

Annual Report | 2023-2024

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Acknowledgement of Country

Tamar NRM acknowledges the people of the nations who called the surrounds of kanamaluka home for many generations and pay our respects to their elders past and present.

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Welcome

Welcome to the Tamar NRM Annual Report covering the period from July 2023 to June 2024. This report provides a comprehensive overview of Tamar NRM's operations and activities over the past financial year. It features profiles of our dedicated staff and the Management Committee, detailed descriptions of our projects, and an audited Financial Statement.

We are pleased to announce that each of our funding councils - City of Launceston, West Tamar and George Town - have agreed to continue their operational funding of Tamar NRM for an additional three years. This renewed support comes with an increase in contributions, marking the first adjustment in six years. Tamar NRM extends its deepest gratitude to these councils for their ongoing support and trust in the vital work we do.

The past year has been marked by a blend of our regular activities and special events. A highlight was the Sustainable Living Festival held in March, which was a resounding success and a testament to the hard work and dedication of all those involved in its organisation and execution.

We hope you find this Annual Report both informative and engaging as it reflects another productive and impactful year for Tamar NRM.

About Tamar NRM

Tamar NRM believes in making a positive difference to the environment and community of the Tamar Region. We deliver community-based activities and projects, such as grassroots workshops and field days, focusing on sustainable agriculture, sustainable living, and the natural environment.

Starting in 1998 and based in the Tamar region of northern Tasmania, our community encompasses rural and urban representatives from varied backgrounds in land care, education, business and Local and State Government. We developed the Tamar Region Natural Resource Management Strategy in 1999, updating the document in 2001, 2007, 2012, and 2018 and again in November 2021.

With the support and encouragement of the City of Launceston, West Tamar, and George Town municipalities, we have a strong alignment with council priorities and goals. Tamar NRM has played a significant role in promoting and managing a wide range of activities aimed at ensuring the Tamar Region is an attractive and prosperous place to live and work, based on a healthy environment.

Since 2000, we have attracted over \$7.3M in additional funding to the Tamar Valley region through various projects, grants, sponsorships and partnerships.

Our focus areas are:

- Biodiversity
- Environmental Education
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Sustainable Living
- Weeds

Our niche in the natural resource management sector is:

- ⇒ On-ground community activities/events
- ⇒ Community project management, monitoring and evaluation
- ⇒ Sharing community know-how for the benefit of all
- ⇒ Community education, awareness, and training
- ⇒ Making community connections

Our values are:

1. Respect and Value - We respect nature and natural processes.
2. Be Ethical - We will be fair and open in our business dealings and give fair value to have mutually beneficial relationships with our partners, employees, and volunteers.
3. Consider the Future - We have a duty of care to those around us, as well as to future generations.
4. Be Open and Learn - Keep an open mind about new ways of thinking and doing. We listen to and learn from all.
5. Share - We seek ways for the whole community to share in the responsibility of maintaining and valuing biodiversity.

Strategic Plan

Tamar NRM's Strategic Plan runs from 2022 to 2030 and is available on our website.

These eight strategic statements are tagged against activities and projects in this Report:

1. We have a culture of good governance.
2. We understand (and can evidence) our impact.
3. We have a well-resourced, effective and valued team.
4. We have a diverse and supported volunteer community.
5. We provide accessible ways for diverse stakeholders to engage with us.
6. We remain relevant to our funding councils.
7. A key strength is our partnerships.
8. We understand and build on our distinctive role in the community.



Look for the green tick for how our activities align with our strategic statements.

Our People

Management Committee

Ben Hooper, President

Ben commenced as Tamar NRM's President after the 2021 AGM. Ben is a third-generation farmer on a property at Beaconsfield, focused on lamb production and maximising grazing efficiency. He holds a Master of Business Administration - Agricultural Innovation, a Graduate Certificate in Management, an Agribusiness, and an Advanced Diploma of Farm Business Management. Ben is the current Chair of the Tamar Valley Branch of TFGA and offers tutor support to Exeter High School. Ben passionately believes in education and self-improvement for everyone in the community, especially in natural resource management and agriculture. His previous industry roles include the Board Selection Committee for Meat and Livestock Australia, Member and Chair of TFGA Meat Council, and State Representative to the Sheep Meat Council of Australia.

Kathryn Pugh – Vice President, City of Launceston Representative

Kathryn Pugh is an ecologist currently employed as the City of Launceston's Manager of Parks and Sustainability, Infrastructure and Assets Network. Kathryn has extensive experience in landscape water quality and aquatic habitat monitoring, impact assessments and threatened species management, and more recent experience in drainage asset management. She has a Bachelor of Science and is a Certified Environmental Practitioner. Kathryn became the City of Launceston representative in December 2022. Kathryn resigned in July 2024.

Brigid Morrison – Vice President

Brigid has undertaken roles as an industry investigator for adaptive water resources management with Sense-T, Environmental Policy Advisor, and she has four years of experience as an Associate Lecturer at UTAS. She holds a Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.Sc. Hons), Plant Biology and Geography (Aquaculture minor) and worked as a research assistant at the Centre for Phytophthora Science and Management at Murdoch University.

Greg Unwin

Greg is a forest ecologist and Senior Lecturer in the School of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Tasmania in Launceston. His teaching subjects include Agroforestry, Forest Ecosystems and Ecology and Management. Research interests centre on the dynamics of tropical and temperate forest ecosystems and the eco-physiological processes that sustain forest diversity and productivity.

John Thorp

John is a trained agricultural scientist and extension officer, having worked at all levels, from the field to the highest levels of government. He participates in community groups and volunteers his time to local causes. He recently retired from his business, John Thorp Australia, which undertook resource management and agricultural projects for government

Management Committee...

and private enterprises. He has fulfilled the National Weeds Management Facilitator role and was the Project Manager for implementing the National Weeds Strategy and Executive Officer to the Australian Weeds Committee. John is currently the Chair of Tamar NRM's Weed Working Group.

Michael Foster

Michael is a member of the executive management team at West Tamar Council, where his role is Manager Works. He is responsible for managing the Works Department's operations in delivering works and services to the developing communities of the West Tamar region. Michael has over 12 years of experience in contract/project management, procurement and coordination/management roles in the local government sector, and an extensive building and construction industry background. He is passionate about building competent and effective teams, emphasising safety, quality and integrity, helping people fulfil their potential and working to their strengths. Michael has Work Health & Safety, Fleet Management, Building and Construction Management and Competitive Systems and Practices (LEAN) qualifications, specialising in continuous improvement and productivity improvement. Michael is a family man away from work, enjoys holidaying and caravanning and is an avid road cyclist. Michael became the West Tamar Council representative in December 2022.

Tim Reed

Tim is a farmer and agricultural contractor and lives with his young family at Rosevale on a medium-sized farm with a sustainable/regenerative focus. After completing a horticulture traineeship in a native plant nursery, Tim stayed in the horticulture and agriculture sector, working on various farm enterprises in Tasmania and New Zealand and developed an interest in forestry and sustainability and the link to soil health and plant growth. Tim won the 2021 Landcare Tasmania Farmer of the Year Award. Past President of Soils First Tasmania and the Launceston Mountain Bike Club and current President of the Rosevale Hall Committee, Tim hopes to bring his land manager experience and passion for a healthy and sustainable environment to his new role at Tamar NRM. Tim's first meeting was in December 2022.

Andrew McCarthy

Andrew McCarthy is the Director of Infrastructure & Development at George Town Council. He is responsible for infrastructure, projects, planning and development, and the outdoor workforce. Andrew was previously the Manager of Business Enterprises with the City of Launceston. His portfolio included UTAS Stadium, the Launceston Leisure and Aquatic Centre, Carr Villa cemetery and Building Surveying Services. Andrew has several tertiary qualifications, including a Master of Business Administration. Andrew is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and served on the board as Director of New Horizons from 2013-2021. Andrew became the George Town Council representative in March 2023.

Management Committee...

Tony Clark

Tony has been involved in the agricultural sector for most of his working life and currently owns and operates a beef fattening operation in the West Tamar area. He holds a Master of Business Administration and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute Company Directors. In between farming enterprises, which have included vegetable, milk and beef production, he worked for the Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers' Association and the Tasmanian Irrigation Development Board. He has extensive corporate experience having served on the board of Dairy Tas as Chairman, Landcare Tasmania and Cressy Longford Irrigation Board.

Table 1 - Attendance at meetings during 2023 -2024

Management Committee Member	Possible Meetings	Meetings Attended
Ben Hooper (President)	4	4
Brigid Morrison (Vice President)	4	3
Kathryn Pugh (Vice President)	4	0
John Thorp	4	3
Greg Unwin	4	2
Michael Foster	4	0
Andrew McCarthy	4	4
Tim Reed	4	4
Tony Clark	2	2
Michael Attard (Proxy for Kathryn Pugh)		1
Dino de Paoli (Proxy for Michael Foster)		2
Cassandra Jackson (Proxy for Kathryn Pugh)		1
Paul Thomas (Proxy for Andrew McCarthy)		1

Strategic Statement

1.

We have a culture of good governance



Our Staff

Kirstin Seaver, Program Coordinator

Kirstin's role with Tamar NRM as a Program Coordinator began in August 2022. Arriving from NE Victoria in 2021, her diverse background in tourism, event management, community building, governance, councils, recruitment, marketing, communication, horticulture, and farm management has contributed to Tamar NRM's portfolio. Kirstin is especially focused on developing the volunteer base and the next generation of Project Officers and Interns. In her spare time, Kirstin can be found hiking Tasmania's wilderness, sailing her timber dinghy, farming her community garden plots or volunteering anywhere in the environment. Kirstin works 1.0 FTE.

