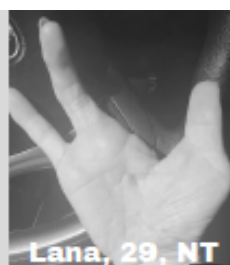




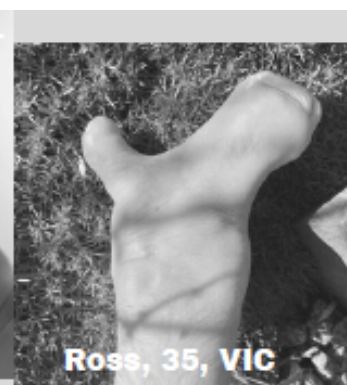
Jason, 50, SA



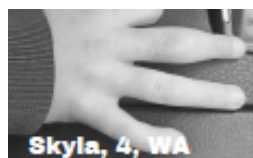
Lana, 29, NT



DL, 23, 29, NT



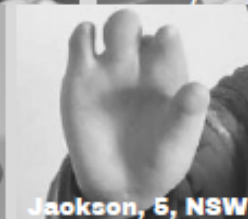
Ross, 35, VIC



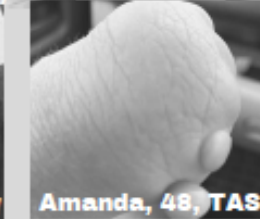
Skyla, 4, WA



Adrian, 2, NSW



Jackson, 5, NSW



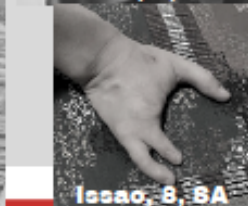
Amanda, 48, TAS



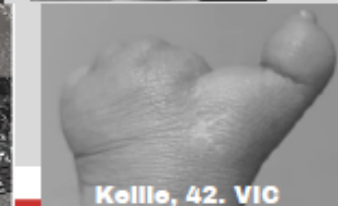
Elizabeth, 3.5, QLD



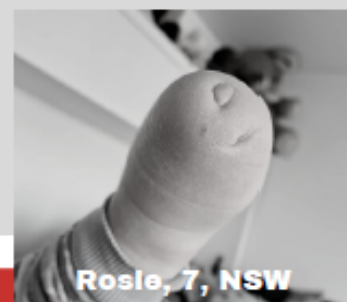
Zao, 13, NSW



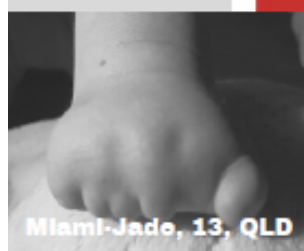
Issao, 8, SA



Kellie, 42, VIC



Rosie, 7, NSW



Miami-Jade, 13, QLD



Annual Report 2022/23

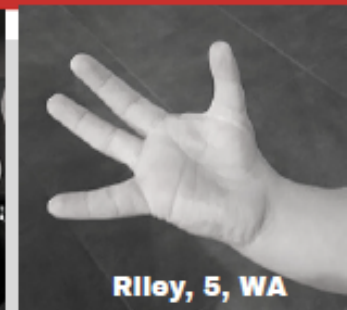
Aussie Hands



Dave, 23, NT



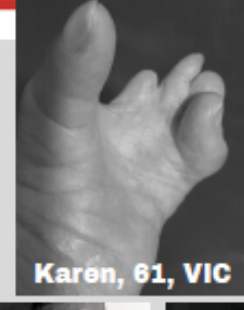
Stuart, 41, ACT



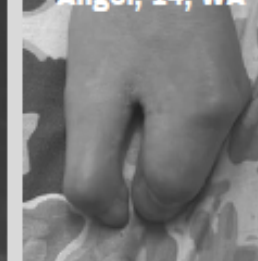
Riley, 5, WA



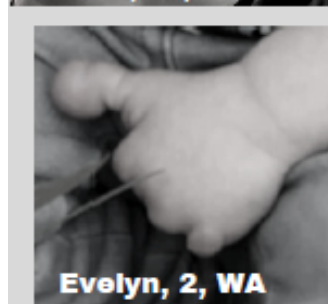
Sue, 56, QLD



Karen, 61, VIC



Angel, 14, WA



Evelyn, 2, WA



Nola, 3mths, VIC



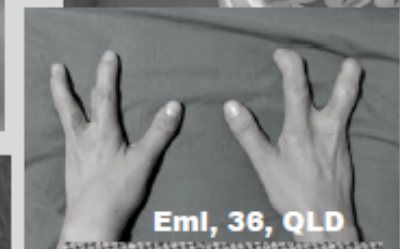
Craig, 45, VIC



Baylee, 6, WA



Tahlia, 11, VIC



Emi, 36, QLD



Anthony, 24, WA



Ché, 18 mths, UK



Jess, 12, VIC



William, 4 mths, VIC



Ben, 20, WA



Annual Report July 2022 – June 2023

Vision

The Aussie Hands Foundation exists to provide support, understanding and encouragement to individuals with a hand/limb difference and their families.

