



CITY OF BALLARAT
**Annual Partnerships
and Grants Report
2022/23**



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The City of Ballarat acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land we live and work on, the Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung People, and recognises their continuing connection to the land and waterways.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend this to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

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Executive Summary

Welcome to the 2022/23 Annual Partnerships and Grants Report.

The City of Ballarat Partnerships and Grants Program supports recipients to deliver quality programs, events, projects and services which benefit the Ballarat community and visitors and brings a range of social, environmental and economic returns to the City.

In 2022/23, 121 new applications were received, and fifteen Strategic Partnerships were in place through their multi-year agreements. Total payments to the value of \$1,267,416.23 were made to 74 organisations. The itemised grant funding paid out in 2022/23 is as follows:

- Strategic Partnerships Grants a sum of \$834,489.50 was paid out to 13 organisations with one organisation being paid through the Tourism Events Grants budget.
- Community Impact Grants a sum of \$277,926.73 was paid out to 47 organisations.
- Tourism Events Grants a sum of \$155,000 was paid out to 14 organisations, and includes payment for one Strategic Partnership.

Grant funding programs in 2022/23, for new applications were offered across three categories: City Partnerships, Community Impact Grants and Tourism Events Grants, providing funds to a diverse range of groups and organisations with strong connections to the Ballarat community.

Funding agreements for 2022/23 can be categorised across several sectors that the funding is providing support to, these sectors include:

- Arts and Events 32 percent of funding
- Infrastructure and Asset Management 24 percent
- Sport 22 percent
- Education and Development 18 percent
- Business and Commerce four percent

There was a slight increase in applications received in 2022/23 with an increase also noted in successful applications. Community Impact Grants received 75 applications, with 47 applications awarded at an approval rate of 66 percent, this increase is up from 61 percent in 2021/22. Tourism Events Grants received 23 applications, with 14 applications awarded at an approval rate of 61 percent, this increase is also up from 50 percent in 2021/22.

In 2022/23, the Strategic Partnership Program was discontinued in its current form going forward, with funding continuing to all existing partnerships until

their expiration dates. Following a review, the Strategic Partnership Program was renamed and replaced with the new City Partnership Program, which opened for new applications in October 2022 and attracted 23 submissions. Assessment of the 23 applications was finalised at the end of the June 2023 and will be reviewed, processed and budgeted in the 2023/24 financial year.

Grant writing workshops for the Community Impact Grants were conducted by Ballarat East Neighbourhood House and provided to community groups and organisations as part of the application process. The workshops assisted in developing writing skills, with a particular focus on addressing the grant guidelines. In 2022/23, four workshops were delivered, with 74 participants registered and 56 participants attending. Of the 47 successful applications for 2022/23, 13 of those community groups or organisations attended one of the four workshops, presenting 28 percent of applicants that attended workshops were successful.

The Partnerships and Grants Policy and associated guidelines are reviewed annually, with 2022/23 seeing some changes in the timing for grant programs and assessments of applications. The new City Partnerships Program applications are now reviewed by an assessment panel with a recommendation report presented to Council for approval. Tourism Events Grants remained open all year with assessment and approvals taking place each month, this provided a more flexible approach for applicants planning and delivering events in Ballarat. Community Impact Grants offered the same level of funding over a reduced number of two rounds which saw an increase in application numbers and quality.

The online grants management software, SmartyGrants was relatively new in 2022/23 and has provided the City of Ballarat with the opportunity for more efficient, effective and transparent management of the grants programs, from application to acquittal. There is more work to be done in this space to continue to enhance the user experience and improve the reporting mechanisms, however significant progress has been made through monitoring, evaluating, and training of the system.

This report will give an overview of grant recipients including community benefits and project outcomes from the funding received, and the strategies being put in place to ensure continuous improvement.



Introduction

Each of the funding categories have specific objectives for offering grant funding with the overarching principle that grant funding connects Council and the community through strong partnerships and provide benefits to our diverse and inclusive community.

Strategic Partnerships Program (discontinued with all existing partnerships to be funded as per their agreement until expiry)

This program was a large grant program designed to fund initiatives aligning with the Council Plan, Health and Wellbeing Plan and the Council Grants Policy. The program accommodated funding in excess of \$20,000 and allowed for multi-year funding agreements.

City Partnerships Program (replacing Strategic Partnerships)

This is a large grant partnership program designed to fund initiatives aligning to deliver Council identified priorities. The partnership program is divided into two streams of funding, community and commercial, and is open once per year for applications. It has the capacity to accommodate funding exceeding \$20,000 and allows for funding over three years. The 2023/24 financial year will be the first reporting year for this grant category.

Community Impact Grants

A broad grant program that supports not-for-profit community groups to deliver projects, programs and events that provide a great benefit to the community.

This program funds activities that promote community participation and connection, healthy lifestyles and community resilience.

In 2022/23, the Community Impact Grants program was run over two rounds with funding available up to \$20,000 in value for each application in each round. There was also the addition of a simpler application process designed for community groups applying for grants under \$2,000.

Tourism Events Grants

This is a program to support tourism events and activities that advance and encourage increased visitation, participation and yield across the Ballarat Municipality.

This program supports events and activities that market the municipality as a tourism destination of choice.

Grants were available to apply for each month with up to \$20,000 available for each application.

Strategic Partnerships Program

The Strategic Partnerships Program provides funding to organisations or businesses to run projects that meet strategic objectives of the Council Plan, Health and Wellbeing Plan and other plans and strategies of Council.

In April 2022, Councillors resolved that a review of the Strategic Partnerships Policy be undertaken. The recommendation report was presented to Council in August 2022 and as a result, the Strategic Partnerships Program ceased to take new applications with all existing partnerships remaining until their expiry date. The City Partnerships Program replaced the Strategic Partnerships Program with a new Partnerships and Grants Policy endorsed. The first City Partnerships Grants opened in October 2022 with 23 applications received. The successful applicants were announced in July 2023 and will subsequently be reported in the Annual Partnerships and Grants Report for 2023/24.

There were 15 Strategic Partnerships in place for 2022/23. Seven existing partnerships will continue through to next year, while eight partnerships concluded. Of the 15 partnerships for 2022/23, 13 organisations were paid a combined total of \$844,489.50 with the following exceptions:

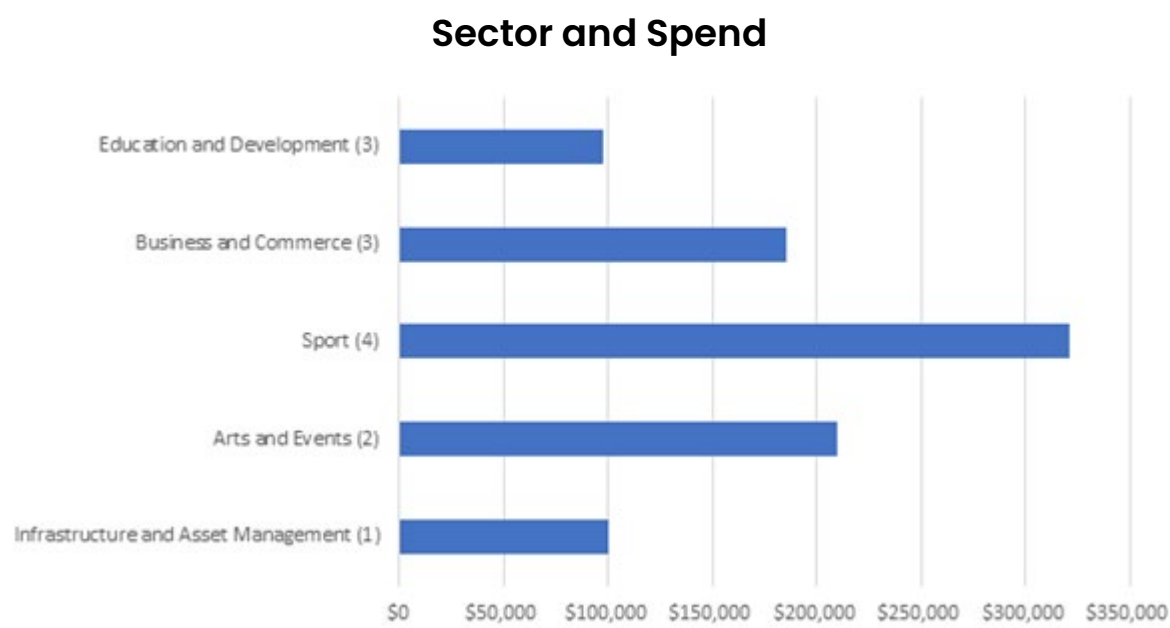
- One partnership, Ballarat Sports Foundation was postponed due to COVID-19 and an amended agreement was developed to recommence March 2023. No funding was paid in 2022/23.
- One partnership, Rock Ballarat cancelled their event in 2022/23, therefore this agreement concluded in June 2023. No funding was paid in 2022/23.
- One partnership, Carols by Candlelight was paid \$10,000 from the Tourism Events budget, however it is included in the above total funding of \$844,489.50.

