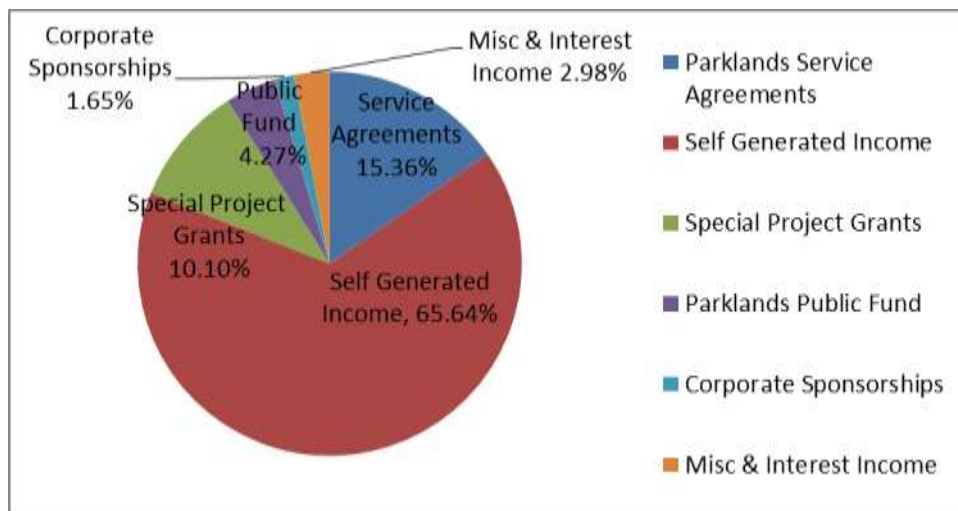
- A small deficit of \$18,204 (surpluses in previous years: \$50,969 in 2011 and \$37,336 in 2010). The 2012 deficit was 3% of total income and is a reflection of the tightening of budgets across all levels of government and business.
- Retained Equity remains at around 50% of annual turnover.

Parklands operates through a “partnership culture”, where partnerships are integral to how work gets accomplished and community connections are made.

Just as we seek partnerships with “lots of people all doing a little”, this philosophy is also applicable to our financial sustainability.

## HOW WE GENERATE INCOME:

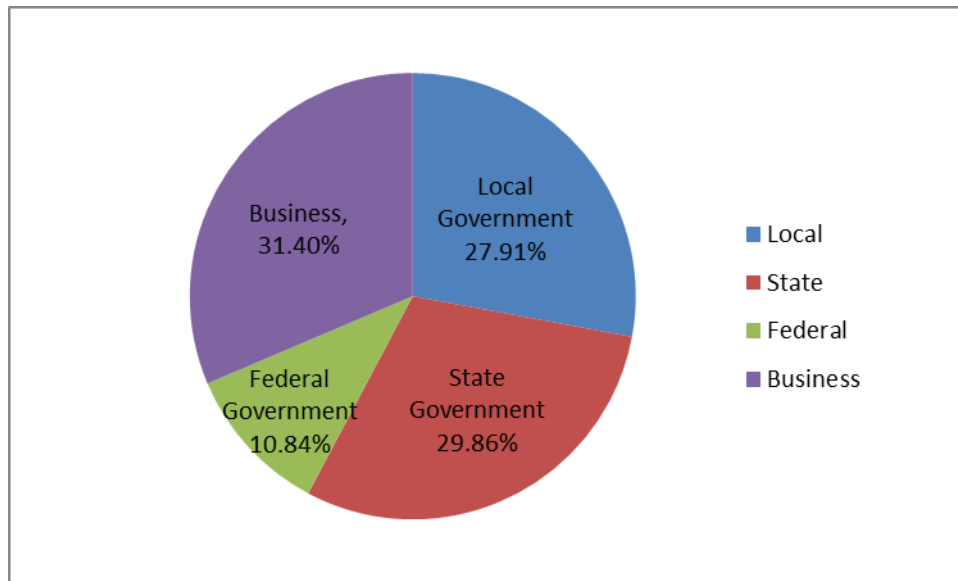
The following charts demonstrate how we have diversified our income base from service agreements to a mix of self-generated revenue streams.



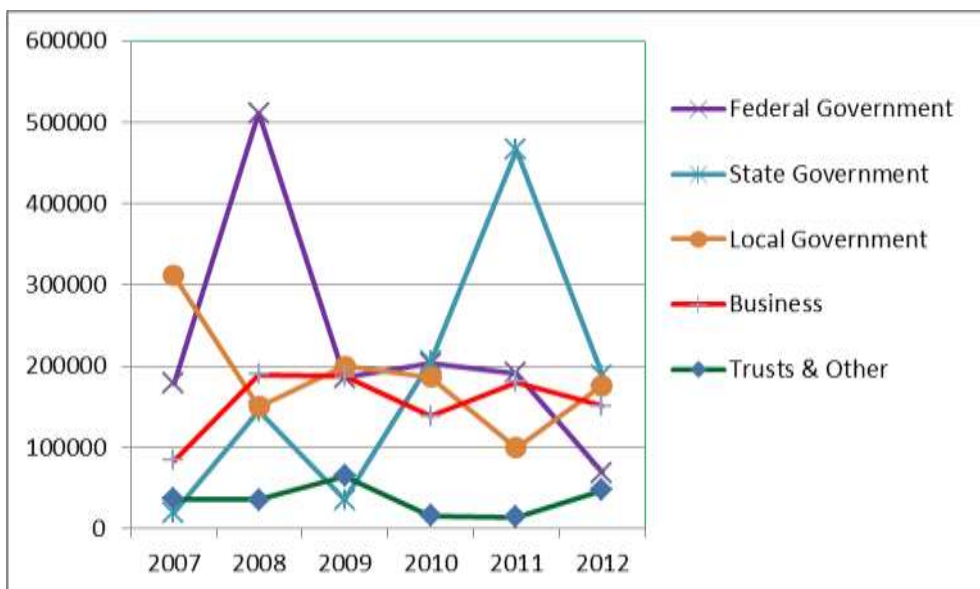


## WHO ARE OUR FINANCIAL PARTNERS:

The graph below shows a mix of income from all levels of Government as well as Business.

