



Western Chances Annual Report 2014



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## Our 2014 highlights

Awarding **546 scholarships**, our largest ever scholarship round.

Distributing more than **\$492,000** to talented and motivated young people from Melbourne's west.

Celebrating **10 years** of assisting young people to achieve their goals with a major event.

Welcoming over **133 new donors**, including 38 monthly direct debit donors who signed on as part of our Big Dreams fundraising campaign.

Receiving continued funding from **8 major donors** for another year.

**Strengthening the Links Program**, where our partner organisations offer free personal and professional development opportunities worth over **\$200,000** to scholarship recipients.

Assisting **125 scholarship recipients undertaking VCE** (or equivalent); of the 97% of contactable students, 100% successfully completed the year, 97% are progressing to further study, training, apprenticeships or employment, and 73% are enrolled in degree courses.

**Employing Western Chances scholarship alumnae** to assist with the implementation of our social media strategy, to photograph our **Good Business Forum** and **10th Anniversary** events and to manage our 3 events for the year.



## Nash

Nash, 15, is working hard at school and has just completed Year 10, winning several academic and leadership awards.

"It was great this year to do some Year 11 subjects in Year 10, but I know that the next two years will be more difficult. I'm happy to work hard to get where I want to be. My goal is to work as a skills coach or physiotherapist at an elite sports club. I play netball for my local club and one day I'd love to play for Australia too. My sister and I are both at secondary school and sometimes it's hard because we don't have a lot of money. Textbooks are very, very expensive.

Western Chances has helped me out so much. Now I can concentrate on doing my best at school. I don't have to stress about not having books or paying for excursions. They've taken a huge weight off my shoulders."

**Nash.** Year 11 student.

# Message from Chair and CEO

We are pleased to present the Western Chances Annual Report for 2014, which saw the end of our first decade of operations.



Our 10-year celebrations gave us a great opportunity to reflect on the Western Chances journey. Our initial vision was to draw out the potential of young people that meet our key criteria for eligibility: financial disadvantage and, importantly, to be independently nominated as someone with talent, motivation and potential.

When we started we did not know much about raising money from business, but we learnt. We made valuable connections with local schools and saw that small scholarship amounts, delivered at the right time in a young person's life, could have a mighty impact and could significantly improve education outcomes. While our scholarships are not large, we stay with our young people to see them through their education.



In our 2014 scholarship rounds we awarded nearly \$130,000 to 192 new recipients and almost \$365,000 to 354 existing recipients. Compared to the 15 renewals we were able to provide back in 2005, we have made enormous progress in both the amount and structure of the program.

The Western Chances 10th Anniversary Celebration in August at The Substation in Newport gave us a wonderful opportunity to bring together our donors, pro bono supporters, volunteers, alumni and scholarship recipients to showcase our young people's achievements. Scholarship recipients were integral to the success of the evening, providing musical entertainment, displaying their work and helping out at the event.

Our scholarship data and the feedback from young people give us enormous confidence that Western Chances is working. But we are more focused than ever on the challenges ahead of us. Due to population growth across Melbourne's west, increasing disadvantage and changes to education policy, the demand on our resources will only increase and we will need to find additional sources of funding.

Our challenge for the next 10 years is to find a way for Western Chances to grow new and other means of financial support. We will always need the strong financial backing of the philanthropic community and our corporate donors. We hope that, having proved the value of supporting talented young people, our community of friends, donors, volunteers, nominators, alumni and their families can, in turn, support more young people directly through ongoing donations.

Our Big Dreams campaign is essential to this approach. It is an appeal for people to commit to donating from as little as \$10 per month and we hope it will be one of the cornerstones of our continued growth.

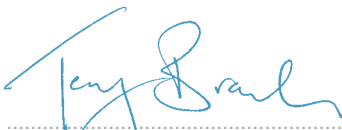
Our sincere thanks to the Western Chances Board and our staff – Anne Connors, Betty Klonaris, Jennifer McConnell and Rebecca Oldham – for their professionalism, passion and hard work throughout the year. Rebecca left Western Chances in April after working tirelessly for two and a half years. She made a significant contribution to the organisation and continues to volunteer for Western Chances. Jennifer McConnell assumed the Office Manager role in June and is a wonderful addition to the team.

We thank our many supporters for their pro bono and/or financial support. Our major corporate sponsor Melbourne Airport has never wavered in its generosity and we value the long term support of organisations including KPMG, Lime Consulting, Victoria University, Western Health, Willett Marketing and the six western suburbs councils. We are also very grateful to our new donors.

Philanthropic trusts and foundations are a significant funding base for our scholarships, and we appreciate the loyal multi-year support of the Allandale Foundation, Australian Communities Foundation, Besen Family Foundation, Calvert-Jones Foundation, Collier Charitable Foundation, Gourlay Charitable Trust, Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, Invergowrie Foundation, Joyce Nicholson Bequest, Maddocks Foundation, Marian and EH Flack Trust, Mietta Foundation, Newsboys Foundation, St Albans Community Cooperative, State Trustees – George Robert Phillips Estate, the Sunshine Foundation and Samuel Nissen Charitable Foundation, managed by Perpetual.

Again, our sincere thanks to the committed volunteers who work with us on our Board, in our office and on our subcommittees, and to the professionals who give their services pro bono or at a reduced rate to support our work. This generosity is pivotal to our ongoing success.

We look forward to continuing our work and, with the support of the Western Chances community, making the next decade a prosperous one for the talented and motivated young people in Melbourne's west.



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**Terry Bracks AM**  
Chair



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**Rhyl Dorrington**  
Chief Executive Officer

# Message from the Patron



I have been extremely proud to have been associated with Western Chances during the last 10 years. Its progress under the guidance of the Chair, a committed Board and small team has been truly remarkable.

This success is not just measured in the number of scholarships awarded, or the money raised to fund them or even in the continuing commitment of its sponsors and volunteers. Rather, it can be seen in the many young people who have gained confidence and eagerly seized new opportunities that will take them forward in life.

Over the last 10 years the enormous value of the work of Western Chances has been well and truly demonstrated. Regrettably, the need for that work will probably increase as the economic and social gap between the well-off and the disadvantaged in our community widens. Structural barriers against social mobility appear to be increasing and real opportunities for further education and training are declining for those in the lower socio-economic levels of our society.

For many, Western Chances has provided the assistance necessary to surmount those barriers and, with the continuing support of its sponsors, will enable many more to follow them.

Congratulations on a great 10 years, Western Chances, and more to come.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Frank Vincent'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal dotted line.

The Hon. Frank Vincent AO QC  
Patron, Western Chances

We are grateful to our long term Patron the Hon. Frank Vincent AO QC for lending his reputation and profile to help promote our work. We are proud to have him as our Patron.

## The Hon. Frank Vincent AO QC

Frank Vincent served 16 years as a Judge of the Supreme Court of Victoria followed by a further eight years as a Judge of Appeal. He was Chair of the Victorian Adult Parole Board, a position he occupied for 17 years. He has served as a consultant to the Australian Law Reform Commission and chairman of the Victorian Criminal Bar Association, and since his retirement he has been appointed by two successive Attorneys-General to conduct inquiries into matters of public importance. From 2001 to 2009, Frank was the second Chancellor of Victoria University. In 2006, Frank was awarded an Order of Australia for services to law, education and the Indigenous community and in 2012 he was appointed to the Victorian Law Reform Commission. In 2013 Frank was the Senior Advisor to the Victorian Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into Institutional Child Abuse.



## Amina

Amina, 21, has just completed a Bachelor of Science and is about to start her honours year. Her family came to Australia as refugees from Eritrea.

“With five children and Dad only able to work casually, finances were always a big problem for our family. I loved school and gaining knowledge, particularly in science, chemistry and maths, but textbooks were expensive and I didn’t think I could continue with my studies. Western Chances eased the burden for me, and then provided help for two others in my family. The scholarships made a huge difference to us. I can concentrate on my studies and aim for good marks. I don’t have to work a lot of shifts to make ends meet.

There are so many gateways from science – I might continue with research, or apply to study medicine, or maybe become a physiotherapist. Western Chances made it possible for me to be where I am today and to make a success of my future. I’m incredibly grateful.”

**Amina. Honours at Monash University.**





## Cheyenne

Cheyenne, 14, is both musically and academically talented. Her love of music means she rehearses many hours each week and has gained a place in a local community music ensemble.

“Everything is better now that I have a Western Chances scholarship. I can afford to have private music lessons and good instruments. I’ve been playing the flute for five years and it’s a lot of fun. I practise for more than an hour every day because I want to keep getting better.

I’m the youngest member of the Greater Western Community Band. It’s great because I get to learn different music and how to play with other musicians. I’d love to make music my career – that would be awesome!

Thanks so much to Western Chances for giving me this opportunity. Having the scholarship makes a huge difference to my life and makes me want to succeed even more.”

**Cheyenne.** Year 9 student

# Our story

Western Chances is a not-for-profit organisation that helps talented and motivated young people who face disadvantage to reach their potential through targeted scholarships.

From a small grassroots organisation providing a handful of scholarships in 2004, we have grown to award 546 scholarships in 2014, establishing a catchment area of state schools and community service organisations in the region, and recruiting committed and talented educationalists and business people to our cause. Most importantly, we have assisted more than 2100 young people achieve their goals through targeted support.

All our funding is raised through the private sector, local government, philanthropic grants, fundraising events and personal donations. We have tax deductible gift recipient status and are open to support from business leaders, community leaders and interested professionals who share our enthusiasm for the potential of young people in Melbourne's west.

Western Chances has an objective of supporting scholarship recipients over the long term. To ensure we can meet this objective, and subject to other commitments, the Board notionally sets aside a contingency for each scholarship recipient. This amount represents the average cost and duration of a Western Chances scholarship and is reflected in the level of assets held by Western Chances.

