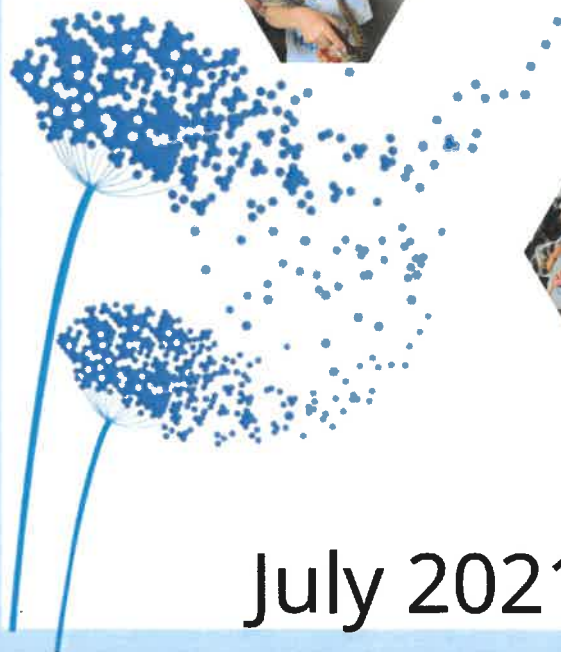


Wombat's Wish

Annual Report



July 2021- June 2022

Date.: Thursday 15th September 2022 **Time.:** 6.00pm
Location.: Level 1 no 6 High Street Drysdale or
via Zoom
Chair.: Casey Kaminskyj

Attendance

Apologies

Agenda

#	Item	Lead
1.	Welcome	Casey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Acknowledgement of CountryWelcome to Meeting	
2.	Minutes Approval	Casey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2021/2022 AGM Minutes	
3.	Chairperson Report	Casey
4.	Treasurer Report	Tamara
5.	Manager Report	Nicki
6.	Coordinator Report	Rebecca
7.	Election of Office Bearers	Nicki
8.	General Business	
9.	Meeting Close	Casey

Minutes of the Annual General meeting and Committee meeting held via Zoom
On Thursday 26th August at 6pm

MEMBERS PRESENT

Hannah Dawes
Tamara Wright
David Trott
Casey Kaminskyj
Shari Liby
Megan Bridger-Darling
Marnie Holden

IN ATTENDANCE:

Nicki Dunne
Rebecca Scott
Natalie Angove

(1) Welcome, acknowledgement of country and Apologies

Chair Hannah Welcomes full board and staff to meeting.

(2) Minutes

Minutes for 2020 AGM moved by David, Seconded by Casey

(3) Chairperson Report

Tabled as read. Hannah acknowledged many great achievements over the financial year.

(4) Treasurer Report

Tabled as read. Tamara comment on the financial sustainability of Wombat's Wish.

(5) Manager Report

Tabled as read. Nicki spoke to her first managers report and the growth of Wombat's Wish over the past 12 months.

(6) Election of Office Bearers

Office Bearers: Nicki declared all positions vacant

Tamara and David nominated Chair Hannah

Hannah and Tamara nominated Vice Chair David

Hannah and David nominated Treasurer Tamara

General Board members:

Hannah and David nominated Casey

Hannah and Marnie nominated Shari

Hannah and Shari and nominated Marnie

(7) General Business

Hannah noted great work from everyone last financial year

AGM Closed 06.30PM

The year that was - 2022

Wombat's Wish has continued to track substantial growth in the 2021/22 year in a range of different areas. Despite Covid impacting operations for the third year in a row, we still delivered record performance in terms of service delivery, financial sustainability, and brand reach and referral pathways.

Wombat's Wish hired one new staff member this financial year in an administrative capacity, taking our total number of permanent employees to 3. We refer to the Manager's report for more detail on the significant achievements of our team. While we were unable to run all of our camps and services this year, we still delivered our highest number to date and we would like to acknowledge the significant amount of work done by Bec, Rebecca and Nicki and the initiative they have taken to adapt during these disruptive times. We would also like to acknowledge the work done by Natalie Angove, our Administrative Assistant, who finished up with the organisation this year after 8 years! Nat was an integral part of our team through the grass-roots days and we miss her energy and enthusiasm.

