

# THE BENDIGO TRUST

# Annual Report

## 2013/14





## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Foreword to the Annual Report</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>From the Chairman and the CEO</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>The Bendigo Trust Foundation</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>The Bendigo Trust in 2013/14</b>	
Bendigo Tramways	14
Central Deborah Gold Mine	16
Discovery Science & Technology Centre	19
Bendigo Joss House Temple	20
Bendigo Gas Works	20
Victoria Hill	21
Sales and Marketing	22
Finance	25
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Trust Staff and Volunteers</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Financial Report</b>	<b>33</b>

# FOREWORD TO THE ANNUAL REPORT

David Wright, Chairman



"One of the greatest successes of our organisation is the fantastic, dedicated employees and volunteers that day by day keep our business activities running."

The Bendigo Trust, not unlike in other years, has continued to struggle financially and yet on the delivery side of the equation has won the prestigious tourism honour of being admitted into the Victorian Tourism Awards Hall of Fame.

One of the greatest successes of our organisation is the fantastic, dedicated employees and volunteers that day-by-day keep our business activities running. Our CEO, Tom Seddon, is leaving us after almost ten years of dedicated and loyal service to the Trust. The Trust has benefited greatly from Tom's leadership and he will be missed, as he has been a wizard at attracting external funding, particularly at Discovery. He has welded the various divisions of the Trust into a cohesive team and recruited a number of talented key staff to improve the professionalism of the organisation during his term of engagement. It may surprise many to know that over Tom's tenure around 10,000 extra visitors per year patronised our attractions.

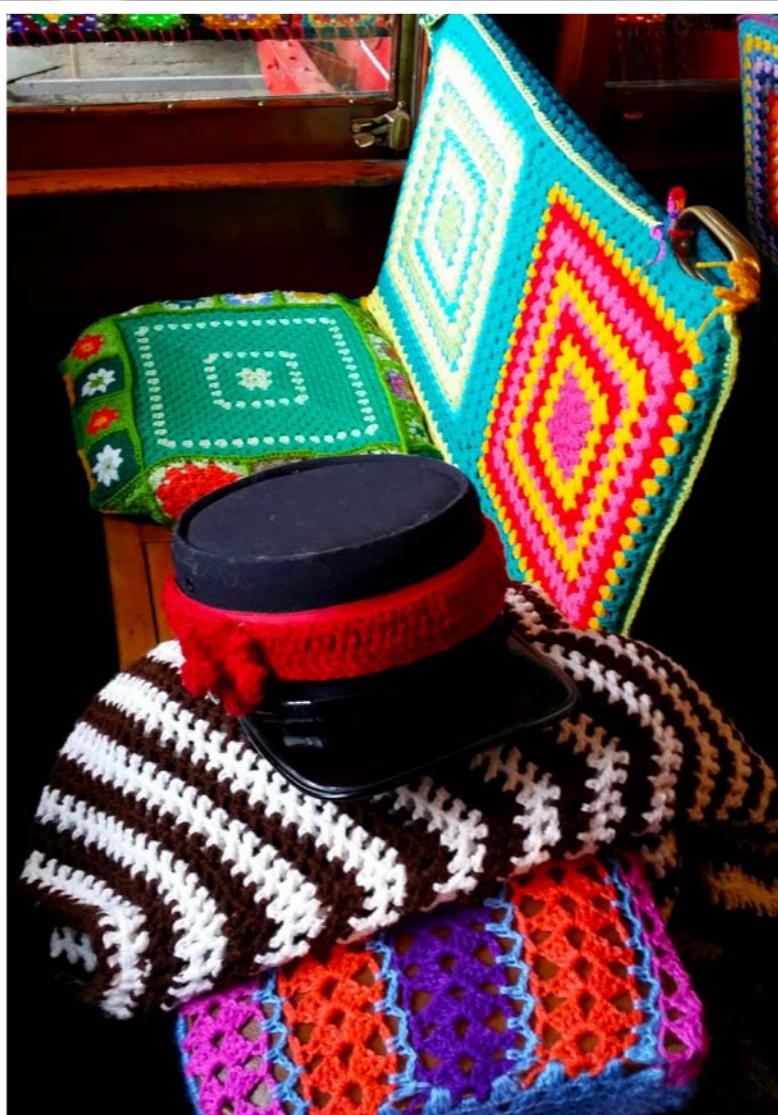
Our Chairman for much the same time as Tom's reign has been Lloyd Cameron, who unfortunately for health reasons, stepped down from the role in June this year. Lloyd has already been made an Honorary Life Member of the Trust but we cannot let this year disappear without recalling the enormous effort that Lloyd has contributed to the Trust, mainly as chief confidant to the CEO and a person with fabulous rapport with many of our decision makers in government. I refer in particular to negotiations with Yarra Trams and the Department of Transport. The Trust is indebted to his contribution.

I would like to congratulate Michael Lowther on his elevation to Honorary Life Member; he is a very worthy candidate whose heart and soul has been attached to the success of

the Tramways operation over more than four decades.

Our Board of Directors has had a very challenging year and I thank them for their support and valuable contribution to the governance of the Trust. They have welded themselves into a very skilled team that have guided the business and where possible provided support and assistance to the staff to enable them to undertake their duties in an effective and efficient manner. It is with regret that I record the resignation of Noel Hobley as a Director who served for almost three years; his employment has transferred to Wangaratta. His work on the Foundation and with marketing was particularly appreciated.

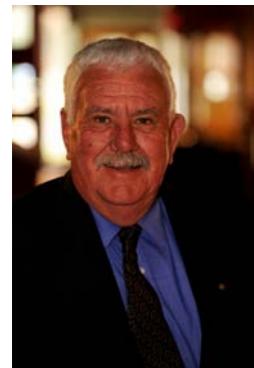
As mentioned at the start of this report, financial stability has been an evergreen issue for all concerned and it is pleasing to report that the City of Greater Bendigo has commissioned a sustainability study with consultants to untangle the multitude of issues that affect the financial viability of the Trust as it operates a tourist business in four localities mostly for assets owned by the City, with the main purpose of bringing tourists to our fair city. The operations have for many years enjoyed a financial subsidy from the Council however it is clear that this funding has not kept up with inflation and ever greater compliance costs and new imposts such as groundwater pumping. A new and even more cooperative partnership with the Council is the desired outcome that ensures that our attractions continue to be world class and do our beautiful city proud.



Left: Tram No. 302 was 'yarn bombed' as part of the Bendigo Sheep and Wool Show. It was so popular that the decorations were left on for 4 months.

# FROM THE PAST CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**Lloyd Cameron,  
Past Chairman**



*The Bendigo Trust is not just a collection of mine machinery, Chinese figurines, science demonstrations and trams. The Bendigo Trust in a very real sense is its people. Everyone plays an important role, and you all do it very well. It has been an honour and our pleasure to work with you!*

*Lloyd Cameron stepped down as Chair of The Bendigo Trust in June 2014, having served in that role since February 2005.*

*Tom Seddon is stepping down as CEO at the 2014 Annual General Meeting, having served since June 2005.*

This report will be our last after a partnership of more than nine years. In reporting on 2013/14, we have also looked back across that time (see page 8 and 9).

2013/14 was a frustrating year for several reasons, but certainly not one without its share of opportunities and accomplishments amidst the challenges. For instance, Central Deborah Gold Mine took home the Victorian Tourism Award for Cultural and Heritage Tourism for

the third year running and has been inducted into the Victorian Tourism Awards Hall of Fame.

#### Trading

Admissions revenue increased from \$1,425,000 in 2012/13 to \$1,454,000. Attendances were down mildly across our volume products after a slump in May and June, but our premium products (Discovery sleepovers and Central Deborah's Underground Adventure Tour and Nine Levels of Darkness) had better years.

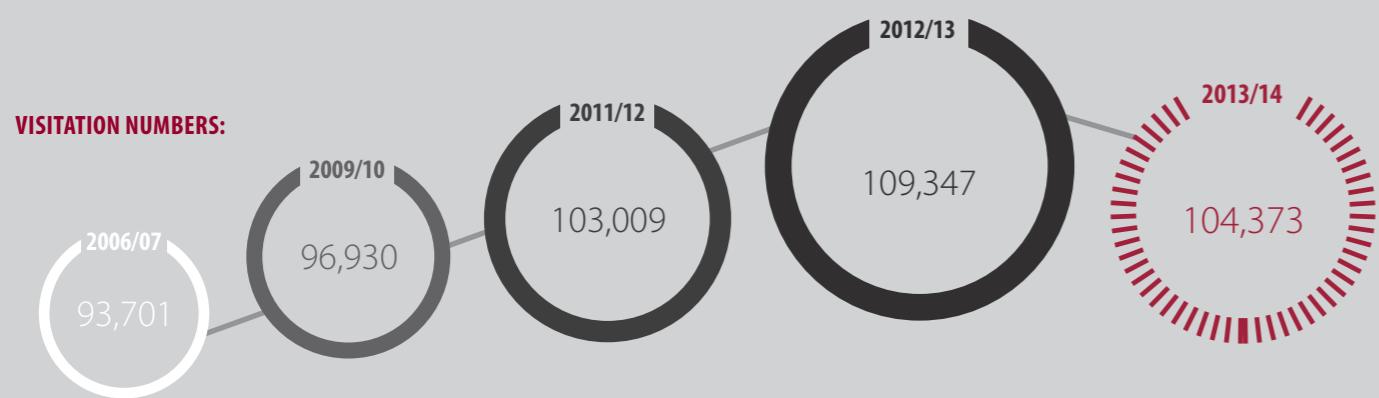
Underground Adventure Tours once again beat their previous best, and we are really seeing interest grow in Nine Levels of Darkness.

Retail sales continued to do well and our sales target for the year was exceeded.

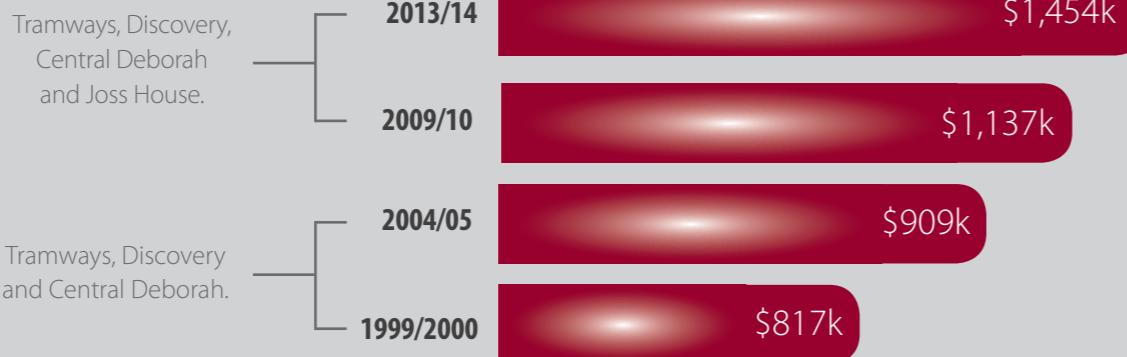
**Tom Seddon, CEO**



#### VISITATION NUMBERS:



#### ADMISSIONS REVENUE:



In the Tramways Workshop, we started the year at work on Phase 2 of the conversion of Melbourne City Circle tram 957 to the new W8 standard. This work was completed in August and, unexpectedly, instructions to commence Phase 3 were not received until May, although a re-start always seemed close at hand. This delay to our largest project – combined with being left to cover all the costs of pumping at Central Deborah (see page 10) – ultimately led us to approach the City of Greater Bendigo for support, which came in the form of an advance on funds contractually payable in 2014/15.

As the year drew to a close, the City Circle W8 conversion project restarted. Tram 957 should be finished before Christmas, and conversion of tram 1010 is starting now. The workshop also picked up unexpected work from commercial and collector clients in Sydney and elsewhere. The workshop, closed a decade ago, will bring in around \$1.5 million in 2014/15.

