



Annual Report

2010-2011

JUSTICE AND REDRESS FOR ALL AUSTRALIAN CARE LEAVERS

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INTRODUCTION

Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN) is an incorporated, non-profit organisation. CLAN is funded by membership, donations and grants from the State and Federal Government.

OUR VISION

CLAN is an independent national support, advocacy, research and training network for all Australians that grew up in children's Homes, missions and orphanages or were fostered as children. Our members include people raised in the past in every state of Australia and overseas orphanages, former child migrants, stolen generation and foster children.

OUR PURPOSE

CLAN's objective is to raise community awareness of Care Leaver issues and to campaign and lobby for a national Redress scheme that is fair and equitable and provide services for all Care Leavers.

OUR MISSION AND VALUES

Being raised without a family has lifelong implications that require lifelong support services. CLAN can provide information, understanding and emotional support. CLAN's mission is:

- To listen, hear and believe
- To advocate on every level for justice, peace and healing
- To identify specific and individual strategies which will deliver positive life-changing outcomes to help heal the past
- To document Care Leavers history their personal stories through a National Orphanage Museum and the CLAN library

Being raised without your own family has lifelong effects which require lifelong support services. CLAN aims to provide a network where Care Leavers throughout Australia can communicate with each other via the newsletter and share their experiences. From our work, we know that many people who grew up in 'care' feel alone, believing the traumas of their childhood years were somehow their fault.

CLAN intends to raise public awareness of Care Leaver's childhood in 'care' and it's effects so governments and society can acknowledge the abuse and trauma of state wards and Home children.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

LEONIE SHEEDY



So much has happened in the 12 months since the last Annual General Meeting (AGM) held for the first time in Melbourne, Victoria. This year we have decided to hold the AGM in Brisbane, Queensland and we hope that a lot of our Queensland members are able to attend.

Last AGM was well-attended by Victorian CLAN members and after the formalities, we adjourned to share stories and socialise. CLAN members were able to meet the co-founder of CLAN, Joanna Penglase and the committee members.

On the first anniversary of the National Apology- 16th November, SBS aired the documentary *Forgotten Australians*. This is the first time that CLAN's and Forgotten Australian's history had been shown on national television.

The documentary received many compliments and the CLAN office was inundated with phone calls, emails and letters from people who were not aware that CLAN existed. However, it is disappointing to note that we are still receiving calls from people who thought that our apology was either to the Child Migrants or the Stolen Generation.

In January this year we were informed that our rent would increase to \$70,000 per year, this necessitated us to look for new premises. After looking through many office blocks and houses in the local area we finally found a 2-storey white brick house on the corner of French and Chapel Road, Bankstown – which we call “The White House”. It has 11 rooms and plenty of space for the library, CLAN's National Orphanage Museum, a room for counselling and a large backyard for socials.

In March we started packing up after 3 years at our old office. It was a huge task for our staff and volunteers. We would like to thank our staff; Julie, Benita and Natalie for all their efforts during the move. Thank you also for the efforts and hard work of CLAN member **Vlad Selakovic** who came from Geelong and stayed for over a week packing and moving all our important and precious items in his van from CLAN's National Orphanage Museum and office. Vlad's work saved us thousands of dollars in removalist fees

We would also like to thank Robert Conway, Geoff Meyers, Warren and Kieron Hewitt for their contributions and assistance during this time. Warren also connected the Internet and phone lines, assembled and set-up the desks in our new office. Warren's work also saved CLAN thousands of dollars.

In April we held a working bee at the White House and we would like to thank the volunteers that gave up their time; **Geoff Meyers, Stewart and Steve Quinn, Rob Conway, Warren Hewitt** and **Gay Brown**. We only found one dead rat! CLAN thanks the members who paid for the front steps of the White House to be repaired.

During the month of April, CLAN participated in the National Trust Geelong Heritage Week where we displayed orphanage history. We also held a social that day and many Victorian members came along to see the display. The public was very interested in the exhibition. We also participated on Blokes Day Out, in Geelong, VIC and had items from CLAN's National Orphanage Museum and our library on display.

In May, we had a meeting with Anglicare Victoria to talk about the need for gathering information and records. Anglicare Victoria sent CLAN annual reports on a CD which is available from our library. We would like to thank Anglicare for this CD.

CLAN assisted with a TV program on Foxtel – *"Tough Nuts 2"* with images and photographs of boy's Homes. This program sadly shows that many of Australia's criminals were raised in boy's Homes before going onto a life of crime.

CLAN's office launch was held on 11th June 2011. We were thrilled that many of our patrons were able to attend; Malcolm Turnbull MP, Jason Clare MP, Richard Marles MP, Steve Irons MP, Senator Claire Moore, former Senator Andrew Murray and Senator Steve Hutchins was represented by his daughter, Lauren Hutchins. It was a wonderful day with over 200 CLAN members attending the celebrations from all around Australia.

CLAN was also honoured to have congratulatory messages sent via DVD by the Hon. Jenny Macklin - the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and a message from Linda Burney - NSW Deputy Opposition Leader.

Two books were launched on the day, Steve Irons MP launched CLAN member **Michael Davey's** autobiography, *Journey of Hope*. The second book *Surviving Care* by Richard Hil and Elizabeth Branigan launched by Malcolm Turnbull MP, this book has contributions by many CLAN members and it's wonderful to see that Care Leavers are contributing to books about this important social justice issue.

On this day CLAN also acknowledged, Joanna Penglase – the co-founder of CLAN and the person who started it all when she placed that ad in 150 NSW newspapers in 1992. Andrew Murray, a wonderful supporter to CLAN unveiled the plaque dedicated to Joanna Penglase in recognition of her pioneering research to document the history and experiences of Australian Care Leavers.

After a year of collating data from the second CLAN survey, the survey report was finally released at the opening of the new office by Jason Clare MP. The final survey report – ***Struggling to Keep it Together***, surveyed 577 CLAN members with the oldest respondent at 91 years and the youngest at 27 years. The report outlined how CLAN members were responding to the measures that have been put in place around Australia in the last few years on issues including state based compensation/redress schemes, state memorials, support services and the national apology. Each of our patrons received a copy of *Struggling to Keep It Together*. A copy of the survey report was also sent to Tanya Pilbersek the Federal Minister for Social Inclusion.

CLAN also recognised our volunteers, social co-ordinators in each state and the committee members. I would like to congratulate and make a special mention to two wonderful CLAN members. **Vlad Selakovic** and **Gay Brown** were presented with CLAN's volunteers of the year

awards. CLAN sincerely appreciates the work of both Vlad and Gay for all their wonderful ongoing contribution to CLAN.

Other volunteers that received awards were; **Ray Prosser (VIC), Anthony Sheedy (VIC), Karen Gurney (NSW), Geoff Meyers (NSW), Robert Conway (NSW), Steve Quinn (NSW), Stewart Quinn (NSW) and Gwen Dare (NSW).**

CLAN also recognised the state social coordinators and those that received awards and gifts were; **Jim Luthy (QLD), Priscilla Taylor (SA), Kris King (TAS), Carolyn Frawley (WA), Phyllis Exell (VIC), Kathie Armstrong (NSW), Maureen Green (NSW), Maureen Anderson (NSW) and Pat Griffiths (NSW).**

The hard work of the CLAN committee was also noted with a special thank you to **President, Jim Luthy, Vice-President, Phyllis Exell, Secretary and Public Officer – Pat Griffiths, Treasurer – Lindal Sambrook and Committee Member – Geoff Meyers.** I would particularly like to thank the President, Vice-President and the Secretary for their support given to me in my role over the last 12 months

The committee have been very busy reviewing CLAN's constitution and after 10 years it is timely to conduct a review. This is due to the changes to the new *NSW Associations Incorporation Act 2009* and *Associational Incorporation Regulation 2010* which commenced on 1st July 2010. As a result, all associations are required to review their constitutions to ensure that all aspects comply with the new laws. A model constitution has been set out within this new Regulation as a guide and CLAN has used this model as a base for its review. Thank you to the committee and especially to Pat Griffiths for her tireless efforts.

