



# TASSO NEWS



# Message from the President

Well, here we are again – school association AGM time of year (for the majority of them) !!

Now take a deep breath!! There is no need to panic. Just slow down, read through your constitution, Secretary's Instructions #7 and Minister's instructions #12, it lays it all out. If this is not helping just pick up the phone or send us an email and we can provide the support you need to move this process forward. We can provide you with supporting resources to help you deliver the perfect AGM! TASSO offer a range of templates to help to make your AGM a seamless meeting. Some of the supports we can offer include:

- Step by Step breakdown of what is required to hold an AGM
- Template of a nomination form for potential committee members
- Template of an agenda to run an AGM including each person's role in running the AGM  
This agenda provides all the details of what must be passed through motions, etc
- Supporting documents that outline the role and responsibility of Office Bearers on the committee

In addition, we have a wonderful staff and a quality board who are also available to answer any and all of your questions and support you to deliver not only a quality AGM but committee meetings throughout the year!

In relation to AGMs, many phone calls we receive are about the filling of positions or the lack of being able to fill positions..... I am here to say "this is okay" - on the back page of your constitution it will advise you what is the minimum and maximum number required to form a committee. Whilst each constitution is slightly different most adopted the numbers from the model constitution which is a maximum of 11 and a **minimum of 5**.

Your Principal is automatically one, 2 staff and we are already over half-way there! Whilst it is ideal to fill all spots at the AGM the reality for many of us in our communities is this is difficult and that is okay! Any position not filled at the AGM can be filled through the course of the year by nomination at one of your committee meetings.

So as a committee, it is okay to give yourself the time to approach parents in the school community and discuss coming on to the committee over time – invite them to a committee meeting as an observer so they can get an understanding of what is involved, talk to parents who are involved as volunteers in the school and canvas their interest.

Now you have held a successful AGM! What's next?"

Generally, straight after the AGM we rush straight into our first committee meeting of the year and straight on to the agenda and business items of the previous committee. At this point I would like to ask a couple of questions –

"How is this inclusive to new members of your committee? Answer – It isn't!

"How does it allow them to make informed and educated decisions on behalf of the community they represent?

Answer – It doesn't!

I would strongly suggest the meeting straight after your AGM be the election of your office bearer positions and then a proper Induction and planning meeting. Provide at that meeting the previous 12 months minutes, copies of policies, the school improvement plan and any information that is going to help them be an informed member of your committee. It is also a good review for those who have been on the committee previously and brings you all to the same start point to move forward for the year.

In terms of planning – locking in all the dates for meetings, events both those run by school association and those run by the school which may require parent support – sports carnivals, major assemblies etc

This gives you as a committee and the parents in your community time to plan how they can support these events.



Once again TASSO can offer a suite of supporting documents and well as dedicated board members to help you run this meeting. Simply contact the TASSO office for advice and support.

Finally, Tasso is running a series of Q&A evening and Regional Forums over the next 12 months to help support our school associations committee and specifically the Office Bearers in there positions and roles.

Our first Q&A session will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April, more information about these sessions will be made available on our Website – [TASSO](#) or our Facebook page - [TASSO | Facebook](#)

Good Luck and remember that the team and I at TASSO are only a phone call away

Cheers

Jared Dickason



**THE  
Inaugural  
TASSO  
Q&A**

**19/4**  
All Welcome  
Online Only

*Think of it as a coffee and chat*

Beginning on the 19th of April will be the first, of hopefully many, sessions where any of you are welcome to log in, at your convenience and chew the year of the experienced TASSO representative. Sessions will run for an hour and you are welcome check in and check out whenever. Or if you'd prefer you can hang around and listen to the others like you whom also have queries.

One



Planet

Back in 2018 Huonville High School was successful in installing a whopping 200 solar panels to subsidise their energy needs. This not only reduces their energy costs but is also doing their bit for the planet the students will come to inherit.

In 2021 Rose Bay High School is looking to follow suit, and good on them. It's not an easy process, primarily due to the cost involved, but the school is on track. The school has enlisted **Toby Thorpe**, the man responsible for the success of Huonville's upgrade, for guidance so that they may achieve the same outcome.

Mr Thorpe will be attending the school association's meeting in May as guest speaker and all are those interested are invited to attend.

