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ogae  **australia**

ANNUAL REPORT
2017/18

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ESCFAN Inc. (Eurovision Song Contest Fans of Australia Network) has now operated for just over 2½ years.

Over the course of the past twelve months, ESCFAN has managed an online and offline presence (website, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, newsletters), organised a series of activities and events across Australia and at the 2018 Eurovision Song Contest in Lisbon, provided access to our Eurovision artists through the national broadcaster and tickets to Eurovision events, and maintained our ongoing membership with the OGAE International Bureau.

There is still much to be done to ensure that ESCFAN reaches its full potential and agreed vision:

“To ensure that ESCFAN (OGAE Australia) is the number one option for Australian fans of Eurovision”

The year that has passed has been more active and bigger than ever. The 2017-18 Committee has also had a very turbulent year, from an administrative point of view. There have been some personnel changes throughout the year, where members have resigned for personal and health reasons. Fortunately the vacant positions were filled from the membership and we were able to ensure that the momentum was maintained and that the best results were delivered for our members given the resources available.

Two tasks we did not manage to achieve were the streamlining of the election process and the updating of our constitution so that it works better for our members and future committees. These tasks will now pass to the next Committee elected by members.

In addition to the foregoing, the Committee faced delays in the production of OGAE cards and stickers, a process which is controlled by OGAE International. The cards and stickers were received by us in April 2018 and we made every endeavour to ensure all those travelling to Lisbon had a card/sticker (if they were eligible). Collection was available at our preview parties in Sydney and Melbourne and also at numerous points in Lisbon.



GOVERNANCE

Committee Members

POSITION	NAME	RESIDENCE
President	Paul Bostock	VIC, Australia
Vice President	Troy Bass	SA, Australia
Secretary	Jordan Busic (resigned 22/8/17) Tass Sgardelis (promoted from Committee Member 30/8/17)	NSW, Australia VIC, Australia
Treasurer	John Tzimas	VIC, Australia
Committee Member	Andrew Crossman	ACT, Australia
Committee Member	Tim Soltys	WA, Australia
Committee Member	Steven Garner (appointed 29/11/17)	VIC, Australia
Committee Member	Danie Tregonning (resigned 13/3/18)	VIC. Australia
Committee Member	Sharleen Wright (resigned 28/3/18)	NSW, Australia
Committee Member	Kurtis Carter (appointed 28/3/18)	NSW, Australia
Committee Member	Owen Brigstock-Barron (appointed 10/4/18)	VIC, Australia

Registration

ESCFAN was registered on 9 December 2015 as an incorporated association (not-for-profit) under the *Victorian Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*, registration number A0094118B.

For its rules, the association adopted the 'Model Rules', which are set out in the *Associations Incorporation Reform Regulations 2012*.

Meetings and Elections

Regular committee meetings are held on a monthly basis to discuss general business. The Rules require an annual general meeting (AGM) of members to be held once a year. Matters relating to club can be raised via our communication and feedback portals (Facebook, Twitter, Email, Post and Website) by members at any time.

Elections are scheduled to be held once a year for all Committee positions in conjunction with the AGM. This must occur within 5 months of the end of the financial year (30 June).

ESCFAN is holding its 2018 Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Committee elections on 1st September 2018.

Constitution

For its Rules (in effect, its constitution), the club has adopted the 'Model Rules' under Victorian law. A full copy of the Model Rules can be located [here](#).

