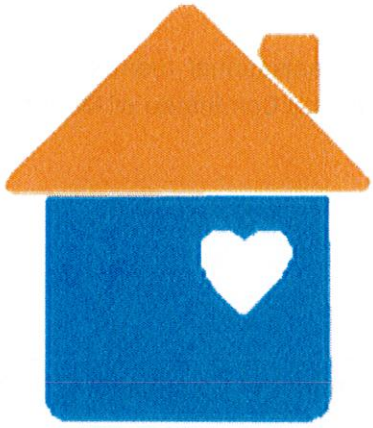
REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY HOUSES INC

RANCH Inc.



R·A·N·C·H

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

RANCH acknowledges the support of the Victorian government

R·A·N·C·H

ABOUT THE REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY HOUSES INC (RANCH)

RANCH is the Neighbourhood Houses (NHs) Network that represents 29 NHs located in the Loddon Shire, Campaspe Shire, Central Goldfields Shire, The City of Greater Bendigo, Mount Alexander Shire and Macedon Ranges Shire Council

NH Networks receive recurrent funding from the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) through the Neighbourhood House Coordination Program. Funds are allocated on the basis of hours of coordination to be provided in accordance with funding agreements. This funding enables Neighbourhood House Networks to facilitate governance and management support, advice on programs & service development, training & training resources to Neighbourhood Houses within their Network and to provide capacity building and effective linkages with and between Neighbourhood Houses and other community organisations at the local and regional level.

Membership of RANCH Inc is an "organisational membership", meaning that participation in RANCH is open to all staff, volunteers and Committee of Management members of NHs that are members of the RANCH Network.

RANCH'S PURPOSE

1. To work towards the empowerment of Community & Neighbourhood Houses & Learning Networks within the Loddon Campaspe region.
2. To foster, develop and maintain effective relationships between all Community & Neighbourhood Houses & Learning Networks in the region.
3. To provide a forum for support and discussion.
4. To strengthen the capacity of Neighbourhood Houses to undertake community development work in their communities.
5. To encourage and support good, ethical governance in member Neighbourhood Houses.
6. To encourage community participation in the development of Government policies.
7. To seek the provision of comprehensive training for Community & Neighbourhood Houses & Learning Network staff, paid and unpaid.
8. To act as a resource and advisory body to relevant Federal, State and Local government authorities.
9. To exchange knowledge and information at a regional and Statewide level.
10. To liaise with Neighbourhood Houses Victoria (NHV) as the State umbrella organisation of Community & Neighbourhood Houses

R·A·N·C·H

A variety of sub groups of Neighbourhood Houses function within and across the boundaries of some NH Networks. These sub groups are known as Neighbourhood House Clusters. They vary in size and degree of formality but generally exist to provide support and networking opportunities to group member NHs.

There are currently 5 NH Cluster groups within the RANCH region.

CAMPASPE CLUSTER

Lockington Neighbourhood House

Crossenvale Community House

Friends. Assistance. Information. Girgarre Community Group Inc. Support. Learning. Fun. Referrals.

Tongala Community Centre Inc

KCLC Kyabram Community & Learning Centre Inc.

Meet Learn Share Support RCH Rochester Community House

enh Echuca Neighbourhood House & Education Centre your community, your house

Rushworth Community House Inc

SHAMROCK CLUSTER

Heathcote Community House — Built by the community for the community

BNhub Bendigo Neighbourhood Hub

MNH Marong Neighbourhood House

Eaglehawk Community House Inc

Long Gully Neighbourhood Centre

Kangaroo Flat Community House — The heart of our community

R·A·N·C·H

GOLDFIELDS CLUSTER

CASTLEMAINE COMMUNITY HOUSE

Dunolly & District Neighbourhood Centre

Maryborough Neighbourhood House

Neighbourhood Houses
The heart of our community

Maldon Neighbourhood Centre Inc
Friendship & Learning

Goldfields Employment & Learning Centre

MACEDON RANGES CLUSTER

MRFEC

KYNETON COMMUNITY & LEARNING CENTRE INC

Riddells Creek Neighbourhood House

LNH
Lancefield Neighbourhood House

ROMSEY Neighbourhood House

WOODEND NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

LODDON CLUSTER

Inglewood Community NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

Wedderburn Community House

BRIC

Pyramid Hill Neighbourhood House Inc.

