



## Chair’s Report

Financial Year 2020 -2021 (**FY21**) has seen a progressive 12 months at the South Perth Learning Centre (**Centre**).

The Centre’s Operational Team of Danielle Desvaux, the Centre Coordinator, and Didi Mudigdo, the Centre Administrative Officer and their dedicated team of volunteers have had yet another complicated year trying to balance course planning and room rentals with the never ending COVID Restrictions. Danielle and Didi have continued to act in accordance with Government instructions regarding ‘COVID-safe’ classrooms and ensuring the Centre’s capacity limits were not breached. As Alan will allude to in his report, evidently the capacity restrictions have continued to have a significant effect on the Centre’s financial situation in FY21.

Despite the reduced capacity, operationally the Centre has made great progress as a result of new initiatives and collaborations, this is evidenced by the following statistics:

	<b>FY20</b>	<b>FY21</b>
<b>Average courses per term</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Average participation rate</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>79%</b>
<b>Course categories</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>External excursions</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Average term Enrolments</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>510</b>
<b>Individual enrolments</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>715</b>
<b>New memberships</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>240</b>
<b>Renewed memberships</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>531</b>
<b>New collaborations</b>	Birdlife Australia, Manning Mens’ Shed, Como Croquet Club , Good things Foundation, Djirily Dreaming , South Perth Historical Society , Ancient Egypt Society WA	

Additionally, over the last year the Executive Committee have worked closely with the Operational Team to secure the long-term success of the Centre, these efforts included:

- The development of the Centre’s Strategic Plan for the next 5 years where we have identified 6 key areas of focus namely:
  1. Maintain Centre for learning
  2. Support Members
  3. Develop Governance Succession Plan
  4. Expand Demographic

5. Safeguard Financial Stability
6. Increase Community Engagement

The Strategic Plan sets out initiatives and indicators for achievement in each of these 6 areas. To accompany the Strategic Plan we have also developed an internal action plan outlining items for completion by the Executive Committee and Operational Team to ensure that over the period the Centre will meet the Strategic Plan objectives.

- Increased marketing efforts using Google Business, to manage the Centre's online presence, utilise Google Ad campaigns, collate our online marketing statistics and maximise search engine optimisation.
- Further recruitment of university students as volunteers, providing professional experiences, cross generational learning, and a different perspective to the Centre.
- Installation of shade sail in the Centre Courtyard to facilitate alternative courses and class opportunities, whilst allowing for better use of the Courtyard generally. This improvement was made possible by a grant from the City of South Perth, of which we are grateful.

At today's meeting we also thank two of our Executive Committee members, Julie Bain and Jude Ewen who have chosen to step down and explore other opportunities. Additionally, earlier in the year Anita Nedwetsky resigned from the Executive Committee due to competing interests. Personally, and on behalf of the Executive Committee I would like to thank these ladies for all of their efforts during their time with the Centre. Over the year we will run a gap analysis to ensure any vacancies on the Executive Committee are strategically filled to meet the current needs of the Executive Committee and the Centre.

Up for re-nomination are longstanding members: Cleve Main, Alan Abraham and myself. Alan and myself have now reached three years on the Executive Committee holding positions as the Treasure and Chair. Cleve holds the Deputy Chair position, of which we are incredibly fortunate to retain his deep understanding and knowledge of the Centre within the organisation and his ability to step in as Chair has been a huge support to myself. Further, I would like to thank all of the current Executive Committee members for their commitment, dedication and contributions towards ensuring the Centre has a successful future.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I would also like to thank the Centre's amazing team of volunteers whose constant efforts, commitments and willingness makes all of the Executive Committee's efforts worth it. I am so grateful when Danielle informs me of how much of your own time you dedicate to the Centre, how hard you all work and how proud of the Centre you are.

To close, my deepest thanks go to Didi and Danielle. You have both worked so hard this year and I feel like all your efforts, both front of office and behind the scenes have contributed to significant positive changes at the Centre. You can both feel incredibly proud, as I do, of the Centre and the direction it is heading in your capable hands.

**Clementine Kohler**  
**Executive Committee Chair**  
**South Perth Learning Centre Inc.**