



ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

COMMONSLIBRARY.ORG



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Commons pays respect to the traditional owners of the land in which we operate and wherever the Commons Library website is accessed. The Commons Library staff team live and work on the lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

With a world-wide web of information available at your fingertips, why go to a library?

As anyone can attest, the internet can be harder to sort through than a library catalogue, especially for a very specific topic that also has important cultural or historical contextual parameters. Libraries select, obtain, organise and promote quality resources to diverse users in a timely and accessible way. Digital libraries reach beyond a geographically local community to a potentially limitless audience of library users, assisting them to access the information they need.

In a digital age, therefore, the importance of librarians and well curated library collections is greater than ever. Librarians have a significant role in public reference libraries to provide visitors with the information they are looking for, and to be certain about holding information that is reliable and reputable.

The Commons Social Change Library is no different, and plays a fundamental role in supporting people to engage in life-long learning.

The librarians are part of a profession that boasts three thousand years of sustained commitment to the responsible collection and effective curation of the recorded knowledge of civilization, and that has always extended across a variety of formats to keep and make available that knowledge.

We are constantly reminded that the success of democratic systems depends on the active participation of citizens in the political process.

Free public libraries with highly accessible information promote enlightened participation in civil society, and the Commons Social Change Library plays a critical role across Australia and around the world.

The commodification of information and resulting click-bait headlines driven by the need to draw advertising revenue sees market forces at play, which is never good news for public goods such as widespread and easy access to reliable, verifiable, independent and free information.

Thankfully, the contributions of our donors large and small and the proceeds of our research, cataloguing, and training services to a variety of organisations have allowed us to continue for another year: gathering resources as they are created and tested by real people in real time, assessing them through a stringent curation process and placing them into collections with care and consideration, with a plan for promoting and sharing them with the public so they get out there as a tool of education. Your financial support makes it all possible!

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to library staff for 2022-23: Antje, Iain, Aoife, and our incredible library director Holly Hammond. Together they form a dedicated and expert team who go above and beyond the call of duty to bring the Commons Library to life. Our highly-skilled library volunteers help in so many ways and are generous with their time and expertise. I would especially like to thank fellow board members Django, Robyn, Phong, Holly D and new board member Hugh Rundle for their invaluable contribution over the past year.



Sue McKinnon
Commons Library Chair



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Commons Library exists to make activism smarter and stronger. Our resource collection helps people and groups engage with public policy and political structures.

Through sharing skills and information we aim to empower as many people as possible to be able to have their say about issues that affect or concern them.

There is a contrasting pressure at play in our world: the tendency to exclude, limit and police civic participation.

We see that in complicated bureaucratic processes which privilege certain levels of education and niche knowledge.

We see it in the disproportionate influence of corporations and highly paid lobbyists while citizens struggle to be heard.

We see it in the criminalisation of protest which tries to stifle the disruption required to move society forward.

This context makes the sharing of information, without paywalls or other barriers, a radical endeavour.

We take this responsibility seriously and will continue working to connect people with knowledge and tools to shape the world around them.

The Commons took two important steps in the last year to increase access to crucial social change resources.

Firstly, we started adding resources in languages other than English.

Secondly, our team learnt how to make Easy Read guides to increase access for people with disability, people who primarily use language other than English, and people with lower literacy levels.

Both of these innovations are the tip of the iceberg with much more that could happen.

In the year ahead we will explore different options for making information more accessible.

We are conscious that the Commons has become so large that people can be overwhelmed. We don't want this success to become a barrier! So stay tuned for new 'crash courses' that introduce participants to one key resource at a time.

In April 2024 we will celebrate 5 years of the Commons Library being online in its current form.

We want to celebrate with you so stay tuned!



Holly Hammond
Commons Library Director



REFLECTIONS FROM THE TEAM

“

This last year has been very busy and it's been exciting to see the Commons continue to thrive and grow in all sorts of directions. We have welcomed new partnerships with different networks and organisations from around the world and have been adding a whole new array of interesting resources including some in different languages. It has also been great to work on the project Making Advocacy Accessible and enhance the accessibility of the Commons website and resources and learn new skills such as how to make Easy Read resources.