The below table shows the Strategic Partnerships and the expiration dates of each agreement.

Ongoing Strategic Partnerships	Expiry Date
Ballarat International Foto Biennale	June 2024
Ballarat Mechanics Institute	July 2024
Ballarat Cricket Association	June 2025
Ballarat Sports Foundation *Due to COVID-19 this partnership agreement was amended to recommence in March 2023. Currently awaiting signed agreements. No funding was paid in 2022/23	June 2025
Clemente Partnership	June 2025
Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Inc.	July 2025
Rowing Victoria	June 2028
Expired Strategic Partnerships	
The Sovereign Hill Museums Association Ltd.	July 2022
Ballarat Basketball Association	October 2022
Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society	December 2022
Royal South Street Society	December 2022
Carols by Candlelight *An addendum was added to the original agreement to extend for an additional year due to COVID-19 cancellation of an event	June 2023
Midlands District Amateur Swimming Association Inc.	June 2023
Rock Ballarat *Due to this event not proceeding in 2022/23, this agreement concluded June 2023. No funding was paid in 2022/23	June 2023
Runway Ballarat	June 2023



Strategic Partnerships grants can be categorised into relevant sectors which the funding benefits. The below table outlines the funding amount spent in each sector across the 2022/23 Strategic Partnerships.



The following section of this report contains a profile on each of the Strategic Partnerships providing an overview of the project, the community benefits and amount allocated over the agreed period of time.



Ballarat International Foto Biennale

The Ballarat International Foto Biennale partnership was formed to enable the delivery of the 2021 and 2023 Biennale Events. Held every two years, the Ballarat International Foto Biennale Event showcases work from domestic and international photographic artists. Founded in 2005, the Ballarat International Foto Biennale is a world-class event that continues to evolve, expand and attract curious audiences and, importantly, renowned photographic artists from across the globe to provide a festival that prompts the audience to question and be changed by photographic art. Since its inception, Ballarat International Foto Biennale has seen audiences grow to over 240,000 and has contributed to more than \$17 million in direct economic impact.

Key Outputs:

- More than 20 exhibitions for the Ballarat community to visit with a representation of over 111 photographers including 11 international artists.
- Eight First Nations photographic exhibitions including a new partnership with the National Aboriginal Photography Collective, BlakLens.
- Open program of free exhibitions in over 80 locations across Ballarat featuring photographs from artists of all ages, cultures, and abilities.
- Delivery of Ballarat International Foto Biennale education programs for primary, secondary, and tertiary students.
- Enhanced events program to engage visitors in meaningful exchange of ideas.
- New local business partnerships to showcase a range of Ballarat produce and services.

Community Benefits:

- With audiences growing to over 240,000, there is a significant economic impact to the Ballarat economy in the lead up to and during the festival.

- Expanded locations provide more variety and options to view the exhibitions.
- Through the Ballarat International Foto Biennale education programs, learning opportunities are presented for students.
- Increased promotion and opportunities for artists of all ages, cultures and abilities.

Sustainability and Legacy:

- An established reputation as Australia's most significant and prestigious photographic festival, ensuring continuity for the Ballarat community and economy.
- Ongoing opportunities for established and upcoming photography artists to showcase their work.
- Championing the work of local, national and international photographers.
- Masterclasses, competitions, community programs, interactive exhibitions are all offered as part of ongoing collaboration with artists and development.
- The development of a permanent gallery and art institution.

Milestones and Acquittal: All milestones have been complete, and the 2022/23 acquittal report was received and approved by Executive Manager Arts & Events, Jeff Johnson on 22 March 2023.

Total Funding Amount: The total funding amount over the four-year agreement will be \$800,000, with \$50,000 per year of in-kind support from City of Ballarat.



Ballaarat Mechanics Institute

Established in 1859, and independently run, the Ballaarat Mechanics Institute provides a library service lending heritage books and archives as well as discounts on events and hire. The Ballaarat Mechanics Institute hosts tours, cultural events, exhibitions and is now home to the Max Harris Photography Collection with curated displays to enjoy and purchase supporting the operations of the hub.

Key Outputs:

- Raised \$175,000 for the restoration, repair and display of items held in the Ballaarat Mechanics Institute Heritage Collection.
- Increased the total number of visitors in 2022/23 by 17% in comparison to the 2021/22 financial year.
- Expansion of the current range of programs and services including an increased program of live entertainment, community forums and presentations and training and mentoring programs.
- Improved management, administration and operational process to become a skills based organisation.

Community Benefits:

- The Ballaarat Mechanics Institute maintain a full library service, host public events and provide community activities and volunteer programs to support the Ballarat community.
- The community were able to access free masks and test kits during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- There has been an increase to the number of events and activities delivered for the community to access.
- The Ballaarat Mechanics Institute worked with The Wheeler Centre, Melbourne Comedy Festival and in Melbourne to have Ballarat included in their program of Community presentations.
- Provided a venue for City of Ballarat events whilst Her Majesties Theatre was undertaking renovations.

Sustainability and Legacy:

- Expanding services and improving operations through staff and volunteer investment has developed a more sustainable foundation for the Ballaarat Mechanics Institute.
- There is now a permanent calendar of community talks, forums and presentations.
- The development of relationships with local groups and community organisations to deliver ongoing programs.
- Restoration of the heritage building in the arts precinct of Ballarat provides more options for hosting significant events.
- A well-managed Heritage Book and Photographic collection recording the history of Ballarat available to the public.
- Ongoing support for local performers and small businesses through events, and programs.
- Ongoing active participation in Ballarat City Tourism events.

Milestones and Acquittal: All milestones have been complete, and the 2022/23 acquittal report was received and approved by Executive Manager Engaged Communities, Pete Appleton on 18 July 2022.

Total Funding Amount: The total funding amount over the three-year agreement will be \$135,000 each year for 3 years.



Ballarat Cricket Association

The Ballarat Cricket Association facilitates cricket for over 3000 participants across five municipalities surrounding the Ballarat area. The aim of the Strategic Partnership is to increase participation in junior and women's cricket. The Ballarat Cricket Association also provides guidance and training on turf wicket maintenance and ground preparation to local cricket clubs.

Key Outputs:

- Hosted Women's Big Bash League Carnival of Cricket at Eastern Oval in October 2022.
- Delivery of a three-day event, with five teams competing for the School Sports Australian National under 12 Cricket Championships held at on 19-26 November 2022.
- The requirement of all clubs to appoint a curator, passed by Ballarat Cricket Association to ensure the grounds are prepped and maintained to a high standard for competitions.
- Supported the establishment of an All-Abilities Team through the North Ballarat Cricket Club, with a total of 26 players becoming members and playing regular games in a Melbourne competition.
- Continued development of the Pathways for Girls participating in cricket with funding being directly used to promote and grow female participants. Junior girls' competition numbers have increased by 15 percent over the last seven years.

Community Benefits:

- The introduction of a Senior Women's competition, a 'Come and Try' event and a showcase of the T20 competition has provided the community with more opportunities to participate in or watch cricket in Ballarat.
- The development of an All-Abilities team has opened up opportunities to more inclusive participation in cricket.
- Improved turf wicket preparation through the installation of club curators and specific training has provided greater game options and assisted in the activation of the grounds to major cricket events.

Sustainability and Legacy:

- Ongoing pathways for cricket development with a focus on girls and boys programs, increasing participation across the region.
- Sustainable ground maintenance practices, activating more spaces to hold major cricket events attracting increased interest in participation.
- Development of an All-Abilities team provides greater opportunities for participation.

Milestones and Acquittal: All milestones have been complete, and the 2022/23 acquittal report was received and approved by Executive Manager Recreation Services, Mark Patterson on 25 May 2023.

Total Funding Amount: The total funding amount over the five-year agreement will be \$500,000.



Clemente Partnership

Ballarat's Clemente Program is a combined partnership between the Australian Catholic University Limited, Centacare Catholic Diocese of Ballarat, Federation University Australia, The Ballarat Foundation United Way Inc. and the City of Ballarat.

The Clemente Program provided fully funded and supported tertiary education in the Liberal Arts program to individuals who faced barriers in their pursuit of a tertiary education. The Clemente Program actively promotes inclusivity in a healthy and supportive, learning environment.

The Clemente Program opens doorways into further education and/or employment within the Ballarat community and beyond.

Key Outputs:

- In semester two of 2022, 12 students with a range of disadvantages and barriers accessing further education, enrolled in the full funded and supported Sociology course. Eight of these students were returning students and four were new students.
- For Semester one of 2023, nine current students have indicated they will re-enrol, highlighting the relatively high levels of student retention.
- There are six learning partners who volunteer their time to help guide Clemente students with their learning.

