

**The Hut**
Community Centre

ANNUAL REPORT

2024

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Caz Peter Rob Else Bernadette Ross Su Bron Jo Cally Jenny Mark Deb Janet Doris Raelene John David Denny Christine Izzy Paul Sally Frank Ivonne Maxine Dani Jim Ross Raelene Linda Jan Kim Peter
Marilyn Len Greg Laurie Arthur Jane Stephen John Adrian Tony Inez Janet Zoe Sharon Bruce Sally Jim Bernice Silvana Trevor Peter Rob Gary Geoff Carolyn Anne Terri Sue Gayndi Gwen
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Chris
Genny
Patti
Jürgen
Pauline
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Barbara
Boyde
Deborah
Pauline
Trevor
Rogier
Lucy
Chris
Fran

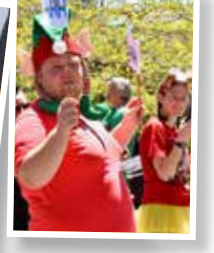


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The Board

Dr David Rawnsley
Chair



Prof. Deborah
Turnbull
Deputy Chair



Gregory Bussell
Treasurer



Jenni Bottroff
CPA



Pamela Patane



Dr Sarah Moulds



Geoff Keynes



Ann Croser



Dr Tony Rogers



Strategic Plan

VISION:

To support and positively influence a thriving, connected and inclusive Adelaide Hills community

MISSION:

As a safe and welcoming community centre, we invest in opportunities that enrich the lives of our diverse community and support people to engage, connect and grow

Community is Engaged and Connected

GOAL 1: Community engage in activities that enhance growth, development and well-being

1. Community access support and opportunities that reduce the impact of disadvantage, social isolation and loneliness.
2. Community participate in activities and volunteering opportunities that promote growth and well-being.
3. Community feel supported to be able to prepare for, and respond to, natural disasters.
4. Community members have strong connections to their community through education, volunteering and engagement activities.
5. Our community's knowledge of, & connectedness to environmental sustainability, local culture and history is enhanced.

Our People are Supported and Valued

GOAL 2: Community feel valued & supported to contribute to the Adelaide Hills Community

1. Our volunteers & staff engage in meaningful and fulfilling opportunities that further develop their confidence, skills & abilities.
2. Community contributions are acknowledged & celebrated.
3. Community and cultural diversity is embraced & reflected in our programs & activities.
4. We provide a culture and environment that promotes positive mental health and wellbeing.
5. Our programs, services and activities are accessible, relevant and inclusive to a diverse community.
6. We provide opportunities for community to build resilience through participation.

We are Responsive to Need

GOAL 3: Community has the capacity & support to enable effective local responses to current & emerging needs

1. Our resources are equitably distributed to provide assistance and support where there is an identified need.
2. Our resources, reach and collective impact are maximised through collaboration with others.
3. Our work with community is informed through identifying and monitoring current and emerging needs and trends.
4. Diversity is acknowledged and valued through being culturally aware and inclusive.
5. We are flexible in our responses to community events and individual needs; assisting within the parameters of our resources and skills.
6. Education, skills development & training are provided to support personal development & employment pathways.

Our Organisation is Sustainable and Resilient

GOAL 4: Our values, strong leadership and governance support our Vision, Mission and community impact

1. Our facilities and programs are welcoming, relevant, responsive and inclusive.
2. Our programs and services are appropriately resourced to meet identified needs.
3. We have sufficient financial reserves to maintain our community impact and future commitments.
4. We actively promote The Hut to raise awareness of our role and impact in the community.
5. We are environmentally responsible with efficient systems, processes and practices.



From the Chair

“

It is again my pleasure to submit this report on the work of The Hut Board over the year.

Members of the Board meet regularly on a monthly basis as a full board, and also as subcommittees on other occasions. Our focus is to support and enable the work of staff and volunteers to develop initiatives in line with the organisation's Strategic Plan. We look to build a sustainable and safe workplace; to build a strong respectful community.

The Board is very conscious of the work of the many volunteers who give their time and skills to support and grow The Hut activities. For some people there is an occasion to shine in the spotlight, but for many volunteers there is ongoing work, often in the background, creating and building resources, connections, and programs.

In the Book Sheds, the books need cleaning, sorting and selling. On the shopping and bus outings, people need support and to be driven. In the community centre reception, customers need a smiling face to greet them. In the pantry, food and donations need to be managed and distributed. In the community shed, machinery needs to be looked after and used safely. In the gardens, plants need constant care.

The danger of an example list is that some people are left out and I am conscious that there are many other avenues of contribution made by volunteers. I hope that the friendships, sense of purpose and sense of community which you feel as a volunteer contribute to your well being and that you feel appreciated and supported.

The two large projects for this year have been the Loneliness project for women in conjunction with the University of SA and, more recently, the Loneliness project for men. Each of these projects has been supported with external grants but has required a lot of time from staff to enable them to work. These are exciting projects and are described in more detail elsewhere in this Annual Report. The Board acknowledges the ongoing initiatives, vision, and support of staff in enabling these projects to be successful. It is also pleasing to note that the expertise and commitment of staff has been recognised more broadly beyond the confines of The Hut community.

The Board has examined the use of the Aldgate Valley Community Hall several times in recent years, including hosting Board meetings at the hall. The Hall was donated to The Hut in 2010 by The Aldgate Valley Recreation Grounds Inc. and has served as a meeting place for a variety of activities. However, more recently the property has ended up costing us financially and the Board made the difficult decision this year to sell the hall, due to costs of upkeep and the difficulties associated with its use. In accordance with the Trust Deed, the proceeds from the sale have been shared with the Aldgate Church of Christ, the Heathfield High School Chaplaincy program, and the Aldgate Valley Landcare Group. We very much appreciate the thoughtfulness and foresight of the donors, and the legacy of their donation will continue to support The Hut.



DAVID RAWNSLEY

We also recognise and value the support given by our local donors and sponsors, and we recently hosted a 'Thank you' evening for local businesses to show our appreciation. Our concern for the future remains though, particularly in relation to the decreasing sources of grants and revenue. While the boost to reserves from the sale outlined above is very much appreciated, we ended the last financial year with a deficit and are facing another one this year. The Stirling and Woodside Book Sheds are our biggest source of self-generated revenue and the Board is looking for beneficial ways to diversify our income streams.

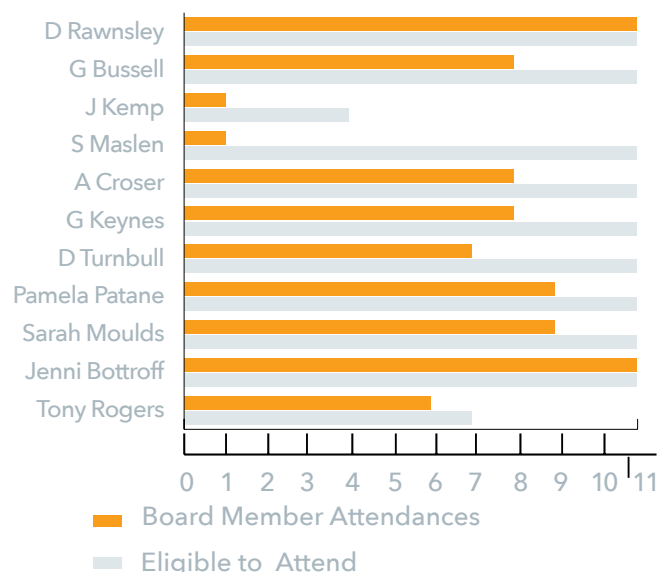
The Hut Board is losing two of its Board Members this year. Sharon Maslen resigned in June due to work commitments which made it increasingly difficult for her to attend meetings. Sharon's contributions will be missed. She brought her Human Resources knowledge and skills to meetings, and was an active member of the subcommittee which looked at viable income-producing schemes, which ultimately established the Woodside Book Shed.

Geoff Keynes is also finishing his term this year. He has contributed regularly to Board discussions, sharing his experience and knowledge, and has been a member of the Finance and Audit committee. However, he remains involved as an active Hut volunteer and member of the Community Shed. We will miss his insights and contributions at Board meetings.

