



Standing Tall in Hamilton ^{Inc}
School Based Mentoring

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



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Milly Tapper

Olympian/Paralympian &
Standing Tall Ambassador

"I find the work Standing Tall does is amazing. It's locals volunteering their time, linking with a kid at the school, building a rapport and being there as a support. When I go home, I get to see the kids I work with and I love that they can feel comfortable with me.

What makes me feel incredibly good is that I can set a good example for them. They know I'm from their little town, that I've put in a lot of work and achieved a bit more than might have been expected of me.

It shows them that they can do the same thing and maybe gives them a bit of inspiration to give things a go, to try things they probably never thought they could do."



About us...

Standing Tall in Hamilton is a national award winning, not-for-profit, school based mentoring program that works one-to-one with children aged 12 to 18 years.

Mentoring provides positive guidance, support, routine and encouragement so that the student may develop a healthy connection to school and the opportunities that education provides. The Standing Tall Mentoring program works in collaboration with Baimbridge College and is supported by many local community groups, business and generous philanthropists.

Thirty students currently studying in Years 7 to 12, who fit the relevant criteria may apply to have a mentor. The program is currently able to accommodate 30 students and runs at capacity with a waiting list, with staff employed in a part-time capacity. As of 2018, Standing Tall in Hamilton has impacted change on the lives of over 200 children and their volunteer mentors.

Volunteer mentors are carefully screened and trained and meet with their mentees for an hour a week. Activities include, but are not limited to; volunteering together within the community, table tennis, games, art projects, bike riding, taking walks, excursions, exploring career goals and site visits, cooking and sharing hot lunches. The careful matching of mentees to mentors allow for the greatest program outcomes. The relationship continues for a minimum of 12 months, however most choose to continue beyond the first year.

Our Values...

Vision

Students fulfilling their potential to live rich and rewarding lives and be valuable members of the community.

Mission

The training of community mentors to support and encourage students to reach their full potential.

The Standing Tall Program...

Provides training and support to members of the community who are willing to act as mentors to school students.

We Believe...

One of the greatest chances for a young person fulfilling their potential is to take advantage of educational opportunities offered in a school environment.

There is a high price to be paid for the fact that a number of young people in our society are not taking advantage of the educational opportunities offered in a school setting.

Optimal educational outcomes for young people are based on their wellbeing and sense of connection with the school and community to which they belong.

One of the most protective factors for a young person is the support and encouragement afforded by a one-to-one relationship with a caring adult.

The responsibility for the wellbeing of young people lies with the whole community, not just schools.

There is a latent goodwill in the community which can be tapped and realised to support schools achieve the outcomes for which they are established.



Standing Tall in Hamilton works within the Australian Youth Mentoring Benchmarks, that fosters the growth of high quality youth mentoring programs.

Who we are...



Standing Tall Committee of Management Members

Julie Drechsler - Committee Chair

Julie is the Community & Wellbeing Manager for the Glenelg Shire Council, and has had an extensive career in Youth Development. She has also been a mentor in the program.

Darrell Agnew - Committee Deputy Chair

Darrell is a current mentor in the Standing Tall program. His dedication to seeing young people reach their best potential is inspiring.

Catherine Fraser - Committee Secretary

Catherine has been a mentor with Standing Tall for many years. Catherine brings great mentoring experience from her previous role as L2P Mentoring Coordinator.

Glenda Cadden - Committee Treasurer

Glenda brings to the committee her experience in Financial Auditing and Quality Systems and Compliance. She has also been a mentor in the program.

Warwick Price - Baimbridge College Principal

Warwick has commenced the role of Principal at Baimbridge College in 2018, after acting in the position for some time in 2017.

Rob Vecchiet - Retired Baimbridge College Principal

Rob was the Principal at Baimbridge College when Standing Tall was first created and has been on the Committee since it's inception. In his retirement, he remains keenly interested in seeing the program continue to be a success in our community.

Trish Munro

Trish is a local business woman, owner and manager of Hamilton Toyworld, and proud supporter of Standing Tall. She brings extensive business knowledge to the committee.

