





Connecting People. Strengthening Communities.









Kyogle Together Inc. acknowledges the Gullibul, Githabul, Wahlubal and Banjalang people who are the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters within the Kyogle Local Government Area, and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Kyogle Together is incredibly grateful to all who have contributed to another fruitful year of operation. Below is an extensive list of the supporters of our organisation. Our Volunteers also deserve gracious acknowledgement – without their hard work this organisation would not have such positive outcomes for the community.

DONORS	GRANTS AND FUNDING	Kyogle High School	
Richies – IGA – Community Chest	Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ)	Bonalbo Central School	
Bonds	Australian Drug Foundation The Local Drug Action Team (LDAT)	Gugin Guddaba Local Aboriginal Land Council Kyogle Reconciliation Group	
GIVIT	Kyogle Council	Northern Rivers Community Legal Service (NLCSC)	
Share the Dignity  Lynn is our SHERO	NSW Transport	NSW Department of Education	
Swags for the Homeless	NSW Woman	ACON Northern Rivers	
TURSA Kyogle		Kyogle Food Bank	
The HEMP Factory Mullumbimby	CORPORATE & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	Kyogle Anti – Violence Alliance (KAVA)	
	The Consortium of Neighbourhood Centres (CONC)  Norther Rivers Food Security Program		

Kyogle Writers Festival	
Local Community Services Association (LCSA)	
Kyogle Council	



# Chairperson's Report

Sharyn Marshall maintained an exceptional leadership role as General Manager with KT flourishing despite the considerable challenges of 2021 with the pandemic. This is the result the organisation's values & principles of community development. This attracts passionate & talented workers, who are given the space to develop their strengths. KT's team have demonstrated incredible innovation and adaptability to continually respond to rapidly changing circumstances. KT staff maintained & even grew existing projects whilst stabilising established projects despite the challenges of the pandemic. Difficult & determined work by Sharyn enabled stable and steady service delivery by KT throughout often turbulent & confusing circumstances with seemingly relentless new rules & requirements. Compliance fatigue is real! Despite this, with the support of our dedicated Business Administration Officer, Laurel Grant, government payments relative to the COVID outbreak were secured. This was not without substantial research & an administration burden. This has not only sustained KT but allowed a strong recovery & ability to strengthen our services. The collective effort of the staff and volunteers has seen a number of new funding streams secured for several exciting new projects.

It's been sad to say goodbye to Shelley Jenner and Mikala Kerwin, KT staff who've undertaken new chapters in their lives after contributing years of creative work and positive outcomes. Fortunately, a revitalised team of skilled new workers have been recruited. These talented new staff have strengthened existing partnerships with other services & important groups within our local communities. Of note the youth service, Fair Share Kitchen & gym especially have pivoted impressively to navigate the often changing conditions for supporting clients. KRIC has managed to maintain service at most times it has been able to, despite relying on the generosity of volunteers to continue operations. Additionally, a smooth transfer of the Bazaar to Kyogle Rotary has ensured it has the new found support required to ensure its survival into the coming years.

The Village Youth Program is a significant step forward for those communities west of the range who've had less services, support & access due to the issues of being small & regional. The partnerships, collaborations & strong commitment by our new workers established this program & navigated the respectful channels appropriately to gain access & permission from Jubullum & the other communities.

A huge thank you to the continuing work of our KT board members: Vice Chair Graeme Gibson, former Chair Adel Wynd, Olivia Turner & much gratitude to the work of former secretary Nina Bullock. The diverse knowledge, skills and expertise you all have brought has been invaluable – especially. through these very challenging times.

I am very proud to be a part of this dynamic, diverse & dependable organisation. It is an integral & integrated part of our community, sincere to its grassroots

# **Executive Summary**

This annual report outlines Kyogle Together's vision and purpose along with the underlying values and guiding principles that drive the organisation. The strategic plan is presented along with the people who make it happen. Once again staff and volunteers on all of the programs have been innovative and adaptable in regard to the continuing pandemic and the challenges this has presented. Reports are presented by each of the program coordinators.

The finance report shows an increased operating profit (over 2020) and a continuing strong liquidity ratio, well above the average for registered charities in Australia.

Prudent financial management is a hallmark of Kyogle Together.

Kyogle Youth Action has shown great agility in its ability to work with young people in a variety of ways when the pandemic has caused havoc to normal operations. This includes meeting program goals and extending activities into the villages. A vast array of activities and support have been provided to meet the needs and interests of young people.

The Fair Share Kitchen has continued offering fruit and vegetables along with pantry items to people in need on a weekly basis. This program also provides access to financial support and other necessary resources, as well as a social outlet for people living in difficult circumstances. There has been a marked increase in the numbers of people seeking support.

The monthly Bazaar continued as a valuable social asset for the local and regional community although it became apparent it was financially unsustainable. The cost of operating the bazaar exceeding the income from stallholders. Following five years of operation the management of the Bazaar, along with significant resources and assets, was handed over to Kyogle Rotary Club.

Kyogle Gym continues to offer a wide range of valued programs and support to the community. With low paid staff hours, the role of volunteers is critical and the volunteer team are well regarded and supported. Air conditioning and increased hours of access have been well appreciated.

The Kyogle Resource Innovation Collective has continued repurposing a wide range of household goods, furniture and other items that would have otherwise gone to landfill. These items are available for purchase at very reasonable prices. Good for people, good for the planet. The KRIC shop has developed a regular customer base of those looking for a bargain and is well supported by donations.

Kyogle Together offers a range of programs and services for people throughout the community. It is well recognised and highly regarded for its work, all of which is dependent on its people and their commitment to the values of respect, diversity, understanding and welcoming.

# **Contents**

# Contents

About us	8
Our Vision	8
Our Purpose	8
Our Work	8
Our Values	8
Our guiding principles	8
Strategic Goals and Objectives 2018 – 2024	9
Our people	10
Treasurers Report	13
	18
The Fair Share Kitchen	23
How You Can Help	28
Contact Us	43

# About us

# Our Vision

Connecting People Strengthening Communities

# Our Purpose

Kyogle Together Inc. is a local community development organisation that nurtures community leadership and works towards a healthy, connected and inclusive community.

