



CENTRAL VICTORIAN  
**Greenhouse Alliance**

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WORKING TOGETHER TO DRIVE  
ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

# ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018





# MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

I intended to start with the word busy to describe our year, yet I feel that understates the many things we have been active in and achieved. I would like to express the thanks of the Board to Rob our Executive Officer, Sandra for her project management and to Sharyn for keeping the accounts in order.

It has been a real pleasure to welcome Mildura City Council to CVGA this year.

We also welcomed More Australian Solar Homes, better known as MASH, into CVGA in April. I would like to both acknowledge and thank Neil and Heather Barrett for placing their trust in us to continue to grow one of their amazing social enterprises in a way that provides value across the whole of the CVGA area. It has also been delightful to have Jo join us as part of the staff.

CVGA continues to expand its social interface through the “Cool It” project, producing very tangible and practical actions for councils to prioritise street tree planting and other cooling initiatives in regional towns based on heat and vulnerability mapping.

Another key task this year has been to build capacity of councils across the region to understand different investment and procurement models for council energy. CVGA has also worked with the partner greenhouse alliances to develop a renewable energy council only buying group. This will be a group of councils entering into a long-term offtake agreement for renewable energy from 2020.

It was especially pleasing to see the 400 people in attendance at the Alliances Conference earlier this year. Full credit to you Rob for the part you played in pulling the event together with the other greenhouse alliance EO's.

Finally, it has been great for CVGA to be nominated as the lead organisation from the Victorian Government to lead the development of a Loddon Mallee renewable energy transition roadmap. This is a significant project with Statewide implications and is worth \$300,000 to CVGA deliver.

It has been a pleasure to welcome Rebecca Stockfeld, Mark Jenkins, Colleen Condliffe and Heather Green to the Board this year and to note the great work of Aaron Van Egmond and Don Cole in their time with us.

I would especially like to thank my fellow Board members for their support and diligence throughout the year, much of our success comes from your efforts. I would also particularly like to acknowledge the officers of the various member Councils who work closely with the CVGA team on a daily basis. The success of these relationships strongly determine the wins we can deliver to each Council.

It is nice to conclude my two years as Chair with CVGA in such a good position, particularly in a strategic sense with the development of our three year plan in September of this year.

Thank you once again for your support and assistance in this time.



**Cr. David Clark**

**CVGA chair and Mayor of Pyrenees Shire Council**



# ABOUT CVGA

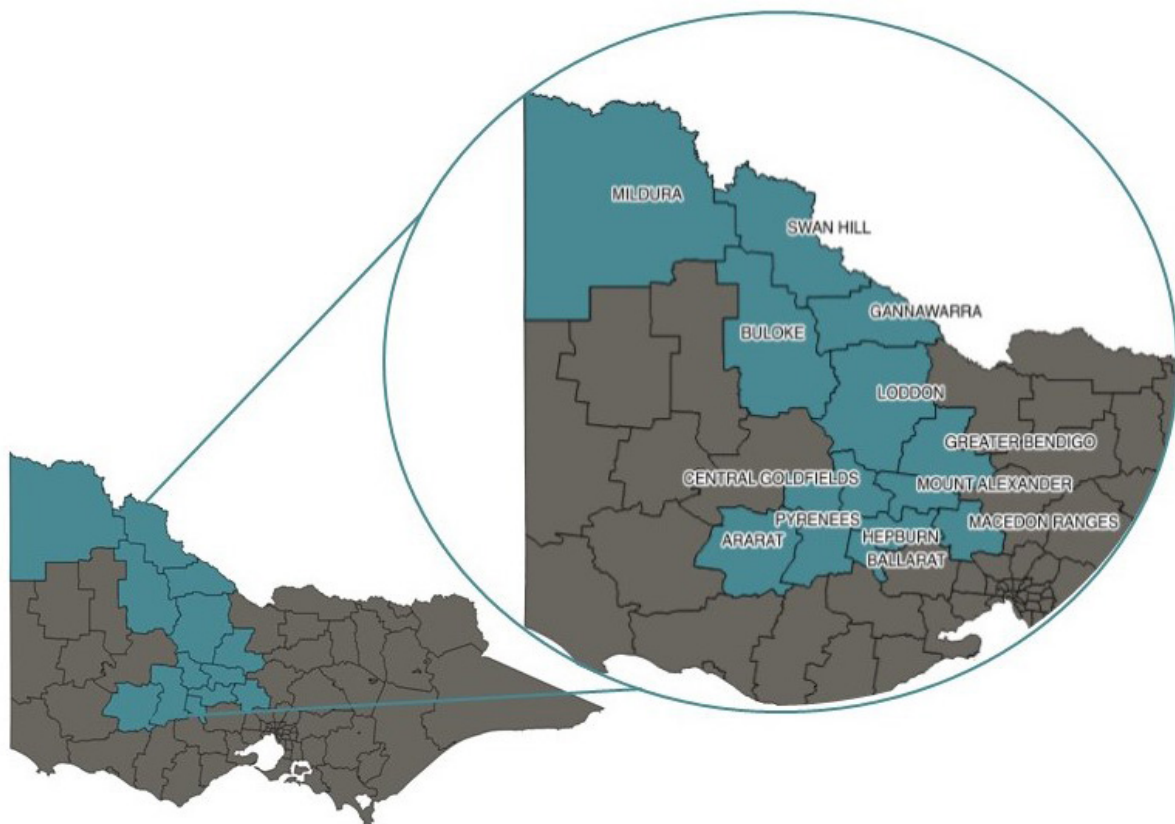
The Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA) is a formal network of 13 local governments operating in central and northern Victoria. Established in 2001, the CVGA is part of a broader network of greenhouse alliances operating across the state.

