

Presidents Report

AGM 30th March 2021

Herewith the Presidents report for the year ending 31st December 2020.

2020 turned out to be the roughest year for U3A Frankston in its living memory. Even though we turned 35 in the October, no one could have anticipated the dramas that would unfold during the year.

We started with a bang in our superb new premises with a healthy bank balance and an increasing membership. Although Covid was on the horizon, it was still on the horizon and so we made a series of decisions for U3A Frankston at the last AGM. The President was due to leave on holiday that Friday and everything was in place for the year. How quickly things change. I got stranded in Morocco and took 60 hours to get home, having sacrificed two weeks of a longed-for trip! But I was safe.

The decision to close U3A Frankston was made from overseas and was easy to make, based on what I was seeing at airports and around me. We were lucky. On my return I went into quarantine at home and began to experience what was going to be a long and lonely year for us all.

Your committee and I worked tirelessly to keep in touch with everyone and I thank Frankston City Council for ringing some of our members not yet on email to ensure they were safe. We kept up the Presidential Ponderings and a number of other messages to all the members as well as deciding to extend everyone's membership fee until 30th June of this year.

We researched and applied for as many grants as we could. Some were successful – enabling us to run a Trivia Event, to print the anthology for the Creative Writing Group, others were not. However, we set up a couple of projects such as The Pandemic Made Me Do it and our anniversary card in an attempt to keep us all involved and engaged. We also participated in Seniors Week and gained a few members as a result.

Our greatest achievement was the setting up and running of Zoom classes throughout the year. It was a great investment and enabled many of us to learn and use new skills as well as keeping in touch with each other. I believe we all made virtual friends during that time! I particularly thank the tutors who embraced the idea and worked hard to keep everyone involved. I was very impressed by the attempts of the musical groups to keep things going.

Finances were tight and it was with gratitude that I managed to negotiate the suspension of our rental and utilities bills at Karingal Place with FCC. Unfortunately, we were still obliged to pay the standing costs for telephone, internet, insurance etc. but our magnificent Treasurer managed to keep us on a steady track, and you will see from her report that we ended the year better than we feared.

However, we are not out of the woods by a long way. We need to keep funds coming in, members coming to us and maintaining our costs as low as possible. Thank you to those who have already donated goods and to those who have paid their expenses.

Some difficult decisions are still ahead of us. We have therefore decided to defer the decision made at the last AGM regarding fees. The balance of this year's membership is due on 1st July and will be \$25. We will hold the annual membership fee at \$50 plus class fees for 2022.

Your committee has also discussed the issue of associate/affiliate membership. We feel in the current circumstances that with effect from 2022 we will only accept full membership fees.

None of this would be possible without the outstanding efforts of the committee. Two members resigned during the year – Barbara McColl as Secretary and Bob Favalaro as Course Coordinator. We thank them for their service.

Fortunately, Heather Wallis stepped up to replace Barb and we have a class coordinator supported by Graham Wallis and Leonie Price. Don McDonald also agreed to come onto the Committee to ensure an equalisation of roles.

We have new volunteers for the Office at last to enable Leonie to take a well-earned break from the day to day running of the Office.

Our Treasurer has indicated that this is her last year as Treasurer. She has streamlined our systems, balanced the books and been extremely efficient in everything she does. I hold an enormous debt of gratitude to her as should you all. Whoever takes over will find the finances in excellent order. Please consider the role.

Your committee has been exemplary. You could not have wished for a better bunch and neither could I. We would not have made it through the year without their willingness and support and I acknowledge them with huge thanks. I also want to mention Mark Dunn and Peter Stirling for their assistance with all things technical and to Jo Kidder for her help with grants.

This is my last year as President. I took on the job for three years and I think have aged dramatically as a result. It has been an extremely difficult time. We moved premises ahead of schedule and within budget, increased our membership and then faced the trauma of Covid-19 and I experienced the loss of my last family member, my dear Dad. I therefore ask everyone of you to consider a role on the committee – it will never be this bad again!

What next you ask yourselves? Well, steady as she goes. We await the full rollout of the vaccine and for the continued good news on infection control and containment of this virus. All I ask of you is that you stay safe, keep in touch and continue to support U3A Frankston as you have done in the past.

Here's to a hopefully freer 2021.

