

SELBY COMMUNITY HOUSE

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# ANNUAL REPORT

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DATES:  
2020 - 2021



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# 1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

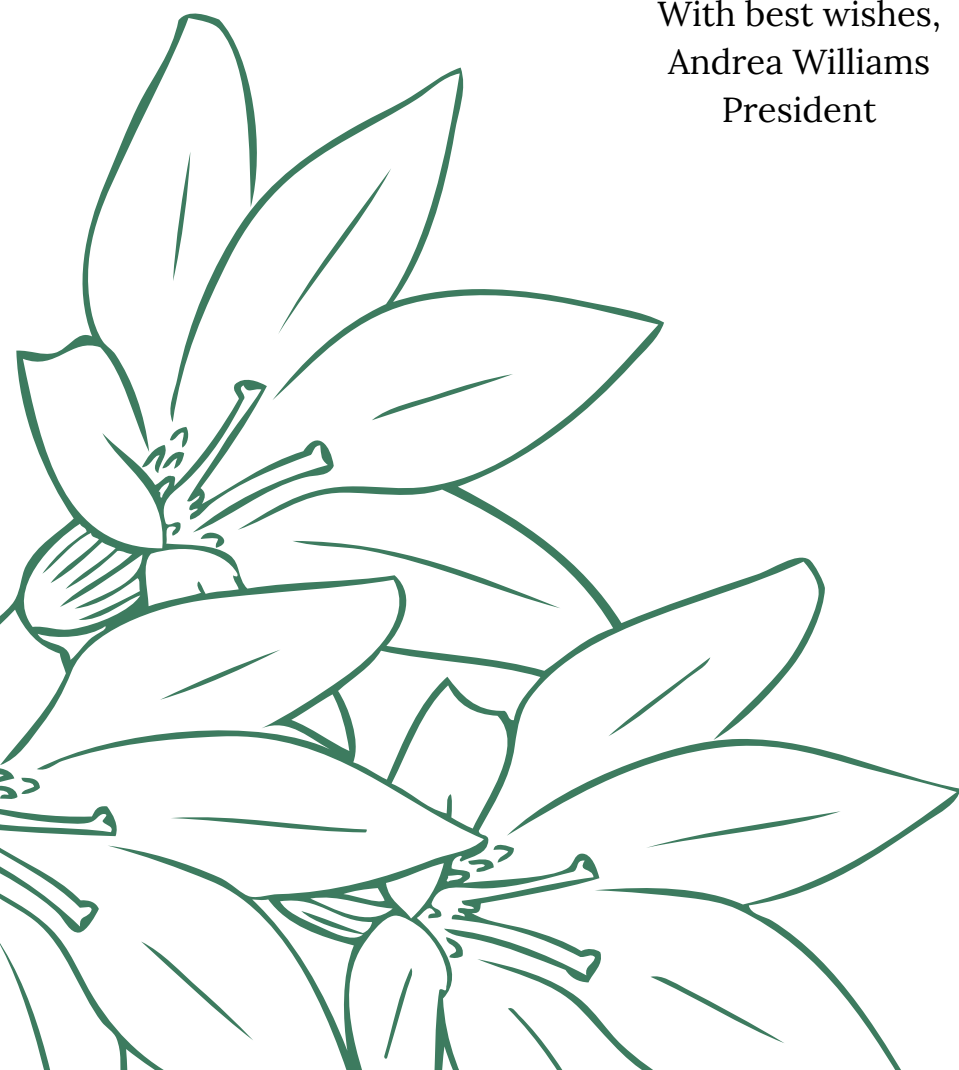
| 2021 | *Andrea Williams* |

After travelling, your home has a different context within the world. Similarly, these recent difficult times help us to capture a new sense of the value of family, friends and community in our lives.

During the year, our amazing staff and volunteers have creatively capitalised on every opportunity to welcome and engage with our community. The results of those endeavours will continue to reverberate through the years as more and more people become aware of the treasure that is Selby Community House.

It's one of the best things in my life to be part of this house. I send a huge thank-you to all our staff and volunteers for their hard work, positivity, support and loyalty.

With best wishes,  
Andrea Williams  
President



# HOUSE MANAGER'S REPORT

| 2021 | *Anna Reid* |

2020-2021 was a busy and challenging financial year. The community endured challenges beyond comprehension from the ongoing Covid lockdowns and unprecedented June storms that ravaged the Dandenong Ranges and surrounds. Although whenever possible the community continued to enjoy Selby Community House's workshops, classes, community lunches and events.

The launch of the Wombalana Wild Garden in May 2021, was a true sign of our community's spirit and strength. With 500+ people attending, the event was a celebration of people coming together in happiness and friendship, of which was desperately craved during the ongoing lockdowns. The children explored the nature playground, enjoyed music and entertainment, whilst parents indulged in the free barista coffee and delicious food, while catching up with friends and neighbours. A special thank you to Yarra Ranges Council for providing the festival funding allowing us to provide this wonderful event. The garden redevelopment was generously funded by a private donor, with additional financial contributions from Selby Community House and Bendigo Bank.

During the past year, Selby Community House produced a variety of activities to provide community engagement and support to help those feeling isolated. The free community lunches were a popular event with community members enjoying healthy, vegetarian meals in front of the fire while enjoying performances by local musicians.

The Yarra Ranges Council Covid Relief Funding for Artists program allowed us to launch the Artspace Selby initiative. The funding provided exhibition programs to artists effected by Covid-19. The exhibition openings were a huge success, with fantastic turnouts and almost sold out shows. With 100% of financial support going to the artists by paying an artist fee, charging no commission or hire fee, this allowed opportunities for artists who would effectively cease exhibiting due to financial challenges. The exhibitions have broadened our community, inviting new and old friends to Selby Community House. We aim to continue to build and develop our exhibition program and broaden our community through the arts for many years to come.



# HOUSE MANAGER'S REPORT CONT.

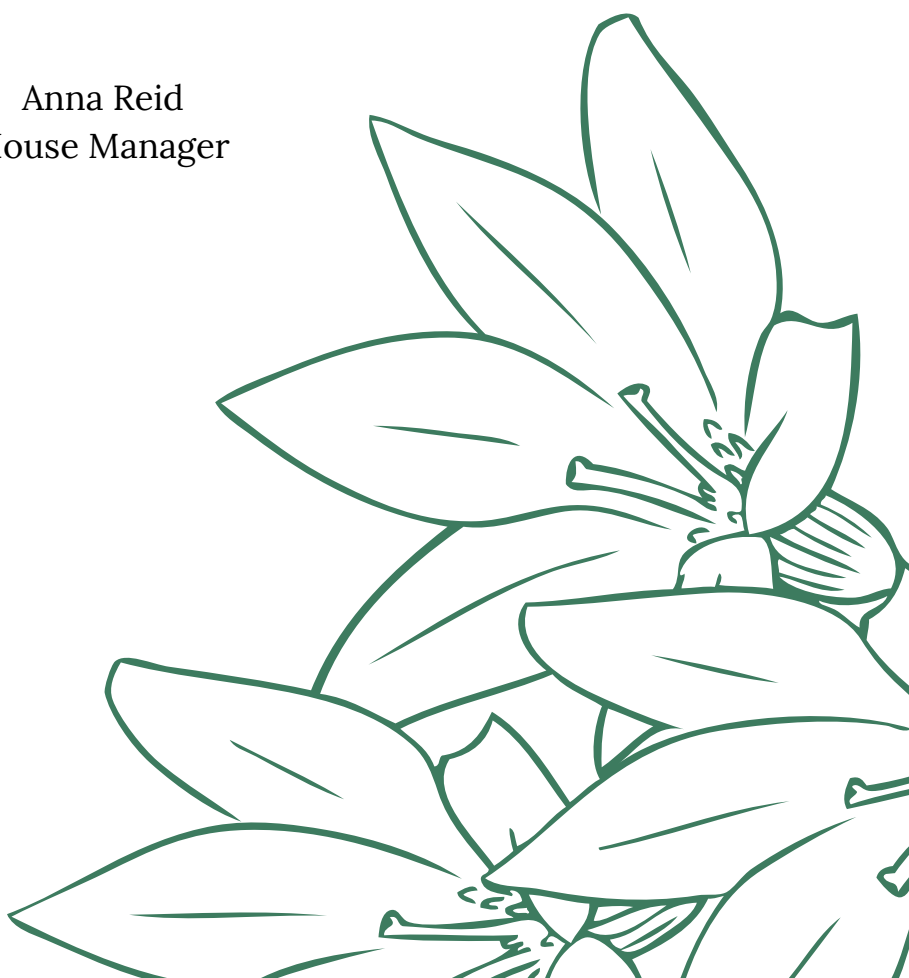
| 2021 | *Anna Reid* |

In October 2020, we lost dear friend of the House Darcy Duggan after a battle with cancer. Darcy's unfailing commitment to environmental education was incredible. Selby Community House funded a memorial chair which has been carved from wood with an Eastern Bandicoot – Darcy's favorite animal. The chair was installed for those to enjoy and placed at the entry courtyard of Selby Community House. We remember Darcy's love for our precious environment, his support to our community and the dedication in preserving Minak Reserve. I would like to say a big thank you to the wonderful team and supportive Committee of Management. Everyone has contributed in their own way to our important legacy of keeping the community engaged and supported.

Thank you to our funding bodies who provide the much needed financial support allowing us to create opportunities for community connection.

I look forward to another year of exciting projects and community engaging events which create opportunities for shared experiences and to continue building relationships with our community.

Anna Reid  
House Manager



# PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S REPORT

| 2021 | *Suzy Downie* |

Firstly, what a loyal and resilient community we have here at Selby. Our regular tutors and students have not been put off by the numerous lockdowns over the last 12 months. Tutors have remained positive and students have re-enrolled into courses and workshops time after time and happily dealt with the rescheduling of many classes. Many have recently taken up the opportunity to do online classes and I am so grateful and proud of them all for persisting and staying connected to the house and our staff.

