



open hearts  
open minds  
open doors

SEVILLE COMMUNITY GROUP  
INC.

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

---

2023/2024



SEVILLE COMMUNITIES GROUP  
INC. IS REGISTERED WITH THE  
AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND  
NOT FOR PROFITS COMMISSION  
(ACNC)

[WWW.SEVERILCOMMHOUSE.ORG.AU](http://WWW.SEVERILCOMMHOUSE.ORG.AU)



open hearts  
open minds  
open doors

SEVILLE COMMUNITY GROUP INC  
8 RAILWAY ROAD SEVILLE VIC 3139  
INC: A 0004911K  
ABN: 60641289309



SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE  
PROGRAMS ARE SUPPORTED BY THE  
VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT



SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE  
ACKNOWLEDGE THE GENEROUS  
SUPPORT OF YARRA RANGES  
COUNCIL

[WWW.SEVILLECOMMHOUSE.ORG.AU](http://WWW.SEVILLECOMMHOUSE.ORG.AU)



---

## OUR MISSION, VISION AND PURPOSE

---

AT SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE, OUR COMMITMENT TO FOSTERING A STRONGER, MORE CONNECTED COMMUNITY IS GROUNDED IN OUR VISION, MISSION, AND PURPOSE. OUR VISION IS THAT NO ONE IN OUR COMMUNITY WILL FEEL ISOLATED, ALIENATED, OR UNABLE TO SEEK ASSISTANCE. GUIDED BY OUR MISSION TO PROVIDE A PLACE FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY TO COME TOGETHER TO SUSTAIN AND ENRICH THEIR LIVES, WE HAVE FOCUSED ON INITIATIVES THAT ADDRESS THE MOST PRESSING NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY.

OUR PURPOSE IS TO ADVANCE SOCIAL AND PUBLIC WELFARE BY PROVIDING ACCESSIBLE AND LOW-COST ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, AND CLASSES DESIGNED TO REDUCE SOCIAL ISOLATION AND INCREASE SOCIAL CONNECTION. BY OFFERING WELFARE SUPPORT TO THOSE IN NEED, WE ENSURE THAT EVERYONE IN OUR COMMUNITY HAS A SPACE TO BELONG. WE ALSO ADVANCE HEALTH BY PROMOTING PUBLIC HEALTH AND OFFERING REFERRALS IN KEY AREAS SUCH AS MEN'S HEALTH, WOMEN'S HEALTH, AND MENTAL HEALTH. OUR GOAL IS TO MEET THE HEALTH NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH TARGETED PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES. ADDITIONALLY, WE ADVANCE EDUCATION BY DELIVERING AFFORDABLE AND INCLUSIVE EDUCATIONAL AND VOCATIONAL CLASSES, COVERING A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS FROM ARTS TO WELLBEING AND HEALTH MATTERS. OUR AIM IS TO EQUIP COMMUNITY MEMBERS WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS THEY NEED TO THRIVE.

AS WE CONTINUE TO BUILD ON THESE FOUNDATIONS, SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE REMAINS DEDICATED TO CREATING A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT WHERE ALL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY CAN CONNECT, LEARN, AND GROW.

---

# CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

---

THE PAST YEAR HAS BEEN ONE OF CHANGE, BUT I AM PLEASED TO SAY THAT WE HAVE COME THROUGH IT IN GOOD SHAPE.

