



Media release

12 November 2021

LATEST COMMUNITY FUND RECIPIENTS REVEALED

The Mareeba BMX Park that was officially opened on Saturday 13 November was rebuilt by the Mareeba Lions Club thanks to a \$24,000 grant from the Mount Emerald Wind Farm Community Fund.

There were 15 other lucky community organisations in the Atherton Tablelands that received a grant for their projects last week. The latest grants from the Mount Emerald Wind Farm Community Fund will help Atherton Tablelands community groups improve their infrastructure or educational programs that will benefit both the young and the not so young across the region.

From Men's sheds, Mareeba Hospital and local schools, there were 15 not-for-profits that were successful in receiving a grant from the Mount Emerald Wind Farm Community Fund in this latest round. It was tough competition with local groups applying for over half a million dollars worth of grants so it was a difficult decision for the Advisory Committee that consists of distinguished local community members.

The full list of successful local grant recipients in this round of funding is:

- Tolga State Primary School P&C
- United Tablelands Pipe Band
- Mareeba Swimming Club Inc
- Walkamin Community & Sports Club Inc
- Butchers Creek State School P&C Assoc.
- Atherton State Primary School
- Mareeba Tennis Club Inc
- Atherton Bowls Clubs Inc
- Herberton CWA
- Ravenshoe Tennis Club Inc
- Walkamin State School P&C Association
- Dimbulah Football Club Inc
- Friends of Mareeba Hospital Foundation on behalf of Friends of the Mareeba Hospital Foundation
- Malanda Chamber of Commerce Inc
- Atherton Men's Shed Inc Association

Tom Braes OAM from Mareeba, the Chairman of the fund's independent Advisory Committee, said: "The last two years have been a tough time for local community groups to fundraise due to the pandemic, so we were happy to provide some much needed support."

"With so many applications this year we tried to spread the \$105,000 remaining in this round of funding to the projects that would benefit the most people with the greatest outcomes.

"I wish we could have funded all of them so I would certainly encourage other groups who were unlucky this time to apply again."



The fund, now in its third year, has backed 78 projects located within a 50km radius of the turbines so far, and will continue to offer more than \$200,000 per year throughout the wind farm's working life.

Applications are accepted all year round, with the deadline for the next round of funding on 31 January. Guidance for applicants and application forms are available at www.mtemeraldwindfarm.com.au

Applications and enquiries can be sent to communityfund@ratchaustralia.com

ENDS

Notes to editors

- RATCH-Australia is an independent power producer which owns and operates a portfolio of energy projects across the country with a total capacity of more than 1.2GW.
- Mount Emerald Wind Farm is located between Atherton and Mareeba, approximately 5km west of Walkamin.
- The wind farm comprises 53 wind turbines with a maximum height to the blade tip of 148.5m.
- Construction started in February 2017 with the first electricity generated and exported to the local network in late 2018.
- The wind farm is anticipated to generate between 500 and 600 million KWh of renewable electricity per annum on average. This is approximately equivalent to the annual electricity requirements of between 75,000 and 90,000 homes in Far North Queensland.
- Visit www.mtemeraldwindfarm.com.au

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