



Annual Report

2019/2020



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About BIAT

The Brain Injury Association of Tasmania (BIAT) is recognised as having specialist knowledge of brain injury and its effects on individuals, families and communities. Established in 1998, BIAT provides a public voice for all Tasmanians impacted by brain injury.

The work of the Association includes delivery of projects funded through the National Disability Insurance Agency, and the provision of brain injury specific information, referral, training, education, representation and systems advocacy.

Our People

Committee of Management:

President:	Dario Tomat
Vice-President:	Helen Mulcahy
Treasurer:	Rebecca O'Halloran
Secretary:	Janine Martin
Committee Members:	Leanne Whitney
	Charlene Barach (appointed Dec 2019)
	Geraldine Harwood (appointed Dec 2019)
	Clare Ramsden (resigned Dec 2019)

Staff:

Executive Officer:	Deborah Byrne
Project Officers:	Rosie Mooney (full-time)
	Robyn McWaldron (full-time – employed Sept 19)
	Sienna Tilley (part-time – employed Mar 20)
Administrative Assistant:	Lisa Wicks (part-time 2 Sept 19 – 30 June 20)
Media Consultant:	Dominic Anastasio

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 generally defined as any injury or damage to the brain that occurs after birth. The term brain injury, or acquired brain injury (ABI), refers to any type of brain disorder or neurological disruption which is acquired, rather than developmental.

Brain injury can result in mild, moderate or severe deterioration in cognitive, physical, emotional or independent functioning. The effects of brain injury can be temporary or permanent. The physical disabilities following brain injury can be quite easy to see, but disabilities that affect thinking, emotion and behaviour can be far harder to identify. For this reason, brain injury is sometimes called a hidden or invisible disability. Because the injury can't be seen, this means that people who have a brain injury can often be misunderstood and treated differently.

Due to the complex nature of the brain, every brain injury is unique.

“If you have met one person with brain injury, you have met one person with 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. car accidents; falls; sporting accidents; repeated knocks to the head or concussions; assaults; domestic violence.

Hypoxic/Anoxic Injuries

Lack of oxygen to the brain from stroke, 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.

Degenerative Diseases

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

Infections & Diseases

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

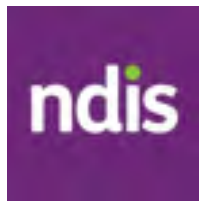
Epilepsy

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

The Brain Injury Association of Tasmania would like to acknowledge and thank our funders: - the Motor Accident Insurance Board (MAIB), the Department of Communities (Disability and Community Services), and the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), 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.



2019-2020 Snap Shot

2019

• July

- Rethinking Brain Injury Project commences – see page 33
Funded by a National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) Disabled Persons and Family Organisation (DPFO) grant, the aim of the 12-month project is to build innovative ways to increase the independence and social and community participation of people with brain injury, and to build the capacity of BIAT to provide information, linkages and referral information to people with brain injury and organisations.



August

- Tasmanian Launch of National Brain Injury Awareness Week 2019 - see page 29. Izzy Elliott from Scrunch_Iz donates \$1,000 to BIAT in memory of her Uncle Brodie Saville.
- Tasmanian and Victorian launch of Brain Injury Assist 'Let's Talk About Brain Injury' resources and website – developed by BrainLink Services Ltd in partnership with BIAT: www.braininjuryassist.org.au.
- RYDA (Rotary Youth Driver Awareness) Program – BIAT presents 'Crash Investigator' session 3 x a day for 16 days to over 2,500 year 10 students from 32 schools across Southern Tasmania – co-presenter Alf Archer shares his lived experience of brain injury from a car crash.

2,500+ School students attend the 2019 RYDA program.

- Custody For Life (CFL) Brain Injury Prevention session held – first of four during the reporting period.

33 Total attendance of young 'at risk' Tasmanians.

- BIAT invited by the George Institute for Global Health (TGI) to consult on stakeholder actions, priorities and support for a National Injury Prevention Strategy.
- BIAT, and a wide range of sector representatives, invited to participate in a Labor Health Roundtable.

● September

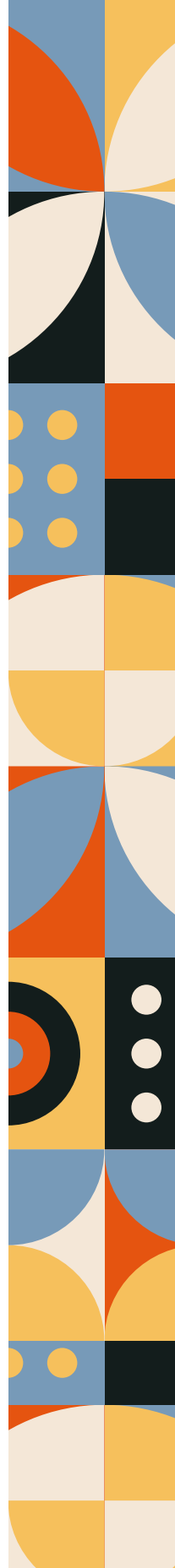
- BIAT staff doubles to four to support delivery of NDIA Information, Linkages and Capacity Building projects.
- Disclosure:- Who, What, When, Where, Why Project commences - see page 39. Funded by a National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) Economic Participation grant, the 12-month project sought to develop alternate ways for people with brain injury seeking or returning to employment to communicate the impact of their disability to potential employers, and to work with employers around reducing the barriers to employment for people with brain injury.
- BIAT Executive Officer presents at Tasmanian Health Service brain injury study day for rehabilitation staff.

● October

100th

Brain Injury Assistance Card
(Previously ABI Identification
Card) issued.

- Increased demand from outside Tasmania supports BIAT funding application to roll out the scheme nationally.
- BIAT team (including Social Work student on placement with BIAT) attend annual Health and Wellbeing Expo at Ron Barwick Minimum Security Prison in Hobart - providing information about brain injury, tip cards with coping strategies for common problems following brain injury, and weekly planners (to assist people with memory problems) to approximately 150 inmates. More detailed brain injury resources were made available for inmates and staff via the internal prison intranet.



November

- Rethinking Brain Injury Consultation Forums held in Hobart, Launceston and Ulverstone.

39 Attendance of people with brain injury and their family members/carers.

- BIAT Executive Officer, Deborah Byrne, attends Tasmanian Council of Social Service Inc) 'Lunch with the Treasurer' with The Hon Peter Gutwein MP and questions the Treasurer on the low level of investment by the Tasmanian Government into preventative strategies, and on the implications for the Tasmanian Government of the flawed National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Information, Linkages, and Capacity (ILC) Building Strategy.
- Brain Injury Association of Tasmania receives recognition for 20 years membership of National Disability Services (NDS).



