



Annual Report

2015-2016



mcrn

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Chairperson's Report

Once again, it has been a busy year for a small service working to balance the representation and supports needed and requested by the local Blue Mountains non-government sector. This is not always easy, with the growing number of issues requiring our voice, representation and attention.

The MCRN Board undertook a Strategic Planning exercise for the period 2015-2018 – the document can be found on our new website (thanks go to Glenda for her patient and creative re-vamp of our complete website – the results are certainly worth it!, with a much improved, cleaner look and easier navigation): <http://www.mcrn.org.au/index.php/about-us/our-vision>.

Major work for MCRN this reporting year has continued to be the on-going work carried out in the wake of the 2013 bushfires – both in ongoing recovery work, and in ensuring our LGA is much better prepared for our next emergency situation.

Members of the Wellbeing Sub-committee were honoured by an invitation to meet HRH Prince Charles. The exclusive event was hosted by the Prince's Charity Australia, and attendees were all involved, in various ways, in responding to recent emergencies.

The *Lessons Learned* report of the Wellbeing Sub-committee from the 2013 recovery process was formally launched in December 2015 jointly by local representatives of all levels of government (Mayor Mark Greenhill, Trish Doyle, Member for Blue Mountains, & Louise Markus, Member for Macquarie) – see Manager's Report for further detail.

The Preparedness Project has been rolled-out by the energetic, dynamic and committed Jacquie Millynn (under the umbrella of the Resilience & Preparedness Group) throughout this financial year and beyond. Initiatives have targeted both the community at large (with a particular focus on our most vulnerable and at-risk residents); as well as to the community services sector itself. R&P Group were proud winners of the 'Community' category of the 2015 NSW Resilient Australia Awards. Further details of this work are also outlined in the Preparedness Coordinator's Report.

MCRN 'business as usual' has included:

- The convening and support of a variety of interagencies and auspiced groups:
 - MCRN convenes the generalist Blue Mountains Community Interagency (BMCI); the Mountains Multicultural Interagency (MMI); the Mental Health & Wellbeing Interagency (MH&WI); and the Homelessness Prevention & Early Intervention (HOPE) Interagency.
 - We support other networks and interagencies (including supporting Blue Mountains City Council's role as the 'Backbone' for the Stronger Families Alliance).
 - We also auspice a variety of local groups (such as Blue Mountains East Timor Sisters, the BM Interfaith Group, BMUC's *Politics in the Pub* series, Trek for Timor, and Pink Mountains).
- 'Meet the Candidates' sessions at Blue Mountains Community Interagency (BMCI) meetings in early 2016 in preparation for the Federal Election.
- Continuing to advocate on behalf of the community sector in preparation for the Family and Community Services (FACS) Targeted Earlier Intervention program reforms. The broader community services sector is actively engaged in consultations at both the District and State level and are watching this space keenly, as the reforms appear likely to lead to significant changes to both funding and to the way services and programs are implemented. The Blue

Mountains sector is well-known for its ability to achieve significant outcomes with very limited funding, by 'cobbling together' existing operational funding, small grants, volunteer hours and donated goods and services. With funding changes occurring, and more predicted to come, it is clear MCRN will have a key role to play in the next 2-3 years.

- We continue to advocate, particularly to government, for the use of the Harwood approach to community engagement and community consultation.
- Early 2016 saw an (at least temporary) amelioration of the impacts of the *Smart and Skilled* reforms on the least advantaged in our community, and thus on the community sector's ability to deliver programs and services to the most vulnerable in partnership with TAFE.

The MCRN Board gives a grateful 'Thank you' to Kris (and her small, part-time, team of Glenda and Jacquie) for all their efforts and hard work over this past reporting period – for a micro-organisation, MCRN certainly 'punches above its weight'.

Thank you to the other Board members (who are not only volunteers, but also busy people in their own right), for all the great work done in 2015-16. In particular, we are grateful for the contribution, and support, of Blue Mountains City Council's *ex officio* nominee to the Board, Councillor Romola Hollywood, who has been a committed advocate for community issues within Council during her four-year term.



Rod Titovs
Chairperson, MCRN



MCRN is the peak body for the community sector in the Blue Mountains

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Manager's Report

MCRN Team

Glenda Kelly, who took up the role of Service Support worker just before the bushfires in October 2013 under extremely trying circumstances, has continued to quietly and professionally deal with the significant role of service support as well as managing all of MCRN's communications functions (the *eBulletin*, the website, and the *BM4U* Facebook page) in her part-time role. In addition she deals with MCRN membership, has updated the contact database and Service Directory, updated MCRN's Policies and Procedures; and created a new website (in her 'spare time')! We owe a great debt of gratitude to Glenda, and say a heart-felt 'Thank You'.



Hayley Peters (our book-keeper) is now a very new mum; and her role has been taken on by **Kirsty Andrews** in a seamless planned transition – though the plan needed to be activated a little in advance of the anticipated date, as Avery arrived very much earlier than expected! Congratulations, Hayley; and welcome Kirsty!



Jacquie Millynn, our Preparedness Coordinator, has been employed under a CRIP (Community Resilience Initiative Program) Grant, as part of Federal and State emergency preparedness and community resilience-building (NDRRA arrangements). Jacquie's professionalism, passion, energy and efficiency are a delight, and it is a real pleasure to have her on board the team.



As part of the CRIP project, Jacquie has delivered (in consultation with the Resilience & Preparedness Group) a series of community sector capacity-building workshops around Emergency Preparedness. These built on both the very successful pilot for Children's Services; and the very successful partnership developed between the community sector, local emergency services, Local Council, and the Red Cross.

Jacquie has also utilised other smaller project grants to organise:

- several more of the successful *More Than a Fire Plan* community forums;
- volunteer up-skilling workshops for those in the community sector who regularly visit some of the most vulnerable in our community (Community/Volunteer Home Visitors, Meals on Wheels, etc.); and
- 'clinics' at child-care or early learning centres for other vulnerable groups (such as parents isolated at home with young children).

For a 'bird's-eye' overview of this work, download a PDF of the R&P Group's presentation at the AFAC Conference in 2016: <http://www.mcrn.org.au/index.php/links-resources/emergency-recovery-preparedness/emergency-recovery-preparedness-resources-for-services-1/category/79-emergency-preparedness-resources-for-the-sector>. More detail on the suite of R&P activities can be found later in this Report.

Communications

MCRN's role as the central information hub for the Blue Mountains community sector has continued this year:

MCRN Social Media Statistics 2015-16

Website: www.mcrn.org.au:

	Unique Visitors	No. of Visits	Pages	Hits	Average Visits per Unique Visitor	Average Pages per Visit
2013-14	17,483	34,991	244,479	332,793	2	7
2014-15	9,019	28,275	746,180	818,744	3	26
2015-16	9,821	22,016	904,015	1,005,788	2	41

eBulletin:

	No. distributed	No. of weeks distributed	Total distributed
2013-14	103	47	4841
2014-15	121	47	5687
2015-16	133	45	5985

BM4U Facebook Page:

	TOTAL Page Likes	<i>New Likes</i>	<i>Weekly Total Reach</i>	<i>People Engaged</i>
2013-14	158	6	119	21
2014-15	258	1.2	155.7	22.3
2015-16	435	177	273	29

Demographics to Date – People Who Liked BM4U

Gender	Female: 75%	Male: 24%				
Age	18-24: 6%	25-34: 19%	35-44: 27%	45-54: 23%	55-64: 16%	65+: 6%

Twitter:

	Followers	No. of Tweets
2013-14	253	5016
2014-15	401	5484
2015-16	538	5981

Twitter 2015-16

	Jul-Sep	Sep-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	TOTAL
Engagement Rate	1.0%	0.8%	0.9%	0.7%	
Link Clicks	43	13	18	63	137
Retweets	43	14%	29	29	101.14
Likes	31	8	34	38	111
Replies	8	3	2	8	21

Recovery & Preparedness

The Recovery effort from the 2013 bushfires, from the point of view of the community services sector and MCRN, continued on two fronts this year:

1. Wellbeing Sub-committee; and
2. Resilience & Preparedness Group.

1. **Wellbeing.** The Wellbeing Sub-Committee formally ceased operations in December 2015, though the recovery work is ongoing. I commend again the united efforts of the broader community services sector. The professionalism, dedication 'above and beyond', the commitment to strengths-based practice and best practice in community development were, and remain, extraordinary – the sector has showcased its core values in the clearest possible way, and been strengthened by the experience. The Blue Mountains community services sector has clearly demonstrated the value of the networked and collaborative service system which has been built up over many years (such as through the work of the Stronger Families Alliance, and our various Interagencies).



Some members of Wellbeing Sub-committee invited to meet HRH Prince Charles

RH Photo L-R: Tracey Greenaway (Salvation Army Recovery); Janice Freeston (BM Minister's Association); Anne Crestani ('Step by Step' Bushfire Recovery); Rose Glasscock (Senior Psychologist, Education); Kris Newton (MCRN)

The **Lessons Learned** Report of the Wellbeing Sub-committee from the 2013 recovery process was formally launched in December 2015 jointly by local representatives of all levels of government (Mayor Mark Greenhill; Trish Doyle, MP; & Louise Markus, MP). This document makes recommendations to the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC), future Recovery Committees, and to all levels of Government, regarding required responses to assist with effective recovery. It is hoped that this document will be used by the next recovery team in the Blue Mountains to inform recovery practice; and will also be a resource for other disaster-affected communities – to be accessed and used to assist other local governments and communities impacted by bush fires and natural disasters (the PDF of the Report can be downloaded from our website: www.mcrn.org.au/index.php/links-resources/emergency-recovery-preparedness/emergency-recovery-preparedness-resources-for-services-1). Our new local Member, Trish Doyle MP, has kindly passed the Report on to the Premier and relevant NSW Ministers, endorsing it as a model of how Recovery could be managed, and recommendations for future emergency events.



Some members of Wellbeing Sub-Committee at Launch of Lessons Learned Report with Mayor/local Members (including: Jessie Huard – Red Cross; Morna Colbran – Winmalee Neighbourhood Centre; Jo Ridley – Blackheath Neighbourhood Centre; Kris Newton – MCRN; Jo Davis – NBM Medicare Local; Janice Freeston – BM Ministers' Association; Stan Pianko – Lions Club)

2. Significant work has been undertaken, and additional experimentation (through pilot projects) overseen, by the **Resilience & Preparedness Group** (see following more detailed report).