MEMBERSHIP

Subscriptions

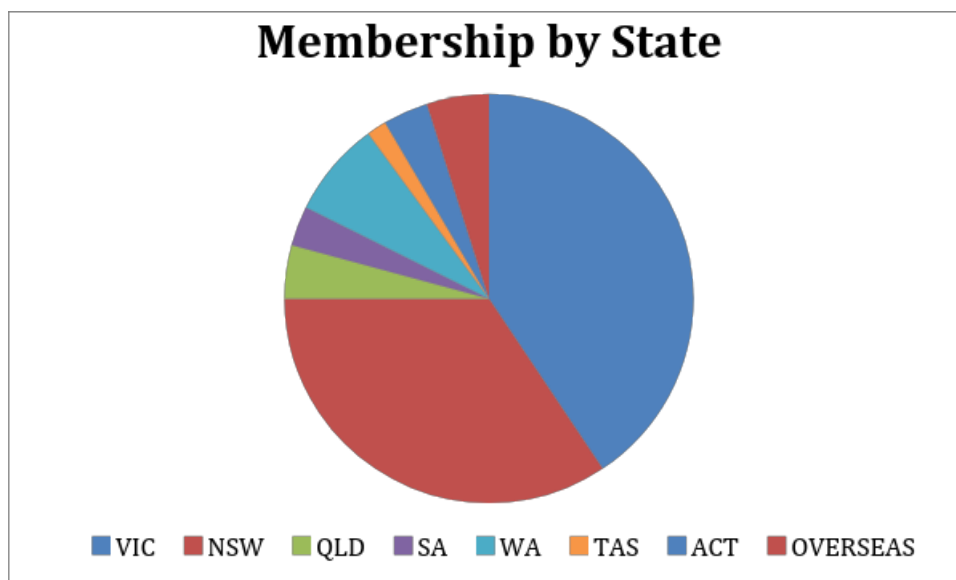
Membership is available at a flat-rate of \$25AUD per person, with 2018/19 membership currently valid till 30 June 2019. As per the agreed motion carried at the last AGM in August 2017, the fee remained the same as the prior year.

Fees collected cover items including (but not limited to): business fees, documentation submission required by law, website registration, design and hosting, monthly banking fees, costs associated with day to day club printing, stationery and postage, event hosting (venue rental, advertising), the provision of prizes/giveaways to members, and the supply and postage of OGAE cards/stickers to members.

Member Numbers & Segmentation

As of 30th June 2018, our membership had more than doubled from 223 to 448 members in total. Over 75% of the total membership resides in two States - New South Wales and Victoria. Our growth this year has been attributed to general promotion of the club, Eurovision in Lisbon and the success of our preview parties in Sydney and Melbourne (featuring Slavko)

Membership by State



Members by State	
VIC	182
NSW	154
QLD	19
SA	14
WA	34
TAS	7
ACT	16
NT	0
OVERSEAS	22
TOTAL MEMBERS	448

Members by Age	
Not Given	70
0 to 19	9
20 to 29	59
30 to 39	108
40 to 49	120
50 to 59	73
60 Plus	9
TOTAL MEMBERS	448

Gender Diversity	
Male	293
Female	155
TOTAL MEMBERS	448

TREASURER'S REPORT

(Our treasurer, John Tzimas, explains some of the numbers included in the official financial report attached in Appendix A).

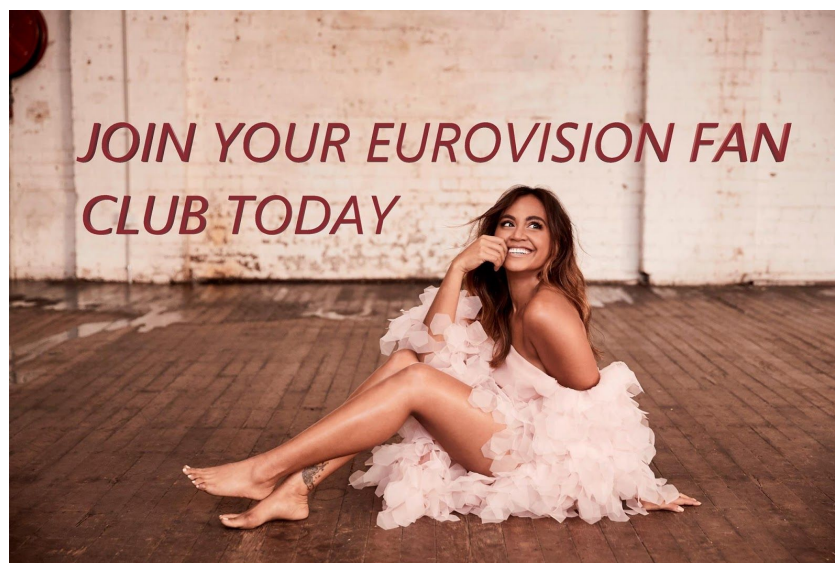
2018 is our first full operational year as an organisation. We had our first renewal of members in July 2017 with a renewal rate of almost 95%. Memberships were our main source of revenue in 2017-18 and, in addition to a high renewal rate, we also more than doubled our membership base to 448 members as at 30th June 2018. This was beyond all expectations and can be attributed to members who continue to refer our club to their family and friends. As of the date of this report the majority of these have renewed and we already have new memberships for 2019. These fees will allow us to deliver free and subsidised events and competitions for members, and to cover all the costs required to run the club successfully.

