



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2021-2022

---

25 OCTOBER 2022

KARIONG NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE INC.  
10 Langford Drive, Kariong NSW 2250  
[www.knc.net.au](http://www.knc.net.au)





---

# Table of Contents

Acknowledgment of Country .....3

Our Vision .....4

Our Values .....5

Board Member.....6

President’s Report .....7

General Manager’s Report .....9

OOSH Nominated Supervisor’s Report .....11

Our Staff & Volunteers.....13

Photos from our Programs & Activities .....14

Groups and Services Snapshot .....18

Thank You to Our Supporters.....20

Financial Report.....21

---

# Acknowledgment of Country

Kariong Neighbourhood Centre acknowledges the Darkinjung people as the traditional owners of this land and their continuing connection to land and community. We also acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who have come from other nations to live on Darkinjung land. We pay our respects to their cultures, ancestors and elders past, present and future.

We remember that on the land that Kariong Neighbourhood Centre stands is, was and always will be Aboriginal land.



---

# Our Vision

Kariong Neighbourhood Centre is a safe haven where community members can find support, friendship and advocacy, promoting a sense of belonging. Our vision continues to be to create “welcoming, caring, safe & connected communities”.

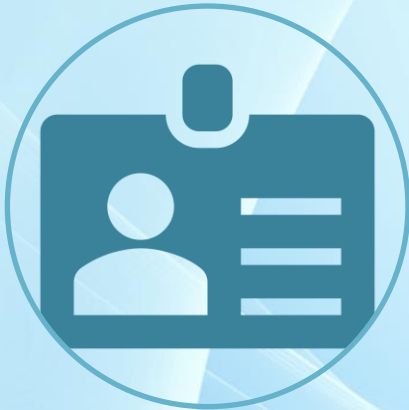


# Our Values



## Continuous Improvement

- KNC is committed to ongoing reviews and advancement of Staff and every aspect of its business, with achievement of every accreditation and measurement standard.



## Reliable & Safe

- KNC aims to provide an environment that is comfortable, protected and assured for all stakeholders.



## Community Leadership

- KNC offers its communities – knowledge, assistance and direction.

---

# Board Member

The Kariong Neighbourhood Centre Board is made up of Kariong Neighbourhood Centre members who volunteer their time and skills to operate as the Board of Governance. The KNC Board consist of the Executive Committee (President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary) and two Ordinary Members. They are collectively responsible for the proper management of the affairs of the Kariong Neighbourhood Centre, as set out in the Constitution.



Dennis Taylor  
**Board President**



Liz Mackdacy  
**Vice President**



Gail Ransley  
**Secretary**



Gregory Burke  
**Ordinary Member**



---

# President's Report

This period has presented us with a number of challenges and changes throughout the year with COVID and now a long period of cool wet weather. I would like to thank all Board Members, both past and present for the assistance and support that has been forthcoming throughout this period.

Our management and workforce have a good mix of experience, loyalty, and consistency. Both Trish and Jacqui have produced excellent results throughout the year. Clearly there is a need to reset our targets and timelines. At this point we are all working together to ensure that we have a performance-based focus, that not only looks at bottom line and surpluses, it is also primarily about serving our community.

Both Trish and Jacqui recognise that developing stronger links with our community, and prioritising the wellbeing of our people, and the development of our children, is the key to having a sustainable future. Trish is currently developing relationships and partnerships with likeminded organisations, this includes both for profit and not for profit organisations. Additionally, we are building and maintaining a good relationship with our funding bodies. In the past we have looked upon our Government funding as an issue and a threat. This negativity has led to poor relationships and missed opportunities with our funding Body Education NSW. We are endeavoring to increase the number of groups and organisations who are now using our facilities, and building our current Second Bite service will no doubt ensure that we have a focus on KNC, that clearly shows we are here for our community. In my view this is the best marketing we can have.

