Annual Report
2013-14
**Our Mission**

Respond. Rebuild. Reconnect. We seek to give all participants the power of purpose.

**About Reclink Australia**

Reclink Australia is a not-for-profit organisation whose aim is to enhance the lives of people experiencing disadvantage or facing significant barriers to participation, through providing new and unique sports and arts opportunities and specialist recreation programs.

We target some of the community’s most vulnerable and isolated people; at risk youth, those experiencing mental illness, people with a disability, the homeless, people tackling alcohol and other drug issues and social and economic hardship.

As part of our unique hub and spoke network model, Reclink Australia has facilitated cooperative partnerships with a membership of over 380 community, government and private organisations.

Our member agencies are committed to encouraging our target population group, under-represented in mainstream sport and recreational programs, to take that step towards improved health and self-esteem, and use Reclink Australia’s activities as a means for engagement of hard to reach population groups.
Why We Exist

From the streets of St Kilda and Kings Cross, to the public housing estates of Adelaide and Canberra and the remote communities of the Northern Territory, Reclink Australia champions participation in physical and artistic activity for all Australians. We believe that sport, recreation, music and art are powerful tools to engage and support those most hard to reach within the community.

Building resilience and a sense of community, Reclink Australia believes that sport and the arts is an accepted approach to improving the lives of those experiencing multiple and complex issues and social exclusion.

We believe that everyone has the right to a positive identity and a social network. This can be achieved through active participation in sport and the arts. It revives, nurtures and sustains an individual and improves their mental and physical health.

For 24 years, we have led a network of member organisations in the support of disadvantaged communities and individuals.

“Reclink is actually the best thing that’s ever happened to me”
What We Do

Reclink Australia delivers services across the country, with participation at the core of everything we do.

From running, squash and basketball, to painting, instrument making and singing, we promote and deliver the health, social and economic benefits of activity to an otherwise largely inactive population group.

Our national program of team sports are iconic and have the ability to bring together people from all walks of life. Our famous grassroots ‘Australian Rules’ football program involves more than 850 people from April to August each year. This program is rolled out across the Northern Territory, Victoria and Tasmania, with our Tasmanian Youth League engaging over 200 boys and girls from small geographically and economically disadvantaged communities in rural Tasmania each year.

Reclink Australia has extended its activities to include work readiness programs in Queensland, a National Crime and Violence Prevention Award winning community safety program in the ACT and a Victorian Government funded referral service, connecting people with a disability to sports and recreation opportunities, AAA Play.

Reclink Australia’s programs’ impact extends to providing a vehicle for our member organisations to engage informally with ‘at risk’ and ‘hard to reach’ populations, facilitating discussions about housing stability and safety, health improvement and welfare.

As a unique voice in the sports participation space, we act as an advocate and conduit between passive populations and facilities and programs where physical activity can be undertaken. Using our experience and networks we negotiate or subsidise access to facilities, manage customised programs and competitions within existing facilities and coordinate transitional programs to enable Reclink Australia participants to move into the mainstream community.

A foundation principle of shared respect exists that recognises and rewards participation and a willingness to support others above all else. Skill development and event days feature strongly and are used to develop life skills rather than separate winners from losers, with our ultimate aim to empower participants to sustain an enhanced level of health, wellbeing and involvement in the community.

By assisting with the development of fundamental social skills, participants are supported and encouraged, if applicable, to transition to mainstream sports and arts programs, education and employment.

2006
The Reclink Raiders are the first cricket team to compete in a community cricket league.
Reclink Australia established in Alice Springs.
The Choir of Hard Knocks is formed.

2007
Reclink Australia partners with VicHealth.

2008
Appointment of the first CEO, Adrian Panozzo.
IOOF Foundation became a major community partner.
Reclink Australia established in Western Australia.
Staff members appointed in Brisbane and Alice Springs.

2009
Staff members appointed in Hobart and Canberra.

2010
Networks established in Sydney and Logan.
Appointment of new staff members in Adelaide, Brisbane and Fremantle.
Strategic plan for 2010 to 2015 approved by the Board.

2011
Women’s football league commenced in Alice Springs.
Transition to Public Company Limited by Guarantee.
Friends of Alice launched.

2012
The Transformers Choir sings with His Holiness the Dalai Lama.
Australia Day Community Event of the Year.

2013
Record membership (588), networks (22), events (10,856) and participation (111,409).
Reclink Australia wins ACT Health Promotion Award.

2014
Reclink Australia becomes provider of Australia’s first State funded information and support service, assisting people with a disability to link with sports and active recreation.
Australia Post announces Reclink Australia as a National “Our Neighbourhood” community partner.

“Reclink give me a sense of identity, belonging, community, purpose and empowerment”
A Forward Looking Approach

During 2013-14 Reclink Australia delivered over 115,000 sport, recreation and arts participation opportunities, while working closely with over 380 member organisations across Australia. In addition, our Transformational Links program has continued to provide targeted opportunities for individuals to move into training, employment and participation in sporting groups and clubs, whilst achieving a budget surplus of $169.9K.

While the year has seen a change in the leadership of the organisation, a smooth transition in senior management has enabled us to pursue a number of exciting initiatives to strengthen sustainability and create opportunities for growth in a financially sound manner.

The Executive would like to thank Adrian Panozzo for his excellence and dedicated service as CEO over the past five years.

In May, the Commonwealth Government informed us that funding for the National Reclink Program would conclude on 30 June 2014. We will monitor the potential impact the loss of funding may have on our sport and recreation programs and will continue to work with our member organisations to raise awareness of the impact that these programs have on participant’s lives.

Reclink Australia has adopted a forward looking approach to responding to the funding challenge we now face, by developing innovative programs that build a resilient and sustainable operational model across all sectors of the business.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the support Reclink Australia has received from Local, State, Territory and Commonwealth Governments, community partners, our loyal volunteers and the many communities across Australia with whom we are privileged to work closely with.

A special thanks to our dedicated and committed staff who work tirelessly to deliver Reclink Australia’s diverse range of sport, recreation and arts activities.

On behalf of the Board it is with great pleasure that we present our annual report for the 2013-2014 financial year.

David O’Halloran
Chairman

John Ballis
Interim Chief Executive Officer

Corporate Governance

The Reclink Australia Board is responsible for Reclink Australia’s overall strategic direction, performance and compliance and providing effective governance and leadership.

David O’Halloran
Board Member since 2005.
Chairman since January 2013.
President from 2007 – November 2011.
Diploma of Community Services (AOD);
Diploma of Management.

Chris Newton
Board Member since June 2012.
Bachelor of Commerce; Graduate Certificate in International Development;
Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance;
Masters of Business Administration.
Resigned November 2013.

Sam Newton
Board Member since 2006.
Licensed Estate Agent.

Rod Butters
Board Member since November 2010.

Mary Delahunty
Board Member since 2010.
Chair from 2011-2012.
Financial Planner; Graduate Diploma Advanced Finance.

John Ballis
Interim Chief Executive Officer.

Karla Harman
Board Member since June 2014.
Bachelor of Business (Economics and Finance) and a Master of Applied Finance.

Donna Gross
Board Member since June 2014.
Bachelor of Creative Arts.

Peter Cullen, AM
Founder; President 1992-2005;
Member of the Order of Australia 2000;
Centenary Medal 2003.
Research and Evaluation

Reclink Australia is committed to continuous improvement and demonstrating the impact of our programs through evaluation and targeted research.

Between 2009 and 2013, we commissioned the Centre for Sport and Social Impact at La Trobe University to research our programs and measure our impact in the community. After hundreds of interviews with member agencies, participants and funders, the resulting report explicitly outlined how our programs contribute to the physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing of people experiencing disadvantage and provided a roadmap for ongoing quality improvement.

The research revealed that Reclink Australia’s programs were a catalyst for a better life for many of the participants who took part in the study, with the greatest benefits reported being regular access to a support network of specialist organisations and being part of a community of people who have had similar experiences or difficulties.

Three years on from the completion of the field study, Reclink Australia has continued to evaluate participant, member and public attitudes towards our programs. In 2014, funding received through our new Access for All Abilities Play program has allowed the recruitment of Dr Laura Aisbett. Laura brings with her a wealth of experience and knowledge in the area of research and evaluation, as well as volunteer management systems.

In February 2014, a satisfaction survey was sent to Reclink Australia’s member agencies to articulate the attitudes towards and opinions of Reclink Australia and Reclink Australia activities. This included their current membership status, their satisfaction with communication between themselves and Reclink Australia and suggestions on how Reclink Australia could enhance their activity design and delivery to benefit the member agencies and their clients.

