



Learn Grow Services Inc.

Annual Report

2016—2017

Providing support services to



FOOD PLANT
SOLUTIONS
ROTARIAN ACTION GROUP

Report prepared by
Una Hobday, Chair and Karalyn Hingston, Project Administrator
on behalf of the Management Committee of Learn Grow Services Inc. (LGSI)
The Committee acknowledges and thanks all Rotary Districts, Rotary Clubs,
Rotarians, partner organisations, groups and individuals
who have supported Learn Grow Services Inc. throughout the past year.
For further information, please visit www.foodplantsolutions.org or email
info@foodplantsolutions.org

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INTRODUCTION

Learn Grow Services Inc (LGSi) was initially established as an administrative and financial vehicle to support the Learn♦Grow project. The name of this project was subsequently changed to Food Plant Solutions and thus the mission and purpose of LGSi continues as previously for the new entity.

FOOD PLANT SOLUTIONS – Project Profile:

Tasmanian agricultural scientist, Bruce French, has spent over 30 years on a voluntary mission to document information on the food plants of the world. From this, Bruce has established a plain English database of over 28,500 edible plants. The database contains a variety of information on the plants including; where they are found and their climatic zones. In addition to this a selection of plants contain nutritional information, photos, where and how to grow, edible parts and how to use.

Rotarian Buz Green, of the Rotary Club of Devonport North in Tasmania (D9830), recognised the potential of the food plants database in the war against malnutrition. A relationship was developed between the organisation behind the food plants database, Food Plants International, and Rotary to establish what was ultimately to become Food Plant Solutions Rotarian Action Group, operating as Food Plant Solutions (FPS). The project was formally established as the project vehicle in June 2007. Officially recognised by the board of Rotary International as a Rotarian Action Group in 2011 it has gained a significant international profile within Rotary.

FPS is the communication platform to create awareness, seek engagement from and empower both Rotarians and Non-Rotarians to develop and implement Food Plant Solutions in developing countries. The role of Learn Grow Services Inc. is to provide administrative support to Food Plant Solutions, which can include but is not limited to:

- Fund raising and funds management.
- Management of GST.
- Being the responsible entity for employment and the issues surrounding same including legal responsibilities, workers comp, insurance etc.
- Dealing with non-Rotary aid providers.
- Supporting FPS both financially and administratively as appropriate.

The prime objective of FPS is to provide resources, information and technical support to aid providers, whether they are Rotary, non-Rotary, government, non-government or other international organisations. This can be done by:

- Developing and maintaining guides that provide guidance to potential users, in using the database.
- Creating publications and resource materials through the use of the FPI database.
- Improving the process for extracting data from the FPI database.
- Sharing at no cost, publications and resource materials to aid providers for delivery in aid programs.
- Developing specific publications for aid providers, on a case-by-case basis.

Report from the Chair

Now in its tenth year, the project with Chair – PDG Una Hobday, saw partnerships with external providers cemented, and a strategic, consolidated focus.

Funding remained a challenge and with that in mind, a small committee, headed by our Fundraising Director – John Phillips and assisted by Esley Dunham, organised an Art Exhibition, Dinner and Auction. Approximately 50 artists participated, with over 100 paintings for sale, with FPS receiving a commission on the purchase price of all sales. Later in the year, Esley Dunham organised the Three Tenors Dinner that was very well attended.

Both were very successful and these type of events are critical to the continuation of LGSI and FPS. Sincere thanks to John Phillips and Esley Dunham.

Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) were developed as a way of measuring our aims and progress. Last year these were identified as:

1. Fundraising – aim to raise \$50,000 per year.
2. Aim to have 3 signed Letters of Intent with program partners.
3. Create 4 field guides per year.
4. Raise awareness about the program both within and outside Rotary.

