



 **Creeds
Farm**
Living & Learning Centre
Your Neighbourhood House

Annual Report
2022 – 2023



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We respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri Willum People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work and learn, and pay our respects to their Elders, past present and emerging.



Growing together as a welcoming and vibrant neighbourhood house

We reopened our doors in September and have been delighted to see our local community flowing in. Together we are creating a welcoming and vibrant neighbourhood house.

The number and variety of programs and activities with a focus on community-led design has grown, with more than 100 people participating each week. Chatty café, HelpMe Fridays, wellbeing activities like journaling, yoga and managing stress, celebrating and sharing food from the many cultures in our community, craft and creativity, playgroup, keeping active with dance and table tennis, gardening and so much more!

We have beautiful spaces to hire and a variety of local businesses, community groups and people use Creeds Farm for their meetings, projects and activities. We've made it easy to do so, it's all online.

Thank you to the community for making me feel welcome, Yasmin and our volunteers for the skills and effort you share with the Creeds Farm community and to the Board members and Chair who have been an insightful and incredible support.

— Antoinette, Creeds Farm Manager

Thank you to Izolde Bensch, interim manager for helping Creeds Farm reopen with purpose. Welcome to Antoinette Ioannou who joined us as Creeds Farm Manager in February with her warm and welcoming presence and significant community experience.

— Christina, Creeds Farm Chairperson

We love seeing the diversity of cultures, ages and interests enjoying Creeds Farm, meeting neighbours, connecting with each other and new friendships blossoming. We've celebrated special days together including our Open Day and hosting Locals Connecting Locals for Neighbourhood House week with multicultural dancing and drumming.

Thank you to our staff and volunteers, funders, partners, Board members and community. It is a joy to grow together and bring our philosophy of the power of community-led activities to create a vibrant, connected neighbourhood to life.

Keep in touch with us through [Facebook](#) and our [newsletter](#) and [become a member](#) to access free activities. This is your neighbourhood house and we hope to see you here soon

Antoinette Ioannou
Creeds Farm Manager

Christina DiPierdomenico
Chairperson

Our philosophy

We believe in the power of community-led activities and in working with our community to create a vibrant and connected neighbourhood.

Our priorities

Community connection and social inclusion.
Wellbeing and lifelong learning.
Good governance and sustainability.

Our values



Connection



Empowerment



Diversity



Welcoming



Community connection, wellbeing and sustainability

Creeds Farm has thrived with new community led and community informed programs and activities, with a focus on community connection and social inclusion and wellbeing and sustainability. From the weekly chatty café on Wednesdays and the monthly HelpMe Fridays with free child car seat installation and help with no interest loans, NDIS and more, to connecting over food, craft and gardening and keeping active.

Women Connecting Group

The group meet weekly on Thursdays. Each fortnight, the women take it in turns to cook their country-of-origin foods and everyone cooks together and sits down to eat, laugh and chatter. On the alternative week various wellness and relaxation activities are held.

It was fun learning a new card game, the company of the women connecting group makes it more fun.

The staff are wonderful and the cooking always brings people to the group. Afterwards we eat and connect.

— Women Connecting Group members



Sew Happy Craft Group

The Sew Happy Craft Group has grown with new people joining the group. They share their tips and tricks for sewing, organise sewing excursions and share their stories of their outings and crafty adventures over a cuppa.

Every Tuesday during the school terms the sew happy craft group meet. We always have a great time and are supported and made to feel welcome by the Creeds Farm staff.

— Zoe, Sew Happy Craft Group member

The experience with the sew happy craft group has bought me a community of like-minded people. We share ideas and skills with the aim of keeping some of the old skills alive and passed on. This group has also helped me establish a support community outside of Creeds Farm sew happy group.

— Dorothy, Sew Happy Craft Group member



Creeds Creative Group

This group bring their creative activities with them and share space and conversation while working on their own projects including crochet, quilting and creative pot plants.



Playgroup

The Playgroup for children up to 5 has become well known with many people bringing their children and grandchildren and connecting with each other over play, coffee and breakfast. We have the joy of seeing children start to walk and many friendships being made and flourishing



Keeping active at Creeds Farm

Keeping active is healthy for our mind, body and spirit. We've had yoga, chair yoga, dance and will soon introduce a walking group requested by our community.

