

2014 - 2015 Annual Report
Addison Road Community Centre Organisation



About Us

The Addison Road Community Centre Organisation (ARCCO) spearheads innovative community development programs integrating environment, arts, culture, and social justice.

The 2012 restructure of ARCCO has created a relevant, accessible and ethical organisation which has become the pulse of the Inner West.

Today, ARCCO provides essential services and initiates programs for the benefit and development of the wider community. Our members offer a diverse range of services that attract over 1.2 million visitors annually and we are an important site for volunteering and training in an array of fields and subject areas.

ARCCO is proud of its reputation as a ethical, self-reliant, accommodating and supportive organisation.

Our Mission

ARCCO is an independent organisation pursuing the goal of providing a site where organisations and individual practitioners in the arts, culture, community and the environment can work together in a community-owned asset. The ARCCO aims to be a showcase of how diversity of communities defined either by locality, ethnicity, sexuality, gender, age, ability or interest can operate together to achieve social and environmental outcomes in a context of economic self-sufficiency

Contact Us


02 9569 7633

info@arcco.org.au

[Facebook.com/AddisonRoadCommunityCentre](https://www.facebook.com/AddisonRoadCommunityCentre)
arcco.org.au

Hut 1, 142 Addison Road
Marrickville NSW 2204 Australia





Acknowledgement of Country

Our centre is on the traditional land of the Cadigal Wangal People of the Eora Nation. We acknowledge their care of the land over many generations. We celebrate their ongoing achievements in today's society and acknowledge the terrible wrongs that continue to be committed against the Aboriginal peoples of Australia. Sovereignty was never ceded.

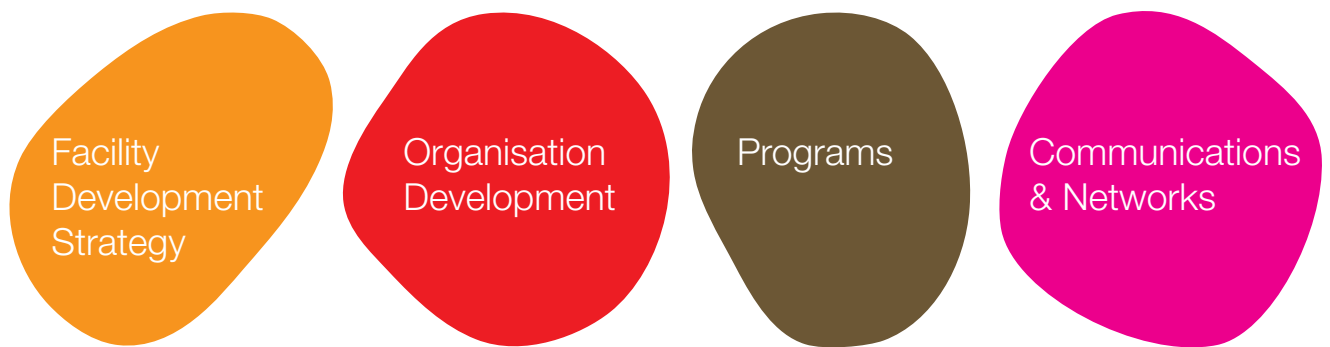
2014/2015 Annual Report

Addison Road Community Centre Organisation

Creating alternatives for social, economic and environmental justice

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ARCCO Strategic Components

2012-2016 Strategic Plan

Addison Road Community Centre Organisational strategic components are cross cutting and holistic, serving the Marrickville LGA and beyond.

General Manager Report



2015 got off to a running start, and the pace has not eased at all. ARCCO continues to break new ground and show continuous growth. The year has been characterised by new initiatives, deeper involvement with the community, exciting new programs, financial growth, and infrastructure strengthening and development.

I am extremely delighted to announce that ARCCO continues to go from strength to strength, gaining greater recognition from both government and community, setting a solid base for us to further evolve ARCCO programs.

With around 80 partners and 9 major programs, 32 buildings, 30 licences, roads, poles, wires, trees and car parks to maintain, it's a marvel that we have been able to achieve such exceptional results. Over the last three years, ARCCO has emerged as a significant Not For Profit Community based organisation. I attribute this accomplishment to the myriad of interns, volunteers, businesses, partners, government partners, staff and Board of Directors. Without their ongoing commitment, belief and steadfastness, ARCCO would not have grown in legitimacy, credibility and relevance.

ARCCO has spent the year planning and engaging in relationship building to establish important strategic relationships. It's our desire to lay foundations for the coming years in order to strengthen our capacity to deliver important community programs and facilitate opportunities for partners, as well as increase our revenue base to upgrade our facilities.

One of the primary responsibilities of managing a large complex of buildings with a high public presence is to mitigate against risk and minimise emergency responses. Most of our revenue continues to be allocated towards comprehensive and long-term infrastructure and grounds maintenance. The last three years has focused on ensuring our statutory and governance structures are robust and compliant. This journey will continue into 2016 and beyond. We are always developing and improving our operations to be equitable and sustainable, as we continue to build on achievements, make improvements and increase our credibility.

ARCCO's prominence as a leader in civil society was confirmed by two research studies undertaken in collaboration with UTS, UNSW and the Marrickville Multicultural Interagency (MMIA). The studies examined two important issues affecting the community and service providers. One was 'The Strike of a Pen', which looked at the impact and policy behind the closure of women-only refuges, and the impact on women facing domestic violence. A positive outcome of the accompanying campaign resulted in the reversal of the policy to close down women's refuges. This successful initiative led to the NSW Government extending funding until 2020. ARCCO members stood with us in this initiative, particularly the Glitter Militia who held a fundraising event that contributed significantly to saving the refuges.

The second study, 'Mind the Gap', examined inequality in the Marrickville LGA. The study was initiated and led by ARCCO in collaboration with MMIA, and it unmasked the level of food insecurity and housing stress facing the community, particularly among Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities. Marrickville Council, UNSW, TAFE Outreach, Community Cultural Connections and Metro Assist were invaluable partners. Marrickville Council have provided substantial funding to ARCCO to publish and launch the study in 2016 through MMIA.

As a direct response to this initiative, ARCCO started a food pantry with the guidance, sup-

port and expertise of Tony Gatt from Food Bank NSW and Canberra.

Next year we anticipate receiving a grant from the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) that will enable us to provide subsidised groceries to those in need, and help us rescue and reduce organic waste from landfill. By as early as 2016 we hope to have a fully functioning service that saves 4 tonnes of organic waste from landfill and provides groceries to over 4,000 people a week. Over 80 services were consulted in the process, and this ARCCO initiative has been overwhelmingly hailed as a positive and much-needed service for people and the planet. Our new government partner in 2016 will be the NSW Ministry of Health and the Environment Protection Authority.

2016 will see the emergence of important empowerment and self-determination programs at ARCCO, with our Ignite SSI, STARTTS, Ethnic Community Services Co-operative, Youth Off the Streets, Youth at Risk, TAFE Outreach and many other partners in our socio-economic community development programs.

ARCCO has developed eight pathways to employment programs which received funding. The aim of the programs is to build skills, confidence, networks and create opportunities for unemployed people. Furthermore, the funds are utilised to advance the infrastructure development of ARCCO.

We have received government funding to employ six new staff. Each an expert in their various fields, they, along with their teams, have produced staggering outcomes. The talent and enthusiasm of the participants have helped us meet objectives far sooner than we anticipated and the outputs of their endeavours are often featured on our Facebook page. Staff, equipment and programs are fully funded through the Department of Employment Jobactive Program.

One of my most memorable events we partnered in was the Disability Film Festival, the first of which was held late 2014, and the second this year in 2015. We worked with Marrickville Council and the Department of Community Services to stage this unique and unparalleled

event. This engagement has led to ARCCO prioritising funding and grants towards accessibility upgrades. The Gumbramorra Hall is one of the very few, if not the only venue in the Inner West, where more than five people in wheel chairs can gather, mingle and engage. It is the preferred venue for the festival and it will continue to take place annually.

To stage a film night for people, many wheel-chair dependant, costs a minimum of \$8,000. To respond to the need, ARCCO has developed plans to incrementally improve accessibility at the Gumbramorra Hall so we can continue opening our doors to the disability community. Funding from Marrickville Council, NSW Community Builder's and the Department of Infrastructure and Rural Development means that we now have the resources to upgrade the hall. In 2016 Gumbramorra Hall will receive a \$240,000 upgrade. Sadly, this still falls short of the accessible facilities we require.

Additionally, ARCCO has formed a partnership with Murmuration Dance Company, an exceptional dance theatre company for mixed abilities. They ran a weekly community program and will expand that to include children in 2016.

We realised that ARCCO was well-placed to help with any kind of disaster occurring beyond our four walls. As a result, we joined with our local community to raise funds. The combined total raised was \$60,000. These funds went to the victims of the earthquake in Nepal, the floods in Chile, the cyclone in Vanuatu, and a school for the children in Hebron, Palestine. ARCCO also supported a fundraising event for First Nation people to attend the World Social Forum.

True to our commitment of sharing space, we opened the doors of Hut 1 three days a week to Chill Out, an organisation advocating for all children out of detention facilities. As part of our good neighbour policy, Hut 1 also hosts and shares our meeting room and kitchen with the Bowers Men's Shed and supports the Bower and their programs.

Several fantastic festivals took place, attracting thousands of people. Our much-acclaimed Tails from the Past, honouring the role of hors-

es in war, was mentioned in the Federal Parliament as a unique and inspiring grass roots event. Along with SSI and Marrickville Council we celebrated Refugee Arts and Culture. This year will end with a showcase of West African Culture, our new partners in our commitment to support new and emerging CALD communities.

We have made great strides in our restructuring and organisational development and governance as we come to the end of the 2012-2015 Strategic Plan. A new road map will be developed in 2016, to strategically guide the focus of our work for the next five years. A commitment to Constitutional Change is crucial to facilitate growth and ensure sustainability. Like most organisations, ARCCO is reviewing its financial sustainability plan that will include applying for DGR and PBI status. This will allow us to increase and diversify funding sources.

Early 2016 the entrance of the Centre will receive a face lift at the cost of \$23,000.00. A new gate with landscape gardens will greet visitors to the centre.

We hope to continue with negotiations for solar energy and reach our target of 80% off the grid over a period of 5 years.

As you reflect on each page in this report, it stands as testimony to the extraordinary people who come together with a shared vision, passion and an endless supply of energy to make the Addison Road Community Centre Organisation a better place. If you are one of them, thank you.

The ARCCO would like to acknowledge the enormous and invaluable contribution of our corporate sponsors. Herbert Smith Freehills, because of you we robust contracts and licenses in place. We also received exemplary legal representation in contract negotiations that led to the ARCCO and ultimately our community benefitting from stronger outcomes. Phillip Rattenbury, Samantha Concepcion and Environmental/Electricity Lawyers Peter Davis and Bailee Walker.

To James Lonie a Senior Partner of Holding Redlich for helping us study and review the

Constitution, the Head lease and all our legal obligations and responsibilities.

For the Board of Directors your commitment to the ARCCO is second to none. Thank you for sharing your vision and your wisdom. A Greek proverb best describes what you do "A society grows when old people plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in. You are the consummate Board of Directors.

To the ARCCO team, your commitment to excellence has inspired others, you are unequalled.



Complete Elegance



Schools Sustainability - Auburn School



Marrickville Council Business Environmental Awards - Winners in 2014 & 2015



Rain garden information session



White Ribbon



StirrUP cafe social enterprise



Tucker & Land Justice Food Pantry

President Report



I and the Board of Directors, would like to welcome you all - members, associate members, staff, community members and all who are present to the 2015 ARCCO AGM.

Looking at the work of ARCCO this year, I must say that I am proud to be a member of ARCCO, on its Board of Directors and the President of the organisation when I hear that our centre has won various awards from Marrickville Council and other bodies. The most recent award was the Marrickville Council Sustainability Business Awards, where ARCCO received first place for the Water Saver Award, runner up for Sustainability Leadership and finalist for Sustainable Innovation Community Leadership and Beyond our Four Walls Award. Our staff are receiving the recognition for high achievement that they've worked hard for.

The centre operates a number of innovative, issues based programs as it responds to the needs of the community. As a result, they have developed best practice models which are being emulated by other community organisations. This year, many partnerships have been formed and strengthened with different organisations with specific projects to assist refugees and asylum seekers, people with disabilities, the elderly, women, and marginalised groups in the community to alleviate poverty, distress, alienation, isolation and injustice.

