

2021 Annual Report

VALUES

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Love People
Serve Your City
Grow Faith Communities

FOLLOW
Christ



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Love People
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Grow Faith Communities

LOVE
People



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Communities*



Table of Contents

1	Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Sunday, 23rd May 2021
5	Elder's Report
7	Senior Pastor's Report
10	Pastor Ken Rayment's Report
12	Ministry Support Team Report
14	Executive Pastor's Report
15	Living Springs Counselling Centre Report
16	Encounter God - Prayer Ministry Report
16	Prophetic Ministry Report
17	Creative Arts Report
18	Kids Ministry Report
19	Playgroup Report
20	18th Vic Berwick Boys Brigade Report
21	FUSE: Youth Ministry Report
23	FORGE: Young Adults Report
24	Pastor Michael Rojasles' Report
25	Food Pantry Report
26	Friendship Group Report
27	Welcome Team Report
28	Newcomers' Lunch Report
29	Life Groups & Pastoral Care Report
31	Treasurer's Report
33	Financial Statements
42	Auditor's Report

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Sunday, 23rd May 2021 at 12noon

Our constitution requires a quorum of 50 people - there were 101 people in attendance in total. As required by the Constitution, the people in attendance are listed here:

Xhemil Ahmet	John Goh	Matt Kimpton	Bronwyn Rodgers
Bev Alley	Philip Goh	John Lynch	David Rodgers
Andrew Austin	Martin Goldup	Krishan Mahesan	Joy Rogers
Jenny Austin	Nicole Goldup	John Majores	Aarti Royan
Natalie Barron	Mark Gould	Karen Maxwell	Hema Semple
Alan Bosch	Michelle Gould	Rosemary McDonald	Leonie Simons
Braam Botha	Sylvia Gray	Brett Medlin	Roger Simons
Sonja Botha	Chali Guruswamy	Charina Money	Genevieve Smith
Geoff Brooke	Daniel Hamilton	Leola Moore-Coulson	Lyn Stephens
Brendon Cameron	Wyley Hargreaves	Tim Moore-Coulson	Neil Stephens
Bronwyn Cameron	Daryl Hargreaves	Astrid Morris	Betty Strevens
Graeme Cann	Deanna Hargreaves	Greg Morris	Gabrielle Sutton
Julia Cann	Mark Hermans	Anna Nguyen	John Sutton
Chris Cracknell	Julian Hughes	Nigel Nguyen	Jaclyn Szabo
Alexandra Cuss	Brett Hutchinson	Mikayla Nicholas	Lisa Thomas
Mat Daniels	Elise Hutchinson	Murray Nicholls	Fiona van den Acker
Margaret Edgar	Glenda Hutchinson	Sue Nicholls	Arlo van Rhyn
Robert Edgar	Tony Izvekov	Ruth Noonan	Lorraine Vere
Norm Edney	Melinda Izvekov	Anne Ormiston	Greg Waterhouse
Cameron Fletcher	Maria James	Matt Ormiston	Judy Waterhouse
Jonathan Fletcher	Stewart James	Christina Parker	Jan Watt
Karen Fletcher	Peter Jankovic	Kellie Pender	Nigel Wilsher
Stephen Fletcher	Michelle Jankovic	Stephen Ratten	Lorraine Wilsher
Tanya Fletcher	Pam Jobling	Brigitta Rayment	
Jessica Georgy	Nickolas Kapranov	Ken Rayment	
Denis Giroto	Catherine Kimpton	Tarryn Reddan	

1. WELCOME

Glenda Hutchinson opened the meeting in prayer and gave instructions on the voting process which will happen later in the meeting. Glenda advised that when the notification of the AGM was sent out, questions were called for to be submitted in writing; that Pastor Braam Botha will be addressing the questions that were received as part of his presentation; and the Pastors, Elders and Treasurer will be available at the end of the meeting if you wish to talk to them or you have any further questions, and encouraged partners to make use of that opportunity.

2. APOLOGIES

Glenda Hutchinson acknowledged apologies already received and called for any further apologies. Apologies received are listed here:

Raymond Alley	Melanie Hamilton	Joy McKerihan	Michael Rojas
Matthew Barron	Anne-Marie Hermans	Stuart McKerihan	Rachel Rojas
Robyn Beeby	Denise Holdsworth	Mitchell Nicholas	Rod Semple
Monica Bosch	Lorraine Hughes	Matthew Noonan	Christine Smith
Glenda Chapman	Emily Izvekov	David Piper	Ray Smith
Ray Chapman	Luxmi Mahesan	Helen Piper	Dean Surla
Rajiv Guruswamy	Rozalie Majores	Debbie Ratten	

3. ACCEPTANCE OF 2020 AGM MINUTES

Glenda Hutchinson informed that the 2020 Annual Report were actually documented at the start of the annual reports which were sent out a few weeks ago, and called for the minutes to be moved:

Moved the acceptance of the 2020 Annual General Meeting Minutes.

Moved by: Cameron Fletcher. Seconded by: Rosemary McDonald. Accepted.

4. REPORTS PRESENTED

Matt referred to the 2020 Annual Report and how it is the testimony of God's goodness, grace, mercy, power and forgiveness in this past season; as well as a reflection of the investment of the time, treasures and talents of those that love God and who humbly served in the Kingdom's work expressed here at Berwick Church of Christ. Matt highlighted the ministries and discussed how we launched online as a strategic church plant – the church's digital doorway. So to our Creative Arts Team in collaboration with other ministries, we've birthed something of brilliance in this area. Kids Church was transformed to be online, Fuse Youth created FUSE TV and zoom became a tool of choice for prayer and prophecy, life groups, and the young adults studied the book of Acts. Matt also mentioned that while our premises became off limits, much needed work and maintenance was able to be undertaken on the premises including work on the Living Springs Counselling Centre. He also mentioned how our Welcome Teams processes underwent significant change with a new check-in procedure, masks and other protocols, and the challenges the Food Pantry team underwent to adapt as a drive thru facility.

Matt, reflected on how much many of us do to raise Christ followers, love people, serve the city and grow faith communities, he went on to thank God for his grace, his mercy, peace, provision, guidance and the wisdom he has given us to navigate this last season, and on behalf of the Elders thanked our ministry team, our admin staff, our partners and our volunteers, for sharing in the vision to be a movement representing Jesus Christ, transforming lives and communities through the power of the gospel and continuing to be a part of it. He commended the ministry reports and called for a partner to move the acceptance of the 2020 reports:

Moved the acceptance of the 2020 Annual Reports.

Moved by: Kellie Pender. Seconded by: Jan Watt. Accepted.

5. VOTING FOR ELDERSHIP NOMINATIONS

Bronwyn Cameron thanked Matt and informed the Partners of the Elders who have been renominated, being Glenda Hutchinson (Chair) and Matt Ormiston (Deputy Chair) and how the Board unanimously supports their reappointment. Bronwyn advised everyone of the voting process, what to do if you make a mistake on the voting slip and that the results will be provided at the conclusion of the meeting. Bronwyn then introduced Brett to present his Treasurer's Report and thank Brett for the role he's done in this past year.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Brett Hutchinson thanked Murray Nicholls for the last 20 years as Treasurer and thank Melinda Izvekov who handles the day-to-day financial transactions. Brett referred to the financial statements in the Annual Report and commented on the fact that the Church is in a very strong position from a balance sheet perspective and pointed out that the tithes and offerings for the year and come in pretty much right on the money and that we received nearly \$425,000 in faith giving, over and above tithes and offerings. He advised that we finished the year with a net income position or profit of \$318,000. Brett thanked everyone and handed over to Bronwyn Cameron.

Bronwyn Cameron thanked Brett on behalf of the Board for his meticulous and detailed work, and called for someone to move that motion:

Moved the acceptance of the Treasurer's Report.

Moved by: Betty Strevens. Seconded by: Daryl Hargreaves. Accepted.

7. AUDITOR APPOINTMENT

Bronwyn Cameron informed the appointment of the auditor for 2020 was Rucker Financial and called for a motion to re-appoint Rucker Financial as our auditor for 2021.

Moved to reappoint Rucker Financial as our Auditors for 2021.

Moved by: Pam Jobling. Seconded by: Melinda Izvekov. Accepted.

8. VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Braam shared the vision for the future. He reflected on the start of our journey in 2019, when his family joined the church where we asked God "what should be the process that we would be going into in the next couple of years?" The first four years can be marked by Habakkuk 2:2-3 "Then the Lord replied, write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it for the revelation awaits an appointed time." There are four key aspects of this verse that God wants to come and restore through Berwick. (1) Write down the revelation of the vision of what God wants to do through this church. (2) Make sure that it is made plain. (3) That a herald my run with it. (4) Then await for God's timing to finish this process.

So in that first season, you will remember that we introduced “To be his presence in every place” as the purpose for why we exist as the broader church. Now this has taken on to the church in the big way, you can almost walk to anybody and they will tell you what our purpose would be. It actually comes from the scripture in Ephesians 1:22-23. We then said that what we would like to do is to understand where God is taking us in the future. Now the aim of this Church is to end up to become a movement not just a church but a movement that impacts our community in four areas - Migrants, Minors, Marriage & Family, and Mental Health. So we’ve moved away from just being a church to becoming a movement. The church is our foundation, but from this church we want to become this movement that transforms our community. If we want to make it plain what we do as a movement, we need to understand how our community relates to us as a church. We need to make people drive by in the street and say they want to be part of that place because what happens there changes my community for the better. So we’ll keep you informed as we journey with that and the future.

That a herald my run with it. What is a Herald? A Herald is someone that introduces God’s will to a community. We need to be able to raise more leaders to disciple these attendees. Discipleship is where you take someone and grow them to a place where they can take responsibility for establishing disciplines in other people’s lives. Discipleship in its essence is leadership. Our leadership capacity will never grow beyond the health of our leadership culture. Do you know that as a partner you signed up to help me to create a healthy leadership culture in this church? I want you to lean in and help me to create a new culture in the church, not just in Berwick but in the broader church environment. I want us to create a culture where people feel safe to step into leadership because they know the partners are backing me up and let’s break the culture of criticism. Here we love people, and if you’ve got an issue with someone we go to them in person and address it. Now if you appoint an Elder I’d love for you to support the Elders, verbally and with your time, your treasure and your talents. One of our Elders has concluded their 3 year term and that is Roger Simons, he served so faithful for around 20 years. Now we need more people that are willing to put their hands up for Eldership. Because leadership doesn’t start by getting a role in the Eldership, it starts where you serve as a volunteer. So the culture in serving is critical. On the 20th June this year we will have a ministry fair where we will sign up a bunch of new volunteers and just grow the basis of servanthood in our church.