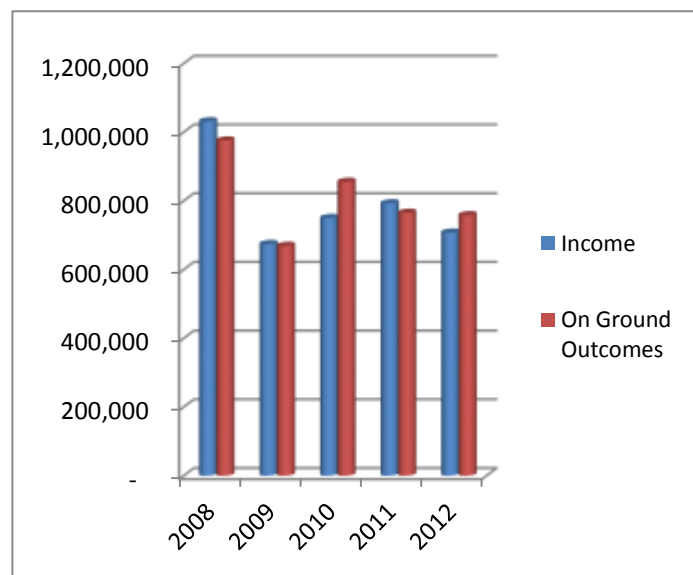


The reductions in Federal and State Government revenue reflect larger grant projects that have been completed. The tighter purse strings over the past year are partly as a result of fewer project grant programs across all levels of government. The chart below shows a longer term mix or sources.



### INVESTMENT VALUE ADDING:

The following charts demonstrate our commitment to transparency and outcomes on the ground.

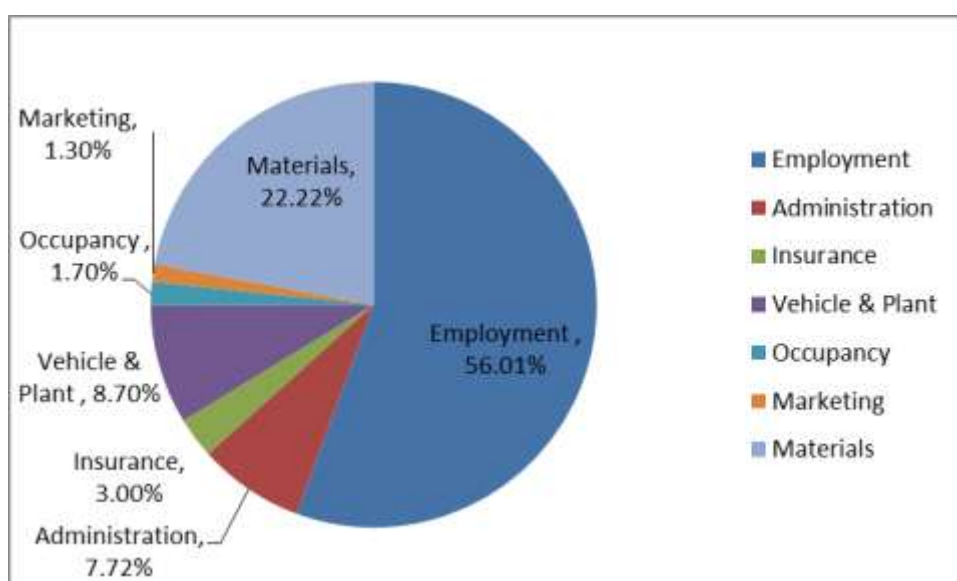


### WHERE THE MONEY GOES:

As a Public Company, transparency and accountability in managing public funds is very important.

It has been another year of operating efficiently, effectively and within our means.

A significant share of expenditure has been on materials to implement conservation, recreation and heritage projects, such as plants and fence materials.





# SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

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Public land management is complex. Competing and sometimes conflicting priorities make the allocation of resources challenging. The principles outlined below assist Parklands Albury Wodonga (PAW) take a strategic approach to sustainability.

Sustainability is not limited to what we do to avoid, minimise and offset our carbon footprint. It is about HOW we work today that ensures our efforts are sustained into the future.

Parklands Albury Wodonga is about People. The “process” of people involvement is as important as the “ends” of well managed and utilised bush parks.

## HOW COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP BUILDS SUSTAINABILITY

### 1) Environmental Sustainability

Bush restoration techniques are predominantly labour intensive. Without volunteer involvement, many of the larger scale bush restoration projects that Parklands Albury Wodonga has coordinated would not have been tackled.

Bush restoration is a longer term process that takes decades. By sustaining a vibrant community of park stewards in the restoration and long-term maintenance of priority parklands, whether it is protecting an endangered species, restoring a historic feature, or improving a trail, community support is the key to ensuring the long term protection and integrity of these unique reserves.

Community involvement also means recreational developments, such as mountain bike tracks and walking tracks are constructed without earthmoving equipment and without adversely impacting on rare flora species or Indigenous cultural heritage.

