

	2001	2002	
P	Rachel Hodge	N	(R)
VP1	Sue Thousgood	N	(R)
VP2	John Christie	MW	(F) floor
	Eileen Brunster		(F) floor
S	Cheryl Scott	N	(R)
T	Amelia ^{Late}	N	(F) floor
	John Christie		
5	Maurice Hogan	N	(R)
	Paula Barnes	N	(R)
	Rose Clark	MW	(R)
	Andia Bishop	S	(F) floor
	Rosemary Rush	S	(F) floor



AUTISM TASMANIA Inc.

Offering life long support to people with Autism and related disorders

**9th Annual Report
and
2000/2001 Annual General Meeting**

Saturday, 22nd September 2001

Agenda

9th Annual General Meeting

Saturday, 22 September 2001
Old Tudor Motor Inn,
Westbury Road, Launceston.

- 1. Opening**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Minutes**
 - 3.1 Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting
 - 3.2 Motion for adoption of Minutes
- 4. Special Business**
 - 4.1 Adoption of Consolidated Constitution
- 5. President's Report**
 - 5.1 Summary of President's Report
 - 5.2 Motion for adoption of President's Report
- 6. Treasurer's Report**
 - 6.1 Audited Income & Expenditure Statement and Balance Sheet
 - 6.2 Motion for adoption of Treasurer's Report
- 7. Election of Office Bearers**
 - 7.1 President
 - 7.2 Vice Presidents (2 positions)
 - 7.3 Secretary
 - 7.4 Treasurer
 - 7.5 Ordinary Committee Members (5 positions)
 - 7.6 Vote of thanks to the outgoing Committee
 - 7.7 First Committee meeting date
- 8. Appointment of Auditor**
 - 8.1 Nominations/recommendations
 - 8.2 Motion to appoint the Auditor
- 9. Close**

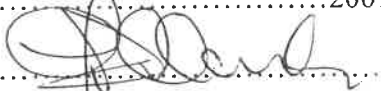
Please join us for lunch after the meeting and an informal chat about matters of interest, future activities and the direction of Autism Tasmania.

Public Officer's Report

I, Cheryl Scott being the Public Officer of Autism Tasmania Inc. do solemnly and sincerely declare that the accompanying Statements of Assets and Liabilities (Balance Sheet) and Income and Expenditure as at 30 June 2001, exhibit a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation as at that date and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information therein is correct.

Cheryl Scott

Signed:
C Scott.
Public Officer

Signed before me at DELORAINE
on 30 AUGUST 2001

Justice of the Peace
M.R. CLARK

Report to Members

We hereby certify that the accompanying Balance Sheet and Statement of Income and Expenditure of Autism Tasmania Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2001 shows the true financial position and reflects the true results of the financial operations of Autism Tasmania Inc. for that period.

Dated this 30th day of August 2001.

Signed:
R. Clark
President



Signed:
A. Bishop
Treasurer



Signed:
C. Scott
Secretary and
Public Officer



AUTISM TASMANIA INCORPORATED

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have examined the financial and other records of Autism Tasmania for the year ended 30th June 2001 and have obtained the information required by me. My audit was conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards.

The attached statement, in my opinion, represents a true and fair view of the state of the Incorporation as at 30th June 2001 and the results for the year ended on that date, according to the information at my disposal and the explanations given to me, and as shown by the books of the Incorporation.

The rules relating to the administration of the Incorporation have been properly observed.


.....
JAMES S. GIBSON - F.P.N.A. Auditor

10/19/2001

AUTISM TASMANIA INCORPORATED
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2001

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>	
<u>INCOME</u>			
Autism Week	1,102	1,218	
Commonwealth Respite for Carers	6,669	8,435	
Conference 1999	26,000	-	
Donations	1,673	6,199	
Fundraising	180	61	
Interest	1,905	1,375	
Membership	1,680	2,460	
Professional Training	2,695	3,150	
Professional Training (Wendy Lawson)	1,812	-	
Sale of Books/Cards	-	63	
Seminar Registrations	610	1,733	
Sundries (Insurance Reimbursement)	<u>-</u>	<u>76</u>	
	44,326	24,770	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>			
Autism Council of Australia (annual subscription)	-	194	
Autism Research Institute	-	72	
Autism Week	2,087	-	
Bank Fees	33	42	
Conference	-	33,227	
Insurance - Public Liability	620	1,295	
National Conference (3 delegates)	1,932	-	
Rent	1,300	-	
Seminar Expenses	11,596	7,256	
Sundries			
Advertising	735	263	
Auditing	344	255	
Autism Council (delegate)	298	-	
Books	318	212	
Gifts	132	152	
Office Furniture	1,066	-	
Parent Information Kit (typing)	-	300	
Room Hire - meetings	268	326	
Subscriptions	258	-	
Sundries	309	-	
Telephone, Postage & Stationery	<u>2,688</u>	<u>1,898</u>	
	23,984	45,492	
<u>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR</u>	<u>\$20,342</u>	<u>\$(20,722)</u>	

