

# MALDON NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE INC.



## ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22



**Maldon  
Neighbourhood  
Centre Inc**

Friendship & Learning

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Front Cover

### **Good Looking self-portrait workshops (detail)**

done during lockdown as part of the Connect Maldon project

## President's Report

What a relief it is to begin this report without having to reference a pandemic and its adverse effect on the Maldon Neighbourhood Centre (MNC). I'm aware that we still have challenges to face but Spring is in the air and I'm feeling optimistic.

A focus for the Committee of Management has been affirming the Centre as an important focus of community activity while at the same time recruiting key members of staff and welcoming new faces. Having supported Amy in her return to study and future planning we were thrilled to see her move on in an exciting new venture but sad and slightly terrified at the prospect of finding someone to fill such noteworthy shoes. Mixed emotions indeed. Amy's nine years with the MNC saw extensive growth and development. The commitment to community that Amy demonstrated has inspired all who came into her world, and we all owe her an enormous debt. Her legacy goes on however as the strong foundations she laid upholds future planning.

Further dilemmas presented themselves when an exceptionally strong field of candidates threw their hats in the ring to take up the position. Enter John Bainbridge who joined us in April with extensive experience in Neighbourhood Houses as well as having worked closely in community-based roles. It has been a pleasure to work with John as he continues to deepen his knowledge of our community and develop his interaction with the Centre and the Committee.

We were also sad to lose the talented Kir Larwill this year. Kir has been a creative dynamo in developing and implementing several projects at the Centre. Through her excellent project work she leaves behind flourishing programmes that have taken a permanent place in MNC offerings. We miss her and wish her well for the future.

The Committee also held a recruitment round for a new Market Co-Ordinator and we consider ourselves fortunate to have found Lyn McShanag available to take on the position. The Market has had a challenging year and Lyn has proved an invaluable asset in juggling the needs of the community, the stallholders and other stakeholders.

The Centre wouldn't manage without the team of volunteers that keep the wheels rolling day after day. I would like to thank everyone who contributes their time, effort and love at the MNC. Of course, this includes the Committee of Management who continue to meet monthly in person and by zoom to assist in managing the present and planning the future. Your contribution is invaluable. Thank you again.

Carolyn Palmer

## Coordinator's Report

Hi everyone, if you haven't met me yet, I am John, the new coordinator. I've recently moved into the region after a number of years working in community centres in the inner city and western suburbs of Melbourne.

The last 12 months has brought a lot of changes to our organisation, operating through lockdowns and serving our community. The pandemic impacted our operations and programs needed to adapt to regular changes to requirements and the goal of keeping our community safe.

Our Occasional Childcare service has worked together to provide a fun and engaging environment for our little folk. Numbers have steadily increased to capacity and we now have a wait-list for places. Anna (Childcare coordinator), Julie Anne, Veronica, Lesley (volunteer) are our creative and caring team, with Courtney leaving us early in 2022.

Our weekly Playgroup is going strong with great volunteers and numbers steadily increasing. Meeting through covid restrictions in a safe way they maintained a great connection and support. New families mean this will bring about a focus for the future in catering to young families.

The Baringhup-Maldon Community Bus has been busy this past year with charters increasing, regular runs to Castlemaine, Maryborough and Kangaroo Flat. New marketing was undertaken from a grant from Maldon & District Community Bank. Bus tours have been popular with trips to art galleries, wineries, gardens, op shops, picnic and hotel lunches. The team of drivers have been dedicated to providing a professional service to our community. Thanks David, Stewart, Jan, Ken, Neville, Paul and Robert. An EOI was submitted for an Electric Bus from the Department of Transport and we are hopeful of some good news soon.

The Maldon Community Lunch continued to operate during lockdown and resumed face to face serving 20-40 meals each week and a rotating team of dedicated volunteers cooking, serving and cleaning. We welcomed Pam & Lynn, our two new lunch coordinators, who take turns in leading the team. We thank Madeline for her support and dedication over the years. We would like to thank the Mount Alexander Shire Council who fund the lunch.

Our educational offerings were put on hold due to Covid but recommenced in 2022 with a number of courses including such as Interior Decoration, Landscaping Principles, Chainsaw Workshops, Connecting to this Country and Cooking Together. We appreciated partnering with Maldon Men's Shed to present the Woodwork courses.

Our Walking groups, run in partnership with CHIRP Community Health and Maldon Hospital (Dhelkaya Health) continues strongly with regular walks 3 mornings a week. "Out of Town" walks have been very popular as our walkers get to explore and enjoy walks in our region.

Maldon Market: Hand Made, Home Grown moved to the Bill Woodfull Recreation Reserve to operate Covid-safe markets in accordance with public health directives. It proved very popular with patrons and stallholders. New council requirements for using the oval has meant we have scoped out other options to look to a 'permanent' home for our fantastic market. Chris Hain has left the role after five years and our new Market Coordinator Lynn McShanag has stepped up to the challenge of learning the ropes and has proved very capable.

Be connected IT support continued with our volunteers Fiona & Geoff on Thursday mornings. MNC assisted with Power Saving Bonus and getting COVID certificates onto phones . Other weekly programs included Tai Chi, Chair Yoga, Easy Steps to Fitness – we thank our great tutors.

