



# Care Leavers Australasia Network

## Annual Report 2015 – 2016



I would like to acknowledge each of the Committee members for their contribution and participation at the monthly meetings. Thank you to the committee for their support and assistance in what has been an exceptionally busy year writing submissions and developing policies. Thank you for the individual support and assistance I have received particularly from Pat Griffiths, long term Secretary who has the best knowledge on the committee history and processes. Pat’s contribution is often invisible but the role of secretary is vital in assisting the committee to function effectively. Pat also provided valuable assistance in preparation of the museum submissions.

I would especially like to thank the Committee of Management members for their assistance in developing policies and processes for CLAN to become a stronger organisation. Thank you to Jenny Brownley for her assistance in sourcing training and for all members for their willingness to participate in the governance training for not-for-profit organisations. The committee continues to work towards meeting our legal and funding obligations as well as obligations to CLAN members as outlined in the constitution. This year the Committee developed and approved the following operational and management policies:

- Committee Roles & Responsibilities: Orientation Manual and Policy;
- Committee of Management Terms of Reference;
- Gift to the National Orphanage Museum for donated items & bequests;
- Life Membership Proposal;
- National Orphanage Museum Collection policy;
- National Orphanage Museum Management Policy; and,
- Resolution of Disputes & Disciplining Members Policy.

The Chief Executive Officer, Leonie Sheedy, has continued to work tirelessly to support individuals and groups while keeping the issues of Redress alive. Her work has included attending socials, individual advocacy and system advocacy to ensure Care Leavers’ issues are represented and acknowledged.

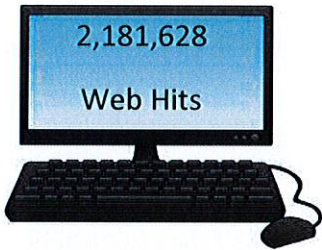
The staff deserve thanks and recognition for the continued work that they do and the direct and indirect services provided. Many Clannies talk about the value of receiving the newsletter, particularly the updates and jokes. This year CLAN agreed to put the personal stories of Care Leavers at the back for any members who do not wish to read this section.

I would like to acknowledge the valuable contribution Vicki Geraghty made to CLAN over a period of 10 years. Vicki worked in a variety of roles and more recently as the Senior Counselling Manager. Vicki’s contributions were a mix of paid and voluntary. For example, at times she participated in conferences, delivered staff training, assisted in planning days and also chaired the Annual General Meetings in the absence of the President. During this time she provided valuable guidance and support to the counsellors and developed policies to guide them in their work. Her diligence and ethical approach to her work strengthened the work of CLAN and the direct services we provide. We wish her well in her future endeavours.

Thank you Clannies for the opportunity to hold the position of President. I have found this a challenging and rewarding year and have been pleased to achieve progress in strengthening CLAN as an organisation and the provision of services to Clannies. Members are encouraged to provide feedback and ideas by email to the committee at [committee@clan.org.au](mailto:committee@clan.org.au) or addressed to the Secretary, Pat Griffiths at the Bankstown office on how we can continue to represent your views and needs.

Warm regards

Maureen Cuskelly



1,388

Counselling Sessions

Thousands of e-mails, phone calls, letters and text messages have been received over the last 12 months



CLAN has supported 113 Care Leavers to Attend the Royal Commission Private Sessions

CLAN has continued to support Care Leavers in Prison through telephone counselling and personal visits, finding families and accessing records.





My sincere thanks go to all the Royal Commission team from the Commissioners, Chair Peter McClellan, Jennifer Coate, Bob Atkinson, Helen Milroy, Andrew Murray and Robert Fitzgerald to the Royal Commission staff who work so closely with us, especially Sally Grimsley-Ballard. CLAN is deeply indebted to you for your ongoing patience, care, commitment and support. It is not an easy thing for Care Leavers to trust the Royal Commission and re-open old wounds and reveal their histories of abuse to the Royal Commission. But Care Leavers understand it is important these stories be heard and believed. I know many Care Leavers take great comfort from the respect they are shown during this process even when the telling is painful and at times incredibly distressing.

The Royal Commission has now closed registrations for private sessions and the lead-up to September 30, the day the registrations closed, was extremely busy for CLAN as people realised they did not want to miss the opportunity to share their story in person.