### 2) Community Resilience

Volunteers develop new skills and form new networks. These skills are transferable to other projects in and beyond the region. Involvement builds community leadership skills and reduces social isolation. In rural, remote and regional Australia, community resilience is crucial in a time of significant climate change and economic vulnerability.

### 3) Community Education

Active engagement in the care of bush parks leads to a deeper appreciation of their value. The Park Stewardship Program also works to educate the community, especially youth, about the importance of public lands through using the bush parks as hands-on experiential classrooms.

### 4) Financial Sustainability

Volunteers implement projects which the community values. Our bush parks continue to be managed and maintained with or without external funding sources and projects implemented are those the community identifies as important.

Investing resources in the community and community capacity building has been demonstrated to provide some of the highest returns on capital.

### 5) Investing in Social Enterprise

One way we can support our partners is through creating opportunities for others to supply goods and services to Parklands Albury Wodonga.

For instance, our annual supply of hardwood stakes for revegetation projects have been fabricated by the Murray Valley Centre's workshop. The profits from this social enterprise support the Centre, a non-government organisation in providing vocational and recreational opportunities five days a week throughout the year for over 400 disability clients.

## **WHAT WE DO TO AVOID, MINIMISE AND OFFSET OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT**

### **1) Avoid**

"Someone's trash is someone else's treasure". PAW is a happy recipient of donations from local suppliers who cannot sell twisted or damaged timber. Many of our footbridges, shelters, seats and track signs have been fabricated from this supply.

During spring, some of our bush parks are pulse grazed by agisting livestock to reduce fuel loads. This avoids large volumes of slashing during spring. Fire trails and tracks are sprayed bi-annually to reduce maintenance. Slashing of fire breaks is scheduled for near the end of the spring growth spurt, as this minimises the number of times we slash, and hence, the volume of fossil fuels used by our tractor, mowers and brush-cutters.

Remnants in the parks left from past uses such as steel and old fence materials are recycled into fabricating other structures, such as fence stays or taken to the steel recyclers. Steel bollards are only used to manage unauthorised vehicle access when other avenues, such as the use of natural barriers (fallen logs and plantings) or fencing proves to no longer be an option.

### **2) Minimise**

A large component of our annual budget is the purchase of plants, timber and steel products. Our policy is to source this material locally, ordering in bulk in advance of when materials are required. This provides our suppliers with the opportunity to maximise efficiency in fabricating and freight materials. Our Suppliers' sustainability journey is important too.

Given the volume of riparian land that PAW manages, chemical control of pest plants and animals is more efficient and effective than manual techniques. We minimise the volume of petroleum-based herbicides used by undertaking the seasonal weed control at optimum times during the growth of specific weed species. That is, by spraying earlier in the season, a smaller volume of chemical is required than later in the season. We use a mix of organic and low-residual herbicides and rotate chemical groups to avoid the building up of resistance.

A small seeder was purchased during the year to trial direct seeding of native grasses. Ultimately, this will minimise the volume of slashing in future years as these native grasses out compete exotic grasses, that tend to have higher fuel loads and maintenance.

Our office printer was upgraded during the year, providing an opportunity to operate a "paperless office" with faxing, scanning and emailing facilities. Printer cartridges are returned to the printer supplier for recycling and old computers recycled by Wodonga Waste Transfer Station's arrangement with a service club.

Rather than replace broken tools and equipment, our volunteer Depot Manager spends much of his time chasing or fabricating small parts to repair and service our many tools, vehicles and equipment. There is no “throw-away society” attitude to the way we work at Parklands Albury Wodonga.

The Beginning Place Interpretation Centre at the Bonegilla Migrant Experience Heritage Park uses more electricity than all other operations of Parklands Albury Wodonga. Sponsors are being sought to assist with the financial costs of installing solar panels on this visitor services building so that future operations utilise renewable power.

The new exhibitions that were opened in September 2010 utilised a mix of mediums, including multi-media displays and sound bites. The exhibits were designed to accommodate the limited power supply available in these heritage buildings. Fluorescent lighting was used rather than energy hungry exhibition down lighting.

### **3) Offset Our Carbon Footprint**

Our most significant carbon footprint is fuel to operate our vehicles and machinery. In winter 2012, the organisation offset our annual power and fuel usage by planting the equivalent in native understorey species.

We also promote sustainability with our partners, associates and suppliers through our voluntary Growing Green Carbon Offset program. Hume Building Society, Albury Wodonga Health and Lester Funeral Homes offset their business’s carbon footprint during the past year at community planting days.

## **WHAT WE DO TO MINIMISE OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT IN THE FUTURE:**

The Country Fire Authority undertakes environmental burns of section of the High Country Rail Trail over a rolling three year period. This reduces the fuel load along the busy Murray Valley Highway and facilitates the regeneration of native grasses.

Parks Victoria and DSE undertook environmental burns of one of the WRENS blocks in Autumn 2012. This process also included candling of some stringybarks to reduce the potential of ember attack in the nearby Baranduda township.

Fuel loads in other bush parks are managed through a mix of pulse grazing and slashing.

Our longer term goal is to control the exotic grasses which tend to have higher fuel loads through regeneration and revegetation with native summer growing grasses.

Recent studies in the USA suggest that controlled burns release substantially less carbon dioxide emissions than bushfires of the same size. “Bushfires often destroy large trees that store significant amounts of carbon. Prescribed fires are designed to burn underbrush and small trees, which store less carbon. By clearing out the underbrush, these controlled burns reduce the chances of subsequent high-severity bushfires, thereby protecting large trees and keeping more carbon locked up in the forest.”

