



Moonee Valley
Sustainability

Annual Report 2024/25

MVS Christmas Party, Woodlands Park, Essendon, December 2024



Co-Chairs' Report

Introduction

We are incredibly proud of the achievements of our volunteers over the past year.

From clean-ups and the launch of our new Waste-Not-Hub, to Council submissions, film nights, electrification initiatives, festivals, passive house tours, nature strip plantings, and educational workshops — just to name a few — it's clear we've been active across a wide range of sustainability initiatives.

To support this breadth of activity, we've made a deliberate effort to strengthen our five Collectives, empowering them to run their own events, campaigns &/or projects. This structure helps distribute the workload while allowing volunteers to focus their energy on the things that matter to them.



We've also bolstered our governance framework by ensuring our five working groups are supported by capable, committed volunteers, with lines of communication to our Committee. This model fosters strong coordination and a shared sense of purpose across the organisation.

In the second half of the year, we temporarily shifted focus from clean-ups to campaigns and advocacy, having engaged our community in shaping the strategic direction of our municipality. Through our letter-writing support and education efforts, we helped people navigate complex Council planning documents and encouraged deeper thinking around what it truly means to build a "climate-safe" community. This kind of advocacy is crucial for designing the 'now' that will lead us toward the future we envision.

None of this would be possible without the generous support of our members, donors, a grant from Moonee Valley City Council, and a generous contribution from the Rotary Club of Essendon North. We are deeply grateful!

Our momentum continues to grow as more people in our community step up, speak out, and take action. Every individual effort contributes to meaningful change — people power is the driving force behind the better future we're working toward. This groundswell of action inspires us every day and keeps us moving forward toward our vision: a climate-safe and pollution-free Moonee Valley for all.

Yours Sustainably,

Logan & Angela
MVS Co-Chairs

Awards



Environment Victoria Award

In October 2024, we were so excited to be awarded with an **Environment Victoria** Recognition award:

For strategic leadership across multiple local campaigns and bringing the community on board with environment and climate action.

While it's a mouthful, it really does reflect the wide variety of things we have been getting up to which, of course, could not happen without our amazing volunteers.

Neighbourhood Spirit Awards

This year started with the exciting news that our founders, Teresa Day and Logan Shield, were individually awarded with a Moonee Valley City Council *Neighbourhood Spirit Award* for 2025. It was so rewarding to see them recognised for their ongoing and tireless work and their behind-the-scenes passion and drive, all of which keeps MVS alive.

Our People



Thanks to everyone who has contributed as members of our management Committee, in Working Groups and Collectives. Your hard work has helped MVS power through policy, strategy, governance, events, campaigns and more. By working together, we have made great progress on our Community Plan and ensured our organisation is moving forward in the right direction.

Committee

Angela Clarke & Logan Shield (Co-Chairs), Teresa Day (Treasurer), Veronica Snook (Secretary), Ganga Selvarajan, Valerie Thiessen, Supriya Perera (Ordinary members).

Working Groups

Finance & Governance

- Teresa Day (Coordinator), Ganga Selvarajan, Kevin Brennan, Valerie Thiessen, Veronica Snook

Communications & Marketing

- Angela Clarke (Coordinator), Logan Shield, Surpriya Perera, Teresa Day, Tom Danby

Volunteers & Members

- Fiona Kenna (Coordinator), Angela Clarke, Teresa Day, Veronica Snook

Events

- Teresa Day, Logan Shield, Angela Clarke, Fiona Kenna, Ganga Selvarajan, Kevin Brennan, Kim Almeida, Sara Melvin, Supriya Perera, Tom Danby, Valerie Thiessen, Veronica Snook

Campaigns & Strategy

- Logan Shield (Coordinator), Angela Clarke, Teresa Day, Supriya Perera

Collective Coordinators

Active Transport: Peter Gould

Renewables Energy: Supriya Perera

Resilient Buildings: Logan Shield

Rethinking Waste: Teresa Day & Veronica Snook

Healthy Environment: Angela Clarke & Valerie Thiessen

Members & Volunteers

Our organisational base grew to 123 paid memberships in 2024/25 - 97 individual and 26 family memberships - an increase of 33 from last year. We have set a target of 180 memberships by the end of this financial year in order to amplify our voice through people power as well as provide secure income to cover MVS core costs .

We now have a mailing list of 706 people, with 65% consistently opening our emails. We continue to work on providing relevant and current information through our mailing list so that the community is in a position to speak up on sustainability and our environment.

