



2023 / 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Post Polio Victoria Inc (PPV) was formed in 2011 and is a volunteer-managed and staffed advocacy and information group.

CONTENTS

PAGE NO

Cover page	01
Contents	02
President's Report	03-05
Our Mission, Vision, Values & Behaviours	06
Who we are	07
Committee of Management	08-09
Section 1 - Media & Communications	10-11
Section 2 - Advocacy	12
Section 3 - Alliances	12
Section 4 - Networks and Affiliations	13
Section 5 - Meetings / Partnerships	14
Section 6 - Membership	14
Section 7 - Strategic Plan	15
Section 8 - Financial Summary	16-17
Section 9 - Supporters	18
Contact Details PPV	19
Highlights from 2023 / 2024	20

President's Report 2023 -2024



Shirley Glance OAM
President PPV

Dear Post Polio Victoria Members and friends,

Last year, we finished on a high note with our award-winning documentary in the [Focus on Ability Nova Employment Award](#): We have shared this at every opportunity, speaking with Ministers at the Federal and State Levels, Lions Clubs, Rotary Clubs, Salvation Army, and Probus presentations. The City of Mooney Valley will be holding an event for International Day of People with Disability; PPV will be represented as part of a panel discussion about our documentary.

Reflecting on the year that's been: It has been rather stressful for the NDIS and The Aged Care sectors. The home care sector is included in this, leaving many participants in a state of instability regarding how it will affect them; the changes are not evident for both and are confusing for the consumers and their families. We at PPV are very concerned about these issues. Over the last twelve months, we have attended workshops, roundtable discussions, and conferences in Adelaide, Sydney and Hobart to help us understand how best to assist our members in navigating these issues and by sharing our lived experiences to highlight the needs of polio survivors to have equal access to services we need to live actively and independently.

Post Polio Victoria, attended conferences, meetings with Ministers at both State and Federal levels, and attended workshops and seminars to learn and understand how best to share the changes with our community; however, this is a revolving door and forever changing.

- ARIIA - Aged Care Industry & Research Innovation Australia, Facing the Future Living Well. Ageing Well, Dying Well - Adelaide
- DSC - Disability Services Consulting, Focused on NDIS and big-picture thinking simultaneously in Sydney
- The Hatchery Conference 'Preparing for The New Aged Care Act. - Sydney
- Neurological Alliance Australia – in Canberra

Whilst in Canberra, we had the opportunity to meet with Federal Ministers and advisors to put our case forward regarding the discrimination faced by polio survivors being excluded from the NDIS and not receiving adequate support from the Aged Care services; all we are asking for is quite simply this:

That the NDIS remove 'section 22.'

"The NDIS contains a provision (section 22) banning all disabled people over 65 from eligibility for the NDIS. The scheme was gradually rolled out by date and postcode and completed in 2016.

Shirley Glance OAM – President’s Report 2023 -2024 cont.

So, the ban was mainly applied to disabled people 65 years old or over in 2016. The government’s slogan seems to be: “Born 52, tickety boo, born before, out the door” Peter Freckleton.

Polio survivors have had their disability, known as “Infantile Paralysis”, since childhood, so it has nothing to do with their 65th birthdays, and yet, bizarrely, many have been banned from NDIS support. That is unjust and discriminatory, as government spokespersons have admitted.

This cruel discrimination is contrary to both the official NDIS eligibility lists.

List A: Conditions that are likely to meet the disability requirements [1] and

List B: Conditions that are likely to result in a permanent impairment [2]

In List A, the NDIS accepts Item 5, “Spinal cord injury or brain injury resulting in paraplegia, quadriplegia or tetraplegia.” Infantile Paralysis as a result of polio falls within that category.

List B includes Post-polio Syndrome explicitly.

Accordingly, we believe that polio survivors have been denied NDIS support far too long and must be exempted from the age ban.”

We have been advocating for this for over five years. However, as an organisation, we will not give up on this; we hope that we can look forward to making a breakthrough in the future. We need your support to do this and help us fight for the cause. Currently, there is a Class Action Clarification—Purpose: To end the NDIS ban against people with disabilities over 65 years old. This is still in progress.