Neighbourhood Houses
The heart of our community

R·A·N·C·H

RANCH Member Services

RANCH offers services to NHs committees, staff and volunteers including:-

- Assistance in reviewing and developing policies and submissions
- Confidential information and support
- Coordinator/Committee Forums
- Facilitation of meetings for Governance processes such as strategic planning, risk management etc.
- Independent advice
- Induction for committees and paid staff information and support on employment issues
- Online meeting participation
- Professional Development sessions
- RANCH General Meetings
- Referrals to appropriate resources and services
- Representation and advocacy
- Visits to Member Houses
- Access to RANCH's website for reference and resources

R·A·N·C·H

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT MEMBERS 2018-2019

Office Bearers		Meetings Attended
President	Helen Douglas (Long Gully Neighbourhood Centre)	5
Vice President	Martyn Shaddick (Castlemaine Community House)	4
Secretary:	Bev McNaughton (Wedderburn Community House)	3
Treasurer:	Trevor Crane (Echuca Neighbourhood House)	4

Committee Members:	Meetings Attended
Amy Atkinson (Maldon Community Centre)	4
Deidre Madill (Tongala Community Activities Centre)	2

STAFF

Administration	Carol Rasmussen
Networker/Project Officer	Sue Birch
Book Keeper	Trudy McNaught (until Jan '19)
Book Keeping Services	MGR Accounting
Auditor	MGR

R·A·N·C·H

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It has been another busy year for the RANCH Committee of Management (CoM) as we strive to ensure that RANCH continues its supportive role to all its members. This will be my final report as I have reached the time limit outlined in RANCH'S constitution for office bearers and am not re-nominating for a position on the RANCH CoM

FINANCIAL

The CoM have continued to work consistently over the past twelve months to ensure that RANCH meets current and future financial commitments. Sincere appreciation is expressed to Treasurer Trevor Crane and MGR Book keeping services for their efforts during the year.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Thank you to my fellow committee members for supporting me, and working well as a team throughout the year. As with any committee, the year has had its challenges, however together we have achieved, what I consider to be good outcomes for the organisation.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the significant contribution made to RANCH by Bev McNaughton. Bev has been involved, in a variety of roles, for nearly thirty years and I'm sure has seen many changes throughout that time. Thank you Bev for your ongoing commitment and support, it has been greatly appreciated. Enjoy your retirement Bev, you have earned it!

I also wish to extend my sincere thanks to Vice President Martyn Shaddick and Treasurer Trevor Crane, both of whom are not re-nominating for positions on the Committee. I have greatly appreciated your support and encouragement during the year.

RANCH STAFF

Carol Rasmussen first became involved with RANCH in 1988, just on 30 years, and is now leaving RANCH. Carol has served on the CoM in a number of positions, before taking on the paid administration officer role. Carol has been committed to providing excellent support, guidance and expertise and I'm sure will be missed by all.

Sincere appreciation is expressed to Sue Birch our Networker for her work during the year, and in particular, Sue's work in completing The Neighbourhood House Community Transport Project (NHCTP) Thank you Sue.

In October we welcomed Kevin Vivian to RANCH as the new Networker. Kevin brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the role. More about Kevin later in the report.

RANCH PROJECTS

NHCTP Phase 2 –Sustainable Models

In July the Sustainable Models Project was endorsed by the NHCTP Reference Group. More about this project in Sue Birch's report.

R·A·N·C·H

Be Connected Program Digital Literacy Capacity Building Project

RANCH was successful in obtaining funding to run this invaluable project throughout the NH's covered by RANCH. More about this project in Sue Birch's report.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA (NHV) ANNUAL CONFERENCE (May 2019)

RANCH was represented by Sue Birch at this conference. Unfortunately at the last minute I was unable to attend, but those who did, really gained a lot from it.

