

**BRUNSWICK JUNCTION
COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE**

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020



Brunswick Junction
Community Resource Centre
your local connection



**Finalist in the Linkwest 'Place Award'.
Semi-finalist in the Linkwest 'People' award.**

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Two memorable associations have been a part of my journey through retirement from the hectic world of secondary education to writing and presenting my first report as Chairperson of the remarkable Brunswick Junction Community Resource Centre. The first of these was - and still is - my association with the incredible staff, volunteers and members of this vibrant community-based organisation. The second has been the stimulation and wise counsel from 'Linkwest' (the peak body of the CRC network) through their energetic and informative Conferences of 2017 and 2019, the richness of their repository of on-line support resources and their active networking through face-to-face contact and innovative video conferences. These two associations have demonstrated to me the importance of Belonging and the value of People, Place and Partnerships in developing the power of community that is so evident in regional communities throughout Western Australia and especially our unique town of Brunswick Junction.

This Chairperson's Report for 2020 could so easily recount the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic where so many organizations found themselves facing unexpected new challenges. Our CRC operated on a 'restricted access' basis during the 'COVID Lockdown' and continued to provide community access to Government services (Local, State and Federal) and local information - more recently, we have managed to resume normal operations. Whilst it cannot be denied that some of our planned activities were cancelled or restricted, it is also true to say that 2019-2020 has been another successful year for the Brunswick Junction Community Resource Centre. I am filled with pride when I reflect on how willingly and professionally staff and volunteers have managed and promoted our facilities and projects to support social and economic development within the Brunswick region and beyond - over the past financial year there have been: 9120 visitors to our CRC, 436 participants in our Youth Group program, 15 Community Groups utilizing our facilities and our activities supporting 60 local businesses. There have been several other highlights for me this year - our increased presence on social media, the development of the 'Brunswick Hub' and the obvious popularity of our events and fundraisers in the months following the 'COVID Lockdown' - it was more than encouraging to see some new faces in town!

DAILY SERVICES

**Government
access
Federal, State
and local
information and
support**

**Print/Scan
WIFI
Design Services
Free Job Seeker
and student
access and
support**

**Op-shop
Community dry
food hampers
referrals &
advocacy support**

**Library
Be Connected
Program
Accredited baby
car seat installer**

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT CONT.

You will be reassured by the financial position detailed in the Treasurer's Report and appreciate that this can only be attributed to the efforts of our wonderful staff and a supportive Management Committee who have worked together with common goals and good humour to ensure our operations have been carried out with good governance and professional management practices. One of our strengths is an enthusiastic and supportive Management Committee and I would like to sincerely thank them all for their support to our staff, their assistance with ongoing operations and their unwavering community spirit that has seen our CRC presented as a well-managed and much-respected part of the Brunswick Junction community.

The Annual Report indicates how our long-time programs continue to successfully serve the broader community, along with new programs and initiatives. You will read about the success of familiar and new fundraisers, the support of our stakeholders, the generosity of our community and the flurry of activity at the BJCRC. These pages are full of excitement and success stories which would not be possible without our incredible staff, volunteers, committee members, supporters and community partners.

I want to personally thank each one of you for your time, commitment, dedication and support over the past year. You are all AMAZING and I am so proud to be in this magical place with you!

The year ahead promises much – we will always be challenged to maintain our relevance and continue to provide a quality service to community members and visitors.

We do have a vision for the future and for this growth to be healthy, it is still important to attract fresh ideas and inputs to the management and operation of our CRC. I urge everybody to champion the cause of the Brunswick Junction CRC as a progressive organisation to everybody everywhere.

Ron Exelby

CHAIRPERSON

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Market days
Community Wide
garage sale
Pink It Up
One-on-one
training**

**Sundowners
Job keeper
updates and
support (during
COVID)**

**Supporting on
the job training;
Trainee
School Based
trainee
Work
experience**

**Website
Directory
Management of
Brunswick River
Cottages**

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development



SHIRE OF
HARVEY



MANAGER'S FEATURE

A politician once said “if the community no longer needed the CRC than you have done your job”. Think about that, in the context of the clients that walk through our door. For me one of many success stories that come to mind concerns a fairly determined young lady - we sat together a good number of times to tweak her resume and draft applications for a good many jobs. In time she was successful. I know this, because she came back to tell us. There is nothing more heartwarming than the thanks of someone we have been able to lift from the depths of despair. This story, and many others, are the reason we keep the CRC doors open. Why we do what we do. We might be able to say we have done our job for one particular person but there is always a steady stream of people needing some form of assistance and support.

