

ANNUAL REPORT 2020FEBRUARY 2020 – JANUARY 2021





ANNUAL REPORT 2020

1 FEBRUARY 2020 - 31 JANUARY 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS





A NEW HOME FOR SPORTING WHEELIES

In September, we opened our new Sports, Health and Fitness Centre in Albion. The centre offers state-of-the-art fully inclusive gym and Para-Sports courts.



HEALTH & FITNESS – THE LAUNCH OF TELEHEALTH

Undeterred by the complex challenges of COVID-19, the Health and Fitness Centre was determined to ensure exercise therapy remained accessible for everyone in need.



SPORT & RECREATION – OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

Sporting Wheelies provides opportunities to play sport from beginner social programs to pathways to national and international competition.

WELCOME MESSAGES CEO & CHAIR	2
WHO ARE WE? PURPOSE, VISION & MISSION	4
OVERVIEW - SPORT LOCATION	5
COVID-19 RESPONSE	6
CUSTOMER IMPACT – ISABELLE EVANS	7
A NEW HOME FOR SPORTING WHEELIES	8
MEDIA SPOTLIGHT – CHANNEL 9	10

HEALTH & FITNESS – ADAPTING TO COVID-19	12
HEALTH & FITNESS – THE LAUNCH OF TELEHEALTH	14
HEALTH & FITNESS - INTRODUCING EP@HOME	15
SPORT & RECREATION – OUR YEAR IN REVIEW	16
HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM (HPP)	20
RAISING THE BAR – GAME CHANGERS PROGRAM	23

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY	
OUR COMMUNITY	26
OUR VOLUNTEERS	28
OUR PEOPLE - BOARD OF DIRECTORS	30
EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM	31
THANK YOU – SUPPORTERS & SPONSORS	32
FINANCIAL SUMMARY 1 FEB 2020 – 31 JAN 2021	33

WELCOME MESSAGE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



AMANDA MATHER CEO

What a year! When 2020 commenced, no one could have anticipated the level of disruption we would face. As we now know only too well, the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in social disruption on a scale we have not witnessed before and forced a shutdown of our health and fitness centre and cancellation of our Para-Sports and events.

But despite the challenging year, there were many highlights to be thankful for:

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- We developed and delivered new Telehealth and in-home services to our clients
- We moved our head office to new premises, designed to herald a new era for Sporting Wheelies
- We co-located our first ever sports court with our gym facilities to showcase the full spectrum of our services.
- We were successful in securing funding for our Raising the Bar program through the Department of Social Services' Information, Linkages and Capacity Building program and have now employed an additional 25 people with a disability as "Game Changers" across Oueensland.
- We invested in new ICT hardware and systems to accelerate our excellence journey.
- We delivered a significantly improved financial performance on last year.

Our year has been distinguished by our responses to change and despite the challenges, we have continued to ensure the sustainability of our services for our clients.

In March, we ensured our team were connected during lockdown by investing in new hardware which immediately set our team up to work anywhere, anytime. All our team showed incredible resilience, innovation and creativity to move quickly to support people during lockdown to keep active and connected in their own homes.

We were able to design and deliver a new Health and Fitness Telehealth program within two weeks of lockdown commencing and immediately transitioned more than 60% of our vulnerable clients to online services. Later in the year, we commenced our in-home service and have provided nearly 120 hours of services. While face to face services have resumed, Telehealth and in-home services continue to make up around 20% of services delivered.

We prepared well for restarting our Para-Sports and implemented solid protocols across every service and location.

We undertook a review of governance systems, policies and procedures, with particular emphasis on improving the efficiency of important internal processes which reinforced our NDIS supplier registration. This included full implementation of cloud-based systems and development of new internal communications platforms.

We have automated processes that were previously manual, and we have made a significant shift towards a fully paperless office. A substantial improvement has been the implementation of new Customer Relationship Management software to support our Lottery and client services. This has allowed us to drive change across the organisation and secure our long-term financial sustainability.

Critical to our long-term strategy this year, was the identification, procurement and fitout of our new headquarters at Albion, Brisbane. For the first time in our 40 year history, the new centre brings together the two core elements of our work – rehabilitation and Para-Sports, through the construction of a new fully accessible gym and Queensland's only dedicated sports court for the Para-Sports of Goalball and Boccia.

