

# ALPHINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Alphington Community Centre acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation as the traditional owners of our land, and we pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

## **ABOUT US**

Alphington Community Centre (ACC) is a neighbourhood house located in the heart of Alphington. ACC is managed by paid staff and is governed by a volunteer committee.

Our ongoing funding comes from the State Government's Neighbourhood House Coordination Program, and from both the City of Darebin and City of Yarra.

ACC began in 1982 as the Alphington Self-Help Exchange (ASHE) to provide activities and support services primarily for women at home with young children.

Today we provide services for the whole community.

Like all neighbourhood houses, ACC relies on numerous volunteers and quite a variety of both long and short term partnerships to deliver our diverse range of programs each year.

ACC is proud to be one of 400 neighbourhood houses in Victoria.

## **STAFF AND COMMITTEE**

We are fortunate to have wonderful staff and a fabulous committee here at ACC. This year we welcomed Jenny Rayner to the team - on secondment from Jika Jika Neighbourhood House.

### **OUR STAFF**

Leanne Coughlin, Executive Officer/Coordinator

Kalimna Mohamed, Centre Support

Suzanne Grant, Grants and Communications

Jill Newton, Community Development (AAA Bowls)

David Westlake, Community Development (Men's Shed)

Jen Dentoom, Community Development (Arts)

Jenny Rayner, Community Development

Peter Drinan, Finance and IT

### **OUR COMMITTEE**

Anne Crehan, Chair

Michelle Fidler, Secretary

TJ Farrow, Treasurer

Heather Graham, General Member

Amaya Alvarez, General Member

Emily Castle, General Member

## VOLUNTEERS

We have a group of amazing volunteers here at ACC.

This year we'd particularly like to thank **David** for volunteering every week to run our **Computers, Phones and Ipads for Seniors** sessions, **Sarah** for setting up **Toy Library** every week, **Graeme and Anne** for keeping our garden ship-shape and **Andy** for collecting for the **Asylum Seeker Resource Centre**.

Other weekly volunteers who we are in awe of include **Sue and Gianna** who run **Peer Support Playgroup**, **Kate** who organises the **Community Choir** and **Shirley and Shirley** who keep **Line Dancing** running smoothly.

In addition we would also like to acknowledge:

- **Claire, Pat and Sharon** for organising our **Book Clubs**
- **Michelle** for leading the way with the **Alphington CWA**
- **Mark** for organising **AAA Bowls** on behalf of the bowls club, and rounding up volunteers every week
- **Manu** for volunteering for **Conversational English**
- **Maimi** for organising our **Japanese Playgroups**
- **Louisa** for running our **Contemporary Art Appreciation Group**, and
- **Vicki and Annie** for supporting people with **Ankylosing Spondilitis** .

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

This last year has again shown how lucky we are to live in such an active and interesting community.

Whether you are hopping off the train or the 508 bus, walking to coffee at Robyn's or taking a break at the local table and benches on the corner, you will see our Centre - nestled amongst the herbs and flowers, the flourishing fruit trees and the mini library.

Faced to the street by the **Community Shed**, our Centre is inviting you in to participate, be inspired, to learn and to belong. It has become a central place to gather in our community through the annual **Christmas Makers Markets**, art displays, the **Alphington Dog Show** and the **Alphington Autumn Fete** - which has now evolved into the **Alphington Show**.

It is also a place for many groups in Alphington to meet.

I would like to congratulate Leanne, our Coordinator, who over the year has worked and accomplished so many projects.

She has also cleverly transformed the footprint of the Centre, opening it to the street, creating better usable spaces as well as reorganising the office into an accessible room as you enter the Centre. Watch this space - she has not finished!!

Leanne and her staff have completed a wonderful year with many new ideas and programs, improving existing activities, and participating in local community events as described in the report, and all accomplished with a friendly and welcoming style.

The Centre is a lovely space to be in, well done to all.

Our contribution to the needs and ideas for the new community

facilities at the **AMCOR development site** continues to be acknowledged through our place on the **Community Reference Group**, we hope to see some substantial progress over this coming financial year.

I would like to thank all my fellow board members who through their time and commitment are there to support the Centre in many ways as required.

We welcomed **Heather Campbell** and **Emily Castle** to our board at the start of this year.

At the end of this year we sadly farewell **Scott (TJ) Farrow** and **Emily Castle**. Thank you both for your contribution. I would especially like to thank Scott for all his support, not only as Treasurer, but also in many other capacities, we will miss your input TJ.

Finally thank you again to all who come and participate and volunteer. We hope you have enjoyed yourselves and we look forward to many more rewarding years.

**Anne Crehan**

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

This year we focused on building on and using the assets in our community. This approach is fundamental to best practice community development models, and underpins all strong community organisations.