In conclusion.....

I wish the incoming CoM success in their roles and, as the range and priority of services undertaken by RANCH is directed by the membership, I am confident that RANCH will continue to be an invaluable advocate for all member NHs.

Helen Douglas
President

R·A·N·C·H

TREASURER'S REPORT

This past financial year has been marginally better than the 2017/18. Our budgeted revenue was exceeded by $23,422. RANCH has an ongoing funding and service agreement with, and receives funding from, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) via the Neighbourhood Houses Program Coordination Funding. The increase in DHHS funding, together with the NHCTP grant bought in an additional $11,000.00.

Because of the additional revenue RANCH has been able to achieve an overall profit for the past financial year. This has resulted an increase of $10,372, in total equity of RANCH from $65,065 to $75,447.

Our budgeted expenditure was exceeded by $9,529. Again, the major expenditure item for Ranch is our salaries and wages. However, without our staff we would not be able to carry on supporting our member houses or carry out projects.

When the 2018/19 budget was being prepared greater thought was given to the salaries and wages. An amount of $91,100 was set and the salaries and wages amount came in at $90,911. Although there has been an increase in grant funding, everyone must still be aware of the limited income sources that RANCH has available and the volume of work which must be carried out to support the NH's.

MGR Accounting have continued providing financial support this year, and with the Single Touch Payroll system coming into effect on July 1, RANCH is up to date with the new requirements.

We are fortunate to have the assistance of Abbie Ingram from MGR who is always very willing to help and we are very appreciative of her knowledge and expertise.

This will be my final report as I have also reached the time limit outlined in RANCH'S constitution for office bearers and am not re-nominating for a position on the RANCH COM. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has assisted me over the past three years as RANCH Treasurer.

Trevor Crane
Treasurer

R·A·N·C·H

RANCH NETWORKERS REPORT - Sue Birch

The past 12 months has been an exceptionally busy and challenging year for RANCH. It has also been an incredibly inspiring year and I'm looking forward to the next stage of our Network's development.

In late 2018, David Perry resigned from his Networker position to take on full time employment with NHVic. While the RANCH Committee of Management undertook a review and restructure of the RANCH staffing structure, I needed to take on the direct support role as well as the duties associated with the "Project Officer"/Networker" position, which included the management of the Neighbourhood House Community Transport Project and the establishment of the Be Connected project.

The restructure and recruitment process took much longer than anticipated and unfortunately it coincided with a significant increase in the direct support our member NHs required to address complex governance and operational management issues.

As a result, a number of our planned initiatives, including the Coordinator Mentoring Program needed to be postponed until RANCH was able to recruit another Networker.

I am delighted that RANCH has recently recruited Kevin Vivian to the second Networker role and I am confident that over the next 12 months we will again have the capacity required to provide our members with a broad range of services designed to strengthen collaboration and development at the community level.

Despite these challenges, significant achievements over the past year have included:

DIRECT SUPPORT TO RANCH MEMBER NHS

One of the most difficult aspects of the Networker role is juggling the competing demands of direct support work with the need to build the resilience and capacity of NHs through mentoring, training and other capacity building strategies.

Many of our member NHs experienced challenging issues over the past 12 months and this was reflected in the increased requests for assistance from RANCH.

In particular, a number of Committees of Management have needed assistance in understanding:

- The roles and responsibilities of CoM members and staff in relation to governance and operational management
- The responsibilities associated with providing a safe work place for staff and volunteers, particularly in relation to verbal abuse, harassment and bullying
- The responsibilities associated with compliance with the NH Collective Agreements and other relevant Industrial Relations legislation.
- The NH Community Development Practice model and the importance of engaging in CD practice at the community level.

