

2024/25 ANNUAL REPORT



Board of



President
Shae Collis



Vice President
Bob Pennington



Treasurer
Kevin Leslie

President's Message

This past year has marked an important period of steady progress and strategic alignment for Launceston PCYC as we continue to deliver on the priorities set out in our 2023–2028 Strategic Plan. The Board's work has centred on strengthening our governance foundations, ensuring financial sustainability, and supporting the dedicated team who bring our mission to life every day. In recognition of our growth and regional reach, this year also marks our transition to PCYC North — a name that reflects both our expanding footprint and our commitment to serving young people across northern Tasmania.



Our progress against the plan is evident across all five strategic goals. The organisation has deepened its focus on youth at risk — our core purpose — while continuing to expand programs that foster confidence, connection and skill development. The Board has also prioritised sound financial stewardship, and I am pleased to note significant improvement in both revenue growth and operational stability, providing a solid platform for future development.

As we look to the coming year, the transition to the Northern Suburbs Community Recreation Hub represents an exciting milestone. This move will not only enhance our capacity to deliver diverse and inclusive programs but also strengthen our reach into communities where engagement and early intervention can have the greatest impact.

None of these outcomes would be possible without the exceptional dedication of our staff and volunteers. Their professionalism, resilience and genuine care for young people continue to embody our values of nurture, respect, integrity, innovation and drive. On behalf of the Board, I extend my sincere thanks to Club Manager, Melissa Matthys, and the entire team for their commitment to quality, safety and community connection.

I am immensely proud of how far we have come together and confident in the direction ahead. With strong leadership, stable finances and a clear sense of purpose, PCYC North is well positioned to continue empowering young people to recognise and reach their potential.

Shae Collis

Directors



Member
Sallyanne Coker



Member
Bruce Campigli



Member
Glenn Creely

From the Club Manager

The 2024–25 year was one of consolidation, growth and community connection for PCYC North (formerly Launceston PCYC). Building on the strong foundations and partnerships established in previous years, we continued to expand program delivery, host community events, improve our facilities and progress strategic planning for the future of the club.

Program Expansion and Successes

Our programs continued to evolve this year, reflecting our commitment to supporting young people and the wider community through participation, engagement, and personal growth.

In October 2024, we were proud to be successful recipients of a Federal Grant in collaboration with PCYC Tasmania and PCYC Hobart. Drawing on our extensive experience running the ASCENT and RESET programs, we developed three new age-specific programs under the ROYW (Reset Opportunities for Youth Works) umbrella — Life Skills and Adventure, Skills for Success, and Leadership Pathways. These programs provide structured, developmental opportunities for young people as they progress through different stages of adolescence. A detailed overview of this initiative can be found under *Youth Programs* in this report.

Through the ROYW Project, we have aligned strongly with our Strategic Plan and cemented our position as leaders in developmental crime prevention and early intervention initiatives. At PCYC North, our focus has always been on youth and community — ensuring that our environment is safe, inclusive, and welcoming for all.

With the generous support of the Merridew Foundation, we were able to purchase a commercial coffee machine, which now supports barista training as part of our ROYW Program with Year 10 students. This valuable addition has also enabled us to expand our vocational learning opportunities, offering hands-on hospitality and customer service training



to youth groups and during our holiday programs. The initiative provides practical skill development and confidence-building opportunities, helping young people gain transferable skills for future employment.



We are pleased to report a significant increase in memberships over the past year, a testament to the community's confidence in our programs and the welcoming atmosphere our staff and volunteers work so hard to create.

The past year has also seen many productive conversations with government departments and stakeholders regarding the potential relocation to the Northern Suburbs Community Recreation Hub. We have approached this opportunity with both enthusiasm and diligence, ensuring that we have a sustainable business model in place to support this transition.

We are delighted that the Board of Directors has formally approved the decision to move to the new hub, and we look forward to joining the Northern Suburbs community. With this move comes a fresh new identity — **PCYC North**, marking our evolution into an official regional club within the PCYC Tasmania network.

Our involvement in the ROYW Project has already seen us connect with multiple council areas across Northern Tasmania, building strong partnerships and collaborative relationships. As the saying goes, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much" by Helen Keller,— and this philosophy has truly guided our approach over the past year.

