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Be the Change

Whitelion
Annual Report 2005-06



WHITELION

Our Vision

To reconnect disadvantaged young people with the community so they are living positive and meaningful lives.

Our Mission

To inspire and empower disconnected young people by providing positive relationships and life-changing opportunities while supporting their progress toward life goals.

Our Values

Be Committed: We are accountable to, and are passionate about going 'that extra mile' for our young people, our partners and our communities.

Be Real: We approach each task and problem positively by being responsive to individual needs.

Be Collaborative: We work interdependently and value the importance of encouraging and supporting each other, our young people and our stakeholders.

Be Compassionate: We believe in people and treat others with respect, empathy and without judgment.

Be Courageous: We stand strong as role models to our young people, our partners, stakeholders and the community, willing to reflect on and learn from our work.

Be Innovative: We are creative in trying new approaches in our work with our young people and the way we involve our community.

Be Efficient: We maximise each resource while seeking sustainability and growth within the organisation.

Be Professional: We operate in a proficient manner demonstrating integrity, sound organisation and diligence.



Chairman's Report

As this has been my first year as Chairman of the Whitelion board, I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to Whitelion young people, my fellow board members and Whitelion staff and volunteers for their warm welcome and support.

Reconnecting disadvantaged young people with the community is the essence of Whitelion's work; inspiring with role models, employment through great businesses, mentoring with inspirational volunteers, supporting with specialist staff and developing with the investments made by government, donors, foundations and businesses. Whitelion is an organisation that builds on people's strengths to change lives of young people in or near the statutory system. By providing positive relationships and life-changing experiences Whitelion aims to inspire and empower disadvantaged young people. As you read through this report you will encounter some great examples of such work.

The young people we work with are facing challenges that most of us don't ever have to contemplate. Some have had lives that most of us wouldn't be able to imagine. Yet they still manage to laugh and learn. Sure, they do fall down every so often on their road to improving their lives, but most, with some support and the slightest hint of encouragement, are willing to get back on their feet and keep going.

More amazingly, while doing this, these young people want to help others, not just themselves. The Whitelion Young Lions Program began because Whitelion young people wanted to be the change in the lives of their peers and the community. They use their

experiences as a foundation to act as role models for other young people within Whitelion programs; others who just need that bit of support or hint of encouragement. These 'Young Lions' are now aware of the difference that it could make.

The Whitelion staff, led by the incredibly dedicated Mark Watt, demonstrates a high level of commitment to the organisation and the young people. The willingness to go that 'extra mile' is a key part of their behaviour and actions.

In moving forward, Whitelion is courageous about how it reflects upon its past and determines the path for its future. I look forward to travelling this path too.

Edward Goff

Board Members

Edward Goff (Chairman)

Glenn Manton (President)

Mark Watt (Chief Executive Officer)

George Dakis

Peter Francis OAM

Diana Batzias

Grant Downie

Leticia Delmenico

Mary Morton

Peter McNeil

Robyn Miller

John Turner

Ambassadors

Jennifer Coate, County Court Judge

Andrew Demetriou, AFL CEO

Dr. Rob Moodie, VicHealth CEO

George Valarmos OAM, Former Whitelion Chairman & Stockbroker

Peter Wilson, Spotless MD

Tim Watson, Media Personality & ex AFL Footballer

Don Wing, MLC Tasmania Parliament

The young people we work with are facing challenges that most of us don't ever have to contemplate.



President's Report

Most Melbournites have a portion, however small, of their heart open to AFL football. With that in mind I make mention of what became, for some, a controversial article that I was quoted within that referenced two longtime AFL coaches in Sheedy and Pagan.

The 'guts' of the article canvassed my theory that in time everyone must make change to direction or philosophy in order to successfully contribute to their business, family or in this case, sporting club. Such adjustment, in my opinion, is necessary should either the Carlton or Essendon football clubs wish to return to their former mantle(s) of league benchmark.

Like any newspaper article the story that ran in Melbourne's Herald Sun was, not surprisingly, a blend of fact and journalistic license. I have no problem with the article to this day or the reaction it provoked.

I am however disappointed that a relevant and balancing omission was made in the form of reference to my own career and that in time I would resign as President of Whitelion to allow a new wave of thinking to roll through to benefit more young people in different ways over coming years.

Thus it was on the 1st of December 2006 some eight years since I first worked with young offenders in the Juvenile Justice System that I resigned as President of Whitelion.

My resignation allows all parties concerned to work that little bit harder and smarter, in order to move forward; for I feel that Whitelion is in a strong position to do so. I am not saying goodbye as I will remain a Whitelion board member at this time and forever the co-founder of Whitelion. I will however say thank you for all the support that you have afforded Whitelion and its staff throughout the year and hope that you can continue to contribute to the success of Whitelion in 2007 and beyond.

Glenn's Highlights whilst President of Whitelion

- The positive changes in the lives of so many disadvantaged young people in Victoria and Tasmania.
- Whitelion's ability to work with a diverse range of partners from government to community groups.
- The development of such a large, dedicated and skilled staffing team, considering that Whitelion began with little more than the mind space of two people.
- The Whitelion Bailout 2006 and the way it showcased innovation, teamwork and outcomes.
- The Footy Finals Luncheon becoming a recognised part of the AFL calendar.
- The constant influx of those individuals who are willing to offer skills towards a group cause for a community effect... Whitelion's volunteers are to be celebrated above all else.

Glenn Manton

The Whitelion Bailout 2006 and the way it showcased innovation, teamwork and outcomes.



CEO's Report

Whitelion provides our community's most disadvantaged young people with some of simple necessities of life... like a good friendship with a positive adult... a job with a supportive employer and memorable moments and activities.

Whitelion, both through its program work and as an organisation, inspires and strengthens young people. As Whitelion looks toward its 10th year it is fulfilling its mission to inspire and empower disconnected young people by providing positive relationships and life-changing opportunities while supporting their progress toward life goals. The current strategic plan highlights five focus areas which all support the transition of taking the organisation to that next level.

- Whitelion will continue to strengthen existing programs and stay true to our values of being committed, real, collaborative, compassionate, courageous, innovative, efficient and professional.
- Whitelion's evaluation program is being further developed to demonstrate to our staff, partners and investors the outcomes of our work with young people.
- Building the organisation's profile beyond the existing 'circle of friends' is imperative, if Whitelion is to move forward as envisioned and be able to assist more young people in or near the statutory system.
- And, finally, securing long term funding from investors to ensure our organisation and programs continue to deliver life-changing positive outcomes for young people.

Nothing could be achieved at Whitelion without the amazing support and inspiration provided by our volunteers, employers and staff – this group of dedicated people is the heart and soul of Whitelion.

Together with our partners and supporters who are an integral part of our work, we can make a difference and bring "hope" to many young people.

The individuals that become involved are inspiring and encourage us in the work we do, they have a real desire to help Whitelion work to build a safer and more inclusive community. One such business is Metlink, our major sponsor. Metlink CEO and staff have embraced our organisation and are always looking for more ways they can support us.

Our many other supporting businesses, those employing our young people, like KFC, or helping to provide us with mentors, like ANZ, are invaluable. Their efforts of collaboration and dedication are essential to the success of our young people.

I would like to thank the Board, especially our Chairman, Edward Goff, for their fantastic support. I'd also like to extend my thanks to our Ambassadors Jennifer Coate, Andrew Demetriou, Dr. Rob Moodie, George Valarmos OAM, Peter Wilson, Tim Watson and Don Wing. And finally, I'd like to thank all the wonderful staff that work at Whitelion.