In June, Vice-President Phyllis Exell and I visited the Ballarat Gold Museum and we were able to get some history on the orphanages in Ballarat. The silent protests continue each month in Victoria at the headquarters of the Department of Human Services. We average around 35 dedicated members for each protest who bravely stand in all sorts of weather. The oldest protesters are two 84 year old CLAN members **Alma Gardener** and **Ray Prosser.**

CLAN continues to receive many precious items from our members and non-members for the National Orphanage Museum. Thank you **Clem Apted** – New Zealand CLAN member for his ball of French knitting from the Gill Memorial Home (NSW), a huge orphanage gate, cooking utensils and some crockery from the Mater Dei orphanage at Narrellan, NSW donated by Sister Mary of the Good Sams Nuns, Narrellan, **Gaye** (NSW) who donated a pew from the St Joseph's Orphanage, Kenmore (NSW), **Keith Broadbent** (VIC) donated his 1968 football trophy from the Salvation Army Box Hill and **Les Arndell** – NSW CLAN member for his donation of items from St Joseph's Cowper (NSW).

Thank you to everybody who continues to donate both small and large items to the CLAN's National Orphanage Museum.

CLAN continues to support and assist the National Museum of Australia. We have currently loaned 10 items from CLAN's National Orphanage Museum. These items included a pamphlet on TB, a tambourine from the Salvation Army East Kew, VIC, a framed towel from Box Hills Boys Home, a bell, 3 trophies from St John's Goulburn, NSW, a large framed photograph of the Salvation Army Gill Memorial Home band, NSW and a sign saying "Please do not touch the

babies” from the Methodist Babies Home, South Yarra, VIC. These items have been loaned to the National Museum of Australia for the next four years.

Due to CLAN’s survey report and our member’s feedback, we found that a number of our Care Leavers spent time and are currently in prison. As a result we have produced an information package which was posted out to every prison in Australia.

A birthday list was started this year where we acknowledge our members on their special day. We currently have 70 CLAN members on our list. We also acknowledge those who are not well or those who have had a death in the family. Many members have called the office to say they appreciate this gesture.

CLAN member **Frank Golding** spoke to social worker students at Monash University regarding Care Leavers and CLAN. Frank will be speaking at the National Oral History conference in Melbourne, VIC and will be chairing the session on National Library of Australia’s Oral History Project. We thank Frank for all his ongoing support to CLAN.

In NSW CLAN has been involved in regular ACWA meetings.

In Victoria CLAN has attended over 5 training workshops for the Who am I? Project and Find and Connect Service at the Centre for Excellence. These workshops included the privacy roundtable, Who Am I? advisory group meetings, Who Am I? workshops, Find and Connect project training workshops for state based historians. Also in Victoria, we represented Care Leavers for the Victorian Working Party Group.

Nationwide, Phyllis Exell and I have represented CLAN on an improving Aged Care working group with the Aged Care Australia team. The National Museum of Australia has created an educational package with the consultation and assistance of CLAN. The educational package was posted to every high school in Australia aimed at students in year 10-12 to learn about the history of Care Leavers. This is a great opportunity for all Australian children to learn about 600 plus orphanages/children’s Homes, foster care and other institutions. CLAN was also a part of the working group for the National Find and Connect through FaHCSIA.

The CLAN staff attended a training workshop conducted by Graham Hercus of UPA which helped to assist with ongoing training in the office. Additionally CLAN has met with Miriam Stevenson - Pastoral Case Manager for the Anglican Professional Standards Unit of NSW regarding personal records, files and Redress. CLAN also attended a meeting regarding the Victims of Crime Scheme in NSW and the changes to the laws which will affect CLAN members.

CLAN would like to acknowledge and thank the Hon. Jenny Macklin MP– Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, for her support and ongoing funding to CLAN. We are proud of our good working relationship with FaHCSIA who have been very supportive throughout the years. CLAN is also appreciative for the much needed funding of \$400,000 over 2 years for its advocacy work and counselling support to Care Leavers.

CLAN was the only Care Leaver representative on the tender panel assessing the tenders for the national Find and Connect service. Unfortunately none of the four tenders were suitable candidates.

CLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

CLAN would like to acknowledge and thank our wonderful members and supporters that have sent us financial donations, stamps, envelopes and other items to help keep CLAN going.

Thank you to **Annette** (NSW) and an **ACT member** that gave donations to help purchase furniture for the kitchen, comfortable couches and a TV for the indoor social area and comfortable chairs for the counselling room. Thank you to **Gwen** (NSW) and her husband Terry for donating curtains and for making the window displays for the front windows of the office, thank you to **Saundra** (VIC) for donating towels, blankets and tea towels to the office and **Gladys** (VIC) for making hooks for the towels.

CLAN would like to say a special thank you to those who have made substantial donations. Thank you to CEO of the United Protestant Association (UPA) Steve Walkerden for their continual support to CLAN and their donation of \$5,500, **Graham Rundle** (NSW) for his donation of \$5000, a **QLD member** for his donation of \$2000, an **ACT member** for her donation of \$1500, **Robert Page** (NSW) for his donation of \$1000, **Ken Padey** (QLD) for his donation of \$500, **Margo O'Byrne** (WA) for her donation of \$300, **Gay Brown** (NSW) for her donation of \$300, an anonymous donation of \$300, **Carol McMahon** (NSW) for her donation of \$250, **Gillian Horowitz** (NSW) for her donation of \$240, and to **Karen Williams** for her donation of \$220 and for donating stamps and envelopes.

Thank you to **Warren Hewitt** for his donation of \$800, to CLAN supporters Andrew Murray and Donna Maitland for their donations of \$500 and to **Rev. Chris Albany** for his donation. CLAN would also like to thank CLAN member **John Fingelton** for acknowledging CLAN during his interview on 2GB.

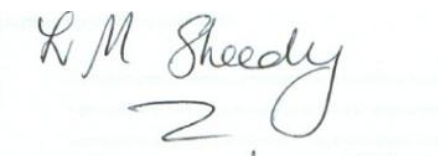
Our member's donations of money, stamps and other items are gratefully accepted. CLAN also thanks S.J Canny of Norlane, Victoria for conducting an audit for CLAN at a bargain basement rate. Thank you to Francene Steele for coming to Sydney, NSW and conducting the audit.

Finally on a personal note I would like to thank everybody who sent cards, emails and flowers on the death of my brother, Anthony. Your kind words were really helpful to me during a difficult time. Thank you again.

This has been a huge year with many achievements. However, there is still much more to do. CLAN will continue fighting and will not rest until we can achieve Justice and Redress and services for all Australian Care Leavers in all states of Australia.

CLAN will continue to lobby for equity for all Care Leavers and justice and redress. We intend to take our case to the United Nations Committee on Torture as our human rights were denied to us as children and our human rights need to be respected today!

Justice for all Care Leavers must prevail.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "L M Sheedy" with a stylized flourish underneath.

