



2019 Annual Report

FABIANS.ORG.AU



Australian
Fabians.

We aim to promote
greater **equality of**
power, wealth and
opportunity.

SUPPORT OUR NEXT BIG PROJECT

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE FOR PROGRESSIVE IDEAS

Can you help get the quarterly print and online magazine off the ground. With the crises of the current political and economic order deepening every day.

Fabians know that new ideas are as important as ever. That's why we've decided to begin publishing a quarterly print and online magazine, dedicated to envisioning a better future and how to get there.

We can't do this alone, are you able to chip in a few dollars to help get the publication off the ground?

Donate online
<https://www.fabians.org.au/quarterlydonate>





LOOKING FIRMLY TO OUR FUTURE

National Chair - Billy Colless

In my 2018 annual report I outlined the view that the Fabians were at a crossroads as a movement of progressive thinkers. This is something that has stuck with me over the past year as we have strived to strengthen the efficacy of our organisation.

We started off 2019 with a focus on the year ahead and a clear plan to strengthen our organisation.

In review of the work we have achieved together, our movement is fully run by volunteers and as a team, from members to your national executive, the work we are all putting in is paying off. Here is how:

- Publications - Zann, our National Editor, is working on an exciting project to launch a quarterly magazine focused on progressive solutions to build a better society. 2006 was the last time we published print journals to members and moved online. With email inboxes these days being cluttered, and digital technologies contributing to a bombardment of information, this project will change how we share ideas and enhance our reach.
- Research - We had a significant impact on wage inequality this year at the federal election. Our movement commissioned a poll by Essential Research which revealed that Australians greatly underestimate the level of wealth inequality. It also showed that while most voters are somewhat confused over what policies will best reduce it, a majority see the ALP's policy of stopping negative gearing as being an effective way to tackle the issue. This research had great impact for progressive discussion and debate during the federal election - with it being covered in national media.
- Digital communications - We have launched a new website, our old one was about 7 years old and did not meet our needs. This new website puts front and center the work we have done in generating new ideas, looks great, and is easier to navigate.
- Republishing our historical essays for members to access - Julia Thornton and our team have been working hard to republish our essays of the past. Soon we will also have the first trench of these available online.
- Building a movement - Kevin Conway, our National Membership Secretary has been vigorously working to build our movement. His efforts have seen a 33% increase in membership and his work in this space has seen the Fabians break a 15 year record. We now have more members than ever before.
- Finances - We have seen a 35% increase in total income and have worked to nationalise our accounting systems in order streamline our finances and reduce bank fees and charges. This work has been lead by Danielle Paine.
- Connecting internationally to Fabians abroad - this year I have been fortunate to work with our counterparts in the United Kingdom and New Zealand. These relationships have been paramount for information sharing and collaboration to further diversify our influence and reach.

In 2020 the Fabians have a new vision, one that I am excited to implement alongside our outstanding leadership team. This vision was set by the Fabian Leaders at the planning day earlier this year.

OUR VISION:

THE AUSTRALIAN FABIANS IS A SAFE INCLUSIVE PLACE FOR MANY DIVERSE VOICES TO PRESENT AND DEBATE PROGRESSIVE IDEAS, WHILE EMPOWERING OUR MOVEMENT TO USE THEIR POWER TO ADVANCE THESE IDEAS FOR A MORE EQUAL SOCIETY.

This new vision is about focusing on our key objectives as enshrined in our rules and using our membership strength to collectively influence debate and policy in Australia.

So, over the next year I see this vision being implemented in the following ways:

- Mapping out levers of change by working with members to map our collective influence and identify how Fabian ideas can be advanced through these levers.
- Enhancing the production and communication of ideas between members so we can continue leading in the ideas space.

If you would like to help with this, please reach out as it will be a large task, but given what we have achieved this year and over our history - I know we take our movement to new heights.

Speaking about our history I wanted to share a few notes of thanks to some of our key leaders.

Firstly, our National Secretary Roger Byrne is stepping down from his post this year. Roger has been a steady and driving force behind our organisation for the greater part of the past decade. Roger has served as a Fabian secretary

for the past eight years, and before that our membership officer for five years.

He has led the organisation to rationalise our systems and is leaving our organisation in better shape than when he started.

Roger, on behalf of all members - thank you for devoting a lifetime of work to our organisation. You have made a difference to our movement, I look forward to seeing you continue to inspire our movement as a life member.

