

# BURRINJA

ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17

DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL CENTRE INC.

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH ARTS

[www.burrinja.org.au](http://www.burrinja.org.au)



museums  
australia  
victoria

2017 Victorian Museum Awards  
WINNER



**burrinja**

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH ARTS

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# ABOUT BURRINJA

## Dandenong Ranges Community Cultural Centre INC

### Vision Statement

*Building Community through Arts*

### Mission Statement

*Burrinja is a living, vibrant and welcoming community cultural centre providing opportunities for artistic, cultural and environmental experiences.*

### Aims

Burrinja's function, purpose and programming are built on a multi-element vision that seeks to enable and develop experiential and extended arts practice and programs across diverse art forms and cultural activities within the region.

Burrinja supports existing and enables the development of emerging and distinctive cultural practices, promoting engaging community-connected outcomes that contribute to the vibrancy, diversity and resilience of the region.

The valuing and appreciation of Indigenous culture is embedded across the organisation's practices and programming. Burrinja values the reciprocal cultural learning offered to the region's community through Indigenous cross-cultural engagement including its collection management and curatorial practices.

Burrinja's capacity to contribute positively to the region's cultural ecology is empowered through working in partnership across a diverse range of cross-sector organisations.

### Governance

The Dandenong Ranges Community Cultural Centre Inc (trading as 'Burrinja') was Incorporated in July 1998 and operates under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. Burrinja operates within a triennial Partnering Agreement with Yarra Ranges Council.

### Purposes

- a. To promote, develop and present arts and culture in the region
- b. To be a public art gallery, public museum and collecting institution
- c. To support and develop the cultural identity of the Dandenong Ranges
- d. To provide opportunities for the development and facilitation of creative arts practice and enterprise including cultural development



*Glenn Loughery - at the opening of his solo exhibition In Exile from the Edge  
- Image by Barbara Oehring*

## ARTISTIC PROGRAM STATEMENT | 2016-2020

The purpose and rationale of Burrinja's artistic and cultural development programming is, in the broadest sense, to fulfil the vision of 'Building Community through Arts' and the organisation's strategic aims and purpose. Burrinja's program encourages the emergence of distinct cultural practices by developing and extending arts practice experience through diverse art forms and cultural activities across the region.

The artistic program aims to impact positively on community by achieving outcomes that contribute to the vibrancy, diversity and cultural ecology of the region.

Burrinja will develop, produce and program holistically and innovatively across art forms and seek to create a sustainable, resilient arts and cultural sector in the region through audience development and engagement within its program.

The program seeks to work in partnership across a wide range of cross-sector organisations that strengthen programming and delivery capacity and the impact of program outcomes.

The program works across Burrinja's '**Five E's Strategic Framework**':

**ENABLE (a):** venue; operational; resources; accessibility; governance; staff

**ENABLE (b):** supporting artists & community to make great art – facilitate/ co-produce/ logistics /mentor/ funding/ auspice/ programming

**EVENT:** programming across sectors/ mediums/ audiences; ticketing; marketing

**EXTEND:** build capacity; sustainability; develop audiences; community partnerships

**ENGAGE:** existing audiences; new audiences; enhance experience; repeat experience; quality and distinctive program; partnerships in programs; diversity; vibrancy

**EDUCATE:** resources; workshops; public programs; Art of Place; training; mentoring; volunteering; seminars; professional development

The valuing and appreciation of Indigenous culture is embedded across the organisation's practices and programming. We aim to provide exhibitions and accompanying resources and programs that offer broad opportunities for learning and research, and which further the community's connection to and engagement with the McLeod Gift Collection.

The annual program is also referenced to the core objectives of our Partnering Agreement with Yarra Ranges Council in regard to providing arts and cultural services in the Dandenong Ranges. This partnership increases Burrinja's capacity to contribute to the region's cultural ecology.

Increased patronage through engaging quality programming provides greater economic capacity both for the region's artists and arts sector and for Burrinja, building on the organisation's capabilities to support and enable artistic programs and practice in the region.



Executive Director Ross Farnell at Opening of Black Mist Burnt Country, National Trust SH Irvin Gallery, Sydney. Centre rear - Ben Quilty, artist, and Mayor Cr Cliff

## ARTISTIC PROGRAM STATEMENT | 2016-2020

Visual Arts	Performing Arts	Community Cultural Development.	Public Programming/ Education
<p>Develop an innovative and engaging visual arts program across all mediums encompassing Indigenous, contemporary and local artists and arts practice, including developing touring and curated exhibitions and utilising the McLeod Gift Collection.</p> <p>Enable and support distinctive regional visual arts practice through studios, projects, programming, partnership and development.</p>	<p>Develop an innovative and engaging performing/ live arts program across all mediums. Create deeper engagement and participation in region's performing arts through co-produced and supported new, emerging and community work, professional touring presentation, schools and workshop programs.</p> <p>Enable and support distinctive regional performing and live arts practice through studios, projects, programming, partnership and development.</p>	<p>To be the cultural hub for the community of the Dandenong Ranges. Support existing and enable the development of emerging and distinctive cultural practices and programs, providing community-connected outcomes that contribute to the vibrancy, diversity and cultural ecology of the region.</p> <p>Partnering with artists, organisations and projects to enable cultural outcomes that engage with community.</p>	<p>Incorporate and embed nationally recognised, engaging and experiential public and education programs across all elements of arts and cultural programming at Burrinja and in the region.</p> <p>Work across education, NFP and other sectors to create, develop and provide innovative and effective public program outcomes.</p>



*Melbourne Ballet Company cast members meet the audience post performance of Emyprean*

## CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT—projects for community

Burrinja strives to enable, facilitate and support those in the community to achieve great arts outcomes, not only at Burrinja but throughout our region, townships and found-spaces. These events are supported by Burrinja in various ways; they may be coordinated, co-produced, facilitated, auspiced or provided logistical, governance and other resources.

Our 2016-2020 Strategic Plan reinforces our already historically strong emphasis on community cultural development process, practice and outcomes.

As noted in the Executive Summary, *Burrinja works to 'build community through arts'. The centre's function, purpose and programming are built on a multi-element vision and program across diverse art forms and cultural activities. Burrinja is a cultural hub for the Dandenong Ranges that supports existing and enables the development of emerging, experiential and distinctive arts practice, providing engaging outcomes and positive impact that contribute to the vibrancy, diversity and cultural ecology of the region.*

It is pleasing to see that over 88% of our survey respondents agree that Burrinja 'provides opportunities, resources and professional development for artists, performers and creative practice in our region', with most others in the 'don't know' category.

For most of the 2016-17 year the role of Community Cultural Development Officer was managed with flair by Gareth Hart as Amy Middleton took maternity leave. Toni Main has taken on the role for 6 months while Amy transitions back into the role late in 2017.

Here is a key summary of just some of the projects and outcomes for 2016-17 enabled by Burrinja.



**GARETH HART / TONI MAIN / AMY MIDDLETON | Community Cultural Development**

### VCE Creative Showcase

Each year the creative excellence of VCE students from across the Yarra Ranges is celebrated through the VCE Creative Showcase. Students studying Art & Studio Arts are offered the opportunity to have their work presented in a professional gallery context including an opening night celebration and exhibition catalogue.

In 2017, 34 graduates from seven local schools took part in the ninth VCE showcase hosted by Burrinja. The exhibition delivered a diverse and revealing collection of works by our freshest and most inspiring emerging artists. Artists involved in the VCE creative showcase continue to engage with Burrinja, and it has been pleasing to develop new pathways for this engagement to be strengthened, with some artists transitioning to participation in the annual **Dandenong Ranges**

**Open Studios** program through our development of the financially supported 'emerging' artists program, and an new opportunity to continue developing creative practice post-school with the **Growing Pains Initiative** (see Visual Arts).

A fabulous Opening was hosted by the Mayor, Cr Noel Cliff with over 120 in attendance.



Mayor Cr Noel Cliff with Students and Teachers at VCE Opening

## CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT—projects for community



### Dandenong Ranges Open Studios

...is an annual regional arts event that invites art-lovers from all over Victoria to visit the studios of artists in the Dandenong Ranges, for a weekend in Autumn. Visitors have a unique chance to see inside the creative space of the artist, and engage directly with skilled creative artisans as they work.

#### Artist Participation 2017

34 studios and over 50 artists participated in the Open Studios program in 2017. This is an increase of four studios, and an increase of 16 artists compared to 2016. Our Emerging Artists program has continued to strengthen with the inclusion of the Growing Pains Initiative in the Open Studios Program. The Growing Pains Initiative supported eleven artists who are all in the first five years of their practice, providing them with studio spaces at Burrinja and financial support for their participation.

#### Total Visitation Number

The overall visitation was again estimated at over 7900 studio visits to the participating artists over the weekend, with approximately half of all visitors being local residents from Yarra Ranges, the rest being cultural tourists. A small number of interstate and international visitors were also present. The program included 38 events hosted by the artists, each engaging with a number of visitors. Audience participation and engagement stimulated visitor and artist experience.

#### Outcomes for Artists

Program evaluation from the artists reports that the Open Studios program provided an opportunity to progress their professional development skills as an artist, encouraged creativity and connected them with other

artists. Artists reported over \$70,000 in sales, a significant increase from previous years.

#### Open Studios Group Exhibition

The annual Open Studios Exhibition was presented in the Burrinja Gallery. The exhibition theme 'Duality' was selected by the artists, and presented a range of mediums from the participating studios. The launch event on 31<sup>st</sup> of March attracted attendance of approx. 250 people. This was noted as one of the biggest audience gathers for the exhibition opening in recent years. With an exhibition theme such as DUALITY, it is with great pride, and sense of uncanny coincidence, that we announce the people's choice award for 2017 was a draw. Congratulations to both Eva Glac and Emma Jennings who topped the list with the most votes for the 2017 Dandenong Ranges Open Studios People's Choice Award! In second place came Gerard Russo, and in third place was Nadia Turner.

#### Community & Cultural Impact

Community, cultural and creative outcomes from the Open Studios program include:

- Increased cultural tourism to the region
- Increased profile of individual artists in the region
- Supporting emerging artists in the region
- Making studio spaces available to emerging artists
- Increased artist networks and professional development opportunities
- Increased community awareness of their local arts community
- Increased economic activity for and viability of individual artists
- Increased visitation numbers to venues in the region
- Increased media coverage and profile of local artists
- Artistic, business and marketing development for participating artists/ studios.

Data from the 2015 study by Council—*Cultural and Economic Industries Economic Analysis*, shows us that:

*Open Studios ...is a prominent example of how arts tourism can quickly offer positive returns on investment both economically and culturally, especially when professionally run.*

The Dandenong Ranges Open Studios can be extrapolated from their figures to create the equivalent of 7 jobs and \$1.45M in overall output each year. \*

Dandenong Ranges Open Studios has three year Partnering Funding from Yarra Ranges Council, securing this event until at least 2018, and thank Council for their on-going support.

\* Source: Council modelling based on REPLAN multipliers model.

## CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT—projects for community

### Burrinja Creative Development Opportunities Program

Burrinja is committed to working with artists, facilitators and creative practitioners, and has a range of in-kind support available to the Creative Industries.

Burrinja recognises that physical and financial access to space can be an issue for independent artists, and as such this In-Kind program revolves around providing rehearsal space to artists working within the Live and Performing Arts.

This year we supported two projects:

#### In Helvetica

Burrinja was thrilled to support In Helvetica, a performance ensemble that grew out of early performance experiments at hillsSceneLIVE arts festival. Over two periods in September 2016 and January 2017, Burrinja provided in-kind rehearsal space, project support and mentorship to the performance ensemble.

They used a Yarra Ranges Council Small Grant to present a free presentation of the work they created entitled '**My Brown Paper Clouds**'. The performance was enjoyed by a full audience of children and parents, who were invited to chat to the performers after the show.

In Helvetica have now booked a tour of the performance to Perth and Adelaide in 2018.

#### Leah Landau

Used the in-kind support from Burrinja for the first development a new dance work, 'Two Birds', with a small showing at the end of the process, with a discussion afterwards, open to the public and the Burrinja team. Leah collaborated with Sculpture design and construction artist, Basil Papoutsidis and Photographer/Painter David Manley.



#### Belgrave Survival Day

Belgrave Survival Day is an annual event on January 26th (Australia Day) which creates an important opportunity to celebrate the survival of Australian Indigenous people, their culture and heritage. Belgrave Survival Day is organised by a group of volunteers and operates as a Sub-Committee of Burrinja. Burrinja supports this event through the provision of Funding Auspice, meeting space for the BSD Committee, Public Liability Insurance for the event, , funding application reviews, risk management plan review and marketing assistance for the event.

The 2017 theme was 'Knowing your Local History'. The festival's feature performer was the fabulous Benny Walker, an inspiring Aboriginal singer/songwriter. M.C. was Uncle Peter Rotumah who introduced The Djirri Djirri dancers, (traditional Wurundjeri dance troupe), the fabulous voices of the Mullum Mullum Choir and the vibes of the Hip Hop Crew, plus an opportunity to participate in a Digeridoo Mediation with Gnarnayarrahe Waitiarie (Uncle Joey). The Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony were led by Wurundjeri elder and educator, Uncle Bill Nicholson. There was more music from Jayden Lillyst and local history from renowned author Bruce Pascoe.



Our thanks to all of the BSD Committee who volunteer their hard work all year round to coordinate this annual event, plus other events supporting Indigenous culture.

*Belgrave Survival Day is supported by Yarra Ranges Council, and we thank Council for their on-going support of this event.*



## CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT—projects for community

### Belgrave Lantern Parade

2017 was the eleventh annual Belgrave Lantern Parade with this year's parade led by Kallista Primary school in recognition of their engagement in the lantern parade each year. They chose to bring attention to the reducing number of bees by filling the street with a beautifully crafted swarm. They were followed by hundreds of Lanterns as over 10,000 people came out into the streets and celebrated!

Each year the Lantern Parade brings together the community of the Hills in a highly inclusive celebration of friendship and creativity at Winter Solstice. The street is reclaimed for the people and thousands flock to take part in one of the best and biggest community-made spectacles as hundreds of lanterns line the main street, accompanied by drummers, dancers and performers. Before the parade you could catch a story in the library, get your face painted and watch the bands and choirs performing along the street. After the parade you can stick around for the street party with acrobats, music and poetry.

This year saw an even better Village, with the amazing teepee sized 'lanterns' created by Renate Crow with the assistance of many—where people could sit inside and congregate. There was an improved layout and extra lighting lights provided by SES, enhancing access to the food stalls and other activities such as circus performances, star-gazing with the Mount Burnett Observatory crew, firepits to sit and sing around and much more going on. And that's all in addition to a huge parade with lots of large community lanterns joining in this year in addition to all of the families with their lights - big and small.

