

ANNUAL REPORT

Reporting on the work of the
Venus Bay Community Centre
2024-2025



VENUS BAY
COMMUNITY CENTRE

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2025

As an important agency providing services to the Venus Bay, Tarwin Lower and Walkerville communities, our organisation is well placed to support individuals as well as the broader community. During 2025 our board met to review our Strategic Objectives and to develop an Operational Plan for the next three years. We continue to strive to meet our stated Vision, Purpose and Strategic Objectives:

VISION - The district of Venus Bay, Tarwin Lower and Walkerville is a resilient, vibrant, sustainable and connected community.

PURPOSE – Venus Bay Community Centre is a public institution which has the charitable purpose of advancing social and public welfare by; a) Advancing mental health and preventing social isolation; b) Providing a physical location where it supports individuals to undertake activities, or work on projects, in the company of others.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Strategic Goals:

Objectives: Goal 1: Community

- 1.1 Continue programs and services that enrich our community and foster connections
- 1.2 Expand the legacy of the Art Cubes
- 1.3 Explore the sustainability of the bus
- 1.4 Continue to be an information hub, including social media, regular newsletter, word-of-mouth and use of signage
- 1.5 Advocate on behalf of the community on issues that matter

Goal 2: Environmental Sustainability

- 2.1 Preserve, protect and enhance the natural environment
- 2.2 Implement elements of the Community Plan for Community Energy including:
 - Tarwin Recreation Reserve battery projects
 - Household and small business efficiency education and upgrades
- 2.3 Grow the recycling enterprise and pursue circular economy initiatives

Goal 3: Partnerships and Networks

- 3.1 Maintain existing partnerships and networks
- 3.2 Seek new strategic partnerships
- 3.3 Contribute to external planning that impacts our 'community

Goal 4: Governance

4.1 Maintain a professional and skilled Board of Governance.

4.2 Financial integrity and sustainability

4.3 Succession planning

4.4 Risk management

4.5 Maintain policies and procedures

Our investments, planning and activities are based on these strategic objectives, and we are proud to be making great progress in many of these areas. In particular, the Art Cube project has been a flagship initiative that will have on-going impacts for our community.

The Energy Resilience Project continues to move along. It is being conducted on behalf of the entire

Venus Bay and Tarwin Lower communities but it is auspiced and partially funded and resourced by

the Venus Bay Community Centre. The Tarwin Lower Recreation Reserve Battery Project will deliver real value for the entire community. Our board provides support and governance to these activities. Sunny, our electric bus, is one of the more visible products of the energy project and we are confident that it will become a permanent feature in our community.

We continue to welcome all members of our community into the Centre, whether permanent

residents, part-timers, or visitors, and our programs and services always consider this broader community.

We seek and encourage feedback from all these groups on how best we can grow and deliver valuable services. The range of activities offered is wide, appealing to many parts of our community.

Our organisation is generally in a good financial position, but our organisation works hard to ensure that we have sufficient resources to fund new and on-going projects as needed by our community. We should also recognise that such activities require effort on the part of our staff and volunteers and our planning must continue to consider these precious resources.

Our board continued to meet as scheduled. It is a friendly and supportive group, made up of

enthusiastic and engaged members, who each bring their own strengths, experiences and interests.

Our meetings are always constructive and enjoyable, and I thank every one of them for their contributions in the past year.

It has been a great privilege for me to serve as President for this past year, my sixth in the role. I have

enjoyed working with the staff, board and volunteers. In particular, I must again thank our amazing team of Alyson Skinner and Carol Campbell for their stellar efforts in the past year.

Wendy Lawrence



Our Values

Our work is guided by core values that shape every decision, program, and interaction:

- **Environment:** We value and protect our natural surroundings, considering environmental impact in all decisions.
- **Shared Ownership:** We exist to serve the community, with local voices guiding our services.
- **Participation:** We encourage engagement, providing opportunities for everyone to contribute.
- **Integrity:** We act with honesty, transparency, and fairness in all that we do.
- **Respect:** We embrace diversity of culture, ability, belief, and life experience.
- **Creative Thinking:** We seek innovative solutions and embrace new opportunities.
- **Professionalism:** We communicate effectively and act competently in all areas.
- **Fun:** We cultivate a welcoming, enjoyable environment where connection and creativity thrive.

These values aren't just words on a page — they are **lived every day** by our staff, volunteers, and participants, underpinning everything we do and ensuring that the Centre is a hub of wellbeing, learning, and community spirit.

It is always a pleasure to report on the work of the Venus Bay Community Centre each year – it's so hard to capture everything in one report!

We have had an eventful and busy year; this is a time to acknowledge our staff and volunteers without whom the Centre could not function.

To my colleagues Carol Campbell (Project Coordination and Administration), Karolyn Marlow (Recycling Enterprise Coordinator), Sue Peterson (Plant Group coordinator), Jorde Chambers and Sam Neeman (Bookkeeping) and Heather Bland (Centre cleaning) I give my heartfelt thanks! It is a joy and a pleasure working with you all.

To our volunteers who bring passion, expertise, skills and loads of enthusiasm – thank you!

To our Board members – thank you for your unwavering support, guidance and commitment to ensuring our Centre is run effectively and always with community at the heart of everything we do.

Alyson Skinner



Venus Bay Community Centre: Purpose, Values, and Volunteers

At the Heart of Our Town

At the Venus Bay Community Centre, we are proud to be a place where locals and visitors alike come together to connect, support one another, and build a resilient, vibrant, and sustainable community. As part of the Neighbourhood House network, our work is community-led — responding to local needs with practical support, shared projects, and a whole lot of heart.

When you walk through our doors, it might feel a little chaotic — and that's often because it is! From emergency food relief and youth programs to transport solutions, digital support for older residents, and major environmental initiatives, the Centre hums with activity and purpose.

