



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- OFFICE-BEARER REPORTS..... 3**
 - SECRETARY’S REPORT..... 3
 - TREASURER’S REPORT..... 4
 - MEDIA & COMMS OFFICER’S REPORT..... 6
- KEY EVENTS..... 7**
- MEDIA RELEASES..... 8**
- COMMITTEE REPORTS..... 9**
 - FINANCE COMMITTEE..... 9
 - MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS..... 10
 - MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE..... 11
 - RENTERS RIGHTS SUPPORT TEAM (RRST)..... 12
 - THE CAMPAIGNS COMMITTEE..... 13
 - THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE..... 14
 - THE POLICY COMMITTEE..... 15
- BRANCH REPORTS..... 16**
 - GENERAL MEMBERSHIP..... 16
 - VICTORIA..... 17
 - NEW SOUTH WALES..... 19
 - WESTERN AUSTRALIA..... 20
- COMMITMENT TO DECOLONISATION..... 21**



OFFICE-BEARER REPORTS

SECRETARY'S REPORT

secretary@rahu.org.au

In our final quarter of 2025 we held our Annual General Meeting, and follow up Special General Meeting to finalise changes to our constitution as raised by the membership and thanks to our returning officer Imogen ran our annual elections for Office Bearers which included our first ever candidate forum.

Thanks to the changes in the AGM we now have new Office Bearer positions to organise and lead the union into an exciting new year. Our new First Nations, Disability, Queer, and Public Policy Committees have been created and I look forward to seeing their work evolve over the next year. We also have created space for an Inventory Officer to organise merch, and maintain the Unions office as well as a Public Housing Officer to lead the charge on organising members living in Public Housing which will be filled by a byelection in the new year.

One of RAHU's key demands is high investment in Public Housing to end the waiting list - we were excited to see the great turn out at a Rally to Save Public Housing in Victoria where RAHU held a speaking role and marched with members

of the community in solidarity with the residents of the 44 Public Housing towers facing demolition under the Victorian Governments backwards.

RAHU donated \$500 to APHEDA (Union Aid Abroad for their campaign to support Palestine) this quarter along with around \$6000 to the Black Peoples Unions to continue material support for decolonisation and resisting displacement.

RAHU continues to grow across multiple states, and most dramatically in Western Australia which has become one of the Unions most active branches.

We end the calendar year with many achievements to look back on, and even more victories to look forward to, and more members to fight along side in 2025.

Harry M,
General Secretary,
Renters and Housing Union



OFFICE-BEARER REPORTS

TREASURER'S REPORT

treasurer@rahu.org.au

For the 3 months ended 31 December 2024

Account	Oct-Dec 2024	Jul-Sept 2024	Apr-Jun 2024
Trading Income			
Membership			
Membership Dues - Low-income	1,796.00	2,032.28	2,603.58
Membership Dues - Waged	16,620.00	17,733.02	16,282.41
Membership Dues - Solidarity	5,490.00	5,979.00	5,007.00
Membership Dues - Homeowner (non-voting)	1,680.00	1,815.00	1,509.77
Total Membership	25,586.00	27,559.30	25,402.76
Donations & Grants			
Donations - Individuals	277.68	946.71	394.14
Donations - Non-Individuals	0.00	3,829.18	0.00
Grants Recieved	0.00	11,400.00	0.00
Total Donations & Grants	277.68	16,175.89	394.14
Merchandise Sales	421.60	1,199.41	1,037.89
Event Ticket Sales	4,005.73	5,540.00	60.00
Fundraising on behalf of others	(5,900.00)	0.00	0.00
Interest Income	67.52	52.31	59.38
Membership Dues - High-waged Homeowner (non-voting)	540.00	60.00	0.00
Membership Dues - High-Waged	1,060.00	20.00	0.00
Membership Dues - Low-Waged	2,816.00	945.00	0.00
Total Trading Income	28,874.53	51,551.91	26,954.17

Account	Oct-Dec 2024	Jul-Sept 2024	Apr-Jun 2024
Cost of Sales			
Cost of Goods Sold	(108.78)	(134.13)	(697.43)
Merchandise Sales Related Postage	(48.05)	(81.69)	31.41
Other transaction fees	0.00	0.00	(50.85)
Stripe Fees	(1,254.66)	(1,225.60)	(1,095.95)
WooCommerce Transaction Fee	226.74	372.60	(36.09)
Paypal Fees	0.00	0.00	0.38
Total Cost of Sales	(1,184.75)	(1,068.82)	(1,848.53)
Gross Profit	27,689.78	50,483.09	25,105.64