Nick Flittner, Program Coordinator

Nick Flittner is a Program Coordinator at Tamar NRM and brings a lengthy career in project management in various industries in Tasmania. Nick worked in education for many years, then moved into community and regional development, business support and agriculture. Nick has worked for several organisations across Tasmania, including the Cradle Coast Authority, Northern Tasmania Development, the University of Tasmania and the Tasmanian and Farmers and Graziers Association. Nick has lived in the north of Tasmania since he moved to the state in 1996, and after 20 years on a farm near Deloraine and now lives in Launceston. Nick works at 0.8 FTE.

Jessie Stanley, Communications

Jessie worked part-time until March 2024, and was responsible for Tamar NRM's branding, events promotion, social media, website, and IT. She has a Bachelor of Tourism Destination Management and postgraduate studies in economics. She brought experience in project management, marketing, research, finance, tourism, economics, administration, and small business management. (Jessie resigned on 14th March 2024.)



L to R –Ben Hooper, Kirstin Seaver, Nick Flittner and Jessie Stanley. Pics – various sources.

Project Staff

Kate Richards, Casual Project Officer

Kate joined Tamar NRM in March 2023 to assist with the Soil4Sisters project for International Women's Day. With a degree in Outdoor Education and experience in Environmental Education, Kate's diverse skills will contribute to the organisation's diverse portfolio. She is passionate about protecting and promoting our national parks and reserves and their natural and cultural history. Kate is looking forward to engaging with the team at Tamar NRM and facilitating a wide range of community events for young and old in the Tamar region.

Jonty Dehnert, Casual Project Officer

Jonty began volunteering at the Cambridge Street Reserve and joined Tamar NRM in May 2023. Jonty is an energetic father of two and an enthusiastic environmentalist. He is currently completing a Masters of Protected Area Conservation through the University of Tasmania, which he hopes to turn into a fruitful career in natural resource management. His favourite part of working with Tamar NRM is seeing how locals connect with their environment and witnessing new connections made with every project.

Isabella Kingston, Casual Project Officer

Isabella commenced at Tamar NRM in August 2023 as a young student hoping to benefit the Tamar communities. She currently studies full time at the University of Tasmania and will graduate with a Bachelor of Natural Environments and Conservation in December this year. Isabella is passionate about sustainable agriculture, land management, and environmental education. She loves the sense of community generated by Tamar NRM, and seeing how her work at our projects and events creates positive change within the communities of our catchment.

Dr Megan Grant, Casual Project Officer

Megan commenced at Tamar NRM in August 2023, after completing her PhD in Marine Science. Megan is passionate about science communication and raising awareness of the impacts of plastic pollution on the marine ecology. Megan resigned on 27th May 2024 and moved on to work with NRE as a Wildlife Biologist in Hobart.



L to R – Project Officers Kate, Isabella, Jonty and Megan at work – Pics – Kirstin Seaver.

Project Contractors

Kay Bailey, Weeds Project Contractor

Kay Bailey is a community volunteer with Tamar NRM and local groups including Landcare. Kay was Tamar NRM Executive officer from 2004 to 2009. From 2009 to 2013, Kay was based in Alice Springs, as one of the Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) Coordinators.

Her interests and work roles are based in the environment and conservation, parks and reserve planning, natural heritage, broad natural resource management and invasive species management. Kay coordinates the annual Boneseed Blitz and works on Serrated Tussock, and for the last three years has been Project Coordinator for a major project 'Towards Gorse Eradication in the Piper's River Catchment', funded by the Tasmanian Government's Weeds Action Fund.



Kay Bailey. Pic – Kirstin Seaver.

Trish Haeusler, Project Contractor / Working Group Member

Trish founded Plastic Free Launceston; a community group dedicated to eliminating single-use plastics. Plastic Free Launceston was started in early 2017 after identifying a need to respond to the growing concerns of plastic pollution. A Facebook page launched a community conversation and progressed to an active working group of Tamar NRM.

Trish coordinates Tamar NRM's annual litter clean-up, Catch It in the Catchment, and runs the popular Source to Sea program. Trish also works extensively on environmental education programs around plastics and rubbish in schools.



*Trish Haeusler.
Pic – Nick Flittner.*

Denis Giasli, Weeds Project Contractor

Denis has been a Land Manager for over ten years, specialising in Property Management Planning, Land Rehabilitation and Weed Control.

In 2017, he purchased "Braeside" at Winkleigh, taking on the ambitious task of converting a 300-acre Blue Gum plantation to pasture. Denis manages Tamar NRM's Besom Heath Eradication Project, funded by the Tasmanian Government's Weeds Action Fund.



Denis Giasli. Pic – Joshua Steer.

Project Contractors...

Sandy Astill, Contract Festival Coordinator

Sandy returned to Tamar NRM to coordinate the second Sustainable Living Festival, and the Sustainable Business and Community Awards, following the first held in 2021.

Sandy moved to Tasmania from North Queensland where she was an experienced fundraising and event coordinator, dedicating much of her professional career and personal time to organising large community events to raise funds and awareness for charitable and community organisations. Sandy has a BA (Hons) in Environmental Studies and a PhD in Society and Culture, specialising in disaster management.



*Sandy Astill.
Pic – Tamar NRM.*

Marissa Walters, Contract Finance Manager

Our Finance Manager Marissa Walters of Cloud 9 Consulting is responsible for managing all day-to-day accounting and reporting tasks, enabling the Program Coordinators to do more activities with their time. Her role encompasses supporting the President and providing financial reports for the Management Committee and the auditor.

Marissa has worked with Tamar NRM since early 2021.



*Marissa Walters
Pic – Marissa Walters.*

Joshua Steer, Videography Contractor

Joshua initially became an intern with Tamar NRM in April 2023 to work on video productions.


He produced several short video clips highlighting the work and people of Tamar NRM and has contributed his youthful perspective to our work. Josh gained a full-time role after leaving The Big Picture School in June 2024.



*Joshua Steer on camera duty.
Pic – Kirstin Seaver.*

Strategic Statement

3. We have a well-resourced, effective and valued team



President's Report

This past year has again been marked by success and achievement for Tamar NRM. We have continued to serve as a catalyst for engagement and empowerment in natural resource management within our region. A cornerstone of Tamar NRM's long-term success has been the continued support from George Town, West Tamar, and City of Launceston Councils.

It is with great pride that I announce that our funding councils have committed to supporting Tamar NRM for an additional three years, with an increase in funding. This is the first time in six years that we have sought an increase in annual funding, and it comes at a time when councils are facing significant cost pressures. We are extremely grateful for this continued support. This commitment is not only a substantial financial boost but also a resounding vote of confidence in Tamar NRM. Our operational model, management structure, and regional impact have provided the assurance needed for these councils to invest public funds in our continued efforts.

At our last AGM and 25th-anniversary celebration, a key theme that emerged in the discussions surrounding Tamar NRM's success was 'Community.' Our ability to focus on community needs, develop, and deliver programs and events to meet this demand is central to Tamar NRM's achievements. This was clearly demonstrated by the success of the Sustainable Living Festival 2024. This event, which attracted participation from across the state, was our most successful yet.

The Festival and Sustainable Business & Community Awards showcased the incredible efforts of the Sustainable Community Working Group, staff, volunteers, and sponsors. Their hard work resulted in two exceptional events that drew in hundreds of participants. The Awards brought together a diverse and passionate group of individuals and businesses, celebrating their commitment to sustainability. Providing a platform to acknowledge and recognise these people is important. It shows them that they are seen and supported in their endeavours. This kind of feedback rewards their efforts, boosts morale, and strengthens the sense of community.

The Festival day, headlined by Craig Reucassel, created a strong sense of community with a shared purpose and focus. The vibrant atmosphere was palpable, with thousands of attendees enjoying the day, making it a truly remarkable occasion. People attended from across the state, and all feedback from patrons and presenters was positive.

President - Ben Hooper



Ben Hooper presents trophy to Sustainable Business Awards Winner Tom Miller. Pic – SLF.

President's Report ..



*John Thorpe speaking at the Tamar NRM AGM in November 2023.
Pic - Kirstin Seaver.*



Program Coordinators' Report

This year has been something of a year of records for Tamar NRM, with several big events and our activities reaching far and wide into all sections of the Tamar Valley community.

This was the year of our 25th Anniversary, which we celebrated at the AGM in November 2023. What started as a trial project in 1999 has continued to be supported by our three funding Councils - City of Launceston, West Tamar, and George Town - and we end the year with a renewed funding commitment for the next three years.

It was the year of our biggest event ever - the Sustainable Living Festival held in March 2024 at the Inveresk precinct in Invermay. While we do not know exactly how many people attended on the day because the event was free, anecdotally attendees numbered in their thousands. Craig Reucassel from the ABC's War on Waste provided some star power to our 'Going Circular' themed event, and we trust visitors were inspired to action to consider all aspects of sustainability and the circular economy. A huge thanks to all involved in staging this event.

We attracted a record number of nominations for the Sustainable Business Awards, held on the Friday night before the Festival. We added a Community Organisation category this year and received 15 nominations from all parts of the state and from businesses and organisations big and small, new, and established. An emotion-packed Awards night saw Launceston florist business Florage take out the main prize, with the Resource Work Cooperative from St Marys winning the Community main award.