● December

- Inaugural (Rethinking Brain Injury ILC Project) Brain Injury Peer Support Group held in Hobart.
- BIAT notified it has been successful in its application for a 3-year NDIA Individual Capacity Building (ICB) Grant – for the Recognise, Respect, Respond, Reform Project - see page 46.
- BIAT joins the Tasmanian Walking Company fundraising Program 2020.

2020

● January

- Inaugural (Rethinking Brain Injury ILC Project) Brain Injury Peer Support Groups held in Launceston and Ulverstone.
- BIAT invited to act as a consumer representative for THS Traumatic Brain Injury Better Patient Pathways (TBI BPP) Project. TBI BPP project aims to make sure people can access appropriate, timely and consistent health services in Tasmania for a traumatic brain injury.

● February

- BIAT brochures sent to all Tasmanian GP practices and medical centres.
- First tranche of Economic Participation Project videos finalised and provided to Disability Employment Service (DES) providers.

60

People in Hobart and Launceston register for brain injury training, facilitated by Melbourne based neuropsychologist Sue Sloan.



March

- BIAT Executive Officer, Deborah Byrne, meets with the Hon Bill Shorten in Melbourne re Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Strategy.
- Joint Brain Injury and Stroke Peer Support Group held in Hobart with guest speaker - retired neuropsychologist, Mark Lamont.
- Additional ILC Project project officer (part-time) commences.
- BIAT staff start working from home due to COVID-19 restrictions.



- All face-to-face meetings and events postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions – including Custody for Life, Brain Injury Peer Support, and Brain Injury Training with Sue Sloan.
- After 21 years, Tasmanian State Government funding to BIAT ceases.

● April

- Series of animated instructionals produced to assist people to download and use Zoom to participate in online Peer Support Groups.
- Monash University Occupational Therapy (OT) students begin 8 week part-time 'placement' with BIAT (via Zoom).

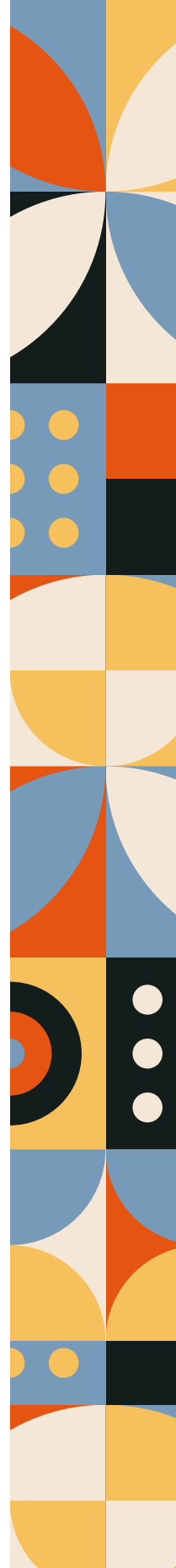
● May

- Brain Injury Peer Support Groups move online due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- BIAT, Wellways and BrainLink (Victoria) partner for ILC DPFO grant to establish peer led training and development with and for people with brain injury and their support networks. Grant application unsuccessful.

1,400

Referral Database Surveys sent to service providers and organisations

- This was a part of the Rethinking Brain Injury Project – custom built database developed to improve referral pathways and outcomes for people living with brain injury.
- BIAT website updated, streamlining layout and creating user specific 'How can BIAT assist me?' sections to improve the flow of information for visitors to the site:
www.biat.org.au



June

- Private Brain Injury Peer Support Facebook Groups launched - one for people living with brain injury and one for family members/carers of people with brain injury.
- Nutrition for Brain Health – statewide online Brain Injury Peer Support Group held with guest speaker - Rebecca Templar from Ulverstone Nutritional Health.
- Brain Injury Peer Support Program Video and Guide launched (Rethinking Brain Injury Project).
- Tasmanian Department of Communities provides BIAT with small, short-term grant for environmental scan of other revenue opportunities besides ILC grants.



Connecting with the community

Between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020:

160+ enquiries

- BIAT received over 160 enquiries for assistance, information and referral – from people living with brain injury, their family members and service providers. Of these enquiries BIAT:
 - assisted over 70 individuals/families to access disability and mainstream services through direct and indirect referrals from BIAT; and
 - provided information about brain injury and BIAT services to 130 individuals/families.

11 Brain Injury Peer Support Groups

- Nine face-to-face, and two online, Brain Injury Peer Support Groups were held – with an active membership of 38 people;

19 new cards

- Nineteen new Brain Injury Assistance Cards (previously Acquired Brain Injury ID Cards) were issued, eleven to people living in Tasmania and eight to people living in other states in Australia. Due to continued interest in the Assistance Card from inter-state, the Card will be rolled out Nationally over the next three years as part of a new BIAT NDIA ILC Project;

25% social increase

- The number of people who 'like' the BIAT Facebook page increased 25% to 684 people;

7 E-news bulletins

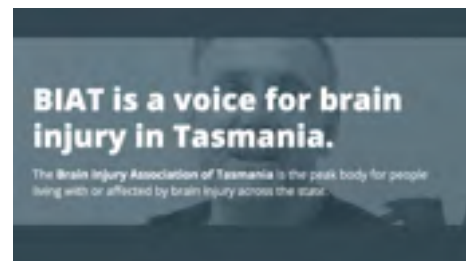
- BIAT produced seven E-news bulletins which have been circulated (via email and post) to BIAT members and newsletter subscribers, a direct reach of over 580 people per edition. E-news bulletins available on BIAT website: www.biat.org.au/resources;

4 newspaper articles

- BIAT featured in four newspaper articles and four radio interviews.



BIAT and Scrunch-Iz featured in a local newspaper.



An update to the BIAT website focus and an increase in social media likes.

President's Report

This financial year has been like no other with devastating bush fires followed by a pandemic that has completely changed the way we look at life. COVID-19 challenges impacted significantly on Brain Injury Association of Tasmania (BIAT) staff with the office closing and staff working from home for much of the second half of the financial year. I would like to thank everyone for their tireless efforts to keep BIAT functional in these trying circumstances.

It was during this time that our State Government grant funding ceased. I would like to acknowledge and thank the Department of Communities (formerly the Department of Health and Human Services) for their many years of support, and for the assistance provided during the transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).



President's Report Continued

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) provided grant funding for various projects during 2019-2020 which, while not directly contributing to the day to day expenses of BIAT operations in the way State Government funding worked, generated a lot of project work for BIAT which Deb and the team are successfully managing.

As detailed in this Report the 12-month Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) Disabled People and Families Organisation (DPFO) project – Rethinking Brain Injury - was completed during the year with the final report submitted to the NDIA at the end of July 2020. This project involved identifying innovative ways to increase the independence, and social and community participation of people with brain injury, including establishment of brain injury Peer Support Groups in Hobart, Launceston and Ulverstone.