WE FAREWELLED SEVERAL HIGHLY REGARDED STAFF AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- VICKI HARRISON, MANAGER OF SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE FOR 10 YEARS, RETIRED IN APRIL 2024 AND WE THANK HER FOR HER TIRELESS WORK, FOR ALL THAT SHE HAS ACHIEVED FOR THE HOUSE AND THE COMMUNITY AND FOR KEEPING THE HOUSE GOING DURING THE COVID YEARS.
- KEIRA COWELL, THE CHAIRPERSON OF SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE FOR OVER 8 YEARS AND WHO IS A HARD ACT TO FOLLOW, RETIRED IN MARCH 2024. KEIRA'S LEADERSHIP ON THE COMMITTEE AND HER OTHER VOLUNTEER WORK AT THE HOUSE, INCLUDING ADMINISTRATION, ASSISTANCE AT THE MONTHLY COMMUNITY LUNCHESES AND MARKET AND MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS HER SUPPORT TO VICKI, WAS INVALUABLE.
- JUDITH LIGHTFOOT, WHO WAS ON THE COMMITTEE FOR 5 YEARS, RETIRED IN APRIL 2024. JUDITH WAS ALWAYS PREPARED TO ASSIST WHERE NEEDED, INCLUDING THE MONTHLY COMMUNITY LUNCHESES AND MARKETS, TALKING CAFÉ AND IN PROMOTING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE HOUSE.
- NICOLE SHORE DESERVES A SPECIAL MENTION AS SHE HAS BEEN AN INTEGRAL PART OF SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE AS A STAFF AND COMMITTEE MEMBER FROM 2009 TO 2024. WE THANK HER FOR HER COMMITMENT AND OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION.
- ELIZABETH MERCURI, WHO STARTED AS THE TREASURER OF THE COMMITTEE IN 2022 AND THEN TOOK OVER NICOLE'S POSITION AS FINANCE OFFICER AND WE THANK HER FOR HER CONTRIBUTION.

WE WELCOMED OUR NEW MANAGER, STACIE ADAMS, WHOSE ENTHUSIASM, ENERGY AND INTEREST IN BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY IS SETTING A POSITIVE PATH FOR THE COMMUNITY HOUSE. STACIE IS ABLY ASSISTED BY MERRY AULDIST. DURING THE YEAR WE GAINED NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- LYNNE GWYNNE, WHO ALSO DOES THE CATERING FOR OUR MONTHLY COMMUNITY LUNCHESES AND THEY ARE AMAZING
- BARBARA MCNEILL, WHO ASSISTS LYNNE WITH THE COMMUNITY LUNCHESES
- TONY REGA, WHO DOES THE GARDENING AND ANY ODD JOBS
- ERIC WOOD, WHO HAS TAKEN ON THE ROLE OF TREASURER
- BRIDIE MILLER, WHO HAS TAKEN ON THE ROLE OF COMMITTEE SECRETARY
- KEVIN SHEEHAN
- ALEXIS PAGE

SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST YEAR FOR THE COMMITTEE WERE:

- UPDATING THE ASSOCIATION RULES
- RECRUITING THE NEW MANAGER
- TAKING OVER THE MANAGEMENT OF THE SEVILLE PUBLIC HALL- WITHOUT THE HARD WORK OF VICKI, KEIRA AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE HALL COMMITTEE THIS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED.
- PARTICIPATION IN DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED SEVILLE PAVILION COMMUNITY HUB WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE LOCAL SPORTING CLUBS AND THE COMMUNITY HOUSE.

THANKYOU TO MARIA BOYD, WHO JOINED THE COMMITTEE IN 2022 AND IS OUR DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON. MARIA HAS WORKED TIRELESSLY TO PROMOTE THE ACTIVITIES OF SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE AND RECRUIT NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

ANNE KEAN  
CHAIRPERSON

---

# MANAGERS REPORT

---

2023 WAS A REMARKABLE YEAR FOR SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE, MARKED BY SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS AND THE DEDICATION OF OUR TEAM. THE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE SURVEY 2023 HIGHLIGHTS THAT WE PROVIDED ALMOST \$300,000 WORTH OF VALUE TO OUR COMMUNITY, AN IMPRESSIVE FEAT GIVEN OUR GROSS INCOME OF \$147,000. THIS ACCOMPLISHMENT REFLECTS THE TIRELESS EFFORTS OF OUR PREVIOUS MANAGER, VICKI. WE ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR HER LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINING OUR PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