OFFICE-BEARER REPORTS

Account	Oct-Dec 2024	Jul-Sept 2024	Apr-Jun 2024
Operating Expenses			
Donations and Organisational Memberships			
Donations to other organisations (exc BPU)	(723.00)	0.00	0.00
Membership of other organisations	0.00	0.00	(111.01)
Total Donations and Organisational Memberships	(723.00)	0.00	(111.01)
Events			
Catering	(1,035.64)	(1,565.41)	(571.06)
Events	0.00	(613.91)	(824.30)
Insurance	0.00	(2,050.13)	0.00
Venue Hire	(25.00)	(648.80)	(54.90)
Total Events	(1,060.64)	(4,878.25)	(1,450.26)
Grants			
RRIN - Catering	0.00	(510.30)	0.00
RRIN - Printing	0.00	(431.28)	0.00
RRIN - Stipends	0.00	(3,185.00)	0.00
RRIN - Venue Hire	157.16	(564.28)	(500.00)
Total Grants	157.16	(4,690.86)	(500.00)
Fees & Charges			
Bank Fees	(24.00)	(24.00)	(24.00)
Regulatory Fess & Charges	(424.60)	(182.20)	0.00
Total Fees & Charges	(448.60)	(206.20)	(24.00)

Operating Expenses cont.	Oct-Dec 2024	Jul-Sept 2024	Apr-Jun 2024
Media			
Postage (Non-Merchandise)	0.00	(37.00)	0.00
Printing & Stationery	(691.98)	(137.23)	0.00
Social Media	(31.50)	(162.12)	(228.53)
Total Media	(723.48)	(336.35)	(228.53)
Office			
Rent	(2,616.99)	(2,616.99)	(2,616.99)
Telephone & Internet	(365.00)	(444.00)	(441.00)
Total Office	(2,981.99)	(3,060.99)	(3,057.99)
Rental Rights & Legal			
Research	0.00	(16.81)	0.00
Total Rental Rights & Legal	0.00	(16.81)	0.00
Wages & Stipends			
Stipends	(10,980.00)	(12,930.00)	(9,690.00)
Total Wages & Stipends	(10,980.00)	(12,930.00)	(9,690.00)
General Expenses	(244.80)	(666.40)	(172.03)
Low-Value Assets	(22.46)	0.00	(370.85)
Subscription - Digital Services	(5,544.84)	(4,407.73)	(4,451.36)
Donations to other organisations - Black Peoples Union	(3,183.00)	(3,684.37)	(4,573.45)
Volunteer Incentive	(730.80)	(404.00)	0.00
Safer spaces	(770.00)	0.00	0.00
Total Operating Expenses	(27,256.45)	(35,281.96)	(24,629.48)
Net Profit	276.17	19,891.99	976.16

OFFICE-BEARER REPORTS

MEDIA & COMMS OFFICER'S REPORT

media@rahu.org.au

This Quarter was the most productive yet with this Chair. We're still having low attendance at Committee meetings, I suspect this is largely due to low efforts at phone banking - we've been texting, posting on discord and emailing but it's hard to beat an actual conversation.

We've had a couple of Media Releases this Quarter, with accompanying social media posts to boot. The Media Releases in conjunction with the Black Peoples Union and Lidia Thorpe's office was great to be a part of, and the research done to contact relevant journalists saw the story covered in the National Indigenous Times.

The Committee Chair put their hand up and ran again for the role again in the 2024 elections. We did have another member also running, and I've reached out to try and get them involved in the Committee's work. While serving the half term, and this being my now second consecutive term, my goal for the next year is to train up someone dedicated to hand over to.

Solidarity forever,

Communications Officer
Renters and Housing Union



KEY EVENTS

October

RAHU held the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Saturday, 19th October 2024, with almost 40 people attending to help shape the future of the Union.

RAHU took part in the Save Public Housing Collective's Rally on [Thursday October 24th](#)

RAHU donated \$500 to APHEDA - [Stand with the people of Gaza | Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA](#)

November

Following on from the AGM, RAHU held a Special General Meeting (SGM) on Sunday, 17th November 2024, with 30 people attending to help shape the future of the Union.