During the development of our Strategic Plan 2010 to 2022, discussions with the Country Fire Authority have ensured that large open spaces are incorporated into any future revegetation plans to minimise the risk of bushfires spreading along wildlife corridors.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(Version June 2012)

## What does Parklands do?

This depends on who you talk to. Parklands is a hybrid, all embracing organisation. It is a:-

- **regional bush park manager** – integrated management encompassing park infrastructure, signage, tracks, trails and amenities, pest plant and animal control, environmental burns to facilitate regeneration, supplementary planting where regeneration is not an option, environmental grazing management, risk management, cultural heritage protection, monitoring and planning.
- **community development facilitator** – support the establishment, growth and evolution of Friends Groups and others to plan, develop, organize, implement and promote their bush park projects.
- **land manager** – pest plant & animal control, fire management, licensee liaison, management & administration.
- **service provider** – provide environmental, heritage and recreation services to public land owners.
- **contractor** – provide environmental, heritage and recreational infrastructure services to public and private land owners.
- **consultant** – develop environmental, heritage and recreation plans, studies and assessments
- **fundraiser** – successfully secured and implemented sponsorships, grants and other sources of funding to work on public land where no other revenue sources.
- **training provider** – practicum work for TAFE and University students, hands-on training for work experience participants who are either young or undertaking “tree change” and re-training to shift employment industries.
- **work program partner agent** - partnerships to implement work programs for youth and unemployed.
- **diversion program agent** – partnerships to implement programs for correctional services and other at risk groups.
- **volunteer organizer** – coordinate volunteer groups to assist other groups / organisations to implement larger community projects.
- **partnership broker** – bring together a diversity of groups and organizations, working to ensure the diverse needs of these groups

*are met during the process of involvement and as the partnership evolves and grows.*

## Who is Parklands?

A not-for-profit community managed organisation operating as Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd – a company limited by guarantee. This means that all income generated is invested into managing public land.

## Where does Parklands work?

We work in partnership with the Albury Wodonga regional community to develop, manage and maintain over 4,000 hectares of bush parks for conservation, heritage and recreation.

We have concentrated on “bush parks”, which is quite separate from formal urban-centred parks.

Parklands works on the three C’s: Crown, Council and Commonwealth owned land. Parklands is the formally appointed Committee of Management for 2,300 hectares of Victorian Crown land.

## What community benefits?

Community and visitor usage of these bush parks is constant and will certainly increase in the future. Ultimately, the beneficiaries of quality bush park management are regional residents, visitors and the tourism industry.

## Who does Parklands work with?

Lots of partnerships... such as neighbouring landholders, stakeholders, Friends Groups, Indigenous community, regular volunteers, workplaces, educational institutions, Job Services Australia agencies, over 100 community groups and the wider community. The community has contributed in excess of \$12.1 million worth of time over the past 14 years.

## What makes Parklands unique?

The community development “process” is as important as the “ends” (well managed bush parks). We are about investing in social capital and building community capacity at a grassroots level.

The community-driven model we have been actively implementing has been successful in New Zealand (Auckland Regional Park), the United States of America (Golden Gate National Recreation Area, San Francisco) and other countries.

### **How is Parklands different to Greening Australia & Conservation Volunteers Australia?**

GA and CVA are national organisations, whilst we are a regional organisation. We work on recreation, conservation and heritage projects on similar scales to GA and CVA. However, we involve the regional community whereas GA and CVA source volunteers both nationally and internationally. We have worked in partnership with GA & CVA on a range of projects over the years.

We are also responsible for 2,000 hectares of crown land as Committee of Management. This means our role is also the ongoing maintenance, requiring a focus on sustainability in terms of community stewardship and guardianship for the longer term. A Park Stewardship Program continues to evolve.

### **Why is community stewardship important?**

The Park Stewardship Program has evolved through community lead initiatives. We are working towards sustaining a vibrant community of park stewards in the restoration and long-term maintenance of priority parklands. Whether it is protecting an endangered species, restoring a historic feature, or improving a trail, community support is the key to ensuring the long term protection and integrity of these unique reserves.

Because we believe that active engagement in the care of parks leads to a deeper appreciation of their value, the Park Stewardship Program also works to educate the community, especially youth, about the importance of public lands using the bush parks as hands-on experiential classrooms.

### **What is Parklands Vision?**

Restored and diverse regional bush parks, supporting the spiritual and physical wellbeing of current and future generations, achieved in partnership with the Albury Wodonga regional community.

### **What is Parklands Mission?**

Parklands engages the regional community in the planned and cost effective development of the regional bush parks with a recreational and conservation perspective. Parklands assist in creating linkages between major bush parks, trails and facilities to enhance the lifestyle for everyone.

### **What is Parklands core business?**

To environmentally restore degraded bush parks around the cities of Albury and Wodonga to replicate an environment which we reasonably assume to have existed prior to European settlement. This will be achieved by implementing the Objects of our constitution (conservation, education and passive recreation).

### **How is Parklands funded?**

We are working to diversify our income sources and reduce our exposure to changes in government policies and programs. Whilst we continue to achieve outcomes on the ground and with the community, we will continue to be kept busy....

15% through informal environmental contracts (one service agreement)

68% through self-generated activities, including environmental contracts (eight main stakeholders), consultancies, sponsorships, licensing and donations.

10% through project grants.

4% philanthropic trusts.

3% interest and miscellaneous income.