Our Health & Wellbeing, Creative Arts, ACFE (Adult Learning) and First Aid classes have proven the most successful. In addition, since reopening to the public after the extensive lockdown in 2020 we have successfully offered many one-off workshops and Public Forums such as Electric Vehicles, Rescuing & Caring for injured Wildlife, Cheesemaking, Love Your Cycle, Green Cleaning at Home, Kokedama for Beginners, Fermenting made Simple, Thai Cooking and a Vegetarian Mexican Fiesta.

In February, we started up the Selby Facilitated Playgroup which is steadily building with currently 8 families attending. Some of the families attending also attend Selby Childcare, making it possible to build on our successful relationships with families.

Our new Knitting & Craft group 'Aussies knitting for War-Affected Kids' is run by a previous House Manager that has reconnected with us and we are happy to have the group call Selby their home.

Community Lunches on the last Friday of each Term have grown from strength to strength with the community enjoying a catch up with friends & staff and meeting new people.

We continue to be approached by talented individuals wanting to share their passions and knowledge. We are so grateful to our dedicated tutors, students, volunteers, local community, friends groups and local business for their ongoing support and involvement. A special thank you to all of the staff and committee, for supporting the program and assisting with ideas and feedback.

Suzy Downie,  
Program & Administration Coordinator

# DIRECTOR OF CHILDCARE'S REPORT

| 2021 | Alyssa Jones |

This financial year there have been some changes but they have had a huge impact on the service as a whole.

We worked hard last year to do all the necessary paperwork that needed to be done to be able to open up our long day of care but we got there. During the process of surveying the childcare space, we were advised that we could have a maximum of 19 children in the room instead of our current 15 so we applied to increase our numbers for every session as well as add the Thursday! This was all approved in Dec 2020.

Start of 2021 we brought the changes into place. I don't think we realised how much more organisation and preparation would go into running a long day of care. However, with some trial and error we eventually got a process that works well. The team worked very well together to get the Thursday running smoothly. Even the increase in the number of children had us altering how we worked, to make sure it ran smoothly. It was great learning for me and all my staff.

## **New Staff**

We hired 2 new educators to do the Thursday as well as to have extra staff on our books just in case. Brooke is the room leader on a Thursday and is doing an amazing job with the other staff and the children. We also hired Chloe; she is running our playgroup on a Tuesday as well as helping out on a Thursday. She is bright and bubbly and brings an upbeat feel to the room. We will be looking to hire more staff as we need 3 staff in the room on a Thursday and 1 more to do all the breaks. Currently I am doing the breaks and this is making it hard for me to do my admin.

## **Enrolled Children**

In Jan 2021 we started off with only 9 families enrolled on the Thursday, however this increased over the next few months and now in July we have 18 children booked in on a Thursday. The same pattern has happened with our other sessions and every session we now have 18 booked in.

We have welcomed approx. 19 more children this year alone and every week we are getting more enquiries.

# DIRECTOR OF CHILDCARE'S REPORT CONT.

## **Incursions**

We have been incorporating some incursions to our program this year. We have had Emmy show us some Indigenous musical instruments and teach us about Aboriginal culture, we had Lisa come in and teach the children about healthy eating and introduce them to a range of fruit and veg and we also had Henny Penny drop off some eggs (chicks) to us and the children have been watching the chicks hatch and grow. These experiences have enriched our program and provided the educators valuable discussion topics.

## **Governance**

In regards to Governance; we had a compliance visit in May 2021 which overall was pretty good. There were some policies that we were missing and some of these were only just added to the new children's services regulations (2020) recently.

I added the new policies that were needed as well as rewrote a lot of our current ones and even though this was a long and painful process it is all up to date and done now!

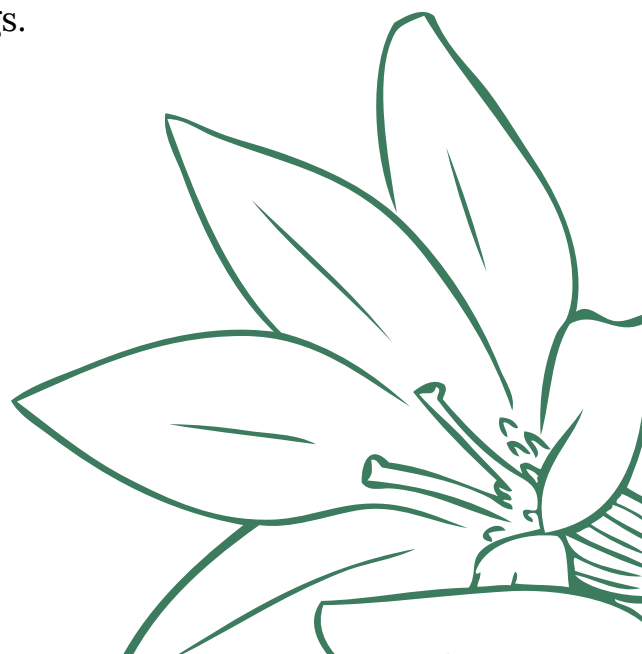
We also had to do some minor changes to our enrolment form which was done straight away and we were notified that we hadn't been doing emergency evacuation enough so we have altered this too.

## **Future**

We are thinking that we might change our session times to be 5 hours instead of the current 4 but not until 2022 but there is a lot to consider at the moment.

We are however looking forward to what this year brings.

Regards,  
Alyssa Jones  
Childcare Director



# PUBLIC FORUM COORDINATOR'S REPORT

| 2021 | *Karl Williams* |

The House has established a tradition of holding at least one public forum each term on engaging subjects. While covid did force the House to postpone one forum, when we were able to host in person we had large numbers attend who were eager to socially reconnect as well as to engage in a range of positive social and environmental subjects. We've taken the decision to not hold any forums via zoom because of the lack of social connectedness.

## **Term 3, 2020**

Postponed due to covid lockdown

## **Term 4, 2018**

### RESCUING AND CARING FOR INJURED WILDLIFE

Our presenter, Nicki Raine, has her Selby backyard full of enclosures dedicated to convalescing and recovering native wildlife – what an inspiration! The appreciative audience learnt lots of useful procedures when confronted with an injured animal until a dedicated carer with facilities like Nicki can take over.

## **Term 1, 2021**

### ALL ABOUT WHEATGRASS

Wheatgrass juice is the ultimate means of delivering high-octane chlorophyll! A small group learnt the practicalities of delivering a steady daily supply, which will cost less than 10 cents per shot.

## **Term 2, 2021**

### ELECTRIC VEHICLES ARE OUR FUTURE!

We managed to pull, Bryce Gatton, a highly-regarded industry authority for this gig and a good crowd of about 40 were well rewarded. Despite the dinosaurs in Canberra, EV adoption is definitely coming, with battery technology and climate imperatives giving rise to astounding breakthroughs. Like many others at this forum, I left with a firm resolve to make my next vehicle electric.

# PUBLIC FORUM COORDINATOR'S REPORT CONT.

What would you like to have presented at Selby? There's nothing like the open and relaxed atmosphere that we provide that encourages attendants to ask questions, to voice their opinions and to meet their neighbours during the supper that is held afterwards. The house can organise the space, arrange supper, plug the event in our programs and Facebook page, and can often obtain invaluable free publicity in the local newspaper. So please contact me if you have any ideas or contacts for future forums and we'll take it from there.

Karl Williams  
Public Forum Coordinator





# MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH NURSE'S REPORT

| YEAR | NAME |

## Selby Community House AGM 2021 Maternal & Child Health Centre Report

On behalf of the Yarra Ranges Council, I would like to present the Maternal & Child Health Report for the Belgrave & Selby Maternal & Child Health Service.

Within the 20/21 financial year there were 20 new births in the Selby area & 103 new births in Belgrave.

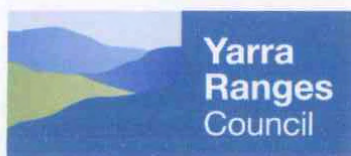
Following service closure during the declared fire season from February 2021, the Maternal & Child Health program resumed service provision from the Selby Community House in Term 2, 2021.

Maternal and Child Health appointments at Selby continue to be offered by on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, during school terms. On other days, the Belgrave Maternal & Child Health service is available to families.

During the COVID19 Pandemic, the Maternal & Child Health Service continued to operate however changes were made to the way that consultations were offered, in line with Yarra Ranges Council, the Department of Health and the Municipal Association of Victoria's directives. Essentially, during periods of COVID lockdowns /restrictions, the MCH nurse has provided initial phone consultations followed by a shorter face to face centre visits, entailing a developmental and physical assessment.

I'd like to again thank Anna, Suzie & the entire Community House team, for their ongoing support of our Maternal & Child Health Service.