This centre has a unique history as an Army base for the recruitment and recuperation of soldiers and horses in both World Wars. This year the centre has been developed as a Living

Museum and work has been done by historian Sue Castrique to document the history, with oral history events being conducted to capture and record memories of this site.

The highlight of this year was the Anzac Centenary Event. At Tails from the Past we stepped back in time to remember the horses who were sacrificed in war. Of the 130,000 horses who went to World War I, only one returned. The celebration of this event was amazing, as many people who had a history with the centre participated and told their stories. The Australian Light Horse Brigade was present with four horses and provided concise re-enactments. Funding was received from the Department of Defence to organise this significant historic event. SBS filmed the whole event and it received significant print, radio and online media coverage.

Despite being a wealthy country, Australia has approximately 2 million people living in poverty, and Marrickville is no exception when it comes to inequality. Many local people often cannot buy food, especially fresh vegetables and other necessities due to a rising cost of living. ARCCO has initiated a pop-up food pantry to alleviate this pressure by providing subsidised groceries. The food is donated from various suppliers in the area as well as purchased through Foodbank NSW. There are many people, especially the elderly and those with physical or mental disabilities and illness, who are isolated and have a need for access to affordable food. It is hoped that these people will be encouraged by others who benefit from the Food Pantry to come and buy affordable food from the Pantry in Addison Road.

Community A Fair has continued to grow this year, and brings many organisations together to demonstrate their programs and services. It's a vital event for the community service sector, where services can provide clients with information in a collective setting.

The ARCCO coffee shop is thriving and providing employment to young people as well as

income to the ARCCO to assist in the maintenance of the complex.

The financial situation of the organisation this year is excellent as we have a healthy profit. This is thanks to the staff who successfully applied for funding from various sources, as well as the social enterprises which are bringing in funding, and the hard work of our Treasurer and financial team.

As a founder of the centre, I must say that this year is the start of a golden era for ARCCO. This would not have been possible without the commitment, dedication, ingenuity, passion, innovation and persistent work of the staff who dedicate many hours of their time to the centre. The members of the Board of Directors with their various skills and areas of expertise have also contributed to this progress with their encouragement, support, and advice to the staff.

I make a plea to all the members of the centre to take interest and contribute in this work, and to comply with their membership obligations to the centre. Thank you to those members who are active in providing assistance to the work of the ARCCO as a whole and not just their own organisation. We want your ideas and contribution of how we can work collectively to further improve the capacity of ARCCO to become sustainable and of greater service to its members and the community as a whole.

I would like to thank all the members who've contributed to ARCCO; the various funding bodies for providing grants for our programs; the Department of Veteran's Affairs; Human Services; Marrickville Council for their continuing support; our partners; collaborators; all the volunteers who give up their time to be involved in the various projects of the centre; the community members; the students on placement; the ground staff and our caretakers for their commitment and the great work they are doing in maintaining ARCCO in good shape.

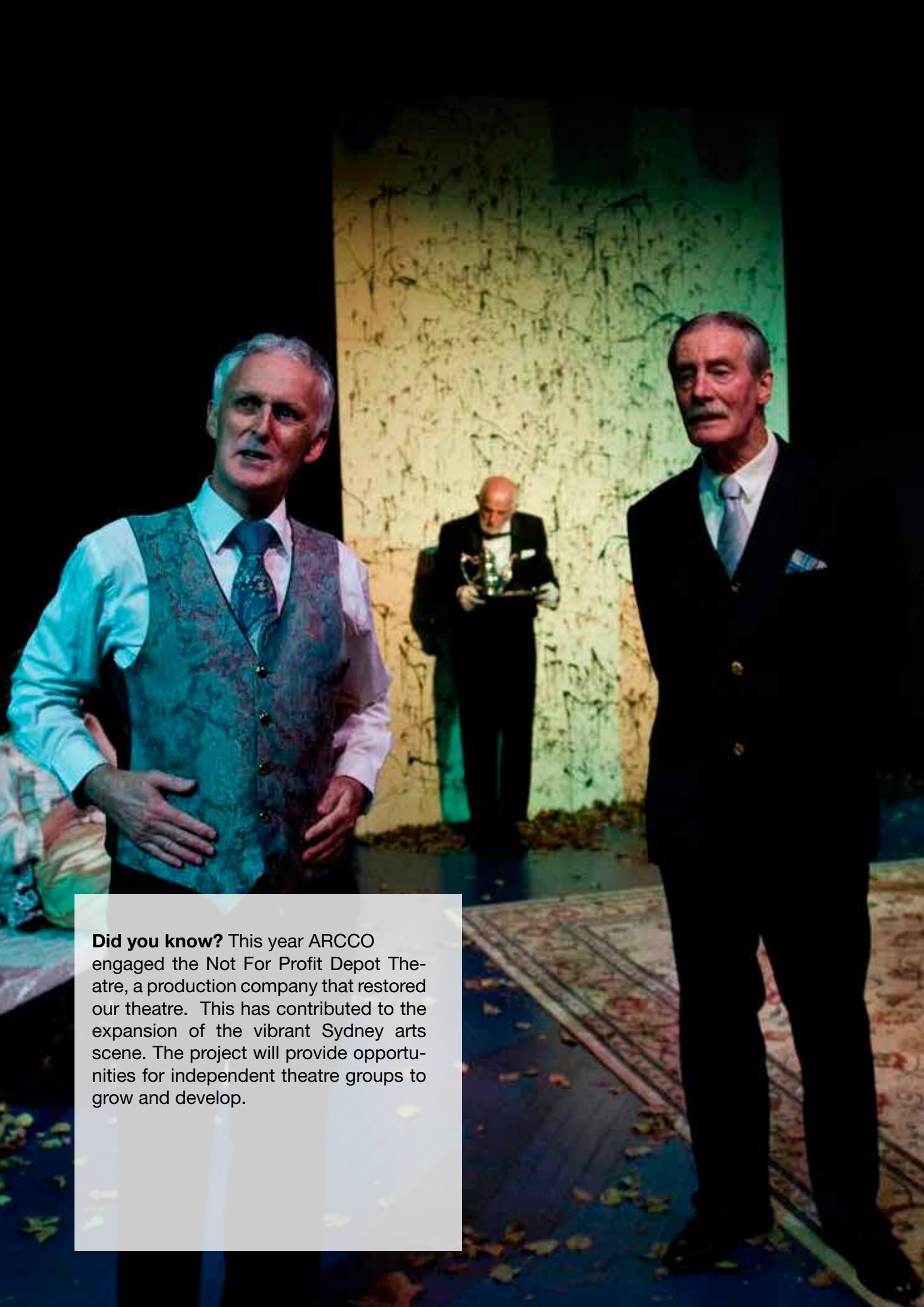
To all the members of the Board of Directors, thank you for your commitment, advice, your time and expertise and invaluable contribution in the governance and continuing assistance and support to the staff of ARCCO.

Thank you to our talented staff for their innovative thinking, commitment, passion, and ingenuity, which has contributed to the great outcomes of ARCCO in all areas of its operations.

Facility Development Strategy

1. Improve the infrastructure and building facilities.
2. Promote responsibility among members for the upkeep and improvement of the internal spaces.
3. Increase transparency of cost recovery formulas and improve recuperation of utilities and collective capital.





Did you know? This year ARCCO engaged the Not For Profit Depot Theatre, a production company that restored our theatre. This has contributed to the expansion of the vibrant Sydney arts scene. The project will provide opportunities for independent theatre groups to grow and develop.



ARCCO is about to celebrate 40 years of tenure and guardianship of the 9 acres of land and buildings that form the Addison Road Community Centre.

It is ARCCO who, in accordance with the head lease, are owners de facto and, as such, fully responsible to keep “the premises in good repair and properly maintained in all respects” (Article 59 of the Head Lease). Non-adherence could result in contravention of the Head Lease.

44. Holder to take as if Owner

‘The holder should take and be subject to the same responsibilities in regards to persons and property and other to which the Holder would be subject as if during the Term the Holder was the owner of the freehold of the Premises (4.063)’ - Head Lease

The current context means it’s more important than ever to focus our attention on continued compliance with the requirements and obligations specified in the Head Lease.

This context can be summarised as:

- A changing State and Federal political situation, affecting policies and funding of the community sector
- Changes to laws, in particular Work Health and Safety
- Changes to the nature of urban development

Situated on prime real estate land, this centre’s future relies on the capacity of ARCCO - and only ARCCO, as Holders of the Lease - to prove ourselves to be sustainable, resilient, relevant and indispensable to the community. Our

high achievement in these areas has gained us recognition, including being named winners of Marrickville Council’s Community Leadership Award. Our continued accomplishment, progress and compliance will ensure a wide buffer against developer interest in the future.

In the 2014 AGM report it was stated that although the buildings have stoically stood the passage of time, time is taking its toll. As the buildings age, our maintenance efforts increase to keep pace. To sustain our capacity to do so, we’ve adopted new strategies that allow us to go above and beyond – resulting in not only maintenance but improvement and complete restoration where needed.

The terms and conditions contained in the new ‘Licences to Occupy’ remove the obstacle created by a lack of resources, with the new occupiers carrying out the repairs and improvements themselves in exchange for a waiver of the rent for a time equivalent to the money spent. Youth Off The Streets and The Depot Theatre are exemplary in demonstrating the success of these new licences. This is how Hut 9 – with new licensees The Depot Theatre – has undergone improvements and achieved such a valuable cultural outcome and success in its short six months of life.

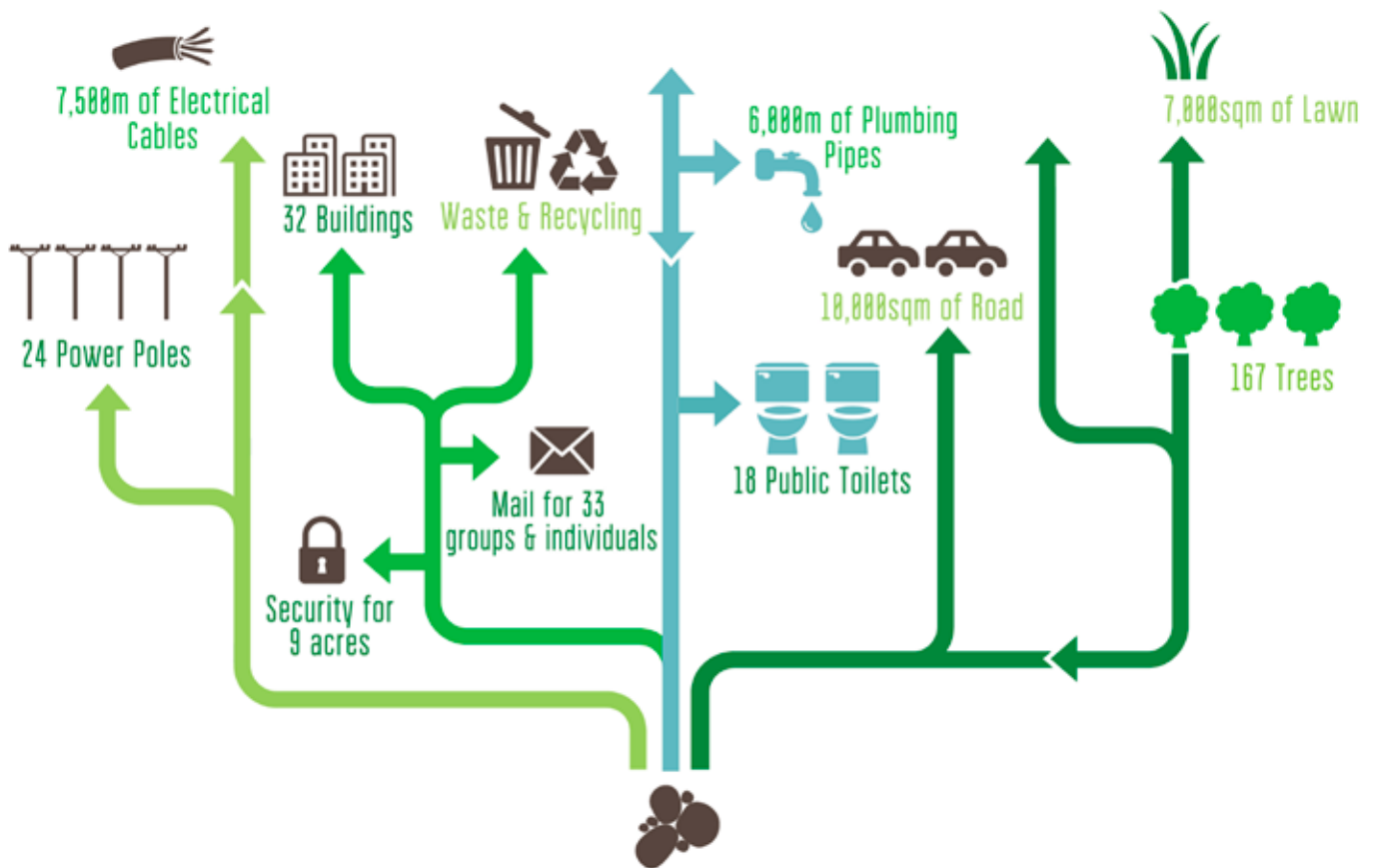
While our innovation has enabled our success and compliance, there are hindrances to moving forward, namely the constitution. Going on 40 years old, the constitution must be changed to allow us to continue upholding our obligations and excelling as a community leader. Without change, the constitution will only become a greater obstacle, jeopardising ARCCO’s capacity to meet our responsibilities as owners de facto - and thus the whole centre’s future.