The survey highlighted that satisfaction levels amongst Reclink Australia’s members was high, with 40 per cent indicating they were satisfied and 27 per cent very satisfied, with a relative proportion of the sample stating they would renew their Reclink Australia membership (59%). Regarding activities delivered, participants stated a need for more locally based activities, particularly in regional areas of the state, with a high demand for activities specifically tailored for women and families.

Transformational Links, Training and Education

Reclink Australia believes in the power of opening doors for people experiencing disadvantage, establishing transformational links that can lead to life-long change. Whether it be mentorship, education or employment, Reclink continues to grow the range of available opportunities to those participants who are ready to take the next step.

In partnership with the Australian Institute of Flexible Learning, a registered training organisation and part of Upper Murray Community Health Services, Reclink Australia provides a Certificate IV in AOD (Alcohol and Other Drugs) training course.

The course has now supported numerous participants in the last two years, to become qualified Alcohol and Other Drug professionals. Reclink Australia is committed to supporting those engaged in our programs to make the next step in their life by creating pathways to education and employment.

Reclink Australia has a long history in making transformational links for participants and is investigating opportunities to expand access to training programs and other opportunities that will further assist disadvantaged people to obtain essential educational qualifications.
In 2014, Reclink Australia was proudly announced as one of seven national community partners of Australia Post. As part of Australia Post’s ‘Our Neighbourhood’ initiative, Reclink Australia will receive financial and organisational support and the opportunity to work collaboratively with one of the country’s most respected and trusted organisations. Australia Post’s employees will also have the opportunity to enrich our programs across Australia with their organisational commitment to volunteerism.

The Talbot Family Foundation has been a supporter of Reclink Australia since 2009 and is one of the primary supporters of our Queensland choir, known as The Transformers. Reclink Australia is grateful for the ongoing support that the Talbot Family Foundation continues to provide, in supporting those who participate in the Transformers Choir.

Reclink Australia has established a fruitful and mutually beneficial relationship with GE that includes highly skilled administrative and consulting support plus group volunteering on Reclink Australia’s events.

Collingwood Football Club

Reclink Australia wishes to acknowledge the considerable contribution that Collingwood FC has provided in the last year and for many years prior. Collingwood FC has been an event partner for a number of years and continues to support organisations participating in our Victorian football competition.

Friends of Alice

The Friends of Alice tour was established to engender and sustain financial and volunteer support around Reclink Australia’s work in Alice Springs and the central desert. Over the past few years the support for this region has grown rapidly with numerous individuals offering on-ground volunteer support as part of the tour.

The Friends of Alice tour also provides support for Reclink Australia’s staff member in Alice Springs. Many of the group’s members have travelled to Central Australia for a second time, bringing with them the experience from the previous year. The cultural awareness and increased knowledge of the challenging social issues in Alice Springs and the 250 Indigenous communities in the surrounding areas continues to be an educational experience for the tour members.

Each year, an Australian football (AFL) grand final is held in Alice Springs with a second grand final match played in Yulara. These matches are set against the magnificent backdrop of Uluru with most of the grand final players originating from the Alice Springs region.

The Friends of Alice tour now supports programs including musical events, wheelchair basketball, vegetable gardens and cultural, health and well-being programs.

State Reports

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Reclink Australia’s primary role in the ACT is to deliver the High Density Housing Safety and Security Project on behalf of the Justice and Community Safety Directorate – ACT Government.

Our outreach programs and events focus on seven high density housing sites in Canberra’s Inner North and their design aims to improve personal safety, enhance housing and physical environment, integrate access to services and promote health and wellbeing.

Our monthly Run, Roll or Walk goes from strength to strength with a significant increase in participation by agencies providing AOD recovery, with participants even continuing their involvement after exiting their treatment.

Equally important has been the assistance provided by participants in the establishment of a large vegetable garden at the local primary school. Participants have volunteered hundreds of hours of their time in constructing numerous raised garden beds and continue to support the school by making outdoor furniture suitable for the project.

Once again, a BBQ/picnic table built at the workshop program and donated to the local primary school was raffled at the annual school fete and the proceeds allocated to the “kids doing it tough” equity program.

The Jerilderie Court Garden Project is another example of where neighbourhood spirit has taken hold and the latest rejuvenation and renovations has not only created an ongoing source of fresh food but a healthy meeting space for residents. The garden has provided over 200 kilograms of fresh food over 12 months with the excess shared with other neighbourhoods aligned with the project.

Programs and activities such as these provide opportunities for linking people to support and encouraging innovation and ongoing participation.

As previously mentioned, community safety is a primary goal for the ACT project and a highlight for the year was recognition of our work over previous years via the prestigious National Crime and Violence Prevention Awards.

Reclink Australia in the ACT was awarded National Winner – Crime and Violence Prevention, Recognition of Excellence presented by the Minister at Parliament House.

Reclink Australia will continue to deliver new and innovative programs to our key target population in the ACT Inner North and the broader community throughout the coming year.

A special thank you to our outreach facilitator Rhondda Bell for her dedication, creativity, sense of humour and genuine support for people in need in sometimes incredibly challenging situations.

Also thank you to our key funding bodies: Justice Planning and Programs, Justice and Community Safety Directorate – ACT Government and Health Directorate – ACT Government.

Reclink Australia also acknowledges the fantastic contributions of our key partners throughout the year, Australian Red Cross and Cycling Australia.
Reclink in the Northern Territory has had a very busy year with Cricket, Football and Softball finals which involved both the local Alice Springs community and the remote communities of the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) lands.

Our footy final, the ultimate fixture of our popular football program, was a very special event. For the first time, the Melbourne Knights, a predominantly youth team from Reclink’s Melbourne competition flew to the Northern Territory to play the local lads from Corrections, DASA, MHACA, CAAPU and Clontarf. Support was provided by Emmanuelle College, from Werribee in Victoria, in what was a transformative experience for all involved.

The Melbourne Knights won their game on the day by only a few points but all efforts were drawn upon for this match, as they fought very hard to win, and looked very relieved when that final siren went.

Football usually stops after the finals but due to demand from participants from CAAPU, DASA, MHACA and CAAPU, we will continue to offer options to people to play football. Participants from NT Corrections will also participate in this extended program.

The Reclink Softball Round Robin has also gone from strength to strength in 2014, with the season showing outstanding participation levels and requests from female participants engaged with NT’s Department of Corrections looking to extend the competition outside of the normal season.

Beside the group sport programs, Wheelchair Basketball is growing in popularity, along with the Gentle Water Exercise class which sees numbers increasing each week.

Taketina drumming will also be commencing soon with staff from Reclink Australia member agency, MHACA, instructing classes at The Alice Springs Youth and Community Centre.

More local community groups have recently come on board as our profile has increased here in Alice Springs and local politicians are supporting us and our programs.

In addition to our weekly programs, Reclink Australia in NT holds a Beat the Blues ‘Run, Walk and Roll’ event in early October which is on the last day of the Mental Health Awareness Week. This coincides with Mental Health Week events that Reclink Australia is running across the country.

“As a mental health professional, my colleagues, patients and I are so appreciative of the work Reclink does to get people with mental illness active and participating within the community”

Maureen

Hello my name is Maureen and I have had lots of troubles in my life with drinking grog and family sadness.

I started drinking when I was young as everybody else was and so I just did. I went to school for a little bit but didn’t like it so stayed at home and helped my family.

I have been to Drug and Alcohol Services Australia (DASA) and the Central Australia Aboriginal Alcohol Programs Unit a lot and have tried to stop the grog and am getting better because I don’t want my grandchildren to get into grog and fighting.

They are going to school and liking school. I didn’t see them much and they are bigger now.

I started walking with the Reclink group because I have always liked walking and listening to the wind and birds. Many years ago you heard the birds a lot more than now.

I couldn’t walk very far because my body hurt and feet are sore but now I can do a lot more.

I used to sleep lots and not see my grandson much because I was sleeping. I now go with him to school and we hold hands and I tell him stories that my grandmother and mother told me when I was little and he laughs at my stories and tells me his stories at school.

Reclink helped me to walk more and I can now feel better with my feet. My grandson drew me a picture with him and me walking to school which made me cry but my heart was happy.

