

DEAL

Communication Centre Inc.



Annual Report 2001-2002

DEAL Communication Centre Inc.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

July 2001 – June 2002

I am pleased to present the 2001/2002 Annual Report and audited accounts of DEAL Communication Centre Inc.

This year has been a year of great change for DEAL. It has also been one of great sadness for all who knew Nancy O'Donnell, A.M., DEAL's honorary office manager who died on 31 December 2001.

Volunteers have always been an important part of DEAL and it was with great sadness that we farewellled Nancy, who was office administrator from September 1993 until August 2001. Nancy was an extraordinary person who gave a lifetime of service to the community. Nancy, who was Stonnington City's Citizen of the Year in 2001, enriched the lives of all who knew her and it is a great honour that we are able to unveil a memorial to her at tonight's Annual General Meeting.

Ann Waite, another long time volunteer, retired early in 2002. On behalf of the Committee I would like to thank Ann for her many years of dedicated service.

In 2001-2 DEAL has been able to expand the range and number of services it provides to people with severe communication impairments. This has been achieved with assistance from a number of charitable foundations and private donors. On behalf of the Committee of Management I would like to give special thanks to the Lowinger family of New York City and also to the members of the Big Heart Cycle Team and to their team leader, Mr John Rathgebber, who rode on behalf of DEAL in the annual Murray to the Moyne relay. Our thanks also go to Ms Gabby Franklin who organised a screening of *i am sam* which benefited DEAL, to the Lance Reichstein Foundation, the Pratt Foundation, the Mercy Foundation, the Singer Family Trust and the Brockhoff Foundation, as well as to many generous individual supporters.

During this year it has been a pleasure to welcome new staff members to DEAL. They are: Eve Chapman, office manager, Jane Farrall and Leslie Zimmerman, speech pathologists and Leah Picking, occupational therapist. The addition of these new members to DEAL's team has allowed DEAL to provide more services to our clients and, in particular, to provide more services to those who live outside Melbourne. The Committee thanks all staff at DEAL for their hard work and dedication.

Finally, I wish to thank all the members of the Committee of Management for their support and enthusiasm.

Amanda Ducrou, President, DEAL Committee of Management

What DEAL contributed to Victoria, Australia and the World from July 2001 to June 2002

DEAL serves people with severe communication impairments, people who have great difficulty in having their needs met, people who often cannot even say 'I need help'. Since it opened in 1986, DEAL has provided communication therapy to some 1,900 Victorians without functional speech. Some of the first children to attend DEAL, children who were believed to be significantly intellectually impaired as well as mute, have now graduated from university. Through its client outcomes, advocacy and publications DEAL has markedly increased general awareness of non-speech communication not only in Victoria and throughout Australia, but also overseas.

DEAL's innovative programs have had wide international impact. Communication strategies developed at DEAL are now used in more than thirty countries, and have led many government agencies and universities – the Queensland Department of Family Services, the Bolton Institute in England, and Syracuse and Cologne Universities, among others - to establish programs in non-speech communication.

Many publications have followed, including books and plays written by or about people who have started to communicate verbally as a result of DEAL's work. The most recent is *Elvis Has Left the Building*, a collection of memoirs and poems written by Glen Sheppard, a young man with dual diagnoses of autism and Down syndrome who lives in Queensland.

DEAL is highly productive. In the financial year from July 2001 to June 2002, DEAL's output included:

- ***Therapy provision** to 157 people with severe communication impairments, 67 of whom were new clients. As well as providing services to metropolitan and rural Victorians, DEAL staff undertook assessments and consultations in N.S.W. and the A.C.T., and in England, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy and the U.S.

- ***Advocacy** — in addition to providing individual advocacy, DEAL takes up issues affecting all people with significant speech limitations. During 2001-2002 we were thrilled to be able to give our school-age clients the first communication aids purchased from the new Aids and Equipment funding for school age children. This is the direct result of years of lobbying by DEAL, assisted by other agencies.

***Research & Development** — Early in 2003 DEAL and the Communication Aid User Society will jointly host Victoria's first augmentative communication camp, that is, a residential camp for children using electronic communication aids, at which they and their carers can develop the skills needed for fluent communication. The camp is being funded by the Telstra Foundation. As this is a first, we are undertaking a detailed evaluation of outcomes with a view to establishing whether such camps are effective in extending participants' skills.

We are also continuing an investigation of hand function difficulties in people with Down syndrome, and their impact on communication aid use, funded by the Reichstein and Mercy Foundations, and a study of communication aid use by girls with Rett Syndrome, funded by the Women's Trust and the Sidney Myer Fund.

***Information & Education** - DEAL staff delivered lectures and conducted workshops in various settings during 2001-2002, including Sydney, Canberra, New York, London, Manchester, Verona and Cologne. Many students undertaking tertiary study preparatory to working with people with disabilities spent time at DEAL, as did five postgraduate interns from the U.S., Germany (3) and Norway. Typically the interns spent between one and two months at DEAL, observing and participating in programmes, and learning how to use specialised communication equipment and computer software.

***International advisory service** - DEAL provides a popular free e-mail information and advice service used by parents and therapists around the world.

***Publications and Conference Presentations** (July 2001 - June 2002)

Crossley, R. (2001) Breaking the Silence – Facilitating Communication for People with Autism, Keynote address at *Il Tesoro Sommerso* — *Ricerca e riabilitazione nell'autismo*, Verona, Italy

Crossley, R. (2002) Communication for Life, Workshop given at *Narrating dis/ABILITY: Facilitated Communication Conference*, Syracuse University N.Y.

Farrall, J. (2002) AAC and Angelman's Syndrome, Keynote address delivered at the *Angelman's Association of Australia National Conference*, Canberra

Lowinger, C.S. & Crossley, R. (2002) Speaking Up In Many Voices, *Narrating dis/ABILITY: Facilitated Communication Conference*, Syracuse University N.Y.

Four issues of the *DEAL Newsletter*, a small publication with international circulation, much quoted here and overseas.

DEAL — Staff 2001-2002

Director	Dr. Rosemary Crossley, A.M., M.Ed., Ph.D.
Speech Pathologists	Ms. Jane Farrall, B.App.Sci. (Sp.Path.) Ms. Leslie Zimmerman, B.App.Sci. (Sp.Path.)
Occupational Therapist	Ms. Leah Picking, <i>Bach.O.T.</i> (commenced July 2002)
Office Manager	Ms. Eve Chapman, B.Sc., Dip.Ed.
Technical support	Mr. Sean O'Connor, B.Sc. (Hons)
Physiotherapy consultant	Ms. Rosemary Ryall, B.App.Sci. (P.T.)
Computer consultant	Mr. Colin Donald, <i>Dip.Arts, Gr.Dip.Bus.Comp.</i>

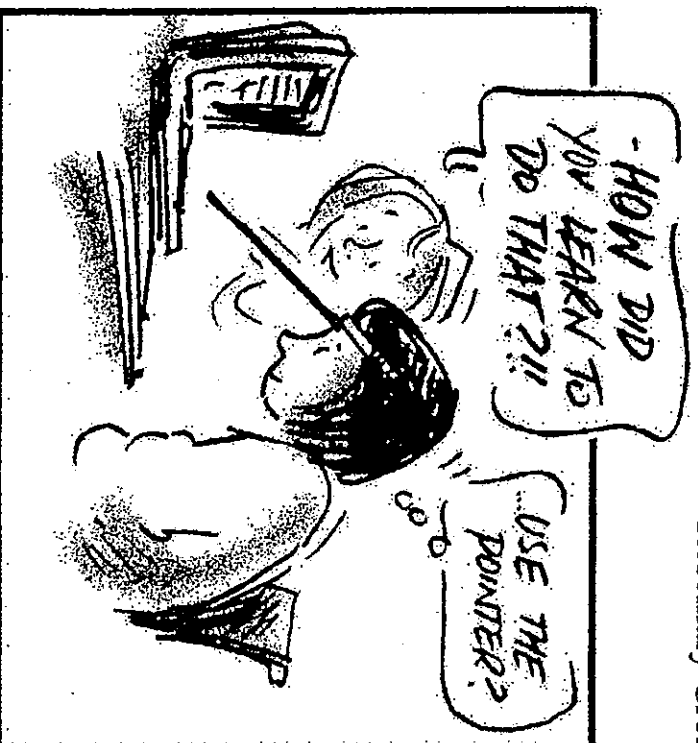
In December we were all deeply saddened by the death of Nancy O'Donnell, who had been involved with DEAL for a quarter of a century. After DEAL suffered funding cuts in 1993, Nancy took on the role of honorary administrator, taking her place behind the front desk for 2, 3 or even 4 days a week, rain, hail or shine. Without Nancy's input, Deal may well not have survived. She is greatly missed.

During this financial year DEAL was fortunate to be able to employ four talented new staff members, Jane, Leslie, Leah and Eve. As a result we look forward to seeing more people and providing a greater range of services. We have also been blessed with the services of a new volunteer, Mr. Bruce Marks, who manages the office on Mondays and looks after our books. We are most grateful to Bruce and to Mr. Ben Ruschinek, our honorary auditor, for their oversight of DEAL's finances.

And as ever, the committee has provided essential practical and moral support.

Thank you everyone

Rosemary Crossley, Director



DEAL -- Management Committee 2001-2002

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

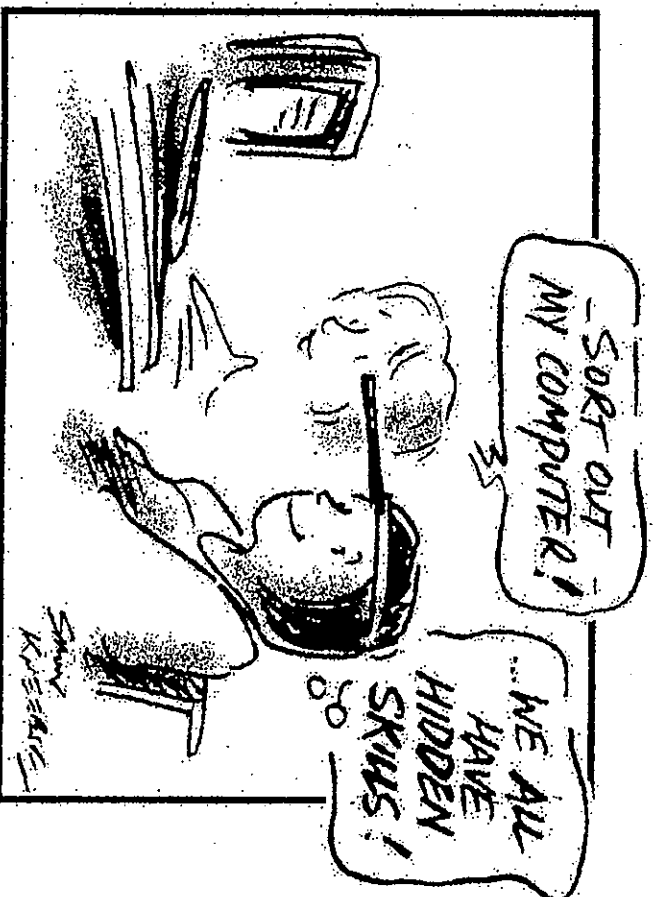
The Committee of Management elected at the AGM held on October 25th, 2001 was:

Executive

President	Ms Amanda Ducrou, B.A., LL.B., M.B.A.
Vice-President	Ms Margaret Batt, L.A.C.S.T
Secretary	Mr Chris Borthwick, B.A., LL.B.
Treasurer	Ms Jill Johnson, B.Sc.