Leonie Sheedy

Executive Officer

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

JIM LUTHY



This year has been another exciting year for CLAN.

We moved from our rather cramped and totally unsatisfactory office to more spacious and user friendly facilities and, on behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank all of those involved with the move. Particularly, I want to mention the office staff and the wonderful band of volunteers who gave so unstintingly of their time by doing all those little jobs which are necessary in the overall scheme of things. These people do a wonderful job all year round and we acknowledge their contribution to ensuring that CLAN achieves its goals and aims. Although the day of the opening was cold and miserable the turnout was wonderful. We had CLAN members from every state as well as our Patrons, and other local and state politicians. There were also representatives from the National Library as well as press television coverage.

On that day it was also announced that CLAN had received funding from the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs in order to expand its national counselling and advocacy role on behalf of Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants.

CLAN has supported the exhibition at the National Museum of Australia – *Inside: Life in a Children's Home* as well as actively participating in the National Library's oral history project about Forgotten Australians. This means that many of our stories now become part of Australia's official history. The downside of this though was the Federal Government virtually ignoring the fact that over half a million children were in care and that this part of Australia's history needs to be told. While there have been many positives happening there has also been a concern with the Tasmanian Government reducing its funding by \$20,000 and of course this limits the amount of work that CLAN can do particularly in that state. There are still other states, churches and charities that do not contribute anything at all to CLAN even though they caused the problems. The main aim of the Committee this year has been addressing the need for redress for all care leavers from both state and church authorities.

During the year CLAN also released its 2011 Survey Report which is the most comprehensive report yet undertaken by care leavers which identifies many of the problems and concerns that Care Leavers face. We would like to particularly acknowledge the work of Frank Golding in compiling this document.

The CLAN Committee also needs to acknowledge the work of its Secretary Patricia Griffiths who has done a mammoth job in formulating our new Constitution. Her input and work in this area has been simply outstanding. I also need to fully acknowledge the work of the Committee this year. The Committee meets once a month formally and spends many hours in informal decision making processes. The Committee members are all volunteers and give freely of their time and put in many hours of work to ensure that CLAN functions smoothly and in accordance with Legislative requirements.

CLAN'S PATRONS

Our wonderful patrons over the years have offered their continued support to Care Leaver issues. During the office launch, photos of CLAN's patrons and supporters as children were presented on a wall inside the new office.

We would like to thank and acknowledge CLAN's patrons and also their staff in their offices around the country:

- **Hon. Jason Clare MP** – Member for Blaxland & Minister for Defence Materiel
- **Hon. Richard Marles MP** – Member for Corio & Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island Affairs
- **Hon. Malcolm Turnbull MP** – Member for Wentworth & Shadow Minister for Communications and Broadband
- **Claire Moore** – Labor Senator for Queensland
- **Steve Irons MP** – Member for Swan and the only Homie in Federal politics
- **Gary Humphries** – Liberal Senator for the Australian Capital Territory
- **Steve Hutchins** – Former Senator for NSW
- **Andrew Murray** – Former Senator for WA

CLAN is thankful and appreciative for their ongoing bipartisan support.

CLAN'S COMMITTEE

CLAN would like to acknowledge and thank our wonderful committee members for all their dedication, efforts and their commitment to CLAN.

The committee has met every month over the past 12 months for 2 hours for monthly committee meetings and we thank the committee for giving up their personal time to assist CLAN.



Jim Luthy- CLAN President.

Jim was voted in as President at CLAN's last AGM and has led successful meetings and socials in Queensland while representing CLAN. Jim was instrumental in getting the Salvation Army to apologise for the abuse and neglect in their children's Homes in Canberra in December 2010.



Phyllis Exell- CLAN's Vice-President.

Phyllis has assisted CLAN in attending and contributing to the Who Am I? Projects, Victorian Working Party for Forgotten Australians and the National Museum of Australia Educational Package Working Party. Phyllis was also on the Federal Government's Aged Care working party.



Pat Griffiths - Secretary and Public Officer.

Pat has been a volunteer and on the CLAN committee for many years now. She is a wonderful asset to CLAN by tirelessly doing the minutes during the committee meetings and producing correspondence on behalf of the committee. Pat has committed many hours of work to the drafting of CLAN's new constitution.



Geoff Meyers – Ordinary Committee Member.

Geoff has been a wonderful volunteer to CLAN over the last two years. Geoff drives from Wollongong every Tuesday to do our gardening and general handyman work and always stays behind for the committee monthly meetings. Before Geoff was doing the gardening for CLAN he would archive all our newspaper clippings.



Lindal Sambrook – Treasurer.

Lindal has greatly assisted the committee with financial information and being the Treasurer. Thank you for your efforts over the last 12 months. Lindal has decided to leave the committee and we wish her well for her future endeavours



Leonie Sheedy- Ordinary Committee Member.

As well as being the Executive Officer of CLAN, Leonie also offers her input to the committee and represents the committee in many events when advocating Care Leaver issues. Leonie does a monthly report to the committee to keep them up to date with the work of CLAN and the running of the CLAN office.

CLAN'S STAFF

CLAN is fortunate to have 4 dedicated and committed employees who care greatly about the work that they are doing for CLAN and its members.

A familiar voice you might hear on the phone is the office manager, **Julie**. Julie handles the office incredibly well, when Leonie is away and conducts a range of administration and financial duties. Julie is responsible for the memberships, log on to the CLAN's website and generally keeping the office running smoothly.

Due to increased funding, **Natalie's** role as CLAN's counsellor has been increased to 4 days a week. The extended counselling hours have allowed Natalie to take on more clients and further assist them on a regular basis. *You can see the counselling report on page 20* Natalie is working well with CLAN members and non-members and she has managed to gain the trust of many Care Leavers by the repeated requests for telephone and face-to-face counselling.

Benita, our project officer was responsible for the administration and updating the website with photographs, history, media and other items. Benita collated data and conducted the results for the 577 CLAN surveys. She did a fantastic job on our survey and we appreciate all the work involved.

Recently CLAN has employed a new worker to the team, **Ingrid**. Ingrid works two days a week to assist with various administration tasks. Ingrid's father-in-law was raised in a boy's Home in NSW.

2010/2011 HIGHLIGHTS

CLAN'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

In July 2010 CLAN embarked on a milestone by celebrating its 10th Anniversary at the Bankstown Sports Club. CLAN appreciates the assistance of Tony Stewart – the former State Member for Bankstown and the Bankstown Sports Club for making this event financially viable.

It was a time to come together and to look back on what CLAN and the Clannies had achieved over the past 10 years. Thank you for all the donations which helped raise over \$3000 on the day.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF OUR APOLOGY AND THE SBS DOCUMENTARY ON THE 16TH NOVEMBER 2010

Many states and territories commemorated this special event with state governments holding functions and other celebrations funded by FaHCSIA.

The documentary- *Forgotten Australians* outlined the journey of CLAN and the important events that have taken place over the last 5 years, which documented the trials and tribulations of Care Leavers. It featured CLAN members and non-members. It outlines the hard work that has been done and is still to be done to achieve Justice and Redress for all.

CLAN was inundated with phone calls and emails in recognition of the documentary. Finally many people felt that their history was being told to the Australian society.

CLAN thanks **Nicola Woolmington** and **Nell White** and all involved in this ground-breaking documentary.

SALVATION ARMY APOLOGY

On 7th December 2010 the Chief of Staff, Commissioner Barry Swanson gave a formal apology on behalf of the General of the international Salvation Army at the Old Parliament House.

