WILLUNGA WALDORF SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT
2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

REPORTS FROM

Head of School	1
Governing Council	11
College of Teachers	14
Parents & Friends	15
Rainbow Room	18
Finance Report	20
Financial Statements	23
Audit Report	25

Class 5 Camp - Woodhouse

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The 2023 school year was a testament to our collective resilience. Despite the challenges posed by COVID mandates and restrictions, we managed to navigate the storm. School life had returned to a new normality. Having grown and developed clarity over the last couple of years and working with the school's strategic plan, our school decided to expand into dual streaming in 2024. 2023 was a year of moving forward and preparing, showcasing our strength and determination.

The January conference, aptly titled "Weaving Connection between Anthroposophy, Indigenous Perspectives and Well-being," was a powerful platform for our staff to reconnect with each other and our work on a deeper level. Through engaging stories and artistic activities, we collectively prepared for the year ahead, fostering a sense of unity and anticipation that continues to inspire us.

The 2023 Rose Ceremony was a truly heartwarming event, symbolising the return of our community members, students, and staff to a shared space. The joy was palpable as Class 12 students, in a beautiful tradition, gifted a rose to the new Class 1 students. This act of welcome and acknowledgment of the cycle of life within the school, with the Class 12's stepping into their final year and the Class 1 students embarking on their primary school journey, filled the air with joy and nostalgia.

The year was marked by significant progress and planning for the school's growth. We reviewed and built on the school's master planning, preparing for a dual-stream Reception classroom and making necessary changes to other classes. We continued the application process for funding from the Block Grant Authority (BGA) for a new classroom build.

The school's website was reviewed and updated in preparation for managing the school's growth. Thanks to Elle Summers and Amy Hoffmann for their support and input into the site's development.

By the end of the year, the school had seen the Autumn fair back in full swing in term one, and parent community talks offered twice termly, class plays throughout the year, music performances, and all end-of-year events, especially the Spring festival with community members and picnics on the oval. Class 12 speeches and graduation were successfully celebrated.

Class 12 Play - Cosi

LEADERSHIP

At the beginning of 2023, I was appointed to a five-year contract as Head of School. Michael Braithwaite stepped down from business management for personal reasons, and Graeme Tucker returned to an acting position while recruitment for a new business manager was underway. By the end of June, Sharon Miller successfully won the position of Business Manager. I want to thank Graeme for his support and guidance over this time. Pete Sommers transitioned to the role of Project Officer to provide additional support with the implementation of dual streaming, and Sophie Binder returned to the High School Faculty Leader position.

The Leadership Team:

- Head of School: Jodie Thomas
- Business Manager: Sharon Miller
- High School Faculty Leader: Sophie Binder
- Primary School Faculty Leader: Andrew Banks
- Early Childhood Coordinator: Irene Bragg
- Learning Support Coordinator: Kerstin Anderson.
- Project Officer: Pete Sommers

I want to acknowledge all the support the leadership team has provided me throughout 2023. This was a busy and dynamic year with:

- Staff returning from special COVID leave,
- Several staff on long service leave,
- The development and implementation of a parent conversation morning throughout the year,
- The review and development of the Masterplan with Mark Baxter (Baxter & Jacobson Architects) to support school growth,
- Preparation for dual streaming to start in 2024,
- Completion of the BGA Grant application for the new classrooms. Our application was successful, and we will receive funding for a significant portion of the build cost.

I felt incredibly supported and trusted by the leadership team and all the staff throughout the year.

The Governing Council, especially the Chair, Hannah Matthews, have been very supportive throughout the year. They have provided mentoring and training through the Steiner Education Australia Leadership 360 program and a regular catch-up with the Chair for support. I thank them for supporting the Head of School, the Leadership Team, and the school community.

STAFFING 2023

Below are the key teachers and class guardians for 2023. In addition, a range of specialist teachers, assistants, and ancillary staff support each class.

Kindergarten – Chantelle Sommers
Kindergarten – Alexis O'Connor
Class One – Joshua Withers
Class Two – Clodia O'Gradaigh
Class Three – Selina Ayles
Class Four - Tamaran La Ronde
Class Five – Dan Windsor
Class Six – Deb Crisp
Class Seven – Kathy Lawrence/ Sally Delara
Class Eight – Sophie Binder
Class Nine – Sandra van Vliet and Jarrod Anderson
Class Ten – Renee McGowan and Tom Deliveyne
Class Eleven – Pru Mangos and Pete Sommers
Class Twelve – Allye Sinclair and Scott Johnston

Several staff members finished by the end of 2023. I would especially like to thank:

- Alex Rodger, for her incredible work in the library,
- Tom Redwood, for all his input to the school, teaching staff and community and high school students,
- Glen Hodge, for his love and devotion to the grounds and gardens,
- Jessica Withers, for all her support with costumes and work behind the scenes on plays,
- Kelly Ryan, for all her teaching and support to the school and the students she taught,
- Lin Muirhead, for her dedication of over 30 years to WWS development, teaching in many areas across the school and supporting the school's continual growth.

The school has a strong Learning Support team from Reception to Class 12. The coordinators were Kerstin Anderson, Classes 1-3; Gabe Scarman, Classes 3-7; and Luisa Redford, Classes 8-12. I want to thank the Learning Support team for supporting student needs across the school.

Our Wellbeing staff, Sandra Van Vliet and Ewan Rourke supported students from Classes 7-12, including attending camps. Lukas Heck provided support and mentoring in the lower years. External providers also supported wellbeing and Health and Social Education, as required throughout the year.

The school invited Melanie Deefholts to deliver the 'Developing the Self' program for Classes 4-12.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our staff conferences are important for all staff to gather and learn collectively.

January WWS Staff Conference 2023:

- Weaving Connections between Anthroposophy, Indigenous perspectives and Wellbeing with Colleagues & curriculum; working

with lectures and our experiences/ observations plus artistic activity in Faculties; Faculty Planning; preparation of learning at home packs.

July WWS Staff Conference 2023:

- Telling Our Story – working with a 3-fold focus
    - Story of the self and how you came to be at Willunga Waldorf School,
    - The value and importance of storytelling, the narrative of WWS and how the story of place and time meets the students/class
    - Who are the storytellers/whose story is it to tell? Where and how do stories live? What is the future of Story, fact or fiction, myth or reality?

Many professional development engagements were undertaken, including:

- Glenaeon Primary School Teachers National conference – attended via Zoom by Primary Staff
- SA Steiner Schools Professional Development Day – a small group of staff attended
- SA Steiner Leaders Professional Development – attended once a term by Jodie Thomas and other school leaders
- Association of Independent Schools of South Australia (AISSA) Professional Development programs:
    - Human Resources
    - Leadership
    - Learning Support
    - Nationally Consistent Collection of Data
    - Business Managers Meeting
- First Aid for Schools, as required
- Steiner Education Australia (SEA) Delegates Meetings – attended by Jodie Thomas and Andrew Banks
- SEA Business Manager's Forum – attended by Jodie Thomas and Leigh Lauwrens
- SEA Governance, Leadership and Management (GLAM) conference
- SEA Mentoring Program - Andrew Banks
- SEA Leadership 360 Program Mentoring – Sophie Binder, Renee McGowen, Jodie Thomas
- Protective Practices Training – all staff, as required
- Work Health Safety for Officers – attended by Sharon Miller
- Work Health Safety for Committees – attended by our WHS Committee
- Supporting Return to Work – A Guide for Managers – attended by Sharon Miller
- Classroom Observations

EDUCATION AND STUDENT LEARNING

The richness and wisdom of the curriculum wove its way through 12 Main Lessons per class, punctuated by camps and outdoor experiences and supported by a wealth of specialist subjects. Gardening lessons are always rich and busy with planting, propagating, growing, and picking produce to take home and share with the community at the end of the week. The Class 6 and 7 musical, "Heroes", by Timothy Tuck, directed by Allye Sinclair and Catherine Freeborn, was a hit. The show was entertaining, colourful, and funny. There were many stand-out individual efforts, including some surprises and warm displays that offered challenges for the team's sake.

Class 6 & 7 Musical – "Heroes"

Class 12's play, "Cosi," an Australian comedy by Louis Nowra directed by Tom Redwood and Kerstin Von Shearing, was a huge success. It was hilarious, and the audience and cast had a great time.

Other accolades go to the primary classes, who played beautiful music at the Autumn Fair, and all the students who performed at the instrumental night, Christmas markets, and end-of-year music presentations—many thanks to Allye, Catherine and Robin for the fantastic musical opportunities the students have.

As always, our seasonal festivals marked the year's passing with beauty and meaning while bringing the community together in celebration. It was a unique Spring Festival, with all parents, students, and staff dancing together, enjoying the sunshine and the beautiful spring flowers and blossoms. This led to a

wonderful end-of-year celebration with students' families and staff celebrating another full year of learning, laughter, and the richness of our curriculum.

The interschool sports program continues to be successful for students from Classes 6 to 12. This is an excellent opportunity for our students to shine in other ways. In 2019, the High School PE Elective changed from a general program to a specialist volleyball program. Students in the volleyball program practice weekly, including 8am Friday morning training, lunchtime training, and a level of commitment to play outside of school.

In 2023, the school had six volleyball teams compete: 7/8 Boys, 7/8 Girls, 9/10 Boys, 9/10 Girls, Senior Boys and Senior Girls. The 7/8 Boys' Volleyball team won the state knockout final, coming second in the Southern Zone. The competition was fierce, and the boys came fifth in the state.

Congratulations to the Senior Boys' team as the Southern Zone's reigning champions. Over the last 12 months, we have been developing areas of their game that could be strengthened. The Senior Boys put this training into action and won the day without dropping a set! They advanced to the State Knockout Final with a fantastic result, third in the state. How they represented the school on the day showed what outstanding human beings they have become.

Our school was also asked to host and run the Statewide Knockout Soccer Rounds with excellent success across all teams from years 5/6, 7/9 and 9/10. This sporting calendar highlight showcased our beautiful school and displayed our sporting excellence to the surrounding community. Willunga Waldorf has built up a name in the Southern Zone Sporting Community. It is a quality of the school that gains consistent results yearly, especially in soccer and volleyball. Our school was successful in 2023 against some neighbouring solid schools, including Tatachilla Lutheran College, Seaford Secondary College and Cardijn College.

Congratulations to Charlie Sommers and Jasper Marcel, who made the state team for rugby and volleyball.

Thanks to Renee McGowan, Jarrod Anderson, and the high school staff for supporting the students and making this possible.

PARENT-TEACHER PARTNERSHIPS

The Parents and Friends Association is a vital component of the school, and its members are greatly appreciated and respected within the school community for their work.

The school introduced parent conversations so parents could meet and learn more about the school and Rudolf Steiner's pedagogy.

The continued provision of nourishing meals were available all of 2023 on Tuesdays thanks to Paul Amour and Roxy Young, who continued to deliver and run the canteen operations, with Class 7's and Class 11 students supporting the operations through cashier operating and food service.

The Autumn Fair returned, which was a great success with the dedication of Parents and Friends (P&F). It truly is a special day for the school. Donations from P&F always help with upgrades to meet students' needs, and the school is always grateful for their support. Special thanks go to Tara, Hope, Alicia, Tina, and Heejung, who have held the Parent and Friends group.

The Rainbow Room continues to operate weekly. It is solely volunteer parent-run and a haven for handcrafted gifts, sunhats, wool, books, and more. In extension to the Rainbow Room, Community Room B was used by parents for meetings, workshops, and craft activities. This dedicated space was moved towards the end of the year to support the dual streaming in 2024. P&F shares the space with the Learning Support team and continues doing their essential work.

The school continues to work with the parent community to make them feel welcome, at home, supported, and informed about the philosophy and methodology that underpin Steiner Education.

CONCLUSION

In closing, on behalf of the school, my heartfelt thanks go out to every individual who collectively makes up the exceptional community we have here at Willunga Waldorf School. The past several years have been a trial for all, and I sincerely am grateful to everyone and your support of the school.

- To the rich diversity of students around whom we all gather with dedication, purpose and meaning, who have managed all learning changes over the last few years.
- To our marvelous Parents and Friends for their continuous and seemingly boundless support of the school, including those who meet regularly for the craft group, undertake gardening, support excursions, and assist as needed.
- To the Admin team for their ongoing support of everyone within the school and for warmly welcoming me into the Head of School role.
- To the Building and Grounds team for their care and passion for the school's environment and buildings.
- To all who cross our threshold and for activities too numerous to name that keep the entire organisation humming.
- To our dedicated, creative, committed staff who demonstrate daily the importance of flexibility, warmth, understanding and healthy relationships.
- To the school's leadership team for your fantastic support and continued commitment to me, all staff, the students, and the school's community in ensuring that our core purpose of education is delivered easily.
- To the School Council and Compliance & Finance Committee for wise governance and supportive expertise, generously volunteered with care and consideration.

Jodie Thomas
Head of School

GOVERNING COUNCIL REPORT

2023 felt like a reset year, in many aspects, for the Governing Council and the School in general, after what was a couple of tumultuous years post pandemic. It was heartening to see the reignition of our community events and the parent education that has always been such an enriching part of our cultural fabric. It was a busy year for the Council with recruitment of key leadership positions at the forefront. There were also robust conversations around double streaming and master planning. Our committee gives so much hard work and commitment, and I would like to thank you all for your support and love of our beautiful school. School Council would like to acknowledge all staff, their devotion, hard work and dedication to Willunga Waldorf School and the broader Waldorf Education movement.

HEAD OF SCHOOL AND BUSINESS MANAGER

It was indeed a busy year for Governing Council regarding recruitment. There were a number of significant changes in our leadership positions. At the end of 2022 an expression of interest for a permanent Head of School was advertised internally, and Jodie Thomas was the successful applicant accepting a 5-year contract starting in January 2023. The Council were very pleased to have stability in this particularly important leadership role.

In January 2023, Michael Braithwaite resigned as Business Manager. The School Council thanks and acknowledges Michael's efforts in this position. Graeme Tucker was approached to assist the school in a short-term contract capacity to keep finances ticking along whilst a recruitment process was underway. This was a great support to the school, and we thank Graeme for his unwavering dedication to WWS. The school engaged Stillwell Recruitment to seek a new Business Manager and after that process we appointed Sharon Miller in June 2023 as our new Business Manager on a 5-year contract. We are excited to work with Sharon and know she has so much experience to offer our community.

Class 12 - Impressionist Artwork

DUAL STREAMING AND MASTER PLAN

In 2022, Sophie Binder took on the project to continue research into double streaming. This culminated in presenting the community and Council with a suite of documents in October 2022. The comprehensive analysis included culture, staffing, finances, and potential required capital works. There was much deliberation, seeking of information and consultation involved in this process and the final decision was passed in December 2022 to move ahead with dual streaming. This is a pivotal move in our school's history and to be able to offer our amazing school to more families is a wonderful outcome. Council and Leadership spent much of 2023 preparing for the commencement of dual streaming in 2024.

In March 2023, architect Mark Baxter visited the school for community engagement and consultation on the Master Plan. Two sessions were run in the High School building and the master planning process moved into full swing. The development and implementation of the Master Plan is an ongoing long-term process to support dual streaming.

PARTNERSHIPS

Our support of the South Coast Steiner initiative and Eyre Peninsula Steiner initiative continued in all ways possible. In 2023, the School sponsored the Eyre Peninsula representative to attend the SEA GLAM conference and made donations to the South Coast Steiner initiative.

COUNCIL SELF REVIEW

Throughout 2022 the school was chosen to join a pilot program led by SEA. The program was led by Libbi Turner and included a whole school leadership review intended to identify strengths and provide support in areas which may be required. The Council received feedback which was drawn upon in our Council self-review process in 2023. Council added a goal for 2023 "Council will practice assertive communication and promotion throughout the School Community based on trust, respect and openness." We work on these areas of communication, continually trying to improve.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

As volunteers, there is a continual need for learning and strengthening governance skills. AISSA and SEA offer training throughout the year that is both enriching and inspiring. Collectively, we attended AISSA training sessions, GLAM sessions, and other training courses (online) offered by SEA. These sessions are hugely beneficial to our work for the school. Jodie, Hannah, and Chantelle attended the SEA run zoom titled 'Rebuilding School Community post COVID.'

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

At the end of 2023, School Council Members were:

- Hannah Matthews (Chair and Council Nominee)
- Leigh Lauwrens (Council Nominee)
- Andrew Bentley (Parents and Friends Nominee)
- Beth Midgley (Parents and Friends Nominee
- Chantelle Summers (College of Teacher Nominee)
- Joshua Withers (College of Teachers Nominee)
- Jodie Thomas (Head of School)
- Sharon Miller (Business Manager).

At the end of 2023, Compliance and Finance Committee Members were:

- Leigh Lauwrens (Chair)
- Cameron Day
- Ash Rawling
- Robert Elftmann
- Sharon Miller (Business Manager)

There were some changes to Council membership throughout 2023.

- Simon Stafford, a valuable contributor to Council with a wealth of governance experience, stepped down from his position. Simon offered his deep knowledge to the Governing Council, which was greatly appreciated.
- Simon Paul, another valuable contributor to Council, also stepped down. Simon provided deep insights to Council discussions.
- We bid farewell to Ewan Rourke at the 2023 AGM. Ewan brought a heartfelt contribution to Council, and we thank him deeply for his time.
- We warmly welcomed Joshua Withers, an experienced and valuable teacher, and Beth Midgley with her keen eye for detail and legal background. She will be a valuable addition to our Council.

The Compliance and Finance Committee welcomed Ash Rawling, and we look forward to working with him and benefiting from his banking experience. We also welcomed Robert Elftmann, who has an extensive business background, to the committee.

Acknowledgement must also be given to all our volunteers' families for facilitating the space for volunteers to attend meetings and workshops. Thank you; our work could not be done without you.

As Chair, I want to thank all who volunteer at the school. Their work is valuable and adds so much to our community. We sincerely appreciate it.

Hannah Matthews
Council Chairperson

COLLEGE OF TEACHERS REPORT

The purpose of the College of Teachers is to carry the responsibility for the pedagogical and educational leadership of the school.
(Terms of Reference, 2017)

Allye Sinclair and Chantelle Sommers continued as Co-Chairs of the college during 2023.

During 2023, College focused on:

- The Touchstones for creating trustworthy spaces and relationships from, The Courage Way Practice.
- Revisiting the seven core principles of Australian Steiner Schools and how they apply to our school in learning.
- Anthroposophical questions such as; 'What are the **physical, etheric, astral and ego** qualities that pertain to specific **skills** we are teaching in our classes or in our own contexts?'; and 'Given that we are educating for health: What are the signs that the *skills* you are teaching contribute to the students' wellbeing?
- Building a deep inner picture of the winter festival, singing winter festival songs and walking the Winter festival spiral in preparation for the Winter Festival night with students and the community.
- Creation of a new maypole dance and music for the Spring festival during the Winter Conference and Term 3.
- Preparation and execution of the July conference, demonstrating our commitment to continuous professional development.
- Working with students through twelve senses and Melanie Deefholts talked to the College on this topic.
- Preparation of themes for the January 2024 conference, including discussions around inclusivity, neurodivergent thinking, and support of students with ADHD, Autism and multiple diagnoses.

The college offered staff the experience of a sound Bath at the end of Term 3, allowing staff to attend to their well-being after a busy and demanding term.

The current Council delegates are Josh Withers and Chantelle Sommers. Thank you for your commitment, attendance, and involvement.

Allye Sinclair and Chantelle Sommers
Co-Chairs

PARENTS AND FRIENDS REPORT

The Parent and Friends (P&F) members for 2023 were Tara Anderson, Alicia Lockyer, Tina Hart, Hope Willocks and Heejung Lee. We farewelled Rachel White at the start of the year.

The work of P&F in 2023 began with the Autumn Fair and closed with the Christmas Market. Members returning to work impacted our capacity to meet during terms 2 and 3 and our ability to share the workload.

AUTUMN FAIR

The 2023 Autumn Fair felt like it was back to its usual self, with most parents having experienced at least one Fair after the alterations required for COVID.

Heejung stepped in as the Class 4 Coordinator and supported the Class 4 parent group with efficiency and dedication. We made some positive changes and additions to the fair this year. To ease the workload on the Class 1 parent group, we invited Dawn Patrol as a stallholder to make coffees within the Autumn Leaf Café. They have done this in previous years as a donation and voluntarily but we didn't want this to be an expectation for their family business moving forward. We also recognised that the skill level required to keep up with the demand for coffee in the Autumn Leaf café was too much to ask of parents in general. With two other coffee stallholders on the grounds this worked well.

We also used compostable tableware, which meant there was less need for dishes and, therefore, less personnel required, making the Class 10 parent and student group available for a new food stall – Mexican Nachos. With little guidance for the first year, the coordinating parents did very well to achieve a successful stall.

We decided to purchase six square readers for use across some of the busiest food stalls. This made quite a difference in ease of payment for some stalls.

For entertainment, we hired "Animals Anonymous" and A1 Amusement Camels, who we were keen to support as usual. We were lucky to host a travelling storyteller in the sanctuary. While attendance was modest, those who did participate enjoyed the idea and the space.

GRANTS

P&F received several grant applications. We contributed $700 to the playgroup and agreed to eventually fund, when/if storage options are organised, a giant chess set for the high school. This will be placed on hold until the Master Plan is finalised.

We contributed $25,000 towards the upgrade of the hall kitchen.

CHRISTMAS MARKET

The Christmas Market was once again a very successful event, and the weather ensured an impressive turnout of visitors. With Dustbowl Chic unavailable, it was also an opportunity for a new band, "The Fabric", to emerge – a medley of staff and parents. It was enjoyed by all.

Christmas Market

OTHER BUSINESS

Parents and Friends received two expressions of interest for the P&F school council nominee. We nominated Beth Midgley to replace Simon Paul on the Governing Council. Andrew Bentley remained our second nominee this year.

Our Terms of Reference were reviewed by Governing Council as scheduled, with a plan to simplify them to be more user-friendly in the coming year.

P&F once again provided the bread rolls for the shared lunch soup at the Winter Festival.

LOOKING AHEAD

P&F continues to have some work to refine our Terms of Reference in 2024. We are also looking to transfer our digital workspace to a shared drive format so that Autumn Fair instruction folders, as well as minutes, can be accessed more readily by other P&F members. Recruitment, succession planning, and the ever present updating of the Autumn Fair instruction folders continues.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Opening Cash	$ 40,538
Closing Cash	$ 32,696

Income	$ 38,019
Expenses	$ 19,397
Profit	$ 18,622

P&F distributed a grant of $25k to school kitchens and $700 to playgroup.

Tara Anderson
P&F Coordinator

RAINBOW ROOM REPORT

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Opening Cash	$ 62,033
Closing Cash	$ 68,459

Total Profit

2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
$5,695	$7,186	$5,780	$3,996	$12,636	$5,314

SUMMARY

The Rainbow Room continues to function independently and effectively with just a small team of volunteers. We didn't have a committee meeting during 2023, but Hilde, Kate, Renee and Tara consulted at times when bigger decisions needed to be made, particularly when moving our craft space out of Room B and into the Sanctuary classroom IN Term 4.

In Term 1, we held a cloth dyeing workshop to make playcloths for the shop and a rainbow set of 7 to donate to the Port Lincoln initiative, in response to their call for resources following the fire that destroyed their space. In Term 3, another batch of cloths was cut, sewn, washed, dyed, rinsed, dried and ironed to restock the shop and to donate another rainbow set of 7 (and a large cubby-making muslin) in preparation for the 2024 Golden Wattle classroom. We also donated various other items, such as seasonal cards, to Golden Wattle.

We held several weekend workshops across the year

- Term 1 - wet felting, felted standing doll and cloth dyeing.
- Term 3 - wet felted nests and felted standing doll
- Term 4 - wet felted pictures and Christmas in the Southern Hemisphere.

The Rainbow Room also facilitated several workshops in Term 3 to make items for Golden Wattle, including wet felted rocks, mending old playcloths and sewing sand bags.

Coffee and Craft continued on Friday mornings, sometimes filling the room to the brim, and sometimes being a quiet space for 1 to 2 parents. Numbers dropped initially after moving to the Sanctuary in Term 4.

Sunshadow Slippers

A new initiative started in Term 2, with Chris Banks and some members from the Willunga Environment Centre, to sew sand bags (which required much more time than one workshop) and make upcycled slippers. This transformed to comprise a group of parents, facilitated by Chris, making slippers from felted woollen jumpers and reused leather, filling a gap in the market for affordable slippers. After 10 years of stocking Sunshadow slippers we have ceased selling these due to cost.

Coffee and Craft

We want to take this opportunity to formally thank all the volunteers who opened the shop in 2023 including Olivia, Debra, Tara (Term 1). Miriam, Debra, Renee, Olivia (Term 2), Miriam, Debra, Kate (Term 3), Tara and Kate (Term 4).

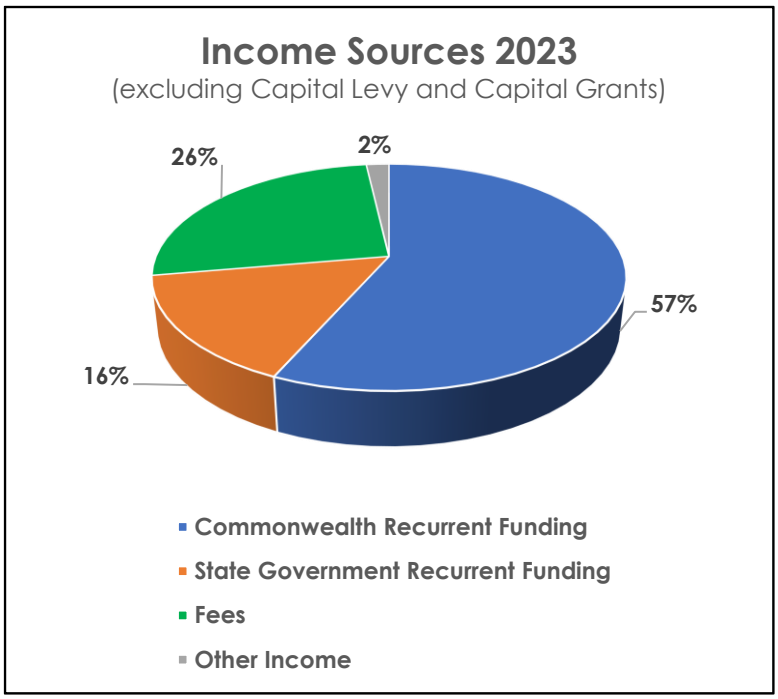
Thank you to Hilde, our chief wool winder; Renee, who held the role of Treasurer, facilitated most of the weekend workshops and helped with ordering some stock items; and Sharon and Nicole for creating beautiful crafts for us to sell.

Tara Anderson
Coordinator

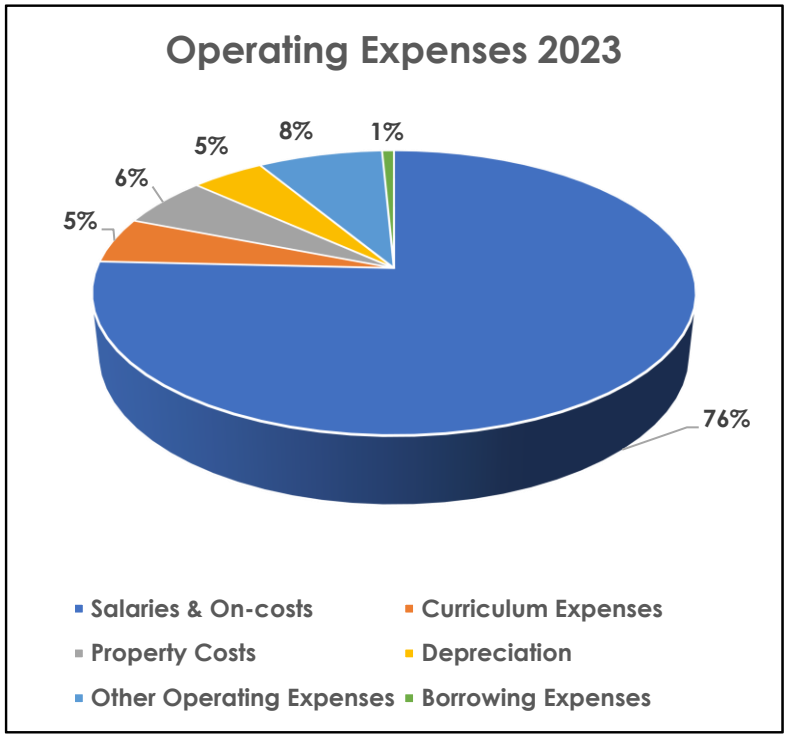
FINANCE REPORT

The profit from ordinary activities in 2023 was $173k compared to $754k in 2022. The reduction in profit, compared to 2022, partially reflected the investment in additional staff to support student learning and wellbeing needs.

