



**THE
CLUBHOUSE
MOOROOKA**

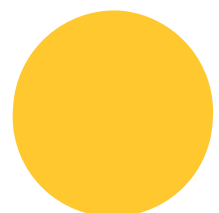
**THANK
YOU
UBUNTU
FOUNDATION**



INTRODUCTION

In 2021, the Ubuntu Foundation made a donation in the sum of \$15,750 to support The Third Place Group, an incorporated not-for-profit organisation, to establish The Clubhouse Moorooka.

This report provides an overview of the work taken to establish The Clubhouse Moorooka with support from Ubuntu Foundation and the benefits The Clubhouse has subsequently provided to the community of Moorooka.



BACKGROUND

The Third Place Group (TTPG) was formed in 2019 by a collective of people connected to Moorooka who wanted to ensure the former Moorooka Sports and Community Club was retained for community use where people from Moorooka and surrounds could connect and engage in social and recreational activities. TTPG's vision that guided the establishment of The Clubhouse Moorooka is:

'a welcoming, family-friendly, community hub for locals to meet and socialise, creating a connected, diverse, supportive and healthy community'.

After incorporating in September 2019, TTPG conducted an online survey to ask the Moorooka community and surrounds what they would like to see in a new local club.

The ideas of 347 survey respondents shaped TTPG's tender to manage the venue, which proposed a unique and local licensed, family friendly venue designed in accordance with the interests of, and supported by the community, with a focus on quality food and beverage; access to recreation and exercise opportunities and a diverse program of culture, arts and entertainment.

Preliminary discussions with community and stakeholders identified potential for a range of spaces within the venue to be available for hire to support a range of community programs as well as community events and celebrations.

After TTPG were selected by Brisbane City Council to manage the venue, there were lengthy delays in formalising an agreement when Council inspections identified significant defects with the facilities. While Council agreed to undertake significant repairs to the venue, TTPG assumed responsibility for project management of significant capital works, as well as responsibility for the costs of some fixtures, fittings, furniture and general maintenance (while at the same time negotiating all necessary approvals for the venue to commence operation as a licensed community sport and recreation club).

As a newly established not-for-profit led by community volunteers, TTPG had been anticipating income from the operation of a licensed venue to support the refurbishment of the club.



BACKGROUND

Without funds, a small group of dedicated community volunteers carried the enormous task of restoring the venue, with the initial focus on establishing an operational outdoor garden bar to generate funds to support the transformation of different spaces within the venue.

Recognising that the bulk of this work was undertaken by a small group of dedicated community volunteers, the Ubuntu Foundation generously donated \$15,750 to

provide a stipend to five volunteers to support them as they worked tirelessly to bring a vibrant new space to life for the community of Moorooka and surrounds. The funds supported operations, governance and procedures, project management and marketing and communications.

With the kind support of JDA Co Architects, who worked pro-bono to design and advise on the new Clubhouse, the venue gradually came to life.



Volunteers who worked hard to get The Clubhouse Moorooka doors open with Carolyn Vincent from Ubuntu Foundation.

THE CLUBHOUSE DOORS OPEN!

Fifteen months after a lease agreement was signed with Brisbane City Council, the Clubhouse Moorooka officially opened on February 17 2022 with a smoking ceremony and 80th birthday celebration of local Yuggera Elder and Headman Uncle Desmond Sandy.

Through a hire agreement, Bean on the Green café commenced operation out of the Garden Bar at the same time, opening Friday to Sunday mornings.

The Clubhouse Moorooka was launched with a traditional Smoking Ceremony.

Despite the challenges of opening an outdoor only venue at the peak of the COVID pandemic and in the wettest summer on record, The Clubhouse has had strong support from the community and has been supported by more than 700 paying members.

Many community members have also volunteered to support the club, through participation in the Gardening Club, the Sustainability Committee or by helping out on working bees or by volunteering at The Garden Bar.



THE CLUBHOUSE DOORS OPEN!



The Clubhouse Moorooka was launched with a traditional smoking ceremony, with a Welcome to Country delivered by Uncle Desmond Sandy. The community joined the smoking ceremony as the grounds of the club were blessed.



THE CLUBHOUSE DOORS OPEN!

In a matter of months since opening, The Clubhouse Moorooka has hosted a diverse range of community events, services and recreation for the local community, including:

- providing a Community Recovery Centre for people affected by the floods
- offering futsal games coordinated by Futsal Time Moorooka three nights a week
- hosting two successful outdoor cinema events held in partnership with Brisbane City Council
- hosting the Member for Moreton's International Women's Day event
- holding two Vulcana Circus events through a partnership with Anywhere Festival as well as Vulcana Circus workshops for children.

The Clubhouse Moorooka has quickly evolved to offer something for everyone in Moorooka and surrounding suburbs:

- Bean on the Green has become a popular meeting place for mums and bubs in the morning
- a rotating roster of food trucks provide affordable quality meals while also supporting local businesses who were impacted heavily by Covid lockdown and floods
- the venue has become a popular meeting place for families (and dogs!)
- many members have held birthdays and other celebrations at their new local club
- members and guests connect over games of futsal and board games
- young people (and not so young people) are enjoying pinball and arcade games in our Arcade Parlour through a partnership with Netherworld.

LOOKING AHEAD

TTPG recently recruited a new Board of Directors to support The Clubhouse Moorooka as it enters its next phase. We are embarking on the development of a Concept Plan to identify how the many spaces within The Clubhouse Moorooka can be brought to life and support a range of community activities and initiatives. We are developing a Sponsorship and Partnerships strategy to support our ongoing restoration and a range of community programs. We are also developing an Arts, Culture and Entertainment strategy to ensure a diverse program of entertainment that will position Moorooka as a place to go to, rather than just a place to come from.

Our main bar, the Roo Bar, finally opened in May and we are recruiting a Bar Manager in time for our celebration to commemorate the 50th birthday of the club in July 2022. Importantly, the Clubhouse Moorooka is now financially solvent with support from the community growing every month.

The Clubhouse Moorooka Board of Directors thanks Ubuntu Foundation for their generous donation. The funds supported a critical step in the growth of the community club where it was necessary for five community members to work tirelessly across ten weeks to open the doors to a very special place in the heart of Moorooka, for Moorooka.