SINCE I JOINED IN MARCH, MY FOCUS HAS BEEN ON STABILIZING OUR STAFFING AND SUPPORTING THE COMMITTEE TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE PROCESSES AND SYSTEMS ARE IN PLACE AS WE PREPARE FOR GROWTH. THIS INCLUDES OVERSEEING OUR NEW ROLE AS LEASEHOLDERS AND MANAGERS OF THE PUBLIC HALL, SECURING FUNDING FOR OUR FIRST PROJECT—CARERS DAY IN JULY—AND COLLABORATING WITH THE SEVILLE PAVILION REFERENCE GROUP ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PREMISES FOR THE COMMUNITY HOUSE. THESE INITIATIVES ARE PAVING THE WAY FOR US TO BECOME A CENTRAL COMMUNITY HUB.

LOOKING AHEAD, WE HAVE AMBITIOUS PLANS FOR THE COMING YEAR. WE WILL BE CONDUCTING A COMPREHENSIVE NEEDS ASSESSMENT TO IDENTIFY FURTHER COMMUNITY NEEDS AND EXPLORING NEW OPPORTUNITIES. WE HAVE SUBMITTED SEVERAL FUNDING PROPOSALS TO EXPAND OUR PROGRAM OFFERINGS AND ARE INVESTIGATING LARGER PROJECTS AND COLLABORATIVE VENTURES. ADDITIONALLY, WE ARE FOCUSED ON ATTRACTING VOLUNTEERS AND SETTING SUSTAINABILITY GOALS TO ENSURE OUR CONTINUED IMPACT AND GROWTH.

I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO THE COMMITTEE FOR THEIR INVALUABLE SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE AS I NAVIGATE MY NEW ROLE. YOUR ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN CRUCIAL IN MY LEARNING PROCESS. A SPECIAL THANKS TO MERRYN FOR ALWAYS BEING THERE TO LISTEN AND SHARE IDEAS. YOUR ENCOURAGEMENT AND INSIGHTS HAVE BEEN DEEPLY APPRECIATED.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS SUPPORTED SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE. YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE VITAL TO OUR MISSION OF ENRICHING AND SUSTAINING OUR COMMUNITY.

STACIE ADAMS  
MANAGER



# TREASURERS REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD: 1 JULY 2023 TO 30 JUNE 2024

IN FINANCIAL TERMS, WE CAN REPORT THAT THE SEVILLE COMMUNITY GROUP INC IS IN A SOUND FINANCIAL POSITION. THIS IS THANKS TO THE PREVIOUS TREASURER AND HOUSE MANAGER'S DILIGENT WORK IN MANAGING THE HOUSE'S FINANCES AND WE THANK THEM FOR THAT.