We also welcomed 3 new Board members who bring a wealth of diversity as well as professional & lived experience. Jo Betz (who some of you may recall as our Gala emcee), Peter Burke & Rutti Loh joined us across the year and have already added immense value to our organisation. Some of the roles were related to growth and one was a maternity leave backfill for our very own Hannah Dawes as she welcomed her son Jack to the world. Hannah was our Chairperson for 5 years and led us through some of our most challenging times. She worked tirelessly to keep the lights on through periods of great uncertainty and we simply would not be here without her significant contribution, we wish her all the very best on her greatest role to date, and will gladly welcome her back in any capacity.

I invite you to refer to the Treasurer's Report for more information on the strong, unprecedented financial position Wombat's Wish is in. We historically rely solely on grants and donations and the work of our team has made a significant impact on the financial position we are in. Our Treasurer, Tamara Wright, has also worked closely with the team on improved reporting, more accurate budgets and forecasts, and well-informed decision making. Thank you to the team for working hard to ensure we can continue to provide our services during a time where many charities and not-for-profits have struggled with resources and service delivery.

When I took over as chair, I set some short-term priorities around; digitisation, eliminating single-point dependencies/failures, improving our risk practice and policy assurance. I'm pleased to say we've made ground in all of those areas, with some work continuing in key areas. We've also set some operational goals for the next 6 months around stakeholder engagement, the creation of a new role in our structure, and changing the way in which we measure success and impact.

A big highlight of the year for the Board was working on our Strategic plan for 2030. This is the second strategy we've worked on as a group, but the length and strength of this one is a strong indicator of the growth and maturity of our organisation. The Board spent a significant amount of time, both as a group and individually, working with Greg Collier (Executive Board coach) to create the Strategic Plan in preparation for the new year and year ahead. This plan has given us clear direction for the medium-term future. We will continue to use this as our focal point in our planning and prioritisation, and will share this plan with our stakeholders.

We would like to acknowledge our sponsors and benefactors, many of whom have supported the organisation for a long time. We got to catch up with some of them at our Gala (version 3.0 thanks to Covid) back in April. At the Gala, we also announced Brian Cook as our new Patron. Brian has been a long-time ambassador and supporter of the organisation and has always been generous with his time, care and advocacy and we're very fortunate to have him involved in his new capacity.

Our key partnerships with Rosemary Norman foundation, Energy Australia, Mortimers, and Geelong Community Foundation have continued to be invaluable and we look forward to working with them. We also benefited from new and considerable support from Anthony Costa Foundation & Shine-on foundation which helped provide



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT
July 2020 to June 2021

some much needed stability this year. We would also like to thank the many other community groups, local businesses & individuals who have provided donations and support to our fundraising events.

Lastly, thank you to our volunteers and partners as without their support we would not be able to do what we do. We look forward to continuing to offer our valuable services to families who need it.

Casey Kaminskyj
Chairperson

The Board of Management for Wombat's Wish Inc.



TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the 2022 Wombat's Wish Incorporated ("Wombats Wish") Financial Reports. These financials have been prepared in a prudent manner to reflect a true and fair view of the charity's financial position and performance as of 30 June 2022. I note for the interest of any affiliates the following.

Wombat's Wish has continued to experience challenges in planning and running events and camps with the continued effects of the Global Pandemic that is COVID-19. This pandemic has continued to restrict Wombat's Wish from running some of the planned programs and camps to their full potential during this Financial Year. Wombat's Wish has continued to focus on their administrative growth and strategic planning with increasing some staffing hours to assist in the administrative running of the operations, and increased grant writing and corporate sponsorship time paying off with increased income over and above the increased expenses. The aggregated income and expenses of the charity amount to \$334,594 and \$260,110 respectively. This resulted in a net profit of \$74,484. Wombat's Wish has continued to be able to secure new corporate sponsorship and fundraising opportunities as well as being more successful in grant applications.

We have increased our income by \$168,666 compared to last year (102% growth), over and above the growth we have had in expenses compared to last year, by \$113,238 (77% increase). Increasing our income year on year is crucial as we expand our services beyond the Greater Geelong region and across Victoria. Our ability to attract funding from multiple sources is crucial because no donations, grants or sponsorships are guaranteed year on year. I would like to acknowledge the efforts that our committee members have gone to in making this such a successful charity. Through the tireless work in our camps, and through building our organisation awareness in our community, without this, the charity may not have enough funds to operate.

It is the responsibility of committee members to ensure the funds raised are used appropriately. The charity's expenses are considerable in order to support the expenditure of camps (as we plan to grow the number of camps run per year), community events and administration requirements. Expenditure in 2022 was \$260,110, up by \$113,238 compared to last year. This increased expenditure has been due to running more programs, a major fundraising event and increasing our staffing hours in order to and ensure we have adequate support for our operational requirements.

