

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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**RedcliffeUniting**  
Heart of the Peninsula



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# Our Church at a Glance

**200 in Worship**  
**Each Sunday**

Live & Online (+23)

**14.2 children**  
**in Worship**

Online not measured!

**Biggest Sunday 436** Kerri-Anne Dooley!

**Biggest Weekend 410** Christmas

**26 New**  
**Members**

Weddings	0
Baptisms	0
Funerals	22

**16.7% of Members**  
**new to 'faith'**

## Our Demographics

Redcliffe

City	Church	Age
17%	9%	0-14
12%	5%	15-24
37%	24%	25-54
14%	21%	55-64
19%	41%	65+

**40% joined in**  
**past 5 years!**

**61% have invited**  
**someone to church**  
**in past 12 months**

## Base Offerings

<b>2019</b>	<b>£203,367</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>£188,830</b>

**Given Away to**  
**Others £13,945**



04



## MINISTER'S REPORT

Despite 2020 being the year of vision, no-one saw what was coming. It will certainly go down as a significant year in history but also in the life of Redcliffe Uniting Church.

**2020 freed us in many ways.** Freed us from the routines that had become ruts. Freed us from what we had always done. Freed us from what we thought we had to do, to what really mattered. Freed us from arbitrary rules. Freed us to innovate. Freed us to say 'no' and to say 'yes'. No longer can we say, 'that can't be done': necessity is the mother of invention.

As many have observed, Covid-19, while slowing down many aspects of life, actually sped up others. Churches that were in decline, declined further. Churches that were seeking to follow and grow, grew. Was this God sifting?

I'm so glad to report that what we were seeking to be and do at Redcliffe Uniting has stood us on solid ground. In a crisis, stasis and confusion are often the enemies. I am grateful that as a community we were not paralysed, that as the leadership led, we trusted God in them, and moved forward together. In many ways we are a different church. And we have grown, spiritually and numerically.

It's hard to believe that Becky and I started the year in New Zealand on long service leave, with Fritz Venzke in supply. It seems so long ago now. In March we were preparing for a forward vote on our Community Hub, and Fritz's departure, when Covid struck. Most ministries went immediately into lockdown, and worship went online on Sunday March 22nd [almost a year ago as, I write this.]

I must have lived three weeks on adrenaline as we worked out what it meant to be an online community. Paddi, Marion, Joy, Becky and I - supported by the office team - updated our pastoral lists, rang everyone in our directory, and saw our email list grow by 33%. A group of **Pastoral Carers and Callers** stepped up to connect with everyone during lockdown [we have 350 people in our community].

Playgroup and Izone went online, and volunteers called all our playgroup families. Tech volunteers helped people access our online services. We sent out 50 DVDs of our Sunday services each month. We started to 'Zoom' our meetings, and after online worship we prayed, via Zoom, for our community's health.

With a bit of trial and error we developed an online style that has served us well. It has been a blessing to people who can't get back to face-to-face worship because of health issues or distance. We have a growing number of online worshippers from WA, NSW, VIC, rural QLD, and wider Brisbane.

We had a number of people move to be closer to family when the pandemic arrived: Bruce Williams, Sue Ramm, Joan Jay, Rev Ian & Val Taylor, while Alissa Gates and Fritz Venzke moved on to other opportunities.



## 05

We had to completely re-think our Hub vote. Firstly - was the timing for this project right? Secondly - how would we vote when Uniting Church regulations state that 'God moves in the gathering of His people'!

I was so encouraged by the courage of the Church Council and Hub Steering Committee, who worked through the issues and risks and decided ***"If not now, when? Isn't a crisis the very time the church should act? The Hub becomes more significant than we ever thought in terms of helping our community recover."*** We pressed ahead. Produced more information than we otherwise would have. Addressed many questions. And received your vote of approval through an online process.

Finally, we got to breathe and develop an online rhythm. Paddi didn't let Covid put a stop to Alpha; in fact, it gave people a chance to 'gather' and 'get out', especially our Melbourne friends. We were also able to do some work on our property, thanks to volunteers and a grant from Moreton Bay Regional Council.

In the middle of all this we were shocked when Dave Trotman suddenly passed away. Dave did a mountain of work as our treasurer and with the property and sound teams. It was a very sad thing to lose Dave, and we continue to pray for Elaine.

Becky and I decided we should build a house in Rothwell, with all the Government incentives. We actually reduced Becky's hours at church as playgroup was no longer running, then she picked up more work at school. I really enjoyed the challenge of online preaching and believe it helped me grow as I explored this new medium.

Because of our community's response and people's compliance, we really did escape the worst of Covid. That's not to say that many people's lives weren't affected and that the ripple effects won't be felt for years.

Our initial financial worries for RUC were soothed by consistent giving from you, our people, and from the JobKeeper rollout. We truly were blessed.

Just as we got into the swing of being an online church, we had to re-adjust to live **and** online worship. We identified being online as an important ministry moving forward, and so a team was developed to record and edit videos - including Glenys Mullan, Janida Owen, and Daynney Tukutama - while another team, led by Patrick Sheahan, developed our online presence. Being online is opening our front door wide, allowing people to explore and sample us before coming in for more. And people are coming.

So, we slowly came back to face-to-face worship, home groups, and activities. Many have quite rightly chosen to remain online for their health, but this did mean that many of our volunteers weren't available or took the opportunity to 'retire' after long and faithful service. We are grateful to all who served. We have since set up new teams and recruited new folk in various areas.



## 06

God was faithful! Decisions we had been putting off we were now able to make, and new people began to put their hand up for roles we had struggled to fill. In fact, numerous people have come out of Covid with a new availability - which has been a real blessing. There is a definite increase in the number of younger people contributing. Becky even started a drama and dance group *during* Covid - amazing! - which has been a blessing for all.

Then, just as Paddi and Glenys were feeling like their time at RUC was coming to an end, UnitingCare approached us about partnering with us in a Community Chaplaincy role. This was a humbling opportunity, and we could see a fit with our Generations Pastor role - such that we were able to call Rev. Tim Griggs in 2021 to a new Youth and Community Chaplaincy position. Becky and my decision to build a house proved fortuitous, as Tim and Andi and their kids needed a Manse!

Since coming back to live worship, we have steadily increased in numbers. Every week we have also been blessed with new people in worship. The number of children in worship is increasing, too. God is moving in people's lives and in our community. We celebrate every time we see old faces return and new faces join us.

Now, as immunisation is taking effect *in* the community, and our Hub development is progressing *for* the community, we are on the verge of a new era at Redcliffe Uniting. It's hard to imagine what it will look like, what it will feel like, what it will be like, but we do know that we move into this future together with God.

In 2020 we said farewell to these dear saints who passed on to Glory: Gordon Tong, Dave Trotman, Merle Morgenstern, Janelle French, Lorraine Hewson, Anne Zander, Val Painton, Uneta Naylor, Robyne West, Val Fisher, Colin Weier, Rev. Ian Taylor, Raymond Barnett, and Elizabeth Reeve.

We also saw people move on to greener pastures or other opportunities: Rev. Paddi and Glenys Mullan, Ian Russell, Ben and Julie Fisk, Joy and Russell Godfrey, Tania Russell, Ian Campbell, Roslyn Core, Rachel Sampson, Margaret Smith, Val Taylor, Fay Fisher, Rob and Carol Hogan-Baker.