# Our Work

As a not-for-profit community organisation Kyogle Together Inc. provides key community services and activities via innovative programs, including Kyogle Youth Action, Kyogle Youth Advisory Committee, Kyogle Community Gym, The Fair. Share. Kitchen and the Bazaar. We are committed to listening to and working with the community, promoting openness and respect.

# **Our Values**

Respect
Diversity
Understanding
Welcoming

# Our guiding principles

Community Development Human Rights Social Justice Harm Reduction Person-centred Care



Photo by @hellophotosbyJodie

# Strategic Goals and Objectives 2018 – 2023

# Goal 1 & Objectives

1	Kyogle Together contributes to safe and connected communities in and around Kyogle
1.1	Designing programs and activities in respect of community aspirations
1.2	Contributing to a safer community through programs and public awareness raising
1.3	Turning Outward: Committing to ongoing community engagement and community-led activities
1.4	Promoting Kyogle Together's vision and values to all parts of the community

# **Goal 2 and Objectives**

2	Kyogle Together is a local leader in community development			
2.1	1 Strengthening presence in Kyogle and surrounding communities			
2.2	Building intentional partnerships with other local community organisations, all levels of government and other stakeholders			
2.3	Working collaboratively with local Aboriginal communities and community leaders			
2.4	Building organisational membership and social media network			

# **Goal 3 and Objectives**

3	Kyogle Together is a strong and sustainable community organisation			
3.1	1 Strengthening organisational structure, management and financial viability			
3.2	2 Developing social enterprise and fee for service activities including use of facilities			
3.3	Creating a new and consistent branding and marketing strategy			
3.4	Attracting new partners and community stakeholders to engage with Kyogle Together Inc.			

# Our people

Board members	
Troy Tutaki	Chairperson
Graeme Gibson	Vice Chair
Sharyn Marshall	Public Officer
Vacant	Treasurer
Vacant	Secretary
Nina Bullock	Ordinary Member
Adel Wynd	Ordinary Member

Kyogle Together Inc. Employees	Program	Role	
Sharyn Marshall	Kyogle Together Inc.	Manager	
Laurel Grant	Kyogle Together Inc	Finance Officer	
Cindy Roberts	Kyogle Together Inc.	Cleaner	
Robyn Job	Community Gym	Gym Coordinator	
Glenn Robinson	Community Gym	Fitness and Circuit Class Instructor	
Paul Shields	Kyogle Youth Action	Youth Worker	
Mikala Maloney	Kyogle Youth Action	Youth Worker	
Shelley Jenner	Kyogle Youth Action	Youth Worker	
Kerz Lake	Kyogle Youth Action	The Village Youth Program Coordinator	
Olivia Rado	Kyogle Youth Action	Swoopin' Season Youth Advisory Committee	
Shelley Jenner	Kyogle Youth Action	Youth Worker	
Mikala Kerwin	Kyogle Youth Action	Swoopin' Season Youth Advisory Committee	
Kyrstie Smith	Kyogle Youth Action	The Village Youth Program – Youth Worker	
Branka Adlington	The Fair Share Kitchen	Kitchen Social Project Worker	
Lakshmi Kerr	Kyogle Bazaar	Bazaar Coordinator	

# Our People continued:

# Volunteer teams

# **Kyogle Resource Innovation Collective**

Kathy Watkins
Angus Wallace
Jean Allain Virginie
Charlotte Daly
Brad Fettke
Luke Knoster
Luke Lumley
Odette Nettleton
John Cieslak
Leah Tung
Cooper De Vries
Ralf Nawroki
Tony Barron

# The Fair Share Kitchen

Jhbel

# **Kyogle Community Gym**

Joy Newman
Megan Karam
Sandy Cooke
Scott Job
Adel Wynd
Kate McGain
Gordon King
Mark Cheeseman
Sonia Cyhylyk
Kate Parth
Matt Minton

# The Kyogle Bazaar

Jhbel
Rikki Coulston
Jess Thomas
Sandii Davey

# **Organisation Structure**













Kyogle Together Inc. is an incorporated association and has a volunteer board of governance. We currently have 13 staff who are all part-time. We have approximately 32 volunteers at any given time and that is inclusive of our board.

# Finance Report

Kyogle Together remained in a strong financial position for another year, with \$ 252,887 in Total Equity. This is largely due to the surplus of Job keeper and the cash flow boost, over the last 2 financial years. It also included surplus from the gym and KRIC which remain allocated to those projects. The balance at the bank at 31st June 2021 was \$ 567,224. This also included unexpended grants.

# **Summary Financials Year End June 2021 for Annual Report**

Grants \$ 323,054 Social Enterprise(s) \$ 107,150 Jobkeeper/cash flow boost \$ 120,923

Expenditure

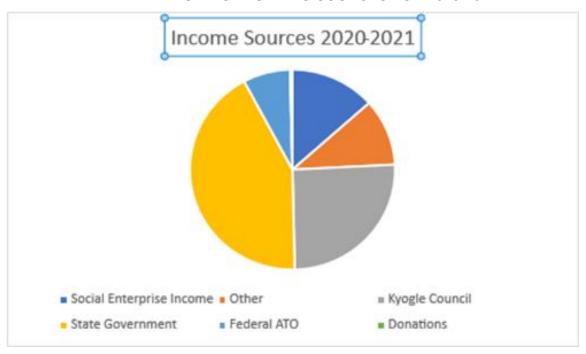
Wages & Superannuation \$ 323,884 Other \$ 194,978

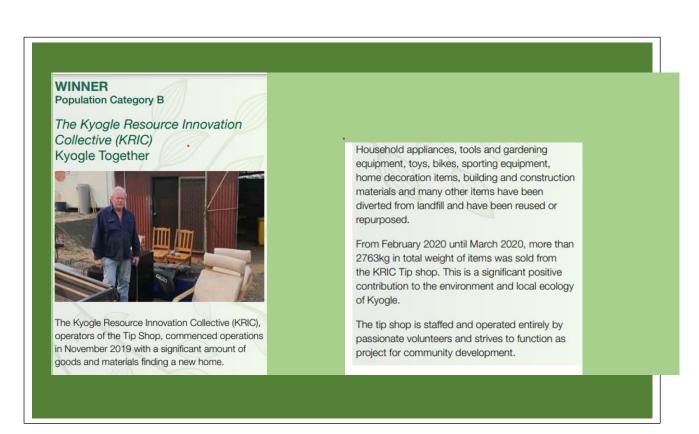
The Operating Profit for 2021 was \$ 32,265 (2020 was \$ 6,594). This is a healthy amount and demonstrates good spending of income whilst still accruing a small amount for the organisation budget.