One of the key ways we fund this vital work is through the **Venus Bay Recycling Centre**, our community-run Op Shop. Every donation of clothing, books, furniture, or household items is transformed into opportunities for the community. While the goods themselves are generous contributions, it takes time, effort, and resources to sort, clean, display, and manage them. The income generated ensures that we can offer a wide range of services: weekly community lunches, low-cost school holiday programs, digital support for seniors, food relief, the operation of our community bus, and much more.

Even small contributions make a big difference. Every dollar spent at the Op Shop directly supports the people and projects of Venus Bay and Tarwin Lower. It allows us to leverage grants, fund larger projects such as the **Community Energy Battery Project at Tarwin Recreation Reserve**, and provide essential resources for families during tough times.

Volunteers: The Heart of the Centre

No story about the Centre is complete without recognising the extraordinary contribution of our **volunteers**. They are the lifeblood of our operations and the unsung heroes who keep the Centre thriving.

Our **Recycling Enterprise** exemplifies this. Volunteers receive, sort, price, and display hundreds of donations each week, keeping the shop functional and welcoming. At the end of every day, they clean, organise, and prepare for the next shift — all behind the scenes, often unnoticed but essential for the success of the Centre.

This year, we welcomed many new volunteers, each bringing unique skills, knowledge, and energy. Some create signage with precision, others untangle jewellery for sale, and some simply fold clothing — every contribution counts and builds a sense of accomplishment. Beyond practical tasks, volunteers foster a caring and supportive culture, sharing stories, recipes, and laughter during breaks. Social excursions, like a recent trip to Loch in Sunny, strengthen bonds, deepen friendships, and celebrate the joy of working together.

Volunteers are also the **face of the Centre**. They answer questions from the community — from local petrol stations to market days, from



Sunny the Bus schedules to resources for families — and their warmth and knowledge extend the reach of the Centre across Venus Bay. By tracking volunteer hours, we can now see the scale of this contribution: hundreds of hours each week, supporting programs, services, and initiatives that strengthen the fabric of our community. Every task, every story, every smile demonstrates that our volunteers are **truly the heart and soul of the Venus Bay Community Centre**.

MAJOR PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

1. Sunny: Driving Community Connection and Sustainability

Sunny, our electric eBus, is more than just a vehicle — she is a **lifeline for community connection, sustainability, and access** in Venus Bay and surrounding areas. Now in her second year of service, Sunny embodies VBCC's commitment to **innovative, community-driven solutions** that meet local needs while demonstrating environmental leadership.

Connecting People and Places

Sunny provides essential transport services across our community, including:

- **Scheduled routes** to Wonthaggi, Leongatha, and local towns, helping residents access shopping, healthcare, and social opportunities
- **Social outings and special trips**, enabling groups and individuals to explore local attractions or attend events
- The annual **Summer Beach Shuttle**, safely transporting hundreds of visitors and locals to popular beach destinations during the busy holiday season

Through these services, Sunny tackles one of rural life's persistent challenges: **limited transport options**. By offering a safe, reliable, and flexible service, Sunny ensures that community members remain connected, active, and socially engaged, regardless of age or mobility.

Sustainability in Action

Sunny is a zero-emissions vehicle — a tangible step toward reducing our community's **carbon footprint** and demonstrating the possibilities of **clean energy transport**. She serves as a **living example** for the community of how sustainability and practicality can coexist. Beyond environmental impact, Sunny has become a **conversation starter** about renewable energy, responsible resource use, and the future of transport in regional Australia.



Community Engagement and Participation

Sunny is powered not just by electricity, but by **community spirit**. Volunteer drivers are essential to her operation, providing safe and friendly service while building relationships along the way. Each journey becomes an opportunity for social connection, whether passengers are making new friends or sharing stories with familiar faces.

The eBus also strengthens engagement with **local schools, clubs, and community groups**, supporting outings, social programs, and education initiatives. By bridging physical distances, Sunny fosters **community cohesion** and ensures that no one is left isolated due to transport limitations.

Achievements and Recognition

Sunny's innovative approach has not gone unnoticed. VBCC's eBus project has been awarded the **Gippsland Climate Change Award** for the third year in a row, highlighting both the **environmental and social impact** of this initiative. The award recognises Sunny as a model of regional climate action, innovation, and community leadership.

Challenges and Lessons Learned

Running Sunny is not without its challenges. Technical issues, vehicle maintenance, and compliance with transport regulations have tested our resilience. This year, we navigated unexpected battery failures, repair delays, and regulatory changes — all while maintaining services for the community. These experiences have provided **valuable lessons** in logistics, advocacy, and the importance of **dedicated coordination and funding**.

Through these challenges, Sunny has highlighted the **real cost of innovation**, emphasizing that transformative projects require not only vision but ongoing support, resources, and skilled people.

Looking Ahead

The next phase for Sunny involves:

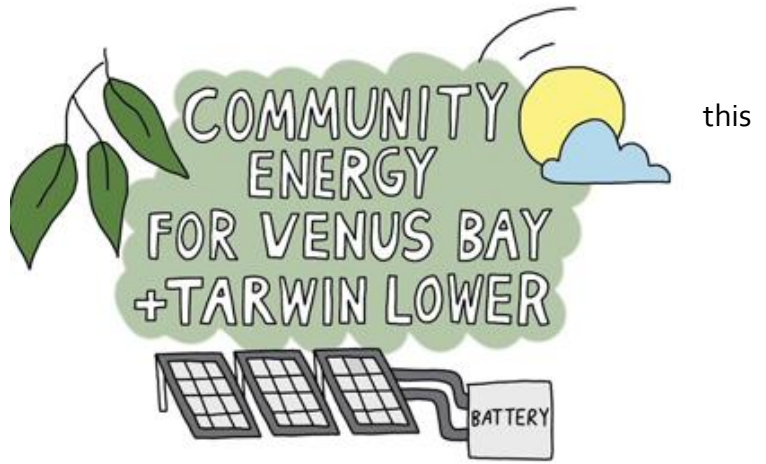
- Advocating for **long-term funding** to support a dedicated Bus Coordinator
- Ensuring **vehicle reliability and safety** for volunteers and passengers
- Expanding service opportunities based on community feedback
- Promoting the **Friends of Sunny campaign** to build local support and sustainability

Sunny is more than a transport solution — she is a symbol of VBCC's **commitment to community, sustainability, and creative problem-solving**. Each journey she makes strengthens bonds, opens opportunities, and reminds us that innovation and care can go hand in hand.



