

A voice for brain injury in Tasmania.

2020–2021 Annual Report



BRAIN INJURY
ASSOCIATION
OF TASMANIA

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About BIAT

The Brain Injury Association of Tasmania (BIAT) is a non-government, state-wide, not for profit organisation.

Established in January 1998 as a result of the amalgamation between Headway Tasmania Inc and the Tasmanian Brain Injury Program Inc BIAT has, for the past 22 years, supported the long-term needs of people living with or impacted by brain injury.

It has achieved this by raising community awareness of brain injury; providing education, information and referral to people with brain injury, their families and carers; delivering training to organisations and individuals on brain injury and its impacts; and through system advocacy.

Our People

Committee of Management

President: Dario Tomat
Vice-President: Helen Mulcahy
Treasurer: Rebecca O'Halloran
Secretary: Janine Martin

Committee Members:

Charlene Barach (resigned Nov 2020)
Sigrid Denehey (appointed Jan 2021, resigned June 2021)
Geraldine Harwood (appointed Nov 2020)
Chantal Roddy (appointed Nov 2020)
Leanne Whitney (resigned Nov 2020)

Our People

Staff

Executive Officer: Deborah Byrne

Project Officers: Robyn McWaldron (full time - resigned May 2021)
Rosie Mooney (full-time)
Sienna Tilley (part-time)

Consultants: Dominic Anastasio - Domin8 Media & Designs
Alison Smith - Strategic Leverage



BIAT Members

BIAT's membership comprises people with brain injury, family members/carers, individuals interested in brain injury, and organisational members. It is not a requirement that people be members of BIAT to receive a service.

BIAT respects the knowledge held by, and experience of, its members and utilises this in the deliberation of problems and solutions, ensuring opinions are articulated in a strong and united voice.



Defining Brain Injury

Brain injury is defined as any damage or injury to the brain, occurring after birth, resulting in ongoing impairments (the definition also includes Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder which is brain damage caused by alcohol exposure before birth).

Common causes of brain injury include motor vehicle crashes, assaults, sporting accidents, stroke, lack of oxygen to the brain, brain tumours and degenerative neurological conditions.

The ongoing impairments a person may have could be physical, cognitive, emotional and/or behavioural.

Many of the effects of brain injury are not visible; this doesn't make the impact any less real.



Every brain injury is different.

Defining Brain Injury

Primary causes of brain injury include:

Trauma

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is caused by external force and/or acceleration/ deceleration injuries, e.g. motor vehicle crashes; falls; sporting accidents; repeated knocks to the head or concussions; assaults; domestic violence.

Hypoxic/Anoxic Injuries

Lack of oxygen to the brain from non-fatal drowning, heart attack, drug overdose, strangulation, severe asthma, accidents involving anaesthesia, carbon monoxide inhalation and poisoning.

Stroke/Aneurysm

A stroke occurs when there is a ruptured blood vessel in the brain or blood supply to the brain has been blocked. An aneurysm is the result of a weakened artery wall.

Alcohol and/or Drug Misuse

People who misuse alcohol and drugs are at risk of brain injury due to their intake as well as high-risk behaviours. Long term abuse of alcohol, drugs and other substances can result in brain injury, often affecting cognition, memory and perception.

Defining Brain Injury

Primary causes of brain injury continued:

Degenerative Neurological Conditions

Including: Dementia; Alzheimer's; Parkinson's; Multiple Sclerosis; Huntington's.

Infections & Diseases

Including: Meningitis; Encephalitis; brain tumours; brain cancer.

Epilepsy

Epilepsy can cause neural damage and is a risk factor for a traumatic brain injury through a fall or violent convulsion. Epilepsy can also result from a brain injury.



Acknowledgements and Thanks

The Brain Injury Association of Tasmania would like to acknowledge and thank our funders –

- The Motor Accident Insurance Board (MAIB)
- the Tasmanian Government Department of Communities (Disability and Community Services), and
- the Australian Government Department of Social Services

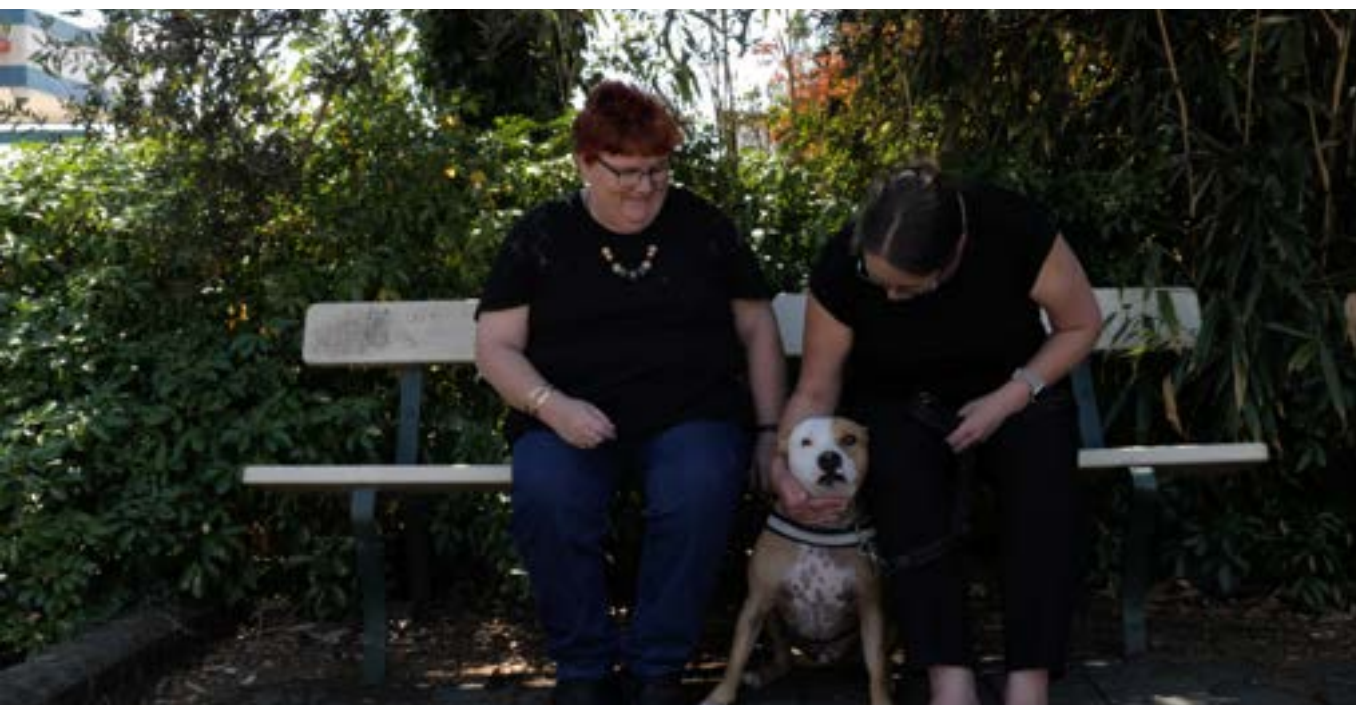
for their contribution to our accomplishments during the year.

