

Forster Neighbourhood
Centre Inc.



2021 Annual Report

Supporting the Wellbeing of all Great Lakes Residents

Timeline

2007
ASHOW Coomba Park
commenced

2008
Forster Community
Garden kicked off

2013
Worimi Elders Art
Calendar produced

2015
Great Lakes Womens
Shelter Established in
partnership with
Womens Community
Shelters

2017
The Inaugural
Big Sing By The Sea
Commenced

2019
Department of
Aboriginal Affairs
NAIDOC Cultural Cruise
Offered for the first time

2010
FNC successful with
No Interest Loan
Scheme funding through
FairTrading & DSS

2012
Organic Garden
Calendar & Stepping
Stones to Safe Living
Choices produced

2014
Better Learning Better
Communities established

2016
Festival of the Child
commenced

2018
No Interest Loans
Scheme (NILS) Stand
Alone Status granted by
Good Shepherd
Microfinance & Fair
Trading

2020
The Money Plan
- Round 1
Indigenous Money
Network - GSM
- granted to FNC

2021
The Money Plan
- Round 3
Indigenous Money
Network - GSM
- granted to FNC



Our Story

Forster Neighbourhood Centre was first established in 1980 and today reflects a range of services and programs (identified as community priorities) in response to the changing needs of the community.

FNC highly values the contributions of volunteers and acknowledges their contributions in service and program delivery.

We acknowledge the traditional owners of this land, the Worimi people, and pay our respects to their Elders both past and present. FNC is committed to reconciliation between all Australians.

Vision

A society where people are respectful, resilient and resourceful as well as participatory, trusting and optimistic.

Values

Our values which guide our actions are based on **kindness**.

Excellence: We strive to deliver best practice within our field

Respect: Our behaviour recognises the values, contribution and diversity of individuals

Integrity: We act honestly & ethically

Accountability: We are personally and organisationally responsible for our actions

Client focused: Our aim is to offer the best possible service to our clients when it is needed

Collaboration: We engage with our community and stakeholders

Learning: We improve our services by continuously updating our knowledge.



Felicity Carter (second left) a passionate and dedicated community worker, was awarded a prestigious OAM (Medal of the Order of Australia) for her selfless service to the Great Lakes region in 2021.

What we do

FNC offers a range of regular programs and services:

- **Child and Family Counselling**
- **Parenting Programs**
- **Men's Group**
- **After school tutoring for Aboriginal students**
- **After school activities in Coomba,**
- **Emergency Food Relief**
- **No Interest Loans (NILS)**

FNC organise a range of socially inclusive programs and events throughout the year:

Baraya Wakulda

(singing together) a Worimi initiative... Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal singers singing together.

Worimi Cultural Cruises on Wallis Lake

Regularly held throughout the year. Aboriginal Elders talk about the history and significant sites of the area and their childhood growing up in the area.

Big Sing by the Sea (Baraya- djukal, Garuwa-ga)

Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people come together to learn songs, some in language over a weekend with a performance on Sunday afternoon. People come from all over NSW and even Interstate.

Community Gardens

All welcome to learn about gardening and share produce with like-minded people.

Forster Farmers Market

Fresh local produce market and is auspiced by FNC

Vision Impaired Support Group is auspiced by FNC

Emergency Relief

Pantry, toiletry and essential items provided to community members in crisis

Forster Neighbourhood Centre (FNC) is predominantly funded by the NSW Government - Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ), Fair Trading and Good Shepherd (a not for profit organisation).

The funding program through DCJ is Targeted Earlier Intervention (TEI). The Target Population for the TEI Program is children, young people, families and communities within NSW who are at risk.

Specifically:

- Aboriginal children, young people, families and communities
- Vulnerable children, 0-5 years old
- Children and young people at risk of disengaging from school, family and community
- Young parents with known vulnerabilities or who are experiencing hardship
- Building Aboriginal Programs with co-design delivery

Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand and NSW Fair Trading support our No Interest Loans (NILS) and **Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand** supports our Indigenous Money Network (IMN).

Club Forster, through a grant application process, supports our Emergency Food Relief.

Partnerships and Collaborations

- Tobwabba Aboriginal Medical Service
- Homebase Youth Services
- Great Lakes Womens Shelter

Presidents Report **Felicity Carter OAM 2020-2021**



So, things did not improve much over the previous years' fires, floods and COVID-19! In fact, so many new routines which initially seemed onerous and bizarre are now accepted as common place and necessary; mask wearing, hand washing, lockdowns and the 4 square meter rule.

Needless to say, this has greatly impacted FNC's program delivery as so many are dependent on social gatherings - community gardens, tutoring, markets, singing, home visits and office interviews none of which could take place. However, FNC and its intrepid staff and volunteers, continued to respond to the rapidly changing needs of the Forster/Tuncurry community. Because of the additional stress caused by COVID, NILS and Emergency Relief services very quickly became our most prominent essential services. Congratulations and huge thanks to staff and volunteers who have found innovative ways to support the community and have

been so committed to keep delivering in this difficult period. The Committee is delighted to acknowledge your invaluable contribution. As President, I also acknowledge the work of the Committee which has helped keep the ship steady during this rockiest of times.

