

DEAL

Communication Centre Inc.



Annual Report 2003-2004

DEAL Communication Centre Inc.

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COMMUNICATING IN DIFFERENT MODES AND DIFFERENT PLACES



Rodney and Andy chat up a storm using their Dynamos at the Big Mouth Camp
Rawson Village, April 2004 (see President's Report)



Chris Borthwick, committee member, raising communication issues at a senior level
Vatican City, March 2004 (see What DEAL contributed...)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

July 2003 – June 2004

I am pleased to present the 2003 – 2004 Annual Report and audited accounts of DEAL Communication Centre Inc.

During 2003 - 2004 DEAL continued its outstanding work in providing services to people with severe communication impairments. Some aspects of this work are highlighted below.

From April 2 – 6 2004 the second Big Mouth Camp was held at Rawson Village. The Big Mouth Camp was auspiced by the Communication Aid User's Society (CAUS Inc) and organised by DEAL. The Telstra Foundation provided funding for the camp. Eighty campers, including eleven school aged children who use electronic communication devices and their families, attended. This year the camp's activities had a Harry Potter theme and even included a quidditch match. As was the case last year the camp achieved much more than its aim of enabling the children to communicate with their devices more effectively. Of particular importance is the opportunity it provides for siblings to meet and to share their experiences.

On behalf of the Committee of Management I would like to thank those at DEAL and at CAUS Inc who worked so hard to make the Big Mouth Camp such a great success. I would also like to thank the children, their families and carers and the many volunteers who gave so generously of their time.

As in previous years, in 2003 –2004 DEAL has been assisted by the generosity of 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. Special thanks also go to the members of the Big Heart Cycle Team. This small team of people, led by Mr John Rathgeber, were incredibly successful in raising funds for DEAL in the annual Murray to Moyne relay. This is the third year in which Mr Rathgeber and the Big Heart Cycle Team members have given so generously of their time and effort. The thanks of the Committee of Management also go to the Bennelong Foundation, the Pratt Family Foundation, the Singer Family Trust, the Lord Mayor's Fund and the ING Foundation, as well as to many generous individual supporters.

During 2003 –2004 DEAL was able to continue its role in developing the communications skills and awareness in the students who will staff disability services in the future. A number of students from different universities and tertiary institutions undertook practical work placements at DEAL, including an intern from Germany.

On behalf of the Committee of Management I thank the director and all staff at DEAL for their hard work and dedication. Their ability and commitment have enabled DEAL to continue to provide services of the very highest standard to clients both in and outside Victoria.

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 2003 to June 2004

DEAL serves people with complex communication needs, people who often have great difficulty in having their needs met, people who cannot even say 'I need help'. Since opening in 1986, DEAL has provided communication therapy to more than 2000 Victorians without functional speech. Some of the first children to attend DEAL, students who were believed to be significantly intellectually impaired as well as mute, have now graduated from university.

- 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.

DEAL is highly productive. In the financial year from July 2003 to June 2004 DEAL's output included:

- ***Therapy provision** to 168 people with severe communication impairments, 76 of whom were new clients. As well as providing services to Victorians, DEAL staff undertook assessments and consultations in N.S.W., the ACT and QLD, and in England, and the U.S.A.

- ***Big Mouth Camp** – DEAL stages an annual residential camp for children who use communication aids. Jane Farrall organised this year's successful camp which involved 80 people and provided intensive therapy input over 5 days; especially valuable for children from isolated areas without access to communication specialists.

- ***Advocacy** – in addition to providing individual advocacy, DEAL takes up wider issues affecting people with significant speech limitations. For some years we have raised concerns about the diagnosis of Persistent Vegetative State with the result that committee member Chris Borthwick was invited to speak about our concerns at an international conference held at the Vatican in March 2004.

- ***Research & Development** – Currently DEAL staff are developing innovative communication programs for people with Huntington's Disease living at the Arthur Preston Centre and for young adults with autism attending Alpha Autism Services.

- ***Information & Education** – DEAL publishes a quarterly newsletter. DEAL also provides an e-mail information and advice service used by parents and therapists around the world. During 2003-4 staff delivered lectures and conducted workshops in universities, schools and community settings. Tertiary students and overseas visitors spent time at DEAL, including Pia Gund, a German student who came for 6 months.