Jacqui continues to sustain the OOSH numbers to capacity. Her efforts in maintaining a quality service, and provide great School Holiday programs that develop and keep our kids focused, safe, and educated, through tough COVID times, ensuring parents and caregivers can confidently get back to work are amazing. While there has been some improvement with staff conditions and pay, I note it is still a constant battle to ensure KNC is compliant and keeping our kids safe at this time.

I would also like to acknowledge Gay our book keeper for her hard work and willingness to work with the Board, as we navigate the somewhat murky and uncertain waters surrounding the financial management of community-based services. I look forward to

---

working closely with Gay at this time. Certainly, I am encouraged by our auditor's financial report which clearly indicates we are on track to a healthy surplus, which will move forward a number of improvements and initiatives in the coming year.

I also acknowledge our fantastic Volunteer workforce, especially those that come in week after week, working in the reception, front office area, and on our Second Bite crew with Lyn Mar coordinating the volunteers who do a fantastic job in picking up food, and taking care of our people who avail themselves of the service. I am hoping there may emerge from our community-based volunteers some who would support our Board. This is one area we all have an immediate concern and focus for, as current members move on.

There are some exciting times ahead. There is no doubt we will need to remain focused on our goals and objectives by remaining true to our core values, as we face new opportunities, and the realities of constant change. With these things in mind KNC will no doubt have a bright and productive future on the Central Coast.



**Dennis Taylor**  
**Board President**  
October 2022



---

# General Manager's Report

It is with much excitement that I write my first Annual Report for Kariong Neighbourhood Centre.

I commenced my employment as General Manager in November 2021. I have been a community worker for most of my life working in homelessness, domestic violence, and services providing support to vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.

When I commenced at the Centre we were coming out of lockdown due to COVID and people were still concerned about mixing with other people. This slowly changed and by March all the groups had returned and I was meeting so many new people and feeling I was becoming a member of Kariong.

Neighbourhood Centres were established in areas across NSW to be a resource and support to the local residents with information sharing, a Centre to hold a family event and even just to come in for a chat and catch-up with friends. Neighbourhood Centres and other community based and community managed organisations focus on community development, social inclusion and community-focussed services.

The Centre is certainly busy with OOSH each afternoon and Vacation Care during the school holidays. During the day Pilates, Tai Chi, The Over Fifties Friendship Group (TOFFS) and Grace City Church meet, and our wonderful volunteers are here daily collecting food and donations for SecondBite.

SecondBite is the collaboration between Coles and community organisations to provide nutritious food that would otherwise go to waste. This certainly supports organisations in minimising the cost of purchasing goods for people accessing the service. The cost of living has risen significantly with the increase in interest rates, electricity and general costs. To be able to support residents is wonderful. We also receive weekly donations from OZ Harvest and Bakers Delight Woy Woy. We are truly grateful and appreciative of the donations we receive.

We were overjoyed to receive a grant to purchase a van to pickup donations for the SecondBite. This has allowed us to go to Penrith each fortnight to the warehouse to

---

collect other goods for clients. At times we receive cleaning products, coffee, tea and drinks. I would like to acknowledge Liesl Tesch in supporting the grant application for the van. The handing over of the cheque was so important to the organisation it is the cover page to this Annual Report.

I would like to acknowledge our funding body Department of Communities and Justice for their ongoing funding to operate the Centre. I would particularly like to thank Emma Gilby the Departments representative who meets with me monthly for her ongoing support and information sharing.

The last two years have been difficult for everyone, we thought we were through the worst of it, but there are still many people in our community that have lost their jobs, have reduced working hours, and a decrease in the family income. This leads to depression and anxiety amongst members of the community, including adolescents and children.

Beginning a new position is often difficult, meeting new staff and learning the culture of the organisation. At Kariong Neighbourhood Centre it has been a pleasure. I would like to thank Jacqui Pearson, and Gay Peters for making me feel so welcome and sharing their knowledge of KNC and the local community with me. Also, I would like to thank the administration team Nguyen and Debbie who are the first people our residents see when they enter the Centre. Always very friendly and helpful to everyone.