We will also start with a series of what we call the 4M advisory forums. This is where we call groups of people together that have a specific relational passion for one of the 4Ms – Migrants, Marriage & Family, Minors and Mental Health and we will start to define our strategy as to how we would use these 4 Ms to transform our community. Out of those discussions we will start to identify people that present themselves as possible leaders for the future. As they grasp the vision and strategy, we will discover who to mentor to become Elders, from there we will do some partnership classes. We want to raise a younger generation of Elders so we can start to produce leaders that can lead this church with good longevity in terms of a future.

You know what the open door policy is? This is very important. We want to lead church relationally. And whenever there is something that you feel needs to be address, here’s what I let the Pastors commit themselves to, you have the right and responsibility to address things in person and we will tell you if we can address the issue or not. Because there’s so many areas. As the church grows our influence grows and it’s almost like a circle that’s consistently growing and becoming larger and larger. Our exposure to what still needs to happen grows as well. So as you grow you’ll become more aware of our weaknesses, but we need to have an open door policy. My door is open for you, you don’t have to run somewhere and talk about things that bother you. Mat’s door is open. Ken’s door is open. Andrew’s door is open. Genny’s door is open. We want you to feel that we are accessible to you. So let’s create that kind of culture because that will keep us safe as a church. The board members they’re always available for you. We want to listen to you as our partners.

What do you think God says to us about the future? We invested quite substantially in the living springs counselling centre. I want to mention Wyley, as his function has changed, and he has been faithful and leading well and counselling well for how many years 7 years. Thank God for what he has done. We unfortunately had to remove one of our rooms at the back that we used to use for our playgroup and kids ministry because it has asbestos in it and it might become a future problem. We want to invest in the Food Pantry and enlarge the capacity there, because we do believe it is going to be one of the focal areas in the future and it will impact our community and our city. We will start to raise funds to produce something at the back that’ll help our minors and mental health environment which will include the Food Pantry and its serving.

Part of our vision is planting churches. Ken is working very hard in raising a group of people that can help us plant churches. Ken has started up the Clyde planting process again and we know that with Clyde exploding there’s a great opportunity there. Aarti Royan is part of the team. We believe there will be a need for a church in Pakenham

too. As we raise and produce leaders, we'll present the readiness to start to look towards that. Also in the Hills, there's opportunity and need in the Hills. There's some opportunity in the Peninsula that Churches of Christ has come to us and said we'd like to partner. This is why it is critical for us to start to grow a healthy leadership pipeline in the church. Because you plant churches and you grow churches on leadership.

Now's it's my privilege to answer the questions that I've got from people regarding our church.

(1) Was about communion and the fact that when we have baptism services, we don't include communion.

Answer: We celebrate communion as a spiritual practice in response to Christ's commands. We do this as a sacred part of our services as the body of Christ and we believe it deserves to be delivered with the utmost respect and honour as a holy and sacred ceremony. During services that involve baptism, we do not want to skip over the communion or tack it on to the service without allowing the required time to do so well. So we prefer to focus on the baptisms, which is a sacrament instituted by Jesus himself as well. We honour both the sacraments of baptism and communion. So it's a practical matter and when we do communion, we want to do it well.

(2) Why don't people confess their faith publicly in the baptistery? Answer: The public confession of faith is included in the service where we invite people to share their testimony. We see the testimony as a confession of faith. Once this is done, the participants are taken to the baptistery for the actual baptism. While this happens, we as a church family praise God for the lives that laid down to follow him and create a wonderful atmosphere of joy, love and peace. Now there are instances where people have not brought their testimony and in those instances, we will make them confess that Jesus Christ is their lord and saviour over the microphone so everybody can hear that.

(3) In terms of worship, there is a need expressed to sing some hymns. Answer: obviously we would like to include some hymns and we will in the future employ them. At this stage we choose songs that align with where we are taking the church as the spirit leads us, we pray about those etc. We sing contemporary music so that the people we serve understand the culture of which we use our music.

(4) The availability of fax as a main method of communication. Answer: basically it's a technological matter, the service provider that we use in our phone system does not include the addition of a facsimile machine in our printer or copies. Fax is being phased out by most of the companies and they don't service it any more.

9. PARTNERSHIP REFRESHER

I want to introduce a partnership refresher class, where we will give you a refresher of what it means to be a partner. It is important for you to go to that and it's actually quite exciting because Glenda gives stuff away during that meeting, so you are not going to want to miss that. At a stage we will record this and produce it as a video class and you can refresh yourself with. But your first partnership class will always be on site and in person and from them on we will make it available over multimedia for those who want a refresher and then we will start mentoring Elders.

10. CHURCH SURVEY

You have signed in and we will send you an email link as a partner where you will be asked certain questions about the church. So this is very very important survey because what it does, is it accesses your perception of the health of our church. The survey is designed by the company with the name of National Church Development. I've worked with them for more than 15 years and they are the ones that help us assess the true health of our church. We already saw that in our quantitative measurements, our budget and our attendance all of that, we are healthy and growing but we also want to ask questions about health as a church in terms of our quality. This is a qualitative assessment therefore each individual partner must fill in it for me. We will send you out those emails in the week to come. Please send it back to us and we will make those reports available to you so you could see what they say, the true health of church is in terms of the eight qualities characteristics that a healthy church should have.

11. ANOUNCEMENT OF VOTING RESULTS

Bronwyn announced that both Glenda Hutchinson and Matt Ormiston received overwhelming endorsement and are officially appointed for three years.

12. CONCLUSION OF MEETING

Bronwyn thanked everyone for their participation and attendance, and advised that the Pastor Braam, the Elders, and the Treasurer Brett will be available at the end of the meeting to answer additional questions and closed the meeting in prayer.

Bronwyn closed the meeting in prayer at 1:18pm.

Elder's Report

For our Church Board, 2021 has been a year of both challenge and excitement. It has been very challenging making leadership decisions and planning in the uncharted waters and frequently changing situation and rules of this pandemic rollercoaster. Many meeting hours were spent wrestling with how best to meet the needs of our congregation and broader community, while abiding by government requirements and caring for the wellbeing of all involved. At times, no one solution could satisfy the diversity of opinion which existed. We appreciate the support and understanding that was afforded to our pastors, staff and leaders through these challenges.

How much has this season reminded us of the importance of being together in person for our wellbeing and to build healthy relationships! Scripture emphasises the importance of this as the body of Christ in Hebrews 10:25 (NLT):

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

For over a decade now, our church leadership have had a strong sense of God calling us to be far more than just a local church. Our guiding vision statements have reflected this by referring to us as a 'movement', our current vision:

***To be a movement representing Jesus Christ, transforming lives
and communities through the power of the gospel.***

We have taken steps in this direction through our counselling centre, playgroup, boys brigade and food pantry. Our livestream and online presence are also now influencing people way beyond our Berwick community. Our current name of Berwick Church of Christ, has become an inadequate descriptor of what we are today, let alone what we believe God is calling us to be in future. In addition, the term 'church' carries an increasingly irrelevant or even negative connotation within secular society.

Commencing in 2021, the Board and pastors together embarked on a process, surrounded in prayer, to discern a new name that will honour our roots, be relevant for our calling as a movement beyond Berwick and declare who we are and what we value, especially to those in our broader community. The new name, discerned through this thorough process, is very scriptural and consistent with our current identity - the identity God intends us to have with those we are called to influence. It is aligned with our mission and vision and will facilitate us being His Presence in every place.

It is important to stress that in changing our name, we are not leaving our affiliation as a Church of Christ, and we are not trying to have a 'trendy' or secularised name, as seems fashionable for some churches and Christian organisations.

A new name is a significant change in the history of our church, so our process of revealing it aims to lead our congregation through the same important journey our leadership have been on, to clearly understand God's perspective on our identity and calling. A key part of this has been through Braam's most valuable blogs, as well as our Sunday services. Keep reading and attending and look forward with excitement to the announcement of the new name in 2022.

The role of Partnership is an important function in our church, as specified in our constitution. However there remains great opportunity to lift the value of Partnership, such that our Partners operate in a committed relationship with the leaders of BCOC in carrying out the mission and realising the vision. As leaders we aim to foster a culture of transparency and openness with our Partners, to be returned by their trust and support as strategic allies, invested and active. When lockdown ended, we launched our first Partner Gathering as a vehicle to promote this aim. The intention is to hold these gatherings at least

quarterly, to keep our Partners informed of upcoming events, service themes, strategic focus and other important leadership matters, in return for their prayer and support.

If you are aged over 16 and are not currently a Partner, please consider attending our next Partnership Class. If you are a Partner, make it a priority to attend future Partner Gatherings and to be actively involved as part of the Body of Christ giving of your time, talent and treasure, partnering with leadership to achieve our mission. We sincerely thank all those who are already doing this.

Our Elders carry increasingly extensive and critical responsibilities for the wellbeing of our church. As a board-governed church, we have no higher human authority to which we can refer the 'tough stuff'. We are accountable before Jesus Christ, to our government through its various governing bodies and laws, and to our church Partners and broader congregation. The issues we are required to deal with include leadership strategy, financial, legal, policies, pastoral care and discipline. This work is done as unpaid volunteers, who also work full-time, have home and family responsibilities, and serve in other ministries of the church. I sincerely thank all the Elders for their spiritual leadership and amazing dedication to our church, generously giving of their time and wisdom throughout the year. Please continue praying for them to have wisdom, time, courage and energy in their spiritual leadership role. I also thank their spouses and families for supporting them in their role.

At the conclusion of his last eldership term, Roger Simons chose not to stand for reappointment due to increasing demands in his work and other volunteer commitments at that time. Roger had served as an elder since 2001 with a 1-year break in 2011. We sincerely thank Roger for his dedication, wisdom and most valued experience.

On behalf of the Board, I thank Braam and the other pastors for their hard work and godly leadership of our church through the challenges and uncertainty of this past year. The health of our church and speed at which it has regained momentum post lockdown, is a tribute to their leadership. I also thank our other wonderful staff for their hard work and support, who together with the pastors provide great leadership, administration and service to our whole church.

The Board sincerely thanks our treasurer Brett Hutchinson, for all his time and expertise providing vital financial information to assist our decision making. Finally, for everyone who contributes and serves in any capacity in the life of Berwick Church of Christ, we thank you for giving of your finances, time and abilities. We are blessed to have you as part of our church ministry team. May God richly bless you all!

