## ALZHEIMER'S AUSTRALIA VIC ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

# YOUARE NOT ALONE ALONE \*\*ANTONIONE\*\* \*\*ANTONIONE



### Alzheimer's Australia Vic

is registered as Alzheimer's Australia Vic Inc Registered No A0013779R ABN 14671 840 186 ARBN 106 766 769

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To read more about our Ambassador Program visit vic.fightdementia.org.au/vic/about-us/our-ambassadors

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© Cover image of Izzy Bolt Gardener, Alzheimer's Australia Vic Ambassador and Hawthorn Football Club player Sam Mitchell, Isao Sramek and Aki Ostermeyer by Darren James.

# ABOUT THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This report outlines Alzheimer's Australia Vic's activities and achievements during the 2015–16 financial year. It focuses on our progress in the second year of our Strategic Plan 2014–2017 and the priorities identified, which can be viewed on pages 14–15. It is intended for people with dementia, their families and carers, our members, staff, volunteers, donors, government, corporate and community organisations.

This year we are reflecting specifically on how our programs and services are part of ensuring people impacted by dementia are not alone in managing the challenges it can bring.

Our Strategic Plan 2014–2017, information about all the programs discussed in this Report and full financial details are available on our website fightdementia.org.au/vic

# 2016 Alzheimer's Australia Vic Inc 33rd Annual General Meeting

This Annual Report was released at the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 30 November 2016.

### **Australasian Reporting Awards**

Alzheimer's Australia Vic was awarded a silver medal for our 2014–15 Annual Report, in recognition of excellence in reporting. We are committed to the continual improvement in the quality and transparency of our reporting.

### We welcome your feedback

Email: alz@alzheimers.org.au or call 03 9815 7800.



### Who are we?

Alzheimer's Australia Vic is the state's peak body providing education, support, advocacy and information for Victorians, of all ages, living with all forms of dementia as well as their family and carers. We are a member of the federation of Alzheimer's Australia, meaning we are an independent organisation but work closely with other Alzheimer's Australia state and territory organisations which make up the federation. As a member of Alzheimer's Disease International, Alzheimer's Australia has a role in the global fight against dementia.

### What do we do?

We assist people with dementia, of all ages, as well as carers and families to manage the daily challenges that dementia brings. We work with health, disability and aged care professionals and students to deliver best practice in dementia care. We also teach the community about dementia and the benefits of a healthy lifestyle in helping to reduce dementia risk.

### **Our history**

Our organisation was founded in 1983, by and for carers in response to public concern about the lack of information, resources and appropriate residential care for people with dementia.

From these modest beginnings, we have grown into a large organisation. We now have 131 employees and 134 volunteers across our two Melbourne offices and 10 rural locations.

### **Our vision**

Alzheimer's Australia Vic is a leader in the prevention of dementia while valuing and supporting people living with dementia.

### Our purpose

Providing leadership in dementia policy, risk reduction and services.

### Our values

- The worth of every individual
- Strength through unity with respect for diversity
- Cooperative relationships
- Organisational integrity
- Responsiveness, innovation, creativity and flexibility
- The contribution of all people involved with our work



# **KEY RESULTS**



Maree McCabe, CEO Alzheimer's Australia Vic leading the conversation with consumers, Brian and Elva Ridden at the 16th Biennial Hume Seminar in August 2015. Brian and Elva shared their experiences of living with dementia at the Seminar and later at our Dementia Awareness Month Public Lecture in Melbourne at Zinc, Federation Square in September.

Increase of \$213,717 in income through new fee-for-service offerings to reduce our reliance on government funding and become more financially sustainable

Award wins demonstrating leadership in dementia-care and innovation - the Microsoft Imagine Cup Global Citizenship Award July 2015, the Victorian Public Healthcare Award for Excellence in person, family, communitycentred care November 2015 and Consumers, Edie Mayhew and Anne Tudor being recognised for their advocacy at the Minister for Health Volunteer Awards with the Outstanding Achievement by a Volunteer: Supporting Diversity Award

What is not reflected in our financial reports is the contribution of 3,191 hours by the many volunteers who give selflessly of their time and energy to make a daily difference to people living with dementia

The release of three websites including interactive multimedia and videos; apps; an online, audio book for pre-schoolers; an interactive, animated game for children and development of the next generation of our Virtual Dementia Experience™ to be launched late in 2016

Multiple awareness raising campaigns generating hundreds of media stories on television, print, radio, online and through social media

Delivering a ground-breaking conference about a sensitive issue - sex, dementia and older people - resulting in increased community understanding about dementia

17,600 attendees of our Learning and Development courses

Responding to 6,100 Victorian callers to the National Dementia Helpline

Supporting more than 7,650 people through our counselling and support services programs

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Top to bottom: 1. Ita Buttrose AO OBE, National Ambassador Alzheimer's Australia, at An Afternoon To Remember fundraising high tea at Hotel Windsor, March 2016

2. Barbara Potter AM, one of Alzheimer's Australia Vic's founding members and Honorary Member, at Victorian Parliamentary Friends of Dementia meeting at Parliament House, November 2015

3. Community fundraisers at one of our Memory Walk & Jog

4. Consumers Gavin Brasier and PeterThomson at a Consumer Advisory Committee meeting in 2016

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# DEMENTIA FACTS AND FIGURES

### What is dementia?

Dementia is the term used to describe the symptoms of a large group of illnesses that cause a progressive decline in a person's brain function. It is a broad term used to describe impairments in memory, thinking and behaviour.

Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia, accounting for 80 per cent of all dementia cases.

Dementia can affect any adult but is more common after the age of 65.

## **Key statistics**

- An estimated 96,789 Victorians are living with dementia\*
- In the absence of a medical breakthrough, it is predicted there will be 386,397 Victorians living with dementia by 2050\*
- Dementia is the second leading cause of death in Australia\*





Clockwise: 1. Consumer Delia Bradshaw launching our Online Dementia Support website helpwithdementia.org, au in December, 2015. 2. Consumers Edie Mayhew and Anne Tudor celebrating their Minister for Health Volunteer Award, Outstanding Achievement by a Volunteer Supporting Diversity. 3. Consumers, Geoff and Betty Chandler with Sophie Hennessy, Projects Manager Alzheimer's Australia Vic at Victorian Parliamentary Friends of Dementia meeting at Parliament House for the launch of Engage, Enable, Empower resources, November 2015. The information can be found at livingwellwithdementia.org.au 4. Community fundraisers at one of our Memory Walk & Jog events

\*Alzheimer's Australia Vic commissioned research by NATSEM, University of Canberra February 2016 #Australian Bureau of Statistics (2015) Causes of Death, Australia, 2013: Cat no. 3303.0

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR



Since becoming Chair of Alzheimer's Australia Vic in 2014 I have witnessed a great deal of change in the aged and community care sector and this year is no exception. What remains steadfast throughout is our commitment to providing the best quality support and information for Victorians whose lives

are impacted by dementia. Everything we do stems from a desire to ensure they know they are not alone in managing the challenges they face.

The breadth and diversity of people impacted by dementia ought not to be underestimated. In the past year we have been able to address the unique needs of children impacted by someone in their life who is living with dementia, worked with young people in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to increase awareness about dementia and brain health and increased the capacity of people working in the homelessness sector to assist their clients who are living with dementia. These projects allow us to demonstrate to all people impacted by dementia that they are not alone.

We continue to lobby the Victorian Government for increased funding to meet the needs of the growing number of people in the state who live with dementia and those who care for them. In the absence of a significant medical breakthrough, the number of Victorians living with dementia is predicted to rise from 96,789 in 2016 to 159,184 in 2030, an increase of 65 per cent. We are everconscious of the impact of this immense growth and use this data in our advocacy to make a compelling case for additional support.

I would like to thank our CEO Maree McCabe and all Alzheimer's Australia Vic staff, volunteers, members and consumers for their unwavering commitment to improving the lives of people impacted by dementia.

This year, more than ever, we have faced the challenges presented by fundamental reforms that fuel an uncertain funding environment, both in Victoria and nationally. In keeping with its role, the Alzheimer's Australia Vic Board has been focused on prudent financial management in this context, but also remains committed to the ongoing delivery of high quality services and support to

people whose lives are impacted by dementia. We are not immune to the challenges of uncertain funding in the sector however, in order to ameliorate this, the organisation has made significant efforts again this year to reduce our reliance on government funding and diversify our funding streams. Introducing new fundraising activities and fee-for-service offerings in order to do this are just two of our achievements this year.

### **Strategic Plan**

In this second year of our 2014 – 2017 Strategic Plan, we have made significant progress in delivering on the five priorities identified. We have provided examples of key projects and services which demonstrate this throughout the report but there are many more and I thank all those who have contributed to them.

### Governance

The role of the Board is to collectively ensure the delivery of Alzheimer's Australia Vic's objectives, to set its strategic direction and to uphold its values. The Board is responsible and accountable for ensuring that the organisation is performing well, is solvent and is complying with all its legal, financial and ethical obligations. I would like to thank my Board colleagues for their part in this and the generosity with which they offer their time and expertise to the organisation. With significant sector reform comes a need for legislative, financial and operational agility. The Board ensures that the organisation continues to thrive while balancing organisational risk.

### **Acknowledgements**

On behalf of Alzheimer's Australia Vic I would like to acknowledge the State and Commonwealth Governments and our donors for their ongoing support of our work. Their contributions allow us to reach a large and diverse audience of people impacted by dementia, to support and educate them and help ensure they are not alone in managing the challenges which dementia can bring.

### **Looking to the future**

With one year remaining of our 2014 – 2017 Strategic Plan we are cognisant of finalising delivery of key strategic projects that are designed to meet the priorities of the plan. Although we continue to operate within a changing service environment, I am confident that the organisation will adapt and innovate to meet any challenges and continue to deliver an excellent quality of education, information and support for people whose lives are impacted by dementia.



Neil Samuel Chair

# A MESSAGE FROM **OUR CEO**



In this second year of our 2014 - 2017 Strategic Plan, Alzheimer's Australia Vic remained focused on delivering services that address the five priority areas identified in the plan, all of which are consumerdriven, encourage transformational change and reflect global thinking.

This year we continued to be leaders in dementia

care and innovation and we grew the breadth of our services to better address the needs of the diverse groups of people whose lives are impacted by dementia.

Our financial performance this year reflected the complex environment in which we are currently operating. We are one of many organisations impacted by fundamental changes to the Victorian Home and Community Care program and the roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), of which the latter is widely accepted to be the largest social policy reform since Medicare was introduced in 1975. We have reviewed our operations and cost structures in the context of funding and income projections and continue to act in the interests of maintaining our financial viability, an exercise we constantly balance with maintaining high quality programs and services.

### **Highlights**

This year we have celebrated a number of highlights, many of which are featured in this report. Collectively they reflect the commitment of our organisation to serving people living with dementia, their families and carers. With each achievement we demonstrate that they are not alone; that there is support and information for all who need it. Notable examples include;

- 'Yarn Up'; an educational music dance video about dementia by and for young people in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Engage, Enable, Empower; an online resource by and for people living with dementia to assist them to live well
- Two new websites; one featuring resources and online counselling options to better meet the needs of people who do not wish to engage with face to face services and one to meet the unique needs of children with a loved one with dementia
- The Dementia-Friendly Home; an app providing carers with ideas to make their homes more accessible for people living with dementia

- Creating Dementia-Friendly Communities: A Toolkit for Local Government; a resource to assist councils to make their local communities more dementia-friendly
- Consumers, Edie Mayhew and Anne Tudor being recognised for their advocacy at the Minister for Health Volunteer Awards with the Outstanding Achievement by a Volunteer: Supporting Diversity Award

### **Challenges**

- We are one of many organisations in the health and human services sector facing the challenge of operating under increasing fiscal constraints and greater scrutiny by the Commonwealth and State Governments. The implications of the transition from the Home and Community Care Program to the Commonwealth Government for older people, are still being understood and we will continue to advocate for those impacted to ensure they are not adversely affected. Also, many of our programs support carers who are not part of the NDIS unless they are a formal part of a person with dementia's care plan, which we know anecdotally is not always the case. Our conversations with Government and other stakeholders are ongoing and are aimed at ensuring that people impacted by dementia receive the uninterrupted care and support they
- The financial challenges we faced resulted in changes to our budget during the year and among the many ways we reduced our expenditure was making two roles redundant. This was a difficult but necessary action to help ensure the ongoing sustainability of the organisation.

### **Acknowledgements**

I would like to acknowledge all those who have contributed to our successes and supported us to meet challenges in 2015 - 2016. To our Board, consumers, volunteers, staff, members and other partners, I thank you for your expertise, generosity and passion and acknowledge the critical role you play in assuring people impacted by dementia that they are not alone.



Maree McCabe CEO

# A MESSAGE FROM **OUR TREASURER**

With the roll-out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) advancing across the disability sector, and the transition to Consumer Directed Care (CDC) across home care in the aged care sector, the year has been a strategic and financially significant one as we prepared for impacts from these broad-ranging sector and social reforms.

Recognising that the dependence on government funding is an inherent risk - particularly with major funding agreements concluding in early 2016/17 - the development of our Learning and Development Services' that provide training and consulting to the aged care sector on a fee paying basis has been a key focus. The year has seen this strategy proven successful with demand for these services achieving a significant increase in revenue from the prior year (2015/16: \$553,356; 2014/15: \$339,619). Further growth in this area is anticipated into the future, and will be supplemented through the introduction of a client contribution on a range of programs in line with new government guidelines which allow for this.

The 2015/16 financial year reports a net deficit of \$1.017.059, compared to the 2014/15 deficit of \$257,242. This was after allowing for \$588,208 in depreciation (2014/15 \$580,766) and before inclusion of Other Income of \$4,077,370 being the revaluation of assets properties (2014/2015 \$Nil) and \$98,167 for the revaluation of financial assets (i.e. investments) (2014/2015 a Loss of \$35,545).

Income in 2015/2016 fell by \$2 million, largely due to a decrease in special purpose grants, which were treated as Income in Advance at the end of the prior year and brought to account as the projects were implemented. This was a reduction of \$1.4m when compared to 2014/15. Although expenses also were reduced, this was not at the same rate as the income reduction, resulting in the increased deficit for the year.

Early in the year a strategic review of our assets was undertaken and the decision made to sell our Prahran property that had for many years been rented on commercial terms for residential use. The proceeds of \$1,485,000 provided a profit on sale of \$185,000 that is included in this year's results. The sale of the property provided funds for our core business of supporting individuals living with dementia, their families and carers.

Throughout the year financial support was provided to a number of innovative projects aimed at increasing the awareness of living with dementia, and supporting individuals, families and carers. In June we launched the Children's Website, and 2016/17 will see more projects

completed that have been in development across 2015/16 – all of which has only been possible through the generous support of our donors and supporters. We acknowledge and sincerely thank you for this support that is making a major difference to people living with dementia.

The returns from our externally managed investment portfolio reflected the general financial market's performance across the year, and have been conservatively weighted in cash, providing some protection against the prevailing volatility of investment markets. For the year, the portfolio returned 4.12%, achieving the target of exceeding the inflation rate (i.e. 1.0%) by 3.0%. The performance of the portfolio receives close monitoring and review, and is managed through a medium to long-term approach detailed in our investment policy.