Robyn Abrahams and Susan Shaab attended the 57th Australian Association of Gerontology (AAG) Conference in Hobart, which was themed "Fresh Air, Fresh Thinking." Robyn presented at The President’s Symposium as part of a panel on "Good Spirit, Good Life." Her presentation was well received, and she had lots of questions afterwards.

Peter Freckleton has taken his case to the UN Age discrimination complaints on the NDIS age cap taken to the United Nations. He is waiting to hear the outcome of this, and we will keep you posted; [please see the full article here:](#)

Our strategic plan for 2024-2027 was completed during the year, and I would like to thank Robyn Abrahams and Anne Wright for facilitating the process. We had lively discussions focusing on the positive outcome of continuing to advocate, educate, and promote to our members and the wider community the importance of appropriate care for people living with polio/post-polio syndrome for the next three years and beyond.

Shirley Glance OAM – President’s Report 2023 -2024 cont.

We have made submissions on behalf of PPV to:

- [Submission to the call for inputs on the 2030 Agenda of Sustainability Agenda](#)
- [Department of the Senate, in response to the Aged Care Act](#)
- [Aged Care Legislative Reform Branch](#)

Individuals have also made personal submissions based on lived experiences, and we thank them for their support.

We are excited to announce that we are now formally aligned with Neurological Alliance Australia NAA and the Australian Federation of Disability Organisation AFDO. This collaboration strengthens our advocacy and amplifies our voice in the community.

Navigating the changes has been challenging. We have worked tirelessly, meeting with many politicians and speaking engagements to spread the word. As a committee, everyone has put in a great effort this year. However, I would like to acknowledge particularly Peter Freckleton and Robyn Abrahams for their unwavering commitment to our advocacy work, Anne Wright for keeping us on our toes with our finances, Susan Shaab for taking the minutes, and Jeff Stewart for taking on the editorship of the newsletters and bulletins, all the above would not have been able to be done without the support of dedicated committee members, Deb Colville, Petra Quinlin-Turner and Geoff Dean who challenge us with questions and help us make important decisions that make an impact on our outcomes.

Also, a big thank you to Carol and Sue for their administrative support.

Thank you to our donors, sponsors, and friends of PPV. Without your financial assistance, none of the above would have been accomplished.



Our Mission

Through engagement and collaboration with communities we will advocate for best outcomes and equal and equitable access for people with polio to enable all to thrive

Our Vision

People and polio, Uniting and thriving

Our Values

Principles - Inclusion - Acceptance - Equality - Advocacy
Integrity - Education

Our Behaviours

Purpose: We act with purpose in all our activities.

Openness: We are open to all thoughts, ideas, and possibilities to achieve excellence and best practice outcomes for individuals with polio, both young and old.

Learning: We will promote and utilise learning in all activities.

Integrity: We will conduct all aspects of PPV with Integrity.

Originality: We will promote originality in our advocacy and problem solving to achieve best practice outcomes.

Who we are

Post Polio Victoria Inc (PPV) is a volunteer-managed and staffed advocacy and information group. It was formed in 2011 and has over 300 members, most of whom are people with polio.

PPV is managed by a Management Committee primarily composed of people with polio. Under its constitution, two-thirds of the Committee, the President, and the Vice President must be people with polio.

PPV's mission is to support people with polio so they can live as fully in the community as possible. There are an estimated over 40,000 people with polio in Australia. It seeks to do so by:

- Through engagement and collaboration with communities, we will advocate for the best outcomes and equal and equitable access for people with polio to enable all to thrive.
- Advocating on behalf of people with polio to levels of government, health institutions and health providers
- Providing information to people with polio concerning the provision of health services, government support and self-help
- Educating and raising awareness amongst health service providers and government about the health and support needs of people with polio

PPV has DGR status. While focused on Victoria, we have connected with polio associations worldwide; we are involved with Polio Australia and liaise with our interstate equivalents and polio support groups in Victoria.

