

WAUBRA WIND FARM

Welcome to the 31st edition of the Waubra Wind Farm Newsletter! This newsletter provides information and updates about the project.

Waubra Wind Farm is located 35 km north-west of Ballarat in Victoria, on both sides of the Sunraysia Highway and was once ACCIONA Energía's largest wind farm in Australia. With 128 wind turbines capable of producing 192 megawatts of electricity, there's enough energy to power 138,000 homes. Since the project became operational in 2009, we've created a direct total community investment of over \$10 million.

APRIL 2025

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Project Update

In April 2024, Ammad Hassan commenced as the new Fleet Manager for Waubra Wind Farm. Ammad brings over 14 years of experience across Renewable, Construction, Manufacturing and Oil & Gas sectors, specialising in Project Management, Operations & Maintenance and Supply Chain/Asset Management.



Canola season surrounding wind turbines at Waubra Wind Farm

Small Grants

2024 marked our sixteenth year of the Waubra Wind Farm Small Grants Program with over \$375,000 donated to local community groups, schools, sporting clubs, and not for profits since the program's inception in 2009.

In July 2024, we announced over \$28,000 in funding across seven local community organisations as part of this year's annual Small Grants Program. We received some high-quality applications and would like to thank all those who applied for the effort they put into their applications. Representatives from the successful community organisations came together to celebrate their new initiatives at a morning tea on 5 June at The Springs Hotel.

This year's funding included over \$12,000 for local schools as well as support for sports clubs, social groups, and sustainability initiatives. We are honoured to continue to fund these great initiatives and look forward to future sponsorship opportunities.

Waubra Wind Farm -2024 Small Grants Recipients

Organisation	=	Amount
Talbot Primary School	Energy Breakthrough	\$4,000
Mount Blowhard Primary School	Inclusive Cubby Play Space	\$5,500
Clunes Primary School	Energy Breakthrough	\$1,600
Cyril Callister Foundation Inc	Cyril Callister Vegemite Museum - Cyril Lab	\$8,711
Waubra CWA	The Waubra CWA and ACCIONA Energia Scholarship Program	\$2,000
Waubra Primary School	Upgrading classrooms regarding resources & take-home readers	\$5,000
Beaufort Primary School	Sports Jumpers	\$1,480

Thanks also to all of you who have now applied for our 2025 small grants program. We will be in touch in May to notify successful recipients.

Cyril Callister Vegemite Museum Cyril Lab

We were proud to support the Cyril Callister Vegemite Museum to build the Cyril Lab in 2024. The Cyril Lab allows regional youth to participate in interactive science experiments, encouraging them to think outside the box and connect with one of Australia's most famous food scientists. Dr Cyril Callister was a poor country kid from Pyrenees Shire who received a scholarship to attend what is now Federation University and went onto be one of Australia's most famous food scientists. Cyril's Lab recreates the laboratory where Dr Callister and his team invented the iconic spread in 1923.

We were thrilled to attend the opening of Cyril's Lab last year and watch as the inaugural recipient of the 2024 Cyril Callister Foundation scholarship, Samuel Varjabedian, demonstrated an experiment, making Vegemite caviar for us all to enjoy.



2024 Cyril Callister Foundation scholarship recipient Samuel Varjabedian in Cyril's Lab

Scholarships

The Waubra CWA and ACCIONA Energía Scholarship Program

The Waubra CWA, with the support of ACCIONA Energía, has established an annual scholarship program to support talented local students that are committed to excellence in sport, music, academics or other areas of passion. Successful recipients are awarded \$1,000 each to put towards costs, development and tutoring that support their passion.

In 2024, four local students were awarded scholarships and came together at the Waubra Community Hub to celebrate their success.

Recent Loreto College graduate Cate Molloy of Ercildoune received the academic scholarship for her interest and future pursuits in the field of legal studies. Addison Ryan of Learmonth, who represented Victoria in the Australian National Championships Under-18 lawn bowls, received the sporting scholarship to support her advanced pursuits in both lawn bowls and netball. Evansford local, Thomas Ferguson discovered his interest in computer programming a few years ago while modifying video games, and we're reliably informed he has a keen brain for mathematics too. The selection panel were impressed by Thomas's "outside the box" thinking and look forward to seeing where the future leads.

The youngest recipient, 11-year-old Leiarnna Ferguson of Clunes, has received recognition for her dedication to Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. Leiarnna regularly travels far and wide to train and compete in BJJ competitions, sometimes interstate and even as far as Florida, USA. Leiarnna shows incredible focus and dedication to perfecting her craft, as well as being a wonderful role model to her younger brothers. Leiarnna has a public Instagram page where you can see her in action @leiarnnako.

Thanks also to all of you who have now applied for our 2025 scholarship program. We will be in touch in May to notify successful recipients.



Pictured (left to right): Waubra CWA President Catherine Hayes, Addison Ryan, Cate Molloy, Thomas Ferguson, Leiarnna Ferguson, Waubra CWA Secretary Emily Tyrrell.

