### YHA Ltd Annual General Meeting – April 2018

# Learn to travel. Travel to learn



# Highlights 2017

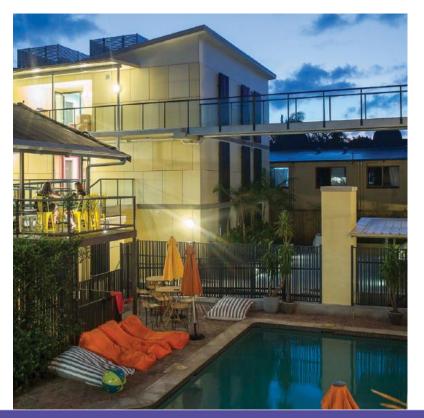
- Completion of the national merger
- Successful integration of YHA Tasmania & YHA WA
- YHA Ltd as a single national organisation (trading as YHA Australia)
- Eight former Boards now replaced by a single Board





# Highlights 2017

- Redevelopment at Byron Bay YHA
- Acquisition of Cape Byron YHA (former associate hostel)
- Sale and leaseback of Melbourne Metro YHA









# Highlights 2017

- Launch of 'Simple Affordable Membership' resulting in increase in members
- Representations to government on issues of traveller safety, working conditions and visa reform
- Participation in Hostelling International events including on Marketing and Sustainability. Contributed to organisational governance review

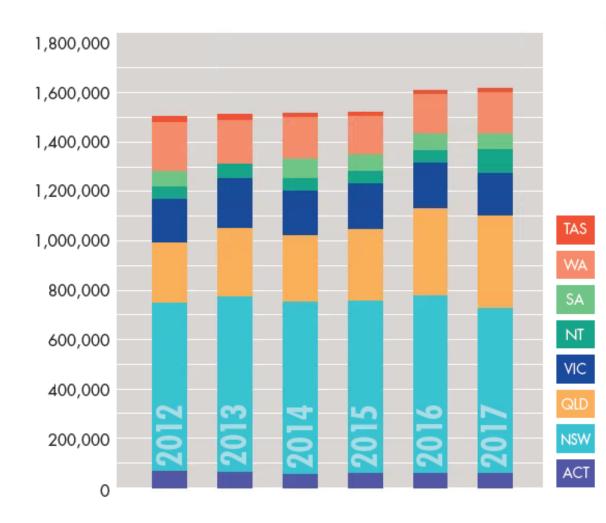




YHA Australia was first in the Hostelling International network to launch a digital membership card



# Total Overnights by State/Territory







# Accommodation

- Refresh at Sydney Central YHA
- Addition of new ensuite bathrooms at Canberra City YHA
- Renovation of Hobart Central YHA exterior and interior



More ensuite bathrooms were added to rooms at Canberra City YHA







# **Sustainability**

- New Sustainability Action Plan adopted
- Sustainable Hostels Fund guests contribute (YHA matches)
- Small Hostels Development Fund: \$80K accumulated
- Sydney Harbour YHA Sinking Fund: \$590K accumulated for heritage conservation/interpretation
- Social sustainability initiatives





Railway Square YHA in Sydney installed a 'green wall'



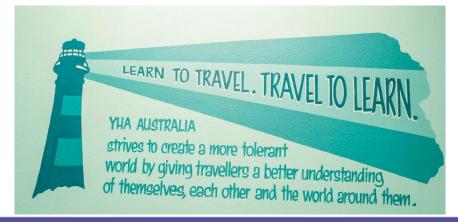
YHA sponsored a group of disabled cyclists, riding from Australia's lowest to highest point – pictured at Thredbo YHA



# Strategic Plan 2017-2020

- "To be leaders in low cost accommodation offerings that enrich people's travelling"
- Five key areas
  - Culture of Sustainability
  - o Brand
  - Network Development
  - o Growth
  - o Governance

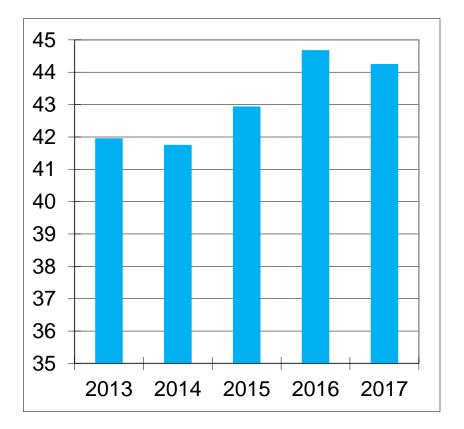
Each supported by strategic objectives and actions