Many CLAN members attended this wonderful day and CLAN would like to give a special thank you to Jim Luthy for all his efforts and commitment in getting this important apology established.

This was the first time in the world that the Salvation Army issued a public apology.

The Salvation Army also committed to giving CLAN \$3000 for the next 5 years.

EDUCATION PACKAGE FROM THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA

The National Museum of Australia produced an educational package relating to the history of Care Leavers/Forgotten Australians. CLAN was able to provide valuable input and resources to this milestone in Australian history.

The educational package was posted to every high school in Australia aimed at students in year 10-12 to learn about the history of Care Leavers. This is a great opportunity for all Australian children to learn about 600 plus orphanages/children's Homes, foster care and other institutions.

Thank you to the National Museum of Australia for their ongoing support.

To view the education package please go to:

www.nma.gov.au/shared/libraries/attachments/schools/classroom_resources/forgotten_australians/colour/files/38374/Forgotten_Australians_colour.pdf

CLAN'S WORK

Information and Support:

CLAN receives several phone calls and emails every day from members seeking our assistance. CLAN aims to raise awareness of Care Leavers and issues in the community. A total of 225 information packages were sent out over the last year to every state of Australia and overseas.

CLAN continues its research into Australia's orphanages, children's Homes and other institutions. Recently, CLAN was informed of the Halloween Children's Home in Strathfield (NSW) which CLAN was unaware of its existence. We have now located some historical newspaper articles relating to this Home.

Over the last year CLAN has assisted Care Leavers in receiving their personal records, information about compensation and Redress in various states of Australia, referral to other support services, enquiries about CLAN's library, membership enquiries and information on legal assistance.

CLAN also sent out letters of support to members and non-members who sought assistance with urgent matters regarding government departments such as receiving disability pension, application for priority housing, medical and dental services and general support.

In total CLAN has provided 16 letters of support to Department of Housing in various states, 12 letters to assist people with obtaining personal records and files and 10 letters for support and assistance for victims of crime.

As many of you may be aware, CLAN can apply to get a family member's war service records for free for CLAN members and over the last year CLAN has received many war service records where some of these records even contain photographs of Clannie's fathers.

CLAN has also subscribed to Ancestry.com to help members find information on their families. This has been a wonderful resource and has already helped many members.

CLAN has over 1000 books in the library about the various orphanages, children's Homes and other institutions from all states around Australia and overseas. The library also has various research, reference and self-help books. Over the last year over 100 library books were borrowed from CLAN's library by CLAN members. Thank you to the many people who donate books to the library, especially CLAN member **Cassandra Jordan**.

Media:

CLAN continues to raise awareness of Care Leaver issues by alerting the media of the injustices Care Leavers face.

CLAN sends media releases to newspapers, radio and TV stations all around Australia to inform CLAN members and Care Leavers across the country. Over the last year CLAN has sent over

15 press releases about silent protests, public meetings and other information to highlight Care Leaver issues.

We have also commented and wrote letters to the editor to over 20 newspaper articles in the past year to comment on the prejudices of Care Leavers.

For more information on CLAN's media work visit the link below:

<http://www.clan.org.au/news.php>

Why Do We Protest Brochure?

CLAN has recently created a brochure on "Why Do We Protest?" it outlines the injustices that Care Leavers suffered as children and the discrimination around the states with only Queensland, Western Australian and Tasmania who provide redress.

To view the whole brochure click on to www.clan.org.au

Information Packages sent to all Australian Prisons:

CLAN receives several letters from Care Leavers currently in prisons and their caseworkers across Australia. CLAN felt that it was necessary to publish a special edition of our newsletter specifically for Care Leavers in prisons.

In the newsletter specially sent to prisoners all around Australia, the history of CLAN was outlined and what has been achieved so far. The details of every support service and Redress schemes around Australia and New Zealand were also given. A story was specifically chosen for this newsletter, as it was written by a Care Leaver who had been in prison and their experience and advice on how to cope with various issues.

CLAN included with the newsletter a copy of the Federal Apology and DVD, a poster about *Orphans of the Living* by Dr Joanna Penglase, and a poster about the documentary - *Forgotten Australians*. CLAN sent one of these information packs to every prison in Australia. Currently CLAN has members that are in prison and receive our newsletters.

New Zealand Confidential Listening and Assistance Service:

Recently CLAN learnt about a service for New Zealand Care Leavers that were in state 'care'. This service provides a forum for people who have suffered abuse or neglect, or have concerns

about their time in State care in the health, child welfare or special education sector before 1992.

CLAN has promoted this service by putting information and pamphlets about it in the newsletter and the website and in the prison packages.

Newsletter on CD:

After CLAN introduced this wonderful initiative last year, CLAN regularly sends out CD's to any CLAN member who have difficulty reading and writing or are visually impaired. Currently, CLAN sends the CD's to 11 members.

Survey Report:

After sending a 16-page survey to every Care Leaver member last year, CLAN finally released the findings in a report during the office launch in 2011.

In total we received 577 responses with the oldest respondent was 90 years old the youngest being 27 years old. Though this survey drew an even larger number than the first survey, some of the key questions were repeated from the first survey as a means of validating the findings of that survey but it also extends the scope of the research.

In particular it asks questions designed to assess how connected Care Leavers are to the mainstream community and to their families. The survey attempted to get a feel for how CLAN members were responding to the measures that have been put in place around Australia within the past five or six years with state based compensation/redress schemes, state memorials, support services and the national apology.

The results of the survey report demonstrates to the community and past providers who ran the orphanages, children's Homes and foster care and other institutions of the legacy and long lasting effects of a childhood separated from their families.

Everybody who participated in the survey received a copy of the report and the survey is available from the CLAN office for \$25 plus postage and handling.

Submissions and Senate Reports:

Over the last year CLAN has completed three submissions, the first was to the Senate Inquiry into a ***Government review of compensation payments.***

Over 170 submissions were received many of those from CLAN members. CLAN attended the public hearings to reiterate the notion that there needs to be a compensation/redress scheme in every state so that every Australian Care Leaver can have justice.

Recommendation 3 on page 35 of the report state that *“the committee recommends that the NSW and Vic Governments establish administrative schemes to provide redress to people who experienced abuse or neglect while in institutional or foster care in those states”*

For the full recommendation report go to:

www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/legcon_cttee/govt_comp/info.htm

For more information on CLAN's submission visit the link below:

http://www.clan.org.au/images/submission_into_compensation_payments.pdf

Another submission by CLAN was to the Department of Justice in Victoria regarding the judicial appointments process. CLAN argued that all of those who are elected as judicial officers should be aware of Care Leavers and the issues that they face.

For more information on CLAN's submission visit the link below:

<http://www.clan.org.au/images/judicial%20appointments%20process%20in%20VIC%20submission.pdf>

CLAN also prepared a submission to the 'Protecting Victoria's Vulnerable Children' Inquiry. In this submission CLAN outlined the long term effects of a childhood in care, the effects of separating siblings and the importance of having support systems in place when children leave care.

CLAN also highlighted the intergenerational pattern of children entering the welfare system and demonstrated that adults who had left the 'care' system were potential risk factors for having their own children enter the current care system.

This report was to be released in November however they have now extended the release date to the 27th of January 2012.

We would like to thank Frank Golding for his contributions and for attending the public hearing on 'Protecting Victoria's Vulnerable Children' on 5th July.