Further, as some old contracts are about to expire, the process to renew them has to take into account two points:

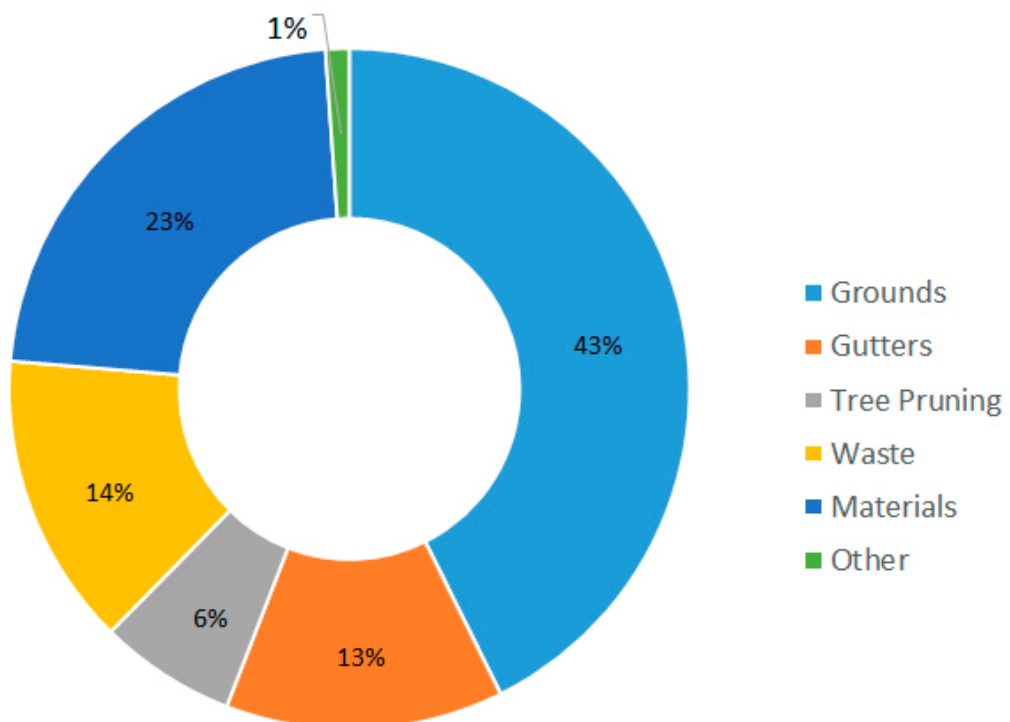
Firstly, that these are more critical times for our subsistence than when the old contracts were signed.

Secondly, as we are implementing realistic evaluations and assessments of the buildings,

WHAT DOES ARCCO MANAGE?



2015 Repairs & Maintenance





we are taking into consideration stricter compliances and legalities than past management. For example, a new disabled toilet will be built for the Gumbramorra Hall, due to the old one being declared obsolete and not adhering to the necessary compliances.

The results of these building evaluations are critical for some buildings and spaces on the premises. Misuse and overuse in the past, as well as the unavoidable impacts of time and natural processes, have created structural problems for some dwellings which require an enormous amount of money to fix. This has to be done now if we are to avoid irreversible damage. The car park, the electrical system, the storm water/drain system and some buildings, such as Hut 8, are the clearest examples. In some cases, reconstruction of buildings and infrastructure is preferable, as it would reduce the need for emergency repairs and ongoing maintenance.

We are therefore creating:

- A global sustainable reinvestment plan for every building, which is a percentage of the income generated by the lease of the building. Any extra expenditure above the allocated equitable percentage must be assumed by the licensee.
- A members/occupiers code of conduct, which will take care of capital works done to buildings internally and externally, in strict accordance with current building and safety standards outlined by the Building Code of Australia.

As well as aging, the buildings are being dramatically impacted by a natural and unavoidable factor. Situated in what was once the

Gumbramorra Swamp, the stormwater is reclaiming what nature lost to farming two hundred years ago. The impact is exacerbated by a changing climate, and has resulted in every building experiencing problems with the rooves and floors.

In April this year a storm destroyed the floor in the Gumbramorra Hall and as a consequence it must be completely replaced from the foundations, at great cost to ARCCO.

At the same time as creating new strategies for the management of the buildings, we must mitigate the problem of floods and water damage around the centre. Since 2013 ARCCO has been working in partnership with Marrickville Council to improve storm water management. Working alongside Marrickville Council technical experts we learnt that the precarious flooding problem effects not only Addison Road Community Centre but Marrickville LGA as a whole.

Addison Road Community Centre was identified as a priority area within the Water Revolution Subcatchment Planning process. We have begun plans to improve storm water management and its impacts on the environment. This year we worked with Marrickville Council technical experts to develop concrete plans with stakeholders to see the construction of a large rain garden. This will improve the quality of our waterways at Addison Road Community Centre which ultimately ends up in the cooks river.

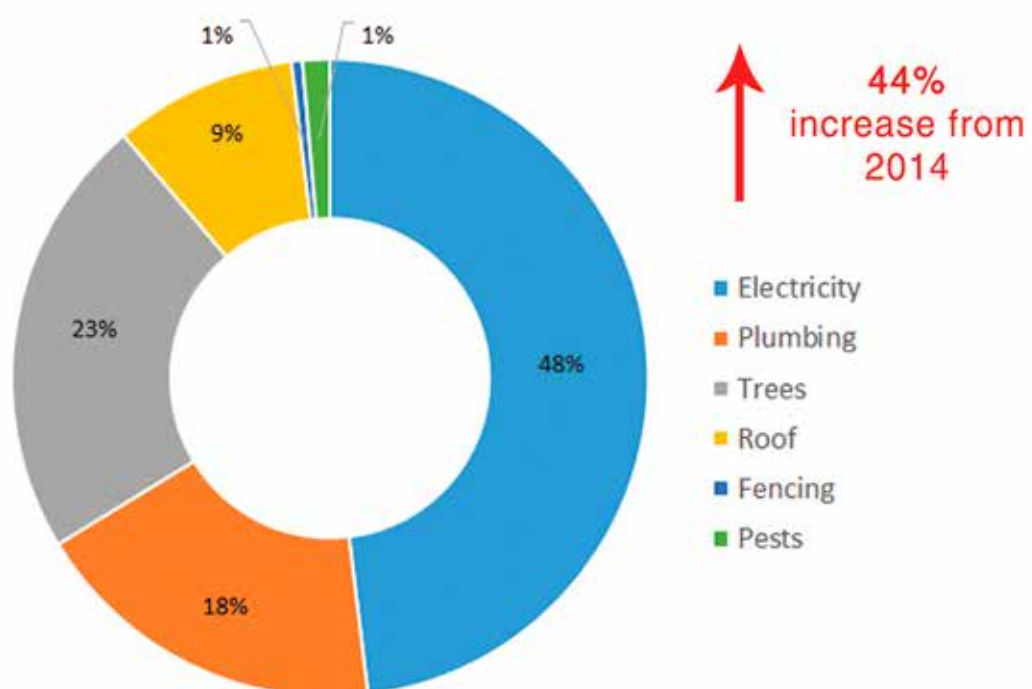
Our good relationship with Marrickville Council has allowed us to tap into expertise to further see our commitments merge. ARCCO has developed complementary plans to further mitigate flooding. This year we have mapped underground water system services, monitored and sent notices of illegal storm-water discharge to neighboring properties and begun planning for priority storm-water pits upgrades.

Furthermore, we have participated in educational awareness projects as part of the Marrickville Council Urban Water Education Program, installed a small rain garden at Bush Music Hut with Marrickville Council and our Environmental & Landscape Officers became Flood Watch Ambassadors for the SES.



2013 Flooding event

2015 Emergency response expenditure



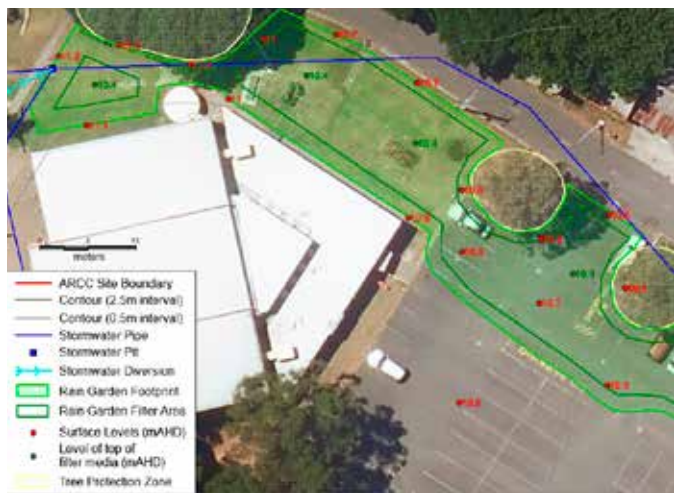
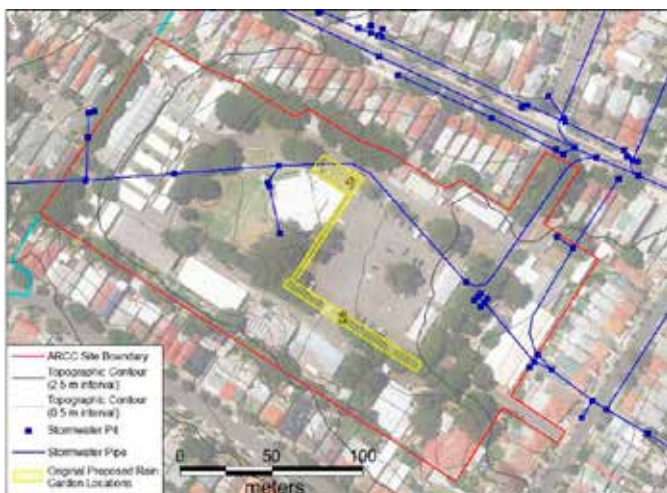
Facility Development Strategy

We need the support of all ARCCO members in order to progress the vision and initiatives adopted so far for the maintenance and improvement infrastructure, which as a requirement of the Head Lease is so intrinsically linked to the viability and endurance of ARCCO.