A big thanks to all our volunteers - MVS would not exist without you. Over the past year, around 50 people have regularly donated their time and energy by attending and actively volunteering at our events. We are working on ways to better connect with our active and potential volunteers and to link them up with Collectives and activities that fit with their interests and skills.

Collaborators

- Melbourne Water, Greater Western Water, Chain of Ponds Collaboration
- Soil and Plant Society (UniMelb) Wildlife Conservation Society (UniMelb)
- Maribyrnong River and Waterways Association, Friends of Steele Creek, Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek, Friends of Napier Park, Friends of Maribyrnong Valley, Friends Of Woodlands Park, Moonee Ponds Creek Litter Clean Up Team
- Environment Victoria, Sweltering Cities, Parents For Climate, Friends of the Earth, Rewiring Australia, Electrify Yarra
- Moonee Valley City Council, MooneeBUG, Streets Alive Yarra, Merri-bek BUG
- Dwell Community Hub, Glenbervie Stationeers, Mason Green
- Avondale Heights Community Garden, Rotary Club of Flemington & Kensington, Rotary Club of Essendon North, Farnham Street Neighbourhood Learning Centre





Our Organisation

We have spent time, this year, reflecting on and refining our message so that it more clearly expresses who we are, what we do, and most importantly, **why** we do it.

Our Goals

It became apparent that we needed to update our messaging. Stating our name, our vision and mission then the names of our five Collectives reflected the work on getting our structure right.

With that bedded down, we have shifted to a focus on **action** by highlighting our five goals, each being the purpose of a Collective (see right). This change is being implemented, starting with our 2025 postcard and website homepage.

Defining 'Climate-safe'

As a key part of our vision for a **climate-safe and pollution-free Moonee Valley for all**, we recently set about trying to understand more deeply what 'climate-safe' means to people here in Moonee Valley and what it would be like when we are there.

While this is still a work in progress, we've developed the following conceptual definition:

A climate safe & pollution free Moonee Valley for all.

We act, educate & advocate on 5 goals to achieve our vision. Why? Because a healthy community needs a healthy climate.

Use Clean Transport

Active Transport Collective



Switch To Renewables

Renewable Energy Collective



Climate Proof Homes

Resilient Buildings Collective



Waste Nothing

Rethinking Waste Collective



Plant Our Suburbs

Healthy Environment Collective



Find out more today



www.facebook.com/MooneeValleySustainability



www.instagram.com/mooneevalleysustainability



www.mvsustainability.org.au

Scan to go to website



"We are all healthy and connected to our community, we live in resilient homes, shaded streets and cool suburbs, with clean, reliable sources of food, water, energy and transport."



Our Governance

The management Committee has worked hard over the past year to clarify and document clear and robust governance arrangements for the organisation. This is to ensure that MVS is a strong and sustainable organisation that is positioned to grow.

The following finance and governance arrangements have been put in place:

- Governance Framework and Governance Manual
- Policy register and development of key policies such as Code of Conduct
- Registration for GST
- Establishment of a Cash Reserve
- Risk register
- Conflict of Interest Register

Terms of Reference for the Working Groups and Collectives are currently under development.

A key outcome of this work is the development of a set of documents which reflect a shared understanding of how MVS has been set up to operate, and that supports an effective response to opportunities and risks.



Community Plan Update

We developed our 10-year Community Plan in 2023 and set targets for 2028 and 2033. It has since emerged that targets for 2030 and 2035 would be more useful, to bring them into alignment with local, state and federal government. We are currently in the process of revising targets to those time periods. To date we have the following draft targets:

Use Clean Transport

- Half (50%) of all trips by active or public transport by 2030
- Two thirds (67%) of all trips by active or public transport by 2035

Switch To Renewables

- 75% emissions reduction (below 2018) by 2030
- 95% emissions reduction (below 2018) by 2035

