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VISION

Enriching Our Community

MISSION

Provide accessible information, resources and stimulation for the recreational, cultural, educational and social development of our community.

GOALS

Our goals support our community to connect, create and learn.

- Meeting Community Needs
- Buildings and Creative Spaces
- Collections and Resources
- Programs
- Partnerships and Stakeholders
- Working Smarter
- Spreading the Word
- The Future



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



On behalf of the Board I am pleased to present the 2014/15 Annual Report of the Goldfields Library Corporation.

This report demonstrates the breadth of collections, programs, events and library services delivered on a daily basis, detailing challenges, achievements and commitment to the provision of high quality library services.

One of the highlights of the year was the completion of the new strategic plan, the Library Plan 2015-2019, which shapes the future direction and decision making for the Corporation. Importantly, it outlines how the libraries will contribute to the development of strong, vibrant and connected communities.

The strategic plan draws on robust and comprehensive research, in particular the Victorian Public Library 2030 Report and other research undertaken by the State Library and Public Libraries. In addition to the research the Board and managers toured some of Victoria's most progressive libraries to see and experience their approach to services.

As an investment in our staff skills and capability, the Corporation introduced a Professional Development Day which provides the opportunity for staff across the region to collaborate.

I would like to thank our member Councils for their ongoing support and investment in libraries. This commitment was demonstrated in the signing of the 2014-2018 Regional Library Agreement. Council investment in libraries was also evident in the improvements made to the Castlemaine and Woodend Libraries. These improvements would not have been possible without the State Government Living Libraries grants and this support is greatly appreciated.

I would like to thank my fellow Board members for their commitment to our library service and our member Council officers for their support and contribution throughout the year. This year we farewell two Board members – Carolyn Wallace, who was a Board member for four years, and Marg Allan, who has had a 20 year association with the Corporation, including seven years as a Board member. I would like to thank Marg and Carolyn for their important contribution.

I would also like to thank our new CEO Chris Kelly for the significant work she has completed in realigning and strategically positioning the Corporation to maximise the benefit our libraries deliver to their communities.

Finally, the impressive success of the Goldfields Library Corporation is a reflection of the people: staff, visitors, volunteers, supporters and stakeholders. I thank each and every one of you for your dedication and passion for our libraries. We are well positioned to continue to build on our substantial achievements.

Cr. Rod Fyffe

Chair

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

During 2014/15 the Goldfields Library Corporation has further consolidated its role as a crucial pillar and enabler of culture in the region and as an institution that embraces and facilitates collaboration.

As we conclude our current three year plan we take enormous pride in our achievements in delivering high quality library services, as presented in this Annual Report.

Libraries are transforming themselves aligned to community needs and aspirations. The new Library Plan 2015-2019 sets the direction for the Corporation, and as part of the strategic planning and visioning process the Library Board and staff have developed the new Vision and Mission.

Vision: Goldfields Libraries: where Communities Explore, Engage and Create.

Mission: We will enrich our communities by providing:

- Welcoming and inclusive spaces
- Friendly, helpful and knowledgeable staff
- Access to information, collections and technology
- Programs for learning, creativity and recreation

Our new four year plan supports the achievement of our Vision and Mission, and our Goals are based on key areas of service delivery: collections, technology, programs, good governance and importantly staff, who enable and maximise the benefits we deliver to communities.

Whilst we maintain our strong commitment to reading and literacy, the new goals are based on our determination to continue to improve library service in an increasingly digital world, providing the spaces and opportunities that will inspire you, draw you in and bring you together as an enriched and supportive community.

None of our achievements or aspirations would be possible without the support of our wonderful library staff. I would like to thank the staff for their dedication and commitment and for the tremendous job they do in realising the vision of the Corporation. It is through everyone's collective efforts and hard work that we are able to achieve our goals and deliver excellent customer service.

I would like to thank the Board for their vision and support, as well as their strategic decision-making and strong advocacy. Once again the Board has overseen a year of growth and achievements. I would also like to thank our member Councils for their support and investment in public libraries which has allowed us to continue to offer the high standard of service-provision to our communities.

Last but certainly not least, thank you to all of our members and visitors for contributing and supporting our libraries as wonderful dynamic community hubs.

Chris Kelly

Chief Executive Officer



ABOUT GOLDFIELDS LIBRARY CORPORATION

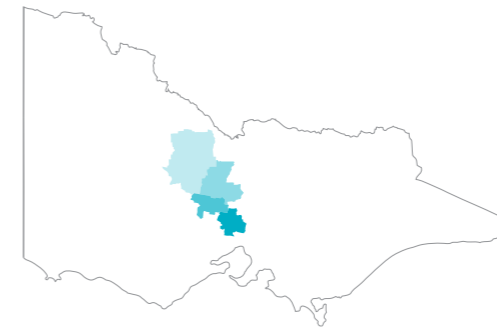
The North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation (trading as Goldfields Library Corporation) was established in January 1996 to provide library and information services to the City of Greater Bendigo, Loddon Shire, Macedon Ranges Shire and Mt Alexander Shire.

Located in centres along the Calder Highway, the Goldfields Library Corporation is one of the largest library services in Victoria, covering an area of 12,979 square kilometres. The service is coordinated from an administration hub at the Bendigo Library.

With a staff of approximately 52 EFT, the service provides for a community of around 177,000 people, has a collection of over 315,000 items, lends 1.6 million items and receives 1.2 million visitors annually.



COMMUNITIES



Mount Alexander Shire

More than 18,000 people call Mount Alexander Shire home, with most residents living in the close knit townships of Castlemaine, Harcourt, Newstead and Maldon. The Shire has an ageing population that is expected to grow at a rate of less than 1 percent per annum overall, although growth in the 50-70 year old population is expected to increase by more than 16 percent over the next five years.

The people of Mount Alexander Shire are an engaged and active community, with strengths in arts, culture, and sustainability. The Shire benefits from above average levels of volunteering, community engagement and participation. The main population centre is Castlemaine with approximately 7,000 residents. The Shire has the highest level of membership within the Corporation, with approximately 48 percent of all residents registered as library members.

City of Greater Bendigo

The City of Greater Bendigo has a population of approximately 110,000 people and is growing at a rate of almost 2 percent per year. Over the next five years, Greater Bendigo will grow by more than 10,000 people, with a particular focus on an increasing proportion of young families.

Bendigo is well known for its historic streetscapes and buildings dating back to the 1880's gold rush, as well as being a recognised UNICEF Child Friendly City.

Library membership levels have very positively increased over the last 12 months at Greater Bendigo libraries, rising by 5,316 people. In comparison, the population in Greater Bendigo rose by around 1,800 people.

Loddon Shire

Loddon Shire is geographically the largest municipality serviced by Goldfields Library Corporation with an area of 6,694 km², coupled with the smallest population at 7,365 people. This presents interesting challenges in ensuring that residents can access library services in a convenient and regular way from reasonably remote locations. The population has declined over the last 10 years by close to 1000 people, however townships in the municipality remain vibrant, resilient and well connected communities.

The Loddon Shire provides a rural lifestyle and has significant agricultural industry, along with the natural landscapes of the Loddon River.

Macedon Ranges Shire

The Macedon Ranges Shire is currently home to around 45,500 people. The population in the Shire is spread across several townships, with libraries located in each of the four major centres – Gisborne, Kyneton, Romsey and Woodend. The southern communities of Gisborne, Romsey and areas such as Riddells Creek are growing at a rapid rate of between 1.6 and 2.6 percent per annum. Interestingly these townships also have a highly mobile population with the majority of employed persons leaving the towns to go to work. This presents challenges in matching library services to people's lifestyles.

The Macedon Ranges Shire is well known for its iconic natural landscapes such as Hanging Rock, as well as fine local produce available at a range of local Farmer's Markets.



MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS

Libraries have the capacity to support communities through the rapid change currently being experienced. Libraries provide supportive, creative learning spaces for all members of the community and as a key strand in the social safety net, public libraries provide an important lifeline to jobs, educational opportunities, literacy, health resources and government and community services.

The new world of 'information plenty' creates new essential skills, such as the ability to gain value from information and produce new knowledge. Economic, educational, civic and social opportunities are tied to new sets of knowledge and skills that barely existed a generation ago and people who don't have these skills, knowledge or access are at risk of being left behind. Digital literacy skills are important to participate in our society.

Libraries can be at the centre of changes: as trusted community resources and an essential platform for learning, creativity and innovation in the community. Public libraries have the capability to support communities with these changes by providing access and connecting knowledge to the needs of individuals and the community.

Goldfields Libraries facilitate exploration, engagement, creativity and learning by providing access to:

- A large collection of physical and electronic materials
- Spaces for our communities to read, work, study and socialise
- Programs and events for adults, young adults, children and families
- Computers and wireless internet
- Knowledgeable, helpful staff who maximise the benefits for the communities

Library services are provided through a variety of service points:

- Elibrary provides 24/7 access to library information, catalogue and ecollections
- Mobile Library delivers weekly access to collections and computers
- Pyramid Hill Transaction Centre houses a small collection of books
- Castlemaine, Eaglehawk, Gisborne, Heathcote, Romsey and Woodend Libraries are housed in buildings with other council facilities
- Kyneton and Kangaroo Flat Libraries
- Bendigo Library incorporates the Goldfields Research Centre and the Bendigo Regional Archives Centre
- Home Library Service assists people who are house bound and unable to visit a library
- Books are delivered to aged care facilities

About the Board

The Goldfields Library Corporation Board is responsible for the provision of the best library service outcomes for the communities of the four member Councils. The Board is appointed to provide leadership for good governance of the Corporation through strategic planning, policy determination and service evaluation.

Representation on the Board is established by the Regional Library Agreement adopted by the member Councils: Greater Bendigo City Council, Loddon Shire Council, Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Mt Alexander Shire Council.

Projects and initiatives for 2014/2015 included:

- Review of the Regional Library Agreement 2014-2018
- Review of the Service and Funding Agreement 2014-2018
- Annual Budget 2014/15 and the Strategic Library Plan 2015-2019
- Annual Financial Report 2014/15
- Review of the Mobile Library service
- Review of Mobile Library service fees for non-member Councils
- Review of the Procurement Policy
- The Risk Management Policy

The service operates as an independent legal entity and is audited annually by the Victorian Auditor-General.



Cr Rod Fyffe
Greater Bendigo City Council
(Chair)



Ms Marg Allan
Greater Bendigo City Council



Cr Cheryl McKinnon
Loddon Shire Council



Mr John McLinden
Loddon Shire Council



Cr John Connor
Macedon Ranges Shire Council



Ms Karen Stevens
Macedon Ranges Shire Council



Cr Michael Redden
Mount Alexander Shire Council



Ms Carolyn Wallace
Mount Alexander Shire Council
July 2014 – March 2015



Ms Sue Jones
Mount Alexander Shire Council
April 2015 – June 2015

LIBRARY PLAN

STRATEGIES FOR DYNAMIC LEARNING IN THE 21ST CENTURY – LIBRARY PLAN 2013-17

	Strategy	Actions – Year 3	Status
Meeting community needs	<p>We will enhance the capacity of our member communities by continuing to identify and develop programs and services for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children and young families Youth demographic Home Library Service customers Outreach services Emerging and established CaLD communities Ageing in place People with disabilities to support all access inclusion Reader development, literacy and learning 	1. Review the Library Plan in the next 12 months and include broad community consultation, drawing on the learnings of best practice both in Australia and overseas.	COMPLETE
		2. Continue to review the Mobile Library timetable, service location, frequency and other opportunities such as new programs.	COMPLETE
		3. Promote and develop the new Bendigo Library.	COMPLETE
Resources	We will continue to develop and maintain a resource base, both print and digital, that is responsive to users' reading, learning and entertainment needs now and into the future.	1. Research and develop an Electronic Resources Strategy that responds to the increasing demands of the community.	COMPLETE
Partnerships and stakeholders	We will continue to work with our communities, governments and a broad range of partners to further the development from passive, product-based libraries to a service that delivers active, engaging experiences for our communities.	1. Review and renegotiate the 2011-2014 Regional Library Agreement and the 2011-2014 Service & Funding Agreement between the member Councils and the Goldfields Library Corporation.	COMPLETE
Working smarter	<p>We operate in an environment of constant change and our effectiveness will be dependent on our ability to work smarter and to marshal our human, physical and technological resources in a flexible way that focuses on our key goals. We will utilise the physical space to generate additional income which will be used to enhance services to the community.</p>	1. Structure the Corporation around the principles of flexibility and creativity and position it to meet current and future needs.	COMPLETE
		2. Develop a Code of Conduct for staff.	DRAFT COMPLETE
		3. Develop a fundraising strategy, including philanthropic activities to benefit the Corporation.	DEFERRED
Communications and marketing	We will use contemporary communications and marketing techniques to promote all of our services, facilities and events and to encourage our communities to engage with their library service.	1. Develop a communications and marketing strategy.	COMPLETE

KEY STATEGIC PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2014/15

Indicators	2013/14	Forecast	2014/15
Standard of library collection – the proportion of the library collection that has been purchased in the past five years.	58%	60%	63%
Library collection usage – turnover rate of items in the collection.	5	6	5
Active library members – the percentage of the people in the member Councils who are active library members.	62,664 or 36%	65,000 or 38%	71,172 or 41%
Customer satisfaction with library service. (Nexus survey result, February 2015)		90%	95%



2014/15 IN REVIEW

2014/15 was a transition year for the Goldfields Library Corporation with significant internal repositioning to support the new strategic plan, the 2015-2019 Library Plan. The new vision, 'Goldfields Libraries: Where Communities Explore, Engage and Create', is supported by new goals in the following areas: collections, programs, library spaces, technology, staff skills and good governance.

