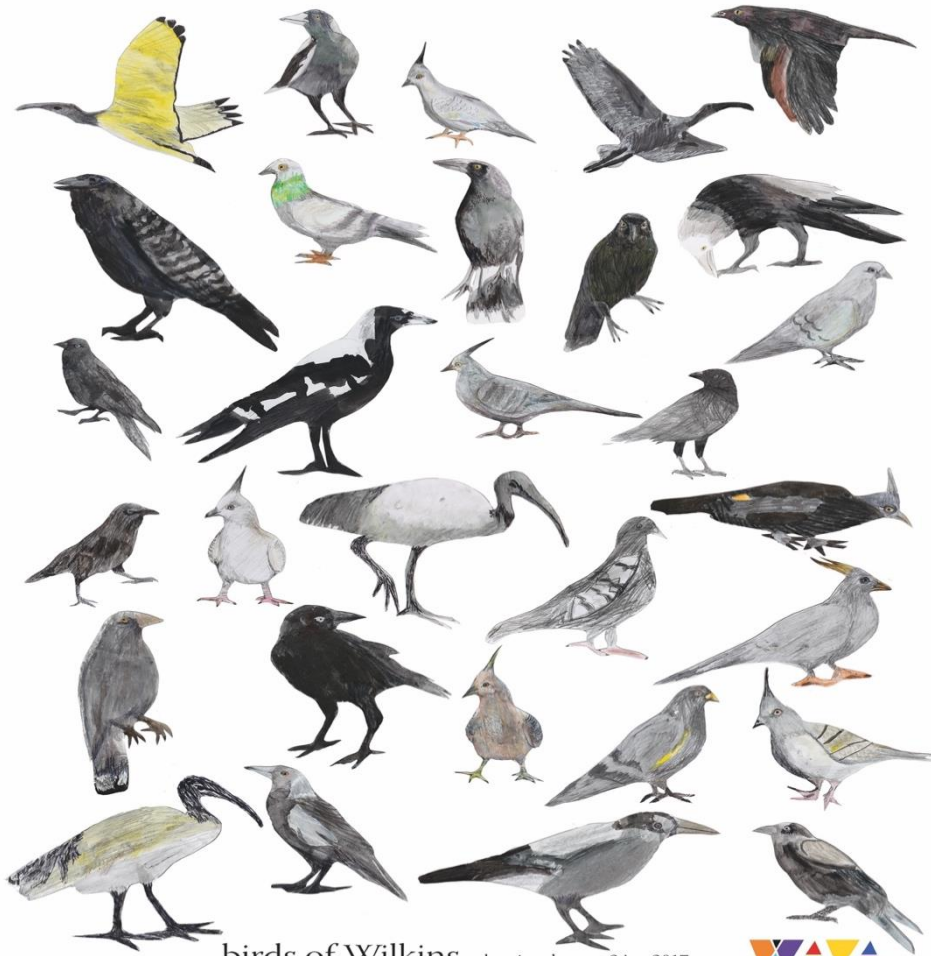


# 2017



birds of Wilkins drawings by year 3A 2017



## ANNUAL REPORT

*Parents and Citizens' Association  
Wilkins Public School*

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## Introduction

This report summarises the Wilkins Public School Parents and Citizens' Association (P&C) activities in the 2017 school year. It outlines the P&C's achievements in fundraising, new developments, activities of sub-committees and ways in which the P&C has built relationships in the community and supported the school's teachers and executive. It also identifies challenges heading into 2018.

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## The Role of the P&C

The role of the P&C is to assist the school in delivering the best possible educational experience for the students.

The *Education Act* 1990 states that P&C Associations are established to:

- Promote the interest of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and teaching staff into close co-operation;
- Assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school and promoting the recreation and welfare of the students at the school;
- Encourage parent and community participation in curriculum and other education issues in schools;
- Report, when requested by the Minister, on the material requirements of the school and advice on the subject of maintenance of the school, alterations and additions to school facilities and the selection of new sites;
- Assist and co-operate with teaching staff at public functions associated with the school;
- Be responsible for the election of parent representatives to any school council constituted at the school in consultation with the Principal of the school; and
- Assist in any other matters in which the Minister may seek the co-operation of the association.

All P&C members are volunteers. Any parent, carer, teacher or interested community member is welcome to join for a one-off annual fee of \$2.

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## Office Bearers

### 2015 OFFICE BEARERS

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>
<b>President</b>	Kathryn Fogarty
<b>Vice President/s</b>	Amanda Brown
<b>Treasurer</b>	Georgie Smart
<b>Assistant Treasurers</b>	Susan Elias / Spencer McDonald
<b>Secretary</b>	Victoria Hiley
<b>Uniform Shop Coordinators</b>	Holly Bisnette/ Valerie Drayton
<b>Wilkins Green (WG)</b>	Chloe Wyatt
<b>Wilkins Association for Visual Arts (WAVA)</b>	Robyn Chiles
<b>Wilkins Music Association (WMA)</b>	Jo Boag
<b>Wilkins Assoc. for Movement &amp; Performing Arts (WAMPA)</b>	Siobhan Lawless

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## Meetings & Communication

2017 was a good year for meeting attendance. We have managed to meet quorum (11 members) at every meeting and have always had at least (but generally more than) two members of the school executive at meetings.

Enews has now the primary source of communication between the school and Wilkin's parents and carers. The school newsletter is available through Enews and the P&C also communicate primarily this way with parents. In 2017 we re-instated a P&C newsletter, with the assistance of Kirrily Druery and this was met with very favourable feedback from parents. The newsletter was produced in term1 and term2. A lack of resources has meant the newsletter hasn't happened in the second half of the year but hopefully someone will take up the challenge next year!

The Facebook page continues to grow in likes and maintains its place as an avenue of information about the school and our wider community. The school twitter feed uploads directly to our Facebook page and these communications from the school, generally accompanied by photos, often raise the most number of "likes" as parents and carers respond positively to knowing what is happening within classrooms during the day. Early next year the Fair Day page will be reactivated to commence communications for the 2018 Fair day.

