

GOSPEL HALL INC. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, NOVEMBER 2018

In the past year we have welcomed two new members to the board. Monica Lusardo who graciously has accepted the role of treasurer and at our August meeting Carol Geyer was introduced. We look forward to their contribution.

I want to recognise and thank Linda Cully who is looking after book-keeping for both Trust activities. Linda along with our auditor Michael Scott and Treasurer Monica Lusardo claimed significant outstanding GST reimbursements.

Sadly, we may lose the services of Stephen Novak due to business and family pressures. Stephen's contribution and expertise has been extremely helpful especially during the integration of U.S.E. If he chooses to leave us we wish him well for the future.

With the obligation to the State Government completed in six years time, we have been considering what future direction GHI might take. The members were looking for challenges; well the answer came more quickly than we anticipated.

The unfortunate closure of Urban Seed at the end of 2017, presented us with a quandary as what to do with the ground floor Den. We were approached by the convenor of Urban Seed Education. "Would we be interested in continuing the activities of U.S.E?". Its continuation made sense to our board members and complied with our charter, this could be the challenge we had been looking for.

With the assistance of Urban Seed management, Mayra Stark and the skill of our members we have incorporated this activity into our program. It has been an exciting and hectic time for GHI as many of the issues in incorporating this activity were demanding and time consuming. I would like to particularly acknowledge the contribution of Stefanie Pearce, Mayra Stark and Linda Cully.

It has been most gratifying to be able to continue the educational experience given by team members to literally thousands of students introducing them to the impacts of homelessness, marginalisation and addiction.

Our intention, calling on the expertise of the team, is to look for ways of extending or adding programs to perhaps the corporate sector and mature adult groups.

A most pleasing observation this past year has been the much improved co-operation and liaison between Melbourne City Mission and Housing Choices Australia at Lion Garden.

It was reported that in the 12 years of operation, a total of 85 young people have lived at Lion Garden for periods of 6 months to 3 years. Lion Garden provides one of only two beds in the State available to a Youth Justice tenant.

I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support, patience and encouragement, particularly with the integration process. Again a special thanks to Stefanie who has spent many frustrating hours at Banks and online with various Government Departments. Mayra has also spent many hours setting up this new venture for which we are very grateful. To the U. S. E. team, congratulations, well done, this was a very challenging year for you all. We hope your dedication will be rewarded with increased bookings cementing U.S.E for years to come.

Ian Hughes

Chair, GHI

HONORARY AUDITOR'S REPORT

for GOSPEL HALL INC.

for the Year Ended 30 June 2018

I have examined the books of accounts and associated records of the Gospel Hall Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2018 and, in my opinion, the Statements of Financial Performance, Financial Position and Cash Flows, along with the associated Notes to the Financial Statements, give a true and fair view of the financial position of Gospel Hall Inc. as at 30 June, 2018.

Michael J Scott

Michael Scott CPA
Honorary Auditor

12/11/18