



Australian and New Zealand
Third Sector Research Inc.

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REPORTS

2104 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 19 November 2014 at 4.30 pm

Student Union, Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology (CPIT)
130 Madras Street, Christchurch Central 8011

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2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CHAIR'S REPORT

Meetings

In 2014 committee meetings were held via Skype on:

10 February 2014

24 March 2014

5 May 2014

16 June 2014

7th October 2014

There continues to be some issues around connectivity via Skype and Dawn is looking into cost of Conference Calls (audio only – not video) with Telstra.

Membership Update

In 2014 we welcomed three new committee members, Professor David Gilchrist of Curtin University, Dr Carolyn Cordery of Victoria University of Wellington, and Dr Craig Furneaux, Queensland University of Technology.

We farewelled Professor Ed Carson, and Dr Phil Saj from last year's Committee, also Dr Suzanne Grant who is now stepping down, and I wish to thank them again for their sterling work on the committee in previous years.

Alas we are still looking for a treasurer.

Communication matters:

Since the 2013 AGM, ANZTSR administrative arrangements have remained the same, including the now nearly two year old email address, postal and phone details.

ANZTSR@anztsr.org.au

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In other communication matters, the Facebook page is up and running and I encourage all members to take a look at it and record a 'like', as a procedure that will enable ANZTSR to use it as a medium of communication in 2015 and onwards.

In 2014 the committee decided to discontinue the Newsletter.

Scholarly contributions

The quality of *Third Sector Review* continues to serve the sector well and the quality of articles goes from strength to strength, as indicated by the Journal Editor's report also attached to these papers. This year TSR's first special issue on Accounting was published.

Third Sector Review has appeared in the draft 2015 ERA journal list. This list no longer ranks journals. It appears against the 1605 Policy and Administration, 1607 Social Work and 1503 Business and Management codes. In the Australian Business Deans Council (ABDC) 2013 Journal Quality list *Third Sector Review* is ranked as a (B) and under the 1503 management code. Given the growing importance of the "appropriateness" of journals this is a good result.

Collaboration matters:

As always, increasing ANZTSR membership and ensuring a pattern of active engagement with members and colleagues continues to be a high priority. Collaboration with other bodies in the sector is an important element of ANZTSR sector development activities. The ACNC/ANZTSR ECR award, established in 2013 which included a collaborative arrangement to jointly sponsor Early Career Researcher Prizes, has been an important initiative in this regard.

Given the uncertainty surrounding the future of the ACNC the future of this award is also uncertain but ACNC will be approached to see if there is interest in continuing the arrangement in 2015.

In April 2014 the Australian and New Zealand Third Sector Researchers (ANZTSR) lodged a submission to the House of Representatives Economics Committee Inquiry into the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. The submission focuses on the role ACNC has and can continue to play in promoting research.

Historically, there has been an influx of members during Conference Years.

Closing remarks

David Horton Smith recently noted that "The third, quasi-national, altruistics, researcher association to be formed (in 1993) [in the world] was the binational Australia New Zealand Third Sector Research (ANZTSR: www.anztsr.org), publishing its own journal, *The Third Sector Review*, since 1995."¹ So I note that next year will be the *Third Sector Review's* 20th anniversary! Maybe a celebration of some sort is in order?

I have advised the committee that I have decided to step down as chair. I am happy to remain on the committee. Good luck to the new Chair in 2015!

Bronwen Dalton

¹ Smith, David Horton. "Growth of research associations and journals in the emerging discipline of altruistics." *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly* (2013): (640)

2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FINANCIAL REPORT

The “Statement by the Committee” in respect of the 2013/2014 financial statements, which is signed by me (as then Treasurer), refers to our financial position at 30 April 2014 and our financial performance for the twelve months ending on that date.

I stepped down from the position of Treasurer on April 30th and the position of Treasurer for Association has not been filled. During this period I have monitored our financial position and performance. Consequently, this report is an “unofficial”, but nonetheless true and fair report on our financial situation.

At October 30th 2014 our net assets are:

Cash	\$14,866.95
Receivable from 2014 Conference Organising Committee	\$9,000.00
Total	\$23,866.95

As shown in the financial statements for the twelve months to April 30 2014, we had an operating loss of \$3,264.63.