Proposed rain garden options:



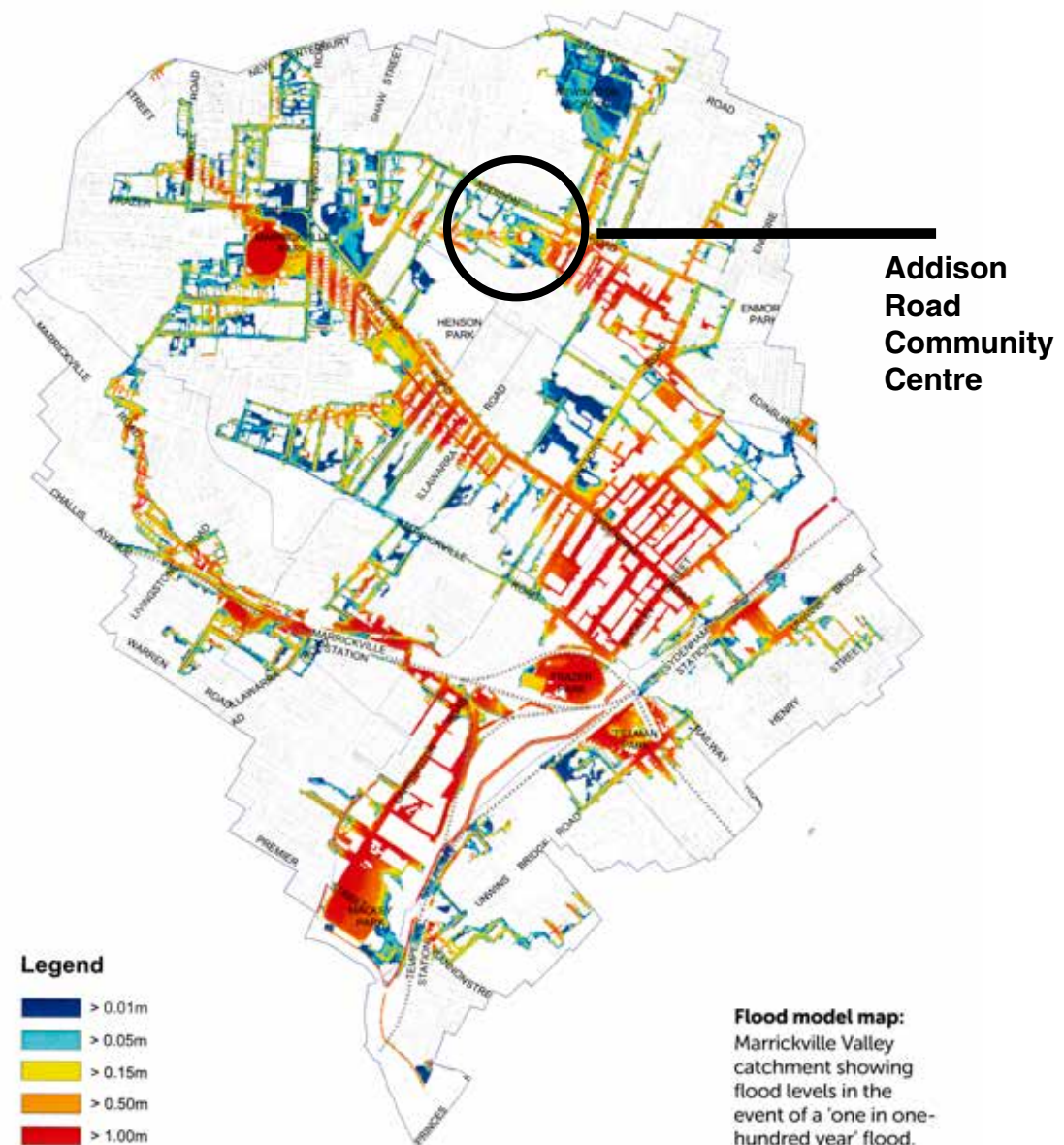
Rain garden



Marrickville Valley catchment area

Marrickville Valley includes parts or all of Petersham, Stanmore, Enmore, Newtown, St Peters, Tempe, Marrickville and Dulwich Hill. The valley floor was originally a freshwater wetland known as Gumbramorra Swamp that drained in a southerly direction towards the Cooks River. The catchment now drains into the Cooks River via four outfalls; the Eastern, Central and Western Channels, and the Malakoff Street Tunnel.

In 2010 Council studied a range of storm events for the *Marrickville Valley Flood Study* adopted by Council in 2013. The study identified a number of areas which are likely to experience flooding, and in some cases widespread inundation in a significant storm event. These include the Marrickville Industrial Area and many residential streets.





Thank you to all our hard working volunteers who have been improving our grounds & buildings.





Mapping of services

The background of the slide is a photograph of a window with a silver padlock on the handle. To the right of the window, there are several large, colorful yarn flowers in shades of red, pink, and yellow. The scene is set outdoors with green foliage visible through the window.

Organisation Development

1. Strengthen institutional capacity of ARCCO.
2. Ensure governance and compliance
3. Promote accountability and transparency.
4. Financial, administrative and expenditure functions contribute to ARCCO's overall sustainability.
5. Build Human resource capacity and collaboration.



OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Vivian Germanos-Koutsounadis
Mark Bond
Justo Jose Diaz
Debbie Killan
Ricci Bartels
Jennifer Killen
Anabelle Morales Nogues

OUR PEOPLE

General Manager: Rosanna Barbero

Accounts: Sam Trinity
Reception: Gurwinder Kaur
Administration: Mike Hayes
Culture: Juan Carlos Rios
Environment: Rosy Porter
Communications: Alex McInnis
Cafe: Lily Kenny

Care Takers

Kerrie Lindberg
Kerry Lindberg

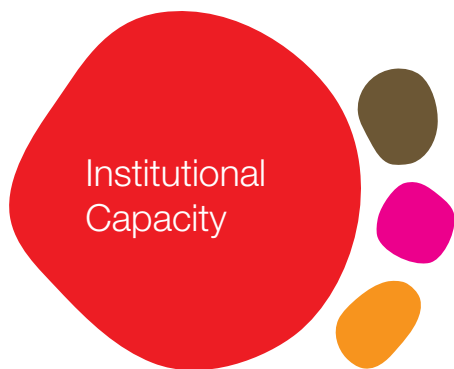
Ground Crew

Jack Carvalho
Antonio Marques

Work For Dole Supervisors

Media: Annamarie Reyes
Landscape: Ben Zerbes
Events: Justo Diaz
Painting: Carlos Femenias
Carpentry: Peter Firth





ARCCO's capacity viewed from the outside

The following article appeared in Marrickville Matters.

Businesses Making a Difference

Chris Weston, Marrickville Council

Each year, Marrickville Council celebrates businesses that go above and beyond 'business as usual'. We recognise those taking leadership to make our environment more sustainable or community more fair and just.

Businesses are an important part of our community, and we rely heavily on them for leadership and support as consumers to live more sustainably. Even the small efforts made by businesses makes it easier for us to make better choices.

Last year, the Addison Road Community Centre Organisation (ARCCO) won the Community Leadership Award, and was highly commended in three other categories. The independent judge particularly liked how ARCCO engage with their community to not only represent the community values to be more sustainable, but also to provide opportunities for the people to participate and connect. We met up with the team at ARCCO to find out what inspires their sustainability activities.

"Sustainable principles are at the core of all of our activities" said Rosanna Barbero, General Manager of ARCCO. "We think about People, Planet and Profit to ensure we not only are sustainable as an organisation, but we also appeal to the many values of our community, clients and stakeholders."

to energy efficiency and solar power at last year's Business Environment Awards, ARCCO has keenly been pursuing solar projects for the entire centre. This move that will not only reduce their environmental impact, but will also contribute to the long-term financial sustainability of the community centre.

"What really excites me is our project addressing local food waste and food security. Our pop-up pantry was launched in August that re-homes good food donated by generous businesses that would ordinarily be thrown out to locals doing it tough. This not only cuts food waste, but also feeds people in need," Rosanna said. The impacts are already being felt. "After some particularly cold winter months, one patron who came along to our pop-up pantry said to me that because of this, he can now pay his electricity bill," Rosanna added.

These are just some of the great things our local businesses are doing to support our environment and community. Winners for the 2015 awards will be announced on 25 November. To find out more, go to www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/target

Did you know? ARCCO waste is valued as a resource and recovered through the ARCCO waste management system. ALL waste is recycled at a materials recycling facility in Sydney. This system avoids landfill which pollutes aquifers, contaminates soil, releases methane (greenhouse gas more potent than carbon dioxide), endangers wildlife and reduces landscape that could be used otherwise.

After seeing the commitment IKEA made



Marrickville Council

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

WINNER

Addison Road
Community Centre Organisation



Target sustainability @ marrickville is a voluntary program for businesses and organisations in the Marrickville local government area which recognises the achievement of sustainability targets.



Mayor of Marrickville,
Councillor Mark Gardiner



Marrickville Council

SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

**HIGHLY
COMMENDED**

Addison Road Community
Centre Organisation



Target sustainability @ marrickville is a voluntary program for businesses and organisations in the Marrickville local government area which recognises the achievement of sustainability targets.



Mayor of Marrickville,
Councillor Mark Gardiner



Marrickville Council

RETHINK WASTE AWARD

**HIGHLY
COMMENDED**

Addison Road Community
Centre Organisation



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Mayor of Marrickville,
Councillor Mark Gardiner



Marrickville Council

BEYOND OUR FOUR WALLS AWARD

**HIGHLY
COMMENDED**

Addison Road Community
Centre Organisation



Target sustainability @ marrickville is a voluntary program for businesses and organisations in the Marrickville local government area which recognises the achievement of sustainability targets.



Mayor of Marrickville,
Councillor Mark Gardiner

FINANCIAL YEAR

2015

Clean Audit Report for 2014/15 Financial Year

Overview

- No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit: and
- No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit

Auditor's opinion (dated 20th October 2015) – Bryan Rush & Co. Chartered Accountants

In our opinion the financial report of The Addison Road Centre for Arts, Culture, Community & Environment Ltd is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

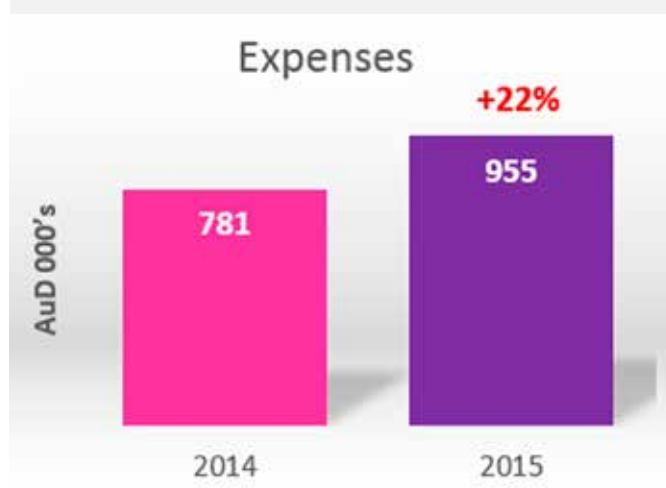
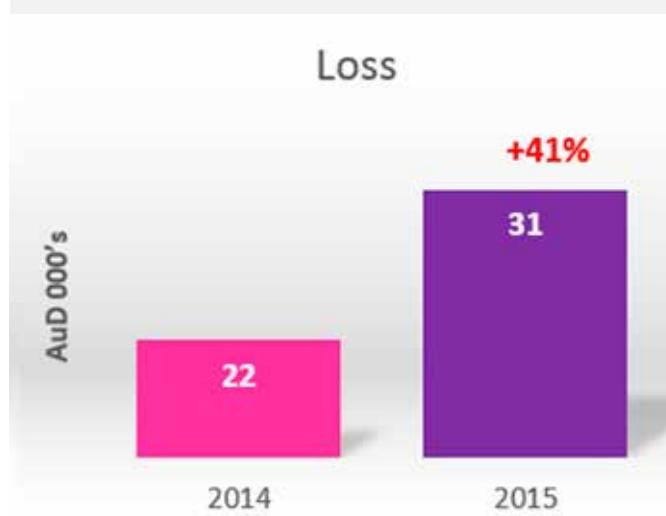
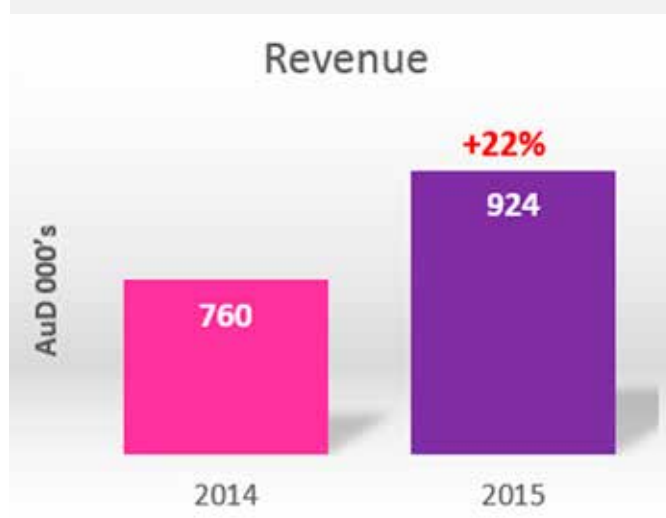
(i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2015 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and

(ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Corporations Regulations 2001

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (Year on Year)

- Revenue of \$924k, an increase over last year of +22%, mostly due to the success of the ARCCO Community Commence Projects and Events.
- Expenses have increased +22% to \$955k underwriting some essential spending to grow revenue. Increased allocation of funds towards maintenance, repair and infrastructure works.
- Operating loss of \$-31k versus last year's loss of \$-22k. \$30,626 constitutes depreciation and amortization expense.