Second, Victoria Feilding - who has been my right hand with all we set out to do over the past few years. Victoria has served as our National Editor and recently as our Deputy Chair.

She has led the organisation to produce our monthly equality newsletter and has supported our publications over many years. What we will miss the most is her constant call for our movement to dream bigger and to go further.

As I mentioned earlier, our organisation is led by volunteers. Thank you to each and every member who takes a leadership role, without your drive, what we do would not be possible.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



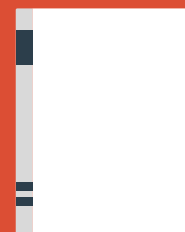
**33% INCREASE IN
MEMBERSHIP**



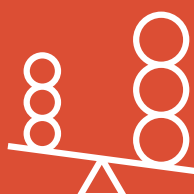
**A BETTER
FINANCIAL SYSTEM**



**A NEW WEBSITE AND
ONLINE STRATEGY**



**NEW PUBLICATIONS
AND REPRODUCTION
OF OUR HISTORICAL
ESSAYS**



**RESEARCH ON
UNDERSTANDING WAGE
INEQUALITY**

CONTINUING TO RENEW AND REBUILD

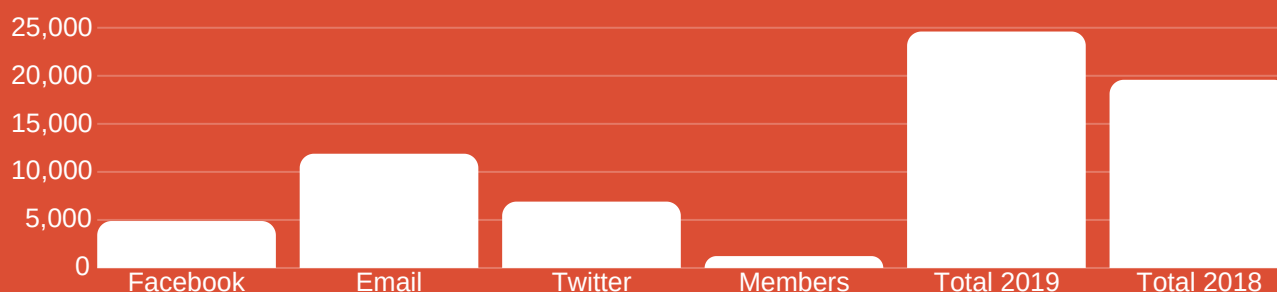
Roger Byrne - National Secretary



We have had another great year rebuilding the Australian Fabians, with many significant outcomes:

- Completed our 2019 AGM in Canberra to support the ACT branch rebuild which is now functioning fully. However we have stalled on the reactivation of the TAS branch.
- Continued improvements to the NationBuilder web site functionality under the direction of Billy Colless, including the continued improvement of the automatic renewal via credit card which has greatly reduced the administrative effort required. Thanks Billy.
- Continued a highly active National Board & National Executive. However there have been some changes with the resignations of Pauline Gambley (Membership), Jill Byrne (Treasurer) with their replacements have continued their good work.
- Undertook our Strategic Planning day in Canberra as part of the AGM day and developed several major projects some of which have already been completed. Some are still being acted on, and due to resource issues others have been put on hold.
- We continue to be delighted with Eva Cox as our Patron and have now identified a suitable role for her to follow on policy development working closely with the branches.
- Increased our financial membership to 1100 being the second highest over the last 10 years.
- Produced 2 Fabian Booklets including one for the National ALP conference in Adelaide in November which also included a Fabian fringe event and one in Queensland.
- Produced some 8 FabianTV productions of our most successful events providing all members with access to events outside your state branch and without having to travel to the event. We have also completed several live Facebook links and podcasts for several events.
- Continued our efforts on recruiting younger Fabians, and reducing our overall age profile, balancing our gender mix with some moderate successes, compare 2018 with 2019 in the table below. The introduction of our Young Fabian Directors and our Women's Officer will do much to address these issues.
- Modernized the National Financial reporting system through the adoption of QuickBooks and added the facility of on the spot credit transfers (Pay Wave) at events.
- Took the decision to amalgamate branch accounts into just National Transaction and Saver accounts will streamline accounts and budgeting and improve our accountability and governance immensely.
- Produced 12 monthly Equality newsletters. Thanks to the wonderful efforts of our new editor Zann Maxwell with assistance from Victoria Fielding & Billy Colless with help from all the active branches. Great to have you on board Zann
- Completed all regulatory reporting requirements to CAV and ASIC.