#### Projects

Projects across The Bendigo Trust during the year included:

#### Central Deborah Gold Mine/Trust Offices

- Level 2 and 3 Ground Support Works

- Headframe Repair Works
- New Trust records storage
- Trust office improvements

#### Bendigo Tramways

- Fleet restoration (trams 5 and 7)
- Concrete receiving pad
- Workshop storage racking

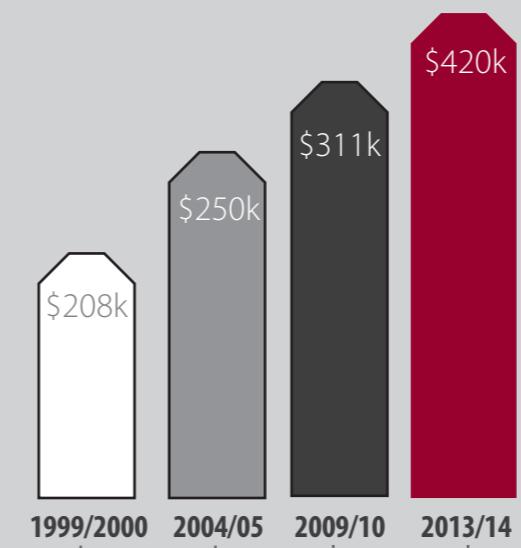
#### Discovery

- LED Lighting
- Air conditioning
- Solar-blocking roof, skylight, and window treatments

The big project for the year was without a doubt February's energy efficiency works at Discovery. With funding from the Community Energy Efficiency Program (Cwth) matched from our annual capital works funds from the City of Greater Bendigo, Discovery received new and brighter LED lighting throughout the centre; heat blocking treatments on the roof, windows and skylights; and Discovery is finally air conditioned! But not just any old air conditioning: Coolerado air conditioners have only a single moving part (an impeller) and they cool with water but don't humidify the air. Each of these technologies is now also explored with new exhibits on Discovery's main floor.

"The big project for the year was without a doubt February's energy efficiency works at Discovery."

#### RETAIL, FOOD AND BEVERAGE REVENUE:



\*The loss-making in-house catering division was closed in 2004.

#### TRAMWAYS WORKSHOP REVENUE:



A sampling of major projects, events and new initiatives since 2005:

2005

- Central Deborah Gold Mine Shaft re-timbered to Level 1, mine shaft recertified.
- Heritage Tram Poles from Sacred Heart Cathedral to Central Deborah Gold Mine.
- Bendigo Tram Heritage Rail Workshop reopened.
- Over 1,000 people attend Discovery's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday.

2006



- Kaleidoscope, a zone for young children, is opened at Discovery.
- School holiday science shows return to Discovery.
- Mine poppet head skyshaft replaced (pictured above).
- Mine winding engine recertified.

2007

- Australian Scouting Jamboree – 8,400 scouts ride the trams, go underground at Central Deborah Gold Mine and wear out Discovery's vertical slide.
- The Bendigo Trust takes over management of the Joss House Temple from the National Trust.
- Bendigo 976 Restaurant Tram is launched by Victorian Tourism Minister Tim Holding MP (pictured right).
- Weeroona Avenue Tram Depot is finally connected to the tramline.
- Bendigo Planetarium opened at Discovery and a partnership formed with the Bendigo District Astronomical Society (BDAS).



2008



- New visitor entrance, retail space and Trust office space at Central Deborah.
- Mine trestleway legs replaced.
- Stamper battery made operational.
- The Lab opens at Discovery.
- Tramway Workshop gains a roll-on/roll-off tram loading facility.

2009

- Black Friday bushfires burn out much of Victoria Hill.
- Swine flu sweeps through Victoria.
- Ray Beer Story Room opens featuring Frederick Kelly's restored and working 1896 gold mine model (pictured right).
- New exhibits at Discovery include the Ames Room which has not one 90° angle.
- Federal and State funding commitments of \$2.6m received for conservation and improvements at the Tramways Avenue Depot.
- Discovery launches its popular pre-school program, Curious Kids.



2010

- Accessible tram stop opens at Lake Weeroona.
- Tramways Avenue Depot works get underway.
- Central Deborah's main passenger lift (surface to Level 2) is completely rebuilt.
- Mine shaft rebuild to Level 9 completed.
- Two Bendigo trams (ex-Prahran & Malvern 44 and 84, restored to original livery) are the stars of the centenary of Melbourne's Malvern Tram Depot, and carry passengers along Glenferrie Road (pictured above).
- The fire control system and wet areas rebuilt at Discovery.
- Bendigo Joss House Temple opens every day.
- The Bendigo Trust celebrates 40 years.



2011

- 1903 Bendigo tram 7 rebuild completed.
- Works finally commence in earnest on the Melbourne City Circle fleet renewal.
- Tramways Avenue Depot reopened with a new shop and reception, offices, archives centre, accommodation, amenities and a much expanded workshop.
- Works in Unity's Swan Decline and at Central Deborah Gold Mine to prepare for the rising water table.
- Upgrades to The Lab at Discovery foreshadow the major energy efficiency measures carried out across the centre in 2014.
- Central Deborah Gold Mine wins the Victorian Tourism and Bendigo Business Excellence awards.



2012

- Heritage-listed 1903 Pall Mall tram poles renewed.
- Discovery hosts its first major travelling exhibition, the CSI-orientated *Whodunit?*
- Bendigo's first City Circle conversion, tram 959, returns to Melbourne and work starts on tram 957.
- The popular *Blues Tram* is launched.
- Central Deborah Gold Mine's pumps are completed ahead of the rising water table.
- Central Deborah Gold Mine is inducted into the Victorian Tourism Awards Hall of Fame.



### **Challenges: Water**

The unexpected and unwelcome trial of the past few years has been the closure of Unity Mining's Swan Decline, and the resulting rise in the water table at Central Deborah Gold Mine and across much of Southern Bendigo. To keep Central Deborah open, we obtained partial funding from the Victorian Government and put off other important works projects to obtain professional advice, purchase pumps and alter Central Deborah's mine shaft to accommodate them, and connect all this through to the Garden Gully reef line so that water pumped from Central Deborah was evaporated at the Woodvale evaporation ponds.

The decision was taken to sacrifice another three levels of the mine and to locate the pumps between Levels 10 and 11. The rising water table reached the new pumps in July 2013. Initial pumping volumes of 0.8 megalitres per day were encouragingly at the lower end of estimates, but that didn't last and by Summer 2014 the daily volume was 1.45 megalitres.

Of course, we aren't just pumping for Central Deborah's benefit: Bendigo's groundwater is salty and contains far too much arsenic to be allowed into local waterways or the sewer system. Water discharging from old workings will also smell strongly of hydrogen sulphide, or "rotten eggs", and this would directly affect schools, businesses, residents and visitors from Golden Square through the CBD and Rosalind Park, even Lake Weeroona.

At the request of Council, the Victorian Government established a working party in late 2013 to look into the short and long-term problems and their solutions. As of this writing, the committee is still deliberating. We have made clear that while The Bendigo Trust has an obvious interest here, this is a community and even region-wide issue. The Bendigo Trust is in no position to shoulder substantial new costs, as this year's result makes clear.

### **Financial**

The Bendigo Trust reports a surplus of \$78,789 for 2013/14. Other than the eight month delay on City Circle tram 957 and maintaining and operating the new pumps at Central Deborah, the year in a trading sense went as expected. These two exceptions, however, were enough to require Council support of \$250,000 to

maintain cash flows.

With a busy workshop for the rest of this year and beyond now a practical certainty, 2014/15 should be strongly cash positive. This will be even more assured if a solution to the pumping is found that includes Central Deborah Gold Mine shouldering only its fair share of those costs.

The Bendigo Trust receives support from the City of Greater Bendigo, on whose behalf we manage the depots, Central Deborah Gold Mine, Victoria Hill, the Gasworks and the Joss House Temple, and at whose request we took on Discovery back in 2002. Council are stakeholder No.1, and they have provided in recent years annual funding of \$450,000 that The Bendigo Trust uses primarily to maintain or develop Council-owned assets. Council also provide \$310,000 annually as general operating grants because while it would be wonderful if admissions and retail sales covered the costs of operating it has not been possible to do that. It takes nothing away to also point out that funding for The Bendigo Trust has not kept pace with inflation, increasing regulatory obligations or taken account of groundwater-related costs, or that Council's tourism unit has not been focussing on The Bendigo Trust's core markets of families and schools in recent years and we do look forward to their renewed interest in history and heritage, seniors, families and schools.

The Bendigo Trust is not financially independent; it is not able to operate solely from its own trading income. In any meaningful sense it rarely has been since the early days of weekend-only trams and before underground tours at Central Deborah Gold Mine. This will not surprise anyone familiar with the costs of maintaining large cultural institutions, heritage assets or museums of almost any sort. The question is not whether admissions and retail sales cover all of our costs but how to bridge the gap and how to find the resources to grow and develop as a jewel in Bendigo's crown and something for all Bendigonians to take pride in.

We are grateful to all of The Bendigo Trust's supporters, and particularly to Council for the opportunity to be the stewards of so much of Bendigo's heritage.

Aside from government at all levels (led of course by the City of Greater Bendigo), The

Bendigo Trust has benefitted from the financial assistance of many other organisations since 2005, including the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, the Ian Potter Foundation, the William Buckland Foundation, the Danks Trust, the Sidney Myer Fund, the Collier Charitable Trust, the James N. Kirby Foundation, the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal, Gandel Philanthropy, the Percy Baxter Trust, the Frances & Harold Abbott Foundation, the Community Foundation for Central Victoria, La Trobe University, Coliban Water, Bendigo Bank, Access Employment, Y Service Club of Bendigo, private donors, and more.

Still, we must not lose sight of why we are here. Does The Bendigo Trust exist to turn a buck? No – the dollars keep The Bendigo Trust going, not the other way around. The Bendigo Trust exists to preserve, to present, to engage, and to educate. And we are getting better and better and better at doing these things at the Joss House and Discovery, and at the depot and down the mine. Five Local and Victorian tourism awards in the last four years are testament to that.

### **The Bendigo Trust Foundation**

The Bendigo Trust Foundation was launched in April, and has already received gifts in excess of \$100,000. This reserve fund is our "future fund" and we have great hopes that it will grow into a significant fund for future development in the years to come. Our thanks go to the initial Foundation board of governors: Ken Richmond (chair), Margot Falconer, Wayne Gregson, Anne Henshall and Noel Hobley.

### **Management**

In February Tennille Baker joined us as CFO, replacing Lisa Horan. In her short time with The Bendigo Trust, Lisa made great strides in changing financial management and reporting. Tennille has taken the events of the past half year in her stride, and demonstrated a calmness and maturity that will serve The Bendigo Trust well in the financial portfolio. Discovery added Assistant Manager Kate Barnard in August, filling (and more) the open Outreach Education role. Darcy Van Dillen ably stepped into long-time Visitor Services head Trevor Lamb's shoes. Finally, following successful attainment of her Diploma of Management/Human Resources,

Faye Gair's title was upgraded to HR Manager & Executive Assistant.

### **Collections**

The Bendigo Trust is a substantial collecting institution. Over our 44 years we have amassed the most complete collection of a city's historic trams of probably anywhere in the world, along with thousands and thousands of other items. From SECV and MMTB tram patterns and blueprints to the first Miner's Right issued on the Bendigo Goldfield. Five printing presses, thousands of photos, rare books, the charter for Bendigo's first tramway (drawn up by John Quick, no less) and many mine models including Frederick Kelly's award winner from 1896. In March 2014, Minerva Heritage completed formal Significance Assessments of the mine and tram collections, supported by a grant from the National Library.

### **The Future**

Over the remainder of 2014/15 Greater Bendigo City Council and The Bendigo Trust will complete their first top to bottom review of their working relationship and funding in a decade. This is a timely undertaking, and one requested by The Bendigo Trust. Central Deborah Gold Mine, Bendigo Tramways, the Bendigo Joss House Temple and the Discovery Science & Technology Centre are important parts of Bendigo, and vital to Bendigo as a visitor destination. This is everyone's opportunity put in place the best foundation for the future.

"Over our 44 years we have amassed the most complete collection of a city's historic trams of probably anywhere in the world."

**Below: Bendigo Tramways was awarded Heritage and Cultural Tourism Attraction of the Year at the 2014 RACV Victorian Tourism Awards.**





## THE BENDIGO TRUST FOUNDATION

Ken Richmond, Chairman The Bendigo Trust Board of Governors



"We were very fortunate to receive Carol and Bill Holsworth's generous gift of \$100,000 on the night the Foundation was launched.

Anyone familiar with The Bendigo Trust's history will appreciate that opportunities to put away money for the future haven't often come along, and finding a way to do that is an idea long overdue.

The Bendigo Trust Foundation was launched on 15 April 2014 as a way to attract and invest funds for the long-term benefit of The Bendigo Trust and the sites and collections it manages.

While The Bendigo Trust has been successful in attracting grant funding for a variety of initiatives such as the Planetarium at Discovery, restoration of heritage-listed buildings at Central Deborah Gold Mine and expansion of the Tramway workshop, not every worthy project readily matches to the funding objectives of the government programs and philanthropic foundations that have supported the Trust. Over time we hope to build a substantial fund dedicated to projects that will allow us to prioritise projects strategically and not just according to which funding program or foundation – although these will always remain essential to The Bendigo Trust – might want to help.

The Bendigo Trust Foundation, like other similar institutions, is organised as a reserve fund of the Trust. This minimises operating costs and takes advantage of The Bendigo Trust's hard-to-get deductible gift recipient and tax concession charity status, so that gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible to our donors. It is also a ready vehicle for people who wish to

remember The Bendigo Trust in their wills.

We were very fortunate to receive Carol and Bill Holsworth's generous gift of \$100,000 on the night the Foundation was launched. What a way to start! Other donations have been received in the current financial year. The Foundation is also the benefactor of net proceeds of the sale of the book *Bendigo Through Time*, an architectural history of Bendigo by Mike Butcher, Yolande Collins and Richard Gibbs. *Bendigo Through Time* was made possible by the support of Dennis O'Hoy, and its sales are being managed by The Bendigo Trust.

The Bendigo Trust Foundation is overseen by a board of Governors, and I would like to thank my fellow governors – Anne Henshall and Margot Falconer, along with The Bendigo Trust board members Wayne Gregson and Noel Hobley – for joining me in working to establish The Bendigo Trust Foundation. I would also like to thank Trust staff, in particular Tom Seddon, Tennille Baker, Tynille Thurlow and Andrea Stringer, for their assistance in the establishment of The Bendigo Trust Foundation and its successful launch.

I look forward to reporting on the growth and development of the Foundation in the years to come.



Right: The Bendigo Trust Foundation was launched in conjunction with a new book entitled *Bendigo Through Time* at the Discovery Science & Technology Centre on 15 April 2014.

# BENDIGO TRAMWAYS

Jos Duivenvoorden, Bendigo Tramways Manager



*Significant highlights over the last 12 months include the commencement of restoration and refurbishment of Bendigo Trust Trams No. 5 and No. 7. External works aside from the W Project have been solid with orders from the Miller Group and the Sydney Tramways Museum.*

"During the year we saw two new exclusive tram sponsors come on board; the Bendigo-based boutique furniture company, Jimmy Possum and the new Bendigo Art Series Hotel, The Schaller Studio."

#### **Tram tours, charters, tram museum and other services:**

**Vintage 'Talking' Tram Tours:** The Vintage 'Talking' Tram tour is continuing as a well-patronised and steady business. Passenger numbers at just over 42,000 are largely in line with last year. Almost 25% of those are "special tours", including the popular Blues Tram and Santa Tram.

We held an open day on December 8 2013 to celebrate the 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Vintage 'Talking' Tram Tour as well as the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of Tram 5 and 17. We provided the usual passenger trips at a cost of \$5 per person, resulting in over \$2,000 being raised.

**Depot and Workshop Tours:** Aside from some minor presentation improvements, tight finances have prevented us from making any significant improvements in our Depot and Workshop Tours. Attendances have been steady with revenue exceeding \$20,000 for the year.

**Charters and Specials:** The Blues Tram is an unqualified success. Trams 610 and 369 have seen monthly Blues events. With great delight visitors have enjoyed Blues music and light refreshments while traveling through the classic Bendigo streetscapes. There have been consistent "specials" throughout the year. This program enabling groups to book a tram has proven to be a popular choice and this segment is growing steadily.

After decades of partnership with Myer, we hosted Santa Tram for the third year running in 2013 on our own. We were sorry to lose such a longstanding relationship, but have grasped with both hands the opportunity to revitalise the product and realise more of its potential. The 2013 Santa Tram was a huge success and completely booked out before services even started. 2014 will see further improvements and an even bigger schedule.

The NineSevenSix restaurant tram continues to be a popular and regular sight on Bendigo's streets. New operators, The Exchange, are building the business and continuously growing the customer base through improved marketing and advertising.

#### **Bendigo's Operating Tram Fleet**

The operating tram fleet is being maintained at 14 trams. Major maintenance, particularly wheel replacement or profiling is required on several trams. Implementation of the multi-year program to replace worn wheels has been deferred except for the new tyres for the wheels of Tram No. 7. The strategy to move to trams that don't require a conductor (to facilitate staffing) is slowly being pursued with the restoration of Tram No. 7. Efforts were stymied somewhat in 2013/14 by lack of finance and manpower to carry out significant works.

#### **Collection Management**

Restoration and refurbishing of Tram No. 7 commenced with capital funding approved by the Board in 2013/14. Funding in 2014/15 will enable chassis replacement and the provision of new tyres on the original wheels. The extent of available funding for refurbishing No. 7 in 2014/15 indicates it is likely to be a three year program. Once completed it will be part of the operating fleet.

The removal of four old (non-collection) trams from the Gasworks and adjoining Weeroona Avenue Depot will facilitate a review and better organisation and utilisation of the space there. Three W Class trams were acquired from PTV and will be used for spare parts with the bodies sold when stripped of usable parts. The current Rolling Stock Register provides a list of current trams owned and operated by Bendigo Tramways.

#### **Network assets**

No significant works were necessary for our overhead network. The tram track network has received ongoing attention and a major part of the tracks in Caledonia Street have been re-laid as part of the City of Greater Bendigo asset maintenance program.

#### **Heritage Workshop**

Revenue for minor works was well above budget with major jobs from the Sydney Tramway Museum (No. 611) a Sydney developer (No. 2050), Launceston 14 and substantial works on our own No. 7. The W Class project had its frustrations with works deferred by more than six months on Tram No. 957. Ongoing minor issues with the new (W8) standard specifications and work instructions continues to make this very important project a particular challenge. However, the completion of tram No. 957 and acceptance of quotes for Phase 1-4 for the next W8 Class tram (No. 1010), as well as other client work already guarantees us a full workshop well into 2015.

#### **Depot Improvements**

We continue to improve the efficiency, safety and general operation of the workshop. The addition of new storage racking as well as investment in new woodworking and engineering equipment is already providing handsome returns in greater efficiency and productivity.

#### **Staff and Volunteers**

The structural change in staffing has been ongoing. New staff appointments have substantially improved our capability profile with greater emphasis on welding and metalwork that is needed for the W8 Class works. The current workload is likely to require additional staff in the Workshop coachbuilding area. New volunteers continue to make a significant contribution, particularly to works on our own trams. The tram service itself is also continuing to use a number of volunteers which helps to control costs.

#### **Organisation Development**

We are pursuing continuous improvements in our systems and procedures. Over the last year clarification of cost centres has improved

project management, new investment in equipment and associated staff training is improving efficiencies and on-going training of staff has improved our capabilities.

#### **Tram Sponsorship**

During the year we saw two new exclusive tram sponsors come on board, namely the Bendigo-based boutique furniture manufacturer, Jimmy Possum, and the new Bendigo Art Series Hotel, The Schaller Studio. Both of these sponsors were keen to put their unique mark on their trams both inside and out. Jimmy Possum unleashed their significant interior decorating talents on the interior of their tram and created a colourful feel that is reminiscent of the London underground of yesteryear. The Schaller Studio called in their namesake artist Mark Schaller to paint the ceiling of the tram by hand. Both trams are unique and have certainly piqued our visitors' curiosity. In addition to these new sponsors, Hume and Iser have continued their long-standing sponsorship, and following a new lick of paint, the Hume and Iser tram took to the streets for another three year stint.

**Below: The interior of the new Jimmy Possum Tram and the exterior of the new Schaller Studio Tram.**



# CENTRAL DEBORAH GOLD MINE

Karl Penrose, Central Deborah Gold Mine Manager



*This year has had its share of highs and lows. We were thrilled in early November to receive Hall of Fame status in the heritage and cultural tourism category of the Victorian Tourism Awards, but have had another challenging year, contending with Bendigo's groundwater problems and the significant costs associated with managing this issue.*

## Mine tours

Our mainstay tours continue to be highly popular with 27,773 patrons on the Mine Experience Tour and 1,681 on the Underground Adventure Tour.

Our speciality tour, Nine Levels of Darkness has finally started seeing the visitors it deserves and feedback from patrons has been fantastic. To cater for the increased demand we have trained more guides to take this tour as well as another winder driver.

Group bookings continue to be strong, and our willingness to be flexible in meeting customer needs seems to be highly regarded with this target market.

We have actively encouraged the use of the underground workings for purposes beyond our normal mine tours, this has included two 'paranormal tours'. Feedback was extremely positive and the paranormal group have indicated that they would like to continue running these tours on an ongoing basis.

Underground birthday parties continue to be a great success with 434 children enjoying parties underground throughout 2013/14.

## Mine Surface

The year saw work continue on improving the

appearance and amenity of the mine surface. This has seen an intensive clean-up of the creek area, including removal of build-up out of the creek itself and the removal of over a dozen dead or dying trees.

Throughout the year a major clean-up has been progressing of our storage yard and Northern boundary. Tons of scrap material have been removed to allow for the future installation of a new driveway and workshop.

A major refurbishment of the Trust Archives Store took place during the year which included a new floor, full lining with new plaster board, painting etc. Thanks to the crew from Bendigo Tramways, led by Luke Jenkins, who did a high quality job.

Our capital works program for the surface this year saw the complete re-decking of the main landing of the poppet head. Redgum was used to replace the Messmate as the timber of choice which should ensure that the landing will last for many decades.

An authentic Bendigo Miner's Cage was installed in the Battery Shed as a photo booth. Complete with a helmet and miner's light, visitors now have an opportunity to have their photo taken as a miner ready to descend into the depths beneath Bendigo!



Right: Central Deborah Gold Mine was inducted into the Victorian Tourism Awards Hall of Fame.

"Central Deborah Gold Mine won the Heritage and Cultural Tourism category of the RACV Victorian Tourism Awards for the third year in a row, this saw us inducted into the awards Hall of Fame."

## Underground

Our number one priority underground is to maintain a safe environment for our staff and visitors, as well as ensuring full compliance. As part of this process, ongoing remedial works are included in our works program every year. This year, two main ground support projects were completed. The first was the installation of mesh and rockbolts on sub-level 3. This sub-level (running down from Level 2 to Level 3) is the highlight of our Underground Adventure Tour. The other area to be rehabilitated was the Old South Drive on Level 2, as well as the sub-level above. Again, a large amount of ground support was installed into these areas, which are now available for public access.

## Plant and Equipment

The winding gear underwent a significant works program throughout the year. Both winding ropes were removed from the drums and inspected. Whilst this occurred, modifications were made which will save both time and money on future major works.

Both mine cages received a major overhaul. On close inspection it was discovered the materials cage was reaching end-of-life and was replaced with a new unit, the old one becoming our new photo booth.