Financial Snap Shot – 2015 vs 2014





Revenue Review of 2015

initiative which has improved the management and fee structure applied to spaces directly under the care and management of the ARCCO.

Offset by key yoy decreases in:

- Charity Housie - Temporary
- Insurance Recovery – no claims this year

HIGHLIGHTS

Revenue increases +22%, with key movements as follows:

- Rent – improved financial, management and fiduciary governance with new licences issued reflecting realistic subsidized fees.
- StirrUp Café – profitable community commerce ARCCO initiative.
- Boho Activities – profitable implementation of the people, planet, profit ARCCO events model.
- Gumbramorra Hall – improved management and fee for usage structure.
- Grants – yearly increases due to increased credibility among government and civil society.
- Significant new revenue streams – ARCCO Fair Trade initiative.
- Other Spaces - ARCCO social enterprise

AUD 000's

Revenue	2015	2014	Chg	% Chg
Rent	455	418	36	9%
Electricity/Water	80	78	2	3%
Organic Food Market	94	91	2	3%
StirrUp Café & Gallery	102	23	79	349%
Income - Gumbramorra Hall	49	34	15	44%
Boho Stalls, Sales & Bar	21	-	21	100%
Hut 9 Theatre	13	19	(6)	-31%
Reimbursement Rubbish Removal	13	12	1	10%
Fair Trade	10	-	10	100%
Income - Other Spaces	22	2	20	200%
Charity House	-	27	(27)	-100%
Insurance Recovery	-	10	(10)	-100%
Bank Interest	3	1	2	112%
Grants	32	16	17	104%
Other	31	30	1	4%
Total Revenue	924	760	164	22%

Expenses Review of 2015

- Promotions & PR – Centenary Events including Tails
- Audit & Bookkeeping – increased projects and improved financial controls.
- Casuals & Temps – casuals for the CAF, Tails and Boho.
- Travel (Local) – Go-Get and staff work related travel.

HIGHLIGHTS

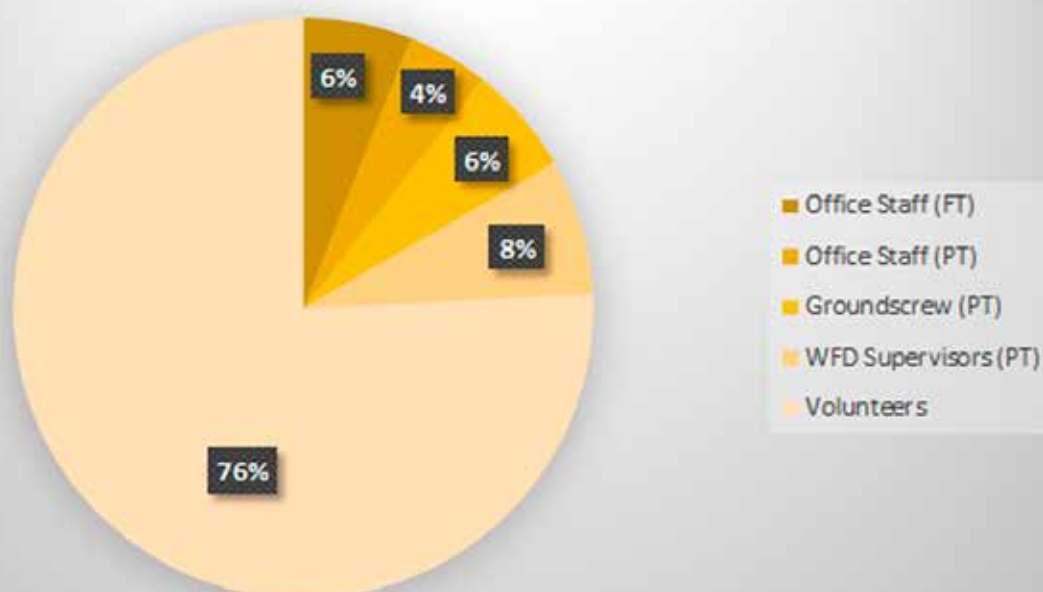
Expenses increasing +22%, with key movements as follows:

- Wages and On Costs - this reflects the additional staff required to operate the ARCCO initiatives, plus the increase expenditure on maintenance and infrastructure compliance.
- R&M – purchasing of materials to reflect the increased works to repair and maintain buildings.
- Purchases (Café) – in line with significant trading.
- Contractor Fees – Compliances expenses for tree management, flood management and assessments of infrastructure, including WH&S.

Offset by key yoy decreases in:

- Depreciation – since 2012/13 financial year calculations are according to Accounting Standards.
- Utilities – user pay has decreased electricity usage and waste has increased as demand for bins has increased.
- Provisions for doubtful debts – improvement in debt recovery. Penalties will have to be introduced in the form of interests. ARCCO must implement this as part of responsible management and governance (including contractual obligations to the Government).
- Special Project – one off completed last year

ARCCO Human Resources





Financial Position 2015

Liabilities – key movements:

- Employee benefits sees an increase due to additional staff to operate ARCCO enterprises and annual leave provision increases as a result.
- Advances (rents & grants) – Youth Off the Streets and Grants in Advance.

HIGHLIGHTS

Assets – key movements:

- Additional projects and staffing has increased our cash by almost 50%. Very successful in our planning, management and results. Fulfilling our main aim of sustainability and fulfilling our contractual responsibility to the Government. Achieving excellent results that illustrate increase in cash in the bank by 138k and also decrease trade debtors by 90k which has never been achieved previously. Further evidence of a strong and capable management and financial administration.

AUD 000's				
	2015	2014	Chg	% Chg
ASSETS				
Cash At Bank	422	284	138	48%
Trade Debtors	51	142	(90)	-64%
Sundry Debtors	31	25	6	25%
Provisions for Doubtful Debts	(9)	(19)	10	-51%
Property, Plant & Equipment - NBV	597	617	(20)	-3%
Other Current Assets	2	2	0	25%
Total Assets	1,094	1,051	43	4%
LIABILITIES				
Trade Payables & Accruals	54	49	5	11%
Employee Benefits	91	60	31	53%
Advances - Rents & Grants	72	33	40	120%
Bonds & Deposits	7	4	3	82%
Other Current Liabilities	2	6	(5)	-75%
Total Liabilities	226	152	75	49%
EQUITY				
Reserves	544	544	-	0%
Retained Earnings	324	355	(31)	-9%
Total Equity	868	899	(31)	-3%



Make a Difference: Choose to Change the World

Fair Trade and environmental justice are the foundation of ARCCO's Community Commerce Enterprises.

For all the products in our café and Fair Trade Emporium, you can be sure the producers are paid a fair wage and are engaged in a trading relationship built on partnership. ARCCO has helped generate income and employment for over 30 people in 2015.

When you purchase coffee from the StirrUp Café, you make a positive impact on the lives of farmers and their villages in Papua New Guinea and Kenya, where our coffee is ethically sourced from.

The café creates jobs and provides barista training for young people. In 2016, in partnership with Petersham TAFE and SSI, we'll be providing training opportunities in the cafe for refugees who need jobs. The coffee shop is testimony to the fact that ventures engaging in fair trade and creating training opportunities can remain profitable; we're able to use the proceeds to support ARCCO's school sustainability project, our arts and culture programs. All our organic waste is collected by HoboGro, who use it for their community composting and horticultural therapy program, and we expanded our products to include vegan sweets and savoury pies – increasing the positive environmental and ethical impacts of our enterprise for people and planet.

The Fair Trade Emporium is an ARCCO initiative, partnering with the NSW Fair Trade Association, the Trading Circle and the Coalition for Justice and Peace in Palestine. The emporium has provided opportunities for guest traders to

showcase and sell their products, and is run by the traders who volunteer their time in the shop – a truly co-operative model.

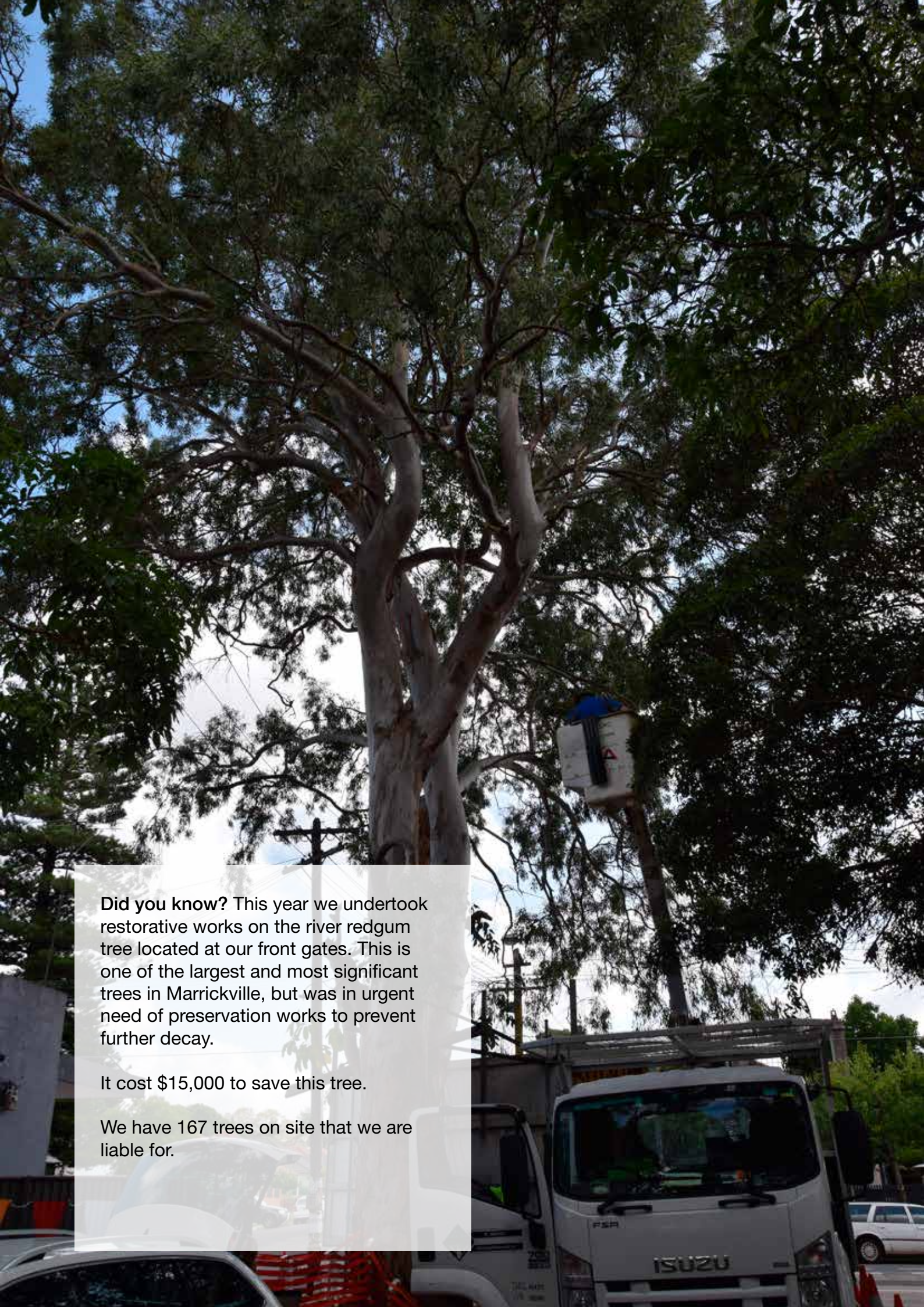
The Coalition for Justice and Peace in Palestine and the Friends of Hebron have achieved great success with their products at the store, leading to the formation of an enterprise that regularly sources products from Palestine. In 2015, ARCCO was able to share our operational knowledge: we received seven requests to present on the success of our ventures, and conducted study tours for multicultural enterprise groups and STARTTS organisations who were keen to learn from our model.