The Current Liquidity Ratio (calculated by dividing current assets by current liabilities) is 1.45:1 This is a healthy Ratio and unexpended grants are taken into account. The average for registered charities in Australia is 1.3:1 (2016 Australian Charities Report). This means that the organisation is able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The 2021 Financial Statements of Kyogle Together Incorporated have been presented for audit. The Audit report herein states that the financial statements provide a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

### **DIVERSITY OF FUNDING SOURCES FOR 2020-2021**







Title of program: Targeted Earlier Intervention Program

## **Program Overview:**

Kyogle Youth Action (KYA) operates within a Community Development framework that is guided by the principles of targeted early intervention and evidence-based practice. We place young people, their aspirations, needs and wants at the heart of what we do. We deliver a range of programs for 12-18 year olds within the Kyogle LGA which adds to the social and cultural life of our community.

# How the program has been running over the past 12 months:

Over the last 12 months KYA has continued to provide Youth Services to our community throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. KYA has undergone a period of transition in our ways of working with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and lock downs affecting our ability to run many activities and services as we had in the past. This has resulted in the need to adjust and change the way we deliver services in the community which has led to innovation, creativity and new ways of working.

Youth Workers have continued to provide a safe, welcoming and supportive space for young people to access throughout this time with Drop-In numbers remaining steady and many young people returning each week to seek support and friendly faces. The Laneway Community Space has seen internal changes with new furniture such as 2 couches, bean bags and mats being purchased to give the space a more youth friendly look and feel. Within the last month the old downstairs office space has been turned into a Zoom/Music Room with all the music and electronic equipment being set up permanently for use during drop-in. The response of this has been overwhelming with a regular group of young people attending every afternoon since its completion to play music, jam and learn how to use the equipment such as the podcasting and d j decks.

Care and Coordination (C+C) numbers have remained steady with many young people continuing to access this support and a number of new young people entering C+C supports.

Due to the impacts of the pandemic many young people have experienced increased difficulty accessing services such as Headspace which have intermittently ceased face-to-face consultations and outreach supports.

Despite the lock downs KYA has continued to innovate, offering online content for young people, and new ways of engaging and staying connected. Youth Workers have increased online and social media contact with young people to ensure continuity of support during lockdowns. This has included the commencement of using the social media platform SnapChat which has enabled youth workers to do online check-ins with young people during these times.

Youth Workers have aimed to minimise the impact lockdowns have on our young people and on service provision through the use of online communication and clear communication around our current service capacity and opening status.

When we have been able to run face to face programs such as FEMS, the music and school holiday programs and regular drop-in have proven to be effective in engaging with local young people and bringing new young people into the service. FEMS was able to run for one term this year, taking a group of 13 young women through the course. Unfortunately, ongoing government restrictions has impacted our ability to continue running this program at Kyogle High School and restrictions impacting our ability to adapt the program to be run in other ways.

As a small, agile organisation we have been able to respond more quickly and effectively to changes resulting from the pandemic than some other larger organisations located in the region.

There have been a number of staff changes over this period with Youth Worker Shelly Jenner leaving the program to pursue opportunities closer to family. The service welcomed new worker Mikala Maloney in August 2020, who has contributed greatly to the service through her interpersonal skills, hard work and empathy. The team also said good bye to Mikaela Kerwin who was in charge of running KYAC in conjunction with KYA staff. Her role was briefly held by Olivia Rado but is now currently vacant.

The Village Outreach Program also began this year, with this new program expanding the reach of KYA into the villages and opening up new chances to collaborate. Youth Workers are continuing to work with Kerz, the Village Youth Coordinator, to improve the programs ability to understand the needs of young people living in the Villages and provide appropriate support.

# What's been working well:

KYA has managed to achieve all of its TEIP reporting goals in line with our new funding agreement during a time of disruption.

Drop in continues to be a success in the community, offering soft entry points and a trust building space to work with young people.

The music program, incorporating both open jam sessions during Drop In as well as busking at the Kyogle Bazaar has been a massive success, with young people developing new skills and new friendships as well as gaining confidence and an income source from performing in public.

FEMS was able to run for one session at the Kyogle High School and it was well received, with the work that Mikala and Shelly put into updating content and resources.

Mikala also ran a food handling course which was well received and resulted in ongoing employment for many of its participants.

The LCS has also transitioned, with the movement of administration and management to the Stratheden offices, to a more open community space with the purchase of new materials and resources.

Paul and Mikala have also been able to secure higher than normal levels of grant funding for the purchase of new resources and equipment for the LCS.

This includes a mural, painted in collaboration with Gugin Gudduba Local Aboriginal Land Council, young people and local artist Bec Tapscott depicting local wildlife and language.

The Park Party community consultation in April was a big success, drawing in young people and their community for a celebration in front of the LCS. The outcomes of this activity require further development and presents a real chance for changing the space in front of the LCS moving forward. We were also able to support the Village Outreach launch party at the pool, organising entertainment and the BBQ for this well received celebration.

# What may need more work/reconsideration/resources:

We currently have a full time need in the community that is serviced by part time hours. Balancing this is an ongoing process for youth workers.

More careful consideration needs to be taken in regards to the resources required to acquit and report on grant funding with a number of quick turnaround grants being approved this year that impacted youth workers ability to undertake other important daily tasks.

Our community-based groups CDAT and KYAC have also been largely dormant during this period with lock downs and a much-anticipated transition to incorporating these two programs moving forward once recruitment has taken place.

# How has the program been running over the last 12 months in comparison to previous months/years:

Comparison between 2020-2021, because of the unique position we find ourselves in, and other years is difficult.

However, internally Kyogle Youth Action is going well with collaborative ways of working, a flexible work environment and a commitment to core organisational values strengthening the organisation.

Kyogle Youth Action is working more collaboratively with young people than previous years, adopting a flexible approach to quickly respond to the needs of young people.

#### How the program is funded:

TEIP ongoing funding, grants, CDAT funding, Youth Week funding.