The financial position of the charity is fair. Net assets were up significantly from 2021 by \$74,483 and are in a comfortable position at \$184,780. It is important for Wombat's Wish to maintain cash reserve equal to or more than the principal operational requirements of the charity. It is also essential that the cash reserves do not diminish through general recurrent expenditure. During 2022, Wombat's Wish continued its commitment to strong management and good corporate governance. A key aspect of this is the ongoing attention by the committee into the management of the charity's activities.

I draw to a close by acknowledging the support of all committee members, volunteers and benefactors for their efforts in ensuring Wombat's Wish has the financial footing to continue providing services to support bereaved children of the Greater Geelong region.

Tamara Wright, B.Comm
Treasurer
Wombat's Wish Incorporated
ABN 97 044 710 392

WOMBAT'S WISH
ABN 97 044 710 392

OPERATING STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$	2020 \$
INCOME				
Donations and gifts		46,701	53,724	45,383
Corporate Sponsorship		52,564	42,339	-
Workplace Giving		48,707	39,068	-
Grants		151,276	30,650	-
Fundraising Income		34,423	39	-
Investment Income		43	108	224
Other Income		880	-	-
TOTAL INCOME		334,594	165,928	45,607
EXPENSES				
Program Costs	2	55,902	12,685	20,958
Program Support Costs	3	7,725	8,901	14,766
Fundraising Costs	4	15,573	3,854	1,059
Accountability and admin costs	5	8,857	5,860	11,735
Other Expenses	6	9,949	12,814	3,407
Office Lease	7	6,138	7,592	15,400
Wages & Salaries	8	155,966	95,166	-
TOTAL EXPENSES		260,110	146,872	67,326
NET PROFIT/(LOSS)		74,484	19,056	-21,719

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

WOMBAT'S WISH
ABN 97 044 710 392

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022	2021	2020
		\$	\$	\$
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents		210,103	131,759	84,615
Debit Card		860	265	-
Term deposit	9	12,440	12,397	12,289
Overpayments	10	-	-	-
Prepayments	11	1,800	1,600	800
Security Bond	12	-	-	1,283
Total Current Assets		225,203	146,021	98,987
Non-Current Assets				
Equipment at cost		6,849	4,129	-
Less Accumulated depreciation		(3,384)	(1,115)	-
Total Non-Current Assets		3,466	3,014	-
TOTAL ASSETS		228,669	149,035	98,987
LIABILITIES				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts payable		-	-	-
PAYG Withholding		6,679	3,507	-
Superannuation Payable		-	2,202	-
Annual Leave Provision	8	12,210	6,029	-
Unearned Revenue	13	25,000	27,000	7,750
Total Current Liabilities		43,889	38,738	7,750
TOTAL LIABILITIES		43,889	38,738	7,750
NET ASSETS		184,780	110,297	91,237
EQUITY				
Reserves	9	8,000	8,000	8,000
Retained earnings		102,296	83,241	104,956
Financial year surplus or deficit		74,484	19,056	-21,719
TOTAL EQUITY		184,780	110,297	91,237

The accompanying notes for part of these financial statements

**WOMBAT'S WISH
ABN 97 044 710 392**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis for preparation

Wombat's Wish is a non-for-profit entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The financial statements for Wombat's Wish are special purpose financial statements which have been prepared in a prudent manner to reflect a true and fair view of the charity's financial position and performance.

The financial statements are presented in the Australian currency.

Comparative information has been reclassified where appropriate to enhance comparability.

The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2022 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on the 7th September 2022.

Historical cost conversions

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis of accounting.

Professional judgement

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of professional judgement and accounting estimates, which by definition will seldom equal actual result. There are no areas which involve a high degree of judgement or where estimates are significant to the financial statements.

Audit

As per the charity's rules, an audit of the financial statements is to be conducted every second year (i.e. odd years e.g. 2019, 2021, 2023 etc.) and any audit recommendations are reported and tracked by the board until resolution. Wombat's Wish Inc has taken a conservative approach to request an audit every year instead of on the second year as of 2021 FY.

Donations and gifts

A monetary contribution provided to the charity for the charitable purposes which is not a grant.

Grants

A sum of money obtained by the charity for a particular purpose.

Fundraising income

Income from fundraising activities and events.