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## Resources for the School

The P&C continues to make an enormous contribution to the school through the work of our volunteer parents and carers and financially through fundraising. The consolidation of fund-raising efforts of the P&C in the past year has allowed the completion of two impressive projects at Wilkin's Public School in 2017. The refurbishment and refit of the library and installation of air-conditioning in classrooms.

To 30 September 2017 we funded:

- Electrical board upgrade \$4165
- Electrical circuits for 20 classrooms \$20,000
- Stage 3 Outdoor furniture purchase \$15,000
- Air conditioning for 12 classrooms \$42,601
- Library Upgrade matching grant to DEC \$60,000

Going forward into the new financial year, we have committed to fund the following :

- Wilkin's Green Co-Ordinator position \$10,000

## LIBRARY UPGRADE

Our library underwent a 21st Century makeover this year and was formally opened on August 31. This was funded by approximately \$100,000 of school fundraising. In addition, the school also received a \$60,000 matching grant from the DEC for capital works, and a grant from Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL for artwork and technology for the maker space.

Our sincere thanks to the following people who have been instrumental in seeing this vision become a reality; Sheila Bollard, Amanda Brown, Karen Korras, Annie Hensley, Jo Boag and Suzie Freestone. And further thanks to our external supporters; Jo Haylen (NSW Member of Parliament for Summer Hill), Kim Askiew (Artwork), Paul Kougias (Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL), Dean Slattery (DEC) and TJS Services (Prime Contractor).

And it looks amazing !!

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## AIR-CONDITIONING IN CLASSROOMS

The installation of air-conditioning upstairs was completed last January. Air-conditioning the downstairs classrooms has been approved by the P&C the process is underway. The estimated timetable for completion is after the summer holidays this year.

Special thanks for Amanda Brown and Brad Steyn for their expert management of this project.

## OTHER ENDEAVOURS

In addition to this P&C members and members of the wider community contributed their time and energy by way of:

- Parent representatives at staff interview panels
- Classroom support by assisting with reading, maths, art or music
- Organising Ride-to-School day
- Training teachers in ceramics
- Fundraising for classroom musical instruments
- Assisting at swimming, athletics carnivals and on school excursions
- Volunteers working as stage hands, ushering students, sound and lighting at the Winter Recitals and Assembles Showcase
- Facilitating the provision of Special Ethics as an alternative to Special Religious Education
- Helping organise the Year 6 shirt

We have also continued our tradition of building relationships with our wider school community through the lending of our equipment to local public schools; whether it's the popcorn machine, table and chairs for trivia nights or our pluck a duck game.

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## Events

In the year to 30 September 2017 the P&C fundraising was \$76,105. This year's fundraising events included:

This year's fundraising events included:

- Kindy Welcome BBQ
- Mother's Day Stall
- Father's Day Breakfast
- Election BBQ
- Walkathon
- Big Night Out
- Year 6 Disco
- Wilkin's Festive Market
- Wilkin's Green harvests
- Uniform Shop

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## BIG NIGHT OUT



The theme of the Big Night Out 2017 was the “Legends of Rock and Pop”. The hall looked amazing, the food was bountiful and delicious, the music was get-up-and-dance irresistible, the art was beautiful, the visuals and photography were elegant, the outfits were hilarious and the dancing... well you had to be there!



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The BNO would not have been possible without the hard work and tireless generosity of lots of parent volunteers.



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A big thank you to Chloe Wyatt from Wilkins Green who helped with the event planning in the early stages. Your expertise and flexibility were invaluable. A further thank you to Emma Toohey, Bonny Laxton-Blinkhorn, Suzzanne Matkowski and Tracy Graham from Wilkins Green for helping with a variety of things from table decorations, to flower arrangements, to door prizes, to donations of soft-drink, to drafting a floorplan for the hall.

A huge thank you to Leisa Benjamin who took on the never-ending-task of sourcing, collecting and organising the silent auction. We had over 50 donated items ranging from legal services, to family ice skating, to holiday homes. Your good humour and endless energy made the silent auction a standout. And thank you to Scott Benjamin for supplying the pinball machines on the night and for ferrying our enormous Elvis and various others props back and forth from Sydney Props.

Another huge thank you to Robyn Chiles, Jo Boag, Susie Vivian and the WAVA team for creating collaborative artworks with all Wilkins classes. The range and quality of the art work was inspiring. This would not have been possible without dozens of artists, crafters, designers and teachers working together over the last couple of terms with the children.

Thank you to many of the Wilkins staff; Adrian Kinslor, Kerry (the caretaker) and various teachers who helped in all sorts of ways (writing trivia, supplying recycling bins, facilitating WAVA artworks). In particular, a big thank you to Adrian Kinslor and Marion Turner for taking up the mantle of the trivia and doing a fabulous job on the night.

A HUGE shout out to Job Van Dijk who worked for weeks to create various incarnations of the Big Night Out poster which was used to promote the night and for creating the slideshow of famous Legends of Rock and Pop that we streamed to the screens on either side of the stage. They were class! And another thank you to Michael Amendolia who took photos of all the WAVA art and throughout Saturday night. They really captured the feeling of the night and made everyone look like a Legend. We will be making these photos available online in the coming weeks. They are not to be missed! And on the topic of audio visuals, without Paul Amendolia ("Power Paul") who transformed the hall into it's very own power grid with some fancy use of extension leads, power-boards and cable ties... you saved the day!

To Kirrily Druery and Veronica Mayson, thank you for creating the facebook page for the event and handling posts for the past months. You did an incredible job as always! And more thanks to Kirrily and her team of parents and to Emma Toohey and Marion Turner who decorated the hall on a shoe-string budget and made it look beautiful, fun and lively.

To Ben Morrice & Lucas Steuerwald who sourced and stocked the bar and helped serve on the night. The selection of wine and beer was fabulous and much appreciated. Most importantly, it didn't run out!