*Ann*

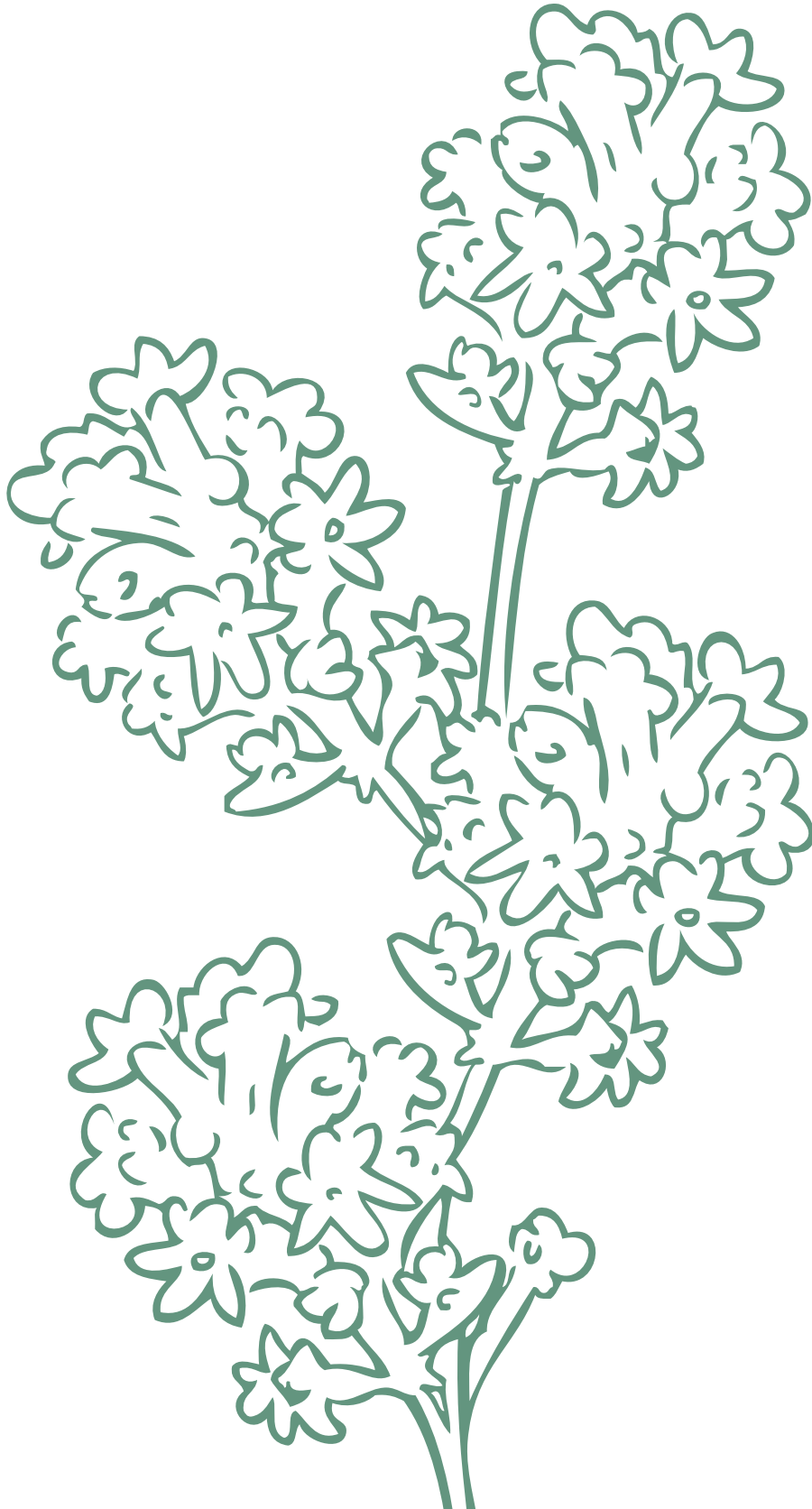


**Ann Ferguson**  
**Belgrave**  
**Maternal & Child Health Nurse**

# FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

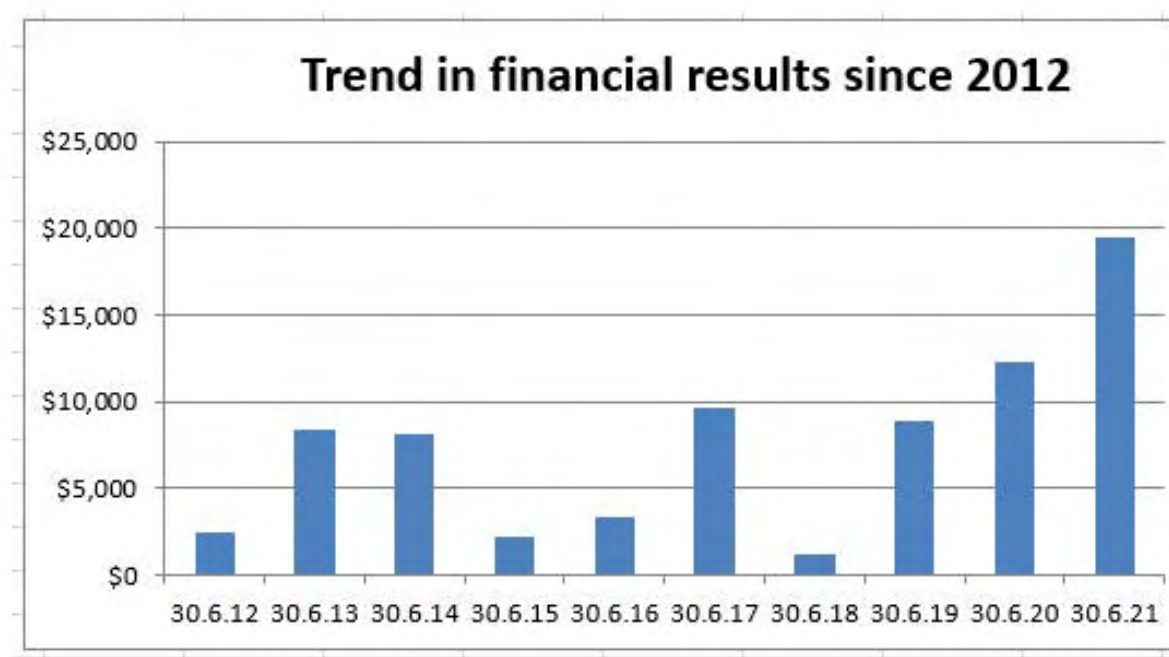
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| 2021 | *Karl Williams* |



## FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SELBY COMMUNITY HOUSE, 15 SEPTEMBER 2021

In financial terms, I'm pleased to report that Selby Community House has achieved its tenth successive surplus (\$14,270) which is also the highest on record.



In this extraordinary pandemic period, bare numbers don't always convey the underlying position and so we'll need to unpack some figures.

The House has, like much of Australia, been the beneficiary of federal (\$66,200) and state (\$20,000) relief to support business during covid. While state relief has continued during the lockdown in July and August this year, we're not counting on any more federal funding (which came in the form of JobKeeper) this year.

As the House's finances were in fairly good shape despite the lockdown, we took the decision to plough most of this government funding back into community facilities and programs, the major areas being:

- Supporting a range of special projects ... Wombalana Wild Garden (\$26,500), further furniture equipment (\$8000), Selby History Project (\$5000) as well as the remainder of the \$1510 the House had raised to pay for the Darcy Duggan memorial seat which now sits near our entrance.
- House renovations totalling \$42,101 on top of the \$31,150 spent last year. It's all there in plain view – our glistening lounge, well-organised store room (with shelving and portable chair stacks), roomy & comfy meeting room, and lots of garden improvements (landscaping next to meeting room, new storage shed etc.)



- Lending some financial support to many of our tutors who had their classes cancelled
- Holding two community lunches, with free food and musical entertainment

The other reason for the House's financial success has been the surge in enrolments for our child care (perhaps partly due to the sprucing up of the House, as noted above) – indeed, child care fees have increased an extraordinary 49% over the previous year.

In other respects, our finances have been very steady this year – house and ACFE programs were down marginally just as house hire increased a small amount. An increasing area of the House's activities concerns our special projects, and all such projects which concluded during the year came very close to breaking even.

The health of the House's finances is reflected in its balance sheet. The combined balances of the House's three bank accounts totalled almost \$156,000. While of course there are liabilities (financial obligations) of the House that will partially offset these assets, the bottom line is that the net assets of the House at year-end totalled \$85,169. Our real underlying strength, however, is the enormous generosity of those who contribute so much volunteer labour.

The independent external auditor has conducted his audit and verified our financial statements, so in terms of finances the house can go forward with as great a degree of confidence this year as the pandemic allows.

Karl Williams, Finance Officer     August 27, 2021

# LETTER FROM AUDITOR

25 August 2021

Mr W.J. Griffin  
aplFINANCIAL Pty Ltd  
PO Box 300  
MULGRAVE VIC 3170

Dear Jon,

**RE: AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2021**  
**REPRESENTATION LETTER**  
**Selby Community House Inc**

Pursuant to your request and in connection with your examination of our financial statements for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 we submit the following representations, after making appropriate enquires and according to the best of our knowledge and belief:

**A: ASSETS**

1. There were no contractual commitments of a material nature that have not been included in the financial statements.
2. There were no deficiencies or encumbrances attaching to the title of the entity's assets at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 other than those reflected in the financial statements.
3. Adequate provision has been made in the financial statements for any permanent diminution in the value of any assets.
4. All known assets of the association at balance date were recorded in the books of account as at that date, and the association has satisfactory title to those assets.
5. Internet banking procedures are adequate.

**B: LIABILITIES**

6. All known liabilities of the association at balance date were recorded in the books of account as at that date.
7. There were no contingent liabilities, including guarantees, at balance date, which are not shown in the notes to the financial statements.

In this context contingent liabilities included bills and accounts receivable discounted, assigned or sold and which are subject to recourse, endorsements or guarantees, pending lawsuits, unsatisfied judgments or claims, repurchase agreements and, in some cases, uncalled capital on shares held in other companies.

**C: GENERAL**

8. Other than the following, the committee members are not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.



In mid March 2020 and at the date of this report, the local economy and global economies are being affected by COVID-19, also known as Corona Virus. The requirements of social distancing and closing of interstate borders has resulted in lockdowns. There is inherent uncertainty in relation to the world economy. We are reporting the 2021 financial results to the best of our knowledge at the time of production.

8. All assets and insurable risks of the association are adequately covered by insurance.
9. The minutes of meetings made available to you are a complete and authentic record of all meetings since incorporation. All other statutory records were properly kept during the period.
10. There were no commitments for purchase or sale of securities or any options given by the association including options over the association's equity.
11. There were no defaults of principal, interest, sinking fund or redemption provisions with respect to any issue of securities, borrowing's or credit arrangements or any breach of covenant of a related deed or agreements.
12. Except as are reflected in the balance sheet there were no agreements under which any of the liabilities of the association have been subordinated to any other of its liabilities nor were any receivables owned by the association subordinate to any other liabilities to the debtor entities.
13. There are no related party transactions or amounts payable to or receivable from related parties, at balance date, that have not been properly disclosed in the financial statements.
14. Apart from Covid-19 and except as disclosed in the financial statements, the results for the period were not materially affected by:
  - i. Extraordinary or abnormal items;
  - ii. Changes in bases of accounting
15. The entity has complied with all EPA regulations and guidelines.
16. The association has paid all taxes and levies by the relevant due dates including, pay as you go withholding tax, goods and services tax, withholding tax, customs and other import duties, and superannuation guarantee charges.
17. The committee members, general manager and chief accountant have never been charged or convicted of a criminal offence involving fraud, embezzlement or dealing in stolen property.
18. The directors, general manager and chief accountant are not undischarged bankrupts.
19. The entity has complied with all Workcover regulations and guidelines.
20. The entity does not deal in large amounts of cash and cheques drawn in favour of cash are only used to replenish petty cash.