At year-end there was \$400,000 in our bank accounts, with a further \$4 million held in the investment portfolio. This provides a strong liquidity position, with a current asset ratio of 1.6 times (i.e. current assets to current liabilities). Furthermore, the value of the Hawthorn properties increased by \$4 million up to \$11.4 million, contributing to the Net Assets increase of \$3.5 million. Overall, the balance sheet has benefited from a conservative but financially prudent management approach that ensures the financial capacity of the organisation to meet its obligations.

Looking ahead, we are committed to further managing our costs to establish future operating viability within our funding framework, and achieving a positive cash position that ensures ongoing support for services and projects that support people living with dementia.

Finally, what is not reflected in our financial reports is the contribution of the many volunteers who give selflessly of their time and energy to make a daily difference to people living with dementia. Our sincere thanks are extended for the amazing work they do.

Piera Murone Treasurer

# MESSAGE FROM OUR CONSUMER ADVISORY GROUPS

During 2015 – 2016, consumers continued to be central to our work. As well as two formal consumer advisory bodies, Alzheimer's Australia Vic invited all people impacted by dementia to join a new statewide network for consumer advocates. This network links people with the latest opportunities to collectively make our communities and services more inclusive and appropriate.

In March, people with dementia and carers from across Australia came together for the 2016 Alzheimer's Australia National Consumer Summit, held in Parliament House, Canberra. Over two packed days, consumers discussed the issues most important to them and brainstormed solutions. Compelling stories of service failures and successes were shared. On the second day, a communique that reflected these discussions was presented to the co-convenors of the Parliamentary Friends of Dementia, Teresa Gambaro MP, Shayne Neumann MP and Senator Rachel Siewert.

In the lead-up to the 2016 Federal election, consumers played a vital role in lobbying candidates for better dementia services and funding. In a series of meet and greet events across Melbourne and regional Victoria, members of the Victorian Consumer Advisory Committee, Younger Onset Dementia Reference Group and community advocates gathered, often at short notice, to share their stories with politicians from the three major parties.

Presentations from people living with dementia and carers were highlights of the 2015 Let's Talk about Sex, Relationships and Intimacy as We Age conference. Guest speakers talked candidly about how dementia had impacted their lives and relationships – the challenges in finding appropriate residential care for LGBTIQ people, maintaining intimacy in a residential care setting and starting a new relationship. They demonstrated that love endures after a diagnosis.

# Victorian Consumer Advisory Committee



Dan Gardam, who is living with dementia, presenting at Parliamentary Friends of Dementia, with his wife and carer Jane Gardam.

The Victorian Consumer Advisory Committee has supported Alzheimer's Australia Vic to deliver appropriate services and advocate on consumer issues for many years. The committee is made up of 11 family carers from across Victoria, representing a range of backgrounds and different stages of the dementia experience. One member represented Victoria on the National Consumer Advisory Committee during 2015–16. The committee was saddened by the resignation of two well-respected members, who chose to stand down after their loved ones with dementia passed away.

In 2015 –16, the committee has provided guidance and feedback on a number of key projects, including:

- Helping to develop the Supporting General Practitioners and General Practice Nurses in the Timely Diagnosis of Dementia project. Some members of the committee then went on to sit on the advisory council for this project, which now delivers a suite of workshops and resources to enable practice nurses to more effectively diagnose dementia.
- Using their lived experiences to inform an analysis and literature review of how Victorian hospitals are improving the level of care provided to people with dementia, including strategies currently being used, what has worked and what has failed.
- Members of the committee sat on the advisory group for the Dementia-Friendly Community project in the City of Manningham. Manningham

joins the City of Melbourne and the rural town of Beechworth as an early adopter of this approach, which aims to mobilise the community into providing a supportive environment for people living with dementia.

- Assisting with the creation of The Dementia Guide, a forthcoming publication for people recently diagnosed with dementia.
- Offering several external agencies feedback on dementia research and new technology.
- Volunteering to present at a range of forums and conferences, ensuring that the perspective of someone with lived experience of dementia remains central to discussions and that health professionals gain a greater understanding of the needs of their clients.

### Younger Onset Dementia Reference Group





Tony Walsh, carer, presenting at the Let's Talk About Sex: Relationships and Intimacy as We Age conference

The Younger Onset Dementia Reference Group was established to ensure that the specific needs of people living with younger onset dementia were addressed in projects and services. The reference group consists of people living with dementia and carers from across Victoria. Two members of the reference group also represent Victoria on the national Alzheimer's Australia Dementia Advisory Committee. As well as being a valued, experienced advisory body, members of the Younger Onset Dementia Reference Group devote many hours to being leaders in the community, coordinating support groups, sharing knowledge, lobbying decision-makers and building dementia awareness.

In 2016, members, Edie Mayhew and Anne Tudor were awarded the Minister for Health's Outstanding Achievement by a Volunteer – Supporting Diversity Award in recognition of their contribution to people living with younger onset dementia, carers and the LGBTIQ community. Edie and Anne, who live in Ballarat, are also strong advocates for people with dementia living in regional areas.

In 2015 – 16, the Younger Onset Dementia Reference Group lent their expertise to a range of projects and resources, including:

- Helping shape the Assistance Dog project by providing insights into life with dementia that enabled Seeing Eye Dogs Australia to design a program that will assist people with younger onset dementia maintain independence and support them to stay at home longer.
- Assisting in developing Creating Dementia-Friendly Communities: A Toolkit for Local Government, which guides local councils on making their cities more inclusive for people living with dementia. Consumers, Rob Trinca and Jane Sandow, member and Chair, consecutively officially launched the toolkit in May 2016 at Melbourne Town Hall, with international dementia-friendly community expert, Philly Hare.
- Reference group member and Alzheimer's
   Australia Dementia Advisory Committee
   representative, Maxine Brough shared her story
   via the Engage, Enable, Empower website and
   booklet. These resources have been designed to
   encourage people to make the most of living
   with dementia, through telling the real stories of
   other people living well with a diagnosis.
- Interviews with radio, television and newspapers, sharing with the public their experience of what it is like to live with dementia.

Our sincere thanks to all people impacted by dementia who contributed to our consumer network in 2015 – 2016. You can find a list of members of the Victorian Consumer Advisory Committee and Younger Onset Dementia Reference Group on page 59.

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# YEAR AT **A GLANCE**



### **July 2015**

• 'Yarn Up', an educational music dance video about dementia developed by young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders for Aboriginal communities, was launched in the Gunditimara community of Heywood



### August 2015

• 16th biennial Hume seminar, Living Positively With Dementia, hosted in Wangaratta with 128 attendees



### September 2015

- Dementia Awareness Month, with activities across the state under the theme 'Creating a Dementia-Friendly Nation'
- Let's Talk About Sex, Relationships and Intimacy As We Age conference, exploring complex issues related to dementia, held in Melbourne
- Memory Walk & Jog returned to Geelong, with 906 participants joining the fun

### October 2015

- Memory Walk & Joq program expanded, with an event held in Bendiao for the first time
- Alzheimer's Australia Vic Annual General Meeting, with special guest speaker Sue Pieters-Hawke, National Ambassador Alzheimers Australia



### February 2016

 New data revealing the prevalence of dementia released with a significant media advocacy campaign



### **January 2016**



Memory Walk & Jog program extended to the Mornington Peninsula, with an event held in Portsea for the first time

### December 2015

 Online Dementia Support service launched by Alzheimer's Australia Vic Ambassador and iconic Australian actor, Terence Donovan



### **November 2015**

- Engage, Enable, Empower resources to encourage and support people with dementia to live well launched at the bi-annual Parliamentary Friends of Dementia meeting
- Virtual Dementia Experience™ Gold Winner for 'Excellence in person, family and community-centred care' at the Victorian Public Healthcare Awards, presented by Hon Rob Knowles AO and Minister for Health Jill Hennessy MP.

### **March 2016**

- The Dementia-Friendly Home app, using interactive 3D game technology, launched to provide carers with ideas to make their homes more accessible for people living with dementia
- An Afternoon Tea To Remember hosted on two consecutive days, with special guest speaker Ita Buttrose AO OBE, Alzheimer's Australia National Ambassador
- Parliamentary Friends of Dementia meeting at Parliament House with dementia prevalence data presented

### **April 2016**

 A metropolitan Memory Walk & Jog event hosted for the first time in Doncaster, Melbourne, with special guests Gina Liano and Pettifleur Berenger from The Real Housewives of Melbourne television program

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### **May 2016**

 A Memory Walk & Jog event held in Albury Wodonga, in collaboration with Alzheimer's Australia NSW



### **June 2016**

- A website for children impacted by dementia launched, including an online audio book for young children read by broadcaster Libbi Gorr and illustrated by George Haddon
- Creating Dementia-Friendly Communities: A Toolkit for Local Government launched
- Hosted inaugural masterclass on dementiafriendly communities with UK dementiafriendly communities expert, Philly Hare
- 'Blokes and the caring role' group launched. focused specifically on the particular issues faced by men who are caring for someone with dementia

# **OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Our Strategic Plan 2014–2017 identifies five key priorities for our organisation and informs all of the work that we do for people whose lives are impacted by dementia.

Throughout this report you will find examples of projects and services which demonstrate how we are working toward and ultimately delivering on these priorities.

The way that we measure our impact and outcomes against this Strategic Plan is complex. Outcome measures are based on cost effectiveness, timeliness and agreed deliverables. They are tailored to each project or program and reflect a combination of consumer input, mandated government requirements, donor funding expectations, and quality frameworks. Wherever possible outcomes are presented against each strategic priority on the following pages.



### Leadership in dementia innovation

Provide leadership that transforms how we think about all forms of dementia by demonstrating approaches that engage, inform and inspire.



Maree McCabe, CEO Alzheimer's Australia Vic with Dr Diane Calleja, Dementia and Support for Carers, Ageing and Aged Care Branch Department of Health and Human Services at the launch of The Dementia-Friendly Home app in March 2016



### Leadership in transforming community understanding of dementia

Lead initiatives that increase community understanding of all forms of dementia and expand support for people impacted by the disease.

> Pages 19–23

Prof Laurie Brown, Deputy Director of the Institute for Governance and Policy Analysis at the University of Canberra, and convenor of the National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling, Maree McCabe, Gabrielle Williams MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Carers and Volunteers, Co-convenor Victorian Parliamentary Friends of Dementia and Martin Foley MP, Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing at Victorian Parliamentary Friends of Dementia meeting at Parliament House release of Victorian dementia prevalence data, March 2016



### Leadership in consumer-driven services

Provide leadership in the development, expansion and promotion of a broad range of integrated consumer-driven services for all forms of dementia.

> Pages 25-29

Consumers, RobTrinca and Jane Sandow, member and Chair, consecutively, Alzheimer's Australia Vic Younger Onset Dementia Reference Group who spoke at the Creating Dementia-Friendly Communities Masterclass with UK expert, Philly Hare, with Janelle Russ (middle), Younger Onset Dementia Key Worker Alzheimer's Australia Vic. June 2015



### Leadership in dementia-friendly communities

Partner with a broad range of stakeholders and consumers to drive initiatives to make Victoria friendly for people living with all forms of dementia.

> Pages 31–34

Guy Walter, Community Support Coordinator at Macedon Ranges Shire Council, UK expert, Philly Hare and Joan Sims AM, member of the Beechworth Dementia- Friendly project team Creating Dementia-Friendly Communities Masterclass, June 2015





### Leadership in brain health and prevention

Identify and promote evidence-based information supporting the modification of identified risk factors for dementia.

> Pages 36-38

Community fundraisers at one of our Memory Walk & Jog events



# Leadership in dementia innovation

Provide leadership that transforms how we think about all forms of dementia by demonstrating approaches that engage, inform and inspire.



Delia Bradshaw, Stephen Hawke, Margaret Cameron and Kay Miller who are all featured on the Online Dementia Support website, with Alzheimer's Australia Vic Ambassador Terence Donovan (second from right).

### Online support available 24/7

Expert and peer support is now available around the clock, following the launch of Alzheimer's Australia Vic's Online Dementia Support service in December 2015, including the helpwithdementia.org.au website.

More than 5,900 people accessed the website, and a number of requests for online counselling were received from all around Australia, and internationally, during its first six months of operation, pointing to a significant need for a central source of information, advice and support.

The site contains a wealth of educational resources, including 16 videos featuring experts and family carers offering everything from communication tips to information on residential care. It also provides a platform for counselling via email or video conference and an online peer support forum.

As part of Alzheimer's Australia Vic's commitment to providing leadership in dementia innovation, its client services team developed the Online Dementia Support service to make it easier for people to access the information and support they need at any time of day.

The website is valuable for busy carers, who are often juggling work, home, family, appointments and other commitments. The ability to access services online also means carers and people living with dementia can watch videos or read

information in their own time, and repeatedly if needed. This is especially important for those who may be coming to terms with the news of a new diagnosis or who may need extra time to take in the complex details.

Counselling via email and video conference also makes these services more flexible and accessible for those who may find it hard to leave home.

### An app to assist carers make homes more dementia-friendly

Creating a dementia-friendly home that people from all over Australia, and the world, could explore was the challenge facing the team at Alzheimer's Australia Vic. The answer was a new tablet app that allows people to see and experience the best in dementia-friendly design from the comfort of their own couch.

Part of Alzheimer's Australia Vic's commitment to leadership in dementia innovation, The Dementia-Friendly Home app lets carers identify often simple changes that can make homes more dementiafriendly.

Ultimately, this means that people living with dementia are supported to maintain their independence and continue living in their own homes for as long as possible. Having a home that fosters independence and lowers stress and confusion may even contribute to increased self-esteem amongst people with dementia.

The app uses interactive 3D games technology to highlight suggestions, such as placing labels with pictures on cupboard doors, installing motion sensor lighting and replacing busily-patterned wall or floor coverings. These changes are designed to make day to day activities easier for people with dementia, who may experience spatial and visual challenges, as well as the more commonly understood memory issues.

With 70 per cent of people with dementia living in the community, making homes more dementiafriendly can allow those with dementia to stay in their own home, enjoy their regular lifestyle activities and remain engaged with their community for longer.

The app is based on the 10 Dementia Enabling Environment Principles. The University of Wollongong developed the principles, based on a review of research into maximising enablement and wellbeing for people living with dementia through physical design.

Deakin Software and Technology Innovation Laboratory partnered with Alzheimer's Australia Vic to develop the app, using funding provided by the joint Commonwealth and State Government Home and Community Care program. The Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing, Martin Foley MP launched the app on 16 March 2016.

A key priority for the project team was devising something that would be genuinely engaging and interactive. Although the team had to overcome cultural hurdles (such as explaining the need to charge for the app) and technical challenges, some of which caused delays, the quality and popularity of the product speaks for itself.

With positive Australian and international media coverage and 276 downloads from all over the world at the end of the 2015-2016 financial year, the team is satisfied that it has developed a tool that genuinely assists people with dementia and

The Dementia-Friendly Home app is now available for tablets and mobile phones from the App Store and Google Play for \$2.99.



