

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA ACT DIVISION



President's Report – Brian Gleeson

On behalf of the ACT Division, I am pleased to present the UNAA ACT Annual Report for the 2021/22 year. The performance of the Division and its ability to conduct its full planned activities has continued to be challenged by ongoing COVID restrictions and the health impact on Divisional Committee members, especially in facilitating face to face events and have more activities which enable social interactions with members.

At the National level, as President, I have represented the Division as a Director at all National Board meetings conducted during the year and have actively contributed to a number of initiatives and governance matters, including the development of policies around the Code of Conduct and being a core member of the Board Working Party charged with the responsibility of planning for national events. I have continued to be the lead focal point on the National Board for the UN Alumni Network and the Parliamentary Friends of the UN. It has been encouraging that we have been able to progress improved communications with members of the UN Alumni Network through the newsletter and to bring the other Divisions into a stronger coordination and cooperation focus to leverage the opportunities that the Alumni Network can provide across the country. The outcomes of the recent Federal elections present an opportunity to revive the Parliamentary Friends of the UN and recent efforts have been initiated to obtain nominations for the two Co-Chairs roles from the two major parties. I have also been engaging with the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) to support the growth of UNAA's in the Pacific region and the election of an Australian for Vice-President of WFUNA.

At the Divisional level, I continued to represent the Division in a number of community events, University activities and special interest groups to promote the values of the UN, to advocate stronger action on the implementation of the SDGs, to promote career opportunities in the UN and to build partnerships. A major effort was made to enhance the partnership opportunities with the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) following the appointment of a new Director to Australia. A number of areas of cooperation have been identified – UN Day, National Forum, National Partnership event in Canberra, strengthening the presence of UNAAs in the region, joint activities (UN Day, Governor-General Open House, Multi-Cultural Festival) and UNIC has provided a generous financial contribution to the National Forum to be hosted in Canberra in early 2023. I have also worked with the UN Young Professionals in the development of a Memorandum of Understanding to foster a greater level of cooperation and partnership in working together in areas of mutual interest. I am hopeful that a similar outcome can be achieved with UN Youth ACT following their recent leadership and committee changes.

The Division was able to maintain its events program through the conduct of six events during the year with high profile speakers covering a range of topics – International Day of Peace; UN Day – Australia's work in the UN; Orange the World – End Violence Against Women Now; UN Climate Change Conference – How will Australia Manage Confusion and Contradiction to Rise to the Challenges; the UN SDGs Social, Environmental and Business Value and 50th Anniversary of the UN Conference on the Environment. One of our Vice Presidents also attended the annual UN Peacekeepers Day event and arranged the laying of a wreath by the previous National President of UNAA. All events were well attended and the Events Sub-Committee played a critical and successful role in ensuring that the events were managed in a professional manner.



President's Report – Brian Gleeson

(President's Report, continued)

The Financial Statements in this Report reflect a consolidated of our finances, noting that we were unable to conduct any events or activities which attracted a charge or fee. This was a conscious decision of the Committee given the inability to hold in person events and to provide ongoing services to members without financial contribution. Our membership numbers remained stable during the year and we are hopeful that there will be a larger number of face to face activities during the upcoming year. The Division is reviewing its membership technology platform, its partnerships and outreach strategy, its social media network, as well as its website, in an effort to improve its serviceability to members and to maximise the Division's priority towards ongoing effective communications; the issue of the monthly newsletters has been a very positive contribution to ensuring members are kept informed and up to date with UN affairs at the global level.

The positive year for the ACT Division would not have been achieved without the full support of the ACT Division Committee members who continued to provide their volunteer support, energy and commitment throughout the challenging year. The cohesive teamwork has been instrumental in ensuring that our events and activities have been conducted so professionally and evaluated positively. I look forward to working with the next Committee which will be elected in September/October.

On behalf of the ACT Division Committee, I wish you continued good health, safety and success in your endeavours.

Brian

WITH THANKS TO

Executive Committee Members

President: Brian Gleeson

Vice Presidents:

Harold Wilkinson

Nicholas Flack

Frances Stanton

Secretary: Roslyn Dundas

Treasurer: Christine Vincent

Committee Members

Claire Fraser

(Events Committee Lead)

Angela Harrison

(Stakeholder Engagement Committee Lead)

Nimalan Karthikeyan

Mandy Lister

Michele Smith

John Tilemann



Immediate Past President

Jonathan Curtis (2018-2019)

Financial Report 2021-22

United Nations Association of Australia (ACT Division) Incorporated

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS - FY2021-22

	FY 2021-22 \$ Actual	FY 2020-21 \$ Actual	FY 2019-20 \$ Actual
RECEIPTS:			
Membership subscriptions	3221	2651	3956
UNAA National Office Rent	0	1845	1834
Miscellaneous	120	0	0
TOTAL RECEIPTS	3,341	6,166	7,387
PAYMENTS:			
UNAA Levy	259	374	561
Rent	0	2457	2821
Telephone/Internet	34	839	868
Printing/Photocopying/Promotions	38	0	150
Insurance	231	0	0
Miscellaneous	482	220	418
TOTAL PAYMENTS	1,044	4,868	6,021
CASH SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR	2,297	1,298	1,366

STATEMENT OF ACCUMULATED FUNDS - FY2021-22

ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
at beginning of year	22,531	21,456	19,747
CASH SURPLUS (DEFICIT) year to date	2,297	1,008	1709
Interest on deposit	19	67	
ACCUMULATED FUNDS year to date	24,847	22,531	21,456