21. There are no employee unfair dismissal cases outstanding against the association.
22. We have responded fully and truthfully to all enquires made to us during the course of your examination.
23. Nothing has come to our attention that would indicate that the financial statements are inaccurate, incomplete or otherwise misleading.
24. In our opinion, there are no factors that would impinge upon the appropriateness of the financial statements continuing to be presented on a going concern basis.
25. Since 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2021 no assets have been sold, assigned or given to a director or employee or a family member or associate of a director or employee.
26. In our opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

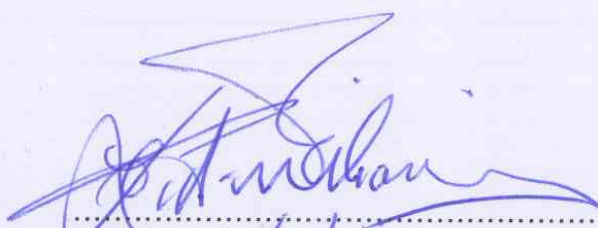
Signed

 30/8/21

Date:  
Andrea Williams  
President

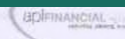
  
Date: 31/8/21

Jen Gerrard  
Vice President



Date: 27/8/21  
Karl Williams  
Financial Officer

# AUDITED REPORTS



## Audited Financial Statements

Selby Community House Inc 108662

ABN 23 553 499 345

For the year ended 30 June 2021

Prepared by APL Financial Pty Ltd

# Committee's Report

## Selby Community House Inc 108662 For the year ended 30 June 2021

### Committee's Report

Your committee members submit the financial report of Selby Community House Inc 108662 for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

### Committee Members

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

Committee Member	Position
Andrea Williams	President
Jen Gerrard	Vice-President
Judy Wolff	Treasurer
Mary-Ellen Piggott	Secretary
Ernie Gruijthuisen	
Nikki Wellington	

### Principal Activities

The principal activity is the provision of a safe and welcoming community house for the population of Selby and the Dandenong Ranges where child, youth and adult educational and learning services are provided.

### Significant Changes

There is no significant change in the services provided.

### Operating Result

The surplus for the financial year ended 30 June totalled \$14,271.

### Going Concern

This financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. The ability of the association to continue to operate as a going concern is dependent upon the ability of the association to generate sufficient cashflows from operations to meet its liabilities. The members of the association believe that the going concern assumption is appropriate.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on:



Andrea Williams



(President)

Date 30 / 8 / 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judy Wolff

(Treasurer)

J. Wolff

Date 1 / 9 / 2021

# Profit and Loss

Selby Community House Inc 108662

For the year ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
<b>Trading Income</b>		
<b>Major Grants</b>		
Vic.Govt. DHHS Grant	86,909.17	83,033.45
Yarra Ranges Council Grant	36,235.00	37,435.00
<b>Total Major Grants</b>	<b>123,144.17</b>	<b>120,468.45</b>
<b>OCC Revenue</b>		
Parents' Fees	97,231.08	65,282.45
Grants	30,752.00	42,141.06
Other OCC income	270.00	-
<b>Total OCC Revenue</b>	<b>128,253.08</b>	<b>107,423.51</b>
<b>House Program &amp; ACFE Revenue</b>		
House Prog. Rev. - Bodywork	4,427.50	4,603.00
House Prog. Rev. - Craft	-	1,295.00
House Prog. Rev. - Fine Art	3,445.00	4,123.00
House Prog. Rev. - First Aid & Profess.	760.00	-
House Prog. Rev. - Health & Food	1,176.00	-
House Prog. Rev. - Kids	240.16	330.00
House Prog. Rev. - Music	-	350.00
House Prog. Rev. - Personal Growth	424.50	1,985.00
ACFE Revenue	18,218.89	26,691.33
<b>Total House Program &amp; ACFE Revenue</b>	<b>28,692.05</b>	<b>39,377.33</b>
<b>Other income</b>		
House Hire Revenue	3,220.00	2,830.00
Minor/sundry Income	1,687.44	1,995.77
<b>Total Other income</b>	<b>4,907.44</b>	<b>4,825.77</b>
<b>Special Projects Revenue</b>		
Spec. Project Rev. - Wombalana Garden	71,656.39	-
Spec.Projects Rev.- Womb.Garden 2021 Launch	9,943.32	-
Spec.Project Rev. - Gambling Harm Reduction	-	2,200.00
Spec.Project - Covid Relief (Artspace Selby)	3,447.39	-
Special Proj. Rev. - SelbyFest	100.00	7,982.52
Spec. Project Rev.- Selby History Project	734.09	-
<b>Total Special Projects Revenue</b>	<b>85,881.19</b>	<b>10,182.52</b>
<b>Abnormal Revenue</b>		
ATO Covid Cash Flow Boost	-	10,000.00
Coord - JobKeeper (Covid) Grant	46,550.00	18,000.00
Finance - JobKeeper (Covid) Grant	19,650.00	9,000.00

	2021	2020
Vic. Govt. Covid Relief Grant	20,000.00	-
<b>Total Abnormal Revenue</b>	<b>86,200.00</b>	<b>37,000.00</b>
<b>Total Trading Income</b>	<b>457,077.93</b>	<b>319,277.58</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>457,077.93</b>	<b>319,277.58</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
<b>OCC Expenses</b>		
OCC Wages & On-costs	96,264.84	86,214.94
Other OCC Expenses	5,240.89	14,276.96
<b>Total OCC Expenses</b>	<b>101,505.73</b>	<b>100,491.90</b>
<b>Other Staff &amp; Related Expenses</b>		
Coordination Expenses	99,819.63	80,941.41
Finance Expenses	31,841.10	24,597.45
Cleaning Expenses	6,214.96	6,700.33
<b>Total Other Staff &amp; Related Expenses</b>	<b>137,875.69</b>	<b>112,239.19</b>
<b>House Program &amp; ACFE Expenses</b>		
House Prog. Exp. - Bodywork	3,650.90	3,652.85
House Prog. Exp. - Craft	-	1,107.50
House Prog. Exp. - Fine Art	3,368.00	3,651.00
House Prog. Exp. - First Aid & Profess.	-	503.64
House Prog. Exp. - Health & Food	1,255.00	-
House Prog. Exp. - Music	-	245.00
House Prog. Exp. - Personal Growth	669.14	1,329.70
ACFE Expenses	5,001.07	6,398.35
<b>Total House Program &amp; ACFE Expenses</b>	<b>13,944.11</b>	<b>16,888.04</b>
<b>All Overheads</b>		
Overheads - Depreciation	4,619.91	6,264.82
O'heads - House & Garden Mainten.& Renovations	47,728.37	37,679.74
Overheads - I.T.	4,125.90	2,086.00
Overheads - Printing & Stationery	1,923.39	2,946.81
Overheads - Utilities	7,442.84	7,165.38
Overheads - Other	387.39	7,269.48
<b>Total All Overheads</b>	<b>66,227.80</b>	<b>63,412.23</b>
<b>Selby CH Community Contributions</b>		
Wombalana Garden - Selby CH Contribution	26,500.00	-
Furniture & Equipment - SCH Contribution	6,000.00	-
Selby CH History Project - Selby CH Contribution	5,000.00	-
Darcy Duggan Memorial - Selby CH Contribution	172.73	-
<b>Total Selby CH Community Contributions</b>	<b>37,672.73</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Special Projects Expenses</b>		
SelbyFest Expenses	100.00	11,414.51
Special Proj.Exp. - Gambling Harm Reduction	-	2,510.12



	2021	2020
Spec.Proj.Exp. - Covid Relief (Artspace Selby)	3,447.39	-
Spec. Project Exp. - Wombalana Garden	71,656.42	-
Spec.Project Exp.- Womb.Garden 2021 Launch	9,643.32	-
Spec.Project Exp.- Selby History Project	734.09	-
<b>Total Special Projects Expenses</b>	<b>85,581.22</b>	<b>13,924.63</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>442,807.28</b>	<b>306,955.99</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>14,270.65</b>	<b>12,321.59</b>

# Balance Sheet

Selby Community House Inc 108662

As at 30 June 2021

	30 JUN 2021	30 JUN 2020
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
All Bank Balances	155,929.14	105,202.34
Other Current Assets	-	18,031.50
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>155,929.14</b>	<b>123,233.84</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Fixed Assets	15,585.36	18,070.63
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>15,585.36</b>	<b>18,070.63</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>171,514.50</b>	<b>141,304.47</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
All Prepaid/Unspent Grants	51,801.50	33,998.87
ATO (GST & PAYG)	4,156.51	7,328.18
Superannuation Payable	4,445.42	3,394.51
Other Current Liabilities	(944.08)	10,457.15
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>59,459.35</b>	<b>55,178.71</b>
<b>Long Service Leave &amp; Other Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Accrued Long Service Leave	14,163.00	13,717.00
Accrued Annual Leave	12,692.74	-
Other Non-Current	30.00	1,510.00
<b>Total Long Service Leave &amp; Other Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>26,885.74</b>	<b>15,227.00</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>86,345.09</b>	<b>70,405.71</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>85,169.41</b>	<b>70,898.76</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Current Year Earnings	14,270.65	12,321.59
Retained Earnings	70,898.76	58,577.17
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>85,169.41</b>	<b>70,898.76</b>

# Notes of the Financial Statements

## Selby Community House Inc 108662

### For the year ended 30 June 2021

#### Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* (Vic). The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs and 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 these financial statements.

#### Income Tax

The entity is tax exempt.

#### Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

#### Cash on Hand

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

#### Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as 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.

#### Revenue and Other Income

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

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

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

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These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.



If 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.

## Directors (Responsible Persons) Declaration

Selby Community House Inc 108662

For the year ended 30 June 2021

### Declaration

In accordance with a resolution of the committee, the committee declare that, in its opinion:

1. The financial statements and notes, present fairly the company's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:

(a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards; and

(b) give a true and fair view of the financial position of the entity as at 30 June and of its performance for the year ended on that date.

