

BELLARINE LIVING AND LEARNING CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT 2024





ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW

Bellarine Living and Learning Centre is a vibrant neighbourhood community centre located in Whittington. We offer a range of programs and services designed to support individuals and families in our community, including educational courses, social activities, support services and community development initiatives.

VISION

A community that values connection, celebrates diversity and encourages empowerment and growth for all.

MISSION

We support our community by providing a place that is responsive to community needs and encourages connection, growth and participation.

Bellarine Living and Learning Centre respectfully acknowledge the traditional owners of Australia. We acknowledge the Wadawurrung people of the Kulin Nation past, present and emerging. We respect and acknowledge this land and its ecosystems. We will invite guidance in the development of the Bellarine Living and Learning Centre through the cultural knowledge and wisdom of the local Wadawurrung community.



We provide welcoming and safe community that provides opportunities for support, connection, empowerment and growth.

OUR VALUES

Connection We understand how important it is for people to feel connected to one another and to their community and we will focus on activities that strengthen our community connection.

Respect We appreciate the many differences in our community and know that we can all learn from people of different ages, backgrounds, cultures and abilities and we will respect and embrace diversity at our Centre.

Support We acknowledge that people and their communities need different levels of support at varying times, and we will be creative, flexible and responsive in what we offer.

Responsiveness We understand how important it is to be responsive to individual and broader community needs and we know there are real and lasting benefits that come from being flexible and responsive when need is identified.

Opportunity and Empowerment We know that when people are empowered to take opportunities presented to them, they are able to learn, grow and develop and we are committing to providing a diverse range of opportunities for our community. Access to opportunities will be fair and equitable.

Sustainability We are committed to sustainability and will seek positive outcomes that are financially, socially and environmentally sustainable for our Centre, and for our community.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE

MARY FRANCIS

Manager

CHANTELLE HODGSON

Associate Manager

25%

Increase in partnerships

54%

Increase in room hire to outside organisations and groups

37%

Expanded our client base

We present to you the Annual Report for the Bellarine Living and Learning Centre for the financial year 2023 / 2024. This year has been a period of redevelopment, innovation and strengthening community connections. Our unwavering commitment to providing enriching programs and essential services responsive to our community's needs has enabled us to make a substantial impact in the lives of our community members.

The 2023 / 2024 financial year has been transformative for Bellarine Living and Learning Centre. We successfully launched several new programs, secured further food relief funding and greatly expanded our community outreach. Our initiatives continue to evolve as we address immediate community needs while laying the groundwork for sustainable growth and development.

We are deeply grateful to our partners and supporters whose contributions have been instrumental in Bellarine Living and Learning Centre's success and growth.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the opportunities to deepen our impact and expand our reach. We remain committed to our vision, mission and values and enhancing the quality of life for all community members through learning, support and connection.

This annual report reflects our commitment to transparency, accountability and community enrichment. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our dedicated staff, volunteers, partners and community members for their unwavering support. Together we have made significant strides and we look forward to continuing this journey of growth and development.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Bellarine Living and Learning Centre extends our deepest gratitude to our dedicated members, passionate individuals, community groups, and businesses that constitute our vibrant community. Your unwavering support and involvement have been the cornerstone of our success and growth this past year.

We would like to give special thanks to the following partners for their invaluable contributions, whether through funding, services, or collaborative efforts —

- Australian Taxation Office
- Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH)
- Department of Education and Training
- Give Where You Live
- City of Greater Geelong
- Geelong Food Relief Centre
- Neighbourhood Houses Victoria
- Neighbourhood Houses Barwon
- Foundation 61
- Geelong Regional Libraries Corporation
- Geelong Community Foundation
- Rolling Pin
- Orange Sky Laundry
- Learn Local
- Foodbank
- gforce
- Share the Dignity
- Lions Club
- Betty's Laneway Cafe
- Whittington Primary School
- Whittington Early Learning Centre
- Volunteering Geelong
- Meli
- Don't Forget Your Pet Foundation
- Matchworks
- The Empowerment Challenge
- KOGO (Knit One Give One)
- Wyld Work Projects

Your generosity and commitment have enabled us to deliver impactful programs and initiatives that enhance the health, wellbeing and capacity in our community.

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

EDUCATION SHORT COURSES — LEARN LOCAL

Cafe and Barista Skills

Digital Essentials 1

Introduction to Horticulture

Introduction to Computers

Developing Computer Skills — Next Steps

Reignite Your Career — Employment Suite

(gforce and Bellarine Living and Learning Centre)

COMMUNITY SERVICES — FREE

Foodbank Wednesday

Hearing Australia — Hearing Tests

Australian Government Tax Assistance Program

Orange Sky Laundry Service

Information Technology Assistance

Digital Technology Drop In — Geelong Regional

Library Corporation

3219 Youth Sports Program

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Yoga Class

Gentle Yoga and Mindfulness

Ceramics Class

Hobby Hub

Craft and Cuppa

Chatty Cafe at Betty's Lane way Cafe

BookChat — Geelong Regional Library

Corporation



“Before joining the Barista Essentials course I was unemployed. After the course I applied for a job at my local cafe, I’ve been working for 18 months now. I made some good friends in the program and feel glad I stepped outside of my comfort zone to try something new”.