Some members of Resilience & Preparedness Group, accepting 2015 NSW Resilient Australia Award at Parliament House with Minister Elliott & local Member, Trish Doyle MP (R-L: Andrew Kaye – RFS, BM; Jacque Millynn – MCRN; Kath Harrison – Katoomba Neighbourhood Centre; Kris Newton – MCRN; Jo Ridley – Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre; Tony Jarrett, NSW RFS; Di Bernardi & Sue Roden – Red Cross)



Advocacy & Representation

A wide variety of issues were raised during this period which MCRN (and the peaks with which we are involved as partners) raised on behalf of the sector and our community, such as:

- ❖ The issue of most concern and interest to the sector over the past year has been the proposed **Targeted Earlier Intervention Program (TEIP) reforms**. The sector peaks formed a partnership (of which MCRN was a member) to facilitate effective consultation between the Department of Family & Community Services (FACS) and the sector; and to streamline advocacy back to the Department on the sector's views on what genuine and effective reform might look like
 - FACS' mantra of 'no new money' - and their clear intention in the NBM District to fund Lithgow, the Hawkesbury, and new areas of the Nepean to better reflect need - mean that money will inevitably need to come from the Blue Mountains. It is not yet clear what the ramifications of this might be - but we have been advocating strongly that 'lighthouse' BM initiatives (such as Stronger Families Alliance, Harwood, BLINN and Resilience & Preparedness) should be used as models for the reforms, not 'thrown out with the bathwater'.
- ❖ We continue to advocate for the use of the **Harwood approach to community engagement and community consultation**. The Blue Mountains & Lithgow Integrated Neighbourhood Network (BLINN) consortium and Stronger Families Alliance have embarked on a comprehensive program of Harwood #ASK and Community Conversations exercises around the kind of community our residents want to live in, and what it will take to achieve this. Interesting trends are already emerging from these consultations, and feedback will be utilised to assist the sector's advocacy and representation work.
 - BLINN have agreed that this program of community engagement and consultation is ongoing 'core business' for all consortium members; and
 - in the case of the SFA, the questions (to children, young people and their families) are aimed at genuine community input into the development of the new *Child & Youth Plan*.
- ❖ The sector's representations on the **impact of the Smart & Skilled reforms on TAFE**, and especially TAFE Outreach, which were further hurting many of the most disadvantaged in our community (and were already impacting the strong partnership which the BM community sector has established with TAFE Outreach to effectively value-add to each other's outcomes) has had some effect:
 - most specifically, WSI TAFE has – at least temporarily – reinstated the fee-free or subsidised courses which had been cut as part of the reforms; thus immediately restoring student numbers, which had dropped below 1/3 of previous enrolments and impacted on the viability of courses. This issue requires our continued efforts in advocating against the negative impacts of the reforms on the community and sector at large; and
 - eligibility criteria – which would have barred many in our community (eg women returning to the workplace, refugees and migrants) from accessing subsidised skills training for employment – have been somewhat ameliorated.
- ❖ **Evaluation or measurement of impact/outcomes** - including input to SFA measurement and evaluation; and particularly in relation to the TEIP reform process.
- ❖ **Sector development** (and the role of regional and sub-regional Peaks in the emerging funding and policy landscape).
- ❖ **Inequality**, and its effects on society at large (not just the marginalised) continued to be an issue on the local, State and national agenda this year.
 - this advocacy included ongoing work around a raft of measures proposed in the **2014 and 2015 Federal Budgets**.



Supporting unfunded groups

MCRN plays an important role in supporting and resourcing unfunded and/or unincorporated community groups and social justice campaigns, and this year was no exception. MCRN auspices a range of local action groups - including the Blue Mountains East Timor Sisters (BMETS) Project and *Trek for Timor*, the BM Interfaith Group, Pink Mountains, and the Blue Mountains Trade Union Council's *Politics in the Pub*. You can read about their excellent work later in this report.

Community Sector Capacity Building

MCRN also offers a variety of support services to our Members, and support continued this year for Member organisations, on request: specifically with Strategic Planning; and also Governance workshops (e.g. Carver Governance Principles).

As part of the **Resilience & Preparedness** Group's work, Jacquie has offered Planning for Emergencies workshops to all BM community sector organisations; and ran workshops to up-skill sector volunteers (to 'have the conversation' with their at-risk and vulnerable clients) - see fuller report on Resilience & Preparedness activities later in this Report.

The BM community sector (the Neighbourhood Centres, and Stronger Families Alliance members) have collectively embarked on a significant exercise of professional development in the **Harwood approach to community engagement**. This process will see, for the first time, large-scale community consultation processes across the LGA; and is complemented by both FACS and some Council staff are also undertaking the two-year training. The advantage, in addition to a common understanding of processes and the outcomes, will potentially be a shared language in terms of advocacy based directly on the views of residents. MCRN is actively supporting this approach.

We have this year supported a number of activities to promote effective **'story-telling' as part of effective promotion and advocacy**, such as:

- Workshops at BMCI on developing de-identified case-studies;
- Developing a series of illustrative case-in-point examples for the CSU consultants for inclusion in the Stronger Families Alliance Evaluation Report; and
- A briefing for the (then) FACS District Director on four of the BM's 'lighthouse' initiatives (BLINN, SFA, Harwood and R&P), accompanied by a visit to the local Public School to see 'practice in action' – peer-supported reading, with a guest appearance by *Billie Booksie*).



Network & Partnership Development

MCRN convenes, coordinates and provides secretariat support to four interagency groups in the Blue Mountains – the Blue Mountains Community Interagency (BMCI), Mountains Multicultural Interagency (MMI), the HOPE (Homelessness Prevention & Early Intervention) Interagency, and the Mental Health & Wellbeing Interagency. Thanks to some solid planning, each group has a clear direction and blueprint for collaborative action.

Blue Mountains Community Interagency (BMCI): BMCI, which meets monthly, is the generalist Interagency for the Blue Mountains community sector. This year saw changes at State, Federal and pending local elections, so BMCI had a busy time finalising policy positions, building on our relationship with the new Member for the Blue Mountains (Trish Doyle MP), hosting *Meet the Candidates* sessions for the Federal Election, and briefing candidates for local Council elections.

Homelessness Prevention & Early Intervention (HOPE): HOPE Interagency meets every 2-3 months. The disruption of the poorly-handled *Going Home*, *Staying Home* reforms has now been put behind us; the new partnerships have been ‘bedded-in’ for local Specialist Housing Services; with those in the Nepean-Blue Mountains cementing a collaborative approach. This includes a joint ‘Right Door’ phone number and efficient referral pathways which appears to be much more effective (since it includes local knowledge and relationships) than the general NSW-wide call-centre of *Link2Home*.

The position paper (*Defaulting on the Australian Dream – Towards a Housing Strategy for the BM*¹) which summarises HOPE’s advocacy agenda, this year continued to form the basis of advocacy and input to a variety of consultation processes on housing affordability issues - including FACS NBM; NCOS/Shelter; and the new *Heading Home – Ending Homelessness Here!* Project (MCRN and many HOPE Interagency members are actively involved in developing this initiative).

Mental Health & Wellbeing Interagency: The new Mental Health & Wellbeing Interagency (MH&WI), meeting quarterly, is working well. Standing Items on the Agenda include updates on: YMISA projects; (previously RAMHI) projects such as Mental Health Month and *Blue Fringe Festival*; Stronger Families Alliance (with a focus on wellbeing and youth); and the progress towards a BM pilot of an ‘Open Dialogue’ approach within the formal mental health system (as an important step in this directions, the NBM LHD Mental Health team last month launched the *Year of the Family* – recognising the role of significant others in a person’s recovery – at the Springwood Hub). MCRN also partnered with a MH&WI member, InsideOut, to host a simultaneous global screening of the film *Healing Voices*, with a very pleasing attendance of around 75 participants at the Springwood Hub.

¹ www.mcrn.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=124&Itemid=76

Mountains Multicultural Interagency (MMI): MMI meets bi-monthly, and this year has completed a strategic planning exercise to clarify its role, purpose and membership, and update its Terms of Reference. Nepean Multicultural Access has kindly agreed to take on the secretariat function for the interagency. This year, MMI has undertaken the massive task of updating the Mountains Multicultural Services Directory (anticipated completion end of 2016), which will be uploaded in electronic form to the BMCC and MCRN websites. MMI have also drafted a *New Residents' Guide*, a pamphlet which gives key contacts in various categories (such as health, community, education); and hope to gain a ClubsGrant to print this and distribute (via Neighbourhood Centres, real estate agents, etc.).



Photo courtesy of Mary-Lou Keating, 'As the Smoke Clears'

RESILIENCE & PREPAREDNESS

by Jacquie Millynn, Preparedness Coordinator

MCRN continues to play a key role in supporting the community to **build resilience** and be **better prepared** for emergencies.

As the auspice organisation for the Blue Mountains Resilience & Preparedness (R & P) Group, MCRN provides backbone support to a coordinated range of preparedness initiatives.

2015/16 has seen the R & P Group build on the experience of pilot projects and **embed the work** that has been undertaken in this area, **welcome new members** and **share learning and experience** with others in both the emergency management and community services sector.

MCRN's Preparedness Coordinator, Jacquie Millynn, has worked closely with members of the R & P Group, along with other organisations, to develop and deliver a broad range of initiatives and resources to the Blue Mountains and surrounding regions.

MCRN, on behalf of the Resilience & Preparedness Group, is particularly grateful to the ongoing contribution and support from the following organisations

- Blue Mountains Lithgow Integrated Network
- Blue Mountains City Council
- Office Of Emergency Management
- NSW Rural Fire Service
- NSW State Emergency Service
- Fire and Rescue NSW
- NSW Police Force
- The Australian Red Cross
- The Salvation Army
- Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal
- Westpac

R & P GROUP

Throughout 2015/16 the R & P Group met monthly to identify and discuss potential projects as well as for members to provide updates on current initiatives in this space.

The Group also regularly heard from guest speakers including the Get Ready Project (The Deaf Society), National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Blue Mountains Animal Ready Community Project.

The R & P Group welcomed several new members throughout the year, including representatives from the Department's of Education and Health and the Salvation Army.

In October the R & P Group was announced as the NSW winner of the Resilient Australia Community Award. The Resilient Australia Awards recognise and promote initiatives which strengthen community disaster resilience across the nation.

In December the Group worked with a local designer to develop the R & P Logo (pictured right).



The R & P Logo was endorsed by the Group in December 2015



Founding members of the R & P Group



Members of R & P Group with Trish Doyle MP accepting Resilient Australia Award from Hon. David Elliott MP (Minister for Emergency Services) October 2015

SERVICE SYSTEM PREPAREDNESS

A core focus for the R & P Group in 2015/16 was to support **community sector preparedness**. Work in this area was facilitated through the 2014/15 Community Resilience Innovation Program (CRIP) Grant MCRN (on behalf of R & P) received.

'Planning for Emergencies' workshops were held for organisations in the community sector to review or develop emergency plans. In 2015/16 Jacquie, with the support of local emergency services and the Australian Red Cross, facilitated five workshops in Blackheath, Katoomba, Springwood (2) and Penrith. A total of 65 attendees from 52 organisations attended a 'Planning for Emergencies' Workshop.

In surveys completed after the workshops, all participants either agreed or strongly agreed that information provided in the workshop would assist their organisation to prepare for an emergency. In follow up undertaken with participants from workshops held in 2015, over half had implemented changes to better prepare their service for an emergency.



'Planning for Emergencies' Workshop, August 2015



'Planning for Emergencies' Workshop, May 2016

SERVICE SYSTEM PREPAREDNESS

A primary focus of the CRIP Grant was to develop resources to assist the community sector to prepare for emergencies.

Through consultation with the community sector, ***Get Ready! A Practical Guide for the Blue Mountains Community Sector to Prepare for Emergencies*** was developed. The *Get Ready!* Guide contains seven key actions for organisations to take to prepare for emergencies.

To accompany the *Get Ready!* Guide, an **Emergency Procedures Template** was developed. The Template is a customisable resource outlining procedures so that all those connected to a service know what to do in case of an emergency.



The Get Ready! Guide



*Members of R & P with VIP's at the launch of The Get Ready! Guide
June 2016*

HOUSEHOLD PREPAREDNESS

A secondary focus for 2015/16 has been to **support local residents** to prepare for emergencies. A broad range of initiatives have been rolled out across the Blue Mountains including

- **Meet Your Street** - Outdoor neighbourhood events to strengthen community connections and build emergency preparedness (developed by Mid Mountains Neighbourhood Centre);
- **More Than A Fire Plan** - Community forums for local residents to learn about emotional and practical preparedness (developed by Lower Mountains Neighbourhood Centre & Wesley Counselling Services); and,
- **Heads Up For Fire** - A street based initiative encouraging neighbourhood networking and support to prepare for emergencies (developed by Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre).