The world is constantly changing and for many people in rural Australia, keeping pace with these rapid changes and expectations is a real challenge. So that's what we are here for - for each individual needing that support. We might not see that person again but there always seems to someone else in need. So we stay, we keep up with the world's changes and we make a difference.

The Annual Report highlights what we have done in an activity and number sense - made possible by the funding support from State and Local governments that see and appreciate our value. The real gold - value for money - is found by talking to local people who believe that life would be that much harder and that little bit lonelier without our wonderful CRC. To the collective of people who make up the dedicated team that supports us, it is a real pleasure to work with everyone and I extend my sincere thanks to each and every one of you - committee, volunteers, staff, stakeholders, government leaders, community groups and community members. With the recent news from the Hon Alannah Mctiernan that CRCs are on the State's forward estimate budget, it is comforting to know that the security of core funding will allow us to continue serving our communities and also work on laying the foundations for ventures that would ideally allow us to become more self-sufficient. With a forward-thinking staff and committee, the BJCRC is in the space for being an ‘Agent of Change’ as well as maintaining our relevance to the Brunswick Junction community.

I look forward to working with all our key stakeholders in the year ahead.

Jo Dalton

MANAGER

*Helping one person might not change the world but
it could change the world for one person.*
Buddha



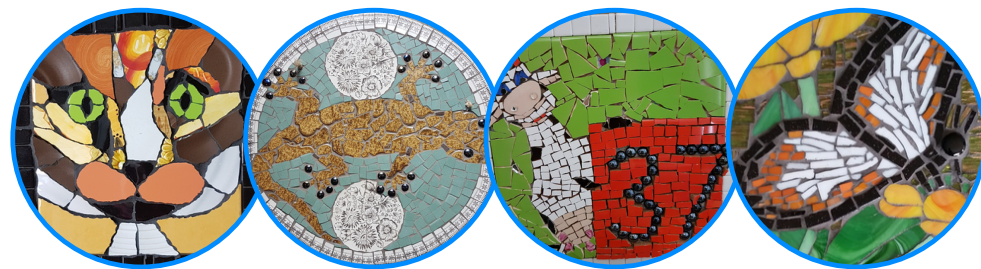
PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S REPORT

The 2019 – 2020 Year at BJCRC – in snapshot

Marching up to what is usually our busiest time of the year, we successfully added a shop local campaign with "Pink Up the Town", whilst raising awareness of Breast Cancer. This event culminated in being part of the Brunswick Ag Show, showcasing Knockers alongside Knickers! Who'd have thought it! Next up we engaged with our mature members of the community, staging a Seniors' Expo that included a program of performances of locally sourced talent and entertainment: ballet dancers, boot scooters and more! While the Christmas Market 2019 was quieter than usual, it gave us an opportunity to take a rain check on the full value and return of efforts to consider future plans. Indeed 2020 brought further opportunities to reflect and focus on the broader picture – how to enhance and enrich the experience of living in Brunswick Junction, whilst looking at sustainable avenues. Proud to announce that the Community Garden was successful in gaining a grant to improve and extend growing opportunities with the purchase of a shade house and has also won approval from the Shire of Harvey to beautify the streets of Brunswick with the planned addition of planters along Ommaney Road. Establishing stronger ties with a host of local businesses and stakeholders in the town has resulted in great support from a community who seemingly recognise the work that we do, citing us as "the place where the magic happens" We are looking forward to building on this year's successes and creating new opportunities for BJCRC's future.

Tina Wallis

PROGRAM COORDINATOR



PROUDLY MEMBERS OF



WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

Supporting individuals, associations and businesses

Explore your Family History



Next course starts
July 2019

6 week course \$70.00
(\$60 concessions)

Develop and create your own family tree
and if the 'bug' really grabs you, why not
continue to write your family's stories.

Over the course, an experienced researcher will

FAMILY HISTORY

You're Mosaicking me crazy!

Explore your creative side at this workshop with
all materials included.

