



Annual Report 2014-15

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mcrn

ANNUAL REPORT

2014-15



Chairperson's Report



Once again, it has been a busy year for a small service working to balance the representation and supports 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.

A major work for MCRN this reporting year has been the on-going work carried out in the wake of the 2013 bushfires - with the Wellbeing Sub-committee, the Recovery response team, and then the transition to the Blue Mountains City Council-led recovery phase (due to finish up at the end of 2015). Wellbeing has monitored trends for residents in the fire-impacted areas (such as financial stress, re-establishment of properties and environments, mental health), as well as putting initiatives in place to build resilience within communities.

From this work MCRN has nearly completed the *Lessons Learned* report from the 2013 recovery process (from the point of view of the Wellbeing Sub-committee), which can then be used by the next recovery team in the Blue Mountains to inform recovery practice. This document makes recommendations to the Recovery Committee, and to all levels of Government, regarding required responses to assist with effective recovery. It is hoped that this document 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 Preparedness Project (an initiative of the Resilience and Preparedness Working Group, funded by the CRIP program through the Department of Justice, Police & Emergency Services) has also commenced this reporting year, with Jacquie joining the MCRN team in May to commence the roll-out for the planned project initiatives. It is good to have Jacquie on board.

Hayley also joined us in June as our new book-keeper and has been busy attending to and maintaining the required accounting systems. Welcome Hayley.

MCRN 'business as usual' has included:

- The rationalisation and re-alignment of interagencies leading to:
 - the establishment of HOPE (Homelessness Prevention) interagency; and
 - establishment of the new interagency for Mental Health and Wellbeing (a merger of RAMHI and YMISA).
- Updating existing, and developing new, Fact Sheets about local community issues and our services, ready for the State election in March (provided to each State political candidate).

- Along with 'Meet the Candidates' sessions at Blue Mountains Community Interagency (BMCI) meetings in early 2015.
tThe newly elected Local Member, Trish Doyle, has committed to attend BMCI as often as possible; and MCRN has been invited to regularly approach Trish, on behalf of BMCI, regarding a variety of local area issues.
- Assisting the community sector in preparation for the Family and Community Services (FACS) Early Intervention program reforms and disseminating information when it comes to hand. We all in the sector are watching this space, as FACS has given an undertaking that genuine consultation will be undertaken with the sector. With funding changes occurring, and more predicted to come, it is clear MCRN will have a key role to play in the next 12 months.
- 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 in partnership with TAFE to the most vulnerable. This issue requires our continued efforts in advocating against the negative impacts of the reforms on the community and sector at large. For example, the ongoing access to TAFE affordable training that provides trained staff to the sector, and provides a known stepping stone to further education and employment options (eg through partnerships with TAFE Outreach).

The list could go on regarding MCRN's involvement in the sector, due to the efforts of Kris, and now her small team. The MCRN Board gives a huge 'Thank you' to Kris for all her efforts and hard work over this past reporting period.

Thank you to the other Board members (who are also all busy people), Kris and Glenda, for all the great work done in 2014-15.

Ian Hanslow
Chairperson, MCRN

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 the membership, is updating the contact database and Service Directory, updating MCRN Policies and Procedures; and creating a new website (in her 'spare time')! We owe a great debt of gratitude to Glenda, and say a heart-felt 'Thank You'.



We are delighted to now have on board **Hayley Peters** as our book-keeper. Hayley joined us towards the end of the financial year, and not only got across the accounts in record time, but had a blemish-free annual audit to round off the year!

And, finally, we are thrilled welcome **Jacquie Millynn**, our Preparedness Coordinator, 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 apparently endless enthusiasm, 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 planned (in consultation with the Resilience & Preparedness Working Group) a series of community sector capacity-building workshops around Emergency Preparedness – building on both the very successful pilot in for Children's Services; and the very successful partnership between the community sector, emergency services, Local Council, and the BM Red Cross Recovery Outreach officer.



Jacquie has also utilised other smaller project grants to organise for later in 2015:

- 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).

We will be reporting on these activities in next year's Annual Report.

Communications

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

MCRN Social Media Statistics 2014-15

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

eBulletin:

	No. distributed	No. of weeks distributed	Total distributed
2013-14	103	47	4841
2014-15	121	47	5687

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

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

Twitter 2014-15

	Jul-Sep	Sep-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	TOTAL
Impressions	6.4 k	8.8K	12.8K	15.9K	43.9K
Engagement Rate	0.3%	1.4%	0.9%	0.9%	
Link Clicks	21	18	33	23	95
Retweets	6	22%	40	52	98.22
Favourites	3	13	19	41	76
Replies	1	2	2	9	14

Bushfire Recovery

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. Wellbeing's Resilience & Preparedness Working Group.

1. **Wellbeing** continues to support ongoing recovery in fire-affected communities (including the consequences of a much smaller fire in Katoomba in 2014)
 - through identification of emerging trends/issues and;
 - coordination of recovery and community renewal efforts.

The work of the Wellbeing Sub-Committee is ongoing – and is detailed elsewhere (for a summary, see: [Bushfire Recovery - Wellbeing](#)). Again, I cannot sufficiently express my appreciation of, and gratitude for, the amazing work of the community sector (and allied service system) – and, most particularly, the members of the Wellbeing Sub-Committee, and their organisations and staff/volunteers. Most of this recovery work continues to be done quietly, in the background, with little recognition of the enormous effort involved, and the passionate commitment to our community shown by all involved – in addition to their 'day jobs', and with no additional resources. 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. During this crisis, the Blue Mountains community 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).





As we learned so much from the generosity of other impacted communities (particularly those affected by the Black Saturday and Coonabarabran fires, and the Wellington earthquake) sharing their experiences, Wellbeing has almost completed our own *Lessons Learned* report, up to the transition from State-led to Council-led Recovery (May 2014). Our intention has been to document (for future BM emergencies, and for other communities impacted by disasters) what we did well and would repeat; and what we would do differently next time. Drafts of the document have been shared informally with BMCC, with the LEMC, with local emergency services, with the (now) Department of Justice, Police & Emergency Services. This report will be published, once completed, on the [Bushfire Recovery](#) section of the MCRN website (and made formally available to relevant or interested organisations).

2. Significant work has been undertaken, and experimentation (through pilot projects) overseen, by the **Resilience & Preparedness Working Group** of the Wellbeing Subcommittee. This has included:
 - running a series of shared emergency services and community sector/Red Cross 'key messages' sessions about being prepared for emergencies – by invitation to social support groups run through BM Neighbourhood Centres;
 - piloting four *More Than a Fire Plan* community forums, in partnership with emergency services, Council, Red Cross and Neighbourhood Centres;
 - pilots of *Heads Up for Fire (HUFF)* through Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre, and *Meet Your Street* through Mid-Mountains Neighbourhood Centre;
 - a pilot of a Service Sector Emergency Planning workshop at the request of the Children's Services sector.



Some members of Resilience & Preparedness Group, accepting CRIP grant funding from local Members; and working hard at an R&P Group meeting (below)



Planning for Emergencies: a workshop for children's services

Children's services are invited to a workshop to draw upon the expertise of emergency services and their own recent experiences to be better prepared for future emergency events.


This is a unique opportunity to workshop your emergency management plans with agencies such as the RFS, SES, Fire and Rescue, Police and FaCS around questions such as:

- What is the role of emergency services during an event?
- How can our service better prepare our physical premises?
- How can we prepare for events which happen very quickly?
- How are we responsible to staff, parents and children during an event?
- How can we communicate our plan to staff, parents and children?
- Are there issues specific to our service type or location we should consider?

We suggest service managers and/or directors attend, in addition to a member of your management committee if possible.

Staff backfill is available upon request from Tanya James tjames@bmcc.com.au

Date: Monday 28th July
Time: 9am-3pm
Venue: Springwood Sports Club. Lunch and light refreshments provided
Bring: Your existing emergency management plan
RSVP: Monday 7th July to <https://bmemergencyplanning.eventbrite.com.au>
Contact: Danielle on (02) 4780 5793 or dohara@redcross.org.au for more details

