



Photo courtesy of Catalin Ovidiu Anastase at Picnic 1 June 2024 at Rock's Riverside Park organized by the Romanian Association Doina Queensland

ANNUAL REPORT YEAR 1

2023 - 2024



Contents

From the President	3
Cuvinte de la Presedinta Asociatiei	4
From the Treasurer	5
Introduction.....	6
Mission vision and Values	6
Constitution	6
Overview of Activity	7
Events.....	7
Serata “An Australian Encounters Romania in Brisbane	8
Picnic by the Sea for Romania Day 2023	9
Serata to Celebrate Romania National Culture Day 2024	10
Picnic for 1 June Intenational Children’s Day	14
Romanian Retro Roaring 20’s Ball	16
Projects	21
Folk Ensemble Doina Queensland	22
Sports Team Valahia	22
Club Drumetii.....	23
ThinkUKNow Online safety Workshop	23
School of Romanian Language Culture and Civilisation “Doina” Brisbane	24
Collaborations	24
Leardership and Management	26
Management Committee.....	27
Operations.....	28
Office Management	28
Insurance	28
Association’s Records	28
Membership Management	28
Financial Management	29
Communication MAnagement	29
Grants and Proposals.....	29
Events Management.....	29
Finance and Accounting	31

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is with greatest pleasure that I acknowledge the Romanian community in Queensland which has been absolutely wonderful in embracing the Romanian Association Doina Queensland Inc (the Association) establishment and operations. Our gratitude goes to everyone who believed in the Association's vision and supported its mission by becoming members and thus sharing the important role to promote the culture and give a voice to the local Romanians residents in Queensland.

The story of our beginning is a mix of dreaming and of hope from a group of community members sharing a passion for preserving and promoting the Romanian culture and values, who decided to come together to establish an association as a way of ensuring that we can pass to the younger generation a rich tapestry of cultural traditions and values. This initial group has taken the initiative forward and established a Management Committee (MC) and proceeded to build the structure and the operations for the association. The Romanian Association Doina Queensland Inc has been registered on the 26 October 2023, the day when the Cristian Orthodox tradition celebrates Sfantul Dumitru and the change of seasons in the old calendar as omen of good luck and fortitude.

The Romanian community has supported enthusiastically this initiative, demonstrated by over 100 paying members in the first 8 months of operation and by over 15 members who served in the Management Committee in various management, administration and coordination roles.

The Association has welcomed over 500 community members to five cultural events organized during its first year of operation, which demonstrates a significant level of interest and commitment to active involvement and support of this initiative. The Association's projects such as the "Folk Ensemble Doina", the nature lovers "Club Drumetii", the sports team "Valahia" have been embraced with various levels of enthusiasm by the community.

One of the most complex and important projects of the association is the establishment of the School of Romanian Language, Culture and Civilization for the first time EVER in Queensland, Australia. This is a long-term project which has the potential to galvanise the community around the Association's mission to: *"foster and promote Romanian cultural, educational, spiritual, and traditional values in Queensland, Australia"*.

I am so grateful and proud of each and every volunteer to the management and coordination effort. Animated by the passion to serve the community, the Management Committee and subcommittee members have contributed with an incredible amount of work, dedication, passion and skill to the building of a strong foundation for the association, so that the community benefits in the short and long run.

My hope for the next year is that the Romanian community in Queensland will raise to the challenge and embrace the mission to build the Association into an important institution that will help celebrate the Romanian ethos and build on our shared values and *"Commitment to cultural preservation, inclusivity, community engagement, and educational excellence"*.

Yours in dreaming and hoping,

Aurelia Noran

Founding Member and inaugural President of Romanian Association Doina Queensland Inc.

CUVINTE DE LA PRESEDINTA ASOCIATIEI

Imi face o deosebită plăcere sa felicit comunitatea română din Queensland, care a fost absolut minunată în sprijinul arătat pentru Asociația Română Doina Queensland Inc (Asociația). Multumiri si aprecieri deosebite sunt transmise membrilor comunitatii care au facut un pas important si au devenit membrii ai asociatiei, astfel demonstrând ca au incredere in viziunea acesteia si se implica in misiunea comună de a promova cultura si a amplifica vocea colectiva a românilor din Queensland.

Povestea începutului nostru este un amestec de vis și speranță din partea unui grup de români care împărtășesc pasiunea pentru păstrarea și promovarea culturii și valorilor românești si care au decis să înființeze o asociație pentru a da mai departe catre generațiile urmatoare tradițiile și valorile culturale românești. Acest grup a înființat un comitet de conducere și a depus un efort extraordinar pentru construirea structurii și a operațiunilor asociației. Asociația Română Doina Queensland Inc a fost înregistrată la data de 26 octombrie 2023, ziua în care tradiția creștin-ortodoxă sărbătorește „Sfântul Dumitru” și schimbarea anotimpurilor din vechiul calendar ca un semn de noroc și binecuvântare.

