



ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

MSWA

WE KNOW NEURO





ABOUT MSWA

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MSWA provides vital support and services to people in Western Australia living with neurological conditions. This includes people living with Multiple Sclerosis, Stroke, Parkinson's Disease, Huntington's Disease, Motor Neurone Disease, and Acquired Brain Injury, to name a few.

MSWA was formed 48 years ago by a group of people with MS committed to helping others access information and support. Today, MSWA has a team of over 800 staff who work passionately to provide the best possible care to people living with a neurological condition, right across the metropolitan area and regional centres of Western Australia.

We offer immediate support from the time of diagnosis, for the entirety of their journey.

Our support falls under three main categories:

- / **Services** – we provide education and information for the newly diagnosed, through to specialist nursing, physiotherapy, counselling, occupational therapy, welfare assistance and in-home support.
- / **Accommodation** – we operate high-support accommodation facilities with 24-hour care in Butler, Fern River, Hamilton Hill and Treendale, as well as respite facilities in City Beach and Treendale, with plans to expand further.
- / **Neurological research** – MSWA is the largest financial contributor to MS research in Australia, and we're determined to drive innovation until a cure is found. MSWA also contributes to research into other neurological conditions; this year we have contributed a record-breaking \$1 million into research into other neurological conditions.

All of this would not be possible without the help of our loyal supporters.

We hope this report will provide valuable insight into our current activities, and our plans to provide a brighter future for Western Australians living with a neurological condition.

MSWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



GEORGE PAMPACOS
PRESIDENT

Ex Officio
All Committees



BILL HASSELL AM JP
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Chair Corporate Governance Committee
Finance, Property & Investment Committee Member
Research Committee Member



ROS HARMAN
VICE PRESIDENT

Chair Member Services Committee
Chair Research Committee
Fundraising Committee Member
Editorial Committee Member



HORST BEMMERL
TREASURER

Chair Finance, Property & Investment Committee
Corporate Governance Committee Member
Audit & Risk Committee Member



GREG BRINDLE

Chair Fundraising Committee
Finance, Property & Investment Committee Member
Research Committee Member



DR GREG BROTHERSON

Chair Editorial Committee
Member Services Committee Member
Finance, Property & Investment Committee Member
Research Committee Member
Audit & Risk Committee Member



PROFESSOR BILL CARROLL

Medical Advisor
Editorial Committee Member



DAVID JONES

Member Services Committee Member
Corporate Governance Committee Member



JASON JORDAN

Member Services Committee Member
Fundraising Committee Member
Editorial Committee Member



GLENNYS MARSDON

Member Services Committee Member
Fundraising Committee Member



LIAM ROCHE

Chair Audit & Risk Committee
Finance, Property & Investment Committee Member
Corporate Governance Committee Member



MICHAEL FAY

Member Services Committee Member
Fundraising Committee Member



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

GEORGE PAMPACOS

2019 was MSWA's most successful year, with significant milestones being achieved, record-breaking income and a resultant contribution to research.

This success has been the result of strategic planning by the CEO, senior managers and Board over the past five years. This included staying on the path we originally planned, whilst being adaptable with the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and always remembering that everything we do is for our Customers.

In 2019 our events team delivered some amazing and record-breaking events to the MSWA community. If you did have the chance to attend, participate or volunteer in one of our events you will agree they are a great community program filled with fun, professionalism and clear MSWA branding. A big thank you from me to the events team, led by Gail Szabo, who go above the call of duty to make sure the events are completed successfully.

On a building front we were proud to open the Butler facility in Perth's north, providing residential care and services to our northern suburbs Customers. The state-of-the-art facility has had close to 100% occupancy since opening and services are expected to increase in 2020. In addition, property was purchased in Albany, with construction to commence in this financial year for a similar facility to that in Butler. Finally, in 2019 we settled into our new premises in Belmont which will be an important central hub for the newly diagnosed as well as home to our Brand, Marketing and Sales and Administration teams.



2019 has seen the final phase of the NDIS roll out. We are pleased to see month on month growth with more Customers using our services and more people living with other neurological conditions choosing MSWA as their preferred supplier.

It is great to see people increasingly use our services and attend our centres. The income from the NDIS and that business unit is becoming increasingly important for the future strategy and growth of our organisation.

Within Member Services we set a record-breaking year for services hours provided to Members and Customers. In 2019 the number of services hours was 780,286. This equates to 2,138 hours per day. We are so proud that through this care we are improving the lives of people living with a neurological condition.

2019 also saw the MSWA Board approve a record contribution to research. I am pleased to report in 2019 we have allocated \$3.5 million to research. Included in our contribution is \$1 million towards researching other neurological conditions.

Hopefully all of the above is just the foundation for an even better future. This year the Board finalised our strategic plan for the next three years. Over this period, we hope to see an increasing NDIS Customer-base which will lead to expanding our building footprint, increasing the services we provide and continuing our record contributions to research.

At MSWA, we are ready.





CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

MARCUS STAFFORD AM

It is always a proud moment to announce that MSWA has posted a record result against all measures. Our charter of supporting people with neurological conditions is too important to allow for a sub-par performance. That record result is delivered at a time of great challenge for the disability sector, with recent research findings showing 28% of service providers are operating at a loss and 13% of organisations are considering closing their doors.

My thanks and congratulations extend to the broader team, without whom our stellar results would not have been possible. MSWA has over 800 dedicated staff, performing a wide range of activities within both the Perth metropolitan and country areas. Our wider community is equally important - our broad range of volunteers, our Board Directors and Government partners, our Members and Clients, our business and retail customers and of course, our management and staff. Each group play an important role within the organisation.

