

# Tarrangower Cactus Control Group Inc.

AGM - 28<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2021

## President's Report (Lee Mead)

2021 has been another unpredictable year due to the Covid pandemic, however our many devoted volunteers have again overcome the challenges. We sincerely thank all our volunteers who have kept our war on wheel cactus happening regardless of the continually changing conditions.

**Enormous thanks** to our dedicated committee members. Even though Covid-19 restrictions unexpectedly continued throughout the year, we still managed to hold some community field days and meetings and achieve a great deal.

Our activities during 2021, based on the five objectives of our Strategic Plan were as follows -

### 1. Community Awareness and Support: (to increase awareness & assistance to local community)

Community Field Days – 3 field days held, on private property & in Maldon Historic Reserve

Injecting / Digging equipment – injecting & digging equipment was maintained and supplied to volunteers & local property owners as requested.

Community Events – entry in the Maldon Easter Parade, information stall at Maldon Market.

Community Engagement - advice & assistance provided to regional property owners outside MASC

### 2. Education and Information: (to increase community capacity, skills & knowledge)

Website – maintained posts and responded to email enquiries during all 'lockdown' periods.

Media Releases – Local newspaper & Volunteer Week articles. State-wide ABC TV and radio interviews. Local WIN TV interview. State-wide NewsCorp print media articles.

Information – new version of information brochure created, and will be distributed locally.

### 3. Group Promotion and Sustainability: (to maintain a viable, legal and productive group)

Windcheaters – new long-sleeved windcheaters printed with Cactus Warrior logo

Code of Conduct – have adopted the new Landcare Vic. code of conduct

Grants – ongoing program funding from Mt. Alex. Shire Council

### 4. Research and Development: (to improve knowledge & methods)

Cochineal Nursery – Ongoing Cochineal insect propagation in our nursery and distribution to several new local locations.

### 5. Partnerships: (to share & network with other environment groups and organisations)

MASC – Budget submission requesting increased funding for the environment resulted in an additional 0.5 staff position; submitted roadside weed control report and request

Landmate – crew treated some Prickly Pear infestations in Maldon Historic Reserve.

Connecting Country – participated at the two Landcare Linkup networking meetings.

Biosecurity / Agriculture Dept. – correspondence to Ag Minister resulting in communications and correspondence with Biosecurity Officer to negotiate assistance with non-compliant landowners.

**Many thanks:** All our valued partners and supporters

- **Mt. Alexander Shire** - funding for community field days, equipment and herbicide.
- **Parks Victoria** – help with community field days.
- **Connecting Country** - networking opportunities, support & Landcare Link-ups
- **North Central CMA** – providing funding for ongoing maintenance.
- **Tarrangower Times** – for so willingly publishing our media releases.