



ANNUAL REPORT
2021/2022



CONTENTS

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO	04
THE COMMITTEE	05
PROGRAMS AND WHY OUR THREE AFL PLAYERS ARE INVOLVED	07
PARTNERS	08
THOSE WE HAVE WORKED WITH	09
OUR GOALS	10

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Another strange year for Stand Up - and the world!

Due to Covid we saw ourselves going through yet another rollercoaster of lock downs, alternating restrictions, brief liberation, the known and the unknown – making our work as difficult to navigate as possible.

This report will be quite brief as we could only work with what we had, when we had it.

I am super proud of the team at Stand Up. Even through constant lockdowns, we were able to secure two partnerships – one with Collingwood FC and one with AIA. We were able to film our 3 AFL Ambassadors and digitise our world-first preventative programs. We did a little bit of media and we worked on some wonderful Pride activations – such as The Glam Slam during The Australian Open and Collingwood FCs first activation at Midsumma, which was a huge success!

It was an interesting one for me personally, having given birth to my second daughter in early March. Whilst I was on maternity leave, we contracted Oliver&York to reach out to community clubs to raise awareness of our digital program.

As always, our mission with every single thing that we do is to raise awareness and educate those we work with of the importance of language and behaviour, and that we all have a responsibility to create safe and welcoming spaces for all people – regardless of sexuality and/or gender.

Angie Greene
CEO

THE COMMITTEE

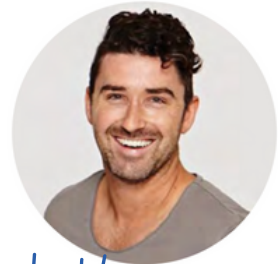
Meet the Stand Up Events team



Angie Greene

Angie is the Founder and CEO of Stand Up Events. She has dedicated her personal and professional life to raising awareness of the injustices and discrimination that faces the LGBTIQ+ Community. She founded Stand Up Events in 2015.

Patrick has been a member of the Stand Up Events committee since its inception in 2015. Patrick has been actively involved in Stand Up Events' development and growth. As a proud member of the LGBTIQ community, Patrick is determined and passionate about changing the current landscape. Patrick is a trained solicitor, with a history in corporate litigation and insurance law, and is currently working in the energy regulation space for the federal government.



Patrick Vagg



Linda Kwok

Helping SUE allows me to use my passion for numbers and the need to improve diversity & inclusion in life. One key takeaway growing up in Singapore is the compulsory education program designed to help breakdown cultural barriers. As a student, we were required to understand the key cultural celebrations and differences to reduce personal bias and misunderstanding. When speaking to Angie the first time and hearing of the research work, I was interested to be involved in the organisation.



Martin Heppell

After finishing high school in Melbourne, Martin spent 3 years in the AFL system, playing AFL football for St Kilda and Melbourne and then for Norwood in the SANFL. Subsequent years were then spent travelling the world backpacking for nearly 3 years, and upon return to Australia, Martin studied primary teaching. After completing his degree at Melbourne University, he commenced teaching at Auburn Primary. After 4 years, he was appointed as the Assistant Principal at Auburn Primary where he held that role for another 4 years – focusing on student well-being, educational leadership and cultural change. In his role at The Resilience Project, Martin has presented to schools, corporations and elite sporting teams all over Australia for the past 4 years. In all environments, he has thrived in situations that have presented challenges and have required optimism. He is passionate about children being given the opportunity to be raised in a positive manner that evokes confidence and a zest for life.

Having been in and around football environments my whole life I have seen how often and casually offensive language can be used on a daily basis. I don't believe anyone should feel excluded or at a disadvantage simply for being who they are. I felt that Law reform alone was insufficient and we needed to change the social norms that lead to the exclusion of LGBTIQ people. I met Angie through friends a couple of years ago and learnt of Stand up and their great cause. I got Angie in to speak to the playing group at Melbourne FC and kept in touch regularly afterwards attending all events Stand up related... I was humbled and honoured when Ange asked me to be a part of the Stand up committee.