Our results have been strong, and indicators continue to look favourable for MSWA. Year on year, double digit growth has been achieved in revenue, with some extension of margins through scale and increased productivity. This stems from growth within all streams of our commercial and retail businesses, together with a level of success in attracting and retaining disability Customers through the range of quality services MSWA offers.

More people are receiving essential healthcare services, including physiotherapy, massage, occupational therapy, nursing, counselling, speech therapy and care support.

Within the year, our footprint has grown from 17 to 20 premises throughout the State, with the introduction of Centres in Busselton and Kelmscott and the building and opening of both a Services Centre and a High Support Accommodation Facility in Butler, in the northern suburbs of Perth.

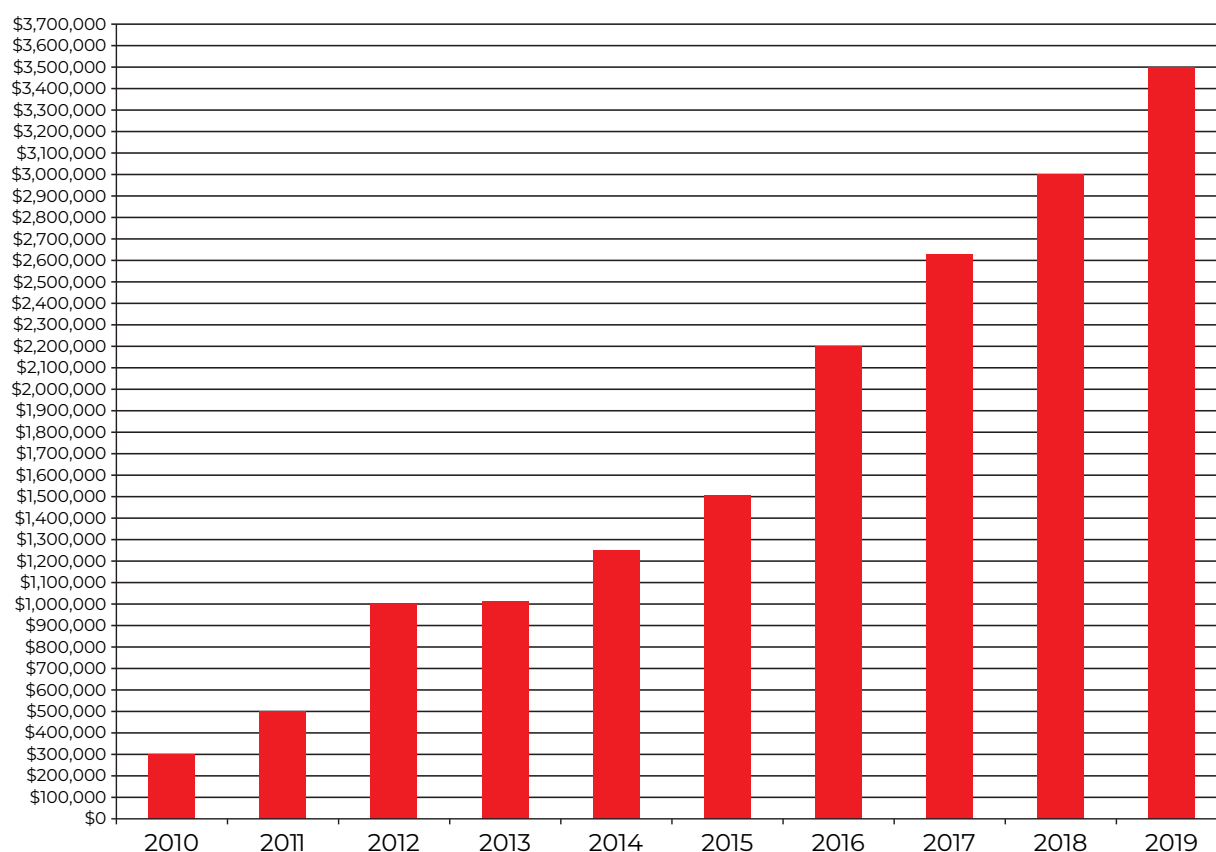
The tired, leased premises of Bentley were also left behind without too many backward glances, in favour of the new, owned office in Belmont that houses both Brand, Marketing and Sales and Administration and will offer a range of services to newly diagnosed and low-support Members and Clients.

MSWA has also secured its position as the leading funder of MS research in the nation, together with growing funding into broader neurological research. The record contribution of \$3.5 million will include both scientific and importantly translational research. Projects will be conducted across a number of locations in Western Australia, Australia and overseas as part of the drive towards research into progressive MS.

Through the incorporation of sound commercial principles and by placing our 'Customer' at the heart of our operating model, the organisation has performed strongly within the NDIS environment. The marketplace encourages scale to minimise the impact of fixed costs; a reality that MSWA both understands and embraces. Choice and control for people with disabilities and their families is a foundation principle we support wholeheartedly, as it places the power of decision-making where it belongs – with the Customer. Our results show both the attraction of new Customers, most notably from the broader neurological segment and the retention of Members. The ratio of people with disabilities who we serve under the NDIS now stands at 60% people with MS and 40% people with other neurological conditions.

The 2019-20 year will see the complete roll out of the NDIS and the continued growth of all facets of the organisation. Further development launches from the firm foundations that MSWA has built over the last ten years and aligns with the clear roadmap contained within the organisation's strategic plan.

RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS





MEMBER & CLIENT SERVICES REPORT

ROS HARMAN

It is always a pleasure to be able to report on another successful year for MSWA Member and Client Services. Living with a neurological condition is not anyone's choice in life, but MSWA strives to ensure people are able to live the best lives possible with support and choice.

During the last year we saw the opening of our newest precinct in Butler. The 10-bed unit accommodation has been warmly embraced as a new home by a number of Members and Clients and is quite spectacular in design. Also, the excellent new Services Centre provides greater access for those living in our northern suburbs.