BIAT would also like to recognise and express our heartfelt gratitude to the individuals and organisations who generously raised funds for, and donated to, the Association.



Australian Government

Department of Social Services



2020–2021 Snapshot

JUL

Finalisation of the *Rethinking Brain Injury Project* and submission of the final report. This report is available at www.biat.org.au/resources [BIAT Project Reports].

AUG

National Brain Injury Awareness Week 17-23 August
Events for the week spanned from Ulverstone to Huonville and focused on a range of issues including family support and female concussion. See page 30 for more detailed information on BIAT's 2020 Awareness Week.

The Recognise, Respect, Respond and Reform (RRRR) Program officially commences - see page 32 for more detailed information about this Project.



SEP

BIAT and Alf Archer deliver 15 days of 'Crash Investigator' sessions to over 2000 Grade 10 students from across Southern Tasmania as part of the Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA) program.

Finalisation of the *Disclosure - Who What Where When Why* Project and submission of the final report. This report is available at www.biat.org.au/resources [BIAT Project Reports].

First of seven (for the year) *Custody For Life* (CFL) brain injury prevention sessions held.

"Think before you act and how your own decisions can affect not only you but others." – Referred young person.

55 - the number of young 'at risk' Tasmanians who attend CFL sessions during the year.

Melbourne based neuropsychologist, Sue Sloan, provides brain injury training online. Facilitated by BIAT the training was attended by 25 people, including hospital and community-based service providers, people living with brain injury, and family members of people with brain injury.

"I found it very informative and wish that I had been able to do something like this about 18 months ago, earlier in our process. I also think that this should be mandatory for anyone working with people with brain injuries."

Mental Health Week Event - 'We all have a role to play: the value of shared experiences'. Funded by a small Mental Health Council of Tasmania Grant, the BIAT Peer Support Program and Hobart Stroke Peer Support Group partnered to hold a joint Mental Health Week event. Guest speakers generously shared their lived experiences of brain injury and mental health, and consultant psychologist Mike Radburn provided professional insights and led a group activity.

OCT



NOV

BIAT Executive Officer, Deborah Byrne joined Tasmanian Iconic Walks to help raise over \$58,000 for the Stroke Foundation, in the process shining a spotlight on this prevalent cause of brain injury.



'Cuppa with a Cop': Organised by Neighbourhood Watch (who also have an office in the ABC building), the informal gathering presents BIAT with a valuable opportunity for BIAT staff to meet with Tasmania Police and discuss existing programs, such as Custody For Life, and the new justice focused Recognise, Respect, Respond and Reform Program, which includes expansion of the National Assistance Card.

DEC

BIAT Executive Officer presents a series of brain injury information sessions over a 2-day period to Motor Accident Insurance Board (MAIB) staff. The sessions focussed on greater awareness and understanding of brain injury, with staff also provided with techniques and strategies for effectively communicating and working with clients with brain injury.

JAN

Facilitated by BIAT, Melbourne based neuropsychologist Sue Sloan delivers a full day of online brain injury training to 19 Tasmanian NDIS Local Area Coordinators (LACs) employed by Baptcare and Mission Australia.

"Most useful was the discussion around the different roles that people have in their lives and how that changes after ABI."

JAN

ABC's Hobart Drive Program contacts BIAT for comment on the new AFL concussion guidelines. BIAT's Executive Officer, Deborah Byrne takes the opportunity to highlight the importance of concussion education and prevention.

"Hand in hand with [the new guidelines] they should also be adopting an education policy as well, so that we can prevent concussion from happening in the first place."

FEB

BIAT holds National Brain Injury Assistance Card consultation forums across the state, and conducts a national survey, to find out more about how the project and the Card can benefit people living with brain injury.

MAR

With appropriate levels of Court Liaison Officer (CLO) resourcing critical to the success of the RRRR Program's Cognitive Impairment Criminal Justice Support Service (CICJSS), BIAT commences lobbying the State Government for additional funding for Magistrate Court Diversion List Court Liaison Officers (CLOs) across the state.

APR

BIAT secures second ILC Economic Participation Grant for *Employ Me Project* – to build on the previous Disclosure project.



MAY

"Government must ensure people aren't left struggling for support," writes BIAT Executive Officer, Deborah Byrne, in her Talking Point article published in The Mercury Newspaper.

"The Tasmanian government signed Tasmania up to the NDIS. Its job and responsibility to Tasmanians living with disability did not stop there. The Tasmanian government is legally and morally obligated to ensure no Tasmanian living with disability is worse off under the NDIS."

JUNE

Launch of 'A Complex Cluster: Acquired Brain Injury, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs, Mental Health and Criminal Justice' training resources. [BIAT contributed to these resources and, upon completion of her contract, was pleased to be able to employ the Project Officer responsible for the training resource project].

Inaugural Recognise Respect Respond and Reform Program Steering Group meeting held. Members include: Geraldine Harwood, Greg Barns, John Toohey, Michael Hill, Rob White, Nicho Baily, Don McCrae, Alison Smith and Vincenzo Caltabiano.





President's Report

Dario Tomat

I am pleased to report that the Brain Injury Association of Tasmania (BIAT) has had a very successful year, both in terms of achievements and financially.

In July BIAT's NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) Disabled People and Families Organisation (DPFO) grant for the *Rethinking Brain Injury Project* was acquitted and a comprehensive evaluation report compiled and provided to the NDIA.