Covid isn't over. God isn't finished with us. Life isn't easy. But we continue to journey on, and it's so good to journey as a community in Christ.

Rev. Paul Clark



## 07

## ADMINISTRATION

2020 was a year like no other. Paul, Becky, Paddi, Fiona, Robyne, Alissa, Chantelle, Fritz and Jeremy were on staff at the start of 2020. Fritz, Alissa and Paddi moved on to other opportunities at different points in the year. Some staff member's roles changed in 2020, for example Becky's role when playgroup could no longer meet in person, the Clarks reduced her hours and Becky then got more work at schools. Chantelle's role changed too, as she took on more responsibility and her hours increased as she prepared to step into more of the administration role, with Robyne's retirement on the horizon.

With Covid we all had to adapt to new methods of working. Most of the team worked from home for the majority of the time at the height of the pandemic. We became more tech-based and more mobile than ever. These changes led to new tasks, like doing church services, Jzone, and playgroup lessons completely online, and creating DVDs of our services to send out to those in the congregation who weren't able to go online. We increased the regularity of our staff meetings, and had them on Zoom. These are just a few of the many changes.

Robyne and Chantelle used this time, when some of our regular tasks weren't possible, to digitalise our records in a whole new way. The RUC office had recently moved over to the Google Drive system, and countless files had to be moved over online from our old database. Having the database available this way meant that we could significantly reduce paper use and storage and that no worker would be limited by their type of device (all devices in good condition should be able to use/access Google Drive). It was also so convenient to have the database accessible from anywhere, and made the transition for those working from home easier.

It must have been a season of change, because Synod drove a change from older church personnel systems to a system called Ucare. We were already using Ucare for playgroup, but we moved the rest of our database over from the 'Pastoral Care 13' system to this one. This, of course, took some time, as we had to be sure we got everyone in the system [including their details, as this new system can also produce directories], and we had to learn the new system. The change was worth it, because of all that can be done through Ucare.

You may also have heard, through Paul's regular emails, about the various renovations happening around the church in 2020. Once the new toilets were installed we had all this wonderful space from the old ones to use. So, a storage room was built for the church and Uniting Care, and RUC's kitchen was extended. The church office was also renovated during this time. It got a fresh coat of paint, new carpet, and some new decor, and now looks much more professional. Fiona lead this office transformation, and we had some truly invaluable volunteers throughout - you know who you are! 2020 turned out to be such a great opportunity to have all of these renovations done.





## 08

We were blessed again with wonderful volunteers to help with administration - Candy Hunter, Gordon and Margaret Best, Jeremy Jacobs, Glenys Mullan, Val Hayes-Evans, Fran Hollywood, Carol James and others who 'just happen' to pop in and offer to help. We appreciated the regular visits/check-ins from our Church Council Chair, Bob Zander (when Covid wasn't at its worst), and are very grateful to Elspeth Sheahan for the work she has done as the Covid warden for RUC in 2020, including all the meetings regarding Covid that she attended on RUC's behalf. We also commend the prayer groups and intercessors, who pray over RUC and all those connected to RUC. Their ministry is truly invaluable. Thanks are due, too, to Elaine Hints for her continued ministry with Families Connect - sending cards and letters to baptismal families and to those who have lost loved ones.

Our buildings continued to be used by community groups for some of the year. Groups such as The Moreton Bay Regional Community Legal Service; Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women; Photography Club; Indigenous Women's Yarning Circle; Presbytery; Developing Lives Counselling Service; UnitingCare, Kinship & Foster Care; Men Choosing Change; and Peta Taylor (Counsellor). The building was also used for funerals, special events, music rehearsals, our usual church groups, committees, and ministries. We didn't renew our lease for Amity Place at Woody Point and handed back responsibility and management of this venue to Moreton Bay Regional Council. By doing this, all our attention can be focused on RUC and the Community Hub.

What a year! We are thankful to God.

Chantelle Evans (Administrator)

## ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Adult fellowship is a great way to get to know others better, to learn new things, to be encouraged in your spiritual journey, and to enjoy fellowship and fun while also helping support different projects. In 2020 our time together was interrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic, and we were not able to meet between April and August. We also had a number of our members move away to be closer to their families, and sadly, some members passed away. Many of these people were with us for many years. But, it has been good to welcome new members, too.

We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 9:30am (unless otherwise notified). We start with a short devotion, then celebrate birthdays that have occurred between meetings, followed by a mission spot. There's also a humour spot, because laughter is very important! Then follows the program for the month.

We pay an annual fee of \$5 and contribute 50c towards our morning tea. There is a trade table for people to bring goodies and vegies to sell. We had to do without the last two activities while Covid-19 restrictions were on.

Our first meeting of the year, in February, is always our annual meeting followed by a dedication service. Paddi Mullan took these for us during 2020, and we have appreciated his interest and friendship. We wish him well, as he has now retired. In March we played Scattergories and had a fun morning of competition.



# 09

After a long break, we met again in September. Eric and Ruth Lawson talked about Mission and shared their own life journeys, which illustrated the many ways that mission is achieved. In October, Shirley Behan gave us a wonderful Ikebana demonstration, showing the myriad of ways flower arrangements can be made. In November, Margaret Henry shared a lot of the research she has been doing on the early history of our church. It is inspiring to learn about the visions others had and how God's word was brought into this region. Our Christmas party in December was made possible by our church catering team serving us in a Covid-safe way, and the meal came from the Friendly Grocers at a very reasonable price. Forty-four of us enjoyed this very much. Adult Fellowship is open to men and women of any age, and we trust more people will join us in 2021. We have an interesting program planned!

I personally want to thank my executive who has been very supportive and helpful. Also the many others who contribute so much to our enjoyment - serving us morning tea, the trade table, doing the cards, looking after our sound and music, etc. There are too many to name and everyone contributes in their own special way. I have enjoyed being President, but it is time to hand the baton on, and I am pleased that Eric Lawson has agreed to take it up.

Peg Morgan (President)

## AGING WISELY

Ageing Wisely provides education and information on a range of topics related to the holistic wellbeing of seniors in our community. Due to Covid-19, during 2020 we were unable to host our face-to-face Ageing Wisely events, as our cohort of regular attendees, being in the most vulnerable people group, was advised through Government guidelines to stay at home as much as possible. We look forward to hosting these events again in 2021 and are currently seeking topics of interest to continue supporting and engaging with our congregation seniors and those in the broader community.

Kerri-Anne Dooley (RN)



## 10

## A & R QUILTERS

Although 2020 has been challenging in many ways, fortunately it has also provided many delights. As a group we managed to meet 22 times; sometimes with only three or four members present, and occasionally up to ten. We welcomed three new members, who are eager to learn new skills, help with group projects, and enjoy new friendships. As a group we completed a small number of quilts that were donated to The Royal Flying Doctor Service and the Renal Unit at Redcliffe Hospital. Members made fabric hearts that were donated to the Sunshine Coast Hospital Neonatal Unit.

Our Christmas break-up was held at the Castaway Koala Cafe in Scarborough, with a fun, informal and festive vibe. I thank members for their support during the past year. I wish 2021 to be full of fun, friendship, and inspiration for us all. Thank you.