The most momentous change for FNC in 2021 has been the departure after 14 years, of long-standing Manager Trish Wallace. It is largely through her stewardship that FNC has developed the trusted community services footprint we enjoy today. The FNC Management Committee, staff and volunteers wish Trish all the best for whatever the future holds.

The Committee

Our committee truly does represent the community in which we live and it is their interest and involvement which enables the smooth running of FNC for staff and community. Our thanks go to the following "hands on" Committee members, who have made tremendous contributions to our success:

Anne McKay, Margaret Fox, Iain White and Jenny Arnold have been ever available to Karen Burton and Rachel Wylie for ensuring timely NILS approvals. The NILS team continue to achieve excellent results in this important program, even more critical during COVID.

Margaret Fox has been the long-suffering minutes Secretary for 7 years; not an easy task to keep all those thought bubbles in the right spot!

Julie Brady as Treasurer has helped navigate the particularly tricky waters of Job Keeper etc.

Janice Paulson continues to provide invaluable advice and insight as to working successfully with the Aboriginal/Worimi community, particularly in areas of education and health. There is always such demand on her time, we are fortunate that she makes time to serve on the committee.

Felicity Carter My time has largely been spent on the program side of FNC's service as well as helping to build stronger relationships with other community services.

Our People and Services

It has been particularly challenging to deliver our services during lockdown and at the same time maintain a COVID safe environment for staff and clients. Here are a few highlights.

No Interest Loans (NILS), delivered by Karen Burton and ably supported by our volunteer assessors, has once again been recognised by one of our major funding bodies, Good Shepherd Australia and New Zealand, as "the best performing, standalone NFP organisation in NSW" and continues to go from strength to strength.

Anniqa Olsen and Steve McWilliams as Child and Family workers have been in high demand during this high stress period.

Presidents Report 2020 - 2021 Continued

Club Forster as a generous supporter of FNC, contributed significantly to our Emergency Relief Program as COVID has increased the number of individuals and families who need food, clothing and accommodation, (numbers have increased by more than 50%). In support of this, Karen Burton has forged a fantastic relationship with “Eastern Tiger” at Forster Bowling Club which has helped us provide delicious prepared Asian meals. Through Karen’s efforts, other Community Services organisations are benefiting as well.

Robynn Milner on Tuesdays has taken the Community Garden under her wing and does a great job leading and motivating a regular group of volunteers.

Linda Dennett, long term contributor to FNC for tirelessly continuing our monthly Farmers Markets and providing publishing support to our team.

In line with DCJ’s objectives of encouraging community services organisations to work together, FNC has been providing office space to both Lifeline and GLWS for their outreach programs. Stephen Ballantine, who normally provides volunteer tax advice and WDO support has had a slow time during COVID.

Eileen Marks, Rhonda New and Robynn Milner have been part of the FNC establishment for many years. Their ongoing commitment is remarkable. Newer volunteer, Christine Collins has provided extra support to front line support with clients and phone referrals. Linda Sinclair and Linda Scott have provided an extra pair of hands for Emergency Relief.

I am proud to be associated with an organisation whose staff and volunteers are so committed to deliver such a broad range of services to their community with such kindness and compassion.

Our Funders, Community Donors and Key Stakeholders

We acknowledge our major funding bodies and thank them for enabling us to provide these many services:

- Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) (formerly Family and Community Services) who fund both the Community Strengthening and Family Support program as well as the Community Participation program.
- Good Shepherd Microfinance and NSW Dept of Fair Trading for the No Interest Loans Scheme (NILS) together with the NAB.
- Club Forster for the BLBC project and Student counselling and Emergency Relief
- A very big “thank-you” to Tobwabba Aboriginal Medical Service for allowing us to use their meeting room once a week and to Lena Donnelly for her great organising.



Treasurers Report Julie Brady 2020-2021



Overview

Compared with the previous year, FY2020/21 was relatively normal, which meant no fires or floods to contend with, just COVID restrictions.

Working closely with Karen Burton, the FNC Business Manager, was a delight, and I thank her for taking so much of the burden from me. Together we have implemented several changes to our systems and processes in order to modernize them and meet more stringent standards of financial management and reporting. We have also tightened up financial policies and procedures.

Xero again proved its worth, allowing staff and committee members to work effectively together, albeit remotely, and it has enhanced the transparency, ease of reporting, and more.

Xero's excellent financial reports allow us to track wages and other expenditure by program and cost category, making acquittal of grants easier.

We also moved most of our financial transactions to online banking, deleted the "load and go" card and set up debit cards in their place. Both of those initiatives have improved funds management, operational accountability and transparency, and enabled us to track and manage our expenses through the course of the year.

At our request, auditors Beaver Novello Moss moved from an audit to an annual review, reducing costs and ensuring that the review is available closer to the end of the financial year. This form of review allows reporting to be more informative for the Committee and other stakeholders.

Financial results

While income from funding and own-generated income sources was down from \$429,329 to \$387,762, operating expenditure was well managed, with both people costs and all other operating expense areas also down. The operating surplus was slightly higher than last year at \$28,220.

Assisted by abnormal income from JobKeeper and the ATO Small Business Stimulus, the overall financial outcome left us with retained earnings of \$147,130 and total equity of \$302,146.

These reserves will stand us in good stead as we continue the search for more suitable premises to provide a venue for future operations.