Community Benefits:

- There have been a number of students who have successfully graduated after studying for a number of years.
- Greater opportunities have been presented to students who faced challenges in enrolling to study.
- The Clemente Program provided students with a sense of self-worth and dignity.

Sustainability and Legacy:

- Since July 2008, the Ballarat Clemente Program joined other Clemente sites across Victoria, New South Wales, ACT and Queensland.
- Over the last 15 years, 188 students have completed the Clemente Program, with 14 students going on to complete their graduation.
- Ongoing support provided to students to further their education or seek employment in the region.

Milestones and Acquittal: All milestones have been complete, and the 2022/23 acquittal report was received and approved by Executive Manager Engaged Communities, Pete Appleton on 25 May 2023.

Total Funding Amount: The total funding amount over the five-year agreement will be \$75,000.



Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Inc.

The Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Inc. is a community-managed charity, based at Barkly Square, Ballarat East. The Strategic Partnership aims to support local community organisations to improve their governance. The City of Ballarat funding supports Neighbourhood House resources, training for a variety of topics including governance, grant writing, financial management, running effective meetings, managing volunteers, and applying for incorporation.

Key Outputs:

- Thirteen workshops have been held for the Ballarat community.
- 240 participant registrations, with 160 attendances.
- Over 90 community groups and organisations on a developed stakeholders list.
- Over 20 collaborations to assist in the delivery of the project.
- Individual support provided to 16 community groups and individuals seeking to establish a community group.
- Eight articles in the local press including the Ballarat Times and Ballarat Courier.

Community Benefits:

Upskilling of community groups and organisations presents:

- Improved program delivery for the participating community members.
- More efficient and effective use of time including meetings.
- Improved governance models to ensure community groups are compliant.
- Greater capacity for community groups and organisations to apply for grant opportunities.

Sustainability and Legacy:

- To provide ongoing opportunities, a dedicated page on the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House website has been set up for Community Governance support and resources.
- A community of practice group is currently being set up to provide community groups the opportunity to share ideas and network on a quarterly basis.
- The production of an annual calendar of free workshops has been developed to assist with community groups identifying opportunities.
- Continual upskilling of community groups and organisations increases diverse knowledge across a broad range of community members which introduces advocacy opportunities.

Milestones and Acquittal: All milestones have been complete, and the 2022/23 acquittal report was received and approved by Executive Manager Engaged Communities, Pete Appleton on 19 January 2023.

Total Funding Amount: The total funding amount over the three-year agreement will be \$333,784.



Rowing Victoria

Rowing Victoria is the governing body for rowing in Victoria, which includes the Ballarat region. The Strategic Partnership objectives are; to make rowing in Ballarat more accessible and enjoyable for the community, increase awareness of rowing and its benefits to the community, improve the support to clubs, schools and associations to serve the needs of their members, and provide an economic benefit to Ballarat.

Key Outputs:

- The delivery of the Ballarat Head of Lake event in February 2023, attracting 593 athletes competing in 32 events.
- Delivery of the Head of School Boys Championships in February 2023, attracting 1203 athletes from 21 schools in Victoria competing in 33 events. Approximately 2,700 people attended the event, the majority from across the state, contributing to an increased economic input into Ballarat.
- Delivery of the Ballarat and Wendouree Regatta in February 2023, attracting 911 athletes competing in 52 events. Approximately 4,300 people attended with a large proportion of visitors from outside of Ballarat, again contributing significantly to the local economy.

Community Benefits:

- Providing support for hosting rowing events at Lake Wendouree has encouraged greater interest in the sport.
- Offering high level competitions locally has provided a progression pathway for interested and talented athletes.
- Increased events provide the Ballarat community, visitors and spectators greater opportunities for participation.

Sustainability and Legacy:

- Stability in annual and regular events that are delivered in Ballarat contributing to the local economy.
- Provide ongoing support to local athletes through increased competitions and competition levels.
- Justification for the ongoing maintenance and improvement program designed to provide a high class eight lane rowing facility on Lake Wendouree.

Milestones and Acquittal: All milestones have been complete, and the 2022/23 acquittal report was received and approved by Executive Manager Recreation Services, Mark Patterson on 19 June 2023.

Total Funding Amount: The total funding amount over the ten-year agreement will be \$420,000.



The Sovereign Hill Museums Association Ltd.

Sovereign Hill is one of Victoria's premier tourist attractions driven by a mission to explore and explain as well as entertain visitors entering our 1850's goldfields site.

The Sovereign Hill Museums Association partnership with the City of Ballarat enabled two-years of delivering of the annual Winter Wonder lights festival, the Gnarrwirring Nigtj festival, heritage activities during the Heritage Festival and ongoing collections management for the Mayoral chains, Hansom Cab and numerous items in the Gold Museum collection store for the duration of the partnership.

Key Outputs:

- The 2022 Winter Wonder lights festival offered over 24 program event days during June and July 2022.
- During the Heritage Festival, Sovereign Hill participated in Craft Lab at the Mining Exchange, with an exhibit on the Rare Trades Centre.
- Heritage Harvest Weekend, delivered in partnership with Plate Up Ballarat and the City of Ballarat saw over 3,000 people visit Sovereign Hill. Visitors attended workshops and saw demonstrations, learning the traditional practices of fermenting, drying, salting, curing, pickling and distilling.

Community Benefits:

- Sovereign Hill is the principal visitor attraction in Ballarat and one of the largest attractions in regional Victoria.
- A key local employer with over 200 staff and a high level of volunteers.
- Total visitation for the Winter Wonder lights event was 96,640 visitors. 85,196 of those visitors were from outside of Ballarat.
- 85% of local accommodation providers, retail, attractions and cafes/restaurants advised business increased during the Winter Wonder lights events.

Sustainability and Legacy:

- The Winter Wonder lights event generated 91,442 overnight stays in Ballarat and contributed an estimated \$19M economic impact to the local economy.
- The Winter Wonder lights has become an annual event that attracts interstate and international visitors.

Milestones and Acquittal: All milestones have been complete, and the 2022/23 acquittal report has been received and approved by Executive Manager Visitor Economy, Sarah Pilgrim on 29 May 2023.

Total Funding Amount: The total funding amount over the two-year agreement was \$160,000.



Ballarat Basketball Association

Basketball Ballarat are committed to delivering community-based basketball programs, to grow participation and support the basketball pathways and competitions which exist throughout Ballarat and the Western Victoria Region. Basketball Ballarat also provides opportunities for the community to participate in sport across Netball, Volleyball and Badminton and importantly in non-sporting activities as the organisation partners with various not-for-profit groups to deliver their respective programs for groups such as older residents and the disability sector.

Key Outputs:

- Continued growth of participation through development opportunities. Currently more than 700 teams are competing in local sport each week.
- Delivery of 154 Community programs to local schools.
- Hosting the Australian Junior Championships with athletes and families attending from across Australia.
- Hosting the Victorian Country Championships event held across 5 days.
- Development of Elite Pathway programs for athletes from Ballarat and the Western District.
- Hosting the Harlem Globetrotters with over 3000 participants attending.
- Developed partnerships with key stakeholders to provide healthy menu options promoting healthy eating habits for participants.
- Participation in community events such as NAIDOC Week, IDAHOBIT Day and the promotion of key events such as the Begonia Festival.

- Hosted various basketball tournaments and games such as; the Women's National Basketball League game with Perth Lynx January 2022, the 2022 Australian Under-18 Championships & Kevin Coombs Cup held in April 2022, and the Ballarat Junior Basketball Tournament held in June 2023, with over 3,500 attendees (94 percent travelling from outside of the Ballarat region).

Community Benefits:

- With over 700 teams in Ballarat Basketball with participants ranging in age from 4 years to 60 years old, there are increased opportunities for inclusive involvement in the community.
- Worked with 39 Schools in Western Victoria conducting basketball and Healthy Living programs in relation to the Sporting Schools \$200 million Australian Government Initiative.
- The development of grassroots programs has a direct impact on over 6000 participants weekly.
- An Increase of 17 percent of female participation.

Sustainability and Legacy:

- Basketball Ballarat has and will continue to attract tournaments and events to increase participation opportunities and subsequently provide significant economic benefits to the local economy with over \$10M of economic output delivered each year.

Milestones and Acquittal: All milestones have been complete, and the 2022/23 acquittal report has been received and approved by Executive Manager Recreation Services, Mark Patterson on 1 February 2023.

Total Funding Amount: The total funding amount over the three-year agreement was \$378,000.



Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society

The Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society promotes agricultural and pastoral excellence and innovation through events, competition, and education programs. The Strategic Partnership with the City of Ballarat was for the delivery of ongoing services and the relocation of the Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society to their new site on Rosehill Road, Mt Rowan. The partnership is to ensure all opportunities for leveraging, and broader community benefit are captured.