AUTISM TASMANIA INCORPORATED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30TH JUNE, 2001

ACCUMULATED INCOME

Balance brought forward	38,065	58,788
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	<u>20,342</u>	<u>(20,723)</u>
	<u>\$58,407</u>	<u>\$38,065</u>

REPRESENTED BY:

Island State Credit Union	18,407	38,065
Island State Credit Union Term Deposit Investments	<u>40,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$58,407</u>	<u>\$38,065</u>

58407
26000
~ \$32407 before conference

AUTISM TASMANIA INCORPORATED

30TH JUNE, 2001

SEMINAR EXPENSES

Bettison	-	532
Com & Bh - CRC	764	1,846
Grandin	-	3,884
Sexuality - CRC	1,770	-
Visual Comm	2,554	-
Wendy Lawson (x2)	6,508	-
4/12/00	-	994
	<u>\$11,596</u>	<u>\$7,256</u>

Listing of Office Bearers & Committee Members

Name	Position	Address	Occupation
Rosemary CLARK	President	4 Hiller Street Devonport TAS 7310	Teacher
Rachel HODGE	Vice-President	5 Corinea Court Hadspen 7250	Acting Principal
Sue THOROGOOD	Vice-President	95 West Barrack Street Deloraine TAS 7304	Parent
Cheryl SCOTT	Secretary	25 Essendon Street Launceston 7250	Speech & Language Pathologist
Amelia BISHOP	Treasurer	5/213 Tolosa Street Glenorchy TAS 7010	Masters Student & Therapist
Eileen PRUNSTER	Committee Member	27 Petersons Lane Elliott TAS 7325	Parent
John CHRISTIE	Committee Member	2/20 Beefeater Street Deloraine TAS 7304	Principal
Geraldine ROBERTSON	Committee Member	7 Stoke Street Ravenswood TAS 7250	Teacher

The following Committee Members have resigned since the 2000 Annual General Meeting:

Irene JAMES (resigned March 2001)	Committee Member	1/52 Ripley Road Moonah TAS 7009	Parent
Jan MAHONEY (resigned April 2001)	Committee Member	4 Norman Circle Glenorchy TAS 7010	Parent

We hereby certify that this is a true and accurate list of Office Bearers and Committee Members of Autism Tasmania Inc. as at the 30 June 2001.

Dated this 30th day of August 2001

Signed:



Cheryl Scott
Public Officer

Signed:

Rose Clark
President



JAMES S. GIBSON

List of Members

We hereby certify that the List of Financial Members of Autism Tasmania Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2001 shows the complete list of financial members of Autism Tasmania Inc. as at that date.

Dated this 30th day of August 2001.

Signed:
R. Clark
President

R. Clark.

Signed:
C. Scott
Secretary

Cheryl C Scott

President's Report

The past twelve months have been extremely busy for Autism Tasmania providing us with many challenges and rewards. As the knowledge of Autism Spectrum Disorder grows so does the range and complexity of issues with which we are involved. Autism Tasmania is now readily acknowledged by the wider community as the umbrella organisation for Autism Spectrum Disorder in the State. As such, we have been invited to work in collaboration with other organisations.

We maintain representation on the Parent Reference Group (PRG) which has a direct link to SEAC (Special Education Advisory Committee). The PRG was established as a direct result of the Inclusion in Practice Review done by the Education Department in the last two years. As a result of this we have been asked for input into the re-writing of the Category A Autism Register document. The Parent Reference Group also maintains reciprocal links with the Teacher Reference Group as well and this is an invaluable asset to have with those involved in education.

Along with ABIT (formerly known as YAST) and Giant Steps we are also involved in the Working Group for the Pilot Project for Early Intervention in Autism. This is funded by the Tasmanian Government which is providing funding of \$80,000 per year for three years. The task of the Group has been a very complex one, highlighting processes which will identify children who will participate, program content, training for staff involved and location. These issues have been resolved and later in third term we may see a "pilot" of the Pilot Project running so that any modifications can take place before the program is run in each region.

During the year we have seen the establishment of the Statewide Autism Network (SAN) which has evolved because of the needs of teachers who have children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder in their class. Kathy Wilson, the Autism Consultant leads and co-ordinates this group and is working closely with other agencies, including Autism Tasmania to document a calendar of events for professional development in the coming year.

October 2000 saw the establishment of Autism Platform, a group of young adults with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. This group meets regularly to discuss issues and topics of interest and is currently involved in collating information on Asperger Syndrome to include in our Parent Information Kit.

One of the Committee's "in-house" tasks this year has been to work on our Constitution which has been in existence since our inception in 1992. We have been ably directed and assisted by non-committee member, Mick Clark, who has helped us along the path of writing a "plain language" document which will better reflect the changing nature of our organisation.

