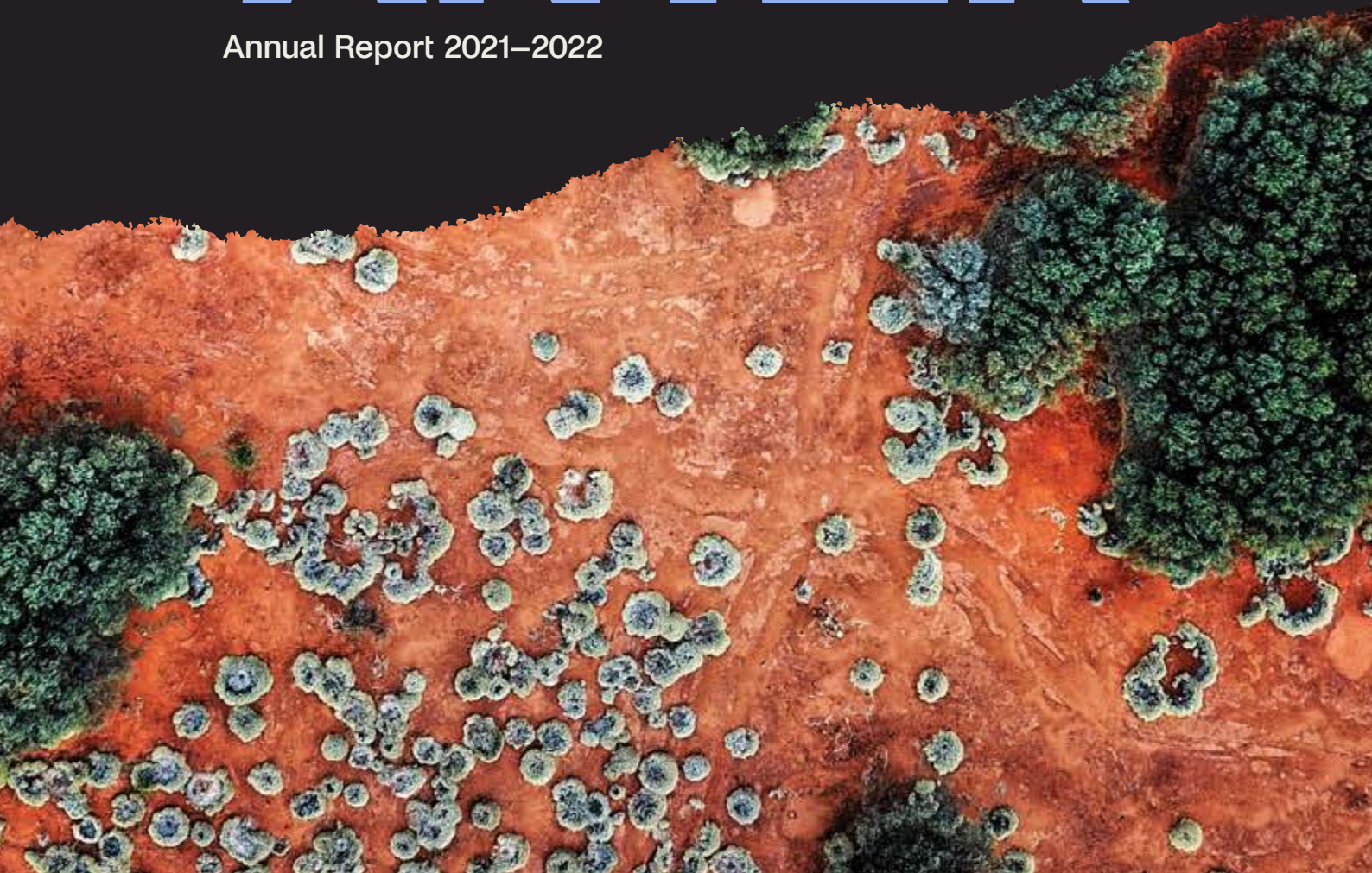
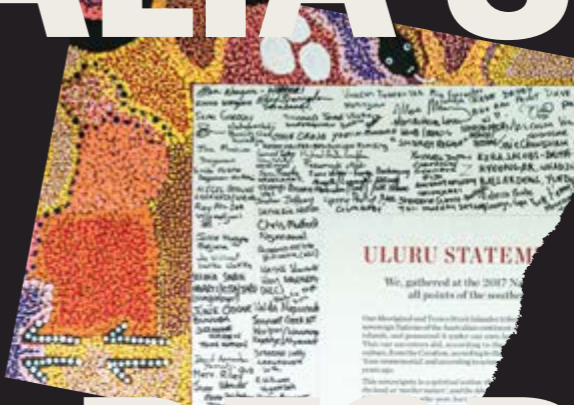


# ANTAR

Annual Report 2021–2022



**OVER THE LAST 25 YEARS,  
WE HAVE BEEN HONOURLED TO  
STAND IN SOLIDARITY  
WITH AUSTRALIA'S FIRST  
NATIONS PEOPLES FOR  
JUSTICE, RIGHTS & RESPECT.  
INDEPENDENT SINCE 1997 FOR  
AS LONG AS IT TAKES. ANTAR**



# CONTENTS

**ABOUT ANTAR** 5–7

---

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT** 8

---

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT** 9

---

**ABOUT OUR WORK** 10–16

---

**SUSTAINING OUR ORGANISATION** 17

---

**FINANCIAL REPORT** 18–19

---

**ANTAR IN THE STATES & TERRITORIES** 20–25

---

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & THANKS** 26

---

ANTAR is proud to acknowledge and pay our respects to First Nations Peoples as the traditional owners of the lands on which we work across the continent.