Our other High-Support Accommodation Centres in Bunbury, Hamilton Hill, and Fern River continue to provide 24/7 care for a number of people. These facilities are always in demand. We are looking forward to our next building project purchased in Albany, which will provide another 10-bed unit High-Support Accommodation and include a Services Centre, a wonderful location for those living on the southern coast.

With High Support Accommodation and Services Centres throughout the metropolitan area and across the South-West, we are doing our utmost to provide services to all people in WA living with a neurological condition.

The continued roll out of the NDIS through 2018/19 has resulted in 672 of our Members and Clients receiving funding under their new NDIS plans and this continues to grow as we move into the final roll out for WA. MSWA's dedicated NDIS team are highly skilled in supporting Members and Clients through the NDIS process to ensure they receive the best access to funded services under the NDIS.





Our hours of service continue to increase, and this year reached 779,974. This includes allied health such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy (OT), nursing, counselling, dietetics and speech therapy, as well as accommodation, respite and in-home support. We also continue to provide support through our wellness workshops and peer support groups.

We have continued to identify improvements to service delivery through our systems and processes. This remains a key focus within our customer centric model, providing choice and control for our Members and Clients.

Thanks to the generosity of many of our MSWA events participants, who can nominate a condition to receive benefits from their fundraising, we were able to spend \$110,800 in 2018/19 to purchase essential equipment supporting those living with a neurological condition. The purchase included essential respiratory support equipment, VPAPs and Cough Assist machines, and various other equipment for loan to those living with MND, a range of technology and equipment for use by physios and OTs working at Osborne Park Hospital, Fremantle Hospital and Parkinson's Disease rehabilitation and outpatient clinics. Assistive technology and equipment was also purchased for the rehabilitation unit at Fiona Stanley Hospital and tilting wheelchairs for the stroke unit at RPH.

These donations will continue to be of great value and the patients and staff at the receiving hospitals and clinics are very grateful to have access to this new technology and essential equipment.

I would like to thank Nicola Washington, our new General Manager of Member and Client Services, and Sue Shapland, Manager of Strategic Supports and Residential Options, and their teams for their dedication and professionalism in all they do for people living with a neurological condition in WA. I look forward to another successful and inspiring year ahead.





BRAND, MARKETING & SALES REPORT

GREG BRINDLE

It has been a significant year for Brand, Marketing and Sales, delivering the largest fundraising result on record with \$39.2m raised, plus the launch of a new marketing platform and website.

The aim of this new platform is to reinforce MSWA's role of supporting people with all neurological conditions, not just MS. The size, experience and passion of MSWA's community means anyone with a neurological condition in WA is never alone. Together, *We Are Ready* for the challenges ahead and to help them live their best lives.

These are not short-term changes or a short-lived campaign – this is an evolution of how we position MSWA. This is a new platform that will help us continue to deliver our key messages about the breadth of services we offer from our highly-trained professional staff and to showcase the organisation as a leader in the core areas in which we face competition, fundraising and the NDIS.

This year's fundraising record of \$39.2m was achieved whilst facing stiff competition and challenging economic conditions across all markets.

Here in Western Australia, I am pleased to report our MSWA Mega Home Lottery continued to sell out early, even with the introduction of a new home lottery from the Cancer Council WA. The MSWA Luxury Lottery and Multi-Choice Raffle also performed exceedingly well. Investment in a new digital payment gateway and website platform, enabling mobile payments via Apple Pay and PayPal, has seen a marked improvement in online sales across all three products, most notably with the raffle producing double digit revenue growth year on year at 12%.

The lotteries team continued to conduct lotteries in South Australia and Victoria on behalf of people in those States living with MS. This year saw the introduction of two new home lotteries in South Australia at the same time as our Game Changer Lottery, with a demonstrable impact on results. The Victorian market continued to be incredibly competitive and heavily saturated with marketing messages as we brought our Dream Home Lottery back for the second year. Whilst our Game Changer Lottery and Dream Home Lottery did not sell out, the tireless efforts of our lotteries team ensured we were able to deliver some incredibly positive results to enable us to support South Australians and Victorians living with MS. Both markets now have a sizeable database of lottery ticket buyers, of which a significant majority have not previously engaged with MS, which is encouraging as we plan for future success in both markets.