2. Community Energy Project: Powering a Sustainable Future

The **Community Energy Project** is one of the most ambitious and exciting initiatives undertaken by the Venus Bay Community Centre year, reflecting our commitment to sustainability, innovation, and local empowerment. At its core, the project is about giving our community **control over its energy future**, reducing reliance on external grids, and creating a tangible pathway toward cleaner, more resilient energy solutions.



Tarwin Rec Reserve Community Battery Project Vision and Goals

The project proposes the installation of a **100 kWh community battery** at the **Tarwin Lower Recreation Reserve**. This is not just a piece of infrastructure — it's a platform for learning, participation, and practical climate action. The main goals include:

- **Energy Resilience:** Providing backup power to local facilities in times of disruption and reducing peak energy demand
- **Household and Business Support:** Empowering residents and small businesses to optimize energy usage and reduce costs
- **Community Engagement:** Educating the community about renewable energy, storage solutions, and sustainable living
- **Environmental Impact:** Reducing carbon emissions through locally managed renewable energy



Progress to Date

Securing approvals and partnerships has been a significant early achievement:

- **Permissions** granted by the **Tarwin Lower Recreation Reserve Committee**
- Endorsement from **South Gippsland Shire Council**
- Collaborative agreements with **Mycelia Renewables** to support planning, technical design, and future operations

The project team, including VBCC staff and volunteers, has devoted **hundreds of hours** to application preparation, research, and planning. The **100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program** application, submitted

on **29 October 2024**, included a detailed project plan covering technical specifications, community engagement strategies, and sustainability measures.

Community Engagement and Education

Beyond technical installation, the project prioritizes **community involvement**:

- Local residents and businesses are being consulted to identify opportunities for **household efficiency upgrades**
- Community workshops are planned to demonstrate how energy storage works and how households can participate in energy savings programs
- Educational resources will be developed for schools and community groups, creating a hands-on learning environment

This approach ensures that the battery is **more than a power storage unit** — it becomes a hub for learning, innovation, and participation.

Strategic Partnerships and Collaboration

The success of the project relies on **strong collaborations**:

- **Mycelia Renewables**: providing technical expertise and grant application support
- **DEECA (Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action)**: funding and strategic oversight through the 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program
- **Changing Weather/Coalition for Community Energy**: providing expertise about all things community energy
- **South Gippsland Shire**: enabling permissions, community engagement, and ongoing support

This multi-level partnership demonstrates how **local action, regional expertise, and government support** can combine to deliver outcomes that benefit the community now and for years to come.

The Community Energy Project exemplifies VBCC's role as a **catalyst for local solutions**, combining innovation, education, and community leadership. It represents a **blueprint for sustainable energy in rural communities**, with potential for replication across Gippsland and beyond.

With support from South Gippsland Shire Council Resilience funds – a workshop was hosted at the Tarwin Lower Bowling Club on ***What does Resilience Look like for us*** – particularly around the district of Tarwin Lower and in relation to the Community Battery project that is about to commence at the Tarwin Rec Reserve.

Participants were asked

How can local people and the reserve facilities support and strengthen resilience across the Tarwin Lower-Venus Bay townships and wider district.



Community members participated in small group and whole group discussions about resilience, hazards and risks that pose threats to community resilience and the types of things the community needs and hopes to do to strengthen resilience.

A draft Community Resilience Plan will be compiled from community responses and shared with the wider community – providing a roadmap of actions and aspirations that can guide further action and development.

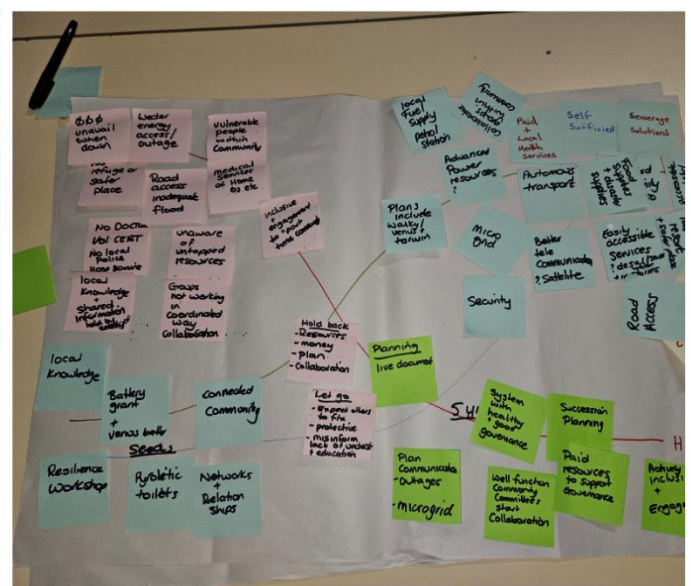
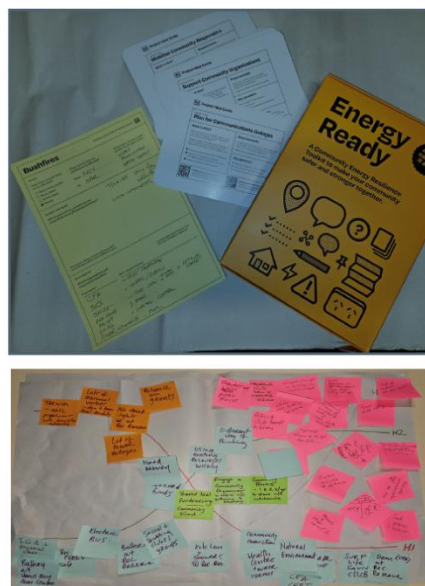
What might a resilient community look like?