I want to go to the pool next with Reclink and do Wheelchair basketball.
"We have been transformed by the songs we sing
We have grown together in harmony
We have been transformed by the friends we’ve seen
This is why we sing”
Transformers Choir original

As demonstrated in those original lyrics by Reclink’s Transformers Choir, we make an impactful and long lasting difference in the lives of our participants. 2013-14 has been yet another period, full of landmarks, for our Queensland programs, experiencing network growth, and almost 650 activities a month available to member organisations.

The Transformers Choir have performed in multiple community events including mental health week festivals, Brisbane festival, Art from the Margins and Disability Week, to name but a few.

Our Wednesday rehearsals continue to bring so much joy, compassion and support for so many. Over the past year we have seen incredible growth in our regular choir members with some starting musical side projects including a jazz band and small vocal ensemble performing regularly and solo artists recording their own CD’s! Some have left and found positive new direction in their lives such as work, or returning to study, often returning to visit, remembering our catchcry: ‘Once a transformer, always a transformer’

Highlight of 2014 was the Transformers performing as part of a 150 person choir alongside Gangajang and the three tenors at the Courier Mail Piazza, Southbank, to a massively appreciative and supportive audience, complete with a standing ovation.

In 2013-14 Reclink Australia’s team sports continued to grow as we rolled out Futsal and outdoor soccer tournaments, attended by the Brisbane Roar A League team, League Tag supported 22 teams, playing in events across Logan, Brisbane, Moreton Bay and Ipswich, and we operated a Smart Rugby program in conjunction with the QLD Reds. The Smart Rugby program is designed to assist in School retention and particularly targeted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, young people in the Moreton Bay region. This program culminated in the Pacifika Tournament in which 12 teams participated.

Our Cricket program commenced with a multicultural focus, seeing 13 teams playing in a round robin T20 format. Finals were played during Refugee Week Festival in June.

In spite of a reduction in funding by the Commonwealth, Reclink Australia’s Queensland operations have been very fortunate, with the rigidity of our network model meaning that member agencies have assisted greatly to see that programs continued in spite of the funding shortfall.

The Spring Hill Shed program has continued to grow. As the home of the Reclaimers Community Orchestra program, we continue to perform at numerous community events and festivals. The Shed also hosts general woodworking and the bicycle rebuilding program. Over the past year, more than 120 bicycles have rolled out of the Shed to people with limited alternative transport options.

In 2014 our first work readiness program commenced in partnership with MAX Employment. Running at the Spring Hill based Shed program, participants received training in woodworking, metalwork, restoration and creation of furniture, horticulture and creating permaculture based community gardens.

Reclink Australia’s model is evolving, using sports, recreation and the arts as a catalyst to further develop people’s life experience and achieving outcomes, including re-entering the workforce and engaging in further education and training.

"Our rehearsal is over, but never the feelings
They’ll travel with us wherever we are
They’ll sustain us and cheer us and make us smile
They’ll remind us on Wednesdays... we’re superstars!”
Transformers Choir original
Reclink Australia’s work in SA has been faced with real challenges, with a need to innovate in the face of reduced funding by the Federal Government, at a time of increasing demand for services.

With the support of our member agencies, community groups and a dedicated volunteer team, we have still been able to grow and develop.

Along with the core stream of sport and recreation regulars: Footy, Ten Pin, Golf, Cricket, Fishing, Snorkeling, Surfing, Scuba diving and Swimming, we have also started Lawn Bowls, Yoga, Self Defense, Circus Performance, Zumba Gold and Art Therapy in the Hills/ Murraylands, Gym and Aqua Aerobics in the South, Fencing in Murray Bridge, 8 Ball Challenge in the north, Yoga in the city and a suite of social programs including Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Royal Show, SACA and SANFL matches.

Reclink Australia would like to acknowledge the support we receive from: The Office of Recreation and Sport, The Adelaide City Council, The Mount Barker Council, The Port Adelaide/ Enfield Council, The Mid Murray Council, The Playford Council and the 65 member agencies that are part of Reclink’s South Australian family.

Donna

Donna has been a part of Reclink since 2003. In the beginning she attended mainly water based activities including snorkelling, surfing and swimming.

After overcoming significant personal challenges and real family hardship Donna signed up as a Reclink volunteer. She states that Reclink has helped her to find stability, focus and direction in her life and also the opportunity to make new friends and learn new skills.

Over the past 3 years Donna has completed First Aid Courses, gained her boat license, passed the seamanship course, qualified as an open water scuba diver and helping Reclink as a Snorkel Instructor and as treasurer of the Reclink Dive Club of which she is a valued member.

Donna’s work with Reclink participants has been marked by a real passion towards disadvantaged people and a willingness to help them to re-connect with their communities and build a healthy lifestyle.

Currently she is studying Outdoor Recreation full time at TAFE which was initially supported through our Transformational Links program.

In the coming summer she will be working with DECS students in doing Bushwalking and Snorkelling as part of their Duke of Ed awards.
Caitlin

It was early in my recovery when I showed up to Boot Camp. My doctor was wary about doing so much exercise, but he is really happy with my progress. They say they’re really proud I’m happier in myself most of the time.

When I showed up, I thought I would be accepted. Straight away I was included in everything – “give it a go!” He learnt my name straight away. I’m pretty isolated socially. I’m used to being on my own.

The Boot Camp is fun. It makes me happy, I’m not judged. I’m happy to be who I am on any given day.

I used to be homeless. It was hard. It’s like flying under the radar. People don’t notice you. They don’t like what they see. It’s not happening to me now. The Boot Camp is the most important thing in my week because every week they are happy to see me. They don’t if I’m getting unwell.

Stephen Howald, the Boot Camp leader asked me if I would like a visitor in hospital. Recently, I had a problem at placement. The people at the Reclink Boot Camp supported me. I do have supporters, I was a State Ward.

I’m reconnecting with my family. My Dad wasn’t good. The physical experience boosts my mood. It keeps me even. Being able to trust a male trainer – I feel safe. I have people who back me up.

One guy said something about my weight and two guys stuck up for me. I didn’t feel like someone would stick up for me. The environment is tight, I like it.

Narelle and I did the City to Surf. I have never run that far before. My knee was sore. Counselling is good. I’ve found the right person. She’s consistent. She keeps drilling in the same messages. A lot of people don’t want to deal with people with complex issues.
Reclink Australia continues to work alongside local Tasmanian organisations, to establish new initiatives, in an increasingly challenging environment and without the presence of a local staff member. Despite these challenges, there are a number of programs that are appealing to our member constituency, some of which include:

- The Choir of High Hopes program;
- Swimming at the Hobart Aquatic Centre;
- Weekly golf at Rosny Park;
- Sailing at Kings Pier Marina;
- Accessing tickets through the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra;
- The Youth Football Program.

We also introduced the Hard Knocks football program which was coordinated by one of our member agencies and was aimed at providing disadvantaged communities with the opportunity to play football collectively.

The Tasmanian Youth League goes from strength to strength, targeting geographically disadvantaged young people, from communities with rising suicide and unemployment rates. This program, run in partnership with the Southern Midlands Council and several small schools across regional Tasmania, continues to engage hundreds of young people who otherwise have no access to sport and recreation programs.

We would like to acknowledge the contribution of our member agencies, volunteers and recreation providers for all their assistance in ensuring sports and arts activities are available for people experiencing disadvantage in Hobart.

“The best thing about Reclink is being able to improve my health through free access to services and activities that I would otherwise be afraid to access.”

Peter Cullen AM
With the non-profit sector environment becoming increasingly competitive, the ability to maintain our current services was a major objective during this period. In 2013-14, our participation in various activities remained steady, having promoted over 1500 activities throughout the year.

Some of our achievements for 2013-14 included:

- Successfully tendering for the Access for All Abilities First Point of Call Service which is aimed at connecting people with disabilities to sport and recreation opportunities throughout Greater Melbourne;
- Engaging with corporate partners such as Australia Post who are supporting various events in Victoria, including the Football Grand Final Days, Peter Cullen Medal and Reclink Community Cup;
- Introducing new sport and recreation programs at the Melbourne City Baths as well as Sailing in Albert Park;
- Successfully conducting the Certificate IV (Alcohol & Drugs) course in partnership with the Australian Institute of Flexible Learning; and
- Maintaining our existing program deliverables despite increased financial constraints as part of ensuring that Victorians experiencing disadvantage have access to sport and arts opportunities.

