

# A step in the right direction



# Contents

The Bennelong Foundation	1
Chairman's report	2
General Manager's report	3
Bennelong Foundation Youth Committee's report	7
Bennelong Foundation in the community	9
Charities in focus	11
Projects co-funded by Bennelong Foundation and Dubai Duty Free Foundation in focus	23
Investment and financial report for the year ended 30 June 2011	25

# The Bennelong Foundation

Established in 2002 by the Bennelong Group, the Bennelong Foundation aims to enhance community wellbeing and provide opportunities for positive and lasting change in our community. The Foundation also aims to provide opportunities for employees within the Bennelong Group to personally get involved in the activities of the organisations it supports.

Since inception, the Bennelong Foundation has made a wide variety of grants totalling over \$5 million. These grants have ranged from very small amounts of several hundred dollars to several hundred thousand dollars.

The activities of the Foundation are overseen by an independent Board made up of the following individuals:

- **Jeff Chapman**, Chairman;
- **Chris Cunningham**, Non-Executive Director;
- **Malcolm Gray**, Non-Executive Director;
- **Peter Polson**, Non-Executive Director;
- **Carena Shankar**, Non-Executive Director;
- **Hon. Phil Honeywood**, Adviser;
- **Dr Bruce Reid**, Adviser; and
- **Susan Frances**, General Manager.

The Foundation also has a Youth Committee, comprising employees from each business unit of the Bennelong Group. The Committee specifically consider small grants, with a particular emphasis on issues impacting young Australians.

Information on all aspects of the Foundation including areas of interest, grant rounds, funding principles and exclusions can be found on our website ([www.benngroup.com/foundation](http://www.benngroup.com/foundation)).

The following graph shows the allocations of grants since the Foundation's inception in 2002.



“ Being a volunteer Adviser to the Foundation is a mutually beneficial association. You bring to the table a range of life experiences and community networks and hope that they will assist. However, you take away much greater insight into the community good that is being done through social investment and philanthropy. ”

Phil Honeywood on his involvement on the Board of Bennelong Foundation as an Adviser

# Chairman's report

In addition to continued global economic uncertainty, the 2011 financial year was punctuated with natural disasters both in Australia and abroad. On a domestic level, Queensland was devastated by cyclones and floods, resulting in three quarters of the state being declared a disaster zone. Although not as prominent, rural Victoria also suffered from debilitating floods and their after effects.

More devastating were the floods in Pakistan, which affected an estimated 20 million people in July 2010. And who could forget the images from Christchurch and Japan as a result of earthquakes and a tsunami.

The response from the Australian public for both domestic and foreign assistance was strong and immediate, but on a sustained basis, do we give enough?

During the year, Philanthropy Australia was engaged by the Commonwealth Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs to explore ways to encourage giving among Australia's high and ultra high net worth individuals and families.

The report highlighted that the level of giving by this group in Australia is below that of their peers in other countries, despite increasing wealth and access to a range of tax structures and incentives.

The report states there is hesitancy on the part of many in Australia to promote their philanthropic activities, which in turn helps cultivate a stronger and more constant culture of giving.

Keeping our giving private had also been the approach taken by the Bennelong Foundation in years past. But over the last few years, the Foundation has taken a more active approach to its philanthropy, and sought to share its experiences and activities with a wider audience.

To that end, I am pleased to present the Bennelong Foundation Report for 2011.

Twenty new grants were approved during the 2011 financial year. Although the total dollar sum of the contributions was slightly down year on year, it does not take into account or measure the positive and increasing input given to various organisations as a result of the in-kind support provided by the employees of the Bennelong Group throughout the year.

It had been five years since we had reviewed our areas of focus, and as a result they were expanded during the year to include:

- education: to support organisations that offer innovative programmes that encourage people to take advantage of learning, training and education opportunities, in order to further lasting employment prospects; and
- international aid and assistance: to support causes, particularly in the Asian region and in countries where the Bennelong Group is represented, where significant and lasting health, education or employment benefits can be gained with relatively limited resources.

The Bennelong Foundation Youth Committee increased its membership during the 2011 financial year and now includes representatives from all Australian based business units, including our Sydney office. Their contribution was significant throughout the 2011 financial year with a continued focus on grass-roots organisations.

We were pleased to continue our support of the Mirabel Foundation as part of our 'Make a Difference Day' activities. In 2011, our staff enjoyed visiting the Collingwood Children's Farm in support of the South Melbourne Mission Kindergarten.

Over the last 12 months, we have spent more time with our grant recipients and have been able to witness first hand the dedication to their respective causes. To the 30 organisations which received funding from the Bennelong Foundation during the 2011 financial year, I wish to express my appreciation for your tireless efforts and contributions to the community.

I would also like to recognise my fellow Directors, Advisers to the Board, Youth Committee members, Susan Frances and Phil Henty for their contribution throughout the 2011 financial year.

Finally, I would like to thank the wider Bennelong Group and its employees, not only for generating growth and earnings which continue to provide the funding base for the Foundation, but also for their time and in-kind support, which is captured throughout the Bennelong Foundation 2011 Report.

Jeff Chapman  
Chairman

# General Manager's report

It has been another hectic and exciting year for the Foundation with a significant increase in the number of grant applications received for both the November and April rounds of funding. The trend for the majority of applications was crisis support, which reflects the need in the community. I keep in contact with other Trusts and Foundations and they also report an increase in this area. As in the 2010 financial year, the Foundation continued to concentrate on the areas of Migrant Community Welfare, Youth and Crisis Support.

## Approved grants

Twenty new grants and seven continued funding grants were approved during the financial year, plus applications were also approved for an extra year of funding to three organisations we have supported in the past.

## Partnership with Dubai Duty Free making a difference

Bennelong Foundation and Dubai Duty Free Foundation continued our unique and innovative partnership, co-funding grants of \$25,000 each per year to the following organisations and projects:

- Ponting Foundation and Redkite – Exceptional Needs Assistance Programme;
- Family Life – YouthWorx Project; and
- Victorian Arabic Social Services – Anti-Racism Action Band

Without the support of Bennelong Foundation and Dubai Duty Free Foundation, these projects would not have been able to continue and expand to the extent they have.

“We cannot emphasise enough the benefits to this triennial funding granted by Bennelong Foundation and Dubai Duty Free Foundations. It increases capacity to engage more marginalised participants, gives confidence to other funders to support specific projects and activities, and allows for each ARAB project to have the community development support it needs from garnering a budget to the one-on-one support for a participant who is struggling every day.”

Kate Gillick from Victorian Arabic Social Services

We provide Dubai Duty Free Foundation with updates and progress reports, and they are very pleased with their involvement in these Australian charitable projects. Co-funding will continue in the 2012 financial year.