This year saw the biggest participation in our Catch It In the Catchment litter clean up in November, with over 700 participants. This shows the power of 'local', and the dogged work of our event Coordinator who cajoled and encouraged individuals, businesses, community groups and schools to find a patch in the Valley to clean up. This event goes from strength to strength and is one of Tamar NRM's major annual events.

Weeds are core business for Tamar NRM, and we continued with the Ragwort Raids in January, this activity now it its 24th year! A special thanks to the East and West Tamar Landcare groups who are the backbone of this activity, but also to the many other community members who helped. We now collect Ragwort in bag-fulls, not truck-fulls.

This year saw the conclusion of our three-year Pipers River gorse project, called Towards Eradication of Gorse in the Piper's River Catchment. Funded by the Tasmanian Government's Weed Action Fund and managed by Tamar NRM Weeds Coordinator, this project has been a tremendous success with over 70 landowners involved and 75% of the known gorse in the catchment being treated. Tamar NRM will remain in touch with involved landowners to encourage them to do annual reviews of their properties, and where required, further treatment.

Other weeds work this year included a Sea Spurge Blitz in October at Greens Beach, which involved over forty members of the Boags Production team.

The Boneseed Blitz was held in October, and Serrated Tussock work continued in September and November in the Mount Direction area.

The Tamar Valley Farm Discussion Group is now in its fourth year, with meetings held on the first Thursday of each month. The Tamar and Meander Valley Community Gardens

Network meets each season at a different garden, with the Open Day in November now a fixture in the calendar. We held two Tamar Valley Leaders Lunches this year, involving Owen Tilbury talking on community engagement, and Dr Tony McCall and Cameron McLennan looking at sustainability and the Circular Economy. Our Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Community Connections Working Group held a few outings and events for our 'new Tasmanians', some taking part in the Catch It in The Catchment event this year.

We held several tree planting activities this year in conjunction with the City of Launceston. One notable event at Jingers Creek in Young Town seeing primary and college students working alongside City of Launceston staff teams to plant 3000 plants over two days in a newly rehabilitated creek. Revegetation projects beside bushland streams and recreational parks at Ravenswood were also deployed.

The collaboration with the Australian Plant Society of Tasmania on the City of Launceston Reserves project continues at Cambridge Street Reserve, and planning for the second project at Carr Villa Flora Reserve is underway.

Tamar NRM continues to support the Friends of Low Head Penguins Wildcare Group, including a Volunteer Training Day with Parks Tas and Birdlike Australia, and the deployment of another 43 penguin nesting boxes. We also provided support for the Little Penguin nesting box survey program at Low Head.

We announce a newly formed Sustainable Business Network, a partnership between the Launceston Chamber of Commerce and Tamar NRM, to encourage the take-up of sustainable business practices in our part of the world. This is a direct outcome from the Sustainable Business Awards, where the energy and enthusiasm on the Awards Night led to conversations about 'what's next'.

Tamar NRM staff continue to devise innovative programs and build relationships with stakeholders and community groups. This involves delivering presentations, such as at the 2023 Landcare Conference and to Launceston School for Seniors. This year staff were involved with the George Town Council Roadshows, holding expo stalls at Weymouth and Exeter Shows to promote On Farm Forums and Weed projects, and at Harvest Market in Launceston to promote Plastic Free July or Community Gardens Network and Open Days.

Lastly, there has been a significant staff change - we say a sad farewell to our Communications Officer Jessie Stanley, who has commenced a new career role.

Jessie leaves a huge legacy of improved communications and IT services and structures, and a professional-looking public face for Tamar NRM. We wish Jess well in her new endeavour.

Dr Megan Grant also left for a new full-time role at NRE in Hobart as a Wildlife Biologist.

Program Coordinators - Kirstin Seaver and Nick Flittner



Strategic Statement

8. **We understand and build on our distinctive role in the community**



Activities and Projects

Biodiversity

- Micro Forest @ Macs Garden Ravenswood
- Ravenswood Skate Park Community Planting
- Jinglers Creek Revegetation
- Pipers River Gorse Revegetation
- City of Launceston Reserves Project
- Friends of Low Head Penguins Project

Environmental Education

- Source to Sea
- Great Southern BioBlitz
- GT Tree Workshop LaunchPad
- Tamar Wetlands Day
- Great Tamar Tree Trail
- Nature Journal Workshop
- AUSMAP Microplastics Training

Sustainable Agriculture

- Tamar Valley Farm Discussion Group
- On Farm Forums

Sustainable Living

- Sustainable Living Festival 2024 – Going Circular
- Sustainable Business & Community Awards
- Sustainable Business Network
- Tamar & Meander Valley Community Gardens Open Day
- Community Gardens Network Get-Togethers
- Tamar Valley Leaders Lunch Series
- Catch it in the Catchment

Weeds

- Sea Spurge Blitz
- Detection & Eradication of Nassella Weeds (Serrated Tussock & Chilean Needle Grass)
- Towards Gorse Eradication in the Piper's River Catchment
- Northern Midlands Council Weed Management Plan
- Besom Heath Eradication Project
- Boneseed Blitz
- Ragwort Raid

Additional Funding Sources

Funding source	Completion date	Project title	Amount
Tasmanian Government - Weeds Action Fund Stage 2 – Targeted Large Grants	June 2024	Towards Gorse Eradication in the Piper's River Catchment Through Implementation of Property Weed Management Planning	\$70,895
Tasmanian Government - Weeds Action Fund – Facilitated Grant	June 2024	Besom Heath Eradication Project	\$67,322
Tasmanian Government - Weeds Action Fund – Targeted Small Grant	June 2024	Besom Heath Eradication Project: Extension	\$50,000
Great Regional City Challenge	June 2024	Great Tamar Tree Trail	\$4000
Great Regional City Challenge	June 2024	CALD CC	\$4000
Great Regional City Challenge	June 2024	Through the Lens	\$4000
City of Launceston	June 2024	Jingler's Creek Restoration	\$3000



Biodiversity



Mac's Community Garden Tree Planting

Across the Tamar Valley, Tamar NRM continues to implement Tree Planting projects in many locations, engaging volunteer community members, LandCare groups, students and council staff. Mac's Community Garden at Ravenswood was an example of a micro shelter belt.



Shelter belt planting of native Wattle and Hop bush at Mac's Community Garden in Ravenswood. Pic Kirstin Seaver.

Ravenswood Skate Park Community Planting

This was another City of Launceston project to beautify the area around the skate park at Ravenswood, which took place on May 17th. Tamar NRM provided equipment and expertise, and the 500 plants were planted in record time with assistance from community members and a legion of state and federal politicians.



Ravenswood Skate Park planting in May. Pic Tamar NRM.

Jingler's Creek Wetland Restoration Project

This project was run by the City of Launceston Environmental Scientist - Water Team, Infrastructure and Assets Network.

Tamar NRM organised 170 students from Newstead College, Youngtown Primary, East Launceston Primary and Calvin Christian School who worked harmoniously with City of Launceston crews to plant well over 3000 plants over two days in May in a restored creek which had been suffering severe degradation from run-off from a new housing development in Youngtown.

Students were provided additional environmental experiences, including a tree walk, water bug identification and planting maintenance activities. The weather was kind, the rain coming half an hour after the plantings were complete.



Revegetation at Jinglers Creek. Pic – Tamar NRM

St Anne's Church Rehabilitation, Lilydale

This was part of Tamar NRM's Gorse Project - all the gorse around the church had been treated and was dead, so along with a few volunteers from Lilydale Landcare, East Tamar Landcare and the Northern and Northeast Railway group, Tamar NRM assisted with planting trees and shrubs around the church site.



*Revegetation at Lilydale in May 2024.
Pic – Tamar NRM*

City of Launceston Reserves Project

After eighteen months, this pilot project involving the Friends of Cambridge Street Reserve, the City of Launceston, and Tamar NRM has made great progress with the restoration of native vegetation and removal of weeds in this small bushland reserve. The Reserves Committee of the Australian Plant Society of Tasmania is vital in planning and monitoring the results of the program, including the expansion to include Carr Villa Flora Reserve.

Tamar NRM provides access to tools, resources, and administrative and PR support. The APST provides expert advice on native plants and restoration techniques. The City of Launceston provides access to GIS mapping software for appropriate project documentation and coordination between the project members and the CoL Parks team.

Regular newsletters and meetings keep the stakeholders informed of the project's progress after the working bees held on the first Thursday and Saturday of each month.

Friends of Carr Villa Flora Reserve will commence monthly activities on the first Wednesday from August and welcomes the valuable volunteer contributions of residents.

Friends of Low Head Penguins & Shorebird Surveys

The Friends of Low Head Penguin WildCare group had a successful year, with an additional forty-three nesting boxes being deployed and monitored on the site. Dr Eric Woehler and Kirstin have collected data from each of the nesting boxes throughout the phases of the penguin breeding cycles and reported on the success of the program. George Town Council, Parks Tasmania and the local community have worked together to build awareness of the issues and challenges facing the penguin colony, collaborating in working bees and a Low Head Penguin Crew workshop held at the Pilot Station last year. Special thanks to Dr Eric Woehler for his professional and personal dedication to this project.



Low Head Penguin Crew Volunteer Training at Low Head Pilot Station- Credit: Kirstin Seaver

George Town Council, members of FOLHP WildCare group and Dr Eric Woehler on site after the latest installation of 43 nesting boxes. Pic Kirstin Seaver.

