



2023
**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 model

The traditional retirement village model is predicated on Residents having a property to sell to fund the “buy in” to the village. As a result, a significant (and growing) cohort of people – single women in particular – are priced out and left in insecure rental housing.

On the other side, social and community housing providers are challenged to maintain their financial viability and are typically not able to provide the same degree of community, lifestyle and care services that a “full service” provider could.

Abound Communities’ unique operating model allows us to remain financially sustainable while providing Residents with a high quality community environment at pricing that is truly affordable.

The key pillars of our model are:

- Offering a continuum of care – from independent living to Home Care and assisted living support to Residential Aged Care – under the one organisational umbrella
- Charging a one-off, means-tested ingoing contribution on entry payable only by those who can afford it, and
- For all Residents, charging affordable monthly fees under a 49-year lease, which provides true secure tenure.
- This model is supported by philanthropic donations of land or funds to build homes.

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



to belong

Contents

From the Acting President	1
From the Acting Chief Executive Officer	2
Our Council	3
Our Senior Staff	5
Vale Phillip Wohlers	7
Leith Park	9
Rushall Park	10
Currie Park	11
Braeside Park	12
Liscombe House	13
From the Director of Nursing	13
Residential Care	14
Lifestyle at Liscombe House	15
Home Care	17
Our people and culture	19
Errol celebrates 35 years at Abound Communities	21
Property and environmental initiatives	23
The importance of our six-monthly Resident meetings	25
Abound Communities introduces VitalCALL to its villages	26
Our Volunteers are like family	27
Thank you	30
How you can help	31
The Council	32
Concise Financial Statements	33

Dr Philomena Horsley
Acting President



From the Acting President

Through a combination of intention and happenstance, this year has marked the end of one era for Abound Communities and the commencement of a new era.

At the December 2022 Annual General Meeting, we farewelled a longstanding President with the retirement of Kevin Neville and welcomed into the role our former Treasurer, Carl Maissan. Then, in June this year, we had the shock of the unexpected passing of longstanding Chief Executive, Phillip Wohlers. Phillip played a key role in shaping the organisation in his over 20 years as Finance Manager, then General Manager and Chief Executive.

We're grateful to our Executive team and all our staff for pulling together at this difficult time, and to Carl Maissan for stepping in as Acting Chief Executive while we undertook the search for a new Chief Executive, soon to be appointed. While some things have changed – and will continue to change as we move into 2024 – the cornerstones of Abound Communities remain unchanged.

Last year former President Kevin Neville cited a critical shortage of affordable housing in Victoria and noted that older women are particularly vulnerable to housing insecurity. The past year has only seen further deterioration, with increasing inflation and low rental vacancies putting ever more pressure on disadvantaged and vulnerable populations.

Abound Communities plays an important role in providing not just affordable housing, but also safe and supportive communities in which our Residents can thrive. However, as our waiting lists attest, there is much more to be done. We are keen to work with Government, philanthropists and other partners to deliver solutions to the current housing crisis.

An important aspect of our commitment to delivering a continuum of care to our Residents was brought to life this year with the launch of Home Care services. These will continue to grow and become a valuable part of Abound's service offering in future years.

I'd like to again express my thanks to my fellow Councillors and all our staff for their commitment and dedication to our Residents and our mission more generally.

Carl Maissan
Acting Chief Executive Officer



From the Acting Chief Executive Officer

When I took in the role of President in late 2022, I would never have expected the year that we've had. It's been a year of challenge and growth personally, and something I couldn't have done without the support of Council, the staff and management team, and our Residents and volunteers.

Of course, Abound Communities' mission goes on and, despite some unexpected changes, 2023 has seen a few important initiatives and outcomes achieved.

Our refurbishment of the Liscombe House Aged Care facility is well underway. This \$2.4 million project will see 34 new or fully renovated rooms built, as well as providing improved facilities for staff and Residents alike. The renovation program has meant holding rooms vacant, impacting our 2023 revenue and surplus, but the longer-term benefits absolutely justify the investment. Liscombe House also passed its triennial reaccreditation with flying colours.

Equally exciting, was the launch of our Home Care service line. First launched in May 2023 and now available at all four Abound Communities' villages, our Home Care packages help support our Residents to remain independent as long as possible, with support services provided by the Abound Communities team they know and trust.

It was also pleasing to see the Fair Work Commission and Commonwealth Department of Health recognise the importance of Aged Care workers and the need to attract and retain a high-quality workforce. The wage rate adjustments effective July 2023 have been passed on to staff and we hope they follow through on similar award-rate adjustments to those classifications that didn't benefit from the initial round.

We also continue to invest in our systems, processes and people to ensure that as an organisation we can not only survive for another 150 years, but continue to thrive.

I'm extremely proud of the role Abound Communities plays in the community, and my heartfelt thanks go out to the Residents, staff and volunteers for their contributions to our villages, our community and the organisation.

Our Council



Our Council is the governing body for the Association. Each Councillor is committed to providing good governance, effective financial management and creative innovation as they advocate for older Victorians in need.



Professor Margaret Abernethy
Elected to Council 2022

Maggie is an Emerita Professor at the University of Melbourne and continues to be actively involved at the University through her research and mentoring of students. She is an expert in cost accounting, budgeting, performance management, compensation design and other corporate governance issues. Maggie contributed to leadership within the University as Dean of the Faculty of Business and Economics for more than eight years and also held several other leadership positions. She has considerable experience in the public sector through her contributions as Commissioner for the Monash City Council, her research in schools and hospitals and as a director on several NFP boards.



Niraj Bhojani
Treasurer
Elected to Council 2023

Niraj is a strategic business all-rounder. Currently a senior leader at travel technology scale-up, Rome2Rio, he is a chartered accountant with broad finance, commercial and operations experience. His previous roles were with PwC, NAB, Origin Energy and Lion Dairy & Drinks. Niraj is passionate about building modern, purpose-driven teams that care.



Dominique Horne
Elected to Council 2020

Dominique Horne is a social worker with over 35 years' experience in Aged Care, dementia, family violence and disability. Dominique led the establishment of an Elder Abuse Response Service in 2017. Dominique continues to work supporting older people and building elder abuse capacity within health and community services in Victoria.



Dr Philomena Horsley
Acting President
Elected to Council 2021

Philomena has been a member of NFP Boards and government advisory committees since the 1980s and is a member of the AICD. She works as a research consultant and workforce trainer. Philomena is a medical anthropologist with particular interests in research ethics; ageing and Aged Care and disability care systems; gender and health; and family violence. She also holds positions at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and the University of Melbourne's School of Population Health.



Carl Maissan
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Elected to Council 2015

Carl is an experienced non-executive director, CFO, and board adviser. Carl is currently CFO and investor in two early-stage technology companies. Carl is a Chartered Accountant, a graduate and member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and is a former Director at PricewaterhouseCoopers, where he spent 11 years in a variety of consulting and transaction support roles in Australia, Canada and the USA.



Judy Sharp
Elected to Council 2011

Judy has many years of experience as a social worker and manager of community programs in the aged and disability field and especially in supporting family carers. For many years, she managed the Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre and Carer Links North programs at Merri Community Health Services. More recently, Judy has been a trainer and facilitator of workshops for women in business or management. She is an active Rotarian and is currently president of the Rotary Club of Eltham. Currently, she is a member of both the Care Committee and Development and Innovation Committee.



Peter Slifirski
Elected to Council 2021

Peter is a registered architect (14780) with 30 years in the architecture, property and construction industry and 25 years in senior leadership roles including 20 years in director roles at Architectus leading strategy and business development. Peter provides professional services on major transport, commercial, urban design and education projects.