PPV's achievements include:

- Participation in the AAG/PPV 2022 Conference
- Representing Victoria before the 2012 Federal Parliamentary Inquiry into Post Polio
- Partnering with St Vincent's Hospital to produce protocols for the hospital to guide their staff and consultants in working with people with polio
- Providing Monthly Newsletters/information to our members and Annual Reports
- Advocating Federal and State Ministers and parliamentarians on issues affecting people with polio
- AFTA Alliance for equal access to assistive technology
- WWDA – Women with Disability Australia “Endorsement statement ‘everybody with a disability is at risk of 2nd class treatment, and children, especially, can be denied”
- Submission to the Royal Commission ‘Against the Exclusion of Polio Survivors from the NDIS
- Response to the Regulation Impact Statement Consultation Proposal to include minimum accessibility standards for housing in the National Construction Code

OUR COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

As at 2023/2024



Shirley Glance OAM - is the current President of PPV. She continues to advocate in the community not only for polio survivors, but for the rights of people with disability. Currently a consumer advisor committees at Monash Health, Breast Screen Service Quality and assurance, Disability Consumer Advisory Group as well as Breast Screen Victoria and for the Audiology Australia.



Deb Colville - Committee Member - Consumers health governance is Deb's thing. An ophthalmologist, Graduate of Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD)



Geoff Dean - Committee member - former President and Treasurer. Geoff has supported PPV financially and always supports PPV in their advocacy education.



Dr. Peter Freckleton - is the current **Vice President** of PPV. He is also a barrister, expert in legal translation, and frequent letter to the editor author on issues of disability rights. As a Polio Survivor and committee member, Peter has made great progress and represented PPV advocating for change to the existing NDIS.



Petra Quinlan-Turner is a former GP, who has worked in Europe and Australia. She completed a Master of Public Health at the University of Melbourne, where she started collaborating with PPV Inc. on her Master's thesis. She is delighted to continue the work she started with PPV Inc. as a committee member.



Robyn Abrahams - Secretary RN, RM, Cert In Care, B.Ed St. our Secretary and retired. Registered critical-care nurse & midwife. Worked as a Man. Consult in Health & Aged Care as a change agent and educator to achieve best practice. National Older Persons Representative, Group member of OPAN. involved in many activities related to the advocacy of aging. A polio survivor with Post Polio Syndrome, dedicating her time to Polio Survivor Advocacy and the work of Post Polio Victoria as the Board Secretary.



Susan Shaab - I am a Committee Member and support PPV by attending rallies for accessible and affordable housing, suggesting additions to PPV's submissions to Government Enquiries, and taking Committee meeting minutes.



Anne Wright - Treasurer is a leader in health care and has had more than 20 years' experience in the public health sector. Whilst working full time, Anne is a committed committee member.



Jeff Stewart - Committee Member - working in telecommunications and manufacturing, Jeff changed to University teaching. Jeff worked with universities seeking "life experience" examples of living with Polio survivors, as well being available for clinical and community meetings to talk about Polio and PPS.

OUR COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT (Cont.)

Shirley Glance OAM	President	2023-2024
Dr Peter Freckleton	Vice President	2023-2024
Robyn Abrahams	Secretary	2023-2024
Anne Wright	Treasurer	2023-2024
Deb Colville	Committee Member	2023-2024
Deborah Ellks	Committee Member	Resigned 05/12/2023
Geoff Dean	Committee Member	2023-2024
Petra Quinlan-Turner	Committee Member	2023-2024
Susan Shaab	Committee Member	2023-2024
Jeffrey Stewart	Committee Member	2023-2024