Environmental Education



Source to Sea

In 2021 Tamar NRM secured funding through the TasNetworks Tasmanian Futures Sustainable Future Grants Program to facilitate a kanamaluka/ Tamar estuary, Source to Sea Education Program.

This program facilitates excursions that educate the community and local students on the impact of land use on the estuary catchment, with a particular focus on the King Meadows Rivulet. The full-day excursion starts at the source of the Kings Meadows Rivulet, Kate Reed Reserve, and follows it downstream until it drains into the North Esk at Queechy Lake. There are several stops along the way where students are met by experts from various backgrounds who talk about different aspects of the rivulet's journey.

Source to Sea was planned with teachers, Year 4 students, and the curriculum in mind and can be adjusted to cater for the group's needs. Teachers are encouraged to download the excursion booklet and get in touch.

This year the following groups have engaged with the Source to Sea program:

25th September – Sacred Heart Primary School 'Green Team' – 25 students

31st October and 2nd November – Riverside Primary School – 100 students

28th October – Summerhill Scouts – 12 students

29th October – John Calvin School – 25 students

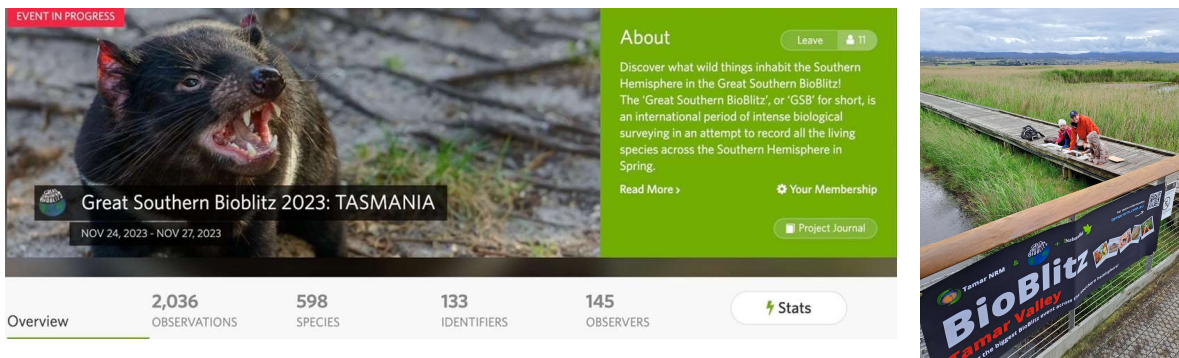
30th October – Australian Christian College – 15 students



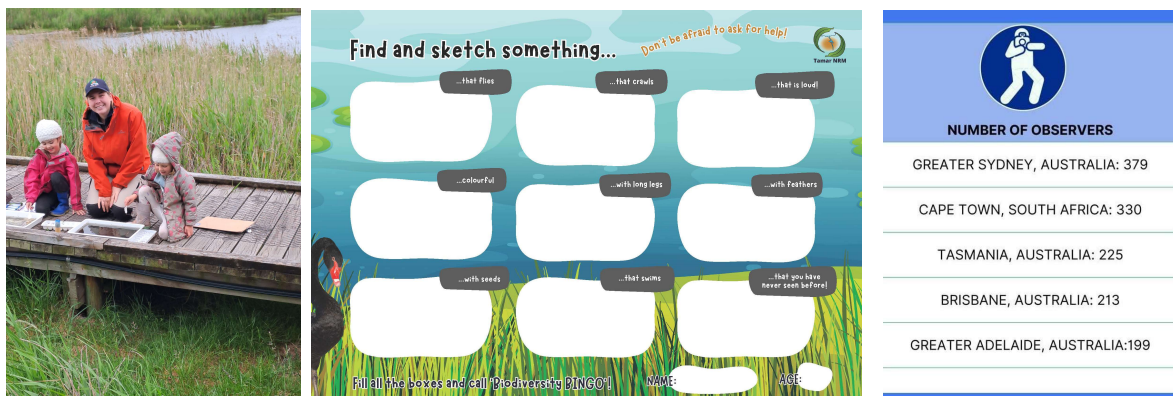
Source to Sea school engagement excursion along Kings Meadow Rivulet.

BioBlitz 2023 Tamar Valley

Tamar NRM participated in the Great Southern BioBlitz 2023, collecting species records to be uploaded to iNaturalist over four days last November. Project Officers Jonty Isabella and Megan covered the Trevallyn Reserve, Low Head, and Tamar Wetland sites, whilst Kate and Jessie created a package of school-based worksheets called Biodiversity Bingo for Wetlands, Coastal and Woodland Forest ecosystems. The umbrella project is the largest of its kind, with collaboration from many countries in the Southern Hemisphere. Tamar NRM joined the Tasmania cohort to deliver some impressive group statistics.



GSB 2023 across the Tamar Valley in November. Pics – Tamar NRM + GSB 2023



LaunchPad Tree Planting Workshop

Future Impact Group’s LaunchPad program hosted several workshops to explore volunteering opportunities with environmental projects with community members. The group gained an understanding of tree planting techniques, volunteering guidelines and safety inductions to prepare the group for future involvement with the upcoming George Town Tree Plant. Each participant receives a Certificate of Participation to add to their resume.



LaunchPad participants at completion of their training. Pic - Kirstin Seaver.

Tamar Wetlands Day

On 2nd February, Tamar NRM supported Parks Tasmania with a display and demonstrations to mark World Wetlands Day.

A steady attendance kept our Project Officers busy with WaterBug Identification, AUSMAP Microplastic demonstrations and birdwatching along the boardwalks.

The Examiner featured a story on the event, featuring the impacts of microplastics on feeding shorebirds. Dr Megan Grant was highly qualified on this subject matter, as it was the subject of her PhD thesis.



Tamar Wetlands Day activities conducted by Tamar NRM. Pics – Kirstin Seaver.

Nature Journal Workshop

Held at Tamar Wetlands Centre in February, an ecologist and nature communication expert Dr Paula Peeters led a group of enthusiastic nature lovers through the techniques of nature journaling.

The workshop covered the many methods, techniques, and tools to engage with the amazing diversity of the Tamar Wetlands Conservation Area. This event was funded by the Great Regional City Challenge – Great Tamar Tree Trail Project.



Nature Journal Workshop with Dr Paula Peeters in February at Tamar Wetlands. Pics – Kirstin Seaver.

AUSMAP

In October, Tamar NRM conducted an AUSMAP Training session at Beauty Point, a Community Information talk in Launceston, and a Community Engagement Day at East Beach.

The sessions gave participants a comprehensive understanding of the issues around plastic pollution in our environment, and training in the techniques for collecting data, recording results, and identifying the types of microplastics that are evident in the samples. This is a research quality citizen science program, with data being collated on the national database.

Four sites have been selected in the East and West Tamar coastal zones to continue this work on a quarterly basis, the first conducted in January at East Beach.



AUSMAP sessions on East Beach and Beauty Point were hands-on fun sessions aided by our Project Officers Megan, Isabella, Jonty and Kate. Pics - Kirstin Seaver.

AUSMAP TRAINING DAY
Launceston, TAS

The Issue
Plastic does not go away or break up into smaller pieces. Microplastics are less than 5mm across. At least 80% of plastic pollution is from local sources. Microplastics move quickly through the food chain and are responsible for harming over 70% of wildlife. To understand the impact of this growing problem and develop solutions, we need extensive data collection to record microplastic pollution from Australian shorelines.

About the Program
BECOME AN ACCREDITED AUSMAP AMBASSADOR
Join Dr Michelle Blewitt (Program Director), learn about AUSMAP and participate in a training session on the standardised field sampling methodology for collecting, sorting and identifying microplastics.

Register
DATE: Fri, 27th October 2023
TIME: 10:00am - 4:00pm
LOCATION: Port Dalrymple Yacht Club, Beauty Point
COST: FREE

For more information please contact events@tamar-nrm.org



Sustainable Agriculture



Tamar Valley Farm Discussion Group

Initially funded in 2020 through the Tasmanian Government's Pastures Pathway Small Project Fund, a group of 15 farmers from across the Tamar Valley host the group at their property in turn, meeting monthly on the first Thursday. The events have a set format, with the host talking about their farm and business, leading the groups tour over the property, and followed by a social BBQ. Guest speakers are often invited to present on relevant topics.



The group visits a forestry coup at Blessington. Pic – Kirstin Seaver.

Monthly discussions centre around pasture and animal management, healthy soils, carbon, forestry, water management, weeds, financial matters, health and well-being, and succession planning. This project has been successful and will continue with more members joining as the opportunity arises.

On Farm Forums

Trees on Farms workshops were delivered with a Tree Growing session at Flowery Gully in December 2023 with Kirrilli Kent, and Tree Planting Care with the Arbscope team at George Town Neighbourhood Centre in 2024.

An expo stall at the Exeter Market and the Weymouth Easter Market facilitated conversations with many small landholders about farm-related issues, native plants, invasive species and ecosystem management, such as fires and floods.

Biosecurity issues, managing water resources, soil health and anything that goes with the small farm territory for hobby or commercial land managers. These workshops are being held across the Tamar Valley in all three Council areas in collaboration with expert partners.



Tree Growing Workshop at Flowery Gully in December with Kirrilli Kent. Pic – Kirstin Seaver.

Sustainable Living



Sustainable Living Festival

Tamar NRM's Sustainable Living Festival returned this year, staged at the Inveresk Precinct in Invermay on 2nd March. This festival theme - 'Going Circular', was a call to action for the community to minimise waste and promote sustainable living practices.

