



TOORAK
UNITING
CHURCH

Annual Report

2022



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Minister's Report

I look back on a very rewarding and enjoyable year serving on the ministry team of the Toorak Uniting Church. I came as a Short-Term Supply minister in October 2021 and have had the privilege of continuing as a Long-Term Supply minister, while the Joint Nominating Committee continue their search for a minister to serve here. Within four months, I was asked to take a leading role in the team.

Preaching and Worship Services. There are two main services of worship on Sunday—the 9 am Worship in the Round (sitting in a circle) service is more intimate, conversational, and reflective. Some 10 -15 members form the regular membership of the service, and occasionally, first-time worshippers join us. The 10.15 am service is a formal service richly served by an excellent music programme, in which I fear we place at times too much emphasis. This live-streamed service provides a wonderful resource to TUC and the wider Church. We know of a couple of UCA churches that use our live-streamed service for their worship. The attendance at this service averages around 45-60 in the worship service, with between 15-25 joining us on live stream. And then there are those beyond our geographic region and members who worship during the week tuning into the service. The witness of this service goes far beyond those present on a Sunday morning.

Both services have had some tweaks. The 9 am now sits in the round and is dedicated to a reflective conversation-styled worship. The 10.15 am service has seen tweaks such as the collection plate being brought forward, liturgical responses to the Bible readings, and the choir rehearsal moved back to 8.45 am start resulting in sufficient time for the prelude to be reinstated.

Christian Education / Discipleship. I have been involved with my colleagues in leading the Tuesday night Discussion Group. (In 2023, the Discussion Group will be included in the Ecumenical Lenten study series.)

Pastoral Care. Whilst the above has formed the bulk of my ministry, I have, to a lesser extent, supported Rev. John Edwards with the pastoral ministry, following up on enquirers and requests for Baptisms. I have been involved in some discreet pastoral conversations.

Leadership. I have supported the Church Council's Chairperson and been involved in a TUC review which the Church Council supported, as we look to strengthening this church's ministry and service. In addition, as lead minister, I have worked with the Op Shop to strengthen their workplace pastoral care of staff (OHS).

TUC's Mission. Recently I drafted a theological statement on 'mission and service'. I've also been involved with Kinross, which I see as a valuable service this church provides to the art world in Melbourne, some individual artists, and which also brings kudos to TUC.

St Catherine's School is a very important part of TUC as TUC, along with St John's Anglican Church formed part of the school's foundation. Our contact with them did fall away for a few years. I have taken up TUC's position on the Board, attend their board meetings, and presided at the school's two Christmas services, the year twelve graduation service, and the induction of new students, which are all held in TUC's worship centre.

A General Comment. Many bewail the low numbers at worship and long for the numbers and youth of yesterday. They won't be back for a time. The Church is in a 'wintertime'. TUC is in a very strong position. Its strength lies in the quality of its members and the quantity of its resources, both human and material. God calls us to be faithful witnesses, and our faithfulness with God will secure God's Church.

Rev. Peter Whitaker
Supply Minister



Church Council Report

2022 was a year with reduced Covid restrictions and the end of lockdown, and we benefitted from anti-viral medication for the elderly and at-risk patients. We continue to advise care when at church. TUC services continued smoothly both in person and with live-streaming – the latter assisted ably by Jonathan Lancaster. Our dedicated Ministerial team included Rev. Peter Whitaker on extended Supply, and assistant Ministers Rev. John Edwards and Rev. Wal Baker, who we farewelled at his final service on December 11. In addition to leading Sunday services, our Ministers host our keen Tuesday discussion group on issues raised in their sermons. We are most grateful for their smooth running of our services, pastoral care, and their committee involvement, but the process of finding a new permanent Minister is still ongoing. In the early months of the year, several UCA ministers were asked to lead our services, with the topic for a sermon to preferably include aspects of Faith, the Arts and Theology.

In September, I retired as Chair of the Church Council and Barbara McKinnon was elected to the role from September. Barbara retired as Chair of the Congregation, as did Fiona Thomas as its Secretary. Alison Legge was elected to the role of Chair to commence in November, and James Barber as Secretary. Craig Simonson, our hardworking Treasurer, decided to retire at the end of the year. Chris Begg has taken on the role of interim Treasurer and Malcolm Jack is taking over as Chair of Property, as Jon Sennitt has stepped down from that role. Both Jon and now Malcolm have been involved in refurbishing and painting our Hall precinct and Kinross House, to great improvement. Pamela Wilson has retired as Deputy Chair of the Council. She continues with her many hours spent as an active member of the UAT committee, plus Chair of Archives and with oversight of the Memorial Garden. Mather Mason decided to retire from Eldership, having provided much help with computer issues. Isobel Negri retired from Management Team. We have been grateful for her donations of large festive cakes for our special occasions.

Christine Brown is our devoted Chair of Pastoral Care. Regular meetings are held, and much care and attention are given to all those in the congregation undergoing illness and hardship. Nina has continued her fine work as chair of UAT. Catriona De Vere continues to do an excellent job as Secretary of the Council, but has stepped back from her role as Office Manager now, after years of devoted responsibility. She has agreed to continue with her bookkeeping role on a contract basis.

It was decided that we no longer need a Management Team with an Executive role, but to continue in future with just the Church Council meeting monthly.

A group of three were chosen to review TUC's current life and future – Michael Kenihan, Jon Sennitt and Craig Simonson – to be known as the Futures Working group. After interviewing a number of congregation members who are involved in TUC life in different ways, they presented a report to Church Council. Church Council has spent considerable time considering the recommendations of the report and has decided to look for a part-time Campus Manager, to have oversight of all activities on the TUC site. We have a large number of staff connected with the various agencies, activities and responsibilities in which our church is involved. There is a need for coordination for the campus to run smoothly. Further decisions of the Futures Working Group concerned setting up a Communications committee and a new Worship Committee – both including representatives from the congregation.

Our organist and choir leader Jennifer Chou decided, after eleven years with us, to retire at the end of the year to take up an appointment as Associate Organist at Scots Church. We are delighted to have Dylan Quinlan-Baskett as our new organist and choir leader, following a comprehensive selection process.

Jennifer's husband Joseph is still happy to sing in the choir and to give us pleasure with his trumpet playing.

A popular activity of the congregation over the years has been running our Election Day Fairs. However, due to difficulties manning stalls and providing the cakes, jams, books etc needed, it was decided for the May election to simply have a refreshment table with some baked goods for

sale. In November, we discovered that TUC was not needed as a polling station, so there was no Fair at that time.

We thank our office staff, Bronwen and Richard, and Church Officer James Widdowson and his assistants, for their dedicated work. Lin Cooper has quietly and efficiently spent many years organising the Dance Classes held during the week. Mary Arhondonis has been doing an excellent job with exhibitions as Director at Kinross.

Our thoughts are with family and friends of those who died in 2022 and who gave much dedicated service to the church over the years: Ray Northrop, Gilbert Farrow, Jean Allison, Graham Menzies, Jack Frazer, Christine Gorrie, Ian and Lyn McAlister, Glenda Benness, John Upjohn and Margaret Touhy.

The John Macrae Centre which provides day care for the frail elderly and which was an important part of outreach for TUC, is now under the management of Uniting AgeWell. The Toorak Op Shop continues to provide excellent service to local shoppers, and to raise much needed funds to agencies around Melbourne. Food for Friends has had to limit its activities to monetary donations from the four Toorak churches, rather than having a presence in two Toorak supermarkets in early December to receive packaged food. Our agencies are extremely grateful for the extra food they provide to the increasing numbers of people in need.

Many of our Church activities and functions continue to be underpinned by the tireless work of our volunteers, in roles not always seen by the congregation. There are those, for example, who welcome us on Sundays and help with the smooth running of the services, do Bible readings, count the offering, arrange the flowers, bring food for special morning teas, work on committees like UAT, the Op Shop and the TEM, and sing in the choir and enhance our music with hand bells and Issie Brown's flute playing. We are most grateful for their contribution.

We continue to be a busy and welcoming church, whether on Sundays or during the week with our many happy community activities.

Jenny Stewardson
Chair of Church Council 2022
Chair of Church Council (retired)

Barbara McKinnon
Chair of Church Council 2022- 2023

Treasurer's Report

GENERAL

2022 saw the TUC community learn to live with Covid as it slowly returned to its usual life, whilst many of us contracted Covid, some were severely affected but mostly we recovered quickly.

Financially we were saved by a significant distribution from the Warren Clark bequest of \$530,407, 12.5% of which went to the Capital Fund. Our operations reflected a surplus of \$225,433 but this was offset by the transfer of the control of Trusts and specific purpose Bequests to the Synod (\$153,584) and depreciation of our investments with U-Ethical (\$143,988) meaning that the Operational Account had a net surplus of \$13,591.

BOTTOM LINE

	2022	2021
Operational Account	\$13,591	\$101,755
Capital Fund	\$16,619	\$102,084
Dame Hilda Stevenson/Bequests Fund	(\$27,154)	\$70,030
Total Surplus/(Deficit)	\$3,056	\$273,869

U-ETHICAL

Because there was a good distribution from the Warren Clark Bequest the cash flow did not have to be supported by drawing down from our U-Ethical investments. However, no action was taken to return the \$110,126 drawn down in 2021, consequently the General investments are still overdrawn to the extent of \$114,907.

At the conclusion of the year the Church is in a healthy financial position with assets of \$2,291,944 including an unreconciled balance of \$53,562.

U-Ethical performance like the rest of the investment market was not positive in 2022.

(a) Growth: All U-Ethical Growth accounts are unit based. These growth units are revalued daily based on the market performance of the fund's underlying investment portfolio. During the 2022 calendar year, growth units decreased from \$6.7202 each as at 1st January 2022 to \$6.0833 each as at 31st December 2022. (9.5% decrease). Consistent with previous years, this unrealised gain/loss in growth unit values has been brought to account in these financial statements.

(b) Cash: The U-Ethical Enhanced Cash account also has a floating value. These floating cash units are revalued daily which means every single transaction passing through this account contains a realised gain (or loss) depending on the underlying fund value on the day in question. During the 2022 calendar year, cash units decreased from \$1.0063 each as at 1st January 2022 to \$0.9902 each as at 31st December 2022, a fall of 1.6%

WARREN CLARK BEQUEST

The Warren Clark Bequest is managed by Equity Trustees. As mentioned in this report every year, the quarterly distributions received from Warren Clark largely fund the Church's monthly payroll as well as Mission & Service contributions. Without Warren Clark, the Church simply would not be able to support the current model, which it has now operated for many years. Warren Clark distributions were even higher than last year. As mentioned earlier, distributions received totalled \$530,407 (2021, \$335,089) during the 2022 calendar year – representing a 58.2% increase. Predicting Warren Clark distributions is like forecasting the weather.

The Warren Clark Bequest's performance is inextricably linked to ASX and global stock market performance, geopolitical factors, investment strategies, dividend yields, the timing of franking credit refunds and all manner of fund management issues beyond the Church's control. At the time of writing, upward inflationary pressures and higher interest rates are fuelling a volatile stock price environment, so it'd be a brave person to predict Warren Clark distributions in the months ahead.

INSURANCE

Insurance is the Church's fourth biggest outgoing after payroll, Mission and Service and property-related expenses. Insurance premiums paid totalled \$50,096 (2021, \$43,171) during the 2022 calendar year. Synod negotiates the Church's annual insurance policy on our behalf. We have no input into these negotiations. Synod has warned that insurance premiums are heading higher, and this trend is likely to continue for the foreseeable future.

BUDGETING

As mentioned in this report last year, the Church adopted a "worst-case" scenario budget for the year ending 31st December 2022. Consistent with recent years, the 2022 Budget includes a \$20,000 Contingency to safeguard against unexpected expenses that may arise during the year. Fortunately, this Contingency was not required. Clearly, the actual operational surplus, prior to abnormal adjustments, of \$225,433 for the 2022 year highlights the difficulties of budgeting during a global pandemic! Higher than expected Warren Clark distributions and careful monitoring of all property related expenditure throughout the year combined to produce an actual bottom line that far exceeded our "worst-case" scenario budget.

The 2022 financial statement has an un-reconciled balance between the funds calculated as at December 31st 2022 and the assets listed as at December 31st 2022 of \$53,562 of which \$41,406 relates to the provision of liabilities and the balance probably relates to the revaluation of U-Ethical accounts. Further work is being undertaken to resolve this issue.

Chris Begg
Treasurer

Annual Financial Report – Income

2021 (\$)	Operational Income	2022 Budget (\$)	2022 (\$)	2023 Budget (\$)
26,303	Open Plate Offerings ²	30,000	26,426	25,000
56,107	Planned Giving- Envelope & Direct Debit ²	70,000	46,996	48,000
1,062	Planned Giving – Deposit Interest Scheme ³	2,000	8,169	4,000
12,326	Retiring Offering for Outreach Projects ^{2 4}	12,000	15,459	16,000
2,401	Donations to Church ²	3,000	16,447	5,000
98,199	Total Offerings and Donations	117,000	113,498	98,000
8,000	John Macrae Centre	8,000	8,000	8,000
23,186	John Mackenzie Kindergarten	33,000	32,684	34,000
26,772	Other Organisations	58,000	49,688	52,000
57,958	Total Use of Facilities	99,000	90,372	94,000
293,203	Warren Clark Bequest General (87.5%) ⁵	315,000	464,106	315,000
29,295	General Investments	30,000	57,627	40,000
-	Dame Hilda Stevenson/Bequests (Retain)	3,000		3,000
6,170	Elspeth White Bequest (via Synod) ¹⁰	6,000		6,000
328,668	Total Investment and Bequests	354,000	521,733	364,000
63,896	Alan Watson Centre (Dancing Classes) ⁶	76,000	81,209	93,000
42,821	Uniting Arts Toorak - Kinross (excluding transfers for bills) ⁷	74,000	65,847	81,000
36,540	Weddings and Funerals (including Virginia Davey Contribution)	39,000	27,850	36,000
-	Fundraising by Congregation	3,000	771	
470	Virginia Davey Music (Concerts, Interest, Gifts) ¹⁵	2,000		1,000
30	Fellowship Lunch Club ¹⁹	-		
834	Morning Group ²¹	-		
657	Other Income	1,000	184	1,000
145,248	Total Engagement and Activities	195,000	175,862	212,000
27	Elspeth White (JB Fletcher Memorial Retained Interest) ¹³	-	19	
718	Roach Family Ministerial Exchange Trust ¹⁴	2,000	-	3,000
946	Memorial Garden ¹⁶	1,000	2,600	1,000
2,061	Minister's Discretionary Fund ¹⁷	4,000		3,000
607	Organ Development Fund ¹⁸	-		
235	Janet Torry Mackenzie Memorial Fund ²⁰	-		
4,594	Total Special Purposes	7,000	2,619	7,000
634,667	Total Income	772,000	904,083	775,000

Annual Financial Report – Expenditure

2021 (\$)	Operational Expenditure	2022 Budget (\$)	2022 (\$)	2023 Budget (\$)
96,260	Ministerial and Pastoral Care	98,000	55,870	98,000
135,725	Salaries - Office & Caretaker	128,000	136,012	142,000
60,101	Salaries - Ministry of Music	51,000	62,896	57,000
(56,462)	JobKeeper - Federal Government			
6,168	WorkCover	7,000	4,178	7,000
-	Annual Leave & Long Service Leave ⁹	-		
5,225	Synod Payroll Processing	6,000	5,885	6,000
247,017	Total Ministerial, Salaries and Oncosts	290,000	264,841	310,000
92,202	UCA Mission & Service ⁸	93,000	93,252	96,000
8,000	John Macrae Centre ⁸	8,000	8,000	8,000
22,325	Outreach Projects and Special Appeals ^{4 8}	22,000	25,309	26,000
11,046	Elsbeth White Bequest (via synod) ^{8 10}	6,000		6,000
133,573	Total External Giving and Mission	129,000	126,561	136,000
34,264	Alan Watson Centre (Dancing Class) ⁶	40,000	51,915	60,000
46,518	Uniting Arts Toorak - Kinross (excluding transfer for bills) ⁷	86,000	59,669	91,000
11,911	Weddings and Funerals	14,000	11,832	11,000
1,820	Virginia Davey Music (Concerts & Scholarships) ¹⁵	1,000	3,000	2,000
1,200	Morning Group ²¹	-		
95,713	Total Engagement and Activities	141,000	126,416	164,000
855	Communication and Publicity	6,000	704	8,000
276	Education & Learning	1,000	19	1,000
1,131	Total Congregational Growth	7,000	723	9,000
26,422	General Maintenance	60,000	49,610	70,000
43,171	Insurance and Fire Service Levy	44,000	50,096	52,000
69,593	Total Property	104,000	99,706	122,000
32,159	Utilities	40,000	37,024	43,000
3,991	Office Expenses (postage, stationery and photocopying)	5,000	3,987	5,000
5,857	General Expenses	7,000	9,035	7,000
6,500	Audit and Legal Fees	7,000	7,780	7,000
764	Bookkeeping Fees	-	2120	
69	Bank Charges	-	57	
-	Contingency ²²	20,000		20,000
49,340	Total Services, Administration and Other	79,000	60,003	82,000
-	Roach Family Ministerial Exchange Trust ¹⁴	2,000	-	2,000
-	Dame Hilda Stevenson/Bequests (Retain)	3,000	-	3,000
1,009	Memorial Garden ¹⁶	1,000	400	1,000
500	Minister's Discretionary Fund ¹⁷	4,000	-	6,000
-	Janet Torry Mackenzie Memorial Fund ²⁰	-	-	-
1,509	Total Special Purposes	10,000	400	12,000
597,876	Total Expenditure	760,000	678,650	835,000
36,791	Gross Surplus/(Deficit)	12,000	225,433	(60,000)
64,964	Market Value Adjustment	-	(58,258)	-
	Transfer Trust funds to Synod		(153,584)	
101,755	Net Surplus/(Deficit)	12,000	13,591	60,000

Annual Financial Report – Funds

2021	All Funds	2022
2,005,019	Funds as at 1st January	2,278,888
101,755	Operational Surplus/(Deficit)	13,591
172,114	Capital and Bequests Surplus/(Deficit)	(10,535)
2,278,888	Funds as at 31st December ^{2,3}	2,281,944
	Represented by:	
9457	Westpac - TUC Church Council	43,091
2,000	Westpac - Toorak Uniting Church (Debit Card)	2,000
114,441	U-Ethical - Warren Clark Bequest	275,942
224,897	U-Ethical - Planned Giving	223,845
100	Petty Cash	100
330269	U-Ethical - TUC, Cash (see A below)	332,734
1,478,159	U-Ethical - TUC, Growth - 228170 units (see B below)	1,388,029
15,718	U-Ethical - Elspeth White ¹³	0
3,181	U-Ethical - Parishioner's Deposit ³	3,687
108,297	U-Ethical - TUC Roach Family Ministerial Exchange ¹⁴	0
20,833	U-Ethical - JA Campbell Bequest - 3,100 units	0
672	U-Ethical - David Scott Bequest - 100 units	0
1344	U-Ethical - Annie Wallis Bequest - 200 units	0
6,720	U-Ethical - Janet Torry Mackenzie Memorial - 1,000 units	0
1,240	Sundry debtors	0
(36,000)	Provision for Annual Leave & Long Service Leave ⁹	(36,000)
(200)	Sundry creditors	0
(2176)	Key deposits	(1426)
366	ATO GST refund due/(payable)	(3,619)
(430)	Kinross - Art Sales	0
2,278,888	Grand Total ^{2,3}	2,228,382
	A: U-Ethical - Toorak Uniting Church, Cash	
(7,034)	Uniting Arts Toorak ⁷	(856)
73,310	Virginia Davey Music Fund ¹⁵	75,021
22,303	Memorial Garden Fund ¹⁶	25,024
10,989	Minister's Discretionary Fund ¹⁷	11,246
1,639	Organ Development Fund ¹⁸	1,727
4,595	Fellowship/Lunch Club ¹⁹	0
835	Janet Torry Mackenzie Memorial ²⁰	0
(110,126)	General	(114,907)
(3,489)	Total Operational	(1,889)
158,988	Capital ¹¹	159,400
174,770	Stevenson/Bequests ¹²	175,223
333,758	Total Capital and Bequests	334,623
330,269	Total - U-Ethical - Toorak Uniting Church, Cash	332,734
	B: U-Ethical - Toorak Uniting Church, Growth	
492,710	Capital ¹¹ - 83,658 units	508,917
452,756	Stevenson/Bequests ¹² - 69,888 units	425,149
532,693	General - 74624 units	453,963
1,478,159	Total - U-Ethical - Toorak Uniting Church, Growth	1,388,029

Accompanying Notes

This is a Special Purpose Financial Report. Toorak Uniting Church's "Financial Policy and Procedures", adopted by Church Council in 2015, documents the Church's financial controls and procedures as well as details the delegations responsible for each area of the Church's income and expenditure.

Church Council is ultimately responsible for the general administration and financial affairs of the Church and the Congregation. This responsibility includes the preparation, presentation and approval of the Church's budgets, financial statements and accompanying reports, as well as arranging for the year-end audit of the Church's accounting records.

The 2022 financial statements and accompanying notes contained in this Annual Report have been prepared consistently with the presentation adopted in recent years. In the interests of transparency, the accounting information disclosed in this Annual Report is comprehensive and detailed for all areas of the Church's many and varied activities. Please note the various funds, bequests, committees, trusts and organisations mentioned in these financial statements and accompanying notes all have their own underlying constitutional documents. These documents are in a variety of forms. The comments below are not intended to substitute or replace a complete understanding of the relevant original documentation.

Consistent with last year, the attached ALL FUNDS page lists all the Church's bank and externally managed accounts as at 31st December 2022:

- The Westpac current account is used for almost all the Church's day-to-day operational receipts and payments.
- The Westpac Debit Card account is only used for small incidental Church outgoings. This account is typically maintained with a credit balance and was "topped-up" to \$2,000 for the purposes of these year-end financial statements.
- The U-Ethical Warren Clark Bequest account receives the Church's Warren Clark Bequest distributions from Equity Trustees on a quarterly basis. The Warren Clark Bequest account was used to "top-up" the abovementioned Westpac account so sufficient funds were on hand to cover the operational expenses of the congregation.
- The U-Ethical Enhanced Cash Trust – Wholesale account and the U-Ethical Growth Portfolio account contain the balances from the Church's previously separate UCA Funds accounts

The following notes should be read in conjunction with the relevant Operational Income, Operational Expenditure and All Funds pages in this Annual Report:

1. Cash accounting

The Church's accounts are prepared on a cash accounting basis. The only exception to this rule applies to interest income generated by the Church's various U-Ethical accounts. The second half interest from these U-Ethical accounts has been brought to account as at 31st December 2022, although the interest was not actually credited to the Church's statements until 1st January 2023.

2. Accounting control

All bequests, donations, giving and offerings received by the Church are banked and brought to account on the soonest available business day after receipt.

3. Parishioner Deposit Scheme

Members of the Congregation have deposited with the Church \$156,000 (2021, \$156,000) not otherwise disclosed in these accounts. These deposits are invested in the U-Ethical – Church Parishioner's Deposit Account and the interest earned is included in the Church's Offering & Donations income. The change in value of the U-Ethical units in this account during 2022 are taken to account in these statements, \$3,687.

4. Outreach Projects

The Outreach Projects Committee receives retiring offerings, individual donations and an annual budgeted Church contribution. The Committee decides on recipients of the money donated, and the Chair of the Committee authorises final expenditure. Recipients meet the criteria set by the Church Council.

2021 (\$)	Outreach Projects	2022 (\$)
	INCOME	
10,000	General Funds	10,000
12,326	Retiring Offering	15,459
22,326	Total	25,459
	EXPENDITURE	
5,185	Cranbourne Regional Uniting Church - Food Truck	5,852
5,185	Officer Pakenham Mission Area	2,000
5,185	Robinvale Secondary College	5,852
4,736	Skills, Opportunity and Survival in Kenya	5,852
2,035	Boroondara Community Outreach	5,852
22,326	Total	25,409

5. Warren Clark Bequest

(i) History: The Warren Clark Trust was established through the wills of Alison Margaret Clark (1907 – 1995) and Henry Stuart Logan Clark (1902 – 1986). The Trust is administered in perpetuity by Equity Trustees. Toorak Uniting Church benefits from one quarter (25%) of the net income from the will of Alison Clark and one-fifth (20%) of the net income from the will of Henry Clark. Alison and Henry were two of the three children of (Alfred) Warren Clark (1861 – 1948) and Blanche Eva Clark (nee Baird) (1871 – 1955) who married in 1898. Warren Clark was a successful stockbroker, as was his son Henry, and the family lived at “Waratah” in Clendon Road, Toorak from around 1900. The family's connection to Toorak Uniting Church came through the marriage of their first child, Hamilton Warren Clark, to Cecily Jenner. Cecily’s father, Leslie, an Elder of the Church (from 1940 to his death in 1956), committed his life to charitable and community service following an early retirement at 42 years of age. Leslie persuaded Alison and her mother, Blanche, to become Life Governors of the Austin Hospital. Alison attended to her ageing parents at their home in Walsh Street, South Yarra, but the focus of her religious and social life was always Toorak Uniting Church. During the 1950’s, Alison moved to 8 Como Street, South Yarra, where she lived with her brother Henry whom she cared for in his older age.

(ii) 2022: The financial markets experienced a “slump” during the 2022 calendar year. Despite this, the Church was still a beneficiary of the previous “bull” run, with the Warren Clark Bequest providing improved distributions during the 2022 year. Total Warren Clark distributions received were \$530,407 (2021, \$335,089). As always, it’s notoriously difficult to budget Warren Clark Bequest distributions going forward, although at the time of writing, it’s fair to say world financial markets are predicting uncertainty for the rest of the 2023 calendar year.

6. Alan Watson Centre (Dancing Classes)

Alan Watson Centre (Dancing Classes): After a disastrous 2021, Dancing Class functioned well in 2022 and was well supported by parents and students earning \$81,209.

The 2022 accounts include \$16,754 (2021, \$15,132) prepaid Dance Class fees, as these are typically paid in advance for the semester ahead.

