

# Annual Report 2017-18

Volunteers helping  
students thrive



# Our Vision

Every community helping young people to succeed.

# Our Mission

To prepare and connect intergenerational volunteers with disadvantaged or at risk young people for education success and wellbeing.

# Our Values

**Inclusiveness** We include all people regardless of their social background, ethnicity, gender or economic circumstances.

**Excellence** We are committed to delivering our services to the highest possible standard and in an accountable manner.

**Empathy** We listen, respect and respond to the needs of all our people.

**Equity** We strive to treat people in a fair and equitable manner at all times.

**Respect** We value the contributions, views and opinions of our people.

**Trust** We conduct ourselves with integrity, reliability and fairness in all that we say and do.



**At EdConnect Australia we change lives.**

**We bring communities closer together.  
We make Australia stronger. It's inspirational  
stuff. But there's so much more we can achieve.**

**We are about older generations inspiring the  
next. It's about raising literacy and numeracy  
standards, but also equipping young people  
with the life skills they need.**



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# Annual Report from the Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer

**It is with great pleasure that we present to you the annual report for 2017/18. This year has again been a year of ongoing growth and the embedding of our successful strategies as we consolidate our position as a national organisation.**

In February we welcomed Mrs Gerri Clay as the new CEO following a search which included international applicants. We continue to be single minded in our focus on connecting intergenerational volunteers with disadvantaged or at risk young people for educational success and well-being. This annual report highlights how we do this, the difference we make in the lives of young people and the enduring relationships that are formed.

In recognition of the marvellous work of the volunteers, the school liaison officers, school based coordinators and office based staff, EdConnect Australia was named as the WA Volunteer organisation of the year. It was a very proud moment when we were announced as the winner and presented with the award by the WA State Governor, The Honourable Kim Beazley.

The diverse work of our highly committed and passionate volunteers was also recognised at the EdConnect Australia Awards in April. Nominees were showcased in three categories from which the learning support and mentoring volunteers of the year along with the school coordinator of the year were selected. The clear winners, evident in the inspiring stories of the nominees, were the young people supported by all our volunteers and staff.

Our funders and supporters are vital to the continuing impact that EdConnect has in the lives of the young people in the schools that we support in WA, NSW and Victoria. We sincerely thank organisations which have supported us over many years and those who are first timers in 2018.

In February, for the first time, funding was granted by the Victoria Department of Education and Training for a 3 year period at a launch by Minister for Education Honourable James Merlino. There continues to be strong support from the Department of Education WA which has provided grants since 2002. We thank Mrs Pat Kiddey, our Department contact, who has worked tirelessly with both the CEO and the Chair to ensure that all the requirements of this partnership are met to the benefit of at risk students.

In addition, we receive growing financial assistance from a range of donors and supporters who are listed on page 19. In particular this year, we acknowledge first time in kind IT support from Vaddis Consulting and pro bono advice from the Tanarra Philanthropic Advisors to assist with expansion in Victoria and NSW.

After a rigorous review of our impact by two of our longer term sponsors we are pleased to have entered a new 3 year agreement with Alcoa Foundation through to December 2020 and the Roy Hill Community Foundation, which has enabled EdConnect to expand its operation in Port Hedland by appointing a Liaison Officer in the town. Partnerships such as these two, enable EdConnect to 'respond to local community need and reflect the society in which we serve'.

(Priority 1 of our Strategic Plan)

Similarly, Gandel Philanthropy is funding a new Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) project for girls in selected Victorian schools. This is a pilot project that could be expanded if funding can be sourced in other locations.

The Financial Statements again show that EdConnect finances are carefully managed to make the most effective and efficient use of the funding we receive from all sources, to support our volunteers to assist as many students as possible.

We would like to thank all staff for their ongoing dedication and creativity in adapting and finding solutions to challenges as they arise while working with schools and volunteers to provide the best service possible to vulnerable young people. Administratively, the focus has been on an upgrade to the IT system and the streamlining of processes for bringing new volunteers on board. The Board of Directors has also reviewed the risks associated with working with such a large number of students, volunteers and schools and will be introducing a refresher training program for longer term volunteers in 2019. The introduction of a more rigorous Nationally Coordinated Criminal History check in partnership with the appropriate school authorities has been implemented for WA volunteers.