A big big thank you to the team of coordinators in 2017 who made this possible:

Renate Crow, Toni Main and Justine Walsh (core team), Glenn Scolyer (artists), Ruccis Circus, Belgrave Rotary, SES, Scouts, DRERS, Belgrave Library, Barb McFarlane, tiger MC, Cr Mike Clark, Roderick Mcleod, RAPA, CFA, all the volunteer team and to everyone who made 2017 such a fabulous ten year celebration event!

### Cultural, Social and Economic Impact

Based on a 2015 Council survey and REMPLAN data multipliers, the Belgrave Lantern Parade resulted in an influx of local income that equates to the equivalent of 6 jobs and \$1.3M, a significant boost to the local economy,

Yet even more important is the contribution this event makes to inclusive, creative community engagement every year. The Lantern Parade takes a 'place' and activates it as a community 'space' in which to belong.

It brings together an incredible diversity of volunteers – from artists to the local SES and CFA, Rotary and street performers to name but a few – who combine to create more than the sum of their collective energies in this event. Burringja supports this event in partnership with the Belgrave Traders Association, and this year's support of the festival included facilitation of planning meetings, provision of funding Auspice, Public Liability Insurance for the event, risk management plan review, marketing assistance and volunteering at the parade.

Belgrave Lantern Parade is funded by Yarra Ranges Council through Belgrave Community Arts Partnership.



## CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT—projects for community

### The Burrinja Arties

#### *Planned Activity Group - Home and Community Care*

What another amazing jam packed eventful year for the Arties. This one celebrating 10 years with Lynette Forrest as the resident Creative Arts therapist for the program, and with some of the original participants still with us. The continuity has been wonderful for the sense of community and belonging that the arties feel every Friday when they are picked up by happy and caring volunteers' and welcomed to a vibrant Burrinja.

This year we participated for the third time in the Biennial Global Art for Peace Project [www.globalartproject.org](http://www.globalartproject.org). We made, sent and received art from a similar group in the USA which is a great buzz for the Arties. During this project we were able to employ a young dedicated arties Volunteer who had completed her studies of Arts therapy, while Lynette went overseas and exchanged global art.

A magic show in the theatre was a full participatory experience, inviting the Sherbrooke Cottage Planned Activity Group. Steve the Magician had us entranced.

The group was kept warm over winter with donations of vibrant hand knitted scarves, by the shawl ministry.

A group collaborative song was written and performed from the Arties words, entitled *Chase those bad dreams away*.

And finally in November our annual exhibition *Edges*

and *Echoes. Exploring the Liminal: the threshold of space and time*. The exhibition showcased 10 years of a group of adults that have journeyed with the creative arts, to the edge of their worlds. We work at the edge of the forest, the end of the suburbs. Echoes of times past and things we have done or have been before.

The exhibition was also covered in a Hillscene blog and attended by families and friends of the Arties and Sherbrooke Cottage Planned Activity group.

The Arties, adults living in challenging circumstances, receive all monies from sales of their art and donations during the exhibition. With another successful silent auction and many generous donations the arties again had money to spend on themselves for Christmas.

Kelly says "*Friday is so Inspirational, I wish it could be every day of my week.*"

*"Mental Wellbeing is one of the positive outcomes for the 'Burrinja Arties' program."* Lynette Forrest, Burrinja Arties Facilitator

Not only did we achieve all these outcomes, a sensory Garden was offered to the Arties group, so working bees by the volunteers and staff and art projects with the arties we commenced, stay tuned for next years' AGM instalment.

This is all thanks to the generosity and help of Burrinja, Funding from the Department of Health and Human Services and the friends of the Arties and volunteers.

**LYNETTE FORREST** | Creative Arts Therapist



*Arties, volunteers and workers—Mad Hatters Invitation*

## CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT—PROJECTS FOR COMMUNITY

### Burrinja Kids... Stay and Play

Burrinja aims to be a welcoming environment for families to engage with the arts in a practical and affordable way, throughout the year. Developed by Burrinja in collaboration with local artists, 'Burrinja Kids... Stay and Play!' is an exciting initiative that invites children and families to engage with art through a range of hands-on activities. The program celebrates the Burrinja exhibition program by creating interactive avenues to ignite the imagination and creativity of our young patrons.

The Kids Stay and Play region has become a highlight for visiting young people, and indeed their parents. The rotation of artists allows for dynamic, engaging and high calibre participatory arts activities to be available for children all year round.



*Eliza Phillips—My Grandparents came by Boat. With Ted Short, Oliver Beaton, Ned Beaton & Sam Geeling*



*Renate Crow's Lanterns inspired play installation*

Over the year, the Kids Stay n Play activities have seen creative engagement from over 1000 young people. During this time four talented local artists were funded to create interactive works for children:

**Tamara McLeish, Andrea Innocent, Eliza Phillips and Renate Crow.**

For the fourth year now Burrinja hosted the **National Gallery of Victoria's Kids on Tour** program, sharing with children contemporary art and summer exhibitions on display at the National Gallery of Victoria. 2017 saw activities inspired by the exhibitions of Viktor & Rolf: Fashion Artists and John Olsen: You Beaut County. These activities included creating your own paper collar or cut out and design a Dachshund. The children visiting Burrinja during January and February were inspired to unleash their creativity in this range of FREE activities.

### The Upwey Archies

In 2016 Burrinja partnered with the Upwey Township group to coordinate the Upwey Archies. Inspired by the Archibald Prize and Yarra Ranges Council's 'Not The Archies', the Upwey Archies is a community portrait project that saw 39 artworks submitted.

Artists created an original artwork celebrating someone special to the hills community or to themselves which was then displayed publicly throughout Upwey between October 14 and November 15 in Tin Pan Alley, Abitza, YRC Link, Old Hardware Store, Hosford Health Clinic, Paint Magic, Mak Hair, Silhouette Grooming & Pet Supplies and Café Grounded.

The winner of the open category was Annette Woodward for 'Strength'. The highly commended open category awards went to Kristy Linn and Emma Johnson. The winner of the youth category was Ava Lind for 'Grandpa Green' and the highly commended award went to Sabrina Murphy.

Many thanks to Belgrave Book Barn for the donation of the canvas art boards and to Joy Serwylo and Gabi Symonds for judging the competition.



*Annette Woodward's winning entry for 2016*



Hillscene is an important partnership and creative outcome for Burrinja and the community – a voice and outlet for so much that is happening in the hills *community, culture, environment*.

We thank **Fletchers Real Estate** for their continued sponsorship and support in 2017.

### ZINE

The hillscene magazine continues to be a high quality, much sought after publication. Under the drive and guidance of Adriana Alvarez, in partnership with Burrinja, the hillscene continues to support, promote and advocate for 'community, culture and environment' in the hills region.

The magazine now boasts **28** full colour issues, and recently celebrated its **6<sup>th</sup>** birthday. A wonderful lineage and history that continues to showcase the creative and community focus of the region.

This year there has been a continuation of support for hillscene magazine, with an editorial committee encom-

passing:

- Adriana Alvarez (editor / designer)
- Ross Farnell (writer)
- Amy Middleton (writer)
- Gareth Hart (writer)
- Jen Angel (photography)
- Anna James (sub-editing)
- Justine Walsh (writer / poet)

We continue to support the hillscene magazine which passes on this support to a range of local writers, photographers and artists. In total, the past twelve months of the hillscene featured **46 guest** contributors to the 4 issues of the magazine.

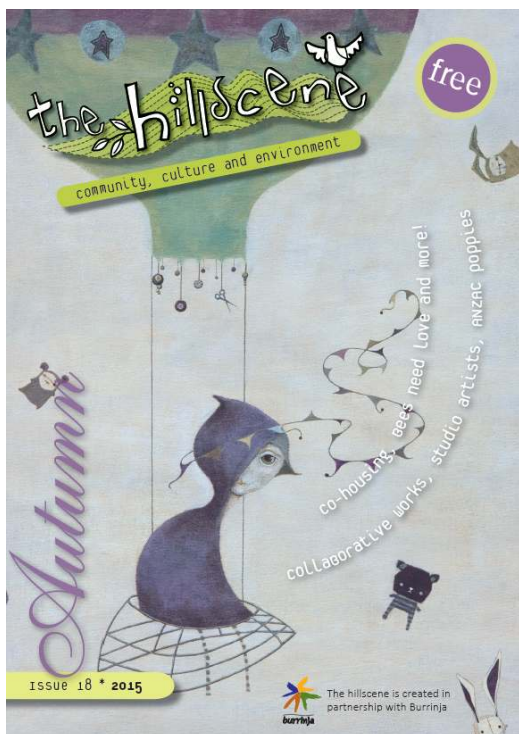
In total, **4000** copies of the hillscene landed on the streets during the past financial year.

Online readership is also strong, reaching an average of an extra 1000 people per year (via ISSU.com).

Having your artwork featured on the cover of hillscene has become a much sought after recognition.

### BLOG

The hillscene blog has continued to attract new subscribers and readers during the past year, and publishes new posts regularly with a wide range of contributors and topics. The blog provides an effective medium for regular arts and culture stories from the hills and for younger and emerging writers and photographers to develop their craft and be published. It also spreads the hillscene brand to a readership far beyond the hills.





### Hillscene LIVE 2016 - Mapping Immediacy

In 2016 hillsceneLIVE exploded as a massive three day live art festival held in a disused office space in Mount Evelyn, Victoria. This year the program had the theme 'mapping immediacy' that became a provocation to the artists, asking them to consider the immediate, within the ongoing continuum of past and future as they made their work.

The 2016 festival supported:

- 33 artists (16 emerging artists)
- The creation of 17 new works
- 3 conversation panels: 'Alternative Economies', 'Art & Vulnerability' and 'What is Improvisation?'
- 3 new collaborations
- The hillscene100: a free social inclusion dinner for 100 people with guest speaker Kumari Middleton from Mayibuye and Care to Dance.

The annual program of artistic support continued with the cultural leadership committee coordinating the professional development and studio sessions for the artists. Justine Walsh, Toni Main and Alana Michaud continued their journey as the cultural leadership committee for hillsceneLIVE, who also undertook further development in cultural leadership and festival management, and took on bigger responsibilities as producers on the program.

The 2016 hillsceneLIVE festival successfully ran without any government project funding, and saw a rallying of the community to support the program through a highly successful crowdfunding campaign, that

was matched by Creative Partnerships Australia, and an increase in business sponsorship.

#### Audience survey results:

100% saw/heard/experienced a work of an artist they were previously unfamiliar with

100% felt that the event enriches the creative life of the region

Three words that encapsulate your experience of the festival: *raw, inviting, welcome, wide, invigorating, dense, confronting, warm fuzzies, nourishing, exhilarating, brave, unifying, fun, wonder*

#### Artist Survey results:

100% found hillsceneLIVE extremely or very important to their professional development as artists

100% felt they reached new audiences through the festival

100% felt that the event enriches the creative life of the region

#### In 2017 hillsceneLIVE continues to flourish with:

Stronger relationships between hillsceneLIVE and the wider Victorian Arts Sector, including Footscray Community Arts Centre, and a clearly defined MOU with Burrinja

Better support for environmentally sustainable arts practice, with a goal to make the festival more eco-friendly

An all new management team under the leadership of co-directors Justine Walsh and Toni Main



Performers and audience at Hillscene LIVE 2016

## CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT—PROJECTS FOR COMMUNITY

### Creating Tracks

#### A new dance work for the region – KAGE

##### **Expect... the Unexpected**

This year Burrinja and Yarra Ranges Council continued to extend their commitment to supporting the development and presentation of new works with the *Creating Tracks* program. This ground-breaking initiative supports the independent dance sector and its artists with opportunities to develop and showcase new independent, professional work for the stage.

*Creating Tracks* is an exciting initiative that aims to develop something fresh, something new, and something very exciting for lovers of dance and performance.

KAGE was selected from a strong field of choreographers, directors and companies vying for the new *Creating Tracks* opportunity, which provides fees, development space, rehearsal time, technical and professional support for the creation of a new work.

*Creating Tracks* continues an on-going commitment to developing contemporary dance practice and audiences in the region, and is a legacy of the region-wide joint dance development strategy between Burrinja and Council - Dance Tracks.

KAGE bring significant experience and originality to the project, collaborating within the region to develop a new work for our cultural venues and our community.

The work in development, TONIC, is a new contemporary piece which will be shaped in our creative spaces over 3 months, and then premiere at Burrinja, The Memo in Healesville and the Upper Yarra Arts Centre in Warburton.

The program has been designed to create professional development opportunities for dance professionals in our region, joining KAGE on their creative journey; two of the most experienced choreographers, creators and performers of contemporary dance in Australia today.

*Creating Tracks* provides a rare opportunity for audiences and dance practitioners alike to get behind the normally closed doors of the creative process that produces a new dance work, and to then enjoy the experience of the final performances across the Yarra Ranges.



*Kate & Gerard of KAGE -  
top: filming in the Yarra Ranges;  
right: in performance*



## VISUAL ARTS

After an extremely busy period in 2015/16 the following year appeared like a breeze. It was time to harvest the fruits and reap some well-earned awards. The planning for the Sydney launch of touring exhibition *Black Mist Burnt Country* dominated the beginning of the year and culminated in the official opening at National SH Ervin Gallery on Observatory Hill on 27 September 2016.

The event marked the 60th anniversary of the first atomic test at Maralinga in South Australia and as expected generated strong interest in the national media. Among the 200 guests Burrinja was represented by Executive Director Ross Farnell who spoke at the opening and our marketing manager Hannah Raisin; present was also Yarra Ranges Councillor Noel Cliff; as well as numerous friends lending additional moral support.

At last year's AGM I presented the project in detail and spoke about the development of the exhibition, its scheduled tour, funding strategies and media coverage achieved, so I will spare readers these details. Suffice to say, the exhibition was indeed off to a great start. It attracted phenomenal visitor numbers at the Art Gallery of Ballarat over the holiday period; it went on to Swan Hill Regional Gallery, where it was beautifully presented, and has been shown in Queensland at Gold Coast City Gallery and Pinnacles Gallery in Townsville over the past few months.

Not one venue is like the other, in lay-out or staffing structure, and this presents challenges along the way. However, the positive reception has been a common thread so far. Visitors are shocked to learn how little

they know and genuinely moved to find out about the details of Aboriginal dislocation and destruction of the country as told through the artworks. 'Thought-provoking' is a word which appears frequently in the exhibition visitor book.

At the annual Museums Australia National Awards in May *Black Mist Burnt Country. Testing the Bomb - Maralinga and Australian Art* received a 'Highly Commended'. The project was selected from a competitive group of twelve finalists, among these some of the largest institutions in the country. This acknowledgement by peers and the peak body is a significant achievement, and has contributed to Burrinja's promotion around the country.

