



## NOTICE OF 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Women Lawyers Association Inc. will be held by digital means on:

**Thursday 26 November 2020 at 5:00pm – a link to the online AGM will be sent to registered attendees before the AGM.**

All members are welcome to attend the online AGM. Please let us know in advance if you are planning to attend by registering to attend at [www.vwl.asn.au/events](http://www.vwl.asn.au/events) **by no later than 5:00pm on 25 November 2020.**

Only **current ordinary members** are eligible to vote at the AGM and to nominate for Executive Committee positions. Associate members are not eligible to vote or nominate for Executive Committee positions. Members intending to vote are requested to confirm that their membership status is that of an ordinary member. If you have not yet renewed your membership for the 2020-2021 financial year, we encourage you to do so now.

Members who are unable to attend the meeting but who wish to appoint a proxy can do so by using the **enclosed** appointment of proxy form. Please forward the proxy form to VWL's Secretary Emma Sestito at [emma.sestito@gmail.com](mailto:emma.sestito@gmail.com) by no later than **5:00 pm on Wednesday 25 November 2020.**

### Agenda

The Agenda for the meeting is **enclosed**.

### 2019-2020 Financial Reports

The VWL financial report for the year ending 30 June 2020 will be tabled at the AGM.

### Executive Committee elections

We are seeking nominations for all positions on the VWL Executive Committee.

A short description of the roles of the Executive Committee is **enclosed**. More information about Executive Committee member obligations and duties can be found on our website at: <https://www.vwl.asn.au/downloads/ExecutiveCharter.pdf>.

Please complete the enclosed nomination form and return it to the VWL Secretary (Emma Sestito at [emma.sestito@gmail.com](mailto:emma.sestito@gmail.com)) by **Thursday 19 November 2020** should you wish to stand for nomination.

Please be advised that due to technical restrictions, all nominations for Executive Committee positions must be submitted to the VWL Secretary, prior to the AGM as set out above. Attendees will not be able to nominate for Executive Committee positions 'from the floor' during the AGM.

If the number of nominations received exceed the positions available, a ballot will be held electronically at the AGM and the Chairperson will read out a short statement from each

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nominee. . If only one nomination has been received for each position, those people nominating will stand elected.

All candidates are required to provide a brief resume of no more than 100 words to be read out by the Chairperson and a headshot with their nomination form. **Minutes of the 2019 AGM**

The minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting will be tabled at the AGM. The minutes are also **enclosed**.

If you have any queries regarding the AGM, please contact VWL Secretary Emma Sestito at [emma.sestito@gmail.com](mailto:emma.sestito@gmail.com).

Signed:

**Deborah Kliger**  
President  
Victorian Women Lawyers

Dated: 10 November 2020

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## 2020 Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Women Lawyers Association Inc.

Online Thursday 26 November 2020 at 5:00pm

### APPOINTMENT OF PROXY – 2020 VWL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

I, ....., an ordinary member of the Victorian Women Lawyers Association Inc., am unable to attend the 2020 VWL Annual General Meeting, to be held online on 26 November 2020.

I appoint..... or, failing them, the person presiding at the meeting, to be my proxy to attend the meeting and to vote on my behalf.

**Name:**

**Signature:**

**Date:**

Please complete and return this form to Emma Sestito, VWL Secretary, by email at [emma.sestito@gmail.com](mailto:emma.sestito@gmail.com). A proxy sent by post or electronically is of no effect unless it is received by VWL no later than **5:00 pm on Wednesday 25 November 2020**.

If you cannot sign and complete this form, please send Emma Sestito an email by the above deadline including all of the above information.

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## **2020 Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Women Lawyers Association Inc.**

**Online Thursday 26 November 2020 at 5:00pm**

### **AGM AGENDA**

- 1 President's welcome**
- 2 Attendance and apologies**
- 3 Minutes of 2019 Annual General Meeting**
- 4 Executive Committee Annual Report**
  - (a) The Chairperson, on behalf of Executive Committee members, will report on Committee activities over the previous year as outlined in VWL's Portia publication.
- 5 Treasurer's Report**
  - (a) The Treasurer of VWL, Hannah Fitzpatrick, will present audited financial statements for VWL in the 2019-2020 financial year.
- 6 Election of VWL Executive Committee**
  - (a) Election of Officers of the Association: President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary; and
  - (b) Election of ordinary members
- 7 Other business**