Throughout 2019, I developed a framework to capture the nature and level of the direct support needs of our membership. This will enable RANCH to gain a deeper understanding of these needs in order to develop appropriate professional development and training strategies to

support our member NHs. The following table identifies the direct support provided over the past 12 months that required at least 2 hours of RANCH Networker support:

Issues	Tasks	Number of requests
Recruitment	Provided advice and resources to enable the development of new Position Descriptions in accordance with the relevant NH Collective Agreement.	4
	Participated on recruitment panel and developed interview assessment tools.	2
	Provided formal orientation to new Coordinator.	2
Interpersonal conflict	Assessed issues and facilitated access to conflict management/mediation processes.	8
Aggressive behaviour by participants/community members	Provided support to NH staff and CoM members who experienced direct aggression and/or harassment from community members.	6
	Clarified process for excluding a community member from participating in NH activities as a result of aggressive behaviour.	2
Relationships with external organisations (partnerships/auspices)	Provided resources and advice to inform a decision in relation to the establishment of a new auspice arrangement	2
	Provided advice to manage conflict within existing auspice arrangement	2
	Reviewed draft MOU between NH and external organisation	2
Industrial relations issues requiring referral to external services	Assessed issues and facilitated referrals to: • Jobs Australia • Fair Work Commission • Australian Services Union • Work Safe Victoria • Not for Profit Law	 4 4 3 3 1
Formal complaints to CoM	Facilitated access and engagement with formal grievance procedures	16
	Advocated for complainant to expedite internal grievance or external investigation processes	4
	Facilitated access and engagement with formal bullying and harassment procedures.	4
	Identified and recommended suitable external investigator to NH CoM and provided investigator with information and resources relevant to issue	1
Formal complaints to LGAs about NHs	Provided overview of NHCP funding guidelines in relation to NH scope of practice and governance model.	2
Governance	Clarified roles and responsibilities of Committees of Management in relation to: • Operational management • Strategic planning • OH&S • Staff supervision • Membership	 8 2 4 5 6

RANCH MEMBER FORUMS

Through consultation with the membership it was agreed that from 2019 we would meet 4 times each year and that the top five priorities of our members' meetings would be:

- Opportunities for working collaboratively on issues, projects, campaigns etc. relevant to RANCH houses
- Updates on issues affecting the sector e.g. reports to departments, legislative changes etc.
- Collective planning to maximise our collective effectiveness
- Professional development sessions
- Community development stories

In 2019, RANCH provided 4 Member Forums. All presentations, information and resources from the RANCH Forums can be found on the RANCH website (*Resources/RANCH Forums).*

Our Forums have facilitated the development of a "community of practice" culture across the RANCH by providing our member NHs with the opportunity to share case studies of "community development in action". We now need to consider how we might strengthen this aspect of our work and build momentum around some of the priority areas that have emerged including:

- Food Security/Sovereignty
- Community Transport
- Climate Change/Sustainability
- Digital Literacy

The focus on community development as our major professional development theme will continue over the next 12 months and we look forward to working closely with our member NHs to identify and present case studies that reflect the diverse range of community development approaches that are used across the RANCH communities.

GOVERNANCE TRAINING FOR COMMITTEES OF MANAGEMENT IN THE CAMPASPE SHIRE

In late 2018, RANCH collaborated with the Shire of Campaspe and NHVic to develop and deliver a training workshop for NH CoMs & Coordinators in the Campaspe Shire on 4th December at Tongala CAC.

Not for Profit Law were engaged to provide a comprehensive workshop that focused on governance and the key legal duties of board members There were 40 participants including 30 CoM members from the Campaspe Cluster NHs. A coordinator and CoM member from the Loddon Shire also attended.

Each participant was provided with a handbook that detailed the issues covered and a workbook to use throughout the workshop. The training workshop also included a presentation on the role of NH Networks and an overview of the RANCH website.

These resources are now available through the RANCH website in the NH Committee Member Kit

THE NH COMMUNITY TRANSPORT PROJECT –TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE MODELS-

An action research approach to building the capacity of Neighbourhood Houses to develop and sustain community transport programs in rural and remote communities.