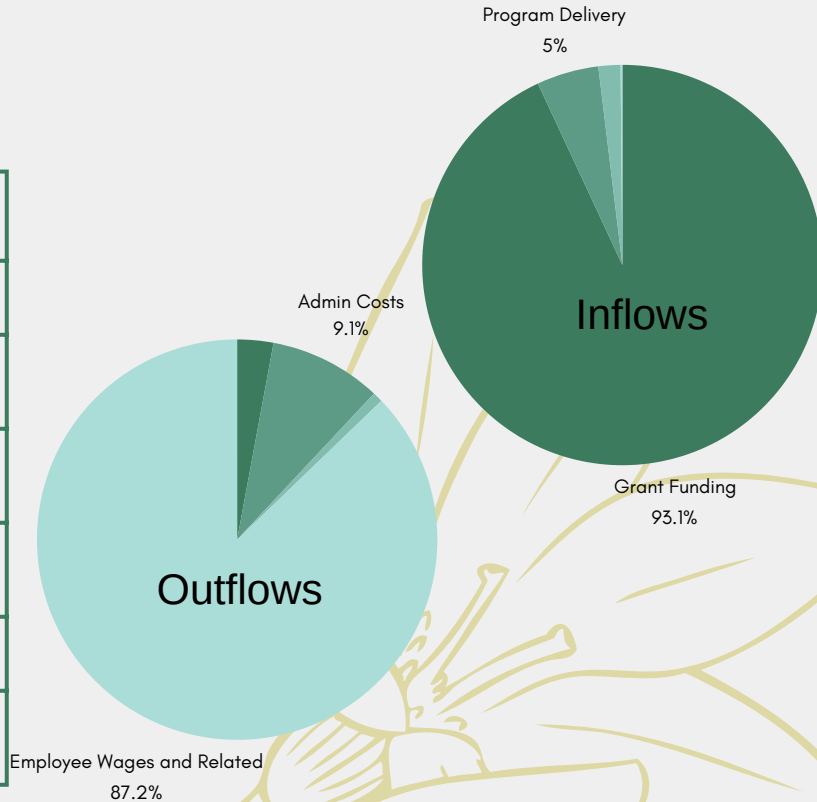
WE REPORT THAT SEVILLE COMMUNITY GROUP INC MADE A SURPLUS OF \$44,660 FOR THE 2024 FINANCIAL YEAR UP FROM \$10,899 THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

CASH HELD BY SEVILLE COMMUNITY GROUP INC DECREASED BY \$9,050 DURING THE YEAR FROM \$211,895 TO \$202,845. CASH INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS FOR THE YEAR WERE:

OPENING CASH BALANCE:  
\$211,895

CLOSING CASH BALANCE:  
\$202,845

INFLOWS:	OUTFLOWS:
GRANT FUNDING \$133,628	PROGRAM COSTS (\$5,260)
PROGRAM DELIVERY \$7,196	ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS (\$16,355)
FUNDRAISING & DONATIONS \$2,555	FUNDRAISING COSTS (\$1,481)
INTEREST RECEIVED \$4,613	EMPLOYEE WAGES & RELATED COSTS (\$134,156)
OTHER \$210	
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS \$148,202</b>	<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS (\$157,253)</b>



OTHER KEY ITEMS THAT ARE WORTHY OF HIGHLIGHTING ARE:

- THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE \$44,660 SURPLUS REPORTED IN THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT AND THE NET DECREASE IN CASH OF \$9,050 REPORTED IN THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FACTORS:
  - VICKI HARRISON'S FINAL PAY INCLUDING ANNUAL LEAVE AND LONG SERVICE LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS VS LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS ACCRUED
  - REIMBURSEMENT CLAIM FROM THE PORTABLE LONG SERVICE LEAVE AUTHORITY FOR VICKI'S LONG SERVICE LEAVE NOT RECEIVED UNTIL AFTER YEAR-END IN JULY 2024.
  - RECOGNITION OF GRANTS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS PREVIOUSLY BOOKED TO THE BALANCE SHEET THAT HAD NOW BEEN FULLY EXPENDED.
  - OUR MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME IS FUNDING FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILIES, FAIRNESS AND HOUSING (DFFH) AND YARRA RANGES COUNCIL. WITHOUT THIS FUNDING WE COULD NOT CONTINUE TO OPERATE. WE SUCCESSFULLY RENEWED OUR SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH DFFH ON 1 JULY 2024 FOR ANOTHER 4 YEARS ENSURING THIS FUNDING IS SECURED. OUR CURRENT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH YARRA RANGES COUNCIL IS IN EFFECT UNTIL 30 JUNE 2026.
  - WE HAVE ACCUMULATED SIGNIFICANT CASH RESERVES OVER THE YEARS AND THE COMMITTEE HAS DETERMINED THAT THE CURRENT CASH HELD IS IN EXCESS OF WHAT IS REQUIRED TO MEET OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS. AS SUCH THE COMMITTEE HAS APPROVED A BUDGET FOR THE 2024-2025 YEAR WHICH WILL SEE THE SURPLUS CASH INVESTED INTO NEW PROGRAMS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.
  - WE TOOK OVER THE LEASE FOR THE SEVILLE COMMUNITY HALL ON 15 MAY 2024 AFTER THE SEVILLE COMMUNITY HALL INC COMMITTEE WAS ABSOLVED. WE WILL NOW DIRECTLY MANAGE THE HALL AND BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL HALL MONIES RECEIVED. IN ADDITION WE RECEIVED THE BALANCE OF CASH HELD BY SEVILLE COMMUNITY HALL INC COMMITTEE AT THE TIME IT WAS ABSOLVED TOTTALLING \$28,324.40.
- FINALLY, THANK YOU TO LISA CRUNDEN, YOUR COMMUNITY BOOKKEEPER, FOR HER ONGOING FINANCIAL GUIDANCE, ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO US DURING OUR TIME OF GREAT CHANGE AND TO OUR AUDITOR, FREDERIK EKSTEEN, COLLINS AND CO. AUDIT PTY LTD, FOR OUR SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024.