I want to sincerely thank the dedicated team at CLAN for all that they do throughout the year. I could not do my job as CEO without the incredible support I receive from the whole team: Julie, Natalie, Janis, Kristen, Steven, Darren, Helene, Kylie and Tony and our wonderful cleaner Yvonne. I thank you not only for your hard work but also for your support and commitment to our members at CLAN.

Lastly I would like to sincerely thank the CLAN Committee members, Maureen Cuskelly, Frank Golding, Pat Griffiths, Rhonda Janetzki, Pat McNair in New Zealand, Jenny Brownley, Carolyn Frawley and Antonio Serbati for making time every month and ensuring that CLAN continues to operate smoothly.

Every day I am reminded what a great honour it is to work for Care Leavers across the country. I am so grateful you place your trust in me to represent you and advocate on your behalf. Together we will continue to educate, raise awareness and ensure our voices are heard within the wider Australian community.

I really do love my job and each day I am reminded of the critical importance of the work we do. We will never, ever go away until we reach our goal of Care Leaver recognition, justice and National Redress, for all forms of Abuse, Neglect and Child Labour.

Hooroo

Leonie Sheedy

**Executive Officer**  
**CLAN**



350  
CLAN  
Information  
Packs Posted



Over 100  
Mentions in  
the Media



20  
TV & Radio  
Interviews

## CLAN's Patrons

CLAN's wonderful patrons over the years have offered their continued support to Care Leaver Issues. We would like to thank and acknowledge them:

**Hon Malcom Turnbull MP**

Prime Minister of Australia & Member for Wentworth (NSW)

**Hon Jason Clare MP**

Federal Member for Blaxland (NSW)

**Hon Richard Marles MP**

Federal Member for Corio (VIC)

**Steve Irons MP**

Federal Member for Swan (WA)

**Senator Claire Moore**

Queensland Senator

**Jenny Macklin**

Federal Member for Jagajaga (VIC)

**Amanda Rishworth**

Federal Member for Kingston (SA)

CLAN is thankful and appreciative for the ongoing support of all our Patrons and for their advocacy.

We thank the following for their support:

Rachel Siewert

Royal Commission Team

## CLAN's Volunteers

CLAN would like to thank all volunteers for their time and help throughout the year.

A big congratulations to last year's Volunteers of the Year:

- Jenny Brownley
- Keith Broadbent

CLAN really appreciates all your hard work.

This year's Volunteer of the Year award will be presented at the Annual General Meeting.



CLAN's Volunteer of the Year Shield



# CLAN Protests across Australia





# Socials





# Australia's Orphanage Museum

Throughout this year, CLAN has had many Care Leavers and visitors come in to the office in Sydney to look at the Australian Orphanage Museum. Clannies always want to have a walk through and look at the items we hold in the Museum. We have had workers from Government Departments visit the Museum as well as Politicians and journalists.

Some notable visitors include:

- Michael Coutts-Trotter - Secretary of the NSW Department of Family and Community Services
- Jason Clare, MP – Blaxland
- Shannon Deery – Herald Sun
- Kate Pritchett - Director, Royal Commission, Department of Family and Community Services

In the past 12 months, CLAN staff Darren and Steven took the time to give the Australian Orphanage Museum a make-over. They cleaned, re-organised, photographed and did some work on the inventory of the Museum. They have also uploaded many photos of the items in the Australian Orphanage Museum to the CLAN website. Their work on the Museum is greatly appreciated. We know how much effort they put in to get the job done.





# Acknowledgments

CLAN would like to extend a big thank you to all social co-ordinators for all your efforts in organising events and socials for all Clannies.

CLAN would like to thank the following Government Departments for their continued support & funding:

- Department of Social Services
- Department for Families SA
- Department of Human Services VIC
- Department of Families & Community Services NSW
- Ancestry.com

CLAN would like to say a special thank you to those who have made substantial donations throughout the year:

- |                                   |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| • Thelma, VIC -                   | \$500   |
| • John, NSW -                     | \$500   |
| • Mary, WA -                      | \$500   |
| • Katherine, VIC -                | \$1,000 |
| • Peter, NSW -                    | \$1,000 |
| • Ryan Carlisle Thomas Lawyers -  | \$1,175 |
| • United Protestant Association - | \$7,500 |

Thank you to everyone who donated to CLAN during the last year. Your donation is much appreciated, whether it is big or small.