## WHO WE ARE

We are a dynamic organisation supporting the millions of Australians wanting justice, rights and respect for Australia's First Nations Peoples. We are independent, non-partisan and not for profit. We are affiliated with a national network of state and territory groups.

## OUR VISION

A just Australia in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights as First Nations Peoples are recognised, respected and enjoyed.

## OUR PURPOSE

To be a respected 'Thought Leader' that engages, educates and mobilises the broader Australian community to support and advocate for justice, rights and respect for Australia's First Nations Peoples.

# OUR PRINCIPLES

- 1** We actively support the right of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to self determination.
- 2** We partner with, and take our lead from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and organisations. We build alliances with other organisations and across sectors in support of common goals.
- 3** We believe that all Australians should be fully informed about and have a role to play in achieving a just Australia in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights as First Nations Peoples are recognised, respected and enjoyed.
- 4** We seek to amplify the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and organisations.
- 5** We are committed to social justice and the full realisation of human rights, including those expressed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- 6** We believe in empowerment and community development. Working closely with our State and Territory ANTaR affiliates to educate the broader community about justice, rights and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- 7** We believe in speaking up about injustice, inequality and racism.
- 8** We are accountable and transparent.

# OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

## TO LEAD

To lead public discussions about unfinished business, truth-telling (treaty, justice, rights and respect) and a reconciled Australia from a non Indigenous perspective, in solidarity and conjunction with First Nations leaders and organisations.

## TO EDUCATE

To educate the broader community about the history, cultures, lived experiences, languages and human rights of Australia's First Peoples.

## TO BUILD

To build an active and engaged network of Australians committed to the achievement of justice, rights and respect for Australia's First Peoples.

## TO BE

To be an effective and efficient organisation that values partnerships and develops our people both professionally and culturally to enable us to achieve our goals.

Read our Strategic Plan in full: [antar.org.au](http://antar.org.au)



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT



**The 2021-22 Financial Year has coincided with our 25th anniversary as a national campaign network. ANTA's initial campaign that had largely failed by 1998, morphed into the longest running (as far as I'm aware) solidarity organisation that has as its main purpose the furtherance of the rights of First Nations Peoples – changing the foundation of our nation so that it is led and informed by the perspectives and aspirations of First Nations Peoples.**

Over the year, the Board has been working on our organisational rebrand to be finalised in the second half of 2022. We have retained our name as ANTA, but rather than fitting an acronym (ala QANTAS), we are evolving our branding so that those letters are flexible and impactful to cover the broad array of priorities we advocate on. We are Australians for Negotiated Treaties and Restitution. We are Australians seeking National Truth and Recompense. We are Australians seeking National Truth-telling and Responsibility. And so on. And we are maintaining our link to the Sea of Hands as the main public symbol of our movement.

As the National Director's Report attests, we have had many successes this year as we continue to work in solidarity with First Nations leaders and organisations. Truth-telling, treaty, self-determination and the issues raised by the various First Nations-led campaigns remain on the national agenda. With the election of a new Federal Government and its commitment

to Voice, Treaty, and Truth-telling processes in affinity with the Uluru Statement from the Heart, and the current processes in Victoria, Queensland and the Northern Territory, we are entering into a new phase in our national dialogue about who we are as peoples on these lands, waters, seas and skies. ANTA is entering a mature phase in which we will be continually challenged as we look into the injustices of the past and present and seek a future that is grounded in truth, equity and just relationships.

In our 25th anniversary year, we are celebrating our ability to work creatively and intelligently in solidarity with First Nations leaders and organisations. By playing the long game we have maintained our fidelity to the cause and have added our bit to the furtherance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rights and national self-awareness. Through the dynamic leadership of our National Director, Paul Wright, and the hard work of the ANTA team, we come into the 2022-23 Financial Year in the strongest position in our 25 years of existence in terms of our reach, our advocacy and our finances.

At the 2021 AGM we re-elected myself as President, Darren Dick as Treasurer, and Joanne Kerr. Our Board currently has equal numbers of First Nations and non-Indigenous people, as well as men and women. As a board we work to exemplify the coming together of all communities for justice and reconciliation.

In closing, I want to thank our staff, Board members, Council members and the State and Territory ANTA organisations for the great work they have done this year.

And, of course, a big thanks to you, our members and supporters.

Dr Peter Lewis  
PRESIDENT, ANTA

# NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT



**It has been another big year for ANTA and an important year for the work of justice, rights and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across Australia.**

Throughout this Report you will read of all the efforts undertaken by ANTA and our partners, friends and supporters to champion the priorities of First Nations communities and build the support across Australia for much needed change.

We have continued our long and productive collaborations with the social justice campaigns such as Close the Gap and Change the Record and the emerging campaigns like the Know Your Country initiative. We've been proud to serve the Change the Record Campaign steering committee by auspicing the growing Secretariat team. We have seen positive movement on policies such as Raising the Age of criminal responsibility in a number of jurisdictions and more money for justice reinvestment across Australia.

