

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019



SPRINGVALE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

**SPRINGVALE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY INC.**

**57<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

AOO 383 5R ABN 71 4206 32776

PO BOX 66 SPRINGVALE VIC 317

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# 2018 AGM MINUTES

## SPRINGVALE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY INC.

AOO 383 55R ABN 71 4206 32776

P.O. Box 66, Springvale. 3171

Ph: 9546 5558

### 56<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018

## MINUTES

**Venue:** Springvale Meeting Rooms 1 & 2, 397 – 405 Springvale Road, Springvale

**Chair:** Mr. Joe Rechichi

**Present:**

Mrs Sue & Mr David Hilton	Dingley Village Rotary Club
Cherise Donovan	Department of Justice
Vick Mirkis	Westpac Bank – Springvale
Sean O’Reily	City of Greater Dandenong
M. Perez	Springvale Learning Program
Mr. Darrel Taylor	Liberal Party
Cr. Angela Long	City of Greater Dandenong
John Workman	St. Aidan’s Noble Park
Mr. Peter Jabbour	OAM
Mr Dominic Zammit	St Vincent De Paul
Mrs Mary Rose Zammit	St Vincent De Paul
Angelina Colombino	Springvale City Rotary Club
Cathryn Jackson	Springvale City Rotary Club
Mrs. Anna Orlando	
Mr. Frank Orlando	
Saverio Corev	
Mrs. Amole Jabbour	
Lee Taramis	

**Springvale Benevolent Society Members Present:**

Cr Roz Blades, Mrs. Teresa & Mr. Joe Rechichi, Mrs. Pat & Mr. Paddy Dillon, Mrs. Minh Luu, Mrs. Monique & Mr. Francois Chung, Mr. Harry Gunther, Mrs. Marlene Lonergan, Ms. Filomena Lay, Mrs. Rita Di Blasio, Mr. Biaggio Di Blasio, Ms. Priscilla Truong,

**Apologies:**

Ms. Clare O'Neill MP	Member for Hotham
Mr Mark Dreyfuss MP	Member for Isaac
Mr Daniel Andrews MP	Victoria
Mr Martin Pakula MP	Member for Keysborough
Mr Hong Lim MP	Member for Clarinda
Lorraine D'Silva	South East Community Links
Inga Peulich MP	Member for South Eastern Metro
Mr David Starvaggi	Bendigo Community Bank Dingley Village
Ms. Judith Klarenbeck	Make a Difference, Dingley Village
Cr. Matthew Kirwan	City of Greater Dandenong
Ms. Elena Sheldon	Springvale Learning & Activities Centre
Suong Tran	Greyhounds Entertainment
Mr. Alf Goldburg	Springvale Benevolent Society
Mr. Alan Gordon	Springvale Benevolent Society
Mr. Paul Lonergan	Springvale Benevolent Society
Mrs. Yvonne Herring JP	Springvale Benevolent Society
Mr. Des Herring	Springvale Benevolent Society

**Welcome:** Mr. Joe Rechichi welcomed all in attendance. Special welcome to our guest speaker - Cherise Donovan ( OIC at Dandenong Drug Court)

**Minutes:** 56<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting – 26th September 2018

Circulated – taken as read

**Moved – Teresa Rechichi / Marlene Lonergan**

**Treasurers Report:** Presented by Treasurer – Minh Luu

**Presidents Report:** Presented by Chairman – Joe Rechichi

**Moved in a Block  
by Marlene Lonergan  
Cr. Roz Blades**

**Secretary Report:** Presented by Secretary – Priscilla Truong

**General Election:** Conducted by – Julian Hill MP Federal Member for Bruce

<b>President</b>	Mr. Joe Rechichi	} <b>Moved in a Block By Roz Blades Pat Dillon</b>
<b>Vice Presidents</b>	Mr. Harry Gunther Mr. Francois Chung	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ms. Minh Luu	
<b>Auditor</b>	Mr. J Wundersitz FTMA. ACIS	
<b>Secretary</b>	Ms. Priscilla Truong	
<b>Public Relations &amp; Liaison Officer</b>	Mrs. Marlene Lonergan	

