Partners

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Notice of 2017 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for Members of Reclink Australia will be held at Reclink, South Melbourne at 9.30am on Wednesday 22 November, 2017.

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 23 November, 2016.
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, specialist recreation and arts programs, and pathways to employment opportunities.

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 more than 220 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 of engagement for 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 are the perfect vehicles to improve the lives of those experiencing complex disadvantage 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 27 years, we have led a network of member organisations and acted as a facilitator in the support of disadvantaged communities and individuals.

“It was clear from nearly every interview conducted with agency representatives and individual participants that everyone involved in the Victorian Reclink Australia Football League experiences a positive impact on their mental wellbeing.” Source: Latrobe University 2016

1988
Peter Cullen uses recreation as street outreach.

1989
Kick-to-kick commences – seven social games of Australian football (AFL).

1990
First Reclink Australia network meeting is held.

1991
Four teams play Australian football (AFL) in an organised competition.

1992
Former Victoria Police Commissioner, Mick Miller, appointed as first Reclink Australia Patron.

1997
Peter Cullen tours Australia presenting the Reclink Australia model.

1998

2000
Reclink Australia Super 8s played on the MCG.

2003
Reclink Australia partners with the Victorian Government.

2004
10 teams compete in the Victorian Reclink Australia Football League.

2005
Peter Cullen appointed as Reclink Australia Development Manager.

2006
The Reclink Raiders are the first cricket team to compete in a community cricket league.

2007
Reclink Australia partners with VicHealth.

2008
Appointment of the first CEO.

2009
Staff members appointed in Hobart and Canberra.

2010
Networks established in Sydney and Logan.

2011
Women’s football league commenced in Alice Springs.

Friends of Alice launched.
What We Do - Participation, Partnerships and Pathways

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

From running, basketball and football, 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 have the ability to bring together people from diverse communities.

The Reclink Australia Football Series is a flagship program that engages over 650 men and women, while the Reclink Tasmanian Youth League continues to engage young people from geographically disadvantaged communities. Our National Crime and Violence Prevention Award winning

High Density Housing Safety and Security Project in the ACT continues to deliver improved outcomes for residents and a Victorian Government funded information and referral service ‘AAA Play’ is connecting people with a disability to sport and recreation participation opportunities.

Our programs have expanded to include a range of work readiness programs in South East Queensland and a targeted cycling program for people with disability developed in partnership Cycling Victoria.

As a unique voice in the sports participation space, we act as an advocate and conduit between disadvantaged communities, sports clubs and state sporting associations, recreation facilities and programs where physical activity can be undertaken.

Using our extensive experience and our established 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.

Underpinning all our programs is the principle of respect that recognises and rewards participation and a willingness to support others above all else. Skill development and event days feature strongly in our annual calendar and are used to develop life skills rather than separate winners from losers. Our ultimate aim is 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 to transition to mainstream sports and arts programs, education and employment.

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.
Reclink Australia wins Australian Crimes and Prevention of Violence 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.

2015
Rebranded Access for All Abilities First Point of Call Service to AAA Play.
Seven Work Readiness sites established across South East Queensland.
Joint partnership with Cycling Victoria to establish the TryCycling initiative.
Strategic plan 2015 – 2017 approved by the Board.

2016
Reclink Community Cup goes National.
Expanding Work Readiness program to 49 projects across QLD, VIC, SA, TAS and NT.
Reclink wins three Skilling Queenslanders for Work Tenders.

2017
Turnbull Government contributes 2M to Reclink National Program.
Three Skilling Queenslanders for Work Projects.
Expansion Reclink Victorian Football League.
Reclink Somali Youth Basketball League.

“I was just in and out of jail...and like I was constantly getting charged with one thing or another and the time that I’ve been playing footy, three years, I haven’t been charged once.”
Measuring Results and Impacts

This year’s theme of measuring results and impacts reflects both governments and social impact leaders’ preparedness to invest in innovative models that can transform today’s world, that create a better socially inclusive community, that embrace diversity and recognises that people working together have the power to make it so.

Highlighted as one of four goals of the organisations 2015-17 strategic plan, our emphasis on measuring results and impacts of our programs and services is a critical part of our organisations narrative.

A cornerstone of the investment made by the Board during the year is the commissioning of La Trobe University Centre for Sport and Social Impact to undertake a cost benefit analysis of a structured Reclink sport program which found that for every $1 dollar invested in the Reclink structured sport program it delivered at least $8.94 social return in investment.

Reclink Australia understands the significance that accurate and timely data has in our endeavour to explain to our funders and key stakeholders the importance that targeted sport and recreation programs have on the lives of some of the most disadvantaged people in our community and the value of the Reclink model. We also recognise the value of personal stories of transformation, pathways and building resilience by including these stories in this year’s annual report.

In addition this year we have continued to:

- Build on our Transformational Links program in partnership with the Department of Employment Queensland under the Skilling for Queenslanders for Work initiative to deliver nine pathways to employment projects for young people experiencing disadvantage. These innovative projects have achieved an average 76% employment outcomes and a further 10% further education and training for participants;
- Deliver leading edge projects such as the innovative high density housing community and safety program in Canberra in partnership with Justice and Community Safety Directorate ACT; and
- Deliver quality sport and recreation programs for Indigenous communities in Alice Springs and Wiluna in the partnership with the Indigenous Advancement Strategy of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Reclink Australia is grateful for the Federal Government announcement by the Hon Greg Hunt MP Minister for Health and Minister for Sport of $2 million over two years for the Reclink National Program. The new funding commencing 1st July 2017 will enable Reclink Australia to deliver targeted sport and recreation programs to over 3000 people experiencing disadvantage across 25 locations Australia-wide.

During the year, Reclink Australia and our national partners, community radio, media, musicians and the performing arts sectors have worked closely together to expand the Reclink Community Cup charity event to include Brisbane, Hobart, Adelaide, Sydney, Perth, Canberra and Melbourne.

As our flagship community fundraising event the Reclink Community Cup helps raise awareness of the importance of sport and arts to improve the lives of disadvantaged Australians and attracts over 20,000 spectators to the events Australia-wide.

We take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the support Reclink Australia has received from Local, State, Territory and Commonwealth Governments and community partners.

We wish to acknowledge the inspiring stories of contributions, achievements, generosity and courage shown by our loyal volunteers and the many communities across Australia with whom we are privileged to work closely with. Reclink Australia, member agencies and our stakeholders are committed to collaborative partnerships that facilitate inclusion, learning, innovation and growth.

We extend our sincere appreciation to members of the Board who voluntarily serve this organisation well in providing oversight of Reclink Australia management, governance and associated committees that develop and monitor strategies and outcome performance indicators to achieve Reclink Australia’s strategic goals.

We also extend our congratulations to Peter Cullen AM Founder Reclink Australia who received a special invitation from the Vatican to attend the First Global Conference on Faith and Sport. Peter was only one of three Australians invited by the Vatican to attend a gathering of 150 people across the world.

A special thanks to our dedicated and committed staff who work tirelessly to deliver the diverse range of sport, recreation and arts activities, pathways to employment, housing support and community safety programs across Australia.

On behalf of the Board, it is with great pleasure that we present our annual report for the 2016-17 financial year.
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.

The Transformational Links program identifies suitable Reclink Australia participants that may benefit from assistance in the pursuits of a normal life. These can be educational, vocational or coaching, or simply to assist in obtaining part-time employment.

This year, Reclink Australia continued with our Transformational Links program by providing a Certificate IV in AOD (Alcohol and Other Drugs) training course in partnership with the Australian Institute of Flexible Learning, a registered training organisation and part of Upper Murray Community Health Services. The course is being conducted in Port Melbourne and 12 participants will be accredited this year.