Glenda Hutchinson
Chair of Elders



Senior Pastor's Report

Our community has benefited greatly over the past decades from the development seen in the area referred to as 'psychology'. It helped us develop terminology and understanding of the human experience. It has especially been a tremendous help in the past season where our society has been thrown into chaos due to the Covid-19 pandemic, wars, natural disasters, community wide lockdowns, etc. One of the great minds in the field of psychology is a Christian. He goes by the name of M. Scott Peck. He shone a spotlight to show the differences between "genuine community" and "pseudo community". He identified for us that in order to move from pseudo community (shallow, untested, superficial relationships) to genuine community (rich, trusting, deep relationships). It is necessary for individuals and communities to endure a sense of chaos together...with the commitment to stay together all the way through to the end of it. The past year I have seen so many people moving from pseudo community towards genuine community! I have seen our faith community move to a deeper experience of genuine community. In spite of lock downs, forced Zoom gatherings, loss of milestone celebrations, mandatory isolation, several forms of segregation, etc. our church as a whole has come through in a beautiful manner. Hopefully, by the time you read this the Victorian State of Emergency is a thing of the past and we all can move out of this unnatural "tunnel of chaos" we have found ourselves in. I'd like to celebrate in this report the elements that has brought us through.

The Leader of Our Movement:

I firstly would like to bring praise to the head of our church – Jesus Christ! Our Lord has been our prime resource and we truly could fill ourselves out of the riches of His provision for us. His Spirit and His Truth kept us in worship through all of this. His mission is our mission. His purpose for our lives has been an anchor through this time. From Him we could do the following:

Those who make our ministry work:

The past year saw regular changes in the way we could express our gatherings as a church. There were "online only", vaccinated only services, undisclosed vaccination status services and various other permutations of gatherings that took place. Despite this we did not miss one weekend of delivering either onsite or online access to ministry. We had series on:

- Our Vision and Mission
- Mental Health
- Minors
- Marriage and Family
- Migrants
- Christian Holidays
- Following Christ
- Loving People
- Color your World with God
- Fresh Wind – the Holy Spirit
- Anxiety, Bitterness and Grief
- Work as Worship
- Resilience

I am certain it has blessed many. I want to thank all who helped our services work, from the Tech Team to the Kids Ministry leaders. You all have done a magnificent job!



Our Vision Carriers

One of the first things people lose in times of challenge is their vision of what God has called them to be part of. I am so very proud of how our board, staff, partners and volunteers have consistently fought back against the scepticism and hopelessness that wanted to dominate conversations in this season. Thank you for steering hearts and minds towards what God is doing and not on what is all wrong in the world. It would have been so easy to discard "His story" on the back of "human history" taking place.



Our Staff

The Ministry Forum (pastoral team) did so well in setting direction, empowering volunteers, and juggle logistics in this season. I have the utmost regard for the caliber of people they are. They had to learn new skills and apply it in unusual circumstances. They have done it in their stride - many times giving extra hours to make things work - THANK YOU! A host of new volunteers are coming through in this new season and they can build on what has been laid as solid foundations for the future. One area we will focus on in the future would be the coaching and preparation of possible future members. We are truly excited about a new generation of leaders that will prove tested for leadership.

We have in this year also said goodbye to Pastor Andrew Austin and his family who have served this church so well in the Kids Ministry. We also gained the gifted and experienced Glennie Eades as Kids Ministry Director, as well as Monya van Staden as Worship Pastor. Both have had an immediate and fruitful impact since joining our team! I also want to commend our Ministry Support Team who has done so well managing the office and always being willing to adapt to the changes in the ministry environment. A special thank you to Lorraine Wilsher who has concluded her season with us in the office. We wish her well as she ventures into the next season in God!



Our External Partnerships

Our relationship with CCVT has grown stronger over the past year. We are an active and loyal relator to it and have seen great things happen in Churches of Christ. This year we also saw churches work together in our city to help the Police with tending to needy people. Our relational network with other churches and movements is expanding and we are so thankful for the progress we see in the missional ecosystem in our city. I am convinced that with time, we will see us reach new heights as The Church of Jesus Christ in our city!

What Lies Ahead?

In the coming year we will press on towards our vision as stated in the Elder's report.

Here are a few highlights to look forward to:

1. Aligning our movement's name and branding with our vision, mission and values in 2022
2. Increasing the value proposition of Partnership
3. Developing the next generation of leaders for the movement
4. Defining the capital expansion for our property in Centre road and raising the resources for it
5. Preparing the leaders necessary for future church plants
6. Broadening the base of volunteers in our ministries
7. Developing our online expressions

Let's align our hearts and minds for the next season and grab hold of His purpose for His church:

'All this energy issues from Christ: God raised him from death and set him on a throne in deep heaven, in charge of running the universe, everything from galaxies to governments, no name and no power exempt from his rule. And not just for the time being, but forever . He is in charge of it all, has the final word on everything. At the centre of all this, Christ rules the church. The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church. The church is Christ's body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with his presence.'

Ephesians 1:20-23

Purpose

Being His presence in every place

Vision

To be a movement representing Jesus Christ, transforming lives and communities through the power of the gospel.

Mission

We raise and equip followers of Christ who love people, serve their city and grow faith communities

Pastor Ken Rayment's Report



Online Services & Lockdown

One of my areas of responsibilities for 2021 was the online services. Due to the extended Covid lockdowns and ever changing rules, it was often very challenging to organise and deliver what was needed for our services. At times we would be recording from home, from various locations offsite, as well as at church – often with no congregation, a limited congregation, or occasionally a fully open group in attendance.

In many ways it took extra work and needed the help of some very committed volunteers to provide the technical and practical skills to make it all happen.

Evangelism & Discipleship

Despite the regular restrictions on physically meeting together, I was determined that our mission to proclaim the gospel and raise and equip followers of Christ must not be stopped.

As a result, we ran some courses like Search to Find and Growing to Maturity (GTM) completely online, or a combination of in-person when we could and online for the rest.

We even ran a GTM Freedom Weekend entirely over Zoom. It is amazing to watch individuals receive healing and deliverance over the internet.

Even organising Baptisms was a real challenge due to restrictions. But we managed to see a number of people come to faith and take steps to being baptised, including Troy.

Troy's Story

"Growing up about 24 years – never been a Christian, never met a Christian, never really knew anything about it until I met my girlfriend.

So, I checked it out. I started going to Church, I started reading my bible. And I also got recommended to join a course called 'Search to Find'.

It is a great course. The people are wonderful and the course is very well put together. After that I felt like a totally different person. There was a session about healing. Someone in the course volunteered for prayer for healing and we did that and she was healed. And that was a very eye and heart opener!

As the sessions kept going, like 'Wow this is real, I am starting to believe everything that was being told to me'.

I got baptised last Saturday. I am super excited to take that first step and also excited to see what the future holds."



Connect Course

A second initiative was to create the Connect Course – equipped to build stronger relationships! This 5-week course is designed to run over Zoom, and concludes with a final in-person coaching session and Gospel Presentation. The first pilot course in 2021 was a great experience for all involved, with some key learnings to help us refine the materials for the future. I don't think I have ever come across anything like it in its ability to both equip and speak to the heart issues that impact all relationships.



Church Planting

In 2020, largely due to covid and lockdowns, we made the difficult decision to put a halt on our plans to plant a new faith community in Clyde. However, during 2021 we sensed God leading us to relaunch a fresh vision for planting in the Clyde to Cranbourne area. Aarti Royan was appointed Team Leader of the church plant, and together with a small team we sought God for his way forward. Again, lockdowns and restrictions made it very difficult but we were determined to find a way that churches can be planted even during pandemics! One initiative we started was to meet Monday nights for 40 minutes over Zoom for prayer, seeking God for breakthrough. We saw God answer prayer by leading us to a couple who were open to God. We first met over Zoom and we were able to hear their story and share the Gospel with them.

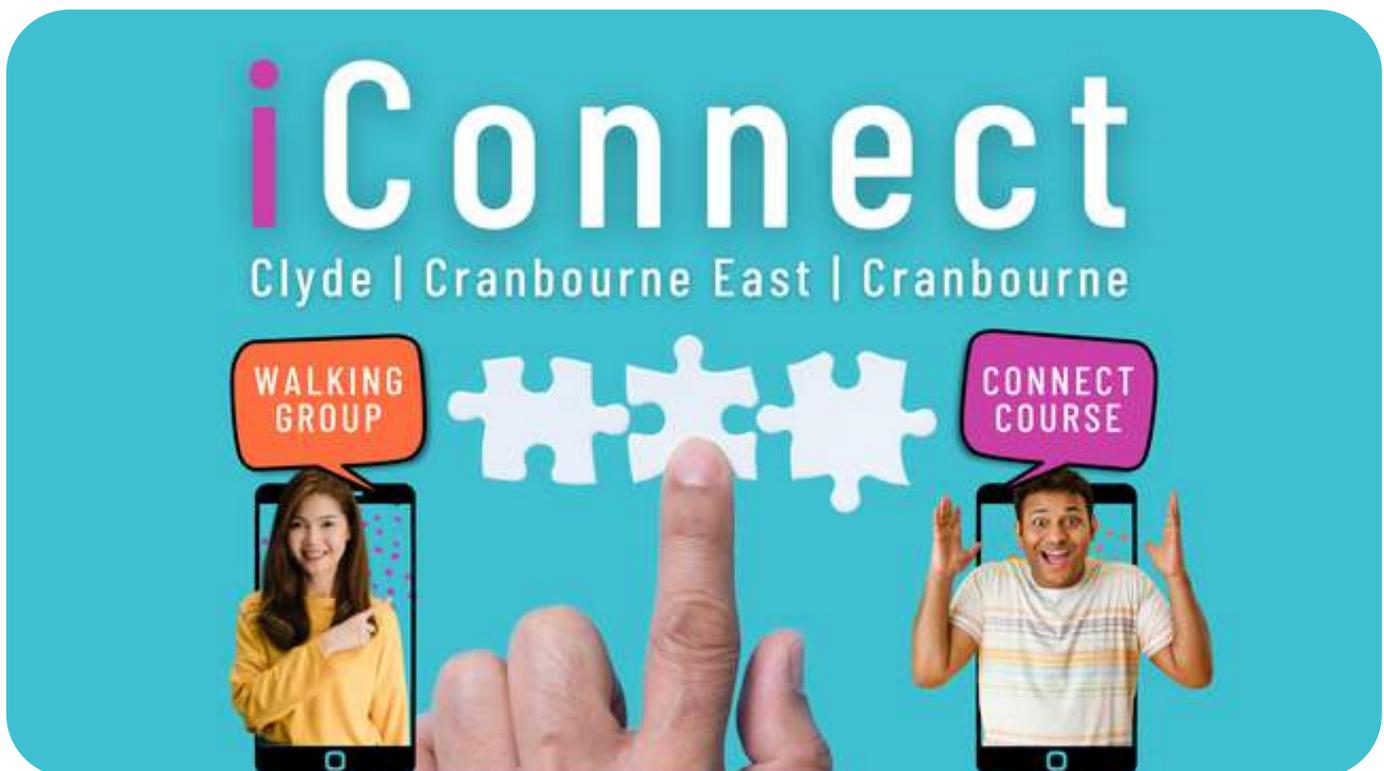
Personally

2021 was another big year for me with many challenges, yet I remain passionate and confident for what I believe God is doing in preparing his church for this season in our nation. As a family, Bree and I celebrated 35 years of Marriage and welcomed into the Rayment clan, our 3rd Grandchild, Amelia.