Antje Dun
Librarian & Graphic Designer

“

Hearing and reading stories of campaigns and activism is something I find inspiring and instructive, especially when you're given perspectives and learnings from those who were there and who made history happen. These are some of my favourite resources as a library user. As part of the Commons Library team I'm honored to be in a position to help produce podcasts, interviews, case studies and social media posts highlighting lessons and events from the past.



Iain McIntyre
Historian & Researcher

“

It has been an absolute pleasure working with the Commons to continue to expand our outreach with the wider community. Over the past year, our Instagram followers have nearly doubled, and we've partnered with various organisations to create social media content.

Additionally, we've placed special emphasis on nurturing our group of regular donors. The establishment of the Commons Community marks just the initial phase of this exciting journey.



Aoife Carli-Hannan
Engagement Officer

VISION

The Commons Library vision is an Australia that has well informed, skilled, collaborative and effective movements for social and ecological justice.



**1000+ Resources to
Read, Watch & Listen**



**660+ Contributors
Active in Social Change**

MISSION

The Commons Library exists to make social movements smarter and stronger.

We support the power and effectiveness of progressive social change efforts by collecting campaigning best practice from Australia and around the world.



**34 Collections from
Social Change Partners**

WHAT WE DO

1 The 'go-to portal' for social change

Like all good libraries, the Commons gathers materials from many different sources in one accessible location. Utilising the skills of information management the Commons has user friendly cataloguing and search capacity, so users can find what they need fast.

2 Work with others on special projects

The Commons provides customised services to organisations and networks engaged in social change activities. This includes collating resource kits, developing curriculum, designing and cataloguing resource directories, writing case studies, and researching issues.

3 Bespoke advice from librarians

The Commons Librarians respond to queries on a wide range of social change topics. Our quick response resource recommendations enable change makers to get what they need and jump back into their work quickly. Other queries catalyse bigger research projects resulting in new resources.

4 Connect to social movement history

Social movement history can provide insights about strategy, a vast toolbox of potential tactics, and abundant inspiration. The Commons gathers case studies, chronologies, and historical materials with a particular emphasis on Australian stories.

5 Amplify the impact of conferences

Civil society conferences are an important source of knowledge and innovation but without intentional curation their impact can be transitory. The Commons team works to make the insights of conferences available to a larger audience for the long term in the form of recordings, articles and presentation materials.

6 Respond to 'movement moments'

The Commons Librarians monitor trends and needs in social movements. At times of crisis and opportunity the librarians gather and distribute relevant materials to assist campaigners and community builders to seize the moment.

FEEDBACK FROM LIBRARY USERS

“

The Commons is the only space where I feel that I can speak directly to a community of committed change makers from across civil society. It is a brilliant resource for learning from other campaigns, finding inspiration, or considering the latest challenges.

I choose to publish on The Commons because I want to contribute to a community of practice and provide other organisers with frameworks which they can take and build upon.



Jackie Turner
Trans Justice Project

“

The radical commitment to sharing our knowledge is why I love the Commons. It's about knowing that we will go further, faster, better if we support each other not to make the same mistakes. We have a lot of people who want to create change, who are coming up with the same ideas that have already been tested and tried in other areas. We can learn from that, adapt it to our context, and then share back in a sense of mutual aid and reciprocity.



Te Raukura O'Connell Rapira
Community Leader and Trainer

“

It is so important to be able to share information across the globe, across communities, in a horizontal way.

It enables us to take wisdom from the past and apply it toward current movements building just and beautiful futures.

The Commons makes this sharing possible. Many, many thanks!



Evan Weissman
Warm Cookies of the Revolution

THE COMMONS IS GROWING!

1 Lots of Resources, Lots of Visitors



The Commons Library averages 10,000 visitors weekly from around the world. Our library boasts more than 1000 resources, which have been accessed over 2 million times.

Commons Library materials are used in many educational courses, provide orientation and training resources for countless organisation, and are being applied to hundreds of campaigns.