---

# THIS YEAR

---

THIS YEAR AT SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE HAS BEEN ONE OF GROWTH, RESILIENCE, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT. WE HAVE EXPANDED OUR PROGRAMS TO MEET THE EVOLVING NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY, ENSURING THAT OUR OFFERINGS CONTINUE TO ALIGN WITH OUR MISSION TO SUSTAIN AND ENRICH THE LIVES OF EVERYONE WHO WALKS THROUGH OUR DOORS.

OUR COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION HAS REMAINED STEADFAST, WITH AN ARRAY OF AFFORDABLE AND INCLUSIVE CLASSES THAT CATER TO DIVERSE INTERESTS. FROM ARTS AND CRAFTS TO VOCATIONAL TRAINING, THESE PROGRAMS HAVE HELPED PARTICIPANTS DEVELOP NEW SKILLS, BOOST THEIR CONFIDENCE, AND PURSUE PERSONAL GROWTH. IN RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY FEEDBACK, WE BROUGHT BACK MESSY PLAY, WHICH HAS BEEN MET WITH ENTHUSIASM BY PARENTS AND CHILDREN ALIKE. OUR COMMUNITY LUNCHES CONTINUE TO BE A BIG HIT, OFFERING A WELCOMING SPACE FOR PEOPLE TO SHARE A MEAL AND CONNECT. PLAYGROUPS HAVE REMAINED STRONG, PROVIDING A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT WHERE BOTH KIDS AND PARENTS CAN INTERACT AND FORM BONDS. ADDITIONALLY, WE INTRODUCED CFA SESSIONS, GIVING COMMUNITY MEMBERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT WITH LOCAL FIREFIGHTERS AND LEARN ABOUT FIRE READINESS FOR THE UPCOMING SEASONS. OUR HOLIDAY PROGRAMS HAVE ALSO BEEN WELL ATTENDED, PROVIDING ENRICHING ACTIVITIES FOR PARTICIPANTS OF ALL AGES. ADDITIONALLY, WE HOSTED SOME FANTASTIC SESSIONS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BUNNINGS, WHICH ADDED EXTRA VALUE TO OUR OFFERINGS AND BROUGHT THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER FOR HANDS-ON LEARNING AND FUN.

AS WE LOOK BACK ON THE YEAR, WE ARE PROUD OF THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE AND THE IMPACT WE HAVE HAD ON THE LIVES OF SO MANY. OUR EFFORTS HAVE BEEN GUIDED BY OUR VISION OF A COMMUNITY WHERE NO ONE FEELS ISOLATED OR UNABLE TO SEEK HELP, AND WE ARE COMMITTED TO CONTINUING THIS IMPORTANT WORK IN THE YEARS TO COME.