**Vision:** Our region is home to empowered, thriving and sustainable communities leading the way in addressing climate change

**Mission:** Local governments working together to drive action on climate change across central and northwest Victoria

Our core objectives are:

1. developing and implementing innovative **regional projects**,
2. undertaking **advocacy**
3. **knowledge sharing** and promoting best practice across local government



# BOARD MEMBERS

NAME	COUNCIL
Don Cole	Ararat Rural City Council
Cr Belinda Coates	City of Ballarat
Cr Jennifer Alden	City of Greater Bendigo
Cr John Shaw	Buloke Shire Council
Rebecca Stockfeld	Central Goldfields Shire Council
Cr Sonia Wright	Gannawarra Shire Council
Grant Schuster	Hepburn Shire Council
Cr Colleen Condliffe	Loddon Shire Council
Cr Natasha Gayfer	Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Vacant	Mount Alexander Shire Council
Cr David Clark	Pyrenees Shire Council
Heather Green	Swan Hill Rural City Council
Mark Jenkins	Mildura Rural City Council

# EMPLOYEES

NAME	POSITION
Rob Law	Executive Officer
Sandra Ryan	Office/ Project Manager
Sharyn Robinson	Finance Officer
Jo Kaptein	MASH Program Lead

# FEEDBACK FROM OUR MEMBERS AND STAKEHOLDERS

“

Congratulations to CVGA for a very impressive 2017/18 year. I would like to thank Rob Law for his leadership, and the CVGA member councils for their efforts and achievements, especially in our connections across TAKE2, the Pilot Community Power Hubs in Ballarat and Bendigo, and the Local Government Energy Saver Program. We look forward to continued collaboration in the year ahead.

**Luke Wilkinson**

**Manager, Regions, Communities and Local Government,  
Sustainability Victoria**

“

Swan Hill Rural City Council has benefited enormously from CVGA membership from the delivery of complex projects to advocacy for Councils collectively across the region. CVGA brings to Councils significant expertise and experience giving Councils exposure to resources across industry and governments that would be difficult to otherwise access. Projects CVGA have facilitated, driven, supported and delivered has resulted in significant budget savings to Councils at a time when budget constraints are becoming increasingly restrictive whilst delivering projects to a standard that alone Council would struggle effectively to match. Importantly membership has facilitated closer working relationships with other Councils within our region including across the broader greenhouse alliance network and government. This has given Councils a strong and collective voice to champion change in addressing significant challenges for our regions particularly around the accelerated rate and volatility of Climate Change..