#### How the program is staffed:

2 x Youth Project Workers on a permanent part-time basis (18 hours a week)

# **Outcomes of your program:**

Drop in, Care and Coordination, CDAT, FEMS, Reconciliation Week, Music Program, Gym Program, Brolga Young Persons Art Prize, Brolga Young Persons Writing Prize, Park Party, Pool Party and more!



# **Kyogle Youth Action- Village Youth Program**

The Village Youth Program saw its first year in existence in 2021! Covering an area of 3,584 square kilometres, the Village Youth Program is a multi-faceted youth program that provides educational and recreational activities, training, mentoring, leadership and employment opportunities, and support, to young people aged 12 – 24 years in: Tabulam, Jubullum, Bonalbo, Muli Muli, Woodenbong and Kyogle. This evidence-based, primary prevention program aims to increase social, emotional and cultural connections to build both individual and community resilience. At the heart of the program are the voices of young people (Swoopin' Season youth advisory committee). This ensures the program remains relevant and continues to be community owned. Where appropriate, staff and volunteers are in communication with, and will be directed by local Elders, ensuring programs are culturally safe, culturally appropriate and meet community needs.

The program overall is staffed by 6 employees (with contractors engaged for short term projects) funded by 7 different funding streams and has 4 project partners: Kyogle Council, Connect Northern Rivers, Fast Skills Training and Acoora.

The program over the last 12 months has certainly made its footprint, as young people and community members get to know who we are, what we do and direct us on how best to support their needs.

#### Jubullum

This program began from the Tabulam and Surrounds Interagency Group at Elders request. The Dept. of Education put forward \$15 000 seed funding to start the Jubullum Youth Program which runs 2 days per week after school. Originally launching in August, the program suffered 3 shutdowns due to COVID 19 but has been very well attended when possible, with 114 young people accessing throughout September alone. The program is still developing but currently runs sessions such as: cooking, sports, art and music. Throughout December, a partnership with Aboriginal Water and Sewage will commence, with Elders leading a cultural water wise

program, supporting young people to develop art works which will then be professionally displayed around the new water treatment plant.

#### **Tabulam**

A Village Program stall was set up at the Bridge Festival and markets in Tabulam with information on all programs, an art competition, Fair Share Kitchen items and circus workshops.

The Tabulam and Surrounds Interagency meetings have been held in Tabulam since November 2020, which has resulted in this program taking the lead in coordinating all other agencies in the Leisure and Recreation group. The Tabulam Community Hub has also arisen from this which the Village Program has supported and now utilises for place based staff in the area.

Throughout lockdowns in July and August, the Village Youth Program sent out COVID packs to young people in the region to relive boredom and keep connected. The packs contained emergency and mental health resources, pens and paper, plant seeds for the garden, and materials and instructions for making juggling balls. This was followed by 2 x videos uploaded on the KYA Facebook page to demonstrate how to make them and a lesson on how to juggle 3 balls. Guitar lesson are planned to come out soon.

#### **Bonalbo**

A Village Program market stall was established in June sharing information with young people and their families in Bonalbo.

Bonalbo Central School is hosting the RSA RGA certificates and Youth Mental Health First Aid training through November and December. These trainings are with 2 project partners: Fast Skills Training and Connect Northern Rivers. The Youth Mental Health First Aid training is also visiting the villages of Tabulam, Bonalbo, Woodenbong and Kyogle, with 1 x student workshop and 3 x adult/ service provider workshops which are free and catered for. These sessions will continue through 2022.

#### Muli Muli

The Village Youth Program were invited by community and Elders to host activities for young people at the Tooloom Falls open day in NAIDOC week. Unfortunately, this was cancelled due to COVID 19, but will occur when it is safe to do so.

# Woodenbong

In May, we partnered with Connect Northern Rivers to run a 2 day Food Handling Certificate through Woodenbong School for 20 year 9, 10 and 11 students. The event was catered for by a local café where 3 young people who attended the course were already working, further adding to their CV. We also ran a brainstorming session on events they could run in the future,

connecting them into the upcoming Events Mentoring Program. Twenty surveys were also completed.

# **Kyogle**

The Village Youth Program celebrated its official launch on 30<sup>th</sup> January at the Kyogle Public Pool. This was a great success with 104 people attending (40 adults and 64 young people), 3 local bands playing, a BBQ (with young people engaging their newly acquired food handling skills from previous school holiday program training through KYA), a giant blow up gladiator game on was on site for young people to test their skills and a chill out zone art space where young people could relax and enter their art work into the local Brolga Art Prize if they wished. A marquee was also set up for Swoopin' Season business: general information, merch, surveys and the possibility to sign up to the committee. Thirteen new young people signed up to the committee. There were also great prizes for lucky door, surveys and best dressed. Throughout the afternoon, River FM recorded general happenings and conducted interviews with attendees.

The program has also collaborated with the KYA TEIP team on Party in the Park (a co-design festival day) and various special events and school holiday programs, e.g. Ballina skate park, B-Space tour and Roller-skating in Lismore.



# VILLAGE YOUTH PROGRAM

# **Jubullum and Bonalbo**

12 - 18 years old

Monday 22nd Nov

Guitar Lessons, Art and Basketball

**Tuesday 23rd Nov** 

Pancake Art and Football

Monday 29th Nov

Circus activities, Art and Giant Jenga

4 - 6pm

Jubullum Stadium

4 - 6pm

Jubullum Stadium

4 - 6pm

**Bonalbo Hall** 









# Food Handling Certificate Course

For ages 12-18
Wednesday 07/10 - 10am - 4pm
Lunch provided
Free
Meet at Kyogle Youth Action 161 Summerland Way, Kyogle

Food Handler Certificate Course- SITXFSA001 Use Hygiene Practices for Food Safety Online Training Course

This course provides the nationally recognised certificate for SITXFSA001 Use Hygienic Practices for Food Safety and allows you to work in the retail, hospitality and transport and distributions sectors. You will receive a Statement of Attainment.