Measuring Our Reach



SECRETARY REPORT CONTINUED

Activities Undertaken in 2019

Events/Branch	VIC	NSW	QLD	ACT	SA	WA	TAS	NT	NAT
Events	9	3	4	2	3	3	0	0	NA
Dinners	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	NA
AGM's	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
Exec Meeting	10	4	6	2	2	6	0	0	14
Plan Days	4	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	1
Publications	1	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	2
Totals	26	11	16	6	7	13	0	0	18

On the downside I believe we have:

- Made inadequate use of our volunteer register
- Not reduced our age profile sufficiently nor attracted the number of Young Fabians as we had planned to.
- Been less successful in reactivating the TAS branch.
- Have not produced the real policy documents that can assist change in the community and political wings.

Future Strategic Directions

I see the key issues for us to become more active politically by refocusing on the:

- Focus more on the identification of community issues through greater membership involvement, and the undertaking of regular surveys
- Development of policies to overcome the community issues identified and push these publicly as the past Fabians did in forming the Whitlam and Hawke / Keating governments. (Read the latest short history about to be issued as a Fabian Booklet)
- Making better contacts and greater co-operation with other progressive NFP's including:
- § Whitlam Foundation, Per Capita, Grattan Institute, The Australia Institute, Chifley Institute, Evatt Foundation and Others
- Ranking the major party policies in terms of a Fabian Equality Rating (FER) for upcoming elections both state and federal.

Conclusions& Acknowledgements:

The Australian Fabian are rebuilding and are operating nationally with the growing our total membership and contacts, changing our age profile, and improved gender balance while focused on promoting greater equality within our Australian Society.

Like all volunteer organisations we are heavily dependent on a small number of people. I would like to thank all the National Board members and Branch Executives for their hard work.

As you are aware, I will be resigning at the 2020 AGM after 8 years as National Secretary & 5 years as membership officer. I won't be leaving Fabians but will retire to be a normal / regular Victorian Branch Member.

I see a wonderful future for the Fabians

As I depart I would especially like to thank those I have served with including National Chairman/s Andrew Hunter / Tim Sonnreich & Billy Colless, Deputy Chair Victoria Fielding the Treasurer/s Rob Gerrard, Jill Byrne & now Danielle Pain, Membership Officers Pauline Gambley & Kevin Conway, Publications Director Victoria Fielding (now Deputy Chair) and now Zann Maxwell and the Web & IT Director Billy Colless and now our recent Women's Officer and Young Fabian Conveners as well as all the branch representatives on the National Board.

I thank you all for their wonderful efforts and great support over the last 12 years.



HOW WE ARE GOING FINANCIALLY

Danielle Pain CPA TIA - Treasurer

Thank you to Jill Byrne, our Treasurer who resigned in March 2019 for your years of service to Australian Fabians. Jill continued to assist us after this time, as it took a little bit of time for me to have full access to our accounting systems and Bank Accounts.

The National Accounts (Including branches) for the 2019 Financial Year and the official statement for our regulators (CAV & ASIC) are attached.

My additional comments are as follows:

- The National accounts have been produced using QuickBooks. During the year, we resolved reconciliation issues with the CommBank and Stripe reporting.
- The National board made the decision to cancel our GST registration due to the fact we have never reached the minimum turnover. As such, we deregistered from our GST reporting obligations from the 1 October 2019.
- Total income increased by 35% for the year. This was largely due to increases in Membership and Events held in NSW, QLD and VIC.
- Total Budgeted Expenses and Actual Expense amounts were almost identical, even though many individual items varied considerably as often happens. Also there have been changes to how expenses are classified in QuickBooks from last year to this year.
- There was a surplus of \$20,351.40. This was far better than the budgeted surplus of \$960. This is largely due to the 35% increase in income and keeping expenditure on budget.
- During the year, multiple transaction accounts were held for local Branches. The National Board has since agreed to close these accounts to save on fees and charges and to ensure we are operating as a truly National organisation. This will reflect in the 2020 financial year.

