

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2013 – 2014



## **FOCUSING ON YOU, CREATING YOUR COMMUNITY**

Welcome to the 2013 --2014 Annual General Meeting of the Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative.

We are proud to announce that the Centre has been open to the public for nine years and is growing from strength to strength.

The Board of Management thank the residents of Altona and the wider community of Hobsons Bay for supporting the Centre through its nine years of operations.

### **THE MISSION STATEMENT**

The Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative is a self supporting, community based, community owned and administered Co-operative which owns and manages the Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre.

### **THE VISION STATEMENT**

To provide a dynamic and community owned multi functional meeting place that encompasses a broad range of social enterprises supporting arts, community information, recreational and cultural services to Hobsons Bay.



## **BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

Chairperson – Christine Holmes

Member – Adrian Masterman-Smith

Vice Chairperson – Maree Duffield

Member – Debra Kamal

Secretary – Susan Royle

Member – Carole McElvaney

Treasurer – Terry Heazlewood

Member--Lyn Pasquier

Centre Manager – Jill Bilston

Administration Officer – Kim Reilly

## **FUNDING BODIES AND CORPORATE SPONSORS**

The Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative would like to thank the following Funding Bodies and Corporate Sponsors for their financial support:

City of Hobsons Bay

Department of Human Services-DHS

Exxon Mobil Altona Refinery

Altona Community Bank - Bendigo Bank

Altona Sports Club

Organisations and individuals who gave so generously to the Uganda Sewing Project

Thank you everyone.

## SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL DIRECTORS REPORT 2013/2014

Dear shareholder,

Your directors submit their report, together with the audited financial statements of the co-operative for the year ended June 30<sup>th</sup> 2014.

### **DIRECTORS**

Active directors of the co-operative in any office, following the AGM held in November 2012.

- Christine Holmes
- Maree Duffield
- Susan Royle
- Terry Heazlewood
- Carole McElvaney
- Adrian Masterman-Smith
- Debra Kamal
- Lyn Pasquier

### **PRINCIPLE ACTIVITIES**

The primary activities of the co-operative in the course of the financial year were:

- The provision of facilities to provide community services to the Hobsons Bay Community.
- The management of an active neighbourhood house.

### **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES**

There have been no significant changes in the nature of the primary activities of the Co-operative.

- The co-operative continues its role as being both a Provider of Community Services and owner of a facility to provide these services. We employ a Centre Manager for the neighbourhood house located within our premises at The Louis Joel Centre. The manager is responsible to the board for full utilization of the Centre space and is required to source funding for community and like services to be provided by the Louis Joel Centre.

### **REVIEW AND RESULTS FOR THE YEAR**

The profit and loss report indicates that the co-operative continues to pay off its mortgage in line with our business plan and remains in profitable operation.

### **DIVIDENDS**

The Directors are bound to follow the rules of the co-operative and hence no dividends can or have been declared or paid.

### **MATTERS SUBSEQUENT TO THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR**

NIL

**FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AND RESULTS**

See Manager's report for details

**ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION**

The operations of the Co-operative are not subject to environmental regulation.

**DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE BENEFITS AND CONTRACTS**

During or since the end of the last financial year no Director or Executive Officer has received any benefit or like, directly or indirectly, by way of a contract made between the co-operative and any firm in which he/she is a member or in which he/she has significant financial interest.

**INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE OF OFFICIERS/AUDITOR & ALL ASPECTS OF CENTRE OPERATION**

Premiums are in respect of:

- Indemnities and insurance paid during or since the end of the financial year for a person who is, or has been, an officer or auditor of the co-operative
- Indemnities and insurance paid to cover all aspects of centre operations.


Insurance details:

1. Allianz Australia Insurance Ltd.  
Policy number 1340423610COM  
Valid until 22/06/2014
2. Victorian Managed Insurance Authority  
Policies: CSO-PL-2014, CSO-PI-2014, CSO-DOPI-2014,  
CSO-AI-2014, CSJ-MI-2014 CSO-PA-2014, CSO-MD-2014.  
Valid until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014

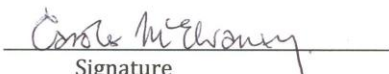
This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Directors.

SIGNED AT Altona

Date: 15/10/14

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Susan Royle (Director/Secretary)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Carole McElvaney (Director)

## Centre Manager's Report

Walking through the Altona shopping centre, I pass many restaurants, two supermarkets and two gymnasiums, two chemists, the mandatory \$2.00 shop and the Post office. At least 10 coffee shops offer you a quality late or baby chino.

When I started work nine years ago at the Louis Joel Centre, I would look forward to a meeting in Williamstown, as I could buy the "good Coffee". No "good coffee" could be bought in Altona.

How things change! The large Mitre 10 Hardware and timberyard, gone, replaced by three story apartments. The little Plumbing shop is gone, Paul's fruit shop closed down this year. New ventures, retail shops and services have opened to the changing population of Altona and Altona North. Property prices have risen dramatically over the last three years, especially if the beach can be seen from the flat or house. The streetscape changes are amazing. Driving down some streets you have not seen for a while, you are surprised by new town houses, units and dual occupancy blocks of houses.

The Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre opened nine years ago. Two organisations, Hobsons Bay Arts Society and the CIC-Community Information Centre commenced services in offices at the venue also. The Bayside Festival committee had an office for three years. The Centre developed programs in response to requests from residents in Altona and surrounds. Sewing, card making, macramé, walking group, creative writing classes, painting, drawing and yoga in the park started within three months.

A request from seniors, our Baby Boomers, wanting challenging and thought provoking programs, led to the development of the Altona U3A.

In those first three years the activities and services reflected a middle aged and older community, mainly women. Few children's programs or programs attracting men to the centre were run on a regular basis.

As time moved on the Altona streetscape changed, reflecting the changing community. More young families were buying homes in Altona, retired people were moving to Altona as it was cheaper than retiring in the Eastern suburbs and a lot closer to the city with good public transport. New neighbours brought new cultures and languages. Multi cultural restaurants opened up along Pier Street.