Conclusion

Your Committee Treasurer is pleased to report that the Committee, supported by the Business Manager, has effectively managed the finances of Forster Neighbourhood Centre, leaving the Program Manager and service deliverers to do what they do best. We are well positioned for the future and to deliver whatever level of accountability is required by funding bodies and other stakeholders.



Committee Members



Felicity Carter OAM

“There are few other community services organisations that have the will, capacity and responsiveness to meet community needs that FNC has. I am so proud to be part of it. The innovation and compassion shown by our staff and volunteers is second to none” Felicity said.

This will be Felicity’s 11th year on the management committee and 4th as President. Initially joining to help with programs working with children, especially around literacy. Since then, this has expanded to working with Worimi Elders and the broader Aboriginal community in areas of education and cultural awareness which has greatly enriched her life.



Jenny Arnold

Jenny trained as a nurse at St George Hospital in Sydney, spent 10 years with her young family then worked for Home Care for 14 years, holding the position as a personal care worker, helping frail aged and disabled clients.

Jenny moved to Coomba Park with her husband in 1995 and recently moved into Forster.

Jenny has volunteered with some organisations, managing Pacific Palms Information Centre for several years and working with ASHOW from the beginning until 2019.

Having been with FNC for many years now, sitting on the committee until last year, Jenny is now part of the NILS team.



Julie Brady

Julie has been on the FNC Committee for 12 years, initially as President, and for the last three years as Treasurer.

“The committee sees how hard the last two years have been on the most disadvantaged people in this community, and we get great satisfaction from providing our support programs and being creative in finding new ways to provide assistance.

Two things that I love about FNC: Seeing the caring and empathy of the FNC staff and volunteers, who every day think about how things could be better and work to achieve that. Being part of creating a loving, respectful and productive partnership with the Worimi and off-country Aboriginal community” said Julie.



Margaret Fox

After working as a town planner, research librarian and access consultant in Sydney, Margaret came to live in Pacific Palms with her husband Michael 16 years ago.

She continues to work occasionally as an access consultant but is more involved in the community. She plays golf and bridge, enjoys painting and drawing with a local art group, is a committee member of the Palms Garden Club, and a member of a local book club and the Coomba Wine and Dine Club.



Anne McKay

Anne McKay has been a member of the Committee since February 2020. She has a watching brief for the NILS program and also volunteers in the Better Learning, Better Communities program.

Anne and her husband have a passion for travel centred on twin interests of animal and bird watching and National Parks, both in Australia and overseas.

Temporarily suspended due to the COVID pandemic, she plays bridge, does jigsaws, and enjoys socialising when possible with friends and family. A longtime volunteer in various organisations, she is now especially interested in contributing to the work done in the community by the FNC.



Iain White

Originally from Scotland Iain has been a committee member of FNC since 2003. He has a diverse background in agriculture, nursing, theology and as a massage therapist. He worked in agriculture for 20 years.

Iain was a Pastor of the Baptist Church in North Manly (Sydney) until 2001 when he relocated to Forster as the Pastor of the Forster District Baptist Church before retiring in May 2018.

Iain enjoys being able to support people who are doing it tough. He became involved in the No Interest Loans Scheme (NILS) and volunteers at the school care group at Coomba Park providing an opportunity to be able to provide a service to the local community.



Roz Baker

Roz has been a committee member of FNC since 2018 and a regular volunteer for Great Lakes Women's Shelter.

Roz enjoys supporting the community by using her skills and creativity in fundraising.

Roz is an Advanced Toastmaster and an award-winning Bush Poet.

She is one of Australia's most successful self-published novelists.

She ran a small, sales-oriented business, for nine years co-ordinated/compared fashion shows for schools and charities. She ran a conference centre and hobby farm for sixteen years, based in Coomba Park.



Janice Paulson

Aunty Janice Paulson is a well-known and loved Worimi Elder who has lived much of her life in Forster. She has a long-standing commitment to working for her Community and culture and amongst other things, she has worked extensively in the field of DVA. She is also involved in the Elder's Olympics, Elder's stretching and strengthening exercises and Elder's events and outings – basically if there is an Elder's Community event, Aunty Janice would be at the helm!

Janice is passionate about advancing the cause of Aboriginal education and is a founder of Better Learning, Better Communities, a program for primary aged Aboriginal students.

Child & Family Support Service



Anniqua Olsen

Anniqua is the Child and Family worker who comes with a wealth of knowledge. She has had over 15 years of experience working in the welfare sector, primarily working with families with dependent children.

Prior to relocating to this region, Anniqua has previous experience working with youth, women and children in crisis accommodation settings in Tamworth, the disability sector and separated parents reconnecting with their children in a positive and supportive manner.

She holds a Diploma of Community Welfare Work, Financial Counselling, Cert IV in visual Arts and more recently, studying Certified Liferforce Energy Healing, meditation and numerous alternate healing modalities.

Anniqua's absolute passion in life is to bring the best possible outcome for all the families she has encountered throughout her profession.

In her spare time, she loves exploring this beautiful area by bush walking in the national parks, bird watching and enjoying the lake and beaches.