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## Nomination for Victorian Women Lawyers Association Inc. Executive Committee for 2020-2021

Name:	Employer:
Email:	Business Telephone:
Address:	

I am an ordinary member of the Victorian Women Lawyers Association Inc. and I hereby nominate for the following position on the Executive Committee for 2020-2021:

[please tick]

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- General Member – responsibilities will include one of following portfolios (among other things):
  - Mentoring Program Coordinator
  - Mooting Competition Coordinator
  - Social Media/Website Officer
  - Regional/Suburban Liaison
  - Sponsorship Officer
  - Projects/Membership Engagement Officer

I enclose a brief resume (no more than 100 words) to be included on an information sheet to include the resumes of all candidates which will be provided to all members eligible to vote in the event that a ballot is required.

Signature:..... Date: .....

Please return form and resume to: The Secretary, VWL, at [emma.sestito@gmail.com](mailto:emma.sestito@gmail.com), or at Victorian Women Lawyers, GPO 2314 Melbourne VIC 3001 **by Thursday 19 November 2020.**

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## VWL Executive Committee

### A. President

Convene and preside as Chairperson at general meetings of VWL and meetings of the Executive Committee:

- (a) Approve all outgoing correspondence
- (b) Act as spokesperson for VWL
- (c) Liaise with heads of other associations
- (d) Oversee activities of the committees
- (e) Be the principal point of contact for VWL's sponsors.

### B. Vice-President

In the absence of the President, preside as Chairperson at general meetings of VWL and meetings of the Executive Committee:

- (a) Assist the President in all the President's responsibilities
- (b) Act as contact person for sponsors and members in the absence of the President.

### C. Treasurer

Collect and receive all monies due to VWL, issue any receipts and make all payments authorised by VWL's Executive Committee:

- (a) Keep correct accounts and books showing the financial affairs of VWL with full details of all receipts and expenditure connected with the activities of VWL
- (b) Keep a register of all assets of VWL
- (c) Keep all general records, accounting books and records of receipt and expenditure connected with the operations and business of VWL in such a manner as the Executive Committee directs
- (d) Present a treasurer's report at each Executive Committee meeting
- (e) Ensure VWL's compliance with all legislation governing the financial status and activities of VWL.

### D. Secretary

Prepare and arrange for distribution of an agenda for Executive Committee meetings:

- (a) Advise members of general meetings
- (b) Keep minutes of the resolutions and proceedings of each Annual General Meeting and Executive Committee meeting, together with a record of the names of persons present at Executive Committee meetings

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- (c) Distribute minutes of each meeting to the Executive Committee or general members, as appropriate
- (d) Keep copies of all correspondence
- (e) Keep a record of the names and addresses of all members of VWL
- (f) Keep other such books and records as the Executive Committee may determine.

#### **E. General Members**

- (a) Manage one of following portfolios in consultation with Executive Committee and relevant Committee members:
  - (i) Mentoring Program Coordinator  
Organise and coordinate mentoring program
  - (ii) Mooting Competition Coordinator  
Organise and coordinate mooting competition
  - (iii) Social Media/Website Officer  
Maintain, update and coordinate all VWL social media and website, including promoting events and other content
  - (iv) Regional/Suburban Liaison  
Identify, pursue and coordinate projects of relevance to regional or suburban members in accordance with the general objectives of VWL
  - (v) Sponsorship Officer  
Manage and liaise with all VWL sponsors, in consultation with the President
  - (vi) Projects/Membership Engagement Officer  
Manage special projects and ensure that VWL attracts and retains a diverse membership
- (b) Assist the Executive Committee in managing the activities of the Association
- (c) Provide input into Executive Committee decisions
- (d) Vote on Executive Committee decisions.

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## 2019 Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Women Lawyers Association Inc.

Herbert Smith Freehills, Level 42, 101 Collins Street, Melbourne

Tuesday 26 November 2019 at 5:30pm

### MINUTES OF MEETING

#### 1 President's welcome

Ella van der Schans thanked all for support and listed VWL's achievements throughout the year.

#### 2 Attendance and apologies

Attendance and proxy register attached.

#### 3 Minutes of 2018 Annual General Meeting

Minutes for the 2018 approved as a true and correct record and annexed to the minutes below. Motion to confirm minutes of 2018 AGM carried.