Families came to the centre looking for children's activities, hence playgroups, Kindy Dance, Preschool music, children's art classes, Dramawerkz and Kumon started at the centre. New classes reflect the changing population. The centre brought Melbourne's GLBTIQ Midsumma Celebration across the bridge, exhibiting the work of six local artists from the GLBTIQ community. Four hundred and thirty people came to the launch. Cr Tony Briffa made the comment, "I never thought in my wildest dreams that Pier Street could look like Commercial Road at 2.00am in the morning."

Support groups and individual services developed to meet some of the challenges people experience through life. The Anxiety Support group has grown from 5-6 members to over 18 attending most meetings. Crisis Counselling, The HEAR Service, free legal support and Tax Help are run from the Louis Joel venue. Miracle Babies playgroup supports new mothers



with very prem babies and the medical issues they often face. Yoga, meditation, relaxation, Book Group, GLBTI Film nights, Trivia afternoons, cards, scrabble, history of the Tudors, Spanish and French classes, chess, Patchwork and Quilting classes reflect the diverse range of successful programs running at the centre.

Kings of the Kitchen, our Men's Cooking Program is one of the highlights of the week.

The Joel Gallery has held fifteen exhibitions in the last twelve months, featuring new and emerging artists and award winning artists with International reputations. Our Gallery has an excellent reputation for exhibiting the work of artists from Disability organisations. Their work is stunning! It is a Community Gallery. Everyone with talent deserves professional exposure.

The metamorphosis of Pier Street and Altona is reflected in the changes and diverse range of activities and services at the Louis Joel centre. Altona has become the place to live. Beautiful beaches, close to the city, wide open spaces and a great cultural mix of people of all ages

Change happens. It is healthy. The role of any community centre is to actively respond to change. The Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre does respond to change.

As you read the articles in this Annual Report document, you will note programs that are running successfully today, would not have had enrolment nine years ago.

However, one thing remains the same; we continue to care for our community. We try our best to respond to the needs of our residents. We welcome everyone through our doors. We have fun; we laugh and play jokes on people. We provide challenges, support, friendship, new experiences, social belonging, local identity and connection.

A community centre should be a building of mirrors that reflects the community it stands in, and responds warmly. The Board Members, staff and volunteers work very hard to achieve this ongoing challenge. Some failures, some successes. It is always a good place to be.

Jill Bilston



# Michael Adonai



## I DID NOT CHOOSE TO BE A REFUGEE

A visual art exhibition by Michael Adonai  
Produced by Multicultural Arts Victoria in partnership with Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre

Saturday 14 June - Friday 27 June  
Launch Friday 13 June 7pm  
Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre  
5 Sargood Street, Altona  
Gallery hours: 10am to 4pm  
Open 7 days  
Free entry

[multiculturalarts.com.au](http://multiculturalarts.com.au)

ARTS  
VICTORIA

Victoria

Multicultural Government

Department of

Hobsons Bay

Regional, Metropolitan & Specialist



# GALLERY EXHIBITIONS



Michael Adonai



Michael Adonai



Judith Leidenberger



It's Art Wear It



Art in Public Places - Dinwoodie



Gallery and Events

## **JOEL GALLERY – 2013 – 2014**

### Exhibitions

Over the last year the Joel Gallery again has been fully booked with established and emerging artists as well as local community exhibitions.

Some of the highlights from the year included:

#### **The Michael Adonai Exhibition**

Michael is an Eritrean refugee now living locally. His paintings are vibrant and sometimes quite moving reflecting his challenging life experiences.

His exhibition was such an outstanding success that the centre extended his exhibition by six days to enable people to visit the gallery from across Melbourne.

The radio interviews with ABC Radio Australia and ABC's The Conversation Hour with Jon Faine attracted many people to the centre and some to Altona for the first time.

Multi Cultural Arts Victoria supported his exhibition and as a result the gallery now has an ongoing partnership with MCAV. We look forward to presenting more exciting events and activities with MCAV in the future.

We now have several organizations that support asylum seekers and refugees wanting to work with the centre.

#### **Art in Public Places**

Once again, Art in Public Places has been an enormous success this year and our biggest to date. Our theme was "Every child loves a dinosaur". The six schools involved used recycled products and materials to decorate their stunning dinosaurs. The response from the schools and community was brilliant.

#### **All about Altona - Bruce Hargraves**

Bruce Hargraves is one of our most popular artists. Visitors were captivated by his skilful portrayal of many local attractions resulting in the sale of 40 paintings during his three week exhibition.

"All about Altona" was fully featured in an article in The Watercolour Society of Victoria and Australia's "Watermarks" e-news in April.

### Implementing Our Vision for the Joel Gallery

The Gallery sub-committee has continued meeting throughout the year to further the board's vision for the Joel Gallery. We are pleased to inform you of the following progress:

#### Building a Unique Gallery Identity

We have made steps to create a unique gallery identity by -

- Creating a Joel Gallery web-site [www.joelgallery.com.au](http://www.joelgallery.com.au) We would like to thank our volunteers Fabienne and Robert for their invaluable assistance in this area.
- Creating a Joel Gallery logo to be used in all our future advertising and administrative work.

### Establishing a Collaboration with the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA)

After much discussion we decided to approach The Victorian College of the Arts about a possible collaboration, we felt it was appropriate since their college is entirely devoted to the arts.

Our aims through VCA is to support emerging artists, become better known amongst the Melbourne art community as well as the potential to be exposed to innovations in exhibition.

Through the collaboration we have now set-up -

- The first **Joel Gallery Emerging Artist Award** worth \$1000 to be awarded late November each year to one graduating student from VCA who shows Artistic Excellence and Consistent Application to their work.
- We have also established an **Annual Student Exhibition**, with the first to be held in May 2015. This will display works from our Emerging Artist Award recipient as well as a collection of other final year students work from VCA. We also hope to have a screening of student films during the exhibition.

We look forward to presenting some more interesting art work at the Joel Gallery and hope to see you at one of our exhibitions soon.

Luca

## **Michael Adonai**

This year mid 2014, we were very privileged to have had the Internationally acclaimed Eritrean born visual painter Michael Adonai exhibit at the Louis Joel Art Gallery some of his many paintings. The Gallery Launch was successful and very well attended attracting dignitaries and the media.

The title of the exhibition "I did not choose to be a refugee" was a thought provoking and heartfelt story that Michael responded to through his art. Michael Adonai has studied fine art and is now focusing on the traditional painting style of Coptic Art.