As a result of these initiatives, residents in the Blue Mountains are better prepared for emergencies. Following their participation in an R & P initiative, those who attended had undertaken the following actions to prepare for an emergency

- 29% had practically prepared their home;
- 19% had practiced their emergency plans; and,
- 17% had packed an emergency kit.



Meet Your Street



Heads Up For Fire



More Than A Fire Plan

HOUSEHOLD PREPAREDNESS

In 2015/16 a total of **70 preparedness events** were run for local residents. **Over 1500 people** were recorded attending these events and **770 surveys** were completed.

Get Ready! Blue Mountains was a region wide campaign run in the lead up to the fire season encouraging local residents to prepare. This initiative encouraged organisations to either theme a regular activity around preparedness or to hold one (or more) special events specifically focused on emergency preparedness. The following organisations held events as part of this campaign

- Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre
- Mountains Outreach Community Service
- The Salvation Army
- Mid Mountains Community Centre
- Lithgow Information and Neighbourhood Centre
- Katoomba Neighbourhood Centre

To further support local residents to prepare for emergencies, resources including **Useful Information for Emergencies** (developed from an original concept by Lower Mountains Neighbourhood Centre) and the **BSAFE Key Points for Seniors to Prepare for Emergencies** were developed.



Get Ready! Blue Mountains Flyer



Useful Information for Emergencies

VULNERABLE RESIDENTS

In addition to the household preparedness initiatives, Jacquie also worked closely with organisations to develop activities and events specifically targeting vulnerable and at-risk residents.

Funding received through a Westpac Group Natural Disaster Recovery Grant enabled the development and delivery of a workshop to support **volunteers and front line workers to discuss preparedness with clients.**

To ensure sustainability of this work, a second workshop was run, **to support managers/coordinators to deliver in-house training** on preparedness to volunteers and front line staff. At both workshops over two thirds of participants reported they now felt able to undertake these tasks.

Workshops were also delivered for **parents and carers of young children.** In October 2015 Jacquie worked with Mountains Outreach Community Service to deliver three clinics (Wentworth Falls, Hazelbrook and Lawson) and in May 2016 Jacquie worked with the Australian Red Cross and the NSW Rural Fire Service to deliver two workshops (Hazelbrook and Faulconbridge). At these clinics **75% of respondents identified strategies to cope during emergencies.**



Upskilling Volunteers Workshop, October 2015



Upskilling Volunteers Workshop, December 2015



Preparedness Clinic for families of young children, October 2015

SHARING EXPERIENCE & LEARNING

The learning and experience that the R & P Group has in this space has led to representatives being accepted to speak at events including the

- Australia and New Zealand Disaster and Emergency Management (ANZDEM) Conference;
- Australian Community Engagement & Fire Awareness (ACEFA) Conference;
- AFAC Fire & Emergency Management Conference; and,
- Local Community Services Associations Connecting Communities Conference

Ongoing support and assistance has also been given to the recovery effort in Kurnell following the tornado in December 2015, The University of Sydney's Disability Inclusive Disaster Preparedness Project, ACOSS' Resilient Community Organisations Toolkit and Central Queensland University's Building the Disaster Resilience of the Homeless Community and Services Project among many others.



Jacquie Millynn presenting at ACEFA Conference, May 2016



Kris Newton presenting at recovery event in Kurnell, June 2016



Members of R & P presenting at ANZDEM Conference, May 2016

Partnerships

MCRN continues to partner with **Blue Mountains City Council**, and we look forward to continuing to work with Luke Nicholls (Director, City & Community Services) and the Community Outcomes Team, to ensure the Blue Mountains is an inclusive and wonderful place to live for all residents.

MCRN and BMCC are jointly the 'backbone' organisations for the **Stronger Families Alliance (SFA)**. SFA has undertaken a significant review in the past year, and a consequent re-focus:

- the central ('wicked problem') issue for the Alliance has been identified as wellbeing and mental health;
- we have identified a need for a shared measurement platform to enable us to track both project/initiative/agency progress against indicators, and overall progress against population level indicators;
- the (mostly school-based) Hubs are currently undertaking an initial pilot of a shared measurement approach;
- the 13 Outcomes in the Child & Family Plan have been refined to 7, which now reflect outcomes for children & young people (0-18 years; 'cradle to career');
- the development of the new Plan will form the bulk of the work being undertaken by the SFA Main Group in the coming 12-18 months; and
- we are utilising the Harwood approach to community engagement as part of our consultation process with our community towards a new *Child & Youth Plan*. SFA members have undertaken Harwood specially-convened training. The Harwood approach to community engagement and consultation allows us to utilise 'public knowledge' and aspirations for the kind of community we want our children and young people to grow up in; along with the service system's 'expert knowledge'.

The Evaluation of the Stronger Families Alliance by Charles Sturt University has been completed; we have invited Minister for Family & Community Services, the Hon. Brad Hazzard MP, to formally Launch the Report in late 2016.

We continue, when possible, to represent the broader community sector on the **Coalition Against Violence and Abuse (CAVA)**, and the **Neighbourhood Centre Manager's** group, and the **Shared Care Committee**; and are a member of the Board of **Blue Mountains Drug & Alcohol Recovery Services (BMDARS)**.

MCRN also represents Blue Mountains Community Builders-funded organisations (such as members of BLINN, the consortium of BM and Lithgow Neighbourhood Centres) on the **Regional Representative Council of LCSA (Local Community Sector Association, NSW)**; and is a member of both **Stronger Voice for Greater Western Sydney** and the **Sector Development Group** - ensuring that the voice of our community and sector is heard beyond the Mountains.



*Sector Development Group –
Regional & Sub-Regional Peaks, Meeting
at MCRN
2015*

MCRN now represents the community sector on the **Local Emergency Management Committee** (LEMC), as a permanent invited guest (the first we know of in NSW); as well as on the new standing sub-committee (Recovery & Resilience). This is a major step forward, as it puts community recovery and resilience at the core of emergency planning in the LGA (again, a first as far as we know). The Resilience & Preparedness Group has presented at a range of conferences and forums in the past year – with some (eg ANZDEM, AFAC) focussing on key messaging to the Emergency Management sector on the critical importance of developing relationships with the community services sector; while others (LCSA, ACOSS) have focussed on getting the same message to key players in the community sector.

We also represent the HOPE Interagency on the steering group for the **Heading Home – Ending Homelessness Here! Project** in the Hawkesbury, BM and Nepean LGAs, a cross-sectoral collaboration (between community sector organisations, real estate agents, Councils, Specialist Housing Services, local media, etc.). The project is planning a Registry Week in early November 2016, with the intention of identifying, undertaking triage, and finding sustainable housing for those who are homeless (including rough sleepers, young people and women and children escaping violence who are couch-surfing, those in temporary accommodation, etc.).

Susan Templeman, MP; Stephen McIntyre CEO, Wentworth Community Housing; Trish Doyle, MP



Research Utilisation

Part of the rationale for our support of the Harwood approach is that it enables the sector to access and utilise rigorous, grass-roots input to policy development and advocacy (eg the FACS consultation/co-design process on Targeted Earlier Intervention program reforms; SFA and young people).

The consultation results so far are demonstrating encouraging consensus on key aspirations about the kind of community BM residents wish for themselves, their children and young people, and (pleasingly) other residents. The Harwood Community Conversations approach also allows us to do a ‘deeper dive’ to unpack those aspirations - what needs to be done at the local level to achieve those aspirations? – and is beginning to provide us with rich and detailed data to support advocacy on a variety of key issues for our community. In relation to the Stronger Families Alliance’s development of the new *Child & Youth Plan*, it will also ensure that the community is directly engaged in its development, owns the aspirations/Outcomes in the final Plan, and can hold Council and the Community Sector to account for the outcomes.

The *Heading Home – Ending Homelessness Here! Project* is also an excellent example of action research – utilising empirical evidence on the ground to design interventions at the local level.

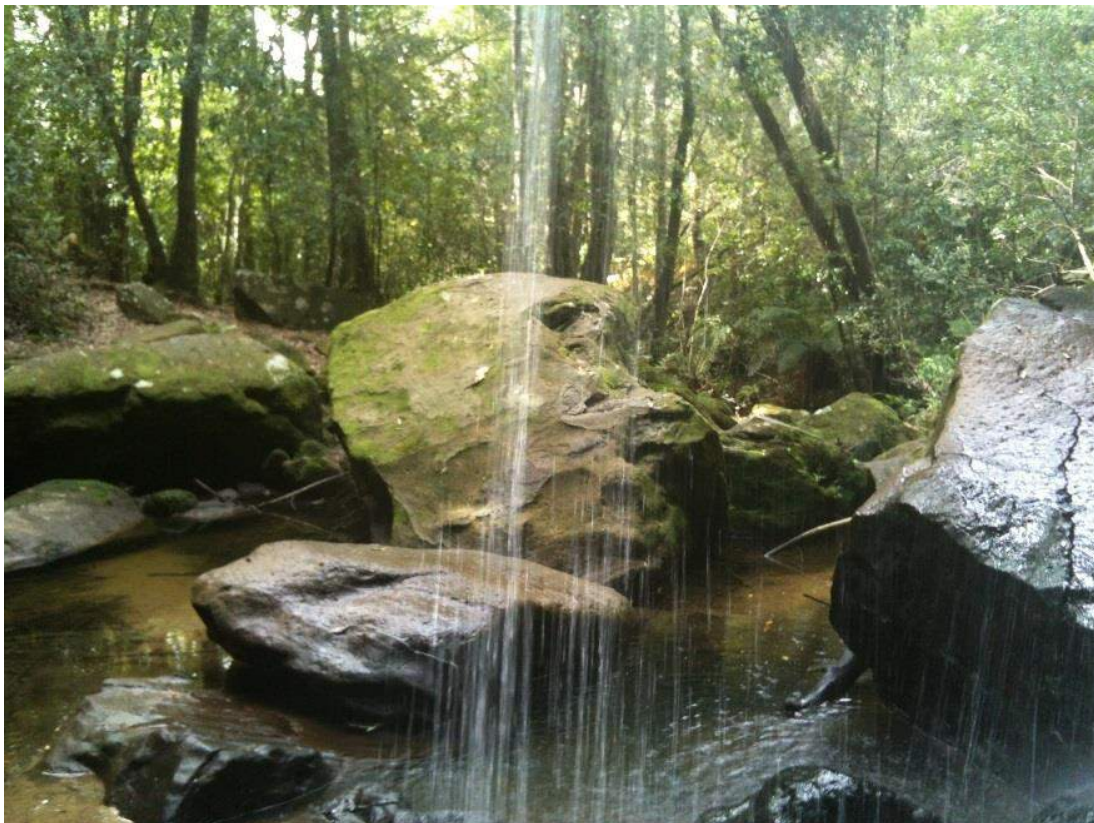
Governance

In 2015, the MCRN Board has completed an update of the Strategic Plan; and has also continued the process of updating all Policy and Procedures documents.

I would again like to acknowledge the hard work of the MCRN Board. Without their passionate commitment, their strategic thinking and their encouragement, MCRN - and the community sector itself - would be so much the poorer. All the members of the Board, are both volunteers and busy people in their own right; we appreciate their generosity and contribution to the BM community sector (and through them, to our community as a whole).