Committee

Ms Mary Clough, B.A., Dip.Ed., Dip.Sp.Ed.
Mr. Stephen Davis, LL.B.
Ms Joan Dwyer, B.A., LL.B.
Ms Kaye Gooch, S.L.C.
Ms Anne McDonald, B.A.
Ms Nancy O'Donnell, A.M.
Mr John Perry, T.P.T.C., T.Sp.P.C.



W. RUSCHINEK & ASSOCIATES

Certified Practising Accountants, Registered Tax Agents
Level 1, 207 Glenhurnly Road, Elsternwick, 3185.
P. O. Box 693, Elsternwick, 3185.
Telephone: 9523 8666, Fax: 9528 2785

AUDITORS REPORT

To the Members of DEAL COMMUNICATION CENTRE INC.

I have audited the attached Balance Sheet as at 30 June, 2002 and the Income & Expenditure Statement for the Year ended 30 June, 2002.

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 above Accounting 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, 2002, and of its operations for the Year Ended 30 June, 2002.

Yours sincerely,
B. RUSCHINEK & ASSOCIATES



B. RUSCHINEK, CPA.
8 November, 2002

DEAL Communication Centre Inc.
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Tel. (03) 9509-6324 Fax (03) 9509 6321

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

In my opinion the attached Income and Expenditure Statement gives a true and fair view of the results for the year ended 30 June 2002, and the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs at that date.



Chris Borthwick
Treasurer
11th November, 2002

DEAL COMMUNICATION CENTRE INC.

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2002

	2001	2002
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank & Investment Account	27597	153349
Cash on Hand	0	150
Office Equipment (At Cost)	0	6605
Less: Provision for Depreciation	0	-334
Written down value	0	6261
TOTAL ASSETS	27597	159760
LIABILITIES		
Provision for Long Service Leave	7644	16250
TOTAL LIABILITIES	7644	16250
NET ASSETS	19953	143510
GENERAL FUNDS		
Balance at 1 July	50927	27826
Cash Deficit/Surplus for year	-23101	115684
BALANCE 30 JUNE 2002	27826	143510

Notes accompanying Annual Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2002

1. Statement of Accounting Policies

This is not a general purpose financial report. It is a special purpose report prepared for members of the Association to enable compliance with the requirements of the Associations Act 1981 and the constitution of the organisation. The accounts have been prepared from historical cost records. These accounts have been modified to the extent required to alter this report to reflect accrual accounting basis which will now be used in future.

2. Additional notes

During 2001-2002 DEAL has negotiated a grant/donation over the next 3 years which ensures the viability of the organisation beyond this period.

DEAL COMMUNICATION CENTRE INC.

Income/Expenditure Statement for Year Ended 30 June 2002

	2001	2002
INCOME		
Grants-Government	18115	0
Grants-Foundations	12000	55590
Seminars & Consulting	36770	20996
Donations	19743	195061
Memberships	1162	848
Interest	843	3486
Sale of Materials	2317	1896
Sundries	171	168
Bike Ride (Net of Expenses)	0	23236
TOTAL INCOME	91121	301281
EXPENDITURE		
Communication Equipment	18228	19951
Office Equipment	180	0
Depreciation Office Equipment	0	344
Rent	12000	12000
Salaries	52313	100683
Withholding Tax	788	0
GST	14	0
Staff Superannuation	3797	7959
Workcover	1199	468
Casual Labour	121	0
Consultant Physiotherapist	8389	3247
Advertising	0	994
Bank & Government charges	33	0
Cleaning	195	255
Computer Consumables	0	1844
Gas,Light & Power	719	884
Insurance	2901	2480
Photocopying & Printing	260	548
Postage & Freight	786	1538
Stationery	715	2168
Subscriptions	510	127
Telecommunications	1070	1408
Travel	6781	10813
Professional Training	1507	0
Sundries	1134	1636
Provision for Long Service Leave	582	16250
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	114222	185597

SURPLUS/DEFICIT for Year

-23101

115684

Annual report prepared for distribution prior to the Annual General Meeting to be held at:

DEAL Communication Centre,
538 Dandenong Road, Caulfield
on Tuesday, 12th November, 2002

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