## Vision

To see young people in Melbourne's western suburbs achieve their full potential.

## Purpose

Western Chances assists motivated young people in Melbourne's west to realise their potential by providing scholarships, opportunity programs and ongoing support.

## What we do

- ✦ Award merit based scholarships that are targeted to young people in Melbourne's west who have limited opportunities and financial resources
- ✦ Provide programs and networks that advance the talents and pathways of young people in Melbourne's west
- ✦ Recognise, nurture and celebrate the talent and potential talent of young people
- ✦ Build partnerships that are aligned with our vision to support the sustainability of Western Chances

## Strategic Goals 2015 - 2017

- Goal 1:** Ensure fairness and equity to all students eligible for Western Chances support
- Goal 2:** Maintain sustainability of Western Chances through diversity of revenue sources and longer term funding
- Goal 3:** Ensure Western Chances remains relevant to young people
- Goal 4:** Ensure Western Chances has good governance and organisational efficiency in delivering programs and achieving goals

# Celebrating 10 years

## In 2004...

72 scholarships, \$53,647 awarded

## In 2014...

546 scholarships, \$492,058 awarded

## A 10-year total of...

Over 4000 scholarships, \$3.4 million awarded

On 7 August, past and present Board members, partners, scholarship recipients and nominators came together at The Substation in Newport to celebrate a decade of changing young people's lives in Melbourne's west.

Our celebratory event showcased art, photography, fashion, film and robotics from current scholarship recipients and alumni. There was an award-winning dress by Adhieu Kuir, artwork by acclaimed artist Patrick Francis, Premier Award winning engineering by Tom Bogusiak and other top quality pieces on display. Guests were entertained by operatic, jazz and contemporary musical performances from recipients Patrick and Aldous Tria, Hristijan Spirovski and Joel Davies, Oliver Nease and Tess Barnes.

Our Chair, Terry Bracks, spoke of the origins of Western Chances and our first recipient, former Melton Councillor Broden Borg, gave a heartfelt reflection on the positive impact of his scholarships and the opportunities given to him by Western Chances.

To honour the tireless work of our first Executive Director, Helen Worlidge, we presented our inaugural annual Helen Worlidge Award for Outstanding Contribution to nominators Lynette Hansen, Mary Tassigiannakis and Christine Warke, who have completed over 400 applications for scholarships between them. Nominators play an integral role in our scholarship process and are vital to the success of the program, so we are extremely grateful for all their hard work and passion.

The event was envisioned and expertly executed by Julia Truong of JT Production Management, our Western Chances Young Ambassador. Other recipients and alumni provided recordings of original music, took photographs and helped with the many tasks required to make the function a success.

We received a great deal of praise for the event, which presented a unique opportunity for our whole community to celebrate 10 years of achievements.



## Our region

- ☀ We operate in Melbourne's west, the fastest growing region in Australia. It is an area that is developing rapidly and one that experiences significant disadvantage.
- ☀ Our program reach covers 87 suburbs across Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Maribyrnong, Moonee Valley and two of the fastest growing municipalities in Australia – Melton and Wyndham.
- ☀ By 2031, it is estimated our region will be home to 1.1 million people, growing from 611,512 people at the 2006 Census.<sup>1</sup>
- ☀ Our region has grown from being home to 11.6 per cent of Victoria's population in 2001 to a projected 14 per cent by 2016.<sup>2</sup>
- ☀ Brimbank and Maribyrnong are the second and third most disadvantaged of all metropolitan Melbourne municipalities,<sup>3</sup> and approximately one-third of our scholarship recipients live in these areas.
- ☀ In 2011, 49 per cent of residents in Melbourne's west had secondary education to Year 12 and 9.9 per cent of the resident workforce had qualifications at bachelor degree level.<sup>4</sup>
- ☀ Melbourne's west is the most culturally and linguistically diverse of all the regions in Victoria, with 35 per cent of the population born overseas and over 130 nationalities represented.<sup>5</sup>
- ☀ The region has a much higher than average number of residents receiving unemployment benefits, disability support pension and parenting payment (single), indicating a significant percentage of the population is financially vulnerable.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> LeadWest 2013, Western Agenda 2012-2016

<sup>2</sup> Western Melbourne RDA, Regional Plan 2013-2016

<sup>3</sup> SEIFA Index of Disadvantage 2011

<sup>4</sup> LeadWest 2013

<sup>5</sup> LeadWest 2013

<sup>6</sup> Western Melbourne RDA 2013-2016



**Melton**

**Brimbank**

**Moonee Valley**

**Maribyrnong**

**Melbourne**

**Wyndham**

**Hobsons Bay**

**Geelong**



## Tom

Tom, 22, is undertaking an honours degree in electrical engineering. In secondary school, he achieved two perfect scores for engineering subjects and was the recipient of two Premier's Awards.

"I've been receiving assistance from Western Chances since 2008. The only income at home was a pension, so that made things difficult for all our family.

At first the scholarship paid for textbooks and stationery. But then in Year 12, I wanted to build a specific project and that cost money. Thanks to Western Chances I completed my project, which helped me to get a Premier's Award. Western Chances support has continued to assist me through my university studies, which have included activities like building an electric car.

Now I'm looking forward to a career in engineering. Without Western Chances, it would have been a lot harder for me to achieve. I'm extremely grateful for all their help."

**Tom.** University graduate



# Message from the Western Chances Young Ambassador

In 2014 Julia Truong commenced duties as our first ever Western Chances Young Ambassador.

Through the Young Ambassador program we recognise young people who have made a valuable contribution to our organisation, encourage greatness in young people and provide opportunities to represent us at public events.

Julia is a young woman with enthusiasm, drive and an infectious personality. Since the age of 14 she has been a volunteer at community events, winning the Young Citizen of the Year Special Commendation Award in 2009. In 2013 Julia graduated with first class honours from the University of Melbourne (Victorian College of the Arts) majoring in production and stage management. This year, she established her own events business, JT Production Management.

“Being named Western Chances Young Ambassador and having the opportunity to represent this wonderful organisation is very exciting and a great honour. I’m happy to share my story and the fantastic work that Western Chances does with the rest of the community. Hopefully, that will go some way to encouraging people to donate.

Western Chances absolutely changed my life. At 15, I didn’t think I’d be able to go further at school. There was no money for even the most basic school supplies and I could never join the other students on excursions or activities.

But once I received a Western Chances scholarship, everything changed. They supported me throughout secondary school and university. The financial side was important but it was incredible to think that someone believed in me enough to support my dreams.

This last year as Western Chances Young Ambassador has been amazing. While representing the organisation at functions and events I’ve improved my communication and personal skills, and had loads of fantastic networking opportunities. I was also contracted to manage all Western Chances events, including the Good Business Forum, the annual scholarship ceremony and the 10 year celebrations.

Words can’t express how grateful I am to Western Chances for everything they’ve done for me and for so many others.”



## Our activities

### We provide scholarships for young people in Melbourne's west

Our scholarships support young people who have an identified talent and motivation and may not otherwise have the opportunity to pursue their education and fulfil their potential.

### We link young people to other opportunities

Our Links Program provides scholarship recipients with additional opportunities that enhance their career pathways. These vary, from seminars, university scholarships and personal development camps through to cadetships, leadership activities and more.

### We collaborate with partners

Valued partnerships enable us to extend the opportunities available to our scholarship holders, link them to additional support and offer them a whole range of activities that enhance their career paths.

### We work to extend our reach

We were proud to increase our reach in 2014 through our digital communications plan. Our strategy is to grow awareness of our work, strengthen our profile and increase support to service the fastest growing region in Australia.

### We celebrate achievements

Each year we hold events that showcase the achievements of our scholarship recipients, raise awareness of the importance of the work we do and help us raise funds to continue our work.

Since we began in 2004, we've distributed over 4000 scholarships (including new and renewal scholarships)

We've helped over 2100 young people

In 2014 around 53 per cent of our scholarship recipients came from a refugee or migrant background

In 2014, we celebrated 10 years of operation



## Shivani

Shivani, 13, is a committed student with a particular talent in maths and science. She is often found in study hall doing her homework.

"Western Chances took our worries away. My teacher told me about the scholarship, and I was so happy to get one. It pays for my maths and English textbooks, and other things. These are very expensive for my family and we have a lot of financial pressures.

In the future I want to be an accountant because I enjoy maths, or a chemist because I would make medicines and help people. At school, I also love to do fantasy art and English. Because Western Chances has given me so much, I want to thank them. I think one way to do this is to do well at school, so they can see that I appreciate what they are doing for me."

**Shivani.** Year 9 student.

Calcium Hydroxide  
 $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$   
lime water

# Scholarships 2014

Our scholarships support motivated young people who have an obvious talent and who may not otherwise have an opportunity to pursue their education and fulfil their potential.

One size does not fit all at Western Chances. Scholarships are shaped to fit the needs of the young person. The scholarships in 2014 averaged \$901 and were awarded for a range of study support items and expenses.

## Our goals for 2014

- ✿ Ensure all schools are aware of students' eligibility for Western Chances scholarships
- ✿ Engage with non-participating schools to identify barriers to nominating young people
- ✿ Retain eligible scholarship recipients until the end of their education
- ✿ Engage with current and past recipients to build an alumni program

## What we did

In 2014, we awarded a record number of scholarships to young people in Melbourne's western suburbs – 546 scholarships with a total value paid out of \$492,059. This brings the total number of scholarships awarded since 2004 to over 4000, the number of talented young people assisted to more than 2100 and the total funds distributed in excess of \$3.4 million.

### In 2014 the scholarships comprised:

- ✿ new: 192 scholarships
- ✿ renewal: 354 scholarships.