Achievements

- New vision, mission and goals developed
- New Library Plan 2015-2019 completed
- Marketing and Communications strategy and plan completed
- Upgrade of the Woodend Library completed and launched
- New BRAC Strategic Plan 2015/16-2017/18 completed in partnership with Public Record Office Victoria and Greater Bendigo City Council
- New prime mover deployed for the Mobile Library
- Wireless internet installed at Eaglehawk and Heathcote Libraries
- New organisation structure implemented
- Streamlining of acquisition processes
- The Regional Library Agreement 2014-18 gazetted by the Minister for Local Government
- New suite of HR policies and procedures implemented

Activity Snapshot 2014/15

- 8,278 new library members
- 1,282,467 visits to the libraries, including the Elibrary
 - 290,923 Elibrary visits
 - 991,544 visits to libraries
- 1,615,104 total collection utilisation made up of:
 - 147,760 Elibrary utilisations (ebooks, emagazines, eaudio, elearning and databases)
 - 1,467,344 physical item utilisations
 - 315,078 collection items (including 15,525 eitems)
 - 32,859 new items added to the collection
- 84,108 public access internet sessions
- 52,150 wi-fi sessions
- 1,318 children's programs with an attendance of 32,583
- 831 young adult and adult programs with an attendance of 12,432

The Corporation gratefully acknowledges the generous donations made by the Ruff Estate to support local history at the Bendigo Library.

STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Benchmarking 2014/15

PLVN Survey

All 45 Victorian public library services participate in the annual Public Libraries Victoria Network survey and the following is an overview of the Corporations ranking in the 2013/14 survey:

- 27th for the number of staff (effective full time) per capita
- 28th for the number of times physical items are borrowed
- 33rd lowest with the percentage of population who are active library members
- 35th lowest level of funding per capita
- 37th lowest with the attendance at library programs per capita
- 41st lowest with the number of internet enabled computers and devices per capita

Customer Survey

The Corporation was one of seven library services to participate in the Nexus survey in February 2015. The survey enables the Corporation to benchmark against other library services and to better understand the communities' expectations in relation to services.

Survey respondents listed the following as being important to them;

- Knowledgeable, helpful staff – high satisfaction rating
- Range, quality and ease of access to books – high satisfaction rating
- Opening hours – good satisfaction rating
- Presentation of the library building – good satisfaction rating
- Reference and information services – good satisfaction rating
- Library website – low satisfaction rating
- Access to computers and the internet – low satisfaction rating
- Range, quality and ease of access to eresources – poor satisfaction rating

In response to the survey results the 2015/16 eresources and internet services budgets have been increased to improve services. Changes have been made to the organisational structure to support improvements to the Corporation's website.

98% of people thought that the library was an important community service and 95% of people were satisfied with library service overall.

STATISTICAL OVERVIEW 2012-2015

INDICATOR	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% CHANGE SINCE LAST YEAR	% CHANGE OVER LAST THREE YEARS
Population - Regional (ABS ERP)	172,524	174,867	177,153	1%	3%
Opening hours weekly	359.5	364.5	364.5	0%	1%
Library floor space (m ²)	3,487	5,846	5,846	0%	68%
Staff EFT	49	54	52	-2%	7%
Collection items	298,178	304,964	315,078	3%	6%
Public access internet computers	41	49	51	4%	24%
ACTIVITY					
Visits	982,403	1,102,498	1,282,467	16%	31%
Members	61,945	62,664	71,172	14%	15%
Collection utilisation	1,538,574	1,631,480	1,615,104	-1%	5%
Computer bookings	59,652	72,264	84,108	16%	41%
Wireless internet access	3,000		52,150		1345%
Program attendance	4,775	34,140	45,015	32%	843%
Number of programs	352		2,146		510%
Collection turnover	5.7	5.0	5.0	0%	-12%
EXPENDITURE					
Total operating expenditure	\$4,332,314	\$5,209,779	\$4,788,804	-8%	11%
Total capital expenditure	\$911,668	\$1,697,456	\$1,253,359	-26%	37%
Capital expenditure on collections	\$797,562	\$1,005,082	\$960,167	-4%	20%
COST OF SERVICE					
Cost per loan	\$2.82	\$3.19	\$2.97	-7%	5%
Cost per visit	\$4.41	\$4.73	\$3.73	-21%	-15%
ACTIVITY PER CAPITA					
Loans per capita	8.9	9.3	9.1	-2%	2%
Visits per capita	5.7	6.3	7.2	15%	27%
ACTIVITY PER STAFF MEMBER					
Loans per EFT staff member	31,399	30,495	30,805	1%	-2%
Visits per EFT staff member	20,049	20,607	24,461	19%	22%
ACTIVITY PER OPENING HOUR					
Loans per opening hour	82	86	85	-1%	4%
Visits per opening hour	53	58	68	16%	29%

LIBRARY USAGE OVERVIEW

LIBRARY	MEMBERS	VISITS	LOANS	RESERVATIONS	PROGRAMS	INTERNET PC SESSIONS
Total Usage	71,172	1,282,467	1,615,104	236,213	2,146	84,108
Elibrary	-	290,923	309,426	109,994	1	-
Bendigo	33,052	450,794	460,395	33,638	625	48,169
Castlemaine	9,742	144,493	224,648	22,028	423	6,151
Eaglehawk	300	14,832	23,493	3,900	51	881
Gisborne	6,854	69,679	121,072	13,961	268	4,735
Heathcote	937	11,554	15,937	2,576	1	513
Kangaroo Flat	5,253	75,718	155,142	15,387	134	5,805
Kyneton	5,503	79,668	110,097	13,233	229	8,606
Pyramid Hill Transaction Centre			611			
Romsey	2,552	51,489	44,383	4,407	152	4,804
Woodend	4,402	76,125	81,174	8,427	263	4,085
Mobile Library	2,309	17,192	44,838	6,403	0	359
Home Library Service	268	-	23,888	2,259	-	-



LIBRARY VISITS 2012-15

LIBRARY	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% CHANGE SINCE LAST YEAR	% CHANGE OVER LAST THREE YEARS
Total Visits	982,403	1,102,498	1,282,467	17%	32%
Bendigo ^{1, 2}	218,659	278,680	450,794	62%	106%
Castlemaine	155,803	150,428	144,493	-4%	-7%
Eaglehawk	7,150	12,545	14,832	18%	107%
Gisborne	69,413	60,244	69,679	16%	0%
Heathcote	20,141	21,675	11,554	-47%	-43%
Kangaroo Flat	97,508	92,329	75,718	-18%	-22%
Kyneton	74,438	77,264	79,668	3%	7%
Romsey	51,388	52,654	51,489	-2%	0%
Woodend	70,147	74,674	76,125	2%	9%
Mobile Library	20,177	18,129	17,192	-5%	-15%
Elibrary	197,579	263,876	290,923	10%	47%

1. Bendigo Library closed from 27 August 2012 to 15 September 2012 to move into temporary premises.
2. Bendigo Library closed from 23 December 2013 to 27 January 2014 to move into new building.

Note: Pyramid Hill statistics unavailable

THE NEW 'LOOK' IS WONDERFUL - I'VE FOUND THAT I'M FAR MORE LIKELY TO COME TO THINGS BECAUSE THE PROFESSIONAL LOOK OF THE PROGRAM AND THE DIGITAL SCREEN REALLY ATTRACTS MY ATTENTION.

- TESTIMONIAL

LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP IN GREATER BENDIGO INCREASED BY 5,316, GROWING BY OVER 100 NEW MEMBERS EACH WEEK.

ALMOST 1.3 MILLION PEOPLE VISITED GOLDFIELDS LIBRARIES, EITHER ONLINE OR IN-PERSON



Mobile



Castlemaine



Bendigo



Heathcote



Romsey



Kangaroo Flat



Woodend



Eaglehawk



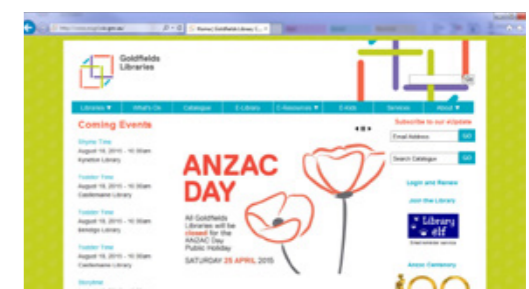
Pyramid Hill



Kyneton



Gisborne



Elibrary

COLLECTIONS AND RESOURCES

Collections Overview

A diverse and extensive print and digital collection continued to be maintained in response to customers' reading and resource needs. At the end of the financial year there were 315,078 items in the collection, of which 15,525 were eitems and 267,350 were physical items available for loan. In addition, the community was able to access the collection of other libraries via 'inter library loans' through which the Corporation lent 2,134 items to other libraries and received 1,587 items.

The renovated Bendigo Library has continued the trend of increased usage with a significant increase in loans despite the industry trend of decreasing loans of physical items. Many customers are using libraries to access technology, comfortable seating and spaces and to attend programs in addition to accessing collections. Picture books and junior fiction are very popular and reflect the importance of reading to children often.

On average each collection item was utilised 5.0 times. This collection turnover is an indication of the performance of the collection with popular materials such as picture books and DVDs having the highest turnover.

Collection Utilisation

LIBRARY	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% CHANGE SINCE LAST YEAR	% CHANGE OVER LAST THREE YEARS
Total Visits	982,403	1,102,498	1,282,467	17%	32%
Bendigo	390,812	401,685	460,395	+15%	+18%
Castlemaine	264,504	238,968	224,648	-6%	-15%
Eaglehawk	17,906	22,474	23,493	+5%	+31%
Gisborne	146,455	130,376	121,072	-7%	-17%
Heathcote	20,917	20,311	15,937	-22%	-24%
Kangaroo Flat	222,734	198,107	155,142	-22%	-30%
Kyneton	123,881	117,732	110,097	-5%	-9%
Romsey	52,233	48,032	44,383	-8%	-15%
Woodend	86,316	83,998	81,174	-3%	-6%
Mobile Library	49,115	40,216	45,449	+12%	-8%
Home Library Service	20,732	23,655	23,888	+1%	+15%
Elibrary ¹	142,969	305,926	309,426	+1%	+116%
Total Collection Utilisation	1,538,574	1,631,480	1,615,104	-1%	+5%

Note 1: Online renewals included in Elibrary for 2013/14 and 2014/15, but not 2012/13



Highlights

- Access to over 315,000 items
- Total collection utilisation - 1,615,104
- Loans - 1,467,344 books, dvds etc
- Eutilisations - 147,760 downloads and database sessions
- On average each item in the collection was used 5 times
- 32,859 new items added to the collection
- 63% of collection purchased in the last five years

Collection Management

The catalogue has been upgraded to provide a more intuitive interface for searching the collection and CollectionHQ has been implemented to automate a range of collection management tasks including: monitoring collection usage, collection maintenance, acquisitions and deselection. Efficiencies have also been implemented to streamline the selection and acquisition processes.

