

Scheyvillians – ‘Wind Up’ of the National Body of the Association

On 11 March the National Council met to address the final issues around the ‘Wind Up’ of the National body of the Association. The meeting was aimed at ensuring agreement on the allocation of funds for ongoing tasks and also the distribution of any remaining funds to the State and ACT Chapters all in accordance with our Constitution and legal requirements.

The Council meeting used the following progress report as the agenda for the meeting. It is important to recognise that any distribution of funds to States or ACT can only be made to Incorporated Chapters and at this time they are, Victoria, NSW and ACT. The other Chapters will have any funds clearly earmarked and held by Victoria for the relevant Chapters to invoice as required.

OTU Association, January 2026. National Wind Up, Progress Report, Task Update and Funds Distribution Plan

Introduction: Following recent discussions at the National Executive Meeting on 12 Nov 25 it is relevant to provide this update on ‘Wind Up’ progress and allocated tasks.

Aim: The aim is to have a high degree of clarity before our planned National Council Wind Up Meeting on 11 Mar 26.

Wind Up Decision: The decision to wind up the National body was voted on and strongly approved at the Special General Meeting held on 11 Sep 2024. This meeting complied with Clause 32b of the Constitution. The vote showed a 93% vote in favour of Wind Up. (154 for, 12 against and 2 abstained)

The decision was communicated to all members via The Scheyvillian and also the Minutes of the meeting published on the Association website. As this meeting approved the Wind Up, it is seen as the ‘licence’ for the National Executive and then the National Council to execute the Wind Up effectively. No further Special Meetings are seen as necessary or appropriate.

Advice from Consumer Affairs Victoria: Adrian Carnegie, the Senior Regulatory Officer at Consumer Affairs Vic, advised that we can Voluntarily cancel our Association without having to go through a formal process (read liquidator) as long as our gross assets are less than \$50,000.

The advice went on to cover that a meeting be held sometime before 30 Jun 26 to resolve to Wind Up the National Association (meeting held in Sep 24) and to distribute the assets, produce accounts and file them with the Registrar. Our planned Council Meeting in March 26 will have this aim. It would seem appropriate that our appointed auditor help us with the necessary reports to Consumer Affairs.

Tasks: The updated task list is below and refers to the Wind Up paper;

Task	Ref in Paper	Task	Who
1	Part 6	Dispersal of Funds including advice from Aughtersons on distribution prior to Wind Up Final audit requirement and fees	Harry and auditor
2	Part 7	Communication on cessation of subscriptions	Done
3	Part 8	Association Website	Agreed \$11,000
4	Part 9	Membership Database	Graeme
5	Part 10	Scheyvillian or Newsletter	Agreed \$2000 pa for 5 years= \$10,000
6	Part 11	Notification to NSAA, VVC, RSL, VVAA, AWM Alignment with Duntroon Society including recommendation to members to join	Done Communication/recommendation To join state chapters
7	Part 12	Q Store closure	Peter
8	Part 13	Youth Leadership funds-bids and dispersal	Done Nov 25
9	Part 14	Notification to Consumer Affairs/ATO etc	Harry/Auditor
10	Part 14	Notification to TF Veteran and RMC museum	Neil
11	Part 16	Closure of bank accounts	Harry/Auditor
12		RMC Prize continuance	No issue- done
13		Point of Contact after closure	Frank

14		History Board for Scheyville	Done \$1,800 approx incl delivery
15		Allocate overseas members to States	Alistair Done

Possible Allocation of Residual Fund: As at 12 Nov 25 the Treasurer reported that we had about \$75,000 in net funds as at that date and some \$9,000 or so was owing in member rebates to State/ACT Chapters for this year.

Given that in Feb we look like possibly having around \$66,000 to deal with the following is a hypothetical breakdown of the proposed distribution prior to 30 Jun 26.

1. Website/ database upkeep for 10 years at \$1100 per year -\$11,000
2. Scheyvillian (Neil Leckie) \$2,000 per year for 5 years-\$10,000
3. Donation to Task Force Veteran Scheyville for Signage- \$10,000
4. Auditor fees --\$5,000?

Leaving say \$35,000 to be distributed proportionally to Incorporated Chapters and to Vic for management for other Chapters.

Based on current financial membership of 514 in established Chapters (including Life Members and widows) the allocation of the residual funds would be :

*NSW 144 = 28% = \$9800
Qld 110 = 22% = \$7700
VIC 145 = 28% = \$9800
SA 22 = 4% = \$1400
WA 52 = 10% = \$3500
TAS 11 = 2% = \$700
ACT 30 = 6% = \$2100*

Total 100% \$ 35000

Others not included are NT 3, Overseas 7 and unknown 3.

The aim is to agree percentage distribution in the Mar meeting.

Conclusion: *This is aimed at being a guide to our successful Wind Up on 30 Jun 26. Please feel free to check or challenge my reasoning and let me know of anything that I have missed.*

*Brian Cooper
Deputy Chair
OTU Association*

At the National Council Meeting on 11 Mar 26 the following was discussed, agreed and decided unanimously.

As at 28 Feb 26, National Funds are \$72,700

Funds to be set aside for the following:

Scheyvillian \$10,000 (\$2,000 per year for 5 years) administered by Vic

Website and Database \$11,000 (\$1,100 per year for 10 years)

Audit cost around \$5,000 TBC

Donation to TF Veteran (Scheyville) \$10,000 to include renewal of site signage.

This will leave around \$36,700 to be distributed to State and ACT Chapters. The percentage distribution was approved as per the above progress report.

All actions are to take place so that the National accounts can close as at 30 June 26. The Treasurer has this in hand.

While the National body will cease to exist, it is important that at State and ACT level we all do everything possible to "Let's keep the blokes together" (Ray Elder- 2010). At our age local contact is manageable. However, don't forget that there is a major event at Scheyville on the weekend 15/16 August in the lead up to the 60th Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan.

Brian Cooper 3/69, Deputy Chair, OTU National Committee