In conjunction with Sports Medicine Australia, Reclink Australia broadened its educational training programs to include an AFL Level 1 Sports Trainer course for participants in the Reclink Football Program, allowing participants to gain a valuable qualification and improve their football training skills.

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

Sam Newton J.P.
Board Member since 2006. Licensed Estate Agent.

Peter Cullen AM

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

Sean Winder
Board Member since November 2014. Bachelor of Financial Administration.

Theresa Sgambaro

Scott Davies
Board Member since June 2016. Master of Enterprise (Business), Associate Diploma Valuations, Certificate of Business Studies in Real Estate.

Mark Hardgrave
Board Member since June 2016. Bachelor of Commerce ACA MAICD.

Laura Kane
Board Member since November 2016. Bachelor of Laws (LLB) (Hons). Company Secretary.

Jack Watts
Board Member since April 2017. Bachelor of Commerce.

John Ballis
Chief Executive Officer. Company Secretary.
The Social Value of a Reclink Australia Structured Sport Program

In 2016 the Centre for Sport and Social Impact (CSSI) at La Trobe University was commissioned by Reclink Australia to determine the social value of a structured sport program, via a case study of the Victorian Reclink Australia Football League.

The aim of the project was to identify the ways in which the League contributes to the physical, mental and social health of people experiencing significant disadvantage. The research included interviews with representatives from Reclink Australia’s partner agencies, Reclink Australia staff, volunteers, community club representatives and participants within the Victorian Reclink Australia Football League.

The social return on investment for the Reclink Australia structured sport program indicates that for every $1 invested in cash, staff time, volunteer time and other resources to operate the Victorian Reclink Australia Football League, it generates at least $8.94 in social value through:

- Increased social connectedness;
- Wellbeing and mental health status of its participants;
- Employment outcomes, personal development;
- Skill development, a decreased risk of gambling;
- A decreased risk of suicidal thoughts and behaviours;
- Physical health, a decrease in high risk alcohol and drug behaviour; and
- Crime reduction.

SROI is an increasingly accepted method for undertaking impact assessments, especially for community focused organisations and has been identified by the Productivity Commission as a comprehensive method for social impact assessment. SROI is based on program logic – the process of identifying the inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes and impacts associated with an organisation.

Support by member agencies and volunteers the Victorian Reclink Australia Football League comprises 13 football teams which provides a socially disengaged and hard to reach population with:

- Meaningful connections to their families and the community;
- Opportunities to be supported by, and to support, peers;
- Opportunities to develop skills in teamwork, public speaking, leadership, problem solving, decision making, conflict resolution, and dealing with people from diverse backgrounds; and
- Significantly increased chances of securing employment.

It was clear from nearly every interview conducted with agency representatives and individual participants that everyone involved in the Victorian Reclink Australia Football League experiences a positive impact on their mental wellbeing by:

- Providing a positive experience and a break from everyday concerns;
- Reducing symptoms of depression, assisting in management of mental health including anxiety, anger and suicidal thoughts; and
- Building a positive identity, self-respect and self-esteem.

“I feel like it’s just the team support. On the field, you can’t do it on your own. Life in general. You need supports and same as in recovery. You really need that support and that connection.”

“For me it would be the starting off point to push myself to overcome fears about making connection. The thing I talked about, the violence, and just going out there and giving it a go and being part of something… I ended up saying to myself, ‘I want to overcome the fear.’”

“To be recognised because of the hard work that I’m putting into myself. Reclink has given me the opportunity to excel at something I’m really good at. It has allowed me to acknowledge all the good traits about me and that acceptance stuff for who I am… It’s given me a lot of hope.”

Reclink Australia’s operating principles enable it to deliver sport, recreation and leisure activities in a manner that appears to be unique within Australia. Reclink Australia’s network of agencies means that it doesn’t target a specific cohort of people via an isolated sport or recreation program. Rather, it is able to draw in a wide range of disadvantaged people and provide them with a diverse offering of services and activities that meet their needs. La Trobe University also found Reclink Australia’s unique ‘hub and spoke’ model has enabled it to convert $30,000 of government funding for the Victorian Reclink Australia Football League into $440,000 of staff and resources, prior to the calculation of a social return on investment.

“I didn’t realise myself, and so many people I’ve seen go through ups and downs, they had no idea that kind of support was out there until they got involved with Reclink and spoke with the coaches and other players and learned what was actually available for them in their problems. How Reclink could actually help them.”

“We’re more than just footy, we’re not just a footy club. We’re there to help people throughout their problems, to help people like with housing and stuff like that. They help people get off drugs, help people with alcohol problems, help people with accommodation for homeless people and stuff like that. So it’s a lot more than people think it actually is.”

Source: The Centre for Sport and Social Impact (CSSI) at La Trobe University: The social value of a Reclink Australia structured sport program, 2016.
Pathway to life improvement

One of the crucial outcomes from the Reclink Football League is that participants within a club environment are more likely to have a support network, which can ‘catch’ them if they begin to fall backward in their path to health and wellbeing. They will also then have greater access to support structures to assist them in getting back on track.

Participants remain in the Reclink League and are able to support and mentor other participants. Those participants who participate while incarcerated or in drug treatment programs are able to better transition to community and continue playing in other teams.

One of the crucial outcomes from the Reclink Football League is that participants within a club environment are more likely to have a support network, which can ‘catch’ them if they begin to fall backward in their path to health and wellbeing. They will also then have greater access to support structures to assist them in getting back on track.

Participants have access to job opportunities and receive support to enter the workforce such as references access other vocational courses. References can be used to secure other needs such as housing and court appearances.

Participants build interpersonal skills, confidence, leadership skills, and vocational skills such as reliability, time management and teamwork.

Participants develop a sense of belonging and purpose. They engage in physical activity and improve their physical and mental health.

Participants build trust with agencies and can access other support programs for housing, anger management, mental health services, drug and alcohol treatment, health services etc.

Participants can enter the league as an introduction to support and social programs available, or while they are engaged with support or services (such as prison or drug and alcohol).

State Reports

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Reclink Volunteers

The work that Reclink Australia undertakes would simply not be possible without the support of our hundreds of loyal and talented volunteers. From administrative support, to assisting with events and programs and acting as ambassadors and advocates of Reclink Australia, volunteers are vital to the success of our programs across Australia.

With more than 1000 active volunteers Reclink Australia is grateful for their combined assistance in helping deliver our major events and support the diverse range of sport, recreation and arts programs across Australia.
Mental health is a foundation for good health.

Today, many people are going through challenging and difficult times often with significant adverse effects on their mental health as well their family and loved ones. Reclink Australia understands that good mental health is a cornerstone to living a full and enjoyable life.

Over the past 27 years we have been providing a range of targeted sport, recreation and arts participation opportunities for some of the most marginalised in our community. Young people who have their whole life ahead of them, however due to their personal predicaments they fall into a spiral of depression, addiction, crime and homelessness to name but a few.

We have long recognised the positive impact of our programs on changing people lives and in many instances saving people’s lives. The things I have consistently heard from the thousands of people I’ve listened to over all these years is that it changes their lives. People with suicidal feelings have said: “what have I got from Reclink footy? Life, really it saved my life.” As one player said to me “It takes me out of my unsociability”, while another player describes playing in Reclink football as “a clean rush that’s real.” The same player went on to say the main reason people go back to using drugs after work on recovery is that they have no friends and they are very lonely and tempted to go back to the old friends inevitably they start using again.

A run or a catch, a goal or a kick gives an immediate emotional reward, important for people challenged by many life situations, particularly depression.

A structured team sport such as Reclink Australia footy provides the young person with a socially inclusive life experience, mateship, structure and recognition; and a network of supportive friends which have been missing in their lives. One participant best described her involvement in one a Reclink footy teams when she said “It’s there for me in good times and bad, and if things don’t work for me, it is something for me to fall back to. It’s the family I never had.”