Rachel Munro

Rachel is a Maths teacher at Baimbridge College. She brings a youthful enthusiasm to the committee and a strong connection to the school community.



Back: Darrell Agnew, Trish Munro, Warwick Price
Front: Rachel Munro, Catherine Fraser, Glenda Cadden



Julie Drechsler



Rob Vecchiet



Patron

Dr Geoff Handbury AO

Dr Handbury is a local Philanthropist and a strong supporter and ambassador of Standing Tall in Hamilton.

Community Champions

Bruach Colliton

*Previous Southern Grampians Shire Councillor
Bruach is a champion for young people across the region.*



Ambassador

Melissa Tapper

Olympian/Paralympian is a proud supporter of Standing Tall in Hamilton, and is a great role model for our young people in overcoming barriers to succeed.



Peter Cook

*Previous Hamilton Uniting Church Minister
Peter is a proud supporter and fundraiser for Standing Tall.*



Program Founder

Ms Jeanette Pritchard

Jeanette created and piloted the program in 2003. Jeanette is passionate about seeing young people being given every opportunity to thrive.

Staff

Jane Crowe

Program Coordinator



Jane has been with Standing Tall in Hamilton since 2012, and has a background

in Youth Work and Alternative Education.



Chairperson's Report...



"Every kid is one caring adult away from being a success story" Josh Shipp.

Research indicates that one of the most important protective factors in supporting young people is the development of a relationship with a significant adult other than their parents. Our Standing Tall in Hamilton mentors provide just that

and do this with such a spirit of generosity. Thank you to all our incredible mentors, we would not have a program without you.

The vision of the Standing Tall in Hamilton program is to support "Students fulfilling their potential to live rich and rewarding lives and be valuable members of the community". The beauty of the program is that it is not only the young person who benefits from the program, it is much wider than that; mentors, families, parents, the school community and the wider community all benefit enormously from the program.

2018 was a busy year for the Standing Tall in Hamilton program, supporting 21 young people in the program, matched with 19 mentors. They participated in a variety of community events, which is a key component to the program. Events including; the WDHS Door Knock Appeal, visiting the WDHS Social Support groups and other speaking engagements to community groups. This year we had four mentees graduate from the Standing Tall in Hamilton program, three of those completing High School; David Anderson, Brent McLaren, Patrick McGregor-Rhodes and Dylan Breban. Patrick and Dylan are our longest ever program mentees, who have both been in the program since Grade Six through to Year 12. Congratulations to you all. We are also sad to be losing their mentors, two of our longest serving and valued volunteers, Alan McConachie and Murray Gunn. We thank them for their tireless dedication and commitment in supporting our young people.

The Committee of Management welcomed back Robert Vecchiet after his long service break, but we were sad to farewell Darrell Agnew. The Committee of Management has worked hard throughout the year to secure funding for the program; it has been our biggest challenge and I would like to thank our Treasurer, Glenda for all the work she has done to secure funding for the program to continue into 2019. Thank you to those who supported the program, we are lucky to have such great support from our local communities and philanthropic funders. The support we receive from our community always makes me think of the quote, "It takes a village to raise a child". I believe our connection with the community is one of our program's key strengths.

Standing Tall in Hamilton is extremely fortunate to have Jane Crowe as our program coordinator. Jane is passionate about Standing Tall in Hamilton, our mentees, and working along side our mentors and the wider community. On behalf of the Committee of Management, I would like to thank Jane for her continued service to the program and recognise the skills, enthusiasm and dedication she brings to the program. We would be lost without you Jane!

The Committee of Management would also like to acknowledge Baimbridge College for its continued support of the program, providing in kind support as well as providing our mentoring space. We look forward to the continuation of our partnership.

Lastly, the Committee of Management will continue to ensure the delivery of a high quality program, advocate for future funding and support the development of young people through their participation in the program and mentoring relationship. We thank all our champions and supporters, and look forward to more successes and challenges in the year to come.