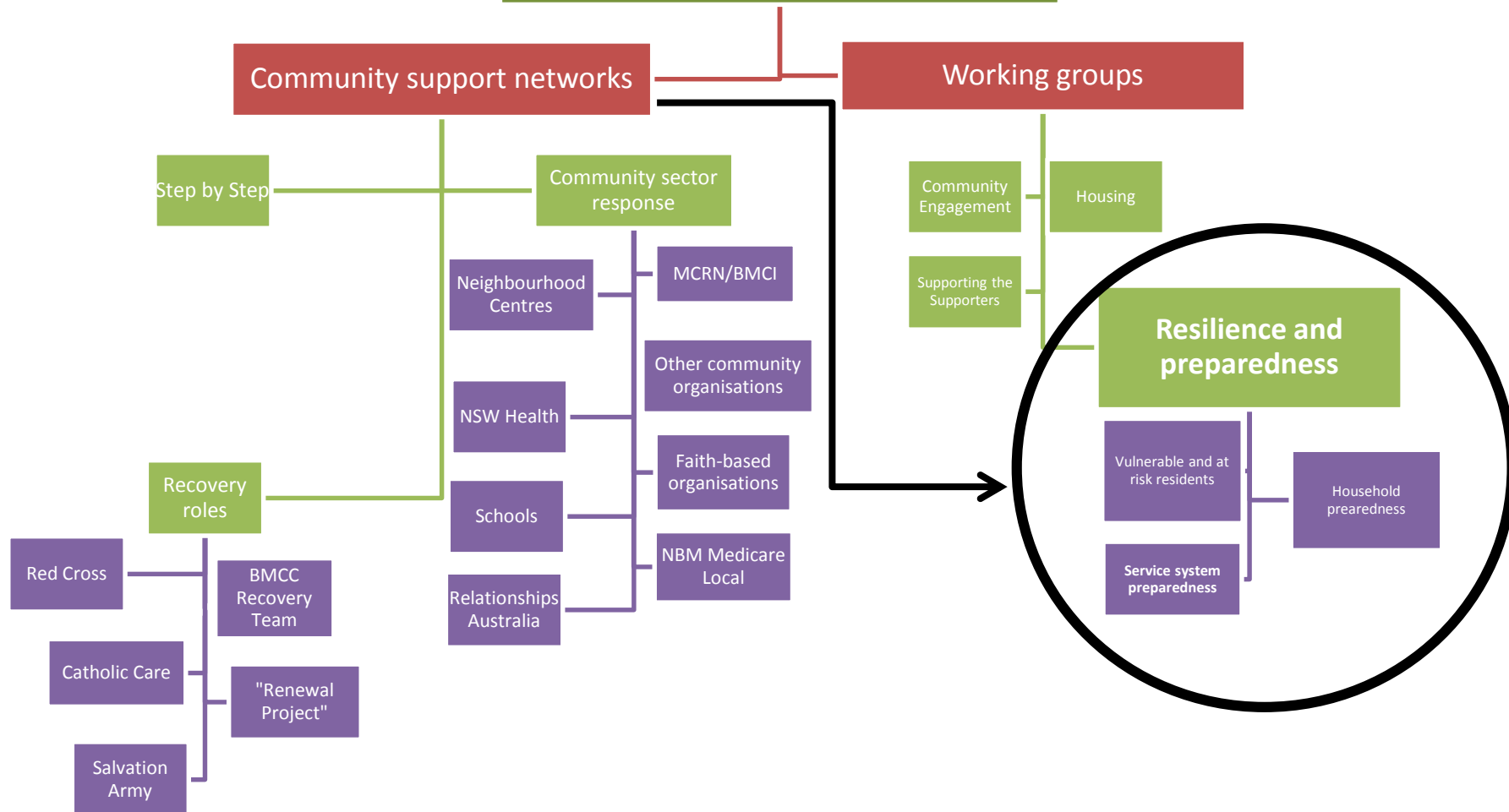


www.redcross.org.au

CRISIS CARE COMMITMENT

Flyer for the pilot of 'Preparing for Emergencies' workshops for the community sector

Blue Mountains Bushfire Recovery Wellbeing Working Group



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:

- ❖ Ongoing advocacy work around a raft of measures proposed in the **2014 Federal Budget** (eg DSS contracting processes and changes which will further disadvantage and marginalise the most disadvantaged in our community).



- ❖ **Inequality**, and its effects on society at large (not just the marginalised) was placed firmly on the national agenda this year – particularly through the work of ACOSS (of which we are a Member) and at the National ACOSS Conference 2015 (held this year in Sydney).
- ❖ MCRN also contributed to the **Save Our Local Community Services Campaign**:



- ❖ The **impact of the proposed Smart & Skilled reforms on TAFE Western Sydney Institute** and especially BM TAFE Outreach, which will further disadvantage many of the most disadvantaged in our community, and are already impacting the strong partnership which the BM community sector has established with TAFE Outreach to effectively value-add to each other's outcomes):

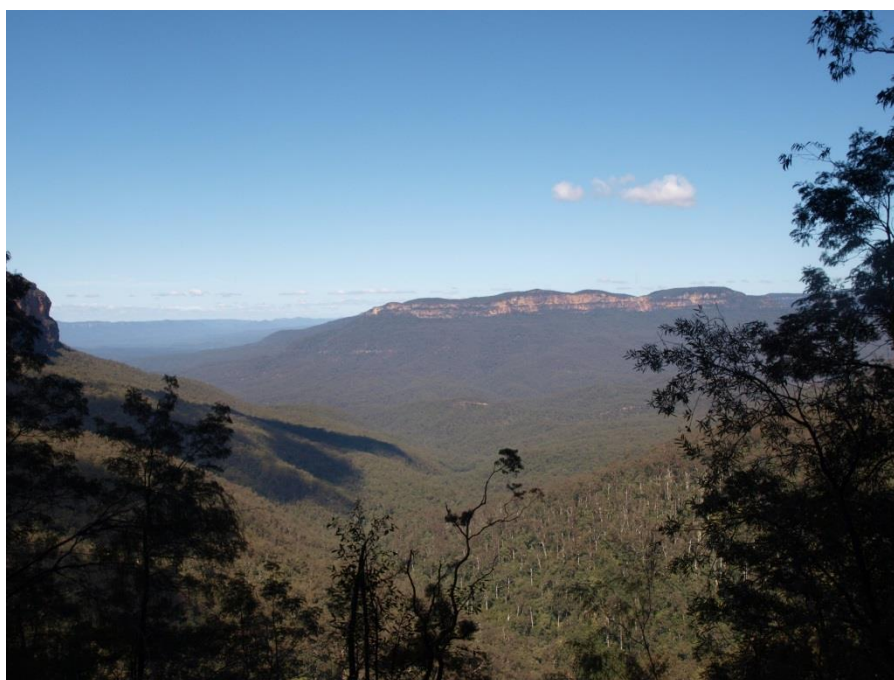
- most specifically the effective removal of (free) subsidised places, particularly for those on benefits; and
- eligibility criteria which will bar many in our community (eg women returning to the workplace, refugees and migrants) from accessing subsidised skills training for employment.

MCRN has made a Submission to both the Federal and State Parliamentary Inquiries into TAFE (the latter, specifically related to the issues around *Smart & Skilled*); we also made direct representation to Minister Hazzard on the ‘perverse outcomes’ which many of these policy decisions for NSW TAFE have had on the sector’s ability to support the most disadvantaged of our residents (which is actually our core business, generally funded through FACS).

- ❖ **Evaluation or measurement of impact/outcomes** (including input to SFA measurement and evaluation).
- ❖ **Sector development** (and the role of regional and sub-regional Peaks in the emerging funding and policy landscape).
- ❖ MCRN made a submission, on behalf of the sector and our community, to the Electoral Commission on the **proposal to split the current Federal Electorate of Macquarie** between three other Electorates.
- ❖ HOPE’s position paper, *Defaulting on the Australian Dream – Towards a Housing Strategy for the BM*, was accepted as our submission to **FACS’ Discussion Paper on housing affordability for NSW**.

Supporting unfunded groups

MCRN plays a unique 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 extraordinary work elsewhere 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; assistance with recruitment for Manager positions; acting as Returning Officer for AGMs; and also Governance workshops (eg Carver Governance Principles).

As part of the Resilience & Preparedness Group's work, Jacquie has offered Emergency Planning workshops to all BM community sector organisations; and is planning up-skilling for sector volunteers (on 'having the conversation' with their at-risk and vulnerable clients) in late 2015.

The BM community sector (the Neighbourhood Centres, and Stronger Families Alliance members) are 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 having also undertaken 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 supporting this approach, and also undertaking the training.

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 now the Mental Health & Wellbeing Interagency. Thanks to some solid planning, each group has a clear direction and blueprint for collaborative action.

Homelessness Prevention & Early Intervention (HOPE): The initial Steering Group of key players in housing/homelessness has now been expanded to form a new collaboration or network around affordable and stable housing – the HOPE Interagency. The new Interagency meets every 2-3 months. The position paper (*Defaulting on the Australian Dream – Towards a Housing Strategy for the BM¹*) which summarises HOPE's advocacy agenda, this year formed the basis of:

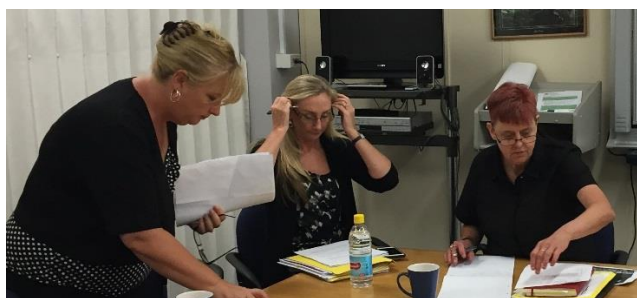
- a presentation at a background briefing for Councillors;
- meetings with Council planning staff;
- and input to FACS NBM's consultation process on housing affordability issues.