- Branch Treasurers continue to provide reports to the National Treasurer on event income and expenses.
- All BAS statements were completed on time. We have since cancelled our GST registration as this was creating extra unnecessary work and cost to Australian Fabians.

The Australian Fabians accounts are in very good shape. The Bank Balance total as at the 31 December 2019 was \$91,412.32. An increase of \$13,321.85 from the previous year.

Given the impact of COVID-19 on our organisation and in our broader economy, this has resulted in our face-to-face events being cancelled or postponed. This will impact on our income for the year ahead. However, we are working with and for our members to ensure that we all get through this difficult time, together safely.

See the 2019 Financial Statement as approved by the Board on the next page.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Australasian Fabian Inc. 2019		
	Budget 2019	Actual 2019
INCOME		
Donations	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 3,930.91
Total Event income	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 26,501.60
Membership	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 39,210.52
Other /raffles/book sales etc.	\$ -	\$ 5,504.44
Interest Received	\$ 400.00	\$ 94.11
Services	\$ -	\$ 49.99
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 55,900.00	\$ 75,291.57
EXPENDITURE		
Bad Debt	\$ -	\$ 0.28
Event Expenses	\$ 16,700.00	\$ 13,262.51
Fabian Administration	\$ 500.00	\$ 99.55
Accounting and bookkeeping	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 3,917.11
Bank Charges	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,431.32
Equipment Purchase	\$ 1,300.00	\$ -
Fabians AGM	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 6,165.38
PO Box Rental & Redirection	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,199.77
Postage	\$ 200.00	\$ 476.96
Printing & Stationery	\$ 150.00	\$ 110.00
Statutory Charges ASIC etc.	\$ 250.00	\$ 168.27
Stripe Refunds	\$ -	\$ 1,347.08
Total Telephone & internet expenses	\$ 840.00	\$ 1,059.20
Advertising and marketing	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Designer Fees	\$ -	\$ 665.91
Editorial Assistance	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Fabian TV	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 2,400.00
Facebook Adverts	\$ -	\$ 109.15
Filming , Editing & Loading Costs	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 1,200.00
Podcasting	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 143.80
Digital Publications	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 11,146.23
Print Publications	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 1,977.90
Projects	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Insurances	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 1,938.50
Membership Growth Expenses	\$ 450.00	\$ 1,121.25
Total Expenses	\$ 54,940.00	\$ 54,940.17
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 960.00	\$ 20,351.40
Bank Account Balances		
1-Jan-19		\$ 78,090.47
31-Dec-19		\$ 91,412.32
Gain/Loss		\$ 13,321.85
Notes:		
1. Jill Byrne was the Treasurer until Danielle Pain took over from the beginning of April 2019. Jill continued to provide accounting support to Fabians until the end of June 2019. Jill lodged the June 2019 Quarterly BAS.		
2. Fabians deregistered from GST from the 1 October 2019.		
3. In December 2019, Billy Collies, identified that around \$580 was not collected by the Young Fabians in 2016 for tickets sold through trybooking. The money was not collected as emails were going to a Gmail account we did not know about. The money is currently with the Office of State Revenue in Victoria and is actively being pursued by Billy and Roger.		

35%

INCREASE IN INCOME

Membership Income has increased by

\$12,336

SINCE 2018

Expenses have only increased by

8.6%

SINCE 2018

MEMBERSHIP

Kevin Conway Membership Secretary



This year has seen a significant growth in membership.

Every new member makes our organisation stronger and your membership will help us expand our progressive movement and play a central role in creating a new generation of informed political activists and leaders.

It is easy to see that reaching out to our membership has provided greater opportunity to grow our membership. The provision of livestreaming of events, podcasts and increased publication are all steps in the significant growth we have achieved.

Another demonstration of this has come through the Covid 19 process where Events are all on line. This enables participation by regional members and older members who would not previously attended events and has encouraged them to maintain their membership.

An important part of our growth has been the personal approach. At the start of 2019 members in both Qld and WA reached out nationally to members who had lapsed. This small cost to the organisation returned significantly in terms of membership numbers and fees.

- All Branches should be congratulated for the work they have done on building membership.
- We have seen a National growth of 33% of our membership 12 months ago.
- Every State and Territory has seen growth in membership. This can be attributed to phone banking follow up on outstanding non-renewals as well as recruitment processes at events.
- Membership Growth has seen income boost of \$12,336 over the twelve month period.

