



2023

Annual Report

# Acknowledgments

The Yackandandah Management Committee would like to thank the Victorian Government through the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing for the continued funding which allows the organisation work for the betterment of the Yackandandah Community.

The committee would also like to thank Neighbourhood Houses Victoria and the Upper Murray Regional Neighborhood Network, in particular, the network coordinator, Trish Curtis for her continued support and guidance.

Yackandandah Community Centre (YCC) acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of the land in which we live and work and recognise their continued custodianship and connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.



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## Our Mission

*Yackandandah Community Centre is where a our community connects and grows together.*

## Our Vision

*To be an organisation people want to work with.*



We strive to;

- develop pathways and opportunities for individuals and organisations to connect, learn and collaborate
- create a sense of belonging for everyone to meet
- build capacity of other not-for-profits
- seek opportunities to auspice new community groups
- coordinate a diverse range of affordable programs and activities depending on local need

# Our Strategic Pillars

**Be an organisation people want to work with** - *by building and strengthening partnerships and collaborations.*

**Strengthen our organisation capacity** - *by supporting and encouraging professional development and learning opportunities.*

**Develop a strong and positive profile across the community** - *by developing a communication plan including an increasing a social media presence.*

**Connect people with opportunities** - *by creating a space for people to engage and proving an easily accessible meeting place for local groups to connect.*

# Our People: Management Committee

Our 2023 Management Committee comprised of nine active locals who were responsible for setting the strategic direction of YCC as well as provide organisational governance. The Management Committee met bi-monthly to discuss community needs and how YCC can best encourage community connection and support other community organisations.

Phil Buerckner, a long standing treasurer for YCC who ensured that YCC maintained financial stability, passed the position onto Robynne Hall in October 2023. In addition, due to personal commitments, Glen Aberle stepped down from the committee in September 2023.

2023

Chair

Karen Keegan

Vice  
Chair

Bill Dee

Secretary

Sarah Caplice

Treasurer

Phil Buerckner & Robynne Hall

Member

Owen Smith

Member

Desley Haas

Member

Glen Aberle

Member

Chantelle McConchie

# Our People: staff

In 2023 YCC employed four local community members on a part time basis totalling 47.5 hours per week. YCC also contracted a local bookkeeper to assist with financial management. Jane Murphy commenced as Manager in April.

Our staff are friendly and approachable, they are an ear to our community and ensure the daily operations of YCC are productive and enjoyable for all that interact with it.

## Manager

### **Jane Murphy**

Managed the day-to-day organisational operations, worked alongside the committee, staff and volunteers.

## Op Shop Coordinator

### **Sue Butler**

Coordinated the community op shop by sorting donations and displaying goods for sale.

## Administration Assistant

### **Carolyn Conlan**

Administrative support for Manager and answering community inquiries.

## Project Officer Comms. Strategy

### **Jessee Schulz-Dahlenburg**

Completed the YCC Communications Strategy including the re-branding of our organisation.

# Our People: Volunteers

Our local volunteers are an integral part of our organisation, they show up every week to operate the op shop, tend to our new food share program and help with administration, all with a smile on their face.

Our volunteers have made positive impacts on the community because the work that they do in the Community Op Shop generates funds that are distributed back into our community through the annual YCC community grants program.

Our volunteers:

**Andrea O'Neil**

**Celia Hansford**

**Christine Szirom**

**Christine Pearce**

**Desley Haas**

**Helen Eyre**

**Helen Nelder**

**Ian Back**

**Jan Hutchings**

**Joan Peters**

**Joan Wallace**

**Julia Silver**

**Julie Methven-Kelley**

**June Matthews**

**Lee-Anne Benson**

**Libby Schmidt**

**Lee Hogg**

**Lyn Buerckner**

**Marijke Mascas**

**Mark Eyre**

**Mary McKenzie-McHarg**

**Max Maddock**

**Pauline Cook**

**Ruth Maddock**

**Trish May**

**Shirley Pilkington**

**Wilma Walsh**



# Chair & Manager's Report

**In 2023 the Yackandandah Community Centre found a new energy that strengthened community connections.**

In the second quarter of 2023, we welcomed Jane Murphy as the new Manager, replacing Manager of five years David Thorpe. As Jane settled into the position, she has undertaken a range of operational in-house audits and checks, which have led to improvements in HR processes and procedures, particularly payroll, financial management and insurance compliance. All of this work has been done in addition to finalising projects, implementing new initiatives, strengthening our community connections and ensuring that YCC is available and responsive to the community. Since Jane's commencement, Karen initially met with Jane weekly, to provide her with support and advice as she settled into the job, the meetings progressed to fortnightly and phone contact in the interim periods of time. It is important that all committee members take the time to keep in contact with the Manager, to visit the office when they can and check in with all staff and volunteers.