Waubra Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund

We've made a website! You can find out more about the Community Fund and what it's been up to at community.acciona.com.au/waubra/community-benefit-fund

This year marks fifteen years since the Community Fund was established, and we've been reflecting on the incredible impact it has had on the Waubra community. Since 2009, the fund has invested over \$1.2 million into local projects, helping to strengthen and support the region in so many ways.

More than \$500,000 has gone towards 130+ community projects, including the Waubra Community Hub (\$124,000), upgrades to the Evansford Community Centre, and improvements to CFA facilities. Funding has also supported community events, sporting equipment, CFA radios, whitegoods for community spaces, and even barbecue trailers—ensuring local groups have the resources they need.

On the environmental front, over \$160,000 has been invested in tree planting, water-saving initiatives, and solar power, including 100,000 new trees and solar PV at the Waubra Hub. Additionally, \$55,000 has been directed toward benevolent initiatives, assisting around 24 local families and supporting the kindergarten, school, and Lions Club in their vital community work. Fifteen years on, we're proud of what's been achieved and look forward to continuing our support for the Waubra community in the years ahead. Here's to many more great projects to come!

Celebrating 15 years of the Waubra Wind Farm

We celebrated 15 years of operations for Waubra Wind Farm at a community event on 22 November. The Waubra Community Hub became the heart of the festivities, as more than 150 people gathered for the event. Attendees included local residents, families, and ACCIONA Energía staff from Waubra and its surroundings as well as Melbourne, and was a testament to the strength of community in the region.

The event was designed to be inclusive and family-friendly, offering something for everyone. It kicked off with an impressive art show curated by the talented children of Waubra Pre-School, showcasing the creativity of the youngest members of the community. As the evening progressed, the festivities expanded to include a Lions Club-hosted BBQ, alongside treats like ice cream from The Hippie Whippy, slushies, and much more. The kids were delighted with face painting, games on the footy field, and an array of fun activities. The celebration culminated in a cozy outdoor screening of the beloved family film *Shrek*, projected on a large cinema screen under the stars.

Events like this highlight how renewable energy projects can do more than reduce carbon footprints—they can also enhance and strengthen the communities they call home.



Managing the risk of fire

We want to assure our local community that ACCIONA Energía recognises our responsibility to minimise the risk of fire at Waubra Wind Farm. We also have an important role to play assisting emergency services in the case of a fire in the vicinity of the wind farm. The key management measures implemented at the wind farm are listed below.

Listening to the experts

Waubra Wind Farm (WWF) is in the path of a fire, ACCIONA Energía will follow the advice of the State Control Centre and other emergency authorities.

Bushfire Mitigation Plan (BMP)

The objective of this BMP is to mitigate any uncontrolled risks of fire ignition that have the potential to initiate bushfires during the operational and maintenance activities of WWF. This includes, but is not limited to the following mitigation measures.



Wind turbines

- All turbine hardstands are covered in crushed rock, kept free of litter, rubbish and other flammable items.
- Weeds are regularly removed



Underground power cables

- All underground cables are accurately surveyed
- Any work involving excavation is controlled within 6.4m of any underground cable route



Substation

- The yards of all collector substations are covered with crushed rock or bitumen to reduce growth of vegetation
- A reduced fuel area is maintained around the exterior of the perimeter fence
- Conductors are spaced out so they do not clash
- Lightning protection poles are installed to prevent strikes



Fire-fighting equipment and vehicles

- Firefighting equipment is provided in all vehicles and collector substations, adequate to enable small fires to be extinguished
- Regular inspections will be carried out on all overhead line infrastructure in line with the [Electrical Line Clearance Management Plan](#)
- Turbines are designed with fire detection systems, lightning protection devices, monitoring systems that detect temperature increases in the turbine, fully closed electrical equipment and circuit breakers and fuses to interrupt any electrical faults





Postponement of Nyaninyuk Community Information Sessions and Final Referral Submission

During January, ACCIONA Energía we advised community that the previously announced Nyaninyuk Wind Farm Community Information Sessions, scheduled in Waubra, Clunes and Evansford for mid-February 2025, were to be postponed until later this year.

We always strive to ensure that engagement opportunities with the community are valuable, and that the most relevant and up-to-date information is shared with project stakeholders. Given preliminary work is still underway and taking longer than anticipated, which delays the referral submission, we considered it appropriate to reschedule the Community Information Sessions, as there would be limited new information available at this point in time. The final referral is still anticipated to be lodged during 2025, and we will run information sessions in advance of this.

As ever, we will publish further updates via the Community Hub at community.acciona.com.au/nyaninyuk on the timing of the referral submission and Community Information Sessions. Please feel free to reach out to our team on **1800 283 550** or nyaninyuk@acciona.com if you have any questions or comments at all.

Contact Us

Feel free to get in touch for more information or with feedback about any of our activities.

Please email waubra@acciona.com or call our freephone helpline on **1800 283 550**.

You can also visit our online community hub to find out more about our wind farm community.acciona.com.au/waubra

And we encourage you to subscribe via the QR code. That way we can provide email updates whenever we are posting important news.



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