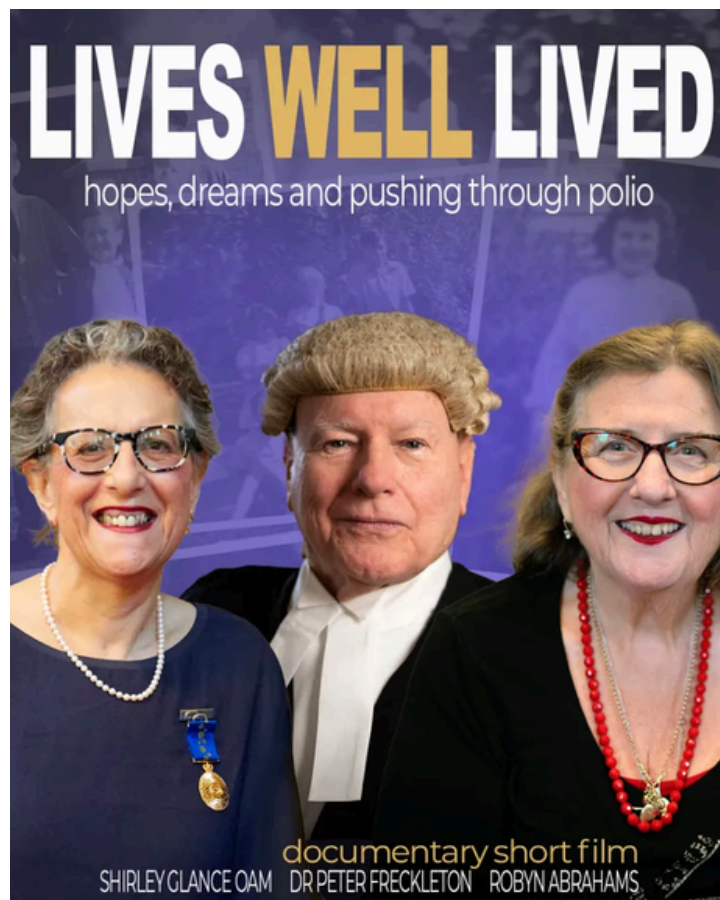
Carol Francis is employed by PPV as Admin Support. Carol supports the PPV with membership, correspondence, Monthly Newsletters and Bulletins, website management, social media, and Public Relations

SECTION 1

Media & Communications

Increased social media and network coverage, including representation on;

- Focus on Ability International's winning documentary “Lives Well Lived”
- PPV President - Shirley Glance – Q&A
- PPV Vice President – Peter Freckleton - The Project
- PPV Secretary – Robyn Abrahams – Nine News
- Committee Member – Jeffrey Stewart – Ballarat News



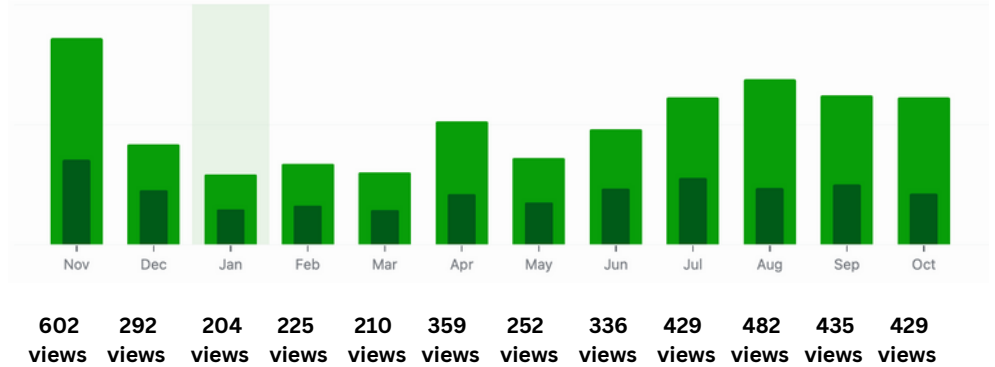
SECTION 1

Media & Communications Cont.

