



The Aussie Hands Foundation Inc

PUBLIC OFFICER'S REPORT

2007

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT - MEMBERSHIP 2007

G Serpell	President
E Serpell	Public Officer, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary
M Campbell	Fundraising Coordinator/Parent Representative
M Bresciani	Multi-Media Consultant
M Winter	Marketing/Financial Consultant
S & A Browne	Parent Representatives

J Duncan - Occupational Therapist (Royal Children's Hospital) has agreed to continue to remain liaison person, offering advice on Occupational Therapy services and pass relevant Aussie Hands information/requests from Aussie Hands to Hand Surgeons and patients visiting the Hand Clinic at the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne.

GRANTS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Funding Organisation</i>	<i>RESULT</i>	<i>Amount</i>
16 Oct 2006	Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund	SUCCESSFUL	\$3000
8 Dec 2006	Jack Brockhoff Foundation	SUCCESSFUL	\$5000
26 Feb 2007	Department of Humans Services Disability Services Division	SUCCESSFUL	\$5000
26 Mar 2007	Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund	PENDING	
6 Apr 2007	Coles Community	PENDING	
10 May 2007	Genetic Support Network of Victoria	SUCCESSFUL	\$60
22 Jun 2007	Australian Government Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs <i>Small Equipment Grant</i>	PENDING	

EVENTS

Family Picnic Day - 25 November 2006

Edwards Park
Port Melbourne

Report by the President:

Aussie Hands families gathered on what was expected to be a very hot day. Typical 'unpredictable' Melbourne weather provided a very cool day. Despite the weather everyone had a wonderful day. Children with hand differences were able to meet other children and compare 'hands' and 'show off' what they could do at the playground. Parents shared their children's stories and expressed their feelings and experiences on their situation.

The President arranged some fun activities and children were delighted to receive some prizes for their efforts.



EVENTS

Family Picnic Day - 25 March 2007

Edwards Park
Port Melbourne

Report by the President:

A beautiful sunny day in Melbourne contributed to a successful Aussie Hands family Picnic event.

Several new families travelled numerous kilometres to meet other adults and children with hand differences. New parents met families whose child had received hand surgery. To hear how parents made their decision for their child (to have or not to have surgery) was comforting for new parents. Three adults with hand differences shared their inspirational stories which were embraced by all.

The Vice President arranged two activities (i) 'traffic lights' and (ii) 'odds & evens'. One family won a family pass to Sovereign Hill and two families won a meal voucher (worth \$50 each) from Lazy Moe's Restaurant.

An Easter Egg Hunt at Edwards Park encouraged fierce competition amongst families and friends as to who could collect the most Easter Eggs. It was great fun! Easter Eggs were kindly donated by Ernest Hillier Chocolates.

Young Jess created some wonderful 'face painting' to the children's happy little faces. Thank you Jess!

A big thank you to the Aussie Hands sponsors for their continued support and most generous contribution to this event.

- Sovereign Hill <http://www.sovereignhill.com.au/>
- Lazy Moe's Restaurant
- Ernest Hillier Chocolates <http://www.ernesthillier.com.au>

FUNDRAISING

Report by the President:

On the 26th of August 2006, the Aussie Hands Foundation held its 4th Annual Trivia Night at the Maritime Union of Australia in West Melbourne. The night was attended by 200 people and was a huge success for the Foundation.

Elizabeth Serpell ensured the success of the evening by spending countless hours preparing and organizing several coordinated activities. PL Plumbing – Coburg and Melissa Campbell’s efforts in providing wonderful prizes for the raffles resulted in \$5,500 being raised. This will provide funds for the printing and postage of our brochure Australia-wide.

The night began with an activity where the crowd was divided into groups according to their favourite AFL team. AFL teams had to join hands and sing and cheer loudly when their AFL theme song was played – winners The Magpies. The Bombers were not impressed!

Gary Johnston, Melissa Campbell and David Bicknell shared their stories and inspired us all.