Purpose

Aussie Hands achieves this through.

- Supporting individuals with a hand/limb difference, their families and community
- Providing opportunities for connection, networking and sharing of information
- Raising awareness and celebrating achievements of people with a hand/limb difference
- Supporting research into hand/limb differences by co-founding the Australian Hand Difference Register (AHDR)

Highlights

- Successful integration of our member database from CiviCRM to Salesforce.
- Successful Xero integration from Quick Books.
- Continued planning for a new fundraising campaign to launch in 2024.
- Support from new volunteers especially in our database and social media space.
- New events took place engaging new members.

Reflections

Looking back at this year for The Aussie Hands Foundation Inc, we see that change and being flexible have been key to success. We have made some big changes behind the scenes and these changes are important as we aim to do more for our members and help build greater awareness.

During this time, we welcomed new people to our community, bringing new ideas and energy. At the same time, some of our long-time members took on different roles to help Aussie Hands in new ways. We are privileged to have new and existing members within our community.

By trying out new ways of thinking and planning, we hope to do even better in our future fundraising efforts. Our volunteers have been at the centre of all our work and because of their hard work, we have set a strong foundation for our future. This means we can plan new events, connect more with people, spread the word about Aussie Hands, and offer more chances for those we support.

We remember the past year and thank everyone for your support. Next year is a significant year, we are really excited and looking forward to what is next for Aussie Hands.



Vice President's Report

2023 was a significant year for Aussie Hands, one of considerable evolution and growth. Our journey began with high hopes and the usual enthusiasm to deepen our impact, broaden our connections, and make a difference in the lives of people with hand differences.

We navigated through a year of leadership transitions, with pivotal roles within the board of management being reassigned and some members moving on. I would like to thank Stuart John (former President), Robyn Antill (former Treasurer), Karen MacDonald, and Steve Powis for their service. Their contribution helped shape our path and made room for new members to bring new energy, fresh ideas, and skills to our organisation.

A personal highlight for my family was welcoming our son, Jeremiah—the first Aussie Hands-born baby. His birth not only celebrates a new life but also the shared connections within our community that brought my wife Lana and me together. Jeremiah's arrival reinforces the unique bond and support that Aussie Hands offers to families across Australia.

This year we saw an increase in our family events across the country, stronger operations through skilled and dedicated volunteer support, and the completion of phase 1 of our fundraising campaign, all setting a positive and exciting outlook for our future.

As we head into 2024, our focus is on continuing our new fundraising efforts and rolling this out within schools. We aim to raise greater awareness and secure a stable future for Aussie Hands.

As a final reflection... stepping into the role of Vice President and chairing the board of management meetings was a significant leap out of my comfort zone. I am proud to contribute more purposefully to Aussie Hands, an organisation that exists for such a meaningful cause.

