



Mission Statement

About Us

The Ballarat Wholefoods Collective (BWC) is an incorporated association formed on 4 September 2013.

Our address is Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat East 3350.

Operating Hours: (during school term only)

Thursdays 9–1pm, 5–6.30pm

Saturdays 9–12pm

Our Mission

Ballarat Wholefoods Collective connects our community with affordable, Seasonal, Local, Organic and Wholefood (SLOW) products while supporting ethical producers and sustainable food systems.

Our Aims

- To source products from local, ethical and environmentally responsible suppliers.
- To support local growers, producers and sustainable agriculture.
- To be a community resource that helps the people of Ballarat lead healthier, more connected lives.
- To keep wholefoods accessible and affordable for our members.
- To foster a welcoming, volunteer-driven community built on shared values of sustainability and mutual support.

Objectives

- To buy, store, process and distribute wholefoods and related products in alignment with our values.
- To raise funds and secure contributions or grants that support our operations and community initiatives.
- To collaborate with like-minded organisations to strengthen local food systems and share knowledge.
- To continually improve our operations to ensure long-term sustainability, volunteer wellbeing and community benefit.

Membership

Membership of Ballarat Wholefoods Collective is open to anyone who supports our mission, values and is willing to participate in the life of the Collective.

Members contribute to the sustainability of the Collective by:

- Supporting our commitment to SLOW principles
 - Participating in volunteer activities that help keep the Collective running
 - Respecting our community-driven, not-for-profit ethos
 - Upholding the values of inclusiveness, cooperation and shared responsibility
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To maintain our volunteer-supported model, members are asked to contribute a **minimum of 2 volunteer hours every 6 months**, unless circumstances prevent participation. Members who are unable to volunteer may support the Collective in other ways, such as through fundraising, advocacy or community engagement.

Membership fees are reviewed annually at the Annual General Meeting and help cover essential operational costs. Membership renewals fall due at the beginning of each financial year.

Alteration of the Mission, Aims and Objectives

Any changes to this Mission Statement must be agreed upon by a majority vote of the Ballarat Wholefoods Committee. Proposed amendments should be circulated to Ballarat Wholefoods Committee members in advance of the meeting to ensure adequate time for review and discussion.

Updates should reflect the evolving needs of the Collective, remain aligned with our not-for-profit purpose, and support the long-term sustainability and wellbeing of our community, volunteers and local food system.

Adoption of the Mission, Aims and Objectives

This Mission Statement was formally adopted by the Ballarat Wholefoods Committee 1 April 2026.

The Ballarat Wholefoods Committee commits to upholding these principles and ensuring that all activities of the Collective align with our mission, values and not-for-profit purpose.

Signed:

Chair:

 HOWARD GIBBON