A definition of resilience in common use is: *"The ability to resist, absorb, adapt to and recover from shocks or stresses"*

- Features of resilience communities can be (but are not limited to):
- Understand potential risks and are prepared
- Know their strengths and how to build upon them
- Work together and look after everybody
- Value inclusion and participation
- Can self organise and build capacity
- Are able to adapt, learn, improvise and innovate
-

The workshop produced some great ideas and storytelling and prompted interesting discussions about what resilience means in rural communities including the need for energy reliability and

affordability and strengthening community connections and the well-being of community members.



Participants used the Three Horizon method to think about what needs strengthening, what needs letting go of, what needs changing and what innovations will take us to our shared vision. Others used the Energy Ready Toolkit hazard assessment tools to share with the group.

It was a great exercise of imagining the future together and starting a plan for our shared resilience.



The Venus Bay Community Centre Artcubes project can only be remembered as a resounding success. The behind the scenes work started about the middle of 2024 when the shopkeepers were asked if they agreed that the overflow carpark on the corner of Jupiter Boulevard could be used to situate the Cubes. Having been a construction site for the previous two years, they agreed it was a good site and Council approved.

The concept was to make the site a welcoming usable community space attractive to community and visitors alike and a place to have good experiences throughout the summer and all the major public holiday weekends. A million ideas were floated, discussed, and sifted through, finally settling on a series of site activations that would encourage people to the site for the benefit of the community and the benefit of the artists.

The project kicked off in style with a well-attended launch in summer sunshine. The band Travelight & Gerard Evans provided a festive atmosphere for all. There were dancers enjoying the live music, picnics, and children experimenting with art activities and physical games rather than devices. Smiling faces were everywhere. We know there were plenty of takeaway dinners from the local shops eaten onsite that night. South Gippsland Water provided us with a water trailer to provide free water to people in town that whole weekend.

This set the scene for the next three months as the program delivered a range of activities to support the rotation of artists through the cubes. Amanda Diamond, Sonia Zalucki and Terrie Thompson introduced us to their creative skills with a smile and plenty of conversation. The denim whales were introduced to the public and 12 lucky owners got to take one home. The KOGO (knit one give one) knitting became a popular activity onsite and elsewhere and is continuing. It came Kate Stuart, The Men's Shed and Claire Wieland we have such a colourful and diverse mix of people, skills, organisations and talents in Venus Bay. How good was the handmade cannon?

Sonia Weston chose to do her Cultural Heritage talk on the site to a willing and interested audience even though it was an extremely warm day. The shade of the banksia trees on the corner gave relief from the heat.



Soon after came the Open Mic– it turned out to be a sweltering day but the musical talent who chose to join in with Wally's leadership, encouragement and organisation, were loudly applauded. On that same day you could talk to the CFA about fire plans and get all your burning questions answered – children trialled shooting water at targets while Mum and Dad chatted with the CFA members and looked through the Art Cubes. The next rotation there was a space so Kate Stuart stayed on, working on investigating the geology of the Tarwin River, the colour of the clays, how they respond to shaping and firing. You cannot get more local than that. Tracie Mitchell continued to dig into her Waste Experiment, focussing this time, on the scraps, the threads, the minutiae of textile waste. Venus Bay's own Ben Everitt filled a cube with his latest book illustrations introducing us all to 'Grandma's Stuff.' Jorja returned to provide another Arty workshop table for children while parents wandered through cubes and talked to artists.



We then trialled an outdoor cinema. The conditions were perfect and the blankets, chairs, picnics and rugs were rolled out. The movie 'Blueback' was based on a story by Tim Winton and proved to be quite fitting for an art space. The main character, when young, was obsessed with drawing under sea life. Those drawings went on to be the catalyst for their town council declining a large development. Let's hope our creative community comes together if the developers try to 'improve' Venus Bay.

And after all that were exposed to the very accomplished Lily Palmer, Jade McAlear, Mandy Gunn and Cathy Hayward who brought their own highly refined and unique skills to the Artcubes. The grand finale event was touch and go as we watched the weather apps all morning and into the early afternoon. The sky cleared, the clouds of rain went around us and Karavana Flamenca had people up and dancing in no time. The Artcubes shone brightly with their handmade items and the crowd helped us celebrate the end of a wonderful three month project.

As a Community Centre one of our main aims is to connect community to each other in healthy, respectful ways. The ArtCube project was an ideal vehicle to showcase the skills of local artists and create an environment that the visitors would want to come to whilst experiencing the heart and soul of our unique Community and in one public space!



We know that Art can serve as a powerful catalyst for creative solutions. It encourages unconventional thinking and fostering innovation. Through all its forms art challenges individuals to perceive problems from new perspectives and explore ideas. Art can stimulate emotion, imagination, conversation and often new approaches and out-of-the-box strategies. The Artcubes are getting ready to leave Venus Bay but the conversations have only just started.

We are all feeling pretty good about that.

Recycling Enterprise: Sustainability, Skills, and Community Impact

The **Venus Bay Community Centre Recycling Enterprise** is more than a shop — it is a vibrant hub where sustainability, skill-sharing, and community connection intersect. Over nearly ten years, the enterprise has become a **flagship program** of the Centre, demonstrating the power of recycling, creative reuse, and volunteer-led initiatives in strengthening community life.

A Hub of Activity

The Recycling Enterprise operates as a busy, welcoming space for community members to donate, shop, and learn. Volunteers work tirelessly behind the scenes to **receive, sort, clean, price, and display items**, ensuring the shop runs smoothly and efficiently. The enterprise sees high levels of engagement, especially over school holidays, when donations and sales increase significantly.

By offering an accessible place for people to recycle unwanted goods, the shop reduces landfill waste, **promotes environmental sustainability**, and encourages mindful consumption. Items are often reused creatively by community members, giving objects a new life and purpose.