DEAL — Staff 2003-2004

Director	Dr. Rosemary Crossley, <i>A.M., M.Ed., Ph.D.</i>
Speech Pathologists	Ms. Jane Farrall, <i>B.App.Sci. (Sp.Path.), M.Sp.Ed.</i> Ms. Leslie Zimmerman, <i>B.App.Sci. (Sp.Path.)</i> Dr. Susanne Dopke, <i>Ph.D., M.A. (Sp.Path.)</i>
Occupational Therapist	Ms. Leah Picking, <i>Bach.O.T.</i>
Computer consultant	Mr. Colin Donald, <i>Dip.Arts, Gr.Dip.Bus.Comp.</i>
Office Manager	Ms. Eve Chapman, <i>B.Sc., Dip.Ed.</i>

This year we have been happy to welcome Susanne Dopke to the therapy team. Susanne has a doctorate in linguistics in addition to her speech pathology qualification, and has particular expertise in working with children from bilingual backgrounds.

Sadly the time has come to farewell Sean O'Connor, who has provided us with expert technical support since DEAL opened in 1986. During this time Sean has devised many communication aids, switches and switch mounts as well as repairing communication aids and building shelves and computer tables. His input has been invaluable for both clients and staff.

Fortunately we still have the voluntary services of Bruce Marks, a retired accountant who manages the office on Mondays and looks after our books. We are very grateful to Bruce and to Ben Ruschinek, our honorary auditor, for their help and guidance.

And as ever, the DEAL committee has supported the staff in many ways.

My thanks go to you all.

Rosemary Crossley, Director



DEAL – Management Committee 2003-2004

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 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 14th, 2004 was:

Executive

President	Ms Amanda Ducrou, B.A./LL.B., M.B.A.
Vice-President	Ms Margaret Batt, L.A.C.S.T
Treasurer	Mr Chris Borthwick, B.A., LL.B.
Secretary	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 Leanne Leggo, M.U.M.
Ms Anne McDonald, B.A.
Mr Bruce Marks, C.A.
Mr John Perry, T.P.T.C., T.Sp.P.C.



DEAL COMMUNICATION CENTRE INC.

Statement of Financial Performance

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
INCOME		
Grants-Government	0	0
Grants-Foundations	15000	19700
Seminars & Consulting	19788	28905
Donations	189263	184954
Membership	1113	561
Interest	1417	4301
Sale of Materials	2007	1520
Sundries	0	132
Bike Ride (Net of Expenses)	65763	34499
Big Mouth Camp	<u>11561</u>	<u>4537</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>305912</u>	<u>279109</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Communication Equipment	11576	18050
Depreciation Office Equipment	375	353
Rent	14170	12090
Salaries	192504	178096
Superannuation	15830	16046
Workcover	2790	2130
Conferences	590	3160
Cleaning	294	170
Computer Consumables	3339	1407
Gas, Light & Power	1324	1544
Insurance	7689	7366
Postage & Freight	1406	1235
Repairs-Office Equipment	855	0
Security	492	369
Stationery & Printing	2234	2427
Subscriptions	171	192
Telecommunications	2201	1874
Travel	6069	16872
Sundries	1115	1822
Provision for Long Service Leave	<u>4750</u>	<u>9605</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>269774</u>	<u>274808</u>
SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR YEAR	<u>36138</u>	<u>4301</u>

Preliminary – Subject to Audit Confirmation

DEAL COMMUNICATION CENTRE INC.

Statement of Financial Position

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank	185089	64889
Investment Funds	0	100000
Cash on Hand	0	0
Debtors	3376	4141
Other Debtors	19784	0
<input type="radio"/> Prepayments	0	2127
Office Furniture (At Cost)	8871	7055
Less: Provision for Depreciation	<u>1062</u>	<u>-687</u>
Written down value	<u>7809</u>	<u>6368</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>216058</u>	<u>177525</u>
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	1504	3859
Provision for Long Service Leave	<u>30605</u>	<u>25855</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>32109</u>	<u>29714</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>183949</u>	<u>147811</u>
<input type="radio"/> GENERAL FUNDS		
Balance at 1 July	147811	143510
Surplus for Year	<u>36138</u>	<u>4301</u>
BALANCE 30 JUNE	<u>183949</u>	<u>147811</u>

Preliminary -- Subject to Audit Confirmation

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Treasurer's Statement

In my opinion the attached draft Statement of Financial Performance gives a true and fair view of the results for the year ended 30 June 2004, and the draft Statement of Financial Position gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs at that date.



Chris Borthwick
Treasurer
14th October, 2004

Annual Report prepared for distribution prior to the Annual General Meeting
to be held at:
538 Dandenong Road, Caulfield
on Tuesday 14th October, 2004