Joanne Richardson



## BANNERS MINISTRY

With restricted use of our church building during 2020, the creative use of colour and design in thematic wall hangings, paintings, and the waving of worship banners was certainly limited. However, by the last term, this creative aspect of worship was restored. It is a real delight to note how the children, even newcomers, can use the children's banners so naturally, often expressing their delight with dance and body movements too.

2 Samuel 6:14: '(King) David danced before The Lord with all His might.' John 12:13: 'They took palm branches and went out to meet Him, shouting 'Hosanna!''

Let us continue to worship our King, our Saviour, 'with all our might'.

Marion Maskelyne

## 11

## CATERING



The Catering Team began and finished 2020 catering as usual to enable bereaved families to have quality time together whilst we serve them fresh, tasty food. In between, Covid-19 gave us a long break from catering and a new set of regulations to learn.

During lockdown, the catering team kept in regular contact, and as soon as we were able to meet as a small group, we met for lunch at Merle's or Enid's homes.

In August we were given special permission to safely cater for 100 guests at the funeral of our leader, Merle Morgenstern.

We miss Merle greatly: her leadership, her special friendship, and her great cooking. We remember Merle each time we proudly wear the aprons she made for each of the ladies.

Thanks to Judy and Stan Elledge, David Brown, Claire and Keith Lawson, Enid Hulls, Ann Krogh, Carolyn Harvey, Tasma and Frank Levingstone, and Judy Bolton, plus all the other willing helpers who came in at short notice, for their contribution to the team in 2020.

In 2021 the Catering Team is looking forward to using the airconditioned kitchen extension, as we continue our service to those who are hurting and to be Christ's representatives in the world.

Deirdre McNeil - Convenor

## CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

2020 has been a very interesting year in the life of the Children and Families ministry at Redcliffe Uniting. Covid-19 changed what we had planned and how we delivered things. However, we have not only survived, but thrived, with two new groups being formed.

The Children and Families ministry is made up of Jzone, Families at Five, Playgroup, Day Camp, Creative Ministries – Drama & Puppets, and Creative Ministries – Lyrical Dance.



## 12

**Jzone**

An age-appropriate bible-based Sunday School program designed for kids in three different age groups.

Term 1 - face-to-face

Term 2 & 3 – online

Term 4 – back to face-to-face

During lockdown, lessons were prepared and sent to all families on a weekly basis. We empowered families with activities (story, prayers, crafts, videos, songs) to do at home together.

Themes in 2020: Meet the King; Bible Ninja; Animals in the Bible; Old Testament Stories; See What God Does; Wreck-it Pete (stories of Peter).

Most of our special services were cancelled this year. However, during Covid, we started a small drama group to help present the kids' Jzone lessons via Youtube. This group grew and has continued as 'Creative Ministries – Drama'.

Our Christmas Jzone service was fantastic, with about 45 kids and youth in attendance.

**Day Camp**

- A Presbytery-run Kids Camp in June/July
- Face-to-face planning was prepared but cancelled due to Covid
- Day Camp ran as online Zoom sessions instead
- Very reduced numbers
- Thanks to the other directors, who took the initiative and ran Day Camp, Redcliffe Uniting didn't need to provide as much input this year, as Becky could not be involved

**Creative Expressions – Drama and Puppets**

- A new group was formed during lockdown
- 6-8 kids plus extra adults as needed
- A group that disciples kids through stories from the bible made into dramas or puppet shows
- Presentation via YouTube videos or live performances in worship

**Creative Expressions – Lyrical Dance**

- A new group started in Term 4 by a creative Playgroup mum
- Dance and movement to worship songs
- 4-week trial, with a presentation in worship at the Jzone Christmas service
- 9 regular kids involved
- Families were from Playgroup, Families at Five, and Jzone



## 13 Families at Five

A ministry for families to explore faith in a fun-filled way. It includes different family activities with a bible-based story each week. With a change in leadership at the beginning of 2020, Families at Five was in recess for Term 1. Under Covid restrictions, it has not run at all in 2020. However, it re-launched in Feb 2021.

### Playgroup

There was a leadership change during Term 1. Playgroup ran as usual until lockdown in late March. Once this occurred, we immediately went to Online Playgroup.

### Online Playgroup

This ran for about 16 weeks straight – even over the holiday breaks. Each week a YouTube video was made and shared with our Playgroup community, which included songs, a craft activity, and a story. This was widely shared with our Playgroup families, but also with friends further afield and in other states!

### Term 3

Playgroup came back face-to-face, following a Covid-safe plan, five days per week. We averaged about 50% of the people who were coming before Covid.

### Term 4

Four days per week. We averaged about 75-80% of pre-Covid numbers. All of our partnership programs with UnitingCare - parenting breakfasts, self-care morning teas, parenting courses, cooking classes, and special events - were cancelled for the year. The Intergenerational Playgroup started the year with great excitement. We met two or three times before it was cancelled due to Covid. The impact our church has with families is far-reaching. Throughout Covid, our Playgroup Pastoral Carers contacted all our families via phone or email to maintain contact and encourage them during lockdown.

Becky Clark (Children and Families Pastor)



## 14

## CHRISTMAS MISSION



The Christmas party for children under the care of the Department of Child Safety, Youth & Women was a wonderful success. Under the Covid plan, the party was divided into two sessions to reduce the numbers attending at one time. The children enjoyed a petting zoo, face painting, and opening over 300 presents. They also had the chance to meet with their parents for the last time before Christmas. The Department asked us to cater for 100 children plus parents, and I am sure that across the two sessions we came very close to that number.

The Christmas hampers were also a great success. The Breakfast Club, Redcliffe Uniting Church, The Salvation Army, Encircle Redcliffe Neighbourhood Centre, and the Redcliffe Mother's Group all combined their resources to provide food and toys for families in need. The Beef Bank donated enough frozen mince to provide each hamper with a 500g pack. St Andrews Hospital donated two trailer loads of toys and food, and the presents from MBRIT helped top them up. The money MBRIT donated helped us fill any gaps in the food that was donated and also gave us the opportunity to add a 1kg pack of bacon and 1 doz eggs to each of the families and couples' hampers.

December 18th was our packing day, and the Breakfast Club Hall was full of volunteers from all of the care organisations involved. I estimate that there were probably up to 80 volunteers there on the day. Then we had the distribution days on the following Monday and Tuesday, where there were at least 30 volunteers on each of the days. We packed and distributed 185 family hampers and 195 singles' and couples' hampers, that were either taken on those days or in the days that followed. The hampers and the children's Christmas party were a success. Thank you to all who contributed.

Mark Millard (RUC Welfare Officer)

## CHURCH COUNCIL

Having written many reports over many years, I have come to the conclusion that there are always sad and happy parts, so I will deal with the sad parts first. The year saw the passing of several members of the congregation. We thank God for them and the many ways they contributed to the life of the church. Dave Trotman passed suddenly in the year, and his work as treasurer and handyman during the conversion of the toilets along with other volunteers were jobs well done.

Then arrived in our midst a wondrous part of the Emerald Isle - not Guinness, but Paddi Mullan, and Glenys, his wife. Paddi is blessed with the most wonderful, caring spirit you could ever wish for. He lead by example how the congregation could reach out and care for those confined to their homes or those who had drifted away from the church. He left behind a legacy that still prevails in the church today.