Regards,

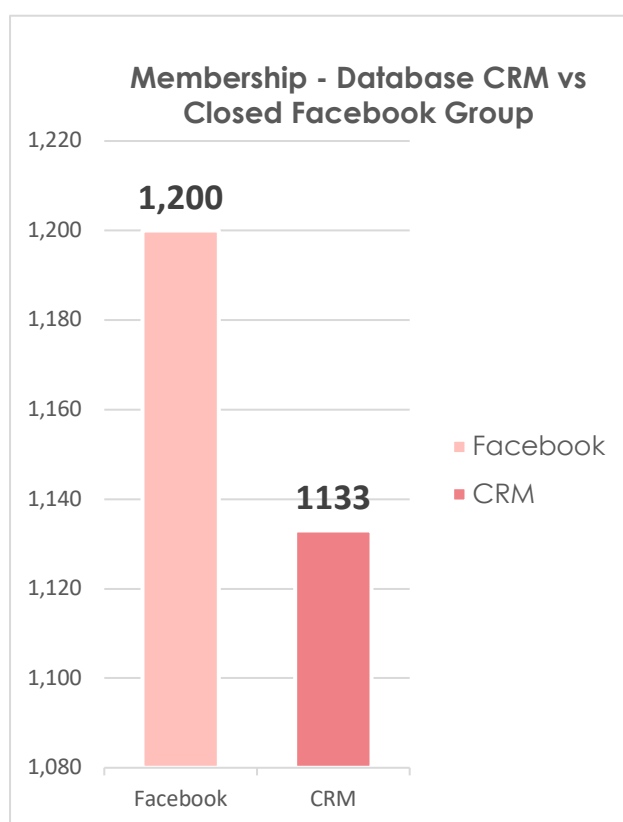
Dave Serpell



Membership Summary

As of June 2023, there were 1,133 Aussie Hands members. (Data collected from membership database). We keep a record of our closed Facebook group members, and this is compared here.

State/Territory	2023
ACT	14 Members 5 Households 2 Individuals
VIC	407 Members 133 Households 70 Individuals
NSW	264 Members 96 Households 45 Individuals
WA	125 Members 46 Households 19 Individuals
NT	4 Members 2 Households
SA	50 Members 19 Households 5 Individuals
TAS	36 Members 14 Households 6 Individuals
QLD	187 Members 68 Households 31 Individuals
Overseas	46 Members



* Household denotes a family which has more than one contact.

* Individuals could be an adult with a hand difference, volunteers, health professionals, or board members.

Our financials

We are pleased to present the financial report for Aussie Hands for the year ending on 30 June 2023.

This year, Tonchi Dean joined our team as a volunteer Financial Officer, taking over from Edwin Taitz in July 2023. We express our sincere gratitude to Edwin for his seven years of dedicated service with Aussie Hands.

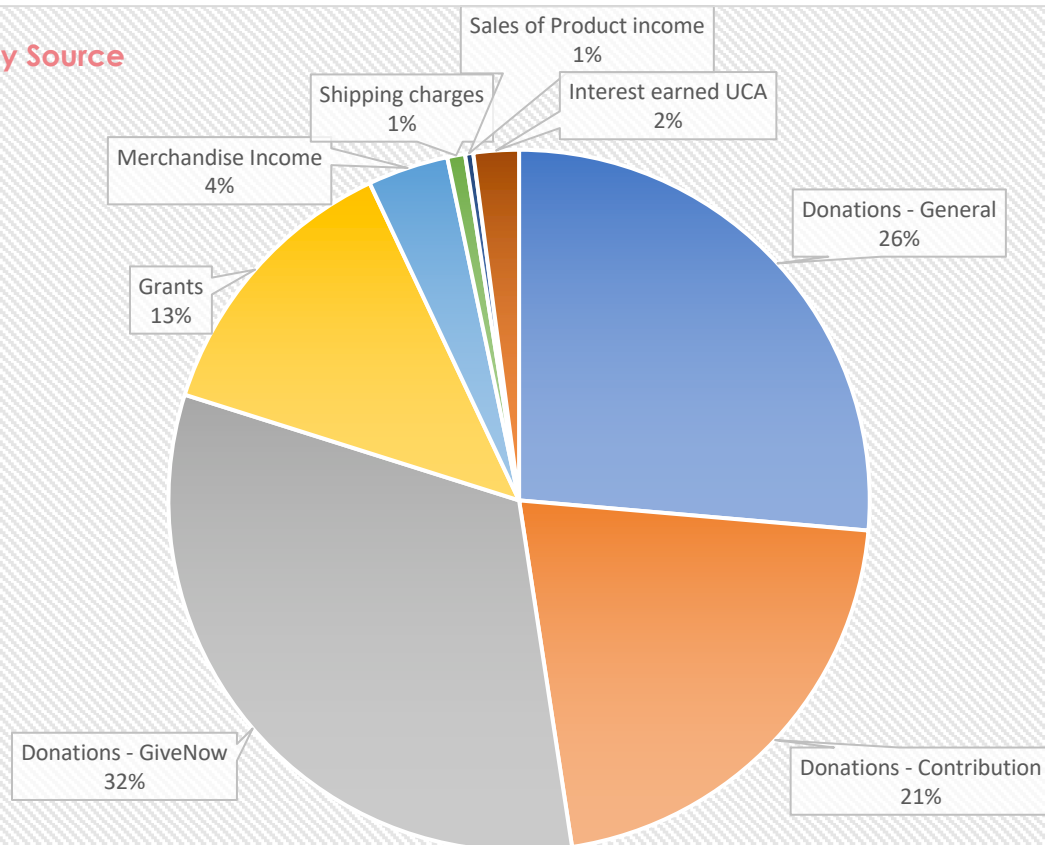
We also welcomed Ryk Eksteen, who has provided his expertise in completing the independent audit for the 2022/2023 financial year. His contribution to ensuring the integrity of our financials is highly valued. We express our sincere gratitude to Mathew Simon for his ten years of dedicated service as a pro bono Auditor for Aussie Hands.