In the community sector we have also been acknowledged as an organisation which works in partnership with a diverse range of community service providers to create pathways for people experiencing disadvantage to enter training, employment or simply improve their health and wellbeing. This is the Reclink model, working together with all those agencies in the community to help a person in need.

When coaches from our Reclink teams call me and say “I’m struggling for players because they’ve got work.” My response is “congratulations.” The Reclink footy league provides physical and mental health, the opportunity to develop work skills such as team work, communication, and reliability, taking direction, mentors, fitness, respect and adaptability.

A lot can happen when you include those not included. There’s a lot in welfare in our community that stops people from drowning, but not a lot that helps people to swim.

Reclink Australia is not a welfare organisation but a catalyst that enables disadvantaged Australians to improve their mental health and wellbeing while living a full life. It changes lives.

**Peter Cullen AM**
Reclink Australia Founder
Community Partners

Sorrento Sailing Couta Boat Club
Reclink Australia has enjoyed a strong relationship with SSCBC over the past three-years, as part of the Great Penninsula Paddle series.

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

PBS 106.7FM
Since 1979, community broadcaster PBS 106.7FM has been an integral player in Melbourne’s diverse music community.
Reclink Australia is grateful to have had the generous support of PBS for the Melbourne Reclink Community Cup over the course of the event’s 24-year history.

3RRR 102.7FM
For 40 years Triple R has shaped and inspired the culture of Melbourne. Triple R, along with PBS, have been massive supporters of the Melbourne Reclink Community Cup since 1997.

AIFL
The Australian Institute of Flexible Learning (AIFL) is a nationally registered vocational education and training (VET) provider who deliver online and face to face training to the local and distant communities.
Reclink Australia has a key partnership with AIFL to deliver Alcohol and Other Drugs course aimed at Reclink Member Organisations.

Blundstone
Reclink Australia extends a huge thanks to Blundstone for the national sponsorship of the successful Reclink Community Cup events.

MyState Foundation
Our sincere appreciation to MyState Foundation for funding the Reclink Tasmanian Youth Football League and making a difference to the lives of young people experiencing disadvantage.

Bennelong Foundation
Reclink Australia is greatly appreciative of the funding provided by the Bennelong Foundation to establish the Reclink Somali Youth Basketball League in Inner North Melbourne in partnership with the Somali Muslim community.

Friends of Alice
The Friends of Alice has grown over the years through the support of our dedicated schools which have incorporated an experiential program of Indigenous cultural learning into the student curriculum.
A huge thanks to Emmanuel College, teachers and students who continue to make a valuable contribution to the Reclink Australia sports program in Alice Springs by participating in the annual Reclink CAAMA community football finals at Traeger Park Oval.
“I liked how they were so grateful for the opportunity to join into this event that happens once a year. They weren’t playing against each other, they were playing with each other as friends. They cherished each other’s company. Even when the other team lost they had the biggest smile on their face, they were just so happy, and nice and so grateful for being here. Everyone kept saying thank you. I didn’t need to be thanked, I’m doing this for you. It was nice to be doing this for someone, offering this to them.
The people that started Reclink, to get so many people to come together to join in with the community, it’s awesome that they can put this event on for other people and not expect anything back from it. It’s amazing.” Monique
The Friends of Alice program is a powerful opportunity to share, experience and learn.
Reclink Australia’s High Density Housing Community and Safety Program [HDHP] in the ACT represents an important recognition of place-based justice reinvestment by the ACT Government. Reclink Australia works with residents with high and complex needs who have been, are currently, or are at risk of becoming, involved in the criminal justice system across six public housing sites on Ainslie Avenue, Canberra, to facilitate access to services, and undertake and promote ongoing participation opportunities in events, activities and programs.

Funded by the Department of Justice and Community Safety the objectives of the HDHP are to:

- Prevent or reduce opportunities for crime;
- Promote community safety and security;
- Develop pro-social and law-abiding community engagement; and
- Facilitate access to services that are related to justice, health, mental health, education and employment.

In early 2017 Australian Institute of Criminology in Canberra evaluated the HDHP program finding the “HDHP is successful in developing pro-social and law abiding community engagement among residents.” The positive findings were attributed to the quality of structured and unstructured activities delivered for residents and the effective support provided by our ACT Manager including:

- Community garden beds where residents are encouraged to grow and produce their own produce. The creation of these garden beds across Ainslie Avenue public housing sites has assisted in increasing community ownership and responsibility for shared spaces and promoted interaction between residents. Introduction of these garden beds has resulted in establishing an environment of natural surveillance of residents which has assisted to reduce crime;
- The workshop program provides practical skills development where residents are encouraged to build or repair old items. The workshop has facilitated the opportunity for residents to work together on projects, learn new skills from one another, and allow residents to contribute to the wider community through donation of items built at the workshop to the local public school;
- Neighbourhood chats provide residents with weekly meet-ups where they are able to get food and have a chat with the OTGM and other residents. These regular catch-ups are important events for residents who can raise any concerns, get information on services in the area, and meet people in a safe and positive social environment; and
- Engaging the broader ACT community via our monthly Run, Roll and Walk event with strong participation from organisations supporting people in alcohol and other drug recovery programs and organisations supporting people with their mental health.

Reclink Australia programs in the ACT have expanded to include health-based programs for men called “Blokes Business” which is funded by ACT Health. Delivered on a weekly basis at our onsite workshop/community garden the program encourages male residents to participate in healthier lifestyle choices and activities. Reclink Australia is greatly appreciative of the support from our key funding bodies including Justice and Community Safety Directorate ACT and ACT Health.
Reclink Australia continues to expand its programs in Alice Springs by providing a wide range of programs to enable further community connection for those experiencing disadvantage.

This year we delivered over 13 sport and recreational programs including: Football, Cricket, Softball, Basketball, Boxing, Weights, Running/Walking, Hill climbing, Qi Gong, Meditation, Yoga, Bocce and Arts, to name but a few.

In 2016-17 Reclink Australia conducted four cricket clinics in the lead-up to The Imparja Cup which had a great participation turn-out by indigenous men and women participants. The Reclink Rebels played extremely well with the increased competition and skill level. A special thanks again to Dwayne Pierce and BJ Rowles who help coach and support the players this year. Reclink Australia also ran the Football round-robin games at Alice Springs Corrections Centre leading up to the Reclink CAAMA Grand Final series which is held each year at Traeger Park Oval. The annual Reclink CAAMA Grand Final day was a great success with approximately 130 people attending and feedback received from all participants was very positive. All three games were very close with the players from all sides putting their heart and soul into the games which was exciting to watch.

A huge thanks to the students and teachers from Melbourne Emmanuel College who assisted on the day and who have been coming now for five years to support this event.

Northern Territory
Cathy Farrer

Reclink Australia also extends our sincere appreciation to the Alice Springs Mayor and Council, Alice Springs Corrections, member agencies, Indigenous elders, Indigenous mentors and our loyal volunteers whose support is greatly valued and appreciated. Importantly Reclink Australia wishes to acknowledge the support from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Indigenous Advantagement Strategy.

Caleb

I was told by one of my mates about the Reclink boxing class and have always struggled with fitness due to my medication and tried going to some boxing classes but just got ignored because I wasn’t one of the good ones and stopped going because it didn’t make me feel good. I went along to the Reclink class and felt comfortable straight away because I wasn’t been looked at or put on a spot and just had lots of fun. I like the classes and can feel that my fitness is improving but still have to give up the smokes.