Finally we would like to thank Board members for their leadership and governance diligence and in particular we thank Mr Jason Berry who served 3 years on the Board as the Company Secretary and then Chair and one year as CEO. During that period he steadied and guided EdConnect through a challenging phase to be more financially sustainable. In the 2017/18 financial year, in addition to the sourcing of funding partners and the review of the child protection risk factors, the Board has focused on the selection of the new CEO and renewal of Board membership following a rigorous analysis of the skills essential to our future development and growth across Australia. A recruitment process will see new appointments by the end of 2018. The Board does an incredible amount of work in support of the CEO and the Chair, joining forces to guide the organisation in its strategic direction.

The year ahead looks promising with new funding and projects on the horizon. We invite schools, volunteers, government, corporate and philanthropic funders, sponsors and our many stakeholders to continue to support EdConnect Australia as we help more students to learn and thrive in this sometimes complex world.



**Norma Jeffery**  
Chairperson



**Gerri Clay**  
Chief Executive Officer

# Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer

EdConnect Australia is a not-for-profit non listed company limited by guarantee with no tradeable securities. Directors serve on a voluntary basis and do not receive remuneration, reimbursement is made available to Directors for reasonable expenses directly related to Board activities.



**Norma Jeffery**

Chairperson  
BEd



**Ian Hasleby**

Non-Executive  
Director  
BA, MAICD



**Joseph Hoe**

Company Secretary  
JP, CFP®, FCPA, MTax, SSA  
SMSF Specialist Advisor™



**Elena Mogilevski**

Non-Executive  
Director  
BA (Hons)



**Cathryn McArthur**

Non-Executive  
Director  
BComm (Hons), BA



**Dr Anne Mathews**

Non-Executive  
Director  
BSc, MSc, PhD, FLWA, AFAIM,  
MAIFST, MASM, GAICD



**Gerri clay**

CEO  
BAppSc(OT), PostGradDip(Mgt),  
GAICD

## Board Attendance

	Number Eligible	Number Attended to Attend
Norma Jeffery	6	5
Ian Hasleby	6	6
Elena Mogilevski	6	5
Dr Anne Mathews	6	6
Cathryn McArthur	6	4
Joseph Hoe	6	4



For every **\$1.00** we invested into EdConnect Australia we returned **\$3.98** in value back to the Australian Community.

**12,980**

Supported students

+

**1,034**

Volunteers

+

**1,986**

Hours a week

**\$3,456,434**

Value returned to the Australian community



# Highlights



Above: Students from Glenroy Secondary College working in the kitchen for our annual Christmas lunch held for volunteers. Far left: Volunteers enjoying the lunch.

## Spotlight on Victorian volunteers

EdConnect volunteers in Victoria look forward to our annual Christmas parties which are held in each region and hosted by a local school. Christmas 2017 was no exception with lunches full of chatter, laughter and celebration.

We are most grateful to Geelong High School, Altona P-9 and Glenroy Secondary College for hosting our Christmas lunch for volunteers which is an opportunity for schools and students to also thank volunteers for the significant contribution our volunteers make within school communities.

Students cater, serve food and even entertain the volunteers and VIP guests at the lunches. Students, teachers and principals share their experience of EdConnect and our volunteers have the opportunity to relax and reflect on the impact just a few hours a week can really make to the education potential of disadvantaged students.



Above: The EdConnect Team at the WA Volunteer Awards night.

## EdConnect Australia WA Community Volunteer Organisation of the Year

For more than 20 years EdConnect has been providing support to the Western Australian community, winning this prestigious award acknowledges the significant contribution of our hundreds of volunteers. This award is presented in celebration of a volunteer involving organisation that brings innovative leadership and through good practice volunteering, brings about positive and enduring change to their community.



### Social media activity on the rise

Website activity has steadily increased in comparison to the previous year. There was a 44% increase in new visitors to the site, and 40% more people over 65 years of age accessing the website for information. With a 38% increase in people finding us via organic searching, one of the main reasons for visiting the site continues to be those seeking to volunteer who either access the online application form or directly apply online to volunteer. Our active facebook is well supported with 634 page followers, a 30% increase on the previous year, effectively keeping our large band of volunteers up to date with program highlights.