I would encourage those of you who see the potential in disadvantaged young people, to think about what changes need to happen and to take the first step toward being that change. Come and visit Whitelion and see the changes we are hoping to make in our community.

Mark Watt

I would encourage those of you who see the potential in disadvantaged young people to think about what changes need to happen and to take the first step toward being that change.

ROAR Program

ROAR is Whitelion's early intervention program coordinated by two Olympians; Jo Fox (2000 Olympic gold medallist & 2004 Olympian in water polo) & Lisa O'Keefe (2000 Olympian in Taekwondo.) The program works with young people throughout rural & metropolitan Victoria & Tasmania, usually between the ages of 10 and 15 years.

In Victoria, the ROAR Program works in the metropolitan Melbourne, Greater Geelong, Mildura, Shepparton, Latrobe Valley and Gippsland regions.

The role models in the ROAR program spend quality time with at-risk young people and demonstrate that certain life skills are essential to achieve. The fundamental key to the ROAR program is teaching young people that the choices they make leads to the life they will live.

Role models are trained in the following topics;

- Conflict resolution
- Blame versus responsibility
- The importance of self-talk in regards to self and others
- Acceptance versus judgment
- Creating our reality
- Values
- Goal Setting
- Making Positive Choices
- Courage to overcome and achieve
- Tolerance/kindness
- Team work/relationships
- Self worth

The role models come from varying fields of expertise including athletics, music, art, skateboarding and dancing.

"If you do what you have always done, then you will get what you have always gotten."

Victoria

Program Statistics	2005-06
Young people engaged	8000
Schools visited	26
Community	34
Role models trained	25+

Tasmania

Program Statistics	2005-06
Young people engaged	3300
Schools & Community Groups Visited	26
Role Model Visits	23

Case Study:

Year 10 student, Rob came to the ROAR session with a low level of self belief and worth. He was continually being bullied and his social and communication skills were low. This was also seen in the ROAR session with continual bullying going on throughout the session.

This was raised in an indirect way and the 'bullies' actually realized what they were doing and were confronted with their own issues and 'why people bully'.

At the end of the session and throughout the rest of the day Rob hung out with ROAR facilitators, with a feeling of self worth and empowerment to go forward and set goals. Rob thanked the role models for bringing this issue to light.

Case Study:

Dean has been involved with Whitelion for some time. During the early months of 2006, he was placed into supported full-time employment, but found this particularly hard, as he was working really hard to change all aspects of his life, to fit with the job that he was very proud of.

During a role model visit to his local area to which he was invited, but unable to attend due to work commitments, he voiced his concern at his ability to juggle all aspects of his life. An arrangement was made for him to meet with the role model as part of a small group after work. The role model shared his own life story, including setting and reaching goals, and overcoming obstacles. During this discussion, Dean was encouraged to set goals, and strive to achieve them.

Dean still talks about this, and the impact it has made on his life. While he had to drop some of the balls that he was juggling, he sees this as a positive experience, and is working towards picking them up again, one by one, as he is able to cope with the extra load.

Acknowledgements:

The ROAR Program wishes to thank the following people for their support:

Victoria

- Carol Fox, Life Performance
- Chris Shine, Red Rock Leisure
- Travelodge Southbank
- Department of Human Services
- Bannelong Foundation

Tasmania

- The Education Department
- Family and Community Services
- The Rotary Club of South Launceston

During the 2005-2006 year, the ROAR program has been an integral part of both Drug Action Week and The Values Forum, which ran in Tasmanian schools during term 3 of 2005. It has also been great to involve role models in the school holiday events at Ashley Youth Detention Centre. The increase in requests for role models is encouraging, as schools become more aware of the program and its purpose.

"One role model pointed out to me that if you get up one hour earlier everyday you will find another week in your year!"

– Jo, Program Coordinator

"I learnt a lot yesterday. You taught me a lot. You gave us great advice. Next time I wish we could do a few more activities."

– Grade 6 boy, Mossgiel Park Primary School

"Today was so cool... and I think it was great and I took in most of it. I think it was good because it filled in time and I forgot my negatives today so I didn't get in trouble."

– Year 8 Girl, Secondary College

"They were really funny and they gave us tips on things. I think they are good role models."

– Grade 6 Girl, Mossgiel Park Primary School

Sports Role Model Program

The Whitelion Sports Role Model Program takes athletes into Victoria's three Juvenile Justice Centres. The role models establish positive relationships with young people and encourage participation in healthy activities leading by example.

The role models build a rapport and gain the trust of young people through group activities. This positive relationship allows them to prompt young people to make more positive decisions and challenge them to 'be the change' in their own lives.

This program is dependent on the availability of sporting role models due to club commitments. At the end of 2005, a few sports role models left to pursue new careers in regional Victoria and interstate.

We said goodbye and thanks to the following...

**Melanie Jones
Digby Morrell
Sean O'Keefe
Sam Hunt
Ben Haynes
Jordan Doering**

We said hello to...

Professional Softballer, **Vanessa Stokes** who has recently been training in Canberra at the AIS, has joined the Whitelion team. Vanessa is becoming a familiar face down at Parkville Youth Residential Centre.

From North Melbourne FC we have **Djaran Whyman** – currently injured but keen to get back on to the field – and **Joel Perry** – becoming a regular inclusion in the senior team this season. They have become regular faces in MJJC and Malmsbury and Djaran also visits PYRC.

Eddie Betts is the lively small forward who became a crowd favourite with Carlton fans for his productive work around the goals and is a member of the senior squad. Eddie has been visiting PYRC connecting well with their indigenous and Non-Indigenous young men. Accompanying Eddie to PYRC is Melbourne Football Club's newest young forward, **Lynden Dunn**, who has impressed the selectors in his first few senior games this year. Lynden is also a regular visiting the boys in MJJC's remand unit.

After some time off, Hawk's midfielder, **Ben Kane** has demonstrated he is again in full fitness and back in the senior squad. When Ben is not kicking the football he is playing table-tennis or Playstation with the boys at MJJC

These fantastic new sports role models join ex basketballer and Whitelion's own **Allie Douglas** in what is a great team for the Whitelion Sports Role Model Program.

The mix of skills and backgrounds of the new role models is helping to engage the mix of young people in custody. The new role models have been highly visible and their impact is starting to be noticed by the staff on the centres

Highlights

- **KFC CUP:** The third annual KFC Cup was held at MJJC on the 24th of November. The games challenge included Table Tennis, Mini Golf, Jenga, Uno, a blow up obstacle course, cards and Guess Who. Whilst the KFC/Whitelion team challenged hard the boys won for the third time but the scores were the closest on record.
- **PYRC BMX Track opening:** Whitelion and AbiGroup (now known as Bilfinger Berger), constructed a BMX within the grounds of PYRC. On the 18th of November it was officially opened. Special guest, Tony Harvey, an Australian and International professional BMX rider rode the track and gave it the 'thumbs up'.
- **Metlink poster design:** Whitelion and Metlink launched a poster competition for young people within custodial centres to promote fare evasion. Cartoonist Adrian Osborne discussed ideas and designs. The chosen posters were won by MJJC and printed in 2006.
- **Sports Health Check:** After the official launch by **Minister for Sport and Recreation Justin Madden** at Whitelion, **Sports Health Check** and Whitelion tailored a Certificate I and II Fitness course. It commenced in February 2006 and qualified trainers and Essendon footballer, Dean Rioli delivered a twelve session program to encourage and educate the young people.

- **Brain Strain 2006: Loreto Mandeville** school teachers and Whitelion joined with MJJC to truly test the power of the brain. Glenn Manton was our quiz master and ruled with an iron microphone.

