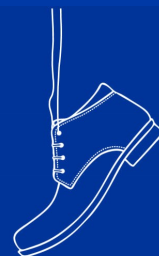


ShoeString



Newsletter of the Business Name

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Dialysis and Transplant
Association of Victoria Inc.

Registration No A0012114V

ABN 40 628 284 998



49TH AGM DIALYSIS & TRANSPLANT ASSOCIATION of VIC INC

DATA had its AGM on Sunday 23rd October. It was held in conjunction with the Fiftieth Anniversary of Shoe String at Forest Hill. The new committee were elected – Brendan Lowry (President), Steve Shuster (Vice President), Angela Lindsey (Secretary), Vicki Abbatangelo (Treasurer). Six ordinary committee members were Joan Eastwood, Darren Hennessy, Margaret Hagedorn, Neane Collis, Nicole Pearce, and Michelle Therenet.

Honorary Life Membership was awarded to **Amanda Pratt** for her hard work & dedication to the holiday homes. Amanda has been a Holiday Home Secretary for some ten years.

The Ron Jones Educational Award was presented to **Annalyse Armstrong** by Lynne Griffiths-Kee for demonstrating excellence and scholastic ability.

Continued on page 3

<i>In This Issue</i>	
President's Annual Report	2
Fiftieth Anniversary of ShoeString	3
Holiday Homes: Vacancies	4
Holiday Homes Annual Report	5
Annual Financial Report	6
Annual Statement of Income & Expenditure	7
Meet Your Committee— Margaret Hagedorn	8
SHPGRN Tertiary Scholarship	9
Social Outings –Yarrowonga September Photos	10
Photos Choclaterie Outing	11
Date of next Deadline	12

NEW SWING & SLIDE SET AT ROSEBUD



New swing set at Rosebud donated by Christopher Cook and family.

Pictured here from Left to Right Henry, Edward, and Edith Cook.



ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022 PRESIDENT BRENDAN LOWRY



How quickly another year passes. Once again, it has been a challenging year for several of us. I would like to thank all the committee and other volunteers for their hard work and dedication, which has kept DATA the successful charity it is. I would also like to thank the members who have made donations of funds or equipment and furniture for our houses.

Today we are celebrating 50 years of Shoestring, I know a number of you receive a lot of pleasure receiving our Bi-monthly newsletter. We are always interested in your stories, so please continue to send these to our editors.

In August of this year, we had a total membership of 500 comprising of 7 Juniors, 131 Associates, 22 Life, 192 ordinary paid and 148 Subs due. Sadly, we lost three life members who had all served on the committee for several years.

Our holiday homes were closed for several weeks due to Covid. We continue to make improvements. I would like to thank the members for their care looking after both houses.

We have continued to support the Ron Jones Education award and Filter Your Future, in addition we are now offering a Tertiary sponsorship for a Dialysis Nurse in honor of Sue Hatzimichalis.

I would love to see some new members bring some new ideas to our committee, thus creating a brighter, stronger DATA.
Thanks, Brendan

NINE OF TWENTY TWO LIFE MEMBERS



Left to Right: Fay Rawson, Vicki Abbatangelo, Elvie Jones, Lynne Griffith-Key, Amanda Pratt, Joan Eastwood, Elizabeth Phelan, Eleanor Allen, and Angela Lindsey.



Fiftieth Anniversary of ShoeString

On Sunday 23rd October 2022 DATA celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Shoestring. The first Shoestring was a one page letter, typed 21st December 1972.

Elvie Jones & Dr. John Dawborn were present at the beginning of Shoestring back in 1972 & they were present at the 50th Anniversary in 2022. DATA was privileged to have both of them there. A lot has changed in the 50 years – Shoestring is no longer a one-page typed letter but a glossy magazine full of colour, computers are used not typewriters & of course Elvie & John are older & wiser. It was hard for people on dialysis then & it's hard for people on dialysis now.

It was a lovely afternoon celebrating 50 years of Shoestring. Everyone enjoyed themselves. We even sang Happy Birthday to Shoestring. May it last for another 50 years.