Outcomes:

1. Total raised - \$41,350 (\$8,650 short of target).
2. Two new LOI's (1 short of target).
3. 2 guides created, 4 L2 publications for the Western Pacific, 1 new L2 each for Vietnam, Cambodia and Timor-Leste. 1 new poster. (2 short with field guides, but 8 other publications).
4. World Vision continues to be actively engaged. Achieved partnership including sponsorship with Boart Longyear. Rotary engagement continues to lag despite our efforts.

LAUNCH Food was a global innovation program for innovators, entrepreneurs, or intrapreneurs with big ideas for improving health outcomes by enabling people to make healthy food choices. With this in mind, FPS lodged an application. The LAUNCH team received 280 applications, from 74 countries and whilst we were not successful, we were included in their Innovators Handbook, listed second, as a highly commended innovation.



LAUNCH

In August, Technical Director – John McPhee, attended the Crawford Fund Annual Conference - Titled 'Waste Not, Want Not: The Circular Economy to Food Security'. It focused on food loss and waste issues along the supply chain. John was able to attend the conference through the support of the Crawford Fund.



In addition to this, the Crawford Fund provided funding of \$5000 to support the Ugandan field guide. The guide was updated to include the Crawford Fund logo and a page inserted that explained why the Crawford Fund had chosen to support FPS. 20 guides were printed

and sent to our program partner in Uganda. Our sincere thanks to the Crawford Fund for their continued support.



Following a Letter of Support from Ann Tutwiler, the Director General of Bioversity International. FPS and Vietnamese program partner – AOG World Relief Vietnam, were invited to participate as a case study in Bioversity International's project - Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition (B4FN). The case study can be found at <http://www.b4fn.org/case-studies/case-studies/food-plant-solutions-school-gardens-in-vietnam/>.

This provided both a tangible result, and important recognition by a world leading organisation, of FPS's significant role to play in achieving food security and ending hunger and malnutrition.

Boart Longyear is a leading provider of drilling services, drilling equipment and performance tooling for mining and drilling companies globally.



Boart Longyear partnered with Food Plant Solutions as it provided a great opportunity for Boart Longyear to demonstrate its commitment to duty of care and to give something back to the communities it works in. The partnership will help to address malnutrition in Asia, specifically Cambodia, one of their operating countries. Boart Longyear, utilising Food Plant Solutions publications will provide education resources to mothers with the aim of creating awareness and enabling a better understanding of the nutritional value of their local food plants.



In our November 2015 newsletter we had an article about Paypay District School in the Philippines, which was being rebuilt after a devastating typhoon. An FPS committee member (who was there to advise on the rebuilding of the school) noticed a derelict kitchen, which presented an opportunity to introduce the FPS concept. The challenge of creating a garden on a building site was overcome by growing the plants in movable containers.



During this year we were advised "We now have several container gardens run by various teachers. And there is some competition amongst the teachers for the best produce. Here are pictures as proof." The children continue to move the garden around as the builders need space.

This innovative approach on educating how to grow nutritious food, demonstrates that there is no one way and no right way.

World Vision

For many years Food Plant Solutions has attempted to work with World Vision and thanks to the efforts of World Vision Food Security Advisor Dr. Brian Hilton, this has been achieved. World Vision Australia through DFAT (ANCP)

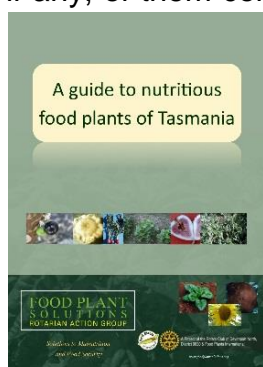
funding has initiated a project called “Better Food Better Health” in Timor-Leste. The aim of this project is to combine agricultural interventions, designed to reduce poverty, with nutrition interventions, to help mothers feed their young children more and better food. Timor-Leste is very poor and has the third worst malnutrition rates in the world. That’s where Food Plant Solutions comes in. FPS has created two educational publications; ‘Potentially Important Food Plants of Timor-Leste’ in English and ‘Food Plants for Healthy Diets in Timor-Leste’ in Tetun. World Vision recognised that these publications will give young mother’s more information about which plants are high in nutrients, particularly those that are high in Iron and Vitamin A, (both deficient in East Timor). The plants in the booklets will correspond to many of the plants being promoted by the project. It is hoped that this is the start of a continuing partnership between World Vision and Food Plant Solutions.