The Board of Kariong Neighbourhood Centre is made up of a group of wonderful men and women who give up their time to steer the organisation through good and difficult times. Thank you for all your support throughout the year.



**Patricia Bramble**  
**General Manager**  
October 2022

---

# OOSH Nominated Supervisor's Report

2022 has been another fantastic year. We have had a great recovery after the recovery of the COVID-19 lockdowns of 2021. Our before and after school care numbers have remained consistent throughout the year. We have continued offering the dance class on a Monday afternoon with Miss Gemma from Dancin' in the Rain. This class has been popular, particularly with the girls on a Monday afternoon. Term 2 and term 3 saw the introduction of a Martial Arts class with Shihan Mick and Sensei Jason. This was well received by many of the students on a Thursday afternoon. We are taking a break from Martial Arts in Term 4 this year as Shihan Mick is up for his accreditation renewal with Martial Arts Industry of Australia. Martial Arts will be back in 2023 for our after-school care children.

Our vacation care program has been extremely popular this year with new enrolments each and every vacation care period. This has seen our vacation care program book out each day for every vacation care program. Some of our favorite activities this year have included; Raw Challenge at Doyalson, trips to the Movies, Hunter Valley Wildlife Park, Ice Skating, Science Day, Nerf Wars, Laser Tag and Water Splash days.

The transition to school program, Little Big School, run by Miss Lyn and Jazlyn provides opportunity for preschoolers to learn fundamental social, numeracy and literacy skills in the years prior to starting Kindergarten. This year we have 11 students attending this important program. Little Big School has also welcomed 2 work placement students from Henry Kendall High School.

The past year has been challenging with the national staffing shortage across the early childhood sector. I am extremely proud and honored to work with the amazing team that we have here at Kariong. They pull together and provide fun and engaging activities and programs for the children each and every day.

We introduced 2 trainees to the team this year. Kim who is completing her Diploma in School Aged Education and Care, and is a part of the leadership team, and Gabby who completed Year 12 in 2021 and has joined us and is completing the Certificate IV in School Aged Education and Care.



---

We also have Bek, who is the Services Educational Leader and 2iC completing her Diploma in School Aged Education and Care.

Nat has just completed her internship and is about to graduate from University after completing her Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood and Primary).



**Jacquelynn Pearson**  
**OOSH Nominated Supervisor**  
October 2022

# Our Staff & Volunteers

To our wonderful staff and volunteers who are a valuable asset to the organisation. We would not be able to provide the service to the community without your time and commitment to the Centre. Kerry attends the Centre two days weekly to support the administration team. Always willing to assist with a smile! Lyn Mar co-ordinates the volunteers for SecondBite and arranges special celebrations at the Centre. Carol who volunteers her time to support the children who attend OOSH with reading and homework. Without these amazing men and women, giving of their time so generously we would not be able to provide these valuable services.



Left to right.

Front row: Sona D., Nguyen N., Janice M., Jenny N.

Back row: Stephen H., Lyn T., Linda M., Lyn M, Shivam B., Trish B



# Photos from our Programs & Activities



## ACTIVE PLAYGROUP

We had Kariong Fire Brigade and Kariong Library visited us this year. One of Active Playgroup dads brought in his key board so we all could sing some songs, dance and have fun. We do like to have people visit and give children new experiences







## BIGGEST MORNING TEA

On 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022. We've raised AUD1600.

A Big Thank you to our community!

We hope to raise more money in 2023!







## LITTLE BIG SCHOOL

Miss Lyn has her weekly Little Big School preparing 4 & 5 years olds for school.







**FOOD RELIEF PROGRAM**  
 This SecondBite program has been a great success thanks to the generous donation from Coles, Oz Harvest, FoodBank, Bakers Delight and our community and thanks to our volunteers who worked very hard.





# Groups and Services Snapshot



## Active Playgroup

- Wednesdays during school terms from 10.30am - 12.30pm
- Come along and meet new friends. Enjoy the fun, play, engage and learn with your child. Active playgroup is a safe, happy and stimulating program.



