

Strath Neighbourhood Centre Inc

ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024



working together



2023-2026

Vision

We are committed to an engaged, vibrant, and inclusive community.
Contribute to building of a healthy engaged resilient community.

VALUES

Partnership We are stronger when we work alongside groups, organisations and our community.

Responsive We listen and respond positively to the changing needs of our community.

Integrity We value human rights and social justice.

Dedicated We are dedicated to the wellbeing of the Community.

Equality We respect the differences in our diverse community.

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Strath Neighbourhood Centre incorporated is a public institution which has the charitable purpose of advancing social and public welfare.

1. Advancing mental health and general wellbeing and preventing social isolation.
2. Providing a physical location where it supports individuals to undertake activities, or work on projects, and engage in learning in the company of others.
3. Providing accessible innovative and inclusive services and programs that support all aspects of our community and address issues of disadvantage within the community including but not limited to poverty, health, isolation, and unemployment

*The picture on the front page was painted by
Flinders university students Teena and Jordan with our volunteers
every circle connects with another signifying we will always be connected - together we will be stronger*

Chairperson's Report 2024

The 2023-2024 year has been a period of significant activity and transformation for the Strath Neighbourhood Centre (SNC). At our last AGM, we updated our constitution but soon faced new tax regulations for not-for-profit organisations introduced by the ATO, effective July 2024. To ensure compliance, we updated our constitution again and, with the support of Volunteers SA/NT, applied for charitable status sooner than planned. I'm pleased to announce that SNC is now a registered charity—a fantastic achievement. Mal is currently working on obtaining DGR status, which will make donations tax-deductible and open up future sponsorship opportunities.

Another highlight has been our partnership with Flinders University, which has brought valuable student placements in social work to SNC. In January, Teena and Jordan joined us and stayed until July, enhancing our activities and fostering mutual learning. We are now hosting Win and Xavier, who arrived in July and will be with us until November. Their contributions are already proving immensely valuable, and we hope to continue this fruitful collaboration.

The Community Garden has also seen exciting developments as it transforms into a shared space for meeting people and making friends. After two challenging years, we now have a fantastic team led by Chris Elliott, with Meg, Sharon, and Ian contributing their expertise. The garden will serve as a beautiful, practical space that combats loneliness, isolation, and supports mental wellness.

We have an incredible group of volunteers making a significant impact at the Centre. Jenny leads Rugs and More, Jan runs Happy Feet, and Colin serves as our Bingo caller. The community lunch kitchen team does a fantastic job, while our wonderful garden grubs continue to assist others with their gardening, fostering a strong sense of community and connection. The Repair shed team always there to lend a hand. Lastly to our Admin volunteers what would we do without you

Thank you to all our amazing volunteers for your hard work and dedication! Your efforts truly make a difference in our community.

This year presents various challenges as we strive to transform our Centre into a welcoming space. With the guidance of our Management Committee and Mal Sutcliffe, our manager, we will focus on funding, collaboration, and succession planning to foster a sustainable future for SNC. While we may not achieve everything we aspire to, I believe that, with the support of our members and the Strath Community, we can make meaningful progress.

I am happy to continue serving on the Management Committee for another year, after which I plan to retire to make way for new leadership and fresh ideas. At 78, I have gained valuable skills and experiences and look forward to volunteering as long as I can.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the Committee, whose dedicated volunteers have been instrumental in updating our constitution, policies, and procedures this year. As SNC continues to grow and serve the Strathalbyn community, it is crucial for the Management Committee to evolve to meet the essential needs of the Centre, especially now that we are recognized as a charity.

I also want to express my gratitude to Mal for agreeing to stay on as Manager for another year. His efforts to expand our services despite limited funding are truly commendable.

Lastly, I would like to thank Alexandrina Council for their generous support for the 2024-2025 period. This contribution is vital for our continued operations and allows us to enhance our community programs. We deeply appreciate the ongoing support from the Council's wellness team.

Regards,
Jackie Chapman
Chairperson, Strath Neighbourhood Centre

Managers' report
Presented by
Malcolm Sutcliffe Centre Manager

Dear members,

Thank you for your continued membership and support of the Strath Neighbourhood Centre Inc.

The past year has been another year of challenge and commitment.

The challenges have included the continued streamlining of office procedures. A review (which is ongoing), has been undertaken to make our policies easier to work with, understand, and fit with ever changing compliance needs.

Of significance is the work of our Committee of Management (COM), with extensive work being undertaken on bringing our policies and procedure into line with our growth. The COM have also been involved in coordinating the property and service development.

Chairperson (Jackie Chapman) with the support of the COM and manger, has been tirelessly working to bring the centre into a place where we can achieve quality certification, which will provide greater opportunity to gain stronger grant funding results.