## Staff involvement

Bennelong Foundation and the Board of Directors encourage staff of Bennelong Group's business units to be actively involved in the Foundation and organisations we support through attending lunches, visit days and participation in the Youth Committee. Staff are also encouraged to recommend organisations they would like the Foundation to look at with the view to funding in the future. Activities in which staff were involved during the year are outlined below:

- A lunch at Sportsbrand Media Group in September where Moses Abbatangelo, Dean Troth and Ann Van Leerdam of Concern Australia, and Andrew Pappas and Christopher Vogt of Prahran Mission, spoke to staff about specific projects funded by the Foundation and volunteering opportunities.
- Visit days by staff and Foundation Board members to Prahran Mission, Breast Cancer Network Australia, Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation, Ardoch Youth Foundation, the Song Room and Family Life.
- Two Make a Difference Days have been organised.
  - A visit to the Collingwood Children's Farm in early December for children from the South Melbourne Mission Kindergarten. We are involved with the kindergarten via a project we are funding through Ardoch Youth Foundation. The children enjoyed the day immensely, especially as many of them had never been out of their local neighbourhood, let alone visited a farm.
  - Seventeen volunteers from Bennelong Group together with two staff from Deloitte, joined 77 children from the Mirabel Foundation for a day at Luna Park.



Bennelong Group volunteers at FareShare.



A Bennelong Group volunteer with one of the children from the South Melbourne Mission Kindergarten.



Anti-Racism Action Band's belly dancer at the Harmony Week luncheon.

# General Manager's report

- A lunch was held in March for Harmony Week, which celebrates the cohesive and inclusive nature of our nation, and promotes the benefits of cultural diversity. It's about community participation, inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. To reflect Harmony Week, staff members invited seven guests from organisations they deal with in their business units. In total, 40 people attended the lunch and enjoyed dishes brought along by staff members representing their different cultural backgrounds. Everyone was treated to a performance from the Anti-Racism Action Band which included a belly dancer, rap artist, Arabic drummer and singer. The Anti-Racism Action Band is a project the Foundation is supporting through Victorian Arabic Social Services in partnership with Dubai Duty Free Foundation.
- In April, Foundation Trustees and Youth Committee members volunteered for an afternoon with FareShare, helping to prepare meals for homeless and disadvantaged people in our community. It was a very rewarding afternoon for all concerned and we certainly discovered a few hidden skills, such as pastry cooks, and sausage-roll and quiche chefs.
- During June, the Bennelong Foundation Youth Committee supported the Create Foundation. Create represent and work with children and young people in foster care, with a view to improving the Australian care system, and the life outcomes of these young people. One of the many things Create does is put together a survival backpack, ensuring the children have something to call their own when they move into foster care, which can occur abruptly, leaving no time to pack personal belongings.
- The Youth Committee put the call out to all business units to donate goods for these back packs with an overwhelming response. Create Foundation were very appreciative of the donated goods as they had just run out of items for the care packs, and were in desperate need of goods.

- Bennelong Foundation again hosted the leadership group of Year 10 indigenous students from Ganbina in Shepparton for a day in Melbourne, including a visit to Swinburne University, Parliament House and Sportsbrand Media Group, where they spoke to employees about their education and employment journeys.

Bennelong Foundation aims to partner with organisations we support through visits during the year. It is a privilege to see the difference our grants make to people's lives.

I am grateful to the staff of Bennelong's group of companies for their involvement in Foundation activities, and the Youth Committee for their passion and new ideas. Darlene White from Bennelong Funds Management is the new Chair of the Youth Committee, and an update on their activities is included in this Report. My thanks to Nick Chapman, who has stepped down as Chair of the Youth Committee for his assistance in the past. I am pleased that Nick has decided to remain a member of the Committee.

I look forward to another productive year for Bennelong Foundation, continually evolving and growing through the expert guidance of our Chairman and Board of Trustees.

*Susan Frances*

Susan Frances  
General Manager - Bennelong Foundation

“ Participating in Make a Difference days and the Youth Committee has so far been an incredibly heart-warming and valuable experience for me. It's great to see Bennelong's support in action and the volunteer events are welcome opportunities to get out of the office and spend time with people – kids full of beans, other volunteers, organisation staff and people in the community. Thanks to the Youth Committee I have seen how these events all come to be, the work that's behind them and the wide reach they have. It's also really encouraging to see staff members' willing involvement and suggestions taken on board, discussed, and implemented. It's great for us as employees to know we're contributing to something beyond our desks. ”

Madeline Ryan, Youth Committee member



Goods donated by Bennelong staff for the Create Foundation's care packs.



Bennelong Group and Deloitte volunteers at the Make a Difference Day in Luna Park.

“ It is particularly pleasing for Mirabel to have one of our funders directly involved with our programmes, so that they may see the positive impact their support has on children first hand. The Luna Park day is now well established as the Bennelong day and we are very pleased with Bennelong's ongoing support over the years. The enthusiasm of your staff goes a long way to making this day special. I have many favourite memories from the day; one of them involves me trying to find a Bennelong volunteer who is literally running from one ride to another, attempting futilely to keep up with a group of very eager children! ”

Miranda Purchase, Recreation Manager of the Mirabel Foundation

# Bennelong Foundation

## Youth Committee's report

The Bennelong Foundation Youth Committee (the Committee) has continued to focus on identifying true grass-roots charities trying to make a difference in our community, with little ongoing support or government assistance. A sad reality of the current economic environment is that there's been an increase in the number of worthwhile charities in need of financial support to maintain their often critical services. As a result, the Committee has had a busy year, implementing several changes to ensure we can continue to represent staff across the diverse businesses of the Bennelong Group.

### Staff representation expanded

This year, the structure of the Youth Committee has been expanded to better represent Bennelong's growing businesses and now includes:

- Kelly Chapman;
- Madeline Ryan (Crown Content);
- Jay Doherty (Bennelong Group);
- Nick Chapman (Sportsbrand Media Group, Dubai);
- Sabrina Jansz (Sportsbrand Media Group, Melbourne);
- Andrew Aitken (Bennelong Funds Management, Sydney);
- Darlene White (Bennelong Funds Management, Melbourne); and
- Susan Frances (Bennelong Foundation).

The broader representation of staff on the Committee will enhance staff engagement with the Foundation, increase dialogue about possible charities to support, and hopefully grow staff involvement in our Make a Difference Days.

### 2010/11 grants

The Youth Committee mandate is to focus on charities which address the issues of homelessness (crisis support), migrant community welfare, and indigenous and disadvantaged youth. Suggestions for worthwhile charities come from staff throughout Bennelong's businesses, often resulting from an issue of personal interest or relevance to a staff member. Whilst there are countless worthy causes and charities to support, a charity or cause with a connection to staff ensures the Foundation not only has a positive impact in the community, but also has a significant and meaningful impact in staff communities.

The Youth Committee was pleased to be able to support the following organisations through direct grants:

- **Beacon Foundation:** support of the Polish Programme in Victorian secondary schools, building job-readiness, personal presentation and communication skills in young people;
- **New Stars Basketball:** Study Hall and Ball, a programme providing multicultural youth with a positive place to study and socialise before and after school hours;
- **Concern Australia:** an additional year's funding for their LiveWires programme, an after-school drop-in space for children growing up on the Collingwood Housing Estate;
- **Breast Cancer Network Australia:** production of a CD for partners of women affected by breast cancer; and
- **Heartwell Foundation:** Active & Healthy Programme in Victorian kindergartens, developing the physical condition and motor skills of children regardless of ability or socio-economic background.