WOMBAT'S WISH
ABN 97 044 710 392

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

Investment Income

Bank Interest.

Other Income

Uncommon sources of income not obtained from fundraising income, donations, gifts, grants or investments.

Program costs

Costs directly related to providing the charity's services.

Program support costs

Costs indirectly related to providing the charity's services.

Fundraising costs

Expenses related to generating fundraising income.

Accountability and admin costs

Costs related to the execution of governance and administrative activities.

Other costs

Costs which do not meet our definition of program costs, program support costs, fundraising costs or accountability and admin costs.

Cash and cash equivalent

Cash provided there is no restriction on its use by the charity until 12 months after the reporting period.

Receivables

Contractual right or high likelihood to receive cash from grants, donations and gifts from another entity.

**WOMBAT'S WISH
ABN 97 044 710 392**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

Overpayments

Payments made for program or program support costs over and above the required payments per the invoice/s provided.

Prepayments

Prepayments and deposits for goods or services.

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment purchased at a cost of less than \$1,000 is directly expensed. It is carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment loss. Any gains or losses on disposal are retained by comparing the disposal proceeds with the carrying value, and the balance captured in the statement of financial position.

Accounts payable

These amounts represent current liabilities for goods and services provided prior to the end of the financial year which are unpaid at 30 June. These amounts are paid within 28 days of recognition.

No interest loan

An interest free obligation of the charity, which is not due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period. The residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all its liabilities.

2. PROGRAM COSTS

	2022	2021	2020
	\$	\$	\$
Program costs			
Camp leaders fees	24,846	7,187	10,211
Camp facilities and food	-	752	4,816
Camp activities and supplies	19,731	4,746	5,518
Other program expenses	11,325	-	-
Volunteer workers insurance	-	-	413
	55,902	12,685	20,958

WOMBAT'S WISH
ABN 97 044 710 392

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

3. PROGRAM SUPPORT COSTS

	2022 \$	2021 \$	2020 \$
Program support costs			
Program coordinator fees	-	-	11,848
Counselling	1,631	2,375	-
Family Fun Days	359	794	-
Stationery and equipment	-	699	-
Public liability insurance	4,006	3,305	2,918
Workcover Insurance	1,730	1,728	-
	<u>7,725</u>	<u>8,901</u>	<u>14,766</u>

4. FUNDRAISING COSTS

	2022 \$	2021 \$	2020 \$
Fundraising costs			
Fundraising expenses	9,495	2,700	-
Corporate sponsor expenses	5,415	-	-
Advertising and marketing	664	1,154	1,059
	<u>15,573</u>	<u>3,854</u>	<u>1,059</u>

5. ACCOUNTABILITY AND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

	2022 \$	2021 \$	2020 \$
Accountability and admin costs			
Board expense	1,405	247	234
Administration expenses	231	1,217	8,690
Association insurance	-	645	413
Subscriptions	2,087	923	9
Telephone & Internet	1,412	380	660
Printing & Stationery	1,703	1,137	-
Bank Fees	39	211	-
Training/Seminars	-	-	630
Audit Costs	1,980	1,100	1,100
	<u>8,857</u>	<u>5,860</u>	<u>11,736</u>

WOMBAT'S WISH
ABN 97 044 710 392

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

6. OTHER EXPENSES

	2022 \$	2021 \$	2020 \$
Other Expenses			
Gifts Given	-	215	233
Storage	-	1,020	3,010
Postage	345	447	164
Legal Fees	2,134	5,533	-
Equipment under \$500	1,624	647	-
Depreciation	2,268	1,115	-
Rates	1,968	1,861	-
IT Support	1,610	1,976	-
	9,949	12,814	3,407

7. OFFICE LEASE

A 12-month lease had been taken out on an office space in 2020 Financial Year. This lease expired in July of 2020 and was vacated in October 2020 and a new lease commenced. A new lease was commenced in a new office space with storage ability and a cost saving.

	2022 \$	2021 \$	2020 \$
Office Lease			
Office Lease	6,138	7,592	15,400
	6,138	7,592	15,400

8. WAGES & SALARIES

The 2021 Financial Year was the first year we have taken on employees and have since had staff come and go therefore explaining the comparative difference between years. The Wages & Salaries in the Profit & Loss report is made up of the following costs.