Kate Stewart
Elected to Council 2022

Kate is a business lover and leader. A hospitality, event and experience specialist with over ten years in community building and delivering sustainable, purposeful solutions. Currently founder of consultancy, EBC Advisory (Every Bit Counts), Kate is a GAICD, graduate of the Williamson Community Leadership Program and experienced board member in the NFP sector. Kate studied business at the University of Melbourne and chairs the Faculty of Business & Economics alumni council. A champion for innovation and tackling ageism.



Dr Catherine Wilson
Elected to Council 2022

Cathy is a Physician (Geriatric Medicine) with experience working across inpatient, outpatient, community and residential care settings. Cathy's focus is on person centred care to support, enable and promote healthy living at any age. Cathy is currently a Geriatrician at Royal Melbourne Hospital and sits on the Clinical Care Committee.

Our Senior Staff

Together our experienced and highly qualified staff deliver quality service and care.



Michelle Ashjaee
Communications Officer

Michelle holds a bachelor's degree in Communications, and is passionate, driven, and has many years of experience working in the not-for-profit sector. Michelle content writes, gathers stories, updates web and social media platforms whilst establishing internal and external communications for Abound Communities. She has highly extensive experience in leading the delivery of effective and tailored communication solutions that are strategic, aligned to organisational objectives to achieve desired outcomes.



Kerry Feistl
Director of Nursing

Kerry is a Registered Nurse with 30 years' experience in Residential Aged Care as a clinician and manager. Kerry has extensive experience in Dementia and Palliative Care in the Aged Care setting. Her passion is personalised care for every Resident, ensuring a holistic approach is provided for each individual. She is also focused on professional development for staff.



Jannette Fleming
Home Care Manager

Jannette has 15 plus years' experience in Home and Community Care, with a background in Home Care Packages. Jannette's passion for Aged Care and Home Care, stems from her belief in individualised care that encompasses the needs of the care recipient, whilst assisting them to retain their independence and dignity.



Faduma Miad
Executive Assistant

Faduma is a graduate of Politics and Communications with professional experience in project management and research in the NFP sector. Her passion for equity in housing and integrity of care for older Australians stems from her background as a volunteer and team leader in numerous community support organisations and international social enterprise projects.



Darren Schier
Resident Relationship Manager
(Leith Park & Currie Park)

Darren has over 30 years of senior management experience including extensive experience in the Aged Care not-for-profit sector, helping elders live their very best lives. Central to Darren's care for our Residents, is his passionate belief that every individual should be treated with respect and equality, deserving of the same rights and without discrimination.



Jacqueline Taylor
Residents' Coordinator
(Rushall Park & Braeside Park)

Jacqueline has been an accredited counsellor and spiritual carer (chaplain) for the last 20 years. Most recently she was the team leader for the carer counselling teams at Merri Health and Carers Victoria. Jacqueline previously set up a community bereavement service for older people on behalf of Cabrini Health, and spent three years developing the National Guidelines for Spiritual Care in Aged Care.



Mila Hodgson
Manager, People and Culture

Mila is a highly qualified and proficient Human Resources professional with an extensive strategic and operational executive leadership background. With significant experience in the Health and Community sectors, Mila has a strong business focus and expertise in strategic change, organisational engagement, delivering leading solutions and driving growth. Her open and inclusive leadership style results in highly motivated and successful teams, striving for and achieving best practice in business excellence. Mila was drawn to work for Abound Communities to support vulnerable people in the community.



Dennis Ly
Financial Controller

Dennis joined Abound Communities in April 2012, overseeing finance and information systems. Dennis holds a Bachelor of Business (Accounting/ Banking and Finance) and is a member of the Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand. Dennis is passionate to utilise his experience at Abound Communities to develop creative ideas and strategies to enable the goal of providing a more sustainable model and affordable living for the elderly.



Carl Maissan
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Carl is an experienced non-executive director, CFO, and board adviser. Carl is currently CFO and investor in two early-stage technology companies. Carl is a Chartered Accountant, a graduate and member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and is a former Director at PricewaterhouseCoopers, where he spent 11 years in a variety of consulting and transaction support roles in Australia, Canada and the USA.



Jon Tupou
Property Manager

Jon is responsible for all four Abound Communities villages and has over 20 years' experience in commercial and domestic construction. He also has extensive experience in contractor and project management, and has worked over 10 plus years in Aged Care as a maintenance manager.



Mandy Williamson
Lifestyle Coordinator

Mandy has been working in Aged Care for over 30 plus years doing a variety of roles. She enjoys working with the older person and their wealth of knowledge. Her aim is to help the older person to be as independent as possible and enjoy their life, as we all would.



Nabila Yusof
Community Engagement Officer

Nabila obtained a Master in International Community Development and Public Health. She also holds a Bachelors Degree in Communications and Psychology. She has professionally contributed to various non for-profit organisations including in the environmental, sexual and reproductive health space and those working with underserved communities. She brings with her more than ten years worth of experience in community engagement, organising, health promotion and building strong relationships with internal and external stakeholders, with a drive to always give back to communities in need.

Vale Phillip Wohlers

(1963 - 2023)



Phillip Wohlers will be remembered in all our hearts, and through that remembering he lives on, with us. He sets us the example of friendship, collegiality, and uncomplaining hard work, all leavened with a fine sense of humour and a gift for storytelling.

Several of these stories related to how Phillip only ever had two jobs. The first was when he started working as a teen for the Moonee Valley Racing Club, and went on to become their CFO, leaving after two decades. It was to the great good fortune of all of us that he then became CEO of what has evolved into Abound Communities.

At times of loss, especially sudden loss, we are often comforted by poetry, sometimes by song, and sometimes by great painting. Christina Rossetti (1830 – 1894) was sister of the Pre-Raphaelite painter Dante Gabriel Rossetti. She was a leading Pre-Raphaelite poet herself, penning the words to *In the Bleak Midwinter and Love Came Down at Christmas*. But it is her poem *Remember* that has brought comfort to so many over the centuries:

Remember

Christina Rossetti

Remember me when I am gone away,
Gone far away into the silent land;
When you can no more hold me by the hand,

Nor I half turn to go yet turning stay.

Remember me when no more day by day
You tell me of our future that you planned:
Only remember me; you understand

It will be late to counsel then or pray.

Yet if you should forget me for a while
And afterwards remember, do not grieve:
For if the darkness and corruption leave
A vestige of the thoughts that once I had,

Better by far you should forget and smile
Than that you should remember and be sad.

Many of you will have known Phillip much longer than I have. However, within seconds (it was as quick as that) of meeting him for my interview to become part of the wonderful community at Currie Park, I felt I was in the presence of a very special person. There was the twinkle in his eye, the special Phillip smile, and the feeling of not being rushed, that he was interested in me and my life. I will always appreciate that. His parting joke, after I signed what he said was a 47-year lease on my new home, was "Let's celebrate together when it's time to renew it." One day, somewhere, somehow, I hope we do.



Illustration courtesy Ruth Gough, Rushall Park Resident.

And no matter how many comfort poems we read, by Christina Rossetti, by W.H. Auden, by Emily Dickinson, or by Robert Louis Stevenson, nothing will chime so much as a remembrance from the heart by someone who knew him, and who many of us know.

I was very moved by the words and thoughts of Yvette Young who looks after us all, as so caringly at Currie Park. Here are a few lines of the tribute she left in our community room:

She speaks I'm sure for all of us at Abound Communities, when she says, "I'm not sure where to start. We were not ready for this. I'm not sure if we could be. You never felt like my boss, you were friend more than boss right from the beginning..."

