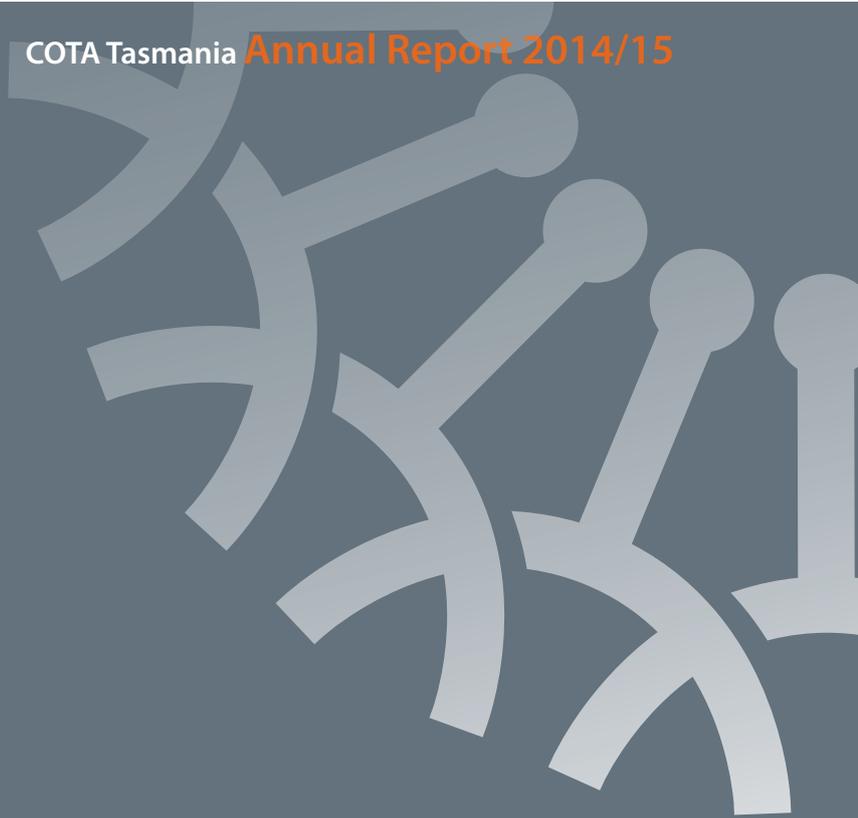


active **supportive**
formative represent trusted
vocate **helpful** research
listener *advice* together
voice



COTA Tasmania **Annual Report 2014/15**





Contents

| | | |
|--|--|-----------|
| About COTA | | 2 |
| Vision | | 2 |
| Mission | | 2 |
| Strategic plan | | 3 |
| Supporters | | 3 |
| Our people | | 4 |
| Board of Directors | | 4 |
| Our staff | | 6 |
| Organisational members | | 7 |
| Our volunteers | | 8 |
| COTA Champions | | 8 |
| President and CEO report | | 10 |
| Treasurer's report | | 12 |
| In memory | | 13 |
| Highlights | | 14 |
| Projects | | 22 |
| COTA TAS Inc Financial Statements 2014/15 | | 28 |
| Statement by Members of the Board | | 28 |
| Balance Sheet | | 29 |
| Income and Expenditure Statement | | 30 |
| Notes | | 31 |
| Independent Auditor's Report | | 32 |
| Our future | | 33 |

Design: Poco People

! Inside cover: inaugural Stand Up: Walk Against Elder Abuse
 Cover: Madam Speaker the Hon Elise Archer MP with Sue Leitch and supporters at the light up of Parliament House for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, plus results from the 2015 COTA Tas Stakeholder Survey

About COTA

COTA Tasmania has been the voice of older Tasmanians for over fifty years. While our focus may evolve our commitment and determination remain. As your peak body we continue to advocate and lobby on behalf of all older Tasmanians with particular concern for those that are vulnerable and disadvantaged. As part of the COTA Federation, one that stretches across Australia representing over one thousand member organisations and in excess of forty thousand individual members, we give a voice to approximately five hundred thousand older Australians.

Our values:

- integrity
- inclusiveness
- accountability
- compassion

We give a voice to approximately five hundred thousand older Australians.

Vision

Leading change for older Tasmanians.

Mission

To promote, improve and uphold the rights and interests of older Tasmanians, with a focus on the vulnerable and disadvantaged.

Strategic plan

1. WHEN WE SPEAK PEOPLE LISTEN

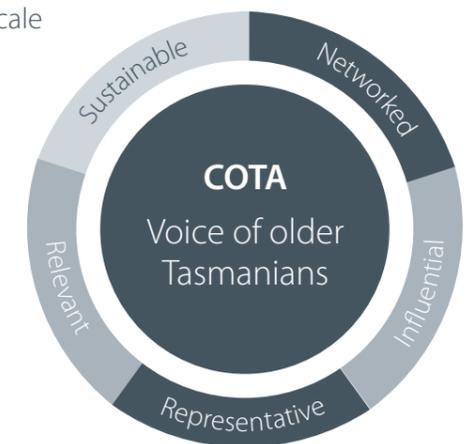
- COTA Tasmania is recognised as an authoritative and credible source of comment and information on issues facing older Tasmanians.
- Our research and policy positions inform the priorities of decision makers at all levels of government, and in the not-for-profit and business sectors.
- We take a leadership role lobbying and campaigning on priority issues for older Tasmanians.

2. WE REFLECT THE DIVERSITY OF THE COMMUNITY

- We will explore, develop and implement consultation processes that reach diverse groups of older Tasmanians.
- We will increase the scale and scope of our membership
- Our board and volunteer succession planning will encourage people with diverse backgrounds and experience to nominate.

3. WE ARE EFFECTIVE AND ENDURING IN ALL THAT WE DO

- We will build our economic, governance and organisational sustainability as a priority.



Supporters

COTA TAS gratefully acknowledges the support of the following organisations:

The Department of Premier and Cabinet – Communities, Sport and Recreation Tasmania
(Core Funding, Seniors Week and Inclusive Ageing project)



The Department of Health & Human Services
(Elder Abuse Prevention project, *You're Worth It* Peer Education program on financial elder abuse are funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Visit the Department of Social Services website [www.dss.gov.au] for more information)

The Department of Social Services
(*The Conversations with our Community* project, Core Funding, Consumer Directed Care – Peer Education program)

Tasmania Fire Service
(*Wake Up!* Peer Education program)



The Tasmanian Association of Hospice and Palliative Care
(*The Hobart Way to Go* forum has been funded by the Australian Government's Better Access to Palliative Care in Tasmania Programme, through the Tasmanian Association for Hospice and Palliative Care 'Networking End of Life Care' Project')



Our people

Board of Directors

As elected on Wednesday 20th November 2014:

| Board Member | Committee Membership | Board Meetings attended in 2014/15 financial year |
|---|---|---|
| Alwyn Friedersdorff President | Tas Policy Council F.A.R.M.* Committee MARCOMMS** Committee Vice President (until Nov 2014) Executive Committee Policy Committee | 6 out of 6 |
| Ian Fletcher Vice President | F.A.R.M.* Committee MARCOMMS** Committee Fundraising Action Group Executive Committee | 6 out of 6 |
| Michael Walpole Treasurer | Executive Committee F.A.R.M.* Committee (Chair) Policy Committee (until Feb 2015) | 5 out of 6 |
| Philippa Roberts Minute Secretary | Executive Committee MARCOMMS** Committee Tas Policy Council | 3 out of 4 |
| David Benbow (until May 2015) | F.A.R.M.* Committee | 4 out of 5 |
| David Gregory (appointed Aug 2014) | MARCOMMS** Committee (Chair from Nov 2014) Tas Policy Council | 6 out of 6 |
| Malcolm MacDonald (leave of absence from June 2015) | MARCOMMS** Committee Fundraising Action Group | 3 out of 6 |
| Peter Maloney (appointed June 2015) | F.A.R.M.* Committee | 1 out of 1 |
| Rita Meaney | F.A.R.M.* Committee | 4 out of 4 |
| Ken Pierce | MARCOMMS** Committee | 2 out of 4 |
| Jean Walker | MARCOMMS** Committee until Nov 2014) Seniors Alliance Tasmania (Chair) | 5 out of 6 |
| Brigid Wilkinson | Policy Council Advisor | 3 out of 4 |

As elected on Thursday 28 November 2013:

| Board Member (from Nov 2013-Nov 2014) | Committee Membership | Board Meetings attended in 2014/15 financial year |
|--|---|---|
| Di Carter President (resigned Nov 2014) | Executive Committee MARCOMMS** Committee (Chair) Policy Committee Tas Policy Council | 2 out of 2 |
| Peter Nute Minute Secretary (resigned Sep 2014) | Executive Committee | 0 out of 1 |
| Margaret Bird (retired Nov 2014 after serving 3 terms) | Tas Policy Council (Chair) | 1 out of 2 |
| Nick Evans (resigned Nov 2014) | | 0 out of 2 |

*Finance, Audit and Risk Management **Marketing and Communications



Our staff

Sue Leitch

Chief Executive Officer

Deb Lewis

Operations Manager

David Rose

Communications & Seniors
Week Coordinator

Jane Bowman

Project Officer – Positive
Ageing (Peer Education)

Keree Rose

Project Officer – Positive
Ageing (Inclusive Ageing)

Soula Houndalas

Project Officer – Positive
Ageing (Conversations with
our Community & Inclusive
Ageing)

Pauline Marsh

Project Officer – Positive
Ageing

Natalie Lo

Administration & Finance
Officer

At the end of June 2015 COTA bid farewell to Jane after nine and a half years service as an employee, and a prior two years as a volunteer. Jane is our longest serving staff member coordinating the delivery of approximately 800 sessions to over 10 000 people across the State. We wish Jane all the very best for the future.



Nat



Keree



David



Deb



Pauline



Jane



Sue



Soula

Organisational members

- Advocacy Tasmania
- Aged & Community Services Tasmania Inc
- Alzheimer's Australia Tasmania
- Anglicare At Home
- Australian Retired Persons Association Tasmania Inc
- Carers Association of Tasmania Inc
- Centacare Tasmania
- Central Coast Council
- Chigwell Support Program
- Chinese Community Association of Tasmania (CCAT)
- Christian Homes Tasmania Inc
- Community Based Support South Inc
- CTST (Community Transport Services Tas)
- Department of Health & Ageing
- Diabetes Tasmania
- Drug Education Network Inc
- Integratedliving
- Glenview Community Services Inc
- Greek Welfare Centre
- Hobart City Council
- The Hobart Clinic Association
- Hobart District Nursing Service Inc
- Huon ElderCare
- Independent Health Care Service Pty Ltd
- Independent Living Centre Tasmania Inc
- Italian Australian Pensioners Association of Tas Inc
- Launceston School for Seniors Inc
- Lifeline Hobart Inc
- Meals on Wheels Association of Tasmania
- Medea Park Association Inc
- The National Council Of Women Tasmania (Hobart)
- O.P.E.N. Computing
- Polish Welfare Office
- The Queen Victoria Home Inc
- Sandy Bay Senior Citizens Club
- Southern Midlands Council
- South Eastern Community Care
- St Ann's Homes Inc
- Tas Association for Hospice & Palliative Care
- Tasmanian Association of State Superannuants
- Ulverstone Senior Citizens Club
- University of the Third Age - Clarence Inc
- University of the Third Age - Hobart Inc
- Veranto
- Volunteering Tasmania Inc

The more COTA members, the more impact the higher the profile, the more good can be done for all older Australians.

Ian Yates, CEO COTA Australia

Our volunteers

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alwyn Friedersdorff
 Ian Fletcher
 Michael Walpole
 Philippa Roberts
 David Benbow
 David Gregory
 Malcolm MacDonald
 Peter Maloney
 Rita Meaney
 Ken Pierce
 Jean Walker
 Brigid Wilkinson
 Di Carter
 Peter Nute
 Margaret Bird
 Nick Evans
 (more detail on pp4-5)

TAS POLICY COUNCIL

Margaret Bird
 Di Carter (retired Sep 2014)
 Suzanne Feike
 Alwyn Friedersdorff
 (joined Nov 2014)
 David Gregory
 (joined Nov 2014)
 Kate Hiscock
 (retired Mar 2015)
 John Mackean
 (retired Sep 2014)
 Peter Nute (retired Sep 2014)
 Peter Orpin
 Kimbra Parker
 (joined Apr 2015)
 John Pauley
 (joined Mar 2015)
 Philippa Roberts
 (joined Nov 2014)
 Wynne Russell
 (Apr – Sep 2015)

Penny Saile (retired Sep 2014)
 Fran Thompson
 Meg Webb (retired Mar 2015)

PEER EDUCATORS

Tony Cole
 Marion Cassidy
 Michael Cassidy
 Rhonda Claridge
 Ian Fletcher
 Barry Heather
 David Henty
 Elaine Jenkins
 Jennifer Mazella
 Joan Middleton
 Sally Mills
 Martin Modinger
 Des Mortimer
 Gweneth Norris
 Jayne Paterson
 Maureen Rudge
 Elizabeth Ruthven
 Susan Walter

COTA Champions

SOUTHERN MIDLANDS

Jill Burbury
 Christine Dean
 Ian Johnston
 Jennifer Johnston
 Jenny Mitchell
 Shirley Robson

HUON VALLEY

Helen Cake
 Edie Clark
 Betty Cook
 Marrie Myers
 Frank Smith
 Helen Walne
 David Prentice

KINGBOROUGH

Margaret Gowland
 Peter Grierson
 Mike Jackson
 Judy Kile

HOBART

Margaret Nielsen
 Barbie Rae
 Joe La Rosa
 John Rugen
 Maureen Rugen
 Paul Turvey
 Robin Wilkinson
 Trina Twigg

OFFICE SUPPORT

Jennifer Mazzella
 Sharon Olson

Our organisation is fortunate to be guided and supported by a wonderful group of dedicated individuals, each of whom have a strong desire to make a difference. These people are the life blood of our organisation and we cannot thank them enough for what they do and the difference they make.

I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do.

Edward Everett Hale



COTA Champion Barbie Rae (left) takes notes at Hobart's Way to Go forum



Soula Houndalas (centre) with COTA Champions



Keree Rose (left) with COTA Champions at COTA's 2014 Christmas function



COTA Champions



CEO Sue Leitch serving cake at COTA's Volunteer Appreciation Morning Tea



Board member Brigid Wilkinson (left) at the Ultimate Lifestyle & Home Support Expo



Board members Rita Meaney (left) and David Gregory

Newly elected Board members (left to right) Rita Meaney, Ken Pierce and Philippa Roberts



Board member Rita Meaney manning the BBQ at a COTA fundraiser



COTA Champions – Maureen Rugen (left) and Barbie Rae



Jane Bowman (left) with volunteers at COTA's 2014 Christmas function

President and CEO report

It has been a year of growth and challenge for COTA TAS with an ever increasing need for input into policy making both at a State and Federal level. Some of the policy challenges included changes to aged pensions, housing issues for older Tasmanians and retirement income planning particularly for older women. One visitor to our office, for one of our many forums, commented on how "vibrant" the place felt. We certainly have been busy working on a number of different projects and issues.

It has also been a busy year for our active Board of Directors. In the 2014/2015 financial year we welcomed back

! Sue Leitch, CEO (left) and Alwyn Friedersdorff, President



David Gregory to support the Board as a director following a vacancy with the resignation of Peter Nute. At the AGM held in November, we farewelled our previous President, Di Carter and thanked her for her hard work in support of COTA TAS. Alwyn Friedersdorff became President and has been busy progressing issues for older people in COTA circles and also in her broader work both locally and nationally. We are very grateful to Alwyn for her enthusiastic engagement regularly making trips to Hobart from her home town of Wynyard, or travelling interstate to progress issues for older Tasmanians.

To support Alwyn with her work Ian Fletcher took on the role of Vice President. Ian has been a great support to the staff with wise counsel and a friendly face in the office. Sadly Nick Evans retired from

We were also delighted to welcome Tasmania's 28th Governor, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AM, as our new Patron.

the Board to embark on his new role at the Department of Justice, we wish him well. The AGM also saw the election of four new directors to the COTA TAS Board, Philippa Roberts, Brigid Wilkinson, Rita Meaney and Ken Pierce. In May 2015 we farewelled David Benbow, a previous Treasurer, as he resigned to focus on the increasing demands of his role as Public Trustee. In the interim the Board approved the appointment of Peter Maloney, a former Public Trustee, lawyer and public servant. Our Board members bring with them a wealth of knowledge and a commitment to improving the lives of older Tasmanians.

In February this year we held our annual combined COTA TAS Board and Policy Council meeting to work together on strategic direction for 2015 and beyond. This continues to be a good way to focus our attention on issues for

the year and to welcome new members to the COTA "family". We renewed our commitment to our Strategic Plan and enjoyed the opportunity to discuss some of the delights and challenges of growing older. We made a firm resolve to increase our membership across the State and to have a much stronger presence in regional and remote areas of Tasmania.

With a busy year come many highlights, as you will read about in the following pages. Our intergenerational Seniors Week launch "It's on for Young and Old... a day on the green" was new territory for our organisation with up to four generations of families enjoying the many activities on offer. For the first year COTA TAS coordinated World Elder Abuse Awareness Day events with prominent Tasmanian buildings bathed in purple hues to raise awareness of this sensitive issue. In Hobart Parliament House stood out with its purple glow against the red lights of Dark MOFO. COTA Tasmania was also delighted to welcome Tasmania's 28th Governor, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AM, as the organisation's new Patron. We look forward to working with the Governor over the coming years.

We sincerely thank the staff and volunteers of COTA TAS for their dedication and commitment to the

organisation. Without them we would not be able to carry out an increasingly busy work load. We proudly acknowledge the support of the Tasmanian and Australian Government and other partner organisations that allow us to continue our important work as your peak body.

Alwyn Friedersdorff
President

Sue Leitch
CEO

! The Hon Susan Ryan AO, Age Discrimination Commissioner (left) with Alwyn Friedersdorff at the Age Discrimination Roundtable



! COTA Project Officer Soula Houndalas (second from left) and focus group participants



Treasurer's report

COTA Tasmania's financial position has improved during the financial year largely as a result of careful expenditure management and an increase in revenue achieved through new project grant funding. The organisation achieved a marginal net profit in 2014/15.

The Board has made a concerted effort to diversify the organisation's funding base and it is expected that this will begin to bear fruit in the next financial year.

Total assets were increased over the previous financial year. Current assets were increased to \$255,734 in 2014/15 up from \$194,515 in 2013/14. Total liabilities were also increased in 2014/15 due in large part to grant money received for projects that extend beyond the end of the 2014/15 financial year. Total equity at end June 2015 stood at \$106,388.

The Finance, Audit and Risk Management (FARM) Committee of the COTA Board continued its role to oversee organisational finances and risk management processes. This committee has met regularly throughout the year and reported to the Board in finance and risk matters as required. The FARM committee requested the Auditor to specifically review and comment on internal controls within the organisations financial system as an adjunct to last year's audit process. The Auditor's report noted that the asset control and financial processing within COTA Tasmania are sound and no system improvements are required.

Reporting obligations have been met and project acquittals finalised as required throughout the year. Unspent grant income relates to projects that extend beyond the end of the financial year. These funds will be fully expended as projects are concluded.

Michael Walpole
Treasurer

In memory

VALE MALCOLM GRANT

One of our longest serving volunteers and a true gentleman, Malcolm will be forever remembered by those who knew him. He was an impeccable public speaker, private joker, a master teacher, a bushman and a leader. Malcolm could drum up momentum on any issue he had a passion for; no matter the obstacle he got the job done. We are privileged to have shared his knowledge and insight.

VALE MOLLIE-CAMPBELL SMITH

In July we farewelled an amazing lady. Aged 98, Mollie continued to be active in the community volunteering for over 35 organisations. Mollie was known as one of the norths most active and energetic lobbyists; when Mollie spoke people listened. Mollie believed that age was meaningless and was a strong advocate for positive ageing. Mollie was and continues to be an inspiration to all of us.

VALE GREG HUNT

Greg's passing is a great loss to everyone at COTA, particularly the Southern Midlands COTA Champions. Greg was and will remain a hero of the Southern Midlands. He will be remembered as a true blue gentleman, clever, funny, kind and full of energy and enthusiasm in his role as Community Development & Recreational Officer at the Southern Midlands Council. Although Greg's time was short he achieved much and will be remembered as a beacon in the lives of all those who knew him.

Age has no reality except in the physical world. The essence of a human being is resistant to the passage of time. Our inner lives are eternal, which is to say that our spirits remain as youthful and vigorous as when we were in full bloom.

Gabriel García Márquez, *Love in the time of Cholera*



Highlights

When we speak, people listen.

Finding Out: Supporting Older People to Access the Right Information at the Right Time

Finding Out is a key project of the Tasmanian Government's *Inclusive Ageing: Tasmania 2012-2014 Strategy*, responding to Tasmania's ageing population. Over 600 Tasmanians, aged 60 years and over, were asked about their experiences when accessing information.

The report highlights that older Tasmanians experience significant barriers to getting the information that they need. COTA Tas led the research with focus groups and a mailed survey, because earlier research shows that many older, more isolated Tasmanians do not have a computer at home, let alone internet access.

The research found that only 6% of participants aged between 75 and 84 years used the internet to access information. An even smaller proportion, 4% of those aged over 85 relied on the internet. By contrast, for these same age groups 27% rely on doctors and pharmacies as their trusted sources of advice and information.

In reviewing the wealth of feedback from older Tasmanians, COTA Tas has come up with a range of easy to implement recommendations that focus on communication (written, verbal, online and phones) technology, physical settings and environments that invite social connection.

! The printed report

“The research shows that although there is frustration, there is also optimism that by adopting some simple solutions life will be made significantly easier – older people will be better informed, maintain independence and be more socially connected.”



Social media

22,368
people reached

COTA Tas communicates with members and stakeholders through a range of traditional and social media. This year we set targets to increase our social media profile and exceeded our early goals.

54
shares

! A couple of Facebook examples

10,700
organic reach

EVERYONE HAS A
RIGHT TO BE SAFE
AND TO BE TREATED
WITH DIGNITY AND
RESPECT

40 likes 179 shares



COTA (Council On The Ageing) Tasmania

October 16, 2014 ·

Longtime player and squash stalwart John Harding enjoyed welcoming new players to Gentle Squash - the increasingly popular variation of the traditional squash game. As the name suggests it's gentler, slower, and uses larger, softer balls. There are 479 Twitter followers and 484 Facebook likes at the Eastside Squash Centre in Bellerive - tomorrow (Friday) and Sunday.

479
Twitter followers

484
Facebook likes



! Sue Leitch, CEO, speaking to volunteers and stakeholders at the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day event at Parliament House

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

COTA Tasmania acknowledged World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) in June with events in three major locations around the state.

In Hobart, Tasmania's Parliament House was bathed in purple light – the internationally recognised colour for raising awareness of elder abuse – and the accompanying message Elder Abuse is not Okay. The Launceston Town Hall and the Makers Workshop in Burnie were also lit purple with the accompanying message.

Extensive media coverage was achieved in addition to the high visibility of the message in local communities over a week in June.

Supporters in Burnie and Hobart joined in the inaugural *Stand Up: Walk Against Elder Abuse*. Parliamentarians joined community supporters in wearing special WEAAD ribbons in the lead up to the events.

Three public workshops were held around the WEAAD theme. COTA collaborated with the City Councils of Hobart,

Launceston and Burnie to facilitate *Taking Control: Legal Matters and Ageing* workshops, which provided information on Powers of Attorney, Enduring Guardians, Advanced Care Directives and recognising and protecting against elder abuse.

These sessions were also supported by the Legal Aid Commission, Advocacy Tasmania, the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission and the Tasmanian Association of Hospice and Palliative Care.



Ageing in Whose Place?

COTA TAS identified housing as a key area of focus for 2014. Research suggests that older people are at highest risk of homelessness when they are renting in the private market and do not own their own home.

We know that pensioners experience higher levels of housing stress in the private market than do homeowners, or people

living in public housing. Despite these trends, there is little research about older Tasmanians' experiences of renting in the private market.

Through the *Ageing in Whose Place?* project COTA conducted nine in-depth interviews with individuals and couples aged over 60 years and currently living in a privately rented home.

The report addresses key questions such as the reasons for older people renting, security of tenure, the cost of renting, relationships between landlords, real estate agents and tenants and provides some observations about the benefits of older tenants.

A copy of the report can be found on the COTA Tasmania website.

“ At my age I am very marketable. That is the impression I have. Because the elderly are not going to want to move too much, you're not going to get drunk and you probably don't do drugs.. ”

— (74 year old, single woman)

We reflect the diversity of the community.



Encourage diversity

Over 50 volunteers located across the state representing the south, north, north-west and east coast of Tasmania ranging in age from 37 to 91 years.

! Left to right: CEO Sue Leitch with Major Michael Wright from the Salvation Army, and Damien Kelly from the ACCC



Increase membership

Following a targeted membership drive we were able to increase organisational membership by 31.4% from the previous financial year.



Susan Ryan Roundtables

In November 2014 COTA coordinated two roundtable discussions with the Hon Susan Ryan AO. Facilitated by Robin Banks, Tasmania's Anti-Discrimination Commissioner, discussions were based around Age Discrimination and Disability Discrimination and gave sector representatives the chance to share information and key issues in these areas.

“ We are living through a massive demographic change yet community attitudes, employer practices and business strategies seem to ignore where we are now. ” – Commissioner Ryan

COTA TAS would like to acknowledge the support of the Hon Elise Archer, Speaker of the House of Assembly in hosting these events.



Community engagement

COTA Tas has been actively listening to the views and opinions of older Tasmanians through a range of face-to-face, community based conversations, focus groups, phone calls, surveys and online mechanisms throughout the year.

! Dr Alexandre Kalache (centre), presentation on Age-friendly Communities



Way to Go forums

COTA Tasmania successfully applied for funding from the Tasmanian Association of Hospice and Palliative Care (TAHPC) to hold a community forum in the south of the state on palliative care and end of life planning.

The event, held at Elizabeth St Food and Wine Co, was fully attended with participants hearing from Clinical Nurse Educator Sally Bonde and TAHPC's Jenny Fuller.

! Way to Go forum, Hobart



A Day on the Green

With the fantastic support of *The Senior* newspaper, together with the encouragement of the Grandparents raising Grandchildren Support Group, COTA Tas arranged an inter-generational fun day – *A Day on the Green* – to celebrate the launch of Seniors Week 2014.

An estimated 150 people attended the three hour open air event at Hobart's C3 Convention Centre and enjoyed the array of inter-generational activities and information exhibits on the beautiful lawns of South Hobart.

! It's on for young and old...a day on the green Seniors Week Launch

We are effective and enduring in all that we do.

Building governance

GOVERNANCE OVERSIGHT

- Strategic Plan Implementation
- Board Sub-Committees

GOVERNANCE TRAINING

COTA CEO Sue Leitch, a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD), completed the AICD Company Directors' course in August 2014 and was presented with her certificate at an AICD event in December 2014. The course enhanced Sue's skills in the area of compliance, financial performance, risk management and general governance.

Australians over the age of 50 are responsible for half of all donations to charity while those aged over 65 make the highest average donations.

Pro Bono Australia

Increasing sustainability

As part of our efforts to build new partnerships with the corporate sector, this year saw the development of a Sponsor and Partner Prospectus.

The prospectus is designed to introduce COTA Tasmania, outline our role and activities and summarise the issues facing older Tasmanians.

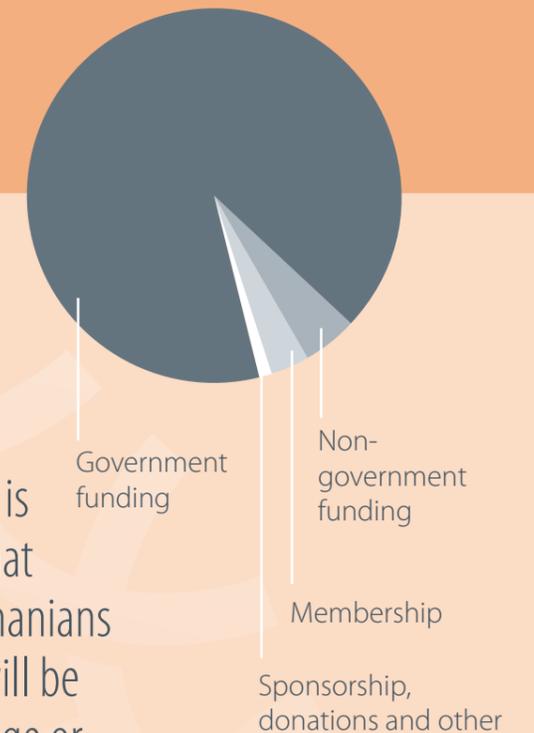
The document also presents a range of partnering opportunities as a basis for further discussion.

The prospectus will be a major tool going forward to increase sponsorship and diversify our revenue base.

! COTA Tas Sponsor and Partner Prospectus
Image: Winged Gem
by Carol Shelkin
(carolshelkinmosaics.com)

“By 2030 it is estimated that 43% of Tasmanians (241,280) will be 50 years of age or over and 25% of Tasmanians will be over 65 years old (approx 140,000).”

Sources of income for 2014/15



Projects

Policy, Consultation and Advocacy

- Funding partners:**
Department of Social Services
Department of Premier & Cabinet
- COTA has been active in responding to inquiries during the year:
- Submission to Dept of State Growth *Population Discussion Paper*.
 - Submission to the Dept of Health *One State, One Health System, Better Outcomes: Green Paper*.
 - Submission to the Dept of Health *One State, One Health System, Better Outcomes: Delivering Safe and Sustainable Clinical Services, White Paper Exposure Draft*.
 - Submission to the *Parliament of Tasmania Joint Select Committee Preventative Health Care Inquiry*.
 - Submission to the *Revisiting the Tasmanian Palliative Care Model of Service Delivery Discussion Paper*.
 - Submission to the *2015-16 State Budget Community Consultation*.
- In addition COTA:
- Researched and prepared the *Ageing in Whose Place* report that captured the lived experience of older people in the private rental market.
 - Participated in the *Caring Voices Project* reference group conducted by Mental Health Carers Tasmania that captured experiences of mental health carers.
 - Conducted and evaluated participant feedback on palliative care and end-of-life planning at the *Way To Go Forum* held in Hobart.
 - Supported the Older Persons Reference Group in Launceston to conduct a community forum on Home Care packages attended by 150 participants and contributed to the preparation of a submission to the Dept of Social Services on the findings from the event.
 - Conducted an annual Stakeholder Survey.
- Presentations:
- Conference paper entitled *Preventing Financial Elder Abuse through Peer Education* presented by Sue Leitch at the Australian Association of Gerontology (AAG) National conference in Adelaide.
 - Conference paper entitled *Finding Out or Dropping Out? The information needs of older Tasmanians* presented by Soula Houndalas at the TasCOSS conference.
 - Conference paper entitled *Tasmania: Age Friendly for Renters?* Presented by Deb Lewis and Cynthia Townley (Shelter Tasmania) at the Australasian Housing Researcher's Conference.
 - Presentation to the Stats Link Network entitled *Facing the Future... Together* based on a demographic profile of older Tasmanians.

Peer Education – Consumer Directed Care

- Funding partner:**
Department of Social Services
- 28 Sessions were delivered across Tasmania in the period 2014/15 underlining the importance of the shift from traditional and person centred care to the principles of consumer directed care.
 - A roll out of Peer Education training in the north will enable more sessions to be delivered state-wide over the coming year.

Peer Education – You're Worth It

- Funding partner:**
Department of Health and Human Services
- You're Worth It* continued to build on the successes of the past with 30 sessions being delivered to community groups statewide.
 - Planning is currently underway to extend the program into other areas of identified Elder Abuse.

Peer Education – Wake Up! Home Fire Safety

- Funding partner:**
Tasmanian Fire Service
- The importance of Home Fire Safety for older Australians was again in evidence with 21 community Peer Education sessions being delivered across the State.
 - Current discussion with the Tasmanian Fire Service indicates that there is a possibility that the program will again be delivered in the winter of 2016.

Inclusive Ageing – Demographic Profile

- Funding partner:**
Department of Premier & Cabinet
- Further fact sheets produced based on statistical findings *Life's Basics and Accessibility*.

Inclusive Ageing – Finding Out

- Funding partner:**
Department of Premier & Cabinet
- Over 600 older Tasmanians surveyed to "find out" their issues and experiences around accessing the right information at the right time.
 - Report and poster style fact sheet produced.
 - Governments, policy makers and businesses now have access to a matrix of current challenges faced by older people when seeking information.
 - To overcome current challenges, the report draws on the 'voices' contained in the research, and makes a range of many practical, easy to implement recommendations.

Inclusive Ageing – Supporting Resourcefulness: Living Affordability

Funding partner: Department of Premier & Cabinet

This project, aimed at assisting older Tasmanians to live more resourcefully, was completed in April 2015.

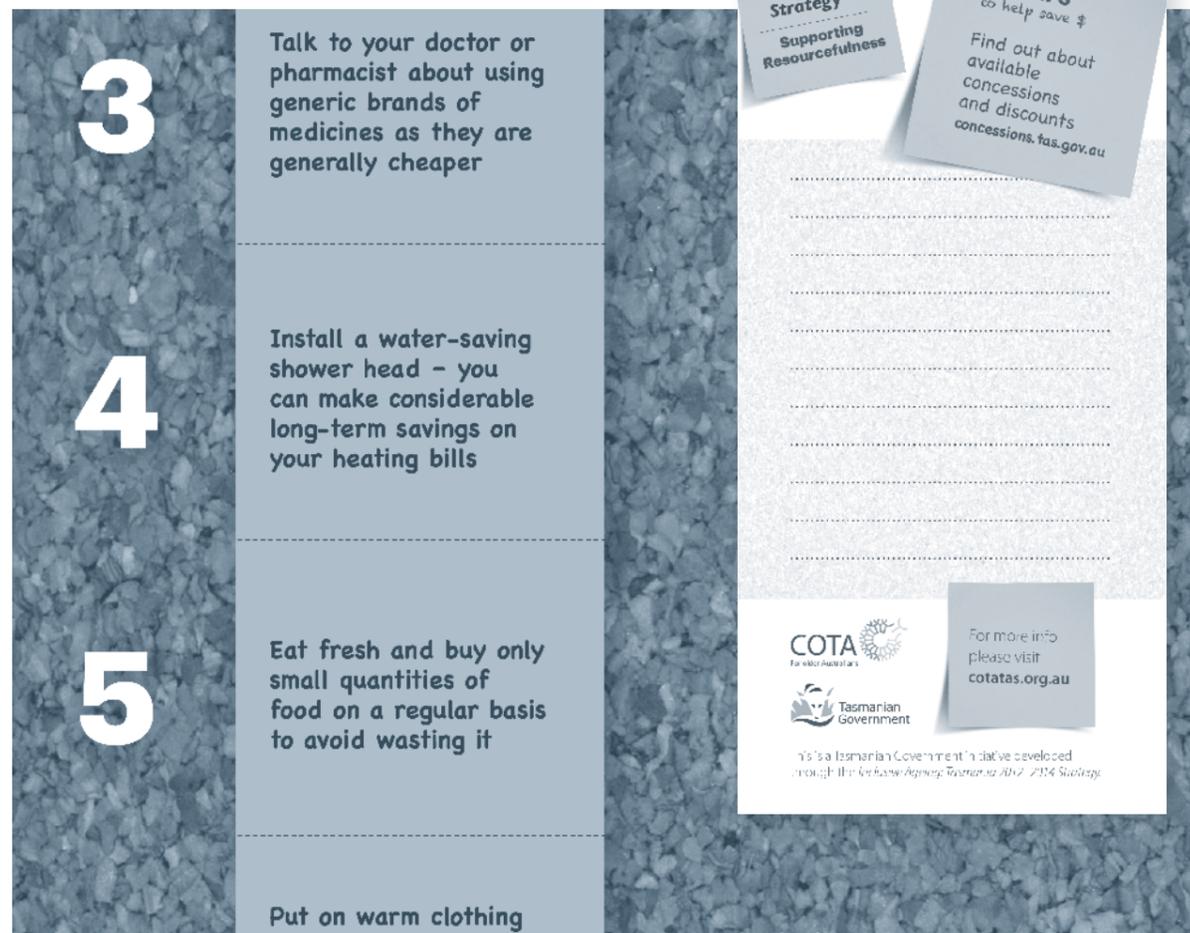
The key output for this project was a magnetised fridge pad with a cycle of ten resourcefulness tips on the sheets.

Inclusive Ageing – Engaging in Different Ways: Voluntary Contributions

Funding partner: Department of Premier & Cabinet

- Project completed and launched in June 2015.
- A literature review and report was produced.
- 4 short videos and associated glossy posters were produced and distributed about older volunteers.

Supporting Resourcefulness pull up banner (detail) and fridge pad (each page had a different tip)



Inclusive Ageing – Age-friendly Communities

Funding partner: Department of Premier & Cabinet

The Age-friendly Communities project commenced in May 2014. This is the major, remaining project under the Inclusive Ageing banner.

The aim of the project is to work with those local councils across Tasmania who express an interest in working towards making their communities age-friendly.

To date COTA has delivered the following outputs:

- Local Government Organisations across Tasmania have been surveyed to measure the level of knowledge about the Age-friendly Communities concept, specifically the World Health Organisation model.
- Three regional workshops were conducted in November to impart information about the Age-friendly Communities concept.
- Age-friendly hints, tips and information is being sent out across different mediums: Facebook page and newsletter.
- A communications plan has been developed for the project.
- COTA has presented at the North West Community Development Officers (CDO) meeting in Burnie.
- We are currently working with the CDO Burnie on their initiative to make Burnie an age-friendly community.
- Establishment of a Tasmanian Age-friendly Community Network.

Future plans for this very important Tasmanian initiative include:

- Forums to be delivered statewide on aspects of age-friendly communities such as community engagement and liveable communities.
- Opportunities for training in this space; and increased interaction between COTA and Local Government Organisations

Inclusive Ageing – Workplace Participation

Funding partner: Department of Premier & Cabinet

Project scoping has commenced.

Senior's Week 2014

- Funding partner:** Department of Premier & Cabinet
- For the first time in its 17 year history, the Seniors Week date was moved back two weeks to accommodate the 4 term Tasmanian school holidays.
 - 25 000 Seniors Week programs were printed and distributed statewide.
 - 455 events were held by 144 organisers. A slight increase in events from 2013.
 - 57.8% of participants took part in events they had not previously engaged in.
 - The launch event *"It's on for young and old...a day on the green"* celebrated the intergenerational theme with an estimated 150 attendees including up to four generations of families.
-

Conversations with our Community

- Funding partner:** Department of Social Services
- Participation in 3 major "Seniors" and "Age Well" Expos. COTA volunteers and staff listening to and recording the experiences and questions of older Tasmanians. Events were focused on "conversations" about Consumer Directed Care.
 - Design of, and participation in, focus groups to develop a profile on how older Tasmanians access information. 67 participants across the state. COTA Champions also drew on the feedback to help refine the survey which was then distributed to over 2000 Tasmanians.
 - Planning and preparation for the delivery of forums to support recent changes to aged care arrangements. Multiple speakers organised for "Staying At Home and Staying Connected" community forums.
-

Elder Abuse Prevention

- Funding partner:** Department of Health and Human Services
- COTA TAS took over coordination of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day events for the first time.
 - 'Stand Up and Walk Against Elder Abuse' walks were held in Hobart and Burnie on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Approximately 30 people participating in each including Hobart Mayor, Sue Hickey.
 - Parliament House Hobart, Town Hall Launceston and the Makers Workshop Burnie were all lit purple to acknowledge World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on Monday 15 June 2015. The words 'Elder Abuse Is Not Okay' were projected onto the buildings along with the Elder Abuse helpline number.
 - A formal event was held at Parliament House on the evening of Monday 15 June and was attended by Madame Speaker, Elise Archer, and the Minister for Human Services Jacquie Petrusma. Over 30 people attended representing the community sector, Government and business community.
 - 'Taking Control: Legal Matters and Ageing' workshops were held in Hobart, Launceston and Burnie with guest speakers from Advocacy Tasmania, Legal Aid and the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission.
-

Events – Way to Go Forum

- Funding partner:** TAHPC
- COTA TAS successfully applied for funding from the Tasmanian Association of Hospice and Palliative Care to hold a one off event informing people about end of life planning and advance care directives.
 - The event was fully subscribed with approximately 15 people placed on a waiting list.
 - The evaluation is currently underway but based on survey results after attending this forum just under 73% of people would complete an advance care directive compared with just over 16% prior to the forum.
 - Based on the success of this event plans are in place for a similar event in the north and north west of the state.
-

Tasmanian Policy Council

- Funding partners:** Department of Social Services
Department of Premier & Cabinet
- Participated in National Policy Council discussion in November and May.
 - Partnered with Shelter Tasmania, TasCOSS and Anglicare to examine the needs of older Tasmanians for affordable housing and in the private rental market in particular.
 - Produced the *Ageing in Whose Place* Report
 - Facilitated a working group on climate change and prepared a position statement on the impact of climate change for consideration by the National Policy Council.
 - Consolidated information on the provisions within workers compensation legislation across Australia as they relate to the over 65 age group.
 - Contributed to a number of COTA Australia submissions including those on Taxation, and the Inquiry into the streamlining of the Future of Financial Advice Bill.
 - Acknowledged the retirement of John Mackean, Penny Saile, Peter Nute and Di Carter from the Tasmanian Policy Council.
-

! Sally Bonde (left) and Jenny Fuller speak with guests at the Hobart Way to Go forum



! Sing Australia performing at the 2014 Seniors Week launch at C3 Convention Centre



COTA TAS Inc Financial Statements 2014/15

Statement by Members of the Board



COTA
For older Australians

COTA TAS
"Westella" 181 Elizabeth Street
Hobart TAS 7000

www.cotatas.org.au
ABN 71 718 804 307

P.O. 31 6251 3265
Fax 03) 6254 3515
admin@cotatas.org.au

denis.hale@bigpond.com;

Financial Year Ending 30th June 2015

Statement by Members of the Board

In the opinion of the Board the consolidated balance sheet, profit and loss statement and the notes to the financial statements:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of the Council of the Ageing (Tasmania) Inc as at 30th June 2015 and its performance of the year ended on that date in accordance with Note 1 accounting policies.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds that the Council of the Ageing (Tasmania) Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:

President *Alwyn Friedersdorff*
Alwyn Friedersdorff

Treasurer *Mike Walpole*
Mike Walpole

Dated this 7th day of October 2015.

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2015

| Council on the Ageing (Tasmania) Incorporated | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2015 | 2015 | 2014 |
| Current Assets | | |
| Cash at Bank, on Hand | 26,280 | 14,194 |
| GST Due from ATO | 8,439 | 5,146 |
| Petty Cash | 100 | 100 |
| Term Deposits | 209,084 | 166,429 |
| Receivables | 11,832 | 8,645 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | 255,734 | 194,515 |
| NON CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Computers at Cost | 15,934 | 15,934 |
| Deduct Provision Depreciation | -8,391 | -6,769 |
| Furniture, Fittings at Cost | 306 | 306 |
| Deduct Provision Depreciation | -228 | -210 |
| Office Equipment at Cost | 3,448 | 3,448 |
| Deduct Provision Depreciation | -3,051 | -2,948 |
| Motor Vehicles at Cost | 31,569 | 31,569 |
| Deduct Provision Depreciation | -8,442 | -5,873 |
| TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS | 31,144 | 35,457 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 286,878 | 229,972 |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Payroll Liabilities | 4,799 | 10,522 |
| Provision Employee Entitlements | 23,412 | 21,393 |
| GST Due to ATO | 14,591 | 4,228 |
| Unexpended Project Funds | 137,688 | 87,496 |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | 180,490 | 123,638 |
| NET ASSETS | 106,388 | 106,333 |
| EQUITY | | |
| Accumulated Funds Brought Forward | 106,333 | 155,195 |
| Current Year Surplus (- Deficit) | 55 | -48,862 |
| TOTAL EQUITY | 106,388 | 106,333 |

Income and Expenditure Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2015

Council on the Ageing (Tasmania) Incorporated

Income Statement for year ended 30 June 2015

| | 2015 | 2014 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| INCOME | | |
| Insurance Royalties | 4,918 | 5,150 |
| Advertising Revenue | 5,682 | 0 |
| Administration Services | 130,125 | 121,129 |
| Grants Funds: | | |
| BB Funding | 872 | 15,690 |
| COTA NSW Cybersecurity | 2,924 | 1,878 |
| CDC Funding | 9,310 | |
| DHHS | 60,451 | 18,117 |
| DPAC - General | 341,366 | 342,536 |
| HACC | 117,163 | 118,201 |
| Caring Voices Project | 18,160 | 0 |
| Tas Fire Service | 9,847 | 9,505 |
| Interest | 4,660 | 6,055 |
| Sundry Income | 2,105 | 178 |
| Membership | 5,854 | 5,041 |
| Sponsorship | 1,500 | 10,682 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 714,936 | 654,161 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Advertising, Promotion | 74,405 | 53,511 |
| Audit, Accounting | 2,000 | 2,100 |
| Bank Fees | 437 | 451 |
| Board, Other Conference Expenses | 5,088 | 6,813 |
| Cleaning | 3,975 | 3,825 |
| Consultancies | 27,821 | 25,229 |
| COTA National, Australia Levy | 14,516 | 16,872 |
| Depreciation | 4,313 | 4,781 |
| Electricity | 3,509 | 3,794 |
| Employee Entitlements | 24,053 | 27,235 |
| Equipment | 1,653 | 581 |
| Fringe Benefits Tax | 3,715 | 3,640 |
| Individual membership | 2,234 | 2,547 |
| Insurance | 7,141 | 8,503 |
| IT Contract | 2,612 | 2,696 |
| Meeting Expenses | 4,755 | 4,277 |
| Motor Vehicle | 5,426 | 5,457 |
| Photocopier, Printing | 9,273 | 10,203 |
| Postage | 1,904 | 1,930 |
| Projects | 138,765 | 120,129 |
| Rent | 34,090 | 28,113 |
| Salaries | 289,926 | 310,279 |
| Staff Benefits, Development, Recruitment | 6,742 | 7,534 |
| Subscriptions | 3,131 | 3,525 |
| Sundry Expenses | 240 | 1,588 |
| Superannuation | 29,284 | 30,007 |
| Telephonic, Facsimile, Internet | 5,762 | 5,190 |
| Volunteer Expenses | 6,056 | 11,517 |
| Website | 2,054 | 699 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 714,881 | 703,023 |
| Net Operating Profit (- Loss) for year | 55 | -48,862 |

Notes Forming Part of the Accounts for the Year Ending 30 June 2015

Council on the Ageing (Tasmania) Incorporated

Notes to and Forming Part of the Accounts for year ended 30 June 2015

1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Accounting

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial report preparation requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (TAS). The Members of the Council have determined that the Council on the Ageing Incorporated is not a reporting entity.

The report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act (TAS) and the following applicable Accounting Standards

AASB 1031: Materiality

AASB 110: Events After the Balance Sheet Date

No other applicable Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period, unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this report.

(b) Changes in Accounting Policies

Accounting policies adopted are consistent with prior years.

(c) Principle Activities

The Principal continuing activity of the Council during the financial year has been to provide information and support for the Ageing in Tasmania.

(d) Income Tax

The company is exempt from income tax under the current provisions of the Income Tax Assessment Act and accordingly no expense has been charged or liability included in the accounts with respect to income tax.

(e) Plant & Equipment

Plant and equipment are brought to account at cost.

The gain or loss on disposal of all fixed assets is determined as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of disposal and the proceeds from disposal, and is included in net profit of the company in the period of disposal.

The depreciable amounts of all fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Items of property plant and equipment other than freehold land are depreciated over their estimated useful lives using the straight line method of depreciation.

(f) Employee Entitlements

Provision is made for employee entitlement benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date.

The amount provided in the financial statements for the payment of employee leave entitlements are included as current liabilities to the extent of the amount expected to be paid out within twelve months. Amounts not expected to be paid out within twelve months of balance date are treated as long term liabilities.

Contributions are made by the Association to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred. The Association has no legal obligation to cover any shortfall in the funds obligation to provide benefits to employees on retirement.

(g) Revenue

Revenue from the provision of services is recognised upon the delivery of those services to customers. Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST).

(h) Investments

Investments are valued at cost, and interest is accrued on a daily basis.

Independent Auditor's Report

Max Peck and Associates ABN 40 322 767 816

Principal: Rendell W Ridge B.Sc Registered Company Auditor #161503

Independent auditor's report to members of the Council on the Ageing (Tasmania) Inc

I have audited the special purpose financial report of the Council on the Ageing (Tasmania) Inc for the year ended 30 June 2015.

Management Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Management Committee is responsible for preparation and fair presentation of the special purpose financial report and information contained therein. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. I have conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the accounts are free of material misstatement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting amounts and other disclosures in the accounts, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Concepts and Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements (Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views) (where applicable), and statutory requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Association's financial position and the results of its operations and cash flows.

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

Independence

To the best of my knowledge and belief, there has been no contravention of auditor independence and any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Limitation of Scope

It is not practicable to establish complete accounting control over all transactions processed by the Association from all of its activities. Verification therefore has been limited to the transactions recorded in the Association's financial records.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the special purpose financial report of the Council on the Ageing (Tasmania) Inc presents fairly in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia the financial position of the Association as at 30 June 2015 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

MAX PECK & ASSOCIATES



Rendell W. RIDGE
21 September 2015

Office Westfield, 181 Elizabeth Street, Hobart 7000
Telephone 03 6234 9267 Mobile 0419 588 575

Postal address P.O. Box 680, Sandy Bay, Tasmania 7006
Fax 03 6231 4967 Email rwrIDGE@maxpeckassoc.com

Our future

The future of our organisation and our longevity as a peak is reliant on funding, both government and non-government. There are many ways you can support COTA – by volunteering, sponsoring an event or program or by making a tax deductible donation or bequest. When you support COTA you fund research, education and events that improve the lives of older people living in Tasmania.

Your donation does make a difference.



COTA TAS Inc

"Westella"

181 Elizabeth St

Hobart TAS 7000

P: (03) 6231 3265

E: admin@cotatas.org.au

www.cotatas.org.au