I would like to thank our Executive Officer, Deb Bates, for her constant support of the Board, for her regular preparation of reports and papers for discussion, and for taking our discussions and turning them into actions. Finally, I would also like to acknowledge all Hut staff. You work so carefully and thoughtfully behind the scenes to manage the various programs and activities, to keep the Strategic Plan on track.

”

BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE



From the Executive Officer

We have been so incredibly busy that the year has just flown by and, as always when we're busy, we have little time to pause. Reflecting on what we've achieved across the span of the year has been incredibly rewarding.

Our Annual Report is a showcase of what we have focused on throughout the year, however, as a vibrant and busy centre, we have needed to be selective as to what to draw attention to in this report. There are many programs and activities that we haven't highlighted as we just don't have the space, for example, our ongoing and self-funding community health & fitness programs. Those programs with excellent and often increasing attendance thanks to our volunteer facilitators, that keep going with little or no fanfare. These programs, including *Strength & Balance*, *Men's Moves* and *Walking Groups*, are of such valuable service to this community and couldn't operate without the dedication and commitment of our volunteers who set up, pack down, gather attendances and keep everyone motivated. I thank you all.

As mentioned in last year's report, our funding through the Department of Human Services (DHS) has reduced for both the *Financial Wellbeing* (Emergency Assistance) program and general centre support and I am working with the Board and team to look for other avenues to increase our revenue. I thank DHS for their ongoing support of community centres and, of The Hut, and we appreciate the financial assistance we receive from them. This funding, along with the support we receive from the Adelaide Hills Council, is necessary for us to continue to provide the programs, services and volunteering opportunities that we currently do, with the reach that we have.

There are some exciting initiatives in the planning stages so keep in touch to hear about these.

To aid us in becoming less reliant on traditional funding streams, we launched the Donate button on our website earlier this year and, although we didn't have a huge number of people donating, those who did were very generous and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you. Your donations are very much appreciated and will go a long way in helping to keep our programs and services in action (don't forget you can still donate through our website www.thehut.org.au).

We have spent some time reflecting on our systems and practices to support the objectives of our Strategic Plan, and where possible, reduce our carbon footprint. Some of this has been quite difficult, working in an old stone building in a particularly cold part of the state has meant that heaters have been going throughout this very cold winter, but we are at least now, more aware. We have been more successful in reducing our printing and photocopying and we have increased our knowledge and practices around sustainable living and recycling.

The Loneliness Project, our collaboration with the Uni of South Australia, has gained traction, with interest from individual community members, groups, businesses and government. The partnership with Uni SA as the research partners, has been extremely successful and Hayley who previously in the Financial Wellbeing role easily stepping into this project as Coordinator. As a part of the project, we have undertaken a co-planning exercise with women aged 45-60 and developed a range of initiatives to help raise awareness of loneliness, reduce stigma surrounding loneliness and find new ways people can easily interact with other people in their community. You can read more about both the women's and men's projects on page 14.



DEB BATES

This year we farewelled Ari from the Community Connections Coordinator role and welcomed Cally, who fits in seamlessly into the team. Enabling growth and development within our community is important to us and we welcomed Izzy (previously Hut volunteer) to the team of paid staff as Pantry Officer. I would also like to recognise Courtney, our Programs Officer, who has challenged herself to work in more of a community development capacity, Ivonne who is keeping us informed and organised with our finances and Jo, who provides amazing support for management and for me in particular, thank you. Of course, I can't finish without extending my thanks and admiration to Bernadette for everything that she does with staff, volunteers, events, programs and partnerships (and everything else she does that would be too exhaustive to list).

I have been working closely with the Board on all matters strategy and governance, including implementing the new Respect in the Workplace legislation that came into effect this year. The Board oversees governance, finances and setting the strategic direction of The Hut as well as tracking that we are working towards the goals of the plan. Our Board is a group of highly skilled individuals has made some tough decisions this year including the sale of Aldgate Valley Hall, and I commend them for their commitment to their challenging role.

I'd also like, in particular, to acknowledge Board member, David Rawsley. As the Board Chair, David has, with strong leadership and compassion, steered the Board in a positive direction and helped to develop it into a cohesive and innovative group, encouraging people to voice ideas that sit 'out of the square'.

On behalf of the Board and team here at The Hut, I am pleased to present the 2023/24 Annual Report!



Community Development Manager

This year has marked a period of significant growth for our community programs. We've worked to develop new community initiatives while seeing an increased growth in numbers within our ongoing programs.

A special thanks goes out to our Community Development team, whose dedication and hard work have been instrumental in achieving these milestones and driving positive impact within the community.

Some of the highlights are below:

Outdoor Sensory Playgroup: We were thrilled to celebrate the first year of our Outdoor Sensory Playgroup! This initiative has become a hub for both children and adults to connect and build lasting relationships. Three families, who moved to the area within the last 12 months, have formed regular catchups with others they've met at the playgroup, easing their transition into the community.

The playgroup has truly become a space where not just the children, but the adults too, are building strong friendships and a sense of belonging.

Around 50% of participants are grandparents caring for their grandchildren 2-3 days a week. The positive impact on both generations is heartening.

Spark: The Collaboration with Uni SA has enabled us to work with the community through a co-design process to address Loneliness in Women aged 40 - 65+. Some great initiatives have come from this and we are excited to develop these in the coming year.

The Stirling Christmas Pageant: we celebrated the 30th year of the Stirling Community Christmas Pageant, an event the Hills community has grown to love.

Supporting Stronger Communities: Funding Support from Neighbourhood Community Houses & Centres. This grant has supported The Hut Community Centre to deliver three new initiatives for people in the Adelaide Hills experiencing poverty and disadvantage. *Nutrition Education Skills Training, Cooking with Caz, and Lunch at The Hut.*

Wrap With Love: The Hut became the SA branch of *Wrap with Love* this year, with volunteers knitting wraps for a cause. Under the direction of Else Jansen the group has developed strong connections and along with other SA knitters has sent 592 wraps overseas and to local groups for distribution this year.

Food Pantry: This year, we faced a reduction in funding for our food pantry. However, through the dedicated efforts of the pantry team, we have successfully built strong connections with local businesses, schools, and community groups.

These partnerships have been instrumental in ensuring that the pantry is sufficiently resourced to continue providing vital food support to those in need. We are grateful for the community's support and collaboration, which enables us to maintain this essential service.



BERNADETTE READING

REPORT 2024

We conducted a comprehensive survey to assess the impact of our volunteer program on both our participants and volunteers. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive with 83% of volunteers reported feeling more connected to others as a direct result of their volunteering experience.

At the heart of our program is the belief in building an inclusive, diverse, and supportive environment for our volunteers. These results affirm that our efforts are helping volunteers feel valued and deeply integrated into the community.

This year, we extended our outreach efforts through various events aimed at fostering community connections and raising awareness about our programs:

Pop-up Event in Stirling: We hosted a pop-up event in Stirling, where we had meaningful conversations with passersby about The Hut and the broader needs of the community. It was a valuable day, full of engagement and positive interactions, helping us gain deeper insight into community needs while raising awareness of our services.

National Volunteer Week Open Day: Following the success of the pop-up event, we celebrated National Volunteer Week with an Open Day at our centre. This event gave us the opportunity to showcase our work, thank our volunteers, and engage with new community members. It was a day filled with celebration, collaboration, and learning.

We have a range of ongoing programs that owe much of their success to the commitment of our dedicated volunteers. These facilitators create an environment where people feel welcomed, safe and know they are part of a team. Social engagement forms a very important part of being involved in these programs.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all our supporters, volunteers, partners, and community members who have contributed to or engaged with The Hut Community Centre's success.

As we move forward, we are committed to expanding our programs to emphasise environmental sustainability. We are thrilled to announce a new collaboration with the Hills Natural Resource Centre, which will enhance our efforts in this important area.

In addition, we will continue to offer ongoing workshops at the Repair Café, providing a diverse range of educational programs for the community. These initiatives will not only promote sustainable practices but also empower community members to engage in meaningful actions for a healthier environment.