He has had numerous art prizes globally awarded for his extraordinary artwork covering his experiences as a former Eritrean freedom fighter, of political oppression, and, that of once being a refugee.

Debra Kamal

## JOEL GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

2013 - 2014

Dates	Title	Description
Ending 6 July '13	Maltese Exhibition	A brilliant exhibition of photos and stories depicting the history of Maltese settlement in Hobsons Bay area.
3 – 15 July '13	Celebrating NAIDOC week	Works by aboriginal artist Ande Kempnich.
23 – 31 July '13	Revolving Gallery The Bwindi Project	Sale of donated items as a fund raiser for Bwindi, Uganda.
2 – 8 August '13	Revolving Gallery Crafty Ideas	Exhibition and Sale of Crafty ideas from South Kingsville.
9 – 15 August '13	Revolving Gallery Recycling 'Good for the Heart'	Featured art works and jewellery created from recycled items by Barbara McNeill and Kath Casoar.
16 – 22 August '13	Revolving Gallery Men's Shed	An Exhibition of wood, tools and photography by members of the Hobsons Bay Men's Shed.
23 – 29 August '13	Revolving Gallery Hoppers Potters	Francesca Franze and her Students displayed their imagination and talents as potters
13 – 22 September '13	Spring Exhibition	Hobsons Bay Art Society presenting works in their annual exhibition extolling the joy of spring after a cold winter
30 September – 7 October '13	'We are You'	Paintings, drawings and photography produced by talented people at Annecto David House, Yarraville.
17 October '13	Seniors Festival 'Four Seasons'	Seniors grouped working to produce a canvas depicting one of the four seasons using scraps of yarn, lace, old zippers, buttons and fabric plus wool rovings.
24 – 27 October '13	'Wear it for Christmas'	Gallery Stallholders with wonderful wearable art available for Christmas Gift ideas.



1 – 10 November '13	'Moments in Time'	Featured 3D works in glass, resin, textiles and metal. These works being produced by Carole Kernohan, Michelle Guest and Stephan Guest.
14 – 24 November '13	'European Light'	Exhibition of 50's style shadow box horses and paintings done in Europe, inspired by the nature of the northern sun on surroundings. All works by Judith Leuenberger.
25 – 19 January '14	AIDS Memorial Quilt construction	An emotionally charged weekend where quilters were asked to create a memorial quilt. Two examples from last years' exhibition were returned to the centre as samples. A singing quilter was on hand as a special performing guest.
7 – 30 March '14	'All about Altona'	Bruce Hargrave's magnificent display of watercolours depicting scenes and special locations around Altona.
14 – 28 April '14	Art in Public Places	Louis Joel Centre's presentation this year was titled 'The Dinosaur Age'. It featured an outdoor display of decorated Dinosaur cut outs and a gallery display of artwork produced by 5 local primary schools. The Altona Men's Shed cut out the Dinosaurs.
3 – 11 May '14	'Reflections'	Paintings and photography by Stuart Haymes. This exhibition was a reflection on the wrecks following the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli.
3 – 9 June '14	'Lasting Impressions'	The return of five wonderful female artists from the Hobsons Bay Art Society with fantastic examples of their superb talents.
13 – 29 June '14	'I did not choose to be a refugee'	Eritrean artist Michael Adonai uses his unique artistic skills to show that people do not necessarily set out to become refugees.

## Art in Public Places



The children's workshops were an outstanding success. Over 70 children had a great time creating dinosaurs using clay and pasta. The Age of the Dinosaurs involved six local Primary Schools in the Altona and Hobsons Bay area. The outdoor dinosaur display attracted so many families to walk around or drive past this fantastic activity. The children all loved the dinosaur theme. Thank you to our sponsors Exxon Mobil, Altona Sports Club and Hobsons Bay Council.

We all love Dinosaurs. It does not matter what age we are. There is an intense fascination with life lived millions of years ago. It excites us; it engages our challenge for knowledge and understanding of life before man walked on the earth.

The Dinosaur theme attracted massive interest in the 6 schools participating in the exhibition and the workshop run at the Louis Joel Centre.

The Men's Shed did a stunning job cutting out 60 dinosaurs, larger than life for the children to decorate. Altona PS, Altona North PS, Seaholme PS, Altona P--12, Williamstown PS, St Mary's Altona.



## Wear It for Christmas



## The Glass Age





## Thank you to all our Sponsors



The Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre would like to thank the City of Hobsons Bay for their Community Grants support throughout the year. The grant for Art in Public Places has enabled the centre to develop exciting projects involving the six Primary Schools in Altona, Altona North and Williamstown North.

Exxon Mobil has been a key sponsor for Art in Public Places for the last four years. The funding of \$3,000 for The Age of the Dinosaur project this year meant we could increase our local school involvement from four schools to six schools. Part of this funding was used to create forty-two cut out dinosaurs. The dinosaurs were delivered to the six schools to decorate. The finished display looked amazing! Thank you to the Hobsons Bay Men's shed for cutting out the seven different dinosaur shapes at a very low cost.

The Altona Sports Club has been a sponsor of the Louis Joel Centre for eight years. The club donated money to cover the full cost of the automatic doors. The club donate \$5,000 each financial year to support gallery exhibitions and the running of the centre. We appreciate this generous recurrent contribution.

The Bendigo Bank has played a key role in supporting community development projects. The Fashion Parade, which was a great success this year, with models from Mambourin and David House, had good support from this local community bank.

Thank you to City of Hobsons Bay for providing a recurrent Neighbourhood House Coordination Grant to all community centres in Hobsons Bay. This grant supports staff salaries and infrastructure costs. The Department of Human Services funds Neighbourhood House Programs a contribution of ten hours funding a week to support staff and running costs. We are thrilled to announce that an increase in funding for 2015 has just been announced, an additional ten hours per week contribution to centre running costs.



## BRUCE HARGRAVE



### All around Altona

Bruce Hargrave's exhibition "All around Altona," was an outstanding success. The exhibition was almost a sell out. Local Primary schools organised groups of children to visit the exhibition as it fitted very well into the school curriculum 'know where you live'. The artist spoke to the children about his paintings, how he decides what topic to paint, how important his colour palette and brush sizes are when painting the sky or a beach scene. Children watched a painting demonstration and on completion Bruce played the guitar and the children sang.