Our collaboration with the First Nations Heritage Protection Alliance is a source of pride for us, as we are considered a trusted partner for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and peak organisations that are leading the way in lifting the standard of protection of our national cultural treasures.

We have been as active as ever in the policy space, with a number of important submissions and reports throughout the year and our public education materials and informative

issues content has put us in a good position to transition all these great resources to our new website in the second half of 2022.

ANTA's close partnership with the National Native Title Council and the University of Melbourne on the Treaty Talks series has once again been one of the most important platforms for First Nations leaders to discuss the importance of addressing the unfinished business of our Commonwealth.

We step through the work in more detail in the 'Our Work' section of this report.

I want to thank our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family, friends, leaders and peak organisations. Without your leadership we can't be the allies we need to be.

To our awesome ANTA Board, their wisdom, direction, dedication and support has been as invaluable as ever. Led by our President, Dr Peter Lewis, we have passionate and experienced Board Directors that volunteer their time throughout the year to make sure ANTA is an organisation that we can all be proud of.

Thanks to the awesome ANTA team, your hard work and commitment over the last year makes this organisation what it is. We are a small team but you wouldn't know it by the volume of work and the outstanding commitment shown every day.

Big thanks again to our wonderful volunteers – Wendy Rayner, Sue Downes, Sheilagh Kelly, Cathy Noble and John McNeil – and the many other volunteers and interns that have given their time to support our work. We couldn't do it without you! We have another huge year ahead of us in 2022-23 and I am excited to be on this journey with such great people.

Paul Wright  
ANTA National Director

# ABOUT OUR WORK

## ANTAR EVOLUTION

In the year that has seen a change of government at the Federal level and the start of our 25th year of advocacy, it is auspicious that we've been working diligently on the presentation and capacity of ANTAR to drive our important advocacy for the next decade.

Over the 2021-22 Financial Year, we have continued to work closely with some trusted creatives and the Board to shape the brand of ANTAR to reflect how we have evolved over the last 25 years and our continuing mission as a dedicated ally organisation. We look forward to launching our new branding and website and are confident that it will be a successful tool in furthering our mission and message.

# VOICE TREATY TRUTH

## Voice, Treaty, Truth

Five years after the Uluru Statement from the Heart was offered to the Australian people, it was clear that (despite the former Government's hopes) the push for Voice, Treaty and Truth was not going to stop. In fact, over the last 12 months we've seen support for the Uluru Statement continue to grow, and encouraging commitments from Labor that will now need to be followed through by them in government.

ANTAR, in partnership with our friends at the National Native Title Council (NNTC), the University of Melbourne and with the input of the current Northern Territory Treaty Commissioner, Tony McAvoy SC, continued to produce the popular Treaty Talks series. In the last 12 months we have hosted:

- Negotiating Heritage Protection – Hosted by Paul Wright and featuring Dr Anne Poelina, Jamie Lowe, Dr Erin O'Donnell and Ivan Ingram.
- What do Politicians say about a National Treaty process? – Hosted by Dr Eddie Cubillo and featuring Senator Patrick Dodson, Senator Lidia Thorpe and Mr Warren Mundine.
- Treaty's Global Context: Towards Treaty in the Northern Territory – Hosted by Tony McAvoy and featuring Minister Nanai Mahuta (NZ), Professor John Borrows (Canada) and Justice Joe Williams (NZ).
- At the AIATSIS Conference 2022, we produced a plenary session on Treaty – hosted by Dr Eddie Cubillo and featuring Jamie Lowe, Tony McAvoy and Dr Jospehine Bourne.

# CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION

Our team has done a lot of work to produce quality resources and accessible content on the important issue of Cultural Heritage Protection in each State and Territory jurisdiction in Australia. It has been exciting to see the strength of the First Peoples Heritage Protection Alliance in negotiating directly with governments to see commitments for better protection fulfilled.

ANTAR is an associate member of the Alliance and we are honoured to work with the peak organisations, Land Councils and leaders to raise awareness of the threat to our national, ancient treasures. Never again should we allow a moral crime like the destruction of the Juukan Caves to happen anywhere else.

## 30 years of Native Title

An issue close to the heart of ANTAR, with the fight to protect the hard won rights of native title the catalyst for our peoples' movement back in 1997, 2022 marked 30 years since the epoch shifting Mabo High Court Decision.

To mark Mabo and three decades of the Native Title Act and all that this has meant for so many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia, we produced a series of background papers on native title in the lead up to National Reconciliation Week 2022.

We have also begun advocating for Mabo Day (3 June) to become a national public holiday in recognition of its importance to Australia. Our petition has so far attracted thousands of signatures in support. The Mabo Family initiated this proposal and we are working with them through the NNTC and with other groups to press the Federal Government to elevate this momentous day.

