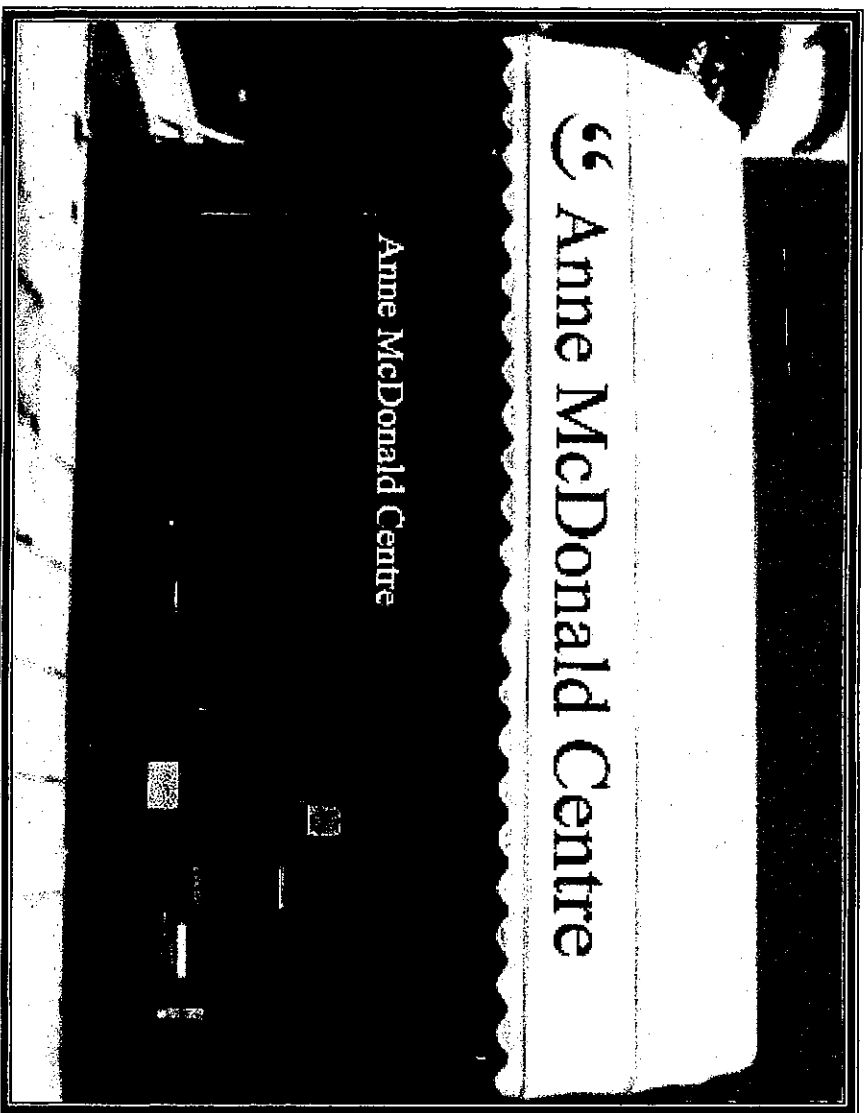




# Anne McDonald Centre

A new deal for people with little or no speech



## Annual Report 2011-2012

---

Anne McDonald Centre Inc

538 Dandenong Road, Caulfield, Victoria 3162, Australia

Phone: 03-9509 6324 Fax: 03-9509 6321

E-mail: [admin@annemcdonaldcentre.org.au](mailto:admin@annemcdonaldcentre.org.au)

Homepage: [www.annemcdonaldcentre.org.au](http://www.annemcdonaldcentre.org.au)

ABN 68 933 715 362

## A Cause for Celebration!

Jackson came to see us just after he turned nine in June. Because he had very little speech it was obvious that he needed a communication aid. A few months later he received a Springboard Lite funded by the Electronic Communication Devices Scheme. And a few months after that Jackson's family decided to hold a BIG party, to celebrate Jackson's new voice and the positive changes it had brought to their lives.



Entranced by an iPad at the AnniMac



King of the castle at the party.