(c) the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profit Commission Act 2012.

2. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is signed in accordance with subs 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

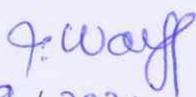
Signed:



Dated:

30/6/21

Signed:



Dated:

1/9/2021



# Auditor's report

**Selby Community House Inc 108662**

**For the year ended 30 June 2021**

## Independent Auditors Report to the members of the Association

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, which comprises the committee's report, the assets and liabilities statement, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, 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.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

1. giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
2. complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001

## Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the entity and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## Auditor's Responsibility

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

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

## Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects (or gives a true and fair view – refer to the applicable state/territory/federal Act), the financial position as at 30 June 2020 its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the requirements of the applicable state/territory/federal Act.

APL Financial Pty Ltd

32 Business Park Drive  
Notting Hill, Victoria 3168

25 August 2021



Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.



## Certificate By Members of the Committee

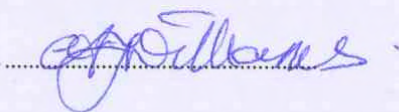
**Selby Community House Inc 108662**

**For the year ended 30 June 2021**

I, Andrea Williams, President of 1 Minak Rd, SELBY, VIC, Australia, 3159 certify that:

1. I attended the annual general meeting of the association held on [15/9/21].
2. The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2021 were submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.

Dated: 30/8/21



# DARCY DUGGAN

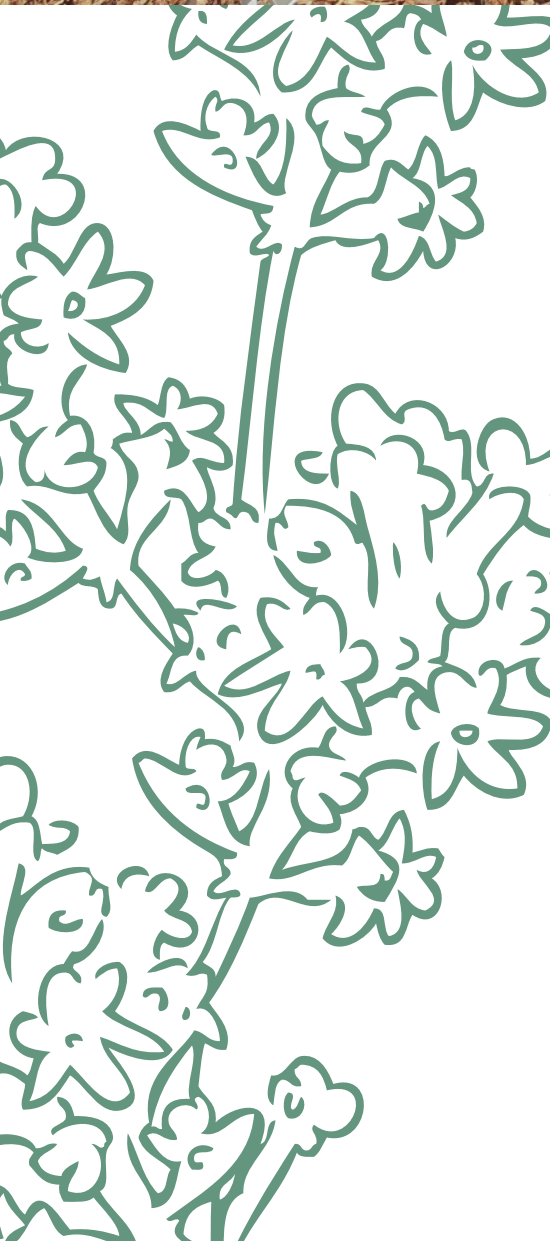
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### 4. Darcy Duggan

- a) Memorial Chair photos - 33
- b) Farewell message - 34





# MEMORIAL CHAIR



Memorial chair for Darcy Duggan who passed away in October 2020. Darcy's chair was created by artist Brandon Kroon, who included an Eastern Bandicoot, Darcy's favourite animal.





# FAREWELL TO OUR DEAR FRIEND DARCY DUGGAN

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Darcy Duggan, a great friend of the House, the Hills and countless people who worked with him on environmental issues, died far too soon on Saturday, October 31st, 2020, after a long illness. He was a unique figure, widely known and appreciated for his tireless environmental work, as well as being a loveable eccentric. It seems half the Hills are in mourning for the loss of this great man.

He and his family moved to the Hills in the 1980s when he was commuting to work as an environmental scientist, but his talent as a warm, gifted and inspiring teacher soon drew him to adult education. Darcy soon gravitated towards Minak Reserve where he was to spend decades on rehabilitation and protection. Adjoining Selby Community House welcomed Darcy's warmth and environmental expertise, and the House seemed a perfect fit for community connectedness.

Minak Reserve, a Yarra Ranges Council asset, was indeed Darcy's special place, and he always brought his students there. It is tucked inside a small valley, surrounded by housing and almost hidden from view. It is humid, tranquil and quiet apart from the rustlings of small animals and birds. It has the fragrant fecundity of humus, how most of the Dandenongs once smelt, and within its leafy walls there is no relationship to the human notion of time. Towering hollow-bearing eucalypts and intact middle and ground storey plants represent a healthy wet forest eco-system. Three small tree fern lined creeks meet and flow through the reserve to join Monbulk Creek in Sherbrooke forest, some 250 metres downstream.

Darcy's scope of work, much of it voluntary, expanded in many directions. While Darcy possessed a special talent for teaching with a rich, mellifluous voice to match, it was hands on work in the bush where Darcy spent most of his time. As well as rolling up his sleeves, he was a passionate and persistent lobbyist at all levels of government to preserve our very special Hills environment.

# FAREWELL TO OUR DEAR FRIEND DARCY DUGGANCONT.

---

His work on private land also knew few bounds, as countless residents who adjoined bushland soon had Darcy at their door to begin their education in the need to remove rampant environmental weeds from their property.

Darcy's reach touched and guided many organisations – Friends of Minak Reserve, the Southern Dandenongs Landcare Group, Save the Dandenongs and even a group in Laos which he visited at it had become connected to Australian Landcare International.

While covid greatly limited those who wanted to come to say their farewells to Darcy, he did have one poignant wish that was fulfilled. On the way to his burial in Warrigal, his hearse drove down into Minak Reserve and parked by the magnificent frog bog which Darcy was instrumental in recreating. The side windows adjoining Darcy's casket were opened for about 15 minutes so that Darcy could commune with his beloved bush. Dozens of friends had wildly and lovingly decorated his casket with native fauna and flora as well as beautiful messages to send him on his next journey. What a casket! What a man!

Words provided by Vicki Boyle



(Former Lyster Councillor Mike Clarke, Darcy Duggan and Patrick from Yarra Ranges Live)



# WOMBALANA WILD GARDEN LAUNCH

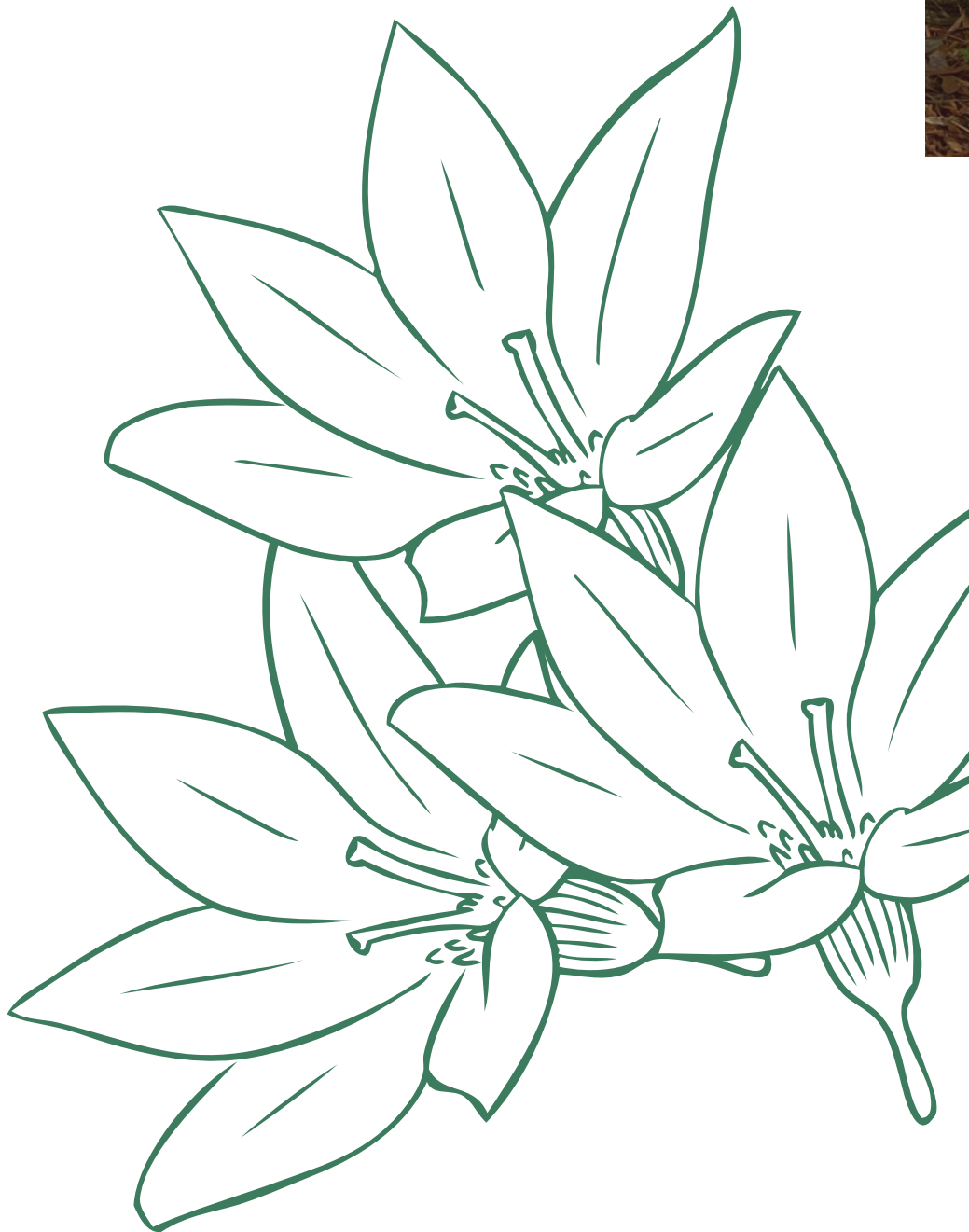
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## CONTENTS

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### 5. Wombalana Wild Garden Launch

- a) Report by Nikki Wellington
- b) Photos of launch event



# WOMBALANA WILD GARDEN LAUNCH REPORT

Wombalana Wild Garden Launch was held at Selby Community House on Saturday 15th May 2021, from 12 midday – 3pm. This exciting event was to launch the newly completed Wombalana play space to the local community, showing the new gardens and outside spaces. The house showcased local artists in the lounge and included food made by locals. There was also FREE COFFEE, an Animal show, craft activities, mini eco expo and a Bush Garden tour.