Anniqua Olsen Report 2020-2021

The child and family service far exceeded its contracted numbers in response to the community need. We continue to receive referrals from government and non government services in the community. We provided child and family support to 178 individuals across 410 sessions including:

- **Advice and referral.** This involves providing information and advice to families such as child's behaviour, advocacy, housing, financial difficulties and day to day living skills.
- **Family Capacity Building** - takes a strength based assessment approach with families to participate in the decision making processes that effect their lives and establishing achievable goals in a supportive and respectful manner.
- **Parenting programs** - are free and run individually in your home or at the centre. They are designed to support parents enhance their relationship with their child/ren and respond to challenging behaviours in a positive manner.

Child youth and family have continued to provide outreach to families in rural and remote areas and at the centre in Tuncurry.

Child & Family Support Service and Community Strengthening



Steven McWilliams Report 2020-2021

Again this financial year has proven to be challenging for many within our local community. A lack of affordable housing, the ongoing impacts associated with drought and flood as well as the Covid pandemic have all impacted broadly in the Great Lakes region, particularly affecting the most vulnerable. This has been reflected in increased numbers seeking assistance from FNC.

"In terms of my role at FNC, I continue to provide personal counselling to clients within the target groups as well as facilitating the Circle of Security Parenting Program. The FNC Men's Support Group also continues to provide support and community links to some of the most vulnerable members of our community" Steven said.

Steven McWilliams

Steven commenced his professional relationship with FNC in 2010 as a volunteer while completing his Tertiary studies. Volunteering enabled Steven to gain an understanding of the important role FNC plays within this region.

Fortunately, I was offered a paid position in 2014 as a Child and Family Worker and I have remained in this position ever since. Steven's role is primarily to provide personal counselling and parenting programs to individuals and families within the target groups.

No Interest Loan Scheme NILS Report 2020-2021

FNC is funded to provide 19 loans per month (228 per year). During 2020 -2021, 242 loans were disbursed. This is a great achievement for the Nils team and shows how valuable this service is. Our Capital from NAB has been increased and our funding contract (Dept. of Fair Trading) has also been extended to 30th June 2023.

Monthly loans

The Loans per month graph shows a comparison with the previous year and indicates that although some months were more one year than the other, the end result was an increase in loans for 2021.

Loan Purpose

The trend for a loan purpose has always been consistent with vehicle registrations/CTP insurance and vehicle repairs being the highest requested with household appliances, furniture and computers around the same as in previous years. There has been an increase for health items (glasses, dental, specialists) this year and it will be interesting to see if this increases again in the future. Thank you to our wonderful assessors who have worked very hard over the past 12 months!



Karen Burton

Karen has been with FNC for almost 2 ½ years as a Nils Loans Officer. Prior to this she was the Co-ordinator of Ageing Services with Mid Coast Council for over 20 years, providing Aged Care Packages, Dementia Specific Day Care Programs and Social Support Services to Forster, Tuncurry, Hawks Nest, Tea Gardens, Stroud and surrounding areas.

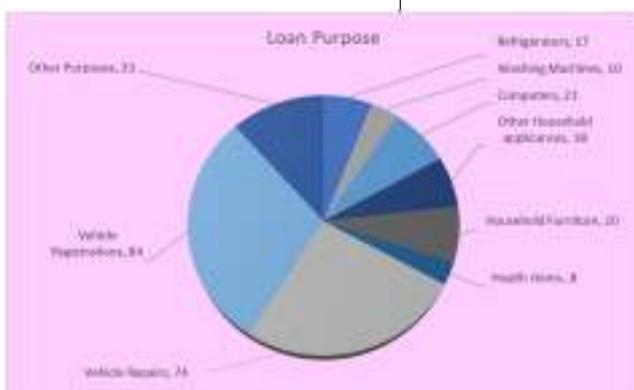
During her time with FNC, she has seen the significant impact on our community from the natural disasters – fire, flood and of course COVID-19.

Increased homelessness and job losses has resulted in the increase of the Nils Loans to assist members of our community. Although we have had to change the way we work, we are still able to function and continue to help those that need

Rachel Wylie

Since starting in Feb 2019, Rachel worked in the NILS program which is her regular gig! Rachel also coordinated the Vision Impaired Support Group, run cooking, craft, macrame, sound therapy and budgeting workshops. She catered for the BIG SING and cultural cruises. Rachel also had a ball dressing up as a fairy and presenting The Little Gardener workshop at Forster Farmers Market and edible craft for the children in the BLBC program at Tobwabba.

“I’m thrilled to be a part of the FNC family. But most of all I love the dignity and sense of pride and relief that the NILS clients express, when coming for a loan that changes their world into something brighter and better for a time” said Rachel.



Volunteers



Eileen Marks

In between jobs, Eileen attended Tuncurry Tafe, did Business Admin Certificate 111 and received a distinction. With the encouragement of her teachers to carry on, Eileen decided to study Information Technology both Certificate 11 & 111, which was very intense, and took a full year!

As part of the FNC team, Eileen's role is in administration for clients who need help with their electricity bills (EAPA) and Telstra vouchers, also Work and Development Orders (WDOs). Other tasks are keeping data records of our clients for Emergency Relief, EAPA, Telstra and WDOs. She was also part of the 'Be Connected' team training clients with their tablet and mobile phones, which she found very enjoyable.