Norm Smith, carer, exploring the app with Victorian MP Martin Foley, Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing at the launch.





### **Let's Talk About Sex: Relationships** and Intimacy as We Age

During Dementia Awareness Month 2015, Alzheimer's Australia Vic partnered with COTA Victoria in hosting the inaugural Let's Talk About Sex: Relationships and Intimacy as We Age conference. The event aimed to engage, inform and inspire participants by challenging the assumptions, taboos and stereotypes that exist around the sexuality of older people.

We aimed to create a conversation and learning experiences that would support health and aged care professionals in committing to person-centred care through recognising and considering the sexual and intimacy needs of their clients in residential care. The primary challenge we faced was the stigma that surrounds older people and sex. Convincing people to talk about the subject provided a definite obstacle, overcome by sensitive media coverage on the topic in the weeks and months leading up to the event.

A secondary challenge was inspiring the aged and health care sectors to financially commit to a specific-themed conference that was competing with other, broader themed conferences in the market place. Intensive phone calls to our networks, use of extensive communication tools to promote the conference and mainstream media coverage all assisted in overcoming this challenge.

More than 200 delegates attended the event from Australia, New Zealand, USA, UK, Ireland and Zimbabwe. Over the two days, a number of Alzheimer's Australia Vic consumers shared their

own personal stories. Trish and Robert Underhill officially welcomed delegates; Anne Tudor and Edie Mayhew delivered a plenary focusing on how dementia has affected their relationship; Anne Fairhall, whose husband Geoff is living with dementia, presented and participated in a panel discussion, and Tony Walsh spoke about the experiences he and his late partner Paul Wenn had within the aged care system.

Alzheimer's Australia National Ambassador, high profile journalist and businesswoman Ita Buttrose AO OBE gave an address entitled Sex and the Older Woman - and Man. Joan Price, a California-based advocate for ageless sexuality; Dr Rosie King, a New South Wales based, internationally acclaimed sex therapist, educator, author and lecturer with over 30 years of clinical experience; and Kaz Cooke, a well-known Melbourne-based author, cartoonist, radio broadcaster and public speaker all added to an extensive program which gave valuable insights and information on how best to support clients in residential care.

After being involved with the conference, Fiona Patten MLC, Northern Metropolitan, delivered a Members Statement in Parliament congratulating Alzheimer's Australia Vic and COTA Victoria for leading the discussion.

The conference generated extensive nightly news network, print, radio and online coverage with highlights including a feature story on Anne and Edie on national television's ABC 7.30, a feature article about Anne Fairhall in metropolitan daily newspaper, The Age. The conference media release can be viewed here http://bit.ly/ltas2015mr

# STRATEGIC **PRIORITY**



# **Leadership in** transforming community understanding of dementia

Lead initiatives that increase community understanding of all forms of dementia and expand support for people impacted by the disease.

### Providing appropriate support to homeless people who are living with dementia

Building the capacity of those who work in the homelessness sector to help them identify and support people with dementia who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, was the focus of a highly successful statewide project during 2015-16.

Alzheimer's Australia Vic held 20 workshops across regional Victoria and Melbourne, attracting a strong turnout from more than 300 managers and frontline staff from homelessness agencies, as well as representatives of local government, and community and health organisations.

The workshops aimed to build knowledge and capacity among agencies and workers, with the ultimate goal of ensuring that more people who are homeless and living with dementia receive a timely diagnosis and the right support services.

Participants discussed case studies and learned how to identify dementia causes, risk factors and symptoms; and how to use a person-centred approach to improve quality of life.







Topics covered included understanding and applying a problem-solving approach to behavior changes and effective communication with those with dementia.

As well as expert presentations, participants received take-away materials including the Dementia and Homelessness DVD and fact sheets.

The project delivered on Alzheimer's Australia Vic's strategic objective of transforming community understanding of dementia, with post-workshop surveys showing that participants felt the sessions were extremely valuable and a great support to their work and service delivery. The majority surveyed said they would strongly recommend the session to colleagues.

Alzheimer's Australia Vic would like to acknowledge Gandel Philanthropy and The Ian Potter Foundation for generously funding the delivery of these workshops.



Jane and Dan Gardam with 774 ABC radio broadcaster Jon Faine

### **Dementia prevalence awareness** campaign

In the second half of 2015 Alzheimer's Australia Vic engaged Professor Laurie Brown, Research Director (Health & Ageing) at National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (NATSEM), University of Canberra, to lead a research project to determine the number of Victorians currently living with

dementia and how that prevalence will increase between now and 2050. The research results, released publicly at a Parliamentary Friends of Dementia meeting in February 2016, revealed that in 2016 there was 96,789 Victorians living with dementia and that in the absence of a significant medical breakthrough, that figure is predicted to grow by almost 300 per cent to 386,397 by 2050.

In addition to the provision of credible data for organisations such as local councils to use in their planning, the release of this alarming data was planned to draw attention to dementia and advocate for people impacted by the condition through a widespread media campaign. This media coverage plays a critical role in transforming community understanding of dementia and gives people living with the condition, as well as carers, a unique opportunity to tell their own story through the media and help the public to understand the challenges they face. It also helps people living with dementia to know they are not alone.

Victorian couple Dan and Jane Gardam fronted the campaign, with Dan sharing his insights of living with younger onset Alzheimer's disease and Jane sharing her insights of being a carer. They spoke at the Parliamentary Friends of Dementia launch event at Parliament House, as well as appearing on 774 ABC radio with Jon Faine and in Leader Newspaper coverage in 28 papers across the state. Additional metropolitan media coverage was secured in The Age and on the 3AW radio breakfast show with Ross Stevenson and John Burns and in regional media, 32 stories appeared across print and radio. The goal to secure three metropolitan media stories and more than 25 regional stories was achieved and exceeded. Melbourne television stations did not cover the Victorian data but Alzheimer's Australia NSW also launched dementia prevalence data on the same day and a story they orchestrated with Ten News Sydney was syndicated nationally and therefore shown to a large Victorian audience.

Online coverage of the campaign was also significant and provided an effective avenue through which to transform community understanding of dementia. In addition to the social media coverage generated directly by Alzheimer's Australia Vic, a number of news organisations and sector publications and websites shared the story. A highlight was 37 Leader Newspaper Twitter accounts sharing their news stories about the data, with a collective reach of almost 54,000 followers.



Michael Leonard, who is living with PCA, and Julianne East his partner and carer participating in art therapy

### **Specialist support for people** living with Posterior Cortical **Atrophy**

'This group has really allowed me to reconnect with my partner and understand the difficulties from her point of view and acknowledge how well she is doing. We get so caught up in the day to day that I forget to acknowledge that.'

That was how one participant in a new support group for people living with the rare form of dementia, Posterior Cortical Atrophy (PCA), described the benefits.

In response to feedback from consumers, Alzheimer's Australia Vic set up the specialist support group during 2015-16. As part of Alzheimer's Australia Vic's commitment to displaying leadership in transforming community understanding of dementia, the initiative aimed to create a forum for people with PCA, and carers and families, to receive support, advice and information.

PCA is a progressive degenerative condition involving loss and dysfunction of brain cells, particularly at the back of the brain. It is a complex condition with symptoms that differ greatly from other forms of dementia. While those with PCA can have well-preserved memory, language and insight, they frequently experience a decline in skills such as visual processing and literacy and numeracy.

Because of these complexities and differences, the group utilised a large range of medical and therapeutic experts. It was co-facilitated by a neuropsychologist from Royal Melbourne Hospital's neuropsychiatry unit, with guest speakers from disciplines including neuropsychology, neuropsychiatry, speech therapy and art therapy, who presented and answered questions.

Formal goals of the project included providing a platform for participants to access medical and health specialists and information; and increasing psychological wellbeing and coping strategies of those living with PCA and their carers, families and friends.

Strong attendance at the sessions demonstrated the need for the program, and evaluation of the project showed that the goals were met.

Participants reported that they had learned a lot about the medical and health aspects of their condition and appreciated having the opportunity to ask questions of specialists. They also felt more confident in being able to access resources about their condition.

Many participants with PCA reported feeling more confident and able to cope with their condition. In many cases multiple family members attended the sessions with their loved one. Carers, family members and friends reported improved relationships, communication and day-to-day quality of life.

### Education

Our core Learning and Development services are a key part of delivering on our strategic priority of displaying leadership in transforming community understanding of dementia.

### **Learning services**

In the classroom, in the community, in workplaces, online and in the virtual world, Alzheimer's Australia Vic provides a wide range of learning services that deliver the right type of training, in the right place, at the right time. This includes our award-winning Virtual Dementia Experience™. which offers a unique opportunity to get inside the world of a person living with dementia.

Our services include:

Professional education Delivered to health, disability and aged care professionals and direct care staff who support people living with dementia in a variety of care settings.

**Accredited education** As a Registered Training Organisation we provide nationally accredited education delivered to professional staff caring for people living with dementia, including the Dementia Care Essentials Program and Certificate IV in Dementia Practice.

Community education Delivered to community groups and organisations.

Family information and support sessions For people with dementia, their families and carers, covering a range of topics and facilitated by our team of professional counsellors.

Total number of education program attendees



### **Dementia consultancy**

Dementia-friendly environments, leadership and culture change are just some of the areas on which we provide consultancy services.

Designed, and often delivered, in partnership with our clients, our consultancy projects support organisations to introduce person-centred dementia support.

Our staff have an extensive range of expertise which utilises our 'valuing people' approach to dementia support. We work with organisations, sometimes over extended periods, to support

meaningful culture change that can enhance care for people living with dementia and also improve work and life for carers, families and staff.

To access our consultancy service, call (03) 9816 5708.

### **Community seminars**

Alzheimer's Australia Vic's seminar series enables us to reach people across metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria who may not normally access education via a community group. People who attend may have concerns about themselves, a friend or family member.

The community seminars allow us to introduce our organisation to the broader community in a non-confronting way, via a range of interesting topics. Some of the seminar topics cover basic information about dementia, while others may provide more information. Most of the seminars are presented by our own staff, and we also use guest speakers. The 90-minute seminars include refreshments and question time.

In 2015 - 2016 we offered seminars entitled Your Brain Matters, Worried about your Memory? and Dementia - Breaking Down the Myths.

Competing events and other factors meant that this financial year fewer people participated in the seminars than in the previous period (387 this financial year, compared to 469 the previous year). Nonetheless, written and verbal feedback confirmed that participants highly valued the opportunity to attend a seminar in their own local area.

The high participation rates in the regional seminars, held in Wodonga and Shepparton, were also pleasing. The aim overall is to create awareness of dementia and of our organisation and services, and these seminars are one positive way of achieving this.

**Total community seminars** Total attendees at community seminars 387

### **Library and resources**

The library provides dementia-specific resources to people living with dementia, their families, professionals, Alzheimer's Australia staff across the country and the general public

Choosing books and resources can be overwhelming, so we welcome the opportunity to talk with our clients to determine what would work best for them. In the 2015-16 financial year we have been able to extend our reach with the introduction of the pop-up library at some of our

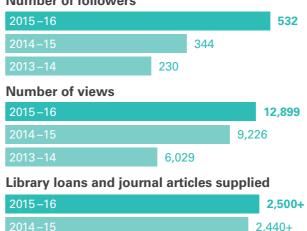
Memory Lane Cafes. The library has visited more than 20 Memory Lane Cafes and public events and appreciate the assistance of volunteers in delivering this much-welcomed service.

Our topic-based blog Dementia Resources (dementiaresources.org.au) continues to generate interest and helps us reach a broader audience. A new post is published every three weeks focusing on relevant resources that are available online or in the library collection.

Our main library is located at our offices at 98-104 Riversdale Road, Hawthorn, with a smaller collection now located at our Parkville office, at 155 Oak Street.

### Need to know figures dementiaresources.org.au

Number of followers



### Using hip hop to Yarn Up About Dementia

Yarn Up About Dementia is a collaborative hip hop music resource on dementia, well-being, culture and respect, developed in partnership with two leading indigenous organisations.

The project aimed to meet the needs of younger Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by raising awareness of dementia in Aboriginal communities. It also set out to promote supporting agencies and strengthen links between regional Alzheimer's Australia Vic services and the Aboriginal communities in their areas.

Alzheimer's Australia Vic partnered on the project with the Winda-Mara Aboriginal Corporation, in Victoria's far south-west, and Indigenous Hip Hop Projects.

A five-day workshop in June - July 2015, involving 16 young people and two adults from the Heywood and surrounding communities, saw a



Reagan and Somah from the Heywood Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community taking part in filming for the music video resource

four-minute hip hop piece and music video produced, aiming to promote respect for people with dementia and healthy lifestyles to reduce the chances of developing the illness.

In the song, young rappers encourage their communities to 'live your life the healthy way', keep up social connections with their mob and 'don't be cheeky when you see someone losing their memory'. The video has been viewed almost 4,000 times and the Alzheimer's Australia Vic web page about the project has received more than 440 views since its launch at a community event in July 2015.

In delivering on the goal of providing leadership in transforming community understanding of dementia, Alzheimer's Australia Vic is prioritising work with young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. With studies showing dementia is three to five times more prevalent in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities than in non-indigenous communities, the aim is to help bring down this disproportionately high rate.

While hip hop may seem an unusual route to dementia education and behaviour change, Aboriginal leaders believe that music and dance provide a powerful way to engage with young people from a range of backgrounds. Combining interactive hip hop performances with health messages provides a unique opportunity to discuss sensitive health issues with young people in a fun and non-threatening way.

Evaluation of the project confirmed the following outcomes:

- Increased young people's knowledge of dementia
- Sharing key messages about dementia
- Strenathenina culture
- Building young people's skills and confidence
- Raising the profile of dementia as a local health priority.

The project was a positive experience for the community at Winda-Mara and has raised the profile of dementia as a health issue.

The digital resource has proven useful as a tool for having conversations about dementia with health workers and other adults in other Aboriginal communities and discussions about the training, community education and support services available from Alzheimer's Australia Vic.

The video can be viewed at bit.ly/vicHipHop





### **Beechworth Health Service**

Historic Beechworth, 300km north-east of Melbourne, is a pace-setting dementia-friendly community – and now this includes the town's aged care facilities.

In 2015 Beechworth Health Service commissioned Alzheimer's Australia Vic's Learning and Development team to help it devise and implement a plan to make its two 30-bed aged care units, the town's only residential aged care facilities, more dementia-friendly.

Project officer and occupational therapist Kim Wright said Beechworth Health Service chose Alzheimer's Australia Vic because of its expertise in both training and consultancy, its cost-effective approach and the excellent reports from other regional Victorian organisations.

Alzheimer's Australia Vic undertook two projects involving the service's residential aged care facilities, The Acacias Residence and Stringybark Lodge, where overall 50 per cent of residents are living with dementia.

The projects aimed to introduce person-centred care reforms, as part of a Montessori-based model called Changing Minds for People Whose Minds are Changing.

Alzheimer's Australia Vic worked with the service's leadership team to drive the changes; trained staff in dementia awareness, change management and the new model; and conducted focus groups with residents, families and staff.

As a result, a range of life-enhancing projects have been introduced.