Elibrary

With the Elibrary available 24/7 there was high usage of eresources, in particular emagazines. In response to the increased demand the ecollection has been expanded from 9,987 items to 15,525 items, with 147,760 eutilisations.

The downloadable device friendly resources such as ebooks, emagazines and eaudio proved to be the most popular, with a large increase in available titles and usage.

Elearning resources were a focus of the Corporation's commitment to promote digital literacy. Many of the resources were purchased in early 2015 and have already recorded 3,808 sessions in total.

The databases, such as Ancestry, continued to be popular with 105,489 searches completed. The subscription to newspapers from around the world recorded 4,978 sessions.

COLLECTION	2013/14 Items	2014/15 Items	% Change	2013/14 Usage	2014/15 Usage	% Change
Ebooks and emagazines	4,625	7,201	+57%	13,403	25,692	+92%
Eaudio	2,574	3,127	+22%	8,360	12,771	+53%
TOTAL EITEMS AND EUSAGE	2013/14 Items	2014/15 Items	% Change	2013/14 Usage	2014/15 Usage	% Change
Total	9,987	15,525	+56%	137,468	147,760	+8%

Total online usage showed an overall increase of 8%

Collections and Programs Alignment

There continues to be a strong synergy between library programs and collections both physical and digital. Wherever possible the links between collections and programs were promoted. The following are examples of the alignment between programs and collections in 2014/15:

- ANZAC Centenary
- Sustainable Housing
- Bird Week
- Bendigo Writers Festival
- Castlemaine Children's Literature Festival
- Woodend Winter Festival
- Literature Awards

Children's Play and Learn Eresources

State Government Local Priorities funding was used to purchase equipment and eresources to create play and learning access for children in the libraries. The eresources were selected to connect children with literature, numeracy and learning activities. Many of the eresources are available from the internet.

Challenges

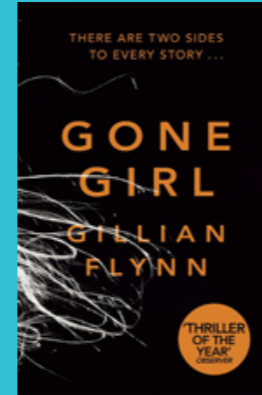
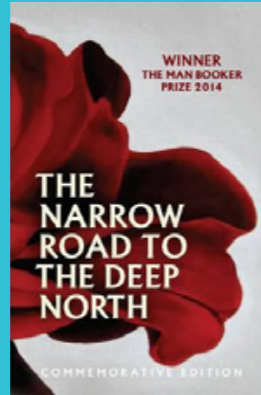
A simple platform for all eresources regardless of provider with downloading streamlined would provide an enhanced user experience. Some progress has been made with the recent catalogue upgrade, but it doesn't provide the direct link that is required.

The continued lack of Australian content and availability of current best sellers is a major source of dissatisfaction with ebook provision.

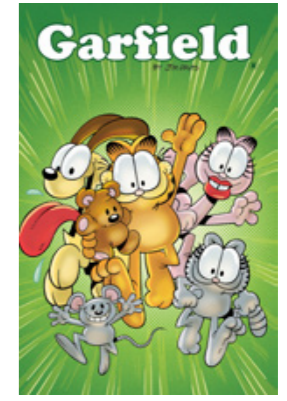
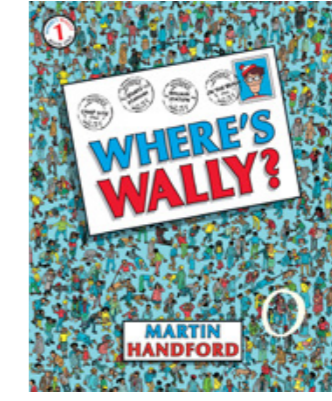
Maintaining digital literacy for staff is a priority for Professional Development and presents challenges regarding availability of training and keeping pace with the rapid change.

**TOP BOOKS
IN 2014/15**

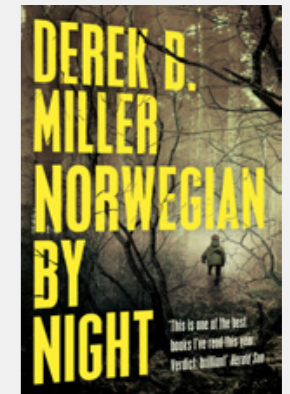
**TOP 5
ADULT
FICTION
BOOKS**



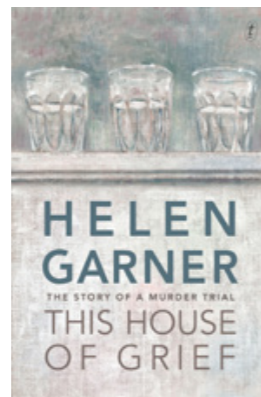
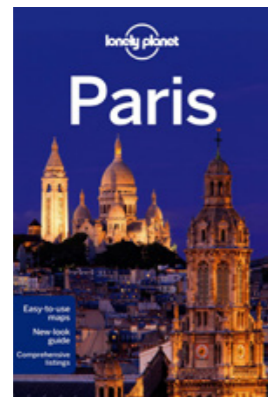
**TOP 5
CHILDREN'S
AND
YOUNG ADULT
BOOKS**



**TOP 5
EBOOKS**



**TOP 5
ADULT
NON-FICTION
BOOKS**



PROGRAMS

Goldfields Libraries are meeting places for their communities and the programs coordinated and delivered offer dynamic and exciting opportunities for social connection and engagement. Programs are an opportunity for libraries to move beyond static collections and directly engage with their community by presenting an innovative avenue for people to learn, connect and create.

The Corporation has a specific and targeted approach to the delivery of programs, working within a program framework that is focused on the following key areas:

- Early Years – supporting early years learning and parents as their child’s first teacher
- School Years – supporting children’s learning, particularly literacy
- Reading Culture – encouraging reading and literacy for all as an important life skill
- Digital Literacy – increasing confidence in using technology and providing opportunities to experience innovative technology
- Family History – programs that support research on family and local history
- Creativity – opportunities for expression, creative development and exposure to a variety of arts
- Wellbeing – the development of healthy lifestyles and environments

What libraries do is not just about the number of people that access their programs, it’s also about engaging everyone, improving our accessibility and reaching those that might benefit most from the programs available.

Would you like to know more about the importance of music in nature from a bioacoustics researcher?

Do you need to find out some tricks for using your iPad?

What about bringing the kids to a Frozen sing along session or getting them involved in some Jedi training and light sabre building on Star Wars Day?

All of these things and so many more took place in your local library this year.

I am really looking forward to attending in the future so thank you for providing these wonderful and interesting events. Previous to this I really did not visit the library much. Now it feels like a community hub welcoming all to it.

Library User Feedback, 2014



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

1,318
CHILDREN'S
PROGRAMS
WERE RUN WITH
OVER 32,500
ATTENDEES

Developing Children's Literacy

Storytime, Toddler Time, Rhyme Time, School Holiday programs and other special children's events such as the Summer Reading Club were the largest component of our programming calendar, reflecting our commitment to connecting with our youngest citizens and improving early years literacy outcomes across the region. Our programs are fun, free and filled with stories and songs that assist both children and parents to enjoy reading and storytelling in a range of ways.

Can I just say that my 6 year old Isabella has gone so well with reading over summer because of your Summer Reading Club. I was worried her reading would slip over the summer holidays but the library's reading program has completely inspired her and her reading has improved out of sight.

Summer Reading Club
Feedback, 2015

Research indicates that the most active brain development takes place between the ages of 0-3 and that reading to a child for just ten minutes a day gives a child the opportunity to grow into a good reader as an adult, with all the social and educational benefits it brings. Goldfields Libraries takes this evidence seriously and delivered more than 1,300 children's programs to over 32,500 participants during the financial year.



OVER 45,000
CUSTOMERS
ATTENDED 2,149
PROGRAMS IN
OUR LIBRARIES

Write on the Fringe Festival

The inaugural Write on the Fringe Festival was hosted in partnership with Capital Community Connect. The Festival included three days of talks and workshops attracting more than 500 people who took part in song writing, author readings, art cinema and collective texting on an old typewriter. Write on the Fringe showcased local regional writing talent, provided an accessible program of events for interested community members and was a highly festive and successful celebration of the uniquely human skill of story through the written word.

PHOTO: Melinda Charlesworth and Sandra Harvey from Bendigo Health with Kangaroo Flat librarian Stuart Winsler.

New Worlds at Christmas

The Give New Worlds project was developed and facilitated by staff at the Kangaroo Flat Library with the aim of allowing library users to donate a new book for distribution to children and young adults who were unwell or hospitalised. The books were collected at all libraries and more than 150 titles were donated to Bendigo Health with the books used in various ways to ease hospital stays and help sick children maintain literacy levels.

Anzac Centenary

Goldfields Libraries were highly engaged in commemorating the ANZAC Centenary. A range of programs took place such as the 5000 Poppies project, children's storytimes and the Women in Wartime display. Woodend Library partnered with Woodend RSL, Macedon Ranges Shire Council, local businesses, schools and knitting groups to participate in the 5000 Poppies project, creating a beautiful display of hand knitted poppies outside the library as part of the commemorative experience.



PHOTO: Philip Holgate

...the local community and visitors were moved by the amazing effort that people had made in creating such a lasting tribute. As a military family we would like to extend our deep appreciation to the staff of the library and the community that have worked so hard. It was lovely to see the reactions on the faces of the children, residents and visitors as they enjoyed the poppy displays.

Community feedback, 5000 Poppies project, Woodend

Warm Up Woodend and Have Ewe Any Wool... Some Crafty Programming

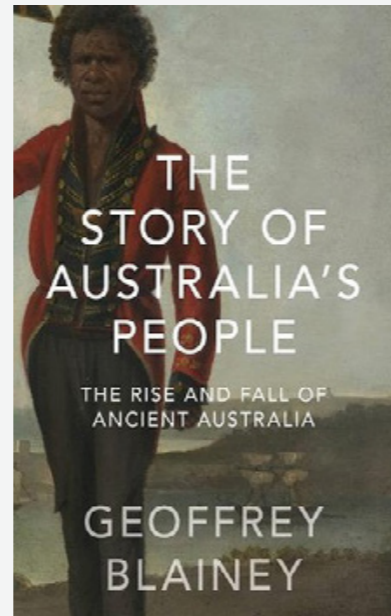
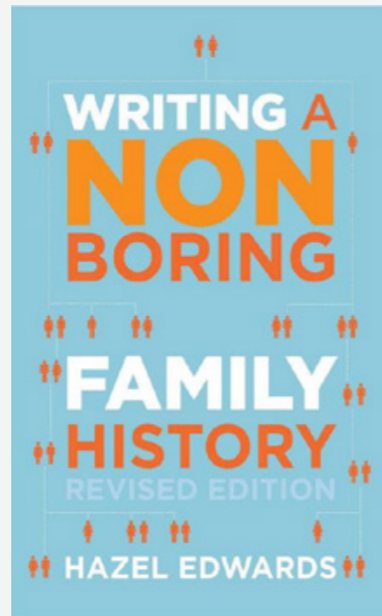
A number of Goldfields Libraries were involved in community knitting projects that provided opportunities to connect with other like-minded people over a knit and a purl. Two such programs included Warm Up Woodend and Have Ewe any Wool?. The groups have contributed numerous pieces of knitting that will be made into blankets or scarves to be donated to the needy. Wool and other needles have been generously donated by customers, many of who are very happy to see their unfinished projects "going to good use in the community". There was also some great yarn bombing happening around town as a result!



Author Talks: Connecting Readers with Writers

Author talks were a significant part of the program schedule with some of the big names in Australian writing being hosted throughout the year, including the likes of iconic historian Geoffrey Blainey, the compelling Helen Garner and internationally renowned American young adult author, Laurie Halse Anderson.

Libraries have also hosted a range of local authors, supporting them in the launch of their latest books and giving customers the opportunity to hear about what inspires them and their writing process.



Understanding Technology

Access to technology is a key library service area and assisting communities in understanding how to get the most from their computers, the internet and their smart devices has been a priority this year. The Corporation has partnered with a number of organisations to deliver a range of programs right across our region, from Boort to Romsey and everywhere in between.

The tech programs have sometimes specifically targeted older adults who have not grown up in a digital age but are keen to develop their skills. Programs have also focused on learning about tablets and smartphones, the use of apps and navigating the internet.