Stephen Ballantine

Stephen started as a volunteer for FNC 7 years ago and he is still volunteering here!

Stephen manages the Work and Development Orders (WDO) program. Funded by NSW Legal Aid and Revenue it helps people who have received fines and are having problems paying them.

In 2020/21 clients received \$21,798 in credits towards paying their fines. 34 new applications were received and 26 successfully completed their programs.

"I enjoy working with the fun and hard-working team at the FNC and my contribution to the local community is my Reward" Stephen said.



Rhonda New

Rhonda has lived in Forster - Tuncurry over 20 years.

Since retiring she has worked for Animal Welfare League in their Op shop, Forster Library as a volunteer, and for over ten years at FNC on front desk/reception. Duties are varied and include answering phones, referring clients to appropriate FNC services or other services as required. Help with access to Housing Providers, emergency food relief, etc.

Hobbies include yoga, U3A, walking group, VIEW club.

"I enjoy the variety each day at FNC brings and enjoy helping people and working with all the wonderful staff" says Rhonda.



Christine Collins

Christine is a volunteer on the front desk of FNC. In her role she answers the phone, deal with emails and help people who come into the centre to access our services. Christine has a work background as a Primary School Teacher and in Aged Care and she enjoys talking with people and social activities. This role gives her many opportunities for that, including volunteer tutor with BLBC.

"I have learnt so much about our community services through this Position. I love the variety of the tasks and the wonderful staff I get to work with at FNC" Christine said.



NATIONAL 17-23 MAY 2021
VOLUNTEER
RECOGNISE. RECONNECT.
REIMAGINE. **WEEK**

Meet
our wonderful
volunteers!

In May, some of our volunteers enjoyed a lovely lunch at the Eastern Tiger at Forster Bowling Club. Staff also attended so they could thank them for all their hard work that they do to support us in providing much needed services in our Community. Our volunteers play such a major role in all areas of our services including the Forster Community Garden, the Forster Neighbourhood Centre office, assisting with EAPA and Telstra Vouchers, Tax Help, Work Development Orders and our BLBC and ASHOW programs. THANK YOU!

L to R: Marianne Woods, Stephen Ballantine, Rhonda New, Mark Lloyd, Eileen Marks, Robynn Milner, Sally Mierendorff, Chris Collins and George McKay
Missing: Linda Scott, Linda Sinclair and Justin Gardener



Forster Community Garden

The Forster Community Garden has continued to provide an inclusive space for the wider community. A motivated and committed team of volunteers put their blood, sweat and tears into making the Garden a success.

Our great team includes:

- Rob - our Volunteer Coordinator turning up every week to make sure the volunteers have everything they need while chipping in on whatever needs to be done
- Justin - our Resident horticulture expert and resident tinkerer
- Wendy - our local caretaker, keeping an eye on the garden throughout the week
- Sally - our cyclone who gets in and attacks the heavy and hard work that needs to be done to rotate the garden beds
- Mark - our watering and planting extraordinaire
- Penelope - who brings high energy, fun and a bit of cheekiness to the garden
- George - bringing mechanical and sharpening expertise and gardening

Robynn Milner Volunteer Coordinator

Robynn has been a volunteer at Forster Neighbourhood Centre for just over 9 years. She works on the front desk and enjoys assisting people when able. Also over the past years, Rob has met a lot of the locals. Her skills in admin have come in very handy with general front desk duties.

As part of the Emergency Relief Rob does a fortnightly shop to accommodate people struggling to get through and need assistance with food.

Plus she volunteers at the Forster Community Garden with a great team of volunteers every Tuesday.

"ROCK ON ☺" Robynn said.



FNC would also like to acknowledge the years of contribution from Maryanne and Chris who worked tirelessly over the years to restore the Garden to its former glory.

We have enjoyed generous support from Bunnings, donating saplings, mulch, soil and garden supplies. The broader community has also stepped up donating fruit trees and plants.



We look forward to a post COVID world where the hard work of our volunteers can be enjoyed by all through community connection days and BBQs.



Linda Dennett

Linda began volunteering at the FNC in 2005 after moving to Forster from the Central Coast. Linda started on the front desk but soon got interested in a lot of the other services the Centre provided.

Linda was involved in organising and attending various events and courses. Some were 6 Bands for 6 Dollars and Anger Management awareness Course.

Over the years Linda has also been volunteer support to the Stroke Recovery Group and Vision Impaired Support Group.

Linda also has been coordinator of the Forster Farmers Market for over 10 years now. She gets paid for the day and other associated tasks with the Market and graphic design.

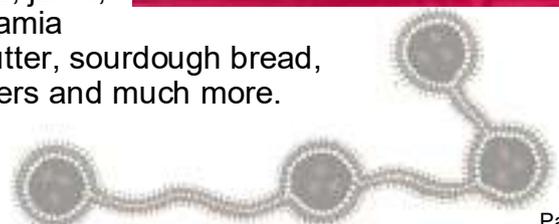
Forster Farmers Market

The Forster Farmers Market was originally the Great Lakes Great Produce Market. What an amazing initiative they created back in the day. They started at the Forster High School Hall, then moved to the grounds of the Forster Information Centre and also utilized the School of Arts Building .