7. Uniting Arts Toorak (UAT)

Kinross opened after Covid but functioned for the first half of 2022 without a Director. A new Director was appointed in May. The UAT/Kinross Committee operates the Kinross Arts & Spirituality Centre (KASC) from the Manse at 603 Toorak Road. KASC explores spiritual themes along with contemporary and traditional arts to enrich the lives of Church members and people in the wider outside community. UAT/Kinross generates income from various sources including (i) rent received from the seven artist studios attached to the Manse, (ii) rent received from the Manse Café, (iii) exhibitions & events, (iv) \$300 wedding contribution, (v) fundraising and (vi) interest (if applicable). Note, the \$300 wedding contribution was implemented effective 1st August 2019. It needs to be recognised that the Church covers UAT/Kinross expenses that cannot be separately identified such as gas, water, maintenance and insurance expenses. In 2021 this was estimated at \$11,062. In the light of Church Council decisions that concluded that UAT was a significant part of the outreach of the congregation and that Church Council has oversight of its operation, this estimate creates complexity in accounting and is not transparent. Consequently, this reporting line has not been included in 2022. The Manse Café also pays a fixed monthly contribution towards electricity, gas and water consumption. Refer to the Kinross section of this Annual Report for a comprehensive summary of all Kinross activities during the year.

2021 (\$)	Uniting Arts Toorak	2022 (\$)
	INCOME	
30,108	Use of Kinross facilities	50,042
7,793	Exhibitions and Events	13,055
1,470	Donations and fundraising	350
3,450	Weddings and funerals contribution	2,400
11,062	Transfer for gas, water, maintenance & insurance not paid by UAT ⁷	0
53,883	Total	65,847
	EXPENDITURE	
5,723	Property	1,592
2,192	Exhibition and events	1,767
2,676	Cleaning	4,994
6,174	Electricity	5,609
29,710	Salary and administration	45,405
43	Interest	302
-	Apple laptop	
11,062	Transfer for gas, water, maintenance & insurance not paid by UAT ⁷	0
57,580	Total	59,669
(3,697)	Surplus/(Deficit)	6,178
(3,337)	Funds as at 1st January	(7,034)
(3,697)	Surplus/(Deficit)	6,178
(7,034)	Funds as at 31st December	(856)

8. External Giving and Mission

Total External Giving and Mission was \$126,561 (2021, \$133,573). Members of the Congregation also made independent donations to other seasonal appeals, including Food for Friends and the Christmas Bowl Appeal during the year

9. Annual Leave & Long Service Leave

Synod maintains the Church's payroll records on an ongoing basis. These records were relied upon to calculate the Provision for Annual Leave & Long Service Leave totalling \$36,000 (2021, \$36,000) as at 31st December 2022. Annual leave totals \$13,863, and long service leave totals \$22,137.

10. Elspeth White Bequest (via Synod)

Lady White left a substantial bequest to the Uniting Church. The Board of Mission and Resources ("BOMAR") of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania resolved in August 2012 that the annual income from the Margaret Elspeth Maxwell White Bequest be divided equally from 2013 to 2022 and "that half be granted to the Toorak Uniting Church to be used only for mission". In addition, "each year Toorak Uniting Church shall inform BOMAR of the mission use to which the funds were applied as BOMAR itself is ultimately accountable for bequests in the name of the Uniting Church." No monies were received in 2022.



Lady Elspeth White

11. Capital Fund

Originally created to accept 25% of all Warren Clark Bequest distributions (subsequently reduced to 12.5% by Congregation decision in April 2009) into a dedicated capital fund to provide for capital projects on the Church property at 603 Toorak Road. Interest earned on this account is reinvested in the fund to support future works. In 2022, \$10,660 was spent on improving the security and locking systems of the church and hall complex.

2021 (\$)	Capital Fund	2022 (\$)
	INCOME	
41,886	12.5% Warren Clark Bequest	46,250
17,400	Interest and distributions	20,290
59,286	Total	66,540
	EXPENDITURE	
8,088	Church Office - refurbishment / new locking system	10,660
6,009	Church Office - carpet	
4,310	Church Office - painting	
18,407	Total	10,660
40,879	Gross Surplus/(Deficit)	55,880
61,205	Market Value Adjustment	(39,261)
102,084	Net Surplus/(Deficit)	16,619
549,614	Funds as at 1st January	651,698
102,084	Surplus/(Deficit)	16,619
651,698	Funds as at 31st December	668,317
	Represented by:	
158,988	U-Ethical - Toorak Uniting Church, Cash, Capital	159,400
492,710	U-Ethical - Toorak Uniting Church, Growth, Capital	508,917
651,698	Total	668,317

12. Dame Hilda Stevenson Bequest Fund

Seeded by an original contribution from the Estate of Dame Hilda Stevenson, this fund has since been used as a general fund for untied bequests received by Toorak Uniting Church. Substantial additions in 2011 and 2012 came from the Estates of Mimi Chisholm and Louise Deravin respectively. In 2009, the Congregation approved a recommendation from the Funding Review Committee that “the capital of untied bequests should not be used for recurrent expenditure” and that “half the income of untied bequests be retained and reinvested in the fund and half be available for normal recurrent expenditure.” There was no expenditure in 2022.



Dame Hilda Stevenson, 1971

2021 (\$)	Dame Hilda Stevenson/Bequests Fund	2022 (\$)
	INCOME	
8,825	Interest and distributions	19,315
8,825	Total	19,315
	EXPENDITURE	
-		-
8,825	Gross Surplus/(Deficit)	19,315
61,205	Market Value Adjustment	(46,469)
70,030	Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(27,154)
557,496	Funds as at 1st January	627,526
70,030	Surplus/(Deficit)	(27,154)
627,526	Funds as at 31st December	600,372
	Represented by:	
174,770	U-Ethical - Toorak Uniting Church, Cash, Bequests	175,223
452,756	U-Ethical - Toorak Uniting Church, Growth, Bequests	425,149
627,526	Total	600,372

13. Elspeth White (James Bruce Fletcher Memorial Fund)

This fund was established by Lady White in 1989 with a \$10,000 donation. Lady White specified the fund was “to assist with the maintenance and development of Toorak Uniting Church property”. Lady White further documented “It is my wish that 25% of the annual income of the Trust Fund be added to the capital of the fund and the balance be paid to a property reserve fund at the Toorak Uniting Church for the above purpose.”

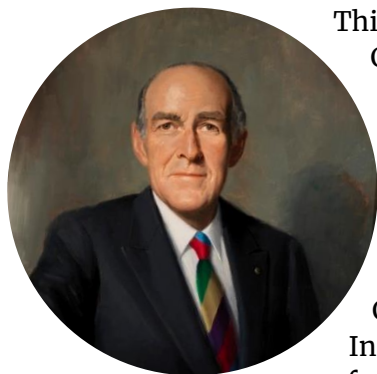


It should be noted that, as this trust is for a specific purpose, its control now rests with Synod, which means that it has zero value within our financial statements as at the end of 2022. However, TUC can apply to use the funds in line with the intended purpose.



James Fletcher

14. Roach Family Ministerial Fund



Ian Roach

This fund was created in 1980 with a \$20,000 donation from the Roach Charitable Fund “to enable the Minister of Toorak Uniting Church and his wife to visit in 1981 a church in the United States of America and the fares for the Minister of that Church and his spouse to visit Toorak Uniting Church.” The establishing memorandum then required Toorak Uniting Church “to apply the income of the Fund towards the provision of exchange tours similar to the 1981 visit but to such places and at such times and on such conditions as the Parish Council of Toorak Uniting Church and the Minister shall decide.”

In 2013, Church Council agreed that in addition to continuing to provide for ministerial exchanges at planned regular intervals, the Fund may provide for the professional development of our Minister and/or to

bring distinguished speakers to Toorak Uniting Church. For the 3rd consecutive year, COVID made it impossible to organise a Roach-sponsored event during 2022.

It should be noted that, as this trust is for a specific purpose, its control now rests with Synod, which means that it has zero value within our financial statements as at the end of 2022. However, TUC can apply to use the funds in line with the intended purpose.

15. Virginia Davey Music Fund

The VDMF fund was initiated in 2008, when donations of \$15,000 were received. The purpose of the fund is to support music in worship at Toorak Uniting Church. To build the corpus of the fund, Church Council decided in 2008 that \$200 from each wedding and funeral conducted at Toorak Uniting Church would be contributed into the fund. This contribution was subsequently increased to \$250 for each wedding and funeral, effective from 1st July 2016. Again, the contribution was increased to \$350 for each wedding and funeral, effective from 1st August 2019. Interest earned by the fund is reinvested.



Virginia Davey, 1996

2021 (\$)	Virginia Davey Music Fund	2022 (\$)
	INCOME	
3,450	Transfer from weddings and funerals	2,400
470	Interest	2,311
	Realised gain/(loss) on underlying units	
3,920	Total	4,711
	EXPENDITURE	
1,820	Scholarships	3,000
1,820	Total	3,000
2,100	Surplus/(Deficit)	1,711
71,210	Funds as at 1st January	73,310
2,100	Surplus/(Deficit)	1,711
73,310	Funds as at 31st December	75,021
	Represented by	
73,310	U-Ethical - Toorak Uniting Church, Virginia Davey Music Fund	75,021

16. Memorial Garden Fund

Fees for the interment of ashes in the Memorial Garden, together with all interest earned are held by the fund whilst maintenance and calligraphy costs of the Garden and Memorial Book are paid out.

