

GWUC Outreach and Social Justice Mission Group

MINUTES

10 October 2024, 10am

1. Welcome to all Devotion: Margaret (St Francis of Assisi's Peace Prayer)
2. Present: Pam Bunney, Annette Wojak, David Morgan, Margaret Fraser (Chair) Apologies: Vida Foo, Rev Ian Ferguson (MF spoke to Ian after the meeting and some info has been included in Minutes)
3. Minutes of meeting on 6 th June 2024 (1st August meeting was cancelled).
4. Matters Arising and Reporting from 6th June meeting <ol style="list-style-type: none">COP processes<ul style="list-style-type: none">The COP Selection Panel continued working to finish the evaluation of COP applications based on the approved COP selection criteria. Written, verbal and face-to-face input was received from applicants.A COP 2024 Recommendations brochure was prepared. This was distributed to the applicants and to Church Council, then to the congregation in preparation for the Congregational Meeting held on 28 July.Annette presented the COP recommendations to the Congregational meeting and the recommendations were all approved.Annette thanked all involved in this process.Margaret advised all applicants in writing about the Congregational Meeting outcome, and about the steps for payment following the fete.NAIDOC week activities (late July) were promoted and attended by various members.Websites and wiki updates for OSJMG -* this action previously deferred until time permits. David M has made some updates to http://wiki.gwuc.org.au/gwuc/OutreachSocialJustice. Updates to gwuc.org.au website (John Snare) still to be done.Material Aid, Annette is updating <i>Bulletin</i> notices and Noticeboard, and delivering collected goods. August & Sept– Welfare pantry.KOGO knitting project was very well supported with a total of 150+ items donated. They were included in the GWUC Art and Craft show in August. Thanks to all who contributed and to Pam Bunney who coordinated the project. It has been suggested that we make this an ONGOING APPEAL for KOGO. Action: PB to advertise this during Autumn and Winter in the Bulletin to become part of the 2025 Material Aid effort, including details of how to deliver items direct to Monash Library. Provide link to KOGO website for further information and also have PB as contact person for queries or wool donations.
5. Correspondence IN <ul style="list-style-type: none">August JustAct Newsletter 2024 from Justice and International Mission Cluster (JIM) listing current campaigns and events. *Would someone from our MG please volunteer to monitor the items and bring ideas for OSJMG consideration? Action: DM to follow up on this for Nov 28 meeting.<i>After meeting</i>, IanF shared an email received from Timothy Molineux, UCA Social Justice Officer. Action: All - read info and email comments to OSJMG. https://justact.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Sheet-on-statement-to-support-Victorian-Treaty-August-2024.pdf Further info - ask MF. Action such as that suggested in the Statement would need to pass through Church Council, but the OSJMG may be able to draft a response on Nov 28.UnitingWorld letters and emailsEmail from Ray (GWUC Welfare Coord) thanking COP Selection Panel for the positive recommendations for Welfare project.Tearfund letters including Useful Gift Catalogue and Appeal for Afghanistan. Action: MF to get copies of the Useful Gift Catalogue for noticeboard OUT <ul style="list-style-type: none">MF sent OSJMG reports to June, July, August & September/October Church Council meetingsSelection Panel sent email on 1st July to COP applicants advising them of the COP recommendations to be submitted to Cong Meeting

- COP Recommendation brochure – AW & MF distributed this to congregation and COP applicants
- MF sent emails to COP applicants advising results of Congregational Meeting on 28/7/24. Reply received from Ray (Welfare)
- MF submitted Honey Money article and report on the visit to the Asylum Seeker Welcome Centre for next Kingsway (sent in early August)

6. Today's Business (Please note all **Action** items)

a. COP completion

- Promotion and Fund-raising for the COP projects -*display at Monash Library – done by Vida & AW, *OSJMG noticeboard –done by MF, *foyer slideshow during the week and at fete **Action:** DM/Joanne using Sue M's slides, *8 copies of A3 poster listing the COP projects to be prepared for fete day **Action:** DM/Joanne to prepare, MF to put them up around church building. We need to maximize interest in COP efforts for the fete.
- We are keen to maintain interest in COP for a positive response in 2025. We will follow up fete with info on noticeboard.
- PAYMENT process to the selected projects after fete proceeds are finalized: As per COP Procedure docs, Liaise with applicants to verify bank accounts and recipient names, write cover letter and remind recipients that we may request them to provide a short presentation to the congregation in early 2025, organize bank transfers. **Action:** MF to get these steps completed by end of November.

b. COP evaluation

- OSJMG agreed that we use the same process to invite congregation applications in 2025. In the event that insufficient eligible applications are received, OSJMG may need to nominate projects that meet the criteria. This would necessitate some additional guidelines.
- Editing of COP procedure documents required prior to 2025 processes. Use ideas already noted by AW and MF and also those submitted by Russell Crawford. Consult with others who may wish to contribute, eg Vida? Do we need to have 4 separate documents in 2025 or can we combine some? **Action:** AW to draft edits for consideration at Nov 28 meeting.
- Check UCA regs re COP financial decisions without Cong approval for future (as suggested by Ian F) – **Action:** DM to investigate for Nov 28 meeting.

c. Material Aid - **Action:** AW to set up Annual calendar as a helpful reference, not rigid.

- October – fete/welfare
- Nov – Ladies handbags “In the Bag”
- Dec - Empty Christmas Tree

d. Noticeboard - **Action:** MF to maintain fete focus (final proceeds, acknowledgements from Fete recipients) then change to Christmas in mid-Nov.

e. Honey Money - New batches prepared for sale by MF and DF in mid-July and early October. Well supported.

f. GWUC Christmas projects under OSJMG umbrella –

- Shoeboxes – DM has followed up with Chris W/Kimberley E and found that the Shoebox project has been cancelled for 2024 (too close to fete date)
- Empty Christmas tree - **Action** MF to confirm arrangements with Joanne. Help needed?
- Christmas Bowl - **Action** MF to confirm arrangements with Joanne. Help needed?
- Tearfund and Uniting World Christmas catalogues – advertise on noticeboard and in Bulletin **Action** MF to follow this up
- Other - **Action:** MF to check this with Ian F, Multicultural Christmas celebration (Vida). Help needed?

g. OSJMG calendar of regular tasks ready for 2025. **Action:** MF to draft this as a helpful reference, not to be prescriptive.

7. Any other Business None

8. Next Meeting –10am Thursday, 28 Nov. Room 2 then go to Piatella café for coffee and some shared time together. **Action:** MF to book table for 11.15am

9. Items for Nov. meeting are welcome –

To include *Actions* taken, COP draft docs for 2025, Christmas project updates, consider “What is there energy for in 2025?”(Ian), Other: please send to MF.
Proposed Meeting dates for 2025, 10am Thurs 11th Feb, then 1st Thurs of alternate months (Apr, June, Aug, Oct, end Nov), in Room 2