“It is tremendous to watch participants develop in confidence over a short period of time and feeling proud of their achievements even if its involving putting a basketball into a hoop and feeling part of a team.”
Reclink Australia’s operations in Queensland have experienced exponential growth in the area of employment-based projects with funded by the Queensland Government, Department of Education and Training - Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiatives. Located in Caboolture, Logan, Beaudesert, Crestmead and Bundaberg, the Skilling Queenslanders for Work projects have engaged over 360 paid trainees and students in community-based projects delivering work outcomes for people experiencing long-term unemployment. Participants complete a 22-week traineeship in the areas of Construction or Conservation and Land Management and are supported to identify future career transitional opportunities. Additionally, 60 students have been supported to attain their Certificate 3 in Individual Support preparing them for employment pathways in disability support work, addressing skill shortages with the implementation of NDIS. A holistic approach is implemented to address personal and systemic challenges to future employment prospects throughout these projects for people embarking on a life-changing journey. Community capacity building projects have been implemented at sites incorporating: design and implementation of multiple community gardens and nursery facilities; re-establishing a community farm with a focus on experiential learning for people with a disability; constructing a youth space and drop-in centre; developing a ‘Land for Wildlife’ QLD Scouts site; working with aged care facilities to improve recreational and outdoor facilities and bushland regeneration. Further assistance has been provided to local sporting clubs through our Community Recovery project with repairs and maintenance following damage sustained through Cyclone Debbie earlier in 2017.

Reclink Australia model of delivering the Skilling Queenslanders for Work projects has achieved an average 76% employment outcomes and a further 10% further education and training for participants.

Sports programs have continued operating predominantly through the ongoing support of partnering agencies. Both the futsal and cricket programs hosted carnival days in mental health week and a touch football competition event with twenty teams participating in a two-day tournament.

The Transformers Choir again enjoyed some high-profile performances during Disability Action Week, West End Festival and at Homeless Connect bringing the joy of music and song to audiences.

Reclink would like to acknowledge program support and contributions from all of our partnering agencies and funding bodies, including QLD Government Department of Education and Training and Sport and Recreation Services, Logan City Council, Moreton Bay Regional Council, Tafe Brisbane, Tafe East Coast, All Trades QLD, Rural Training Queensland, Community Lifestyle Support, Help Enterprises, Wongaburra Garden Settlement, Jimboomba Little Athletics, Logan City Netball Association, Meakin Park Jnr Sports Association, Crestmead PCYC, Fortitude Valley PCYC, Caboolture PCYC and the many local agencies that contribute to successful programs.

This work is made possible and achieved through our energetic QLD staff team who are committed to assisting people to make a positive change in their lives.
Reclink Australia has seen significant growth and expansion of services which has been underpinned with three year partnership funding agreements with Adelaide City Council, South Australia Office of Recreation, funding support from the Myer Foundation and many local councils.

In 2016-17 Reclink Australia coordinated an exciting and innovative suite of more than 40 programs each month and this year includes indoor rock climbing, golf coaching program, giant swing, base camp, archery, free diving, active ageing, and mega adventure park.

During the year Reclink Australia also completed six Work for the Dole Projects in Port Adelaide and Murray Bridge in partnership with community agencies which have had a positive impact on those who participated in the projects as well as the local community facilities.

Now in its third year the Adelaide Reclink Community Cup this year was a huge success and is now embedded in South Australia’s schedule of events as an iconic community event raising much needed funds for sport and arts participation for people experiencing disadvantage. A new event on South Australia’s calendar was the amazing end-of-year Rock Show organised by the team from Swirl Music which raised funds to enable Reclink Australia to conduct music workshops for the first time.

Once again Reclink Australia extends huge thanks to Adelaide City Council, South Australia Office of Recreation and our funders and our sincere appreciation to all our loyal and long-serving volunteers.

In partnership with Mission Australia the Reclink Kaleidoscope Art Festival is a highlight in the annual calendar of events for over 60 participating artists, each using the art medium to tell their story their view the world around them. The exhibited art work is of high quality with proceeds of the sale going to the artist. Another highlight during the year is the annual Resilience Film Challenge which brings together people experiencing disadvantage and homelessness to create video clips and short films which explore a range of creative perspectives, storytelling, animation and songs. Feedback from those attending both the Reclink Kaleidoscope Art Festival and Resilience Film Challenge have commented the films were “touching, amusing, sad and informative. The Resilience Film Challenge is a significant event on Sydney’s film/cinema calendar. A huge thanks to all our volunteers, member agencies, Frances, Jez, Adam Yee and all those involved in the Kaleidoscope art festival and Resilience Film Challenge.
During 2016-17 Reclink Australia has experienced significant growth in Victoria with a range of new activities on offer and some exciting new partnerships developed.

In July 2016 Reclink Australia partnered with Sport and Recreation Victoria to run a successful innovative ‘Pop-Up Sports’ project in Norlane and West Heidelberg for four weeks and engaged over 320 participants. The ‘Pop-Up Sports’ project involved daily sporting activities in local parks and sports grounds aimed at connecting with people with sporting activities.

Reclink Australia also welcomed the partnership with the Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation which funded the Reclink cricket competitions over the summer involving 14 teams and more than 200 players.

The Reclink Football Grand Final Series was held at Peanut Farm Reserve in St. Kilda with 12 teams playing grand final match-ups over two days. Overall two thousand people who attended the event, all of whom were entertained by some amazing skilful play in Victoria’s only all age, all gender, all ability football league. A huge thanks to all of our player, volunteers and umpires, Casey Radio for broadcasting the games, past and present AFL coaches and players including Matthew Lloyd, Dyson Heppell, Danny Frawley, Dave Hughes, Kevin Sheedy, Simon Madden, David Rhys Jones, Father Bob Maguire, Robert Walls and Rev Tim Costello. A huge thank you to Sunbury Rotary Club for assisting us with our BBQ, students from Xavier College and McKilliop College for volunteering for the events and the Victoria Police Pipe Band who came together to help create an amazing event.

The Somali Youth Basketball League is an exciting new initiative Reclink has developed alongside out friends from within the Somali community. Two new clubs have been developed in North Melbourne and Heidelberg involving more than 40 players, coaches and supporters with plans to develop more teams as resources become available. Thanks go to the Bennelong Foundation for their support of this pilot. A big thank you to Maribyrnong Council for their support of the Kaleidoscope Arts Program in Footscray.

The pool competitions, leisure centre activities, run-walk-rolls, 10 pin bowling, lawn bowls, Tai Chi, Arts and many other activities all remain popular with our member agencies and participants.

A special thank you to Sport Recreation Victoria, Department of Health and Human Services, Miller Foundation and other funders, as well as all of our loyal volunteers and member agencies.
Reclink Australia programs in Tasmania have remained strong with over eight sport and recreation programs being available for participants from member agencies. While the migrant learn to swim programs remains a popular program, a highlight of the year continues to be the annual Reclink Tasmanian Youth Football series. The series involves four secondary schools from the Southern Midlands, Glamorgan-Spring Bay, Central Highlands, and Tasman Councils playing in two grand final matches at the Hutchins Oval. Fielding over 120 students, teachers, parents, Council staff, and volunteers the event is a highlight in participating schools annual sport fixture and is a greatly rewarding experience for all the children participating in this event.

A huge thanks is extended to MyState Foundation for providing funding via a grant to enable the teams participating in the Reclink Tasmanian Youth Football series purchase equipment and player outfits for students. Once again Reclink Australia is greatly appreciative of the support provided by Lona Turvey, Glamorgan-Spring Bay Council, Hutchins School, teachers and volunteers.

In 2017 Reclink Australia in partnership with the Devonport City Council and the Burnie Seventh-day Adventist Church conducted two work readiness projects for up to 25 long-term unemployed young people. The projects included landscaping grounds, internal refurbishment of Church hall and installation of drainage new culvert along walking tracks at Don Reserve Devonport.

Western Australia

Over the course of 2016-17 ten sport, recreation and arts programs were delivered in partnership with member agencies including, Tennis, Lawn Bowls, Basketball, Dance, Badminton, Tai Chi, Fitness, Swimming and Table Tennis.