There is also a couple of community table tennis groups where people practice and play Thursday mornings and Wednesday nights. Everyone is welcome to join.



Creeds Farm Community Garden Group

The community garden is flourishing. Monthly on a Sunday morning people nourish and plant seeds and support the growth of the garden. It is a pleasure to see the community watering the plants and picking fruit, herbs and vegetables for community lunches at Creeds Farm and individual needs.



Bush Tucker Garden and Planter Boxes Projects

We've run gardening projects with children from the local kindergartens and childcare centres.

We have a bush tucker garden of native plants where our volunteer Kelly from Iningai Tribe taught the children about the pig face plant which First Nations peoples use for food and medicine. The children painted a pot with Aboriginal art and planted a pig face to take home.

Every Friday morning in spring and summer the children from Wallaby Childcare watered and sang to the plants in our colourful planter boxes and joined us for a special community garden picnic too!



Beautiful spaces for hire at Creeds Farm



Our unique Z-shaped building is owned by Creeds Farm and was built on sustainable design principles to be a welcoming space for members of our community. It is a warm, friendly and homely space to gather.

We have two disabled parking spaces, wide doorways and hallways, bathrooms and no stairs. The venue is available for hire 7 days a week between 8am and 11pm. The Centre is staffed Mondays to Fridays from 9am to 2pm if you would like to pop in to look at what we offer.

Community and local businesses hire out our spaces for functions and meetings, programs and projects, events, cooking and so much more.

The five areas for hire are:

- A small meeting room called the Apple Tree Room ideal for meetings, small groups training, or one-on-one sessions such as speech therapy, tutoring or appointments with clients.
- A large room called the Fig Tree Room that measures 15x7 meters. It can be divided into two or three separate rooms via movable walls. You can book one, two, or all three branches of the Fig Tree Room. This room is filled with light and looks out on our community garden with the fig trees nearby. Fig Tree Room Branch 3 has a large screen, projector and speakers.



- An open-plan Hub and Kitchen that is a lovely space for serving meals, social catch-ups or cooking demonstrations.



Find out more and book a space on our website: creedsfarm.org.au/venue-hire/

Volunteering with Creeds Farm

As a volunteer at Creeds Farm Living and Learning Centre the manager and team are supportive in allowing the growth of who I am today. My journey at Creeds Farm has taught me about diverse cultures, inclusion, experience in technology, innovative ideas and programs. Creeds Farm has expanded my life experiences of working in an office team, literature and in appreciating life. The lovely people in the area have taught me distinct cultural knowledge and diversity. I would not be where I am today in life if it were not for the support of Creeds Farm and feeling like a welcoming home.

— Kelly Tarlinton, projects, administration and group support volunteer with Creeds Farm



Our volunteers support the variety of programs and activities we deliver. We love the expertise, skills and knowledge they contribute, their creativity and fresh perspectives. They help us expand our reach and impact, building relationships with community and increasing engagement.

Our volunteers are positive and enthusiastic, creating a welcoming and friendly atmosphere for everyone, providing support where needed and enhancing our community spirit.

It's been delightful to support our volunteers to develop new skills, to gain experience and make a difference in their community, many going on to employment.

If you are interested in volunteering [click here](#) to let us know.





Thank you

Many people and organisations have contributed to Creeds Farm during this year, with their time, expertise and funding. Thank you!

Board of Governance

Christina DiPierdomenico	Chairperson
Rohini Padey	Treasurer
Malcolm Shimmins	Secretary
Vinay Nair	
Fiona Fisher	
Ezgi Sahin	
Maha Ahmed	

Our Team

Antoinette Ioannou	Manager
Izolde Bensch	Interim Manager
Yasmin Al Hasani	Administration Officer
Peter Drinan	Finance Officer

Our Volunteers

City of Whittlesea
Neighbourhood Houses Victoria
North-East Neighbourhood House Network
Whittlesea Community Connections
Department of Family Fairness and Housing
Andrew Giles MP
Bronwyn Halfpenny MP
Spectrum
First Grammer Early Education Centre
Galada Kindergarten
Wallaby Childcare
Lendlease

Repurpose IT and Community Development Staff
AV Jennings
Rathdowne Development
Melbourne Airport Corporation
Melbourne Bushfood
Bunnings Epping
Community Gardening & Mowing Services
Teddy Property Services (Cleaning)
Drinan Consulting (IT support)
NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) provider



Treasurer's Report

It is my pleasure to present the 2022-23 financial statement on behalf of the Creeds Farm Living and Learning Centre (Creeds Farm) Board. Our 2022-23 accounts have been confirmed as being a true and fair illustration of Creeds Farm's financial position as at 30 June 2023.

