



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

# **2015**

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## ***VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT***

***Vision:*** *Trudewind Road Neighbourhood House will continue to strive to be a community based organisation with the ability to meet the changing needs of the community in a flexible, innovative and inclusive manner.*

***Mission:*** *Trudewind Road Neighbourhood House aims to provide the opportunity for people of all ages to extend their knowledge in a relaxing and non-competitive environment and to be receptive to the changing needs of the community.*



# **TRUDEWIND ROAD NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE INC**

## **Chairperson's Report 2015**

*Trudewind Neighbourhood House is a vibrant, welcoming place of learning and friendship, Trudewind is a place where all people feel a sense of belonging and acceptance.*

*I would like to thank the Committee of Management members for the richness and diversity they bring to our organisation. Their commitment to Trudewind is really gratifying and ensures that the process of planning and decision making is done in a democratic, cohesive way, with highly successful outcomes.*

*Appreciation and recognition needs to be given to our funding bodies, which include DHHS, ACFE, Border Trust Community grants and City of Wodonga. It is with their financial assistance that opportunities for learning and social interaction are initiated and sustained at Trudewind Neighbourhood House.*

*I acknowledge and thank the team here at Trudewind, Sue Lees, Nicki Curtis and Lyn Plant for always being willing to go above and beyond their roles. I would also like to thank the dedicated tutors, volunteers and group leaders for contributing to another highly successful year at Trudewind.*

*Leisha Deery*

## **TRUDEWIND ROAD NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE INC**

### **Management Committee**

*Chairperson: Leisha Deery*

*Vice Chairperson: Robyn Patterson*

*Treasurer: Lyn Plant*

*Assistant Treasurer: Vacant*

*Secretary/Public Officer: Sue Mason*

*General Committee Members:*

*Sue James*

*Greg Haysom*

*Heather Williams*

*Gwen Ledwidge*

*Scott McDowell*

### **Staff**

*Coordinator: Sue Lees*

*Admin. Assistant: Nicki Curtis*

### **Tutors:**

*Robyn Patterson*

*Nicki Curtis*

*Sue Mason*

*Heather Paech*

*Sallie Browne*

*Heidi Hemmerling*

## Coordinator's Report 2015

*It is with much pride that I present my fourth annual coordinator's report. Throughout 2015 Trudewind continued to be a thriving centre, delivering a great range of activities to the community.*

*Programs at Trudewind are planned primarily in response to community needs. We have a flexible approach which enables us to respond quickly and effectively, whether by keeping ahead of technological advances or by embracing ideas for new activities.*

*Occasionally I walk through the foyer and pause and listen. I hear busy chatter and laughter coming from behind the doors and feel a great deal of satisfaction in the knowledge that so much skills development, sharing, confidence building, social interaction and enjoyment is happening under our roof.*

### **Trudewind Management Committee**

*The Management Committee ensures the centre is operating within funding guidelines, ethical and legal requirements are being met, the needs of a broad sector of the community are represented, policies are kept current and relevant and a host of other responsibilities.*

*I would like to thank the 2015 Management Committee for its dedication and cohesive approach to managing the direction of our organisation. It is a privilege to be part of such a great team.*

### **Funding and Financial**

***Department of Health and Human Services Victoria** provides Trudewind's coordination funding equivalent to 20 hours per week under the Neighbourhood Houses Coordination Program. This is Trudewind's core funding, central and vital to our continued role in community development.*

***Adult Community and Further Education (ACFE)** funding enables Trudewind, as a Learn Local organisation, to offer pre-accredited courses providing pathways to further study or employment, at affordable rates to our community.*

***The City of Wodonga** supports Trudewind both in providing our venue, financial contribution, and subsidising some on-going costs.*

***A Border Trust Community Grant** supported the expansion of Trudewind's arts program*

***Trudewind Road Neighbourhood House** recognises and thanks the following for their support and financial contribution:-*



## *Trudewind Road Neighbourhood House 2015*

### **Adult Education Classes**

#### **Computers and technology**

*Trudewind offered a range of pre-accredited and fee for service computer classes catering for beginners through to those with some computer experience. We responded to a demand for Android and iPad classes, strongly attended by seniors, a trend which continued to grow throughout 2015. There was also an increasing demand for one-on-one computer training, mostly from individuals needing to upgrade skills for the workplace. Our focus on helping learners gain confidence in a friendly environment achieves good results for seniors, job-seekers and others who want to gain some skills before transitioning to volunteering, further study, employment or just generally for improving their skills. Positive outcomes for learners are only achievable through the skill and commitment of our tutors, who share the philosophy that learning should be enjoyable, self-paced and relaxed.*