Across all areas, our programs have continued to grow in both attendance and diversity, reaffirming the community's trust in PCYC North as a place where people of all ages can belong, participate, and thrive.

Our programs remained deliberately broad to meet the differing needs of children, young people, adults and seniors in our community, with a continued emphasis on supporting vulnerable youth.

Events and community engagement

Events continued to be a vital way to welcome families onsite, showcase our programs and strengthen community connections.

- **Halloween Party (October 2024)** — a family-friendly, community-focused event with themed activities, games and a community disco that brought families together.
- **End-of-Year Party (December 2024)** — building on previous success, our end-of-year Christmas-themed disco provided a large, safe celebration for children and families.
- **Easter Egg Hunt Community Event (April 2025)** — a free community event with egg hunts and family activities that attracted many local families and introduced new visitors to the club.

- **Wild Winter Games (July 2025)** — a successful festival featuring interactive games, feathered friends with Majick Feather, prizes from Launceston Toy Land and Wings Wildlife Park as well as a real jungle with the support of Plantscape.

These events not only provided fun and connection but also helped introduce families to our regular programs and services.

Facility Improvements and Software Upgrades

This year we continued to invest in the improvement of our facilities and resources to enhance the experience for our members and program participants.

In July 2024, we transitioned to a new client management and point-of-sale system, GymMaster. This new platform has allowed us to integrate billing, offer online booking and membership options, and improve communication with our members. The change has streamlined our administrative processes and provided a more efficient and professional experience for our members and staff alike.

As demand for our programs and outreach continues to grow, we also purchased a 12-seater minivan to support our Youth Programs and a utility vehicle to assist with transporting our Mobile Activity Centre (MAC) equipment. With two MAC trailers now in operation, these vehicles have been instrumental in meeting the increased demand and expanding our reach into regional schools and community events.

People and acknowledgement

Our achievements this year are a direct result of the dedication and professionalism of our team, board and volunteers.

This year also saw some staff changes as we farewelled and welcomed valued team members:

- Jewel Banks concluded her time with us in January 2025 after joining PCYC in 2022.
- Maddi Magor, a long-standing member of the finance team who began with us in 2018, departed in December 2024.
- Sorayah Witzerman commenced as Senior Youth Worker in January 2025 and remained with the organisation until September 2025, contributing significantly to our youth engagement programs during her time.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to each of them for their dedication, professionalism, and contribution to PCYC during their tenure, and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

We also welcomed several new team members who have already made a positive impact within their roles:

- **Samantha Van Rooyen** joined our **Administration Team**, bringing strong organisational and customer service skills.

- **Sunita Basula** joined our **Finance Team**, contributing valuable experience and attention to detail.
- **Elle Steele** joined our **Youth Programs Team** as a **Youth Worker**, supporting the delivery of engagement and early intervention programs.

We are excited to have these talented individuals on board as we continue to strengthen our services and community reach.

Special thanks to our continuing staff and volunteers for their ongoing commitment and excellence:

- **Hari Ravichandran, Sorayah Witzerman and Ella Steele — Youth workers.**
- **Natalia Mullen — Administration supervisor and the admin team.**
- **Liz Devlin — Finance supervisor and the accounts team.**
- **Nicola Hay — Gymnastics Coordinator, and the gymnastics coaching team.**
- **Mark Brown — Mobile Activity Centre Coordinator.**
- **Beau Hammond – Basketball Coordinator and basketball coaching team.**
- **Shae Collis — Board President, and all board members for ongoing governance and strategic guidance.**
- **Our many volunteers, contractors, casual staff and community partners who have supported events, programs and outreach.**

Conclusion

The 2024–25 year has reinforced our role as a community anchor — delivering diverse programs, supporting young people at risk, and providing safe, affordable activities for all ages. I am proud of what our team, volunteers and partners have achieved and I look forward to continuing this work as we transition into our role as PCYC North.

Melissa Matthys

Governance and Our Business

Governance

Launceston Police and Community Youth Club Inc is a registered charity and is a constitutional member-based incorporated association overseen by the Board of Directors. The Club Manager, employed by the Board, manages the operational aspects of the organisation, reporting to the Board monthly.