Anne & John Dawborn



50th Anniversary Cake
(with footprint)



Dr Dawborn & Mrs Elvie Jones
cutting the cake

Continued from Page One

Ron Jones Educational Award

Annalyse Armstrong is a 16 year old beautiful, young woman who is in year 10. She was born with kidney problems & received a kidney from her grandmother at nearly 2 years of age. The kidney is still going strong & so is the grandmother. Annalyse loves dogs. She wants to be a dog groomer in her working life. I'm sure the dogs that Annalyse grooms will feel the love and affection she gives.

Picture on the right: Annalyse, parents Simon and Ruth Armstrong accepting the Award from Lynne Griffiths Key.





DATA Holiday Homes

The Rosebud & Yarrowonga holiday homes are for the use of DATA members and their immediate family, with a member present on all holidays booked.

Both houses can facilitate haemodialysis machines. For those members on home dialysis, please contact the House Secretary to discuss if your hospital technician can supply and install a dialysis machine in the house for your holiday.

We are sure you will appreciate that members on haemodialysis find it very difficult to holiday, so we often prioritise them over PD and transplant members. But there are always vacancies so please don't hesitate to ring and check.

Friends and extended family are welcome to join the DATA member and they must pay \$20 per person per night.

Please note, you are responsible for the cleaning of the houses when you leave which does include bathroom and toilet, so we expect the houses to be left neat and tidy for the next holiday makers and please do not leave any food.

No pets allowed with Guide dogs being the exception.

Once booked please get the signed form back to me immediately so I can get the keys out to you quickly. Australia Post is taking longer these days. Thank you Amanda

Yarrowonga

Why not enjoy a holiday in a great part of Australia just metres away from Lake Mulwala.. See photo below.

Vacancies

Dec 4th - Dec 11th

Dec 11th - Dec 18th

Dec 18th - Dec 25th

Dec 25 - Jan 1st

Jan 29th - Feb 5th

Cost is only \$200 per week for you and your immediate family. Call as we do get vacancies.

Bookings at the Yarrowonga Renal Unit Ph: 5743 8189

For HOUSE bookings please ring

Yarrowonga House Secretary

Amanda Pratt Ph: 9589 4894



Rosebud

Holiday at Rosebud what could be better?

Check out the new play equipment pictured on Page 1. Thanks to Christopher Cook and family.

Vacancies

Nov 20th - Nov 27th

Nov 27th - Dec 4th

Dec 4th - Dec 11th

Dec 11th - Dec 18th

Dec 18th - Dec 25th

Feb 5th - Feb 12th

Costs \$200 per week. Extra guest is \$ 20 per night.

For HOUSE bookings please ring

Rosebud House Secretary

Amanda Pratt Ph: 9589 4894

Big Thank you
Christopher Cook & family
For the new Play equipment
at Rosebud



Rosebud & Yarrowonga Holiday House Report 2021-2022

Sadly, again this year Covid has affected the bookings with both houses closed for a considerable amount of time in the last year. However, bookings have increased this year compared to last year.

Also, due to Rosebud Hospital not accepting our holiday members, numbers have been down.

We have taken bookings for the Christmas/ New Year period in both houses but still have availability at the

Rosebud house.

Yarrowonga numbers-

- Transplant-8
- Dialysis at house-2
- P.D-1
- Hospital-17
- Cancellations-8
- Covid (closed)-7
- Available weeks-9

It is interesting to note that we had 4 members use the hospital in Yarrowonga last year and 17 members this year.

Rosebud numbers-

- Transplant-11
- Dialysis at house-4
- P.D-0
- Cancellations-0
- Covid (closed)- 19
- Hospital-1
- Available weeks-1

Looking forward to a heathier year for all of us in 2023
Amanda.



At the AGM 23/10/2022

Angela Lindsey & Nicole Pearce present Amanda Pratt with her

LIFE MEMBERSHIP 2022

CONGRATULATIONS

AMANDA



Words of Wisdom

If you want your children to turn out well, spend twice as much time with them, and half as much money.
Abigail Van Buren

If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more. If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough.
Oprah Winfrey

You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.
Maya Angelo

It doesn't matter how slow you go as long as you don't stop.
Confucius



AGM 23rd October 2022 Treasurer's Report

Dear Data Members,

The work of the Treasurer is full of action and timelines but it is also rewarding and important to the survival of our Organisation. I am not as agile as I once was and I am appealing to other D.A.T.A. members to seriously consider whether you could be the next Treasurer in a year or two after assisting and learning the role.

