

ASNSW Treasurer's Report 2021

Overview: It was a different year all-round, financially, with the absence of the SPSP and a concerted effort to get the Meeting Hall at Wiruna into better shape for resisting ember attack – one of the anticipated requirements for getting approval for a Wiruna Development Application, which is slowly making progress.

The finances of the Society remain robust, despite slight decreases in Current Assets and Members' Funds (refer Statement of Financial Position, available on request from the Treasurer).

SPSP: There was no attempt to hold one with the COVID situation. We raised \$1853 for 1st Kandos Scouts and \$1461 for Two-Mile Fire Brigade through our fund-raising appeal. The Society topped up these amounts with our usual \$1500 to the Scouts and \$250 to the Firies.

Income

Wiruna Fees Increase: With last year's increase, Wiruna Fees are up by \$3000. Attendance is also a contributing factor, however, and Joe may comment on the attendance figures.

Membership Fees: This figure is up by more than \$2000. This is simply due to the fluctuation in membership numbers that range between about 370 and 430 in random cycles.

Term Deposit Interest: Down by \$7000 on the previous year, due to the progressive decline in interest rates. Our funds are currently earning less than 0.5% per annum.

Expenses

Internet: Our overall internet expenses have increased as a result of moving our website and online database from CiviCRM to Member Jungle. The move has proven to be a very welcome change "up" for members (who find it much easier to view the new, fully-responsive website and APP on their devices) and ASNSW admins (who no longer have to worry about incessant security updates). We see this as money well spent.

Meeting Hall Rent: Our only cost in the last 12 months has been our annual subscription of \$10. The ECC has been very gracious to keep our meeting dates available but not charge us a penny until we actually start holding physical meetings again.

UNIVERSE: Yes, we still do printed copies! The cost of printing our journal shows an increase of \$500 in the financial year. Print recipients currently include fewer than 10 members, copies for the Editor, Wiruna Library and Archive, plus affiliate societies and the State Library. A recent cost analysis has shown that we can cut the printing cost by two-thirds (from over \$3800 to under \$1200) if we simply print on standard A4 paper at Officeworks, corner staple and post in a regular envelope. At the same time as reducing our costs, it was decided to start incrementing the fees charged for printed UNIVERSE (heavily subsidised for years) by \$10, probably year-by-year, until the revenue starts to match the cost. Surprising as it may seem, some new members do select printed UNIVERSE when they join.

Wiruna Telescope Expenses: Approximately \$3000 was spent on getting mirrors realuminised.

Wiruna Project Expenses: Project expenses totalled some \$10,500 and included renovation of the deck and other maintenance work at Barry Gerdes Lodge (\$4800), removal of several trees that were overhanging the car port and RFS water tank near the Bush Kitchen (\$3500) and materials for prevention of ember attack in order to upgrade the Meeting Hall to BAL 12.5 (approx. \$2000).

Other income and expenses remain steady.

Assets: The significant new assets this year are a new projector for Wiruna and the balance of the payment for the new telescope for Crago Observatory.

As usual, any member may request a full set of detailed financial reports, which can be sent by email as PDF files.

Still seeing how many hats I can wear, I look forward to another year in your service.

Lesa Moore

Treasurer

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