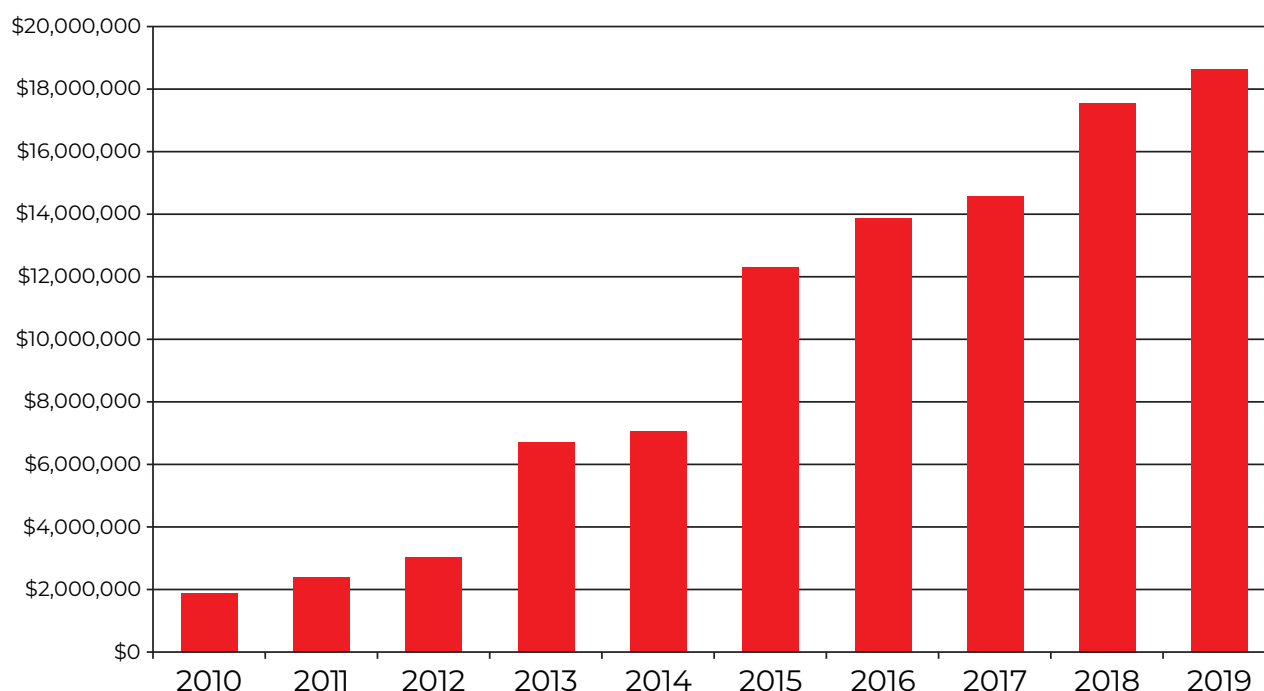


MSWA's events team continued to deliver outstanding results across the year.

The focus remained on strengthening the existing marquee Perth events in the portfolio – Ocean Ride and Step Up. The results show this focus has been successful, with Ocean Ride seeing a lift of over 32% in fundraising revenue this year and Step Up delivering an outstanding lift of 59% in revenue along with a record-breaking number of climbers at over 1,100.

This year also saw the launch of Team MSWA, a platform to support greater recruitment of people taking part in non-owned events to raise funds for MSWA. Its successful roll out for Run For a Reason and City2Surf has seen an increase in those participants supporting people with neurological conditions.

NET FUNDRAISING INCOME



NB: 2010 & 2011 have been adjusted to exclude abnormal income arising from government funding for Treendale land, Department of Housing funding for Hamilton Hill and proceeds of sale of land at Wilson.

The events team continued to run both the swim and ride events in Albany as part of the strategy to leverage the organisation's growing presence in this region. With almost 400 riders and swimmers raising funds for MSWA, and positive feedback across the Albany business community and public, these events continue to become a fixture on the calendar.

As MSWA's brand reputation grows, it is pleasing to see the number of community fundraising activities conducted on MSWA's behalf also grow. We are extremely appreciative of the efforts of all our community fundraisers, and would like to especially acknowledge the Ruggiero Foundation, Pat and Anna Luca, Vera Reeve, Jen Warburton, Amanda Robertson, Lance Portman, Pharmacy 777 and John Majewski.

The challenging economic environment and cluttered charity market saw a year-on-year decrease in the value of donations and bequests gifted to MSWA. There were some positives, with the introduction of a game day activation as part of our West Coast Eagles partnership resulting in new MSWA donors from their membership. We also acknowledged the 'World Days' for MS, Parkinson's and Stroke to bring further attention to all neurological conditions to the WA public.

Our partnerships extended this year to include the Western Australian Symphony Orchestra (WASO). We know music provides real benefits to the wellbeing of motor and cognitive skills and overall brain health. It is very fitting therefore, for us to partner with WASO in helping them make music more accessible to the younger market, particularly at a time when more and more young people's lives are touched by the effects of a neurological condition.

The focus on the NDIS continues to grow, with the small, yet very effective brand and communications team continuing to drive awareness and consideration for MSWA to potential NDIS participants, and our Sales and Service Operations team managing the 'triage' of initial calls to then refer appropriate enquiries to the NDIS team. Over 1,100 calls have now been taken since this system was put in place.





Underpinning all the Brand, Marketing and Sales activities is a Sales and Service Operations team as well as a new CRM and Marketing Insights team. These teams provide critical services and functions across the organisation and to other clients we serve, enabling us to be more effective and efficient with our resources.

I would like to acknowledge every member of the Brand, Marketing and Sales team for this year's record achievements. There is a tremendous amount of expertise, professionalism, dedication and sheer hard work that goes into each and every campaign, project and event. I extend my thanks to all including General Manager Paul Cavanagh and his leadership team of Michael van Oudsthoorn, Peter Biasin, Gail Szabo and Libby Cassidy.

Thank you also to all our incredible volunteers who support us in so many ways throughout the year. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our MSWA ambassadors Josh Kennedy and Livinia Nixon.

MSWA is fortunate to receive incredible support from many businesses and community organisations – Retravision, Cherubino Wines, Webb & Brown-Neaves, Amity Travel, Central Park, Shadforth Financial Group, Perth Integrated Health Group, IGA Canning Bridge and The Brand Agency, to name just a few.

We have been here for over 45 years thanks in no small part to our loyal fundraising community. Whether it's through buying a ticket, participating in an event or donating their time or money, this support enables us to continue to provide high-quality care and support to thousands of Western Australians.

On behalf of everyone at MSWA, thank you.