2 New Connections, New Collections



We have a total of [34 collections](#) with these recent additions:

- [Democracy Resource Hub - Tools and resources for anti-authoritarian and pro-democracy organizing](#)
- [Leaderful Organising - Reframing leadership in movements](#)
- [Social Movement Technologies](#)
- [Global Grassroots Support Network](#)
- [Campaign Bootcamp](#)

3 Our Most Popular Resources



Visit our most consistently popular resources:

- [Marshall Ganz Quotes & Wisdom](#)
- [The Four Roles of Social Activism](#)
- [Disinformation & 7 Common Forms of Information Disorder](#)
- [Working in Groups: Start here](#)
- [Power Mapping & Analysis](#)
- [Facilitation Tools & Techniques](#)
- [Bill Moyer's Movement Action Plan](#)

COMMONS CONVERSATIONS



Commons Conversations was a summer series of radio programs in which campaigners shared their experiences and insights into activism, learning in movements, radical history and more. The program was broadcast by Community Radio 3CR. You can listen to each episode on the Commons Social Change Library.

“

We come from a lineage of incredible campaigners who just didn't give up. I have a responsibility to learn from the people who came before me, and to pass on the campaign experience that I have, so that we can all get better at campaigning.



El Gibbs

Disability Justice Campaigner, Episode 1, Commons Conversations

Episodes

- Campaigning for Disability Justice**
Elly Desmarchelier & El Gibbs
- First Nations Justice, Climate Justice & Youth Leadership**
Millie Telford & Grace Vegesana
- The Role of Learning in Creating Social Change**
Laurence Cox & Iain McIntyre
- Lessons from Organising in the Face of the AIDS Crisis**
Sarah Schulman & Holly Hammond
- Community Led Responses to the Climate Crisis**
Maddy Rose Braddon & Holly Hammond
- How Casual Workers Won Back Stolen Wages**
Geraldine Fela & Iain McIntyre
- Shared Values and Respect for Diversity are the Heart of Campaigns**
Te Raukura O'Connell Rapira & Holly Hammond

Thanks to the John T Reid Charitable Trusts for supporting this project.

MAKING ADVOCACY ACCESSIBLE

The participation of people with disability makes groups, campaigns and movements stronger!

Making Advocacy Accessible was a project run by the Commons Library with guidance from People With Disability Australia (PWDA) and the Council for Intellectual Disability (CID).

CID provided Commons staff and volunteers with training in Easy Read. Easy Read uses clear, everyday language matched with images to make sure everyone understands.

PWDA gave feedback on the project, provided articles to add to the library, and presented as part of the Making Advocacy Accessible webinar.

We would also like to thank Elly Desmarchelier and El Gibbs for their valuable input, as well as all our interviewees and resource contributors.

The project included:

- an educational webinar with presentations from Janel Manns (People with Disability Australia) and Elly Desmarchelier (community campaigner);
- translating resources into Easy Read so everyone can understand;
- guides to improving accessibility including rallies and other events;
- highlighting key disability justice thinkers by collating their articles, books, videos and podcasts;
- developing timelines and guides related to the history of disability advocacy; and
- sharing stories of campaigns led by people with disability.

Visit the [Making Advocacy Accessible](#) collection.

Thanks to State Trustees Victoria for the funding that made this project possible.

“

Our collaboration with Commons Library was a very positive, uplifting experience. PWDA's content was warmly received by participants in the webinar, with many expressing that they had learnt a great deal and were keen to put into practice the practical tips and advice.

The Making Advocacy Accessible content on the Commons Library web site is very well laid out, a pleasure to view, and respectful of people with disability. It was my absolute pleasure to work with project lead Holly Hammond, and PWDA would not hesitate to undertake further projects with the Commons.



Janel Manns

People with Disability Australia

SKILL SESSIONS



The Commons ran a series of [online training sessions](#) to help people create activist resources and learning materials. The sessions were free and open to anyone involved in social change who wanted to develop their skills.

View the [sessions](#) and read the related guides on the Commons Social Change Library.



Conversation is more interesting than a monologue. An interview is a story, you're telling a story, so the more characters you bring in the more interesting it will be.

Nicky Stott

3CR Community Radio Trainer, Presenter of How to Conduct Interviews



Sessions

The Noble Art of Book Reviewing

Joel Dignam

How to Conduct Interviews

Iain McIntyre & Nicky Stott

Tips for Designing Infographics

Sophie Hartley

Writing & Using Campaign Case Studies

Iain McIntyre & Holly Hammond

How to Report on Conferences & Other Events

Antje Dun & Holly Hammond

Thanks to the John T Reid Charitable Trusts for supporting this project.

PROJECT PARTNERSHIPS

In addition to making our online public library available to all at no cost, the Commons Social Change Library provides customised services to organisations at accessible rates.