A second comprehensive evaluation report was provided to the NDIA in September following completion of BIAT's ILC Economic Participation grant for the *Disclosure – Who, What, Where, When Why Project*.

Both reports are available in the resource section of BIAT's website - <https://www.biat.org.au/resources>.

President's Report Cont.

These two projects were completed during the early COVID period and provided BIAT with some great learnings on how to manage in an environment that limited direct contacts.

The contract covering the Recognise, Respect, Respond and Reform (RRRR) Program allowed BIAT to further strengthen capacity building by introducing new project team members and greater engagement with a range of stakeholders. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the RRRR Project Steering committee chaired by Geraldine Harwood for their continuing input and guidance to the work of BIAT on this important initiative.

Significant efforts have been made during the year by the BIAT Committee of Management (COM) to assess the evolving environment the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has created. Project funding has changed the nature of the risks BIAT faces and requires changes to the way it operates. Working with Alison Smith from Strategic Leverage, the COM and BIAT staff undertook a detailed strategic direction and environmental scan to identify how BIAT will respond.

In such an uncertain environment, the COM has been impressed by the continued focus of our staff on ensuring the needs of people living with brain injury, their families and carers are understood and promoted.

Although promotion of awareness through Brain Injury Awareness week in 2020 was generally curtailed due to COVID protocols, a successful virtual awareness raising campaign was held.

Executive Officer Deb Byrne leads our small, but expanding dedicated team, and continues her passionate advocacy and representation of BIAT and people living with brain injury, within government, at NDIS consultations, and throughout the sector locally and nationally.

President's Report Cont.

We have been fortunate that Rosie Mooney continues her sterling work with BIAT and thank her for not only stepping into the National Assistance Card Project Manager role at very short notice, but also for the remarkable job she has done in realising this Project.

Thank you also to Sienna Tilley, who has now been with BIAT for over a year. Sienna has been fundamental to the ongoing success of BIAT's peer support groups across the state and to establishing the foundations for the RRRR Program's Cognitive Impairment Criminal Justice Support Service (CICJSS).

At the end of June BIAT was able to appoint two new and very capable team members - Marie-Clare Couper, to project manage the Justice component of the RRRR Program, and Mark Acheson as BIAT's first Marketing and Communications Manager. These new roles and their contributions are vital to the way the future for BIAT is shaping.

All BIAT COM members thank the team for their continued dedication and professionalism.

Finally, I thank the COM for their continued engagement in guiding BIAT through these challenging times. This will be my last hurrah as BIAT President as I am not renominating.

Working with BIAT has been a rewarding and yes, at times, frustrating experience as funding processes became less clear cut, but I am confident that the foundations for an on-going sustainable future have been established.



Executive Officer's Report

Deborah Byrne

I am pleased to present the Brain Injury Association of Tasmania (BIAT) Executive Officer's Report for 2020-21, and what a year it has been! It is strange to think that just over 18 months ago the word COVID did not exist, and social distancing was an unknown concept.

Throughout the changes that the pandemic brought us, BIAT staff rose to the challenge, ensuring our project work continued and the people we supported remained connected. Despite COVID, and the funding challenges which have come with the Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) Strategy, we have steered a steady course and, for the next year at least, are in a strong position.

This Annual Report details some of our achievements during the past year and highlights the areas where we prioritised the systemic and project work we do.

Executive Officer's Report Cont.

Building foundations

In reflecting on the past year, I see it as being very much a 'foundation building' year for BIAT. Work commenced on development of the purpose-built National Assistance Card online application platform, extensive scoping work was undertaken for the Cognitive Impairment Criminal Justice Support Service (CICJSS), and the completed *Disclosure – Who What Where When Why Project* leveraged to secure further ILC Economic Participation Program grant funding for *The Employ Me Project*.

Whilst former project officer, Robyn McWaldron, leaving the organisation at short notice for personal reasons in early May had a significant impact on, and tested limits for, existing staff it also provided a restructure opportunity for the organisation with BIAT able to employ its first Marketing and Communications Manager. Mark commenced in July this year and his achievements to date have validated BIAT's decision to create this new position.

In a small organisation, it is at times like staff leaving that we can look with admiration at those who choose to work for BIAT. I would particularly like to acknowledge and sincerely thank Rosie and Sienna for their commitment throughout the longer than planned for transition period.

In addition to her regular work, Rosie took over the National Assistance Card Project and, as you will read in next year's Annual Report, has steered the organisation to a very successful launch and roll out of the Card. Sienna also took on additional work - the role of state-wide Peer Support Co-ordinator - whilst continuing work on the development and establishment of the CICJSS.

Executive Officer's Report Cont.

Building recognition

As a not-for-profit, I am extremely proud of the work of the Brain Injury Association of Tasmania, which allows us to elevate unheard voices, campaign and conduct research, and pilot new ideas.

"Despite the uncertainty, BIAT has forged a way forward. Not only is it surviving, but it is punching well above its weight, securing grants and attracting highly skilled people both as employees, and to add a breadth of knowledge and experience to its project advisory committees." Strategic Leverage Report 2021

The BIAT Team acknowledge the importance of maintaining a supportive and collaborative organisational culture, with strong and respectful partnerships in delivering services for and with our members and community.

This year BIAT has continued to grow its standing and organisational achievements. At the systemic level we have been invited to, and involved in, meetings and reference groups on a range of topics and issues. BIAT is now often asked to present at events, provide advice, take part in advisory groups, and put in submissions to inquiries.

The growing recognition that more needs to be done, and that the broader impacts of brain injury are starting to be understood and acknowledged, shows our long-term work bearing fruit.

Through its work in establishing the CICJSS, BIAT has continued to raise awareness of the impact of brain injury in prisons and the criminal justice system, highlighting how screening could help reduce reoffending. This work has resulted in significant networking opportunities and the establishment of valued partnerships.

Executive Officer's Report Cont.

With good 'foundations' laid during the Disclosure Project, BIAT has secured ILC Economic Participation grant funding to deliver a second project to expand the scale and scope of the Disclosure Project. Partnerships with Brain Injury South Australia, Brain Injury Matters, and the Association for Children with Disability (Tasmania) have been established to deliver The Employ Me Project.

During the past year the National Assistance Card component of the Recognise, Respect, Respond, and Reform (RRRR) Program has required BIAT to reach out to Police in each State and Territory, and to brain injury organisations across Australia, to support and promote the co-design and development of the purpose-built platform and accompanying resources.