The most sought after sport programs for the year were gym and swim programs in partnership with three Recreation and Leisure centres across Freemantle and Perth to ensure majority of member agencies have access to local fitness hubs. Reclink Australia looks forward to working closely with member agencies to increase participation opportunities with a diverse range of programs, to connect people experiencing disadvantage with sport, recreation and arts programs that make a difference to their lives.
In 2016-17 AAA Play has gone from strength to strength continuing to grow its presence by providing people living with a disability access to information on inclusive sport and recreation programs with accuracy and ease.

An updated AAA Play website was launched in August 2016 alongside the Captain Access Animations. Both of these new initiatives were recognised as great examples of the innovative steps undertaken by the AAA Play program, Reclink Australia and Sport and Recreation Victoria in promoting inclusive sport and recreation programs in Metropolitan Melbourne.

The Captain Access animations are a series of animated characters including Captain Access, Lila Adam and Mohawk Joe that brought colour and creativity to sport and recreation program delivery for Victorians of all abilities. The three characters were created to promote the physical, social and psychological benefits that regular sport and recreation can provide for people living with a disability.

AAA Play increased its social media presence in the community with daily posts highlighting inclusive and accessible sports in and around Metropolitan Melbourne. Monthly AAA Play newsletters were themed by a particular sport and enabled AAA Play to highlight all the inclusive and accessible programs offered by the various Victorians State Sporting Associations, resulting in increased participation opportunities for people with disabilities in sport and recreation. A highlight for the year was when International Day of People with a Disability shared AAA Play Facebook posts and the AAA Play inclusive sports messages to over 20,000 followers world-wide.

One of the key strengths of AAA Play is its ability to manage key partnerships that have resulted in the success of the AAA Play program.

Here is a snapshot of our partnerships and reach of AAA Play website in 2016-17.

- Promote over 500 sport and recreation participation across the greater Melbourne metropolitan region;
- Work in partnership with over 31 funded state sporting associations;
- Work closely with 32 Local Government Areas including Metro Access and Sport and Recreation Officers;
- Is promoted on the websites of all Melbourne metropolitan based Local Government Areas;
- Present information at all Victorian conferences and regional forums of disability services providers;
- Work in partnership with over 30 disability services providers;
- Liaise with peak State Sport and Recreation Bodies;
- Meet regularly with community disability support groups and advocacy groups;
- Consult with specialist development schools and other specialist education providers; and
- Meet with volunteer and parent advocacy groups.

AAA Play’s increase in strategic promotional strategies and community engagement has resulted in a significant increase in the number of Victorians who have accessed the AAA Play service in the 2016-17 period. Our unique website users, which indicates the number of individuals who access the website grew to 18,607 which was an increase of 24% on the previous year, and the number of page views grew by a staggering 42% coming in at 75,713. The number of sessions, which indicates each time that a new or existing user spends on the AAA Play website has also markedly increased by 28% to a total figure of 25,087.
Figure 1: New and Returning Visitors to AAA Play Website
July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

- 73.3% New Visitor
- 26.7% Returning Visitor

Figure 2: Gender of New Visitors to AAA Play Website
July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

- 62.5% Female
- 37.5% Male

Figure 3: Age of New Visitors to AAA Play Website
July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

- 26.9% 18-24
- 19.1% 25-34
- 13.2% 35-44
- 8.8% 45-54
- 4.6% 55-64
- 27.4% 65+

Figure 4: AAA Play Website Analytics 2016-17

- Page Views
- Sessions
- Unique Visitors

- Jan-16
- Feb-16
- Mar-16
- Apr-16
- May-16
- Jun-16
- Jul-16
- Aug-16
- Sep-16
- Oct-16
- Nov-16
- Dec-16
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Art Therapy

Reclink Art Therapy program builds resilience through creative expression and assists participants with the daily challenges of mental health and social isolation.

Participants engage in creative expression, identifying the feelings in that moment or what they bring with them. During 2016-17 the Reclink Art Therapy program focused on the theme of continuum of health and wellbeing. Annually the Reclink Art Therapy program yearly participates in the community mental health week exhibition at the CUBE in Frankston.

The Reclink Art Therapy program caters for up to eight seated persons and in most instances is attended by an average of five attending and receives an average one phone call each month inquiring to join the group. The beginning of this year Reclink Art Therapy program had two new participants that have overcome challenges to be in their community.

Feedback from participants about the Reclink Art Therapy program include: “allows expression, doesn’t need a spoken word, the freedom to express with arts without the need for words, in the group is safety and trust, a sense of isolation when at home, here a sense of belonging, element of respect not known before coming here, respecting of space, self and others, supports my well-being, makes me happy. I wouldn’t, couldn’t sit down at home, yet I sat for two hours today.”

Reclink Mumbai

Australian rules football has become first choice for many kids playing sports around a local park in Mumbai where cricket was once an obvious obsession.

Over the past six years Reclink Australia has been actively supporting the development of football for disadvantaged young people in Mumbai in partnership with India Unbound. A highlight of the program is the annual tournament which has become a hit among all the players who display their eagerness and enthusiasm.

Called the Reclink Mumbai Footy Cup the competition involves six senior and junior teams, with around ten players on each side. Two 10 a-side girls’ teams also participated. These teams were formed among the existing group of players most of which belong to families of modest means who cannot afford the cost of mainstream organised sports. The Reclink Mumbai program is frequently joined by young people from the Dharavi area, University students and young professionals creating a unique diversity, helping the less prosperous to connect with successful people.

This year’s competition saw a significant increase in the number of participants and greatly improved footy standards. The energy and gusto with which all the players took to the field despite the blazing sun overhead showed how much they love the sport. The defending champions in the senior category, Charni Road Eagles maintained their winning streak by defeating the Matunga Tigers in a tough match that offered edge of the seat action. The junior players didn’t disappoint either and a few young people impressed attendees with perfect drop-punts and skilled handballing.

The highlight of the tournament however, was an all stars match played between an Aussie Expats team and the Reclink Mumbai team. Our sincere thanks goes to India Unbound, Lincoln Harris, Rhan Harris, Anthony Phillips and the West Coast Eagles Football Club for supporting this valued program.

Lincoln Harris

“It is overwhelming and moving to see how much the guys have grown through the sport over the years. Beginning with a handful for a kick to kick a few years ago, to over a hundred participating in a competition now is very encouraging. I’m so proud of the professional way the guys organised the tournament - making sure everyone gets a medal, lunch, drinks, shade - even music to dance to. The tournament exemplifies our vision of fun, fitness and community connectedness.”
Events, Fundraising and Volunteers

The Reclink Community Cup toured nationally for the second time in 2017.

Now established as a much anticipated annual community event featuring the unique combination of sport and music, some 20,000+ patrons across the nation supported our seven Reclink Community Cups, raising more than $200,000 to enable Reclink to continue to promote and deliver our sports, arts and recreation programs for disadvantaged Australians.

Our sincere gratitude goes to each of our Reclink Event Organising Committees, the musicians who provide endless entertainment, the on-field magic all the teams bring to each Community Cup, our colourful cheer squads, our tireless and enthusiastic volunteers and the general public who so generously support these special community fundraising events.

Key Events

- Reclink Community Cup – National Tour: Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Hobart, Perth, Brisbane, Canberra
- Frank Galbally Cup – Melbourne
- Reclink Australia Football Series and Peter Cullen Medal – Melbourne
- Reclink Tasmanian Youth Football Series
- Reclink Great Peninsula Paddle – Sorrento
- Reclink CAAMA Football Finals – Alice Springs
- Kaleidoscope Art Festival – Sydney
- Resilience Film Challenge – Sydney
- Choctober Campaign
Melbourne Reclink Community Cup

Drawing on the song title by seminal, much loved, internationally influential Brisbane band The Go-Betweens, this year’s Reclink Community Cup theme ‘Streets of Your Town’ was celebrated by each host city with their own unique enthusiasm and style.