*Kris Newton
Manager*



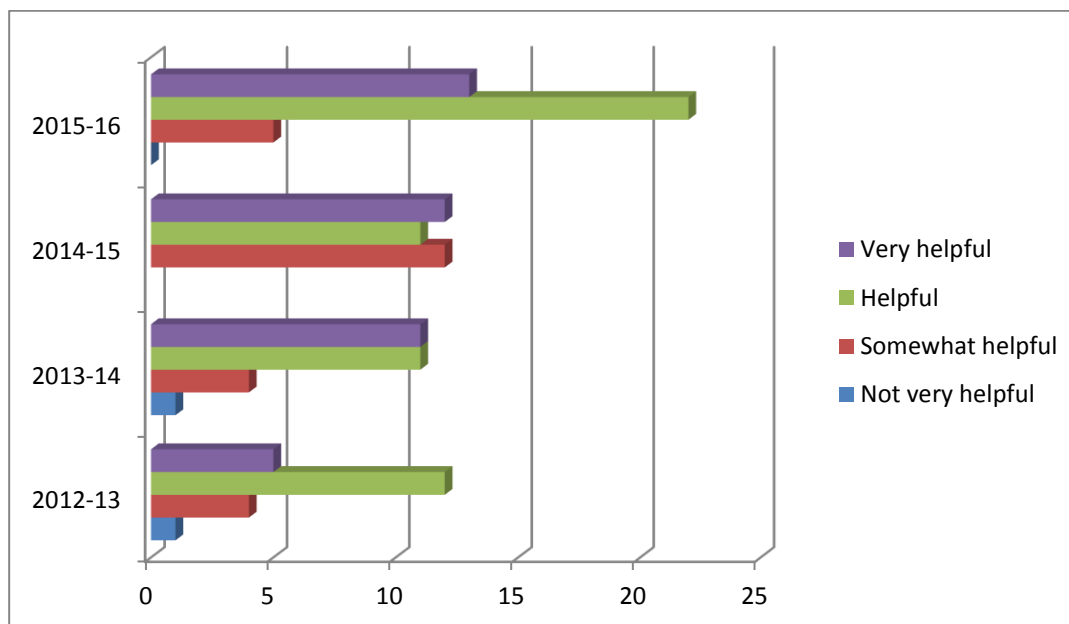
In 2015-16, MCRN had 46 financial Members (40 organisational, and 6 individuals).

The BM community sector has identified five key roles for MCRN as a sector development (peak) organisation to provide effective support to our Members: Representation, Support, Capacity-building, Relationships (Networks & Partnerships), and Communication (Information Clearing-house).

The latest results for our annual Member Survey are summarised below in a series of graphs and charts, comparing outcomes from 2012-13 to 2015-16:

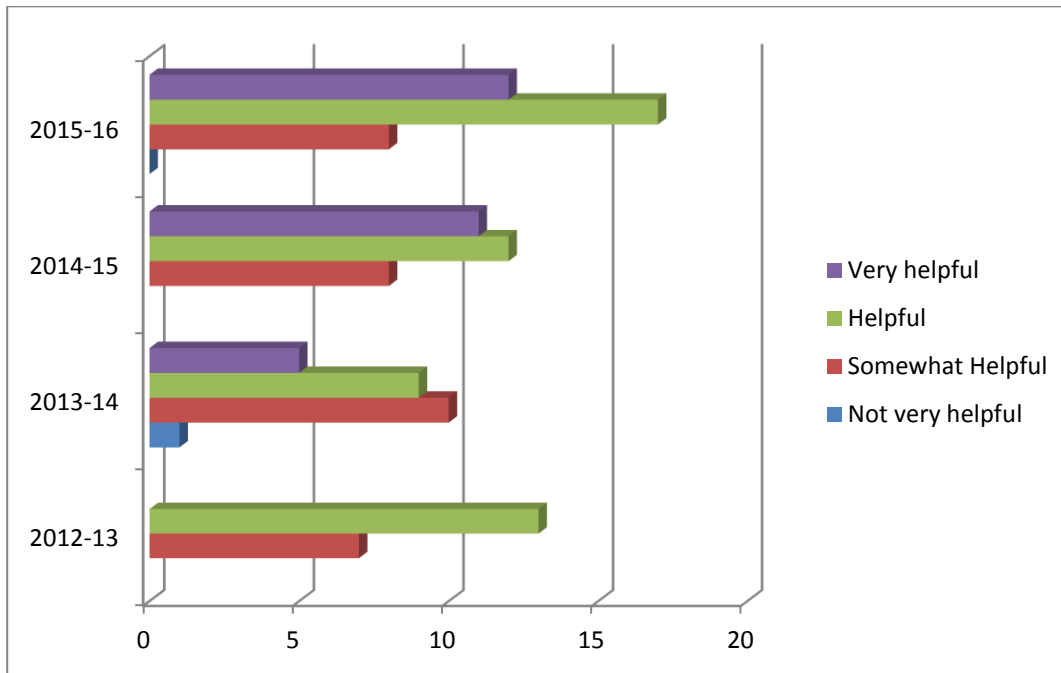
Representation

How beneficial is our representation to your organisation and your ability to strengthen our community?



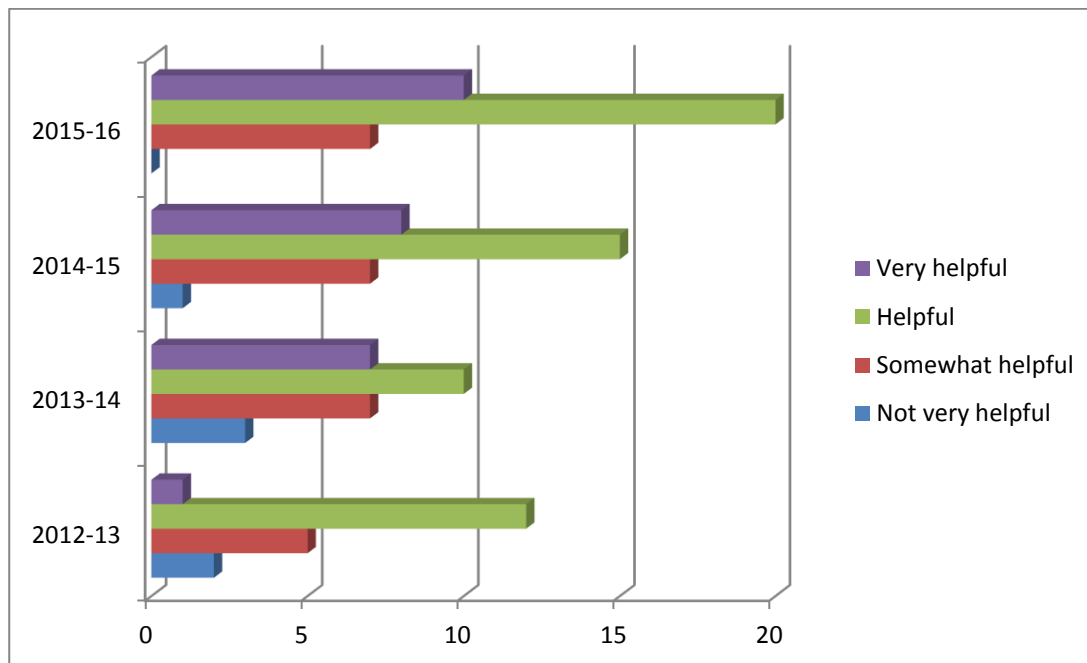
Support

How beneficial is our support to your organisation and your ability to strengthen our community?



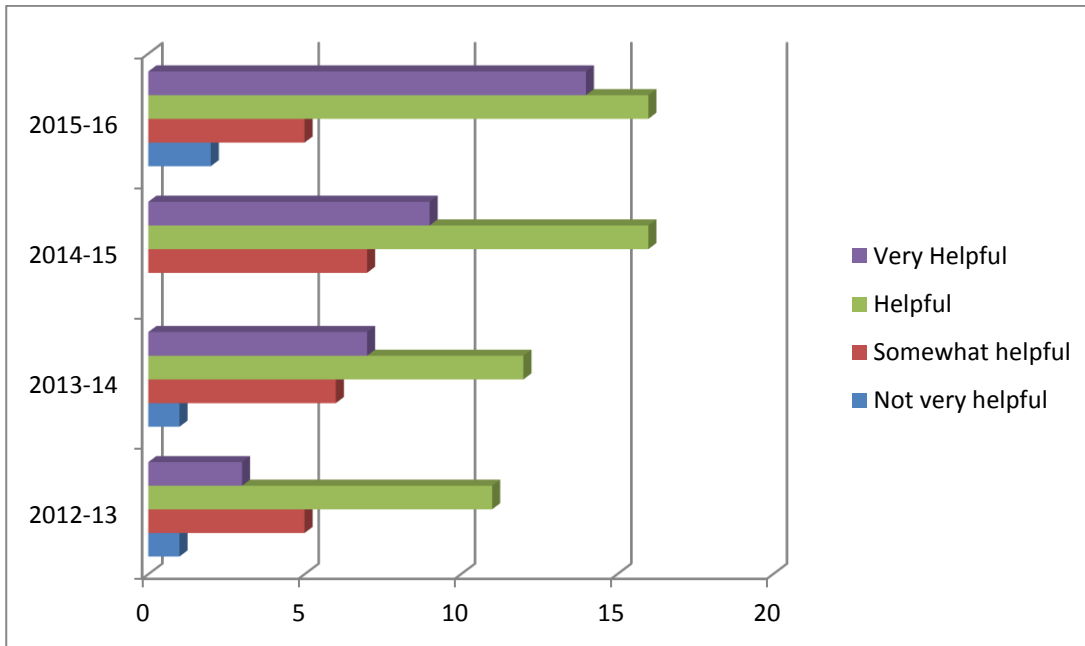
Capacity-building

How beneficial is our capacity-building to your organisation and your ability to strengthen our community?



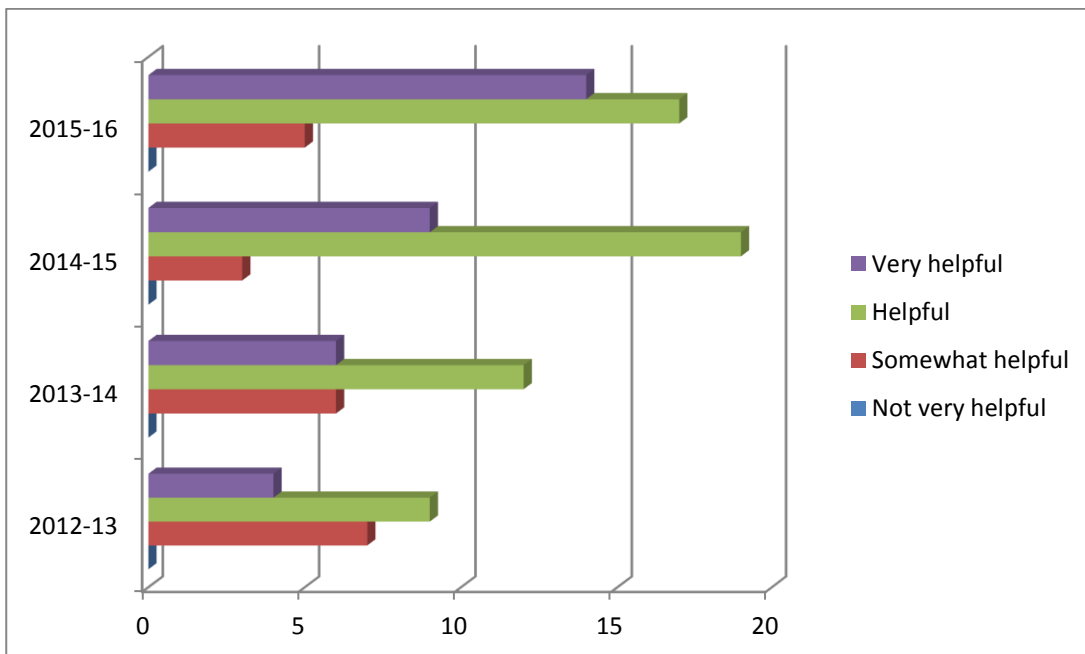
Relationships

How beneficial are our relationship-building activities to your organisation and your ability to strengthen our community?