The Rethinking Brain Injury Project also included an Organisational Capacity Building component, providing the basis for development of a Client Referral Management System. With BIAT no longer funded to provide information linkages and referral information to people living with or impacted by brain injury, work is continuing on identifying information sharing opportunities, including supporting the work of NDIA Local Area Coordinators.

In September BIAT commenced the ILC Economic Participation project – Disclosure: Who, What, Where, When, Why that co-designed and developed a suite of tools to improve employment outcomes for people with brain injury seeking or returning to employment.

Brain Injury Awareness Week 2019 was an opportunity to launch the Brain Injury Assist Resources that were developed by BrainLink Victoria in partnership with BIAT during the year.

President's Report Continued

Senator Catryna Bilyk launched National Brain Injury Awareness Week in Tasmania sharing her story, in a moving address, of dealing with a medically acquired brain injury. We were also able to celebrate the fundraising efforts of Izzy Elliott who used her sewing skills to make hair accessories that she sold to raise funds for BIAT. Her efforts contributed \$1,000 and it is wonderful to see that Izzy who is only 11 years old, has the skills and commitment to be so community spirited. Thank you Izzy.

BIAT, largely through Deb's efforts, continues to make significant submissions for project funding across a range of initiatives and with these considerable success has rewarded her hard work. One key project is a 3-year DFPO project working across the criminal justice area where people with a brain injury are over-represented.

We were delighted to welcome Project Officers Robyn McWaldron and Sienna Tilley, and Admin Assistant Lisa Wicks to our team during the year to support the work of Deb, Rosie and Dom in delivering BIAT projects that will directly benefit all people living with or impacted by brain injury both locally and, through some projects, nationally.

The past year has been a real "coming of age" for BIAT with increased capability being delivered. This growth has been aided by work and mentoring provided by Alison Smith from Strategic Leverage. Alison recently supported development of an environmental scan including how BIAT can leverage project funding and successes for ongoing viability. BIAT thanks the Department of Communities for the grant of \$20,000 to assist with the cost of this work. Alison's report provides a strategic springboard for BIAT's future direction and will provide guidance to management and the Committee over the next strategic visioning period.



President's Report Continued

In closing I want to express my thanks to Deb, Rosie, Robyn, Lisa, Sienna and Dom for their work during what has been a difficult period. I also appreciate the engagement of the members of the Committee of Management during the year.

Dario Tomat

**President
Brain Injury Association of Tasmania**



Executive Officer's Report

Writing this report each year provides opportunities for reflection - to take stock of the learnings and insights BIAT has gathered throughout the year, and to focus afresh on the year ahead. In preparing for this report I have reflected on a financial year that, for BIAT, has seen major changes to its role and funding, significant achievements and a final quarter with one of the biggest challenges we, and society as a whole, have ever faced as we learn to live in a world impacted by COVID-19.

As stated in previous Annual Reports, the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has significantly changed the landscape within which BIAT operates. With the knowledge that our Tasmanian Government funding would cease this financial year, BIAT has spent a significant amount of time over the past few years positioning (and repositioning) the organisation for grant applications under the ever changing NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Strategy.



Executive Officer's Report Continued

As detailed in this Annual Report, BIAT has been successful to date with three (2 x 12-month and 1 x 3-year) ILC grants.

During the 2019-2020 financial year, services and project activities were delivered by BIAT's Executive Officer, three Project Officers (two full-time, one part-time) and a part-time Administration Assistant, and governed by a seven-member (volunteer) Committee of Management (COM).

Although our focus of being a voice for and support to the brain injury community in Tasmania has remained unchanged, the suite of services and programs we offer has. Despite BIAT no longer being funded to provide its specialist brain injury information and referral service, it remains the first port of call for many Tasmanians. BIAT remains committed to ensuring Tasmanians have timely access to information and high quality local support. To this end, BIAT has approached Baptcare and Mission Australia with a view to a co-location arrangement with NDIA Local Area Co-ordinators and has developed a proposal for Synapse's consideration for delivering ILC National Information Program services in Tasmania, on behalf of Synapse, under a commercial arrangement.

With an estimated 89% of people with disability not eligible for an NDIS individual funded package, and only 0.06% of the NDIS budget allocated to ILC, BIAT continues to use its position and reputation to influence and inform policy development within government and other relevant organisations/bodies. During the past 12 months BIAT has continued to raise concerns about the ILC Strategy, including meeting with the Hon Bill Shorten, and the NDIA Branch Manager, Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Programs.

Executive Officer's Report Continued

As it currently stands the ILC Strategy is fundamentally flawed – a one-size fits all system that is not fit for purpose. It is a project-by-project strategy with a narrow focus on a limited range of outcomes.

It does not take into consideration the broad array of activities most ILC type services provide, and it does not consistently adhere to the NDIA's espoused value of "place based responses to meet local need." Whilst in the short term it will provide some programs and supports not previously available, in the long term it 'offers' expensive bandaid solutions that do not contribute toward an effective, sustainable, efficient and reliable supply of services across the board.

In June 2020, BIAT was advised that the grants component of the ILC will be transitioned from the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) to the Department of Social Services (DSS). In close consultation with states, territories, the NDIA and people with disability DSS will, over the next 12 months, also lead a review of the ILC program and the development of a new (the 3rd) Investment Strategy. It remains to be seen as to whether this review will result in an ILC Strategy that is fit for purpose.

BIAT has undertaken a number of activities in 2019-2020 relating to its sustainability as an organisation for people living with or impacted by brain injury, including approaching a number of its sector colleagues to discuss organisational co-operation and partnership with a view to reducing administrative expenses and governance burdens. The Tasmanian Department of Communities also funded BIAT to engage a business consultant – Alison Smith, Strategic Leverage - to chart a way forward for BIAT. Alison has recently submitted her report and presented her findings to the BIAT Committee of Management.





Executive Officer's Report Continued

Whilst concerns for BIAT's ongoing viability beyond the life of the RRRR program remain, I am proud of the way BIAT has grown and adapted to the enormous change it has faced over the past few years.

The skills of our team have been extended through the addition of Robyn and Sienna, with BIAT's workforce now boasting a fantastic team of project officers to deliver and support our projects. Our staff are the backbone of our organisation and, as always, they have done an outstanding job, particularly so, in an extremely challenging year. Our COM skills were also bolstered with new appointments - Charlene and Geraldine - and we are lucky to have them onboard.

An overview of BIAT's ILC Projects – completed and underway – has been included in the report and detailed final reports for the Rethinking Brain Injury Project and the Disclosure: Who, What, Where, When, Why Project are available on BIAT's website. I am immensely proud of the outcomes achieved in these Projects and look forward to delivering on the Recognise, Respect, Respond and Reform Project which includes BIAT rolling out nationally the Brain Injury Assist Card (formerly ABI ID Card).