### Girls in STEM project

In Victoria we have commenced a Girls in STEM project, funded by Gandel Philanthropy. The first step is to gather evidence of best practise in this area before piloting and evaluating a mentoring project with girls in year 10, in the lead up to choosing subjects for their final years of schooling. The program will also support VCE students to remain confident in STEM subjects and encourage career opportunities in STEM.

### Victorian Government funds EdConnect

The new funding was launched on 19 February 2018 by the Minister for Education Hon James Merlino who visited Bayside P-12 College in Williamstown to meet EdConnect mentors and their student mentees, and their teachers. The Government's \$300,000 investment over three years will mean EdConnect can expand into north-west Victoria, allowing more students to be assisted through our learning support and mentoring programs.



*Above: Lisa Kingman (founder Timehelp),  
Gerri Clay (CEO EdConnect Australia),  
Narelle Laing (General Manager Vic NSW  
EdConnect Australia).*

## The Need

Focusing on disadvantaged or at risk young people for education success and wellbeing is fundamental to EdConnect's purpose. The range of factors that can contribute to disadvantage are multiple, both from a school and student perspective. Schools are impacted by such factors as the socio economic status composition of the school, the size and/or location. Students can be disadvantaged by their personal circumstances eg families needing government financial support, mental or physical illness, single parent homes.

The Index of Community Socio Educational Advantage (ICSEA) is a scale used in Australia that allows fair and reasonable comparison among schools with similar students, providing an indication of the socio economic background of students. In 2017, 48% of schools accessing EdConnect's program had an ICSEA index of < 1,000. This percentage is higher than the previous year, an indication that more schools with a higher concentrations of disadvantaged students are accessing the program.

## The Program and its Impact

**EdConnect brings together three important groups in each local community – schools, students and volunteers – in a model that is mutually beneficial and positively impacts on the unmet need of each group.**

### Student impact

In 2017 the School Coordinators reported the following impacts:

**99%**

improved  
**self-esteem and  
confidence**

**99%**

improved  
**social skills**

**96%**

improved  
**literacy**

**89%**

improved  
**numeracy**

**98%**

improved  
**concentration**

**88%**

reduction in  
**disruptive  
behaviour**

**93%**

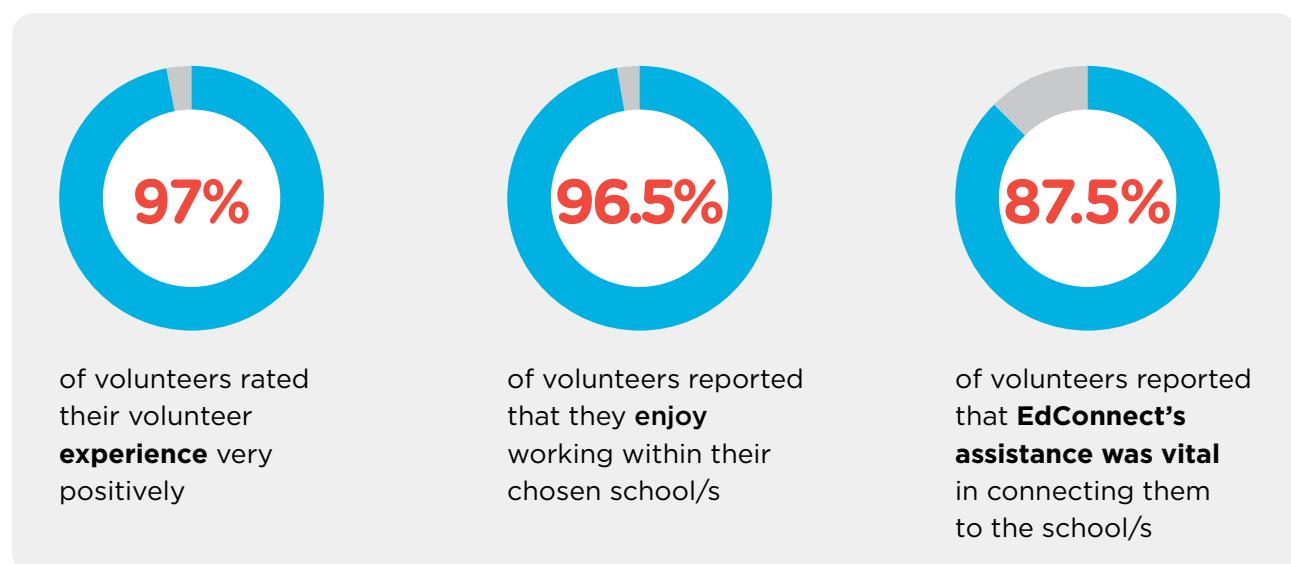
increased  
**participation** in  
school activities