### **What is Parklands capacity?**

The regional community has invested in excess of \$12.1 million worth of time in the regional parklands over the past 14 years. To demonstrate this capacity, the value of on ground time contributed by staff and volunteers over the last 4 years totals;

- \$463,960 in 07/08
- \$520,153 in 08/09
- \$758,826 in 09/10
- \$656,605 in 10/11
- \$758,010 in 11/12

### **Is Parklands an NGO?**

Yes. Whilst we work with local, state and Australian Government Agencies and work on public land, we are not a government organisation.

We have an honorary Board comprised of a mix of Stakeholder Representatives and Community Members.

The Board is skills-based. As at 30 June 2012, there were five full time Rangers and 0.9 FTE Finance Manager

### **More Information**

Website: [www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au](http://www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au)

Postal address: PO Box 1040, Wodonga VIC 3689

Street address: 138 Lemke Rd Gateway Island, Wodonga

Telephone: 02 6023 6714





**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**

**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**Financial Report  
for the year ended 30 June, 2012**



**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS**

Your directors present their report, together with the financial statement of the Company for the financial year ended 30 June 2012.

**Directors**

The name of directors in office at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

John Alker-Jones  
Vern Hilditch  
Dennis Toohey

Daryl Betteridge  
C. Philip Oates

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

**Principal activities**

The principal activities of the entity during the financial year were to manage and maintain designated environmental land for the Commonwealth, State and Local Governments. The land is owned by the Crown or designated for future use by the local community.

**Review of operations**

The surplus (deficit) for the year amounted to \$(18,204) (2011 was \$50,969).

**Significant changes in state of affairs**

No significant changes in the state of affairs of the company occurred during the financial year.

**Dividends**

As the company is a company limited by guarantee and does not have share capital, no dividends are payable.

**After balance date events**

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in future years.

**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS**

**Information on directors**

<b>John Alker-Jones</b> Board member of Albury Wodonga Parklands Inc. since 1997 Board member of Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd since 2004 Chairman/Public Officer Community Representative	Qualifications/Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Planner, Diploma in Environmental Management</li> <li>• Involved in the creation of Parklands 15 years ago</li> <li>• 31 years at the Albury Wodonga Development Corporation</li> </ul>
<b>Dennis Toohey</b> Board member since 2010 Deputy Chairman Community Representative	Qualifications/Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agribusiness Consultant</li> <li>• Former director within Department of Primary Industries</li> <li>• Qualifications include Diploma of Agriculture, Graduate Diploma of Agriculture Extension and Executive Management Program.</li> </ul>
<b>C. Philip Oates</b> Board member since 2010 Secretary Community Representative	Qualifications/Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former accountant with Australian Taxation Office</li> <li>• Accounting qualifications</li> </ul>
<b>Daryl Betteridge</b> Board member since 2008 Director Albury City Council Representative	Qualifications/Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Albury City Councillor</li> <li>• Business owner/operator</li> </ul>
<b>Vern Hilditch</b> Board member since 2010 Director Community Representative	Qualifications/Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principal of Wodonga Senior Secondary College</li> <li>• Agricultural Science &amp; Education qualifications</li> </ul>

**Company secretary**

Phil Oates currently holds the position of company secretary of Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd. Phil's qualifications and experience are set out above.

**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS**

**Likely developments**

The company expects to maintain the present status and level of operations and there are no likely developments in the company's operations.

**Environmental issues**

The entity's operations are subject to significant environmental regulation under the law of the Commonwealth and of a State or Territory. Details of the entity's performance in relation to environmental regulation follow:

Parklands has managed its operations for the year in accordance with the objectives set out in clauses 4.1 to 4.8 of its Constitution, and in so doing has complied with all environmental regulations set by the Commonwealth, State and Local Governments.

**Meetings of directors**

During the financial year, eleven meetings of directors were held. Attendances by each Director during the year were as follows:

	Directors meetings	
	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
John Alker-Jones	11	9
Daryl Betteridge	11	8
Vern Hilditch	11	8
C. Philip Oates	11	11
Dennis Toohey	11	10

**Indemnification and insurance of officers and auditors**

During the financial year the company has paid premiums to insure the directors and officers against liabilities for costs and expenses incurred by them in defending any legal proceedings arising out of their conduct while acting in the capacity of director or officer of the company, other than conduct involving a wilful breach of duty in relation to the company. The amount of the premium was \$3,330 (2011: \$3,330).

The company has not indemnified its auditors, Johnsons MME.

**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS**

**Directors' benefits**

Since the commencement of the financial year, no director of the company has received or become entitled to receive any benefit because of a contract made by the company, with the director or with a firm of which the director is a member, or with an entity in which the director has a substantial interest.

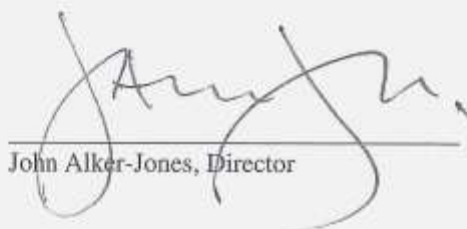
**Proceedings on behalf of company**

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the company or intervene in any proceedings to which the company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or any part of those proceedings.

**Auditor's Independence Declaration**

The Auditor's Independence Declaration for the year ended 30 June 2012 has been received and can be found on page 5 of the Annual Report.

This report of the directors is signed at Wodonga in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Alker-Jones, Director  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Toohey, Director

Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October 2012.