Saturday 16th of November
9am to 3.30pm

Bring along a chosen design to make
your own 'tile' - 20cm X 20cm

\$55.00 per person
Morning tea provided BYO lunch

MOSAIC

BASIC GRAPHIC DESIGN WORKSHOP

USING CANVA & ADOBE
SPARK POST

MONDAY, MARCH 30TH
10AM

BRUNSWICK JUNCTION
COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

CANVA GRAPHIC DESIGN

DIY Beeswax Food Wraps

Curious to learn how beeswax wraps
are made?

Join us this Friday
20th September 11am-12noon for a free

DIY FOOD WRAPS

FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance

Total Assets - \$238,831.69

Total Liabilities - \$16,729.77

Net Assets - \$222,101.92

Profit & Loss

Total Income - \$207,891.31

Total Expenses - \$159,171.39

Operating Profits - \$48,719.92

Our finances indicate a good position to carry on delivering valuable services to the community for the upcoming year.

Every staff member, committee member and volunteer contributes to reducing costs and increasing income. It is always a small window of sustainable revenue because we remain affordable, non-competitive to what our local businesses are offering and amongst that we continue to look at social enterprising ventures.

FOR THE FULL AUDIT REPORT VISIT BRUNSWICKWA.COM/BJCRC

A SNAP SHOT OF SOME OF OUR VISITORS

- **1091** attended a CRC function
- **1173** people accessed services; library, job seeker, WIFI, phone, scanning, printing, secretarial services.
- **752** people accessed local, state and federal government services.
- **447** people accessed emergency support and purchased from the Op-shop.
- **2394** people accessed a CRC user group

During the COVID lockdown we remained open for essential services, gave out free kids and adults activity packs, did home visits and deliveries. Here are some of the comments received during this distressing time.

"Life saver-you have the tech on your computers that allows me to access the mine site inductions."

"So glad you guy's are still open. Thank you so much for that I wouldn't have been able to do it without you."

"Loved the books, have already made the Easter hats and cookies. Loved the new Moospaper."

Moospaper - "Wow! That is fantastic. Keep up the good work. I know it will appreciated by many, many of us!"

EVENTS & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

**Seniors Week
International
Womens Day
Basketball Nights
Dance Nights**

**R U Ok Day
Get Online Week
Children's Week
National
Volunteer
Week**

**Office contact for
Brunswick Men's
Shed and
Brunswick River
Restoration Action
Group**

**Dance Moo..d
Book club
Playgroup
Walking group
After School Care
Community
Garden**

PINK IT UP CAMPAIGN

In October 2019, the Brunswick Community Resource Centre set out to raise awareness of Breast Cancer and funds for the Mcgrath Foundation during Breast Cancer Awareness month. Pink bunting and ribbons along the main street, fences of business premises, the Community Resource Centre and unique decorations in many private properties and residences and the distinctive "Pinkabelle" was the very visible response from the Brunswick Community. Not so visible was the generosity of spirit and deep pockets of our awesome community - many "volunteer hours" in terms of time and effort ensuring the success of events such as the Family Fun Day and the "Pink it up" stall at the ever-popular Brunswick Agricultural Show. The tasty treats at the Morning Tea on Tuesday 29th October rounded off our Pink October in support of the worthy cause that is the McGrath Foundation.

A total of 23 businesses from Australind, Binningup and Brunswick contributed to the efforts through the coordination of the BJCRC.

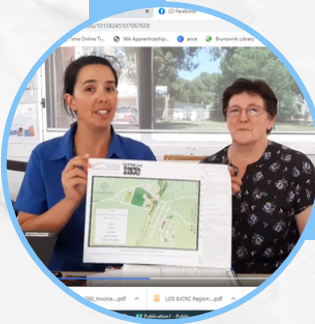
With a total of \$4776.00 raised throughout October for the Mcgrath Foundation.

“ The 'Pink It Up' Campaign was initiated by the Harvey Shire with the 3 CRCs; Brunswick, Harvey and Yarloop coordinating their catchment to the overall program. It was an amazing effort from everyone involved. Especially the volunteers who spent many hours pounding the pavement to decorate the town, inviting businesses to participate, collecting donations and dropping it into the shire and promoting the businesses that participated.

Special thanks to all the individuals that got excited and decorated their properties. The 'Pink It Up' campaign was an inspirational community event with everyone getting involved. A chance to have those hard conversations about experiences, a community-wide voice encouraging breast checks and raising funds for the Mcgrath foundation.



SUPPORTING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES/EVENTS HAVE BEEN PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY