



Junortoun Community Action Group

Report to the community 2020

Includes financial statements for the financial year ending 30 June 2020

Junortoun Community Action Group Inc.

Incorporated association: A0061568U

ABN: 39 913 173 432

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About the Junortoun Community Action Group Inc.

Incorporated: 2014.

Statement of purposes

- To improve the community of Junortoun, Victoria by developing activities and initiatives in accordance with the wishes of those who live and work in Junortoun.
- To achieve a friendly, safe and peaceful, semi-rural environment, with a sense of community and a focus on families.

Contact details

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Email address: admin@junortoun.vic.au
Website: www.junortoun.vic.au

Social media

Facebook: www.facebook.com/junortoun
Instagram: www.instagram.com/junortoun/
Twitter: [@junortoun3551](https://twitter.com/junortoun3551)

The Junortoun Community Action Group acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung people as the traditional custodians of Junortoun and surrounding areas.

Report from the Chair

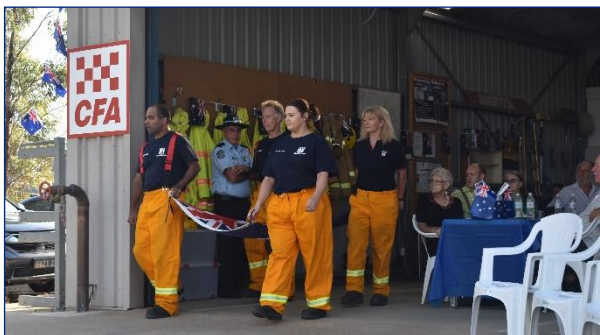
Colin Smith

As I sit at my desk to write about “the year that was or wasn’t” I am really surprised by how much has happened in a year when everything has been disrupted and cancelled because of the pandemic.

I came into this position as a result of Bob Jamieson’s ill health. Bob served as chair of the Junortoun Community Action Group from 2016-2019 and stepped down from the JCAG Executive Committee in 2019. Dr Robert Duncan Jamieson – Bob, to everyone, died on the 27th May 2020. Bob was a founding member of JCAG in 2012 and he had a lead role in the preparation of the Junortoun Community Plan. I developed a deep respect for Bob as a clear and concise thinker but also a very humble and compassionate man with a very dry wit - just an all-round good bloke. Bob will be remembered fondly for his significant contribution to the place that he loved and called home – Junortoun.

Unfortunately, one of JCAG’s marquee events, “Welcome to Summer”, usually held in early December, had to be cancelled because of rain and storms – maybe this was an omen of things to come!

The other marquee event, the Australia Day Flag raising and breakfast that JCAG jointly runs with Junortoun Fire Brigade did take place on January 26th 2020 at the Fire Station. The Mayor of Bendigo, Margaret O’Rourke, was able to attend and speak at the breakfast. JCAG presented our inaugural Distinguished Service Awards and Community Partner Certificates. The Fire Brigade paid their respects to the fire fighters who lost their lives or were injured as a result of the devastating 2019 bushfires.



As usual a great breakfast was prepared by the Fire Brigade members and served by the JCAG members. In 2021 the breakfast will still be at the current fire station but in 2022 it is likely that the Australia Day breakfast will be at the new Junortoun CFA station that was promised in the 2018 State election.

Plans are underway for the development of the new building and JCAG looks forward to continuing our cooperative and close relationship with our Fire Brigade. To that end JCAG have offered to plant any vegetation offsets in Honeyeater Bushland Reserve, that may be required, as a result of vegetation removal when constructing the new Fire Station. Junortoun Fire Brigade will continue to use the dam in the Reserve for training purposes.

The year of COVID-19 meant that many, in fact most, of our community activities have been cancelled because of the restrictions. It is difficult for a community group to maintain momentum when the events planned cannot be held and I am pleased that JCAG members, the Sense of Community sub-committee and the interest groups (Garden Club, Walking Club and Book Club) will continue and will soon resume normal activities. The JCAG Executive has continued to meet every month through online conferencing, emails and phone calls.

The normal business of an Action Group representing a community needs to continue and an example of this work is the presentation to council that Kevin de Vries prepared and presented to three ward councillors on the infrastructure priorities for Junortoun for the 2021-22 City of Greater Bendigo budget.

The infrastructure priorities in the bid were for:

1. Trotting Terrace cycling and walking path missing link.
2. “Welcome” entrance signs (on McIvor Highway and the O’Keefe Rail Trail).
3. Signage to enhance use of the O’Keefe Rail Trail as Junortoun’s linear park.

4. Purchase land adjacent to Knul-doorong Woodland.
5. Plan a safe cycling connection from East Junortoun to Strathfieldsaye Bicycle Network along Binks Road.

These priorities were chosen based on: our Community Plan, likelihood of success, discussion at JCAG executive meetings, benefit to Junortoun residents, anticipated timeframe of delivery.

Honeyeater Bushland Reserve (HBR) (see report) and the workings of the advisory sub-committee have occupied a significant proportion of time over the last 6 months. There has been so much achieved in the last 6 months through the passionate volunteers – thank you for your help. Over the next few months JCAG will now look at how the advisory committee will function, operate and report in the future.

Kirkland Gold have just confirmed that a funding application for the development of a wetland in HBR has been successful (\$5000) and the first stage of this project will commence in 2021.

JCAG has continued growth in both a physical sense, with more households in the area, but also with our connectedness through social media. Our Facebook presence now has 1,091 likes and 1,140 followers, and our Instagram presence is also growing. This has allowed JCAG to move to providing newsletters and information totally electronically. My chats with users of the 'Rim Track' in Honeyeater Bushland Reserve show that they have become aware of the track and HBR from information provided via social media.

The JCAG social media feeds will be used over the next year to start development of a new Community Plan for launch in 2022. The current plan can be accessed at www.junortoun.vic.au/community-plan/. This will need community consultation and input to ensure that it reflects the needs and aspirations of our growing community. It will be used to provide information about Junortoun to Council and other Government agencies. It will also be used to focus JCAG activities and actions in relation to the community's priorities.

Our relationship with Catherine McAuley College continues with the production of more nest boxes

for placement along the O'Keefe Rail Trail – Cashens Rd to Markovich Lane. After a delay because of COVID-19 the students will build more boxes in November 2020.

JCAG also recognises the contribution of the "Men's Shed" at Bendigo Domain Village and they are hopeful of resuming nest box building very soon. This will complete the three phases of the nest box project that commenced in 2016. Nestboxes have been placed along the O'Keefe Rail Trail from Bennetts Road in the East to Markovich Lane in the West. Maintenance such as bee removal and monitoring for use will now be the key activities for this project. We wish to thank City of Greater Bendigo Parks and Reserves staff (particular thanks to Ami Greenfield) for their help throughout this project.

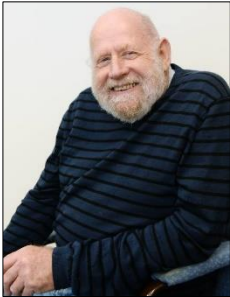
I extend my thanks and sincerest appreciation to all the members of the JCAG executive; the community volunteers who work on JCAG projects, action groups and special interest groups; and all the members of JCAG – without you we would not be able to support and build our Junortoun community.

In particular I thank Kevin de Vries (JCAG Secretary / Treasurer) for his friendship, help and guidance as well as the fantastic job that he does in this voluntary role – well done and thank you. Ian Stephens (JCAG Deputy Chair) has also provided me with significant friendship and help over the last year. Most importantly I would like to thank Catherine Stephens for the onerous and often unrecognised role of minute secretary that she performs so well.

Living in Junortoun – "Our Home in the Bush" during 2020 has been a huge benefit as it has allowed us to use the space of our Honeyeater Bushland Reserve, the O'Keefe Rail Trail and other parks and bushland to access the natural environment for exercise and mental health and well-being.

Junortoun still has a community feel to it that means you do regularly meet and interact with your neighbours which in tough times provides friendship and support. How good is that !!!

Vale: Robert (Bob) Jamieson



In May 2020 the Junortoun Community Action Group and the Junortoun and Bendigo communities lost a personality, a friend and a tireless community contributor with the death of Bob Jamieson.

Bob Jamieson was a founding member of the Junortoun Community Action Group, being present at the first Junortoun community meeting in March 2012.

He contributed significantly to the development of the first Junortoun Community Plan, and was an active participant in many decisions that shaped the Action Group, defined its identity and role, and led to its incorporation in 2014.

Bob was a dedicated member of the executive of the Action Group. During 2017, he led the development of the second Junortoun Community Plan.

He served as chair of the Junortoun Community Action Group from 2015-2019 and stepped down from the JCAG Executive Committee in 2019.

Bob was a passionate supporter and promoter of Junortoun and of the wider greater Bendigo community. Among his many roles were participation as a member of the Bendigo +25 steering committee, the Greater Bendigo 2036 Community Reference Group, the Greater Bendigo Rural Communities Committee, and the Greater Bendigo Positive Ageing Advisory Committee. Until his retirement a few years ago Bob had been Community Engagement Coordinator with Haven Home Safe.

Bob was an inaugural recipient of the Junortoun Community Action Group Distinguished Service Award in January 2020.

Report from the Sense of Community Action Group

Tom Devlin - chair

The *Sense of Community* group operates to involve and bring together members of the Junortoun community through events and activities.

Unfortunately, the global coronavirus pandemic had a significant impact on the activities of the Sense of Community group during 2020, and prior to that the annual Junortoun *Welcome to Summer* event in December 2019 was washed out due to bad weather.

During the first half of 2020 the following planned activities were cancelled due to coronavirus restrictions:

- Neighbourhood Garage Sale
- Clean-Up Junortoun working bee
- O'Keefe Marathon BBQ
- Fundraising BBQs

Interest groups

The three Interest Groups established in 2019 continued enthusiastically in 2019 and early 2020

before COVID-19 lockdown restrictions prevented their continuation in 2020. The walking group managed to resume for a few walks before the second Victorian lockdown thwarted their activities.

It is hoped that these groups can return to their usual function and participation once coronavirus isolation restrictions are lifted.

The schedule of these interest groups is:

- **Garden Club**-meets on the first Tuesday of the month and the contact person is Denise Johns.
- **Walking Club**-meets every Thursday at 9:00 a.m. The contact person is Glenys Rahill.
- **Book Club**-meets on the last Tuesday of the month at the Farmers Arms at 6:00 p.m. and the contact person is Diana Devlin.

Each of the above contacts can be reached at admin@junortoun.vic.au.

Distinguished Service Awards and Community Partner Awards

In January 2020 the Junortoun Community Action Group awarded its first Distinguished Service Awards to recognise significant service and contribution to the Action Group and to the Junortoun Community.



The four initial recipients of the Distinguished Service Awards are:

- Stephen Cushing
- Ian Ross
- Sam Spence
- Bob Jamieson

JCAG also proudly presented two Community Partner Certificates in recognition of substantial assistance, contribution and partnership with the Junortoun Community.

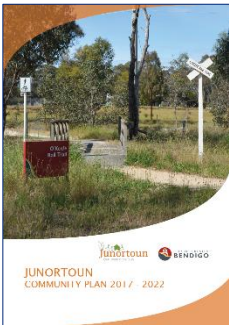


These certificates were presented to:

- Junortoun Fire Brigade
- Bendigo Baptist Church.

The presentations were made by City of Greater Bendigo Mayor Cr Margaret O'Rourke at the 2020 Australia Day ceremony.

Junortoun Community Plan



The activities of the Junortoun Community Action Group are guided by the objectives established in the *Junortoun Community Plan 2017-22*.

The plan reflects the priorities of the community, established through surveys, social media interaction, public meetings

and community committee representation.

The current plan was launched in 2017 and will conclude in 2022. It is planned to commence research and production of an updated Junortoun Community Plan during 2021.

The current community plan may be viewed at the JCAG website.

www.junortoun.vic.au/community-plan/

Nestbox project

Phase 3 – Phascogales, Sugar Gliders, Birds, Bats, and Bikes

Colin Smith

The City of Greater Bendigo through their Community Grants program has funded the Junortoun Community Action Group to build and erect nest boxes along the O'Keefe Rail Trail. We are now in Phase 3 of the project which will enable nest boxes to be erected from Cashens Road to Markovich Lane.

The 3 phases will cover the rail trail from Markovich Lane through to Bennetts Road in Junortoun.



Having received our grant in mid-2019 we were able to again work with the students and staff of Catherine McAuley College Junortoun campus. They have built nestboxes each year since the project started in 2016. The Domain Village Men's Shed, who commenced making boxes in 2018, have also built nest boxes this year.

All was going well until the pandemic struck and then both nest box builders were unable to continue their good work and there have been no new nest boxes constructed since December 2019.

The good news is that Catherine McAuley College Junortoun campus will commence building nest boxes again in November 2020 and both Tom Devlin and I are looking forward to helping the students build their boxes. The Domain Village Men's Shed are hopeful that they will be able to start building some boxes soon.

JCAG was granted an extension to this project until 30th June 2021.

Some notes on this project

- The nest boxes have openings suitable for particular animals and birds that are rare or endangered and that require hollows to live in. The animals are Sugar Gliders, Phascogales (Tuans) and micro bats. The birds are Eastern Rosellas, Owllet Nightjars, and Pardalotes. Brush-tailed Phascogales are also known as Tuans which is their Australian native name.
- The Junortoun Group plans to erect more boxes for other animals such as small insect eating bats and birds such as pardalotes and perhaps some native bee refuges. These particular new boxes will then be erected over the entire project length from Bennetts road to Markovich Lane.
- 159 nest boxes have now been constructed as a result of this project. An additional 25 Pardalote boxes and 21 Bat Boxes have also been constructed.
- The project focuses on the O'Keefe Rail Trail- that runs through Junortoun which is well known and used by this community. This project is supported by
- A significant and ongoing relationship has been developed with Catherine McAuley College - both teachers and students. Students have been able to develop their knowledge of the natural environment through the information sessions and by understanding that they are building nest boxes to overcome the shortage of natural hollows in trees.



- A new partnership has been developed with the Domain Village residents and the men of the Men's shed.
- A pole camera (a small digital camera on a long pole) which was purchased as part of the project will be used to see which marsupial or bird is using the box as a new home.
- Monitoring by the City of Greater Bendigo Natural Reserves staff (Ami Greenfield) has confirmed up to 5 sugar gliders in one box with numerous other boxes also occupied. No Tuans or Owlet Nightjars have been recorded using the nest boxes so far.

Note from Colin Smith: In my nest boxes at my property I have recorded an Owlet Nightjar.



- Occupation of the boxes by bees has occurred in several boxes and these have been removed by local beekeepers. Please let JCAG know if you see bees in a box.
- This project commenced in 2016 was always intended to be a 3 phase project as the total project would have been impossible to undertake as a single project – both in the distance covered and the number of nest boxes that needed to be built.
- **Phase 1 – 2016 / 2017** build and erect nest boxes along the O'Keefe Rail Trail between

Knul-doorong Woodland – 5 ha (Somerset Park Road) and the Junortoun Flora and Fauna Reserve – 9.2 ha (Trotting Terrace).

- **Phase 2 – 2017 / 2018** between Knul-doorong Woodland – 5 ha (Somerset Park Road) and Bennetts Road.
- **Phase 3 – 2019 / 2020** of the project was funded and will cover the O'Keefe Rail Trail from Cashens Road and will follow the O'Keefe Rail trail north west across Mclvor Highway to Markovich Lane.

The City of Greater Bendigo Natural Reserves staff have erected all of the nest boxes and JCAG gratefully acknowledges their expert knowledge and their assistance that guided the number and placement of boxes. In particular, JCAG would like to acknowledge the extra time and effort that Ami Greenfield has contributed to the project – thank you Ami.

JCAG are pleased that we have been able to involve local students and thank Catherine McAuley College and the Men's Shed at Domain Lifestyle Village Bendigo and also Karen Thomas, Bendigo Field Naturalist for their support and involvement.

Thanks to Tom Devlin (JCAG) for his support and hands on involvement in the project and to Kevin de Vries (JCAG Secretary / Treasurer) for his help, guidance and support of the project.

The Junortoun Community Action Group gratefully acknowledges the City of Greater Bendigo Community Grants for Environmental projects that provided the funding for this project and the North Central Catchment Management Authority for providing a Landcare maintenance grant.

Honeyeater Bushland Reserve Formerly known as the Binks Road Quarry

Colin Smith



On the 8th July 2019 Junortoun Community Action Group was appointed by the Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning to be the Committee of Management for Honeyeater Bushland Reserve. About this time the zoning of the land was changed from gravel supply to public use.

The process has taken more than two years to achieve but now the future of the reserve is in the hands of the Junortoun community.

Honeyeater Bushland Reserve (HBR) is the largest block of public land (17ha) in the Junortoun area and it adjoins land to the east that is designated as a Flora and Fauna Reserve (24ha).



Appointment as the Committee of Management for this land is a significant step for JCAG and the Junortoun community. It allows the community, through JCAG, to ensure that this land is managed to provide the values, and allow the activity, that the community wants now and into the future. It will help prevent any inappropriate use or development on this land and it will be used as an example to promote similar management of the adjoining Council land.

Hopefully it will become a well-used passive recreation reserve and will become a significant asset for the community – a natural environment jewel in Junortoun. Preserving the reserve and revegetating the quarry is a long-term project that will require

decades of work, but will benefit Junortoun residents for generations to come.

JCAG has achieved significant progress since obtaining the first rental payment in March 2020 for the NBN tower. This rental payment together with some back rent to July 2019 gave JCAG a considerable “war chest” (\$25K) to undertake some major work and improvement. The achievements on the ground in HBR over the last 5 months have been considerable given that the work has been achieved using volunteer labour either directly on the ground or for supervision of earthworks.

Creation of a well-defined walking track around the rim of the former quarry

The “Rim Walk” was the first project undertaken with a grant from Strathfieldsaye and Districts Community Enterprise (SDCE). It turned a ‘goat track’ into a well-defined and constructed walking track that can be used by Junortoun residents and the broader community with a particular focus on family use.



The establishment of the track had an immediate impact with increased numbers of individuals and families using the Reserve, exactly for the purpose JCAG envisaged, quiet, peaceful, passive recreation (walking, pushing prams, kids on bicycles) in a natural setting. The establishment of the track was of even greater significance this year as residents and community members were seeking locations for open-air recreation that they could access during the coronavirus lockdown. It has been spectacularly successful and the works at the site will have lasting

value to the community for many, many years to come.

The SDCE grant was valuable because it allowed JCAG and Honeyeater Reserve volunteers to kick-start the works at the Reserve, and to mobilise and motivate the JCAG and community volunteers behind the project.



On behalf of the Junortoun community, JCAG sincerely thanks SDCE for the grant it has provided.

Earthworks to stabilise an area of the quarry and to enable revegetation

This work was also undertaken through the grant from SDCE and it involved levelling the area directly below and to the west of the NBN tower. The levelling allowed the management of potentially toxic dumped mining tailings, left in the quarry, by burying as per the EPA guidelines. The aim of the levelling was to provide a suitable location for the planting of trees and shrubs. Site preparation also involved removal of a significant amount of concrete, steel mesh and other inert rubbish present at this location. Over 400 native trees and shrubs have been planted and they were all purchased locally. Volunteers planted and guarded the plants in several successful working bees.



Fencing of the planted area to prevent grazing from kangaroos, wallabies, rabbits and hares

Volunteers erected this fencing— this was a great outcome given the very difficult wet and rough conditions at the time. This fencing is temporary (2 years) and will be reused. It will allow the plants to grow and stop them being grazed. The only thing now is that the trees will have to be watered several

times over Summer so further working bees will be required.

Repair of the dam wall to stop the loss of water from the Reserve

The dam wall that existed had a very large hole in it and water continually leaked through. Quotes were obtained for the repair of the wall and work commenced to repair the wall and provide a safe spillway for when the dam fills. The local contractor (Midland Contracting) discounted his float hire service fees because of the community-benefit provided by these works. Compaction testing of the dam wall by an independent consultant ensured that the works were completed satisfactorily.



The dam is a feature and significant asset of the reserve. Several large rocks have been placed on the wall as a quiet spot to sit and watch the birdlife and the sunsets.

The Junortoun Fire Brigade uses the dam for training purposes relating to pumps and tanker filling

Installation of a box culvert in the spillway of the dam

Installation of a culvert during the dam repair was an essential element of the dam repair. The culvert provides for dam water overflow management when it overflows – as we expect it will most years. It allows users of the “Rim Track” to use the dam wall to complete a full circuit of the reserve. It also provides access for fire vehicles and other emergency vehicles around the Western side of the “Rim Track”.

The Future

Although it is not included in the financial statements of this report, I am proud to say that

JCAG has spent over \$23,600 on maintenance and improvement works at the reserve in the past four months. In addition many hundreds of hours have been spent by JCAG volunteers, advisory committee and friends of the Reserve.

With so much activity in a just a few months work at the Reserve will pause over the summer months – except for tree watering and any necessary fire control activities.

JCAG will use this time to draw breath and consider some longer-term planning. This will include development of a long-term vision in a Strategic Development Plan.

The delivery of the vision and objectives of the Strategic Development Plan will be delivered through a landscape management and annual work plan. Of equal importance and deemed a high priority, is the completion of a Safety Audit of the Reserve.

Infrastructure, services and facilities

Kevin de Vries

The *Infrastructure, Services and Facilities Group* convenes periodically to advocate for, and respond to opportunities that advance and improve infrastructure and services for the residents of Junortoun. These facilities and services are mostly provided by local and state governments and the activity of this group involves direct advocacy; responding to draft plans and policies - especially in the strategic planning domain; and close and patient engagement with agencies and political representatives at state and local level.

The number of people regularly involved in this action group is small, but the group reaches out to interested community members when a response to an infrastructure development and service delivery issue is required.

Projects for which we continue to advocate include:

- A safe connection for bicycle users along Trotting Terrace to connect the O’Keefe Rail Trail, the “Trotting-Cousins” path and the connection to Strathfieldsaye via Mclvor Forest Estate.
- Safety improvements for Junortoun Road.
- Safety improvements on Mclvor Highway, in particular: turning lanes to access local roads and an extension (eastwards) of the 80km/h speed zone.
- An additional bus stop on the Mclvor Highway adjacent to Domenica Drive / Homebush Drive (east).
- Local sporting and recreation facilities.
- Improved signage of cycling and walking paths.

The group acknowledges its partnership with the Strathfieldsaye and Districts Community Enterprise, in particular, through its substantial financial support of the bicycle track between Mclvor Forest Estate and Strathfieldsaye.

We also recognise and acknowledge the close links and working relationship with the Friends of the Bendigo-Kilmore Rail Trail, Bike Bendigo and the Active Travel Healthy Kids Community Network.

Any development must be consistent with the use and purpose of the reserve – “Public Purposes”

To be successful this Reserve will need the community to **value it and use it**.

Insurance and Risk

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) provides public liability, professional indemnity, and personal accident insurance for JCAG as a Committee of Management. The most notable is the personal accident insurance which covers individual volunteer activities that are directly connected to the reserve and authorised JCAG.

DELWP’s insurance does not cover lease or licence holders, regular group users, contractors, casual hire users and these users, groups and contractors need to provide evidence of insurance that they hold.

Engagement and community connections

In order to achieve of statement of purposes, and improve facilities and services for the community of Junortoun and realise the objectives of the Junortoun Community Plan it is important that the Junortoun Community Action Group forms and maintains strong links with local agencies and service providers.

Organisations with which JCAG works include:

The City of Greater Bendigo

This includes the Community Planning team, the staff of the Planning department, staff of the Presentation and Assets directorate, and staff of the parks and open space unit.

Strathfieldsaye and Districts Community Enterprise

SDCE is both a source of funding and also a valuable partner in local community projects.

Junortoun CFA Fire Brigade

JCAG Community partner

The Junortoun CFA generously provides use of its venue to JCAG for meetings of the JCAG executive.

Bendigo Baptist Church

JCAG Community partner

The Baptist Church provides use of its facilities to JCAG for community events and meetings.

Farmers Arms Hotel Junortoun

The pub is a frequent meeting point for JCAG committee meetings.

Catherine McAuley College Bendigo and Bendigo Domain Village

Key partners in our nest box construction projects.

Friends of Bendigo-Kilmore Rail Trail and Bike Bendigo

Regional Roads Victoria

For continued engagement on Mclvor Highway safety issues.

Public Transport Victoria

For helping deliver more bus services for the residents of Junortoun, Longlea, Axedale and Heathcote.

North Central Catchment Management Authority

Longlea and District Landcare

Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation.

Political engagement

We also acknowledge and thank our local councillors and political representatives:

- Lisa Chesters MP
- Hon. Jacinta Allan MP
- Cr George Flack
- Cr Suzie Hawke
- Cr Margaret O'Rourke.

for their interest in the affairs of the Junortoun Community and willingness to discuss and engage on local issues.

Communication and engagement

Kevin de Vries

Newsletters

The preparation and distribution of Community Newsletters has resumed during the 2019-20 year. JCAG also keeps the community informed of news and activities via social media.

To subscribe to the JCAG Community Newsletter visit: www.junortoun.vic.au/newsletters/

If you are interested in acting as newsletter editor, please email admin@junortoun.vic.au

Social Media

Junortoun is represented on three social media channels – Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



www.facebook.com/Junortoun



www.instagram.com/junortoun/



www.twitter.com/Junortoun3551

Our Facebook followers have grown from 947 to 1,077 in the past 12 months, with continuing strong engagement from users.

Our Facebook page is used to communicate “All things Junortoun” in a real time communication channel for Junortoun locals. The Facebook page also allows for direct messaging option from other users, business directory, option to sign up to our newsletter mailing list, and direct links to the Junortoun website.

The group commenced a presence on Instagram in 2019 which has grown further this year, which shows the popularity of this medium.

Special acknowledgement and thanks to Sam Spence who continues to assist with the JCAG Facebook presence to maintain strong engagement with our local community.

Website

The Junortoun Community Action Group maintains an informative community website at:

www.junortoun.vic.au

Social media statistics

	June 2015	June 2016	June 2017	June 2018	June 2019	June 2020
Email subscribers	Not recorded	Not recorded	229	262	270	277
Facebook followers	325	437	679	824	947	1,077
Instagram followers	-	-	-	-	44	86
Twitter followers	-	-	Not recorded	25	38	45

Secretary's report

Kevin de Vries

The Junortoun Community Action Group Inc. (JCAG) is a not-for-profit incorporated association registered with Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV), Incorporated Association A0061568U.

The members of JCAG voted to incorporate on 31 July 2014, adopting the model rules provided by Consumer Affairs Victoria. The Action Group was registered with CAV on 5 August 2014.

The Association had seventeen (17) paid members during the 2019-20 year.

Members of the Executive Committee during the year were:

- Robert Jamieson
Chair until 5 September 2019
- Colin Smith
Deputy Chair until 5 September 2019 and
Chair from 5 September 2019

- Geoff Day
- Tom Devlin
Leader of the Sense of Community Action Group
- Kevin de Vries
Secretary and treasurer
- Richard Dwyer
- Glenys Rahill
- Heather Stanmore
- Catherine Stephens
Minutes Secretary
- Ian Stephens
Deputy Chair from 5 September 2019
- Rod Symes

The association maintains public liability insurance cover of \$10,000,000 through Berkeley Insurance Australia and Arena Underwriting, and volunteer worker insurance through QBE.



Meeting with Sara Fallon (Engagement advisor) and Stuart Hooper (Project Manager) from Regional Roads Victoria, regarding the safety of Mclvor Highway (August 2019).

Financial report

Kevin de Vries

The Junortoun Community Action Group completed the 2019-20 financial year with a surplus of \$25,289.78 and net assets of \$34,493.27.

This strong financial position includes significant income received in the 2019-20 financial year that will be spent in the 2020-21 year, in particular for works at Honeyeater Bushland Reserve.

Despite the impact that coronavirus has had on fundraising activities, the general (unrestricted) funds held by JCAG remains sufficient to ensure the future operations of the Association.
(\$3,988 this year, compared to \$4,125 last year).

The financial statements presented on the following pages have been prepared by Kevin de Vries and reviewed by JCAG committee member Geoff Day.

- The accounts of the Association are constructed to comply with the Standard Chart of Accounts for not-for-profit associations.

- The Junortoun Community Action Group reports and pays GST on an annual basis.
- On 30 June 2020 there was a debt of \$9,900 due to the Action Group. This amount was received in full on 7 July 2020.
- As at 30 June 2020 there are no mortgages, charges or securities affecting any of the organisation's property.
- During the financial year to 30 June 2020 the organisation did not act as the trustee of any trust.
- A GST payment of \$2,353 was calculated for the financial year and has subsequently been paid to the Australian Taxation Office.
- The Association is solvent, and able to pay its anticipated expenses as and when they fall due.

To assist in efficient record keeping JCAG commenced using a commercial accounting software package (Reckon One®) during 2020.

Grant income and activity

During the 2019-20 financial year:

The Junortoun Community Action Group received two community grants from the City of Greater Bendigo.

- Grant GO002567 for community events 2019-20: \$1,400.
- Grant GO002829 Community Group Essentials: \$1,479.20

The Action Group also received:

- an organisational support grant from Landcare Victoria, through the North Central Catchment Management Authority: \$500
- a grant from Strathfieldsaye and District Community Enterprise for track works at Honeyeater Bushland Reserve: \$4,800.



2019-20 financial statements

Income statement

For the year ending 30 June 2020, accrual basis, excluding GST

INCOME

CODE	ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
4-1080	Grants - City of Greater Bendigo	\$2,879.20
4-1100	Grants - other	
	Grants - Landcare Australia	\$500.00
	Grants - SDCE	\$4,800.00
	Total Grants - other	\$5,300.00
4-2010	Donations	\$13.00
4-3010	Membership fees	\$34.55
4-4011	Sales (events)	\$303.77
4-5020	Interest Received	\$12.82
4-5031	Honeyeater Reserve NBNCo rental	\$21,000.00
	TOTAL INCOME	\$29,543.34

EXPENSES

6-0020	Advertising and promotion	\$662.83
6-0120	Event expenses	\$501.86
6-0152	Honeyeater Reserve expenses	\$35.41
6-0160	Community support	\$623.64
6-0220	Computer expenses	\$759.09
6-0330	Fees and permits	\$59.20
6-0400	Insurance	
	insurance - public liability	\$746.16
	Insurance - volunteers	\$384.82
	Total Insurance	\$1,130.98
6-0480	Meeting expenses	\$201.28
6-0510	Postage, freight, courier	\$121.81
6-0520	Printing and stationery	\$157.46
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4,253.56

NET POSITION

Income	\$29,543.34
Expenses	\$4,253.56
	NET POSITION
	\$25,289.78

Balance sheet as at 30 June 2020

CODE	ACCOUNT NAME	BALANCE
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
	Bank - JCAG Account (Bendigo Bank)	\$26,946.76
1-1210	Accounts Receivable	\$9,900.00
	TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$36,846.76
	TOTAL ASSETS	\$36,846.76
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
2-1150	GST Payable	-
2-1155	GST Collected	\$2,663.83
2-1160	GST Paid	-\$310.34
	Total GST Payable	\$2,353.49
	TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$2,353.49
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$2,353.49
	NET ASSETS	\$34,493.27
EQUITY		
3-0100	Opening Balance Equity	\$9,203.49
	Current year earnings	\$25,289.78
	TOTAL EQUITY	\$34,493.27

Activity centre balances

Balances of JCAG Activity Centre Accounts as at 30 June 2020

ACTIVITY CENTRE		
1-1110	Grant: GO001693 Manning Reserve sign	2,296.44
1-1110	Grant: GO002529 Nest boxes 2019-20	2,500.00
1-1110	Grant: GO002567 Junortoun Community Events 2019-20	185.31
1-1110	Grant: GO002829 JCAG Community group essentials	167.21
1-1110	Honeyeater Bushland Reserve	25,355.50
1-1120	JCAG general account (unrestricted)	3,988.81
	TOTAL	\$34,493.27

Notes

For financial reporting purposes under Consumer Affairs Victoria requirements, JCAG is a 'Tier one' association, having a total yearly revenue of less than \$250,000. Tier one associations have an obligation to prepare financial statements that "give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance" of the organisation.

There is no requirement under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act for a tier one organisation to have its financial statement independently audited or reviewed. However, members can vote at a general meeting to require the organisation to have its accounts reviewed. In some circumstances, Consumer Affairs Victoria can direct a tier one organisation to have its financial statements reviewed.

JCAG finances are deposited with the Bendigo Bank in a Not-For-Profit Cash Management Account.

The Junortoun Community Action Group is registered for GST (ABN: 39 913 173 432) and reports annually.

Review of financial statements

In accordance with Schedule 1, Regulation 15, Form 1, *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*
Sections 94 (2)(b), 97 (2)(b) and 100 (2)(b)

Annual statements give a true and fair view of financial performance and position of incorporated association.

We, Kevin de Vries and Geoff Day, being members of the committee of the Junortoun Community Action Group Inc. certify that –

"The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial performance and position of the Junortoun Community Action Group during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending 30 June 2020."

Kevin de Vries
19 November 2020

Geoff Day
19 November 2020





A digital version of this report may be downloaded
at: <http://www.junortoun.vic.au/jcag-inc/#annualreports>