**Committee:** Joe & Teresa Rechichi, Cr Roz Blades AM, Monique & Francois Chung, Paddy & Pat Dillon, Alf Goldberg, Harry Gunther, Des & Yvonne Herring, Lil Mangoni, Minh Luu, Marlene & Paul Lonergan, Rita & Biaggio Di Blasio, Priscilla Truong  
– **With Power to Add.**

**Moved - Pat Dillon / Teresa Rechichi**

**Guest Speaker: Cherise Donovan – Officer in Charge, Dandenong Drug Court**

Cherise spoke extensively on the current programs and services at the Dandenong Drug Court which addresses offending behavior in prison and community corrections. She put particular emphasis on the fact that all those at the Dandenong Drug Court are willing participants in their rehabilitation who have chosen to undergo a Drug Treatment Order as opposed to prison term. They are only eligible if the immediate prison term they are facing does not exceed two years and are not facing charges of a sexual or violent nature. The participants have a support network which consists of case managers, clinical advisors, alcohol and drug counsellors as well as the police and Victoria Legal Aid.

Cherise also read a very moving letter from a previous participant at the Dandenong Drug Court who has since reformed.

**Supper:** Joe Rechichi invited all to supper – supper kindly provided by Mayor of City of Greater Dandenong  
Delicious Cakes and Desserts made by Pat Dillon.

**Next Annual General Meeting:** TBC

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2019 – 2020



Dear Fellow Members and Guests.

Again, it is my privilege to present this 57<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting.

This year has been a very challenging year, there has been an increase in people needing assistance, homeless numbers have increased and the families that we visit are truly find it hard to make ends meet.

Thanks to the Mayor Roz Blades making an announcement to the community of how families are finding it hard to make ends meet, and thanks to the Dandenong Journal for contacting me for my input, a very good article was placed in the newspaper requesting donations etc. The response to the article was excellent, people came from everywhere with blankets, food, cheques or whatever they were able to donate to the Society.

This financial year, the Society has had an increase of 15% in new clients, with an increase of homeless, domestic violence and asylum seekers. Members of the Society made approximately 1,070 home visits, the clients that benefited from these visits were:

Approximately 430 families and individuals and 350 children. A great deal of food parcels, food vouchers, blankets and clothing has been distributed in the financial year.

The Society has still continued to serve the community, and ensure that people in need have food on the table, blankets to keep them warm, beds to sleep in and even more importantly someone to be there to listen to their problems and help them where possible as they find it hard to make ends meet. **This is why the home visits are very important.**

The Society continues to liaise with: City of Greater Dandenong, Centrelink, Members of Parliament and various organizations in the City of Greater Dandenong.

I would also like to thank City of Greater Dandenong, particularly the Staff Giving Program and Department of Justice - Magistrates' Court of Victoria - Dandenong Court Fund for their annual contribution to the Society.

Each year I think it is important to record our deep appreciation for the tremendous contributions to the Society and I especially want to thank the following:

Uniting Church Springvale	Springvale Anglican Church of the Ascension
Momentum/Gaming Greyhound Entertainment	Centrelink Staff
Keysborough School	Bowens Timber - Darren Minto
Club Noble	Springvale City Rotary Club
St Aidans Church Noble park	Bendigo Community Bank Dingley
City of Greater Dandenong - Staff Giving Program & Multicultural Dinner	Noble Park Country Women's Association
Rotary Club of Greater Dandenong	Springvale Neighbourhood House
Servants of the Two Hearts and Reaching Out Because We Care ( Elisa)	Father Stickland - Ukrainian Catholic Church
Springbacks Trefoil Guild	Westpac Bank - Springvale
Dingley Rotary Club	Kingston Charitable Fund
Meang Heang Tak MP	Mayoral Charitable Dinner
PayPal - Client donation	Community Action Group
Dandenong Magistrates Court	Marion Rollings
Mr & Mrs Ernest Drews	Mr Glen Scott (Frankston)

Other private individuals in the community for their donations of food, blankets and financial assistance.