For more information about the submission on 'Protecting Victoria's Vulnerable Children' visit the link below:

<http://www.childprotectioninquiry.vic.gov.au/images/stories/transcripts/public-sitting-transcript-melbourne-5-july-2011.pdf>

Human Rights Pro-Forma Letter

CLAN wrote to the Hon. Catherine Branson – the Human Rights Commissioner about the discrimination of Care Leavers around the country in regards to Redress.

CLAN asked that the commission investigate the injustice between states regarding Redress scheme. CLAN believes that the injustice and discrimination which occurs with Redress scheme is a human rights issue.

CLAN also did a pro-forma letter for its members and encouraged them to send the letter to the Human Rights Commissioner. This letter can be found on the CLAN webpage.

CLAN received a response from the Hon. Catherine Branson with an encouraging letter stating that the Commissioner will be writing to the Hon. Jenny Macklin MP – Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and we were informed by the Commissioner that she has received over 100 letters from our members. This letter will also be available on the CLAN webpage and will be sent out with the next newsletter.

It is very encouraging to have the Human Rights Commissioner's support.

SUPPORT TO CARE LEAVERS ACROSS THE STATES

CLAN is a national support and advocacy network that aims to assist all Care Leavers in Australia and has done so with a wide range of socials, reunions and other events in all states.

Many new members attended their first social or reunion and were encouraged to share their experiences by writing a piece for the newsletter. Feedback from new members showed that they were made to feel welcomed and offered new understanding of Care Leavers/Forgotten Australians in a social setting.

We offer our special thank you to all our members involved in hosting and attending socials.

QUEENSLAND:

In QLD, Clannies had many successful get-togethers and we would like to thank **Jim Luthy** for his efforts in hosting the socials and our QLD members for their assistance in making the socials a great success.

NORTHERN TERRITORY:

Due to unexpected weather, the NT social was postponed due to a cyclone and we hope to hold a social shortly.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA:

CLAN held a public meeting on the 18th of March at the University of Adelaide titled ***"What's happened to justice in South Australia since the Mullighan Report"***. It was a great turn out.

The speakers included Matt DeGeorgio of Duncan Basheer Hannon Law Firm speaking about the legal framework of compensation claims for historical abuse; Michael O'Connell, the South Australian Victims' Rights Commissioner who conducted a presentation on compensation, redress and rehabilitation, family therapist Rosemary Freney, Post Care Support Services also attended the meeting and we thank them for their support and thank you to David Jackson from AFA who spoke briefly on the day.

We thank South Australian CLAN members **Priscilla Taylor** and **Steve Fischer** who made personal presentations on the day.

Thank you to Priscilla for organising the South Australian socials in the past 12 months.

CLAN was saddened to learn that Ted Mullighan passed away on 16th September 2011. Ted was a great supporter of CLAN and conducted the South Australian Commission of Inquiry into Children in State Care in 2008. Many Clannies attended the State Funeral in Adelaide to show their respect and affection for Ted.

TASMANIA:

We would like to thank CLAN member, **Kris** for hosting socials in Launceston and Hobart.

In the later months of 2010 CLAN notified FaHCSIA about the declining state of the Tasmanian memorial and we are happy to report that FaHCSIA funded the restoration of this important memorial at the Botanical Gardens in Hobart.

Articles about this issue can be viewed on:

http://www.clan.org.au/news_details.php?newsID=522

http://www.clan.org.au/news_details.php?newsID=558

WESTERN AUSTRALIA:

Over the last year Perth held many socials and thank you to CLAN member, **Carolyn** for organising these events.

WA also had the launch of their memorial to Forgotten Australians in December 2010 at the Perth Cultural Centre in front of the Jubilee Building of the WA Museum. Many CLAN members were in attendance and you can see the photographs of this on the CLAN website under memorials. This was followed by a social the following day at the Supreme Court Gardens.

VICTORIA:

During the past year Victorian Clannies held many socials in Melbourne and Geelong. Thank you to **Phyllis Exell** for organising these events. CLAN also held a screening of the documentary – *Forgotten Australians* during Blokes Day Out and it was great to see so many CLAN members attend that event.

A letter was written to Minister Mary Wooldridge - Minister for Mental Health, Women's Affairs and Community Services and Peter Ryan- Deputy Premier of Victoria regarding the need for a Redress and compensation scheme for Victorian Care Leavers, a historical abuse unit within the Victorian police force and a Victorian inquiry into children in 'care'.

CLAN met with Police Minister, the Hon. Peter Ryan to discuss the introduction of a historical abuse unit within the Victorian Police and other issues regarding justice and Redress Leavers.

At the outcome this meeting a formal letter was written to Minister Ryan and his response was that the Liberal Party will not take up our recommendations to establish these measures.

CLAN has also been in contact with Ann Barker – State Member for Oakleigh as she has called for an inquiry into the Catholic Church. CLAN also met with Robert Clark – Victorian Attorney General to discuss the need for a Victorian state based inquiry not only into the Catholic Church but all the Churches and Charities that ran orphanages and children's Homes in Victoria.

We also met and wrote a letter to Frank McGuire MP – State Member for Broadmeadows regarding the various injustices Victorian Care Leavers face today. We are still waiting a response.

CLAN continues to hold silent protests every month outside the headquarters of Department of Human Services (DHS) in Lonsdale St, Melbourne. About 30 CLAN members brave all elements of the weather and the oldest members who attend the silent protests are 84 year olds **Ray Prosser** and **Alma Gardener**.

We also continue to use Ross House for meetings after the protests; and recently, after discussion with CLAN members they overwhelmingly voted for the October protest to be moved to the site of the Christian Brothers headquarters in Parkville. This protest was held on Monday 3rd October with the Australian and the Age attending. The protest date has been moved to the first Monday of every month.

NEW SOUTH WALES:

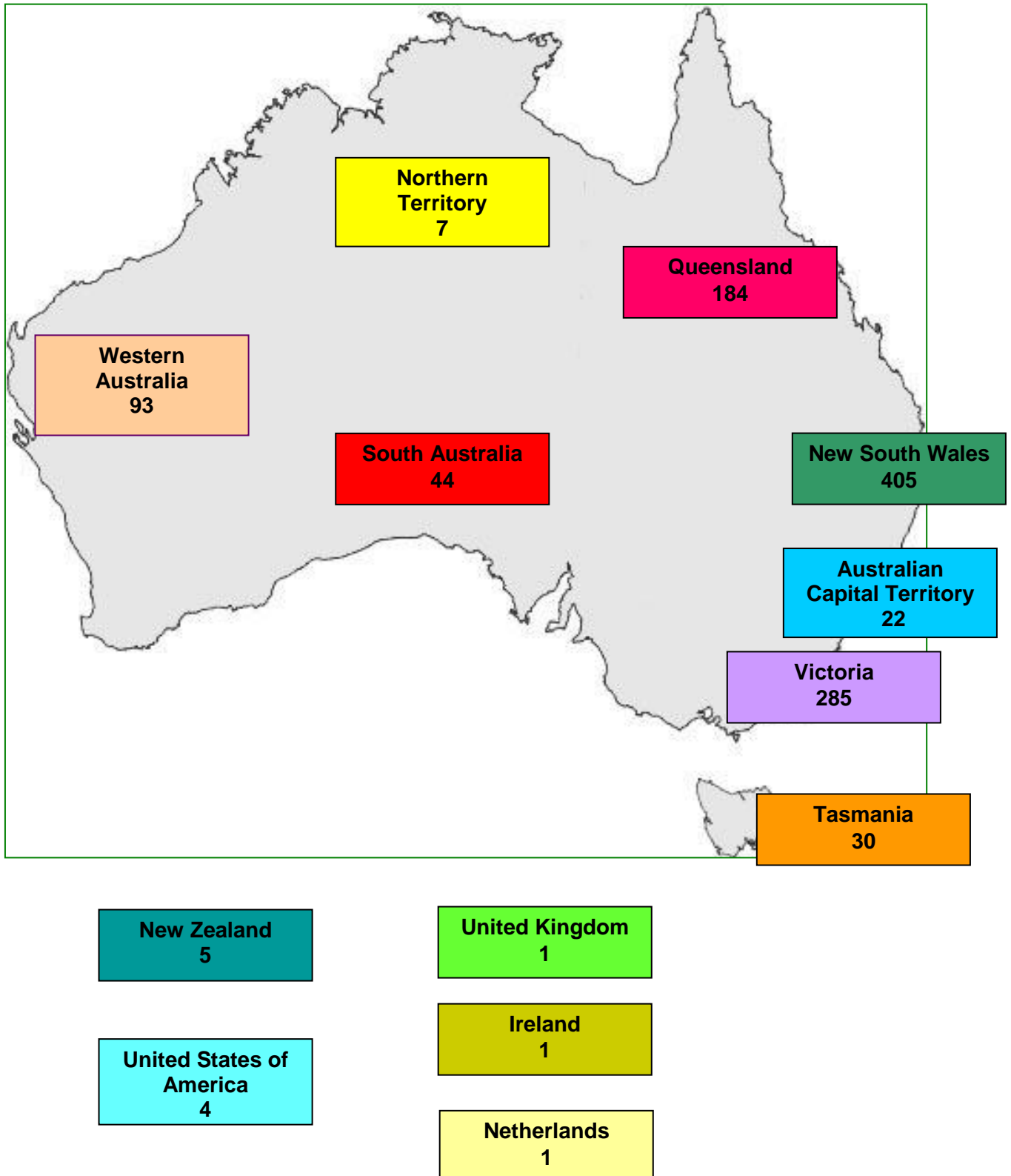
Over the last 12 months several CLAN members hosted many socials. CLAN would like to thank CLAN members, **Maureen, Kathie, Maureen, Geoff** and **Pat Griffiths** for all their wonderful efforts organising the socials and everyone who attended the socials in these areas. We also thank Pat for organising a meeting with Break-Thru and NSW Victims Support.

In February this year, CLAN hosted a meet and greet with the Opposition spokesperson for Family and Community Services at the time, Pru Goward MP with nearly 30 CLAN members in attendance. Pru was reluctant to speak about the future of Redress and compensation for NSW Care Leavers. Since the election we have written to the current Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women, the Hon Pru Goward MP addressing important issues such as establishing a historical abuse unit within NSW, a state-based inquiry into NSW and Redress and compensation for all Australian Care Leavers. CLAN received a reply earlier this year outlining that these measures will not be established.

CLAN attended the launch of the NSW service – Wattle Place at Parramatta RSL in March this year. CLAN assisted Wattle Place by sending out invitations to all our NSW members informing them about the launch of the new service. Thank you to CLAN member **Robert Conway** who spoke on behalf of CLAN at the launch under difficult circumstances. He did a fine job in representing CLAN.

CLAN MEMBERS ACROSS AUSTRALIA AND OVERSEAS

A TOTAL OF 1082 MEMBERS FROM THE 2010-2011 PERIOD



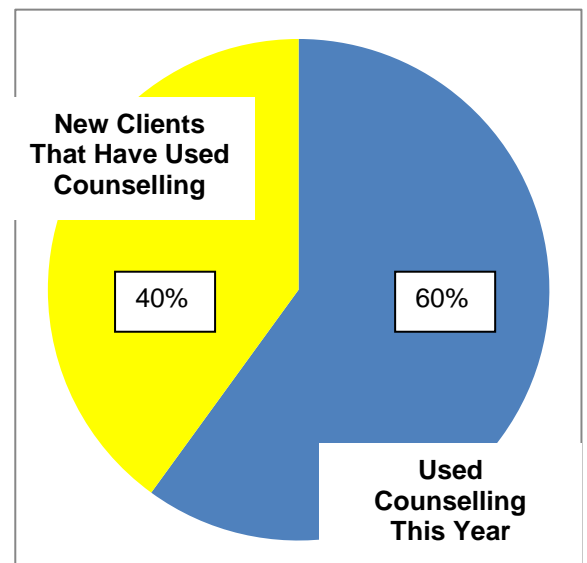
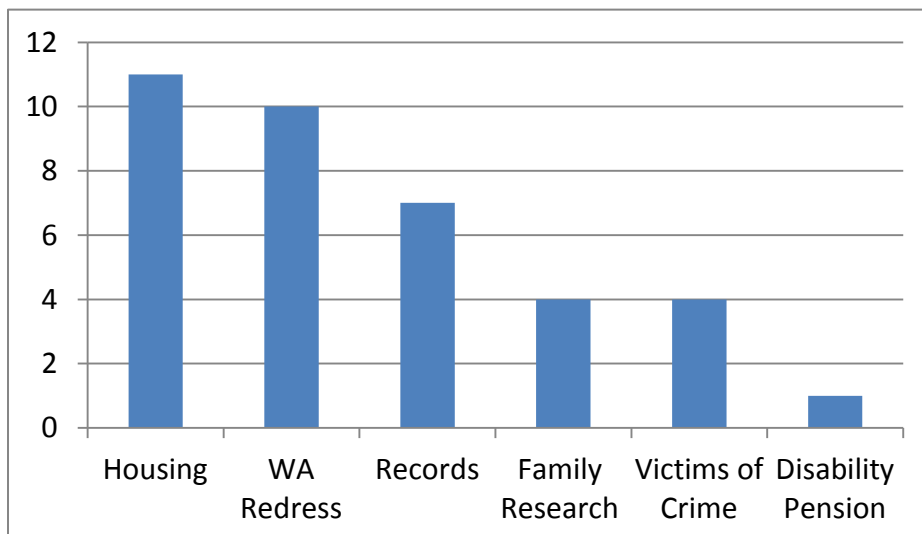
COUNSELLING REPORT

My name is Natalie and I have been counselling at CLAN now for almost two years now and over this period I have had the pleasure of speaking with a great many of you. As it was announced in the August issue of the Clanicle, CLAN have received a new funding grant from FAHCSIA which has allowed the counselling service to be extended from two days a week to four days a week. This has meant that since July of this year the number of counselling appointments that have been made has increased significantly along with the number of new Care Leavers and Clannies who have been using the service (*Please see the graphs below for figures*).

Over the last year CLAN has continued to provide a counselling service to Redress WA applicants. Even though Redress WA is now in the process of closing down, we would like to still invite any CLAN member or Redress WA applicant to use the counselling service if you are having any difficulties at all dealing with the redress process.