**Sam Steel**

**Senior Environment Officer, Swan Hill Rural City**

“

Since my time as councillor for Buloke Shire Council, I have come to know CVGA as a wonderful support of local government and tireless advocate of greenhouse gas reductions, through all sorts of great initiatives. CVGA is an excellent resource and partner for local councils and nothing is too much trouble for the dedicated staff of CVGA.

**Cr John Shaw,**

**Buloke Shire Council**

# PROJECTS

INITIATIVES		OUTCOMES
PROJECTS	Cool It	9 partner councils collaborated to undertake heat vulnerability mapping across regional towns and cities. The project has helped councils to prioritise where to invest in cooling initiatives such as street trees, especially in areas of high social vulnerability. The project has produced individual council action plans, heat vulnerability maps, and a regional summary report. The methodology is useful for any regional council to understand heat vulnerability in their municipality to guide decision making.
	Social Energy Procurement	11 partner councils collaborated to investigate opportunities and risks for councils to invest in alternative energy procurement options such as long term Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs). The project also explored options for councils to support local energy projects through a range of different models. The project has produced a useful decision makers guide for councils to better understand and make decisions around energy investment and procurement.
	Large scale renewable energy purchasing for local government	The CVGA has partnered with other greenhouse alliances to convene a statewide electricity procurement working group for local government. The group is now developing a business case for 39 councils to enter into a long term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for renewable electricity from 2020.
	Solar Savers	Solar Savers is now in its third year and brings together over 25 municipalities and 4 greenhouse alliances in Victoria to install solar PV on low income and vulnerable households. The project is funded through a New Energy Jobs Fund grant and tests two alternative financing models; the use of council rates, and a low interest bank loan.
	MASH Community Solar Bulk Buy	In April 2018 the CVGA took on the MASH program, a community solar and battery bulk buy established by the Hub Foundation. Since taking on the program, communities in the shires of Hepburn, Mt Alexander, and Macedon have invested in over 2MW of solar PV. In addition the MASH program includes a community benefit scheme whereby free solar is awarded to community organisations and not for profits in the region.
KNOWLEDGE SHARING	Forums	Members Forums: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electric Vehicles and Local Government</li> <li>• Waste to energy CVGA project final meeting</li> <li>• Electricity Procurement for Local Government</li> <li>• Major Road Lighting upgrades</li> <li>• Energy Performance Contracting</li> <li>• Addressing heat vulnerability in regional victorian towns</li> </ul>
	Conference	The annual Victorian Greenhouse Alliance conference was a great success. A collaboration between the greenhouse alliances, the event was held at the City of Darebin and featured almost 400 local government staff to share knowledge and best practice.
ADVOCACY	Submissions/ Consultations	CVGA made 10 formal advocacy submissions covering key federal and state issues including energy market reform and climate change policy. This advocacy was particularly effective on issues such as major road lighting where CVGA met the Minister for Roads to discuss an equitable co-investment model for replacing lights that are cost-shared with VicRoads. CVGA has a formal position on the National Energy Consumers Roundtable. This Roundtable is an opportunity to understand how energy market reforms and climate policy at the Federal level will impact local governments and their communities and ensure that local governments have the opportunity to input into these important reforms. The CVGA is the only local government body represented on the Roundtable.



# PROJECT PROFILE; MASH

(MORE AUSTRALIAN SOLAR HOMES)



In April 2018, the CVGA took over the ownership and management of the MASH (More Australian Solar Homes) program from the Hub Foundation. MASH is a community solar and battery bulk-buy for households and businesses. It was launched in mid 2014 as an initiative of the Hub Foundation and since then has grown into one of the most successful community energy programs in Australia.

MASH works because it offers households a 'tried and trusted' alternative for going solar. The MASH program appoints a solar supplier through a tendering process that ensures participants are getting high quality systems at good value for money. The MASH team then work to help households through the solar installation process and focus on providing excellent customer service and strong community engagement. MASH also 'gives back' to the communities where it operates in the form of free solar for community groups and schools.

MASH is currently available in the Mount Alexander Shire, Macedon Ranges Shire, Hepburn Shire and City of Greater Bendigo. MASH will shortly be launched in new areas across the CVGA region starting with Swan Hill in 2019.

