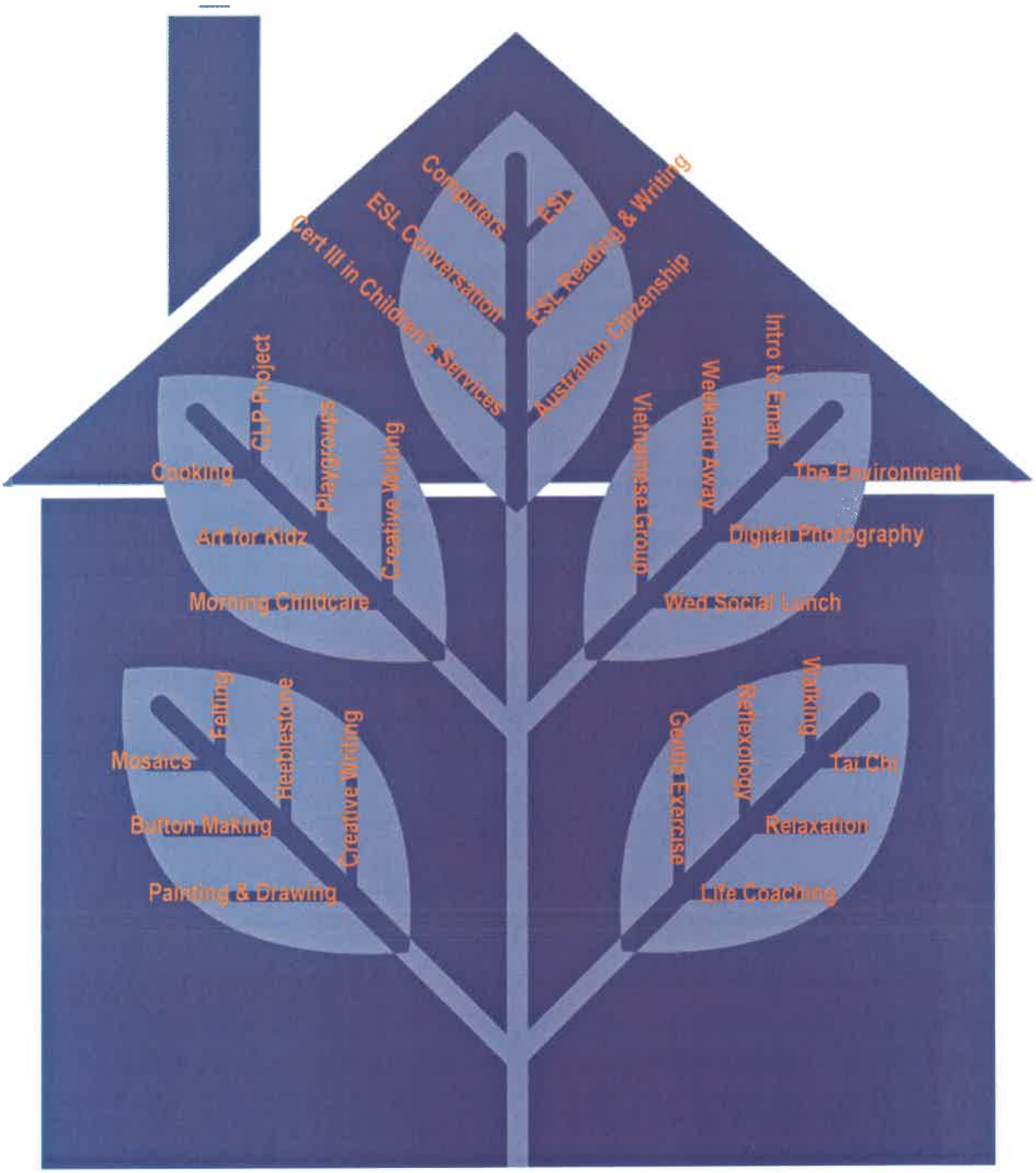
Kensington Neighbourhood House

(Kensington Women's Childcare Association)



Annual Report 2008

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

- To work within the principles of Community Development and Social Justice.
- To provide quality Adult Community and Further Education as a registered ACE organisation.
- To provide a welcoming environment which is universally accessible and free of discrimination, to foster personal growth and development.
- To alleviate social isolation particularly the aged, frail and persons with disabilities by encouraging self-help support group development.
- To encourage the enhancement of skills and knowledge, particularly those from lower socio-economic groups and residents whose first language is not English.
- To provide an environment which encourages self determination by which individuals may seek choice and take control of their own lives.
- To provide culturally appropriate access to information, advocacy, linkages and resources, particularly for the unemployed, homeless and victims of domestic violence and others living in circumstances where they are unable to adequately provide for themselves and their family.
- To provide quality occasional childcare.
- To provide services to alleviate poverty by accepting donations of clothing, toys and food to be redistributed to those in need, particularly children.
- To assist in the development of each individual's potential as members of the broader community. To provide an environment where people may develop community networks and supportive relationships.
- To provide the opportunity for individual self-expression, social interaction and personal achievement.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Walking along McCracken Street it would be difficult to pass the Kensington Neighbourhood House and not realise how busy a place it is, children arriving with their parents for Morning Childcare and students arriving for computer, ESL and conversation classes. Across the road at the school students are studying for their Certificate III in Children's Services which will help them enter the workforce. Later in the day one would see local residents coming to the House to enjoy Mosaics, Creative Writing or Tai Chi. The Vietnamese group has been an integral part of the House for years, walk past on a Wednesday and see some of Kensington's older residents arriving for lunch or leaving for an outing. At the other end of the age scale there will be children looking forward to after school art and holiday activities. Perhaps you are wandering past on a Saturday and notice the heavenly scents from the cooking classes or the voices enjoying the Wine Appreciation or art classes. There is something of interest for everyone and everyone is invited to be part of what is a very special place in Kensington's life and history.