Staff strive to add joy to the days of residents, even with something as simple as a shower or dressing, by meaningfully engaging with the resident. Dedicated projects include developing life-story posters for residents' rooms, to aid self-esteem and staff and visitor interaction; accessible gardening; and 'silver service' lunches.

Data and anecdotal evidence from residents and carers, families and staff confirms the benefits, including decreased use of medication, increased independence and social interaction between residents and a decline in challenging behaviours.

Kim believes that the involvement of Alzheimer's Australia Vic was critical to the success of the reforms. "I don't think we would have been able to introduce these changes without that external expertise," she says.

'Having a consultant assist on the project has meant that we've finally been able to make these changes, and ensure that they are here to stay.'

# **Leadership in** consumerdriven services

Provide leadership in the development, expansion and promotion of a broad range of integrated consumer-driven services for all forms of dementia.



Anna Murray, who cares for her mother who is living with dementia and is featured on the website, shares her story at the launch.

### A website for children impacted by dementia

When a parent or a grandparent develops dementia, children also live with the illness. To support them to understand the condition and the changes it might bring for a loved one, Alzheimer's Australia Vic launched the Dementia in My Family website in June 2016.

The interactive website, www.dementiainmyfamily. org.au, aims to validate the experience of children and acknowledge the significant impact when someone important to them is living with a dementia.

The website was developed as part of Alzheimer's Australia Vic's commitment to leadership in consumer-driven services. Expert family counsellors developed and tested the content through extensive consultation with young people who use the organisation's services.

The website allows young people to learn more about dementia, share their own stories and view videos of other children sharing their experiences.

For pre-schoolers, there is an online audio book, Brains, Change and Big Long Names, written by Alzheimer's Australia Vic family clinician Lynda Moore, illustrated by celebrated cartoonist George Haddon, and read by broadcaster Libbi Gorr.





George Haddon with one of his illustrations featured in the online audio book.

The site also features Heather's House, an interactive game where children will learn more about how a person living with dementia might do things a little differently and how they can support them around the home.

Alzheimer's Australia Vic Ambassadors Sam Mitchell (Hawthorn Football Club, AFL) and Amy Jackson (Melbourne City, W-League) feature in a video on the site called Team Talk, which encourages kids to talk about dementia with their family, think of ways they might be able to help out and consider themselves as part of a team in caring for a person living with dementia. Sam was central to the launch, featuring in a story in the Herald Sun and appearing on ABC News Breakfast sharing his family experience of dementia and how his own voung children would benefit from the site.

### **Engage, Enable, Empower**

The Engage, Enable and Empower project aimed to tackle the lack of positive health resources specifically for people living with dementia, by drawing on the expertise of those who live with the disease.

Aiming to demonstrate that it is possible to make the most of life with dementia, the project saw the development and launch in November 2015 of resources including a website, videos and a booklet.

The materials drew on the stories of 14 project participants, consumers who volunteered to share their experiences to inspire others living with dementia.

As well as communicating important information about maintaining a healthy mind and body, the resources emphasise the importance of seeking support from family, friends, community and Alzheimer's Australia. They underline the message that remaining engaged, and making even small lifestyle changes, can lead to better health and wellbeing.

In addition to the involvement of people with dementia, another unique feature of the project was that all of the resources were designed with people with dementia to ensure their accessibility. This meant considering accessible design, colour, navigation, language, font and contrast.

With very little existing research and few examples of dementia-accessible graphic design and web design to draw on, developing the accessible products entailed testing the resources with people living with dementia, and making refinements based on their feedback. This allowed the compilation of some guidelines for dementiaspecific accessibility, which was a project highlight.

In addition to the consumer resources, the project included publication of the research underpinning the messages and approach; and a workshop for health professionals on helping and empowering people with dementia to stay engaged and active.

The website attracted 3,400 visitors between November 2015 and June 2016. The resources are also now used and distributed as part of Alzheimer's Australia's service delivery nationally.

A train the trainer workshop was run with representatives from all states and territories.

This project was funded by the Australian Government, as part of the National Quality Care Dementia Initiative and delivered by Alzheimer's Australia Vic as part of its goal of demonstrating leadership in consumer-driven services.

The website, including downloadable booklet, can be found at www.livingwellwithdementia.org.au



Trish Underhill, who is living with dementia and features in the resources, speaking at the resource launch at Parliament House, supported by her husband and carer Rob.

### Our core services for clients **Core services**

Our core consumer services demonstrate our year-round commitment to our strategic priority of displaying leadership in consumer-driven services.

### **Memory Lane Cafés**

The Memory Lane Café program provides support to people with dementia and their families. The program offers peer support in a social setting, as well as information about the services and supports available.

Eight cafés are run in metropolitan and regional locations, each hosting up to 9 sessions per year. Specific cafés are also held for people with younger onset dementia and people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

To find out more about Memory Lane Cafés, call 1800 100 500.

### Total number of cafés held across Victoria



### Total number of participants



\* In 2015-16 Alzheimer's Australia Vic did not deliver the 16 Grampians cafe programs included in previous years because management of these cafes was transferred to other local organisations.

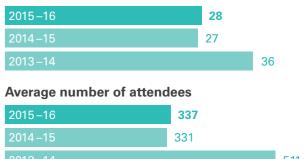
### **Living with Dementia Program**

The Living with Dementia Program, formerly called Living with Memory Loss, is a group program for people diagnosed with early stage dementia and their families. It provides information, peer support and practical advice, encouraging participants to explore ways of managing dementia now and into the future.

It can be run over four or six weeks, or as a residential or semi-residential retreat, in metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victorian locations. Some programs are also tailored for people with younger onset dementia or with specific forms of dementia, such as the Living with Lewy Body Dementia program.

We provide this program at no cost to participants thanks to funding from the Commonwealth Government's National Dementia Support Program. To find out more about the Living with Dementia Program, call 1800 100 500.

### Total number of group meetings or retreats across Victoria



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### **Family education sessions**

Family Information and Support Sessions (FISS) provide education to help carers cope and reduce their stress, by providing accurate, relevant information about dementia and the changes it can bring. The sessions help carers feel less alone in the journey by allowing them to learn about supports, services and strategies to manage these changes, alongside others facing similar challenges. Family members have options ranging from short, one-off sessions to longer group-based interactive programs. The sessions cover a range of topics most commonly requested by carers.

All programs are offered in locations around Victoria. Each week an average of five different sessions are offered across Victoria.

### **Number of FISS groups**



### **Number of FISS participants**



### **Counselling and support services**

Counselling and support services provided by trained counsellors and dementia consultants offer a range of individualised support, counselling and practical assistance for people with dementia, family members such as spouses and children, friends and significant others. Often an individual, couple or family session with a dementia counsellor is an important first step in ensuring all concerned gain an adequate understanding of dementia and its impact on their lives; as well as identifying strategies to cope with changes now and in the future.

This service is provided across Victoria by telephone, in the family home or a regional location, and over the internet.

### Number of people supported by dementia consultants and counsellors



counselling figures.

### Younger onset dementia services

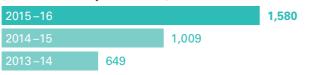
Younger onset dementia is any form of dementia diagnosed in people under the age of 65. Launched in July 2013, the Younger Onset Dementia Key Worker Program offers many services for people with dementia and their families. This includes individualised information and advice, support and resources and counselling services. The Younger Onset Dementia Key Worker Program also works with a range of services across many sectors to develop suitable service options for people with younger onset dementia, while ensuring that services understand the needs of people with the condition.

In addition, the Younger Onset Dementia Café program, in Melbourne and regional Victoria, offers peer support in a social setting; while a Living with Younger Onset Dementia program provides information and peer support to those recently diagnosed, and their families.

The Younger Onset Dementia Key Worker Program is funded by the Commonwealth Government.

For more information about the program please call 1800 100 500.

### Number of clients supported (includes family members)



### Number of participants in the Living with Younger Onset Dementia program



### Number of participants in Younger Onset **Dementia Cafés**



A range of other programs are also offered to people impacted by younger onset dementia. These include a volunteer mentor project, which allows people with younger onset dementia who have had to cease paid employment to volunteer within their local communities. There is also a

support group for people diagnosed with Posterior Cortical Atrophy (PCA) and their families to support them to live well with the differing symptoms of this form of dementia. A range of family information and support sessions covering topics that deal with issues faced by younger people with dementia and their families is being developed.

### Online services

Recognising that many people prefer or need to access support and information via the internet rather than in person, we offer a number of specialised online channels, in addition to Alzheimer's Australia's fightdementia.org.au website. These are specifically tailored for the needs of different types of people.

Our flagship consumer websites are:

helpwithdementia.org.au A central source of information, advice and support for carers and people living with dementia, offering information resources including videos, counselling via email or video conference, and an online peer support forum. More information about this website is in this report on page 16.

www.dementiainmyfamily.org.au Developed for children and teenagers to allow them to learn more about dementia, share their own stories and view videos of other young people sharing their experiences. More information about this website is in this report on page 25.

www.livingwellwithdementia.org.au For people living with dementia, and containing information to encourage people to stay active and engaged after a diagnosis of dementia. It features videos of people with dementia sharing their stories about how they have remained active and continued the activities they enjoy. More information about this website is in this report on page 26.

### National Dementia Helpline -1800 100 500

The National Dementia Helpline is available all year round to provide information and support to people with dementia, family members and carers as well as people concerned about cognitive and other changes. It operates from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday across Australia, excluding public holidays. A message bank service is provided for after-hours enquiries, which are responded to the next working day.

On 1 July 2015 the operating model of the National Dementia Helpline changed. Prior to this, Alzheimer's Australia Vic had managed Helpline calls at our Hawthorn site, where volunteers along with trained healthcare professionals such as psychologists, responded to calls from all over Victoria.

This financial year has seen the new operating model implemented, where all calls from across Australia are taken by advisors in a call centre at Alzheimer's Australia NSW. Advisors are all tertiary qualified allied health or nursing professionals, from various disciplines including social-work, counselling, psychology, occupational therapy, nursing and diversional therapy.

The national Translating and Interpreting Service offers language assistance for callers and the National Relay Service is available to callers who are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment. All calls are free and confidential

Alzheimer's Australia Vic no longer has a day-to-day role in the management of the National Dementia Helpline, however, a member of our Client Services team is in regular contact with the NSW-based Telehealth and Wellbeing Programs Manager who oversees the Helpline to ensure the needs of Victorians who call are met and their experience is seamless. The National Dementia Helpline remains a vital and well-utilised service by Victorians.

### **Number of National Dementia Helpline calls** in Victoria



\* Since 1 July 2015 the National Dementia Helpline has been centralised out of Alzheimer's Australia NSW's office and there have been national reviews and streamlining of data gathering and reporting. This figure also reflects broader promotion of the service and, increased online and



### **Margaret and Michael Simpson**

There was no crisis, just a succession of little indicators.

'Losing myself. Losing the car. Forgetting things,' Michael Simpson, 75, explains.

Michael's wife, Margaret, a retired nurse, knew something was amiss. 'Looking back now I can see that we could have recognised it a good deal earlier,' Margaret says. 'There was just a lot of little things over five years, but it was when he started to lose the car. I mean, everyone loses their car in a multi-storey carpark sometimes but this was starting to happen regularly."

With Margaret's encouragement Michael saw a specialist in 2015, and had PET and MRI scans. These confirmed that Michael had dementia with Lewy Bodies.

'I was pretty shocked when I was first diagnosed,' Michael says. 'But when I went to the six-week [Alzheimer's Australia Vic] course I learned a lot, looking at people that are a lot more advanced down the line than I am.'

While Michael was hungry for the medical details, for Margaret, the course was a chance to find out about the supports available through Alzheimer's Australia Vic, government and councils.

As well as the course, the pair regularly visit Alzheimer's Australia Vic's Memory Lane Café, where music-buff Michael enjoys the live performances and they can connect with others who are living with dementia.

They have modified their home and lifestyle in response to Michael's dementia, and remain very active: Michael sails, while Margaret plays golf and volunteers at an animal shelter.

Margaret is full of praise for the staff at Alzheimer's Australia Vic, who she says are easy to speak to and authoritative on the medical details.

Without Alzheimer's Australia Vic, carers and people with dementia would be 'absolutely lost', she says. 'If these services weren't there for people to connect with, I don't know what they'd do. They'd just battle on by themselves I suppose, which would be very hard.'

She adds: 'I just hope that all that support is still there for when we really need it.'

# STRATEGIC **PRIORITY**



# Leadership in dementiafriendly communities

Partner with a broad range of stakeholders and consumers to drive initiatives to make Victoria friendly for people living with all forms of dementia



Committee member, with guests at a Dementia Awareness Month event in South Morang.

### **Supporting Culturally and Linguistically Diverse** communities

When Alzheimer's Australia Vic put out a call for people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds in Melbourne's outer north to come and speak about dementia, a United Nations of local residents responded.

The CALD Dementia-Friendly Communities consultation forum, held during Dementia Awareness Month 2015, was attended by 130 people from Chinese (Mandarin), Croatian, Macedonian, Italian, Egyptian, Iranian, Iragi, Sri Lankan, Tamil, Sinhala, Egyptian and Maltese backgrounds.

Part of a partnership project with the outer northern City of Whittlesea, and the Municipal Association of Victoria, the forum aimed to generate ideas about how to reduce stigma and make communities more dementia-friendly for CALD people.

Despite the wide diversity of cultures, religions and languages represented, the forum generated great consensus.

Across the spectrum participants generally agreed on the need to better understand dementia and break down stigma; include people with dementia in family and communal life; and improve the physical environment to better meet the needs of those with dementia.

The participants also generally agreed on the need to engage people across generations; as well as using media, partnerships and collaboration and, religious leaders to get the word out and promote change.



People from CALD communities said they would like to see messaging and resources delivered through direct mail and letterboxing, migrant resource centres, libraries, seniors groups and hospitals. and also to have opportunities for peer support.

Most groups expressed interest in learning about dementia prevention and risk reduction strategies such as maintaining good health, social engagement, physical activities, and connecting with the community.

It wasn't all talk: as part of the event, action plans were developed for attendees to share with their communities, to encourage buy-in and promote

With strong attendance and very positive feedback, the forum and its outcomes embodied Alzheimer's Australia Vic's goal of displaying leadership in dementia-friendly communities.



### A resource and masterclass to help make more communities dementia-friendly

During 2015 all of Victoria's 79 local councils received 'Creating dementia-friendly communities: a toolkit for local government', a guide to creating dementia-friendly communities that improve the quality of life of people living with dementia and their carers.

As part of Alzheimer's Australia Vic's commitment to demonstrating leadership in dementia-friendly communities, the practical, evidence-based resource showcases how environments can enhance the lives of people with dementia, promoting the importance of supporting people with dementia to remain active and engaged.

It provides information, resources and guidance for building on existing infrastructure, systems and services, and aims to show that councils, businesses and service providers can introduce life-enhancing changes, even within a small budget.

People living with dementia and their carers, local government, a project advisory group, representatives from the Department of Health and Human Services and the Municipal Association of Victoria contributed to the kit.

UK dementia-friendly communities expert Philly Hare, a member of the UK Prime Minister's Dementia Champions Working Group and an expert in the empowerment and inclusion of people with dementia, launched the toolkit in Melbourne on 21 June 2016.