Programs have included:

- Tech Savvy Seniors (multiple locations in all municipalities)
- Tuesdays with Gary (weekly sessions at Castlemaine Library)
- Digital Literacy for Seniors (Macedon Ranges)
- Appy Hour (Bendigo)



AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT...

Programs this year have ranged across an incredible breadth of topics and activities. Here is a quick snapshot of some of the more quirky and very popular programs which have run:

Why Music Happened

There was an overwhelming response to the presentation on the importance of music in nature from bioacoustics researcher Andrew Skeoch, whose seminar packed out the Phee Broadway Theatre in Castlemaine.

Library Lock In

Ever dreamt of being locked in the library? Well, 33 young people finally did it! Castlemaine Library ran an evening event for young adults that started after the library closed to the public. Pizza, Wii games and apparently quite a bit of nail art and table tennis ensued for several hours. A great opportunity to connect, socialise and create – all in the local library.

1,318 separate storytime sessions, school holiday programs and other early years events were run, engaging 32,583 participants.

829 PROGRAMS FOR YOUNG ADULTS AND ADULTS WERE DELIVERED TO 12,432 PARTICIPANTS.

Writing a Non-Boring Family History

A session designed to make sure that if you're compiling a family history, you could learn how to find out and highlight the exciting and sometimes scandalous behaviour of your ancestors!

Brick by Brick

What do Parliament House and Lego have in common? They were both part of the national Brick by Brick program, a creative lego building activity where children (and parents) had the chance to build their own amazing structures or have a go at building one of several iconic Australian buildings, including Parliament House.

Poetry Slam

The words "poetry" and "slam" are not two words that perhaps naturally fit together but the second Castlemaine Poetry Slam was a huge success, celebrating the performance of the spoken word.

OUTREACH IN OUR COMMUNITIES



Among the many outreach programs delivered, a special mention needs to be made for the efforts of the Eaglehawk librarian who attended Long Gully Splash Park to do an entire morning of storytelling for National Playgroup Week as part of the City of Greater Bendigo's Playgroup Fun Day. The event was incredibly successful with the marquee filled with families and constant stories throughout the morning.

National Simultaneous Storytime is an opportunity to nationally celebrate all early years reading programs that happen in libraries through the simultaneous reading of the same book across all libraries. This year featured former local Bendigo author Aaron Blabey's picture book *The Brothers Quibble* which provided the opportunity to highlight the benefits of reading to your child. Our

regular Storytime session was expanded to include readings by staff at a number of kinder and playgroup settings as well as in the libraries.

All libraries actively engage their communities through a range of outreach activities including storytimes in kindergarten and playgroup settings, pop-up libraries and activities at a range of festivals and events.

Outreach programs have direct impact on attendances at libraries with correlation noted between outreach activities and increased visitation and membership.

Thank you for visiting us at kindergarten on Tuesday. It was a wonderful experience for the children. Rosie and I enjoyed it too and are incorporating some new songs and rhymes into our program.

The children were singing and chanting the new repertoire outside and then requesting their favourites at the end of the session. Many children told their families about your visit - "The library lady came and read stories and had naughty monkeys and gave us stickers".

Feedback from Lancefield Kindergarten, 2015

TECHNOLOGY

Digital Services and Technology

Information Technology is the crucial tool for managing operations, communications and for storing and retrieving information. New and emerging technologies create the persistent need to reassess our services, systems and collection platforms. This requires skilled staff with a commitment to learning to effectively deliver services in this rapidly evolving environment.

Collections are shifting to digital formats and infrastructure is required to enable communities to access digital collections. Library staff are increasing their digital literacy skills in order to troubleshoot the increasing number of digital devices used by customers.

In addition to skilled staff assisting customers, library programs support the digital literacy skills in the community. In this financial year library staff have delivered tech savvy seniors training, sessions on using tablets and downloading ebooks, information sessions on identity protection and emerging technologies such as 3D printing and online entertainment.

Technology and Business Improvements

Substantial information technology infrastructure changes have continued throughout the year to ensure stability and security of library services, computer infrastructure and the network. The demands placed on our information technology infrastructure required significant changes to internal networks and a reassessment of external bandwidth requirements.

Communications were managed using social media and the monthly enews that reached between 10,000 and 11,000 subscribers to promote library services, programs and activities. Customer notices continued to be transferred from expensive paper based notices to email and text messages. Of 130,000 library notices, more than 65% were sent via email or SMS rather than traditional mail or phone.



Internet Access and Mobile Technologies

Internet access is provided for learning, entertainment and information and importantly provides the infrastructure for the wide area network for collection circulation and the Elibrary.

The ways in which communities and customers access the digital world continues to change and evolve. The use of mobile devices to access library wi-fi continued to increase and has exceeded the demand for internet access on library computers. The number of bookings for internet enabled computers has remained constant.

Wireless internet access was installed at the Eaglehawk and Heathcote Libraries this year completing the roll out of wi-fi at all libraries.

The use of portable internet devices has contributed to the changing use of libraries, in particular the extended duration of visits. Customers have embraced seating with access to power and the portable laptop tables available at some libraries.

Internet usage patterns in libraries continues to change and evolve with the demands for streaming internet content, and real time information is driving significant exponential growth in internet bandwidth utilisation.

Ecollections Trends

The Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) have predicted that by 2020, 20% of library collections will be in digital format. Currently 2% of the collection is digital and collection management requires an assessment of digital resources platforms and content.

OVER
84,000
INTERNET
SESSIONS
BOOKINGS

52,150
WI-FI
SESSIONS

Challenges

The current and growing trend is to access documents stored in the cloud on services such as Gmail and Microsoft cloud. In the past library customers stored files on USB sticks and accessed them on a computer with no requirement for internet access. Accessing cloud services is dependent on internet access and the transfer of information requires bandwidth.

Increased use of wi-fi, personal laptops and electronic devices requires appropriate work spaces with access to power.

Government and business are shifting services to the online environment and are referring people to libraries to access these services which they often need support to do.

The Corporation's increasing investment in digital collections requires an equivalent investment in internet and network infrastructure to enable customers to download digital collections efficiently.

LIBRARY	NUMBER OF INTERNET CONNECTED COMPUTERS
Bendigo	26
Castlemaine	2
Eaglehawk	2
Gisborne	3
Heathcote	2
Kangaroo Flat	3
Kyneton	3
Mobile	2
Romsey	5
Woodend	3

Learning and Development

Staff have been encouraged to develop their capabilities through a range of learning and development opportunities. Internal training opportunities included peer-to-peer upskilling where staff were encouraged to share their skills with their colleagues. Staff mobility was also encouraged, where all permanent and casual staff were invited to apply for temporary positions across all libraries as an opportunity to experience different locations, engage with different communities, and to network with their colleagues.

The Corporation's first regional Professional Development Day was held in May at the Bendigo Library. Staff from all libraries came together for training, and to collaborate on the Corporation's priorities and continuous improvement.

Across the year there were many valuable professional development opportunities provided by Public Libraries of Victoria Network (PLVN), the State Library of Victoria and numerous others. These events inspired staff to adopt new ways of working collaboratively with the community, engaging with young learners through collaborative projects, supporting reading and writing skills in our communities, and working effectively with technology. Highlights included:

- PLVN Maker Spaces Workshop
- 2014 Library Stars Awards
- ALIA 2014 Conference
- Renew, Rethink, Revitalise Mini-Conference
- 14th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry
- PLVN Children's and Youth Services Workshop
- ICT Skills Training in Victoria Public Libraries Workshop
- Volunteering collaboration with Volunteering Victoria Workshop

PLVN coordinated a range of professional networks and staff contributed to and benefited from participation in these groups. Professional development is aligned with the recommendations outlined in the Victoria Public Libraries: Our Future Our Skills Research Report 2014 and the Victoria 2030 Workforce Development Action.

Organisational Reviews

Several staffing reviews have been conducted to improve organisational outcomes and an important component of the reviews has been staff consultation. The outcomes of the review have included the implementation of the organisational restructure, the realignment of branch staffing levels, the implementation of revised collections processes and the resolution of temporary positions.

Staff Scholarships

Castlemaine Library Manager, Susie Prestney, was a recipient of the 2013/14 Barrett Reid Scholarship and travelled to the USA to learn about the California State Library's state-wide initiative 'Get Involved: Powered by Your Library'. The program was all about enhancing library services, programs, advocacy and support through volunteer engagement. Susie will continue to work with PLVN on volunteering projects and the development of central portal for building better library volunteer programs.

THE COMMUNICATION AND SERVICES ARE GREAT; BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE LIBRARY IS THEIR STAFF MEMBERS WHO WILL ALWAYS HELP AND ARE FANTASTIC. THANK YOU.

- TESTIMONIAL

Staff Wellbeing and Workplace Culture

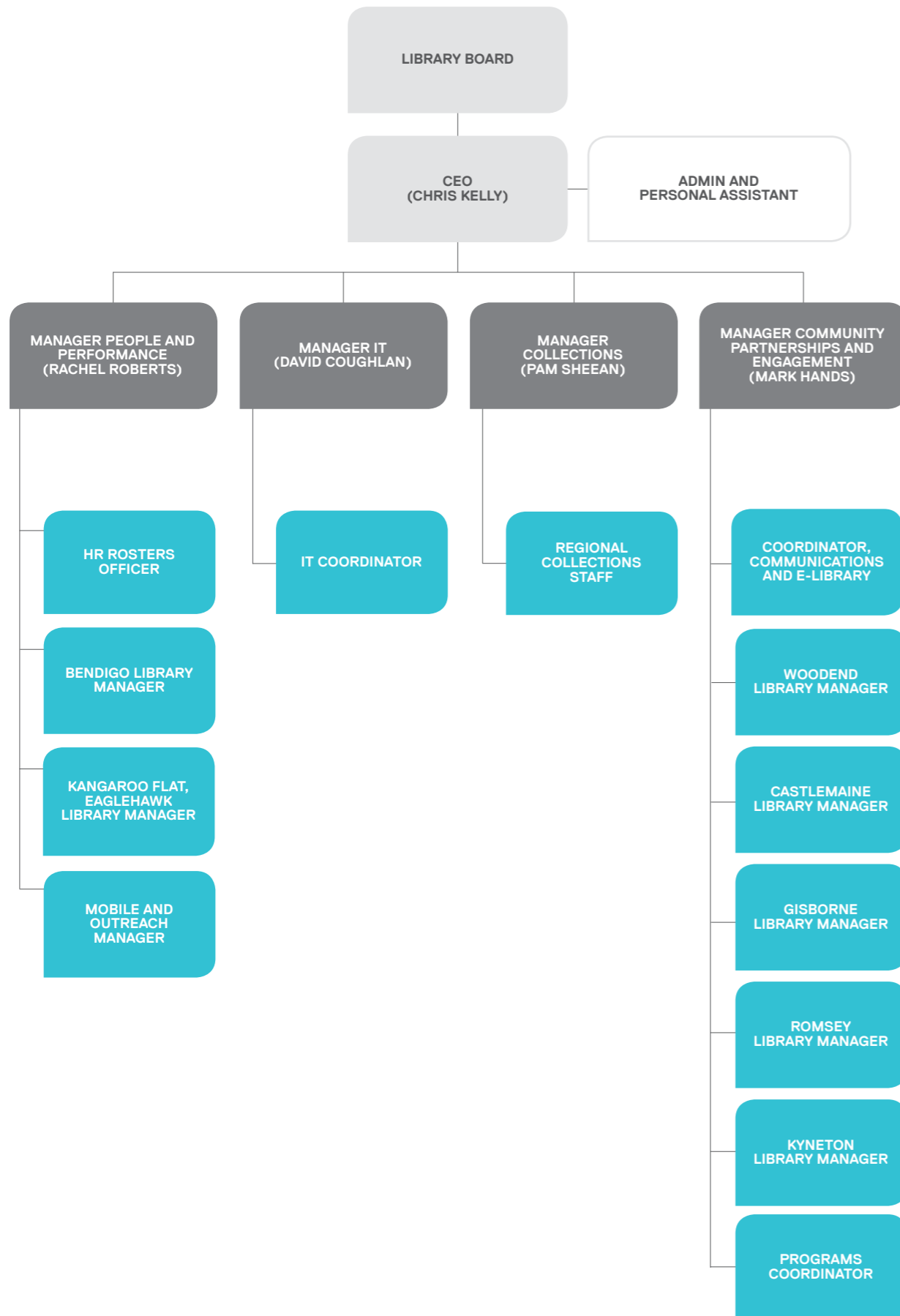
With 80 full time, part time and casual staff spread across library locations, an active approach has been taken for internal communications with the introduction of monthly CEO Bulletins, general staff meetings, team meetings and focus group meetings. The development of the new Library Plan and the new Vision, Mission and Goals provided opportunities for staff to contribute to the direction of the organisation. Staff input has been central to the development of the new organisational values and behaviours that underpin our staff Code of Conduct.