# SUBMISSIONS & SCORECARDS

It has been another busy year for contributing to the policy processes and public inquiries relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs. We have made submissions or produced Background Papers on the following issues:

- Series on important Native Title moments
- Series [updated] on Treaty in the States and Territories
- Submission: Protecting the Beetaloo Basin
- Submission: Raising the Age of criminal responsibility in the ACT
- Submission: The Territories Stolen Wages Scheme

- Submission: on the Application of UNDRIP in Australia
- Submission: the New Remote Engagement Program
- Submission: on Raising the Age of criminal responsibility in QLD
- Submission: The Anti-Racism Framework

We also continued to produce our Election Scorecard series in the leadup to the Federal election in May 2022, outlining the major parties' policies on key issues such as Treaty, Closing the Gap, Justice, Housing and Cultural Heritage Protection.



# CAMPAIGNS CLOSE TO OUR HEART

ANTAR has continued our long association with the Close the Gap Campaign as a foundational member of the Campaign's steering committee. We were closely involved in the organisation of National Close the Gap Day in March; and assisted in the production of the Campaign's 2022 Report which showcased the amazing work of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned and led programs and services throughout Australia. The Campaign has been auspiced by the Australian Human Rights Commission since its beginnings over 15 years ago, but it is now hosted by the National Associations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners (NAATSIWHP) and co-chaired by Mr Karl Briscoe and Dr June Oscar.

ANTAR continues to auspice the Change the Record Campaign's growing secretariat team and it has been exciting to see this campaign make progress on many priority justice issues. Out of Change the Record, we have been continuing to advocate for raising the age of criminal responsibility in Australia and we are members of the Raise the Age Campaign. Following the ACT Government's commitment last year, other jurisdictions are making positive suggestions of also raising the age of criminal responsibility. We'll continue our collective advocacy work until this is achieved.

The documentary film Incarceration Nation premiered in August 2021 on NITV and evolved into an impact campaign of which ANTAAR is a founding partner. The campaign works to raise awareness about the ongoing oppression of First Nations people by our 'justice' systems, the disproportionate incarceration rates, the crisis of deaths in custody and the lack of government accountability in addressing these issues.

ANTAR continues to be an active member of Just Reinvest NSW and National Director Paul Wright sits on its Executive Committee. Justice Reinvestment is an important vehicle for closing the gap in justice and health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and it is the key to transforming how governments work to better support these communities.

Take Heart: Deadly Heart is the second documentary film in a series that highlights the impact of Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) on First Nations children and communities. After promoting engagement with the initial Take Heart for National Close the Gap Day 2019, ANTAAR partnered with the Snow Foundation to promote the new film and impact campaign. We support the ongoing work of the campaign to secure \$40 million in funding over three years for the Endgame Strategy to eliminate RHD by 2031.

The 'Know Your Country' Campaign aims to get a First Nations educational officer into every primary school in Australia. This is such an important campaign and it is a major, long-term element to promoting truth-telling and building the links between the First Nations and non-Indigenous communities. The new Labor Government has made positive comments regarding the proposals of Know Your Country, now we want action.



# SEA OF HANDS

**Despite ongoing disruptions to physical events due to COVID-19, the Sea of Hands remained popular throughout the 2021-22 financial year, with bookings on par with the previous year.**

Thanks to the hard work and commitment of staff and volunteers, the ANTAR National collection of hands has now been consolidated and booking processes streamlined so that the SoH will continue as a means for schools, universities, businesses and communities to show solidarity with First Nations Peoples for many years to come.

The key large-scale event of the past year was a 13,000 piece, week-long installation in Sydney's Royal Botanic Gardens, designed by Yaegl artist Frances Belle Parker. The design was inspired by burnt banksia and the regeneration of the bush after fire.





# THE ANTAR COUNCIL

ANTAR has a number of affiliated ANTAR organisations in the states and territories, and these groups do much to raise awareness and advocate on issues of importance in their respective jurisdictions, as well as contributing directly to the national ANTAR movement.

One of the ways ANTAR (National) collaborates with our State and Territory affiliates is through the ANTAR Council which has representation from each ANTAR group. Jill Webb was reappointed chair of the ANTAR Council for 2022 and the Council has met a number of times over 2021-22 to share information about current work, including emerging issues, and to discuss opportunities to support each other and the work of ANTAR nationally.

The Council worked with ANTAR National and the Board to reform the legacy grants program that had been in place between ANTAR National and the Affiliates for many years. To evolve the collaboration between the National, State and Territory ANTAR organisations the State Disbursements Program changed from a 'tied and untied' grant process to a Regional Strategic Capacity and Council Projects Programs which acknowledges the strategic value of affiliated ANTARs in raising local community awareness as well as supporting campaigning, advocacy and organisational membership.

The Council Projects Program will be based on the recommendations of the Council as it is the body for collaboration between National, State and Territory organisations. Projects will be based on nationally agreed themes but enable regional contextualisation.

The ANTAR Council also takes responsibility for setting the agenda for ANTAR's National Forum each year and this year we featured discussions on treaty and cultural heritage protection.