3900

Individual participants who visited the foodbank were typically providing for a family of three.



7240

Total number of ready-made and volunteer kitchen meals provided.



FOODBANK OVERVIEW

The Bellarine Living and Learning Centre Foodbank Program has made a significant and lasting impact on the 3219 community, providing vital support to families and individuals in need. Through the provision of essential food supplies, the program has ensured that vulnerable community members have access to nutritious meals, helping to reduce food insecurity in the region. By offering a safe and accessible space where people can receive food relief, the program not only meets immediate needs but also fosters a sense of dignity and connection within the community.

***** Over the past year, the Foodbank Program has seen a steady increase in demand, with more families experiencing financial hardship due to rising living costs. The program has adapted by expanding its services, ensuring that no one is turned away. This growth has been made possible through allocating a portion of the operating budget, the generous support of local donors, partnerships with food suppliers, and the tireless efforts of volunteers. The program now serves a diverse range of community members, including low-income families, elderly residents, and individuals facing temporary challenges such as unemployment or health issues.

***** Beyond providing food, the Foodbank Program plays a critical role in strengthening social ties within the 3219 community. Through outreach efforts and partnerships with local organisations, the program connects individuals to additional resources, such as job training, mental health services, and educational opportunities. By addressing both immediate needs and the underlying causes of food insecurity, the program has become a cornerstone of the community, offering not just sustenance, but also hope and a path toward long-term well-being for many in 3219.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

90%

Increase in volunteer recruitment



As we reflect on the past year at the Bellarine Living and Learning Centre, our hearts are filled with immense gratitude and appreciation for our volunteers. The dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment — our team have been the cornerstone of our community's success and growth.

From the smallest tasks to the most demanding projects, our Volunteers have shown up with smiles, enthusiasm, and a can-do spirit. Whether assisting in our Foodbank Program, our Kitchen, workshops, or supporting our IT programs, volunteer contributions have made a significant impact. It is because of the tireless efforts of our team that we have been able to create a vibrant, supportive, and inclusive environment for everyone in the 3219 community.

We are especially grateful for the diverse skills and talents our volunteers bring to the Centre. The relationships our volunteers have built and the connections they've fostered within our community are a testament to the power of volunteerism.

To our long-term volunteers who have been with us through thick and thin, and to our new volunteers who have recently joined our ranks, we thank you. Each team member brings something unique and essential to our collective effort, and we are incredibly fortunate to have such a diverse and talented team.

As we look forward to the future, we are excited about the many opportunities and challenges ahead, knowing that we have the best team of volunteers by our side. Together, we will continue to make a positive impact, build stronger connections, and create lasting change in our community.



Our volunteers are the heartbeat of our organisation, powering everything we do with their generosity and dedication.

OUR TEAM

Committee of Management

Mellissa Hutchinson

Rebecca Taylor

Jenny Speed

Staff

Mary Francis | Manager

Chantelle Hodgson | Associate Manager

Catherine Condon | Community Engagement Manager

Peter Burge | Programs Facilitator

Luke Howie | Foodbank Assistant

Summer McDermott | Bookkeeper

Student Placement

Jodie Kemp

Volunteers

Audrey Felniak

Kenneth Howell

Tanya Manuel

Julie Snell-McKinley

Keith Primus

Sev Shephard

Victoria O'Sullivan

David Gravolin

Georgia Baker

Georgia Meyer

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all past staff and volunteers who have contributed to our journey. Your efforts and dedication have laid the foundation for our success, and we honour your invaluable contributions.



Annual Management Report: FY2023-2024

Bellarine Living and Learning Centre Inc.

ABN 81 904 786 713

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Prepared by Fern Business Services

Profit and Loss

Bellarine Living and Learning Centre Inc.