In reference to the Financial Report: Recap: The previous financial year ending 2021, our organisation had limited activity due to the continuation of COVID19 restrictions as we weren't allowed to move around. For example: not using the holiday homes, only had limited access to our DATA Office and we could not meet up for social events. This resulted in a surplus year. This financial year ending 2022 we have seen a gradual return to pre-Covid level of activity/business.

Our Revenue Stream (pages 2 & 9) of \$90,043 showed a decline of \$12,000 from the previous year. This is mainly due to lower term deposit interest rates and their returns. Our expenses of \$114,367 [2021 = 72,620] (page 2) have been in line with returning to normal activities. We have continued to support the Welfare Assistance and Accommodation programs and the Healthy Kidney Education program. Most of the other expenses relate to our normal business transactions and Shoestring distribution. Our Assets (Pages 3, 4 & 10) have remained in line with our business activities. The holiday homes were re-valued in financial year 2021 and will be reassessed next year. Our Term Deposits (Pages 3 & 10) are steady at \$1,862,809 although the re-invested interest rates are still locked into low COVID economic climate rates. They will mature next year and we will take advantage of securing the best re-investment rates at that time. In reference to the Management Letter: As a Not For Profit organisation following our Own Rules and engaging an outside Audit Company to annually check our operating business, we are consistently following current business guidelines. We welcome ideas and suggestions for improvement.

The following Issues were identified (page 3) from previous 2021 report: 1. IT Controls: We need to develop an IT Policy that covers: Managing IT assets and software, IT Passwords and disaster recovery. D.A.T.A. has initiated the process of updating a policy in May this year. 2. Risk Management: We need to develop a risk management framework which takes into consideration enterprise-wide risks such as cyber security, privacy, information management and business continuity. D.A.T.A. has initiated the process of updating a policy in May this year.

The following Issues have been identified (page 4 & 5) from 2022 report: 1. Formal Properties Valuation. D.A.T.A. will look at formal independent valuation every 3 years instead of drive by valuations reports. 2. Related Parties Policy. The requirement for a Related Parties Policy is for medium and large charities. We are a small charity. D.A.T.A. will look into this matter further to see whether it is in our benefit to proceed.

Please contact the DATA Office to request a copy of the Saward Dawson Review Reports (an electronic copy via email or a hard copy which will be sent in the mail). Once you have had time to read the entire Saward Dawson Review Documentation, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0408 103 571 if you have any questions.

Regards Vicki Abbatangelo DATA Treasurer



Dialysis & Transplant Association of Victoria Incorporated

ABN: 40 628 284 998

Statement of Income and Expenditure and Other Comprehensive Income

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Revenue	90,043	102,122
Education programs	(38,929)	(16,138)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	(9,565)	(9,135)
Social welfare	(9,227)	(6,800)
Insurance	(7,952)	(6,573)
Printing & stationery	(6,851)	(6,743)
Contractor	(6,048)	(450)
Review fees	(5,580)	(2,880)
Rates & taxes	(4,891)	(4,848)
Bookkeeping	(4,360)	(4,249)
Utilities	(3,907)	(3,340)
Postage	(2,271)	(3,254)
Telephone	(2,211)	(2,012)
Repairs & maintenance	(1,711)	(768)
Travel	(1,683)	(651)
Social events	(1,213)	(938)
Ron Jones Award	(1,200)	-
Rent	(971)	(647)
Other expenses	(5,797)	(3,194)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(24,324)	29,502
Other comprehensive income		
Revaluation gain of properties	-	875,587
Total other comprehensive income	-	875,587
Total comprehensive income for the year	(24,324)	905,089

Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS

Current assets

Cash and cash equivalents	139,189	156,851
Trade and other receivables	1,989	2,693
Other financial assets	1,862,809	1,261,634
Other assets	2,626	2,021
Total current assets	2,006,593	1,423,199

Non-current assets

Financial assets	-	600,000
Property, plant and equipment	1,899,073	1,906,822
Total non-current assets	1,899,073	2,506,822