Currently for 2020 and beyond, I am focusing our efforts in the following key ways.

Event Recruitment

One of the essential means of growing membership is to capture people in an environment that puts them in a positive frame of mind and where a personal approach can be made to encourage them. The old something for free is a great drawcard to encourage membership. Events are something that can be used to draw non-members to wish to contribute to our outcomes.

Family and Friends Recruitment

In party politics, family members are often brought in to the party to support votes. Many then go on to make an active participation in politics. In the same fashion we can use member networks to grow our membership.

University/Student Recruitment

In 2020 the Young Fabians Co-Directors are establishing a kit to develop Campus Fabian Clubs, as a sub-branch under the Young Fabians. We have a number of Academics and retired Academics in our ranks. They may well be able to identify progressives in their ranks especially in the School of Social Studies

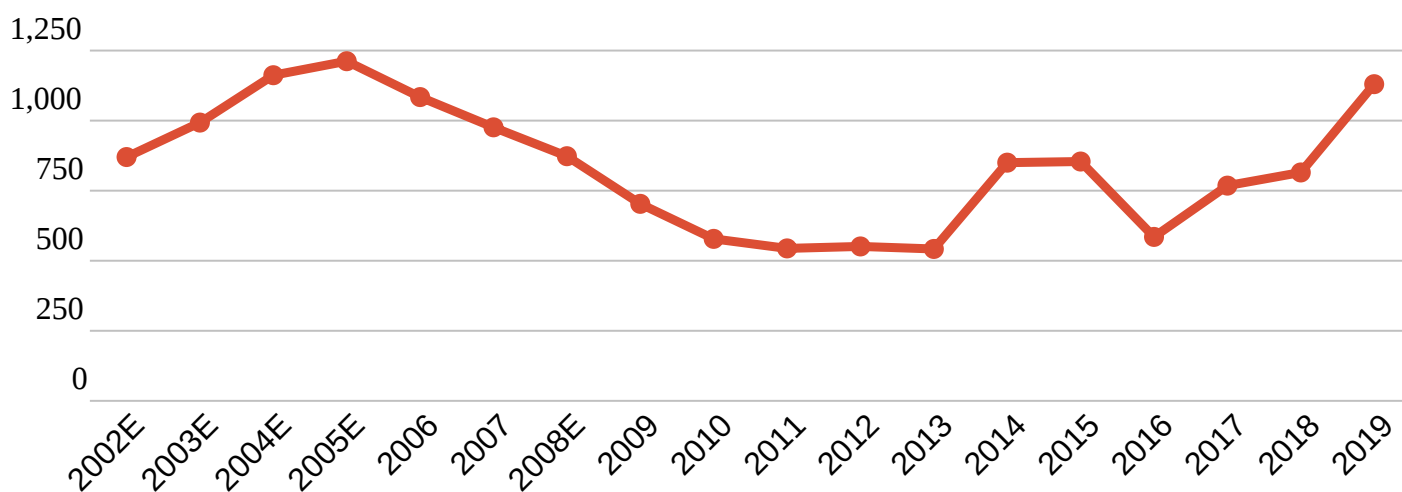
STRONGER MEMBERSHIP

We have been working extremely hard to build a movement, our membership is now at its highest point in decades.