The Tasmanian State Government has a goal to make Tasmania the healthiest population in Australia by 2025. It is recognised as an ambitious target, particularly as Tasmanians have some of the worst health outcomes in the country. The ‘Central Coast Council Local Food Security Strategy – Growing Our Health, June 2016’ found ‘only 46.3% of adults in Central Coast eat the recommended two fruit and only 10.8% eat the recommended five serves of vegetables per day. Potentially, this means that almost 90% of the adult population has a less than ideal nutritional diet. A poor diet leads to poor health – being overweight or obese, having heart disease, diabetes and cancers.’

FPS, recognising these significant health challenges in its own home state, created a resource that helps to facilitate change.

There are countless gardening books on both ‘common’ and ‘indigenous plants’. Very few, if any, of them combine both, whilst also providing nutritional data. FPS created a guide



that contains this information, giving those educating the community on the benefits of healthy eating a very valuable tool. The guide contains information on approximately 40 edible plants, from all the major food groups, covering how and where to grow, what parts are edible, how to use those parts, nutritional information and a photo to assist with identification.

The publication was officially launched on the 1st of March by Central Coast Mayor – Jan Bonde, with the 200 free publications being distributed within a week.

Our challenges remain the same - funding and human resources. Our team of volunteers are critical to our success. Each one does an out-standing job and I take the opportunity to thank each of you, without you we would cease to exist.

Financial Reports

Divisional Profit and Loss Statement

LEARN GROW SERVICES INC DIVISIONAL PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| Learn Grow Services | | |
| INCOME | | |
| Donations Rotary Clubs | 8,600 | 21,210 |
| Donations General | 310 | 5,657 |
| Interest Received | 1,197 | 1,310 |
| Fundraising - Calendars | 0 | 10,657 |
| - Art Show | 15,572 | 0 |
| - Three Tenors | <u>6,650</u> | <u>0</u> |
| | 32,329 | 38,834 |
| LESS EXPENDITURE | | |
| Accountancy | 90 | 0 |
| Bank Fees | 10 | 0 |
| Fundraising Expenses | <u>8,746</u> | <u>0</u> |
| Printing & Stationery | 0 | 2,144 |
| Salary | 26,848 | 28,948 |
| Superannuation | <u>2,550</u> | <u>2,752</u> |
| | 38,244 | <u>33,844</u> |
| NET OPERATING PROFIT (LOSS) | <u>-5,915</u> | <u>4,990</u> |
| | | |
| Gross profit (loss) contribution from: Learn Grow Services | -5,915 | 4,990 |
| Gross profit (loss) contribution from: Food Plant Solutions | <u>22,022</u> | <u>-158</u> |
| NET OPERATING PROFIT | 16,107 | 4,832 |
| | | |
| Retained profits at the beginning of the financial year | <u>88,111</u> | <u>83,239</u> |
| TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION | 104,218 | 88,071 |
| | | |
| Extraordinary items | 0 | <u>40</u> |
| RETAINED PROFITS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR | <u>104,218</u> | <u>88,111</u> |