The Inner South Melbourne Branch Published the first edition of the Housing Bulletin ([available on the RAHU website](#))

December

The updated constitution was submitted to Consumer Affairs Victoria

RAHU members supported two community actions for the Squatting Campaign

RAHU held first ever candidate forum - Office Bearer Elections for 2025 were held



MEDIA RELEASES

OCTOBER

PREMIER JACINTA ALLAN'S COMMENTS ABOUT PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS - 29 October 2024

<https://rahu.org.au/response-to-premier-jacinta-allans-shameful-comments/>

"a small number of people ... backed by the Greens political party, who have demonstrated that they don't want particularly vulnerable Victorians to have the dignity of a new modern home". – Victorian Premier, Jacinta Allan, via The Age,

NOVEMBER

Renters and Housing Union response to "Streamlining 'torturous' townhouse rules will help, but won't solve state's housing crisis" – The Age – 10/11/2024 -

November 11 2024

<https://rahu.org.au/rahu-responds-nov-11-2024/>

Towards the end of the 1930s, the Australian state entered a period of population growth, exacerbated by the end of the Second World War, the Baby Boom, and an influx of European refugees brought in under the White Australia Policy

DECEMBER

Black Peoples Union (BPU), the Renters And Housing Union (RAHU), and Senator Lidia Thorpe Condemn Eviction of Beanang Kwuurt Institute - 13 December 2024

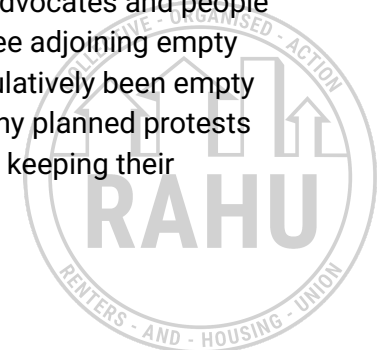
<https://rahu.org.au/2024-december-bpu-rahu-lt-beanang-kwuurt-institute/>

We the undersigned stand in staunch solidarity with the Beanang Kwuurt Institute (BKI) and call for the immediate cessation of its eviction by the Uniting Church Australia. The eviction represents a continuation of the colonial injustices that this very site was once complicit in, denying Indigenous peoples a vital space for healing from the trauma caused by colonisation and the church's own actions.

Empty homes occupied in Melbourne in response to the housing crisis - 16 December 2024

<https://rahu.org.au/empty-homes-occupied-in-melbourne-in-response-to-housing-crisis/>

On the 14th of December 2024, housing advocates and people experiencing homelessness occupied three adjoining empty properties in Brunswick, which have cumulatively been empty for almost 25 years. It was the first of many planned protests targeting wealthy landowners deliberately keeping their properties empty during a housing crisis.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

treasurer@rahu.org.au

October

November

Fundraiser is happening for the Emergency Rent Assistance Fund

NOV treasurer report

December

A member is planning to run Climate ap out of CoPower



COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

media@rahu.org.au

October

New communications and media meetings date, 3rd Friday of the month 7pm(EASTERN TIME)

Meeting attended by 3 people this month, new record since I took over (includes harry so feels like cheating)
Newsletter completed for september
One (1) social media post written
Plenty of assistance with RAHU AGM
Have fixed the issue on RAHU website importing events from the public google calendar (finally!)

November

Two (2) press releases since last meeting,
Two (2) social media posts
Newsletter out on time.
No one was available for the meeting, minutes are in GDrive.
Committee Chair did sms 15 people earlier in the day,
alerted on discord, etc

Collaborated with Secretary to cover Social Media Committee role.

December

This month has gone really well. The Newsletter went out and was fantastic.

Quarterly bulletin needs to be caught up on (hey, that's this!)