Ms Hare also conducted a masterclass whilst in Melbourne, which offered a unique opportunity to hear about the UK's experience in creating dementia-friendly communities, and how these learnings can be applied in Australia.

The interactive session allowed participants to explore ways to take the first steps towards making communities more dementia-friendly, not only for those living with dementia and family and professional carers, but for businesses, service organisations and policy-makers.

The masterclass featured learnings from Victoria's pilot dementia-friendly community, Beechworth in regional Victoria, and also showcased the work of Manningham City Council, in Melbourne's east, in becoming a dementia-friendly city.

The masterclass was successful, with 84 registrants and 17 Alzheimer's Australia Vic staff members attending, and positive feedback received. The toolkit has been downloaded more than 200 times and was mailed to all councils in Victoria.

It was jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments under the Home and Community Care program.

### Supporting people with younger onset dementia to volunteer in the community

Departing the paid workforce can be a fraught experience, even when retirement is planned and voluntary. For those with younger onset dementia - diagnosed before the age of 65 - who are compelled to leave their jobs because of their



Deborah Unkles and Chris Owens, who is living with younger onset dementia, volunteering at Chesterfield Farm in Scoresby. Our thanks to Travis, Kylie and all at Chesterfield Farm for being such wonderful supporters of this project.

health, the loss of status, identity, social connections, mental stimulation and sense of purpose can be particularly acute.

In 2015 – 16 Alzheimer's Australia Vic piloted a new younger onset dementia volunteer project. The project aimed to harness the professional and personal skills of younger people diagnosed with dementia. It involved recruiting supportive mentors to be paired with people with younger onset dementia, and then identifying organisations with suitable volunteering opportunities.

After establishing the needs and interests of the person with dementia, compatible mentors and hosts were found. The mentors, often more familiar with supporting older people with dementia, required specialist training. Importantly, they also needed to be a good fit with the person with dementia, in terms of personality and shared interests. Organisations needed to have the right voluntary opportunities available, and needed to be willing to take part in the journey alongside the person with dementia.

Two thirds of the initial intake of 12 were successfully placed. Despite best efforts, the others were unable to proceed because of factors such as disease progression.

Host organisations included a community museum, a charity opportunity shop, a community-based

day centre for older adults, a children's farm and a neighbourhood centre. Roles ranged from conference organiser to program assistant to gardener.

The participants and their carers experienced a positive impact on their lives from the program, with carers reporting a 'lifting of spirits' and 'new sense of purpose'.

Many carers reported improvement in physical health indicators. One said: 'It's certainly improved his physical health and it's motivated him to keep as healthy as he can'.

Host organisations welcomed the opportunity to build staff knowledge and skills. In their feedback. they said that involvement in the program became a platform to raise broader community awareness amongst other clients and stakeholders. These outcomes demonstrate how the project contributed to Alzheimer's Australia Vic's objective of displaying leadership in dementia-friendly communities.

Pleasingly, seven of the eight placements continued past the end of the project. The initial project was so successful that Alzheimer's Australia Vic gained further funding for another 12 participants. This next stage, to be implemented in 2016 - 2017, is expected to involve engaging with a wider range of host organisations and others in the community.

### **Providing expertise to other** organisations with dementia consulting

Even though they are the state's leading provider of education, services and advocacy to the aged care and community sectors, nothing makes the Learning and Development consultancy team at Alzheimer's Australia Vic more chuffed than when the 'real experts' - people living with dementia and their carers - come up with a life-improving idea.

In the 2015 – 16 financial year the team delivered more than 20 consulting projects to large and small public and private organisations. The team audits, and then works cooperatively with management and staff to develop, or improve and embed, a unique model of care focused on person-centered practices and relationships.

Of all the projects those that are 'client-identified' and transform the level of care and the lives of residents, families and staff, stand out as highlights.

ZHEIMERIS HELPLINE

Trudy Neal, Alzheimer's Australia Vic facilitator

The change projects bring many benefits: greater family and staff satisfaction, cultural change, greater understanding of dementia and an improved care environment.

The improvement can be most powerfully seen in the engagement of residents in purposeful and meaningful activities that improve their wellbeing and quality of life.

For example, practice changes in aged care residences have seen residents being supported to participate in everyday roles and familiar activities based on their abilities, interests and enjoyment; improved staff and family relationships, with detailed biographical resident profiles providing an improved understanding of 'the person behind the dementia'; collaborative approaches to problem-solving; improved resident dining experiences, with greater choice, participation and independence; improved induction processes for staff; family orientation; and better education.

Each of these projects delivers on the team's overarching objective of improving the lives of people living with dementia, wherever they reside. These improvements have a direct impact on making Victoria a more dementia-friendly community.



### **Wendy and Terry Barnett**

With any rare illness, seeking diagnosis, treatment and support can be fraught. At times this has certainly been the case for Wendy Barnett, 63, who has Posterior Cortical Atrophy (PCA), considered an atypical form of Alzheimer's disease.

The illness has limited Wendy's speech, mobility and vision, but not her spirit. Asked whether she has been stressed by the hurdles she and husband Terry have encountered since she developed the disease five years ago, Wendy firmly replies: 'No, not at all.'

'What will be will be,' she smiles.

Terry, who often assists with Wendy's communication, laughs: 'That's her catch-cry.'

A positive attitude and a determined disposition have helped the duo negotiate the process of seeking treatment and support, while at the same time working in Australia and the United Kingdom to raise awareness about the relatively little-known PCA, which involves loss and dysfunction of brain cells, particularly at the back of the brain.

The couple travelled to the UK to meet with the renowned author and dementia campaigner, the late SirTerry Pratchett; a dream come true for Wendy, an avid reader and retired librarian. They have also shared their story via the Lovell Foundation, a charity set up to raise awareness

of younger onset dementia and through their own networking, have made contact and shared information with around 50 people and carers affected by PCA. In one instance, Terry helped a fellow carer to recognise the symptoms of PCA in his wife, leading to a formal diagnosis.

Terry, a former wine industry consultant and now full-time carer for Wendy, has also served on Alzheimer's Australia Vic's Younger Onset Dementia Reference Group.

Terry says Alzheimer's Australia Vic deserves 'a big medal' for the practical support it provides. When Wendy required respite care for the first time, Alzheimer's Australia Vic dementia care consultant Janelle Russ compiled an encyclopaedic booklet detailing Wendy's social and medical history for staff at the home, and worked with them directly to ensure that they understood Wendy's condition and needs. 'It was very good,' says Wendy.

While there is still an urgent need to tackle the lack of awareness of PCA, and find a cure, Terry is glad that the couple has been able to 'help the next lot that comes along' by contributing to community understanding.

He says Alzheimer's Australia Vic's advocacy is also playing a vital role. 'We've had some rough times, but in reality, without Alzheimer's [Australia Vic] where would we be? We'd be a lot further behind than we are now.'



# **Leadership in** brain health and prevention

Identify and promote evidence-based information supporting the modification of identified risk factors for dementia.

### **Dementia Awareness Month**

September each year is Dementia Awareness Month, when Alzheimer's Australia Vic hosts a wide range of events and other activities to raise awareness about dementia, how to prevent it and maintain brain health.

The events are diverse, reaching a wide range of audiences with a range of different specific messages, but overall the project facilitates critical education. In 2015, the formal event calendar featured 25 events. There were numerous other events hosted by other organisations, at which Alzheimer's Australia Vic educators had the opportunity to speak and promote brain health and prevention messages.

Elements of the Your Brain Matters program, used by Alzheimer's Australia state and territory offices across the country, are featured in Dementia Awareness Month education. The key messages include 'Five simple steps to maximise your brain health', as follows:

- Step one look after your heart
- Step two be physically active
- Step three mentally challenge your brain
- Step four follow a healthy diet
- Step five enjoy social activity

Your Brain Matters emphasises how preventive health measures can benefit your brain health. To lead a brain healthy life you need to look after your brain, your body and your heart, the earlier the better. Scientific research suggests that leading a brain healthy life may reduce a person's risk of developing dementia later in life.

Dementia Awareness Month 2015 included 17 events in regional Victoria and eight in Melbourne. This emphasis on regional areas was deliberate, as the month provides a unique opportunity to promote dementia education and brain health messages at events and through media coverage. In Victoria, a total of 233 media stories and mentions were recorded, an increase of 13 per cent on the coverage in the previous year.

With the generous support of ExxonMobil, a new public education advertising campaign was launched in Dementia Awareness Month, with advertisements featured on the Seven Network, in The Age, Herald Sun and Leader newspapers and on billboards in Altona and Laverton North. Among the messages of the campaign was the fact that dementia is a progressive disease of the brain and



Children learning about dementia and brain health by exploring Affinity in the St Kilda Road forecourt, Arts Centre Melbourne

that it can impact anybody, including people in their 30s, 40s and 50s.

Almost 250 Dementia Awareness Month kits were distributed to businesses and community groups to assist them to raise awareness about dementia in their own organisations. These kits included helpful information about dementia and brain health and were an important mode through which a diverse audience was reached.

A highlight of Dementia Awareness Month 2015 was Affinity, an interactive light sculpture at Arts Centre Melbourne from 18–27 September. The sculpture depicts the complexity and connectivity of the human brain. When stimulated by touch, a striking display of light and sound is prompted, with the sound element providing an opportunity to educate the public about dementia and brain health. Our thanks to s1t2, the creators of Affinity, for their support in bringing the sculpture to Melbourne and to Arts Centre Melbourne for the use of their forecourt to showcase it.

### **Memory Walk & Jog**

The Memory Walk & Jog concept was created in 2008, when it was a small community event aimed at promoting health and fitness and raising funds to support Alzheimer's Australia NSW. The concept remains the same but has grown significantly in size and profile. This financial year, Alzheimer's Australia Vic hosted Memory Walk & Jog events in Geelong (September 2015), Bendigo

(October 2015), Mornington Peninsula (January 2016), Melbourne (April 2016) and Albury Wodonga (May 2016, co-hosted by Alzheimer's Australia NSW). At each location there are three distances participants can choose to run or walk. The message to the relevant local community is that the event is suitable for people of all ages and fitness levels and that regardless of where they sit on those spectrums, physical activity is an important way to support brain health. Scientific research suggests that leading a brain healthy life may reduce a person's risk of developing dementia later in life. All Memory Walk & Jog events have a festive, community feel which, in addition to





creating a fun and attractive event, reinforces the idea that exercise can be fun and need not be a burden.

Measures are being taken to boost participation in future Memory Walk & Jog events. For example, high profile people are being recruited to participate and be featured in publicity efforts, as well as promoting the events to their own supporters and followers on social media.

The event had solid support in Geelong and Melbourne with participants drawn from a significant existing network. The inaugural events in Albury/Wodonga, Bendigo and on the Mornington Peninsula attracted less participants and these events will have a stronger marketing focus in 2016-17 to assist in building the event profiles and numbers.

The five Memory Walk & Jog events held in 2015-2016 raised a combined total of \$235,246.98.

	Target no of participants	Actual no of participants
Geelong – September 2015	1,000	906
Bendigo – October 2015	800	341
Mornington Peninsula – January 2016	800	663
Melbourne – April 2016	1,500	1,614
Albury/Wodonga - May 2016	1,000	716











Our fantastic community fundraisers in action including (middle bottom)Mary Wooldridge MP, Shadow Minister for Health congratulating Alan Vernal 3.5km run win along with MC, David Sykes, General Manager Learning and Development Alzheimer's Australia Vic

### **Your Brain Matters**

To meet our objective of promoting the expanding evidence base of dementia risk reduction research, for the past four years Alzheimer's Australia has offered the world-leading brain health program, Your Brain Matters™, which includes the award-winning BrainyApp™.

Your Brain Matters™ guides people on how to look after their brain health. It is based on scientific evidence that a number of health and lifestyle factors are associated with brain function and the risk of developing dementia. Importantly, scientific research suggests that living a brain healthy life may reduce a person's risk of developing dementia.

The primary challenge this year was the end of funding for this program in June 2015. Despite this, we remain committed to the program and the development and promotion of resources and programs to expand brain health messages in the community and in workplaces.

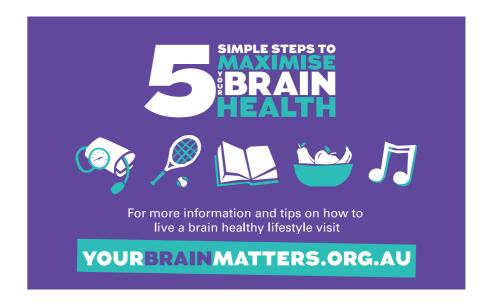
To adapt to the lack of specific funding we started incorporating dementia risk reduction messages into our more general community awareness sessions and other areas of service delivery, we also began to offer Your Brain Matters™ sessions using a fee-for-service model.

In addition, we encouraged our network of corporations, partners and stakeholders to adopt the education into their own organisations as part of their internal wellbeing programs.

During the 2015 – 2016 financial year, we delivered 25 Your Brain Matters™ sessions, which were attended by 1,101 people and raised \$5,255.00 for the organisation. Additionally, we delivered ten 'Helping reduce your risk of dementia' community workshops, based on the Your Brain Matters™ program, all of which were funded by the joint Commonwealth and State Government Home and Community Care program and attended by a total of 231 people.

Prior to funding being withdrawn, this was a national program managed by Alzheimer's Australia Vic. Alzheimer's Australia's National Office now oversees the program, with recent achievements including a re-design of the Your Brain Matters™ website and an upgrade of BrainyApp™. Originally developed and released in 2011 to raise awareness of dementia risk factors, the world-first app allows users to easily rate and track their brain health. The updated version includes a fresh new look and a host of extra features.

Your Brain Matters was supported by funding from the Australian Government under the Chronic Disease Prevention and Service Improvement Fund from July 2012 to June 2015. www.yourbrainmatters.org.au



# **PHILANTHROPIC** SUPPORT

During 2015 – 16 individuals, foundations and corporates continued to generously support our vital work of providing education, support, advocacy and information for those living with dementia, and their families and carers.

While Alzheimer's Australia Vic receives some program-based government funding, we rely heavily on public support to continue our essential work of assisting people with dementia, carers and families to manage daily challenges; working to promote professional best practice; and teaching the community about dementia and how to reduce risks.

Over the 12-month period we raised \$2.4 million through fundraising activities, which is comparable with last year's total, an outstanding result in an increasingly competitive and crowded fundraising environment.

This year donor numbers increased by more than 45 per cent, with more than 8,000 new donors giving a total of over \$993,000, a truly extraordinary and humbling result. Our valued major donors enabled several specific programs to be launched. These included funding for the Younger Onset Dementia Volunteer Project and a project to support people with the rare form of dementia, Posterior Cortical Atrophy (PCA), and their families, friends and carers. These projects are part of Alzheimer's Australia Vic's commitment to supporting people of all ages and affected by all forms of dementia.

We harnessed significant community support and raised our profile this year by expanding our public events. For the first time we held five Memory Walk & Jog events across the state. These were hosted in Geelong, Bendigo, Mornington Peninsula, Doncaster (Melbourne) and Albury/Wodonga.