A major drawcard for the festival was the presence of Craig Reucassel, known for his work on ABC's "War on Waste". His expertise and dedication to circularity captivated the audience, providing valuable insights into the local context and underlining the festival's commitment to delivering relevant information.

This year the festival featured a week of 'lead-up' events, most of which were sustainability-related events by organisations and businesses across Launceston and the Tamar region. Tamar NRM held three lead-up events - A Sponsor's Thank You Event; a film night screening of Rachel Ward's documentary on regenerative agriculture, 'Rachel's Farm', attended by over 80 people; and the Sustainable Business and Community Awards, held on the Friday before the Festival.

Sandy Astill returned as Festival Coordinator following the first Sustainable Living Festival in 2021. A huge debt of thanks is owed to Sandy for her drive and enthusiasm.

The festival was a great success, with thousands of estimated attendees on the day, 60 exhibitors, 5 presentation stages, 42 presenters, 31 volunteers, 6 MCs, \$35,000 in cash sponsorships and \$4500 in-kind sponsorships.



We thank the following Festival Sponsors for their generous support:

City of Launceston (Platinum), University of Tasmania (Gold), TasNetworks (Gold), Events Tasmania (Gold - Marketing Grant), Mode Electrical (Silver), NRM North (Silver), Home Efficiency Group – HEG (Bronze), Natural Resources & Environment TAS (Bronze), West Tamar Council (Bronze).

The Sustainable Living Festival is held every second year, with the next scheduled for 2026.

Sustainable Business & Community Awards

Held in conjunction with the Sustainable Living Festival, the Sustainable Business and Community Awards were held at the Tramsheds on Friday evening, 1st March. Following on from the success of this event at the first Festival in 2021, a new category of 'Community' was added this year to encourage participation from community groups and organisation.

Nominations were received from 10 businesses and 5 community organisation, large and small, start-up and established, and from all corners of the state. Presented by Craig Reucassel. the evening was a celebration and recognition of people and organisations engaging in sustainable practices.

Business Award Nominees:

Florage (Winner),

The Redress Hub (Highly Commended),

Golden Brown Composting (Highly Commended).

TasNetworks, Wildly Abigail, McHenry Distillery, Pink Poodle Vintage, Plasticus, Seed Freaks, and The Organic Grocer.

Community Award Nominees:

Resource Work Cooperative (Winner).

St Mary's Repurposing & Upcycling (Highly Commended),

Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture, Verandah Music Festival, and Youth Climate Leaders.

Thanks to the Judges who had the challenging task of selecting contestants from an impressive group of business and community organisations. By nominating in the first place, all entrants were winners, demonstrating their dedication to sustainable practices.



L to R - Ben Hooper (Tamar NRM), Tom Miller (Florage), Craig Reucassel, Pic – SLF.



Nominess for the Awards with Craig Reucassel, Pic – SLF.

Community Garden Network

The Tamar & Meander Valley Community Garden Network commenced operation in February 2023, and met in August, October, and December, 2023 and February and May 2024.

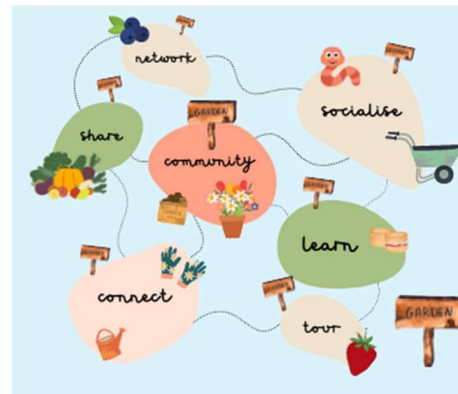


Made up of over 35 active gardens and interested people not attached to particular locations but operating in the community garden sphere throughout the region, the get-togethers fluctuate in numbers seasonally, but - in conjunction with a well-received quarterly newsletter - remains relevant and popular.

Tamar & Meander Valley Community Garden Open Day

The second Community Garden Open Day ran in November 2023 with 14 gardens in the Tamar and Meander regions opening. The consensus was that it had been highly successful and is planned to return on 9th November 2024.

Thank you to Community Garden Network Convenor Karen Hewitt for her dedication to this Sustainable Community Working Group initiative.



Windsor and Low Head Community Gardens are host venues for the CGN Open Days Pic – CGN.

Tamar Valley Leaders Lunch Series

This series of business-style lunches has been created through a partnership between Tamar NRM, the Launceston Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club of Central Launceston, and the Hotel Grand Chancellor Launceston.

The lunches are a mechanism for Tamar NRM to increase its involvement with the business sector and the broader civic community of the Tamar Valley. They allow Tamar NRM to establish relationships with people and organisations who may not traditionally be involved in our activities.

Guest speakers are invited based on their links with the Tamar Valley, their standing in the community, and the nature of their work or the activities in which they are involved.

In 2023/24, we held two Leaders Lunches with the following guest speakers -

- Owen Tilbury - President, Great Regional City Challenge and Director of the Tasmanian Breath of Fresh air (BOFA) Festival, speaking on *Creating positive change through community-led place-based initiatives* (July 23)
- Dr Tony McCall, Project Director, Future Scanning, Economic Evaluation and Policy, Office of the Coordinator-General, and Cameron McLennan, Tasmanian Sustainability Strategy Project Manager on *Sustainability in Business: Compliance or Competitive Advantage* (November 23)



Posters promoting the Tamar Valley Leaders Lunches

Catch it in the Catchment Report 2023



4930kgs of rubbish (bagged and not including heavy single items) have been collected and diverted from our local waterways from sites along the East and West Tamar River since this event began in 2019. An incredible amount of rubbish!

The 2023 clean-up event attracted 709 participants, the biggest increase in participants since the event commenced in 2019. A combination of return groups, newly registered groups and schools all helped to boost the 2023 participation numbers. Feedback provided from some groups highlighted the flexibility of the event – this meant participants could be involved when they had the time and were able to choose a location that was accessible to them. School groups linked activities to student learning and the curriculum as well as leadership and community participation – a valuable outcome

Year	Number of participants	Number of clean- up sites	Total weight of rubbish collected Kgs
2019	289	25	1176
2020	324	35	775
2021	396	27	801
2022	305	21	1031
2023	709	29	1147

The 2023 Catch it in the Catchment combined education and action, making this more than just a clean-up event. Some schools chose to combine Catch it in the Catchment with the Tamar NRM'S Source to Sea excursion. This provided a learning opportunity to explain the direct link between where we live in a catchment and how litter can directly impact on the catchment, its waterways and ecosystems.

"If I pick up this plastic bag, I will have stopped 1000's of microplastics from getting into the environment" - a quote from a very enthusiastic student involved in Catch it in the Catchment 2023.

Our community understands that we all have a part to play to contribute to reducing litter. Catch it in the Catchment provided an opportunity for the community to be involved in a direct action.

Thank you to the many participating volunteers from the Tamar Valley communities, school, clubs and groups, and the three Tamar Valley Councils for promoting the event and assisting to collect bagged rubbish from clean-up sites. Special thanks to Councillor Jason Orr who again took on a role to gather interest from the George

Town community. Thank you also to Jessie Stanley who provided a valuable and professional touch to all promotional materials. The partnering with Clean Up Australia continued with a dedicated page and registration platform for this event.

Trish Haeusler - Event Coordinator

2023 Participants and Clean Up Sites

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kelso Fire Station Group 1 - volunteers & community members - Clarence Point foreshore 2. Kelso Fire Station Group 2- volunteers & community members - Greens Beach. 3. Kelso Fire Station Group 3 - volunteers & community members – Kelso foreshore. 4. Kelso Fire Station Group 4 - volunteers & community members – West Arm 5. Kelso Fire Station – Group 5 volunteers & community members- York Town. 6. Kelso Fire Station Group 6 - volunteers & community members - Garden Island 7. Friends of Low Head Penguin Colony – Low Head 8. Youth Impact Council & Seagulls to Chips – George Town 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. NRM North-Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers (TEER) Program staff – Royal Park 10. West Tamar Landcare – Paper Beach track 11. John Calvin School – North Esk, riverbank 12. Soroptimists International George Town – George Town 13. Riverside Primary School- group 1 Punchbowl 14. Riverside Primary School- group 2 Punchbowl 15. Litter Free Launnie- Kings Meadows rivulet 16. UTAS - Newnham Creek 17. Norwood Primary School – Carr Villa Reserve 18. Queechy High School – Riverbend & surrounding business precinct 19. Queechy High School – school based clean up 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. Newstead Christian School- Hobblers Bridge parkland 21. Tamar NRM - CALD Community Connection and Plastic Free Launceston- Riverbend 22. Youth Advisory - Council (YAC) West Tamar - Tailrace 23. Summerhill Scouts- Kings Meadows rivulet 24. Friends of Riverside – Windsor Park 25. Youth group Beaconsfield- Beaconsfield RSL Park 26. Kay Bailey and friends 27. Hillwood Progress Association - Hillwood 28. Tasmanian Divers - York Cove 29. Friends of Redbill Point - Redbill Point.
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Weeds



Sea Spurge – BOAGS Beach Blitz

A corporate Volunteering Day for 40 personnel from BOAGS Production Team was organised for Monday 2nd October 2023.

Based at Greens Beach Golf Club for Welcome, Induction and Briefings the crew formed into teams for mapping and hand-pulling Sea spurge along the length of Greens Beach and foreshore area. Project Officers Jonty, Kate, Isabella and Megan led each team and assisted with the collation of data and managing equipment.