Bruce sold 39 paintings and took on 8 commissions.

The theme Altona, attracted people from all over Altona, Hobsons Bay and Melbourne.. The medium size water colours depicted scenes of the beach, pier, local schools, Hobsons Bay Council Chamber, well known shops and restaurants and open spaces. Beautiful work. Bruce has exhibited at the Joel Gallery twice. Both exhibitions sold very well. People just love the energy, emotion and colours of his work.

## At a Glance

ORGANISATIONS	CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Information Centre</li> <li>• WynBay LLEN</li> <li>• Hobsons Bay NILS</li> <li>• Hobsons Bay Art Society</li> <li>• Crisis Counselling</li> <li>• No Interest Loan Scheme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drama for Kids               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dramatics for 5 - 7 yrs</li> <li>○ Theatrix for 8 – 12 yrs</li> <li>○ Broadway for 10 – 15 yrs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Children's Art Class x6</li> <li>• Miracle Babies and other Babies' Play Groups</li> <li>• Kumon</li> <li>• Kindy Dance</li> </ul>
HEALTH & WELLBEING SERVICES	RECREATION & LEISURE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hear Service</li> <li>• Kings of the Kitchen ~ Men's Cooking Class</li> <li>• Yoga and Yoga for new mums</li> <li>• Meditation and Relaxation</li> <li>• Miracle Babies playgroup</li> <li>• Special Training Groups               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Integrated Social Visits</li> <li>○ Integrated Gallery Visits</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Parenting and new mum's group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patchwork Classes</li> <li>• Hand Sewing Classes</li> <li>• Art Classes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Watercolour</li> <li>○ Acrylics</li> <li>○ Oils</li> <li>○ Pastel</li> <li>○ On Location Sketching</li> <li>○ Face to Face Sketching</li> <li>○ Organised Special Art Workshops</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Life Drawing Events</li> <li>• Sit 'n Sew</li> <li>• U3A Card Games and many programs</li> <li>• U3A History Class</li> <li>• Seabreeze Quilters special activities</li> <li>• Botanical Art</li> <li>• Knitting Monthly</li> <li>• Walking Group and Meditation</li> </ul>
SUPPORT SERVICES	SPECIAL OCCASION BOOKINGS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Altona Anxiety Support</li> <li>• Crisis Intervention Counselling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Celebrations</li> <li>• Family Gatherings</li> <li>• Baby Showers</li> <li>• Baby Christenings</li> <li>• Significant Birthdays</li> <li>• Special Group Celebrations</li> <li>• Special Workshop</li> <li>• Weddings</li> <li>• AGMs</li> <li>• Network West</li> </ul>
PERMANENT VENUE HIRE GROUPS	PARENTING PROGRAMS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Altona U3A</li> <li>• Kumon ~ Altona Education Centre</li> <li>• Botanical Art</li> <li>• 3 Children's Art classes</li> <li>• Dramawerkz</li> <li>• Probus</li> <li>• Kindy Dance</li> <li>• Seabreeze Quilters</li> <li>• Multiple Birth Association</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple Birth Association meetings plus playgroup activities</li> </ul>
SPECIAL EVENT BOOKINGS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training programs-NFP and Corporate</li> <li>• Chess Tournament</li> <li>• Hobsons Bay Professional Workshops</li> <li>• Weddings</li> </ul>	
GALLERY EXHIBITIONS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See Separate Listing</li> </ul>	

## Kings of the Kitchen

The Kings of the Kitchen have been meeting every Wednesday during school terms for four years after a grant from Hobsons Bay City Council established the project. This is a group of men who are learning the basics of cooking; expanding their knowledge and skills; learning about nutrition and hygiene; as well as enjoying the company of a group of like minded men. The project was so successful in its first year, the Louis Joel Centre decided to continue funding this worthwhile venture and has done for the past three years.

Boxes of vegetables – arrive every Tuesday, donated from the Gateway Community Food Link program ([www.gatewaysupport.org.au](http://www.gatewaysupport.org.au)). Recipes are generated, additional groceries are purchased and the volunteer helpers don their aprons to assist with techniques and terminology.

The Kings of the Kitchen have been wonderfully looked after by a team of dedicated volunteers – Carol Curran, Georgia Reilly and Rebecca Ayres have been the team who have looked after the program over the past year.

The success of the program can be seen in the empty bowls, the take home containers filled with goodies and the kitchen filled with steam, saucepans clanging and laughter. We hope we can continue this project for many years to come as more newcomers arrive and others leave to use their refined culinary skills at home.

A special thank you to Carol, Georgia and Bek for your continued support and enthusiasm for the project and very big thank you to Sue-Rae King and the Committee of the Altona Senior Citizens Centre – your generosity in allowing the Kings to use your kitchen each and every week has been outstanding. And we can only apologise for torturing you all with the delicious aromas wafting about each week!

Kim Reilly  
Co-ordinator  
Kings of the Kitchen



## **Building and Grounds Committee Report 2013 - 2014**

Maintaining a centre as complex as the LJ in good order is a constant work in progress. Maintaining all the systems and facilities of the building also represents an opportunity for us to improve the experience for the many local and interstate guests and our volunteers, presenters and staff who daily stream through our doors for the attractive events we host during our busy year.

We have a great reputation for the warmth of our welcome, our hospitality and for the quality refreshments we offer. We have made good contributions to the experiences of both these groups this year.

With our guests in mind, we have improved the electronic entry doors to offer a more secure environment for guests and presenters who attend our evening activities.

For our reception staff and activity facilitators who lock up at the end of the day we have supported them with brighter more secure lighting installed in the car park.

We needed to replace our ageing old timber decking. This presented an opportunity to value add to this important area which has evolved over recent years to become the key area for our local social and community events. These events which are all about local community also represent a valued part of securing diverse revenue enabling us to continue the work of our centre.

We are now half way through a dramatic upgrade to this whole area. A new and very stylish decking has now been laid. This has made a very dramatic improvement to the area and drawn much positive feedback from users. This decking will be followed shortly by a new adjustable opening and closing verandah. This will generate a weatherproof and reliable new space in which our community events and activities can be booked without fear that Melbourne's weather will spoil the day. To complete this upgrade for the Altona community, new and comfortable 'cafe' style furniture will be sought. The New adjustable verandah will also help us regulate the summer heat and lower our air conditioning expenses, is part of our commitment to making our centre sustainable.