**93%**

improved  
**student/school  
relationships**

## Volunteer Impact

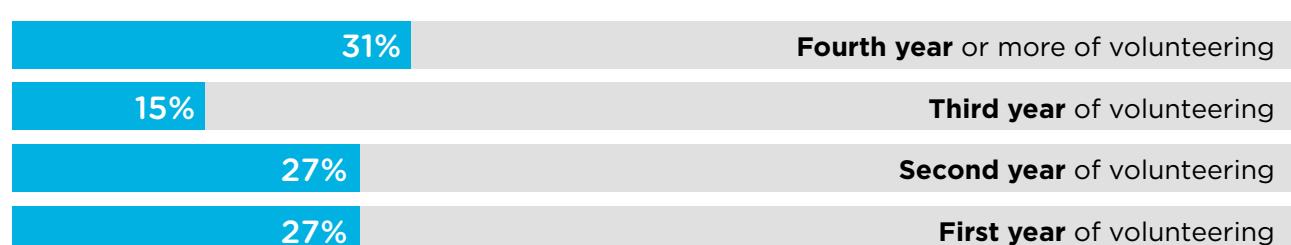
Every year, EdConnect Australia conducts research with its volunteers to determine how they are faring.



Our research also clearly shows there are direct benefits for volunteers:



## Volunteer Years of Service



## Member Schools Tell Us



of teachers **support** our volunteering program



percentage of schools reporting they are **in need** of our programs



reported that we **provide useful guidance** and support

The Top 3 benefits as rated by schools were:

1.

Being able to offer **one to one** assistance to those who need it most

2.

Having a **positive older role model** for children to interact with

3.

Being able to **introduce a program/project** that would otherwise be difficult without the help from EdConnect Australia Volunteers

**"A fantastic program and our school has been fortunate to secure amazing volunteers who have helped build confidence and resilience in our students"**

## Overall Impact

**12,980**

Supported students

+

**1,034**

Volunteers

+

**1,986**

Hours a week

**\$3,456,434**

Value returned to the Australian community<sup>1</sup>

For every

**\$1.00**

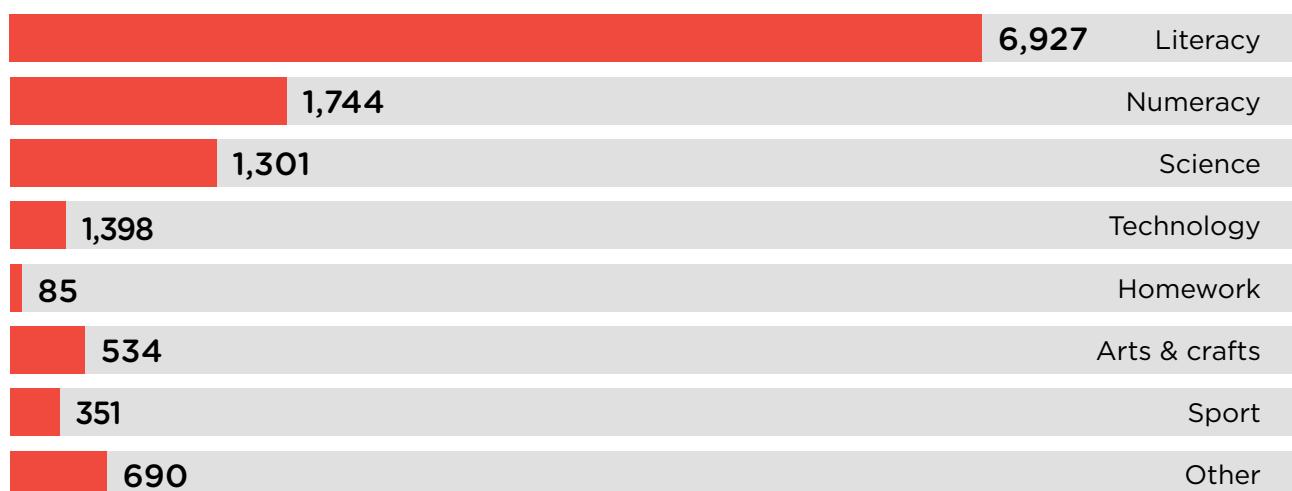
we invested into EdConnect Australia we returned

**\$3.98**

in value back to the Australian Community.<sup>2</sup>

## Learning Support Program

Close to 12,000 students participated in the EdConnect learning support program in 2017, with literacy being the most frequent primary chosen activity.