Boags provided a chartered bus and BBQ lunch. Tamar NRM provided morning tea and equipment, and Greens Beach Golf Club provided the venue free of charge. West Tamar Councillor Josh Manticas attended, Marine ecologist Dr Megan Grant delivered a talk on shorebird ecology and the impacts of microplastics, and George Town Councillor Jason Orr gave a short presentation on Sea Spurge and participated in the weeding activities. Post event publicity appeared in The Examiner on Page 1 and 2, and subsequently in the Tas Country newspaper. It was a fantastic corporate volunteering engagement event, with many beneficial outcomes.



BOAGS Production Team removing Sea Spurge on Greens Beach. Pic – Kirstin Seaver.

Detection & Eradication of Nassella Weeds (Serrated Tussock and Chilean Needle Grass)

Tamar NRM continues to monitor and treat the infestation of Serrated Tussock in a small area at Mt Direction on the East Tamar.

Three 'action' days were held this year:

- September 5th - a meeting of landowners to discuss their action to monitor and control Serrated Tussock on their land.
- 19th August - a volunteer survey and treatment by Nassella Monitors and landowners
- 14th November - a follow-up survey and treatment by a contractor and available volunteers and landowners.

The detector dog 'Sugar' is no longer available.

Application is being made to the Weed Action Fund to secure on-going funding through the Highly Invasive Grasses Project from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

Towards Gorse Eradication in Pipers River Catchment

This partnership project between Tamar NRM, East Tamar Landcare Group, Lilydale Landcare Group and the Launceston and Northeast Railway was funded through the Tasmanian Government's Weeds Action Fund. The project commenced in September 2021 and was completed in June 2024.

Under the guidance of Project Coordinator Kay Bailey, this project has been a tremendous success. Over 75% of the gorse in the catchment was treated by over 60 landholders, up from an initial 20 participants.

A **Gorse Achievements Field Day** was held on 12th March, starting at the Piper's River Fire Station before visiting several sites and ending at Lilydale for lunch. Key messages from the day include:

- Project started with 26 landowners, now has 65.
- Weed projects must be multi-year.
- Weed projects need a paid coordinator.



Dead Gorse. Pic – Tamar NRM.



Kay Bailey at the Pipers River Gorse Achievements Day in March. Pic – Tamar NRM.

- Weed projects need buy-in and support from landowners.
- On-going support (post-project) is vital to ensure annual maintenance is done so that gains made during the funded project are not lost.

Tamar NRM has committed funds for the next three years to enable Kay to do an annual review of each property to ensure they keep on top of any gorse regrowth.

An important element of the project is annual reviews between the project coordinator and the landholder to assess the level of achievement of the actions in the management plans and the development of an updated action plan for the forthcoming year. Outstanding project leadership by Kay Bailey is a key factor in the success of this project.

Besom Heath Eradication Project

Funded by the Weeds Action Fund, this 3-year project is designed to tackle and hopefully eradicate Besom Heath from Tasmania.

Besom Heath is growing in a small area of Bridgenorth and Rosevale. If left untreated, it has significant invasive weed potential, like Spanish heath or gorse. There are sites within the project area that are impassable due to dense Besom Heath growth.

Besom Heath is an introduced shrub from Europe, a close relative of the better-known Spanish Heath. The two are easily confused when not in flower. The weed infestation at Bridgnorth and Rosevale is the only known occurrence of the weed anywhere in Australia. The work being done on this project is potentially a first - nationally and worldwide.



Besom Heath. Pic – Tamar NRM.

Achievements so far have been to successfully identify a chemical treatment for this weed through a 2-year chemical trial funded by Tamar NRM, the production of a Besom Heath Best Practice Manual with associated herbicide information, and a delimitation survey to map the extent of the infestation.

On-ground treatment of Besom Heath has been problematic due to the lack of interest from landowners, despite concerted efforts by the Tamar NRM team. The Weed Action Fund has approved a one-year extension of the project, allowing Tamar NRM to engage further with landowners for the treatment, and hopefully eradication of this weed.

Boneseed Blitz

Tamar NRM's Weeds Working Group continues to list Boneseed as one of its priority weeds, and the Boneseed Blitz as a signature event.

Over 167 hours of volunteer effort were undertaken during the Boneseed Blitz Week 2023. Locations included Hillwood, George Town, Supply River Mouth, Swan Bay, Beechford, Weymouth and Bellingham.



Tamar NRM
Boneseed BLITZ WEEK
7 to 17 Sep 2023
Help control boneseed in the Tamar Valley!

Join us at one of the organised Blitz events to remove boneseed
Set up a Boneseed Blitz event with your group
Remove boneseed from your property
Report any sightings to Tamar NRM on 03 6323 3310 or 0456 853 445

Any community group can participate. Fit a boneseed eradication activity around an existing working bee or at a time that suits - during or either side of Boneseed Blitz Week.

Tamar NRM can assist with free loan equipment including dabbers and loppers. Training is available for those who need it.

For further information:
kaybailey321@gmail.com | 0456 853 445
tamarnrm.com.au

Boneseed Blitz at Hillwood September 2023



Ragwort Raids

In January 2024, Tamar NRM coordinated four Ragwort Raids covering most major and minor roads in the three Tamar Valley Council areas between the 20th and the 27th of January.

Demonstrating the benefit of community-driven weed control programs, the Ragwort Raids have been operating for the past 24 years, with 2024 continuing to maintain the numbers of volunteers, length of roads patrolled and amounts of ragwort removed. Our thanks go to the East and West Tamar Landcare groups, who are the mainstays of the annual Ragwort Raids, and the many community members who volunteered to help.



Which road do I take? Pipers River Fire Station Ragwort Raid January 2024. Pic Kirstin Seaver

The Raids complement the actions of many landholders to control this weed on their property by using a suite of integrated measures, including chemical, mechanical, and biological control.

Ragwort is a poisonous weed in Tasmania, being harmful to livestock, and could potentially invade 64,600 ha in George Town, West Tamar, and Launceston. Thanks to regular efforts, the threat of infestation and financial burden has been averted.

The annual Ragwort Raids were held at four sites in 2024 - East Tamar, West Tamar, Blessington and Nunamara. This year we collected forty-five bags of ragwort and covered 962 kilometres of roadside.

Table 2 - Results from the 2024 Ragwort Raids (2023 results are in brackets)

Municipal area	Patrol base location	No. of volunteers	Hours donated	Bags collected	Land under invasion threat (ha)
East Tamar 20 Jan 2024	Pipers River Fire Station	14 (20)	56 (82)	17 (2)	17,000
West Tamar 21 Jan 2024	Winkleigh Hall	15 (23)	60 (94)	6 (6)	15,600
Launceston & districts 23 & 27 Jan 2024	Nunamara & Blessington Halls	13 (21)	52 (89)	22 (24)	32,000
Total for all municipalities		42 (64)	168 (255)	45 (32)	64,600

Working Group Reports

Tamar NRM is committed to the regional natural resource community by identifying and establishing effective Working Groups and assisting them to achieve their goals.

This is done through financial and administrative support, provision of insurance cover where required, and communications assistance with group events.

Currently, there are five Tamar NRM Working groups:

1. Sustainable Community Working Group
2. George Town Coastal Communities Management Group (GTCCMC)
3. Weeds Working Group
4. Plastic Free Launceston
5. CALD Community Connections Working Group



Sustainable Community Working Group

The Sustainable Living Festival 2024 - Going Circular was the big event of the year for SCWG. Planning for this major community event takes the best part of a year. We were delighted with the event, and the associated Sustainable Business and Community Awards held on the Friday evening before the Festival. A big thank you to everyone who helped with the enormous task of staging this event, especially Festival Coordinator, Sandy Astill.

We are also delighted with the progress of the Tamar and Meander Valley Community Gardens Network, and the on-going involvement of many gardens in the Community Gardens Open Day held each November.

Post-festival all SCWG members have taken time to recharge, but we continue to look to improve our focus and tie-in outcomes to our stated themes - be they building community, educating citizens & students, improving health & well-being outcomes, raising environmental awareness, or exploring the possibilities of circularity - to see a truly sustainable community alive and thriving in the Tamar region.

We are delighted to welcome Alina Bain from the Launceston Chamber of Commerce to SCWG. Alina has a wealth of business-related information - and is sure to provide valuable networking and access opportunities.

Co-Convenors - SCWG - Karen Hewitt & Trish Haeusler

Working Group Membership

City Of Launceston – Sophie Hipkin/Alison Roush

Launceston Chamber of Commerce - Will Cassidy/Alina Bain
Plastic Free Launceston - Trish Haeusler

Tamar NRM - Nick Flittner

Transition Tamar - Karen Hewitt

West Tamar Council - vacant

George Town Council - vacant

First Nations - vacant

George Town Coastal Communities Management Group

The GTCCMG have held two meetings in the last 12 months, both of which attracted strong attendance across a range of stakeholders. On 20 February 2024, the group met at kinimathatakinta/ George Town Community Hub. Representatives from all coastal community groups, together with local management and authorities, met and discussed a range of topics and issues. These included the current reviews of the Cat Management Policy and the Dog Management Policy, Volunteer Program Plans, weed management, community engagement and the George Town Council Township Character Plans.

On 19 June 2024, the group came together at the Hillwood Memorial Hall. Discussion at this meeting included fire awareness and preparedness, action plan summaries and upcoming events. The group are planning to hold an informal meeting/catchup prior to the end of the year.