Comunitatea română a susținut cu entuziasm această inițiativă, după cum demonstrează numărul de peste 100 de membri plătitori în primele 10 luni de funcționare și de peste 15 membri care au fost voluntari în comitetele de management în diferite roluri de conducere, administrare și coordonare.

Peste 500 de membri ai comunității au participat la cele cinci evenimente culturale organizate în primul an de funcționare al Asociației si s-au implicat in proiectele Asociației precum „Ansamblul Folcloric Doina”, „Club Drumeții” pentru iubitorii de natură, echipa sportivă „Valahia”, ceea ce demonstrează un nivel semnificativ de interes.

Unul dintre cele mai complexe și importante proiecte ale Asociației este înființarea pentru prima dată în Queensland, Australia, a Școlii de Limbă, Cultură și Civilizație Română „Doina Brisbane”. Acesta este un proiect pe termen lung care are potențialul de a uni comunitatea în jurul misiunii Asociației de: „a încuraja și promova valorilor culturale, educaționale, spirituale și tradiționale românești în Queensland, Australia”.

Sunt foarte recunoscătoare și mândra de sacrificiile facute de fiecare voluntar care a contribuit cu generozitate la efortul de coordonare al Asociației. Animați de pasiunea pentru comunitate, membrii comitetului și ai subcomitetelor de conducere au contribuit cu multa muncă, dăruire, pasiune și pricepere la o bază solidă pentru asociație, in beneficiul comunității.

Mulumiri deosebite pentru cei 100 de membri ai asociatiei care au participat la activitati, evenimente si au contribuit la o pagina in istoria comunitatii romane scrisa pe meleagurile din Queensland, Australia.

Speranța mea pentru anul viitor este sa ridicam stacheta pentru comunitatea românească din Queensland si sa transformam Asociația într-o instituție importantă care să contribuie la celebrarea etosului românesc și să construiască pe mai departe valorile noastre comune pentru promovarea culturalii, limbii si traditiilor milenare romanesti.

Cu multe vise si sperante pentru viitor,

Aurelia Noran

Membra fondatoare și președinta Asociației Române Doina Queensland Inc.in primul an de functionare, 2023 – 2024

FROM THE TREASURER

In the 8 months since its inception on 26 October 2024, the Association has had an impressive activity, supported by its very committed and dedicated 102 members. With everyone's support, we have managed to organize 5 major events, 4 other ongoing activities and set the foundation of a Romanian Language school.

In the period 26 Oct2024 – 30 June 2024 we delivered a surplus of \$1,403 over our budget and ended the financial year with a healthy cash position of \$6,000 which sets us up for our next large projects and the upcoming events such as Romania Day.

The membership income was \$7,795 with \$3,000 paid in advance for financial year 2024- 2025 and financial year 2025 - 2026. Income from ticketed events was \$2,667 below the budget but the \$1,281 received from donations from some of our supporting members (vs \$300 expected) was a welcome surprise. After all the expenses related to the events and corporate running costs of the association such as insurance, technology, we closed the financial year 2023 – 2024 with a \$4,433 surplus. The cash in bank of \$6,063, considers the \$2,000 bond for the Ball venue which was refunded after 30/06/2024.

In FY25, we plan to apply for grants and attract donations and sponsorships to fund major projects such as Romania Day, the School of Romanian Language Culture and Civilization Doina Brisbane and the Romanian Film Festival. As the Association grows, so will our chances to secure grants and sponsorships.

I wish to thank all our members for their contribution in funds, volunteering effort and, more importantly, their desire for the Association to succeed, and we hope that our community organization delivers to their dreams and expectations.

For the people, sincerely yours,

Diana Plesnila

Founding Member and Treasurer of Romanian Association Doina Queensland Inc.

INTRODUCTION

This Report is presented to the Association's members and the public to inform them on the progress of the establishment and development of the Romanian Association Doina Queensland Inc and covers the 9 months from its establishment in early October 2023 to 30 June 2024.

MISSION VISION AND VALUES

The Association has been incorporated and registered by the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) on 26 October 2023 in accordance with the Queensland's Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (the Act) and it has been established at a time when there was no other registered community organisation that focused on cultural, social, traditional and secular values representing the Romanian community in Queensland outside various religious organisations.

MISSION STATEMENT: To foster and promote Romanian and other ethnic cultural, educational, spiritual, and traditional values in Queensland, Australia.

VISION STATEMENT: To create a vibrant and inclusive community where cultural diversity is celebrated, and traditions are preserved.

VALUES: Commitment to cultural preservation, inclusivity, community engagement, and educational excellence.