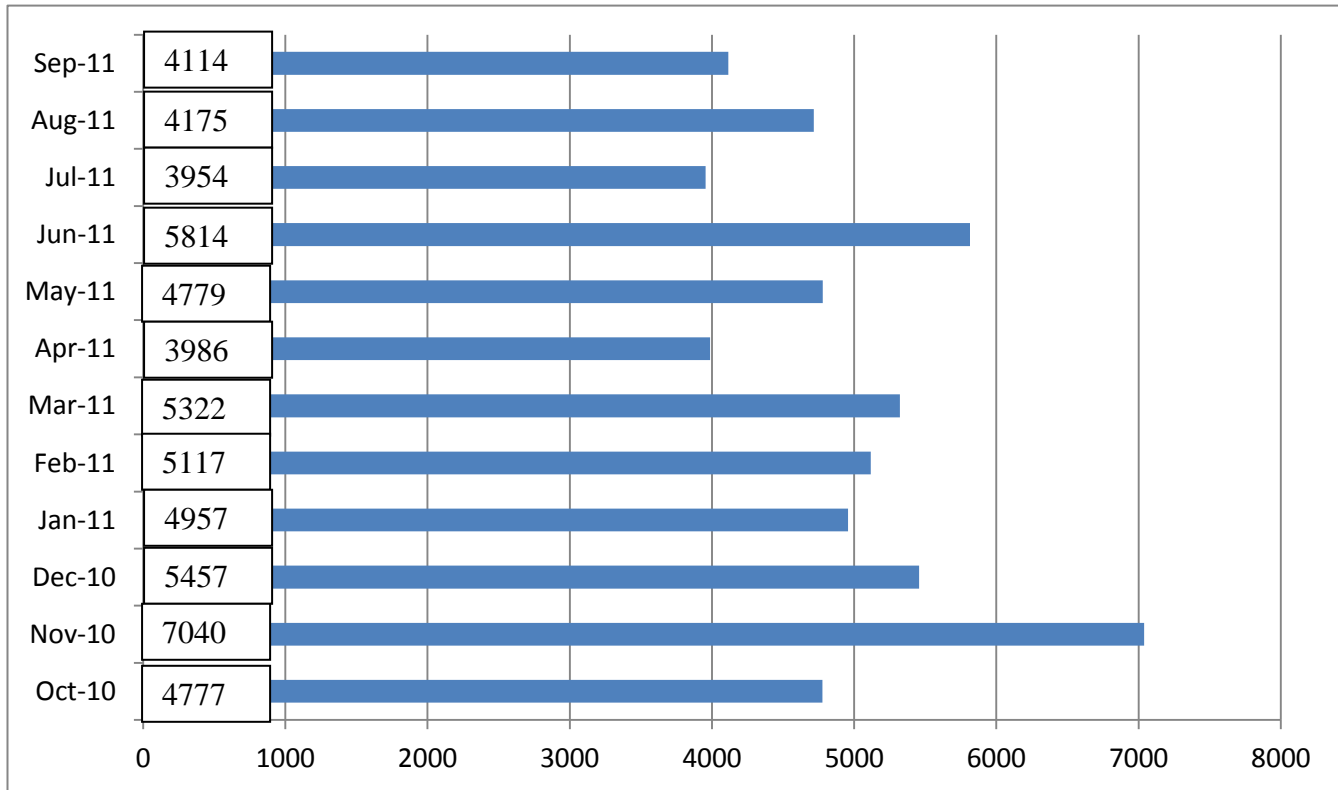
Everyone needs assistance and support sometimes, or even just someone to listen to what they are saying. If this may be you then please contact us and we will do what we can to assist you. I would like to reiterate what a pleasure it has been for me working at CLAN and getting to know many of you. Your strength and persistence is so admirable and I would be happy to assist any of you in any way I am able to.

Number of Care Leavers who received assistance from CLAN

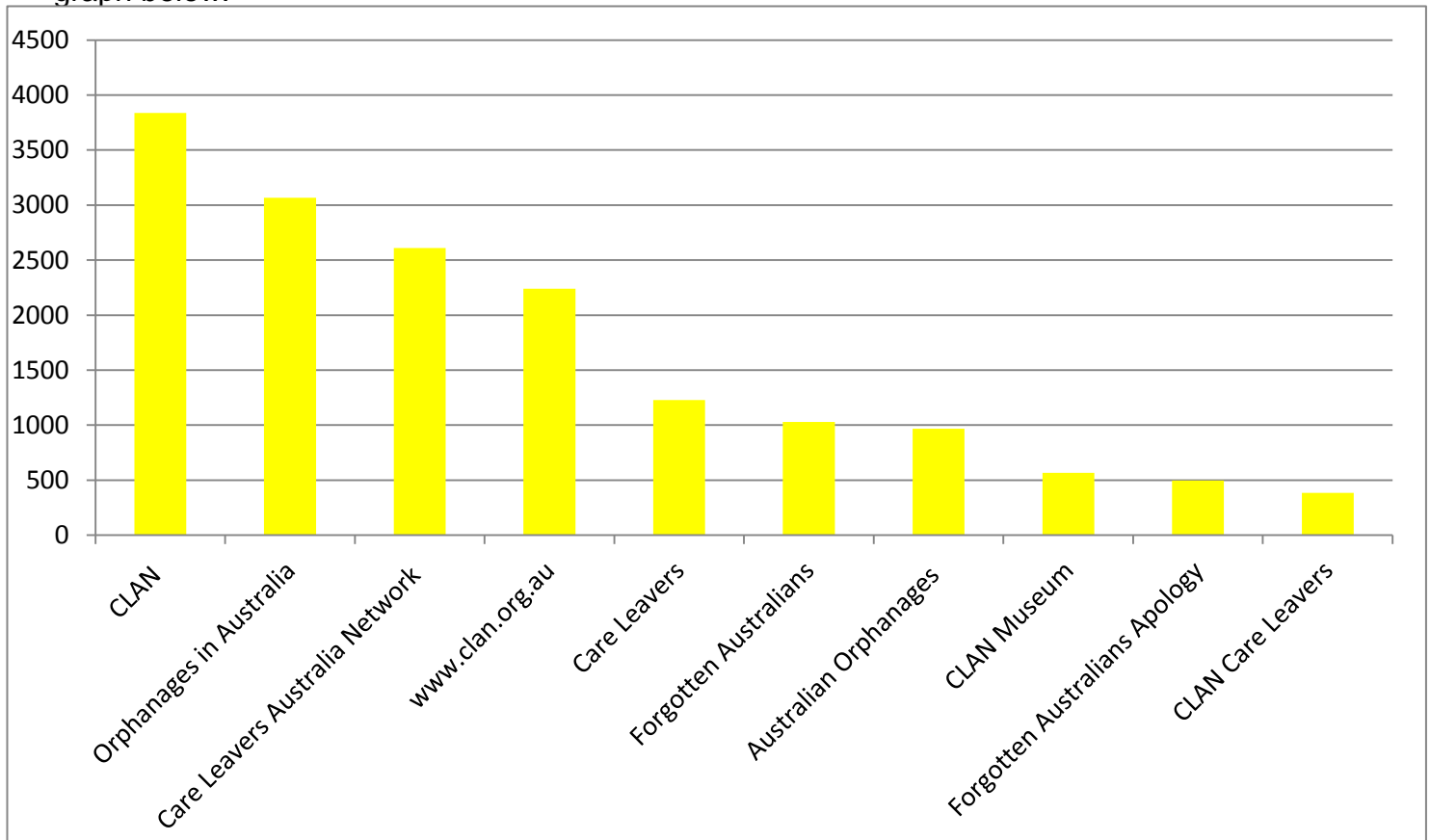


WEBSITE REPORT

The first graph outlines the hits on the CLAN website month by month.



Over the past year the most searched words relating to the CLAN website are shown in the graph below:



TREASURER'S REPORT

At the commencement of the financial year (July 2010), CLAN held only \$299,682.06.

At the end of the financial year (June 2011) CLAN held \$583,746.12.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

The 2010-2011 accounts were audited by S.J. Canny of Norlane, VIC and can be viewed on the next page. Thank you to Francene Steele of S.J. Canny for her hard work and for conducting this audit.

