



Deafness Foundation (Victoria)

ANNUAL REPORT

2016

Deafness Foundation (Victoria)

A Company Limited by Guarantee ACN 005 053 510

Registered Office: Saward Dawson 20 Albert Street, Blackburn 3130

Administration Office: PO Box 42 Nunawading 3131 **Telephone:** 9738 2909 (Voice & TTY) **Fax:** 9729 6583

Website: www.deafness.org.au **Email:** admin@deafness.org.au

Governors:

Prof. Geoffrey Blainey, AC

Prof. Field Rickards, BSc(Hons), Med.PhD

Mr Peter Ickeringill, LL B (Hons), B.Comm (Hons), FCA, FCPA, ASIA

– Appointed 22/07/2015

Past Presidents:

1973 –1986 The Hon. Peter Howson, CMG, MA, FAIM

1986 –1989 Dr R.G. Barden, BSc, BE, PhD, FIEAust, FIMec, FAAS

1989 –1992 Mr W.K. Scholten, FCPA, FAMI

1992 –1998 Mr J.H. Marshall, AM, KCStJ

1998 - 2015 Mr P. Ickeringill, LL B (Hons), B.Comm (Hons), FCA, FCPA, ASIA

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT:

President:

Mr P. Ickeringill, LL B (Hons), B.Comm (Hons), FCA, FCPA, ASIA

– Retired 30/07/2015

Ms K. Gillies, BA, DipAud, MEd, MAudSA(CCP), Cert.11 (Auslan),

GradDip Deaf Studies – Appointed 02/09/2015

Vice Presidents:

Assoc Prof. G. Rance, PhD, MSc, DipAud, BEd, MAudSA (CC)

Ms K. Gillies, BA, DipAud, MEd, MAudSA(CCP), Cert.11 (Auslan),

GradDip Deaf Studies – Retired 02/09/2015

Mr P. O'Halloran, BSc, GradDipAud, GradDipEd, GradDipErg,

Cert Aural Rehab – Appointed 04/11/2015

Honorary Treasurer:

Mr S. Wood, BBehSc (Hons), GradDipAppFin

Other Directors:

Mrs N. Bieske, TPTC, T TCID, BEd, MEd - Retired 02/09/2015

Mr L. Clewer

Ms M. Fram, DipTch(Prim)GradDipSpecEd(HI), BEd, Grad Dip Curric,

MEd, Dip Interpreting, NAATI Auslan Level 2, Grad Dip Deaf Studies

(Auslan) LOTE (Auslan) accreditation

Mr N. Henderson – Appointed 03/02/2016

Mrs L. Moody, MA (Hons), DipAud., MAudSA(CCP)

Assoc Prof. B. Pyman, MB BS, FRACS, DLO

Dr M. Riddell, BAppSc (MLS), GradDip Epidemiol & Biostats, PhD

Dr L. Walker, PhD, COTWA, FAATD, BA Med(HI) – Retired 28/01/2016

Ms Z. Williams BNSc, MAudSt, MAudSA(CCP) – Appointed 06/05/2015

Executive Officer:

Mrs Wendy Maher

Administration:

Mrs Helen Dunlop

Ms Jennifer Portelli

Mrs Karen Son

COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD: CHAIRPERSONS

Auslan: Ms Z. Williams – Appointed 06/05/2015

Conductive Deafness/Otitis Media: Mrs L. Moody

Education: Ms M. Fram

Finance: Mr S. Wood

Fundraising: Finance Committee

Grants: Ms K. Gillies

Hearing Awareness Week: Mrs N. Bieske – Retired 02/09/2015

Ms Z. Williams – Appointed 03/02/2016

Medical/Audiological: Assoc Prof. B. Pyman

Noise Induced Hearing Loss: Mr. P. O'Halloran

Rubella: Dr M. Riddell

Technology: Mr L. Clewer

Auditor: Saward Dawson

Contents

President's Report	1
Executive Officer's Report	3
Grants Committee	4
Deafness Foundation Grants	5
Education Encouragement Awards	6
Hearing Awareness Week Planning Committee	7
Noise Induced Hearing Loss Committee	8
Tribute to Stan Batson	9
Supporters 2015/2016	10
Butterflies are Deaf	11
Members 2015/2016	12
Supporting Deafness Foundation	12
Financial Report	13

Statement of Purpose

Deafness Foundation aims to **improve well-being and promote equality** for people who are deaf and hard of hearing by focusing on:

- Access
- Awareness
- Diagnosis, Treatment and Prevention

Programs and aims are built around three important domains – **knowledge, respect and communication**, and its pursuit of access, awareness, diagnosis, treatment and prevention is always undertaken in light of or by reference to each of these three domains.

President's Report



I am very pleased to be delivering my first annual report as President of the Foundation. I have been involved with Deafness Foundation as a Board member for 4 years, and I have worked with deaf and hard of hearing adults and children for over 30 years. I look forward to using my knowledge and experience as an Audiologist in my role as President.

Deafness Foundation is currently experiencing a time of change and renewal.

Peter Ickeringill stepped down as President at the last AGM and I would like to thank him for the strong leadership he provided to the Foundation over the 17 years he held this position. Peter still has a keen interest in the work of the Foundation. He was appointed as a Governor of the Foundation at the July Board meeting and will continue to be involved with the Peter Howson Deafness Fellowship. Peter was instrumental in establishing this Fellowship along with Board member A/Professor Gary Rance and we welcome his continued support in this role.

Noeleen Bieske and Dr Lyn Walker, two of our long-standing board members both retired from the Board this year. Noeleen was the Chairperson of the Hearing Awareness Week Planning Committee and we thank her for her significant contribution to the success of this event and also for her contribution as a member of the Grants Committee. Lyn was the Chairperson of the Grants Committee until 2014 and retired as an active member of the Board in 2016. Lyn will continue as a member of the Grants committee and we are grateful for her continued expertise with this process.

We welcomed two new members to the Board – Zoe Williams and Noel Henderson. Zoe joined the Board in November and she is an Audiologist

experienced in working with deaf and hard of hearing adults and children. Zoe is also deaf herself and is fluent in Auslan. Noel joined the board in February 2016. Noel has worked in technology and telecommunications, and more recently in fundraising. He has also had previous Board experience in the deafness sector. Noel has an acquired hearing loss. We are looking forward to the knowledge and experience that Zoe and Noel will bring to the Board.

In addition, at the time of writing this report we are in the process of appointing a new Executive Officer. Wendy Maher recently indicated that she would be retiring after 10 years in this position. Wendy has worked tirelessly to promote the Foundation, and she has engendered an excellent working relationship with the Board, and also with staff, our volunteers and our stakeholders. I would like to thank Wendy for all her efforts, and also for supporting me during my first year as President.

It was with sadness that we learned of the passing of Stan Batson in March. Stan retired from the Board in 2013 after many years involvement with the Foundation. He was awarded a Deafness Foundation Award in 2014 for promoting an understanding of the needs of deaf people and in particular for promoting Auslan. Stan's funeral was a celebration of a wonderful life, and the Auslan interpreter's versions of the hymns were a testament to the beauty of the language he loved so much.