## Pumping System

We are currently pumping on average 1.45ML (megalitres) per day and are maintaining the water level around 260 metres from the shaft collar, or 14 metres below Level 10. The pumps have easily kept up with the water inflow.

There have been costly system breakdowns and pump failures. These issues have been assessed and repaired, which in some

cases meant structural modifications to the system. We expect the system to become more reliable as time passes and as other works are completed going forward.

Discussions and meetings with various stakeholders have continued throughout the year to determine the best long term options for dealing with Bendigo's arsenic laden, salty and odorous groundwater.

## Awards and other happenings

During 2013/14 Central Deborah Gold Mine:

- Won the Heritage and Cultural Tourism category of the RACV Victorian Tourism Awards for the third year in a row, this saw us inducted into the awards Hall of Fame.
- Were finalists in the Australian Tourism Awards.
- Were awarded a Certificate of Excellence for consistently high ratings on TripAdvisor and are currently rated the No. 1 attraction in Bendigo.
- Participated in Victorian Seniors Week and Accessibility Weekend.
- Hosted Deep and Meaningful: Readings Down the Mine, as part of the Bendigo Writers Festival.
- Hosted CFA and MFB employees and volunteers who conducted team skills training underground.

**Below: Central Deborah Gold Mine staff participated in the Bendigo Historical Societie's Red Ribbon Rebellion re-enactment.**

**Central Deborah Gold Mine was awarded a Certificate of Excellence for consistently high ratings.**





## DISCOVERY SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

**David Holmes, Discovery Manager**



*"Perhaps the most important achievement over the last year is one that will go unnoticed by the majority of visitors to the Centre."*

*This year's activities have been significant in that many of the achievements are not simply one-offs. Improvements to the building and new programs that have been implemented will serve us well into the future, and we are very excited about developing more programs over the coming year.*

The last financial year has seen some very important changes at Discovery. We started off with a couple of new faces: after another successful Science Week collaboration with her science theatre company Teacup Tumble, Kate Barnard joined us as a full-time Programs Coordinator and Assistant Manager. Kate's experience and passion is just what Discovery needs, and it has been great to have her on board. Likewise, Robyn Buttrey joined us soon afterwards as our new Weekend Supervisor and has proved a perfect fit.

Perhaps the most important achievement over the last year is one that will go unnoticed by the majority of visitors to the Centre. Significant grants over the last decade have all given us a shiny new 'something' to show off to visitors, be it the Planetarium upgrade, development of Kaleidoscope, or overhaul of The Lab. This year a significant grant from the Community Energy Efficiency Program (a Commonwealth Government program) allowed us to implement a series of energy efficiency measures to the 150 year-old building in which Discovery is housed. While it is unlikely that many people will stop to admire our new LED lighting, cool roof paint or low-power air-conditioning (and certain that nobody will pay much attention to clear heat-reflective film on our windows and skylights), all of these measures will combine to create a much nicer environment within Discovery during the Summer months. They are also an investment as they will reduce our operating costs for years to come. The heatwaves over January this year were very challenging for us, and it was obvious to all who visited during this period that the building was not a nice place to be during hot weather. It was

almost a pity that the hot weather stopped so abruptly after the improvements were completed as we have not had a chance to see them taking effect (bring on the hot weather!). Many thanks must go to our outgoing CEO Tom Seddon, for his efforts in making this upgrade happen.

Events continue to be an important feature of what we do, and we have had some very unique happenings over the last year. Around 150 Dr Who fans helped us to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the show in style, while not long after we had a small group of groovers coming specifically to dance under the stars in the planetarium as part of the 'No Lights, No Lycra' dance movement. The Planetarium also branched out by hosting *Elemental*, an arts performance designed specifically for Planetariums featuring poetry and spoken-word elements set to an audio-visual backdrop within our dome. Finally, our good working relationship with Teacup Tumble continued with a collaboration to produce a new show – *Dimensional* – which was performed both here and at local schools during Education Week.

Another great step forward for us has been the introduction of volunteer-led activities during the school holidays. We now have a much larger pool of volunteers, and have been able to run some really engaging and innovative activities that would not have happened without volunteers contributing their time to run them. Some of these activities proved very popular, and we are now looking at the holidays as a great proving ground for activities that can then be refined and modified to offer to school groups as workshops in The Lab.



Pictured left: Discovery celebrated their 18th birthday with an 'Under the Sea' dress up party. Working in conjunction with La Trobe University, Discovery inspired Year 9-10 students with a Careers Day entitled Get into Science. Dr Who fans celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Discovery.

More detailed information can be found in Discovery's separate Annual Report.

# BENDIGO JOSS HOUSE TEMPLE

Darren Wright, Bendigo Joss House Temple Supervisor



*As the year of the wooden horse draws to a close, we ready ourselves for the oncoming festive season and the mix of triumphs and challenges the New Year will bring.*

The past year has seen the Joss House continue in its status as a cultural icon of the Central Victorian Goldfields and a reminder of a heritage that is now lost in many places across Australia. It is gratifying that the building continues to fulfill its original purpose as a place of worship, but also serves to educate those interested in the rich philosophies and multicultural past of our great city.

**Below:** Our Lantern festival continues to grow in popularity each year.



## BENDIGO GAS WORKS

The Bendigo Gas Company was formed in 1859, operating from 1860 until its closure in 1973. Today it is a valuable static reminder of a past technology, but also serves as a second depot for the Bendigo Tramways, where numerous trams from the Bendigo fleet are stored.



suggests an unwillingness of visitors to get off their tram tour and spend an hour at the Joss House during the school terms.

We have hosted visitors from all walks of life and various parts of the world, from the usual mix of schools and seniors groups to the recent visit by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade consuls from over a dozen countries.

### Highlights

A highlight this year was the return of an ancestral tablet to the Joss House after a 65 year absence. The ancestral tablet was removed along with many others of its kind back in the 1950s, when the Joss House was in a derelict state and vulnerable to regular break-ins and vandalism.

The returned tablet has already been identified as a Chinese hawker, Zhang Yong Fu, born in the Xinhui District in Guangdong Province, China. He was only 41 years old when he died and was buried at the Bendigo Cemetery in Quarry Hill on 22 July 1870. The value of these tablets to the Joss House cannot be over-emphasised, as the Chinese attach great importance to their ancestors in order to gain self-understanding.

Another highlight was our fourth successful Lantern festival which took place on a warm February evening. Families once again gathered at the Joss House to celebrate the Chinese New Year and begin the year of the wooden horse surrounded by beautiful feature lanterns spectacularly decorated by the children from the Bendigo Early Learning Centre. The Bendigo Chinese Association's Lion Teams and Plum Blossom Dancers were once again there to wow the crowds with their colourful and entertaining dance routines.

### Thanks and farewells

We could not continue in this role without the kindness and dedication of volunteers, there are simply not enough words to express our sincere gratitude for the time and effort expended by these individuals without whom we would not be able to offer such a unique experience to our visitors!

Unfortunately we bid farewell to our latest recruit. Kate Eastick, who has been with us for over a year now, has exhibited a great passion for Chinese history and culture. This was immediately obvious and she took to her role with great enthusiasm. Her knowledge, eagerness and bubbly personality were a delight and she will be greatly missed. We wish her the very best in her new job in Cooktown.

It seems that 2014 is a year of farewells with a few staff leaving including Trust CEO, Tom Seddon. Tom has always been very approachable, practical and fair minded. We wish him well in future endeavours and thank him for all he has contributed to the furtherance of a now more than four decade old mission.



**Below left:** We bid a fond farewell to Kate Eastick.

**Below right:** A highlight this year was the return of an ancestral tablet to the Joss House after a 65 year absence.

## VICTORIA HILL RESERVE

Gold was first discovered on Victoria Hill in 1854. By 1861 it had yielded at least 1,200,000oz in gold, worth over \$2bn at current prices. Today, Victoria Hill Reserve is a heritage-listed site that offers characteristic examples of important forms of gold mining. The site includes interpretation and is open daily for self-guided tours. Large groups book guided tours from time-to-time, but essentially The Bendigo Trust's role is site inspection and maintenance.



# SALES AND MARKETING

**Evonne Oxenham, Sales and Marketing Manager**



*The Trust's tough financial position during the year resulted in us having to cut back quite significantly on our sales and marketing plans during the second half. However, despite these challenges and slow end of year patronage, The Bendigo Trust weathered the storm and continued to make positive progress.*

**"Visitor Services continues to provide a top notch personalised service to our visitors across all of our sites."**

## Admissions

The 2013/14 financial year was tracking to plan until the final few weeks of the year, when federal budget fears slowed spending and resulted in us missing our targets in May and June. Despite this, The Bendigo Trust still recorded increased admissions revenue year on year, which can partly be attributed to a price increase that was implemented at the end of February, and very strong April figures.

## Price increase

The Bendigo Trust implemented a price increase across all of its sites at the end of February. Price increases take place every second year and while we do our best to keep them to a minimum, they are a necessary and responsible exercise. Careful consideration is made before implementing these increases, including comparisons between other similar attractions and consideration of the value proposition of each product for our target audiences. Based on customer feedback and visitor numbers, the price increases have not had a negative

impact on visitation, although we continue to get regular comments about the tram tour being too expensive, which is often a result of customers mistakenly thinking that the trams are part of the public transport network and because visitors from Melbourne tend to equate our tram tour with the free City Circle service.

## Visitor Services and Retail

Visitor Services continues to provide a top notch personalised service to our visitors across all of our sites. Darcy Van Dillen, the new Visitor Services Supervisor who joined the team in August 2013, has made significant inroads in developing consistent customer service protocols across all of our attractions and has particularly focussed on Discovery and the Joss House who have, in the past, often been left to their own devices. The staff meet on a regular basis and are all actively involved in suggesting and implementing improvements where they recognise need and opportunity.

Retail, headed up by Andrea Stringer, has



**Right: Bendigo Tramways image library was updated with new photos of the Vintage 'Talking' Tram Tour and the Depot & Workshop Tour.**

continued to meet and beat targets despite some significant cuts to budgets. Once again, the dedication of Andrea and the staff at each of the Gift Shops has meant that we were able to maximise the stock on hand and still provide customers with a quality keepsake to remind them of their visit to Bendigo. Particular mention needs to go to the team in the tram shop, who achieved a 23% increase on their retail revenue from last year. If you visit the shop you will see why ... it is always impeccably clean and beautifully merchandised.

## Awards

After five years of entering Central Deborah Gold Mine into the Victorian Tourism Awards, we finally achieved our goal of winning Hall of Fame status in the Heritage and Cultural Tourism category. Bendigo Tramways won the same category in 2014 on our first try.

During the year, both Central Deborah Gold Mine and Bendigo Tramways were awarded Certificates of Excellence by TripAdvisor. These certificates are fantastic recognition from our most important critics – our customers – that we are delivering excellent customer service and engaging tourism experiences.

## Product development

While awards are great recognition that we are on the right track, there is never reason for us to think that our products are the best that they can be. For as long as I have been part of The Bendigo Trust team (and probably years before that), there has been a long list of product improvements on the agenda.

Although we have been able to cross some significant items off the list (see timeline on pages 8 and 9), there are still a number of big ticket items that we have as yet been unable to address, mainly due to financial limitations and unexpected capital projects that have drained our capital expenditure budget. However, we are hopeful that imminent changes to our funding arrangement with the City of Greater Bendigo will enable us to cross off a few of the bigger projects in the near future. First on the list will be upgrading our interpretation across all the venues.

## Thank you

A big thank you to Tynille Thurlow for stepping into the Sales and Marketing Manager role while I was away on maternity leave. She did a stellar job in what turned out to be a difficult year. Thanks also to Chloe Frost who took to the role of Marketing Officer very confidently and was a great support for Tynille during this time.

## The year ahead

2014/15 promises to be a year of significant change, including a change of the guard to the top job. Thank you Tom for your dedication to The Bendigo Trust over the past (almost) ten years; there is no doubt that you have made an invaluable contribution to The Bendigo Trust and been passionate in your commitment to make all of the Trust's sites not only great places to visit, but also to work! You are leaving behind some very big shoes to fill.