**“The volunteer program provides assistance to students that would not otherwise be possible. Senior students are provided with individual tutoring, individual classes and programs are also supported. The program is extremely beneficial.”**

Carnaby Rise Primary School

1 Determining the value we returned to the Australian community was calculated using Volunteering WA's calculator - <https://volunteeringwa.org.au/resources/volunteer-benefits-calculator/>. The figure of \$43.51 is used as the replacement cost of volunteers' labour in WA and is averaged out across all given age groups. Calculated using a weekly volunteer figure of 1,986 volunteer hours' x 40 weeks (4 school terms minus school holidays) to give a total of 79,440 hours per year. The total hours per year (79,440) is then multiplied by the hourly rate of \$43.51.

2 Return for every \$1 invested: Calculated by dividing the value returned to the community by the average expenditure of the last two financial years (2016/17 and 2017/18) which totals \$888,992.

## Mentoring Program

Most of the 802 students received 1:1 mentoring in 2017. The program has been operating in WA for a number of years and will be extended to students based in Victoria in 2018.

To help our mentoring programs make stronger matches, demonstrate tangible outcomes and inform program development, the program is independently evaluated using rigorous and comprehensive survey tools.

### Mentor Evaluation Findings -

#### Key Points of interest

- Teachers rated students receiving mentoring as improving relative to their non-mentored peers.
- It's likely that good mentoring is associated with positive change
- A less academic focus predicted better gains for girls in same gender matches
- The program is sustaining matches in which the mentors typically perceive that the mentees are open to support.
- From the mentors perspective, EdConnect tends to make and sustain satisfying matches
- Mentors reported particularly high levels of academic support seeking from their mentees; and being invested in their matches,
- Mentors perceptions of competence and compatibility is closely related to all aspects of their level of satisfaction with being a mentor.
- There is opportunity to take steps to improve mentees match satisfaction, in particular make sure mentees experience enough activities related to fun and sharing

### Mentees were much more satisfied with their mentor relationship when...

- They like to talk about the same things as their mentor, can count on their mentor, feel that their mentor really cares about them.
- They tend to talk about pleasant things, learn about things that interest them and do activities they consider "really fun".

Mentees were more satisfied with the growth related aspect of the match – when they felt their mentors helped them with problems in their life and with school.



You know a program is working when  
a teacher comments on the positive  
impact they have observed on the mentee.  
How their student looks forward to the  
next meeting and eagerly participates in  
activities leading up to the impending visit.  
And, seeing their student engaged  
in a positive, supportive and nurturing  
program means the world to them  
as their teacher.”

Manning Primary School

# Our Stories



## Mike Paproth

**New Region – Wyndham Victoria  
“The whole EdConnect Experience”**

**Mike Paproth has been volunteering with EdConnect since mid-June 2018. He supports Prep students at Little River Primary School, in Wyndham Victoria. Little River is a small school on the outskirts of Melbourne, with approximately 150 students.**

“Volunteering at Little River through EdConnect has been a really enjoyable experience for me and I highly recommend it. I can actually see the difference I am making to these children’s lives,” said Mike. “It’s nice to be part of their learning journey and it’s not always academic learning. It could mean learning how to unpack their lunch or how to tie shoelaces.”

Pamela Heane, Principal of Little River Primary and nominated School Coordinator says, “Having Mike volunteer in the school has made a significant difference in the classroom. He is reliable and having another adult in the room makes a real difference.”

“Now that I’m retired, this volunteering role has really given me something to look forward to each week,” says Mike. “I love volunteering because the children are so warm and welcoming and very enthusiastic.”