Attendance was great, somewhere in the vicinity of 500+ people across the three hours. All the food was eaten and the (FREE) Coffee van experienced long queues for the entire event. The Occasional Care room was filled to the brim with children and families doing craft.

The Lounge was busy with the mini eco expo and people listening to music. The Amphitheatre was full during the animal show and continued to stay busy for the other entertainment. Wombalana play space was well received and played in. The bush garden tour and the Minak Reserve tour were popular attractions. Overall, we felt the event was a huge success.

Nikki Wellington  
Special Events Manager and Committee Member





# WOMBALANA WILD GARDEN LAUNCH



Drop Off Pick Me Up  
providing delicious free  
barista coffee at the  
Wombalana Wild Garden  
Community Launch in  
May 2021

Sonia Murray of  
Dance of the Plants  
providing tours to the  
community through the  
Bush Foods Garden



The Diprotodont  
created by Renate  
Crowe



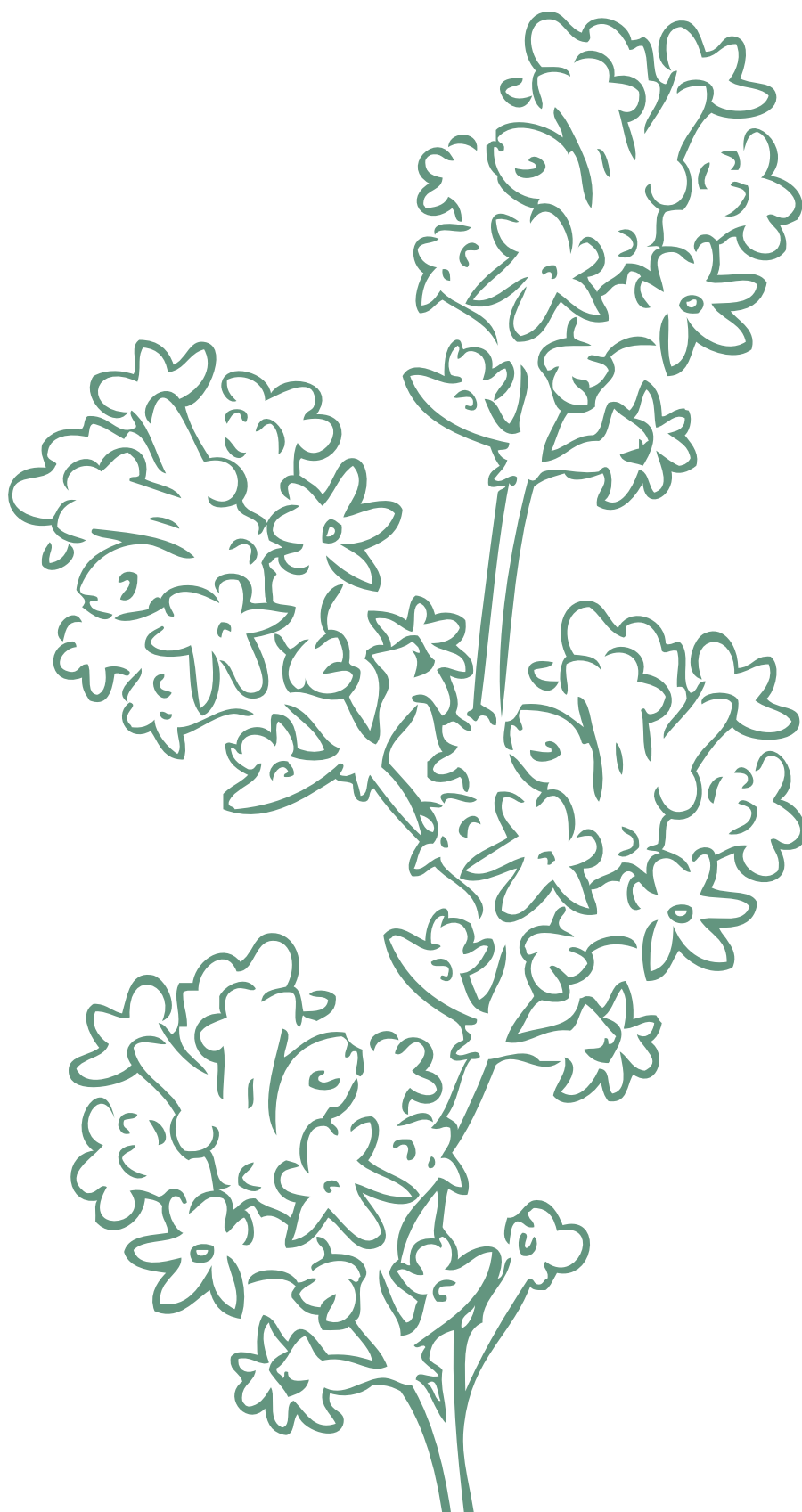
# WOMBALANA WILD GARDEN LAUNCH



Wombalana Wild Garden launch was a great success. We were thrilled to welcome the 500+ community members to the Community House and enjoyed seeing all the smiling, happy faces.



# SELBY PRIMARY NEWSLETTER







On Thursday April 22 , as part of Earth Day, Year 3 –6 students visited the Selby Community House at Minak Reserve to participate in the planting of the amazing new play space that has been created there. Students had a information session with a plant educator before spending some time planting out some of the garden space. It was a great opportunity for our students to contribute to a local project and the space will be a fantastic place for our local community to use once it opens.

The launch will be on  
May 15 from 12pm—3pm  
(See flyer later in the newsletter)





**TODAY IS EARTH  
DAY AND WE WENT  
TO SELBY  
COMMUNITY HOUSE.  
WE GOT TO PLANT A  
PLANT I PLANTED A  
FERN WE GOT TO  
USE TOOLS TO DIG  
OUR HOLE IT WAS  
FUN**



**WE GOT TO LOOK AT  
LOTS OF THINGS  
THE FIRST THING WE  
GOT TO USE A VERY  
OLD GRINDER THERE  
WAS KANGAROO  
TEETH. I LIKED THE  
OLD ABORIGINAL  
SHELL NECLACES. I  
LIKED THE LEMON  
MERTLE. WE ALSO  
GOT TO LOOK AT  
THE GARDEN THEY  
HAD LOTS OF MINTS**

Earth Day.



My favourite  
thing was  
planting in the  
garden.



Today the 3/4s and the  
5/6s went to the Selby  
community house to  
learn about the  
aboriginals and  
indigenous people and  
how they live.



Today the 3/4s  
went to the  
Community  
House.

My earth day.

this is what we  
did today we did  
planting,  
learning, eating,  
and the last thing  
is looking at the  
aborriginal  
things.



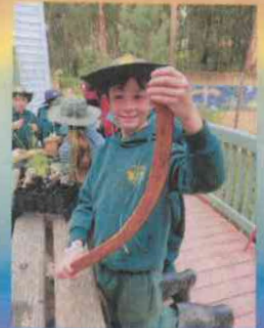
My favrite part of  
the day was the  
planting part and  
the snack plater.

22/4/2021.



IN EARTH DAY WE  
PLANTED TREES AND  
LERNT ABOWT THE  
ABORIGINES :) :)

EARTH DAY!!!!



I LOVED PLANTING, I  
PLANTED 2 PLANTS.



Today is the day  
of earth, so the  
seniour school of  
selby p.s  
walked to the  
selby community  
house and  
planted shrubs  
and plants to help  
the earth.



also, we learnt  
about aboriginal  
herbs and obects.  
We got to eat  
some edible  
plants and herbs.  
here ar som of the  
one we ate



# SELBY COMMUNITY HOUSE PHOTO BOARD

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### 6. Selby Community House Photo Board

- a) Fairy Door Workshop & Exhibition
- b) Community Lunches
- c) Photography Competition
- d) 2020 Christmas Party
- e) Covid Relief Packages
- f) Wombat Lantern by Renate Crowe
- g) New Sign Installed



# FAIRY DOORS WORKSHOP & EXHIBITION



Fairy Door painted by  
Lily Zielinski



Fairy Door painted by  
Alex Rushanow



# COMMUNITY LUNCHESES

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Free community lunches have been a wonderful event to provide to the community. Always with healthy vegetarian food, live music and wonderful company.





# PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



The Selby Community Photography Competition was a great success, drawing in over 30 photographers submitting a photo which represented what they were experiencing during the endless lockdowns.



# PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



When restrictions eased we opened the lounge and welcomed the community to the Selby Community Photography Competition exhibition opening which was over a beautiful lunch with live, local music.