Two press releases this week, one a joint statement by RAHU, BPU and Lidia Thropes office.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

membership@rahu.org.au

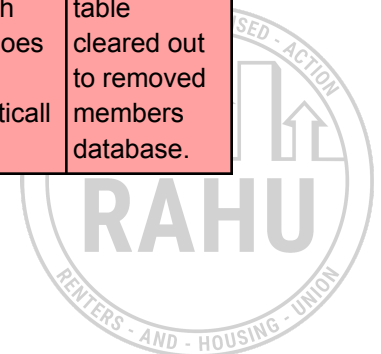
December

International student and temporary visa holders categories no longer exist

3 members + the OB texted roughly 70 members to ask them to start using Stripe and stop using bank transfer

Started training the member running for the office Bearer Role as a Committee member

	Oct	Nov	Dec
Date of Report	21/10/24	18/11/24	16/12/24
Membership Data Correct as of	21/10/24	18/11/24	16/12/24
Membership List Total	1965	1982	1937
Deregister List	20	26	0
Active Membership (Total minus Deregister)	1945	1956	1937
Bad Standing Total	246	261	280
Bad Standing %	12.65%	13.34%	14.46%
Good Standing %	87.35%	86.66%	85.54%
At Risk of Bad Standing	14	17	13
Report Notes	Completed all Sep bank transfers but none for Oct. Although Stripe does it automatically.	Completed all Oct bank transfers but none for Nov. Although Stripe does it automatically.	All bank transfers completed up to date. Deregister table cleared out to removed members database.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

November

December

RENTERS RIGHTS SUPPORT TEAM (RRST) rentersrights@rahu.org.au

October

RRST brainstormed potential issues for summer heat. Brainstormed a potential section of the Act that could assist renters with unsafe temperatures. There's no test case for temperature but there is a mould case.

- S68 landlord's duty to maintain premises in reasonably fit and suitable condition to occupy (<https://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/cases/vic/VCAT/2017/1806.html>)
- Mould case - member found "that the Applicants had grounds for serving an appropriately drafted notice to vacate the premises on the basis of its unsafe condition" due to mould. - this was before mould was in the minimum standards)
- New minimum energy efficiency standards out for consultation. Landlords are going to need to install coolers. Could periodic tenants use those standards as evidence in a VCAT case to argue for s68



COMMITTEE REPORTS

December

THE CAMPAIGNS COMMITTEE

campaigns@rahu.org.au

October

Public housing rally had great attendance!

Squatting campaign taking a minor break

November

With the previous Office Bearer resigning in November, another RAHU member stepped up as interim Campaigns Committee chair

1. SQUATTING CAMPAIGN

Banner drop in Fitzroy.

2. PUBLIC HOUSING CAMPAIGN

Quietly chugging along

3. SUMMER CAMPAIGN PLANS

Potentially rerunning climate apocalypse event -
potentially sitins for right to cooling



THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

operations@rahu.org.au

October

Vaultwarden has been launched as a secure password management solution. All office bearers have been onboarded, as well as some other committee members. The previous system has had sharing access restricted, with an intention to purge all files after a brief period, just to be sure nothing is lost in migrating to the new system.

After six months, the RAHU office has F I N A L L Y been connected to the NBN. The previous 4/5G connection is still active for now, pending some final configuration of the new Wi-Fi, but will be deactivated ASAP, allowing for the Telstra ISP connection (and bill) to be cancelled. Configuration of the VoIP phone connected with the new connection will be a later step, intended to be completed in December at latest.

CiviCRM configuration and migration is ongoing.

November

WiFi at RAHU office has been fully switched over to new NBN plan. Telstra plan can be deactivated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finally making significant progress towards deploying CiviCRM. Expecting fully deployment will be possible before the end of the year. We can at least start 2025 on the front foot.

Also made progress toward a simpler method for creating/managing Microsoft users.

RRT ticket platform Freshdesk changed the availability at the free tier, so currently paying to maintain existing access, but alternative platforms will be investigated when possible. CiviCRM has a relevant module, but we will have to investigate its features.

December



COMMITTEE REPORTS

THE POLICY COMMITTEE Email: policy@rahu.org.au

November

Working group has become a committee

Many members keen to get involved

Committee is writing short position papers

- Minimum standards
- Empty homes paper
- Rent caps/freezes
- Public housing
- Rent strikes

Future projects: politician investment properties - land title searches, publicity



BRANCH REPORTS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP BRANCH

Email: contact@rahu.org.au

October

Other Delegates are disengaged, meetings have been running smoothly, elected Returning Officer

November

A member was speaking to this coming out of a local organising group. Proposing to the new state electricity commission. Solar panels go on roofs of community buildings for renters to access the energy.