Divisional Profit and Loss Statement

LEARN GROW SERVICES INC DIVISIONAL PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Food Plant Solutions | | |
| INCOME | | |
| Donations Rotary Clubs | 1,470 | 5,000 |
| Donations RAWCS | 2,495 | 0 |
| Donations Rotary International | 500 | 0 |
| Donations General | 0 | 467 |
| Subscriptions | 63 | 180 |
| Grant - Central Coast Council | 2,000 | 0 |
| Grant - Crawford Fund | 7,700 | 0 |
| Sponsorship - Boart Longyear | 8,000 | 0 |
| Sponsorship - World Vision | <u>7,346</u> | <u>0</u> |
| | 29,574 | 7,980 |
| LESS EXPENDITURE | | |
| Bank Charges | 3 | 44 |
| Conference Expenses | 1,470 | 527 |
| Filing Fees | 62 | 59 |
| Petty Cash Expenses | 575 | 0 |
| Postage | 173 | 431 |
| Printing and Stationery | 5,158 | 6,834 |
| Translation Services | 44 | 43 |
| Website | <u>67</u> | <u>200</u> |
| | <u>7,552</u> | <u>8,138</u> |
| NET OPERATING PROFIT (LOSS) | 22,022 | -158 |

Balance Sheet

**LEARN GROW SERVICES INC
BALANCE SHEET
FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Bendigo Bank Cheque Account (430) | 64,169 | 57,047 |
| Bendigo Bank (Food Plant Solutions Account) | 31,719 | 29,620 |
| Amounts Receivable from other related entities | 1,983 | 1,983 |
| Amounts Receivable - Donations | <u>7,300</u> | <u>0</u> |
| | <u>105,171</u> | <u>88,650</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | <u>105,171</u> | <u>88,650</u> |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| ATO Liabilities | 953 | <u>539</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | <u>953</u> | <u>539</u> |
| NET ASSETS | <u>104,218</u> | <u>88,111</u> |
| EQUITY | | |
| Retained Profits | <u>104,218</u> | <u>88,111</u> |
| TOTAL EQUITY | <u>104,218</u> | <u>88,111</u> |

Auditor's Report



CAMERONS

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LEARN GROW SERVICES INC

Scope

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Learn Grow Services Inc which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30th June 2017 and the statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory information, the committee members and assertion statement.

Responsibility for the financial report

The committee members of Learn Grow Services Inc are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Associations Incorporation Act 1964 for such internal control, determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report whether due to fraud or error. In making those assessment, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Associations preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by committee members, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

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**CAMERONS**

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Learn Grow Services Inc presents fairly, in all material respects the Learn Grow Services Inc financial position as at 30th June 2017 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Associations Incorporation Act 1964.

CAMERONS

GREGORY HARPER

Date: 2 November 2017
46 Cameron Street
Launceston Tasmania 7250

Profile of Management Committee Members

Una Hobday, Chair



Una trained as a nurse, working in a range of health associated positions including the Director of Nursing in two retirement villages in Tasmania and Western Australia. During this time Una gained a Graduate Diploma in Health Education and a Graduate Diploma in Professional Management. Una joined Rotary International in 1991 as charter President of a Rotary Club and has held many positions in Rotary International. In 1999/2000

Una was chosen as the first woman District Governor in Australia. In 2015 Una became the Chair of Learn Grow Services Inc. and Food Plant Solutions Rotary Action Group.

John Phillips, Public Officer



John Phillips has been a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors for over 20 years. John was instrumental in the formation and management of the Bass Building Society until it merged with the Equitable Building Society to become the Bass & Equitable Building Society in November, 1988. John was appointed General Manager of the merged

Society, resigning in February 1992 to take up the position of State Manager for CUAMIC, a lenders mortgage insurance company. John and his wife, Julie, are owners and Directors of Tassie Home Loans Pty. Ltd. John resigned as Managing Director in May, 2009, but has remained on the Board. John has served for many years on the National Committees of both the Building Societies Association and was presented with Life Membership of the Mortgage Industry Association for his years of service. As a member and Past President of the Devonport North Rotary Club, John volunteered for the position of Finance Director of FPS in 2010.