In August 2018 we utilised Kalimna's amazing photography talents to run a **Photobook Workshop**. We then ran a follow-up **Digital Photography Workshop** in June 2019.

In September 2018 made the most of a new relationship with DIVRS (and their Fruit Squad) to run a **Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop** in our little orchard. It was such a great morning.

We partnered with Alphington CWA to run a **Planning Ahead Seminar** as part of Seniors Week. Seniors Rights Victoria ran this session, and CWA did the catering. It was very informative and well attended.

Our local history group ran a **Local History Afternoon Tea** in October 2018 and were thrilled to have conversations with some of the older locals in our area. Then in November hosted two artists as part of the **Alphington Open Studios** weekend. We were very pleased to be part of this longstanding event for the first time.

Our music program increased this year, so in addition to **Choir** and **Ukulele** we had Jonathan offering **Guitar Lessons** two nights a week, Jane running **Harps for Happiness** and Uke4Kids offering **Kids Ukulele Lessons** on Saturdays.

We were delighted to have local **Qigong** teacher Lisa approach us to run classes here in 2019 and also welcomed Sarah who ran **Mindfulness** sessions on Sundays.

In May 2019 local resident Tarni ran a **Fermentation Workshop** and we were delighted when Manu approached us and offered her services for anyone who would like to practice **Conversational English**.

Local artist Louisa offered to run a monthly **Contemporary Art Appreciation Group** and Rachel from Village Greening started up a **Boomerang Bags Group** once a month on Sundays.

It is wonderful to be able to enable so many people in our community to both share and build their skills, talents and interests!

This year we were pleased to trial utilising our shed on weekends through a series of creative **Weekend Workshops**.

Other highlights of the year (which you can read about in more detail further in this report) were the **Christmas Lunch and Concert**, the **Suitcase Sale**, **Music from the Wetlands**, the **Baucau Project** and the inaugural **Alphington Show!**

And then of course we have our monthly **Community Lunch**, well attended weekly **Playgroups**, thriving **Book Clubs**, **Gardening Group**, **Craft Club**, **Men's Shed** program, **Art In The Shed** programs and **AAA Bowls** partnership with Alphington Bowls Club (which is just fabulous). These things have all ticked along nicely this year.

I'd like to thank everyone in our community for embracing our house and participating in all that we offer with good will and enthusiasm.

I'd like to thank the Committee for their support over the year and to thank all the staff who are such a pleasure to work with. It is lovely to come work at a place where people truly care about others and show this in everything they do. Thanks everyone!

**Leanne Coughlin**

## GRANTS/PARTNERSHIPS REPORT

This year we have been the recipients of a number of philanthropic and government grants that have enabled us to make significant improvements to our facilities and programming.

A grant of **\$4,000** from the **Australian Government's Stronger Communities Program** upgraded the Centre's internal and external storage. Many thanks to Ged Kearney's office for facilitating this grant. **\$2,800** from the **Government's Volunteer Grants 2018** improved facilities for our fantastic volunteers with a new fridge, BBQ and tools for the shed and garden.

**Clifton Hill/North Fitzroy Community Bank** continued their incredible support with two grants. We installed an art hanging system, meaning artists are now able to hire our Centre as a low-cost gallery space and our **Community Lunch** also benefitted — this program is at the heart of what we do and its popularity continues to grow, bringing together people from our community for delicious food and great company every month. Thanks must also go to **Second Bite** for providing the basic food for Community Lunch—it's wonderful to think that our broader community now has systems in place to ensure that edible food isn't going to waste.

**Nelson Alexander** provided signage for our **Suitcase Sales**, for the **Alphington Show** and also for the annual **Christmas Carols** and they also nominated us as one of two charities to benefit from the **Nelson Alexander Charitable Foundation Pro Am Charity Golf Day**. From this they donated **\$2500** to us.

We would also like to thank the **Government's Be Connected Program** (and **The Good Things Foundation**) for **\$2,000** to improve our IT systems for the benefit of all users of the Centre, particularly one-on-

one digital tuition for older people through our **Phones, Tablets and Computers program**.

**Grill'd Fairfield** (and their customers) have been awesome supporters this year—we were awarded the Local Matters grant in September 2018 and we were able to fill in the gaps of our tool collection for the **Men's Shed program**.

This year the **Bunnings Fairfield** crew for not just donated items but also came along and install them. They jazzed up our garden with a beautiful screen for our compost bins and outdoor bench seats and tables for our front and back garden, as well as installing a racking system for our now extensive tool and timber collection in the shed.

We'd also like to thank **E&A Salce** for their donation of doggy prizes for our **Dog Show** as part of the **Alphington Show** and the wonderful **Alphington Bowls Club** for their ongoing support for our shared **AAA Bowls Program**—they provide the venue and equipment free and round up a bevy of volunteers each week. We couldn't run it without them!