Jackson & his mother & the Springboard at the party

**Jackson's Speech**  
spoken by the Springboard

*Hello!  
I'm having nerves.  
This is my first speech.  
I like this Springboard but it's  
hard to talk on it.  
It is better than nothing.  
I can play Simon Says with  
Corey.  
Thanks for coming to my  
party.*

## Anne McDonald Centre Committee of Management President's Report July 2011 - June 2012

I am pleased to present the 2011 - 2012 Annual Report and audited accounts of the Anne McDonald Centre Inc. a new DEAL for people with little or no speech.

During the past year the Annie Mac has taken on the challenge of new technology and run with it. Our staff have multiple iPads which they are finding invaluable in motivating and stimulating clients, especially those with autism. Late in 2011 Chris Borthwick and Rosemary Crossley represented the centre at the Summer Institute on Facilitated Communication, held in the cutting edge Media Lab at MIT in Boston, dedicated to the memory of Anne McDonald. They both delivered presentations, including a workshop on iPads and people with little or no speech.

The Director's delivery of workshops and consultations in Indonesia has been enthusiastically received. Her students are making impressive progress, as Reza's poem on the next page demonstrates. For the first time, schools in Jakarta and Medan are setting up augmentative communication programs for their students and achieving gratifying results. iPads are especially helpful here, as there is no government funding available and they are much more affordable than specialist communication aids.

And continuing a theme, we heard recently that our 2012 submission to Newman's Own Foundation for a grant to provide iPads and training to fifteen children with autism has been successful. This exciting project, which will involve significant data collection to ascertain what effect the iPads have on the children, will commence in 2013.

I'm pleased to say that several of the Centre's long-term clients have recently achieved academic successes. In particular, I'd like to congratulate John Warburton on his completion of a Bachelor of Humanities at Deakin University. John has already featured in several books and articles about the Centre's work, and we hope he'll write the rest of his story himself.

Despite all these positives, 2012 has been a challenging year for many users of augmentative and facilitated communication, their families and carers, with ill-informed media coverage undermining our efforts to increase use of communication aids by people with little or no speech.

Fortunately, many of our supporters stood up for the rights of those whose communication was under threat. I'd like to thank them all for their hard work and persistence – especially Les Cope and James Henry, who administer our popular Facebook group on AAC and FC that has brought the international community together. And as ever, Communication Rights Australia provided invaluable systemic and individual advocacy services to our clients. Long may they flourish.

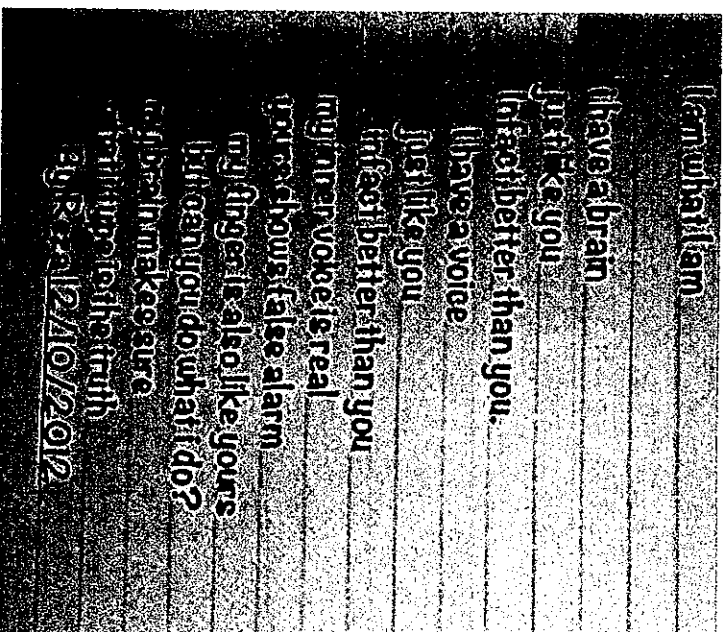
As always we are extraordinarily grateful to our generous donors, including the Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund, the Singer Foundation, the Sentinel Foundation, the Mercy Foundation, the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust and the Sunshine Lions Club, together with the numerous individuals who donated to our annual Clayton's Tea Party. Without their support, the AnnieMac could not have met the increasing demand for its services.