THANK YOU FROM THE CHAIR

Through our expanded marketing program this year, we have been able to share our successes and those of our clients through TV, radio, online and print media. This has allowed us to raise our profile throughout Queensland and has contributed to helping us inspire the next generation of para-athletes.

Expanding our reach and impact has been a key driver of our work and through our Raising the Bar program we are also raising the perception of what is possible for people with a disability. With the funding for this program secured for two years, our workforce of Game Changers across Queensland have commenced peer support leadership, advocacy in the community and awareness of Para-Sports in schools.

We are incredibly grateful to our passionate and committed staff, who despite being personally impacted by the reduction in operations during COVID-19, went above and beyond to keep our clients safe, well and active through all these challenges.

At the AGM, we welcomed two new Directors, Elaine Jobson and David Shillington which has supported the on-going development of the strength of the skills-based Board.

As we continue our Sporting Wheelies journey, our goal is to grow the services we deliver and lead the way in innovation in Para-Sports and health and fitness for people with a disability, while remaining financially sustainable.

Our business year commenced in February 2020 when the term 'pandemic' was just beginning to creep into our consciousness.

It ended in February 2021, with Sporting Wheelies re-homed in a purpose-designed centre in Albion, online and mobile with the provision of telehealth and in-home rehabilitation services, audited and endorsed by the NDIS and working collaboratively with the Queensland Para-Sports community towards a 2032 paralympics in Brisbane. It took the whole Sporting Wheelies community to make this happen.

My thanks to all. From my fellow Directors who were meeting weekly for large parts of the year to react and respond to a very volatile operating environment, to our members and clients who adapted to the services we were able to offer with patience and loyalty, to our volunteers who continued to turn out to support events, support athletes and paint/plant/clean/ tidy up our new home in Dover Street, to our donors, contractors and suppliers who continue to support Wheelies with generously given skills, time and resources. And finally, to our amazing team who have been buffeted by set backs, challenges, uncertainty, ambiguity and change, and who have responded with hard work, commitment and overwhelming care and concern for those who Sporting Wheelies serves - people with disabilities looking to lead active healthy lives. It has not been plain sailing and there remain challenges ahead. But I can confidently say that we now have a solid platform from which to address those challenges and I look forward to doing so with the team as we move forward through 2021.



ANNA LITTLEBOY CHAIR



SPORTING WHEELIES WHO ARE WE?

Sporting Wheelies have been delivering magic moments for more than 40 years – those moments when people of all abilities enjoy recreation activities and play sport with their mates or stand on the dais at the Paralympics.

But in the background, we have also been quietly making miracles happen, assisting people to walk for the first time or relearn to walk after injury. We believe that all ambitions are equal and valid.

We support the full variety of active goals people have, from increasing their mobility and independence, improving their health, socialising, participating recreationally, through to representing their state or country. And, of course, we love it when our members score actual goals in their sports.



PURPOSE

Making active goals accessible.



VISION

Every Queenslander with a disability will have opportunities to live a more active and healthy life.



MISSION

Enhance the lives of people with a disability through health and fitness, sport, active recreation and building inclusive communities.



TYPE OF DISABILITY (QLD)

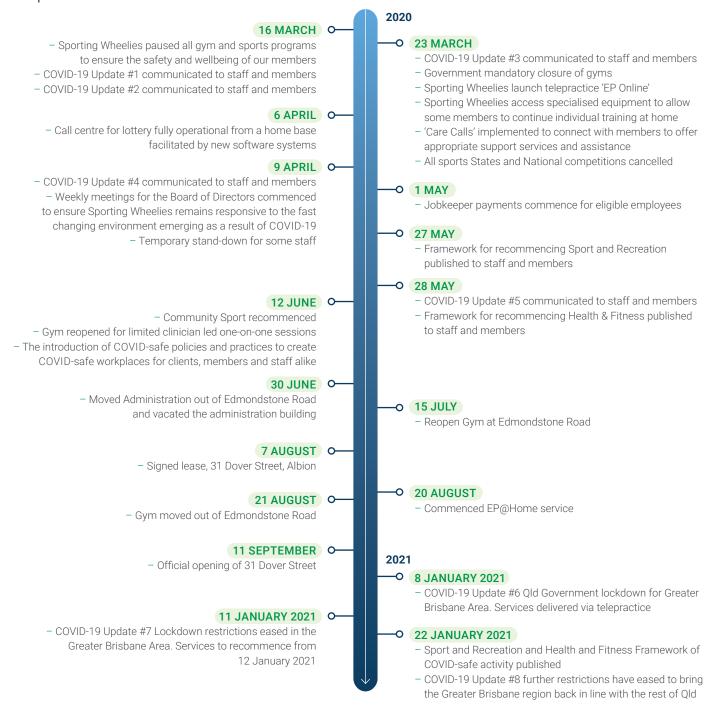
Acquired Brain Injury	2.3%
Amputee	2.6%
Blind/Vision Impaired	2.7%
Cerebral Palsy	6.4%
Intellectual Disability	2.3%
Les Autres	3%
Other (Non-Functional)	2%
Spinal Injury/Condition	13.3%
Able Bodied Members	65%