Building firm foundations remains of primary importance to BIAT. However, as we move from the groundwork phase to the implementation phase of our projects, the year ahead is, without a doubt, going to be more challenging. Nevertheless, we look forward to building on existing relationships, establishing new partnerships, and continuing our strong engagement and advocacy with, and for, people living with brain injury.

What's next?

As we reflect on the past year and look ahead, it is important to talk about the challenges that lie ahead of us as well as those we already face. During this past year we have felt the need to increase our involvement in policy and campaigns to ensure our voice, and those of the people living with or impacted by brain injury, are heard. We will continue to respond, contribute and work collaboratively with peers and our key partners and stakeholders to champion fundamental change. To do this we must be able to successfully define our service, our service model, articulate our values and service principles, and measure the effectiveness of our services.

Executive Officer's Report Cont.

To ensure BIAT remains robust and a leader in quality project delivery, Alison Smith from Strategic Leverage was engaged earlier this year to undertake a comprehensive strategic review of the organisation. As a result of her review, the BIAT Committee of Management is working diligently to put more robust governance frameworks into action, increasing transparency and accountability. Whilst a number of key process improvements have been bedded down, BIAT's focus on quality and continuous improvement across the whole organisation will continue.

At the time of writing this report, the future of ILC funding remains uncertain. After the review of the ILC Strategy undertaken for the Department of Social Services by Swinburne University earlier this year, all has been quiet on the ILC funding 'front'. In addition to looking at the ongoing sustainability of existing projects, BIAT will continue to explore other funding opportunities outside of the ILC Strategy.

Acknowledgements

I am frequently humbled by the dedication and passion of our staff. Their advocacy, resilience and efforts in meeting the internal and external challenges of an organisation like BIAT are highly valued and much appreciated.

With support from our steadfast Committee of Management, BIAT staff continue to work hard to make a difference and enhance the quality of life for people living with, or impacted by brain injury, through education, awareness, support and advocacy.

I would like to formally recognise their great team achievements and express my heartfelt gratitude to every single staff member for their unwavering commitment and support. Our successful navigation of the past year, including the unprecedented challenge of COVID, has only been achieved thanks to everyone working selflessly and together as a team.

Executive Officer's Report Cont.

BIAT is fortunate to have a hard-working Committee of Management supporting the activities of the organisation. Governance of BIAT is a team effort by people from a variety of backgrounds who bring different experiences and opinions. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the BIAT Committee of Management for their guidance throughout a challenging and unpredictable year, and acknowledge their firm commitment to enabling opportunities for people with brain injury to experience choice, inclusion and achievement.

A special thank you must go to Dario who, after being at the helm of BIAT for many years, has decided to step down from that role. Thank you also to BIAT Secretary, Janine Martin who is also retiring from the BIAT Committee of Management. Your counsel, wise words and sage advice over the years has been very much appreciated.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Department of Social Services which funds BIAT's ILC Projects, and the Motor Accident Insurance Board of Tasmania for their continued funding.

In closing I would like to especially and sincerely thank and commend all the people living with or impacted by brain injury who contribute to our vision; your ongoing involvement is genuinely appreciated.

BIAT has always been dedicated to making a positive difference and I'm extremely proud of how far BIAT has come over the last 23 years. There have been challenges along the way, and there are challenges and uncertainty ahead, however we will continue to adapt and redefine ourselves to ensure we can deliver high-quality, personalised services and support to people living with or impacted by brain injury.

Moving forward, BIAT will continue to come up with new and effective ways to meet the needs of people living with brain injury and we will do this with passion, and commitment and continue to build on the tradition and culture of support and innovation which is our legacy.



Connecting with the community

Between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021:

Enquiries

BIAT received over 140 enquiries for assistance, information and referral from people living with brain injury, their family members and service providers. Support was provided to 83 individuals/families and 51 service providers, including assistance to access disability and mainstream services through direct and indirect referrals, and information about brain injury and BIAT services.

Brain Injury Peer Support Groups

Nineteen face-to-face and four online Brain Injury Peer Support Groups were held – with an active membership of 68 people (35 in Hobart, 12 in Launceston and 21 in Ulverstone) attending groups or engaging with the program and resources.

Connecting with the community

Brain Injury Assistance Cards

Eighteen new Brain Injury Assistance Cards (previously Acquired Brain Injury ID Cards) were issued, twelve to people living in Tasmania and six to people living in other states in Australia.

Website

BIAT has continued to develop its website – www.biat.org.au – working with Domin8 Designs to ensure content remains relevant and up-to-date. Recent work has included the addition of a Donations page where people can donate directly to BIAT online to support the continuation of the Association's activities: <https://www.biat.org.au/about-biat/donate-to-biat>

Social Media

BIAT continues to utilise its Facebook platform to raise awareness of brain injury and BIAT as an organisation, communicating with the online community and growing BIAT's social media audience.

Between 5 and 7 posts are uploaded each week, including local, national, and international brain injury related content.

During the year the number of people who like the BIAT Facebook page increased from 684 people at 1 July 2020 to 860 people at 30 June 2021.



+26%
increase in
Facebook
likes

Connecting with the community

Media

BIAT has continued to raise awareness of brain injury using traditional media mediums, featuring in five news articles (two written by BIAT Executive Officer, Deborah Byrne), three television interviews and two radio interviews. During Brain Injury Awareness (BIA) Week BIAT Ambassador Izzy Flint also promoted the Association in her ABC Hobart Radio interview.

BIAT contributed footage from a video - Holly's Story - made for Brain Injury Awareness Week 2020 to an ABC TV new items focussing on female concussion. BIAT was pleased the ABC shared the story on a news platform accessed by children (Behind the News/BTN) as well as mediums more commonly accessed by adults, helping to raise the awareness of concussion across the whole community.

Newsletters

BIAT produced 13 E-news bulletins which were circulated to BIAT members and newsletter subscribers. Each news bulletin had a direct reach of over 550 people.

Content in the newsletters included invitations to BIAT events (for example the community consultation around the National Assistance Card and Peer Support meetings), local and national brain injury news, new brain injury resources, brain injury related conference and workshops, and educational and research opportunities.