**Below Left: Central Deborah Gold Mine's website was redesigned and formatted to be mobile and tablet compatible.**

**Below Right: Our tour guides have been receiving rave reviews on TripAdvisor.**



# FINANCE REPORT

Tennille Baker, Chief Financial Officer



The Bendigo Trust reports a surplus of \$78,789 for 2013/14, a result composed of modest increases in tourism operational revenue, the launch of our new Foundation, a lengthy delay to our major tramway workshop project, extraordinary expenses relating to keeping Central Deborah dry and open, and additional one-off funding from the City of Greater Bendigo.

## Financial Performance

This is my first financial report for The Bendigo Trust, following my appointment as CFO in February 2014. I took the reins from Lisa Horan who had done a remarkable job in establishing new financial systems and reporting, which enabled me to quickly come to grips with The Bendigo Trust.

Tramway Workshop revenue decreased from \$745,198 in 2012/13 to \$269,004 in the current year as Tram No. 957 sat idle from September to May, when work instructions finally resumed from Melbourne. No satisfactory explanation for this unexpected delay has ever been received. Contracts are now in place, however, for the imminent completion of Tram No. 957 and the first half of the next tram, No. 1010, upon which works have commenced. Other clients have also come with major projects, and the workshop is likely to be busy for the next two or three years.

The other unexpected problem for the year was the rising watertable across the Southern half of Bendigo and the pumps installed at

Central Deborah Gold Mine to keep it under control and to keep the mine open. Initial running costs exceeded expectations, and also an inflow volume at the upper end of the possible range added more than \$100,000 in new costs borne by The Bendigo Trust in 2013/14. These costs are continuing in 2014/15 and pose a significant hurdle to The Bendigo Trust returning to surplus.

Greater Bendigo City Council was informed that the extended City Circle delay and pumping costs combined would exceed The Bendigo Trust's capacity to manage on its own; financial assistance was needed from Council. \$250,000 payable in 2014/15 was brought forward into May and June. This combined with the resumption of City Circle work, and a \$100,000 gift to kick-off the new Bendigo Trust Foundation combined to produce a net positive result for the year.

A reconsideration of The Bendigo Trust's operational and financial relationship with Council is underway, which will likely result in changes to the existing 2010 Management

and Funding Agreement between the two organisations. Council's financial support for The Bendigo Trust has been static for years and we hope that this review will result in greater understanding of The Bendigo Trust and a willingness to invest more in it.

Operating revenue fell from \$2,478,117 in 2012/13 to \$2,074,652, and total revenue dropped from \$4,060,624 to \$3,673,240, the latter result bolstered by the extraordinary assistance from Council. Total expenses dropped from \$4,124,510 in 2012/13 to \$3,594,451. Where in 2012/13 The Bendigo Trust reported a net loss of (\$63,886) the result in 2013/14 was a surplus of \$78,789.

## Financial Position

The total equity of The Bendigo Trust increased by \$78,789, or 3.5%, to \$2,303,740 during 2013/14. At 30 June 2014, significant balances included:

- Accounts receivable and other debtors declined 45% from 2012/13 to \$139,715.
  - Accounts payable and other payables declined by 71% to \$366,308.
  - Cash on hand increased by \$106,392.
- The Bendigo Trust continues to make improvements to a number of assets managed by The Bendigo Trust but owned by the City of Greater Bendigo. Each year, expenditure on such improvements is captured in the Income Statement of The Bendigo Trust and the Balance Sheet of the City of Greater Bendigo. A \$108,000 grant for energy efficiency works at Discovery (matched by regular capital works

funds annually provided by Council) resulted in a \$98,000 leasehold improvement recognised in The Bendigo Trust's balance sheet rather than Council's owing to the different manner in which The Bendigo Trust manages the goods shed that houses Discovery.

## Outlook for 2014/15

The 2014/15 financial year will be an exciting one for The Bendigo Trust. We are particularly enjoying the busy-ness of the Tramways workshop, and hope for favourable outcomes of the operational, structural and financial review of The Bendigo Trust and work towards a more equitable sharing of costs relating to keeping sulfurous, salty and arsenic laden groundwater out of the local streams.

## Key financial focuses will include:

- Increasing the financial sustainability of each individual business unit.
- Improving the understanding of how each business unit contributes to the overall operation of The Bendigo Trust, and also how The Bendigo Trust contributes to the operation of each individual business unit.
- Expanding the financial knowledge of management and increasing accountability and responsibility at this level.
- Increasing the accuracy and transparency of reporting and the information they contain.
- Improving long-term cash management strategies.

A reconsideration of The Bendigo Trust's operational and financial relationship with Council is underway, which will likely result in changes to the existing 2010 Management and Funding Agreement between the two organisations.



Right: It is great to see the Bendigo Tramways workshop so busy.





## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**Patrons:** The Hon. Alex Chernov AC QC,  
Governor of Victoria

The Hon. Tim Fischer AC  
**Auditors:** AFS Chartered Accountants

**Bankers:** Bendigo Bank

**Solicitors:** Beck Legal

***The Bendigo Trust is grateful for the continued support of the following individuals and organisations:***

- Abbott Supplies
- ABC Radio, Bendigo
- Jacinta Allan MP
- Art Series Hotel – Schaller Studio
- Association of Tourist Railways (VIC)
- ASTEN
- David Banear
- Bendigo Advertiser
- Bendigo Bank
- Bendigo Business Council
- Bendigo Historical Society
- Bendigo Media Centre
- Bendigo Tourism
- Bendigo Volunteer Resource Centre
- Mike Butcher and Dr Yolande Collins
- City of Greater Bendigo
- Tim Borchers, City Rail Solutions
- John Anstey, Coliban Water
- Community Foundation for Central Victoria
- COTMA
- Dr Sharon Davis, Department of Environment & Primary Industries
- Department of Education & Early Childhood Development (VIC)
- John Maguire, Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (Cth)
- Department of State Development, Business & Innovation (VIC)
- Damian Drum MLC
- Simon Vanderstadt, Dulux Australia
- Peter Duncan
- East End Engineering
- Maree Edwards MP
- The Exchange
- Richard Gibbs
- Scott Pigdon, EPA Victoria
- Lisa Chesters MP
- Jason Tavener, Good One Graphic Design
- Scott Ridges, Goulburn Murray Water
- Karl Johnson, San Francisco MUNI
- Joseph Gould, Bring Back the Trams Campaign
- Heritage Victoria
- Hume & Iser
- Integrating Technology
- La Trobe University
- Launceston Tramway Museum
- James Lerk
- Jimmy Possum
- Daryl McClure
- Melbourne Tramcar Preservation Assn
- Miller Construction Group
- Minerva Heritage
  - Dr Gary Hill
  - Elaine Doling
- National Trust (VIC)
- Phil Dyson, North Central Catchment Management Authority
- Dennis O'Hoy
- Perth Electric Tramway Society
- Powercor
- Public Transport Victoria
- Questacon
- Rail Tram and Bus Union
  - Phil Altieri
  - Mark Teasdale
- Regional Development Victoria
  - Stacey Bloomfield
  - Gillian Sawyer
- Safety Action Pty Ltd
- Bob Styles, RJ Styles & Associates
- Sydney Tramway Museum
  - Howard Clarke OAM
  - Greg Sutherland
- Di Smith, Victorian Tourism Industry Council
- Tourism Victoria
- Unity Mining
- Urban Enterprise
- Victorian WorkCover Authority
- Yarra Trams
- VECCI
- Mal Kersting, VicRoads

### Life Members

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Robert Aulsebrook | Gordon McKern OAM |
| Helen Bruinier    | Dennis O'Hoy      |
| Barry Callaway    | Walter Straede    |
| Earl Ewers        | Phyllis Toy       |
| Andrew Hall       | Les Twining       |
| Graham Jordon     | Colin Withington  |

### Honorary Life Members

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Dennis Bell     | Jill Moorhead |
| Lloyd Cameron   | Neil Murray   |
| Keith Kings     | Dennis O'Hoy  |
| James Lerk      | John Penhall  |
| Daryl McClure   | Myra Potter   |
| Michael McGowan | David Wright  |

# TRUST STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

**The Bendigo Trust Office**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
 Thomas Seddon: B. Arts, JurisDoctor

**Executive Assistant to the CEO and Human Resources Manager**  
 Faye Gair: Dip Mgmt/HR

**Chief Financial Officer**  
 Lisa Horan (to February 2014):  
 B.Comm, ASA Cert WTA  
 Tennille Baker (from February 2014):  
 B. Comm, CPA

**Finance Officers**  
 Marika Power      Bianca Broom

**Sales and Marketing Manager**  
 Evonne Oxenham: B. Journalism

**Marketing Officer**  
 Tynille Thurlow: B. Marketing

**Retail Manager**  
 Andrea Stringer

**Bookings Officer**  
 Kathie Knight

**Visitor Services Supervisor**  
 Darcy Van Dillen

**Visitor Services Officers**  
 Catherine Aylett      Zoe Boyd  
 Leanne Buddrick      Denis Fitzgerald  
 Lynne Jansen      Fiona Liebert  
 Belinda McEniry      Laura Richardson  
 Robyn Wilson

**Bendigo Joss House Temple**  
**Supervisor**  
 Darren Wright

**Bendigo Tramways**  
**Manager**  
 Jos Duivenvoorden:  
 Dip ASC  
 Grad Dip Recreation Management  
 Grad Dip Bus Admin

**Team Leader – Workshop**  
 Luke Jenkins: Dip Mgmt

**Team Leader – Engineering & Network Assets**  
 Michael Campbell

**Team Leader – Tram Services**  
 Anita Bagley: Dip Mgmt

**Engineer**  
 Richard Clarke

**Depot and Workshop Staff**  
 Julie Cain      Anthony Cliff  
 David Collins      Len Cutting  
 Richard Goode      Simon Jenkins  
 Stephen Kirkpatrick      Michael Lowther  
 Maree O'Brien      Emily Penhall  
 John Penhall      John Ritchie  
 Anthony Rooke      Scott Richardson  
 Daniel Rutherford      Damien Steel  
 George Stirling      Steve Sullivan  
 Paul Summersgill      Wayne Taylor  
 Ross Turton      Leon Waddington  
 Fiona Liebert      Les Woodfield

**Central Deborah Gold Mine**  
**Manager**  
 Karl Penrose: Dip Mgmt

**Mine Maintenance and Tour Staff**  
 Ken Bice      Tim Carr  
 Elaine Douglas      Peter Dumont  
 Norm Harris      Georg Hein  
 Tamasin Hein      Daryl Hopgood  
 Simon Jenkins      Laurie Jensen  
 John McNamara      Joshua Morrell  
 John Rofe      Meryl Stone  
 Elliott Styles      John Turner

**Discovery Science & Technology Centre**  
**Manager**  
 David Holmes: B. Science, Grad Dip Ed

**Assistant Manager**  
 Kate Barnard:  
 Bsc (hons), Dip Arts, Grad Dip Sci Comm

**Education Officer**  
 Philip Spark: B. Science, Dip Ed, M Sc, M Ed

**Planetarium Officer**  
 Craig Kendall

**Discovery Staff**  
 Teagan Brown      Robyn Buttrey  
 Andrew Carden      Ray Cooper  
 Scott Dealby      Kaylee Fisher  
 Julie MacDonald      James McGregor  
 James Pemberton      Jessica Stone

**Volunteers**  
 Ken Andison      John Biele  
 Russell Birch      Allan Birchmore

**Tim Blythman**  
*Terry Boardman*  
*Geoff Brown*  
*Bill Chan*  
*Jordan Clayton*  
*Mikelle Dingwall*  
*Rod Gill*  
*Patrick Hannen*  
*Joseph Gould*  
*Laurie Jensen*  
*John McNamara*  
*Joshua Morrell*  
*John Rofe*  
*Meryl Stone*  
*Elliott Styles*

**Pat Boardman**  
*Victorien Bresson*  
*Peter Butler*  
*Pat Clarkson*  
*Stan Cue*  
*Kate Eastick*  
*Emily Goode*  
*Jim Henderson*  
*Sandra Hall*  
*Leo Hourigan*  
*William Jolly*  
*Ray Lansell*  
*Christine Male*  
*Paul Mayer*  
*Michael McGowan*  
*Len Millar*  
*Lyn Morton*  
*Zoe Rantan*  
*Greg Robinson*  
*Lloyd Roulston*  
*Alysia Semmens*  
*Ian Stimpson*  
*Scott Tamblyn*  
*Darrell Tonkin*  
*John Whiting*  
*Lester Young*

**The Bendigo Trust Foundation Board**  
 Lloyd Cameron      Margot Falconer  
 Wayne Gregson      Anne Henshall  
 Noel Hobley      Ken Richmond (Chair)

**Discovery Advisory Board**  
 Dr John Wells      Dr Bruce Johnson  
 Dr Sabine Wilkins      Dr Katherine Legge  
 Dr Annie Duncan      Dr Peter Searle  
 Clive Walker (Chair)

People listed in *italics* have been made Honorary Members of The Bendigo Trust for 2013/14 in recognition of 100 or more hours voluntary service this past year. Thank you again to our Honorary Members and all of our volunteers.