Once again the Centre's staff and volunteers have done wonders, and on behalf of the Committee of Management I'd like to thank them for their hard work throughout the year. I would also like to extend special thanks to the Director for her exceptional dedication.

Finally, I wish to thank all the members of the Committee of Management for their support and enthusiasm and welcome the opportunity of working with them in the coming year.

**Leane Leggo, President, Anne McDonald Centre Committee of Management**

# I AM WHAT I AM



Reza is a 16-year-old with autism who lives in Indonesia. He started typing with facilitation, to slow him down, 18 months ago. He has spent a lot of time reading Encarta on-line, and his English is better than his mother's, to whom he typed the poem above, with her hand on his shoulder. Reza's speech, in both Bahasa and English, has improved significantly over the past 18 months. When I first met him he was attending a Prep grade class at a regular school. Since then he has received his primary school certificate (an important qualification in Indonesia, and about year 7 standard here). The photo below is from a video clip of a discussion about his future secondary and tertiary studies that he had with me in September.



## **What the Anne McDonald Centre contributed to Victoria, Australia and the World from July 2011 to June 2012**

The Anne McDonald Centre serves people with little or no speech, people who often have great difficulty in having their needs met, people who cannot even say 'I need help'. Since opening in 1986 as DEAL Communication Centre, the AnnieMac has provided communication therapy to 3000 people without functional speech. Some of the first children to attend the AnnieMac, students who were once believed to be significantly intellectually impaired as well as mute, have now graduated from university.

The AnnieMac's innovative augmentative communication (AAC) programs have had wide international impact. Communication strategies developed at the AnnieMac are now used in more than thirty countries, and have led many government agencies and universities to establish programs in non-speech communication. Currently we are involved in an ongoing project in Indonesia.

The AnnieMac is highly productive despite its limited resources. In the financial year from July 2011 to June 2012 the AnnieMac's output included:

**\*Therapy provision** to 228 individuals with severe communication impairments, 87 of whom were new clients. As well as providing on-going services to Victorians, the AnnieMac staff provided workshops and consultations in the U.S.A., Indonesia, Malaysia and New South Wales as well as Skype consultancies with remote clients.

**\*Advocacy** – in addition to providing individual advocacy, the AnnieMac takes up wider issues affecting people with significant speech limitations. Currently the AnnieMac staff are working with concerned parents, professionals and Communication Rights Australia to ensure that people living in residential care have access to whatever communication aids they require, and that their carers will be trained to support their use of AAC..

**\*Research & Development** –The outcomes of last year's collaborative investigation into the usefulness of MRI technology in the assessment of patients diagnosed as being in Persistent Vegetative State are in press. This year we have been focused on the use of iPads in the assessment of people with little or no speech, and have delivered presentations at international conferences at MIT in Boston and ISAAC in Pittsburgh.

**\*Information & Education** – During 2011-12 the AnnieMac staff and committee members delivered presentations on AAC at TAFEs, schools and conferences, including several 2-day workshops in Medan and Jakarta in Indonesia.

In addition, our President, Leane Leggo, led the way in setting up a successful new Facebook group called AAC and FCT, which is providing an invaluable on-line forum for communication aid users, families and professionals from around the world.

And after our launch as the Anne McDonald Centre we updated our website to include access to several books written by staff, including *Annie's Coming Out*, co-authored by Anne McDonald, and *Speechless*, together with the latest international research on AAC.

## The Anne McDonald Centre — Staff 2011-2012

---

Director	Dr. Rosemary Crossley, A.M., M.Ed., Ph.D.
Speech Pathologist	Ms. Leslie Zimmerman, B.App.Sci. (Sp.Path.)
Office Manager	Ms. Kae Slattery
Volunteers	Mr Bruce Marks, Ms Emmy Elbaum
Interns	Mr Henning Schmidt, Ms Liz Diedrich, Monash students from AMICI

As a small centre serving many clients with complex needs, we depend on the support of volunteers, parents and friends. We are fortunate to have been blessed with the services of Bruce Marks, a retired accountant who manages the office on Mondays and looks after our books, and Emmy Elbaum, a retired educator, who provides invaluable advocacy and support to many school-age clients. We are very grateful to them both and to Mr Ben Ruschinek, our honorary auditor, along with our interns and the families and friends who work so hard to ensure that all people with little or no speech have the rights which the rest of us take for granted.

