



**A Healthier Moorabool**  
Together We Flourish

# **West Moorabool Foundation Ltd**

## **2024–2025 Annual Report**



ABN 45 667 350 085

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## **Mission**

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

## **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.

## **History**

The West Moorabool Foundation Ltd was incorporated on 19 April 2023 as a public company limited by guarantee and is registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

Our roots stretch back to 1944, when local fundraising began for a community hospital. The Ballan and District Soldiers' Memorial Bush Nursing Hospital opened in 1966, honouring those who served and died in World War II. In December 2021, the community-owned hospital was sold to mecwacare. Members resolved to ensure residual funds continued to benefit local health and voted to establish the West Moorabool Foundation to promote health-related initiatives across Ballan and West Moorabool. We honour that legacy through practical, partnership-driven health promotion.

## **About Us**

We are a volunteer-led health promotion charity focused on improving local health outcomes through awareness, prevention, and connection to services. In 2024–2025 we moved from set-up into delivery, hiring our first Executive Officer, launching projects, and partnering on community events that build knowledge and support.

## **Our People**

- Robert Eskdale, President
- Peter Mayall, Treasurer
- Julie Dargan, Director (resigned 18 June 2025)
- Ann Griffin, Director
- Tor Roxburgh, Secretary

## **Our Executive Officer**

- Kim Dennis, Health Promotion Executive Officer (appointed April 2025)

Kim brings over a decade of leadership across health, education, and community services. She holds an MBA (Leadership and Digital Enterprise) from RMIT and qualifications in community services and child and family practice. Kim leads our health promotion projects, builds local partnerships, secures funding, and supports initiatives that improve health outcomes across West Moorabool.

## **Structure & Management**

- Registered with the ACNC as a charity
- Registered fundraiser with the Victorian Department of Government Services
- Member, Community Foundations Australia

The Foundation is governed by a volunteer Board. Day-to-day delivery is now supported by the Health Promotion Executive Officer, enabling us to scale outreach and impact while maintaining strong governance and financial oversight.



## President's Report

This year marked a significant step forward for the West Moorabool Foundation. We transitioned from establishment to action.

Key highlights:

- Appointed our first Health Promotion Executive Officer, Kim Dennis, in April 2025. Kim has already accelerated our project planning, partnerships, and funding efforts.
- Commenced a health promotion project focused on mental health and chronic illness awareness, with community engagement around dementia and targeted digital outreach on anxiety, depression, and type 1 diabetes.
- Planned a second project addressing vaping through early intervention, with implementation to begin in late 2025/2026, targeting youth and families through digital campaigns, partnerships, and local events.
- Strengthened partnerships with organisations including mecwacare, the Primary Health Network (PHN), Black Dog Institute, VicHealth, the Grampians Public Health Unit, Moorabool Shire Council, and Community Foundations Australia.
- Working towards and planning a significant community event—"Just A Farmer"—a film screening that is designed to spark conversations

around mental health in farming communities and connect people with resources.

- Working with stakeholders to provide an award for health engagement in the Moorabool Youth Awards
- Continued to engage members and stakeholders, maintaining transparent communication and strong governance.

I thank our directors for their ongoing volunteer service and welcome the energy and expertise Kim brings to our mission. In the year ahead, we will deepen our community engagement, deliver targeted interventions, and measure our impact.

Robert Eskdale

President





## Treasurer's Report

For the financial year ended 30 June 2025, the Foundation maintained a prudent investment approach while expanding delivery capacity through the appointment of an Executive Officer late in the year.

### Summary:

- **Investments:** The capital derived from the sale of the Ballan & District Health Care facility remains invested in accordance with Board approvals, with maturity profiles designed to balance security and income.
- **Income:** Interest earnings continued during the year. We also recorded membership contributions and donations, including community support linked to our growing activities and partnerships.
- **Expenditure:** Operating expenses reflect governance, compliance, outreach, and initial project delivery costs. The appointment of the Health Promotion Executive Officer (from April 2025) is reflected in year-end personnel costs and will be more fully represented in the 2025–2026 statements.
- **Result:** The Foundation ended the year in a sound financial position, with the capacity to fund planned health promotion initiatives in 2025–2026.

Audited financial statements accompany this report for the year ended 30 June 2025.

Peter Mayall

Treasurer



## **Auditor's Report**

The signed Auditor's Report for the year ended 30 June 2025 is provided as a separate document.

## **Financial Statements**

The Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2025 is provided as a separate document.



## **Our Work in 2024–2025**

### **Health Promotion Projects**

- Mental Health and Chronic Illness Awareness (underway)

Focus: Awareness of anxiety, depression, and type 1 diabetes; community engagement around dementia.

Approach: Targeted Facebook outreach, local conversations, practical signposting to services, and resources for caregivers.

- Tackling Vaping Through Early Intervention (commencing late 2025/2026)

Focus: Reducing vaping uptake and harm, especially among young people.

Approach: Digital education, school and community partnerships, interactive events, and practical tools for families.

### **Community Events and Engagement**

- Working with others to plan and design the “Just A Farmer” film screening to be completed in September 2025

In partnership with mecwacare, PHN, and Black Dog Institute, we supported a community screening to open dialogue about mental health in farming

communities, connect residents with resources, and build a supportive network.

## **Partnerships and Support**

- Community Foundations Australia partnership

We acknowledge a \$10,000 contribution from Community Foundations Australia to the West Moorabool Foundation, to strengthen the foundation's resources..

## **Acknowledgments & Thank You**

Our progress is built on community spirit and collaboration. Thank you to our members, volunteers, local businesses, philanthropic partners, health providers, and health promotion organisations who shared their time and expertise.

With gratitude to:

- Community Foundations Australia (including a \$10,000 resource transfer)
- VicHealth
- The Grampians Public Health Unit
- mecwacare
- Primary Health Network (PHN)
- Black Dog Institute
- Ballan & District Community Bank
- Seek Accounting Services
- Patrick Bonello and the team at GenesisFX
- The Moorabool News
- Ballan Neighbourhood House

Your support helps us reach more people with timely, practical health information and services.

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## **How You Can Help**

- Become a member

Join for \$10 to stay informed and vote at our AGM. Apply online at [www.westmooraboolfoundation.com](http://www.westmooraboolfoundation.com).

- Make a donation

We accept tax-deductible donations. Give online at [www.westmooraboolfoundation.com/donations-bequests](http://www.westmooraboolfoundation.com/donations-bequests).

- [Leave a bequest](#)

Create a lasting legacy for local health. Learn more at [www.westmooraboolfoundation.com/donations-bequests](http://www.westmooraboolfoundation.com/donations-bequests).

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## **Contact Us**

We are volunteer-led and now supported by our Executive Officer. We appreciate your patience—we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

- Post: PO Box 39, Ballan VIC 3342
- Email: [westmooraboolfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:westmooraboolfoundation@gmail.com)
- Website: [www.westmooraboolfoundation.com](http://www.westmooraboolfoundation.com)

Together, we're building a healthier, more connected West Moorabool.