Climate Proof Homes

- Limit urban heat island to 10° above baseline

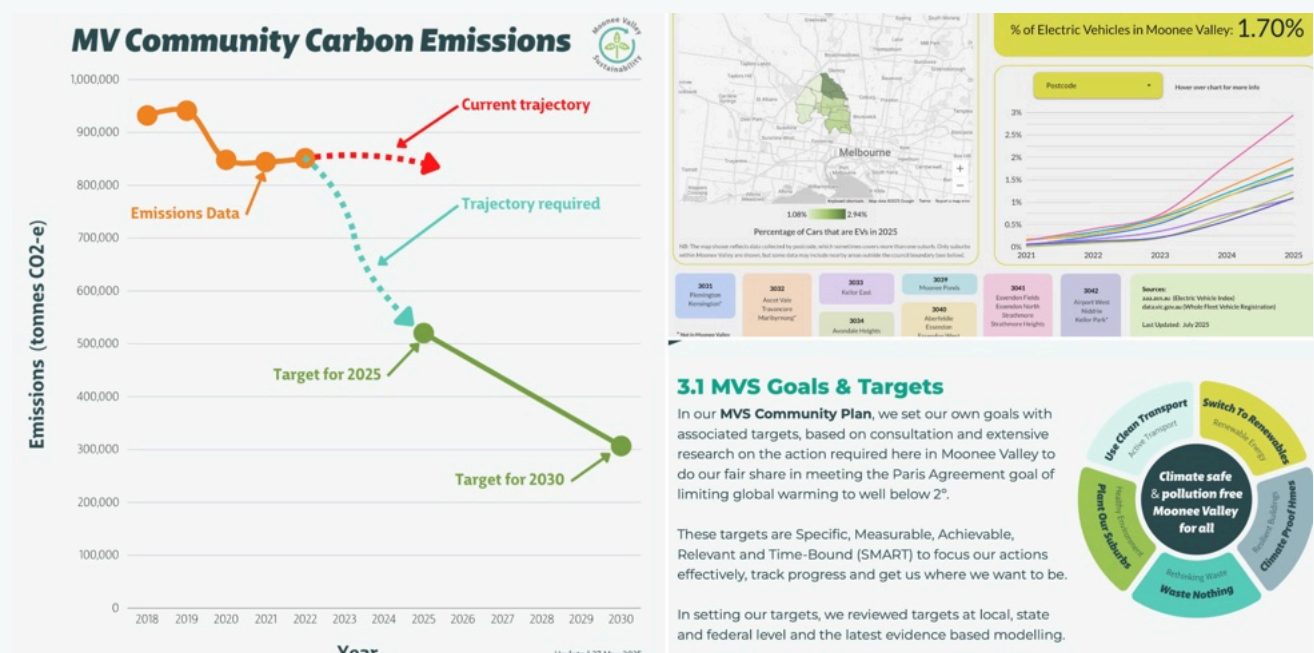
Waste Nothing

- Reduce total household rubbish to <16,500t by 2028
- Reduce total household rubbish to <10,500t by 2033

Plant Our Suburbs

- 25% tree canopy cover by 2030
- 30% tree canopy cover by 2035

We have also started work on a project to track progress towards our goals. The first step is a suburb-by-suburb breakdown of electric vehicle (EV) registrations, which gives us an insight into our journey towards 75% emissions reduction by 2030. We'll be looking at solar uptake next and hope to expand to more metrics in coming months.



Campaigns & Advocacy



To progress our agenda and meet MVS goals, we advocate for policy change and priority funding to decision-makers in government, business, industry, and community.

This year has seen us extend our campaign work to the State and Federal arena, as well as growing our strong advocacy at the local level.

Meetings with Elected Representatives & Officials

- Office of the Member for Niddrie & Deputy Premier **Ben Carroll** re Building Electrification
- Member for Essendon **Danny Pearson** re Building Electrification & Maribyrnong Park
- Candidate for Maribyrnong, **Jo Briskey** re waterways, energy and homes
- MVCC CEO **Helen Sui** & Director Strategy, Planning & Climate Resilience **Simon Overland** re climate-safety
- Various formal & informal discussions with MVCC Councillors and Officers

Detailed Written Submissions

- Moonee Valley City Council Budget 2025/26
- Waterways Planning Scheme Submission

Letters & Correspondence

- Supporting the rollout of the Container Deposit Scheme
- Fencing at Boeing Reserve, Strathmore
- Caring for Country at Five Mile Creek, Essendon
- Montgomery Park Redevelopment, Essendon

Raising Awareness

- Saving Historic Pine, Grice Crescent, Essendon
- Clean Air For Moonee Valley
- Cleaning Up State Roads - continued advocacy on litter management & illegal dumping

Active Transport Collective



Let's Use Clean Transport

We have advanced our advocacy through the launch of a [Use Clean Transport](#) page on the MVS website, new social media channels including an [Instagram profile](#) and a [Facebook group](#), and ongoing promotion via email and community campaigns.

