

**Armidale Youth Futures: Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday 6 November 2019, 7.30 pm at St Peter's Cathedral Parish Centre, Armidale**

1. The meeting began at 7.40 pm with a welcome from the president, Graham Truscott, who chaired the meeting. This was followed by prayer lead by the Armidale Ministers' Fellowship (AMF) representative, Rev Tamara Ramsay and the hymn 'At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow' accompanied by Kevin Tadman on the piano.

**Attendance:** Management Committee (MC): Graham Truscott (President), Jason Riley (Vice-President), Philip Ward (Secretary), Tamara Ramsey (AMF rep), Julie Tadman (MC), Julie Cook (MC/Minutes Secretary), Matt Mulready (SRE teacher)  
Catherine Dodds, Jim Cook, David Earle, Derek Repp, Kevin Tadman, David Wysel, Sharyn Holmes, David Moen, Keith Dawson.

2. **Apologies:** Rob McClenaghan (Treasurer), Lynda Wysel.

3. **Confirmation of Minutes of AGM, 14 November 2018:** Minutes of the 2018 AGM were approved by the members of the association.  
Moved: David Wysel; Seconded: Jason Riley.

4. **Business Arising from Minutes:** None.

**5. 2017 Reports:**

**5.1 Graham Truscott (President)**

A copy of the report having previously been circulated and then tabled at the meeting, Graham Truscott briefly highlighted the main points it contained. See appendix 1.

**5.2 Matt Mulready (SRE Teacher)**

A copy of the report having previously been circulated and then tabled at the meeting, Matt Mulready briefly highlighted the main points it contained. See appendix 2.

**5.3 Rob McClenaghan (Treasurer)**

The annual financial report had been previously circulated and also tabled at the meeting. See appendix 3.

As the Treasurer, Rob McClenaghan, was unable to attend the meeting the Chairman invited Mr Derek Repp to present the report. Mr Repp has been assisting the AYF MC throughout the year with advice on budgeting and financial management. He noted that the annual accounts were in a slightly different style than in previous years due to government requirements regulating charitable fundraising. He noted that AYF has simple accounts based only on income and expenses. The pattern of income in 2019 had been similar to 2018 with direct donations falling slightly but income from the annual dinner and spring garage sale increasing. Income was \$102,880 and expenses \$93,945 leaving a surplus for the year of \$8,935. Expenses for the year were only slightly increased on those for 2018. Assets are entirely held in cash (short- and long-term bank deposits and a small balance held with Paypal). The total accumulated surplus for the 2019 financial year was \$104,689, being an increase of \$8,935 on the previous year's surplus of \$95,754. It was highlighted that the annual accounts are to be read in conjunction with the set of attached explanatory notes. These clearly state the basis on which the accounts have been prepared; the recognition of all forms of income on receipt and all expenditure accounted for on a cash basis. A declaration that the accounts are a true record of all income and expenditure of AYF and signed by the current chairman/president was also attached.

Graham Truscott thanked Derek Repp for his contribution and acknowledged that income received from donations is down while income from the annual dinner and garage sale is up. He appreciated all those people who worked to bring these two events to fruition and helped to boost the association's income.

*Sharyn Holmes* noted that the art auction which has been part of the annual dinner for some years was not continuing in 2020. How would this affect the budget? *Derek Repp* replied that we will be looking for a replacement to the art auction but we probably will not receive the same income from the dinner in 2020 as in previous years.

#### **5.4 Rev Tamara Ramsey (AMF representative)**

As the link between the Armidale Ministers' Fellowship and the AYF Management Committee Tamara Ramsey commented that the AYF committee was pleased that the churches in Armidale were working together to support the SRE ministry and that for their part the AMF thanked the AYF MC for managing the provision of SRE in Armidale Secondary College. There were no questions/comments from the meeting. Graham Truscott thanked Tamara for her comments.

#### **6. Questions/comments relating to the reports or any other relevant matters were then invited from the meeting.**

*Graham Truscott* made two further comments: (i) relations with the leadership of the ASC, although good in recent years, have been improving, (ii) there is a need to encourage the timetabling of SRE in its own 'line' in the 2020 college timetable. This would mean SRE classes were not taken from other subject areas as has been the case in the past and which has been a point of friction for regular teachers in the college.

