



2022
**Annual
Report**



**For over 150 years,
Abound Communities has
welcomed older Victorians
into its villages, where they
enjoy balanced, active,
social and healthy lives.**

Abound Communities would like to acknowledge the Wurundjeri, Bunurong and Taungurung People of the Kulin Nation who are the Traditional Custodians of the Lands on which we work and live. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past and present. We are committed to honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters and seas and their rich contribution to society.

Our vision

Through independent community living and care we enrich the lives of our people.

Our values

- **Respect** – We appreciate, embrace, and celebrate our differences
 - **Community** – We work collaboratively to foster open, inclusive and engaged communities
 - **Kindness** – We care about people and have a shared passion to support people to live fulfilling lives
 - **Integrity** – We are open, trustworthy and take responsibility for our actions
-

Our mission

To advocate and provide affordable, safe and dignified independent homes for older Victorians within a village environment, and to offer appropriate and practicable extended care when it is required.

Our history

Abound Communities was founded as the Old Colonists' Association of Victoria in 1869 and has been providing accommodation and care to older Victorians ever since. Today, we have four villages:

- **Braeside Park, Berwick**
- **Currie Park, Euroa**
- **Leith Park, St. Helena**
- **Rushall Park, Fitzroy North**

A place



to belong

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Kevin Neville
President



From the President

A new look, a new name. 2022 has been a transformational year. We all remain connected to, and proud of, our extraordinary 150-plus-year history and to the amazing outcomes we have delivered to older Victorians in need over that journey. It is time to look to the future. Abound Communities is such a vibrant and active name. One that embraces and celebrates diversity – *A Place to Belong*. We all look forward to this exciting new chapter.

Speaking of exciting new chapters, the aged care industry is undergoing a period of significant change, coupled with an equal amount of uncertainty. Recommendations from the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety are now being legislated and the industry remains unsure as to how we as providers, are going to deliver mandated care minutes to our residents without a significant uplift in the aged care workforce and particularly registered nurses. It is becoming increasingly difficult to attract new talent to our industry. Aged care workers need to be remunerated at levels commensurate with other health professionals and it is pleasing to see the government putting their support behind current wage claims. However, this will require commitment from the Federal government to lift aged care funding. We all want this to work; to deliver better outcomes for our elders.

Abound Communities is committed to enriching the lives of our people. Two key platforms of our Vision 2026 are enabling independence and delivering more affordable housing. Our move into Home Care services will greatly assist our residents to retain their independence. Our application to become a Home Care provider has been lodged and we are now awaiting formal government approval. We envisage commencing this exciting new service in early 2023.

A major upgrade is also in the planning stage which will help us better support the increasingly complex care needs of the 81 people who call Liscombe House home.

There is currently a critical shortage of affordable housing across Australia with older women being the group most at risk of homelessness. We, as a society must do more to address this issue, and having recently added over 80 new dwellings to our villages, Abound Communities is now looking to move beyond our existing sites and work with government, philanthropists, and other partners to find and deliver solutions to this crisis.

Our team has done a remarkable job in caring for our residents and each other throughout the pandemic. On behalf of Council, I thank each and every one for their unwavering care and support provided to our residents. I also thank all our volunteers, donors, and other supporters for their continued support.

My personal thanks to fellow Councillors for their commitment to our cause and their wise counsel. A special thank you to Jen Roche who has stepped down following two terms as Councillor. This is my last report as President of Abound Communities as I will be retiring from Council in early 2023. Abound Communities is a truly extraordinary organisation and I am fortunate to have played a part in its journey.

Phillip Wohlers
Chief Executive Officer



From the Chief Executive Officer

Following the completion of our major redevelopments at Leith Park and Rushall Park in 2021, 2022 has been a year to reflect, consolidate and set the direction and key priorities for the future.

Our Vision 2026 is centered around enriching the lives of our people and specifically:

- Growing our service offering
- Developing new ways to fund and deliver more affordable housing
- Improving our existing operational and built environment
- Investing in and developing our people
- Strengthening our culture of respect, diversity, and inclusion

We have already made significant progress on several fronts, the most notable at this point being our rebranding, moving into Home Care services and the planned refurbishment of Liscombe House. There are exciting times ahead as we bring Vision 2026 to fruition.

Our people found a myriad of ways to cope through Covid and it is now so pleasing to witness our communities opened up and relishing the variety of activities and personal connections that are such integral parts of life in our villages. Social and physical engagement is critically important to our well-being and detailed elsewhere in this report you will read about some of the work we have been doing in this space, both in our own capacity and collaborating with others.

We have also taken steps to examine our environmental impact with energy audits undertaken at both Braeside Park and Currie Park, both of which were funded through philanthropic grants. These will provide a guide for us in assessing our larger villages and input into developing our sustainability plan.

Abound Communities has had no Covid-19 related deaths which is a testimony to the care our team has, and continues to provide. As an organisation and as an industry, we have not been immune to labour shortages. We call on the government to work with us to address this serious issue, particularly as we move towards mandated care minutes in residential aged care. Despite staffing challenges, the team has stood up throughout to ensure our residents were safe and well cared for and I can't thank them enough. While Covid-19 will not disappear completely, we are looking forward to a more stable environment moving forward.

A special thanks to our residents, staff, volunteers, and supporters whom all contribute to making our villages such wonderful environments in which to live and work. It is our people who truly make Abound Communities *A Place to Belong*.

“ The last few years have been difficult for us all, both personally and professionally. We are extremely proud of how our people have come together to support each other. We look forward to 2023 being a healthy and positive year for us all. ”

3 **Highlights of the year**

Having celebrated over 150 years of housing and caring for older Victorians in need, it was time to move into the next phase of our journey. In April this year we announced that The Old Colonists' Association of Victoria would in future be known as Abound Communities. We openly celebrate our extraordinary history and will always remain connected to our past.

Abound Communities embraces being in a safe, secure environment and celebrates difference, diversity and culture. We are extremely proud of the work we have done thus far and excited about our journey ahead as we expand our service offering and seek opportunities to deliver more affordable housing for older Victorians and for them to call Abound Communities their home.

Our Residents

With the completion of our major developments at Leith Park and Rushall Park we have now reached the milestone of housing and caring for over 500 older Victorians across our four villages. With Covid-19 restrictions relaxed it is wonderful to see our residents engaged in their communities and activities returning to more normal levels. The community gardens at Braeside Park, Currie Park and Leith Park are back in full swing, the Kiosk at Rushall Park is back producing delicious homemade treats. We have welcomed family and friends back into Liscombe House along with our wonderful activities program which now includes a children's playgroup. All this and so much more goes to make our villages such wonderful, vibrant communities – *A place to belong*.

In July there was a cross village meet and greet with two Rushall Park residents attending Leith Park. The objective of this meeting was so the newly founded resident garden group at Rushall Park can see how our established Leith Park Garden group operates, and the wonderful projects that both residents and staff at Leith Park have been a part of. Thank you to Mal and Elke for coming to Leith Park and spending some time with our Leith Park gardening group.