Human Resources

Launceston PCYC employs 4 full time, 8 part-time and 31 casual staff. Of those staff, the average age is 32. In addition, the Club engages three external contractors and several volunteers to deliver classes.

Finances

For the year ended June 30, 2025, Launceston PCYC saw a surplus of **\$140,191**, reflecting growth in program revenue and prudent financial management. Total revenue increased to **\$1,441,733**, driven by activities income and youth program funding, while total expenses amounted to **\$1,301,542**. Continued support from grants and community partnerships ensured our ability to deliver a wide range of programs and services.

| Income | 2024/25 | 2023/2024 | 2022/2023 | 2021/2022 | 2020/2021 | 2019/2020 | 2018/2019 |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Activities | \$806,227 | \$784,726 | \$638,304 | \$ 611,647 | \$ 578,809 | \$ 450,848 | \$ 606,686 |
| Operating | \$218,803 | \$360,015 | \$220,549 | \$ 246,843 | \$ 188,369 | \$ 131,714 | \$ 162,322 |
| Expense | | | | | | | |
| Cost of Sales | \$384,025 | \$468,541 | \$401,840 | \$ 387,657 | \$ 308,280 | \$ 289,361 | \$ 363,842 |
| Gross Profit | \$641,005 | \$676,200 | \$457,013 | \$ 470,833 | \$ 458,897 | \$ 293,200 | \$ 405,166 |
| Operating Expenses | | | | | | | |
| Finance | \$17,379 | \$17,169 | \$12,236 | \$ 11,196 | \$ 9,271 | \$ 7,303 | \$ 7,308 |
| General | \$13,583 | \$159,550 | \$122,753 | \$ 111,972 | \$ 68,758 | \$ 52,041 | \$ 78,472 |
| Youth at Risk | \$225,753 | \$107,391 | \$69,023 | \$ 28,866 | \$ 47,572 | \$ 25,568 | \$ 30,563 |
| Employment | \$467,489 | \$429,881 | \$458,010 | \$ 377,689 | \$ 523,826 | \$ 440,674 | \$ 336,158 |
| Operating Profit | -\$83,199 | -\$37,791 | -\$205,009 | -\$ 58,890 | -\$ 190,530 | -\$ 232,385 | -\$ 47,336 |
| Other Income | \$376,691 | \$92,057 | \$134,442 | \$ 127,890 | \$ 560,359 | \$ 318,617 | \$ 147,958 |
| Other Expenses | \$153,301 | | \$46,427 | \$ 46,690 | \$ 11,915 | \$ 77,933 | \$ 61,034 |
| Net Profit/Loss | \$140,191 | \$54,266 | -\$ 116,994 | \$ 50,811 | \$ 357,913 | \$ 8,299 | \$ 39,588 |

Programs

Youth at Risk Programs

In Term 3 of 2024, PCYC North delivered two successful Youth at Risk Programs — *RESET* with Kings Meadows High School and *ASCENT* with Queechy High School. These programs formed part of our continued commitment to supporting young people identified as at risk of disengagement from school and community, and engaging with the youth justice system.

Both programs were made possible through a grant from the Harcourts Foundation and the generous sponsorship from the Merridew Foundation, whose support ensured that these vital initiatives could be delivered at no cost to participants. We are also sincerely thankful for the ongoing contributions from Woolworths Kings Meadows, Woolworths Launceston, the Launceston Cheesecake Shop, and all our community partners for their assistance and encouragement throughout the programs.

The RESET Program with Kings Meadows High School focused on building resilience, teamwork, and trust, combining interactive sessions with hands-on learning experiences such as survival skills, Taiko drumming, rock climbing, team challenges, and outdoor adventures. The program concluded with a graduation and reflection day that celebrated each participant's progress and personal growth.

The ASCENT Program with Queechy High School is centred on identity, empowerment, and mental health awareness, exploring topics such as self-reflection, relationships, and courage. Students participated in activities including paint and sip, Taiko drumming, survival skills at AMC, MAC Attack, and a team challenge at Treetops Adventure Hollybank.