MEMBER LOCATION

Brisbane	53.5%
Cairns	4.9%
Gold Coast	5.8%
Ipswich	2.3%
Mackay	9.4%
Interstate	0.7%
Rockhampton	4.3%
Sunshine Coast	3.7%
Toowoomba	3.1%
Townsville	7.5%
Wide Bay	4.6%

COVID-19 RESPONSE

2020 has been distinguished by responses to the global pandemic caused by COVID-19. Like every other operation, Sporting Wheelies has been significantly impacted. Despite this, service provision has continued and the organisation has pivoted to ensure sustainability of services for our members. Sporting Wheelies' response to COVID-19 has included:







CUSTOMER IMPACT

"The first time I went to wheelchair basketball I came home and cried. Not of sadness but happiness. For one, I hadn't been playing sport for a good 6 months and to finally be able to play sport again was incredible. But also, the sense of belonging, I was welcomed into Para-Sports with open arms and there was a place for me there. And I think for a lot of people who acquire their disability later in life really struggle to deal with is losing everything they once knew, their friends, sometimes even family. It's actually terrifying how much changes and once you finally become part of a community who accepts you and wants to have you and everything is already there is place ready accessible without being made to feel like an inconvenience, that feeling really is incredible."

ISABELLE EVANS GAME CHANGER

A NEW HOME FOR SPORTING WHEELIES

In September, we opened our new Sports, Health and Fitness Centre in Albion. The centre offers state-of-the-art fully inclusive gym and Para-Sports courts. A space where people of all abilities can strive for active goals whether it be personal fitness, gaining improved functional capabilities or achieve sporting success.

The new centre is dedicated to elevating inclusive sporting opportunities, including Australia's first dedicated goalball and boccia courts. The centre provides an opportunity for people to come and enjoy sport together.

In addition to the sports court, the centre features a fully inclusive purpose built health and fitness gym, offering specialist therapy, rehabilitation and strength and conditioning training. The centre features cutting-edge equipment to help people improve their overall health.

Bringing the gym and sports together creates a hub to bring the community together.

It's not just
the physical benefit,
but it's the mental and
social benefit of being a part
of a community. Now with our
new centre, people can get
back to seeing their friends
and support networks and
being a part of the
community.





8





THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION

Sporting Wheelies' new facility was built from the ground up by the Brisbane community with local builders, sign makers and painters donating their time. We would like to thank:

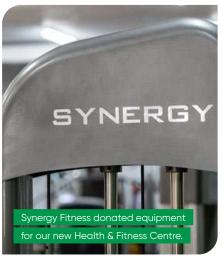
- Mamet Homes Adrien & Fiona Mamet & team Jake, Lee, Brad
- Anthony Merlo
- Steve Powell
- Chase Jordan and Rod
- Gadens Natasha Hood and Hayden
- Orange Sky our cool neighbours
- Action Venue Systems court line marking – Tim Griffins
- Advanced Air-Conditioning
- Add-a-bathroom Ian Carmody
- PRP Services, Plumbing Brett
- Triple M radio Big Breakfast Marto
- Synergy Fitness Andrew Pettet