507
residents



75.3
years old – average age of a person entering our villages



81.3
years old – average resident age in our villages



9.1
years – average length of stay for Independent Living in our villages



404
of our residents are women



103
of our residents are men

Our People

The team continued to battle with Covid-19 both in their personal and professional lives. The fact that we have had no Covid-19 related deaths is real testimony to the care our team has, and continues to provide. We said farewell to some of our long serving team members – Kim D'Angelis, our Volunteer Coordinator (12 years) and Tim Scott, our COO (6 years), left to pursue new opportunities in their careers. We also farewelled our long serving Currie Park and Leith Park Residents' Coordinator Karen Ernest after 27 years with the organisation. Karen's achievements are far too many to mention here but are best summed up by a quote from one of our residents. "Many of us here do not know where we would have ended up, if you hadn't suggested to us, to make this our home". Thank you Karen and all those people for making a difference to the lives of our residents. We also welcomed 45 new people to our team and we look forward to you enjoying your roles as part of the Abound Communities team.

We are very proud of our team and our staff retention rate of over 83% is evidence that people enjoy being part of the Abound Communities team. Almost a quarter of our team have been with us for over ten years. The aged care industry is going through a period of major change emanating from the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety. These recommendations, which we wholly support, will see the need for a considerably larger workforce in a time when the labour market in general is in short supply. As an industry we look to the Federal Government to support us to bring these changes to fruition.

Our Volunteers

It has been fantastic to welcome our volunteers back into our lives. The contribution of our volunteers can never be overstated. They make a real difference to the lives of our people in so many ways. From one on one friendships, to helping in our gardens, providing tech support, running meditation sessions and assisting in a range of resident focused activities. To quote the theme of Volunteer Week – "We are better together." Better together as a result of your amazing contribution to our communities. Thank you.



179
staff



141
staff are women



38
staff are men



183
volunteers

Farewell and thank you, Karen



This year, we farewelled Karen Ernest, resident coordinator of 27 years. We appreciate her service, employment, and support. Karen was a huge part of our organisation, and we will miss her.

Summed up by a letter from one of our dear Currie Park residents.

"Karen, we are sad to say "goodbye to you", though wish you well, on the next phase of your life journey. Many of us here do not know where we would have ended up, if you hadn't suggested to us, to make our home at Currie Park, Euroa.

For myself, I've lived here for 15 years and in Euroa for 17 years.

I find the peacefulness and the surrounding gardens are what I need at this stage in my life. With the benefit of caring staff and a few friends.

Karen, you have always had our best interests at heart and are always contactable if any issue arose that needed attention by you or OCAV (now Abound Communities). For 27 years you have worked for OCAV and in that time acquired so much information to pass on as needed. For this we "thank you".

All Currie Park residents sincerely wish you a wonderful retirement and whatever you may pursue in the future. Your caring and kindness will be an asset in whatever you do.

Finally, Karen. Thanks for all you have done for us, including me personally."

Career Highlights:

- Over a quarter of a century caring for our elders
- Housed and cared for over 1000 people over the journey
- Always advocating for the needs of residents
- Made a real difference in the lives of our people



Retro Café at Liscombe House is a hit

Funded by Collier Charitable Fund and an absolute pleasure amongst our residents and staff, the coffee cart has become more than just about hot beverages. Tuesdays and Thursdays between 1.30 pm- 2.30 pm is a time to unwind, a time to socialise, a time to talk to friends and lend an ear.

All the things we missed doing during the Victorian lockdowns, can now be celebrated. Face-to-face connections, sharing the same dining table, walking past other residents, and exchanging stories. We are thrilled to see how much the Retro Café is used and loved.

Staff have been busy on average making 43 - 56 drinks per hour. In July 2022, Mandy and her team set a new record making 57 coffees in less than one hour.

The Retro Café also gives the senior managers a chance to also join in on Tuesdays and Thursdays, when possible, to grab a cuppa and catch up with other staff and our amazing Liscombe House residents. The café makes you feel welcome and is always enjoyable.

The coffee cart started in the Currie Wing dining room and was an instant success. So much so that Mandy and her team ran out of space and had to move to the Liscombe dining room to enable everyone to be part of it. This has proved to be a great move. At the beginning of 2022, families were only able to come to the café if they sat out in the courtyard with their resident loved ones, however now visitors are able to come to the Liscombe dining room. This truly warms our hearts.

Thank you, Mandy, Adrian, Susan, Cinzia, Vicki, Christine and Marj (Volunteer) for the amazing work you do.



In the 12 months to 30 June 2022, the coffee cart produced:



4531
coffees

3479
resident coffees

971
staff coffees

81
volunteer / visitor coffees

Our impact

We are all aware of our ageing population and the implications this has for our economy. Our older people are facing life changing challenges as so many face the ever growing dilemma of finding safe, affordable housing and care. Older single women are particularly at risk of moving into homelessness, at a time in their lives when we, as a society, should be doing far more.

About Communities has been delivering affordable housing and care solutions for older Victorians for over 150 years. Today we care for and support over 500 people in an environment where wellbeing is paramount. Our Social Return On Investment analysis demonstrates our impact:

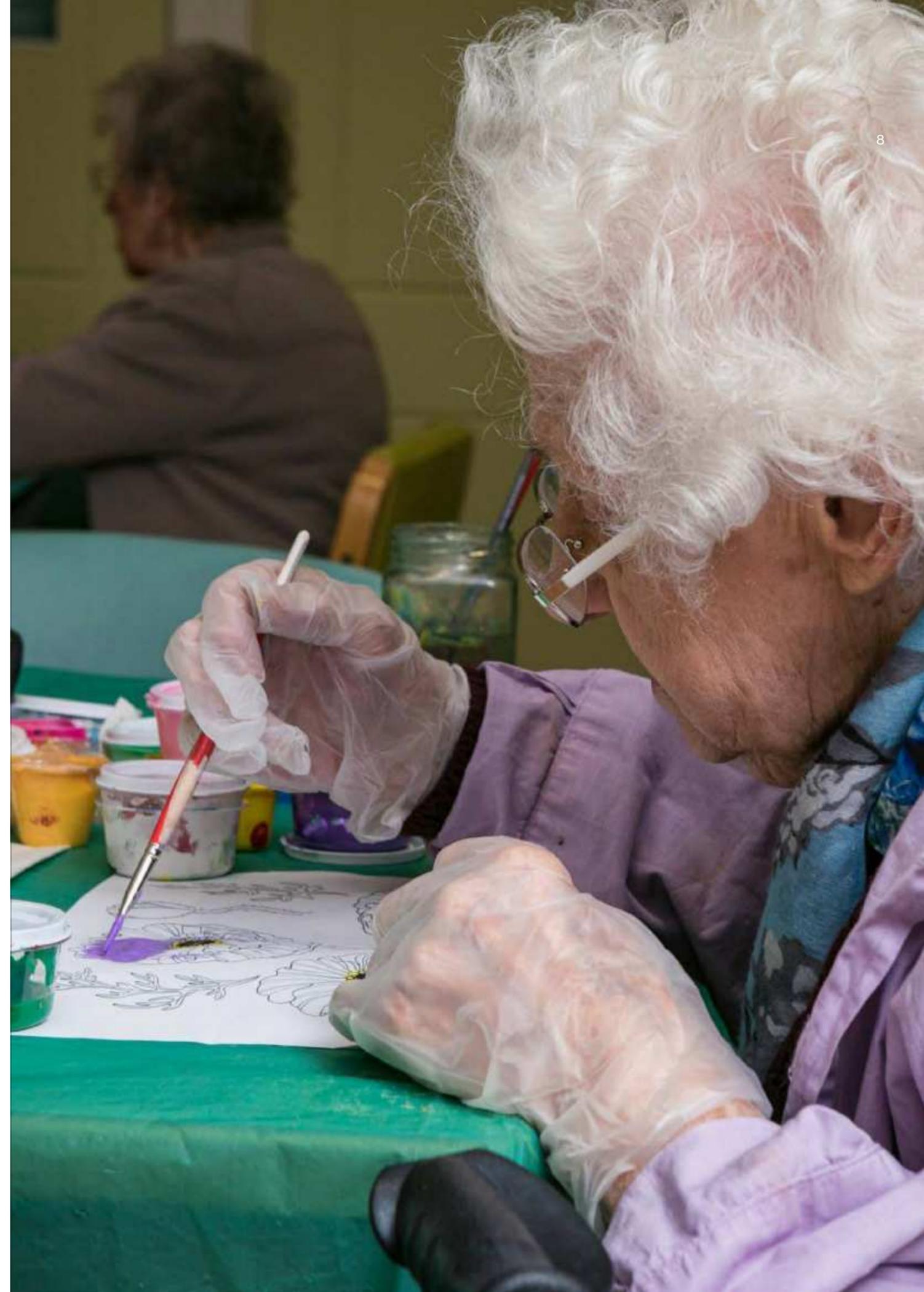
- Every dollar invested in About Communities creates over **\$7 in value** for our residents, the broader community and Federal and State governments
- Our model adds **\$9 million in value** each year by improving the wellbeing of our residents and reducing the cost of health care
- Providing homes for people who may otherwise require public housing saves government **\$1.6 million each year**
- **Over half of our residents** were homeless or vulnerably housed before joining our communities
- **Over 80% of our residents are single older women**
- Our longevity demonstrates that **our model works**