Volunteers: The Engine of Success

The enterprise is entirely powered by volunteers, who dedicate **hundreds of hours each week** to sorting, pricing, and maintaining the shop. Their efforts extend beyond the operational — volunteers share knowledge, mentor new members, and foster a sense of camaraderie that permeates the space. The shop is a **community learning environment**, where people pick up skills in administration,

retail, organisation, and even jewellery or clothing care.

Volunteers also become informal **ambassadors for the Centre**, answering questions, sharing information about local services, and welcoming new community members. Their work strengthens social cohesion and ensures the enterprise remains a vital and inclusive community resource.

Economic and Social Value

The Recycling Enterprise contributes to the Centre's **financial sustainability**, generating income that supports programs and initiatives across the Centre. Beyond financial value, the enterprise delivers **immense social benefits**:

- Reduces environmental impact through recycling and creative reuse
- Provides a safe, welcoming space for social connection and engagement

- Supports skill development and learning for volunteers and community members
- Acts as a hub for intergenerational interaction, fostering inclusion and belonging

Looking Ahead

The Centre continues to explore ways to **expand the impact of the Recycling Enterprise**, including strategic management of donations, new volunteer roles, and opportunities to integrate with creative projects like the Art Cubes. These initiatives aim to **increase engagement, enhance sustainability outcomes, and create lasting benefits for the Venus Bay community**.

The Recycling Enterprise exemplifies how a **community-led initiative** can combine sustainability, education, and connection, creating tangible value for people, the environment, and the broader community. It stands as a **testament to the dedication of our volunteers** and their ability to turn effort into impact.

Community Lunches: Nourishing People and Connection

At the Venus Bay Community Centre, **Community Lunches** are much more than a meal — they are a gathering point, a source of connection, and a space where people of all ages and backgrounds come together to share food, conversation, and community spirit. Held weekly, these lunches have become a cornerstone of life at VBCC, embodying our mission to foster inclusion, learning, and connection.



Building Social Connections

For many participants, Community Lunches provide an opportunity to step out of isolation, meet neighbours, and form meaningful friendships. In a

region where distances between towns and communities can feel vast, the lunch table becomes a hub of social interaction.

- Older residents benefit from companionship and support networks, helping combat loneliness and isolation.
- Families and younger community members connect across generations, sharing stories, skills, and experiences.
- Volunteers and participants collaborate in a relaxed, welcoming environment, strengthening bonds across the community.

The lunches also foster a sense of **belonging**. People know they are welcome, no matter their background or circumstances. For some, it's a safe space to engage, share, and participate — an environment that reflects the values of respect, generosity, and mutual care that underpin VBCC.

Supporting Health and Wellbeing

Community Lunches promote more than social connection; they are a platform for **wellbeing and nutrition**. Meals are thoughtfully prepared with fresh ingredients, often highlighting local produce and seasonal foods. For many participants, the lunches provide a wholesome meal that contributes to **physical health**, while the relaxed, social setting supports **mental and emotional wellbeing**.

Volunteering, Skills, and Shared Leadership

The lunches are powered by volunteers who contribute cooking, serving, and organisational skills. This involvement creates a **shared sense of purpose** and ownership among participants. Many volunteers gain confidence, leadership experience, and a deeper connection to the Centre and the wider community. In this way, Community Lunches are not just for eating — they are a place where people contribute, learn, and grow together.

A Space for Community Events and Learning

Community Lunches often serve as a gateway to other programs and events at VBCC. Residents attending lunch may also participate in **craft groups, plant groups, writing circles, or workshops**, creating multiple layers of engagement. The lunches act as a bridge — connecting people to other services, projects, and learning opportunities — reinforcing VBCC's role as a **central hub for community life**.

Impact on the Broader Community

Beyond individual benefits, Community Lunches help **strengthen social cohesion**. They create networks of mutual support, encourage volunteerism, and foster a culture of sharing and generosity. They are an accessible, welcoming space where neighbours meet, collaborate, and build resilience together.

In essence, Community Lunches are the **heart of the Centre** — a place where people come for nourishment, leave with friendship, and return knowing they are part of a caring, vibrant community.



Community Activities: Connection, Creativity, and Fun

At the Venus Bay Community Centre, **community activities** are at the heart of everything we do. They are more than just programs — they are spaces where people connect, share skills, and nurture wellbeing. From crafting to cooking, writing to games, our regular activities provide something for everyone, fostering **social inclusion, learning, and laughter**.

Social Groups: Building Belonging

Our social groups are vibrant hubs of connection. Weekly and monthly gatherings provide participants with opportunities to meet neighbours, form friendships, and engage in meaningful conversation. Whether it's sharing stories at **Travel Tales**, debating ideas at **Book Club**, or learning together in smaller workshops, these groups foster a **sense of belonging** and community identity.

Cooking Programs: From Kitchen to Community

Food brings people together, and our **cooking programs** do just that. From general cooking workshops to our specialized **Men's Social Cooking group**, participants not only learn new culinary skills but also develop **confidence, teamwork, and friendship**. These sessions often turn into informal mentoring opportunities, where participants share recipes, techniques, and life experiences, creating bonds that extend far beyond the kitchen.



Craft and

Creativity: Hands-On Learning

Our **craft groups** provide a creative outlet for all ages. Participants engage in knitting, crochet, painting, and other hands-on projects — fostering **mindfulness, skill development, and self-expression**. Crafting together also nurtures a sense of **shared achievement**, as projects are often displayed at the Centre or shared with the wider community.

Games Nights: Fun and Friendship

Games nights at VBCC are a highlight for many in the community. From card games to board games, these evenings are about more than competition — they are about **laughter, teamwork, and building intergenerational connections**. Regular attendees often describe these sessions as a key part of their social calendar, providing a sense of routine and anticipation.

Music and Performance

Our **Ukulele group** continues to grow in popularity, with members performing publicly and delighting audiences across the community. This year, we purchased **capos** to enhance the musical experience, and we adjusted meeting times to make participation easier for all. Music at VBCC is not just an activity; it's a way to **connect, celebrate, and share joy**.

