

HON. TREASURER'S REPORT 2021 – 2022

1. INTRODUCTION

This report covers the financial year 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.

2. BACKGROUND

ARZA Australia is a not-for-profit organisation, affiliated to the Union for Progressive Judaism (UPJ) and the Zionist Federation of Australia (ZFA), that works to represent and promote the views and values of Progressive/Reform Jewish Zionists who want to help ensure that Israel lives in peace and security and that it is the democratic and egalitarian society described in its Declaration of Independence.

ARZA undertakes to use its best endeavours for the realisation of a full and free religious life for all Jews in the State of Israel. ARZA also works to strengthen the Progressive Movement in Israel, Australia and worldwide.

ARZA continually looks at expanding our membership numbers within Australia and, through our world parent body ARZENU, promoting Progressive Jewish values and ideals at the international level with the World Zionist Organisation - founded by Theodore Herzl in Basle, Switzerland in 1897.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of ARZA is open to any Jewish person who subscribes to the principles of Progressive Judaism. Membership may be gained in two ways: 1. direct application / renewal, and 2. application / renewal associated with annual congregational membership payments. The latter is our preferred approach. We are, of course, most appreciative of the continuing co-operation with synagogues who support us in this way.

Our membership number last year stands at 2,000. There has been a drop-off owing to a decision by synagogue boards not to retain an opt-out subscription arrangement in association with their collection of annual synagogue membership subscriptions. Of course, ARZA would be most grateful for the support of all synagogues in retaining or restoring this important arrangement. Membership subscriptions are our "life-blood", they keep us going.

4. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

Result:

The Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 30 June 2022 shows a net loss for the year of \$2,565. This compares with a net surplus of \$21,193 for the year to 30 June 2021.

This decrease came about because of an Executive decision in June 2020 to waive ARZA membership fees for the 2020/21 financial year. Congregations have differing financial year start / end dates and so this decision was applied according to each congregation's administrative cycle. Residual membership fees of \$3,330 were received from congregations, compared with \$16,800 in 2020/21.

Our financial performance was underpinned by a decrease in expenditure from the previous year.

Income:

Income for the year came primarily from ARZA membership fees (\$3,330) collected on our behalf by congregations. The timing of this fee income reflects the differing financial years that congregations work to and their timetables for membership fee collection and passing on to ARZA.

Expenditure:

Expenses for 2021/22 (\$6,120) reduced from the 2020/21 level (\$8,159).

This year, our principal expenses items were - website management, accounting fees, affiliation fees and advertising and marketing.

Website management costs represented regular updating by our consultant, Uptime Computer Services, of the existing website and Facebook page (including posting articles and videos), together with associated expenses, membership list updates and mailouts.

Accounting fees represented our bookkeeper fee (Bookkeeping.com Pty Ltd), the Financial Statement audit fee, and financial system management fee (MYOB).

Affiliation fees were the annual payment as a constituent of the Zionist Federation of Australia.

Advertising and marketing costs were for New Year greetings, with the UPJ, in the Australian Jewish News (\$597).

Statement of Financial Position:

Our bank balance at 30 June 2022 was \$127,501 (30 June 2021 – \$130,374).

5. CONCLUSION

I am so grateful for the services of Janet Henrie as financial assessor and Debra Arnold CPA RCA (Director, Third Sector Management Solutions) as independent auditor of our accounts for this financial year. I am deeply indebted to both for their professionalism, patience and persistence in ensuring our financial activity is correctly reported. It is of significant help to us. Debra's report, together with the Statement of Income and Expenditure, is attached to these documents.

I take this opportunity to record my sincere thanks and appreciation to them for their technical support and sound advice. I am delighted to report that Debra Arnold is agreeable to being appointed ARZA Auditor, and Janet Henrie financial assessor for the financial year 2022/23.

Our accounts have been soundly managed over many years by Fran Freiman, Bookkeeping.com Pty Ltd, in Sydney. I am deeply grateful for her continued professional assistance.

And finally, I take this opportunity to express my thanks to our President Helen Shardey and to all my fellow Board members for their support, advice and guidance.



Tony Leverton
Hon. Treasurer
November 2022