The *Going Home, Staying Home* reforms have been 'bedded-in' for local Specialist Housing Services; and those in the Nepean-Blue Mountains have developed a collaborative approach, including a joint 'Right Door' phone number and efficient referral pathways. They also took part in a Panel presentation on the progress with implementation of the *GHS* reforms to BMCI early in 2015.

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



Members of the HOPE Steering Group in consultations with FACS NBM on housing affordability Discussion Paper



Mental Health & Wellbeing Interagency: Raising Awareness of Mental Health Issues (RAMHI) and Youth Mental Illness & Substance Abuse (YMISA) members have formed a new combined network – the Mental Health & Wellbeing Interagency. The MH&W Interagency meets quarterly (YMISA continues to meet monthly). The advancement of an Open Dialogue pilot in the Blue Mountains remains the core of their advocacy ‘platform’.

Blue Mountains Community Interagency (BMCI): BMCI, which meets monthly, is the generalist Interagency for the Blue Mountains community sector. This year, the Interagency has updated the portfolio of *Fact Sheets* about issues in the local community, and the community sector itself, as briefing for candidates for the NSW State election in March. Students from the Diploma of Community Service (TAFE WSI, Wentworth Falls campus), on placement with MCRN, assisted with the update process, and we are grateful for their help.



BMCI meets with candidate for Blue Mountains, Trish Doyle, as part of our ‘Meet the Candidates’ series prior to the 2015 State Election

Mountains Multicultural Interagency (MMI): MMI meets bi-monthly, and this year will focus its attention on Harmony Day 2016, with a working group developing a series of activities and events – including creating and distributing Olive Ribbons. MMI has adopted the #OliveRibbon Campaign as its core business; the ribbon is attached to a card which has the #OliveRibbon pledge:

The Olive Ribbon symbolises our living & working together peacefully & respectfully, inclusive of people of all ethnicities and faiths or none. We pledge not to position any community as 'the other'. We are one Australia which will not be divided. Our diversity makes us stronger and richer and we will stand together – hurt one of us & you hurt us all.

Partnerships

MCRN continues to partner with Blue Mountains City Council, and we warmly welcome Luke Nicholls to his role of Director, City & Community Services. We look forward to working closely with him (and the Community Outcomes Team) to ensure the Blue Mountains is an inclusive and wonderful place to live for all residents.

Networks and partnerships with Council continued this year, with the Stronger Families Alliance (SFA) – MCRN and BMCC are jointly the 'backbone' organisations for the Alliance. On behalf of SFA, we have also become members of the NBM Collective's Youth project; and are utilising the Harwood approach to community engagement as part of our consultation process with our community towards a new *Child, Youth & Family Plan*.

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 are a member of the Board of Blue Mountains Drug & Alcohol Recovery Services (BMDARS).

MCRN is also represented on the Management Committees/Boards of Western Sydney Community Forum and 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.



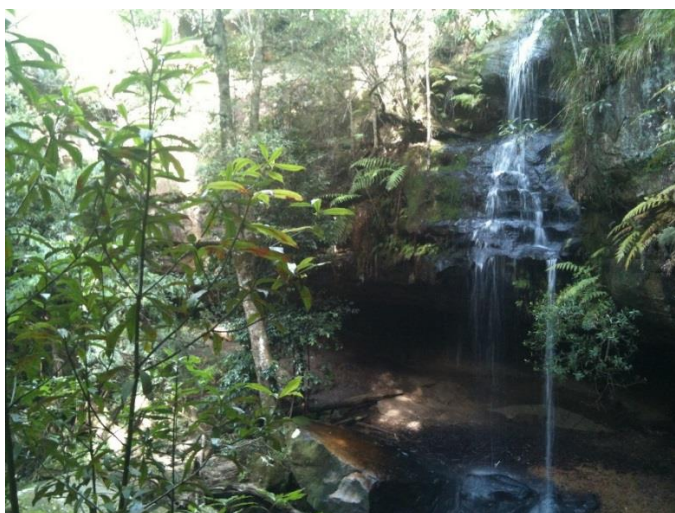
Members of WSCF Board at ZEST Awards 2015

*Sector Development Group –
Regional & Sub-Regional Peaks
2015*



Research Utilisation

A wide variety of activities (literature search, key elements identified from research reports, trawling of relevant data sources, etc.) also go into the updating of current, or development of new, *Fact Sheets*. This resource has been updated, and new issues *Fact Sheets* created, in preparation for the 2014 State Election), and other policy resources. In addition, the resources of the community sector itself (and the broader service system), are called upon in the development of case-studies, and the articulation of what programs/initiatives the sector are already undertaking to achieve our goals for the BM community.



Governance

In 2015, the MCRN Board has undertaken an update of the Strategic Plan; and has also commenced the process of updating all Policy and Procedures documents – *Meeting Room* and *Financial* policies have been completed to date.

2015 also encompassed an historic milestone – the Centenary of the Old Shire Council Offices building, which is our ‘home’; congratulations to all involved in the celebrations!:



Finally, 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, as our Chair has pointed out, 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).

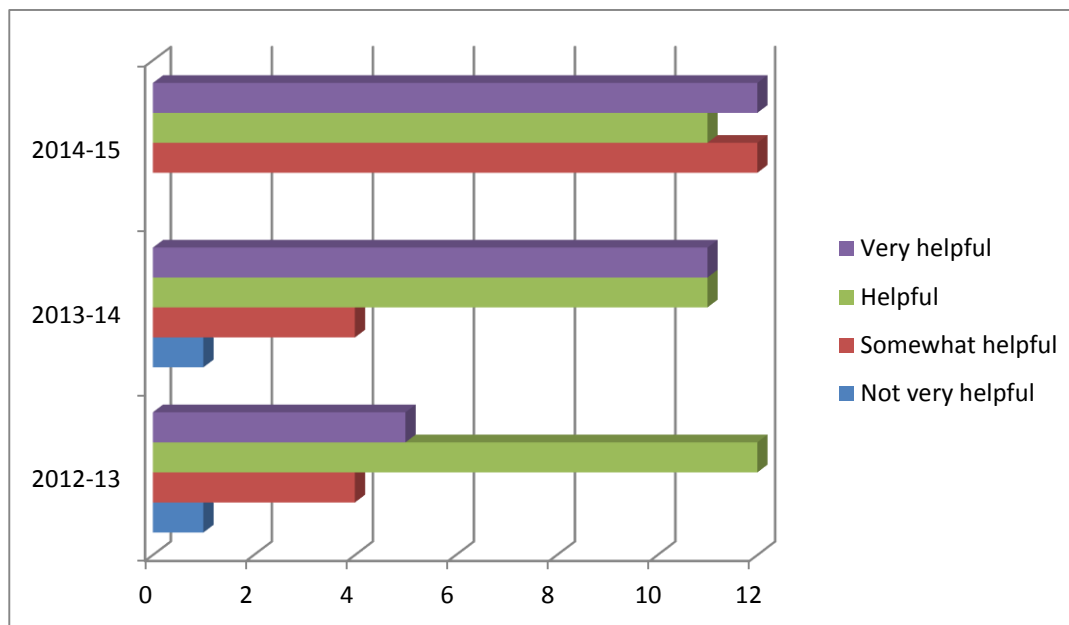


Kris Newton
Manager

The BM community sector has identified five key roles for MCRN as a sector development (peak) organisation to provide effective support to our Members. The latest results for our annual Member Survey are summarised below in a series of graphs and charts, comparing outcomes from 2012-13 to 2014-15:

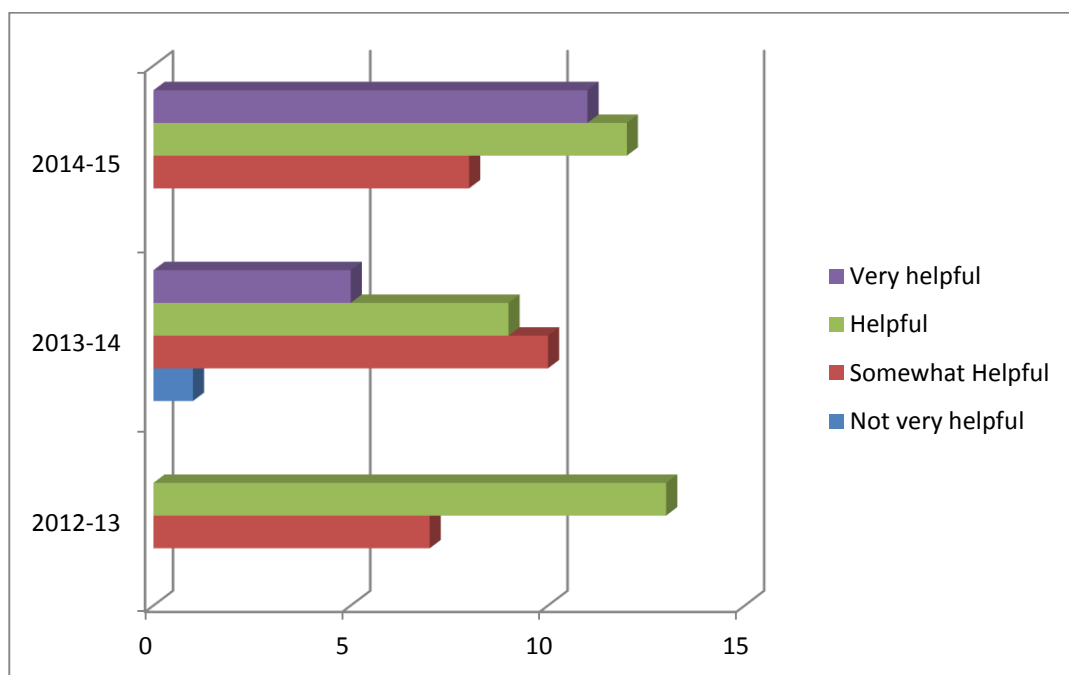
Representation

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



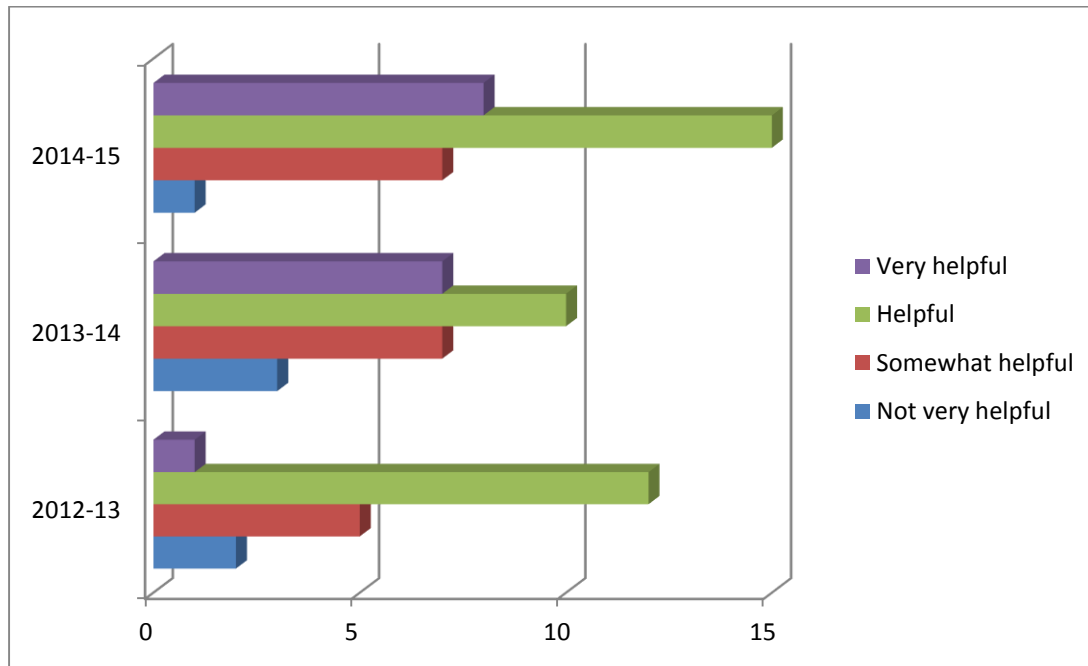
Support

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



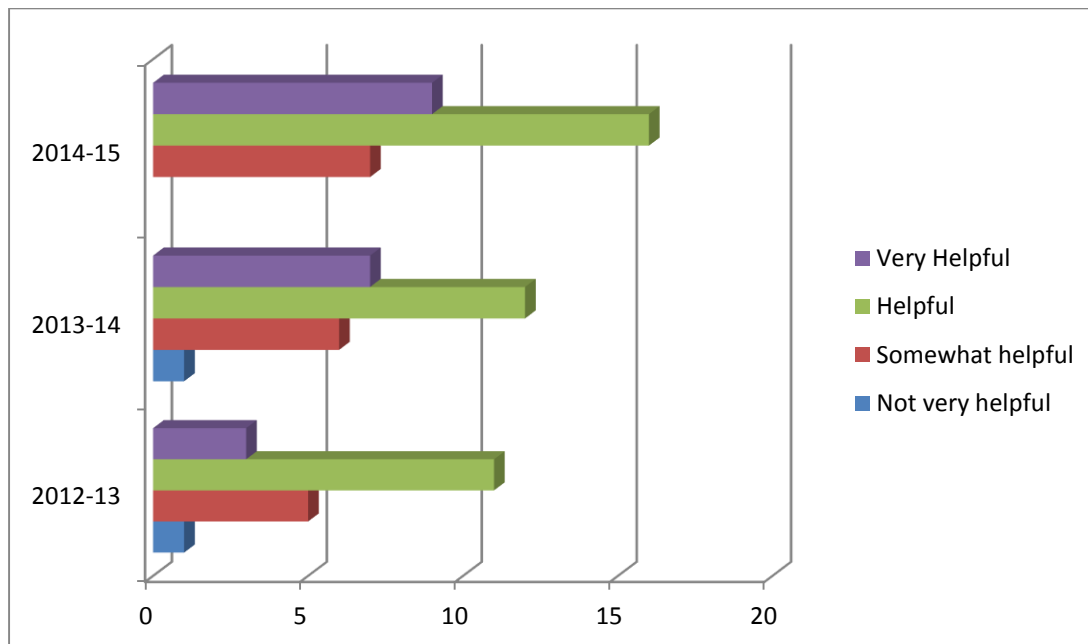
Capacity-building

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



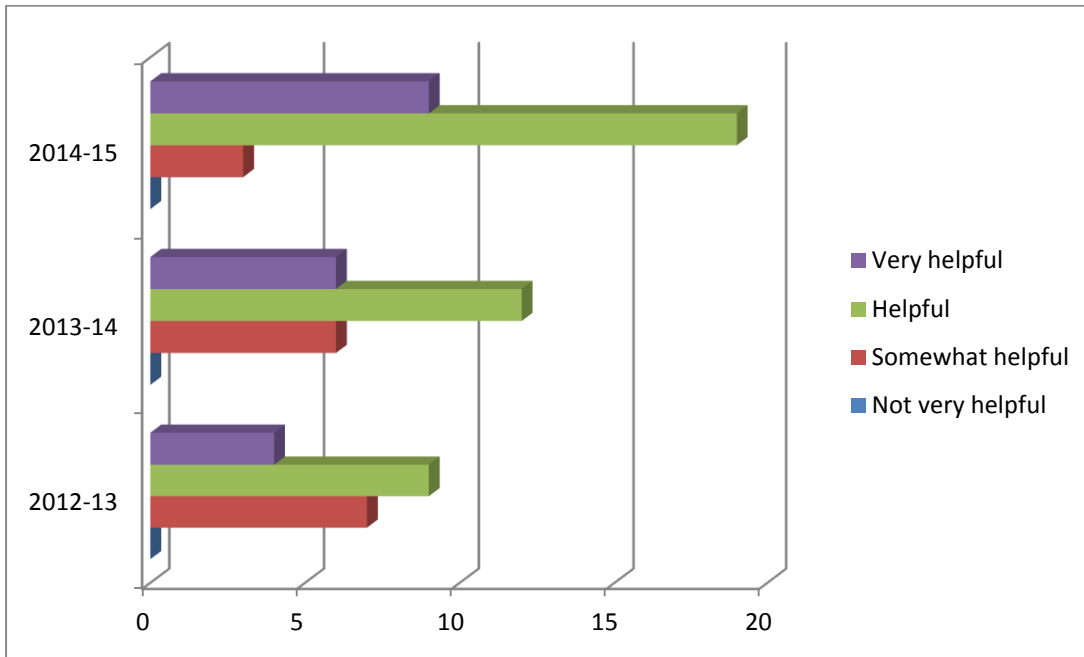
Relationships

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?





In 2015 Blue Mountains East Timor Sisters Project (BMETS) celebrates 10 years of fostering partnerships and friendships between women in the Blue Mountains and women in Timor-Leste and contributing to ongoing leadership, capacity building and empowerment; 10 years of working with Timorese women to develop locally identified projects; 10 years of international connection underpinned by values of global friendship, trust, social justice and sustainability.

Blue Mountains East Timor Sisters is a small community-based volunteer group of about twenty women, with a wide network assisting our work. The BMETS group is a very successful community development project in itself, growing from small beginnings at MCRN to link many women who desire meaningful volunteer work. We have raised almost one million dollars in our ten years of work which have allowed us to contribute to many valuable projects in Timor-Leste. We appreciate our auspice by MCRN, a partnership that provides us with a legal structure, insurance and administrative systems and is a major factor in BMETS' wide success.