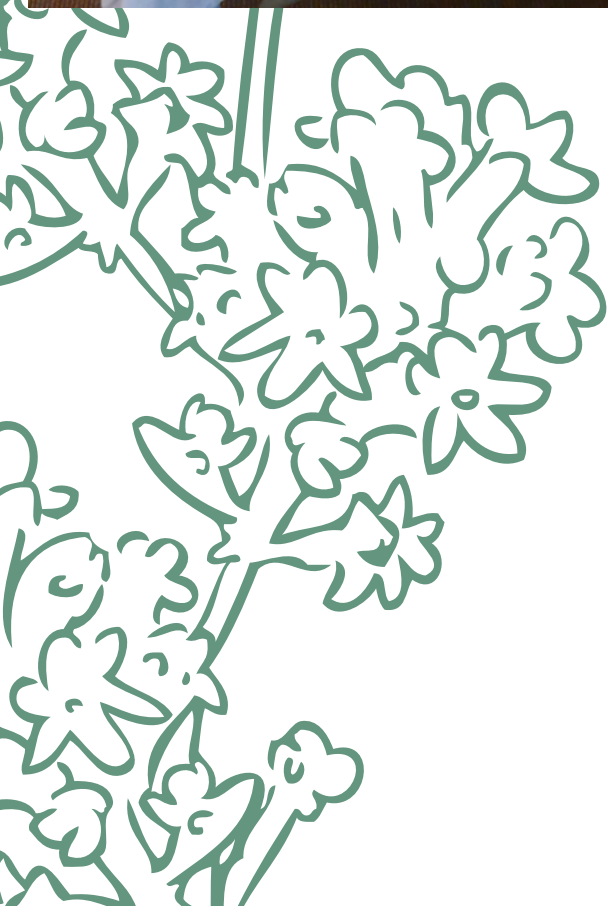




# 2020 CHRISTMAS PARTY



The Selby Community House Christmas party was a wonderful celebration shared with the team, committee and their families. Mexican themed food was provided by Glen from Armageddon BBQs.





# COVID RELIEF PACKAGES



Selby Community House provided 200 Covid Relief Packages to the community as a way to reconnect by providing mindful care packages



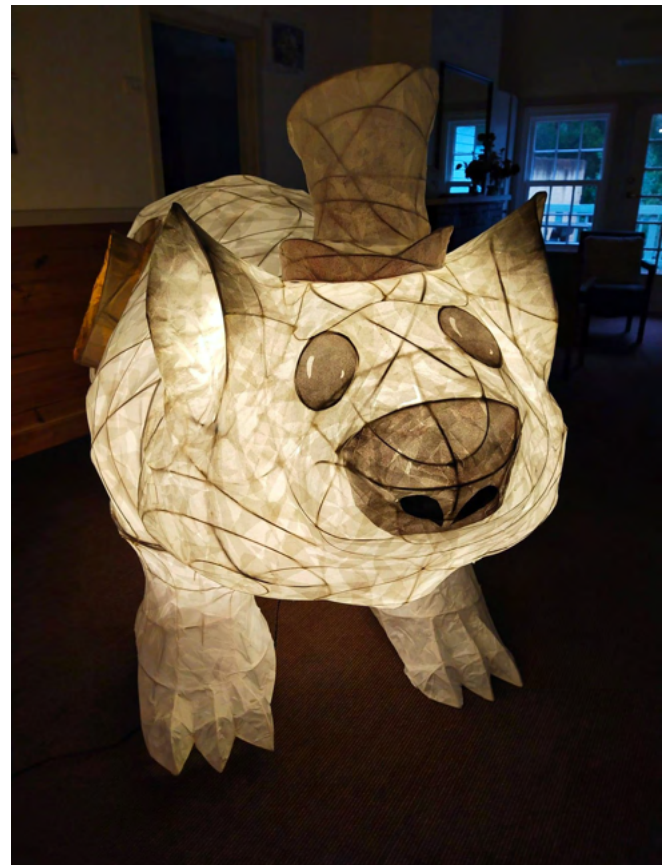


# WOMBAT LANTERN BY RENATE CROWE

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'Wombi' the  
Diprotodont wombat  
mascot created by  
Renate Crowe





# NEW SIGN INSTALLED



Our new sign created  
by artist Bandon Kroon





# NEWS ARTICLES

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### 7. News Articles

- a) Article about Selby Community House
- b) Article about Wombalana Wild Garden
- c) Article about Webinar
- d) Article about ArtSpace Selby
- e) Article about Nikki Rae and Wildlife tips



# ARTICLE ABOUT SELBY COMMUNITY HOUSE

## NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE WEEK



The amphitheatre at Selby Community House.

## The door is always open

Serving the community since 1975, Selby Community House offers opportunities for both formal and informal community participation at a local level. The house provides a place where people can come together, through classes, workshops, forums, meetings, exhibition spaces, social or community events.

Selby Community House also provides childcare four days a week and a playgroup session one day per week in a nurturing and welcoming environment.

The warm and welcoming house offers a

broad variety of classes and workshops, ranging from health and wellbeing, creative arts, pre-accredited training and various workshops. For those looking to hire, the house offers a variety of wonderful rooms, an amphitheatre, a nature playspace, an outdoor pizza oven and also has a full kitchen for catering purposes.

The house's exciting new exhibition space provides a place for exhibitions to take place to showcase the work of established and emerging artists. The outdoor area boasts a thriving

indigenous bush foods community garden.

The house will open its doors on Saturday 15 May between 12pm and 3pm for its Wombalana Wild Garden launch and community day.

There will be free barista coffee on offer, as well as free vegan and vego savoury and sweet food sponsored by First National Real Estate and a wildlife show at 12pm.

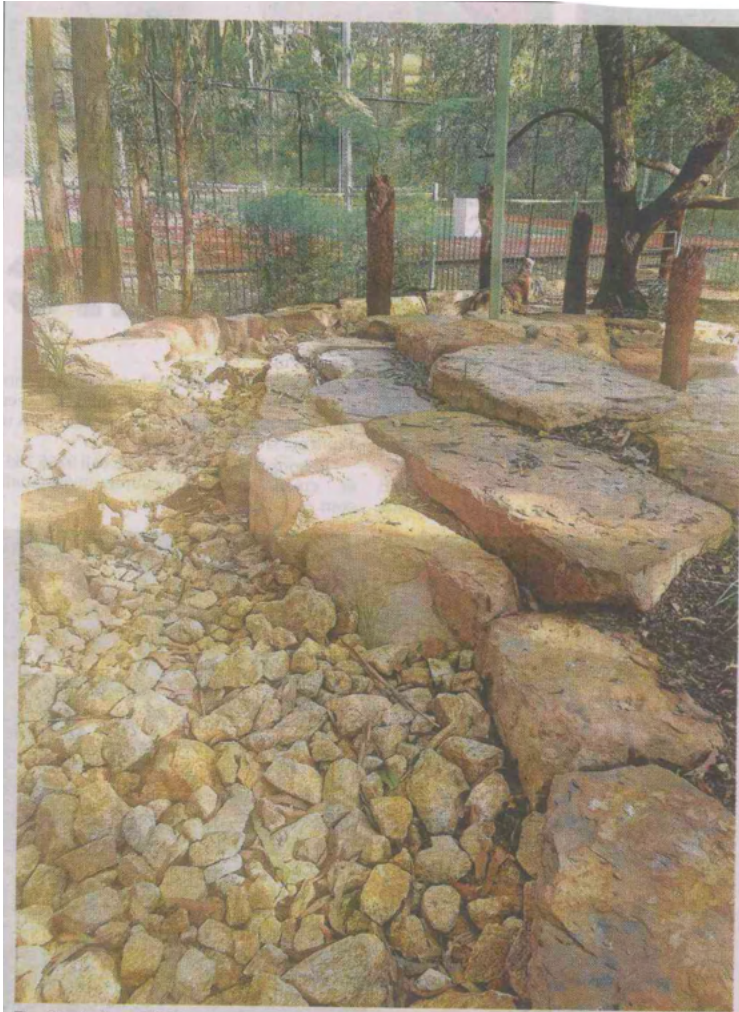
Paperlab will be at the house offering craft activities to the sound of music by local musicians. A mini eco expo will be held in the

lounge from local environmental groups, including Southern Dandenong Community Nursery will also be providing information and free plants.

House Manager Anna Reid has worked in the community arts sector for over 15 years and in the not for profit and council sectors. Ms Reid is passionate about bringing the community together and providing experiences that provides great joy, and encourages the community to come and enjoy Selby Community House.



# NEWS ARTICLE ABOUT WOMBALANA WILD GARDEN



The Wombalana Wild Garden at Selby Community House.

Pictures: SUPPLIED

## Welcome to the wild

By Taylah Eastwell

Selby Community House invite the community to join them as they celebrate the launch of their all-new Wombalana Wild Garden.

The house will be throwing open its doors to celebrate community, nature and connectedness on Saturday 15 May, giving children and adults the opportunity to explore the exciting new wild garden.

House manager, Anna Reid described the new Wombalana Wild Garden as a "magical wilderness".

"Walking up the stairs from the house, or down the bushy paths from the local car-parks, visitors enter a wild space. A space unlike anything visited before, where nothing is familiar. There are giant rocks, huge logs, Jurassic-feeling plants and enormous mega-fauna," she said.

"The concept for the garden came from consultation with the community, discussions with the committee and staff and we also spoke in detail with Stephen Mushin, who is an internationally known industrial nature designer," Ms Reid explained.

Mr Mushin designed the garden, with the concept being all about intuitive play, reconnecting with nature and going back to basics where children can play in a more simplistic way. RB Landscapes helped bring the vision to life and sourced the incredible rocks used in the garden.

"We wanted to simplify play and make it more intuitive, which leads to children having more natural creativity and it was very fitting because we are surrounded by Minak Reserve," Ms Reid said.

A commissioned Diprotodon, a mega-sized wombat, is currently under construction and will be placed in the garden ahead of SelbyFest in October this year.

Held in neighbouring Minak Reserve, the event promises to be a celebration of local businesses, environmental organisation, artists and musicians, with a community art project taking place on the day lead by Louise



Seymour from PaperLab.

There will also be a wildlife display from Reptile Encounters, free barista coffee, sweet and savoury treats by local chef Jennifer McAdams and Brookes Bakestead, free curried samosas and free fruit baskets for all.

A mini eco expo will also take place, with information from Dance of the Plant's indigenous botanist Sonia Murray, Friends of Minak Weed Eradication and Southern Dandenong Community Nursery who will be giving away free plants.