# 15

In the midst of all this, the Hub project gathered attention. This project, despite what seemed impossible barriers, came to fruition with the knowledge that God is leading us. On top of all this came Covid-19, with the most necessary restrictions. Out of this we saw a new and vibrant outreach - Online Church - thanks to the hard work of the ministry team at RUC. It has set in place a further arm of the church's outreach. The year ahead will be blessed, with Paul staying on, Tim Griggs as the Youth and Community Chaplain to help in the church, and the physical appearance of the Hub. God's blessing on you all.

Bob Zander - 2020 Church Council Chair

## COMMUNITY GARDEN

It will come as no surprise that 2020 was not a great year for community outreach. So, a major focus has been on 'treading water', just keeping things going until times are more conducive. The original plan was to try to form links with our local Kindys with some low level environmental activities, and to link with Redcliffe High School on a program where students volunteer in the community for BCE points. Both of these things will be investigated further in 2021. While the main focus became one of maintenance, some progress was made.

Glenda Gorrett and Polly Lau volunteered consistently, with Glenda in particular doing an amazing job on the weeding. Polly has floated the idea that she may rent Hub space to hold Chinese Tea Ceremonies, which would also be a welcome addition. We also created a 'yellow' garden to make the church look more welcoming, with some smaller gardens also being added and/or revamped. Down in the Community Garden area, we still have a parade of regular visitors, often outside normal church hours. These people bring their children or grandchildren to play for a while, stop for a bit while walking their dogs, spend some time when they are attending for child access visits with the Department of Child Safety, or just drop by unseen. We know this happens because things are picked or moved or added. As the aim is to be a friendly face to the world, all these things, no matter how small, are welcome.

As an example, this year some of our 'across the road neighbours' donated a garden bed and some sleepers, which were very welcome. Someone else added coconut fibre to our gardens, to help them hold moisture, and hung a coconut planted with a little orchid from a tree branch. Thanks also to the church people who supported us, with gifts of plants, an outdoor table, donations to the compost bin, etc. It all gets noticed and appreciated, and with the Hub coming this year, the opportunities for outreach are increased.

Candy Hunter

31 December 2020

# Financial Report

Redcliffe Uniting Church



## RedcliffeUniting Heart of the Peninsula

Auditor:  
Jason O'Connor CA  
[www.joconnorptyltd.com.au](http://www.joconnorptyltd.com.au)

## Statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Bequests income	32,000.00	138,000.00
Donations	3,486.95	2,064.50
Fundraising income	-	2,585.00
Grants income	51,905.00	-
Hire of premises	85,358.27	83,877.64
Interest received	569.90	3,603.27
Ministries income	1,140.18	10,096.98
Mission giving	4,904.47	21,458.60
Offerings	188,830.74	203,366.95
Seniors pastoral care income	-	730.00
Sundry income	127.15	10.00
Youth and Children's income	10,308.90	21,125.83
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>378,631.56</b>	<b>486,918.77</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Grant expenses	52,960.73	-
Ministerial stipend	90,613.42	131,995.96
Mission and service fund	60,963.92	64,482.83
Mission external expenses	4,904.47	17,692.43
Mission internal expenses	2,283.19	7,841.21
Office and administration	9,926.73	12,422.06
Property expenses	54,568.00	51,450.01
Salaries and wages	60,154.53	190,884.69
Sundry expenses	5,609.43	16,653.55
Worship team	3,717.47	3,889.56
Youth and children expenses	3,419.39	7,394.12
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>349,121.28</b>	<b>504,706.42</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>29,510.28</b>	<b>(17,787.65)</b>



## Statement of financial position

As at the 31 December 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash on hand	440.00	460.00
Cash at bank	92,181.16	37,402.63
Cash on deposit	54,968.97	74,027.09
Accounts receivables	-	4,888.00
GST receivables	6,209.84	18,880.55
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>153,799.97</b>	<b>135,658.27</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Church groups and teams	4,875.69	25,272.14
Funds and provisions	14,218.92	12,231.75
GST payable	1,598.14	1,968.10
Mission funds	5,207.55	1,386.53
UnitingCare Community	42,212.69	53,379.20
Giving from the heart	7,218.37	-
Youth and children's ministry	17,318.83	9,781.05
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>92,650.19</b>	<b>104,018.77</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>61,149.78</b>	<b>31,639.50</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Accumulated Funds	31,639.50	49,427.15
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	29,510.28	(17,787.65)
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>61,149.78</b>	<b>31,639.50</b>

## Independent audit report

To the congregation of the Redcliffe Uniting Church

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of **Redcliffe Uniting Church** which comprises the statement of comprehensive income and the statement of financial position as at the **31 December 2020**, the notes to the financial statement, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Responsible Persons Declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of **Redcliffe Uniting Church** has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Non-for-Profits Commission Act 2012, including:

1. giving a true and fair view of the Congregation's financial position as at **31<sup>st</sup> December 2020** and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. complying with Accounting Policies to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the Australian Charities, The Uniting Church in Australia Constitution and Regulations and Queensland Synod By-laws.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial report section of our report. We are independent of the Congregation 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 our audit of the financial report in Australia, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report is prepared to assist for the purpose of fulfilling the Congregations financial reporting responsibilities under the Australian Charities and Non-for-Profits Commission Act 2012, The Uniting Church in Australia Constitution and Regulations and Queensland Synod By-laws. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Australian Charities and Non-for-Profits Commission Act 2012, The Uniting Church in Australia Constitution and Regulations and Queensland Synod By-laws and to meet the needs of the Congregation. The Congregation's responsibility also includes such internal controls as the officers determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the 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 Lead Minister is responsible for assessing the Congregations ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless Management either intent to liquidate the Congregation or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

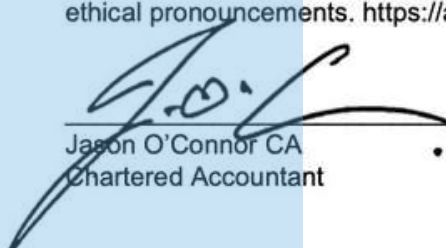
The Congregation are responsible for overseeing the Congregation's financial reporting process.