New Board member Noel Henderson

We have continued to implement the recommendations of the Strategic Review, and this year the focus was on reviewing our committees. A proposal to change from a committee structure to a project structure was approved by the Board and you will see evidence of this new structure reflected in the format of this Annual Report. The committees that have an ongoing role in the operation of the organisation and will remain are the Finance Committee, the Fundraising Committee, the Grants Committee and the Hearing Awareness Week Planning Committee.

Paul O'Halloran, Chair of the previous Noise Induced Hearing Loss Committee will continue his key role in supporting the important research project "Introducing HEARsmart to Music Venues; A Pilot Study. A project officer has been appointed through The HEARing CRC to work with music venues to reduce the incidence of hearing loss in young people due to recreational noise exposure. Education, Conductive Hearing Loss, Medical/Audiological, Technology and Auslan will continue to remain areas of interest for the Foundation and projects that improve well-being and promote equality for people who are deaf and hard of hearing will continue to be actively sought in these areas. Early discussions on the development of a project on the use of social media to engage young people with the Foundation are already taking place.

Another successful round of Grants was recently completed and I would like to thank my colleagues on the



New Board member Zoe Williams

Grants committee for their diligence in considering all the applications. Having taken on the role of President, I will be stepping down as Chair of the Grant's Committee and a new chair will be appointed in the new financial year.

The Grants program supports community, organisation and research projects, our Education Encouragement Awards and the Peter Howson Deafness Fellowship.

The third recipient of the Fellowship is Dr Kerry Saunders, Developmental Paediatrician with the Monash Children's Hospital. We were pleased to announce Kerry's appointment at our recent Grants presentation night and she gave a very informative presentation on her project "Early Identification and Management of Congenital Cytomegalovirus (CMV) Hearing Loss / A New Clinical Model".

Our support for this project continues the Foundation's work in reducing the incidence of preventable deafness and hearing loss in children following the successful completion of our Rubella program. CMV is now the most common infection that causes congenital deafness. Anti-viral medication is available; however, not all babies show symptoms at birth and the hearing loss can be progressive. This means that infants may pass their Newborn Hearing Screening Test and so an alternative pathway to detect hearing loss in these babies is needed. Kerry's research aims to improve the early diagnosis of children with congenital CMV infection, and also to develop a treatment model to improve the long-term outcomes for these children.

Our thanks go to the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital for continuing to partner with Deafness Foundation in funding the Peter Howson Deafness Fellowship, and to the hard work of Peter Ickeringill and Associate Professor Gary Rance in selecting such a worthy candidate and project.



(L-R) Karin Gillies with immediate past President Peter Ickeringill.

The rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is having a significant impact on the way disability services are funded and the Foundation has been keeping a keen eye on what is happening in this space. This government initiative will mean that services are tailored to the needs of the individual and lead to improved outcomes for people with a disability in general, and people who are deaf or hard of hearing in particular. The Foundation recently submitted a position paper to the government regarding services for children under the NDIS. We stressed the need to ensure that the accessibility and quality of paediatric hearing services will not be adversely affected, and that the provisions of hearing aids should remain as cost-effective as it has been under the current funding model through Australian Hearing.

In closing, I would like to thank all Board members for working with me over the past year and giving their time and effort in further developing the strategic objectives – Lyall Clewer, Marie Fram, Noel Henderson, Lisa Jane Moody, Paul O'Halloran, Brian Pyman, Gary Rance, Michaela Riddell, Zoe Williams and Simon Wood. I would also like to thank Wendy Maher and her team – Helen Dunlop, Jenny Portelli and Karen Son. And thanks also to the many individuals who support the Foundation through selling our butterfly badges or donating to the organisation.

Karin Gillies
President

Executive Officer's Report



This is my eleventh and final report as Executive Officer of Deafness Foundation as I plan to retire. I have enjoyed my time with the Foundation and had the opportunity to liaise with and work beside many committed and inspiring people. The role has been very varied and interesting and I am very proud of the success that our small team has achieved over the past years. 'No man is an island' and I

certainly could not have achieved what I have without the support of a committed team. To my staff, Jenny Portelli, Karin Son and Helen Dunlop, thank you for your wonderful support, hard work and friendship and to the numerous volunteers who have assisted over the years. A sincere thank you is also extended to previous staff members Monica Haverkamp and Tanya Puglia for their support and contribution to the Foundation.

It has been a year of change at the Foundation. Peter Ickeringill, our long term President retired in July 2015 after seventeen years and has been succeeded by Karin Gillies, a current board member. Two of our long term Board members retired, Noeleen Bieske and Dr Lyn Walker and the Board welcomed new members, Zoe Williams and Noel Henderson. We were saddened by the death of several of our long term supporters: Dr Peter Freeman and Gwenda Alder who were members of The Deafness Foundation Trust and Stan Batson, a retired long term Board member.

During the year the Foundation has kept a close eye on the effects of the defunding of the two National Peak bodies, Deafness Forum and Deaf Australia, the proposal to sell Australian Hearing and the rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

There have been many developments and changes during my time at the Foundation; the dissolving of The Deafness Foundation Trust and its folding into the Foundation, the establishing of individual fundraising licences with individual states of Australia, an increase in fundraising merchandise to include Butterfly keyrings and wristbands, the conducting of fundraising events including Art auctions through the efforts of A/Professor Gary Rance, a Trivia night and so much more. Our relocation from Global Television at Nunawading to our current premises at Bayswater in late 2009 was a major change with the need for us to pay commercial rent for the first time in a number of years.

One of the most amazing memories that I will take with me is that of Nicole Maher interpreting 'In the arms of an Angel' (Sarah

McLaughlin) at the recent funeral of Stan Batson. It was truly beautiful and showcased Auslan as a most beautiful language.

Acknowledgments

Continuing relationships are invaluable to the Foundation and we have enjoyed another year of wonderful support. We extend our thanks to Mark Glew at Lynmarc Textiles, who owns and operates the Deafness Foundation Clothing Bins and to IGA Victorian supermarkets, who have conducted the May IGA Butterfly Badge Appeal over numerous years. We continue to partner with the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital in the Peter Howson Deafness Fellowship and enjoy corporate support from Baker & McKenzie and King Wood Mallesons. We take this opportunity to thank our committee members, members, volunteers, partners and donors, especially the Urquhart Charitable Fund and others, too many to name.

Challenges

Our greatest challenge continues to be our need to grow our income, both from fundraising and other sources, to be able to continue to do our valuable work and fund interesting and innovative projects that benefit the deaf and hard of hearing in the community.

I take this opportunity to thank Board members, past and present, for the ongoing and wonderful support that I have always received. I have enjoyed the many challenges that the position has presented me with and I look forward to following the future endeavours of the Foundation.

Wendy Maher
Executive Officer



(L-R) Staff members Helen, Jenny and Karen.

Grants Committee



Committee Members: Ms Karin Gillies – Chairperson (pictured), Ms Marie Fram, Mrs Wendy Maher, A/Professor Gary Rance, Mrs Janette Thorburn, Dr Lyn Walker and Mr Simon Wood.