The Tamar NRM Boneseed Blitz was well supported in 2023 with community events held in Beechford, Hillwood, George Town, Lulworth and Weymouth. Our volunteers were also active at Low Head and Bellingham. It is evident that the efforts across our communities are making an obvious difference. Many sites have seen a decline in plants, some with no reports at all. This annual event will be held again this month.

The group turned out in force at the “Catch it in the Catchment” and with other “Clean Up Australia” events. Our volunteers collected marine debris along and within our beautiful kanamaluka/ Tamar estuary at Hillwood, Low Head and George Town. These events attract a wide range of people and groups from all parts of our state. At the conclusion of each cleanup, participants are rewarded with a well-earned BBQ.

Tamar NRM and GTCCMG were regularly out and about attending events and engaging with local communities. These included attending the George Town Council Roadshow events during May, which were held in several of our coastal towns and Weymouth Easter Market.

The time and effort invested by all our coastal communities, who work tirelessly to improve the coastal areas of our beautiful region, is acknowledged and much appreciated.

Chairperson – Jason Orr



Weeds Working Group

The Weeds Working Group brings together practitioners from several organisations across the Tamar Valley who are interested and involved in weed management. The group met three times this year.

Members include the three Tamar Valley Councils, National Parks and Wildlife, Crown Land Services, NRM North, Biosecurity Tasmania, and community members.

The recently produced Weeds Strategic Plan will form the basis of weed control and management over the next five years. A copy can be downloaded from Tamar NRM website.

The group is also reproducing the Tamar Valley Weeds booklet, which will provide a quick reference for people seeking to identify weeds in the valley. There will be printed, and electronic copies made available.

Chairperson – John Thorp

Advice about Environmental Weeds:
Tamar NRM
www.tamarnrm.com.au
or
Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania
1300 368 550
www.dnre.tas.gov.au

Advice about Replacement Plants:
The Understorey Network
www.understorey-network.org.au
Greening Australia
www.greeningaustralia.org.au
The Australian Plant Society
www.apsos.org.au
Your Local Native Nursery

Acknowledgements
Text has been adapted from the brochure "Garden Plants are Going Bush... and Removing Environmental Weeds", 3rd edition, D.P.W.K., 1995. All images sourced through creative commons license. Thanks also to Launceston City Council, West Tamar Council, George Town Council, Greening Australia, The Understorey Network, Treeing Nursery, Habitat Horticultural Services, The Australian Plant Society, NRE Invasive Species Division and the Tamar Valley Weed Management Strategic Plan 2022-2026.

City of LAUNCESTON **West Tamar**

Published Oct 2000, updated and republished April 2023

Tamar Valley
A guide to identifying Tamar Valley weeds
Tamar NRM
Garden with bush friendly plants and help reduce the impact of weeds on local bushland & agriculture.

Plastic Free Launceston

Educational delivery concerning the environmental impact of plastics, and the challenges faced when responding to the management of this material remains in demand. Plastic Free Launceston has continued to deliver community-based presentations and workshops and when delivering to school, complimented aspects of the Australian Curriculum.

A range of community groups participated in Plastic Free Launceston workshops and presentations. Plastic Free presentations were combined with activities such as the Source to Sea excursion, Catch it in the Catchment, Jingler's Creek Tree Planting Day and AUSMAP activities. Participating groups included:

Tas TAFE Adult Migrant English class,
Australian Christian College,
Sacred Heart Primary School - Green Team,
Newstead Christian College,
Summerhill Scouts Club,
Scotch Oakburn College,
Beaconsfield Youth Group,
Invermay Primary School,
John Calvin School,
Queechy High School,
Newstead College,
St Finn Barrs Catholic Primary School,
Exeter Primary School.
Young Town Primary School,
East Launceston Primary School.



Source to Sea excursion,. Pic – Tamar NRM.

Plastic Free Launceston...

Microplastic /AUSMAP activities held during National Science Week at QVMAG were well attended by the public - Plastic Free Launceston delivered a day of Microplastic investigation using AUSMAP as an example of Citizen Science.

Sustainable Living Festival – Voluntary contributions of Plastic Free Launceston:

- Presence of a stall at the festival displaying the issues of plastic pollution and the responses to it to reduce this impact in our everyday lives
- Migrant Women’s knitting activity – inviting the public to help knit dish clothes while providing important information about the problem of microplastic shedding by synthetic sponges, brushes and dish cloths.
- Youth Forum – Louise Corrigan, Principal of Trevallyn Primary School, was invited to host an action workshop exploring how young people can respond to plastic pollution with innovative ideas and design.
- Plastic Free Launceston was invited to participate in the festival discussion panel.
- Our CUP LIBRARY was assembled to offer an alternative to single-use coffee cups.

Plastic Free Launceston had a successful year and continued to grow in its engagement with the community. Rebecca Prince- Ruiz, the founder of the global action – Plastic Free July, visits Launceston from time to time and has been a great sounding board for ideas. At short notice, volunteers have also been able to step in and help - a big thank you for their valuable contributions.

Tamar NRM has continued to support the work of Plastic Free Launceston and assisted in integrating our messaging with other projects.

Chairperson - Trish Haeusler



CALD Community Connections Working Group

Tamar NRM has teamed up with the Women's Friendship Group (Afghan community refugee support group) to provide activities and experiences in natural resource management for the Afghan community in the Tamar Valley. Other migrant groups are welcome to join the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Community Connections Working Group.

The idea is to offer experience in natural resource management to migrant and refugee groups in Tasmania by involving them in the regular work of Tamar NRM plus the occasional special activity. This will provide opportunities for our new Tasmanians to interact with the broader community and develop skills and contacts.

This year the CALD working group has been active.

Members of the CALD CC Working Group took part in the Catch It in The Catchment clean-up of Riverbend Park on Sunday 5th November 2023. With the aid of an interpreter, Project Coordinator Trish Haeusler introduced members to the idea of rubbish and plastics in the waterways and asked them to pay particular attention to small pieces of rubbish. Members worked for two hours, collecting five bags of rubbish.

Members of CALD CC also took part in the Ragwort Raids in January 2024. At the Sustainable Living Festival in March, they engaged in a knitting activity making dish cloths to replace the commercial dishwashing materials containing plastic. This was a joint project with Tamar NRM and Plastic Free Launceston, and three of their members volunteered at the festival.

Tamar NRM provided our Commuter van free to the CALD CC group for several trips including: a fishing trip to Clarence Point supported by Fishing Tasmania; a trip to the Meander area for bushwalking in the Meander State Forest Reserve and had a cultural afternoon at the home of a local artist, and an evening trip to see the Penguins at Lillico Beach via Devonport.

The Working Group will continue to provide support to these 'new' Tasmanians, giving them experiences in the natural world.



*Members of the CALD CC group joined the Catch it in the Catchment event at Riverbend Park in November.
Pic – CALD CC.*

Acknowledgements

Our Funders & Partners

We want to acknowledge our funders and partners, as without them, we could not do everything we do.

-  AUSMAP
-  Australian Plants Society of Tasmania
-  Birdlife Australia
-  Centre for Invasive Species Solutions
-  City of Launceston
-  Clean Up Australia
-  Conservation Volunteers Australia
-  Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania
-  East Tamar Landcare
-  Friends of Low Head Penguin Colony
-  George Town Council
-  Great Regional City Challenge
-  Hillwood Progress Association
-  Hotel Grand Chancellor Launceston
-  Landcare Tasmania
-  Launceston Chamber of Commerce
-  LaunchPad
-  Lilydale Landcare Group
-  Mode Electrical
-  NRM North
-  Parks & Wildlife Tasmania
-  Red Hot Tips
-  Rotary Club of Central Launceston
-  Tasmanian Government
-  The Van Diemen's Project
-  Transition Tamar
-  University of Tasmania
-  Velo Wines
-  West Tamar Council
-  West Tamar Landcare
-  Wildcare Tasmania

Financial Report - 2023/24

Tamar NRM Inc

ABN: 60048647495

Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Tamar NRM Inc

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Tamar NRM Inc

Committee's report

30 June 2024

The committee members present their report on Tamar NRM Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

Information on committee members

The names of each person who has been a committee member during the year and to date of the report are:

- Ben Hooper - President
- Brigid Morrison - Vice President
- Kathryn Pugh - Vice President - CoL Rep
- Michael Foster - Committee member - WTC Rep
- Andrew McCarthy - Committee Member - GTC Rep
- Roger Tyshing - Committee Member (Resigned 12.12.23)
- John Thorp - Committee Member
- Gregory Unwin - Committee Member
- Tim Reed - Committee Member
- Tony Clark - Committee Member (Joined 22.03.24)
- Nick Flittner - Staff - Program Coordinator
- Kirstin Seaver - Staff - Program Coordinator

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

Principal activities

The principal activity of Tamar NRM Inc during the financial year was to promote conservation of the natural environment of the Tamar Region.

No significant changes in the nature of the Association's activity occurred during the financial year.

Operating results

The profit/(loss) of the Association after providing for income tax amounted to \$120,543 (2023: \$97,978)

No dividends were paid or declared since the start of the financial year. No recommendation for payment of dividends has been made.

Significant changes in state of affairs

There have been no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Association during the year.

Events after the reporting date

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

Tamar NRM Inc

Committee's report

30 June 2024

Likely developments in the operations of the Association and the expected results of those operations in future financial years have not been included in this report as the inclusion of such information is likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the Association.

Environmental issues

The Association's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulations under a law of the Commonwealth or of a state or territory of Australia.