	2022 \$	2021 \$	2020 \$
Wages & Salaries			
Wages & Salaries	136,632	79,659	-
Superannuation Expense	12,713	7,526	-
Professional Development	440	1,952	-
Provision for Annual Leave	6,181	6,029	-
	155,966	95,166	-

WOMBAT'S WISH
ABN 97 044 710 392

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

9. TERM DEPOSIT

The below no interest loan relates to the Katrina Memorial Fund. The Katrina Memorial Fund is an interest free loan which was provided to the charity to support program costs for participants which reside outside of the Greater Geelong region. The charity has invested this money in a term deposit account. The interest earned is available to be used to support program costs and the balance reinvested for future program costs.

	2022 \$	2021 \$	2020 \$
Term Deposit			
Term Deposit at Period End	12,440	12,397	12,289
Katrina Plater Memorial Fund	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)
Interest Earned on Bequest	<u>4,440</u>	<u>4,397</u>	<u>4,289</u>

10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The charity has no related party transactions, overpayments, or legal claims at the end of the reporting period.

11. PREPAYMENTS

A deposit is made to hold the dates for our campgrounds before each camp for the dates we require. These prepayments were made in preparation for each scheduled camp. These will therefore be recouped.

	2022 \$	2021 \$	2020 \$
Prepayments			
Prepayments	1,800	1,600	800
	<u>1,800</u>	<u>1,600</u>	<u>800</u>

WOMBAT'S WISH
ABN 97 044 710 392

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

12. SECURITY BOND

In line with our Office Space lease (per note 7) we paid a fully refundable security bond on the Office Space which was refunded at the conclusion of the lease in October/November 2020.

	2022	2021	2020
	\$	\$	\$
Security Bond			
Security Bond	-	-	1,283
	-	-	1,283

13. UNEARNED REVENUE

Amounts in this current liability represent income received but not yet earned. Examples of this are Grants paid to Wombat's Wish, but they are earmarked to be for the next Financial Year projects/camps. These amounts are current and are recognised as income in the following Financial Year.

	2022	2021	2020
	\$	\$	\$
Unearned Revenue			
Unearned Revenue	25,000	27,000	7,750
	25,000	27,000	7,750

14. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The charity has no contingent liabilities or legal claims at the end of the reporting period.

**WOMBAT'S WISH
ABN 97 044 710 392**

**PRESIDENT'S DECLARATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

In the President's opinion:

- a) The financial statements and notes set out above have been prepared in a prudent manner and reflect a true and fair view of the charity's financial position and performance.
- b) There are no reasonable grounds to believe that the charity will not be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable, and

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of Board Members.



Casey Kaminskyj
Chairperson

7th September 2022

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
WOMBAT'S WISH INCORPORATED**

Opinion

We have audited the treasurer's report of Wombat's Wish Incorporated (the association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the operating statement for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the president's declaration on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2022 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Vic)* and relevant Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the association for the purpose of fulfilling the directors' financial reporting responsibilities under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Vic)*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Other Information

Those charged with governance are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the association's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2022, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

/ GEELONG

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/ DIRECTORS

Stephen Wight CA
Stephen Kirtley CA

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In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report

The committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Vic)* and for such internal control as the committee 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, the committee 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 the committee either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our 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 our 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Stephen Wight

Director

Dated this 9th day of September, 2022

Davidsons Assurance Services Pty Ltd
101 West Fyans Street
Geelong, Victoria 3220

Let me start by saying what a year it has been for Wombat's Wish! Wombat's Wish has increased its service delivery over the past year, this during uncertain COVID times, is a credit to the hard work by all board members, staff and volunteers. Below are some of the many highlights and achievements throughout the financial year.



Governance/Management

- A full board was appointed for the 2021-2022 financial year. Thank you to all board members for your continued support throughout the year.
- Our admin team grew with a 15 hour per week administration worker traineeship appointed in December 2021. This position has enhanced our social media platforms and provided support to both Manager and Co-Ordinator. Congratulations Rebecca Moore on the outstanding work you have completed over the past 7 months.
- Rebecca Scott, Co-ordinator, has worked tirelessly over the past 12 months planning camps, writing grants, developing new programs and connecting with families. Wombat's Wish is extremely grateful for all that you do, always maintaining a professional, caring and welcoming environment.
- Wombat's Wish announced Brian Cook as the newly appointed Patron of the organisation. We also engaged with 3 new ambassadors, Travis Boak, Emily Mannix and Tom Hawkins, all have been amazing advocates for Wombat's Wish within their networks.

