

Your fearless voice for GM-free food, farms and futures

Many thanks to you for your loyal and generous support. You have helped sustain GeneEthics since our founding in 1988 with a grant from the sales of Midnight Oil's album Species Deceases. Then and now, environmental integrity and public health are the core values of our vision.

To achieve the GM-free futures we seek, let's work together. Please give us your generous donation and membership again in 2021/22. Our many successes as GM-free advocates, campaigners and educators depend on you, and your regular monthly donations are especially welcome. Thanks for going online to donate and join, or fill out and send the enclosed forms.

GM-free paths to the future are now more important than ever. Earth is our home and we share this fragile planet with a vast array of animals, plants and microbes that together ensure we humans can continue to live and thrive.

Young people have woken up to the threats of climate change. Millions everywhere are taking direct action to defend their futures. As Greta Thunberg reminds us, our house is on fire and delay is not an option.

GeneEthics' challenge is to alert the younger generations to the insanity of allowing genetic engineers to dismantle nature and GM companies to industrialise the codes of life. We are helping young decision-makers to critically assess the uses and abuses of GM processes and their living products.

Ever more hazardous and risky new genetic manipulation techniques such as CRISPR gene-editing and Retrons are our focus now. These methods enable industry and science to more easily, quickly and cheaply manipulate, and patent most genes of any living thing – people, animals, plants and microbes. But at what cost to our world and its life-support systems?

GM promoters ignore the inevitable off-target impacts and collateral damage that their living inventions may wreak, some forever. They see genes only as useful research and industrial tools that promise a deluge of profitable products, not as part of our fragile and integrated living systems. For example, CSIRO's Synthetic Biology Future Science Platform seeks to intensively exploit living things and rewrite their codes of life to create novel organisms, some of which have never existed in nature before. A new Critical Technologies Policy Coordination Office in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet also has industrial biotech as one of its top high-tech product drivers.

The regulators and regulations that should restrain the worst excesses of new GM methods and products are also under attack in Australia and globally. Industry lobbyists are persuading governments into adopting self-assessment, fast-tracking and overseas product approvals.



**Please
donate to a
GM-free future
by June 30, 2021**

**for your tax deduction in
this financial year**

During the COVID pandemic and lockdowns the GeneEthics Board, staff, volunteers, members and donors were busy, pro-active, and achieved a lot.

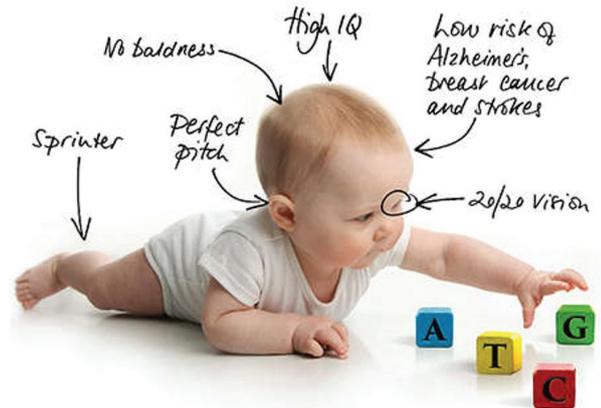


In the past year we have:

- continued our Advocacy, Campaigns, and Education (ACE);
- registered with the ACNC as a not-for-profit charity;
- created and adopted a new, updated constitution;
- planned how to direct and sustain our work into the future;
- teamed with an educational publisher for our schools kit “The Gene Scene”.

GeneEthics’ proven track record:

- most Australian farms and farmers remain GM-free;
- many more GM-free labels on food products;
- GM canola is less than 15% of the crop;
- over fifty councils are replacing Roundup for weed control;
- the GM-free debate is alive and strong in all media.



New and ongoing challenges this year:

- progress “The Gene Scene” our school ethics kit for students and teachers;
- educate young people and the general public on GM hazards and impacts;
- reduce synthetic chemical use and grow Roundup-free councils;
- advocate for regenerative food, fibre and fuel production systems;
- work to reinstate the Farm Chemical Re-Approval and Re-Registration Scheme;
- strive to ban the release of gene drive organisms intended to make species extinct;
- urge Australia to join the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Biodiversity Convention;
- oppose the human germline gene manipulation now proposed in parliament.

Please help us again to promote sustainable GM-free paths to the future.

Peace, joy, and many thanks for backing GM-free,

Bob Phelps
Executive Director



Chris Chaplin
Chair of the Board



PS: Please Give to and Join GeneEthics again this year. Any amount you can afford will be much appreciated and wisely used!

- **Membership 2021/22**
<https://www.trybooking.com/BQQWA>
- **Non-deductible donations at:**
<https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/gmfreegood>
or by EFT to GeneEthics Ltd • BSB: 633 000 • A/c number: 119595643 (Please give your name)
- **Tax deductible donations:**
<https://www.givenow.com.au/foegeneethics>

We work on the traditional lands of the Bunurong and Wurrundjeri people, over which title was never ceded. We pay our sincere respects to their elders and communities - past, present and emerging.