It has been a great year for grants and partnerships this year.

**Suzanne Grant**

## ALPHINGTON SHOW

This year we introduced the inaugural **Alphington Show** in March 2019. It incorporated the **Alphington Dog Show**, the **Maker's Market**, the **CWA Devonshire Tea**, the **Men's Shed BBQ** and a range of kids activities that had been part of our **Alphington Autumn Fete** ... but also added in a very fun and slightly competitive traditional country show, enabling people to enter a variety of categories to show-off their craft, cooking, baking, floristry, vegie growing and artistic skills.

We had over 100 entries, and many people who had never been to ACC before participated.

The art, craft and cooking prizes were judged by **The Hon. Nola McLeod** from the **CWA** and the vegie and flower prizes were judged by **Bill Saunders** and **Wayne Hurley** from **Preston Flower Club**.

The accompanying Alphington Dog Show was sponsored by **E&A Salce** in High Street, Thornbury and judged by **Fairfield and Alphington Vets**.

Despite the weather it was a wonderful event and proved a fabulous community partnership opportunity. We'd also like to thank **Nelson Alexander** for providing advertising support for this event.



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## MUSIC FROM THE WETLANDS

**Music From the Wetlands** is a wonderful longstanding community event that ran in November 2018.

ACC was very pleased to support this fabulous community festival and run the children's tent for the day.

We supervised a paint the wetlands cardboard wall project that was designed by a local artist and ran a series of creative nature based activities including gumnut necklaces, nature crowns and fairy gardens.

Kalimna also spent some time taking gorgeous photos of the day for **South Alphington and Fairfield Civic Association**, the organisers of this event. We look forward to playing an active role the next time this event runs!



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## BAUCAU, TIMOR-LESTE

In May 2019, Leanne was part of delegation to **Baucau in Timor-Leste**, that included 6 neighbourhood houses from Darebin.

Both **Darebin and Yarra Council's** have a long standing formal municipal arrangement that provides support for the Baucau local government as it becomes established, as well as direct support for grassroots community groups within the municipality.

The 10 day visit was initiated by **Friends of Baucau** as part of their five year **Women's Empowerment Project**.

This trip was a wonderful opportunity to meet with large international community development organisations and charities to talk about best practice in the field. It was also an opportunity to build relationships and understanding of the challenges facing women in the poorest country in our region.

The visit facilitated a new support network for the women's organisations in Baucau with Darebin's neighbourhood houses. Alphington Community Centre looks forward to an strong ongoing relationship with the women's organisations in Baucau into the future.

## COMMUNITY DONATION

This year the gold coin donations from our **Community Lunches** will go to **Friends of Baucau** to be used to support a discrete project that is part of the broader Women's Empowerment Project.



## SUITCASE SALE

In 2018 we trialled a **Suitcase Sale** once a month on a Sunday morning, to coincide with the new **Alphington Farmers' Market**. It proved very popular with sellers! There are many people in our neighbourhood interested in selling secondhand clothes and goods. ACC is interested in exploring sustainable possibilities in this space into the future.



## CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND CONCERT

Our **Christmas Lunch and Concert** was a big hit this year. We had about 60 people in attendance (despite the heat) and held the lunch at **Alphington Bowls Club** so that we could have some floor space for the performances. We were delighted that our Federal Member **Ged Kearney** and local Yarra Councillor **Amanda Stone** could attend.

It was wonderful to celebrate all the programs together in one space and to see what the tap dancers get up to, sing Christmas carols led by **Alphingtones Choir** members and more. We ate a wonderful lunch prepared by staff and volunteers (thanks **Manu** and others who have helped out this year with cooking) using food supplied by **SecondBite**.

Our Christmas lunch is just one of our monthly **Community Lunches** here at ACC.



## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Once again I am delighted to report very healthy and well balanced financials for the year 2018/19. The financial position of ACC continues to grow and be well managed by Leanne and overseen by our Finance Officer, Peter Drinan.

This year, I'm also pleased to report that the Centre has seen a trading profit of \$8010. The profit was derived from a continued focus on maintaining strong grant and revenue streams and managing expenses whilst delivering many beneficial community programs.

Our underlying financial position has continued to improve due to further grants being received this year. This consolidation and continued fiscal management sets up ACC for a healthy financial position in 2019/20 and beyond. Please refer to the detailed financial reports attached.

As I am stepping down from the Committee and as the Treasurer many thanks as always must go to Leanne, Peter, the staff and volunteers and my Committee of Governance colleagues who are always working passionately to enhance the financial position and reputation of ACC.

I know that I leave ACC in capable hands and look forward to seeing the wonderful work and community services it provides continuing into the future.