Deafness Foundation allocated grants to the total of \$82,291 this year. The committee received twenty one applications for consideration, nine of which received approval. In addition to these nine, the Foundation funded the second year of the ASPREE project, a third Peter Howson Deafness Fellowship, in conjunction with the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital, and two Education Encouragement Awards. The Foundation's grants are supporting research, organisational and community projects in Queensland, South Australia and Victoria. These projects will improve access by supporting the purchase of loan wireless communication devices, the development of Auslan resources and the provision of Auslan training. The Deaf Friendly Campaign and the Supermarket Counter Toppers will improve awareness of the needs of people who are deaf and hard of hearing. Research projects supported will contribute to our understanding in the areas of family centred care, hearing health in the elderly and outcomes for children with hearing loss. Please see the full list of grantees.

The Annual Grants presentation was held on Thursday 25th February 2016 at Baker & McKenzie. We were pleased to have two of our Governors, Professor Geoffrey Blainey and Mr Peter Ickeringill to present grants on the night. Our guest speakers were Dr Jessica Vitkovic and Dr Kerryn Saunders. Dr Vitkovic was the Peter Howson Deafness Fellow for 2014/15 and presented her current findings into the contribution of hearing to balance control. Her results suggest that the use of hearing aids in the elderly will not only provide an improvement in their everyday communication ability, but may also reduce the risk of falls. This research has the potential to improve the quality of life for older adults with hearing loss and lead to savings in the health budget. Dr Saunders was announced as the Peter Howson Deafness Fellow for 2016/17. She spoke about Cytomegalovirus (CMV) as a major cause of hearing loss in children and her plans for a multi-disciplinary clinic at Monash Children's Hospital to improve outcomes for these children.

Thanks go to all the volunteers and others who sell butterfly badges providing funds to enable the Grants program to continue. Thanks also to Baker & McKenzie for their valuable corporate support and their contribution to a very successful evening.

Karin Gillies
Chairperson



Successful grantees with Governors of the Foundation, Professor Geoffrey Blainey and Peter Ickeringill.

(L-R) Professor Geoffrey Blainey, Dr Caitlin Grenness (rep Uni of Qld), Karin Gillies (Chairperson), Melinda Mindum (ASLIA Vic), Dr Kerryn Saunders (Peter Howson Fellow), Catherine Miller (rep La Trobe Uni), Julie Judd (ASLIA Vic), Rachel Miers (John Pierce Centre), Teresa Cusack (deafConnectEd), Kyle Miers (Deaf Australia) and Peter Ickeringill.

Deafness Foundation Grants

The following grants were awarded in 2015/2016.

Queensland

The University of Queensland

Family-centred care in paediatric hearing habilitation programs: How is it being implemented in day to day practice? - **\$13,456**

South Australia

Guide Dogs Association of SA and NT Inc

Guide Dogs SA/NT Hearing Services Equipment Loan Scheme - **\$3,862**

Victoria

ASLIA Victoria

Professional Development - **\$4,200**

Deaf Australia

Deaf Friendly Campaign - **\$5,000**

John Pierce Centre

Religion Sign Project (RSP) - **\$2,750**

La Trobe University

Team Auslan/English Interpreting: Negotiating effective collaborative team-work - **\$1,350**

Melbourne Polytechnic – deafConnectEd

Deafness Foundation Auslan Training Scholarship - **\$2,500**

Monash School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine

ASPREE (Aspirin in Reducing Events in the Elderly) CENTRAL HEARING: Hearing and Health in a Large Cohort of Elderly Adults – Year 2 - **\$20,203**

Mpower Inc

Supermarket Cash Register Counter Toppers - **\$1,000**

Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka (M.A.D.E.)

The Eureka Story: Making it Accessible - **\$3,250**

Peter Howson Deafness Fellowship

Early Identification and Management of Congenital CMV Hearing Loss / A New Clinical Model – Dr Kerry Saunders - **\$25,000**

Education Encouragement Awards

Secondary – Victor Korng - **\$2,000**

Post Secondary – Kristy Muxlow - **3,000**

Return of deafAccess Ballarat grant - **\$5,280**

TOTAL: \$82,291



Announcing the new Peter Howson Deafness Fellowship.

(L-R) Jane King (RVEEH), Karin Gillies (President, Deafness Foundation), A/Professor Gary Rance (Board member, Deafness Foundation), Dr Kerry Saunders (Peter Howson Fellow) and Peter Ickeringill (Governor, Deafness Foundation).

Education Encouragement Awards



Committee Members: Ms Marie Fram – Chairperson (pictured), Mrs Sara Kenfield and Mrs Jan Walsh.

We continue to be impressed by the young

deaf and hard of hearing students in upper secondary or post-secondary schooling. Their commitment to their studies and the way in which they accept the responsibility to be role models to others is inspiring.

The recipient of the 2015 Secondary Education Encouragement Award was Victor Korng. At the time of receiving the award Victor was in Year 12 at Aquinas College in Ringwood which hosts a campus of his school, St Mary's College for Hearing Impaired Students. Victor is committed to improve himself and give back to the community. He

was extensively involved in social justice programs addressing poverty and was involved in the Victorian SES. Victor planned to attend university to study Criminal Justice Administration and he was successful in obtaining a place in the Bachelor of Law degree at the Melbourne campus of Australian Catholic University. He reports that the award has helped make the transition from school to university smoother by purchasing requirements such as a laptop and books for semester 1. He will put some funds towards paying his HECS fees. Victor sees the award as helping him to be prepared while building his confidence.

The recipient of the Post-Secondary Education Encouragement Award was Kristy Muxlow. Kristy is studying for her Bachelor of Behavioural Science (Psychology) at Swinburne University of Technology. As a mature age student her road to university was a long one. Kristy has used her award to purchase

a laptop which has made a big difference in when and how she studies as it allows her to work anywhere between work, study and caring for her family. The built in microphone and ability to plug in her headphones has made online tutorials much easier to hear and participate in. Kirsty has completed her first year subjects to a high standard and is half way through her second year subjects. She is committed to the community in which she lives, founding the local Mothers' Group and being a committee member of the local Playgroup. Kristy sees the award as being an amazing gift for which she is very appreciative.

I wish to record my thanks to Sara Kenfield and Jan Walsh for their professionalism and commitment throughout the year.

Marie Fram
Chairperson



Victor Korng, winner of the secondary Education Encouragement Award with (L-R) his mother Jenny Huang, Marie Fram (Chairperson) and Mini Saundry, Team Leader Ringwood Campus, St Mary's College for Hearing Impaired Students.

Hearing Awareness Week Planning Committee



Committee Members:
Noeleen Bieske
– Chairperson (pictured)
– Deafness Foundation Board Member, **Wendy Maher** - Deafness Foundation, **Andrea Romas** -

Australian Hearing, Jeannette Durlak
– **Better Hearing Aust (Vic)** and **Steve McKean/Jason Ridgway** - Hearservice.

Various activities were held throughout the City of Melbourne during National Hearing Awareness Week which was conducted from Sunday 23 to Saturday 29 August 2015. The Committee had the support and involvement of the following organisations: Better Hearing Australia (Vic), Hearservice (Vicdeaf), Australian Hearing and Deafness Foundation.