And concludes: "You carried yourself as a true gentleman. You were my trusted advisor and I feel lost in my role as Supervisor without you. I can only hope that "the Phillip way" has rubbed off on me enough to navigate my way through.

Who am I going to pick on for catching small fish?

And who will call me the Currie Park sheriff?

Phillip, Thank you. Thank you for your unending service and dedication. It was an honour to have known you."

Written by Dr Peter Hill, Currie Park Resident.

With thanks to Yvette Young, Currie Park Supervisor.

Leith Park

Leith Park offers a modern, stylish yet practical approach to retirement living with a choice of spacious and light homes and beautiful landscaped gardens.

The gardens are a feature of Leith Park and are set amidst a canopy of native trees synonymous with the Eltham/Greensborough area. Leith Park is located on St Helena Rd in St Helena, less than 4km from Greensborough. Located a 30 min drive from the Melbourne CBD, Leith Park is a thriving community nestled in amongst a leafy bushland setting.



Highlights of the year

- Propagating for a Purpose Grant from Banyule Council that has seen an area established for use by Residents next to the glasshouse.
- Launch of the monthly "Village Voices" newsletter.
- Revamping of the Hall. Through the hard work of Residents Barbara Waterhouse and Barbara Goodchild, they have changed the feel of the hall into a more welcoming, user-friendly space where Residents can catch up and relax. They have overhauled the great books getting rid of outdated, old copies of things that have been sitting around for years.
- Mosaic workshop provided by Bunnings.
- An introduction to pottery was held by Resident Bob Porter.
- September was a month for Residents who were celebrating milestone birthdays. Some were held separately in the hall during the month with lots of Residents from Leith Park attending.
- The Leith Park Activities Committee runs all the events and has had many functions and bus trip outings.

Leith Park



158
Residents



76%
are women



10
people aged 90 plus

Rushall Park

Situated in the leafy suburb of North Fitzroy, Rushall Park is a heritage-listed retirement village providing independent and assisted living accommodation and support for older Victorians.

The village was established by Victoria's founding fathers in 1869. Cottages built then are still in use today by couples and single Residents who appreciate living in this central, well-serviced location.



Scan the QR code to watch MGS Architects and Abound Communities discuss the works at Rushall Park.



Highlights of the year

- Errol's 35th work anniversary.
- Anzac Day Service organised by Donald Edwards and led by Jo Portlock, with various Residents participating in the service.
- Visits from Kay's Fashions.
- Good Sunday Lunch in July. Phil Robertson cooked up an offal lunch for 20 plus Residents at the Kiosk.
- The Inveni Ensemble performed for Rushall Park Residents in August. The Inveni Ensemble are a group of five talented musicians, they presented their arrangement of JS Bach's 'Art of Fugue'.
- Art exhibitions at the temporary Rushall Park 'Art House': Lou Anderson & Wendy Donald in April. Veronica Andrew & Miklos Szilagyi in September.
- New oven in the SEK Hulme Community Centre kitchen.

Rushall Park



203
Residents



80%
are women



18
people aged 90 plus

Currie Park

At the foothills of the Strathbogie Ranges, close to the Euroa township and next to the Euroa Bush Nursing Hospital, Currie Park is a retirement living community underpinned by friendships and independence.

The village is set in a natural landscaped garden with mature native trees and water features. Currie Park includes a community room, gazebo, ornamental pond and barbecue areas that provide Residents with an enticing setting for informal get-togethers and family gatherings.



Highlights of the year

- Currie Park operating at full occupancy, marking a significant milestone after several years.
- Establishment of Residents group and garden group.
- CFA home fire safety information day.
- An amazing harvest from the Currie Park vegetable garden over summer and too many pumpkins to count over winter.
- New Currie Park signage throughout the park.
- Melbourne Cup Day celebrations.
- Commencement of glass house construction facilitated by a grant.
- Feducci fashion parade and sale.

Currie Park



25
Residents



52%
are women



2
people aged 90 plus

Braeside Park

The Braeside Park village enjoys both the convenience of city living and the village atmosphere of Berwick. Buildings are maintained to a high standard, and grounds and gardens provide charm and ambience.

The village is peaceful, beautiful and feels like home when you walk in. It is conveniently located next to the main shopping centre and close to a range of medical services, including two hospitals.



Highlights of the year

- Refurbishments and modern updates of many cottages and apartments.
- Biggest Morning Tea raising donations for Vic Cancer Council.
- Resident Kathy Evans 90th Birthday morning tea celebration.
- Anzac Day, Residents attend service in Berwick and lay a wreath, followed by a BBQ in our community room.
- Christmas in July outing, bus trip to Caldermeade farm for lunch and afternoon at a winery.
- Residents enjoy Happy hour with a variety of food and BYO drinks every second Friday in our community room.
- Bus trip to Garden World, floral displays, lunch at café and purchase of a Native tree to be planted in our estate as a memorial for Phillip Wohlers.
- AFL Football grand final day celebrations and BBQ.

Braeside Park



48
Residents



90%
are women



4
people aged 90 plus

Liscombe House



Kerry Feistl
Director of Nursing

From the Director of Nursing

The past 12 months have seen the recommendations from the Aged Care Royal Commission come into force. Whilst these bring new challenges to the sector, they keep us all moving forward to a more open, person-centred model of care.

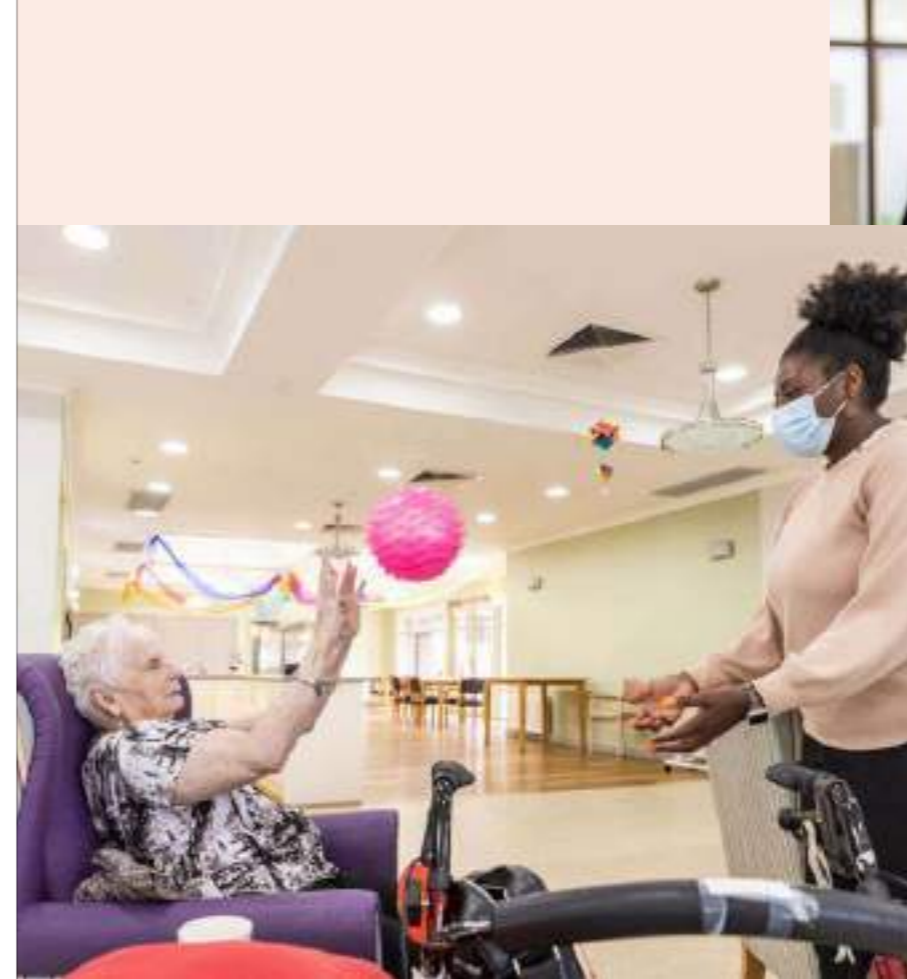
Awareness of the rights and a focus on choice and dignity of the person reminds us that often with no intent, we incrementally remove rights or discourage individual choices. We often do this from a place of care and love where we want to protect the person from harm, but by removing all risk we take away the dignity of individual choice. I often tell new staff that we all live differently; we make choices based on beliefs, culture, personality and goals, which is no different from those living at Liscombe House. We need to always keep this at the centre of everything we do.