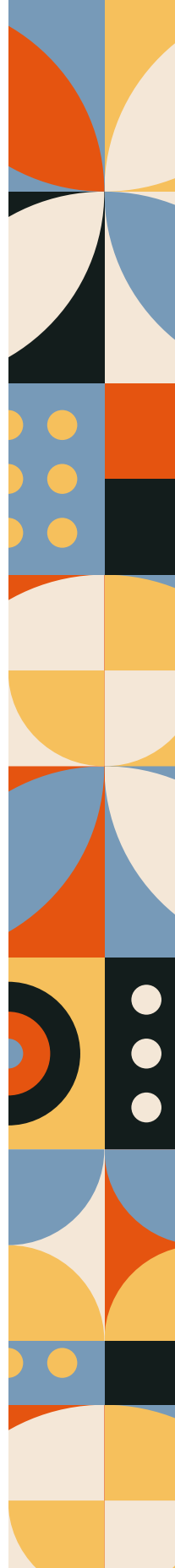
Community awareness of brain injury is vital to create a community that is inclusive of people living with brain injury. BIAT has increased its reach and profile within the Tasmanian community and will continue to seek out any opportunity to improve community awareness and understanding of the impact of brain injury on the lives of all Tasmanians.

Education raises awareness of the existence and effects of brain injury, including the behavioural and other changes it can lead to, which is important to reduce discrimination and to promote participation of people impacted by brain injury.

Executive Officer's Report Continued

BIAT has for many years offered education to individuals and their families, as well as to schools, community and mainstream organisations including: -

- The Custody for Life (CFL) Brain Injury Prevention Program which continues to be run in conjunction with Tasmania Police and Community Youth Justice. Co-presented with a person with brain injury, the CFL program aims to prevent brain injury by making young people more aware of the long-term impact a brain injury can have on their lives, and the lives of their families and friends. The session has been designed to raise awareness of the relationship between high-risk behaviours such as assault, binge drinking, and drink driving, and sustaining a brain injury. Thirty-three young people attended a CFL session during the 2019-2020 financial year, with most referrals related to assault or traffic related offences. COVID-19 restrictions resulted in CFL session being postponed from March-August 2020; all referrals received during this time were held over and actioned in September 2020. Feedback from the Tasmania Police Early Intervention Unit highlights their support and the need for the CFL program: "Thank you for providing this very valuable service to our young at-risk vulnerable people."
- RYDA (Rotary Youth Driver Awareness) Program - BIAT delivered 16 days of 'Crash Investigator' sessions at 3 sessions per day in August/September 2019 as part of the annual RYDA Program. During the 16-day period over 2,500 Grade 10 students from across Southern Tasmania attended the session. The RYDA Program aims to challenge the way students think about road safety and to equip them with new skills and strategies for keeping themselves and others safe when on the road.





Executive Officer's Report Continued

- The 'Crash Investigator' component is particularly well received by participants and acknowledgement is again given to Alf Archer who co-presents every session with BIAT, sharing valuable insights on life with brain injury sustained as a result of a motor vehicle crash. The sessions provide a unique opportunity for students to interview Alf and investigate the event that changed his life. BIAT consider it a privilege to participate in the RYDA program and have the opportunity to influence young lives.

BIAT remains committed to the view that people with brain injury:

- have the knowledge, skills and confidence to participate and contribute to the community;
- are connected and have the information they need to make choices and decisions;
- use and benefit from the same mainstream services as everyone else; and
- use and benefit from the same community activities as everyone else.

Our vision is to see that brain injury will never be a barrier and I am more confident than ever that this vision can become a reality for the brain injury community in Tasmania. We would not be able to achieve this vision however without our funding partners – my thanks to the Motor Accident Insurance Board, National Disability Insurance Agency and Tasmanian Department of Communities.

In closing I extend my immense gratitude to the outstanding BIAT staff and Committee of Management; collectively these people ensure BIAT delivers high quality and diverse supports to people living with or impacted by brain injury.

Executive Officer's Report Continued

You are a professional and incredibly hardworking team and our brain injury community benefits from your skill, dedication and expertise every day.

Lastly, to the brain injury community – you are an inspiration. Every day you accomplish and achieve goals that many could not fathom. I wish you every success as you continue on your journeys to living fulfilled and meaningful lives and hope BIAT has contributed, and continues to contribute, to that journey.

Deborah Byrne

**Executive Officer
Brain Injury Association of Tasmania**



National Brain Injury Awareness Week

theadvocate.com.au

Monday August 12, 2019 THE ADVOCATE 53

BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS WEEK ADVERTISING FEATURE

Spotlight on brain injury

NATIONAL Brain Injury Awareness Week, August 19-25, aims to raise awareness of brain injury in the community.

It is a significant week not only for people who live with or are affected by brain injury but also for organisations, like the Brain Injury Association of Tasmania (BIAT), that support them.

Brain tumour survivor, senator Catryna Bilyk will launch National Brain Injury Awareness Week in Tasmania at Hobart Monday, August 19 at 11am and share her brain tumour survival journey.

This year's event (at the ABC Building in Liverpool Street) will also include the Tasmanian launch of BrainLink's Practical Guide for Families and People with an ABI resources, and the launch of two Tasmanian brain injury-specific NERS information, Linkers and Capacity Building (EC) projects.

In addition to increasing general community understanding of brain injury, Brain Injury Awareness Week in 2019 will also focus



AWARENESS: For people living with or impacted by brain injury, often referred to as the hidden disability, advancing community attitudes towards and understanding of brain injury is critical.

on brain tumours.

Tumours cause damage to the surrounding brain tissue and structures as they grow within the brain.

Every year an estimated 2000 malignant (cancerous)

brain tumours are diagnosed in Australia. Benign or non-cancerous brain tumours, which are more common than malignant tumours, can prevent an area of the brain from function-

ing properly.

Brain injury has many different causes, including trauma, stroke, infection, tumours, drugs or alcohol. It can happen to anyone, anywhere, at any time during a

person's life.

Very few of us, however, wake up each morning and consciously think about the impact a brain injury could have on our life, or what we will do that day to avoid a brain injury.

The Brain Injury Association of Tasmania works to raise community awareness of brain injury and its impacts, and to reduce the incidence of brain injury.

BIAT also drives change to improve the lives of and provides a voice for people living with or affected by brain injury.

Acquired brain injury (ABI) is not aging, a disease, a mental illness, or an intellectual disability. It is a complex spectrum disorder that refers to any type of brain damage or neurological dis-

ruption occurring after birth. It is a common disability in the community affecting over 1.6 million Australians, or one in 33.