The market is now auspiced by the Forster Neighbourhood Centre and now called the Forster Farmers Market. Since then FNC have been there for all our stallholders over the years. We are always wanting to support our local growers also.

The Market is on the third Saturday of each month 8.00am - 12noon held in the grounds of the Visitor Information Centre, Little Street, Forster.

There is a variety of fruit & vegetables plus gourmet sauces, jams, organic macadamia nuts and nut butter, sourdough bread, fresh local flowers and much more.





Rachel Wylie VISG Co-ordinator

Vision Impaired Support Group

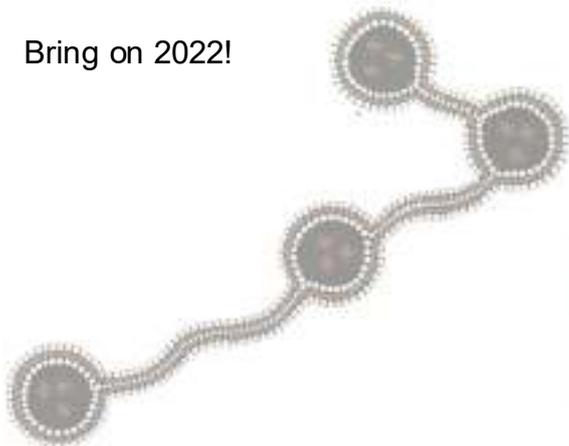
The VISG attendees are a wonderful group of people that are passionate about keeping the group going!!!

It's a great opportunity for them to share stories, vision impaired obstacles and technology. We mustn't forget lunch or coffee and cake.

The group consists of adults from all ages and stages of vision impairment. Interacting with this group impressed upon me how brave and joyful the clients are faced with such barriers in life.

We had a pretty good run in 2021 and only had a few months off due to covid.

Bring on 2022!



Donations

THE SPIRIT OF GIVING BACK



Thank you



Forster Neighbourhood Centre would like to say thank you to Evermore Retirement Living in Forster for their very generous donation of presents & food goods.



We were able to assist 30 local families with Christmas Hampers. Special thank you to Desleigh & John for initiating & co-ordinating this kind gesture.



Thank you

Judy Tilt who dropped in dignity bags, children's clothes and toys. She said she will also bring in tinned food for our ER pantry. We can always do with tinned food ☺

Thank you go to Tursa for their kind donation and their generosity to help our local community.

Tursa Employment and Training recently celebrated 25 years of service and to mark the occasion each site was asked to nominate a local charity who assists in our local community to whom they could give a donation. Tursa chose Forster Neighbourhood Centre and presented them with a donation for \$1,000.



This donation will go to purchase much needed food items for our Emergency Relief pantry. In the past 12 months, FNC has given out over 200 food parcels to people in our community who are doing it tough, especially during the pandemic.



Thank you

Stevie Hallam, you are a very kind and thoughtful girl. Stevie is a 6 year old kindy student at Holy Name School Forster who has saved up her pocket money which she donated plus food and toys to the Forster Neighbourhood Centre to help those in need.

Thank you

Christine Stockwell who donated awesome bags she had made and great toys for children.



Thank you



Pacific Palms Real Estate for your donation of food parcels for Xmas 2020.



Thank you

Fay Gray from Diamond Beach was the lucky winner of the Great Lakes FM Easter Basket and has donated her prize to Forster Neighbourhood Centre to be distributed to those that are in need, especially with our Emergency Relief program.

Collaborations



Communities & Justice



Donations Continued



In May 2021, the then manager of the Eastern Tiger Restaurant at Forster Bowling Club (Kohi), put a shout out to the community through social media. He was concerned that he had a lot of food wastage and felt that some-one could benefit from the left-over food. Karen Burton was quick to respond to Kohi to take him up on his offer! She saw that this opportunity to add beautiful Asian cuisine to the list of pantry items to the Emergency Relief program would definitely be well received. And well received it is!

Volunteers were sourced and every Wednesday, Linda Sinclair picks up the food from the Restaurant, delivers it to the Centre and Robynn, Linda and Karen place into takeaway containers and freezes these meals ready to give out to those in need.

Those that come to the Centre requiring food are amazed that they are offered food that they would normally not be able to afford and the feedback is so positive. Word of mouth is getting around and the food is just flying out the door!

Thanks must go to the Eastern Tiger for this initiative to not only address the loss of perfectly good food, but also give back to the Community. We appreciate your generosity.

Financial Report (Extract)

Forster Neighbourhood Centre Inc.

ABN 24 282 113 607

For the year ended 30 June 2021

Prepared by Beaver Novello Moss



26th October 2021

Alex P. Novello FCPA, CA, B. Comm.
Grant M. Moss CPA, B. Comm.

114 Manning Street
P.O. Box 49
Tuncurry NSW 2428
ABN 42 385 154 846

Julie Brady
Forster Neighbourhood Centre
PO Box 314
FORSTER NSW 2428

Dear Julie

Re: Completion of our review of the Forster Neighbourhood Centre Inc. 2021 Financial Statements

I wish to advise that we have recently completed the review of the Forster Neighbourhood Centre's 2021 financial statements.

During the course of our review nothing came to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial report of Forster Neighbourhood Centre Inc. does not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Forster Neighbourhood Centre Inc. as at 30 June 2021;

I would like to thank the committee and staff for their assistance and co-operation during the course of our review.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant Moss'.