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A massive thank you to Kate Graham for catering the event for the THIRD time. We don't know how you managed to create stylish, delicious canapes for 250 people in a school hall but you did! Thank you to Holly Bisnette, Mary Barker, Haete Weiner, Lisa Melton and Elizabeth Kenyon for helping assemble 1750 canapes in a school canteen. More thanks to Yuka Ando, Yuki Ichihara, Kate Fraser, Saada Pinniger & Georgia Pickering for plating up. Incredible!

And special thanks to Liz McKay, Michelle Moynihan and Tim O'Connor for organising the wonderful music for the night. We had Liz on jazz piano to start and then Tidal (thanks to Michelle Moynihan's), followed by Who's Your Daddy (thanks to Tim O'Connor & Laurie Manaco). The live music brought a tidal wave of positive feedback from parents. Thank you to everyone from both bands for giving up your time and creating such a great atmosphere. All the musicians performed for free which is a remarkable donation by these Wilkins parents and their fellow band members. Thank you.

Finally, to Sacha Horler and Justin Smith, our two MCs. Thank you for working so hard to ensure we all knew what was going on, had a laugh and that the night flowed. They were a tough crowd (in the beginning) but you managed to somehow keep things on track. A final thank you to Kate Bookallil for bringing her positive energy and enthusiasm to the Live Auction. It was a great showcase of the incredible contributions from WAVA to the night and a LOT of fun. And lastly, to a myriad of other nameless helpers who just turned up on Saturday and Sunday and helped.

And finally, thank you to all the parents who booked their sitters, bought your tickets, dressed up and rocked up on Saturday night. It was a blast. We sold 26 tables and raised approximately \$18,500.

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## P&C Sub-Committees

It has been a real pleasure working with the Wilkin's P&C sub-committees this year. I thank them all for their tireless enthusiasm, good humour and passion for what they do. You contribute so much to our P&C and to our school community.

With the new financial year, we propose that operating budgets be set up for Wilkin's Green, WMA and Uniform Shop to ensure they have an financial structure to follow. This is in line with the P&C Federation Guidelines for Treasurers, q.v.

<https://www.pandc.org.au/forms/members/OperationalGuideforTreasurers.pdf> (para 8).

We have found that the sub-committees have appreciated the possibility of more autonomy and being involved in their financial processes and operations.

The Wilkins Green (**WG**) team was successful in advocating for funding for the position of Wilkin's Green Officer, to be shared between Wilkin's P&C and WPS. In line with the team's vision of making Wilkin's Green a sustainable enterprise/environment they made a profit this financial year of \$2,397.

The Wilkins Association of the Visual Arts (**WAVA**) team contribute so much to the culture of WPS. From their amazing contribution to the Big Night Out to their exhibits for the 2017 Public Schools Arts Festival.

The Music Association (**WMA**) continues to support and enhance the music curriculum at WPS. Through events such as the Winter Recital and Ensembles showcase and the Music Instrument Hire program.

**WAMPA** (Wilkins Association of Movement and Performing Arts) is alive and well and still run their Thursday lunchtime Drama Club. WAMPA have continued to help within the school when there has been a request for professional assistance or some dramatic help with the live auction for the Big Night Out!

The **Uniform Shop** goes from strength to strength and with increased stock levels this financial year they made a fantastic profit of \$9,526 for the P&C (prior to paying an outstanding debtor from 2015). The Uniform Shop volunteers work tirelessly to ensure that the cost of uniforms to Wilkin's parents remains lower than comparable public schools in the inner west.

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WILKINS GREEN (WG)



WALANGA 'NAMININA  
a pathway to learning



## GARDEN EDUCATION

The focus of the Wilkins Green Committee continues to be the provision of nature-based learning opportunities, in an outdoor classroom environment, for the benefit of Wilkins Public School students and the wider local community.

### School Lessons

In 2017 the Garden Education Program continued, despite the loss of support from LJ Hooker. A Garden Levy of \$25 per child was included in the school fees for the particular term that each stage group took part in lessons. Each student enjoyed 1 hour per week for 7 weeks on a Wednesday or Thursday. The Garden Education Facilitators for 2017 were Tealia Scott and Suzanne Matowski.

Term One – no program delivered due to communication issues about school timetables and scheduling classes.

Term Two – Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 received the Edible Garden program.

Term Three – Stage 3 received the Goanna Trail program.

Term Four – Stage 2 received the Under the Fig Tree program

### Keen After-School Programs

Guardians of the Green was established on Wednesday afternoons through KEEN in 2016. Building on its initial success the program expanded significantly in terms one, two and three with up to 21 students enrolled and two assistants delivering the program with Tealia Scott. The program became untenable at this size and it was agreed to cap the numbers at ten students with one teacher in term four and beyond.

In term two a Thursday afternoon class began with Suzanne Matowski. This is a smaller group but has continued successfully for the rest of the year.

In term three Robyn Chiles began 'Art in the Green' on Tuesday afternoons. This has also been a successful program which will continue in 2018.

These three after-school programs donate between 10-15% of their fees to the P&C each term.



## PROJECTS

### **The Compost Toilet**

In August 2016, Wilkins Green was awarded an \$8,000 grant from Canterbury-Hurlstone Park RSL to install a compost toilet. Tracy Graham has devoted a huge amount of time to leading and managing this project. Working with a dedicated group of parent volunteers - Luke Kungle, Brett Pollard, Steve Mitchell and David Lowe. Over several weekends and very long days they constructed a large covered deck. This has extended the existing covered deck area adjoining the container. Many others came along to dig holes, pour cement footings, bang nails in and generally lend a hand.

A space was constructed on the deck to house the new compost toilet which has now been installed. A training workshop held over 2 days was conducted on site by the Australian Hemp Masonry Company. Participants learnt how to build walls using this method and Wilkins Green benefited with 2 of the toilet walls having been constructed using this Hempcrete walling method.

All the above ground plumbing works have been completed by parent John Wardell. This has included a new vanity sink and soon to be completed kitchenette with the bench top and cabinetry donated by John. Another parent Mark Clarkson has diligently helped us to dig our trench for the compost toilet and completed all the inground works.