Thank You

No-one can do life alone. Likewise, the fruit of this year's ministry has only been possible due to the many dedicated volunteers and staff who have worked together as a team to pursue God's mission, 'To raise and equip followers of Christ, who love people, serve their city, and plant and grow faith communities.' Thank you, for standing together with me in the victory!



Pastor Ken Rayment

Ministry Support Team Report

Just when we thought the Covid19 phenomenon of 2020 was over – 2021 came with its own challenges of restrictions and more lockdowns, these lockdowns had significant impact on the team having to cancel planned events and bookings and pack up once again to work from home. But what an incredible job they did, juggling their family responsibilities and the needs of the church. We had lots of zoom catch ups and supported each other the best we could, each playing their part to share the load.

There is always much to do to keep up with maintenance and 2021 was no different. We finished off the renovations in the counselling centre which the counsellors are now enjoying. New push bars were installed to the auditorium doors for building compliance and major renovations were done in the old fun factory now called 'The Shed' with new carpet and a mural painted. The youth are enjoying the new space and pool table. The biggest noticeable change on the property was the removal of the large playgroup room affectionately called the 'Wonderkids Room', a large bulldozer came to demolish and remove the building. You may have noticed we had temporary fencing up while we transplanted some grass from the back paddock and allowed it to settle and grow nicely into this space.

We were blessed with the funds to replace the old second hand auditorium aircon units with brand new larger units that have made a fantastic addition to the facility.

That is just a snapshot of some of the projects completed that come under the admin banner, we didn't have any large functions in 2021 and unfortunately our regular school presentations all had to be cancelled due to the restrictions but we did have several funerals and other small groups hiring the facilities for training and PD days.

We were sorry to see Lorraine move onto other things at the end of the year after many years of faithful service. Bless you Lorraine as you step into the next season that God has for you. Alex also left us midway through 2021 but after much prayer and consideration applied for the position left vacant after Lorraine left and we are delighted to say that Alex returned to the admin team in January of 2022. I want to commend each one of them for their grace under pressure and working so hard to maintain excellent service to our pastors and ministries.





Karen Fletcher

Tuesday–Friday. Karen is our longest serving staff member and what a delight she is! Karen is our Compliance Administrator and works tirelessly on all things that relate to policy, process and compliance. Karen works with the staff, elders and ministry leaders to ensure all our volunteers are up to date with the necessary paperwork and working with children’s checks, she also manages the process of Child Safe training. Karen works hard to maintain the church database so our communications are streamlined and she trains the other staff to do reports for their different ministries making their jobs easier. Karen is an incredible asset to our team and we often say that if Karen doesn’t know ... then no one knows.



Lorraine Wilsher

Thursday & Friday. Lorraine was our receptionist for these 2 days as well as taking care of the roles and registrations for Kids Ministry and Youth. Lorraine is hardworking and diligent in everything she puts her hands to and takes great initiative especially when it comes to improving the check-in process for Kids Church – From Jan 2022 these functions are filled by Alex.



Alex Cuss and Jaclyn Szabo

Alex and Jac are responsible for the reception area and taking care of the admin needs of food pantry, printing for Boys Brigade and general assistance for the pastors, ministry leaders and myself.



Michelle Jankovic

Monday-Friday. Michelle is our design expert and social media Wizz. She helps with editing and is the one who creates all the amazing videos we see on a Sunday. Michelle is working with Braam on branding and continues to upgrade and improve our website and is the creator of all our social media posts. Michelle has an incredible heart to serve and has blessed the staff with office plants galore!



Melinda Izvekova

Monday- Thursday. I am responsible for Managing the administration team and all things ‘Operational.’ That includes all the finances, payroll and budget. All things related to the facilities including the bookings, keys and security, maintenance and repairs which is a huge task. With the new Living Springs Counselling Centre open after the renovations I have taken on the bookings of rooms and invoicing for the counsellors.

I would like to say a big Thank You to Stephen Fletcher who serves faithfully as our Cleaner and Grounds Maintenance contractor and works hard at maintaining all our facilities on a weekly basis, Stephen is also a very willing hand for any odd set up and pack up jobs that needs doing in amongst his volunteering roll on the sound team.

A shout out also to John Lynch who helps maintain some of the garden, sometimes with the help of his life group as well as some smaller maintenance jobs that he does always with a smile.

What a blessing it is to have the honour of working with a group of amazing people, we are a wonderful team who works well together and cares for each other united in our desire to serve our Lord Jesus in the church office.

Melinda Izvekova

Executive Pastor's Report

I would like to begin by thanking God for His mercy and grace, for his Holy Spirit who is my comforter, and for Jesus who is my example. I would also like to thank Braam and the Elders for their ongoing support.

2021 was another stop start year, more lockdowns, and snap lock downs, leading to weddings shifting at the last minute, church going online only with little notice and ministries needing to start, stop and start again. The constant interruptions made our Encounter God ministries a difficult space to gain momentum in, whenever we met to plan our way forward we would again lose our ability to execute well through lockdowns and restrictions. I want to make a special mention of Jan Watt who heads up our prayer team, Jan was an incredibly consistent peaceful presence and example of faith regardless of our circumstances, Jan you are a mighty prayer warrior. Also to all those who served in our encounter teams, and a special mention for Jenny Austin who gives leadership to our prophetic zoom rooms, thanks Jenny for stewarding this special ministry.

As part of my Executive role I give oversight to our ministries to minors forum, one of our 4 M's of Mission. This continues to be a passion of mine, to raise the next generation of Christ followers, and the next generation of leaders for the kingdom of God.

I was so proud to lead Pastor Genny and Andrew as they lead their teams during the lock downs for another year, and created online content for our BCOC community. Well done to all the teams who supported this and help make it all happen. Genny was promoted to Youth Pastor for 2021, a wonderful recognition of the call on her life, and has done a phenomenal job. Andrew was again brilliant at leading our children's ministries and giving leadership support to our playgroup director Sue. I was sad to see Andrew finish at Berwick by the end of 2021, however I know he will continue to do wonderful work for God.

Our amazing ministry support team did so well having to work remotely for much of 2021 again. Melinda has done a wonderful job managing our facility and operations. Karen continues to do great work in regards to compliance and this is critical to allowing our Pastors to focus on their main responsibilities. Michelle has had another incredible year developing our communications and media, both in social media and within services, also our website and with our onsite communication. Our wonderful receptionists, Alex, Jaclyn, Lorraine and Alyssa for the later part of 2021 were again a blessing to us all, and have done a great job.

Statistics	2020	2021
New Partners	21	6
Total Partners (as at end of year)	252	244
Baptisms	18	30
FUSE Youth - Average Attendance	47	44
Adults - Average Attendance	429	325
Nitrokids (Grade Prep-6) - Average Attendance	65	49
Little Sparks/Wonderkids - Average Attendance	27	13
Total Average Attendance	521	387

Executive Pastor Mat Daniels

Executor Pastor's Report continued...

To Stuart and Pete who run our men's ministry, thank you for all of your patience in 2021, difficult to lead a ministry without opportunity to create momentum, we pray 2022 will be a great year of rebuilding.

John & Gaby Sutton and the café team have done incredible work building our culture of fellowship and community through the café, growing teams and serving our community with cups of beautiful coffee, and hot chocolate. Thanks for all your service.

During 2021 we ran a pilot intern program, the amazing Glennie Eades ran that and we had 3 interns, Sammy Medlin, Emily Eades and Ryan Walker, this was a great success and we have planned to refine it for a 2023 launch.

Finally, thanks to all the staff and volunteers who used their time, treasure and talents to serve God through this faith community. And thanks to our exiting staff Pastor Andrew Austin and Lorraine Wilsher, may God bless you both in your futures.

Pastor Mat Daniels

Living Springs Counselling Centre Report

The Living Springs Counselling Centre has gone through some big changes in 2021. Braam and the Operations Forum took over the management of the centre and the elders approved a significant budget for a full renovation. This included some internal structural changes but mostly new carpet and paint and all new furniture and artwork (kindly donated by our very own Mal Austin). Many months of planning and hard work has really paid off with a finished centre which has provided an incredible space for people to come and heal. The centre has 5 functioning counselling rooms and a meeting room/reception area as well as toilet and kitchenette.

Living Springs is an integral part of Berwick Church of Christ creating a warm and welcoming space for people to come, to be heard and cared for – 'to be His Presence in every place.' The vision to provide a 'whole person' concept of restoration and healing is being provided by an amazing team of people. Christine Buckingham (Counsellor), Emily Weary (Social Worker), Jason Crestani (Child Psychologist), Georgy Watts (Counsellor), Martin Gillespie (Counsellor), Nycey Stanley (Counsellor), Benita Daniel (Counsellor) and Warren Gomez (Counsellor).

All the counsellors are followers of Jesus and are firmly planted in their local church as well as having the required counselling association memberships and affiliations.

If you haven't had a chance to come and have a look at the new facility please stop by.



Operations Forum

Encounter God - Prayer Ministry Report

Prayer Team

I am so blessed and encouraged to lead a wonderful, supportive prayer team who are more than willing to pray & intercede on behalf of those who may need prayer support.

The Team is readily available to pray for you when the Altar call is given. If you need someone to stand in the gap to pray with you for whatever circumstance you are going through, come out for prayer so someone from the Team can stand in agreement with you.

*"...if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask,
it will be done for them by My Father in heaven."*

Matthew 18:19

Whatever the need – maybe a fresh God encounter – we are more than happy to partner with you in prayer.

Some of the team have had opportunities to bless other ministries within the church where we have been invited to pray and minister to those in the groups. It's exciting to see Holy Spirit in action through prophecy and words of knowledge being released and responded to. All glory to God!