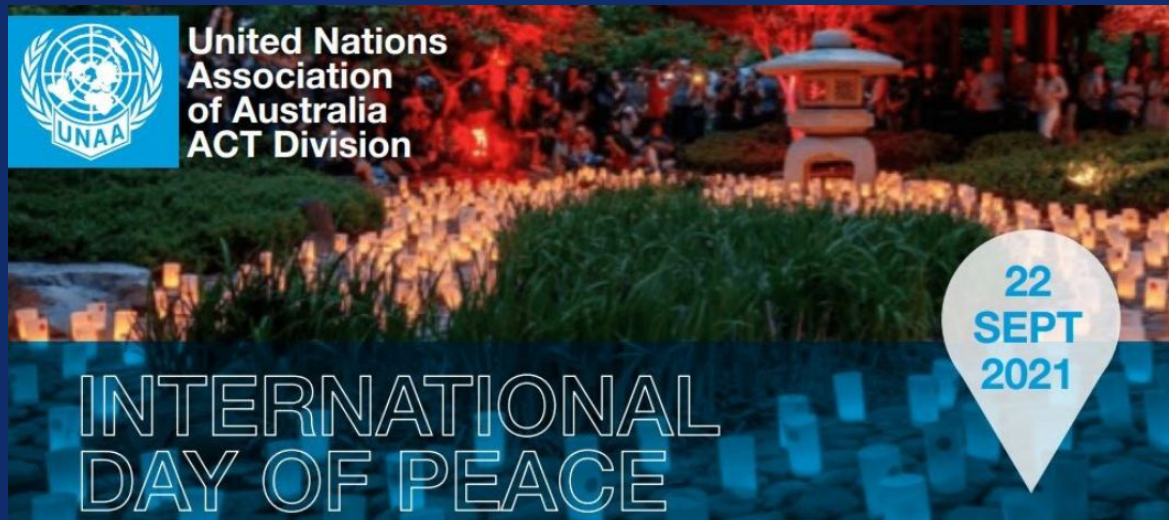
Represented by:

CURRENT ASSETS - CASH AT BANK

Operating account: Westpac	11,579	9,283	8,276
Special account: Westpac	2,770	2,770	2,769
Interest Bearing Deposit	10,498	10,479	10,412
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	24,847	22,531	21,456



2021-22 Events



International day of Peace and the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (22 Sept 2021)

Dr Sue Wareham shared her thoughts on Australia and the UN's call for Member States to support a "sustained humanitarian pause" to local conflicts. The global ceasefire must continue to be honoured, to ensure people caught in conflict have access to lifesaving vaccinations and treatments. Celebrate peace by standing up against acts of hate online and offline, and by spreading compassion, kindness, and hope in the face of the pandemic, and as we recover



UN Day 2021: Australia's work in the UN, with Guest Speaker Mr Gary Quinlan (25 Oct 2021)

UNAA strives to inform, inspire and engage all Australians about the critical work, goals, and values of the United Nations to create a safer, fairer and more sustainable world. The ACT Division marked UN Day by engaging with Mr Gary Quinlan, the Australian Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York from 2009 until January 2015, and Australian Representative on the United Nations Security Council 2013-2014. He drew from his extensive career in the UN to share reflections on the role of UN multilateralism in the contemporary world. One where relations between states have changed so decisively and where the world order established after WW2 is under fundamental challenge. His challenge to us was to together keep exploring the role of the UN, its reform and the importance of Australia's position in fostering its objectives.

2021-22 Events



Orange the World: End Violence Against Women Now! (25 Nov 2021)

Honorary Associate Professor Sally Moyle spoke with the UNAA Act Division and our event attendees on the need to build more positive relations of power if we are to eliminate violence, and the role of intersectional gender equality in that endeavour. Sally was the Chief Executive Officer at CARE Australia and had also been the Principal Gender Specialist and Assistant Secretary with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. She related to the participants that all of the great global challenges we face are built on systems of dominance — human power over the environment leading to global heating; geopolitical 'might is right' delivering armed conflict and endemic poverty; systems of corruption and inequality marginalising whole communities and entrenching privilege. The antidote to these systems of dominance lies in addressing the SDGs starting from intersectional gender equality and seriously addressing violence against women.



UN Climate Change Conference: How will Australia manage compromise and contradiction to rise to the challenge? (16 Dec 2021)

"The outcome of COP26 is a compromise. It reflects the interests, the contradictions and the state of political will in the world today. It is an important step, but it is not enough" UN Secretary-General António Guterres said at the conclusion of the conference. In this event Professor Bamsey shared his reflections on the UN Climate Change Conference and its context, focusing on Australia's contribution. With COP 26's conclusion of the rules needed to implement what was agreed in Paris, Australia can be satisfied that it has helped to shape a framework that makes it possible to respond effectively to climate change.

2021-22 Events



The UN Sustainable Development Goals: social, environmental, and business value (26 Apr 2022)

With less than eight years left to achieve the UN SDGs, there is no better time to support the global movement for greater peace, prosperity, and sustainability. Our guest speakers Sophie Arnold and Julie Boulton shares with us how UNAA Victoria and Spark Strategy have combined to produce a practical handbook to help organisations align to the SDGs. They hope the handbook inspires more to apply the Goals, either for the first time or building on existing SDG work. And that it provides clear practical guidance and a strong foundation to support and strengthen the use of the SDGs.



50th Anniversary of the UN Conference on the Environment (28 Jun 2022)

Our distinguished speaker Mr Jamie Isbister, Australia's Ambassador for the Environment, discussed the key messages that commemorated the International Day on Environment and the outcomes of this Stockholm Conference. Mr Isbister will speak broadly on climate and environmental issues and draw on important work being done in the Indo-Pacific. Together we explored the theme of this conference: "Stockholm +50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity".



United Nations
Association
of Australia
ACT Division



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