The COM have also been working hard to build sustainability into our service, as manager I am pleased to be a member of this development team.

SNC is in a stable financial position, but we need to make some hard decisions. Decisions that prioritise where our capital is spent, to achieve the best results.

The admin team have been working on position descriptions for each role undertaken and reviewing inhouse procedures to again streamline how we operate, and use our time more efficiently, and to provide new and current volunteers with guidance in undertaking their tasks and duties.

Our volunteer base of 22, is stable, with the significant contribution from our volunteers, SNC remains open. Like many organisations, without our volunteers, we could not continue.

A necessary change to SNC, was our constitution. As you may be aware, we are self funded and do not receive ongoing or significant government funding. The change to our constitution enabled us to achieve charitable status, which, may then provide a pathway to gain Deductible Gift Recipient status (DGR).

With DGR status, we can apply for a significant number of funding opportunities (currently closed to SNC).

We have contributed following:

Volunteer hours:	6792 (captured)
Value to the community:	\$314,877 (Captured)
Visitors:	7,200 (Captured)
Average attendance per day	30
SNC Venue Hire	\$24,385

Our current developments include:

The rear garden, currently under development to establish a tranquil meeting place.

This is aimed at providing a space where our community's families, friends and groups may meet informally, within a pleasant, comfortable space. A walk through of the development is available by visiting the centre.

The centre's building was purpose built for the Strathalbyn Senior Citizens in the early 1970's, the building was suited well to clubroom style accommodation and saw many large celebrations and gatherings.

The building is now inadequate for the needs of the centre's purpose, a proposal was presented to the Alexandrina Council for refitting of existing building into a more universal style of accommodation. The council has granted permission as property owner, for SNC to undertake redevelopment of the hall and veranda. A concept plan is being finalised, this will take considerable effort, and grant funding is being sought.

The final refit will see better use of the hall, with hall configuration options to meet the growing demands on the centre. The veranda refit will also see options for small groups to be accommodated.

Additional office accommodation will also be provided, allowing dedicated accommodation for staff and volunteers, with current offices being used for consulting and other services.

Considerable work has been undertaken in building new partnerships and strengthening existing partnerships. Partnership is necessary to provide the services identified in the Community needs analyses completed by our first intake of Social Work students.

As mentioned, partnerships are important in our growth and capacity to meet community needs. SNC commenced a significant commitment with Flinders University and Community Centre SA. The commitment is to support social work students during field placement with SNC.

SNC's commitment to continue this partnership has been confirmed, with requests from our partners for future placements well in place. The students are proving a valuable resource, but equally, are gaining substantial benefits from being a part of our team.

Another partnership of significance is that we have with the Alexandrina Council, the financial support we are provided is important, but the person-to-person connections we now have, are valuable. I am pleased to acknowledge the support I receive as manager of the SNC, from the individual officers and teams of the council. The future for SNC and our community is not set in concrete. SNC can respond to the changing needs of our community and provide flexible and considered options. We are exploring how SNC may become self-sufficient and provide community support service relevant to the needs of our changing community.

For now, we are focussed on building connections with our community and helping change lives. Our target of breaking loneliness and social isolation will take time, effort, and support from our community at all levels, for loneliness and social isolation are not discriminatory and effect every tier of society.

Regards
Malcolm Sutcliffe
Centre Manager
October 202

TREASURERS REPORT
Profit and Loss -
Strath Neighbourhood Centre Inc

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Accrual Basis

Account	2024	2023
Trading Income		
100 Club Donations	100.00	100.00
Community Events	200.00	0.00
Community Events SAARG	400.00	977.10
Computer Support fees	15.00	75.00
Donations	2,320.38	6,009.15
Food and Friendship lunches	5,158.58	2,106.39
Fundraising Markets	4,600.43	3,793.65
Garden and Produce Sales	580.60	1,005.15
Garden Grubs fees	160.00	65.00
Grants Received	51,750.00	15,381.00
Interest Income	1,811.46	480.00
Membership	490.00	510.00
Other Revenue	250.00	1,941.77
Printer use fees	579.85	318.40
Repair Cafe	562.05	356.50
Sundry sales	30.00	39.00
Venue Hire	24,385.75	27,677.61
Workshop Fees	5,118.50	2,599.00
Total Trading Income	98,512.60	63,434.72
Cost of Sales		
Community Events costs	122.04	0.00
Community Events costs SARG	366.41	248.38
Direct Costs Programs	7,865.88	4,005.34
Fundraising Costs	413.99	1,774.76
Repair Cafe costs	64.89	859.07
Total Cost of Sales	8,833.21	6,887.55
Gross Profit	89,679.39	56,547.17
Operating Expenses		
Accounting Package	768.00	693.00
Advertising & Publicity	365.30	483.60
Bank Fees	110.38	112.72
Catering and Cleaning	1,820.77	1,822.93
Cleaning Contractor	6,894.00	8,722.00
Community Garden Expenses	1,837.90	1,048.36
Computer software and IT	691.65	393.85
Electricity and Gas	3,585.86	3,695.37
Emergency Assistance	39.30	1,399.55
General Expenses	168.46	169.96
Insurance	4,660.98	4,038.80
Legal expenses	81.00	1,279.00
Office Expenses	70.00	208.34
Printer & Stationery	1,268.14	2,415.36
Rates sewer and water	2,630.58	2,410.33
Repairs and Maintenance	3,151.51	2,202.56
Subscriptions	130.00	130.00
Superannuation	6,713.72	5,790.71
Telephone & Internet	2,325.79	1,838.04
Volunteer Expenses Other	0.00	35.00
Volunteer expenses travel	0.00	247.00
Wages and Salaries	61,035.00	56,922.00
Total Operating Expenses	98,348.34	96,058.48
Net Profit	(8,668.95)	(39,511.31)