Following on from this accolade Burrinja was then awarded Best Small Museum by Museums Australia Victoria at their 2016-17 Awards for the *Black Mist Burnt Country* exhibition and for its partnering with the Indigenous community and other groups. Remarkably, this is the third time Burrinja has received the award in 7 years.

Another highlight was the exhibition *Masters of Aboriginal Art: Emily Kame Kngwarreye* with a great selection of paintings from the Ebes Collection, which introduced visitors to all seven stages of the artist's late and short career. It was a unique and significant showcase, and a great honour to be able to present one of Australia's greatest artists. Certainly an unforgettable moment in any curator's career. I would like to thank Hank Ebes for his generous access to the collection and support for the exhibition.



*Black Mist Burnt Country—installation and public program activity area - Art Gallery of Ballarat*

## VISUAL ARTS

*Growing Pains* is a fitting title for a new initiative which brings to Burrinja exhibitions and installations by emerging artists. Katherine Reynolds, Britt Westaway and Dan Draper are the drivers behind this exciting program which offers new, young and up-coming artists access to exhibition space in the upstairs gallery and professional development. (See below for more information ) The project is supported by Burrinja and again shows Burrinja's broad and dynamic approach to 'building community through arts'.

### EXHIBITION PROGRAM 2016-17

Jacqui Grace (studio artist, textiles, group exhibition and workshop)

Mater Christi Art Show (mixed mediums, community group exhibition)

*Masters of Aboriginal Art: Emily Kame Kngwarreye* - from the Ebes Collection,

Land & Identity (Aboriginal paintings from the Westaway collection)

Wominjeka - New Beginnings (Victorian Aboriginal art, various mediums, NETS Touring Exhibition)

VCE Showcase (various mediums)

*Invoking Indigo* - Jude Craig & Upwey High School Students. Textiles and various mediums

Open Studios exhibition (various mediums, group exhibition)

Jonathan Carmichael, Vicki Moritz, Ebony Finck (photography)

Arlpwe Arts (Aboriginal paintings, group exhibition)

I would like to thank all Burrinja staff and volunteers for their on-going support and advice throughout 2016/17. It has been a pleasure working with you, and I am looking forward to producing a successful and engaging program with you in the future.

**JD MITTMANN** | Curator & Manager of Collections



Angela Henricksen of Archival Survival presenting JD Mittmann (r) and Ross Farnell (c) with the Best Small Museum Award .



## VISUAL ARTS

# GROWING PAINS

### *Growing Pains Initiative*

Growing Pains Initiative is the brain child of a visual artist, a graphic designer and a games developer: Katherine Reynolds, Britt Westaway and Dan Draper.

As the Open Studios emerging artists program developed in late 2016 Burrinja and the GPI founders got together to discuss ways to make affordable, accessible gallery space available for young emerging artists.

From this came the establishment of a formal memorandum of understanding between Burrinja and GPI that gives the artist run initiative year-round access to

the first floor foyer gallery to program for emerging artists under 30. It helps establish pathways and connections for young artists in the region to get connected with art spaces, professional development, artist networks, and the public.

From May 2017 GPI have offered solo and group exhibitions in the first floor foyer gallery, workshops, advice and support. The gallery space will host 11 exhibitions per year.

As the founders of GPI say:

*"Young people and emerging artists don't always know what they're doing, but are passionate and are willing to give it a red hot go anyway, and Growing Pains is ready to cheer them on and back them even if things don't go to plan. At Growing Pains Initiative we encourage the loud, the bold, the uncertain, the experimental, the political, the serene, the whatever it is that gets you going."*

[www.growingpainsinitiative.com](http://www.growingpainsinitiative.com)

@growingpainsinitiative



Top: GPI artists who exhibited at Open Studios 2017  
Front from left: Britt Westaway, Katherine Reynolds, Dan Draper, Jeremy Swan  
Rear: Zahara Lingard – Coe, Talia Van Bockel, Emma Koumourou, Adam Thompson, Nadia Sirninger Rankin, Brendan Hartnett, Molly Simons  
Right: artwork by Emma Koumourou from *Reverie*

## THEATRE PROGRAM



Crew installing the intricate set for DRACULA

### PROGRAMMING 2016-17

Theatre patronage to the annual Burrinja Program again increased this year, up by 7% on the previous financial year to just on 6,290, with Burrinja show box office revenues up 8% to \$154,000.

Our vision, program and marketing for the year - *Burrinja - Belong* - clearly resonated with audiences, who saw some fabulous performances.

Burrinja continued to work on presenting co-productions with community, Ruccis Circus, DRMC, the Nicholas Chamber Orchestra and Singularity Choir, Orchestra Victoria, and the Melbourne Recital Centre / Yarra Ranges Council for Classical Tracks.

This year we also partnered with the **Small Gems** consortium, which includes Gasworks Art Park, to present new smaller and fringe works for the Black Box performance space.

### BURRINJA THEATRE

BURRINJA CIRCUS FESTIVAL  
 EDUCATING RITA  
 BURRINJA WITH ATTITUDE  
 BUCKETS LIST  
 ALWAYS PATSY CLINE  
 BOREDOM PROTECTION POLICY  
 THE GIZMO

Dislocate & Ruccis  
 HIT Productions  
 DRMC  
 Melb Fringe on Tour  
 HIT Productions  
 Rod Quantock  
 NCM

MY LATIN HEART	Grigoryan Bros
ORCHESTRA VICTORIA	Orchestra Victoria
ANNA'S PROMISE	Nicholas Chamber
HELLO BEAUTIFUL—HANNIE RAYSON	Gasworks Art Park
EMPYREAN	Melbourne Ballet
MY BROWN PAPER CLOUDS	IN Helvetica
SLAPDASH GALAXY	Bunk Puppets / RAV
STONES IN HIS POCKETS	Critical Stages
PETULA CLARK - DOWNTOWN	Hilary Henshaw
LOVE SONGS	Kate Ceberano/ Paul Grabowski
THE MYSTERY OF THE HANDSOME CAB	Lux Radio Theatre
DRACULA	ArtTour QLD
BACKERSFIELD MIST	Tasmania Theatre co
THE MERRY WIDOW	Singularity Choir
GREEK GODDESS	Small Gems
MELBOURNE INT COMEDY FESTIVAL	MICF Roadshow



Orchestra Victoria sound check

## ARTIST STUDIOS

Studio space remains in high demand at Burrinja, with many artists eagerly awaiting space to become available.

Our future planning looks to redress this demand and create more shared and casual accessible creative working spaces at Burrinja. This is in addition to our existing coLAB and shared studio spaces.

The creative network continues to evolve through all of this arts practice and with the addition of Growing Pains taking up residence the first floor gallery space.



*Matt Riley (rear right) with Troy Innocent (rear left) presenting the Epiphyte project in development*

### NEIL MCLEOD STUDIO 1

Neil McLeod has a lifetime's experience working in the field as a photographer, artist, and most importantly, as a researcher collecting, recording and preserving indigenous art and culture in Aboriginal and Papua New Guinea communities.

Neil generously gifted some 600 indigenous works from 2001 to 2004 to form the McLeod Gift Collection, housed at Burrinja.

### AMNION—RODERICK PRICE STUDIO 2

Roderick is a multi-disciplined artist working primarily in the field of sound design. His practice is based on a constant investigation into the different approaches both within and across music and sound design, and the practical implementation of such ideas in a variety of formats, media and products.

### BEAUTIFUL WASTELAND & ELIZA PHILIPS STUDIO 3

Eliza works with found objects and mixed media. She is heavily influenced by literature, fairy tales in particular. Mostly working in 3D, but also drawing and painting.

Beautiful Wasteland are eco-printing textile artists. Jacqui and Kate explore the inexhaustible vitality that bursts as botanical matter, metal, cloth and water dance. Their artworks are imbued with these moments of meeting.

### MICHELE FOUNTAIN & METAFOUR STUDIO STUDIO 4

Michele is primarily a handweaver, working mostly with rigid heddle looms. She also explores stitch and sculptural work, incorporating textile techniques and industrial materials. Metafour also offers textile supplies and weaving equipment.

### TBC AUSTRALIA - STUDIO 5

tbC engages young artists in a variety of professional art making processes, mediums, and collaborative practices. Young artists claim professional recognition via

highly 'visible' contemporary creative activity and the arts model attracts a broad and sustained youth membership.

### DAVE THOMSON—LOST FEW STUDIO 6

Dave Thomson is a sound artist focusing on the translation of spatiality in both natural and urban landscapes by means of physical and sonic transformation.

Lost Few serves as an exploration of sound design, video installation and audial journeys that seamlessly provoke and push audiences.

### AL MCINNES LIBRARY STUDIO

Al McInnes is an animator, musician and sound designer. His animation work has won awards and he makes films, games, installations & commercial works.

### INTERSPACE STUDIO

**Andrea Innocent**, a professional illustrator and designer with over fifteen years experience, regularly punching out snappy ideas for clients such as Microsoft, Cambridge University Press, NBN, Libra, TOLL and Cadbury.

**Matthew Riley** a designer, researcher and lecturer in animation, games and interactivity at RMIT University who has received international and national recognition for his practice.

### WORKSHOP STUDIO

**Rain White**—Rain's art is a development of a personal symbolic language and motifs.

**Steven Firman**—Steven's paintings seek to capture the irrational world of a child where real places become the setting for magical things to happen.

**Stephen Glover**—Stephen's artworks respond to experiences and memory of both people and place.

## THE SKYLARK ROOM - CAFE

In the past twelve months Snowy and her partners have taken The Skylark Room from strength to strength, as both the music program and the daily café menu have developed and evolved.

By day The Skylark Room is a dynamic cafe, with great coffee and a relaxed vibe. By night it becomes a speak-easy inspired bar & iconic live music venue, an artistic melting pot, which aims to inspire all who walk through the doors.

The entire ambience and atmosphere is an inspired nod to the vibe of the speak-easy. The team have continued putting in place new furnishings and fittings that make live music a great experience, and are refurbishing and fitting out the outdoor area to create a welcoming, self-contained alfresco area for the warmer months - opening out onto the parklands and gardens.

The pre-show foyer bar and meals have also had a full makeover, with the old shop space transitioning to a dedicated foyer bar facility that provides vastly improved service to our patrons.



### LIVE MUSIC program

The Skylark Room has seen the emphasis on great music programming return to this wonderful listening space, with live music most Friday and Saturday nights, the Skylark Band on many Sunday afternoons, and a whole range of different events on Thursdays:

It has become a venue of choice for many bands and the large audience numbers are proof of the popularity of this as a great venue for live music.



## PEOPLE AT BURRINJA | VOLUNTEERING

We strive to make volunteering at Burrinja a rewarding experience, giving back to volunteers opportunities to learn new skills and opportunities to develop lasting friendships and a sense of community connection.

The role that volunteers play in our organisation is significant. Burrinja would not be the place it is without the time, knowledge and experience that our volunteers bring to the organisation.

Burrinja's volunteers are a living embodiment of our mission statement: *Building Community through Arts*.

### Volunteering - the Numbers

Volunteers again contributed **4,000 hours** to Burrinja, across all areas including Reception/ Box Office (2000 hours) Gallery, Burrinja Arties (750 hours), the Board (500), IT, Interns and work experience. (another 500 hrs)

### Volunteer hours provide \$100,000 value to our community\*

This remarkable contribution - just over 2.0 full time equivalent positions - makes an enormous difference to arts and culture in the region. Burrinja simply would not be able to provide the level of programs it does without our volunteers.

(\* Based on ABS/ OurCommunity valuing of volunteer hours)

### Volunteering - the People

#### Reception / Box Office

For many of our customers the front desk volunteers are the face of Burrinja. Our front desk volunteers need to know about a vast range of activities, undertake numerous processes and all the while deliver good customer service.

Each year we must say farewell to some of our volunteers as they move either into paid employment, further studies or retirement, and we wish them the best with all their future endeavours.

This year we say an extra special thank you to **Jan Lamb**. Jan has been the regular Friday morning face of Burrinja on the front desk for the past 10 years, providing cheerful, calm consistency throughout all the changes we have had in that time. Total of 1,697 volunteer hours !! Thank you Jan.

*Thank you: Carmel Dettman, Melanie Drewett, Caitlyn Erbs, Anne Gabsch, Susan Grist, Lene Henriksen, Kate Schumann, Rowena Ward, Janet Hergt, Karin Wetter, Colby Hocking, Jane Clark, Emma Johnson, Christy Coyne, Priyanga Gayawardena.*

#### Gallery

We would struggle to present all the exhibitions we do without the help of volunteers. They provide much

needed help in setting up and taking down exhibitions, preparing the spaces, including painting, researching, archiving the McLeod Gift Collection through to helping at openings and leading guided tours.

*Thank you: Katherine Reynolds, Jan Lamb, Lene Henriksen and Lee Goller*

#### Community Sensory Garden

*Kate Schumann* has been the driving force behind the wonderfully successful sensory garden, assisted by *Rowena Ward* and many others in various capacities including the *Hills Food Frontier* Volunteers. Thanks to all who have helped out at working bees - the arts workshop space is now enjoyed by staff, studio artists, the arties and workshop participants.



Kate has also used the garden to give talks to community groups on the benefits of gardening and good mental health.

#### Burrinja Arties (HACC Program)

Our long running Arties program is supported by a dedicated and remarkable group of volunteers who contribute so much to the fantastic outcomes of this program, working with Lyn Forrest.

*Thank you: Antoinette Baird, Rod Larkins, Nadine Spilbury, Janet Hergt, Ches Mills, Kristy Spiker, Michelle Barns-Dunne and Luke Hilston who joined us for his VET placement, and requested an extension on his placement !!*



## PEOPLE AT BURRINJA | VOLUNTEERING

### IT (Information Tech/ Networks)

As always - in fact for 19 years now!! - *David Jewell* has given too many hours of his time to count ensuring our IT keeps running reliably and that it evolves with all the new technologies and possibilities - it is a truly remarkable effort.

### Cultural Development Volunteers

*Thank you: Makayla Rimington & Paul Tate*

### Theatre 'Burrinja Belong' Hosts

*Thank you: Rowena Ward, Lyn Forrest & Susan Grist*

### Burrinja Board

The Board of Management are a team of volunteers who provide governance, leadership and strategic direction to the organisation and ensure that we are in a position to be able to deliver all that we do. Find out more about our Board in the Organisation pages.

### The Unofficial Volunteers

Once again many partners and friends of staff have unofficially volunteered their assistance throughout the year, most notably this year *Dennis Curnow* and *Tim Smith*. Thanks to everyone who lends a hand!