A special thanks to Mal Charles from Classic Music Trivia who ran the fiercely contested trivia competition and made us dance and sing to many classic hits to earn extra bonus points. Fundraising activities such as ‘odds & evens’, ‘traffic lights’, and ‘buy a number’ provided great entertainment and fantastic prizes to the winners.

Thanks to those who offered their assistance throughout the evening – in particular, Marco Bresciani; Lisa and Daniella Russo; Genevieve and Lucas Bunyan; Yvonne and John Diamond; Domenica Marino; Robert, Tina, Kayla, and Renee Smith; and Mary and Stuart Staton.

Table Number 15 won by 2 points and the evening concluded with a heartfelt thanks to all who attended. As the President of the Aussie Hands Foundation, I again gratefully acknowledge the patience and cooperation of Kevin Bracken and David Cushion who entrusted the auditorium to us and indeed all members of the Maritime Union for their continuous generosity and support.

The generosity of so many donors cannot be underestimated, with a staggering twenty major prizes and eighty minor prizes up for grabs in the raffles.

The following 36 donors were acknowledged:

Altay Gifts, Coburg	Elizabeth & Gary Serpell	Mark Georgesz
Baker's Delight, Coburg	Farrage Curtains Decor, Coburg	Melissa & Stephen Campbell
Ballarat Coach House, Buninyong	Faye & David Blackburn	Melville Timber, West Brunswick
Beauty on Rose, Essendon	Foley & Watt Leadlights, Coburg	Mery-Anne Winter
Coburg Market Fruit Supply	Ibrahim Barristers & Solicitors, West Melbourne	PL Plumbing, Coburg
Coburg Meat Supply	HOTKEY, Monash (Noel Prictor, Manager)	Rosanna Golf Club
Connex	House of Gifts, Coburg	Ruth & Gary Johnston
Continental Grocery Shop, Coburg	IPS Innovative Solutions, Coburg	Scalpture for Hair, Strathmore
Cosmopolitan Shoes, Coburg	John Sculli Fruit Centre, Strathmore	Sovereign Hill, Ballarat
Deborah K, Coburg	La Porchetta, Niddrie	Stephen Campbell Constructions, Pascoe Vale
Dick Smith, Highpoint	Lazy Moe's Restaurants	Tasty Rooster, Coburg
Dis n' Dat, Kew	Maria & Phil Lee	The Maritime Union of Australia

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

24 February 2007

The President of Aussie Hands (Gary Serpell) hosted an 'Australiana' Trivia Night for the non-profit charitable organisation 'Quota International'. Quota provided a \$300 cheque to Aussie Hands. Thank you to Gary who 'donated' his time and efforts in preparing and hosting the successful fundraiser for Quota International.

15 May 2007

The Vice President represented Aussie Hands at the University of Melbourne's SALP fair (Student Ambassador Leadership Program). About 600 students attended the fair and heard for the first time about Aussie Hands. As a result of the SALP fair, some students expressed interest in volunteering. The Student Ambassador Leadership Program provides opportunities to develop skills and create networks by contributing to the university and the community through volunteering and learning activities. By getting involved students become leaders.

RAISING AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

During Semester 1 - Semester 2 2007, RMIT 'the works' have been commissioned to re-design the information brochure and create a 'poster' for the 'raising awareness' campaign which will be circulated from Nov 2007 to ALL AUSTRALIAN Private/Public Hospitals, Paediatricians, Gynaecologists, Obstetricians, Ultrasonographers, Occupational Therapists, Hand Surgeons, Hand Therapists, Midwives, Maternal Health Centres, Community Centres, Childcare Centres, Kindergartens, Public/Private Schools, and Workcover.

Franklin Digital - Sunshine will print the information brochure and deliver to Advanced Mailing Solutions - Tullamarine to print the envelopes from a bar-coded database and insert information brochures, poster and covering letter/re-order form. Aussie Hands will purchase a 'bar-coded' database from the Australian Medical Association - Canberra. Aussie Hands has 'charity mail status', therefore, postage costs will be reduced substantially as a result of charity mail discounts.