The variety of organisations supported by the Youth Committee this year reflects the importance placed on both diversity and a grass-roots focus.

### In-kind support

An ongoing focus of the Youth Committee has been the creation of a variety of volunteering opportunities for Group staff, as well as coordinating drives/collection of goods for chosen charities. A number of fantastic opportunities were organised by the Youth Committee this year including:

- **Luna Park fun day** with children from the Mirabel Foundation. It was difficult to determine who had more fun, the Mirabel children or Bennelong staff;
- a visit to the **Collingwood Children's farm** with children from the South Melbourne Mission Kindergarten; and
- **Create Foundation drive:** we had an overwhelming response from staff who donated items for Create's 'entering care kits' for children who are placed in foster care, often with no time to pack personal items.

The Youth Committee acknowledges the importance of providing meaningful opportunities for staff to get involved with the charities the Foundation supports. In the coming financial year, the Committee aims to increase the variety of opportunities provided to staff (both volunteering and in-kind support), creating a fantastic opportunity for staff to truly engage with the important work of the Foundation.

On behalf of the Youth Committee, I would like to thank all Bennelong Group staff for their support; their ideas, personal time and donations to our in-kind drives. With a larger Youth Committee going into the next financial year, we look forward to investigating and presenting a broader range of worthwhile charities to the Board and offering a variety of volunteering and in-kind support opportunities to staff.

*Darlene White*

Darlene White  
Chair – Youth Committee



“Ganbina's indigenous young people arrive at Parliament House never quite knowing what to expect. After an hour of sitting in the Premier's seat in the Chamber, hearing tales about historical characters and having Ministers or MP's speak to them about their roles, they always leave much more confident about the way this strange world of politics works.”

Phil Honeywood, Adviser to the Bennelong Foundation Board on his involvement with the Ganbina visit day for the Leadership group

“It was a fantastic day. Also, I now have a better understanding of Bennelong's company, Sportsbrand Media Group and sport shows. I will really now appreciate how much work goes into making these programmes.”

Eddie Bryant, Year 10 Participant  
Ganbina Youth Leadership Programme

# Bennelong Foundation in the community

## Clocks for the Tan Track

Bennelong Foundation is very excited to be partnering Mission Australia and the City of Melbourne in a community project which, after a long period of planning, will come to fruition in early 2012. The project involves placing two clocks around the Tan Track which surrounds the Botanical Gardens: one at the start/finish line at the Pillars of Wisdom on Alexandra Avenue, and the other at the half way mark on Birdwood Avenue.

The Tan Track is a Melbourne icon and symbolises Melbourne's love of sport, fitness and pride in our community. The Tan is egalitarian, home to people of all abilities ranging from professional athletes, amateur running clubs and joggers to families with children, babies in prams and pets.

Our Foundation Chairman, Jeff Chapman, is a keen sportsman, lives near the Tan and has been a regular jogger around the Tan for many years. Inspired by Jeff's vision, Bennelong Foundation, Mission Australia and the City of Melbourne's aim is to strengthen the role of the Tan in our community, to encourage the people of Melbourne to maintain a healthy lifestyle, and to enhance Melbourne's reputation as Australia's pre-eminent lifestyle and sports-oriented city. We believe the amenity of two clocks around the Tan will:

- allow runners to keep track of their times and focus on steady improvement whatever their level of ability;
- enable them to do so at no cost; and
- draw attention to the Tan track's history and identify it as a Melbourne icon recognised nationally and internationally.



## Men's health – early detection of prostate cancer

A community awareness project was pursued by the Foundation during the year.

Prostate Cancer Foundation Australia (PCFA) is the peak national body for prostate cancer in Australia. It is dedicated to:

- fund research into the cause, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of prostate cancer;
- raise awareness about prostate cancer; and
- provide support, information and advocacy to men and their families impacted by prostate cancer.

PCFA is working toward one ultimate goal: to reduce the impact of prostate cancer on Australian men and their loved ones.

During the year, a steering committee was formed chaired by Grant Latta, and including representatives of PCFA, to investigate an innovative and preventative community health project focusing on men's health and early detection of prostate cancer for PCFA.

After much research and market feedback, the Bennelong Foundation and the PCFA agreed to postpone the project until its objectives could be met.

Our thanks and appreciation go to Grant Latta and volunteer members David Teed, Malcolm Speed and David Rhodes for their time and effort in participating in the steering committee, exploring this community awareness project.



New Stars basketballers with Richard Branson



Heartwell Foundation



Aboriginal Literacy Foundation

# Charities in focus

## New grants approved in the 2011 financial year

This year 20 new grants were approved. A selection of the successful applicants are highlighted below.

Bennelong Foundation spotlights an organisation we support on our website each quarter. For further information about the organisations we support and to read their inspiring stories, please visit our website ([www.bennelgroup.com/foundation](http://www.bennelgroup.com/foundation)).

### Aboriginal Literacy Foundation (ALF) *Literacy Support Service – Ballarat*

ALF was founded in 2003 by Dr Tony Cree and operates from the educational centre in Melbourne's CBD and in regional Victoria. ALF's programmes are community based, working in partnership with indigenous leaders, parents and educators to bring about long-term social and economic change and improve health and wellbeing.

The ALF will provide a Literacy Support Service in Ballarat and the surrounding region, enabling indigenous children to remain engaged in education. Over the longer term, it will provide greater opportunities for employment and improved health and wellbeing of the individual and the wider community. Indigenous children in regional and remote areas are at greater risk of becoming disengaged in education at an early age and leaving school with no formal qualifications and limited skills.

### Beacon Foundation *Polish Programme in Victoria (a Youth Committee Application)*

The Beacon Foundation addresses youth employment by working with young people before they leave school, to help them develop the skills and motivation needed to achieve personal success for themselves and their community. Beacon's strength is the industry links forged between schools and the community which provide students with positive mentors and employment opportunities.

Polish is a one day, dynamic and highly interactive programme which includes developing a good work ethic, deportment, grooming, employer expectations, healthy living, manners and communication skills for Year 10 students. The combination of self-development activities and time spent with business representatives is designed to provide young people with the confidence and motivation to reach their full potential, as well as the understanding of how to behave appropriately in a business environment. The programme focuses on students who are "falling between the cracks", typically from low socio-economic status schools.

### Breast Cancer Network Australia (BCNA) *Production of the CD in the My Journey Kit (a Youth Committee application)*

BCNA was established as an independent organisation by CEO and breast cancer survivor Lyn Swinburne, and is the peak national organisation for Australians personally affected by breast cancer. BCNA's vision is that Australians diagnosed with breast cancer and their families receive optimal treatment, care and support, appropriate to their individual needs and wishes. BCNA seeks to inform, empower, represent and link together Australians personally affected by breast cancer.