In 2022/23 we have contributed our expertise in information management, research and activist education to make the progressive organisations we have partnered with, and the communities they serve, smarter and stronger.

Projects included:

- Building a new online library for the The Australian Trade Union Institute
- Hosting and adding new collections for The Global Grassroots Support Network and the Democracy Resource Hub
- Continuation of support to the team at the Leading Change Network with their Resource Center

The Commons also partnered with Australian Progress to deliver the [Organising Models Mapping Project](#). We undertook research into how organising is happening in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand and gathered insights from 24 organisations working on a range of issues and at different scales. The research findings are available to read on the Commons. Thanks to Anita Tang, Beth Koch and Robyn Gulliver for the their work. Thanks to Australian Conservation Foundation, 350 Australia, Foundation for Young Australians, The Wilderness Society, Amnesty International and Action Aid for their support.

The boxes on the right summarise some of the services the Commons librarians are able to provide. We welcome enquiries in a range of areas.



Sourcing and collating resource guides and training materials for staff and volunteers

Putting together customised study guides for professional development of individual staff members or teams



Curating book club materials including references, excerpts, and prompts for reflection and discussion



Archiving campaign material and organisational history

Advising on information management including resource hubs and shared drives



Research and writing of case studies

Research into issues and trends relevant to campaigns and advocacy



Collating articles and presentations from forums, conferences and other events

Working on new and innovative projects with other organisations



FEEDBACK FROM PROJECT PARTNERS

“

Prior to reaching out, the Commons Library was already well-known in our activist circles as a go-to place for strategy and movement-building resources, so partnering to add our resources to the mix was an exciting prospect for us. The Global Grassroots Support Network's partnership with the Commons Library plays a critical role in making the resources we compile, from people and organizations supporting grassroots activists around the world, easily and widely accessible.

The Commons Library team offers clever suggestions for resource presentation, plus custom options for filtering through resources, which will be essential as we continue to add resources in many different languages. Members of our network are pleased with the ease of navigation, and we are so pleased with the flexibility and professionalism of the partnership!



Kenzie Harris
Global Grassroots Support Network

“

It has been a great pleasure and learning journey to work with the Commons Social Change Library in setting up the Democracy Resource Hub. Holly and Antje have been instrumental partners as we sought to develop a place in which activists, organizers, bridgebuilders, and peacebuilders from around the world can find tools and resources in their work to push back against democratic backsliding.

The Commons Social Change Library is a well-known and invaluable resource center for organizers, practitioners, and researchers.

We will continue to use its practical tools, analysis, and learnings in our work to develop cross-disciplinary relationships, understanding, and know-how for pushing back against authoritarianism and working towards multi-racial, pluralistic, and inclusive democracy.



Tabatha Pilgrim Thompson
Democracy Resource Hub



Bayingana Simon

COLLECTIONS

The Commons Social Change Library includes 34 collections contributed by civil society and capacity building partners.

Like any good library the Commons gathers materials from many different sources, making them available in one central accessible place. The collections provide solid building blocks of content which are supplemented by hundreds of individual contributors.

The Commons Library includes pre-existing resource collections which may already have a home on other websites as well as new collections that the Commons Librarians have worked with organisations to build from scratch.

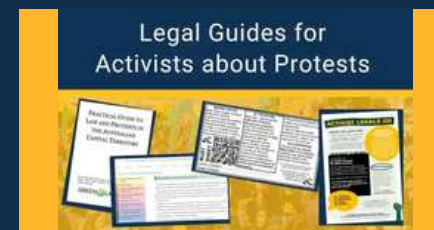
The Commons also preserves materials from projects that are no longer active, making the wisdom they have generated available for the long term.

Many collections come from Australian organisations but there are also collections with an international focus and contributors from all around the world.



KEY RESOURCES

Look back at the year in social change through resources featured in the Commons Library monthly newsletters.



1

July

What Works to Increase Charitable Donations?

Findings of a research study on what interventions work to increase charitable donations and what doesn't work, with 4 recommendations organisations should take to better engage their supporters.

2

August

Activism and Campaign History

A wide range about the history of First Nations, social and labour movements in Australia and beyond through case studies, chronologies, interviews and stories that have shaped today's campaigns and activism.