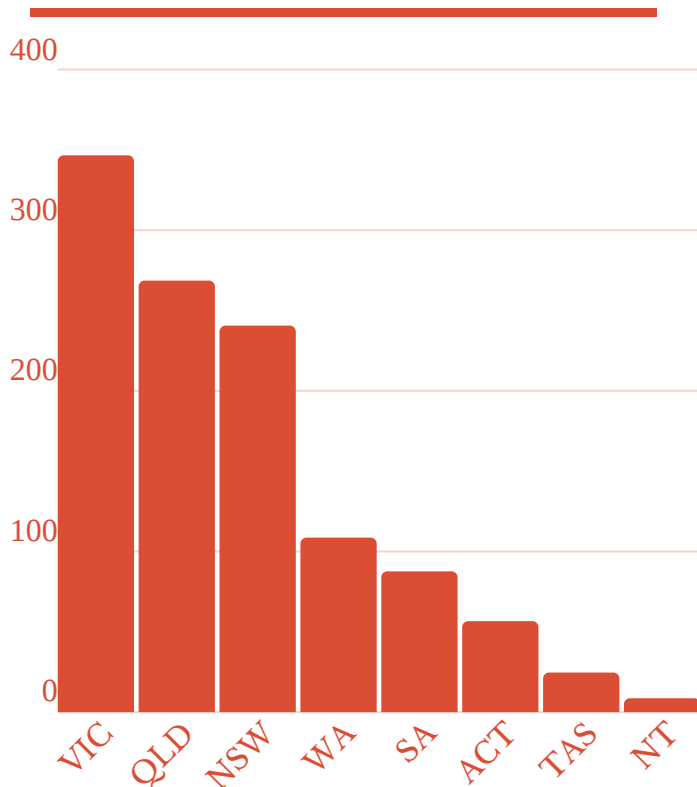
33%

INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP FROM 2018

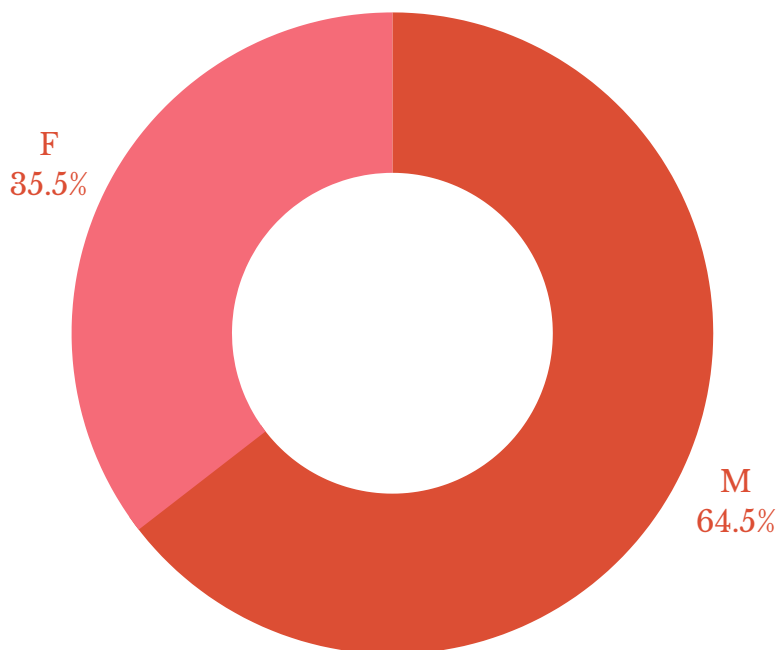
Membership over the decade



Membership by State



Membership by Gender



BUILDING A YOUTH MOVEMENT

*Kayla Dickeson and Henri Vickers
Young Fabians Directors*



It's an odd year to be re-launching the Young Fabians: coronavirus has massively disrupted our lives and the way we engage in politics as progressives and socialists. But in uncertain times, with the political economy of the world that comes out the other end of this crisis still unclear, ideas are more important than ever.

Young people, who are inheriting this planet, who will deal with consequences of climate change, economic inequality and a hollowed out social safety net, must be a part of that process of creating new ideas and bringing them into the mainstream. The Young Fabians is coming back to offer radical thought from fresh perspectives.

Fabians University Clubs

Across the beginning of the year, we reached out to interested university students on various campuses about if they would like to help establish Fabians University Clubs. We also developed a student club guide. We've received interest from universities around the country.

Unfortunately due to COVID-19 and the closure of university campuses we have had to put this venture on hold. But we hope to be able to continue this work when restrictions are lifted.

We are currently planning to hold a zoom organising meeting with some of the members and supporters who identified interest to see how we can have a virtual online presence over the next few months.

Social Media and Communications

We reinvigorated the Young Fabians social media by being a more active presence particularly through Facebook through our page and group. We had new graphic designs made both for our Facebook and Twitter pages.

We have established an email list through Nation Builder to contact Young Fabians members, which we have been using to communicate on our plans and activations that members can engage with.

We have also set up a page on the Fabians website where we can engage Young Fabians members in writing blog posts and articles. We are planning to be more proactive over the next few months in getting members to write for the blog.

We have written an introductory article about the vision of the Young Fabians [here](#).

Writing and Art Competition

We are currently putting together a proposal for a writing and art competition for Young Fabians members. We would like to provide a cash prize and publish the winners online.