There are a number of key challenges and opportunities in the next 12 months, which include:

- Ensuring that we maintain our strong partnership with the Victorian State Government through the Access for All Abilities program beyond the 2014-15 period;
- Positioning ourselves strategically following the reform of the mental health and disability sector;
- Identifying alternative funding opportunities to provide services in regional Victoria;
- Expanding services that are linked to employment and training agencies; and
- Providing services that are consistent with emerging trends in sport and recreation in accordance with the Australian Sports Commission.

We would like to acknowledge the contribution of our key stakeholders, especially our member organisations, State Government, corporate partners, donors and volunteers who have assisted in the delivery of sport and arts activities for Victorians experiencing disadvantage.

James

It all started when a friend asked me if I wanted to come for a kick and play footy. I hadn’t played footy for 12 years and I felt like I needed something to fill the void because I wanted to change my lifestyle and to get fit. I decided to have a go because I always loved footy and had a passion for the game.

Initially, I thought that I was too old and my skill level would be too poor but I went down to training anyway. The club was Western Storm and the organisation behind it was the Western Region Health Centre (now known as cohealth). The coaching staff were friendly supportive and caring. My first training session was an eye opener; all the players welcomed me and made me feel a part of the team. The first few training sessions were hard but I really enjoyed it.

I found that the footy in the Reclink competition was played in good spirits and there were no spiteful incidents that I had been used to in weekend leagues. Whether we won, lost or drew, it felt like I had achieved something.

After a couple of years of playing football and cricket in the Reclink league, I was offered to do a course though Reclink – Drug and Alcohol Certificate 4. I totally enjoyed it, but the fact that I hadn’t been to school in 20 years I found it hard. The lecturer was able to help and guide me through the process and I was able to successfully complete it in 2012. Since this time I have also been able to successfully complete an AFL accredited coaching course – level 1, also provided by Reclink.

My experience through Reclink has taught me to be a better person and show more compassion to my fellow man. My five years of playing footy have now come to an end. I am now employed with cohealth as a Sports and Recreation Worker working with marginalised people who cannot access main stream sporting clubs.

Reclink football league is a wonderful way to make friends and find mentors to guide you through life.
Our focus in Western Australia over the last 12 months has been to consolidate our existing sports and arts programs, and to expand the range of sport activities offered to our members. Some of our achievements have been:

- With funding from the Department of Sport and Recreation, establishing new relationships with several State Sporting Associations. This has allowed us to offer new Kayaking, Basketball, Indoor Volleyball and Touch programs, and create over 400 additional participation opportunities;
- The participation of 6 teams in our Reclink Football Competition, with all teams participating in an action packed grand final day at The East Fremantle Sharks Football Club;
- The popularity of our Dance Inclusion program, which necessitated a move to a larger venue and classes been increase from one to three times a week;
- The diversification of activities offered to include non-sport based activities such as a series of nature based activities, laughter yoga, Tai Chi and many others. Such programs has seen a broadening of the age demographic of participants, as well as provide opportunities to individuals with a diverse range of ability and interests; and
- Raising the profile of Reclink Australia by establishing relationships with over 20 members of parliament, and ensuring we maintain a media presence through activity coverage in local newspapers.

Over the next 12 months, the primary area of focus for WA will be securing funding in Western Australia to ensure we can maintain our operational footprint into the future. We are aiming to enhance the capacity of State Sporting Associations to continue to offer inclusive sporting programs to our target group. We also aim to introduce programs in geographic areas we have not previously operated in, where we have identified high need and a lack of services currently available.

We would like to acknowledge the continued support from the WA Department of Sport and Recreation, the contribution of our volunteers and member agencies for their assistance in running many of our activities, Green Skills Inc for funding support for our nature based programs, and the enthusiasm of the State Sporting Associations and their continual assistance in running successful programs.

Lastly, we would like to acknowledge the contribution of Rebecca Armishaw who finished up as State Manager, WA in April.
Indigenous Advancement

Reclink Australia is committed to the advancement of Australia’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Through our national footprint Reclink is working closely with Indigenous communities across Australia. Delivering a range of:

- Valued sport, recreation and arts programs;
- Employment and job readiness programs; and
- Community housing safety programs to improve the emotional and social wellbeing of Indigenous participants, creating safer communities for all.

Our extensive experience of working at a grassroots level with remote Indigenous communities in NT, WA and SA, plus the many Indigenous people and member agencies participating in our city based programs, is informing the exciting work we will undertake as part of the Indigenous Advancement Strategy.

Reclink Australia is dedicated to strengthening our presence in and working respectfully with Indigenous communities around the country. Creating inclusive, culturally appropriate, community owned and innovative programs that contribute to building safe and sustainable Indigenous communities.
With support from the Victorian State Government, Reclink Australia launched Australia’s first sport and recreation, information and referral service for people with a disability.

AAA Play, as the service is now known, has individually assisted over 160 people through telephone and email enquiries, lists over 200 participation opportunities across Melbourne and has had close to 4000 unique individuals access information directly from the aaavic.org.au website.

AAA Play successfully launched a new promotional strategy to increase the awareness of our service and of the Access for All Abilities program more broadly, particularly amongst young people and parents and carers of people with a disability. We have rebranded, with the service now being named AAA Play; we have completed a suite of new promotional videos, a new series of brochures, complete with some great photos of real participants enjoying a variety of sports, and a substantial social media strategy that is set to launch AAA Play amongst the sport and disability communities. We have five committed and enthusiastic ambassadors dedicated to highlighting the importance of sport and physical activity for people with a disability, who assist with various promotional activities and events, including the official launch event, held at the Sandown Cobra’s Football Club, and launched by Minister of Sport, the Hon. Damian Drum.

Of the 160 personal phone and email enquiries received during 2013-14 financial year, a vast majority have been received from case managers and parents of young children as opposed to recreation seekers themselves. A high proportion of this sub-set has been seeking activity of a general recreation nature for physical fitness, for example; gym access, walking groups, or for swimming lessons. Notably, a high proportion of enquirers, particularly relating to young people, have an intellectual or behavioural disability.

Dr Laura Aisbett and Luke O’Connor
Demographic data on enquirers

The majority of enquiries came from a case manager or support worker on behalf of their client, followed by a parent or guardian on behalf of their child. Eight per cent of enquiries were individuals enquired on behalf of themselves (see Figure 1). The majority of clients being referred to sport and recreation activities were male (58%), with 20 per cent being female, and 22 per cent unspecified. The age of clients being referred to sport and recreation activities ranged from 2 years of age to 80 years of age, with the majority being children and youth aged between the ages of 11 and 20 years (21%) and children aged 10 years and under (18%); there were very few clients over the age of 50 years (see Figure 2).

Figure 1: Enquirer type

Figure 2: Age of enquirers

With regard to the nature of disability of the client, the majority of clients had an intellectual or behavioural disability (48%), in particular individuals on the autism spectrum, followed by cognitive and neurological disability (18%) (see Figure 3). It appears that people are seeking social and health outcomes, as opposed to structured sports competition.

The sport and recreation activities most often sought from enquirers, were swimming lessons, basketball and general recreation, followed by gym/exercise and tennis (see Figure 4).
Our National Footprint

Networks
Adelaide City, SA
Adelaide Hills/Murraylands, SA
Alice Springs, NT
Ballarat, VIC
Bendigo, VIC
Brisbane North, QLD
Brisbane South, QLD
Canberra, ACT
Fremantle, WA
Hobart, TAS
Ipswich, QLD
Kwinana, WA
Logan, QLD
Melbourne, VIC
Melbourne – East, VIC
Melbourne – North, VIC
Melbourne – South, VIC
Melbourne – West, VIC
Midland, WA
Moreton Bay, QLD
Perth, WA
Sydney, NSW

AFL Programs
Adelaide, SA
Alice Springs, NT
Perth/Fremantle, WA
Victoria
Youth Football, TAS
Yulara, NT

Sports Programs
Cricket
Adelaide, SA; Melbourne, VIC; Perth/Fremantle, WA
League Tag
Brisbane, Ipswich, Moreton Bay QLD
Soccer
Brisbane, Logan, QLD; Adelaide, SA; Perth, WA
Pool
Melbourne, VIC
Basketball
Melbourne, VIC
Volleyball
Ipswich, Moreton Bay, QLD

Awards
2013 Spirit of Reclink Awards
Ronald Zunker, Rose Cicero,
Glenn Hester, Virginia Cable,
Greg Tickner, St Mary’s House of Welcome,
Jack Toebelman,
Western Region Health Centre,
Adrian Crawley, Helen Cusack,
Xavier College, PBS 106.7fm,
Triple R and Gary Eppe.