Considerable effort was directed toward Council engagement, multiple submissions, and questions on notice focused on active transport priorities such as an east-west cycle path, Steele's Creek connections, and safer cycling infrastructure.

The group contributed to conceptual ideas for the Maribyrnong Park Bowls Club site, supported residents on local issues like the Strathmore shared path fence, and recommended MVS endorsement of the Better Streets pre-election campaign.

A written and verbal submission to the 2025/26 Budget welcomed increased active transport funding but highlighted insufficient project detail and urged Council to accelerate delivery, prioritise key cycling and walking projects, and seek additional Federal funding.

Peter Gould

Active Transport Moonee Valley Coordinator

Renewable Energy Collective



Let's Switch To Renewables

Over the past year, we have been active in driving community awareness, advocacy, and action on electrification and renewable energy.

We strengthened national and state connections by joining **Rewiring Australia** and **Environment Victoria's** "Electrify This Home" campaign and took part in the **Rewiring Australia** "Connecting Community" Knowledge Sharing Tour. Locally, we delivered engaging events including a "Passive House tour" (Oct 2024) and a "Solar + Batteries panel discussion" (Nov 2024). We also welcomed the first community battery installation in Moonee Valley - in Flemington (Mar 2025).

Campaigns have been a strong focus: we called on Council to allocate an additional \$1 million to the Community Carbon Emissions Reduction Reserve to help get residents onto , and recognised businesses leading the way with rooftop solar. We also met twice with **Danny Pearson MP** to advocate for stronger State support and propose ideas for a new Community Hub.

We blended climate action with fun and awareness-raising in launching "Sustainabil-i-tea", and have welcomed three new volunteers to the Collective.

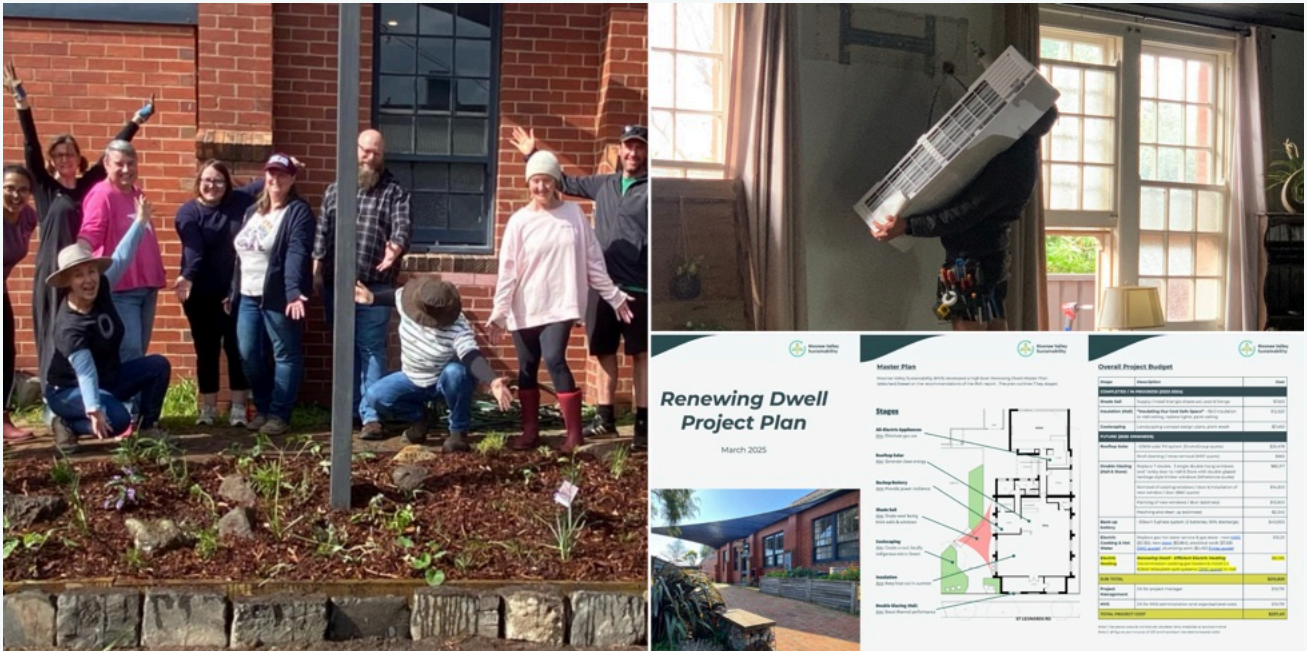
We are now developing a Renewable Energy Map of Moonee Valley.