Julie Drechsler
Committee Chairperson
Standing Tall in Hamilton





Principal's Report...

Since taking over as Principal of Baimbridge there have been many success stories to celebrate with none more so than the mentoring program that is Standing Tall in Hamilton. Whilst there have been some challenges in the continual sourcing of funding by the committee and the small turbulence caused by a relocation of staff and students to the West campus, the program has continued to serve a very important purpose in the community. For some of our students a significant other who is always there for them as a wise and thoughtful listener is more important than almost anything else and someone we all need in order to develop into citizens who contribute to society in a positive way.

Over the past year the program has again been recognised with Harley Addinsall receiving a Southern Grampians Youth Achievement Award. I am sure his mentor Min is as pleased as anyone by the enormous gains Harley has made since being a part of the program. Congratulations Harley and Min.

I would like to thank the incredibly dedicated and hard working Committee Members of Standing Tall for the countless hours involved in meeting, sourcing financial solutions and applying for grants and to those who play roles as committee members and mentors.

Special thanks also to Jane Crowe who plays a magnificent role in coordination of the program and training of the many mentors. Thank you Jane.

Of course, the program would not exist without the many kind and giving mentors who make themselves available each week to be part of our young people's lives leading to life long changes for all involved. Thank you must also be extended to the wider community for continually finding time and financial support for the program as without this ongoing support the program could not continue to deliver these wonderful outcomes. The committee and the school will continue to work hand in hand to source more members, more mentors and ensure the program is viable for many years into the future and to continue to provide for our young people who themselves hopefully will go on to be leaders and maybe one day... Standing Tall in Hamilton mentors.

Warwick Price
Principal
Baimbridge College



Coordinator's Report...

What a year 2018 has been! It was my first full year of coordinating the program and being the solo staff member at Standing Tall in Hamilton, which would not have been possible without the support and dedication of an amazing Committee of Management, a team of highly committed volunteer mentors, a supportive school and wider community and the most awesome young people anyone could wish to work with.

Our Committee of Management have worked so hard to secure funding to ensure that I can continue to work alongside this amazing group of mentors and mentees. They have supported me as I took on this new role and made sure that I have been given every opportunity to develop my skills so that I can best manage and grow Standing Tall in Hamilton.

Our Standing Tall in Hamilton mentors never cease to amaze me. They all go above and beyond and give far more than the one hour a week that is expected of them. Their generosity with their time and efforts have ensured that our students are very well supported as they journey through their secondary education and consider their future goals. It was very fitting that our volunteers were awarded the Australian Government Volunteer Awards by our local member Dan Tehan MP at the end of 2017.

2018 saw some great partnerships continue and commence within our local community. The relationship that Standing Tall in Hamilton has with the Southern Grampians L2P Learner Driver Mentoring program was strengthened this year, with two of our mentoring relationships crossing over into L2P to take their mentoring relationships to another added level of mentoring as they learn to drive together and complete their learner hours. Another two mentees joined L2P and were given a second L2P mentor. It has been great to come together as two mentoring programs and work together in mentoring our young people.

We commenced a new partnership with the Western District Health Services Social Support Program. At the end of 2017, our Peer Mentors had been asked to speak to the group participants about their journeys in Standing Tall. The group were so impressed by our young people, that they asked if we would like to come back on a more regular basis to spend time with their participants. One of the key factors of Standing Tall is to give our young people the opportunity to have intergenerational interactions, and also give back to our community. One mentoring couple committed to visiting the group monthly - to share stories, to play games and even take them on some excursions to see some projects they had been working on together. We look forward to growing this initiative in 2019, with more mentoring couples taking part.





This adds to our existing interaction with the Western District Health Service. Once again a number of our mentees and their mentors headed out into the community to fundraise for the WDHS Doorknock Appeal. Our mentees know the importance of giving back to the community that so generously supports them.

One of our students took the notion of giving back to a whole new level by participating in the World's Greatest Shave for Leukaemia



Research by shaving her head, and her mentor was right there to support her.