2021 (\$)	Memorial Garden Fund	2021 (\$)
	INCOME	
800	Interments & calligraphy	2,600
146	Interest	521
	Realised gain/(loss) on underlying units	
946	Total	3,121
	EXPENDITURE	
609	Maintenance and refurbishment	-
400	Interments & calligraphy	400
1,009	Total	400
(63)	Surplus/(Deficit)	2,721
22,366	Funds as at 1st January	22,303
(63)	Surplus/(Deficit)	2,721
22,303	Funds as at 31st December	25,024
	Represented by:	
22,303	U-Ethical - Toorak Uniting Church, Memorial Garden Fund	25,024



17. Minister's Discretionary Fund

This fund allows the Minister to provide financial support to deserving recipients without approval from Church committees or Church delegates. The fund is increased through an annual donation from the profits of the Toorak Opportunity Shop. The Toorak Opportunity Shop constitution stipulates that any payments from the fund cannot be used for the Minister's personal benefit. No monies were received or paid during 2022.

2021 (\$)	Minister's Discretionary Fund	2022 (\$)
	INCOME	
2,000	Distribution from Toorak Opportunity Shop	0
61	Interest	257
	Realised gain/(loss) on underlying units	
2,061		257
	Total	
500	EXPENDITURE	0
1,561	Surplus/(Deficit)	257
9,428	Funds as at 1st January	10,989
1,561	Surplus/(Deficit)	257
10,989	Funds as at 31st December	11,246
	Represented by:	
10,989	U-Ethical - Toorak Uniting Church, Minister's Discretionary Fund	11,246

18. Organ Development Fund

This fund was established in August 2011 with a \$25,000 donation (not bequest!) from the Estate of Lady Elspeth White. Over \$40,000 of organ maintenance has occurred since this date. The fund continues to provide for ongoing organ expenditure as and when necessary.

2021 (\$)	Organ Development Fund	2022 (\$)
	INCOME	
600	Donations	50
8	Interest	38
	Realised gain/(loss) on underlying units	
608	Total	88
-	EXPENDITURE	-
608	Surplus/(Deficit)	88
1,031	Funds as at 1st January	1,639
608	Surplus/(Deficit)	88
1,639	Funds as at 31st December	1,727
	Represented by:	
1,639	U-Ethical - Toorak Uniting Church, Organ Development Fund	1,727

19. Fellowship Lunch Club

This club is no longer active. The funds in this account relate to surpluses achieved when the Club had an active membership. A decision has been taken to cease showing this account in the financial statements and to absorb the \$4,595 held at the end of 2021 into General Funds.

20. Janet Torry Mackenzie Memorial Fund

Janet Torry Mackenzie was the wife of the Reverend John Mackenzie, Minister of Toorak Uniting Church from 1914 to 1944, and the mother of Lady Elspeth White. Friends established the Janet Torry Mackenzie Memorial Fund. Interest from the fund is used to support Deaconesses who Janet Mackenzie worked with and assisted during her life. Authority for expenditure remains with the Chair of the Janet Torry Mackenzie Memorial Fund Committee. \$31.27 was received from this fund in 2022.

21. As mentioned earlier, with the Elspeth White (James Bruce Fletcher Memorial Fund), Roach Family Ministerial Fund and Janet Torry Mackenzie Memorial Fund, there are three other special purpose funds whose control has moved to the Synod. These are JA Campbell Bequest, David Scott Bequest and Annie Wallis Bequest, with a total value of approximately \$22,000. This means they have zero value within our financial statements as at the end of 2022.

22. Contingency

Consistent with recent years, the Church's 2023 Budget contained a Contingency of \$20,000 to provide for any unexpected declines in income and/or unexpected increases in expenditure during the year. It is important to point out that this Contingency is used for budgetary purposes only and is not included in the Church's accounts as at 31st December 2022.

23. The 2022 financial statement has an un-reconciled balance between the funds calculated as at December 31st 2022 and the assets listed as at December 31st 2022 of \$53,562 of which \$41,406 relates to the provision of liabilities and the balance probably relates to the revaluation of U-Ethical accounts. Further work is being undertaken to resolve this issue.



Chris Begg
Treasurer



Barbara McKinnon
Chair, Church Council

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF TOORAK UNITING CHURCH**

Qualified Opinion

I have audited the special purpose financial report of Toorak Uniting Church (TUC) which comprises the Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 31 December, 2022, Statement of All Funds at 31 December, 2022 and Accompanying Notes.

In my opinion, because of the existence of the limitation on the scope of my work as described in the Basis of Qualified Opinion paragraph and the effect of such adjustments, if any, as might have determined to be necessary had the limitation in scope not existed, I am unable to and do not express an opinion as to whether the income amounts are complete.

In addition, as reported in the Treasurer's Report, there is an unreconciled balance between the funds calculated as at 31st December, 2022 and the assets and liabilities listed as at 31st December, 2022 of \$53,562. I am therefore unable to and do not express an opinion as to the accuracy of the Financial Report.

Basis of Qualified Opinion

It was not practical to extend my examination of donations, appeals, fundraising and other income generating activities beyond the amounts as disclosed in the books and records of Toorak Uniting Church. It is also not practical for the Church Council to put in place all the controls necessary to satisfy usual audit requirements to provide the assurance that all moneys due have been received. As a consequence, I am unable to verify that all income that should have been brought to account, has been receipted and banked.

As referred to above, due to the existence of the unreconciled balance of \$53,562, I am unable to express an opinion as to the accuracy of the Financial Report.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australia Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those Standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of my report. I am independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: Code of ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide the basis for my opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

I draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for distribution to the Members in accordance with the Constitution and Regulations of the Uniting Church in Australia. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The Church Council is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the financial report for the year ended 31 December, 2022, but does not include the financial report and my auditor's report thereon. My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Church Council for the Financial Report

The Church Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet their requirements. The Church Council's responsibility also includes such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Church Council is responsible for assessing TUC's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Church Council either intends to liquidate TUC or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Church Council is responsible for overseeing TUC's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Church Council.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Church Council's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Church Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Dated at Melbourne on the _____ of _____ 2023

.....
Peter B Corrigan FCA

Archives

Following the successful research in 2015 on the details of the 24 names recorded on the World War I brass Memorial on the east wall of our church, it has been decided it is timely to remember those 27 members whose names are recorded on the World War II brass Memorial on the western wall of the church.

Consequently, on Anzac Sunday, 2022 we remembered 7 men who gave their lives from 1940-1942, 6 from the RAAF and RAF, and 1 from the RAN, in a moving service with the Reading of the Roll of Honour, The Ode, Last Post and Reveille - played on a 2015 bugle.

Pamela Wilson
Archives Committee



Congregational / Pastoral Care Committee

Our thanks are made first to Rev. John Edwards for his ready, competent and cheerful care of our TUC flock, and then to the Pastoral Care Team Leaders for their oversight, support and encouragement offered to our church congregation. We are grateful for the long past service joyfully given by Isobel Negri and the late June De Vere, which is here recognized with deep appreciation.

Several members of the congregation have died this year and it is with sadness that we have said our good-byes. Beyond personal condolences offered, they have been honoured by attendance at their memorial services and recognised for their contributions made and, at the same time through eulogies delivered, we have learned more about their interesting earthly journeys.

Though our regular church attendance by number has reduced, the after-church morning-tea service shows how much warm fellowship is enjoyed and appreciated by those who linger for weekly conversation and friendship. On their behalf, I thank the team of servers who assume the duty of preparing and washing up on a rostered basis.

Many more opportunities are provided through TUC for supportive friendship, in the many activities of various kinds which take place on campus during the week and when the children of John Mackenzie Kindergarten join in activity with those in care at the John Macrae Centre.

Christine Brown
Team Leader

Sunday Fellowship

Our congregation continues to enjoy warm fellowship following the 9:00 am and 10:15 am services, as well as morning teas and lunches after Whole Church Family services and other special occasions. Christine Brown has ensured the smooth running of coffee and tea after the 10:15 am service, while Jaki Simonson has organised the 9:00 am group. The 9:00 am group have also been lucky enough to enjoy some baking, often home-made, to accompany a post-service coffee and tea and concluded the year with a breakfast in the Wettenhall room, followed by a Holy Communion service, which seemed most fitting.

Jaki led a team of volunteer bakers and cooks who produced a splendid array of tasty items for Rev. Wal Baker's farewell on December 11, a marvellous quiche and salad lunch on October 30, morning tea on August 28, soup and cake on June 26 and an Anzac biscuit extravaganza on April 24. The year got off to a flying start with a lovely BBQ lunch on February 27. These were joyful events with welcome sharing of food and company, and we are very grateful to have been able to resume them in the new era of living with Covid-19.