December

Planning to run a "Renters survival guide to the climate apocalypse early jan"

Focusing on reviving inner melb

No meeting in December

Trying last ditch effort to re-engage absent Delegate



VICTORIA

NORTH BRANCH

(Merri-Bek, Darebin, Banyule)

Email: north@rahu.org.au

October

Smallest branch meeting in a long while. Not entirely certain if this was due to changes in our usual member outreach, or because of key members experiencing burnout (or both!) A few new members engaged and willing to become active though. Members in our branch have continued to be active in other parts of RAHU organising and external community events.

November

~14 in attendance at November branch meeting.

Two members have stepped down from their roles of branch secretary and delegate - both due to capacity. Both will be missed and welcomed back if/when they are able and willing to return.

A member put his hand up and was voted in as a new North branch delegate. That puts us at 4 delegates currently.

BRANCH REPORTS

Branch agreed to meet in December.

Members agreed to help with local refugee family with regular mowing.

Also, heard from a public housing resident and discussed ideas for organising and voice interests of his building.

December



INNER SOUTH

(Port Phillip, Stonnington, Glen Eira, and Bayside)

Email: southmelb@rahu.org.au

October

Last branch meeting was great, smallish turn out but people seemed keen to do stuff. The General Secretary attended which I think members really appreciated. We are set to release our first branch bulletin soon, all articles are submitted and the editor is currently putting it together. A RAHU member has volunteered to assist with graphic design and the two have been put in contact. We can report back once it's finished, the intention in making it is to better interact with renters in the inner-south and also our members. We'd like to start bringing these to train station public stalls. The Delegates also discussed doing more in person events to build community. And we also might have interest from a member for an extra delegate. A Delegate who was one of the original delegates has also indicated increased capacity from November. A Delegate was to have very little capacity until mid December.

November

October branch meeting was small (6) but good, The General Secretary came along! A member tentatively indicated interest in becoming a delegate. In the meantime our hiatus delegate has come back on board and thanks to everyone who contributed and most of all the member who is acting as editor, the first edition of the Bulletin is ready to print!!

BRANCH REPORTS

Tomorrow's meeting will likely be centred on next logistics steps for this project.

The total number of members has increased by around 15 in the last month, no phone banking has taken place. However, two Delegates have responded to multiple requests for advice and support received to the branch email, several members, a couple non-members which have all been really positive interactions. One member in social housing requires ongoing support.

December

Meeting turnout was fairly typical - 6 branch members and one RAHU member who was a guest to the branch (from the ACT). We elected one of our active members, to be our fourth delegate. He is and has been a lifelong activist in many circles. A Delegate has made a massive effort to keep on top of new member phone-banking. We have a December meeting booked for tomorrow and no January meeting (as the one month off, but open to feedback). Our first branch bulletin was published online thanks to The Communications Committee, and we plan to discuss next steps and plan our next publishing committee meeting during this months meeting..



BRANCH REPORTS

NEW SOUTH WALES

RIVERINA

(Wagga Wagga, Leeton, Griffith and Albury)

Email: riverina@rahu.org.au

December

Committee members were working to contact the Branch members, to support them having a meeting so the Branch remains active and valid



BRANCH REPORTS

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

(State Wide)

Email: wa@rahu.org.au

December

RAHU WA - Governing Committee Report Nov/Dec Activities

Current/Past:

Meetings/General Activities:

Organised Community BBQ (12th December 2024)

Branch Meeting - in person (27th November 2024)

Actions:

Support and Resistance from eviction - Beanangring

Kwuurt Institute

~ Ongoing since 12th December 2024

~ Call on all branches to please promote if you can

~ Get in touch for more details

Future:

December Branch meeting delayed to January 8th 2025



The Renters and Housing Union is a member-run union of renters and people in precarious housing, formed out of the rent strike as a response to the COVID-19 crisis.

We collectively organise for the right to safe and secure housing through self-advocacy, education, and frontline eviction defence.

The Renters And Housing Union operates and advocates on stolen land, and supports the continued struggle for Land Back and true political and material power in the hands of the many Indigenous nations across so called "Australia".

As a Union we acknowledge the Elders and Warriors from across these nations and their unceded sovereignty and right to self determination.

Sovereignty was never ceded.

<https://rahu.org.au/commitment-to-decolonisation/>

