

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

This process is intended to ensure you are well informed about the Co-operative and for the Co-operative to decide if you are suited to our community.

Membership Guides will support you throughout the process.

You may choose single membership (one adult) or joint membership (two adults).

Each adult applying is required to complete a Membership Application Form.

Step One	Done
<b>Part A - Before completing the Questionnaire</b>	
a. Read the information on the Co-operative's website <a href="https://goolawah.org/joining/">https://goolawah.org/joining/</a> , including the Rules, By-Laws, and Code of Conduct.	
b. Visit Fair Trading website <a href="https://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/associations-and-co-operatives/co-operatives/running-a-co-operative">https://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/associations-and-co-operatives/co-operatives/running-a-co-operative</a> . Co-operatives are governed by the Co-operatives National Law (CNL). NSW Fair Trading is the government regulator.	
c. Visit <a href="https://fed.coop/co-operatives-in-australia-a-manual/">https://fed.coop/co-operatives-in-australia-a-manual/</a> The Co-operative is a member of the Co-op Federation, which provides advice and support to co-operatives.	
d. Research <b>Intentional Communities</b> . At a minimum: read "Creating a Life Together - Practical Tools to Grow Ecovillages and Intentional Communities" by Diana Leafe Christman. Download a copy <a href="#">Here</a> OR listen to <a href="#">sustainable world radio- ecology and permaculture podcast: "Ecovillages and Intentional Communities with Diana Leafe Christman"</a>	
<b>Part B</b>	
a. If you would like to proceed with the Membership Application <b>complete the Questionnaire</b> (appendix A), and forward by one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Email completed questionnaire to <a href="mailto:secretary.goolawah@gmail.com">secretary.goolawah@gmail.com</a></li> <li>● Post to PO Box 4080, Crescent Head, NSW 2440</li> <li>● Submit to your Membership Guides.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Your questionnaire may be discussed at the next General Meeting and may require a 2/3 majority vote to proceed with the application. The Guides will advise if you should proceed with the application.</p>	
b. Provide a National Crime Check <a href="https://www.nationalcrimecheck.com.au/">https://www.nationalcrimecheck.com.au/</a>	
c. Identity Check (appendix B)	
d. Provide three referees (appendix C)	
e. The Guide will complete a court record search <a href="http://www.austlii.edu.au/forms/search1.html">http://www.austlii.edu.au/forms/search1.html</a>	

Step Two (complete appendix D)	Done
<p>a. Stay at the Co-operative for a minimum of two weeks, preferably four weeks. Let your Guides know when you will be visiting.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> The stay period does not have to be consecutive. You will need a van or tent to stay at the community Camp Kitchen, which has an enclosed equipped kitchen, covered outdoor seating area and composting toilet, but no shower. Members may opt for a shower and/or short stay housing.</p>	
b. Meet a minimum of 45 adult members (Who's Who list will assist you)	
c. Attend two General Meetings	
d. Attend two community events and one working bee	
<b>Step Three</b>	
<b>Part A - Progress Meeting</b> (Applicant, Guides and Director, members advised via Phone Tree)	
a. Application reviewed	
b. Member's concerns (if any)	
c. Understanding governance structure and policies	
d. Issues and challenges of community living	
e. Inherent risks – bushfire, flood, wildlife	
f. Costs, effort, time, and possible stresses involved in establishing a home	
g. Monthly Treasurer's Report	
h. Member's Liability (Rules 19 to 21)	
<p><b>Part B-Membership Eligibility, Share Transfer and Reduction</b></p> <p>Guides will lead a review of the Membership Application at a General Meeting without you present. A 2/3 majority vote is required for Membership Eligibility, share transfer and reduction.</p> <p>Members may require further information or action before voting.</p> <p>The Co-operative, at its discretion, may refuse an application for membership or shares without assigning any reasons for its actions.</p> <p>a. If you have found a share prior to the membership eligibility vote, you may complete the Share Transfer and Reduction forms, and pay \$7000 share capital plus Joining Fee, which are refunded if membership eligibility is not achieved at the GM.</p> <p>b. If you have not found a share prior to membership eligibility approval, you will be kept informed of any shares becoming available.</p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. You are responsible for obtaining your own legal and financial advice regarding any agreements and transfer of funds to the seller.</li> <li>2. Documentation is returned to you, except for Share Transfer, Membership Reduction, Check Forms, and the Membership Process Checklist, which are held by the Secretary.</li> <li>3. Your name, allotted share number, date of allotment and any other relevant information will be recorded by the Secretary in the Member Register two weeks after the formally allotted Share</li> </ol>	

## Questionnaire Applying to become a member of Goolawah Co-operative

I agree to this questionnaire being posted on the Goolawah Co-operative website for discussion at a General Meeting, which may decide not to progress this application.

Attach additional pages for extended responses.

Name: Timothy Stewart \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 0457 444470 \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Applying for joint membership with: N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Children's names and ages: N/A

1. How did you hear about Goolawah Co-operative?

Through one of the lot owners- Gerard (Lot 76)

I have visited Gerard 2017/2018 and many times since.

2. Describe your current living/housing situation.

I live in shared accommodation with best friend Newcastle. Prior to that I lived in a renovated shed on a farm and loved it.

3. Have you lived in a residential co-operative in the past?

No

4. What are your occupation/s and interests?

I work in hearing health as an audiometrist.