3

September

Legal Guides for Activists about Protests

A collection of legal guides about protesting for each state and territory to understand the relevant restrictions for organising public campaigns and protests, collated by Tracey Nayler.

4

October

The Art and Craft of Training Workshop Design

Max Smith, of the Community Organising Fellowship, outlines core practices of leadership for community organisers, with relevance for many other kinds of roles in social change.

5

November

Why North-South Intersectionality Matters in Climate Justice

Report by South Asian Climate Solidarity on the importance of diversity within the climate movement and the next steps for movements to practice intersectionality.

6

December

Making Your Activism Accessible

Guide on how to make spaces, events, meetings and communications more accessible and inclusive to everyone. The guide draws upon resources written by movement thinkers living with accessibility needs.

KEY RESOURCES



7 January

Commons Conversations Podcast

A podcast series delivered by Commons Librarians and changemakers to explore insights into activism, learning in movements and radical history.

8 February

The Power of Questions

An article from organiser and educator Margaret Pestorius outlining the different approaches and frameworks to questions and how they can draw valuable insights for social change.

9 March

The Anti-Trans Movement

Jackie Turner has developed the Anti-Trans Movement framework, a tool for activists and allies to understand how the anti-trans movement works.

10 April

What Star Wars' Andor Can Teach Us

Cat Nadel writes about what lessons activists can learn about revolutionary leadership development from the story of Star Wars' Andor including his politics, strategy and tactics.

11 May

Every Worker in Australia

A race-class narrative blueprint developed by Victorian Trades Hall with messaging expert Anat Shenker-Orsorio on how to build and sustain the collective power needed for workplace and electoral wins.

12 June

Lobbying Playbook

A guide by the Citizens' Climate Lobby Australia on the basics of lobbying, the steps involved and why it is important in our activism and enacting change.

FEEDBACK FROM LIBRARY USERS

“

There has been a reference on The Commons for so many things we've thought of doing or ideas we wanted to explore.

There's plenty of up-to-date comms and media info accessible by topics and channels.

Plus the browse-worthy history of social change materials with an Australian focus.



Troy Beer

**Communications Manager,
The Wilderness Society**

“

The wealth of information and diverse perspectives the Commons Social Change Library has is remarkable.

As an activist engaging in social change, this platform has consistently delivered.

It's not just a repository of knowledge; it's a community of passionate activists and organizations eager to share their wisdom.



Mohini Govender

**Knowledge Curator,
YouthxYouth**

“

I can't overstate how useful and important the Commons is when it comes to building the capacity of those of us fighting for a just world.

From comprehensive resources to expert advice, the Commons is making an enormous impact, and is my go-to recommendation to anyone needing help, resources or inspiration for their next campaign.



Justin Whelan

**Community Engagement Manager,
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre**

COMMONS STAFF



HOLLY HAMMOND
Director

Holly directs the Commons Library: developing and implementing strategy, overseeing library operations, tracking social movement needs, forging project partnerships and building the financial sustainability of the organisation. She is one of Australia's foremost activist educators. She has over 30 years of social change experience, with 17 of those years spent supporting movements to be more effective through training, facilitation and coaching. An important aspect of her work has been developing curriculum and writing, sourcing, editing and distributing articles and educational resources.



ANTJE DUN
Commons Librarian

Antje came up with the user-friendly structure, cataloguing, and appearance of the Commons Library. She maintains the library, adds new content, supervises volunteers, and contributes her information management expertise to special projects.

Antje is a qualified librarian with over 20 years of experience working in specialist libraries including the Australian Conservation Foundation, Melbourne Water, and Volunteering Australia.

Antje is also a graphic designer with a commitment to accessibility.



IAIN MCINTYRE
Commons Librarian

Iain brings past social movements stories to present day change makers through regular Commons Facebook posts and articles. He also writes campaign case studies and researches social change related issues.

Iain is a social movement historian, researcher and author. Alongside producing radio documentaries, podcasts and audio tours he has written and edited seven books, including Environmental Blockades and How To Make Trouble and Influence People: Pranks, Protests, Graffiti and Political Mischief Making From Across Australia.



AOIFE CARLI HANNAN
Engagement Officer

Aoife develops engagement pathways for Commons supporters. She plans and delivers social media outreach, fundraising appeals, and events. Drawing on six years of grassroots fundraising, Aoife is interested in identifying and expanding on new and existing opportunities. In addition to her work at the Commons, Aoife also works for Friends of Aileu - supporting projects in health, sustainability, and women's rights in Timor-Leste.