### Auditors' Independence Declaration

As lead auditor for the audit of Parklands Albury Wodonga Limited for the year ended 30 June 2012, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a) No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- b) No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Stephen Clarke  
Partner  
Johnsons MME

Albury  
18 October 2012



**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2012**

	Note	2012 \$	2011 \$
<b>Revenue from continuing operations</b>			
Parklands service agreements		100,000	233,375
Self generated income		427,333	427,869
Special project grants		65,735	139,125
Parklands Public Fund		27,775	724
Corporate sponsorships		10,752	-
Interest income		19,076	18,341
Miscellaneous income		348	2,056
Prior year adjustments		<u>-</u>	<u>1,454</u>
<b>Total revenue and other income</b>	1(m)	<b>651,019</b>	<b>822,944</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Administration		29,426	34,821
Communication & marketing		8,695	13,170
Contract and grant expenses		138,459	196,660
Depreciation		17,009	19,063
Employment expenses		374,800	402,712
Finance costs		2,565	4,498
General insurance		20,088	20,085
Occupancy expenses		11,393	10,788
Other expenses from ordinary activities		9,675	3,401
Provision for doubtful debts		(240)	(435)
Staff and board expenses		1,290	2,602
Staff support and training		4,364	7,318
Tools and supplies		10,221	11,585
Vehicle and plant expenses		<u>41,478</u>	<u>45,707</u>
<b>Total expenses</b>	1(m)	<b><u>669,223</u></b>	<b><u>771,975</u></b>
<b>Profit (loss) for the year</b>		<b><u>(18,204)</u></b>	<b><u>50,969</u></b>
<b>Total comprehensive income (loss) for the year</b>		<b><u>(18,204)</u></b>	<b><u>50,969</u></b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2012**

	Note	2012 \$	2011 \$
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	453,656	500,008
Trade and other receivables	4	62,807	99,532
Other current assets	5	2,411	6,122
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u><b>518,874</b></u>	<u><b>605,662</b></u>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Plant and equipment	6	40,823	56,728
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<u><b>40,823</b></u>	<u><b>56,728</b></u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<u><b>559,697</b></u>	<u><b>662,390</b></u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	7	37,425	24,064
Borrowings	8	13,497	13,501
Provisions	9	47,515	38,825
Other current liabilities	10	131,024	225,466
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<u><b>229,461</b></u>	<u><b>301,856</b></u>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Borrowings	8	50,000	64,633
Provisions	9	18,266	15,727
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<u><b>68,266</b></u>	<u><b>80,360</b></u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u><b>297,727</b></u>	<u><b>382,216</b></u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u><b>261,970</b></u>	<u><b>280,174</b></u>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained earnings		261,970	280,174
<b>Total equity</b>		<u><b>261,970</b></u>	<u><b>280,174</b></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2012**

	Note	2012 \$	2011 \$
Balance at 1 July		280,174	229,205
Total comprehensive income (loss) for the year		(18,204)	50,969
<b>Balance at 30 June</b>		<b><u>261,970</u></b>	<b><u>280,174</u></b>

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2012**

<b>Cash Flows From Operating Activities</b>			
Receipts from customers and supporters		574,490	767,720
Payments to suppliers and employees		(625,148)	(737,088)
Interest received		22,612	13,750
Finance costs		(2,565)	(4,498)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	13	<b><u>(30,611)</u></b>	<b><u>39,884</u></b>
<b>Cash Flows From Investing Activities</b>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(1,104)	(4,354)
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b><u>(1,104)</u></b>	<b><u>(4,354)</u></b>
<b>Cash Flows From Financing Activities</b>			
Repayment of borrowings		(14,637)	(21,522)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		<b><u>(14,637)</u></b>	<b><u>(21,522)</u></b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash held</b>		<b>(46,352)</b>	<b>14,008</b>
<b>Cash at beginning of financial year</b>	3	<b><u>500,008</u></b>	<b><u>486,000</u></b>
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>	3	<b><u>453,656</u></b>	<b><u>500,008</u></b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements



**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2012**

**Note 1: Statement of significant accounting policies**

Parklands Albury Wodonga Limited ('the Company') is a company domiciled in Australia.

This general purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, Urgent Issues Group Interpretations and the Corporations Act 2001.

Parklands Albury Wodonga Limited has elected to early adopt the pronouncements of AASB 1053: Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards and AASB 2010-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards Arising From Reduced Disclosure Requirements to the Financial Statements for the period beginning 1 July 2010.

The financial report has been prepared on the basis of historical cost.

*Not-For-Profit Status*

Under AIFRS, there are requirements that apply specifically to not-for-profit entities that are not consistent with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) requirements. The Company has analysed its purpose, objectives and operating philosophy and determined that it does not have profit generation as a prime objective. Consequently where appropriate the Company has elected to apply options and exemptions within AIFRS that are applicable to not-for-profit entities.

**a) Plant and equipment**

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

**b) Impairment of assets**

Assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. Assets that suffered an impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

**c) Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated to write off the net cost of each item of plant and equipment over its expected useful life. Depreciation rates are between 25% and 37.5% p.a.

**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2012**

- d) **Employee benefits**  
 Provision is made for the company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits are measured at the amount expected to be paid when the liability is settled.
  
- e) **Provisions**  
 Provisions are recognised when the entity has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.
  
- f) **Cash and cash equivalents**  
 Cash and cash equivalents include term deposits held with banks, which are readily convertible to cash on hand.
  
- g) **Revenue and other income**  
 Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).
  
- h) **Goods and services tax (GST)**  
 Revenues, expenses and fixed assets are recognised net of the amount of GST. Receivables and payables in the Balance Sheet are shown inclusive of GST. 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 taxation authority, are presented as operating cash flows.
  
- i) **Income tax**  
 As the company's primary aim is the management and maintenance of designated environmental land owned by the Crown or designated for use by the community, it is exempt from Income Tax under Section 50-45 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. The company is limited by guarantee and any profits made are retained within the company.
  