In addition, we hosted An Afternoon Tea to Remember on two consecutive days, with special guest speaker Ita Buttrose AO OBE, Alzheimer's Australia National Ambassador.

We are always deeply moved when families who have been touched by dementia choose to acknowledge Alzheimer's Australia Vic and its work when a loved one passes away. As in previous years, celebration and memorial giving also made a significant contribution to our income this year.

As well as the tremendous support from individuals, we are incredibly grateful for the continued assistance of our corporate and philanthropic partners.

Of particular note are our philanthropic partnerships with IOOF Foundation and The Rosemary Norman Foundation which enabled us to develop the virtual reality app EDIE (Educational Dementia Immersive Experience) on the Google

cardboard platform, which will be launched in September 2016.

Other projects being funded by the generosity of trusts and foundations include younger onset dementia education for families, an Understanding the Brain and Behaviour DVD and an evaluation of the impact of Alzheimer's Australia Vic's consultancy on the culture of care.

We are also grateful to corporate sponsors TLC Health Care and Lifeview Residential Care, who continue to demonstrate a deep commitment to our cause. We sincerely thank them for their contributions.

We would not be able to continue to provide the care and education we do without the generosity of our donors. Their support helps us to ensure people impacted by dementia are not alone.

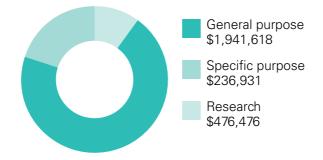
### **Total funds raised**

2015 – 16	2,655,026
2014-15	2,475,391
2013 – 14	3,375,00
Total number of gifts	
2015-16	17,516
2014-15	14,060
2013-14	11.879

### Sources of gifts

3	
General (includes direct mail appeals, merchandise, events, community fundraising)	\$875,794
Bequests	\$395,463
Trusts and foundations	\$93,065
Corporate partners (includes payroll, philanthropic, sponsors)	\$307,422
Membership	\$28,055
Celebration (includes celebration or memorial donations)	\$241,818

### Gifts by designation





### **Kerrie Christie**

Rocking a tutu and garish yellow and black striped socks, Alzheimer's Australia Vic supporter Kerrie Christie (above, far left) is difficult to miss when she participates in the annual Memory Walk & Jog.

Kerrie has traversed the state, rallying friends and family to don wacky attire and take part in the events in Albury, Geelong, Mornington and Melbourne.

Kerrie's mum Alma passed away 12 years ago, a year after being diagnosed with frontotemporal dementia. Her mum, and the desire to make a contribution to tackling the disease that took her, 'still sit pretty high in my heart', Kerrie says.

She first heard about the Memory Walk & Jog on social media and thought: 'This is something that I could really get involved in.'

True to her word, she has become one of the most enthusiastic participants, taking part with her two adult daughters, her cousin and her walking group, and using social media and

competitions like a 'quess the number of jelly beans' to raise funds.

While everyone enjoys the community spirit and the chance to contribute to a valuable cause, most of the people who participate with Kerrie have also been touched by dementia in some way. Her cousin lost her mother to dementia: one of her school friends lost her father to the disease; while another friend's mother was recently diagnosed.

Kerrie says the event, and the crazy costumes, are all part of creating joy from something that can be so devastating. 'It is a disease that can destroy families and destroy spirits, so to have something that lifts people's spirits is so

While Kerrie says her mum might have drawn the line at wearing a tutu, she knows she would have thought the Memory Walk & Jog a wonderful event.

'She had a very fun loving spirit, before the dementia, and she was always very proud of her children. So I think she would have been very proud; she would have loved it.'

# **OUR ORGANISATION** GOVERNANCE

The Alzheimer's Australia Vic Board has the responsibility to govern, direct and monitor the organisation in partnership with the CEO. The Board delivers the highest level of good governance by ensuring compliance with the organisation's strategic objectives, values and the associated legislation.

The Board is responsible for:

- Setting strategic directions, objectives and targets
- Monitoring and assessing performance, including financial viability and management against agreed strategies, targets and objectives
- Appointing the CEO and charging him/her with carrying out the Board's decisions, including implementing the strategic and business plans
- Monitoring significant areas of business risk
- Establishing policies, procedures and internal controls to manage such risks
- Establishing policies regarding appropriate ethical standards
- Ensuring compliance in legal and ethical matters
- Reporting to the members

All Board members act in a voluntary capacity and receive no remuneration.

### **Meetings of the Board**

The Board held 11 meetings during 2015 – 2016. with attendance outlined below:

Name	Α	В
Neil Samuel	11	11
lan Knight	8	11
Piera Murone	9	11
Frauke Tyrrell	8	11
Michael Woodward	9	11
Jerome Fahrer	8	11
lan Hicks	8	11
Ross Oakley	6	11
Graeme Samuel	7	11
Helen Sykes	10	11

A - Number of Board meetings eligible to attend B - Number of Board meetings attended

### **Board Committees**

The Board has two committees, as described below, each with formal terms of reference. This is a change from last year, when a third committee, the Flagship Committee, also existed. The Flagship Committee was disbanded in 2015-2016 due to their functions being absorbed by the Executive Committee.

### **Executive Committee**

### The key responsibilities of the Executive Committee:

- Make a recommendation to the Board regarding approval of the annual budget
- Review monthly financial reports
- Review business case proposals and make recommendations to the Board
- Advice to the CEO on day to day operations and implementation of strategic decisions
- Make recommendations to the Board on special projects
- Legal and regulatory matters regarding accounting standards
- Attend to all other responsibilities as listed in the work plan

Members: Ian Knight, Graeme Samuel, Neil Samuel (Chair), Piera Murone, Frauke Tyrrell

### **Fundraising Committee**

### The key responsibility of the Fundraising Committee:

 Assist in the planning, coordination and implementation of all fundraising activities

Members: Ian Hicks, (Chair), Frauke Tyrell, Nich Rogers, Honorary Member, Maree McCabe, CEO, Evan Gordon, General Manager Fundraising, Fiona Mason, General Manager Marketing

# **OUR ORGANISATION** 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

The AGM was held on Wednesday 28 October 2015. The Board recommended that members were eligible to vote to approve a number of special resolutions. The following were approved:

1. Honorary Membership, as recommended by the Board, to be offered to Lyn Allison, Margaret Cameron and Anne Fairhall.





Anne Fairhall and Margaret Cameron (top) accept their Honorary Memberships. Lyn Allison was an apology and therefore her Honorary Membership was presented in absentia.



Chair Neil Samuel welcoming guests.



Treasurer Piera Murone reporting on the organisation's financial position.



Ray Morgan, who is living with dementia, providing a consumer's reflection



# **OUR ORGANISATION** BOARD

**Neil Samuel** Chair since June 2014 Board member since March 2003



Nobody deserves to die from dementia, including away from Alzheimer's disease. My passion for supporting Alzheimer's Australia was born from the support they gave me during that difficult time.'

Neil is former Managing Director of Dryen Australia Pty Ltd, a large domestic linen importer and wholesaler. Neil has served in leadership positions on numerous not for profit boards, specialising in governance and finance. He is Secretary on the Board of Alzheimer's Australia Dementia Research Foundation - Victoria and also sits on the Board of Alzheimer's Australia Dementia Research Foundation. Neil was reappointed to the Alzheimer's Australia Board in 2014 having previously served as Vice President from 2007 to 2013.

**lan Knight** Vice Chair since July 2014 Board member since May 2010 B Bus (RMIT), FCA, CPA, AFAIM, MAICD



lost both my parents to dementia and was eager to iving with the condition and hopefully also assist in

Ian is Managing Director of KIAD Partners Ptv Ltd, a private investment group, and is an Executive Director/ Partner of nem Australasia Pty Ltd an Australian and New Zealand advisory group. Ian also sits on a number of private and public company boards. Ian has had an extensive career in investment banking for over 40 years and was a Partner at KPMG (Chartered Accountants) from 1995 to his retirement in June 2012.

**Piera Murone** Treasurer since October 2014 Board member since October

B Bus (Acc), CA

2014



At the time of joining, my partner's family had a history of dementia and I felt that many families impacted by this disease. Since then, sadly my mother has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, making the cause even closer to my heart.

Piera is a partner of Melbourne chartered accounting firm, Pitcher Partners, specialising in company, business and intangible asset valuations, preparation of independent expert reports and investigations for compulsory acquisitions and other claims for compensation. Piera has previously served on the Board of Lowther Hall Anglican Grammar School and the Committee of Management for Montgomery Park Children's Centre.

Frauke Tyrrell Secretary since August 2012 Board member since July 2012



After having assisted many people living with dementia and their families as a National Dementia Helpline experience and knowledge gained over the years to

A marketing and event management professional with 14 years' experience in the pharmaceutical industry, Frauke has specialist knowledge of the oncology and rheumatology sectors and marketing expertise in consumer products. Frauke has been an Alzheimer's Australia Vic volunteer since 2006.

**Assoc Professor Michael Woodward AM Chief Medical** 

Advisor since June 2012 Board member

since February 2009

MB. BS. MD. FRACP



l am a Board member as l've had a long professional the moderate stages of Alzheimer's I'm both committed to find a cure."

Michael is currently Director of Aged Care Research at the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital, Austin Health: Director, Memory Clinic and Director, Wound Management Clinic, Austin Health. Michael's clinical specialties are geriatric, general and rehabilitation medicine, with a particular interest in Alzheimer's disease and other cognitive disorders. Michael is chair of Alzheimer's Australia Dementia Research Foundation - Victoria and until recently he was chair the Australasian Consortium of Centres for Clinical Cognitive Research.

**Jerome Fahrer** Board member since April 2014 BCom (Hons), MPA, MA, PhD



My mother had has on people with the disease and their families.

Jerome is an economist and Director of ACIL Allen Consulting, an economics and public policy advisory firm. Amongst other things, he has advised government agencies on pricing of aged care, ambulance services and medical services. Jerome was Associate Professor at the Centre for Business and Public Policy at the Melbourne Business School between 2006 and 2011.

Ian Hicks AM Board member since September 2013 BEc



My father died from Alzheimer's disease so I have and am committed to doing what I can to support people living with dementia and their carers.'

Ian is Executive Chairman of Applied International Pty Ltd, a private investment group. As a Chairman of The George Hicks Foundation he is involved in a number of philanthropic projects. Ian was previously Chairman of the MS Society (Victoria and Australia) for 14 years. Ian was made a Member of the Order of Australia

**Ross Oakley** ΟΔΜ Board member since October

2014 B.Eco, MBA



Alzheimer's disease was a factor in the death of both of my parents and I am keen to see the disease defeated.'

Ross has had an extensive career including time in senior roles at BHP and as CEO at AAMI, Royal Insurance, the Australian Football League (AFL), the Victorian Rugby Union and the Melbourne Rebels. Ross played for St Kilda and was inducted into the AFL Hall of Fame in 2013. He sat on the Foundation Board of the Mental Health Research Institute, is a Board member of The Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health and Chair of the Florey Foundation. He was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia in 2013

**Professor** Graeme Samuel AC Board member since June 2013

LLB, LLM



Having witnessed the devastating impact of dementia on my late mother I am committed to the Australia to assist those affected by this disease and to promote research to find

Prof Graeme Samuel AC is President of Alzheimer's Australia. His varied roles in health include Chair of the South Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network, Council member of the National Health and Medical Research Council, and the Chair of the National Institute for Dementia Research. He is a member of the Aged Care Financing Authority and a former Chair of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission. In 2010 he was appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia.

**Helen Sykes** Board member since May 2015 BA (Hons) Oxon



My mother's long experience of Alzheimer's the importance of the work we do at Alzheimer's Australia Vic to support and dementia and their families

Helen has more than 30 years' experience as a professional writer and editor, specialising in information and educational publishing. She was the inaugural Chair of the James Macready-Bryan Foundation and has been involved in dementia research with Velacor Therapeutics Pty Ltd. She has volunteered with Alzheimer's Australia Vic since 2006 and is currently a speaker in Alzheimer's Australia Vic's carer and community education programs.

# **OUR ORGANISATION** SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM



Leanne Wenig **General Manager** Client Services

- Younger onset dementia
- Early intervention
- Gateway services
- Rural services
- National Dementia
- Helpline

Volunteers

December 1998 -



**Dr Kaele Stokes** Acting General Manager Strategic Initiatives

- Strategic planning
- Diversity
- Consumer engagement Your Brain Matters
- Primary care engagement
- Research & Projects Quality & Risk
- June 2012 -



Graeme Wickenden **General Manager Business Services** 

- Finance
- Administration
- Information Technology
- Fleet Managemen February 2016 -



**Dr David Sykes General Manager Learning & Development** 

- Registered Training Organisation
- Education programs
- Projects
- Consultancy
- I ibrary

January 2010 -



**Maree McCabe Chief Executive Officer** October 2010 -

Maree's career background has involved senior executive positions across the mental health and aged care sectors. Since Maree's appointment as CEO of Alzheimer's Australia Vic in 2010, she has successfully overseen an 84 per cent increase in staff, driven the development of the Perc Walkley Dementia Learning Centre, including the Virtual Dementia Experience™ – a world first multisensory environment for experiential learning in dementia care and has successfully expanded critical dementia support services in regional Victoria including the establishment of multidisciplinary regional hubs in Geelong, Ballarat, Drouin and Bendigo.



**Christine Bolt** Corporate Communications Advisor

- Public Relations
- Government Relations
- Media relations
- Internal communications
- Digital communications March 2010 -



**Evan Gordon General Manager** Fundraising

- Community fundraising
- Corporate sponsorship
- Planned giving Philanthropic grants
- Membership

Sept 2013 - May 2016. Position vacant as at 30 June 2016.



**Fiona Mason** General Manager Marketing

- Marketing
  - Events Design

Board Member April 2009 - May 2014. Joined as GM Marketing June 2014 -

### Staff

It is very pleasing to report that more than eight out of 10 staff surveyed say that Alzheimer's Australia Vic is a good place the work. A staff climate survey, conducted in March 2016 found that, despite major change going on throughout the organisation, and in the external environment in areas such as funding, 86.4 per cent of staff would recommend Alzheimer's Australia Vic as a good place to work. This is an increase of 1.8 per cent on the previous year.

This year the survey also provided staff with the opportunity to make more comments. Staff reported that they felt the organisation was flexible, friendly and supportive and that they had good relationships with their supervisors. Due to the changes in the organisation and sector funding environment, staff acknowledged feelings of uncertainty and, in some cases, morale was affected. In response, a working group has been formed with staff and management from various areas of the organisation to work on improvements in the areas nominated in the survey. The group

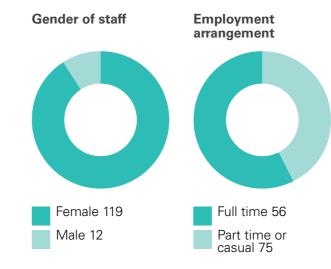
### Percentage of staff who would recommend Alzheimer's Australia Vic as a good place to work



### Number of staff



<sup>\*</sup>includes casual staff, not included in previous years



intends to finalise a plan to help address these issues in the 2016-2017 financial year.