The Committee focussed its efforts on activities to be conducted at Federation Square on Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 August. We were joined by staff from The HEARING CRC and Taralye. Our aim was to interact with as many of the general public as possible to raise

awareness of deafness and hearing loss and the associated issues.

On Monday 24 August we were able to offer free hearing testing at Federation Square, conducted by Hearservice and Better Hearing staff and 50 of the general public requested screening. Interaction with the general public, local, out of town and tourists, was dynamic and very informative for all involved.

Max, the Hearservice mannequin, who can measure the sound levels of earbuds or headphones was again a popular attraction with users of individual music devices. From testing a device with Max, it is possible to check whether you are listening to music at a safe or dangerous level. It was disturbing to find a number of users were listening at unsafe levels. Information was provided on safe listening levels.

On Tuesday 25 August Australian Hearing held “The Big Australian Hearing Check” in Federation Square. There were acts on the stage, two extra marquees providing information and hearing checks and the Australian Hearing bus, where staff screened in excess of 100 people.

Deafness Foundation held a display on Thursday 27 August at Forest Hill Chase Shopping Centre and on Friday 28 August at Blackburn North Shopping Centre.

In reaching out to as many of the public as possible we advertised Hearing Awareness Week on MOTO Digital. This presented a digital informative display at 63 venues around the city. We received favourable input from the public who saw the display and were impressed.

Other activities held throughout the week included an event ‘Musicians for Hearing’ which was held at the Gasometer Hotel Collingwood on Sunday 23 and was well attended. This event aimed to increase awareness about the risk of music induced hearing loss and to encourage better hearing health in musicians and music lovers everywhere.

These activities held during the month of August certainly achieved the committee’s goal of reaching out to as many of the general public as possible and raising awareness.

My heartfelt thanks go to all members of the committee and to all volunteers who assisted.

Noeleen Bieske
Chairperson



Bridget from Hearservice with ‘Max’ the mannequin measuring the sound levels of earbuds and headphones.



(L-R) Carol from Better Hearing Australia (Vic) with Noeleen, Chairperson of the Committee, at Federation Square during Hearing Awareness Week.

Noise Induced Hearing Loss Committee



Committee Members: Mr Paul O'Halloran – Chairperson (pictured), Noel Broner, Graeme Harding, Renata Musolino, Amanda Robinson, Gerald Stewart, Janette

Thorburn and Paul Tierney.

The Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) Committee provides assistance in identifying key issues affecting noise induced hearing loss and linking stakeholders to information, legislative or otherwise, to ensure the public is not unnecessarily subjected to excessive noise. To this end, the Committee has been in regular contact with bodies such as WorkSafe Victoria and Standards Australia to examine possible initiatives which might contribute to hearing loss prevention.

The Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) Committee provides assistance in identifying key issues affecting noise induced hearing loss and linking stakeholders to information, legislative or otherwise, to ensure the public is not unnecessarily subjected to excessive noise. To this end, the Committee has been in regular contact with bodies such as WorkSafe Victoria and Standards Australia to examine possible initiatives which might contribute to hearing loss prevention.

Future noise prevention initiatives

Hearing loss prevention and noise induced hearing loss, in particular, remain priorities for the Deafness Foundation. Changes to the operating arrangements as part of the DFV strategic re-direction means project work will proceed via individual dedicated projects rather than through standing committees like the NIHL committee.

This will be the final report of the NIHL Committee.

In 2015-2016, the NIHL Committee continued its investigation of strategies to prevent or mitigate noise induced hearing loss in:

- Victorian industry and
- Issues associated with music and entertainment venues, vehicle noise.

HEARsmart initiative and Music Venues

The HEARsmart™ initiative is a multi-faceted campaign involving HEARING CRC and NAL which is aimed at increasing the awareness of and reducing exposure to, dangerous noise levels in both recreational and occupational environments. More broadly, the HEARING CRC intends to implement a variety of initiatives to influence and change the attitudes, behaviours, and policies to reduce the risks of acquiring a hearing loss. The HEARsmart music venue initiative received a supplementary grant from the Deafness Foundation in October 2014 to evaluate impacts of music on staff and audience at two selected music venues in Melbourne. The pilot program was managed by Dr Liz Beach from NAL (technical oversight) and Dr Jane Sewell from Hearing CRC

(day to day operations) and supported by Siobhan McGinnity as part of her PhD studies. Preliminary results indicate music levels at both venues exceeded the Victorian workplace standard. On a positive note, patrons surveyed in the study indicated they would prefer the music at reduced or unchanged levels. The Pilot program is investigating strategies for working with the venues to mitigate the hazardous effects of loud music.

Noise Prevention in Victorian Industry

Noise induced hearing loss due to industrial noise exposure remains a significant source of preventable deafness in Victoria. An analysis of WorkCover claims indicated the number of noise induced hearing loss claims was increasing recently. The agriculture manufacturing and construction sectors had the largest proportion of noise induced hearing loss claims of all reported industry sectors possibly reflecting the predominance of this sector amongst Victoria's secondary industries.

WorkSafe has established a number of initiatives to address noise in the manufacturing sector.

Paul O'Halloran
Chairperson

Eric (Stan) Batson (1932 – 2016)

It was with great sadness that the Directors and staff of Deafness Foundation acknowledged the recent passing of their esteemed colleague and friend, Stan Batson, a most amazing man.

Stan's journey in life was a very remarkable one. Stan was born Deaf into a hearing family and attended the Victorian Deaf and Dumb Institution (as it was then known) at a time when signing was frowned upon. Stan was a great story teller and told many stories of his inability to communicate with his father, as his father did not sign, but they got by and following his schooling Stan went to work with his father, in his father's business, Trans Otway Ltd. He was an outgoing young man who travelled to England in the early 1950's where he met the love of his life, a young Deaf woman named Myra. Myra came to Australia and they were married in 1955. They had four hearing children and eventually settled in an outer suburb of Geelong.

Stan's personal history is fascinating, that of a young deaf man growing up in a hearing world but it is the professional profile that is so amazing. Stan would be the first to acknowledge that deaf children have so many more opportunities today than were available to him. He was a born leader with an enquiring mind and a genuine caring nature.

Throughout the 1990's along with caring for his own family, Stan and Myra visited isolated Deaf people and became true friends to many, always being aware of a person's ability to communicate not only in the Deaf world but in the hearing world. Stan completed a Graduate Diploma of Auslan and set about to act as an ambassador for Auslan in many schools. He was also a researcher and collator of historical material at La Trobe University.

Stan joined the Deafness Foundation Board in 1993 as the first signing Deaf Board Member and became the Auslan representative. He was appointed to the position of Vice-President in 1998 and held that position until his retirement in July 2013. Stan was a

wonderful ambassador for the needs of the signing Deaf. He brought issues to the Board and kept the Board informed about new developments that affected the signing Deaf. He worked continuously to ensure that Deaf people could communicate with the hearing community and have access to Interpreters at all times. He was tireless in his pursuits for better training and conditions for Auslan interpreters. For his outstanding commitment to the Deafness Foundation he was awarded life time membership in 2009 and in 2014 for his outstanding contributions as an Ambassador for the Deaf, promoting understanding and inclusion, he was awarded the Deafness Foundation Medal.