We alone have **over 1,000** older Victorians on our waiting list, people clearly value the continuum of care we offer. Having recently completed **over \$30 million** in affordable housing projects and with plans for a major upgrade to our aged facility, Liscombe House, in 2023 we stand ready to do more to house and care for older Victorians in need. About Communities takes great pride in offering affordable, reliable and secure housing to the elderly.



“I used to worry when the phone rang. What does she want? What has happened? That doesn't exist anymore, 100% because of About Communities.”

- About Communities
Resident Family Member





Independent Living, Assisted Living and Aged Care



Independent Living

The past year has been active for our independent living residents across all four villages. Our residents and activities committees have been the leaders in planning events and celebrations to mark special occasions across the year. These included:

- Australia Day
- Valentine's Day
- St Patricks Day
- Family Fun Afternoon
- Biggest Afternoon Tea
- Elder Abuse Awareness Day
- NAIDOC week
- Pyjama Day
- Aged Care Employee Day
- R U OK? Day
- Footy Season Fun
- Pink Ribbon Day
- Oaks Day
- Christmas

Residents continue to have a strong voice in our community and participate in regular surveys to determine resident satisfaction within retirement villages. During the year over 350 activities were organized across all villages by our team and activities' committees including the coffee cart, chat 'n chew, armchair exercise, carpet bowls, dress-up days, book clubs, and happy hours. All villages have benefited from different talks on issues ranging from fire safety, healthy ageing, wills, post-covid communications, elder abuse, along with celebrating birthday and anniversary milestones. The intergenerational project with Fitzroy High School VCAL students continues with Rushall Park residents.



Assisted Living

Services to ensure our assisted living residents remain well continue to be organised, including visits from podiatrists, eye care, and hearing specialists to each village. Our hairdressing salons are always a hit with our residents, to be freshened up but also equally to be part of conversations and to catch up with friends in the village. Ageing well continues to be one of Abound Communities' mantras with our staff and residents alike, working hard to keep healthy, active, and happy. Assisted living residents, like all residents, continue to receive daily check in's. We encourage and support our assisted living residents to remain connected and engaged both within and outside their village.



Aged Care

Liscombe House residents have continued to enjoy creative endeavours with the knit and natter group, men's group, drumming, Lego building and puzzles. The Wednesday playgroup has proven very popular and with the growing confidence of the toddlers, interactions are increasing, and relationships are building. We all get great satisfaction engaging with residents and staff, and again being able to meet and interact face-to-face. Nothing says this more than some enthusiastic young children running around.

With a monthly themed staff dress up day everyone has something fun to look forward to, with residents getting involved and dressing up as well. The annual family fun afternoon created a carnival atmosphere at Liscombe House with Liscombe and Leith Park residents and friends and families enjoying slushies, face painting, balloon animals, games, a petting zoo, pottery demonstrations and of course the traditional sausage sizzle.

While we remain in face masks in Residential Aged Care for resident safety, things are slowly returning to a new normal and we are reminded of the importance of connections and how much we rely on each other each and every day.

About Communities turns shades of green

About Communities is committed to becoming an energy-efficient and sustainable community.

One of the first steps undertaken has been to conduct energy audits at both Braeside Park and Currie Park. These will form the basis to guide us in the first stage of our sustainability program to be rolled out across all our villages.

In the meantime, our residents and our team are pushing forward on several fronts towards becoming plastic free and having zero waste.

At Braeside Park we are aiming to go completely plastic free by the end of the year and there are further plans to switch to reusable alternatives across the site.

Next steps in the campaign are to do an inventory of the single-use plastic items, including plastic plates, bowls and cups, bin bags, tea bags and water bottles and moving to alternatives. People often think that swapping single use plastic for bamboo, cardboard or compostable plastics is the answer however these still put considerable pressure on our environment, and we must all seek out better solutions.

Conversations about how we can make a difference are now happening across all our villages.

At Rushall Park, residents and staff are now involved in a cardboard collection service with the City of Yarra. The village is one of 50 sites chosen across the council's jurisdiction taking part in the trial.

The aim of the trial is to help determine whether a separate cardboard collection will improve the way we manage cardboard recycling. The shift in consumer behaviour, particularly through Covid-19, toward online purchasing has dramatically increased the amount of cardboard that each household needs to dispose of. We are working with the City of Yarra to come up with viable alternatives in handling cardboard waste.



Liscombe House solar system

 **119.29** mWh of energy generated

 **127.64** tonnes of CO₂ emissions saved - this is equivalent to 3900 – 5600 trees extracting CO₂

<p>Braeside Park</p> <p> 46 are women</p> <hr/> <p> 4 are men</p> <hr/> <p> 6 people aged 90 plus</p>	
<p>Currie Park</p> <p> 14 are women</p> <hr/> <p> 13 are men</p> <hr/> <p> 1 person aged 90 plus</p>	
<p>Rushall Park</p> <p> 160 are women</p> <hr/> <p> 36 are men</p> <hr/> <p> 15 people aged 90 plus</p>	
<p>Leith Park & Liscombe House</p> <p> 184 are women</p> <hr/> <p> 50 are men</p> <hr/> <p> 40 people aged 90 plus</p>	



What Abound Communities is all about

Janet Creighton is all smiles as she explains what volunteering at Abound Communities has done for her.

Janet arrived at Rushall Park on the 17th of October 2014 with her late husband, Kenelm.

Volunteering has always been dear to her heart. Previously living in Noosa, Janet regularly spent time at the Regional Art Gallery and the Adfas where she volunteered doing setups, activities, family fun days, waitressing, meal prepping, and cooking. A year after arriving at Abound Communities, Janet helped with baking goods for the Friday Kiosk and assisted as a waitress once a month where she worked alongside staff members and other volunteers getting the dining area ready for mealtimes and setting up.