The following is a list of activities role models were involved with over a typical month: Attending DEET and TAFE with the young people, computer games, weights, basketball, shopping, walking, planting herbs, attending court, playing X-box, table tennis, football, partaking in meals, quiet one to one talks, music programs, guitar lessons and Playstation.

Case Study

An Aboriginal young man named Alex was serving a custodial sentence and was fairly quiet and reserved. Whilst on sentence a close family member committed suicide and Alex was greatly affected. Unable to attend the funeral, and not having friends or family visiting him because of the long distance between Melbourne and the rural township he came from, Alex became very depressed and disengaged. Two Whitelion Role Models visited his unit, including one who was Aboriginal himself. There was an instant connection and Alex smiled for the first time in a long time. They found out they new some common people and Alex started feeling much less isolated and far from home. Our role model made a point of visiting him twice a week and talking as they played table tennis or kicking the football. Alex gradually began feeling better and started getting involved in programs.

Acknowledgements

- DHS
- Staff and clients at MJJC, PYRC and Malmsbury
- AFL
- Telstra Dome
- MCC
- AFL Sports Ready
- Chisholm Institute
- Sports Health Check
- The Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund



Sports role model visits	July – December	January – June	Total
Centre Based Visits			
Parkville Youth Residential Centre	111	91	202
Melbourne Juvenile Justice Centre	93	62	155
Malmsbury Youth Training Centre	10	21	31
Centre Based Visits	214	167	381
One to one contacts	86	37	123

Young Women's Support Service

The Young Women's Support Service (formerly known as Purple Room) provides specialist support, outreach and peer education programs for young women who are most at risk.

The target group for this program is young women aged 14-25 who are clients or ex-clients of the Juvenile Justice System at Parkville Youth Residential Centre (PYRC). The Young Women's Support Services (YWSS) aims to support and empower young women to enable them to make positive life choices in building fulfilling lives in the community.

The Purple Room Service was the original name for the program; however with an ever changing group of clients, we wanted to reflect the function of the program within a simple, self-explanatory title.

Outreach Program

YWSS Outreach Program provides flexible, holistic and personalised support to young women during the difficult transition from custody in the Juvenile Justice System back into the broader community.

Outreach support in the community is primarily offered to young women who live in the northern and western regions of metropolitan Melbourne. Maintaining a best practice approach for young women is achieved through a collaborative arrangement with regional and community case workers and other program resources.

During this financial year, the Outreach support worker assessed 31 young women eligible for ongoing support. 23 young women required direct outreach case work, on-going 1:1 support, home visits, referrals, supportive counselling.

YWSS Outreach also supports young women in other programs, such as HOPE and Drama program, Liminal Lines, that provide opportunities for them to express themselves and tell their personal story.

HOPE Peer Education Program

The HOPE (Helping Open People's Eyes) Peer Education Program provides scope for young women to explore and present their personal stories through a variety of media. HOPE programs create a safe, supportive environment, that encourages the development of new skills in music, digital story-telling and spoken word.

Several HOPE workshops have been held over 2005-06. Music programs facilitated by **Tania Doko** have been popular and young women have learned singing, writing and recording skills.

Digital story-telling workshops develop skills in media production. Digital story-telling workshops have been held for young women in the community as well as in PYRC over the last twelve months, producing some very powerful and moving short films.

Spoken word workshops provide young women with the skills and confidence to speak in front of live audiences and to present themselves in an engaging manner. All HOPE workshops engage young women in a creative learning process to learn about themselves and what they are capable of and develop confidence, self-esteem and a sense of belonging.

Two HOPE camps took place this year; each camp focused on self development, peer support and education. HOPE camps are both fun and challenging for participants, many of whom have attended more than one camp. Camps were held at the Edmund Rice Amberley Centre in Eltham and the Underbank Stud in Bacchus Marsh.

HOPE aims to remain relevant and meaningful to its target group by involving young women in the planning and facilitating of programs. Young women have the opportunity to be part of a Steering Committee for the YWSS and several have been employed as sessional workers throughout the year.

Highlights of the year

- Liminal Lines performances at the **University of Melbourne**, involving young women in custody and the community. In December 2005 the performance 'Judgement Day', gave the audience a glimpse into the use and abuse of power through young women's eyes. In June 2006 the Liminal Lines group performed 'Flying High', an exploration of young women's struggles and strengths through narrative and song.
- After six years and the involvement of many young women, we have finally completed our mosaic birdbath. We welcomed the lovely piece of practical artwork into the Whitelion courtyard with an official opening. A plaque placed in front of the birdbath indicated that it was dedicated to the young women in PYRC from all the young women who participated in constructing it. Thanks to **Acme Platemaking Services** for donating this plaque.

- Outreach school holiday workshops in PYRC, included juggling and making juggling balls and hula hooping. Thanks to the staff at PYRC for encouraging the young women's participation with such enthusiasm.

- The first digital story-telling workshop held in PYRC was a great success and has set a precedent for other workshops to follow for young women in custody.

- YWSS has established a Reference Group meeting including relevant services in the community so we can share information on current issues in the sector.

Acknowledgements

We wish to acknowledge all the fantastic work done by Lisa O'Keefe (our previous coordinator) who has moved onto the ROAR program and Monika Prasad who was our first Youth Consultant. We welcome Amber Griffiths as our new Coordinator and Kristie Togni, our Youth Consultant.

- Ian Potter Foundation
- MAD Foundation
- Victorian Women's Trust
- The Invergowrie Foundation
- GLUCK Forwarding Systems
- Hawker De Havilland
- The Old Bastards
- The Foundation for Young Australians
- The Body Shop
- Edmund Rice
- Acme Platemaking Services
- All the young women who are involved in our programs
- The Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund

'Did you learn anything from this camp, if so what? – to be me, because people do love/like me'

- Amy, 18

'I really challenged myself because I was very scared but now I ain't scared. I've learnt to have fun and believe in myself'

- Megan, 21



Type of Support	Number of young women
Outreach support	23
HOPE Peer Education Program	18
Liminal Lines Drama Program – Community	17
Liminal Lines Drama Program – Custody	24

Whitelion Mentoring Programs

Victoria

Whitelion provides a diverse range of mentoring programs for young people involved with the Child Protection and Juvenile Justice Systems.

The Custodial Juvenile Justice and Northern Juvenile Justice mentoring programs focus on young people involved with or at risk of involvement with the Juvenile Justice System.

The Leaving Care mentoring and RAMP programs are focused on young people who are in or leaving the Out-of-Home care system. Young people enter the system through no fault of their own and have often experienced abuse and neglect.

Recruitment strategies for mentors this year included local paper articles, visits to corporate partners, business breakfasts, collaborating with Pacific Islander communities and linking into Whitelion's existing networks.

There were eight Orientation and Essentials recruitment trainings held this financial year for metropolitan programs. There are currently 169 accredited mentors across the metropolitan mentoring programs.

One-to-one mentoring and RAMP each held nine Mentor Matters training sessions covering a range of topics including relationship building with young people, young people and mentors talking about their experiences, abuse prevention, empowerment of young people and dealing with challenging behaviour. A Christmas party was held in December 2005 and a 'thank you' dinner in June 2006 for all Victorian mentoring programs.

Young people and their mentors had the opportunity to participate in eleven group activities in 2006-7 including two Youth Muster Camps and recreation activities such as bowling, surfing, sailing and go-karting.