Standing Tall in Hamilton is proudly supported by our Ambassador and Olympian, Milly Tapper. 2018 presented us with the opportunity to cheer her on as she headed to the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast, and went on to win Gold. It is so good for our young people to have a role model like Milly, seeing someone from their home town give their all and overcome obstacles to succeed on such an international level.



We are so grateful for the support from local businesses, organisations and individuals who give so generously to provide this opportunity for our mentees. Knowing that our local community values them and wants to invest in their future creates a strong sense of belonging in our young people.

Since it's inception, Standing Tall has been rolled out into multiple schools across South West Victoria. In August, we joined Standing Tall in Heywood & District in celebrating their 5th

Birthday. To see more children across the region have access to this fabulous program is so exciting. It has also been great to meet with the Warrnambool and Heywood Coordinators to support each other as we coordinate our individual programs with a common goal to see young people across our region be supported to be the best versions of themselves.





Standing Tall in Hamilton aims to create up and coming young leaders. No-one is a more perfect example of this than our Peer Mentor, Harley Addinsall. Harley has been a strong advocate for Standing Tall, and has represented Standing Tall at a number of events. Harley and his mentor, Min were interviewed by a prominent Education Magazine this year, where they shared about their mentoring journey which began when Harley was in Grade Five. Harley went on to be awarded the Southern Grampians Youth Achievement Award

this year. His leadership skills were recognized when he was asked to be a part of the C4YB (Community for Youth Board) next year. This will allow him to advocate for the needs of young people in our community, well done Harley!

No two mentoring relationships are the same, they come in all different shapes and sizes, and not one is more valuable than another. Some enjoy spending time in the kitchen, cooking up a storm, others enjoy having good life conversations over a board game, or game of pool or table tennis. Some enjoy exploring out in our community, whether it be at local cafés, or museums and art galleries, or just a walk around some of the beautiful nature spots our region has to offer. Others explore future career paths and set goals. The one common denominator is that extra adult who is willing to invest in them and encourage them to be the best that they can be, which is so meaningful and valuable.

As Baimbridge College moves towards their redevelopment phase, the decision was made to close down the majority of the East Campus and migrate most of the school community to the West Campus. So we prepare to say goodbye to our mentoring space that has been the home of great memories and relationships over the 15 years that Standing Tall has been running here in Hamilton. We look forward to creating a new space, and new memories.

We ended this year on a positive note with three Standing Tall mentees completing their high school journeys with their Graduation from Year 12.

Dylan and Patrick met their mentors back in 2012, when they were both in Grade Six. Dylan was matched with Murray, and Patrick was matched with Alan. To date, they have been our longest continual running mentor matches. When Baimbridge College was a P-12 School, Standing Tall's target was to match Grade Five and Six students with mentors, to assist them as they transitioned from Primary School into Secondary education. Research shows that initiating that support at the early age is much more beneficial as young people transition into their teenage years.





Patrick and Alan found a mutual interest in Music and Poetry, and spent a lot of time going to see travelling and local Orchestral performances. One of Patrick's early goals in life was to learn every musical instrument, with Alan's encouragement, he is well on the way to achieving that goal. We would often find them sitting in the mentoring room, with Patrick playing his Violin for Alan. They also enjoyed getting out in the community and exploring the local area for some hidden gems including the old railway lines, the local waterfalls, the museums. On the occasions that Alan would go away on holidays, he would regularly send Patrick postcards and fun facts or questions about

the places he visited to discuss on his return. Throughout their seven years together, they have learnt much from each other, valuable lessons that they will both carry into their lives post Standing Tall. In Year 11, Patrick was awarded the Southern Grampians Youth Achievement Award for his achievements in Music. We must also acknowledge Alan's State and National Youth Mentor of the Year awards back in 2014, Alan was recognised by the Australian Youth Mentoring Network, as both the Victorian and National Youth Mentor of the Year for his acts of service to Patrick and Standing Tall in Hamilton.