#### **Arts and Crafts**

*A diverse range of arts and crafts groups and classes were conducted throughout 2015, including Creative Writing, Introduction to Oil and Acrylic Painting; Water Colour Painting, Pastel Drawing, 'Bring your Own' Craft groups, Card Making and Paper Craft. A grant from Border Trust enabled us to offer many short 'Come and Try' classes, introducing learners to techniques in water colour, oil, acrylic, texture and inks.*

#### **Community Garden**

*The Community Garden was well supported by the help of several hard working volunteers. It continues to be a place where our community can go to relax and socialise in pleasant surrounds.*

#### **Thursday Youth Group Card Night**

*It has been great to see so many young people gathering at the centre each Thursday evening to play Yu-gi-oh or Magic the Gathering card games. It is a well organised group which has regular theme nights and enjoys the occasional barbeque and pizza night.*

#### **Weight Loss Group**

*Attendance has been consistently high at the Friday morning Weight Loss Group, which offers friendship, support and information to those interested in weight loss through healthy eating and gentle exercise.*

#### **Playgroups**

*Two to three playgroups per week ran throughout the year. Playgroups offer opportunities for young children to interact socially and develop skills away from their home environment, and also for their parents to enjoy the company of others.*

*Trudewind Road Neighbourhood House 2015 cont...*

### ***Other Groups/Room Hire***

*Trudewind continued to provide a venue for many groups including SITE, Aspire disability groups, Card Making and Paper Craft groups, Anxiety and Depression Support Group, Albury Wodonga Scale Modellers, and many other casual room hire groups.*

### ***Upper Murray Regional Neighbourhood House Network***

*Trudewind is a part of the Upper Murray Neighbourhood House Network and I have had the privilege of holding the position of Chairperson this year. It is a strong network of centres which meets regularly to share information, resources, ideas and provide support. Trish Curtis commenced as Network Coordinator in January 2015.*

### ***Other significant events 2015***

#### ***'Facets' 2<sup>nd</sup> Art Exhibition***

*Twenty two members from various art groups and classes took part in our second annual art exhibition, 'Facets' at Creators Artspace during Seniors Week in October. Seventy-seven works were exhibited. Nearly 200 people visited the exhibition, approximately 180 volunteer hours were contributed to the event. Three works donated by our generous tutors were donated for a raffle which raised over \$300.*

#### ***Kitchen Table Conversations***

*In consultation with Cathy McGowan, Federal Member for Indi we took part in a series of well attended Kitchen Table Conversations through April and May. Lively discussions resulted, revolving around local issues, which were then reported back to Cathy McGowan's office together with the results of many other conversations held in Indi.*

#### ***Trudewind Garage Sale***

*Trudewind held a Garage Sale in October at which member were invited to hold a stall. It was a successful day and also a great way to promote the neighbourhood house to the community.*

#### ***The Courtyard Office***

*We took possession of the end office when Maternal and Child Health vacated late in 2015. This has given us some much needed additional space, a small meeting room and also the potential for some room hire*

#### ***Student Placement***

*We were fortunate to secure the assistance of Amy Smith Moore as part of her welfare placement. Amy conducted a survey of 72 of our members to collect information on the*

## *Trudewind Road Neighbourhood House 2015 cont...*

### ***Student Placement cont...***

*services we offer. The results were extremely positive in validating what is happening at Trudewind. There is a very high level of satisfaction with our programs, staff, volunteers, facilities and services. It also gave us some ideas for future planning, much of which has been adopted.*

### ***Fundraising***

*Quality handmade crafts such as teddies, dolls' clothes and cards were displayed and offered for sale in the foyer throughout 2015, along with our ever expanding book exchange. This has been the start of a social enterprise venture to be undertaken in 2016 when the foyer will be transformed into a gallery in which to exhibit artworks and handicrafts, together with improved shelving for the book exchange.*

## ***Trudewind Statistical information***

### ***Summary:***

*Average attendance: 181 people per week*

*Activities: 68 hours per week*

*Centre open: 50 weeks per annum*

*Staff hours: 32 per week*

*Volunteer Hours: 68 per week*

### ***Programs/activities for 2015:***

*Art/Craft: 257 sessions*

*Youth Groups: 77 sessions*

*Computer classes: 236 sessions*

*Community events: 18 events*

*Family Support: 42 sessions*

*Literacy & Numeracy: 40 sessions*

*Playgroups: 130 sessions*

*Health focus groups: 72 sessions*

*Life Skills: 44 sessions*

*Adult Ed pre/non accredited: 160 sessions*

*Sue Lees*

*Coordinator*

*Annual Report 2015*