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

Our 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 our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Standards on Auditing 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. A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**Independence**

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements. <https://apesb.org.au/>



Jason O'Connor CA  
Chartered Accountant

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

25 / 01 / 2021

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31 December 2020

# Financial Report

Redcliffe Uniting Church – Community Fund



## RedcliffeUniting

### Heart of the Peninsula

Auditor:  
Jason O'Connor CA  
[www.joconnorptyltd.com.au](http://www.joconnorptyltd.com.au)



## Statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations	2,220.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,220.00</b>	-
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	-	-
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>2,220.00</b>	-

## Statement of financial position

As at the 31 December 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash at bank - operating account	91,923.73	93,078.74
Cash at bank - cash management account	142,750.44	28,326.73
Cash on deposit - U.C.I.S. term deposit	-	111,966.54
GST receivable	23,367.26	767.55
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>258,041.43</b>	<b>234,139.56</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Manse (Note 2)	519,847.99	519,847.99
Hub development	288,162.10	-
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>808,010.09</b>	<b>519,847.99</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,066,051.52</b>	<b>753,987.55</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Community funds	-	6,548.54
BSM Wages and costs	20,816.78	-
General funds	64,022.26	63,297.75
RUC funds	17,000.00	24,000.00
Unallocated and unused funds	142,144.49	28,326.73
Loan - Moreton Rivers Presbytery	300,000.00	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>543,983.53</b>	<b>122,173.02</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>543,983.53</b>	<b>122,173.02</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>522,067.99</b>	<b>631,814.53</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Reserve - Manse	519,847.99	519,847.99
Reserve - Investment	-	111,966.54
Accumulated Funds	-	-
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	2,220.00	-
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>522,067.99</b>	<b>631,814.53</b>

## Independent audit report

To the congregation of the Redcliffe Uniting Church – Community Fund

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of **Redcliffe Uniting Church – Community Fund** which comprises the statement of comprehensive income and the statement of financial position as at the **31 December 2020**, the notes to the financial statement, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Responsible Persons Declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of **Redcliffe Uniting Church – Community Fund** has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Non-for-Profits Commission Act 2012, including:

1. giving a true and fair view of the Congregation's financial position as at **31<sup>st</sup> December 2020** and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. complying with Accounting Policies to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the Australian Charities, The Uniting Church in Australia Constitution and Regulations and Queensland Synod By-laws.

#### Basis for opinion

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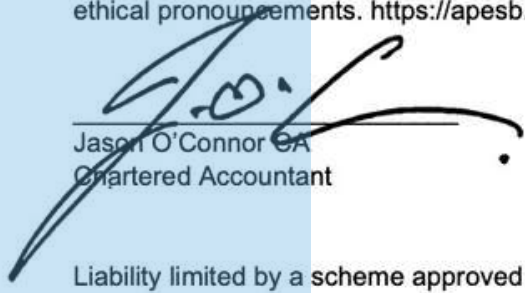


**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

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**Independence**

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements. <https://apesb.org.au/>

  
Jason O'Connor CA  
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25 / 01 / 2021

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	Actual 2019	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
Income				
Offerings 9.00 am Envelopes	\$57,546	\$58,409	\$29,116	\$35,000
Offerings 9.00 am Loose	\$39,695	\$40,290	\$23,937	\$30,000
Offerings Direct Giving	\$101,645	\$103,170	\$134,913	\$135,000
Misc	\$4,461	\$4,000	\$863	\$0
<b>TOTAL Offerings</b>	<b>\$203,347</b>	<b>\$205,869</b>	<b>\$188,829</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>
Donations General	\$2,065	\$2,300	\$3,486	\$2,000
<b>Mission Donations TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,459</b>	<b>\$21,780</b>	<b>\$4,904</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>
Playgroup Fees	\$9,427	\$9,568	\$5,428	\$7,000
Fund Raising Youth & Children	\$672	\$4,000	\$211	\$2,000
Donations Youth & Children	\$7,327	\$7,000	\$2,700	\$3,000
Generations Pastor Donations	\$3,700	\$7,000	\$1,969	\$20,000
<b>Youth &amp; Children Total</b>	<b>\$21,126</b>	<b>\$27,568</b>	<b>\$10,308</b>	<b>\$32,000</b>
Ministerial Services Income	\$810	\$1,500	\$318	\$500
Catering Income	\$10,017	\$10,167	\$822	\$5,000
<b>Fund Raising/Grants</b>	<b>\$2,585</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$51,905</b>	<b>\$2,600</b>
RUCF Youth Pastor	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
RUCF RUC Mission	\$63,000	\$48,000	\$20,000	\$10,000
RUCF M&S Fund Contribution	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
<b>RUCF TOTAL</b>	<b>\$83,000</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>	<b>\$32,000</b>	<b>\$32,000</b>
Uniting Care Rental	\$50,655	\$53,000	\$55,266	\$54,000
Venue Hire	\$21,664	\$25,000	\$21,712	\$22,000
Front Office Rental	\$6,657	\$12,000	\$7,671	\$8,000
Amity Place Rental	\$4,902	\$4,975	\$708	\$0
Manse Allowance Uniting Care	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,606
<b>Rental TOTAL</b>	<b>\$83,878</b>	<b>\$94,975</b>	<b>\$85,357</b>	<b>\$90,606</b>
Interest	\$246	\$250	\$36	\$50
Misc Operating Income	\$10	\$50	\$127	\$50
Job Keeper	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$428,542</b>	<b>\$436,960</b>	<b>\$378,092</b>	<b>\$368,806</b>

[Includes \$50k air cond grant]

Expenses	2019 Actual	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
Paul Stipend	\$80,961	\$82,572	\$83,100	\$98,376
Jobkeeper Offset			-\$26,700	
Paddi Stipend	\$47,310	\$39,769	\$40,080	\$0
Jobkeeper Offset			-\$24,000	
Youth & Community Pastor	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,549
Becky Stipend	\$40,000	\$42,300	\$43,178	\$43,555
Jobkeeper Offset			-\$26,700	
Robyne Wages	\$45,951	\$34,632	\$34,651	\$4,000
Jobkeeper Offset			-\$24,000	
Chantelle Wages	\$0	\$17,316	\$31,079	\$35,451
Jobkeeper Offset			-\$24,000	
Jeremy Bookkeeping	\$0	\$0	\$1,790	\$4,530
Playgroup Wages	\$19,000	\$15,000	\$12,106	\$6,000
Cleaner	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$11,559	\$13,800
Youth Pastor [Frtiz]	\$18,828	\$29,630	\$4,138	
Youth Worker			\$648	
<b>TOTAL WAGES</b>	<b>\$268,050</b>	<b>\$277,219</b>	<b>\$136,929</b>	<b>\$231,261</b>
<b>Mission &amp; Service Fund</b>	<b>\$62,153</b>	<b>\$59,714</b>	<b>\$59,714</b>	<b>\$42,630</b>
Redress	\$2,330	\$5,000	\$1,250	\$5,000
<b>Mission Giving TOTAL GIVING</b>	<b>\$17,692</b>	<b>\$17,958</b>	<b>\$4,904</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>
<b>Mission &amp; Discipleship Expense</b>	<b>\$7,841</b>	<b>\$7,959</b>	<b>\$2,283</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Worship Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,889</b>	<b>\$3,947</b>	<b>\$3,717</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>
<b>Total Youth &amp; Children expenses</b>	<b>\$7,394</b>	<b>\$6,929</b>	<b>\$3,416</b>	<b>\$6,500</b>
<b>Pastoral Care Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,956</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>	<b>\$1,179</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<b>Catering Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,283</b>	<b>\$3,333</b>	<b>\$322</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>TOTAL Admin Expenses</b>	<b>\$12,422</b>	<b>\$12,461</b>	<b>\$9,921</b>	<b>\$12,800</b>
<b>TOTAL property Expenses</b>	<b>\$21,040</b>	<b>\$19,574</b>	<b>\$21,048</b>	<b>\$19,600</b>
<b>Asset Mntnc/ Replace Provision</b>	<b>\$9,996</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$9,996</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>Solar Loan Repayment</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$4,775</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Uniting Care Prop Maintenance</b>	<b>\$1,095</b>	<b>\$1,111</b>	<b>\$479</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>\$16,319</b>	<b>\$16,564</b>	<b>\$18,266</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
<b>Catering Profit</b>	<b>\$6,734</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$507</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>Grant Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,585</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$52,960</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Operating Costs</b>	<b>\$96</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,599</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$449,875</b>	<b>\$453,768</b>	<b>\$335,265</b>	<b>\$371,791</b>
Jobkeeper offset not yet paid			-\$13,850	\$3,000
<b>Profit/Loss</b>	<b>-\$21,334</b>	<b>-\$16,808</b>	<b>\$28,977</b>	<b>\$15</b>

28

## GAMES NIGHT

We had a Games Night in February 2020, but due to Covid risks it was decided that we would not continue these events as there was no way to have a Covid-safe place where everyone could stay 1.5 meters apart. The card handling in games is also not safe Covid-wise.