The current Enterprise Agreement, July 2012 – June 2016, is under negotiation with staff through an employee committee and the Senior Management Team. It is anticipated the agreement will be formalised and approved at the end of 2016.

### **Induction, Policies and Procedures**

All new staff, Board and volunteers complete a comprehensive induction including meetings with the Senior Management Team and key operations staff. A hard copy Welcome Pack is provided on commencement and all the relevant documents including policies and procedures are available on the intranet. Any changes to policies and procedures throughout the year are communicated through monthly All Staff communications meetings, All Staff emails, intranet news and the monthly CEO intranet blog.

### **Professional development**

Alzheimer's Australia Vic acknowledges that professional development is integral to personal job satisfaction, workplace productivity, reward, and recognition, and is critical to the achievement of the organisation's mission and continuous improvement in the quality of its programs and services.

Professional development can occur through a range of formal and informal work related activities relevant to the various roles. These include:

- Attendance at: Conferences, seminars, short courses (internal or external) or workshops.
- · Participation in: Committees or working parties, industry placement/visits, mentoring schemes (being mentored and acting as a mentor), subject or course meetings, undertaking specific project/ consultancy work, courses or programs.
- Involvement in Work Integrated Learning: Critical reflection on practice, professional reading. focused consultation with colleagues, obtaining and acting on feedback from clients and/or colleagues, networking, temporary performance of duties in another position.
- Formal Studies: Studies for formal TAFE or higher education programs at undergraduate or postgraduate level including research activities.
- Research/Writing: Obtaining a research grant or performing action research, preparing and publishing papers or books.

All staff use the approved procedure for application and decisions are subject to consultation with



### **Denise Wissmann, Senior** Clinician and Program Leader, **Family Information Support**

Denise Wissmann has perhaps the broadest set of shoulders at Alzheimer's Australia Vic. She needs them. As well as counselling individuals living with dementia and carers, some of whom are in significant distress, Denise provides clinical advice, support and professional development to other counsellors across the state, and also designs and coordinates family information and support programs.

If that seems a heavy burden, Denise shows no sign of it. Eight years after starting at Alzheimer's Australia Vic she seems guietly energised by the possibilities of spreading understanding and support for carers and people with dementia.

A qualified psychologist, Denise has worked in Alzheimer's Australia Vic's two major divisions, Learning and Development and Client Services, and is now Senior Clinician and Program Leader, Family Information Support.

The senior clinician role is a challenging one, in which she can provide counselling for clients with complex needs, such as long-standing mental health issues or extreme stress. Some

clients can lose hope, occasionally even becoming suicidal.

'It can be triggered by having to place a loved one into care. They don't want to and can find the whole thing quite overwhelming,' Denise says.

In the family information and support part of her role, Denise has the opportunity to take some of the systemic factors she encounters in her individual counselling work and incorporate them into workshops to help people en masse. Denise designs short workshops or longer courses for carers, on anything from dementia-friendly homes to coping with changes in behaviour and communication. She delivers these and also trains other presenters.

It can be 'life-changing', Denise says, for carers to meet others in the same situation and realise that they are not alone.

Asked how carers would manage if it wasn't for the support that Alzheimer's Australia Vic provides, Denise says it would be 'pretty

'It can be a very lonely experience, caring for someone who has dementia, and I think it would be quite devastating if they didn't have a source of acknowledgement and support."

their manager and budget allowances as referred to in the policies and procedures.

In addition, each year, three Professional Development Days are delivered for all staff. The senior management team liaises with all managers to develop a program of speakers and presentations.

### Wellbeing

Alzheimer's Australia Vic continues to promote social and health-based activities to staff. The regular morning tea after the communications forum each month has been a great success at the metropolitan sites. We have commenced our fourth 10,000 steps challenge in three years, with 50 staff members signing up. This year we also held a lunch for Harmony Day, where staff brought a dish that had cultural ties or meaning to them.

### Occupational health and safety

Occupational health and safety (OH&S) has been effectively managed through quarterly meetings with the OH&S Committee. At these meetings, all incident reports are reviewed and ways in which risks and hazards can be reduced or eliminated are examined. Our incidents are low due to operating in a relatively low-risk context but nonetheless, the safety of our staff, clients, volunteers and other visitors is a high priority. Improvements undertaken this year include the purchase of a wheelchair to solve a mobility issue with a client who regularly visited our Hawthorn site and the removal of a pinch hazard in a meeting room at our Parkville site due to a previous minor injury.

### Number of OH&S incidents reported



### Volunteers and **Members**

### Volunteers

Over the reporting period there have been significant changes to the objectives of Alzheimer's Australia Vic's volunteer program, in both the variety of roles offered and their geographical distribution.

The transition of the National Dementia Helpline to a centralised system delivered from Sydney by paid staff has provided a unique challenge and opportunity. Victorian volunteers who previously staffed the Helpline became a pool of very knowledgeable, highly-trained and committed

volunteers who were open to exploring new ways of offering volunteer support.

Alzheimer's Australia Vic has a flexible and collaborative approach to its volunteering program. We support our volunteers to identify how they would like to contribute their skills, knowledge and experience; and explore how this aligns with our objectives and the needs of those we support.

The objectives required the program to expand the types of roles available and to increase the number of regional volunteers.

Volunteer roles have grown from seven to more than 20 across the state.

Over the course of the year, we have identified a range of new ways volunteers can contribute.

- Providing practical support at family and friends sessions held at residential aged care facilities.
- Being mentors to support younger onset dementia clients to volunteer in an area of interest or expertise in their local communities.
- Sharing their personal experience of caring at family carer information sessions.
- Following up with community members and family carers who requested this support after attending information sessions or community events.
- Assisting people with dementia and their carers to access resources through our pop-up libraries at selected Memory Lane Cafes.
- Scoping and planning for the start of a supported younger onset dementia walking group for clients and carers.

We have also developed a model to recruit and induct regional volunteers. We now have 15 regional volunteers assisting our regional teams and clients in a variety of ways. This includes community speaking, meet and greet at family carer sessions and regional community events, administrative support, and providing social support at Memory Lane and Younger Onset Dementia cafes and our new pop up library in Geelong. Our regional volunteers are based in Phillip Island, Drouin, Bendigo, Ballarat, Geelong and Mildura.

With the changing needs of our volunteer program we have modified the framework to allow for smaller, more targeted volunteer intakes. With the new statewide focus, we have considered new ways of communicating with, and including, our volunteers, with the Volunteer Voice newsletter complementing our volunteer meetings.

Considerable time has been spent this financial year identifying new volunteer software. This will



### Jan Bayley

Jan Bayley's passion for volunteering with Alzheimer's Australia Vic began with a mission to find out as much as possible about dementia. after her father was diagnosed with the disease. 'Knowledge is power,' she reasoned, and threw herself into a twelve-week course as a trainee National Dementia Helpline adviser.

She enjoyed the camaraderie and the opportunity to help 'make a real difference for people in the community', but when the helpline moved to Alzheimer's Australia NSW in 2015, Jan and other volunteers were at a crossroads. Jan tried several roles before finding one that inspired her – supporting people with younger onset dementia.

'There was just something about younger onset dementia. People my age and younger, they need support on a whole different level, support to find meaningful engagement in the community,' Jan says.

Using her background as an events manager, and the skills acquired as a National Dementia Helpline adviser, Jan is now working alongside people with younger onset dementia on a variety of projects.

With fellow former professional events organiser Russell Field she is part of an advisory committee for the 2017 Alzheimer's Australia National Conference, helping to bring a client and volunteer perspective to the event.

Jan and volunteer Ray Morgan, a former policeman with younger onset dementia, are part of the Victoria Police Community Encounters Program, which helps police officers to gain experience with working with a cross-section of the community.

Alzheimer's Australia Vic has just launched a new monthly walking group for people with younger onset dementia and their carers. Jan and fellow volunteer Stephen Hawke have an ongoing leadership role in organising this program, which aims to spread the 'socially and physically active' message.

In between this, Jan has trained for the Community Speaking Program, where she is one of a group of volunteers who give talks on dementia to organisations such as service clubs, retirement villages and carer groups.

While this commitment – which often adds up to more than one day a week of unpaid work - might seem quite enough, the ever-energetic Jan is already thinking about her next challenge. 'I'd really love to get involved in dementia-friendly communities. I'm just waiting for Alzheimer's Australia Vic to find me a role. Watch this space!'

further assist the efficient management of the program and streamline reporting requirements. Importantly, it will enable each volunteer to use a portal to access their volunteer opportunities and schedule, log their hours and give feedback. The use of the selected software will commence in the 2016 – 2017 financial year.

Our sincere thanks to our volunteers for their commitment, enthusiasm and openness to new volunteer horizons. A list of volunteers can be found on page 59.

### Total hours contributed by volunteers



\*This reduction in hours is explained by the change to the National Dementia Helpline operating model, explained on page 29.

### **Members**

The Board is accountable to the members of the organisation to ensure that the best possible practices of management and operation are adopted by all elements of Alzheimer's Australia Vic. Membership of the organisation is available under five categories:

- Individual: available to any person who supports the objectives of the organisation and pays the annual membership fee.
- · Concessional: as per the individual membership. Available to pensioners, seniors and students.
- Organisation: available to any organisation that supports the objectives of the organisation and pays the annual membership fee.
- Honorary: offered on the recommendation of the Board to individuals who have made an extraordinary contribution to people with dementia and their carers or to the organisation.
- Lifetime: offered to any person who has indicated they have made a beguest to the organisation, in recognition of their valuable support.

### Number of members



\*In 2014 and 2015 discounted memberships were offered at the September Dementia Awareness Month Public Lectures. This resulted in 62 new members in 2014 and 86 new members in 2015. It is assumed that a number of these people have not renewed memberships. Simultaneously the membership program is being reframed and a revitalised product and program is intended to be rolled out in 2017 with a view to maintaining existing and attracting new members.

Membership benefits include:

- Our quarterly newsletter 'Memory Matters'.
- Unlimited use of our specialist dementia Library. including borrowing items.
- Invitations to dementia education sessions, support sessions and special events.
- Voting rights and Annual General and Special Meetings.
- Five per cent discount on our education sessions.

### **Continuous improvement**

Quality governance is a priority for Alzheimer's Australia Vic in all of our programs and services. Our Board, management, staff and volunteers are committed to ensuring that every person who comes into contact with our organisation receives high quality services.

Our continuous improvement activities are reported and monitored through a number of committees and the Board and Senior Management Team. Individual departments incorporate continuous improvement into their team agendas and departmental activity is tracked each month.

During the 2015–16 financial year, more than 50 continuous improvement activities were identified or completed. These included improvement of policies, procedures and systems; creation of new programs or services for consumers and staff; new program and service evaluation frameworks; and the introduction of staff intranet.

We undertook around 20 internal audits of services, systems or processes, all in line with continuous improvement principles.

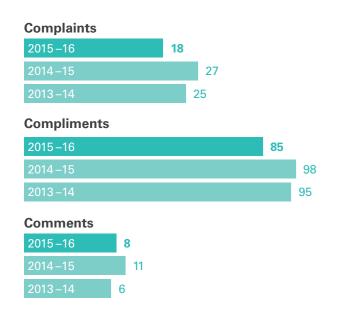
As part of a rolling process, 76 policies and procedures were reviewed, and more than 20 were updated to improve services and systems.

### Complaints, compliments and comments

Alzheimer's Australia Vic is committed to seeking, acknowledging and acting upon complaints, compliments and comments from people who consume our service and other stakeholders.

This feedback is reviewed monthly by the Senior Management Team and regularly reported to the Board. This financial year complaints related to service responsiveness and timeliness, process issues and accessibility and appropriateness of information provided. Compliments, which significantly outnumber complaints, primarily focused on the expertise and support provided by staff and the quality of services and information provided.

# **OUR ORGANISATION**



### Risk management

The identification and mitigation of organisational risks is overseen by the Senior Management Team, with a number of key risk areas, in portfolios such as human resources, finance, governance, strategy, technology and operations, assigned specific treatment plans. The strategy most often employed is to reduce risk or the impact of a risk.

Alzheimer's Australia Vic continues to monitor risks that emerge from the changing funding, regulatory and policy environment in the aged care and disability sectors. This includes the transition of the Home and Community Care program for older people to the Commonwealth Home Support Programme.

In addition to continued advocacy for dementia at all levels of government, Alzheimer's Australia Vic has focused on the impact of consumer directed care on its services and consumers; aged care funding; and access to the National Disability Insurance Scheme for people under the age of 65.

The reliability of technology platforms has also been closely monitored and, where appropriate, reviews and changes have been implemented.

### Legislation

Alzheimer's Australia Vic operates within a complex legislative environment in which we maintain compliance with more than 150 pieces of state or federal legislation.

We receive external legal advice regarding our obligations and updates on any changes to the legislation. Compliance is monitored by the Senior Management Team and Board.

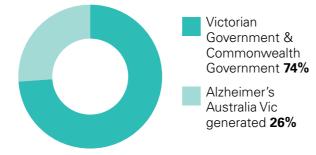
There were no significant legislative changes over the year and Alzheimer's Australia Vic ensured we remained compliant with existing frameworks.

### **Government funding**

Alzheimer's Australia Vic continues to receive significant funding from the Commonwealth and State governments, most notably through the National Dementia Support Program, the Home and Community Care program and the Commonwealth Home Support Programme.

Performance is monitored through a number of reporting and accountability mechanisms. These include service targets and outputs, financial analyses and program evaluations. The Victorian Government and Commonwealth Government provided 74 per cent of our funding in 2015-2016.

### **Funding sources**





# **MARKETING AND** COMMUNICATIONS

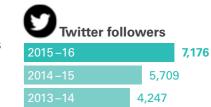
In November 2015, Alzheimer's Australia Vic commissioned a national research study entitled 'Perceptions and Understanding of Dementia' which confirmed that Australians still have a limited understanding of dementia and Alzheimer's disease and, a low awareness of the services available to support people with dementia and their families and carers.

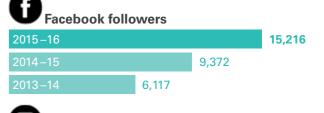
The commitment to raising awareness about dementia, and to position Alzheimer's Australia Vic as the leader in providing support, education, information, programs and resources for the Victorian community remains a high priority and is central to all the work undertaken by the Marketing and Communications teams. To deliver on this commitment, Alzheimer's Australia Vic produced two television commercials this year designed to dispel the myths of dementia being a natural part of ageing and explaining dementia as a disease of the brain. A third television commercial was designed to reach out to people with dementia to assure them 'vou are not alone' and communicate that support from Alzheimer's Australia Vic is available. These television commercials aired during September 2015, Dementia Awareness Month, and continued to be aired in October. In October and November advertisements also ran in cinemas and on outdoor billboards due to the generous support of ExxonMobil Australia.

The Marketing and Communications teams support all Alzheimer's Australia Vic departments through the development and distribution of numerous resources to help promote their programs and services and reach new and existing audiences. We have produced numerous campaigns and resources including multiple websites, social media strategies, video production and promotion, multimedia advertising and events.