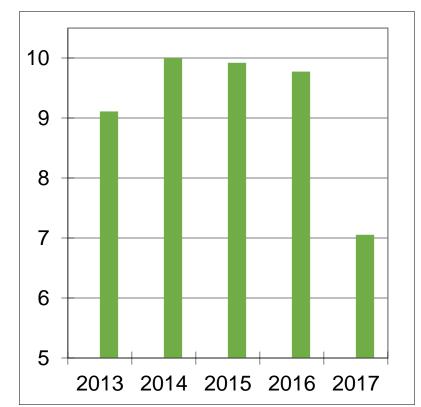


• Income (\$ millions)



• Earnings before tax, interest, depreciation and amortisation

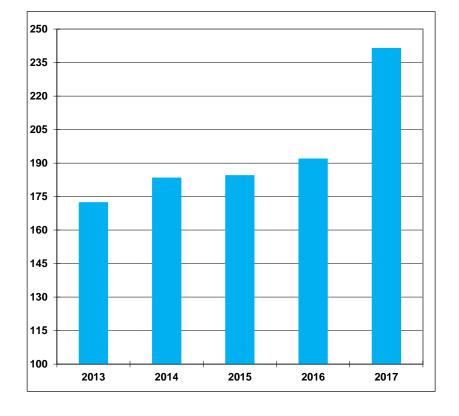




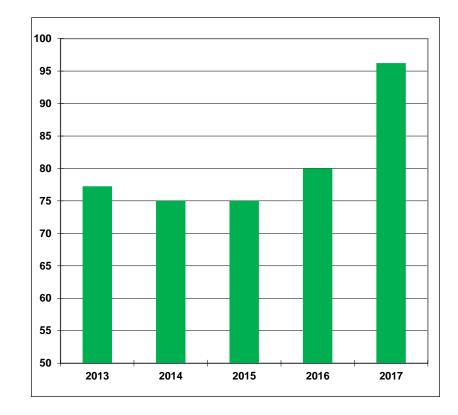


# Finance – Balance Sheet

• Assets at valuation (\$ millions)



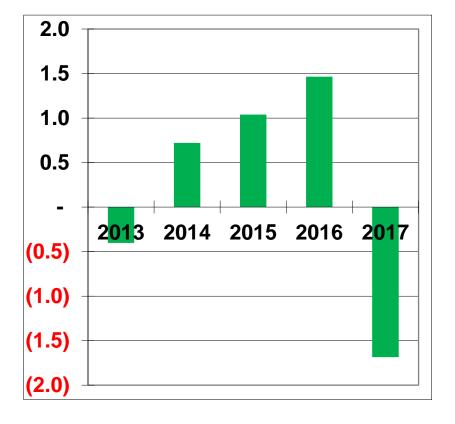
• Borrowings (\$ millions)



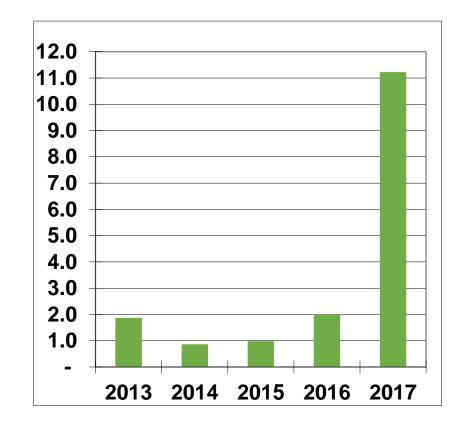


# Finance – Performance

• Before one off items (\$ millions)



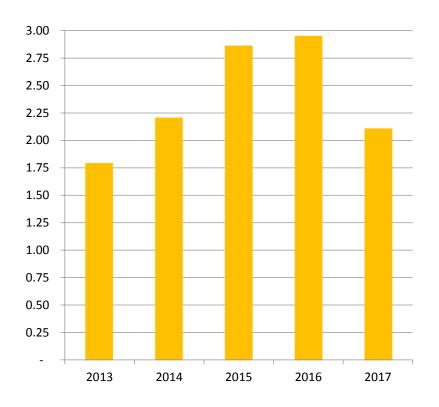
• After one off items (\$ millions)