Income	2023	2022
Fundraising	\$ 3,179.00	\$ 290.00
Donations	\$ 12,115.91	\$ 19,727.00
Membership	\$ -	\$ 27.00
Grants	\$ - (2,513.00)	\$ 52,763.00
Merchandise	\$ 712.00	\$ 1,431.00
Interest	\$ 400.00	\$ 732.00
Other	\$ 229.00	\$ 180.00
TOTAL	\$ 14,122.91	\$ 75,150.00

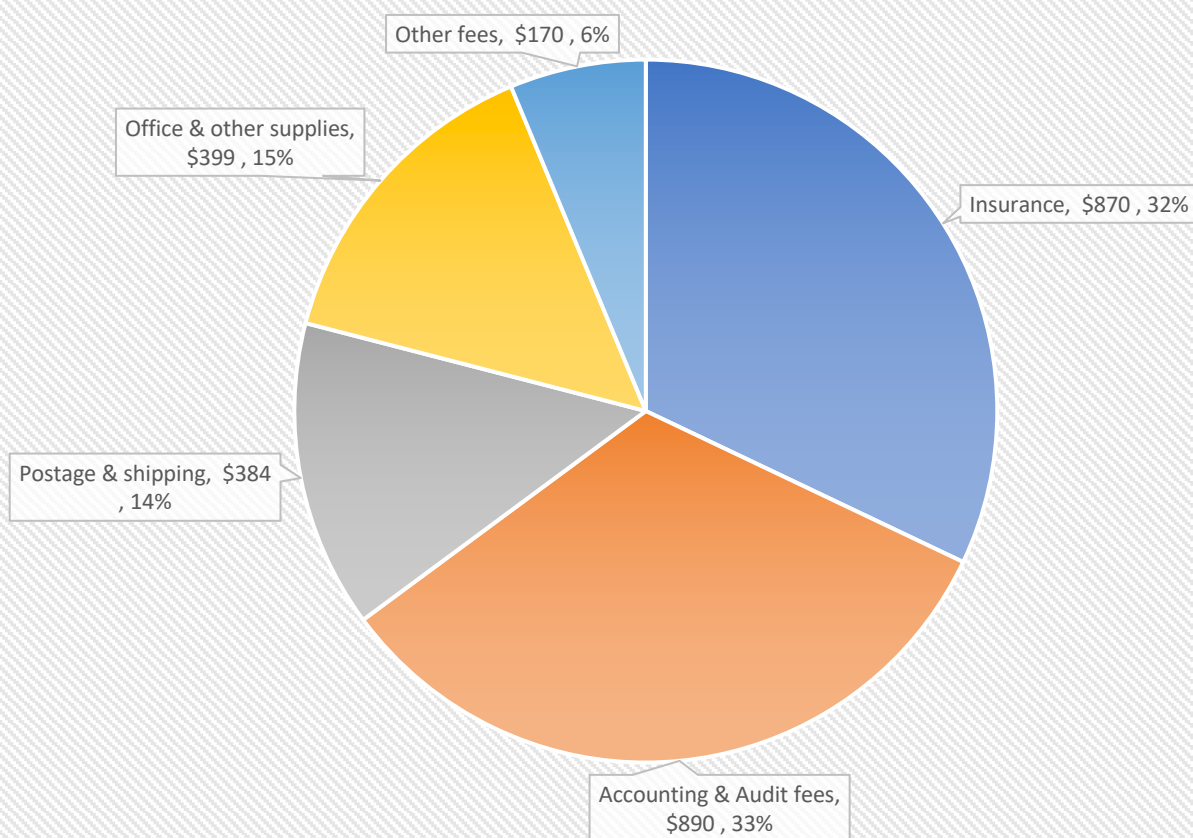
Expenses	2023	2022
Insurance	\$ 870.00	\$ 1,294.00
Accounting and Auditing	\$ 890.00	\$ 1,315.00
Postage and Shipping	\$ 384.00	\$ 533.00
Office supplies	\$ 207.00	\$ 542.00
Wages and super	\$ -	\$ 89,055.00
Other	\$ 362.00	\$ 5,209.00
TOTAL	\$ 2,713.00	\$ 97,948.00
Net Earnings	\$ 11,410.00	\$ - (22,798.00)



Income by Source



Expenses by Source





Australian Hand Difference Register (AHDR)

Since mid-2017, the AHDR has registered 2520 participants.