In October this year MASH received a Community Environment Award from Environment Victoria, recognising MASH "for repowering central Victoria with over one thousand solar installations and for their dynamic approach to community engagement,". Well done to Jo Kaptein, MASH program lead and now CVGA employee for all of your efforts in delivering such a great program.

Since April when the CVGA took over the program, 370 households have purchased a system through the MASH program, amounting to 2.3MW of solar PV.

## **MASH results since September 2014**

- 1150 solar PV systems sold; which is adding 5.3MW of additional solar generation capacity
- 8400 tonnes CO2 emissions cut annually, equivalent to 1700 less cars on our roads each year
- Electricity bill savings for households of around \$1M each year.
- Over \$70,000 raised for free solar for community groups and schools





**CENTRAL VICTORIAN GREENHOUSE ALLIANCE INC.**  
**INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
DEWLP Auspice IB Commission	8,820	-
Heatwave Help Project	-	10,000
Interest Earned	3,773	3,161
Large Scale Renew Contribution	-	1,500
Membership Fees	36,125	241,000
MASH Project Income	19,100	-
Resilient Community Assets	-	9,520
Rent	100	-
Solar Savers Income	-	285
Waste to Energy Project	46,475	93,500
	<b>114,393</b>	<b>358,965</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Accounting & Audit Fees	3,200	11,726
Bank Charges	61	175
Company Registrations	114	836
Executive Support	-	600
Consultancy Fees	20,340	1,300
Dues & Subscriptions	64	57
Equipment under \$1000	-	810
Financial Management	8,286	6,263
Gifts	52	295
MASH Info Line	330	-
Branding & Graphic Design	1,173	-
Fuel Travel	1,088	1,484
Marketing and Comms	1,662	-
MV Comprehensive Insurance	508	344
MV Registration	554	543
MV Repairs and Maintenance	452	1,148
Office Supplies	52	117
Office/Admin Support	-	353
Postage & Freight Charges	115	172
Printing & Stationery	306	1,376
Telephone	1,656	2,134
Travel Expenses	1,388	123
Venue Hire, Catering & Meeting	-	2,425
ATO SRA PAYG Tax Underpaid	-	823
Advertising	641	778
Communication Support	295	958
Conferences & Prof Dev	566	4,106
Knowledge Hub Management	-	6,818
IT Support	-	362
Software	770	1,549
Computer & IT - Other	-	50
Depreciation	2,100	2,800
Meeting Expenses	2,251	1,449
Salaries and Wages	120,853	117,628
Superannuation	11,419	10,894
Workcover Premium	1,719	2,338
Payroll Expenses - Other	46,069	1,844
Heatwave Help Project Costs	-	4,364
MASH Hub Foundation Costs	8,157	-
Large Scale Solar Contribution	3,500	-
Waste-to-Energy Consultancy Fee	36,925	32,125
Electrologix	-	-
The Hub Rent & Outgoings	7,986	6,029
	<b>284,652</b>	<b>227,196</b>
<b>Profit/(Loss) for the period</b>	<b>( 170,259)</b>	<b>131,769</b>
Profit/(Loss) from ordinary activities after income tax	( 170,259)	131,769
<b>RETAINED PROFITS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<b>225,107</b>	<b>85,192</b>
<b>Prior Year Adjustments</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,146</b>
<b>RETAINED PROFITS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<b>54,848</b>	<b>225,107</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

**CENTRAL VICTORIAN GREENHOUSE ALLIANCE INC.**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 30 JUNE 2018**

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
CVGA - Operations Account	101,997	146,938
EEIG - Account	-	-
EO CVGA Credit Card	( 91)	( 487)
Term Deposit 3mths.	56,333	104,157
Accounts Receivable	19,831	114,400
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>178,070</b>	<b>365,008</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Motor Vehicle - At Cost	11,200	11,200
Less : Motor Vehicle Accumulated Depreciation	( 4,900)	( 2,800)
	6,300	8,400
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>6,300</b>	<b>8,400</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>184,370</b>	<b>373,408</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	42,851	30,483
Funds Held in Trust - DEWLP	-	47,700
Project Income Held - Cool It	25,740	-
Project Income Held - Social Energy	33,102	-
Income Received in Advance	-	44,000
PAYG Withholding	9,792	8,044
Payroll Liabilities Super	3,910	473
Provision for Leave	12,938	1,844
ATO GST Balance	1,190	15,756
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>129,522</b>	<b>148,300</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Provision for Leave	-	-
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>129,522</b>	<b>148,300</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>54,848</b>	<b>225,107</b>
<b>MEMBERS FUNDS</b>		
Accumulated Surplus	225,107	85,192
Prior Year Adjustments	-	8,146
Profit/(Loss) from ordinary activities after income tax	( 170,259)	131,769
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS</b>	<b>54,848</b>	<b>225,107</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