Thank you to the special people who send us hand-made cards to send to people on the birthday list. Sincere thanks to:

- Gwen, ACT
- Julie, QLD
- Trudy, ACT
- Patricia, QLD

A big thank you to Jenny Brownley from our committee who makes sure the Clannies get their birthday cards on time.

We also like to thank all of CLAN's patrons who support CLAN:

- Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull
- Hon. Jason Clare MP
- Hon. Richard Marles MP
- Steve Irons MP
- Senator Claire Moore
- Jenny Macklin
- Amanda Rishworth

CLAN also extends a big thank you to our amazing members and supporters who have sent us financial donations, stamps, envelopes, newspaper articles and other items to help keep CLAN going. All donations are gracefully accepted.

We would also like to thank everybody who has and has continued to donate items to CLAN's Australian Orphanage Museum.

Thank you to all our members who attend the CLAN socials in all states in Australia and New Zealand, and to all members who attend the silent protests CLAN holds for a National Redress Scheme. You are the true champions!

Thank you to Tony, NSW, for donating tea and coffee and a toaster for the office.

Lastly, we would like to acknowledge and thank all of our friends and supporters who encourage CLAN to keep advocating and supporting all Australian Care Leavers.





4. In some cases, the records have been lost, others are incomplete, and many are found to be inadequate. Therefore, in addition to historic personal files and case notes, archivists and other support personnel have a duty to search for and identify other archived records that are relevant to the person's childhood experience to assist in providing a more complete narrative.
5. Many childhood records are partial; many contain statements that are inaccurate or misleading; and many include personal judgments or opinions and use language that is offensive. Archivists and records holders have a duty to inform the person of the right to challenge the records, and should encourage them to submit alternative relevant material for inclusion on the record.
6. Record holders have a duty to assist the 'subject' person interpret the record with issues like historical context and technical terminology.
7. The childhood records in archives are ultimately the property of the person who is the subject of the records. Originals should be provided and copies kept in archival collections.
8. The subject of the records (or, if deceased, that person's closest living blood relative or by agreement another blood relative) has the right to determine who should have access to those records and the terms of that access.
9. In acknowledgement of the importance of childhood records into the future, all agencies and organisations that take children into their custody from this time forward must create an official record comprising key documents including the child's birth certificate, the names and last-known addresses of members of the child's family, any court orders or documents related to the reasons for the child's placement, all medical and educational histories, the names of all people who visit the child during their time in custody, all documents related to transfers to other institutions including foster families and any other official documents that relate to the child's time in 'care'.
10. All agencies and organisations that take children into their custody from this time forward should encourage such children to contribute to their official records, and as well, to help them to create a personal collection of items such as relevant photographs of people, events and places that are central to their time in 'care', objects of significance to their time in any 'care' facility and any personal or descriptive accounts written by the child.

**Thank you to Frank Golding for his long standing commitment to Care Leavers and his work on the Charter of Rights to Childhood Records.**



# Financial Report

The accounts were audited by MK Nominees & Association Pty Ltd of Bankstown, NSW and are present in this Annual Report.

We are grateful to the Federal Government and some State Governments who provide funding to CLAN.

Federal (Government) – Royal Commission Support	\$400,000
Federal (Government) – Find & Connect Support	\$150,000
NSW Government	\$35,000
VIC Government	\$16,500
SA Government	\$15,000

**QLD, NT, WA, TAS, and ACT Governments do not support CLAN financially.**



**CARE LEAVERS AUSTRALASIA NETWORK INCORPORATED**  
**A.B.N. 67 736 746 011**

**COMMITTEE'S REPORT**

Your Committee submit the financial report of the Care Leavers Australasia Network Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2016.

**Committee Members**

The names of Committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Maureen Cuskelly  
Frank Golding  
Patricia Griffiths  
Pat McNair  
Rhonda Janetzki  
Carolyn Frawley  
Leonie Sheedy  
Antonio Serbati  
Jenny Brownley

**Principal Activities**

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were the provision of support, advocacy, research and training network for people who grew up in Australian orphanages, children's Homes, foster care and other institutions.

**Significant Changes**

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

**Operating Result**

The loss after providing for income tax amounted to \$(47,135.35).

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.