Barbara McKinnon

Toorak Ecumenical Opportunity Shop

The year 2022 has been a better year for the Op Shop, despite COVID-19 still impacting the Shop's turnover. However, as the year progressed, trading improved. We remained an afternoon-only operation from 12pm – 4pm, six days a week.

We still need good, saleable clothes brought to the shop. A pick-up service can be arranged to assist with a collection where someone has many bags of clothing to donate.

I wish to thank Richard Summersgill for his tireless contribution to the Committee and helping to represent TUC.

Operations during 2022 enabled the distribution of \$180,000 (ie \$60,000 x 3 churches) to a total of 30 charities nominated by the Committee members on behalf of the three churches St John's, St Peter's and Toorak Uniting Church. The distribution was half in June, and half in December 2022, by direct electronic transfer to their bank accounts.

The charities that TUC supported were: Asylum Seekers Resource Centre, Kew Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Avalon Centre Inc., BlazeAid Inc., Frontier Services (formerly known as Australian Inland Mission), and the County Women's Association.

On behalf of the Committee, I offer my heartfelt thanks to all volunteers for their diligent hard work for the past year. The Committee is always grateful to those who support the Op Shop by making donations and by purchasing goods during the year. Thank you.

Carrlo Jack
Committee member

Music Report

This annual report marks the end of my 11th year of music ministry as the Director of Music at TUC. I am very grateful to my team and everyone at TUC for their support and encouragement over the years.

Choir and Special Services

It has been a year full of action for the choir. We are greatly blessed as the year has been uninterrupted due to no more Covid-19 lockdowns. We came back stronger than ever in fellowship and in music-making to support and enrich all worship services at TUC.

The choir and the musicians offered a special service of reflection on Good Friday. Joshua Dema (cello) gave a moving performance of Max Bruch's Kol Nidrei with me at the organ. Issie Brown (flute) and Joshua accompanied the choir on choral music specially written for Good Friday.

Just after Easter, I was able to travel to Hong Kong to be with my family and to arrange my mother's funeral. Ursula Paez, Nick Tolhurst, and Elizabeth Buttery filled in while I was away and conducted the choir. Elizabeth, Tristan Sumarna, and Thomas Man filled in on the organ bench.

The Christmas Eve concert choreography incurred some complicated organization. It finally became obvious that I couldn't be conducting the TUC choir at the front and playing the organ at the back at the same time. My colleague Elizabeth-Ann Nixon came in at 24-hour notice to replace myself at the final choir rehearsal and conducted five Australian Christmas Carols by William G James while I played the organ setting of the same carols by Robert Ampt from the back of the church. The choir delivered a refined performance under the direction of Elizabeth-Ann. Guest instrumentalists Joshua Dema, Issie Brown, and Dovi Hanner (violin and viola) provided special music for the concert. Dovi came in at the last minute to replace the violist who fell ill the day before Christmas Eve, thus a last-minute change of part of the program. Despite two last minute replacements, the concert provided an evening of reflection and meditation in words and in music for our congregation. Together with the choir, the congregation sang a few Christmas carols.

A special thank you to our TUC soloists Catriona De Vere, Ursula Paez, James Penn, and Nick Tolhurst. Their professionalism provides vital support for the music ministry of TUC.



Pamela Brown Handbell Choir

Handbell music is used to enrich the 10.15am Sunday service whenever the group is ready. Two ringers retired in July due to old age. A decade of teamwork of this group culminated in an invitation to perform with the Australian Children's Choir Christmas Concert on 10 December at St John's Anglican Church in Camberwell.

Named after the late Pamela Brown, who supported the TUC music ministry her whole life, the PBHC has - over the past decade - become an integral part of the TUC community, and a ministry bringing people together to enrich our prayers and worship through music. While most ringers are not musicians and cannot possibly provide musical offerings on a regular basis like the church choir can, and despite the limited ability of some ringers, all ringer contribute their best. Occasionally we have sufficient musical items to cover a service to allow the church choir a Sunday off. It is a worthy supporting ministry, and it would be in the interest of TUC to support this group into the future in order that it continues to be an integral part of worship. TUC should endeavour to incorporate the PBHC for more worship involvement and subsequently foster handbell ringing in churches. Currently, the PBHC is the only church-based handbell choir in metropolitan Melbourne.



Choral and Organ Scholarships

Elizabeth Buttery continued for a second year as the TUC organ scholar in 2022, and she also took on the choral scholarship in mid-2022.

Organs and Pianos

Both organs and pianos at TUC continue to be tuned and serviced by Hargraves Pipe Organs and Paul Smith, respectively.

Jennifer Chou

Director of Music

Outreach Projects – Congregational

The Congregation approved a 2022 budget that included an allocation from Church Council of \$10,000, this being the same as in 2021.

This approved amount of \$10,000, together with the retiring offerings following Communion at the 9:00 am and 10:15 am services, enabled us to distribute \$10,000 for the first half of 2022 and \$15,408 for the second half of 2022. Thus, totalling a distribution of \$25,408 for the calendar year of 2022.

For the first half of 2022, we continued our ongoing support for the Cranbourne Food Truck, the Pakenham Homework Hub, SOSK (Skills, Opportunity and Survival in Kenya), the Robinvale College Breakfast Club, and Boroondara Community Outreach. Mid-year, we distributed \$2,000 to each of these projects.

For the second half of 2022, our distribution in December was \$3,852 to each of the projects, with the exception of the Pakenham Homework Hub. After consultation with Reverend Jo Crisp of the Pakenham Uniting Church, it was suggested that we hold back on our end-of-year distribution to them. This joint decision was due to the inactivity of the project for most of 2022, this being due to the program having difficulty getting started again after the numerous lockdowns caused by the Covid pandemic. Our Outreach Committee is committed to supporting this program again once it has been able to run consistently.

Our Outreach Committee is currently looking for another Uniting Church agency to support in place of the Robinvale College breakfast club. Without a local Uniting Church Minister or liaison officer to partner with the college in this outreach project, it does not fulfill our requirement for support. Should this change in the future, our committee will once again look at the possibility of supporting this project.

Robinvale College, Breakfast Club \$5,852

SOSK (Skills, Opportunity and Survival in Kenya) \$5,852

The Food Truck, Cranbourne Uniting Church \$5,852

The Homework Hub – Officer/Pakenham Mission Area \$2,000

Boroondara Community Outreach \$5,852

These TUC outreach projects would not be able to continue as they do without the generous support of the people of our church. Our Outreach Committee is most grateful for the extraordinary love and support shown by our congregation for these programs.

Outreach Projects Committee

Anna Field

Co-convenor

Jaki Simonson

Co-convenor

Chris Begg

Secretary

Lucinda Kenihan

Elspeth White Bequest Report

No monies were received in the calendar year 2022. Therefore, no monies were distributed. It is anticipated that this issue will be resolved in 2023.

Anna Field

Elspeth White Bequest Committee

Property Committee

In 2022 with the gradual opening of the community post Covid, the Property Committee was able to address the more urgent upkeep and repairs to our various buildings and large campus. Work took place on repair/replacement of sections of rotten timber trim to doors and windows as part of our general maintenance plan to repair and repaint exteriors of the office and meeting room facilities.

The essential Maintenance Program recommenced, and estimates were obtained to paint the new timber and repaint the exterior generally of the hall and office complex. The remodelling, carpeting, and repainting of the office complex has been completed. One particular focus that required investigation and repair during 2022 was the sundry roof leaks as wet weather continued to be a major cause for concern with the aging buildings on the TUC campus. Keeping the weather out of our facilities has become an annual fight.

Investigations also re-commenced on cost effective refurbishment of the Hall and meeting rooms to enhance their appeal and functionality for a variety of uses by the congregation and community groups. Ultimately this planning was put on hold pending decisions being made by the congregation on the TUC Futures Report.

In April, the decision was made with great reluctance, but in the face of declining voter election attendance at the booths in the Hall, as well as rising use of pre-poll and postal voting [a long running trend over several Federal and State elections] to scale back the number of stalls planned for the May Federal Election Day Fair. Even this was ultimately cancelled due to a lack of donated items for the bric-a-brac and second-hand book stalls.

The decision was made to go ahead in May with one stall selling baked goods and preserves, with free coffee/tea to encourage buying. Again, voter numbers were markedly down on the day but all items ultimately sold by lunchtime. What was noticeable was the positive response from buyers at the stall to the use of eftpos tap-and-pay 'squares' rather than cash.

The declining voter numbers was recognised by the Electoral Commission's subsequent decision not to use TUC as a polling station for future elections, meaning the end to the 'Election Day Fete' at TUC.

The decision was made to proceed with the installation of keypad codes on exit doors on campus to raise the level of security and replace reliance on master keys.