Out of one building with a small but dedicated staff, the Kensington Neighbourhood House continues to meet the needs and challenges of an ever changing local community. Our lack of space limits what we can offer but a new kitchen and new fluorescent lights downstairs have made that area more attractive. Plans have been drawn up for a two storey extension on the back of the House to increase our classroom space, estimates of building costs have been received and the necessary grants applied for. With the change of municipal boundaries the House is now funded by Melbourne City Council. We are grateful for the grants already received which enable us to continue running our programs and look forward to working with the Melbourne City staff and councillors in the future.

A very successful initiative over the last year has been the Kensington Community Learning Project run in partersnip with Urban Communities and Adult Multicultural Education Services. Run at The Hub in Ormond Street it has offered the public housing residents an opportunity to come together for gardening, health and nutritional workshops, with more activities planned in the future. Particular thanks must be given to Sandra and Carolyn for all the time and effort that they have put into this project.

Over the last year we have said goodbye to one of our House Co-ordinator's, Karyn Down, and to Roman Salew, in Morning Childcare as well as to some of our Further Education staff. I thank them all for their contribution to the House over the years. With Karyn's departure a restructuring of the House organization took place with Carolyn on a full time House management role. New roles were also created. We welcome Shelley Hosking as Admin Support Worker and Margot Njoku to the role of Childcare Service Coordinator which she takes on in addition to her Certificate III in Children's Services commitments. Sandra has increased her hours as Further Education Coordinator to keep up with her ever expanding program. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff for their enthusiasm, hard work and dedication to the House. My thanks also go to all the teachers and to my fellow committee members and other volunteers who give up so much of their time to ensure that the House keeps running.

Kensington Neighbourhood House is a special place for the people of the local community and together we need to continue to work together to promote its many and varied programs to those who have yet to discover what is offered. Not just a place where classes are affordable and accessible to all, but a place where lasting friendships can be made. The House has a vital role to play in the day to day life of the Kensington community, a partnership which I hope will continue for a long time.

Denise Farmery

HOUSE CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

House Programs and Activities

There is currently a very broad socio-demographic spread in Kensington which creates both challenges and opportunities for the Neighbourhood House when planning our program. Our aim is to engage the whole community. We have older residents and young families attending programs during the day whilst during the evening and on weekends it younger residents or those that work during the week. In 2008 we increased the number of weekend activities as they continued to be very popular.

Due to our space constraints we are limited in the number of activities we can offer at any one time so it is a matter of refining and changing what we offer in response to community need. Regular programs such as Mosaics, Creative Writing and Creative Art for Children remain popular. In 2008 we added Tai Chi and Carpentry to the program.

It was pleasing to see a 10% increase in enrolments during 2008 despite our number of program hours remaining the same. This indicates that we are providing quality programs that are meeting residents' needs rather than an increase in quantity.

Members of the Elderly Vietnamese & Indo-Chinese Group along the Great Ocean Road.

The Elderly Vietnamese and Indo-Chinese group along with the Wednesday Lunch group are stalwarts of the House. Both groups have been meeting for over 20 years. Due to increasing costs the Elderly Vietnamese and Indo-Chinese group scaled back on their number of day trips this year. Despite decreasing membership this group regularly has around 40 attendees each time they meet. This year with the assistance of Jessica Hough from Camps Australia the group went to Anglesea for a four day trip. Members of the Wednesday Lunch Group went on a weekend trip to Phillip Island.

Local Government

The changing of the municipal boundaries on 1 July bought the Neighbourhood House back into the City of Melbourne. For the first half of the year we continued to work with Moonee Valley Council and the Moonee Valley Neighbourhood House Cluster. As part of our Funding & Service Agreement with Moonee Valley we partnered with Farnham Street Learning Centre and Wingate Avenue Community Centre to facilitate and host activities every Thursday at Bowes Avenue in Niddrie. Aimed at older residents, these activities proved to be very popular and still continue today.

The transition to Melbourne City Council was very smooth. Council staff were keen to make contact with us and share information. Representatives from the House were invited to be part of the MCC Boundary Change Transition Committee which was established to ensure the whole process went as smoothly as possible and nothing was overlooked. Council made a one-off payment to the House to cover six month funding gap until a Community Service Funding Agreement could be implemented.

Partnerships

The Community Learning Partnership was instrumental in the House developing a strong working partnership with Urban Communities. Both organisations now work closely together for the benefit of the whole Kensington community. We have representation on their Community Development Sub-Committee of their Community Liaison Committee and have for the past two years partnered with them for Housing Week celebrations.

We have also begun to develop collaborative relationships with the other Neighbourhood Houses in the City of Melbourne; North Melbourne Language & Learning and The Centre.

Funding

We continue to receive our core funding from the Department of Planning and Community Development as well as Local Government. We have been lucky whilst we were under the City of Moonee Valley to receive grants through the City of Melbourne's annual Community Grants Program. In an ongoing attempt to find additional funding sources outside Government we secured a Telstra Connected Seniors Grant from which we ran a series of computer classes for seniors. We also received a small grant from the Kensington Community Recreation Centre which allowed us to purchase tools to start our Carpentry classes.

Creative Art for Kidz

Challenges ahead

There has been an increasing need over the last few years for more space to meet our ever growing program. Kensington Primary School is also growing so they cannot guarantee us use of their classrooms from year to year, so towards the end of the year we had plans drawn up to extend the House, both upstairs and downstairs. The plans include an additional classroom upstairs and extended childcare area downstairs. The challenge now is to fund the extension. We will be submitting grants for infrastructure funding in 2009 through DPCD and DEEWR. If successful it is planned that the extension will be built in Term 1, 2010.