**Committee Member:** \_\_\_\_\_

Patricia Griffiths

**Committee Member:** \_\_\_\_\_

Antonio Serbati

**Dated this 3rd day of November 2016**



**CARE LEAVERS AUSTRALASIA NETWORK INCORPORATED**  
**A.B.N. 67 736 746 011**

**INCOME STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Advertising		-	115.00
Bank Charges & Merchant Fees		29.16	76.75
Brand Bureau Retainer		-	25,053.43
Cleaning		2,750.00	2,050.00
Computer Software & Maintenance		2,190.58	3,024.41
Conferences & Courses		5,884.55	2,555.08
Consultancy		23,051.00	2,535.00
Depreciation & Amortisation		8,821.00	7,461.00
Donations		136.10	1,480.50
Electricity		-	2,854.59
Expenses Anniversary		23,180.97	37,882.11
Gas		239.97	251.50
General Expenses		7,718.01	7,850.24
Gifts		-	203.26
Hall Hire Expenses		211.17	431.31
Insurance		15,502.50	7,089.56
Legal & Accounting Expenses		2,500.00	2,240.00
Licences & Fees		1,044.10	884.28
Light & Power		3,013.17	-
Library Expenses		211.07	478.67
Motor Vehicle Expenses		9,766.56	6,735.46
Museum Expenditure		45.45	-
Postage		28,959.14	14,768.51
Printing & Stationery		11,593.74	9,709.30
Provision for Annual Leave		-	27,724.79
Provision for Long Service Leave		-	20,260.52
Provision for Personal/Carers Leave		-	42,490.57
Rates & Taxes		78.00	-
Rent		46,846.21	45,646.92

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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**CARE LEAVERS AUSTRALASIA NETWORK INCORPORATED**  
**A.B.N. 67 736 746 011**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 30 JUNE 2016**

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents		303,234.58	342,869.87
Trade and other receivables	2	6,046.77	6,949.87
Inventories	3	232.84	355.57
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>309,514.19</u>	<u>350,175.31</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	4	32,596.48	40,092.02
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>32,596.48</u>	<u>40,092.02</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>342,110.67</u>	<u>390,267.33</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and Other Payables		15,229.47	16,250.78
Employee benefits	5	121,255.85	121,255.85
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>136,485.32</u>	<u>137,506.63</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>136,485.32</u>	<u>137,506.63</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>205,625.35</u>	<u>252,760.70</u>
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>			
Retained funds	6	205,625.35	252,760.70
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>205,625.35</u>	<u>252,760.70</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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**CARE LEAVERS AUSTRALASIA NETWORK INCORPORATED**  
**A.B.N. 67 736 746 011**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

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**Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Cash flows are discounted using market yields on high quality corporate bond rates incorporating bonds rated AAA or AA by credit agencies, with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cash flows. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

Employee benefits are presented as current liabilities in the balance sheet if the association does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least one year after the reporting date regardless of the classification of the liability for measurement purposes under AASB 119.

**Taxes**

**Income Tax**

No Income Tax is payable by Care Leavers Australasia Network Incorporated as Section 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 exempts Charitable Institutions from Income Tax

**Goods & Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax, except:

- (i) where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. It is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of the expense.
- (ii) receivables and payables are shown inclusive of GST.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and short-term deposits in the balance sheet comprise cash at bank and in hand and short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less plus bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown on the balance sheet as current liabilities under borrowings.



**CARE LEAVERS AUSTRALASIA NETWORK INCORPORATED**  
**A.B.N. 67 736 746 011**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>5 Employee Benefits</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Provision for Annual Leave	49,401.31	49,401.31
Provision for Personal and Carers Leave	42,490.57	42,490.57
Provision for Long Service Leave	29,363.97	29,363.97
<b>Total Employee Benefits</b>	<u>121,255.85</u>	<u>121,255.85</u>
<b>6 Retained Earnings</b>		
Retained surplus at the beginning of the financial year	252,760.70	259,370.37
Net deficit attributable to the association	<u>(47,135.35)</u>	<u>(6,609.67)</u>
Retained surplus at the end of the financial year	<u>205,625.35</u>	<u>252,760.70</u>



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF CARE LEAVERS AUSTRALASIA NETWORK INCORPORATED  
A.B.N. 67 736 746 011**

**Report on the Financial Report**

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Care Leavers Australasia Network Incorporated (the association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2016, and the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the statement by members of the committee.

**Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report**

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

**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. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether 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 judgment, 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 of the financial report that gives a true and fair view 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 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 requirement of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

# CLAN's Campaigns through the Year



Thousands of our post cards were sent to the Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull. We thank all our members and friends of CLAN who supported us in this campaign.