Information Clearing-house

How beneficial are our information clearing-house activities to your organisation and your ability to strengthen our community?





Auspiced Groups

Blue Mountains Trek for Timor 2016

MCRN again kindly agreed to act as the auspicing body for the Blue Mountains Trek for Timor 2016 (the Trek), held on 17 September 2016. This was the fourth time MCRN has auspiced a Blue Mountains Trek for Timor. Previous Treks were held in 2010, 2012 and 2014. Although the Trek itself was held in the 2016-17 financial year, most of the organising work actually occurred in 2015-16.

The Trek has been organised by a committee of volunteers from right across the Blue Mountains. These volunteers include members of the Blue Mountains Hatobuilico Friendship Committee (an advisory committee to Blue Mountains City Council), Blue Mountains East Timor Sisters (BMETS), as well as other volunteers.

The Trek involves Blue Mountains volunteers working, with the support of MCRN, for a common goal of raising funds to provide assistance to the people of Timor Leste. It fits perfectly with the MCRN vision of a socially just, empowered, inclusive, connected and resilient Blue Mountains community and with MCRN's mission statement.

The Trek could not have taken place without the wonderful support of Kris Newton and her team at MCRN and of the Board of MCRN. The organising committee really appreciated this support.

The Trek

This year there were 203 trekkers on the day (of whom approximately 120 were Blue Mountains residents). They comprised 47 teams of 4 to 6 people each.

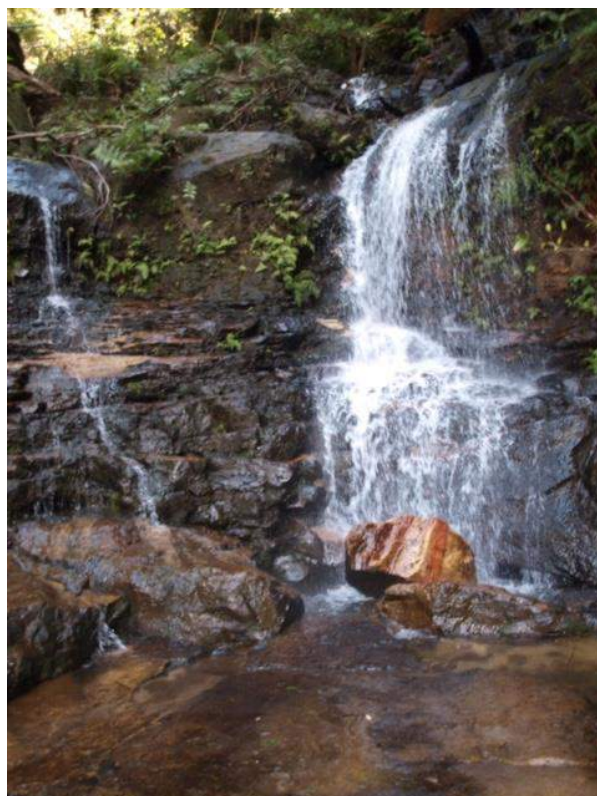
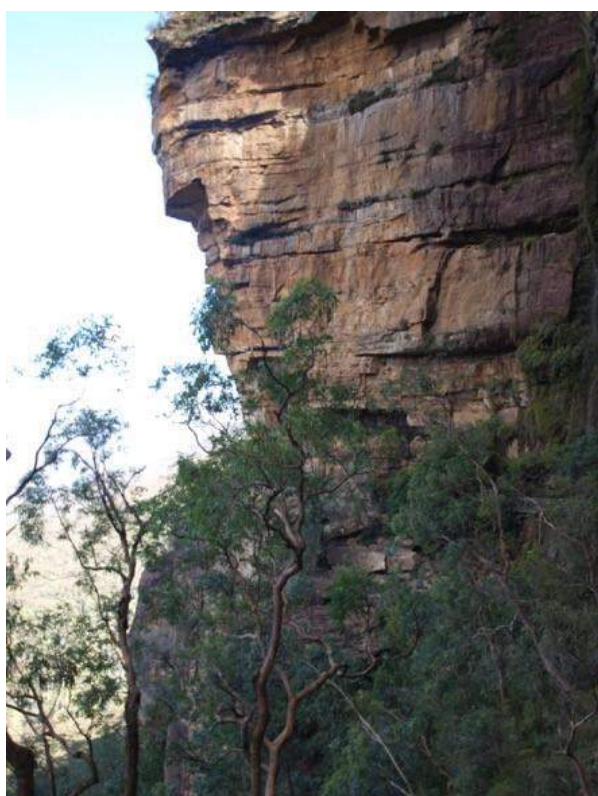
The teams elected to walk over distances of 15, 30 or 50 kilometres. The Trek commenced at Wilson Park, Wentworth Falls. The 15 km trekkers finished at Leura Cascades (Checkpoint 1); the 30 km trekkers finished at Katoomba Oval (Checkpoint 2); and the 50 km trekkers finished at Queen Victoria Hospital.

Starting time was from 6am and the last 50 km trekkers arrived at Queen Victoria Hospital before 10.00pm. The majority of the Trek took the lucky trekkers through the beautiful scenery of the Blue Mountains National Park.

Trekkers were required to pay a registration fee of \$60 (\$30 for children), which rose to \$80 from 1 July. Costs for the Trek were higher than in past years, due to matters including additional requirements from government authorities and the decision to use a local expert (Lucas Trihey from Event Safety Services), to provide first aid, communications and safety consultancy services.

The efforts of Lucas and his professional team were much appreciated by the organising committee. In addition to excellent support provided by Lucas and his team on the day, Lucas gave a valuable safety presentation to volunteers on the volunteer induction day held on 10 September.

The weather on the day of the Trek was fine which helped the enjoyment of both trekkers and volunteers. We received very favourable comments from trekkers about the organisation of the Trek and the support provided to them along the way.





**Domingas, Aunty Carol
trek organisers**

AT THE START

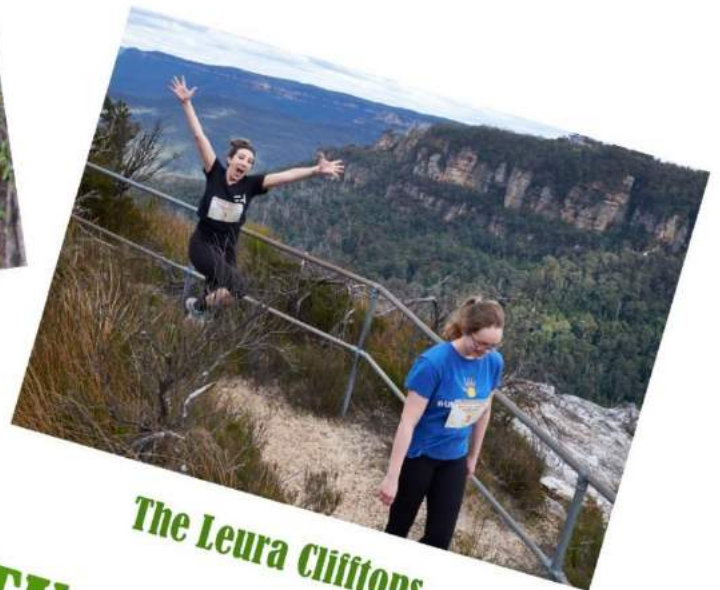


**Domingas, Romola Hollywood
and Hiking for Hatobullico team**



The Golden Stairs

ON THE TREK



The Leura Clifftops

Funds raised

The Trek has also been very successful from a fundraising perspective. As at 8 November 2016, the total amount raised since the launch (on 8 March 2016), including general donations as well as team and personal sponsorships, is just short of \$73,000. This does not include the separate amounts paid by trekkers as registration fees.

In addition to the important support from MCRN, fundraising through the Trek has been assisted by the organising committee's relationship with APHEDA Union Aid Abroad, which allows for tax deductibility for persons who donate to the Trek (including by team and personal sponsorships).

Reason for the Trek and use of funds raised

Blue Mountains residents have for many years been supportive of projects in Timor Leste, including through groups such as BMETS and the Springwood East Timor Support group. In addition, the Blue Mountains City Council has had a friendship relationship with the subdistrict of Hatobuilico in the Ainaro District of Timor Leste for over 10 years.

The Trek has, over the past 6 years, been a major fundraising vehicle in the Blue Mountains for projects in Timor Leste.

Proceeds of previous Treks have been used to fund:

- Taurema Primary School -Construction of new sustainable school building;
- Salaries for teachers at Nain Feto Ramelau Senior Secondary School in Hatobuilico;
- School learning resources;
- Maulelo Music Project – to help preserve cultural heritage;
- Dili Film Works – youth training program;
- Adult Learning Centre – to assist adults learning IT.

There are many potential projects for use of the 2016 Trek funds including:

- Water and sanitation improvements for schools and communities in Hatobuilico;
- Equipment for Taurema School;
- Readers in Tetun language for Primary Schools.

Organising the Trek (and the people involved in organising)

The Trek has been a significant project that has brought together many people from the Blue Mountains community, and their many skills and talents. In addition to the volunteer organising committee, there were many other volunteers who worked in the lead up to the Trek and on the day. The total number of volunteers was 70.

Planning for the Trek commenced in October 2015 and meetings of the organising committee were held on a monthly basis until close to the date of the Trek, when they became more frequent. Initially we had the assistance of **Jude Finch** and **Mary Waterford**, who generously helped get things underway before they left for Timor Leste in February. Before they left, they were able to pass on important knowledge from past Treks, and were able to help us with applications and in establishing relationships with the City Council and other government bodies and external parties. The committee is indebted to them for this help.

Organising the Trek was a mammoth task involving the organisers in aggregate putting in many hundreds of volunteer hours. Their work was in many respects challenging, but as noted above, it proved quite rewarding in raising a significant amount for use on projects in Timor Leste.

Of fundamental importance to the Trek has been its website. This was updated early in the year in readiness for the launch of the Trek in March.

Particular thanks must go to the members of the organising committee for their tireless efforts in making the Trek a success. It is important to note the particular efforts of the following committee members:

Maggi Williams who did so much, from secretarial functions for the committee and preparing maps and plans to arranging for trekker registrations and regularly communicating with the trekkers, and much more;

Jocelyn Williams who brought her wealth of Blue Mountains bush walking experience to bear in route planning, arranging the track notes and track plans and organising the track marking and sweep teams and again much more;

Ian Watson who skilfully kept the website and IT side of things in check (even when he was travelling through Europe), as well as taking fantastic photos on the day;

Helen Gillam who has looked after the finances throughout (this is an ongoing role);

Susan Ambler who did wonderful work as the publicity officer, including by ensuring we had regular coverage in the local press, and also took great photos on the day;

Pamela Nash who chaired our committee meetings, coordinated the many volunteers in a very professional manner, as well as assisting with providing food for the volunteers;

Lesley Sammon who organised and led the large team of marshals;

Elaine Telford who coordinated food preparation and distribution for volunteers as well as being a checkpoint coordinator;

John Telford who organised sponsorships, as well as carrying out other roles like being the link person with APHEDA and also a marshal;

Genie Malone who also organised sponsorships, as well as carrying out other roles like assistance with publicity and acting as the start coordinator;

John Tweedie who took over from Jude and Mary to organise necessary City Council and government approvals and liaise with MCRN;

Mark Ludenia who provided logistical support;

and finally **David Ludenia** who needed to be across everything and who brought it all together in his role as Trek Coordinator.

Thanks also go to the various other checkpoint coordinators and the checkpoint volunteers, to the marshals and the track marking and sweep teams, to the volunteers who assisted with transport, to John Hughes and the SES who provided marshals for the two busiest street crossings, to Sally Thompson for her storage support, to the external professionals who supported us (notably Lucas Trihey and Event Safety Services and Greg Petley and Road and Rail NSW Pty Limited) and to Bendigo Bank and the various business sponsors and donors whose names are listed on the Trek website.