**Scott Farrow**

# ALPHINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ANNUAL REPORT 2019

**ALPHINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE INC**  
**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2019**

	2019 \$	2018 \$
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		
Bendigo Bank Accounts	145,358	106,255
Cash Drawer	183	79
Accounts Receivable	0	1,301
Prepaid Expenses	1,887	1,348
	<u>147,428</u>	<u>108,983</u>
<b><u>NON CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		
Property Plant & Equipment		
Property Plant & Equipment at Cost	71,933	63,560
Less Provision for Depreciation	-26,323	-20,226
	<u>45,610</u>	<u>43,334</u>
<b><u>TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>	<u>45,610</u>	<u>43,334</u>
<b><u>TOTAL ASSETS</u></b>	<u>193,038</u>	<u>152,317</u>
<b><u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>		
Trade Creditors & Other Payables	25,140	15,476
Provisions - Employee	18,781	15,565
Provisions - Other	43,500	33,500
Amounts Received in Advance	58,170	48,339
	<u>145,591</u>	<u>112,880</u>
<b><u>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>	<u>145,591</u>	<u>112,880</u>
<b><u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u></b>	<u>145,591</u>	<u>112,880</u>
<b><u>NET ASSETS</u></b>	<u>47,447</u>	<u>39,437</u>
Represented by		
<b><u>MEMBERS EQUITY</u></b>		
Opening Balance 1 July	39,437	32,588
Add Net Income For the Year	8,010	6,849
	<u>47,447</u>	<u>39,437</u>
<b><u>TOTAL EQUITY 30 JUNE</u></b>	<u>47,447</u>	<u>39,437</u>

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**ALPHINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE INC**

**INCOME STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	\$	\$
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>		
Grants	198,551	180,764
Program Income	11,031	9,337
Room Hire	4,572	3,708
Sundry Income	<u>5,313</u>	<u>5,880</u>
<b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>	<b>219,467</b>	<b>199,689</b>
Less		
<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>		
Boardroom & Governance	437	414
Community Program Expenses	18,811	11,377
Computer Expenses	1,952	3,382
Depreciation	6,097	3,870
Donations Paid	884	470
Dues & Subscriptions	871	991
Human Resource Expenses	161,169	139,586
Insurance	255	236
Marketing Expenses	4,254	3,421
Office Expenses	1,331	1,671
Provision Expense	10,000	22,000
Utilities	5,308	4,336
Volunteer Costs	<u>88</u>	<u>1,086</u>
<b><u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u></b>	<b>211,457</b>	<b>192,840</b>
<b><u>NET PROFIT/-LOSS</u></b>	<b><u>8,010</u></b>	<b><u>6,849</u></b>

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## ALPHINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE INC CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	2019	2018
<b>INCOME</b>	\$	\$
Grants Received	222,590	192,870
Receipts from Community	23,528	18,842
Other Receipts	522	551
Interest Income	0	0
	246,640	212,263
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Payments To Suppliers & Employees	199,060	170,261
	199,060	170,261
<b>NET CASH INFLOWS FROM OPERATIONS</b>	47,580	42,002
<b>less</b>		
<b>NET CASH INFLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchases Of Fixed Assets	8,373	19,432
<b>NET CASH INFOWS</b>	39,207	22,570
<b>RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING SURPLUS WITH CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS</b>		
Operating Surplus/-Deficit For Year	8,010	6,849
Add Back Depreciation	6,097	3,870
	14,107	10,719
<b>MOVEMENT IN ASSETS &amp; LIABILITIES</b>		
Decrease/Increase In Receivables	762	-2,649
Decrease/Increase In Creditors & Provisions	32,711	33,932
<b>NET CASH INFLOWS FROM OPERATIONS</b>	47,580	42,002
<b>CASH AT BANK AT START OF YEAR</b>	106,334	83,764
<b>ADD NET CASH INFOWS (OUTFLOWS)</b>	39,207	22,570
<b>CASH AT BANK 30 JUNE</b>	145,541	106,334
<b>MADE UP AS FOLLOWS</b>		
Bendigo - Operating Account	123,034	83,207
Bendigo - Savings Account	32	1,279
Bendigo - Term Deposit	22,292	21,769
Bendigo - Toy Library	0	0
Commonwealth - Savings Account	0	0
Cash Drawer	183	79
<b>CASH AT BANK 30 JUNE</b>	145,541	106,334

**For The Year Ended 30 June 2019**

In the opinion of the Members of the Committee of the Association,

1. The accompanying revenue statement is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the Association's income for the financial year ended 30 June 2019.
2. The accompanying balance sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs for the Association for the financial year ended 30 June 2019.
3. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association can meet its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with the resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

CHAIRPERSON \_\_\_\_\_

TREASURER \_\_\_\_\_

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2019.



**Alphington Community Centre Inc.**

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