For more information and to register contact
Mikala - youth.worker@kyogletogether.org.au or
0406725166



#### The Fair Share Kitchen

## Broad aims for the program:

Increase food	Increase	Share &	Connecting &	Promote fun &
accessibility &	access to	enhance well-	celebrating	easy cooking
reduce food	financial	being,	community	_
waste	support &	knowledge &	-	
	resources	skills	•	



The Fair Share Kitchen Program is a community-based service for local residents experiencing social and/or financial distress. This can be due to many and varied factors, including local disasters. We focus on providing food through food recovery activities, and support through material aid and service/support linkages. It originated from Commonwealth Government funding (Department of Social Services) and

State Government funding (NSW Environmental Protection Authority) for the Northern Rivers Food Recovery program. Impressively, the regional program averages between 850-1200 kilograms of food recovery per week, with 30 confirmed collections.

As one outlet in the Northern Rivers region, Kyogle Together currently supports people every Thursday between 10am and 2pm, with pantry goods among many things, as well as support, information and referrals through our Care and Coordination model of support.

# **Objectives:**

The Fair Share Kitchens aims to:

- raise awareness of the services we are able to provide, to members in our LGA when circumstantial crisis occurs
- engage and create partnerships with other community organisations or groups,
   with the common goal of providing referrals, support and material aid. We are

- continually building and creating partnerships and referral networks that are beneficial to the people we are delivering our services for.
- look at the possibility of doing our Kitchen Social Day, to create a social day for members in our LGA to socialise, get information, share a meal, connect with others in the village, grab some material aid and have a chat to our community assistance worker.

We would like to continue the growth of our program and continue expanding the reach of our services. To continue engaging with smaller regional villages to create support for members of the community who might not have access to transport or the ability to travel to larger town centres, when seeking emergency support or material aid.

We have been able to create an outreach community assistance support program, through working with our outreach youth crew, who are on the ground working in the smaller villages.

We would like to see the support and access of these villages grow through collaboration with the resilience committees to access the relevant support needs of the individual villages (each village is different and may not need the same assistance as another). Through donations that the Fair Share Kitchen receives from our amazing donors, we are able to share the material aid we are gifted, which is then shared and distributed to where there is a need.

#### How the program has been running over the past 12 months:

The Fair Share Kitchen has been fortunate to receive some extra funding due to the various disasters to hit our Local LGA, i.e. COVID 19, fires and floods.

We used the increased funds to provide a Kitchen Social Day held Fridays for 6 weeks and started our food recovery program for the Fridays to give out fruit/veg and any other food that was collected through Food Recovery (Coles was our weekly pick up partner for fruit/veg/bread and any other food stuffs that would end up in land fill). The social day was well attended and received by our locals. We provided morning tea, lunch and, access to a community assistance person plus material aid that had been gifted to the Fair Share Kitchen.

Through the social day and getting an idea of what material aid was being accessed and hearing from our visitors to the centre, what is happening for individuals and families in our community due to the various hardships being faced by family's/individuals due to covid 19 in our LGA. The financial crisis has hit many family's not just people on unemployment. We're seeing a greater number of individuals seeking material, financial and advocacy

support in regards to financial hardship and the uncertainty of employment as the economy struggles in our regional villages.

With the extra funding, we have set up the Take What You Need Shelves (located in the Community laneway bathroom). This is available for anyone who is struggling financially or needs access to feminine hygiene products or toiletries, nappies, lady's/men's personal items. (This project was promoted through social media and the community Kyogle friendly page, to let people know it's there and available if you need a little support) The Fair Share Kitchen programme is continually growing and evolving.

# What we are now able to offer in the way of support/assistance:

- referrals
- help with paying bills (electricity/gas)
- advocacy and debt negotiation with creditors
- financial counselling/budgeting
- support with forms
- emergency meals (frozen meals kept in freezer to give out)
- · emergency chemist funds
- women's/girls' sanitary products
- crisis bags for Homelessness/ Domestic/family violence
- Dignity Bags
- food hampers
- food vouchers for our local supermarket
- emergency petrol cards
- Telstra phone credit \$40 through Wesnet Safe phones (for women only)
- referral pathway with the Kyogle Food Bank
- emergency meal vouchers @ \$25 each available @ The farmer's plate
- escape bags containing relevant information for crisis services, toiletries, phone credit /petrol/food vouchers. 2 available for emergency's @ Kyogle Caltex.
- the Take What You Need Shelves
- Swags for the Homeless
- Bush kitchens and Bush laundry for our Homeless/rough sleeper mob
- The Women's Business Baskets Collective (providing baskets/boxes containing pads/tampons/period undies to smaller communities surrounding Kyogle. Making sure all women/girls can access period products when needed.

# What's been working well:

Our donations and resources, partnerships and creating connections in the community's. Promoting our services to organisations who provide donations and funding, which then means we have more to offer clients/families we are assisting. Providing pictures and snap shots of the material aid gifted from our donors, so that they can show how their donations help out in the community.

Example – We received a donation from The GIVIT Foundation and Bonds clothing company of 5000 pieces of clothing, underwear, socks to give out to our clients experiencing crisis, homelessness, family violence or financial hardship.

We were able to add these material items to our escape bags, take what you need shelves and food hampers as a little surprise.

In the last 12 months The fair share kitchen/ kitchen social day / Take what you need shelves have given out approximately 6000 pieces of material aid/food









# Kyogle Bazaar Annual Report 2020-2021

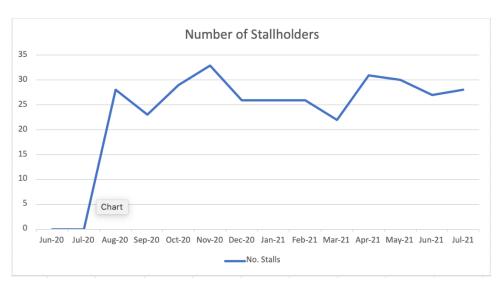
During 2020/21 the Kyogle Bazaar continued to be guided under the leadership of Kyogle Together Inc. The first two markets of the 2020-2021 financial year were hosted online because of COVID-19 and bad weather. The market returned to the Kyogle Amphitheatre from August 2020. The Bazaar provided a warm and inviting space for an average of 27 stallholders to sell their products and promote their causes. The Kyogle Bazaar provided a platform to showcase Kyogle and the surrounding areas diverse culture with stalls ranging from handmade arts and crafts, plant growers, food makers, face painters, hair braiders, secondhand, vintage and entertainers. In addition to makers and sellers the Bazaar was used by a variety of local groups for fundraising through the community barbecue including Landcare, Kyogle Environment Group and the Labyrinth. It also provided a place for organisations and political groups to connect with the community and promote their causes.