The 'raising awareness' campaign will be funded from fundraising and grants received since 2003 from the Department of Human Services, Victoria; The Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund -Melbourne; and The Jack Brockhoff Foundation, Victoria.

The 'raising awareness' campaign will incur a cost of >\$30,000

MEDIA

Melbourne Radio 3AW (President of Aussie Hands talks to radio entertainer Rex Hunt - Aug 2006)

Sydney's Child (October 2006)

Melbourne's Child (February 2007)

Fairfax Community Newspapers - Currans Hill, NSW (April 2007)

FINANCE

Acknowledgement to Nunzio Panella from the Oxford Accounting Group who prepared the Foundation's Taxation Statement for the year ending 30 June 2007. Income and Expenditure Reports provided at the AGM. The Foundation is very grateful to Nunzio who has donated his services once again to the Foundation.

EQUIPMENT

- Cash Box (for events/fundraising)
- Laminator and pouches
- Removal of Brother MFC 3240 to Recycling B2C and replaced by Hewlett Packard MFC Laser Jet 3055

VOLUNTEERS

In November 2006, Elizabeth submitted a project application form to Oxfam Skills Share to seek a volunteer who could assist with some short term planning support for the management of the Foundation. In December 2007, David Dee assisted the Foundation in achieving the following:

- Insurance – Public Liability and Voluntary Workers
- ‘Strategic Plan’ 1-5 year plan
- Volunteer Position Descriptions
- Recruit volunteers – registered with ProBono, Volunteering Australia, Boroondara Council
- Re-design the current brochure to an ‘information brochure’ and create a poster for the ‘raising awareness’ campaign
- Seek a patron for Aussie Hands

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Application for Charity Mail Service was approved by Australia Post on 31 July 2006 (CM21201134)
- Insurance Policy No 42MIS1137 PLB – Public Liability 18/4/07- 18/4/08
- Insurance Policy No 0020547 – Volunteers including all members and board members 18/4/07- 18/4/08
- Increased Membership from 12 families to 27 families (nationally)
- Four out of seven grant applications submitted were successful
- Interstate Media Releases
- Increase in volunteers

GOALS 2008

DISTRIBUTION OF BROCHURE

Nov 2007 - 2009

MARKETING

Marketing strategy to achieve launch of Aussie Hands Day June 2010

Sept 2007 - 2010

MEDIA

Feature up to 5 in 2008

- TV
- Magazines
- Radio

PATRON

Appoint 1 or 2 patrons to assist in promoting Aussie Hands in preparation for the launch of Aussie Hands Day – June 2010.

GOALS 2008 (cont)

VOLUNTEERS

Recruitment via ProBono for Victoria and prospective 'interstate' recruitment as 'state representatives to liaise with the Victorian based Communications Officer (Head Office).

SPONSORSHIP

Attract Corporate Sponsorship

WEBSITE

Continue to maintain and provide additional information on

- Medical Technology
- Books/resources/special equipment
- LINKS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- WEBSITE – Noel Prictor, HOTKEY Monash
- WEBSITE ADMINISTRATION - Fiona McClure and Marco Bresciani
- EDITOR - Mick Kannegiesser, Digital Environs
- MARKETING – Mery-Anne Winter
- FUNDRAISING – Melissa Campbell
- EVENTS – Maritime Union of Australia, West Melbourne
- FINANCE - Nunzio Panella, Oxford Accounting Group
- BOARD OF MANAGEMENT and VOLUNTEERS

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide support for children and adults with hand differences by giving advice on appropriate education programs, special equipment, medical and community resources.

CONCLUSION

In 2008-2009, the Foundation intends to increase membership and recruit interstate volunteers to assist in raising awareness. Exposure in the media and distribution of the brochure and poster Australia-wide will further enhance the aims and objectives of Aussie Hands and with anticipation encourage sponsorship.

Elizabeth Serpell
Public Officer
21 September 2007