With sustainability in mind while the old decking was being lifted we salvaged and saved the good timber. Our wonderful volunteers Pete and Steve reused this timber and together their creative makeover gave us a fabulous new sandpit and play area.

In closing I would like to thank Graeme Reilly who has spent many 100's of hours of hour over winter completing a whole host of needy jobs that called out to be done around the centre.

Kindest Regards,

Adrian W. Masterman-Smith



## Decking



# THE LOUIS JOEL CENTRE

(The Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative)

## GENERAL HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

**1997:** The Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative was formed in May 1997. After vigorous community action, the hospital building (and some 60% of the site) was saved and purchased by the Co-operative on behalf of the broad Altona community. The vision has been to use and further develop the facility as a community centre with particular emphasis on arts and community resources. The Co-operative's 'Business Plan' further outlines this vision. The HBCA Co-operative is registered under the Co-operatives Act 1996, is a Registered Charity with Deductible Gift Recipient status, and has an 11 member elected and voluntary Board of Directors.

**1998 to 2001:** From 1998, Stage 1 of the Louis Joel Centre development aimed at necessary financial viability and limited physical development. Some 50% of the remaining building was leased for commercial medical purposes, while use of the other half of the building was directed to the development of community programs including the Hobsons Bay Artists Society, Hobsons Bay City Council sponsored community groups, the Community Information Centre, meeting room provisions for community groups etc. We appreciated the support of Hobsons Bay City Council and other sponsors in this time, including Council's \$135,000 building grant in 2001. This support and the Co-Operative's considered management saw the initial large mortgage on the property reduced to some \$122,000, although the original building with many of its 'rabbit warren' limitations and maintenance issues remained.

**2002 to 2004:** It had always been our intention to develop modern facilities for the Louis Joel Centre, either by way of new buildings or by major redevelopment of the existing structure. This became possible in December 2001 when the State Government announced that it would provide a grant of \$425,850 from its 'Community Support Fund'. Community consultation, architectural planning, town planning and tendering took considerable time, with delays and rising costs becoming a concern. However, we received further grants of \$50,000 from the HBC Council and \$62,170 from CSF of the Victorian Government. The Bendigo Bank approved mortgage funding of some \$600,000. Finally, in November 2004, these processes were finalised and we were able to proceed with the \$1.2 million 'Stage 2' redevelopment of the Louis Joel Centre.

**November 2005:** We acknowledge the outstanding architectural advice from Garner Davis Architects, our project architects. Their advice and desire to largely retain the historical form of the building led to a plan that has essentially kept the original main building structure by involved major internal reconstruction. This includes a gallery area, meeting room and offices, plus demolition of unsuitable outbuildings and construction of two new activity areas and external site-works. We also acknowledge the efforts of Merkon Constructions Pty Ltd who, as our builders, have brought these plans to a reality.

**2006:** During this new and exciting phase in the life of the Louis Joel Centre, we have seen many successful exhibitions and functions; held a great number of classes; and seen a wide and varied number of groups use this wonderful facility. We also provide occupancy for a

number of organisations including Community Information Centre, Hobsons Bay Art Society, University of the Third Age, Seabreeze Quilters to mention a few. Not a day goes by without the hustle and bustle of people using the top class amenities at the Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre.

**2007:** What a fantastic year! The Centre is active five days and nights and many weekends. The Gallery has showcased fifteen exhibitions of an excellent standard, attracting over 250 people to some of the Opening Nights. The Altona U3A has 120 members and runs programs 3 days a week and Friday Social Gatherings. The garden is blooming. Our Corporate Sponsors have been very generous.

**2008:** The Louis Joel Centre could not afford the \$8,500 to install automatic doors when the building was planned. Many of the people coming to the Centre had a disability or were older and frail and needed a walking stick or frame. The doors we had were far too difficult to manually open. A submission to the Altona Sports Club requesting financial support was responded to immediately. The Sports Club covers the whole cost of beautiful automatic doors. What a difference the doors have made to everyone who comes in to the Centre. Dow Chemical Australia Ltd gave the Centre an excellent grant to install a new railing system along the concrete ramp leading to the front entrance. The railing has made the entrance safe and easy to walk to the front automatic doors. This funding has made a significant contribution to easy access for all ages.

**2009:** It's Art Wear It 2009 saw the addition of a very glamorous Fashion Parade to launch the textile and jewellery exhibition. The Fashion Parade was attended by 175 people, a stunning evening with everyone receiving a gorgeous show bag of personal care goodies and great magazines to take home. Our textile artists were very pleased with the excellent sales over the two week exhibition.

**2010:** The Joel Gallery was very proud to present the first GLBTI art exhibition in Altona and Hobsons Bay. The exhibition was held as part of the Melbourne Midsumma Festival celebrating the gay, lesbian, bisexual, intersexual, transgender community of Victoria. 450 people attended the launch of "Go West". Over 2,000 people enjoyed the exhibition and more work was sold in this exhibition than any other exhibition held at the gallery since opening its doors in November 2005.

"It's Art Wear It" textile and jewellery exhibition had two stunning fashion parades to introduce the launch of the exhibition.

**2011/12:** The United Nations proclaimed the year 2012 The International Year of the Co-Operative. The Board of Management and the staff celebrated this significant year through 2 exciting and magnificent activities: The Uganda Sewing Project – 3 Travellers to Uganda, the 'After the Rains' exhibition of the history and tourism of the Shire of Buloke and through the display and sale of items made by women's craft groups, the Men's Shed and individual artists. A stunning quilt was designed by Kim Reilly and the members of the Crafter's United to showcase Hobsons Bay Council and Buloke Shire's strong friendship alliance

**2013/14:** The Joel Gallery now has its own website. Over the year the Gallery has showcased the work of many talented artists and crafts persons. A significant exhibition held during Refugee Week, by Eritrean artist Michael Adonai was stunning. Michael won the United Nations International Art Award when he lived in Eritrea. The centre is developing rapidly. New programs are introduced all the time to respond to the rapidly changing community of Altona. Between 900 and 1,000 people walk through the centre doors each week.