The NHCTP Phase 2 – Towards Sustainable Models Project (TSMP) was funded by Loddon Mallee Integrated Cancer Services and built on the initial NHCTP that was completed in January 2018. The project funding provided 7.5 hours per week project management time over a 14 month period and was completed in June 2019.

The objectives of the TSMP were to:

- Identify and engage with a broad range of stakeholders to conceptualise and document at least 4 community transport models that could be adopted by Neighbourhood Houses to increase accessibility to services for people living in rural and remote communities
- Develop a financial framework for each model to assist the NH Sector to advocate for sustainable funding to deliver particular types of community transport services in rural and remote locations
- Develop resources, policies and procedures to support each community transport model.

The TSMP provided the opportunity to engage in a collaborative approach to NH community transport development, at a Regional level. This involved:

- Collaboration between the NH Sector and the Loddon Mallee Integrated Cancer Services (LMICS) to identify the need for the project and to provide the resources required to design and deliver the project.
- Collaboration across the NH Sector, particularly within the RANCH Network, to inform the development of the models and resources
- Collaboration between RANCH and the Loddon Mallee Regional Planning Division of the Department of Transport to strengthen engagement of rural NHs with the Flexible Local Transport Solutions Program (FLTSP) in order to fund NH community transport development at the community level.

In particular, work undertaken by the TSMP could not have occurred without the support and active engagement of the following RANCH member NHs:

- Maldon Neighbourhood Centre
- Lancefield Neighbourhood House
- Romsey Neighbourhood House
- Rushworth Community House
- Girgarre Community Cottage
- Crossenvale Neighbourhood House

I'd like to take this opportunity to formally acknowledge the contribution that these NHs have made to both the TSMP and the development of community transport across the NH Sector. Together we have provided the NH Sector with the research and modelling required to advocate strongly for the funding necessary to develop and sustain community transport services in our rural and remote communities.

The TSMP report and resources developed through the NHCTP are now available for reading and downloading through the RANCH website (Resources/Community Transport).

THE BE CONNECTED CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT

Be Connected is an Australian Government initiative to support all Australians to "thrive in a digital world". This is achieved through an online learning platform and resources. In 2017 $20 Million was awarded via tender to The Good Things Foundation Australia to deliver the project over a three year period. As part of this project The Good Things Foundation opened a Capacity Building Grant program to community based organisations to train 100 digital mentors to support the learning needs of older Australians (50+) at the community level.

Given that many NHs are already actively involved in providing programs to meet the digital learning needs of community members, the NH Sector decided to develop a collaborative project involving Neighbourhood Houses Victoria (NHVic), Neighbourhood House Networks (including RANCH) and the Pangerang Community House.

As part of this project, RANCH prepared a successful grant application ($50,000) to work with our member NHs to identify and train Digital Mentors (DMs) to support community members over 50 years of age to improve their digital literacy skills. We aim to train 100 DMs which will require an average of 3-4 participants from each of our member NHs. The project needs to be completed by June 2020 so most of the training will occur between November 2019 and March 2020.

Our new Networker, Kevin Vivian, will be primarily responsible for the implementation of this project. DM training sessions have already been planned in collaboration with NHs in the Macedon Ranges and Central Goldfields NH Cluster groups. Kevin will be in contact with all the member NHs over the next few weeks to start organising dates and locations for future DM training sessions.

Finally, it is important to acknowledge that the work outlined above has only been achieved through a high level of collaboration and teamwork across our Network and the broader NH Sector.

Working for RANCH continually reinforces my commitment to this sector and our model of governance and I'm looking forward to working with our new CoM and building on the significant achievements of the previous CoM and staff.

In particular, I'd like to take this opportunity to formally thank Carol Rasmussen for being such a supportive colleague and to wish her all the best for her future.

I'm looking forward to working collaboratively with Kevin Vivian and the new committee over the next 12 months and experiencing what can be achieved when RANCH is resourced at a level that enables us to support our members who are experiencing difficulty and also engage in sustainable capacity building and development work.

SUE BIRCH – RANCH NETWORKER

R·A·N·C·H

Introducing Kevin Vivian RANCH's New Networker.