Due to a very generous grant from the Ian Rollo Currie Estate Foundation, we have been able to purchase a new bus for Liscombe House. This 12-seater bus (pictured on page 30) has been modified for wheelchair access and assists in maintaining community connections for people and increases the number of activities we can participate in. We are all very grateful for this donation and hope as the weather warms, we can get out and about and enjoy the local area.

Mani, the chef at Liscombe House has commenced training with the Maggie Beer Foundation to review the menu and inspire fresh, tasty home-style meals. Mani has taken to the training with enthusiasm, and it is great to see some of the new meals, snacks, and desserts he has created. The training also provides Mani with support to exchange ideas and solve some challenges, ultimately benefitting all Residents.

In February 2023, we were assessed by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission against the 8 Standards.

This was a 3-day visit by three Quality and Safety Commission team members covering all aspects of care delivered at Liscombe House. In April we were notified that we have received a further 3 years of accreditation, having met all the Standards. All the staff at Liscombe House should be proud of the care and the quality of service they deliver every day.



Residential Care

The one thing you can count on in Residential Aged Care is that it is constantly changing and evolving. The most important goal for staff and management at Liscombe House is to always do better. We shall continue to provide better services, more choices, and an environment that meets the needs of all calling Liscombe House home.

2023 has seen the planned refurbishment of Liscombe House commence. The removal of the old double rooms and the creation of eight new, bright modern rooms to replace them, an upgrade of another 28 rooms in Liscombe Wing, and the creation of new staff areas and upgraded offices will see Liscombe House modernise and evolve.

Along with the refurbishment, there have been other significant changes to Liscombe House over the past 12 months. Our new dedicated Café space welcomes Residents and visitors on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. This space can also be used for functions and family gatherings at other times.

The new combined Liscombe and Currie dining rooms have brought all Residents together at mealtimes encouraging and enabling new friendships to flourish. The dining room also has a new bain-marie providing Residents with hot meals directly to their table, reducing the need for trolleys and tray service. This also makes the dining room smell lovely and Residents can see what is being served.


Highlights of the year

- A drumming program as part of an exercise program.
- Lort Smith dog program.
- Monthly High Teas.
- Retro café is still well-loved.
- St Helena Preschool visits.
- Silver Tops and Tots playgroup.
- Biggest Afternoon Tea is always a hit, we ran it as a high tea and this year we had over 60 people including Residents, friends, families, volunteers, and staff joined in to make it a wonderful afternoon.
- Family Fun Afternoon – a special thank you to the Greensborough National Seniors for their contribution and donation (pictured on page 30).

Liscombe House

 **69**
Residents

 **86%**
are women

 **30**
people aged 90 plus



Images: A fun-filled day at Liscombe House as the Residents enjoy the children's company.

Lifestyle at Liscombe House

St Helena Preschool

In 2023, Abound Communities started an intergenerational program between St Helena Preschool and Liscombe House. The program runs weekly on Tuesday mornings. Once a fortnight, the children come to Liscombe House and the alternative Tuesday a group of Residents goes to the kindergarten.

With the children's arrival to Liscombe House our program starts with morning tea with our Residents, then a singing program where the children stand in a circle facing the Residents, sing and do hand actions to the songs. Both the children and Residents do the actions and enjoy singing together. After that the children take an individual activity and go to a Resident and do the activity with them. Currently, there are up to

30 children involved. It is wonderful to see both children, Residents, and our staff enjoy these sessions, and it also highlights mental and social well-being.

In alternate weeks, Liscombe House Residents travel by bus and go to the kindergarten. The program has a similar morning tea, and singalong, then the children go outside to play and enjoy taking a Resident with them. It is amazing watching the interactions of the children with the Residents when they are outside. One example includes, one of the children who wanted to push a Resident on the swing. In the end, the child got on the swing and the Resident pushed them. Lots of laughing and enjoyment by all showed that activities which include children and older adults in a daycare facility can increase self-esteem and promote positive mental health.



Silver Tops and Tots Playgroup

Silver Tops and Tots is our Abound Communities playgroup. The Lifestyle team began this program in August last year and the group has a good mix of ages from 4 months old to 4 years old. This program runs for 2 hours a week on a Wednesday morning.

The Liscombe House Residents enjoy watching and interacting with the little ones. We have seen Residents get down on their hands and knees and play with children. Residents reminisce stories of their childhood and their children's childhood. They are developing some beautiful relationships with the children and even with the children's parents, grandmothers, and extended families.

Mandy Williamson
Lifestyle Coordinator

The program is comfortable and engaging, families arrive and the children start playing with toys, whilst parents chat with each other and the Residents. There is usually a story time where the little ones settle in which both the children and Residents enjoy. Older people who have reached retirement or are in Aged Care often have extra time and skills that are underutilised. Many of our Residents have children themselves, so caring for babies and toddlers gives them a sense of nostalgia. We see so many smiles, making it all worthwhile. Both parties absolutely love it – we have seen some amazing relationships flourish here and look forward to continuing our playgroup programs in 2024 and beyond.



Home Care

This year has been both eventful and exciting, with the introduction of Home Care Package services to Abound Communities.

Jannette Fleming
Home Care Manager

Our approach has been tailored to the needs of our Residents. During the planning stages, ongoing communication with the Residents was conducted in the form of focus groups, individual home visits, and telehealth consultations. This allowed us to understand the needs at each village and informed the subsequent recruitment strategy.

Home Care has been launched across all four villages. As befitting this significant new step in our mission to provide a continuum of care and in keeping with Home Care Packages being consumer-directed care, a Resident who is also a HCP recipient cut a red ribbon at each launch event. The Resident explained to those in attendance their experience with Abound Home Care and why they were choosing to utilize the internal service offered.

The program provides a subsidy towards a combination of care, services, and case management, to meet the individual's needs.

The Home Care Package program is designed to help consumers live independently in their homes for as long as possible and while safe to do so. The program provides a subsidy towards a combination of care, services, and case management to meet the individual's needs. The services that are available under Home Care include:

- Personal Care
- Domestic Assistance
- Social Support
- Meal preparation
- Home and Garden Maintenance
- Transport
- Case Management
- Allied Health
- Clinical Assessments
- Welfare checks
- Assistive Technology Aids and Equipment
- Medication Management
- Shopping Assistance

In addition, we provide a dedicated case manager who will conduct ongoing care planning, budget reviews, and facilitate the services and care to each recipient.