Grant Moss



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Profit and Loss

Forster Neighbourhood Centre Inc. For the year ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
Income from Operations		
FUNDING - Major Programs		
CCCS TEI (DCJ)	137,031	133,630
TS TEI (DCJ)	123,066	119,589
Fin Couns HVFS (Fair Trading)	-	26,332
Fin Couns KempseyNC (KNC) DSS	-	16,500
NILS (Fair Trading)	52,537	50,618
NILS Good Shepherd (DSS)	25,000	25,000
Total FUNDING - Major Programs	337,634	371,669
Better Learning Better Communities		
BLBC Club Grants - Club Forster, FBC, TBBC, etc	6,600	10,000
BLBC Other Grants - All	-	4,400
BLBC Other Income - Sales	-	18,587
BLBC Other Income- Not tied	-	129
Total Better Learning Better Communities	6,600	33,116
Generated income & non tied income		
Farmers Market - Operating Income	3,165	3,486
Income Other - Untied	5,612	1,947
Total Generated income & non tied income	8,777	5,433
Income, Grants and Donations - Other		
Emergency Relief - Accommodation, Swags & Food Non BWNG	364	-
Emergency Relief - BWNG	-	2,666
Enterprise and Training Co (ETC) Grants	30	-
Grants - Other	22,509	6,400
Indigenous Money Network Revenue (IMN)	11,818	10,000
Total Income, Grants and Donations - Other	34,721	19,066
Miscellaneous Income		
Bank Interest Admin Account	30	45
Total Miscellaneous Income	30	45
Total Income from Operations	387,762	429,329
Operating Expenditure		
People Costs		
Staff - Insurance Workers Compensation	4,780	3,899
Staff - Salaries & Wages	242,498	257,370
Staff - Superannuation	21,854	23,884
Staff - Training, development and Supervision	3,567	5,599
Staff - Travel, accom & conference exps	-	1,075
Wage Provision	(3,880)	2,802
Total People Costs	268,819	294,629

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached auditors review report.

	2021	2020
Office Expenses		
Accounting Expenses and Audit Fees	2,200	2,400
Advertising and promotion Exp	320	37
Assets Purchased <\$5,000	11,352	2,254
Bookkeeping Expenses	3,049	7,903
IT - Computer Hardware and software purchases	2,921	1,916
IT - Support, internet, web maintenance etc	1,837	4,646
Motor Vehicle running - ALL expenses	1,675	4,011
Office - Consumables & amenities	4,379	4,790
Office Expenses - Telephone, Internet, Security & Fax	4,564	4,821
Office Expenses - cleaning - COVID and special	1,332	1,202
Office Expenses - Electricity, Gas and Water incl. Little St	2,032	2,855
Office expenses - Printing, copying, stationery, postage, etc	8,946	7,699
Property - Rental Coral Ave & Little St	12,208	17,901
Property - Repairs & maintenance Coral Ave & Little St	140	24
Total Office Expenses	56,955	62,458
Administration Other		
Insurances - Other; Pub liability; Directors, Contents etc	5,465	5,070
Memberships Peak and Sector Bodies	1,392	909
Committee Meeting and other expenses	272	359
Volunteer Reimbursements	-	411
Bank fees and charges	16	32
Total Administration Other	7,145	6,782
Farmers Market - Expenses	93	-
Community Garden Expense	2,238	2,933
Program Expenses		
FACS Program Expenses		
Community Connections, Centre, Support (CCCS) DCJ Program Expenses	-	1,241
Community Connections, Centre & Support (CCCS) DCJ TEI Program	2,756	5,775
Targeted Support DCJ TEI - Program Expenses	3,443	330
Total FACS Program Expenses	6,198	7,346
BLBC Expense		
BLBC Expenses - Cultural Program All	7,959	16,842
BLBC Expenses - Tutor and Mentor Program	2,931	570
BLBC Expenses Other	174	2,435
Total BLBC Expense	11,064	19,847
ER (Emergency Relief) Expense		
ER, food Security, special hardship	6,971	5,675
Total ER (Emergency Relief) Expense	6,971	5,675
Other Program & Grant Expenses		
Fin Couns Kempsey NC (KNC) DSS Exps	-	563
Indigenous Money Network (IMN)	-	2,339

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached auditors review report.

	2021	2020
NILS Expenses	59	-
Total Other Program & Grant Expenses	59	2,901
Total Program Expenses	24,292	35,770
Total Operating Expenditure	359,542	402,572
Current Year Profit from Operations	28,220	26,757
Abnormal Income		
ATO JobKeeper	95,600	24,000
ATO Small Business Stimulus	23,310	38,850
Total Abnormal Income	118,910	62,850
Current Year Profit inc Abnormal Income	147,130	89,607