We are just beginning our work, but we look forward to the challenge of developing a strong and committed army of young fabians across the nation.

STATE BRANCH REPORTS



WA BRANCH REPORT

Phil O'Donohue - WA Board Representative

2019 was a busy year for Fabians in WA and reflecting this we have seen very strong growth in our membership and email list.

On March 11 we co-hosted with EMILY's List "Anne Summers in Conversation with Anne Aly" at the Perth Town Hall attended by 200 people.

In April we co-hosted with UnionsWA an address on privatisation by Dr Jim Stanford of the Centre for Future Work, attended by 100 people. WA Fabian Member, Meredith Hammat wrote, and Australian Fabians published an essay "A Living Wage".

.Following the Federal election, we hosted an analysis by William Bowe and Karen Luscombe, the fourth such post-election analysis involving them, on this occasion with over 120 people attending.

Our July AGM saw several new members join the WA Organising Group and members hear Natalie Mast talk about the rise of the radical right in Europe.

On December 4, WA Fabian, Alanna Clohesy MLC, hosted a gathering of over 50 people at the WA Parliament to hear Prof Shamit Saggars present on the topic "Race, Politics and Public Policy."

WA Fabians staffed a stall at the September State Conference of WA Labor and several members were employed casually to call our growing database of supporters seeking new members with considerable success.

**SEE THE LATEST FROM THE WA
BRANCH HERE
[FABIANS.ORG.AU/WA](https://fabians.org.au/wa)**



VIC BRANCH REPORT

Julia Thornton - Victorian Board Representative

The nature of democracy was theme that dominated Victorian Fabians events over the last AGM year, looked at from a number of different angles.
2019

In 2019 we began somewhat differently from our usual series approach. Given the pressures of a federal election, we thought it would be useful to find out from members "What keeps me awake at night"? So on 25th February we ran an event in the Clyde Hotel that involved table discussion with no speakers other than everyone there. We first identified our own issues important to us, and then armed with a sheet of paper identifying these issues, people sought out others with similar concerns and reformed their tables into topic tables. The results of these discussions and feedback sheets informed this year's events and other related activities through the rest of the calendar year

On 10th April we revisited climate change but this time through the lens of the politics that are blocking action. "Changing the politics of climate change, had our two speakers Victoria McKenzie McHarg, and David Spratt, defining the problem as they saw it, and suggesting how the suffocating political chaos surrounding the issue might be changed. <https://youtu.be/SPOcizogODU>

The 1st May was the final event of our Autumn series. In our event "Dead Right" - Richard Denniss presented on his new book which explores the limitations and failings of neoliberalism. https://youtu.be/85FavP_yKOI

Then we began our "Letters to Labor" series, facilitated by Max Dumais. This is a series of interactive events designed to use audience interaction technology to collect Fabians' thoughts on three issues identified by our members in a previous event, as of most importance to a majority of them.

These events feature a presentation by a topic expert for 15 minutes followed by table discussion and a plenary session where table ideas are presented back to the room as a whole.

Their electronic responses were collated together into three "Letters to Labor" and sent to the relevant Labor Minister or Shadow Minister, (Federal or State) and other ALP MP's charged with carriage of the topic .

On Wednesday May 29th Charles Brass, CEO of the Future of Work Foundation presented on Job Insecurity & the Precariousness of Work

On Wednesday June 26th Professor Tony Dalton of RMIT AHURI, presented on Housing and Homelessness.

On Wednesday July 24th Rob Gell presented on Climate Change and Environment.

Then we turned to our Spring Series - "Democracy" On August 22nd Professor John Keane presented on "Is Democracy Dying?"

<https://youtu.be/Yoaaw45goYO>

On September 24th we explored Democracy & The Surveillance State with James Horton and Moira Paterson <https://youtu.be/oBELr7G3xp4>

Finally on October 31st our topic was Democracy - Levelling the playing field with academic Suelette Dreyfus and former Supreme Court Judge, Stephen Charles. <https://youtu.be/3EIVK2-q2uY>

Our Annual Dinner at which we had 115 attendees, featured former Western Australian Premier, Geoff Gallop addressing "Can Democracy Deliver?" <https://youtu.be/a5ZlyR8-4KU>

Finances

The Vic Branch Bank Balances are at 31 12 2019,
Transaction A/c \$14,438.21
Savings A/c \$14,443.05
Total \$28,881.26
(Last year, \$26, 028.29)

Membership.