Staff

A staffing restructure occurred towards the end of the year in response to risk management. The restructure resulted in more staff playing an active role in the day to day operations of the House which results in better service for house users and the community. As part of this restructure I took on the full-time role of House Co-ordinator which I am enjoying greatly. I'd like to thank the Committee and Sandra McCarthy for their fantastic support, both throughout the year and during the restructure. Thank you to all staff who through their own individual contributions help to make the Kensington Neighbourhood House a great community asset.

Volunteers

The Neighbourhood House could not operate as effectively as it does without the help of all of our volunteers. Our Committee of Management continue to provide good governance and valuable input. In particular the Finance Sub-Committee worked hard to refine monthly reporting for greater accountability.

The Elderly Vietnamese and Indo-Chinese Group would not function as effectively it does without the help of group members' Chi Tran, Kim Lan Hua, Po Kwong and Sa Thi Nguyen. These ladies shop, cook, provide leadership and help with interpreting for this group. Their efforts are tireless and greatly appreciated.

A special thanks to Ben Somer who helps every week setting up, serving and preparing delicious desserts for the Wednesday Lunch Group as well as doing the odd handy man job. Thanks also to Adrian, our Wednesday Lunch bus driver, and to Marlene and Sandy who help out with the garden. All of our volunteers are generous with their time.

Carolyn Webster

FURTHER EDUCATION CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

2008 was a year of change and growth in Further Education. We saw new classes begin, engaged new teachers, forged new partnerships used new venues and gained new funding.

Our programs attracted over 180 students who studied computers, ESL, childcare, Australian citizenship, and a range of informal learning activities designed to encourage community involvement and active citizenship.

ACFE (Adult Community and Further Education) funding continued to form the core of our delivery, by providing both teaching and resources for the ESL, computer, and childcare courses. We also gained an ACFE funded Community Learning Project which enabled us to increase our reach into the community to offer learning activities to participants we had not previously catered for. With ACFE funding we were also able to celebrate Adult Learners' Week in August with multicultural lunches and an excursion to CERES (Centre for Education and Research in Environmental Strategies) by the ESL classes.

ESL students farewell their teacher Kate

ESL learning involved conversation, general English and reading and writing classes with students accessing a new web based resource *The Virtual Independent Learning Centre*. Students have had excellent opportunities to extend their English language skills for employment and community engagement. The computer classes catered largely for local residents in the post 40 age range enabling them to gain technology skills in a supportive environment.

The childcare courses at Kensington Neighbourhood House continue to achieve excellent results with 90% of students being offered paid work by the end of their course. This outcome is due in no small measure to the dedication and flexibility of the teachers, Margot and Marian, who work to support students who often have significant barriers to achievement. These students would have difficulty in gaining an accredited outcome in the more formal setting of a large institution.

13 graduates from our Certificate III classes received their certificates from Bronwyn Pike at her electoral office in December. Cr Brian Shanahan from Melbourne City Council congratulated the students and commented on the excellent work of Kensington Neighbourhood House in enabling local residents to train and obtain worthwhile work in their local community.

Childcare students perfect their playdough making skills

Preparing for Citizenship was a new class in 2008 funded by an Emerging Needs grant from the City of Melbourne. This class responded to an expressed need from community members applying for citizenship. The students gained an understanding of Australian values, customs, history and the government system. They also gained practice in completing the citizenship test. The participants who subsequently took the test, obtained their citizenship.

Another new class in 2008 arose from the Community Learning Project that we ran at the public housing estate in Kensington. A group of older Chinese residents who were enthusiastic participants in the gardening and cooking activities, expressed interest in learning English. In term 3, 14 students with an average age of 68 years started English classes at the House. In term 4 we established an outreach class for this group at the community hub on their estate and English language lessons have become part of their weekly activities. It is pleasing to have developed an outreach teaching capacity so that we can reach more students.

Hong Da, an enthusiastic older learner.

Our successful ACFE Community Learning project at the public housing redevelopment in Derby Street, now called Urban Communities, delivered learning in a non-traditional setting and encouraged community involvement. A community garden has been established as a direct and lasting outcome of this project. Community cooking also proved very popular and we hope to support a community kitchen as a further long term outcome. Several of the redevelopment residents now access programs or volunteer at the House.

As a result of this project, Kensington Neighbourhood House has developed strategic partnerships with Urban Communities and AMES, which will increase our reach and our delivery capability. We have also increased our networks in the local and wider community

Thanks to our teachers : Margot, Marian, Kate, Ann, Sue, Vanessa and Basil for their fine work with all our further education students in 2008 and to Carolyn for being an efficient and effective House Co-ordinator and CLP Project Co-ordinator.

Sandra McCarthy

CHILDCARE SERVICE CO-ORDINATORS REPORT

Enrolment
In 2008 the Morning Childcare Service at Kensington Neighbourhood House aimed to consistently have a 100% occupancy rate of 48 children enrolled in the childcare places offered each week, comprising of up to a maximum of five children under 3 years old and seven children over 3 years old enrolled each day, in a 18 months to 5 years old age range. At the end of 2008 there was an ever growing waiting list of 38 children, with the greater majority being under three years old.

The Access and Allocation Policy which notifies prospective childcare parents about the operation of the waiting list and the allocation of places as they become available, has proved to be a very successful way of monitoring keen applicants in a fair and equitable priority order.

The Childcare Service has a wonderful reputation that ensures a long waiting list of prospective enrolments, all of whom will be accommodated as places become available.