The 2014 scholarships were awarded to young people with talents in a range of areas including accounting, architecture, art, audiology, auto mechanics, building, community services, dance, dentistry, drama, economics, electrical, engineering, filmmaking, graphic art, hospitality, law, maths, mechanics, medicine, music, nursing, optometry, science, singing, social work, visual arts and writing.

Study support items we covered with our scholarships include laptops and tablets, computer software, internet access, school computer fees, textbooks, scientific calculators, camps, stationery/printing/photocopying, myki travel cards, TAFE fees, VET subject fees, VET uniforms, mandatory tools and equipment, tutoring, photographic equipment, art materials, study workshops, music, dance and drama lessons and musical instruments.

## 2014 VCE results

Destination statistics for Western Chances scholarship recipients completing Year 12 are compiled annually. These statistics provide evidence of the hard work our recipients dedicate to their studies and to realising their educational potential.

In 2014, 125 Western Chances scholarship recipients undertook VCE (or equivalent). Of the 97 per cent contacted, 100 per cent successfully completed the year. Of these, 97 per cent have progressed to further education, training or employment and of those progressing to further study, 73 per cent have enrolled in degree courses.

This outstanding result is testament to the talent and commitment of these young people and demonstrates the importance of the Western Chances Scholarship Program in identifying, encouraging and supporting the educational journey of young people facing significant barriers.

## Systems and processes

Throughout 2014, our staff worked hard to further improve our office systems and processes as we strive to develop a best practice model. In light of the increasing numbers of scholarship applications we reviewed, updated and further streamlined our scholarship assessment procedure to improve its efficiency. We retained the involvement of independent volunteer assessors and implemented a series of assessment meetings at our offices.

This administrative structure made an enormous difference to our outputs, governance and program delivery quality, and contributed to the ability of our small team to process the scholarship rounds in a consistent and timely manner.

The Helen Macpherson Smith Trust and the Sunshine Foundation generously provided capacity building funding that enabled us to achieve impressive results.

## Alumni

As part of our strategy to develop a Western Chances Alumni Association, we developed the idea of a Recipient Advisory Group. This group will assist us to achieve our strategic goal of ensuring the organisation remains relevant to young people. As part of this strategy, we will invite a recipient on to the Western Chances Board.



# Scholarship recipients

## Broden Borg

Western Chances shaped my life and gave me the opportunities that led to where I am today. I'm incredibly grateful.

I was raised by my grandparents after my mother passed away from a drug overdose when I was seven. I didn't have a traditional upbringing. It was hard for my grandparents as they were retired and had already raised four children. When it came to school expenses, it was a struggle.



My principal nominated me for a Western Chances scholarship, and soon I had a computer and money to buy school materials. I was elated. But it wasn't just about the short term with Western Chances. It was if I had an extended family doing whatever they could to ensure I could have a successful future and break the cycle of disadvantage. I was asked what I'd like to do when I was older and I replied that I wanted to be Prime Minister! They arranged for me to be mentored by my local MP. It was a dream come true. Next Western Chances gave me a fantastic opportunity to do paid work experience at Western Water, where I learned valuable skills.

At 20 I ran for Melton City Council and was elected as the youngest councillor, taking office on my 21st birthday. At 23 I was elected Deputy Mayor and held that role for two years. And I was re-elected to council for a second term with the highest vote in the municipality. During that time I completed my Bachelor of Education at Victoria University. I'm currently teaching at a local primary school and I'm leaving soon to teach in Dubai for two years.

Without the support of Western Chances, the faith of my school and the love of my grandparents, the chance that I would have achieved what I have today would be minimal.

Because of Western Chances, I have the chance to make something of myself, to give back to my community, to help others to have a happier, healthier life than that of my parents and to help others. I thank Western Chances from the bottom of my heart and I promise that I'll do all I can in my life to uphold the values I learned as part of the Western Chances family.



## Mimi Huynh

Eight years ago I was a little girl with big dreams, sitting in a classroom at Brimbank College and wishing for the impossible.

My parents were both unemployed and came to Australia as refugees. I was the oldest of three children and my youngest sister was diagnosed with global developmental delays. I watched classmates, friends and family drop out of school, succumb to depression and even suicide. I was terrified that I would also spin out of control and that maybe I was too ambitious and someone with my background should not dare to dream. Yet for some reason I just refused to let go. I was awarded a Western Chances Scholarship in 2005, when I was in Year 9, and was very fortunate to have this extended to 2013.

I'm so very thankful that Western Chances saw something in me and believed in my potential and commitment. I felt like I had Mount Everest to climb. But Western Chances provided me with tools and ropes that I would not otherwise have had to start my very long journey.

I graduated from secondary school with a high ENTER score, achieved a high UMAT and managed to get a first round offer into dentistry at the University of Melbourne. The impossible was not so impossible after all. Since then I have won a scholarship to Vietnam, published a research paper and finally graduated. Today I'm a dentist, working in the western suburbs.



I can't possibly thank Western Chances enough for their ongoing financial support, confidence and most importantly, encouraging me to hope, to dream and to turn that into reality. Thank you, thank you and an eternity of thank yous. Of course, it's not the end but the beginning for me and there are many more aspirations I have yet to fulfil. I believe that it is important to remember those who brought you here and that actions speak louder than words. So I want to volunteer my time and effort if Western Chances needs me so that I can repay all that generosity and support. I'm forever grateful.

## Olympia

Olympia, 23, and her sister were the first people in their family to ever attend university. She has completed a double degree – a Bachelor of Arts (Public Relations) and a Bachelor of Business (Marketing).

"At the moment my focus is on getting a full time job. I'm working with Western Chances one day a week as Social Media and Marketing Coordinator, which is a terrific opportunity. I'm also waitressing at weekends and doing some casual retail work. Western Chances has supported me since Year 10, providing me with money for school and university expenses such as myki cards, stationery and textbooks. This took a lot of pressure off my mum, financially and emotionally. Things had been very difficult for her.

I'd like to thank Western Chances for all the opportunities and assistance they've given me over the years. Without them, our lives would have been very different. They've been a huge support to our family and we will forever be grateful."

# Links Program

Through our Links Program, we have developed a number of valued partnerships with education, business and community organisations.

These partnerships enable us to extend the opportunities available to our scholarship recipients, link them to additional support and offer them a whole range of activities that enhance their personal and academic development and career pathways. These opportunities can have a significant impact on young people, helping them fulfil their potential and providing a holistic approach to supporting recipients for the long term.

The opportunities offered extend young people's knowledge and skills, increase confidence and self-esteem, and foster leadership. These are high quality experiences that the young people may not otherwise be offered, be aware of, or be able to afford.

## Our goals for 2014

- ✦ Increase number of opportunities for scholarship holders
- ✦ Increase diversity of opportunities for scholarship holders

## What we did

Since we began using social media in 2013, many of the opportunities available under the Links Program are advertised through our Facebook page and our upgraded website.

Supporting organisations that participated in the Links Program during 2014 included Engage Education, Lord Somers Camps, Dafydd Lewis Trust and Mary Jane Lewis Foundation, Melbourne Airport, Trinity College (University of Melbourne), Victoria University, Ormond College (University of Melbourne) and Doxa Youth Foundation.

### Victoria University

Victoria University Access scholarships were awarded to 28 Western Chances recipients in 2014. These scholarships provide students with \$1000 per year to support up to four years of study in their Victoria University course. This was the eighth year of the partnership between Victoria University and Western Chances.

### Trinity College (University of Melbourne)

During the year free places were awarded to six scholarship recipients to attend the one-week residential Young Leaders July Program, with four attending the Trinity College two-week residential Young Leaders December Program. One of our talented music students gained a place in the New York Jazz Symposium one-week residential program. These fun and vibrant programs give young people a taste of university life, challenge them intellectually and give them the opportunity to build understanding and friendships with other young people from across Australia and around the world. The Gourlay Charitable Trust, together with many of Trinity's individual donors, provided a significant amount of the funding for these placements.



### **Lord Somers Camps**

Our relationship with the Lord Somers Big Camp continued in 2014. The Big Camp brings together young people from diverse backgrounds to spend a week at Somers, where they challenge the perceptions they hold of themselves and others. Five Western Chances scholarship recipients attended the 2014 camp.

One recipient who attended the Camp in 2013 returned in 2014 as a leader, maintained a close involvement with the organisation and participated in a number of its programs.

### **Engage Education**

Engage Education offered our recipients the opportunity to participate in mid-year and end of year VCE revision seminars in 23 different subjects. These six and a half hour seminars are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills to perform well on SACs and exams and are presented by experienced and highly qualified VCE teachers, many of whom are assessors with the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority or textbook authors.

A total of 61 Western Chances VCE scholarship recipients participated free of charge in mid and end of year VCE seminars, taking part in 198 sessions. They were held at Trinity College, University of Melbourne.

### **Ormond College (University of Melbourne)**

Non-residential scholarships to Ormond College were awarded to six of our recipients. This allows them to participate in Orientation Week, access all College facilities, and take part in academic programs including small group tutorials, breadth programs, Self and Society programs and academic visitor seminars. They can also have five meals per week in the dining hall and a 'home' on campus including a locker to store their belongings.

### **Doxa Youth Foundation**

This year, two recipients were successful in gaining Doxa cadetships. They receive long term financial, personal and professional support and industry exposure throughout their time at university and are prepared to build a career in their chosen pathways. One recipient who is studying a Bachelor of Business (Banking and Finance) is a cadet at KPMG and the other, who is studying a Bachelor of Journalism, is a cadet in the fundraising and marketing department of Doxa.