**Left to Right:**  
**Bendigo Trust staff enjoyed dinner aboard Restaurant Tram 976.**

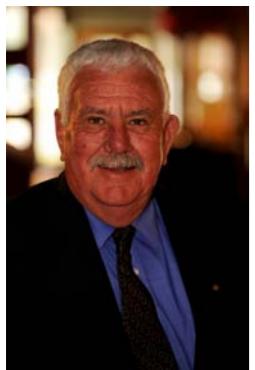


**Staff members from our Visitor Services and Mine Maintenance teams held a working bee at Central Deborah Gold Mine.**

**Staff from all departments of The Bendigo Trust.**



# THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Mr Lloyd Cameron**

Director (Current term expires 2016). Board Member since February 2003. Qualifications: Electrical Engineer. Retired Chairman Central Victoria Area Consultative Committee. Past President, Castlemaine Rotary. Retired as director of BRIT 2012. Lloyd served as Chairman of The Bendigo Trust from February 2005 to June 2014.

**Mr Noel Hobley**

Director (Current term expires 2015). Board Member since 2012. Apart from gaining a Certificate in Dairy Farm Management and a managing a dairy farm, Noel has spent most of his life working in the newspaper industry. Noel worked his way through production and computer systems, advertising sales to General Manager in the local newspaper

industry. Qualifications: Advanced Certificate in Information Technology, Certificate III in Small Business Management, MYOB Accounting and an unfinished MBA at Latrobe Uni. Noel is a Past President of the Rotary Club of Bendigo.

**Cr Elise Chapman**

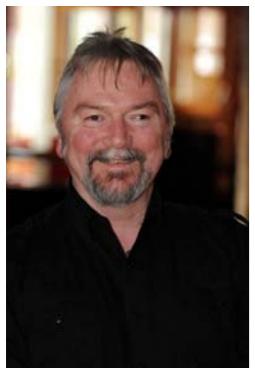
Director (Council Nominee). Board Member December 2012 to April 2014. Cr Elise Chapman moved to Bendigo some 25 years ago to complete three trades as a qualified Baker, Pastry Cook and Cake Decorator with Gillies Bros. Cr Chapman is an experienced small business owner/operator and a qualified real estate agent who up until recently ran her own

agency for over eight years. With a strong desire to serve her community Cr Chapman decided to put her real estate career on hold to stand for Council in the newly created Lockwood Ward at the 2012 election.

**Mr Michael McGowan**

Director (Current term expires 2016). Board Member since October 2007. Qualifications: Dip General Studies, Dip Ed, Cert IV Workplace Trainer and Assessor, Cert of Competency Tram Driver. Volunteer Conductor, Driver, Traffic Officer, Driver Examiner, Roster/Timetabling Clerk, Website Designer/Author and Tramways Consultant to Bendigo Tramways since 1972. Former Teacher, Leading

Teacher – Dept of Education & Training (Swan Hill) 28 years, retired 2006. Two years industrial experience including Bendigo Tramways (Operations Manager), Miller Carpets and Melbourne & Metropolitan Tramways Board.

**Mr Wayne Gregson**

Director/Deputy Chairman since June 2014 (Current term expires 2014). Board Member since 2010. Wayne has spent most of his working life as a journalist, in print, TV and radio newsrooms. Wayne was elected to the City of Greater Bendigo in 2004, representing the central Sandhurst Ward and was the Council's nominee on The

Bendigo Trust board from 2004 to 2008. Wayne currently works as an electorate officer in the State Government. Wayne is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has a Cert IV in marketing. Past president and present board member Rotary Club of Bendigo Sandhurst.

**Mr Craig Niemann**

Director (Council Nominee). Board Member since 2011. Craig joined the City of Greater Bendigo as CEO in October 2005. He has more than 30 years experience working in the local government sector including roles at the Borough of Eaglehawk and the Shire of East Loddon. Prior to joining the City, Craig was Shire of Loddon CEO – from 1997 to

2005. Craig's history also includes serving on the board of North Central Regional Goldfields Library for 10 years and board member of the Inglewood and District Health Service for more than 10 years. Craig is a Board Member of Regional Development Australia – Loddon Mallee Region.

**Cr Lisa Ruffell**

Director (Council Nominee). Board Member since April 2014. Cr Lisa Ruffell has been a Councillor with the City of Greater Bendigo since 2008. In 2012 Cr Ruffell was elected to represent Whistlestick Ward. Cr Ruffell served as Mayor in 2012/2013. Along with her family, Cr Ruffell owns and operates Ruffell Family Jewellers. Cr Ruffell was awarded the 2000

Australian Federation of Business and Professional Woman Incorporated (BPW) Bendigo Business Woman of the Year and was a finalist in the 2000 BPW Victorian Business Women of the Year Awards. Cr Ruffell was instrumental in organising the 'Women Showing the Way' forums.

**Mr David Wright**

Director/Deputy Chairman / Chairman since June 2014. (Current term expires 2014). Board Member since 1996 (Council Nominee 1996-2007). Qualifications: Diploma of Commerce, Certified Practicing Accountant (CPA), Municipal Clerk. David is now retired and holds a number of voluntary positions in community groups within our

community. Prior to his retirement he spent 50 years in Local Government. He holds a number of life memberships granted by community groups including The Bendigo Trust.

**Mr Thomas Seddon (ex officio)**

Chief Executive Officer since June 2005. Qualifications: B Arts (The Ohio State University), Juris Doctor (Cincinnati). Past Chairman of Bendigo Tourism, Advisor to Asia/Pacific AIDS Congress (Japan 2005, Sri Lanka 2007, Indonesia 2009), World Health Promotion Conference (Vancouver 2007 and Zurich 2010) and 5th World Mental Health Promotion Conference

(Melbourne 2008). Title Editor Title XXII, The Laws of Australia. Previously, CEO 18th World Conference on Health Promotion (2004), 6th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (2001), Rotary Club of Bendigo 2013/14 president and Chairman of the Central Victorian Community Foundation.

**Mrs Helen Yorston**

Director/ Company Secretary (Current term expires 2014). Board member since 2005. Qualifications: Manager of Bendigo Volunteer Resource Centre, Secretary & Public Officer of Loddon Mallee Interchange Inc, past President of Bendigo Easter Fair Inc., Secretary of Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices – Bendigo Branch,

Trustee for Bendigo Community Theatre & Arts Inc Public Fund, member of Executive Management Team – Bendigo Regional YMCA, member of Victorian Volunteer Resource Centres' Network, Secretary of Loddon Mallee Volunteer Managers Network .

**Mr Clive Walker**

Director/Chairman – Finance and Audit Committee (Current term expires 2015). Board Member since 2003. Qualifications: Fellow, CPA Australia (FCPA), Diploma of Business Studies (Accounting). Chair Discovery Advisory Board. Over 40 years experience in corporate accounting and finance, including 30 years service in Senior finance roles at Bendigo

Bank, retiring 30 June, 2013. Member of other community-based committees and former Councillor, Bendigo Branch, CPA Australia.



# Financials

***Annual Financial Report  
for the year ended 30 June 2014***

- 34 Directors' Report**
- 32 Auditor's Independence Declaration**
- 36 Financial Statements**
- 38 Notes to the Financial Statements**
- 45 Directors' Declaration**
- 46 Independent Audit Report**

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

Your directors present their report on the company for the financial year ended 30 June 2014.

Name	Position	Meetings Attended
Mr David Wright	Director/Deputy Chair/Chairman	11/10
Mr Wayne Gregson	Director/Deputy Chairman	11/7
Mr Michael McGowan	Director	11/11
Mr Craig Niemann	Director	11/7
Mr Clive Walker	Director/Chairman:Audit Committee	11/10
Mr Lloyd Cameron	Director/Chairman	11/10
Mrs Helen Yorston	Director/Company Secretary	11/11
Cr Lisa Ruffell (appointed 22 April 2014)	Director	3/2
Mr Noel Hobley (resigned 22 July 2014)	Director	11/8
Cr Elise Chapman (resigned 2 April 2014)	Director	8/5

Please note: Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise disclosed. Lloyd Cameron resigned as Chairman on 24 June 2014 and was replaced by the Deputy Chair David Wright. Wayne Gregson was then appointed Deputy Chair.

### Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Trust during the financial year were tourist operations, development and maintenance of heritage assets, restoration of heritage trams and education.

### Operating result

The net result of the Bendigo Trust for the reporting period amounted to a net surplus of \$78,789 compared to a net deficit of \$63,866 in 2013.

### Significant changes in state of affairs

In the opinion of the directors there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the company that occurred during the financial year under review not otherwise disclosed in this report or the financial statements.

### After balance date events

No other matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the company, in future years.

### Directors' benefits

Since the end of the previous financial year no director of the entity has received or become entitled to receive a benefit other than:

- (i) A benefit included in the aggregate amount of emoluments received or due and receivable by directors shown in the accounts; and

The directors' report is signed in accordance with a resolution of the board of directors.

L. Clive Walker  
Director, Audit Committee Chairperson  
Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2014

## AUDITOR'S DECLARATION



### Lead auditor's independence declaration under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 to the directors of The Bendigo Trust

We declare that to the best of our knowledge and belief, during the financial year ended 30 June 2014 there has been no contraventions of:

- the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit
- any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Andrew Frewin Stewart  
61 Bull Street, Bendigo Vic 3550  
Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2014

Adrian Downing  
Lead Auditor

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation. ABN: 51 061 795 337.