The 2011-2012 budget was created on MYOB and accepted by CLAN's Management Committee.

The New South Wales Government agreed to fund CLAN \$35,000 each year over 5 years from 2010-2015.

Other Government funding received over the financial period includes:

- Tasmania - \$25,000
- Victoria - \$15,500
- South Australia - \$15,500
- Australian Capital Territory - \$3,000
- Federal Government - \$400,000 over 2 years from July 2011-July 2013

We still do not receive any funding from the Queensland, Northern Territory or the Western Australian Governments.

MEMBERSHIP:

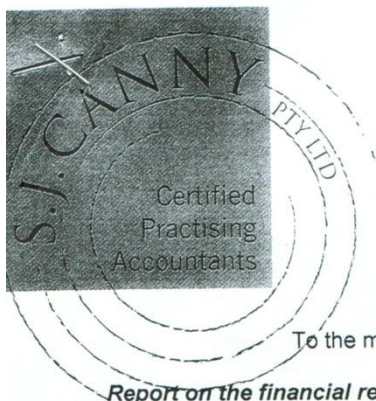
There has been a slight increase in memberships to CLAN from \$20935.04 in 2009-2010 to \$21244.55 in 2010-2011.

CLAN's expenses have generally remained steady. CLAN's expenses are primarily from rent, salaries and telephones.

The biggest changes to costs have been towards the printing and postage for the newsletter. We did have the newsletters printed for free, but we are now incurring the costs of printing and postage especially when we do a bumper issue of the newsletter.

In conclusion, we thank the Federal and four State Governments who support CLAN with funding. However without the Federal Government funding, CLAN would find it difficult to continue our important work for Australian Care Leavers.

CLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011



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ACN 066 220 326

ABN 61 066 220 326

To the members of: Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN) Inc.

Report on the financial report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN) Inc., which comprises the balance sheet as at 30th June, 2011, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity/statement of recognised income and expenses and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the committee's declaration.

The Committee's declaration for the financial report

The committee are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian accounting standards. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian auditing standards. These auditing standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Auditor's opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, gives a true and fair view of the financial position of Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN) Inc. as at 30th June 2011, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian accounting standards including the Australian accounting Interpretations.

Mandy Wilkens - Practice Manager

Dated this 19th day of September, 2011

Liability limited by a scheme
approved under Professional
Standards Legislation.



S. J. Canny Pty Ltd is a CPA business



CLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

CARE LEAVERS AUSTRALIA NETWORK

P.O. Box 164
GEORGES HALL NSW 2198

Profit & Loss Statement

July 2010 through June 2011

19/09/2011
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Income		
Donations	\$45,774.27	
Membership \$10	\$7,035.68	
Membership \$20	\$3,308.76	
Membership Friend \$25	\$1,559.27	
Membership Researchers \$50	\$272.71	
Membership Past Providers \$200	\$7,440.96	
Membership Funded Groups \$100	\$363.64	
Library Fees \$10	\$1,263.53	
Orphans of the Living \$25	\$577.56	
An Orphans Escape \$20	\$127.26	
Journey of Hope	\$118.17	
WA Counselling & reports	\$4,372.73	
Raffle	\$5.00	
Fund Income		
Docs NSW	\$35,875.00	
DHS - Victoria	\$18,185.71	
Dept Health Disability ACT	\$3,000.00	
Govt SA	\$15,000.00	
Aust Govt. support/advocacy	\$400,000.00	
DHHS - TAS	\$25,000.00	
Reimbursement Insurance	\$1,405.00	
Reimbursement Mobile	\$648.82	
refund	\$20.00	
Survey	\$18.19	
Miscellaneous Income	\$6,977.06	
Total Income		\$578,349.32
Cost of Sales		
Freight	-\$41.00	
Total Cost of Sales		-\$41.00
Gross Profit		\$578,390.32
Expenses		
Supplies	\$9,419.29	
Discounts		
Purchase of Orphans of the Living	\$884.58	
Refund	\$104.71	
Bank Fees	\$50.00	
Expenses - Anniversary	\$2,507.26	
Expenses Office Opening	\$4,290.00	
Garbage Collection	\$115.00	
Insurance	\$5,781.82	
Legal & Accounting	\$1,248.00	
Printing	\$8,567.65	
Employment Expenses		
Staff Amenities	\$578.33	
Superannuation	\$16,312.39	
Wages & Salaries	\$197,532.72	
Workers' Compensation	\$1,843.76	
Leonie - travel (reimbursed)	\$893.61	
Miscellaneous Exp.	\$7,855.95	
Expenses - Gifts	\$423.21	
Expenditure Museum	\$1,479.01	
Membership National Library	\$190.64	
Expenditure Library	\$329.46	
Renewal Post Box	\$78.18	
Postage & Shipping	\$7,917.82	
Netregistry	\$548.91	
Rent	\$56,405.76	
Internet	\$1,008.45	
Telephone	\$10,043.57	
Travel	\$8,591.09	

CLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

CARE LEAVERS AUSTRALIA NETWORK

Profit & Loss Statement

July 2010 through June 2011

19/09/2011
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Mobile Telephone	\$2,411.31
Services	
Electricity	\$1,874.67
Fire Extinguisher Service	\$181.82
Consultancy	\$830.00
Lease Preparation	\$300.00
New Office Set Up	\$954.55
Total Expenses	<u>\$351,553.52</u>
Operating Profit	<u>\$226,836.80</u>
Other Income	
Interest Income	\$13,943.38
Total Other Income	<u>\$13,943.38</u>
Other Expenses	
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	<u>\$240,780.18</u>

CLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

CARE LEAVERS AUSTRALIA NETWORK

P.O. Box 164
GEORGES HALL NSW 2198

Balance Sheet

As of June 2011

19/09/2011
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Assets

Current Assets	
Cash On Hand	
Account Balmain	\$55,257.24
Maxi Interest Account	\$520,881.37
Petty Cash	\$172.49
Investments	
Inventory	
Withholding Credits	
Other Assets	
Expenditure Museum	\$468.36
Property & Equipment	
Buildings	
Motor Vehicles	
Furniture & Fixtures	
Security Bond	\$6,966.60
Total Assets	\$583,746.12

Liabilities

Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
GST Liabilities	
GST Collected	\$41,859.92
GST Paid	-\$3,440.70
Payroll Liabilities	
Payroll Accruals Payable	\$10,964.54
Superannuation Liabilities	
Long-Term Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	\$49,383.76

Net Assets	\$534,362.36
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Equity

Retained Earnings	\$214,309.79
Current Year Surplus/Deficit	\$240,780.18
Historical Balancing	\$79,272.39
Total Equity	\$534,362.36

Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN) Inc
ABN 67 736 746 011
Compilation Report

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN) Inc, which comprise the Income and Expenditure Statement and Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2011. The special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with APES 205: conformity with Accounting standards.

The Responsibility of the Members of Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN) Inc

The Committee of Management of Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN) Inc, are solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements.

Our Responsibility

On the basis of the information provided by the Committee of Management of Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN) Inc, we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance APES 315: Compilation of Financial Information.

Our procedures use accounting expertise to collect, classify and summarise the financial information which the Committee of Management provided, in compiling the financial statements. Our procedures do not include verification or validation procedures.

The special purpose financial statements were compiled exclusively for the benefit of the Committee of Management of Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN) Inc. We do not accept responsibility to any other person for the contents of the special purpose financial statements.

10 Station Street

S J Canny Pty Ltd

Norlane

Francine Steele

19 September, 2011

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.