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Cash Basis

	2024	2023
Income		
Trading Profit		
Revenue	116,287	102,978
Total Trading Profit	116,287	102,978
Service Income		
ACFE - Student Delivery Hours	3,469	-
Class Fees - General	-	22
NHVIC Other Income	340	350
Total Service Income	3,809	372
Total Income	120,096	103,349
Other Income		
DFFH-N/bourhood House Program	137,735	111,779
Donations Received	417	-
Interest Income	2,184	558
Other Revenue	932	149
Total Other Income	141,267	112,486
Total Income	261,363	215,835
Expenses		
Depreciation	-	1,501
Accounting	300	300
Advertising	355	338
Audit Fees	4,200	4,000
Bad Debts	-	5,957
Bank Fees & Charges	43	45
Bookkeeping	6,483	10,720
Catering & Event Supplies	46	2,803
Centre Amenities	722	684
Cleaning	11,733	12,915
Consulting Fees (Other)	30,852	4,755
Contractors - ACFE	9,780	10,880
Contractors - other programs	4,188	6,502
Donations Paid	170	-
Grant Expenses - ACFE	181	65
Grant Expenses - Other	4,857	264
GWYL Grant Expenses	4,394	4,606
HR Expenses	3,207	2,396
Insurance	1,246	1,091
IT & Computer Maintenance	1,920	-

Profit and Loss

	2024	2023
Merchant Fees & Charges	3	16
Miscellaneous Expenses	-	2,011
Other Office Expenses	688	1,291
Portable Long Service Leave	2,629	2,625
Postage & Freight	10	16
Printing & Stationery	249	425
Professional Development	-	1,075
Professional Memberships	1,629	1,599
Program Expense - Class Materials	156	1,033
Program Expense - Other	353	531
Rates & Utilities	5,759	4,863
Recycling & Rubbish Removal	202	532
Rent	-	10
Repairs and Maintenance	464	512
Security & Alarms	1,070	597
Square Fees	36	38
Subscriptions	3,625	3,314
Super Salary Sacrifice	-	14,950
Superannuation	15,149	19,683
Telephone & Internet	2,495	2,404
Volunteer Expense	23	227
Wages and Salaries	142,990	177,924
Website Design & Development	778	390
Total Expenses	262,984	305,887
Profit/(Loss) before Taxation	(1,621)	(90,052)
Net Profit After Tax	(1,621)	(90,052)
Net Profit After Distributions/Dividends Paid	(1,621)	(90,052)

Balance Sheet

Bellarine Living and Learning Centre Inc.

As at 30 June 2024

Cash Basis

	30 JUNE 2024	30 JUNE 2023
Assets		
Current Assets		
Accrued Income	11,025	-
BLLC Petty Cash	-	222
Less Provision for Doubtful Debts	(5,957)	(5,957)
Square Clearing Account	-	347
Statement Account	75,294	82,971
Statement Account - Debit Card	1,173	980
Term Deposit Account	93,239	91,055
Total Current Assets	174,773	169,619
Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	15,284	10,625
Total Non-Current Assets	15,284	10,625
Total Assets	190,057	180,244
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
GST	1,003	4,213
ATO Integrated Client Account	11,298	-
Grants Received in Advance	32,400	12,400
PAYG Withholdings Payable	-	7,968
Provision for Leave	13,920	13,920
Rounding	-	-
Superannuation Payable	1,129	9,814
Total Current Liabilities	59,750	48,315
Total Liabilities	59,750	48,315
Net Assets	130,307	131,929
Equity		
Retained Earnings	130,307	131,929
Total Equity	130,307	131,929

Statement of Cash Flows - Direct Method

Bellarine Living and Learning Centre Inc.
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024	2023
Operating Activities		
Receipts from grants	151,508	122,956
Receipts from customers	4,190	409
Payments to suppliers and employees	(158,139)	(212,557)
Interest received	2,184	558
Finance costs	(7,141)	(11,810)
GST	(17,427)	(16,533)
Cash receipts from other operating activities	125,935	112,578
Cash payments from other operating activities	(105,942)	(87,116)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(4,831)	(91,516)
Investing Activities		
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	-	1,501
Payment for property, plant and equipment	(4,659)	(8,994)
Other cash items from investing activities	(5,377)	108,426
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	(10,036)	100,933
Financing Activities		
Other cash items from financing activities	14,645	(10,492)
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	14,645	(10,492)
Net Cash Flows	(222)	(1,076)
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	222	1,298
Net change in cash for period	(222)	(1,076)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	-	222

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Volunteer time and skills

Share your unique skills and experiences to support programs such as Foodbank and various activities, programs and workshops.

Donate supplies

Contribute needed items such as office supplies, art materials, books, food for community meals, or technology equipment.

Financial support

As a not-for-profit organisation we rely on the generosity of our community to sustain and expand our services. If you would like to support us, please consider making a donation.

Donations can be made by visiting the Centre or via Direct Deposit –

Bellarine Living and Learning Centre

BSB 633 000 ACC 102 0497 80

(Please include your surname in the reference field).

Become a Member

Join us today and become a member of the Bellarine Living and Learning Centre, where you can make a positive impact in our community while enjoying a range of enriching programs and activities.

CONTACT US

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