Our Staff

31 Years

John Dowe

15+ Years

Anita Aspinall

Shirley Bennett

Joy Buckley

Barbara Davies

Bill Deed

Eve Evans

Claire Hayes

Paul Howe

Carol McAteer

Gordon McLean

Lori Nielsen

Gill Osborne

Trevor Peak

Judith Remes

Sandra Rolfe

Loraine Scheide

Ted Setnikar

Tina Stoeger

Dianne Thompson

Geoff Welch

Fay Wigney

Martin Woods

20+ Years

John Goslett

Kay Harlow

Deane Kowald

Roy Spark

Derek Stott

Sandra Veitch

John Warren

Marie Weatherald

10+ Years

Chris Astley

Elizabeth Astley

Maureen Atkinson

Anne Austin

Barbara Barenfanger

Jane Bleby

Rob Burgess

Greg Bussell

Mark Caldicott

Terri Dawson

Robyn Gabbett-

Mulhallen

Sue Hardy

Gaynor Harris

John Kemp

Carolyn Lamerichs

Laurie Manna

Arthur McPhail

Gerry Meek

Gwen Miller

Marilyn Moloney

Anne O'Brien

Chris Patten

Di Percy

Helen Pierce

Patti Rasch

Len Rolfe

Jurgen Sawon

Clare Tomkins

Deborah Turnbull

Jane Van Mierle

Stephen Williams

Paid Staff

OPERATIONS

Name	Role	Days/wk
Deborah Bates	Executive	5
Ivonne Allen	Finance	3.5
Jo Jarvis	Office/Admin	2
Dani Groening	Cleaning	
Marie Weatherald	Cleaning	



Ivonne



Jo

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT / PROGRAMS



Isobel (Izzy)



Cally



Courtney



Hayley

Name	Role	Days/Wk
Bernadette Reading	Community Development Manager	5
Courtney Dean	Community Programs Officer	2
Hayley Everuss	Financial Wellbeing Coordinator (July-Jan)	2
Isobel Rogers	Financial Wellbeing Officer (Feb-June)	1
Ari Reid	Community Connections Coordinator (July-March)	3
Cally Tierney	Community Connections Coordinator (April-June)	3
Hayley Everuss	Loneliness Project Coordinator (Feb-June)	3

HOURLY PAID INSTRUCTORS / TUTORS

Janet Leitch	Music Makers	Shannon Barton	Bounce
Jo Jarvis	Mosaic	Josephine Jinnette	Fun & Fitness
Leigh Newton	Music Makers (relief)	Tony Herve	Community Learning
Sandra Veitch	Finance (relief)		(Horticulture)

Volunteers

5+ Years

Sue Crees

Trevor Curnow

Peter Davey

Brian Dawson

Adrian Dormer

Pauline Ellis

Maxine Fischer

Mark Furness

Leo Hazebroek

Tony Hooper

Jim Howe

Denny Hunter

Peter Jackson

Inez Johnson

Doris Johnston

Ross Kealley

Geoffrey Keynes

Lyn Leader-Elliott

Raelene Lobban

Zoe Long

Linda Marshall

Sharon Maslen

Mary Minagall

Bruce Nankivell

Andrea Nesbitt

Sylvia Pembroke

Sally Pope

Janice Roberts

Thomas Shillabeer

Michelle Tamblyn

Tom Tamblyn

Rob Tanner

Fergus Veitch

Jan Walker

Lis Wallace

Jim Waterhouse

Christine Whiting

Kim Yap

<5 Years

Carolyn Brennan

Libby Brookman

Melanie Bullers

Carol Burns

Fiona Byrnes

Maria Canala

Jan Catts

Andrew Channing

Cula Christodoulous

Patrick Clarke

Debbie Clements

Kaye Coat

Claire Coldrey

Peter Coldrey

Pam Colliver

Pauline Conlay

John Cooke

Barbara Cox

Ann Croser

Nadine Davidson

Kyle Delahunty-King

Jill Dunn

Andrea Earl

Roger Ellinger

Lucy Farrow

David Gabbett-Mulhallen

Boyd Goldsworthy

Chris Goring

Frank Gramazio

Fran Grant

Susan Greenwood

Gail Hampson

Tom Hancock

Erin Harrison Bray

Frank Healy

Liz Heathfield

Janet Hemsley

Marisa Jackman

Else Jansen

Julie Jennings

Peter Kay

Ann Kellett

Sue King

Cynthia Kradolfer

Priscilla Loughhead

Soo LuBow

Peter Mason

Bronya McGovern

Jacqui McLean

Bron McNab

Mark Minchin

Heidi Molloy

Dean Morgan

Sarah Moulds

Sally Murn

Peter Murphy

Julie Murphy

Cheryl Oliver

Johan Overbeeke

Pamela Patane

Lachlan Peter

Nick Pincombe

Pebli Plunkett

Kay Pocock

Sue Polden

Margaret Price

Monique Rammers

Mark Randell

Jane Rawnsley

David Rawnsley

Jake Reedman

Mark Richardson

Izzy Rogers

Tony Rogers

Wendy Rutter

Deborah Rutyna

Andrew Sands

Jenny Semczuk

Julie Smith

Leon Stacey

Malcolm Stratford

Margaret Strudwicke

Brad Sullivan

Ronnie Sullivan

Simone Summerton

Lee Tai

Stephen Tarr

Marianne Taylor

Jonathan Thurston

Gay Toome

Ingrid Tribe

Jenny Turnbull

Carol Uellendahl

Victoria Veitch

Blake Walden

John Williams

Cathy Williams

Willow Wuttke

Judy Zaccaria





Engaged & Connected

GOAL 1: Community engage in activities that enhance growth, development and well-being

Our ongoing/regular programs are able to be coordinated on a regular basis due to the amazing volunteers and community who work collaboratively, with The Hut's support to plan and facilitate them. The following programs largely occur on a weekly basis at The Hut or in other locations within the Adelaide Hills Council region, making them accessible and relevant.

A staggering

7,754

attendances were recorded at these programs



REGULAR ONGOING PROGRAMS (self-sustainable)

Healthy Living and Fitness

- Bounce (no longer active)
- Community Fun & Fitness
- Men's Moves
- Strength & Balance
- Walking groups
- Chi Kung
- Aldgate Valley Organic Food Co-op

Low Income and Support Services

- Community Lunch @ The Hut
- Community Shopping Bus (Seniors)
- Mystery Trips & Social Outings (Seniors)
- Emergency Financial Assistance
- No Interest Loans (NILS)
- Food Pantry
- Budget Support
- Community Connections
- Tax Help
- Companion Animal Program (Seniors)
- Transport to medical appointments

Interest and Social Groups

- Outdoor Playgroup
- Out & About
- Men's Mornings (social cuppa)
- Mosaics
- Homework Club
- Be Connected - 1 on 1 computing
- Music Makers
- Repair Café
- Community Shed
- Community Garden
- Sewing Group
- Creative Writing
- Wrap with Love

Adelaide Hills Connected Communities

We achieved success with a submission to Dept. Human Services (DHS) for a Community Neighbourhood Program (CND) grant to fund the Adelaide Hills Connected Communities following the loss of substantial funding at the end of 2022-23. This is a smaller grant than we had previously but still providing financial assistance to facilitate activities which enhance social connection by increasing participation and decision making, improving wellbeing and reducing loneliness.

This funding, received in partnership with the Adelaide Hills Council (The Summit/Torrens Valley Community Centres, concludes in June 2026, with two extensions of three years each. A transition grant was also secured to assist us to manage the loss of our initial grant funding.

CND funding assists with salary, operational costs and program delivery of our one-off workshops and activities, helping us to



keep any participation fees low.

Understanding the significance of building social connections over time, we have shifted our focus this year from one-off activities to ongoing programs with a social component. Our aim is for these programs to become self-sustaining and lasting.

Hut program attendees reported the positive impacts

SURVEY RESULTS

"I feel better connected to other people."

81%

No. of respondents

152

"I have gained new knowledge / skills."