Programs

- Family days held were a huge success and a way for families to reconnect post camp. They were facilitated at Bounce in July 2021 and Bellarine Adventure Golf in December 2021. Our scheduled family day for April 2022 was postponed due to Covid outbreak to August 2022.
- Wombat's Wish developed and piloted 6 weeks of group counselling sessions that were held in February 2022, facilitated by Jill Crookes and Rebecca Scott. The group counselling sessions were developed as continued support for children/young people who had attended a Wombat's Wish family camp. This pilot was held in Drysdale with 5 children attending. The group counselling sessions are under review as part of the upcoming research project that Wombat's Wish is undertaking over the coming months.

Camps

- Wombat's Wish held camps in November, December 2021 and March 2022 at Burnside in Angelsea with a new camp held in May 2022 at Corop for the Goulburn Valley region. Full camp reports are in the co-ordinators report.
- Development of a camp for young people aged 12-17 was completed and the pilot camp held in July 2022.

Marketing

- Social media marketing has increased over the past 12 months and forms the main platform for engagement with communities for Wombat's Wish.
- Wombat's Wish commenced the interviewing of children, parents and leaders at camp for raw content on what Wombat's Wish means to them. These videos have been posted on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn and have been extremely successful in the marketing of Wombat's Wish.
- We are reaching over 10,000 people for each post with a 495% increase in engagement on our social media pages and website clicks over the past 12 months. This engagement can be attributed to the increase in referrals for our programs.
- Web page has been reviewed with suggested changes documented, awaiting completion.
- Wombat's Wish bi monthly newsletter provides information on upcoming events, resourcing on support agencies, information regarding grief as well as interesting articles.
- Wombat's Wish developed a Mailchimp database for all families, volunteers, schools and network connections for the disbursement of information and referral processes.
- An introduction pack has been created for all schools, allied health workers, GP and community agencies explaining Wombat's Wish services, how to refer and engage with Wombat's Wish. The intent is to further spread the knowledge of Wombat's Wish to appropriate health services across Victoria on our referral process and provide valuable grief resources to workers.
- Wombat's Wish has had the pleasure attending the Rotary Club of Drysdale and Belmont, the Clifton Springs Men's Shed and the Geelong Youth Development network as a guest speaker. All opportunities have resulted directly with Wombat's Wish receiving donations.
- Market Square shopping centre offered Wombat's Wish charity of the month for December 2021, whereby we completed the Xmas gift wrapping service for a donation and February 2022. Many hours of planning and production of marketing material have been completed to meet their requirements.
- Wombat's Wish was donated \$5000 in local radio time. This expenditure and programming is still pending and will rolled out over the coming months.

Financial

- A corporate sponsorship pack has had amazing support from local business and forms a significant avenue for income. Thank you to all of the corporates who have supported Wombat's Wish over the past financial year.
- Our donations for the year have increased. This result is due to our social media campaign, marketing campaign, the presence in an accessible office space.
- The first annual fundraising ball was held in April 2022. This was a successful night showcasing Wombat's Wish to the broader community. Wombat's Wish raised \$22,693.00 at the gala.
- A band of local Drysdale ladies have held 2 high tea fundraisers for Wombat's Wish and raised a total of \$2000.00 to support Bellarine families attending our weekend camp program. Thank you to these amazing ladies.
- The North Bellarine Rotary Club held a mother's day fundraiser for Wombat's Wish. This lunch event raised \$2333.60 supporting families attending our weekend grief camps.

To conclude my report, I would like to thank the amazing team at Wombat's Wish. As a new team we have worked together extremely well and exceed all outcomes set at the strategic planning day. A huge thank you to Rebecca Scott, the coordinator, Rebecca Moore, and Natalie Angove (outgoing) admin support worker for supporting me throughout the year. Your dedication and passion for Wombat's Wish shines through in every task you take on.

I look forward to working with the Board, Staff and Volunteers over the next 12 months in meeting and implementing our strategic goals.

Nicki Dunne
Manager
Wombat's Wish inc.



Family Day Dec 2021 – Mini Golf



High Tea Oct 2021 on the Queenscliff Ferry



Market Square info booth



Gala fundraiser April 2022



Inducting Brian Cook as Patron at Gala Event

I am extremely happy to report that Wombat's Wish has had a big growth year and have successfully run four family camps during this time. Three of these camps were held at Burnside in Anglesea, we held our first camp for the Goulburn Valley Region.