As PPV continues into 2024, our content via our web site, FB, Instagram, and radio will continue to grow in hope that we can attract a larger audience, more members and drive the conversation so that we are not the forgotten people

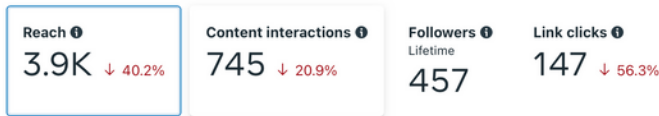
PPV Website statistics - based on 01 Nov 2023 to 31 Oct 2024

- Total number of clicks - 3255
- Most Popular Pages
 - Welcome to PPV
 - Home
 - Donate to PPV
 - Our People



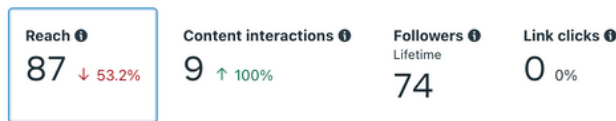
Facebook Engagement

Performance



Instagram Engagement

Performance



X Engagement-previously Twitter

- 40 Followers

You Tube Engagement

- 9 Subscribers
- 12 videos
- 1549 views

SECTION 2

Advocacy

Advocacy Engagement to date

- Participation in Disability Doesn't Discriminate campaign (ongoing)
- PPV Statement against Independent Assessments
- Zoom meetings and cooperation with other advocacy groups
- Support for Human Rights complaints accepted by the Australian Human Rights Commission

Continue our work lobbying for polio, and NDIS access regardless of age.

1. Submissions to Royal Commission as individuals and joint
2. Statement NDIS BAN - Post Polio Victoria (PPV) condemns the unconscionable exclusion from the NDIS of people with disabilities who happen to be over 65 at the time of applying for access.
3. Accessible Housing
- 4.. Class Action

Members have submitted personal submissions

SECTION 3

Alliances 2023-2024

- Australian Association of Gerontology (AAG) People With Disability Australia (PWDA) Disability & Disaster Planning
- Elder Right Advocacy (ERA)
- Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN)
- Dr Catherine Barrett, Director Celebrate Aging Ltd
- AFDO – Australian Federation of Disability Organisation
- NAA – Neurological Alliance Association

SECTION 4

Networks and Affiliations

Polio Australia

Peter Freckleton, Vice President, represents Post Polio Victoria on the Polio Australia Board. He has been liaising with the PA Board members and formulating arguments for including polio survivors in the NDIS, Class Action, and Human Rights Advocacy.

Australian Association of Gerontology (AAG)

Robyn Abrahams & Susan Shaab attended the 57th Annual AAG Conference. Robyn presented at The President's Symposium as part of a panel looking at Good Spirit, Good Life. We want to thank AAG for allowing PPV to be part of the panel. [Please read more here...](#)



Other Affiliations and members

- Polio Australia
- Polio NSW
- Polio SA
- Polio Quebec
- PNV - Polio Network Victoria
- AFDO – Australian Federation of Disability Organisations
- ERA – Elder Rights Advocacy
- PHI – Post-Polio Health International
- PWDA – People with Disability Australia
- Neurological Alliance Association

SECTION 5

Meetings / Partnerships

Meetings with Polio Services Victoria – St Vincent’s Hospital

I am pleased to say that our network meetings with Polio Services Victoria (PSV), Polio Australia (PA) & Polio Network Victoria (PNV) are continuing.

This is an excellent opportunity for the 4Ps to discuss how best to reach out and work with polio survivors. We share our knowledge to provide better services and support for our community.

This is an important platform for discussion, and working collaboratively is in the interests of all involved. Over the past year, we at PPV have had numerous calls requesting assistance on whom people can speak to. We have directed them to PSV, and the feedback that we have received has been positive and positive outcomes for the client and all concerned.

I would like to thank Devalina from PA, Bev Watson from PNV, Denise Curie, the Coordinator of PSV, and, not least, MegMarmo from St Vincents.

Shirley Glance OAM
OAM Chair

SECTION 6

Membership

Our membership has remained steady over the past twelve months. PPV has 350 members, and our monthly outreach is over 500. This includes PPV friends and our FB and Instagram followers.

Each member receives monthly bulletins/newsletters containing all things Polio and updates on the excellent advocacy work PPV is involved in yearly, including any partnership updates, workshop involvement, Age Care, housing for disability updates, submissions, the fight to change the existing NDIS, and our submissions to the Aged Care Act.

We welcome feedback from our members and are always available to answer their questions or concerns about a family member who has survived Polio.