#### 4 Membership fees for the 2020-2021 financial year

At the Voting Executive Committee meeting on 23 October 2019, the Committee resolved to adjust the 2020-2021 membership fees. The proposed member fees are below. The increase on the existing amounts is approximately 7%, with new discounts for regional lawyers and PLT students. The last increase was in 2005, which is over 10 years ago. In order to keep putting on events, it is necessary to increase fees in accordance with this proposal.

##### Voting Member Fees

**City:** \$88.00

**Rural/Regional/Suburban** (includes suburban lawyers practicing more than 10kms outside of the CBD. This is new and recognises that most of our events are in the CBD and it's not always possible for suburban lawyers to attend): \$61.60

**City sponsor employees:** \$61.60

**Regional sponsor employee**, in light of new sponsor, Coulter Roache: \$42.90

**Sponsor trainee/grad:** \$0

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### **Non-Voting Member Fees**

**Associate (Any person supportive of VWL, but without voting rights): \$47.00**  
**Student (LLB, JD or PLT): \$26.95**

The resolution to confirm the subscription and joining fees decided by the Executive Committee at its meeting of 23 October 2019 for each category of members for the 2020 – 2021 financial year in the amounts outlined above was carried.

## **4 Executive Committee Annual Report**

### **Communications Committee: presented by Georgia Dobbyn and Stephanie Pasharis**

The Communications Committee coordinates and promotes communications between VWL and the wider community, and among VWL's members, by VWL's monthly email newsletter VWL List, and the publication of VWL's annual journal, *Portia*, which will be posted to all members shortly.

The theme of this year's *Portia* is 'ideas and identity', which draws upon a paradox in recent times, that as technology has enhanced capacity for communications and created a more interconnected world, we are witnessing fractures in people clutching to identity. The articles canvass a broad cross-section of topics such as constitutional recognition for our First Nations people, the 'impostor syndrome' in the workplace, the consequences of the Lawyer X scandal, and how women on temporary visas experiencing family violence in Australia are far less likely to be able to access necessary support. *Portia* also contains summaries of events VWL has organised this year, with photos of our wonderful panelists, speakers and guests. It also contains a message from our Patron, the Honourable Marilyn Warren, who has provided insights on technology in the legal profession.

The Co-Chairs are proud of the 2019 edition of *Portia* and thanked all contributors and members of the Committee for their hard work. *Portia* continues to be a platform for women lawyers to voice their opinions on current issues in the legal profession, and we are delighted to be able to share their views. It is a testament to VWL and the strength of its members, who all volunteer their time, that VWL is able to continue to produce such an exceptional publication year after year.

### **Networking Committee: presented by Eleanor Weir and Hannah Dunai**

The Networking Committee is a committee focused on running events and activities to encourage networking amongst women lawyers and law students and extends to women in other industries.

The Networking Committee held four events in 2019:

1. Members and guests evening, which was sponsored by Gatehouse.

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2. Cross-industry networking event, which was hosted by Luna. The idea was conceived by the Committee to increase the engagement between women in other industries and women in the legal industry. Sarah Holloway spoke about her experience transitioning from life as an M&A lawyer to life as an entrepreneur.
3. Alternative Legal Pathways event, which was a panel discussion featuring high achievers. The event was moderated by Suzie Schmitz from Keypoint Law. The panel provided valuable insights into their respective roles.
4. End of year celebration and logistics regarding organizing the AGM.

The Co-Chairs extended thanks to their Committee members for their hard work and dedication and welcomed Linda Hart and Lucy Prowse as Co-Chairs for 2020.

**Diversity and Inclusion Committee: presented by Joanna Abraham and Oriana Torcasio**

2019 was an important year for the Committee; the Committee evolved from being the Cultural Diversity Committee to the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. This shift seeks to recognise and acknowledge that cultural comes in many forms. The ambit of the Committee includes promoting culturally diverse women, LGBTI members and indigenous members.

The diversity series is coming up next year, which will encompass one of the key themes the Committee has chosen to focus on. It will cover a range of topics and is intended to create spaces for engaging conversations regarding diversity and inclusion in today's world. For each event, VWL has chosen to partner with key organisations.

The first series in March 2020 will focus on the LGBTIQ community, in partnership with Nicholes Family Lawyers.

**Work Practices Committee: presented by Sanishya Fernando and Kirsty Mastores**

The Committee aims to explore and critically evaluate issues affecting women in the workplace, including discrimination, retention, attrition, pay equity, and the transition of females into senior roles.

The Committee has spent the back end of 2019 preparing for 2020 and has refocused and refreshed its membership. The Committee proposes to launch a parental leave guide in 2020. It is also planning a workshop series with Justitia Lawyers, focusing on sexual harassment and discrimination in the workplace. The Co-Chairs also want to build on the momentum that came out of the professional mentoring program.

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Sexual harassment and bullying has had a large focus in the industry. The Co-Chairs noted that they are looking forward to seeing the results of the report and taking action in this space to try to address the themes contained in the report.

The Co-Chairs thanked the previous Co-Chairs.

### **Membership Committee: presented by Abbey Mason and Lauren Cassimatis**

The Committee has had a successful year and has learned that there needs to be more engagement in regional and suburban areas. The Committee is aiming to host more regional and suburban events in 2020.

The Committee hosted two events in 2019:

1. How do you do it: the event sought to engage women in law who juggle parenting and professional employment.
2. New law in suburbs: a panel discussion on how law firms can enhance productivity and well-being.

The Co-Chairs welcomed Bethany Wilkinson as the new Co-Chair and thanked the outgoing Co-Chair, Lauren Caissimatis.

### **Women in Government Committee: presented by Pia White and Stephanie Desantis**

The WiG Committee focuses on women in government and the intricacies of working in government as a legal professional. The Committee began the year by holding a speed networking event, which was open to anybody interested in working in government. The event was a great success; women from all walks of life were able to network and discuss all things in an environment that wasn't intimidating. The Co-Chairs are looking forward to running a similar event next year.

The second event hosted by the Committee was a panel event, held in October with support of MinterEllison, which looked at ethical intuition and navigating ethical challenges in government. The Committee received incredible feedback on the event.

The Co-Chairs extended their thanks to MinterEllison and to the panelists and their Committee for a successful year. For the year ahead, the Committee proposes to facilitate similar events.

The Co-Chairs extended their thanks to outgoing Co-Chair, Pia White, and welcomed the new Co-Chair, Kathleen Beirne.

### **Law Reform Committee: presented by Alex Dworjanyn and Asmaa Hasanein**

The Committee started the year by hosting an event on values based contracts, which was hosted by MinterEllison, and featured guest speaker, Kim Wright. The Committee

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also worked on a law reform submission regarding sexual harassment in the workplace. The Committee then hosted a panel discussion on the family law reforms, which was hosted by KHQ Lawyers. The guest speakers for this event were Dr Kate Jackowski, Dr Rachel Carson and Monica Blizzard.

The Co-Chairs thanked their Committee members for their hard work and noted that they are both stepping down as Co-Chairs. Victoria Muravchenkov was introduced as one of the incoming Co-Chairs, with the outgoing Co-Chairs searching for a second incoming Co-Chair.

#### **Justice Committee: presented by Bronwyn Montgomery and Erin Meeking**

The Committee aims to bring attention to human rights issues that impact women. The Committee held a number of events this year, including events that combined fundraising events with panel-style events. The committee held a panel event with Nicholes Family Lawyers regarding access to justice. Members from VWL also attended 'Sleep at the G', where over \$4000 was raised. The Committee also ran a networking event and clothes drive, and a second donation event with Share the Dignity, where over 200 packets of tampons and pads were collected for homeless women. The final event for the year was a panel discussion regarding reproductive health, which was held at Allens.

The Co-Chairs thanked their Committee members and noted that they look forward to new members joining in 2020.

#### **VWL Warren Moot: presented by Priya Wakhlu**

This year's Warren Moot launched with a new initiative, an advocacy training event. Justices Warren and Zammit attended the event, which took the format of a discussion, which was followed by a practical exercise, run by Juliana Marshall (former VWL executive member). There was also a session on effective research strategy, which was run by Belinda Schembri of the Supreme Court.

The Warren Moot continued into its fifth year. There were 14 teams this year. The moots were high quality. Each round of the moot was hosted by Maddocks and was judged by current members of the judiciary. The teams in the grand final represented Maddocks and the VGSO and was presided over by the Honourable Justice Marilyn Warren. The VGSO were victorious in a close competition. Priya passed on her thanks to the members who supported the competition.

#### **Law Student Mentoring program: presented by Natalie Plumridge**

This year over 70 students were matched with mentors. The program enables law students to foster connections with legal professionals. The official launch took place in June at Clayton Utz, at which Justice Zammit gave an inspiring speech.

