



***BLIND WELFARE
ASSOCIATION
OF SA INC.***

**ANNUAL REPORT
2017/2018**



MISSION STATEMENT

*To provide high standard welfare,
support and accommodation
services to blind, vision impaired
and aged persons to promote
independence, dignity and quality
of life.*

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT
(July 2017 – June 2018)

CURRENT

Tony Starkey ~ President

Maureen Montes ~ Vice President

Leonore Scott ~ Secretary

Jed Alexander

Sarah Savage

Connie Miari

STAFF

Jim Colligan ~ Manager

Deidre Gavros ~ Administration Co-ordinator

Jackie McEwen ~ Volunteer Officer

Trudy Thain ~ Member Services Assistant

Visa Neelam ~ HR & Systems Officer

Debra Beeby ~ Member Services Co-ordinator

Tracy Reed ~ Southern Services Co-ordinator

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BWA has once again had a productive year with a number of milestones met. Firstly, we have operated within our budget, our philosophy is that any service improvement or new initiative is sustainable and funded.

Our project to create a better housing option for our members living within our independent accommodation has proved extremely successful. In conjunction with ACH, we have secured renovated units to house four of our long-term residents. A comments from one of the re-housed members was "I never thought I would be so lucky. I am so happy."

Recreational and Social participation has increased both by events and participants with activities across the metropolitan area. When funds are available, we intend to broaden these activities to regional members.

TONY STARKEY

President

MANAGER'S REPORT

I am pleased to report that the Blind Welfare Association of SA has ended the 2018 financial year in a strong position in terms of our outcomes for members, financial stability and Quality Service Standards. We continued to support our members with volunteer transport, social support, individual support, no interest loans, Special Purpose Welfare Funds, recreational and educational grants and the subsidy of adaptive technology.

It's been a challenging year for many of our members particularly those under 65 years of age whom have been transitioning to the National Disability Scheme as they get use to managing their own disability funding, new care staff and organisations. After some initial hiccups my team reports most members are now transferring smoothly and many benefiting from additional in-home support.

At Blind Welfare our Board of Management made the decision some time ago not to become an NDIS provider and as a result our team has been working hard to continue to fill the gaps and support not provided by the NDIS. For our members over 65 whom find themselves without the NDIS particularly in terms of Adaptive Technology funding, BWA is continuing to assist with our Equipment Subsidies of up to \$3000 every three years and no interest loans.

Last year we began our Better Housing Project to find new accommodation for our members based at our Gilles Plains Site. This project concluded this year with four of our long term residents moving to new and more suitable accommodation at Magill with The ACH group.

Our new holiday unit at Glenelg continues to be a success with many members taking advantage of our subsidised holiday stays. The unit is managed by the OAKs Group has also been a great financial investment returning an income to support our activities.

One new initiative we have recently introduced is our dedicated transport phone line (8369 1350). This is the line to leave messages particularly if you are receiving volunteer transport to and from our Gilles Plains centre. So if you need to change or cancel transport leave a message on this new line.

I must again thank my small team of staff who use their skills and initiative to solve the many daily issues that arise and our team of 85 Volunteers whom transport, teach, shop, coach and cook for our members.

JIM COLLIGAN

Manager

VOLUNTEER OFFICER'S REPORT

Another busy year has passed and we have seen a lot of volunteers come and go. Statistically we have one volunteer who has been with us over 28 years, two over 20, nine over 10 and 11 over five. Quite an achievement! Our volunteer numbers do fluctuate but currently in the north east area we have 61.

Throughout the year, with the introduction of NDIS our call to take members to medical appointments, shopping and assist with correspondence in their home has drastically reduced. We transport members into the centre where our volunteers cook lunches, provide entertainment and help our members enjoy social interaction.



Ronald and Pekka cooking up some baked spuds and an example of our healthy lunches.

