



2023-2024 Financial Year Annual Report

West Moorabool Foundation Ltd

Our Mission

To improve the health and wellbeing outcomes for West Moorabool community members.

Our Vision

To raise community awareness to take action on important health matters, by engaging partners to promote, or deliver, programs and services to West Moorabool community members.

Our History

In December 2021, west Moorabool's community-owned bush nursing hospital sold to mecwacare. The hospital association members wanted to derive a health benefit from the residual funds. They voted to establish the West Moorabool Foundation Ltd to promote health-related initiatives in the Ballan and the West Moorabool Districts. The Foundation has invested the funds it received as outlined in the Treasurer's Report.

The Foundation was incorporated as a public company limited by guarantee under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) on 19 April 2023. The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission registered the Foundation as a charity.

Through its links to the bush nursing hospital, the foundation traces its origin story back to 1944. It was then that the people of Ballan and surrounds began fundraising to build a local hospital. In 1966, the Ballan and District Soldiers' Memorial Bush Nursing Hospital opened its doors and began caring for the west Moorabool community.

The foundation acknowledges the lives of those who served and died in World War II, to whom the bush nursing hospital was dedicated. We hope to honour that wonderful, practical memorial in our work.

About Us

Our People

Robert Eskdale, Interim President

Robert was a Life Governor of Ballan's bush nursing hospital and served on its board for over 40 years. Currently retired, he worked as a municipal engineer for the Ballan Shire before running a successful business with his wife Anne Eskdale.



Peter Mayall, Treasurer

Peter is a chartered accountant with over 40 years of experience in areas including business structures and monitoring, management accounting, income tax, capital gains tax, GST, small business concessions, and auditing. He is chair of the Committee for Wyndham, a board member of the Werribee Football Club, and a member of Wyndham BizNet.



Julie Dargan, Director

Julie is a Stakeholder Community Engagement Manager. In another life she worked as a Registered Nurse for 20 years.



Ann Griffin, Interim Director

Ann worked as Manager, People and Culture, at Ballan's bush nursing hospital. She has extensive experience working in and managing not-for-profits, including psychiatric and disability services.



Tor Roxburgh, Interim Secretary

Tor worked as Communications Manager at Ballan's bush nursing hospital. She has a background in family violence services, writing, publishing, and the visual arts. Previously, she sat on the board of Writers Victoria.



Structure & Management

The West Moorabool Foundation Ltd is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC), is a registered fundraiser with the Department of Government Services, Victoria, and is a member of Community Foundations Australia.

The Foundation has no staff members and is managed by its board of directors who work on a voluntary basis.

President's Report

I am honoured to report on the West Moorabool Foundation Ltd.'s first full year of operation as a registered health promotion charity.

The Foundation's investments will allow it to undertake charitable works during the current financial year. Last financial year, the Foundation focused on four key tasks in preparation for its health promotion and disease prevention work. The tasks were:

- *Keeping in touch with our members;*
- *collaborating with our members about the work ahead;*
- *building relationships with key organisations; and*
- *managing our finances and administrative obligations.*

Keeping in touch with our members

At the last AGM in 2023, members asked the board to share periodic reports about the Foundation's progress. In response, the board reached out to members in January and April with written reports, detailing the Foundation's activities and achievements.

Collaborating with members

The board held its first Special General Meeting in April. After a presentation from the Grampians Public Health Unit about health issues in Moorabool, members were invited to

shortlist and vote on prioritising the Foundation's focus. The shortlist was then put to members in a postal vote. The overwhelming result indicated the members want the Foundation to focus on the health implications of the challenges faced by older people in applying aged care packages.

Building relationships with key organisations

The board has been in touch with local, state, and national organisations, such as VicHealth, the Grampian's Public Health Unit, mecwacare, Moorabool Shire Council, and Community Foundations Australia.

Managing our finances and administrative obligations

The Foundation's treasurer has prepared financial statements and has overseen the Foundation's investment decisions with the support of the board. The Foundation's Secretary has maintained our administrative records, website, and regulatory duties.

I want to thank our directors for their unpaid work. I'm grateful to Peter Mayall and Julie Dargan for joining our board as directors, bringing their expertise in community engagement (Julie) and finance (Peter). I also want to thank Ann Griffin and Tor Roxburgh, who have continued as interim directors, sharing their leadership and HR skills (Ann) and communication skills (Tor).

Your board will continue to collaborate with members and health providers to ensure local initiatives improve health outcomes.

Robert Eskdale
Interim President

Treasurer's Report

It is my pleasure to present the first treasurer's report of the West Moorabool Foundation Ltd for the financial year ended 30th June, 2024.

The Foundation received total funds of \$1,693,000 from the sale of the Ballan & District Heath Care facility which has been invested.

The majority of the invested funds mature after the conclusion of the current financial year, however interest was received and together with member contributions and donations the Foundation had an income of \$6,458. We have paid set up costs and ongoing expenses totalling \$4,374 leaving a surplus for the financial year of \$2,084.

The audited financial statements are attached and I request be formally accepted and approved.

Peter Mayall
Treasurer

Auditor's Report

The signed Auditor's Report is provided as a separate document.

Financial Statements

The Financial Report is provided as a separate document.

Acknowledgments & Thank You

Throughout the financial year, community members, local businesses, Victorian philanthropic organisations, health providers and health promotion organisations volunteered their time to support and advise us. Their made it possible to establish complete our first full year of operation.

We wish to offer thanks to:

Seek Accounting Services
Ballan & District Community Bank
Patrick Bonello and the team at
GenesisFX
The Moorabool News

Australian Communities Foundation
The Grampians Public Health Unit
VicHealth
Ballan Neighbourhood House.

We are looking forward to a dynamic future, focused on improving health outcomes in the district.

How You Can Help

Become a member

It's easy to become a member. Just visit www.westmooraboolfoundation.com and apply online or request an application form by calling the Secretary on 0487 895 441.

Make a donation

The West Moorabool Foundation Ltd can receive tax deductible donations. Donating is easy. Just visit www.westmooraboolfoundation.com/donations-bequests to donate online.

Leave a bequest

To learn more about leaving a bequest, we encourage you to get in touch. For an overview of the steps involved, you can visit www.westmooraboolfoundation.com/donations-bequests.

Contact Us

Volunteers run the West Moorabool Foundation Ltd. We're always happy to hear from you, but please be patient.

It may take us a week or so to get back to you.

Post: PO Box 39 Ballan VIC 3342

Email: westmooraboolfoundation@gmail.com

Website: www.westmooraboolfoundation.com

Secretary: 0487 895 441