The Corporation's OH&S Committee was refocused with bi-monthly Committee Meetings, bi-monthly Workspace Inspections, and Incident and Near Miss reporting mechanisms. The Committee developed an action plan to ensure continual compliance with emergency procedures, safe work practices and OH&S policies.

The Staff Consultative Committee met bi-monthly to provide guidance and contribution to policies, reviews and workplace practices. Their focus has been on ensuring policies and processes are in place to support staff and workplace practices and to provide clarity for staff with annual work planning, flexible working arrangements, higher duties opportunities, return to work processes and recruitment guidelines.



ORGANISATIONAL CHART



SPREADING THE WORD

Goldfields Libraries have used a range of techniques to promote activities, services and events to library customers over the financial year. Many of the methods initiated in previous years have continued to be further developed and utilised, resulting in a solid suite of communications tools to effectively reach and engage with audiences.

A variety of printed and digital techniques have been used, allowing the flexibility to market to specific niches, as well as broader audiences. The Corporation not only aimed to engage with existing customers, but to also reach new customers in its municipalities. These communications activities primarily informed the public of relevant activities, events and services, but also lifted the organisation's profile within the community.

A communications survey was conducted in February to ascertain how customers find out what's on at the libraries and which were the most effective mediums. Of the 147 respondents, 59% found out about library events and activities through flyers and posters in person at libraries, followed by email notifications and monthly email newsletters at 44% and 40% respectively. This information has proved invaluable in directing communications budget and resources effectively.



Communications Highlights

Photo Shoot

A comprehensive professional photo shoot was undertaken at each library, providing the Corporation with a quality photo repository for online and print promotions.

Logo and Branding

The logo and branding developed in the previous financial year has continued to be rolled out across online, print and corporate collateral, projecting a professional and consistent presence for the organisation.

Printed Collateral

Posters, flyers, seasonal programs and other printed collateral have developed a distinct look and feel, and were well received by customers as a tangible, take-home reminder for library events and services.

Media Releases

Over 40 media releases were distributed to local media outlets, with primarily newspapers and radios responding consistently.

Elibrary

The Elibrary's core functions have been clearly defined as a portal for branch information, events information and access to the catalogue and ecollections.

Digital Screens

A number of screens throughout the Bendigo Library have been used to display a rotation of digital advertisements informing customers of upcoming events.

Social Media

The Corporation has been active on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram to inform the online audience about events, and to share light hearted information as an additional form of engagement.

Eupdate

The monthly eupdate promoted upcoming events as well as recent highlights, with each edition sent to between 10,000 and 11,000 recipients.

Cross Promotional Activities

A number of cross promotional activities have been undertaken with local festivals, markets, community groups and member Councils.

PARTNERSHIPS AND STAKEHOLDERS

Goldfields Libraries have been a part of more than 150 partnerships with government, community and business in the past year.

Each partnership the Corporation has been involved in has brought enormous value to the organisation, but most importantly, allowed new or innovative community engagement opportunities with library collections and activities.

The libraries have worked with organisations to deliver services and activities to communities which may otherwise have not been reached.

Each diverse partnership contributed so much to what the Corporation has achieved, and below are some key examples of the partnerships and outcomes delivered over the last 12 months.

Communities for Children

In Bendigo, the Corporation has become a key partnering organisation in the Communities for Children initiative.

Communities for Children is an inter-agency working group with a key goal of improving early years literacy outcomes. Goldfields Corporation involvement has culminated in the promotion and launch of the Early Years Literacy and Language Development Strategy, aimed at improving literacy and language development outcomes for children aged 0-5 (particularly 0-3 year olds) across Bendigo from all socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds.

Download the strategy at www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/C4C-early-years-literacy

Macedon Ranges Further Education Centre (MRFEC)

Goldfields Libraries have worked closely with MRFEC to deliver a range of digital literacy classes for older adults across libraries in Macedon Ranges. The partnership resulted in a successful joint funding application and a series of weekly sessions that assisted residents to understand their tablet, smartphone or internet applications more fully. The program was well attended and has resulted in a sustainable program being offered by the Corporation on an ongoing basis.

Telstra and Tech Savvy Seniors

Further digital literacy sessions were also supported through Telstra funding for the Tech Savvy Seniors program. This program provided a range of classes for familiarising attendees with internet usage, email accounts, social media and other key internet and computer based activities. The funding provided by Telstra allowed the opportunity for programs to be run in every municipality.

Friends Groups

Library Friends groups also need to be acknowledged and celebrated for their ongoing and highly valued support. Friends groups supported libraries and activities across the region, with involvement in fundraising activities and volunteering across a range of library activities.

Woodend Farmers Market

The Woodend Farmers Market is held outside the Woodend Library one Saturday each month and a partnership has formed that provides a range of opportunities for the library to engage with market goers. Woodend Library has worked with market organisers to deliver morning talks ranging from vegetable growing to local author talks. The partnership has been successful in creating more connection between market and library activities.

Friends of Bendigo Library

The Corporation was saddened to hear that the Committee of the Friends of Bendigo Library has decided to formally disband the group. The Friends have provided advocacy and financial support to Bendigo Library for over 30 years and have purchased much loved furnishings and equipment for the many buildings that have hosted library services. The Corporation acknowledges and thanks them for their fantastic support over the years.

PARTNER PROJECTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Maternal and Child Health Services

With the help of the Maternal Child and Health Services, Goldfields Libraries has been able to run programs for and maintain connection with the newest residents in our region. The Service enables libraries to meet newcomers to the area, most of whom are young families, and help them settle in and become part of the library community. Local libraries become the place to go for community knowledge, literacy development and a social hub that facilitates creativity, learning and socialisation for the community at large, young children in particular.

State Library of Victoria

Goldfields Library Corporation has a strong partnership with the State Library of Victoria which this year resulted in the hosting of a Reading Matters Conference Regional Tour. This partnership allowed the Corporation to host several events by international authors, particularly focused on young adults. A New York Times bestselling author from the US spoke to students from Wedderburn College in the Loddon Shire and Crusoe College in Bendigo.

The Reading Matters event was wonderful. We nearly had a full house – 250-300 students. Laurie [author] was swamped at the end with students wanting autographs, taking selfies and simply having a chat. All of Laurie's books have flown off the shelves and I am desperate for some more. She was so warm and generous in giving her time to the students and they just loved her and were totally inspired. I am deeply grateful to you for allowing this event to take place.

Teacher - Crusoe College

Museum Victoria and Dementia Australia

Working with Museum Victoria and Dementia Australia, the Corporation is looking at developing reminiscing or memory kits that can assist in telling stories of past eras and activities. These kits are generally used to assist older adults and those with early onset dementia through memory stimulation activities using physical items, photos and audio storytelling from various eras.

Working with Schools Across the Region

Goldfields Connect is an opportunity for school students from across the region to upload and share original music recordings through the library collection. The program is under construction and is the result of a partnership between Goldfields Libraries and a graduate student who is a local music teacher. Goldfields Connect is an online forum being developed by the graduate student as part of her studies, in collaboration with the library. The aim is to develop an online store of publicly available music from secondary school students across the region that can be shared and listened to by all customers. The project has the potential to expand into other areas such as recording stories or other local music.

LaTrobe University

The Corporation has started an important partnership with LaTrobe University to consider how best to provide work and project based experiences for students in a range of fields. With diverse programs and project opportunities across all branches, libraries will be looking at assisting a range of students with industry relevant opportunities in areas such as early childhood development, information technology, education, graphic and fine arts, public health and community planning.

BENDIGO REGIONAL ARCHIVES CENTRE (BRAC)

Bendigo Regional Archives Centre (BRAC) is located in the Bendigo Library and is a partnership between the Public Record Office of Victoria, Greater Bendigo City Council and Goldfields Library Corporation.

BRAC holds unique Council and Court records dating from 1855 to 2003, primarily from the north central region of Victoria. The Archives Collection exists in a variety of printed formats, including large bound ledgers, boxes of handwritten letters more than 100 years old, sturdy Court registers and tightly rolled plans to name a few. Collectively they are described as records and 1,330 individual items were used by researchers this year, a 25% increase over the previous year.

BRAC customers or researchers generally visit to use the service to find historical information for family history and property research that can't be found elsewhere. Other researchers include secondary and tertiary history students, teachers and lecturers, as well as authors, genealogists and historians. 235 people have spent time in the Reading Room using BRAC records and staff have responded to 523 information requests.

The BRAC website continues to be a well-used source of information with a more than 140% increase in traffic this year. The digitised Petitions Collection continues to be the most accessed section.

Frances and Harold Abbott Foundation Grant

In June 2014, BRAC was awarded a grant of \$5,500 from the Frances and Harold Abbott Foundation to repair some early Sandhurst rate books. Six original handwritten rate books from 1856, 1857, 1860, 1861, 1871 and 1895 that were too damaged to handle have been restored and are now accessible.

See before and after photos below.



OUTPUT MEASURE	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	TARGET
Researcher Visits	183	243	235	120
Researcher Enquiries	404	467	523	240
Website Visitors	557	1808	4460	500
Records Issued	965	1062	1330	800

Education Kits

A World War I Education Kit for local secondary students and general researchers was developed using local material and made available through the BRAC website.

A researcher kit and presentation will be made available on the BRAC website to commemorate the centenary of the death of William Charles Vahland, Bendigo's most famous nineteenth century architect. The Bendigo Town Hall, the Capital Theatre, Bendigo Health's Anne Caudle Centre and the iconic Alexandra Fountain were all designed by Vahland.

New BRAC Strategic Plan

The new BRAC Strategic Plan for 2015/16-2017/18 was completed.

NORTH CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS REGIONAL LIBRARY CORPORATION

TRADING AS

GOLDFIELDS LIBRARY CORPORATION

FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1 JULY 2014
TO
30 JUNE 2015

FINANCIAL REPORT

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	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
Income			
Member Contributions	3	4,141,322	3,934,838
Grants - Operating	4	1,227,765	1,184,133
Grants - Capital	4	39,609	63,609
User Fees, Charges and Fines	5	338,721	310,060
Interest & Dividends		87,238	87,926
Other Income	6	302,463	185,179
Assets Received Free of Charge	7	17,875	215,058
Net Gain / (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	13	8,307	(17,460)
Total Income		6,163,300	5,963,343
Expenses			
Employee Costs	8	3,848,613	3,673,783
Plant and Equipment Costs	9	323,409	296,018
Depreciation	10	1,213,266	1,059,809
Administration and Maintenance Charges	11	338,942	1,016,082
Other Expenses	12	277,840	223,896
Total Expenses		6,002,070	6,269,588
Surplus for the Year		161,230	(306,245)
Total Comprehensive Result		161,230	(306,245)

The above comprehensive income statement should be read with the accompanying notes.

Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2015

Statement of Changes in Equity
For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	14	1,896,298	1,375,340
Trade and Other Receivables	15	10,811	35,105
Other Financial Assets	16	-	134,958
Other Assets	17	173,689	163,514
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		2,080,798	1,708,917
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Plant, Resources and Equipment	18	5,933,819	5,908,709
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		5,933,819	5,908,709
TOTAL ASSETS		8,014,617	7,617,626
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	19	303,277	181,963
Provisions	20	1,082,430	986,561
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,385,707	1,168,524
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provisions	20	73,720	55,142
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		73,720	55,142
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,459,427	1,223,666
NET ASSETS		6,555,190	6,393,960
EQUITY			
Member Contributions		2,466,638	2,466,638
Reserves	21	1,030,474	615,907
Accumulated Surplus		3,058,078	3,311,415
TOTAL EQUITY		6,555,190	6,393,960

2015	Note	Total 2015 \$	Member Contributions 2015 \$	Accumulated Surplus 2015 \$	Discretionary Reserves 2015 \$
Balance at beginning of the financial year		6,393,960	2,466,638	3,311,415	615,907
Comprehensive Result		161,230	-	161,230	-
Transfer (to) Reserves	21	-	-	(543,691)	543,691
Transfer from Reserves	21	-	-	129,124	(129,124)
Balance at end of the financial year		6,555,190	2,466,638	3,058,078	1,030,474

2014	Note	Total 2014 \$	Member Contributions 2014 \$	Accumulated Surplus 2014 \$	Discretionary Reserves 2014 \$
Balance at beginning of the financial year		6,700,205	2,466,638	2,527,660	1,705,907
Comprehensive Result		(306,245)	-	(306,245)	-
Transfer (to) Reserves	21	-	-	(160,000)	160,000
Transfer from Reserves	21	-	-	1,250,000	(1,250,000)
Balance at end of the financial year		6,393,960	2,466,638	3,311,415	615,907

The above statement of changes in equity should be read with the accompanying notes.