Stan's legacy extends far beyond the Deafness Foundation. He was a respected leader in

the Victorian Deaf Community. He was a champion at all times of the need for interaction and understanding between the Deaf and hearing communities. He was a tireless advocate for access and inclusion for Deaf and hard of hearing people and embraced new technology as an adjunct to better communication and inclusion for Deaf people. He sat on a number of National and State Boards and committees, including the Conexu Foundation, Australian Communication Exchange, Deafness Forum and the Geelong Deaf Social Club. He was also involved in the John Pierce Centre and the Victorian Deaf Catholic community.

We have lost one of our greatest champions and yet, at the same time, we are immensely grateful for and proud of his achievements. He leaves a remarkable legacy and will be greatly missed.

His Motto is inspiring to many:

"To your own self you must be true... Be who you are and be proud of it."



Supporters 2015 / 2016

Deafness Foundation would like to thank our many supporters, donors, partners, granting bodies and others for their generosity and continuing support. We also wish to acknowledge those who have kindly chosen to donate in memory of a loved one.

DONORS

The Hon R Alston
Mrs R A Amarant
Mr S Batson
Prof G Blainey
Mrs J Chancellor
Mrs D Christie
Mr R Clark
Mr L Clewer
Mrs J Cooper
Prof R Cowan
Mr and Mrs W Craig
Mrs D Desouza
Mr and Mrs G Dixon
Mrs H Dunlop
Ms M Fram
Dr B Francis
Mrs J Gullan
Mr W P Gurry
Mr N Henderson
Dr C Holt
Dr & Mrs S Howes
Mrs M Johnson
Ms T Lam
Mr P Lewis
Mrs W Maher
Ms H Meldrum
Mr E J Miller
Mrs J Miller
Mr P O'Halloran
Mrs J Park
Mr W Pasco
Ms S Pizi
Ms J Portelli
Mr J Price
Prof B Pyman
Mrs S M Randell
His Hon P Rendit
Prof F Rickards
Dr M Riddell
Mrs P Rivers
Ms G Rosengren

Dr J Sarant
Prof R Shepherd
Mrs K Son
Mrs D Spencer
Mr A Stoll
Dr R Sutcliffe
Mrs L Swan
Fr D Thomas
Mrs J Thorburn
Prof L Waller
Mr S Wood

Burwood Girls High School
Carisbrook Primary School
Eastern HR Group c/- Ai Group
Eltham Primary School
Glenvale School – Bairnsdale Campus
Hearing Life – Berwick
Lynmarc Textiles
Macgregor Primary School
Monaro High School
Queensland 45+ Masters Hockey Team
Rye Primary School
Southern Districts Golf Club
St Paul's Anglican Grammar School
Tempo Inc

In memory of Lorace Ada Harwood
Mrs W Condely

In memory of Rosalia Rago
Ms M Byrnes
Ms M Skurnik

In memory of Esna Mary Isabell Smith
Mrs M C Thomas

Ritchies Stores Pty Ltd – Community
Benefit Card Program

BEQUESTS

Estate of Shirley Jean Cheshire
Estate of Daryl Giles Howard
Estate of Marjorie Rae
Estate of Lyla Ruth Way

GRANTS

Urquhart Charitable Fund
Whitehorse Community Chest

CORPORATE SPONSORS

Baker & McKenzie
King & Wood Mallesons

PARTNERS

IGA Victorian Supermarkets
Lynmarc Textiles
Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital

OTHER

Better Hearing Australia (Vic)
Federation Square
Forest Hill Chase Shopping Centre
Grill'd Knox
Linkfire - Bayswater
North Blackburn Shopping Centre
Oxford Studios – John Halford
Stockland The Pines Shopping Centre
Taralye



Thank you Lynmarc for your long term support

Butterflies are Deaf

Did you know that butterflies are deaf but they are beautiful, admired and communicate through the wonder of nature?

The butterfly is the logo of the Deafness Foundation.

The butterfly image was chosen because butterflies, which are beautiful and productive creatures, have no hearing. The butterfly is seen as a powerful symbol of change that raises awareness in the community about deafness and hearing loss.

In 1994, Judy Chancellor, a volunteer and member of the President's Auxiliary, thought that a Butterfly Badge to be worn in a lapel or hat would be a wonderful way of raising awareness in the community about deafness and hearing impairment. It was then adopted as a way to fundraise.

For over 20 years the sale of butterfly badges has been a major fundraising activity for the Deafness Foundation.

Originally designed by Judy, the badge designs and colours change every year and their popularity continues to grow. They have become a "collector's item" for many.

The beautiful jewelled enamel badges are sold throughout Australia by schools and hearing centres, groups and individuals. In Victoria, IGA Supermarkets sell the badges every year during May.

We are forever indebted to Judy and to John Marshall (Foundation President at that time then later Chairperson of the President's Auxiliary) who worked together for more than ten years to create this vital fundraising program. Today the butterfly appeal continues to be a major fundraising activity, now run by the Foundation office with badges designed by staff member Karen Son with input from all staff and volunteers.

The Foundation owes an enormous debt of gratitude to all the wonderful volunteers involved in packing, distributing and selling the badges over more than two decades, and to the many thousands of people who have purchased them and continue to do so.

For details about our butterfly badges and keyrings please email: fundraising@deafness.org.au or view our website: www.deafness.org.au



Children admiring butterfly merchandise at a local shopping centre



Display box of butterfly badges and butterfly keyrings

Members 2015 / 2016

Governors

Prof G Blainey
Mr P Ickeringill – appointed July 2015
Prof F Rickards

Honorary Life Members

Ms J Adcock
Mr S Batson – deceased March 2016
Mrs J Chancellor
Mr R Forrest
Mr E Keir
Mr J Marshall
Mrs J Tannahill
Dr A Thomas

Board

Mrs N Bieske
Mr L Clewer
Ms M Fram
Ms K Gillies
Mr N Henderson
Mrs L Moody
Mr P O'Halloran
A/Prof B Pyman
A/Prof G Rance

Dr M Riddell
Dr L Walker
Ms Zoe Williams
Mr S Wood

Individual Members

Mrs S Atkinson
Mrs J Bruce
Mr J Burnside
Mrs D Christie
Mr R Clark
Mrs J Cooper
Mrs R Corbett
Mrs J Gillespie
Mrs J Gullan
Mr W Gurry
Mr J Halford
Mr S Hester
Dr C Holt
Mrs M Howes
Dr S Howes
Ms S Kenfield
Mr P Lewis
Mr E Miller
Ms S Pizi
Mr M Quin
Mrs P Rivers

Ms G Rosengren
Dr J Sarant
Prof R Shepherd
Dr R Sutcliffe
Mrs J Thorburn
Mrs S Ward

Unincorporated and Incorporated Members

Able Australia Services
Audiology Australia
Aurora School
Better Hearing Australia (Victoria) Inc
Deaf Children Australia
Deaf Victoria
Forest Hill College
Furlong Park School for Deaf Children
John Pierce Centre
Melbourne Graduate School of Education
Methodist Ladies College
Whirled Foundation
Rosanna Golf Links Primary School
Shepparton High School
Taralye
Victorian Deaf Society
Word of Mouth Technology
Yarra Valley Grammar

Supporting Deafness Foundation

Support from the community is essential in enabling Deafness Foundation to continue its vital work with the Deaf and hard of hearing, as we do not receive any government funding. Financial and/or volunteer support is always very much appreciated and acknowledged. Financial assistance can be through donations, regular giving, memorial gifts, bequests, supporting our events or fundraising.