Commonwealth and State Government funding was indexed by 4.2% and Tuition Fees were increased by 3.25%. Total revenue increased by 2.7%, compared to 2022, due to a slight decrease in enrolments compared to the prior year. Government funding accounts for 73% of income, with fees accounting for 26%.



Operating expenses increased by 11.6%. Staffing expenses increased by $649k (12.7%), partly as a result of increased staffing (approximately $350k), as well as salary increases, the increase in the superannuation guarantee charge, increased relief requirements and increases in leave provisions. Other operating expenses increased by $111k (8.4%) due to one-off costs to support the development of the Masterplan and increased property maintenance expenses.



In December 2023, the school's land and buildings were revalued for accounting and insurance purposes. This resulted in an increased asset value of $4.2m, which is reflected in Other Comprehensive Income. This brings Total Comprehensive Income to just below $4.37m.

Overall, the Balance Sheet indicates a strong financial underpinning, with Net Assets increasing by 41% compared to the end of 2022. Receivables increased by 13%, which prompted a review of our fee collection process. This resulted in an announcement in December 2023 of our partnership with Edstart for the collection of 2024 fees.

The school has a loan balance of $1.1m with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank. This was fully offset by cash holdings at the end of the year, which can be drawn down as required when we embark on a new classroom building in 2024.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Capital expenditure for the year totalled $167k, which included the completion of two projects carried over from 2022. We thank the State Government for their contribution to the Science Lab upgrade and completion of the Wetland fencing. Parents and Friends work tirelessly each year to support various projects and initiatives and contributed $25k towards the canteen upgrade, which is now complete. Fleurieu Community Enterprises Ltd, which runs the Aldinga, Victor Harbor, Goolwa, and Willunga branches of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank, funded the new polytunnel in our Education Garden.

A breakdown of 2023 capital expenditure is below.

Description	$
Science Lab Gas System Upgrade - 2022 project carried over	55,943
Canteen upgrade - 2022 project carried over	6,463
IT equipment - iPads, charging security cabinet, desktops	31,722
Wetland fencing	18,752
Rainwater tank	15,727
Clay kiln	9,442
Poly Tunnel	4,860
Other Plant and Equipment	23,796
Grand Total	**166,705**

Sharon Miller
Business Manager

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The summarised financial statements have been derived from the Association's full financial report for the financial year. The summarised financial statements cannot be expected to provide as detailed an understanding of the financial performance and financial position of the Association as the full financial report.

Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 December 2023 *

	2023 $	2022 $
Revenues from ordinary activities	7,771,692	7,586,663
Borrowing costs expense	(57,322)	(42,239)
Salaries, wages and allowances	(5,014,229)	(4,513,512)
Salary related expenses	(742,826)	(594,474)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	(353,355)	(362,133)
Other operating expenses	(1,431,123)	(1,320,562)
Profit from ordinary activities before income tax	**172,838**	**753,743**
Income tax relating to ordinary activities	-	-
Profit from ordinary activities after income tax	**172,838**	**753,743**
Other Comprehensive Income		
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss		
Gain on the revaluation of land and buildings	4,197,147	-
Other comprehensive income for the year	**4,197,147**	**0**
Total comprehensive income for the year attributal to the members of the association	**4,369,985**	**753,743**

* This is an extract from our full audited financial statements

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023 *

	2023 $	2022 $
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash Assets	1,770,327	1,562,700
Receivables	312,914	276,489
Total Current Assets	**2,083,240**	**1,839,189**
Non-current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	15,141,136	11,007,419
Total Non-Current Assets	**15,141,136**	**11,007,419**
Total Assets	**17,224,377**	**12,846,607**
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Payables	218,457	210,708
Current tax liabilities	95,956	126,028
Provisions	675,237	642,495
Other	168,117	47,119
Total Current Liabilities	**1,157,768**	**1,026,349**
Non-current Liabilities		
Financial liabilities	1,062,590	1,186,224
Total Non-current Liabilities	**1,062,590**	**1,186,224**
Total Liabilities	**2,220,358**	**2,212,573**
Net Assets	**15,004,019**	**10,634,034**
Members' Funds		
Revaluation Reserve	5,565,316	1,368,169
Retained Profits	9,438,703	9,265,865
Total Members' Funds	**15,004,019**	**10,634,034**

* This is an extract from our full audited financial statements

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