The Tollgate project supports long-term unemployed people with mental health issues through training and providing jobs. Our partner organisation, Richmond RPA, receive 50% of the profits, after expenses. The ARCCO share is redirected into restoring the carpark. We're addressing long-term compacting issues and ensuring safety and security for users of the centre by implementing traffic management procedures, for which we received expert traffic guidance and technical support from Marrickville Council staff and Marrickville Police.

ARCCO-managed Venue Hires are spaces under the management and control of ARCCO, as we are the only organisation with the mandate and contractual agreement with the government to rent out spaces and sub-lease. By directly managing the spaces, ARCCO has been able to re-invest in the facilities such as the Gumbramorra Hall and the StirrUP Gallery, furthering their financial viability.

The Boho Markets were a sensational economic success for ARCCO and we reinvested the revenue into improving compacting and soil erosion problems in the green space – a valuable and much appreciated community gathering space.

In 2016 the Saturday Global Street Food Markets will commence in collaboration with our long term partners who are engaged in multicultural, refugee and migrant enterprises. We will also expand opportunities for people with disabilities and Aboriginal communities.



Did you know? This year we undertook restorative works on the river redgum tree located at our front gates. This is one of the largest and most significant trees in Marrickville, but was in urgent need of preservation works to prevent further decay.

It cost \$15,000 to save this tree.

We have 167 trees on site that we are liable for.

Programs

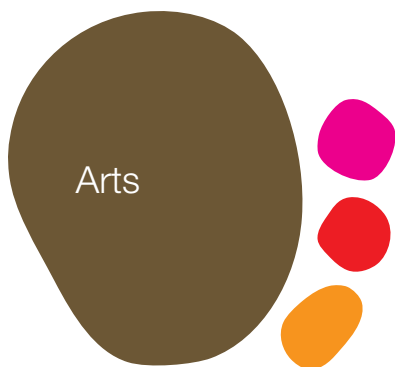
1. Develop and implement creative activities and encompass multi-faceted sectors.
2. Promote awareness and education for relevant community issues.
3. Strengthen economic sustainability in the delivery of relevant programs.





Did you know? This year marked 50 years since the first intake of conscripts from NSW, and the formation of the anti-conscription movement Save Our Sons (SOS). Save Our Sons protested at the gates of our grounds - which are former army barracks - at every intake throughout the Vietnam War.

Check out the ***Addison Road Heritage Trail*** to see how we are revealing the layers making up the site's history.



School Art Sustainability Festival: Project A

This year we held the inaugural exhibition of Project A – Out of the Habit, Into the Habitat. Project A was organised by a steering committee of ARCCO staff members, local teachers, Teacher's Federation members, and the children's' art program Drawn to Seeing. Teachers worked with their classes on collaborative group art projects, exploring the concepts of creativity in urban habitats with the provocation 'Another World is Possible'. Students created in the mediums of sculpture, photography, painting, theatre, film and music, which were then exhibited in the StirrUP Gallery.

Project A will be expanded from an exhibition into a 'festival', with high school students taking on creative and organisational roles. This project makes our resources available to children, is a catalyst for further engagement with local learning opportunities, and fulfills our mandate of fostering alternatives for environmental justice.

Art Gallery sponsorships

Mahmoud Salameh, a Palestinian political cartoonist and film maker, received a full arts sponsorship, enabling him to exhibit posters in the StirrUP Gallery as well as premiering his short film "From Trouble to Trouble".

Art on the Slab

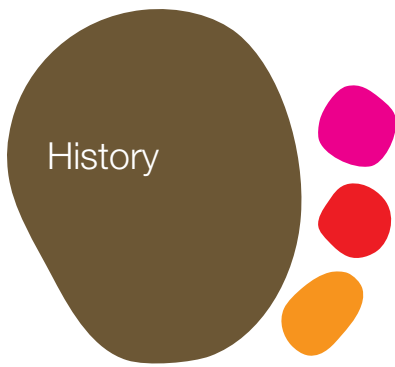
As part of ARCCO's tribute to the horses of WW1, local artist Fiona Arnold constructed a rearing war horse on the concrete slab in the green space. Fiona's war horse quickly became part of the scenery, and visitors to the centre commented on its absence when it was taken down a month later.

Fiona decided the space shouldn't be empty, and with her vision and the support of ARCCO 'Art on the Slab' was born - opened to local artists as an opportunity to exhibit in a vibrant and highly visible space. The exhibit rotates every 6 – 8 weeks, and has so far been a great success, bringing colour to the site and providing some of the artists with their first ever public installment. Art on the Slab broadens the local art scene, creating opportunities outside the influence of financial pressures and privilege that too often govern the art world.



Out of the habit, into the habitat





Through our history projects, we look back to help us look forward. It gives us an understanding the ways this site has transformed and imagine how it will continue to develop.

Our research into the past is already being incorporated into our planning. With our knowledge of the pre-industrial landscape we are developing rainwater gardens, which will improve our site's ecological functioning.

Tails From the Past

ARCCO had a unique focus for the Anzac Centenary commemorations: remembering the horses who were lost at war, and who were once part of daily life driving our site's former days as an army barracks.

The transformation of the centre for the Tails From the Past event included a WW1 era fete, old-fashioned games, period costume and baking competitions, music from the Bush Music Club, and a concise re-enactment from the Australian Light Horse Association.

As part of our historical projects, Tails from the Past played a role in keeping alive the collective memory of our community.

Revealing the layers of transformation this site has undergone, fits in with our broader goals - encouraging the community to consider the ways spaces transform, to appreciate that community spaces are not inevitable, and to envisage ways our centre will continue to develop.

Addison Road Heritage Trail

The signage for the Addison Road Heritage Trail is now complete and has been installed.

The Heritage Trail is a component of the Living

Museum, and will allow for self guided or guided walking tours of the centre, with text and visuals showing different stages of the history of this site. From pre-colonisation it takes us through the various periods; a market garden, army barracks and community centre.

The Heritage Trail creates opportunities for educational engagement with local schools, and fits incredibly well with the 2016 history syllabus – the past in the present. The Project A team has begun planning sessions for 2016, and is enthusiastic about the opportunity school groups will have to incorporate various threads of the Heritage Trail in their creative productions.

We envision the signage as a foundation, which can be added to over time with either permanent or ephemeral works – for example theatrical re-enactments or artistic installations.

Talking History Project

The Talking History Project has been a core element of our historical research. In 2014 our resident historian, Sue Castrique, spoke with older generations about their memories of the centre when it was an army barracks. These conversations were made into a short film, and influenced further research and outputs, for example, the Heritage Trail and Tails from the Past.

This year, we've put a call-out for stories of the years when the barracks was handed over to the community to establish the Addison Rd Community Centre.



Tails from the Past

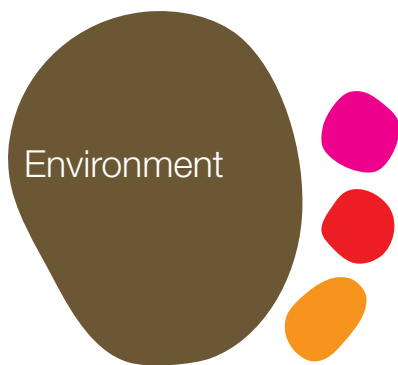




100 years

ARCCO Anzac Centenary commemorations remembered the horses who were lost at war, and who were once part of daily life in our site's former days as an army barracks.





Tucker and Land Justice

Love Food Hate Waste: Food Pantry and Organic waste reduction.

While researching inequality it was revealed that many people suffered from food insecurity. We were saddened to learn about the amount of food that goes to waste in Australia, the economic rationalism behind this, the waste of resources and the environmental impacts of so many tonnes of organic waste.

It was impossible to ignore the injustice of so much food being thrown away while people go hungry, and we began looking into ways to address and highlight these issues and their interdependence.

We were inspired to create the Tucker & Land Justice Food Pantry, which assists Foodbank NSW in distributing the food they divert from landfill to local people. It also help to reduce organic waste from local businesses, which are encouraged to donate unwanted items.

This second component is part of the Love Food Hate Waste EPA grant, which aims to reduce commercial and household organic waste going to landfill through waste diversion and educational programs.

As well as diverting organic waste ourselves, we'll be running a community engagement initiative through the organic markets, following on to educational workshops on food purchasing, preparation and storage to minimise waste.

This project is one of our most comprehensive and exciting activities, and is meeting our mandate of creating alternatives for social, economic and environmental justice, as well as being relevant to different socio-economic

classes and cultural groups. There's room to create discourse and inquiry into the causes of growing inequality, as well as community-led solutions.

Urban Habitats

- **Microbats and other creatures of the night (research) – December**

We've been enhancing the urban habitat of our grounds with projects such as the Habitat Tree and the native small bird habitat garden. We'll be teaming up with environmental officers from Marrickville council in late 2015 to begin monitoring for Microbats – which we hope have made a home here.

Microbats are an understudied and little understood species, and as such the data collected from our sessions will be a highly valuable contribution to pioneering research that is taking place in the Marrickville area.

We've received a high volume of interest to participate in the monitoring sessions from community members, extending the educational value of our urban habitat efforts.

- **Urban Habitat Tree being used – Black Cockatoos.**

Visual observations of the Urban Habitat Tree continue to show use by local bird species. Sulphur crested cockatoos, rainbow lorikeets and galahs are seen on a regular basis, and black cockatoos have also been spotted.

The Habitat Tree was the core inspiration for the Project A artworks, encouraging students to think about creative environmental solutions, as well as relating to the experience of the species in their 'homes'.

The Habitat Tree is a well-known feature of the centre among locals, and the practice of creating Habitat Trees is being taken up by individuals in their own yards, as well as other organisations such as Taronga Zoo.



Urban Habitat Tree



Community A Fair

Community A Fair continued this year, and received unanimous support from service providers at the end of year review.

In November, over 35 NGOs and government services gathered at the ARCCO StirrUP Gallery at Addison Road Community Centre to participate in a collaborative end of year review of the Community A Fair.

ARCCO facilitated participatory discussions and inputs to determine if the objectives are still relevant. Questions that we focused on included:

Has the context changed in which we work in?
What are we not doing that we can do better?
What are we doing that can be improved to achieve better outcomes and have meaningful impacts on our communities?

Community A Fair began partly in response to funding cuts and policy change in the community sector. As the situation of precarity has only worsened, all agreed that this initiative remains relevant as ever, and is worthy of our continued collaboration.

Map of Colours

A one-off Celebration Grant from Multicultural NSW was used to help showcase the benefits of connection and understanding through culture, making our August Community A Fair one of our most colourful and diverse yet. Vegetarian Tamil food from Diaspora Connect was served alongside our usual BBQ, and 300 students from Navitas and MTC visited to access face-to-face and integrated services.

Here's what students had to say:

"It's a good opportunity for us, because they have a lot of different programs to help with our skills... Metro Assist really helped, because one of my teachers gave my resume to them, so I have an appointment with them tomorrow, and hopefully they will assess my qualifications and I can find a good job here in Australia."

- Shanaita, recent migrant and student

"I'm pregnant and will have a baby next year. I got very useful information for applying for the birth certificate from the legal service... I would recommend my friends to come here, because here the information is not only about training and education, but also other things related to our daily life, useful for new immigrants."

- Patricia, recent migrant and student from China

Tucker & Land Justice Food Pantry

Following our research into social inequality in the Marrickville area, we saw an immediate need to alleviate the pressures of the cost of living for the many people who can't make ends meet. Participants in the research spoke of having to make tough decisions about which basic needs they would meet and which would be cut – for example, many could not afford to leave the house, use their heating, or buy enough food to eat.

We began research into ways communities are managing to meet costs, and visited Food Pantries around NSW. These are distribution points, which purchase and sell food from Food Bank NSW at a subsidised price. We've entered into a mutually beneficial partnership with Foodbank NSW – which had been looking for a distribution point in the Inner West for some years.

Our monthly trials have been a success, with all participants surveyed saying that shopping at the Food Pantry helped them with their weekly costs and that they'd come back again. The Food Pantry will expand in early 2016, with more regular and frequent opening hours.

This project takes direct action to support the marginalised people in our community.



POP-UP Tucker and Land Justice Food Pantry





Map of colours

To showcase the benefits of connection and understanding through culture.