U3A Frankston Inc.

Treasurer's Speech Financial Year Ending December 31st, 2020

Good Afternoon,

My name is Jen Hume and as Treasurer I am presenting you this report for the year ending 31st December, 2020.

2020 was a very difficult year for everyone, some found it physically challenging, others emotionally and some, like U3A Frankston found it financially challenging.

With its unexpected changes in lockdown rules 2020 became a year of "wait and see" and we did right up to the end of our financial year on December 31st.

U3AF had been under pressure during 2020. Our aim as your committee had been to ensure its Members could return in 2021 with interesting classes and classrooms all setup with social distancing and sanitising rules in mind.

A further part of this aim was to decide how we were financially to achieve this. The most obvious solution was to maximise the income we received and minimize expenditure – Sounds simple.

INCOME:

In 2020 our total income was \$42,218 compared with 2019's income of \$102,029 a difference of almost \$60,000 at 2020 year's end.

Most income came from Membership Fees and Class Fees and Approved Grants. As 2020 Enrolment occurred prior to the Lockdown date of March 15, Members had paid their Membership Fees and Class Fees for the first Term of 2020. The Grants came in at different times during the year.

How did U3AF manage to overcome this lack of income and still remain viable? Through tough negotiations with stakeholders:

- Frankston City Council
- High Street Uniting Church used by the Choir
- Karingal Uniting Church used by various Classes
- OneMusic (the Music Licence for our Choir and other musical groups)
- And others

Some waived fees and charges, whilst others gave credits for their services.

EXPENSES:

Inevitably there were expenses of \$40,641 worth. Significantly less than the \$111,331 of expenses in 2019.

The main expense categories for 2020:

Karingal Place: - \$7238 payable to Frankston City Council for the Licence Fee, Cleaning and Utilities. This represents the First Quarterly payment only (January-March, 2020).

Had we been obliged, we may have had to pay Frankston City Council a further \$24,000 for our lodgings at KP.

Computer/IT: -

- Repairs and maintenance for Laptops in the Office and for Committee Members
- Purchase of 9 Zoom Licences
- Room 1 Desktop and Laptop Computer Upgrades
- Be Connected Digital Device Loan Program purchase of 5 Laptops, accessories, internet provision and setup by outside Contractor.
- Most of this work was booked, performed and paid for prior to lockdown.

New Equipment:

- Keyboard (Piano)
- Keyboard Stand and Stool
- Microphone
- New internal signage
- And other items

Phones:

- Phone service payable for full 12 months as per contract
- Internet service payable for full 12 months as per contract
- Rental of 4 VoIP office phones for 12 months as per contract.

Other:

- New External Signage
- Garden Maintenance
- Training/Tutor Expenses
- Catering/Functions
- Donations (\$1000 to Bushfire Appeal)
- Depreciation.

So, as you can see it doesn't take long to spend money.

What is important to realise is that a large proportion of this expenditure was realised and paid for prior to the March Lockdown.

GRANTS:

We were successful in acquiring funding to the value of \$7,500 in 2020. Whilst Grants in 2019 were valued at \$23,500 and appears a more prosperous year for Grants we must remember the Special Grant of \$10,000 from the Department of Social Services used to assist U3A Frankston with its move to Karingal Place.