P: (03) 5443 0344 | F: (03) 5443 5304 | 61-65 Bull St./PO Box 454 Bendigo Vic. 3552 | afs@afsbindigo.com.au | www.afsbindigo.com.au

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Bendigo Trust - ABN 39 005 014 175

## STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	Note	2014	2013
Revenue		\$	\$
Revenue	2	3,673,240	4,060,624
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employee expenses	3	(2,076,275)	(2,068,626)
Cost of sales and services	3	(357,561)	(559,365)
Projects	3	(192,240)	(563,511)
Other expenses	3	(744,789)	(708,362)
Interest	3	(6,867)	(4,045)
Bad debts	3	(543)	-
Depreciation	3	(208,483)	(215,101)
Legal fees	3	(1,588)	-
Audit fees	3	(6,105)	(5,500)
<b>Surplus/deficit before income tax</b>	<b>78,789</b>	<b>(63,886)</b>	
Income tax expense		-	-
<b>Surplus/deficit for the year</b>	<b>78,789</b>	<b>(63,886)</b>	
<i>Other comprehensive income</i>		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>78,789</b>	<b>(63,886)</b>	

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2014

	Note	2014	2013
ASSETS		\$	\$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	176,850	70,458
Trade and other receivables	5	139,715	308,797
Inventory	6	120,329	124,079
Other current assets	7	-	13,697
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>436,894</b>	<b>517,031</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	8	2,733,054	2,748,446
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>2,733,054</b>	<b>2,748,446</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>3,169,948</b>	<b>3,265,477</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	9	366,308	514,025
Provisions	10	202,030	224,425
Borrowings	11	86,714	60,000
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>655,052</b>	<b>798,450</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Provisions	10	91,156	62,076
Borrowings	11	120,000	180,000
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>211,156</b>	<b>242,076</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>866,208</b>	<b>1,040,526</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>2,303,740</b>	<b>2,224,951</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings		2,058,940	2,080,151
The Bendigo Trust Foundation		100,000	-
Revaluation surplus		144,800	144,800
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>2,303,740</b>	<b>2,224,951</b>

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Bendigo Trust - ABN 39 005 014 175

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

Notes	Retained Earnings	The Bendigo Trust Foundation	Revaluation Surplus	Total
	2,144,037	-	144,800	2,288,837
<b>Balance at 1 July 2012</b>				
<b>Comprehensive income</b>				
Deficit for the year	(63,886)	-	-	(63,886)
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	-
Transfers from retained earnings	-	-	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity for the year</b>	<b>(63,886)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(63,886)</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2013</b>	<b>2,080,151</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>144,800</b>	<b>2,224,951</b>
<b>Comprehensive income</b>				
Surplus for the year	78,789	-	-	78,789
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	-
Transfers from retained earnings	(100,000)	100,000	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity for the year</b>	<b>(21,211)</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>78,789</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2014</b>	<b>2,058,940</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>144,800</b>	<b>2,303,740</b>

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	Note	2014	2013
		\$	\$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Commonwealth, state and local government grants		907,275	1,315,875
Receipts from customers		2,833,496	2,591,948
Receipts from donations		101,551	15,520
Payments to suppliers and employees		(3,502,686)	(3,628,128)
Interest received		-	697
Interest paid		(6,867)	(4,045)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<b>332,769</b>	<b>291,867</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(193,091)	(209,670)
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>(193,091)</b>	<b>(209,670)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Repayment of loans		(33,286)	(60,000)
Repayment of lease liabilities		-	(249)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		<b>(33,286)</b>	<b>(60,249)</b>
<b>Net increase in cash held</b>		<b>106,392</b>	<b>21,948</b>
Cash at the beginning of the financial year		70,458	48,510
<b>Cash at the end of the financial year</b>		<b>176,850</b>	<b>70,458</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements cover The Bendigo Trust as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The Bendigo Trust is a company limited by guarantee.

## NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### Basis of preparation

The Bendigo Trust applies Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements as set out in AASB 1053: Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards and AASB 2010-2: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements.

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the Corporations Act 2001. The company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 22 October 2014 by the directors of the company.

### a. Revenue

Non-reciprocal grant revenue is recognised in profit or loss when the entity obtains control of the grant and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the entity and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

When grant revenue is received whereby the entity incurs an obligation to deliver economic value directly back to the contributor, this is considered a reciprocal transaction and the grant revenue is recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until the service has been delivered to the contributor, otherwise the grant is recognised as income on receipt.

The Bendigo Trust receives non-reciprocal contributions of assets from the government and other parties for zero or a nominal value. These assets are recognised at fair value on the date of acquisition in the statement of financial position, with a corresponding amount of income recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

Contract revenue and rental revenue is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customer.

Revenue from admissions or functions is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customer.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

### b. Income tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the entity is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

### c. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call

with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

### d. Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables includes amounts due from customers for goods sold and services performed in the ordinary course of business. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Trade and other receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment. Refer to Note 1(g) for further discussion on the determination of impairment losses.

### e. Inventory

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and current replacement cost.

### f. Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost as indicated less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

#### Property

Freehold land and buildings are shown at cost value, less subsequent depreciation for buildings. Land and buildings are not separately identified.

#### Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than its estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to its estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses are recognised either in profit or loss or as a revaluation decrease if the impairment losses relate to a revalued asset. A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present (refer to Note 1 (g) for details of impairment).

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probably that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the company and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are recognised as expenses in the profit or loss in the financial period in which they are incurred.

Plant and equipment that have been contributed at no cost, or for nominal cost, are valued and recognised at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

#### Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated on a straight line basis over the asset's useful life to the entity commencing from the time the asset is available for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Tramways infrastructure	2.5%
Rolling stock	20.0%
Plant and equipment	10% - 33.3%
Discovery assets	2.5% - 33.3%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in the income statement. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### g. Financial Instruments

#### Initial Recognition and Measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the company commits itself to either purchase or sell the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted). Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs except where the instrument is classified 'at fair value through profit or loss' in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately.

#### Classification and Subsequent Measurement

Finance instruments are subsequently measured at either fair value, amortised cost using the effective interest rate method or cost. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

Amortised cost is calculated as:

- (i) the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition
- (ii) less principal repayments
- (iii) plus or minus the cumulative amortisation of the difference, if any, between the amount initially recognised and the maturity amount calculated using the effective interest method; and
- (iv) less any reduction for impairment.

The *effective interest method* is used to allocate interest income or interest expense over the relevant period and is equivalent to the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts (including fees, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life (or when this cannot be reliably predicted, the contractual term) of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. Revisions to expected future net cash flows will necessitate an adjustment to the carrying value with a consequential recognition of an income or expense in profit or loss.

*Fair value* is determined based on current bid prices for all quoted investments. Valuation techniques are applied to determine the fair value for all unlisted securities, including recent arm's length transactions, reference to similar instruments and option pricing models.

#### (i) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets are classified at 'fair value through profit or loss' when they are either held for trading for the purpose of short term profit taking, derivatives not held for hedging purposes, or when they are designated as such to avoid an accounting mismatch or to enable performance evaluation where a group of financial assets is managed by key management personnel on a fair value basis in accordance with a documented risk management or investment strategy. Such assets are subsequently measured at fair value with changes in carrying value being included in profit or loss.

#### (ii) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial asset is derecognised.

#### (iii) Financial liabilities

Non-derivative financial liabilities (excluding financial guarantees) are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial liability is derecognised.

#### Impairment

At the end of each reporting period, the company assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset has been impaired. A financial asset (or a group of financial assets) is deemed to be impaired if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events (a "loss event") having occurred, which has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset(s).

In the case of financial assets carried at amortised cost, loss events

may include: indications that the debtors (or a group of debtors) are experiencing significant financial difficulty, default or delinquency in interest or principal payments; indications that they will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation; and changes in arrears or economic conditions that correlate with defaults.

For financial assets carried at amortised cost (including loans and receivables), a separate allowance account is used to reduce the carrying amount of financial assets impaired by credit losses. After having taken all possible measures of recovery, if management establishes that the carrying amount cannot be recovered by any means, at that point the written-off amounts are charged to the allowance account, or the carrying amount of impaired financial assets is reduced directly if no impairment amount was previously recognised in the allowance account.

When the terms of financial assets that would otherwise have been past due or impaired have been renegotiated, the company recognises the impairment for such financial assets by taking into account the original terms as if the terms have not been renegotiated so that the loss events that have occurred are duly considered.

#### Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expire or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the entity no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised where the related obligations are either discharged, cancelled or expire. The difference between the carrying value of the financial liability extinguished or transferred to another party and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

#### h. Employee benefits

Provision is made for the company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may not satisfy vesting requirements. Those cash flows are discounted using market yields on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cash flows.

#### i. Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables represent the liabilities for goods and services received by the entity that remain unpaid at the end of the reporting period. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

#### j. Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the entity has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

#### k. Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST in receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Cash flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a gross basis. The GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

## I. Comparative figures

Comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year where required by accounting standards or as a result of changes in accounting policy.

## m. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The director's evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the company.

## n. Economic dependence

The Bendigo Trust is dependent on the City of Greater Bendigo for grant funding used to operate the business. At the date of this report, the Board of Directors has no reason to believe the Council will not continue to support The Bendigo Trust.

## o. Fair value of assets and liabilities

The company measures some of its assets and liabilities at fair value either on a recurring or non-recurring basis, depending on the requirements of the applicable Accounting Standards.

"Fair value" is the price the company would receive to sell an asset or would have to pay to transfer a liability in an orderly (i.e. unforced) transaction between independent, knowledgeable and willing market participants at the measurement date.

As fair value is a market-based measure, the closest equivalent observable market pricing information is used to determine fair value. Adjustments to market values may be made having regard to the characteristics of the specific asset or liability. The fair values of assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market are determined using one or more valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise, to the extent possible, the use of observable market data.

To the extent possible, market information is extracted from the principal market for the asset or liability (i.e. market with the greatest volume and level of activity for the asset or liability). In the absence of such a market, market information is extracted from the most advantageous market available to the entity at the end of the reporting period (i.e. the market that maximises the receipts from the sale of the asset and minimises the payments made to transfer the liability, after taking into account transaction costs and transport costs).

For non-financial assets, the fair value measurement also takes into account a market participant's ability to use the asset in its highest and best use or to sell it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The fair value of liabilities and the entity's own equity instrument (if any) may be valued, where there is no observable market price in relation to the transfer of such financial instrument, by reference to observable market information where such instruments are held as assets. Where this information is not available, other valuation techniques are adopted and where significant, are detailed in the respective note to the financial statements.

## p. New and amended standards

### Employee benefits

During the year, the company adopted AASB 119: Employee Benefits (September 2011) and the relevant consequential amendments arising from the related Amending Standards, which are mandatorily applicable from 1 January 2013. (As a result, the company early adopted AASB 2011-11: Amendments to AASB 119 (September 2011) arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements because the company's financial statements are prepared under Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements).

The company has applied AASB 119 (September 2011) with retrospective effect. Among other things, the main changes introduced by AASB 119 (September 2011) relate to defined benefits plans and termination benefits, which have no impact on the company's financial statements as the company has no defined benefit obligations or termination benefits at present. Additionally, AASB 119 (September 2011) has introduced revised definitions for "short term employee benefits" and "other long term employee benefits". Under the new standard The Bendigo Trust has reviewed the annual leave balance, and adopt a position on those employees whose leave is expected to be taken within 12 months. For those that are not expected to be used within 12 months, these are discounted to present value allowing for expected salary levels in the future period when leave is expected to be taken.

The Bendigo Trust do not have an unconditional right to defer payment of annual leave for twelve months and as such this provision is recognised as current.

### Fair value measurement

The company has applied AASB 13: Fair Value Measurement and the relevant consequential amendments arising from the related Amending Standards prospectively from its mandatory application date of 1 January 2013 and in accordance with the transitional requirements in AASB 13. (As a result the company early adopted AASB 2012-1: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Fair Value Measurement - Reduced Disclosure Requirements because the company's financial statements are prepared under Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements).

No material adjustments to the carrying amounts of any of the company's assets or liabilities were required as a consequence of applying AASB 13.

## q. New accounting practices for application in future periods

At the date of authorisation of the financial report, a number of Standards and Interpretations were in issue but not yet effective.

Standard/Interpretation	Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after	Expected to be initially applied in the financial year ending
AASB 9 'Financial Instruments', and the relevant amending standards.	01-Jan-15	30-Jun-16
Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities (Amendments to IAS 32).	01-Jan-14	30-Jun-15
Mandatory Effective Date of IFRS 9 and Transition Disclosures (Amendments to IFRS 9 and IFRS 7).	01-Jan-15	30-Jun-16

These Standards are not expected to materially impact The Bendigo Trust.

## r. Going Concern

The financial report has been prepared on the going concern basis, which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business.

During the 30 June 2014 financial year, The Bendigo Trust has had difficulties in making payment on the total outstanding debt to the Australian Tax Office, and have since entered into a payment plan to reduce this balance. Further the entity was generating negative cash flows which required the City of Greater Bendigo to provide a payment of \$250,000 to The Bendigo Trust to enable the operations to continue. At 30 June 2014 the entity has a working capital deficiency of \$218,158.