Call to Prayer Team

The Call to Prayer Team have had multiple requests for prayer either by texts or emails. Some of these requests include: people in need of healing, prayer for breakthroughs, people going through hard times in their jobs, relationships, marriages. We have seen many speedy answers to prayer.

We look forward to serving and supporting you in this ministry.

Jan Watt

Prophetic Ministry Report

During 2021, while access to on-site church gatherings was limited, the prophetic team was able to provide five prophetic presbyteries using the online zoom meetings platform. These events were presented from 7:30pm to 8:30pm on the second Sunday evenings in the months of July, August, September, October and November. Mat Daniels was the online host for these events.

Our church family's response to these presbyteries saw 52 individuals and couples blessed with words of encouragement over these five months. Many were appreciative of the contact with other members of their church family. One person attended while she was in China visiting her family!

The team was blessed to be able to use this online platform as an effective means of communication during this difficult time.

As a team, we are united in our desire to discern God's heart of love, care and encouragement for his family and to deliver these messages with love. We believe God's words delivered through us were used to build and strengthen our faith community. The presbytery team are led by the Holy Spirit and represent Jesus and Father God through the gift of prophecy.

The Prophetic Team for 2021: Jenny Austin, Rob Hamilton, Jan Watt, Glennie Eades, David Rodgers, Nicole Goldup.

Jenny Austin

Creative Arts Report

The past few years have been challenging for the worship team, and this most recent one has been no different. Bouncing in and out of lockdowns, navigating restrictions and dealing with isolation and vaccination requirements has meant that the team has been stretched in new ways. There have been definite highs and definite lows, but through it all God has remained faithful and we have seen our team grow in ways that we never imagined.

The second half of 2021 saw the worship team leading the congregation from a variety of platforms, in a variety of ways. Restrictions dictated that some weeks we had only 5 people onsite, which meant that one person played and led worship as we live streamed. As these restrictions eased and we were able to have more people onsite, a small band was able to work together for the worship stream. As weeks went on, the amount of people allowed onsite slowly increased, and eventually we were able to reinstate services in person – initially one for the fully vaccinated and one for those with undisclosed vaccination status – but eventually for the united church family.

This season has been one where our team has been stretched to – and beyond – its limits; physically, emotionally, and relationally. For a team that thrives on togetherness and creating one sound; being unable to meet, worship and connect in person was very challenging. Pressures from work, family and personal situations added to these struggles and as a result we had various members step down or take a break from the team. This meant that there were many gaps to fill, but not enough people to fill them. Despite this, the team chose to step up, dig in and give more of themselves to honour God and serve the congregation to the best of their abilities. It was a blessing and a privilege to see.

While the entire worship team did an incredible job during this time and should be congratulated, the unsung heroes of this season were the tech team. Led by Krishan Mahesan, this team worked tirelessly in the background every week to ensure the smooth running of each service. Navigating the logistics of livestreaming a service that is partly onsite and partly pre-recorded is difficult, let alone when the goalposts are continually moving. Juggling the requirements of everchanging restrictions, the tech team served with humility, grace and a level of commitment that far exceeded expectations. Their skill and dedication ensured that most of this behind-the-scenes work went unnoticed each week – which means that they did their job well. They are to be commended on their efforts.

Through all of this, one of the biggest driving forces and senses of hope that kept our team going was that we would soon begin the process to appoint the Worship Pastor we had been needing and longing for. The interview and selection process for this Worship Pastor began in August 2021 and was an extremely thorough and well-planned system, involving several panel interviews with various members of the pastoral team, worship team and wider congregation. Each candidate was scored and ranked on the specified criteria, with the clear standout applicant being Monya Van Staden. Not only did she exceed the set criteria on many levels, but her heart for people and passion for worship – among other things – made it clear that God was calling her to join us at Berwick Church of Christ.

After a whirlwind of visa applications, paperwork and packing, Monya and her family arrived in Australia in early February, ready for her to begin her new role a few weeks later. Throughout this transition period, the team began getting to know Monya and welcomed her with open arms. Monya's passion for her role has renewed the energy of the worship team and helped create a stronger sense of purpose and unity. The team is so excited for this next season of change and growth. In many ways we feel like we have finally stopped wandering in the desert and are now entering the promised land. We can't wait to see what God has in store!

Senior Pastor Braam Botha

Kids Ministry Report

We came into 2021 excited about what the year will present. After a year largely dictated by Covid-19 we anticipated a new year where we could meet face to face once more. This proved true for the first term. We reconnected with families and children and there was a buzz in the air. The kids' team was fantastic, re-establishing connection and healing the disconnection of the past season for children and families.

Then came lockdowns and we had to pivot and rethink once more. Realising that more lockdowns were likely to eventuate we established ZOOM Kids Church. This proved wise as more lockdowns ensued.

ZOOM Kids Church was a wonderful way for us to connect with children face to face and to keep team unity strong. We had a consistent cohort of children attending ZOOM Kids church on a weekly basis.

In tandem with ZOOM Kids Church, we ran Berwick Kids TV each week for children who were unable to attend ZOOM Kids Church. Micah North, Lauren Alley and myself used our teaching gifts to create videos that could be played on Berwick Kids TV and over ZOOM Kids Church on a weekly basis. This proved to be a fruitful process and I am so appreciative to Micah and Lauren for working over and above what was required of them to make this happen. Thanks guys!

Behind the scenes Kevin Lau put in exorbitant amounts of IT work for Kids Church both onsite and online. Kevin we couldn't have done what we did without you, thanks mate! In cooperation with Kelvin Low and Michelle Jankovic Berwick Kids TV was able to serve our families well in what was an unusual season.

While Kids Church was happening in it's various forms we also ran a weekly parent blog. Our dedicated team of bloggers provided quality content each week to equip parents to parent well. Our blogs are accessible on the Berwick Church of Christ website if you like to resource yourself as a parent. The parent blogs are timeless gems for parents to access. A special thankyou to Kate Grainger, Tobin Cuss and Kettrick Shefermann for your commitment to our families through your great parent blog content.

In what was a disrupted year by Covid-19 the Berwick Kids Team stepped up and provided what can only be described as exquisite content and care to resource our children and families at Berwick Church of Christ. I know I have missed many team members who deserve a special mention for a year well done, if I missed you I am very sorry, but know that your work was noticed not only by me but your Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and it's his opinion that truly matters. Well done!

Andrew Austin



Playgroup Report

Playgroup once again went through the challenges of lockdown in 2021, with our groups mostly operating in the first half of the year and then a big chunk of lockdown in term 3 and 4! During lockdown we did our best to maintain connection with regular emails, videos for children and phone calls to vulnerable mums.

Our amazing team was able to run playgroup to finish the year in what I would describe as the most intensely rewarding five weeks that I have ever experienced in playgroup. We made a few changes – groups were smaller as some families did not want to resume, we did not add any new families due to density quotients and we added an extra group to cater for our unvaccinated families. Importantly, we found that the families were very hungry for connection, and we had lots of deep and even spiritual conversations with the mums.



One little story to illustrate this. I had shared part of my testimony with one of the mums (not a regular occurrence during a playgroup session but it was a particularly quiet day and our conversation progressed in that direction). She was very open and receptive, and a few weeks later she asked me to pray for a specific need, a troubled family member who was missing. Soon afterwards I experienced an intense urge to pray, at what turned out to be the exact time that this teenager arrived at his grandparent's home. Naturally she and I both got goose bumps and also both acknowledged it as a miracle from God!



Playgroup is truly an exciting ministry to be part of! Our incredible team want to build on the momentum from 2021 and are doing an amazing job of connecting with families. We have big plans for more groups and are mostly limited by our rather small single room and more helpers to come alongside the families. Please pray with us for these things to be resolved as well as for the right people to help run Parenting, Marriage, and Woman to Woman programs for the families, all great tools to help families and deepen connections, as well as for families to join Alpha, Search to Find or attend church of course!



Sue Nicholls

18th VIC Berwick Boys' Brigade Report

2021. What a year to take over as Captain. After ending 2020 with a positive outlook on things being closer to normal, in fact the last line in our 2020 report stated, "We look forward to, and pray for a more normal Brigade year in 2021". Well hindsight is a great thing and on reflection it feels like 2021 was an even more challenging year than 2020 but that may just be the cumulative impact of 2020 and 2021 combined.

We ended up having to postpone our normal Seniors Water Sports Camp by a month (to late March) due to uncertainty around COVID restrictions and that was the only event we were able to hold in 2021. I was out of action for 2 months due to eye surgery and in the lead up to that, things were running fairly normally (term 2) and then lockdowns hit again, and we remained in lockdown for the duration of my recovery and beyond.

While the leaders did their best to continue to maintain contact with the boys through an online program, this was never going to be adequate, especially at a time when school was also being done online. We faced a scenario where either parents needed their son(s) to have as much screen free time as possible outside of school or the motivation of the boys for more screen time was essentially non-existent.

2021 was also an exceptionally challenging and often exhausting year for our leaders and I would like to express my immense gratitude to them for the work they have put into maintaining relationships with the boys. I expect 2022 will be a year of re-building and rejuvenation. It is my desire that this will give us an opportunity to look at the BB program with fresh eyes and give us options to trial some new and innovative ways of doing BB.



Andrew Sidebottom, Captain

FUSE Youth Report

Our youth ministry, FUSE (Fearless, Unashamed Supernatural Existence), had an incredible year in 2021.

Firstly, I would like to thank our 17 amazing leaders who gave their all to serve our youth here at BCOC. In no particular order, these were Nick Kaprinov, Abby Coates, Alec Cameron, Jordan Smith, Zoe Heart, James Izvekov, Zack Smith, Ryan Walker, Chester Cameron, Joel McQuie, Sam Medlin, Bethany Tyson, Sam Tyson, Laura Rodgers, Nathan Jamieson, Courtney Cameron and Annie Hermans. Without these dedicated leaders, FUSE Youth would not be able to run and be the ministry that it is. I would also like to thank parents for your support, help and encouragement of our events, and our ministry. We are forever grateful to you, and really appreciate all you do. Lastly, I want to thank the incredible youth of 2021 for being so resilient and continuing to stay connected at FUSE through another tough year of lockdowns.