Local businesses and organisations such as Rallis Timber (Timber), Silver Raven (Concrete) and Bunnings Mascot (Fixtures) have also supported the project through discounts on materials and supplies.

This project has seen an enormous effort from those involved and will benefit Wilkins Green and Wilkins School in many ways for years to come.

### **Wilkins Green Officer**

After many meetings and discussions between the sub-committee, the P&C and the executive faculty of the school an agreement was reached to employ a Wilkins Green Officer. The position will be contracted by the school for 7.5hrs per week for the duration of the 2018 academic year. It has been agreed that the P&C will fund \$10,000 and Wilkins School will fund \$4,000 for this position.

The position will be responsible for:

- Supporting the Garden Education Program (25%)
- Coordinating site care and maintenance (20%)
- Maintaining inventory and assets (15%)
- Supporting community projects (15%)
- Stakeholder liaison (25%)

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The Position Description was distributed to various relevant networks on November 1st and applications will close on November 20th. The recruitment will be finalised by the end of term four and the contract will commence in January 2018.

## **Lendlease Community Day**

Wilkins parent Mel Bryde who works for Lendlease, put forward a Garden Blitz project for their annual community project day. In September a team of 25 Lendlease staff joined by 6 parent volunteers spent a day working in Wilkins Green. Lendlease also provided \$1,500 funding for materials, tools, compost, mulch and equipment to facilitate the activities. The space behind the container was cleared of rubbish and old materials and then mulched to make way for a new propagation area. The inside of the container was cleared out, reorganised into new storage boxes and put back together on new shelving. Four new raised tin planter beds were installed and filled as no-dig beds with new edible foods planted. Other activities included rejuvenating the worm farms and weeding and mulching pathways.

Several other Wilkins parents that work for Lendlease attended as part of the group. The day was a huge success and the committee hopes to facilitate it again next year.

## **Wilkins Green Visioning and Action Plan**

Wilkins parent Lucy Sharman has volunteered to facilitate the much needed and long-awaited Visioning Project. The original vision for Wilkins Green created by the founders in 2004, described the establishment of all the elements that are now in place. The installation of a compost toilet was the last milestone of the original action plan. In order to ensure the future viability and sustainability of the space, a new vision statement and action plan will inform and guide decision-making, relationship building, project choices and funding applications. The visioning project will seek to consult with staff, parents, students and community to develop a 1yr, 3yr, 5yr and 10yr action plan. The first session was held with the current committee and Lucy in October.

## **Events**

Our monthly working bees were held on the last Sunday of the month from 2.30pm – 4.30pm in April, May, June, August and October.

Wheelbarrow sales to sell produce in the playground at 3pm on a Friday afternoon were held in monthly in May, June, July, August, September and November.

A National Tree Day planting event was held in July, where over 75 volunteers lent a hand to plant 125 new native shrubs and trees on the bank and the ridge at the entry gate.

Among the plants were 25 new species, all endemic to the local area. We will all enjoy

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beautiful wildflowers growing there in coming years. Xavier Bustos, a year one pupil, raised \$100 selling his comic at school and he wanted to put it toward a tree. The Bustos family planted a eucalypt at the entry to Walinga'naminina.

Wilkins Green contributed to The Big Night Out in August. Two produce baskets were supplied for raffle & door prizes, a gift voucher for a free term of Guardians of the Green and three vouchers for a 'Damper in The Green campfire experience' were in the silent auction.

Wilkins Green welcomed a team of bush care enthusiasts for Bushcare's Major Day Out in September, who focussed their efforts in Walinga'naminina, helping native species survive and thrive, with a campfire stew to finish the day.

## Grants and Funding

In September Wilkins Green applied for a grant from the Inner West Council to expand the compost program. Inspired by Camdenville School and Community Garden, we hope to purchase several large compost bins and a number of buckets that can be used to collect crunch and sip scraps and canteen waste and then in turn start creating much greater quantities of compost and soil for use in the edible garden.

In addition to wheelbarrow sales, the new chickens have been laying well for many months, producing at least 6 eggs a day. Initially these were being sold at the front office but now TASK have taken over collecting the eggs and selling them each afternoon from the library. This money is going directly to the P&C.

## Stakeholders and Community Engagement

Whilst the relationships with Petersham TAFE and the Inclusive Community Education Program (ICEP) have diminished this year, the committee has focused on building the relationships within the school grounds.

TASK have become much more involved through chicken feeding one morning per week and during the school holidays and collecting and selling the eggs each day. They have also recently taken on two garden beds to begin growing edible produce which will also be sold to TASK families

Globe Pre-School continue to maintain two healthy garden beds, feed the chickens two mornings a week and attend working bees. Judie Don the director attended the first visioning session and is actively promoting Wilkins Green activities to the pre-school families.

The Japanese Learning Circle continue to meet once a week and maintain a garden bed. Wilkins Green has started a Facebook page to help promote projects, activities and events, in addition to distributing regular E-newsletters to the mailing list and via the Wilkins Weekly school newsletter.

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## Supporters

Wilkins Green receives regular support from: Arcella, Village Wholefoods and PetBarn (chicken food); Bespoke and Grind (compost & produce purchase); Police Stables (manure); Bunnings Mascot (equipment, tools, materials and seedlings); Marrickville Community Nursery (seedlings)

Current parent sub-committee: Tracy Graham, Chloe Wyatt, Tealia Scott, Emma Toohey, Bonnie Laxton-Blinkhorn, Suzzanne Matkowski and Kath Norris

Regular Parent Volunteers: Sophie May (chook care, compost and wheelbarrow sales), Sierra Bell (chook food collection)

Chloe Wyatt

Volunteer – WG Coordinator

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WILKINS ASSOCIATION FOR THE VISUAL ARTS (WAVA)



Wilkins Association for the Visual Arts

Thank you to all WAVA Members & the Wilkins community for their contribution to enriching the Visual Arts of Wilkins Public School, we have achieved some great things in 2017 – what a busy & creative year!