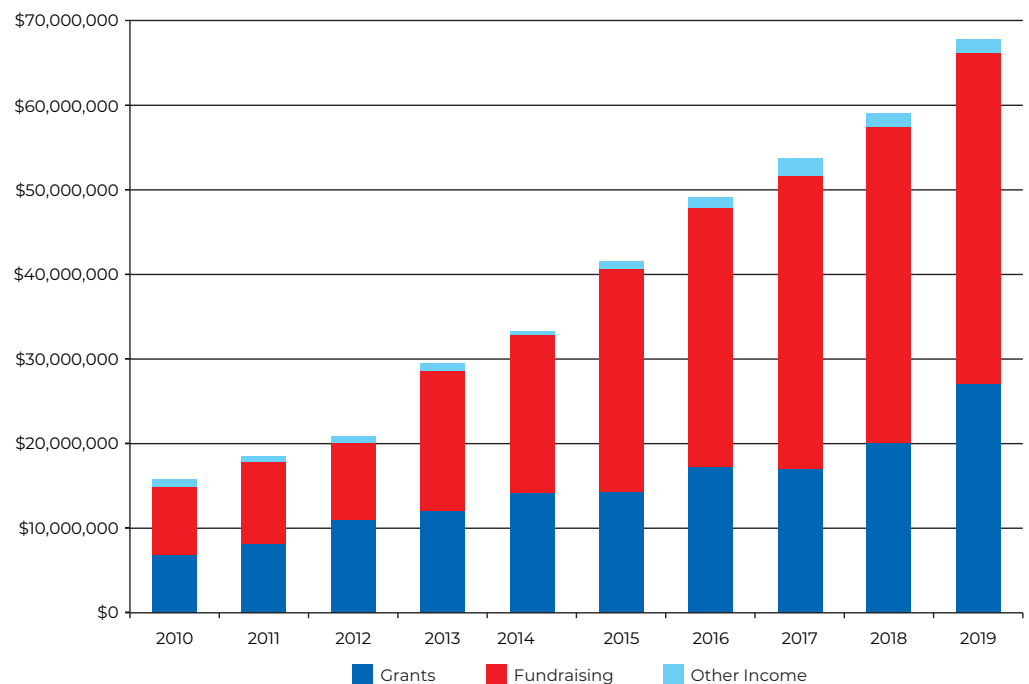
TREASURER'S REPORT

HORST BEMMERL

It has been another successful year for MSWA, and it is with great pleasure that I present the Treasurer's Report, as well as the audited financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2019.

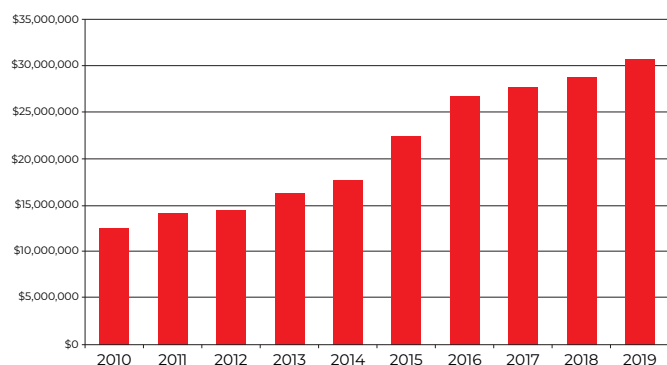
Once again, the Mega Home Lottery and Luxury Lottery campaigns have been extremely successful allowing MSWA to be in the fortunate position of posting a surplus for the year of \$2,178,457 and achieving record revenue of \$67,193,618. The total income from Brand, Marketing and Sales was \$39,219,188. Expenditure on services to Members and non-Members was \$42,757,440 (up from \$37,763,458 the previous year), including a record research contribution of \$3,500,000.

TOTAL INCOME

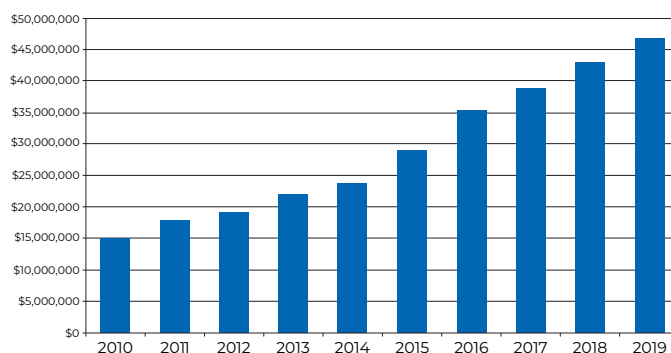


The MSWA balance sheet reflects a very healthy increase in net assets to \$30,692,766 and total assets increased to \$47,124,189. At MSWA we seek to establish guidelines and procedures to manage our assets in a way which creates long-term value. Our financial strength has been achieved through strategic planning, budgetary control, cost control, liquidity management, investment management, internal audit, management information systems and information security.

NET ASSETS



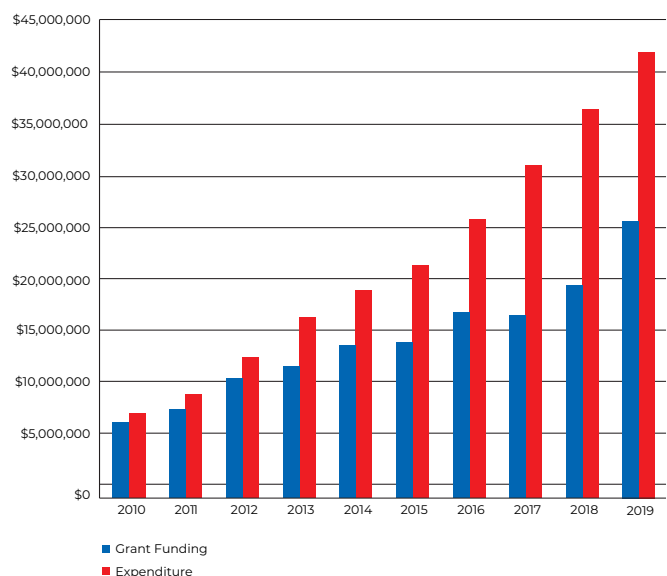
TOTAL ASSETS



Brand, Marketing and Sales net surplus increased by 7% to \$18,506,241. This result was achieved with the continuous improvements in our Multi-Choice Raffle, and outstanding results achieved from the Mega Home Lottery and Luxury Lottery.