2021 started off with great momentum and excitement. We kicked off the year full of energy and fun with nights like Games: All In, Real Life Among Us, Minute to Win It and Holey Moley! We also began our series "Transformed" where we focused on how to get closer to God, mental health, how to have healthy relationships and more. MERGE was another key event, in which FUSE, along with numerous other youth groups in Casey combined under the one name of Jesus. Merge was held at Waverley Christian College with over 200 youth and we saw many give their life to Christ and many lives changed. We continued to see God move in perhaps the greatest highlight of 2021, FUSE Camp! We took just over 40 of the youth to CYC The Island for a weekend of ridiculous fun, worship and spiritual growth. There were so many incredible testimonies of what God had done in our young people's lives across camp. As a result, the following Sunday after camp, we had 11 youth baptised in what was an incredible celebration of all God had done over the weekend!

Then, just like 2020, lockdown happened.

Despite being unable to meet in person again all the way until November 11th, we were able to gather together online through FUSE TV on YouTube and Zoom Small Groups. As a result, FUSE continued to support and encourage youth in their journeys with God, and guided them to grow both spiritually and in their God given identity whilst keeping them connected in such unprecedented circumstances. Through FUSE TV we were able to worship together, hear great teaching from our leaders and covered key themes such as "Encounter", "Perseverance", "Overcoming Loneliness", "Building Relationship with God" and "Healthy Lockdown Habits". Each Friday, following FUSE TV, we engaged with youth in small groups on Zoom. The combination of these two online programs encouraged spiritual growth and connection among the youth. FUSE online allowed us to reach more young people than we ever have before, with an average of 150-200 views per week.

On November 11th, after much anticipation, we were finally able to gather in person once again! To celebrate, we threw a massive welcome back party for our teenagers! We continued to gather all the way up until the 17th of December, with a focus on reconnecting with one another and joining together in cooperative worship and in-person small groups as a youth family once again. Huge credit must again be given to the leaders of FUSE who did a fantastic job keeping our youth connected at FUSE over such difficult times. This phenomenal job was reflected in the numbers of youth returning after such a long period of time in lockdown. For our small, but important bracket of in-person youth at the end of 2021, we had on average 45-50 youth returning to onsite youth!

2021 proved to be a challenging, yet fruitful year for FUSE, and we are looking forward in anticipation for what God is going to do in 2022 through our youth ministry!

Pastor Genny Cameron



FORGE Young Adults Report

2021 – A very challenging year!

For our Forge Young adult community, 2021 proved to be even more challenging than in 2020. With Zoom featuring prominently for most of 2020, Zoom fatigue took hold in 2021. Our young adults spent most of a normal week on Zoom for Uni and work which resulted in our online engagement starting to drop away over the year.

We had to cancel our normal Bonnie Doon camp and had to delay the planned YA retreat as well, which has been further delayed to later in 2022. We had the opportunity to have a couple of Y&Y services in June and July which were well attended, but then back into lockdown again for the rest of 2021.

We continued to engage a small group of YA's with a range of online opportunities which included bible reading and life groups and Shad and Hannah hosted the on-line service zoom group in the later part of 2021. However, the number of YA's engaging in these online events remained quite low. The Thursday LG ceased running in the second half of 2021 due to low numbers, however, the Friday LG and young married group continued to run.

We were not able to re-launch the Y&Y services later in 2021, however we were able to have an in-person Christmas party hosted by Candice and Ash Tucker. This gave the YA leadership team great encouragement with about 30 attending this event. With the significant reduction in engagement on-line, we ended the year with a significant loss of momentum and an awareness of a real need to effectively re-launch this ministry in 2022.

We hold great hope that the core of our YA community remains, and the desire to continue to collaborate and connect with other YA communities remains as strong as ever. We hope and trust that the incredible work done by our pastors, to keep an amazing weekly on-line experience going in 2021, will create a strong foundation in God for our YA's and allow us to re-connect and re-launch in 2022 with this foundation in place.

2022 – Re-launch Plans

With 2021 being so challenging, and the timing of this report being written in April, we have added some of the early plans in 2022 to give hope and communicate the planned direction. We have started the year strongly with the re-launch of this incredibly important ministry. A core leadership team of our key YA leaders has been established, who are all really passionate to have a strong and engaging YA ministry.

The below key events are planned (or have already happened):

- Bonnie Doon Camp – Mid Feb 2022 (completed, more detail in 2022 annual report, but 40 YA's attended and a group of over 50)
- Y&Y services to re-launch:
 - March 13th – completed
 - April 10th – completed
 - May 15th – planned
 - July 17th – planned
- Looking to re-launch a general YA lifegroup in April/May (new Thursday LG)
- SYG will be a critical event to build significant relational momentum within our YA community
- Social event planned on 2nd July – hope to engage other YA communities at this event
- YA Retreat @ Mill Valley Ranch
 - the heart to go deeper with God and strengthen our YA community in there relationship with God and each other is still planned.



Brett Medlin

Pastor Michael Rojasles' Report

Just when we thought that things were going back to normal, COVID19 has again adversely impacted our way of life. The Welcome Team had to deal with additional processes including contact tracing and try-booking check-ins on top of their normal activities. The Newcomers Lunches kept getting re-scheduled. Life Groups needed to keep tabs on how and where they can meet (i.e. online, outdoors or indoors). The Food Pantry had to change the way they interacted with clients based on what mandates came into effect.

In saying that, whenever and wherever the church could minister, leaders and volunteers have made themselves available to be Christ's servants. I am incredibly proud of how every team just humbly "washed people's feet".

So, thank you to all the amazing teams, leaders, volunteers, staff and the Board who kept the ministries going during very difficult circumstances. You are the Body of Christ and the whole church benefits when you do your part. All glory belongs to Him, Jesus Christ, who is the Head of the Church!



Slow path to recovery

MICHAEL ROJALES

AFTER spending 72 days in hospital last year, Michael Rojasles was lucky to survive COVID-19.

But more than a year on his infection still haunts him, leaving him with nerve damage and in a constant battle with fatigue.

"I left hospital in a wheelchair, then I upgraded to a four-wheeled walker," he said. "Now I'm walking with a walking stick."

The path to recovery has been a long, arduous journey, compounded by the grief of losing his mother-in-law after she was infected too.

"(The family) elected to see psychologists to help us deal with all the trauma and grief," he said.

Focusing on his own recovery, Mr Rojasles now deals with debilitating fatigue.

"On Mondays I have hydrotherapy and it just drains my energy," he said. "It's only for an hour but when I get home, I'm exhausted."

The 47-year-old church minister said he was able to work 30 hours a week, a vast improvement from when he left hospital in June. "I'm able to go to work but when I get home, I'm just exhausted," he said.

Mr Rojasles said he hoped to return to normal mobility within two years, after doctors told him nerve recovery could take that long.

"I'm part of a community of believers and they have really supported me," he said. "My GP, who I see every month, encourages me to increase my activity little by little."

Pastor Michael & the Rojasles family

Food Pantry Report

We commenced the year working with the same drive-thru arrangement as the previous year with pre-packed bags. When some restrictions lifted, we began operating a system where clients parked their cars (i.e., clients remain in their cars), and we spoke to them, caught up on where they were at and updated our records. We introduced a tick sheet so they could select the food items they would like. Each client received approximately \$150 worth of food. We helped 120 families and these families visited the pantry 433 times.

One family that stands out is a father who has a lawn mowing business but due to COVID19 lost a lot of his clients. A lot of people who have lost their jobs have taken up lawn mowing which meant he had a lot of competition. At the same time many people did not see it a priority to have their lawns mowed. These affected his business greatly. His wife only had a part time job but with 3 children they were struggling to make ends meet. He and his family are very grateful for this help.

Unfortunately, we could not host Bringing Christmas to Life, so we made up 60 hampers valued at \$35, and all families received Coles vouchers and every child under 18 received K-Mart vouchers.

I would like to thank the local families in our community who have continued to support us over the years, our Church family for the generous donations we have received, and the Pastors and office Staff for their incredible support. And a big thank you to the dedicated members of the pantry team and Michael for his awesome support and leadership.



Michelle and the amazing Food Pantry Team

Friendship Group Report

The Friendship Group aims to firstly, create a warm and loving space where friendships can be developed and strengthened. Our afternoon teas are a special time of sharing. To tickle our funny bones with jokes and funny videos. Secondly, lead those, who do not know Him to Christ, and to strengthen the faith of those who do. To engage regularly in worship of our great God, and on occasions, share in communion together. And lastly, to learn from our various speakers, and develop an understanding of new places, ideas, and people. Regular quizzes also stretch those "Little grey cells!" In summary, the Friendship Group aims to address the social, spiritual, and scholastic needs of our Seniors community.

In 2021, COVID-19 lockdowns took a toll on our program and deferred us to an April start. With God's grace, we were able to have Pastor Braam share with us his experience of apartheid in South Africa, and the changes to the country which ensued following this momentous event. Ron Dawes brought a fascinating insight into The Leprosy Mission's work worldwide and enabled us to increase our understanding of the disease. Major Alan Laurens led us in a worship time, where he shared with us some of his own musical compositions and gave a Biblical message. The movie "Overcomer" was screened, with hot popcorn from a newly purchased machine enjoyed by all. The movie was exciting, moving, and inspirational. August, September, and October were disrupted due to Covid.

In November, a Welcome Back Party was held, and we all rejoiced in meeting face to face again. Monica Bosch provided some great activities, by which we were able to create some Christmas gifts. A festive Christmas break-up Party finished the year that was 2021.

For many of our members it was a year of hardship and loneliness, and monthly newsletters were welcomed to keep everyone in touch. The presence of intern Emily Eades was a great joy to our group. She was warm and engaging, and we missed her when she moved on to other ministry training. A bring and buy table, raised funds for work in Mozambique, and donations were made to Deaf Ministries International.

We have all been excited to welcome several new members and a big thank you to all the helpers who make the Group what it is. Also, special thanks to Sylvia Gray who keeps track of, and posts out birthday cards, and handles the finances.



Sharon & Larry Edwards and the fantastic Friendship Group

Welcome Team Report

The year 2021 for the Welcome Team started with re-connecting with our members and regaining confidence in serving the Church safely. A new 3-team roster enabled our members to develop deeper connections to identify strengths and strategies for serving within their team. Each team was allocated a leader to manage, encourage and communicate to their team. With a 25% reduction of members for 2021, the Welcome Team showed perseverance in managing new church entry requirements with the help of Elders and Staff. It has been challenging connecting with newcomers because of COVID-19 but the team continued to serve faithfully. With God's grace, the lives of newcomers are getting transformed as you would see in the following testimonies.

The first testimony is from a young lady named Casey who first came to our church 9 months ago. The day Casey attended church she was not intending to meet anybody, but God had other plans. Leanne, a member of our Welcome Team, heard a voice in the foyer say, "Is it your first day today". This was enough for Leanne to go out to foyer and shout out from the door "Who is it that's new today?" With that call out to the people gathering out in the foyer, Casey reluctantly put her hand up and said, "It's me, I am new today". Leanne then invited her to come into Connect Lounge to talk and have a coffee.