*Kevin Tadman* noted that the ACT government had axed SRE. Will there be a flow-on in NSW in relation to SRE and also chaplains in schools. *Matt Mulready* replied that chaplaincy has grown 400% in three years in NSW and the next three-year funding cycle is about to begin with more applications than available funds. Qld has the strongest chaplaincy programme with a chaplain in every school. The number in NSW is growing. Generate has started a new partnership with Scripture Union (Qld) to grow the chaplains outreach in NSW. SRE is also in the strongest position it has been in for years in NSW and it is unlikely that the ACT decision will have an impact in NSW. *Graham Truscott* noted that AYF had been partly supporting the provision of a part-time chaplain to Drummond Primary School but after 6–8 months the chaplain had to return to Sydney as he could not obtain supplementary employment.

*Kevin Tadman* commented that he had helped cook sausages at the 'Kick-Off' event and he was encouraged to see the large numbers of students who attended. The senior years arrived later for their section of the evening and did not eat many sausages, presumably as they had already eaten before arriving. For future events could they arrive earlier? *Matt Mulready* replied that time constraints meant that they could not start the senior programme earlier. Food works well as a social lubricant and the students appreciate it. He suggested that the senior group could start half an hour earlier and have sausages at the end of the evening when they would be hungry again.

*Derek Repp* noted the importance of students returning their 'opt-in' forms to take part in SRE. Has there been any discussion between AYF and other SRE management committees about strategies to increase the participation rate? Could the form be supplied digitally? *Matt Mulready* replied that the strategy of him visiting SRE classes in all the Armidale primary schools and running a sample high school SRE lesson seems to be an innovation so Armidale may be leading the game on this. The form is a paper form supplied in all enrolment packs.

*Graham Truscott* asked how do we reach those students who have not participated in primary SRE? Orientation evenings were the main way. *Julie Tadman* noted that the junior kick-off event, tried for the first time this year, was good publicity for encouraging SRE participation. *Graham Truscott* suggested that we hand out opt-in letters at kick-off.

*David Moen* noted that two teachers from ASC had attended the annual dinner. He asked if the principal, Carolyn Lasker, is also supportive of SRE. *Matt Mulready* replied that he enjoys a good professional relationship with Ms Lasker. *Graham Truscott* added that she is pro-active, approachable, personable and positive. She agreed to extending SRE to yrs 11 & 12 and agreed that Matt should be included in the school's teacher structure and review process. He hoped that she would be able to attend the dinner in 2020 and see the strength of support for SRE and the unity of the churches. *David Moen* noted that at the monthly Prayer for Armidale prayer meetings the work of AYF and Matt Mulready was regularly prayed for.

## **7. Elections of Management Committee members**

David Wysel conducted the election for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and up to three ordinary committee members. He informed the meeting that valid written nominations for all six positions had been received prior to the AGM. All those people nominated had accepted nomination. These were:

- President       Graham Truscott, nominated by Philip Ward, seconded by Jason Riley
- Vice President   Jason Riley, nominated by Julie Tadman, seconded by Julie Cook
- Secretary       Philip Ward, nominated by Julie Cook, seconded by Julie Tadman
- Treasurer       Robert McClenaghan, nominated by Philip Ward, seconded by Graham Truscott
- Ord. Member     Julie Cook, nominated by Jason Riley, seconded by Philip Ward
- Ord. Member     Julie Tadman, nominated by Philip Ward, seconded by Jason Riley

David Wysel then asked if there were any further nominations. Graham Truscott nominated David Earle (a member of the AYF Association). This nomination was seconded by Philip Ward. There being no further nominations all those noted above were duly declared elected as the AYF Management Committee for 2020.

## **8. General Business: None**

There being no final questions Graham Truscott thanked all who attended and asked David Moen to close in prayer. The meeting closed at 8.45 pm and was followed by supper.

## 2019 Annual General Meeting – President's Report

Support for Christian Special Religious Education (SRE) has continued to be strong from all the churches in the Armidale Ministers Fellowship through generous financial support and, most importantly, prayers for our team and students. Our supporting churches include:

- Anglican Churches (St Marks, St Mary's, St Peters)
- Armidale City Church
- Baptist Churches (Armidale District Baptist Church, Chapel Street Baptist)
- Christian Outreach Centre
- Emmaus Church
- Fresh Hope Church (Church of Christ)
- Presbyterian Church
- Salvation Army
- Saints Mary & Joseph Catholic Cathedral
- Seventh Day Adventist Armidale
- Uniting Church.

All churches belonging to the Armidale Ministers' Fellowship have cross-authorized the SRE curricula, *Think Faith* (Years 7-10) and *Jesus the Game Changer* (Years 11-12).