Peter Cullen Medal
2013 Winner
Shane Tyson

Peter Cullen Medal
2013 Runner Up
Tony V

Peter Cullen Medal
2013 Female Player of the Year
Rael Budge
To generate revenue to support the organisation’s sports and arts programs, Reclink Australia delivers a number of community events throughout the year.

**Reclink Community Cup – Melbourne**

The Reclink Community Cup went from strength to strength in 2014 with more than 13,000 individuals, over 200 volunteers, and a parade of musicians and radio personalities coming together to deliver the annual 2014 Melbourne Reclink Community Cup. Performing at the sixth Reclink Australia instalment was Melbourne up and coming folk rocker Fraser A. Gorman, rock and roll powerhouse The Smith Street Band, the bombastic brass of Saskwatch and headliners, Melbourne pub rock legends, The Painters and Dockers. With dusk quickly settling in, the Rockdogs scraped in to ensure the first non-draw in three years.

Reclink Australia was extremely proud to once again be steward and beneficiary of the Community Cup for a sixth year, working with local community broadcasters Triple RRR and PBS 106.7 and Melbourne’s vibrant music industry, to put on a standout and unique event. All funds raised on the day go to Reclink Australia. We acknowledge the fantastic partnership with and contribution of Community Cup Founder Jason ‘Evo’ Evans, Melbourne’s community broadcasters, the musicians and our event partners.

**Events**

- Reclink Community Cup – Melbourne & Sydney
- Frank Galbally Cup – Melbourne
- National Reclink Australia Grand Final Football Series
- League Tag Grand Final Gala Day – Brisbane
- Peter Cullen Medal – Melbourne
- Reclink Charity Paddle National Series – Sorrento, Geelong, Sydney, Brisbane and Perth
- NT Football Finals
Reclink Community Cup – Sydney

The 2013 event saw continued growth of the Community Cup in Sydney as a cult sporting event for the Sydney music scene. This year’s event raised valuable funds for Reclink Australia and saw a huge amount of celebrity musicians and broadcasters, plus the occasional politician, strap on the boots for a good cause. Our sincerest gratitude goes to Adam Yea, 3SER and FBi Radio for their support of this event.

Peter Cullen Medal

A culmination of the 2013 football year, the annual Peter Cullen Medal was a celebration of our hugely popular ‘grassroots’ Australian football program for people doing it tough in Victoria. Held at the Fitzroy Bowling Club, the event hosted more than 150 football participants and guests. This event is Reclink Australia’s version of the Brownlow Medal with awards presented including the Peter Cullen Medal winner and runner up, Female Footballer of the Year and Victorian Team of the Year.
Reclink Charity Paddle – National Series

The Reclink National Paddle Series was once again staged in five locations across Australia. Events were held in Sorrento and Geelong in Victoria, Moreton Bay in Queensland, Sydney in New South Wales and Perth, Western Australia. 276 individuals participated on various craft including canoes, kayaks, double kayaks, stand up paddle boards and surf skis, an increase on the previous year’s participation numbers. The National Paddle Series is a standout event for paddle enthusiasts, novices and families alike, and raised over eighteen thousand dollars in valuable funds for Reclink Australia.

Reclink Volunteers

Our volunteer network continues to be integral to the work of the organisation. Volunteers assist around the country in office administration, at community or participant events and programs. Whether an individual’s volunteer experience is a one-off or is over a longer period of time, their contribution makes a significant impact. Significant volunteer contributors in 2013-14 have been Adam Yea, the driving force behind our Sydney Reclink Community Cup, Virginia Cable, the founder of our Peninsula Paddle event and Rose Cicero, who has been a valuable volunteer member of the Reclink Australia team for seven years, providing membership and administrative support.

Reclink Australia has a unique community of current and former sporting and media personalities, who go out of their way to support our work. Notable mentions and our gratitude go to Gavin Crosisca, Smokey Dawson, Brian Nankervis, Dermot Brereton and Tracee Hutchison.

We rely on the commitment of volunteers to deliver the Reclink Community Cup in Sydney and Melbourne, the Frank Galbally Cup, the Reclink Charity Paddle National Series and the National Football Grand Final Series. The support of our volunteers ensures that our participants feel part of a supportive community outside of Reclink’s programs.

In 2014, Reclink Australia lost one of its longest volunteer supporters, Tommy Haefy. Tommy donated his time and shared his knowledge with Reclink’s participants for years; inspiring people at their lowest point to live by his four D’s: Desire, Dedication, Determination and Discipline: Your Destination.

Our thoughts and prayers go out Tommy’s family and friends. He will forever be a part of the Reclink Australia story.

Thank you to all volunteers around the country who have assisted Reclink Australia over the past 12 months.

Choctober

Choctober is a month long campaign asking participants to give up chocolate for October and raise money via sponsorship for Reclink.

Frank Galbally Cup

Once again, in 2013-14 the Frank Galbally Cup, one of Melbourne’s most unique fundraising events, raised valuable funds for Reclink Australia. Melbourne’s law firms, barristers and solicitors swapped the court room for Victoria Park, battling it out on the football pitch with the solicitors running away with the win. We would like to thank Hayden Legro and the numerous legal firms that participate, for their ongoing support of this event.
Our Activities

Reclink Australia, in partnership with our member agencies and support from our strategic partners and supporters, has offered the following activities to disadvantaged communities throughout Australia. The ‘whole of community’ approach empowers our member agencies to determine which activities are needed in their community. Local knowledge drives our response to local needs.

Activities

- Aerobics
- Archery
- Aqua aerobics
- Aqua program
- Badminton
- Ballroom dancing
- Basketball
- Bike riding
- Blind soccer
- BMX
- Bocce
- Boxing
- Bush walking
- Cardio fitness and weights
- Circuit
- Croquet
- Darts
- Diving
- Fishing
- Futsal
- Go carting
- Golf
- Group fitness
- Gym
- Hip hop dance
- Horse riding
- In Skateboarding
- Indoor beach volleyball
- Indoor cricket
- Kayaking
- Mini golf
- Outdoor adventure
- Rage Cage Soccer
- Resistance training
- Rock climbing
- Roller blading
- Run, Walk, Roll
- Running
- Salsa and Latin dancing
- Sailing
- Scooter competitions
- Scooters
- Scuba diving
- Skating
- Snorkelling
- Soccer
- Squash
- Steady steps classes
- Supa golf
- Surfing
- Swimming
- Table tennis
- Taekwondo
- Tennis
- Tenpin bowling
- Volleyball
- Walking group
- Wheelchair basketball
- Wheelchair dancing
Sports Leagues

- 8 Ball
- Australian football (AFL)
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Lawn bowls
- League tag (touch football)
- Soccer
- Softball
- Tenpin bowling
- Volleyball

Choirs

- Central Australian Indigenous Women’s Choir – Alice Springs
- Choice Voices – Bendigo
- Choir of High Hopes – Hobart
- Starlight Hotel Choir – Fremantle
- The Big Sing – Melbourne
- The Rocky Road Choir – Outer East
- The Transformers – Brisbane
- Under the Lamp Post – Adelaide

Arts

- Airbrush art
- Art therapy
- Art workshops
- Book club
- Contemporary dance
- Contemporary Visual Art Workshop
- Crochet
- Down the Avenue Art Exhibition
- Drama group
- Drumming
- Guitar course
- Instrument making
- Knit and yarn
- Knitting
- Music group
- Photography
- Public arts
- Samba Drumming Circle
- Sewing and craft
- Storytelling
- Street art
- Street orchestra
- Urban Encounters (Aboriginal Arts and Music Group)
- Writers circle

Social, Cultural and Educational

- Aquarium outing
- Avenue Community – neighbourhood chats
- Ballroom dancing
- Christmas in July
- Circus Oz
- Community BBQ
- Community Christmas Party
- Community gardening
- Craft group – Over 55s
- Deadly Outdoor Adventure Group
- Easter community BBQ
- Environmental park outing
- Furniture making
- International Rules match
- Kids day out
- Line dancing
- Masters Exhibition – National Gallery Victoria Ainslie
- Men’s shed program
- Movie day
- Muldark theatre production
- National Gallery Victoria
- Picnic in the Park
- Observation Deck visit
- Wii
- Zoo trip

Health and Wellbeing

- Acupuncture
- Chiropractic
- Cooking club
- Kanangra Court Gardening Project
- Massage
- Planting for pizzas
- Qigong
- Sahaja meditation
- Self defence
- Stretch and relaxation
- Tai Chi
- Yoga

Women’s Activities

- Baking
- Beading
- Belly dancing
- Boot camp
- Boxing and self defence
- Car Maintenance
- Circus workshops
- Creative arts
- High Tea luncheon
- Jewellery making workshops
- Make up session
- Music therapy
- Nutrition
- Pamper day
- Zumba
Our Members

With nearly 380 community health and welfare organisations currently reaping the benefits of Reclink Australia’s program, there is no better time to tap into the significant benefits of becoming a member of Reclink Australia. These include:

- Low cost access to sport and arts activities;
- Opportunities to introduce new sport and arts activities for disadvantaged communities where there is an identified need;
- Networking with other organisations targeting people experiencing disadvantage; and
- Assisting disadvantaged communities to integrate into mainstream community based activities through our Transformational Links program.