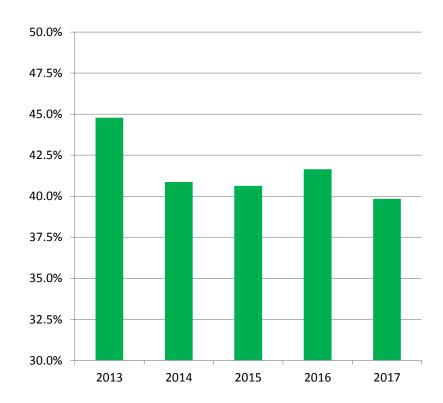




• Interest cover ratio



• Loan to valuation ratio





# **Board of Directors**

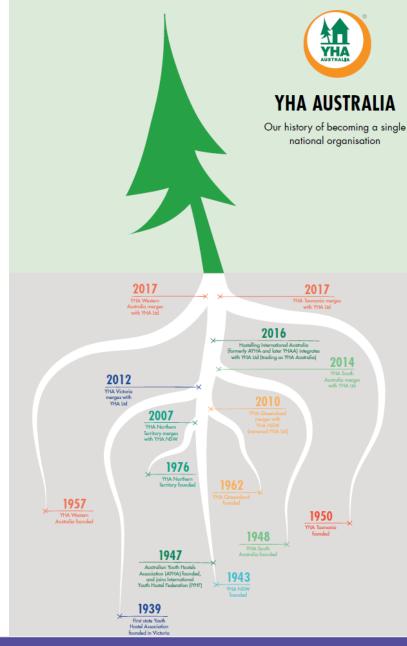
- The Board operated with 9 Directors, with meetings in Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne & Sydney
- Three Committees:
  - Audit & Risk
  - Nominations & Remuneration
  - o Election
- Actively working to ensure a skillsbased Board





### Governance

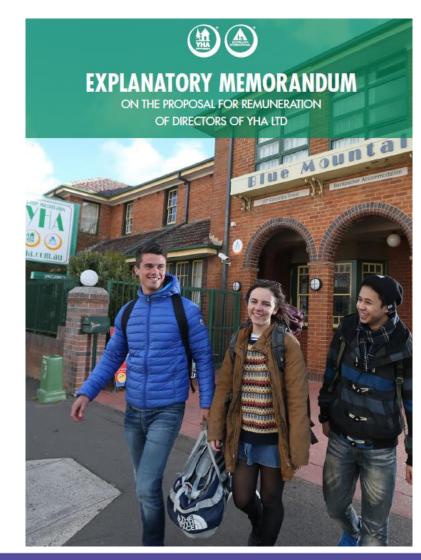
- Co-opted former YHA WA Director after merger
- Succession Planning an area of focus
- First year of implementation of national Strategic Plan 2017-2020





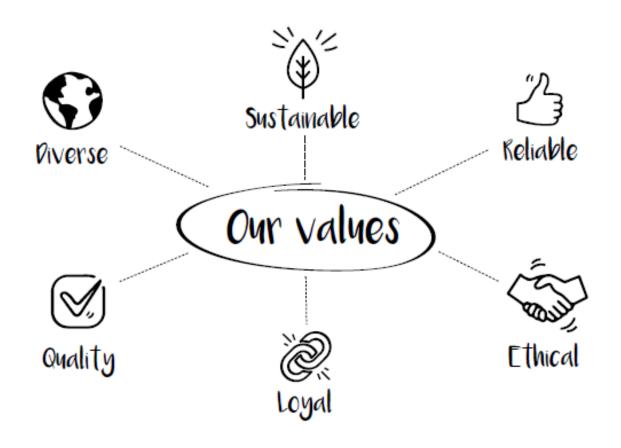
# **Remuneration proposal**

- Directors' Working Group developed proposal for remuneration
- Capped at aggregate limit of \$150K p.a.
- For the proposal to be carried at least 75% of members voting must vote in favour



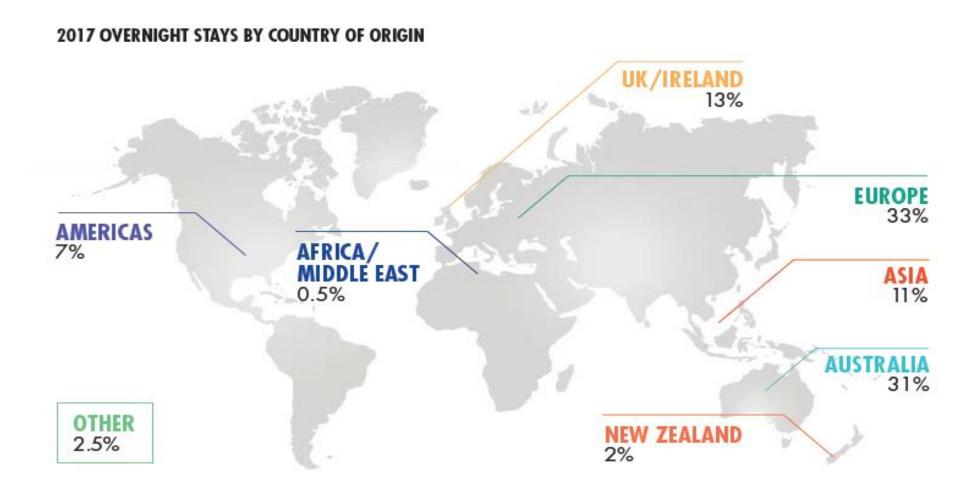








### **Guest Nationalities**





# Marketing

- 'Book Direct & Save' on yha.com.au
- Partnerships with tourism bodies – Tourism Australia and State campaigns
- Positive coverage in print, online, broadcast and social media