## The Bwindi Sewing Project

The Bwindi sewing project in Uganda was established in 2012 by Tricia Salau, Kim Reilly and Jill Bilston. The three travelled to Bwindi and worked with the women for a month to establish the small community centre and the beginnings of a long term sewing program, the goal being to create a continuous income to support family and pay school fees.

In 2013 Tricia and Lynne Hermann travelled to Bwindi to teach dressmaking skills. The women were taught a variety of hand and machine sewn items: Skirts, dresses, children's clothes, kimonos and men's ties. Tricia was astounded by the improvement in the women's sewing skills and the quality of the products they were making. The products made by the women were now being marketed in lodges across Uganda. These markets are now providing an income for the women in the sewing project.

In 2014 Tricia, Kim, Georgia and Jill set off to Bwindi to teach a diverse range of sewing skills and introduce many new items such as jewellery making that would sell well in their small tourist shop and the local Tourist Lodges. Fundraising concentrated on raising money to provide infrastructure at the community centre where the sewing project takes place. Fundraising allowed us to install the following items in Bwindi: Water connection, installation of a flush toilet, purchase of water tanks and power. Fundraising will continue so we can fund at the completion of a multipurpose building in Bwindi. This building would be used as accommodation for volunteers and a woman's refuge. We would like to give our heartfelt thanks to the people of Altona and The Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre for their support of the project.

Through your support we are making a difference to the lives of women in Bwindi. The Women's refuge received a donation from a young Canadian man to begin the building process. With small donations and our financial support, the building is moving along well although \$26,000 is needed to complete and furnish the building. Every donation helps the refuge to reach completion of this very important project.

Tricia Salau



The women are proudly holding their certificates.



Eve and Denis in front of the new Refuge/Hostel



## Financial Overview

The Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre has operated within its own budget for the third year 2013--2014, with the Centre activities separated from those managed by the Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Cooperative

This separation has facilitated the planning and costing of activities of the Centre for current and future years as well as aiding the development of an ongoing maintenance and facilities replacement plan on a priority basis.

Overall a small surplus has been made for the year which will assist with the ongoing repair and replacement plan for the building.

It should be also noted that funds raised for the Bwindi Uganda project are included in the accounts, as the project will continue until the end of June 2015.

Following on from the successful replacement of the roof last year, continuing maintenance of the building inside and out has continued dollars in this financial year.

Major activities since last year's report include the sanding of the Joel Gallery floor followed by the painting of all the internal walls. Work is continuing on the air conditioning system and, following a number of temporary repairs, the external deck has now been replaced.

In addition, the external wall in the car park has been repaired and the lights in the car park replaced.

Future capital activities will include re roofing the external deck, painting the external wall and replacement of portions of the foyer carpets.

As reported last year, the appointment of a part time book keeper, Cathy, has proved successful with the freeing up of time for the permanent staff to expand the Centre's activities, which in turn has increased our venue revenue and widened our community reach.

However with the expansion of the Centre's activities there are increases in our costs such as electricity and cleaning. In addition, the need for an automatic and fully operational out of hour's front door is being investigated.

Special thanks must go to our volunteer maintenance team of Steve and Peter, ably supported by Graeme Reilly who spent much of his Long Service leave working with them over the past months to ensure the building and especially the grounds have been in top condition

Terry Heazlewood, Treasurer

**Please note:** The net income of \$30,293.65 includes funds for ongoing projects not expended in the reporting period. The Uganda Project has a surplus of \$12,439.11; the Sustainability Expo funds of \$1,200 have yet to be expended; the Maltese Exhibition funds were received in this financial year for a project completed the previous financial year; the Art Wear It funding received is for the event to be held in November 2014. The net income for the Louis Joel Centre is \$12,654.54.

Kim Reilly, Administration Assistant

**MICHAEL KIERNAN**

**& ASSOCIATES**  
ACCOUNTANT F.C.P.A.

PO Box 60  
NEWPORT Vic 3015

TEL: 9314 6011  
FAX: 9314 4774

370 BLACKSHAW ROAD  
ALTONA NORTH  
ABN 82 957 136 008

15 October 2014

Hobson Bay Community Advancement Co-Operative Ltd

5 Sargood Street

Altona VIC 3018

**AUDIT CERTIFICATE**

On the basis of information provided by the directors Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative Ltd., I have audited the special purpose Income Statement and Balance Sheet for the period ended 30 June 2014.

The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial report has been prepared is set out in the notes to the accounts. The extent to which Accounting Standards have or have not been adopted in the audit of the special purpose financial report is set out in the notes to the accounts.

**Scope**

The directors are solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial reporting requirements Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative Ltd's constitution and are appropriate to meet the needs of the directors and members of the organisation.

PO Box 60  
NEWPORT VIC 3015

TEL: 9314 6011  
FAX: 9314 4774

**MICHAEL KIERNAN**

**& ASSOCIATES**  
ACCOUNTANT FCPA

370 BLACKSHAW ROAD  
ALTONA NORTH  
ABN 82 957 136 008

I have conducted an independent audit of the financial reports in order to express an opinion on it to the members of the organisation. My audit has been conducted in accordance with professional reporting requirements (APS9) to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial reports are free of material misstatement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial reports, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial reports are presented fairly in accordance with professional reporting requirements and statutory requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the organisation's financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

PO Box 60  
NEWPORT VIC 3015

TEL: 9314 6011  
FAX: 9314 4774

**MICHAEL KIERNAN**

**& ASSOCIATES**  
ACCOUNTANT FCPA

Audit Opinion

370 BLACKSHAW'S ROAD  
ALTONA NORTH  
ABN 82 957 136 008

In my opinion, the financial statements Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative Ltd. do give a true and fair view of the organisation's financial position as at 30 June 2014 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.

To the extent permitted by law, I do not accept liability for any loss or damage which any person, other than the organisation, may suffer arising from any negligence on my part. No person other than the directors and members Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative Ltd. should rely on the special purpose financial report. It is not prepared on the basis of providing investment or bank finance information. The special purpose financial report was prepared exclusively for the benefit of the directors and members of Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative Ltd. for the purpose identified above. We do not accept responsibility to any other person for the contents of the special purpose financial report.