The mentoring team piloted a new evaluation framework developed by Whitelion in partnership with **Social Ventures Australia**. Benefits of being involved in mentoring, as noted by the young people, included having someone to have fun with, higher self esteem, assistance in finding employment and a reduction in self-harming due to feeling connected to someone.

The next financial year will see the team continuing to grow and strengthen. We will consolidate mentoring systems and practices and offer further coordination of programs. The implementation of the evaluation system will be a key focus for the team in 06-07.

Juvenile Justice Mentoring

Whitelion offers two Victorian mentoring programs for young people involved in the Juvenile Justice System. Involvement in a mentoring relationship can reduce isolation, increase self esteem, improve community and family connectedness and foster active engagement in pro-social activities. These linkages can help prevent young people from further, and more serious, involvement with the Juvenile Justice System and provide increased vocational, recreational and educational opportunities.

Juvenile Justice – Custodial

Young people in Juvenile Justice Centres are disconnected from the community and society as a whole, so they really enjoy when Whitelion mentors come into the centres once a week.

'Indigo Nights' for the women in Parkville and Games Nights in MJJC are an opportunity to establish positive relationships in custody with the view that some of these relationships will result in a mentoring match and continue in the community. The program currently supports 19 matches. 2006-7 will see the program establish stronger links with Malmsbury Youth Training Centre and further develop Games Nights at MJJC to boost the involvement of male mentors, include female mentors and facilitate non sporting activities.

Nick Ford departed the program in June 2006 after 18 months as the coordinator and was replaced by Glenn Broome.

Northern Juvenile Justice Mentoring Program

Whitelion's Northern Juvenile Justice Mentoring Program provides positive adult mentors to young people aged 12-25 years from Melbourne's northern region who are on Juvenile Justice community based orders, at risk of offending and/ or in transition back into the community from the Juvenile Justice Centres. The program receives funding from the Commonwealth Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

The program provides one-on-one mentoring and group activities for this highly diverse group which is currently made up of 10% Indigenous and 15% Pacific Islander young people. In response to this diversity 2005-6 saw the development of several initiatives to enable young people from these groups to have contact with culturally appropriate mentors and role models.

Collaboration with Indigenous and Pacific Islander groups has meant that these young people not only have the opportunity to access positive relationships with individual mentors, but to begin to explore cultural elements that they may not have had access to in the past. 2006-7 will see the continued engagement of this diverse group through partnership initiatives with communities in the Northern Region.

Case Study

James, 15 years, was nominated to the Northern Juvenile Justice Mentoring Program in December 2005. His brother had been involved with both child protection and juvenile justice for several years, James dropped out of school and was showing signs of following in his brother's footsteps. James was introduced to Frank in January 2006 and despite a rocky start the mentor remained committed and the pair have since enjoyed going to footy games. James now shares Frank's interest in soccer and the World Cup. During these early months James' worker stated that the mentoring relationship was the only stable thing in James's life. More recently James has decided to enroll in a pre apprenticeship course and was last seen on his door step clutching a carpentry ruler with a huge grin on his face.

2005-2006	NJJ	Custodial
Number of nominations	53	35
Active matches	12	19
Total matches	22	51
Unmatched/pending	8	2

"I'm more outgoing. I feel like a completely different person. Even my friends say I've changed".

"Aaron is beginning to realise that there are choices in life and that he can choose to be committed to school and other goals."





Leaving Care Mentoring

Many young people leaving out-of-home care lack any connection to their community and suffer from isolation and loneliness. Often the only significant adult relationships are with paid workers and finish when they leave the care system. The Leaving Care Mentoring program works with young people from 16 years of age and aims to match the young person with a mentor from the community before they become independent. The match is actively supported by Whitelion until the relationship becomes independent.

The relationship with a volunteer mentor provides young people with a support outside of the care system and a link to a range of different opportunities including recreation activities, employment opportunities and positive new life experiences.

The Leaving Care program operates in the Metropolitan region of North West, and the rural regions of Barwon and Gippsland. It is funded by the Department of Human Services.

Leaving Care North West Metropolitan Region

In its second year the Leaving Care program has grown from strength to strength reaching its target of matches and creating positive and long lasting relationships.

Of the 23 current matches, 70% of them have been matched for six months or more. Over 25% of the matches have been active for over a year. The longest match in the program has been going for 19 months.

Matches have strengthened and developed a sense of community amongst program participants through involvement in group activities. 49 young people and 47 mentors from Leaving Care participated in the group activities this year.

40% of the young people who are in a match have since left care. These young people have identified the importance of their supportive relationship with their mentor during this transition time.

Young people in the program have attributed numerous benefits to having a mentor including an increase in self esteem, feeling cared for, increased awareness of opportunities and how to access them, increased self care, a reduction in self harm and negative behaviour and having ongoing support beyond leaving the care system.

In the next financial year the program will develop tools and protocols to best meet the needs of young people leaving care. The program is also participating in a State Government reference group to develop a model for young people leaving care, as part of the new Children, Youth & Families Act 2005.

Leaving Care Barwon Region

The Leaving Care Mentoring Initiative in partnership with **MacKillop Family Services** has proved a success in the Barwon Region with Whitelion receiving 14 nominations and currently working with 12 matches. This has been possible with the help of the Whitelion Geelong Committee which help to support and advocate for the mentor program in the Barwon region.

With the help of the committee and all the wonderful mentors, the program has been able to offer such activities as rock climbing, surfing, and ten pin bowling. The Geelong Football Club helped Whitelion and ran a football clinic for young people.

Leaving Care Gippsland Region

In October 2005, in partnership with **Quantum Support Services, Berry Street Victoria** and the **Gippsland Mentoring Alliance**, Whitelion gained financial investment from DHS to start Leaving Care mentoring in the Gippsland Region.

This program has been a strong partnership with Quantum Support Services and currently has 10 young people, with 5 young people being matched to a mentor.

The program has developed a strong sense of community through regular activities and mentor peer support.

Quantum Support Services and Whitelion held a fundraising Ball on the 3rd of June 2006. The Ball raised awareness and funding for Whitelion programs in the region including mentoring and ROAR. It was a great opportunity to recruit new mentors in the region. Most of the young people in the program participated and had a wonderful night.

We thank all involved in the success of the ball including AMP.

Case Study

Sean had experienced abuse and neglect when he was young and went in to out-of-home care. At 17 years of age he had left care and returned home.

Sean was matched with his mentor Justin a year ago. When they first met, Sean played computer games most of his day and didn't leave the house. He was experiencing a lot of anger issues including punching holes in the walls at home.

Justin and Sean developed a strong rapport with each other. Justin taught Sean how to plaster the holes in the walls and over the year Sean has become more able to control his anger.

Justin invited Sean to come to work with him at his labouring job a couple of times. Sean was inspired by this experience and wanted to find employment. Justin supported Sean to access the Whitelion Employment Program. He has now gained a labouring position and is very excited about starting work.

Acknowledgements

- Metlink
- The Old Bastards
- Lisa Lipshut
- Chris Shine
- KoKo Black
- Quantum Support Services
- MacKillop Family Services
- The Whitelion Geelong Committee
- Geelong Football Club
- Luna Park
- Portland House
- Department of Human Services
- Andy Incorporated
- Alcohol Education & Rehabilitation Foundation
- AMP

RAMP

The RAMP program is a 'personal development and mentoring' program specifically for young people aged 13-18 years, residing in residential care facilities in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne. RAMP draws on the strengths of the two partner organisations; Whitelion's wealth of experience in mentoring and The Reach Foundation's expertise in engaging and impacting on young people through positive experiential workshops and camps. Funded by the **Department of Human Services**, RAMP works closely with the **Eastern Region DHS Child Protection** and **Eastern Region Community Services Organisations: Wesley Youth Services, EastCare Salvation Army, WEAC and CARA**.