Although this figure is large, it underestimates the true impact of brain injury, as many individuals with mild injury are often unknown to the system.

This is partly because physical impairments, which are easily detectable, are frequently mild or absent when ABI, while the more common disabling problems of cognitive and behaviour impairments are often not detected or are misdiagnosed by medical professionals.

For more information on brain injury contact BIAT on 1800 242 817 or enquiries@biat.org.au.

“Brain tumour survivor, senator Catryna Bilyk will launch National Brain Injury Awareness Week in Tasmania.

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. The week provides an opportunity to highlight some of the often-hidden impacts experienced by people living with brain injury and their families and carers, along with emphasising the fact that brain injury can happen to anyone, anywhere, at any time.

On Monday 19 August 2019, Senator Catryna Bilyk officially launched National Brain Injury Awareness Week in Tasmania at an event held by BIAT at the ABC Centre in Hobart. With National Brain Injury Awareness Week 2019 devoted to brain tumour, in addition to launching the week, Senator Bilyk generously shared her own experience of brain injury, sustained as a result of two brain tumour removal surgeries. BIAT is very grateful to Senator Bilyk for providing such a personal insight into life with brain injury, and for her ongoing support of BIAT and other brain injury charities.

The event also included:

- The launch of two brain injury specific NDIA Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Projects in Tasmania: Rethinking Brain Injury and Economic Participation: Disclosure – Who, What, Where, When Why projects, the outcomes of which are discussed later in this report;
- The Tasmanian launch of 'Let's Talk About Brain Injury', a practical guide for families and people with an acquired brain injury (ABI) – developed by BrainLink Services Ltd in partnership with BIAT. The Brain Injury Assist resource includes a booklet, fact cards, and series of videos, all available on a dedicated website: www.braininjuryassist.org.au The launch included a screening of three of the videos: 'Coping with Grief and Loss'; 'Brain Injury and Rehabilitation'; and 'What to Expect in Hospital', produced by Tasmanian media company Domin8 Media.



- The presentation of a cheque for \$1,000 by 11 year old Tasmanian schoolgirl, Izzy Elliott. In early 2019, Izzy learnt to make hair scrunchies, founded the initiative Scrunch_Iz, and started fundraising for BIAT in memory of her Uncle Brodie. Brodie Saville sustained a brain injury from a non-fatal drowning incident when he was 14 years old and sadly passed away in 2016 at the age of 29. Through her hard work, and kind and generous spirit, Izzy has ensured that her Uncle Brodie is remembered by the Tasmanian community, the community is more aware of brain injury, and BIAT is able to continue to support Tasmanian's impacted by brain injury.

Over 50 people attended the 2019 Tasmanian launch with Brain Injury Awareness Week Facebook posts having a collective 'reach' of over 2,000 people.



BIAT Projects

Stay Connected

Be Supported

Get Involved



The Value of Shared Experiences

A Brain Injury Peer Support Guide

Disabled People and Families Organisations (DPFO) Project: Rethinking Brain Injury

Project Title	Rethinking Brain Injury Project
Funding	12-month National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Disabled People and Families Organisations (DPFO) Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) grant
Project Title	1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020
Grant Purpose	Build innovative ways to increase the independence and social and community participation of people with brain injury, and build the capacity of BIAT to provide information, linkages and referral information to people with brain injury and organisations.

Building Individual Capability and Opportunity

Many people report losing self-confidence following a brain injury and the effects of brain injury can have a major impact on self-esteem. Capacity building, critical for people with brain injury, their families and support networks, improves people's confidence to negotiate what they want and how they want it. It enhances people's knowledge and skill potential to bring about personal change and to contribute to change at a broader level.

To support individual capacity building for people with brain injury, their families and support networks, BIAT successfully established a state-wide, co-designed Brain Injury Peer Support Program as part of the Rethinking Brain Injury Project.

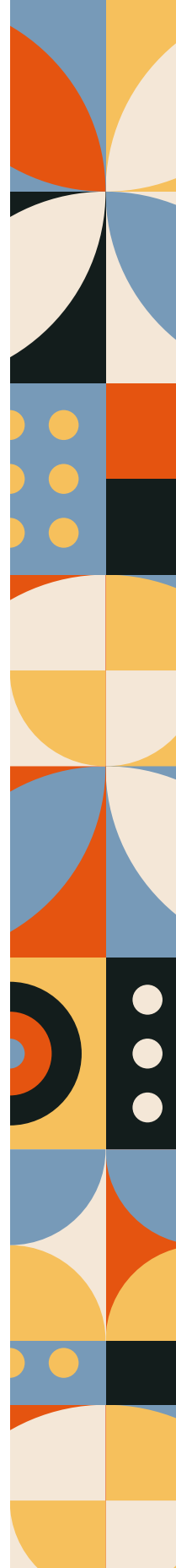
The Program links people experienced in negotiating disability and mainstream services with people more recently impacted by brain injury and, in doing so, has assisted people to build ordinary lives strengthened by relationships, not just services. Inaugural Brain Injury Peer Support Groups were held in Hobart, Launceston, and Ulverstone in December 2019 and January 2020, following state-wide consultations with people impacted by brain injury in November 2019.


The Peer Support Groups (PSGs) provided people with brain injury, their families and carers with an environment and opportunity to come together to learn and to support one another in their journey of living with brain injury. Peers provide emotional, practical and social support based on lived experience, and relationships are built which encourage participation and engagement of attendees.

PSG attendees also have the opportunity to socialise and share information about their experiences and to meet with other support groups (Stroke Support Group), and professionals such as retired neuropsychologist Mark Lamont, nutritionist Rebecca Templar, and representatives from mental health organisations such as Flourish and Stay Chatty.

Peer Support Group meetings were initially face-to-face, with COVID-19 social distancing requirements resulting in the formation of an additional online state-wide group, using Zoom. Nine face-to-face and two online Peer Support Group meetings were held within the Project timeframe (groups have continued to meet since the completion of the project, including a further six face-to-face and one online meeting).

Active Peer Support Program membership includes 38 people with brain injury and family members (20 in Hobart, and 9 in both Launceston and Ulverstone).





A further 94 non-active members engage with the Program via email and/or phone and receive all program materials circulated. Many non-active members have indicated they would like to attend peer support group meetings however, due to other pressures and commitments, it has not been possible.

One of the non-active members said “the information circulated by [BIAT] has been really useful. I have shared this information with family and friends to help them understand more about my brain injury. The information has really helped with my coping strategies.”

BIAT developed a number of resources to support Peer Support Program members to increase their skills and capacity, including: A Peer Support Program Guide, which outlines how to establish and manage a peer support group, a Peer Support Program video, and three animated instructional videos to assist participation in online meetings.

The evaluation phase of the Project evidenced the importance of the Brain Injury Peer Support Program to participants.