We would like to acknowledge the contribution of the following organisations:

**Australian Capital Territory**
- ACT Health – Health Promotion Branch – Healthy Communities Initiative
- Belconnen Community Service – Open Arts and Leisure Programs
- Canberra Mens Centre

**New South Wales**
- Anglicare – PHaMs
- Australian Red Cross – NSW Division – Migration Support Programs (MSP)
- CatholicCare – Personal Helpers and Mentors Program
- Eddie Dixon Centre
- Hopestreet Urban Compassion – Community Development
- Housing New South Wales – Community Development
- Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre – Bradfield Park Carer’s Program
- MARS INL/CREATE L.N.S. CREATE – Ryde
- Mission Australia – Common Ground
- Mission Australia – Sydney Centre
- Mission Australia – Womens Services – A Womans Place and Women in Supported Housing
- Neami Ltd. – Bankstown
- Neami Ltd. – HASI
- Neami Pagewood
- New Horizons Enterprises Limited – PHaM’s
- Richmond PRA – Buckingham House
- Rough Edges St. John’s Community Services – Community Development
- Schizophrenia Fellowship of NSW – D2DL Canberra
- St. Vincent de Paul Society – Mary MacKillop Outreach
- St. Vincent de Paul Society – Ozanam Learning Centre
- Matthew Talbot hostel
- The Haymarket Centre
- The Lorna Hodgkinson Sunshine Home – Community Justice Program, Pro-Social Activities
- The Salvation Army – Foster House
- The Salvation Army – Samaritan Services
- The Wayside Chapel – Day-To-Day Living
- Vincentian House
- Matthew Talbot Homeless Services
- Wesley Mission – Edward Eager Lodge
- New Horizons Enterprises Limited – Aged and Disability Support Unit
- Aged and Disability Program – Central Australia – Department of Health
- Anglicare
- Bushmob Inc.
- Casa Central Australia Inc.
- Central Australian Aboriginal Alcohol Programs Unit (CAAAPU)

**Northern Territory**
- Acacia Hill School
- Aged and Disability Support Unit – Aged and Disability Program – Central Australia – Department of Health
- Anglicare
- Bushmob Inc.
- Casa Central Australia Inc.
- Central Australian Aboriginal Alcohol Programs Unit (CAAAPU)

**Queensland**
- 139 Club Inc. – Homeless Day Centre
- 4 Walls
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service Brisbane Ltd – Healing Centre
- ACCESS Services Inc.
- Access Arts Inc. (QLD)
- Access Community Services
- Aftercare – PHaMs
- Alara Association
- Anam Cara – Centacare
- ARAFMI – KUI
- Arethusa College Ltd – Skateboard Factory and Mossford
- Artrageous Community Arts Centre – Anticipate
- Australian Red Cross – Jeay’s Street Community Centre
- Australian Red Cross – Red Cross Employment Services
- Bayside Initiatives Group Inc. – Recovery and Recreation Centre
- Bayside PCYC
- Beenleigh Special School

- Central Australian Aboriginal Congress – Healthy Lifestyle and Smoking Cessation Program
- Central Australian Aboriginal Congress – Ingkintja
- Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc. – After Hours Youth Service
- Centralian Girls Academy (Tigers)
- Centralian Middle School – Learning Hub
- Centralian Senior College
- Clontarf Foundation – Central Region
- DASA – Drug and Alcohol Services Association – Alcohol and Drug Detox and Rehab
- Gap Youth Centre
- Life Without Barriers
- Mental Health Association of Central Australia (MHACA) – Day to Day Living Program
- Mission Australia – PHaM’s Program
- Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Women’s Council – Youth Program
- Steps Disability Queensland – Steps Employment
- Team Health – Breakway
- The Salvation Army
- The Smith Family – Girls at the Centre
- Central Australian Aboriginal Congress – Healthy Lifestyle and Smoking Cessation Program
- Central Australian Aboriginal Congress – Ingkintja
- Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc. – After Hours Youth Service
- Centralian Girls Academy (Tigers)
- Centralian Middle School – Learning Hub
- Centralian Senior College
- Clontarf Foundation – Central Region
- DASA – Drug and Alcohol Services Association – Alcohol and Drug Detox and Rehab
- Gap Youth Centre
- Life Without Barriers
- Mental Health Association of Central Australia (MHACA) – Day to Day Living Program
- Mission Australia – PHaM’s Program
- Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Women’s Council – Youth Program
- Steps Disability Queensland – Steps Employment
- Team Health – Breakway
- The Salvation Army
- The Smith Family – Girls at the Centre
Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
– Youth Programs

Goodwood Community Centre
– Headway Rebuilding Lives
– Community Outreach Service

Hobart City Council – Youth Programs

Housing Tasmania
– Department Health and Human Services

Huon Valley Council – Youth Services

Jordan River Learning Federation
– Support, Advice and Mentoring (SAM) Project

Jordan River Services Inc.
– Gagebrook and Bridgewater Community Centres

Kingborough Council

Langford Support Services Inc.
– Youth Centre

Launch Youth Inc.

Lifestyle Solutions

Mental Health Services

Migrant Resource Centre (Southern Tasmania) Inc.
– Frail Aged Programs

Mission Australia – Gateway Services

Mission Australia
– Parents Staying Connected

Mission Australia – U-Turn

Mission Australia TYSS

Montagu Community Living Inc.
– Find a Friend, Keep a Friend

Montrose Bay High School
– Big Picture, Department of Education

Moonah Arts Centre (Glenorchy City Council)

New Town High School
– Learning Centre

Oak Enterprises (T/A Oak Tasmania)

Pittwater Community Centre

Sorell Council – Youth Services

Southern Midlands Council

Special Olympics Australia

Tascare Society for Children

Tasman District School

Tasmanian Association of Police and Community Youth Clubs Inc.
– Hobart Police and Community Youth Club Inc.

Tasmanian eSchool

Tasmanian Polytechnic
– Connect South Team

Teen Challenge Tasmania Inc.
– Live Free Tassie

The Parkside Foundation
– Community Access

The Parkside Foundation
– School Holiday/Respite Program

The Salvation Army
– Hobart Bridge Program

The Salvation Army – Hobart Doorways

The Salvation Army
– Supported Housing (SASH)

The Salvation Army Support and Housing – Re-Integration for Ex Offenders (REO)

The Smith Family – Learning for Life

Tolosa St. Respite and Rehab Services

Veranto – Oakdale Lodge

Veranto Lifestyle Assistance
– Transition to Retirement

Warrane Primary – Alternative Education

Whitelion – Mentoring South

Wise Employment

Victoria

ACSO – Australian Community Support Organisation
– Specialist Mental Health Services (SS)

Alfred Psychiatry

Amicus Group Inc.
Anchor Inc.
– Community Well Being Program
arbias – Community Programs

ASTERIA Services Inc.

Asylum Seeker Resource Centre
– Social and Rec

Austin Health
– Secure Extended Care Unit

Ballarat and District Aboriginal Co-operative Ltd
– Innovations/No Quick Fix

Ballarat Community Health Centre
– APROTCH

Ballarat Health Services – ABI Service

Ballarat Health Services
– Eastern View Residential Recovery Program

Bayview House – Mental Health Clinic

Bendigo Family and Financial Services Inc.

Berry Street – Open Place

Bethlehem Community
– Bowling At Highpoint Maribyrnong

BGT – Youth Connections

Blind Sports Victoria

Brotherhood of St. Laurence – Coolibah

Castlemaine District Community Health Centre

Centacare Ballarat – MASC

CHSA Sports Central

CREATE Wyndham

Dame Pattie Menzies Centre Inc.