The meeting is to take place on Tuesday 18 May at 7PM. If you are interested in attending the meeting, for covid reasons, please email Bridget @ [bridgetscottie@gmail.com](mailto:bridgetscottie@gmail.com) beforehand.

If this has raised any interest for you, I suggest you check out the ABC article on **Toby Thorpe** and just what Huonville High is doing to be more energy efficient – <https://ab.co/3riK10Q> or <https://www.australianoftheyear.org.au/recipients/toby-thorpe/2308/>



# Did You Know

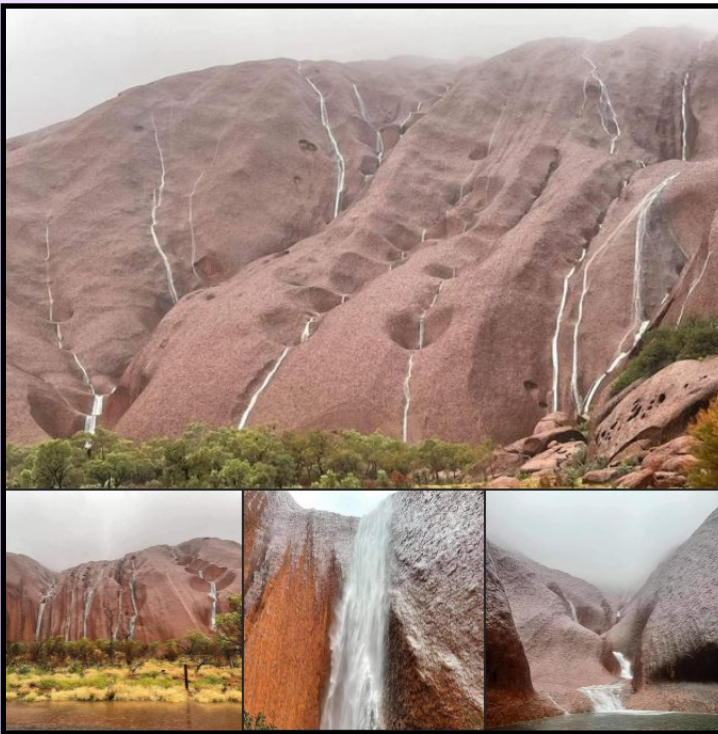


?

In 1994 it was decided that a competition be started for graphic design students to come up with a new logo for TASSO.

The winning entry is an adult putting their arms around a child.

Or... If you're like me, it's simply the TASSO "Bat signal"




Despite all the damage the rain has caused across the country over the last few days, nature still managed to gift us some beauty. What you see here are many miniature waterfalls flowing down Uluru!

Has your school association been contacted by the ATO notifying you that your association has not submitted a tax return in the last 'X' amount of years?

Scary though it may be, it's nothing to be concerned about. You will still need to act though. TASSO intends to approach the Minister for Education and Secretary Tim Bullard with the hope that they can engage with the ATO so we can make running a SAC (school association committee) a little easier and a whole lot less stressful!



 **Collinsvale Primary School** 20h · 🌐

Unfortunately we have had 6x iPad's and 3x chargers go missing from school this term. We are currently working with the IT Department and police in tracking these devices. If you know any information, please let the office know.

😞😞😞 19 5 comments 10 shares

# JARED DICKASON

TASSO President

## About Jared

Jared joined the TASSO Management Committee in August of 2015 as a Southern Delegate and has since held the positions of Treasurer, Senior Vice President and has returned to the role of Treasurer for 2019-2020. When joining TASSO Jared was an active Parent Representative on the Goulburn Street Primary School Association Committee and now is their Chairperson and is a member of the Tarroona High School Association.

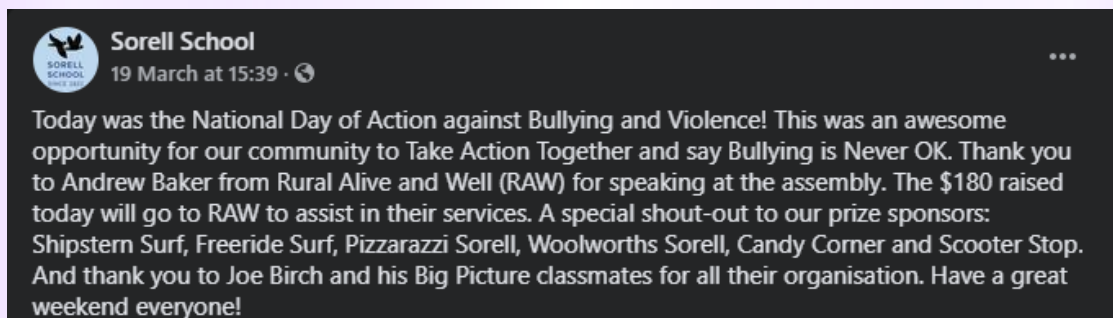
Extensive business experience in sales, marketing, logistics and the hospitality industry both as an employer and employee, coupled with voluntary involvement with community organisations, puts Jared in good stead when it comes to governance, strategic and financial planning.