- Milestone Movers Steve Weiley & team
- Northlakes Painting Services Barry Bloem
- Dulux Paint Jason & Mark
- Monaghan Signs outdoor and reception signs
- Mark Torrens Electrical Mark Torrens
- Rephouse Tony Newton
- G&K Mowing Karen Atta-Singh
- Hudson Australia donation of furniture
- Tim The Sign Man donation of braille signage
- ABSOE Office furniture Gary Maker
- DPMA Printing Services Greg Jeffs

- Emilia Kosiek interior design
- Joep Buijs Photography photography
- Owens Management Services Damien
 Owens builder's clean, cleaners
- Volunteers working bee and all other volunteers who gave their time
- Lachlan Mather furniture sourcing and removing, painting and flat pack assembly as well as everything else
- Our team for working together to deliver such a fabulous facility

And to everyone else who contributed, please know that every contribution was gratefully received and we thank you also.





MEDIA SPOTLIGHT BRINGING INCLUSIVE SPORTS TO ALL AUSTRALIANS

Channel 9 Today Show came to Sporting Wheelies to showcase Para-Sports in action at the new Sports, Health and Fitness Centre at Albion.









MEDIA SPOTLIGHT WALLY LEWIS & CHANNEL 9 NEWS

Wally Lewis and Channel 9 News visited the new Sporting Wheelies centre to see Queenslanders of all abilities strive for their active goals.







HEALTH & FITNESS ADAPTING TO COVID-19

The launch of our new Sports & Fitness Centre has delivered a dedicated space for our specialised Activity-Based Therapy services, for targeted rehabilitation and a hub for multi-disciplinary collaboration with other Allied Health practitioners.

A generous donation of Synergy gym equipment to diversify our range added significant value for our clients. With the exponential growth of our services, came the opportunity to expand our team, and in September we welcomed two new Exercise Physiologists. Our waitlist was finally being met, and regular access to Exercise Physiology increased for new and existing clients.

In hindsight, despite a complex and difficult time for many, during 2020 we strengthened our services and provided better opportunities for our clients. We acknowledge and thank everyone for their continued support during a challenging year, and we very much look forward to growing the centre in 2021 and making active goals more accessible in Brisbane and beyond!

STRENGTHENED RELATIONSHIPS WITH UNIVERSITIES

Despite the difficulty of COVID-19 related restrictions, the Health and Fitness Centre was still able to retain integral relationships with universities and became one of the first practicum sites to provide access to students post-lockdown. Our motivation to provide best practice evidence-based therapy also drove ongoing collaboration between Spinal Cord Injury Australia (SCIA) and Sporting Wheelies.



HEALTH + FITNESS





38%

GROWTH IN NEW CLIENTS (COMPARED TO LAST YEAR)