Upon our initial launch of Home Care, five Residents transferred their Home Care Packages from external providers to Abound. Over the past six months, the number of Residents receiving Home Care through Abound has increased to above 50 and continues to grow monthly.

The ongoing uptake from Residents coincides with ongoing recruitment to meet the needs and demand for services. Recruitment incorporates specific needs, such as culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, service times and availability, skill set, gender, as well as personality traits and interests. This builds upon a person-centred model of care and embodies the focus of building upon our current community and service platforms.

Abound Communities works with each Resident to retain their independence and dignity and to remain living in their home and community in line with our mission to provide a continuum of care for our Residents. Regardless of what stage the individual is in their journey of Home Care, the next step is to engage the Abound Home Care team.



If you are a Abound Communities Resident and are interested in Home Care Services, please call 03 9433 1180 or email homecare@aboundcommunities.org.au

Our people and culture





We are motivated to ensure Around Communities continues to be a great place to work, with diverse and passionate people.

Our staff are vital in delivering our purpose and high-level of care for all our Residents. Supporting and engaging staff leads to strong and sustainable performance, ultimately enabling us to execute our operating strategy and our ongoing commitment to excellence in caring for our Residents.

Around enthusiastically embraced the Fair Work decision relating to the Aged Care Work Value Case which acknowledged the significant contributions of our sector's staff and the critical need to attract and retain high-calibre professionals. Commencing July 2023, we were delighted to transfer the entire funding adjustment directly to care staff. Around remains steadfast in its advocacy to rectify the inequality of not extending this wage increase to all employees in the Aged Care sector, a matter that we believe should be addressed in Stage Three of the Fair Work Value Case.



Mila Hodgson
Manager, People and Culture

People and Culture			
	2,000 hours of training to our staff		187 staff
	52 new staff hired		79% are women



Workforce Growth

As part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring the highest standards of care for our Residents, we are pleased to report the recruitment of 52 new hires. These additions support the expansion of our workforce into areas such as Home Care and aligning with the increasing care requirements within our facilities. Furthermore, amidst the challenging circumstances that have enveloped the Aged Care sector, we are proud to highlight an 84% employee retention rate.

Learning and Development

Continuous professional development remains a priority. We've provided over 2,000 hours of training to our staff in areas such as mental health and wellbeing, workplace health and safety, first aid and CPR, dementia care, infection control, Code of Conduct, and other training.

Employee Wellbeing

Employee well-being is central to our culture. We've initiated mental health and wellbeing and stress management workshops, further education and awareness on Employee Assistance Support programs, and regular check-ins to ensure the emotional health of our team.

Additionally, we celebrated "R U OK? Day" across all sites as part of our commitment to mental health and wellbeing. This event encouraged open conversations among our staff and Residents promoting a supportive and caring community.

Diversity and Inclusion

We continue to promote diversity and inclusion within our workforce. Our workforce represents a broader range of backgrounds and experiences more than ever. Face-to-face Diversity and Inclusion workshops were delivered across all sites to foster an inclusive workplace.

Errol celebrates 35 years at Abound Communities

If you know about Rushall Park, you know about Errol Mckenzie. She is our much-loved Assisted Living Co-ordinator in our Fitzroy North Village; she is like a family member to many who know her.



Errol trained as a nurse at the Auckland Public Hospital, came to Australia for a holiday in 1980 and ended up staying.

From 1980 to 1987 she worked for Wittingslow Carnival which took her to Agriculture shows traveling through Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, and South Australia. She explains it was one of her best experiences. They left the carnival deciding their two young sons needed a more settled life.

She remembers walking into the front gates of Rushall Park in 1988 for a job interview and thought it was in the countryside of England with magnificent cottages, beautiful roses, and other stunning flowers. Rushall Park was a beautiful reminder of colour, nature, and a fresh breath of air, something she held deeply in her heart from her upbringing in New Zealand.

Errol recently celebrated 35 years with Abound Communities and loves her job as much today as she did back then, which was at the time known as the 17-bed Ian Rollo Currie Nursing Home. So much has changed since she began, but one thing has remained the same: being a one-stop shop for care from independent cottage living to high-care residential Aged Care.

A big highlight for Errol was a visit by Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent to Rushall Park in 1988, where she stopped and said hello to everyone, as well as the 150th Anniversary celebrations in 2019.

In 2010, Errol became an Assisted Living coordinator working closely with Residents staying in the assisted living apartments and supporting Residents in their day-to-day lives whilst helping with health issues, personal care, and liaising with their families.



Images:

- 1: Errol pictured with Resident Isabelle Turnbull at Rushall Park.
- 2: Errol at a get-together in the dining room when it was in Sumner Hall, Rushall Park.
- 3: Errol in 1989 with the Director of Nursing, matron Elizabeth Dixon and some other staff members.

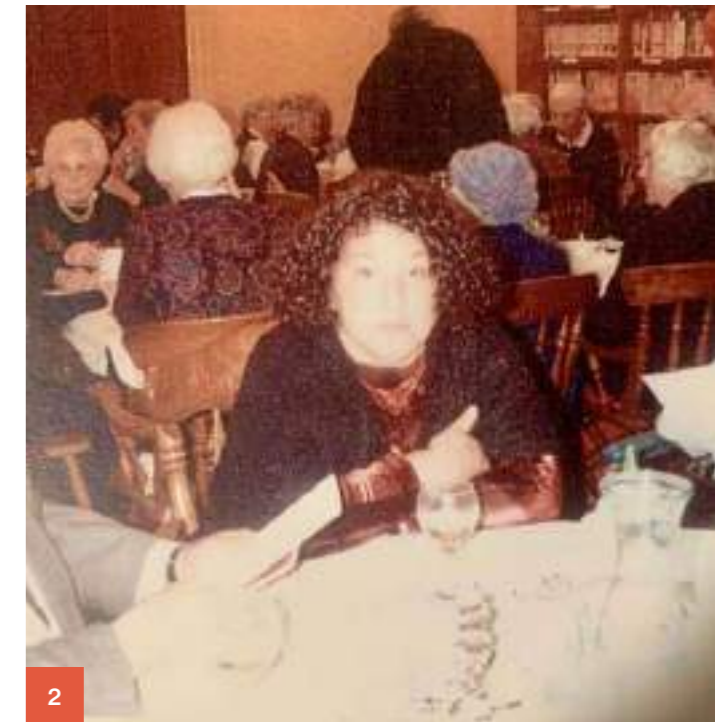


Errol semi-retired in 2018 to work two days a week. She also currently volunteers with Melbourne City Mission visiting Aged Care Facilities usually in the CBD, Brunswick, or Essendon area, and of course, with Abound Communities. Volunteering and giving back is something that brings great joy to Errol and she is rightfully proud of her contributions.

In January 2023, we celebrated the 35th Anniversary of Errol McKenzie's employment with us.

For those who have worked with Errol, we are certain you would agree it is a pleasure to work with her and it was delightful to be part of this milestone and celebrate with her.

To be in a workplace for 35 years is to be celebrated. Abound Communities is very grateful for everything Errol has done for the organisation and our Residents.



Property and environmental initiatives



In 2023, Jon Tupou, Abound Communities Property Manager and his gardening and maintenance team have been busy, with a large volume of exciting projects.



With the arrival of spring this year, our gardens came to life with an abundance of colours, seasonal fruits and vegetables ready for harvesting.

With the input of Rushall Park Resident garden group, we purchased wicker beds and manicured the lawns near our clocktower so that the vegetable produce is easily available and accessible for those wanting fresh-grown vegetables.

