

MUMBULLA FOUNDATION

ABOUT US

The Mumbulla Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation. We raise funds to support community groups in the Bega Valley whose viability and activities depend on additional funding.

The Foundation was launched in November 2000. Initial financial support was given by the Myer Foundation, the newly established Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) and the Bega Valley Shire Council. The Myer Foundation and the BVSC continue to provide ongoing financial support.

The Foundation's slogan "*Give where you live*" explains our ethos. We seek local grants and donations and do our own fundraising from local residents and businesses.

About one third of our funding comes from private donations which are tax deductible, another third from our annual Gala Dinner and guest lecture dinner fund raisers and about one third from matching Council funding of up to \$25,000 a year. Council also provides \$5000 towards our administration expenses.

The Foundation's work is done entirely by volunteers. There are no paid staff and administration expenses are largely unavoidable costs such as audit and bank fees and advertising for grant applications.

WHAT WE DO

Each year we provide grants ranging from \$500 to \$7500 to community groups involved in a wide range of charitable work in the Bega Valley area. Our work helps to make the beautiful Bega Valley and Sapphire Coast a place of community – not just a place to live. It is well known that small groups and their activities are the glue that keeps regional communities together.

In the 15 years since our establishment the Foundation has given more than \$800,000 as grants to over 100 organisations. Many groups only seek one-off funding for a special project, while others receive regular support for new and worthwhile activities. Often funding is for a simple piece of equipment such as a computer but it makes all the difference in how well a community group can function.

Areas supported are diverse and range from health care to museums, after school care to marine rescue, music and the arts to family support and so on. Most organisations, as long as what they do is charitable in nature, are eligible to apply for funding. Examples of our 2014 grants are

- Taiko Drumming Group for new equipment to allow them to perform publicly
- Towamba School for a day trip to Sydney so kids could experience city life
- Men's Shed Merimbula for a new urn and tools for their members
- Tulgeen Riverside for help in establishing food garden for disabled

In addition to the grants program the Foundation provides scholarships each year to local students attending Wollongong University at the Bega campus and also school book prizes.

ABOUT THE BOARD

Our board of professional people manage the Foundation on a volunteer basis. There are no support staff. This means that we operate with a very small administrative budget to distribute practically all of our funding to deserving groups.

Our current board members are:



Gary Potts (Chair and Treasurer)

Company Director, Former Deputy Head, Federal Treasury.

Peter Law (Secretary)

AICD Graduate, Retired Naval Engineer.

Debbie McGufficke

Chartered Accountant.

Fay Styman

Director Black is White Communications and Former Assistant Commissioner, Australian Taxation Office.

Christine Walters

Administration, Project and Event Manager.

Don Moffatt

Company Director, Retired business owner

David Watkins

OUR FUTURE

In the 15 years since our establishment, the Foundation has played an important role in supporting local community groups. However we feel that more could be done. Each year funding applications received from local groups exceed the amount the Foundation is able to provide. Lifting the Foundation's profile would help us to respond more effectively to changing community needs and give local donors more attractive options for channelling their charitable interests.