We would also like to thank CTAS for bookkeeping and Action Skills for crucial website maintenance.

COMMONS BOARD



SUE MCKINNON (Chair)

Sue (BEc, DipEd, GIA (Cert)) has a background in forensic accounting, lecturing in economics, and educating people about the complexities of poverty and the important role of grassroots community organising in making the voices of the oppressed heard through local and international advocacy. She has been treasurer for a number of organisations and is the director of the McKinnon Family Foundation.



ROBYN GULLIVER

Robyn (PhD) is a Research Fellow at Australian National University and the University of Queensland. She researches the antecedents and consequences of environmental activism. She is the author of 'Civil Resistance Against Climate Change' and 'The Psychology of Effective Activism'. She has led and served in numerous environmental and community organisations in Australia and New Zealand.



DJANGO MEROPE SYNGE

Django (BA) has worked in advocacy and Australian civil society for over 10 years. He is experienced in managing staff, reviewing and evaluating programs, developing ambitious fundraising programs, and advising organizational leadership on reform and change management. He has a particular focus on using technology to drive organizational innovation.

The Commons Library is governed by a passionate team of leaders from across civil society.



HUGH RUNDLE

Hugh is a librarian who has worked for two decades in public and academic libraries, mostly specialising in library technology and discovery systems. He also has experience coordinating electoral campaigns and helping lead non-profit organisations. Hugh grew up among the forests and coasts of lutruwita/Tasmania and is always happiest among the trees with a view to sea.



PHONG TRINH

Phong (MIR) has worked in advocacy for 10 years in the youth, international development and refugee sectors. He specialises in digital marketing, communication, graphic design and strategy development. Phong currently works at Australian Progress, building the collective capacity of civil society movements to achieve systemic change.



HOLLY DAWSON

Holly is a descendant of the Bunurong people and grew up in Boorloo (Perth) on Nyoongar Country. She has worked as a campaigner and strategist for international organisations and environmental advocacy groups with a strong focus on movement building and knowledge sharing. She has almost 10 years experience. Holly works at the Online Progressive Engagement Network which supports 20 digital first advocacy groups across 20 countries facilitating learning and coordinating transnational campaigns.

COMMONS COMMUNITY

Our Commons Community is the backbone of the library. It is thanks to the generosity of our regular givers that we continue to provide the resources which strengthen social movements.

People who sign up to donate to the Commons on a monthly basis join our Commons Community. Members receive a quarterly newsletter focused on ideas and inspiration. They also have priority access to the Commons Librarians for advice sessions.

The guarantee of ongoing funds provided by monthly giving means that we can plan for the future; provide rapid response resources at times of crisis and opportunity; and take on new and exciting projects.

Thanks to all the members of the Commons Community, you make good things possible!

“

Having worked both in paid roles and in volunteer organisations I understand that running long term organisations effectively requires reliable funding and that the workers need to be able to focus on the core work rather than constantly worrying about fundraising to stay afloat.



**Hugh
Rundle**

COMMONS VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers contribute new ideas, skills, interesting resources, community connections and reliable support that makes the Commons Library stronger.

This year we would particularly like to thank:

- Monique Moate and Semra Mese for their work on Easy Read guides.
- Steve Wright and Tracey Nayler for writing articles.
- Relle Graefe, Jo Collins and Jan McNicol for behind the scenes support.
- Joel Dignam, Nicky Stott and Sophie Hartley for running skill sessions.

Thanks to the funders who have supported the volunteer program in 2022/23 including the John T Reid Charitable Trusts, and a number of contributors listed in the Commons Donors.

“

I volunteer with the Commons Social Change Library to use my skills for a good purpose while learning new skills too. I appreciate being able to contribute to the fantastic collection of resources, freely available to the public, on positive social change.



**Monique
Moate**

COMMONS DONORS

Over the last year the Commons Library has consolidated its financial position from a mix of sources:

- core funding
- project funding
- project partnerships
- donations
- monthly subscriptions

Thank you to all our supporters, big and small!

Your commitment to the Commons Library puts crucial resources in the hands of change makers.