### Burrinja Interns Program

Burrinja Internship program provides undergraduates and recent graduates with the opportunity to work in a thriving, hands on arts organisation to develop their professional skills and resume, better preparing them for great future careers in the sector. These are terrific

win-win positions, with Burrinja benefiting from the interns assistance on projects and developing great relationships with those who will drive arts and culture into the future.

### Work Experience

Each year Burrinja makes itself available to students at local schools interested in working in the arts to gain some valuable experience of what that means, each doing a week each across administration, marketing, box office, front of house and theatre tech.

For all their support throughout the year our thanks goes to our great team of volunteers: you are an integral part of the Burrinja Family!!

### And a farewell...

It has been an honour and a privilege to be the Volunteer Coordinator over the past 10 years. There have been many changes in that time and with it extra challenges for the Volunteers. Without your dedication and ability to grow and accept challenges, Burrinja would not be where it is today.

Thank you to Burrinja and all our Volunteers past and present for making the last 10yrs a very special time in my life. It is with some sadness that I retire from this role, but with joy that I get to pass the baton onto Jane Thomas. I have every confidence in her abilities to continue to look after our Volunteers with common sense and compassion. I know they will be in good hands.

Volunteer Coordinator | **TRACY HAYLLAR**



*Volunteers, Board Members, Staff and partners celebrate 2016 at the Christmas Party  
Tracy Hayllar, Volunteer Coordinator (third from left)*

## PEOPLE AT BURRINJA | BOARD & STAFF

### BOARD

2016—17

**Matthew Posetti** | President

**Mary Fitz-Gerald** | Vice President

**Jon Whitehead** | Treasurer

**Paul O'Halloran** | Secretary

**Holly DeMaria**

**Louis Delacretaz**

**Zac Exner**

**Annette Rudd**

**Janet Turpie-Johnstone**

**Cr Mike Clarke** | YRC Appointed Representation



*Burrinja Foyer all abuzz for the performance of Dracula*

### STAFF

**Ross Farnell** | Executive Director

**Toni Kirk** | Venue Manager

**JD Mittmann** | Curator and Manager of Collections

**Anda Petrapsch** | Front of House and Box Office Coordinator

**Hannah Raisin** | Marketing Coordinator

**Gareth Hart / Toni Main** | Community Cultural Development Officer

**Liam Mitchinson / Trevor Ploeg** | Venue Technical Coordinators

**Tracy Hayllar** | Volunteer Coordinator

**Katherine Reynolds, Tracy Hayllar, Jane Thomas, Bluzal Field, Kate McManus, Toni Main** | Duty Managers

**Bronwyn Millen** | Finance Administrator

**Lynette Forest** | HACC Arts Facilitator

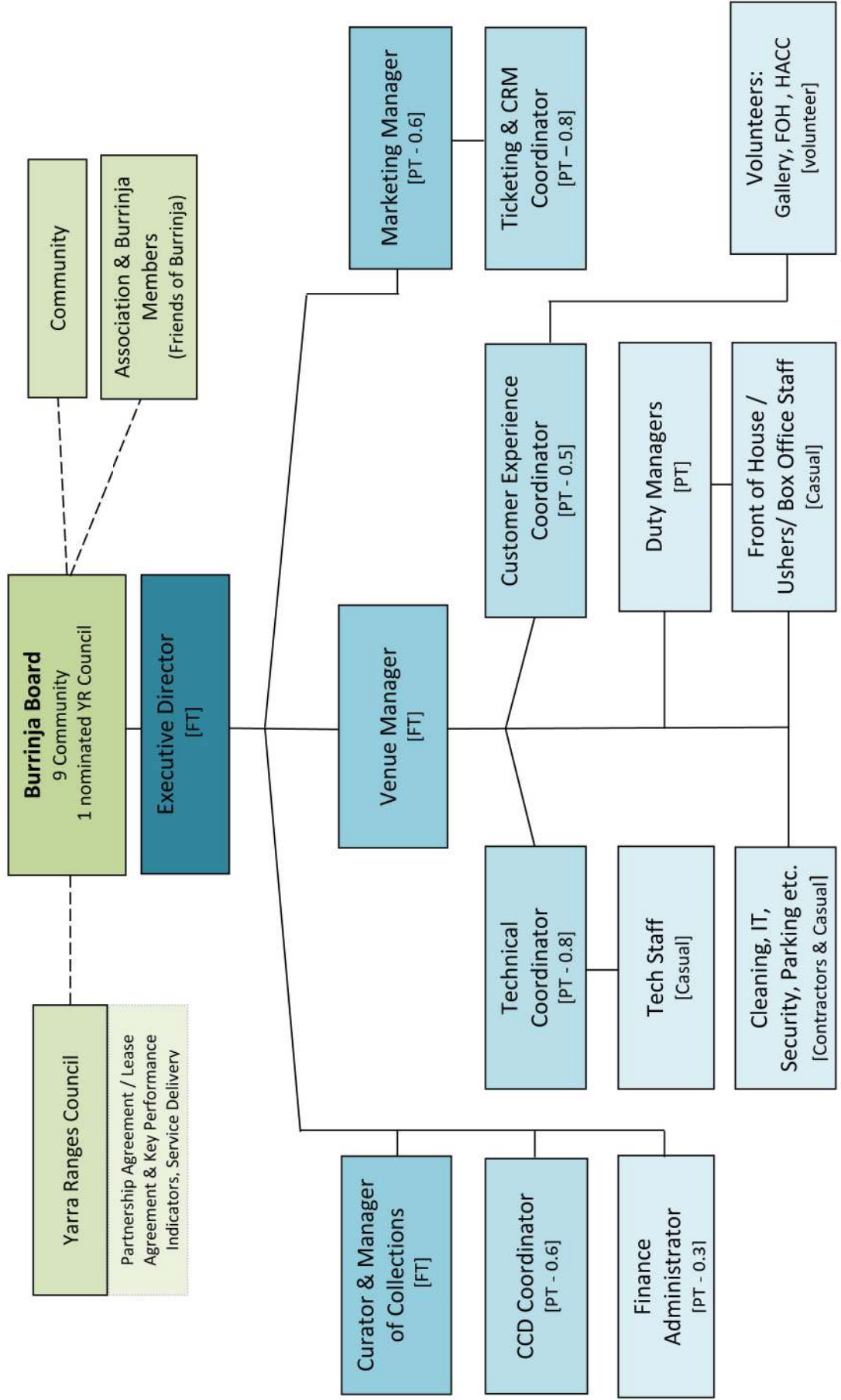
**Gill Cruikshank** | Rainbows & Sparkles - workshops

Casual Box Office/ Theatre Crew | **Britt Westaway, Dallas Hart, Dan Draper, Lene Henricksen, Anna James,**

**Katherine Reynolds, Luca Farnell, Laurence Schinina**

Parking Marshalls | **Laurence Schinina, Mitchell Cattini-Shultz**

# PEOPLE | ORGANISATION-STRUCTURE





## ORGANISATION—BOARD & GOVERNANCE

**The Dandenong Ranges Community Cultural Centre** (trading as Burrinja) was incorporated as a not-for-profit cultural organisation in July 1998.

The organisation received Charity status for taxation purposes in October 2015.

Board Members serve 3 year rotating terms.

The Board of Management met for 10 ordinary meetings from Nov 2016 to Sept 2017 on a monthly basis, with the Executive Director in attendance.

**abn** 23 672 833 616

**Inc** A0036860V

### IN PARTNERSHIP - YARRA RANGES COUNCIL

The Partnering Agreement between Burrinja and the Yarra Ranges Council establishes 'a mutually beneficial alliance between Burrinja and the Council to ensure effective planning, development and delivery of arts and cultural services for the Dandenong Ranges region in keeping with the aims and objectives of Burrinja and relevant Council policies including Vision 2020 and the Cultural Policy and Action Plan.

Burrinja's Partnering Agreement is current to 2018.

### SUB COMMITTEES: 2016-17

The following sub-committees pursued specific tasks with regular, scheduled meetings throughout the year.

#### GOVERNANCE

Mary Fitz-gerald, Paul O'Halloran, Holly DeMaria, Zac Exner

#### FINANCE

Jon Whitehead, Louis Delacretaz, Matthew Posetti

#### HUMAN RESOURCES

Matthew Posetti, Mary Fitz-gerald, Paul O'Halloran, Annette Rudd

#### BELGRAVE COMMUNITY ARTS PARTNERSHIP (Lantern Parade)

Burrinja Reps: Ross Farnell

#### BELGRAVE SURVIVAL DAY

Burrinja Rep: Aunty Janet Turpie-Johnstone

#### PUBLIC FUND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (ROCO)

Jon Whitehead, Mary Fitz-Gerald, Cr Mike Clarke (YRC), Janet Turpie-Johnstone, Dr Ross Farnell

Burrinja is also represented by the Executive Director Ross Farnell with the following peak organisations:

- YARRA RANGES TOURISM:  
Chair Arts & Culture Working Group; Member Marketing Sub-Committee
- PUBLIC GALLERIES ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (PGAV)
- VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION OF PERFORMING ARTS CENTRES (VAPAC)
- MUSEUMS AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA) - with JD Mittmann

### STRATEGIC & BUSINESS PLAN : 2016-2020

Burrinja developed and adopted a new combined four year Strategic and Business Plan in April 2016. It is designed to be concise, actionable and measurable, guiding the Organisation operationally and creatively until 2020.

Key Goals and KPIs are in this report with current benchmarks and targets.

The full plan is available on the Burrinja web site.



*l - r: Dr Ross Farnell, Mayor Cr N Cliff and Cr L Cox – VCE Creative Showcase Opening*

## ORGANISATION—BOARD & GOVERNANCE

Name	Member since	Position	Key Skill Sets	Ordinary Meetings 2016-17	Sub-committee Meetings
Matthew Posetti	2012	President	Tertiary & Cultural Sector Planning and Co-ordination, Performing Arts Management	8	4
Mary Fitz-gerald	2008	Vice President	Education Sector and Management, Financial, HR, Governance, Strategic Planning	8	4
Paul O'Halloran	1999	Secretary	Education sector. Risk Management, Health, Projects and HR. Strategic Planning	10	3
Jon Whitehead	2016	Treasurer	Treasurer. Financial controller, Accounting, Planning	9	3
Holly DeMaria	2015	Ordinary	Arts & Community Cultural Development, Youth, Events, Local Government, Business	7	2
Louis Delacretaz	1999	Ordinary	Leadership, Business, Governance, Finance and Community, Strategic Planning	5	2
Zac Exner *	2015	Ordinary	Marketing, Publicity, Promotions in the Arts. Festivals, Events.	5 *	1
Annette Rudd	2015	Ordinary	Governance, Project Management, Strategic Planning, Health & Arts, Evaluation	5	0
Janet Turpie-Johnstone	2014	Ordinary	Aboriginal Equity, Governance, Leadership, Training, Assessing	7	2
			# Total Ordinary Board Meetings was 10		
			*resigned in June due to relocation		
Cr. Mike Clarke	2015	YR Council	Local ward Councillor.	9	0



Cr Noel Cliff with Students and Teachers at the VCE Opening

# STRATEGIC & BUSINESS PLAN | 2016 - 2020

## GOALS & PROGRESS ON ANNUAL TARGETS

Following an extensive review Burrinja developed and adopted a new combined four year Strategic and Business Plan in April 2016. This included updating our organisation's four strategic goals, and modifying our incorporated statements of purpose. The latter was partly concerned with compliance regards our Charity status.

Our goals, aims and purpose are still well aligned with our vision - *building community through arts*.

The plan is designed to be concise, actionable and measurable, guiding the Organisation operationally and creatively until 2020. It includes revised and prioritised strategic actions to reach our KPIs, updated program plan and overview, and specifies ways of measuring outcomes.

The full plan can be downloaded from our web site.

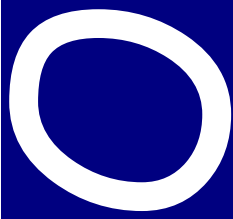
The annual targets set in the strategic plan are based on benchmarks current as at July 2016.

Goal	KPI	Annual Targets		
		2016-17	PROGRESS	2017-18
<b>1. Making great arts &amp; culture</b>  <i>a) To enable, facilitate and develop experiential and extended arts practice and programs across diverse art forms and cultural activities within the region;</i>  <i>b) To be recognised and valued locally and nationally for empowering artists in the development of distinctive, original arts and cultural practices.</i>	Increase organisational capacity to support artists & development of new work / arts practice <sup>1</sup>	1.9 FTE	Not Met. 1.4 FTE achieved See NOTE 1	2.2 EFT
	Develop / co-produce cross-platform/ partnered, innovative programs / tours / events <sup>2</sup>	4 per annum	Exceeded	5 per annum
	Support, enable, engage region's artists in their practice	450+ artists directly enabled / 35+ projects	Met	5% increase
	Burrinja identified as supporting artists and creative practice in the region	75% by annual survey (2015)	Exceeded. 88.27%	+ 5%
	Studio practice at Burrinja is active, accessible, engaged	Studio Artist satisfaction KPIs met	Met	Studio Artist satisfaction KPIs met
<b>2. Embedding Indigenous culture and cultural heritage</b>  <i>Valuing, appreciating, engaging and enabling Indigenous culture is embedded across the organisation's practices and programming, including museum standard collection management and curatorial practices</i>	Indigenous artists/ cultural workers engaged in programs / program delivery	Minimum 10 Indigenous arts workers engaged	Met	Minimum 10 Indigenous arts workers engaged
	Indigenous community is actively engaged formally & informally	Negotiate relationship with current network	In Progress - ongoing	Formal Partnership created – developed
	Increasing Burrinja identification with Indigenous culture (Annual Survey)	70% by Survey (2015)	Exceeded. 88.78%	70% of surveyed
	Museum Accreditation certification and collection / ethical best practices maintained	Successful 3 Year MAP Review	Met	Maintain MAP and review standards
	Community engages with accessible Indigenous cultural programming (Annual Survey)	Not surveyed	Review Measure and Process	25%