During her time at Abound, Janet also joined the Residents Committee and taken on the role of being a welcomer. She welcomes new residents to Rushall Park, gives each person a tour of our grounds and facilities, gives an orientation, and most importantly, ensures everyone feels welcome, wanted, and cared for. Janet's time and effort into making another person feel special is what our organization is all about, her values align with ours and she is what our incredible volunteers do.

These days, apart from reading, going to the ballet, going to the movies, and seeing her sister, you will find her writing up notes and schedules on the activity board, helping with our volunteering groups, and always being a generous and welcoming part of Abound Communities.

"I just want to give everyone a happy experience. I want our residents to know myself and the other volunteers want to ensure they have a safe and comfortable place to go". Janet explains that volunteering enables her to have conversations with the residents and to really get to know everyone, she enjoys it and feels blessed to be at Abound Communities.

“Volunteering gives me a sense of purpose, a sense of belonging, and a sense of wellbeing.”



Mary continues to be part of our family

Mary first learned about the organisation when she worked as an accountant for a local yarn distributor in the Banyule area and used to collect spare yarns which were donated to Abound Communities, for residents to knit with.

Mary is no stranger to the organisation and has been volunteering with Abound Communities for almost 20 years. She has received an award from the Order of Australia and from the Banyule City Council for her volunteering efforts, and contributions to the local community. Mary does several volunteering activities including driving the bus for the residents' café outings and contributes her time to the library reading sessions.

"Some of the residents I read to are either visually or hearing impaired, so some find it hard to join in other activities. By reading to them, it can best suit their interest as well as an opportunity to keep the residents up to date with daily news and ongoings."



I find volunteering to be a fulfilling and rewarding experience. Being able to speak to the residents, I enjoy their company and little chats, and hopefully, they enjoy mine, too.

Volunteers are part of our Abound Communities Family, and we truly appreciate each one of them.

Thank you Mary, we are thankful for all of your hardwork, connection and guidance.



181
volunteers



4,592
hours contributed
by volunteers



139
volunteers are women



42
volunteers are men



68
volunteers at
Rushall Park



92
volunteers at Leith Park
and Liscombe House



9
volunteers at
Currie Park



14
volunteers at
Braeside Park



Peter Hill. The Nomad and The Hermit: Lighthouses, Lockdowns, and Travels in the Art World

Peter Hill is content and settled. He has a base. He feels blessed to be living in a creative place, which is right up his alley. He says Currie Park is a great place to live, especially for the creative person.

Peter was born in Glasgow in 1953 to an Australian mother and Scottish father. He is an award-winning author and artist. He is one of our 28 wonderful residents, who currently live in Currie Park, Euroa, a regional town with a population of 3508.

Peter has lived at Currie Park for roughly 18 months. Prior to that, between the years 2017-2021, he was doing a round-the-world lecture tour called Fake News and Superfictions and giving readings from his book *Stargazing, memoirs of a young lighthouse keeper*. This took him to Berlin, London, Ireland, Scotland, America, Indonesia, and around most of Australia.

Around 2020 Peter found himself in a tricky situation in Sydney when COVID brought his travels to an end, and house prices and rents were too prohibitive. For a while, he lived in Young, New South Wales, with good friend and former gallery dealer Judith Pugh (formerly married to Clifton Pugh, the double Archibald Prize-winning painter). Through Judith, he heard about Abound Communities.

He spoke on the phone to Abound Communities' previous Resident Co-Ordinator Karen Ernest. She advised him the wait list in Rushall Park was over 10 years. However, there was a peaceful and harmonious village called Currie Park which he could call home if he liked the feel of it. Peter was excited by this news and took the train from Sydney to Euroa, with a few stopovers on the way.

This was around March 2021, when he accepted the unit. He liked the community, and he liked the people, and he just felt at ease. The decision to call Currie Park home was simple. He returned to Sydney, he had enough possessions and artworks to fill a ute, and he was on his way to Euroa.

Within 3 days of arriving, one of the hardest-hitting lockdowns hit Victoria. Peter said that was a hard time for everyone, but the community was comforting and the distance of Euroa almost made him feel secluded from the political dramas. He is ecstatic that the lockdowns have eased, and he enjoys the quiet of Euroa with easy access to the art galleries of Melbourne. He still has a busy schedule and is working on a new memoir called *The Nomad and The Hermit: Lighthouses, Lockdowns, and Travels in the Art World*.

Peter often says that artists and writers never retire, they just keep doing what they most enjoy. Peter currently spends his days writing, making art, and networking. He also likes to go down to the local restaurant and bar and listen to musicians. Often after a day of being in town, typically at the local bookstore, on his return to Currie Park, he will find his bicycle getting its tires pumped by Abound Communities' maintenance staff, which makes him feel extra welcome and looked after.

All the staff and his fellow resident neighbours have been kind and welcoming to Peter, he says. It's just wonderful having people around him who also share the same interests. In September this year, Peter travelled to Rushall Park to give a *Stargazing* reading. He was delighted to interconnect with another village and catch up with other residents who have an interest in reading and artmaking. He thanks Lou Anderson for organising this.

This is what Abound Communities sings, the essence of support, community, and peace.

Even though Peter continues to be busy with writing for art magazines, giving book readings, examining PhDs, collaborating with other creatives, and making art, he is ever thankful for Abound Communities and the new home and ready-made family it has given him in Euroa. It provides a great deal of comfort and joy knowing how happy our residents are.

“ This is what Abound Communities sings, the essence of support, community, and peace. ”

Images: Peter Hill at his *Stargazing* book reading. Peter traveled from Currie Park to Rushall Park for the reading. Image courtesy Sue Neal.



Property update and improvements across our villages

At Abound Communities we are always looking to improve the built and living environment for our residents.



Images: Top - Tony at Currie Park.
Bottom - Currie Park shed.

Men's shed

Abound Communities received a generous grant from Perpetual Trustees through the Ian Rollo Currie Estate Foundation, for the renovation of the existing men's shed at Leith Park. A working group was formed that included staff and "men shedders" to develop a plan to extend the footprint of the shed with additional ramps for wheelchair accessibility, new tools and equipment for their larger projects. This project encouraged cooperation and transparency between residents and staff and the outcome was a spacious area for our residents and a lasting bond between all parties involved. The new area provides 40% additional space and acts as a central hub for blokes to hang out and undertake a wide range of projects.

Pohlman Avenue Underpinning

Many of the beautiful Rushall Park cottages are well over 100 years old and the foundations that hold them up are of similar age. In recent times, there has been significant ground movement which has impacted these foundations. We aim to preserve these beautiful buildings and engaged a professional foundational underpinning expert to assess and rectify this issue and were able to stabilise the footings by injecting a construction resin. While quite an expensive exercise, preserving these buildings for future generations is something we take very seriously.

McArthur Avenue Decking

The area to the rear of 1, 3, and 5 McArthur Avenue and 47 Coppin Avenue at Rushall Park has for some time, needed an upgrade. Three out of date and somewhat dilapidated sheds were demolished and several small trees were removed in preparation for a larger outdoor sitting area. An architect was engaged to ensure design met both heritage and accessibility standards. The finished product is now something that provides an outdoor space for residents living in the area, to come together and engage in a pleasant social setting.