Dylan and Murray bonded over great conversations about life. With mutual interests in history and some good games of Table Tennis, theirs has been a mutual learning experience, with Murray teaching Dylan about trees and birds, and Dylan teaching Murray about technology amongst many other things. They would often join Patrick and Alan on their adventures, and the four have developed strong friendships and connections over these past seven years.

The roles these men have played in these young men's lives will leave a lasting impact as Patrick and Dylan head into adulthood and strive to reach their goals. With the boys

completing Year 12, Alan and Murray have sadly hung up their mentoring boots for retirement. Their wealth of wisdom and knowledge, and all-round greatness will be missed within our Standing Tall community.



Our third Year 12 Graduate, Brent, met his mentor Richard in 2016, while in Year 10. He was struggling at school, and not enjoying it. His mother states that she only wished he had have been able to be a part of Standing Tall sooner, as once he started mentoring, any issues he had been facing at school just disappeared. Having that extra adult, that wasn't a parent, who was there to support him helped him so much. Brent and Richard have spent a lot of time sharing life experiences over good food and conversations. They were also one of the initial mentoring matches to take part in the Southern Grampians L2P Learner Driver mentoring program together. Now that their official Standing Tall journey has ended, they are still continuing their mentoring relationship as Brent builds up his learner hours, we are looking forward to seeing him driving around on his P plates soon.



In 2017, Standing Tall in Hamilton was given the opportunity to have two of our students sponsored by the local Rotary Club to take part in their RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) camp. Brent was one of the two students sponsored for a weekend of developing leadership skills and making lifelong friendships. This was a fabulous opportunity for Brent.

Through the added support provided through his mentoring experience, Brent was able to gain a school based apprenticeship with the Southern Grampians Shire Council Horticulture department, and will commence a full time Apprenticeship at the Hamilton Botanical Gardens through the Shire in 2019. This has been a great outcome for Brent.

Brent and Richard have developed a strong friendship that will continue into adulthood for Brent.

Congratulations to all three graduating students, it has been a pleasure to have you in Standing Tall in Hamilton, and we wish you all the best for your future endeavours, we hope that the skills and confidence you have gained through your time in Standing Tall will serve you well in your next journeys.

A special thank you to each and every one who has made Standing Tall in Hamilton a success this year. We look forward to 2019 with a great enthusiasm.

Jane Crowe
Program Coordinator
Standing Tall in Hamilton





Treasurers Report...



1. INTRODUCTION

As documented in the Standing Tall in Hamilton Sustainability Plan (2018), new funding strategies are needed, and this was most certainly true for 2018.

Funding is essential for Standing Tall in Hamilton to progress, but we did prove in 2018 that it is possible to sustain the program's positive impacts with far less funding than in past years.

However, for financial security a funding plan is required that should include strategies to help sustain the Standing Tall in Hamilton program for future years.

Funding in 2018 was sought through three main avenues:

1. Standing Tall joined an internet on-line based program called "The Grants Hub", that lists, as well as advises of grants and foundations that are available from philanthropists, charitable trusts, national corporations, as well as federal, state and local government. From this program Standing Tall applied for funding in various categories that covered student mentoring and volunteers.
2. Letters of request for funding were sent to local community services and businesses.
3. Loyal community followers of Standing Tall.

This Treasurer's report will deal with:

- Financial results to end of December 2018
- Budget for 2019

2. FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR 2018

As a result of the three abovementioned strategies used to obtain funding in 2018, it has turned out to be quite a successful year, with a closing balance at year end of \$61,653.00 to carry forward into 2019. This result is due to:

- a. Cash donations by various supporters that were used to cover some expenses during the year.
- b. Continued support from local and district business, church and community groups that saw almost \$20,000 raised.
- c. Applications through the Grants Hub to local foundations for grants and/or sponsorship where a further \$37,500 was raised.

3. BUDGET 2019

The budget will again be conservative and with careful monitoring should see another successful year for Standing Tall in 2019.

However, as stated in the Treasurer's Report for 2017 cash reserves are important to enable progress and this must be part of a future financial plan.