My sincere thanks go to the committee, staff and volunteers for their support in a challenging year. In particular I would like to thank the Sentinel Foundation and the AMICI team for their invaluable assistance with our launch late in 2011. Without them, there would literally be no Anne McDonald Centre.

Rosemary Crossley, Director



# The Anne McDonald Centre – Management Committee 2011-2012

---

The Anne McDonald Centre is administered by a Committee of Management elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting. Any person supporting the aims of the Centre is eligible to be a member. The Centre's clients are encouraged to stand for places on the Committee of Management.

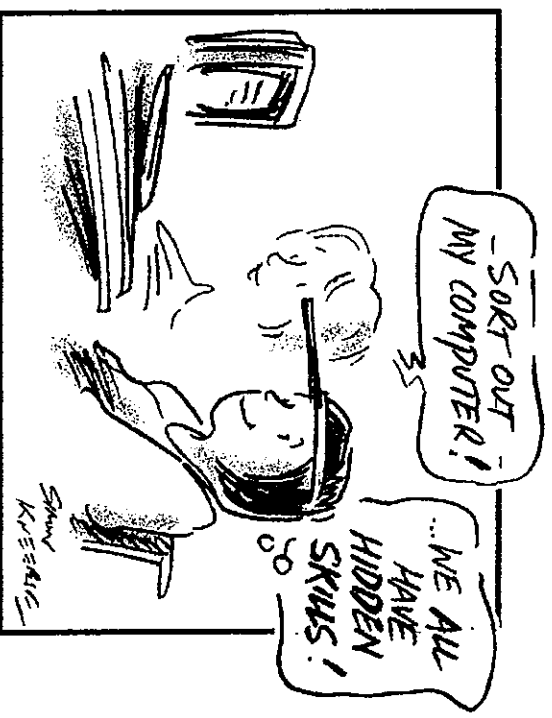
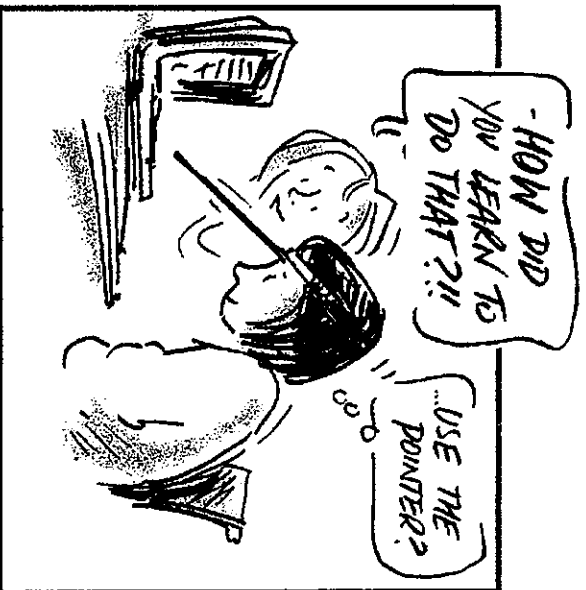
The Committee of Management elected at the AGM held on November 29th, 2011 was:

## Executive

<b>President</b>	Ms Leane Leggo
<b>Vice-President</b>	Ms Jill Johnson
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr Chris Borthwick
<b>Secretary</b>	Ms Amanda Ducrou

## Committee

Ms Sarah Barton
Ms Kaye Gooch
Mr James Henry
Ms Maria Nemeec
Mr John Perry, OAM
Ms Elisheva Picker
Mr David Wood



**AUDITORS REPORT**

**To the Members of ANNE McDONALD CENTRE INC.**

I have audited the attached Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2012, the Statement of Financial Performance for the Year Ended 30 June 2012 and the accompanying Cash Flow Statement.

I have formed the opinion that the above Accounting Reports are in accordance with the financial records and minutes of the Committee of Management.

- The Account reports are properly drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of this Organisation's state of affairs as at 30 June 2012, and of its operations for the year ended 30 June 2012.

The Committee of Management has taken note of my report to it of various matters and as such is reflected in the reports as above.