# **Communication & Awards**

- Increasing digital communications with members
- Accommodation Guide to be replaced with extended map brochures and online information
- YHA won a 'Global Youth Travel' Award for Sustainability









# Membership

The new membership model

- Every guest, Australian and international is now a member of YHA Australia (YHA Ltd)
- Digital membership card can be stored on smart phone
- Physical card available for \$5 (+ postage) for overseas travel
- Staff and guests embraced the changes



YHA employed new staff member, Liam Hagan, at Brisbane City YHA under a 'Beyond the Broncos Indigenous Program'



# **Digital Technology**

In Sept 2017, the CEOs of other National YHA/HI Associations voted for **YHA Australia** as the

> Most Innovative National Association



YHA Australia trialled two Apps and is developing a new one



# Youth Tourism

- 650,000 backpackers visit Australia each year
- 200,000 are Working Holiday Makers
- Also over 500,000

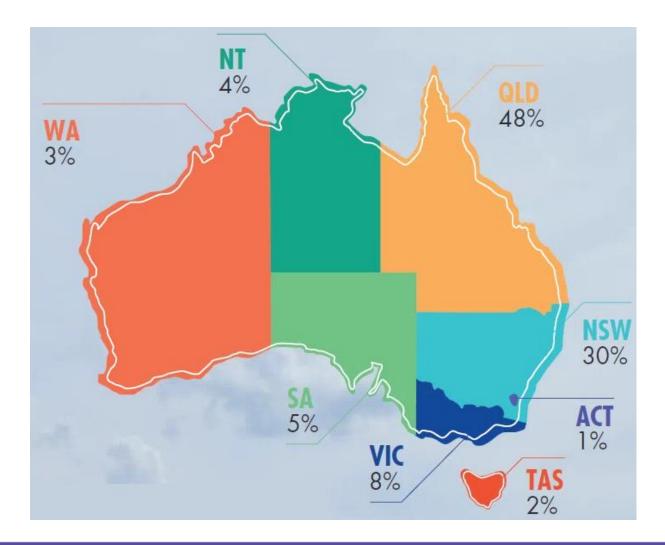
   international students
   who can travel on breaks



YHA took part in Orientation Weeks at universities across Australia



### YHA Travel & Tours State/Territory where bookings made





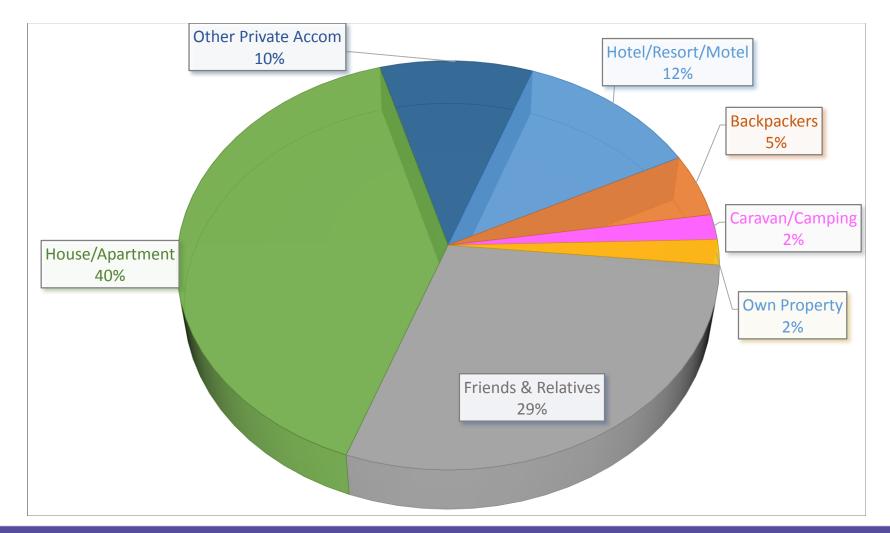
# Outlook

- YHA remains reliant on European guests, but growing Asian visitation presents biggest opportunity
- Huge benefits being gained through technology (but must also manage risks)
- Communication with customers is key (determines how bookings are made)
- Role of Hostelling International





### 2017 International Visitor Nights in Australia





# **Opportunities**

### • Focus on

- $\circ$  growing occupancy
- o managing costs
- o building financial performance
- o supporting network development
- Pursuing options for additional capacity in key cities (Melbourne CBD, Sydney - Central Station precinct)
- Land banked at Surfers Paradise for a future development







# The future

- Customer focused
- Keep people travelling within the YHA network
- Support regional dispersal
- Continue building the relationship with associate hostels
- Invest in systems and technology
- Respect our heritage but keep evolving



Darwin YHA – Melalueca on Mitchell joined the network



### **Acknowledgements**

Thanks go to all YHA's Directors, members, partners and staff