Throughout the year extra activities such as the Melbourne Cup lunch, St. Patrick's Day, Easter Parade and Christmas in July need a large amount of volunteers to assist with cooking, driving and assisting members with sight guiding and usually there are an abundance of volunteers happy to help. Our northern Volunteers' Christmas celebration was held at the Blue Gums on 19 December and it was attended by 25 volunteers, James Colligan and myself. This was arranged as a Cocktail Party and each volunteer received a certificate of appreciation plus a hand held personal fan.



It was International Volunteers' Week during May and in recognition of the work our volunteers' do, we hosted a breakfast here at the centre. The staff and I prepared a delicious breakfast for them all and waited on them, which they found very amusing.



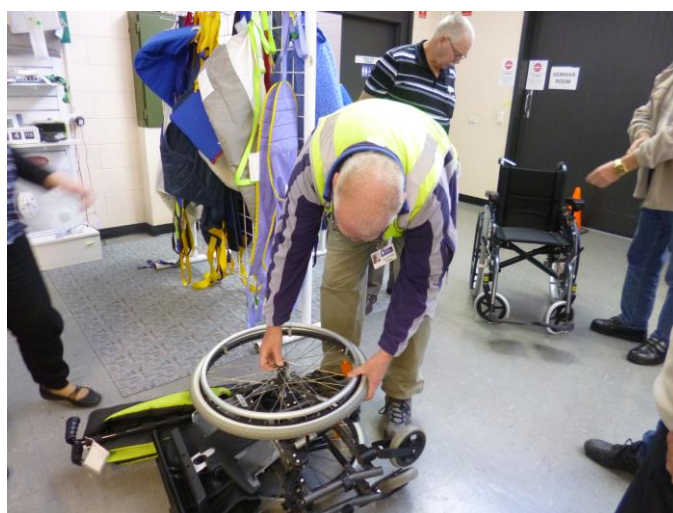
Volunteers' breakfast

I had also nominated three of our volunteers to receive the 2018 Premier's Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Volunteer Service and they were all accepted. Wendy Carter, Heike Pothmann and Ronald Morley were delighted to receive this prestigious award.



Continuing on with celebrations the Queen's Birthday weekend which was June 11, was proclaimed Volunteers' Day some years' ago and is celebrated every year with a free event for volunteers organised by Department of Community and Social Inclusion. At this event State Volunteer Awards are presented, and showcase a couple of Adelaide Cabaret Festival performances. Several volunteers attended and as always the entertainment was brilliant.

Training is an important aspect of volunteering and we had two sessions, one for handling wheelchairs and the other on food safety and hygiene. Food hygiene is particularly important due to the catering that our volunteers help manage. We have conducted this program twice before since I have been here, but with new volunteers and the need to refresh those that have completed it before, it is essential training.



Wheelchair training



Good example of safe food handling! Nancy, Trudy and Heike

There are other aspects of volunteering for Blind Welfare which go on behind the scenes. Some of these are gardening around our site, changing light globes, cleaning up the shed, remove hazardous liquids, cleaning the association's vehicles, painting and varnishing outside equipment.

Our projected outlook is to offer day outings and extended stays at places, for example Wallaroo. Some of these activities had been run privately but now these will all come under the banner of Blind Welfare Association.

It is certainly a place of diverse activities and somewhere we try to introduce fun and enhance wellbeing, both for our members and volunteers. We are always seeking new volunteers so please spread the word. Some people that don't volunteer just need to be asked!!



Brian hosting at our Christmas in July

Some people that don't volunteer just need to be asked so ask the question, you could be surprised!!

JACKIE McEWEN
Volunteer Officer

MEMBER SERVICES OFFICER (Gilles Plains Office)

This year has been yet another busy and successful provision of services to our members. Many BWA Members have transitioned to either NDIS or My Age Care funding models and we have continued in Member Services to provide Group Social Support, Accompanied Support, Specialised Vision Services and Transport to all of our eligible Members. It has at times been challenging to stay current with all the changes which have been happening in the Disability and Age Care sectors, but through ongoing training and consultation, the Member Services Team have been able to modify operations to provide sector best practice and compliance.

