



President's Report for 2015/16 AGM.

The past year has been both challenging and rewarding for the committee as we had to make a decision about the signing a new 3 year licence with Council that meant we had to take responsibility for the total expenses for the maintenance and running costs of the Centre.

It was about making choices with limited resources but your committee decided to accept the challenge, sign the licence and with a revised budget and reduced administration hours have been successful and rewarded by the result that has been achieved for the year.

Thanks to our hirers we continue to offer a great variety of activities and classes that suit all ages as well as the regular services conducted by the Christian Community Church on Sundays.

We have welcomed a new office tenant United Synergies running their Zed Twelve Programme during the year so both our offices are leased and that has provided us with a much needed additional rental income.

The Events and Function use of the Centre continues to grow with an emphasis in the coming year on increasing the number of Wedding Receptions and we are continuing with our Policy of sponsoring local Charities and Local Groups with free or discounted use of the Centre.

There is still however always opportunity to grow the use of the Centre by the Community and Visitors so your Committee is committed to continuing to raise the profile of the Centre in the year ahead to encourage more people to come and make use of the wonderful facilities.

So to be “Better Known,What We Do and Where We Are “ still remains a challenge for the Centre and we have done a lot of work this year, with the help of volunteers, to improve our web site and increase the promotion of the Centre on social media.

We have continued the free educational classes,sponsored school holiday activities,free internet use,exchange library,Christmas Charity donation and of course the free Annual Christmas Event for families.

Planning is well underway for this year’s Event and we have Bendigo Bank and the Sunshine Coast Council as our major sponsors again so we are expecting a bigger and better response and attendance by the community again this year.

We are very proud of the fact that after 5 years of operating the Centre that we are in financial position to be able to donate so much back into the Community that we serve as well as pay all the expenses incurred in running the Centre.

During the year the Centre became better connected for pedestrians and disabled coming from David Low Way with the connecting of the footpath and a new safety refuge.This was achieved after submissions and support received from our local Councillor Jason OPray and our State member Fiona Simpson.

Work has also been completed on stage 1 of the new Multi Sports carpark at the Eastern end of the Sports Complex with the completion of a new footpath connecting both car parks in the complex we share with them.This will result in a much needed increase in car park spaces across the joint complex when completed in 2017.

We have been successful in achieving positive outcomes for our Grant Applications from Council and the State Gambling Benefit Fund.This has enabled us to now start planning for a new shade sail and concreting of the outside area which will improve our hire

potential for Events and Weddings and continue the financial support for staffing of the Centre over the next 2 years.

Our Centre security and potential impacts from vandalism has been an ongoing concern for your committee and thanks to a sponsorship we were able to apply to Council for permission to install a CCTV system. Approval has been granted by Council and we expect to have this system installed by Christmas

We have also been well supported last year by sponsorship from the Bendigo Bank, local businesses and the Lions for our annual Christmas Event and all those generous donors are recognised on the Honour Board in the Centre.

We have had a safe year with continued emphasis on Health and Safety within the Centre for everyone that visits and works there and we have successfully taken part in the new Council desk top Maintenance and Safety audit ensuring that our signage and Safety compliance is at the required levels.

All this could not have been achieved without the outstanding efforts of our Centre Coordinator Shannon Embery who has again provided such friendly, welcoming, enthusiastic and knowledgeable Community/Customer service in her Administration of the Centre throughout the year.

Thank you Shannon and her team of volunteers for the great job they have done this year and thank you also to Tony, Nic, Lyn, Gary, Doris and Irene for their support as Treasurer, Secretary and Committee members during the past year..much appreciated.

In Summary we have had a challenging but rewarding year refocusing our objectives so that we can financially run the Centre and are confident that in the year ahead we can continue to guide the Centre to bigger and better things and that we will continue to "Be involved, Be Inspired and Be Connected."