

Wadambuk St Andrews Community Centre

Treasurer's Report

AGM Tuesday 19 November 2019

1. Profit & Loss attached for year ending 30/6/19
2. Balance Sheet attached for year ending 30/6/19

The 2018/19 Financial Year has been an interesting one from a financial view point. After doing some deep diving into our financials we discovered that the Centre was not quite meeting its operating expenses each month. After much pondering of the situation I decided to enroll in a program that Nillumbik Council were running called the L.E.A.D. Program. This proved to be a very positive move with regard to my own learning in the areas of community services and not for profits.

Through this program I was able to network with a wide range of Council personnel in various departments and through these conversations I was able to identify how the shire might be able to help SACC moving forward.

To follow up on these networking opportunities, Julie and I proceeded to meet with various shire departments including:

Economic Development – Nillumbik Business Community
Marketing & Communications
Anne Tuke, Community Development Officer

John Brennan and I also met with Jane Ashton and other Council representatives to advise them of the Centre's current financial shortfall. This was not to be alarmist but simply to be open and honest about the Centre's financial position.

One of the most positive examples of the Council's willingness to help us has been the use of Anne Tuke, a Community Service Officer, who has been allocated to SACC to help us implement some new initiatives moving forward. Considering the limited hours of our paid staff this has been an especially helpful resource and Anne's knowledge and experience in Community Services has been invaluable to us.

Following on from all of these meetings and conversations Julie, Anne Tuke and myself developed a Growth & Sustainability Plan. The Growth & Sustainability Plan is a working document and will be crucial in shaping the Centre for a strong and viable future ensuring that we remain a local volunteer run facility. The basis of the document is to increase revenue by engaging a wider demographic of

people who use the centre and by increasing our visibility to the wider business community as a venue hire option.

This is a very achievable goal and I look forward to our Committee meetings next year full of robust discussions!

Our Community Festival held in early May was deemed a success even though the weather wasn't on our side! Feedback was positive from those that attended which is a nice confirmation that we are on the right track with the shaping of the festival. The Festival Committee were very happy with the profit just shy of \$4,000 especially considering the low attendance due to the wet weather. I would like to formally acknowledge the mega efforts of the Festival Committee consisting of Mel Bartlett, Clare Turner, Evan Jones, Melissa Jones, Lisa Purchase, and Deb Oakes. Also a special mention to Mark Bourke who organized the musicians. Of course The Men's Shed contributed in numerous ways and we thank them so much for their unwavering support whenever we ask them for help.

From June 2019 we took on the administrative running of the Saturday Community Bus . This has had its challenges but we are geared to start the New Year on a good foot with heavy promoting of the service. Future market funding for the bus is uncertain which in turn means the future of the bus in e 2020/21 financial year is also uncertain. We need to ensure that we are at least getting maximum patronage of the service so that the market see it as an important resource to them.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our President, John Brennan. He puts in countless hours behind the scenes and I am so grateful for his support and guidance in my role as Treasurer.

Also I would like to give a big shout out to Melissa Jones and Julie Kelly in our office. What a stellar job they do. They are the face of the Centre and they handle many challenging situations with diplomacy and a smile on their face. It gives me great pleasure to work alongside both of them.

On a personal note, I feel I have learnt so much in this role as Treasurer of a Not-for-Profit and I know I still have so much to learn. It certainly helps my confidence to have the support and patience of this Committee and I thank you all very much.

I'm very excited about the next 12-18 months at the Centre which promises to be action packed with a number of new initiatives to be launched. I feel that by tapping into the Committee Members individual strengths, and also the wider community's expertise, we have all the resources we need, right here at our finger tips, all we have to do is identify these resources and ensure we reach out for help when required.

AGM Treasurers Report prepared by Sandy Black
19 November 2019