Over this year Wombat's Wish have supported 56 children and young people through our family camp and youth camp programs and have had 25 parent's and carers attend the parent's group program all from various locations across the state of Victoria.

Locations of families that have attended camps: Curlewis, Castlemaine, Ballarat, Miners Rest, Warrnambool, Leopold, Portland, Geelong, Burwood, Lara, Highton, Clifton Springs, Bacchus March, Carrum Downs, Riddell's Creek, Berwick, Shepparton, Bendigo, Mooroopna, Kialla, Fairy Dell, Strathfieldsaye and Kyabram.

Wombat's Wish have held two big volunteer inductions over this period and have been lucky to engage some new volunteers that have attended various camps over the year to support our team leaders.

I want to acknowledge and thank our team leaders and volunteers, the camp's would have been possible without their hard work and dedication to Wombat's Wish. They attend each camp and provide a safe place for children/young people and their parent/carer to acknowledge their grief, grow, and make lifelong connections.

As we continue to grow it is important to celebrate that the camps that were conducted during this year have run to plan and there have been no minor or major incidents to report.



BURNSIDE NOVEMBER 2021

I am happy to report that the November camp was an enormous success, it was a little smaller than we would have hoped with five families attending with a total number of ten children. The original number of families to attend this camp was eight but unfortunately on the Friday we had two families contact us not being able to attend due to school closures from COVID. Along with one family that could not attend due to not receiving the COVID vaccination prior to the camp.

The age of the children that attended was also quite young with the youngest aged six to the oldest aged twelve. The children all seemed to connect with each other very well and were extremely comfortable in sharing their stories amongst their groups, making lovely friendships that I can see lasting past camp.

Being Nicki's and my second camp, we were able to be more organised this time around. Our roles this camp was to oversee the groups, welcome all the visitors to camp and make sure that equipment was set up ready for the group work.

Zoe successfully took on the role of team leader in the parent's group supported by Jodi one of our volunteers. Erin led the koala group supported by one of our new volunteers Lilly the koala group had three children all aged six. Marnie led the echidnas supported by two volunteers Suzie and a new volunteer Cody in the echidna's group there were four children aged 7 – 9. Joel led the kangaroo group supported by another new volunteer Nicole, in the kangaroo group there were three children aged 9 – 12.

Saturday was a full day of low ropes, archery and flying fox. With Wombat's Wish programmed activities of Rocky Rocks, Balloon analogy and telling the story. This was followed on by roaming reptiles for the children whilst the parents had relaxation massages throughout their day. We ended Saturday of with minute to win it games run inside, due to poor weather, in family groups. This proved to be an enormous success, with the families having a lot of fun.

Sunday was another full day spending a lot of time in the smaller groups exploring difficult feelings, doing memory jars and a visit from Dr Amy. This is such a valuable session for the children and Dr Amy took the time to make sure to answer all the questions that the children had.

I received a phone call from the Chaplin at Kings Collage Warrnambool, who had referred one of the families he works with, this family attended the November camp. He wanted to let Wombat's Wish know that he had spoken to the family about their experience at camp and he quoted the family as saying it was a "life changing experience" for the parent and his children that attended Wombat's Wish camp over the weekend.

To all the staff and volunteers and bord members, this is a credit to all the hard work and dedication you put into making Wombat's Wish camps such a positive impact on the families that attend.



BURNSIDE DECEMBER 2021

The December camp even though it was a small camp, was an enormous success, with five families attending and a total number of eight children. This camp was for our Melbourne families that we could not include in the November camp due to restrictions at the planning stage, or families that could not make it to the November camp. The original number of families for this camp were nine unfortunately we had four families contact us the week before camp no longer able to attend. We put a call out through social media, and we did receive interest

from a family of five children although at this time they were not vaccinated, and we had to say that they could not attend this camp.

This camp we were very lucky to have Wombat's Wish ambassador Tom Hawkins, come and visit. Tom has such a passion for Wombat's Wish, and this was evident on his visit, making sure he spent one on one time talking to each person on camp.

The age of the children that attended was also quite young with the youngest aged five to the oldest aged fourteen. The children all seemed to connect with each other very well and were extremely comfortable in sharing their stories amongst their groups, making lovely friendships that I can see lasting past camp.

Rachel successfully took on the role of team leader in the parent's group supported by Lilly one of our volunteers. Joel led the koala group supported by Zoe the koala group had four children aged 5-8. Suzy led the echidnas, this was Suzy's first time as a team leader, a new volunteer Liam supported her. In the echidna's group there were four children aged 9-14.