These programs marked the final delivery cycle before the launch of the ROWY (Reset Opportunities for Youth Works) project, building on the foundations established through ASCENT and RESET and reinforcing PCYC North's role as a leader in early intervention and developmental crime prevention initiatives.

Reset Opportunities For Youth Works (ROYW)

What is the ROYW Program?

The ROYW project is a crime prevention and early intervention initiative targeting young people aged between 10- 18 years old. The ROYW project seeks to provide equal opportunity and promote access to positive pathways for young people to lead fulfilling lives. With an evidence-based approach, the ROYW project aims to identify areas of need to prevent the onset of adverse behaviours, promoting positive life outcomes.

Our Approach:

- Strengths-Based & Evidence-Informed
- Developmental Crime Prevention Model
- Supportive & Empowering Environment

Objectives:

- Provide Alternative Pathways
- Promote Community Integration and Resilience
- Break Cycles
- Life Skills Development

Intended Outcomes:

- Improved Engagement & Achievement
- Reduces Anti-Social and Offending Behaviour
- Community Inclusion and Strengthened Support Networks

Program Engagement:

The ROYW program accepts referrals for groups of up to 10 young people (currently school-based, with the view to expand to community-based), to be engaged one day per week over a 10-week period (school term).

Service delivery is provided by Tasmania's two regional PCYC clubs – PCYC North (servicing the northern half of Tasmania) and Hobart PCYC (servicing the southern half of Tasmania). The ROYW project aims to target an estimated 400 young people throughout the course of the project timeframe (18 months).

By tailoring our programming models to Age/Grade specific groups, we ensure modification of intervention, programs, and activities dependent on group and local need. Our programs engage young people from the following age specific groups:

- Primary School: Grades 5 & 6 – Ages 10 – 12
- High School: Grades 7 & 8 – Ages 12 – 15
- High School: Grades 9 - 12 – Ages 15 – 18.

Each week, our program facilitators carefully plan activities based on individual group needs and combine educational workshops with adventure-based activities such as sport and outdoor activities, making it both enjoyable and impactful. The program also includes guest speakers to value add to sessions such as community agencies, police, and sporting club members.

Topics Include:



Evidence-Base:

In development of the ROYW Project, research was undertaken to inform project design. Our evidence base aligns with national youth policy, frameworks, and models of care. The ROYW project is underpinned by Developmental Crime Prevention theory. We embrace an integrated strategy offering universal services (Primary Prevention) that can be tailored to individual and group need (Secondary Prevention) using evidence-informed assessments (Risk-Need-Responsivity Model).

The ROYW Project Approach:

- Holistic early intervention targeted at developmental stages
- Evidence-informed
- Therapeutic and strengths-based
- Trauma informed practices
- School and community based
- Collaboration and throughcare
- Priority on the rights of the child and promoting their voice
- Belonging and wellbeing (social inclusion, identity, participation, health)
- Education/Employment priorities with a focus on social competence and cognition
- Culturally responsive practices
- Effective monitoring and evaluation of initiatives and services.

We believe this program is making a significant impact, providing young people with the tools and experiences needed to navigate life confidently and positively. We are committed to supporting young people throughout this journey.

This Program has already been delivered to the following schools by PCYC North:

Port Dalrymple, Campbell Town District school, East Devonport Primary, Exeter High School, Ravenswood Heights Primary School, Invermay Primary School, Kings Meadows High School, Lilydale District High School and Longford Primary School, Riverside High School, Cressy District High School, Deloraine Primary School, Queechy High School, Ulverstone Primary School and Waverly Primary School.

Mobile Activity Centre (MAC)

July to December 2024

Achievements

July – September: Very high percentage of internally/externally funded MAC bookings during the month. No sessions cancelled as a result of consistently good weather. Similar consistently/variety of overall program bookings to 2022 and 2023.

October – December: Another month of very high percentage of internally/externally funded MAC bookings. The promotional 'wrapping' of the box trailer (funded by ACL Bearing Company). More bookings for MAC activities, similar bookings for Taiko Drumming (compared to 2022 and 2023).