Creeds Farm gratefully receives recurring funding from the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing and the City of Whittlesea. The funding covers employment and operational expenses. We also received other fixed-term grants.

Antionette, the Creeds Farm manager, has been building networks across the local community. She has implemented new strategies so our local community can participate in a variety of activities. The Board is delighted to see the vibrant community space the team has created.

Room hire income is again starting to come in now we are open, following our building being closed for major repairs and improvements. We are working to increase this revenue stream.

The Cash position at the end of FY23 is not as strong as the position of FY22. This is due to accrued expenses from the building repairs and improvements being paid in FY23 and other necessary expenses for our building to be safe and open.

Expense management is in place and the team ensures funds are spent in line with the budget to ensure Creeds Farm is financially sustainable. The Board is working closely with the Manager to explore other income streams that align with our philosophy and values.

I would like to thank the team for their ongoing commitment, dedication and support, Creeds Farm community members, fellow Board members and all our volunteers.

Rohini Padey
Treasurer

Statement by Members of the Committee

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

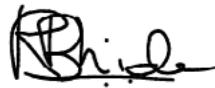
In the opinion of the Members of the Board of the Association:

1. The accompanying revenue statement is drawn up to give a true and fair view of the Association's income for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.
2. The accompanying balance sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs for the Association for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.
3. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association can meet its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with the resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:



Christina DiPierdomenico
Chairperson



Rohini Padey
Treasurer

2 November 2023

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30TH JUNE 2023

	June 2023	June 2022
Assets		
Current Assets		
Bendigo - Operating	9,914	192,100
Bendigo - Savings	18,576	62,971
Bendigo - Term Deposit	28,982	28,781
Petty Cash	—	97
Accounts & Other Receivables	2,483	93,279
Bendigo - Petty Cash	725	805
Current Assets Total	60,680	378,033
Fixed Assets		
Property, Plant & Equipment at Cost	1,823,207	1,825,183
Less Provision for Depreciation	-475,070	-429,689
Fixed Assets Total	1,348,137	1,395,494
Total Assets	1,408,817	1,773,527
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Trade Creditors & Other Payables	7,543	106,746
Provisions - Employee Entitlements	6,199	40,207
Provisions - Other	5,000	163,915
Revenue in Advance	—	20,435
GST Payable	-68	-10,626
Current Liabilities Total	18,674	320,677
Total Liabilities	18,674	320,677
Net Assets	1,390,143	1,452,850
Equity		
Equity		
Opening Balance 1 July	1,452,850	1,286,057
Add Net Income for the Year	-62,707	166,793
Equity Total	1,390,143	1,452,850
Total Equity	1,390,143	1,452,850

INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023

	June 2023	June 2022
Income		
Grants	175,085	299,847
Facility Hire	8,233	—
Other Income	216	70,167
COVID-19 Income Support	1,910	—
Total Income	185,444	370,014
Gross Profit	185,444	370,014
Expenses		
Accounting Fees	8,430	8,830
Advertising & Promotion	3,103	60
Agency & Temp Staff	59,363	5,280
Assets Purchased (Expensed)	871	420
Audit Fees	1,700	1,300
Bad Debt Provision	—	281
Bank Charges	166	61
Board/Governance Expenses	203	1,240
Cleaning & Pest Control	10,039	—
Computer Expenses	5,358	3,584
Depreciation	45,381	41,099
Insurance	6,706	4,237
Membership Fees Paid	1,291	—
Office Expenses	442	—
Payroll Expenses	67,830	116,644
Program Costs	15,397	14,688
Publications and Information	—	114
Repairs & Maintenance	15,391	580
Security Expenses	572	624
Staff Expenses	2,031	624
Sundry Expenses	121	1,047
Telecommunications	1,702	1,533
Utilities	1,599	1,599
Total Expenses	248,151	203,221
Net Ordinary Profit	-62,707	166,793
Net Profit	-62,707	166,793