The Reclink Community Cups’ achievements are now being replicated around the country and kicked off on Sunday 25th June with the Melbourne event settling into its new home at Victoria Park. This year the Reclink Community Cup welcomed a new national event sponsor Blundstone Australia, who were delighted and proud to be involved as a national partner.

Another highlight of 2017 was the Melbourne Reclink Community Cup becoming Australia’s first carbon neutral grassroots community event by partnering with Powershop. The power company purchased Certified Emission Reduction certificates from sustainability projects equivalent to the estimated carbon emissions associated with the event.

The Melbourne Reclink Community Cup was attended by over 13,000 people who were entertained by well-known bands Spiderbait, The Peep Tempel, REMI, Jen Cloher and Courtney Barnett. Murray Wiggle (the red one) was joined on stage by an array of local musicians who entertained the kids after BOXWARS performed the battle scene from the movie Top Gun.

A huge thank you to everyone supporting this year’s Melbourne Reclink Community Cup, especially our community radio partners PBS and 3RRR, our sponsors, musicians and players from Rockdogs and Megahertz, the colourful cheer squads, coaches, umpires, support crew and our hardworking and devoted volunteers. We extend our sincere appreciation to Blundstone and the City of Yarra for sponsoring this year’s Melbourne Reclink Community Cup, which was the most colourful and lively event yet.

A special thankyou to our Organising Committee: Roger Grierson, Nick Cooper, Adrian Basso, Dave Houchin, Miriam Wallace, Taylah Kiely and Sue Kirk for the combined outstanding contributions.
Sydney Reclink Community Cup

Kicking off the Sydney event, which returned to Marrickville’s iconic Henson Park for the sixth year running on Sunday August 6, was a series of live music, comedy and variety fundraisers shared across sponsor venues the Golden Barley and Vic On The Park Hotels. All gigs were free, with a portion of Young Henry’s sales, as well as profit from raffles was donated to Reclink.

The launch event at the Golden Barley Hotel saw beloved Aussie comedy legend and dyed-in-the-wool NRL lover Mikey Robins switch codes for this important charity. Mikey mc’d the event with performances from NITV’s Craig Quartermaine in one of his final gigs before heading off to Edinburgh to perform with Aussie ex-pat Brendon Burns, comedian Sian Choyce and beat-boxing comic Jared Jekyll.

Hon Anthony Albanese MP hosted a sports and music trivia night leading up to the game he played in and this year was on the winning side with the Whalers winning the Cup breaking a two year drought. A huge thanks to Adam Yee and the organising committee for another colourful and successful event.

Perth Reclink Community Cup

The Perth Reclink Community Cup was this year held at the Fremantle Oval, the hallowed ground of AFL in WA and was attended by over 1200 people who came to watch the Newshounds [media] and the Bandgropers [musicians] play an action packed game.

The event was formally welcomed by Councillor Brad Pettitt Mayor City of Fremantle, Josh Wilson Federal Member for Fremantle and Hon Ben Wyatt MP Treasurer Western Australia who also pull on his boots to play for the Newshounds.

The crowd was entertained by some of WA’s best musos including End of Fashion, The Floors, The Brows plus a DJ. A big thanks to Chris Wheeldon, Stu MacLeod, RTR FM, our fantastic event sponsors and our loyal volunteers for making this year’s event the best event so far.
Adelaide Reclink Community Cup

In the event’s third year in Adelaide, through the ongoing support of our key Adelaide partners at Radio Adelaide, 3D Radio, Fresh FM, Nine News Adelaide, The Wheatsheaf Hotel, and The Grace Emily Hotel; the 2017 Adelaide Reclink Community Cup saw attendee numbers and enthusiasm surge, despite some less than favourable weather conditions.

Hosted at Coopers Stadium Norwood, the Rockatoos again ran away with the big win over the Adelaide Anchors, completing their hat-trick of wins in the event’s three-year history.

Reclink Australia extend our sincere appreciation to everyone involved in the 2017 event, especially Leigh McGrane and the Adelaide organising committee, State Opposition Leader Steven Marshall, Tammy Franks MLC, Kyam Maher MLC and MP Katrine Hildyard and all our loyal Adelaide sponsors.
Hobart Reclink Community Cup

The second Hobart Reclink Community Cup was a great success with our attendance doubled over last year – approx 650 people. A magnificent Hobart winters’ day greeted the players and fans alike with a snow capped view of Mt Wellington in the background. A hard fought game between the musicians and media resulted in the RAMONAS – (media) 9 goals 10 – 64 points over the Van Diemen Dogs – (Musicians) 7 goals 7 – 49 points. Great half time and full time musical entertainment from interstate acts, three quarter time activity from Blundstone sponsored ‘Boot the boot’ competition and a groundswell of enthusiasm from the crowd ensured the event will have a bright future for Hobart in the years to come.

A huge thanks to Fletcher Austin and the organising committee, musicians, artists, the media, Blundstone, The Mercury, ABC Hobart, Scene Change, our many sponsors and all our fantastic volunteers for your outstanding support and contribution.
Brisbane Reclink Community Cup

The Reclink Community Cup hit Brisbane for the second time as part of the national tour at Leyshon Park, Yeronga with a uniquely Queensland spin. The Rocking Horses (musicians) and the Brisbane Lines (community radio/media) feature players from high energy Brisbane bands pitted against a motley ensemble of 4ZZZ stalwarts, music insiders, street press staff and industry professionals.

Our sincere thanks to Sharryn Bell, Michelle Brown, Steve Hutchinson and the Organising Committee, musicians and media personalities, 4ZZZ, Senator Murray Watts, Senator Anthony Chisholm, the Brisbane Lions Football Club, Blundstone Young Henry’s and all sponsors, our staff and loyal volunteers for making this a fantastic second year event.

Canberra Reclink Community Cup

This year saw the Reclink Community Cup become truly national by holding it’s first game in the nation’s capital, Canberra.

On a perfect for football Sunday afternoon on the 10th September, two teams battled it out for the inaugural Canberra Community Cup at Jamison Oval. Over 400 people paid at the gate to come and see the cream of Canberra’s musical talent, The Lime Stones play for the cup against the combined talents of Canberra’s radio and media ranks, The Noise. The likes of The Worm Burners, Waterford, The Kingdoms and Oranges keep the crowd entertained with a diverse array of live music whilst local public radio station announcers including Canberra co-organiser Davey J from 2XX kept the crowd fully informed of proceedings out on the ground.

A great highlight of the day was local choir Mixtape Chorus singing the anthem of Community Cup this year, Streets of Your Town to a very appreciative audience.

Our teams and umpiring ranks were swelled by local members of the Legislative Assembly, The Greens Shane Rattenbury officiated as boundary umpire and took a turn as central umpire whilst Liberal MLA Mark Parton pulled on the boots for The Noise and local ABC Radio drive presenter Adam Shirley also took up the whistle.

The Noise co captains David Pope, Walkley award winning cartoonist for the Canberra Times and Fleta Page, Fairfax journalist and Canberra AFLW player and co-captains for the Lime Stones, entertainer, comedian and musician Chris Endrey and musician Beth Monzo ( Betty Alto), lead their teams admirably in a close game right up until the last seconds.

A big thank you to everyone who made this first game happen especially the Organising Committee, team managers, all the players, coaches and support staff, Community Radio 2XX, the musicians who played on the day and the pre and post game fund raisers, cheers squads, sponsors and the crowd.
Frank Galbally Cup

Celebrating 10 years of the Frank Galbally Cup in 2016, the legal fraternity in Melbourne continue to ‘raise the bar’ for Reclink Australia. The annual football match between Solicitors and Barristers played out at Victoria Park this year with the Solicitors taking home the coveted Frank Galbally Cup.