Indemnification and Insurance of officers and auditors

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of Tamar NRM Inc.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Committee of Management.



Craig Preece
Preece Accounting

Dated: 19 September 2024

Tamar NRM Inc

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Revenue	4		
Revenue from other sources			
Donations		208,790.00	199,524.95
Grants		35,966.36	39,699.85
Other revenue from other sources		77,162.43	18,751.50
Total Revenue from other sources		321,918.79	257,976.30
Total Revenue		321,918.79	257,976.30
Gross profit		321,918.79	257,976.30
Expenses			
Administrative expenses		(234,136.45)	(149,233.65)
Employee benefit expenses		(206,701.71)	(204,610.17)
Depreciation		(1,623.73)	(2,110.69)
Total Expenses		(442,461.89)	(355,954.51)
Profit (loss) before income taxes		(120,543.10)	(97,978.21)
Income tax		-	-
Profit (loss) from continuing operations		(120,543.10)	(97,978.21)
Profit (loss) for the year		(120,543.10)	(97,978.21)
Total comprehensive income for the year		(120,543.10)	(97,978.21)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Tamar NRM Inc

Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents			
	5		
Cash at bank		49,066.48	34,737.35
Short-term deposits		27,020.68	142,020.68
Cash on hand			
Petty Cash		145.00	125.00
Total Cash and cash equivalents		76,232.16	176,883.03
Trade and other receivables	6	1,178.83	30,227.27
Total current assets		77,410.99	207,110.30
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment			
	8		
Plant and equipment		5,729.23	6,332.05
Total non-current assets		5,729.23	6,332.05
Total assets		83,140.22	213,442.35
Liabilities			
Non-current liabilities			
Trade and other payables			
	9		
Trade payables			
Accounts Payable		5,319.00	5,169.63
Other trade and other payables		(974.48)	9,620.71
Total Trade and other payables		4,344.52	14,790.34
Employee benefits		914.42	860.93
Contract liabilities	7	28,214.30	27,581.00
Total non-current liabilities		33,473.24	43,232.27
Total liabilities		33,473.24	43,232.27
Net assets		49,666.98	170,210.08
Equity			
Retained earnings			
Opening balance		149,112.88	247,091.09
Loss for the year		(120,543.10)	(97,978.21)
Total Retained earnings		28,569.78	149,112.88
Reserves			
	10		
Other reserves			
Tamar NRM Donations DGR Fund		4,199.64	4,199.64

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Tamar NRM Inc
Statement of financial position
 As at 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Retained Earnings - Christopher Strong Sponsorship Fund		16,897.56	16,897.56
Total Other reserves		21,097.20	21,097.20
Total Reserves		21,097.20	21,097.20
Total equity		49,666.98	170,210.08

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Tamar NRM Inc
Statement of changes in equity
 For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Retained earnings	Other reserves	Total	Total equity
	\$	\$	\$	\$
2023				
Opening balance	247,091.09	21,097.20	268,188.29	268,188.29
Profit for the year	(97,978.21)	-	(97,978.21)	(97,978.21)
Closing balance	149,112.88	21,097.20	170,210.08	170,210.08
2024				
Opening balance	149,112.88	21,097.20	170,210.08	170,210.08
Profit for the year	(120,543.10)	-	(120,543.10)	(120,543.10)
Closing balance	28,569.78	21,097.20	49,666.98	49,666.98

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Tamar NRM Inc

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Receipts from activities	398,342.24	223,335.22
Interest received	8,517.88	5,272.41
Payments to suppliers and employees	(449,002.79)	(355,331.41)
Other receipts	(27,639.09)	(17,600.00)
Net cash flows from/(used in) operating activities	(69,781.76)	(144,323.78)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment	(1,020.91)	-
Other cash items from investing activities	(27,292.73)	27,272.73
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	(28,313.64)	27,272.73
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Other cash items from financing activities	(2,575.47)	(293.54)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(100,670.87)	(117,344.59)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	176,758.03	294,102.62
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	76,087.16	176,758.03

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Tamar NRM Inc

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

1. Introduction

The financial statements cover Tamar NRM Inc as an individual entity. Tamar NRM Inc is a not-for-profit Association incorporated in Tasmania under the *Associations Incorporations Act (TAS) 1964* ('the Act').

The principal activities of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2024 was to promote, conservation of the natural environment of the Tamar Region.

The functional and presentation currency of Tamar NRM Inc is Australian dollars.

The financial report was authorised for issue by the Committee of Management on 30 June 2024.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

2. Basis of preparation

In the opinion of the committee of management, the Association is not a reporting entity since there are unlikely to exist users of the financial statements who are not able to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. These special purpose financial statements have been prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the Act.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*, AASB 107 *Statement of Cash Flows*, AASB 108 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors* and AASB 1054 *Australian Additional Disclosures*.

The financial statements and material accounting policies all comply with the recognition and measurement requirements in Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

Material accounting policy information adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

3. Material accounting policy information

a. Income tax

The Association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

b. Borrowing costs

All borrowing costs are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

c. Impairment of non-financial assets

At the end of each reporting period the Association determines whether there is evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Tamar NRM Inc

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

3. Material accounting policy information (continued)**c. Impairment of non-financial assets (continued)**

Where an indicator exists and regardless for indefinite life intangible assets and intangible assets not yet available for use, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated.

Where assets do not operate independently of other assets, the recoverable amount of the relevant cash-generating unit (CGU) is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash-generating unit.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Reversal indicators are considered in subsequent periods for all assets which have suffered an impairment loss.

d. Adoption of new and revised accounting standards

The Association has adopted all standards which became effective for the first time at 30 June 2024, refer to the Change in accounting policy note, for details of the changes due to standards adopted.

e. New accounting standards and interpretations

The AASB has issued new and amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods. The Association has decided not to early adopt these Standards.

The following table summarises those future requirements, and their impact on the Association where the standard is relevant:

4. Revenue and other income**a. Revenue from continuing operations**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Revenue recognised on receipt (not enforceable or no sufficiently specific performance obligations - AASB 1058)		
Donations	208,790.00	199,524.95
Grants	35,966.36	39,699.85
Other revenue from other sources	77,162.43	18,751.50
	321,918.79	257,976.30
	321,918.79	257,976.30

Tamar NRM Inc

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

5. Cash and cash equivalents**a. Cash and cash equivalent details**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	49,066.48	34,737.35
Cash on hand	145.00	125.00
Short-term deposits	27,020.68	142,020.68
	<u>76,232.16</u>	<u>176,883.03</u>

b. Reconciliation of cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to items in the statement of financial position as follows:

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	76,232.16	176,883.03

6. Trade and other receivables

Current	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Trade receivables		
Accounts Receivable	1,178.83	57,500.00
Accrued Revenue	-	(27,272.73)
Total Trade receivables	<u>1,178.83</u>	<u>30,227.27</u>
	1,178.83	30,227.27
	<u>1,178.83</u>	<u>30,227.27</u>

7. Contract balances

The Association has recognised the following contract assets and liabilities from contracts with customers:

Non-current contract liabilities	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Grant monies received in advance	28,214.30	27,581.00

Tamar NRM Inc

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

8. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

a. Property, plant and equipment details (continued)

Summary	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Plant and equipment		
Computer Equipment	1,020.91	-
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Computer Equipment	(40.72)	-
Plant & Equipment	35,681.82	35,681.82
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Plant & Equipment	(30,932.78)	(29,349.77)
Total Plant and equipment	5,729.23	6,332.05
	5,729.23	6,332.05
	Plant and equipment	Total
	\$	\$
2023		
As at 30 June 2023	6,332.05	6,332.05
	Plant and equipment	Total
	\$	\$
2024		
Opening balance	5,729.23	5,729.23
Closing balance	5,729.23	5,729.23
As at 30 June 2024		
At cost	5,729.23	5,729.23

9. Trade and other payables

Non-current	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Trade payables	5,319.00	5,169.63
Other trade and other payables		
GST	(2,765.53)	4,567.40
PAYG Withholdings Payable	2,396.07	2,270.07
Employee Entitlements	(602.79)	2,785.53
Rounding	(2.23)	(2.29)
Total Other trade and other payables	(974.48)	9,620.71
	4,344.52	14,790.34

Tamar NRM Inc

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

10. Reserves

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Other reserves		
Tamar NRM Donations DGR Fund	4,199.64	4,199.64
Retained Earnings - Christopher Strong Sponsorship Fund	16,897.56	16,897.56
Total Other reserves	21,097.20	21,097.20
	21,097.20	21,097.20

11. Events occurring after the reporting date

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

12. Statutory information

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

Tamar NRM Inc
 50 Remount Road
 Launceston TAS Australia
 7250

Tamar NRM Inc
Certificate by members of committee

Annual statements give true and fair view of financial performance and position of incorporated association

I, Ben Hooper, being a member of the Committee of Tamar NRM Inc, certify that -

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial performance and position of Tamar NRM Inc during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 30 June 2024.



Ben Hooper
President

Dated: 30th September 2024

Independent audit report to the members of Tamar NRM Inc

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Tamar NRM Inc (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements and the Certificate by members of committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2024 is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the *Associations Incorporations Act (TAS) 1964*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code)* that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report is prepared to assist the Association in Associations Incorporation Act (Tasmania) 1964 ("the Act"). As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the Association and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than the Association. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf.

This description forms part of our auditor's report.



Craig Preece

Principal

Preece Accounting

Launceston, TAS 7250