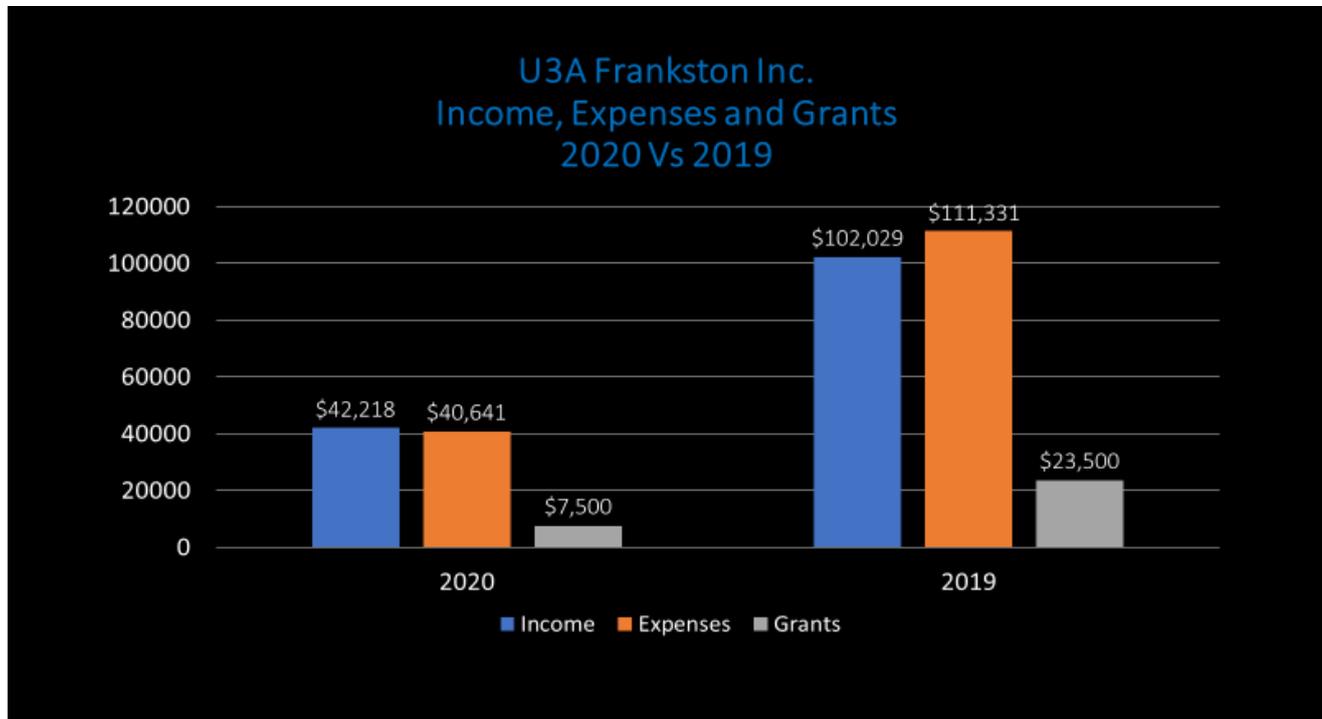
Notes regarding Grants:

- ❖ Grants are included under Income for reporting purposes only.
- ❖ Grants DO NOT equal general income.
- ❖ Grants are for a specific purpose as nominated by the Grant Application.

List of Accepted Grants for 2020

Organisation	Amount	Description
Frankston City Council	\$500	Seniors Month Event/Trivia Quiz
Frankston City Council	\$1,000	Publishing of U3AF Creative Writing Anthology
U3A Network Victoria	\$1,000	Hosting/Catering Regional Meetings
Be Connected	\$5,000	Digital Device Loan Program Laptop purchases
TOTAL GRANTS 2020	\$7,500	

This graph below dramatically shows the difference between 2019 and 2020 across Income, Expenses and Grants. *Its impact is indisputable.*



In its rawest form, Income less Expenses will either make you a Profit or Loss.

I am pleased to announce that U3A Frankston was able to post a very small profit despite the year's challenges. **The Profit is \$1,577.**

We were able to achieve this in two ways:

Firstly, by the Outgoing Committee working hard to ensure every dollar spent was essential during 2020.

Secondly, the efforts of previous U3A Frankston Committees to financially plan for the proverbial "Rainy Day", should not be underestimated.

2020 was a torrential down-pour of epic proportions and thanks to them we have been successful in financially negotiating it, allowing us all to enjoy 2021.

Finishing up I would like to remind members:

- The recovery to pre COVID-19 financial status could take up to the end of 2022 or even 2023 and only if COVID-19 remains controlled.
- It will take the whole U3A Frankston Community to lead the charge in keeping us viable.
- To help we need each current and future, member to support us by continuing your Membership and Classes, now and into the future.

Finally, our 2020 Auditor Mr. Glen McClelland audited our books in January, 2020 and reported, that in his opinion U3A Frankston Incorporated's Financial Reports give a true and fair view of its financial position, financial performance and cash flows as at December 31, 2019, complies with Australian Accounting Standards and prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission Regulation 2013 and the Act of 2012.

Copies of the Financial Reports and the Auditors Report are available upon request.

Jen Hume
Treasurer
[U3A Frankston Inc.](#)

March 30, 2021