It is because of the generosity of these organizations and individuals that we are able to reach out to help so many. I hope I have not left out any one, if so, I apologize.

This year Centrelink organized fundraising for the homeless which provided the Society with blankets, warm clothing and food.

Last Christmas the Springvale Benevolent Society distributed 280 Hampers and approximately \$12,000.00 of Food Vouchers for Christmas with an additional \$1,900.00 of supplementary Christmas groceries for the hampers.

We extend our thanks to our honorary Auditor, John Wundersitz for his continued support of the society and his time in examining the Society's financial statements.

**I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to the members of the Springvale Benevolent Society for their support, dedication and time they give. It is only with your efforts that the Springvale Benevolent Society can continue its good work.**

I would like to thank:

Roz for all she does through Council for the benefit of the Society

Minh for keeping the financial part of the society in order

Priscilla who has been an outstanding secretary and hope she continues to be my right hand

Pat, Filomena and Marlene for their commitment and helping me with the office duties and organizing food parcels and keep the pantry up to date

Regards

Joe Rechichi - President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Rechichi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'J'.



# TREASURER'S REPORT 2019 – 2020



Dear Guests and Members,

Thank you for attending Springvale Benevolent Society's 57<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, I have once again had the pleasure to work alongside the members of this Society for the past 12 months.

It is therefore unfortunate that I report our expenses continue to increase year on year as our income continues to fall. Our expenses increased by 20% compared for 2018, from \$63,360.16 to \$73,263.42 while income decreased by 19% from \$62,047.06 to \$51,718.70.

While this may not be the most uplifting news, we are still blown away by the support we have received from our community, we have received numerous personal donations from individuals whom have heard about the Society from our news story in the Dandenong Journal and our long-time supporters have continued to step in and assist with raising food, blankets and other necessities.

As you can also see in our report, we have had a drastic increase three-fold in clients who are no on no income, which means zero government benefits. We believe a large number of these are asylum seekers whom are already amongst the most vulnerable in our community. Nevertheless, our field agents continue to forge ahead as they have with endless compassion and open hearts as they provide support to clients. Whether this be delivering food vouchers, food parcels, blankets, household necessities and most importantly a willingness to listen and learn about the lives of our clients.

Best Regards,

Minh Luu

**Treasurer**

# SECRETARY'S REPORT 2019 – 2020



Dear Everyone,

Thank you for taking the time to attend our AGM this evening. The Springvale Benevolent Society has now been assisting the needy in our community for 57 consecutive years. I would like to extend appreciation and gratitude to all whom have contributed to the society both current and former, without their efforts we would not still be here today. Whether you have contributed as a volunteer within the society, a donor and supporter or even by spreading word of the good work that the Society does, we are very thankful.

As Joe has mentioned earlier, our field agents attended to 1,070 home visits this year. Home visits are a crucial element to the service that the Society can offer, we believe this is what makes us unique and that this is how we can provide meaningful assistance to those who need it most.

Our field agents witness first-hand the living situations of our clients which allows them to accurately evaluate the level of assistance they require and they often refer clients onto support services that they were not previously aware of.

It is also the in-home visits which has allowed our field agents to observe how serious the housing issue has become. With cramped boarding houses which are often unsafe, not to code, and unethical landlords who charge sky-high prices for a shared single bedroom, this is the biggest hindrance which stops our clients from getting out of the unfortunate circumstances they are in. Our field agents often find themselves unable to help as the alternative to this would be living on the streets or in their cars if they have one. Regardless the Society will continue to help to the best of their ability.