The RAMP model involves all aspects of the young persons community – units, carers, workers, and peers – in the program, creating opportunities for the young people to; interact in different and positive ways with members of their community; see the members of their community in a new light; and step outside the "ordinary world" of that community, through workshops, camps, and a long term relationship with a mentor.

2005-06	Leaving Care North West	Leaving Care Barwon	Leaving Care Gippsland
Nominations	45	15	10
Active matches	25	12	5
Total matches	31	14	5

There are three main components to the program. Lead mentors visit nominated residential care facilities to engage the young people and staff in the program and to facilitate visits to the units by potential mentors. RAMP also provides experiential workshops and camps which work to create a positive and supportive environment for young people to develop a sense of self, and facilitate relationships with potential mentors. The ongoing nature of the workshops serves to build a strong network (young people, mentors, RAMP staff) to which they feel they belong. Finally mentor matches, where recruited, trained and assessed mentors are supported to interact with a young person in a one on one relationship for a minimum 12 month period.

During this financial year, 57 young people, 83 agency and child protection staff and 44 mentors (from an initial 94 who applied and/or attended an Orientation Workshop), have participated in the program, as well as Whitelion and Reach staff. The program has run 2 camps and 7 experiential workshops. Weekly visits to Residential Care Facilities including facilitated visits by mentors to establish and maintain matches have taken place as well as other community activities such as bowling days, movie nights and dinners for small groups of young people and mentors.

Case Study

Jay has been connecting with his lead mentor since May 2005 and has attended 5 workshops and 2 camps. When Jay joined the program he was a heavy substance user, was highly aggressive with his workers, absconding regularly and considered a high risk to himself and others. In recent meetings with his workers it was acknowledged that Jay is now doing better across the board. His substance use is significantly reduced, he accesses placement more regularly than he ever has and his whereabouts are known at most times, his relationships with his workers have improved and he has been actively trying to find employment. Jay's workers emphatically stated that the RAMP program was a significant factor in getting him settled and on a better track. They noted the significant changes in attitude and behaviours to Jay's attendance occurring at the time of the first RAMP Camp and feel that the improvements have been sustained by his ongoing committed relationship with his mentor.

RAMP	2005-2006
Number of nominations	43
Active matches	26
Total matches	26
Unmatched/ pending	4

Tasmania

The Tasmanian Mentoring Program continues to empower young people to reach their goals. The Mentoring Program involves trained volunteer mentors, who are committed to regularly spending time with a young person. The mentors work with them to help them make positive choices to link with family, school and community.

The Mentoring Program allows young people to experience being part of a safe relationship, with someone who is not paid to be involved in their life. The program helps to develop self-esteem, values and important social skills. The Mentoring Program has been fortunate to have a dedicated group of volunteers showing enormous dedication to their matched young people. Such volunteers are willing to be the change in another person's life.

Early in 2006, Whitelion Tasmania was saddened by the sudden death of Rod McCulloch. Rod had been involved with Whitelion for a number of years now and was an original member of the Ashley Volunteer Program. In memory of Rod, Whitelion Tasmania developed an award to be presented each year to volunteers who show outstanding service and dedication to the organisation.

During National Volunteers Week, an event was held to formally recognise the time, energy and commitment the mentors in this program have shown to the young people. At this same event, Whitelion Tasmania, together with Glenys and Michelle McCulloch, presented the inaugural **Rod McCulloch Memorial Award** to recipients **Stuart Bucknell** and **Glenn Duncan**. All volunteers were significantly thanked and presented with certificates.

A successful Volunteers Recruitment Drive was held at the **Country Club Villas** on 29th June, and attended by 28 community minded people. Approximately 16 people have expressed interest in becoming involved in the mentoring program.

Despite some young people being a challenge to both mentors and staff and several matches requiring high level support, overall, it continues to be rewarding for everyone involved to see the growth and positive development of young people.

Case Study

Rebecca, a 13 year old girl living with her parents and siblings was referred to Whitelion at a time when she was almost always absent from school and was offending regularly. In January 2006, Rebecca was matched with volunteer mentor, Kylie. Kylie is a well-educated, young and energetic business woman. Kylie is conscientious in spending time with Rebecca and ensuring that the time is both positive and fun. Kylie has assisted Rebecca with life skills, including basic personal hygiene, healthy diet options and exercise, and noticed a marked improvement in this area. Her mentor also encourages Rebecca to attend school and notes that attendance has improved. Kylie encourages Rebecca to keep a journal of the activities and time they spend together, which helps to improve her literacy skills while giving a sense of achievement. To date, there have been no new charges made against Rebecca – which combined with the other positive changes in her young life, show that this relationship is both an important and positive one.

Tasmania	2005-06
YP matched to Mentors	10
YP exiting program	6

Acknowledgement

The Tasmanian Mentoring Program wishes to thank the following people for their support;

- Comalco
- Westpac Foundation
- Donna James
- Kerri Gay
- Jodi Campbell
- Brian Green
- James "Hook"
- Mick Gunton
- Glenn Duncan
- Stuart Bucknell
- Robert Sherriff
- Sam Whybrow
- Heather Cashion
- Wayne Kata
- Janie Finlay
- The McCulloch Family
- Bruce Stevenson

"A mentor offers help and guidance, but is also prepared to learn from their partner."

"A mentor is flexible, humorous, caring, reliable."

New Mentoring Initiatives

In the 2006-07 financial year, Whitelion will be beginning two new programs in Victoria to better assist the young people we work with from different cultural backgrounds.

Bundji Bundji

Bundji Bundji is a partnership between Maya Living Free Healing Association, Narana Aboriginal Cultural Centre and Whitelion.

The main objective of the Bundji Bundji Partnership is to make available an outreach support service for Indigenous young people who are involved in the Juvenile Justice System.

Bundji Bundji works to empower Indigenous young people by providing culturally appropriate support and advocacy and facilitating a sense of identity through spiritual, cultural and community reconnection.

Ansaar Mentoring Pilot

The aim of the pilot project is for Whitelion to trial a number of approaches, with national applicability, to mentoring Muslim young people in a culturally and religiously appropriate manner. The pilot will work in partnership with the Muslim Community to scope appropriate models of mentoring.

The pilot will engage the Muslim community around the concept of mentoring, by training Muslim mentors.

The young people targeted in this program are from Islamic backgrounds, identify themselves as Muslim and attend a school in the northern suburbs of Melbourne, or are involved in the Juvenile Justice or Out-of-Home Care Systems.

Dynamic Living Program

The Dynamic Living Program provides young people in care with positive role modelling and life experiences. In its fourth year, the program continues to be a success in the lives of the young people from **MacKillop Youth Services** and **RICE Education and Youth Services**, two programs run by MacKillop Family Services. Young people have been connected to the program from anywhere between 6 weeks and 3 years. There were a total of fifteen young people in the program for the past year, with involvement tending to last longer, therefore decreasing the total number of participants over the year. This is a positive for the program because it indicates that young people are connecting well with the program, but more importantly are maintaining this connection.

Activities have included attending events such as the Melbourne Formula One Grand Prix and World Championship Gymnastics, attending local educational attractions such as the RAAF museum, Aquarium and Scienceworks, as well as participating in activities such as golf, tennis, bowling, bike riding, roller blading, skate boarding and attending a gym.

