

Presidents Report 2025

SHASA volunteers

SHASA's key to success is its volunteers. We now have 124 paid members and over 30 active members. A big thank you to the 13 members of the Executive for the last 12 months, members of our various committees, and the weekly volunteering at the Repair Cafe, the Moruya Food Program and Pet Support Program.

Our significant program of works would not have been possible without the Project Managers. They get paid a very small sum for the significant work associated with implementing complex projects.

SHASA Bushfire and Heatwave Haven Strategy

- By the end of 2025, with the addition of the the Southern Life Church Moruya and the Central Tilba Halls, we will have 9 Bushfire and Heatwavehavens across the Eurobodalla.

SHASA Community Facilities Resilience Strategy

SHASA has contracted Debbi Long to prepare the strategy. So far it will include business cases to undertake works that will make 18 community facilities more resilient. This Strategy will guide our project work for the next 5 years.

Grant funded projects

- Since 2018 SHASA has successfully secured 63 grants for a total of \$7.5m.
- Recently SHASA secured \$50,000 NSW Government Community Building Partnerships grant to upgrade our 1st Council facility, the Dr Mackay Community Centre, with solar, batteries and electrifying the commercial kitchen.
- SHASA also secured \$50,000 from Strengthening Rural Communities (FRRR) for Connect Eurobodalla. The Tec Exec will continue to provide digital literacy training, and significantly increase the reach and availability of this training to the community, and grow the volunteer base of digital mentors.

Networking/Collaboration

- SHASA participates in networks to facilitate collaboration and achieve better outcomes for our community. Examples include participation on:
 - the Eurobodalla Community Support Network and auspicing a grant to fund a Coordinator during 2025.
 - the ESC Climate and Environment Committee.
 - The Victorian Community Energy Network
 - The Eurobodalla Welcome Park Working Group
 - the Nature Conservation Council Climate Working Group
 - Disaster Preparedness Collaboration Working Group

SHASA communications

- SHASA has produced 6 very professional newsletters that have been distributed electronically to members and supporters and by hard copy to key stakeholders and cafes around the Eurobodalla.
- SHASA has kept its Facebook page engaging and thought provoking.
- The Website is a key resource for SHASA and is currently being overhauled to ensure its information is current and of use to our community.

Electric Vehicles

- EV Expos have been held in Narooma in 2024 and 2025, in Moruya in 2024 and another one is scheduled for 4 October at the Moruya Markets. We know these events nudge people along in their journey of going electric. Switching from petrol/diesel to electric is the biggest way households can reduce greenhouse gas emission.
- To ensure we also have fund we have the EuroBEV (Battery Electric Vehicle) where owners of EVs and those interested in EVs meet for lunch regularly (about every 6 weeks). The next one is on 22 September at the Tuross Boat Shed 12noon.
- In early December 2024 we had an amazing end of year party at Lyn Smith's place in Congo. At the end of each year SHASA has so much to celebrate.

Governance

Last but not least has been SHASA's focus on improving its own internal operations. This includes improving its document management system on the Google Drive so that members can share documents and work collaboratively. SHASA also runs a Cloud based financial management system – Xero and runs many meetings via Zoom.

SHASA is currently developing a Digital Strategy so that we improve our electronic engagement with our community. We have set up a tab on the website to share our governance documents with other community organisations including the Privacy Policy, Key Performance Indicators, Working with Children, Fundraising Strategy, Succession Planning, SHASA resources and position descriptions. Upon request SHASA can make available its Risk Management Plan, Code of Conduct, and Conflict of Interest.

As a medium scale registered charity with significant funding going through our books each year, and reporting obligations to the ATO, Charities Commission, and funding bodies, we have had to improve our governance procedures. A big thank you to members of the Governance Committee.

Conclusion

SHASA is highly respected by key stakeholders, other not for profits, the Eurobodalla Shire Council, the Community Power Agency, the Nature Conservation Council, the Coalition for Community Energy, the MP for Bega Michael Holland to name a few.