We are proud to highlight our major achievements 2005-2015:

- Partnering with APSC-TL, a leading women's advocacy organisation focused on education, peace-building and economic empowerment in Timor-Leste. APSC-TL provides BMETS with advice about issues facing Timorese women and potential projects; BMETS provides annual funds for wages and infrastructure to enable APSC-TL's work in leadership, representation and community development in numerous communities.
- Providing scholarships for 105 women and girls to attend University / complete senior high school – we pleased to have 75 graduates from the program.
- Working in partnership with Blue Mountains Hato-Builico Friendship Committee (BMHBFC) to develop education & economic resources in Hato-Builico, and in 2015 building *Escola Taurema* – a primary school for the remote community of Taurema.
- Assisting the development of preschools, including the rebuilding of Kaiteho Preschool.
- Resourcing Dili Film Works in the development of *Beatriz's War*, - the first feature film ever made in Timor-Leste.
- Resourcing *Secrecy - The Key to Independence— oral histories of Clandestine women in the Timorese Resistance Movement 1975 – 1999*. This book was compiled by Laura Abrantes and Beba Sequeira. BMETS assisted the publication in Tetun & English. It has successfully gained the recognition by TL government of the role women played in achieving self-determination and is an important modern history resource.
- Assisting Timorese women's non-government organisations including Rede Feto, Alola Foundation and Pradet in their work in developing and advocating for women.
- Raising awareness of issues of Timorese people in the post Independence challenges – this includes organising the inaugural NSW Timor-Leste Forum '*Building Collaborative Partnerships for Timor-Leste*' 2012 with University of Western Sydney and hosting many visits / speaking tours to Australia including with Kirsty Sword Gusmao – Ambassador for Education & founder of the Alola Foundation and the Rural Schools Development project and Mana Dulsie Soares, Vice Minister for Primary Education Timor-Leste.

We resource our work through fundraising:

This past year BMETS has had two major fundraising events as well as our usual sales and stalls.

- *Trek for Timor BM*: – we run this event bi-annually in partnership with BMHBFC. In September 2014 this project raised \$60,000 to build a primary school in the isolated area of Taurema. Hundreds of local BM residents participate in this event as trekkers or volunteers.
- BMETS Book Sale: in 2014 we held another of our gigantic weekend Book Sales which raised over \$11,000 as well as recycling hundreds of boxes of books amongst our community.
- Garage sales – We hold regular garage sales which over the year raised around \$15,000.
- Raffles & Street stalls – BMETS participate in street stalls as local events such as Leura Fair and Winter Magic, selling our BMETS Calendar and Tais (woven products) locally.
- Direct donations through Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA (Australian People for Health Education and Development). BMETS has a partnership with APHEDA which enables donations to be tax deductible. A variety of individuals have contributed funds through APHEDA this year - we acknowledge and thank you for your generosity.
- Hunter East Timor Sisters: BMETS has a sister group HETS, who also raise funds for scholarship and preschool development. We work together on awareness raising.



BMETS Garage Sale Volunteers

Our Partnership with APSC-TL – leading Women’s Organisation in Timor-Leste

BMETS’s major work is supporting the Asia Pacific Support Collective – Timor-Leste. In June 2015, APSC-TL held celebrations of 15 years since establishment as well as 10 years of partnership with BMETS.

APSC-TL staff Beba Sequeira, Laura Abrantes and Odete Belo warmly acknowledged BMETS contribution to their work, which enables them to undertake leadership and advocacy as well as community development work in Dili and in rural areas of Timor-Leste such as Hato-Builico in Ainaro district, Bugoro in Liquica, and many communities in the rural districts of Bobonaro, Suai and Covalima. Some of this work is documented below.

One of the main joint programs has been scholarship for women and girls. As part of the celebrations, APSC-TL researched and published *‘Ivestste iha edukakasaun no hakbiiit labarik feto ida, nia sei transforma*

Munda' (Invest in education and empower a girl and she will transform the world). The Report profiles 75 graduates and summarises the value of the program. APSC-TL states it was

“driven to develop the program and produce the report by the negative attitudes towards women and their ability to be active participants and leaders in the development of the nation. Through the scholarship program and other work APSC-TL encounters strong intelligent women, achieving great personal and professional success. The advocacy report will be used by the students, Municipio level gender working groups and APSC-TL to advocate on behalf of all women for change”.



The celebrations also included the opening of new premises for the Mana Marta Tais Co-operative, a leading producer of Timorese fine weaving.

APSC-TL works on a wide range of projects; some are funded by BMETS through our annual grant for infrastructure funding and salaries whilst others occur independently. Examples of their work include:

1. Support education development eg APSC-TL designed and project managed the re-building of Kaitehu Preschool in 2013. This has led to local pre-school volunteer staff being trained and in 2015 receiving ongoing wages from the TL Government.
2. APSC-TL has a long-term project on a base-line study of sexual and gender based violence in rural areas funded by UN Women and international NGOs. These aid agencies could not undertake these important projects without the security of the core funding provided through BMETS.
3. APSC-TL plays a major role in organising the National Women's Congress and the regional consultations that lead into this. The Congress is held every four years and its recommendations are incorporated into government policy.
4. They have resourced the development of four Tais Weaving Co-operatives, increasing visibility of women's culture & enabling financial independence for many disadvantaged women.
5. APSC-TL, supported by BMETS, secured \$5,000 annually in funds from *Compassion Beyond Borders* for a recurrent scholarship program for rural young women to study teaching.
6. On-going promotion of their publication *Secrecy –Key to Independence* – a key resource which recorded the stories of women veterans involved in the independence struggle
7. APSC-LT administered a small grant for 45 Self-Help Groups in 5 Municipios (Baucau, Bobonaro, Covalima, Liquiça, and Manufahi) as well as the establishment of 5 Community Resource Centers. They said: *“We also prepared the 45 Self-Help Groups Profiles to launch on*

International Women's Day – March 8' 2015 with the result drafted for the National Action Plan on Resolution 1325: Women, Peace and Security."

8. Participating at regional and international conferences (South East Asia Women's Political and Public Participation in Bali) as well as Comparative Study on National Action Plan on Resolution 1325: Women, Peace and Security in Jakarta and also Shadow Report Drafting Training in Jakarta.

Foto Friendship

Over the last decade, the Blue Mountains East Timor Sisters (BMETS) have produced a calendar featuring photos taken by members either visiting or volunteering in East Timor during the previous year. This year the calendar features photos from Foto Friendship, a project initiated by BMETS member Wendy Chandler and her colleague Tammy Burnstock, assisted by Timorese filmmaker, Bety Reis and colleague Gaspar Sarmiento. School children in Hato-Builico, none having laid hands on a camera before or perhaps not even seen a camera, were invited to take photos of aspects of their lives that were important to them. The evocative photos capture poignantly the spirit and complexity of modern day East Timor. Together with their stories, the photos are being exhibited in Dili in early 2016 and in Cabramatta and Penrith late in 2015.

BMCC East Timor Hato-Builico Friendship Group

BMETS works closely with the Blue Mountains Hato-Builico Friendship Committee (BMHBFC), linked to the isolated, rural, sub-district at the foot of Mt Ramelau. In 2014 2015 the groups continued to support the establishment of Hato-Builico High School and to fund a scholarship program. BMETS & BMHBFC continue to work on promoting tourism in the area with a website <http://Hatobuilico.com/>, walks booklet www.Hatobuilico.com/walkingguide.pdf and blog www.Hatobuilico.wordpress.com/.

In 2015 we completed our biggest partnership project with the opening of *Escola Taurema* - Taurama Primary School, providing a very isolated community with a three room classroom for its 100 students, who otherwise did not attend school or walked for two hours to Hato-Builico. Office of Kirsty Sword-Gusmao Rural School Development Program project-managed the building. Four BMETS members travelled to Timor for the grand opening in June 2015, an event with much ceremony, festivity and appreciation.



Taurema School, 2011



Taurema School, 2015

BMETS in Timor

Visiting East Timor helps to build and enrich our understanding of the complexity and beauty of life across the Timor Sea. It is also a powerful way of maintaining the friendship connection between our women's communities in the Blue Mountains and in Timor. Over the past twelve months a number of trips to Timor have occurred - the past year Gabrielle Kirby, Jude Finch, Wendy Chandler and Mary

Waterford visited Timor-Leste, Gail Clifford returned as an Australian Volunteer International (AVI) and Ursula De Almeida continued her work for *Search for Common Ground*, both based in Dili.

Sustaining BMETS in the Blue Mountains

Like many voluntary organisations, BMETS is held together by the quality of the relationships we have built between our members and the satisfaction we get from our work in Timor-Leste. BMETS activity has become a core element in our lives, enriching our community connections and giving members a sense of contributing positively to a wider global world. We are immensely proud of our efforts that have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars which we have contributed to providing flexible responses to locally identified needs.

However in 2015 we had to reduce our grant to APSC-TL in order to be sustainable. We are an aging group and we are challenged to find new ways of fundraising that don't require so much heavy lifting – the garage sales and other activities are both our strength and our mill-stone. We go into the next year thoughtful of how we continue to both support our Timorese partners financially while looking after our BMETS core volunteers who give so much of their time and energy.

Annual Report 2014-15 – Blue Mountains Union Council

It's been a busy 12 months for the Blue Mountains Union Council and, as ever, our activities have focussed on our key objectives:

- to advance living standards, social justice and employment
- to stage Politics in the Pub sessions to address issues of concern to the Blue Mountains community
- to assist in the protection of rights for all wage and salary workers
- in solidarity with other community groups to formulate policies that protect the environment and community assets
- to support the election of people at local, state and federal level who will serve the best interests of wage and salary earners.