---

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

---

WE'D LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS AND BUSINESSES FOR SUPPORTING US OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

## FUNDING BODIES

- SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE ACKNOWLEDGES THE SUPPORT OF THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT (DFFH)
- SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE ACKNOWLEDGE THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF YARRA RANGES COUNCIL

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT/SPONSORSHIP/RESOURCES

- WANDIN SEVILLE BENDIGO BANK
- BUNNINGS LILYDALE
- WARRATINA LAVENDAR FARM
- WARBOTANICALS
- GLOBAL CONFECTIONARY

## OTHER SUPPORT

- CHAOS
- NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES VICTORIA
- MICHAEL GOODRICH - YARRA RANGES COUNCIL
- CIRE SERVICES
- EASTERN ACCESS COMMUNITY HEALTH
- LACHLAN MITCHELL - MAX BROWN REAL ESTATE SEVILLE
- SEVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL
- SEVILLE PUBLIC HALL COMMITTEE
- SEVILLE CFA
- DUCKIES CAFE
- SEVILLE CRICKET CLUB
- SEVILLE VILLAGE PHARMACY





---

# HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED

---

**BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SEVILLE COMMUNITY GROUP ASSOCIATION**  
BY BECOMING A MEMBER YOU WILL BE SUPPORTING SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE IN A WAY THAT SAYS “THIS IS MY HOUSE”. YOU WILL ALSO BE INVOLVED AND INCLUDED IN DECISION MAKING AND FORWARD PLANNING.

## **VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME**

VOLUNTEERING AT SEVILLE COMMUNITY HOUSE ALLOWS YOU TO MAKE A MEANINGFUL IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY WHILE BUILDING CONNECTIONS AND DEVELOPING NEW SKILLS. YOU’LL BE PART OF A WELCOMING TEAM DEDICATED TO REDUCING SOCIAL ISOLATION, PROMOTING HEALTH, AND SUPPORTING EDUCATION. WHETHER YOU HAVE A FEW HOURS OR ARE LOOKING FOR A REGULAR COMMITMENT, YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS WILL HELP CREATE A MORE CONNECTED AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR EVERYONE.

## **MAKE A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION**

YOU CAN HELP US KEEP OUR PROGRAMS AFFORDABLE FOR EVERYONE BY MAKING A GIFT TO US THROUGH OUR PEAK BODY- AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION’S PUBLIC FUND - ASK US HOW

## **SUPPORT OUR EVENTS**

SUPPORTING OUR EVENTS GIVES US THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK YOU “WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM YOUR COMMUNITY HOUSE”? YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR EVENTS BY VOLUNTEERING YOUR TIME, MAKING DONATIONS, SPREADING THE WORD, OR SIMPLY ATTENDING AND PARTICIPATING. YOUR INVOLVEMENT HELPS ENSURE OUR EVENTS ARE SUCCESSFUL AND FOSTERS A MORE CONNECTED COMMUNITY.

## **ATTEND OUR PROGRAMS**

BY ATTENDING CLASSES AND ONE OFF WORKSHOPS OF INTEREST YOU ARE NOT ONLY SUPPORTING YOUR COMMUNITY HOUSE BUT YOU HAVE THE CHANCE TO LEARN NEW SKILLS AND MAKE NEW FRIENDSHIPS.

## **PARTNER WITH US**

WHEN WE PARTNER WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS IT MEANS WE HAVE TWICE THE CAPACITY TO ORGANISE AND PROMOTE OUR EVENTS.

## **GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK**

OUR STRATEGIC PLANNING IS ASSISTED GREATLY BY RECEIVING FEEDBACK ON ALL THE THINGS WE DO.

## **RECEIVE OUR TERM PROGRAM BY EMAIL**

BY REGISTERING YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS WITH US YOU WILL RECEIVE OUR SEASONAL NEWSLETTER AND TERM PROGRAM QUARTERLY WHICH WILL KEEP YOU UP TO DATE WITH THE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES WE ARE RUNNING.