The net cost of services provided increased by \$4,993,982 (16%), which included an additional \$2,754,866 to individual options, and \$1,251,916 to accommodation and respite. Success in the Brand, Marketing and Sales division, and the growth of National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) income to traditional Government funding, enabled us to increase the services provided across the board, especially to in-home care, high-support accommodation, and respite. The following chart and cost allocation provide a clear picture of this.

TOTAL SERVICES GRANT FUNDING & EXPENDITURE

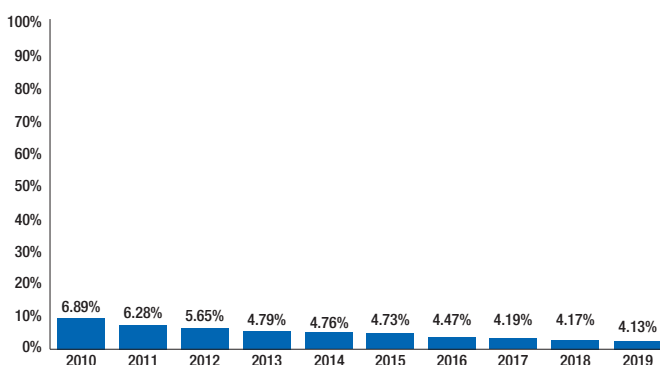


HOW MEMBER AND CLIENT SERVICES COSTS ARE ALLOCATED

43% Individual options (in-home care)	3% Counselling
16% High-support accommodation	2% Speech
8% Research	2% Social work and support works
6% Physiotherapy and massage	2% Information services and other (including Bulletin and country trips)
4% Occupational therapy	1% NDIS business unit
4% Respite	1% Community centre support
4% Facilities	1% Staff development
3% Community nurses etc	

ADMINISTRATION EXPENSE

The following chart shows the percentage of administration and centre costs (excluding corporate, non-cash and abnormal items). This is an excellent result, showing that MSAW has maintained these costs consistently below 5% within the last seven years. This reflects prudent cost management and the benefits of our increased scale.



NB: The administration cost excludes internal management charges



AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE REPORT

LIAM ROCHE

I am pleased to have this opportunity as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee to present this report to Members and stakeholders. I would also like to thank and acknowledge my fellow committee members for their significant contribution.

The role of the Audit and Risk Committee is to assist the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities in overseeing the organisation's financial reporting, internal control system, and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, assessing risk parameters and oversight of the risk management and control framework. The Committee is responsible for the external and internal audit programs and reviews the annual financial statements prior to their consideration by the Board.

During the year, the Audit and Risk Committee addressed the following key areas:

REVIEW OF CASH MANAGEMENT - FOCUSING ON PETTY CASH AND CASH DONATIONS

The Committee engaged William Buck, Chartered Accountants and Advisors to conduct an audit of MSWA's cash management focused on petty cash and cash donations. The primary objectives of the audit were to assess MSWA's controls over its cash management of petty cash and its cash collection operations and activities to determine whether the controls are adequate and effective and adhere to policy and procedures.



The final report was reviewed by the Committee and it was very pleasing to note that there were a number of positive findings of good practice detailed during the review on petty cash handling and the management processes for counting, reconciling and banking various cash collections. There were no major action items requiring attention and the minor issues noted for improvement were agreed and have been actioned by management.

COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE - GOVERNANCE

MSWA is committed to the achievement of compliance with regulatory and statutory requirements. A Compliance Schedule is reviewed at every Audit and Risk Committee meeting to assist with ongoing monitoring. This document provides a high-level dashboard view of the status of all tasks associated with achieving compliance with the legislative, regulatory and quality standards that MSWA is obligated to uphold to be considered a best-practice organisation. The compliance schedule includes indicators for legislation, regulations, governance, quality assurance, licences, insurances, and audits. The compliance schedule utilises a 'by exception' approach where traffic light dashboard indicators are used and issues of material importance have detailed commentary.

REVIEW OF CREDITOR PAYMENT PROCESS

The Committee engaged William Buck, Chartered Accountants and Advisors to conduct an audit of MSWA's creditor payment process. The primary objectives of the audit were to assess the creditor payment process and determine whether these processes are efficient and effective and adhere to MSWA's approved policies and procedures.

The internal audit assessed MSWA's creditor payment processes as robust with controls implemented effectively. The processing of invoices, payment authorisations, cheque authorisations, electronic fund transfer payment processing and authorisation, credit card usage and authorisation, bank authorisation and creditor creation all adhere to MSWA's approved policies and procedures.

The final report was reviewed by the Committee and it was pleasing to note there were a significant number of positive findings of good practice detailed and no major action items required attention. The minor area noted for improvement was agreed with management and has been actioned.

RISK AND CONTROL FRAMEWORK

The risk and control plan was reviewed by management and presented to the Audit and Risk Committee for approval. The Risk and Control Framework is geared at identifying risk, developing solutions to overcome or manage the identified risks, and allocating responsibility for these tasks within agreed timeframes. The Committee determined the risk management and control framework to be comprehensive and will enable management to effectively deal with uncertainty and associated risk and opportunity, enhancing the capacity to build value.

INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRAM

Internal audit is a key element of governance in any organisation and a valuable tool to manage risk effectively. The internal audit program provides the Audit and Risk Committee, Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer, senior executives and stakeholders with an independent view on whether an organisation has an appropriate risk and control environment.

The Committee has put in place a risk-based rolling plan of internal audit engagements reflecting a program of audits over a three-year period. This approach is designed to allow flexibility to meet the needs of the organisation and ensures continuity of the internal audit function on an ongoing basis. The plan will maintain a mix of financial reporting control audits and those of an operational or strategic nature.