The Register aims to:

1. Find out how many children are born with a hand/arm difference in Australia.
2. Learn more about possible causes and risk factors.
3. Gain information to help plan services.
4. Identify possible participants for future research.
5. Identify the effects of hand differences in children.
6. Decide how to best manage hand differences.

A farewell was organised for Jane Halliday for her 7-year contribution to the AHDR Steering Committee, which is based at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute, located at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne where the AHDR is managed.

Through the AHDR a national collaborative research network is providing answers to questions about causes and outcomes with clinicians encouraging as many families as possible to participate and support the AHDR. The Register includes children from NSW, QLD, SA and WA – with more recruitment planned. The Register has been funded to date by support from The Aussie Hands Foundation Inc, The Australasian Foundation for Plastic Surgery, and the McNally Family Foundation.

Further information on the progress of AHDR can be viewed at <https://www.mcri.edu.au/ahdr>



The AHDR Steering Committee welcomed Amanda Bowler (pictured L-R Amanda Bowler AHDR, Dave Serpell Vice President Aussie Hands, Lana Serpell Secretary Aussie Hands, Jo Kennedy AHDR).



Board of Management

The Aussie Hands Board of Management is comprised of individuals with a broad range of skills and experience in community, health, legal, financial, and not-for-profit sectors. In addition, many of our Board Members have a personal connection to our hand difference community.

Chairperson and Vice President
Mr Dave Serpell

President
Mr Stuart John (till April 2023)

Treasurer
Ms Robyn Antill, Treasurer (to April 2023)

Secretary
Mrs Lana Serpell

Ordinary Members
Ms Elizabeth Borg, Founder and Board member
Ms Karen Macdonald, Board member (to May 2023)
Mrs Fiona Passmore, Board member
Ms Hannah Cole, Board member
Ms Kate-Louise Grey, Board member
Mr Bruno Gortan, Board member
Mr Steve Powis, Board member (to June 2023)
Ms Annette Smeaton, Board member

Date of Board Meetings

24th of October 2022
9th of November 2022
7th of December 2022
8th of February 2023
8th of March 2023
10th of May 2023
11th October 2023
22nd November 2023



Volunteers

At the heart of Aussie Hands is a village of volunteers. Aussie Hands is filled with talented and passionate people who share our vision, live our values, and embrace innovation for those with hand differences. A big thank you to each one of our volunteers.

President	Stuart John
HR Management Legal Consultant	Karen Macdonald
Treasurer	Robyn Antill
NDIS/Grants	Steve Powis
Governance Consultant	Hannah Cole
Social Media	Kate Louise Grey
VIC Interstate Coordinator	Annette Smeaton
Founder	Elizabeth Borg
Secretary	Lana Serpell
Vice President	Dave Serpell
IT Consultant	Bruno Gortan
Marketing Consultant	Fiona Passmore
IT Consultant	Gina Barri-Rewell
Website Consultant	Vinnie Chen
Salesforce Administrator	Kanchana Karvannan
Salesforce Consultant	Dyan Sethupathi
Auditor	Mathew Simon
WA Interstate Coordinator	Kim Austen
ACT Interstate Coordinator	Michelle Landers
NSW Interstate Coordinator	Mandy Leslie
NSW Interstate Coordinator	Verity Whitson
QLD Interstate Coordinator	Emma Glencross
Patron	Jessica Smith
Ambassador TAS	Amanda Palmer
Ambassador NSW	Tom Covell
Ambassador VIC/TAS	Dave Serpell
Operations Lead	Elizabeth Borg
Finance Officer	Tonchi Dean
Birthday Cards Coordinator	Andrea Murray
Online Shop Coordinator	Colleen Birtwistle
Fundraising Marketing	Leah Ahrens
Membership Database Administrator	Rita Rahman
Database Consultant	Jen Port
Marketing Support	Lily Toengi-Andrews



Donors and Sponsors

A special thanks to Sentinel Foundation for a decade of their donation and dedication to The Aussie Hands Foundation Inc.