Lastly, I would like to thank our volunteers and in particular our field agents, the depths of their compassion are truly inspiring. I would also like to thank our network of supporters whose assistance allows us to continue doing the work we do. Your support means more than just donations, it is proof that we live in a community that cares enough to give back and that we can make a difference in the lives of those who need it most. Thank you to everyone who puts their faith and trust in the Springvale Benevolent Society.

Our guest speaker tonight is Manager of Homelessness Services at WAYYS Sean Quigley, we hope you find his presentation both information and useful.

Thank you.

Best Regards,  
Priscilla Truong  
**Secretary**

# SPECIAL THANK YOU

## VOLUNTEERS

-PAST and PRESENT

## CONTRIBUTORS

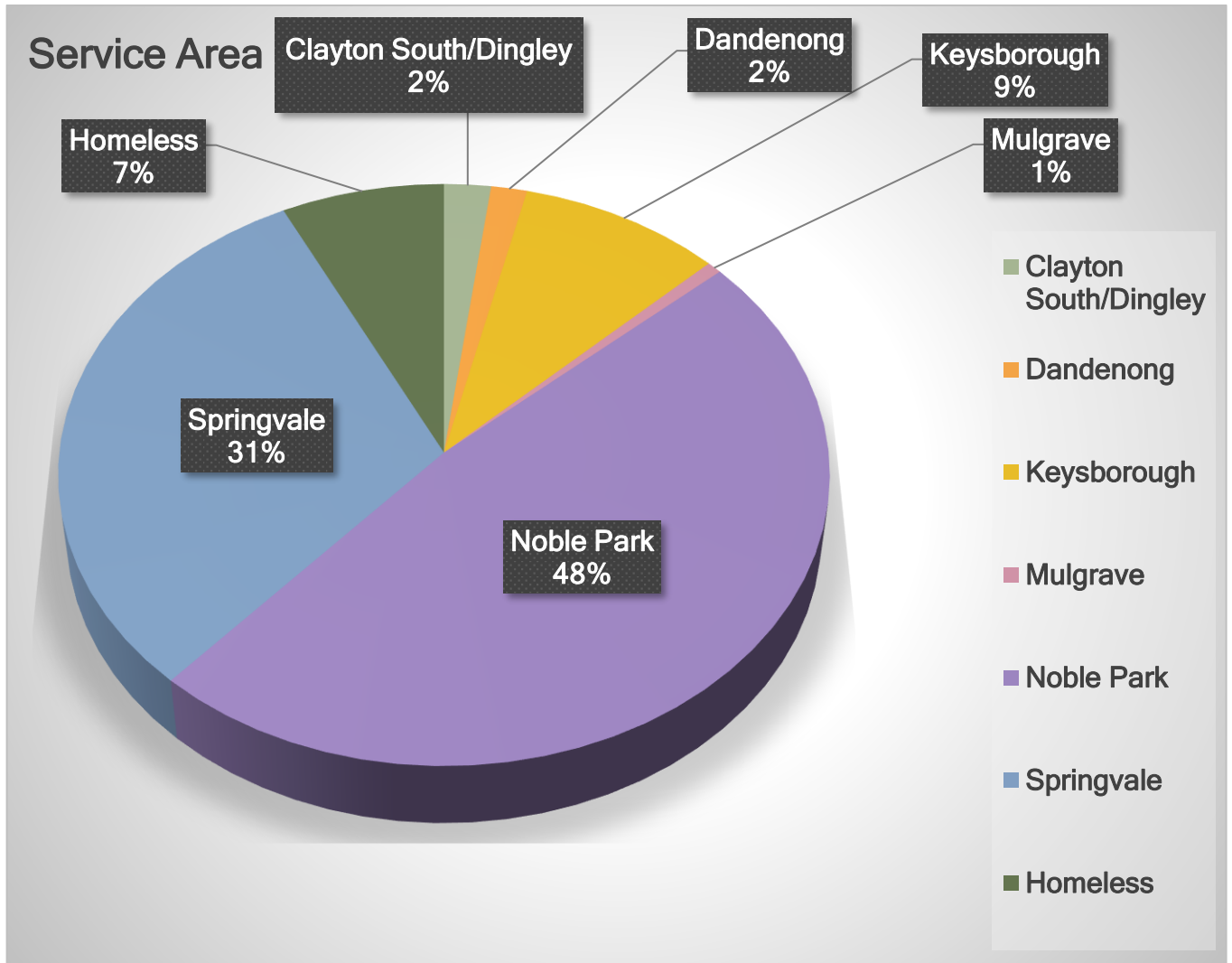
- City of greater Dandenong
- Dandenong Court Fund
- Uniting Church Springvale
- Momentum Gaming/Greyhound Entertainment
- Springvale RSL
- Club Noble
- St Aidans Church Springvale
- Springvale Rise Primary School
- Springvale Bunnings Hardware
- Australian Christian Church
- Springvale Neighbourhood House
- Springbacks Trefoil Guild
- Dingley Rotary Club
- COGD Staff Giving Fund
- Individual Contributions
- Centrelink Staff
- Springvale Anglican Church of the Ascension
- Bowens Timber Hardware- Darren Minto
- Springvale City Rotary Club
- Bendigo Community Bank Dingley Keysborough Campus
- Country Women Association
- Westpac Bank-Springvale Branch
- Father Stickland - Ukrainian Catholic Church
- Noble Park/Keysborough Lions Club
- John F. Wundersitz (Auditor)