# SUSTAINING OUR ORGANISATION

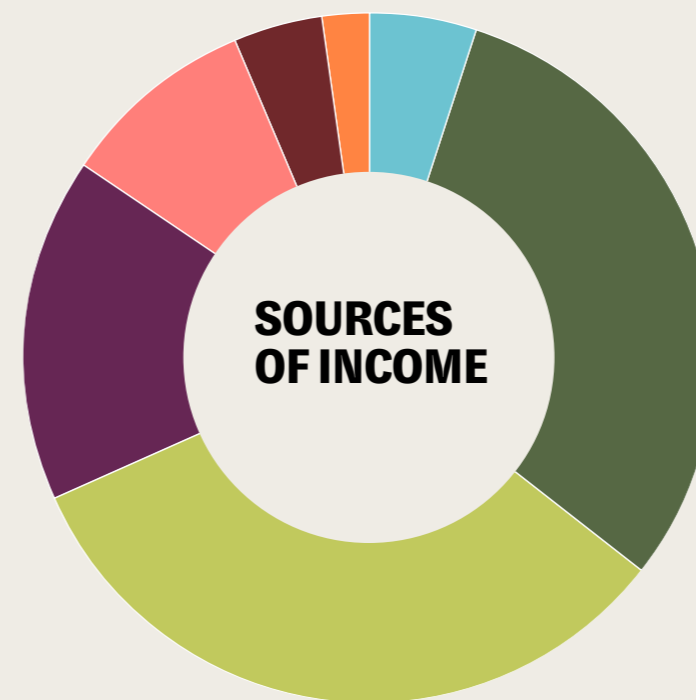
## Key facts about our development program

Fundraising income remained strong this year at \$559,316;

- Digital fundraising around campaign work raised \$51,006;
- Monthly donations from Sea of Hands Partnerships contributed \$169,478;
- Expenses for these activities were at 5.6% of the income – there was some contraction on fundraising expenses from routine activities due to the Coronavirus pandemic but are returning to normal planned levels;
- 1,584 donors supported our Annual Appeals and digital campaigns together with 667 Sea of Hands Partners; supporter numbers fell back but remained at positive levels after a surge of new support the previous year.

## Gifts-in-wills

Over the past year we learned of the passing of four passionate supporters of First Nations rights that left part of their estate to ANTAR. We pay our deep respects and gratitude to the late Mr Hans Boesewinkel, Mr Peter Taylor, Ms June Frolich and Mr Denis Klein for leaving their legacy in our hands. Their generosity and support provides the Board with the opportunity to plan our sustainable growth, support the rejuvenation of our website (for the first time in 13 years), and importantly fund initiatives that support our campaigning for Voice, Treaty and Truth.



- SEA OF HANDS PARTNERSHIP 30%**
- ANNUAL APPEAL 32%**
- OTHER FUNDRAISING INCOME 16%**
- DIGITAL FUNDRAISING 9%**
- EVENTS 4%**
- BEQUESTS 2%**
- MERCHANDISE 5%**

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## BALANCE SHEET 30 JUNE 2022

Assets	Actual	Last Year
Cash at Bank	\$2,792,576	\$1,451,179
Cash on Hand	\$181	\$181
Receivables	\$39,952	\$27,726
Other Current Assets	-\$37,766	-\$22,305
Fixed Assets	\$17,596	\$24,127
Stock on Hand	\$16,303	\$12,477
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$2,828,841</b>	<b>\$1,493,384</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current Liabilities	\$4,977	\$6,744
Payroll Liabilities	\$5,295	\$4,215
Tax Liabilities	\$8,613	\$8,531
Payroll Provisions	\$61,500	\$33,750
Other Liabilities	\$2,094,412	\$755,475
Inter-State Office Amounts Due	-\$1,836	\$0
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$2,172,961</b>	<b>\$808,715</b>
Net Assets	\$655,880	\$684,669
<b>Equity</b>		
Retained Earnings	\$684,669	\$448,882
Current Year Earnings	-\$28,790	\$235,787
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$655,880</b>	<b>\$684,669</b>

## PROFIT AND LOSS REPORT JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

Income	This Year	Last Year
Fundraising	\$523,073	\$597,305
Grants	\$0	\$0
Fees	\$5,965	\$0
Merchandise	\$29,974	\$27,666
Miscellaneous Income	\$305	\$229
JOBKEEPER Subsidy	\$0	\$54,000
ATO Cash Boost	\$0	\$53,998
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$559,316</b>	<b>\$733,198</b>
<b>Cost of Sales</b>		
COS - Merchandise	\$8,683	\$19,165
Total Cost of Sales	\$8,683	\$19,165
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>\$550,633</b>	<b>\$714,033</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
State ANTaR Disbursements	\$36,020	\$33,494
Staff Expenses	\$363,576	\$309,521
Operating Expenses	\$180,976	\$136,831
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$580,571</b>	<b>\$479,846</b>
Operating Profit	-\$29,938	\$234,188
<b>Other Income</b>		
Interest Income	\$1,160	\$1,442
Suspense	\$0	\$250
Total Other Income	\$1,160	\$1,692
<b>Other Expenses</b>		
Interest Expense	\$12	\$93
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>\$12</b>	<b>\$93</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>-\$28,790</b>	<b>\$235,787</b>

# ANTAR IN THE STATES & TERRITORIES

## ANTAR ACT

ANTaR ACT continues to listen to and support First Nations voices and perspectives, which determine our engagement with decision makers and the broader community on our long-term priorities to reduce the number of First Nations children in Out of Home Care, reduce incarceration and recidivism rates, and enable greater self-determination and community control for First Nations people in the ACT. In 2021-22, we maintained advocacy and education, regular meetings, our newsletter, website and facebook page, and attended various consultations.