Over the last twelve months, we have received many calls from our members wanting to just speak to someone who understands their issues and talk to someone who understands.

SECTION 7

Strategic Plan

Forward from the President

It gives us great pleasure to share our new and updated strategic plan for the ensuing three years.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of Post Polio Victoria for their ongoing support, our sponsors, who provide much-needed financial support, and the board, who work tirelessly to improve and advocate for the polio survivor community.

As we enter a new agenda, it would be remiss of us not to acknowledge the efforts and achievements of all who have worked over the last three years, during which we have achieved a lot.

We have contributed to policy and design impacting public and disabled access to buildings and public spaces resulting in the Platinum building standards being implemented in Victoria. Working to ensure we are not discriminated because of age has seen us gain United Nations support for anti-discrimination and we are a major participant in the class actions with Mitrys Lawyers regarding the unlawful discrimination by exclusion of over 65s into the NDIS. We have had many advocacy opportunities and presented at conferences, made short films and won awards for bringing the voice of people with polio to the forefront and can say that PPV is consulted with and an active member across many other chronic disease and advocacy groups.

In our next three years, we will continue our very important advocacy work to ensure our members are represented and receive equitable access to all health care. We will also bolster the education that we provide to our members, ensuring they have information at hand and know how to best support themselves.

Seeking to promote post-polio syndrome and other chronic diseases to ensure our policy makers and service providers can supply what is needed, and that this is shared amongst those other organisations seeking to ensure equitable health care whom we are affiliated with, whilst working to ensure our sustainability.

We are most grateful to our sponsors and benefactors, without whom we could not help people and polio unite and thrive.

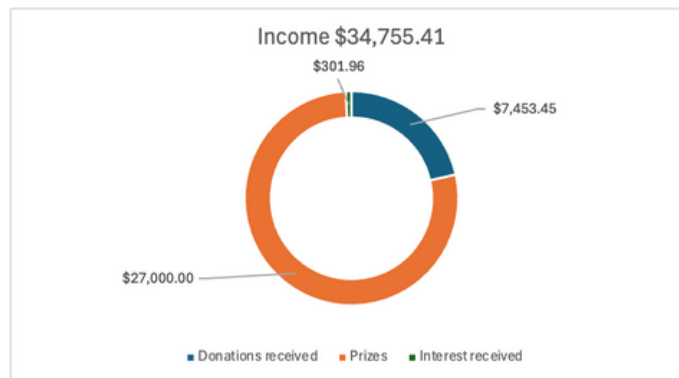
Shirley Glance OAM
President

**To view Strategic Plan 2024 – 2027 please go to Post Polio VIC. website
www.postpoliovictoria.org.au under Reports/Plans /Strategic
Plans/Strategic Plan – 2024 – 2027**