Together, these initiatives have advanced our vision of cleaner, healthier, and more affordable all-electric homes across Moonee Valley.

Supriya Perera

Renewable Energy Moonee Valley Coordinator

Resilient Buildings Collective



Let's Climate Proof Homes

Renewing Dwell continues to be our main focus, with **coolscaping** working bees and progress towards an **all-electric building** running on renewables made.

We assisted Dwell to successfully secure a *Moonee Valley City Council* Biannual Grant to the tune of \$9,438 and we're thrilled to help project manage the replacement of old gas heaters with modern, comfortable and efficient, electric split systems.

In July, I presented to a meeting of *Friends Of The Earth Frontline Climate Alliance Vic* (FCAV) about our Collective and especially about our plans to create a **Cool Safe Space**. You can watch the recording [here](#).

We prepared a detailed project plan for consideration in the **Victorian State Budget** again this year, and while we were unsuccessful, it was a good impetus to source quotes to electrify appliances. The work to replace gas hot water and cooking with an instant 3-phase electric unit and induction cooker is now 'shovel-ready' for when a suitable funding opportunity arises.

We also attended a **Community Preparedness Day** co-hosted by Maribyrnong and Moonee Valley City Councils where we met people and discussed our goal to 'climate proof homes'.

The year ahead is going to be significant for resilience locally as we embark on a collaboration with **The Adaptation Game (TAG)** to design and launch a Moonee Valley specific TAG, a (serious) game designed to build climate resilience in our community.

Logan Shield

Resilient Buildings Moonee Valley Coordinator

Rethinking Waste Collective



Let's Waste Nothing

Our monthly event, Sustain-a-Valley, ran until the end of 2024. The closure of the Moonee Valley Repair Café in late 2025 provided an opportunity to rebrand the monthly event as the **Waste Not Hub**. It focuses on textile and food waste, running monthly mending circles, clothes swaps, food swaps, and material collections. Feature events also run alongside the Waste Not Hub, and opportunity to promote and work alongside other Collectives. This year, these events included plant propagation sessions, a nature strip planting talk, and a solar and battery panel discussion.

In April, we held a popular 'no waste in the kitchen' cooking demonstration at Dianne's house, and in June planted the pantry community garden to help supply the Little Free Pantry with fresh herbs and veggies.

In other activities, we met with the MVCC waste team 3 times, successfully lobbied for bin fairies at the MV Festival and piloted a Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) collection at The Palms apartments (Feb–Jun), raising \$110. We continue to engage with TOMRA and Council to improve CDS access across the municipality. We have also been collecting knowledge on all the local ways in which we can reduce, reuse, repair our materials and have populated a great resource called the [Online Waste Not Hub](#) on the MVS website. This will be launched Spring 2025.

Looking ahead, we've put forward ideas for the former Maribyrnong Park Bowls Club, which could become an upcycling and repair hub with a Library of Things, and plan to expand work on food waste, food growing, textile waste and polystyrene pollution advocacy.

Teresa Day & Veronica Snook

Rethinking Waste Moonee Valley Coordinators

Healthy Environment Collective



Let's Plant Our Suburbs

This year, the HE Collective focused on helping our community green their **nature strips**. With support from a Moonee Valley City Council grant, we partnered with **Emma Cutting** from the [Heartscapes Gardening Project](#) to develop resources promoting Council's new nature strip guidelines. Emma also delivered a well-received talk on creating and caring for street gardens.

Our skilled volunteers ran **propagation workshops**, teaching people how to grow from seed and cuttings — valuable skills for establishing long-term, sustainable gardens. We also connected with Mel from [Brunswick Communities for Nature](#) and Tom from [TreeProject](#) to support local **'Backyard Greenscaping'** efforts.

From July to December 2024, our team led **clean-ups** along Five Mile, Smiley, and Steele Creeks, and the Maribyrnong River. We also joined an innovative bio-weeding project in collaboration with Friends of Steele Creek. We co-hosted our first film night with the Maribyrnong River and Waterways Association, screening ***Water is Love: Ripples of Regeneration***. The event sparked meaningful discussion about water's role in climate resilience — all shared over tea and cake!