End of 30km



End of 15km: Domingas presents certificates to Timor Trekkers



End of 50km: Migrating Wombats

FINISHING ...

THE VOLUNTEERS: WHO MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN



**At the Finish:
the long wait**



**Joc on the sweep:
the aftermath**

Lastly we need to recognise the assistance from local and state government departments and their staff. Thanks to Blue Mountains City Council and, in particular, to Wendy Dollin who was always ready to find a solution if difficulties arose); to the National Parks and Wildlife Service (and in particular to Mewi Webb, who was again ever-ready to problem solve); to Water NSW; and to the Lands Department.

David Ludenia and the Blue Mountains Trek for Timor 2016 Organising Committee

BLUE MOUNTAINS EAST TIMOR SISTERS PROJECT

Report on Achievements 2015- 2016

<https://www.facebook.com/BlueMountainsEastTimorSisters/>
contact emails: lesanya@bigpond.com &
louiseatthecrossroads@gmail.com



Introduction

We started the year looking at what our goals for 2015-2016 in Timor would include. Our focus was on funding scholarships to enable women to get an education; sustainable livelihoods / agriculture; healthy, well-fed, educated women and children; to fulfil our existing commitments; build on women-to-women connection and optimism; support APSC-TL in friendship; trust local knowledge of what is needed, our next steps as well as add to local knowledge; improve education systems (within the limits of our influence); be realistic about our limitations; do smaller things well; Justice for Timor in gas resources income; and know more Timorese culture (eg through learning Tetun and songs).

Jude Finch and Mary Waterford commenced work in Dili on 7 March 2016 - through Australian Volunteers International - working in peak women's organisations in East-Timor, Jude at Alola Foundation and Mary at Redi-Feto.

We are proud to highlight our major achievements 2015-2016:

- Visits of BMETS to East Timor: during 2015-16 a number of BMETS members visited East Timor, meeting with partner organisations.
- 'The story of BMETS' (a ten-minute video) produced by Dili Film Works was produced and will be used for promotional purposes.
- Ha'u Ladomi Lee series – 'I Love Reading Project' – BMETS supported this project that provides readers and curriculum resources for primary students in their mother tongue.
- Alola Foundation, Economic Empowerment Program and Alola Esperansa- funding for the erection of signage at the Alola Esperansa shop and Alola Esperansa workshop.



New signage for Alola Esperansa



Weaver at Alola Workshop

- Blue Mountains Timor-Leste presentation – 28 September 2015, Kirsty Sword Gusmao was the honoured Guest Speaker, held at Cultural Centre in Katoomba – 80 people attended.
- Foto Friendship – 2016 Calendars – big print run that sold out.
- Newsletter – regular newsletters on BMETS activities continued to be published.
- Social Media: A new BMETS Website is being developed. BMETS Facebook page continues to provide up-to-date information on projects in East Timor and the Blue Mountains.
- Language Classes in Tetun attended by a number of BMETS and other Blue Mountains residents who regularly visit East Timor.
- Timor Sea Justice Campaign. BMETS continued our involvement in supporting this campaign in various ways.
- **Our Partnership with APSC-TL – leading Women’s Organisation in Timor-Leste**
Report received from APSC-TL about their work in ET with women and education and governance. BMETS has continued its partnership with APSC-TL and still supports this organisation’s infrastructure and scholarship program. The support given by BMETS has contributed to their ongoing sustainability. As ASPC-TL has become stronger and more financially sustainable through gaining funding from other sources, they have needed less financial support from BMETS.

Fundraising: We resource our work through fundraising:

- Garage Sales – Regular garage sales were held and continued to attract many local residents and tourists.
- Stalls in Leura – Saturday 10 October 2015 and Saturday 25 June 2016. At these stalls we sold *tais* and other handwoven products made by women in East Timor. The sales of these products were complemented by sales of homemade jams, chutneys, cakes, plants and other goods produced by BMETS, and sales of tickets through regular raffles.
- Donations have continued to be forthcoming from regular and occasional supporters, both groups and individuals – we acknowledge and thank you for your generosity.
- *Trek for Timor* – BMETS once again participated in the lead-up to *Trek for Timor* September 2016.

The Sisters publicising East Timor and fundraising in Leura



Thanks ... BMETS would like to acknowledge MCRN for the continued auspicings, and we appreciate the use of their Meeting Room for our regular monthly meetings.

Annual Report 2015-16 – Blue Mountains Union Council

Introduction: The 2016 federal election made this an extremely busy year for BMUC, with many of our members heavily engaged in the democratic process, and while we remain free from affiliation to any political party we campaigned energetically to promote our traditional aims and objectives: to advance unionism, living standards, social justice, working conditions and full employment.

Build A Better Future Campaign: BMUC volunteers worked with the ACTU and Unions NSW on a campaign that focused on:

- Workers' rights and jobs
 - changes in the way people are employed has seen a huge increase in insecure work, with 40% of workers now employed this way - whether as casuals, or on short-term contracts or so-called independent contracts.
- Medicare
 - the importance of a fair and decent public health system for all.
- Education
 - the need for a fully funded Gonski programme, targeting educational improvements for those who need them most.
- Public Services
 - the importance of maintaining efficient and well-resourced public services.

We would like to thank the Organisers of Unions NSW and the ACTU for their work in this grass roots campaign.

Building Bridges with Penrith and the Hawkesbury: During the campaign, we worked closely with our sister organisations in Penrith and Windsor - Penrith Valley Community Unions and Hawkesbury Valley Community Unions. Exchanging ideas and combining forces proved a good experience, and one we hope to build on in the future.

Politics in the Pub and public forums: This is one of our traditional bread-and-butter activities. During the election campaign we held a major public forum at Springwood with ACTU President Ged Kearney as keynote speaker, supported by local people speaking about their workplace and community

- these included Toni Clark, a parent and P&C Member at Katoomba Primary and High Schools; Peter Buckney and Jocelyn Hoffman, who're Blue Mountains nurses; Warren Ross, who spoke about ways of achieving full employment; and Bronwyn Couch, who outlined how privatisation threatened public services.

This event, in the middle of the election campaign, attracted over 100 people.

Education Beats Crime was the subject of our annual Rod Brooks Memorial *Politics in the Pub*. This focussed on the importance of education in jails, and the impact of the removal of specialist teachers from the NSW prison system at a time when the jail population is running at record numbers. Veteran

prisoners' campaigner Brett Collins (ESL Teacher from Long Bay Jail), Stewart Burkitt, and indigenous teacher Leanne Tobin led an afternoon of stimulating debate attended by over 70 people.

Door Knocking: During the election campaign our members participated in national door knocks - we knocked on the doors and got feedback from many of the 3,000 union members living in the Blue Mountains.

Other activities included our support of the **May Day March** in Sydney, the **Winter Magic Festival** and **Anti-Poverty Week**.

Social Media: BMUC's use of social media continues to develop and grow. This year for the first time we live streamed *Politics in the Pub*. We also live streamed the speakers, including St Vincent de Paul CEO John Falzon, at the Anti-Poverty Forum.

To date our 2016 social media stats are:

Face book: 360 page "Likes".

Live streaming: Our first livestream via Facebook of Education Beats Crime *Politics in the Pub* Part 1 was viewed 220 times and Part 2 was viewed 106 times. Our livestream of the Anti-Poverty Week Forum, also via Facebook was a total of 6 separate videos with a combined total of 308 views, John Falzon's with the highest number of views of 145.

Twitter: 1596 followers.

BMUC news and Blog: 287,015 page views ever. An impressive 56423 views from November 2015 to October 2016. Thank you to Mark Gregory for the work he puts in on the website and blog. We have now started to send Tweets via the blog which should generate more traffic back to the blog.

YouTube: Combined total of 1004 views of all videos from 1/11/2015 to 31/10/2016.

SoundCloud: 309 plays with 54 downloads.

Next Year

Activities and subjects under consideration for next year include a collaboration with the Injured Workers Network to raise awareness of workers' rights when hurt at work; the push for a huge increase in the use of interns as lowly or unpaid members of the workforce; the case for a basic living wage for all when 40% of the workforce is predicted to be made redundant by new technology; and the need for radical reforms in housing policies.

Thanks

As ever, thanks to the many people who make BMUC happen. Our Secretary Deb Smith who's raised the bar yet again in her commitment to the cause, Blackburns Family Hotel for their continued generous support in providing us with a free meeting place, the Orient Hotel in Springwood and Unions NSW for helping us host the Springwood Politics in the Pub, Jude Cooke for help with livestreaming, the Lammimans for kindly providing their home for our annual social, and Senator Doug Cameron's office for assisting with communications.

Kerry Cooke
BMUC President
7th November 2016

Annual Report 2015-16

2016 was a busy year for Pink Mountains. The group facilitated a wide range of events and activities for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) communities of the Blue Mountains.

It also helped promote LGBTIQ events and activities organised by other groups via the Pink Mountains website, Facebook group and e-newsletter.

One of the larger events involving Pink Mountains was the annual International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (IDAHOT) commemoration in Katoomba.



Image via Pink Mountains Facebook group

Pink Mountains helped organise this year's IDAHOT activities in conjunction with other key stakeholders including the Blue Mountains City Council, Blue Mountains Family Support, PFLAG, Mountains Outreach Community Service and various community members.

IDAHOT 2016 was marked by the raising of the Rainbow Flag on Tuesday, May 17 at Civic Place, Katoomba and a community event in Katoomba's Carrington Place on Saturday, May 21 featuring speeches, music and food.

June was a big month for Pink Mountains, with the group hosting the Pink Mountains Formal for Same-Sex Attracted Youth on Sunday, June 12 at the Katoomba Leura Community Centre. This was the first formal for LGBTIQ youth ever held in the Blue Mountains.

The success of the formal led to the formation of Pink Mountains Youth - a regular monthly get-together for LGBTIQ youth at the Katoomba Youth Centre in association with the Mountains Youth Services Team (MYST).

On the night of Tuesday, June 14 Katoomba's Carrington Place was the location for another significant LGBTIQ event, with Pink Mountains organising a 'Vigil for Orlando' to commemorate the 50 people killed during the June 12 attack on a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida.



Photo courtesy of Jocelyn Williams

Over 130 people gathered for the 7pm vigil. Participants decorated the square with rainbow flags, listened to speeches and lit dozens of candles. State Member for Blue Mountains Trish Doyle attended the vigil and gave a heartfelt speech, along with several other speakers.

The Orlando vigil was followed that weekend by the Pink Mountains entry in the 2016 Blue Mountains Winter Magic Festival Grand Parade.

A series of workshops was held through May and June ahead of the parade, with community members coming together to make banners, outfits and props.

Over 60 people marched with Pink Mountains through the streets of Katoomba during the Saturday, June 18 parade, with the group receiving loud cheers along the route. The Pink Mountains entry also referenced the Orlando massacre, with participants holding signs commemorating the Orlando victims.

On Friday, June 24 and Saturday, June 25, Pink Mountains teamed up with the Elizabeth Evatt Community Legal Centre and the Inner City Legal Centre to hold LGBTIQ legal workshops at the Katoomba Neighbourhood Centre.

The workshops provided information to community sector workers, health care workers, educators, domestic violence support workers, government agency staff and members of the public on legal issues around discrimination, vilification, transitioning, identity documents and the extinguishment of historical criminal records for homosexuality.