The above balance sheet should be read with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
		Inflows/ (Outflows)	Inflows/ (Outflows)
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Payments			
Employee Related Costs		(3,715,104)	(3,503,665)
Plant and Equipment Costs		(360,563)	(386,407)
Administration and Maintenance Charges		(364,696)	(1,178,257)
Other Expenses		(289,948)	(251,160)
Net GST Payment		(354,831)	(154,047)
		(5,085,142)	(5,473,536)
Receipts			
Member Contributions		4,555,455	4,328,322
Grants - Operating		1,227,765	1,247,742
Grants - Capital		39,609	-
User Fees, Charges and Fines		393,238	325,262
Interest		82,331	95,565
Other Revenue		305,447	185,179
		6,603,845	6,182,070
Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow) from Operating Activities	23	1,518,703	708,534
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Proceeds from Sale of Assets		157,047	1,440
Payment for Plant, Resources and Equipment		(1,154,791)	(1,697,456)
Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow) from Investing Activities		(997,744)	(1,696,016)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow) from Financing Activities		-	-
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash Held		520,959	(987,482)
Cash and Cash Equivalents the Beginning at Year		1,375,340	2,362,822
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Year	22	1,896,299	1,375,340
Restrictions on Cash Assets	29	1,644,789	1,146,153

The above statement of cash flows should be read with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Capital Works
For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
Resources		960,167	1,005,082
Plant and Vehicles		178,565	-
Information Technology		108,721	673,494
Furniture and Equipment		5,906	18,880
Total Capital Works Expenditure		1,253,359	1,697,456
Represented by:			
Renewal		1,068,192	847,847
New Assets		185,167	849,609
Total Capital Works Expenditure		1,253,359	1,697,456

The above statement of capital works should be read with the accompanying notes.

Introduction

The North Central Goldfields Library Corporation was established by an Order of the Governor in Council on 12 January 1996 and is a body corporate.

Statement of Compliance

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the *Local Government Act 1989*, and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*.

NOTE 1 Significant Accounting Policies

a. Basis of Accounting

The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, whereby assets liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated judgements are based on professional judgement derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in the application of AAS's that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates relate to:

- the fair value of land, plant, resources and equipment (refer to note 1 (g))
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to note 1 (h))
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to note 1 (k)).

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation, and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

b. Change in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies from the previous period.

c. Revenue Recognition

Income is recognised when the Corporation obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution, it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the Corporation and the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably.

Member Contributions

Annual Member Contributions are recognised as revenue when the Corporation issues invoices to the member Councils.

Grants

Grant income is recognised when the Corporation obtains control of the contribution. This is normally obtained upon their receipt (or acquittal) or upon earlier notification that a grant has been secured, and are valued at their fair value at the date of transfer.

User Fees, Charges and Fines

User fees are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided or the payment is received, whichever first occurs.

NOTE 1 Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)

Interest

Interest is recognised as it is earned.

Other Income

Other income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is recognised when the Corporation gains control over the right to receive the income.

Assets Received Free of Charge

Non monetary contributions are recognised as revenue when the Corporation obtains control over the contributed asset.

d. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of 90 days or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

e. Trade and Other Receivables

Trade debtors are carried at nominal amounts. The collectability of debts is assessed on an ongoing basis and specific provision is made for any doubtful accounts where the debt is more than 60 days overdue. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off.

f. Other Financial Assets

Financial assets are valued at fair value, being market value, at balance date. Any unrealised gains and losses on holdings at balance date are recognised as either a revenue or expense.

g. Recognition and Measurement of Plant, Resources and Equipment

Acquisition

The purchase method of accounting is used for all acquisitions of assets, being the fair value of assets provided as consideration at the date of acquisition plus any incidental costs attributable to the acquisition. Fair value is the amount for which the asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction.

In accordance with the Corporation's policy, the threshold limits detailed in Note 1(h) have applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year.

h. Depreciation of Plant, Resources and Equipment

Plant and vehicles, resources, computer equipment and furniture and equipment have limited useful lives and are all systematically depreciated over their useful lives to the Corporation in a manner which reflects consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Estimates of remaining useful lives and residual values are made on a regular basis with major asset classes reassessed annually. Depreciation rates and methods are reviewed annually.

Where assets have separate identifiable components that are subject to regular replacement, these components are assigned distinct useful lives and residual values and a separate depreciation rate is determined for each component.

Straight line depreciation is charged based on the residual useful life as determined each year.

Depreciation periods used are listed below and are consistent with the prior year unless otherwise stated.

NOTE 1 Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)

Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods

	Depreciation Period	Threshold Limit
Plant & Vehicles		
Vehicles	2 - 4 years	\$1,000
Vehicles - Trailers	10 years	\$1,000
Resources (i)	5 - 10 years	\$1
Computer Equipment	2 - 10 years	\$1,000
Furniture and Equipment		
Furniture and Fittings	10 - 20 years	\$1,000
Office Equipment	5 years	\$1,000

(i) Resources comprise of the library's lending and research resources including books, DVD's and CD's.

i. Repairs and Maintenance

Routine maintenance, repair costs, and minor renewal costs are expensed as incurred. Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

j. Impairment of Assets

At each reporting date, the Corporation reviews the carrying value of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the comprehensive income statement, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset.

k. Employee Costs and Benefits

The calculation of employee benefits includes all relevant on-costs and are calculated as follows at reporting date.

Wages and Salaries, and Annual Leave

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulated sick leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits as current liabilities and measured at their nominal values.

Liabilities that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits as current liabilities, measured at present value of the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Long Service Leave

Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits.

Current Liability - unconditional LSL representing 7 years is disclosed as a current liability even when the Corporation does not expect to settle the liability within 12 months because it will not have the unconditional right to defer settlement of the entitlement should an employee take leave within 12 months.

The components of this current liability are measured at:

- present value - component that is not expected to be settled within 12 months.
- nominal value - component that is expected to be settled within 12 months.

NOTE 1 Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)

Classification of employee costs

Non-current liability - conditional LSL that has been accrued, where an employee is yet to reach a qualifying term of employment, is disclosed as a non-current liability. There is an unconditional right to defer settlement of the entitlement until the employee has completed the requisite years of service.

This non-current LSL liability is measured at present value.

i. Leases

Operating Leases

Lease payments for operating leases are required by the accounting standard to be recognised on a straight line basis, rather than expensed in the years in which they are incurred.

m. Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the Statement of Cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

n. Contingent Assets and Contingent Liabilities and Commitments

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet, but are disclosed by way of a note and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

Commitments are not recognised in the Balance Sheet. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value by way of a note and are presented inclusive of the GST payable.

o. Pending Accounting Standards

Certain new AAS's have been issued that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2015 reporting period. The Corporation has assessed these pending standards and has identified that no material impact will flow from the

p. Rounding

Unless otherwise stated, amounts in the financial report have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars. Figures in the financial statement may not equate due to rounding.

q. Share of Equity

The percentages of equity held by participating councils making up the North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation is based on original contributions made at the time the Corporation came into being on 25th January 1996, plus a calculated figure for the share of each subsequent years income contribution. The percentages are as follows:

	2015	2014
City of Greater Bendigo	61.48%	61.61%
Macedon Ranges Shire Council	21.91%	21.60%
Mount Alexander Shire Council	11.21%	11.29%
Loddon Shire Council	5.40%	5.49%

r. Comparative Figures

When applicable, comparative figures have been adjusted to place them on a comparable basis with current year figures.

**NOTE
2** Budget Comparison

The budget comparison notes compare the Library's financial plan, expressed through its annual budget, with actual performance. The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014* requires explanation of any material variances. The Corporation has adopted a materiality threshold and explanations are provided for variances that are greater than 10% and \$10,000 compared to previous year. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The budget figures detailed below are those adopted by the Corporation on 27th June 2014. The Budget was based on assumptions that were relevant at the time of adoption of the Budget. The Corporation sets guidelines and parameters for revenue and expense targets in this budget in order to meet the Corporation's planning and financial performance targets for both the short and long-term. The budget did not reflect any changes to equity resulting from asset revaluations, as their impacts were not considered predictable.

These notes are prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*.

a) Income and Expenditure

	Actual 2015	Budget 2015	Variance	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Revenue				
Member Contributions	4,141,322	4,141,321	1	0%
Grants - Operating	1,227,765	1,207,816	19,949	2%
Grants - Capital	39,609	40,000	(391)	(1%)
User Fees, Charges and Fines	338,721	361,848	(23,127)	(6%)
Interest & Dividends	87,238	70,000	17,238	25%
Other Income	302,463	1,561	300,902	19,276%
Assets Received Free of Charge	17,875	15,000	2,875	19%
Net Gain / (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	8,307	(2,063)	10,370	(503%)
Total Revenue	6,163,300	5,835,483	327,817	6%
EXPENSES				
Employee Benefits	3,848,613	3,809,161	39,452	1%
Plant and Equipment Costs	323,409	376,227	(52,818)	(14%)
Depreciation	1,213,266	1,180,926	32,340	3%
Administration and Maintenance Charges	338,942	360,192	(21,250)	(6%)
Other Expenses	277,840	283,965	(6,125)	(2%)
Total Expenses	6,002,070	6,010,471	(8,401)	0%
Comprehensive Result	161,230	(174,988)	336,218	(192%)

(i) Explanation of Material Variances

Variance		
Ref	Item	Explanation
1		The Corporation received unbudgeted financial bequests. These funds allowed for a higher amount of interest and dividends to be received throughout the year.
2		The Corporation received unbudgeted bequests and income from the sale of an asset by a member
3		The Corporation received a favourable trade consideration on the changeover of a vehicle.
4		Savings in Computer Software Maintenance \$30,000, budget included amounts for consulting which were not required to be used during the year.