The grant to BCNA enabled them to produce multiple copies of the CD "When the woman you love has early breast cancer" as part of the "My Journey Kit" providing assistance and support to between 11,000 and 12,000 men each year, supporting their partners through a breast cancer journey.

### Cottage by the Sea *Aquatic Camp for children in Victoria affected by floods*

Cottage by the Sea was established in 1890 and over the 121 years has provided relief care and support for tens of thousands of children from all over Victoria. Cottage by the Sea are a unique not-for-profit, self-funded children's charity that receives no Government funding and relies solely on generous donations from individuals, companies and charitable trusts. It is a community caring for disadvantaged children and families in need. Short-term care, by way of holiday camps, are provided all year round in an idyllic, seaside location. Often these camps are the only holiday some children ever have.

The grant from Bennelong Foundation will provide an aquatic camp for disadvantaged children affected by the floods in Victoria. The purpose of the Aquatics programme is to provide primary school aged children from disadvantaged backgrounds with opportunities to become physically active, health conscious and have fun in the process. The programme also helps develop life skills and positive attitudes in children.

### Evolve at Typo Station *Young Men's Programme*

Evolve at Typo Station (Evolve) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation providing a supportive environment for disadvantaged young people to evolve into strong, caring and purposeful individuals. Founded in 1993, Evolve works with young people who are experiencing difficulties at home and school, and works closely with youth and family focused services, schools and communities throughout Victoria.

Typo Station is Evolve's rural property in the foothills of the Alpine National Park in north-east Victoria and is the centre piece of their programmes. Typo Station represents a "hand up, not hand out" approach, with a "no frills" pioneer living environment. For many of the young people, Typo Station acts as a catalyst for positive change. The Young Men's Programme is an early intervention programme designed for young men aged between 14 and 17, who are experiencing difficulties at home and/or school. These young men are often at risk of early school leaving, criminal behaviours, juvenile detention, homelessness, negative mental health, unemployment and community disengagement.



Charities in focus

**FareShare**  
*Commercial Kitchen Expansion Project*

- FareShare's mission is to:
- rescue and redirect quality food that would otherwise be wasted;
  - cook and distribute meals to charities supporting people in need; and
  - raise community awareness of food insecurity and the value of food rescue.

FareShare has a dedicated kitchen in Abbotsford, Victoria, staffed almost entirely by volunteers. The kitchen operates three shifts a day and the volunteers cook over 10,000 meals a week. All meals are distributed to charities free of charge and last financial year, FareShare supplied fresh food and cooked meals to 160 charities, saving them an estimated \$4 million.

Bennelong Foundation's grant helped FareShare to expand their kitchen capacity and increase the number of meals they supply to rural and regional Victorian communities.

**Heartwell Foundation**  
*Active & Healthy Programme  
(a Youth Committee Application)*

Heartwell was established with the express purpose to provide movement education and rehabilitation programmes to children, particularly those living with disability or illness, and disadvantaged by socio-economic circumstance. The point of difference about Heartwell is that it is neither disability nor cultural specific and caters for children with wide ranging and diverse needs; but with a common need for access, participation and inclusion in sound movement education programmes. Heartwell's programmes are empowering and proactive, ultimately leading to better quality of life, greater community awareness and tolerance.

The Active & Healthy Programme is a pre-school physical education programme being run for up to 20 pre-schools in the northern and western suburbs of Melbourne, in conjunction with the Kindergarten Parents of Victoria. The aim is to include, involve and educate parents and kindergarten staff on the importance of sound activity and exercise, as well as principles of diet and nutrition.

**Kaldor Public Art Projects**  
*Primary Schools Initiative*

Kaldor Public Art Projects (KPAP) is a not-for-profit organisation established in 2003. KPAP introduced a separate division for educational programmes, which demonstrate how art enables critical thought and reflection, encourages confidence and self-expression, and fosters lateral thinking, creativity and skills development in young people. KPAP place special emphasis on giving children and young people (particularly in regional, rural and disadvantaged communities) access otherwise not possible for them to contemporary art of the highest calibre and to leading figures in the field, through innovative and easily accessed education programmes.

The KPAP Primary Schools Initiative uses selected case studies from previous Kaldor art projects and MOVE video art to introduce Grade 6 students to contemporary art theory, history and practice. Primary school children are taught how to use classroom technologies, such as the interactive whiteboards and touch screen computers being installed in schools, to create their own projects, inspired by the project being studied.



**Kids Under Cover**  
*Scholarship Programme*

Kids Under Cover (KUC) assists children and young people, from newborn to 25 years old, who are at serious risk of homelessness, or have experienced homelessness. Many of the young people KUC assist are in foster care for various reasons such as physical, emotional or sexual abuse or parents with issues surrounding drug and alcohol dependency. Young people and their carer families fall predominantly within the lower socio-economic bracket. They are disadvantaged by factors such as long-term unemployment, geographical or social isolation, low levels of education, family members struggling with a disability or mental illness, and lack of adequate social housing or private rental accommodation to meet their needs.

Bennelong Foundation's grant has enabled KUC to award 15 scholarships of \$1,000 to young people studying Years 11 and 12 in the 2011 school year. Scholarships assist disadvantaged students who have the motivation and ability to succeed.

“ The Kids Under Cover studio changed the lives of everyone in my family. If we didn't have it, my two sons would have left home way too early and who knows where they would be now. All our kids are on a Kids Under Cover scholarship which has been a god send for us, covering the cost of school books and for Ellery, special music lessons so he can have the opportunity to chase his musical dreams. We just wouldn't have been able to afford those things on our own. ”

Father of Ellery (Ellery pictured left)



Royal Flying Doctor Service



KALDOR  
PUBLIC  
ART  
PROJECTS



Breast  
Cancer  
Network  
Australia



Charities in focus

Learning for Life Autism Centre

Learning for Life Autism Centre provides intensive, early intervention programmes to children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The centre's programmes are based on Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) therapy, one of the few therapies for treating autism spectrum disorders to have been subjected to rigorous scientific investigation around the world. Its positive results have been published in world-recognised journals of psychology, psychiatry and medicine.

Spotlight on Learning for Life

At Learning for Life, ABA therapy involves a home-based programme of intensive early intervention, incorporating large amounts of play and positive reinforcement, tailored specifically to each child's individual needs. The programme is then generalised into community settings as soon as possible: for example, playgrounds, shopping centres, childcare, kindergarten and, at a later stage, school. This level of intensity, up to 40 hours of 1:1 therapy, comes with a high cost, hence, Learning for Life's dedication to making their programmes accessible to families who might not otherwise be able to afford them.

"After seeing the programmes working so well for several years, we were increasingly concerned about the huge social injustice of access to ABA programmes. Due to the people-intensive nature of our programmes, only wealthy people could afford to access the therapy," said Mary Muirhead, one of the founders of Learning for Life.