Case Study

Michelle was first referred to the Dynamic Living Program by St. Vincent's school. After spending some time getting to know one another, going for lunch or shopping, the role model and Michelle identified her interests. This led them to getting her involved in volunteer work at a nursing home near the school. Michelle was involved in the volunteering for a period of approximately six months.

To achieve Michelle's physical goals, they went regularly to the gym together and worked on a fitness program. Work with Michelle has continued from her initial referral from St. Vincent's school, to now working with her through MacKillop Youth Services (North/West). Michelle and the role model continue to the gym together regularly, and as a result her independent living skills are improving as she is now confident enough to go by herself.

MacKillop Program	Number of Young People Involved		
	03-04	04-05	05-06
MacKillop Youth Services	9	10	7
RICE Education and Youth Services	3	5	7
TOTAL	12	15	14

Ashley Group Visitation Program

The Ashley Group Visitation Program aims to inspire and empower young people on a custodial sentence in the Ashley Youth Detention Centre in Tasmania by encouraging positive relationships with volunteer members of the community.

Through fortnightly visits, the young people develop connections and friendships with the volunteers. They look forward to the visits and openly thank the volunteers. They value the time the volunteers spend with them – most make the effort to drive a 100km round trip to visit on a regular basis. The young people are often eager to come and greet us and dive into our selection of board games and activities. They will often comment on the games that are played and invite volunteers to play 're-matches' with them. Even the most intimidating young man can be engaged through some time spent playing a board game.

Within the program we aim to gauge the success of the group visits through feedback from the volunteers of how they felt the young people engaged and interacted with them. We also receive some feedback from the Youth Workers on duty through their observations of the young people and the volunteers.

The Easter Break in 2006 was the first of a new visitation program activity – a school holidays event. This is a centre-wide day event, which will now occur during each school holiday break. The Easter event incorporated an Easter egg drop to all residents, sporting activities and a spray on tattooist – the young people all very keen to have a tattoo, if only temporary. Some of our volunteers were able to attend and the young people were very appreciative of the event and the participation from volunteers. This event was followed by another successful day in the June holiday break, consisting of sporting activities, and role model Wylie J, entertaining the centre with his popular music and inspiring messages.

Case Study

Jason is a young man who has had more than one period of detention at Ashley Youth Detention Centre. During the visitation program, Jason formed a friendship with volunteer, Ian. After several months of spending time together at the fortnightly visitation sessions, Jason asked if Ian could become his mentor. The match was formalised, and Ian visits Jason regularly at the Centre. Jason is now planning for his future, and is determined that this will not involve another period of detention, and has expressed interest in referring to the Employment Program. He is keen to participate in Whitelion events.

Acknowledgements

The Ashley Group Visitation Program wishes to thank the following people for their support;

- Comalco
- The Boags Foundation
- Kerri Gay
- Jodi Campbell
- Brian Green
- James 'Hook'
- Mick Gunton
- Glenn Duncan
- Stuart Bucknell
- Robert Sherriff
- Sam Whybrow
- Heather Cashion
- Wayne Kata
- Rod McCulloch and family
- Bruce Stevenson

"I enjoy Whitelion especially while I was in Ashley... because I sort of think the world's coming down around you and then you know, people come in and play some games and stuff, and then you know it's not so bad..."

"I s'pose, you know there are some decent people out there and it makes you start thinking that there's more to life than just Ashley or jail..."

Employment

The Employment Program at Whitelion is an innovative initiative that provides young people from disadvantaged backgrounds with the skills, confidence and opportunities they need to get a job and keep it.

Through the support of over 45 Victorian and Tasmanian proactive businesses, young people slowly become accustomed to what working life is all about, receive an income and ultimately realise their full potential.

Working with young people to get employment is often a building process. This usually begins with a vocational assessment to determine a path and then build confidence gradually through work place training, resume development, interview skills, work experience, short term placements and finally an ongoing job.

Some of these fantastic supporters include:

ANZ, The AFL, The Salvation Army, Department for Victorian Communities, KFC, Australia Post, Bendigo Bank, Bilfinger Berger, BP, Bunnings, CHE, City West Water, Coles Myer, Medibank Private, Metlink, The National Trust, Parks Victoria, National Australia Bank, Lee Hecht Harrison, Bill Lang International, Salesforce, Ted's Cameras, Optus, Spotless, Synetek, TOLL, UCMS and UTi and PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Whitelion's Devonport office opened in October 2006, opening up a world of possibilities for young people on the North West Coast of Tasmania.

Whitelion's introduction to the coast has marked the employment of seven young people with a further four young people being supported with further education.

Victoria	2005-06
Number of young people in job placements	38
Total young people supported through vocational assessments, resumes, career coaching and training skill sessions	125

Devonport	2005-06
Young people referrals	24
Young people employed	7
Businesses involved	8

Launceston	2005-06
Young people referrals	60
Young people employed	7

Case Study

20 year old Max had spent some time at a Juvenile Detention Centre.

Max experienced a difficult adolescence and had not really had much practical experience of daily working life. He lacked positive role models when growing up, particularly in the area of employment and in the achievement of goals. Max started with Whitelion in the Community Job Placement (CJP) program, and worked for some time as a casual administrative assistant at the Whitelion office. This gave Max a good introduction to the employment world, not only in terms of administration skills but also in developing his interpersonal skills and reliability.

In addition to this, Max was given some training and assistance with general interview skills, to help him prepare for when the big opportunity came along and he did not have to wait long. One of Whitelion's great supporters, **UTi**, a major transport and logistics company expressed an interest in employing a young person with a 'sound logistical brain' and the match was made.

Following the first day of work, the feedback could not have been better. Max's first words were, "It's just fantastic...I love it".

The working relationship between Max and UTi is still going strong. Management have been impressed with his work ethic and his ability to fit in with the team.

Case Study

Kelly was referred to the Whitelion Employment Program during the later months of 2005. Kelly had previously had some part-time work in the hospitality industry, but with many personal issues, she was finding it very difficult to find work. Kelly was placed in employment at the **Hotel Grand Chancellor**, as a kitchen hand. A short time later, Kelly faced a family crisis, which meant that she was unable to work for some time. Several months later, the hotel re-employed her, into a kitchen hand role once again. Management and staff at the hotel have been impressed by her commitment and ability, and have discussed the possibility of her being offered an apprenticeship in September 2006. Kelly is proud to be able to support herself, and throughout illness and other personal battles, continues to strive to achieve her goal of a career in hospitality.

Acknowledgements

Victoria

- Department of Human Services
- Department for Victorian Communities
- Portland House Foundation
- Helen Macpherson Smith Trust
- KFC
- Lee Hecht Harrison
- ANZ
- Lola Fisher
- John Turner

Tasmania

- Hotel Grand Chancellor Launceston
- Scott Anthony Enterprises
- Department of Economic Development
- Community Youth Justice
- Neil Warnock
- Don Wing
- Smorgon Steel
- Bruce Stevenson
- ACL Bearing Company
- Project Hahn
- Chance on Main
- Cate Poole (JPET, Anglicare)
- Devonport City Council
- Devonport Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Somerset Rotary Club
- Lloyds North
- Circular Head Business Enterprise Centre
- Waratah-Wynyard Council
- Jeremy Rockliff
- Lynne Laycock

"I've had heaps of different experiences that I have grown from....without Whitelion and this job, I would be struggling to cope"

Young person

"This is cool...this is the highest anyone in my family has gone with school and stuff..."

Young person

"I am very proud of what we are doing and our involvement with Whitelion...the two Whitelion fellows are going quite well and are becoming entrenched into our teams with friendships and mentors winning the day. I think our team approach has been a success."