Balance Sheet

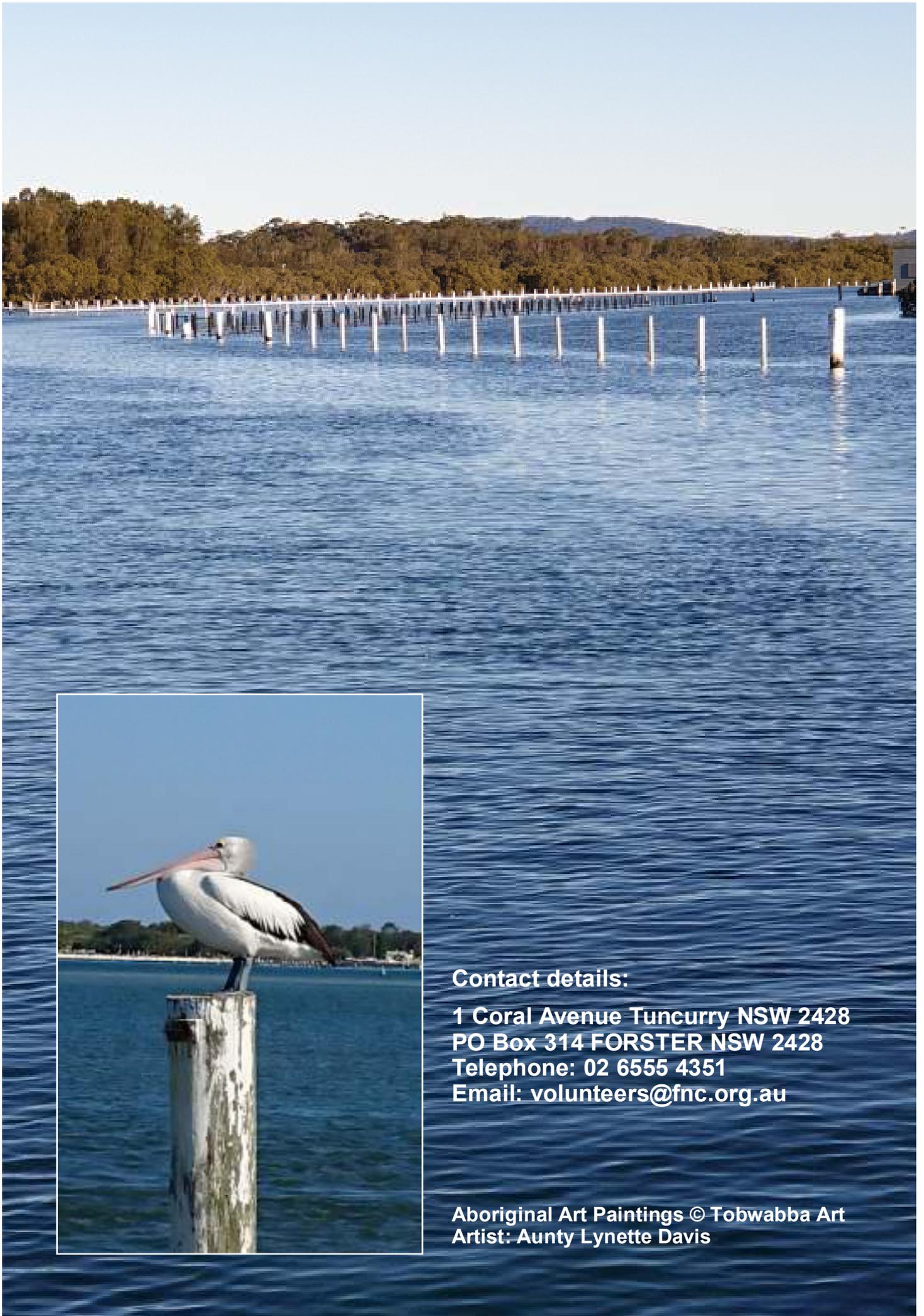
Forster Neighbourhood Centre Inc. As at 30 June 2021

	NOTES	30 JUN 2021	30 JUN 2020
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents			
Bus Everyday Ac		248	1,558
Business Cash Maximiser		140,406	40,376
Main Account		183,269	131,426
Total Cash & Cash Equivalents		323,923	173,360
Receivables			
Trade debtors		4,135	3,617
Total Receivables		4,135	3,617
NILS Loan Program		157,778	133,523
Total Current Assets		485,835	310,500
Total Assets		485,835	310,500
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Payables			
Provision for Accounting and Audit Fee		2,200	2,000
Employee entitlements		9,397	14,497
Wages Payable		5	-
Trade creditors		9,603	2,529
Total Payables		21,205	19,025

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached auditors review report.

Taxation			
GST		1,911	1,360
Total Taxation		1,911	1,360
Financial Liabilities			
NILS Account		157,910	133,655
Total Financial Liabilities		157,910	133,655
Total Current Liabilities		181,026	154,041
Non-Current Liabilities			
Other Non-Current Liabilities			
Non-Current Employee Entitlements		2,663	1,443
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities		2,663	1,443
Total Non-Current Liabilities		2,663	1,443
Total Liabilities		183,689	155,483
Net Assets		302,146	155,016
Equity			
	NOTES	30 JUN 2021	30 JUN 2020
Retained Profits / Accumulated Losses			
Current Year Earnings		147,130	89,607
Retained Earnings		155,016	65,410
Total Retained Profits / Accumulated Losses		302,146	155,016
Total Equity		302,146	155,016

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached auditors review report.



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**Aboriginal Art Paintings © Tobwabba Art
Artist: Aunty Lynette Davis**