“I have confidence in the EdConnect volunteers as they are well-trained and the due diligence has already been undertaken before the volunteer arrives at the school,” says Pamela.

## Mentoring Charlie, VIC

Charlie and I have had a lot of fun this year: We’ve played card games and word games, we’ve written a story about how a spider caused a car crash and we’ve made paper planes.

Through all of this, I’ve been trying to build up Charlie’s readiness to tackle the open air asylum called the World. He’s not going to have an easy time - most of the kids in the class are taller than him. His grammar and spelling are going to need a lot more work too.

But he’s got a lot of strengths. He’s smart, kind, decent and really funny. We have a great time together and I really want see him succeed in life. I hope I’ve been able to help a little.”





## Corporate Volunteering WA

Ben Hastings is one of several staff members at Landgate who volunteer with EdConnect to contribute towards improving outcomes for young people in the Midland area. His story:

"My role at Governor Stirling Senior High School is to mentor a male student who has trouble with his anger and concentration at school. I talk with him about what is happening in his life and how he can manage at school. Being an angry kid myself and getting through that stage, I am able to give my advice and discuss future goals that might be appealing to him.

The best thing about volunteering is giving back to the community and supporting kids going through challenges. I've learnt new things from my mentee too - the latest trends/dances/memes. This experience has helped me to create better relationships with my niece and nephew who are around the same age.

I love the program and would recommend it to anyone!"



## Paige Champion Mentor at West Balcatta Primary School WA

**Paige joined EdConnect when she commenced her studies in Early Childhood Education in 2017. She felt it was important to spend time with children in a variety of settings.**

"I read EdConnect's information and mission statement. I felt a strong pull to their holistic understanding of young children.

Through EdConnect, I have been lucky enough to work with children of differing needs across a variety of age groups. The biggest revelation is just how much difference the weekly session makes to the life and happiness of a child. While the activities we do during our time together differ, the joy on their faces is universal at each mentoring session.

When I began volunteering, I didn't realise how much our hour together would provide a positive routine and safe space for my students to grow and really express themselves. The relationships I've formed with administration both within EdConnect and at my volunteer school are something I really cherish."

# EdConnect Australia Awards for 2017



**The 1,000 plus volunteers who deliver the program in schools are a very dedicated, highly committed and passionate group of people who give of their time freely, giving back to their community and particularly to those vulnerable and at risk students in our schools.**

**Each year we recognise two volunteers who support the two volunteer programmes we run – learning support and mentoring and a School Coordinator.**



## Learning Support Volunteer of the Year

**Yong Wong**

**Glenroy Secondary College, VIC**

Yong has worked with senior maths students at Glenroy Secondary College for 7 years. He is a very fit retired maths teacher, who cycles to the schools where he volunteers on most days.

He makes a point of getting to know all of the students in the class personally and academically so he can cater to their individual needs, always working with students until they fully understand a maths problem. He dedicates up to 5 hours every day to patiently help students build skills and confidence with maths.

One of his students shared that if it hadn't been for Yong she would have given up maths in year 9 and she is now starting year 12 maths with confidence. Yong Wong was also a finalist in the 2018 Premier's Volunteer Champion Awards at Government House in Victoria. This was a memorable and special occasion for Yong and his wife, Gwen, who encouraged Yong to volunteer.

### **Mentor Volunteer of the Year**

**Raymond Richards**

**Kinross Primary School, WA**

Over the past 5 years, Ray has mentored 30 students at Kinross Primary School in WA. He is a retired engineer who has that innate ability to develop strong, positive relationships with children, particularly boys. He has worked with some troubled students who have relied upon him as a positive male role model in their life. He has used his strength in mathematics to tutor students, playing practical maths games and identifying real life situations where maths is relevant.

Teachers have noticed improvement in students' attitude and behaviour when they have the opportunity to work with Raymond. Raymond shared his personal experience with cancer to provide support to his mentee student who was diagnosed in 2017. Raymond developed a strong connection with him and the student was able to open up and share his feelings and thoughts in a safe and comfortable environment.



### **Desmond Heenan**

### **School Coordinator of the Year**

**Clare Clayton**

**Kent Street Senior High School, WA**

Clare was nominated for this award by one of the volunteers at Kent Street Senior High School. She goes out of her way to build, develop and maintain strong relationships with her mentor volunteers. She interacts with the mentors on their visits to the school, and is always positive about the contribution they make to the students. She is responsive, prompt, courteous and helpful and always willing to go the extra mile for her students and volunteers.