4,551 HOURS

OF EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY SESSIONS



6

UNIVERSITIES



8

STUDENTS



60+

DISABILITY TYPES



706 HOURS

OF TELEPRACTICE DELIVERED



116 HOURS

NUMBER OF IN-HOME HOURS DELIVERED



60%

OF EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY CLIENTS
PARTICIPATED IN TELEHEALTH DURING
COVID-19 LOCKDOWN

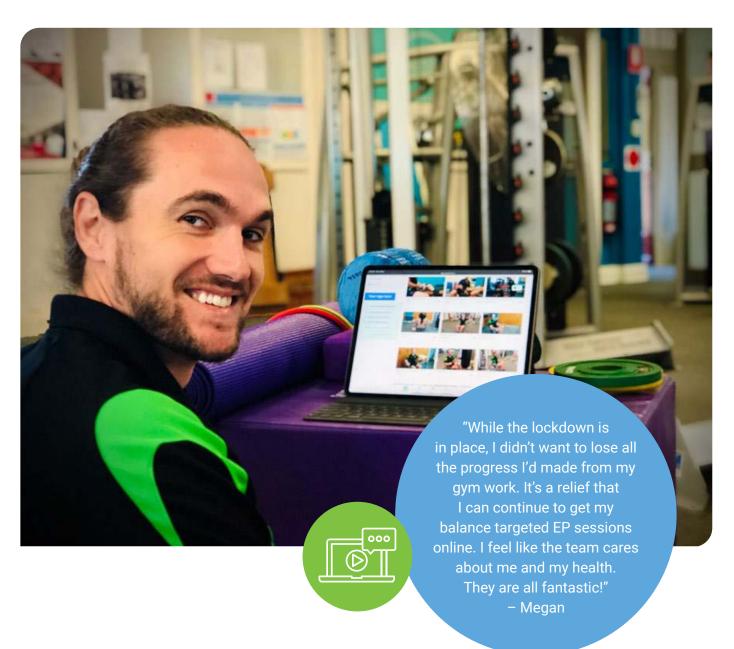


20%

OF SERVICES DELIVERED OVER THE YEAR WERE VIA TELEHEALTH OR IN-HOME

HEALTH & FITNESS THE LAUNCH OF TELEHEALTH

Undeterred by the complex challenges of COVID-19, the Health and Fitness Centre was determined to ensure exercise therapy remained accessible for everyone in need. Within two weeks of the first lockdown on the 16 March 2020, Exercise Physiology services were no longer confined to the four walls of our bustling Bowen Hills gym – but instead delivered in each client's home, online via telehealth. Not only did 'Access EP Online' continue to facilitate 60% of our client-base, but we were also able to connect with new clients outside of the Brisbane area.



HEALTH & FITNESS INTRODUCING EP@HOME

After witnessing significant progress for our clients via telehealth, the team quickly recognised the benefits of home-based exercise. The ability to perform daily activities such as transferring from chair to bed, or developing strength to cook and clean independently, could be best simulated in a familiar space. As a result, and with the relaxation of restrictions, home-visits were the next exciting step! The 'EP@Home' service aimed to best optimise our clients' functional capacity to navigate daily challenges.



SPORT & RECREATION OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

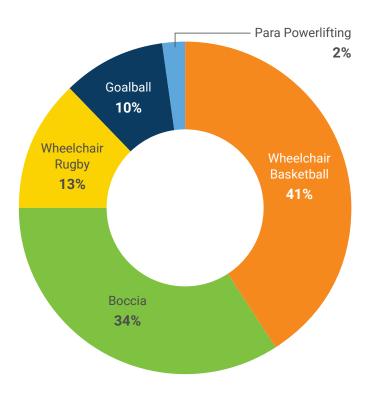


16 ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21





WHAT SPORTS DO OUR MEMBERS PLAY?







GOALBALL

Now played at the new dedicated Goalball courts at our Sports, Health & Fitness Centre in Albion.



HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

The High Performance
Program (HPP) supports elite
athletes training and preparing
for national and international
competitions and leagues.

COVID restrictions in 2020 saw the cancellation of many state squad trainings, state and national camps, and national competitions and leagues including the National Wheelchair Basketball League, Women's National Wheelchair Basketball League, and Wheelchair Rugby National Championships and state events.

The postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics has had a major effect on the preparation plans for our elite athletes.

With various COVID-safe requirements, we worked through complex and difficult restrictions on travel and venue use to initiate a return to individual and team training environments for athletes and coaches. Whilst COVID was mostly a negative, there were some positives to emerge from the year. Greater focus on sports psychology services for individuals and teams was provided to check in on athletes' wellness and maintain connections and group harmony during lock down periods.

We also built on team culture and worked through team values and beliefs. Another exciting outcome was the development of an athlete benchmarking database for wheelchair basketball. This tool allows coaches and players to set performance metrics and identify progressions for junior and senior athletes at state, national, and international levels.



In 2020 we continued our partnership with the Queensland Academy of Sport (QAS) who provide valuable funding to support our elite athletes, coaches and support staff in Queensland for goalball, wheelchair basketball and wheelchair rugby. The QAS also assisted with the transition of our wheelchair basketball court sessions from the QAS court, to the wonderful facilities at Nissan Arena.









RAISING THE BAR GAME CHANGERS PROGRAM

Sporting Wheelies were successful in receiving a \$1.1 million grant from the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), in order to Raise the Bar on the goals and achievements available to people living with a disability.

The grant will fund our new *Raising the Bar – Game Changers (Peer Support Leadership) Program,* employing at least 25 Queenslanders living with a disability as Game Changers to create awareness and empowerment amongst the community.

Game Changers will challenge the basic assumption about the capacity of people with disability using sport. What is possible now, is very different from what was possible 10 or 20 years ago as technologies, therapies and services continually improve.