Jared's areas of interest in education include wanting to further empower the voice of TASSO and those it represents on an individual, school, state and national level.



National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence was last Friday but in all honesty should be every day of the year!

Well done to Sorell School and all others that participated!



# DANNIELLE MURFET

TASSO Treasurer

## About Danielle Murfet

Danielle is the mum of 2 young children, with another child due very soon. The children currently attend Beaconsfield Primary School and Danielle is currently the Chairperson of the Beaconsfield Primary School Association.

Danielle recently launched a new business to sell her crafts that she loves to create – selling knitted and crocheted garments and sewing different creations, as well as creating professional cakes. Danielle is also one of the co-founders of Rascal Robot Art Space, situated in Beaconsfield. This is a place for creative children and young people. A place where they can learn, grow and build their confidence. This is an environment that fosters creativity and encourages free expression of ideas, and the chance to work with and learn from professional contemporary arts practitioners. Amongst Danielle's other interests are motorbike riding with her family, travelling the world and showing her children the different cultures the world has to offer.



October 2019 saw Danielle join the TASSO Management Committee as a Northern Delegate and was elected to the role of Treasurer on the TASSO Board in September 2020.

Danielle's work experience lies within the finance industry and small business. With this experience and the value she places on being involved in the community, and a hands-on parent with a desire to help improve the education of her children, places Danielle in an ideal position to be an active and positive contributor to TASSO.

Being an active and engaged part of the School Association gives Danielle the opportunity to help upgrade equipment, facilities throughout the school and it also gives the parents a voice within the school community. Danielle joined the TASSO group as she believes this is another platform to benefit schools and provides the opportunity to access many tools to unite the schooling community.

As quoted by Danielle 'Our children's education is in our hands, it is what we do as parents that will affect our children's schooling experience.'

# High Achievers

Here at TASSO we like to share the accomplishments of any students we've been made aware of. It's going to be a feature moving forward and we are excited about the students we'll be able to celebrate in the future.



**Clarence High School**

19h · 🌐



This dark and stormy day wasn't enough to put a stop to the Southern Inter-high Athletics Carnival! And despite the weather our kids didn't let us down!

Clarence High School are very proud to announce that today we were the overall winners of Division A at the inter-high carnival! Our boys came second overall and our girls came first which led to the overall win.

This is a massive achievement, with CHS taking out the win for the first time since 2009!

We couldn't be more proud of the resilience, participation and determination shown by all of our students.



**St Helens District High School (official)**

Yesterday at 09:54 · 🌐



On Tuesday the 23rd of March, 32 students accompanied by Mr Park and Mr Cummings travelled to the Albert Hall in Launceston to participate in the 2021 Science and Engineering challenge. We competed against six schools from around Launceston in various Engineering and Science Challenges. By the end of the competition we came third overall. Thanks very much to Donna A who volunteered to help us on the day.



**Bridport Primary School**

22 March at 17:10 · 🌐



Congratulations to all of our students who represented our school today. Accompanying teachers were very happy with the participation from our team and very proud of the teams' achievements and behaviour.

\* if you have any photos of your child from today please inbox them to this page. 📷





Montagu Bay Primary

23 March at 10:16 · 🌐

Harmony Day at Montagu Bay!



## Educational Home Readers

We've talked about these books before in TAS-SO News before but being a new year we have a heap of new students and, of course, parents.

Home readers are a familiar concept when it comes to children learning to read at home but few of them are anything like these.

Millie the Mathematician and Suzie the Scientist are home readers with a twist. As the titles suggest, the topics of the readers are maths and science. Hidden within the text of the readers, these topics are intertwined with the story.