# Kyogle Bazaar atmosphere - photos by Jess Thomas



# Stallholder Numbers

A review of the Kyogle Bazaar stallholder numbers from June 2020 – July 2021 (see below) shows that there was an average of 27 stallholders per month. There were spikes in key months e.g. October and November 2020 and April and May 2021 when stallholder numbers were 30 and above. Note there are no figures for June and July 2020 when the Bazaar was online because of COVID-19 and due to weather cancellation. COVID-19 impacted growth and customer confidence throughout the year. Figure 1 – No. Of Stallholders per month



# Income

For the period of July 2020 – July 2021 the Kyogle Together received Bushfire Recovery funding of \$25,000 to pay a new Bazaar Coordinator 5.5hours a week and one Saturday per month. There was also budget allocated for a new trailer which was purchased and for entertainment and advertising. This funding enabled the Bazaar to continue to operate and the goal was to become self-sufficient.

The Kyogle Bazaar fee structure remained the same for all of 2020 – 2021. With the exception of the introduction of a \$10 fee for non-makers (see Figure 2 below). The aim of this fee was to deter on-sellers and encourage a culture of handmade.

Figure 2 - Kyogle Bazaar Fees

Bazaar Stall Fee	es (circle whichever option	is applicable to you)
Stall	Stall fee <u>with</u> own insurance	Stall fee <u>without</u> own insurance
Half stall (1.5m space)	\$10	\$20
Single stall (3m space)	\$18	\$28
Double stall (6m space)	\$36	\$46
A powered site will incu	ır an additional cost of \$5	(places are limited)
Stallholders selling non-ha	andmade items will incur an	additional cost of \$10
Two sites per month alloc contact to book.	ated for NFP community gro	up information stall. Please
This is a fee free site with ered by Kyogle Together I		out own insurance to be cov-

Over this period average stallholder income was approximately \$500 per month from stallholder fees, an average of \$18 per stallholder.

Figure 3 - Stallholder Income

\$700 \$600 \$500

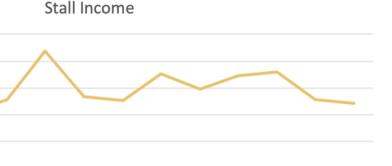
\$400

\$300

\$200

\$100

\$0



Jun-20 Jul-20 Aug-20 Sep-20 Oct-20 Nov-20 Dec-20 Jan-21 Feb-21 Mar-21 Apr-21 May-21 Jun-21 Jul-21

Despite advertising, extra promotion and a paid coordinator the Bazaar was unable to grow to a position of self-sufficiency during 2020/21 and the costs to operate the market outweighed the income. Note COVID-19 also played a part in stallholder and customer confidence and market growth. A monthly income of \$630 minimum would be needed to cover the basic operating costs of the Bazaar with a \$200 volunteer allowances plus minimal expenses for entertainment and insurance. This would be approximately 35 stalls. To operate the Bazaar with a part-time paid coordinator model and to provide Kyogle Together Inc. with management fee to govern the community market would require \$30,000. Based on this modeling and other reasons provided below, Kyogle Together made the difficult decision to relinquish management of the Bazaar at the end of July 2021.

# Highlights

#### **Barbecue**

The Kyogle Bazaar allowed a community group to run the barbecue each month as a fundraising activity. A success story is the growing revenue of the community Barbeque. The last community group made over \$600. Volunteer superstar, Rikki Coulston, worked very hard to lift the quality of the BBQ providing groups with detailed instructions on how to run a successful fundraising event as well as supplying the market with good food. Unfortunately, it was still reliant on the same few organisations to host the BBQ and it was difficult to recruit new host groups.



#### **Entertainment**

The quality of the entertainment over the 20/21 period improved immensely thanks to our dedicated volunteer coordinator, Jhabel, and an allocated budget as part of the Bush Fire funding provided by Kyogle Council. High quality music was essential for creating a vibrant atmosphere at the Bazaar. During 2020/21 we increased the spend on entertainment to book quality entertainers. We paid a minimum of \$100 per individual and \$240 for a duo.

The Bazaar also supported local and emerging musicians. The Kyogle Youth buskers played at most of the Bazaars throughout 2020/21 and had the opportunity to gain confidence and earn some money.

#### Music Duo, Tapestry Road, who were a favorite at the Bazaar



Local Entertainment the Barkers Vale Brothers - Photo by Jess Thomas



#### **Increased Foot & Social Media Traffic**

Another success for the Bazaar team was the steady increase in foot traffic. There is no one reason for this growth but most likely a combination of factors including but not limited to having 27 dedicated stallholders, creating a vibrant atmosphere, recruiting a good coffee provider, improving the quality of the barbecue and running a COVID safe market. Local designer Kate McGain also helped improve our image by refining our web presence and online form and designing eye-catching posters for the Bazaar every month. These hand illustrated works of art were placed in Kyogle, Cawongla and Lismore one to two weeks out from the Bazaar date.

Playful Design work created by Graphic Designer Kate McGain



Our Facebook (1800) and Instagram (444) presence also grew over the 20/21 period. This was in no small part due to volunteer Jess Thomas, who captured beautiful photos to use to promote the Bazaar and was very social media savvy. From February to July 2021, we also paid for Facebook boosts of our events. This resulted in an increase in engagement with our monthly event promotion.









# **Final Market**

It was with deep sadness that in June 2021 we announced that Kyogle Together Inc. would be relinquishing its management of the Bazaar. In a nutshell. The cost of running the Bazaar was greater than the income received and this was unsustainable.

The Bazaar is also very dependent on volunteer participation and despite our every effort to grow our volunteer team, we were unable to recruit any new volunteers in 20/21. With the exception of the 20/21 funding the Bazaar has mostly been run as a volunteer program. Kyogle Together has repeatedly seen the cycles of burn out trying to maintain a regular monthly market and it would have been irresponsible of the organisation to continue to run in this format.

#### Consultation

Before making the decision to relinquish the Bazaar we carried out consultation with the Bazaar volunteers and stallholders to explore options and present the financial position of the Bazaar. We drew up a "Current Situation" document which was made available to Council and any other groups who may want to take the Bazaar over.