Culinary Adventures

Food is central to community, and our cooking activities continue to delight and engage participants:

- **Spit Making, Bread Making, Wonton Making** — hands-on sessions allow participants to explore diverse culinary techniques while sharing stories, traditions, and recipes.
- These programs not only teach skills but **encourage teamwork, confidence, and cultural exchange**, strengthening bonds between participants.

Writing Groups: Voices and Stories

The **writing group** offers participants the chance to express themselves, explore ideas, and share personal stories in a supportive environment. Through weekly sessions, members develop confidence, creativity, and communication skills, while connecting with others who share a passion for storytelling. The group also acts as a **bridge to other programs**, encouraging participants to engage in broader Centre activities.

Gardening and Nature

The **Gardening Group** connects participants with the natural world, providing opportunities for learning, outdoor activity, and collective care of local green spaces. Gardening fosters **wellbeing, mindfulness, and environmental awareness**, while allowing members to share knowledge and harvest the benefits of their efforts together.



Holiday Programs

During school holidays, VBCC hosts **special holiday programs** that engage children and families in creative, educational, and fun activities. These programs provide a safe, welcoming environment where young participants can explore, play, and connect with peers — and where families can enjoy community support. Holiday programs often complement our regular offerings, introducing new faces to the Centre and encouraging intergenerational participation.

Festive Celebrations

Christmas at VBCC is a highlight of the year. We host summer festive activities that bring the whole community together:



- **Santa on the Fire Truck** delivers joy to children, with over 100 presents distributed each year. Thanks to our CFA volunteers and community support, this event has become a much-loved local tradition.



- **Christmas Activities and Craft Sessions** give families the chance to make decorations, gifts, and seasonal keepsakes, fostering creativity and celebration.

Impact and Value

These programs are about more than skills — they nurture **social connection, creativity, and resilience**. Participants form friendships, share knowledge, and feel a sense of belonging. Through regular activities and special projects, VBCC fosters **community cohesion** and provides a safe, welcoming space for people of all ages and backgrounds.

By blending **arts, music, cooking, gardening, and crafts**, VBCC ensures that everyone can find a place to **learn, share, and belong**, strengthening the fabric of our community while celebrating creativity, culture, and collaboration.

VENUS LOVES UKE!

Since its conception in March 2023, the VBCC 'Venus Loves Ukulele' (VLU) group has continued to thrive, fostering a strong welcoming sense of community.

The group continue to meet weekly, all year round - and everyone is welcome. You don't need to know how to play as we'll show you.



Lead by local Paul Redmayne, our group have played to the public on a number of occasions, including supporting an International Canadian singer/songwriter Scott Cook, who performed on the back bone of the Port Fairy Festival into the 'Festival of Small Halls' - Tarwin Lower Mechanics Hall.

We played for the opening of the Venus Bay Art Cubes, and are booked to play on stage at the Tarwin Lower Festival on Cup Weekend, 2025.

We've also started to perform at the Open Mic evenings at The Riverview Hotel (2nd Thursday of the month). During 2025, a German Family lived in Venus Bay for 3 months, and became part of the VLU group. They loved it, and commented how unique to be invited to play with us.

It's not everyone's 'cup of tea' to play to a live audience, and you certainly don't have to.

VBCC has a few loan ukulele's and some players bring their spare ukes for interested players.

We plan to play at some of the VBCC Community Lunches, depending on player availability.

Playing the ukulele - It's a great way to meet and become part of the community.

Please join us on Thursdays and know that you will be welcomed. We pay \$5 each a week, and can request the funds be used for things we need. There's even some talk about purchasing a small PA system, for use at the VBCC and possibly our gigs.

A huge shout out to Paul Redmayne for establishing the group - his continuing dedication, ongoing support and kindness is just lovely also thanks to Phil Scott and Bill Kara for their support.

Another shoutout to Alyson, Carol and all the VBCC staff for your undying support. We love it on Thursdays when you sing with us!

Reaching our Community – Matter of Fact

Our free community newsletter Matter of Fact is produced and published each month – distributed to over 1,110 people online, and with printed copies available in local shops, outlets and at the Centre, as well as current and back issues available on our website – this publication is an enduring feature of our community. Going strong for over 15 years – it aims to provide accurate and timely information about things that matter to our local community and district.

This is complemented by social media information and stories about day to day happenings and is used as an information source and engages with the broad range of community members and visitors to our patch.

Stakeholder Relationships: Collaboration, Advocacy, and Community Impact

The Venus Bay Community Centre continues to build and maintain **strong relationships with a wide range of stakeholders**, both locally and regionally. These partnerships are essential to delivering impactful programs, advocating for our community, and pursuing our strategic goals. From local clubs to state-wide networks, these connections allow us to leverage knowledge, resources, and opportunities to support a **resilient, sustainable, and connected community**.

1. Social Enterprise Network of Victoria (SENVIC)-As an active member of SENVIC, the Centre contributes to a **state-wide movement of purpose-driven social enterprises** that deliver community benefits by sharing insights on social enterprise development with organisations across Victoria; presenting the Centre's projects, including the Community Energy Project, at key forums and conferences, raising our profile and influence within the sector and advocating for small, rural communities through General Manager Alyson Skinner's role as a **Board Director of SENVIC**, strengthening Victoria's social enterprise ecosystem.

2. Gippsland Social Enterprise Collective (GSEC) and Regen Gippsland

The Centre's continued engagement with GSEC & Regen Gippsland supports social innovation across the region by participating in workshops, forums, and strategic discussions on rural social enterprise: sharing the of our Community Recycling Enterprise, inspiring other small towns to adopt sustainable, community-focused business models and strengthened our regional collaboration to create solutions that are **replicable and sustainable** across Gippsland.

3. Local Clubs and Community Groups

At the local level, strong partnerships enable us to deliver programs that **directly benefit the community**: including Beach safety (Venus Bay Surf Life Saving Club); Fire safety & preparedness (Country Fire Authority), Health safety and awareness (Community Emergency Response Team and Tarwin Lower Health Centre) and other projects and mutual support with local clubs and groups.