Work also recommenced on planning for replacement of the damaged/buckled concrete pavers and pathways around the lawn adjacent to the Mackie Room and John Mackenzie Kindergarten. This work had been planned, and postponed several times due to COVID lockdowns but remains a priority as it had been identified as a safety hazard. The church grounds and gardens have had regular maintenance during this time and greatly enhance the surroundings of the church.

Jon Sennitt

Property Committee Chair

Memorial Garden Subcommittee



The Memorial Garden continues to be the focus of many families who sit quietly and remember their loved ones. The garden is well tended resulting in considerable growth in the plants and bushes, so much so that we are having to heavily prune the wattles and replace grasses with smaller flowering plants.

Interments in 2022 included David Watts, Geoffrey Graham Cook, Frederick Davidson with mother and sister, Phyllis Davidson and Vivian Davidson. Our former Chair of the Congregation, Raymond Moyle Northrop, was given a fond farewell by a large family gathering with many grandchildren participating in the service procedures.

Pamela Wilson
Convener



Roach Committee

In 2022 with Reverend Christopher Page in his final year as our Minister at TUC, it was not possible to arrange for a ministerial exchange. With the ongoing Covid lockdowns throughout 2021 and for part of 2022, it proved too difficult to look into either a Minister's exchange or present any Roach Lectures.

Our Committee is once again meeting in 2023 and looking at new ways and opportunities to provide stimulating and thought-provoking lectures or seminars for our congregation. We are also looking forward to our next Minister's placement at TUC, wherein we will have the opportunity to look at exchanges for him or her in the future.

Anna Field

Chair, Roach Committee,

with Christine Brown, Chris Legge, James St. John and Mather Mason

Toorak Uniting Church Dancing Class

Whilst 2022 saw Dance Class get back to some normality after Covid restrictions our numbers were down however, we were able to get through the program for both Semesters without any class cancellations. The three Semester 1 classes were smaller classes and we only had one larger class in Semester 2. Formals were well attended.

Special thanks again to our Dance Class Staff, Rhonda Tellis, John Druzynski, William Legge and Alex Kinsella.

We farewelled Rachelle Evans and Sylvia Strenzke at the end of 2021. As the Semester 1 classes were smaller Rhonda and John were our two teachers for those classes and Sinead Reading joined our teaching team in Semester 2.

William Legge left us to take up full time employment interstate and Karsten Top joined the team as an attendant in August.

Once again, thank you to everyone associated with Dance Class for your ongoing support and thank you to our volunteers who assist at the formals, we are so very grateful for your help.

Lin Cooper

Dance Class Coordinator

Uniting AgeWell John Macrae Centre

From 3 October 2022 Uniting Vic Tas' Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) funded services transitioned to Uniting AgeWell. The John Macrae Centre (JMC) Social Support Group became part of the Uniting AgeWell Social Connections services offered throughout metropolitan Melbourne and Regional Victoria.

With the transition in place, Uniting AgeWell Centres now support:

- Approximately 6700 people
- Have a team of 143 staff and around 300 volunteers
- AgeWell Centres operating revenue grows from \$12m to \$18.4m
- Social Connection group programs now operate from 10 locations
- Allied health services have grown to all areas of metropolitan Melbourne, with services including Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Podiatry and Speech Pathology

Social Support Groups are funded through the CHSP, with referrals received through My Aged Care and operating throughout Melbourne metropolitan regions. The intention of the service is to enable people to continue to live their lives independently in the community. The activities offered support people to keep strong, healthy and socially connected. The programs include exercise activities, home cooked meals, games, trivia, information talks, art & craft, outings, musical entertainment and walking groups with activities constantly changing based on the needs and wishes of participants.

Emerging from Covid-19 restrictions, the John Macrae, Toorak Centre Social Connections program, under new Centre Coordinator Jane Searle, has been able to resume usual activities.

While attendance remains lower than in the pre-pandemic years the number of attendees is slowly growing following renewed promotion in the local community and through referring networks. Highlights throughout the year have included professionally run floristry sessions, physiotherapy run exercise and yoga sessions, outings to parks, museums and Morning Melodies. As always, the delicious home cooked lunch prepared by JMC staff provides satisfying nutritious meals for our customers which go a long way to helping people stay strong and connected.

Staff changes have occurred over this time which included us saying goodbye to long serving cook Bill Beaden. Recruitment for the position of Cook is currently underway which will complete staffing for the program. While Covid-19 also saw a reduction in the number of volunteers supporting the program, recruitment efforts are seeing a gradual increase in volunteer numbers to add their valuable support to a small core of dedicated and ever positive volunteers who have maintained their commitment through the challenges of Covid19, and whose support John Macrae Centre customers hugely benefit from and enjoy.

Uniting AgeWell looks forward to carrying on the legacy of John Macrae and working in partnership with the Toorak Uniting Church community to continue to develop a welcoming place for people to connect. We acknowledge the multitude of committed and passionate workers who have supported the John Macrae Centre social group activities over the decades, enabling people to enjoy positive wellbeing and good health. Please feel welcome to drop in and say hello.

Penel Anderson

Uniting AgeWell Team Leader, Social Connections

Kinross Arts Centre

2022 was a year of resetting after the extended Covid-19 shutdowns of the previous 2 years. In general, the pandemic saw many industries suffer, the Arts experiencing many setbacks in operations and funding. With Kinross being no exception, this impacted our operations and ability to fundraise. We endured the slow return to normal in the first half of the year, where we had a soft opening to return to exhibitions, welcoming back patrons and returning the Centre to regular operations.

EXHIBITIONS

Colours of Australia

June 14 - 24

Inspired by author Bronwyn Bancroft.

John McKenzie Kindergarten

Feathered Friends by Karen Neal

June 27 - July 22

A print and works-on-paper exhibition by Firestation Print Studio artist, Karen Neal.

Curated by Lynne Kells

Bloom: Nothing but Flowers by MAVA

August 8 - 26

Mixed media (oil painting, acrylic, sculpture and jewellery design) exhibition, by over 40 emerging and established regional artists.

Silk and Feathers by Claire Billson

September 5 - 23

Oil painting show by an artist who uses art as a form of emotional therapy. Curated by Mary Arhondonis.

Spirit in Glass by GLAAS Inc.

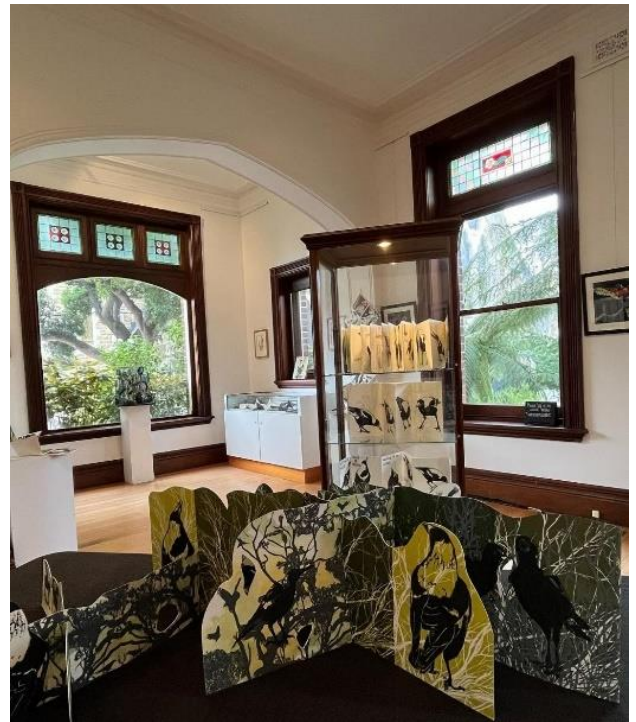
October 3 - 21

A partnered exhibition between Kinross, GLAAS Inc. and Melbourne Polytechnic, featuring innovative glass artists. Funded by a grant given to GLAAS Inc. by the City of Stonnington. Curated`

Christmas Craft Market

November 7 - 20

A curated craft sale and annual fundraiser, showcasing craft artists from around Victoria. Proceeds benefited the craft makers, Kinross, and select causes.



Feathered Friends by Karen Neal



Exhibition opening, *Bloom: Nothing but Flowers*

PUBLIC PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT EXHIBITIONS



MAVA Floral Drawing Workshop

Kinross hosted a series of artist talks and workshops in conjunction with exhibitions to provide visitors with context, education and to elevate interest in the shows. Artists were given the opportunity to give a behind-the-scenes art talk and allow audiences to engage at a more in-depth level.

Select activities supporting exhibitions were:

The Karen Neal Exhibition Walk-thru and Demonstration gave visitors insight into Karen's complex printmaking techniques, intricate artist books, and a linocut demonstration.

MAVA's Floral Drawing Workshops provided participants of all levels with guided still-life drawing sessions in an enriching environment, where artists get to share perspectives.



Karen Neal Walk-thru and demonstration



Christopher John Artist's Talk

Christopher John's Artist Talk, supporting the Spirit in Glass exhibition, gave attendees a retrospective look into the body of work of one of Australia's leading contemporary glass artists (stained glass and glass sculpture).