MICHAEL KIERNAN



## **Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2014**

### **Note 1: Statement of Accounting Policies**

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared for use by directors and members for the purpose of fulfilling the directors' financial reporting requirements.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the following Australian Accounting Standards.

AAS 5: Materiality

AAS 8: Events Occurring After Reporting Date

The financial statements comply with those Accounting Standards deemed necessary by the directors in the circumstances to meet the objectives of the special purpose report.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values, or except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared for use by directors and members of the company. The directors have determined that the organisation is not a reporting entity.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report:

#### **(a) Property, Plant and Equipment**

Property, plant and equipment are carried at cost, independent or directors' valuation. All assets are depreciated over their useful lives to the company.

### **Note 2: Revenue**

Income has been recognized on an accrual basis.

### **Note 3: Depreciation:**

Depreciation of non-current assets:

- Plant and equipment 20% straight line basis
- Property 4% Straight line basis

Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative Ltd

Balance Sheet  
as at 30 June 2014

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Chequing/Savings</b>		
Bank account LJCC	40,317.88	17,145.36
BANK a/c HBCAC Co-op	38,674.07	19,530.51
Term deposit	12,881.74	12,477.89
Petty Cash Float	600.00	600.00
<b>Total Chequing/Savings</b>	<u>92,473.69</u>	<u>49,753.76</u>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>		
Accounts Receivable	420.00	420.00
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<u>420.00</u>	<u>420.00</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	92,893.69	50,173.76
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Property	1,718,529.61	1,718,529.61
Property improvements	49,376.37	22,909.09
Less Accum depreciation	-2,961.00	-916.00
Equip cost	20,535.46	18,971.82
Less Accum depreciation	-6,705.00	-2,911.00
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<u>1,778,775.44</u>	<u>1,756,583.52</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><b>1,871,669.13</b></u>	<u><b>1,806,757.28</b></u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	1,872.92	4,289.85
ANZ loan	344,424.29	382,416.18
PAYG W Liability	416.00	-32.00
Tax Payable	-654.53	-2,705.33
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>346,058.68</u>	<u>383,968.70</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<u>346,058.68</u>	<u>383,968.70</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u><b>1,525,610.45</b></u>	<u><b>1,422,788.58</b></u>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Retained earnings	1,422,788.58	1,390,878.44
Net Income	102,821.87	31,910.14
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<u><b>1,525,610.45</b></u>	<u><b>1,422,788.58</b></u>

**Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-Op**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 July 2013 through June 2014

	<b>Jul 13 - Jun 14</b>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
ICCA Rental	133,878.71
Interest	426.38
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>134,305.09</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
AGM Expense	1,861.47
Audit Fees/Bookkeeping	3,440.91
Bank Charges	1,014.00
<b>Board</b>	
Celebrations & Gifts	919.59
<b>Total Board</b>	<b>919.59</b>
<b>Building Costs</b>	
Furniture & Fittings	675.00
Repairs & Maintenance	2,835.34
<b>Total Building Costs</b>	<b>3,510.34</b>
<b>Co-Op</b>	
Gardening Expense	450.00
ICCA Maintenance	1,766.36
ICCA Rates	441.44
Insurance	5,456.70
Land Tax	0.00
Legal Fees	800.00
Management Fee	6,690.55
<b>Total Co-Op</b>	<b>15,605.05</b>
Depreciation Expense	2,045.00
Mortgage Interest Expense	25,001.79
Sundry Expense	0.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>53,398.15</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>80,906.94</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Other Expense</b>	
Transfer	11,302.00
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>11,302.00</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>-11,302.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>69,604.94</b>

**Louis Joel Community Centre**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 July 2013 through June 2014

	<b>Jul 13 - Jun 14</b>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
<b>Fundraising Income</b>	
Uganda	30,883.92
<b>Total Fundraising Income</b>	30,883.92
<b>Grants</b>	
HBCC Co-Ordination Grant	44,719.82
DHS Operating Grants	24,538.28
20th Anniversary	250.00
Refugee Week	500.00
Sustainability Expo	1,200.00
Art Wear It	2,000.00
GLBTIQ	2,000.00
Naidoc Exhibition	500.00
Maltese	2,000.00
<b>Total HBCC Grants</b>	8,450.00
<b>Total Grants</b>	77,708.10
<b>Project Income</b>	
Altona Loop	300.00
Altona Sports Club	5,000.00
Art in Public Places	3,500.00
Sustainability Street	300.00
<b>Total Project Income</b>	9,100.00
<b>Sundry Income</b>	
Art & Textile Sales	20,352.17
Commission	186.60
Donations	2,942.62
Interest	358.47
Kings of the Kitchen	574.00
Misc	53.85
<b>Total Sundry Income</b>	24,467.71
<b>Venue Income</b>	
<b>Venue Hire</b>	
Community	3,940.00
Joel Gallery	7,985.73
Private	39,870.45
<b>Total Venue Hire</b>	51,796.18
Venue Lease	19,665.45
Venue Use	3,041.16
<b>Total Venue Income</b>	74,502.79



**Louis Joel Community Centre**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 July 2013 through June 2014

	<b>Jul 13 - Jun 14</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	216,662.52
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>Building Costs</b>	
Cleaning & Cleaning Products	12,063.56
Gardening Expense	103.19
Louis Joel Gallery	
Maintenance	28.87
<b>Total Louis Joel Gallery</b>	28.87
Repairs & Maintenance	442.06
Security Expenses	1,264.64
<b>Utilities</b>	
Electricity	9,539.44
Telephone	3,466.22
Water	-1,432.76
<b>Total Utilities</b>	11,572.90
<b>Total Building Costs</b>	25,475.22
Depreciation	3,794.00
<b>Fundraising Expense</b>	
Uganda	18,444.81
<b>Total Fundraising Expense</b>	18,444.81
<b>Office Administration</b>	
Accounting Fees	4,736.25
AGM Expenses	8.55
Bank Charges	874.68
Computer Maintenance	714.82
Computer Software	0.00
Internet	872.16
Membership	950.00
Postage, Printing & Stationery	1,428.14
Travel Expense	2,636.40
<b>Total Office Administration</b>	12,221.00
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>	
Superannuation	8,447.95
Wages & Salaries	89,218.96
Workers Compensation	537.50
<b>Total Payroll Expenses</b>	98,204.41
<b>Project Expense</b>	
20th Anniversary Expense	200.97
Altona Loop	200.00
Altona Sports Club	4,970.00
Art in Public Places	3,507.04
Art wear it	1,836.21
GLBTIQ	1,972.05
Kings of the Kitchen	2,851.85