Current and back issues of BIAT E-News can be viewed at: www.biat.org.au/resources [BIAT Newsletters]



**1,162
people
reached via
newsletter.**



National Brain Injury Awareness Week

National Brain Injury Awareness Week is a week-long campaign to raise community awareness of brain injury and to assist in the reduction of the incidence of brain injury.

For National Brain Injury Awareness Week 2020, BIAT highlighted the reach and impact of brain injury across the community. Events for the week spanned from Ulverstone to Huonville and focused on a range of issues including family support and female concussion. With an estimated 2.2% of Tasmanians living with brain injury, the week served to remind people that brain injury can, and does, happen to Anyone, Anywhere at Any time.

Due to COVID-19 many of BIAT's Brain Injury Awareness Week events were held online, including the premiere of a number of videos and articles, and were therefore accessible to a wider audience both locally and nationally.

2020 Brain Injury Awareness Week Events Included:

- Online launch of Brain Injury Awareness Week 2020 in Tasmania: 'Brain Injury in the Community' by BIAT President, Dario Tomat. The Awareness Week launch video also featured BIAT Project Officer Robyn McWaldron launching BIAT's Brain Injury Peer Support Program Resources, a screening of the Peer Support Program video and BIAT Executive Officer, Deborah Byrne, detailing BIAT's Brain Injury Awareness Week 2020 program of events.
- Online Question and Answer session with retired neuropsychologist, Mark Lamont, focusing on neuroplasticity. The Q&A was broadcast live on the BIAT Facebook Page as part of the Ulverstone Brain Injury Peer Support group. A recording of the Q&A and notes from the session can be accessed on the BIAT website.
- Video and podcast premiere detailing the lived experience of brain injury, in the form of sporting concussion, from the perspective of two young Tasmanian's:
 - 'Holly's Story' - life after concussion sustained playing AFL from the perspective of a young Tasmanian and her father.
 - Launceston Mountain Bike cyclist Izzy Flint discussing her concussion journey following a devastating crash in New Zealand, focusing on the implications the brain injury has had on her life beyond sport; in particular her schooling, friendships and family.



**65 active
Peer Support
Group
members.**

2020 Brain Injury Awareness Week Events Included

- Online article: 'Raising brain injury awareness and funds for BIAT with Izzy from Scrunch_Iz'. BIAT published an update on the Scrunch_Iz Fundraising Initiative on the BIAT website - Izzy founded Scrunch_Iz in early 2019 in memory of her uncle Brodie who sustained a brain injury as a teenager. Izzy has been busy sewing and selling hair accessories to raise awareness of brain injury and funds for the Brain Injury Association of Tasmania. She has recently expanded her range to include pencil cases and face masks. So far Izzy has donated \$1,000 to BIAT.

In December 2020 BIAT successfully nominated Izzy for an Equal Opportunities Tasmania - Human Rights Week 2020 Tasmanian Award, under the theme: Kindness and Compassion.

- During the Week face-to-face Brain Injury Peer Support Groups were held in Ulverstone, Launceston and Hobart.

BIAT is very grateful to Holly, Mike, and Izzy for their courage in sharing their personal experiences of brain injury as Brain Injury Awareness Week ambassadors. In doing so they have made a significant contribution to raising awareness of brain injury across Tasmania and Australia. Their stories will help people living with similar impacts to feel less alone and assist others to understand some of the difficulties people with brain injury experience.





Recognise Respect Respond & Reform (RRRR) Program

Recognise Respect Respond & Reform (RRRR) Program

Overview

There is an inherent lack of awareness and understanding of brain injury in the community. Brain injury can be difficult to diagnose, is rarely screened for, and is often overlooked when another injury is present. This underdiagnosis and lack of community understanding is compounded by the fact that many impacts of brain injury are often 'hidden', cognitive based issues such as memory and communication difficulties. This can create problems for people with brain injury in the community when their behaviours are misunderstood and their needs are not supported.

Brain injury is a significant public health problem which disproportionately affects subgroups of the population, such as those who come into contact with the criminal justice system, with as many as 80% of adult prisoners reporting a history of traumatic brain injury.*

The over representation of people with brain injury in the criminal justice system is thought to be related to a general lack of understanding of brain injury and its impacts within the system, a lack of screening to identify people with brain injury, and a scarcity of appropriate supports and services for this cohort.

The RRRR Program aims to develop solution-focused strategies to help address the lack of understanding of brain injury in the community and the long-standing systemic issues of the over-representation of people with cognitive impairment in the criminal justice system.

There are four components to the RRRR Program which are outlined in the following pages.

**Schofield et al. (2006). Traumatic brain injury among Australian prisoners: Rates, recurrence and sequelae. Brain Injury, 20, 499-506.*

Recognise Respect Respond & Reform (RRRR) Program

National Assistance Card

The goal of the National Assistance Card component of the RRRR Program is to provide people in Australia living with brain injury with a resource to explain their brain injury, supporting improved interactions with the community, particularly first responders e.g. police and ambulance, services such as Centrelink, and businesses.

BIAT has offered an Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Identification (ID) Card Program for Tasmanian's living with brain injury for over 20 years. Responding to a demand for the Card from people in other states and territories, the RRRR Program will expand the Program nationally.

The National Assistance Card includes key information about the cardholder, their brain injury related difficulties and ways they can be assisted. The Project will trial the addition of a QR (Quick Response) code on the Card and offer cardholders the option to add additional information about the impacts of their brain injury and/or appropriate supports or responses. Additional information can be written or it can be via a video that the cardholder makes of themselves, or a nominated person talking on their behalf.

Face-to-face Tasmanian community consultations and a national online survey were undertaken in February and March to obtain feedback about the proposed National Assistance Card from people with lived experience of brain injury, their family members, carers and service providers.

Everyone who attended the Consultations and completed the Online Survey thought a National Assistance Card would be very helpful for people in Australia living with brain injury.

Recognise Respect Respond & Reform (RRRR) Program

"I have wanted this for years, I would finally have some independence and not have to rely so much on others speaking for me" (Survey participant).

Findings from the consultations (n=32 people) and national survey responses (n=113) are informing the development and implementation of the National Assistance Card Service, including the information on the Card, the online application system, and education and promotional resources.

Business Software Tasmania was engaged to develop the purpose-built online application system and have worked closely with the Project team to make the design and functionality of the platform as user friendly as possible.