Balance sheet Strath Neighbourhood Centre

Account	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Bank		
Jacqui Visa Business Card	212.11	0.00
Strath Neighbourhood Centre In	9,824.03	12,592.64
Term Deposit	52,291.46	50,480.00
Total Bank	62,327.60	63,072.64
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	1,739.25	4,125.75
Cash on hand	253.45	869.85
Neighbourhood Friendship Group	(6,690.00)	0.00
Square Reader	16.14	(1.93)
Total Current Assets	(4,681.16)	4,993.67
Fixed Assets		
Computer Equipment	7,947.00	7,947.00
Garden Equipment	9,356.10	8,150.55
Kitchen Equipment	2,130.38	1,830.47
Office Equipment	14,299.11	14,299.11
Outdoor toilet block	19,150.50	18,940.50
Total Fixed Assets	52,883.09	51,167.63
	110,529.53	119,233.94
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	88.89	186.07
Jackie Credit card deleted	0.00	239.55
Julia Credit Card	790.14	394.16
PAYG Withholdings Payable	2,664.00	2,388.00
Rounding	(2.03)	(2.98)
Superannuation Payable	0.00	471.66
Suspense	100.00	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	3,641.00	3,676.46
	3,641.00	3,676.46
Net Assets	106,888.53	115,557.48
Current Year Earnings	(8,668.95)	(39,511.31)
Retained Earnings	115,557.48	155,068.79
	106,888.53	115,557.48

AUDIT – STRATHALBYN NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE INC.

FINANCIAL YEAR 2023 -2024.

1) PROCEDURE

I have conducted an audit of the financial affairs of the Strath Neighbourhood Centre Inc, covering the Financial Year 1st July 2023 to 30th June 2024.

I have checked income and expenditure entries and also checked various invoices, receipts etc., by following the paper-trail back to the source.

2) DISCREPANCIES

No discrepancies were found.

3) CONCLUSION

The method used for recording the financial data relating to the Strathalbyn Neighbourhood Centre is relatively failsafe, this being by means of the proprietary Xero business accounting software.

A good audit trail exists in the method used for recording income and expenditure, and both are traceable from statement and balance sheet through to original invoice and receipt.

I have found that the financial affairs of the Strath Neighbourhood Centre Inc. are in good order.

I find that the financial status portrayed in the presented Xero Business software computer worksheets and associated paperwork is a true and accurate record of the financial status of the Strathalbyn Neighbourhood Centre.

Yours faithfully,



Cedric Huxter.

Garden Grubs Report 2024

It has been another busy year for the Garden Grubs and a little tumultuous. Hilairie resigned to pursue other dreams. In her absence Jodie stepped into the role of convener with much appreciated support and assistance from Louise and the rest of the Garden Grubs.

We continue to provide an outreach service to members of the local community through our gardening services, supporting those who have previously enjoyed gardening but who now find themselves unable to do so and limited in their access to professional services.

Our members share a passion for gardening, helping others continue to enjoy their gardens, and also maintaining a sense of connection to community through our visits. We are positively received and the social interaction with garden owners that inevitably comes from our visits enhances both their experience of the Garden Grubs service and also our enjoyment of working in their gardens.

Garden Grubs membership continues to ebb and flow with our members attending as life's demands allow. We have missed the company and contributions of those members who have been unable to attend as

often as usual this year and look forward to their return. We have also enjoyed welcoming new and valued members into the group.

Whilst our visits are generally once off in nature, we find repeat visits are sometimes necessary to complete the work requested. The generally drier weather this year has had the benefit of permitting us to attend gardens each Wednesday with little interruption, although weeding is somewhat more challenging!