The ability of The Bendigo Trust to continue for the foreseeable future is predicated on the company having available the necessary cash facilities. The directors believe the going concern basis of

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

preparation to be appropriated based on the following:

- The Bendigo Trust has commissioned an external investigation into operations of the entity. This investigation has provided the Directors with the information to enable them to raise additional income if required, and also to potentially dispose of any loss making business units.
- The Bendigo Trust has received continued support from the City of Greater Bendigo council, including ongoing cash support during the year.
- The Bendigo Trust is forecasting to be cash flow positive in the 30 June 2015 year, and is currently meeting all of the payments to the ATO and other creditors as and when they fall due.

## NOTE 2: REVENUE

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Revenue from operating activities			
- admissions revenue		1,458,796	1,425,494
- food and beverage sales		55,091	44,725
- merchandise sales		291,761	262,700
- contract works		269,004	745,198
		<u>2,074,652</u>	<u>2,478,117</u>
Revenue from government grants and other grants			
- recurring grants and contributions (Local Government)		350,000	310,000
- recurring grants and contributions (State Government)		73,180	85,875
- non-recurring grants and contributions		270,400	27,136
		<u>693,580</u>	<u>423,011</u>
<b>Other revenue</b>			
Revenue from other activities			
- lease, hire and rental income		82,449	88,436
- memberships		10,065	9,975
- sponsorship		126,705	82,450
- employment and training incentives		-	16,900
- interest received		143	697
- profit on sale of assets		-	300
- Carol and Bill Holsworth Family gift to The Bendigo Trust Foundation		100,000	-
- other donations		1,551	15,520
- other income		-	25,218
		<u>320,913</u>	<u>239,496</u>
<b>Revenue from government grants and other grants for projects</b>			
- recurring grants and contributions (Local Government - projects)		446,400	450,000
- non-recurring grants and contributions (State Government - projects)		137,695	470,000
		<u>584,095</u>	<u>920,000</u>
<b>Total revenue</b>			
		<u>3,673,240</u>	<u>4,060,624</u>

## NOTE 3: PROFIT FOR THE YEAR

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>(a) Expenses</b>			
Employee expenses			
- wages		1,816,867	1,898,831
- superannuation		204,370	159,976
- workcover		55,038	9,819
		<u>2,076,275</u>	<u>2,068,626</u>

## Cost of sales and services

- discounts given and commissions paid	95,987	83,012
- food and beverages	49,067	53,087
- merchandise	132,541	119,064
- materials, supplies and services	79,966	216,385
- lease and hire costs	-	87,817
	<u>357,561</u>	<u>559,365</u>

## Projects

- materials, supplies and services	192,240	563,511
	<u>192,240</u>	<u>563,511</u>

## Other expenses

- human resources	39,625	55,151
- marketing	90,865	174,242
- finance	8,909	8,548
- corporate expenses	73,673	94,852
- rates and utilities	201,072	149,804
- repairs and maintenance	188,832	129,835
- other operating expenses	141,813	95,930
	<u>744,789</u>	<u>708,362</u>

## Specific expenses

- interest	6,867	4,045
- bad debts	543	-
- depreciation	208,483	215,101
- legal fees	1,588	-
- audit fees	6,105	5,500
	<u>223,586</u>	<u>224,646</u>

## NOTE 4: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>CURRENT</b>			
Cash on hand		22,319	13,584
Cash at bank		-	55,985
Cash at bank - reserves		53,634	10
Cash at bank - restricted		100,897	879
		<u>176,850</u>	<u>70,458</u>

## NOTE 5: TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$


<tbl\_r cells="1"

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### NOTE 5: TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (Continued)

	Past Due but not Impaired (Days Overdue)						Within Trade Terms
	Gross Amount	Past Due and Impaired	< 30	31-60	61-90	> 90	
2014	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade receivables	138,248	-	5,078	1,159	7,863	-	124,148
Total	138,248	-	5,078	1,159	7,863	-	124,148

### NOTE 6: INVENTORY

CURRENT	Inventory held at cost	Note	2014	2013
			\$	\$
	120,329	124,079	120,329	124,079

### NOTE 7: OTHER CURRENT ASSETS

CURRENT	Accrued income Prepaid expenses	Note	2014	2013
			\$	\$
	-	44	-	13,653
	-	13,697		

### NOTE 8: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Note	2014	2013	Tramways Infrastructure	2014	2013
			Note		
			<i>At cost</i>	2,602,975	2,602,975
			<i>Less accumulated depreciation</i>	(799,800)	(734,771)
				1,803,175	1,868,204
			<i>Tramways Rolling Stock</i>		
			<i>At cost</i>	1,038,559	1,017,945
			<i>Less accumulated depreciation</i>	(958,169)	(903,831)
				80,390	114,114
			<i>Plant and Equipment</i>		
			<i>At cost</i>	548,633	509,132
			<i>Less accumulated depreciation</i>	(336,301)	(294,443)
				212,332	214,689
			<i>Discovery Assets</i>		
			<i>At cost</i>	272,555	151,578
			<i>Less accumulated depreciation</i>	(62,139)	(39,671)
				210,416	111,907
			<i>Discovery Assets (from merger)</i>		
			<i>At cost</i>	564,401	552,401
			<i>Less accumulated depreciation</i>	(137,660)	(112,869)
				426,741	439,532
				2,733,054	2,748,446

### NOTE 8: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (Continued)

#### Movement in the carrying amounts:

2013	Tramways Infrastructure	Tramways Rolling Stock	Plant & Equipment	Discovery Assets	Discovery Assets (merger)	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Carrying amount 1 July	1,933,234	156,940	130,052	64,972	468,678	2,753,876
Additions	-	23,056	121,432	65,851	-	210,339
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation expense	(65,030)	(65,882)	(36,795)	(18,916)	(29,146)	(215,769)
Carrying amount 30 June	1,868,204	114,114	214,689	111,907	439,532	2,748,446
2014						
Carrying amount 1 July	1,868,204	114,114	214,689	111,907	439,532	2,748,446
Additions	-	20,614	39,501	120,977	11,999	193,091
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation expense	(65,029)	(54,338)	(41,858)	(22,468)	(24,790)	(208,483)
Carrying amount 30 June	1,803,175	80,390	212,332	210,416	426,741	2,733,054

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### NOTE 9: TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

CURRENT	Note	2014	2013
		\$	\$
Trade creditors		172,143	342,930
Accrued expenses		-	27,602
Employee entitlements		112,526	83,813
Other		48,661	49,481
GST payable		32,978	10,199
		366,308	514,025

### NOTE 12: CASHFLOW INFORMATION

Reconciliation of surplus to net cash provided by operating activities.

Note	2014	2013
	\$	\$
Surplus / (deficit)	78,789	(63,885)
Non cash items:		
- depreciation	208,483	215,101

CURRENT	Note	2014	2013
		\$	\$
Provision for annual leave		117,785	141,792
Provision for time in lieu		194	459
Provision for long service leave		84,051	82,174
		202,030	224,425
NON-CURRENT			
Provision for long service leave		91,156	62,076

### NOTE 13: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

#### Key Management Personnel

Any person(s) having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the company, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) is considered key management personnel.

Key management personnel compensation, including short term benefits, post employment benefits and other long term benefits, were in the range of \$100,000 to \$150,000 for the year.

#### Other Related Parties

Other related parties include close family members of key management personnel, and entities that are controlled or jointly controlled by those key management personnel individually or collectively with their close family members.

#### City of Greater Bendigo

Note	2014	2013
	\$	\$
Receipts - grant funding, sponsorships	1,135,806	895,961
Payments - rates, insurance, loan repayments	(120,644)	(107,090)
	1,015,142	788,871

### NOTE 14: CAPITAL AND LEASING COMMITMENTS

#### (a) Finance Lease Commitments

No finance lease commitments contracted for.

#### (b) Operating Lease Commitments

No operating lease commitments contracted for.

#### (c) Capital Expenditure Commitments

No capital expenditure commitments contracted for.

### NOTE 15: CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

The company's directors are not aware of any contingent liabilities or assets as at the date of signing this financial report.

### NOTE 16: EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

The directors are not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### NOTE 17: FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The company's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, local money market instruments, short-term investments, accounts receivable and payable, and leases.

The carrying amounts for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 139 as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

	2014 Note	2013 \$
<b>Financial assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	4	176,850
Loans and receivables	5	139,715
<b>Total financial assets</b>		<b>316,565</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>		
Financial liabilities at amortised cost:		
- trade and other payables	9	366,308
- borrowings	11	206,714
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>		<b>573,022</b>
		<b>754,025</b>

### NOTE 18: RESERVES

The Bendigo Trust Foundation Reserve was established to grow the corpus to underpin The Bendigo Trust's long term viability.

### NOTE 19: REGISTERED OFFICE/PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS

Registered Office	Principal Place of Business
The Bendigo Trust	The Bendigo Trust
76 Violet Street, Bendigo 3550	76 Violet Street, Bendigo 3550

### NOTE 20: MEMBERS' GUARANTEE

The company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a company limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the entity. At 30 June 2014 the number of members was 88.

## DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

**THE BENDIGO TRUST**  
**ABN 39 005 014 175**  
**DIRECTORS' DECLARATION**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014**

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of The Bendigo Trust the directors of the entity declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and:
  - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards; and
  - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position of the company as at 30 June 2014 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. In the directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

**L. Clive Walker**  
 Director, Audit Committee Chairperson  
*Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2014*

# AUDITOR'S REPORT



## Independent auditor's report to the members of The Bendigo Trust

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a general purpose report, of The Bendigo Trust (the company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2014, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

### The responsibility of the directors for the financial report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the company's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

### Independence

In conducting our audit we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

### Auditor's opinion

In our opinion the financial report of The Bendigo Trust 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 2014 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*.

### Emphasis of matter

Without qualifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1(s) in the financial report, which indicates that as at 30 June 2014 The Bendigo Trust has had difficulties in settling debt as and when it falls due.

Further to this the entity was generating negative operating cash flows which required the City of Greater Bendigo to provide payment of \$250,000 to enable the operations to continue. As at 30 June 2014 The Bendigo Trust has a working capital deficiency of \$218,158.

The ability of The Bendigo Trust to continue for the foreseeable future is predicated on the company having available the necessary cash facilities. The directors believe the going concern basis of preparation to be appropriate as detailed in Note 1(s). The above factors indicate a material uncertainty in relation to going concern and the ability of the Company to pay its debts as and when they fall due. As this is adequately disclosed in the financial statements, we draw the reader's attention to Note 1(s) with this emphasis of matter.

Andrew Frewin Stewart  
61 Bull Street, Bendigo Vic 3550  
Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2014

Adrian Downing  
Lead Auditor

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation. ABN: 51 061 795 337.

P: (03) 5443 0344

F: (03) 5443 5304

61-65 Bull St./P.O Box 454 Bendigo Vic. 3552

afs@afsbindigo.com.au

www.afsbindigo.com.au



©2014, The Bendigo Trust

Published by The Bendigo Trust

41<sup>st</sup> edition

ABN 39 005 014 175

The Bendigo Trust is a not for profit company limited by guarantee. It is endorsed as a Tax Concession Charity and a Deductible Gift Recipient by the Australian Taxation Office.

Office: 76 Violet Street, Bendigo, Victoria 3550

Websites: [www.bendigotrust.com.au](http://www.bendigotrust.com.au)  
[www.bendigojosshouse.com](http://www.bendigojosshouse.com)  
[www.bendigotramways.com](http://www.bendigotramways.com)  
[www.central-deborah.com](http://www.central-deborah.com)  
[www.discovery.asn.au](http://www.discovery.asn.au)

Email: [office@bendigotrust.com.au](mailto:office@bendigotrust.com.au)

Telephone: (03) 54438117

Facsimile: (03) 5443 8341