A National Assistance Card Working Group was established, comprising people with brain injury and their family members; they will be invited to test the online application, review resources, and promote the Card.

In May a decision was made to focus more on the assistance a person may require (versus their disability) and the Card, which was originally going to be named the National Brain Injury Assistance Card, was rebadged as the National Assistance Card. This change creates added potential for the Card, with BIAT hoping that, in the future, the National Assistance Card will be available to all Australian's living with disability and/or health conditions.

During the reporting period BIAT worked with Domin8 Designs to develop a logo, branding, website, and animated video for the National Assistance Card.

Stage one of the website - www.nationalassistancecard.com.au - went live in June, including information about the Card and an Expression of Interest Form to capture the contact details of potential cardholders. This was in preparation for a promotional campaign for the Card scheduled for Brain Injury Awareness Week 2021.

Recognise Respect Respond & Reform (RRRR) Program

BIAT is liaising with all Australian Police jurisdictions to raise awareness about the National Assistance Card, develop educational resources specific to police, and determine processes for further police involvement with the Card Service.

The next stage of the National Assistance Card project will involve the roll out of the Card Service nationally and a sustained education and promotion campaign to ensure the success of the Card.

In 2022 BIAT will be piloting the Card for people in Tasmania living with autism, intellectual disability and epilepsy.



Recognise Respect Respond & Reform (RRRR) Program

Brain Injury, Cognitive Impairment and Criminal Justice

The Recognise, Respect, Respond and Reform (RRRR) Program concept was developed to provide opportunities to improve outcomes for people with brain injury who are in, 'at risk' of entering, or attempting to exit the criminal justice system. The RRRR Program encompasses four dynamic projects (including the National Assistance Card) targeting a range of factors that result in people with cognitive impairment (including, but not limited to brain injury) being vulnerable to cycling through the criminal justice system.

People with brain injury are overrepresented at every stage of the criminal justice system and are uniquely disadvantaged at each of these stages. This means people with brain injury are more likely to enter the criminal justice system and are less likely to benefit from the services available, and are therefore more likely to reoffend, or to become 'stuck' in the system. There is a complex range of causes why this occurs, but primarily there is a failure of community and justice-based systems and services to identify, understand, and adequately respond to people with brain injuries. Consequently, what is a psycho-social health matter is inadequately managed as a justice or legal issue. This is both at a personal cost to people with brain injuries, and their family- as well as significant financial cost to government and taxpayers.

Despite this, there is currently no adequate screening, assessment, or specialised referral pathways for people with brain injuries in the Tasmanian Justice pathways. Additionally, the cessation of block funding to specialist brain injury services across Tasmania resulted in Magistrates and Justice services no longer having specialised brain injury services in the community to refer people with brain injury too- particularly for those who do not have NDIS individual funding.

Continue reading below for updates on the three RRRR program justice focused projects.

Recognise Respect Respond & Reform (RRRR) Program

State-wide Support Service

The goals of the Support Service are to provide a direct service to people experiencing cognitive impairment to reduce risk factors for offending behaviours and involvement in the criminal justice system. In addition, the Support Service aims to improve the capacity of people with cognitive impairment (including but not limited to brain injury) to understand and effectively engage with the legal process. To achieve these outcomes, the Support Service aims to be a driver of long-term sustainable change in the way people with cognitive impairment are processed through the criminal justice system. The Support Service will also work to build community awareness and understanding of brain injury and cognitive impairment and build supportive networks for people with cognitive impairment.

To date, work on the Support Service has focused on researching and scoping the Tasmanian Health and Justice systems and identifying key areas for improvement and intervention. BIAT has been building meaningful connections with key stakeholders, with these consultations informing the development of the service model and delivery plan. For example, BIAT's consultations with Forensic Mental Health Services are identifying opportunities to support the Magistrate's Court Diversion List to fully implement a 'Cognitive Impairment stream'. To support this outcome, we are designing referral pathways for people with cognitive impairment to access advocacy, support, and greater community connection.

The Run Project

This project is an innovative opportunity for people with brain injury a lived experience of the criminal justice system to design and drive a project providing benefits to people with brain injury in contact with the criminal justice system.

Work on this project has focused on researching the experiences of consumers as they are processed through the justice system and identifying opportunities to connect with consumers.

Recognise Respect Respond & Reform (RRRR) Program

Justice User's Peer Support Group

The RRRR Program will include the co-design and development of a consumer led peer support group. This group will provide the opportunity to link people with brain injury who are currently navigating the justice system, with experienced peers who can provide insight and support.

Work on this project has focused on researching current peer led groups and identifying opportunities for training and engaging peers within the prison and community settings.

Summary

The RRRR project will significantly change the lives of people with brain injury who, because of the impact of their brain injury, are often misunderstood, disrespected, unable to access or get an appropriate response from the services they need, and are at a far greater risk of entering the criminal justice system.



Economic Participation Project:

Disclosure – Who, What, Where, When, Why

Economic Participation Project: Disclosure – Who, What, Where, When, Why

Employment Project

As detailed in previous reports, BIAT implemented a 12-month NDIS ILC funded project - Disclosure: Who What Where When Why (Disclosure Project) - to assist people with brain injury to improve their employment outcomes, identify career opportunities that interested them, and on how to disclose the impact of their brain injury.

The Disclosure Project was co-designed and developed with people with brain injury and in partnership with three Disability Employment Service (DES) providers. It developed a toolkit of resources, including personalised Disclosure Videos, to support:

- people with brain injury thinking about work and/or looking for work;
- employers who have employed or are looking to employ a person with brain injury, and
- people with brain injury who are working or returning to their pre-injury employer.

The Disclosure Project:

- built the capacity of people with brain injury seeking employment;
- developed initiatives that created pathways to employment for people with brain injury; and
- supported inclusive practices by employers.



**"I really enjoy
working as it
gives me a
purpose in life."**

Economic Participation Project: Disclosure – Who, What, Where, When, Why

Employment Project Cont.

BIAT has secured further NDIS ILC Economic Participation grant funding to deliver a second (12 month) project to expand the scale and scope of the Disclosure Project. This second project is named Employ Me.

The Employ Me project will continue to improve employment outcomes for people with brain injury. Additionally, using codesign practices, BIAT and its partner organisations will adapt the methodology and resources developed through the Disclosure Project, to make them applicable to people with brain injury in regional and remote areas; young people living with a range of disability types; and people with disability from First Nations communities.