In July, a Pink Mountains advisory committee was formed with representatives of various groups coming on board to help advise and steer Pink Mountains, including members of Alphabet Soup Cinema, Australian Marriage Equality, Bush Lemons, the Elizabeth Evatt Community Legal Centre, PFLAG, Queer Screen, the Three Sisters Social Group and various community members. The committee now meets on a monthly basis.

In October, Pink Mountains co-presented several films with Queer Screen at Katoomba's Carrington Hotel and Mount Vic Flicks. This was the second time Queer Screen had presented a mini-festival in the Mountains, after a successful visit in March. Both events were well received, with Queer Screen deciding to continue screening films in the Mountains in 2017.

Pink Mountains co-convenor Peter Hackney stood down from the position in November after 18 months in the role, with Kevin Hardwick continuing as a co-convenor. At the November 9 Pink Mountains committee meeting, Pink Mountains committee members Tiphane Athans and Jonathan Llewellyn were appointed as co-convenors, meaning the group now has three co-convenors going forward.

2017 looks set to be another big year for the group, with planning already underway for various events, including a Pink Mountains Picnic at Blackheath Park in January, a presence at the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Fair Day on February 17 and an entry in the 2017 Winter Magic Parade in Katoomba.



*Photos courtesy of
Jocelyn Williams &
via Pink Mountains
Facebook group*



With thanks
Kevin Hardwick & Peter Hackney
2015

Blue Mountains Interfaith Group (BMIG) Activities, 2015-16

Meetings have been held monthly, at different venues. We have alternated business meetings with sharing meetings, and also had one excursion and held three public events, explained below. We produced one issue of our newsletter *Light over the Mountain* on the topic of pilgrimage.

Fri. 29th Jan. - Excursion.

Sixteen people visited the Sikh Mission Centre at Austral. Bawa Singh Jagdev, secretary of the Mission Centre and also Secretary of the Sikh Council of Australia, gave a talk about the Sikh religion, followed by lunch and meditation.

18th March,

Sharing meeting on *Inner Well-being*.

27th May, at The Uniting Church, Leura.

Sharing meeting on *Mutual Nurturing*.

29th July,

Sharing meeting on *Pilgrimage*.

6th August, public event.

Dialogue on *Living as a Muslim in Australia*.

Held at Springwood Uniting Church hall, 10.20-2.30. Over 50 people attended. Keynote speakers, Dr Rawaa Gebbara, Sheikh Haisam Farache and Dr Mahsheed Ansari, gave their own perspective on this issue. They were joined later by Susan Templeman MP and George Winston of the Blue Mountains Refugee Group in a panel discussion of questions posed by the audience.

21st September, public event.

For the UN International Day of Peace we held a half hour meditation/prayer for world peace at the Katoomba Cultural centre. Eight leaders of local faiths led the meditation/prayer.

Including the leaders and organisers 51 attended.

6th November, public event.

Our Spirituality Our Land was held at the Brahma Kumaris.

It was a celebration of our shared spirituality, in the context of an expression of our shared love of the land and also on the topic of *pilgrimage*. About 40 attended.

Feedback from all three events was very positive, and were felt to be successful by our group.

AGM will be held 25th November.

**MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY
RESOURCE NETWORK INC.
ABN 98 181 256 988**

**Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2016**

MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. ABN 98 181 256 988

Contents

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Income and Expenditure Statement

Detailed Balance Sheet

Notes to the Financial Statements

Project Income and Expenditure Statement

Statement by Members of the Committee

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members

AUDIT CERTIFICATE

**Standard full Audit Certificate by a qualified accountant in respect of
Community Funded Organisations**

I, William Tomiczek, of 66 Emu Plains Road, Mt Riverview NSW 2774, being a qualified accountant within the meaning of the Community Funded Program, do hereby certify that I have examined the books and financial records of Mountain Community Resource Network Incorporated.

In my opinion the financial statements present fairly the financial position of the organisation, and the results of its operations for the year ended 30 June 2016 are in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards.

Signature.....
William Tomiczek

Date.....29/7/16.....

Auditors Qualification: Registered Company Auditor
No. 1425

Notes to and forming part of the accounts of for the year ended 30 June 2016.

We have satisfied ourselves that:

- Payments to associated and/or affiliated bodies have been adequately disclosed.

Signature.....
William Tomiczek

Date.....29/7/16.....

MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. ABN 98 181 256 988

Committee's Report

For the year ended 30 June 2016

Your committee members submit the financial accounts of the MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. for the financial year ended 30 June 2016.

Committee Members

The names of committee members at the date of this report are:

Rod Titovs
Mick Barrett
Ian Hanslow
Jo Ridley
Colin Berryman
Maddy Forwood
Angelique Sasagi

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were: .

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.


Operating Result

The profit from ordinary activities after providing for income tax amounted to

Year ended	Year ended
30 June 2016	30 June 2015
\$ 45,427.03	\$ 0.00

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on: The
sixteenth day of August, 2016.


Rod Titovs


Mick Barrett

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Mountains Community Resource Network Inc

PO Box 152
Lawson NSW 2783

Profit & Loss [Last Year Analysis]

July 2015 through June 2016

29/07/2016
12:10:36 PM

		This Year	Last Year
4-0000	Income		
4-0005	Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$31,131.54	\$21,829.19
4-1000	Grants		
4-1010	Commonwealth Recurrent	\$0.00	\$0.00
4-1020	Commonwealth Non-Recurrent	\$0.00	\$0.00
4-1030	Commonwealth Capital	\$0.00	\$0.00
4-1040	State Recurrent - FACS	\$143,285.73	\$139,005.30
4-1041	Interest earned - FACS	\$1,240.76	\$0.00
4-1050	State Non-Recurrent	\$58,890.57	\$21,744.35
4-1060	State Capital	\$0.00	\$0.00
4-1070	Grants Local Recurrent	\$0.00	\$0.00
4-1080	Grants Local Non-Recurrent	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
4-1100	Grants Other	\$13,636.36	\$9,090.91
	Total Grants	\$218,553.42	\$171,340.56
4-2000	Other Income		
4-2005	Advertising Income	\$204.54	\$0.00
4-2065	Book Sales	\$1,502.27	\$14,798.95
4-2067	Calendars & Tais	\$0.00	\$850.00
4-2068	Dividend - Bendigo	\$0.00	\$30.00
4-2070	Donations - NTD	\$13,004.57	\$15,320.10
4-2071	Donations T4T	\$7,987.62	\$64,268.00
4-2073	Film Showing	\$0.00	\$0.00
4-2075	Interest Income	\$645.80	\$1,862.44
4-2080	Memberships & Subscriptions	\$1,299.95	\$1,531.78
4-2082	Miscellaneous Income	\$3,345.54	\$955.61
4-2083	Reimbursements	\$1,497.60	\$0.00
4-2085	Room Hire	\$4,688.14	\$1,557.26
4-2090	Scholarship Income	\$4,265.00	\$8,540.00
4-2095	Seminars & Workshops	\$1,358.36	\$0.00
	Total Other Income	\$39,799.39	\$109,714.14
	Total Income	\$289,484.35	\$302,883.89
6-0000	Expenses		
6-0020	Advertising & Promotions	\$1,071.80	\$1,404.31
6-0040	Assets under \$1000	\$1,277.27	\$1,181.82
6-0050	Audit Fees	\$1,636.36	\$1,590.91
6-0070	Bank Fees & Charges	\$135.38	\$1,263.33
6-0085	Board/Governance Expenses	\$1,335.64	\$0.00
6-0086	Bookkeeping	\$4,994.50	\$4,541.25
6-0090	Business Planning, Reporting	\$1,041.50	\$0.00
6-0100	Cleaning & Pest Control	\$1,200.00	\$1,000.00
6-0220	Computer Expenses	\$818.43	\$4,657.78
6-0230	Consultancy Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
6-0235	Consumables	\$144.05	\$695.64
6-0250	Depreciation	\$0.00	\$0.00
6-0255	Donations	\$100.00	\$3,600.00
6-0315	Entertainment Costs		
6-0318	Deductible	\$0.00	\$0.00
6-0320	Non-Deductible	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total Entertainment Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00
6-0330	Fees & Permits	\$54.00	\$738.09
6-0333	Fines & Penalties	\$0.00	\$0.00
6-0335	Infrastructure & Wages	\$0.00	\$11,158.22
6-0338	Insurances		
6-0400	Insurance - General	\$2,145.00	\$0.00
6-0410	Insurance Public Liability	\$0.00	\$0.00
6-0420	Insurance - Professional Indem	\$0.00	\$0.00
6-0440	Insurance - Volunteers	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total Insurances	\$2,145.00	\$0.00
6-0445	Interest Paid	\$0.00	\$0.00
6-0450	Legal Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
6-0480	Meeting Expenses	\$2,381.11	\$1,425.21
6-0490	Memberships & Subscriptions	\$1,620.05	\$2,311.87
6-0492	Miscellaneous	\$19.90	\$489.99
6-0495	Parking/ Fares & Tolls	\$391.30	\$53.94

Mountains Community Resource Network Inc

Profit & Loss [Last Year Analysis]

July 2015 through June 2016

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		This Year	Last Year
6-0510	Postage, Freight & Couriers	\$327.95	\$799.68
6-0520	Printing & Stationery	\$5,955.42	\$3,739.87
6-0540	Publications & Resources	\$6,922.66	\$27.48
6-0550	Rates & Taxes	\$0.00	-\$0.26
6-0570	Rent	\$0.00	\$300.00
6-0590	Repairs & Maintenance	\$37.46	\$345.43
6-0595	Scholarships	\$0.00	\$8,926.58
6-0600	Wages & Salaries	\$151,088.11	\$100,150.00
6-0603	Payroll Provisions	\$12,331.69	\$14,558.09
6-0607	Superannuation	\$14,142.81	\$9,403.39
6-0660	Staff Amenities	\$327.35	\$44.55
6-0662	Workers Comp Insurance	\$3,372.50	\$1,592.18
6-0665	Travel Allowances	\$4,041.24	\$4,059.50
6-0670	Funds Transferred to APHEDA	\$0.00	\$53,927.24
6-0680	Telephone/ Fax/ Internet	\$7,959.21	\$2,915.02
6-0690	Tenancy & Property Services	\$0.00	\$0.00
6-0700	Training & Development	\$693.18	\$3,757.17
6-0710	Travel & Accommodation	\$2,366.46	\$378.77
6-0720	Utilities	\$649.61	\$712.53
6-0800	Venue Hire	\$1,613.78	\$0.00
6-0803	Website & Domain Hosting	\$1,400.87	\$695.52
6-0804	Wellbeing Projects	\$0.00	\$27.27
6-0805	Seminar & Workshop Expenses	\$10,460.73	\$0.00
	Total Expenses	\$244,057.32	\$242,472.37
	Operating Profit	\$45,427.03	\$60,411.52
9-0000	Other Expenses		
9-3000	Bushfire Recovery Expenses	\$0.00	\$7,950.00
9-4000	Surplus Funds Carried Forward	\$0.00	\$52,461.52
9-9999	Suspense	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total Other Expenses	\$0.00	\$60,411.52
	Net Profit/(Loss)	\$45,427.03	\$0.00

Mountains Community Resource Network Inc

PO Box 152
Lawson NSW 2783

Balance Sheet [Last Year Analysis]