### **Dafydd Lewis Trust and Mary Jane Lewis Foundation**

The Dafydd Lewis Trust and Mary Jane Lewis Foundation offer a limited number of scholarships each year, valued at approximately \$15,000 and \$10,000 per annum respectively. We were invited to nominate young people for the 2015 scholarships and in 2014 encouraged eight recipients to apply to the Trust and Foundation. Our team worked hard to identify candidates, support them through the application process and help facilitate the opportunities.

## Other opportunities

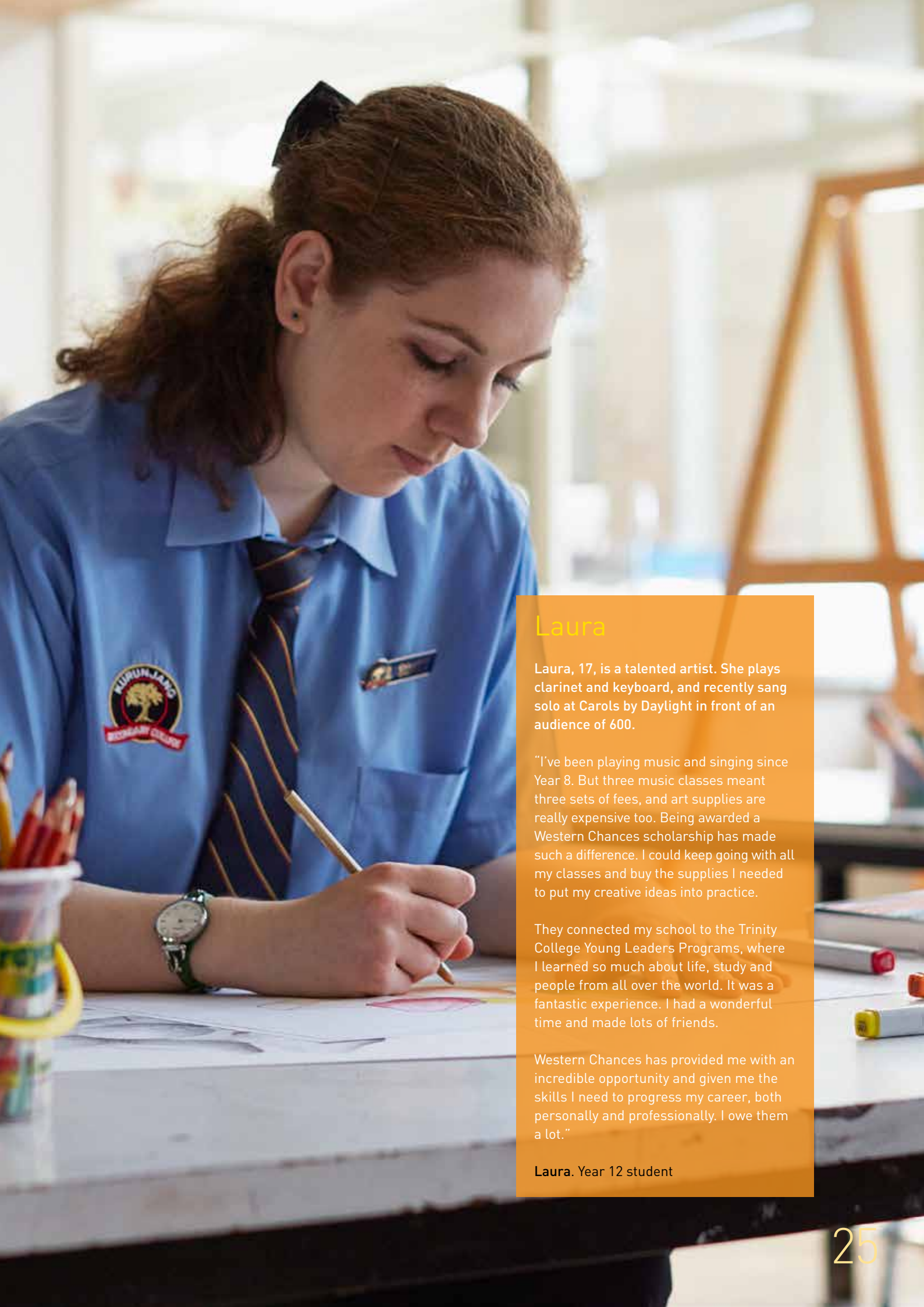
Generous supporters provide ad hoc free tickets to our scholarship recipients, including:

- ☀ Museum Victoria – tickets to Melbourne Museum, Scienceworks and Immigration Museum exhibitions
- ☀ Annamila Pty Ltd – tickets to Cruden Farm Jazz Festival
- ☀ Willett Marketing – tickets to Grand Prix
- ☀ Melbourne Youth Music – participation in the 2015 Summer School; three places funded by the Kimberley Foundation.

Other generous supporters donated items such as business suits and bicycles. These were advertised to scholarship recipients on our Facebook page.

## Scholarship recipient participation in the opportunities for 2014

Opportunity	Number	Value
Victoria University Access scholarships	28	\$28,000
Ormond College non-residential scholarships	6	\$18,450
Trinity College mid-year programs	6	\$10,200
Trinity College end-of-year programs	4	\$13,600
Engage Education seminars	198	\$11,088
Doxa Youth Foundation	2	\$13,200
Lord Somers Big Camp	5	\$2750
<b>Total for 2014</b>		<b>\$97,288</b>



## Laura

Laura, 17, is a talented artist. She plays clarinet and keyboard, and recently sang solo at Carols by Daylight in front of an audience of 600.

"I've been playing music and singing since Year 8. But three music classes meant three sets of fees, and art supplies are really expensive too. Being awarded a Western Chances scholarship has made such a difference. I could keep going with all my classes and buy the supplies I needed to put my creative ideas into practice.

They connected my school to the Trinity College Young Leaders Programs, where I learned so much about life, study and people from all over the world. It was a fantastic experience. I had a wonderful time and made lots of friends.

Western Chances has provided me with an incredible opportunity and given me the skills I need to progress my career, both personally and professionally. I owe them a lot."

Laura. Year 12 student

# Marketing and events

We were proud to increase our reach in 2013 through our marketing program and through a series of events that showcase our work and the achievements of our recipients.

## Our goals for 2014

- ✦ Extend our reach to young people in the Melbourne's west
- ✦ Upgrade our communications to all stakeholders

## What we did

Our aim is to ensure that eligible young people in the region are given the opportunity to apply for Western Chances scholarships.

## Marketing

Marketing is essential to the operations of Western Chances, and involves maintaining and creating new connections to a wide range of stakeholders.

### Social media

During the year we employed a scholarship alumna, Olympia Lupas, as our Social Media and Marketing Coordinator. Olympia works with a social media and marketing contractor to increase the engagement of our audiences across Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. As part of our social media activities, we developed a content calendar to promote the achievements of our scholarship recipients, opportunities and local events in Melbourne's west.

### Schools

Our staff communicated during the year with nominators from state secondary schools in Melbourne's west to inform them about the scholarships and eligibility requirements, visiting 17 schools and community service organisations and meeting with 53 nominators. We continued to improve our schools liaison strategy to ensure continuity of knowledge around our scholarships and Links Program. One of our goals during the year was to increase the number of eligible applications by streamlining the application form and process.

## Events

Each year, we hold a series of events that cover a number of purposes. They showcase the achievements of our scholarship recipients and provide public acknowledgement of their talents and abilities. They raise awareness of the importance of the work we do. And they help us raise funds to continue our work.

### Our 10th year celebrations

On 7 August, past and present Board members, partners, scholarship recipients and nominators came together at The Substation in Newport to celebrate a decade of changing young people's lives in Melbourne's west. The event space showcased wonderful pieces of art, photography, fashion, film and robotics from current scholarship recipients and alumni (*see page 10 for more details*).

### Western Chances Scholarship Award Ceremony

The annual Western Chances Scholarship Award Ceremony, held on 12 March, was our biggest ever. It gave us the opportunity to present award certificates to our scholarship recipients and to celebrate their achievements.

Over 350 guests attended, including 85 scholarship recipients and their families/guardians, school nominators and principals, the Western Chances Board, our Patron, local MPs and Western Chances supporters.

The 2014 ceremony was held at Victoria University's Footscray campus. Master of Ceremonies was Zion Abatayo, a scholarship recipient from 2006 to 2011. Guest speakers were the Founding Chair of Western Chances Terry Bracks and scholarship recipient Stephanie Tedesco, who is in her second year of medicine at Monash University. Stephanie gave a moving speech about her hopes and dreams and the effect that Western Chances has had on her life.

Our Patron, the Hon. Frank Vincent AO QC, presented recipients with their scholarship certificates and entertainment was provided by gifted guitarist and scholarship recipient Aldous Tria, who is studying for a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Contemporary Music at the Victorian College of the Arts.

The ceremony is a very special event for our scholarship recipients. It provides a powerful external endorsement of their achievements and the impact is evident in the responses of the recipients, their families and the nominators. Many young people feel that the event is just as important as the scholarship because the public acknowledgement builds their confidence and self-esteem. They also get to connect with the wider Western Chances community and meet their supporters.

### Good Business Forum luncheon

On 13 June we hosted our fourth annual Good Business Forum Luncheon at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. Over 300 people attended the event, which raised more than \$45,000 for Western Chances.

The keynote speaker was Caroline Wilson, chief football writer for *The Age*. Like our recipients, she faced adversity and a tough journey while pursuing her career dreams. Being a woman in a male-dominated field, Caroline told the audience of the struggles and drive needed to succeed. Caroline also spoke highly of her supportive environment: her parents, mentors and a particular English teacher in school who believed in her writing.

The talents of Western Chances young people were on show at the forum. Andrew Masutti treated the audience to a sublime vibraphone performance, while Hue Man Dang and Mimi Huynh gave moving accounts of their own journeys and the support they received from Western Chances.