Victorian Fabians has to 30th June 2019 reporting date, 328 members. This is an increase of 62 on last year's 266 members.



NSW BRANCH REPORT

Mark Bonanno - NSW Board Representative

Osmond Chiu departs

After 7 years as NSW Secretary, Osmond Chiu has left the Secretary role to pursue his academic career. Commencing in 2013 Osmond guided NSW through many dark years when membership was low, bringing the Branch back and sustaining it to the point where it is now one of the larger branches.

Osmond continues his association with the Fabians and has appeared at most of the functions we have held during the year, including the Green New Deal discussion.

That was the year that was

Like all branches, NSW members contributed individually to the Federal Election campaign. Like all members, the result was less than what we had hoped for. This followed the State election campaign where again the result fell short of the expectation. Fabians across the State made personal contributions to each campaign, then came back to finish the year in the hope that the next round in two to three years will be more successful.

Tim Dunlop

The Branch held a successful presentation at the Tandem Bar, Newtown with Tim Dunlop discussing Technology in the Age of Surveillance Capitalism, in a well-attended talk followed by Q&A on 12 September last year. The talk attracted a good audience including several former Fabian members.

CE Martin Dinner

The annual dinner named for the NSW Fabian's founder was another success, with all tickets sold out for the event in November 2019. This continues a six year tradition of this event which has featured Labor greats as guest speaker. This year we were treated to Jodi McKay, leader of the State Opposition, fresh from her tour of the State and Regions of NSW who outlined the parties' objectives in the years to come.

Green New Deal

By far the best attended event was the Green New Deal at Trades Hall on 13 February 2020. It was standing room only for the presentations by Amanda Tattersall (Sydney Policy Lab); Anna Sturman (Climate Justice Collective); Frank Stillwell (Political Economy Department, Sydney University); and Osmond Chiu. The talk was a huge success, introducing Fabians to a predominantly new audience.

Capital in the 21st Century

Talks to conduct a function with the Evatt Foundation for this film were advanced when the world collapsed with Covid-19. When restrictions lift later this year, we hope to bring it on when we can again host events.



SA BRANCH REPORT

Leon Cermak SA Board Representative

South Australian Fabians Branch Report

The South Australian Fabians had an incredibly successful year achieving substantial membership growth and increasing our impact in the community. A key part of our success was a commitment to hosting a majority of Fabians events outside of Adelaide's CBD – recognising that progressives don't just live in the city centre. Our events this year focused on racism, refugee and asylum seeker rights, gender equity and the role of visionary leadership in creating a better Australia.

Events:

The Final Quarter

Tanya Hosch, the AFL General Manager of Inclusion and Social Policy, Port Adelaide great Gavin Wangeneen and Sydney Swans legend Michael O'Loughlin joined Fabians SA member Brad Chilcott for a special screening of the Final Quarter, followed by a panel discussion on issues of racism in sport and society. This event was jointly hosted by the Fabians, Welcoming Australia and the City of Tea Tree Gully.

Delivering justice for refugees and asylum seekers

Claire O'Connor SC gave a thought provoking and emotional presentation covering Australia's recent approach to asylum seekers, an overview of litigation in Australia and the class action against Manus Island Detention Centre. Claire then joined Fabians SA Convener and National Board Member Leon Cermak for a question and answer session.

Claire O'Connor SC has appeared in the Federal and High Courts in refugee and criminal matters, acted for Cornelia Rau in the Palmer Inquiry into her unlawful detention and has also appeared for the plaintiff in the so far only successful suit for damages in a stolen generation case (Trevorrow v The State of SA). She has received a number of awards for her work on human rights both in South Australia and nationally.

This event was supported by the Australian Services Union SA + NT branch.

Gender, Work and Wages

Author and commentator Jamila Rizvi, South Australian Commissioner for Equal Opportunity Dr Niki Vincent and director of the Working Women's Centre Abbey Kendall joined the SA Fabians for a discussion on the role that gender still plays in the working world.

Tim Costello

Brad Chilcott interviewed former World Vision CEO Tim Costello for a special event on visionary thinking and the role that leadership plays in inspiring a better country. This event was attended by more than 130 people on a cold Thursday night in Adelaide's North East.

**NO REPORT WAS
SUBMITTED FROM
QLD**