Casa De Los Abuelos

When Casa Latinoamericana terminated their lease in July 2014, the lives of the elderly in the Latin American community were disrupted. The Sunday activities were, for many of them, the only social outdoor activity in which they engaged every week.

As ARCCO is particularly concerned about the elderly living in isolation - which has been exacerbated by cuts to funding at federal and state levels - we determined that we would continue to provide a space for the elderly from the Latin American community. At Casa De Los Abuelos they can gather and continue their cultural traditions while providing mentorship to new generations.

We're happy to report that the activities at Casa de los Abuelos, including excursions, transport services, health care information, translation services, food, music and games, have resulted in improved quality of life, and a reduction in isolation and loneliness. This program is ideal in that it's financially self-sufficient, maintaining funding through the sale of food and drink on the Sundays.

Pam's Place

Aboriginal Nannies Advocacy and Support Group

Aunty Esther was so inspired by the sight of multi-cultural older women coming together at the Building Bridges event, that she gave her longest ever Welcome to Country and followed by approaching CCCI to start a support group for older Aboriginal women.

Pam's Place is a partnership between CCCI and ARCCO, and is led by the women who make up the support network.

The core purpose is for Aboriginal grandmothers to build a support network for each other. Many of them are supporting two or more extended families, while at the same time they're attempting to prevent their family and cultural fabric from tearing. It's taking a huge emotional and physical toll.

The women have reported that:

- The three hours they spend at Pam's Place

is often the only respite in their week.

- It's helped to strengthen their family bonds.
- They're constantly finding more links in their family trees as they piece together stories from the Stolen Generation.
- It's helped them to see beyond the daily grind, and to make plans for their future.
- They're excited about the process of exploring the creative side of their culture.
- There's no similar support structure in this area for older Aboriginal women.

Activities include creative workshops, information sessions on accessing disability and mental health support, and simply having space to gather and take respite.

The Addison Road Heritage Trail will allow for self-guided or guided walking tours of the centre, with text and visuals showing different stages of the site's evolution. This will be a wellbeing and educational activity that senior groups and youth alike can enjoy.

1



Addison Road Gates

Thousands of young men passed through the gates of the Addison Road Army Depot. They came here to enlist as well as to report for duty. They came to the induction, trained and finally sent off to battlefields on far-off shores. By and large they had the full support of the local community.

In the mid 1960s, public sentiment shifted. When Addison Road became the centre to register for national service to the Vietnam War, a group, mostly mothers whose sons were at risk of conscription, united to form the Save Our Sons (SOS) movement. The SOS women came across gates whenever the intake of 20-year-old draftees arrived in June 1966. For seven long years, with many tears and blood, they campaigned to redirect their sons' path. They did this until conscription finally ended in 1972.

Pro-conscription mothers often stood near the main gate, reading letters to soldiers and opposing to SOSs and war zones. At the same time, SOS women came across the road, making noise and photographing the women who stood at the gates, leaving letters to group other groups heading off to war.



We wanted mothers to stand up and say, "I'm a mother and I don't want my son to go" or "I don't want any son to go, not just mine."

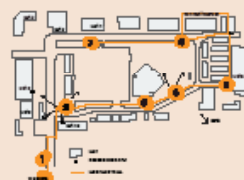
Bonus Herald
President of the Anti-War Movement



arcco.org.au

Addison Road Heritage Trail

2



The Army Depot

Most of the buildings at the Addison Road site were constructed by the army. The strongest from here are typical of World War I army architecture. The first structure built was No. 1 Drill Hall. It is now known as the 1st.

As more buildings sprang up, they radiated around the perimeter of the site, leaving the centre free to be used as both a parade ground and a home paddock. This is now the car park.

The double-storey building close to the entrance was first built as the 1st Field Ammunition and, from the end of World War I until 1946, to the 2nd Field Ammunition. There, ammunitary, magazines and explosives were loaded up for the top floor by the gentry which you can still see in building 1A. 1st Ammunition Field Ammunition, unarmoured vehicles and military equipment were grouped below.

In the early 1940s, the army reclassified, and there was little need for the depot. The 1st Ammunition Depot was closed in 1946 and the 2nd Ammunition Depot was closed in 1948. The depot was then used as a home paddock.



Every morning we'd parade

Bonus Herald
Parade Troop at Addison Road Army Depot, 1946-1948



arcco.org.au

Addison Road Heritage Trail



Mind the Gap

ARCCO partnered with final year university students from Shopfront UTS and UNSW, to begin research into experiences of poverty and growing inequality in our local area. Interviews and focus groups were conducted with different age and language groups, revealing that many people were not able to meet their basic needs.

The research paper is being utilised by council and other community organisations, as evidence for grants, and development of programs and policies. It's been a catalyst for the issues being put on the agenda of local politicians, with Jo Haylen holding a roundtable discussion on homelessness.

Our initiative in this area continues to ground us as a leader that cares for all sectors of the community.

Strike of a Pen

We paired with the Shopfront program at UTS to have a final year communications student undertake research on the issue of women's refuges facing closure and cuts. This is an issue of fundamental importance, as refuges across NSW were already turning away 50% of women due to a lack of capacity.

The research focused on the history of the women's refuge movement; the economic theories that have underpinned the gradual changes, common criticisms of the reforms, experiences determining the definition of being 'shut out', gaps and contradictions in information available from government bodies, and recommendations.

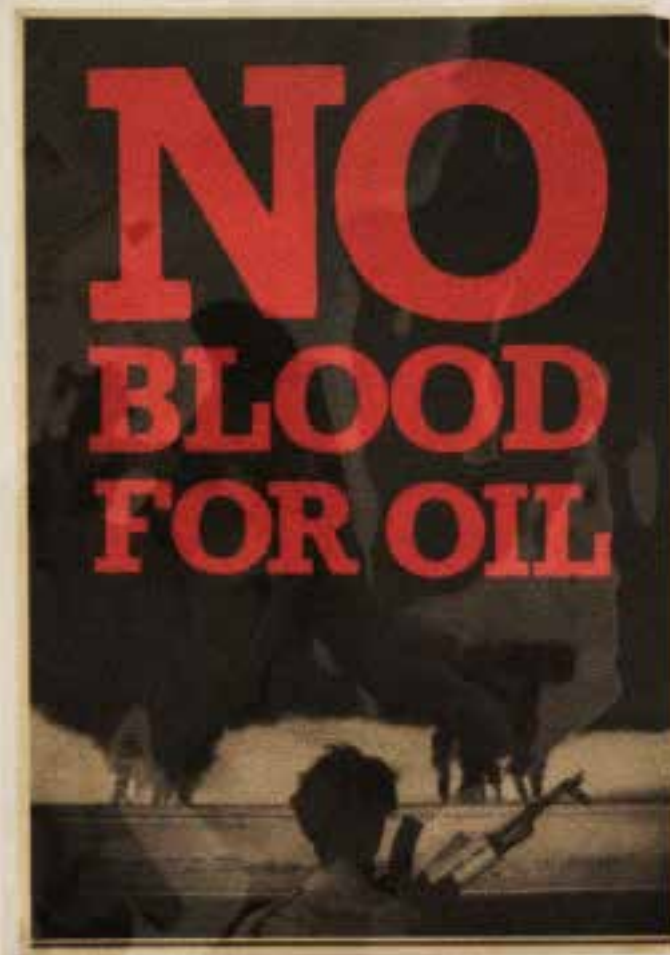
This research has equipped us with a thorough understanding of the issue and stakeholders, enabling us to be effective advocates when refuges next come under the knife. We've partnered with local artists to create works on site grappling with the themes of domestic violence, gender and housing, and have held discussions with local groups such as the Inner West Women's Shed.

50 years of radical activism

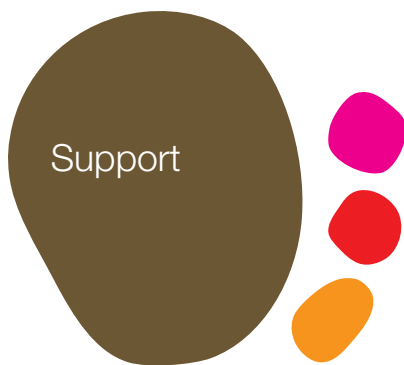
This year we curated an exhibition of political posters from the collection of left wing party builder John Percy. We made a selection from over 2,000 posters and covered many issues – including Aboriginal land rights, abortion, fair pay, uranium mining, climate change, globalization, conscription, and refugee rights.

The exhibition allowed us to show the narrative of how the rights we have today were fought for, and fostered intergenerational learning, with events such as the 70s Feminist Songs Workshop bringing together women of different age groups. Most importantly, it was an opportunity to appreciate that the work done at a grassroots level is worthwhile and does change the outcome of our future; a perspective that can get lost in the daily grind, especially at times when we feel we're fighting just to keep what we have, rather than progressing. This opportunity to reflect and celebrate is important for our centre and for those who have passed through our gates (or protested outside) over the years, working on many of the environmental and social issues represented in the posters.

Sadly, John passed away a few months before the exhibition. The week of the exhibition was an opportunity to celebrate and reflect on his life, so much of which was spent involved in the movements recorded in his poster collection.



50 years of radical activism



The following are just a few examples of how ARCCO supports organisations to fundraise, raise awareness, or continue their organisations in a challenging climate of rising rents and lower retail success.

Walk the Line \$500

Josh, Joe and their four-legged friend Zeek arrived at ARCCO on the last day of the 50 Years of Radical Activism exhibition. They were on their way from Cairns to Melbourne by foot to raise money for victims of Agent Orange. Their arrival was perfectly timed, bringing the narrative of the exhibition full circle, by demonstrating the way direct action results in real change and leaves the world a different place 50 years down the track.

ARCCO made a donation to their cause. Money raised will contribute to rebuilding and fitting out the Ha Duong Blind school for children affected by Agent Orange spraying. Zeek (the dog) was gifted a hamper from Maggie's Rescue.

Emergency fundraisers

ARCCO provided space, free of charge, for emergency fundraisers, following the earthquakes in Nepal, floods in Chile, and the cyclone in Vanuatu. We were happy to be able to provide space on very short notice, enabling the organising groups to hold successful events with all funds going directly to their causes.

Pachamama Festival

Latin American cinema, storytelling and song

We worked as partners with the Sydney Latin American Film Festival (SLAFF) to present the Pachamama Festival. SLAFF received a full sponsorship from ARCCO, as well as support

with logistics and event promotion. The proceeds from ticket sales are donated to organisations in South and Central America working primarily on Indigenous rights, cultural autonomy and quality of life. ARCCO is proud to partner with events like this, which puts our resources to use for the benefit of communities across the world, while at the same time bringing vibrance and creativity to our centre.

New Beginnings Festival

The New Beginnings Festival received a full sponsorship from ARCCO, in order to hold a celebration of the cultural heritage of people with refugee backgrounds and those seeking asylum. As part of the Open Marrickville festival, New Beginnings was supported by Marrickville Council, Multicultural NSW and ARCCO.

We consider events such as this incredibly important for the wellbeing and connectedness of community. Our ability to provide these kinds of sponsorships highlights the importance of open space that is accessible to not for profit organisations, who would otherwise pay a premium to stage such an event.

Providing affordable spaces - Case Study: The Bower

The many organisations operating here do so in a zone of refuge, insulated from the current climate of skyrocketing rent and falling retail figures. This gives them breathing space to develop their organisations and to become financially viable entities.

Apart from providing affordable spaces, ARCCO often subsidises the activities of our members, provides access to additional spaces free of charge, and assists with event logistics.

On the next page is an example of just one member organisation, The Bower, giving insight into the kinds of support we provide.

In 2015, The Bower received the following additional support:

- The use of the StirrUp Gallery for their AGM, free of charge to the value of \$100.
- The use of the Gumbramorra Hall for team building exercises, free of charge, to the value of \$25.
- Permission to hold an auction on the road, at no cost, to block the road, to the value of \$350 plus logistics.
- Weekly use of the ARCCO meeting room and kitchen for the Men's Shed, free of charge, to the value of \$2,500 a year.
- Use of borrowed ARCCP equipment lent free of charge.

2015 Marrickville market value

(\$/sqm - building size of 200-300sqm)





Communications & Networks

1. Promote a greater awareness of the Centre and its mandate
2. Facilitate mutually beneficial networks
3. Expand the use of the facilities through strategic communication and networks.