We spent many hours researching funding opportunities. Sandii Davies needs to be mentioned here for her perseverance going through all of the grant options. So many did not offer cover for reoccurring events or provide funding for resources. We did fit the criteria for the FRRR grant and put together an application (see below) which was submitted. Unfortunately, we have since withdrawn the application as it was too risky to continue holding up the Bazaar with the hope that a grant would provide the funding.

Many beautiful community gestures were made to help save the Bazaar - Community members like Bob and Margie and Meg had a stall to fundraise by selling books and running a harvest table. Rikki led a crew to host the Barbeque for the Bazaar. Unfortunately, these donations would not make the Bazaar self-sufficient long term.

# Last Bazaar & Handover

The final Bazaar under Kyogle Together Inc. was held on the 24th July where we officially handed over to a new management committee which is auspiced by the Rotary Club of Kyogle and will be rebranded Rotary Kyogle Bazaar. We wish them well and were pleased to hand over a considerable suite of procedures along with substantial cash and other material resources.

# **Kyogle Community Gym** 2020-2021 FY Highlights



# **Professionalism**

#### Fitness Australia and Qualifications

The gym continues to be a Fitness Australia Registered business giving us access to resources from Fitness Australia and advice when required. This year we updated our policy regarding Young People in the gym in line with Fitness Australia's new guidelines.

We continue to offer a free first program for members so that those new to the gym/exercise can exercise safely.

We currently have 4 volunteers who are qualified with a Cert III or Cert IV in fitness.

We encourage as many volunteers as possible to obtain keep their first aid certificates up to date. A free course the Pulse Start training was offered this year.



# Volunteer Workshop

We have had a great team of volunteers in 2020-2021. A workshop gathering all volunteers was held in February 2021. This was a valuable investment of time for improving team cohesion, setting ground rules, updating procedures and addressing concerns.

Communication has been improved with a Facebook messenger chat group being created for notifications and discussions.

The handover will include the procedures Kyogle Together has developed over the years, along with physical assets (including a trailer and marquees) and a small cash reserve from Bazaar funds.

We are proud of the efforts given to Bazaar by Kyogle Together Inc and all the volunteers over the last five years. We wish the new group success and hope the beautiful community market continues into the future.

# **Major Highlights**

# **Grants Received**

We received a grant from Kyogle Council for \$5000 and were able to

- Install a new computer at the gym.
- Purchase singlets and water bottles with the gym logo on, for purchase by members and for marketing purposes.
- Set up the gym for sensor lights allowing the lights and fans to go off after 15 minutes when no-one is in the gym. This will reduce electricity costs in the future.
- Purchase a tablet for use with the sound system alleviating ongoing difficulties.

We also received a \$1000 grant from the Commonwealth Bank and were able to purchase some small items of equipment requested by members to enhance their training sessions.





# Member TV

Many of our members use exercise apps on their phones for workout ideas. Several of our members organised a fund raiser for a new TV in the open/stretch area of the gym. This allows them to cast the workout on their phone to the TV to see it on a big screen. It also aids small groups to participate in the same workout together.



# Webpage

The gym's webpage within the Kyogle Together website has been fine-tuned and is now a place we can direct all enquiries to. Enquirers can find our fees, classes, safety videos, online application form and more from this link.





We are attempting, where practical, to be as paperless as possible. A video has been produced on "How to sign up for the gym from your lounge room", guiding new members on how to use the online form, which is also accessible from our webpage.



# NDIS Clients in the Gym

It has been great to see support workers brining their clients into the gym and to see the benefits in their mental and physical wellbeing.

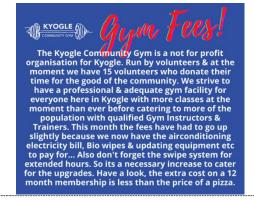
Due to the increase in support workers it became necessary to create some guidelines and a policy which was well received by the workers.



# **Challenges and Changes in 2020-2021**

#### Fee Increase

In May 2021 we increased our fees slightly on all our membership options. It has been some time (over 5 years) since there was a free increase. We believe that by offering air conditioning and an auto entry system, we could justify the increase. There are extra expenses associated with electricity (air con, longer opening hours) and keeping the dispensers full with antibacterial wipes.





# Changes to Staffed Hours With the introduction of th

With the introduction of the auto entry system, we were able to reduce our staffed hours. Volunteer shifts are now more succinct, allowing enough time to clean and process any memberships and renewals that may arise. We envisage this will help to recruit and retain volunteers.

### **COVID** Impact

The gym was affected by COVID-19 in 2020- 2021. We were able to return to the extended hours on Friday 23 October 2020. Members were required to wear facemasks whilst working out (except for "strenuous exercise") and abide by other COVID-19 restrictions. A small number of members decided to suspend their memberships until the requirement for masks was lifted and/or the risk of catching COVID was minimised.



#### Classes

Our class numbers suffered this year due to COVID related closures and wearing of masks. We recommenced the classes as soon as we were able to keep continuity but only a motivated core group of people at each class has remained. We expect these numbers to return to normal in 2022.



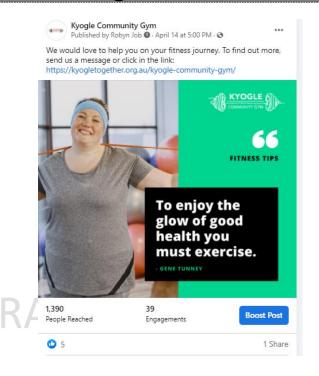
Class schedule in April 2021

# **Facebook and Marketing**

The aim of our marketing is to keep the community informed about our programs, nudge non-exercisers toward a more active lifestyle and maintain awareness of the gym in town.

Regular Facebook posts are aimed to be informative and inspirational, covering exercise, nutrition and general wellbeing.

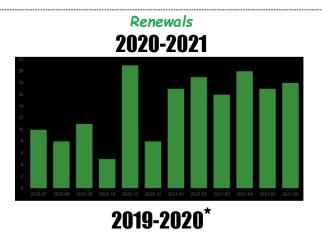
Posters are displayed in the main street to keep members of the community updated (that do not use Facebook) on what the gym has to offer.