Community engagement through communication was identified as a crucial component of YCC's success, so we implemented a review of our communications processes, reviewing the channels we utilise to communicate with the local and broader community. These channels included website, email, posters, noticeboards, social media, Yackity Yak articles, Volunteer updates, Managers reports and the Annual report. A key outcome of this review was a proposal to rebrand to align with other Indigo Shire communities and to refresh our look and feel. This was completed by local freelance Graphic Designer Jessee Schulz-Dahlenburg who strengthened our community identity by highlighting the connection between Yackandandah Community Centre, the Community Op Shop and the Community Garden.

YCC has strengthened relationships with our Auspicing groups, the Yackandandah Women's Shed (YWS) and the Yackandandah Community Garden (YCG), by offering administrative support and meeting with them regularly to ensure that they are well supported in their purpose. Early talks are underway with the YWS to become an incorporated entity, something YCC is keen to help facilitate as they grow from strength to strength.

Our 2023 programs focused on community resilience and emergency preparedness. Launching the defibrillator project was a highlight, collaborating with many local groups and providing a valuable resource to our small community. Following that up with a community event, bringing our emergency service providers together and offering community workshops, alongside the CFA, to encourage local households to think through critical questions, with the purpose of better preparing them for any emergency.

Come 2024, there will be some changes to our management committee, as Chair Karen Keegan concludes her time with us. Karen has supported the Manager through the recent operational changes and has been a huge advocate and voice for YCC, particularly through representation at other community meetings and projects. Changes to committees are inevitable, with change comes new ideas, new energy and continued service to our community.



**YCC Committee Members - Chantelle & Karen**

We gained two new committee members in 2023, Dee Haas and Robynne Hall, they have settled in and are making valued contributions to the work of the committee. A big thank you to Chantelle who is stepping down from the committee, Chantelle has been the Secretary and a general committee member, she always been available, supportive and focused on YCC. With the stepping down of two committee members, it will open an opportunity for others on the committee to consider stepping into executive positions.

***We have continued to build connections and relationships with individuals and groups, right across our community, this is the core work of our community centre.***

Finally, thank you all committee members, staff and volunteers for the support given to the Chair and the Manager throughout the years at YCC. Each year we have continued to be financially sound, we provide a fair and much needed grant program giving back into our community, with the amazing work of the volunteers in the Op Shop being the backbone of our financial stability and grant process.

*Karen Keegan - YCC Chair  
Jane Murphy - YCC Manager*

# Snapshot of 2023



**Yackandandah**  
COMMUNITY CENTRE



## COMMUNITY OP SHOP

4,108 Total Volunteer Hours  
and plenty of Quality Goods  
Recycled

## COMMUNITY GRANTS

\$15,030 granted to  
10 Community Groups



## MEETING ROOM

Used 97 Hours per month,  
helping 56 different local  
groups per year

## COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

13.26kW solar panels &  
16.6kWh battery installed at YCC



# Treasurers Report

On examination of the current financial statements for the Yackandandah Community Centre (YCC) all appears to be in order and correct as at today's date 23 April 2024.

Currently, the financial situation is reporting a loss of \$23,445.76 over the previous year (2022).

Factors which had significant influence over this loss were affected by the requirement to modify back pay for Op Shop employee plus the superannuation adjustment.

New in this financial report to note is the transition to a new financial system, Xero from the outdated MYOB format. The previous format was cumbersome and rife with duplicated account categories potentially causing incorrect cost allocations. Accounts are now consolidated practically and more streamlined to reflect cleaner, clearer, more accurate reports.

2023 also introduced a new bookkeeper, Alyce Pritchard (APBAS) to undertake a refreshed approach to maintaining the financials for YCC. Alyce is highly competent in managing the financial tasks for community groups whilst also familiar with the newly adapted Xero bookkeeping platform.

Additionally, a new interim Treasurer was appointed in October 2023.

It should be noted however that there were significant risks outlined in the JohnsonsMME Audit Report - 2021 which were apparent and, at date of this Report, now well underway to resolve or now resolved. These will continue to be worked on within the Operating Group and minuted at future meetings.

Overall, the Gross Profit of \$155,055.31 with Total Expenses of \$172,445.76 resulted in the Net Loss for YCC of (\$23,445.76)

## ASSETS

- Bank Assets - \$59,799.92
- WAW Term Deposit - \$266,887.84
- Fixed Assets - \$90,864.17

These figures are inclusive of the two (2) auspiced groups under the YCC umbrella being the Yackandandah Women's Shed and the Yackandandah Community Garden.