Key Outputs:

- Land settlement for the new Showgrounds site on Rosehill Road in Mount Rowan was complete on 20 October 2020.
- A significant part of the planning and approval stages has been completed for the new Showgrounds Events Complex.
- Sewer, drainage works and site road upgrades have commenced.
- The grounds at Mount Rowan have continued to attract increasing numbers of horse clubs and individual riders that are utilising the indoor equestrian centre.
- Site works and building of the new multi- purpose South Pavilion have commenced.

Community Benefits:

- New and improved facilities and ovals to host the Ballarat Show.
- Ongoing opportunities for hiring and hosting events.
- When complete, the new showgrounds will have modern facilities and amenities to cater for a broader Ballarat community.
- The new showgrounds aim to have more safe family orientated spaces, all abilities access and spaces, improved equestrian facilities, improved and additional agricultural facilities and opportunities for more community groups to become involved.

Sustainability and Legacy:

- An improved and modern facility available for hire.
- Recreation spaces for community groups and organisations to use to increase participation.
- Enable the delivery of a more inclusive Ballarat Show that will increase opportunities for the Ballarat community to participate.

Milestones and acquittal: All milestones have been complete, and the 2022/23 acquittal report has been received and approved by Director Development and Growth, Natalie Robertson on 30 January 2023.

Total Funding Amount: The total funding amount over the five-year agreement was \$500,000.



Royal South Street Society

Royal South Street has grown to become one of the largest and the longest running performing arts eisteddfods in Australia. The Strategic Partnership funding has provided the opportunity to create greater levels of marketing and promotion of the Eisteddfod and expanding relationships with key stakeholders to improve the delivery of the event.

Key Outputs:

- In 2022, Royal South Street Society returned to a full calendar of events since COVID-19 including; the Schimmel Pianoforte Competition, the Herald Sun Aria, and the ACU Debating Challenge Cup all held in July 2022. Speech and Drama, and the Vocal Competition both held in August 2022, the Energetiks Dance Competition held in September 2022, and the Australian Calisthenics Competition held in September and November 2022.
- Appointment of a Business Operations Manager in June 2022 with a particular focus on marketing, promotions and sponsorship.

Community Benefits:

- Royal South Street Society holds 17 theatrical disciplines of voice, music, and movements, providing over 40,000 on-stage performance opportunities for artists from all over Australia.
- Increased performances for the Ballarat community to attend.
- Greater awareness of the calendar of events with increased promotions and marketing.

Sustainability and Legacy:

- Royal South Street began as a debating competition in 1891 and has grown to become one of the largest and longest running, ongoing performing arts eisteddfods in Australia.
- “Royal” status was granted in 1962 for service to the community, forming the Royal South Street Society, which is ongoing today and into the future.
- Currently in its 132nd year, the Royal South Street Society continues to foster performing arts and provide opportunities for artists local, interstate and international.

Milestones and Acquittal: All milestones have been complete, and the 2022/23 acquittal report was received and approved by Executive Manager Arts & Events, Jeff Johnson on 21 December 2022.

Total Funding Amount: The total funding amount over the four-year agreement was \$240,000.



Carols by Candlelight

The Ballarat Carols by Candlelight event has been a Christmas tradition in Ballarat for over 70 years. The December event encourages local talent and culture, and promotes social connectiveness. Each year the event continues to grow with over 10,000 local attendees in 2022. The Strategic Partnership provides funding with the aim to expand and enhance the Christmas event to enable greater participation in the event and increased opportunities for the community.

Key Outputs:

- Delivery of a high calibre event with over 10,000 local attendees in 2022.
- Promote Ballarat as a creative and cultural hub for Regional Victoria.
- Provide greater opportunities for artists and performers to be on the big stage at one of the most exciting times of the year.

Community Benefits:

- Partnering and supporting local community groups in event delivery.
- Providing a free family-based event for the community.
- Opportunities for homegrown talent who have started their performance journey at this event and are now performing professionally on a national and international level.
- Engaging local industry professionals to provide technical expertise to deliver the popular event.
- Involving local schools and performing arts academies providing opportunities to be on stage.

Sustainability and Legacy:

- Creating a financially sustainable event.
- Providing local food and beverage vendors to be a part of the event and benefit financially.
- Providing a reliable event for the community to enjoy each year.
- Ongoing opportunities for upcoming performers.

Milestones and Acquittal: All milestones were complete, and the 2022/23 acquittal report was received and approved by Executive Manager Arts & Events, Jeff Johnson on 2 March 2022.

Total Funding Amount: The total funding amount over the three-year agreement was \$45,000.



Midlands District Amateur Swimming Association Inc.

The Midlands District Amateur Swimming Association is the representative body for swimming in the Ballarat region. There are four clubs represented by the volunteer not for profit body, Midlands District Amateur Swimming Association. The peak body aims to promote swimming throughout Ballarat and District at competitive and social swimming levels. The Strategic Partnership was formed to deliver Championship swimming events including the Victorian Country Short Course Swimming Championships, and the All Junior Selections.

Key Outputs:

- Delivery of the 2022 Victorian Country Short Course Championships held at the Ballarat Aquatic and Lifestyle Centre in July 2022. This event attracted state-wide regional participation with 91 swimmers representing the Midlands District Amateur Swimming Association. 449 swimmers attended from outside the local district.
- Delivery of the 2022 Midlands District All Junior Selections, 2022 Midlands District 200-400m Distance Meet and 2022 Midlands District 16 Championships, to facilitate competitive swimming pathways in Ballarat.

Community Benefits:

- Financial support has enabled the delivery of events that provide opportunities for local swimmers to develop through competitions.
- Improved interest and progression opportunities to participate at state and national level competitions.
- A total of 27 swimmers aged eight to 11 attended a state competition in November 2022, improving their performance and opportunities.

Sustainability and Legacy:

- Better promotion of swimming both socially and competitively with the Midlands District.
- Hosting increased training opportunities and competitions for swimmers of all levels.
- Support of local athletes by providing high level competitions in Ballarat
- Facilitation of pathways and progression for elite swimmers.

Milestones and Acquittal: All milestones have been complete, and the 2022/23 acquittal report was received and approved by Executive Manager Recreation Services, Mark Patterson on 23 May 2023.

Total Funding Amount: The total funding amount over the two-year agreement was \$21,583.



Runway Ballarat

Runway HQ in Ballarat unearths and supports entrepreneurs by providing information and advice about starting and running a small business. Runway's Get READY, Get SET, GROW business industry training program is delivered in three stages, with each stage building on the outcomes of the previous stage. The Strategic Partnership supports the delivery of two rounds of the Get READY, Get SET, GROW training program, provide support for up to 20 local businesses and host two Flecknoe Building open days per year of the funding agreement.

Key Outputs:

- Delivery of two rounds of the Get READY, Get SET, and GROW business industry training program.
- Round One - Social Enterprises
- 15 applications accepted into Get READY with eight attending on the day.
- Six businesses accepted into Get SET, with four attending the sessions.
- four businesses went on to complete GROW.
- Round two - Creative Enterprises
- 19 Applications received and 13 businesses attended Get READY
- Eight businesses completed Get SET.
- Six went on to complete GROW.
- Host Flecknoe Building Open Days in October 2022 and March 2023. The open days saw industry providers attend to support and advise entrepreneurs.

Community Benefits:

- Attendance by several small business entrepreneurs providing valuable opportunities.
- Providing a platform to learn skills needed for new and growing social enterprises.
- Local training programs offered to small business increasing productivity.

Sustainability and Legacy:

- 34 applicant entrepreneurs were accepted into the Get READY, Get SET, and GROW business industry training program and benefited from the expert knowledge and training provided throughout the series.
- The Flecknoe Building open days connected providers and entrepreneurs.
- Ongoing support opportunities for small business.
- Long lasting network connections for entrepreneurs.

Milestones and Acquittal: All milestones were completed, and the 2022/23 acquittal report was received and approved by Acting Executive Manager Economic Growth, Kelli Moran on 16 December 2022.

Total Funding Amount: The total funding amount over the two-year agreement was \$127,608.

Community Impact Grants Program

The Community Impact Grants are for local community projects and initiatives which increase community participation, encourage connected communities, promote healthy lifestyles and build resilient communities. Community Impact Grants are not available over multiple years, although groups were welcome to submit multiple applications for different projects up to a maximum of \$20,000 of grant funding each financial year.

The Community Impact Grant Program addresses the Council Plan 2021-2025 key priorities:

- A healthy, connected inclusive community
- An environmentally sustainable future
- Community capacity building

All successful applications were required to address how their project aligned to the Council Plan key priorities.