74%

118

"I am better connected to services"

62%

104



We are required by DHS to collect data on the impact of our programs and services each year. Those participating in our programs are asked to complete a survey.



Community Connections Program

CCP supports people aged 18 to 64 years living in South Australia whose wellbeing is at risk because they are socially isolated and disconnected from support services.

The CCP's key objective is to support people to enhance their wellbeing by strengthening connections with communities, social networks, and services. The Program is ultimately designed to address social isolation and loneliness in the community and engage people who are at heightened risk. Social isolation and loneliness are considered critical health and wellbeing issues in Australia because of the adverse impacts they can have on a person's wellbeing.

Eighty-four new participants were supported through Community Connections in the Adelaide Hills region during the 2023-2024 period.

Community Connections Program (CCP) is a state wide initiative funded by the Department of Human Services and is in collaboration between The Hut and Mt Barker Community Centres (community partners) and Lutheran Care as the Regional partner for the Adelaide Hills region.

Highlights:

- In 2024 Men's Health week, 30 -35 local men attended a BBQ Breakfast we hosted.
The breakfast was also attended by staff of The Men's Table, Next Step Mental Health, the Murray Bridge Community Connections Regional Partner as well as our Programs' coordinator & volunteers. Relationships with The Men's Table and Next Steps Mental Health fostered at this event have sparked conversations that we hope will translate into exciting collaborations in the near future.
- In collaboration with Lutheran Care, the Community Connections team supported The Fold Cafe in Birdwood to begin to build a safe space where the community can connect and form stronger relationships. Our promotion and engagement will help build awareness of and participation in this supported community Cafe.
- We have identified a definite alignment between the CCP and the Loneliness Project objectives and are looking for ways we can support each other in our respective programs, both of which are designed to connect people in, and to, their communities. The cafe and social models are two that fit well with the goals of the CCP.

We will be continuing to work with, and build upon the work we've done this year to support community members and the successful delivery of the Community Connections Program.

Commonwealth Home Support Services

Social, Shopping & Support

The Commonwealth Home Support Program's aim is to provide support to community members over 65 who choose to stay in their own homes. The Hut coordinates two buses on behalf of the Adelaide Hills Council for both shopping and social outings. The program is supported by 28 Hut volunteers who have contributed almost 4,000 hours this year to provide assisted practical shopping trips and social activities.

Participants have developed a supportive bond with not only other bus users but also with the volunteers.

As an additional support through this program, Hut Volunteers schedule a visit to see clients for a cuppa and chat and then provide a dog walking service to keep clients' dogs happy and healthy. 86 walks with the happy pooches were undertaken through-out the year.

“The volunteers are lovely and caring.”
- Bus participant

“I love it - it's great to laugh together.”
- Bus participant



Shopping

Participants	Bus trips	Attendances
77	235	1,658

4 trips /week local shopping + 3 trips /month regional/city shopping venues.

Social Outings

Participants	Outings	Attendances
83	100	586

Outings to opshops, cafes, mystery drives, Central Market, SA Museum, Mannum and more!

“It's my lifeline. I'd be lost without you.”
- Bus participant



Engaged & Connected

The Stirling Christmas Pageant

This year marked the 30th anniversary of the Stirling Christmas Pageant, a beloved community event that has brought joy to thousands of children and families over the decades. Since 2012, The Hut Community Centre has proudly organised the pageant after APEX was no longer able to continue, ensuring the tradition lives on.

The event draws around 8,000 attendees each year, with a festive parade through Stirling's streets followed by an afternoon of entertainment and activities at Stirling Oval.

With more than 40 floats and the same amount of market stalls, live music, sideshow entertainment, petting zoo, and free kids activities, it was a day of fun and celebration.

To commemorate this special milestone, The Hut curated a display to highlight the pageant's rich history. Memorabilia, photos, and heartwarming stories from the past 30 years were showcased at the event and on display in the Stirling Library, celebrating the lasting joy this tradition has brought to the community.

A special thank you to David Evans, former Apex member who commenced the pageant alongside Apex colleagues, and has continued to be involved in all 30 pageants.



Sunset Sessions on the platform

Understanding the need for people to connect underpins the planning of the Sunset Sessions. We held four Sunset Sessions this year, in the warmer months so everyone can enjoy the beautiful sunset on the platform. Sunset Sessions are a destination for locals to have a low cost meal, be entertained by local musicians and enjoy the company of others in a safe, relaxed and informal setting. On average, Sunset Sessions each cater for 50-60 people and with entertainers that include the likes of David Booth on the Yidaki (didgeridoo), Lincoln Brady on the Spanish guitar and the danceable tunes of Gen 'n Tonix, the evenings are a big success.





Supported & Valued

GOAL 2: Community feel valued and contribute to the Adelaide Hills Community

Volunteering is an activity that provides people with a sense of worth, an opportunity to give back to the community and help reduce isolation while increasing social connection and community cohesion.

Volunteer Recognition



Bi-annual volunteer 'Thank you' breakfast on the platform



Recognising John Dowe for his 30 years of volunteer service.

We thank all of the volunteers who have contributed their time, with special thanks to the following volunteers who left us this year:

Anita Aspinall (30ish yrs)

Chris Patten (12yrs)

Clare Tomkins (11yrs)

They have all been significant Hut volunteers over the years, all making a valued contribution



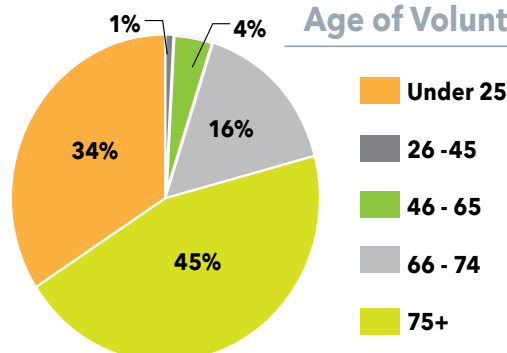
- 205 active volunteers (Av.)
- 8 volunteered for 20+ yrs
- John Dowe continues 30yrs+
- Welcoming 30 new volunteers
- 20 left the fold

Our volunteers contributed 27,063 hours with a staggering financial value of \$1,147,471

MALE 40%

FEMALE 60%

Age of Volunteers



VOLUNTEER SURVEY RESULTS

85 The Hut respondents

- 79%** Have an increased sense of purpose
- 83%** feel better connected
- 78%** have a stronger sense of belonging in the community
- 76%** feel more satisfied with their lives
- 62%** have gained new knowledge or skills
- 15%** are also unpaid carers
- 29%** who were seeking work gained new employment this year
- 25%** Completed some structured training



Volunteer Roles	Recorded Hours
Admin/reception	4,532
Maintenance	200
1:1 computing	78
Programs/Activities	3,653
Book Shed	9,992
Financial Wellbeing	2,356
Community Shed	611
Community Bus	3,968
Training/Meetings	756
Other	609
Organic Food Co-op	308
Total	27,063

Supported & Valued

Volunteer Roles

GOVERNANCE & COMMITTEES



Board Members, Policy & Procedure management, WHS committee, Finance committee, Book Shed committee, Pageant committee

ADMINISTRATION

General, Reception, Program data entry, WHS, Information Technology support, Finance

FUNDRAISING



Book Shed volunteers



Christmas Pageant & event volunteers



BBQ volunteers

- Maintenance,
- WHS Auditor,
- Building development

PROGRAMS

- Community Bus carers & drivers,
- Bus admin
- Low Income Support Admin
- NILS Interviewers
- Food Pantry helpers
- 1:1 computing
- Personal Transport drivers
- Community gardeners
- Catering - Community Lunch & events
- Shed Supervisors
- Homework Club tutors
- Outdoor Playgroup coordinator
- Chi Kung

VENUES

- Walking Group coordinators
- Out & About coordinator
- Aldgate Valley Food Co-op committee
- Men's Moves coordinator
- Strength & Balance instructors
- Dog Walkers
- Repair Cafe- repairers and coordinator
- one-off workshop facilitators

Skills Development

Various staff (employees and volunteers) have attended the following skills development workshops and training to supplement their on-the-job, ongoing training and support:



- Community Centres of SA conference
- Foundation LGBTQIA+ awareness training
- Disability Inclusion for events
- E-safety online training
- Senior First Aid
- Theory of Change
- Social Connection literacy 101
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) 101: Empowering NFPs for the digital era / AI opportunities, risks and benefits for NFP's / AI for social impact
- Autism awareness
- Suicide Awareness and Mental Health
- First Aid
- Food Safety Certificate
- Strategic Mindsets
- Legal Insights: Governance Standards
- Roadmap for Charities
- Heatwave and Bushfire Preparedness for the Health & Community Services sector
- Cultural Competence Masterclass / Managing cultural diversity in the workplace
- Protecting your 365 tenant from cyber security threats
- Governance Standards
- AUSLAN
- The Art of Risk Taking



Pravin



Joanna

Student Placement

This year we were fortunate to welcome, and support two social work students, Pravin and Joanna. The students brought their own unique personality and slant to the placement and we thank them for fully immersing themselves into The Hut's daily life. Both easily passed their placement to a high standard.

