



Presidents Report for 2016/17 AGM.

The past year has again been both challenging and rewarding for the committee as we continued to successfully take responsibility for the total expenses for the maintenance and running costs of the Centre.

The continuing ongoing strong support of the Centre by the Community and visitors has enabled the Committee during the year to increase the administration days/hours and staffing numbers to support our Coordinator to increase income/usage and improve the service provided by the Coordinator's office. We have welcomed Suzie Gelling into that role so that the office is now staffed 5 days a week.

It has also enabled us to meet and confidently undertake a Strategic Review during which we updated our Mission Statement and Business Plan for the next 3 years together with establishing our 2017/8 Priorities.

A Key initiative is to work towards introducing in 2018 a Grant Funded Administration structure with the aim to meet our key objective of increasing the use of the Centre by disadvantaged, aged and disabled members of our Community.

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 with 34 regular classes, 17 individual individuals/groups/associations running those classes and 9 fortnightly/monthly groups.

We have continued with our tenants United Synergies running their Zed Twelve Programme and the Christian Community Church during the year so both our offices are leased and that has provided us with

a much needed additional rental income together with bringing regular visitors and congregation to the Centre.

The Events, Function and Business use of the Centre continues to grow with an average of 9/10 events per month 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 and planning for a bigger and better response and attendance by the community again this year.

We are very proud of the fact that after 6 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.

We have been successful in achieving positive outcomes for our Grant Applications from Council and the State Gambling Benefit Fund with \$47000 received in funding during the year. This has enabled us

to complete the new shade sail and concreting of the outside areas which will improve our hire potential for Events and Weddings and continue the financial support for staffing of the Centre over the next year.

We have plans in place to apply for Grants in the coming year for upgrading the Playground equipment, the internal foyer gardens, notice boards and improving our art gallery in the foyer as well as any needed works to obtain approval for a commercial kitchen licence.

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 install a Council approved CCTV system and it has been operational for most of the year.

Despite this we have one case of vandalism with the office plate glass window being smashed.

We have also been again 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.

The Bendigo Bank are providing an increased involvement and support of the Christmas Event for which we are very grateful and the Maroochy North Shore Lions have donated a portable pa system and participated with wonderful support for our July front garden working Bee.

We have had a safe year with continued emphasis on Health and Safety within the Centre for everyone that visits and remain committed to maintaining a safe environment for all that visit and work and play in the Centre and in conjunction with this we have increased cleaning hours and maintenance during the year to

maintain and welcoming, clean, safe Centre for our many visitors and hirers.

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 together with her new assistant Suzie.

Thank you Shannon, Suzie and their team of volunteers for the great job they have done this year always inspiring us with new thoughts and ideas including the work done on the web site and upgrading our office pcs together with all the regular cleaning, watering and gardening that needs to be done every week.

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 as the continuity that we have on the Committee is a great strength for us.

In Summary we have had another challenging but rewarding year with much achieved together with refocusing our on objectives for the years ahead with confidence in the future plans that we have made together.

So we are very positive 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.”