Hello everyone in the RANCH network.

My name is Kevin Vivian, and I am introducing myself as the new RANCH networker, in the shared role alongside Sue Birch. I was appointed to commence this role on the 21st October 2019, and am thrilled to be part of this network. With the RANCH AGM coming up, Sue and I thought this a great opportunity to introduce myself through the annual report.

My story is a mix of experiences that spans several decades and intersects four different sectors: hospitality, health, welfare and education. I began my working life at 15 years of age as a kitchen hand at Cabrini Hospital in Malvern. Shortly after, began a four year apprenticeship as a chef at the Pickwick Restaurant in Toorak Road South Yarra. I then spent the twenty five years as a chef in and around Melbourne and regional Victoria.

While living in Wangaratta, and working at the Brown Brothers Epicurean Centre (Milawa), the opportunity arose to become a TAFE teacher in Commercial Cookery for TAFE NSW. I was a commercial cookery teacher for almost five years in Albury, NSW.

Tired of travelling, I took on a role in Wangaratta with Centrelink which lasted four and half years and covered the processing of all welfare payments streams, service profiling, and compliance.

Having limited career progression opportunities, I then moved to the health sector as Services Manager for Beechworth Health. This was a position I held for four years covering aged care, acute, hotel services, laundry, environment, engineering and the management of seventy-five service contracts.

I realised I missed education and returned to this sector as Business Solutions Manager for The Centre in Wangaratta. This role encompassed the oversight and accountability for accredited training (the Centre is an RTO), pre-accredited training - ACFE (the Centre is a Learn Local), and all fee for service offerings and customised programs.

Through personal reasons, after three and a half years in this role I had to move from Wangaratta and was offered the position of RTO Manager for Upper Yarra Community College – UYCH, (now CIRE). A hostile funding environment encouraged the need for organisational re-structure at UYCH and the merged roles were not within my skills set.

The opportunity arose for a Project Managers role at Federation Training in East Gippsland which I took, this role morphed into the acting Director of Education. I thoroughly enjoyed my experiences in both the TAFE NSW and TAFE VIC sectors and learnt a great deal in both roles.

It was time to get serious about management Kevin! Or so I thought. I became Executive Officer of Mansfield Adult Continuing Education (MACE) in Mansfield, then Executive Officer of Lalor Living and Learning Centre (LLLC). Both organisations were RTO's, Learn Locals, Neighbourhood Houses and ran Childcare Centres.

As far as qualifications go, I have:

- Bachelor of Arts in Vocational Education and Training (VET) – Charles Sturt University
- Diploma in Hospitality Management – Wodonga TAFE
- Diploma in Management – UYCH

- TAE40116 (equivalent) – Park Orchards Community Centre
- Commercial Cookery – Trade qualification – William Angliss

I think most would agree, it is always difficult writing about yourself, I hope this was not too long-winded or boring for you – the reader. I look forward to meeting each of you and visiting your houses.

Many thanks

Kevin Vivian - RANCH Networker

R·A·N·C·H

RANCH - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES -15/11/2018

Meeting Held Bendigo Pottery Epsom on 15th November 2018

President: Helen Douglas welcomed all to meeting and acknowledged country

Present:

Bev McNaughton	Wedderburn	Deidre Madill	Tongala
Helen Douglas	Long Gully	Len Gledhill	Long Gully
Kim Hanlon	Inglewood	Karin Haevecker	Long Gully
Jill Burdett	Inglewood	Janine Clark	Maryborough
Amanda Logie	Rochester	Mandy Crameri	Maryborough
Gwen Smith	Echuca	Kylie Dowles	Pyramid Hill
Sue Whitlock	Kangaroo Flat	Phillip Whitlock	Kangaroo Flat
Jenna Harvey	Rochester	Eloise Mitchell	Rushworth
Meredith Robinson	Kangaroo Flat	Sheridan Clark	Crossenvale
Sharon Hiley	Dunolly	Trevor Crane	Echuca
Amy Atkinson	Maldon	Martyn Shaddick	Castlemaine
Elinder Moore	DHHS	Anne Marie Roberts	C of GB
Sue Birch	Project Worker	David Perry	Networker
Carolyn Rasmussen	Admin Officer		

Apologies: Des Lavery - Castlemaine, Neil Chandler – DHHS, Mary Hogarth - KCLC, Angela Van Dam – Woodend, Jen Savage- Kyabram and Tony Gibson – Maryborough.