The Springvale Benevolent Society would like to thank all the volunteers who worked tirelessly to service all these people in need.

The Springvale Benevolent Society would also like to thank the generosity of the organizations and Individuals as mentioned above. With their contributions, we have been able to reach out to help so many.

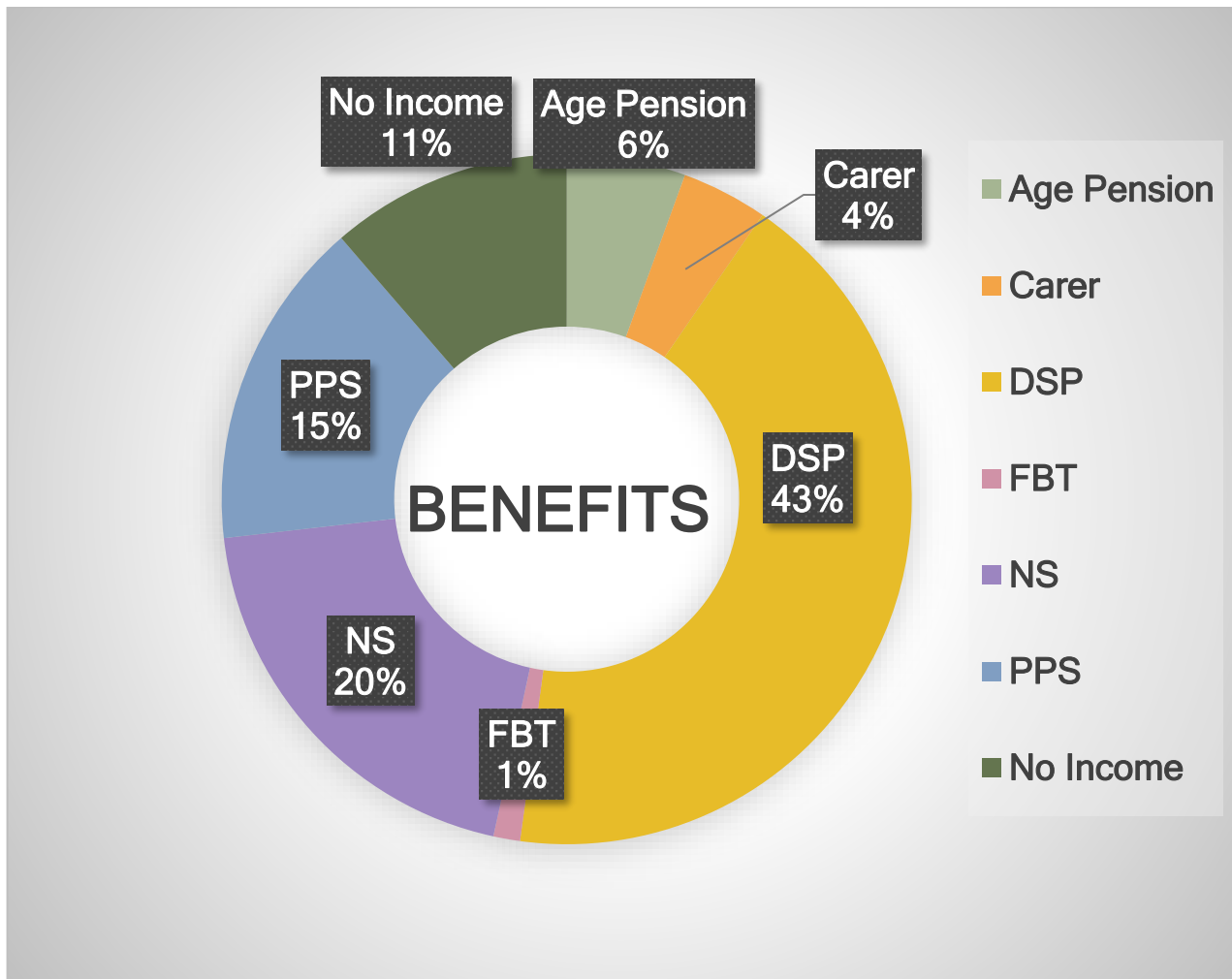
In case we left out any contributors or individuals, we do sincerely apologize.