The Claire Billson Artist Talk saw the artist share how art, through its tactile nature and application, can provide an outlet for mental health and wellbeing.

UNITING ARTS TOORAK (UAT) COMMITTEE 2022

Kinross Arts Centre is a Volunteer supported organisation, and our 2022 dutifully served in a leadership and strategic role to further our mission. The UAT Committee met every two months during the year and provided auspices of Kinross Arts Centre. The Committee steers the strategic supervision for Kinross, its gallery, the art studios and the café – in affiliation with Church Council and the Director. A special thank you to Anne Page, who rolled off the committee in 2022. Anne has dedicated many years of advocacy and service in various capacities at UAT. With thanks to:

Chairperson: Nina Mumford (law/contracts, strategic planning)
Pamela Wilson (Church Council, heritage management, archives)
Christopher Begg (Treasurer and Finance)
Angela Abbott (Artist, Arts Marketing)
Jenny Stewardson (Church Council)
Filitsa Giannopoulos (events, education, arts marketing)
Anne Page (psychologist, community arts)
Sarah-Jane Watson (education, public programs)
Mary Arhondonis (Director, curator Ex Officio)

DIRECTOR

In June, Mary Arhondonis was appointed as the new Director of Kinross. Mary brings with her a background in museum and gallery experience from a spiritual museum standpoint, having spent considerable time with Loyola University Museum of Art in Chicago. With a specialisation in Visual Culture, she applied her skills to a very exciting and goal-focused 6 months. We had an output of successful exhibitions, partnered with other Stonnington organisations, and increased our fundraising efforts with an end-of-year surplus. Most importantly, we invigorated the Arts Centre after a difficult period, and utilised our exhibitions to reinforce our mission of enhancing spirituality through art.



Colours of Australia exhibition, John McKenzie Kindergarten

VOLUNTEERS



Kinross Christmas Craft Market

STAFF

During the first half of the year, long-term volunteer Lynne Kells was employed as a gallery assistant and did a superb job in booking upcoming exhibitions, much-needed administrative work, sales and daily operations. Her efforts went above and beyond, and her diverse background and arts affiliations make her a much-valued member of the Kinross team.

We express much gratitude to Thomson Sennitt for hanging and installing the exhibitions throughout the year. His technical skills and sharp attention to detail really elevated the aesthetic presentation of the gallery.

Kinross is very fortunate to have a dedicated and enthusiastic group of volunteers, who are so giving of their time and resources to further the mission of the Centre and to make art accessible to a wide audience. They come from a variety of career backgrounds and make the exhibitions very engaging and the space so welcoming to our visitors. Their enthusiasm and advocacy are unwavering.

An end-of-year Christmas luncheon was held to acknowledge the wonderful support of the volunteers and UAT Committee, who through their service, ensured Kinross remained an arts and culture oasis in the Stonnington area.

KINROSS STUDIOS

The Kinross artists' studios remained completely occupied in 2022, with a variety of artists, masons and cultural contributors taking residence. During the first portion of the year, and with social distancing protocols in place, the studio artists were still able to operate and remain productive within their individual spaces. Their presence and output of work contributed to the identity of Kinross as a centre for community arts; for creativity to germinate; and a space for artisans to expand their productivity and refine their practice.

Studio 1: Angela Sach (Art Therapist)

Studio 2: Max Allen (Writer)

Studio 3: Fran Haarsma (Writer)

Studio 4: Robin Stewart (Artist/oil painter)

Studio 5: Fleur D'Altera (floral designer)

Studio 6: Manse Café

Studio 7: Alexander Schoeffel (landscape gardener/designer)

THE MANSE CAFÉ

The Manse Café continued to be a popular destination on the TUC campus, serving the Kindergarten parents, the John Macrae Centre, TUC special interest groups, and the wider community. The café was an added incentive for visitors coming into the Kinross galleries, making it a complete experience. The operators, Sugar Bear Catering, continued a multi-year lease, and catered many TUC and private functions during their occupancy on-site.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Occasionally, the Kinross space was hired out to individuals and groups to provide additional revenue including pop-up shops such as the Jill Nazar pop-up shop, *A Day of Beautiful Things*.

FINANCE

*see Treasurer's Report and Annual Financial Report 2022.

THANK YOU

Lastly, we would like to make a sincere and heartfelt thank you to our Chair, Nina Mumford, who always goes beyond the call of duty, Pamela Wilson for championing our cause, Angela Abbott, and all the people who give their time to the Centre. Additionally, we'd like to thank Jon Sennitt for his ongoing work to help advance Kinross and its efforts. To our patrons and friends, we are most grateful that you continue to support us in our vision to be an arts and spirituality hub in Stonnington, that offers hope and means of expression to all -- and for backing our goals for continued outreach.

Mary Arhondonis

Director

Toorak Ecumenical Council

2022 saw the Toorak Ecumenical Council return to its vital witness in our local community. Finally, we were able to celebrate our 40th Anniversary (albeit 2 years late!) and revitalised our other activities recommenced.

Thanks to the combined efforts of the clergy, we were enriched and inspired by our Lenten Studies and our Pentecost and Advent services.

Prayers for Christian Unity were again held monthly and were also well attended. The group has greatly appreciated the fellowship following the meetings and the morning tea provided by the host churches.

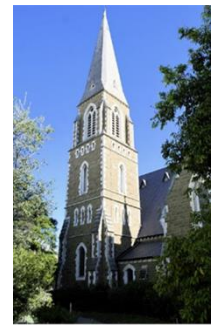
COVID restrictions forced us to alter how Food for Friends was traditionally organised. We are no longer able to collect from the local supermarkets, so we relied on the financial generosity of the members of TEC.

St John's, St Peter's and TUC were able to fulfil the needs of their agencies and grateful thanks of all concerned go to the wonderful volunteers who shopped and delivered the food to each agency.

Despite the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, the Opportunity Shop traded well, albeit with reduced hours.

The ecumenical community in Toorak is vital, active, dedicated and ably led by the council members and our clergy- thank you!

Anna Field, Anne Smith and Jenny Stewardson
TUC Representatives



Photos: Swedish Church, Toorak Uniting Church, St Peter's Catholic Church, St John's Anglican Church

Church Council

Minister of the Parish
Associate Ministers
Chairperson
Secretary
Treasurer

Rev. Peter Whitaker (Supply)
Rev. John Edwards & Rev. Wal Baker
Jenny Stewardson*
Catriona De Vere
Craig Simonson

Jonathan Lancaster*
Chris Begg*
Mather Mason
Christine Brown*
Jon Sennitt
Garry Brown*
Pamela Wilson*

James Barber
Doug Lee*
Nina Mumford

Thomson Sennitt
Isobel Negri*

**Elder*

Elders Emeritus

Ian McAlister
Suzette Morgan
W. Norman Macleod

Management Team

Rev. Peter Whitaker
Jenny Stewardson
Craig Simonson
Pamela Wilson
Isobel Negri

Rev. John Edwards
Catriona De Vere
Christine Brown
Jon Sennitt

Church Congregation

Congregation Chair
Congregation Secretary

Barbara McKinnon (until June 30)
Alison Legge (from July 1)
Fiona Thomas

Parish Administration

Office Managers
Toorak Uniting Church Dancing Classes
Church Officer / Caretaker
Uniting Arts Toorak Director
Music Director
Church Organists
Accounts

Bronwen Duckett, Richard De Vere
Lin Cooper
James Widdowson
Mary Arhondonis
Jennifer Chou
Jennifer Chou and Jonathan Lancaster
Catriona De Vere

Committee and Activity Convenors

Archives
Choir and Music
Congregational/Pastoral Care
Continuation and Planned Giving
Dancing Class
Finance
Flower Roster
Memorial Garden
Outreach Projects
Property
Readers Roster
Roach Committee
Rosters
Safe Church Contact
Toorak Ecumenical Movement
Toorak Ecumenical Op Shop

Uniting Arts Toorak
Volunteers
Welcome
Whole Church Family Fellowship
Worship

John Macrae Centre
John Mackenzie Kindergarten

Pamela Wilson
Jennifer Chou
Christine Brown
Stan Laughler
Lin Cooper
Craig Simonson
Annette Baldwin / Anne Smith
Pamela Wilson
Jaki Simonson & Anna Field *co-chairs
Jon Sennitt
Anne Smith
Anna Field
Jenny Stewardson
Jonathan Lancaster
Anne Smith
Carrlo Jack, Bronwyn Davis Jones,
Richard Summersgill
Nina Mumford
Christine Brown
Fiona Thomas
Jaki Simonson
Rev. Peter Whitaker

Susanne Walker, Team Leader
Amelia Holmes

Church Membership

Currently, TUC has 262 members.

Rites Celebrated at TUC

Baptisms	Confirmations	Weddings	Funerals	Interments
2	0	11	18	3



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