The Staff
The Childcare Service has benefited enormously from long-term valuable and reliable staff members and is grateful to have been able to attract and retain such people with such exceptional professional skills, experience, knowledge and warmth. Ann Morrison, continues to be the Qualified member of staff for the Childcare Service; her enthusiastic, creative and joyful approach to her work, provides an excellent leadership and mentoring role for her team, and nurturing support for the families and their children.

Roman Salew was our Childcare Assistant until the end of August 2008; Roman was sadly farewelled after six years at the House. A smooth transition was made, however, by Hayat Alisheikh, a relieving member of staff who replaced Roman. Both Roman and Hayat completed their Certificate III in Children's Services at Kensington Neighbourhood House. Iza Davies was employed one day a week as an additional needs support worker and is a valued member of the team. Regular staff meetings, forums for open discussion and reflective practice, de-briefing and evaluation, ensure staff unity and promote co-operative teamwork.

Funding
New equipment, for both indoor and outdoor play spaces, art materials, and other play experience resources were purchased with funding received through a successful DEECD Children's Capital Program Grant. The purchase of soft fall and sand were also funded. A special thank you to Carol Roe and Ben Somer for helping with the laying of soft fall and sand for the sandpit.

Funding obtained through the Melbourne City Council Community Grants Program allowed us to run a Creative Movement and Dance Program with the children during the year.


Sophie enjoying the Creative Movement Program

With Appreciation
I would like to formally thank all staff, parents and of course, the children, who make the Childcare Service such a delight. It is heart warming to work in a service with such an excellent far-reaching reputation. It is credit to all those involved.

It is indeed a pleasure to work with Ann, Hayat and Iza and supporting relief staff, in partnership with families, to continue to provide high quality care for children enrolled in the programs of the Kensington Neighbourhood House Morning Childcare Service.

Margot Njoku

COMMUNITY LEARNING PROJECT

The Kensington Community Learning Project was a twelve month long project lead by the Kensington Neighbourhood House in partnership with Urban Communities and Adult Multicultural Education Services (AMES).

In an attempt to create a "local presence" in Kensington AMES approached the Neighbourhood House with a view to applying for an ACFE funded community learning partnership. The Neighbourhood House then bought in Urban Communities who are located and work closely with the residents on the Kensington redevelopment site. Together the three partners were successful in securing the funding.

The project "Sustainable Living in the Kensington Neighbourhood" was designed to arm participants with life skills appropriate to living in medium to high density housing. The participants were to be residents living on the redevelopment site.

The Project was broken into four separate learning blocks; Gardening, Nutrition, Health and Other Activities. All learning blocks took place in the community hub at 94 Ormond Street.

The Gardening block attracted 25 residents with diverse ethnic backgrounds. Topics covered included; growing seeds, landscapes, composting, wormeries, seasonal produce, recycling, saving energy, conserving water, preparing soil, building trellises and planting seedlings. One of the highlights was an excursion to the Botanic Gardens where participants toured the herb garden, vegetable garden, children's garden and hothouse.

An optional accredited Occupational Health and Safety Certificate of Attainment formed part of the learning block. Six participants obtained this certificate.

Most of those that participated went on to take up a plot in the then newly built community garden. Some also became members of the Gardening Advisory Group.

The next learning block was Nutrition which was designed to provide information to participants on nutrition and hand-ons experience preparing tasty nutritious budget meals. This was by far the most popular of the learning blocks with 30 people enrolling. Speakers from Doutta Galla's Health Promotion Team spoke on cooking with less fat, healthy lunches, budget cooking for singles and cooking for diabetics.

Nutrition Block participants

At the end of the block 11 people completed and obtained an accredited food handling safety certificate. Other outcomes included changed eating habits, development of friendships and group skills and enhanced confidence and self-esteem. A community kitchen was set up later in the project with participants from the Nutrition block.

The Health Learning Block was a series of different health related topics. These included; keeping active, getting outdoors, technology, reducing stress, hobbies, basic first aid and a social get-together at the end of the block.

The social activity, a bush dance, was by far the highlight of the health block. The Blackberry Jam Bush Band had everyone up and dancing, trying their hand at the lagerphone, stock whip and dancing. 13 participants from the Health Block obtained their Basic First Aid certificate.

The final block of the project was made up of a range of activities designed to engage residents that had not participated in the project to date. These included a series of sessions for dog owners on caring for dogs in apartments and an excursion to the MFB for Horn of African families. This excursion was extremely popular and taught both children and parents about fire safety and prevention in the home. The CLP Project also provided a television and DVD player to Doutta Galla's Older Persons High Rise Program so that they could run movie afternoons for residents.

Learning to build trellises

The CLP project was successful in engaging the targeted demographic groups of residents from culturally and linguistically diverse communities (CALD) and men over age 45.

It was also successful in its aims to provide life skills to participants. Aside from the skill acquisition, new behaviours have been adopted such as; team work, life style modifications and leadership skills. Participants also extended their social and learning networks.

The partners also benefited greatly from collaborating together on the project. We worked as a team, sharing our resources and knowledge. Together we can see opportunities for future project development and recognise that by working together we have an increased ability to attract funding.

The final report on the project has been well received by many of our stakeholders. ACFE have ear-marked our project as an exemplar project which means they will use it for showcasing (ie. referencing the report or using excepts for promotion, training and reporting purposes). Given the positive feedback we have nominated our project for a Melbourne Award.

Carolyn Webster
Project Co-ordinator

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Kensington Neighbourhood House continues to remain in a healthy financial position as at 31/12/2008 with net assets of $168,395. Overall the House made a small profit of $1,122.00. In addition to the profit we were able to put aside $9,500.00 to contribute to towards the proposed house extension.

The 2008 year income was $314,298 (2007 year $307,015). The income sheet shows an increase in funding from Melbourne City Council. This is due to the one-off discretionary payment made by council as part of the boundary transition arrangements. Future funding from Melbourne City Council will be in accordance with a Community Service Funding Agreement which is yet to be finalised.