In the famous words of Billie Jean King, "you have to see it to be it." This program uses peers from our extended disability sports family to inspire others as we seek to raise the bar for all people with disabilities. In turn, we will enhance the capacity of people with a disability to improve their lives and more effectively advocate for their NDIS plans, programs, systems and processes that will enhance their daily living.

The program will also engage with schools to educate children about disability, Para-Sports and show students it is possible for everybody to set and achieve active goals, sharing what is possible in Para-Sports and connecting with students. They will share stories of success, encourage inclusive practices within the school and local community and empower students with a disability.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF **PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY**

On 3 December 2020 we celebrated International Day of People with Disability by taking Inclusive Sport in Schools to Parliament House.

Queensland schools and yet there are no inclusive sporting programs currently implemented. Sporting Wheelies is working hard to change this.

"We will

work together with

2020 marks the 100th year of sport in



Level playing field for

Queensland students

The Inclusive Sport in Schools Program annastaciamp o "I'd like to say give it. a go, give it your best and nothing can hold you back!" - Ella Sabiljak, wheelchair basketball Paralympian.

> Around 26% of children with a disability participate in sport compared to 63% for other children, which is a statistic @sportingwheelies wants to change

> Their Inclusive Sports in Schools Program levels the playing field and provides opportunities for students with disability to fully participate in physical activities with their peers through sports like goalball, boccia wheelchair basketball and wheelchair



Annastacia Palaszczuk's Instagram.









OUR COMMUNITY WELCOMING GOVERNMENT

Introducing the Government to the new Sporting Wheelies Sports, Health and Fitness Centre to show what is possible for all Queenslanders of all abilities.











OUR COMMUNITY SOCIAL PAGES

At Sporting Wheelies our community is so important and everyone is always welcome.









OUR VOLUNTEERS MAKE OUR WORK POSSIBLE

Thank you to our team of volunteers who gave their time and skills to help. The delivery of our sports and recreation programs would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of our team of volunteers.

Although opportunities to volunteer at sports programs and events was limited in 2020, our new Sports, Health and Fitness centre was transformed by an army of volunteers who contributed their professional skills and hard work to develop an outstanding facility. Thank you to Volunteering Queensland for awarding our staff *'Excellence in Volunteer Management Award'*.













OUR PEOPLE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



ANNA LITTLEBOY



SANDIE ANGUS



GARY LINTON



ANDREW WEEDEN



MICHAEL JOHNSON

CHAIR

As the new Chair of our organisation, Anna brings with her extensive experience, having contributed to numerous boards, advisory committees, working parties and expert panels. As CSIRO's Research Director, Anna is an experienced leader, specialising in strategy, foresight and risk for the resource sector. Having lived experience of disability within the workplace, Anna understands the duty of care within organisations.

SECRETARY

Sitting on numerous
Boards in the disability
and sporting sectors,
Sandie provides
extensive experience
to the Board. Sandie
displays strong
leadership qualities,
being part of multiple
mentoring programs.
Having experience
with legal, governance
and risk management,
Sandie is a valuable
member to the Board.

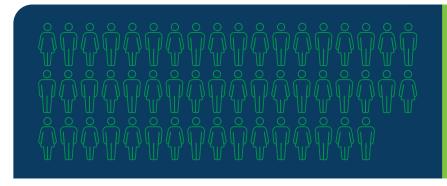
DEPUTY CHAIR

As a professional CEO/Managing Director with over 30 years' experience successfully managing and growing a diverse range of companies in Professional Services and System Integration, Gary provides a wealth of knowledge to the Board. Gary is a founder and Managing Director of Linton Howard, Non-Executive Director/ Chairman of companies in the education, IT, financial services and construction sectors, providing invaluable experience to the Board.

TREASURER

Focusing on financial oversight, risk, compliance and strategic issues and initiatives, Andrew has a vast array of experience working on Boards, Andrew has national and international experience in the IT, technology, professional services, financial services and resource sectors. With over 25 years' experience at PwC, Andrew provides broad knowledge of potential issues in commercial and finance areas.

With experience in the international Asian markets, Michael provides experience sitting on multiple national and international Boards. Michael has interest in trade, tourism and financial services, however, is particularly passionate across the sporting, cultural and entertainment sectors.