## STRATEGIC & BUSINESS PLAN | 2016 - 2020

Goal	KPI	Annual Targets		
		2016-17	PROGRESS	2017-18
<b>3. Community connections - Audience engagement</b>  <i>To extend Burrinja's cultural reach into and engagement with the community including non-traditional arts audiences regionally and beyond. Programming and facilitating shared and captivating community cultural events that contribute to the vibrancy, diversity and resilience of the region's cultural and social ecology.</i>	Increase attendances by 10% per annum	65k	Exceeded. 87,000 Inc external events	71k
	Regular Qualitative program participation surveys measure engagement, impact and level of service provision inc Cafe. <sup>3</sup>	Report October	Met Service levels met or exceeded	Report October
	Burrinja impact on region's cultural and social fabric recognised in community.	80% by Survey	Exceeded. 94.13%	80% by Survey
	Burrinja is strongly connected with region's arts community and leaders	Active with-in key regional arts / cultural events	Met / Exceed	Regional event stakeholders maintained
	Brand, Values and CCD recognition increased. <sup>3</sup>	75% by survey	Exceeded. 89.80%	80% by survey
	Extend Membership & Volunteer support base	Membership +20%	Exceeded. 45% increase	+10%
<b>4. Good governance</b>  <i>A healthy and sustainable organisation that enables goals and strategies to be achieved and exceeded, valuing creativity and innovation.</i>	Board governance, skills and professional development reviews. <sup>4</sup>	Annual	Met	Annual
	Professional & creative development – Staff, volunteers.	PD as identified	Met	PD as identified
	Generate a minimum 2.5% surplus each year	As % of operational budget	Improved. Not Met. Surplus at 1.43%	As % of operational budget
	Diversify and strengthen revenue sources inc non-government / philanthropic - foundation and other government <sup>5</sup>	Earned Income 42%	Not Met. Earned at 38.3% <sup>5</sup>	Earned Income 40+% / other non-Govt revenue 3%
	Improve facility sustainability, gallery & studio usability & visibility, patron access. Reduce running costs.	Pitch concepts to government	Met Design Developed. Funding Submission	Obtain feasibility & design funding
	Risk Management Plan monitored, assessed, updated regularly. Actions completed. staff & Board	Actions/ risks reviewed bi-annual-staff, annual-board	Met	Actions/ risks reviewed bi-annual-staff, annual-board
	Implement Continuous Improvement (CI) Policies and Plans across the organisation. Linked to Risk	CI Policy developed, review, adopted	In Progress - ongoing	CI implementation Plans developed

- Increases in FTE resources for CCD dependant on increased income, donations or funding. Links also to increased CCD Programming
- Annual targets re programming are linked to increased EFT resources for CCD roles.
- Based on Annual Survey which precedes each year's Annual Report and AGM.
- Annual pre-AGM 'self-assessment' process by Board Members comprising updating Skills Matrix and Board Effectiveness Survey, with professional development needs and opportunities identified.
- Earned income as a percentage of total operational revenues decreased due to significant Australia Council funding - at 11% of revenue



OVER **87,000** ATTENDING BURRINJA & SUPPORTED EVENTS | **200+** PERFORMANCES – DRAMA, COMEDY, DANCE,  
 PHYSICAL, MUSICAL, FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S THEATRE | **19** EXHIBITIONS - HUNDREDS OF ARTISTS | **30,000+**  
 TICKETS SOLD | OVER **6,000** PERFORMERS ON OUR STAGE | **307 WORKSHOPS** - CREATING, ENGAGING, LEARNING, ENJOYING |  
 BURRINJA **THEATRE SEASON** - 30+ SHOWS, 6,300 PATRONS | DANDENONG RANGES **OPEN STUDIOS** – 34 STUDIOS, 50+  
 ARTISTS, 7,900 VISITORS | BELGRAVE **LANTERN PARADE** – 10,000 PARTICIPANTS | **EMERGING ARTISTS** – OPEN STUDIOS, **GROWING**  
**PAINS** INITIATIVE AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT | BELGRAVE **SURVIVAL DAY** – CELEBRATING CULTURE AND LOCAL KNOWLEDGE |  
**HILLSCENE ZINE** – 4 FABULOUS ISSUES | **HILLSCENE LIVE** – DOZENS OF NEWLY DEVISED PERFORMANCES | **BURRINJA ARTIES** –  
 SUPPORTING THOSE AT RISK THROUGH ARTS | **ARTIST STUDIOS @ BURRINJA** – **ENABLING ARTS PRACTICE** | **CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**  
 OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM | **SCHOOLS** – A DOZEN SCHOOLS; THOUSANDS OF **CHILDREN PERFORMING** | **VCE** EXHIBITIONS –  
 OVER **30 EMERGING** YOUNG ARTISTS | **EDUCATION** PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS | **CIRCUS FESTIVAL** – 1000+ PARTICIPANTS –  
 WORKSHOPS AND PERFORMANCES | **COMMUNITY THEATRE** | **CREATING TRACKS NEW DANCE** WORK COMMISSION | **BEST**  
**SMALL MUSEUM** AWARD | **INDIGENOUS ARTS EXHIBITION** PROGRAMS | **BURRINJA KIDS STAY & PLAY** - 4 CURATED ACTIVITIES |  
**CULTURE TRACKS** - REGION-WIDE CULTURAL PROGRAM | **40 VOLUNTEERS** SUPPORTED | **4000 VOLUNTEER HOURS** |  
**CLASSICAL TRACKS** - WITH MELBOURNE RECITAL CENTRE | SUPPORTING **LOCAL MUSICIANS** THROUGH THE NICHOLAS CHAMBER  
 ORCHESTRA | OVER **8000 E-SUBSCRIBERS** | **SMALL GEMS** PRODUCING CONSORTIUM - NEW PERFORMANCE WORKS | **CO-**  
**PRODUCING NEW WORKS** WITH INDEPENDENT ARTISTS | AUPSICING **GRANTS** FOR NUMEROUS ARTISTS AND THEIR **PROJECTS** | **BLACK**  
**MIST BURNT COUNTRY** NATIONAL TOURING EXHIBITION | **MELBOURNE NOW** KIDS ON TOUR | **3933** WORKSHOP **ATTENDEES**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am immensely proud of the role Burrinja plays within our local and neighbouring communities, and I am increasingly pleased by Burrinja's flourishing recognition and reputation upon the national cultural stage. From our humble beginnings as a fledgling community cultural centre established through the activism of local artists and community members, through to our current position as a curator of exhibitions, performances and cultural events of national significance, the growth of our creative force has been vast.

There is no better example of this recognition than Burrinja being awarded Best Small Museum at the 2017 Victorian Museums Awards (Museums Australia - VIC). The Archival Survival Award for Small Museums was awarded for the exhibition, public programming and community engagement developed by Burrinja for its national touring exhibition *Black Mist Burnt Country*.



Matthew Posetti

This Award comes on top of the 'Highly Commended' award for the exhibition at this year's Museums' and Galleries National Awards - 'Temporary or Travelling Exhibition'.

Remarkably, this is the third time in seven years that Burrinja has taken out this prestigious Award. Outcomes such as these can only be achieved when an organisation has clear goals and a fabulous team of people from Board to Staff and Volunteers all working to make our vision of 'building community through arts' become reality.

The active partnerships forged by Burrinja, not only with Yarra Ranges Council and other key funding partners, but also at a grass-roots level within the region and its creative communities, are what make such rewarding outcomes possible. This includes the many artists, projects and creative programs that we support throughout the region, facilitating and enabling arts and culture. We have formal memorandum of understanding partnerships, for example, with Hillscene, Growing Pains Initiative, HillsceneLIVE, Belgrave Community Arts Partnership, Belgrave Survival Day and the Victorian Association of Philosophy in Schools, and partner on projects with many other organisation such as Upwey Township Group, Belgrave Traders Association and the Small Gems consortium.

We have been working to ensure that our support of artists and the creative industries can continue to grow into the future, and with Council's support and design funding have developed a proposed 'stage II' redevelopment of the cultural centre. This project responds to the increased demand for access to studio space by artists – including casual, affordable shared working spaces. The new development will create an improved context and capability for social and cultural change through creative engagement – with positive social impact flow-ons. It will enable connections to be made where now barriers exist.

The aim of the proposed project is to complete works in areas of the complex untouched during the performing arts redevelopment of 2011. The project seeks to transform functionally distinct yet interdependent creative spaces at Burrinja. It will reconfigure three currently 'ad hoc', tired and disconnected areas into a flowing active and more usable space. The redevelopment will transform Burrinja galleries; artist studios and making spaces; café, hospitality and music performance space; along with the main entranceway to the building. In turn, this will create the internal pathways between our activated 'villages' of creativity – connections that are currently missing.

Our thanks to Council for supporting this project's funding application to the Growing Suburbs fund and for matched funding support. Burrinja greatly appreciates the strong, engaging spirit of partnership we enjoy with the team at Creative Communities in Council and right across the organisation.

Staying with the planning and development theme, Burrinja is also moving to redress parking capacity around the centre, and with that increase the allowed number of patrons on site and full-house performances per annum. Over the past three years we have been working with Yarra Ranges Council to explore ways to improve access to Burrinja's facilities without impacting on local residential amenity. This includes finding ways to meet the school communities need to for there to be more people on site when they use the facility. Burrinja wishes to amend current planning restrictions to allow better access to and use of the facility by local schools, organisations and the wider community. Most notably the requested changes are designed to better enable events with large numbers of performers on stage - especially schools – and to accommodate their families in the audience.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT *continued*

These proposals follow an extensive 3 year process of survey and consultation with residents, and pursuing improved planning solutions to parking expansion that reduce any impact on residential amenity, taking onboard suggestions by a number of residents. Our planning permit application is now lodged and we are currently working through that process with Council Planning.

These investments in infrastructure and logistics are necessary to further our capacity to support the development of arts and culture in the Dandenong Ranges, and feed into the goals set by our 2016-2020 Strategic and Business Plan. The report on the first year of progress against our plan's KPIs is within this Annual Report and it is pleasing to see that in almost all instances we have met or exceeded our targets for 2016-17.

The Board of Burrinja would like to sincerely thank our Executive Director, Dr Ross Farnell, for his continuing leadership, vision and commitment to Burrinja. Ross is a true leader within our community and within our industry, whose ability to successfully guide our strategic and operational activities remains central to Burrinja's ongoing vibrancy and success.

I would also like to thank Burrinja's broader leadership team, Toni Kirk and JD Mittmann, and to acknowledge and express our appreciation to all Burrinja staff and volunteers who continue to help position our Centre at the cultural heart of the Dandenong Ranges.

**MATTHEW POSETTI** | President



*Artist Bindi Schroder with her work - VCE Creative Showcase opening*

## TREASURER'S REPORT 2016-17

It is with great pleasure I present my first annual Burrinja Treasurers' report. The 2016-17 financial year provided some challenges with the migration of the ticketing and finance systems, with positive operational and accounting outcomes resulting from the successful implementation. The positive financial result for the year places Burrinja in a position to continue to build community through arts.

The 2016-17 financial year witnessed a 9.5% growth on the previous year's total revenues, again surpassing the \$1million milestone in operational receipts, with expenses increasing at 9.2%, producing our second consecutive operational surplus at 1.43% of revenue, an increase on the previous financial year.

There were no significant reportable shifts in the fiscal results for any of our key operational areas.



Jon Whitehead

### Financial Reporting - Auditor

The Board retained for the sixth year the services of independent auditors David McBain (FCA) of McBain, McCartin and Co, Level 1, 123 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn VIC, 3103, to review the organisation's accounts and financial processes for the 2016-17 year.

This year's audit of Burrinja's bookkeeping, accounting and reporting practices and processes produced a positive audit report as regards sound accounting process, policy and practice. There were no management issues reported to the Board by the Auditor.

The Board is satisfied that the current documentation, tracking, reporting and auditing of the organisation's finances is comprehensive, accurate and appropriate for the current level of financial and associated activity such as payroll and liabilities.

Burrinja's day-to-day bookkeeping during the financial year was again undertaken in-house by Finance Administrator Bronwyn Millen; working with the Executive Director, Finance Sub-committee and auditors.

The 2016-17 financial year also saw the successful migration to a new cloud-based accounting package that allows easier Board access to all aspects of the accounts and which has greatly improved bookkeeping efficiencies and reduced the use of office paper.

### Financial Performance 2016-17

A Net Operating Surplus of \$ 16,897 was reported for the 2016-17 year, or 1.43% of total revenue. This was a modest increase on the previous year's surplus of \$11,514.

The Assets and Liabilities Statement (Financial Position) produced a Total Equity retained of \$59,289, increasing from \$42,392 in the previous financial year.

Total revenue for the year was \$1,178,424 including earned income, funding and trading revenue, a pleasing 9.5% increase on the previous year's revenue of \$1,075,172.

Expenditure including payroll, programming, administration and facility costs for 2016-17 totaled \$1,161,527, an increase of 9.2% on the previous year. Payroll including on-costs continues to account for just over 50% of total expenditure, a figure that has not changed substantially over the past years. Utility costs actually decreased in the past year after a series of previous year increases, with their share of total expenditure now at 6% down from 8.1%.

The most notable increase in both revenue and expenditure was related to funding and expenses for the *Black Mist Burnt Country* touring exhibition, with that project alone accounting for \$158,000 income – primarily from the Australia Council for the Arts, and \$148,000 in touring costs and associated production expenses.



## TREASURER'S REPORT *continued*

Net Cash generated from operating activities was \$(91,859), a decrease from \$377,178 in the previous year. Much of this shift was again due to the touring exhibition, with expenditure in the 2016-17 year of funding received in the 2015-16 year. This accounts too for the decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the year from \$515,742 in 2015-16 to \$402,319 at June 30, 2017.

The Board was again pleased to produce results within budget forecasts. Gross Income was up 101.6% compared to budget; Total Expenses plus Cost of Goods combined ran at 102.4% of budget.

### **Burrinja Public Fund**

The Burrinja Public Fund has Tax Deductible Gift status through the Register of Cultural Organisations.

As at June 30, 2017 the Burrinja Public Fund had total equity of \$7,828, a small increase from \$6,392 in the previous year.

The Board is currently seeking to extend its Deductible Gift Recipient Status to the organisation as a whole, which will allow it to receive art works as tax deductible gifts through the Federal Government's Cultural Gifts Program.

### **Charity Status**

As of October 1, 2015, Burrinja was registered with the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission as a Charity, with the purpose of 'advancing arts and culture'.

### **Reserves Policy**

During the 2016-17 year the Board developed and adopted a formal policy to establish a dedicated 'reserves' fund as a percentage of operational revenues over the next four years, in keeping with good governance and accounting practices.

### **Budget 2017-18**

Budgeting for the current financial year is based on a combination of the past three financial year trends in operating revenues and expenses, visitation and patronage along with patterns of hiring, usage forecasts and committed future bookings, as well as strategic expenditure priorities and commitments as regards arts and cultural programming, and those staffing and other resources necessary to realise those strategic and programming objectives.

Total operational revenues will slightly decrease in the coming year in real terms as the Black Mist Burnt Country exhibition project starts to wind down, with funding and expenditure coming through the Australia Council's funding of the project reducing from \$140,000 to \$65,000, from 12% of the operational budget in 2016-17 to 5.7% in 2017-18.