## Little Big School

- Fridays during school terms from 9.30am - 11.30am
- Little Big School is a whole lot of learning and a barrel of fun. Children learn the best when they have fun and participate in the process of learning.



## Early Childhood Nurse Clinic

- Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- An opportunity to talk about your child's progress including health checks for 0-5 years where height, weight and general health check is performed by Early Childhood Nurse.



## Food Relief

- Wednesdays 1.30pm - 2.30pm
- There is no shortage of people in need and our Food Relief Program helps bridge the gap between the surplus and need.



## Be Connected

- Thursdays 9am - 2.30pm
- For older Australians, technology can sometimes be a real struggle. This program run in a supportive environment which helps to build confidence so that connecting with family and loved ones can be done whilst learning how to remain safe online.



## The Over 50's Friendship Group

- Thursdays during school terms from 12.15pm - 2.15pm
- This weekly social group has been very popular.
- Monthly outing.
- Come along, join in and establish some rewarding friendships.



### Tax Help

- Thursdays 10am - 2pm
- Tax Help is a network of ATO-trained and accredited community volunteers who provide a free and confidential service to help people complete their tax returns online using myTax.



### Pilates for Seniors

- Mondays during school terms from 10am - 11am
- Pilates for Seniors classes assist in acquiring and maintaining good balance, which is greatly beneficial for older adults as prevention for falls, injury, and loss of independence. Pilates and balance go hand in hand with its positive effects on strength and coordination.



### Tai Chi

- Wednesdays during school terms from 9am - 10am
- Give yourself a chance to focus on your health and wellbeing. Help reduce stress and anxiety, lowers blood pressure, increases breathing capacity, improves mobility



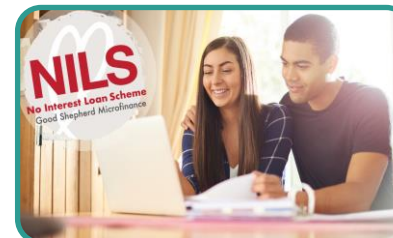
### Resolve Psychological Counselling

- Fridays 10am - 3pm
- A confidential psychological service that runs at Kariong Neighbourhood Centre each Friday, by appointment only



### Family Help Service

- A partnership with The Benevolent Society avails us an opportunity for a Family Worker who believes that with the right support every parent has the potential to make lasting changes.



### No Interest Loan Scheme (NLS)

- Provides individuals and families on low incomes with access to safe, fair and affordable credit.
- Loans are available for essential goods and services such as fridges, washing machines, car repairs and medical procedures.

---

# Thank You to Our Supporters

We are grateful for all of the support we receive, and all the different ways in which we receive that support and encouragement.

## Department of Communities and Justice

- Emma Gilby, Commissioning and Planning Officer for our Community Builders funding which helps provide our activities, services and programs for the community.

## Central Coast Council

- For the lease, grants we have received throughout the year and for the affordable rent for our Kariong Neighbourhood Centre.

## Kariong and Somersby Rotary

- Greg Burke for helping out the petrol cost to run the OOSH bus.

## Central Coast Local Health District

- Helen for our Early Childhood Clinic

## Supporters for the Food Relief Program

- SecondBite
- Oz Harvest
- Coles West Gosford
- Central Coast Council - Grant funding
- Bakers Delight
- Lara Davis - avocado
- And others

## Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand

- Eduardo Carrasco, Microfinance Manager NSW/ACT
- Tammy Coyte, NILS Coordinator

## Thank you to all our valued room hirers

- Central Coast Local Health District
- The Over Fifties Friendship Group (TOFFs)
- Tai Chi
- Pilates
- Directions Health First Aid
- Central Coast Fly Rodders
- Kariong United Football Club

## Collegiate Organizations

- One Direct Connect Ltd Trading as Meals on Wheels Central Coast



---

# Financial Report

Please see attachments.