

MEETING PAPERS

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| MEETING: | Highgate Playgroup AGM |
| MEETING DATE: | 22 September 2025 |
| PREPARED BY: | Rosie Paul (RP) |
| ITEM: | 1.5 – 2024-25 Chair Report |

2024-25 Chair Report

What a bumper year 2024-25 has been for Highgate Playgroup!

A quick update on Committee movements - during this financial year, we said goodbye to our wonderful enrolment and purchasing team Yumiko Tokiwa, Shuri Mitteregger and Hiroe Yoshioka as well as our co-treasurer Ivy Huang – I would like to thank them for the tireless work and effort they put in to making Highgate Playgroup such a wonderful place while they were in the roles! We also welcomed some wonderful new faces with Mona Humphreys joining as enrolment officer, Dhyana Ishibashi as marketing officer and Momoko Seki as purchasing officer who are both doing an incredible job as part of the team. Remaining by my side on the Committee this year has been our incredible Treasurer, Mike Christiansen, Secretary, Viola Poppe, and Party Hire Coordinator, Monika Mecivic. This dedicated team has been the absolute foundation of Highgate Playgroup and are the reason why Highgate Playgroup is such a beautiful, welcoming space. On behalf of all our members, I want to thank the Committee for their continued hard work and commitment.

I'm pleased to report that our membership has grown by 8.5%, reaching 89 members for the 2024-25 year (including committee members). Our party hire service also experienced significant growth, generating \$16,050 in revenue this financial year, which has greatly supported our operating costs. Looking ahead to the 2025-26 financial year, we aim to continue this upward trend in both membership and party hire by focusing on marketing and promoting Highgate Playgroup and its facilities.

Our member events, under the guidance of Viola Poppe, have continued to be a major drawcard for our playgroup. In 2024-25, we hosted a wide range of successful events including:

- Magic Dale;
- Swan Valley Cuddly Animal Farm;
- End of Year Christmas Party;
- Made to Be Mess;
- Children's First Aid Course (thank you to Royal Lifesaving WA in providing this training free of charge to our members);
- Rock 'n' Toddle; and
- Dancing Notes

We plan to continue hosting bi-monthly events throughout the 2025-26 year to keep our members engaged and connected.

MEETING PAPERS

In 2024-25 we were very grateful to receive an election commitment from Mr Frank Paolino, Member for Mount Lawley, to repair the flooring at the playgroup, and thank him for his continued support. We will be looking to conduct these flooring repairs in 2025-26.

For 2025-26, along with the flooring repairs, we will also be looking to improve the vibrancy and visibility of the outside of our playgroup with an outside mural and updates to the outdoor play area. We will also be looking to increase our marketing activity and strengthen our relationships with local community groups, organisations and business to ensure continual connection and support of Highgate Playgroup. I encourage all members to reach out to the Committee with any suggestions or improvements they would like to see for the coming year.

Highgate Playgroup continues to be such a joyful, warm space for me to grow and develop my skills as a parent, surrounded by a supportive community. It has been invaluable to have a safe and welcoming place to connect with other parents, share experiences, and watch our children grow and learn together. My son, who has just turned two, has been attending since he was just four months old, and it has been so wonderful to see his development through play and interaction with other children. My hope for Highgate Playgroup is that we continue to grow our membership so that more parents can benefit from the support and joy that playgroup provides.

Thank you, once again, to our committee for their hard work, to our members for their ongoing support, and to our local community for embracing Highgate Playgroup as a valued part of family life in Mount Lawley.



Rosie Paul

Chair, Highgate Playgroup