Yours sincerely,

**B. RUSCHINEK & ASSOCIATES**



B. RUSCHINEK. CPA.  
15 November 2012

*Liability limited by a scheme approved  
under Professional Standards Legislation*

*B. Ruschinek & Associates Pty Ltd is a CPA practice*



THE ANNE McDONALD CENTRE INC.  
538 Dandenong Road, Caulfield, Victoria 3162 Australia

Treasurer's Statement

In my opinion the attached Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Financial Performance gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs as at 30 June 2012.

  
C. Borthwick

Treasurer

15/11 / 2012



## THE ANNE McDONALD CENTRE INC

### Statement of Financial Performance

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Grants-Government	0	1500
Grants-Foundations	53000	60500
Seminars & Consulting	19746	11945
Donations	38873	24581
Memberships	440	315
Interest	3662	4684
Sale of Materials	847	346
Tea Party Donations	10670	18855
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u>1227238</u>	<u>122726</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
The Anne McDonald Centre Launch	2917	<u>0</u>
Communication Equipment	113	162
Rent	18546	18109
Salaries	101809	104233
Superannuation	9163	9722
Workcover	0	1258
Bank Fees	84	0
Cleaning	299	365
Computer Consumables	462	1252
Gas, Light & Power	1357	1251
Insurance	4385	2769
Postage & Freight	410	387
Repairs & Maintenance	37	181
Security	335	417
Stationery & Printing	2087	2100
Subscriptions	323	142
Telecommunications	1980	1713
Travel	0	2155
Staff Amenities/Sundries	163	188
Staff Training	825	0
Therapy Materials, etc	43	1543
Website Training/Production Equipment	1052	1811
AGM Cost	149	311
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<u>146539</u>	<u>150069</u>
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR</b>	<u>-19301</u>	<u>-27343</u>

**THE ANNE McDONALD CENTRE INC**

**Statement of Financial Position**

	<u>30/06/2011</u>		<u>30/06/2012</u>
		<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>	
	94367	Cash at Bank	66584
	5870	Funds On Hand	4660
	2010	Debtors	5870
	<u>25125</u>	Other Debtors	<u>15120</u>
	<u>127372</u>	<b><u>TOTAL ASSETS</u></b>	<u>92234</u>
		<b><u>LIABILITIES</u></b>	
	2952	Creditors	201
	3327	Accruals	2241
	<u>22126</u>	Provision for Long Service Leave	<u>10126</u>
	<u>28405</u>	<b><u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u></b>	<u>12568</u>
	<u>98967</u>	<b><u>NET ASSETS</u></b>	<u>79666</u>
		<b><u>GENERAL FUNDS</u></b>	
	126310	Balance	98967
	<u>-27343</u>	Surplus for Year	<u>-19301</u>
	<u>98967</u>	<b><u>BALANCE 30-06-2012</u></b>	<u>79666</u>

**THE ANNE McDONALD CENTRE INC**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2012**

	2012	2011
	Inflow/ (Outflow)	Inflow/ (Outflow)
<b>CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Receipts from Members, Grants, Donations, etc	123576	118042
Interest Received	3662	4684
Payments to Suppliers & Employees	<u>-146539</u>	<u>-150069</u>
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	<u>-19301</u>	<u>-27343</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Debtors	6145	-23339
Creditors, Accruals & Provisions	<u>-15837</u>	<u>-538</u>
<b>CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Net Increase in Cash Held	-28993	-51220
Cash at the Beginning of the Financial Year	<u>100237</u>	<u>151457</u>
Cash at the End of the Financial Year	<u><u>71244</u></u>	<u><u>100237</u></u>

**NOTES TO ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 30-06-2012**

1-The Committee wish to align the Tea Party donations with the year for which it is believed they were intended, rather than when actually received.  
In this year this amounted to an additional \$2,120. This item is included as an asset under Other Debtors.

2-Donations made by Web Site 'GIVE NOW" prior to 30 June 2012 are included as Other Debtors.

3-Cash At Bank is comprised of three accounts as follows:

Business-On-LineSaver	\$60767
Business Transaction Account	5430
DEAL-Account	<u>387</u>
	<u>\$66584</u>

Donations continue to be made in the name of DEAL, but, this account will be closed during 2012/2013.