Seventy-five applications to the Community Impact Grant program were received over two rounds in 2022/23. Total amount of funding requested was \$553,486.95. Of the 75 applications received, 47 were funded for an approval rate of 61 per cent, receiving a total of \$277,926.73 from a budget of \$300,000.

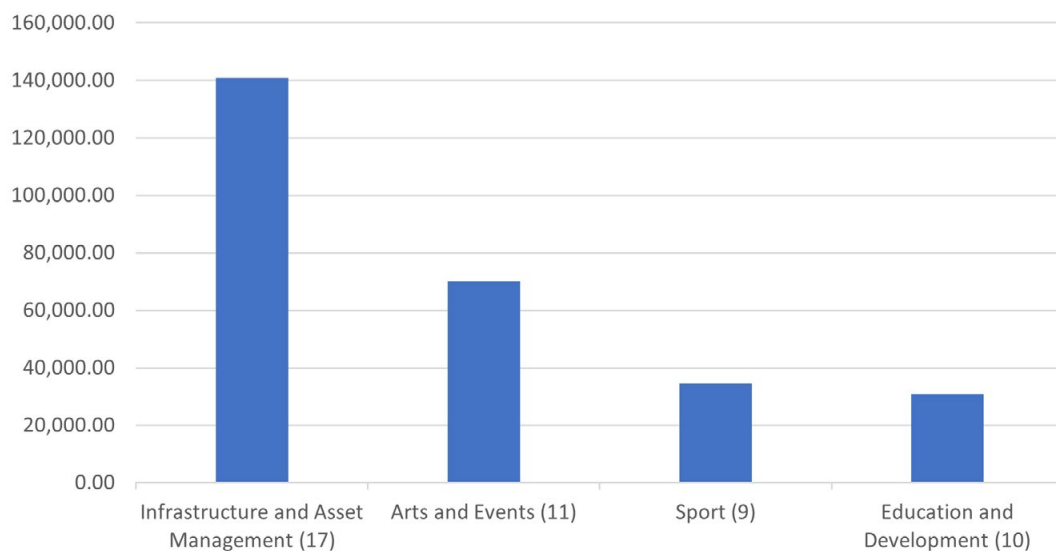
The below table provides a comparison of funding over the past three years for the Community Impact Grant Program.

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Number of applications received	90	72	75
Number applications awarded	56	44	47
Approval rate	62%	61%	62%
Funding allocated	\$253,494*	\$241,623*	\$277,927*

*Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Funding for the Community Impact Grants can be categorised into relevant sectors that the funding benefits. The below table outlines the spend in each sector across the 2022/23 Community Impact Grants.

Sector



The following section of this report contains a profile on each of the Community Impact Grant agreements and provides an overview of the project, the community benefits and the amount of funding that was allocated.

BALLARAT AND DISTRICT ABORIGINAL COOPERATIVE

Project: Upgrade and expansion to accommodate a large commercial kitchen.

The Ballarat and District Aboriginal Cooperative have been upgrading their kitchen to a larger commercial space to keep up with the expanding needs of the Aboriginal and vulnerable non-Aboriginal Community.

Objective: The Ballarat and District Aboriginal Cooperative have been upgrading their facilities to keep up with the expanding needs of the Aboriginal and vulnerable community members.

Community benefit: Dedicated commercial kitchen to enable healthy meals to be cooked and provided to vulnerable community members and First Nations people.

Allocation amount: \$18,000.00

BALLARAT BALLET EISTEDDFOD INC.

Project: Delivery of the Ballarat Ballet Eisteddfod.

Objective: Host the 2023 Ballarat Ballet Eisteddfod.

Community benefit: The Ballarat Ballet Eisteddfod supports local dancers by providing a high-level competition in Ballarat. The event provides an opportunity for increased participation and inclusivity for Ballarat and surrounding areas dancers.

Allocation amount: \$20,000.00

BALLARAT BLUE LIGHT INC – BALLARAT BLUE LIGHT – FORCE BLUE PROGRAM

Project: Ballarat Blue Light – Force Blue Program

Objective: Purchase various sporting goods to assist in the delivery of an eight-week program.

Community benefit: The Ballarat Blue Light – Force Blue Program presented an eight-week program with police officers and youth. The program challenged participants physically, mentally, and socially. The sessions within the eight-week program involved team building and physical training activities where police officers and youth participants actively engaged, worked together and build a great rapport. Local police officer had the opportunity to increase their awareness of issues local youth are experiencing in their daily lives.

Allocation amount: \$1,879.78

BALLARAT COMMUNITY HEALTH

Project: Grow for Good Pilot Project

Objective: Assist economically vulnerable members of the community with produce, tools and skills to provide them with the ability to grow their own fruit and vegetables.

Community benefit: The Grow for Good Pilot Project worked with 102 vulnerable community members who were identified as experiencing food insecurity. The recipients received fresh fruit and vegetables from the Food Bank Farms to Families Market held each month. Funding was used to supply materials to participants to enable growing affordable and accessible fruit and vegetables at home.

Allocation amount: \$1,798.00

BALLARAT COMMUNITY HEALTH

Project: HomeGrown Project: Seasonal Workshop Series

Objective: Identify and address the barriers that affect growing food at home.

Community benefit: Seasonal workshops have been offered to over 100 community members who were identified as experiencing food insecurity. The workshops were held in conjunction with the Food Bank Farms to Families Market held each month. Skills were provided to participants to assist them in producing their own fruit and vegetables.

Allocation amount: \$1,719.30

BALLARAT COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT 'MASTER PLAN'

Project: Ballarat Community Garden Master Plan.

Objective: Develop a Master Plan to ensure the future design of the garden is suitable to all participating community members.

Community benefit: A Master Plan will provide direction to make the community garden more user friendly and accessible to all sectors of the community, including all access and a safe enclosed space for families and children. These outcomes of the Master Plan will increase the number of community members who will be able to access the garden and enjoy its produce.

Allocation amount: \$7,990.00

BALLARAT MEMORIAL CONCERT BAND

Project: Ballarat Memorial Concert Band Timpanis

Objective: To purchase quality Timpanis that will provide learning opportunities for band members and ensembles for up to approximately 30 years.

Community benefit: The purchase of two new Timpanis has enabled beginner players to learn how to play and provide opportunities to lend the instruments to other local and visiting community ensembles. The Timpanis are high-quality, low-cost entertainment, providing music at community events. New instruments bring bands together to socialise, build new friendships and create a sense of community.

Allocation amount: \$8,984.00

BALLARAT PERMACULTURE GUILD PROJECT 'REPLACE LAPTOPS'

Project: Laptop replacement

Objective: To replace three laptops providing relevant equipment allowing the Guild to deliver programs and host workshops to the Ballarat Community.

Community benefit: The replacement of three laptops provides equipment that supports the Guild's operations and aid with presentations, events and other organisational tasks. Enhanced operations of the Guild in turn provides increased opportunities for community involvement and awareness through streamlined systems and processes.

Allocation amount: \$3,897.00

BALLARAT GARDENS FOR WILDLIFE

Project: Purchase educational materials

Objective: To provide a free information booklet that assists the community in making more wildlife friendly spaces in urban gardens.

Community benefit: Additional printed copies of the 'Gardens for Wildlife' booklet, along with the production of QR codes distributes more information regarding wildlife friendly spaces in urban gardens to interested community members.

Allocation amount: \$1,500.00

BALLARAT HARRIERS ATHLETIC CLUB INC

Project: Purchase of a timing system for athletes

Objective: To purchase a timing system and coaching program to train and track athletes' performances.

Community benefit: The purchase of this equipment primarily aimed at junior athletes under 18, enables data to be collected to improve athletic performance.

Allocation amount: \$2,235.00

BALLARAT INTERFAITH NETWORK INC.

Project: Guided cemetery walk

Objective: To educate the community on religious diversity and the burial practises of different religions.

Community benefit: Funding will be used to host a guided cemetery walk in November 2023, with a focus on the religious diversity within the Ballarat region. Participants will have the opportunity to learn more about religions in the Ballarat community and their burial practices

Allocation amount: \$1,450.00

BALLARAT LITTLE ATHLETICS

Project: Upgrade inclusive timing system

Objective: To provide an upgraded electronic timing system that enables a redirection of volunteer hours and support athletes with hearing or sight impairments.

Community benefit: The upgrades have enabled volunteers to redirect their time to other requirements and provides an environmentally sustainable system with the addition of solar hardware. The electronic system reduces the need for manual operation and its reliability to paper. It has allowed for more efficient events for the club and supports younger athletes with sight or hearing impairments.

Allocation amount: \$9,925.00

BALLARAT NATIONAL THEATRE

Project: Ballarat National Theatre Season 2023

Objective: To provide funding to assist with the costs associated in delivering three stage shows and one online production over a 12-month period.

Community benefit: Stage and online shows presented opportunities for involvement from interested participants as well as providing entertainment for the Ballarat community to attend.