The Good Business Forum is designed to raise awareness in the business community of the needs of young people in Melbourne's west, and generate support for creating more opportunities. Our major corporate partner for the event was Melbourne Airport.



# Our supporters

At Western Chances, we rely entirely on the generous donations of our supporters to continue our valuable work. Any gift, big or small, can make a real difference. We would like to sincerely thank these people and organisations for their generosity and for making our scholarships and programs possible.

Australian Communities Foundation (Annamila, DDJE, McGregor Family and Slater & Gordon sub-funds) / Luke Adams / John Aitken / Allandale Foundation / Juliette Alush / Robert Anderson / Narelle Aspery / Paul Atkins / Kay Attali / Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation / Kate Baillieu / Deb Beale / Helen Bebbington / Beck Family Foundation / Tara & Paul Bell / Bennelong Foundation & staff / Besen Family Foundation / Mary Bluett / Christopher Bozena Milowka / Terry Bracks AM / Brasher Family Foundation / Brimbank City Council / Charities Aid Foundation (Sally Watts) / Tony Cakmar / Adrian Callil / Calvert-Jones Foundation / Campbell Edwards Trust / Christopher Canavan / Ros Casey / CFMEU / Joshua Chan / Debra Chapman / Merran Charles / Derek Cheah / Serene Cheong / Dr Frank Chew / Ernie & Wendy Chin / Elsie Chow / Steven Chung / Chung Construction Group Pty Ltd / City of Moonee Valley / Professor Colin Clark / Fiona Clayton / Alexandra Cockram / Michael Cohn / Collier Charitable Fund / Jane Collinson / Anne Connors / Cathie Connors / Patricia Connors / Paul Connors / Phillip Connors / Sheelagh Connors / David Cooke / Maureen Coomber / Rod Coughlin / CPN Commercial Group / Chris Cunningham / Rodger Dalling / Nik Ransey Daud / CJ Deighton / Caroline Doherty / Paula Dorrington / Petrina Dorrington / Rhyll Dorrington / Lynley Dumble / Suzanne Earl / Essendon Keilor College / Julie Evans / Angie Fan / Judy Fan / Claire Fitzgerald / John Fitzgerald & Associates / Marian & EH Flack Nominees Pty Ltd / Patrick Flannigan / The Flora & Frank Leith Trust / Kate Ford / Damian Fraser / Freddy Fulia / Kellie Garlick / Lyra Gattino / Dan Gleeson / Nathan Goetz / Gourlay Charitable Trust / Grill'd Highpoint / Rod Gurry / Mary Halkidis / Gaye Hamilton / Mary-Jo Hanly / Michael Harvey / Carol Hay / Helen Macpherson Smith Trust / James Higgins / Chooi Hon Ho / Hobsons Bay City Council / Ray Horsburgh AM / Sam Hunt / Norman Huon / Invergowrie Foundation / Lloyd Jones / Sue Karzis / Keeair Refrigeration P/L / Chris Kerber / Judith Kunstek / Leon Lachal / Maria Lau / Kelvyn Lavelle / Victor Le / Fong Mee Lee / Houda Lebbos / Betty Lee / David Lee / Francesca Lee / Kristine Lee / Timothy Lehany / Helen & Chee Mun Leong / Peter Lemon / Curt Leonard / Gabrielle Leonard / Richard Leong / Kerry Lewis / Chin Min Lian / Julie Ligeti / Mark Logue / Peter & Leanne Loh / Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation (Civilian Widows Vic Fund, Youth in Philanthropy Program and Zdraveski Charitable Fund) / Neil Maclean / Tricia Maclean / Macquarie Bank / Mark Madden / Maddocks Foundation / Carly Madigan / Maribyrnong City Council / Mary Street Holdings (John MacKinnon) / Jennifer McConnell / Kim McGrath / Martin McKenna / Jen McKinley / Gina McVicar / Medway Golf Club / Melbourne Airport / Melvan Dancers / Mietta Foundation / Minter Ellison Lawyers / Paula Monet / Shorna Moore / Marion Mortimer / James Murphy / Guy Nelson / Rosemary Nelson / Newsboys Foundation / Kar Ch-Ng / Kok Kee Ng / Hilary Nicholson / John-Christopher Noble / Wade Noonan / Peter O'Brien / Patricia O'Donnell / Oxford College Pty Ltd / Felicity Pantelidis / Alexandra Patterson / India Patterson / Lucinda Patterson / Scott Patterson / Murray Pavia / Daniel Pearson / Susan Pelka / Shelley Penn / Pierce Armstrong Foundation / Llewellyn Prain / Michael Prebeg / Louis Raunik / Hayden Raysmith / Sue Readman / Anthony Rich / Mary Kay Robertson / Liz Round / Craig Rowley / Joanne Ryan MP / Samuel Nissen Charitable Foundation, managed by Perpetual / Rob Sheehan / Daniel Sim / Adam Slade-Jacobson / India Smitham / State Trustees Foundation / Joan Stennett

/ Sunshine Foundation / Laura Tahan / Kim Bak Teoh / Chris Teh / Eng Waa Teh / Telstra / Kerry Thompson / Jim & Grace Tirtha / Damian Toohey / Trans-Tasman Business Circle / Bernadette Tripodi / Rosemerry Utber / Vietnamese Community in Australia / The Hon. Frank Vincent AO QC / Lynne Wannan / Christine Warke / The Wheeler Centre / Cheyne Whichello / Janet Whiting / Louise Whiting / Ted Whitten / Mark Willett / Ros Willett / Jenna Williams / Williamstown & Altona Life Saving Clubs' Nippers / Richard Wong / Stephen Wong / Caroline Woodley / Helen Worlidge / Wyndham City Council / Sieh Hong Yau / Brooke Young

## Pro bono supporters

Agent Creative / Dreampool Productions / Barker & Barker Media / Carmine Consulting / Clayton Utz / Jolimont Capital / KPMG / Lime Consulting / Neil McCarthy & Associates / Plenary Group / RogenSi / Supple Consulting / ThompsonCooke Creative / Western Health / Willett Marketing / Williams Real Estate

## Donations in kind

Zion Abatayo / Tess Barnes / Charlie Bezzina / Andrew Blake / Broden Borg / Jane Collinson / Ross Cruickshanks / Hue Man Dang / Joel Davies / Laura Davis / Nicholas D'Glas / Patrick Francis / Michael Happell / Hello Music Studio / Mimi Huynh / In Bloom Floral Design / Jenny Kavadias & Angus Mason / Kimberley Foundation / Leader Community Newspapers / Neil Low / David Mackintosh / Andrew Masutti / Emma Morrison / My Adventure Travel / Naked Wines / Oliver Nease / Newport Cellars / Newport Substation / Our Community / Daniel Puentes / Enrique Puentes / Doug Rathbone / Schwartz Media / Slater & Gordon / Hristijan Spirovski / Pamela Sutton-Legaud / Stephanie Tedesco / Treasury Wine Estates / Aldous Tria / Patrick Tria / Victoria University / Western Bulldogs / Caroline Wilson / Jo Wilson / Valerie Wilson / Martin Zakharov / Zouki Catering

## Volunteers

Jessica Bonello / Charlotte Cameron / Jane Collinson / Paula Dorrington / Petrina Dorrington / Emma Eldridge / Marion Fallah / Lucinda Francese / Jack Harper / Jen Harrison / Ha My Pham / Mary Holloway / Lesley Howard / Gabrielle Keating / Julie Ligeti / Jowe Ly / Lex McArthur / Janice Murphy / Lachlan O'Connor / Rebecca Oldham / Alexandra Patterson / India Patterson / Lucinda Patterson / Scott Patterson / Kaytlin Petrarca / Ha My Pham / Nigel Sharpe / Geoff Sims / Tonie-Rayne Steele / Shane Thompson / Darryl Tirtha / Victor Tran / Kathy Watson / Louise Whiting / Rita Zammit



## Adhieu

Adhieu, 18, arrived in Australia in 2006. Currently in first year of a fashion design degree at university, she has already won multiple awards for her work.

“Since I was a child, I’ve always loved design and a career in fashion has always been my dream. But my first pieces had to be hand-sewn because I didn’t have a sewing machine.

Western Chances made all the difference. The scholarship meant I was able to buy a sewing machine, a mannequin, fabrics and a sewing kit. These things are expensive but essential. And now I can make things at home any time. I’m so happy to have that option.

Displaying my work at the Western Chances 10 Year Anniversary celebrations was a fantastic opportunity. So much positive feedback made me feel good about myself. It’s amazing being supported by people who will help me get where I want to go in life. I’m incredibly grateful.”

**Adhieu.** University student



# Ways to give

## Big Dreams

To build the sustainability of Western Chances, we introduced the Big Dreams campaign to encourage donors to support us on a monthly direct debit basis. Our friends who want to help us continue our great work can contribute as little as \$10 per month to change a life.

## Donate

Any donation – big or small – makes a difference to our organisation.

Donors can visit [www.westernchances.org.au](http://www.westernchances.org.au) to sign up.

## Bequests a gift to young people of the future

Bequests are critical to the future of an organisation like Western Chances. Some people choose to leave a part of their money or property to an organisation like ours because they believe in what we do, and because they want to help people in need into the future. Every gift will have a meaningful and ongoing impact on the life of a young person and their family.

Since the global financial crisis, which deeply affected charitable giving across Australia, our need is even greater. We have no state or federal government funding and rely entirely on the generosity of our donors.

We are in the early stages of establishing a bequest program, to assist people who may be interested in leaving a bequest but are unsure of how to do it. By developing effective processes and maintaining relationships with our supporters, we hope that a Western Chances bequest program will grow into an entity that can support our organisation's sustainability.

Any questions about bequests should be directed to the Western Chances CEO. All discussions are confidential and without obligation.