### **Clare's Comment**

"We are very fortunate to be part of this exceptional program and as a result we have a very strong team of mentors that are professional, committed and genuinely interested in the wellbeing of our students. Most of our students receiving support from the program, have experienced severe trauma, faced many challenges in their young lives to date and have difficulty in trusting people.

This ongoing nurturing, guidance and positive role modelling has led to many positive outcomes for the young person including improvements in social skills, a willingness to form relationships with teachers in the classroom, less behavioural issues and most importantly increased confidence, a genuine sense of self-worth and connectedness."



# Our Sponsors and Supporters



Department of  
Education

THE WILLIAM BUCKLAND  
FOUNDATION  
WBF

The  
Kimberley  
Foundation



Sidney Myer  
SIDNEY MYER FUND



Collier Charitable Fund



## Alcoa Foundation

Winnie Cheong

Since 2016, Alcoa Foundation have generously supported EdConnect Australia, enabling us to increase our number of schools and volunteers across the Peel region. Thanks to this partnership, Winnie Cheong has become one of around 100 volunteers providing much needed one-on-one assistance to Peel students.

Winnie began volunteering in 2017 as a way to improve her language skills and help the community. She now volunteers at two schools, Safety Bay Primary School and Settlers Primary School.

Winnie mentors students and provides learning support. “To share and contribute to the community through volunteering is fulfilling indeed. It is lovely to be able to help those who need special attention. I learn as I teach the students, their English language skills improve tremendously.”

Alcoa of Australia Chairman and Managing Director Michael Parker said the company was proud to support a program with cross generational benefits. “Supporting our young people to reach their potential is vital but so too is supporting other members of our community,” Mr Parker said. “EdConnect’s programs assist both students and older volunteers, who have so much to offer.”



## Roy Hill Community Foundation

**Keeping Young People  
in School and Engaged**

The Roy Hill Community Foundation has partnered with EdConnect Australia to deliver the Pilbara mentors program – supporting young people in Port Hedland. Many of the volunteer mentors are drawn from local businesses and industry and the foundation greatly assists our ability to engage with the local community.

Kay Corda, the EdConnect School Coordinator at St Cecelia's Catholic Primary School describes the impact that the mentors have on the students as being substantial.

“One student said she is a lot happier now. She was away from school for almost three weeks during the term and wanted to come back to Port Hedland because she missed her time with her mentor. So essentially, she came back to school because of that.”

Kay also described how another student looks forward to her mentor hour each week and would like to continue with the same mentor next year.

“Even though she (mentor) is a mum, she acts like a teenager”. The student talked about learning new games and likes the sports activities they do together.





**“Being able to establish a rapport with a child and I can tell that they enjoy reading to me. Seeing the gradual improvement in their abilities and confidence. Knowing that I have made, even the tiniest difference to a child’s day is unbelievably rewarding.”**

EdConnect Volunteer

# Our Team

**EdConnect is fortunate to have a dedicated and committed team of experienced staff working together to grow the business.**

The small team effectively recruits, trains and places volunteers, concurrently engaging with primary and secondary schools in Western Australia, Victoria and NSW. This year the Liaison Officer (LO) team in Victoria was significantly expanded and the new financial year started with the first appointment of a LO in the Pilbara region based in Port Hedland, WA. In addition to the staff, EdConnect draws additional support from our volunteer base for specific administration tasks, the WA McCusker Internship program and in-kind support from corporations.

## Current Staff

**Karen Barden** – Liaison Officer Rural WA

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**Gerri Clay** – CEO

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**Helen Jones** – Administration Officer

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**Trish Jannu** – Liaison Officer, Northern VIC

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**Andrew Koh** – IT Consultant

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**Narelle Laing** – General Manager East Coast

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**Robert Munce** – Training Manager

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**Chris McGlade** – Liaison Officer, Geelong VIC

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**Bonnie McGregor** – Finance Officer

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**Julie Mullett** – Liaison Officer, SE Metro WA

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**Vivienne Sercombe** – Project Officer, STEM and Girls VIC

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**Rhonda Velkovski** – Liaison Officer, West North West VIC

