

2016

ANNUAL REPORT



Boroondara Cares

*Building a more caring, connected
community committed to social inclusion*

Boroondara Cares

*Our Vision is to enhance and strength our
community by working together to
encourage understanding, participation,
belonging and well-being.*



Something old ... Something new

Executive Director, Peter Allen

It can come as a surprise to some of us that there is a pressing need for charity and compassion within the leafy green streets of Boroondara. We are after all, one of the wealthiest cities in Australia. Yet a few moments spent with council officers, police, Salvation Army or any one of many not for profit service providers soon dispels that myth. Simply, we share the same social challenges and needs that exist in all other municipalities in our state and beyond.

A little further research leads us to understand that there are five key community challenges that have become the basis for the service agenda of our foundation and our plans to “make a significant difference” in each of these over time - Homelessness, Family Violence, Social Isolation, Drug Abuse and Educational Disadvantage.

Something old? The long established Chances Scholarship Program led by Program Manager Helen Worlidge makes a significant contribution to the foundation’s Educational Disadvantage vision and provides a model for emulation in the other four categories.

Something new? Today’s foundation is a bona fide Rotary organisation. We aim – and plan – to support Rotary Club initiatives that fit within the five identified challenge areas by raising awareness and funds to support Rotary programs. The Educational Disadvantage “box” is well ticked by the Chances Program. Progressively new programs will be added to “tick” the other four.

As a Rotary led volunteer based organisation a key challenge is the recruitment of people – volunteers – from both Rotary Clubs and the wider community to resource our efforts. Recently, our core management team has happily expanded as senior Rotarians have signed on for service. This moots well for the delivery of programs over time. Our management/development team as I write has these members:

Peter Allen – Rotary Club of Camberwell

Hans Carlborg – Rotary Club of Hawthorn

Chris Chilvers – Community member

Andrew Dalziel – Rotary Club of Kew

Bob Lambert – Rotary Club of Yarra Bend

John McCaskill – Rotary Club of Canterbury

David Pisterman – Rotary Club of Hawthorn

And of course nothing useful would be possible without the governance and leadership of our board of directors. I am especially grateful to the Executive Board Members – Chairman Denbigh Richards, Secretary Michael Hills, Treasurer John Hudson and Marketing Director Bob Lambert.

As we address the new Rotary/Financial year together we look forward – as we say in Rotary parlance – to the many “opportunities for service” that lie ahead.

Peter Allen FAICD
Executive Director



A Message from the Chairman

Denbigh Richards



This will be the last opportunity for me to write a message as Chairman of the Boroondara Cares Foundation as I have served the maximum number of terms allowable under the Foundation's Constitution and will be standing down from the Board after the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.



It has been a privilege to have chaired the Board through a transformative period as the former Foundation Boroondara became the Boroondara Cares Foundation, with the nine Rotary Clubs in the City of Boroondara as Members. Some 15 years ago, Boroondara led in establishing a community foundation committed to improving the lives of the residents of the municipality. This transformation has significantly enhanced that initiative by linking the Foundation to the Rotary Clubs that have done so much over many years initiating and supporting projects both locally and further afield.

2016 has been a year of growth and consolidation, most notably in relation to the Chances program. Details of the many facets of this program are provided in this report and I want to pay tribute to the outstanding work done by Program Manager Helen Worlidge. Helen works untiringly, always actively supported by husband Wayne, to enhance the educational opportunities of financially disadvantaged secondary and tertiary students within Boroondara. Largely as a result of her efforts, the program has grown significantly over recent years and is strongly supported, not only by all the schools attended by scholarship recipients, but by a network of volunteers who appreciate the benefits gained by the students and who work to support the program in different ways.

I also want to thank the other Directors who are standing down at the Annual General Meeting, - Dennis Shore, Don Jago, Gerry Cross and John Hudson. Their support and contribution has been invaluable in the development of the Boroondara Cares Foundation, particularly that of John Hudson who had taken on the role of Treasurer just prior to the transformation and has put in many long hours working to get the Foundation on the sound footing it currently has.

Finally it must be said that the Foundation would not exist as it does today were it not for the vision, energy and drive of our Executive Director, Peter Allen. Peter has acknowledged in his report the work of others, but it has been his unflagging efforts that have largely made the transformation as successful as it has been, and I'd like to put on record my appreciation of all that he has done, and continues to do for the good of Boroondara and Boroondara's community foundation.

Denbigh Richards
Chairman



CHANCES: Scholarship Program

Program Manager: Helen Worladge OAM

Educational opportunities for Boroondara's talented young people

The aims of the Boroondara Cares Foundation CHANCES Scholarship program are as follows:



1. to support talented financially disadvantaged young people (aged between 12 & 25 years) by providing;
 - merit-based scholarships to eligible, (Centrelink eligibility) talented young people to assist them to achieve their potential in pursuing academic studies. music, performing arts and leadership programs
2. opportunities to support the removal of financial hardship barriers and social isolation for many disadvantaged young people and families in Boroondara
3. to redress poverty and disadvantage (lack of money, resources and networks) that affect a considerable number of young people who live or study in Boroondara
4. to provide a range of flexible support options tailored to the specific needs of young people
5. to encourage young people to complete Year 12 and move on to tertiary education
6. to renew CHANCES scholarships year on year which ensures long term impact as young people can complete their studies and pursue meaningful careers suited to their talents

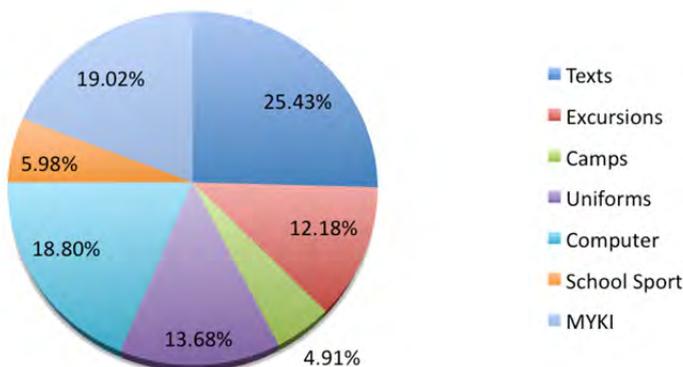
The Boroondara Cares Foundation's CHANCES Scholarship Program was started in 2006 and since then has funded 507 young people at a cost of \$584,000.

The academic CHANCES scholarship year of 2016 was another good year for the Foundation as we funded 116 students, which was an increase of 7.4%

Statistics at a glance for 2016 recipients were:

- ◆ 9 secondary schools and 5 universities were represented
- ◆ average age was 16 years and 9 months
- ◆ 64 females and 52 males received scholarships
- ◆ 52 new scholarships were awarded
- ◆ 64 renewal scholarships were awarded
- ◆ average funding per scholarship was \$946.90.

Items purchased by students:



CHANCES Scholarship Program – Recipient Stories

Mrs Faye Harding
Student Wellbeing and Engagement
Kew High School



Kew High School has been fortunate to have many of our students benefit as recipients of the Chances Scholarship program over the past decade. The scholarships have made an enormous difference in the lives of these students and their families with the financial burden being greatly alleviated. The current costs of education are prohibitive for many families and without the scholarship support, their children would be disadvantaged by not being able to afford involvement in all the extra-curricular programs our school has to offer or by not being able to pay for necessary books, the lease of the school laptop or uniform. Students with talents in music, theatre, school sport and general academic aptitude have been enabled to pursue these with increased confidence and passion and without fear of stigma. We have students competing at elite level in sports, others pursuing passion for theatre and Broadway musicals and many becoming proficient with instrumental music because they have been given this opportunity through the scholarship. Students feel proud to be recipients and regularly express their gratitude. We have seen incredible successes of several of our recipients who have achieved entry into University with ATARs in the 90s as a direct result of feeling supported and encouraged in their endeavours through the scholarship. As a school we feel incredibly fortunate to have the Chances scholarship program available to our talented yet disadvantaged students.

Eartha Waters
(Camberwell High School)



I am one of nine children and live with my single Father, who is chronically ill and is hospitalised every second night. He has a limited income but tries hard to ensure that this does not prevent me from participating fully at Camberwell High School. The Chances Scholarship that I received has meant that I have not had to miss out on any activities or learning opportunities at school. The Chances Scholarship has provided for my textbooks and stationery. It has also paid for my use of a school laptop. The Scholarship also allowed me to participate in the Year 8 camp and the excursions arranged for the Year level. In other words the Scholarship has meant that I have not had to miss out. The greatest opportunity I have been provided through the Scholarships has been through getting private tutoring in Maths and English every Wednesday afternoon after school. This tutoring has helped me in Maths and English and has helped me build my personal confidence both in and outside of school.

Harrison Bennett
(Swinburne University)



Entering university after relocating from regional Victoria was already a daunting task, but it became ever more challenging after discovering I had a chronic illness at the beginning of my second year of study. This left me in a difficult situation to combat as I had now had medical expenses to cover as well as my living and educational costs. After struggling for some months with these difficulties I discovered the Boroondara Cares Foundation. With their support, I have been able to exclusively concentrate on my studies and maintaining my health without the concerns of living, transport, and utilities costs. This has freed up my time to volunteer in as many capacities as I am able, one being my role as an In2Science mentor in low socio economic schools where I tutor and do my best to encourage 14-15 year olds to consider pursuing a career in Science, Technology, Engineering, or

Mathematics. This uncovered a passion of mine, which is STEM education, and raising awareness of ideas in engineering and computer science. In addition to this, having more time to focus on my studies has produced an improvement in my marks and increased my overall happiness at university. I am preparing to undertake a professional placement in the summer or over the course of next year as a major component of my degree. I cannot express my gratitude to an organisation dedicated to making lives easier for young people in challenging circumstances, I would not have been able to reach so high and achieve so much in my studies without their scholarship.

Orlena Mac
(Swinburne University)

Being the first to attend tertiary education in my family, it has been a nerve-racking experience to get here. The costs of every class and the price to even get there have been scary in their own right. It is thanks to the Boroondara Cares Foundation's support, that I have been able to travel to and from university without worry. From them, I have received great support in my studies where money and transport were huge issues. Where public transport could reach \$20-\$25 a week, I had huge worries over affording to come to every class as the year went on. Now, I can head to university without debating the class's worth against the cost to get there, which is a huge relief for both my family and me. I was also able to receive financial support in getting the technology needed for my classes to keep up with my classmates last year. Being in the film and television industry, even basic equipment is expensive to obtain for someone like me. High quality computer equipment and programs for university were much more expensive than originally imagined. As such, the support CHANCES has given me also gives me the opportunity to complete homework assignments and other assignments at home rather than at university, saving a lot of time and hardship. CHANCES has given me the confidence to go to every class, knowing that I can afford to be there and keep up with every class. They have empowered me and just being able to get to university gives me greater confidence to strive more educationally.

George Vlahos
(Swinburne University)

As a recipient of the Boroondara Cares Foundation CHANCES scholarship I have been exposed to the many financial, educational, and social benefits provided by the scholarship. Throughout this time, I have felt more empowered to strive further, knowing the support I have from the Boroondara Cares Foundation community. The CHANCES scholarship provided the financial assistance necessary in order to achieve my educational goals each semester. The scholarship aims to ensure that motivated students can achieve their fullest potential through offering a variety of support, which encourages the prioritisation of studies. This is accomplished by relieving financial stress accumulated from textbooks, travel, tutoring and other educational expenses. The reduced financial stress personally allowed me to focus more of my time on studying rather than working, making a significant impact during assessment periods. Furthermore, the scholarship introduces recipients to a welcoming community that unites determined students of various backgrounds. The Boroondara Cares Foundation organises presentation ceremonies, where the students are provided with the opportunity to socialise with the board members, donors and other students. The opportunity to meet fellow students who are placed in comparable circumstances is a motivating experience, as it displays that there are many successful students facing similar problems. Additionally, the presentations acknowledge the students' efforts, which personally further empowered me to achieve my goals. I highly appreciate the opportunities and benefits that the CHANCES scholarship program has offered me. I will continue to stay motivated and strive to achieve my academic and career goals.



Madeleine

The Boroondara Cares Foundation CHANCES Program has had a huge impact on me over the last few years throughout my studies, by providing continuous support throughout high school education and onto further study at RMIT University. I am currently undertaking a Bachelor of Business and have been largely influenced by the support received, which has relieved me of the financial stresses of textbook, transport and material costs. I am honoured to be a recipient within the program and note the impact it has had in feeling confident moving through university with clear goals of making my own path into a successful career. I thank Boroondara Cares for their generous support that motivates me to complete my course and get further involved in the community. It's become important to take up opportunities that arise and be a part of what university has to offer.

Selene Mizzi (Camberwell High School)

I am a year 9 student at Camberwell High school and throughout my years of schooling it has sometimes been hard to pay for the things needed for school. However since I have received the CHANCES Scholarship it has really helped me boost my academic levels and my involvement with school activities. Receiving the CHANCES Scholarship has assisted me academically by helping provide school supplies like netbooks and textbooks. Without the scholarship it would have been hard to have these supplies, which are really necessary for schooling. Having a netbook has helped me throughout school by allowing me to do my work at my own pace, which has supported me to achieve higher grades. Having the CHANCES Scholarship has also helped me to get engaged with school activities and excursions. The scholarship has helped me to be more confident with myself by letting me be able to experience fun activities that would have been out of reach if I had not have received the scholarship.

Laura Moller (Swinburne University)

The Boroondara Cares CHANCES scholarship has helped me significantly during my study. It gave me the opportunity to go on the IT (Information Technology) for Social Impact Trip to India, a student-run project to assist remote communities in India. While there, we fixed computers at primary schools, ran hands-on lessons for the children, and demonstrated new technologies. Without the support of the CHANCES scholarship, I wouldn't have been able to go on such a life changing and confidence-building trip. It has had obvious impacts upon my education, with less financial pressure I have been free to devote more time to my study and I have so far achieved a 3.6/4 GPA average at Swinburne University. Excitingly, I have recently been offered a graduate position at the National Australia Bank in the Technology Stream for 2017. The CHANCES scholarship has had a real and significant influence on my education and general outlook, it has encourage me to push the boundaries on what I thought I could and couldn't do, and make a positive difference in the world.



TERTIARY ASPIRATIONS PROGRAM

The Tertiary Aspirations Program is run in association with Swinburne University. The program aims to:

- ◆ provide a program for Yr 9 & 10 students from state secondary schools in Boroondara who come from low socio economic backgrounds
- ◆ provide a program for students who are unsure about where their educational future may lie or students who have not considered attending university as an option.



**Matthew Schipper
(Auburn High School)**

The excursion was most certainly an enjoyable experience; it gave us the opportunity to see the more active pathways we can take for our careers, from building to engineering. There was plenty of different fun and interesting activities for us to participate in. My personal favourite was using chemistry to understand the concentration of an unknown substance. I am very grateful I was granted such an amazing opportunity.

**Kimberly Chee
(Auburn High School)**

Thank you for providing me with this amazing opportunity. This excursion has taught me a lot of things that I might use in my life later on. I appreciated this opportunity, and hope we get another like this at some time in the future. I really enjoyed the business card design, because we got to design things based on our interests and we can make use of that skill no matter what field we end up in. I think this activity was probably the most useful for my future career. The woodwork was an activity I wouldn't have normally done. I found it quite interesting, but I feel like this is probably not a skill that I am very good at, and I probably will not have a career like this.



**Chloe Ng
(Auburn High School)**

My favourite activity at Swinburne University Tertiary Aspiration Day was making the business card. Designing is one of my hobbies, and I enjoy doing this in my spare time, so it was good to be able to do this in an environment where we were using Macs and we had the steps laid out clearly for us. This knowledge will be really useful in the future, as one day I hope to have a business of my own. I have never tried woodwork before and I quite enjoyed it. The teacher gave really clear instructions and I was pleased with how my product turned out. It is nice and smooth and looks like it was professionally made. We now use it at home to put our keys in. Thank you so much to Boroondara Cares Foundation for this special opportunity. We all really enjoyed the excursion, and learnt some useful skills.

**Keziah Choong
(Auburn High School)**

I enjoyed doing the chemistry work, where we could test out the different solutions with the colorimeter. It was interesting to use this piece of equipment as well as learning more about chemistry. The business card design was also fun, and it was amazing to use the Macs as well. Designing the business card will be useful in my future career. I enjoyed the opportunity to design a business card using up to date technology and skills, and it helped me to think about what type of business I might like to be in the future. I also enjoyed the opportunity to do woodtech. I am not a very practical person, and I struggled to put the nails in the wood accurately, but I enjoyed the lesson and the teacher was very supportive. I would like to thank the Boroondara Cares Foundation for organising an unforgettable experience. We wouldn't have known what it would be like studying after high school. This experience helped me choose which career options to consider and those that I most likely would not consider. To me this was an amazing excursion and I am extremely grateful for this opportunity.

Lewie Yang **(Camberwell High School)**

At Swinburne University, I got to experience a little bit of the things that university students do every day. I got to do some chemistry involving cobalt and water, visual communications using photo shop, electrical engineering, looking at examples of static electricity and Tesla. In Game making we were taught the basics of applying commands in a scratch-like game creating program. Finally, at the end of the day we visited the nursery, where we learnt about how to grow plants, trees, berries, etc. I enjoyed the chemistry and electrical engineering a lot. I found them both really intriguing. Gaming making was all right, I got to learn a couple of things and the concept was pretty interesting. The nursery was my second least favourite, I was interested in growing life but plants were at the bottom of the barrel. Still, it wasn't bad. In my opinion, Visual communication was the most boring one out of all the classes we had. I had never used Photoshop before and had no idea what I was doing. After the excursion, I started considering the path of a scientist. The concept of chemistry is really cool, and it makes me look smarter than I actually am.

PUBLIC SPEAKING PROGRAM

The Public Speaking Program is a 3 x 1 hour program, usually conducted over 3 weeks and is funded by Balwyn Rotary Club in conjunction with CHANCES, Free Debate and Dymocks of Camberwell.

The program aims to

- ◆ encourage interest in public speaking
- ◆ develop public speaking skills and be
- ◆ engaging, entertaining and educational

Free Debate (Lynne Featonby, President, Free Debate Inc.)

Free Debate Inc. was born in 2005 after a group of dedicated and successful former university debaters saw a need to expand debating and speaking services to parts of the community who could most benefit from the assistance, but who could never afford private consultations. We have worked in the past to build a debating culture in western suburbs schools, to help adult migrants enhance their English language confidence, and to develop the leadership and persuasive abilities of young Arabic leaders and Teach for Australia educators.

The organisers and trainers of Free Debate Inc. are all volunteers who provide their time and skills for free in order to give back to public speaking and debating. At least four former winners of the World Universities Debating Championships have conducted Free Debate programs, and almost everyone on our roster has significant experience of intervarsity debating and adjudicating. The communication skills and academic achievements of our members make them highly sought-after in the fields of law, consultancy, medicine and government. All of the trainers are exceptionally experienced speakers and accomplished individuals.

Free Debate Inc. has worked with a number of schools in Boroondara. It began with preparing some students for a Rotary public speaking competition many years ago, and we have continued to arrange programs for interested schools and students in the region. Our work with Camberwell High, Auburn High and Ashwood Secondary College has focused on public speaking and confidence development. During each of the 3 sessions of our training programme which usual target a different aspect of delivering a speech, all participants talk in front of the group and are given personalised, constructive feedback. We encourage the students to develop their ideas and challenge themselves: overwhelmingly, the result is greater confidence.

Speaking in public is a skill that can be learned and improved upon, and it can have a powerful, positive impact on the speaker and those who listen. Free Debate Inc. looks forward to improving the confidence and communication skills of students in Boroondara. We thank the Boroondara Cares Foundation and Helen Worladge, in particular, for their ongoing support of Free Debate Inc. and public speaking training.

Summary of Finances – Year Ending June 2016

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ending 30 June 2016

Revenue	\$	\$	\$
Donations			
Chances Scholarship	163,762		
Other	<u>2,169</u>		
		165,931	
Interest		<u>4,499</u>	
Total Revenue			170,430
Expenditure			
Bank and other fees		78	
Consultants		34,164	
Scholarship Awards			
Secondary	108,331		
Tertiary	<u>7,528</u>		
		115,859	
Miscellaneous/Printing and Design		6,049	
Rent		9,840	
Telephone, Postage and General Expenses		<u>4,107</u>	
Total Expenditure			170,097
Total Comprehensive Income for Year			333

Note: The above statement is taken from the Annual Audited Accounts for 2016.

Acknowledging our Productive Partnerships

Boroondara Cares Foundation has been blessed with a range of wonderful partners who are all generous in their ongoing support.

Camberwell High School: We were again pleased to be offered the facilities of the Camberwell High School kitchen and main hall for our annual Christmas Lunch.

Swinburne University: The Foundation really values its relationships with Swinburne University in accessing their wide networks, their specialist skills and academic knowledge. We are particularly thrilled with the Tertiary Aspiration Program described elsewhere in this report.

The Rotary Club of Glenferrie: On the third (and fifth) Saturday of each month, Rotarians, with help from Foundation volunteers, transform Patterson Reserve into a vibrant marketplace. The agreement between Council and the Rotary Club of Glenferrie to support the CHANCES scholarship project and its activities through the Market profits is critical to its success. This relationship is formally acknowledged in awarding a Boroondara Cares /Glenferrie Rotary CHANCES scholarship benefiting a young person who has undertaken significant community service activities beyond their studies.

The Rotary Club of Hawthorn: Each year on the Sunday before Christmas, the Foundation works with the Rotarians of Hawthorn to provide a joyous lunch for people of Boroondara from local boarding houses and hostels, neighbourhood centres and senior citizens clubs. In 2015, Santa found our guests in the Main Hall at Camberwell High School. He will return to the high school in 2016 for another highlight event!

Sponsors and Partners

We would like to acknowledge the generous support and funding we have received from our sponsors and partners.



You can “give back” by:

- ➔ Supporting the Boroondara Farmers Market, Patterson Reserve, Auburn Road Hawthorn, held on the third (and fifth) Saturday of each month, and joining our team of volunteers to set up the market and welcome market visitors.
- ➔ Making a pledge to support the Foundation and its programs.
- ➔ Providing long term acknowledgement of a loved one through development of a named fund within the Foundation or considering a bequest to Foundation Boroondara.
- ➔ Speaking to us to explore ways you can volunteer some time and expertise to assist development of the Foundation's funds, operations, projects and events.
- ➔ Sponsoring one of our events.

www.boroondaracaresfoundation.org.au

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