Supporting Community to Share Expertise and Skills

Many of our ongoing/regular programs started as one-off activities and have progressed as we have identified a need. It has allowed us to support local community members to share their skills, knowledge and time with others through facilitation of these programs. Chi Kung, Creative Writing, Welcome Dinners, Gardening courses, Ageing well - 'Lets have a Conversation' Series, Paint 'n' Sip, Dungeons and Dragons and Cooking with Caz/Deliciously Thrifty are all programs that have progressed from one off to regular/ongoing activities through community members being motivated and supported to share their expertise. We are also able to gather evidence that the program meets a need, enabling us to apply for grants to fund the program moving forward if needed.



One-Off Workshops / Activities

Organising one-off workshops enables us to meet the needs of local community while providing opportunities for people to come together and connect. We had 774 attendances at one-off workshops/activities this year and 51 participants attended our multiple week courses. Activities this year have been:

FOR ADULTS

Weaving workshop
Eco Friendly Christmas Craft
Table Tennis - come and try
Introduction to Macrame
Paint & Sip
Terrarium & Tonic
Pressed Flower workshop
Acrylic Pouring Workshop
Macrame workshop
Make friends with your sewing machine workshop

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Let's make a Terrarium
Book Week Parade for Homeschooling families
Youth Week Silent Disco
Art Classes with Zinia King
Circus Skills for Kids
Whiteboard Animation
Lego Animation
Claymation
Dungeons & Dragons



Responsive to Need

GOAL 3: Community has the capacity & support to enable effective local responses to current & emerging needs

Financial Wellbeing Program

A restructure of the Dept. of Human Services funded Financial Wellbeing program meant that we lost the Adelaide Hills funding for emergency financial relief. This had previously enabled us to provide food and fuel vouchers and assist families on low incomes in times of stressful situations. We received six months of transitional funding to establish pathways for client referrals to the new system.

In response to the drop in funding and, in true Adelaide Hills community style, we received a strong response from our call out for donations which has meant that we have been able to keep the food pantry well stocked and available for those who are continuing to struggle with the cost of living. Although not currently providing emergency financial assistance for those unexpected things that can break the budget, we aim to partner with agencies in the coming year to bring back this important and much-needed service.

Oz-harvest, Foodbank and our local Coles, Aldi, Bakers Delight, Crafers Bakehouse, egg farmers and the generous deliveries from locals who have groceries to donate or excess fruit and

“The pantry really makes my day..., it gives me some hope that the extra stress of food might be sorted sooner rather than later.”

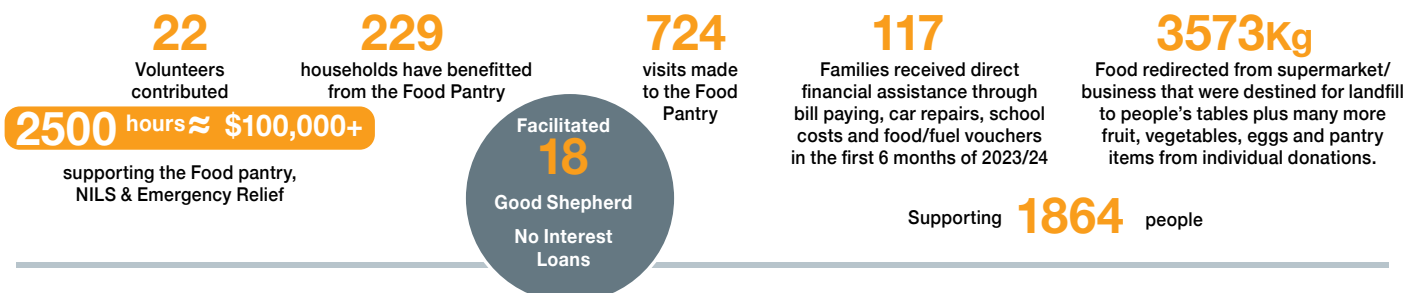


vegetables grown in their back yards, help us to supply fresh and healthy food staples. 2024 has also presented the opportunity to partner with Fruit Share Adelaide, a new organisation that picks unwanted fruit off local trees and offers them to community centres. Crafers bakehouse, newly opened in 2024, has donated their extra baked goods from the previous day and Boxes of Love, a period-product organisation donates women's hygiene products.

“I really appreciate it. The food has really got our family through the last month and continues to each time.”

Our thanks go to the Stirling Community Shop who provided a small, but beneficial clothing outlet at our pantry open days supplying many useful items, such as clothing, bedding, towels, kitchen goods and toys.

Financial Wellbeing Programs' outcomes:



Lunch @ The Hut

Our monthly Lunch @ The Hut continues to be an excellent way of providing homecooked meals while encouraging and supporting people to come together to make new connections. It also allows diners to find out about supports and activities at The Hut and in community. Doris, Helen and Raelene (Hut volunteers) utilise food in season to cook a two-course meal for community members to share. This year we served 333 meals during the lunch, with additional meals distributed to people connected to our centre who are sleeping rough.

“It's been great food, and the cooks are so lovely and compassionate to us all. Been (sic) on my own, it helps me get my veg, meat and also gives me time with others rather than being alone at home. We are all like family here and always look forward to the next month”

- Lunch at the Hut recipient



The Loneliness Project and finding Spark

The World Health Organisation has declared loneliness and social isolation as a global health pandemic. Studies have compared the impact of chronic loneliness to smoking 15 cigarettes a day, and found it has the same negative health impacts as obesity and brings an increased risk of depression and cognitive decline. This year, with funding provided by the Women's Health Research



and Translation & Impact Network, we undertook an innovative collaboration with the University of South Australia to address loneliness and social isolation for women aged 40-65+ through a co-design and co-facilitation project.

Co-design workshops using design thinking methods to create innovations that fit the needs of each local community. households have benefitted from the Food Pantry

Podcast series
Creating awareness and de-stigmatising
Created by The Loneliness

A social tribe who explores common interests, share fun experiences, and spark connection through doing activities together.

Spark Co-design
Innovation through community

Spark Social
Social interest group

Sparkles

Local champions of connectedness with an important role across all the initiatives: enabling social connections to thrive

Spark Self Connection
Personal development program

Spark Conversation
Community cafe

An 8-week personal development program to enhance and nurture positive relationships within yourself and build connection with others

Friendly and welcoming cafes held at various venues across the Adelaide Hills which spark conversation and friendship

1 in 3 Australians report that they feel lonely

Thanks to the generosity of more than 100 local women and their sharing of ideas and perspectives through surveys, interviews and workshops, a suite of new initiatives are now in the process of being developed under the new name of Spark.

A grant from the Department of Health enables us to replicate this project with men next financial year.

New Programs



Outdoor Playgroup

Our outdoor playgroup was initially started from a discussion about the need for a sensory playgroup catering for children who are on the Autism spectrum. We engaged an Autism specialist to assist with designing the playgroup, engaged Red Cacao as program sponsors and ran a few sessions. We now have up to ten children and their parents attending weekly and 188 attendances over the year, with many of the children not on the spectrum but who enjoy high sensory activities and a chance to interact with both structured and unstructured play. Our thanks go to our volunteer facilitator Ann, an ex-teacher who coordinates the playgroup sessions, plans activities and creates a relaxed and safe environment for the kids and parents. A testament of the relationships formed by the parents was the desire to continue sessions while Ann was away for several weeks. The parents arranged playgroup at one parent's home so the children and parents could still meet.