The following projects & programs took place in 2017:

## **2017 Public Schools Arts Festival - Addison Road Community Centre Organisation (ARCCO)**

This year projects by Wilkins P.S classes 3A (The Flock I, II, III, Mixed Media Playground Birds) & 4B (The Garden I, II, III, Ink on Paper) were submitted & exhibited in the StirrUP Gallery Space as part of the 2017 Public Schools Arts Festival at the Addison Road Community Centre Organisation (ARCCO).

Students from 15 public schools exhibited and performed for this third annual Public Schools Arts Festival Event. Opened by Anthony Albanese MP and attended by local Director Public Schools Virginia Pacey, the opening event on Friday 28th July saw standing room only as well over 150 School Students, parents and teachers gathered to celebrate creativity in Public Schools. The exhibition received over 1200 visitors over the week it was open, 28th July – 6th August.

## **BIG Night Out ART AUCTION**

The Big Night Out Art auction created a real buzz on the night, with the display adding to the colourful atmosphere of the event. It is estimated the auction raised over \$3,000 towards the fundraising total for the evening.

Sixteen parents created and donated artworks and/or volunteered their time assisting teachers in creating collaborative works with individual classes. There was strong support from parents in preparation, including WAVA members and parents who had previously not been involved in art activities at the school.

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On the night, there were 55 individual class artworks up for sale with additional class collaborative collections of ceramic (broaches), paper (greeting cards) & printed fabric (tote bags). We saw a beautiful range of creative works including paintings, mixed media collages, and sculpture on the night.

## **Ceramics**

Teachers have continued to embrace clay work in their classrooms - the following are a few of the projects undertaken in 2017:

- Stage 2 Pendants & Decorations
- Leaf Bowls with Year 3A & 4B
- Creature plant pots with Year 6/5 HY
- Butterflies (Year 6 leaving project)

WPS also shared our resource of the kiln with Marrickville High and Arncliffe public school.

## **Art In The Green (with Robyn Chiles)**

Art In The Green was run as part of the Wilkins P&C KEEN programs in Term 3 & 4 with students using the Wilkins Green as inspiration for their exploration, experimentation & creation of artworks in various media including drawing, water colour painting, printmaking & ceramics

## **2016 Year 6 Ceramic Tile Project – Installation**

The amazing ceramic tiles, the departing gift from Year 6 2016, are planned to be installed in the Year 6 classroom area on Sunday 19th November

## **2017 Year 6 Ceramic Butterfly Project**

The departing gift from Year 6 2017, has been completed with glazed butterflies being fired in the kiln as we write! These pieces are planned to be installed around the Year 6 classrooms leading toward the Wilkins Green, on Sunday 19th November. Thanks to all the parents & helpers who make the creation & realization of this project possible.

Thanks to all from the Wilkins community who have volunteered and assisted with WAVA projects over the year. Every minute and contribution is greatly appreciated.

## **WAVA Committee 2017**

Robyn Chiles, Joanne Boag, Susie Redfern  
Volunteers – WAVA Coordinators

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## WILKINS MUSIC ASSOCIATION (WMA)



With the change of WMA repertoire of Events (in particular Extravaganzas) this has been a transition year for WMA. Nevertheless, our students had yet another year full of opportunities to be enriched in music. Thank you to our teachers, ensemble conductors, tutors, support staff and members of the Wilkins community for a fabulous year of music for all our students at Wilkins.

We welcomed Mr. Phil Jenkins, our new music teacher, this year. All students have been given a weekly music class which expended their musical knowledge in rhythm and have been exposed to percussion instruments and lately ukuleles.

The music Instrument Hire, managed by P&C, was run smoothly by a parent Volunteer, Michael Easton who ensured that all instruments were hired out and maintained. This process is proven to be successful and the is generating a revenue. P&C hopes to maintain this affordable system and expand the number and range of instruments to hire in the coming years. WMA volunteer are in the process to develop a model that will enable the program to remain affordable and sustainable.

The 2017 ensembles at Wilkins were: Senior Choir, Junior Choir, String Orchestra, Middle Strings, Beginner Strings, Concert Band, Training Band, Recorder Ensemble, and Rock Bands for Years 4, 5 and 6, Pugz with a Z, The Flying Squirrels and The Spiders from Marrickville.

We would like to thank the teachers and tutors who have given their time to lead an ensemble and enrich our school community with opportunity. The 2017 conductors were :

- Strings, Ms Mee and Kathryn Brownhill

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- Recorders – Ms Smythe.
- Senior Choir, Ms Mee and Ms Lehrhaft.
- Junior Choir (Ms Pike), Ms Jazbeck and Ms Kirkland
- Concert and Training Band- Ms Ryan
- The Rock Bands - Mr Darrell Archer

Our new AP (Wendy Pike) and Ms Lehrhaft worked hard with the accounts department to make sure all Music fees were paid working with the new invoicing system which allowed all payments to be made in the first 2 terms.

The year started with our annual Winter Recital in May. This event provides an opportunity to students to perform on their own or in smaller group. There were more students interested in performing that we could accommodate due to time restraints. Equally successful was the Ensembles night held in August, which provided an opportunity to all our participating students to showcase what they have been learning. The traditional Extravaganzas have been replaced with Big Assembly where individual classes have worked with their class teachers and developed a performance highlighting the material they are learning in class coupled with drama, music and dance skills. The new format is very appealing as it provides a variety and individuality of each class. It has also showed incredible creativity our teachers have as well as being able to utilize special skills from within each class cohort. All performances were engaging, entertaining and both the performers (students) and the audience enjoyed them and had a very good time.

The WMA provided support to the teachers with the logistics of running the events and also mentor interested students in the technical stage support. We had some very eager year 4 students who were involved in the audio and lighting support. It was chosen by teachers to not involve fundraising along the events due to the perceived complexity that this brings.