4. South Gippsland Shire Council and Local Businesses

The Centre's partnership with the Council remains **central to operations and project delivery**. Provisions included maintenance support, including upgrades (we are now fully electric!!) and support through the Community Grant program. Local businesses also support the Centre by collaborating on the **Recycling Enterprise** and food security programs, strengthening community connections and creating local employment opportunities.

6. Neighbourhood Houses Gippsland & Neighbourhood Houses Victoria (NHVIC)

Through NH Gippsland, the Centre benefits from a **regional network of 20+ neighbourhood houses**, sharing resources, advocacy, and collaborative solutions for rural challenges. NHVIC provides support on policy, governance, and capacity building,

Conferences and Public Engagement

Over the past year, the Centre has **actively shared our projects and expertise**:

- Attended the **Social Impact in the Regions Conference (NSW)**, exploring innovative approaches to rural community programs.
- Presented at the **Australian Energy Week Community Energy Conference (Melbourne)**, highlighting our Community Energy Project.
- Delivered a presentation at the **Gippsland New Energy Conference**, sharing insights on both the Community Energy Project and the Sunny eBus initiative.



Looking Ahead

These partnerships and engagements continue to **strengthen the Centre's reach and capacity**, enabling us to advocate for our community, share our successes, and learn from other organisations. In the coming year, we will maintain and expand these relationships, ensuring that Venus Bay remains a **connected, resilient, and thriving community**.



Venus Bay Community Centre Inc

ABN 90 401 341 885

Annual Report - 30 June 2025

Venus Bay Community Centre Inc
Officers' report
30 June 2025

The officers present their report, together with the financial statements, on the incorporated association for the year ended 30 June 2025.

Officers

The following persons were officers of the incorporated association during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

Wendy Lawrence	President
Glenn Davis	Secretary
Jon Hall	Treasurer
Tracie Mitchell	Ordinary Board Member
Peter Wolhuter	Ordinary Board Member
Jenny Rouget	Ordinary Board Member
Henry O'Clery	Ordinary Board Member
Robb McGregor	Ordinary Board Member
Judith Walker	Ordinary Board Member

Principal activities

During the financial year the principal continuing activities of the incorporated association was to provide services, training, education and courses to the local community.

On behalf of the officers

W.M. Lawrence

7 October 2025

Venus Bay Community Centre Inc
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30 June 2025

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General information

The financial statements cover Venus Bay Community Centre as an individual entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is Venus Bay Community Centre's functional and presentation currency.

Venus Bay Community Centre is a not-for-profit incorporated association, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business are:

Registered office	Principal place of business
27 Canterbury Road, Venus Bay, Victoria, 3956.	

A description of the nature of the incorporated association's operations and its principal activities are included in the officers' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 7 October 2025.

Venus Bay Community Centre Inc
Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Revenue	3	232,127	272,157
Expenses			
Administration and operating expense		(43,022)	(111,506)
Employee benefits expense		(185,837)	(179,834)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(2,395)	(3,448)
Surplus/(deficit) before income tax expense		873	(22,631)
Income tax expense		-	-
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax expense for the year attributable to the members of Venus Bay Community Centre		873	(22,631)
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the members of Venus Bay Community Centre		<u>873</u>	<u>(22,631)</u>

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Venus Bay Community Centre Inc
Statement of financial position
As at 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	156,816	145,832
Trade and other receivables	5	2,992	1,166
Other	6	-	1,835
Total current assets		<u>159,808</u>	<u>148,833</u>
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	7	<u>7,316</u>	<u>8,120</u>
Total non-current assets		<u>7,316</u>	<u>8,120</u>
Total assets		<u>167,124</u>	<u>156,953</u>
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	8	39,910	29,733
Employee benefits	9	<u>19,188</u>	<u>15,873</u>
Total current liabilities		<u>59,098</u>	<u>45,606</u>
Non-current liabilities			
Employee benefits	10	<u>4,323</u>	<u>8,517</u>
Total non-current liabilities		<u>4,323</u>	<u>8,517</u>
Total liabilities		<u>63,421</u>	<u>54,123</u>
Net assets		<u>103,703</u>	<u>102,830</u>
Equity			
Retained surpluses		<u>103,703</u>	<u>102,830</u>
Total equity		<u>103,703</u>	<u>102,830</u>

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Venus Bay Community Centre Inc
Statement of changes in equity
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Retained surpluses \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2023	125,461	125,461
Deficit after income tax expense for the year	(22,631)	(22,631)
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	(22,631)	(22,631)
Balance at 30 June 2024	<u>102,830</u>	<u>102,830</u>
	Retained surpluses \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2024	102,830	102,830
Surplus after income tax expense for the year	873	873
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	873	873
Balance at 30 June 2025	<u>103,703</u>	<u>103,703</u>

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Venus Bay Community Centre Inc
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from operations		230,301	219,288
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		<u>(217,726)</u>	<u>(304,674)</u>
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	12	<u>12,575</u>	<u>(85,386)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		<u>(1,591)</u>	<u>(1,862)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(1,591)</u>	<u>(1,862)</u>
Net cash from financing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		10,984	(87,248)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		<u>145,832</u>	<u>233,080</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	4	<u><u>156,816</u></u>	<u><u>145,832</u></u>

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Note 1. Material accounting policy information

The accounting policies that are material to the incorporated association are set out below. The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year, unless otherwise stated.

New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

The incorporated association has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

Basis of preparation

In the officers' opinion, the incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements.

These are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and Victorian legislation the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012, the Fundraising Act 1998 and associated regulations. The officers have determined that the accounting policies adopted are appropriate to meet the needs of the members of Venus Bay Community Centre.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 'Presentation of Financial Statements', AASB 107 'Statement of Cash Flows', AASB 108 'Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors', AASB 1048 'Interpretation of Standards' and AASB 1054 'Australian Additional Disclosures', as appropriate for not-for profit oriented entities.