Wrap with Love

The Hut agreed to auspice the SA chapter of Wrap with Love in November 2023. Under the enthusiastic organisation of volunteer Else, a rapidly expanding group of women have been forming friendships while knitting brightly coloured squares. Squares are then sewn together as blankets (wraps) to be distributed, through partner agencies to people in need, both local, interstate and overseas. To date, 298 wraps consisting of 8,344 squares have been knitted across South Australia, ready for distribution both within Australia and overseas.

Responsive to Need

Growth & Personal Development

Thanks to a grant received from the Australian Neighbourhood & Community Houses Association we have been able to offer two growth and personal development programs and a series of nutrition and sustainable cooking sessions this year, all with qualified facilitators.

The Nutrition Education Skills Training (NEST) is a

6-week nutrition and cooking on a budget program facilitated through Oz Harvest. Eleven participants worked through practical and theoretical sessions with a focus on behaviours that promote using low cost, seasonal and nutritious food, and challenging and changing entrenched behaviours along the way for positive outcomes.

Following on from NEST, the group were then invited to continue their learning, practical skills development and relationship building through our Deliciously Thrifty Cooking Classes. Six participants regularly attend these sessions.



“

I have been able to help my wife prepare food for our meals. It eases her load and it's nice to cook it together.

”

Dare to Dream A free eight week guided course facilitated by an experienced counsellor who led participants through discussions and activities to navigate a range of common personal growth topics.

Getting Older, Let's Talk About it

An eight week conversational program that provided an opportunity for participants to share and learn from others about what it takes to successfully grow older with meaning, purpose and passion.

Evaluation showed very positive outcomes for participants.

Saving Costs and Helping the Environment

This year, we have also had an increased awareness of environmental and cost saving measures. As the cost-of-living pandemic increases and reaches into every part of our lives it is becoming more important to maximise our resources and reduce waste.

Sustainable Food Production

We have continued to deliver our gardening courses, with a focus on food production, including pruning fruit trees, designing vegetable garden beds and sustainable gardening techniques. Combined classroom style learning, hands-on experiences and excursions interspersed with a tonne of laughter led by facilitator Tony Herve have made these courses extremely popular. With 54 attendees, over 1,000 hours of garden education was delivered to the community.



The Repair Café

- **Repaired 203 items**
- **Spent 243 hours repairing items**
- **Saved 610kg of hard material going to landfill**

10 volunteers:

Under the direction of environmental advocate (and volunteer) Bron, our Repair Café is increasing its reach and having an impact on reducing landfill and saving people money through repairing every day household items rather than succumb to the throw away mindset that it is easy to get drawn into.





Sustainable and Resilient

GOAL 4: Our values, strong leadership and governance support our Vision, Mission and community impact

Our values, strong leadership and governance support our Vision, Mission, and community impact.

Having strong governance has meant that we have been remarkably successful in attracting, recruiting, and keeping highly skilled Board members. The Board seconded Jenni Bottroff CPA in July 2023 following a Board Skills Audit that identified financial qualifications as a gap.



We farewelled John Kemp from the Board after 9 years, the first three being appointed as an Adelaide Hills Council representative and then voted onto the Board by Hut members in his own right in 2017. Sharon Maslen also left the Board, resigning in June 2024 due to competing time pressures. Our thanks go to John and Sharon for their commitment, insight and support they have given The Hut through their time on the Board.

With two vacancies at the 2023 AGM, Hut members elected Dr Anthony (Tony) Rogers to the Board, and ratified Jenni Bottroff's position, with both commencing their first three-year term.

The Board's role is governance oversight and strategic direction. The Board's key decisions this year that support the implementation of the Strategic Plan have included:

- Support of the Uluru Statement from the Heart.
- The sale of the Aldgate Valley community hall and land (Nation Ridge Road). The Board made the decision to sell in August 2023 due to the deterioration of the hall and escalating costs leading to this property becoming financially unviable. The Hut received 40% of the sale, with the other 60% distributed to three other local organisations/ groups to support community work in the area as requested by the Nation family descendants.
- Endorsement of the Uni SA partnership on The Loneliness Project; a co-design research project, funded by the WHTIN with The Hut being a community partner and demonstration site.
- Arranging a new Sub-Lease in the Woodside Cottage, assisting with costs for the site of the Woodside Book Shed.

Dean and David (previous hall trustees) with Board members Deb and David at Aldgate Valley Hall.



- Investigate a 'Friends of The Hut' program. Initial discussions were held with business supporters at a Thankyou event held in April 2024 to gauge thoughts on what this could look like.
- Agreement to continue to fund, from our operational budget, a Food Pantry Officer to coordinate food donations, volunteer management and funding applications.



Fundraising Events

Fundraising can be quite time consuming but is important because it supplements our income. We thank our fundraising volunteers who we heavily rely on to assist with the selling of raffle tickets, cooking and selling sausages which raise important funds. We also appreciate the support from community members who attend our quiz nights and who have bought items through auctions and plant sales. This year we held two quiz nights and silent auctions, numerous community BBQs, pot plant and woodwork stalls at markets, a Christmas pageant stall & amusements and conducted two raffles. In total, we raised almost \$21,000 from these activities.



Our Supporters

Many thanks to our business supporters listed below as well as the individual donors who wish to remain anonymous.



Represented at the inaugural Business Supporters Thank You event were Rotary, Thomas Gas, Red Cacao and Josh Teague MP.

Pantry Donations (Food & Produce)

- Coles (Bridgewater)
- Bakers Delight (Stirling)
- Crafers Bakery
- Fruit Share (Adelaide)
- Shoe Boxes of Love
- Oz Harvest
- Aldi (Stirling)
- The Organic Market
- Foodbank
- ARC Companion Animal Rescue Program

Promotions

We have been strategic in our intent to increase our reach and promote the work we do in community. This helps to ensure we remain relevant, and our programs and activities are well attended. Promotion of our activities helps with engaging new volunteers and business partners and increases donations and funding. We have had eight articles written in the Courier, and three relating to the Loneliness Project in ABC print, radio and tv. The Rosemary Bryant Research Centre Annual Report featured the Loneliness Project partnership with Uni SA.

A Pop-Up stall, highlighting our programs was held in Stirling in May, (thanks to The 5 C's for donating our new marquee). We held wonderful conversations with people who were not fully aware of the variety of activities available at The Hut. e.g. A casual conversation at the stall has led to two young women registering for our mosaics sessions and feeling more connected.

Our Facebook page is continuing to connect with more community members: 19% reach increase; 3,618 followers; 14,300 visits to our page. Instagram employed in April 2024 with 40 followers and a reach of 51,200 people.



Music & Coffee in the Garden

The garden continues to be a hive of activity every Tuesday. The Hut and AHH Lifeskills join forces each week to bring joy to our food pantry members and AHH clients with Rob (AHH) serenading us with his voice and guitar, his participants providing coffees from their

enterprise van and our volunteers setting out the donated fresh produce. The morning is constructed to encourage social interaction between groups and has resulted in several people becoming friends and connecting up outside of these sessions.