**NOTE
2** Budget Comparison (cont)

b) Capital Works

	Actual 2015	Budget 2015	Variance	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Resources	960,167	991,246	(31,079)	(3%)
Plant and Vehicles	178,565	270,000	(91,435)	0%
Information Technology	108,721	99,200	9,521	10%
Furniture and Equipment	5,906	15,300	(9,394)	(61%)
Total Capital Works	1,253,359	1,375,746	(122,387)	

Represented by:

Renewal	1,068,192	1,145,746	(77,554)	(7%)
New Assets	185,167	230,000	(44,833)	(19%)
Total Capital Works	1,253,359	1,375,746	(122,387)	

	2015 \$	2014 \$
NOTE 3 Member Contributions		
Member Council Contributions		
City of Greater Bendigo	2,488,550	2,366,118
Loddon Shire	180,568	171,169
Mt. Alexander Shire	428,698	406,524
Macedon Ranges Shire	1,043,506	991,027
Total Member Council Contributions	4,141,322	3,934,838
Normal Member Council Contributions per Capita	23.99	22.85
NOTE 4 Grants		
Grants were received in respect of the following:		
Summary of Grants		
State Funded Grants	1,267,374	1,247,742
Total	1,267,374	1,247,742
Operating Grants		
<i>Recurrent - State Government</i>		
State Government Library Grant	1,166,377	1,124,926
Total Recurrent Operating Grants	1,166,377	1,124,926
<i>Non-Recurrent State Government</i>		
State Government - Local Priorities	61,388	59,207
Total Non-Recurrent Operating Grants	61,388	59,207
Total Operating Grants	1,227,765	1,184,133
Capital Grants		
<i>Non-Recurrent State Government</i>		
State Government - Premiers Reading Challenge	39,609	39,609
State Government - Living Libraries Infrastructure Program	-	24,000
Total Non-Recurrent Capital Grants	39,609	63,609
Total Capital Grants	39,609	63,609
NOTE 5 User Fees, Charges and Fines		
Fines	51,943	45,247
Mobile Library User Contributions	108,397	103,235
Inter Library Loans	3,851	3,103
Reimbursements	121,939	112,372
Internet Prints	24,631	19,382
Book Recovery	6,088	6,500
Photocopying	21,842	20,221
Microfiche Reader	30	-
	338,721	310,060

	2015 \$	2014 \$
NOTE 6 Other Income		
Donations	248,733	175,000
Sundry Income	32,094	4,749
Rental Income	21,636	5,430
	302,463	185,179
NOTE 7 Assets Received Free of Charge		
During the reporting period the Library Corporation received the following donations:		
Resources at Fair Value	17,875	5,880
Shares at Market Value	-	134,958
Shelving Assets at Fair Value	-	74,220
	17,875	215,058
NOTE 8 Employee Costs		
Wages and Salaries	3,044,215	2,921,017
Superannuation	308,767	279,786
Agency Staff	-	75
Annual Leave	281,401	319,682
Long Service Leave	168,330	110,919
Workcover	18,643	20,597
Fringe Benefits Tax	7,869	6,255
Staff Training/Conferences	19,388	15,452
	3,848,613	3,673,783
NOTE 9 Plant and Equipment Costs		
Plant Operating and Maintenance	69,260	64,973
Photocopier Expenses	17,682	18,708
Talking Technology - Lease	11,392	10,357
Photocopier - Lease	36,377	40,750
Microfilm Reader Expenses	-	175
ABN - Cataloguing	6,709	7,250
General Office Equipment	35,006	13,989
Automated Systems Maintenance	146,983	139,816
	323,409	296,018
NOTE 10 Depreciation		
Plant and Vehicles	88,421	79,169
Resources	932,258	840,685
Information Technology	166,731	115,070
Furniture and Equipment	25,856	24,885
	1,213,266	1,059,809

	2015 \$	2014 \$
NOTE 11 Administration and Maintenance Charges		
Administration Charge	71,224	70,732
Insurances	53,216	54,174
Headquarters Maintenance Charge	26,534	27,118
Database Costs	132,445	83,897
Headquarters Redevelopment	-	675,000
Consultants Fees	44,186	79,791
Human Resources	11,337	25,370
	<u>338,942</u>	<u>1,016,082</u>
NOTE 12 Other Expenses		
Rural Transaction Centre	2,045	5,114
Telephones	22,472	19,151
Postage	8,467	7,913
Publicity/Advertising	8,978	8,297
Marketing/Promotion	19,309	7,824
Children Program Promotion	25,844	24,625
Adult Program Promotion	14,052	19,022
Printing and Stationery	35,948	20,821
Periodicals	39,574	35,641
Internet Expenses	24,771	21,995
Newspapers	14,656	13,650
Processing Supplies	26,573	8,007
Freight	9,216	9,791
Travelling	4,597	3,566
Inter Library Loan Costs	574	315
Membership & Sponsorships	9,099	6,390
Audit Fees	7,700	8,500
Bank Charges	2,320	2,738
Board Costs	497	536
Cleaning Services	1,148	-
	<u>277,840</u>	<u>223,896</u>
NOTE 13 Net Gain / (Loss) on Disposal of Assets		
Plant, Resouces and Equipment		
Proceeds from Disposal	24,091	1,440
Less: Carrying amount of Plant and Equipment Assets Sold	(13,782)	(18,900)
Net Profit on Disposal of Assets	<u>10,309</u>	<u>(17,460)</u>
Other Financial Assets		
Proceeds from Disposal	132,956	-
Less: Carrying amount of Other Financial Assets	(134,958)	-
Net (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	<u>(2,002)</u>	<u>-</u>
Summary of Disposals		
Proceeds from Disposal	157,047	1,440
Less: Carrying amount of Assets sold	(148,740)	(18,900)
Net Profit / (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	<u>8,307</u>	<u>(17,460)</u>

	2015 \$	2014 \$
NOTE 14 Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash on Hand	1,950	1,880
Cash at Bank	(5,652)	36,500
At Call Account	-	36,960
Term Deposits	1,900,000	1,300,000
	<u>1,896,298</u>	<u>1,375,340</u>
NOTE 15 Trade and Other Receivables		
Interest Receivable	10,245	5,338
Other Debtors	566	29,767
	<u>10,811</u>	<u>35,105</u>
All other debtors are current and considered collectible.		
NOTE 16 Other Financial Assets		
Listed Shares at Market Value	-	134,958
	<u>-</u>	<u>134,958</u>
NOTE 17 Other Assets		
Prepayments	173,689	163,514
	<u>173,689</u>	<u>163,514</u>

NOTE
18
Plant, Resources and Equipment

	Plant, Resources and Equipment				
Note	Resources	Plant and Vehicles	Information Technology	Furniture and Equipment	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	7,497,794	620,771	1,226,883	339,882	9,685,330
	(2,847,053)	(246,397)	(496,807)	(186,364)	(3,776,621)
	4,650,741	374,374	730,076	153,518	5,908,709
2	960,167	178,565	108,721	5,906	1,253,359
	-	-	-	-	-
	(685,147)	(37,798)	(217,839)	-	(940,784)
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	275,020	140,767	(109,118)	5,906	312,575
10	(932,258)	(88,421)	(166,731)	(25,856)	(1,213,266)
	683,946	24,016	217,839	-	925,801
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	(248,312)	(64,405)	51,108	(25,856)	(287,465)
	7,772,814	761,538	1,117,765	345,788	9,997,905
	(3,095,365)	(310,802)	(445,699)	(212,220)	(4,064,086)
	4,677,449	450,736	672,066	133,568	5,933,819

At Cost 30 June 2015
Accumulated Depreciation at 30 June 2015

NOTE
18
Plant, Resources and Equipment (cont.)

	Plant, Resources and Equipment				
Note	Resources	Plant and Vehicles	Information Technology	Furniture and Equipment	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	7,118,253	620,771	553,389	294,214	8,586,627
	(2,637,788)	(167,228)	(381,737)	(190,015)	(3,376,768)
	4,480,465	453,543	171,652	104,199	5,209,859
	1,005,082	-	673,494	18,880	1,697,456
	5,879	-	-	74,220	80,099
	-	-	-	-	-
	(631,420)	-	-	(47,432)	(678,852)
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	379,541	0	673,494	45,668	1,098,703
10	(840,685)	(79,169)	(115,070)	(24,885)	(1,059,809)
	631,420	-	-	28,536	659,956
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	(209,265)	(79,169)	(115,070)	3,651	(399,853)
	7,497,794	620,771	1,226,883	339,882	9,685,330
	(2,847,053)	(246,397)	(496,807)	(186,364)	(3,776,621)
	4,650,741	374,374	730,076	153,518	5,908,709

At Cost 30 June 2014
Accumulated Depreciation at 30 June 2014

NOTE 19 Trade and Other Payables

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Current		
Trade Creditors	145,263	21,923
GST Creditor	50,702	64,590
Accrued Expenses	8,470	9,350
Accrued Salaries	98,842	86,100
	303,277	181,963

NOTE 20 Provisions

	Annual Leave	Long Service Leave	Total
	\$	\$	\$
2015			
Balance at beginning of the financial year	387,927	653,776	1,041,703
Additional provisions	278,333	160,304	438,637
Amounts used	(277,952)	(62,048)	(340,000)
Increase in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	1,098	14,711	15,809
Balance at the end of the financial year	389,406	766,743	1,156,149
2014			
Balance at beginning of the financial year	317,995	573,837	891,832
Additional provisions	207,658	63,310	270,968
Amounts used	(246,464)	(37,636)	(284,100)
Increase in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	108,738	54,265	163,003
Balance at the end of the financial year	387,927	653,776	1,041,703
	2015	2014	
	\$	\$	
Current Provisions expected to be settled within 12 months			
Annual Leave	283,322	269,123	
Long Service Leave	52,905	45,111	
	336,227	314,234	
Current Provisions expected to be settled after 12 months			
Annual Leave	106,085	118,804	
Long Service Leave	640,118	553,523	
	746,203	672,327	
Total Current Provisions	1,082,430	986,561	
Non-Current			
Long Service Leave	73,720	55,142	
Total Non Current Provisions	73,720	55,142	

The following assumptions were adopted in measuring the present value of employee benefits:

- Weighted average increase in employee cost	4.44%	4.44%
- Weighted average discount rate	3.03%	3.13%
- Weighted average settlement period	18 years	18 years

NOTE 21 Reserves

	Balance at the Beginning of Reporting Period	Transfer from Accumulated Surplus	Transfer to Accumulated Surplus	Balance at the End of Reporting Period
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Discretionary Reserves 2015				
Plant Replacement	480,295	60,000	(122,377)	417,918
Development Initiatives	35,612	-	-	35,612
Local History Bequest	-	383,691	(6,747)	376,944
Defined Benefits	100,000	100,000	-	200,000
Total Discretionary Reserves	615,907	543,691	(129,124)	1,030,474
Discretionary Reserves 2014				
Plant Replacement	420,295	60,000	-	480,295
Development Initiatives	485,612	-	(450,000)	35,612
Headquarters Masterplan	250,000	-	(250,000)	-
RFID Reserve	550,000	-	(550,000)	-
Defined Benefits	-	100,000	-	100,000
Total Discretionary Reserves	1,705,907	160,000	(1,250,000)	615,907

NOTE 22 Reconciliation of Cash and Cash Equivalents

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
Cash on Hand	14	1,950	1,880
Cash at Bank	14	(5,652)	36,500
At Call Account	14	-	36,960
Term Deposits	14	1,900,000	1,300,000
		1,896,298	1,375,340

NOTE 23 Reconciliation of Cash Flows from Operating Activities

Net Result		161,230	(306,245)
Items Not Involving Cash			
Fair Value of Assets Donated	7	(17,875)	(215,058)
Depreciation	10	1,213,266	1,059,809
Net Gain / (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	13	(8,307)	17,460
Change in Operating Assets and Liabilities			
(Increase)/Decrease in Receivables		24,294	33,922
(Increase)/Decrease in Other Assets		(10,175)	(101,660)
Increase/(Decrease) in Trade and Other Payables		41,821	70,435
Increase/(Decrease) in Employee Benefits		114,447	149,871
Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities		1,518,701	708,534

NOTE 24 Commitments	2015 \$	2014 \$
Operating Commitments		
The Corporation has no known operating commitment at 30 June.	-	-
Capital Commitments		
The Corporation has known outstanding Capital Commitments at the 30 of June totalling:	-	129,724

NOTE 25 Operating Leases

Operating Lease Commitments

At the reporting date, the Corporation had the following obligations under non-cancellable operating leases for the lease of equipment for use within Corporation's activities (these obligations are not recognised as liabilities):

Not later than one year	29,023	120,905
Later than one year but not later than five years	-	30,530
	29,023	151,435

NOTE 26 Contingent Liabilities

The Corporation has obligations under a defined benefit superannuation scheme that may result in the need to make additional contributions to the scheme to ensure that the liabilities of the fund are covered by the assets of the fund. As a result of the volatility in financial markets the likelihood of making such contributions in future periods exists. At this point in time it is not known if additional contributions will be required, their timing or potential amount.

Funding arrangements

The Corporation makes employer contributions to the defined benefit category of the Fund at rates determined by the Trustee on the advice of the Fund's Actuary.

The Fund's latest actuarial investigation was held as at 30 June 2014 and it was determined that the Vested Benefit Indexed (VBI) of the defined benefit category of which the Corporation is a contributing employer was 103.4%. To determine the VBI, the fund Actuary used the following long-term assumptions:

Net investment returns	7.5% pa
Salary information	4.25% pa
Price inflation (CPI)	2.75% pa.

Vision Super has advised that the estimated VBI at the 30th June 2015 was 105.8%.

The VBI is to be used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100%, the actuarial investigation determined the defined benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position and that no change was necessary to the defined benefit category's funding arrangements from prior years.

Employer Contributions

Regular Contributions

On the basis of the results of the most recent full actuarial investigation conducted by the Fund's Actuary as at 30 June 2014, The Corporation makes employer contributions to the Fund's Defined Benefit category at rates determined by the Fund's Trustee. For the year ended 30 June 2015, this rate was 9.5% of members' salaries. This rate will increase in line with any increase to the Superannuation Guarantee (SG) contribution rate.