Employer

Young Lions

The Young Lions Program has been formed by young people who have been involved in Whitelion programs and have been identified as having leadership potential. The Young Lions Program aims to empower young people to set and achieve personal goals and be the change in the community through joint projects which reflect personal achievement.

The Whitelion Young Lions Program provides young people with leadership skills and opportunities to develop such skills through coordinating and facilitating activities for other young people. The Program encourages young leaders to act as positive role models for other participants as they develop self esteem, confidence and a sense of community. This program is an ideal way in which young people have a voice in Whitelion.

Since the Young Lions inception in September 2005, young people have regularly participated in meetings, undergone training and facilitated two Young Lions training camps. Young Lions have spent time getting to know each other, coming together as a group and developed goals to achieve collectively as young leaders. Training programs for Young Lions include: planning skills, team building, problem solving, setting personal goals, trust and leadership.

These new skills have been put to good use as the group organised and facilitated the Youth Muster 06, a camp for 50 young people and mentors which was held in late February. This was the first time such a large-scale camp was attempted and it was a great success, providing opportunity for growth and development for future events.

Six young people also participate in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award and are working towards achieving its requirements.

Young Lions meet fortnightly to undertake personal development workshops and to plan future activities for young people.

Young Lions are committed, enthusiastic and passionate about supporting other young people. This is evident of time well spent allowing members to get to know each other and form a group identity. Young Lions are a confident group who are prepared to try new things and work hard to achieve their goals.

The **63 General Project** is a project within the Young Lions that provides young people and mentors an opportunity to restore a 1963 EH Holden over 16 weeks in **Penfold City Holden's** Burnley workshop.

The Project was launched in June 2006 by motor racing legend **Peter Brock** who was an Ambassador for the project. Over the 16 weeks, participants, guided by Penfold Motors technicians will develop mechanical skills, become familiar with workshop environment and spend time with their mentors. The completed car will aid in promoting Whitelion at events, and other displays.

Whitelion would like to extend their sympathy to the family of Peter Brock at the passing of this exceptional individual. Peter was a great supporter of Whitelion and community initiatives in general.

Case Study

Jake is a 17 year old young man who attended the Youth Muster in February 2006. He spent the beginning of the camp isolating himself and choosing not to participate in activities. One of the Young Lions, Kate, spent quite a lot of time with Jake, discussing the camp, his interests and hobbies and generally supporting him. Kate's positive role modelling had a huge effect on Jake. He participated in the camp concert that Kate facilitated, and his musical talent stunned everyone. The support Jake received from Kate and the other young people resulted in him joining Young Lions. He has since become a regular and enthusiastic attendee, and has shown great leadership potential. Jake's involvement in the 63 General Project has seen him act as a positive role model to other young people.

Acknowledgements

The Young Lions wish to thank the following people for their support;

- The Foundation for Young Australians
- The Frank and Flora Leith Trust
- The City of Melbourne
- Metlink
- Billabong
- Genepharm
- Penfold City Holden
- Craig Illing
- Bob Dalziel
- the late Peter Brock
- Dorothy McKechnie

'I learned that without friends and teamwork you get nowhere'

Sarah, 20

'Support from others... helped me to get pumped up and passionate which caused me to give it my all'

David, 17

'I learned that more people give a shit about me than I thought'

Josie 18

'If it wasn't for you guys (Young Lions), it wouldn't look pretty. But you guys turn it all around and make everything as positive as possible'

James, 17

'You don't have to be an adult to be a leader but nor do you need to be a child to have fun'

Chris, 17

Statistics 2005-06

Activities	Number of activities	Young people directly involved	People indirectly involved
Fortnightly workshops	16	12	60
Leadership training camps	2	11	
Youth Muster	1	7	16 young people 14 mentors
63 General	4	5	

Events

From having the Minister of Sport & Recreation play table tennis in front of hundreds of guests on the eve of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games, to locking up fifty of Melbourne's highest profile business leaders in Old Melbourne Gaol, Whitelion and supporters have experienced another memorable & unique year of events!

Footy Finals Preview Luncheon – September 2005

An all-star panel of football experts including the likes of **Andrew Demetriou, Mike Sheahan, Caroline Wilson, David Parkin** and **Aaron Hamil** entertained 420 guests at the brand new MCC dining room for the 5th annual Whitelion Footy Finals Luncheon.

Co-hosted by **Craig Willis & Glenn Manton** the crowd of guests enjoyed a lively panel debate on the finals aspirations along with a review of the 2005 season.

Whitelion Business Networking Breakfasts – November 2005 & May 2006

The inaugural Whitelion Business Networking Breakfast was piloted in late 2005 and extended throughout 2006. Held at the **RACV Club**, in Bourke Street, the series is aimed at encouraging Whitelion family & friends to meet regularly, exchange contact details and network in a positive environment along with hearing from an interesting guest speaker from the business world.

We were delighted to have **Jon Michail** from **Image Group International** as our first speaker and **Shane Freeman**, Group General Manager People Capital & Breakout at **ANZ Bank** as our May presenter.

Whitelion 'Biggest Names of the Games' Breakfast – March 2006

The Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games was undoubtedly the biggest sporting event this year.

The Whitelion 'Biggest Names of the Games' Breakfast featured a panel discussion including the Minister for the Games, **Justin Madden**; Basketball legend, **Andrew Gaze**; Oarsome Foursome dual Olympic Gold Medallist, **Nick Green**; Paralympian Gold Medallist, **Tim Matthews**; five-times Squash World Champion, **Sarah Fitz-Gerald**; Table Tennis Rising Star, **Dave Zalberg**, Netball Captain **Sharelle McMahon**; and Whitelion's own Olympic Gold Medallist, **Jo Fox**.

In front of over 350 guests at the Melbourne Town Hall, the highlight of the morning was the table tennis demonstration featuring Australian team member Dave Zalberg. Dave enthralled the audience with his skills and tricks whilst thrashing Justin Madden & Andrew Gaze in a quick game.

Joy In The Park – April 2006

Despite the less-than-perfect weather, on Sunday, 30 April, an enthusiastic crowd turned up to **Luna Park** for the free concert. ARIA award winning **Anthony Callea** was the head line act and Roary, the Whitelion Mascot, even came out in the rain for the fun and moved and grooved to a few songs.

Other performers included **Kiki Courtidis**, Popstars finalist 2004, hip hop act **'Phrase'**, local rock band **'Radiodogs'**, **DJ Paulo** and Whitelion's own **Tania Doko** with her electro dance band, **Joylab**.

Metlink, Whitelion's major partner, sponsored the event and their Authorised Officers spent a few hours mingling with the crowd and handing out free giveaways, including some fun Polaroid photos.

Whitelion Bail Out – June 2006

The biggest and most successful event on the Whitelion calendar was the 2006 Whitelion Bail Out.

Our goal was a simple one. To raise in excess of \$50,000 for Whitelion during the evening by 'locking-up' 50 fundraising participant 'inmates' in the **Old City Watch House**.

The theme of the night was one cell, one phone and a minimum of \$1000 required before release.

From being photographed and fingerprinted to appearing in court, the 'inmates' experienced a thorough and interactive understanding of what the justice system is about and what it is like to be taken through the life of prisoner. This enabled participants, made up of key Melbourne business people, to step into the shoes of a young person that Whitelion works with.

The night was opened by AFL CEO & Whitelion Ambassador, **Andrew Demetriou** along with several personalities and actors, including **Kate Kendall** (Stingers) and Gold Logie winner **John Wood** (Blue Heelers) who played roles as police constables; there was no shortage of entertainment.