Reclink Australia would like to thank the stoic support of the Organising Committee led by Hayden Legro and the legal community who ensure this day is a great success.

The Great Peninsula Paddle

Hosted by the Sorrento Sailing Couta Boat Club, 95 novice and experienced paddlers took to the ocean in support of this year’s Great Peninsula Paddle.

Participants paddled through the short course and long course on a beautiful sunny morning with over 150 family members and friends cheering on. Reclink Australia particularly wishes to thank Virginia and Nick Cable for their long standing support, the Sorrento Sailing Couta volunteers and the participants’ fundraising efforts in the lead up to this unique and exciting event.

A huge thanks to Hon Greg Hunt MP Member for Hastings for participating in this year’s paddle event as the newly appointed Federal Minister for Sport.

The 2016 Choctober Campaign was a success utilising Reclink Australia’s associations and members, website, social media channels, media contacts including newspapers and radio stations and event collateral to advertise and promote the campaign. Reclink extends a huge thanks to Spinach which inspired and produced the creative design for the campaign. The marketing and PR campaign was aimed at generating maximum awareness from both Choctober participants and the wider public. We communicated not only about the campaign, but also about Reclink Australia and the need for more funding to support disadvantaged women and girls through sports and arts programs.

We also wish to express our sincere thanks to our campaign Ambassadors, the Jofres, Tracy Bartram, Amanda, Raeles and Mariella and all the members of parliament in Victoria, South Australia and Queensland who participated and promoted Choctober.
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 karting
- Golf
- Group fitness
- Gym
- Hip hop dance
- Horse riding
- 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
- 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

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 50s
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 over 220 health, welfare and community organisations currently engaged with Reclink Australia’s program, Reclink Australia continues to play a critical role in the community sector in ensuring that individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds are provided with participation opportunities.

Membership to Reclink Australia provides community organisations with the following benefits:

- 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:

**New South Wales**

Beehive Industries Co-operative Limited  
Mission Australia – Sydney Centre  
Richmond PRA – Buckingham House  
St. Vincent de Paul Society – Ozanam Learning Centre  
Wesley Mission – Edward Eager Lodge

**Northern Territory**

Bushmob Inc.  
Casa Central Australia Inc.  
Central Australian Aboriginal Alcohol Programs Unit (CAAAPU)  
DASA – Drug and Alcohol Services Association – Alcohol and Drug Detox and Rehab  
Foster Carers Association NT Incorporated  
Kanyini Living Spirit  
Life Without Barriers  
Mental Health Association of Central Australia (MHACA)  
Mental Illness Fellowship of Australia NT  
Nganyatjarra Pitjantjatjarra Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Woman’s Council  
The Salvation Army

**Queensland**

Carers Link  
Clear Horizons  
Footprints In Brisbane Inc.  
Fortitude Valley PCYC  
Foundation for Independence Recreation and Social Training Inc.  
Jacaranda Clubhouse  
Kingston East Neighbourhood Group Inc. (KENG)  
Mercy Community Services SEQ Limited  
Mercy Community Services SEQ Ltd – Respite  
NEAMI – PHaMS  
Queensland Health – Fortitude Valley, Inner North Brisbane Mental Health Service  
Queensland Health – Transitional Housing Team  
YFS Ltd  
Youth Advocacy Centre Inc.

**South Australia**

Ac Care  
ACH Group – Social Links East  
Adelaide Hills Community Health Service  
Adelaide Hills Vocational College  
Anglican Parish of Semaphore  
Anglicare SA  
Australian Red Cross  
Baptist Care  
British Sub Aqua Club – BSAC  
Canteen SA/NT  
Carer Wellness Centre  
Carers SA  
Caring Choice  
Centacare – Murray Bridge  
Christian Youth Camps of SA  
City of Onkaparinga – Disability Program  
City of Port Adelaide, Enfield – SRF Project  
Community Bridging Services

**Community Living and Support Services Inc. (CLASS) – Day Services**

**Community Living Australia – Mount Barker**

**Community Living Australia – Southern Region**

**Conservation Council of South Australia**

**Country Health SA LHN**

**Disability Services – Central Adelaide**

**District Council of Mount Barker**

**Fitness with Jamie**

**HeartBeat Drumming**

**Hills Community Options Inc. – Centennial Court**

**Hills Community Options Inc. – Disability Support Service**

**Hutt Street Centre**

**Junction Australia**

**Junction Community Centre**

**Life Without Barriers – Homelessness and Disability**

**Life Without Barriers – Mental Health Respite**

**Mental Health Service, SA Health**

**Mental Illness Fellowship Australia**

**Mid Murray Council**

**Mind Australia – Burnside Residential Services**

**Mount Barker Uniting Church – Hungry No More**

**Murray Mallee GP Network – Murraylands Headspace**

**NEAMI Ltd – IPRSS**

**Neami National**

**Northern Mental Health – The Gully**

**OARS Community Transitions**

**Reintegration Services**

**Onkaparinga – Arts and Inclusion (City Of)**

**SA Health**

**Sportivore Pty Ltd**

**St. John’s Youth Services**

**SYC**

**Teen Challenge SA Inc.**

**The Salvation Army**

**Unison Property Corporation**

**Uniting Care Wesley Port Adelaide – Community Mental Health**

**Uniting Communities – Edwardstown**

**Uniting Communities – Thebarton**

**Unity Housing Company**

**Victor Harbour High School**

**Western Psychosocial Rehabilitation Programs**

**YMCA Adelaide Hills Recreation Centre**

**YMCA of SA**

**Tasmania**

**Able Australia**
Gratitude

Life Members
Allan Jeans (deceased)
Greg Hunt (deceased)
Hayden Legro
Mick Miller

Individuals
Adam Yee
Adrian Basso
Adrian Cloonan
Adrian Crawley
Alan Pascoe
Alan Quaife
Alice Springs Correctional Centre
Andrew Brackman
Andrew Exton
Hon Andrew Wilkie MP
Angelisa Watts
Hon Anthony Albanese MP
Senator Anthony Chisholm
Barry Silvester
Ben Davison
Hon Ben Wyatt MLA
Bill Cullen
Brad Pettitt
Brian Hanson
Brian Millett
Brian Presnell
Brian Taylor
Bruce Hill
Cam Butler
Carby Warby
Chris Wheeldon
Crackers Keenan
Craig Lynch
Damien Taylor
Darren Vowles
Dave Barrett
Dave Houchin
Dave Hughes
Dave Oliver
David Edie
David Rhys Jones
Dermott Breereton
Don Hume
Doug Hawkins
Dyson Heppell
Douglas Holmes
Em Egan
Emma Peel
Father Bob Maguire
Fletcher Austin
Gareth Andrews
Gary Eppe
Gavin Crosisa
Gerard Hart
Glen McIver
Glenn Hester
Glenn Watts
Graham ‘Smokey’ Dawson
Greg Barnes
Hon Greg Hunt MP
Greg Tickner
Hayden Legro
Hank Hubers
Helen Cusack
Jack Reilly
James Tunstall
Jamin Heppell
Senator Janet Rice
Jay Hynes
Hon Jenny Macklin MP
Jeremy Dickson
Hon Jim Chalmers MP
Jo Cusack
Joanne Rockwell
Joffa Corfe
John Cullen
Jon Von Goes
John Cicero
Hon John Eren MP
John Dever
John Goidridge
John Nichol
Josh Wilson MP
Hon Katrine Hildyard MP
Kel Bryant
Ken Wilson
Kim Tan
Koral Chandler
Hon Kyam Maher MLC
Lauren Taylor
Leanne Smith
Leaping Larry L
Leigh McGrane
Lesley Hanson
Lesley Hurley
Liam O’Shanessy
Lincoln Harris
Liz Kirk
Luke Waters
Mark Bomber Thompson
Mark Fine
Mark Parton MLA
Mark Whiteman
Hon Martin Foley MP
Martyn Smith
Mary Meldrum
Matt Fisher
Matt Lee
Matthew Richardson
Senator Murray Watt
Michelle Brown
Hon Michael Danby MP
Hon Michael Gaffney MLC
Nick Cable
Nick Cooper
Senator Nick Xenophon
Senator Penny Wong
Peter Burke
Peter Cates
Peter Crofts
Peter Diacos
Peter Hession
Peter Monagle
Peter Ryan
Phil Cox
Phil Morley
Phillip Douzel
Phillip Giallo
Ray Saloo
Rhan Harris
Hon Richard Wynne MP
Senator Richard Di Natale
Rob Heath
Ron Alexander
Rose Cicero
Ruari Currin
Hon Shannon Fentiman MP
Sharryn Bell
Hon Shane Rattenbury MLA
Hon Steven Marshall MLA
Stephen J. Peake
Stu Macleod
Hon Tammy Franks MLC
Terry O’Brien
Terry O’Donnell
Rev Tim Costello
Tony Biggs
Tony Proudfoot
Virginia Cable
Wayne Carey
Wayne Frith
Wayne Henwood
Hon Premier Will Hodgman MP
Our 1000+ Reclink Volunteers