June 2016

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	This Year	Last Year
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash		
Bendigo Bank a/c 8860	\$141,858.83	\$172,279.65
Bendigo Cash Card 8902	\$1,363.13	\$938.91
Bendigo T4T a/c 6731	\$14,443.06	\$8,299.41
Petty Cash	\$113.80	\$99.80
Total Cash	\$157,778.82	\$181,617.77
Other - Deposits & Bonds	\$165.00	\$165.00
Trade Debtors	\$2,290.00	\$1,785.00
Other Current Assets		
Bendigo Bank Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Total Current Assets	\$161,233.82	\$184,567.77
Non-Current Assets		
MCRN Assets		
Plant & Equipment at Cost	\$11,789.08	\$11,789.08
Accum Depcn Plant & Equipment	-\$11,789.08	-\$11,789.08
Office Furn & Equip at Cost	\$2,588.75	\$2,588.75
Accum Depcn Furn & Fittings	-\$2,588.75	-\$2,588.75
Total MCRN Assets	\$0.00	\$0.00
MCDP Assets		
Office Furn & Equip at Cost	\$299.50	\$299.50
Accum Depcn Furn & Fittings	-\$299.50	-\$299.50
Total MCDP Assets	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Non-Current Assets		
Total Non-Current Assets	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Assets	\$161,233.82	\$184,567.77
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Trade Creditors	-\$1,546.59	\$4,276.61
GST Liabilities		
GST Collected on Sales	\$5,895.16	\$3,665.28
GST Paid on Purchases	-\$2,115.32	-\$1,374.69
BAS Rounding adj.	\$15.69	\$15.69
ATO Integrated Client Account	\$1.49	\$1.49
Total GST Liabilities	\$3,797.02	\$2,307.77
Payroll Liabilities		
PAYG Withholding Payable	\$7,297.66	\$5,413.35
Superannuation Payable	\$1,155.18	\$0.00
Total Payroll Liabilities	\$8,452.84	\$5,413.35
Staff Leave Provisions		
Annual Leave Provision	\$12,435.92	\$10,402.79
TIL Accrued Provision	\$3,806.97	\$1,212.23
LSL Provision	\$7,857.02	\$5,031.77
Sick Leave Provision	\$12,078.39	\$7,199.82
Total Staff Leave Provisions	\$36,178.30	\$23,846.61
Total Current Liabilities	\$46,881.57	\$35,844.34
Other Current Liabilities		
Surplus Funds		
Grants Received in Advance	\$11,000.00	\$36,666.67
Provision for future expenditu	\$0.00	\$13,485.98
Auspiced Funds Pink Mountains	\$0.00	\$378.92
Auspiced Funds BMETS	\$0.00	\$22,751.37
Auspiced Funds T4T	\$0.00	\$8,555.79
Other Auspiced funds	\$0.00	\$7,289.46
Total Surplus Funds	\$11,000.00	\$89,128.19
Provisions		
Property Maintenance Fund	\$500.00	\$500.00
Young Women in Leadership	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
Total Provisions	\$1,900.00	\$1,900.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$12,900.00	\$91,028.19
Total Liabilities	\$59,781.57	\$126,872.53

Mountains Community Resource Network Inc

Balance Sheet [Last Year Analysis]

June 2016

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	This Year	Last Year
Net Assets	<u>\$101,452.25</u>	<u>\$57,695.24</u>
Equity		
BMETS Retained Surplus	\$18,599.67	\$18,599.67
PINK Mtns Retained Surplus	\$361.69	\$361.69
T4T Retained Surplus	\$1,207.31	\$1,207.31
MCRN Retained Surplus	\$35,856.55	\$37,526.57
Current Year Surplus/(Deficit)	\$45,427.03	\$0.00
Total Equity	<u>\$101,452.25</u>	<u>\$57,695.24</u>

MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. ABN 98 181 256 988

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act of New South Wales. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

(a) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

(b) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the assets and liabilities statement are shown inclusive of GST.

Mountains Community Resource Network I

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Job Profit & Loss Statement

July 2015 through June 2016

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Account Name Year to Date

BMETS2016

BMETS 2016

Income

Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$22,751.37
Donations - NTD	\$5,000.00
Scholarship Income	\$1,600.00
Total Income	\$29,351.37

Expense

Advertising & Promotions	\$186.41
Website & Domain Hosting	\$174.00
Total Expense	\$360.41

Other Expense

Suspense	\$23,000.00
Total Other Expense	\$23,000.00

Net Profit (Loss)	\$5,990.96
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CRIP2016

Preparedness Project

Income

Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$3,715.61
State Non-Recurrent	\$53,166.67
Grants Other	\$13,636.36
Book Sales	\$1,502.27
Miscellaneous Income	\$3,065.31
Reimbursements	\$1,497.60
Seminars & Workshops	\$1,358.36
Total Income	\$77,942.18

Expense

Advertising & Promotions	\$478.45
Business Planning, Reporting	\$650.00
Consumables	\$34.74
Donations	\$100.00
Meeting Expenses	\$682.48
Memberships & Subscriptions	\$188.24
Parking/ Fares & Tolls	\$253.13
Postage, Freight & Couriers	\$10.00
Printing & Stationery	\$556.69
Publications & Resources	\$5,114.54
Wages & Salaries	\$46,580.61
Payroll Provisions	\$1,970.15
Superannuation	\$4,333.34
Staff Amenities	\$46.02
Travel Allowances	\$1,286.98
Telephone/ Fax/ Internet	\$44.53
Training & Development	\$390.00
Travel & Accommodation	\$2,330.10
Utilities	\$25.45
Venue Hire	\$221.02
Seminar & Workshop Expenses	\$7,965.45
Total Expense	\$73,261.92

Net Profit (Loss)	\$4,680.26
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DOCS2016

DOCS 2016

Income

Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$602.93
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Mountains Community Resource Network I

Job Profit & Loss Statement

July 2015 through June 2016

26/07/2016

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Account Name	Year to Date
DOCS2016	DOCS 2016
Total Income	\$602.93
Net Profit (Loss)	\$602.93
IA2016	IA2016
Income	
Grants Local Non-Recurrent	\$1,500.00
Total Income	\$1,500.00
Expense	
Consumables	\$85.67
Meeting Expenses	\$633.80
Miscellaneous	\$19.90
Staff Amenities	\$32.73
Venue Hire	\$300.00
Total Expense	\$1,072.10
Net Profit (Loss)	\$427.90
LCSA2016	LCSA2016
Income	
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$800.32
Total Income	\$800.32
Expense	
Seminar & Workshop Expenses	\$368.07
Total Expense	\$368.07
Net Profit (Loss)	\$432.25
MCRN2016	MCRN 2016
Income	
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$6,065.10
State Recurrent - FACS	\$143,285.73
Interest earned - FACS	\$1,240.76
State Non-Recurrent	\$5,723.90
Donations - NTD	\$619.14
Interest Income	\$577.45
Memberships & Subscriptions	\$1,299.95
Miscellaneous Income	\$280.23
Room Hire	\$4,688.14
Scholarship Income	\$2,665.00
Total Income	\$166,445.40
Expense	
Assets under \$1000	\$1,277.27
Audit Fees	\$1,636.36
Bank Fees & Charges	\$128.68
Board/Governance Expenses	\$153.82
Bookkeeping	\$4,994.50
Cleaning & Pest Control	\$1,200.00
Computer Expenses	\$818.43
Consumables	\$23.64
Fees & Permits	\$54.00
Insurance - General	\$2,145.00
Meeting Expenses	\$92.00
Memberships & Subscriptions	\$1,431.81
Parking/ Fares & Tolls	\$138.17

Mountains Community Resource Network I

Job Profit & Loss Statement

July 2015 through June 2016

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Account Name	Year to Date
MCRN2016	MCRN 2016
Postage, Freight & Couriers	\$280.72
Printing & Stationery	\$3,523.04
Publications & Resources	\$18.12
Repairs & Maintenance	\$37.46
Wages & Salaries	\$102,148.92
Payroll Provisions	\$10,361.54
Superannuation	\$9,556.51
Staff Amenities	\$248.60
Workers Comp Insurance	\$3,372.50
Travel Allowances	\$2,754.26
Telephone/ Fax/ Internet	\$5,581.11
Training & Development	\$303.18
Travel & Accommodation	\$36.36
Utilities	\$624.16
Venue Hire	\$300.00
Website & Domain Hosting	\$1,226.87
Total Expense	<u>\$154,467.03</u>
Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$11,978.37</u>
MTAFP2016	More Than A Fire Plan
Income	
Donations - NTD	\$4,345.43
Total Income	<u>\$4,345.43</u>
Expense	
Business Planning, Reporting	\$391.50
Postage, Freight & Couriers	\$37.23
Printing & Stationery	\$201.71
Venue Hire	\$470.91
Seminar & Workshop Expenses	\$1,198.12
Total Expense	<u>\$2,299.47</u>
Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$2,045.96</u>
PINK2016	Pink Mountains
Income	
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$378.92
Advertising Income	\$204.54
Total Income	<u>\$583.46</u>
Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$583.46</u>
RAMHI2016	Raising Awareness Mental
Income	
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$472.74
Total Income	<u>\$472.74</u>
Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$472.74</u>
SFA2016	Stronger Families Allianc
Income	
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$1,697.86
Total Income	<u>\$1,697.86</u>

Mountains Community Resource Network I

Job Profit & Loss Statement

July 2015 through June 2016

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Account Name Year to Date

SFA2016	Stronger Families Allianc
Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$1,697.86</u>

T4T2016	Trek 4 Timor
Income	
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$8,555.79
Donations T4T	\$7,987.62
Interest Income	\$68.35
Total Income	<u>\$16,611.76</u>
Expense	
Bank Fees & Charges	\$3.70
Board/Governance Expenses	\$1,181.82
Meeting Expenses	\$333.96
Printing & Stationery	\$190.91
Venue Hire	\$63.64
Total Expense	<u>\$1,774.03</u>
Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$14,837.73</u>

WBC2016	Westpac Volunteers Fund
Income	
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$9,090.90
Total Income	<u>\$9,090.90</u>
Expense	
Advertising & Promotions	\$406.94
Meeting Expenses	\$630.00
Printing & Stationery	\$533.64
Publications & Resources	\$1,790.00
Wages & Salaries	\$2,358.58
Superannuation	\$252.96
Telephone/ Fax/ Internet	\$1,931.48
Venue Hire	\$258.21
Seminar & Workshop Expenses	\$929.09
Total Expense	<u>\$9,090.90</u>
Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$0.00</u>

WELL2016	Wellbeing/Recovery 2016
Income	
Donations - NTD	\$3,000.00
Total Income	<u>\$3,000.00</u>
Expense	
Printing & Stationery	\$795.46
Total Expense	<u>\$795.46</u>
Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$2,204.54</u>

MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. ABN 98 181 256 988

Statement by Members of the Committee

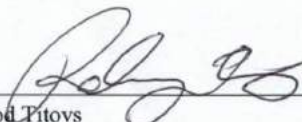
For the year ended 30 June 2016

The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

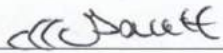
In the opinion of the Committee the Income and Expenditure Statement, Statement of Financial Position, and Notes to the Financial Statements:

1. **Presents fairly the financial position of MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. as at 30 June 2016 and its performance for the year ended on that date.**
2. **At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.**

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



Rod Pitovs
President



Mick Barrett
Treasurer

Signed on the 16th day of August, 2016.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. ABN 98 181 256 988

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. (the association), which comprises the Statement by Members of the Committee, Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes for the financial year ended 30 June 2016.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act of New South Wales 2009 and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibilities also includes such internal control as the committee determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

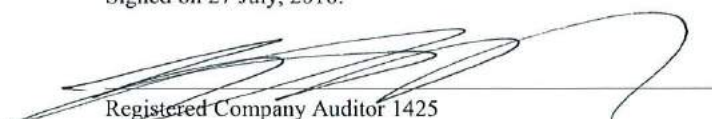
Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. as at 30 June 2016 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act of New South Wales 2009.

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act of New South Wales 2009. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Signed on 27 July, 2016:



Registered Company Auditor 1425

William Tomiczek F.I.P.A.

66 Emu Plains Rd Mt Riverview 2774