### **State Trustees Australia Foundation - George Robert Phillips**

The Will of the late George Robert Phillips, who died in 2007, included a gift to the State Trustees Australia Foundation with a request that a share of income be distributed to Western Chances annually.

Each year Western Chances can now rely on this generous gift from Mr. Phillips' estate and we are very appreciative of a regular untied donation that helps build the sustainability of our organisation.

# Supporter profiles

## Lynette Hansen, Nominator

'A hand up, not a handout' is what motivates Western Chances scholarship recipients to achieve. Assistance to buy books, equipment and extra materials relieves the financial pressure on families, but the acknowledgement the young people receive really bolsters their self-worth. There's great personal satisfaction when I see the delight on a student's face after they've been awarded a new computer or a camera for photography. Having the resources they need encourages them to strive even harder to achieve their potential.

The support from Western Chances greatly benefits many of our students at school, and continues once they move on to university. I greatly admire the commitment and passion of everyone associated with Western Chances, and their genuine interest in the welfare of our local young people.

## Christine Warke, Nominator

Western Chances gives our students some amazing opportunities. They have to apply for the scholarship each year, so they need to maintain a high standard and have a concrete goal to strive for. They know the scholarship is a privilege.

Families are so grateful because financial disadvantage can be a real barrier. For example, some students can't choose the subjects they want in VCE because of expensive textbooks. And the other opportunities, such as leadership camps and VCE prep sessions, build skills and confidence.

As an educator, it's so rewarding to see these students flourish when they go on to further education. And the scholarships also help to build a better school community. We find that students involved in Western Chances often help other students in our homework study hall, giving back in appreciation of the opportunities they've been given.

## Lou Raunik, Donor

I'm very proud of the fact that I was born, grew up and raised my family in the western suburbs. But I remember many contemporaries of mine leaving school as soon as they could to find work, mainly because that was what was expected. I became aware of Western Chances when I was invited to last year's Good Business Forum. I continue to be moved by the stories of the scholarship recipients and how much of a difference the support provided by Western Chances has made to their lives. As I listened to each speech by these wonderful young people, it was apparent that just as important as the financial and material assistance provided is the affirmation that others see they are worth investing in, and this further fuels their desire to attain their goals and fulfil their potential.



I share the Western Chances belief that, in this wealthy country, no young person with ability and ambition should be prevented from achieving their potential because of a lack of resources or opportunity. And I believe all of us who are able have a responsibility to do our little bit to contribute to the cause.

## Caroline Doherty, Major Corporate Sponsor

Western Chances is a fantastic organisation and we at Melbourne Airport are proud to be its major corporate sponsor.

Investment in the development of our local young people is vital for us, as we are a key employer in the region and we're set to significantly grow. We know that this area has pockets of disadvantage and sometimes local young people can struggle to reach their potential. By supporting Western Chances, we're not just helping young people. We're also creating a pool of skilled potential employees to draw on in the future – for us and for other local businesses.

The commitment we've made to Western Chances is for a number of years. That way, they know that the money is coming and they can concentrate on what they do best – helping talented and motivated young people to achieve their goals. They don't have to spend as much time chasing donations every year, so we get more value for our investment.



## ThompsonCooke Creative

When Western Chances required a more professional and engaging brand to attract more corporate and community sponsors, we were happy to help out.

It's been wonderful to work with Western Chances and to see their scholarship program in action. We've had the opportunity to hear some of the scholarship recipients speak about the difference a scholarship from Western Chances has made to their lives and their dreams.

The scholarships solve very real day-to-day problems by providing money for travel, computers, sporting equipment and clothing, musical instruments, lessons and textbooks. We have a teenage son and we fully understand that without the right support and money to buy the essentials, it's very difficult for a young person to continue with their studies. That's why we made the decision to provide design and advertising expertise to Western Chances. We love the great work they do.



# Our organisation

## The Western Chances team

The Western Chances office is made up of a capable team of four who are hard-working, dedicated and passionate about improving the lives of young people in Melbourne's west.

### **Rhyll Dorrington** Chief Executive Officer

Rhyll has worked in many and varied roles within the public, private and not-for-profit sectors, and as a volunteer mentor to young people. Rhyll began her career at Variety, the Children's Charity. She has also run her own restaurant in Carlton and worked with a Member of the Victorian Parliament. From 1998 to 2008 Rhyll lived in London, working in a variety of roles at organisations including the *Financial Times* and the London Borough of Southwark, where she managed a large corporate employee volunteering program. This highly successful program involved brokering partnerships between large corporations and state primary and secondary schools. Rhyll's role is to lead Western Chances and she is responsible for the overall management of the organisation.

### **Anne Connors** Program Manager

Anne has a business degree and a Diploma of Education (secondary). She has used her teaching skills in corporate training and university lecturing and tutoring. Anne spent the majority of her working life in the client services area of advertising agencies. She undertook a variety of volunteering roles until she joined the not-for-profit sector in June 2012 as the Western Chances Program Manager. Anne's overall responsibility is to manage the development, documentation and delivery of the Scholarship Program and Links Program operations of Western Chances.

### **Rebecca Oldham** Office Manager (left April 2014)

Before joining Western Chances, Rebecca worked for almost 10 years with State Trustees in a range of roles including management of trusts, estates, enduring powers of attorney and leading a team. She also worked as a volunteer for more than six years with the Christina Noble Children's Foundation, at one time spending a year in Vietnam. This organisation supports disadvantaged and at-risk children in Vietnam and Mongolia. Rebecca managed all aspects of operations and administration of the Western Chances office.

### **Jennifer McConnell**, Office Manager (commenced June 2014)

Jenn joined the Western Chances team following a two-year period working as an office manager for the Western Health Foundation. Before moving to Australia from the UK, she spent many years in the corporate sector in executive assistant roles, and worked as a volunteer youth mentor in London. Jenn's overall responsibility is to manage all aspects of operations and administration at Western Chances. This includes the Scholarship and Links Programs, events, marketing, building community relationships and volunteer management.

### **Betty Klonaris** Office Administrator

Betty has worked in administration since 1991. Before joining Western Chances, she worked in a large medical practice where she managed the day to day running of the surgery. Betty joined Western Chances in February 2006. She assists the Office Manager with a wide range of administrative duties in the areas of scholarships, programs, events and finance.

## Western Chances Board

### Founding Chair

Terry Bracks AM BEd GradDipAppSc

### Deputy Chair

Lynne Wannan AM GAICD BA DipEd

### Treasurer

Patrick J Flannigan BBus FAIM FAICD Dip

### Board Members

Deborah Beale BComm MBA

Gaye Hamilton BSc(Ed)

Kelvyn Lavelle MA GradDipUrbResearch

Guy Nelson BComm LLB

Felicity Pantelidis B Comm(Hons)

Rosalind Willett BEd

## Board subcommittees

### Finance and Audit Subcommittee

Patrick Flannigan (Chair)

Rhyll Dorrington

Deb Beale

### Fundraising and Marketing Subcommittee

Ros Willett (Chair)

Emma Eldridge

Tara Bell

Kelvyn Lavelle

Rhyll Dorrington

Neil McCarthy

### Volunteer scholarship assessors

Colleen Arms

Anthony Daborn

Gabrielle Keating

Vicki Moore

Chris Thomson

Sue Wannan

Sue Wilson

Daryl Forbes (resigned May 2014)

Roz Zalewski (resigned September 2014)

Barbara Bugg

Mary Holloway

Ross McKenzie

Rebecca Oldham

Kerrie Watson

Jacinta Waugh

Dionne Wright

Jane Collinson

Bill Horrocks

Wendy McManus

Rosie Salvaris

Lynne Wannan

Erin Wilson

## Junior

Junior, 18, is a refugee from Liberia who arrived in Australia five years ago. His dream has always been to work as a motor mechanic.

"Since I was a kid I've loved cars. Now I'm a first year apprentice mechanic at Kmart Tyre Auto Service. One day I'd love to have my own garage and buy an Audi.

I arrived in Australia in 2009, to join my mum. We come from Liberia but lived for a while in Guinea before we could get to Melbourne. It was hard for mum, being alone here. She wasn't able to work every day. School was good and I liked work experience. But when I wanted to do a VCAL course, we didn't have enough money.

That's when Western Chances started helping me. The scholarship meant we could pay for fees, textbooks and tools. At Western Chances, they are very good because they help people like me to get an education so that we can have a good life."

**Junior.** Motor mechanic.



# Financial Report

## Western Chances Directors' report

For the year ended 31 December 2014



### Directors

The Directors of the Company at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

#### Founding Chair

**Terry Bracks AM BEd GradDipAppSc**

Terry Bracks is Patron of Williamstown Literary Festival and Board Member of Breast Cancer Network Australia, past Board Member of the National Film and Sound Archive, past Board Member of the Australian Children's Television Foundation and past Trustee of the Victorian Arts Centre Trust.

Terry has worked as a teacher in regional Victoria and as an electorate officer to Federal MPs. She received a Centenary Medal, has been inducted onto the Women's Honour Roll and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Victoria University. Terry was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 2012. She currently works part time for the Balibo House Trust.

#### Deputy Chair

**Lynne Wannan AM GAICD BA DipEd**

Lynne Wannan is Director, Centre for Community Services Development, Department of Health and Human Services Victoria, an inductee of the Victorian Women's Honour Roll and a Member of the Order of Australia. She is a Director of GoodStart Early Learning Limited. Her immediate past roles include Chair Victorian Government Adult Community and Further Education Board and Children's Advisory Council, Commissioner Victorian Learning and Skills Commission, member Victorian Qualification Authority, Chair Community Child Care Victoria and Convenor National Association, Community Based Children's Services.