Replacement Pergola Roofs

The rear pergolas to our units at Currie Park are showing their age. The clear polycarbonate roof has been collecting lichen moss, and with the help of the local cockatoos, they have developed cracks and holes. Our maintenance and garden team commenced a replacement program of the roofing material and will continue the changeover throughout the year into 2023 to ensure the standard of the outdoor living environment for our residents is maintained.

Electronic swipe accessible gates

The installation of an electronic swipe card system for all Rushall Parks' external pedestrian gates, has made the lives of our residents easier. Rather than fumbling around in the dark searching for keys that sometimes don't open the gate due to the complexity of the locks. They can now use their keyring fobs to swipe and enter through the pedestrian gates. Accessibility and resident safety are the winners in this project.

Greenhouse

A much-anticipated Greenhouse was purchased for the use of our gardeners and residents to propagate plants for the village. A location was selected near Liscombe House to ensure accessibility for all. The gardening and maintenance teams worked together to pour a new concrete slab and to construct the 3.3m x 3.5m greenhouse. The greenhouse is now a popular gathering point for residents and staff alike.

Gamble Hall Upgrade

The Gamble Community room at Braeside Park is undergoing a facelift with works commencing to modernise the area including painting, new kitchen, curtains, and carpet. The new interior design has created a light contrast in the dining room and with the new kitchen, will continue to supply beautiful home cooked meals for our residents.

The Simpson People Mover

For many years at Leith Park, you would see Little Hillary transporting residents from the village up and down our somewhat steep roads to appointments at Liscombe House, or to the bus stop on the main road. It was time to upgrade Hillary and send her into retirement to the flatter terrain of Rushall Park. Leith Park purchased a new 6-seater electric buggy named Simpson after one of our long-term residents, Don Simpson. The new vehicle is far more age friendly, and residents are enjoying their rides around the village in more comfort.

Brian Blythe & Lucy Coppin Garden

In Rushall Park, the area between the Brian Blythe and Lucy Coppin apartments was used as a builders' dumping ground, whilst construction of the new apartments was underway. Post completion our gardening team devised a plan, in consultation with our residents, to create an outdoor space where the residents could sit in the sun and enjoy the world passing them by. This area has been landscaped with repurposed rock edging from another part of Rushall Park, pavers and lawn to finish off the beautiful outdoor area for all to enjoy.

Dry Creek Bed

Leith Park has received a generous grant from the City of Banyule for landscaping the dry creek bed at the front of the estate. The purpose of the grant was to create a natural environment and habitat for wildlife and birds to find sanctuary in the ever-expanding urban outlay of our suburbs. Our gardening team worked with one of our gardeners from Rushall Park to plant 2,000 plants, lay large river rocks, install a water station and 12 bird boxes. There will be a display case with information on the plants in that area, with 3 bench seats to be installed by the end of 2022.



AIA Awards win for Leith Park and Rushall Park

During the year two of Abound Communities major housing projects were awarded 2021 Victorian Architecture Awards in the Residential Architecture Multiple Housing category.



Rushall Park received a Commendation and Leith Park, an Architecture Award with the Jury citing:

“At a time when aged care is in the spotlight, this project presents an uplifting example of the typology. The most successful move is in the form of oversized, connecting, covered walkways which expand to form seating opportunities. These comfortable, open-air spaces encourage unplanned interactions and are just one example of the client and architects’ great sensitivity in considering the residents’ needs.”

Both developments were designed by MGS Architects.

Leith Park was awarded for the design which, according to the jury, shows great sensitivity in considering the needs of the residents.

Rushall Park was commended for its design which “has enabled a thriving community of older citizens housed in dignified yet low-cost contemporary row housing, imbued with respect and joy.”

MGS Architects spokesman Rob McGauran welcomed the awards as a win for affordable housing. He congratulated Abound Communities for its vision to continue investing in safe, affordable, and secure housing for older Victorians.



The multi-million-dollar developments provide 81 new homes. The apartments – a mix of one and two-bedroom units – are already setting standards for affordable housing. Each apartment is built to dementia and age-friendly guidelines – a commitment made by Abound Communities which is a Victorian Government Age Friendly Community. They also follow the Liveable Housing Design Guidelines’ gold standard design principles, and enjoy a six-star energy rating.

Jury Chair Vanessa Bird said the most successful design move was the oversized, connecting covered walkways which expand to form seating and viewing opportunities across the village.

“Where isolation of residents is a concern, these informal and comfortable, open-air spaces encourage unplanned interactions and allow residents to meet and socialise on neutral territory,” she said.

Another design standout was the way in which the multi-level cluster of units sat comfortably in the surrounding village and its natural environment.

Rushall Park’s development, occupying an extremely long and narrow sliver of remnant land adjacent to the rail line, was commended for the way in which it visually connected to the picturesque heritage-listed village.

These units are now providing affordable housing for over 100 older Victorians and will house thousands of people in need over their lives in a community where they are engaged, supported and cared for.

“ The most successful move is in the form of oversized, connecting, covered walkways which expand to form seating opportunities. ”

Retirement villages hold a key to providing affordable housing in Victoria

Abound Communities has called on the Victorian government to reinvest in the independent living retirement village sector and to make it easier for not-for-profit providers with a successful housing track record to become community housing providers.

The call was made in our submission to the Victorian government's ten-year social and affordable housing strategy for Victoria. We have called out the government for barely mentioning the housing needs of older people in the consultation paper, this is despite the paper listing the elderly as one of four areas under 'changing profile of need.'

The Government should produce more housing that is suitable for and available to older people at risk of homelessness, and especially older women. It is time for affordable housing to be treated as essential infrastructure and not a nice-to-have policy. The pandemic has exposed the cracks in the housing system and highlighted the critical link between safe, secure, and affordable housing and good health and wellbeing, particularly in older age.

From Abound Communities perspective, little advance can be made in Victoria unless the Federal Government legislates for affordable housing.

The International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, to which Australia is a signatory, recognises the right to adequate housing in Article 11. However, at a domestic level, Australia currently does not legally recognise housing as a human right. Both France and Scotland have codified the right to adequate housing, while UK legislation places a responsibility on local government to provide housing for those in need.

We have also noted the tax system that incentivises multiple home ownership as a financial asset and drives up its price. The assumption built into the Australian retirement housing system is that on retirement, people own their own homes. This is absolutely not the case for all older people, and for single women, it is even less likely.

There is a significant gap in wealth and asset accumulation between men and women. Pension payments do not cover basic living expenses, particularly for those in the private rental market.

Looking for immediate solutions, Abound Communities believes that the government could make far better use of retirement living providers who now provide affordable housing to older Victorians and who could do much more.

We can scale up with the appropriate investment at the right time. We need the government to change affordable housing eligibility and registered housing provider requirements to allow organisations such as ours to play a more active part.

“The potential is there, just open the door and talk with us.”



From the Director of Nursing

Liscombe House



The last year has been one of reopening and welcoming people back to Liscombe House. Whilst face masks and shields remained for much of the year, with the introduction of daily Covid-19 rapid antigen testing for staff and visitors, we have been able to slowly return to a more normal life. No longer is a Covid-19 positive staff member or resident an automatic lockdown for the whole facility, we can now just isolate the individual and allow everyone else to continue to use common areas, see family and friends and carry-on enjoying life as usual.