Revenue from the theatre makes up 14% of total income including staff re-charges and ticketing revenue, and income from performing arts box office sales accounts for approximately 10% of revenues. Funding from Yarra Ranges Council contributes 47% of operational revenues, while we are budgeting for increased revenues from other fund-raising and philanthropic funding in the coming year.

Payroll remains the biggest cost in delivering Burrinja's services, and will account for 53% of total expenditure in 2017-18 when combined with staffing on-costs, slightly up from 50% in the previous year.

For 2017-18 Burrinja has budgeted total operating revenues of \$1,135,000 when including all external funding. As always, expenses remain tightly controlled to produce a budgeted surplus of \$37,500, with the Board working toward its strategic planning target for increased organisational equity and reserves over the coming years.

I would like to thank all the team at Burrinja for their efforts throughout the year. My first year at Burrinja has been a rewarding experience and I'm looking forward to continuing working with everyone over the coming years.

**JON WHITEHEAD** | Treasurer

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Following on from another busy and productive year of building community through arts, this report details many of those ways in which Burrinja has produced, facilitated, enabled and presented arts and culture both within our venues and across the region.

I encourage everyone to delve deep into those stories, they are where the true essence of what it is that we do, and why we do it, resides. The creative, social, economic and community impact of Burrinja's programs and those that we support is evident in the narratives, numbers, KPIs and most definitely the images of engaged, active, creative people.



Ross Farnell

Nowhere has this level of activity been more evident this year than in the number of requests for Burrinja to auspice and support numerous projects for artists and organisations - from small quick grants to large proposals to Creative Victoria. Providing this support gets to the core of our 'artistic program statement', our vision and our strategic plan. Through supporting upward of 20 different external creative projects, in auspice, advice, mentoring and often venue or logistical support, we enable artists in our community to achieve creative goals that ripple throughout the region.

This support has been strengthened by a formalising of our 'in kind' assistance to artists through the Creative Development Opportunities program. With a number of successful outcomes already, such as In Helvetica's *My Brown Paper Clouds*, this program is destined to support many performance and live art works in development over the coming years, while seeing those artists give back to the community.

This level of demand and activity is evident also in the waiting list for our artist studios. The development of plans for the expansion and upgrade of those studio facilities - funding dependant - has been an exciting development over the past twelve months.

I was particularly pleased this year to help guide the creation of clearer pathways for young and emerging artists to stay involved with arts and creative practice via Burrinja after leaving school, in particular through the expansion of the Open Studios emerging program and the devising and formalising of the Growing Pains Initiative partnership (detailed herein). Other creative partnerships have also been formalised this year, such as that with the Hillscene-LIVE producers.

Burrinja has also been active in the producing space in 2016-17. The success of the national touring exhibition *Black Mist Burnt Country* is a great example. So too has been the work with the Small Gems consortium to develop, fund and present new 'small' theatre works, and the Creating Tracks project with has seen KAGE dance theatre funded in partnership with Council to devise and perform a new dance work at three venues across the region.

All of this creative development requires sound logistical support and systems to enable outcomes to thrive, and this year we have taken some major steps in those areas. Most notable was the transition to a new ticketing system that incorporates Customer Relationship Marketing capabilities. Over time this will allow us to serve our members and patrons better, providing more tailored information on events and shows, integrated with their ticketing - a far better experience for everyone. My thanks to all of the staff and volunteers who have worked so hard and been so patient with the transition to this new system, especially Anda, Hannah and Toni.

The transition to a new way of handling marketing, customer inquiries and box office data has also led to an internal staffing structure review. We have brought in changes to better support our volunteers with staff at the front desk in handling sometimes complex ticketing requests and customer service needs, while allocating more resources to managing patron data, marketing and the customer experience.

As a result of this transition Tracy Hayllar will finish up as our Volunteer Coordinator after ten years in this role. Although Tracy continues in her duty manager role, I wish to take this opportunity to thank her for the many years of dedication to the volunteers, to arts and to Burrinja. Her passion has never wavered.

Once again my thanks go to Greg Box, Manager of Creative Communities at Council, and to all in that team for their collaboration and support. We look forward to working with them as a new ten year Cultural Plan is developed.

Thank you to our President Matt Posetti and the Board for their constant support. And to our fabulous staff and volunteers who continue to enrich the region through their amazing dedication, passion and creativity.

**DR ROSS FARNELL** | Executive Director

With Cr Noel Cliff at the SH Ervin opening of *Black Mist Burnt Country*



## VENUE MANAGER'S REPORT

### A REAL HUB FOR SCHOOLS

Beyond the clearly defined community cultural development projects Burrinja runs there is also a more discrete role that Burrinja plays in supporting the artistic life of our community. Every year Burrinja supports local schools to present a production. Term 3 is "school production season" as local school children perform to family and friends.

Term 3 "school production season" was as busy as ever with 4882 local school children, from 12 local schools, performing to family and friends. In 2016-2017 6900 people came to watch the 26 school performances over the 8 week period.

Students return year after year and are developing a connection to Burrinja that we hope will stay with them into adulthood, creating a lifelong love of the arts and live performance. Feedback from teachers and the school communities tells us that students develop a great sense of achievement, pride and comradery performing in a professional theatre.

### The school productions & functions in 2016-2017 were:

Belgrave South Primary School	Romeo and Harriett
St Andrews College	Beauty and the Beast
St Joseph's College	The Addams Family
Upper Ferntree Gully Primary	We can be Heroes
Macclesfield Primary	Dancing through the Decades
Mater Christi College	Showcase 2016
Kallista Primary	Clowning Around
Knox Park Primary	Malice in Wonderland
Menzies Creek Primary	Compass Rose and the Bird Nesters
Sassafras Primary	Wizard of Oz
Lysterfield Primary	The Search for Yoda
Upwey Primary	Once Upon a Time

Burrinja has also seen a significant increase in the number of schools utilising the Theatre for their End of Year Graduations and Award Ceremonies. With the revitalised Skylark Room many schools are also taking advantage of this space for student farewell celebrations. It is wonderful to see that Burrinja is the backdrop to significant milestones in the lives of young people in our community.

### In 2016-2017 Burrinja hosted the following schools:

Upwey High School	Monbulk College
Scoresby Secondary College	Belgrave South Primary School
Tecoma Primary School	Templeton Primary School
Narre Warren North Primary	Lysterfield Primary



Carrington Primary School do a makeover on the Foyer

### School, Hirer, Company Feedback

*Thanks Toni for, yet again, a wonderful Burrinja experience. We are so lucky to have you on our doorstep:*  
Upwey South Primary School

*On behalf of Macclesfield Primary School I would like to express our gratitude for hosting our two evenings of school concert. In particular I felt totally supported by Trevor and would like to personally thank him for his attention to detail and professionalism:* Jarren Boyd, Music Teacher, Macclesfield Primary School

*Just a little note to say how well our stage practice went and to thank you and your staff. We couldn't have hoped for a more friendly, professional or accommodating person to have worked with than yourself and our tech Trevor. When we arrived everything was ready for us which set us up for a very positive and productive rehearsal:* Andrea, Ceres Calisthenics

## VENUE MANAGER'S REPORT

### The Burrinja Team

I would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to our wonderful Technicians and Front of House team marshals who help make all the events at Burrinja run smoothly and who deliver an exemplary service to patrons and venue users:

**Technicians:** Liam Mitchinson, Trevor Ploeg, Steve Wickenton

**Performance Duty Managers:** Jane Thomas, Bluzal Field, Kate McManus, Toni Main and Melanie Berry

**Ushers:** Dallas Hart, Lene Henriksen, Jake Honeyman, Britt Westaway, Anna James, Dan Draper, Katherine Reynolds, Luca Farnell and Kieran Dennis

**Parking Marshals:** Laurence Schinina and Mitchell Cattini-Shultz

### New ways of Working

In 2017 Yarra Ranges Council offered Burrinja the opportunity to access a new venue management program called Artifax. Without the support of Yarra Ranges Council Burrinja would never have been able to afford to purchase this program. This is a much more sophisticated program to the one Burrinja currently uses and will provide great efficiencies in how the team manages events. As with all new systems it has taken time to develop the protocols around its use and to actually learn how to use it! We will start to see the benefits of this new way of working in the next financial year.

As of January 2017 all entertainment establishments were required to adhere to the Victorian Government's Child Safe Standards V2.0 Dec 2015. As a result of this updated legislation Burrinja has reviewed and implemented a comprehensive Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy. This policy has resulted in changes to how events are managed and these changes have been positively received by all our hirers.

An advantage of the new ticketing system which was installed in April 2017 is that it had a retail capacity. This meant that we have been able to streamline our front desk operations by using just one software program for ticketing and shop sales. This has reduced the number of different systems our volunteers need to be across and has made managing the shop less time consuming.

### Highlight of the year for me

So many wonderful events happen at Burrinja and I am fortunate that I cross paths with so many delightful people – performers, hirers, artists, students, staff, volunteers and patrons that it is difficult to pick out a highlight. But I do have one and it may seem odd but here it is... new flooring was installed in the black box space in 2017! The patchwork of carpet which was a remnant of Sherbrooke Shire Council Chambers – yes that old - was finally replaced and we were all so pleased to see it go.

### TONI KIRK | Venue Manager

*Post-show Q&A*

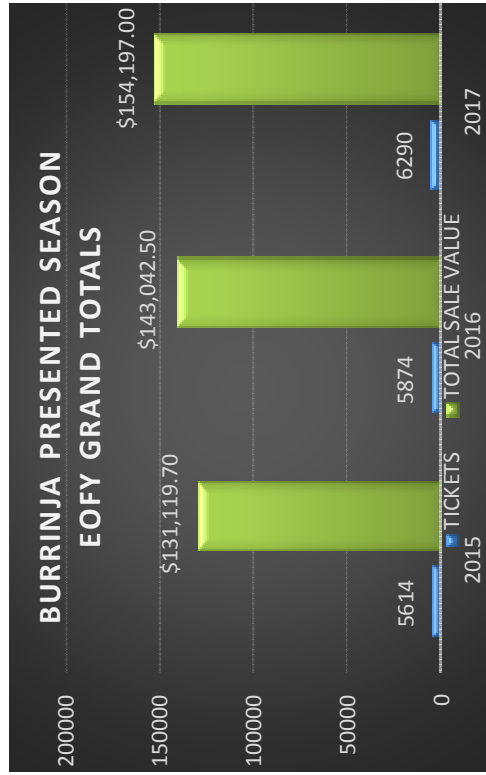
*Stones in His Pockets - Critical Stages*



**THE YEAR IN NUMBERS**

Each year Burrinja produces a detailed report on all of its activities, attendances and outcomes as part of its annual audit and measurement of performance. While these numbers do not tell the important qualitative cultural narrative of experience, outcomes and community/ social impact, they are key performance indicators of important quantitative outcomes and measures.

These results are made available also to the Yarra Ranges Council's Creative Communities department as part of their annual review of cultural performance across all Council venues including Burrinja, and to Creative Victoria as part of our annual reporting on cultural activity across the region.



ACTIVITY TYPE	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	Notes
Total Attendance - All events, external, general	87,037	91,889	84,813	Inc Burrinja and off-site enabled events
Performance audience attendance ticketed - All events	30,872	20,142	21,286	Includes Skylark Room Music events 2016-17
Burrinja theatre season attendance - ticketed:	6,290	5,874	5,293	
Performance attendance - other	14,354	14,268	16,240	Includes ticketed school, dance, hire events
Theatre performers:	6,882	7,800	7,612	Includes students and dance school performers
Community Cultural Development Events / Festivals	23,000	28,000	19,000	Reduction due to no End of the Line Festival 2016
Total number exhibitions	19	18	35	Does not include Growing Pains Exhibitions
Total exhibition days - All galleries	720	1,095	4,572	Days per gallery - Reduced programmable spaces
Total number performances	223	204	184	
Total number workshop sessions	307	378	311	
Workshop attendances	3933	3615	4,146	
Ticketed revenue Burrinja events only	\$154,000	\$143,000	\$130,864	
External Hirers box office takings	\$425,000	\$426,000	\$429,000	Ticket Sales for external hirers through Burrinja BO

## MARKETING

The 2016-17 financial year witnessed solid growth and development across marketing activities and outcomes at Burrinja.

In December 2016 we launched the 2017 season with an integrated marketing campaign across website, email, social media, posters and banners in the community, print and cinema screen advertising at Cameo Cinema; integrated with numerous local radio interviews, competitions, advertising and editorial in the Ranges Trader Mail newspaper, plus an electronic road sign in Tecoma.

For the first time this also included a postal mail-out of the Season Program to over 20,000 homes in the region. As well as spreading the word about our exciting new program, a key focus of this 'Kids-Shows-Art' campaign was to expand awareness of Burrinja and of arts and cultural activities in the region in general. Over the campaign period we were pleased to record a large spike in pre-season ticket sales, new e-news subscriptions and many 'new' visitors who live nearby 'discovering' Burrinja for the first time.

This awareness is also reflected in Burrinja theatre ticket sales which show an increase of over 500 tickets in the past year.

Our recent survey of subscribers attracted over 400 responses and indicated a healthy increase in awareness of our programs and community projects across the board.

Statistics also show an increase in our google search performance, with online visibility almost doubling at the time of the Burrinja program mail-out and continuing to maintain a strong presence throughout the year. We have seen a constant increase in the number of people tracking their way to Burrinja via google maps.

Season 2017 is the second year we have offered 'choose your own' subscription packages to see 3 or 5 main theatre season shows and 3 family shows, and we have almost doubled the total number of packages sold since 2016.

The Culture Tracks program, in partnership with Yarra Ranges Council, continues to thrive as a tool for promoting arts and cultural participation in the region and raising awareness of the incredible depth of cultural programs, as well as assisting with ticket sales.

### CRM & Ticketing

Since April 2017 Burrinja has transitioned to a new Ticketing System and Customer Relationships Management program. With this new software we are continuing to develop our capacity to effectively communicate with more patrons, utilising integrated data and communications systems. This exciting new development continues to evolve as we process and evaluate effective

strategies for managing and utilising data in our marketing.

### FRIENDS OF BURRINJA

In the past financial year Burrinja has vastly increased our membership base from 85 members to 126 financial members. We continued to develop the membership program and create effective communications strategies within the capacities of the Customer Relationships Management software.

In 2017 we have introduced *Burrinja Hosts* as a welcoming, community building presence before our main season shows, a part of our 'Burrinja - Belong' theme for the year. Drawn from our talented pool of Volunteers, the role of the *Burrinja Host* is to share information and facilitate connections with our community of performing arts patrons.