The beauty for the parent/carers, is that all of the maths and science content is right there is front of them. While the child makes their way through the book reading, the parent/carer can help them also understand the maths/science.

These readers come in two sets, the maths and the science. Each set made up of 24 readers. The books can be ordered in printed sets, or bought in an online form from the Apple i-Bookstore.

Please visit : [Home | Millie the Mathematician](#) or [Home | Suzie the Scientist](#) for more details..



# What is a School Association & School Association Committee?

## School Association

All Tasmanian state schools and colleges have a school association. Membership of the association includes all parents/carers of enrolled students, school staff (teaching and non-teaching) and members of the school community.

The aim of the school association is to provide an avenue for everyone to support students by supporting the school. Decades of research recognises that when families, schools and communities work in genuine collaboration and positive engagement with one and other, student learning and wellbeing improves.

<https://www.dese.gov.au/supporting-family-school-community-partnerships-learning/family-school-partnerships/parent-engagement-learning>

## School Association Committee

Consists of the principal and elected representatives from parents/carers, school staff and community members. The election of representatives occurs in the lead up to and possibly at the school association's Annual General Meeting (AGM), which for most schools and colleges will be occurring in the coming weeks.

## Where to find more information on your School Association and Committee

The best way to find out more information about your school association is to ask your school and other parents/carers, talk with a school association committee member and or attend the AGM or a committee meeting.

## Do I have to be a member of the school association committee to contribute?

You do not have to be on the School Association Committee to make a valuable contribution to the school your children attend. Members of the Committee will be able to tell you of about ways you can contribute and be engaged in not only your child's education but in that of others as well.

Everyone who is actively engaged with students, schools and school communities makes a valuable contribution to the education of all students. Like the saying "it takes a village to raise a child", it takes a team of people to help in keeping students engaged in their education.

Friend of TASSO



Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and  
Gays



## School Association AGMs

As many school association committee members might be aware, we're rapidly approaching that time of the year where school associations conduct their AGMs. It can be quite a daunting process to many, especially if you've never been a part of or chaired an AGM. TASSO are in the process of creating a detailed 'manual' which, we hope, will help many going forward....

Until then, we have the following resources to help pave the way for your successful meeting!

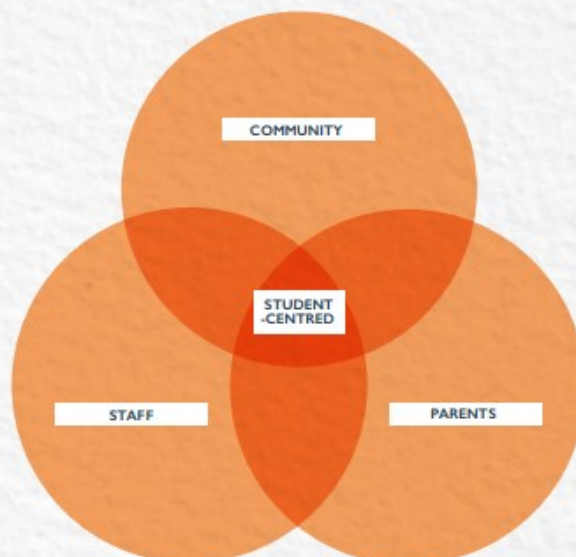
### School & College Association's Annual General Meeting (AGM)

In 2020 a lot of School Associations could not hold their AGM on or around the date prescribed in their Constitution, for the majority that is on or around March 31<sup>st</sup> because of COVID-19. Regardless of when in 2020 your Association's AGM was held if your Constitution states that it is to be held around March 31<sup>st</sup>, then it must be held on or around March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

How is your School Association Committee tracking in preparation for the upcoming AGM, have you...

- Set a date, time & venue (remember social distancing)?
- Called for nominations for parent & community reps?
- Advertised the AGM & the agenda 14 days prior to the set date?
- Organised or starting to have the Association financial records audited?
- Last years AGM Minutes ready for presentation?
- Written the school association report?

For more information or assistance contact the 'team' at TASSO who are here to try and make this as painless as possible. We understand this doesn't come naturally to... well, most of us!



# April 2021

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
			1 Student Free Day	2 Easter Holidays Office Closed	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Q+A Online	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

# May 2021

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
					1	2
3	4	5 Newsletter Due	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Rose Bay Solar Plan*	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 TASSO Regional Forum	26	27	28	29	30
31						