## Education & Engagement

In September 2021, in partnership with ANTaR National, we held our second online David Hunter Memorial Lecture (and 18th overall), with guest speaker Bhiemie Williamson speaking about 'How can we heal country?' Bhiemie finished his lecture with some very appropriate lyrics from Archie Roach's song Heal the People:

**Don't let the beautiful die  
Don't let the innocent cry.....  
Heal the people, heal the land  
Then we better understand  
It goes hand in hand  
Heal the people, heal the land**

We also met with representatives from a number of First Nations organisations in the ACT, such as:

- Yeddung Mura (Good Pathways) – a local grassroots organisation which works within the community and prison to support positive change, and
- Tanya Keed (Clybucca Dreaming) who spoke about her work on wellbeing and leadership with Indigenous women in the criminal justice system.

## Advocacy & Campaigns

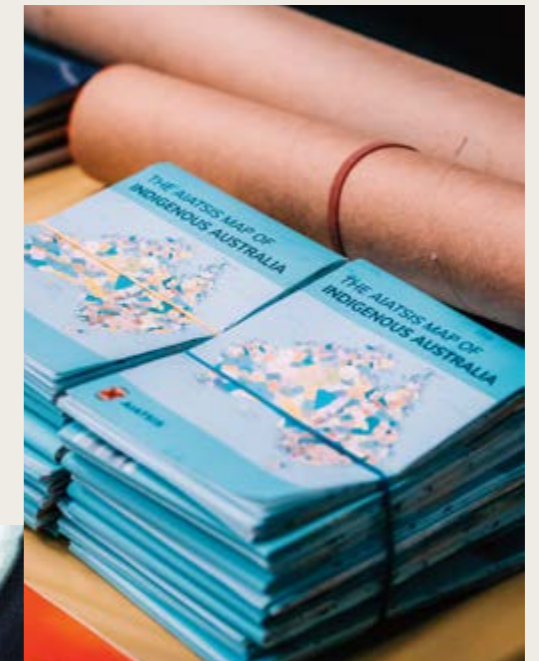
We continue to actively monitor progress on the parliamentary agreement between the Labor and Green coalition that forms Government. This agreement contains a number of significant commitments toward closing the gap for First Nations people. In 2020-21, we met with a number of ACT Ministers and shadow Ministers to discuss their priorities and our concerns that some areas (e.g. relating to the critical need for more, culturally appropriate housing and greater community control of organisations) remain significantly behind the goals that have been set.

A long-running concern is the denigration or the lack of recognition of cultural rights in our region, including cultural fishing rights on the South Coast of New South Wales. There, First Nations people continue to be prosecuted, penalised and actively discouraged, due to the NSW government's failure to enact legislation which passed in 2009 to decriminalise cultural fishing.

ANTaR ACT continues to participate in the Raise the Age (RTA) Coalition of the ACT, and to advocate for the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm to be developed to meet the original vision of the Ngunnawal Elders, as a residential healing centre.

In 2021-22, ANTaR ACT provided financial contributions towards a number of organisations including:

- The South Coast Aboriginal Fishing Rights Group, which during the bushfires at Mogo in 2019 lost their laptop and machine that makes cards for traditional owners to carry when fishing/ collecting at the coast in case they are approached by Fisheries Officers;
- Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Service to supply essential items such as toiletries for those imprisoned in the Alexander Machonochie Centre;
- Yeddung Mura to support its valuable work; and
- The work of Tanya Keed in support, mentoring and leadership for women.



# ANTAR IN THE STATES & TERRITORIES

## ANTAR VIC

In 2021-22, ANTaR Victoria focused on rebuilding the organisation after two difficult COVID-19 impacted years. We launched our Strategic Plan at a successful AGM and Joint Reconciliation Forum with Reconciliation Victoria, and then developed our Operational Plan.

The Strategic Plan's focus is on Uncle Richard Frankland's concept of Tomorrow Australia.

What is 'Tomorrow Australia'? It's about:

- a. A home for all of us without forgetting the truth of the past
- b. Changing the lens on our past by
  - i. realising that what we now call 'Australia' doesn't lose a history but gains one if we found it on respect and justice for the First Nations Peoples;
  - ii. changing terminology i.e.; to include 'battles' not just massacres;
  - iii. moving from the deficit of trauma to the positives of resistance and resilience when First Nations Peoples manage and overcome their trauma.

It's about changing the nation to become an honourable, respectful and inclusive nation that faces its past and treasures its peoples. A new cultural tapestry.

It means truth, treaty, self-determination, agency and voice...

The Operational Plan builds on these themes, particularly in the context of the treaty and truth-telling processes in Victoria. Meetings with the First Peoples Assembly of Victoria and the Yoo-rook Justice Commission were held to ensure ANTaR Victoria's accountability and to inform our advocacy. We also sought meetings with civil society peaks and other Aboriginal Community

Controlled Organisations. An initial meeting was held with the Executive Officers for the Victorian Council of Churches and Faith Communities Victoria and we hope to further develop that partnership during the next financial year.

The main public activity for ANTaR Victoria was our 25th Anniversary Event where we launched our Tomorrow Australia Campaign. Co-Chair Uncle Richard Frankland spoke as well as Andy Gargett, the CEO of the First Peoples Assembly of Victoria, Commissioner Sue Anne Hunter from the Yoo-rook Justice Commission and Bonnie Dukakis, Deputy Executive from the Koori Youth Council. Uncle Richard's band also performed songs from his recent No More Sugar, No More Tea review.