“

Supporting the Commons Library is an important investment in a future of more effective organising and social change making, not just for any one cause, but for all causes.



Winnifred Louis
Professor of Social Psychology

2022/23 Grant Funders

- John T Reid Charitable Trust
- State Trustees Victoria
- Alf & Meg Steel Fund of the Australian Communities Foundation

2022/23 Philanthropic Supporters

- ACME Foundation
- McKinnon Family Foundation
- Rendere Trust
- Robyn Gulliver

Contributors to the Organising Models Mapping Project

- Australian Conservation Foundation
- Amnesty International Australia
- 350.org
- ActionAid
- Foundation for Young Australians

The Commons Library is seeking core and project funding to continue and grow our important work.

See some of our priorities on the following pages, or get in touch to find out other ways you can support us.

PLANS FOR 2023/24

1 Maintain & Grow the Library



Demand for the Commons Library is growing all the time. The librarians are kept busy responding to queries, adding new content, and tracking needs and trends to respond to. The Commons Library is a progressive institution for the longterm.

Funding support for the core work of the Commons is crucial - so we can keep doing our part to make activism smarter and stronger.

2 Reach New Audiences



In the second half of 2023 the Commons team will be reaching out to people in Australian cities and regions outside the Eastern seaboard capitals. The librarians will source new content, curate campaign stories, and provide advice sessions.

The project Includes 'Welcome to the Commons Library' and 'How to Write for the Commons Library' webinars.

3 Take on New Projects



The Commons Library is currently seeking funding support for new projects including:

- Skills Building for Fair Public Debate: Countering Misinformation
- Coaching Program
- Language Translation & Curation
- Activist Archiving

Contact us if you have project ideas or funding suggestions.

MOVEMENT MONITOR

A major new research project running from 2023 to 2025... and beyond!



Movement Monitor is a two year project that will develop a comprehensive movement measurement methodology and apply it to the Australian climate movement.

The project is run by researchers at the Commons Library with input from academics, international movement experts, and many stakeholders in the Australian climate movement.

Findings from the project will help identify movement wide interventions that have the potential to increase movement capacity, coordination and effectiveness.

The mapping process will involve an extensive data collecting exercise and analysis process to help the movement maximise strengths and resources, minimise duplication, and identify gaps for groups, funders and supporters to address.

Movement Monitor is made possible by funding from the Sunrise Project and Boundless Earth.

The project is coordinated by Holly Hammond (Commons Library Director), Dr Robyn Gulliver (Research Lead) and Sophie Hartley (Researcher).

Outputs

- Annual Movement Impact Scorecard
- Movement Monitor website with an interactive map of groups and campaigns and a searchable campaign database
- Open source movement monitoring methodology for use in other movements and countries

“

Climate change is a complex problem which requires sophisticated collective responses. It is imperative that the climate movement learns from experience and is able to iterate on the basis of what creates the best impact.