Some people have expressed interest in starting again. Hopefully in 2021 there will be enough interest to continue these social evening events.

Joy Harris, Convenor

“

## MEMORIES FOR PROSPERITY

COVID-19 impacted significantly on the group during 2020. However, we did manage to meet a couple of times towards the end of the year. Amity Place was no longer available to us, so we have been meeting at the residence of Ruth & Eric Lawson. We were determined to begin meeting once we were able to, and continue to be challenged, inspired and entertained by the family stories that are shared in the group. There are so many times when personal stories from one person stirs memories in others, who then share and comment on similar experiences. All are welcome to share in our monthly meetings and the cuppa that follows.

[Rev] Eric Lawson (Convenor)

”





## 29 MEN'S BREAKFAST

Like most groups, Men's Breakfast went into recess during Covid, having hosted just one breakfast before lockdown. Mark Deguara had enthralled us with stories from his career as a jockey. If you see him around church, ask him about those days.

We were able to finish the year with a sobering breakfast, looking at pandemics past and present with a military expert - Prof. Denis Shanks. Prof. Shanks took us right back to the Biblical plagues and to the plagues of today.

Debra Davis took over the catering duties, and she has done a wonderful job with her team.

2020 saw Paddi Mullan, Barry Kerr and Rob Baker stepping back from the Men's Breakfast ministry. Keneti Vaigafa has taken up the role, with support from a team and help from Pastor Paul. We look forward to a great year! If someone is excited about men's ministry and growing this, talk to Pastor Paul or Keneti.

## PASTORAL CARE

The pandemic saw Paddi and his team really step up in the area of Pastoral Care. You will have read about their efforts in Paul's Minister's Report.

At one stage, we calculated that we were directly or indirectly supporting 1% of the Peninsula's population during the lockdown through pastoral support.

Thank you to the Pastoral Carers and Callers - about 35 people - who keep an eye on a group of people and try to touch base in person, text, call, email, or visit.

Pastoral Care is one of those ministries that never ends, and which you don't notice until you aren't noticed. If you feel like your name might have fallen off our radar, please let us know. We want to care for you, but can't do this well if we don't know you're in need. Remember that sometimes our Pastoral Carers get busy and need care themselves.

With Paddi's departure, Jodie Woodrow is voluntarily co-ordinating our Pastoral Care, supported by Pastor Paul, Sybil Peacock, Marion Maskylene, Joy Harris, Kaye McDuff, Val Evans, Fran Hollywood, Pat Darby, Julie O'Halloran, Libby Weir, Jill Sharaga, Marguritta Carthouser, Peg Morgan, Keneti Vaigafa, and John Glover.





## 30 PRAYER

How many prayers recorded in Scripture were prayed while God's children were in crisis! Now, as then, God was not 'off-limits' during the Covid crisis. So, like the Apostle Paul, we could practise praising God even 'in prison' - our lockdown - or in other traumatic situations people were experiencing. Thank you, Lord, for:

- The prayers of every believer who continued to worship You, seek Your help, and intercede for others
- Technological platforms, like Zoom, that enabled us to continue to pray together 'face-to-face'
- Volunteers who visited people in their homes, enabling more of our congregation to actively participate in online worship by recording their pastoral prayers
- The church's diligence to make the church Covid-safe so that prayer groups could reconnect onsite, at least by last term
- Sundays 8.30am – focus pre-worship prayer – most often in Parent's Retreat Room
- Sundays 5pm – focus Centering Prayer and Lectio Divina. *Centring Prayer was able to continue in 2020 as we are a small group and able to adhere to Covid rules. The eight or nine who attended found participating in this time of silence food for the soul.*
- Tuesdays 8am continued online only - focus pastoral and group life within RUC
- Fridays 9am – focus intercession for our city, nation, and the world – Prayer Room or Foyer.

Ephesians 3:20-21: To Him Who is able to do exceedingly, abundantly above all we ask or imagine, according to His power at work in us, to Him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever, Amen.

Marion Maskelyne

## PROPERTY

2020 was a very busy year with property improvements. We saw the completion of the pantry/kitchen extension and store room, thanks to a lot of hard-working volunteers: Bob Zander, Jodie Woodrow, Debra Davis, Paul Davis, Paddi Mullan, Simon Clark, Candy Hunter, and the late David Trotman. Later, we had an air conditioner installed in the new kitchen.

Candy Hunter worked very hard throughout the Covid lockdown and restrictions. While most staff were working from home, Candy used this time to repaint the church offices. New carpet was then laid, and this revamp has made a huge difference to the overall feel of the space. Glenys Mullan kindly repainted planters, which were filled with greenery that we can enjoy. Candy also refreshed the church foyer with help from Dorothy Hurst and Mel Degaura. This was completed nicely with a new 'welcome home' sign and some new furniture, which was kindly donated by a church member.

Mid year, we became aware of a grant available for infrastructure and were successful in our application. This brought us \$50,000 that we were able to use to update our electrical board and aircondition our hall. We have attracted several groups wanting to hire the rooms since the installation of the air conditioning.

## 31

In addition to these large property projects, we have also had our faithful volunteers maintaining our grounds and grass and attending to day-to-day repairs. We thank Graham Olling, Rob Baker, Bob Zander, and our late Dave Trotman for maintaining the grass and property throughout 2020. Thank you also to those of you who are part of our 'Property' group on our database. This group receives text messages from me when we have maintenance issues or repairs needed. We simply could not carry out the work that is required for a property the size of ours without our amazing volunteers. If you were involved in any way in helping us with any property-related projects in 2020, we say 'Thank You'. If you would like to be involved, please contact me. We would love your help.

Blessings - Fiona McPherson

## REDCLIFFE COMMUNITY HUB

2020 brought much momentum for the Community Hub project. In February we were relieved to hear that our Development Application had been approved, and with no community opposition.

After a congregational vote to proceed, we entered the next stage of the project, which was the Detailed Design phase. This required architects to prepare detailed design drawings, so that a builder can build the final design, as well as layout and colour choices. We are grateful for our project manager, Matthew Neale, from Hammond & Neale, as he leads us through all of these processes with such enthusiasm and attention to detail.

In May we received a \$300,000 loan from Presbytery to fund the Detailed Design phase of the project. We are now close to appointing a builder after completing the Tender phase.

We continue to see God's hand at work in this ministry. Some of God's generosity through 2020 came through a government infrastructure grant that we received. This was worth \$50,000 and covered the cost of updating our electrical box. In effect, this meant one less job being added to the Hub project. This really did come about at just the right time, enabling the electrical upgrades that were desperately needed.

