



## President's Report to BREAZE 2018 Annual General Meeting

BREAZE ends its 2017/18 year with a sense that the Board, volunteers and partners have ensured that the organisation is in a healthy state to continue its programs and that we have achieved what we set out to accomplish over the last 12 months.

We have streamlined membership application, fees and renewal processes and promoted membership at our events.

BREAZE has allowed the Buninyong Boomerang Bags and Buninyong Community Collective Groups to affiliate in order to have coverage through BREAZE's articles of association and public liability insurance.

After 4 years building and operating the Ballarat Farmers Market BREAZE has relinquished its management and assisted Steve Burns in taking on the ongoing management of the event.

BREAZE has taken on the management of Ballarat Green Drinks (an international movement that brings people together monthly to discuss issues of environmental sustainability). Green Drinks held on the first Thursday evening of the month at the Main Bar allows us to present topics of interest to a different audience to our regular Smart Living Ballarat lunchtime forums.

From an events perspective, we have placed emphasis on making our events well publicised and tailored to meeting member's needs. BREAZE participated in the Sustainable Living Festival in February through our presence with a site at the Buninyong Smart Building and Living Expo. BREAZE ran a primary schools writing competition, held a members gathering at Mitchell Harris Wines and hosted the film premier of "Living the Change" at Regent Cinemas for 2018 World Environment Day. BREAZE delivered a Waste to Energy Evening Forum with a panel of practitioners in August on behalf of the Regional Sustainability Alliance Ballarat at the Mid City Hotel which was full to capacity. BREAZE supported 2018 Sustainable House Day in September by providing volunteers and promotion for 6 homes in Buninyong, Beaufort, Mollonghip and Scarsdale.

BREAZE's Public Fund has continued to source donations which have been allocated to social housing solar electricity installations through United Housing and McCallum Disability Services. The Smart Living Ballarat lunchtime workshops delivered at the Ballarat Central Library have been filled to capacity on the third Wednesday of each month.

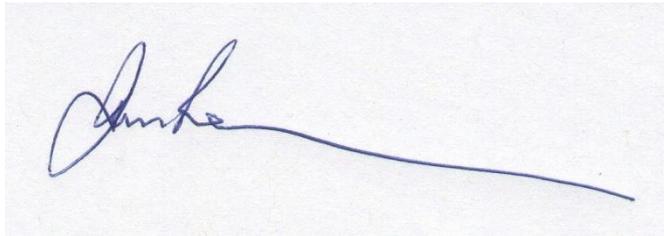
BREAZE's delivery of the Community Power Hub Pilot Program with Victorian Government Funding has resulted in over a dozen community owned, operated or funded renewable energy projects that have been provided with feasibility studies and are now either enacted or seeking funding using business cases provided under the initiative. The current funded pilot program runs until June 2019 at which time we will have a number of completed programs and a number of projects awaiting finance with completed business cases. The legacy left by the BREAZE and Victorian Government Partnership will be local capacity building with a number of people in Ballarat now trained to assess potential for solar electricity, heat pump and biomass heating system viability for various applications.

BREAZE has continued to influence community attitudes and lobby local, state and federal politicians through involvement in a number of campaigns over the past 12 months for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, uptake of renewable energy and waste reduction. I would like to thank

the many members who have participated in letter writing campaigns, public rallies and made submissions to meetings.

I would like to acknowledge the considerable effort that my fellow Board members and BREAZE Public Fund Committee Members have made over the past 12 months to collectively deliver events, projects and programs. I also wish to thank the many volunteers who have assisted with memberships, social media, newsletters and events.

Having fulfilled the role of President or Chair of the BREAZE Board for 4 consecutive terms, it is now important that someone else take on this role as the organisation deserves a fresh approach and the energy and enthusiasm that a new President can bring to the role. I thank my current and past board members for their support and encouragement and look forward to supporting whoever assumes the role for the coming year.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ian Rossiter', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Ian Rossiter  
President 8/11/18