Volunteers

We value the generosity of our volunteers and welcome new volunteers to join our small, but welcoming team. Volunteers may like to be involved in helping in our office, supporting fundraising or sharing their professional expertise on one of our committees.

Donations

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Donations can be made by cheque, credit card or direct deposit into our bank account. Regular giving each month can be established through monthly direct deposits or credit card payments.

Memorial Gifts

A memorial gift is a wonderful way to honour the memory of someone you care about. Deafness Foundation can provide personalised giving envelopes for distribution at a funeral or memorial service.

Leaving a Bequest

By leaving a bequest to the Deafness Foundation in your will, you are making a gift for the future.

For further information on any of the above, please phone the Executive Officer on (03) 9738 2909 or email: admin@deafness.org.au

Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2016

The directors present their report on Deafness Foundation (Victoria) for the financial year ended 31 March 2016.

Directors

The names of the director's in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

Names

Mrs Noeleen Bieske	Resigned 02/09/2015
Mr Lyall Clewer	
Ms Marie Fram	
Ms Karin Gillies	
Mr Peter Ickeringill	Resigned 30/07/2015
Mrs Lisa-Jane Moody	
Mr Paul O'Halloran	
Assoc Professor Brian Pyman	
Assoc Professor Gary Rance	
Dr Michaela Riddell	
Dr Lynette Walker	Resigned 28/01/2016
Mr Simon Wood	
Mr Noel Henderson	Appointed 03/02/2016
Ms Zoe Williams	Appointed 06/05/2015

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Principal Activities

The principal activity of Deafness Foundation (Victoria) during the financial year were:

- to raise awareness in the community of issues that affect the deaf and hard of hearing,
- to implement and support developments relevant to matters such as medical and audiological issues for the deaf and hard of hearing, the education of deaf and hard of hearing children and youth, noise induced hearing loss, conductive deafness and otitis media
- interpretation services for the deaf;
- the application of technology to assist the deaf and hard of hearing.

The short term objectives

The short term objectives of Deafness Foundation (Victoria) include to raise funds that can be applied for purposes that will assist the deaf and hard of hearing, to consider applications for grants to be applied for such purposes and to distribute grants for such purposes.

The long term objectives

The long term objectives of Deafness Foundation (Victoria) include all of the foregoing as well as to work with and support other organisations with objectives and purposes consistent with our own.

Strategy for achieving the objectives

To achieve these objectives, the Foundation relies upon and uses its best endeavours to recruit, train and retain staff and volunteers who support and understand its objectives and who have the skills and experience required, in collaboration with each other and with other stakeholders, to be able to execute and achieve these objectives.

No significant changes in the nature of the Company's activity occurred during the financial year.

Information on Directors

Mrs Noeleen Bieske	Board Member
Qualifications	TPTC, T TCID, B Ed, M Ed
Experience	Resigned September 2015
Special Responsibilities	Chairperson - Hearing Awareness Week Planning Committee Member - Grants Committee
Mr Lyall Clewer	Board Member
Experience	Appointed to the Board 7 November 2012
Special Responsibilities	Chairperson – Technology Committee
Ms Marie Fram	Board Member
Qualifications	Dip Tchg (Prim), Grad Dip spec Ed (HI) B Ed, Grad Dip Curric, M Ed, Dip Interpreting, NAATI Auslan level 2, Grad Dip Deaf Studies (Auslan), LOTE (Auslan)
Experience	Appointed to the Board in February 2002
Special Responsibilities	Chairperson – Education Committee Member - Grants Committee
Ms Karin Gillies	Board Member
Qualifications	BA, DipAud, MEd, MAudSA(CCP), Cert 11 (Auslan), GradDip Deaf Studies
Experience	Appointed to the Board in February 2011
Special Responsibilities	Appointed President in Sept. 2015, Chairperson Grants Committee, Member - Finance Committee
Mr Peter Ickeringill	Board Member
Qualifications	LL.B (Hons), B.Comm (Hons), FCA, FCPA, ASIA
Experience	Resigned July 2015
Special Responsibilities	President, Member - Grants Committee, Member - Finance Committee
Mrs Lisa-Jane Moody	Board Member
Qualifications	M A (Hons), DipAud, MAud/SA(CC)
Experience	Appointed to the Board in October 2002
Special Responsibilities	Chairperson – Conductive Hearing Loss / Otitis Media Committee
Mr Paul O'Halloran	Board Member
Qualifications	BSc, GradDipAud, GradDipEd, GradDipErg, Cert Aural Rehab
Experience	Appointed to the Board in February 2008
Special Responsibilities	Chairperson – Noise Induced Hearing Loss Committee Appointed Vice President - Nov. 2015

Meetings of Directors

During the financial year, 5 meetings of directors (including committees of directors) were held. Attendances by each director during the year were as follows:

Assoc Prof Brian Pyman	Board Member
Qualifications	MB, BS, FRACS, DLO
Experience	Appointed to the Board in April 1996
Special Responsibilities	Chairperson – Medical / Audiological Committee
Assoc Prof Gary Rance	Board Member
Qualifications	PhD, MSc, DipAud, B Ed, MAud/SA(CC)
Experience	Appointed to the Board November 2004
Special Responsibilities	Vice-President Member – Grants Committee
Dr Michaela Riddell	Board Member
Qualifications	B.AppSc (MLS), GradDip Epidemiol & Biostats, PhD
Experience	Appointed to the Board in September 2011
Special Responsibilities	Chairperson – Rubella Committee
Dr Lynette Walker	Board Member
Qualifications	COTWA, FAATD, BA Med(HI), PhD
Experience	Resigned January 2016
Special Responsibilities	Member - Grants Committee
Mr Simon Wood	Board Member
Qualifications	BBehSc (Hons), GradDipAppFin
Experience	Appointed to the Board in September 2011
Special Responsibilities	Appointed Treasurer from September 2012, Chairperson – Finance Committee, Member - Grants Committee
Mr Noel Henderson	Board Member
Experience	Appointed to the Board in February 2016
Ms Zoe Williams	Board Member
Qualifications	BNSc, MAudSt, MAudSA(CCP)
Experience	Appointed to the Board in May 2015
Special Responsibilities	Chairperson - Auslan Committee Appointed Chairperson of the Hearing Awareness Week Planning Committee in February 2016.