Department of Human Services
– Disability Services – Grampians Region

Department of Justice
– Judy Lazarus Transition Centre

Diamond Valley Learning Centre – VCAL

Doutta Galla CHS
– Arion Prevention and Recovery Centre

Doutta Galla Community Health
– Mental Health and Complex Needs

EACH

Eastern Access Community Health
– Halcyon PDRSS

Eastern Access Community Health
– Lifeworks

Eastern Access Community Health
– Rivendell

Eastern Access Community Health
– Supporting Connections

Eastern Health – Canterbury Rd CCU

Eastern Health – Maroondah CCU/MSTS Rehab Shore Program

Eastern Regions Mental Health Association

Fintry Community Inc.

Golden City Support Services Inc.
– Create/Ability Events Network

Good Shepherd Youth and Family Service – Good Shepherd Community House

Greater Dandenong Community Health – Southern Health – Aged and Community Care Lifestyle and Recreation

Hanover Welfare Services

Heathdale Neighbourhood Association

Homeground Services
– Recreation Program

Hotham City Mission
– Meaningful Engagement Program

Impact Support Services

Inner East Community Health Service
– Borroodara Centre

Inner South Community Health Service

Inner West Area Mental Health
– Mobile Support Treatment Team (MSTT)

Inner West Area Mental Health Service
– Norfolk Terrace – Community Care Unit

Interchange Loddon-Malley Region Inc.

ISIS Primary Care
JCAAA – Joint Councils Access for All Abilities
Jobco Employment Services Inc. – PHaMs
Karden Disability Support Foundation Inc.
Karingal – KABLE
Kew Neighbourhood Learning Centre – Inclusive Communities Program
Knox Community Health Service – Eastern Harp, Active Health, Community Wellbeing
Latitude – Directions for Young People Inc.
Leisure Balance Pty Ltd
Lighthouse Foundation – Community Care
Lisa Lodge – Out of Home Care and Finding Solutions
Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre
Melbourne City Mission – Melbourne Academy
Mental Illness Fellowship of Victoria – PARC (Prevention and Recovery Care)
Mental Illness Fellowship Victoria – Carer Respite – Specialist Family Support
Mental Illness Fellowship Victoria – Mulberry House Day Program
Mental Illness Fellowship Victoria – TJ’s Day Program
Merri Community Health Service – PSR
Merri Outreach Support Services – Shrivings Adult Day Centre
Mind Australia – Chiron
Mind Australia – Dandenong Community Services
Mind Australia – Edith Pardy House
Mind Australia – Family and Carers Services
Mind Australia – Inner South Personal Helpers and Mentors
Mind Australia – Personal Helpers and Mentors (PHaMs)
Mind Australia – Personal Helpers and Mentors Service
Mind Australia – Resource Centre
Mind Australia – Solomon St – Bendigo
Mind Australia – Southern Respite Services
Mind Australia – Trelawarren House
Mind Australia – Victoria Street Program
Moira – Outreach – Spiral and Janus
Neami – Fairfield
Neami – Neami North East
Neami (Whittlesea)
Neami Briar Hill
Ngwala Willumbong Co-op. Ltd. – Galiambile and Winja Uhupna
North Western Mental Health – Adult Mental Health Rehabilitation Unit
North Yarra Community Health – Innerspace – Next Door Primary Health
Norwood Association – Group Activities Program
Odyssey House Victoria
OZ Child – Counselling and Family Solutions
Peninsula Health – PenDAP – SHARPS NSP
Peninsula Support Services
Port Melbourne Neighbourhood House
Port Phillip Community Group
Preston Reservoir Adult Community Education – Youth Programs
Radius
Rosebud Police – Southern Peninsula Swans
Sacred Heart Mission
Scope Loddon Mallee (Golden North) – Adult Services
Scottsdale P.D.R.S.S. – Opening Doors/Pahran Mission
Self Help for Addiction Resource Centre (SHARC) – Recovery Support Services
Servants in Hawthorn Inc.
Shekinah – Corpus Christi Community
St. John of God Hospital, Ballarat – Bloomsbury House Dual Diagnosis Service
St. Kilda Uniting Care
St. Kilda Youth Service – 2 FAZE
St. Laurence Community Services – Outreach
St. Laurence Community Services Inc.
St. Luke’s Anglicare – Whirrakee Mental Health
St. Luke’s Anglicare – Mental Health Program
St. Luke’s Anglicare – Youth Central
St. Luke’s Anglicare, Castlemaine – Group Program
St. Mark’s Community Centre – Sport and Rec.
St. Mary’s House of Welcome
St. Vincent de Paul Aged Care and Community Services – Ozanam Community Centre (OCC)
St. Vincent’s Prague House
St. Vincent de Paul – Quin House
St. Vincent de Paul, Victoria – Bendigo
Stepping Up
Stewart Lodge SRS
STREAT
Taskforce Community Agency
The Big Issue – Community Street Soccer Program
The Salvation Army – Adult Services – The Open Door – Adult Service Network
The Salvation Army – Brunswick Community Program
The Salvation Army – Community Aged Care Program
The Salvation Army – Community Outreach Services
The Salvation Army – Eastcare
The Salvation Army – Flagstaff Crisis Accommodation – Recreation Program
The Salvation Army – Flagstaff Outreach
The Salvation Army – Foley Outreach
The Salvation Army – SANS Intensive Outreach Support
The Salvation Army – Support in Public Housing Program
The Salvation Army – The Anchorage
The Salvation Army – The Basin Centre
The Salvation Army Bridge Program – Bendigo (Alcohol and Other Drug Services)
The Salvation Army Crisis Services – Youth and Family Services
The Wellington Collingwood Inc.
UB Tec (University of Ballarat) – VCAL
Uniting Care – Moreland Hall
Uniting Care Ballarat
VACRO – Link Out
Vincentcare, Victoria – Ozanam House
Vision Australia – Bendigo
VISTA Community Support
WEAC – Tandana Place
Werribee Mercy Mental Health – Community Care Unit
Wesley Mission, Victoria – Aged Care Housing Services
Western Region Health Centre – Hume Mental Health
Western Region Health Centre – Outerwest Outlooks
Western Region Health Centre – PARC
Western Region Health Centre – Western Storm
Whitelion Inc. – Bundji Bundji
Windana
Western Australia

55 Central Inc.
Alma Street Centre (ASC) Fremantle Hospital – Adult Mental Health Service, Occupational Therapy Program
Anglicare WA – Foyer
Anglicare WA
– Spearwood Youth Accommodation
Anglicare WA
– Step 1 Street-Work Program
Arafmi – Recreation/Youth Services
Association for Services to Torture and Trauma Survivors (ASeTTS)
Australian Red Cross
– Migration Support
Balga Detached Youth Work Project Inc.
Caversham Training and Education Centre
Centrecare – Community Detention
Centrecare Inc. – Youth Diversion Service
City of Cockburn
– Rec Development Office
Clontarf Foundation
– Gilmore College Football Academy
Department of Corrective Services
– Banksia Hill Detention Centre
Department of Corrective Services
– Rangeview Remand Centre
Explore Leisure
Fremantle Multicultural Centre Inc.
Graylands Hospital – North Metro Area Health Service, Mental Health
## Gratitude

### Life Members

- Allan Jeans (deceased)
- Mick Miller

### Individuals

- Adam Yea
- Adrian Cloonan
- Adrian Crawley
- Alan Pascoe
- Andrew Brackman
- Anthony Koutoufides
- Barry Oates
- Barry Silvester
- Bedri Sainovski
- Brian Millett
- Brian Presnell
- Brian Procopis
- Bruce Hill
- Cam Butler
- Crackers Keenan
- Craig Lynch
- Damien Taylor
- Dave Barrett
- Dave Hughes
- David Eadie
- David Rhys Jones
- Dermott Brereton
- Don Hume
- Doug Hawkins
- Douglas Holmes
- Edward Sinn
- Father Bob Maguire
- Gary Epple
- Glen McIver
- Glen Omodei
- Glenn Simmonds
- Glenn Watts
- Graham ‘Smokey’ Dawson
- Greg Barnes
- Greg Hunt
- Greg Tickner
- Hank Hubers
- Helen Cusack
- Jacko
- James Tunstall
- Jason Evans
- Jeremy Dickson
- Jo Cusack
- Joanne Rockwell
- Joffa Corfe
- John Dever
- John Nichol
- Judith A
- Kel Bryant
- Ken Wilson
- Leanne Smith
- Lesley Hurley
- Liam O’Shannessy
- Liddy Dixon
- Liz Kirk
- Luke Waters
- Lynne Gardiner
- Mark Whiteman
- Mark Fine
- Mary Meldrum
- Matt Fisher
- Matt Lee
- Morris Stuart
- Myrtle Jeffs
- Nick Cable
- Nick Cooper
- Pat Ward
- Paul Ryan
- Peter Burke
- Peter Cates
- Peter Crofts
- Peter Diacos
- Peter Hession
- Peter Monangale
- Peter Ryan
- Peter Seal
- Peter Schwab
- Phil Cox
- Phillip Giallo
- Phillip Touzel
- Ray Salao
- Reece Homfray
- Rhan Harris
- Rob Heath
- Robert ‘Dipper’ Di Pierdomenico
- Ronald
- Rose Cicero
- Shane Cassidy
- Shane Cox
- Shaun Pearce
- Stacey Klomp
- Stephen J. Peak
- Steve Howald
- Steve Sinn
- Tracey Seach
- Terry O’Brien
- Terry O’Donnell
- Tim Costello
- Virginia Cable
- Wayne Frith
- Wayne Henwood
- Our 215 Reclink Community Cup Volunteers