Allocation amount: \$19,888.90

BALLARAT PONY CLUB INC

Project: Revision of the Ballarat Pony Club Master Plan

Objective: Funding a revision of the Ballarat Pony Club Master Plan ensures the contents are relevant and remain on track.

Community benefit: An up-to-date Master Plan will guide investment and future directions for the club around its facilities and users. Appropriate planning ensures the space is well utilised for all stakeholders now and into the coming years.

Allocation amount: \$8,800.00

BALLARAT REGIONAL ATHLETIC CENTRE

Project: WestVic High Performance Athletics Program

Objective: Funding will increase access for athletes to high level testing as well as wellbeing networks, education seminars by minimising the individual costs.

Community benefit: The creation of a High-Performance Athletics Program has provided opportunities to high level athletes to continue to develop their skills and have access to seminars and programs.

Allocation amount: \$6,000.00

BALLARAT SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP INC.

Project: Day of the Scottish Country Dancing

Objective: To host the annual 'The Day of Scottish Country Dancing' and celebrate Scottish Country Dancing.

Community benefit: Over 80 dancers and spectators travelled from across Victoria and interstate to participate in this event, providing an experience to showcase Scottish Country Dancing.

Allocation amount: \$1,600.00

BALLARAT SOUTH SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB INC.

Project: Upgrading audio visual equipment

Objective: Provide reliable equipment for use by the Ballarat South Senior Citizens Club and those hiring the venue.

Community benefit: The upgraded audio-visual technology has provided more user friendly equipment making the space more attractive for current users and new users.

Allocation amount: \$2,497.00

BALLARAT SOUTHERN WARRIORS KARATE CLUB INC.

Project: Training and cleaning equipment

Objective: Provide an optimal training experience to students.

Community benefit: With the purchase of training and cleaning equipment, the facilities are able to be cleaned more efficiently presenting a safer environment, and having access to upgraded equipment facilitates improved performance.

Allocation amount: \$1,351.00

BALLARAT TOASTMASTERS

Project: Online meeting technology

Objective: To purchase a camera and microphone to provide an online option for meetings for members to attend.

Community benefit: During COVID-19 hybrid meetings were held at the Wendouree Bowling Club with borrowed equipment. This project has allowed hybrid meetings to continue increasing participation.

Allocation amount: \$1,949.00

BALLARAT TOOL LIBRARY

Project: Setup of permanent facility and expansion

Objective: To provide training sessions and resources to the Ballarat community.

Community benefit: Providing equipment, resources, and skills to assist members to complete their projects.

Allocation amount: \$8,334.00

BROWN HILL CRICKET CLUB

Project: Brown Hill Auskick

Objective: Provide temporary lighting to enable the Auskick program to continue later into the evening.

Community benefit: Temporary lighting has increased participation by extending the timing of the Auskick program.

Allocation amount: \$2,700.00

BUNINYONG & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Project: Safe and accessible history

Objective: To digitise historical records.

Community benefit: Digitising and preserving historical records has provided a database, allowing easy access by Society members and the wider community.

Allocation amount: \$3,902.00

CAKE DECORATORS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

Project: Ballarat branch workshops

Objective: The Cake Decorators Association aims to educate participants in the art of cake decorating by delivering workshops

Community benefit: Workshops held have provided participants with skills in the art of cake decorating.

Allocation amount: \$1,090.00

CANCER PATIENTS FOUNDATION PROJECT

Project: Look good feel better

Objective: Deliver workshops to assist in alleviating symptoms from cancer treatment and support women in their physical appearance.

Community benefit: Cancer patients have had the opportunity to attend virtual or in person workshops on skin and nail care, cosmetics, wigs and turbans, accessories and styling.

Allocation amount: \$3,674.00

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS GROUP TRAINING PROJECT

Project: BGT inclusion and accessibility pack

Objective: Provide services and equipment at Barkly Square to increase inclusivity, with a particular focus for people who are deaf, hard of hearing or vision impaired.

Community benefit: This project has provided a more inclusive and equitable space for the visiting community.

Allocation amount: \$9,000.00

DIDI BAHINI SAMAJ VICTORIA BALLARAT UNIT

Project: Teej Celebration 2023 Ballarat

Objective: To promote Nepalese culture and tradition in Ballarat

Community benefit: The Teej celebration delivered a program where the community gathered and learned about Nepalese culture, including food, dance, costumes and music.

Allocation amount: \$3000.00

EUREKA STOCKADE MEMORIAL PARK COMMITTEE INC.

Project: Eureka Hall accessibility

Objective: To purchase new tables and chairs for hall for patrons

Community benefit: A safe and more accessible space for users of Eureka Hall and to address heavy lifting when moving tables and chairs.

Allocation amount: \$13,398.35

FILIPINO-AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF BALLARAT

Project: 125th Philippines Independence Day & kids crafts

Objective: To celebrate the Philippines Independence Day with the Ballarat community

Community benefit: To enjoy and learn about Filipino traditions and culture including Philippines Independence Day. This celebration marked the country's anniversary of gaining independence from Spain. Participants attended many events including flag days, kids craft days and a flag raising ceremony.

Allocation amount: \$2,000.00

GELLIBRAND SUPPORT SERVICES

Project: Ballarat Community Festival – Celebrating all Abilities

Objective: Provide an event that delivers a broad exposure of the services available, accessible businesses and public amenities in the greater Ballarat region for people with disabilities.

Community benefit: The Ballarat Community Festival – Celebrating all Abilities, delivered an event for community members in particular children with disabilities to connect with their support workers, families and friends to celebrate. The event raised awareness in the community about the resources available.

Allocation amount: \$5,000.00

GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

Project: 100 Years of Guiding in Ballarat

Objective: Deliver an event that celebrates 100 years of Guiding in Ballarat.

Community benefit: The Race Around Beautiful Ballarat in Teams event brought together the Girl Guides community of different generations and showcased Ballarat through a scavenger hunt that led participants across the City.

Allocation amount: \$899.00

HOCKEY BALLARAT PROJECT

Project: Umpiring and coaching accreditation

Objective: To provide training to increase umpire and coaching numbers to assist in the development and growth of hockey in the Ballarat community.

Community benefit: An increase in accredited officials in sport provides the community with safe and inclusive opportunities for participation in the sport of hockey.

Allocation amount: \$1,400.00

KARDINIA COMMUNITY SERVICES

Project: Shade sails for playground

Objective: Build a permanent structure to provide a sun safe space for children to play at the Kardinia Church Ballarat.

Community benefit: Protection from inclement weather provided additional access to facilities that create social connections and developmental skills.

Allocation amount: \$15,300.00

LEARMONTH COMMUNITY SKILLS SHED INC.

Project: Building connections using digital skills

Objective: The purchase of equipment to provide access for members and the wider community to connect to the internet.

Community benefit: The technology equipment allows elderly and disadvantaged community members to connect with family and friends.

Allocation amount: \$6,954.00

LANCE TV

Project: LGBTIQA+ Xmas Day lunch

Objective: To provide the LGBTIQA+ community with a Christmas lunch for those unable to spend it with family.

Community benefit: Provide a safe and inclusive space for the LGBTIQA+ community to celebrate the festivities.

Allocation amount: \$1,000.00

MINERS REST MECHANICS INSTITUTE COMMUNITY HALL

Project: Commercial dishwasher

Objective: To install a commercial dishwasher for the convenience and health and safety benefits of Hall users.

Community benefit: Increased health and safety benefits for community members and users of the Hall and a reduction in volunteer hours minimising the manual washing and cleaning.

Allocation amount: \$5,621.00

MCAULEY COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR WOMEN

Project: McAuley community library

Objective: Provide literature to women for skills development and leisure.

Community benefit: Increasing the capacity in the McAuley House to provide a community hub and created a connected space and opportunity for women to learn and connect.

Allocation amount: \$1,980.00



NORTH BALLARAT CRICKET CLUB

Project: Uniforms for all abilities

Objective: Reduce or in some instances remove the financial barrier for community members interested in participating in a cricket team at the North Ballarat Cricket Club.

Community benefit: Reducing or removing the cost of memberships, uniforms and equipment has opened a path for more inclusive participation, increased social activities and enhanced health and wellbeing in the community.

Allocation amount: \$2,000.00

POT OF COURAGE

Project: Take your marks...get set...

Objective: To upgrade and expand facilities to increase participation in events and activation in the hospitality sector.

Community benefit: Council was made aware that Pot of Courage has recently ceased trading and this program did not take place.

Allocation amount: \$10,000.00*

** City of Ballarat will work with Pot of Courage and its administration to have the funding amount returned.*

REID'S GUEST HOUSE – UNITING VIC.TAS

Project: Consumer wellbeing and community engagement

Objective: Provide opportunities to attend activities for people experiencing homelessness and hardship in Western Victoria.