FINANCIAL REPORTING

The Committee has reviewed the annual financial statements with management and the external auditors. The Committee has discussed the application of the company's accounting policies, major transactions and any accounting issues with the external auditors. The Committee is satisfied as to the appropriateness of the policies adopted, the materiality of the judgments used and accurate application.

The Committee is satisfied an ethical culture has been embedded throughout the organisation, internal controls have been operating as designed, MSWA's assets have been adequately safeguarded, and internal and external auditors have been effective and independent.



CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

BILL HASSELL AM JP

The MSWA Board has for many years appointed annually a Corporate Governance Committee and relied on this Committee for guidance and input in several areas.

The Board places importance on the operations of the Committee in seeking to ensure MSWA operates within 'best-practice' principles in its own Board and in the governance of MSWA.

With a number of complex issues confronted by MSWA it has been necessary and appropriate for our CEO to seek advice, guidance and input from MSWA's solicitors and relieve the Corporate Governance Committee of responsibility in those matters.

The Committee meets as required. It last met in October 2018 and dealt with the following business:

- / The periodic review of/updating of/and introduction of new policies.
- / Consideration of the interrelationship of policies and procedures and policy areas apparently not covered.

Out of session, consideration was given as requested to other matters relating to Board engagement and due process.

The Committee is always mindful of its role to advise the Board.





RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

ROS HARMAN

A key part of the work MSWA does is to provide funding for vital research into greater understanding of the causes and course of diseases, treatment options and ultimately cures, for those living with a neurological condition.

We proudly provided a record \$3 million in 2018, but it is my very great pleasure to announce that in 2019 MSWA is allocating a record-breaking \$3.5 million to research into Multiple Sclerosis and other neurological conditions.

A total of \$2.5 million will be for Multiple Sclerosis research, with the remaining \$1 million supporting WA-based research projects into other neurological conditions – the largest we have ever contributed to research into other neurological conditions.

We are pleased to be continuing to support Western Australian research through projects being undertaken at the Perron Institute, Curtin University, Murdoch University and Edith Cowan University, along with Professor Prue Hart at the Telethon Research Institute. It is good to see a well-acknowledged cohort of quality scientific research being done here in our own State towards improving the lives of people living with a neurological condition.

Dr Lucinda Black, MSWA Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship at Curtin University, has published several evidence-based articles, relating to different dietary patterns and their potential link to the causation of MS, contribution to relapses and progression; and reduced risk of developing MS. This information assists people with MS to make informed decisions and choices regarding diet and other lifestyle changes.

Our support of the Tasmanian Menzies Institute 'MS WorkSmart Program' has allowed them to progress a vital component of this proposed online self-management program which aims to provide a tailored approach to support people with MS to remain employed or return to the workforce. The resources will include a symptom tracker app. We look forward to seeing this project continue, and the outcome when completed.

The larger portion of our funds will be allocated to research in WA and throughout Australia, with \$700,000 designated to the Internal Progressive MS Alliance. All funds are allocated based on rigorous scientific criteria ensuring funded research conforms to accepted national and global standards and have ethics approval. These standards ensure accountability and peer reviewed analysis of projects and results.

We hope that our ongoing contributions to research will lead to continued improvements in the available treatments and care for people living with a neurological condition.

I would like to thank the MSWA Research Committee Members for their ongoing support and for making important recommendations to the Board about the level of funding and how we should distribute funds.



SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

MSWA is grateful for the ongoing contributions and support we receive from a wide range of organisations in Western Australia. It is due to their ongoing commitment that we are able to continue to reach our goals and outcomes for Western Australians living with neurological conditions.

Thank you to all these organisations, MSWA is extremely appreciative for the ongoing support you provide.

PARTNERS

MSWA is proud to partner with the following iconic Western Australian organisations.