The Leith Park grounds have started to bear fruit from projects that were completed a couple of years ago, including the Crab Apple Grove, a formerly disused area. This area is now ready for Residents to use and enjoy. Spearheaded by Residents in The Gateway, our team, volunteers, and the Men's Shedders also constructed a paved outdoor area overlooking our dry creek bed where Residents can enjoy our native flora and fauna under the natural canopy of surrounding trees.

Currie Park was able to re-establish a long-running relationship with the Euroa Rotary Club. They've helped us with some small projects where we were met with the challenges of sourcing local contractors to help. The new greenhouse is starting to take shape and will no doubt be well used by our garden group. Our community garden supplies fresh produce throughout the year for our kitchen staff and Residents to use. Chutneys are highly recommended.



Image: Abound Communities staff (left to right) Matthew Kamolins, Ian Green and Rick Williams.



In identifying priorities, we work closely with the Resident Committees and other groups in each village. We're also grateful for the support of philanthropic and local council grants and our volunteers (both Residents and external) for their ongoing support in projects such as these.

Looking ahead, we're seeking support for the ongoing maintenance, restoration, and climate-resilience planning of our over ten hectares of gardens, particularly of our Heritage Victoria listed gardens in Rushall Park.



To reduce our waste, single-use plastics have now been phased out across our villages (including the Liscombe House Aged Care facility) and green compost bins across our villages.



In recent cottage renovations, we've also piloted new gas-free fit-outs. Combined with the recommendations of recent energy audits at Currie Park and Braeside Park, these initiatives should see our units be more comfortable and more economical to run than ever before.

Looking ahead to 2024, we're expecting another big year in our property department, with master planning exercises across our villages, a larger-scale rollout of new cottage renovation standards, and other climate resilience projects.

The importance of our six-monthly Resident meetings

The voice of our Residents is incredibly important to us, and we try to ensure there is continued ongoing communication available to them. In addition to the regular management meetings with the Residents' Committee at each village, one of the ways we do this is via 6-monthly Resident meetings.

These sessions are run by our CEO but with the Association President in attendance (and often other Councillors) and are an open forum for Residents to improve clarity, ask questions and provide feedback to the management team.

Conversations around activities, the internet, traffic, property, maintenance, and gardening generally arise. We also like to provide updates on our senior staff members and we allow our staff to introduce or reintroduce themselves at the meetings. This gives our Residents an opportunity to put faces to names and it gives the notion of relationship building between the management team and Residents through our no-fences approach to face-to-face meetings.

Resident meetings are an important part of any long-term living community. Abound Communities is proud of our initiative to provide regular forums to Residents, we take a great deal of care to ensure our Residents are notified, and updated and can provide feedback to us as part of our "continuous improvement" approach. Having the President in attendance ensures our governing Council is directly aware of any burning questions and feedback that Residents provide.



About Communities introduces VitalCALL to its villages

Our Resident's safety is paramount and of the most importance to us. In 2023, we upgraded our personal alarm service across our villages to VitalCALL.

VitalCALL ensures our Residents get the help they need no matter the time of day in the event of a fall, medical emergency or otherwise needing assistance.

The upgrade to VitalCALL was introduced as a free service to all our Residents and, at the time of writing, over 300 units have been installed across the Abound Communities villages.

Some of the key points about VitalCALL includes:

- VitalCALL is the original provider of PERS (Personal Emergency Response Systems) in Australia. Operating for over 45 years, they currently monitor approximately 40,000 active users Australia-wide.
- VitalCALL a subsidiary of Chubb Fire and Security, operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year from response centers located in Sydney and Brisbane.
- Uses the latest 4G personal emergency alarm equipment with 48-hour battery power back-up.
- Offering in-home and GPS out-of-home solutions.
- A choice between a wristband or necklace pendant. Both are fully waterproof and can be worn in the shower.
- A service to allow our Residents to test their pendants each month to provide a level of comfort and confidence.

Since installation, there have been VitalCALL alarm activations for varied reasons, such as:

- Falling out of bed and unable to get back up
- Feeling faint
- Feeling nauseous, fuzzy in the head, uncomfortable all over
- Feeling over cold and concerned about body temperature
- Pain in the chest and arms
- Feeling breathless

All pendant activations were responded to quickly and the ambulance attended on all occasions. Abound Communities' Resident coordinators also receive a report each morning on any activations overnight so they can follow up on Residents' wellbeing.

Abound Communities is proud to work alongside VitalCALL which provides a service to allow our Residents to have personal alarm which aids support and peace of mind for people living independently and their families. We feel assured knowing that help is only a button press away.

“I feel at ease knowing mum has an emergency pendant to use in a time of need.”

- Leith Park family member



Our Volunteers are like family

Our family of volunteers play a valuable role in supporting our Residents across all our villages.

At Rushall Park, we have volunteers who carry out meditation, tech support, one on one social visits as well as the new addition of travel advice sessions. Liscombe House Residents have the pleasure of many volunteers stepping in to support our Lifestyle Team with music sing-along, chapel, driving Residents to appointments, facilitating memory games, footy tipping, nail painting and so many more activities that keep our Residents smiling. Many volunteers also support our gardening team, supporting the upkeep of our wonderful landscape surroundings.

Our volunteers come from all walks of life, from retirees to school and university students who want to gain experience for full-time work and give back to their communities. Additionally, many of our own Residents are also volunteers, whether as members of the Residents committees, leading art classes and other events, or supporting in our gardens.

Celebrations and Appreciations

Several celebrations were carried out in the last year including a volunteer appreciation in May 2023, where volunteers came together to enjoy self-care massage and mindfulness sessions carried out by Michelle Elise and Kylie Olivia at Rushall Park and Leith Park. Our volunteers at Currie Park and Braeside Park opted for a celebratory lunch at local restaurants where they enjoyed a meal together with the management team. All volunteers were gifted self-care packs which included chocolates, tea and succulents planted by Abound Communities staff.


We also carried out Volunteer Christmas celebrations, with morning teas at Rushall Park, Braeside Park and a get-together lunch at Greensborough RSL where volunteers mingled and enjoyed a meal together. Additionally, we had a barbeque lunch bringing together Residents, staff, and volunteers at Currie Park which we saw as a great engagement opportunity to extend to local council and community organisations alike. We were graced with the presence of the Strathbogie Shire Council Mayor Cr Laura Binks and her team of councillors, together with the then President of Euroa Rotary Club, Bob Irving, and others.

Collaborations remain central at Abound Communities

- **Community Learning Euroa**
Our new partnership with Community Learning Euroa has brought about an opportunity for fortnightly sessions of digital literacy support for our Residents in Currie Park.
- **Bunnings Eltham**
A phone conversation with a local Bunnings in Eltham led to not only sponsorships for some materials for the volunteer appreciation celebrations, but also the beginning of onsite community workshops with Residents on mosaic birdbath making, paper craft reef making, woodworking, arts and craft at Leith Park and Liscombe House. These arts, and crafts-oriented workshops will be carried out at least every two months.
- **Good, Longstanding Friends Are Hard to Find**
A special thanks to our friends at National Seniors, Greensborough who continue to support Abound Communities this year, as they have for at least the last decade. Their donation helps our Lifestyle team at Liscombe House in organising events where staff, Residents, their family members, volunteers, and community members come together.

What Comes Next?


Future engagement plans include a Volunteer Christmas celebrations and get together picnics envisioned to bring together volunteers from across all sites. Abound's Community Engagement department will also be carrying out an end-of-year survey to learn more about our volunteers' experiences and the way forward. Externally, we will be working alongside the team at Nillumbik Shire Council to enhance the Leith Park – Larool Avenue Reserve.