BIAT's Employ Me Project partners are the Association for Children with Disability (Tas) and Brain Injury South Australia (BISA). The Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre (TAC) has been approached to partner with BIAT on the delivery of the First Nations component of the Employ Me Project.





Treasurer's Report

Rebecca O'Halloran

I have pleasure in presenting the Treasurer's Report for the Brain Injury Association of Tasmania (BIAT) for the year 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, and in confirming the financial performance for the fiscal year was in accordance with the budget approved by the BIAT Committee of Management. The Financial Report and Auditor's Report are provided as separate documents.

The audited Financial Statement shows a surplus of \$18 633 in the 2020-21 Financial Year. Whilst the surplus is less than the \$63 156 surplus in the prior year, it reflects a more usual year's operational funding and expenditure for BIAT's activities. The previous year's surplus was mostly COVID-19 related and included the Federal Government Cash Flow Boost and reductions in conference and travel expenditure.

The Statement of Financial Position shows BIAT's accumulated funds (reserves) of \$214 155. The BIAT Committee of Management remains conscious of the need for a solid financial position to buffer the organisation from future financial risks. Its focus on good financial management encompasses the need to ensure that BIAT can meet all potential liabilities and remains financially sustainable. As a result of the increase in equity it is intended that a review of the Financial Contingency Reserve will be undertaken in 2021-22.

Treasurer's Report Cont.

The cash position, along with the organisation's reserves and the grant funding for 2021-2022 that is held in Unexpended Grants, are the basis for the Committee of Management declaration in the audit report that BIAT can meet its debts as they fall due.

Income

The 2020-21 financial year saw cessation of BIAT's two 12-month NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) grants - the Disabled People and Families Organisation (DPFO) – *Rethinking Brain Injury Project* and the Economic Participation – *Disclosure: Who What Where When Why Project*.

A new fee for service activity, Personal Story Videos, commenced in 2020-21. The income of \$2 385 is offset by expenses for a videographer and staff wages. Training fees were received for online brain injury training provided by BIAT through a consultant. The income is offset by Professional Fees.

Grant funding was received for the DPFO Project: *Recognise, Respect, Respond and Reform*. The funding was granted in 2019-20 however project commencement was deferred from 1 March 2020 to 1 August 2020 due to Covid-19. The project completion date remains 28 February 2023. Grant funding was also received in advance for the ILC Economic Participation Program *Employ Me Project* which commences in July 2021. \$1 762 was expended in the current financial year on set-up costs for the project.

Expenditure

There was growth in expenditure commensurate with the increase in program activity. Mostly this translated as increased staffing and professional fees to support programs.

In closing I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Department of Social Services and the Motor Accident Insurance Board for their ongoing support of the work of BIAT.



**BRAIN INJURY
ASSOCIATION**
OF TASMANIA

2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2021

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<u>INCOME – DoC, MAIB, OTHER</u>		
Subscriptions	562.17	585.00
Grants- MAIB	91 670.00	90 000.00
Grants - DoC	20 000.00	73 790.46
Grants – Other	5 750.00	6 284.15
Personal Story Videos	2 385.00	-
Interest received	1 281.56	2 391.29
Donations	2 411.11	3 425.00
BIAT Training Fees	11 216.13	5 000.00
BIAT Consultancy Fee	4 000.00	-
Sundry Income	196.40	-
Federal Govt Cash Flow Boost	27 027.00	27 636.00
Sub Total Income	166 499.37	209 111.90
	2021 \$	2020 \$
<u>INCOME – ILC GRANTS</u>		
DPFO ICB	4 206.04	90 504.24
DPFO OCB	4 205.98	77 749.30
Economic Participation	27 945.00	102 052.00
DPFO RRRR	379 554.65	5 159.85
Employ Me	1 762.00	-
Sub Total Income	417 673.67	275 465.39
TOTAL INCOME	<u>584 173.04</u>	<u>484 577.29</u>

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2021

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
EXPENDITURE – DoC, MAIB, OTHER		
Audit Fee	925.00	1 850.00
Depreciation	-	5 494.50
Employee Entitlements	-	16 705.74
Insurance	1 316.87	4 396.29
Meeting Expenses/Venue Hire	964.37	-
Motor Vehicle Expenses	39.09	1 934.31
Office Expenses	2 447.87	4 069.17
New Equipment Purchases	1 888.37	-
Printing, Stationery, Postage	227.57	920.54
Professional Fees	25 874.54	3 877.30
Promotional Activities	814.37	1 458.43
Office Rental	2 489.61	(183.27)
Salaries	79 047.01	97 285.75
Superannuation	7 407.87	9 134.20
Subscriptions	806.44	1 314.30
Sundry Expenses	2 337.69	447.39
Telephone	1 069.15	1 837.37
Conference Attendance, Travel & Accommodation	1 729.62	4 759.22
Training	7 126.09	1 947.91
Sub Total Expenditure	136 511.53	157 249.15

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2021

	2021 \$	2020 \$
EXPENDITURE – ILC PROJECTS		
Audit Fee	925.00	-
Depreciation	4 120.84	-
Employee Entitlements	6 493.73	-
Insurance	8 384.92	3 126.05
Meeting Expenses/Venue Hire	1 801.78	-
Motor Vehicle Expenses	2 136.89	
New Equipment Purchases	9 918.86	-
Office Expenses	10 345.81	17 050.27
Printing, Stationery, Postage	1 710.51	1 736.95
Professional Fees	60 165.28	12 474.16
Office Rental	15 512.90	14 514.53
Salaries	268 199.92	188 314.82
Superannuation	24 985.43	17 838.18
Subscriptions	1 887.21	-
Sundry Expenses	42.68	-
Telephone	5 406.92	3 400.06
Training	1 590.27	-
Travel & Accommodation/ Conference Attendance	5 399.34	5717.09
 Sub Total Expenditure	 429 028.29	 264 172.11
 TOTAL EXPENDITURE	 <u>565 539.82</u>	 <u>421 421.26</u>
 SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR YEAR	 <u>18 633.22</u>	 <u>63 156.03</u>