The Centre received some much appreciated attention with a new playground fence, and a new iron roof on our Hall. Thanks to Peter for organizing a fundraiser and re-homing the old roof to people in Maldon and its surrounds.

Our auspice organisations have resumed since pandemic restrictions have lifted.

Thanks to staff here at the centre – Kir who excelled in newsletters, communications and program support and development and recently moved onward. Mary, our amazing volunteer who welcomed everybody with a smile and a cuppa. Wendy our terrific cleaner, and book-keeper Mary Whittle, who is proficient in processing the breadth of activities such as a neighbourhood house.

Finally, the warmest thanks to Amy, who after nine years in the role left it a much stronger and vibrant organization.

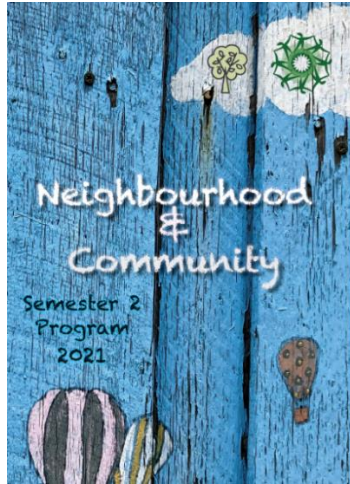
This has been a big year for us, we are looking forward and expect a great future for our house and community in 2023 and beyond.

And if I haven't met you yet, I hope I do soon – feel free to drop in and have a cuppa and a chat.

Cheers

John Bainbridge





## Treasurer's Report

### OVERVIEW

The Maldon Neighbourhood Centre is in a strong financial position. The Centre made a deficit of \$67,422 for the year and had net assets of \$154,841 at 30 June 2022.

### REVENUE AND EXPENSES

The table below compares revenue and expenses for 2021/22 with 2020/21:

	2021/22	2020/21	Increase (decrease)
Revenue	\$221,135	\$368,996	(\$147,861)
Expenses	\$288,557	\$308,132	(\$19,575)
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$67,422)	\$60,864	(\$128,286)

Revenue for the year was lower than the previous year and marginally less than budget. Revenue was negatively impacted due to ongoing effects of covid-19 on operations, which with no Government COVID Assistance in this financial year played the major part in the deficit. It should be noted that with the Government assistance in the previous financial year the Centre had a surplus last year very close to the deficit this year. Expenses were also lower than the previous year, as budgeted, but more than budgeted due in the main to additional staff costs caused by covering isolation/illness periods and the costs of staff changes.

Revenue and expenses by major program areas are shown in this table:

Program Area	Revenue	Expenses	Net
Education Services	\$40,118	\$26,938	\$13,180
Business Services	\$104,369	\$185,142	(\$80,772)
Community Bus	\$6,197	\$9,890	(\$3,693)
Community Lunch	\$9,967	\$17,819	(\$7,853)
Community Market	\$19,178	\$15,279	\$3,899
Occasional Childcare	\$29,530	\$31,658	(\$2,128)
Other Programs	\$11,776	\$1,831	\$9,945
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$221,135</b>	<b>\$288,557</b>	<b>(\$67,422)</b>

The performance of the auspice groups has been excluded from the revenue & expenses report, providing a clearer picture of the performance of the Centre. All auspice groups are solvent. Funds held on behalf of these groups are reported under Balance Sheet below.

## BALANCE SHEET

At 30 June 2022 the Centre's total assets were \$185,641. Total liabilities were \$30,800, resulting in net assets of \$158,641. The table below compares assets and liabilities for 2021/22 with 2020/21.

	2020/21	2019/20	Increase (decrease)
<b>Assets</b>	\$185,641	\$280,293	(94,652)
<b>Liabilities</b>	\$30,800	\$62,051	(31,251)
<b>Net Assets (Equity)</b>	\$158,641	\$218,242	(\$63,401)

The major assets at 30 June 2022 were cash held in term deposits (\$130,870) and operating accounts (\$29,588).

Major liabilities were Trade Creditors (\$7,385), provision for employee entitlements (\$6,701), Payroll Liabilities (PAYG & Super) (\$4,856) and auspice groups (\$10,954).

## FUNDING

This section lists the Centre's main funding sources and which activities they funded:

### The Victorian Government

The Department of Health & Human Services – about 75% of the Coordinator's salary, through the Neighbourhood House Coordination Program.

Adult, Community and Further Education Board (ACFE) contracted MNC to provide a pre-accredited education program

Flexible Local Transport Grant

Take a Break Funding – in partnership with Federal Government towards provision of Occasional Childcare

### Mount Alexander Shire Council

Significant funding for the Maldon Community Lunch

Provision of MNC premises

### Maldon & District Community Bank

Building our Children's Resilience – Young at Heart playgroup

Marketing for Baringhup-Maldon Community Bus

### Good Things Foundation

Digital Literacy for Older Australians

### Miscellaneous activities

Other small grants and sponsorships

Fees

Fundraising (mainly in conjunction with the Maldon Market)



## **AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Centre's revenue for the financial year was close to the threshold (\$250,000) stipulated in the Associations Incorporation Reform Act (2012), and as directed by the Committee a formal audit of its finances was undertaken. The financial statements for 2021/2122 were audited by Mal Telford, CPA. His report is available for inspection.

Danny Murphy  
Hon. Treasurer  
Maldon Neighbourhood Centre

6th November 2022

# Independent Audit Report