# CLIENT PROFILE



In 2018-2019, the team of volunteers at Springvale Benevolent Society attended to more than one thousand cases.

Noble Park remains our volunteers most active area, followed by Springvale, however we have seen 5% decrease clients in Noble Park with a 5% increase in clients in Springvale. The number of homeless clients continue to increase from last year and the number of clients from Dandenong and Mulgrave had doubled since last year.



Like previous years the largest portion of our client base are those currently on Disability Support Pensions.

We have seen a slight decrease of DSP clients from 46% to 43% this year.

Age Pension clients have also decreased from 9% to 6%.

The most worrying statistic is the drastic increase of clients who are on no income, which has almost tripled from 4% last year to 11% this year. We believe this may be due to large number of asylum seekers whose benefits were cut

# NOTEWORTHY CASES

We asked our field officers to recount cases that they found particularly significant.

- Female clients 17yr old son committed suicide, she has 4 other children aged between 5yr and 16yr who all currently walk to school. She is paying \$420/week in rent and has no other family in Australia.
- Client with 2 dogs became homeless shortly before Christmas. She is now camping in a tent at a caravan park which costs \$700/fortnight. Field agent advised there is evidence of self-harm and client is exhibiting suicidal behavior. Field agents lost contact with client for a number of months but managed to reestablish contact at which time she was due for a planned hospital visit. She was very concerned about the well being of her dogs, a field agent volunteered to house the dogs temporarily.
- Mother with 2 children, 15 and 4, living in a boarding house. They are paying \$300/week for a room upstairs however the house is in serious disrepair and it is not safe for the children, especially due to risk of falling
- New client 15yrs of age, who left home after argument with mother. Field agent tried to convince client to return home
- Male client with school age children who had been searching for accommodation for the past 3 months. He was unable to find any which costs less than \$300 per week.