Community benefit: This project spanning over 12-months provided numerous community members who experience homelessness and hardship opportunities to get out and about and enjoy social activities including trips to the beach, BBQs, tenpin bowling and the movies. The project has seen an increase in participation in community engagement activities in other areas such as participants volunteering to deliver community services to others, mowing lawns and cooking meals.

Allocation amount: \$8,181.80

SALVATION ARMY

Project: The LARF Mentoring Program

Objective: Purchase of new resources assisting to increase social skills and support to young people facing economic and social disadvantage.

Community benefit: Providing support and skills programs.

Allocation amount: \$7,809.00

ST JOHN AMBULANCE AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA) INC - VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT - ST JOHN AMBULANCE BALLARAT DIVISION

Project: Volunteer Recruitment

Objective: To deliver a marketing campaign to drive awareness for the need for volunteers and recruit and train more St John Ambulance volunteers.

Community benefit: Increase trained first aid volunteers to assist at community events.

Allocation amount: \$2,318.20

VOICE FM

Project: IT Infrastructure Upgrade

Objective: To improve the reliability of broadcasting in the Ballarat and surrounding areas.

Community benefit: Infrastructure upgrades to improve the reliability of broadcasting for listeners, increasing the audience size.

Allocation amount: \$9,000.00

YARROWEE LEIGH CATCHMENT GROUP

Project: Connecting Local Community to the Local Wetland and Nature Reserves in Sebastopol

Objective: To promote, partner and provide a host of environmental workshops to connect the community to information about local plants and animals of the region.

Community benefit: Increased opportunities for understanding the local environment, including talking with school groups.

Allocation amount: \$8,727.30

YORK STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

Project: Reverse Advent Calendar and Big Blessing Day

Objective: To provide non-perishable food packages to those experiencing food insecurity.

Community benefit: Increasing availability of non-perishable items for those registering for assistance over the Christmas period. The York Street Church of Christ hosts an event for registered participants where the food items are distributed.

Allocation amount: \$7,637.44

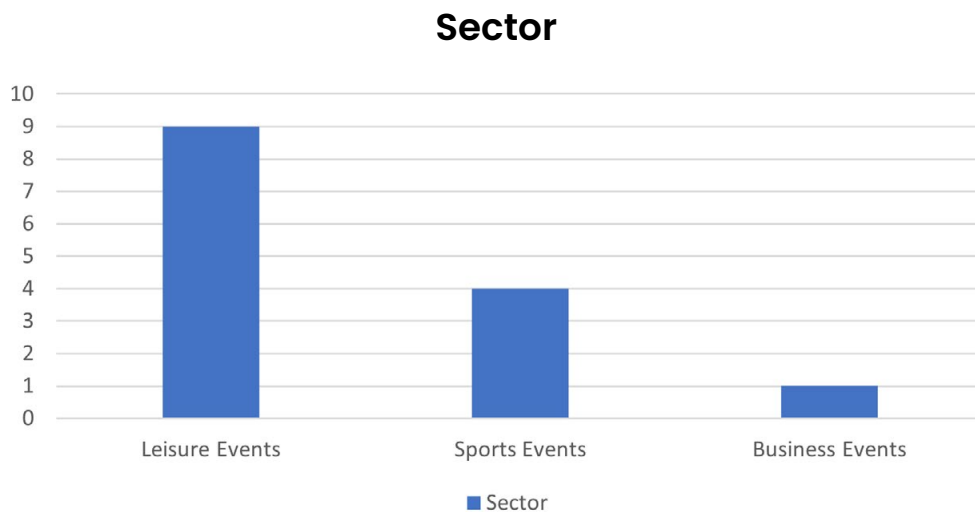
Tourism Events Grants

The Tourism Events Grants Program is directly linked to the implementation of Council's Ballarat Events Strategy 2018-2028 and the Visitor Economy Strategy. Program funding is for festivals, events (including sporting events) or activities which advance and encourage increased visitation, participation and yield and/or contribute to the presentation or marketing of Ballarat as a Tourism destination of choice.

The Tourism Events Grant Program aims to support a balanced calendar of events providing exciting reasons to visit Ballarat and increase the vibrancy of the city and region for visitors and residents.

Twenty-three applications for the Tourism Event Grants Program were received in 2022/23 with 14 events being funded for an approval rate of 61 percent. A total budget allocation of \$155,000.00 was fully expended which included the Strategic Partnership Carols by Candlelight.

Projects funded for the Tourism Events Program in 2022/23 can be attributed to three categories that the funding benefits. The below graph outlines the spend in each category across the 2022/23 Tourism Events Grants.



Leisure events received the greatest proportion of allocated funding in 2022/23 at 58 percent of expenditure. Sport events received 27 percent of allocated funding, and business events were allocated

seven percent of funding. The remaining eight percent of allocated funding was expending the final year of the Carols by Candlelight Strategic Partnership.

The following section of this report contains a profile on each of the Community Impact Grant agreements and provides an overview of the project, the community benefits and the amount of funding that was allocated.

BALLARAT ROCK N ROLL FESTIVAL

Objective: The Ballarat Rock N Roll festival was established in 2022. In 2023, the festival was a one-day event held at the Ballarat Showgrounds. The event aims to celebrate everything Rock N Roll and highlight the 50's and 60's.

Economic Impact: \$312,111

Allocation Amount: \$5,000

Number of participants: 2,691

BALLARAT SHOW

Objective: The Ballarat show is an annual event delivered by the Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society. The event showcases the agricultural and pastoral industry to the locals and surrounding districts, enabling the non-farming community to see, touch and explore the farming sector with a variety of farming animals, machinery and exhibits.

Economic Impact: \$386,009

Allocation Amount: \$5,709

Number of participants: 17,677

BALLARAT GIFT

Objective: The Ballarat gift is the second largest event of its type in the Country and has been occurring for over 100 years.

Economic Impact: \$155,007

Allocation Amount: \$12,000

Number of participants: 2,325

VICTORIAN MASTERS BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Objective: A three-day carnival of mature baseballers from across Victoria and some interstate. The event has been delivered for 26 years. The event in 2023 actively promoted the women's baseball integration to deliver a more inclusive event.

Economic Impact: \$267,898

Allocation Amount: \$15,000

Number of participants: 113

BALLARAT CABARET FESTIVAL

Objective: The Ballarat Cabaret Festival is a performing arts festival celebrating all things cabaret. Held over two days in Ballarat the festival employs local performing artists and artists beyond the region from diverse identities and backgrounds.

Economic Impact: \$29,912

Allocation Amount: \$10,000

Number of participants: 398

AUSTRALIAN SUPERENDURO CHAMPIONSHIPS

Objective: The inaugural Australian SuperEnduro Championships. The event was delivered in a format that has been seen successfully run across Europe and the United States but not yet in Australia.

Economic Impact: \$235,716

Allocation Amount: \$10,000

Number of participants: 2,260

CORVETTE NATIONALS 'GOLD RUSH' BALLARAT 2023

Objective: The Corvettes of Melbourne, in conjunction with the Vic Vettes and Surf Coast Corvettes hosted the first Corvette Nationals since 2019. The event showcased Ballarat, its history and displayed over 200 special interest vehicles.

Economic Impact: \$270,750

Allocation Amount: \$4,000

Number of participants: 2,700

BALLARAT DRAGON BOAT REGATTA

Objective: The main Regional event in Dragon Boat Racing. Includes 200m or racing from 27 clubs across Victoria. Premier teams and Australian teams were represented and event broadcast on Kayo Sports

Economic Impact: \$78,320

Allocation Amount: \$6,000

Number of participants: 600

KANI-KARRUNG AUSTRALIAN GIRL GUIDE JAMBOREE 2023

Objective: A National Girl Guide camp for girls aged 10-17. The camp goes for 7 days and girls travel across Australia to attend.

Economic Impact: \$1,588,290

Allocation Amount: \$20,000

Number of participants: 1,480

THE RED SERIES

Objective: The Red Series is a gathering of the very best cellar doors from the Pyrenees and Grampians wine regions, in the one space in the heart of Ballarat. The 2023 event was the 7th time the event had been run.

Economic Impact: \$40,533

Allocation Amount: \$10,000

Number of participants: 688

BEYOND DARK

Objective: Beyond Dark is an authentic, bold and innovative expansion to the Design Exchange Market. Beyond Dark will celebrate Ballarat's Winter nights delivered in Alfred Deakin Place.

Economic Impact: \$71,900

Allocation Amount: \$15,291

Number of participants: 1,700

POWER FM EASTER EGG HUNT

Objective: An Easter Egg Hunt delivered in Alfred Deakin Place, broadcast on Power FM and driving visitation into the Ballarat CBD during the Easter period.