In 2004, a group of like-minded parents, providers and teachers consolidated efforts to bring to life a charity arm of an existing ABA programme provider and Learning for Life was born.

"The idea took several years to come to fruition, as it was trained resources that we needed rather than money for buildings or capital works," said Mary, "and training educators and professionals in ABA therapy took time. It also took many years to get the medical world to recognise and recommend ABA programmes due to their high cost and intensity, however the programmes are evidence-based with a focus on longer-term outcomes and results are very positive showing real value for the high cost."

Supporting children and their families

Regardless of the hurdles encountered, the centre is thriving today and supports over 20 families. Learning for Life is the only ABA provider who offers the full service model of home-based ABA therapy to support children with ASDs. "We were finding that many families were simply overwhelmed by having to recruit, train and timetable therapists for their child's ABA programme, so we coordinate all aspects of the programme with the families we support," said Mary.

Financial support from charities is critical

Whilst Learning for Life receives no direct Government funding, children with ASD are eligible for a \$6,000 Government payment over two years to spend on support services such as the programmes run by the centre. However, the centre could not continue to offer subsidised services to affected children without support from various charities and the community. "The Bennelong Foundation currently supports the centre through the provision of a scholarship for one of the children involved in our programmes," said Mary. "A scholarship is a great opportunity for the charity to see first-hand the child's development through our programmes and the impact their support is having on the quality of life of the child and their family. Learning for Life and the sponsored family would like to thank the Bennelong Foundation for their generous support, which will change the life of a child and allow him to reach his full potential, giving hope to the family."

For more information about Learning for Life's programmes, visit [www.learningforlife.com.au](http://www.learningforlife.com.au)

Mirabel Foundation

Mirabel Youth Education Programme

Mirabel assists children who have been orphaned or abandoned due to parental illicit drug use, and are now in the care of extended family (kinship care). Mirabel provides a diverse range of support services, which aim to minimise the negative effects of parental drug use on children, and strengthen the capacity of kinship carers to provide a stable and nurturing environment for children. Mirabel's activities are all inspired by a vision based upon the belief that every child deserves a childhood. Its mission is to break the negative cycle of drug addiction.

The main objective of the Youth Education Programme is to improve educational outcomes through the provision of essential educational support (including assessment, tutoring, mentoring, work experience, liaison with schools, subject selection assistance, accessing mainstream school alternatives and advocacy) for vulnerable young people aged 13 to 17 years, ultimately improving their options for the future.



Mission Australia

Tan clocks community project

Mission Australia is one of Australia's leading charities and community organisations. They have in excess of 450 services throughout metropolitan, rural and regional Australia, in every state and territory. Mission Australia endeavour to make a real difference by working with people to meet their challenges and enabling them to pursue more positive, independent lives.

Through their programmes and services, they aim to combat homelessness, assist families and children to overcome hardship and support disadvantaged people. Mission Australia have been helping to change the lives of individuals and families in need for almost 150 years, and are committed to eliminating disadvantage and creating a fairer Australia. Their programmes are designed to inspire self-confidence and hope, and enable people to tap into their own resources and pursue a positive and independent future.

# Charities in focus

## Mornington Peninsula Youth Enterprises (MPYE) Education & Training Project

MPYE is an innovative social enterprise with a mission to assist young people to develop self-esteem, pride and confidence and become valued members of the community. MPYE provides highly personalised one-on-one education, training and support to disadvantaged young people from the Mornington Peninsula and surrounding areas. MPYE predominantly uses the income generated from its nursery sales and employment training programmes to underpin core operating costs and training opportunities for young people. Volunteers and partnerships with other agencies, government bodies and the community play a critical role in the range of operations of the organisation.

Bennelong Foundation's grant underpins the day-to-day operations of MPYE by the funding of a Nursery Supervisor's salary to provide training supervision to course participants and supervision of unfunded Department of Corrections Community Service Order referrals numbering some 25 to 30 placements a week. MPYE currently provides unfunded training and work experience opportunities for a range of disadvantaged and at-risk youth.

## New Stars Basketball Study Hall and Ball (a Youth Committee Application)

New Stars Basketball, founded in 2007, is a very grass-roots organisation that currently has over 200 young people involved in the programme and relies heavily on volunteers. The purpose of the organisation is to empower, inspire and make a positive difference in the lives of multicultural youth through the combination of education and sport. New Stars Basketball engages disadvantaged youth in the City of Greater Dandenong and surrounding areas, aged between 9 and 23 who are financially unable to be involved in social, sporting and educational activities.

Study Hall and Ball has a 'no pass, no play' system, which means the students have to pass their subjects at school in order to continue to play basketball. They also run a life and sport programme which uses open discussions and films to teach the young people how to react in different situations.

## Spotlight on New Stars Basketball

We have had a long association with Jane Tewson and Stephanie Exton of Pilotlight and their purpose is to "inspire and enable others to find new ways to make a difference to significant social issues". Jane and Steph introduced Susan Frances to New Stars Basketball in mid 2010 and a visit was arranged to view the project.

The programme is run out of the Springvale Community Centre in south east Melbourne. On arrival, Susan was greeted by over 100 eager young people ready to do their homework, receive tutoring and be trained in basketball.

This is a real grass-roots organisation run by very enthusiastic volunteers on a shoe string budget, but with wonderful results and outcomes. Susan invited New Stars Basketball to submit an application for the November 2010 round of funding and this was submitted to the Board.

The main points that appealed to the Trustees were:

- grass-roots organisation;
- education programme combined with sporting activity;
- receives little or no Government funding;
- strong volunteer base;
- very low administration costs;
- strong community focus on assimilating young, mainly Horn of Africa refugees and migrants; and
- measurable aims and objectives.

The Board approved a grant of \$20,000 which greatly assisted the organisation to run the project for the year.

One of the questions in the Bennelong Foundation's application is "what are the opportunities for Bennelong Group staff involvement?" After hosting a lunch for New Stars and Bennelong Group staff, the Foundation was inundated with requests from staff members wanting to volunteer in a variety of ways, including assisting with application writing, tutoring and coaching. Our volunteers will be assisting with application writing to raise more funds to continue the programme, tutoring of students, coaching basketball, and raising awareness of New Stars Basketball by including the project in a Sportsbrand Media Group production.

We have been very pleased with our association with New Stars Basketball both in the outcomes of the project and our continuing association with in-kind support.

“With the grant from Bennelong Foundation we were able to continue to provide programmes to over 150 youth in our association. Bennelong has enabled us to support more kids in the community with food, sport, and education. Not only does Bennelong donate financially, but they also provide us with assistance by donating their time in our tutoring program, which gives new migrants and refugee youth a helping hand in their education. The Bennelong Foundation is an organisation that is second to none. They truly care about the community.”