Organisations
97.7 3SER-FM
ACT Justice and Community Safety Directorate
Able Australia
Accru Accounting
ACT Health Directorate
Adelaide City Council
Adelaide FC
Adelaide Police
Adelaide Symphony Orchestra
AFL Central Australia
AFL Tasmania
AFL Victoria
Alice Springs Bowls Club
Alice Springs Correctional Centre
Allens Linklaters
Australian Council of Trade Unions
Australian Federal Police
Australian Football League
Australian Government
Australian Institute of Flexible Learning
Australian Performing Rights Association (APRA)
Australian Red Cross
Australian Trade Commission
Avant Card
Bakeshouse Studios
Basketball Tasmania
Basketball Victoria
Bayside City Council
Beam Global Australia
Bendigo Bank – South Melbourne
BHSS Stage Systems
Ball & Doggett Papers
Bowls NSW
Bowls WA
Bridgewater PCYC
Brisbane City Council
Canberra City Council
Canoeing WA
Casey Radio 3 SER 97.7
Central Australia Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA)
Central Australia Football League
Channel 31
Cherry Bar
Chisholm and Gamon
City of Fremantle
City of Maribyrnong
City of Melbourne
City of Sydney
City of Port Phillip
Civic Guides Media
Clarence PCYC
Clontarf AFL Academy
Coastline Church
Cockburn Council
Complete Function Hire
Corner Hotel
Corporate Traveller
Curve Group
Cycle Australia
Cycle Education ACT
Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
Department of Health and Human Services, VIC
Department of Sport and Recreation, WA
DO Consulting
East Fremantle Football Club
Event Power
Eventpower Solutions
Eview Real Estate
Executive Security
FBi Radio
Fishing NSW
Football West
Fremantle Football Club
Fresh 927
GE Money
Goulburn Valley Ice
Government of South Australia
Greek Welfare, SA
Health Directorate – ACT Government
Hobart Aquatic Centre
Hobart City Council
Hobart PCYC
Hoppers Crossing Sports Club
Instinctive Chiropractic
Albert Park
Ipswich City Council
JPJ Audio
King Performance
Kingsborough Council
Lifeline Community Care, QLD
Lock and Load
Logan City Council
Lord Taverners
Mac ‘n’ Me Graphics
Madman Printing
MEAA
Mid Murray District Council
Midway Print Solutions
Momentum Builders
Mornington Shire Council
Moreton Bay Regional Council
Mount Barker Council
Mount Barker Lawn Bowls Club
Murlpirrmarra
Murray Bridge Council
Ozix
Pathwayz – Cerebral Palsy League
Patty’s Foods
PBS 106.7FM
Peninsula Stand Up Paddle School
Pine Rivers Showground
Pink Fencing
Plakkit
Port Adelaide/Enfield Council
Port Power FC
Portsea Surf Life Saving Club
Queensland Canoeing
Queensland Government – Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing
Queensland Department of Education and Training
Queensland Health
Queensland Police Citizens Youth Welfare Association
Young Henrys Brewing Company
Redcliffe Surf Life Saving Club
Rosenthal
Rosny Golf Club
Rotary Club of Albert Park
Rotary Club of Fremantle
Rotary Club of North Balwyn
Rotary Club of Sunbury
Rotary Club of Werribee
Rotary Club of Wyndham
Royce Consulting
RTR FM
Ryan Commercial Lawyers
Scubacom
SecondBite
SEN 1116
Shul Foundation
Skydive Australia
Snorkel Safari
Sorrento Sailing Couta Boat Club
South Australian Cricket Association (SACA)
South Australian Government Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources
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
Surfing NSW
Surf Lifesaving Queensland
Talbot Family Foundation
Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra
The District Council of Mount Barker
The Marquee People
The Vic, Newtown
Tony Leggart Dive Co.
Triple R FM 102.7
Victoria Police Pipe Band
Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA)
Werribee Football Club
Wesley Church Adelaide
Wesley Mission
West Coast Eagles
Western Australia Cricket Association
Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service, ACT
YMCA – Mount Barker

Committees and Advisory Groups
Reclink Community Cup Organising Committees
Frank Galbally Cup Committee
The Transformers Choir Organising Team
Reclink Women Participation in Sport Committee

Schools
Australia Institute of Music
Emmanuel College
Mary MacKillop College
The Hutchins School
Wesley College
Xavier College
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
- Wiluna, WA
- Youth Football, TAS

**Sports Programs**
**Cricket**
- Adelaide, SA; Melbourne, VIC; Perth/Fremantle, WA; Alice Springs, NT

**League Tag**
- Brisbane, Ipswich, Moreton Bay QLD

**Soccer**
- Brisbane, Logan, QLD; Adelaide, SA; Perth, WA

**Pool**
- Melbourne, VIC

**Basketball**
- Melbourne, VIC

**Lawn Bowls**
- Clearview, Adelaide, SA

**Volleyball**
- Ipswich, Moreton Bay, QLD

**Sports Leagues**

**Pathways to Employment**
- Alice Springs, NT
- Caboolture, Bundaberg, Wide Bay, Beaudesert, Crestmead, QLD
- Sunbury, Werribee, South Melbourne, South Yarra, Newmarket, VIC
- Adelaide, SA
- Burnie, Devonport, Margate, TAS

**Awards**
**Peter Cullen Medal 2016 Winner**
- Kelsey Clayton, Co Health Kangaroos

**Peter Cullen Medal 2016 Runners Up**
- Hayden Favor, Casey Cobras
- Dean Wright, Kardinia Cats
- Dom Lo Presti, Co Health Kangaroos

**Peter Cullen Medal 2016 Female Winner**
- Kathleen S, Salvo Hawks

**Housing & Community Safety**
- Canberra, ACT
Reclink Australia Staff

Chief Executive Officer: John Ballis
Founder and Development - New South Wales, Tasmania: Peter Cullen AM
Finance Manager: Katrina McBeath
Assistant Accountant: Hillel Freedman
Media and Communications Manager: Ben O’Halloran (May 2017)
Media and Communications Manager: Miram Wallace (Commenced May 2017)
Fundraising and Corporate Partnerships Manager: Gemma Egelton (June 2017)

State Manager, Victoria: Chris Lacey
State Manager, Northern Territory: Cathy Farrer
Program Manager, Australia Capital Territory: Mark Ransome
State Manager, Queensland: Steve Hutchinson
State Manager, South Australia: Andy Asser
Events Coordinator: Sue Kirk
Manager AAA Play and Disability Program: Libby Cunnington
Support Officer AAA Play: Taylah Kiely
Reclink Sunbury Football Coordinator: Brian Millet

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