THE NSW ELECTION:

As 2015 was an election year we focussed on some of the biggest issues of the campaign - specifically proposals to privatise a large section of the electricity system - and secondly proposals to sell off other publicly owned assets, a campaign which eventually became known as '**NSW NOT FOR SALE**'.

To this end we held two open air community rallies in the mid mountains at Springwood Town Square - these were addressed by Candidates for the ALP and Greens, along with leading state politicians including Adam Searle (ALP) and John Kaye Greens and Mark Lennon, secretary of Unions NSW. The second rally was also addressed by a cross section of people working in various essential services in the Blue Mountains. On each occasion the Liberal candidate and representatives of the Coalition government were invited to attend, but declined the invitations.

EDUCATION

Support of education, particularly public education, has always played an important role in the activities of the BMUC and annually a *Politics in the Pub* is staged to debate important educational issues of the day - an event now held in memory of one of our founders - Blue Mountains teacher and education activist. Rod Brooks.

The 'EDUCATION IN CRISIS' *Politics in the Pub* focussed on the huge challenges facing TAFE and the universities. Speakers included Phil Chadwick, President of TAFE section of the Teachers Federation and two young student leaders - Chris Gall from UTS, and Luke Heffernan from UWS.

UNEMPLOYMENT

BMUC recognises that unemployment is one of the biggest problems in the Blue Mountains, especially among the young where the stats for the out of work and underemployed are way above the official unemployment figures of 6%.

In July a *Politics in the Pub* entitled 'YOUR RIGHTS 2 WORK' heard the case for full employment advocated by Professor Bill Mitchell and Dr Victor Quirk from Newcastle University's Centre of Full

Employment. They were accompanied on the speakers' platform by local United Voice Delegate, Jane Grundy, who spoke about the importance of penalty rates to low paid workers.

PENALTY RATES

Calls to cut penalty rates frequently appeared on the news during the last 12 months and there are real fears in the Blue Mountains that people working in casual or part time jobs in areas such as hospitality - one of the biggest employers in the Blue Mountains - would face tremendous problems paying their basic bills if they have their week end penalty rates cuts, as has been most recently proposed by the Productivity Commission.

In recognition of these concerns BMUC's stall at this year's Winter Magic Festival had a petition calling on the Federal Government to preserve penalty rates - this received a terrific response from the public with over 1,000 people giving their signatures in support.

DISABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE

BMUC welcomes the rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme for young people in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains but in response to concerns about its implementation, a Disability Subcommittee has been formed. The focus of the Subcommittee is still under discussion but there are at least two clear issues emerging:

- Will services for people with disabilities improve?
- Is some of the community's responsibility for funding NDIS and related services being unfairly shifted to workers in the caring industry, with cuts to conditions and job losses?

CAMPAIGN TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE

In recognition that jobs for our kids and our community should be the number one priority for our politicians, the BMUC has joined the ACTU's campaign to BUILD A BETTER FUTURE. In the run up to the next federal election we will be engaging vigorously with the Blue Mountains community and asking candidates to commit to:

- Workers' Rights – protecting wages, conditions including penalty rates, and campaigning for secure jobs;
- Defending Medicare - protecting Medicare, properly funding hospitals and stopping new fees for visiting the doctor;
- Highest Quality Education – restoring funding to schools, TAFE and ensuring we never have \$100,000 university fees;
- Public ownership of public services – proper funding to make them work, ending privatisation which has brought job cuts, higher prices and helped only the companies running them;
- A Secure Retirement – decent pensions and superannuation;
- A Fair Go For All – supporting our industries generating skilled jobs, making multinationals and the wealthy pay fair taxes.

FUTURE *POLITICS IN THE PUB*

Politics in the Pub remains one of our core activities. Events being organised in the coming months include a *Politics in the Pub* – “Domestic Violence: Why Not Leave?” on Saturday, 26th September and a Rod Brooks Memorial *Politics in the Pub* on education - with a focus on the achievements of the Gonski programme and the benefits of implementing the full Gonski plan.

WEB

Our web presence continues to grow, with 565 Twitter followers and 274 Facebook likes.

The BMUC blog, managed by Mark Gregory, receives over 5,000 hits per month.

NEW MEMBERS: This year we welcomed 7 new members.

And finally, thanks to...

Once again I'd like to place on record my thanks to the many people who make the BMUC possible:

- The Mountains Community Resource Network for their continued support;
- Senator Doug Cameron's office for ongoing assistance;
- Carmel Blackburn and the Blackburn family for generously providing a home for *Politics in the Pub*;
- to Deb Smith who, as Secretary, devotes so much of her time to keeping us on the ball; and
- to the Management Committee and other members who volunteer for a whole range of jobs which continue to keep us going like (as a visitor from Sydney described BMUC) "a well-oiled machine".

Kerry Cooke, President 16th August 2015



After fourteen months as Administrator of PinkMountains, Blackheath's Nick Hood has passed on the role to Katoomba resident, Peter Hackney. Pink Mountains welcomes Peter as Co-Convenor for the website: <http://pinkmountains.com.au/> (see an example from the 'Events' section below).

Peter is a professional Journalist with experience working with the LGBTIQ community, and doing a great job!



Events: *A 'snapshot' of some recent activity in our local LGBTIQ community*



[Lemons do Lockleys Pylon – at night](#)

On Saturday, August 29 the Lemon Zests will be trekking out to Lockleys Pylon near Leura – at night.



[New queer film night for the Mountains](#)

A new monthly film night for LGBTIQ people will kick off on Saturday, September 12 at Katoomba's iconic Carrington Hotel.

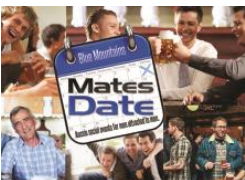


[1050 – Dags to Riches](#) The Blue Mountains township of Mt Victoria is 1050 metres above sea level - a fact that hasn't gone unnoticed by the organisers of a new dance party called... 1050!



[Marriage spotlight on Markus](#)

Pressure is being brought to bear on local MP Louise Markus, with local activists issuing a "call-out" for marriage equality.



[MatesDate/Blue Mountains Events](#)

MatesDate events are for single or coupled men living or visiting the Blue Mountains who are open to making some new real mates. Check out our upcoming events.



[Lemon Zest Upcoming Events](#)

Lemon Zest is a Blue Mountains lesbian social group created by the community for the community. Click here for featured events and listings.



Heaven Social Dances

The latest Heaven Social Dances, serving Western Sydney & BM.



Pink Mountains also has the **PinkMountains** 'closed' Facebook Group, so that everyone can keep up with local and international GLBTIQ News, and interact. And anyone with an interest in GLBTIQ issues and news can also subscribe to the Pink Mountains Newsletter.

With thanks
Kevin Hardwick
2015

Blue Mountains Interfaith Group (BMIG) Activities, 2015.

Meetings have been held monthly, at different venues. Finding a good time to meet has been an ongoing issue - we began the year by trying the last Saturday of the month, but at the middle of the year reverted to the last Friday morning of the month. We have alternated business meetings with sharing meetings.

Our sharing meetings have been as follows:

- Sat. 28 Feb, at the Australian Buddhist Vihara (ABV), Katoomba - Topic: *Meditation and Prayer*.
- Sat. 25 April, at the Uniting Church, Leura - Topic: *Vegetarianism and the Environment*. Guest Speaker: Vijai, a Hindu from Sydney.
- Sat. 27 June, at ABV. Topic: *How do we deal with conflict in our faith?*
- September at the Uniting Church, Leura. Topic: *Sikhism* (a gentleman from the Sikh community in Sydney spoke, and a visit to the Sikh temple in Sydney was planned for early 2016).
- Sunday 25 Oct., outside at The Catholic Church, in Lawson.



A Sri Lankan Buddhist monk participating in an Aboriginal Smoking Ceremony.



Aunty Carol Cooper delivering a welcome to Country.



Theravadan Buddhists chanting.

A group of people are performing outdoors. In the foreground, a man with grey hair tied back, wearing a black vest over a black shirt and grey trousers, is bending over, reaching towards a white object on the ground. Behind him to the left, a woman with short grey hair and sunglasses, wearing a floral patterned shirt, stands near a music stand with a guitar. To the right, a man wearing a hat and an orange shirt is seated, watching the performance. The background is filled with lush green foliage.



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Treasurer's Report 2014-2015

Mountains Community Resource Network

The Financial Statements presented in the Annual Report for 2014-15 are for the Mountains Community Resource Network (MCRN) Inc. They represent all MCRN activities and represent the total MCRN financial position as at June 30th 2015. The Audited Financial Statement for the 2014-15 financial year shows that MCRN remains in a solid financial position. Review indicates that all MCRN staff leave entitlements and all our legal obligations can be met financially.

The balance sheet shows:

- total net assets of \$57,695.24;
- an operating surplus for MCRN for this period of \$15,156.00, which gives a cumulative retained earnings for MCRN of \$52,682.57; and
- MCRN's income for the 12 month period totals \$161,170.67; our core government funding, received from the NSW Department of Family & Community Services (Community Builders – Renewable funding, including ERO) of \$142,416.32 accounted for the majority of MCRN's income.