Casey – I very timidly put up my hand while I was holding my dog Bella. I came to church that day because my stepmother asked me to, and I said yes but didn't expect to speak to anyone there. Little did Leanne from the Welcome Team know I was not in a good way that day as I had just been picked up from accommodation that was not working for me and was having symptoms from drug withdrawal. I started telling Leanne about all my problems. After chatting with Leanne for a while she told me about the Search to Find course that was starting at the church that Tuesday. I didn't think it would be something I could do or even get to as I couldn't drive but she told me about it any way and then asked if she could pray for me. I said yes even though I wasn't sure about that, but after she prayed for me I opened my eyes and had a smile on my face. Leanne then called me the next day to check in on me and see if I was going to go to the course that week. I still wasn't sure but told her I would try if I could get somebody to drive me there.

Casey not only attended the Search to Find course that week but completed the course, loved it, and received healing from her severe gut issues. Not long after finishing the course, she was baptised at church.

Casey – I am now clean off drugs, I started a course in childcare which I never thought I would ever do and recently I just got a job connected to my studies. I am now a new person, and many have said to me that my story is a modern-day miracle and people have told me that they have used my testimony to help others, and this makes me very happy. I am happy that God can use what I went through to encourage others.

Casey's story is a very good example of the important role the Welcome Team plays in connecting with newcomers. It also shows how helping them make the next step in their journey of faith can deepen their connection with God and the Church.



Denis Giroto and the fabulous Welcome Team

Newcomers' Lunch Report

Like other ministries, the Newcomer's Lunches were also impacted by COVID-19 and by the consequential lockdowns and restrictions. We originally planned for 6 lunches in 2021 but were only able to host 2, one at the start of the year and another one at the end of the year. We intended to have the lunch at different homes but ended the year hosting it at the church.

In saying that, the lunches were always well attended and the food delicious! It is one of the ways our movement welcomes people and gives us the opportunity to show them love and hospitality. The volunteers, who are gifted in hospitality, are always happy to set up, prepare, cook, chat, and pack up afterwards. The Bible talks about how we should welcome one another like Christ has welcomed us...for God's glory, and this is the heart of the team.

In 2022, the Newcomers' Lunches will be structured differently to ensure that we are more deliberate in integrating newcomers into our community so watch this space!



Anna, Nigel, and the fabulous Newcomers Lunch Team

Life Groups and Pastoral Care Report

Life Groups started strong where we ran the Transformed Campaign. We had a total of 38 groups with 6 new groups starting. At the end of 2021 we had 35 groups at various health levels. Most groups are going well, some are going ok though have several issues to address, and a small number of groups are at risk of finishing up due to various reasons. Still, to end the year with 35 groups is worth praising God about. In general, leaders and groups have remained steadfast even with the repeated onslaught of COVID-19 coupled with lockdowns and restrictions. With God's grace, the community of Life Groups have remained strong.



We initially organised 4 Life Group Host Gatherings but ended up with 3 due to COVID-19. The first session was an onsite briefing on the Transformed Campaign, the second was about how to be a "Missional Small Group" where we used RightNowMedia, and the third was an online Pastoral Care Equipping event lead by Glenise Dedrick who is the Victorian Head of Chaplaincy Australia. All sessions were well attended.

TRANSFORMED

How God Changes Us



As the year went on, COVID-19 made worse the loneliness and isolation that people experienced due to the consequential lockdowns and restrictions. The Ministry Forum thought it was important to check in on people. As such, we gathered a team and embarked on a Care Call Project to reach out to those who are not in a Life group. The exercise ended in the team checking-in on 439 individuals via a phone call. The recipients of the calls were very grateful that our movement thought about them and reached out to them.

On top of this, Jackie Schreurs led our Care Meals Roster where several families were blessed with fresh home cooked meals either because they were unwell or have just had a baby. Talking about babies, let me introduce some of the latest additions to our church family. Meet Sabre, Grace, Josiah, and Fletcher who were born during the COVID season.



Our Playgroup Director, Sue Nicholls, made sure to connect with these beautiful families. Looking at these beautiful babies, we can see how God blesses us even during very difficult circumstances. Our God is good!

I am very grateful to our Life Groups and Hosts for the awesome work they do to lead community in our church. Life Groups are the primary channel of Pastoral Care in our movement, and they are augmented by groups like our Grow Groups which have a focus on courses (i.e., Alpha, Search and GTM), teams like the Care Calls Team and the Care Meals Roster, and by people like our Playgroup Director, the Pastors, and the Elders when required. If you are not in a Life Group, then I would encourage you to join one or start one. Just reach out to me and I can point you in the right direction.

*Your friendly neighbourhood spiderman pastor,
Michael Rojas*

Treasurer's Report

The BCOC fiscal year runs from 01 January to 31 December. We had a very good year financially in 2021, enabling us to invest and grow to reach the community as God calls us. Thank you to all who have supported the church financially and to the leadership of the church for your guidance throughout the year.

FY21 followed on from FY20 with significant challenges relating to COVID, the various lockdowns and the economic impact on all of us. In consultation with the Board, we set an income budget that matched our previous FY20 income budget. With some economic uncertainty, and the limited ability to grow the church during lockdowns, this was a step of faith that we would not see income fall – as have many other churches over the past two years. As with any other business or entity, costs continue to rise, and we needed to invest further in areas such as our online presence, Youth Ministry, Life Group resources and church facilities (repairs & maintenance). The net result was that our FY21 Budget had a forecast loss of \$242K. We had built up a healthy buffer given the excellent financial year in FY20, so we planned to rely on this buffer to maintain momentum and continue to invest and build into God's Kingdom, despite the challenges of the COVID season.

The actual results for FY21 showed God's favour and blessing on our church. Our tithing and offerings income was up \$208K on budget and our net result was a \$6K profit/surplus! Thank you to all our committed church partners and attendees who continued to give generously to support the mission of the church. Nearly everyone who has given electronically over the past two years has continued to give reliably and consistently despite the challenges. It is this support that has enabled us to invest in areas such as our new worship pastor, Monya van Staden.

The audited statutory financial reports of Berwick Church of Christ for the year ended 31 December 2021 are outlined on the following pages. The audit was performed by Rucker Financial. A simplified view of our FY21 results is shown below.

Financial Reports for the Period Ended 31 December 2021

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income			
Hire of Facilities	2,592	11,000	(8,408)
Humanitarian & Food Pantry	18,523	23,900	(5,377)
Tithes & Offerings	1,142,181	934,024	208,157
Gifts	59,427	31,227	28,200
Other Income	68,733	82,930	(14,197)
Total Income	1,291,455	1,083,081	208,374
Expenses			
Administration Expenses	131,598	205,636	(74,038)
Building Costs & Upgrades	204,493	82,870	121,623
Utilities	60,093	25,822	34,271
Humanitarian & Food Pantry Expenditure	32,375	25,475	6,900
Missions	28,584	2,800	25,784
Staff Remuneration	712,169	776,304	(64,135)
Other Expenses	116,113	206,750	(90,637)
Total Expenses	1,285,425	1,325,657	(40,232)
Net Income	6,031	(242,576)	248,606
Assets ##	4,492,079	4,224,797	267,421
Liabilities	(1,600.00)	(3,650.00)	2,050.00
Net Assets	4,490,479	4,221,147	269,471

After adjusting for net tax liabilities

Some Key Points From FY21:

- The church generated a surplus of \$6,031 which was \$248,606 higher than budgeted.
- Tithes and offerings averaged \$21,965 per week, which was a record high. This amount was \$4K or 22.2% greater than the weekly average for FY20. This was a fantastic result given that the church was physically closed for much of the year. Note that we account for specific financial Gifts plus Humanitarian and Food Pantry giving separately to regular tithes and offerings.
- We received Gifts of \$59,427 which was \$28,200 more than budgeted.
- Faithful families regularly contributed financial support to the Food Pantry, with total contributions of \$16,223, exceeding the budget of \$14,400.
- Humanitarian giving was \$2,300 versus a budget of \$9,500.
- Missions expenditure comprised gifts to Empart, the Berwick College Chaplaincy program, WeCare, Kid's Hope and Power to Change.
- The church has no current loan or mortgage liabilities so none of your giving goes to service debt.

I would like to thank my wife Glenda, our family, and the Board for supporting me in the Treasurer role. I would also particularly like to thank Melinda Izvekov for her role in the day-to-day management of the financial affairs of the church.

Brett Hutchinson

And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Ephesians 1:22-23

Financial Statements

Berwick Church of Christ Inc
ABN: 37 625 301 987
Regulation No.: A0059580G

The Board of Elders has determined that Berwick Church of Christ ("the Church") is not a reporting entity and that these special purpose financial statements should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in note 1 to the financial statements.

In the Opinion of the Board of Elders:

- 1 The financial statements and notes present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Church as at 31st December 2021 and its financial performance for the year ended on that date.
- 2 At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Church will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The Statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:



Elder: Bronwyn Cameron

Dated this 6th day of April 2022



Elder: Matt Ormiston

Dated this 12 day of April 2022

Financial Statements

Berwick Church of Christ Inc

ABN: 37 625 301 987

Regulation No.: A0059580G

**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Income			
Children's Ministry		228	128
Community Outreach		16,223	21,957
Creative Arts		24,873	182
Executive:			
Humanitarian Offerings		2,300	4,030
Tithes & Offerings		1,142,181	934,289
Other Income	7 (a)	88,788	675,507
Sub-Total Executive		<u>1,233,269</u>	<u>1,613,826</u>
General:			
Gifts Received		78	103
Hire of Facilities		2,592	2,541
Interest Received		103	399
Other Income	7 (b)	2,962	75,926
Sub-Total General		<u>5,735</u>	<u>78,969</u>
Young Adults Ministry		120	6,014
Youth Ministry		11,008	2,177
Total Income		<u>1,291,456</u>	<u>1,723,253</u>
Expenses			
Children's Ministry		8,917	12,961
Community Outreach		28,439	9,190
Creative Arts		54,725	54,546
Executive:			
Humanitarian Gifts & Expenses		3,537	4,464
Mission Gifts & Expenses		28,584	4,965
Remuneration Expenses	7 (a)	712,169	733,396
Other Expenses	7 (b)	41,650	111,352
Subtotal Executive		<u>785,940</u>	<u>854,177</u>
General:			
Administration Expenses	7 (b)	117,431	75,400
Building Cleaning & Maintenance	7 (b)	204,494	299,834
Utilities	7 (b)	60,093	59,140
Other Expenses	7 (b)	14,134	31,849
Sub-Total General		<u>396,152</u>	<u>466,223</u>
Young Adults Ministry		1,291	4,469
Youth Ministry		9,960	3,345
Total Expenses		<u>1,285,424</u>	<u>1,404,911</u>
Net Operating Surplus		6,032	318,342
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
Total Operating & Comprehensive Income		<u>6,032</u>	<u>318,342</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Financial Statements