#### **Membership engagement and special projects: presented by Sophie Lefebvre**

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2019 saw a new portfolio added to the General Executive and Sophie was honoured to act as the first Member Engagement Officer for VWL. A highlight for the year was communicating with members and letting them know more about the work VWL does.

The big project for 2019 was a survey of VWL Members and potential members. We had 182 responses in total 60% of respondents were members and 40% were non-members. We have reviewed the responses to the survey at Executive level and will be working with our sub-committees next year to improve VWL.

Key takeaways from the survey showed there are some areas that VWL does well in and we need to build on namely:

- Mentoring
- Networking
- Events
- Connection
- Community – word of mouth referrals
- Knowledge Sharing

But there are also areas we can improve in, in particular:

- Marketing our features, benefits and projects
- Sign up / renewal process
- Access for regional, rural and suburban lawyers
- Better use of technology / improved website
- Communication
- Student engagement

We will look to run the survey again in 2 years' time to assess our progress but in the meantime any member or non-member can reach out to find out more about membership.

### **Wellbeing and Communications: presented by Vanessa Shambrook**

This year Vanessa continued to assist and ensure that our members and non-members remained engaged and up-to-date with VWL's projects and events, ensuring that attendance at events remained strong.

VWL now runs an active Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn page.

We also update our members directly via our monthly newsletter, VWList, which provides a summary of our current projects and events.

This year we promoted more heavily on VWL's ongoing projects and highlighted the work and support of our sponsor firms, without which, VWL would not be able to run such high equality events and projects.

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Vanessa also contributed to several Law Institute Journal editions on behalf of VWL, writing on issues that disproportionately affect women including, sexual harassment in the legal profession, the gender pay gap, resilience building, modern slavery and the misidentification of family violence victims in Intervention Order proceedings.

In 2020, VWL hopes to continue to engage new members and supporters via our communications whilst recognising the hard work and dedication of our volunteers and support of our sponsors.

We also aim to continue to run VWL's Wellbeing Series, which Vanessa began at the start of 2018 to assist lawyers build resilience and find balance between achieving success and fulfilling personal lives.

This year we held an event focused on finding and developing your passion, featuring guest speaker Sam Suke. Sam went through the four pillars of Ikigai - a Japanese Philosophy of life fulfilment. Ikigai has four components of life - which focus on what you are good at, what you love, what you will get paid for and what the world needs.

### **Sponsorship**

We started the year off with our sponsor cocktail celebration event at Arc One Gallery, which was a change from our usual style of a sit down dinner and it appeared to be well received by our sponsors and is something we might continue moving forward.

Throughout the year, the VWL has been thrilled to welcome three new sponsors, Coulter Roache, which is our first regional sponsor, Foley's List and Lennon's List Barristers.

Our new sponsors have continued to diversify the support for women in the legal profession both regionally and at the bar, which has been really great see.

Our new sponsors join our longstanding sponsors, Allens, Clayton Utz, Justitia, K&L Gates, KHQ Lawyers, Law in Order, Maddocks, Maurice Blackburn, MinterEllison, Nicholes Family Lawyers, Svensons Barristers and Wotton+Kearney.

VWL would like to thank its existing sponsors for their ongoing support throughout the year, particularly those who have hosted events for us:

- Allens hosted a panel discussion, Women and Reproductive Health
- Clayton Utz hosted the VWL/ WBA Law Student Mentoring Program
- Coulter Roache hosted a panel discussion, Practice Pathways in Regional Victoria
- Justitia hosted the Share the Dignity Networking and Donation Drive
- KHQ Lawyers hosted a panel discussion regarding the Family Law Reform
- Maddocks hosted the annual Warren Moot competition
- Maurice Blackburn Lawyers hosted two panel discussions, The Modern Slavery Act Domestic Servitude and Modern Slavery in our Backyard; and New Law in the Suburbs

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- MinterEllison hosted two events, a seminar regarding Value Based Contracts; and a panel discussion, Ethical Intuition, Navigating Ethical Challenges in Government
- Nicholes Family Lawyers hosted a panel discussion, Access to Justice and the Online World
- Svenson Barristers facilitated two events, Women in Law Sparking Joy, Networking with a Purpose with Fitted for Work; and the Women Barristers' Lunch Series
- Wotton+Kearney hosted a wellbeing event, The Road to Knowing Your Purpose.