A photograph of a concrete wall with blue painted text and a stormwater drain grate in the foreground. The text on the wall reads "Channel North Subcatchment", "ER IN DRAIN", and "to the Cooks River". To the right of the text is a blue graphic of a stylized river or stream. In the foreground, there is a metal stormwater drain grate set into a concrete surface. The grate is partially covered with debris like leaves and twigs. The concrete surface around the grate is cracked and shows signs of wear.

Channel North Subcatchment
ER IN DRAIN
to the Cooks River

Did you know? We are in for more floods and there is nothing we can do about it! However, there is light at the end of the DRAIN. Our partnership with Marrickville Council will mitigate and reduce the potential damage.

This has led to innovative environmental solutions and the transfer of technology and knowledge, building ARCCO staff capacity.



Our own communications output and coverage of our activities in the media has increased this year, because we now have a communications officer in this role.

Media Coverage

External media coverage has included an average of one local print story a month, as well as radio interviews and television news coverage with public and commercial broadcasters throughout the year. A variety of issues and topics have been reported on, including our environmental, educational, artistic, historical and community focused programs and events – meaning the scope of our activities is being accurately represented.

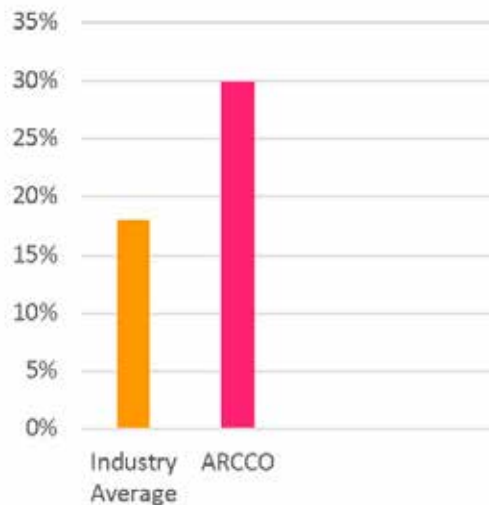
Our Online Output and Engagement

Our monthly newsletter is being sent out consistently, with a readership percentile higher than the industry average. Subscription to our e-newsletter has increased by 150% in the past 18 months. Readership is 12% above the industry average – evidence that not only are our programs and activities relevant to our community, but that the narrative is engaging.

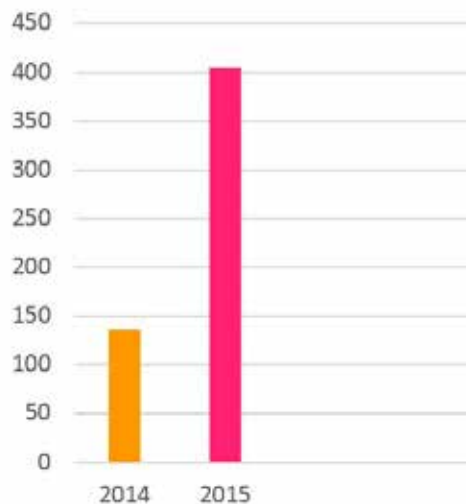
The average daily reach of our Facebook posts has increased by 200% this year. As this reach gradually increases, Facebook becomes a more useful tool for promoting our events and projects, and being a voice for the community. We don't consider this increase in reach and online engagement as a goal in itself, but it's a means to an end to help us inform and engage our community.

Our Communications at a glance:

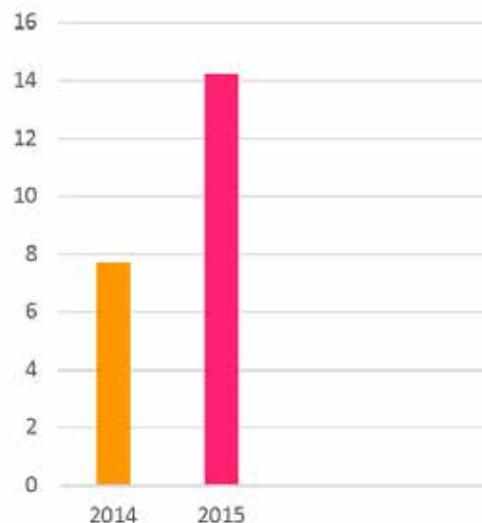
Newsletter engagement
(as % of mailing list)



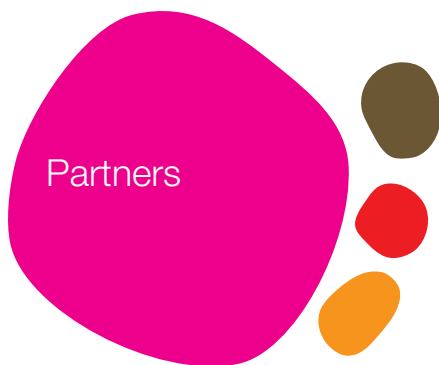
Average daily FB reach
(no. of people)



Average daily FB page visits
(no. of people)







Direct Outreach

The Work for the Dole programs have allowed us to undertake more direct outreach both over the phone and face to face, particularly for emerging projects such as the Food Pantry. This includes promoting events on and off site, calling and visiting local businesses, and researching relevant organisations. Although labour intensive, this kind of outreach is important as we can't rely on digital media and existing contacts alone - we must directly engage with new community members both on and off site.

Food Bank Partnership

Our partnership with Food Bank has been a great asset. Their staff have many years of experience and have been generous with their time and knowledge, assisting us with planning, implementing and troubleshooting our Food Pantry trials. Putting us in touch with other Food Pantries has been a great help, as we've had the opportunity to visit a number around NSW and learn from their processes.

Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

This year we were accepted as program partners with the EPA's Love Food Hate Waste initiative. This involves promotion of our organisation and events on their website, opportunities to connect with other program partners, use of media resources, and access to the expertise of their team members. This partnership is of great value to us in developing our Food Pantry and organic waste reduction projects.

Community A Fair Partnerships

The connections we've forged through Community A Fair continue to have huge value across all our programs. Service providers are able to relay their frontline knowledge about the needs of the community, and to inform their clients about services we're developing that meet their needs. Being part of such an expansive network has given us increased exposure, leading to an increase in interest in our venues and programs.

PARTNERS

- COMMUNITY A FAIR NETWORK
- MARRICKVILLE MULTICULTURAL INTERAGENCY MIA
- HOBO GRO
- RED PLANET
- MURMURATION
- CCCI
- MARRICKVILLE COUNCIL
- EPA – LOVE FOOD HATE WASTE
- IGNITE
- YOUTH OFF THE STREETS
- YOUTH AT RISK
- TAFE OUTREACH
- TAFE COMMUNITY ALLIANCE
- FOOD BANK
- ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AGENCY
- RICHMOND RPA
- NSW FAIR TRADE ASSOCIATION
- NSW HEALTH
- ETHNIC COMMUNITY SERVICES COOP



Food Bank & Food Pantry Charities, Canberra

"We've been working with the team at ARCCO to set up their Food Pantry, and we're impressed by their enthusiasm and commitment to this project. They've travelled around NSW to learn from other Food Pantries, conducted research on inequality in their local area, and have put a lot of thought into their model and how to expand it in an environmentally sustainable and economically viable way. Their successful social enterprises on-site are testament to their ability to run equitable, ethical, and viable ventures."

Tony Gatt - FOODBANK NSW

Newsletter Performance

Campaign performance





Turkish
a few yards before
orsemen were dead and
quarters of an hour

MARRICKVILLE

Political sign of the times on display

Sarah Sharples

POLITICAL posters more than half a century old will be unveiled in a new exhibition called *50 Years of Radical Activism*.

The posters belonged to John Percy who began collecting them when he joined the movement against the Vietnam War in the '60s.

Mr Percy, who died in August, has created one of the most comprehensive private collections in the country, with 2000 posters.

Co-organiser of the exhibition, which will be held at the Addison Road Community Centre in Marrickville, Alex McNnis, said 65 posters



KEEPING POSTERED

WHAT: 50 Years of Radical Activism exhibition
WHERE: Stirrup Gallery, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville
WHEN: October 15 to 24
COST: Free
DETAILS: Search on Facebook for 50 Years of Radical Activism: Poster Exhibition & Open Forum

EXHIBITION A HISTORY INTO RADICAL ACTIVISM

Some of John Percy's collection of more than 2000 political posters, 65 of which will be going on exhibition.

Some of John Percy's collection of more than 2000 political posters, 65 of which will be going on exhibition.

Some of John Percy's collection of more than 2000 political posters, 65 of which will be going on exhibition.

historical programs by the community centre to reveal the transformation of the site through times of war and peace, following on from commemorations earlier in the year for the war horses who left for Gallipoli and never returned.

When Addison Road be-

came the centre to register for national service in the Vietnam War, a group - mostly of mothers whose sons were at risk of conscription - united to form Save Our Sons (SOS).

The SOS women were at the gates when the first intake of 20-year-old draftees

arrived in June 1965. For seven years, with every new intake, they maintained their silent vigil, until conscription ended in 1972.

Ms McNnis said the exhibition showed how struggles can be cyclical with slogans from the 80s on posters such as 'fight the cuts', which had been used last and this year.

After the exhibition, the

posters will be archived and the centre must find the best place for them to be stored.

"We are in the process of seeing which library is going to take them - it could be in Australia or overseas," she said. "There's a museum in Amsterdam that specialises in this kind of thing."

"It is a 10-day exhibition but this is just the start. The idea is ... we get all 2000 archived properly and available to the public."

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Making a Difference

"Sustainable principles are at the core of all our activities," says Rosanna Barbero, General Manager of Addison Road Community Centre Organisation (ARCCO).

Last year, at Council's Business Environment Awards, ARCCO took out the Community Leadership Award, and was highly commended in three other categories.

ARCCO was recognised for committing to making the entire Centre solar, a move that reduced their environmental impact and contributed to their long-term financial sustainability.

As well, their 'pop-up pantry' project (above), launched in August, is addressing food waste and security, while at the same time helping local people in need. "It takes good food donated by generous businesses that would

ordinarily be thrown out, and re-homes it to locals doing it tough," Rosanna said.

"One patron who came along to our pop-up pantry said to me that because of this, he can now pay his electricity bill."

Every year, Council celebrates businesses that go above and beyond 'business as usual' - businesses that are showing leadership in making the environment more sustainable, or the community more fair and just.

Winners of the 2015 awards were announced on Tuesday 24 November. To find out more, go to www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/target



Kennel in 17 y

BELMORE Sports dusting itself out the cobwebs alive for its first 17 years on Monday night at the Melbourne S Contractors around the clock venue is ready people wanting an historic night The Bulldogs' Belmore Sports against the Melbourne August 15, 1998, team coming av and CEO Raele there's a real sentiment in the air.

"Belmore Sport spiritual home area is buzzing in Monday night's said.

"We've got families coming the Belmore ex and it's shaping special night fo volved in the Bul

Castle has ad charm of playing ground will requi standing from p being encourage transport and to

"Trains pull up c and I'd also rem we only have tw so early arrivals gesting the gate available through au.

nts explore other world

Schools jugural ex- last week, at explore habitats, o change for the ive think-

Rd Com- gani- sation, opening idents the ss the dble at the

s and their parents attended the opening night, held in the Stirrup Gal-

lery on Friday, with more than 1,000 visitors to the exhibition over the weekend.

"It was a great night and the kids loved bringing their parents along to see their artworks in the gallery," a spokesperson said.

Artworks included a performance about the future of the Great Barrier Reef, drawings, ceramic and sculptural works, a 'recycled' song, and a film about Ibises.

Students also learnt about the Habitat Tree, a project that transformed a Sydney Blue Gum that would otherwise need to be chopped down, into


valuable habitat for local bird, bat and marsupial species.

They learnt to spot the hollows that provide habitat, and the benefits of caring for ageing trees. The thriving of the Habitat Tree was inspiration for the exhibition, as an example of how urban habitats can be enhanced.

The ProjectA steering committee - made up of the Addison Road Community Centre Organisation, Drawn to Seeing and members of the Inner City Teacher's Federation - plan to continue the exhibition and hope it will grow into an annual arts and sustainability festival.



Art on the Slab
John Bartholomew - Tree House



" I am happy to be here because there are so many nationalities and cultures. I've had lots of experiences during my 3 month internship with ARCCO, and I feel happy when I walk in here. Working on the 50 years of radical activism and making videos, I learnt about the word activism which is a wonderful word ."

Jay Lee
Seoul Institute of the ARTS