New Stars Association

## Pilotlight Australia Project Manager

Pilotlight Australia was founded in 2001 by Jane Tewson CBE when she came to Australia from the UK. In the UK, Jane had founded four charities, including the phenomenal Comic Relief, and all continue to thrive today. With her passion for enabling change by increasing awareness and involvement, Jane sought to continue the work she had been doing in the UK through the establishment of Pilotlight Australia. Pilotlight's vision is to inspire and enable others to find new ways to make a difference to significant social issues.

This grant is supporting the effective management and evaluation of the work between Pilotlight, their increasing number of donors and community partners. Those who benefit from Pilotlight's operations are people who are marginalised and socially isolated, especially young people under 25 years, people working in small community organisations addressing issues of disadvantage, people in business and individuals who are in a position to help, but are not sure how to do so or have not yet been inspired to do so.



## Charities in focus

### Rotary Club of Richmond

#### *Rotary Next Step Programme*

The Rotary Club of Richmond has always had a major community focus on supporting young people with a number of long running projects. The Rotary Club of Richmond's major youth focus for the past 20 years has been on disadvantaged young people in their community. In 2000, in partnership with the City of Yarra, Jesuit Social Services, Artful Dodgers and Visionary Images, Rotary Richmond focused their activities on young people in the City of Yarra aged between 15 and 20 years suffering the effects of substance abuse, and established the Rotary Youth Arts Project (RYAP).

In 2008, Rotary Richmond decided to explore how to develop a programme that would provide long-term support for the young RYAP graduates as they had shown they had the capability to stick with a project. Rotary Richmond decided their greatest need was to help them discover their strengths, prepare for and achieve in a career that matched their capabilities when they leave school. This has become the Rotary Next Step Programme which supports, guides and prepares disadvantaged young people, attending mainly alternative schools, through their transition from Years 9/10 into a job or tertiary education that matches both their interests and competencies.

### Variety, the Children's Charity - NSW

#### *NETS (Newborn Emergency Transport Service) Good Egg Pack for Tamworth Hospital through the Humpty Dumpty Foundation*

Variety's vision is for all children to attain their full potential, regardless of ability or background. Variety's mission is to transform the lives of children in need and they do this through a variety of programmes.

The Humpty Dumpty Foundation raises money to purchase essential medical equipment and provide support to over 60 children's hospitals and health associations across Australia and East Timor. They provide medical equipment and support to Paediatric services, Newborn Care Centres as well as Emergency Paediatrics across Australia. They look after premature babies right through to children up to the age of 16 years. Bennelong Foundation's grant provided a NETS Good Egg Pack to Tamworth Hospital. The pack is equipped with crucial equipment for resuscitation and immediate treatment required to treat sick babies in an isolated emergency situation until the NETS team arrives.

### Variety, the Children's Charity – Queensland

#### *Ultrablender medical equipment for the Royal Brisbane Hospital*

Following the devastating Queensland floods, Bennelong Foundation decided to dollar match donations made by staff of the Bennelong Group of companies to the flood appeal. The amount raised was over \$3,600 and the Foundation then decided to make a practical donation of much needed equipment to a Brisbane Hospital through Variety Queensland and the Humpty Dumpty Foundation.

### Victoria University (VU)

#### *VU Achievement Scholarships Programme*

VU is a multi-sector university which offers excellence in teaching, training, research and scholarship, and is the only University based in Melbourne's west. VU seek to assist young people to positively transform their lives through the power of post-secondary education. Their mission is to continually increase the opportunities for students to enhance their learning experience. VU aim to deliver courses and engagement activities that are locally relevant and globally significant, and strive to expand the range and number of partnerships with industry groups and organisations, which increase student work-based learning opportunities and the practical applications of innovative research.

The VU Achievement Scholarships Programme offers a scholarship package to each of the 50 secondary schools in Melbourne's west. Each package provides two scholarships – one for a student enrolling in a vocational educational course and one for a student enrolling in an undergraduate degree at VU for the duration of their course. The VU Achievement Scholarships Programme creates opportunities for Year 12 students to enable them to overcome obstacles that may prevent them from pursuing post-secondary education. The Achievement Scholarships help to foster a culture of aspiration and achievement, rather than simply a focus on disadvantage.



### Ardoch Youth Foundation

#### *Visit to the Collingwood Children's Farm by children from the South Melbourne Mission Kindergarten*

Ardoch removes the barriers that prevent children from fully participating in education. They do this through the provision of basic needs, and through other tailored intervention and prevention programmes in early childhood centres, primary and secondary schools. Ardoch engages businesses and communities to partner with them in supporting schools and students.

Staff from the Bennelong Group of companies volunteered to assist teachers from the South Melbourne Mission Kindergarten to take the children to have a day out at the Collingwood Children's Farm. Bennelong Foundation is involved with the kindergarten via a project we funded through Ardoch Youth Foundation.

### Concern Australia (CA)

#### *An extra year of funding for LiveWires (Learning to Grow Through Activity Project) – a youth committee application and \$15,000 for an extra year's funding for the Youth Engagement and Sustainability (YES) Scholarships*

CA's vision is to provide programmes that radically change the lives of disadvantaged and at risk young people, to give them hope and focus. These programmes not only address young people's behaviour and immediate physical needs, but tackle the deep underlying issues of self-belief.



CA aim to divert them from a potential life of disadvantage, poverty, unemployment, welfare dependence, crime, substance abuse, poor mental health, self-harm issues and broken relationships, to a life that contains hope, actualisation and self-sufficiency.

LiveWires provides opportunities for children on the Collingwood Public Housing Estate to learn through different forms of creative expression. This not only allows them the opportunities to express themselves creatively, but also allows for greater cognitive development. Through creative avenues, the project aims to improve participants' educational and social capacity, while building relationships with the children so as to be a regular support for them.

The YES Scholarships give highly marginalised young people the opportunity to be engaged and participate in Hand Brake Turn's life-changing automotive programme situated in Gosford, NSW and Dandenong and Sunshine in Victoria. The YES programme provides assistance to disadvantaged youth who are unable to gain employment, and for graduates of Hand Brake Turn who require ongoing personalised assistance after the initial 13 week period provided by the Hand Brake Turn Training Programme.



# Spotlight on Concern Australia's LiveWires

A grass-roots community endeavour is offering support to primary school-aged children during after-school hours; a time when the children were often unsupervised and at risk of getting into trouble. Moses Abbatangelo, Executive Director of Concern Australia and Ann Van Leerdam, Programme Manager, tell us about their latest programme and the difference it's made in the lives of the children involved.

Concern Australia (CA) is a cutting edge, vibrant welfare and mission organisation with an exciting vision for service, action and advocacy rooted in Christian faith. For over 35 years, CA has provided support and advocacy for some of the most disadvantaged and marginalised individuals and groups within the community.

## LiveWires

"Prior to the creation of LiveWires, there were no supervised facilities targeting this age group, leaving children as young as four involved in petty crime," said Moses.

"Today, the AHC Programme offers these children healthy after school snacks, art, craft, sport activities and a hot cooked evening meal – it sounds simple but there was such a great need in this community," explains Ann Van Leerdam, who established the programme with much community support. The programme also provides the children with an opportunity to build relationships with adults who are committed to the children and providing safe boundaries. Not surprisingly, this programme heavily relies on volunteer support.