Kevin Matthews, Treasurer



Kevin Matthews qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1983 and has worked in Public Practice for almost 40 years. He operated his own practice in Devonport for 8 years before joining Camerons as its Devonport partner in 1998. At the completion of the 13/14 year Kevin retired from Camerons. Kevin joined Rotary in 2011 as a member of the Rotary Club of Devonport North and

was appointed as a Board Member for the 2013/14 year.

Karalyn Hingston, Secretary



Karalyn Hingston has over 20 years' experience in the agricultural sector, with a wide range of skills and experience including; administration, quality systems, human resources, freight and production. Karalyn joined Food Plant Solutions in October 2012 and is the Project Administrator.

Bruce French



Bruce French has been involved in a range of Christian ministries and has worked for several international organisations involved with agriculture and food production for the tropical world. He has compiled a database of edible plants of the world and produced several books. He is the director of Food Plants International.

John McPhee



John McPhee has a background in agricultural engineering and has worked in the Tasmanian vegetable industry since moving from Queensland in the early 1990's. He works with the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture. John's focus is controlled traffic farming systems and precision agriculture for vegetable production, with the objective of developing and encouraging the adoption of more sustainable and profitable production systems. He first became involved in Food Plants International as an inaugural Board member in 1999, and joined the Learn Grow project as an FPI representative on its formation in 2007. John retired from the FPI Board in 2012, but continues as a volunteer with Food Plant Solutions, with a major input into publications editing and preparation, and developing guidelines to make it easier for other volunteers to contribute to the work of FPS.

(LR) Buz Green AM (in recess since Feb 2014)



Buz Green is former Chairman of agribusiness Serve-Ag Pty Ltd, a company providing advice, specialised crop inputs and technology to Tasmanian farmers. He is also a founding director of a number of agricultural companies involved in agricultural research, analytical services, agricultural projects and product development throughout Australia. He has over 40 years' experience in production agriculture, agricultural research and extension and management and has worked in agricultural production projects in China and Fiji. He has served on many professional boards including the Tasmanian Development Board, the Tasmanian Board of Agricultural Education and the Tasmanian Institute of Agricultural Research. He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology, a recipient of the 2011 Graham Gregory award, the 2012 AusVeg Lifetime Service Award and the 2014 Tasmanian Agricultural Productivity Group Lifetime Achievement Award for his services to the horticultural industry. He was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 2016. Buz is a member of the Rotary Club of Devonport North.

Kath Downie



Kath Downie trained as a School Teacher, teaching in both Tasmania and Victoria, before returning to Tasmania to successfully own and manage a General Store with her husband and 4 children.

In 2010 Kath graduated from UTAS with a degree in Tourism and since then has been involved with the community, both as an elected councillor and as a Rotarian from the Rotary Club of Ulverstone.

Rick Campbell

Rick is a Veterinary Surgeon and a Rural Science graduate who worked for the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries Parks Water and Environment for 29 years, providing animal health management advice to Tasmanian farmers. Most recently Rick has concentrated on Emergency Disease Management having worked in a number of disease outbreaks in Australia and the United Kingdom. He also has an ongoing involvement in Animal Welfare as the Chairman of the Tasmanian Animal Welfare Advisory Committee. Rick is a member of Devonport North Rotary.

Esley Dunham

Esley is a retired Real Estate Agent. He commenced his career in 1979 and was elected to the Board of REIT in 1983. His passion was to promote training within the industry including the establishment of Real Estate Scholarships which enabled young people to join the industry after completing grade 12. He was State President in 1992/3, was the sixth member to be awarded Life Membership and is still the only North West Coast member receive this recognition. The majority of his Real Estate career was with Roberts Real Estate where he managed various offices from 1984 until his retirement in September 2006. He was retained as a consultant in a training role for the next four years. In 2010 he opened the first office on the North West Coast for the real estate firm, View, selling his interest in June 2015. Esley joined the Rotary Club of Devonport North in 1995 and was Club President in 2013/14. For the last three years he has been engaged in Rotary projects in Timor Leste.