**The First Peoples Assembly of Victoria had a major success with the passing of the Treaty Authority and Other Treaty Elements Bill 2022 which creates the Treaty umpire and establishes the next processes towards treaty-making at the state and Traditional Owner level. The Bill received bipartisan support. In terms of our advocacy, ANTaR Vic wrote, and encouraged civil society groups to also write letters to encourage the Opposition to support the Bill.**

Our Social Media Committee has had another strong year keeping a growing online audience informed of ANTaR Victoria's advocacy work. Audiences have continued to respond well to our E-News, which delivers a vibrant mix of news and upcoming events to enjoy around the state.

## ANTAR QLD

Omicron waves, heavy rains and flooding significantly affected many communities and had disproportionate impacts on many First Nations communities in QLD. ANTaR Queensland is grateful that in small ways we were able to respond to community needs. The hands-on work of Kylie Waldron in the community is at the core of this response. The Queensland Path to Treaty Process has been proceeding, but by the end of June developments remained unclear, with the Treaty Advancement Committee's report (submitted in October 2021) still not released by the State Government. The Treaty fund of \$300million remains committed, however.

## Advocacy & Campaigns

ANTaR Queensland continued to advocate raising the age of criminal responsibility from ten years of age to at least 14. We approached Members of Parliament and political parties and worked to highlight the issue among the broader public. Along with ANTaR National, we made a submission to the Queensland Parliamentary Committee and spoke at the hearing. We have linked with community and other groups that are working on advocacy, supporting community-based alternatives to incarceration, support for young people and shifting the discourse from 'tough on crime' to supporting families and children. ANTaR Qld has also continued to advocate for prisoners to be able to attend family funerals and to support them doing so.

## Education & Engagement

ANTaR Queensland supported key events to acknowledge and actively respect First Nations Peoples during the year. These include contributions to and participation in a number of NAIDOC events, such as the Jagera Family Fun Day, and the Bribie Island and Taroom NAIDOC gatherings. Reconciliation Week was marked with a powerful presentation by Dr Gaja Kerry Charlton and Dr Noritta Morseu-Diop who has worked for many years with community trauma and First Nations people in prison and is establishing a healing centre. Through the work of Kylie Waldron, we co-hosted community outreach on Close the Gap with Murri Radio. We also continued to distribute the Sea of Hands to schools around Queensland as a contribution to learning and truth-telling in the school context and participated in the SNAICC conference (the peak body representing the interests of First Nations children and families).

West End Community House, where ANTaR Queensland is based, was designated as a Community Recovery Hub during the 2022 floods. As a result, ANTaR Queensland was able to provide assistance to Murrin in the Brisbane area. We also donated school items to communities in the Caboolture and Cherbourg areas, linking up with the Pumicestone Indigenous Education and Employment Council and the Cherbourg school, provided Christmas Hampers to Cherbourg and contributed to Dr Morseu-Diop's Healing Centre. We also continued to link with and support the work of the Brisbane Basket Brigade (which provides food hampers).

# ANTAR IN THE STATES & TERRITORIES

## ANTAR SA

**ANTaR SA acts to support, promote and encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' land rights, including the protection of native title rights and interests in land, sea, and inland waters.**

### Advocacy and Campaigns

ANTaR SA activities canvas the advocacy areas highlighting the main impact of racism in the Constitution on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples extending to Recognition of an Aboriginal Representative.

ANTaR SA has continued to advocate on the issues of over incarceration and the need to raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility in the State.

With the relevance of the Federal changes to the Closing the Gap Agreement and historical and continuing reference to the 1836 SA Letters Patent Premiginal Voice, ANTaR SA has continued to support reform of constitutional 'race powers'.

ANTaR SA's First Nations members and activists continue researching legal self-governance through First Nations domestic relationships in their networks with other countries to advance the global participation of First Nations peoples and communities in self-determination.

## Education and Engagement

ANTaR SA First Nations members and activists have managed the Sea of Hands in an ongoing education activity with the Red Centre Aboriginal Bush Tucker Initiative with cooperation from the SA Sorry Day Committee.

COVID-19 resulted in a cancelled National Sorry Day annual Sea of Hands installation, however we promoted the Candle Light Walk for Peace with Justice and a Bill of Rights, around SA Government House.

Kaurna Members with the City of Holdfast Bay won the 2021 Best in Heritage Award (Project of Influence) from Dubrovnik Croatia, after previously winning the Australian Museum & Galleries Award 2020 for Indigenous Galleries and Exhibitions.

Partnerships have been maintained with The Journey of Healing, The Roma Mitchell Legal Community Centre, and Holdfast Bay Council while also supporting the Aboriginal Alliance Coalition Movement that was inaugurated through ANTaR SA with the assistance of Professor Tom Calma and charged with raising the Letters Patent with the State Government.



## ANTAR WA

**ANTaR WA believes the pathways forward for First Nations people are based around building stronger communities which include both 'happier' Country and people.**

The ways ANTaR WA is contributing to building stronger communities include:

- Sustainable Urban Nutrition (SUN) – improving health through affordable healthy food;
- HELLO – our digital art based language project using the ANTaR Sea of Hands; and
- Enabling a Voice to the public and truth-telling through Youth Media.