The funds held for these two (2) groups are currently:

- Yackandandah Women's Shed - \$17,286.12
- Yackandandah Community Garden - \$10,796.41

Usual liabilities are accounted for including GST consideration, PAYG Withholdings, Superannuation and Wages Payable totalling \$1,042.15.

Non-current liabilities for ATO account, Annual Leave and Long Service Leave provisions totalling \$5,122.31. Total liabilities are \$6,161.22.

Net Assets at hand are \$144, 546.22 plus WAW Term Deposit of \$266,887.84 to amount to Total Net Assets for YCC at \$411,434.06

I note that the JohnsonsMME Audit Report audit report and financial statements are available to be viewed in full by members of Yackandandah Community Centre Inc. at the office located at 29 High Street, Yackandandah.

*Robynne Hall - YCC Interim Treasurer*



# Yackandandah COMMUNITY OP SHOP

We are benefited by a great team of volunteers in the Op Shop, we have a core of regular volunteers who give their time and energy to YCC every week. Thank you one and all.

While we open Monday to Friday, as well as twice a month on the weekends, we would still welcome a few more volunteers so as to allows us to open every weekend.

Recruitment of volunteers remains a key priority for YCC, however the struggle for volunteers is relevant across all sectors of our community.

Volunteering is an excellent way to socially engage, promoting connection and offers a sense of belonging to a community. It can help add purpose and is a great opportunity to learn new skills and gain confidence.

YCC volunteers meet quarterly to discuss Op Shop business and learn about the up-and-coming programs and activities being offered at YCC,

YCC like to thank and celebrate the volunteers each year by taking them out to lunch and and exploring other local op shops, a fun day out!



*YCC Op Shop Volunteers at our annual lunch.*

# Community Programs

## Community Grants

Investing in our community

The 2023 YCC grants program saw \$15,030 reinvested into the Yackandandah community, thanks to the profits generated through the Op Shop. The grants program saw 10 different community groups benefit, supporting 12 different community projects.

YCC hosted a grant recipient evening allowing each community group to discuss their local projects, including the benefits of receiving the grant and reflect on the positive impact it made. It was wonderful to host the event allowing community networking and strengthening community connections.

## 2023 Grant recipients



2023 Grant recipients.

- **Yack Garden Club** for streetscape Garden beds & portable chairs.
- **TRY** contribute towards the 2nd town battery.
- **Lions Club** to help host a free Community event.
- **Yack Golf Club** for Maintenance Tools.
- **Yack CERT** for UHF radios.
- **Yack Tracks** for Maintenance Tools.
- **Yack Riding Club** for Rodent Traps.
- **Yack SES** for UHF radios & recovery gear.
- **Yack Women's Shed** material for Workshop benches.
- **Yack Health** contribute towards Syringe driver.

# Community Programs

## Heart Start

### The Yackandandah Defibrillator Project

This project was a wonderful demonstration of community collaboration. The involvement grew to include YCC, as project manager; YDCco, provided funding and community connections; Yack Post Office, sourced grant funding from Australia Post; Yack Men's Shed, sourced funding and installed AED cabinets and Ambulance Victoria, provided free education.

Funding allowed YCC to purchase new cabinets, a new AED, replace parts of existing AEDs, create a map, printing, and signage. Maps are now posted throughout the town to help locals become aware of the locations of these life saving machines. Thanks to Ambulance Victoria who did a wonderful job showing us how to use them.

### Yackandandah Defibrillator Locations

**IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY CALL 000**

**Key:**

- AED - 24/7 Access
- AED - Access Only in Open Hours
- Info Centre
- Rail Trail
- Toilet
- Bicycle Paths
- Wheelchair Access Toilet
- Playground
- Supermarket
- Hospital / Medical Centre
- Police Station
- YDCco Fuel Station
- Town Walks

Location:	Address:	Access:
CTA Fire Station	F4 5 High St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Star Hotel	D4 30 High St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Public Hall	D4 36 High St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Yack Swimming Pool	F3 Williams St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
YDCco - Petrol Station	G2 29 Railway Ave - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Men's Shed	H3 20 Issacs Ave - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Yackatoon	G4 3 Butson St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Golf Club	H4 70 Racecourse Rd - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Sports Park	E5 End of Wellford St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Football Oval	G4 End of Butson St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Osbornes Flat Hall	L4 315 Osbornes Flat Rd - Osbornes Flat	24/7 - Located Outside
Yack Primary School	D3 39 High St - Yackandandah	Access during school hours
Yack Health	H3 20 Issacs Ave - Yackandandah	Access during open hours
Fitness4U	K1 10 Marcus Creek Rd - Yackandandah	Access during open hours
Yack Bowls Club	G3 10 Railway Ave - Yackandandah	Access during open hours

**1. CALL 000**   **2. PUSH**   **3. SHOCK**

AED - 24/7 Access   
 AED - Access Limited Only in Open Hours

1. CALL 000   
 2. PUSH   
 3. SHOCK

Become a local First Responder and join our Local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Our Yackandandah CERT members are trained in advanced first aid and provide immediate care until the ambulance arrives. Contact the Yackandandah Community Centre for more information.