RESEARCH RECIPIENTS

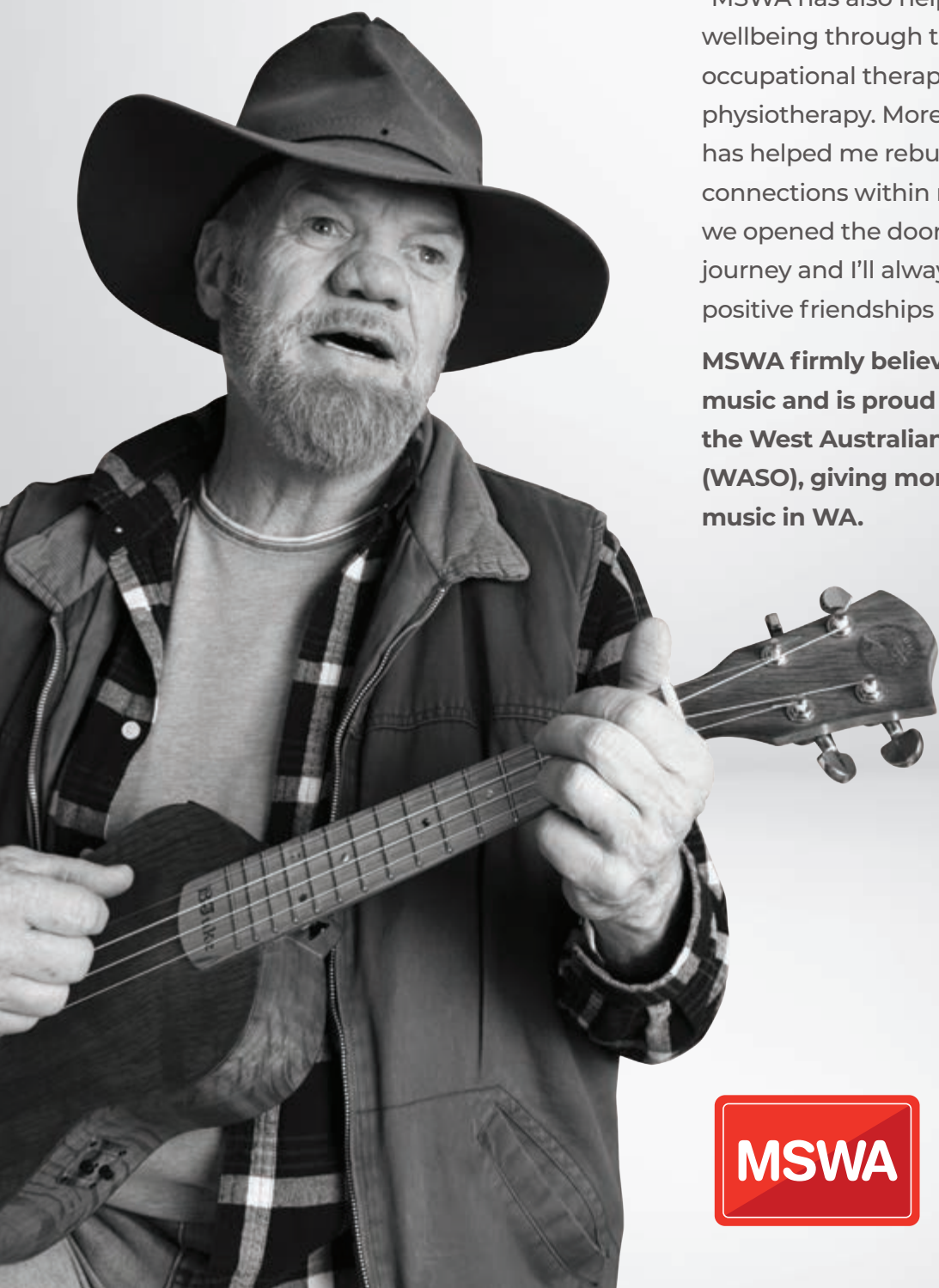
We are committed to improving the lives of people with neurological conditions through continued neurological research both on a local and national level.



KEY SPONSORS



PROOF THAT MUSIC IS MEDICINE FOR THE MIND



Professional musician Brett John has been living with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) for nearly two decades. He believes music gives him the strength he needs to cope.

Diagnosed at 43, Brett shut the door on music, but not forever. "Music has always had a positive effect on my life by calming my mind and giving me joy. Once I was introduced to MSWA they helped me re-open the doors to music and let it heal my mind and spirit once again. Music has really helped me cope during times filled with confusion, stress and doubt," said Brett.

"MSWA has also helped my personal wellbeing through tailored services including occupational therapy, counselling and physiotherapy. More importantly, MSWA has helped me rebuild and strengthen my connections within my community. Together we opened the door to others on a similar journey and I'll always be grateful for the positive friendships I've gained."

MSWA firmly believes in the power of music and is proud of our partnership with the West Australian Symphony Orchestra (WASO), giving more people access to music in WA.



WE KNOW NEURO

**WE
ARE
READY**



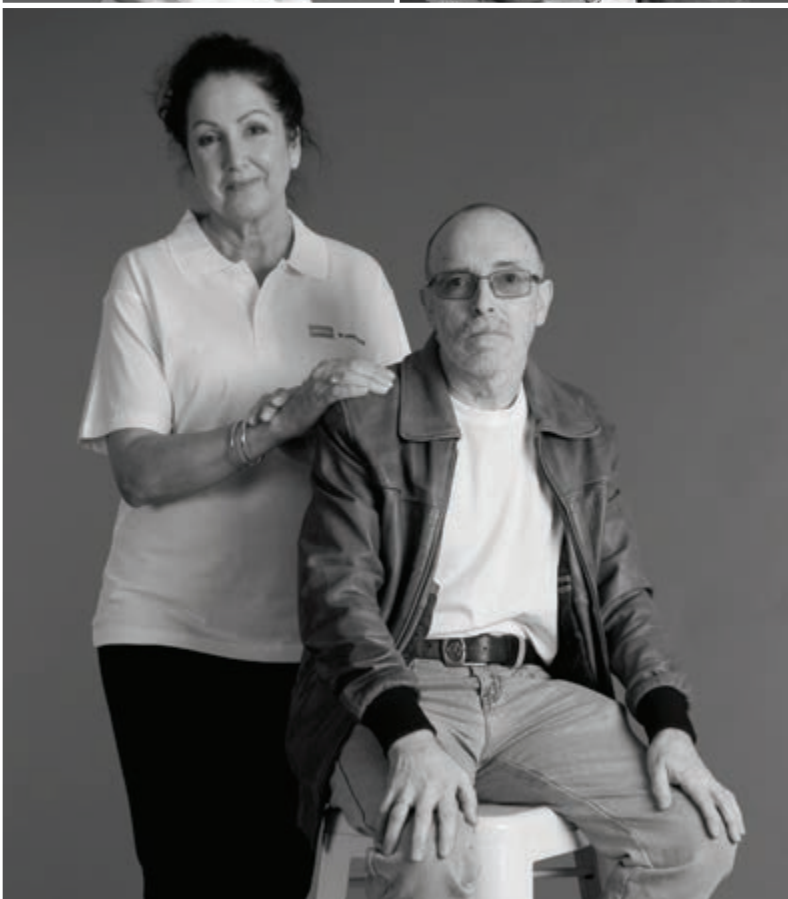
**WHATEVER YOUR NEURO,
WHATEVER YOUR NEEDS,
WE ARE READY.**



MSWA.ORG.AU



WE KNOW NEURO



WE KNOW NEURO