Total expenditure in 2008 was $313,176 (2007 year $303,887). The increase in expenditure is primarily due to an increase in staff costs which relates to the increase in programs on offer. Staff also took up more professional development opportunities.

The Finance Sub-Committee of Judy Collings, Maureen Fagan and Jackie McConnell worked with Denise Henderson, our bookkeeper, during the year to modify the format of the monthly financial reports. The end result now enables the committee to better understand and monitor the House's financial position. A new Financial Planning and Budgeting policy was adopted to give the committee a clearer process when setting the annual budget. This process directs that at least 60% of total expenditure be on programs. During 2008 63.5% was program expenditure.

It is my pleasure to thank everyone at the Kensington Neighbourhood House for our financial situation. This healthy situation is due the commitment and expertise of Denise Henderson, our bookkeeper, the Co-ordinators and my fellow committee members.

Joy Pratt

KENSINGTON WOMEN'S GROUP CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION INC.

INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2008

	Note	2008 $	2007 $
INCOME			
Grants - DVC - Neighbourhood House		96,653	79,419
Grants - DVC - One Off Grant		-	8,000
Grants - DHS - Occasional Care		4,633	8,614
Grants - DHS - Capital Grant		1,688	-
Grants - DVC - Sport and Recreation		-	1,442
Grants - City of Melbourne		27,888	5,142
Grants - Dept. of Education - ACFE/OTFE		109,004	108,809
Grants - City of Moonee Valley		15,674	15,948
Grants - North Melbourne Language & Literacy		-	183
Grants - Other		2,972	360
Grants - Victorian Multicultural Commission		1,500	1,500
		260,012	229,417
Rental Income		935	920
Fees and Other Income		60,568	68,860
Interest received		7,148	5,998
Sundry Income		(14,365)	1,820
TOTAL INCOME		314,298	307,015
EXPENDITURE			
Administration Expenses		28,910	32,528
Employment Expenses			
Professional Development		4,377	529
Wages & Salaries		57,077	56,104
Superannuation		4,733	5,134
Workcover		2,146	2,157
Other Employment Expenses		2,976	1,432
Provision for annual leave, sick leave, long service leave		-3,067	-257
		68,242	65,099
Finance Expenses			
Bank Charges		30	-
Legal & Accounting		6,983	6,905
		7,013	6,905

KENSINGTON WOMEN'S GROUP CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION INC.

INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2008

	Note	2008 $	2007 $
House Utilities & Maintenance			
Electricity		969	888
Gas		717	639
Water Rates		697	484
Insurance		1,285	0
Maintenance		1,286	3,395
Cleaning		5,113	4,639
OH&S			298
		10,067	10,343
Cost of Programs			
Marketing		1,544	-
Transport Hire		8,306	9,624
Venue Hire & Accommodation		7,959	6,909
Consumables		5,993	6,626
Repairs & Maintenance		14,623	17,216
Miscellaneous Administration		11,375	11,083
Wages & Associated Expenses		110,705	101,403
Co-ordination Fee		20,840	20,127
Contractor's Fee		17,599	16,024
		198,944	189,012
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		313,176	303,887
Profit before income tax		1,122	3,128
Income tax expense	2	-	-
Profit after income tax		1,122	3,128
Retained Profits(Losses) at the beginning of the financial year		36,658	33,530
Retained Profits(Losses) at the end of the financial year		37,780	36,658

KENSINGTON WOMEN'S GROUP CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION INC.

BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2008

	Note	2008 $	2007 $
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash	3	185,677	109,635
Trade and other receivables	4	6,113	4,093
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		191,790	113,728
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	5	112,520	115,785
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		112,520	115,785
TOTAL ASSETS		304,310	229,513
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other creditors	6	18,681	13,770
Amounts received in advance	7	83,483	26,694
Provisions	8	33,751	21,776
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		135,915	62,240
TOTAL LIABILITIES		135,915	62,240
NET ASSETS		168,395	167,273
MEMBERS FUNDS			
Retained profits		37,780	36,658
Capital Reserve & Grants		130,615	130,615
TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS		168,395	167,273

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF KENSINGTON WOMEN'S GROUP CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION INC.

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Kensington Women's Group Child Care Association Inc. which comprises the balance sheet as at 31 December 2008, and the income statement, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the committee.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Associations Incorporation Act (Vic. 1981).
This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those 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 committee, 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 Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Auditor's Opinion
In our opinion:
The financial report of Kensington Women's Group Child Care Association Inc. is in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act (Victoria 1981) including:

i. giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 31 December 2008 and of their performance for the year ended on that date; and