January to June 2025

Achievements

January – March: All MAC bookings were business invoiced (Vacation Care facilities). Immediate resumption of all (Council funded) school based MAC bookings. All bookings were for MAC activities (non Taiko) except for Evandale.

April – June: Sizeable increase in number of locations serviced in 2025, compared to April 2024 figures. High percentage of funded MAC bookings during the month. Very similar 'session/booking profile' to June 2024.



Mark and Ebony at MAC event in Kings Meadows – April 2025

Taiko Drumming (Club/School Programs and 'Taiko Oni Jima' Performance Group)

July to December 2024

The 'Taiko Oni Jima' performance group was able to get a couple of performances in, which involved opportunities for the general public to also get involved with mini workshops. On the two occasions that we got the chance, solid performances were completed at: _

- August – Annual 'Bridport Scallop Festival' and
- December - Royal Park, Launceston 'Beerfest' event.

The performances in particular at the Beerfest event (with only 5 drummers) were extremely well received by the appreciative crowd.



Participants in mini workshop at Bridport

The MAC Schools Taiko program saw 6 assembly performances take place at various primary, high schools, and one at Newstead College. This saw the overall number of school performances go past the 150 mark, in almost 2 decades!

We were also fortunate to get the annual PCYC awards presented (almost) on time, and they were awarded as follows:-

- Purple Drum Award (for Excellence and Achievement) – Chloe CORNWELL
- Ambassador To The Purple Drum – Madelaine ANDERSON
- Consistency-Team Player Award – Lochlan COLGRAVE



Madeline, Chloe and Lochlan

January to June 2025

The new year commenced quietly, with 'off and on' attendances at our Friday beginner classes. Due to the low class numbers, a decision was made in late May to change the beginner class sessions to 5pm (instead of 6.30pm), in an effort to attract some younger drummers. Not having the Taiko Drumming program at any schools currently is probably also having an adverse affect in local interest.

On the performance front, Taiko Oni Jima only got the opportunity to perform at the following events:-

- February – Launceston City Council Chambers – Launceston/Ikeda 'Sister City' relationship celebration event for visiting Japanese delegation and
- June – Civic Square Launceston CBD – Council of the Ageing Tasmania Walk event.

Joanna and Fiona at The COTA Walk event.



Significantly, and as 2025 is the 20th Anniversary of Taiko Oni Jima's existence as a performance ensemble, attempts are being made on celebrating the occasion in some form before the end of the year.

Gymnastics

The gymnastics program at PCYC North continues to be one of the most vibrant and successful areas of the club, catering to participants from Kindergym through to competitive levels. Over the 2024–25 year, the program saw 444 gymnasts take part — an increase from the previous year — demonstrating continued community demand and confidence in the quality of our coaching team and facilities.

Our athletes achieved outstanding results at both regional and state competitions, reflecting the dedication of our gymnasts and the professionalism of our coaching staff.

Standout performances for 2024–25 included:

- Molly Ross: *Level 5 State Champion, Level 5–6 WAG Athlete of the Year*, and qualified to compete at the Bigham Cup held in August.
- Addison Bass: *3rd Place Overall* at the State Championships (Level 4) and *Divisional Winner* in her category.
- Emily Squires: *2nd Place Overall* at the State Championships (Level 4).
- Ayrton Myers: *Level 3 State Champion*.
- Harry French: *2nd Place Overall* at the State Championships (Level 4).

These results are a testament to the skill, effort, and dedication of both our athletes and our incredible team of coaches, led by Gymnastics Coordinator Nicola Hay. Their commitment to providing a safe, supportive, and inspiring environment allows each gymnast to reach their full potential.

Looking ahead, we are particularly excited about the new gymnastics space at the Northern Suburbs Community Recreation Hub, which will provide increased capacity, modern facilities, and the opportunity for even more young people to participate in our growing program.



Level 3 Squad



Level 6 Squad



Harry French

Basketball

Since the inception of the Basketball Program at PCYC North at the beginning of 2024, the program has flourished and become one of the fastest-growing recreational offerings within the club.

Our basketball program is built on the values of community involvement, teamwork, and fair play, offering a supportive and inclusive environment that focuses on enjoyment and skill development rather than competitiveness. The in-house structure allows participants to receive coaching and game experience in a positive, low-pressure setting — ideal for both beginners and developing players.