The LiveWires programme now has over 60 participating children, with around 40 children attending each night. The Bennelong Foundation is a key supporter of this programme.

The programme has grown to offer eight services, including a Homework Assistance Programme, Holiday Programme, Art Therapy Programme and numeracy and literacy support programme (Wired UP).

## The challenges

When asked about the challenges of implementing such a programme, Moses said it's always funding that presents one of the biggest hurdles. "We began the programme with a grass-roots community development model, so the community and organisations working on the Collingwood Public Housing Estate were very much behind the programme. There was such an obvious need for it and the parents were fantastic advocates, but attracting the funding has always been one of our biggest challenges."

## Junior Leadership Programme

Since the inception of the programme, CA noticed that some children found it very hard to move away from the LiveWires AHC programme once they'd left primary school. A number of the children wanted to come back to the programme, so CA's idea was to create a new way for these children to be able to engage.

"The Junior Leadership Programme does just that; creates a framework for children who've been through the programme to continue that involvement and offer additional support to children currently in the programme," said Ann.

Whilst the success of the LiveWires programme has been very pleasing for CA, Moses says it's difficult to be overwhelmed by its success when there is still so much need in the local community.

"All of our programmes have been developed from community requests. Over the past years I've witnessed great changes in some children. We've developed a wonderful discipline which aims to respect the children and ourselves, and provide clear boundaries for everyone participating in the programmes. We very much acknowledge the fantastic work we do, and also acknowledge the great results we see aren't just about the LiveWires Programmes, but rather because our partnerships with local schools and other organisations allow us to offer an almost holistic response to the issues the children face," he explains.

For more information about the LiveWires programme or Concern Australia in general, please visit [www.concernaustralia.org.au](http://www.concernaustralia.org.au)

“ One year ago, I joined Concern Australia's Mentoring Programme, which runs alongside their LiveWires project. I now catch up every week with Shelly, a lively teenager with a Chinese background living in Collingwood. We hang out together, watch royal weddings, skateboard in the garage and bake cookies. Being a mentor for Shelly means being there for her, and I am enjoying every single moment. ”

Sofie Desmet of Bennelong Funds Management on volunteering for Concern Australia

## Mackillop Family Services

An extra year of funding for the Vietnamese Parent Support Group

Mackillop Family Services was formed in July 1997 combining the family welfare agencies of the Sisters of Mercy, Christian Brothers and the Sisters of St Joseph, and has provided a range of welfare services to those most in need in the community in Melbourne and Geelong. All Mackillop's services confront higher than average state-wide levels of poverty, family breakdown and violence, disability, families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, transience, family homelessness, burden of disease, mental health issues, gambling and drug and alcohol issues.

The purpose of the project is to lessen community isolation within the Vietnamese community as there is a perceived stigma towards anyone who has a disability. Also, to encourage Vietnamese families of children with a disability to connect with services and social supports in the wider community to improve the quality of their lives.

## Prahran Mission

An extra year of funding of the Creative Employment Options (CEO) Project

For over 62 years, Prahran Mission has been committed to the wellbeing of the community through its pastoral care services and community development activities. It provides high quality social and professional community services and challenges unjust social and economic structures. The Mission serves, assists the empowerment of, and advocates alongside of people who have a psychiatric disability, aged people, children, youth, the homeless, people from non-English speaking backgrounds, one parent families and other economically and socially disadvantaged individuals and groups.

The major objective of CEO is to put people in the work force, who have a long-term mental illness and want to enter the work force rapidly. In particular, it aims to minimise the complexities associated with being referred to a disability employment agency. The unemployment rate for people with a mental illness is 75 to 80% in Victoria while the OECD average is 40 to 50%. Another major aim is to develop new ways to provide employment opportunities thereby reducing the level of unemployment in this sector.

## Royal Flying Doctor Service (South East Section)

Second year of a four year funding commitment for an Indigenous Medical Student Scholarship

The Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia (RFDS) is a not-for-profit charitable service providing aeromedical emergency and primary healthcare services to people who live, work and travel in regional and remote Australia. The South Eastern section is an important part of this national network providing extensive primary healthcare services, including 24 hour emergency evacuation, regular remote health clinics, specialist clinics, female GP clinics, inter-hospital transfers, dentistry, mental health counselling and community health nursing to people across South Eastern Australia.

This grant funds a scholarship of \$15,000 per annum over a four year period to an Indigenous student, who was admitted to undertake the Graduate Medical Course with Flinders University. Once qualified, the Indigenous medical student will undertake a return of service with RFDS based in Broken Hill for a period of five years.

## Sudanese Australian Integrated Learning (SAIL) Programme Inc.

Third year of a three year funding commitment for the SAIL Xtend, SAIL About, Student Leadership Fund and Bursaries Programme

The Sudanese Australian Integrated Learning (SAIL) Programme Inc. is a volunteer, non-profit, secular organisation that provides free English support and community services to the Sudanese refugee community in Melbourne and Sydney. The purpose of SAIL is to offer English language support and to develop and foster relationships with and between members of Australia's Sudanese community.

- SAIL Xtend involves SAILors aged 8 to 14, participating in various short courses on Saturday afternoons. These courses allow students to participate in activities they may otherwise be unable to undertake.
- The SAILAbout programme involves the provision of camps and excursions to SAILors of all ages. Both camps and excursions are followed up with worksheets and discussions.
- SAIL Bursary Programme: all SAIL students entering VCE/HSC are given \$285 to cover various school expenses.
- Student Youth Leadership Committee is comprised of student representatives from each of SAIL's six Melbourne campuses who are responsible for the distribution of funding to fellow SAIL students.

# Projects co-funded by Bennelong Foundation

## Family Life

YouthWorx Replication Project in Chelsea  
(second year of three year commitment)

This grant has contributed to a collaboratively funded project, to replicate Family Life's sustainable social enterprise model in the urban renewal suburb of Chelsea, Victoria. The social enterprise is an up-market Opportunity Shop (charity or thrift shop) in which volunteers and paid staff provide unemployed young people and adults with certificate level retail training, work experience, personal support and assistance in finding a job.

“How can an unemployed person get a job if they don't have any work experience or the necessary skills? It is even harder if they have a mental health issue, low self-confidence and personal problems at home. Critical to the success of PeopleWorx is the philanthropic seed-funding provided by the Bennelong and Dubai Duty Free Foundations.

The effect of this support extends well beyond the reach of the actual grant. Having such significant partners plays an enormous role in us being able to leverage further grants to replicate our successful model in other high-need communities.”