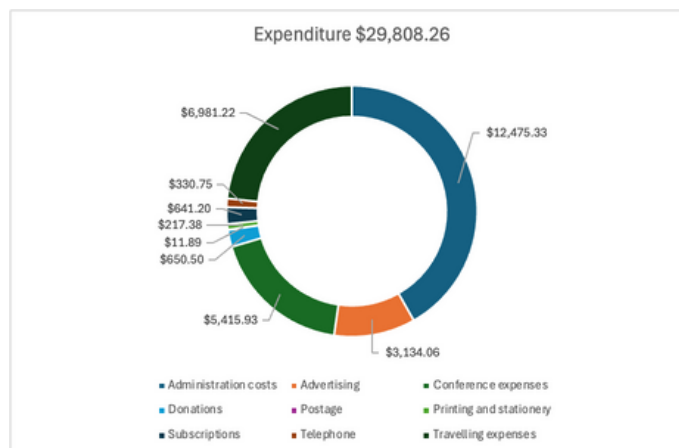
SECTION 8

Financial Summary 01 July 2023 - 30 June 2024

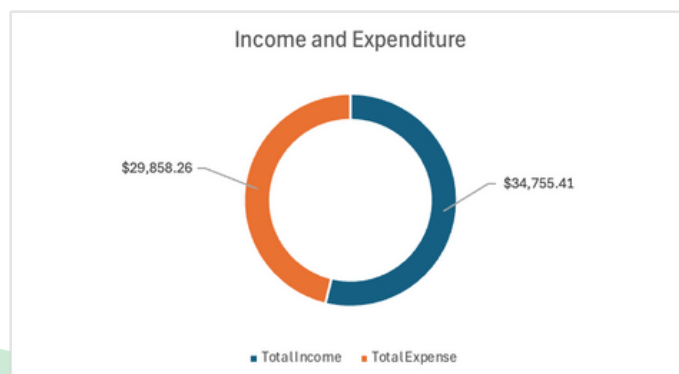
PPV has once again had an extraordinarily busy year. As our President Shirley will have reported, conferences, advocacy, affiliations and presentations. Pleasingly, our financial year activity reached higher income than previous years. Donations reached just over seven thousand and of course, the prize money from the Nova film festival hitting our accounts in November resulting in an additional twenty-seven thousand dollars. Our total income for the year reached just over thirty thousand dollars, thanks to our generous sponsors and the hard work of the board, and especially our President.



Our expenditure went largely to running the business and keeping our members up to date with newsletters, bulletins, updated and more accessible website and other communications which can be seen in the administrative fees, and towards our advocacy work which is reflected in the conferences and travel fees.



Overall, we have ended the financial year with a healthy bank balance of \$44,486.96.



SECTION 8

Financial Summary (continued)

Post Polio Victoria Inc Balance Sheet As of June 30, 2024

	<u>Jun 30, 24</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
BBL Debit Card ..92683	989.07
Bendigo Bank Trading account	1,461.51
Sandhurst Cash Fund 216592741	16,737.70
BBL TD 210149241	25,298.68
Total Chequing/Savings	<u>44,486.96</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>44,486.96</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>44,486.96</u>
LIABILITIES	<u>0.00</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>44,486.96</u>
EQUITY	
Opening Bal Equity	39,589.81
Net Income	4,897.15
TOTAL EQUITY	<u>44,486.96</u>

Post Polio Victoria Inc Profit & Loss July 2023 through June 2024

	<u>Jul 23 - Jun 24</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Prizes	27,000.00
Donations received	7,453.45
Interest received	301.96
Total Income	<u>34,755.41</u>
Expense	
Administration costs	12,475.33
Advertising	3,134.06
Conference expenses	5,415.93
Donations	650.50
Postage	11.89
Printing and stationery	217.38
Subscriptions	641.20
Telephone	330.75
Travelling expenses	6,981.22
Total Expense	<u>29,858.26</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>4,897.15</u>
Net Income	<u>4,897.15</u>

SECTION 9

Supporters

Sincere thanks this year goes to:

- NOVA Employment - Focus on Ability

Our Supporters

Thank you to those Individuals & businesses who have supported PPV including:

- Bayside Polio Support Group
- Liz Telford OAM & Ron Exiner
- Jill Burn
- Peter Willcocks
- Friends of PPV and Volunteers

Thank you to our regular and new donors over the year, without your support, we would not be able to continue our advocacy

Proudly supported by:



Contact Us

Shirley Glance OAM

President

Post Polio Victoria Inc.



0431 702 137



info@postpoliovictoria.org.au



www.postpoliovictoria.org.au

Carol Francis

Admin Support

Post Polio Victoria Inc.



postpoliovictoria@gmail.com



www.postpoliovictoria.org.au

Registration



Post Polio Victoria is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

Highlights from 2023 / 2024



**National Summit on Neurological Conditions
at Parliament House, Canberra**



**DSC Annual NDIS 2024 & The Hatcher/COTA
Preparing for the New Aged Care Act, Sydney**



Paws for Polio Walk



Blackburn Lions Club



**Aged Care Research & Industry Innovation
Australia Conference**



**Salvation Army
Mt Waverley**



**Probuss Group,
Mt Waverley**



**Greensborough
Salvation Army**



**Nick McGowan,
Member of Vic.
Legislative Assembly**