

Presidents Report AGM 17 November 2022

This year has been pretty amazing with so much happening!

Our visitors and locals love all the fresh and non-perishable produce available to them each week from the shop. We have had some floods earlier this year which saw our shop close due to restricted access for volunteers. It was great to see the fresh produce prices stay lower than the big supermarket chains during this time and fresher might I add!

We had a successful time at Baconfest with our stall with a lot more foot traffic after the event. The flyers really worked and our gorgeous marquee finally got to shine bright.

The Taste the Trail was another successful event where we collaborated with the Wooroolin CWA markets and some of our producers that were able to hold a stall there too. A big thank you to Tina Torrens for the video footage she provided for all involved.

Thank you to all the volunteers that worked tirelessly to get everything up and running for these events and to ensure the little green shop was manned.

We have had a meeting with South Burnett Regional Council regarding Regional Flavours in Brisbane for the 2023 event. We are looking forward for the opportunity to work with SBRC to ensure the South Burnett region is show cased and the public are more aware of where the South Burnett is. We also look forward to collaborating with The South Burnett Wine Association for this event.

It is exciting to be able to have our first community workshop on 18 November 2022 at Wooroolin hall thanks to the funding we received from FRRR.

As Farm 2 Fork Collective is more than just the shop, we are excited to have been able to hire our first employee, Karla. Welcome Karla, we are so excited to have you on board and congratulations.

Karla will start with Friday's ensuring the producers products taken delivery of, placed into the POS for inventory, displaying their products accordingly and of course having a great big chat with them and getting to know them. Other jobs include stock rotation, checking use by dates, cleaning as well as talking to and assisting our beautiful customers.

We still support mental health and have community volunteers on a Friday with Karla. For now, our Saturdays will still be manned by one committee member and a community volunteer until we can successfully fund Karla to work the extra day and liaise with the producers for their inventory after the weekend comes to a close.

Now that we have the extra support in the shop, Farm 2 Fork Collective can focus on local events, collaborating with producers and businesses to ensure more people make their way to our region

and get a taste, feel and sense of what our region has to offer as well as our neighbouring regions inside 165km radius. We have our eye on funding for an event in late April, early May.

As President of Farm 2 Fork Collective for the past 2 years, I would like to thank our fabulous committee for all their hard work every week at the shop and behind the scenes.

Our Secretary, Melissa Barnett for so much dedication, love and passion to our project and our community. Thank you for all that you do to ensure we grow as a collective and as a region.

Our Treasurer, Selina Carey for the hours put in to create a POS, invoice and payment systems on a model that has never been done before not to mention our website and logo to ensure we grow and support our producers. Thank you for your dedication and passion.

Our Vice President, Sharon Anderson for grabbing Farm 2 Fork Collective by the reins and running with it. We loved your strategy meeting and it really helped to see where we are going for the next year and 5 years. Thank you for your dedication and passion as well.

Our beautiful committee member, Cheryl Parnell for looking after our lovely community volunteers and creating a roster every week. You have dedicated yourself to Friday's deliveries and it has really shown. Thank you for spending time with Karla during her transition as well as your dedication and passion.

Our gorgeous committee members, Vikki Stewart and Aaron Stephan for their time and effort and dedication to something they really believe in and are always giving back to their community.

Thank you to our amazing community volunteers that show up to give back to their community on a regular basis, thank you for the laughs and the love.

Farm 2 Fork Collective would not be where it is today if it wasn't for the dedication, passion, love and strength of this committee and our volunteers. You have all made an impact in so many ways and have all contributed in such a way that you have all made such a difference in the lives of our farmers and producers but also your own. I know I am richer for knowing you all and for having you on this team, you all make me happy and I smile when I think of you all. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, you are all very special.

I know the Farm 2 Fork Collective shop will be in good hands and she will thrive and grow to be more amazing every day.

Farm 2 Fork Collective will also grow and thrive and seriously become bigger than we could ever imagine, just as the little green shop has.

Thank you

Roberta Schablon