After working in office jobs most of my life, I spent 6 years living with chickens and studying Korean Natural Farming- with the aim of creating the perfect wild food chicken habitat.

<p>5. What inspires you?</p> <p>I'm inspired when seeing the results of your own inputs and efforts- repairing, creating, growing. Also learning off others.</p>
<p>6. What frustrates you?</p> <p>When ego's won't leave the room or when people fail to discuss out differences or grievances.</p>
<p>7. Why would you like to join Goolawah Co-operative?</p> <p>From the outside, it looks and feels well run and organised.</p> <p>The natural environment- adjoining forest resonates with me and the spacing between neighbouring lots I think allows for the right amount of privacy.</p>
<p>8. What could you contribute to Goolawah Co-operative?</p> <p>I'm a social person so I'd love to initiate or assist with events, film nights or practical forums. Working bees are pretty important for shared inputs so I'm happy to participate in these as they come up. I'd love to share my expertise in chicken and quail keeping so happy to run workshops on from habitat creation to natural feeding and animal health.</p>
<p>9. What do you think you would enjoy about co-operative living?</p> <p>I think the balance of peaceful surrounds and cooperative events (working bees, meetings, gatherings). Also, practicing and refining low impact off-grid living interests me greatly.</p>

10. What might you find challenging about co-operative living?

When there are strong willed people who won't discuss or reflect and become provocative or acrimonious.

11. What do you expect from the Co-operative and its members?

I expect the Co-Op to be informed and prepared to discuss and address any decisions that affect the overall direction, amenity or functioning of the community. If there happens to be issues that arise and are contentious, I expect there is at least equal speaking and listening time given to all parties so there isn't a feeling that only one side or voice is being heard. Talking sticks or egg timers work well in these instances.

12. List the sources you used to research intentional communities.

Apart from the Diana Christian guide- which I found insightful, I have had a chance to observe existing intentional communities (northern NSW, Victoria). At Billen Cliffs, northern NSW I had a chance to observe a full community meeting dealing with a contentious resident. At Common-Ground, central Victoria I stayed as part of a conference and we were given a tour and Q&A on community successes and disappointments over the life. This makes the work and writing of Diana Christian very relatable.

List four things that are different about living in an intentional community compared to renting or owning property.

A: motivation to practice off-grid living and use resources less wastefully

B: affordable space- stop being forced into a speculative real estate market

C: a degree of control/choice over the amenity of the area

D: living in a neighbourhood with shared vision and strategic goals.

13. What would you like to do on your lot, and over what timeframe?

Apart from building DA approved living quarters, I would like to maintain a garden, keep quails and hens. I'm interested in a cob oven and cooking with fire, so making an outdoor oven fit for baking bread would be great! All of these projects would take a least a year or three to establish.

*Note: Lending institutions will not lend for building on co-operatives. Are you able to finance construction of a dwelling with an off-grid power system, grey water system, composting toilet, water for domestic and recreational purposes, communications, and infrastructure to council specifications?*

14. When do you anticipate the Co-operative would become your principal place of residence?

Depending on establishing living quarters- I expect the Co-op would be principal place of residence within 6 months to a year.

15. What is your opinion of the Co-operative's Governance structure i.e., Rules, By-laws, Code of Conduct, policies, and decision-making processes?

My opinion of the Co-Op's Governance structure is that it is clearly workable - evidenced by its current healthy state! I have read the By-Laws and Code of Conduct which are also agreeable.

16. Any comments or questions?

My only comment is that I'm interested in finding out more about Co-Op members by attending events and meeting people in person. I'm glad there's a filter/selection process in joining and trusting that meeting people in person is much more informative.



**Identity Check****To be completed by each applicant**

First name/s: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of government photo ID <sup>佛</sup>entity e.g. Driver Licence, Passport: \_\_\_\_\_

ID number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you known by any other name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

**TO BE WITNESSED BY TWO DIRECTORS**

Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Appendix C****Character Referees**

e.g. members of community groups or organisations, work colleague)

Name	Jieun Lee
From	Newcastle
Relationship to you	Work colleague
Length of time known	20 years
Contact Number/s	0404 555 357
Email	Jieun.lee.au@gmail.com
Comments (Guide completes)	
Name	Justine Lloyd
From	Randwick
Relationship to you	Friend from university
Length of time known	30 years
Contact Number/s	0403 887744
Email	Happy to provide- just need to check with Justine!
Comments (Guide completes)	
Name	Gerard O'Shea
From	Lot 76
Relationship to you	Friend
Length of time known	Over 10 years
Contact Number/s	0449 105 678
Email	Same again- happy to provide, just need to check with Gerard sorry.
Comments (Guide completes)	

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## Appendix D

Stay dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Community event/s and dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Working bee activity and date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Meet 45 Adult Members

Member	What you learned about the Co-operative from the member/s
e.g. Goolie and Creso (2 members)	A rainforest can be created using native plants from local Land Care tube stock and plants grown by fellow members in under 10 years. Great friendships formed.

## Appendix D cont.

## Meet 45 Adult Members

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## Appendix D cont.

## Meet 45 Adult Members

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# Membership Application Process Feedback

Please give your Feedback Form to your Membership Guide

How would you sum up your experience of the Membership Application process?
How was the application process helpful/worthwhile for you?
How was the application process difficult/challenging for you?
What are we doing right?
How could we improve the process?
Any other comments?