Our Year 9 SRE seminar volunteer leaders: Robert Baker, Merrilyn Pearson, Peter Clark and Mark Evered are all experienced leaders, each connecting with different students as they share the love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are excited about our Years 11-12 SRE seminars and our new linkage to the University of New England Christians United group which visited them for a BBQ together at Armidale Secondary College to encourage continued faith at university.

The Inter-school Christian Fellowship (ISCF) BOOST lunchtime group has also been reactivated with nine students contributing to the leadership and running of the group, using resources from Scripture Union, Crusaders and Open Doors.

Our fundraising hit new heights this year with a record Monster Spring Garage Sale, thanks to the generosity of all contributors and the Armidale community. The April Fundraising Dinner was also a great success with all our churches attending, with over 200 guests. A feature was special guests ASC senior executive teachers Tim and Leanne Vaughan, who claimed our Matt Mulready to be a "legend" amongst all the students. Guest speaker Sean Johns from The Fathering Project also helped us to recognise and understand the great benefit of Matt as a father-type figure amongst so many young people lacking their own fathers in this period of society.

The August KICK-OFF event, in partnership with Word of Life Ministries, yet again proved a major draw-card for youth outreach. Over 100 young people from Christian SRE and combined church youth groups were excited by the massive blow-up adventure activities which provided great fun, as well as some powerful gospel

teaching and discipling. This draw-card event will be expanded in the next financial year to include the Primary School levels with a special Junior KICK-OFF series.

While the NSW Government legislation clearly provides for Special Religious Education to be taught in all public schools, this year the Department of Education changed its enrolment policy from “opt-out” to “opt-in”. This requires parents of newly enrolling children to specify in an SRE Participation Letter whether they wish their children to attend SRE or an alternative activity. Delivered in November 2018, this policy change provided little time for ASC to introduce the Participation Letter to newly enrolling Year 7 students. The result was a significantly reduced Christian SRE enrolment for Year 7 and we have been playing catch-up all year to encourage further enrolment. However, in the next financial year we plan to assist the transition of current Year 6 SRE children moving into Year 7 in 2020. Matt will visit their classes in every Primary School in the 2019 Terms 3 and 4 to introduce himself and the Christian SRE classes and encourage their enrolment, passing out the SRE Participation Letters to all Year 6 SRE students for SRE enrolment and parental signature. This will include Catholic Christian SRE classes, for which we have obtained special permission from their coordinator, Kerry Stella. The forms will be returned to the Year 6 teachers, collected by Primary SRE Coordinator Lynda Wysel and hand-passed to Matt who will deliver them to the ASC office. With such a proactive approach we hope and pray we will revitalise our Year 7 student numbers. In addition, we ask that all our AYF members encourage all parents to enrol their children into Christian SRE at both Primary and Secondary levels, and pray for high student uptake.

We are very blessed to have a talented and dedicated Management Committee to manage and conduct the work of AYF. My sincere thanks to our committee members:

- Graham Truscott, Chairman, Public Officer, governance, compliance
- Jason Riley, Vice-Chairman, newsletter, website, technical services
- Julie Cook, Minutes Secretary
- Rob McClenaghan, Treasurer
- Matt Mulready, SRE Teacher Armidale Secondary College
- Tamara Ramsay, Armidale Ministers Fellowship representative
- Julie Tadman
- Philip Ward, Secretary

Our thanks also to Derek Repp who has also assisted our Treasurer in providing financial management and budgeting services.

On behalf of the AYF Management Committee we thank all our members and supporters for your prayers and very generous support for AYF. With your help we are teaching the gospel to our young people at the Armidale Secondary College, providing real and loving Christian role-models and holding out to them a life of hope and purpose with our Lord Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ,

*Graham Truscott*  
**President**  
**Armidale Youth Futures**

# SRE Teacher's Report 2019

I am continually thankful to God for the opportunity SRE provides, holding out hope and purpose in public schools, for students to know God their loving Creator as both Judge and Saviour. There are clearly many challenges facing teenagers today, often starting in the home, leaving a void in place of identity, belonging and comfort. They look for satisfaction wherever they can find it, similar to the hungry crowds around Jesus by Lake Galilee, but will only truly be satisfied in Jesus himself...

*"Sir," they said, "always give us this bread." Then Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry. And whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. John 6:34-35 (NirV)*

However, it is a constant frustration and sadness that more students do not take hold of this opportunity. 2019 has been the year when the NSW Department of Education changed SRE enrolment procedures requiring families to pro-actively return a permission letter for students to participate in SRE. This has impacted heavily on student numbers across the state, including Armidale.