William Tomiczek and Associates again conducted the MCRN financial audit. The audit process went smoothly, with Mr Tomiczek again noting the level of accuracy reflected in the documentation and the professional approach taken by the organisation to our financial management.

Thank you to the staff and Board of MCRN who work with, and for, the Sector and our community.



Mick Barrett
Treasurer

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

**Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2015**

MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. ABN 98 181 256 988

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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 period ended 30 June 2015 are in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards.

Signature.....


William Tomiczek

Date.....

20/8/15

Auditors Qualification: Registered Company Auditor

No. 1425

Notes to and forming part of the accounts of for the period ended 30 June 2015.

We have satisfied ourselves that:

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

Signature.....


William Tomiczek

Date.....

20/8/15

MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. ABN 98 181 256 988

Committee's Report

For the year ended 30 June 2015

Your committee members submit the financial accounts of the MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. for the financial year ended 30 June 2015.

Committee Members

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

Ian Hanslow
Mick Barrett
Rodney Titovs
Antonia Ravesi
Colin Berryman
Maddy Forwood

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were operation of community resource network

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 2015	30 June 2014
\$	\$
0	38,446.09

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on.....day of September 2015



Ian Hanslow



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 2014 through June 2015

11/09/2015

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	This Year	Last Year
Income		
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$21,829.19	\$21,645.78
Grants		
State Recurrent	\$139,005.30	\$136,547.41
State Non-Recurrent	\$21,744.35	\$1,988.06
Grants Local Non-Recurrent	\$1,500.00	\$2,250.00
Grants Other	\$9,090.91	\$10,000.00
Total Grants	\$171,340.56	\$150,785.47
Other Income		
Advertising Income	\$0.00	\$545.44
Book Sales	\$14,798.95	\$50.00
Calendars & Tais	\$850.00	\$330.00
Dividend - Bendigo	\$30.00	\$0.00
Donations - NTD	\$15,320.10	\$5,477.45
Donations T4T	\$64,268.00	\$0.00
Film Showing	\$0.00	\$2,130.00
Interest Income	\$1,862.44	\$1,153.91
Memberships & Subscriptions	\$1,531.78	\$1,118.13
Miscellaneous Income	\$955.61	\$3,570.00
Reimbursements	\$0.00	\$1,740.00
Room Hire	\$1,557.26	\$1,360.20
Scholarship Income	\$8,540.00	\$3,988.00
Seminars & Workshops	\$0.00	\$1,163.63
Total Other Income	\$109,714.14	\$22,626.76
Total Income	\$302,883.89	\$195,058.01
Expenses		
Advertising & Promotions	\$1,404.31	\$1,043.83
Assets under \$1000	\$1,181.82	\$117.27
Audit Fees	\$1,590.91	\$1,545.45
Bank Fees & Charges	\$1,263.33	\$232.46
Bookkeeping	\$4,541.25	\$5,203.64
Cleaning & Pest Control	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Computer Expenses	\$4,657.78	\$1,210.16
Consultancy Fees	\$0.00	\$3,554.54
Consumables	\$695.64	\$738.97
Donations	\$3,600.00	\$1,000.00
Fees & Permits	\$738.09	\$44.00
Infrastructure & Wages	\$11,158.22	\$10,000.00
Insurances		
Insurance - General	\$0.00	\$4,170.45
Total Insurances	\$0.00	\$4,170.45
Meeting Expenses	\$1,425.21	\$894.99
Memberships & Subscriptions	\$2,311.87	\$2,217.99
Miscellaneous	\$489.99	\$1,416.99
Parking/ Fares & Tolls	\$53.94	\$270.26
Postage, Freight & Couriers	\$799.68	\$94.75
Printing & Stationery	\$3,739.87	\$1,709.85
Publications & Resources	\$27.48	\$0.00
Rates & Taxes	-\$0.26	\$0.00
Rent	\$300.00	\$0.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$345.43	\$3.64
Scholarships	\$8,926.58	\$11,782.08
Wages & Salaries	\$100,150.00	\$93,150.81
Payroll Provisions	\$14,558.09	-\$5,550.29
Superannuation	\$9,403.39	\$8,273.92
Staff Amenities	\$44.55	\$0.00
Workers Comp Insurance	\$1,592.18	\$3,686.68
Travel Allowances	\$4,059.50	\$3,303.10
Funds Transferred to APHEDA	\$53,927.24	\$0.00
Telephone/ Fax/ Internet	\$2,915.02	\$2,932.94
Training & Development	\$3,757.17	\$72.72
Travel & Accommodation	\$378.77	\$6.18
Utilities	\$712.53	\$102.00
Venue Hire	\$0.00	\$1,090.91

Mountains Community Resource Network Inc

Profit & Loss [Last Year Analysis]

July 2014 through June 2015

11/09/2015
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	This Year	Last Year
Website & Domain Hosting	\$695.52	\$180.27
Wellbeing Projects	\$27.27	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$242,472.37	\$155,500.56
Operating Profit	\$60,411.52	\$39,557.45
Other Expenses		
Bushfire Recovery Expenses	\$7,950.00	\$1,111.36
Surplus Funds Carried Forward	\$52,461.52	\$0.00
Total Other Expenses	\$60,411.52	\$1,111.36
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$0.00	\$38,446.09

Mountains Community Resource Network Inc

PO Box 152
Lawson NSW 2783

Balance Sheet [Last Year Analysis]

June 2015

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	This Year	Last Year
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash		
Bendigo Bank a/c 8860	\$172,279.65	\$99,014.27
Bendigo Cash Card 8902	\$938.91	\$481.73
Bendigo T4T a/c 6731	\$8,299.41	\$2,699.67
Petty Cash	\$99.80	\$99.80
Total Cash	\$181,617.77	\$102,295.47
Other - Deposits & Bonds	\$165.00	\$165.00
Trade Debtors	\$1,785.00	\$1,205.00
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	\$184,567.77	\$104,665.47
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	\$184,567.77	\$104,665.47
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Trade Creditors	\$4,276.61	\$0.00
GST Liabilities		
GST Collected on Sales	\$3,665.28	\$3,656.96
GST Paid on Purchases	-\$1,374.69	-\$866.72
BAS Rounding adj.	\$15.69	\$5.72
ATO Integrated Client Account	\$1.49	\$0.00
Total GST Liabilities	\$2,307.77	\$2,795.96
Payroll Liabilities		
PAYG Withholding Payable	\$5,413.35	\$4,328.02
Superannuation Payable	\$0.00	\$1,828.54
Total Payroll Liabilities	\$5,413.35	\$6,156.56
Staff Leave Provisions		
Annual Leave Provision	\$10,402.79	\$6,178.29
TIL Accrued Provision	\$1,212.23	\$0.00
LSL Provision	\$5,031.77	\$3,110.23
Sick Leave Provision	\$7,199.82	\$0.00
Total Staff Leave Provisions	\$23,846.61	\$9,288.52
Total Current Liabilities	\$35,844.34	\$18,241.04
Other Current Liabilities		
Surplus Funds		
Grants Received in Advance	\$36,666.67	\$0.00
Provision for future expenditu	\$13,485.98	\$0.00
Auspiced Funds Pink Mountains	\$378.92	\$0.00
Auspiced Funds BMETS	\$22,751.37	\$0.00
Auspiced Funds T4T	\$8,555.79	\$0.00
Other Auspiced funds	\$7,289.46	\$0.00
Total Surplus Funds	\$89,128.19	\$0.00
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	\$91,028.19	\$1,900.00
Total Liabilities	\$126,872.53	\$20,141.04

Mountains Community Resource Network Inc

Balance Sheet [Last Year Analysis]

June 2015

11/09/2015
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	This Year	Last Year
Net Assets	\$57,695.24	\$84,524.43
Equity		
Retained Surplus(Deficit)	\$0.00	\$46,078.34
BMETS Retained Surplus	\$18,599.67	\$0.00
PINK Mtns Retained Surplus	\$361.69	\$0.00
T4T Retained Surplus	\$1,207.31	\$0.00
MCRN Retained Surplus	\$37,526.57	\$0.00
Current Year Surplus/(Deficit)	\$0.00	\$38,446.09
Total Equity	\$57,695.24	\$84,524.43

MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. ABN 98 181 256 988

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2015

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) Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument. Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established.

Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(c) 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 IncPO Box 152
Lawson NSW 2783**Job Profit & Loss Statement****July 2014 through June 2015**

16/09/2015

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Page 1

Account Name **Selected Period** **Year to Date****BMETS2015****BMETS2015****Income**

Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$7,739.49	\$7,739.49
Book Sales	\$14,798.95	\$14,798.95
Calendars & Tais	\$850.00	\$850.00
Donations - NTD	\$11,290.00	\$11,290.00
Scholarship Income	\$8,540.00	\$8,540.00
Total Income	<u>\$43,218.44</u>	<u>\$43,218.44</u>

Expense

Advertising & Promotions	\$446.50	\$446.50
Bank Fees & Charges	\$30.00	\$30.00
Infrastructure & Wages	\$11,158.22	\$11,158.22
Scholarships	\$8,926.58	\$8,926.58
Venue Hire	-\$300.00	-\$300.00
Website & Domain Hosting	\$205.77	\$205.77
Total Expense	<u>\$20,467.07</u>	<u>\$20,467.07</u>

Other Expense

Surplus Funds Carried Forward	\$22,751.37	\$22,751.37
Total Other Expense	<u>\$22,751.37</u>	<u>\$22,751.37</u>

Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
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CRIP2015**Preparedness Project****Income**

State Non-Recurrent	\$18,333.33	\$18,333.33
Total Income	<u>\$18,333.33</u>	<u>\$18,333.33</u>

Expense

Advertising & Promotions	\$567.81	\$567.81
Computer Expenses	\$1,767.27	\$1,767.27
Meeting Expenses	\$213.45	\$213.45
Parking/ Fares & Tolls	\$3.64	\$3.64
Printing & Stationery	\$177.27	\$177.27
Publications & Resources	\$27.48	\$27.48
Wages & Salaries	\$6,619.80	\$6,619.80
Payroll Provisions	\$1,079.25	\$1,079.25
Superannuation	\$628.88	\$628.88
Travel Allowances	\$531.96	\$531.96
Telephone/ Fax/ Internet	\$10.00	\$10.00
Training & Development	\$2,990.91	\$2,990.91
Total Expense	<u>\$14,617.72</u>	<u>\$14,617.72</u>

Other Expense

Surplus Funds Carried Forward	\$3,715.61	\$3,715.61
Total Other Expense	<u>\$3,715.61</u>	<u>\$3,715.61</u>

Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
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DOCS2015**DOCS Transitional****Income**

Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$602.93	\$602.93
Total Income	<u>\$602.93</u>	<u>\$602.93</u>

Other Expense

Surplus Funds Carried Forward	\$602.93	\$602.93
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Mountains Community Resource Network Inc

Job Profit & Loss Statement

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Account Name	Selected Period	Year to Date
DOCS2015	DOCS Transitional	
Total Other Expense	\$602.93	\$602.93
Net Profit (Loss)	\$0.00	\$0.00
IA2015	Interagency Resourcing	
Income		
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	-\$1,072.45	-\$1,072.45
Grants Local Non-Recurrent	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Total Income	\$427.55	\$427.55
Expense		
Consumables	\$345.81	\$345.81
Meeting Expenses	\$1,124.49	\$1,124.49
Rent	\$300.00	\$300.00
Venue Hire	\$300.00	\$300.00
Wellbeing Projects	\$27.27	\$27.27
Total Expense	\$2,097.57	\$2,097.57
Other Expense		
Surplus Funds Carried Forward	-\$1,670.02	-\$1,670.02
Total Other Expense	-\$1,670.02	-\$1,670.02
Net Profit (Loss)	\$0.00	\$0.00
LCSA2015	2015 Bushfire Recovery	
Income		
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$8,888.64	\$8,888.64
Total Income	\$8,888.64	\$8,888.64
Expense		
Training & Development	\$138.32	\$138.32
Total Expense	\$138.32	\$138.32
Other Expense		
Bushfire Recovery Expenses	\$7,950.00	\$7,950.00
Surplus Funds Carried Forward	\$800.32	\$800.32
Total Other Expense	\$8,750.32	\$8,750.32
Net Profit (Loss)	\$0.00	\$0.00
MCRN2014	MCRN 2014	
Expense		
Superannuation	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00
Net Profit (Loss)	\$0.00	\$0.00
MCRN2015	MCRN 2015	
Income		
State Recurrent	\$139,005.30	\$139,005.30
State Non-Recurrent	\$3,411.02	\$3,411.02
Grants Other	\$9,090.91	\$9,090.91
Dividend - Bendigo	\$30.00	\$30.00
Donations - NTD	\$4,030.10	\$4,030.10
Interest Income	\$1,558.69	\$1,558.69

Mountains Community Resource Network Inc

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Account Name Selected Period Year to Date

MCRN2015	MCRN 2015		
Memberships & Subscriptions	\$1,531.78	\$1,531.78	
Miscellaneous Income	\$955.61	\$955.61	
Room Hire	\$1,557.26	\$1,557.26	
Total Income	\$161,170.67	\$161,170.67	

Expense			
Advertising & Promotions	\$40.00	\$40.00	
Assets under \$1000	\$1,181.82	\$1,181.82	
Audit Fees	\$1,590.91	\$1,590.91	
Bank Fees & Charges	\$75.65	\$75.65	
Bookkeeping	\$4,541.25	\$4,541.25	
Cleaning & Pest Control	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
Computer Expenses	\$2,890.51	\$2,890.51	
Consumables	\$349.83	\$349.83	
Donations	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00	
Fees & Permits	\$53.00	\$53.00	
Meeting Expenses	\$87.27	\$87.27	
Memberships & Subscriptions	\$2,311.87	\$2,311.87	
Parking/ Fares & Tolls	\$50.30	\$50.30	
Postage, Freight & Couriers	\$299.68	\$299.68	
Printing & Stationery	\$2,962.60	\$2,962.60	
Rates & Taxes	-\$0.26	-\$0.26	
Repairs & Maintenance	\$345.43	\$345.43	
Wages & Salaries	\$93,530.20	\$93,530.20	
Payroll Provisions	\$13,536.51	\$13,536.51	
Superannuation	\$8,716.84	\$8,716.84	
Staff Amenities	\$44.55	\$44.55	
Workers Comp Insurance	\$1,592.18	\$1,592.18	
Travel Allowances	\$3,527.54	\$3,527.54	
Telephone/ Fax/ Internet	\$2,905.02	\$2,905.02	
Training & Development	\$627.94	\$627.94	
Travel & Accommodation	\$378.77	\$378.77	
Utilities	\$712.53	\$712.53	
Website & Domain Hosting	\$62.73	\$62.73	
Total Expense	\$146,014.67	\$146,014.67	

Other Expense			
Surplus Funds Carried Forward	\$15,156.00	\$15,156.00	
Total Other Expense	\$15,156.00	\$15,156.00	
Net Profit (Loss)	\$0.00	\$0.00	

PINK2015	Pink Mountains 2015		
Income			
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$533.21	\$533.21	
Total Income	\$533.21	\$533.21	
Expense			
Website & Domain Hosting	\$154.29	\$154.29	
Total Expense	\$154.29	\$154.29	
Other Expense			
Surplus Funds Carried Forward	\$378.92	\$378.92	
Total Other Expense	\$378.92	\$378.92	
Net Profit (Loss)	\$0.00	\$0.00	

RAMHI2015	Raising Awareness Mental		
Income			

Mountains Community Resource Network Inc

Job Profit & Loss Statement

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Account Name	Selected Period	Year to Date
RAMHI2015	Raising Awareness Mental	
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$472.74	\$472.74
Total Income	\$472.74	\$472.74
Other Expense		
Surplus Funds Carried Forward	\$472.74	\$472.74
Total Other Expense	\$472.74	\$472.74
Net Profit (Loss)	\$0.00	\$0.00
SFA2015	Stronger Families Allianc	
Income		
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$1,970.59	\$1,970.59
Total Income	\$1,970.59	\$1,970.59
Expense		
Website & Domain Hosting	\$272.73	\$272.73
Total Expense	\$272.73	\$272.73
Other Expense		
Surplus Funds Carried Forward	\$1,697.86	\$1,697.86
Total Other Expense	\$1,697.86	\$1,697.86
Net Profit (Loss)	\$0.00	\$0.00
T4T2015	Trek for Timor	
Income		
Retained Earnings Carried Fwd	\$2,694.04	\$2,694.04
Donations T4T	\$64,268.00	\$64,268.00
Interest Income	\$303.75	\$303.75
Total Income	\$67,265.79	\$67,265.79
Expense		
Advertising & Promotions	\$350.00	\$350.00
Bank Fees & Charges	\$1,157.68	\$1,157.68
Donations	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Fees & Permits	\$685.09	\$685.09
Miscellaneous	\$489.99	\$489.99
Postage, Freight & Couriers	\$500.00	\$500.00
Printing & Stationery	\$600.00	\$600.00
Funds Transferred to APHEDA	\$53,927.24	\$53,927.24
Total Expense	\$58,710.00	\$58,710.00
Other Expense		
Surplus Funds Carried Forward	\$8,555.79	\$8,555.79
Total Other Expense	\$8,555.79	\$8,555.79
Net Profit (Loss)	\$0.00	\$0.00

MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK INC. ABN 98 181 256 988

Statement by Members of the Committee

For the year ended 30 June 2015

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 2015 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:



Ian Hanslow
President



Mick Barrett
Treasurer

Signed this^{15th}.....day of September 2015

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 2015.

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.

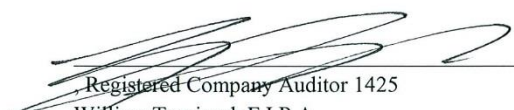
Opinion

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 2015 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 20 August, 2015:


Registered Company Auditor 1425
William Tomiczek F.I.P.A.
66 Emu Plains Rd Mt Riverview 2774



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