Our ensembles have had many opportunities to perform this year. The Senior Choir students from years 5 and 6 recently performed at the Opera House for the Festival of Choral Music along with over 700 other students from across NSW. Junior Choir have been working very hard learning challenging repertoire all year. They represented Wilkins in the NSW Arts Unit combined schools' junior choir at the Sydney Town Hall for the 2017 Primary Proms. The Strings and recorders have also had a great year performing at the Opera House in the Festival of Instrumental Music. Our Rock Bands have been very busy with Gigs around our local community including Marrickville Fair and the upcoming Christmas Night markets where we will have rocking Christmas carols to celebrate the end of the year.



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We would like to thank the music teachers who have given their time to lead an ensemble and enrich our school community with opportunity. Thanks again to all the parents who have assisted the WMA over the year, coming to meetings and volunteering to assist with events. Your help is very much needed and appreciated.

Finally, the WMA would like to acknowledge all the students who attend class music and ensembles for making the Music Program such an asset to the school and community.

The WMA could not have run without the support of a core group of dedicated parents who help to create a well organised group dedicated to supporting music at Wilkins: Abigail Hatherly, Graham Hilgendorf, Michael Easton, Jo Boag, Emma Foster, Michael Amendolia, Michael Carvosso, Danny Reiss, Patricia and Rebeiro.

Melita Jazbec  
Volunteer – WMA Coordinator

# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

## WILKINS UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop has a few key issues to report on for the 2017 year. A new ordering process, the bulk purchase of the organic jumpers, tagging of items, profit and loss figures, and volunteers.

### Ordering Process

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We have adopted a new approach to ordering stock which allows the shop to order what is needed based on what the previous year's purchasing patterns were. As discussed by the P&C in the June meeting, we are order 4 times a year with 1 additional order if required. We order mid-term to cover us through to part way through the following term. We are adhering to a budget broken into 4 specific limits, term 1 \$15,000, term 2 is \$10,000, term 3 is \$10,000 and term 4 is \$15,000, totalling to \$50,000 per year. We will only order what we needed.

We have adopted a more stringent and methodical approach to the volumes ordered. Firstly, we do a stocktake of what current stock we have. We then use data from the SquareUp point of sale software to see determine how much was sold in the same period in the previous year and order the difference. So far this process has worked really well and we have been able to fulfil every customer's requirements.

We will monitor this process with the Treasurer to see how the process works over the course of a year. We will monitor the process, particularly during terms 4 and terms 1, which tend to be very busy for the shop.

### Previous bulk order issue

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This year we have had to purchase all the WPS crew neck jumpers that had been imported by the previous Organic uniform supplier. This cost the P&C \$6,570 in this financial year, and has inflated out annual cost of sales rather unrealistically. Furthermore, this isn't a popular item and we need to sell it and move on. We are currently selling the items at cost, but are looking at lowering the price even further and selling them for \$5 an item to clear the stock level.

### Tagging Items

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During 2017 we continued with the tagging of hats from RagTag'd – the clothing tracking system adopted during 2016. After discussion with RagTag'd the tags are no longer being stitched into hats as it was not working well. This was the case at WPS and other schools using the system. However, the tags work very successfully in the zip jumpers. A report from RagTag'd is attached. RagTag'd has begun a partnership with uniform shop manufacturing Spartan. Our current supplier is L W Reid so the shop co-ordinators will explore what this will mean for us, whether we can switch to Spartan with no loss of

# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

quality and price or whether we stay with L W Reid and sell the tags separately for families to stitch on themselves.

This financial year the shop has spent \$61,962 on stock and \$1,411 on bank fees for our Eftpos service making a profit of \$9,526.

(After paying back the previous year's spend of \$6,570 on the crew neck jumpers, this was reduced to \$2,956).

## Our incredible volunteers

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At the end of this year we will see three of our key volunteers moving on from WPS. We are so grateful to Valerie for all her work managing the shop on Fridays. She has been a regular shop volunteer for many many years and we'll be so sad to see her go as her youngest moves to high school. She and I have been the shop coordinators for the last year or so and she has always been incredibly reliable and efficient. I'll miss her straight up approach and willingness to have a chat.

Fridays will also miss Zara who is moving out of the Ville. Zara has been so helpful in running the shop with Valerie and happy to open and close the shop. We'll miss your panache Zara.

Fiona has been working in the shop on Tuesday afternoons for many years and it's been so entertaining, educational and frankly just a good laugh. You've been a great consistent volunteer Fiona and we're going to miss you as your youngest moves to high school. We have put a request on Facebook for more volunteers for Fridays. If you would be willing to offer 40 minutes a week please contact Holly on [hollybisnette@gmail.com](mailto:hollybisnette@gmail.com) Thank you to all our wonderful shop volunteers throughout the year, it's so great to have fabulous people to chat with each week. We talk about books, pets, family, cooking, politics, movies, op shops, gardening and so, so much more. Thanks to Julie, Robyn, Lye, Mika, Haete and Liz.

### **Holly Bisnette**

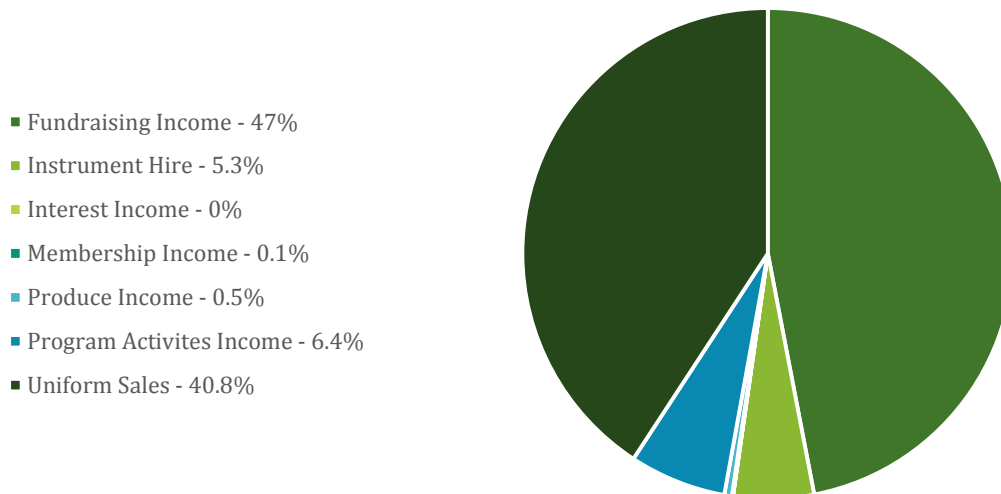
Volunteer – Wilkins Uniform Shop Coordinator

# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

## TREASURER'S REPORT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2017

This P&C financial year has seen us have quite of range of income streams to create the \$162, 022 dollars raised. While fundraising dollars and uniform sales are dominant, the program activities run in the Wilkins Green, as well as the instrument hire overseen by the WMA are making their mark on our source funds.