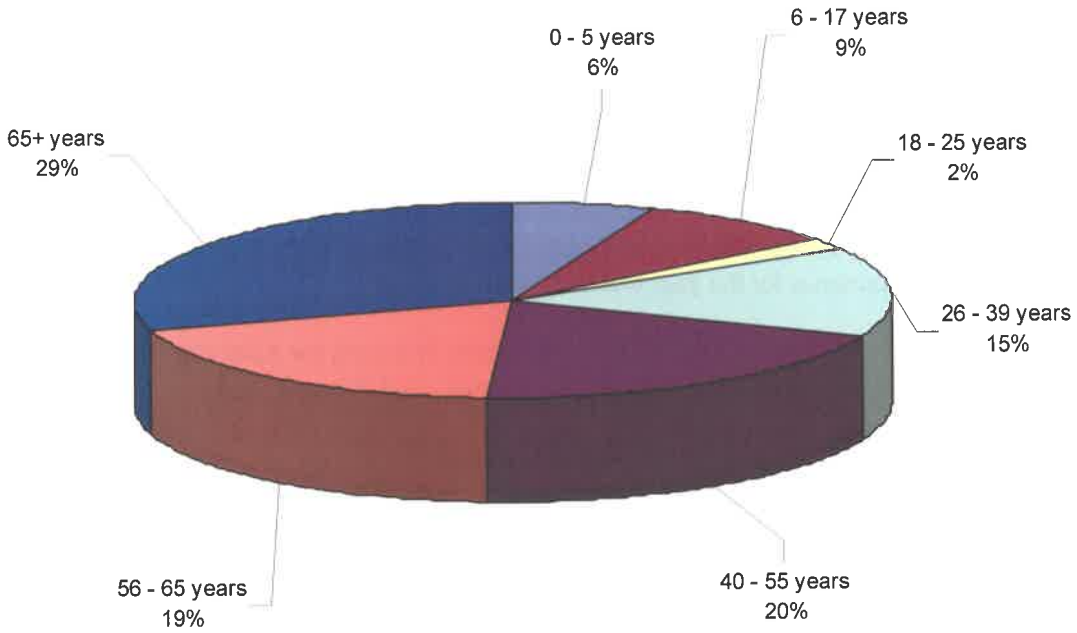
ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Associations Incorporation Act (Victoria 1981).

Sean Denham

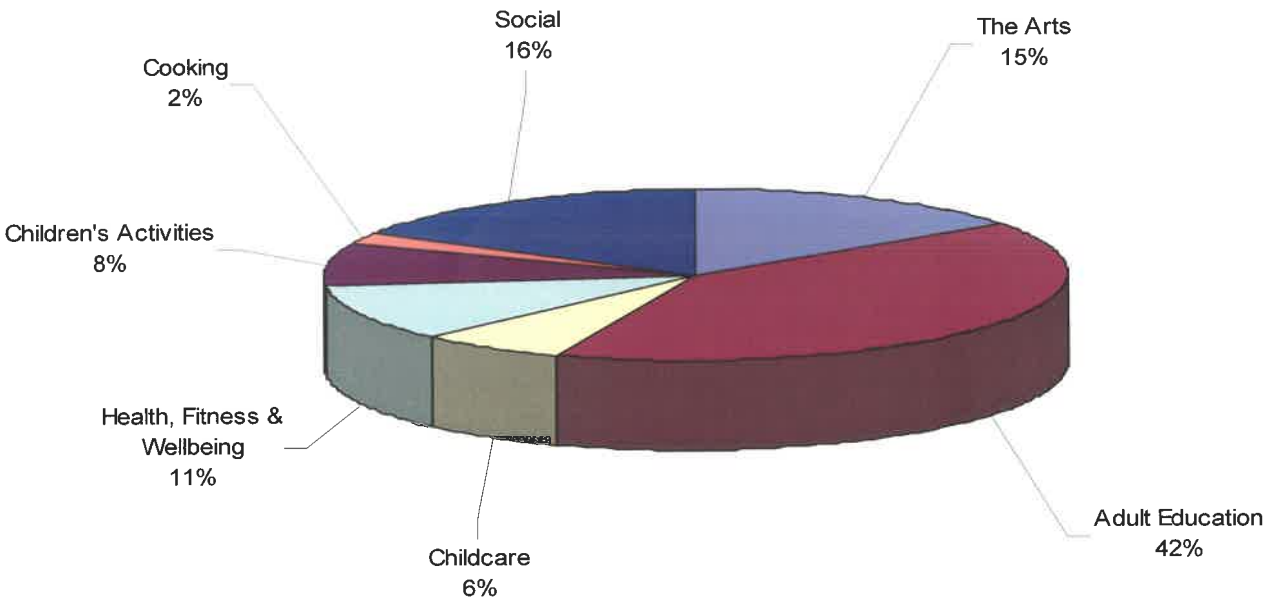
Dated: 6 March 2009+A651
Sean Denham & Associates
CPA's
Suite 12, 13-25 Church Street
Hawthorn VIC 3122