“I feel as if the peer support group has been extremely helpful, informational and comforting, and I will continue to attend the meetings, as I think it encourages me to pursue the good life.”

(Peer Support Program Participant)

91% of evaluation respondents reported it was very important that the Peer Support Program was brain injury specific, and 57% of evaluation respondents reported they had shared information on brain injury that they learnt from Peer Support meetings with other people outside the group.

“It was great to hear from others about their journey. To know that we are not alone is wonderful.”


(Peer Support Program Participant)

“The best thing about the Program has been the connections. Meeting others in similar situations. Being able to talk about a subject which isn’t interesting to others (work colleagues) but is interesting to the people attending [the meeting].”

(Peer Support Program Participant)

More information about the Peer Support Program and the accompanying resources can be viewed on the BIAT website: www.biat.org.au/information-referral/brain-injury-peer-support-program





Building Organisational Capability and Engagement

The organisational capacity component of the Rethinking Brain Injury Project comprised the development of a purpose-built Client and Referral Management (CRM) system to support BIAT's information, advice and referral service. The CRM system facilitates the provision of a range of brain injury specific information, linkages and referral information to people with brain injury, their families, carers, service providers (mainstream and disability) and the broader community.

BIAT regularly receives enquiries from people with brain injury, their families, carers, and service providers. The Client Management Database component of the CRM system will routinely and consistently capture this contact with BIAT, assisting with efficient service provision and recording key areas of enquiry to identify service gaps and priorities for improvement in Tasmania.

For the Brain Injury Referral Database component of the CRM system, over 1,400 Tasmanian service providers and organisations across mainstream, disability and community sectors were invited to complete an online Brain Injury Referral Survey. While the low response rate of 18.5% was disappointing, the resulting addition of 195 new referral sources of service providers and organisations who provide services for people with brain injury, including referral criteria documentation, has improved referral pathways and outcomes for people living with brain injury.

The Rethinking Brain Injury Project Client and Referral Management (CRM) system has:

- supported BIAT's response to over 160 enquiries for assistance, information and referral (contacts included: 66 people with brain injury, 21 family members, 49 service providers);
- generated 195 new referral sources via an online Referral Survey of Tasmanian service providers and organisations;
- assisted over 70 people with brain injury, their families and service providers to access disability and mainstream services through direct and indirect referrals from BIAT;
- facilitated provision of information about brain injury and BIAT services, including BIATs Peer Support Program, to 130 people – including people with brain injury, their families and service providers;
- been utilised to develop a series of service-specific referral information resources for people impacted by brain injury;
- raised awareness of brain injury and BIAT services, with over 1,400 Tasmanian service providers/organisations through their invitation to participate in the Brain Injury Referral Database online survey.

Conclusion

Following completion of the Rethinking Brain Injury Project BIAT made a number of recommendations and are continuing to explore options for meeting the information and referral needs of people living with or impacted by brain injury in Tasmania.

A copy of the Rethinking Brain Injury Project Review and Evaluation Final Report is available on the BIAT website: www.biat.org.au/resources



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

Project Title	Disclosure: Who, What, Where, When, Why
Funding	12-month National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Economic Participation Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) grant
Project Title	1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020
Grant Purpose	Improve employment outcomes for people living with brain injury.

‘Empowering people seeking employment to tell their story, their way, increases their capacity to live an ordinary life and benefit from the same community activities as everyone else.’

The 12-month Disclosure: Who What Where When Why – (Disclosure Project) Project focussed on ensuring people living with brain injury seeking employment have control over, and are empowered to choose, what and how they want potential employers and others to know about them and/or their disability. It sought to develop alternate ways for people with brain injury seeking or returning to employment to communicate the impact of their disability to potential employers, and to work with employers around reducing the barriers to employment for people with brain injury.

A partnership was established with four Disability Employment Service (DES) providers, and a Project Reference Group was formed, comprising BIAT's Executive Officer and Employment Project Manager, two people living with brain injury and two DES providers.

Disclosure tools were co-designed and developed, 8 disclosure videos produced, and resources developed to support employees with brain injury in or seeking employment, and employers looking to employ people with brain injury. Project outcome evaluation tools - including the Your Employment Journey Self-Assessment and Evaluation Tool - were also co-designed, developed and implemented.

The Project both facilitated and supported increased connections between all stakeholders. In particular people with brain injury who were not previously connected have been connected to Disability Employment Service providers, and through the development and filming of their disclosure videos, increased their skills in and confidence to seek employment.

During the Project period one participant was successful in obtaining a job with a further two participants successful in undertaking work experience and volunteer opportunities.

"I think there is stigma associated with employing anyone with a disability. Employers are often concerned that employing people with disability will be really hard work and put a lot of pressure on the existing team. I think this can be addressed with further education for employers and the community as a whole."

(Peer Support Program Participant)





Project findings and outcomes

BIAT is particularly proud of the outcomes achieved during the Disclosure Project, and the response received from the Assistant Director, ILC at the National Disability Insurance Agency after BIAT submitted the final report:

“There are so many positive highlights captured in your final report it is really hard to believe that the majority of your activity period has been during COVID-19. When reviewing progress and final reports we highlight and comment on project key achievements; in this case there are so many which you have articulated and supported with evidence so well that to provide feedback on each one would be repeating what you already know so well.

I would like to comment though on my personal favourite highlights which are the Disclosure Videos; they were produced with such sensitivity and professionalism and truly provided genuine insight into each individual’s skills, strengths, motivations, wants and needs.

Many years ago I worked for a DES provider; the outcomes you have achieved demonstrates the need for the “placements” and “13 and 26 week outcomes” approach and measures of success in commonwealth employment services to be replaced with innovative and person centred approaches like those you have utilised throughout this project period.

The Talking Brain Injury Cards are also really well put together, and I thought the practical approach in Set 4 – Impacts where a particular topic (impacts) is discussed, and followed by a set of strategies for employers was very well planned.

We are so very thankful for all of your professionalism, dedication and hard work across this project and commend you on the outcomes achieved.”

In submitting the final report, the NDIA asked BIAT to identify Project successes. For BIAT there were many and these are detailed in the Final Report available on BIAT's website. Highpoints include the:

- Disclosure Participant Profile - supporting Disclosure Project participants to identify what information they wanted people to know about them and their brain injury. The Profile provided an opportunity for individuals to reflect and gain insight; something which can often be difficult for people living with brain injury.


"It helped me to stay focused on each of the areas. It reduced my stress levels and provided guidance in terms of how to respond to the questions."

(Peer Support Program Participant)

"I think this part of the process was key. This built the foundation for each individual to think about their unique strengths and support requirements. Also, to think about how they could comfortably tell their stories of acquiring their injuries was immensely beneficial."