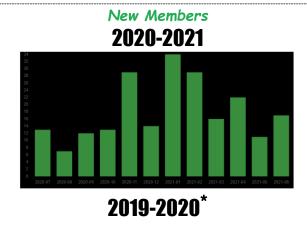


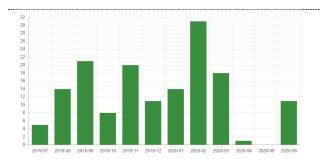


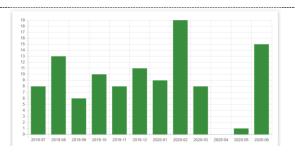
# Bring a Friend in June

We launched our first 'Bring a friend in June' campaign in 2021. This was quite popular with some new members being introduced into the gym. We will definitely continue this promotion next year and expect to see even better results now that the mask requirement has been lifted.

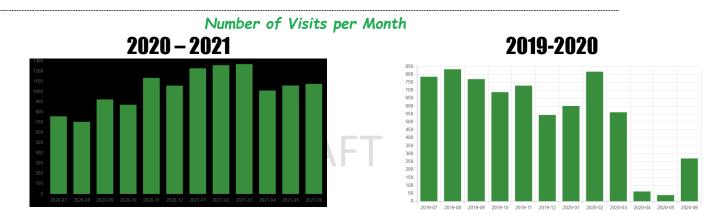








 $<sup>\</sup>star$ The low numbers of renewals and new memberships in April and May 2020 are due to the COVID-19 shutdown.



# Facebook

The total page likes:

• As at 1/7/21: **929** 

• As at 1/7/20: 855





The Kyogle Resource Innovation Collective (KRIC) brings together a diverse group of individuals as a team of volunteers with Kyogle Together Inc. (KT Inc) to revitalise, energise and collaborate for the Kyogle tip shop into a community hub for social enterprise, resource recovery and sustainability education.

KRIC formed a working group to oversee the strategic development of the project and develop the day to day operations of the tip shop. The aim is to start with a volunteer run operation, distributing recovered materials to the local community that would otherwise be sent to landfill. Goods and materials considered suitable for sale include:

- a. building, construction and renovating materials
- b. tools and gardening equipment
- c. toys and sporting equipment
- d. home decoration items
- e. second-hand furniture
- f. car and bike parts and accessories
- g. renovated or restored items listed above
- h. goods manufactured from collected or donated materials (e.g. furniture or upcycled arts and crafts).

We have a couple of volunteers working toward the completion of the accredited tag and testing training so we can commence the sale of the many electrical goods the community have donated.

Whilst the project will continue to be supported by community volunteers, as the project builds momentum and the required cash flow, we aim to employ a part-time program coordinator. Our vision is to be in a position at some point to employ a resource recovery projects worker and educator through the sale of recovered materials, repaired and revived items, value-added arts and crafts and the provision of educational and arts workshops. This year Charlotte Daly stepped up as our Volunteer

Coordinator for the shop and has created a cohesive team and new partnerships such as with The Shed of Hope situated in Tabulum. Charlotte also led the team in the creation of a window display in the old IGA window in the main street of Kyogle and we had many a positive comment due to the creativity and imagination used to create art from disused items and waste.

As with most community organisations, the volunteers are the core for success. They continue to contribute an average of 33 hours a week of their time. Appreciation goes to some of the main stayers, Angus the site coordinator who has much knowledge and expertise, while Jean Alain who has continued to oversee the OH&S training and Charlotte our volunteer Coordinator. The whole enterprise does not succeed without the vision, work and motivation offered by all volunteers contributing to the project.

It has been said that "one person's waste is another's treasure" and that is proving true. A wide range of items and material passes through KRIC and usually turns over rapidly.

The longer-term vision is for comprehensive community engagement in the waste stream, providing access to reclaimed materials supporting a range of private and public art. The sponsorship of artistic or creative endeavours forms part of the vision. We may need to seek appropriate grant and funding opportunities on-going to sustain this project which we consider to be primarily a community, art and environmental initiative.

The Tip Shop has continued operating successfully in the first full year of trading, despite the uncertainty that Covid-19 has brought including the shut downs. An enthusiastic core group of volunteers continued to give their time, energy and expertise in operating the shop, making sales and foraging in the waste skips, diverting "waste" from landfill, for stock as well as receiving donations at the door. The Kyogle community has embraced the concept of the circular economy and there are many regular return customers, diverting "waste" from landfill, for stock as well as receiving donations at the door.

#### **Waste Diverted from Landfill**

July-Sept 2020	1680	(July & August closed)
Oct-Dec - 2020	9043	
Jan-Mar - 2021	6697	
April-June 2021	5508	
Total for the year	22928	

# Our new sign....



# **Diverted from Landfill**

July-Sept 2020 - 1680

Oct-Dec 2020 - 9043

Jan-Mar 2021 - 6697

April-June 2021 - 5508

DIVALI

# How You Can Help

- Become an association member Become a friend/supporter of Kyogle Together Inc.,
- Volunteer your time with us at the Tip Shop, activities for young people, at the gym or with our Fair Share Kitchen Program,
- Make a donation,
- · Support an event or fundraising activity,
- · Participate in our community surveys,
- If you've heard something you like let people know,
- If you've heard something you don't like, let us know,
- · Come along to our community conversation events,
- Come and check out our spaces.

# Contact Us

Stratheden House 4/138 Summerland way Ph: 02 5627 5006

# Manager

gm@kyogletogether.org.au

# **Laneway Community Space**

161 Summerland Way Memorial Park (next to the pool) (02) 66 322 972

https://www.facebook.com/kyogletogether/ https://kyogletogether.org.au/ https://www.instagram.com/kyogle\_together\_inc/

#### Accounts

accounts@kyogletogether.org.au

# **Kyogle Community Gym**

Kyogle Showgrounds (02) 66 322 551 gymcoord@kyogletogether.org.au https://www.facebook.com/KyogleCommunityGym/

# **Kyogle Youth Action**

kya@kyogletogether.org.au <u>youthworker@kyogletogether.org.au</u> https://www.facebook.com/kyogleyouthaction

# The Village Youth Program

outreach@kyogletogether.org.au

# **Kyogle Youth Advisory Committee**

kyac@kyogletogether.org.au

# The Fair.Share.Kitchen

er@kyogletogether.org.au



With thanks to all who have played a part in our story...