### FUNDRAISING

Burrinja's ongoing fundraising campaign continues to attract donations through the year with a predictable spike in the lead up to end of financial year. We currently keenly anticipate the arrival of more than 20 new seat plaques for the theatre, recognising financial donations over \$250 and the valuable contributions of Burrinja volunteers and board members with more than six years of service.

Burrinja also continues to support a large number of local schools and charities with ticket voucher donations to experience live theatre at Burrinja. As well as supporting our local community these contributions encourage access and awareness of cultural engagement opportunities in the Dandenong Ranges.

### MEDIA

Local news print continues to offer a strong resource for celebrating local arts and culture stories with the community and we continue to foster a strong presence in the Ranges Trader Mail newspaper. Regular segments on local radio including 3MDR and Radio Eastern FM offer opportunities for deeper engagement and behind the scenes insights into Burrinja programs with Burrinja staff, local artists and performers.

Exhibition highlights including the *Emily Kame Ngwarreye* exhibition in the Burrinja Gallery which attracted public program participation and media attention. The launch of Burrinja's touring exhibition *Black Mist Burnt Country* attracted extensive press coverage including Koori Radio, ABC online, the Daily Telegraph, ABC RN Breakfast, ABC News Breakfast, The Age, The Guardian, Arts Hub, The Conversation, Trouble Magazine and NITV. We look forward to the national tour of this major Australian exhibition coming to Burrinja in 2018.

## MARKETING AND SURVEY RESULTS

Burrinja's recent accolade of the 2017 *Victorian Best Small Museums Award* also attracted extensive coverage with local media and industry partners as well as generating excitement in the region.

### E-MARKETING

Over the past financial year the Burrinja email database has enjoyed healthy growth toward 8,000 subscribers, with an open rate increase to 24.5% and a click rate of 2.5%, both well above the industry standard. Our data defines email as a key method for audiences hearing about our programs. With new integrations in our Customer Relationships Management program, we continue to further expanding our capacity to segment, individualise and communicate with audiences with an ever more personalised approach.

### SOCIAL MEDIA

In this vibrant digital landscape we are noticing a large segment of our audiences shifting their online platform

engagement, in line with current trends. Our statistics show a shift away from website visitation toward social media interaction. This online trend is reflected in consistently high internet sales which contribute to more than two thirds of all ticket sales.

Social media continues to prove an ever more critical resource for communication about arts and culture in the region. Over the past year we have seen our total Facebook reach increase by 90,000, an organic reach increase of 130,000 and total impressions up by 150,000, with toward 3500 people liking our facebook page. Instagram engagement has also grown substantially over the past year with currently over 452 following our page and regular posts and increasing engagement, likes and comments.

HANNAH RAISIN | Marketing Manager

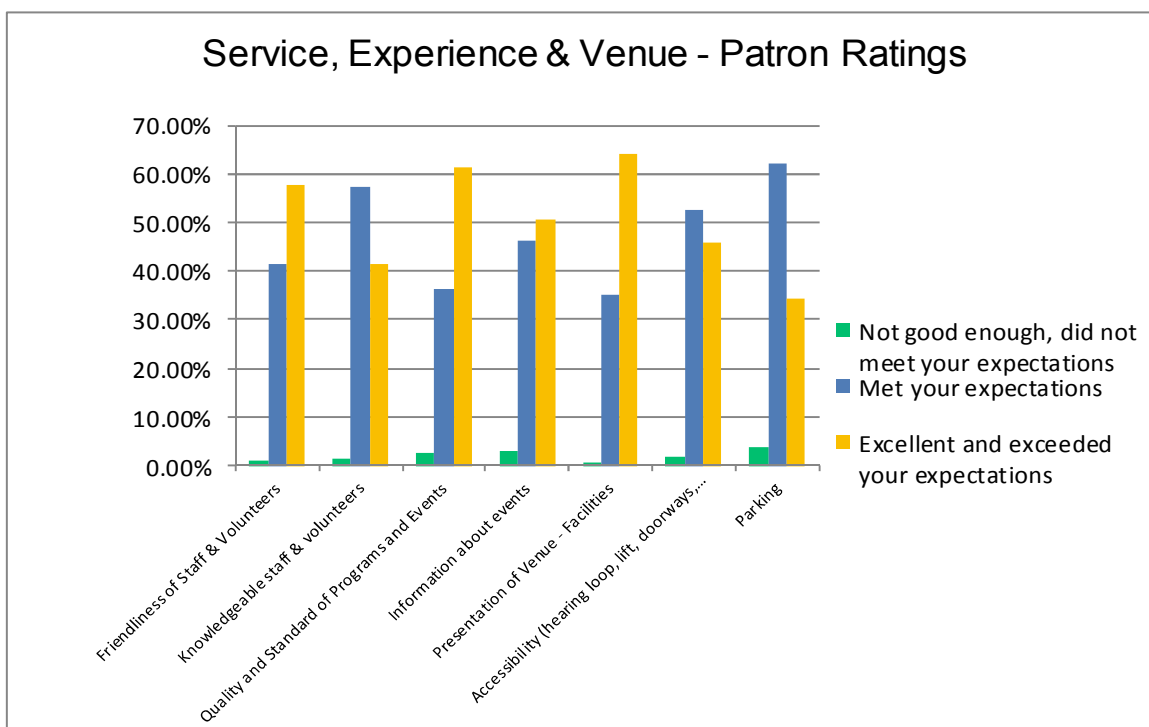
### BURRINJA SURVEY SUMMARY 2017

In September 2017 we conducted our annual survey, querying our patrons on a range of performance metrics around facilities, Box Office and service. We were pleased to have over 400 surveys returned, providing a good sample for our data, and lots of great feedback.

The results continue to demonstrate a consistently high customer satisfaction within the metrics.

In all areas measured the combined 'met' or 'exceeded expectations' responses exceeded **95%** - with 'excellent' increasing across all measures except for parking compared to 2015-16.

There was some really helpful comments accompanying the basic ratings and in the 'what I like' and 'what disappoints me' questions, which we review carefully for ways in which we can improve our service to the community.

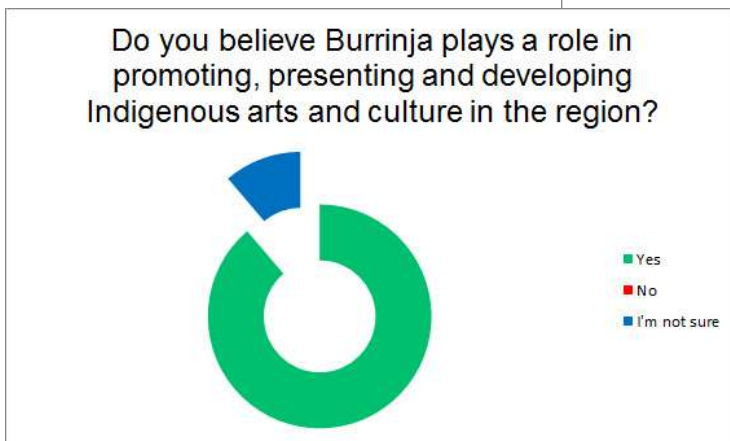
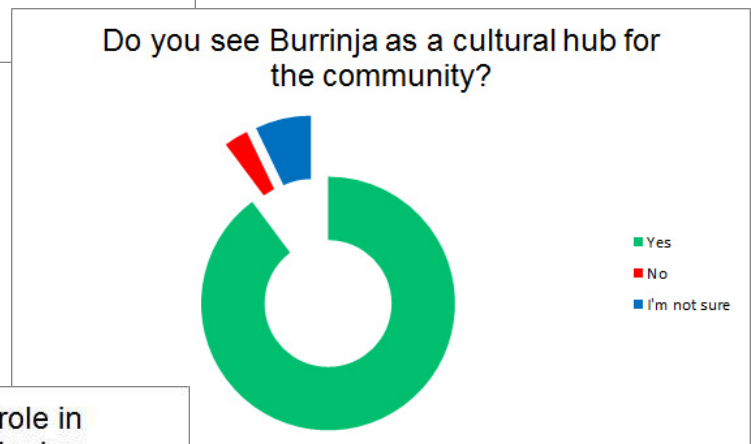
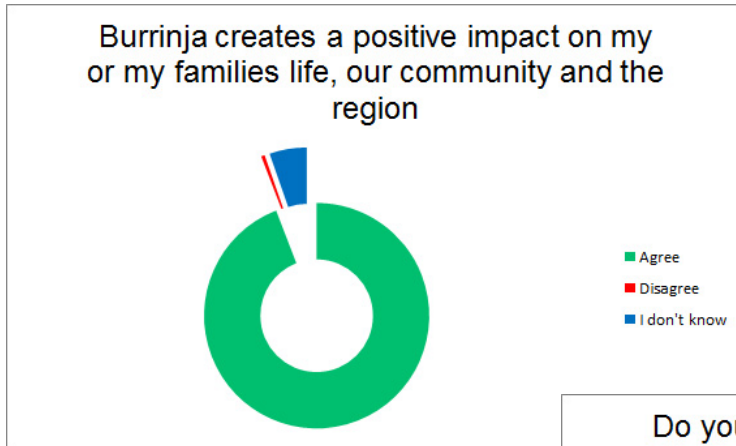


## MARKETING AND SURVEY RESULTS

### Burrinja's Community and Social Impact

**94.13%** of survey respondents agree with the statement 'Having Burrinja in our region has a positive impact on my families life, our community, and the region.'

And just on **90%** recognise Burrinja as 'a cultural hub for the community', with 7% 'not sure'



### I LIKE BURRINJA BECAUSE...

*A place to connect with others and enjoy a diverse range of wonderful events for all tastes and interests.*

*It provides an important arts hub for the community- connects artists, creates dialogue*

*They are open-minded to all artists, no matter their age or occupation, which really boosts people's confidence and allows people to see a wide range of different art.*

*It brings people in the community together.*

*It's local, makes broad creative choices, has heart and is customer focused.*

*It's ours (local) and there is nothing else like it*

\* Annual Survey Patron Responses.



## FOUNDATION MEMBERS & DONORS

Our warm thanks to the following individuals and organisations who have generously donated to the Burrinja Public Fund, and to the 'Keep Art Free' drive:

### PLATINUM

MATER CHRISTI COLLEGE, BELGRAVE  
DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY BANK GROUP  
THE FULLAGAR FAMILY

### GOLD

SUE AMICO  
JESS EXINER  
VINCENT J FEENEY  
FULLAGAR FAMILY  
PETER HARRIS  
JEWELL FAMILY  
JAMES MERLINO, MP  
MILES FAMILY  
US BUS LINES  
FERNTREE PRINT  
JASMINE BRUNNER

### SILVER

BEVERLEY BROMHAM  
RACHEL BURKE & DAVID CAMPBELL  
HELEN CELERIER  
KIERAN DENNIS  
DIDGEMAN DIDGERIDOOS

ROSS, MALI, LUCA & MILES FARNELL  
HEARTLAND  
CLAIRE HENRY  
MONBULK COLLEGE, MONBULK  
RAYMOND & GRETA JUNGWIRTH  
CHEE IP  
ANNA 'LUTH' WOLFF—SOLID STATE CIRCUS

### BRONZE

PAUL BEALE, ELECTROLIGHT	JOHN & CAROL BRANDT
ELIZABETH BROMHAM	BUSINESSLYNX
JACKIE CUSACK	MILDRED DAVEY
DAY FAMILY	R N S J DEANE
NORMA DURRAND	OLIVE EBDON
FORD FAMILY	FRY FAMILY
GRIFFITHS FAMILY	WAYNE F HALL
BERNIE HERLIHY	PADDI HERLIHY
MARIAN C HILL	LYNNE JESSUP
AMELIA, BRIDIE & BERNIE LOBERT	
CHRIS LOVELOCK	ROBYN MITCHELL
MAZ MOLLIKA	JUSTICE GT PAGONE
JEAN PETTITT-BROWN	CAITILIN PUNSHON
JENNY SAULWICK	J G SAULWICK
ANDREAS SCHOKMAN	JULIAN SCHOKMAN
BEVERLEY CORNISH	RUSSELL & GEOFF, ATC
THE POSETTI FAMILY	RUSS ROBERTSON
JD MITTMANN	DANIELA TYMMS

## PARTNERSHIPS

Burrinja enjoys stakeholder relationships with a number of organisations and groups that build our capacity to deliver programs, events and outcomes.

### Principal Public Partner

**YARRA RANGES COUNCIL**

### Print Partner

FERNTREE PRINT

### Theatre Sponsor

RESOLUTION X

### Public Partners

REGIONAL ARTS VICTORIA  
VICTORIA - THE PLACE TO BE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES - HACC  
CREATIVE VICTORIA  
AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT - VISIONS OF AUSTRALIA  
GORDON DARLING FOUNDATION  
GROWING PAINS INITIATIVE

HILLSCENE  
HILLSCENE LIVE  
BELGRAVE SURVIVAL DAY  
BELGRAVE COMMUNITY ARTS PARTNERSHIP

### Association Partners

VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION OF PERFORMING ARTS CENTRES  
PUBLIC GALLERIES ASSOCIATION VICTORIA  
DANDENONG RANGES TOURISM  
YARRA RANGES REGIONAL MARKETING  
MUSEUMS AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA)

### Corporate and Public Project Partners

BELGRAVE TRADERS ASSOCIATION  
BELGRAVE SURVIVAL DAY  
BCAP - LANTERN PARADE  
DANDENONG RANGES MUSIC COUNCIL  
UPWEY TOWNSHIPS GROUP  
FLETCHERS REAL ESTATE

**DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL  
CENTRE INC. (BURRINJA)**

A.B.N 23 672 833 616

**COMMITTEE'S REPORT**

Your committee members submit the financial report of Dandenong Ranges Community Cultural Centre Inc. trading as Burrinja for the financial year ended 30 June 2017.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The names of Committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

President	Matthew Posetti	
Vice President	Mary Fitz-Gerald	
Treasurer	Jon Whitehead	(appointed on 6 November 2016)
Treasurer	Susan Amico	(resigned on 6 November 2016)
Secretary	Paul O'Halloran	
Committee Member	Louis Delacretaz	
Committee Member	Janet Turpie-Johnstone	
Committee Member	Holly DeMaria	
Committee Member	Annette Rudd	
Committee Member	Zac Exner	(resigned on 19 June 2017)
Council Representative	Cr. Mike Clarke (in absence Cr. Noel Cliff) - Council appointed	

**PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES**

The principal activities of the Association during the financial year were to provide community cultural services, facilities and programs.


**SIGNIFICANT CHANGES**

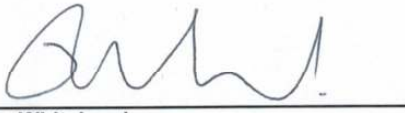
No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

**OPERATING RESULT**

The net current year profit for the year amounted to \$16,897 (2016: \$11,514).

