

HOLY FOOLS INC  
ANNUAL REPORT 2021





## The Homeless Crisis

Each night in Australia, over 116,461\* fellow Aussies are homeless. Some are sleeping on mate's couches, in their cars or a Boating House, whilst others cram into a room with 15 other people or look for a dry, safe place to sleep on the streets.

In the Yarra Ranges, it is estimated that we have over 400 friends, relatives, neighbours, co-workers or fellow students who are experiencing the trauma of homelessness each day.

**We're on a mission to change this.**

With our community working alongside us, we believe that homelessness can be ended by 2030.





## Our Mission

A catalyst for social change, Holy Fools Inc seeks **to form transformative relationships fostering positive change both in the lives of individuals, as well as the broader community.**





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## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Coming soon.

**Phil Yelland, Chairman**



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## FROM THE CEO

It would be too easy to concentrate on the negative issues about this past year. Sure, things have been challenging and are still ongoing for the moment. But, there have been so many positive things and examples of what our life, our community could be. That's where I want to be today - in that space.

Looking into that space, we catch glimpses of the resilience of those we have served, the collaborations and partnerships we have forged, maintained, and grown, to the support, generosity, and kindness towards our works and those we serve. Born from darkness, much of this year has seen the light - the best side of ourselves and our community.

We, not us, gathered enough food to pack and deliver over 200 Christmas Hampers. We, not us, organised and held a Christmas lunch in Melba Park along with so many organisations and businesses helping make it possible. We, not us, continued to offer the food, the conversation, the listening ear and the material aid provided throughout the year through Street Angels outreach. We, not us, spoke out for those whose voice could not be heard, and we, not us, walked alongside others at times they felt unwanted, unloved and alone. We includes our volunteers - those selfless folk who gave up their own time to make everything possible, tirelessly toiling and serving, despite the challenges and obstacles.

This report gives you a brief snapshot of the year that was. As you read or glance through, look beyond the words and pictures and see the people behind this all. It could even be you looking back. If not, we would love to have you join us in that space.

Thank you all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neal Taylor', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Neal Taylor, Founder & CEO**



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## 2020 AT A GLANCE

MEALS/ HAMPERS PROVIDED

**4,240**

MATERIAL AID SUPPLIED\*

**27**

VOLUNTEERS

**36**

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES RESOURCED

**127**





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## OUR COVID-19 RESPONSE

It is difficult to believe that this is the second year in which the world has been combating the Covid-19 pandemic.

Holy Fools continued to take the safety of our volunteers and friends very seriously, adhering to the many safety conditions that were required. That meant supplying facemasks to everyone, face shields if required, and copious amounts of hand sanitiser.

We continued to provide Street Angels even during the most strictest lockdowns, with food deliveries and take-away only food supplied at Melba Park. The issue of food security is a growing concern, as is the mental health of the community.









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## STREET ANGELS OUTREACH

Despite the various lockdowns and other measures, Street Angels continued to supply nutritious food, community contact and material aid throughout the year. However, for the first time in over six years since Street Angels began, we had to stop lunch in the park and move to a delivery model during the heaviest restrictions in Melbourne in 2020.

The outreach fluctuated from normal with chairs, coffee and sit-down lunch with clothes and other material aid offered; to no chairs, and coffee with takeaway meals only, masks and social distancing required; to packaging individuals and family meals to deliver to known folk throughout the region, including those sleeping rough and those in caravan parks etc.

**One constant was the need for not only food but human contact. In fact, during the heaviest restrictions, we would be the only people some of our friends would see for the whole week.**

Our friends deserve recognition for their resilience, as well as being patient and understanding as the situation changed, sometimes week to week. Many are doing it tough, and the lockdowns and isolation are severely impacting mental health. We continue to be a point of constant contact that our friends rely on for not only food but human contact.

Street Angels would not have been possible without our amazing volunteers, who have stepped up to make our outreach possible each week. Their resilience and creativity have meant that each week has been that little less difficult to organise. We would like to recognise **Deborah Hamilton, Rachel Ryan, Lynette Grant, Alice Anastasio, and Timothy Courtman** for volunteering throughout the year. A special thanks to **Meaghan, Rachel, Mandy, Sue and Kathy** for the delicious lunches they prepared throughout the year.

We have had some businesses, organisations and individuals who have also prepared food for Street Angels. This has included **Mike Basset** and the team from **Cold Stream Brewery** for their lunches and ongoing support, **Amanda McKeown** and the team from **Australian Quality Condiments** for their lunch and support, **Josh Martin, Vaughn Malekhai Williams** and all the men from the **Victorian Brotherhood** for the bbq and talking with our male friends; and lastly thank you to **Julie-Ann Morman** and the team from **Tasty Az** for preparing and serving lunch. Without these supporters and the community, Street Angels could not have the impact that it continues to have within the homeless and at-risk community.