Earlier roles include Deputy Chancellor Victoria University, Chair Premier's Women's Advisory Council, member Child Care Reference Group (Commonwealth Government) and Manager Community Services, City of Sunshine.

#### Treasurer

**Patrick J Flannigan BBus FAIM FAICD Dip**

Patrick Flannigan has over 25 years of commercial experience in the industrial services, hospitality and tourism sectors. He has held senior positions up to CEO level with responsibilities for a wide range of activities including finance, operations and marketing. He has established his own business and currently serves on the Boards of various companies, both public and private.

Patrick is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He holds a business degree from Victoria University.

# Western Chances Directors' report

For the year ended 31 December 2014

## Board Members

### **Deborah Beale BComm MBA**

Deborah Beale has a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Melbourne, a Graduate Diploma from the Securities Institute of Australia and a Master of Business Administration from Melbourne Business School.

Deb began her working career in the finance industry, where she was employed by Merrill Lynch for over a decade. She then moved to Ernst & Young where she specialised in governance and risk management. Deb has also served and continues to serve on a number of government, private and not-for-profit Boards. Her broad experience includes the areas of finance, corporate governance, fundraising, public relations and risk management.

### **Gaye Hamilton BSc(Ed)**

After a career as a secondary science teacher and Director of Zoos and Museums, Gaye now undertakes a range of contract and Board work and is also a Director of the Western Bulldogs Football Club, the State Sports Centres Trust and Victoria University.

### **Kelvyn Lavelle MA GradDipUrbResearch**

Kelvyn Lavelle is Executive Director Corporate Affairs for Plenary Group, a leading public infrastructure business across Australia and Canada. His expertise is in the social infrastructure and construction sectors. Prior to joining Plenary Group, Kelvyn worked in public relations where he represented both the private and public sectors in the public infrastructure market.

Kelvyn has also held senior public sector positions. Before working in public relations he was State Manager of Training and Youth Affairs for the Commonwealth Department of Education. His academic qualifications include a Master of Arts by research and a Graduate Diploma in Urban Research and Policy.

### **Guy Nelson BComm LLB**

Guy Nelson has over 25 years of experience in property investment and investment banking in Australia and Asia. He was an Executive Director of Macquarie Group and is now Managing Director of Alpha Partners, a boutique property investment business.

Guy originally practised commercial law before moving into investment banking. Prior to his role at Macquarie he was a senior executive with Bankers Trust Australia. He served as a Board member on many Macquarie investments and Property Council of Australia advisory committees, and is a Fellow of the Australian Property Institute. Guy holds a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Melbourne.



# Western Chances Directors' report

For the year ended 31 December 2014

## Board Members

### **Felicity Pantelidis B Comm(Hons)**

Felicity Pantelidis is Chief Operating Officer at Slater & Gordon Lawyers and Deputy Chair of the Royal Women's Hospital. Prior to joining Slater & Gordon Lawyers, she was General Manager of the GE Capital/Myer Joint Venture consumer credit business. Prior to joining GE, Felicity held a number of senior marketing roles at Telstra.

Felicity holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Hons) from Monash University. She is a former Board director of the Victorian Deaf Society and the North Yarra Community Health Centre. Felicity was also a member of the Monash University Marketing Department Industry Advisory Board. Her Board experience includes governance, finance, strategy, fundraising and government relations.

### **Rosalind (Ros) Willett BEd**

Rosalind Willett is Managing Partner of marketing agency Willett Marketing. She has extensive experience in both corporate and government marketing campaigns. Her experience extends to sponsorship and event management, digital communications and education campaigns.

Prior to her current role, Ros was a secondary teacher in a specialist setting for disadvantaged youth. She has a strong interest in the arts and sits on the Boards of Little Big Shots International Film Festival for Kids and Theatreworks. Ros has produced a number of short films and managed a short film festival.

## Attendance at meetings

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Eligible to attend</b>	<b>Attended</b>
Terry Bracks (Chair)	5	5
Lynne Wannan (Vice Chair)	5	1
Patrick Flannigan (Treasurer)	5	5
Deborah Beale	5	4
Gaye Hamilton	5	5
Kelvyn Lavelle	5	5
Guy Nelson	5	3
Felicity Pantelidis	5	3
Ros Willett	5	5

## Western Chances Directors' report

For the year ended 31 December 2014

### Short and long term objectives of the entity

The Western Chances vision is to see young people in Melbourne's western suburbs achieve their full potential.

#### Strategy for achieving these objectives

- ✦ Awarding merit-based scholarships that are targeted to young people in Melbourne's west who have limited opportunities and financial resources.
- ✦ Providing opportunity programs and networks that advance the talents and pathways of young people in Melbourne's west.
- ✦ Recognising, nurturing and celebrating the talent and potential talent of young people.
- ✦ Building partnerships that are aligned with the Western Chances vision to support the sustainability of the organisation.

### Principal activities

The principal activities during the course of the financial year were to raise funds to provide scholarships to young people in Melbourne's western suburbs and to provide personal, professional and educational development opportunities via the Links Program. Links Program opportunities are free to Western Chances recipients and are offered in addition to the scholarships.

#### How principal activities assisted in achieving the entity's objectives

- ✦ Awarded 546 new and renewal tailor-made, merit based scholarships to young people identified as talented and motivated but financially disadvantaged.
- ✦ Offered over 500 personal, professional and educational development opportunities to scholarship recipients including VCE seminars, university scholarships and cadetships.
- ✦ Recognised and celebrated the talent of 2013 new scholarship recipients by holding a Scholarship Award Ceremony for recipients, their schools, families and friends and employed scholarship recipient alumni to work within the organisation.
- ✦ Built major partnerships with organisations to build the sustainability of Western Chances.

#### How performance is measured, including any key performance indicators (KPIs) used by the entity

- ✦ Percentage of state schools in Melbourne's west contacted to nominate scholarship recipients
- ✦ Percentage of state schools in Melbourne's west nominating scholarship recipients
- ✦ Percentage of year 12 scholarship recipients completing year 12
- ✦ Percentage of year 12 scholarship recipients going on to further education, training or employment
- ✦ Raising sufficient funds to renew all eligible scholarship applications

## Western Chances Directors' report

For the year ended 31 December 2014

### Key Performance Indicators

- ☀ 100% state schools in Melbourne's west contacted
- ☀ 80% state schools in Melbourne's west nominating scholarship recipients
- ☀ 100% of year 12 scholarship recipients completing year 12 (125 undertook VCE or equivalent and 97% were contactable).
- ☀ 97% of year 12 scholarship recipients have gone on to further education, training or employment
- ☀ Raised \$364,321 to renew the 354 eligible scholarships following evidence of progress and a self-assessment from each young person

## 4 Operating and financial review

### Commentary on operating results

Operating income for the financial period was **\$737,737** (2013: \$767,517) from donations, sponsorship, investments and bank interest. Total expenditure for the financial period of **\$830,374** (2013: \$842,335) included approved scholarships of **\$456,437** (2013: \$439,616).

### Significant changes in the state of affairs

In the opinion of the Directors there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Company that occurred during the financial period under review.

## 5 Events subsequent to reporting date

There has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the Directors of the Company, to affect significantly the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company, in future financial years.

## 6 Likely developments

The Company will continue to provide scholarships to young people in the western suburbs to fund their studies.

## Western Chances Directors' report

For the year ended 31 December 2014

### Auditor's independence declaration

The Auditor's independence declaration is set out on page 43 and forms part of the Directors' report for the financial year ended 31 December 2014.

### Rounding off

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest dollar unless otherwise stated.

### Liability of members if the company is wound up

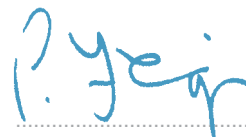
Every member undertakes to contribute an amount not more than \$100 to the property of the Company if it is wound up while the person is a member or within one year after the person ceases to be a member, for:

- (a) payment of the Company's debts and liabilities contracted before the time he or she ceased to be a member;
- (b) the costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and
- (c) the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

**This report is made with a resolution of the Directors:**



Terry Bracks  
Chair  
Melbourne  
24 April 2015



Patrick Flannigan  
Treasurer



## Auditor's Independence Declaration under subdivision 60-C section 60-40 of Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012

To: the Directors of Western Chances

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit for the financial year ended 31 December 2014 there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

KPMG

Chris Sargent

Partner

Melbourne

24 April 2015

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## Western Chances Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

For the year ended 31 December 2014

	Note	2014	2013
Revenue	4	737,737	767,517
Expenses (excluding finance costs)	5	(830,374)	(842,335)
Finance costs		(10,124)	(9,093)
Results from operating activities		<b>(102,760)</b>	<b>(83,911)</b>
Net gain / (loss) on investments		(4,010)	91,940
Net gain / (loss) on disposal of PPE		-	(493)
Profit / (loss) before income tax		<b>(106,770)</b>	<b>7,536</b>
Income tax expense		-	-
Profit / (loss) for the period		<b>(106,770)</b>	<b>7,536</b>
Total comprehensive income / (loss) for the period		<b>(106,770)</b>	<b>7,536</b>

The notes on pages 48 to 52 are an integral part of these financial statements.

## Western Chances Statement of financial position

As at 31 December 2014

	Note	2014	2013
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	589,518	571,897
Investments / financial assets		554,956	542,434
Trade and other receivables		1,498	37,298
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>1,145,972</b>	<b>1,151,629</b>
Investment / financial assets		-	150,000
Property, plant and equipment	7	-	322
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>150,322</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>1,145,972</b>	<b>1,301,95</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	8	49,885	94,349
Employee benefits	9	27,660	33,611
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>77,545</b>	<b>127,960</b>
Employee benefits	9	23,754	22,548
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>23,754</b>	<b>22,548</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>101,299</b>	<b>150,50</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>1,044,673</b>	<b>1,151,443</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained earnings		581,673	688,443
Restricted Scholarship Fund		463,000	463,000
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>1,044,673</b>	<b>1,151,443</b>

The notes on pages 48 to 52 are an integral part of these financial statements.