Directors' Meetings

	<i>Number eligible to attend</i>	<i>Number attended</i>
Mrs Noeleen Bieske	3	-
Mr Lyall Clewer	5	2
Ms Marie Fram	5	5
Ms Karin Gillies	5	5
Mr Peter Ickeringill	2	2
Mrs Lisa-Jane Moody	5	3
Mr Paul O'Halloran	5	3
Assoc Prof Brian Pyman	5	-
Assoc Prof Gary Rance	5	1
Dr Michaela Riddell	5	3
Dr Lynette Walker	4	2
Mr Simon Wood	5	3
Mr Noel Henderson	1	1
Ms Zoe Williams	4	4

Auditor's Independence Declaration

The auditor's independence declaration, in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, for the year ended 31 March 2016 has been received and can be found on page 5 of the financial report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:



Chairperson:
Ms Karin Gillies



Director:
Mr Simon Wood

Dated this 2nd day of June 2016

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 31 March 2016 there have been:

(i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Australian Charities and Not-for profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and

(ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Seward Dawson Chartered Accountants



Peter Shields
Blackburn

Dated: 2 June 2016

SAWARD / DAWSON

chartered accountants

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 31 March 2016

	Note	2016	2015
		\$	\$
Revenue	2	525,449	288,862
Other income	2	-	30,983
Employee benefits expense		(115,942)	(148,672)
Fundraising expenses		(12,580)	(14,160)
Purchases		(20,889)	(25,438)
Occupancy expenses		(28,445)	(25,658)

	Note	2016	2015
		\$	\$
Stationery		(1,817)	(4,597)
Hearing awareness week	13b	(4,074)	(4,811)
Stock write off		(269)	(2,030)
Depreciation		(917)	(1,195)
Unrealised loss on Investments		(17,593)	-
Other exp.s from ordinary activities		(25,091)	(29,066)
Surplus/(deficit) before grants		297,832	64,218
Deaf grant payments	13a	(82,471)	(84,947)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		215,361	(20,729)
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		215,361	(20,729)

Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 March 2016

	Note	2016	2015
		\$	\$
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	752,859	54,565
Trade and other receivables		2,188	8,497
Financial assets	4	484,806	936,426
Inventories	5	44,889	42,351
Other current assets		2,115	2,963
Total current assets		1,286,857	1,044,802
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	6	3,390	4,067
Total non-current assets		3,390	4,067
TOTAL ASSETS		1,290,247	1,048,869
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	7	58,250	33,250
Short-term provisions	8	27,275	26,258
Total current liabilities		85,525	59,508
TOTAL LIABILITIES		85,525	59,508
NET ASSETS		1,204,722	989,361
EQUITY			
Reserves		452,668	452,668
Accumulated surpluses		752,054	536,693
TOTAL EQUITY		1,204,722	989,361

The accompanying notes form part of the financial statements

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 31 March 2016

2016	Retained Earnings	Capital Guaranteed Fund Reserve	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 April 2015	536,693	452,668	989,361
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	215,361	-	215,361
Balance at 31 March 2016	752,054	452,668	1,204,722

2015	Retained Earnings	Capital Guaranteed Fund Reserve	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 April 2014	557,422	452,668	1,010,090
Surplus/(Deficit)	(20,729)	-	(20,729)
Balance at 31 March 2014	536,693	452,668	989,361

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 31 March 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Cash from operating activities:			
Receipts from supporters		148,319	158,036
Operating grant receipts		-	42,316
Interest Received		22,083	57,718
Donations and bequests received		105,359	41,455
Payments to suppliers and employees		(217,344)	(311,306)
Grants disbursed		(82,471)	(84,947)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	12	(24,054)	(96,728)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(327)	(1,108)
Payment for investments		(4,696)	-
Transfer to Perpetual cash account		653,436	-
Redemption/(placement) of term deposits		73,935	70,969
Net cash used by investing activities		722,348	69,861
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held		698,294	(26,867)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		54,565	81,432
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	3	752,859	54,565

The accompanying notes form part of the financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2016

Note 1 – Accounting policies

1a Basis of Preparation

Deafness Foundation (Victoria) is a Company limited by guarantee incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the *Australian Charities and Not for profits Commission Act 2012*. The company is a not for profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

1b Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

1c Inventories

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

1d Financial Instruments Initial Recognition and Measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entities becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the company commits itself to either purchase or sell the asset (ie trade date accounting is adopted). Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs except where the instrument is classified 'at fair value through profit or loss' in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately. Financial instruments are classified and measured as set out below.

Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss

Financial assets are classified at 'fair value through profit and loss' when they are held for trading for the purpose of short term profit taking, or where they are derivatives not held for hedging purposes, or when they are designated as such to avoid an accounting mismatch or to enable performance evaluation where a group of financial assets is managed by key management personnel on a fair value basis in accordance with a documented risk management or investment strategy. Such assets are subsequently measured at fair value with changes in carrying value being included in profit or loss.

Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative

financial assets that have fixed maturities and fixed or determinable payments, and it is the company's intention to hold these investments to maturity. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Impairment

At each reporting date, the company assess whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. Impairment losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

1e Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or deemed cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment is measured on the cost basis less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by the directors to ensure it is not in excess of the depreciated replacement cost.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated on a straight line basis over their useful lives to company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets based on useful lives are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Office Equipment	10%
Computer Equipment	33.3%

1f Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

1g Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the Company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits.

1h Income taxes

No current or deferred income tax assets or liabilities have been raised by the Company as it is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act. The company is registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

1i Leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all of the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.

1j Revenue

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Sales income consists of sale of butterfly badges, butterfly keyrings and wristbands. These sales are made for fundraising purposes and are recognised as income when cash is received.

Donation income is recognised when it is received.

Government grants are recognised as income as they are earned. Where grants relate to activities not yet undertaken, and there is an obligation to repay those funds if they are not spent for the approved purpose then such funds are recognised as an "income received in advance" liability until such time as the funded activities are undertaken.

The organisation has implemented controls over the receipting, banking and recording of fundraising and donation revenue. There remains an inherent risk associated with cash revenue received by the organisation. The Board believe that they have implemented sufficient controls to ensure that no material value of fundraising and donation revenue is missed from the financial statements.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

1k Impairment of Assets

At each reporting date, the company reviews the carrying values of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the statement of comprehensive income.

1l Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flow on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

1m Critical accounting estimates and judgments

The directors evaluate estimates and judgments incorporated into the financial report based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Foundation.

Key estimates - Impairment

The Foundation assesses impairment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the entity that may lead to impairment of assets. Where an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. Fair value less costs to sell or current replacement cost calculations performed in assessing recoverable amounts incorporate a number of key estimates.

Note 2 – Revenue and other income

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Revenue			
- Fundraising income		108,823	143,583
- Interest income		19,079	57,718
- Donations and bequests	(a)	394,007	41,455
- Rubella grant income	(b)	-	42,316
- Other revenue		3,540	3,790
Total Revenue		525,449	288,862

(a) The Foundation received a bequest of a share portfolio valued at \$288,648 on 22 February 2016.

(b) The Department of Health has supported the Foundation through the funding of community education in relation to congenital rubella syndrome in Victoria. However, the agreement was terminated at the end of December 2014 due to the objectives of the funding being achieved.