 **184**
active volunteers

 **20,000**
hours contributed
by volunteers (approx.)

 **73**
Community volunteers

 **111**
Resident volunteers

 **92** Rushall Park
volunteers

35 Liscombe House
volunteers

28 Leith Park
volunteers

17 Braeside Park
volunteers

7 Currie Park
volunteers

5 volunteers at both
Liscombe House
and Leith Park

Would you like to volunteer with us? Scan the QR code to find out how you can help



“Volunteering really brightens up my week and gives me a sense of purpose.**”**

- Janet Creighton

Nabila Yusof
Community Engagement Officer



Image: Barry Lay at the Men's Shed in Leith Park.

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
National Ageing Research Institute	\$6K	Promoting Independence in Dementia
Banyule City Council	\$7K	Health and Wellbeing Project
Eastern Melb PHN	\$18K	Telehealth Services
Marian and E.H. Flack	\$19K	Medical Equipment
William and Mary levers & Sons	\$11K	Bequest (recurring)
Wanless Holdings Pty Ltd	\$25K	Bequest (once off)
Estate of Edward Davies	\$64K	Bequest (recurring)



Images: (Above) Abound Communities was gifted \$2000 from National Seniors (Greensborough) to use for lifestyle at Liscombe House. The donation was handed by Mr Peter Oaten to our Lifestyle Coordinator, Mandy Williamson and our Community Engagement Officer, Nabila Yusof. (Top) Our well loved new Liscombe House bus.

Bequests and Donations

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.

How you can help

Abound Communities' unique operating model allows us to remain financially sustainable while providing Residents with a high-quality community environment and providing substantially greater access to those in need than many retirement villages can, even not-for-profit providers.

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.”

Scan the QR code to make a donation



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

The Council	Number of meetings
Kevin Neville (in Council until Dec 2022)	4 of 5
Leslie Wood (in Council until Dec 2022)	6 of 6
Carl Maissan (excl Acting CEO period)	8 of 8
Judy Sharp	8 of 8
Philomena Horsley	7 of 8
Dominique Horne	8 of 8
Mary Britton (in Council until Dec 2022)	1 of 4
Lyndsay Neilson (in Council until Jan 2023)	3 of 4
Peter Slifirski	5 of 8
Catherine Wilson	5 of 5
Margaret Abernethy	4 of 4
Kate Stewart	3 of 3
Niraj Bhojani (joined Council Aug 2023)	0 of 8

Finance and Audit Committee	Number of meetings
Carl Maissan	2 of 2
Lyndsay Neilson	1 of 2
Kevin Neville	2 of 2
Niraj Bhojani	0 of 2

Care Committee	Number of meetings
Judy Sharp	4 of 4
Philomena Horsley	3 of 4
Dominique Horne	2 of 4
Mary Britton	1 of 2
Catherine Wilson	2 of 2
Carl Maissan	2 of 3

Governance Committee	Number of meetings
Leslie Wood	2 of 2
Kevin Neville	2 of 2
Philomena Horsley	5 of 5
Carl Maissan	2 of 3
Lyndsay Neilson	2 of 2
Margaret Abernethy	3 of 3
Dominique Horne	5 of 5

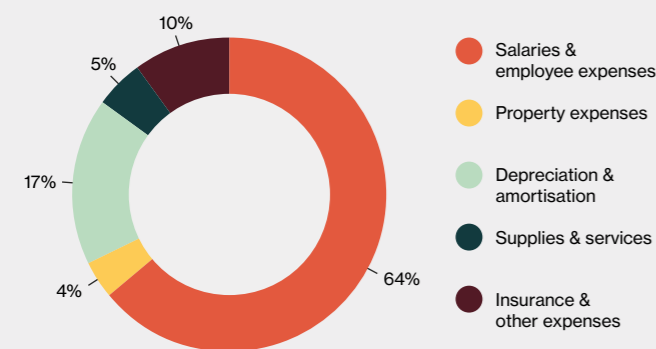
Development and Innovation Committee	Number of meetings
Kevin Neville	1 of 1
Peter Slifirski	2 of 2
Carl Maissan	2 of 2
Catherine Stewart	1 of 2
Kate Stewart	2 of 2

Concise Financial Statements

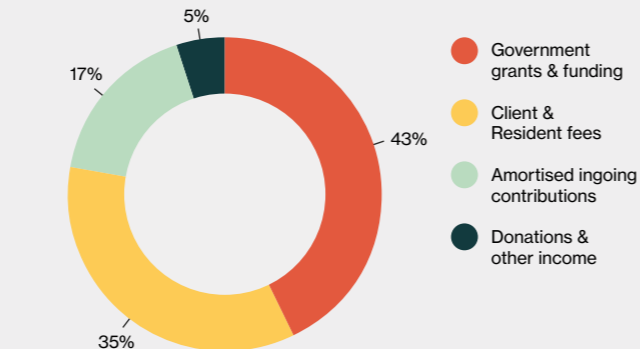
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

A.B.N. 15 660 751 609

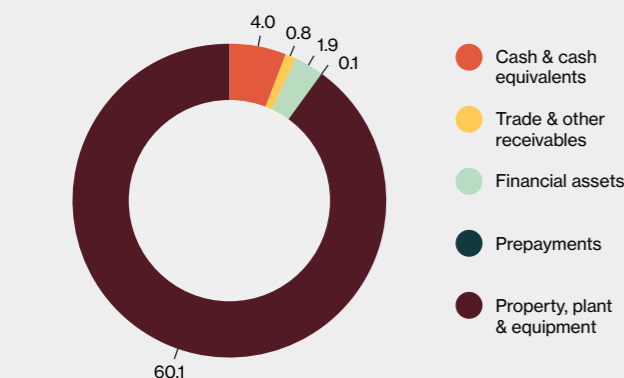
Expenses (%)



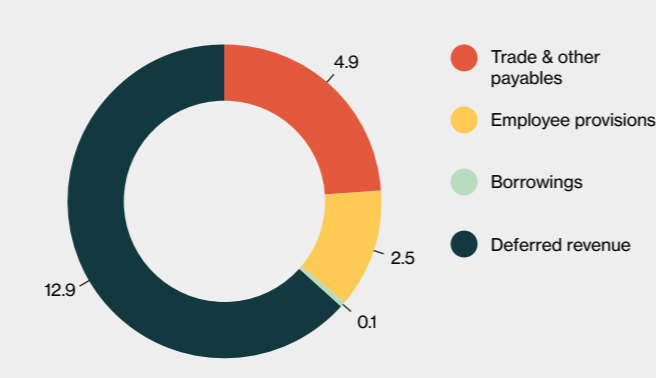
Revenue (%)



Assets (\$M)



Liabilities (\$M)



Financial Year 2023

Operating performance

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

We generate operating income from two primary sources: Commonwealth funding of residential Aged Care and 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 towards capital projects and improving housing stock and Resident amenities.

In the financial year ended 30 June 2023 (FY2023), following the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, a series of Aged Care reforms were introduced, including a change in the Aged Care funding model which comprises approximately 50% of Abound Communities' operating revenue. The significance of the reforms brings positive change to the industry and is welcomed by Abound's governing members.

Abound Communities again generated a surplus in FY2023. The net surplus after depreciation (of \$2.5 million) was \$0.3 million. Total revenue declined by 2% to \$15.4 million, driven by reductions in ingoing contributions (with FY2022 including intake into newly constructed units) and residential Aged Care income impacted by holding rooms vacant in preparation for a significant refurbishment.