Program Grants/Sponsorships

- Department of Human Services (SA Govt)
- Adelaide Hills Council
- Australian Men's Shed Association
- Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association
- Office for Ageing, Dept for Health & Wellbeing (SA Govt)
- Women's Health Research, Translation & Impact Network
- Good Things Foundation
- Foundation SA
- Streetsmart
- Good Shepherd
- Towards Home (Winter Warmer grant)
- Dept. of Social Services (volunteer grant)
- Wyatt Benevolent Institution
- Red Cacao (sponsorship playgroup and space)

Event Sponsorships/Donations

- Harris Stirling (major sponsor of Stirling Christmas pageant)
- Stirling Community Shop
- Stirling Markets
- The 5 C's
- Stirling Hotel (Stirling Christmas Pageant)
- Croser Wines (Daosa/Brian Croser)
- Thomas Gas
- Stirling Business Association
- Adelaide Hills Nissan
- Coopers Mylor

Environmental Sustainability

This year we focussed on environmental sustainability

This has included:

- Providing new, well-labelled, colour-coordinated bins in the kitchen, drop-in and pantry areas to define landfill, green waste, and recyclables.
- Using correct bin liners for various bins.
- Defining and sorting timber that can be used as kindling and identifying timber offcuts that need to be disposed of via landfill due to chemical content.
- Capturing and recycling sawdust.
- Commitment to monitor and educate as required.
- Moving towards a paper-free environment by reducing printing and photocopying
- Turning off lights, heaters, fans, and fridges when not being used.

The ideas have been well received within our centre and programs and implemented in an efficient and committed way. Ongoing education and monitoring will ensure we keep the momentum going and moving closer to being environmentally responsible.

Our garden volunteers continue to plant seeds and tend to the seedlings in our raised veggie beds to be shared, when ready to harvest, with pantry clients and used in our budget & seasonal cooking classes and monthly lunch, with cos lettuces, spinach and beetroots being popular choices.



Sustainable and Resilient

Venue & Hall Management

Our ability to bring in revenue while delivering a streamlined service to community groups and other services who rent rooms, on both a regular and casual basis, helps our efforts with our financial sustainability. We are currently managing Aldgate Oval Hall, King Emery Cabin and Woorabinda for the Adelaide Hills Council which provides an additional income stream that helps us continue to provide our services as well as being a service to community.

Our maintenance volunteers and gardeners do an amazing job in maintaining buildings and grounds, performing regular maintenance and housekeeping audits and keeping weeds and grasses neat and tidy.



The
Stirling and
Woodside
Book Sheds
bring in a
combined
Net Income
of
\$174,000



Organisational Sustainability

The Book Sheds

The Stirling & Woodside Book Sheds continue to support the community as an outlet for recycling excellent quality books as well as being the enterprise arm of The Hut and raising valuable funds for our work in community.

Many Book Shed customers are regulars who enjoy browsing to see what is new and greeting familiar volunteers. There is also a steady flow of customers from outside the area who express appreciation for our impressive range of books.

“ My experience... working in the Book Shed has been, and still is, a most pleasant, rewarding and satisfying experience... A mighty big THANK YOU ALL for 20+ very satisfying years! ”

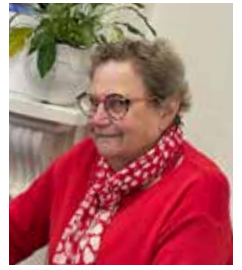
Our collectibles service has increased the overall income we receive from book sales,

Daily posts of mostly recent fiction on Instagram have built a dedicated customer base, and the low-priced children's books continue to attract families and encourage children to read books.

Both Stirling and Woodside Book Sheds are staffed by sixty-eight volunteers who have an immeasurable collective knowledge of all thing's books, authors, genres, and librarianship! Volunteers have contributed over 10,000 hours to keep the Book Sheds operating throughout the year, a mammoth effort on the volunteers' part as well as a volunteer who has managed the difficult job of rostering and finding replacements when needed to fill shifts.

All our sales depend on the generosity of the local community who donate their books to us.

While the Woodside Book Shed operates with a whole-of-staff approach, the Stirling Book Shed has an enthusiastic and committed committee who drive reviews of processes, promotions, special weekend sales and day to day management through consultation with their colleagues. Both Woodside and Stirling volunteers and the committee have done an amazing job this year keeping everything ticking over and I heartily thank them all for their commitment to a professional and tidy operation.



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HUT COMMUNITY CENTRE INCORPORATED**

Qualified Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of The Hut Community Centre Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and the board declaration.

In my opinion, except for the matters discussed in the 'basis for qualified opinion' paragraph, the accompanying financial report of the Association is in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- i) Giving a true and fair view of its financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements; and
- ii) Complying with applicable Australian Accounting Standards and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Regulations 2013*.

Basis for Qualified Audit Opinion

As is common for entities of this type it is not practical for the Association to maintain an effective system of control over donated goods, services, donations, or cash, until their initial entry into the financial records. Accordingly, my audit in relation to these amounts was limited to the amounts recorded in the bank accounts.

Responsibilities of Management and The Board Members for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act (SA) 1985* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as management determines 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.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board Members are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

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Auditor's Report

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

CDA Audit & Advisory Pty Ltd

Chris Dickinson

Chris Dickinson

Registered Company Auditor No. 513851

Signed in Adelaide on the 12th day of November 2024

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Treasurer's Report

2023-2024

I have been on The Hut Board and Finance & Audit Committee for 12 years and we have been fortunate to have had sufficient resources to build a strong Reserves for difficult times. We have consistently managed to end each financial year with a positive balance. This year, and last year, we are seeing a different picture, one that is being shared across many businesses and not for profit organisations.

As a Board, we remain positive and have made decisions that, we forecast, will positively affect our income generation over the coming years, including currently finalising the sale of a community asset for some \$600k. This won't all come to The Hut, with an agreement with the previous trustees of that asset that 60 percent of the proceeds from the sale are to be distributed between three other local Community organisations.

Our total Assets of \$749k are up some \$79k, but as we held over committed funds to the value of \$158k for next year's major projects and programs, this has increased our liabilities and reduced our Equity to \$427k ending with a net loss of just under \$70k. This is slightly better than budgeted.

The Board are not alarmed with this situation, as our Assets can see us continuing under normal circumstances for many years. Notwithstanding that, we are embarking on a number of ideas to increase revenue, secure additional grants, and this will enable us to do the promised extensions to the Stirling Book Shed and continue to run our 30 or so community programmes, including the Food Pantry and new Loneliness Project.



These operations would not be possible without the work of the Executive, Staff, and Volunteers who are the heart and soul of The Hut. I thank the staff at both our Book Sheds for their efforts. Volunteer hours of some 27,000 hours, with a value of over a \$1.1m keep the community benefit flowing. My thanks go to them and my fellow Finance committee and Board members.

Greg Bussell
Treasurer

The Hut Community Centre Incorporated

Responsible persons' declaration

The responsible persons declare that in the responsible persons' opinion:

- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2022*.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr Rawnsley'.

Dr David Rawnsley (Chair)
Responsible person

Dated: 11/11/2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoffrey Keynes'.

Geoffrey Keynes (Board Member)
Responsible person

Financial Statements

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

Year ended 30 June 2024

	Retained earnings \$	Revaluation surplus \$	Other reserves \$	Total \$	Total equity \$
2023					
Opening balance	366,172	22,390	177,200	565,762	565,762
Profit for the year	(68,494)	-	-	(68,494)	(68,494)
Closing balance	297,678	22,390	177,200	497,268	497,268
2024					
Opening balance	297,678	22,390	177,200	497,268	497,268
Profit for the year	(69,837)	-	-	(69,837)	(69,837)
Closing balance	227,841	22,390	177,200	427,431	427,431

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Receipts from customers	342,039	340,743
Payments to suppliers and employees	(729,769)	(907,436)
Grants received	412,006	494,446
Donations received	31,004	21,357
Interest received	10,495	4,575
Net cash flows from/(used in) operating activities	65,775	(46,315)
Cashflows from investing activities:		
Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment	-	10,943
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(3,800)	(62,213)
Purchase of financial assets	(6,077)	-
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(9,877)	(51,270)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Payment of borrowings	-	(11,436)
Net increase/decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	55,898	(109,021)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	86,670	195,691
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of financial year	142,568	86,670