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

## JOHN F. WUNDERSITZ

ABN 93 342 702 743

Building 119, 27 Second Avenue, Moorabbin Airport, Mentone Victoria 3194

Postal address: P O Box 82, Dingley Village Vic. 3172

Telephone: (03) 9580 0944 Email: [john@wunder.com.au](mailto:john@wunder.com.au)

08 August 2019

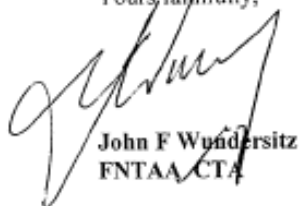
The Committee,  
Springvale Benevolent Society Inc.  
P O Box 66  
**SPRINGVALE VIC 3171**

To the Committee,

I have examined the records of the Springvale Benevolent Society Inc. for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 and report that in my opinion the attached financial statements present a fair and accurate record of the state of affairs of the society.

In forming my opinion I have relied on the supervision of the Executive in relation to the benevolence dispensing process, some aspects which I am unable to adequately verify. I have no reason to doubt the veracity of any member of the society.

Yours faithfully,



John F Wundersitz  
FNTAA CTA

Fellow of National Tax & Accountants' Association Ltd  
Registered Tax Agent  
Chartered Tax Adviser

**SPRINGVALE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY Inc**  
**Income and Expenditure Statement**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2019**

	2019 \$	2018 \$
<b>Income</b>		
Interest received	3,031.43	1,094.85
City of Dandenong	28,774.27	19,639.00
Attorney General Department	6,000.00	9,000.00
Bendigo Bank Centre	5,000.00	3,500.00
Schools & Service Clubs	475.00	26,550.21
Personal donations	1,410.00	240.00
Other Donations	2,000.00	2,000.00
Westpac Bank	5,000.00	
Membership fees	28.00	23.00
<b>Total income</b>	<u>51,718.70</u>	<u>62,047.06</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Food	70,493.95	59,928.00
Chemists	84.53	90.00
Postage, Stationery & sundries	168.95	15.00
Insurance	386.87	
Incorporation Expenses	300.00	670.23
Post office box 66	130.00	127.00
Phone & fax	1,699.12	2,400.93
Computer expenses		129.00
<b>Total expenses</b>	<u>73,263.42</u>	<u>63,360.16</u>
<b>Profit (loss) from ordinary activities before income tax</b>	<u>(21,544.72)</u>	<u>(1,313.10)</u>
<b>Income tax revenue relating to ordinary activities</b>		
<b>Net profit (loss) attributable to the association</b>	<u>(21,544.72)</u>	<u>(1,313.10)</u>
<b>Total changes in equity of the association</b>	<u>(21,544.72)</u>	<u>(1,313.10)</u>
Opening retained profits	188,101.25	189,414.35
Net profit (loss) attributable to the association	(21,544.72)	(1,313.10)
<b>Closing retained profits</b>	<u>166,556.53</u>	<u>188,101.25</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

  
8/8/2019



**SPRINGVALE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY Inc**  
**Profit and Loss Statement**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2019**

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Operating profit (deficit) before income tax	(21,544.72)	(1,313.10)
Income tax (credit) attributable to operating profit (loss)	-	-
Operating profit (deficit) after income tax	<u>(21,544.72)</u>	<u>(1,313.10)</u>
Retained profits at the beginning of the financial year	<u>188,101.25</u>	<u>189,414.35</u>
Total available for appropriation	<u>166,556.53</u>	<u>188,101.25</u>
Retained profits at the end of the financial year	<u><u>166,556.53</u></u>	<u><u>188,101.25</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

  
8/8/2019

**SPRINGVALE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY Inc**  
Detailed Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2019

	Note	2019 \$	2018 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Cash Assets</b>			
Cash At Bank		66,556.53	88,101.25
Term deposit - CBA		100,000.00	100,000.00
		<u>166,556.53</u>	<u>188,101.25</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>166,556.53</u>	<u>188,101.25</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u>166,556.53</u>	<u>188,101.25</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>166,556.53</u>	<u>188,101.25</u>
<b>Members' Funds</b>			
Accumulated surplus (deficit)		166,556.53	188,101.25
<b>Total Members' Funds</b>		<u>166,556.53</u>	<u>188,101.25</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

  
8/8/2019