At 30 April 2014 our net assets comprises cash of \$30,300.31. This means we made an operating loss for the six months between April 30 and October 30 2014 of \$6,433.36. (\$30,300.31 - \$23,866.95)

In summary, the operating loss for the past six months was almost twice the operating loss for the last financial year.

In my view this should be of concern to members. However, we have time to address this, and it is my view that the Association can still pay its way for the next 12 months.

It is my view that the reason for this financial performance is that most of our costs are fixed, while revenue is variable.

The main fixed costs are as follows: Merchant fees; website and post office box; most secretarial costs; most journal costs (only postage and a minor component of printing costs) are variable; and Audit fee.

Our main sources of revenue are membership fees and royalty payments from our Journal, Third Sector Review.

The royalty payments and membership fees vary considerably. The figures from 2011 to 2014 were:

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	01/05/2014 to 30/10/2014
Royalty	\$3,917	Nil	\$43,5380	\$28	\$9,279	\$1,950
Membership	\$13,982	\$5,251	\$13,652	\$7,974	\$8,165	\$3,6310

Our current membership is approximately 50, which compares with approximately 90 two years ago.

My understanding is that many members are simply not renewing (as opposed to informing us of a reason not renew, such as retirement).

Given that we have moved to a fixed date for renewals (July 1st), it may be we now have most of the membership fees we are likely to receive for the 2014/2015 year.

In summary, our costs are mainly fixed and are incurred in doing two things: maintaining a basic presence as an organisation and publishing the journal. So we have little discretion here.

The main things we can do are:

- Increase membership (We could also increase the membership fee.)
- We could also, perhaps, seek institutional sponsors.

I do think we need to be proactive.

Phil Saj

October 30th 2014

2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Third Sector Review Journal Editors' Report

The journal continues to be read widely as shown in the accounts by the income stream from downloads of our papers. The quality of the papers is of a high standard and generally on an upward trajectory.

As usual, in 2014 there are two editions of Third Sector Review. The general issue has been distributed and the Special Issue on Accounting in the Third Sector is currently in production.

In the general edition, there were five general papers and a suite of four papers developed from the 2013 Australian Conference on Volunteering. We would like to thank Dr Kirsten Holmes and Professor Melanie Oppenheimer who edited this Special Feature.

We would also like to acknowledge Professor Fiona Verity and Dr Phil Saj for their work on the Special Issue on Accounting in the Third Sector.

We would also like to acknowledge, our copy-editor Julian Welch and Dawn Darwent for her organisation of the printing and distribution.

Our reviewers also need our expression of appreciation – they are core to the whole academic enterprise. It is good to remind ourselves in a “publish or perish” environment that every time we are so anxious to be published, two or three of our colleagues are donating considerable unpaid labour. So hopefully we all just accept that we need to reciprocate.

Looking forward to 2015

Next year is shaping up to be another interesting year. For the general edition, we already have ten diverse and interesting submissions but with two rejections. There will be a Special Edition focussing on papers from this conference for which Garth Nowland-Foreman will be our guest editor. We give conference convenors the opportunity to be guest editors on the conference edition and are pleased that Garth has accepted.

We are thinking of introducing a regular book review section to the journal. Kerry O'Halloran's book "Religion, Charity and Human Rights" (Cambridge University Press) is currently being reviewed for the next general edition – so by all means give us your feedback and suggestions for books you would like to review or have reviewed.

In 2015, there will also be a changing of the guard and we will be advertising for a new journal Editor – see the call for expressions of interest below.

Managing Editor: Rosemary Leonard

Co-editor: Ruth Phillips

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

EDITOR OF THIRD SECTOR REVIEW

The criteria for the role of Editor.

The following criteria are essential:

- A PhD or equivalent
- A track record of personal publications in international peer reviewed journals
- Some experience in editing academic journals or books with multiple authorship
- A good understanding of the third sector in Australasia

Each issue of TSR is edited by one of the editors taking primary responsibility, though with some support from the other. We try and take turns so that no one is expected to edit more than one issue per year. The actual editing entails receiving the manuscripts, finding appropriate reviewers (at least two per manuscript), following up on each review, replying to the author with requirements for revision, checking those revisions, organizing copy-editing and printing of the issue. All the work is done electronically. There is some time pressure to get the issue out on time.

There is no payment.

The present editors are happy to assist with an extended hand-over time.