We were expecting to run at a small surplus in 2017-18, however our events (preview parties and Lisbon tours) produced more funds than expected and some other costs did not eventuate. These together with the unexpected growth in membership gave us the financial surplus of \$6,837 reported in the financials.

As this is a national club we have significant expenses to keep ESCFAN running. Other than membership and event costs, web-related costs and postage are our next main recurring costs. The Committee always meets by Skype and Committee members bear their own costs in relation to attending events, in their home state or territory and beyond.

The last three committees have left ESCFAN in a very secure and strong financial position so that members can be confident that the club can look to the future with ease.

Moving forward to 2019 we anticipate renewals to continue and memberships to grow. With some work on sponsorships, we aim to deliver free/subsidised events and competitions that will keep the membership engaged both in Australia and hopefully in Israel.



DELIVERABLES

As expected, ESCFAN has continued to forge good relationships with important partners. The club has already cooperated with Australian broadcaster, SBS, working together on our events and ensuring our members feature as a valuable part of its coverage over the Eurovision weeks. We also enjoy high standing with various embassies in Canberra following our work with the Portuguese Embassy during the Multicultural Festival in February 2018.

OGAE Competitions

Given ESCFAN's full membership status within OGAE, we are committed to future participation in the range of competitions and other activities offered. Work is underway in selecting entries for the 2018 OGAE Song Contest (hosted by ESCFAN following our win last year), and for participation in the 2018 OGAE Second-Chance Contest. Such competitions promote engagement and activity within and between clubs, requiring our members to suggest appropriate entries of Australian artists to compete against those put forward by other OGAE clubs across Europe.

In addition, ESCFAN as OGAE Australia contributed to one of the most valued, large-scale prediction tools of Eurovision - the 2018 OGAE Preview Poll. All Australian members were given the opportunity to vote for their favourite entries earlier this year, which then formed the Australian vote towards the overall OGAE Member results.

OGAE Cards & Ticketing

As ESCFAN has achieved membership status within the OGAE community, it now enjoys all the benefits of the many other OGAE clubs across Europe. During 2017-18, ESCFAN was again able to coordinate with the OGAE International Bureau and printers based in Finland to supply members with internationally-recognised OGAE ID cards, which entitle holders to discounts at the official Eurovision.tv website, and allow access to special venues and events during the weeks of Eurovision. As mentioned previously the Bureau experienced lengthy delays in the production of the cards and renewal stickers but every effort was made by our club to ensure these were delivered as quickly as possible.

For our members, supply of this card relies upon the collection of photos and the individual's acceptance of ESCFAN as their primary fanclub.

Over 110 members registered for our OGAE ticket ballot in late 2017 and we were successful in receiving 42 OGAE ticket packages for our members. The remaining registered members were assisted via our committee and members to obtain numerous tickets for the Grand Final and Semi Finals in Lisbon. A copy of the 2018 Ticketing policy is available on the ESCFAN website.

Other Competitions

ESCFAN are committed to providing both the opportunity for its members to become more actively involved in the club, as well as providing reward for such engagement. Over the past twelve months, the organisation has run several competitions. These included random prize draws for voting at events / in OGAE competitions and “best dressed” prizes at ESCFAN gatherings.

Thanks to our relationships with key Eurovision contacts in both Lisbon and Australia, such as broadcaster SBS, Sony Records and the Australian Embassy, members have been recipients of prizes such as CDs, artist promotional material and limited invitations to events.

Events

Events have been a big focus for our committee this year. All committee members have contributed to the delivery of 2017-18 events with some additional assistance from member volunteers.

As a result of these activities, ESCFAN also hopes to encourage new memberships and repeated yearly renewals, create ‘word of mouth’ for the organisation, and develop and grow relationships with associated organisations and communities such as the Australian host broadcaster SBS and interested groups.

During the year, a number of activities and functions have been organised and co-ordinated by members of our Committee:

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| ● Post AGM Euroclub | Sharleen Wright |
| ● 2017 OGAE Song Contest | Troy Bass |
| ● 2018 Lisbon Ticket Ballot | Troy Bass/ Danie Tregonning |
| ● 2018 Ticket Allocation/ Resale Market | John Tzimas/ Troy Bass |
| ● Perth Social Gathering | Tim Soltys |
| ● 2018 Melbourne Boat Cruise | John Tzimas/ Steven Garner |
| ● 2018 Canberra Multicultural Festival | Andrew Crossman |
| ● 2018 Canberra Trivia Night | Paul Bostock/ Andrew Crossman |
| ● 2018 Sydney Preview Party | Andrew Crossman/ Paul Bostock |
| ● 2018 Melbourne Preview Party | Paul Bostock |
| ● Facebook Countdown to Lisbon | Steven Garner |
| ● 2018 Lisbon Tours | John Tzimas/ Troy Bass |
| ● Lisbon SBS Social Gathering | Paul Bostock |
| ● Australian Embassy Portugal Event | Paul Bostock |
| ● Melbourne Social Gathering (Benjy’s) | John Tzimas |
| ● 2018 OGAE Second Chance Contest | Troy Bass |
| ● 2018 National Final – Song Contest | Troy Bass |
| ● 2018 OGAE Song Contest | Troy Bass |
| ● Eurovision All Stars (Facebook Group) | Christopher Dean (member) |
-

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| ● Broadcaster Liaison | Paul Bostock |
| ● OGAE FB Presidents Board | Paul Bostock/ Troy Bass |
| ● OGAE International AGM | Paul Bostock/ Troy Bass |
| ● OGAE International Membership Cards | Troy Bass/ John Tzimas |
| ● Financials and Membership Management | John Tzimas |
| ● Minutes of Meetings | Tass Sgardelis/ Troy Bass |
| ● AGM 2018 | Andrew Crossman/ John Tzimas |
| ● Social Media Coordination | Danie Tregonning/ Kurtis Carter |
| ● Eurovision Countdown | Steven Garner |
| ● Website Management & Updates | Sharleen Wright/ John Tzimas |

2017 OGAE Song Contest

OGAE Spain hosted the 2017 OGAE Song Contest, at which Dami Im's song 'Fighting For Love' was submitted and victorious, allowing OGAE Australia to taste its first Eurovision success.

Final Placings:

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1st - 232 points: | AUSTRALIA – Fighting for Love (Dami Im) |
| 2nd - 207 points: | UNITED KINGDOM – Rockabye (Clean Bandit ft Sean Paul & AnneMarie) |
| 3rd - 195 points: | IRELAND – Raging (Kygo ft Kodialine) |
| 4th - 127 points: | RUSSIA – Ideal World (Sergey Lazarev) |
| 5th - 100 points: | PORTUGAL – Livre (Mastiksoul ft Mariza) |

For those who missed the event, it is available on YouTube - https://youtu.be/ta_EvTkFx9M or the OGAE Spain website.

2018 Lisbon Ticket Ballot

On 28 October 2017, the Ticket Ballot was held at Umbrella Lounge Bar in Richmond, Victoria. The theme for the event was Georgia, as Junior Eurovision was to be held in Tbilisi. Members were invited to express an interest in obtaining OGAE tickets packages for Lisbon 2018. 117 members – a record! – ultimately put their names forward to obtain packages. The draw was hosted by Danie Tregonning and Mark Perkins (members and hosts of the Wind Machine podcast), with Will Fedor and Aaron Paraiso acting as scrutineers. Michael Novy was the first member to be drawn. The event was simulcast on Facebook to members.

Ticket Allocation/ Resale Market

After the draw and allocations of tickets from OGAE International, John and Troy had the pleasure of notifying people via email or via phone of their success. Members who were unsuccessful attempted to obtain tickets for the biggest song contest in the world through the various waves of public sales. A number of our members who were able to secure tickets were gracious enough to purchase extra tickets for fellow members. John devoted many hours to putting members in contact with one another to ensure that as many members as possible could attend the various Eurovision ticketed events. A large number of Club members ultimately did so!



Melbourne Boat Cruise

With the warmth of January came the second annual Euroboat cruise, departing from Docklands and travelling around Port Phillip Bay, Melbourne. Unlike the previous year, the rain stayed away and the

tunes – supplied by DJ Matt – were pumping throughout the 3-hour cruise. No actors were harmed in the production of this function. The event was organised in conjunction with one of our key partner's: JOY 94.9.



Pictured LEFT: Committee members taking time out before the cruise (left to right): Paul Bostock, Troy Bass, Andrew Crossman, John Tzimas, Steven Garner;



Pictured RIGHT: Winning photo from our Social Media competition, by Owen Brigstock-Barron using the Captain as photographer to take a great shot of the festivities.