STATISTICS ON OUR HOUSE USERS

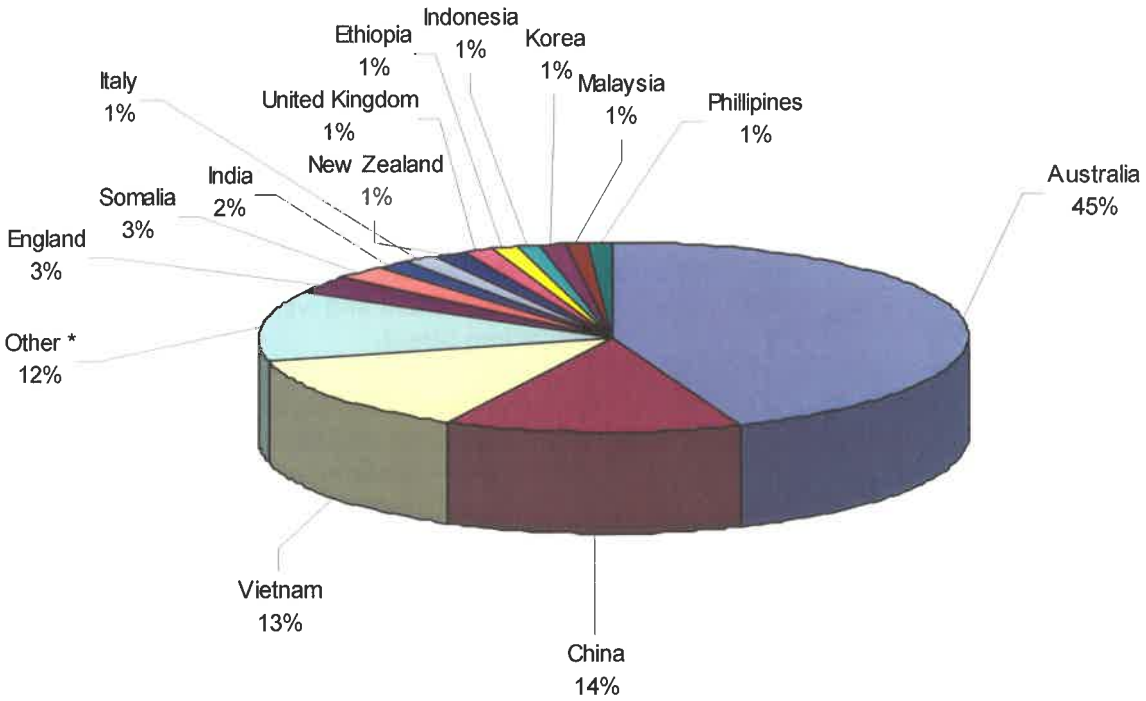
Age Groups



Participation in Activities

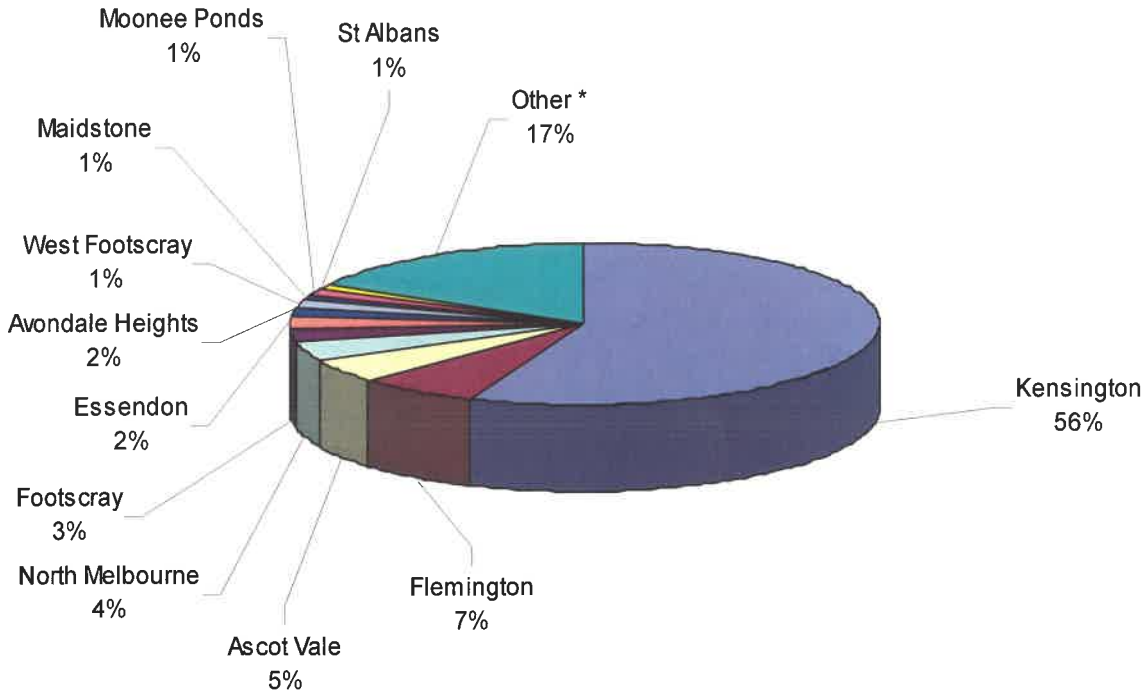


Country of Birth



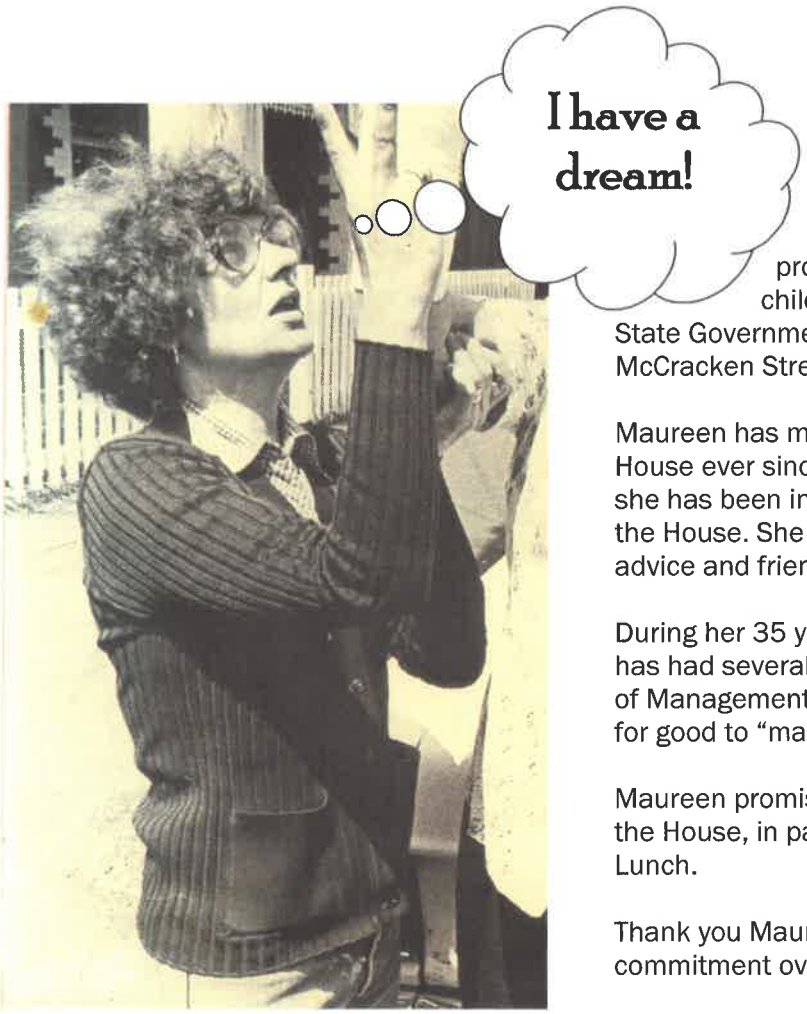
* Includes Argentina, Asmera, Austria, Cambodia, Croatia, East Timor, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Hong Kong, Iraq, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Netherlands, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, South Africa, Sudan, Thailand, Turkey, United States, Venezuela, Wales.