Please feel free to discuss the position further with either of the current editors,

Rosemary Leonard [rosemary.leonard@criso.au]

Ruth Phillips [ruth.phillips@sydney.edu.au]

2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SECRETARIAT REPORT

This is my second year undertaking the Secretariat role for ANZTSR. The first year was very much a learning experience and this year has been one of consolidation and becoming more familiar with the Association, its members and culture.

General Duties undertaken:

Regular general duties undertaken during this past year include:-

- monitoring and processing of incoming and outgoing emails
- handling email enquiries from members and subscription companies regarding memberships, missed issues of newsletters, and Third Sector Reviews
- responding to email enquiries from committee members
- updating membership database
- preparing and emailing new member welcome letters
- preparing members' invoices and receipts as requested
- yearly mail-out of membership subscription invoices
- emailing reminder notices to members whose subscriptions are in arrears
- liaising with Copy Editor, Graphic Artist (layout) and Printer – *Third Sector Review*
- distributing (both electronically and via Australia Post) *Third Sector Review* once printed to members, authors and other designated parties
- updating website with Committee Members' information, Conference information, link to Conference website, Third Sector Review Contents list
- liaising with web hosts when problems occur with the website, shopping cart database or incoming/outgoing ANZTSR emails
- reconciling CBA bank accounts with on-line shopping cart payments, cheques received and identifying EFT membership payments

Membership Database

The Membership Database was developed in 2013, using Filemaker Pro, to replace the existing Excel spreadsheet which had become unwieldy, and has this year been further refined as the need has become apparent. Records from the original spreadsheet were imported into the new database.

The database comprises information relating to:

- current and past members, membership categories, and Members' Interests as detailed at time of joining or renewing memberships on line
- details of subscription companies and their clients
- details of communications with members – email, mail-outs
- mail merge and labels for email mail-outs
- TSR mail-outs to members and contributing authors

The database is constantly updated as subscriptions are being paid and mail-outs occur.

ANZTSR Website

This year there have been some problems with the Website from time to time including the on-line shopping cart and email systems, which have resulted in some members not being about to pay their membership fees through the shopping cart, or having difficulties whilst making payment. The problems, although spasmodic, are ongoing, and I have contacted the web hosts on several occasions to request assistance.

Membership

In the absence of a Membership Officer [Committee Member] I have prepared a separate Membership Report. However, it is noted that membership has declined significantly this year.

ANZTSR Conference

I have had little to do with the Conference proceedings or administration other than to set up the conference email system, update the ANZTSR website with information as made available and set up a link to the Conference website. I have checked the Conference emails folder and forwarded emails as necessary.

Dawn Darwent

2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As at 10/11/14, there were 56 current Financial Members, a significant decrease in numbers from the 2013/14 membership base. Membership breakdown for the two years are as follows:

Membership Category	Subscription Fee	2014/15	2013/14
Total Membership		56	82
Individual Members	\$95	35*	64
Student Members	\$45	7	7
Organisation	\$225	7	7
Institutional Library	\$75	7	4

* includes 9 new members for 2014/15

2013/14 members who have not yet renewed membership for 2014/15 include the following:

27 Individual Members, 5 of whom were new members

2 Student Members

4 Organisation Members

2 Institutional Library Members

Those who have not yet renewed from the previous subscription year are classified as "Grace Period" members, and traditionally such members continue to receive membership benefits for six months following the cessation of their membership period.

My comments on the decline of membership numbers:

1. Since undertaking the Secretariat role in April 2013, I have observed that many members are very slow in paying their subscriptions, despite reminders being sent. I believe that some of the 27 individual members who have not yet paid will do so, based on their past payment history.
2. Since the Newsletter was discontinued earlier this year, electronic communication with members has decreased markedly and members are now not receiving any news about the Association or the Third Sector, either via email mail-outs or the website.
3. The ANZTSR website remains a static one. Although it is being updated with necessary changes to existing web pages, Committee Members' profiles, and Third Sector Review Contents, no newsworthy or relevant Third Sector or ANZTSR material has been added, apart from a reference to, and link to, the ANZTSR Conference website which was set up as a separate entity for this year's Conference in New Zealand.
4. It is possible that members and potential ANZTSR members may perceive a lack of tangible membership benefits, apart from the *Third Sector Review*.

Dawn Darwent (in the absence of a Membership Officer)