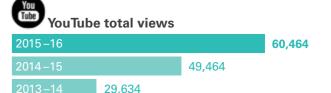
The teams also delivered strategies across traditional and social media, public relations activity, stakeholder and government relations and produced written content for speeches, award submissions, online platforms, our quarterly member magazine 'Memory Matters' and our monthly eNews. An intranet to facilitate internal communications was also launched in August 2015.

### **Figures**







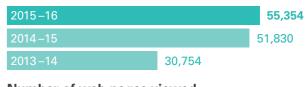


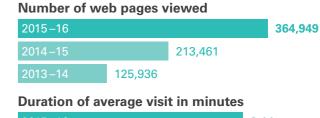
### www.fightdementia.org.au/vic

# Number of sessions

2015-10		110,170
2014-15	67,399	
2013-14	N/A – Was not recorded with a G Analytics account change and no	
	website launched in Sep 2014	

### Number of users









# **OUR THANKS**

We would like to acknowledge the following individuals and organisations for their valued support in 2015–2016. We would also like to sincerely thank the many donors whose names we have been unable to list. Every gift is appreciated.

G	ov	ern	m	en <sup>.</sup>	t

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Anne Williams

Annette Robertson

The Chattee Crafters The Golf Girls The Scrapbooking Girls Timbertop Golf Club Tunstall Probus -Armchair Travel Group U3A Bentleigh East, Friday Fitness Group U3A Sherbrooke Waverley Retirement Activities Group Yarra Leisure Centre North Balwvn Senior Citizens Taylors Hill Village Schools Bellarine Secondary College Alsco Chapman Primary School Beauty Donvale Primary School Geelong Grammar Mossimo School Kilbreda College Superdry Korowa Anglican Girls' School Methodist Ladies' College Yarra Valley Grammar In celebration Alexander Savin Andrew Chatwin Colourific Bruce Parncutt Gill Krause Gillian Russom Janelle Shafton Jenny Levi Joanne Latham Kaitlin Vermeend Fine Art Kimberley Erin Dawe Dryen Australia Lauren Kaerger Elite Sports Maureen Wallce Entertainment Murray Anderson Publications of

Nichola Robertson Nick Dorkham **Peter Tilley** Rowan Da Costa & Rachel Burton Ruven Laps Ryan Duffy Sarah Boyle Sharon Chung Sophia Saunders Susan Friedman & Bob Sadlon Sylvia Blegg Walter Wells In-kind donations Acute Health Alexander Brands Barbadollz Hair & Barwon Water Brand Collective -Brand Collective -Bruno Fine Foods Distributors **Bunnings Warehouse**  Maribyrnong Callaway Golf **CEDAR** Hospitality City Fresh Wholesalers Cooper Black **Creating Encores** Cricket Australia Crittenden Wines Dan Murphy's Deborah Salter

Eyescan Freedom **GAZMAN** Godfreys Essendon Hairhouse Warehouse - Airport West Handpicked Hawthorn Football Club Holloway Diamonds Homing Instincts Imperium Group Indijo **IPF** Culinary Consultancy Pty Ltd La Dee Dah Lake House Daylesford LaManna Direct Lifestyle Bags & Luggage Lifestyle Portraits Luv-a-duck Lyreco Marguerite Dore Glassware Melbourne Victory Football Club Micheli Eurogold Jewellers Mr Leigh Clarke Mr Neil Samuel Mrs Jennifer Bleaa Ms Sarah Ross Narkoojee Vineyard National Gallery of Victoria National Rugby League Ltd Oroton Essendon Palace Cinemas Petuna Ocean Trout Pharmacy 360° Stott's

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Café

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Poyntons Nursery Presence on Puckle QANTAS **RACV** Radisson Flagstaff Gardens Readings, Book Music Redheads Renaissance Supa IGA RSN Australia Pty Ltd Rydges St Kilda Schiavello Systems Shark Fin Group Simone Perele Direct Simplot Spotlight Stafford Ellinson Stonier Talking Beauty The Australian Ballet The Boathouse The Erdi Group The Essential Ingredient The Framing Company The Good Guys Maribyrnong Vue de Monde

Zagame Maserati

**Board members** Frauke Tyrrell Prof Graeme Samuel Ac Helen Sykes Ian Hicks AM Ian Knight Jerome Fahrer Michael Woodward AM Neil Samuel Piera Murone Ross Oakley OAM Consumer **Advisory Committee** Adele Coutts Anna Le Deux Anne Fairhall Gavin Brasier Georgina Stagias Jane Taylor Janet Ruby Peter Thomson

Primrose White

Pushpa Jayakody

Robyn Carmichael

**Younger Onset** 

**Reference Group** 

Susan Kelliher

Tony Walsh

**Dementia** 

Anne Tudor

Annette Wregg

**Bob Leicester** 

Dan Gardam

Edie Mayhew

Jane Gardam

Jane Sandow

Maxine Thompson

Judy Jones

Ken May

Rob Trinca

Terry Barnett

Graeme Brough

Arti Reghuvanshi Audrey Orr Babu Varghese Barbara Frecker Barbara Poland Beth Chester Brenda Walker Caroline Hodza Chris Finley Dani Khallouf Deborah Unkles Delia Bradshaw Denise Parr Dennis Denman Donna Burke Eileen Casev Eileen Sheridan Eleanor Loy Elizabeth Sceney Elizabeth Wright Ellen Green **Enid Telford** Fiona Field Frances Hutson Geoff Glenn Heather McCall Helen Murray Helen Sykes Irene Montgomery Iris Beavis Jacqueline Burden Jan Bayley

Janet Owen

Jayne Francis

Jenni Gratton Jenny Giles Jenny Miao Jill Burns Joanna Baevski Joanna Yiu John Crow Joyce Loh Judith Beaufort Judy Lawlor Katerina Paras Kay Miller Kerry McMahon LaVohn Houston Leigh Welsh Leslie Schachte Linda Fothergill Lindy Crow Loris Wheatland Lorraine Hickmott Louise Crosby Maggie Ruzza Margaret Allen Margaret Baulch Margaret Cameron Margot Dorum Marlene Garrett Mary Castellani Max Williams Megan Fraser Moya Dickson Norma Drew Pamela Anstee Pamela Hore Patti Hernandez Payden Rowe Phillip Edwards Puspalila Muniandy Richard Slade Robin Hughes Robyn Teed Rosemary Glenn Sam Heath

Shirley Dixon

Silvana Roma Stephen Hawke Susan Boyd Susan Considine Susan Lee Tanya Nicol Terence Dooley Tong Wang Val Fairchild Wendy Shiels Win Martin Xavier Lee

Australia P/L

Essendon Football Club

Natasha & Tom

Frederick



RSM Australia Partners

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### **AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION**

As lead auditor for the audit of the concise financial report of Alzheimer's Australia Vic Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2016, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

- (i) the auditor independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies; and
- (ii) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

RSM AUSTRALIA PARTNERS

RSM

P T SEXTON Partner

Melbourne, Victoria Dated: 26 October 2016

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### **Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income**

### For the year ended 30 June 2016

		2016	2015
	Notes	\$	\$
Revenue	2	13,478,138	15,542,914
Program delivery	3	(11,400,046)	(12,466,590)
Administration costs	3	(2,009,645)	(2,132,509)
Occupancy expenses	3	(682,298)	(620,291)
Depreciation		(588,208)	(580,766)
Operating deficit for the year		(1,202,059)	(257,242)
Profit on sale of investment property		185,000	-
Deficit for the year		(1,017,059)	(257,242)
Other comprehensive income			
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to	profit or loss		
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation of financial asset	S	98,167	(35,545)
Revaluation of properties		4,077,370	- (000 707)
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the	year	3,158,478	(292,787)

### **Statement of Financial Position**

For the year ended 30 June 2016

	Notes	2016 \$	2015 \$
CURRENT ASSETS	Notes	•	•
Cash and cash equivalents		1,479,920	1,239,043
Trade and other receivables		287,245	385,518
Other current assets		5,253	4,609
Financial assets		2,984,138	3,103,456
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	_	4,756,556	4,732,626
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Rental property		-	1,300,000
Property, plant and equipment	4	12,565,812	8,909,178
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		12,565,812	10,209,178
TOTAL ASSETS	_	17,322,368	14,941,804
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables		1,211,196	1,427,304
Employee benefits		1,042,900	1,069,989
Other liabilities		949,501	1,452,550
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	_	3,203,597	3,949,843
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee benefits		128,208	159,876
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		128,208	159,876
TOTAL LIABILITIES	_	3,331,805	4,109,719
NET ACCETS		12 000 562	40.022.005
NET ASSETS	_	13,990,563	10,832,085
MEMBERS' FUNDS		4 000 067	E 000 006
Accumulated surplus Asset revaluation reserve		4,980,967 8,757,211	5,998,026 4,679,841
Other reserves		252,385	154,218
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		13,990,563	10,832,085
	_	10,000,000	10,002,000

### **Statement of Changes in Equity**

For the year ended 30 June 2016

	Accumulated Surplus \$	Asset Revaluation Reserve \$	Other Reserves	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2014	6,255,268	4,679,841	187,889	11,122,998
Other comprehensive income	-	-	(35,545)	(35,545)
Transfers to/(from) reserves	-	-	1,874	1,874
Deficit for the year	(257,242)	-	-	(257,242)
Balance at 30 June 2015	5,998,026	4,679,841	154,218	10,832,085
Other comprehensive income Transfers to/(from) reserves	-	4,077,370	98,167 -	4,175,537 -
Deficit for the year	(1,017,059)	-	-	(1,017,059)
Balance at 30 June 2016	4,980,967	8,757,211	252,385	13,990,563

### **Statement of Cash Flows**

For the year ended 30 June 2016

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Receipts from government and other sources	13,973,732	14,243,579
Payments to suppliers and employees	(15,394,535)	(15,459,977)
Interest and dividends received	126,666	245,137
Net Cash Generated/ Used in Operating Activities	(1,294,137)	(971,261)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Proceeds / (Payments) for investments	217,485	(3,145,505)
Proceeds from sale of property	1,485,000	-
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(167,471)	(137,107)
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities	1,535,014	(3,282,612)
Net Increase in Cash Held	240,877	(4,253,873)
Cash at the Beginning of the Financial Period	1,239,043	5,492,916
Cash at the End of the Financial Period	1,479,920	1,239,043

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### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

### 1. Statement of significant accounting policies

The financial statements cover Alzheimer's Australia Vic Inc. as an individual entity. The Association is an association incorporated in Victoria under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Victoria).

### (a) Basis of preparation of concise financial report

The concise financial report has been prepared in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Victoria) as appropriate for not-for-profit entities and Accounting Standard AASB 1039 Concise Financial Reports (AASB 1039). The financial statements and specific disclosures required by AASB 1039 have been derived from the Association's full financial report for the year ended 30 June 2016. Other information included in the concise financial report is consistent with the Association's full financial report. The concise financial report does not, and cannot be expected to, provide as full an understanding of the financial performance, financial position and financing and investing activities of the Association as the full financial report.

A full description of the accounting policies adopted by the Association may be found in the Association's full Annual Financial Report.

The presentation currency used in the concise financial report is Australian Dollars.

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Note 2: Revenue		
Government grants (including specific purpose grants)	9,993,516	12,370,619
Consultancy	252,824	245,341
Donations	1,706,879	1,308,966
Dividends received	108,791	146,144
Merchandising income	22,461	22,364
Income from fundraising/special events	276,017	203,956
Bequests	395,463	607,714
Interest	17,875	98,993
Fees for services	553,356	339,619
Subscriptions	17,063	44,672
Sundry income	129,362	146,842
Surplus on sale of shares	4,531	7,684
	13,478,138	15,542,914
Note 3: Expenditure		
Program delivery:		
Employee entitlements	9,791,778	10,394,620
Consultants	1,007,446	1,635,282
Events	266,992	129,750
Seminar, workshop and meeting expenses	97,066	103,966
Other	236,764	202,972
	11,400,046	12,466,590
•		

### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

Note 3 Expenditure (Cont.)	2016 \$	2015 \$
Administration costs:		
Board and AGM expenses	6,794	7,134
Communication	393,511	414,215
Travel & Accomodation	592,275	632,975
Office expenses	261,502	162,264
Printing and stationery	284,464	461,232
Subscriptions/memberships	25,425	10,424
Membership - Alzheimer's Australia Affiliation	44,017	44,162
Financial costs	31,401	17,792
Advertising & Publicity	245,192	337,632
Minor capital expenditure	3,884	7,617
Loss on sale of financial assets	94,143	16,062
Professional fees	27,037	21,000
	2,009,645	2,132,509
Occupancy expenses:		
Rent, rates, utilities and cleaning expenses	613,278	542,793
Repairs and maintenance	69.020	77,498
	682,298	620,291
Note 4 :Property, Plant & Equipment		
Land at Independent Valuation	11,194,000	6,446,057
Buildings at Independent Valuation	186,000	879,737
Plant & Equipment at written down value	249,333	353,127
Leashold improvements at written down value	556.603	828.682
Information & Communication Technology at written down value	354.876	376,575
Artwork at written down value	25.000	25.000
	12,565,812	8,909,178
	:=;555;5:=	2,000,110

The independent valuation of land and buildings was conducted in 2016 by: Alan Bertacco FAPI and Mark Ferrier AAPI Australian Property Institute Member No. 62355 and 62380.

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### **Directors Declaration**

In the opinion of the Board of directors of Alzheimer's Australia Vic Inc. ("the Association"), the concise financial report of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2016:

- (i) Has been derived from or is consistent with the full financial report for the year; and
- (ii) Complies with the Australian Accounting Standard AASB 1039 Concise Financial Reports.

Signed on behalf of the Board of directors:

Neil Samuel Chair

26 October 2016 Melbourne

Piera Murone Treasurer

26 October 2016 Melbourne



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ALZHEIMER'S AUSTRALIA VIC INC

Level 21, 55 Collins Street Melbourne VIC 3000 PO Box 248 Collins Street West VIC 8007 T+61(0) 3 9286 8000 F+61(0) 3 9286 8199

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We have audited the accompanying financial report of Alzheimer's Australia Vic Inc, which comprises the statements of financial position as at 30 June 2016, and the statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statements of changes in equity and statements of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

Directors' responsibility for the financial report

The directors of the Association are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 of Victoria, and for such internal control 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.

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 about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, 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.

### Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Alzheimer's Australia Vic Inc as of 30 June 2016 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 of Victoria.

RSM AUSTRALIA PARTNERS

P T SEXTON Partner

Melbourne, Victoria Dated: 26 October 2016

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### **Learning services**

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### Postal address

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T: (03) 9815 7800 F: (03) 9815 7801

E: alz@alzheimers.org.au W: fightdementia.org.au/vic

National Dementia Helpline 1800 100 500

### Find us



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@alzheimersaustraliavic



Alzheimer's Australia Vic



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### Online resources

dementiadaily.org.au

dementiainmyfamily.org.au

dementialearning.org.au

dementiaresearchfoundation.org.au

dementiaresources.org.au

detectearly.org.au

enablingenvironments.com.au

fightdementia.org.au

helpwithdementia.org.au

isitdementia.com.au

livingwellwithdementia.org.au

start2talk.org.au

talkdementia.org.au

valuingpeople.org.au

yourbrainmatters.org.au

### **Regional offices**

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