Like many not-for-profit organisations we have limited capacity to implement programs so we are focused on fundraising, collaboration and partnerships.

We continue our work in the area of Cultural Heritage, where we are striving to create recognition, protection and cultural tourism opportunities through the use of modern technology and collaboration with Whadjuk Noongar Traditional Custodians regarding a place on the Canning River.

Federal Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek recently announced the Perdaman Urea plant could proceed, dismissing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act Section 9 application by the Western Pilbara Traditional Owners' group Save our Songlines. The Minister's reasoning was that Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation (WAC) and its Circle of Elders is the recognised cultural authority for that place. We respect the authority of WAC in Pilbara lore and culture.

In response to these developments, ANTaR WA reports:

- Across our state, present legislation to protect First Nations Cultural Heritage produces poor cultural outcomes including increased division within Traditional Owner communities;
- There is widespread dissatisfaction with continuing cultural destruction and degradation, and with various legislations that include the gagging of traditional owners;
- As per ANTaR WA's 2020 Submission to the Federal Inquiry into the destruction of the Juukan Caves, "it is discriminatory for people who have no cultural understanding of a place to make decisions about the exploitation, degradation and/or destruction of special places".

All of the above creates a stain on the integrity of our nation's economic and political structures. The continuing impacts of colonisation on First Nations communities include (but are by no means limited to), substance abuse, violence and disproportionate incarceration. And achieving better ways forward for these and similar issues often have no simple solutions.

**Although we have much to achieve as a State – and as a nation – to come together with Australian First Nations Peoples, the battle for the peoples' hearts and minds is being won.**

Congratulations and thanks to all involved in ANTaR and ANTaR WA over the last 25 years, as we reflect on our achievements as thought leaders in partnership with First Nations Peoples and imagine the continuing role we will play in the evolution of this nation now called Australia.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & THANKS

## Individuals

Max Barden  
John Brunton  
Lisa Byleveld  
Alan Cameron  
Kevin Clarke  
Penny Cocker  
Richard Cogswell  
Nick Crowther  
Sue Cutler  
Ross Dearden  
Mark Duffield-Thomas  
Ann-Maree Duncan  
Peter Gray  
Ruth Griffiths  
Julie Hannaford  
Phil Henty  
Mark Heyman  
Ailsa Ireland  
Sheilagh Kelly  
Sarah King  
Alison Leslie  
Nell Macqueen  
Robert Matheson Douglas  
Samantha Nerida  
Alice Oppen  
Victoria Parsons  
Boris Portnoy  
Presentation Sisters Wagga  
Wagga  
Kaye Purnell  
Yogesh Raju  
Cesar Rodriguez Alonso  
Bridget Sack  
Rachel Saravanamuthu  
Catherine Stevens  
Jean-paul Tieche  
Colleen Vale  
Alan and Ann Wilkinson

## Supporting Businesses

Warner Music Australia  
Social Research Centre  
Kirkland Lake Gold

## Sector Partners & Supporters

National Native Title Council  
(with thanks to CEO Jamie  
Lowe and Team)  
First Nations Heritage  
Protection Alliance  
The Melbourne Law School  
and the Indigenous Law and  
Justice Hub, University of  
Melbourne (with thanks to Dr  
Eddie Cubillo & Prof Kirsty  
Gover)  
First Peoples Disability  
Network  
First Peoples Assembly of  
Victoria  
Yoorrook Justice Commission  
Australian Human Rights  
Commission  
Reconciliation Australia  
Reconciliation NSW  
Just Reinvest NSW  
Change the Record  
Close the Gap Campaign  
Incarceration Nation Impact  
Campaign  
Documentary Australia  
Snow Foundation  
Take Heart Campaign  
Know Your Country Campaign  
University of Technology  
Sydney  
The University of Sydney  
University of Western Sydney  
Macquarie University  
Indigi-Print

## Our Board

Dr Peter Lewis  
Dr Angus Frith  
Shaelene Cubillo  
Joanne Kerr  
Jill Webb  
Darren Dick  
Desmond Rogers  
Jaki Adams

## Volunteers

Wendy Rayner  
Sheilagh Kelly  
Cathy Noble  
John McNeil

## Interns

Brianna Shahin

## Special thanks to

Chandla Serret  
Harry Hobbs (Consultant)

## ANTAR Staff

Paul Wright  
Michael Andersen  
Phaedra Engel-Harrison  
Chelsie Collard  
Sue Downes

## Capital Strategic Book-keeping

Angela Lane  
Stephanie Woolridge

## Brand & Design

Twolanes Creative

© ANTAR Incorporated 2022  
Enquiries: [hello@antar.org.au](mailto:hello@antar.org.au)

P.O. Box 77  
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012  
Tel: 02 9280 0060  
ABN 24 185 038 309

ANTAR proudly acknowledges  
the Gadigal People of the  
Eora Nation as the traditional  
owners of the land upon which  
our office is located, and First  
Nations Peoples across the  
continent on which we work.

The independence of our work is  
important. Help us help Australia's First  
Nations Peoples by donating online at:

[ANTAR.ORG.AU](https://www.antar.org.au)

**SUPPORT**  
Donate!  **US**

**ANTAR.ORG.AU**