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30TH JUNE 2021

	2021 \$	2020 \$
MEMBERS' EQUITY		
GENERAL		
Financial Contingency Reserve	126 171.00	126 171.00
Accumulated Funds Brought Forward	69 351.10	6 195.07
Add Surplus (Deficit) for the year	18 633.22	63 156.03
TOTAL MEMBERS' EQUITY	<u>214 155.32</u>	<u>195 522.10</u>
Represented by:-		
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Motor Vehicles @ cost	28 512.12	28 512.12
Less Provision for Depreciation	<u>(16 149.42)</u>	<u>(12 028.58)</u>
	12 362.69	16 483.53
Total Non-Current Assets	<u>12 362.69</u>	<u>16 483.53</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at Bank - MyState	2 644.53	2 644.53
Cash at Bank – ANZ	1 512 217.48	992 524.57
Cash at Bank – Donations/Grants	147 520.62	150 666.15
Shares – MyState	10.00	10.00
Accounts Receivable	7 456.10	1 354.76
Undeposited Funds	-	-
MyState Shares	2 294.25	2 294.25
Trade Debtors	-	1 168.33
Investment - ANZ	129 050.09	<u>127 768.53</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>1 811 193.07</u>	<u>1 278 431.12</u>
Total Assets	<u>1 823 555.76</u>	<u>1 294 914.65</u>

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30TH JUNE 2021

	2021 \$	2020 \$
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
ANZ – BIAT Company Card	858.52	1 996.27
Annual leave provision	17 205.49	13 044.01
Payroll Clearing	60.00	60.00
Superannuation Payable	3 072.78	62.11
Tax Payable	-	(2067.57)
Tax Payable PAYG	.30	.30
Training Fees (Training Deferred)	3 620.00	3 620.00
Unexpended Grant – BrainLink Project	11 834.79	11 834.79
Unexpended Grant – MAIB	15 830.00	7 500
Unexpended Grant – DPFO ILC – ICB	-	4 206.04
Unexpended Grant – DPFO ILC – OCB	-	4 205.98
Unexpended Grant – Economic Participation	-	27 945.00
Unexpended Grant – DPFO ILC – RRRR	1 076 815.75	969 193.65
Unexpended Grant – DoC Scoping	-	20 000.00
Unexpended Grant – ILC – Employ Me	370 889.50	-
Total Current Liabilities	<u>1 569 276.22</u>	<u>1 061 600.58</u>
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provision for long-service leave	40 124.22	37 791.97
Total Non Current Liabilities	40 124.22	37 791.97
Total Liabilities	<u>1 609 400.44</u>	<u>1 099 392.55</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>214 155.32</u>	<u>195 522.10</u>

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

AS AT 30TH JUNE 2021

President	Dario Tomat
Vice President	Helen Mulcahy
Treasurer	Rebeccah O'Halloran
Secretary	Janine Martin

To the best of our knowledge and belief the above named comprised the executive of the Brain Injury Association of Tasmania Inc as at 30 June 2021.



Bentleys Tasmania Audit Pty Ltd
Registered Audit Company
Michael Ian Derbyshire
Director

Hobart this 15th day of December 2021

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BRAIN
 INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC
 ABN: 42 686 820 819**

Opinion

We have audited the special purpose financial report of Brain Injury Association of Tasmania Inc (the Entity), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2021, the profit and loss statement for the year then ended and notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

In our opinion the financial report of Brain Injury Association of Tasmania Inc has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2021, and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The special purpose financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the responsible entities' financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibility of the Committee for the Financial Report

The Committee of the registered entity is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act and the needs of the members. The Committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the Committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Committee is responsible for assessing the registered entities ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Committee either intends to liquidate the registered entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by responsible entities.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the responsible entities' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Michael Ian Derbyshire
Director

15 December 2021

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2021

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (1964). The financial report is prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the association in the preparation of the financial report:

a) PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Property, plant & equipment are recorded at cost. The depreciable amounts of capitalised fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives to the association, commencing in the year of acquisition. The straight line and reducing balance methods of depreciation are used. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to present values in determining the recoverable amount. 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 the disposal and the proceeds of the disposal, and is included in the operating profit of the association in the year of disposal.

b) PROVISIONS FOR EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS

Provision is made for the associations' liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee entitlements expected to be settled within one year together with entitlements arising from wages and salaries and annual leave which will be settled after one year have been measured at their nominal amount.

c) SUPERANNUATION

Contributions are made to the employee superannuation funds in accordance with the requirements of the Superannuation Guarantee Levy.

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.
STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

In the opinion of the Committee the attached financial report:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of the Brain Injury Association of Tasmania Inc. as at 30 June 2021 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, mandatory professional reporting requirements and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Brain Injury Association of Tasmania Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
3. Grants received were disbursed for the purposes for which they were given.

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

Committee Member.....

Committee Member.....

Hobart this 22nd day of November 2021

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2021

d) **INCOME TAX**

The association is exempt from income tax and tax effect accounting is therefore not appropriate.

e) **CASH**

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash at bank and on deposit.

f) **REVENUE**

Operating Grant revenue is recognised in the period to which it relates.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

g) **GOODS & SERVICES TAX (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the Statement of Financial Position are shown exclusive of GST.

h) **LEASES**

Lease payments under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

NOTE 2: EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO REPORTING DATE

Since 30 June 2021, no event has arisen that would significantly or may significantly affect the operation of the association, the result of those operations, or the state of affairs of the association in subsequent financial years.

NOTE 3: PRESENTATION AND DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The application of the relevant Accounting Standard has been considered, however the additional disclosure required, particularly concerning the fair value of financial instruments, would not be materially different to the disclosure already reflected in these financial statements.

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.
COMMITTEES' REPORT

Your committee members submit the financial report of Brain Injury Association of Tasmania Inc. for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The names of the committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

D Tomat
H Mulcahy
J Martin

B O'Halloran
C Roddy
G Harwood

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the Association during the financial year was to deliver Department of Social Services and MAIB funded projects for people living with or impacted by brain injury.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

No significant change in the nature of this activity occurred during the year.

OPERATING RESULTS

The surplus from ordinary activities amounted to \$18 633.22

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.



.....
Committee Member



.....
Committee Member

Dated at Hobart this 22nd day of November 2021



A voice for brain injury in Tasmania.

2020-2021 Annual Report



BRAIN INJURY
ASSOCIATION
OF TASMANIA

Web

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