- j) **Trade Receivables**  
 Collectability of trade receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectable are written off by reducing the carrying amount directly.
  
- k) **New standards and interpretations not yet adopted**  
 No new standards have been identified which, when adopted, would have any significant impact on the Company in the period of initial application.

**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2012**

**l) Unexpended grants**

The company receives grant monies to fund projects either for contracted periods of time or for specific projects irrespective of the period of time required to complete those projects. It is the policy of the company to treat unexpended grant monies as a liability in the statement of financial position where the company is contractually obliged to provide the services in a subsequent financial period to when the grant is received or, in the case of specific project grants, where the project has not been completed.

**m) Changes to presentation – classification of unexpended grant income**

Commencing in the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012, the company has recorded unexpended grant funds brought forward and carried forward as increases and decreases against the relevant income. The prior years' income accounts have been adjusted on the same basis for comparative purposes. This has had no impact on the company's result in either year, but reduced both income and expenses in 2011 by \$205,152.

	Note	2012 \$	2011 \$
<b>Note 2: Auditors' remuneration</b>			
Remuneration of the auditor of the entity for:			
- Auditing or reviewing the financial report		4,075	3,500

**Note 3: Cash and cash equivalents**

Cheque accounts		75,880	172,780
iSave business account		83,423	103,465
Parklands Public Fund	12	39,353	19,877
Term deposit accounts		<u>255,000</u>	<u>203,886</u>
		<u>453,656</u>	<u>500,008</u>

**Reconciliation of cash**

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the cash flow statement is reconciled to items in the balance sheet as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents	<u>453,656</u>	<u>500,008</u>
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**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2012**

<b>Note 4: Trade and other receivables</b>	<b>Note</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Current			
Trade receivables		58,243	99,796
Provision for doubtful debts		-	(264)
Sundry Receivables		<u>4,564</u>	<u>-</u>
		<u>62,807</u>	<u>99,532</u>
<b>Note 5: Other current assets</b>			
Prepayments		1,210	1,210
Borrowing costs sinking fund		146	321
Accrued interest receivable		<u>1,055</u>	<u>4,591</u>
		<u>2,411</u>	<u>6,122</u>
<b>Note 6: Plant and equipment</b>			
Plant and equipment:			
At cost		78,594	77,491
Accumulated depreciation		<u>(70,310)</u>	<u>(65,663)</u>
		8,284	11,828
Motor vehicles:			
At cost		134,095	134,095
Accumulated depreciation		<u>(101,556)</u>	<u>(89,195)</u>
		32,539	44,900
Total Plant and equipment		<u>40,823</u>	<u>56,728</u>

**Movements in Carrying amounts**

Movements in carrying amounts for each class of plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year.

	<b>Plant &amp; Equipment</b>	<b>Motor Vehicles</b>	<b>Total</b>
Net book value at 30 June 2011	11,828	44,900	56,728
Additions – current year	1,104	-	1,104
Depreciation expense	<u>(4,648)</u>	<u>(12,361)</u>	<u>(17,009)</u>
Net book value at 30 June 2012	<u>8,284</u>	<u>32,539</u>	<u>40,823</u>



**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2012**

<b>Note 7: Trade and other payables</b>	<b>Note</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Current			
Unsecured liabilities:			
Trade payables		35,147	10,206
Sundry payables		<u>2,278</u>	<u>13,858</u>
		<u>37,425</u>	<u>24,064</u>
<b>Note 8: Borrowings</b>			
Current			
Secured liabilities:			
Hire purchase liabilities	11	<u>13,497</u>	<u>13,501</u>
Total current borrowings		<u>13,497</u>	<u>13,501</u>
Non-Current			
Secured liabilities:			
Hire purchase liabilities	11	-	14,633
Unsecured liabilities:			
Albury City Council		<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>
Total non-current borrowings		<u>50,000</u>	<u>64,633</u>
Total Borrowings		<u>63,497</u>	<u>78,134</u>
Assets pledged as security		<u>22,002</u>	<u>29,336</u>
<b>Note 9: Provisions</b>			
Current			
Provision for annual leave:			
Opening balance at beginning of year		38,825	30,182
Additional provisions raised during year		<u>8,690</u>	<u>8,643</u>
Balance at end of the year		<u>47,515</u>	<u>38,825</u>
Non-Current			
Provision for long service leave			
Opening balance at beginning of year		15,727	9,666
Additional provision raised during year		<u>2,539</u>	<u>6,061</u>
Balance at end of the year		<u>18,266</u>	<u>15,727</u>

**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2012**

<b>Note 10: Other current liabilities</b>	<b>Note</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Unexpended grant funds	1(l)	<u>131,024</u>	<u>225,466</u>
		<u>131,024</u>	<u>225,466</u>

**Note 11: Capital and leasing commitments**

a) Hire purchase and lease commitments			
Payable – minimum payments			
- not later than 12 months		15,326	18,391
- between 12 months and 5 years		-	<u>15,325</u>
Minimum payments		15,326	33,716
Less future finance charges		(693)	(3,082)
Less GST deferred		<u>(1,136)</u>	<u>(2,500)</u>
Present value of minimum payments		<u>13,497</u>	<u>28,134</u>
b) Operating lease commitments			
Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements			
Payable – minimum lease payments			
- not later than 1 year		3,502	3,501
- between 1 year and 2 years		3,501	3,502
- between 2 years and 5 years		584	4,085
- later than 5 years		-	-
Total lease commitments		<u>7,587</u>	<u>11,088</u>

The equipment lease was a non-cancellable lease with a five year term, with rent payable monthly in advance.