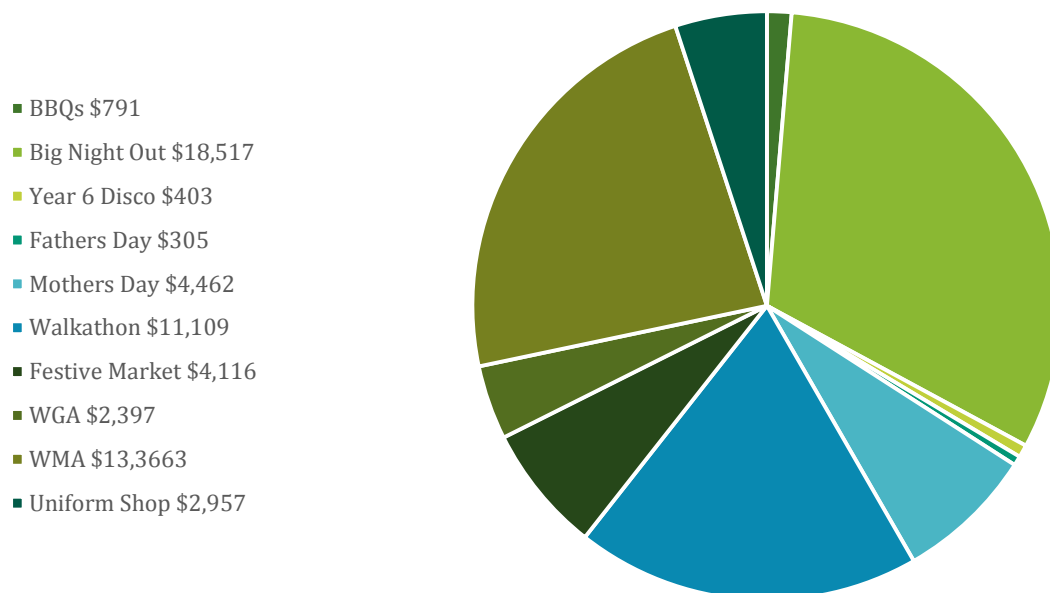
### Wilkins P&C Income Areas for 2016-2017



Our fundraising efforts have in themselves been broad, thanks to the efforts of many for their ideas and on the ground actions. The bottom line profits for each event or organisation are detailed below:

# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

## Event/Organisation profits for 2016-2017



After the running of our fundraising and operational expenses for the P&C as a whole, the Uniform shop, Wilkins Green and the Wilkins Music Association we have been able to donate \$143,832 to Wilkins Public School to support the children's learning. These costs were primarily for the air-conditioning of 12 classrooms and to contribute to the library upgrade, and are detailed below:

### Donation to Wilkins Public School

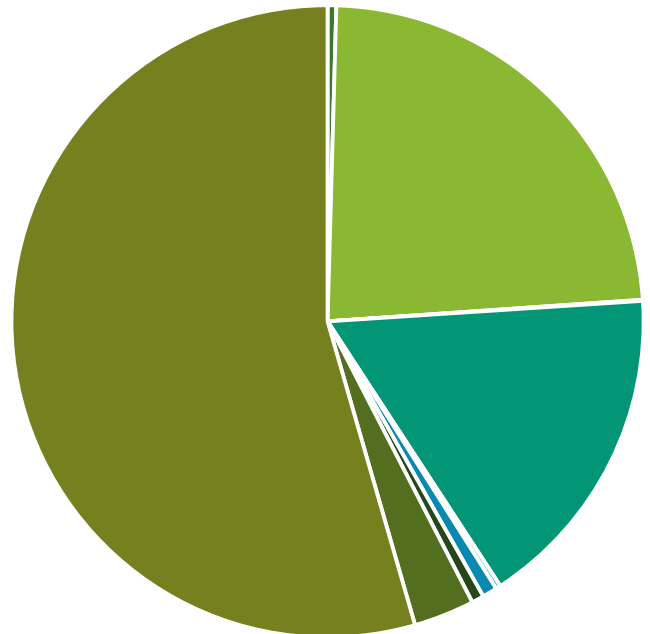
Electrical board upgrade	\$4165
Electrical circuits for 20 classrooms	\$20,000
Stage 3 Outdoor furniture purchase	\$15,000
Air conditioning for 12 classrooms	\$42,601
Library Upgrade matching grant to DEC	\$60,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$143,832</b>

This donation made up 54.5% of our direct expenses for 2016-17, while our second largest cost was the stock supply for the Uniform Shop, coming in at \$61,962, or 23.5% of expenses.

# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

## Wilkins P&C expenses breakdown for 2016-2017

- Bank Fees - 0.4%
- Cost of Goods Sold - Uniform Stock - 23.5%
- Consulting & Accounting - 0.1%
- General Expenses - 16.8%
- Instrument Purchase - 0.2%
- Instrument Repairs - 0.8%
- Insurance - 0.6%
- Program Facilitation - 3.1%
- School Donation - 54.5%



Heading into the 2018 year, we have \$72,116 of our funds committed to previously approved expenses which includes a further \$35,000 on air-conditioning and \$11,558 set aside for the Wilkins Music Association. An untied amount of \$4,219 will be built upon and we roll into our new financial year with strong fundraising skills and support from our community.