The opening of the doors between wings in the last year has also seen the coming together of the whole facility. Having residents able to attend any activity in any wing allows more choice and greater social interaction. Opening the Anne Jeffery wing also aids in reducing some more challenging behaviours, as residents are not 'locked in' and can freely mobilise across all areas and enjoy the different courtyards.

The new aged care quality standards remind us all that the resident is the centre of all that we do and it is what they want to do that guides their care. This has necessitated a shift in thinking for us all as it moves the focus from avoidance of risk and protection to dignity of risk and managing risk in consultation with residents. It has also provided a fantastic opportunity to review our practices and question if they are truly resident focussed. It is this ongoing questioning of practice that allows for the opportunity to grow and change, positive for everyone involved.

Training has remained predominately on-line this year, however, it has not prevented staff from engaging in a range of different training opportunities. Aged Care Learning Solutions delivered training in Fire Safety, Management of Unexpected Deterioration, Dementia

Care, Documentation, Collaboration, and Communication, Infection Prevention and Control, Swallowing Difficulties and Choking, Enablement and Optimising Wellbeing, Continence Management, About Me Standard 1, Chemical Restraint, Covid-19, Medication Safety, Serious Incident Response Scheme (SIRS), Domestic Violence Against Older Women, Restrictive Practices, The IDDSI Framework and Older People, Professional and Proud: part 1 Qualities and Attitudes, and part 2 Ethics and Informed Consent. First Aid, Fire and Evacuation, Manual Handling, Continence management and Chemical training have all occurred in person on-site for staff.

Continuous Improvements in the last 12 months have included improving access to outdoor areas for residents and improving shelter and sitting areas. We have increased menu choices and offering a weekly hot breakfast, improving the living environments of all wings with updated window furnishings, refreshing common areas, and dining rooms in Currie and Anne Jeffery wings. The introduction of an onsite fortnightly playgroup and commencing plans and setting deadlines for a significant refurbishment of the facility. This is amongst many other improvements made to improve the quality of life and support choice and decision-making for all residents.



ENJOY for Independence in Dementia NARI

Older people who do regular physical activity at Seniors Exercise Parks show significant improvements in physical and mental health and wellbeing, new research by the National Ageing Research (NARI) Institute published in BMC Geriatrics shows.



Since 2019 Leith Park residents have been taking part in national research looking at whether Seniors Exercise Parks yield significant improvements in physical and mental health.

The research findings, published in BMC Geriatrics, is clear: those who do regular exercise showed significant improvements in physical strength and functional mobility, which were sustained long term.

Abound Communities residents have been working with the National Ageing Research Institute in the ENJOY Seniors Exercise Park physical activity program over the past three years. The exercise park was formally launched in August 2019 but research had started before. The program was brought to an abrupt halt due to the pandemic.

“Physical activity is very important for people living with dementia, it offers great physical, social, and cognitive health benefits.”

Leith Park residents took part in the ENJOY program alongside residents from Whittlesea City Council and Wyndham City Council. The program has been supported through Gandel Philanthropy.

In all, 80 people aged over 60 underwent a 3-month structured supervised physical activity program, which was followed by 6 months of unstructured, independent use of the exercise park. The exercise was conducted in groups, followed by a social morning tea.

Participants were assessed at baseline, 3 months, and 9 months and were evaluated for physical activity, physical function, and health-related quality of life measures.

The results showed that:

- at 3 months: there was a significant increase in physical activity levels including improvements in physical function, self-rated quality of life, and wellbeing. This was combined with a reduced fear of falls, depressive symptoms, and loneliness.
- at 9 months: there were sustained levels of physical activity, improved physical function, reduced fear of falls and reduced risk of falls.

The NARI research shows when you create accessible outdoor environments that encourage and provide opportunities for older people to engage in physical activity and social interaction, they will participate. And this is critical for healthy ageing.

With higher sedentary behaviour and physical inactivity reported among older people, it is important to encourage older people to engage with activities they enjoy. For people living with dementia participation in physical and social activities is crucial for optimising their health and independence especially for people living in aged care facilities. NARI in collaboration with Abound Communities, will be using the Seniors Exercise Park to also examine the benefits of the park to people living with dementia at Leith Park as part of a pilot study.

The pilot study, ENJOY for Independence in Dementia is currently underway, and will evaluate the feasibility of delivering the Seniors Exercise Park program for people living with mild to moderate dementia in residential aged care. The ENJOY program for Independence in Dementia will determine the suitability of the Seniors Exercise Park program for people diagnosed with mild to moderate dementia. Outcomes could inform future design of dementia-friendly built environments to increase physical activity participation for residential aged-care facilities.

We give credit and appreciation to:

- Leith Park staff
- Alzheimer's Association®
- Lark Industries
- Lappset Group
- ENJOY team led by Prof Pazit Levinger, the National Ageing Research Institute



To watch the video please scan the QR code or search for "ENJOY for Independence in Dementia NARI" on YouTube.

A fascination with compost results in a bequest for Abound Communities



Dr Isabella Younger Ross is not a family name in Victoria, but it ought to be.

She established Victoria's first drop-in baby health clinic in Richmond., and she was a leading advocate for fresh food, breastfeeding and gardening.

Which is how she became a Life Governor of OCAV (now known as Abound Communities), sat on its Council, and eventually bequeathed the then princely sum of 500 pounds to the Association.

Dr Younger Ross first visited Rushall Park in 1943 as a member of the Victorian Compost Society. There she met with Richard Weller, the Secretary/Superintendent, who was a keen composter. He had started experimenting with the Indore method, which apparently created more nutritious compost as evidenced in the flourishing vegetable gardens.

Dr Younger Ross was fascinated by the simple brick and timber composting shells. She began sending compost novices to Rushall Park to learn more about what the association was doing and the benefits it was enjoying.

In 1944, Dr Younger Ross was invited to join the Council, and for three years was a member of the Building and Medical Sub-Committees. Two years later, and through her insistence, the Abound Communities book of minutes reported that more compost bins had been built "to enable all garden waste to be conserved and made into compost, instead of being burned. Compost making is being continued, and the Council expects better results next year, as more ground will be treated."

Over the next few years, Abound Communities composting successes were heralded across Victoria and Tasmania. The Rushall Park gardens became a 'showpiece and demonstration site' for the Victorian Compost Society Indore methods.

Shortly afterwards, Dr Younger Ross stepped off the Council. She died in 1956 leaving a bequest to be spent at the organisation's discretion.

“ The Rushall Park gardens became a 'showpiece and demonstration site' for the Victorian Compost Society Indore methods. ”

Thank you



Our donors are pivotal to our work. We value our donors because, without them, our mission would not be realised. We also thank our volunteers for their infectious energy, enthusiasm, and expertise.

Partner	Amount	Project
Edward Davies Trust	\$64K	Bequest (recurring)
Estate of Hartley (Bruce) Harris	\$102K	Bequest (once off)
Aged Person Welfare Foundation	\$19K	Liscombe House Beds
Marian and Flack Trust	\$20K	Community room and garden
City of Banyule	\$9K	Men's health and wellbeing
City of Banyule	\$10K	Dry Creek Bed
FRRR	\$14K	Energy Audit (Currie Park)
Ian Rollo Currie Estate	\$100K	Liscombe House Bus*

Bequests and Abound Communities

All donations to Abound Communities over \$2 are tax deductible. Bequests to Abound Communities are welcomed.