Historical cost convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the incorporated association's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in note 2.

Revenue recognition

The incorporated association recognises revenue as follows:

Grant income

When the association receives operating grant revenue, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the association:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the association:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (eg. AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138)
- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer)
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

Note 1. Material accounting policy information (continued)

Trading income

Trading income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

Other income

Other income is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

Income tax

As the incorporated association is a charitable institution in terms of subsection 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax.

Current and non-current classification

Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non-current classification.

An asset is classified as current when: it is either expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the incorporated association's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting period; or the asset is cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is classified as current when: it is either expected to be settled in the incorporated association's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period; or there is no right at the end of the reporting period to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non-current.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any allowance for expected credit losses. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

The incorporated association has applied the simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses, which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on days overdue.

Other receivables are recognised at amortised cost, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

Property, plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment (excluding land) over their expected useful lives as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	4-10 years
Plant and equipment	4-10 years

The residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the assets, whichever is shorter.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when there is no future economic benefit to the incorporated association. Gains and losses between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds are taken to profit or loss.

Note 1. Material accounting policy information (continued)

Trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the incorporated association prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. Due to their short-term nature they are measured at amortised cost and are not discounted. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and long service leave expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Other long-term employee benefits

The liability for annual leave and long service leave not expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Goods and Services Tax ('GST') and other similar taxes

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the tax authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of the acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority is included in other receivables or other payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the tax authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority.

New Accounting Standards and Interpretations not yet mandatory or early adopted

Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet mandatory, have not been early adopted by the incorporated association for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2025. The incorporated association has not yet assessed the impact of these new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations.

Note 2. Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management continually evaluates its judgements and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenue and expenses. Management bases its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events, management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting judgements and estimates will seldom equal the related actual results. The judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities (refer to the respective notes) within the next financial year are discussed below.

Estimation of useful lives of assets

The incorporated association determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

Venus Bay Community Centre Inc
Notes to the financial statements
30 June 2025

Note 3. Revenue

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Grant income	112,581	180,887
Trading income	105,420	85,640
Other income	14,126	5,630
	<u>232,127</u>	<u>272,157</u>
Revenue	<u><u>232,127</u></u>	<u><u>272,157</u></u>

Note 4. Current assets - cash and cash equivalents

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Cash on hand	150	150
Cash at bank	156,666	145,682
	<u>156,816</u>	<u>145,832</u>
	<u><u>156,816</u></u>	<u><u>145,832</u></u>

Note 5. Current assets - trade and other receivables

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Trade receivables	2,992	14
Other receivables	-	1,152
	<u>2,992</u>	<u>1,166</u>
	<u><u>2,992</u></u>	<u><u>1,166</u></u>

Note 6. Current assets - other

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Prepayments	-	1,835
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,835</u>
	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,835</u></u>

Note 7. Non-current assets - property, plant and equipment

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Plant and equipment - at cost	12,112	10,521
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(6,409)	(5,009)
	<u>5,703</u>	<u>5,512</u>
Fixtures and fittings - at cost	7,469	7,469
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(5,856)	(4,861)
	<u>1,613</u>	<u>2,608</u>
	<u><u>7,316</u></u>	<u><u>8,120</u></u>

Venus Bay Community Centre Inc
Notes to the financial statements
30 June 2025

Note 8. Current liabilities - trade and other payables

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Trade payables	16,579	244
BAS payable	19,002	21,641
Other payables	4,329	7,848
	<u>39,910</u>	<u>29,733</u>

Note 9. Current liabilities - employee benefits

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Annual leave	<u>19,188</u>	<u>15,873</u>

Note 10. Non-current liabilities - employee benefits

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Long service leave	<u>4,323</u>	<u>8,517</u>

Note 11. Events after the reporting period

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2025 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the incorporated association's operations, the results of those operations, or the incorporated association's state of affairs in future financial years.

Note 12. Reconciliation of surplus/(deficit) after income tax to net cash from/(used in) operating activities

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax expense for the year	873	(22,631)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and amortisation	2,395	3,448
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables	(1,826)	1,822
Decrease/(increase) in prepayments	1,835	(736)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	10,177	(8,322)
Decrease in employee benefits	(879)	(4,276)
Decrease in other operating liabilities	-	(54,691)
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	<u>12,575</u>	<u>(85,386)</u>

Venus Bay Community Centre Inc
Officers' declaration
30 June 2025

In the officers' opinion:

- the incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. Accordingly, as described in note 1 to the financial statements, the attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and Australian Capital Territory legislation the Associations Incorporation Act 1991, the Charitable Collections Act 2003 and associated regulations;
- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Accounting Standards as described in note 1 to the financial statements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the incorporated association's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the incorporated association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the officers

W.M. Lawrence

7 October 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REVIEW REPORT

To the members of Venus Bay Community Centre Inc

Report on the Financial Report

We have reviewed the accompanying financial report of Venus Bay Community Centre Inc, which comprises the statement of financial position as at the 30 June, 2025, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

Officers' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that 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 our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Auditing Standards on Review Engagement ASRE 2400: Review of a Financial Report performed by an Assurance Practitioner who is not the Auditor of the Entity, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, we have become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the financial report is not in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 or the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 including:

- i. giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June, 2025 and its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

ASRE 2400 requires that we comply with the ethical requirements relevant to the review of the 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 us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly we do not express an audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our review, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. We confirm that we are independent of the Association as required by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our Financial Report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

Conclusion

Based on our review, which is not an audit, we have not become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the financial report of the entity is not in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 including:

- i. giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June, 2025 and its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022.

Connect National Audit Pty Ltd

CONNECT NATIONAL AUDIT PTY LTD
Authorised Audit Company Number 521888
Chartered Accountants

Dated this8.....day ofOctober, 2025

Tony Ager

Anthony Ager, Chartered Accountant, RCA
Audit Principal

Dated this8..... day of...October, 2025