In addition, the Corporation reimburses the Fund to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit.

Funding Calls

If the defined benefit category is in an unsatisfactory financial position at actuarial investigation or the defined benefit category's VBI is below its shortfall limit at any time other than the date of the actuarial investigation, the defined benefit category has a shortfall for the purposes of SPS 160 and the Fund is required to put a plan in place so that the shortfall is fully funded within three years of the shortfall occurring. The Fund monitors its VBI on a quarterly basis and the Fund has set its shortfall limit at 97%.

In the event that the Fund Actuary determines that there is a shortfall based on the above requirement, the Fund's participating employers (including the Corporation) are required to make an employer contribution to cover the shortfall.

Using the agreed methodology, the shortfall amount is apportioned between the participating employers based on the pre-1 July 1993 and post-30 June 1993 service liabilities of the Fund's defined benefit category, together with the employer's payroll at 30 June 1993 and at the date the shortfall has been calculated.

NOTE 26 Contingent Liabilities (cont.)

Due to the nature of the contractual obligations between the participating employers and the Fund, and that the Fund includes lifetime pensioners and their reversionary beneficiaries, it is unlikely that the Fund will be wound up.

If there is a surplus in the Fund, the surplus cannot be returned to the participating employers.

In the event that a participating employer is wound-up, the defined benefit obligations of that employer will be transferred to that employer's successor.

Latest Actuarial Investigation Surplus Amounts

The Fund's latest actuarial investigation as at 30 June 2014 identified the following in the defined benefit category of which the Corporation is a contributing employer:

- A VBI surplus of \$77.1 million; and
- A total service liability surplus of \$236 million.

The VBI surplus means that the market value of the fund's assets supporting the defined benefit obligations exceed the vested benefits that the defined benefit members would have been entitled to if they had all exited on 30 June 2014.

The total service liability surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's defined benefit category plus expected future contributions exceeds the value of expected future benefits and expenses.

The Corporation was notified of the results of the actuarial investigation during January 2015.

Superannuation Contributions

Contributions by the Corporation (excluding any unfunded liability payments) to the above superannuation plans for the financial year ended 30 June 2015 are detailed below:

Scheme	Type of Scheme	Rate	2015 \$'000	2014 \$'000
Vision Super	Defined Benefits	9.25%	-	31
Vision Super	Defined Benefits	9.50%	30	-
Vision Super	Accumulation Plan	9.25%	-	203
Vision Super	Accumulation Plan	9.50%	210	-
VIC Super	Accumulation Plan	9.25%	-	13
VIC Super	Accumulation Plan	9.50%	14	-
ESS Super	Accumulation Plan	9.25%	-	6
ESS Super	Accumulation Plan	9.50%	34	-
Catholic Super	Accumulation Plan	9.25%	-	7
Catholic Super	Accumulation Plan	9.50%	7	-
Hesta Super	Accumulation Plan	9.25%	-	5
Hesta Super	Accumulation Plan	9.50%	5	-
Legal Super	Accumulation Plan	9.25%	-	3
Legal Super	Accumulation Plan	9.50%	7	-
Uni Super	Accumulation Plan	9.25%	-	2
Uni Super	Accumulation Plan	9.50%	6	-
Other	Accumulation Plan	9.25%	-	19
Other	Accumulation Plan	9.50%	23	-

There were \$12,539 contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2015.

The expected contributions to be paid to the defined benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2016 is \$52,442.

NOTE 27 Financial Instruments

a. Objectives and Policies

The Corporation's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables, payables. Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised, in respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument is disclosed in Note 1 of the financial statements. Risk management is carried out by senior management under policies approved by the Corporation. These policies include identification and analysis of the risk exposure to Corporation and appropriate procedures, controls and risk minimisation.

b. Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of our financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Corporation's exposures to market risk is primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Interest rate liability risk arises primarily from long term loans and borrowings at fixed rates which exposes the Corporation to fair value interest rate risk. The Corporation does not hold any interest bearing financial instruments that are measured at fair value, and therefore has no exposure to fair value interest rate risk. Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Corporation has minimal exposure to cash flow interest rate risk through its cash and deposits that are at floating rate.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the *Local Government Act 1989*. We manage interest rate risk by adopting an investment policy that ensures:

- diversification of investment product,
- monitoring of return on investment,
- benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

There has been no significant change in the Corporation's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing interest rate risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

Interest rate movements have not been sufficiently significant during the year to have an impact on the Corporation's year end result.

c. Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause the Corporation to make a financial loss. The Corporation has exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in its balance sheet. To help manage this risk:

- we may require collateral where appropriate; and
- we only invest surplus funds with financial institutions which have a recognised credit rating specified in our investment policy.

Trade and other receivables are predominately other Local Government entities (Member Councils). Credit risk associated with the Corporations financial assets is minimal because the main debtor is the Victorian Government and other Member Councils. Apart from the Victorian Government and Member Councils the Corporation does not have any significant credit risk exposure to a single customer or groups of customers.

There are no material financial assets which are individually determined to be impaired.

NOTE 27 Financial Instruments (continued)

d. Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of our operational liquidity requirements or the Corporation will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction when required, the Corporation will be forced to sell a financial asset at below value or may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset.

To help reduce these risks the Corporation:

- have a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within in various bands of liquid investments;
- monitor budget to actual performance on a regular basis.

The Corporation's maximum exposure to liquidity risk is the carrying amounts of financial liabilities as disclosed in the face of the balance sheet, and is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

There has been no significant change in Corporation's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing liquidity risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

Unless otherwise stated, the carrying amounts of financial instruments reflect their fair value.

e. Fair Value

Unless otherwise stated, the carrying amount of financial instruments reflect their fair value.

Fair value hierarchy

The Corporation's financial assets and liabilities are not valued in accordance with the fair value hierarchy. The Corporation's financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

f. Sensitivity Disclosure Analysis

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, the Corporation believes the following movements are 'reasonably possible' over the next 12 months:

- A parallel shift of + 1% and -0.5% in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of 2.6%.

These movements will not have a material impact on the valuation of Corporation's financial assets and liabilities, nor will they have a material impact on the results of Corporation's operations.

NOTE 28 Related Party Transactions

(i) Responsible Persons

Names of persons holding the position of a Responsible Person at the Corporation during the reporting year are:

Board Members

Karen Stevens
John McLinden
Marg Allan
Carolyn Wallace (01/07/2014 - 27/03/2015)
Sue Jones (27/03/2015 - 29/05/2015)
Vicki Mason (29/05/2015 - 30/06/2015)
Cr Michael Redden
Cr Rod Fyffe
Cr Cheryl McKinnon
Cr John Connor

Chief Executive Officer

Chris Kelly

(ii) Remuneration of Responsible Persons

The numbers of Responsible Persons whose total remuneration from the Corporation and any related entities, excluding retirement benefits, fall within the following bands:

	2015 No.	2014 No.
\$0 - \$9,999	10	9
\$90,000 - \$99,999	-	1
\$140,000 - \$149,999	1	-
\$170,000 - \$179,999	-	1
TOTAL	11	11

Total Remuneration for the reporting year for Responsible Persons included above amounted to:

\$ 148,045 \$ 268,382

Board members received no remuneration.

(iii) Senior Officers Remuneration

A Senior Officer other than a Responsible Person, is an officer of the Corporation who:

- a) has management responsibilities and reports directly to the Chief Executive; or
- b) whose total annual remuneration exceeds \$136,000

The number of Senior Officers other than the Responsible Persons, are shown below in their relevant income bands:

	2015 No.	2014 No.
Income Range <\$136,000	5	11

Total Remuneration for the reporting year for Senior Officers included above, amounted to:

\$ 335,206 \$ 757,423

NOTE 28 Related Party Transactions (Continued)

(iv) Responsible Persons Retirement Benefits

The aggregate amount paid during the reporting period by the Corporation in connection with the retirement of responsible persons was \$0 (2013/14 \$71,500).

(v) Related Party Transactions

No loans have been made, guaranteed or secured by the Corporation to a Responsible Person during the reporting year.

(vi) Transactions with Responsible Persons

During the year the Corporation did not enter into any transactions with responsible persons. The responsible persons represent member Councils who make contributions to fund the library. Details of these contributions are disclosed in note 3.

NOTE 29 Restricted Assets

As at the reporting date, the cash assets (note 14) are not subject to external restrictions that limit the amounts available for discretionary use. Although not externally restricted, the following amounts have been allocated for specific future purposes by the corporation:

Long Service Leave - Investments *

Discretionary Reserves

Total Restricted Assets

	2015	2014
Long Service Leave - Investments *	614,315	530,246
Discretionary Reserves	1,030,474	615,907
Total Restricted Assets	1,644,789	1,146,153

* Restricted asset for long service leave is based on the former Local Government (Long Service Leave) Regulations 2002 and does not necessarily equate to the long service leave liability disclosed in Note 20 due to a different basis of calculation prescribed by the regulation. Changes to the Local Government Long Service Leave Regulations 2002 during the 2012 financial year has meant that under the Regulation the requirement to maintain separate investments for Long Service Leave balances no longer exists. As at 30 June 2015 the Corporation still maintains the investment balance under the former Regulation requirements.

NOTE 30 Events Occurring After Balance Date

No matters have occurred after balance date that require disclosure in the financial report.

In my opinion the accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989, the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*, Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

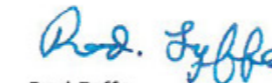


Travis A Harling, CPA
Principal Accounting Officer
Date: 04/09/2015
at Gisborne, Victoria.

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of the North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation for the year ended 30 June 2015 and the financial position of the Corporation as at that date.

As at the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Board and by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 to certify the financial statements in their final form.



Rod Fyffe
Board Member

Date: 04/09/2015
at Gisborne, Victoria.



John McLinden
Board Member

Date: 04/09/2015
at Gisborne, Victoria.



Chris Kelly
Chief Executive Officer

Date: 04/09/2015
at Gisborne, Victoria.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board Members, North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation

The Financial Report

The accompanying financial report for the year ended 30 June 2015 of the North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation which comprises the comprehensive income statement, balance sheet, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows, statement of capital works, notes comprising a summary of the significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the certification of the financial report has been audited.

The Board Members' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Board Members of the North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation are responsible for the preparation and the fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, and the financial reporting requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

The Board Members are responsible for such internal control as the Board Members determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the *Audit Act 1994* and the *Local Government Act 1989*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit, which has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The audit procedures selected depend on judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, consideration is given to the 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 the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Board Members, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independent Auditor's Report (continued)

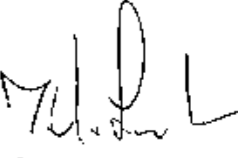
Independence

The Auditor-General's independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. The Auditor-General is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which his powers and responsibilities are to be exercised. In conducting the audit, the Auditor-General, his staff and delegates complied with all applicable independence requirements of the Australian accounting profession.

Opinion

In my opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation as at 30 June 2015 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards, and the financial reporting requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

MELBOURNE
9 September 2015



John Doyle
Auditor-General



BENDIGO

259 Hargreaves St
p. 5449 2700

Goldfields Research Centre

p. 5449 2794

Bendigo Regional Archives Centre

p. 5449 2700

CASTLEMAINE

212 Barker St
p. 5472 1458

EAGLEHAWK

Eaglehawk Mechanics Institute
1 Sailors Gully Rd
p. 5446 7577

ELIBRARY

www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au

GISBORNE

Hamilton St
p. 5428 3962

HEATHCOTE

125 High St
p. 5433 3734

KANGAROO FLAT

267 High St
p. 5447 8344

KYNETON

3 Baynton St
p. 5422 1365

PYRAMID HILL

Pyramid Hill Neighbourhood House
22 Kelly St
p. 5455 7129

ROMSEY

98 Main St
p. 5429 3086

WOODEND

Cnr High & Forest St
p. 5427 2074

MOBILE LIBRARY STOPS

p. 5449 2790

Axedale
Bealiba
Boort
Bridgewater
Charlton
Dingee
Dunolly
Elmore
Goornong
Inglewood
Korong Vale
Mitiamo
Moliagul
Newbridge
Raywood
Tarnagulla
Wedderburn