TOTAL ASSETS

	3,905,666	3,930,021
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LIABILITIES

Current liabilities

Trade and other payables	4,302	4,374
Income received in advance	41	-
Total current liabilities	4,343	4,374

TOTAL LIABILITIES

	4,343	4,374
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NET ASSETS

	3,901,323	3,925,647
--	------------------	------------------

EQUITY

Asset revaluation reserve	1,881,608	1,881,608
Retained surplus	2,019,715	2,044,039
TOTAL EQUITY	3,901,323	3,925,647



Meet Your Committee : Margaret Hagedorn

Margaret & Gerd's Story

I was Carer for my husband, Gerd, for twenty- five years. He was diagnosed with kidney failure at forty-six. He had suffered an industrial accident about 6months before, and this led to kidney failure. In the early days, Melbourne had dialysis centres usually attached to major Hospitals. There were no satellite centres as there are now. After twelve months of dialysing at the Hospital we did the course to do home dialysis. The course ran for six weeks.



The support team were great, and we home-dialysed for four years, then Gerd received a transplant. Unfortunately, rejection set in and after three months Gerd was back on dialysis for another eighteen months, then another kidney became available. The team of

kidney specialists were ready for rejection this time. Before they even started, they put Gerd on plasma exchange three times a week for three weeks so rejection would not happen. The kidney specialists were correct, the kidney worked well. So on with our lives! Without dialysis, the new kidney functioned for a further twelve years. After that time Gerd continued with dialysis but developed a series of cancers which led to many changes and operations.

I was the bread winner, cooked everything and managed care for a period of fifteen years. I had to send Gerd to a Nursing Home for the last five months of his life. He passed away in 2008. Gerd reached 70 years – What a wonderful journey of life he had largely due to his kidney team and their care of him. He was able to see his three children get married and his grandchildren gave him great pleasure and pride.

I was always interested in DATA. They arranged a Workshop for Carers. As a result of that we developed an understanding group of Carers who met regularly at Blackburn House. We felt we couldn't speak about our own lives being turned upside down too, we did not want to complain, but we wished we had a life too. We felt

we needed to have someone to care about us as individuals and this little group filled that need.

I now live with my two lovely dogs one very old the other is my son's dog.



I help out on the DATA Committee. I enjoy the outings, and reading the Shoe String. I try to be available for packing the ShoeString.

I like to keep busy and fill my days with exciting things to do. I belong to a choir. We practice twice a week. We entertain in Nursing homes, on occasion.

I do dancing several times a week, sometimes ballroom, sometimes Scottish country dancing. Life is too short to sit around and grumble -it's best to keep busy.

Margaret Hagedorn



SUE HATZIMICHALIS POST GRADUATE RENAL NURSING SCHOLARSHIP SHPGRNS



In line with DATA principles and underlying values of supporting patients, promoting community and professional awareness about renal disease and its management, the SHPGRNS was established. It was named in honour of the late Sue Hatzimichalis as recognition of the 25 years of service to DATA and its members. Sue Hatzimichalis and Ashton Kline (registered nurse and DATA member) considered a tertiary educational award several years ago, but it only came into fruition in 2022.

The SHPGRNS is a pilot programme which will provide current registered nurses working in the renal field, an opportunity to further advance their career and

passion for renal nursing, by providing a chance to undertake post graduate study at the post graduate certificate level.

Two post graduate renal nursing scholarships will be implemented in February 2023, one in the city, at Austin Hospital and one in the country, at Ballarat Health Services. This will allow DATA to build relationships and generate greater awareness of the services offered.



The proposed pilot program will:

- Deliver a capacity and skill building opportunity for nurses working in the renal field to better understand the complexities associated with renal disease

- Create a new partnership between DATA and two health services

- Provide an opportunity for DATA to offer the two health services with in-services about DATA history, principles and support programs

- Offer the scholarship recipients an opportunity to engage with DATA through Shoestring articles

Angela Lindsey

Some poetry for you—to be read aloud.

I halve a spelling checker
It came with my pea sea
It plainly marcs four my revue
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.
Eye stike a key and type a word
And weight four it two say
Weather eye am wrong oar write
It shows me strait a weighh.

As soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee fore two long
And eye can put the error rite
Its rare lea ever wrong
Eye have run this poem threw it
I am shore your pleased to no
Its letter perfect awl the weighh
My checker tolled me sew.



SOCIAL EVENTS: OUTING TO YARRAWONGA

The DATA social event in September was in Yarrowonga, three hours drive from Melbourne. Yarrowonga is a friendly rural town. Although it rained on & off on Sunday 11th September it was still a very nice day. You will see by the photos it was chilly on the water but we were all rugged up.

We met at the Yarrowonga holiday home & walked to the Cruise boat, Paradise Queen. It only took 5 minutes. The BBQ & cruise on the Paradise Queen was very pleasant. It took about

an hour. The food was tasty. The company was great. If you weren't there you missed out. Then we went back to the holiday home for afternoon tea. We sat around & told stories.

A walk around Lake Mulwala is very relaxing & everyone you meet says hello. If you haven't visited Yarrowonga or Lake Mulwala, you should, it will be a pleasant surprise.

Angela Lindsey





SOCIAL EVENTS: YARRA VALLEY CHOCOLATERIE

What a lovely day Sunday 28th August 2022 was. Melbourne turned on a beautiful sunny winter's day for DATA's social event. Wouldn't it be nice if the weather could be ordered, would we ever have rain during the day? Seventeen people from DATA enjoyed the day. As usual there were familiar faces but it was wonderful to see some new faces as well. The Chocolaterie was very busy.

We had to wait in a long queue to get a table. Can you believe it, the venue cannot be booked, but we managed to get two tables quite close to

one another. The chocolate tasting was booked once everyone sat down. That was the fun part.

When we told the tasting coordinator that we are from Dialysis and Transplant Association, she informed us, that a family member is on dialysis. Small world, even with dialysis. Everyone bought chocolates to take home. I wonder how many chocolates made it home. The variety of chocolates is incredible. It must be heaven for chocoholics. Some people commented that we must do it again.

In Memoriam

Just wanted to add - a lovely lady, *Iris Anthonitz*, who was at Yarra Glen Chocolaterie, passed away 26th September. She would have been 80 on 30th September.

Her daughter, Tania assured us that her Mum thoroughly enjoyed her day.

Editor's Note Our sincere condolences to the family.





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Yarrawonga and Rosebud
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Shoe String Editors

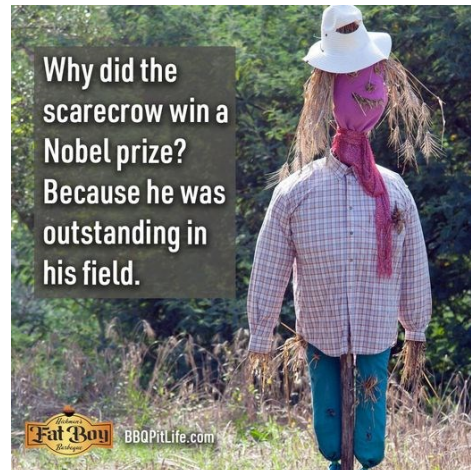
Joan Eastwood 0402 097 331

The views expressed in the editorial and the contributed items, are those of the authors and are not necessary the opinions of D.A.T.A. Vic. Inc.

The Dialysis and Transplant Association of Victoria Incorporated (D.A.T.A.) is a patient self help group made up of people with kidney failure and their families and friends. Social days are held at regular intervals and the year culminates with the annual Christmas event.

We own and run two holiday homes for use by our members— One is at Yarrawonga, the other at Rosebud.

‘ShoeString’ denotes the feeling of life when it is turned up-side-down and that, with Kidney failure, Dialysis or Transplant, you sometimes have to pull yourself up by the shoe strings to get going.



From The Editor

CONTACT me ON EMAIL: editor.shoestring@gmail.com

The Q Train is all booked out .We apologize for this although it was largely out of our control . It was very popular ..

This is the last issue for the year. If you would like to help with the production of the magazine please let us know.

I thank Angela for the photos, and the articles . . I also thank Gwen for her contributions .

I would like to retire soon so come on, if you have any thing to offer , please volunteer your time to help with putting the magazine together, or writing an article.

I hope you enjoy reading this copy of Shoe String

Joan Eastwood