

GWUC Half Yearly Finance Report

For the Period: 1 January 2025 – 30 June 2025

Executive Summary

The first half of 2025 has been a period of measured control and no significant deterioration in our overall financial position. GWUC completed a period of consolidation and reported deficits over several months.

During the first half of 2025, GWUC navigated a dynamic economic landscape marked by both opportunities and unforeseen challenges. The period was characterised by prudent financial management, careful monitoring of income and expenditure, and strategic decisions aimed at ensuring long-term stability. Throughout these six months, the organisation faced increased costs in several operational areas while still striving to fulfil its mission and maintain service quality. Despite a modest deficit, GWUC's overall approach highlights its commitment to transparency, adaptability, and future-oriented planning.

GWUC continues to demonstrate resilience, maintaining a stable financial position. This report details and summarises the financial performance, key achievements, challenges, and outlook for GWUC from 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025 and then beyond for the second half of 2025.

Financial Highlights

- **Total Revenue:** GWUC's revenue for the half-year period reached \$251,802.88 whilst expenses were \$253,563.63 and a small deficit of \$1,760.75.
- However, this masks what would have been a larger deficit because we have transferred \$25,000 from the Endowment Fund in as Revenue in late June to be used to meet the cost of Batteries which will be installed in July/ August 2025. Thus, our Deficit would have been \$26,760.75 which is a disappointing result against Planned Deficit of \$12,938.
- **Net Profit/ Net Deficit:** As above we recorded a small deficit of \$1,760.75.
- **Our Actual Expenses** of \$253,564 compared to our Budget / Plan of \$238,380. The variance of \$15,183.53 is due to staffing costs and superannuation and properties expenses related to the vandalism with the broken windows and our excess of almost \$7,000. However, these results were expected.
- **Operating Expenses:** Total Operating expenses increased by 6.37% to \$253.634, primarily due to Salary and Superannuation Costs above our Budget/ Plan.

Revenue Performance

1. Offering and Giving Revenue

Our Offering and Rental revenue remains GWUC's primary income streams, comprising 81% of total revenue.

Although we planned further reductions consistent with the past 2–3 years, our offering is still about 3% below even our conservative projections.

Our Offering from all Sources continues to diminish, there is work (being undertaken), which clearly indicates the reliance which GWUC has upon offering contributions from the 60-90age groups and that is a significantly broader concern:

	Actual	Plan / Budget	Variance
Offering-Direct Giving	\$74,777	\$77,502	-3.52%
Offering-Envelopes.	\$25,114	\$27,498	-8.67%
Offering Open Plate	\$26,146	\$25,998	0.57%
Offering Other	\$2,000	\$1,002	99.60%
	\$128,037	\$132,000	-3.00% (-\$3,963)

2. Other Income

Other income sources, including Endowment fund transfers for specific projects, have supported short-term projects such as:

- the replacement of air conditioners in Rooms 2 and 3 amounting to \$5,732 with reverse cycle units which are both for heating and cooling.
- the Transfer of \$25,000 in June 2025 will be applied to the costs of Batteries for the complex to be installed in July/ August.

We received a Bequest of \$25,000 from the estate of Warren Bartlett and these funds were placed into our Future Fund.

The role of Bequests becomes a crucial factor going forward, and we aim to fund specific projects which will aid us in managing the forward costs in energy.

3. Rental Income

The Rental Income has become a significant factor in our operations.

Unfortunately, this income is behind plan.

	Actual	Plan	Variance
Rental Income	\$31,508	\$40,002	-21.23%

We lost a major Renter in January 2025 and to date that hasn't been replaced.

Expense Analysis

1. Personnel Expenses

Staffing /Personnel expenses are Actual \$128,839 against a plan of \$121,200 and comprises 50.81% of total costs, reflecting increases from Ministerial Allowances and Award increase of approx. 4.3%. This is above the planned increases that we budgeted. Superannuation is \$14,378 against a plan of \$12,498, i.e. an increase of 15.05%.

This later item is our planning error.

Key Achievements

- We have been able to undertake all planned items and activities.
- Successfully recruited a new Welfare Coordinator.
- A successful Book Fair raised \$6,590 and was a wonderful social event for the broad congregation.
- Di completed her work at Strathdon using funds from the Margaret Falconer Bequest.
- We have replaced Air conditioners within Rooms 2 and 3 and disconnected the gas.
- We will apply funds from the Endowment fund to the installation of 50kw of Batteries which will significantly impact our energy use.

Challenges Faced

- The shortfall in our Offering / Giving income remains a concern.
- Our Rental income is likely to remain behind our plan for the year.
- Persistent inflationary pressures increased input costs, particularly via our staffing costs represent an inherent challenge as well as the cost of utilities.

Conclusion

GWUC's financial performance in the first half of 2025 demonstrates robust management and a performance which whilst behind what was a conservative plan provides GWUC with a clear operational and strategic vision. We will still tightly manage all costs appreciating that there is little likelihood of significant Revenue increase over the back half of the 2025 Financial year. We expect to record a significant deficit over the full year.

GWUC is well-positioned to meet the challenges and opportunities of the future but will continue to face some operational and strategic cash flow problems as we eat into our reserves and accumulated surpluses. There will be a need to cut our cloth to our finances in future years.

Despite these headwinds, GWUC has demonstrated resilience and adaptability. Prudent financial oversight and a balanced investment strategy have helped cushion the effects of market fluctuations,

while regular compliance reviews ensure we remain aligned with evolving regulatory expectations. Looking ahead, although income is unlikely to rebound significantly in the latter part of the 2025 fiscal year, our disciplined approach to expenditure provides a foundation from which to navigate a challenging environment. As we rely more heavily on reserves and accumulated surpluses, continued vigilance and an honest reassessment of our operational scale will be required in the years to come i.e. the staffing mix for our resized congregation assumes a priority. We need to promote the benefits and use of the generous bequests available to GWUC.

This report affirms GWUC's ongoing journey towards achieving a range of activities across our Budget. There remains a need to undertake a more detailed planning framework as to what we can achieve going forward, whilst facing reduced revenues and cost increases unless there are changes to the mix of our operations.

Ken M Coutts

GWUC Treasurer