We also saw God's provision through the many skilled volunteers who gave us hours of their personal time to bring us through each stage. I would like to make special mention of Kathy Campbell, who chaired our Steering Committee. When Kathy stepped aside from this role and the committee, Leigh Bennett kindly took on the Chair role. Later, Tony Hunter became Chair with Leigh Bennett, Carol James (Steering Committee Secretary), Kerri-Anne Dooley, Wes Bleakley, myself (Fiona) and Paul Clark also serving on the Steering Committee. God kindly brought us Ralph Collins later in the year, to help with finances. We often invited Greg Adsett to join these meetings along with Matthew Neale, our project manager. I would also like to thank Ally K, from Encircle Redcliffe, for attending some of our meetings and offering invaluable support.

Late in 2020, another provision of God - the partnership with UnitingCare to fund a Community Chaplaincy role, to be based in the Hub. Tim Griggs was affirmed for that role.



# 32

Tim will continue to help us become mission-ready for the Hub, empowering us to connect with those who come on site.

In November of 2020, another one of God's provisions came in the form of the Moreton Bay Regional Council offering us a fee remission for the Hub to the value of \$96,000. We are very grateful to MBRC for this.

I see the excitement building in the church and wider community as we get closer to the Hub becoming a reality. The leading for RUC to take on such a ministry is very obviously from God.

His provision of finances, family, and favour continues to propel us into each next phase. We truly see the RUC Community Hub being the place where lives are transformed.

It won't be long until we will be sharing God's love over a coffee with our neighbours in the cafe and showing them that church is not so inaccessible.

Blessings - Fiona McPherson (Business Services Manager)

## Stage Three – Detailed Design & Tender [2020-2021]

### Income

Presbytery Interest Free loan \$300,000

### Expenses [as at 31/12/2020, not yet complete]

Professional Services \$241,955



# 33 REDCLIFFE UNITING COMMUNITY FUND

The Redcliffe Uniting Community Fund has limited its activities in 2020 to mainly supporting the development of the RUC Community Hub.

There has been a process to ensure that we could access the Neil James Grant bequest funds, involving speaking to the trustees to help them understand the vision of the Hub.

We have continued to support the work of David and Susanne, who have been 'stuck' in Australia but have continued their global ministry via Zoom.

At the end of 2020 the value of the Neil James Grant Trust was - \$3,288,271.73 plus \$43,420.17 cash.

## Redcliffe Uniting Community Fund

[Audited accounts above - Below showing income/expenditure].

### UNALLOCATED FUNDS Bal b/f \$138,641.41

<b>Income</b> - NJG Returns	\$ 107,977.06
MBRIT Unspent	\$ 2,000.00
Solar Loan Repayment from RUC	\$ 4,775.00
Interest	\$ 81.48
<b>Expenses</b> - Nikles	\$ (5,000.00)
RUC - Parish Mission	\$ (24,000.00)
BSM Wages	\$ (80,000.00)
Misc	\$ (1,330.46)
M&S Prevision	\$ (1,000.00)

**Closing Balance \$142,144.49**

## THE REDCLIFFE EXPLORERS

As with many groups, our normal schedule was severely interrupted by the Covid-19 situation, but we did manage several meetings throughout the year, observing strict safety guidelines. These included: a continued study of John Gunson's book, *God, Ethics and the Secular Society*, with Ian Brown providing a 'refresher snapshot' and Graeme Adsett following this up with an in-depth review of the chapter 'Religion as Mythology'.

Watching a podcast sermon by Rev Dr Roger Ray (Emerging Church, Springfield, USA) on mortality. He examined the question that maybe this life is all that there is, and suggested that if indeed we are mortal, and there's no 'after-life', we'd be very well advised to make best use of the allotted time we have. A lively discussion ensued about the 'soul' and what we mean by the word.

Ian Brown introduced Rutger Bregman's recent book *Humankind: A Hopeful History*. Bregman postulates a radical idea, which is ignored by the media, denied by religions and ideologies, and erased from the annals of world history. At the same time, it is legitimised by virtually every branch of science, corroborated by evolution, and confirmed in everyday life. It's an idea intrinsic to human nature that goes unnoticed: it's simply that most people, deep down, are pretty decent.



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To illustrate, he compares the (fictional) story of Lord of the Flies by William Golding, with the (true) story of the Tongan schoolboys marooned in 1966.

We later focussed on Bregman's analysis of Jesus' directive in the Sermon on the Mount to 'turn the other cheek', and how this has influenced the development of a very successful progressive form of prisoner incarceration and rehabilitation in two Norwegian prisons. The discussion that followed revolved around the inadequacy of Australia's prison systems, and what (if anything) we could possibly do about it.

At the year's final formal session we welcomed guest speaker, John Beattie, a member of the Religious Society of Friends, or 'Quakers'. John gave us a detailed account of the Quakers' history, its many influential people, what happens at their gatherings, what they do (or don't) believe, and, of course, the significant work of Quakers in anti-slavery and the advocacy of pacifism.

Anyone interested in grappling with humanity's Big Questions and engaging in serious, robust, but polite discussion is most welcome at our meetings. We gather on the first Monday of the month at Azure Blue (Anzac Ave. Redcliffe) at 6pm.

Dr Ian W Brown (January 2021)

On behalf of the Coordinating Committee: Graeme Foon, Graeme Adsett, Sue Schmolke, Lesley Brown, and Vicki Alsop. For information about the group and its activities, please call Ian Brown (3284 3688 or 0401 513 723) or email [browniw5@optusnet.com.au](mailto:browniw5@optusnet.com.au).

## WELFARE REPORT

Changes were made in 2020 to the way RUC handled the needs of the community and our church members. Mark Millard was asked to take on the role of Welfare Officer to oversee the combining of the arms of the church that cater for those needs. Giving from the Heart, Christmas Hampers, and general need requests all now come under the Welfare umbrella. This new system has worked well and has given RUC a better understanding of where money needs to be spent and how to spend it.

The work of Giving from the Heart continued throughout the year, with requests for towels, sheets, pillows, blankets, summer and winter pyjamas, nit treatment, and emergency packs all being provided to the Department of Communities.

We have developed a great relationship with the craft group at Azure Blue, who have provided us on two occasions with knitted and crocheted blankets, jackets, beanies, babies socks, and other items that have been passed on to the incredibly grateful children in the care of the Department.

The highlight of the year for GFTH was the Christmas Party for the children under the care of the Department of Child Safety that we held at RUC and was catered for by our wonderful catering team. More than 300 presents were provided for the children and as much food as they could eat, as well as a chance to spend some time with their biological parents before Christmas.

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During the year, whenever Covid restrictions allowed, Mark attended the Redcliffe Care Network meetings. This group works throughout the year to help meet the needs of the poor in our community, with the final goal of providing hampers at Christmas. The members of the Care Network changed slightly in 2020, with Vinnies, El Shaddai (now known as The Food Stache), and Clontarf Baptist stepping back, and The Salvation Army, Redcliffe Mother's Group, and MBRIT joining with RUC, Encircle Redcliffe, and The Breakfast Club.