Shannon Byrnes



Lisa Holmes

I've always been a champion for Stand Up Events (SUE) but it was after attending a SUE event in 2018 and hearing from Angie on the current level of sexual and gender discrimination in sport in Australia and its subsequent impact on our young people's lives that I felt compelled to be part of SUE. The data shows that homophobic and derogatory language is prevalent in our sporting clubs and environments and this is not okay. We also know that discriminatory language and actions have a profound impact on a person's identity and wellbeing. Having experienced first-hand the impact that discrimination in sport can have, it is so important for all of us to raise our voices and do what we can in fighting sexual and gender discrimination in sport. It is a right for all people to feel safe and included in their sporting club and environment.

WHY OUR THREE PLAYERS ARE INVOLVED



JAYDEN HUNT

MELBOURNE FOOTBALL CLUB

"I have a strong belief that everyone should be treated equally and feel comfortable in being themselves. Therefore, I would love to see all sporting clubs free of homophobic language. One of my best friends came out to my friends and I after years of keeping it a secret from us. I felt horrible that he didn't feel comfortable to be himself and decided to quit sport because of the environment."

JORDAN ROUGHEAD

COLLINGWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB

"I remember using homophobic language when I was younger and feeling uncomfortable about it whenever I did. As I have homosexual family and friends, upon reflection, I would hate to think that they felt uncomfortable around me, or hid who they are because of my language use. I've also seen how a more diverse football club, creates a safe environment where everyone can feel comfortable being themselves, through my experience of coaching AFLW."



TOM CAMPBELL

NORTH MELBOURNE FOOTBALL CLUB



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My whole life I have loved playing sport. From a young age my football clubs have been a constant in my life. I continued playing football from junior level, through to local seniors, then state league in the VFL before finally realising my dream of playing AFL. It wasn't until I met with Angie Greene from Stand Up Events and heard her speak about the impact of homophobic behaviour and language in male dominated team sports that I considered my football journey and the blatant homophobia that I have witnessed and not confronted. The fact that more than 80% of same-sex attracted Australian youth don't feel comfortable or safe to be their true selves in sporting clubs really affected me, I believe everyone should have the right to have the same enjoyment from team sport as I have.

However, what impacted me the most was hearing that same-sex attracted Australians are 14 times more likely to commit suicide in their lifetime. This isn't just about participation, this impacts people's lives

PARTNERS

We are so proud to officially partner with the following companies and organisations.



With every partnership, we work internally with the company to create safe and inclusive environments by raising awareness, holding accountability, and providing tangible skills for people to create change for the better.

ACTIVATIONS

- Secured a 12 month contract with Collingwood FC to work towards more inclusive environments
- Secured a 12 month contract with AIA to work towards more inclusive environments
- Key note speaking event for the playing team and staff at Red Hill Football Club
- Russell and Angie Greene were key note speakers at Red Hills Pride game day luncheon
- Key note speaker for Straight Out Digital
- Angie did the coin toss for the Collingwood FC AFLW before their Pride game
- Angie was interviewed at ½ time during the Collingwood AFLM game at the MCG
- Our programs were showcased on the screens during the Collingwood AFLM game at the MCG
- Assisted with Collingwood FCs activation at Midsumma
- 2 x days of filming our 3 AFL Ambassadors with Collingwood FC and Oliver & York
- Creation of digital programs by Oliver & York
- Angie was a panelist for the AIA world event
- Angie was a guest on Sarah Olles podcast, 'The inside game'
- Stand Up featured in AFL.com article by Alison O'Connor
- Stand Up Assisted with the Australian Open tournament event 'The Glam Slam'. Courtney Act, Changkouth Jiath, Jayden Hunt, Sophia Cachia and Maddy Garrick are some of the people we secured to be part of the day.
- Contracted Oliver & York to manage club recruitment and programs whilst Angie was on maternity leave