Berwick Church of Christ Inc
ABN: 37 625 301 987
Regulation No.: A0059580G
Statement of Changes in Equity
AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2021

	Note	Retained Surpluses	Restricted Surpluses	Total
Balance as at 1 January 2020		4,138,466	27,640	4,166,106
Surplus from ordinary operations		318,342	-	318,342
Transfers		(59,845)	59,845	-
Balance as at 31 December 2020		4,396,963	87,485	4,484,448
Surplus from ordinary operations		6,032		6,032
Transfers		(11,015)	11,015	-
Balance as at 31 December 2021	8	4,391,980	98,500.00	4,490,480

Berwick Church of Christ Inc
ABN: 37 625 301 987
Regulation No.: A0059580G
FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2021

	Note	2021	2020
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	522,103	519,944
Receivables	3	17,654	18,008
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>539,757</u>	<u>537,952</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	4	3,966,079	3,966,079
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>3,966,079</u>	<u>3,966,079</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>4,505,836</u>	<u>4,504,031</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable	5	13,756	15,933
Bonds Held	6	1,600	3,650
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>15,356</u>	<u>19,583</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>15,356</u>	<u>19,583</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>4,490,480</u>	<u>4,484,448</u>
EQUITY			
Retained Surplus	8	98,500	87,485
Restricted Surpluses	8	4,391,980	4,396,963
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>4,490,480</u>	<u>4,484,448</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Financial Statements

Berwick Church of Christ Inc

ABN: 37 625 301 987

Regulation No.: A0059580G

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from Church Members, Customers & Others		1,291,353	1,722,854
Interest Received		103	399
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(1,286,052)	(1,413,908)
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	9 (a)	<u>5,404</u>	<u>309,345</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment		-	-
Proceed from Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment		-	-
NET CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Repayment of Borrowings		-	-
Borrowings		-	-
NET CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash Held		5,404	309,345
Cash at Beginning of Year		512,889	203,544
Cash at end of Year	9 (b)	<u>518,293</u>	<u>512,889</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Financial Statements

Berwick Church of Christ Inc
ABN: 37 625 301 987
Regulation No.:A0059580G
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Board of Elders of Berwick Church of Christ Inc ("The Church") has determined that the Church is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. Therefore these are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and section 60.40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

The following is a summary of the accounting policies that have been adopted in preparation of these financial statements.

(a) Historical Cost Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on a cash basis (except for PAYG Withholding Tax and GST), based on historical costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

(b) Consolidated Accounts

The financial statements represent all ministry areas of the Church apart from Playgroup and Boys Brigade which operate autonomously.

(c) Property, Plant & Equipment

All plant and equipment are expensed and all land and buildings are recorded at cost.

The title for the Church property is held in the name of The Properties Corporation of Churches of Christ ("Prop Corp"). Prop Corp holds the title as trustee for the Church and does not retain any beneficial interest in it.

(d) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated as inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from or payable to the ATO is included in the statement of financial position

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from or payable to the ATO are presented as operating cash flows, and have been included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Financial Statements

Berwick Church of Christ Inc
ABN: 37 625 301 987
Regulation No.:A0059580G
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
Note 2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENT	\$	\$
New Cheque Account	57,681	31,314
RaboPlus General	421,256	436,163
RaboPlus - LSL	29,005	26,000
RaboPlus Food Pantry Account	8,304	19,059
RaboPlus - Humanitarian Fund	5,857	7,408
	<u>522,103</u>	<u>519,944</u>
Note 3. Receivables		
GST Refundable	17,654	18,008
	<u>17,654</u>	<u>18,008</u>
Note 4. PROPERTY PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Freehold Land and Buildings at Cost	3,966,079	3,966,079
Add : Additions	-	-
	<u>3,966,079</u>	<u>3,966,079</u>
Note 5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE		
Credit Card: Karen Fletcher	920	4,118
Credit Card: Melinda Izvekov	2,889	2,937
PAYG Withholding Tax Payable	9,947	8,878
	<u>13,756</u>	<u>15,933</u>
Note 6. Current Borrowings		
Bonds Held	1,600	3,650
	<u>1,600</u>	<u>3,650</u>
Note 7. Further Details of Ministry Income & Expenses		
(a) Executive	2021	2020
<u>Other Income:</u>		
Counselling Centre Income	16,459	8,341
Course Fees & Income	20	3,162
** Gifts Received	59,427	424,800
Miscellaneous Income	12,882	-
Missions Income	-	1,235
Prayer Ministry Income	-	3,969
Job keeper Payment	-	234,000
	<u>88,788</u>	<u>675,507</u>

** Special congregation gifts received for building upgrades and support of Children's Ministry.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Financial Statements

ABN: 37 625 301 987
Regulation No.:A0059580G
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Note 7. Further Details of Ministry Income & Expenses	2021	2020
	\$	\$
(a) Executive (continue)		
<u>Remuneration Expense:</u>		
Fringe Benefits	313,961	303,782
Fringe Benefits Tax	5,384	85
Long Service Leave	9,418	9,100
Salaries	313,205	352,830
Superannuation	66,048	63,657
Work Cover - Medical Expenses	-	735
Workcover	4,153	3,207
	<u>712,169</u>	<u>733,396</u>
 <u>Other Expenses:</u>		
Congregational Care	4,085	1,822
Church Planting Expenses	510	-
Counselling Centre Expenses	646	173
Course & Training Expenses	5,820	948
Event Expenses	50	-
Guest Speakers	-	336
Hospitality	1,548	3,039
Intern Expenses	11,252	-
Life Group Resources	2,746	7,669
Miscellaneous Ministries Expenses	849	100
Prayer Ministry Expenses	-	4,066
Sundry Expenses	2,000	73,148
Training & Travel Expenses	8,866	15,377
Weekend Services Expenses	3,278	4,674
	<u>41,650</u>	<u>111,352</u>
 (b) General		
<u>Other Income</u>		
Grants & Cash Flow Boost	-	73,428
Books	167	641
Kitchen & Catering	1,992	987
Sundry Income	-	403
Sundry Receipts Redirected	803	467
	<u>2,962</u>	<u>75,926</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Financial Statements

Berwick Church of Christ Inc
ABN: 37 625 301 987
Regulation No.:A0059580G
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Note 7 (b) General (continued)	2021	2020
	\$	\$
<u>Administration Expenses</u>		
Advertising & Publicity	27,655	1,408
Audit Fees	4,166	3,766
Bank charges	1,470	1,476
Consultancy Fee	11,463	-
Computer Expenses	10,847	19,138
Computer /Office Maintenance	956	138
First Aid Expenses	1,239	189
Legal Fees	-	2,725
Postage	427	1,153
Printing & Stationery	22,363	20,955
Registration & Subscriptions	26,882	17,290
Repairs, Resources & Equipment	-	1,145
Security Costs	3,047	653
Sundry Expenses	-	1,013
Telephone	6,916	6,641
	<u>117,431</u>	<u>75,400</u>
<u>Building & Cleaning & Maintenance</u>		
Cleaning Contract	28,886	26,570
Cleaning & Caretaking Expenses	9,271	5,759
**Repairs Replacements & Maintenance	166,337	267,505
	<u>204,494</u>	<u>299,834</u>
<u>Utilities</u>		
Electricity	12,433	18,051
Gas	359	366
Insurance	32,787	26,191
Rates	14,514	14,532
	<u>60,093</u>	<u>59,140</u>
<u>Other Expenses</u>		
Book Purchases	-	2,322
Gifts Paid	-	12,090
Hospitality, Supplies & Amenities	8,996	3,990
Kitchen & catering Costs	2,973	1,803
Sundry Equipment	1,362	11,177
Sundry Receipts Redirected	803	467
	<u>14,134</u>	<u>31,849</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Financial Statements

Berwick Church of Christ Inc
ABN: 37 625 301 987
Regulation No.:A0059580G
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Note 8	Surpluses	<i>Opening Balance</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenses</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Closing Balance</i>
	<u>Restricted Surpluses</u>					
	Children's Ministry	-	228	(8,917)	(8,689)	-
	Community Outreach	-	16,223	(28,439)	(12,216)	-
	Creative Arts	-	24,873	(54,725)	(128,352)	98,500
	Executive	87,485	1,233,269	(785,940)	534,814	-
	Young Adults Ministry	-	120	(1,291)	(1,171)	-
	Youth Ministry	-	11,008	(9,960)	1,048	-
	Subtotal	87,485	1,285,721	(889,272)	385,434	98,500
	<u>Retained Surpluses</u>					
	<u>General</u>					
	Cheque Account	(56,171)	5,632	(396,152)	(386,570)	(40,957)
	Other Accounts	4,453,134	103	-	(20,300)	4,432,937
	Subtotal	4,396,963	5,735	(396,152)	(406,870)	4,391,980
	Total	4,484,448	1,291,456	(1,285,424)	(21,436)	4,490,480

Note 9 Cash Flow Information

	2021	2020
<i>(a) Reconciliation of Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities to Operating Surplus</i>	\$	\$
Net Surplus	6,032	318,342
Change in Assets & Liabilities		
(Increase) /Decrease in receivables/ prepaid	354	(8,939)
Increase /(Decrease) in other creditors	(982)	(58)
Net Cash used by operating activities	5,404	309,345
(b) Net Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cheque Account	57,681	31,314
Deposits at Call	464,422	488,630
Credit Cards	(3,810)	(7,055)
	518,293	512,889

Auditor's Report

Berwick Church of Christ Inc
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Berwick Church of Christ Inc, which comprises the assets and liabilities statement as at 31 December 2021, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statements by members of the Board of Elders.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the church as at 31 December 2021 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 Vic.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of my report. I am independent of the association 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 my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

I draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the association to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 Vic. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

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

The committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 Vic and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Report

Berwick Church of Christ Inc
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report

My 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 my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards 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 report. As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.

Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



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Geoffrey B. Johnson, FCA
Rucker Audit and Assurance Pty Ltd

Dated this 13th day of April 2022
Doncaster, VIC 3108