We are looking forward to another year of "Grubbing" with plans to expand our outreach in the community, forming new and ongoing connections with community members in addition to maintaining existing one

Garden Update

A group of very keen volunteers have begun an upgrade of the Centre's Garden. The theme for redevelopment is to be "tranquil, calm, quiet and curving" with sensory input. Beds are being moved and a couple of quiet "nooks" are envisaged. Our Bush Tucker plants are being transferred to a raised bed.

Seasonal vegetables will be planted in the beds, which are spaced for wheelchair access. At the time of this meeting, planting has just begun, and irrigation replaced and relocated. A volunteer watering roster has been established as Spring has so far been very dry.

The concept design is below, and hopefully by next year's AGM, there will have been substantial growth and the garden be a pleasant place to share.

Keep watch as things develop.

Many thanks to our shovel team, Chris, Meg, Sharon, Ian and Colin who are putting in the sweat, muscle and inspiration. Many thanks to the Garden Grubs who have used a couple of their Wednesdays to assist with the plantings.

Di Jolly

New Beginnings



STRATH NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE INC.

WHO USES OUR CENTRE

2023/24

1470

CENTRE USERS



63%
Female



4%
First Nations
People



51% live with
Disability



New!
to the
Centre
14%

21769

interactions with
Strathalbyn
Community

WHO LIVES IN OUR COMMUNITY

CATCHMENT POPULATION

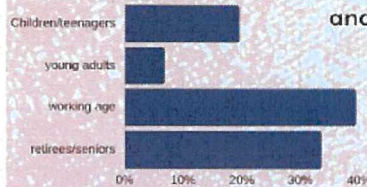
12,151

STRATHALBYN TOWN
AND DISTRICT

Comprises 40%
of Alexandrina
Council
population

*"Pretty much I like
everything about SNC:
company, tea and
friendship."*

Ian



High rates of
unpaid carers
and volunteers

Growing numbers of
residents born
overseas.

German is the
most dominant
language other
than English



Higher rates
of couples
with children

A YOUNG population,
with higher rates of every
age group under 60 than
the wider council



More tradies



21% households rent
4.5% live in social housing
40% have mortgages
32% high mortgage/rental
payments
27% loneperson households

HIGHEST rate
of mental
illness in
council area;
12%

9%

of Strathalbyn town live with
DISABILITY



High rates of
households
with no car; 3%

9%

DISENGAGEMENT
for 15-24yo

4%

UNEMPLOYMENT

WHO WE WANT TO BUILD STRONGER CONNECTIONS WITH

1 School aged
population

2 Young Adult
population

3 Culturally
linguistically
diverse

6 PARKER AVENUE, STRATHALBYN, SA, 5255
0431337044
WWW.STRATHNC.COM.AU

Find us on
Facebook

SNC Community Connections

2023 - 2024



Rugs and More



Julie's Happy Feet
Line Dancers



School Holiday
Crafts

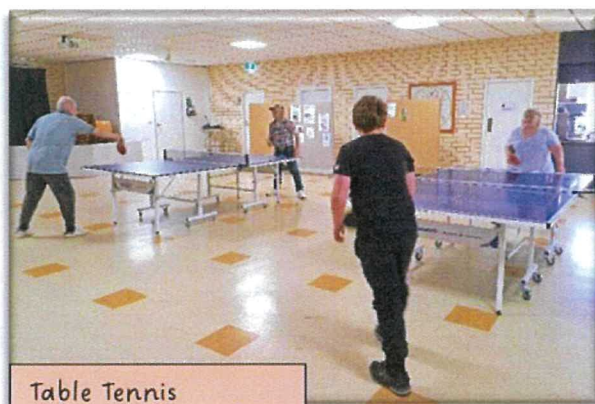


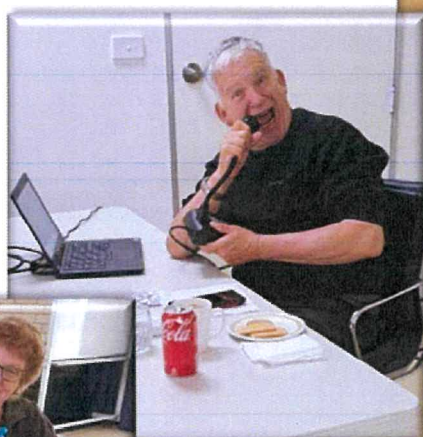
Table Tennis



Quiz Night

SNC Community Connections

2023 - 2024



Morning Tea

Our Supporters and Sponsors



**The Southern
ARGUS**



We thank our Sponsors and Supporters over the
past year for helping us achieve our goals