Moved: Amanda Logie **Seconded:** Amy Atkinson **Carried**

Minutes of Previous meeting: held on 5th September 2017 at Strathfieldsaye Uniting Church were read and accepted as correct

Moved: Beverly McNaughton **Seconded:** Mandy Crameri **Carried**

Matters Arising: No matters arising from previous minutes.

REPORTS:

Presidents Report: Helen Douglas

Helen made reference to her report.

- Considerable work carried out with the reviewing/revamping of Ranch's Policies and Procedures.
- The diversity of the CofM representation – from member houses CofM and Staff and Vols.
- Ranch Forums and the request from members houses for PD training

Networkers Report: David Perry:

David made reference to his report:

- It has been 20 years since starting in this sector with 7 years at Bendigo NH and then as a Networker
- The role has meant that I have never stopped learning
- It was very clear from the start that 20hrs a week to run a NH was ridiculous.
- Nicole Battle CEO of NHV is a person who will take us forward as a Sector
- I'm proud to be an activist and good things have started to happen
- If we offer change we have to be part of the change

Networker/Project Worker Report: Sue Birch:

Sue supported David's comments and made reference to her report

- What is the role of RANCH?
- The most important thing is to know your community, to be and activists
- To develop a community amongst ourselves to allow supporting
- It's been a very productive year
- Leadership coming out of NH Vic. Is very encouraging
- We have a turnover of roughly 25% coordinator change over a year

Transport Project

- Sustainable models that can be used across the NH sector
- Crossenvale got a bus and a grant to set up a Transport Service in Echuca
- Girgarre and Maldon also received grants.
- More information on RANCH's website. The Resource section has information around the Community transport Project.
- Sue wished David all the very best for the future.

5. Treasurers report: Trevor Crane:

Trevor read his report

Trevor mentioned that we had a loss for the year-

Motion: RANCH Inc employ MGR Bookkeeping Services for 2018/2019 to undertake all RANCH financials.

Moved: Trevor Crane **Seconded:** Martyn Shaddick **Carried**

All Committee Positions were declared vacant and Helen Douglas asked David Perry to take the chair.

Election of Office Bearers

President Helen Douglas (Long Gully)
Nominated by Beverly McNaughton Accepted, duly elected

Vice President – Vacant

Secretary Bev McNaughton (Wedderburn)
Nominated by Helen Douglas Accepted, duly elected

Treasurer Trevor Crane (Echuca)
Nominated by Helen Douglas Accepted, duly elected

Election of Ordinary members

Amy Atkinson – Maldon	Nominated by Martyn Shaddick	Accepted, duly elected
Martyn Shaddick -Castlemaine	Nominated by Amy Atkinson	Accepted, duly elected
Deidre Madill -Tongala	Nominated by Amanda Logie	Accepted, duly elected

Helen Douglas took the Chair and thanked all past committee members and staff.

The role of Vice President was still vacant, the committee will look at one of our ordinary members stepping into the role.

David Perry took the opportunity for a promotion of NHVic

- Can do one day workshops on line
- Look at the training the NH Vic offers
- There are two surveys out at present, Digital Literacy and Looking at the Role of Volunteers with a disability and also looking at Mensheds.

Sue Birch took the opportunity for additional information

- Campaspe Region – Council wanted to support Houses with training and is going to put up some money. NHVic also supported this training which will be held on 4th December at Tongala – Free training for CofM and Coordinators on roles of Boards.

Date of next Annual General Meeting – November 14th 2019

Meeting Closed 11.30am.