2019 has been the year when Duval and Armidale High Schools amalgamated to form Armidale Secondary College. ASC has been operating on the Duval site, with an additional 30+ demountable buildings to accommodate the 1200+ students, while the Armidale site is redeveloped, due for completion in 2021. On the whole there has been minimal impact on SRE, however, additional pressures on school administration has created some challenges for timetabling, rooming and electronic roll-keeping. One positive outcome has been combining the two ISCF (Inter-School Christian Fellowship) groups to form BOOST.



## SRE Classes and Seminars

Similar to the previous SRE structure Armidale Secondary College have timetabled Special Religious Education once per fortnight (60 minute lesson) for students in Years 7-10. Access to students in Years 11-12 for SRE has been provided once a term outside of timetabled lessons.

Students in Years 7, 8 & 10 have had SRE in a class structure, while students in Year 9 have had SRE seminars incorporating small discussion groups. Once again a team of faithful volunteers from local churches have facilitated these groups. All volunteers were authorised by approved SRE providers and had a verified Working With Children Check. I am very thankful for the partnership of our 2019 volunteers;

Merrilyn Pearson, Armidale City Church  
Peter Clark, Armidale District Baptist Church  
Robert Baker, St Marks UNE Church  
Mark Evered, St Marks UNE Church

Occasionally, when either myself or a regular volunteer was unavailable, I have called upon a casual SRE teacher to fill in, often at short notice. This demonstrates to students and the school community AYF's strong commitment to SRE. In 2019 the casual teachers were;

Peter Clark, Armidale District Baptist Church  
Tam Ramsay, St Marks UNE Church  
Kurt Langmead, St Peters Anglican Church



**ARMIDALE YOUTH FUTURES INCORPORATED**

**FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

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## Income and Expenditure Statement

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Gifts and donations	56,214	63,668
Fundraising - Dinner	34,745	29,267
Fundraising – Garage Sale	9,423	8,017
Interest income	2,306	2,463
Other income	192	219
	<b>102,880</b>	<b>103,634</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Generate Ministries	83,833	81,776
Fundraising – Dinner	8,193	8,097
Seminar fees	1,087	1,140
Fundraising – Garage Sale	228	130
Donations	200	100
Bank charges	176	326
Postage	130	127
Other expenses	98	92
	<b>93,945</b>	<b>91,788</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>8,935</b>	<b>11,846</b>

The income and expenditure statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

## Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash at bank	20,920	28,748
Term deposits – short term	83,185	62,714
Paypal funds	584	4,292
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>104,689</b>	<b>95,754</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Accumulated Surplus	104,689	95,754
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>104,689</b>	<b>95,754</b>

The balance sheet is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

## **Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements**

### **1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies / Basis of Preparation**

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared for use by Armidale Youth Futures Incorporated. It has been prepared in order to assist the Management Committee and members to understand the financial performance of the organisation. The financial report is also prepared to meet the requirements of the *Charitable Fundraising Authority Conditions*.

Unless otherwise stated below, the financial report has been prepared on a cash basis, based on historic costs.

The following significant accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

#### **(a) Revenue Recognition**

Revenue in the form of gifts, donations, fundraising, bank interest and other income have been recognised upon receipt.

#### **(b) Expenditure**

All expenditure is accounted for on a cash basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

### **2. Use of Surpluses from Fundraising Appeals**

Surpluses generated from fundraising appeals were used towards the organisation's mission of establishing, maintaining and growing Christian education in the Armidale High School.

### **3. Remuneration of Officers**

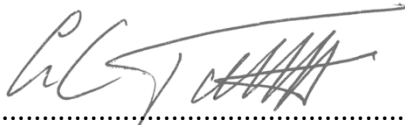
No member of the Management Committee nor Chairman received remuneration from the organisation. The running of the organisation relies on the generous effort of unremunerated volunteers.

## **Chairman's Declaration**

### **For the year ended 30 June 2019**

In the opinion of the Chairman:

- (a) the income and expenditure statement gives a true and fair view of all income and expenditure of the organisation with respect to fundraising appeals, and
- (b) the balance sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation with respect to fundraising appeals conducted by the organisation, and
- (c) the provisions of the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* ('the Act'), the regulations under the Act and the conditions attached to the authority have been complied with by the organisation and
- (d) the internal controls exercised by the organisation are appropriate and effective in accounting for all income received and applied by the organisation from any of its fundraising appeals.



.....  
Chairman – Graham Truscott

Dated: 6 November 2019