Our web-site has also been up-dated and is nearly ready for public access. Geraldine Robertson, a committee member has given up much of her spare time to supplying the site with information, links to other useful sites and a message board.

Autism Tasmania maintains a good working relationship with Giant Steps and during the year we collaborated on the Jane Cotter Workshop entitled "Motivation, Management, Moving On." This was a very successful day for those who attended and the feedback was excellent.

We were however extremely disappointed when our original joint event, the major one for us for the year was cancelled. Carol Gray was unfortunately unable to visit Tasmania due to a family illness; her sessions are much revered by both parents and professionals.

Our relationship with YAST, now known as ABIT continues to prosper with regular exchange of information and mutual membership of the others organisation. We look forward to the next twelve months when we hope to co-plan functions that will benefit both our memberships.

An offer by AASE (Australian Association of Special Education – Tasmanian Chapter) in June to have access to a speaker from the US was a bonus we hadn't planned for. Ms Deb Hedeem, an Associate Professor with the Idaho State University presented a very worthwhile and enjoyable workshop on "Challenging Behaviours" to a very appreciative group of parents and a wide range of professionals. Both Autism Tasmania and AASE look forward to future opportunities to share resources.

Wendy Lawson, who thoroughly enjoys visiting Tasmania, visited us earlier in the year and is to return in October. Autism Tasmania's decision to subsidise her fee to enable other groups to hear her speak was very beneficial to many organisations around the state. The target group for Wendy's visit was those involved in assessment and diagnosis and many agencies took advantage of hearing Wendy speak from a personal perspective. For many it was a very moving experience.

A series of evenings around the State focussing on Wills and Power of Attorney with speakers from The Public Trustee proved to be very popular and highlighted the need parents have for pertinent, accurate information. Issues raised by questions showed that details from the Guardianship Board are also relevant to member families. Planning is almost complete for follow-up sessions to occur before December.

National Autism Awareness Week was launched in Westbury by the Mayor of the Meander Valley and incoming MLC for Rowallen, Mr Greg Hall, at an Art Exhibition that showcased the work of children attending Giant Steps.

A series of three consecutive "ads" featured in one of the three daily regional newspapers and created a great deal of interest. The other two newspapers featured the final "ad." These proved to be very informative and were the catalyst for many families requesting further information regarding Autism Spectrum Disorder. During the week we also had a Charitable Collection Day with people who were able to spare some time collecting at various locations around the state. Although this was fairly low-key, more than \$1000 was collected. A family day was held at Zoo Doo in the south of the state and several families and one brave individual featured in personal stories in our daily newspapers.

After our Governor, Sir Guy Green spoke so eloquently and with such empathy when opening our National Conference in Hobart in 1999 our Committee made a decision to approach him to be

our patron. We are delighted that the Governor has bestowed Vice-Regal Patronage on our organisation and we are up-dating our stationary to show the Governor as our patron!

With the next National Conference almost upon us we are happy to report that we have the final audited accounts from the conference organiser for our very successful 1999 Hobart Conference. While there are some minor financial details to be clarified, we can definitively announce that the event made a profit of \$26,000. A fantastic result!

Less successful has been our decision late last year to rent shared office space in Burnie. Our vision was to "staff" it with willing volunteers, to provide access to members, for regional meetings and showcase our library. For many reasons, this proved much more difficult than anticipated. In June we decided to terminate the lease agreement. We are now actively investigating the employment of a part-time person.

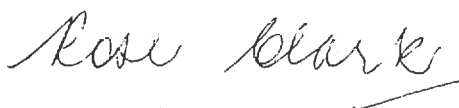
Membership renewals have been slow despite several reminders, however at the time of this meeting we are up to 103 with a wide cross-section of paid members. There has been some natural attrition of members and those who have not renewed will be canvassed as to their reasons for non-renewal.

Our newsletter continues to be printed and distributed from a local Federal politician's office (as it has done for the past 3 years). The Committee has made the decision to mail out complimentary copies to appropriate agencies when articles pertinent to them appear. For example, we sent all primary, secondary schools and colleges the newsletter when we ran the article on "Bullying."

Knowledge of Autism Spectrum Disorder continues to grow in Tasmania but our knowledge base remains quite narrow. Autism Tasmania has approached the Menzies Centre for Population Health Research to consider conducting research in Tasmania into Autism Spectrum Disorder. A well conducted study which shows the location of those with Autism, their ages and needs will provide information to support our calls for much needed services to those people with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

The work the committee has done over the past twelve months has been considerable and there are many challenges ahead. As well as the research mentioned, our expanding agenda encompasses the needs and services for the young, adolescents and adults, those with a dual diagnosis, psychiatric services as well as the many issues we are already aware of!

In my closing year as President, I extend my thanks to all the elected Committee members and visitors who have given their "spare" time so freely. I wish the incoming Committee every success for the future.



Rose Clark
President