This year we have recorded over 17,000 contacts with members, including activity attendances and various kinds of assistance. We have, of course, had many other unrecorded contacts with people in order to provide them with their transport, community services information and other supports. We currently have 524 Members across the metropolitan and regional areas and 60 new members have joined us this year.

Staff have worked to align our policies, procedures and practices with the requirements of our funding bodies, while continuing to deliver timely individually tailored responses, to member needs and preferences. One of the results has been a successful audit of our operations by the Commonwealth Dept. of Health, conducted in February 2018, for our Home Support (CHSP) Funding.

This year's Better Housing Project has seen 4 of our members securely relocated by BWA from the Cameron Avenue residences, to a new ACH re-development in Magill, where they report enjoying their community and the security and comfort that long term tenure provides.

Apart from our direct service provision, BWA have approved many special purpose financial subsidies, including 23 (Assistive Technology), 15 (Home Maintenance), 13 (Recreation and Development), 13 (Personal Loans) and 1 (Birth Payment).

In the upcoming year BWA will be focussing on staying relevant and responsive in the new Disability and Age care environments, and with the help of Member input and consultation, will move forward based on the expressed needs of the Vision Impaired community. BWA is committed to continuing to listen and respond to communications from our Members and to respond in ways that contribute their wellbeing interests and valued community participation.

The 2018-19 Financial year will no doubt afford us many unforeseen challenges but we are confident that, with the assistance of our members, we will be able to meet whatever lies ahead and exceed community expectations with a positive, focused and empowering approach, while evolving to inspire.

DEBRA BEEBY

Member Services Officer

SOUTHERN SERVICES COORDINATOR

This financial year has seen the continuation of program activities in the Southern region. The SE Social Group meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month with a wide range of activities enjoyed by participants from interesting speakers to various musical performances including vocals, harp and even drumming!

The SE Conversation Corner on the 4th Monday of the month has seen a growth in attendance as the group becomes a gathering place for those in the south western area. Lively discussion and sharing has been enjoyed with a wide variety of topics covered. The group offers a sense of comradery and a safe place to share experience of how it is to live with limited or no vision.

The monthly SE Bus Trip has also been popular with a range of destinations being explored. These have included matinee performances, exhibitions, picnics and of course many lunches.

October was a very popular month with a visit and guided tour of Beau's Pet Hotel run by Guide Dogs SA/NT.





Another highlight was the 2017 Annual BWA Christmas Lunch at the Woodcroft Tavern. The event was attended by over 50 people including members, partners, volunteers and of course staff. Feedback was very positive with people enjoying a delicious luncheon and entertainment.

All of these activities require assistance and would not take place if it were not for our team of southern volunteers. Our small but dedicated team provide assistance to members with one on one home visits as well as transport to shopping and medical appointments. Transport is also provided for many members to attend BWA social gatherings with volunteers providing assistance with delivery of activities. These activities all provide valuable opportunity for social interaction and friendship, in turn reducing feelings of isolation among members and contributing toward independence and increased mental and emotional health and wellbeing. Subsidies continue to be well utilized including:

- 8 Personal Loan approvals
- 11 Recreation and Personal Development subsidies
- 14 Adaptive Technology subsidies
- 15 Home Maintenance subsidies

There have been 19 new memberships in the southern region and 5 new volunteers.

As Southern Services Coordinator I continue to seek opportunities to promote BWA and provided presentations to the Seaford Men's Breakfast in August and The Masonic Village Vision Impaired Person's group in September. I regularly attend network meetings and seek opportunities to support members wherever possible.