(DES Provider)



- 
- Disclosure Video - The videos supported people with brain injury seeking employment to tell their story their way and provided a voice to people who may experience cognitive and communication challenges.

Project participants said they felt more comfortable sharing information about their brain injury since being involved in the Project and making their video.

“I feel a very proud man. I can see how far I have come since making the video. It brought tears to my eyes when I first saw the video. I have worked very hard in my life and just need someone to give me a go. I want to work and love working. It makes me feel good every time I watch the video.”

(Peer Support Program Participant)

“[Employer] can see that you are more than just your brain injury/disability. Employers can see who you are.”

(Disclosure Participant)

The DES providers also felt the Disclosure video was a useful tool to support employment outcomes for people with brain injury, DES providers and potential employers.

“They were a genuine representation of each individual, professionally produced, tailored and very practical. I think they helped our participants present a professional summary of their strengths and support requirements. This is right on the money, I’d like to be able to produce videos like these for all our DES participants, as I feel it would help people living with any disability obtain employment.” (DES Provider)

“Feedback from employers tells us that the videos help to de-mystify brain injury and give insight into what supports may be required to employ someone with a brain injury.”

(DES Provider)

- Co-Design - People living with or impacted by brain injury had a significant role in this Project including the design, development and implementation of disclosure tools and supporting resources, and Project management arrangements. The co-design approach provided people with brain injury the opportunity to develop leadership capabilities, learn and practice communication techniques, and to advocate and act as role models in their community.



- Increased understanding of brain injury and its impacts
 - DES providers and Employers involved in the Project reported their awareness and knowledge of brain injury, and also that of their staff, had increased since being involved in the Project.

“Being involved in the Project and the newfound relationship with BIAT has really helped staff understand the diverse nature of the impacts of acquired brain injury, and how this may affect productivity in the workplace and ways in which to best support employees with brain injury to maintain their employment.” (DES Provider)

“I have a deeper understanding of the impacts of brain injury including mental fatigue, coordination, balance...I feel after hearing [participant’s] story, I would like to do research and find out more how to assist people in this scenario.” (DES Provider)

Conclusion

Our sincere thanks to Dominic Anastasio from Domin8Media for his compassion and understanding in working with BIAT and Project participants in creating the 'jewels in the Project crown' - the videos. Whilst the Project sample size was small in terms of the number of Disclosure Project participants involved, the outcomes achieved support the concept of the Disclosure strategy being further expanded to more people with brain injury and across the disability sector.

Disabled People and Families Organisations (DPFO) Project: Recognise, Respect, Respond and Reform


Project Title	Recognise, Respect, Respond and Reform
Funding	3 Year National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Disabled Persons and Family Organisation (DPFO) Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) grant
Project Title	1 March 2020 to 28 February 2023 (Start date deferred to 1 August 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions.
Grant Purpose	The aim of the Recognise, Respect, Respond and Reform (RRRR) Project is to work with people with brain injury who are entering, exiting or in the criminal justice system, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build innovative ways to increase independence, social and community participation • build capacity to reduce or prevent offending behaviour • support individuals on their pathway through the criminal justice system

Project Summary

People with brain injury (PWBI) are often overrepresented in the criminal justice system (CJS). Because of their brain injury they may: exhibit behaviours such as poor impulse/self-control; lack insight into their offending behaviours; have difficulties in learning, planning, organising and communication; and have little knowledge around social norms - which can lead to greater vulnerability and at times increase the likelihood of being involved in illegal activity.

There are often also co-existing factors impacting a person's life including mental health conditions; drug and alcohol dependency; other health conditions; and family breakdown.





These factors often result in contact with support services regarding housing and homelessness, family violence, child safety services, drug and alcohol, Centrelink and the criminal justice system.

The RRRR Program will:

- work to improve the pathways through the criminal justice system for people living with brain injury;
- build individual capacity to prevent or reduce offending behaviour;
- bring together relevant support services to work together and create awareness; and
- co-design and develop innovative ways to increase independence and social and community participation.

Key Program Components

- State-wide Program: This component of the RRRR Project aims to divert people with brain injury away from the criminal justice system where appropriate and ensure people are connected to the right service/s, including, if eligible, the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). Through a self-management approach it will support people with brain injury who are entering, exiting and in the criminal justice system (including Magistrates Court Diversion List) to step through the processes as required and ensure they are accessing appropriate support, have a clear understanding of their situation and responsibilities and are able to make informed decisions throughout. This element will involve working closely with multiple services to ensure appropriate supports are accessible and relevant and the needs of individuals are clearly understood.
- The Run Project: The RRRR Program includes piloting a 'Run Project' – an innovative project giving people with brain injury with lived experience of the criminal justice system funds to manage a criminal justice system focussed project of their choice.

- The Run Project will build capacity and empower people with brain injury by providing them with the skills needed to affect change.
- 'Justice User' Peer Support Group: The RRRR Program will include the co-design and development of a consumer led peer support group, linking people with brain injury who have experience negotiating the criminal justice system with people on their current journey.
- Brain Injury Assistance Cards (BIAC): Brain injury can cause people to behave in ways that are not seen as socially acceptable and can create difficult situations in the community. In addition to rolling out the Brain Injury Assistance Card nationally, the RRRR Program will pilot the addition of a QR code to the card that will link to a video of the person explaining their brain injury and the immediate supports they may need.

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.



2019 BIA Week Photo Recap



Treasurer's Report

I have pleasure in presenting the Treasurer's Report for the Brain Injury Association of Tasmania (BIAT) for the year 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020, 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 \$63 156.03 in the 2019-2020 Financial Year. This compares favourably to the prior year deficit of \$28 881.92.

The surplus is mostly COVID-19 related - the Federal Government Cash Flow Boost and a reduction in conference attendance and associated travel and accommodation costs. A decrease in professional fees also contributed to the surplus.



Treasurer's Report Continued

The Statement of Financial Position shows BIAT's accumulated funds (reserves) of \$195 522.10. The BIAT Committee of Management is conscious of the need for a solid financial position to buffer the organisation from future financial risks.

It's focus on good financial management and active budgeting for a surplus in the coming year will see that BIAT's reserves are maintained at a level to ensure BIAT's financial sustainability. The cash position, along with the organisation's reserves and the confirmed grant funding for 2020-2021, are the basis for the Committee of Management declaration in the audit report that BIAT can meet its debts as they fall due.

Income

In the 2019-2020 financial year BIAT experienced the cessation of Tasmanian State Government funding and a growth in grant funding from the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA). The 115% increase is primarily reflected in the NDIA funding a number of projects under the Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) program for the NDIS.

Expenditure

There was growth in expenditure commensurate with the increase in program activity. Mostly this translated as increased staffing to support programs and increased office expenses related to establishment of additional staff.