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the members of the Committee.

  
Matthew Posetti  
President

  
Jon Whitehead  
Treasurer

Dated this 18th day of September 2017

AUDITOR'S REPORT *contd.*

**DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL  
CENTRE INC. (BURRINJA)**

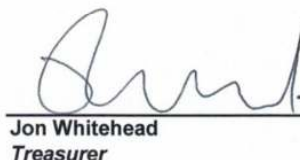
A.B.N 23 672 833 616

**ANNUAL STATEMENTS GIVE TRUE AND FAIR VIEW OF  
FINANCIAL POSITION AND PERFORMANCE OF INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION**

We, Matthew Posetti, and Jon Whitehead, being members of the Committee of Dandenong Ranges Community Cultural Centre Inc, certify that:

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of Dandenong Ranges Community Cultural Centre Inc during and at the end of the financial year of the Association ended on 30 June 2017.

  
Matthew Posetti  
President

  
Jon Whitehead  
Treasurer

Dated this 18th day of September 2017



*Hannie Rayson - post-show book signing  
in the Skylark Room. With Michael  
Cathcart (far right)*



McBAIN  
McCARTIN & Co

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
AUDIT & ASSURANCE SERVICES

PO BOX 82 BALWYN  
VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA 3103  
ABN 26 028 714 960

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL CENTRE INC.  
(TRADING AS BURRINJA)**

***Report on the Financial Report***

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of Dandenong Ranges Community Cultural Centre Inc. ("the Association"), which comprises the Assets and Liabilities Statement as at 30 June 2017, the Income and Expenditure Statement for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Certification by Members of the Committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Association.

**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.

***Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting***

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Association to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

**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 requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and for such internal control as the Committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the 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.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

Level 1, 123 Whitehorse Road Balwyn VIC 3103

Phone: +61 3 9817 0700 Facsimile: +61 3 9817 0799 E-mail: [office@mc bainmccartin.com.au](mailto:office@mc bainmccartin.com.au) Web: [www.mcbainmccartin.com.au](http://www.mcbainmccartin.com.au)

## AUDITOR'S REPORT *contd.*

### **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.

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

- a. 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 our 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.
- b. 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.
- c. Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Committee.
- d. Conclude on the appropriateness of the Committee'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 we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- e. 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.

We communicate with the Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

*McBain McCartin & Co.*

**McBain McCartin & Co**  
**Chartered Accountants**

Level 1, 123 Whitehorse Road,  
BALWYN VIC 3103

*David W McBain*

**David W McBain (FCA, CPA)**  
**Partner**

Dated this 18th day of September 2017

AUDITOR'S REPORT *contd.*

DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL  
CENTRE INC. (BURRINJA)

A.B.N 23 672 833 616

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Income		
Venue income	156,250	156,966
Gallery/Burrinja income	69,982	25,019
Contract revenue	33,098	35,415
Performing Arts income	143,944	163,973
Funding income	717,111	651,684
Interest income	96	32
Other income	57,943	42,083
	<u>1,178,424</u>	<u>1,075,172</u>
Expenditure		
Staff costs	598,595	602,922
Depreciation & amortisation	17,384	14,280
Shop merchandise	6,971	11,020
Catering expenses	2,192	3,519
Tutors/Workshops fees	22,674	18,704
Utilities	67,554	87,072
Marketing expenses	54,661	44,254
Administration costs	60,663	48,727
Ticketing costs	12,121	12,438
Theatre Consumables	3,922	6,421
Facility costs	53,293	47,592
Equipment & Hire expenses	4,392	1,874
Exhibition fees	139,178	48,129
Performance fees	109,660	111,523
HACC Expenses	3,205	3,676
Other expenses	5,062	1,507
	<u>1,161,527</u>	<u>1,063,658</u>
<b>Net current year profit</b>	<u>16,897</u>	<u>11,514</u>
Retained surplus at the beginning of the financial year	42,392	30,878
<b>Retained surplus at the end of the financial year</b>	<u>59,289</u>	<u>42,392</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

AUDITOR'S REPORT *contd.*

**DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL  
CENTRE INC. (BURRINJA)**

A.B.N 23 672 833 616

**ASSETS AND LIABILITIES STATEMENT  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2017**

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	402,319	515,742
Accounts receivable and other debtors	3	22,828	19,673
Prepayments		52,381	47,259
Inventories, at cost		2,718	3,608
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>480,246</b>	<b>586,282</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Plant and equipment	4	102,665	110,089
Intangible assets	5	11,604	-
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>114,269</b>	<b>110,089</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>594,515</b>	<b>696,371</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Accounts payable and other payables	6	137,648	120,420
Other current liabilities	7	295,152	437,685
Tax liabilities	8	32,389	24,280
Provision for employee benefits	9	56,636	59,313
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>521,825</b>	<b>641,698</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Provision for employee benefits	9	13,401	12,281
		13,401	12,281
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>535,226</b>	<b>653,979</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>59,289</b>	<b>42,392</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained surplus		59,289	42,392
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>59,289</b>	<b>42,392</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

AUDITOR'S REPORT *contd.*

**DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL  
CENTRE INC. (BURRINJA)**

A.B.N 23 672 833 616

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts from customers		342,914	415,779
Receipts from funding		717,111	651,684
Payments to suppliers and employees		(1,218,911)	(783,866)
Net GST received		67,027	93,581
Net cash (used in)/ generated from operating activities		<u>(91,859)</u>	<u>377,178</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Payment for plant and equipment		(6,092)	(8,409)
Payment for computer software		(15,472)	-
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(21,564)</u>	<u>(8,409)</u>
Net (decrease)/ increase in cash and cash equivalents		(113,423)	368,769
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		515,742	146,973
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	2	<u>402,319</u>	<u>515,742</u>
<b>NOTE</b>			
<b>CASH FLOW INFORMATION</b>			
<b>Reconciliation of cash flows from operations with net profit</b>			
Net current year profit		16,897	11,514
<b>Non-cash flows in net surplus from ordinary activities</b>			
Depreciation & amortisation		17,384	14,280
<b>Changes in assets and liabilities</b>			
(Increase)/ decrease in receivables		(8,277)	127,001
(Increase)/ decrease in inventories		890	525
Increase/ (decrease) in payables		17,228	(9,305)
Increase/ (decrease) in other current liabilities		(142,533)	228,998
Increase/ (decrease) in tax liabilities		8,109	(2,999)
Increase/ (decrease) in provisions		(1,557)	7,164
Cash flows (used in)/ generated from operations		<u>(91,859)</u>	<u>377,178</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements



**DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL  
CENTRE INC. (BURRINJA)**

A.B.N 23 672 833 616

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements cover Dandenong Ranges Community Cultural Centre Inc. trading as Burrinja (Burrinja) as an individual entity. Burrinja is an association incorporated in Victoria under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*.

***Basis of Preparation***

The financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*. The Committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements has been prepared on an accrual basis and is based on historic costs. They do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

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

**Accounting Policies**

**a. Revenue**

Revenue is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any discounts. Any consideration deferred is treated as ticket deposits received or unearned income.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which, for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt. If the conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

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

**b. Income Tax**

Burrinja is exempt from income tax as it is registered as a cultural organisation and maintains a public fund.

**c. Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable and payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables and payables in the statement of financial position.

**d. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

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

DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL  
CENTRE INC. (BURRINJA)

A.B.N 23 672 833 616

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

**NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

**e. Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors**

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

**f. Plant and Equipment**

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than its estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to its estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses recognised in profit or loss. A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present (refer to Note 1(h) for details of impairment).

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the income and expenditure statement.

Repairs and maintenance are charged to the income and expenditure statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

**Depreciation**

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are:

<u>Class of Fixed Asset</u>	<u>Depreciation Rate</u>
Theatre Equipment	5 - 30%
Furniture, Fittings and Office Equipment	5 - 30%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

**g. Intangible Assets**

Computer software is recognised at cost. It has a finite life and is carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and any impairment losses. Computer software has an estimated useful life of four years. It is assessed annually for impairment.

**h. Impairment of Assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the Committee reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value-in-use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income and expenditure statement.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the association estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

**DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL  
CENTRE INC. (BURRINJA)**  
A.B.N 23 672 833 616

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

**i. Accounts Payable and Other Payables**

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability

**j. Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.



*Dancers from the Melbourne Ballet meet audience members in the foyer after their performance of Empyrean*

AUDITOR'S REPORT *contd.*

DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL  
CENTRE INC. (BARRINJA)

A.B.N 23 672 833 616

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

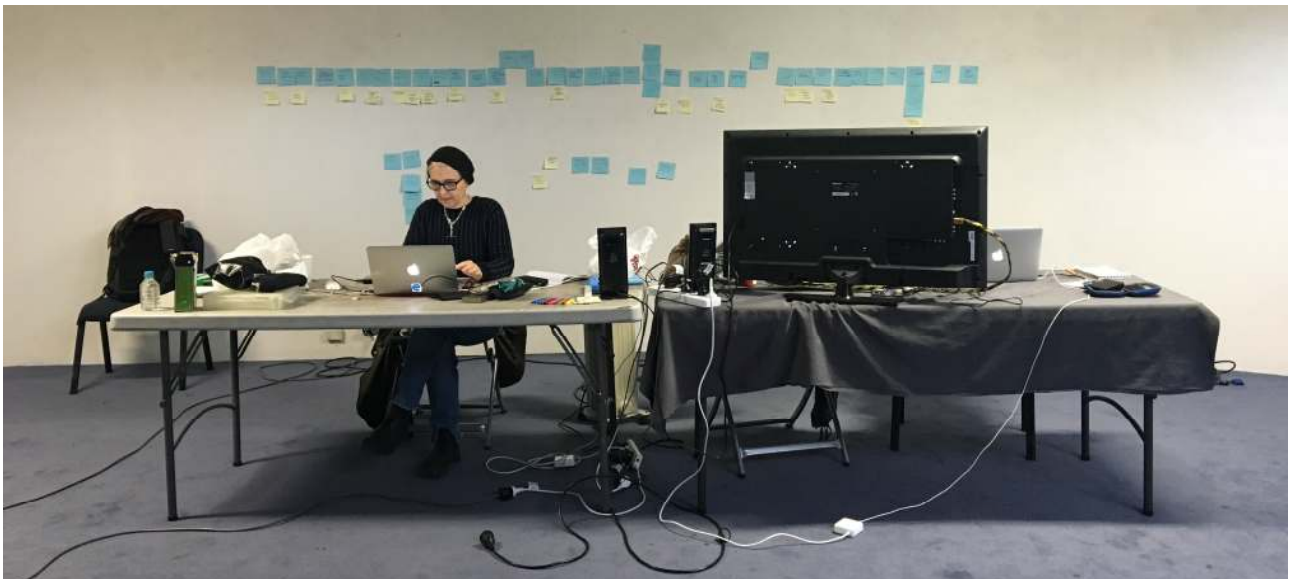
	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>NOTE 2: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		
Cash on hand	900	950
Cash at bank	393,591	507,219
Cash at bank - Public funds	7,828	7,573
	<u>402,319</u>	<u>515,742</u>
<b>NOTE 3: ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE AND OTHER DEBTORS</b>		
Trade receivables	22,828	17,585
Other debtors	-	2,088
	<u>22,828</u>	<u>19,673</u>
<b>NOTE 4: PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
Theatre Equipment - at cost	102,387	98,716
Less : Accumulated depreciation	<u>(35,585)</u>	<u>(35,337)</u>
	<u>66,802</u>	<u>63,379</u>
Furniture, Fittings and Office Equipment - at cost	80,097	78,584
Less : Accumulated depreciation	<u>(44,234)</u>	<u>(31,874)</u>
	<u>35,863</u>	<u>46,710</u>
Total Plant and Equipment	<u>102,665</u>	<u>110,089</u>
<b>NOTE 5: INTANGIBLE ASSETS</b>		
Computer Software	15,472	-
Less : Accumulated amortisation	<u>(3,868)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>11,604</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NOTE 6: ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND OTHER PAYABLES</b>		
Trade payables	38,810	41,546
Deposits on ticket sales/ Unearned income	58,833	29,331
Other payables and accrued expenses	42,405	49,543
	<u>137,848</u>	<u>120,420</u>
<b>NOTE 7: OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Funding in advance - Yarra Ranges Shire Council	133,944	153,734
Project Funding	152,246	274,988
Donations in advance	8,963	8,963
	<u>295,152</u>	<u>437,685</u>

AUDITOR'S REPORT *contd.*

**DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL  
CENTRE INC. (BURRINJA)**  
A.B.N 23 672 833 616

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>NOTE 8: TAX LIABILITIES</b>		
GST and pay as you go withholding tax liabilities	<u>32,389</u>	<u>24,280</u>
<b>NOTE 9: PROVISION FOR EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>		
Current liability:		
Employee liabilities	56,636	59,313
Non-Current Liability:		
Employee liabilities	<u>13,401</u>	<u>12,281</u>
	<u>70,037</u>	<u>71,594</u>



*Linda Dement - Artist Residency at Burrinja for Black Mist Burnt  
Country multi-media work - MGNSW ACR Program funded*

## BUDGET 2017 - 18

ITEM	2017-18	%
<b>Income</b>		
Event Income	185990	16.4%
Venue Hire Income	199225	17.6%
Other Activities and Income	78552	6.9%
Local Government Funding	535700	47.2%
Australia Council Grant	65000	5.7%
Victorian State Funding - Creative Vic	36000	3.2%
DHHS Funding	20688	1.8%
Cash Sponsorship	8000	0.7%
Foundations / Philanthropic / Fundraising	6000	0.5%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,135,155</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Salaries, wages, fees - Performers, artists, arts workers	152880	13.9%
Salaries, wages, fees - Management, administrative	432240	39.4%
Production, exhibition and touring	86695	7.9%
Fees - performances, exhibitions,	115300	10.5%
Other programs and expenses	25744	2.3%
Marketing costs	54000	4.9%
Infrastructure expenses (Administration costs)	230838	21.0%
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$1,097,697</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$37,458</b>	
Equity carried forward from 2016-17	\$ 59,289	
<b>Reserves (Total Equity)</b>	<b>\$96,747</b>	
Financial Reserve Allocation	\$ 21,000	

## PARTNERSHIPS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



### TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

Burrinja (the Dandenong Ranges Community Cultural Centre Inc) acknowledges the peoples of the **Wurundjeri** and of the **Kulin Nation**, traditional custodians of this land. We pay respect to their Elders past and present, to their history, traditions, culture and beliefs.





BURRINJA

351 Glenfern Road, Upwey VIC 3158

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