If you are willing and able to perform CPR then download the free GoodSAM Responder app and register yourself as a first responder.

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**Defibrillator Map.**

To ensure that the defibrillators are ready to use, YCC coordinates an annual device check. This has been put in place to ensure that the registered owners are aware of the condition of their AED and replace parts if necessary, this will help ensure that the AED's remain in good working order.

**Yack Men's Shed installed a new AED cabinet in front of Yack Public Hall.**

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# Community Programs

## Community Resilience

### Emergency Preparedness

Following on from the community resilience work started in 2022 with the Red Cross, YCC strengthened relationships with the Indigo Shire Council and CFA. Our purpose was to engage with as many locals as possible and encourage them to prepare a household emergency plan.

YCC hosted a community event at the local primary school that included the participation of Yack CERT, Yack CFA and the Yack SES teams. Leading on from this event, YCC coordinated the CFA to facilitate a series of Emergency Preparedness workshops, delivering the 'The First 72 Hours' Program. The workshops were well attended, with many locals appreciating the take home packs and information supplied by emergency response teams.



*Emergency Preparedness Community Event*



*Emergency Preparedness Workshop*

As well as coordinating community workshops, YCC accepted a grant coordinated by Totally Renewable Yackandandah (TRY), that allowed for the install of a 13.26kW solar array and a 16.6kWh battery. The system is designed to generate and store power, something that will be a critical asset during power outages and helpful for emergency management and disaster recovery.



*TRY Grant – Solar Integrity installing Solar and Battery on YCC.*

# Auspice Group



The Yackandandah Women's Shed (YWS) currently have 46 financial members, an increase of 4 from the previous year, together with 475 Facebook followers!

The YWS website, [yackwomensshed.org](http://yackwomensshed.org), advertises the group to the public and features forthcoming workshops and social events.

The YWS also offer a private Facebook group which focuses on the YWS purpose – *to develop and grow kinship with local women while promoting resilience, social fulfilment and confidence*. Learning new skills and sharing existing skills are critical factors in achieving our purpose.

As well as providing workshops, we also engage in social outings, which allow more socially isolated members to enjoy the companionship of regular attending members. Fundraising remains a vital part of our purpose to sustain the everyday costs of maintaining a community group and building capital that will fund a shed sometime in the future. We have supported organisations such as Arts Yack by catering to their events, staging the annual Christmas Fair, running two Lions Club market BBQs, and raising membership fees.

YWS continued to offer regular meetup sessions at YCC on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, they give a sense of companionship, which is the reward for attending. These sessions also provide opportunities for members to work on community projects together, such as creating poppies and decorating for Arts Yack events.

Members of the YWS also participated in a project called PADSIP. This project brought Yackandandah Primary School children and residents of Yackandandah Health together to create a purposeful intergenerational connection, at the end of the 10 week program the children showcased the residents stories in a digital presentation.

Finally the YWS hosted a wonderful community project called the 'Christmas Fun Fair' in the Yackandandah Memorial Gardens for the third year in December 2023. A count of over 1800 patrons attended the Fair, representing an increase of approximately 300 from 2022. YWS received extremely positive feedback about the quality and variety of market stalls and the event promoting a positive community spirit.

# Auspice Group



**Yackandandah**  
COMMUNITY GARDEN

The **Yackandandah Community Garden (YCG)** volunteer numbers remain relatively constant with a core working group of 4-8 people attending our weekly Saturday working bees. More volunteers drop in individually during the week to water, pick or provide maintenance.

YCG Facebook is updated regularly to maintain a digital presence. and encourage local attendance.

Ripe produce is being picked, indicating that residents and visitors are frequenting the garden regularly.

The community share table is working well as an avenue for locals to share home grown produce, locally raised seedlings and excess garden materials, with beneficiaries leaving a small cash donation. The donations fund the ongoing maintenance expenses of the YGC.

This year we have:

- Upgraded paths with fresh gravel surfaces
- Renovated the ornamental bed in front of the shelter
- Rebuild the Community Share table
- Continued to plant and maintain productive garden beds.

For the first time since inception our rainwater supplied the garden's needs all summer.

Thank you to Indigo Shire Parks and Gardens team for mowing the grass area regularly and providing mulch as we request it.



**Yackandandah**  
COMMUNITY CENTRE

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[www.ycc.org.au](http://www.ycc.org.au)