In closing I would like to take this opportunity to thank the NDIA, the Tasmanian Government Department of Communities and the Motor Accident Insurance Board for their support of the work of BIAT.

Rebecca O'Halloran

Treasurer

Brain Injury Association of Tasmania



**BRAIN INJURY
ASSOCIATION**
OF TASMANIA

2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2020

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<u>INCOME – DoC, MAIB, OTHER</u>		
Subscriptions	585.00	680.00
Grants- MAIB	90 000.00	82 500.00
- Grants - DoC	73 790.46	114 104.05
Grants – Other	6 284.15	7 853.42
Project Funding		8 000.00
Interest received	2 391.29	3 371.21
Donations	3 425.00	354.00
BIAT Training Fees	5 000.00	1 750.00
Fundraising Activities	-	70.00
Sundry Income		438.15
Profit on Sale of Motor Vehicle	-	5 827.32
Federal Govt Cash Flow Boost	27 636.00	-
Sub Total Income	209 111.90	224 948.15
	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<u>INCOME – ILC GRANTS</u>		
DPFO ICB	90 504.24	-
DPFO OCB	77 749.30	-
Economic Participation	102 052.00	-
DPFO RRRR	5 159.85	-
Sub Total Income	275 465.39	-
TOTAL INCOME	<u>484 577.29</u>	<u>224 948.15</u>

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2020

<u>EXPENDITURE – DoC, MAIB, OTHER</u>	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Audit Fee	1 850.00	1 800.00
Depreciation	5 494.50	6 534.08
Employee Entitlements	16 705.74	(3 446.95)
Fundraising Expenses	-	350.00
HU2BI Expenditure	-	200.00
Insurance	4 396.29	5 530.25
Motor Vehicle Expenses	1 934.31	2 062.55
Office Expenses	4 069.17	6 731.96
Printing, Stationery, Postage	920.54	815.23
Professional Fees	3 877.30	24 458.94
Promotional Activities	1 458.43	2 219.20
Office Rental	(183.27)	14 760.34
Salaries	97 285.75	135 799.44
Superannuation	9 134.20	30 145.98
Subscriptions	1 314.30	1 304.55
Sundry Expenses	447.39	459.54
Telephone	1 837.37	3 980.57
Conference Attendance, Travel & Accommodation	4 759.22	10 170.28
Training	1 947.91	2 327.27
Sub Total Expenditure	157 249.15	246 203.23
<u>EXPENDITURE – ILC PROJECTS</u>	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Insurance	3 126.05	-
Office Expenses	17 050.27	-
Printing, Stationery, Postage	1 736.95	-
Professional Fees	12 474.16	-
Office Rental	14 514.53	-
Salaries	188 314.82	-
Superannuation	17 838.18	-
Telephone	3 400.06	-
Conference Attendance, Travel & Accommodation	5 717.09	-
Sub Total Expenditure	264 172.11	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>421 421.26</u>	<u>246 203.23</u>
Net Deficit TCF Project	-	(7 626.84)
SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR YEAR	<u>63 156.03</u>	<u>(28 881.92)</u>

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30TH JUNE 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
MEMBERS' EQUITY		
GENERAL		
Financial Contingency Reserve	126 171.00	126 171.00
Accumulated Funds Brought Forward	6 195.07	35 076.99
Add Surplus (Deficit) for the year	63 156.03	(28 881.92)
TOTAL MEMBERS' EQUITY	<u>195 522.10</u>	<u>132 366.07</u>
Represented by:-		
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Motor Vehicles @ cost	28 512.12	28 512.12
Less Provision for Depreciation	<u>(12 028.58)</u>	<u>(6534.08)</u>
	16 483.53	21 978.03
Total Non-Current Assets	<u>16 483.53</u>	<u>21 978.03</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at Bank - MyState	2 644.53	547.73
Cash at Bank – ANZ	992 524.57	46 191.19
Cash at Bank – Donations/Grants	150 666.15	194 696.12
Shares – MyState	10.00	10.00
Accounts Receivable	1 354.76	51.60
Undeposited Funds	-	-
MyState Shares	2 294.25	2 294.25
Trade Debtors	1 168.33	-
Investment - ANZ	<u>127 768.53</u>	<u>125 377.24</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>1 278 431.12</u>	<u>369 168.13</u>
Total Assets	<u>1 294 914.65</u>	<u>391 146.16</u>

CURRENT LIABILITIES

ANZ – BIAT Company Card	1 996.27	4680.78
Trade Creditors & accruals	-	24 703.76
Annual leave provision	13 044.01	(519.98)
Payroll Clearing	60.00	-
Superannuation Payable	62.11	-
Tax Payable	(2067.57)	(2 019.49)
Tax Payable PAYG	.30	.30
Training Fees (Training Deferred)	3 620.00	-
Unexpended Grant – BrainLink Project	11 834.79	13 118.94
Unexpended Grant – MAIB	7 500	7 500
Unexpended Grant – DPFO ILC – ICB	4 206.04	94 710.28
Unexpended Grant – DPFO ILC – OCB	4 205.98	81 955.28
Unexpended Grant – Economic Participation	27 945.00	-
Unexpended Grant – DPFO ILC – RRRR	969 193.65	-
Unexpended Grant – DoC Scoping	20 000.00	-
Total Current Liabilities	<u>1 061 600.58</u>	<u>224 129.87</u>

NON CURRENT LIABILITIES

Provision for long-service leave	37 791.97	34 650.22
Total Non Current Liabilities	37 791.97	34 650.22
Total Liabilities	<u>1 099 392.55</u>	<u>258 780.09</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>195 522.10</u>	<u>132 366.07</u>

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

AS AT 30TH JUNE 2020

President	Dario Tomat
Vice President	Helen Mulcahy
Treasurer	Rebecca 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 2020.



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

Hobart this 30th day of October 2020

**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 2020, 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 2020, 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

30 October 2020

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 2020 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 30th day of October 2020

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2020

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.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2020

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 2020, 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 2020.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

D Tomat
C Barach
J Martin
G Harwood

B O'Halloran
L Whitney
H Mulcahy

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the association during the financial year was to act as Tasmania's State peak body for people with acquired brain injury (ABI) and their families.

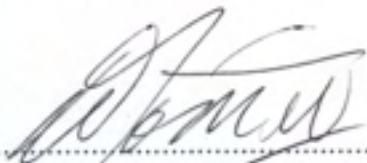
SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

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

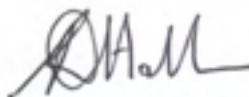
OPERATING RESULTS

The surplus from ordinary activities amounted to \$63 156.03.

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



.....
Committee Member



.....
Committee Member

Dated at Hobart this 30th day of October 2020

Annual Report

2019/2020

The Brain Injury Association of Tasmania

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