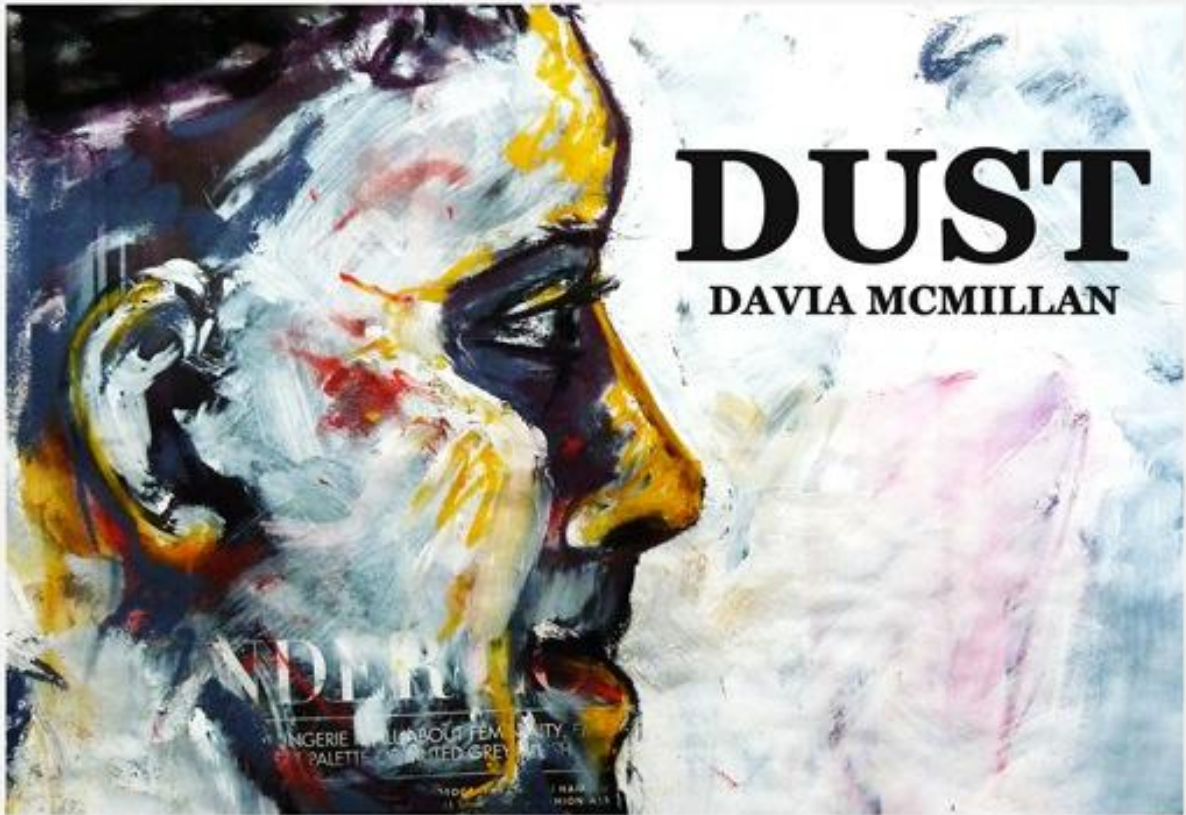
**Louis Joel Community Centre**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 July 2013 through June 2014

	<b>Jul 13 - Jun 14</b>
Seniors Week	200.36
Sustainability Street	352.18
Total Project Expense	16,090.66
Sundry Expense	
Art & Textile Expense	20,542.64
Interest Paid	0.00
Miscellaneous	-25.15
Sundry Expense - Other	0.00
Total Sundry Expense	20,517.49
Total Expense	194,747.59
Net Ordinary Income	21,914.93
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Transfer	8,378.72
Total Other Income	8,378.72
Net Other Income	8,378.72
Net Income	30,293.65

**Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-Op and Louis Joel Community Centre**  
**Statement of Financial Performance**  
 July 2013 through June 2014

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>		
Art textile sales	20,352.17	11,693.25
Uganda fundraising Income	30,883.92	19,288.89
Total Grants	86,808.10	88,839.76
ICCA Rental & Outgoings	133,878.71	123,759.20
Interest	784.85	1,175.84
Total Sundry Income	3,757.07	2,313.60
Total Venue Income	74,502.79	65,193.52
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>350,967.61</b>	<b>312,264.06</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
Cleaning & Cleaning Products	12,063.56	12,672.24
Electricity	9,539.44	8,445.23
Depreciation	5,839.00	9,422.00
Mortgage interest	25,001.79	29,890.05
Co-op maintenance expenses	15,605.05	28,940.03
Uganda expenses	18,444.81	21,540.05
Total Payroll Expenses	98,204.41	92,599.56
Total Project Expense	16,090.66	24,842.32
Payments to Artists	20,542.64	10,275.50
Total Sundry Expense	26,814.38	41,726.94
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>248,145.74</b>	<b>280,353.92</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>102,821.87</b>	<b>31,910.14</b>

# JOEL GALLERY PRESENTS



**Launch: 4 Oct 5.30 -7.30pm**

**3 - 11 October**

10am - 4pm Mon - Fri

11am - 3pm Sat -Sun

5 Sargood st, Altona 3018

ph 93982511

**DUST LIVE**  
**Mon 6 OCT 7-9pm**  
**Creative Life Drawing**  
**Workshop**  
**Bookings essential**

[www.daviadesigns.com.au](http://www.daviadesigns.com.au)  
[www.facebook.com/DaviaMcMillan](https://www.facebook.com/DaviaMcMillan)

  
**Hobsons Bay**  
Community Advancement Co-Operative Ltd

This exhibition was beautiful. One of the highlights of the week was the Life Drawing class, coordinated by Davia. About twenty people had an amazing evening. Everyone was confident to share their work. I cannot draw and went home with a creation I was very proud of. In 2015 we hope to run some Life Drawing classes with Davia.