**Perhaps your cafe or business could be involved?**



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## CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

With the issue of food security in mind with the lockdowns for COVID in Melbourne, Holy Fools decided to aim for 200 Christmas Hampers, a 40% increase on last year's effort. We weren't sure how we could do it, knowing that in the past when we started to pack the hampers inevitably, there were shortages of some items, necessitating several trips to the supermarket.

We put the call out for donations in late October, realising that several of our collection points were actually closed and that the office and the ARC would really be the only places the community could donate. Immediately we started to see donations come in.

Then we started getting calls from organisations saying they had run a collection for us!

So, the day we packed the hampers and realised that we had reached over 200 hampers, we almost thought there was a mistake in counting. There was still so much food and drink leftover that it filled several tables and the space under them! It was the first time we had a surplus of food!





Thank you to everyone who donated food, lollies, drinks and toys to the hampers! Some so many people contributed that it is difficult to name them all but some special callouts to **JP Haddad** and **The Brick Store** community for both donating and helping pack; **Donna** from **Global Confectionery**, who also donated and helped pack; **Sujayne Smith Downie** and the **Yarra Ranges Council's Business Development Team**; the **Rotary Club of Croydon and Montrose**; **Bayswater North Primary School**; and the staff and parents of **Manchester Road Early Learning Centre**.



Of course, the hampers would be nothing without the amazing team of volunteers who gathered to pack them! Special thanks to **Deborah Hamilton**, **Deb Mcleod**, **Rachel Ryan**, **Jennifer Taylor**, **Oscar Taylor**, **Tim Heenan**, **Caoilainn Taylor** and the many others who packed and stacked.



All the hampers were distributed to our guests at our Christmas Lunch, others in the community that we helped, and several organisations and charities that we partner with, including **Southern Cross Kids' Camps Australia**, **Elisha Care** and the **Philanthropic Collective**, amongst others.

Let's aim for 250 this year!





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## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We knew that Christmas Lunch 2020 would have to be different from previous years. With the restrictions and precautions for Covid in place and changing month to month, week to week and sometimes day today, it was difficult to start to plan for a Christmas Lunch. Speaking to other people and organisations that ran a Christmas Lunch, we came up with several ideas that we shared, and with the resources available to us, decided on one course of action. In contrast, some of the other groups did a variation.

Our plan was to make the lunch outside on Christmas Eve. Outside as we could safely have people congregate and seating social distancing wasn't an issue; and Christmas Eve due to the availability of resources and volunteers, the awareness of public transport etc.

So, the plan was put into action on Christmas Eve as things started to arrive, and the set-up began until the space was ready! Folk started to arrive, and after signing in, they were offered drinks and lollies and encouraged to social distance safely. Pretty soon, lunch was served, and our 100 or so guests enjoyed hamburgers and sausages with various salads. Later, ice creams helped cool everyone down, and as folk were leaving with full bellies and happy hearts, they were given a hamper!

Thank you to all our sponsors and supporters, including the **Rotary Club of Lilydale**, for cooking all the supplied meat from John at **The Meat Inn Place**, with the BBQ fired up by supplied gas from **Yarra Valley Gas**. The cold room was supplied by **Ranges TEC** and delivered and set up by **Glenn Booth**. **George and some amazing Tongan helpers** set up the **Kilsyth Township Group's** Stretch Marquee, while chairs and tables were supplied by **Betta Event Hire**. **Big Event Picnic Tables** supplied several of their tables.

*Cr Tim Heenan* was on hand to help move hampers and setup. Special thanks to the **Yarra Ranges Council** for their help with the location. Thanks to the **Mustard Tree Op Shop** for their support and the **Coldstream Brewery** for supplying several salads.

However, the day would not have been possible without the team of volunteers that helped set up, keep the place clean (thanks, **Neil**), keep everyone safe and serve the food! Special thanks to **Meaghan, Deborah, Jules, Mandy, Jennifer, Siobhan, Oscar, Caoilainn, Amanda, Lynette, Catherine**, and many others who made the whole day a delight for all!





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## VOLUNTEERS

Once again, Holy Fools could not have been effective without our volunteers! Despite the pandemic and ongoing restrictions, our volunteers follow protocol and were able to provide Street Angels with lunches and material aid, as well as keep the ARC and office going.

There are many regular donors including **Deborah Hamilton**, and **Rachel Ryan**, but there are many more that help keep our activities and services going including Street Angels, Christmas Hampers, Christmas Lunch and others.

If you volunteer with us, see if you can see yourself in these pics!