**Note 12: Parklands public fund**

Balance brought forward	19,877	14,692
Deductible donations received	14,437	5,000
Fun Run (net)	4,749	-
Interest received	290	185
	<u>39,353</u>	<u>19,877</u>

**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2012**

**Note 13: Reconciliation of net cash flow from operations with profit after income tax**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Profit (loss) after income tax	(18,204)	50,969
Depreciation	17,009	19,063
Prior year adjustments	-	(1,454)
Changes in assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/decrease in trade receivables	36,989	(40,838)
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	175	211
(Increase)/decrease in accrued interest receivable	3,536	(4,591)
Increase/(decrease) in trade payables	13,361	(3,111)
Increase/(decrease) in employment provisions	11,229	14,704
Increase/(decrease) in unexpended grant funds	(94,442)	5,409
Increase/(decrease) in provision for doubtful debts	(264)	(478)
Cash flow from operations	<u>(30,611)</u>	<u>39,884</u>

**Note 14: Events after the balance sheet date**

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the reporting period which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the entity, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the entity in future financial years.

**Note 15: Members' guarantee**

The company is a company limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$10 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At 30 June 2012 the number of members was 5 (2011: 5).

**Note 16: Company details**

The registered office and principal place of business of the company is:

Parklands Albury Wodonga Limited  
138 Lemke Road  
Gateway Island  
Wodonga Vic 3691

**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2012**

**Note 17: Commitments for expenditure**

The Company has no current commitments for capital expenditure.

**Note 18: Contingent liabilities**

The Directors are not aware of any contingent liabilities

**Note 19: Related parties**

a) Directors

The names of persons who were directors of the Company at any time during the financial year are as follows:

John Alker-Jones, Darryl Betteridge, Vern Hilditch, C. Philip Oates and Dennis Toohey.

The directors perform their duties in an honorary capacity.

b)	2012	2011
	\$	\$
Transactions with related parties		
Purchases of goods		
Motor Vehicle purchased from J Alker-Jones	-	1,000

All other transactions were made on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other persons unless otherwise stated.

**Note 20: Key management personnel disclosure**

	2012	2011
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	177,231	190,429
Long-term employee benefits	2,539	6,061

Key management personnel are the persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the company either directly or indirectly. The key management personnel consist of the directors and senior officers responsible for the financial and operational activities of the company.



**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2012**

**Note 21: Financial instruments**

The net fair value of cash and monetary financial assets and financial liabilities approximates their carrying amounts as included in the Balance Sheet and Notes to the Financial Statements. The carrying amounts have been determined as the amounts currently receivable or payable at the reporting date.

**Note 22: Financial risk management**

The Company is exposed to financial risks in the form of market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. Risk management is carried out by Management with the approval of the Board of Directors. Management regularly reports to the Board of Directors and regularly reviews and evaluates risk management policies.

The Company holds the following financial instruments:

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Financial assets	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	453,656	500,008
Trade and other receivables	62,807	99,532
Financial liabilities		
Trade and other payables	37,425	24,064
Borrowings	63,497	78,134

- a) Market risk – the Company's exposure to market risk is fundamentally limited to the risk of interest rate changes. Monies are deposited at the Hume Building Society in interest-bearing investments. At the end of the year there was \$255,000 held in term deposits at interest rates of between 4.85% and 5.5% and \$83,423 in an iSave account at an interest rate of 3.5%. All other accounts are held at the Hume Building Society at interest rates of 1.5%. Borrowings are subject to fixed interest rates.
- b) Credit risk – arises from cash and cash equivalents and trade and other receivables. Management monitors outstanding receivables based on past history and maintains an ongoing policy of debt collection procedures with regular reviews of receivables for possible impairment. All deposits are with the Hume Building Society.
- c) Liquidity risk – Management and the Board of Directors manage liquidity risk by continuously monitoring forecast and actual cash and matching the maturity profiles of financial assets and liabilities. Surplus funds are generally invested in interest earning deposits with the Hume Building Society.


**PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA LIMITED**  
**ABN: 75 109 213 121**

**DIRECTORS' DECLARATION**

The Directors of the Company declare that:

1. the financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 6 to 17 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and:
  - (a) comply with Accounting Standards; the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
  - (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2012 and of the performance as represented by the results of the operations, changes in equity and cash flows, for the year ended on that date; and
2. in the Directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Alker-Jones – Director  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Toohey – Director

Dated 18<sup>th</sup> day of October 2012.

## Independent auditor's report to the members of Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd, which comprises the statement of financial position at 30 June 2012, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Directors' declaration.

### *Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

The Directors' of Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Act 2001*. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### *Auditor's Responsibility*

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

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal controls relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 Directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Director's financial reporting requirements under the *Corporations Act 2001*. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial statements to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

#### ACHIEVING GOALS TOGETHER

520 Swift Street PO Box 375 Albury NSW 2640 T: (02) 6023 9100 F: (02) 6021 2154

E: [contactus@johnsonsmme.com.au](mailto:contactus@johnsonsmme.com.au) W: [www.johnsonsmme.com.au](http://www.johnsonsmme.com.au)

Johnson's MME ABN 16 163 273 492

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.



## Independent auditor's report (continued)

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


### *Independence*

In conducting our audit we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*. We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, provided to the Directors on the 18 October 2012, would be in the same terms if provided by the Directors at the date of this audit report.


### **Auditor's Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements of Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of Parkland Albury Wodonga Ltd's financial position as at 30 June 2012 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.



Johnsons MME  
Chartered Accountants



Stephen Clarke  
Partner

Albury  
22 October 2012