CONSTITUTION

The Association has been established with a constitution that follows closely the model rules published by the Office of Fair Trading in Queensland. The Constitution has been revised to adopt the model rules updated in 2024 to respond to legislative updates of the Act. The Management Committee maintains a vigilant approach to compliance and keeps abreast of changes in legislation, rules and regulations. The Association has applied for charity status and adopted the guidelines of governance published by Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. [For charities | ACNC](#) in preparation for being granted this status by the OFT of Queensland.

The following objects of activity show in Figure 1 Excerpt from Romanian Association Doina Queensland Inc. Constitution, Rule 3, page 4 are set in Constitution to provide clear direction for what the Association is all about and how it performs its function for the community within the legislative framework of the State of Queensland, Australia. Those "objects of incorporation" are brought to the attention of members at the time of application for membership and are adopted as key strategic objectives for the Association's operations.

Objects

The objects of the association are—

- 1 Foster, promote and support the development of cultural, spiritual, educational and social aspects of the Romanian community in Queensland and Australia.
- 2 Promote the preservation of Romanian language
- 3 Support the contribution to Romanian history, science, technology, sport, innovation, art, literature and traditions.
- 4 Foster and promote a good image for Romania and Romanians living abroad.
- 5 Promote mutual respect, collaboration between community members and with other ethnic communities and support joint action including assisting newcomers to fully integrate in Queensland and Australia.
- 6 Exclude involvement or partisanship in political issues or debates for either Australia, Romania or any other country.
- 7 Excludes involvement or partisanship in religious matters, affiliations or preferences.
- 8 There is no tolerance for racist, xenophobic, homophobic, violence inciting, or any other extremist views

Figure 1 Excerpt from Romanian Association Doina Queensland Inc. Constitution, Rule 3, page 4

From time to time, the constitution and the objects may be amended to consider the strategic direction of the association and its members.

The Association is managed and activated by the effort of volunteers engaged in the MC, subcommittees or as coordinators of activities. The MC members generally have skills and experience that are valuable to the Association and the community. On-the job training and mentoring has been provided by the senior members of the MC, to ensure that a solid foundation of compliance and risk management is established for the operations and the management of the Association.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY

The association has designed and established a number of initiatives to engage the Romanian and local community in cultural, recreational, sports and entertainment activities and events. The general approach is to find members of the community with certain talents and inspiration who can act as volunteer coordinators. The volunteer coordinators are then inducted, trained and assisted by the Association's management committee to deliver quality programs for the community.

EVENTS

The Association's Management Committee aided by the Events Subcommittee have taken the members and the community on a roller—coaster of events, activities and initiatives while building the necessary management and operations capabilities to be able to successfully make its way towards maturing as an organisation. A fantastic response from the community for each and every initiative has fueled the organizers with enthusiasm and energy to keep going. The portfolio of events organized for the community in less than a year has been nothing short of extraordinary for a young organisation such as our Association. Over 500 guests participated at the major events and enjoyed diverse and interesting experiences from immersive poetry and music recitals, to thematic picnics, and an awesome Romanian Retro Roaring 20's Ball.

SERATA "AN AUSTRALIAN ENCOUNTERS ROMANIA IN BRISBANE"

The first event, Figure 2 "An Australian Encounters Romania in Brisbane" Poster, was organized by the Academia Australiano-Romana with the help and support from our Association. Daniel Ionita was the soul and inspiration for this event and we are indebted to his creative inputs, efforts and vision to make happen the first show of its kind in Queensland. Aurelia Noran has embraced the idea of the show and directed and organized the event with help from Vasilica Romanescu and the rest of the Management Committee. The event was a celebration of multiculturalism whereby French, Romanian, Australian and other nationalities have come together to weave poetry and songs that describe the metamorphosis of thoughts into language and then to present the result to an audience eager to connect with the deeper meanings of this creative effort. The bonus for the audience and the community was that we met and learned more about our local artists and creators and including Daniel Ionita, the President of the Australian Romanian Academy for Culture, a well-known writer, editor and cultural curator and overall a very nice person and friend of the Association. The event also featured the Queensland launch of Daniel Ionita poetry books and the anthology of "Romanian Poetry" book, that is a compilation of the most memorable Romanian poetic works translated in English.



Figure 2 "An Australian Encounters Romania in Brisbane" Poster, by Daniel Ionita

The venue for our first two cultural events was the exquisite concert hall of the St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Cathedral, Kangaroo Point. Mitred Archpriest Gabriel Makarov and Matiushka Maria have

been very kind to offer the venue at reasonable rates to host our events during the busy times of November 2023 and January 2024. The good relationship between the Romanian and Russian Orthodox churches and clergy was a good foundation, which allowed for those events to cement an even deeper friendship and collaboration between our communities.