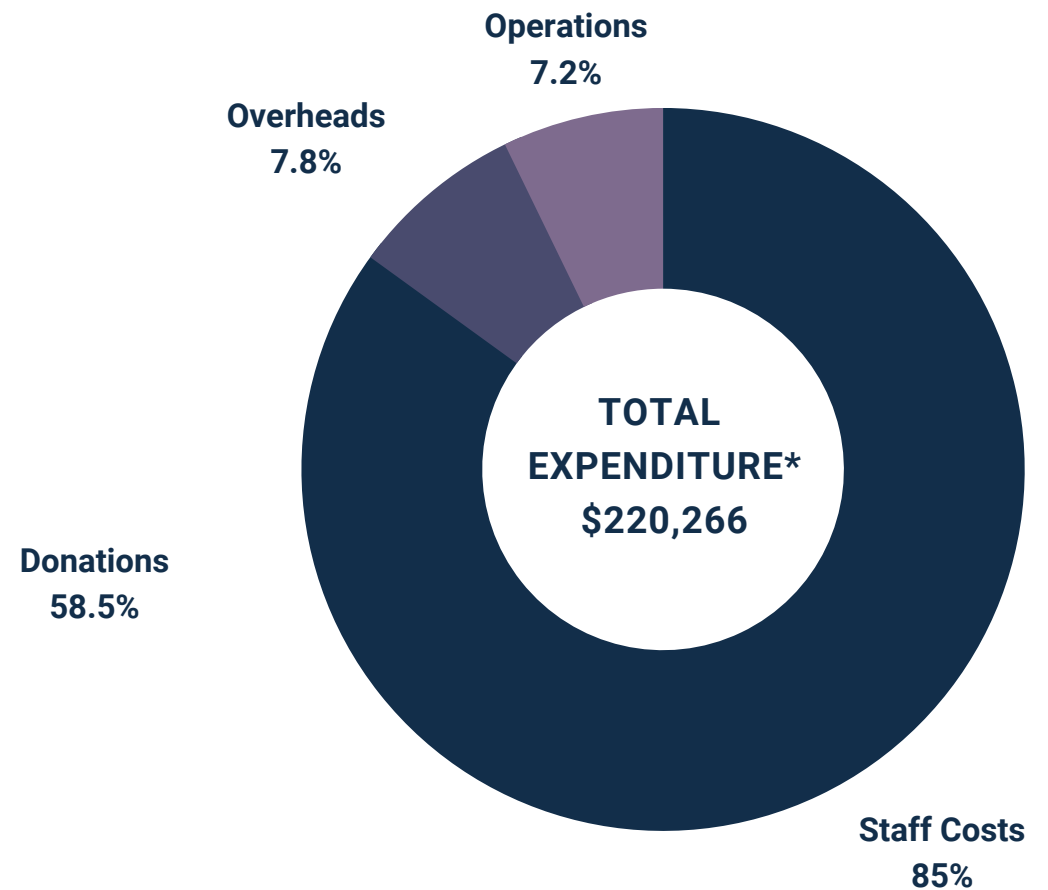
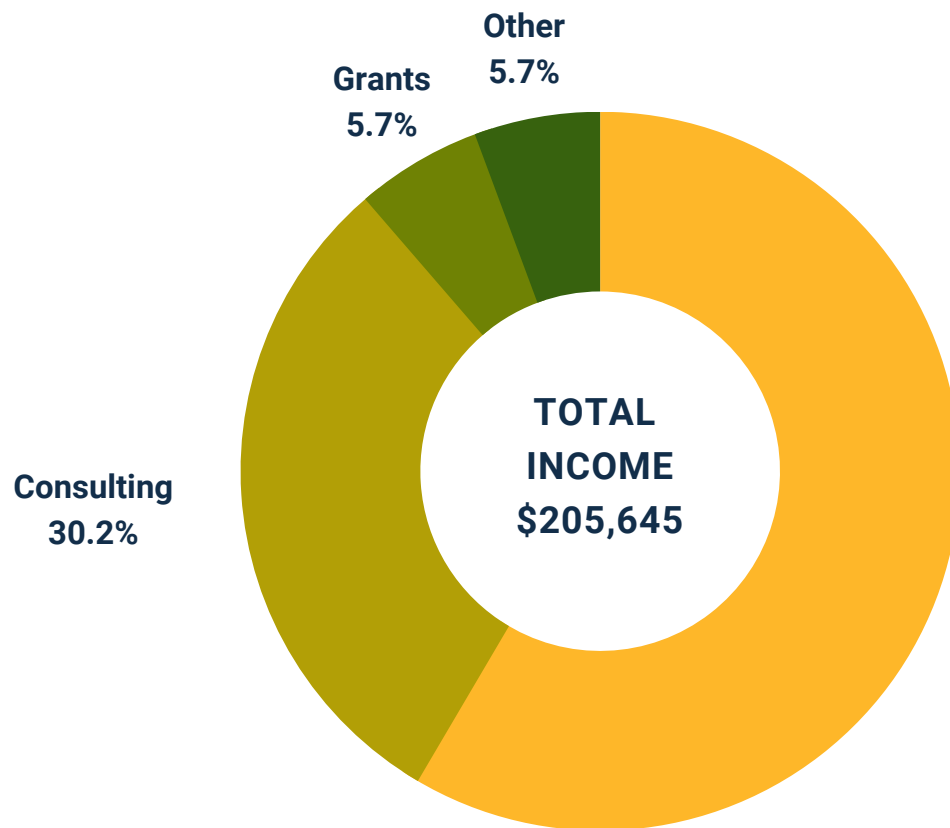


Robyn Gulliver

Movement Monitor Research Lead

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR



* Non-cash items such as depreciation are not included in this figure.



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