We currently offer two age groups — Under 10 and Under 14 — with a total of nine teams and 72 registered participants. The strong participation numbers reflect the growing interest in grassroots basketball across the region and the welcoming, community-first culture that PCYC North promotes.

We are sincerely grateful to Belle Property for their generous sponsorship of the basketball program this past year. Their support has helped us to continue providing affordable access to sport for local families.

A special thank you also goes to Beau, who coordinates the program, to our dedicated coaches for their enthusiasm and guidance, and to the parents who volunteer their time with scoring and game assistance. Their combined efforts have made the program an overwhelming success and a proud part of PCYC North's community.



Other Activities

Launceston PCYC continues to expand its offerings to meet the diverse interests and needs of the community. We offer Art and Coding classes designed for young people who may not be drawn to traditional sports or active recreation. These progressive classes help students build foundational skills and grow with each session, with additional workshops available during school holidays.

Recognising the need for early childhood programs, we introduced the Melody in Motion playgroup for toddlers, which now runs on Wednesday mornings, providing a fun and engaging environment for the youngest members of our community.

Our school holiday programs remain a cornerstone of our service, catering to children from as young as one year old to teenagers and adults. The holiday activities include a wide array of options, such as art, craft, cooking, Gymsports, games, social sports, rock climbing, pickleball and archery tag.

In addition to youth programs, Launceston PCYC offers a variety of low-cost activities for the broader community, including Seniors Fitness, Walking Soccer, Futsal, Pickleball, Tai Chi, Fitness Classes, Personal Training, Karate, Aikido, and our popular Weights Gym.

A special thanks goes to our dedicated volunteers, whose selfless contributions make many of these programs possible. Their commitment to the community is deeply appreciated.



Olympic Weightlifting

July to December 2024

The latter half of the year saw some excellent performances from our PCYC 'next generation' youngsters, with Thandi Dunn and Leonard Lee put in consistent efforts at local competitions. A few new faces had also made the trip to our gym 'The Can', reflecting a different interests. A handful of older students, looking to get some technical correction and further weightlifting specific knowledge with their training also trained with us. September saw Thandi and Leonard both earn 'state champion' status, at the Launceston PCYC, with Leonard getting the best male U15 lifter award.



Mark, Jewel, Thandi and Leonard at the Launceston PCYC

In October, Weightlifting Tasmania hosted the National Under 15/17 Championships at Mornington. Thandi and Leonard competed for their first time on the national stage. Both lifted very well and came away with gold medals, and were crowned as national U15 champions, a great effort, as both were still only 12 years old at that stage.



Leonard, Mark, Jewel and Thandi on the national stage, Mornington.

At the Weightlifting Tasmania Inc. awards function later in November, after the final state competition, both Thandi and Leonard received the Best U15 Lifter Awards, and Leonard backed that up with the 3rd placing in the U20 Presidents Cup, as well as winning both the Best and Fairest (Male and Overall) awards.



The 'usual suspects' at the WTI Inc. Awards Function
After a very successful year (especially with a very small 'crew'), the PCYC club awards were presented as follows:-

- Brown-Bell Trophy (Excellence and Achievement) – Leonard LEE
- Coaches Award (for Endeavour) – Thandi DUNN
- Most Consistent Plaque – Leonard LEE
- Most Improved Plaque – Samuel OVERS
- Encouragement Award – Zoe FINN

January to June 2025

The 2025 competition year commenced at Mornington in February, with both Thandi and Leonard getting all of their lifts. Newcomer Trista Little also made her debut at the competition in March, hosted by the Launceston PCYC, getting all of her lifts in style.



Thandi and Trista at the PCYC competition.

A few more new faces have been coming in for training with us at 'The Can', and it now reflects an interesting mix of those just wishing to train with weightlifting, but not necessarily competing.

To Donate

Please contact info@pcyclaunceston.org.au for further information.



Thank you!

PCYC North is a not-for-profit organisation relying on the support and generosity of individuals, community, and businesses. Without your help, we simply could not achieve what we do. We would like to particularly thank the following for their generous support:

Merridew Foundation