Economic Impact: \$31,350

Allocation Amount: \$5,000

Number of participants: 2,000

ROTARY DISTRICT CONVENTION

Objective: The conference is held annually usually in the hometown of the District Governor. The conference attracts delegates from across the Rotary District 9780 (54 Rotary Clubs in Western Victoria and parts of South Australia) and from other Rotary Districts in Australia.

Economic Impact: \$53,285

Allocation Amount: \$12,000

Number of participants: 353

WADAWURRUNG CORROBOREE

Objective: To celebrate our shared history, and the Traditional and contemporary Culture of Ballarat's Traditional Owners – The Wadawurrung People. Corroborees performed by Wadawurrung people and other Aboriginal people visiting from other parts of Australia were a feature of entertainment for miners on the Ballarat diggings, this event was delivered at Sovereign Hill.

Economic Impact: \$35,550

Allocation Amount: \$15,000

Number of participants: 947



Our Commitment to Continuous Improvement

Application forms, guidelines and acquittal forms are evaluated and reviewed regularly to ensure they remain relevant and accessible to a diverse range of community groups and organisations. In 2022/23 the application process included a requirement in line with the Gender Equality Act that applications to all grant programs needed to demonstrate how they have considered how people of different genders may be impacted by the proposed event, program, or activity.

The Community Impact Grant program ran two rounds in 2022/23, with grant writing workshops prior to the closure of the rounds. This process provided success and will be repeated in the 2023/24 year.

For the Tourism Events Grants, it was identified that the application questions were not suited to business and sport streams. A review of the program was conducted, and three streams were created for the 2023/24 financial year, these streams are: sport, business, and leisure.

Strategies in place for 2023/24 include:

- Investigating online grants management systems and developing a three-to-five-year contract for continuity.
- Ongoing development of application forms to provide the best information for applicants and garner relevant information for assessment and reporting.
- Developing a comprehensive reporting system to capture a more detailed breakdown of grant programs data including categories, sectors and links to priorities.

The Strategic Partnerships program will continue to be monitored, with payments, acquittal reports and partnership evaluation an ongoing priority for the remainder of the agreements in place to ensure continued community and economic benefits are reached.

Appendices A – Strategic Partnerships funded for 2022/23

Partnership	Start Date	End Date	Total Amount Funded or to be Funded	Comments
The Sovereign Hill Museums Association Ltd.	July 2021	July 2022	\$160,000	Agreement complete
Ballarat Basketball Association	January 2020	October 2022	\$378,000	Agreement complete
Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society	October 2018	December 2022	\$500,000	Agreement complete
Royal South Street Society	July 2019	December 2022	\$240,000	Agreement complete
Carols by Candlelight	July 2019	June 2023	\$45,000	* An addendum was added to the original agreement to extend for an additional year due to COVID-19 cancellation of an event.
Midlands District Amateur Swimming Association Inc.	June 2021	June 2023	\$21,583	Agreement complete
Rock Ballarat	June 2020	June 2023	\$60,000	* Due to this event not proceeding in 2022/23, this agreement concluded June 2023. No funding was paid in 2022/23.
Runway Ballarat	January 2022	June 2023	\$127,608	Agreement complete
Ballarat International Foto Biennale	July 2020	June 2024	\$800,000	Ongoing partnership
Ballarat Mechanics Institute	July 2021	July 2024	\$135,000	Ongoing partnership
Ballarat Cricket Association	July 2020	June 2025	\$500,000	Ongoing partnership
Ballarat Sports Foundation	December 2020	June 2025	\$15,000	* Due to COVID-19 this partnership agreement was amended to recommence in March 2023. Currently awaiting signed agreements. No funding was paid in 2022/23
Clemente Program	July 2020	June 2025	\$45,000	Ongoing partnership
Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Inc.	March 2022	July 2025	\$333,784	Ongoing partnership
Rowing Victoria	August 2018	June 2028	\$420,000	Ongoing partnership

All figures above are exclusive of GST

Appendices B – Community Impact Grants funded for 2022/23

Community Group or Organisation	End Date	Total Amount Funded
ROUND 1		
A Pot of Courage Inc	18 November 2023	\$10,000.00
Ballarat and District Aboriginal Cooperative (BADAC)	25 November 2023	\$18,181.90
Ballarat Community FM Radio Co-operative (Voice FM)	22 November 2023	\$9,090.90
Ballarat Community Health	23 November 2023	\$1,817.00
Ballarat Gardens for Wildlife	17 January 2024	\$1,500.00
Ballarat Little Athletics Club	21 November 2023	\$9,925.00
Ballarat Memorial Concert Band	2 December 2023	\$8,984.00
Ballarat Permaculture Guild	22 November 2023	\$3,900.00
Ballarat Scottish Country Dance Group Inc.	Project is acquitted	\$1,600.00
Ballarat Tool Library	13 February 2024	\$8,424.00
Buninyong & District Historical Society Incorporated	21 November 2023	\$3,902.00
Cancer Patients Foundation	13 January 2024	\$3711.60
Central Highlands Group Training Incorporated – Ballarat Group Training (BGT)	24 November 2023	\$9,905.00
Gellibrand Support Services	9 December 2023	\$5,000.00
Girl Guides Association of Victoria – Ballarat Division	26 September 2023	\$999.00
Golden Point Cricket Club Incorporated	28 November 2023	\$1,712.00
Hockey Ballarat	9 January 2023	\$1,400.00
Kardinia Community Services	23 November 2023	\$17,000.00
LanceTV Inc.	Project is acquitted	\$1,000.00
McAuley Community Services for Women	13 January 2024	\$2,000.00
North Ballarat Cricket Club	19 November 2023	\$2,000.00
Reverse Advent Calendar	30 November	\$7,637.44
The Trustee for The Salvation Army (VIC) Property Trust	Project is acquitted	\$7,887.80
Victoria Bowling Club Inc.	6 December 2023	\$7,318.20

Community Group or Organisation	End Date	Total Amount Funded
ROUND 2		
Ballarat Ballet Eisteddfod Inc.	9 May 2024	\$20,000.00
Ballarat Blue Light Inc.	17 June 2024	\$1,879.78
Ballarat Branch – Cake Decorators Association of Victoria inc.	5 May 2024	\$1,090.00
Ballarat Community Garden	8 June 2024	\$6,875.00
Ballarat Community Health	17 May 2024	\$1,719.00
Ballarat Harriers Athletic Club Inc.	17 May 2024	\$2,235.00
Ballarat Interfaith Network Inc.	19 May 2024	\$1,450.00
Ballarat National Theatre	28 June 2024	\$19,888.90
Ballarat Pony Club Inc.	16 May 2024	\$8,800.00
Ballarat Regional Athletic Centre	8 May 2024	\$6,000.00
Ballarat South Senior Citizens Club Inc.	4 May 2024	\$2,497.00
Ballarat Southern Warriors Karate Club Inc.	16 June 2024	\$1,351.00
Ballarat Toastmasters	28 May 2024	\$1,949.00
Brown Hill Cricket Club	15 May 2024	\$2,700.00
Cardigan Windermere Landcare Group	30 May 2024	\$4,346.36
Didi Bahini Samaj Victoria Ballarat Unit	30 May 2024	\$3,049.50
Eureka Stockade Memorial Park Committee Inc.	Project is acquitted.	\$13,398.35
Filipino-Australian Association of Ballarat	9 May 2024	\$2,000.00
Learmonth Community Skills Shed Inc.	5 May 2024	\$6,954.00
MinersRest Mechanics Institute Community Hall	26 July 2024	\$5,621.00
Reid's Guest House - Uniting Vic.Tas	4 August 2024	\$8,181.80
St John Ambulance Australia (Victoria) Inc.	9 May 2024	\$2,318.20
Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group	7 June 2024	\$8,727.30

Appendices C – Tourism Event Grants funded for 2022/23

Event	Total Amount Funded	Date of Event
Alfredton Baseball Club	\$15,000	24 February 2023 – 26 February 2023
Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society Inc.	\$5,709	11 November 2022 – 11 November 2023
Ballarat Athletics Club	\$12,000	12 February 2022 – 13 February 2022
Ballarat Cabaret Festival Pty Ltd	\$10,000	18 November 2022
Ballarat Motorcycle Association Limited	\$10,000	25 February 2022
Corvettes of Melbourne Inc.	\$4,000	24 March 2023 – 27 March 2023
Dragon Boat Victoria	\$6,000	18 September 2022
Girl Guides Victoria	\$20,000	13 January 2023 – 22 January 2023
Grampians Winemakers Inc.	\$10,000	28 July 2023
LSF Wellness Co.	\$15,291	1 July 2023
Radio Ballarat	\$5,000	8 April 2023
Rock n Roll Festival	\$5,000	26 November 202
Rotary District 9780	\$12,000	24 March 2023 – 26 March 2023
Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation	\$15,000	6 May 2023



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October 2023