

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Shannon's Bridge

Helping family and friends having
the knowledge and confidence to
help achieve and respect peoples'
end of life wishes



*"I'm glad I decided to stay home
I'm comfortable and I love you"*



Shannon McKnight

25 Nov 1996 ~ 3 Mar 2016

About Us

Shannon's Bridge is a charity and volunteer run organisation which helps connect patients and existing palliative care services and supports.

We believe individuals can be assisted to maintain personal control in their end of life through education, advance care planning and matching to care which respects these expressed wishes.

We are here to support you with issues about illness, dying and loss. The aim is to remove the taboo and change attitudes about death and dying. The focus is on not just a “good death” but “better living”.

Shannon's Bridge is based on the “Compassionate Communities” international movement to help people to live well within our communities to the very end of our lives.

Shannon's Bridge believes that everyone should have access to palliative care no matter where they live.



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General Manager's Message

A FINE BALANCING ACT

As we all find our way to balance 'business as usual' and the uncertainty of ongoing COVID related pressures, Shannon's Bridge has never been busier.

We have strengthened and increased connections with formal health services across Victoria. At the same time we need to ensure that we do not foster a reliance on us and always promote the Compassionate Community ethos.

Formal and funded services are stretched very thin after years of COVID pressures. By helping local organisations to take on the role of supporting and collaborating with the services, we are giving communities the confidence and skills to care for their own.

So whilst it is often easier, quicker and simpler to undertake the work ourselves with our fabulous 'Bridge Family', we need to remember that the extra time and effort to upskill other groups will repay tenfold by supporting social change.

As always, the Shannon's Bridge vision is that communities have the confidence to do this work without us existing. The only way to do this is balance on the tightrope between providing support to services and groups and not being a 'get out of jail free card' for funded providers or an excuse for poor discharge planning.

Special thanks to Sr Louise Hall, Michael McKay and Peter Csorba who make this tricky balancing act possible. And none of this is possible without our amazing volunteers - Thank you all.



Jeremy McKnight “

Jeremy founded Shannon's Bridge in 2017 in response to a gap in home palliative care support and a promise to his daughter Shannon.

Shannon died in rural Victoria aged 19 after two years of inpatient care for leukaemia in Sydney and Melbourne. The charity is named in her honour

By working with services and 'bridging' gaps, Shannon's Bridge helps people have care where they want to be for the end of their lives.

Thank you!

Shannon's Bridge 2022

Directors & Governance



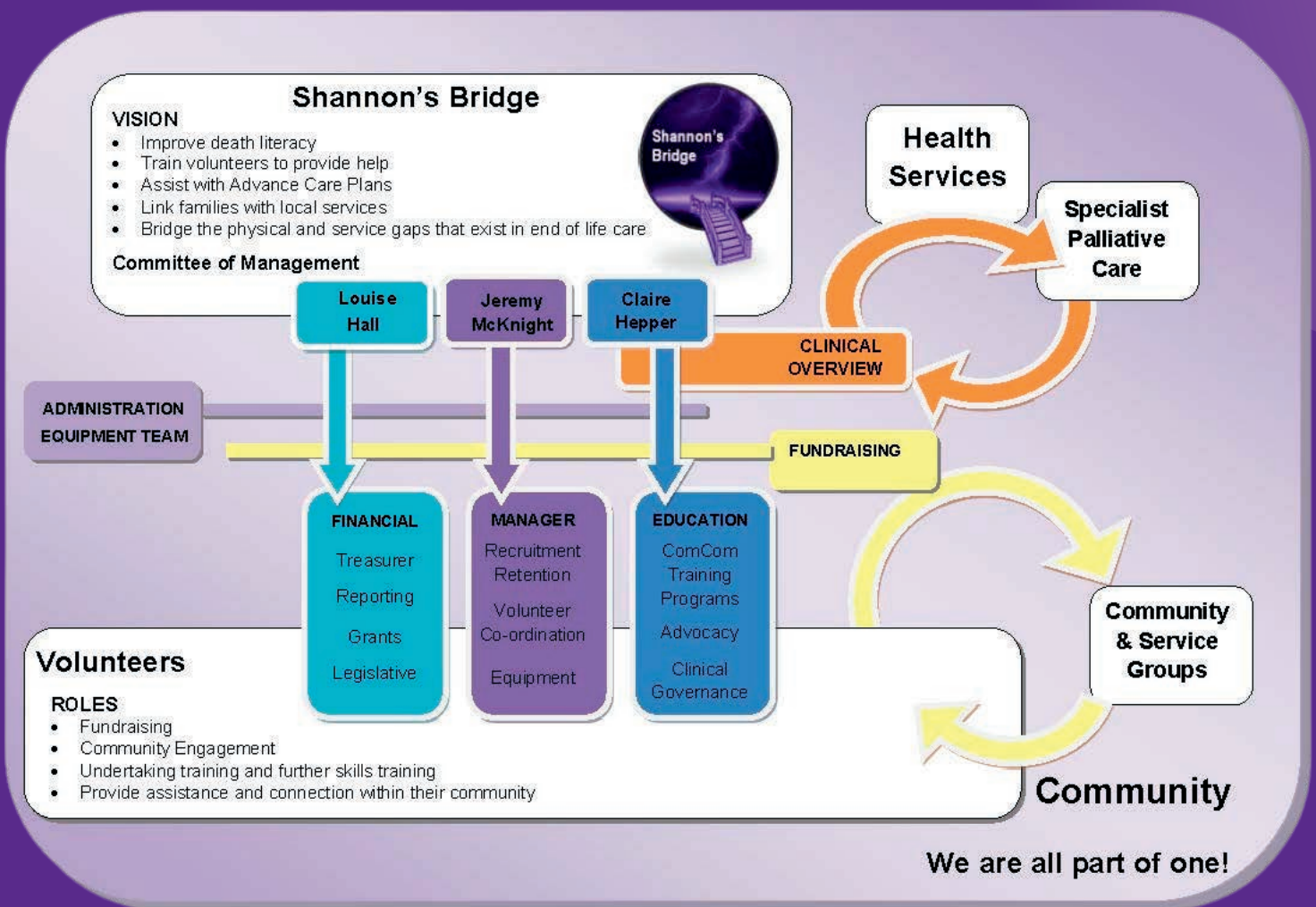
**Sr Louise
Hall**



**Jeremy
McKnight**



**Dr Claire
Hepper**



NOTE: Director Bree Nurse resigned on 09/05/2022 and Sr Louise Hall elected 10/05/2022.

Upsilling & Equipping Communities Project - Greater Geelong

Throughout COVID restrictions Shannon's Bridge has been supporting more families than ever before. Our volunteers continue to meet the marked increase in requests for assistance and we have provided over \$400,000 worth of loans and donations of equipment in the last financial year to help people be at home for end of life care. On paper there are palliative care services covering all of Victoria. The reality, however, is that these services are stretched very thinly and cannot always provide everything that is needed at short notice, especially true at the edge of service areas or after hours.

Working together, Shannon's Bridge supports the local health services and extends their reach. By increasing the skills and harnessing the energy of the community, the 'Upskilling & Equipping Communities Program' (UECP) has:

- Demonstrated improved equity in accessing home-based palliative care
- Circumvented the long waitlists for home care packages, services and equipment
- Assisted specialist palliative care services to better manage their caseload
- Reduced the burden on GPs managing palliative care with minimal supports

The roll out of the project in the Greater Geelong Region began in late 2021, with key components of

- Training and support of local services clubs to take on essential non-clinical roles in supporting home based end of life care with practical skills.
- Focus on CALD and other vulnerable groups in the region who do not have equity in access to palliative care.
- Providing an 'essential equipment kit' to service clubs or community groups. This is to be loaned out when there is a gap in equipment provision by the formal services and support families to stay at home.
- Education and support of GPs and community nurses to increase their palliative care skills and knowledge of local supports for end of life care.



We acknowledge the vital support of Hospice Foundation Geelong in undertaking this Project.

Snapshot 2022 Activity



Equipment Loaned

\$83,075 value

We loaned out 171 pieces of equipment to 30 unique clients with life limiting illness and 3 organisations.



Equipment Donated

\$115,148.99 savings

We donated 275 pieces of equipment to 10 organisations and for 17 unique clients (including consumables, linen, furniture etc) which saved packages and families from buying these.



Respite

364 hours

Volunteers also provided 118 hrs of day-to-day personal care 31 hours of home modification and gardening



Transport

158 hours

Volunteer drivers provided door-to-door transport assistance to 13 unique clients to attend appointments or visit family.



Grief Support

101 hours

This includes both volunteer hours, and professional counselling hours (some paid but 95% of professional time was also donated)



Everything Else

Well... as many things as we could fit....

15 organisations trained, supported & given resources
31 Shannon's Packs given out to GPs
27 people assisted with Advance Care Planning
Advocacy or connection in 79 unique episodes
409 volunteer hours of drop in support at the Hub

Financial Statements

SHANNON'S BRIDGE LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	6	1,186,354	1,528,099
Other Assets	7	<u>2,170</u>	<u>9,886</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		1,188,534	1,537,985
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant & Equipment	8	60,752	67,137
Right-of-use Assets	9	<u>81,712</u>	<u>92,808</u>
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		142,474	159,945
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>1,331,008</u>	<u>1,697,930</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade & Other Payables	10	14,066	21,422
Other Liabilities	11	808,947	1,067,071
Employee Benefits	12	11,447	7,392
Lease Liabilities	13	<u>37,711</u>	<u>39,555</u>
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		872,171	1,135,440
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Lease Liabilities	13	49,157	56,075
Employee Benefits	12	<u>7,322</u>	<u>3,420</u>
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		56,479	59,495
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>928,650</u>	<u>1,194,935</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>402,358</u>	<u>502,995</u>
EQUITY		<u>402,358</u>	<u>502,995</u>

SHANNON'S BRIDGE LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
REVENUE & OTHER INCOME	3	322,320	591,146
EXPENSES			
Client services - consumables		22,997	19,546
Consultancy		100,440	118,260
Depreciation		55,562	48,408
Employee benefit expenses	4	185,761	163,005
Other operating expenses		55,364	45,768
Finance expenses		2,833	3,598
TOTAL EXPENSES	5	422,957	398,585
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		(100,637)	192,561
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS)/ INCOME FOR THE YEAR		(100,637)	192,561

**Full Financial Statements are available
on request and on the charity website**

shannonsbridge.com



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www.reallygreatart.com.au

Acknowledgments



There are always so many people to thank and we apologise if we have missed anyone

- Michael McKay and Peter Csorba for managing our growing equipment arm and Wayne Edwards for designing and fabricating truly brilliant equipment handling aides.
- Maryborough, Castlemaine and Creswick Lions Clubs
- Rotarty Club of Ballarat South and Alfredton Rotary
- Graeme Lees and Jenny Gregory from ATMP Services for all their social media support and newsletter creation.
- Di Lehne, Fiona Hocking, Stefan Carey, Ruth Nunn, Lions Club of Quilters Victoria and all the members of both Mindless Stitching and Art Creation groups.
- For co-ordinating and managing volunteer activities, an extra special thanks to our volunteers Marie Elrington, Wendy Coutts, Lorraine Parker, Alan Darrell, Katy Rowberry, David Poole and family
- All out volunteers and supporters for always supporting and encouraging us

Floods in 2022 had a massive impact on communities across Australia.

Some areas have been flooded more than once and many people are still without homes.

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting those traumatised by flooding.

Contact Us



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facebook.com/shannonsbridge



Shannon's Bridge
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End of Life Care Hub
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DONATIONS

Gofundme - scan for more info



Shannon's Bridge Fundraising
BSB: 633 000
Account: 167556174