In 2020 The Breakfast Club was able to host the hamper sorting and distribution, and we had Beef Bank come on board to provide 500g of frozen mince for each hamper. I thank all those members of RUC who volunteered to help with, donate to, or provide goods towards the hampers. It was a tremendous experience, with the needy incredibly happy with what they received.

There were numerous calls and emails for help throughout the year, and all were dealt with successfully. My thanks go to everyone who has donated or helped in any way towards the welfare of those in need in our church and in the community, of which we strive to be at the heart.

Your servant in Christ, Mark Millard (Welfare Officer)

## Giving from the Heart Accounts

**Uniform Fund - \$3015 [Nil spent in 2020].**

**Chaplaincy Fund - \$1744 [Nil spent in 2020]**

<b>General Fund.</b>	<b>Income.</b>	<b>Expenses</b>
Balance b/f	\$1,753.59	
Donations	\$1,050	
MBRIT Sponsorship [Christmas Party]	\$2,000	
Dept of Comms' Children's Party		\$1,981.81
General Support		\$363.74
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,803.59</b>	<b>\$2,345.55</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>\$2,458.04</b>	



## 36 WORKING WOMEN'S EVENTS

What a year! We are a group of RUC women who get together for coffee/breakfast and occasionally for dinner. In 2020 we managed a couple of dinners (early and late in the year) and some socially distanced 'picnic' Saturday morning coffees. It is a very casual, social and supportive group, with people attending when they can.

We have a wide range of ages, those doing paid work and those doing unpaid work, single and married, people with kids and without kids. Friendships have developed between people who may not otherwise have connected. Everyone is welcome. 2021 gatherings will continue to be ad hoc, depending upon Covid restrictions.

Kathy Campbell (Coordinator)



## WORSHIP

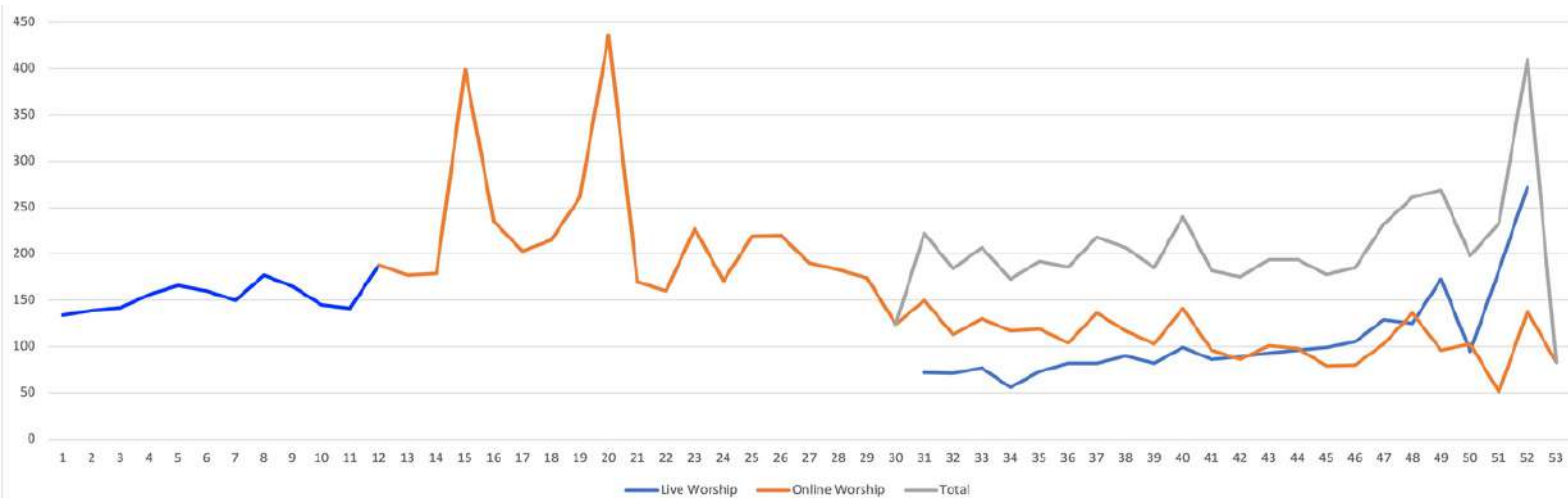
As you read in the Minister's Report, worship faced HUGE changes in 2020. Apart from the main worship service at 9am, our Heart & Soul once a month Thursday morning communion service, the Sunday fortnightly 4pm service, Families at Five, Centring Prayer and Nursing Home services were all suspended due to Covid lockdown restrictions from Sunday 22nd March.

We were able to quickly set up an Online service as our Minister is actually an award-winning video producer [ask him the story!].

We chose to do online worship speaking directly to the camera, with music from other sources, as it matched the technology, ability, and time we had available. Live worship is a different medium to TV. The feedback we received was that our method - which we refined over time - was much appreciated and, indeed, more intimate than live worship. Not everyone found worship online easy, but it certainly was a comfort and strength to many during this time, and has opened up opportunities that we had overlooked. We also saw *more* faces in worship as people read the Bible or prayed with us in their homes from all around the world!



# 37 WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 2020



When we were able to resume live worship - Aug 2nd - only two services resumed: 9am worship, without morning tea, and 5pm Centering Prayer. With so many people in the 'vulnerable' category, we had to recruit and build a new Sound Team from scratch. We salute and thank the original Sound Team, especially Stan Elledge, who retired from his role as Sound Team leader during Covid.

We had an ice-cream/coffee van for a number of weeks - (remember that?) - and slowly began to bring back our barista coffee.

Slowly, people's confidence grew and our 'in person' numbers began to eclipse our online numbers. Overall, our community has grown, and we love our 'diaspora' members. What has been amazing is that since returning to live worship, and having to sign in, every week we see that someone new has been in worship, and every second week it's been someone's first time back in worship. We also continue to send out 30 DVDs of our services each month to people who can't physically come and who don't have internet access.

People have been joining our worship, music, morning tea, sound, and video teams. It's wonderful - and the new drama and dance groups have been an added blessing.

In the new year Families at Five returned, but it looks like Heart & Soul and 4pm Worship may have wound up. With online worship and DVDs available, people who can no longer attend the 9am service can participate. Indeed, it has been a Godsend for many. If you would love to contribute to the Sunday experience in any way, like Ruth Mitchel who does our 'Covid cleaning', or Jean Carter's Little Owls, Julie's morningtea, or even preaching - talk to any of our pastors.



## 38 RBL YOUTH

Youth group in 2020, a combined effort between Redcliffe Uniting and North Lakes Uniting, was a highlight for both churches. Despite the Covid challenges, we finished the year, and have continued into 2021, with strong numbers and great enthusiasm from the youth.

Term 1 ran with a dedicated team led by Fritz Venzke as our Youth Worker. Our numbers averaged between 20-25 per night, and we were able to finish on a high note with the Presbytery-wide rock climbing event before Covid meant we had to end the term early. Term 2 ran over Zoom, and while our numbers were reduced, we had a great core group that attended each week. At the end of Term 2, we lost Fritz as our youth worker, but he has remained involved through his position as minister at North Lakes. For the remainder of the year, Milly and Jenny were appointed youth group coordinators, and we were able to meet in-person under our Covid-safe plan.

Amelia (Milly) McPherson and Jenny Clark