Other Income

- Unrealised gain on revaluation of financial assets	-	30,983
Total Other Income	-	30,983

Note 3 – Cash and Cash Equivalents

NAB bank account	99,423	54,565
Perpetual cash account	653,436	-
	752,859	54,565

Note 4 – Other financial assets

CURRENT

Financial assets at fair value through Profit and Loss	289,065	666,750
Financial assets held to maturity	195,741	269,676
	484,806	936,426

Note 5 – Inventories

CURRENT

Inventories for sale - at cost	50,748	47,941
Less provision for obsolescence	(5,859)	(5,590)
	44,889	42,351

Note 6 – Property plant and equipment

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Plant and equipment		
At cost	28,726	28,535
Less accumulated depreciation	(25,336)	(24,468)
Total plant and equipment	3,390	4,067

Movements in Carrying Amounts

	Plant and Equipment \$	Total \$
2016		
Balance at the beginning of year	4,067	4,067
Additions	327	327
Disposals	(87)	(87)
Depreciation expense	(917)	(917)
Carrying amount at the end of year	3,390	3,390

Note 7 – Trade and Other Payables

CURRENT	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Unsecured liabilities			
Accrued expense		8,250	8,250
Grants held on trust - Peter Howson Clinical Research		50,000	25,000
		58,250	33,250

Note 8 – Provisions

Current employee entitlements	27,275	26,258
	27,275	26,258

8a – Movement in carrying amounts

	Employee entitlements \$	Total \$
Opening balance at 1 April 2015	26,258	26,258
Additional provisions	9,662	9,662
Amounts used	(8,645)	(8,645)
Balance at 31 March 2016	27,275	27,275

Employee leave entitlements

A provision has been recognised for employee entitlements relating to annual and long service leave for employees. In calculating the present value of future cash flows in respect of long service leave, the probability of long service leave being taken is based on historical data. The measurement and recognition criteria relating to employee benefits have been included in Note 1 to this report.

Note 9 – Reserves

Capital Guaranteed Fund Reserve

The Capital Guaranteed Fund reserve records funds received from the closure of the Deafness Foundation Trust. The capital base has been preserved and invested in a managed fund, and income generated from the funds will be used to fund the future operations of Deafness Foundation Victoria.

Note 10 – Financial Instruments

Financial Risk Management

The company's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, short-term investments and accounts receivable and payable.

The totals for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 139 as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Financial Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3, (i)	752,859	54,565
Trade and other receivable	(i)	2,188	8,497
Financial assets	4, (ii)	484,806	936,426
Total Financial Assets		1,239,853	999,488
Financial Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	7, (i)	58,250	33,250
Total Financial Liabilities		58,250	33,250

Net Fair Values

(i) Cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables and trade and other payables are short-term instruments in nature whose carrying value is equivalent to fair value. Trade and other payables exclude amounts provided for relating to annual leave which is not considered a financial instrument.

(ii) Quoted market prices at reporting dates are used.

Note 11 – Fair Value Measurement

The company has the following assets, as set out in the table below, that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis after their initial recognition. The company does not subsequently measure any liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis and has no assets or liabilities that are measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis.

Recurring fair value measurements	2016	2015
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	\$	\$
Managed Funds	-	666,750
Held-for-trading Australian listed shares	289,065	-
	<u>289,065</u>	<u>666,750</u>

For managed funds, the fair values have been determined based on quoted market prices at reporting date.

Note 12 – Cash Flow Information

Reconciliation of cashflow from operations with result for the year

Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	215,361	(20,729)
Non-cash flows in surplus		
Increase/(decrease) in provision for slow moving stock	270	2,030
Depreciation	917	1,195
Net loss on disposal of property, plant & equip.t	87	-
Unrealised loss/(gain) on investments	17,593	(30,983)
Bequest of share portfolio	(288,648)	-
Changes in assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and term receivables	6,309	(1,725)
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(2,806)	(2,957)
(Increase)/decrease in other current assets	848	(728)
Increase/(decrease) in payables	24,998	(27,808)
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	1017	(15,023)
Cashflow from operations	<u>(24,054)</u>	<u>(96,728)</u>

Note 13 – Grants & Projects

(a) Education grants

Able Australia	-	2300
ASLIA Victoria	4,200	-
ASLIA Victoria Interpreting Distinction Awards	-	1,000
Better Hearing Australia (Vic)	-	3,899
Deaf Australia	5,000	-
Education Encouragement Awards	5,000	2,000

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Guide Dogs Assoc. of SA and NT Inc	3,862	-
John Pierce Centre	2,750	-
La Trobe University	1,530	-
Melbourne Polytechnic - deafConnectEd	2,500	-
Monash Sch. of Public Health & Preventative Med.	20,253	28,444
Mpower Inc	1,000	-
Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka	3,250	-
Peter Howson Clinical Research Fellowship	25,000	-
RIDBC Renwick Centre for Research and Professional Education	-	7,259
South Australian Deaf Expo Consortium (SADEC)	-	3,000
Taralye	-	1,495
Tempo Inc	-	3,000
The HEARing CRC	-	22,050
The Shepherd Centre	-	6,400
The Sovereign Hill Museums Association	-	3,000
The University of Queensland	13,456	-
Victorian Deaf Society	-	1,100
Deafaccess Ballarat (return of unused grant)	(5,280)	-
	<u>82,471</u>	<u>84,947</u>

(b) Foundation Administration Project

Hearing awareness week	4,074	4,811
	<u>4,074</u>	<u>4,811</u>

(c) Special Grants - Income

Rubella grant income	-	42,316
	<u>-</u>	<u>42,316</u>

Note 14 – Capital and Leasing Commitments

Operating Lease Commitments

Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements:

Payable - minimum lease payments		
- not later than 12 months	12,240	12,240
	<u>12,240</u>	<u>12,240</u>

The operating lease relates to the rental of the Company's Bayswater premises. The term is for 1 year and commenced 7 December 2015. The lease expires on 7 December 2016. An option to renew the lease for a further term of 1 year is available until 6 September 2016. Rental payments of \$1,530 per month are paid monthly in advance.

Note 15 – Company Details

The registered office of the company is:
Deafness Foundation (Victoria)
20 Albert Street
Blackburn VIC 3130

The principal place of business is:
Suite 3, 653 Mountain Highway
Bayswater VIC 3153

Responsible Entities' Declaration

The directors of the Company declare that in the directors' opinion:

1. there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and
2. The financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.



Director
Ms Karin Gillies



Director
Mr Simon Wood

Dated: 2nd June 2016

Report on the financial report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Deafness Foundation (Victoria) (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2016, and the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the responsible entities' declaration.

Responsible Entities' Responsibility for the financial report

The responsible entities of the Company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012* and for such internal controls as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

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

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

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

Auditor's opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Deafness Foundation (Victoria) has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 March 2016 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.



Saward Dawson Chartered Accountants



Peter Shields
Partner

SAWARD / DAWSON

chartered accountants

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

Dated: 2nd June 2016
Blackburn VIC 3130



Deafness Foundation (Victoria)

ACN 005 053 510

Registered Office: Saward Dawson 20 Albert Street, Blackburn 3130

Administration Office: PO Box 42 Nunawading 3131

Telephone: 9738 2909 (Voice & TTY) **Fax:** 9729 6583

Website: www.deafness.org.au **Email:** admin@deafness.org.au