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Year ended 30 June 2024	Notes	2024 \$	2023 \$
Revenue	1	815,531	844,190
Finance income	2	10,495	4,575
Employee benefit expenses	3	(619,789)	(529,032)
Program expenses	4	(130,810)	(257,688)
Administrative expenses	5	(111,890)	(103,039)
Depreciation expenses		(17,309)	(10,943)
Occupancy costs		(16,066)	(16,557)
PROFIT (LOSS) FOR THE YEAR		(69,838)	(68,494)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR		(69,838)	(68,494)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Year ended 30 June 2024	2024 \$	2023 \$
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	142,568	86,670
Trade and other receivables	51,353	20,871
Financial assets	358,292	352,215
Total current assets	552,213	459,756
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	196,516	210,025
Total assets	748,729	669,781
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	28,965	16,164
Borrowings	-	1,169
Employee benefits	119,539	92,701
Contract liabilities	158,446	51,856
Other liabilities	14,348	10,623
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	321,298	172,513
TOTAL LIABILITIES	321,298	172,513
NET ASSETS	427,431	497,268
Equity		
Retained earnings	227,841	297,678
Reserves	199,590	199,590
TOTAL EQUITY	427,431	497,268

Notes

- Includes revenue from Grants (operational and program specific), Book Shed sales, participant attendance fees, venue hire, fundraising, donations and sponsorships
 - Bank interest
 - Includes wages and salaries for operational, grant programs and finance employees (16 employees at @ 7.0 total FTE), LSL and other leave provisions, Superannuation (increased to 11% in July 2023)
 - Direct program provision for Hut programs and activities and funds distribution to the Adelaide Hills Council for their component of Adelaide Hills Connected Communities partnership. The Hut is the lead partner and receives funds from the Dept Human Services on behalf of community partners for distribution to partner agencies.
 - Includes all expenses related to the management, upkeep and maintenance of the community centre and other venues, promotions, WHS, audit, insurance, information and technology hardware and services incl cyber security and volunteer support.
- A copy of the full audited financial statements can be requested by emailing reception@thehut.org.au

Become Involved

VOLUNTEER WITH US



Volunteering can add a richness to your life, increase your connection to your community and to others, provide opportunities to learn new skills and make a real difference to others. Volunteers are the heart and soul of The Hut and they are involved in all facets of the organisation from driving community buses,

processing books and sales at the Book Shed, tutoring students, reception and many more. Volunteering at The Hut can be rewarding and satisfying to both the volunteers and the community we serve.

Short term or ongoing roles are available to suit your time commitment and we aim to provide the best match for you. Contact our Community Development Manager for more information.

DONATE



As an independent centre with Deductible Gift Recipient status, any donations made over \$2 are Tax Deductible. Click on the DONATE button on our website or call us to make a payment over the phone.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS



Let your will make a positive difference to the future work of The Hut and leave a legacy that will benefit future generations. If you'd like to find out more about leaving a bequest in your will please speak with the Executive Officer.

FUNDRAISE FOR US



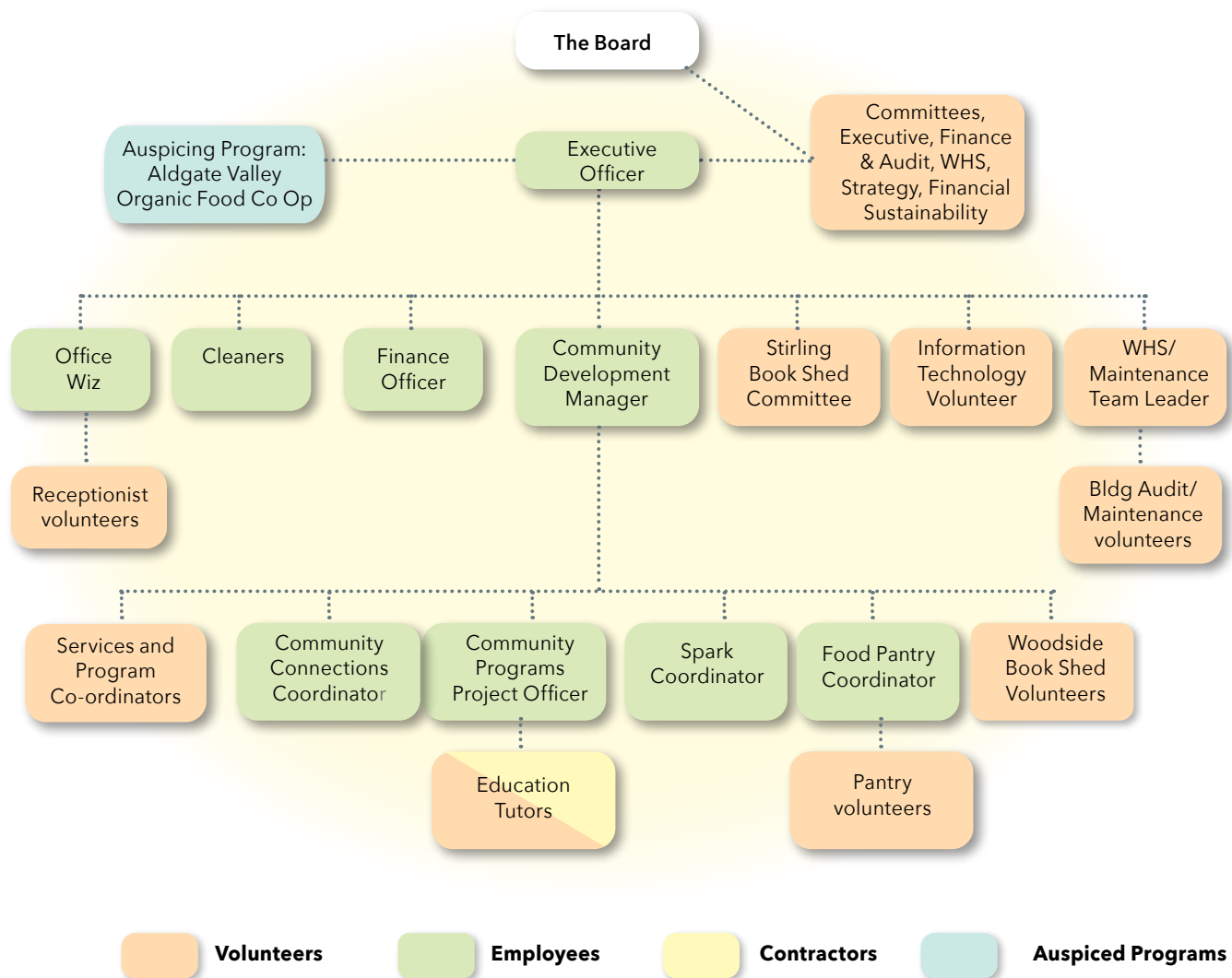
The extent of fundraising activities is limitless and only restricted by your imagination! Hold a sausage sizzle or cake stall at your school or workplace, hold a quiz night, a fancy dress evening or morning tea. We will provide as much support as we can to assist you to make your activity/event a success.

SPONSOR AN EVENT OR PROGRAM

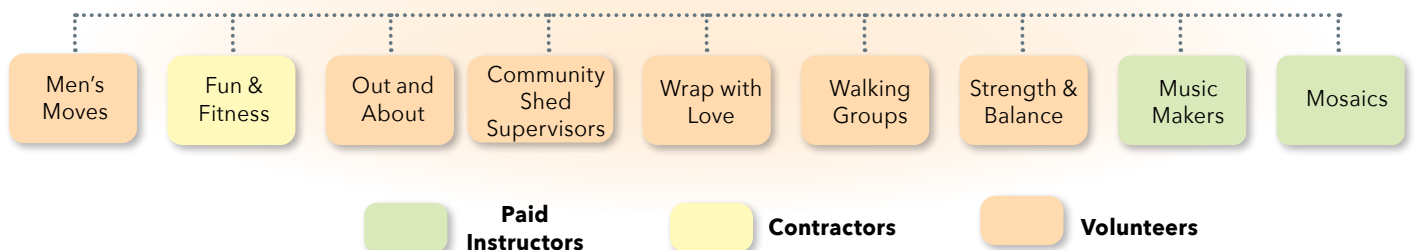


Become a gold, silver or Bronze sponsor of the Christmas pageant or find a program that you love to sponsor. Benefits include positive brand placement, social media promotions plus many more benefits for your business. Speak with the Executive Officer to find out more.

The Hut Organisation



Services and Program Co-ordinators 2023-24



THE HUT 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



The Hut Community Centre

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