Saturday was a full day of low ropes, archery, and flying fox. With Wombat's Wish programmed activities of Rocky Rocks, Balloon analogy and telling the story. This was followed by the visit from Dr Amy then on to roaming reptiles for the children whilst the parents did their programmed activities. We ended Saturday of with minute to win it games run inside, due to it being too windy for a campfire. Minute to win it games played in family groups, this is a wonderful time for family bonding, fun and laughter, which is a wonderful way to end a Saturday. Especially after the candlelight ceremony that can be quite emotional for the children.

Sunday was another full day spending a lot of time in the smaller groups exploring difficult feelings, doing memory jars and the closing ceremony. The doves were unable to attend for this camp, so we took our lovely wombat's wish cards that can be turned into seeds to plant, after the family write their message to their important person inside. The card is then returned to us so we can send it back to them in the mail with instructions. This is a lovely way of then giving the power back to the families to end the camp, as they can then decide what they would like to do with the cards when they receive them in the mail.

One issue that we did run into on camp was that some of the children wanted to have a sleepover in one of the family's cabins. We had left this decision up to the parents to make as of an evening the children are under the supervision of the parents. So, the children had a sleepover, this resulted in the following day the children were tired, and we had a few little hiccups with the children not having a break from each other. So, moving forward in future camp's it has been decided that this will no longer happen as we feel that it is important that the families spend that time of an evening together, so they are able to discuss and unpack their day as a family unit ready for the Sunday sessions.

Being it was a small camp we were able to collaborate with the team leaders on being more flexible and that the itinerary is there for a guide and if they felt that it would benefit their group to swap the activities around to do so. This was a huge positive resulting in the team leaders being more relaxed and not so focused on timing of the activities. The camp team was incredibly supportive and inclusive resulting in one of the best camp experiences I have had to date.



BURNSIDE MARCH 2022

Our first camp for 2022 has been another great camp. For this camp we have started to ask that all families arrive on the Friday night. This meaning that we have no late arrivals on Saturday morning, with no disruptions to the camp program, and the children that must travel a distance are not tired from such an early morning on the Saturday. Supper is supplied in the recreation room and families are encouraged to go and meet each other before commencement of the program.

We unfortunately did have three of our volunteers unable to attend at the last minute due to COVID, thankfully one of our team leaders was able to attend on short notice and assist co team leading with Rachal in the parent's group.

As we have had the great loss of two of our camp leaders moving interstate, we are now concentrating on training some of our long standing, qualified volunteers into team leaders. Therefore, for this camp we have had Rachel team lead alongside Marnie, Suzie, and Liam co team leading.

With eight families attending we were at full compacity with the number of family rooms that we can occupy at Burnside Camp in Anglesea. We had a total of fourteen children attending with the youngest being four and the oldest sixteen. We had five highly active boys in the koala group ages 4, 5 & 6. This group was team lead by Erin, Lilly, and Kody, who are volunteers that have done previous camps. The Echidna Group consisted of four girls ages 7,10 & eleven. This group was co team lead by Marnie and Rachel. The kangaroo group consisted of five young people aged 12,13,14 & 16. This group was co team lead by Suzie and Liam. The parent's group (Quokkas) consisted of seven mothers and one maternal aunt and uncle.



GOULBURN VALLEY MAY 2022

Our first camp for the Goulburn Valley Region at camp Kookaburra in Corop has been a success. Mostly thanks to the amazing team leaders that we have a Wombat's Wish, Jill, Rachal, Erin, Suzy, and Liam. As Nicki and I were not able to attend due to coming down with COVID it was the hard work and dedication that the team leaders that all came together and not only ran their groups but also coordinated this camp.

Welcome back to Jill, who has come back to attend some of our camps in 2022. It is always wonderful to have Jill in the parents' group. We also welcomed three new volunteers to Wombat's Wish for this camp Albert, Elisabeth, and Clare who all were a great support for the Wombat's Wish team. All with a background of mental health studies

With seven families attending this camp it was a great introduction to the Goulburn Valley Region, we had a total of twelve children attending with the youngest being four and the oldest thirteen. All of the children attended with their mothers and the majority of the families had traumatic circumstances surrounding their father's death, with two from suicide and other medical complications due to substance use, or very sudden deaths.

As majority of the families coming from in and around the Shepparton area, it had been reported that it was lovely to see the families connect so well with friendships lasting well beyond this camp.