In addition, VWL would also like to thank the LIV for its ongoing support, as well as this years' event sponsors:

- Criminal Law Mums for sponsoring a panel discussion, How did you do it? Juggling Parenting and a Career in Criminal Law
- Gatehouse Legal Recruitment for sponsoring the Dame Roma Mitchell Memorial Luncheon; and the annual Members and Guests event
- Luna Startup Studio for sponsoring the Cross Industry Networking Event
- Northern Community Legal Centre for hosting An Evening in the North
- Herbert Smith Freehills for hosting the VWL AGM and end of year celebration tonight, we are very thankful for this

### **Regional and suburban engagement: presented by Marquita Nolan**

The profile raises the importance of advocating in the suburbs. The first event was held at the Northern Community Legal Centre, and the second event was held in Geelong, which was sponsored by Coulter Roache. We received fantastic feedback at both events. Marquita also had an opportunity to write an article summarising the feedback received from Gender on the Agenda surveys, which featured in the August edition of the LIV journal.

### **6 Treasurer's Report: presented by Elizabeth Cooper**

The Treasurer of VWL, Elizabeth Cooper, will present financial statements for VWL in the 2018-2019 financial year to the membership for approval.

The Treasurer went through the financial results for the year to June 2019 and focused on VWL's end of 2019 position, and indicated that she will be handing over the position of Treasurer after seven years of occupying the role.

In the area of revenue, this year has seen continued steady financial growth with memberships remaining constant and the breadth of our sponsorship base expanding. Interest earned has reduced, in line with the drop in the Reserve Bank rates. VWL was successful in gaining grant revenue from the Law Institute. This enabled VWL to undertake a survey of members, to better understand who our members are, what they like about VWL and to note any areas they felt VWL could

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improve in. Seminar revenue was boosted through attendance at the Dame Roma Mitchell Lunch and the Gender on the Agenda function. The Cross Industry and Members and Guests functions were also well attended.

Some costs were also reduced, most significantly in the following areas:

1. professional accounting fees more than halved (as we switched to a different provider);
2. administration expenses, postage, printing and stationery and office expenses overall dropped by between 25 to 50%;
3. Conferences and seminars costs and travelling expenses were much less than last year (there was no AWL conference held in the financial year);
4. Brand amortization, legal fees and media expenses were all reduced to nil.

Costs that rose were:

1. Committee expenses by 10%;
2. Bank charges by 20%;
3. Computer expenses were incurred as VWL moved out of the Law Institute building and had to purchase its own software licenses previously provided by LIV;
4. Consultants were engaged to carry out the membership survey, using the LIV grant funding.
5. The cost of gifts rose 13%, but VWL ended the year with some gifts in reserve;
6. Insurance costs rose as VWL decided, after seeking a pro bono legal opinion on the matter, to take out public liability insurance cover following a query from an entertainer at one of our events; and
7. Regular website expenses rose as our IT service provider reviewed their fees and undertook more of the functions previously undertaken by Judy as administrator.

VWL continued to donate to the Afghani Women Lawyers training program at the Women's Empowerment Centre in Kabul through the Indigo Foundation. The Indigo Foundation have now wound up their association with this program.

VWL has had an overall satisfactory profit of \$10,682.00, resulting largely from the cuts in administrative costs and ends the year on a sound financial footing. Looking ahead to 2020, VWL will be engaging an agency to provide its administrative needs and support to members. The strong financial situation VWL is now in will enable this to be undertaken with relatively little stress, ensuring VWL will continue to provide outstanding value for money to its members through its events. As an ongoing member but retiring Treasurer, I look forward to seeing VWL continue to offer members great support in networking and career and life development.

The President thanked the Treasurer for her 7 years of service.

**VICTORIAN WOMEN LAWYERS**  
**GPO 2314 MELBOURNE VIC 3001**  
**DX 350 MELBOURNE**

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## **7 Election of VWL Executive Committee**

Election of Officers of the Association:

- Deborah Kliger: President
- Vanessa Shambrook: Vice-President
- Hannah Fitzpatrick: Treasurer
- Emma Sestito: Secretary

Election of ordinary members of the Committee (six):

- Bonnie Phillips
- Stephanie Pasharis
- Erin Meeking
- Sophie Lefebvre
- Eleanor Weir
- Marquita Nolan

## **8 Other business**

No other business was raised and the meeting was closed.