Back inside the community house, an exhibition by Stephen Mushin will take centre-stage in the lounge, showcasing his conceptual drawings and inspiration for the nature play space and Renate Crowe will light up the new garden with her diprotodon lantern display.

The community house was joined by Selby Primary School students from year three to six for Earth Day on 22 April, where over 400 native plants were planted in the Wombalana Wild Garden to get it looking extra green and ready for the big opening.

The event will run from 12-3pm on Saturday 15 May, 1 Minak Road Selby.



# NEWS ARTICLE ABOUT WEBINAR

## Top webinar tips for a clean and green home

A free webinar will be offered this Friday on techniques and products for a healthier and cleaner home during the pandemic.

Selby Community House has organised a practical online Zoom session with cleaning expert Tania Struzina, in which she will demonstrate how to replace harmful chemicals with effective green cleaning.

"Soap and water are at least as effective as sanitisers and disinfectants in disabling the Covid-19 virus," Ms Struzina said.

"Sanitisers and disinfectants don't have soap's super power of breaking open the virus' fatty protective envelope. When this envelope is broken, the virus can't survive."

Online participants will be presented with the five rules and products that aim to change the way they clean. They will also be given economical recipes to make their own cleaning products.

Ms Struzina said cleaning was about removing surface dirt and grease that bacteria and viruses live in and feed on.

"You can feel confident that proper surface cleaning with soapy water or detergent - which is different from disinfectant - will keep you and your family safe," she said.

Event organiser Suzi Downie said there had been many enquiries at Selby Community House about natural cleaning solutions.

She said this was particularly because of the allergies and side-effects people are starting to experience with conventional chemical cleaners.

"There are also environmental impacts associated with many synthetic products and their packaging," Ms Downie said.

"We're all learning how to lighten our footprint, and this webinar should provide us with lots of practical tips."

Green Cleaning at Home is a free event and will be held online from 7pm-8.15pm



Event organiser Suzi Downie is keen to raise awareness about green cleaning.

on 23 October.

To register or for more information, contact Ms Downie at [programming@selby-house.com.au](mailto:programming@selby-house.com.au).



# NEWS ARTICLE ABOUT ARTSPACE SELBY

## NEWS

# ArtSpace Selby launched

By Taylah Eastwell

Selby Community House is looking forward to welcoming the public into its new art space for an upcoming exhibition showcasing work created by local artists during lockdown.

With help from a Covid-19 Community Relief and Recovery Grant from Yarra Ranges Council, the community house refurbished its main lounge space last year into a new gallery known as ArtSpace Selby.

House Manager at Selby Community House, Anna Reid said ArtSpace Selby will open its doors for its first official exhibition on Thursday 25 March from 6-8pm, which will run until Wednesday 28 April.

The free exhibition, titled 'It was the best of times, it was the worst of times' will showcase the work of local artists Jacqui Christians and Chris Lawry.

"It's for the artists affecting during lockdown who were not able to work or receive any financial support. These artists are quite established and used their art forms to support themselves to a certain degree, so it is a way of providing some support for them to get back on their feet," Ms Reid said.

"All funding from the exhibition goes to the artists and all money from sales goes to them, the exhibition is literally about giving money back to artists and their art form," she said.

Ms Reid said Ms Christians typically spends time going to locations outside her immediate area to draw and paint.

"She was often inspired by things that weren't so much in her backyard but because of lockdown was forced to redevelop her subject matter, so lots of things she has painted were within her 5km radius," Ms Reid said.

Some of Ms Christians work was completed in Minak Reserve at the back of Selby Community House.



Printmaker Chris Lawry.

"She has painted in our beautiful reserve and has really drawn from a local, natural space that she'd never normally be painting in but Covid gave her the opportunity to find these little pockets," Ms Reid said.

Ms Lawry's work involves taking photos and creating lino prints. Ms Reid said Ms Lawry used time in lockdown to refer back to research and work she had previously envisioned.

Her prints are "traditionally printed by

hand on an etching press between metal rollers, or by rubbing the back of the printing paper over the hand carved block with a wooden spoon or burin".

"There is a delicateness with Chris's fine lines and then a boldness of Jacqui's bright, vibrant colours, so they are quite complementary together," she said.

Local mixed textile artist and freehand painter Matthew Rutten will also have the chance to show off his work at the exhibition,



Local artist Jacqui Christians.

having painted on canvas, silk and paper.

Work from all three artists will be for sale throughout the exhibition.

Ms Reid described the exhibition as the "launch of a new era for Selby Community House, reconnecting with a grassroots community of artists".

"We want it to be the start of a community of artists coming to the house, being a part of exhibitions and making this community house their space," she said.



# NEWS ARTICLE ABOUT DARCY DUGGAN

## NEWS

# An environmental warrior

By Romy Stephens

Tributes have flown after the passing of well-known Dandenong Ranges conservationist Darcy Duggan.

Mr Duggan sadly died from leukaemia on 31 October.

He has been remembered for dedicating his life to protecting the unique environment of the Yarra Ranges.

Mr Duggan first moved to the hills in the 1980s, residing in the small town of Selby.

As an environmental scientist his expertise and passion for community connectedness was welcomed at the Selby Community House, on Minak Reserve.

The house, and other places throughout the hills, was used as a base for his important environmental work.

Former Southern Dandenongs Landcare Group president Vicki Boyle recalled some of her memories of Mr Duggan.

"Our paths often crossed in bushland settings where I would invariably be surprised by him emerging organically from the bush, in all weathers dressed in overalls, beanie atop his long hair and coffee scroll crumbs in his beard," Ms Boyle said.

"He would exclaim delightedly about something he had just discovered on site or rail against some government agency or other for failing in its duty of care for the protection of the natural assets for which they were responsible."

Ms Boyle described Mr Duggan as an "idealist who was reluctantly forced to work within a system he often found unworkable, a system which moved at a glacial pace."

"Thus Darcy was always in the local news, advocating for more stringent environmental protections and holding governments at all levels to account for their actions or lack thereof," Ms Boyle said.



StopPitt's Kathy Sewell and Darcy Duggan, when he was president of the Southern Dandenongs Landcare group in 2018.

"He even stood for Council at one stage and served on many advisory committees, genuinely walking the talk. But his major work was on-ground across all tenures, on public and private land."

Some of Mr Duggan's most notable roles included being a member of the Yarra Ranges Environment Advisory Committee since 2009, and being involved in similar committees from the late 1990s.

He also had a long involvement with the Community Weed Alliance of the Dandenongs and Southern Dandenongs Landcare Network, along with being a representative on the committee of the Peri-Urban Weed Management Initiative.

Yarra Ranges Council's coordinator of biodiversity conservation, Amanda Smith, said Mr Duggan's "contributions have had lasting

impact on Council, the community, and the natural environment through which his legacy will live on."

"His dedication to protection, enhancement and restoration of Yarra Ranges unique and valuable environment has been a life's work, to which he has contributed tirelessly," she said.

"His particular interest and knowledge in bushland management, weed control and waterway health in the Southern Dandenongs focussed around the Selby area, Minak Reserve and Sassafras Creek Catchment, has provided Council and community with many opportunities to improve management and processes over many years.

"He is well connected and respected for his extensive land management and restoration knowledge in the local area and often sought



Vicki Boyle, Leslet Wilson, Richard Gipps, Karen Davies, Darcy Duggan and Todd Coleman. 140163



La Trobe MP Jason Wood and Stephen Thuan witnessed the results of a program to tackle Wandering Trad with Darcy Duggan, about five years ago. 141286

out for teaching in these fields within Yarra Ranges and beyond."

The council's environmental volunteers support officer, Jen Ellison, also paid tribute to Mr Duggan.

"Darcy has been a dedicated environmental volunteer for almost 40 years. His passion for native restoration is well-known throughout the Dandenong Ranges and beyond," she said.

"He has generously taught multiple generations of volunteers, conservationists and environmental workers about our local flora and fauna, and those lessons will be a part of the hills for many years to come."

"He will be hugely missed by so many of us, but the plants, wildlife and bushland have greatly benefited from his knowledge, advocacy and actions."



# NEWS ARTICLE ABOUT NIKKI RAE AND WILDLIFE TIPS

## NEWS

# Nikki shares wildlife tips

As Nikki Rae runs her own native wildlife shelter from her Selby residence, it's certainly not your typical hills house.

Her living room, and sometimes even her bedroom, houses joeys that are young enough to live inside or in the humidicrib.

Her fridge is filled with milk formulae, medications, fish and mice for her rescued birds, native flowers and even insects, like mealworms.

"There is always an animal in need of something and it's hard to find time to relax, but it's so rewarding to make a difference to our precious wildlife and we will never stop caring," Ms Rae said.

"My partner, George, not only helps with the day-to-day cleaning and feeding of the animals, but he also builds enclosures. He sometimes installs nest boxes high up in tall trees. He's a great help on rescues and has a natural talent for reading animal behaviour."

Ms Rae will share her experiences of running Amaroo Wildlife Shelter for almost 10 years at a free public forum at Selby Community House next week.

"We've all heard about the billion animals killed by our recent fires, but what are the practicalities of saving those who survive?" forum organiser Karl Williams said.

"By the end of the evening we should all have learned some invaluable practical tips for when we're confronted by an animal in need."

During her years running the shelter, Ms Rae has been greatly assisted by foster carers and volunteers.

Together, they mostly care for marsupials, ringtails, brushtails, sugar gliders, swamp wal-



Nikki Rae caring for a rescued echidna.

labies, koalas and eastern grey kangaroos, but will often take in echidnas, lizards, reptiles, bats and common bird species.

"We rescue, rehabilitate or raise orphan and injured animals with the aim to get them back to the wild again as soon as possible," Ms Rae said.

"My experience working as an emergency veterinary nurse has given me a great understanding of how to manage medical conditions and injuries to wildlife."

Since Ms Rae obtained her wildlife rehabilitation licence from the State Government, Amaroo's 24-hour service has been responsible for rescuing hundreds of injured and orphaned native animals.

The forum begins at 7pm on 25 November.

Because Covid-19 restrictions will limit numbers, it is essential to reserve a place by phoning Selby Community House on 9754 2039.

A light supper will be provided.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Sonia Murray (Dance of the Plants)

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