If you have included Abound Communities in your Will or if you would like further information please contact Abound Communities on 03 9481 9300.

Image: National Seniors Cheque Presentation at Greensborough RSL. (L-R) Tamyln Carr (Banksia Palliative Services), Bob Goodyear (Acting Vice President, Greensborough National Seniors Australia), Michelle Wood (Banksia Palliative Services), Nabila Yusof, Marlene Goodyear (Secretary, Greensborough National Seniors Australia) Peter Oaten (Acting President, Greensborough National Seniors Australia).

How you can help

Abound Communities is a not-for-profit organisation providing village-style accommodation and support services for older Victorians. Abound Communities works to ensure its residents enjoy a positive experience of ageing, from independent living through to high-level care.

Donations, gifts and bequests are all valuable sources of income that allow us to provide added services and amenities to enhance the quality of life for our residents.

We receive no government assistance for the construction, maintenance or upgrade of our independent and supported living homes, or to provide support to those living in our accommodation.

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible and all bequests are exempt from State and Commonwealth duties.

“For every \$1 invested in Abound Communities, \$7.41 of value is created.”



Make a donation

Your donation, no matter how large or small, will help us fund new programs and buildings, or upgrade our independent and assisted living homes. Donations may be made online at: www.aboundcommunities.org.au



Volunteer

Gain new skills and experience while giving back to the community. Meet new people and discover a new passion. The benefits of volunteering are endless!



Leave a bequest

Leaving a bequest to Abound Communities is a special way of leaving a gift for generations to come. It also allows us to plan for the long-term future with a greater degree of certainty.



In memoriam gifts

An In Memoriam Gift to Abound Communities is a thoughtful and practical way to remember a relative or friend. These gifts will help ensure that we are able to continue to provide support and accommodation for future older Victorians.



Partner with us

With villages, residents and staff in regional Victoria and metropolitan Melbourne, we can offer a diverse range of activities for business to engage with our work. This includes enhancing your profile by aligning with our brand, pro-bono work, helping to build staff motivation through volunteering and fundraising work, workplace giving and more.



More Information

Please contact Abound Communities
 T: 03 9481 9300
 E: enquiries@aboundcommunities.org.au
www.aboundcommunities.org.au

The Council

President	The Council	Number of meetings
Kevin Neville	Kevin Neville	6 of 6
	Leslie Wood	6 of 6
	Carl Maissan	6 of 6
	Jenny Roche	3 of 3
	Dr Philomena Horsley	6 of 6
	Judy Sharp	6 of 6
	Dr Mary Britton	4 of 6
	Lyndsay Neilson	5 of 6
	Dominique Horne	6 of 6
	Peter Slifirski	4 of 6
Vice President		
Leslie Wood		
Treasurer		
Carl Maissan		
Senior Staff		
Phillip Wohlers, <i>Chief Executive Officer</i>	Finance and Audit Committee	Number of meetings
Kerry Feistl, <i>Director of Nursing</i>	Carl Maissan	3 of 3
Dennis Ly, <i>Financial Controller</i>	Lyndsay Neilson	2 of 3
Nabilla Yusof, <i>Community Engagement Officer</i>	Kevin Neville	3 of 3
Darren Schier, <i>Residents' Coordinator, Leith Park and Currie Park</i>	Care Committee	Number of meetings
Jacqueline Taylor, <i>Residents' Coordinator, Rushall Park and Braeside Park</i>	Judy Sharp	4 of 4
Jon Tupou, <i>Property Manager</i>	Dominique Horne	4 of 4
Jannette Fleming, <i>Home Care Services Manager</i>	Dr Mary Britton	4 of 4
Mila Hodgson, <i>People and Culture Manager</i>	Dr Philomena Horsley	2 of 3
Michelle Ashjaee, <i>Communications Officer</i>	Governance Committee	Number of meetings
	Leslie Wood	4 of 4
	Kevin Neville	4 of 4
	Dr Philomena Horsley	3 of 4
	Lyndsay Neilson	2 of 2
	Dominique Horne	2 of 2
	Development and Innovation Committee	Number of meetings
	Peter Slifirski	2 of 2
	Kevin Neville	2 of 2
	Lyndsay Neilson	1 of 1

Concise Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

Financial Year 2022

Operating performance

Abound Communities operating strategy and financial model are based on our operations – independent living, assisted living and residential aged care – being financially self-sufficient.

We generate operating income from two primary sources: Commonwealth funding of residential aged care and pension-indexed service charges from our independent, assisted living and residential aged care residents. Collectively these cover the costs of delivering our services. Donations and bequests received are generally allocated to specific capital projects and improving resident amenities.

Abound Communities achieved another strong financial result in the financial year ended 30 June 2022 (FY22). Operating revenues were up 4.5% to \$12.6 million while operating expenses rose 2.9% to \$11.7 million. Our operating surplus was thus \$0.9 million or 7.5% of revenue, up from 6.0% of revenue in FY21.

Employee expenses are by far our largest expense, representing 70% of revenues (up 3% year-on-year but down slightly as a percentage-of-revenue). Other operating expense investments during the year included food expenses (up 16% from FY21) and repairs & maintenance (up 17% from FY21 as we caught up maintenance deferred during COVID restrictions). Council rates and insurance were also both up over 10% year-on-year.

Including investment movements, our FY22 comprehensive income was \$1.3 million, consistent with the prior year.

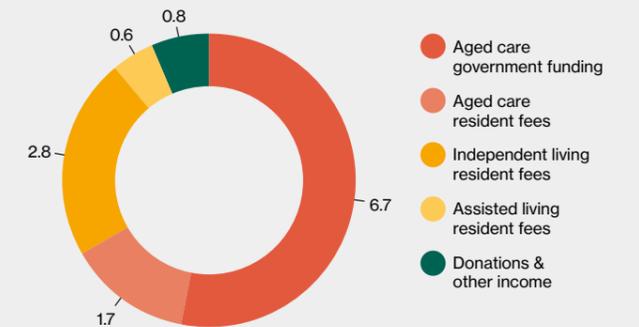
Capital works and other expenditures

The uniqueness of our model primarily rests with our ingoing donations. New independent living and assisted residents are charged a non-refundable means-tested ingoing donation. Our commitment to supporting and housing people in need is demonstrated by our financial model. We aim to take in 50% of new residents who have no financial capacity to pay. The balance of new residents pay a oneoff ingoing donation that is means tested to their financial position and remains highly competitive relative to commercial retirement village operators and our residents are not required to pay an up front amount to move into our aged care facility Liscombe House.

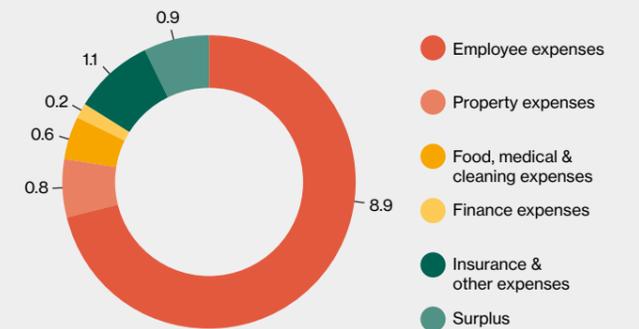
These ingoing donations contribute to the capital works to maintain and enhance the built environment at our villages for the long term.