Operationally, this year we transitioned the Wilkins P&C accounts to the cloud based accounting system, Xero. Having this system in place has allowed for the electronic storage of much of our paperwork, has simplified the book keeping aspect of the accounts and also meant the Audit process was made easier for all involved. Much thanks to Matthew Paull who has donated his time to undertake our audit again this year. His report, and the financial statements associated, are included with this report and will be lodged with the ACNC as required, to ensure our charitable status.

Many thanks to *everyone* involved in wrangling the money this year, particularly Susan Elias who has done the majority of banking, and Spencer McDonald and Holly Bisnette who have been exceptional cash counters with me.

**Georgie Smart**

Volunteer Treasurer 2017

# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I've really enjoyed my year as President of Wilkins P&C. I would like to thank all the parents, carers, community members and teachers who make up the Wilkin's P&C team. Together we make an enormous contribution to the school by enhancing the resources and opportunities for our children.

A special thank you to our principal Sheila Bollard. The P&C has built strong relationships between P&C executive, the school executive and teaching staff. Ultimately the P&C and school staff are looking to assist and support the learning opportunities of all the children at WPS.

A very big *thank you* to long standing P&C members leaving the school this year who have generously donated their time and skills over the years their children have attended Wilkins PS.

An extra special thank you to Georgie Smart who served on the P&C executive as Treasurer during 2017. Georgie has implemented the Xero accounting system, bringing our finances into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and providing us a simple, effective and transparent process for managing our P&C finances. She has also worked consistently throughout this year with the Wilkin's Green, WMA and Uniform Shop sub-committees building strong relationships with each and endeavouring to create operating budgets for them for the upcoming financial year, subject to P&C approval. To do all that in one year, on top of all the regular treasurer duties, that's quite something to have achieved. Her son might complain that she was never at school but she was probably at home entering years of accounting data into Xero, at the bank getting yet another float and paying invoices in record time. A big big hearty thank you from me.

Suzanne Matkowski has been a long-time champion of Wilkin's Green, volunteering, coordinating and ensuring it's preservation. She has contributed to the Wilkin's community for well over 10 years. She has been involved in Wilkin's Green for at least 6 years and helped initiate and grow the garden education program so that all children in the school now have garden lessons. She has raised the profile of the garden and developed relationships with the community to ensure a wide group of community members can enjoy and benefit from the garden.

If that wasn't enough, Suzanne's husband Brett Pollard served on the executive, back in the day! He was a calm, quiet achiever. As treasurer for two years, turning 1000s of sausages on the asphalt and of course, volunteering at Wilkin's Green. Always with a grin and a joke.

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Valerie Drayton has helped run the Uniform Shop since her eldest started school. Her daughter is now in year 10!!!! She is the definition of dedication. Her steadfastness, her reliability and her sociability have been a great asset to the Uniform Shop. Valerie and her husband Dave Tancred have a reputation for getting in and getting things done!

Mary Barker, has volunteered at Wilkins since her eldest started school. Her son has just completed his HSC!!! That's a lot of helping and I imagine there are few events that Mary hasn't helped on. She chaired the WMA for a number of years, co-ordinated the rides for the last 3 Fair Days, has helped on the morning breakfast club. She is endlessly generous, relentlessly kind.

Miho Kobayashi has also volunteered at Wilkins while her three children went through primary school. She contributed to waste reduction, music group support, contributing to P&C knowledge of educational pedagogy. As Mary says, "The more passionate about a topic, the faster she spoke and the stronger her accent became". One of my fondest memories of Miho is turning up to a P&C meeting after some very heavy rain earlier this year that had threatened to flood the library and finding that Miho had noticed the problem and single-handedly, jumped in, removed the grate and cleared the drain.

Michael Easton, who has only been at Wilkins for 2 years but at that time has set up the Wilkins P&C instrument hire program, so that it ran efficiently and financially contributing to the music culture at Wilkins. The music program has ensured that all students have access to affordable instruments for their music education.

Special thanks to the executive (Georgie Smart, Amanda Brown, Theona Bustos, Victoria Hiley, Felicia Paul, Susan Elias and Spencer McDonald) for the hours and days of work you have given to the P&C this year and the help you have given me.

And to all the P&C meeting regulars. Thank you for regularly coming to meetings and constructively sharing your ideas, for regularly helping at events, running our sub-committees with grace and dedication and for all your support and encouragement to me in my role as President.

A thank you to our whole school community; whether you have baked cakes, turned a sausage or 200, baked a cake, cleaned out a fridge, checked the sound in the hall, found some fabulous donations, created a beautiful stage prop, helped in a classroom, in the Green, or simply attend some P&C meetings THANK YOU. You are amazing.

My year as President of the P&C has been a rich and rewarding experience and I encourage parents/carers in the Wilkin's community to come along to our meetings. You will meet some incredible people.



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## FUTURE ENDEAVOURS for 2018

Our biggest biannual fundraiser, Fair Day, is happening in 2018. The Fair is a wonderful community experience and the invincible Veronica Mayson (Fair Day Co-ordinator) has already started working on the massive job of coordinating the many stalls, music and dance performances and rides.

We have been looking at two areas of future spending in 2018. Firstly, the refurbishment of the school toilets has been on our radar for several years. We have already begun the process of getting quotes for the painting of 4 downstairs toilets during the summer holidays. This is likely to cost around \$12,000. We are hoping to include protected panels of Wilkin's children's art in the entrance to toilets as a means of encouraging the students to take ownership of preserving these spaces and discouraging graffiti etc.

In Term 4, the P&C and school executive visited Bellevue Public School to check out their "Future Focused Learning" environments. This major capital works project by the DET showcased the very best of collaborative and flexible learning environments and demonstrated the exciting benefits to teachers and student. I am very excited to see how the P&C can support these spaces at Wilkin's Public School.

Co-operative supportive relationships and effective communication between parents/carers and the school is at the core of our P&C and I am sure this will go from strength to strength in 2018.

Kathryn Fogarty  
President (Volunteer)  
Wilkins P&C