Suburb of Residence



* Includes Aberfeldie, Airport West, Altona, Altona Meadows, Ardeer, Ballarat, Braybrook, Brunswick West, Canterbury, Coburg, Craigieburn, Delahey, East Keilor, Essendon West, Glen Iris, Glenroy, Hawthorn East, Highett, Hillside, Hoppers Crossing, Jacana, Keilor Park, Keysborough, Maribyrnong, Melbourne, Middle Park, Mitcham, Moorabbin, Mount Waverley, Newport, Nagambie, Niddrie, North Carlton, North Coburg, Oak Park, Pascoe Vale, Preston, Rowville, South Melbourne, South Morang, St Kilda, Strathmore, Sunshine, Sunshine North, Sunshine West, Sydenham, Travancore, Tullamarine, Warrandyte, Werribee, West Melbourne, West Preston, Williamstown, Yarraville

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU



In 1974 Maureen Fagan, along with a group of other local women living in the high rise flats, identified a need for a meeting place where they could provide support for each other and their children. They successfully lobbied the State Government and were given the House in McCracken Street.

Maureen has maintained a strong connection with the House ever since. As one of the founding members she has been instrumental in the continued growth of the House. She has provided guidance, support, advice and friendship to those that needed it.

During her 35 year involvement in the House Maureen has had several stints as a member of the Committee of Management. Sadly, this year she is stepping down for good to "make way for the young ones".

Maureen promises she will still be a regular face at the House, in particular at the Wednesday Social Lunch.

Thank you Maureen for all your hard work and commitment over the years.

Maureen with some of the other founding members of the Kensington Neighbourhood House.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Denise Farmery	Chairperson
Maureen Fagan	Deputy Chair
Joy Pratt	Treasurer
Fiona Burnes	Secretary
Judy Collings	
Jackie McConnell	
Annabel Rattigan	
Jane Robertson	
Wendy Toohey	
Anne Tuke	
Eli Valdebenito	
Chrissie Williams	

STAFF

Karyn Down	House Co-ordinator
Carolyn Webster	House Co-ordinator
Sandra McCarthy	Further Education Co-ordinator
Margot Njoku	Childcare Service Co-ordinator
Shelley Hosking	Admin worker
Denise Henderson	Bookkeeper
Ann Morrison	Childcare worker
Roman Salew	Childcare worker
Hayat Alisheikh	Childcare worker
Iza Davies	Childcare worker
Zafu Engda	Cleaner

CONSULTANTS

Boyd Williams	Nrolls
Phil Brandon	IT Support

VOLUNTEERS

Jacqui Byard	School Holiday Activities
Theo Byard	School Holiday Activities
Chi Tran	Vietnamese Group
Kim Lan Hua	Vietnamese Group
Po Kwong	Vietnamese Group
Sa Thi Nguyen	Vietnamese Group
Adrian Healy	Bus Driver
Amparo Jaramillo	Wednesday Lunch
Ben Somer	Wednesday Lunch/Handyman
John Trewin	Handyman
Marlene Mogford	Gardener
Sandy Glenny	Gardener
Carol Roe	Softfall & sand top-up
Marijana Popadic	Student Placement
Rebecca Smith	School Holiday Activities

TUTORS

Neil Benham	Wood & Simple Carpentry
Christine Berryman	Low Impact Exercise
Emilie Collyer	Creative Writing
Cathy Connop	Low Impact Exercise
Ann Conroy	English as a Second Language
Karyn Down	Relaxation, Creative Arts Therapy
Meg Dunley	Recycling Old Clothes
Lou Endicott	School Holiday Activities
Kate Grang	English as a Second Language
Sandie Hernandez	Cooking workshops
Ann Hood	Mosaics, Heeblestone, School Holiday Activities
Jessica Hough	Vietnamese Group Camp
Ron James	Tai Chi
Andrea Main	Felting, Introduction to Sewing
Viola McMahon	Community Learning Project
Sue Michell	ESL Conversation, ESL Reading & Writing
Carol Monaghan	Gentle Exercise
Margot Njoku	Cert III in Children's Services
Veronica Passmore	Creative Art for Kids, Painting & Drawing, School Holiday Activities
Melissa Pippen	ESL Basic & Intermediate
Vanessa Pope	English as a Second Language, Preparation for Australian Citizenship
Garth Richards	Digital Photography
Robyn Richardson	School Holiday Activities
Bronwyn Riddell	Community Learning Project
Fiona Roberts	Button Making
Alex Rowland	Painting & Drawing, Screen Printing, Lino Cut
Kealy Smith	Life Coaching
Jill Snowdon	Reflexology
Basil Theophilos	Computers
Marion Tinnion	Cert III in Children's Services
Carolyn Webster	Walking Group, School Holiday Activities

FUNDING BODIES

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
Department of Planning & Community Development
Adult Community and Further Education
Melbourne City Council
Moonee Valley City Council
Victorian Multicultural Commission