Operating expenditure rose by 7%, a direct reflection of inflation and additional staffing costs.

While the FY2023 surplus was significantly lower than FY2022, during the year Abound Communities commenced a series of strategic actions which are expected to deliver long-term financial benefits, including establishing a Home Care services division (which includes an investment of \$0.3 million in FY2023 before launch) and preparation for the \$2.4 million significant refurbishment of the Liscombe House Aged Care facility (which commenced in July 2023). Although we expect the refurbishment will continue to have a downward impact on residential Aged Care income in the first half of FY2024, once completed we anticipate results to rebound.

Capital works and other expenditures

The uniqueness of our model primarily rests with our ingoing contributions. New independent living and assisted Residents are charged a non-refundable means-tested ingoing contribution that is highly competitive relative to commercial retirement village operators. We further demonstrate our commitment to supporting and housing people in need via our approach of 50% of our new Residents having no financial capacity to pay an ingoing contribution.

These ingoing contributions help maintain and enhance the built environment at our villages for the long term. From an accounting perspective (where ingoing contributions are recognised as income over the average length of stay), ingoing contributions were \$2.6 million, matching against our asset depreciation expense of \$2.6 million. From a cash perspective, we collected \$0.9 million in ingoing contributions during FY2023, supporting capital works of \$1.7 million.

Financial position

Abound Communities remains in a stable and solid financial position. Cash and financial assets (mostly term deposits) at 30 June 2023 totalled \$5.9 million, we have a significant asset base, minimal bank debt, and we generated cash flow from operations of \$0.6 million during the year. Net assets at 30 June 2023 was \$46.5 million and continues to grow year on year.

Further information

The Concise Financial Statements for Abound are provided on the following pages. These are derived from the full FY23 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 2023

	2023	2022
	\$000	\$000
Income		
Residential care government subsidies	6,139	6,677
Independent living fees & charges	2,964	2,785
Independent & assisted living ingoing contributions	2,566	3,229
Residential care fees & charges	1,677	1,686
Assisted living fees & charges	709	648
Home and community care services fees & charges	11	-
Donations & bequests	266	272
Interest & investment income	222	167
Residential care lease income	257	165
Other government grants	542	164
Miscellaneous income	41	139
Gains (loss) on financial assets	46	(92)
Total income	15,440	15,840
Expenses		
Employee expenses	(9,611)	(8,890)
Depreciation & impairment losses	(2,574)	(2,530)
Food expenses	(484)	(421)
Repairs & maintenance expenses	(355)	(326)
Rates & services expenses	(304)	(307)
Finance expenses	(293)	(236)
Services & contract expenses	(270)	(186)
Utilities expense	(206)	(213)
Insurance expenses	(183)	(155)
Medical expenses	(109)	(113)
Professional services expenses	(108)	(122)
Cleaning & laundry expenses	(80)	(96)
Audit & other services	(52)	(43)
Printing, stationery & postage	(39)	(40)
Other expenses	(439)	(519)
Total expenses	(15,107)	(14,197)
Surplus (deficit) before tax	333	1,643
Income tax expense	-	-
Surplus (deficit) for the year	333	1,643
Other comprehensive income		
<i>Items that may not subsequently be reclassified to profit or loss:</i>		
Changes to fair value of financial assets	-	(382)
Total other comprehensive income (loss)	333	1,261
Total comprehensive income (loss)	333	1,261

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$000	\$000
Assets		
Current		
Cash & cash equivalents	3,997	2,262
Trade & other receivables	789	402
Financial assets	1,902	1,147
Prepayments	109	103
Total Current Assets	6,797	3,914
Non-Current		
Financial assets	-	3,424
Property, plant & equipment	60,067	60,925
Total non-current assets	60,067	64,349
Total assets	66,864	68,263
Liabilities		
Current		
Trade & other payables	4,883	4,847
Employee provisions	2,101	2,192
Borrowings	53	-
Deferred revenue	2,366	2,485
Total current liabilities	9,403	9,524
Non-current		
Employee provisions	372	309
Borrowings	-	30
Deferred revenue	10,570	12,214
Total non-current liabilities	10,942	12,553
Total liabilities	20,345	22,077
Net assets	46,519	46,186
Equity		
Accumulation account	46,373	45,899
Fair value reserve	-	141
Permanent fund	146	146
Total equity	46,519	46,186

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$000	\$000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Receipts from residential care government subsidies	6,000	6,702
Receipts from residential care, assisted & independent living services	5,262	5,366
Receipts from independent & assisted living ingoing contributions	880	2,713
Receipts from donations & bequests	635	537
Receipts from interest and investments	125	93
Payments to suppliers & employees	(12,248)	(11,356)
Interest paid	(14)	(8)
Net cash generated by operating activities	640	4,047
Cash flows from investing activities		
Receipts from sale of investments	6,015	153
Receipts from sale of plant & equipment	16	-
Payments for property, plant & equipment	(1,732)	(1,412)
Payment for investments	(3,237)	(1,188)
Net cash used in investing activities	1,062	(2,447)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayment of bank loans	-	(2,221)
Receipts from refundable accommodation deposits	1,300	790
Payments of accommodation bonds & refundable accommodation deposits	(1,267)	(1,010)
Net cash provided by financing activities	33	2,441
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	1,735	(841)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	2,262	3,103
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	3,997	2,262

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Accumulation Account \$000	Fair Value Reserve \$000	Permanent Fund \$000	Total \$000
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
Surplus for the year	333	-	-	333
Other comprehensive income (loss)	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income (loss) for the year	333	-	-	333
Transfer to accumulation	141	(141)	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2023	46,373	-	146	46,519

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

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- Simplified Disclosure Requirements (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commissions Act 2012 to satisfy the entity's financial reporting requirements.

A full description of the accounting policies adopted by the Association is provided in the 2023 financial statements. Notes to the accounts are available on the website. (www.aboundcommunities.org.au)

Councillors' Statement

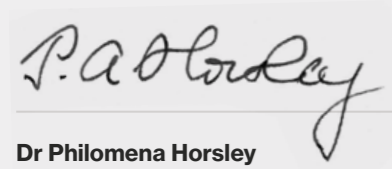
Declaration by Council

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.

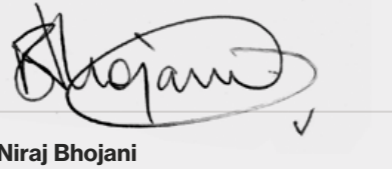
The financial statements cannot be expected to provide as full an understanding of the financial performance, financial position and financing and investing activities of the Association as the full financial report, which is available on request.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Council.

On behalf of the Councillors



Dr Philomena Horsley
Acting President



Niraj Bhojani
Treasurer

16th October 2023



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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Old Colonists' Association of Victoria, trading as Abound Communities

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Old Colonists' Association of Victoria, trading as Abound Communities (the "Registered Entity"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, and the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the Councillors' Declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of Old Colonists' Association of Victoria has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Registered Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022*.

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 Registered Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (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 those charged with governance for the Financial Report

The Council of the Registered Entity are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the ACNC Act, and for such internal control as the Council determine 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 are responsible for assessing the Registered Entity'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 Registered Entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Council are responsible for overseeing the Registered Entity's financial reporting process.

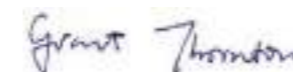
Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

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 Registered Entity'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 Registered Entity'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 Registered Entity 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 those charged 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, 16 October 2023

A place to belong

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Cover photo: Errolleen McKenzie pictured with Resident Isabelle Turnbull.

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* All figures gathered October 2023.