The following will show three key points in the budget:

1. As a result of successful funding sources in 2018, the same planned approach will be applied for 2019 with the local and district community businesses and services.
2. The online program "The Grants Hub" will be a source of information on funding available to Standing Tall.
3. Local, state and federal government funding has been quite elusive to this mentoring program in the last couple of years. However, in the latter part of 2018 we did apply for a Federal Government Volunteer Grant which we hope will be successful when results are advised in early 2019.

4. GENERAL COMMENT

Again, as in 2017, we must acknowledge and thank our Standing Tall program coordinator, Jane, who is doing a wonderful job in this continuing conservative financial environment.

We must also acknowledge all volunteers and supporters of Standing Tall in Hamilton. There are many people who have contributed their time to advise, donate and/or assist in the future progression of this great program. We thank you all.

**Glenda Cadden
Committee Treasurer
Standing Tall in Hamilton**



2018 Financial Statement...

	2018 Budget	2018 Actual
Opening Balance	\$43,310.00	\$43,310.00
REVENUE		
Uniting Church	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Mibus Bros	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Hamilton Toyworld	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Rotary Club of Hamilton North	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Flooring Xtra	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Radleys of Hamilton	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Sinclair Wilson	\$0.00	\$728.00
Hamilton Livestock Association	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Other Gifts/Community Donations	\$14,500.00	\$3,046.00
TOTAL COMMUNITY REVENUE	\$16,000	\$19,774.00
Geoff & Helen Handbury Foundation	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Sisters of Charity	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Gall Family Foundation	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00
Gwen & Edna Jones Foundation	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Ray & Joyce Uebergang	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
TOTAL GRANTS/FOUNDATIONS REVENUE	\$11,000.00	\$37,500.00
TOTAL Local/State/Federal Government Funding	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$27,000.00	\$57,274.00
Membership Received	\$135.00	\$135.00
TOTAL REVENUE AVAILABLE	\$70,445.00	\$100,719.00

	2018 Budget	2018 Actual
EXPENSES		
Salaries & Wages	\$38,000.00	\$36,987.34
WorkCover	\$500.00	\$382.53
Office/Admin Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$917.95
Advertising/Marketing	\$250.00	\$280.69
Courses/Training	\$250.00	\$163.64
Meeting/Training Expenses	\$200.00	\$41.89
Donations/Gifts/Awards	\$80.00	\$45.46
Camps/Excursions/Activities	\$0.00	\$246.58
FUNDED EXPENSES	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$40,280.00	\$39,066.08
NET CASHFLOW/OUTFLOW	-\$13,145.00	\$18,342.92
CASH AVAILABLE	\$30,165.00	\$61,652.92



Our Supporters...

Platinum (\$25k +)

- Gold (\$15k+)**
- The Gall Family Foundation

Silver (\$5k+)

- Dr Geoff Handbury AO and the Geoff & Helen Handbury Foundation
- Gwen & Edna Jones Foundation
- Hamilton Toyworld
- The Uniting Church Argyle Shop

Bronze (\$1,500+)

- Rotary Club of Hamilton North
- Hamilton livestock Association

In kind Support

- Baimbridge College
- Victoria Police
- Brophy Family & Youth Services

Community Donors

- Mibus Bros
- Flooring Xtra
- Radleys of Hamilton
- Ray & Joyce Uebergang Foundation
- Sisters of Charity
- Peter Cook
- Robyn Agnew
- Keith & Elizabeth Haines
- Ivory print
- Baimbridge College Year 12's Casual Day Fundraiser

2018 Mentors...

Darrell Agnew

Sally Beggs

Lynette Binney

Bob Cadden

Karyn Dyson

Peter Elsworthy

Keleigh Flavel

Roger Lewis

Murray Gunn

Ian Johnson

Ryan Jones

Alan McConachie

Doug Palmer

Margy Stevenson

Richard Thatcher

Michael Vaughan

Karen Watt

Meg Watson

Min Youngman



Standing Tall in Hamilton Inc

School Based Mentoring

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