Glenn 'Jail Bird' Manton played his part as the scoundrel prisoner and spent the majority of his time spooking other inmates and causing the police constables no end of grief as they tried to control this misbehaving prisoner. He was last seen in solitary confinement in the Watch House padded cell!

Inmates also spent a short period of time in the cells on their mobile phones ringing family, friends and colleagues to try and raise their 'bail money' and return to freedom.

The evening ended with a cocktail party in the cell block, where **Metlink** CEO, **Bernie Carolan**, was announced as the highest individual fundraiser, raising over \$8000.

The concept was originally conceived by former Whitelion Chairman and current Ambassador, **George Varlamos**. George was delighted to announce on the night that Whitelion had raised an incredible **\$115,000**.

The Whitelion Bailout would not have been able to take place without the partnership and dedication of **The National Trust**. Whitelion also sends their sincere thanks to event sponsors **Medibank Private** and **Lee Hecht Harrison** for their continued support. Thanks to **Dramatic Projects** for their creativity and scrupulous attention to detail along with **Kate Kendall, Brian Barrow, John Wood, Arthur Bolkars, Trevor Doherty** and the rest of the actors, personalities and event volunteers that played such an important role.

Thanks also to **Vodafone, the Law Institute of Victoria, The Primary Agency, the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, Coopers, Charity Trading Press & Tim George Catering** for their involvement.

Highlights of the night can be viewed by visiting our events section on our website www.whitelion.org.au and we will look forward to a bigger and better Bail Out in 2007.

Acknowledgements:

There have been a host of other events throughout the year including the KFC Golf Day, MAD Ball, Volunteers X-Mas Party, launch of the Young Lions project, PWC Partners & Ambassadors Dinner, Cycle China, KFC Cup, Whitelion Fashion Parade along with many more.

The good will and generosity of dozens of sponsors & supporters is vital to the success of running Whitelion events.

And it's with great pleasure that we acknowledge some key event sponsors over the 12 months including **Metlink, Epicure Catering, Spotless, AV Dynamics** and **bwired**.

Thank you also to key event supporters in the **Melbourne Town Hall, MCC, AFL, Melbourne 2006, KFC, PWC, Sport 927, 3AW, Vodafone, Medibank Private, Lee Hecht Harrison, Damian Booth, RACV Club** and **Jas Stephens Real Estate**.

And finally, thanks also to the hard working event committee that have helped deliver some truly memorable and unique events throughout the year. To Leticia, Sandra, Justin, Bianca, Mary, Pascale, Mark, Glenn and the other volunteers and supporters that have generously donated their time... thank you for your passion and commitment.

PricewaterhouseCoopers
ABN 52 780 433 757

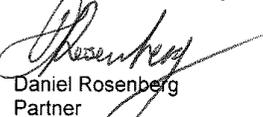
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Independent audit report to the members of Whitelion Incorporated

This audit report relates to the Summarised Financial Report of Whitelion Incorporated (Whitelion) for the financial year ended 30 June 2006 included on Whitelion's web site. Whitelion's directors are responsible for the integrity of the Whitelion web site. We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of this web site. The audit report refers only to the Summarised Financial Report identified below. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the Summarised Financial Report. If users of this report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic data communications they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited Summarised Financial Report to confirm the information included in the audited Summarised Financial Report presented on this web site.

We have audited the Summarised Financial Report of Whitelion Incorporated for the year ended 30 June 2006, comprising the Income Statement and Balance Sheet in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. In our opinion, the information reported in the Summarised Financial Report is consistent with the Annual Statutory Financial report from which it is derived and upon which we expressed a qualified audit opinion in our report to the members dated 24 November 2006. For a better understanding of the scope of our audit, this report should be read in conjunction with our audit report on the annual statutory financial report.


PricewaterhouseCoopers


Daniel Rosenberg
Partner

Melbourne
November 2006

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

Income Statement for The Year Ended 30 June 2006

	2006 \$	2005 \$
Revenue from ordinary activities		
Grants:		
- Alcohol Education & Drug Rehabilitation Foundation	38,196	123,951
- Bell Charitable Foundation	10,000	-
- Bennelong Foundation	12,500	-
- City of Melbourne	4,998	-
- Department of Health & Human Services Tasmania	19,818	-
- Department of Human Services	581,785	293,742
- Department of Justice	35,000	34,398
- Department of Family & Community Services	106,095	59,000
- Department of Victorian Communities	139,572	14,595
- Department of Premier & Cabinet Tasmania	1,785	-
- Department of Economic Development	24,369	-
- Grosvenor Settlement	15,433	-
- Ian Potter Foundation	15,433	-
- MacKillop Family Services	10,000	16,818
- Marian & E.H. Flack Trust	20,000	-
- Portland House Foundation	39,168	13,333
- Pratt Foundation	10,000	-
- Tasmanian Community Fund	55,000	58,523
- Tasmanian Government Gambling Fund	-	15,000
- The Flora & Frank Leith Trust	2,502	-
- The Foundation of Young Australians	57,045	50,001
- The Invergowrie Foundation	13,000	4,332
- The Westpac Foundation	72,500	37,500
- Vic. Health	60,000	103,336
- Victorian Women's Trust	8,000	10,000
Total Grants	1,352,199	834,529
Donations & Fundraising	560,684	527,211
Interest Received	67,997	47,189
Miscellaneous	-	31,204
Membership	136	2,409
Total revenue from ordinary activities	1,981,016	1,442,542
Expenses from ordinary activities		
Staffing costs:		
- AFL Staffing	183,239	135,742
- Other Wages and On Costs	1,049,350	894,087
Total staffing costs	1,232,589	1,029,829
Administration Costs	67,094	36,671
Audit Fees	-	2,000
Program Costs	362,303	99,898
Communications	34,989	28,651
Office Supplies & Equipment	58,285	29,634
Amenities	-	1,408
Marketing & Functions	104,286	58,062
Motor Vehicle & Travel	102,325	73,862
Total expenses from ordinary activities	1,961,871	1,360,015
Net surplus	19,145	82,527

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2006

	2006 \$	2005 \$
Current assets		
Cash at bank	403,395	630,997
Cash on hand	1,700	2,902
Bank bills	1,100,000	800,000
Accounts receivable	72,346	69,470
Prepayments	663	366
Total current assets	1,578,104	1,503,735
Non-current assets		
Motor vehicles	115,722	88,242
less accumulate provision for depreciation	(37,394)	(32,653)
Office Equipment	15,140	-
less accumulated provision for depreciation	(2,249)	-
Computer Software	1,272	-
less accumulated provision for depreciation	(196)	-
Total non-current assets	92,295	55,589
Total assets	1,670,399	1,559,324
Current liabilities		
Payables	120,830	170,207
Provisions	70,896	71,283
Deferred income	530,672	388,978
Total current liabilities	722,398	630,468
Total liabilities	722,398	630,468
Net assets	948,001	928,856
Accumulated funds		
Balance at the beginning of the year	928,856	846,329
Add surplus for the year	19,145	82,527
Balance at the end of the year	948,001	928,856

Acknowledgements

Whitelion's programs and work with young people would not be as successful as it is without the commitment, enthusiasm and dedication of our partners, supporters and volunteers.

Firstly, our thanks go out to our Major Sponsor, Metlink.



We are grateful to our major supporters including KFC, VicHealth, City West Water, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Medibank Private, Direct Mail Solutions, ANZ, bwired and Spotless.

We also thank our official program partners – Reach, Quantum Support Services, MacKillop Family Services and Salvation Army Crossroads.

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