Judy Latta, Relationship Manager, Family Life

## Ponting Foundation and Redkite

The Exceptional Needs Assistance Programme  
(second year of three year commitment)

Our combined grant, matched by Ponting Foundation, provides financial assistance to families facing exceptional levels of need during the active treatment, palliative care or early bereavement phase of their childhood or adolescent and young adult cancer experience. During the last 12 months, Susan Frances, General Manager of Bennelong Foundation, has sat on the committee assessing the applications for exceptional needs assistance together with Rianna Ponting and Tim Rogers of Redkite. There have been many heartbreaking stories of families suffering not just the anguish of having a child or children with cancer, but the threat of losing their homes, cars and facing a mountain of debt. The grants provided through the Exceptional Needs Assistance Programme go some way to alleviating financial stress.

## Victorian Arabic Social Services and Dubai Duty Free Foundation

The Anti-Racism Action Band Project - A.R.A.B.  
(second year of three year commitment)

The A.R.A.B. programme's priority group is disadvantaged youth aged 12 to 25 years in Melbourne's northern region. They currently work with approximately 200 young people in 11 secondary schools from various cultural backgrounds. Over 50 different cultural groups are represented in the programme as well as a broad range of religions. Bennelong and Dubai Duty Free Foundation's grant has enabled A.R.A.B. to employ a community development worker and a part-time cultural liaison worker to work with this large number of young people.

A.R.A.B. offers its youth a solid, accessible and creative vehicle for the broadening and strengthening of ideas, collaborative artistic practices and social relationships around notions and themes of race, culture, difference, generational and familial conflict and individual identity and aspiration.



## Spotlight on the Anti-Racism Action Band

Marline Zaibak, Programme Manager of the Anti-Racism Action Band (A.R.A.B.), tells us about the programme and the impact it's having on the region's culturally diverse youth.

The A.R.A.B. programme is a vivid illustration of Melbourne's cultural diversity. Recognising that racism, gang culture and discrimination against and between young people in the region were also fuelled by low self-esteem and a lack of creative outlets across all cultural groupings, the A.R.A.B. youth performing arts project reaches out to youth of any cultural background. Its aims are diverse; from challenging racial tensions and promoting social inclusion, to increasing confidence and self-esteem, the A.R.A.B. project today engages with more than 250 young people from 50 different nationalities and 40 religious backgrounds.

### How does the programme work?

Structured as four interlinked platforms, the A.R.A.B. programme engages participants in weekly rehearsals, special projects, employment and training, a public gigging programme and a major annual artistic performance. The creative opportunities are broad and eclectic and include rap, hip hop, body percussion, belly dance, traditional and contemporary music, comedy, krump, dancehall, stomp and parkour.

“The programme is as diverse as the cultural background of its participants,” said Marline. “It fuses traditional and street dance forms with theatre, spoken word, original music and video. All A.R.A.B. performances are underpinned with local stories and themes of cultural and suburban identity, so it aims to capture the imagination and interest of all participants.”

### Long-term impact of the programme

Through all its activities, small and large, A.R.A.B. aims to significantly strengthen a young person's self worth, practical skills and self-motivation so they can apply this 'currency' in their school, social, cultural, and artistic settings. There are also obvious flow-on effects in their adult lives at work, with family and in the broader community.

Whilst the nature of the programme and its community development focus mean the outcomes and benefits are measured over the long-term, there are some very obvious short-term measures.

“We've had a noticeable increase in the number of youth involved in additional gigs, workshops and events, so the programme's activities obviously resonate with participants,” said Marline. “Recently, the 'masquerade' crew from the Brunswick Secondary College Language Centre came onto the gig circuit and performed at an indigenous event for the City of Melbourne. To witness their enthusiasm and commitment first-hand gives you a snapshot of the impact of the programme. They've been mentored by programme workers and guest artists and will be further supported and up-skilled throughout the year, so the commitment to participants is ongoing.”

### Importance of ongoing funding

Whilst the A.R.A.B. project receives some Government funding, grants from other philanthropic organisations are critically important to the long-term maintenance of the programme.

“The joint three-year grant from the Bennelong Foundation and Dubai Duty Free Foundation enabled us to employ a community development officer and an events worker. They work closely with participants, school and community partners on tailoring activities to better suit those having difficulty integrating into the programme. The new staff have already been able to strengthen and formalise our two community development platforms, as well as engage a number of youth who were on the cusp of completely dropping-out of programme activities,” said Marline.

A.R.A.B. programme workers have also been able to work more closely with a number of the female participants experiencing challenges around issues such as lack of confidence, homelessness and familial conflict. “These outcomes could not have happened without the grant funds for the new workers,” said Marline. “The ongoing support from our partners is invaluable.”

For more information on the A.R.A.B. programme, visit [www.arab-vass.com](http://www.arab-vass.com)

Investment and  
financial report  
for the year ended  
30 June 2011



# Investment and financial report for the year ended 30 June 2011

The Foundation would like to acknowledge and thank our investment fund managers, Phil Henty, Bennelong Funds Management and Evans and Partners for their professional advice and support during the financial year.

## Governance

The Bennelong Foundation is a Private Ancillary Fund and is subject to the Private Ancillary Fund Guidelines 2009.

The Board of Trustees meets twice a year to consider Foundation matters including:

- administration: to ensure it is meeting its compliance obligations;
- investing: to ensure its assets are achieving its investment aims and objectives; and
- grant making: to determine the distribution of funds to eligible entities.

## Financial reports

The Bennelong Foundation is not a reporting entity. Accordingly, the Trustee prepared a special purpose financial report for the year ended 30 June 2011 to satisfy its reporting requirements under the Trust Deed and compliance with the Private Ancillary Fund Guidelines.

## Investment aims and objectives

The Bennelong Foundation operates under a formal investment policy statement. The policy statement sets out the investment aims and objectives, approved investments, the asset allocation profile approved to meet the funds objectives and also details the rules governing the management of the Foundation's investments.

The investment aim and objective of the Foundation is to:

- generate a current year's income consistent with its portfolio asset allocation; and
- maintain the inflation adjusted earnings base and therefore grant making capacity of the fund.

## Financial performance

Since inception in 2002 our average return has been 10.31%

## Payment of income as donations

Approval was given during the year for 30 grants. Some of the grants were approved for payment in instalments over future years.

## List of grants paid by the Bennelong Foundation in 2010-2011

- Aboriginal Literacy Foundation
- Ardoch Youth Foundation
- Beacon Foundation
- Breast Cancer Network Australia
- Child Wise
- Concern Australia
- Cottage by the Sea
- Evolve at Typo Station
- Family Life
- FareShare
- Heartwell Foundation
- Kaldor Public Art Projects
- Kids Under Cover
- Learning for Life Autism Centre
- Mackillop Family Services
- Mirabel Foundation
- Mission Australia
- Mornington Peninsula Youth Enterprises
- New Stars Basketball
- Pilotlight Australia
- Prahran Mission
- Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia
- Redkite / Ponting Foundation
- Rotary Club of Richmond
- Royal Flying Doctor Service – South Eastern Section
- Sudanese Australia Integrated Learning Programme
- Variety the Children's Charity NSW
- Variety the Children's Charity Queensland
- Victoria University
- Victorian Arabic Social Services – Anti-Racism Action Band

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