A huge thank you to all our volunteers. You all contribute so much and make such a difference in our community for those experiencing homelessness or who are at-risk of homelessness. Your sacrifice of time, and effort is so valuable and cherished.

**Thank you all!**







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## STUDENTS

We love our students on placement! So, it was touch and go whether any students would be allowed to placement due to the ongoing restrictions.

It was finally announced that students in essential service placements were allowed to start, and we had the honour and privilege of hosting Alice Anastasio and Cecilia Paras. Both are Box Hill TAFE students, with Alice studying a Diploma of Community Service while Cecilia was studying a Cert IV in Mental Health.

Both students were hard workers and keen to learn, not only at the office but on the field with our friends on the street. Besides their school workload, we set them a few tasks that they worked on together. The first was a flyer for children about poverty and homelessness to partner with the adult one we have produced. The students researched and gathered ideas before drafting some concepts before the final design was chosen.

Students are a valuable part of the fabric of Holy Fools, and we value their contribution and efforts.

We wish both Cecilia and Alice all the best!





## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Board has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and certifies that the Financial report submitted presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Holy Fools Inc, as at 30 June 2021 and its performance for the year ended on that date. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Holy Fools Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This abbreviated 2020/2021 Financial Year report reflects the financial statements that will have been lodged with the ACNC. To see our full financials please refer to their website.

This has been an odd year for our accounts. On one hand we have seen an increase in grants and a downturn in donations. Likewise, many outreach expenses have been curtailed in other expenses due to how we have had to adapt to operate this year for restrictions.

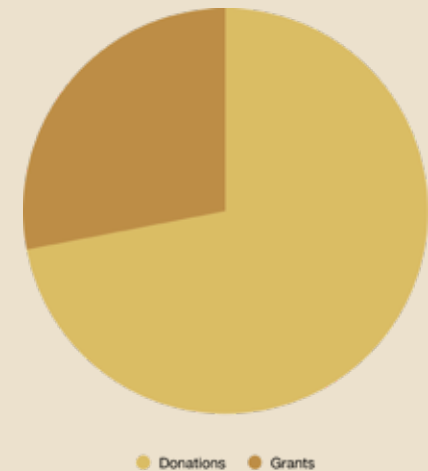
In addition we have started to depreciate items such as the van and other equipment and write off some of the items that have been stolen or lost over the past few years. This has resulted in a loss for this year. We hope to turn this around in coming years and increase our fundraising efforts as well as donations and regular giving.

*Holy Fools Inc survives on the generosity of our donors and supporters! Thank You!*

### Holy Fools Inc Income & Expenditure For the Financial Year ended 30 June 2021

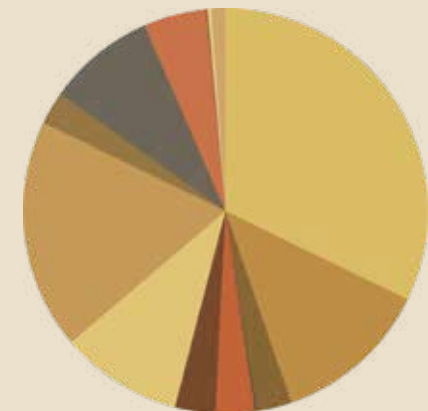
#### Income

Donations	\$ 51,614
Grants	\$ 20,120
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 71,734</b>



#### Expenses

Outreach	\$ 4,710
Van Costs	\$ 5,193
Volunteer Expenses	\$ 4,198
Donations Out	\$ 213
Fundraising	\$ 280
Depreciation	\$ 15,673
Rent	\$ 13,904
Bank & Merchant Fees	\$ 476
Insurance	\$ 4,975
Administration	\$ 29,478
Stolen Items	\$ 7,975
Rates & Taxes	\$ 1,822



#### Total Expenses

**\$88,999**

#### Net Loss

**\$ 17,260**



## Our Partners and Supporters

Abby Nicol  
AG Autogas  
Alice Anastasio  
All Australian  
Amanda McKeown  
Andre Van Eymeren  
Angela Boedham  
Anna McCandless  
Annette Pascoe  
Amy Van Eymeren  
Australian Quality Condiments  
Bang on Barista  
Barb Woodward  
Bayswater North Primary School  
Belinda Goodwin  
Bendigo Bank - Lilydale  
Bianca Crocker  
Bonnie Siwek  
Box Hill TAFE Lilydale Lake Campus  
Branded Burgers & Bar  
Briana Barker  
Bridget Valance, MP  
Bronwyn Page  
Bunnings - Chirnside Park  
Bunnings - Lilydale  
Caoilann Taylor  
Catherine Graham  
Cameron Bullingham

Cecilia Paras  
Chirnside Park Shopping Centre  
Chris Risely  
Christine Bombinski  
Codie Benson - Passionate Foodie Mum  
Coldstream Brewery  
Cr Cathrine Burnett-Wake  
Cr Tim Heenan  
Crafts for our Community  
Tony Stevenson  
Danny Field  
David Wilson  
David van Luewen  
Danielle Symons  
Debbie Mcleod  
Deborah Clancy  
Denise Melton  
Doris Pozzi  
Doug & Eileen Taylor  
Duncan Van Der Mijl  
EACH  
Eastern Melbourne PHN  
Emily Smith  
European Grocery Store  
Francis Reilly  
Freda Emimi  
Gavin Smith - Soupees  
Gary Fletcher - Professionals Lilydale

Gary Zanoni  
Gillian Anderson  
Gina Briadener - Branded Burgers  
Global Confectionery  
Greg Carrick  
Greg Thomas  
Georgia Hester  
Hannah Burns Carland  
Hayley Appleby  
Heathmont Lions Club  
Heinz Vollmer  
Ivana Gunther  
Jay Church  
Jennifer Taylor  
Jenny Kiddell  
Jenny Zigmantas  
Jessica Manczal  
Jo Burns Carland  
John Andrew  
John Harrison  
JP Haddad & Family  
Judy Huddleston  
Julie-Ann Morman  
Karen Fleming  
Karen Parnell  
Karina Stone  
Kate Coleman  
Kathy Linley

Keely Mahoney  
Ken Smith & Associates  
Kilsyth Community Association  
Lavinia Peters  
Leah Ramadge  
LinC Yarra Valley  
Lilydale Assist  
Lilydale Baptist Church  
Lilydale Football Club  
Lilydale Cricket Club  
Lilydale Lions Club  
Lilydale Marketplace  
Lilydale Rotary Club  
Lilydale Township Association  
Lilydale Woolworths  
Lisa Currie - Nourish  
Lisa Stockheim  
Little Creek Cattle Co  
Lynn Hannam - Yarra Valley  
Lynette Grant  
Lyssa Wheelan  
Families and Staff of  
Road Early Learning  
Mandy Carolan  
Marcus and Bec Kerr  
Mark Reardon - The  
Mark Tintiner  
Mark Watt

Marie Muys  
 Marlene Quigg  
 Mary Elliott  
 Mary-Ann Lowe  
 McIntyre Quality Builders  
 Meghan Drew  
 Megan Woolley  
 Megs Elizabeth  
 Melinda Harner  
 Michele Atkinson  
 Mike Basset  
 Montrose Primary School  
 Montrose Township Group Inc  
 Mooroolbark Bendigo Bank  
 Mt Evelyn and Districts Community Bank  
 Branch  
 Nunn Wilson  
 Officeworks Chirnside Park  
 Olivia Kerr  
 Oonah Health & Community Services  
 Aboriginal Corporation  
 Oscar Taylor  
 Patricia Leu  
 Patricia McAskil  
 Patrick Anderson  
 Patrick Boucher - Yarra Ranges Life TV  
 Paul Anderson  
 Pauline Mutton

Payton Downey  
 Peter Burns  
 Peter Dinsdale  
 Peter Los  
 Peter Whitefield  
 Rachel Ryan  
 Rachael Eade  
 Russell Kilgour  
 Sally Banks  
 Sally Clarke  
 Sally Wingett  
 Santha Press  
 Sarah Court Kindegarten  
 Sarah Eldridge  
 Sarah vandenBroek  
 Sean and Claire Collum  
 Sharyn Manning  
 Siobhan Hedderman  
 Siobhan Taylor  
 Siobhan Williamson  
 Sister Wendy Lawton-Scott  
 Sonia Lee Wilson  
 Stan van Luewen  
 Stephen Barrington  
 Stabil-Lime Group  
 Stuart Bell  
 Susan Mylius  
 Tahlia Appleby

Tasty Az  
 The Brazen Bull  
 The Estate of the Late Jim Sawyer  
 The Meat- Inn  
 The Mustard Tree Op-Shop  
 The Rotary Club of Croydon & Montrose  
 Tim Courtman  
 Tong Troeung  
 Tony Inglese  
 Tracy-Ann Williams  
 Trevor Ingamells  
 Vicki Hottes  
 Vicki Paterson  
 Victoria McBride  
 Victorian Brotherhood Male Suicide  
 Awareness  
 Virginia Wilson  
 Viv Cunningham-Smith  
 Wendy Phillips  
 Yarra Flats Baking Company  
 Yarra Ranges Council's Business  
 Development Team  
 Yarra Ranges Life TV  
 Yarra Valley FM 99.1  
 Yarra Valley Gateway Estate  
 Yarra Valley Snack Foods  
 Yarra Valley Water  
 Yarra View Nursery