From an accounting perspective (where ingoing donations are recognised as income over the average length of stay), ingoing donations were \$3.2 million, slightly above our asset depreciation expense of \$2.5 million. From a cash perspective, we collected \$2.7 million in ingoing donations during FY22. These were used to fund capital works of

Operating revenues (\$M)



Operating expenses & surplus (\$M)



\$1.4 million and support the repayment of the remaining \$2.2 million in bank debt from the recent redevelopment works at both Rushall Park and Leith Park.

Financial position

Abound remains in a stable and solid financial position. Cash and financial assets (mostly term deposits) at 30 June 2022 totalled \$3.4 million, up \$0.1 million relative to the prior year, while net assets increased by \$1.2 million during the year. The key highlight is the repayment of the remaining \$2.2 million in bank debt from the recent redevelopment works at Rushall Park and Leith Park. Over the past two years, bank borrowings have reduced from \$6.1 million to under \$0.1 million.

Further information

The Concise Financial Statements for Abound are provided on the following pages. These are derived from the full FY22 audited financial statements, which are available on our website at www.aboundcommunities.org.au.

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
	\$000	\$000
Income		
Residential care government subsidies	6,677	6,413
Independent & assisted living ingoing donations	3,229	2,495
Independent living fees & charges	2,785	2,530
Residential care fees & charges	1,686	1,647
Assisted living fees & charges	648	570
Donations & bequests	272	290
Interest & investment income	167	131
Residential care lease income	165	169
Other government grants	164	128
Miscellaneous income	139	130
Gains (loss) on changes in fair value of financial assets	(92)	59
Total income	15,840	14,562
Expenses		
Employee expenses	(8,890)	(8,609)
Depreciation & impairment losses	(2,530)	(2,368)
Food expenses	(421)	(363)
Repairs & maintenance expenses	(326)	(279)
Rates & services expenses	(307)	(264)
Finance expenses	(236)	(291)
Utilities expense	(213)	(220)
Services & contract expenses	(186)	(193)
Insurance expenses	(155)	(138)
Professional services expenses	(122)	(104)
Medical expenses	(113)	(273)
Cleaning & laundry expenses	(96)	(63)
Audit & other services	(43)	(47)
Printing, stationery & postage	(40)	(47)
Other expenses	(519)	(448)
Total expenses	(14,197)	(13,707)
Surplus (deficit) before tax	1,643	855
Income tax expense	-	-
Surplus (deficit) for the year	1,643	855
Other comprehensive income		
<i>Items that may not subsequently be reclassified to profit or loss:</i>		
Changes to fair value of financial assets	(382)	460
Total other comprehensive income (loss)	1,261	1,315
Total comprehensive income (loss)	1,261	1,315

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
	\$000	\$000
Assets		
Current		
Cash & cash equivalents	2,262	3,103
Trade & other receivables	402	2,115
Financial assets	1,147	152
Prepayments	103	90
Total Current Assets	3,914	5,460
Non-Current		
Financial assets	3,424	3,801
Property, plant & equipment	60,925	62,043
Total non-current assets	64,349	65,844
Total assets	68,263	71,304
Liabilities		
Current		
Trade & other payables	4,847	5,037
Borrowings	-	620
Employee provisions	2,192	2,156
Deferred revenue	2,485	2,547
Total current liabilities	9,524	10,360
Non-current		
Borrowings	30	1,568
Employee provisions	309	308
Deferred revenue	12,214	14,141
Total non-current liabilities	12,553	16,017
Total liabilities	22,077	26,377
Net assets	46,186	44,927
Equity		
Accumulation account	45,899	44,206
Fair value reserve	141	575
Permanent fund	146	146
Total equity	46,186	44,927

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
	\$000	\$000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Receipts from residential care government subsidies	6,702	6,541
Receipts from residential care, assisted & independent living services	5,366	4,691
Receipts from interest and investments	93	141
Receipts from donations & bequests	537	290
Payments to suppliers & employees	(11,356)	(11,033)
Interest paid	(8)	(25)
Net cash generated by operating activities	1,334	605
Cash flows from investing activities		
Receipts from sale of plant & equipment	-	33
Payments for property, plant & equipment	(1,412)	(1,991)
Receipts from sale of investments	153	605
Payment for Investments	(1,188)	-
Net cash used in investing activities	(2,447)	(1,353)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Receipts from bank loans	-	391
Repayment of bank loans	(2,221)	(4,412)
Receipts from independent & assisted living ingoing donations	2,713	3,227
Receipts from refundable accommodation deposits	790	1,100
Payments of accommodation bonds & refundable accommodation deposits	(1,010)	(2,263)
Interest paid	-	(25)
Net cash provided by financing activities	272	(1,982)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	(841)	(2,730)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	3,103	5,833
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	2,262	3,103

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Accumulation Account	Fair Value Reserve	Permanent Fund	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Balance at 30 June 2020	43,126	340	146	43,612
Surplus for the year	855	-	-	855
Other comprehensive income (loss)	-	460	-	460
Total comprehensive income (loss) for the year	855	460	-	1,315
Transfer to accumulation	225	(225)	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2021	44,206	575	146	44,927
Surplus for the year	1,641	-	-	1,641
Other comprehensive income (loss)	-	(382)	-	(382)
Total comprehensive income (loss) for the year	1,641	(382)	-	1,259
Transfer to accumulation	52	(52)	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2022	45,899	141	146	46,186

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 1. Basis of preparation

The concise financial statements, including the financial statements and specific disclosures included in the concise financial report, have been derived from the full financial report of the Old Colonists' Association of Victoria T/A Abound Communities.

All amounts are presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$000) unless otherwise stated.

The full financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Old Colonists' Association Act 1955 (as amended), Australian Accounting Standards- Reduced Disclosure Requirements (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commissions Act 2012 in order to satisfy the entity's financial reporting requirements.

A full description of the accounting policies adopted by the Association is provided in the 2022 financial statements. Notes to the accounts are available on the website. (www.aboundcommunities.org.au)

Declaration by Council

In the opinion of the Councillors, the attached financial statements and notes thereto have been derived from the full financial report of the Old Colonists' Association of Victoria.

The financial statements cannot be expected to provide as full an understanding of the financial performance, financial position and financing and investing activities of the Association as the full financial report, which is available on request.

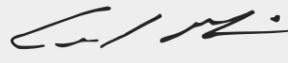
Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Council.

On behalf of the Councillors



K.W. Neville
President

17th October 2022



C. Maissan
Treasurer

17th October 2022



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Melbourne VIC 3008
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Melbourne VIC 3001
T +61 3 8320 2222

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Old Colonists' Association of Victoria

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

We have audited the summary financial report of Old Colonists' Association of Victoria (the "Association"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements and the statement by the Council of the Association, which are derived from the audited financial report of Old Colonists' Association of Victoria for the year ended 30 June 2022.

The summary financial report does not contain all the disclosures required by the Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and accordingly, reading the summary financial report is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report.

In our opinion, the summary financial report of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2022 is consistent, in all material respects, with the financial report from which it was derived.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

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Responsibilities of the Council for the summary financial report

The Council of the Association are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the summary financial report and for such internal control as the Council determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Council is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Council either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Council is responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

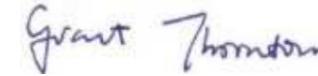
Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Council.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Council's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Council with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants



S C Trivett
Partner – Audit & Assurance

Melbourne, 17 October 2022

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