Acknowledgement and thanks to Aussie Hands ongoing donors and sponsors.

Cameron Wylie

Colleen Birtwistle

Elissa Coventry

Elizabeth Borg

Erwin Kurniawan

Fiona Passmore

Paul Slade

Glen Austen

Karen Macdonald

Kate Louise Grey

Kunjan Negandhi

Loddon Shire

Michael Donnelly

Montrose Primary School

Mudra Negandhi

Sentinel Foundation

Toni Ireland-Hay

<https://aussiehands.org/donors-sponsors/>

Events July 2022 – June 2023

1. Autumn Catch-up – 21/05/2022 (SA)
2. Winter Catch-up - 23/07/2022 (WA)
3. Montrose Primary School Aussie Hands Fundraiser - 12/08/2022 (VIC) Picnic, Play and Bike Ride - 11/09/2022 (VIC)
4. Horse Riding - 28/09/2022 (QLD)
5. Aussie Hands End of Year event - 13/11/2022 (NSW)
6. End of year celebration – 20/11/2022 (QLD)
7. Playground Event - 4/12/2022 (VIC)
8. Summer Party - 4/3/2023 (WA)
9. Autumn Catch-up - 5/3/2023 (VIC)
10. Community Fun Day - 25/3/2023 (QLD)
11. Bunnings Sausage Sizzle - 26/3/2023 (VIC)
12. Park Event - 2/4/2023 (VIC)
13. Park catch-up - 2/4/2023 (QLD)
14. Wildlife Park catch-up – 12/4/2023 (NSW/QLD)
15. Autumn catch-up – 21/5/2023 (SA)
16. First State Aussie Hands Event - 28/5/2023 (ACT)
17. Karaoke Disco - 10/6/2023 (WA)



Marketing and Communications

We continued to promote Aussie Hands through social media, member stories, our Peer Support Network, Online Resource Toolkit, and website.

Social Media

Through positive, realistic, and welcoming messages, Aussie Hands has sustained a growing social media presence both in Australia and overseas.

Many similar organisations such as Lucky Fin Project, (USA) and Reach Charity (UK) co-share content with Aussie Hands to build a wider global community advocating for diversity and inclusion for those with a hand/upper limb difference.



Metric	Facebook	% Change from previous year	Instagram	% Change from previous year
Reach	4,391	6% decrease	12,990	75% decrease
Page / Profile Visits	938	84% increase	2,693	66% decrease
New Likes / Follows	71	27% increase	169	
Current Likes / Follows	753		2,289	



Website

- 5,297 users
- 10% returning visitors vs 90% new visitors.
- Top Countries: Australia, USA, UK, Canada and China.
- Most visited pages: Stories and Videos, Annual Reports, About Us, Peer Support Network.

Video

Plans are underway to create an Aussie Hands video to provide an engaging snapshot of how we help the limb difference community.

News and member stories

- Limb Difference Awareness Week - October 2022
- Announcement of new Board of Management and Aussie Hands President – November 2022
- Member Stories:
 - Music has brought frustration, healing, and happiness for Emi.
 - Navigating the NDIS – Lana's story.
 - Swiss skills build Felix a myoelectric arm.



Limb Difference Awareness Week – October 2022

'Share Your Story' was the theme of Limb Difference Awareness Week in 2022 - the goal was to promote inclusion and inspire others through sharing our stories. Members shared their stories/experiences and messages to the Aussie Hands community via social media.



Peer Support Network and Online Resource Toolkit

The launch of these initiatives in 2022 has provided members with a hands-on toolkit of advice, resources, and shared experiences. The Peer Support Network exists in this formal format and on an informal basis through our private Facebook group.





Goals in 2024

- Launch an annual fundraising campaign to create awareness in schools, aiming for Limb Difference Awareness Month, April 2024.
- Have more localised events using our new database to connect small communities.
- Open a new and improved online store merchandise experience.

The year that was...

On behalf of everyone at The Aussie Hands Foundation, thank you all for the kindness, generosity and commitment shown this year.

These challenging times have tested Aussie Hands, but we are proud of the way we have responded, and the power and strength of our community has become more evident in these past twelve months. Thank you for being there and continuing to share our vision for Aussie Hands.

With thanks, gratitude, and excitement for the year ahead.

Lana Serpell, Secretary, 2023