To help build a connected and active community, we've launched a new [Facebook group](#) focused on nature strip planting. It's a space for locals to share tips, organise working bees, and support each other — because many hands make light work. Shout out to Clare and Ruth for this work.

Looking ahead, we're planning local nature strip tours and will continue building up a library of helpful resources on our website to inspire and support even more community greening.

Angela Clarke & Valerie Thiessen

Healthy Environment Moonee Valley Coordinators

Treasurer's Report

This year (2024/25) has been one of transition, as Moonee Valley Sustainability Inc. (MVS) shifted responsibility for events and projects from the Committee to our five Collectives. With the Committee operating at full capacity, this change was essential to increase our reach and impact. As a result, MVS's turnover this financial year was lower than the previous year. Nevertheless, we finished the year in a strong financial position, thanks to the sharp oversight of the Finance and Governance Working Group (FGWG). Throughout the year, they set and monitored budgets for core operations and projects, ensuring we never spent what we didn't have. We continue to achieve a great deal on the smell of an oily rag. The FGWG have met monthly, to keep the organisation on track. With financial systems now established, the group was able to devote more attention to governance and risk management.

The **financial statements** and accompanying schedules for the financial year ended 30 June 2025, are presented as being representative of the positive state of MVS Inc.

- **Total income** for the year was \$14,650, down from \$25,170 the previous year, largely due to a reduction in grant project funding. MVS secured a \$2,000 grant for our Activating Nature Strips Project. Donations also dipped slightly, from \$2,688 last year to \$2,117, reflecting fewer events. The container deposit (CDS) program remains a strong income stream, bringing in \$681 this year compared to \$370 in just six months of 2024. Most notably, membership grew from 90 to 123, boosting membership income from \$1,610 last year to \$2,526 in 2025.
- **Our expenses** fell in line with reduced activity, totalling \$13,366 compared to \$22,067 in 2024. Core costs remained relatively stable, with a slight increase due to investment in marketing research. Our annual core expenses — covering subscriptions, registrations, and contributions to Ascot Vale Church of Christ for continued access to DWELL — remain just under \$4,000.
- **Total operating profit** for the year was \$1,284, down from \$3,103 last year, reflecting a change in how funds are carried over between financial years. This modest surplus is the result of careful budgeting and prudent spending oversight by the Finance and Governance Working Group.
- **Total equity** of MVS now stands at \$9,378. The cash reserve (as nominated by the Committee) is \$1,500 and we will work to increase this over the next financial year.



Mason Green Team! Alejandra, Peter, Supriya, Yadira and Usha (not pictured).

This year we auspiced two organisations, **Mason Green** and **Glenbervie Stationeers**. Mason Green secured \$10,000 from Moonee Valley City Council for the Vertical Living Waste Education project, with \$1,050 spent by year-end and the remaining \$8,995 to be used in 2025/26. We also oversaw auspice spending for Glenbervie Stationeers for the amounts carried over into this year. They spent the remaining \$3,791 to complete the second phase of their replanting project by June 2025, with grant funds now fully acquitted.

In November 2024, **MVS registered for GST** and went about changing all the pricing and systems to accommodate this. This included membership fees which were increased in the AGM 2024. Having successfully accomplished that registration, we are feeling bolder and braver to take other steps to secure the future of MVS Inc.

Going into 2025/26, the FGWG will be advocating for a more strategic approach to ensure MVS Inc's long-term sustainability. In 2023, we created *Our Community Plan* to shape our shared vision for the Moonee Valley community. In 2026, we will need to do the same for the organisation itself: What do we want MVS Inc to look like in 2030, and how do we get there? Growth? Stability? Greater reach? More support for other groups and networks? We must understand where we have the greatest impact and ensure we can sustain it. Our first step is to secure funding for a paid employee. This will require HR systems — a challenge we're ready to take on. A dedicated staff member will give us the time to explore these questions, develop an organisational plan, and better support our collectives in delivering events and programs. If you're inspired, we encourage you to get involved and help this human powered organisation. This year of **transition** follows a year of **consolidation** and, before that, a year of **growth**. Watching MVS mature has been inspiring — we're somewhere in late primary school mode right now: a beautiful stage before teenage hormones kick in, so let's enjoy it!