## VWL 2019 Annual General Meeting Attendance Register

First name	Surname	Organisation
Joanna	Abraham	Victoria Legal Aid
Belinda	Anderson	Department of Community Safety
Dannielle	Archer	Moray and Agnew
Kathleen	Beirne	Office of the General Counsel
Jessica	Buck	Moray and Agnew
Sophie	Chandler	Herbert Smith Freehills
Lucinda	Cook	Moray and Agnew
Elizabeth	Cooper	Victorian Women Lawyers
Alessandra	Daly-Sutton	Self-employed
Alex	Demortzoglou	
Stephanie	De Santis	Victorian Government Solicitors Office
Georgia	Dobbyn	Court Services Victoria
Rani	Donohue	HWL Ebsworth Lawyers
Alex	Dworjanyn	Lander & Rogers
Sanishya	Fernando	EY
Hannah	Fitzpatrick	Herbert Smith Freehills
Natalie	Gibbons	Hall & Wilcox
Linda	Hart	Aitken Partners
Kate	James	Herbert Smith Freehills (ordinary)
Deborah	Kliger	Hicks Oakley Chessell Williams
Stephanie	Koumbarakos	Coulter Roache Lawyers
Jacinta	Learey	Perisic Lawyers
Sophie	Lefebvre	Victorian Women Lawyers
Sonia	Mackie	Student (Communications Committee)
Abbey	Mason	Blackwood Family Lawyers + Membership Committee Co-Chair
Kirsty	Mastores	Plexus (ordinary)
Erin	Meeking	Aitken Partners

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First name	Surname	Organisation
Emmalaura	Messer	KCL Law
Bronwyn	Montgomery	KHQ Lawyers
Greta	Morand	Herbert Smith Freehills
Victoria	Muravchenkov	N/A
Marquita	Nolan	Victorian Women Lawyers
Saarah	Ozeer	College of Law - Practical legal training
Thelma	Palbas	Thelma P-Albas & Associates
Eliza	Panckridge	Coulter Roache
Bonnie	Phillips	Coulter Roache
Shivani	Pillai	Victorian Bar
Natalie	Plumridge	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
Lucy	Prowse	Holding Redlich
Danni	Salinger	FCB
Emma	Sestito	King & Wood Mallesons
Vanessa	Shambrook	Victorian Women Lawyers (ordinary)
Oriana	Torcasio	ASIC
Ella	van der Schans	Herbert Smith Freehills
Eleanor	Weir	SBA Law
Pia	White	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
Georgia	Whiteside	Johnson Winter & Slattery
Bethany	Wilkinson	Purcell Partners

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## VWL 2019 Annual General Meeting Proxy Register

Member	Appointed proxy
Ashleigh Pearse	Deborah Kliger
Asmaa Hasanein	Alex Dworjanyn, Ella van der Schans
Charlie Clark	Bonnie Phillips
Lauren Solomonson	Bonnie Phillips
Lauren O'Loughlin	Bonnie Phillips
Katherine Hayes	Bonnie Phillips
Anne O'Loughlin	Bonnie Phillips
Natasha Ozolins	Sanishya Fernando
Patricia McMullan	Marquita Nolan
Annalise Farina	Erin Meeking
Suzanne Tinkler	Sanishya Fernando
Jessica Samuel	Georgia Whiteside
Nikketa Anderson	Bonnie Phillips
Catherine Moroney	Olivia Roslaniec
Oliva Roslaniec	Eleanor Weir
Maria Pejoski-Aleksovski	Eleanor Weir
Rose Hunt	Eleanor Weir
Hannah Dunai	Eleanor Weir
Nicolina Lademann	President
Elizabeth Brumby	Ella van der Schans
Laura Stringer	Ella van der Schans
Margie Brown	Sophie Lefebvre
Ella van der Schans	Sophie Lefebvre
Stephanie Noack	Sophie Lefebvre
Bethany Kleverlaan	Sophie Lefebvre
Beatrice Paull	Sophie Lefebvre

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Member	Appointed proxy
Stephanie D'Rozario	Sophie Lefebvre
Annmarie Geros	Sophie Lefebvre
Laura Shandley	Bonnie Phillips
Natasha Ozolins	Sanishya Fernando
Suy Schmitz	Sanishya Fernando
Suzanne Tinkler	Sanishya Fernando
Vanessa Bachetti	Emma Sestito

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