

GWUC Outreach and Social Justice Mission Group

MINUTES

10am 6th June 2024

1. Welcome to all and special welcome to Pam Bunney , our new member. Devotion: Annette
2. Present: Vida Foo, Pam Bunney, Rev Ian Ferguson, Annette Wojak, Margaret Fraser (Chair) Apologies: David Morgan
3. Minutes of last meeting 4 April 2024, agreed
4. Reporting and Matters Arising from last meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. COP applications were open, 2/4/24-26/5/24b. COP spreadsheets were prepared (1) application details and admin, and (2) financial requestsc. Articles re COP 2024 prepared for <i>Kingsway and Bulletins</i>, MF spoke in services 7/4 & 5/5.d. Check UCA regs re COP financial decisions without Cong approval for future (Ian F) – *this action deferred until time permitse. COP Sunday 5/5/24 went well. Within a limited time, we were able to get speakers from Friends of Ermera (Sue Peddlesden), Frontier Services (Ian and Hilary Salmon) plus video from GWUC Welfare (“Ray” Abdou). The service was followed by BBQ lunch supporting Frontier Services (\$600.12 donated). We thank Joanne B for her assistance with Bulletin items and display. Review -Today’s Business 6.f. Websites and wiki updates for OSJMG -* this action deferred until time permitsg. Material Aid, Annette is updating <i>Bulletin</i> notices and Noticeboard, and delivering goods.<ul style="list-style-type: none">I. April & May food drive went to Asylum Seeker Resource centre Dandenong. This was well supported and we delivered 7 boxes of food which were gratefully received. We continue to collect for Welfare each week.II. Thanks to ministers, Items have been included in church service Offering some weeks.h. New members for OSJMG - Pam Bunney has offered to help within her availability. MF asked her to organize the KOGO Knitting project. She accepted and she is doing a great job. Add mpbunney@bigpond.com to Outreach email group.i. JIM survey and campaigns, calendar of Social Justice dates has been added to resources for Prayers of the People. David M requested JIM “Stop Fuel Credits” postcards to be sent to GWUC. These have been received and are on steward’s table.j. Asylum Seeker Welcome Centre ASWC visit (Brunswick) 8/5/24, attended by Margaret, Vida and Annette. We were hosted by Aimee Dare (Mgr) and Art Borce (Community Devt Worker). Aimee showed us a ppt presentation which she later emailed to us to promote their work. We saw their facility and heard about their services. We gave them a bottle of Honey to show how we do fundraising and also arranged for MF to deliver a sewing machine donated for use for an asylum seeker. Some clothing also taken.k. Monash Council, Aboriginal Partnerships Office, zyeallah.fenton-woods@monash.vic.gov.au. Margaret has registered for emails to notify events/information and talked with Zyeallah at the performance on 29 May.l. National Reconciliation Week (27 May-3 June) included a performance on 29 May by Uncle Bart Willoughby at Mt Waverley, organized by Monash Council. Advertised in Bulletin. 8 GWUC members attended.
5. Correspondence <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. MF report to 2 May and 6 June Church Council meetingsb. MF Report about OSJMG for GWUC Annual Report published May 2024c. Steven McMillan (who watches online) email to MF and reply (with Ian Ferguson edits). Steven suggested that we organize a Domestic Violence forum as a COP project. A worthy idea but not one we feel equipped to handle at this stage.d. \$950 Honey Money sent to Uniting for Asylum Seeker Project, Thank you letter received 29/5 from Uniting to go on Noticeboard.e. Email to/from Aimee Dare regarding our visit to Asylum Seeker Welcome Centre, and follow up ppt presentation for our use.

- m. Monash 1st Nations officer - MF has received an email from Zyeallah with suggested acknowledgement wording for her home.
- f. Frontier Services – (1) Resources Kit for Great Outback BBQ fundraiser (2) Copies of May 2024 Frontier Services Newsletter for GWUC
- g. Thank-you emails sent by MF to all who assisted with COP Sunday.
- h. “JustAct” news from the UCA Justice and International Mission Cluster (JIM) – use for future OSJMG ideas?
- i. End-of-Financial-Year appeal brochures from UnitingWorld, Mercy Ships, Tearfund, Frontier Services, Act for Peace

6. Today’s Business (Action items shown in Red)

- a. COP processes
 - i. Six Applications were received. COP Selection Panel is: Margaret Fraser, Annette Wojak, David Morgan
 - ii. Application processing is well underway and all applicants have been contacted to ensure that applications are complete and satisfy our assessment criteria. Awaiting final completed versions of some applications by June 7th. Further Discussions as needed.
 - iii. COP Selection Panel to continue processes. Selection recommendations to be decided by end of June.
 - iv. Congregational meeting to be held on Sun July 28th after morning worship. Selection Panel to prepare an information brochure about project recommendations for distribution to congregation 2 wks prior to the Cong Mtg. Proposed resolutions for acceptance of the recommendations to be sent to John Snare for the Congregational Meeting. Letters to all applicants to be sent out after Cong. Mtg advising outcomes.
 - v. Pre-planning for COP 2025. Need further editing of COP documents (see notes). Do we invite congregation applications in 2025? This item to be considered again later this year.
- b. Material Aid update (AW)- In June we will run a coat drive, Off your Back, to go to those in need during winter, as in Bulletin on 9/6.
- c. Monash Library Display 1st-30th September (VF) – Vida has returned indemnity form to library. Ideas for the display are: Focus on the Fete details and COP projects, ie. Where does the fete money go? What stalls are there? Examples? Donations of goods welcome from community as well as ideas for new projects. Annette to assist Vida with preparing the display.
- d. Honey Money (MF)- \$950 donation sent to Asylum Seeker Project. MF to write a Kingsway article about the visit to ASWC and link it to our Honey sales. MF to contact Joanne about how to show/use the ppt slides provided by ASWC about their work, eg. Send out a Bulletin link to the file, quote part of the file in MF’s Kingsway article, other?
- e. Review/feedback of COP Sunday. Ian agreed to having a COP Sunday again in 2025. Best to avoid a communion week. The speakers and the service format were good. Try to keep the speakers to the allocated time limits. Video from Ray had excellent information, but could be improved by a more obvious connection to being part of GWUC’s community service, and by perhaps using his own voice.
- f. KOGO (Knit One Give One) knitting project (PB) to knit items for disadvantaged and homeless people. Pam has organized flyers, items for the Bulletin and kits of wool, needles and patterns for church ember and groups. These are being well received. Knitted goods are being completed and will be displayed at the Aug16-17 Craft Display before being delivered to KOGO. Items will be collected until the end of July. One item has been received from a Wavelink client, who found out about this from The Hub Morning Tea. Thank You note to be organized by Pam. Ian F said that at Brunswick they held a popular World Wide Knit in Public Day event annually – food for thought at GW?
Both Vida and Margaret will be away for the Display. Annette will assist Pam. <https://www.kogo.org.au/>
- g. NAIDOC Week 7-14 July. MF to submit a Bulletin item for 23 & 30 June to encourage participation in free local events organized by Monash Council.

7. Any other Business

- a. International Neighbouring Sunday to be held at 10am on July 21. Multicultural theme, invited speakers, ??Lunch to follow
 - b. Try to Unsubscribe from hard copy promotional materials no longer relevant or needed (MF), eg. Mercy Ships
8. **Away dates** - David M - back on June 17, Margaret away 12-14 & 24-29 June and 6-31 August, Vida away 6-17 August and 17-27 October
9. **Next Meetings** – all in Room 2 at 10am Thursdays: **1 August**, 3 Oct, 28 Nov
10. **Items for next meeting** are welcome – please send to MF.