

MINUTES

Mansfield SIAG Meeting No 1.

Date: 27 January 2026 **Time:** 5.30pm – 6.45pm **Venue:** Library

Present: Angela Tenbuuren, Suzanne Green, Louise Jenkins, Michelle Harmer, Kate Berg, Miranda Connaughton, Janique Snyder

Apologies: Paul Allen, Brendan Eyssens, Daniel Carter, Warren Coad



Item No.	Subject	Action/Agreements
1.	Opening of Meeting, Apologies and Acknowledgement of Country	
2.	Welcome Back and Introductions	
3.	Review Ways of Working Discussed that this was an opportunity to review and edit the Ways of Working document. Group were happy with the general themes of the document and did not bring any suggestions for change.	
4.	Cube Group Visit Cube are coming to speak with SIAG members about their experiences as part of the group. They will use this data to report to the Victorian Government and guide the future of the SIAG program. We spoke about members' individual schedules going forward and collectively chose to schedule the cube visit for 17 February. Advised group that this will be longer meeting (1.5-2 hours), and dinner will be provided for those attending in person.	Upon request from Aunty Angela, Sally will look to see if there is a report from the previous visit to help newer members feel informed.

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5.	Mansfield Health, Community and Volunteers Expo • The expo will run again this year, in collaboration with the Mansfield District Hospital, on the 18 March from 2-6pm. Approximately 20 community groups and organisations have completed an expression of interest at this stage. • We spoke about how we intend to make the event bigger than 2025, with a more substantial community BBQ, cakes made by the Mansfield Historical Society (funded by SIAG), a sensory tent for accessibility, and music/entertainment by local groups – all offered at no cost to the community. Miranda suggested contacting Steiner School to enquire about involving their string quartet. • Aunty Angela has spoken to Miranda and Michelle and have decided that GADHABA will offer a jewellery making activity. They will also contact Kitchen Door to enquire about purchasing wattle seed biscuits as a bush tucker experience. Both activities will be funded by SIAG.	
6.	Harmony Day Festival (21 March from 11am to 4pm) • SIAG has been offered a stall at the celebrations – group members have been invited to attend to increase awareness of their role in the community and enjoy the celebrations. • Showed group the December SWAY and discussed the Harmony Day funding application for \$7,500 to pay for First Nations artist Kutcha Edwards. Michelle spoke about how she wished we could have found a local first nations artist instead but otherwise supported the	If no one is available to attend Harmony Day, we will organise for printed materials (flyer/poster etc) to be accessible to festival attendees.

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	proposal. Group decision was to approve funding from the first nations stream.	
7.	Jamieson Autumn Festival - Members had approved the Jamieson Community Group for further funding of \$3,830 following review of their 2024-25 evaluation. The Jamieson group have now asked to increase the amount to \$5,000 after more local artists contacted them wishing to be involved. This funding would allow the group to pay these artists to provide workshops after the festival that would be targeted predominately at festival volunteers and those who were unable to attend the main event due to accessibility concerns. - The group did not come to a consensus on this funding decision due to a lack of information, specifically concerning who is welcome at these events and exactly how the funding would be spent.	Sally has requested that any questions about this application to be sent to her so that she can converse with Jamieson Community Group and provide clarity.
8.	Respond Mighty Movers - RESPOND previously received funding to support their Mighty Movers program. They no longer require funding for this initiative but have requested support to cover operational expenses associated with their Mother Goose program, which provides social music sessions for parents and young children. - The group decision was to approve funding.	

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9.	Mansfield Let's Talk • This group received funding for monthly coffee chat sessions that focused on mental health. The group is no longer meeting in that capacity due to poor attendance towards the end of the 12-month program. They are now seeking to facilitate mental health first aid training for community members. • The group discussed that MACE has, within the last few months, offered a similar training session that sold out. They would like to determine whether this will be an ongoing offering, or whether there is an opportunity for Let's Talk to collaborate with them. The group loved the idea but want to know more details before deciding about providing funding. • It was also suggested that Let's Talk could expand their coffee chat initiative to outlying communities or increase the frequency of meetings to reach more people.	
10	Merton Digital Drop-in Café • This initiative was funded in 2024-25 and was initially hugely popular. Numbers dropped throughout the year and naturally transformed into more of a social/craft gathering for community members. As a result, the group are now seeking funding for craft equipment, though will still offer one-on-one digital assistance as needed. • SIAG decision was to approve funding.	Sally will confirm exact funding amount and clarify whether needs have changed in response to bushfires.

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11	Jamieson Welcome Pack ▶ This project was a great success, and we advised the group that we are working towards using SIAG funding to roll out similar packs to other outlying communities.	
12	Mansfield Armchair Cinema • This initiative was hugely popular, selling out most months, even as the group expanded showings to a second screen. • There was a discussion about encouraging collaboration with other groups such as Let's Talk to reach socially isolated people. Kate suggested expanding to kids' movies to encourage families to get involved, particularly during school holidays. Members also suggested sensory-friendly/accessible sessions (for example with lower sound, more lighting) and highlighted the opportunity to collaborate with local disability organisations such as MASS and Yooralla. • Group decision was to approve further funding.	Sally will reach out to Mansfield Armchair Cinema with these suggestions.
13	Next Meeting: 17 February 5.30pm – 7.30pm, Library. CUBE visiting for the first hour of meeting.	