Canberra Multi-Cultural Festival



After reaching out to the Portuguese Embassy in Canberra, we were able to join forces and host our second function outside Melbourne and Sydney at the Canberra Multi-Cultural Festival on Saturday, 17 February 2018. The annual multi-cultural festival is a major event in the ACT's calendar, and we thought it would be a great opportunity to collaborate with the EU and Tourism Portugal in the run-up to the excitement of Lisbon 2018.

Canberra Trivia Night

Don't mess with the Polish Butter Maids when you're playing Eurovision Trivia!!! Pictured Right: Troy Bass, Katy Griffis and Ruth Oldfield, who were the winning team in our 1st Canberra social event – Quiz Night and social gathering at the Polish Club on 17 February. Paul Bostock quizzed our members, with a variety of audio and visual questions, which tested the memory banks of any Eurovision fan.



Sydney/ Melbourne Preview Parties

After a lengthy negotiation process, considerable logistics and financial discussions within the Committee, OGAE Australia was able to bring Slavko Kalezić (Montenegro's 2017 Eurovision artist) and his manager to Sydney and Melbourne for the preview parties. Each event featured 'meet and greet' sessions, at which members were able to have their photograph taken and purchase Slavko's CD single 'Space'. Estonian House in Sydney posed some technical challenges, which Paul Bostock was able to overcome to ensure that the show did indeed go on. The Melbourne event was held at the European Bier Café on Anzac Day eve, allowing some attendees to party late into the evening. Whilst Slavko was meeting and greeting his fans, members and their friends were able to preview the 2018 ESC entries and vote for their favourites. The results were then revealed, Slavko performed, and prizes were awarded for the best and worst dressed.



Lisbon Tours

During Eurovision downtime in Lisbon, some of our members took the opportunity to do some sightseeing. Two events were organised by the Committee for members.

The first was a coach trip to the nearby hills of Sintra. After leaving Lisbon and Paul Bostock's interview for the ABC Drive programme back in Australia, the clouds rolled in over the palace and the weather took a chilly turn. Sweatshirts purchased from the souvenir shops became a popular choice. The tour also proved more physically demanding than anticipated: those hills sure were a challenge!



The second event was a leisurely cruise down the river Tagus. Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, some members were unable to board the boat. That small group therefore decided to entertain themselves at the Eurovision Village.

APPENDIX A - FINANCIAL REPORT

ESCFAN INC Balance Sheet as at 30/6/2018

	This Year	Last Year
Assets		
ANZ Cheque Account	\$1,367.62	\$327.71
ANZ Online Saver	\$10,549.03	\$5,005.15
Paypal Account	\$671.23	\$268.00
Prepayments	\$0.00	\$150.00
Total Assets	\$12,587.88	\$5,750.86
Liabilities		
Trade Creditors	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00
Net Assets	\$12,587.88	\$5,750.86
Equity		
Retained Earnings	\$5,750.86	\$4,467.01
Current Earnings	\$6,837.02	\$1,283.85
Total Equity	\$12,587.88	\$5,750.86

ESCFAN INC Profit & Loss 1/7/2017 to 30/6/2018

	This Year	Last Year
Income		
Membership Fees	\$10,475.00	\$2,025.00
Donations Received	\$165.00	\$50.00
Commissions Received	\$48.13	\$98.22
Event Income (Gross)	\$13,822.00	\$3,860.00
Interest Received	\$43.88	\$5.15
Total Income	\$24,554.01	\$6,038.37
Expenses		
Advertising	\$188.68	\$0.00
Bank Charges	\$159.58	\$33.20
Competitions and Prizes	\$213.00	\$126.50
Event Expenses	\$15,800.13	\$2,085.01
Filing Fees	\$56.90	\$55.80
Gifts	\$0.00	\$54.13
Meeting Expenses	\$276.67	\$952.91
OGAE Related Costs	\$494.69	\$415.31
Postage, Print & Stationery	\$256.35	\$598.97
Website & Internet Costs	\$270.99	\$432.69
Total Expenses	\$17,716.99	\$4,754.52
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$6,837.02	\$1,283.85

**Schedule 1
Regulation 15
Form 1**

*Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012
Sections 94 (2)(b), 97 (2)(b) and 100 (2)(b)*

**Annual statements give a true and fair view of financial performance
and position of an incorporated association**

We, John Tzimas and Tass Sgardelis, being members of the committee of
Escfan Inc. certify that –

“The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of
the financial performance and position of the above named association
during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending 30th
June 2018.”

Signed:  John Tzimas (Treasurer)

Date: 31st July 2018

Signed:  Tass Sgardelis (Secretary)

Date: 31st July 2018