### Organisations

- 97.7 3SER-FM
- ACT Justice and Community Safety Directorate
- Able Australia
- ACT Health Directorate
- Adelaide City Council
- Adelaide FC
- Adelaide Police
- Adelaide Symphony Orchestra
- AFL Central Australia
- AFL Tasmania
- AFL Victoria
- Alice Springs Bowls Club
- Allens Arthur Robinson
- Australian Federal Police
- Australian Football League
- Australian Government
- Australian Institute of Flexible Learning
- Australian Performing Rights Association (APRA)
- Australian Red Cross
- Australian Trade Commission
- Basketball Tasmania
- Basketball Victoria
- Bayside City Council
- Beam Global Australia
- Bendigo Bank – South Melbourne
- BJ Ball Papers
- Bowls NSW
- Bowls WA
- Bridgewater PCYC
- Brisbane City Council
- Camp Australia
- Canoeing WA
- Carlton Football Club
Central Australia Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA)
Central Australia Football League
City of Fremantle
City of Maribyrnong
City of Melbourne
City of Yarra
Clarence PCYC
Clontarf AFL Academy
Coastline Church
Cockburn Council
Corporate Traveller
Cycle Australia
Cycle Education ACT
Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure, VIC
Department of Sport and Recreation, WA
DO Consulting
East Fremantle Football Club
Etihad Stadium
Eventpower Solutions
Eview Real Estate
Executive Security
Fishing NSW
Football West
Fremantle Football Club
GE
Government of South Australia
Greek Welfare, SA
health.com.au
Health Directorate – ACT Government.
Hobart Aquatic Centre
Hobart City Council
Hobart PCYC
Hydro Tasmania
Injury Prevention and Management Foundation
IOOF Foundation
Ipswich City Council
JPJ Audio
King Performance
Kingsborough Council
Lance Rock Publicity
Lifeline Community Care, QLD
Lion Nathan
Logan City Council
Lord Taverners
Mac ‘n’ Me Graphics
Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC)
Midway Colour
Miller Foundation
Momentum Builders
Mornington Shire Council
Moreton Bay Regional Council
Motor Accident Insurance Board
Mountain Goat
Ozenham House
Pathwayz – Cerebral Palsy League
PBS 106.7FM
Peninsula Stand Up Paddle School
Port Power FC
Portsea Surf Life Saving Club
Queensland Canoeing
Queensland Government – Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing
Queensland Health
Queensland Police Citizens Youth Welfare Association
Redcliffe Surf Life Saving Club
Red Scarf Photography
Rockstar Management
Rosny Golf Club
Rotary Club of Albert Park
Rotary Club of Fremantle
Rotary Club of Melbourne South
Rotary Club of North Balwyn
Rotary Club of Werribee
Rotary Club of Wyndham
Rough Edges
Royal Adelaide Show
Rural Press Australia
Ryan Commercial Lawyers
Saltwater Media Solutions
Scubacom
SecondBite
SEN 1116
Shulu Foundation
Snorkel Safari
South Australian Cricket Association (SACA)
South Australian National Football League (SANFL)
South Yarra Football Club
Sport 927
Sport Education Development Australia (SEDA)
Sports Chaplaincy
St John’s Maroubra
St Vincent’s Hospital
Stage Two Lighting
Street Press Australia
Surfing NSW
Surf Lifesaving Queensland
Sweeney Estate Agents
Talbot Family Foundation
Tasman Meats
Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra
Theatre Royal, TAS
The District Council of Mount Barker
The Heart Foundation
The House of Marley
The Marquee People
The Salvation Army Canberra City
The Type Factory
Theatre Royal, TAS
Tony Leggart Dive Co.
Triple R FM 102.7
Victoria Police
Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA)
Voyages, NT
Werribee Football Club
Wesley Church Adelaide
Wesley Mission
West Coast Eagles
Western Australia Cricket Association
Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service, ACT
Woodstock Folk Festival

Committees and Advisory Groups

Reclink Community Cup Committee
Frank Galbally Cup Committee
La Trobe University, Centre for Social Impact
The Transformers Choir Organising Team

Schools

De La Salle College
Emmanuel College
Mary MacKillop College
Mount Lilydale Mercy College
Pulteney Grammar
The Hutchins School
Wesley College
Xavier College
Reclink Australia Staff

Chief Executive Officer:
Adrian Panozzo
(resigned December 2013)

Interim CEO:
John Ballis

Founder and National Development Manager:
Peter Cullen AM

National Operations Manager:
Joe Rotella

Finance Manager:
Robert Pititto

Manager, Northern Territory:
Cathy Farrer

Program Manager, Australia Capital Territory:
Mark Ransome

State Manager, Queensland:
Steve Hutchinson

Access for All Abilities Project Managers:
Luke O’Connor and Dr Laura Aisbett

State Manager, South Australia:
Andy Asser

State Coordinator, Western Australia:
Rebecca Lovell
(resigned April 2014)

Project Coordinator:
Western Australia:
Andrew Joske

Membership and Administration:
Rose Cicero (Volunteer)

Contact Us

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Phone 0412 342 929

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Alice Springs NT 0871
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Queensland
PO BOX 3083
Newmarket QLD 4051
Phone 0414 805 078

South Australia
PO BOX 388
Mount Barker SA 5251
Phone 0408 808 533

Tasmania
Phone 0421 442 340

Western Australia
PO BOX 752
Subiaco WA 6904
Phone 0402 300 408

Notice of 2014 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for Members of Reclink Australia will be held in the Portico Room, Melbourne Town Hall, Melbourne at 4pm on Wednesday 19 November, 2014.

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held in November, 2013.

2. To receive the Report and Financial Statements for the year that ended 30 June, 2014.


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BJ Ball Papers

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Founder Message

In 1989 while doing street outreach work in St Kilda, I spoke to many people who indicated that their personal issues made access to sport and arts programs difficult.

I could see that the impact of busy minds and bodies helped people to find meaning and direction in their lives.

The lack of opportunities at that time was a challenge for these people, who often experienced trauma, boredom, loneliness, anger, depression, feelings of suicide and other personal and sometimes complex issues.

To me, it was important to establish an organisation that brought like minded agencies together as a group, to provide these types of opportunities to their communities and clients and provide valuable advocacy at the same time.

Establishing Reclink (as it was known then) provided the vehicle for this vision.

The success and growth of Reclink Australia has been phenomenal and we now have over 450 agencies as members across Australia. These agencies, along with peak sporting bodies, community organisations, schools and volunteers, work alongside Reclink Australia to achieve our vision to rebuild lives through sports and arts. Participants in Reclink Australia events and programs often feel more comfortable because they are supported by the regular agency they are associated with, and are supported by workers who understand their personal situation. This level of trust is vital to begin to engage those who usually cannot access these types of activities.

Reclink Australia provides the opportunity for disadvantaged people to participate in sport and arts programs and begin a pathway towards a meaningful life of employment and education.

It is vital that we continue to provide these opportunities and discover new ones to engage our community in facilitating well run, low cost and high value programs and events well into the future.

The 2013-14 period has been a time of big change for the organisation as we delved properly into the disability space for the first time with our brand new Access for All Abilities program in Victoria, and into creating new employment and education opportunities through our work readiness programs in Queensland.

These programs still use the power of sport and arts to change people’s lives and are an exciting addition to our core work.

I invite you to get involved and support Reclink Australia.

Peter Cullen AM