## Western Chances Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 31 December 2014

	Restricted Scholarship Fund	Retained earnings	Total
Balance at 1 January 2013	463,000	680,907	1,143,907
Total comprehensive loss for the period			
Profit / (loss) for the period	-	7,536	7,536
Total comprehensive loss for the period	-	7,536	7,536
Balance at 31 December 2013	<b>463,000</b>	<b>688,443</b>	<b>1,151,443</b>
Balance at 1 January 2014	463,000	688,443	1,151,443
Total comprehensive income for the period			
Profit / (loss) for the period	-	(106,770)	(106,770)
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	(106,770)	(106,770)
Balance at 31 December 2014	<b>463,000</b>	<b>581,673</b>	<b>1,044,673</b>

The notes on pages 48 to 52 are an integral part of these financial statements.



# Western Chances

## Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2014

	Note	2014	2013
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Cash receipts from donors		630,302	579,738
Cash receipts from sponsors and events		101,518	142,364
Interest received		14,687	21,331
Cash generated from operations		<b>746,507</b>	<b>743,433</b>
Payments to suppliers and employees		(422,448)	(381,964)
Scholarship payments		(456,437)	(441,272)
Net cash provided by / (used) in operating activities		<b>(132,379)</b>	<b>(79,803)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Investment / financial asset		150,000	-
Purchase of property plant and equipment		-	-
Net cash used in investing activities		<b>150,000</b>	-
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Net cash used in financing activities		-	-
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		17,621	(79,803)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		571,897	651,700
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	6	<b>589,518</b>	<b>571,897</b>

The notes on pages 48 to 52 are an integral part of these financial statements.

# Western Chances

## Notes to the financial statements

### 1 Reporting entity

Western Chances ("the Company") is a Company domiciled in Australia. The address of the Company's registered office is 176 Furlong Road, St. Albans VIC 3021. The Company is a not-for-profit entity and is involved in providing scholarships and the Links Program to young people in Melbourne's western suburbs.

Western Chances is a company limited by guarantee. The liability of members is limited.

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company is not a reporting entity. The financial report of the Company has been drawn up as a special purpose financial report for distribution to the members and for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commissions Act 2012* and Regulations 2013.

### 2 Basis of preparation

#### **(a) Statement of compliance**

The special purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commissions Act 2012* and Regulations 2013, and the recognition, measurement and classification aspects of all applicable Australian Accounting Standards (AASBs) adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB).

The financial report does not include the disclosure requirements of all AASBs except for the following minimum requirements:

AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements

AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows

AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors

AASB 1048 Interpretation and Application of Standards

AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 24 April 2015.

#### **(b) Basis of measurement**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for the following: financial assets (investments) are measured at fair value through the income statement.

#### **(c) Functional and presentation currency**

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the Company's functional currency.

# Western Chances

## Notes to the financial statements

### Significant accounting policies

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

#### (a) Property, plant and equipment

##### (i) Recognition and measurement

Items of property, plant and equipment are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

##### (ii) Depreciation

Depreciation is recognised in profit or loss on a straight line basis over the estimated useful life of each part of an item of property, plant and equipment.

The depreciation rates for the current and comparative periods are as follows:

	2014	2013
Computer, printer and fax	33%	33%

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date.

#### (b) Impairment

##### (i) Property, plant and equipment

The carrying value of property, plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment at each reporting date.

#### (c) Employee benefits

All employee expenses and entitlements are initially paid through Western Health. Western Chances then reimburses Western Health. Annual and long service leave provisions held by Western Chances represent the amounts to be paid to Western Health to reimburse these costs in future periods.

The amounts provided in respect of employee benefits are the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current or prior periods, plus related on-costs. Any non-current amounts are discounted to present value.

#### (d) Revenue

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Company and revenue can be reliably measured, such as when funds are actually received.

Funds received are classified as Sponsorship where public recognition is appropriate.

Funds received are classified as Donations where public recognition is not required.

## Western Chances

### Notes to the financial statements

#### **(e) Finance costs**

Finance expenses comprise bank fees, merchant fees and investment management fees.

#### **(f) Goods and services tax**

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as a current asset or liability in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

#### **(g) Income tax**

Western Chances is an approved not for profit organisation under the *Income Tax Assessment Act* and therefore is exempt from income tax.

Western Chances was endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient on 24 February 2006, meaning monies received are tax deductible to donors.

#### **(h) Financial assets**

Financial assets, being the Company's investment portfolio, are carried at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognised in current period earnings as the investments are able to be realised with one month's notice and are therefore considered to be short term in nature.

## Western Chances Notes to the financial statements

### Revenue

	2014	2013
Donations	594,502	579,738
Sponsorships and event income	101,518	142,364
Investment income	27,030	24,084
Bank interest	14,687	21,331
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b><u>737,737</u></b>	<b><u>767,517</u></b>

### Expenses

	2014	2013
Scholarship expenses	456,437	439,616
Program administration	107,348	123,344
Program development	100,164	108,273
Program marketing	29,134	37,728
Program coordinators	77,549	79,465
Administration and other operating expenses	59,742	53,909
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b><u>830,374</u></b>	<b><u>842,335</u></b>

### Cash and cash equivalents

	2014	2013
Cash at bank	589,518	571,897
<b>Cash and cash equivalents in the statements of cash flows</b>	<b><u>589,518</u></b>	<b><u>571,897</u></b>

#### Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities

	2014	2013
Cash flows from operating activities		
Profit / (loss) for the period	(106,770)	7,536
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	322	2,496
Non cash movement in financial assets	(12,522)	(108,811)
Gain / (loss) on disposal of PPE	-	493
<b>Operating profit before changes in working capital and provisions</b>	<b><u>(118,970)</u></b>	<b><u>(98,286)</u></b>
Change in trade and other payables	(44,464)	34,680
Change in provisions and employee benefits	(4,745)	18,735
Change in trade and other receivables	35,800	(34,932)
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b><u>(132,379)</u></b>	<b><u>(79,803)</u></b>

## Western Chances Notes to the financial statements

### Property, plant and equipment

	2014	2013
<b>Cost</b>		
Balance at start of period	5,315	9,598
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	(4,283)
Balance at end of period	<u>5,315</u>	<u>5,315</u>
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>		
Balance at start of period	(4,993)	(6,287)
Depreciation	(322)	(2,496)
Disposals	-	3,790
Balance at end of period	<u>(5,315)</u>	<u>(4,993)</u>
<b>Carrying value</b>		
Cost at end of period	5,315	5,315
Accumulated depreciation at end of period	(5,315)	(4,993)
Carrying value at end of period	<u>-</u>	<u>322</u>

### Trade and other payables

	2014	2013
Trade payables	23,035	67,858
Accrued liabilities	26,850	26,491
Total trade and other payables	<u>49,885</u>	<u>94,349</u>

### Employee benefits

	2014	2013
<b>Current</b>		
Liability for annual leave	17,062	24,527
Liability for long-service leave	10,598	9,084
	<u>27,660</u>	<u>33,611</u>
<b>Non-current</b>		
Liability for long-service leave	23,754	22,548
Total employee benefits	<u>51,414</u>	<u>56,159</u>

### Subsequent events

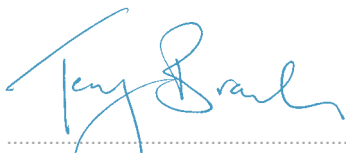
There have been no events subsequent to balance date which would have a material effect on the Company's financial report at 31 December 2014.

## Western Chances Directors' declaration

In the opinion of the Directors of Western Chances ("the Company"):

- (a) the Company is not a reporting entity;
- (b) the financial statements and notes, set out on pages 48 to 52, are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commissions Act 2012* and Regulations 2013, including:
  - (i) giving a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2014 and of its performance, as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows, for the financial year ended on that date in accordance with the statement of compliance and basis of preparation described in Note 2; and
  - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) to the extent described in Note 2, and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commissions Act 2012* and Regulations 2013; and
- (c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Directors:



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Terry Bracks  
Chair



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Patrick Flannigan  
Treasurer

Dated at Melbourne this day of 24 April 2015



## Independent audit report to the members of Western Chances

### Report on the financial report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Western Chances (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2014, and the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, notes 1 to 10 comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Directors' declaration of the Company.

This audit report has also been prepared for the members of the Company in pursuant to Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 (ACNC)*.

### Directors' responsibility for the financial report

The Directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the special purpose financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the ACNC, and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 2 to the financial statements is appropriate to meet the requirements of the ACNC, and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the Directors determine necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Company's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We performed the procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report gives a true and fair view, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 2 and the ACNC, a true and fair view which is consistent with our understanding of the Company's financial position and of its performance.



We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

#### Auditor's opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Western Chances is in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 December 2014 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 2 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

#### Basis of accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 2 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the directors' financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.



KPMG



Chris Sargent

Partner

Melbourne

24 April 2015

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# Big Dreams

from as little as \$10 a month.

"A scholarship from Western Chances has made such a huge difference to my life. It helped me out with so many of the extra things I needed, like travel costs, textbooks and tutoring. I've just begun my dream job at the Royal Children's Hospital and look forward to the future." - *Jessica*

Western Chances supports talented and motivated young people in Melbourne's west who might not otherwise have an opportunity to pursue their dreams. Over ten years we have provided more than 4000 educational scholarships and opportunities.

From as little as \$10 a month you can help big dreams come true.  
Donate at [www.westernchances.org.au](http://www.westernchances.org.au)



**WESTERN  
CHANCES**

## Western Chances

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