The Finance Governance Working Group - Kevin, Veronica, Valerie (with Beau!), Ganga, Teresa

I couldn't prepare this report as Treasurer without the incredible support of the FGWG, to whom I give my sincere thanks. **Kevin Brennan**, for mentoring me and making the figures make sense; **Ganga Selvarajan**, for her patience with my most basic questions; **Veronica Snook**, for her attention to detail, ensuring compliance and transparency while keeping us laughing; and **Valerie Thiessen**, for keeping us on track and helping us see the bigger picture — especially when registering for GST!

Teresa Day

Treasurer 2024/25



Financial Statements

Income and Expenditure Statement

Moonee Valley Sustainability Inc
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Account	2025	2024
Operating Income		
General Income	8,183	7,205
Grants	6,466	17,965
Total Trading Income	14,650	25,170
Operating Expenditure		
General Expenditure		
Administration Expenses	1,567	2,199
Insurance	600	655
Marketing & Promotion	1,836	436
Total General Expenditure	4,004	3,289
Project Expenditure		
Contractor /Consultant fees	2,486	16,566
Other project costs	6,876	2,211
Total Project Expenditure	9,362	18,777
Total Expenditure	13,366	22,067
Current Year Surplus	1,284	3,103



Assets and Liabilities Statement

Moonee Valley Sustainability Inc

ABN: 591 785 103 79

As at 30 June 2025

	Account	30 Jun 2025	30 Jun 2024	Notes
Assets				
	Current Assets			
	Bendigo Business account - 9971	24,124	16,278	
	Bendigo Reserve account - 8727	1,500	0	1
	Cash on hand	208	208	
	Accounts Receivable	0	1,000	
Total Assets		25,832	17,486	
Liabilities				
	Current Liabilities			
	Accounts Payable	-	-	
	Grants - Auspice	8,955	3,971	2
	Grants in Advance	2,730	2,000	3
	Membership in Advance	977	980	4
	Repair Cafe Account	2,779	2,441	5
	GST	1,013	0	6
Total Liabilities		16,455	9,392	
	Net Assets	9,378	8,094	
Members Funds				
	Current Year Earnings	1,284	3,103	
	Retained Earnings	8,094	4,991	
Total Members Funds		9,378	8,094	
Notes				
	1 Cash Reserve Agreed			
	2 Auspiced Grant Mason Green Spend Remaining \$8955			
	3 MVS Grants Spend Remaining Activating Nature Strips \$2000 & Rotary \$730			
	4 Membership fees paid for 25/26			
	5 Donations for Repair Cafe			
	6 GST Owing to ATO. Paid annually			



Solvency Report

Moonee Valley Sustainability Inc

ABN: 591 785 103 79

As at 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
2. Cash on Hand and Other equivalents		
Petty cash	208	208
Bank	25,624	16,278
Total cash on hand	25,832	16,486
3. Trade and Other Receivables		
Accounts Receivables (income)	-	1,000
Total Trade and Other Receivables	-	1,000
4. Trade and Other Payables		
Accounts Payable (expense)	-	-
Total Trade Payables	-	-

Earned and Other Income

Moonee Valley Sustainability Inc

ABN: 591 785 103 79

For the year ended 30 June 2025

Account	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Income		
Auspice Fees	500	875
Bank Interest	273	195
Donations	2,117	2,688
Fundraising income	926	715
Grants - Projects	6,466	17,360
Membership Fees	2,526	1,610
Rental/Hire Income	-	220
Sales - cafe, stalls & tix	1,841	1,507
Services - speakers and consultancies	-	840
Total Income	14,650	25,170

This shows the breadth and amount of income MVS Inc has received over the year.

Sundry Creditors

Moonee Valley Sustainability Inc

ABN: 591 785 103 79

As at 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
Creditors		
Repair Cafe	2,779	2,441
Grants Auspiced (Mason Green Project)	8,995	3,971
TOTAL	11,774	6,412

This shows who MVS Inc owes money too. Donations received for the Moonee Valley Repair Café are being held as a liability because this is allocated for Repair Café expenditure whilst its future is being decided. MVS Inc is auspicing a grant for *Mason Green*, an unincorporated local group. This provision represents the amount of the grant received by MVS on their behalf that has not yet been expended. It is expected that the remainder will be expended by the end of calendar year 2026.

Movements in Members Funds

Moonee Valley Sustainability Inc

ABN: 591 785 103 79

As at 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
Members Funds		
Opening Balance	8,094	4,990
Increases/(Decreases)		
Surplus/Deficit for the period	1,284	3,103
Total Increases	1,284	3,103
Total Member's Funds	9,378	8,093