**CENTRAL VICTORIAN GREENHOUSE ALLIANCE INC.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018**

**NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements cover Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance Inc. as an individual entity incorporated in Victoria under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Victoria) and Regulations.

**Basis of Preparation**

The committee have prepared the financial statements on the basis that the entity is a non-reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. The financial statements are therefore special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Victoria) and Regulations.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the significant accounting policies disclosed below, which the committee have determined are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. Such accounting policies are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs unless otherwise stated in the notes. The accounting policies that have been adopted in the preparation of the statements are as follows:

**Accounting Policies**

**(a) Income Tax**

No provision for income tax has been raised as the association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

**(b) Property, Plant and Equipment**

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

**Plant and equipment**

Plant and equipment is measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by the Association to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from those assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to present values in determining recoverable amounts.

**Depreciation**

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated on a diminishing value and basis over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset was held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

**CENTRAL VICTORIAN GREENHOUSE ALLIANCE INC.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018**

**NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

The depreciation rates and useful lives used for each class of depreciable assets are:

<b>Class of fixed asset</b>	<b>Depreciation rates/useful lives</b>	<b>Depreciation basis</b>
Motor Vehicles	25%	Diminishing Value

The assets residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted if appropriate at each balance sheet date.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the assets carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in the income statement. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

**(c) Leases**

Leases of fixed assets where substantially all the risk and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not the legal ownership that are transferred to the association are classified as finance leases.

Finance leases are capitalised by recording an asset and a liability at the lower of the amounts equal to the fair value of the leased property or the present value of the minimum lease payments. Including any guaranteed residual values. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for the period.

Leased assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of their estimated useful lives or the lease term.

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Lease incentives under operating leases are recognised as a liability and amortised on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.

**(d) Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the balance date.

Contributions are made by the association to employee superannuation funds and are charged as expenses when incurred.

**CENTRAL VICTORIAN GREENHOUSE ALLIANCE INC.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018**

**NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**(e) Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense. Receivables and payables in the Balance Sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

**(f) Comparative figures**

Where required by Accounting Standards comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

**(h) Going Concern**

The financial statements of the association have been prepared on the going concern basis. As the net assets of the association as at 30 June 2018 is in a strong position, we believe there are no going concern issues.

**NOTE 2 – RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

No members or related entity has entered into a material contract with the association.

No member's fees have been paid as the positions held are on a voluntary basis.

**NOTE 3 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

There have been no events after the end of the financial year that would materially affect the financial statements.


**CENTRAL VICTORIAN GREENHOUSE ALLIANCE INC.**  
**STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**


The Committee has determined that the entity is not a reporting entity and that these special purpose financial statements should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of board, the financial report as set out in the income and expenditure statement, assets and liabilities statement and notes to the financial statements:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance Inc. as at 30 June 2018 and of its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, mandatory professional reporting requirements and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Signed   
Name: Natasha Gayfer  
Position: Treasurer

Signed   
Name: David Clark  
Position: Chair

Dated: 22/11/18





# THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS & THEIR CONTINUING SUPPORT



## CONTACT

### Rob Law

Executive Officer

0467 692 827

eo@cvga.org.au

PO Box 215, *The Hub*, Castlemaine Vic.

3450

[www.cvga.org.au](http://www.cvga.org.au)



CENTRAL VICTORIAN  
**Greenhouse Alliance**

eo@cvga.org.au  
PO Box 215, *The Hub*, Castlemaine Vic.  
3450

[www.cvga.org.au](http://www.cvga.org.au)