52STAFF MEMBERS

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM



ELAINE JOBSON

DAVID SHILLINGTON

APPOINTED NOV 2020

Elaine Jobson is a fitness industry veteran having spent 23 years in executive positions working for a number of the large fitness brands. Her roles have taken her all over the globe having worked in Asia, Europe, South Africa and now Australia.

She is best known for teaming up with well-known industry entrepreneurs including Mike Balfour OBE – founder of Fitness First, Sir Richard Branson owner of Virgin Active South Africa and now Brendon Levenson founder of Jetts Fitness.

Having previously won the Deloitte Best Company to work in South Africa, Elaine is passionate about building successful companies through great cultures and growing exceptional leaders.

APPOINTED NOV 2020

For 12 years David was an elite athlete playing in the NRL where he represented the Old Maroons and Australia. Since retiring from sport in 2017, he has worked in the NFP space, fundraising and advocating for good mental health. He is committed to using sport to build the health and wellbeing of individuals and the community.



AMANDA MATHER CEO

Sporting Wheelies CEO Amanda Mather has a glowing history of helping Australians. With a career in healthcare spanning over 25 years, she is passionate about creating a positive community for everybody.



DAVID BARTHOLOMAEUS
SPORT & RECREATION MANAGER

David brings vast experience in providing opportunities for people of all abilities to participate in inclusive sports. David's expertise includes developing pathways for elite sports and high performance programs.



JACQUELINE KELLY
HEALTH & FITNESS MANAGER

Jacqueline supports her team to deliver life changing therapies to improve functional capabilities of people living with a disability and to support their active living goals.



JULIA SENIOR
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Julia is challenging what is possible for people with disabilities through the implementation of the *Raising the Bar* program and the recruitment of our *Game Changers, Peer Support Leaders*.



LISA STONE
MARKETING MANAGER

Lisa delivers integrated marketing and communication strategies to support Sporting Wheelies growth strategies. Building meaningful partnerships and great relationships with our supporters and the broader community to deliver inclusive programs.



DARRYL WHATMOUGH
PHILANTHROPY & FUNDRAISING MANAGER

Darryl brings 20 years of fundraising experience and knowledge to Sporting Wheelies. His focus is building sustainable fundraising programs to enable more services to be delivered to people in need.

THANK YOU SUPPORTERS & SPONSORS

We would like to thank all of our donors, partners, friends, families and the community for all of your generous support. We are grateful for your continue support that helps us make active goals accessible for people with disabilities.

In particular we would like to recognise:













A special thanks to all of our Gold Choice lottery supporters who continue to support us year after year. Funds raised from our lotteries help us to continue our work across Queensland.

To all our donors, regular donors and partners your ongoing support is much appreciated. Contributions, large or small, have made a significant impact on Sporting Wheelies and our members' futures.

TO MAKE A DONATION

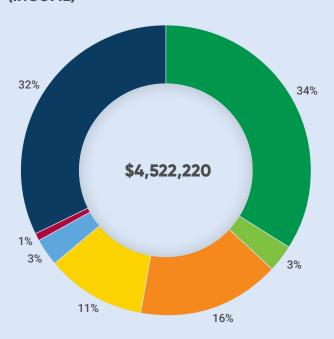
PH: 07 3253 3333

sportingwheelies.org.au/donate



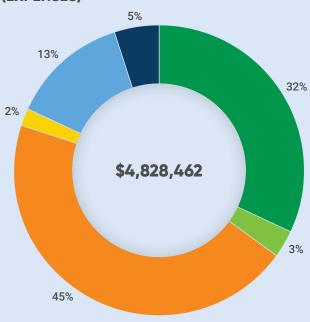
FINANCIAL SUMMARY 1 FEB 2020-31 JAN 2021

WHERE OUR FUNDING COMES FROM (INCOME)



Art Union	34%
Bingo	3%
Service Delivery	16%
Government Grants	11%
Donations & Fundraising	3%
Sundry	1%
Government Subsidies	32%

HOW WE SPEND OUR FUNDING (EXPENSES)



Cost of Sales	32%
Depreciation & Amortisation	3%
Employee Benefits	45%
Occupancy Costs	2%
Administration	13%
Programs & Events	5%





Sporting Wheelies & Disabled Association

31 Dover Street, Albion Qld 4010 Phone: (07) 3253 3333 Email: mailbox@sportingwheelies.org.au

sportingwheelies.org.au