TRACY REED

Southern Services Coordinator

Blind Welfare

Association of SA Inc

ABN: 73 095 200 204

1 Cameron Avenue
GILLES PLAINS SA 5086

Special Purpose Financial Report For the Year Ended June 2018

Blind Welfare Association of SA Inc.
ABN: 73 095 200 204

COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Your committee members submit the financial report of Blind Welfare Association of SA Inc. for the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

Committee Members

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

Mr Tony Starkey	President
Ms Maureen Montes	Vice President
Ms Leonore Scott	Secretary
Mr Jed Alexander	
Ms Sarah Savage	
Ms Pat Fryer (resigned August 2017)	
Ms Connie Miari (commenced August 2017)	

Committee members have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Principal Activities

The principal activity of Blind Welfare Association of SA Inc. is to provide support and accommodation services to blind, vision impaired and aged persons to promote independence, dignity and quality of life.

Significant Changes

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

Operating Result

The net surplus amounted to \$219,728. The surplus for the 2017 financial period was \$482.

Blind Welfare Association of SA Inc.
ABN: 73 095 200 204

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
INCOME			
Other fundraising income		61,538	129,536
Grant income		184,102	180,380
Foundation income		392,000	352,000
Interest income		8,693	4,413
Other income		459,196	240,572
		<u>1,105,529</u>	<u>906,901</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Administrative expenses		541,126	491,016
Donation to BWA Foundation		-	83,021
Other expenses		344,675	332,381
		<u>885,801</u>	<u>906,418</u>
Profit / (Loss) before income tax		219,728	482
Income tax expense			
(Loss)/Profit for the year		<u>219,728</u>	<u>482</u>
RETAINED PROFIT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	7	824,960	824,478
RETAINED PROFIT AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	7	<u><u>1,044,688</u></u>	<u><u>824,960</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporations Act 1985 (SA)*. The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

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

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

Accounting policies

a. Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the entity is exempt from income tax under Div 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

b. Property, Plant and Equipment Plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, accumulated depreciation.

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

c. 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.

d. Cash and Cash Equivalents Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and deposits held at-call with banks.

Blind Welfare Association of SA Inc.
ABN: 73 095 200 204

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Note 2: Cash and Cash Equivalents		
General cheque account	375,551	197,189
Business Online Saver	21,892	21,773
Gift Account	73,774	271,221
Debit card	3,443	2,346
Petty Cash / Cash on hand	3,064	1,100
	<u>477,724</u>	<u>493,629</u>
Note 3: Trade and Other Receivables		
Trade receivables	36,932	6,351
Less provision for doubtful debts	(4,329)	(5,920)
Shares - Hlncks Bequest	24,540	21,595
Member loans	0	22,389
Refundable Grant	287,000	82,000
Other debtors	2,112	373
	<u>346,255</u>	<u>126,788</u>
Note 4: Property, Plant and Equipment		
Land at valuation	1,044,341	1,044,341
Buildings at valuation	2,600,000	2,600,000
Building Improvements		
Less accumulated depreciation	(38,193)	(48,420)
	<u>3,606,148</u>	<u>3,625,921</u>
Motor vehicles at cost	218,702	218,702
Less accumulated depreciation	(107,815)	(83,734)
	<u>110,887</u>	<u>134,968</u>
Furniture and fixtures at cost	59,717	59,717
Less accumulated depreciation	(42,495)	(39,985)
	<u>17,222</u>	<u>19,732</u>
Plant and equipment at cost	79,236	115,979
Less accumulated depreciation	(56,176)	(100,412)
	<u>23,060</u>	<u>15,567</u>
	<u>3,757,317</u>	<u>3,796,189</u>

Blind Welfare Association of SA Inc.
ABN: 73 095 200 204

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on pages 4 to 9:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Blind Welfare Association of SA Inc. as at 30 June 2018 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Blind Welfare Association of SA Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the committee by:

President

Mr Tony Stankey



Secretary

Ms Leonore Scott



Dated this 25th day of SEPTEMBER 2018


Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

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

DEANE & ASSOCIATES



Richard F Deane, Principal

Date: 13th September 2018
69 Franklin Street, ADELAIDE SA