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023

	June 2023	June 2022
Income		
Grants Received	256,195	271,935
Facility Hire	9,056	—
Other Receipts	216	166
Total Income	265,467	272,101
Expenditure		
Payments to Suppliers & Employees	494,001	103,976
Total Expenditure	494,001	103,976
Net Cash Inflows From Operations	-228,534	168,125
Net Cash Inflows from Investing Activities		
Purchases/Disposals of Fixed Assets	1,977	-138,268
Total Net Cash Inflows from Investing Activities	1,977	-138,268
Net Cash Inflows	-226,557	29,857
Reconciliation of Operating Surplus with Cash Flow from Operations		
Operating Surplus/-Deficit for Year	-62,707	166,793
Add Back Depreciation	45,381	41,099
Total Reconciliation of Operating Surplus with Cash Flow from Operations	-17,326	207,892
Movement in Assets & Liabilities		
Decrease/Increase In Receivables	90,796	-89,042
Decrease/Increase In Creditors & Provisions	-302,003	49,275
Total Movement in Assets & Liabilities	-211,207	-39,767
Net Cash Inflows From Operations	-228,533	168,125
Cash at Bank 30 June		
Cash at Bank at Start of Year	284,754	254,897
Add Net Cash Inflows/-Outflows	-226,557	29,857
Total Cash at Bank 30 June	58,197	284,754
Made Up as Follows		
Bendigo - Operating Account	9,914	192,100
Bendigo - Savings Account	18,576	62,971
Bendigo - Term Deposit	28,982	28,781
Cash Drawer	—	97
Bendigo - Petty Cash Account	725	805
Total Made Up as Follows	58,197	284,754

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial report preparation requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*. The committee have determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

Basis of Preparation

The report has been prepared in accordance with the following applicable Accounting Standards and Urgent Issues Group Interpretations:

AASB 101:	Presentation of Financial Statements
AASB 107:	Cash Flow Statements
AASB 108:	Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
AASB 110:	Events after the Balance Sheet Date
AASB 1031:	Materiality
AASB 1048:	Interpretation and Application Standards

No other Australian Accounting Standards, International Accounting Standards Urgent Issues Group Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Board have been applied.

Reporting Basis and Conventions

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the Association in the presentation of the financial reports. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

Accounting Policies

(a) Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the asset's employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluations are credited to the revaluation reserve

in equity. Decreases that offset previous increases of the same asset are charged against fair value reserves directly in equity; all other decreases are charged to the income statement. Each year the difference between depreciation based on the assets original cost is transferred from the revaluation reserve to retained earnings.

(b) Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated on a prime cost basis over their useful lives to the Association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated carrying amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in the income statement. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

(c) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and Cash Equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks or financial institutions, other short term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short term borrowings in current liabilities on the balance sheet.

(d) Comparative Figures

Comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year where required by accounting standards or as a result of changes in accounting policy, or changes to the accounting period.

To the members of Creeds Farm Living and Learning Centre Inc.:

Report on the financial report

I have reviewed the accompanying financial report of Creeds Farm Living and Learning Centre Inc. (the association) which comprises of the balance sheet as at 30 June 2022, the income statement, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the committee's report.

Committee's responsibility for the financial report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*. The committee determines that the internal control is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the financial report based on my review. I have conducted my review in accordance with auditing standard on review engagements ASRE2415 in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, anything has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the financial report is not presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*. As the auditor of the association, ASRE2415 requires that I comply with the ethical requirements relevant to the audit of the annual financial report.

A review of a financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable me to obtain assurance that I would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, I do not express an audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our review, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Conclusion

Based on my review, which is not an audit, I have not become aware of any matter that makes me believe that the financial report of the association is not in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards as referred to in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Basis of accounting and restriction on distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Creeds Farm Living and Learning Centre Inc. to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*.

As a result the report may not be suitable for another purpose.



Stephen George Le Couilliard
ASIC Registered Company Auditor No:8579
JP Hardwick & Associates
Unit 7 614-643 Spencer Street
West Melbourne Vic 3003
26th October 2023.



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Living and Learning Centre

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