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**Karen Vincent** – Liaison Officer, NE Metro WA

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**Sarah White** – Liaison Officer, NW Metro WA

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**Gaye Witney** – Liaison Officer, Inner west VIC

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## We Farewelled

**Jason Berry** – CEO

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**Delia Richardson** – Social Impact Officer

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# Concise Financial Report

	<b>2017-18</b> \$	<b>2016-17</b> \$
<b>GROSS INCOME</b>	<b>930,345</b>	<b>864,83</b>
Membership	175	125
School Membership	70,981	57,935
Workplace Giving	3,234	3,842
Donations	7,443	7,064
Interest	4,156	3,968
Fundraising	136	3,592
Sponsorship	16,116	41,799
Service Agreements	485,803	432,216
Grants	342,301	313,096
Training	0	1,200
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>930,345</b>	<b>864,837</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Consultancy	0	39,296
Payroll Expenses	716,421	586,214
Executive	108,033	97,036
Training	18,105	26,050
Operations	107,826	99,041
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>950,385</b>	<b>847,637</b>
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>-20,040</b>	<b>17,200</b>

# Operating Results

	<b>2017-18</b> \$	<b>2016-17</b> \$
Revenue	\$930,345	\$864,837
Expenditure	\$950,385	\$847,637
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>(-\$20,040)</b>	<b>\$17,200</b>

EdConnect Australia reported a deficit for the 2017/18 financial years of \$20,040.00 which is principally due to a reduction in projected unsecured income and slower than expected growth in schools joining the program in Victoria, therefore not realising the school membership income. Total equity as of 30 June 2018 amounts to \$63,626.00 which is a decrease upon the preceding year's total equity of \$83,666.00.

Income for the 2017/18 financial year has increased by 7% on the preceding year, continuing a positive upward trend.

Our ability to increase our income and invest modestly into our services against a background of a challenging fiscal environment, is an indication of the regard and the value that is attributed to our charity and our services overall.

The Western Australian Government have continued to provide a sound base funding for operations in WA and this year have been joined by the Victorian Government investing in the expansion of services into more schools in Victoria. Corporate and philanthropic grants have been key to the growth of the program, enabling more schools to access the program and volunteers to reach more students.

Many of these grants have a specific geographical regional focus. The generous grant from the William Buckland Trust has expanded our reach in Victoria, Give Where You Live supports schools in the Geelong region. Additional schools in the Pilbara has been made possible through support from the Roy Hill Community Foundation, and the Alcoa Foundation have once again committed to supporting the program in the Peel region of WA.

There are many opportunities that EdConnect Australia can capitalise upon in the year ahead as it continues to expand its school footprint across Australia.

**For a copy of the full audited financial statement visit our website:**

<http://www.edconnectaustralia.org.au/about-us/publications>

## Directors Declaration

ACN 109 551 966

### **EdConnect Australia for the year ending 30 June 2018**

The directors of The School Volunteer Program Ltd trading as EdConnect Australia (the company) declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes are in accordance with division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not - for - profits Commission Act 2012; and
  - a) Comply with Accounting Standards and Corporations Regulations 2001; and
  - b) Give a true and fair view of the entities financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. In the Directors opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the entity 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



**Norma Jeffery**

Director

20th September 2018



**Joseph Hoe**

Director

20th September 2018

## Auditors Declaration

### **Auditors Independence Declaration to The School Volunteer Program Ltd trading as EdConnect Australia**

I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit for the financial period ended 30 June 2018 there have been:

1. No contraventions of the auditor independence; and
2. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Armada Audit and Assurance Pty Ltd



**Graeme Wovodich CPA**

Director

Registered Company Auditor Reg. No. 13421

Dated this 13 day of September 2018 at Perth Western Australia





## Connect with us

Join our growing nationwide movement  
and help young people thrive

### Registered office

The Rise, 28 Eighth Avenue  
Maylands, Western Australia, 6051

Visit [www.edconnectaustralia.org.au](http://www.edconnectaustralia.org.au)  
to register your interest.

### Call us on

Western Australia – 08 9444 8646  
Victoria/New South Wales – 1800 668 550

### Or email us at

[edconnect@edconnect.org.au](mailto:edconnect@edconnect.org.au)  
and we'll be in touch.

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