The wonderful artists who graced the stage at our first concert included Prof. Dr. Daniel Reynaud (guitar, Voice) from Sydney, Elena Romanescu (piano), Helen Brereton (violin), Maria Brereton (flute), Kathy Sander (piano) and Daniel Ionita.

All the money collected from the event were gifted to Maria Brereton, who went to represent Australia at Kids Star International Competition and came home as the 2023 Winner of “People’s Choice” Award. Bravo Maria, our beautiful “Star”.



Figure 5 Maria Brereton and her flute wearing Rita Grigutiene outfit



Figure 4 Daniel Reynaud on stage



Figure 3 Aurelia Noran and community children drawing raffle winners

The wonderful audience embraced each and every performance with warm applause and appreciation. The evening concluded with time for the community to socialize and serve finger food and refreshments organized by the Association’s management committee.

PICNIC BY THE SEA FOR ROMANIA DAY 2023

National Romania Day in 2023 was the next reason to celebrate, engage with the community over a barbecue with “mici si porc la rotisor”, dance in the park “Hora”, “Sarba” si “Hora Unirii” and consult on what kind of activities and events should progress our newly established Association. The seeds of our projects including “Folk Ensemble”, “Sports Team Valahia” and “Club Drumetii” have been sown then and there at with many children and parents enthused by those ideas.



Figure 6 Poster for Picnic "National Romania day 2023

Special thanks to Mariana and Liviu Cioba, who organized the event and to Laura and Dorinel Buliga, who supplied the entertainment. Everyone had a wonderful time wearing the Romanian blouse "IA", Red-Yellow-Blue flags accompanied by the Romanian vivacious and very loud tunes. I think we and everyone else know that "Nobody celebrate like the Romanians!"



SERATA TO CELEBRATE ROMANIA NATIONAL CULTURE DAY 2024

Over the Christmas period and summer holidays the MC, artists and many other volunteers from the community have spent numerous hours to develop the artistic program, organize the function, venue

and everything else necessary to celebrate Romanian National Culture Day and 174 years from the birth of Romanian national poet, Mihai Eminescu. Again, the support, knowledge and enthusiasm that we received from Daniel Ionita were invaluable. Aurelia Noran has been the event's director and key organizer together with Vasilica Romanescu and the other members of the Management Committee.

We are indebted to Mr. Constantin Harabor, Mathematics Professor and Mihai Eminescu aficionado for inviting our community to participate in a great project called Project Orizont Eminescu Mihai International (POEMI). Mrs. Vasilica Romanescu has coordinated and led the participation of the Romanian children from Queensland community to the project featured in the poster Figure 8 Project Orizont Eminescu in Australia 2024 . The project is described in detail here [Un cadou de Anul Nou... din Australia - Curierul National](#) and generally encourages children of all ages to use the poems and writings of Mihai Eminescu as a source of inspiration for creating original artworks and performances. The key streams were drawings/paintings and poems interpretation. Queensland children have featured with many wonderful drawings and videos of poetry performance which were provided to the project's organizers and exhibited in Romania and worldwide.



Figure 7 Queensland children's artwork for Project Orizont Eminescu Mihai International



Figure 8 Project Orizont Eminescu in Australia 2024

The surprise of the evening was the show with unbelievably talented local, Brisbane artists, who live in our community.

Under the clever guidance of our musician, violin virtuoso and teacher extraordinaire Helen Brereton (born Aliona Cigulea), Diana Munteanu (piano) and Maria Brereton (flute) performed stunning timeless romantic songs. Sirma Granzulea, our songstress of traditional and classic pop music, performed with virtuosity Romanian and Aromanian music and poetry. Chrissy Cioba was an absolute star performer and moved the audience to tears with her interpretation of “Ave Maria”. Bogdan Borungel has owned the stage with awesome performances of songs and poetry which oozed charisma and talent. We cannot forget to mention the super-talented Anaïs Augustin and Irina Leonida who have brought to tears to audience with their performance of famous poems by Mihai Eminescu. Daniel Ionita has also played music, recited poems and directed the show. The sound system was well engineered by our talented in-house DJ and sound engineers, Dorinel and Sebastian Buliga. Figure 10 Program for Music and Poetry Show for Romanian National Culture Day 2024 outlines the diversity and richness of talent on display right here in our community. Inspired from the genius work of Mihai Eminescu, every performance was an absolute triumph. The show was recorded by our talented photographer and video artist, Brennan Finighan from Clear Image Photography and the videos can be found on the [\(11\)](#) [RomanianAssociationDoinaQld - YouTube](#) channel.

Figure 9 Music and Poetry Show for Romanian National Culture Day 2024 Poster, by Daniel Ionita shows the inspired poster designed and provided by Daniel, who also was the creative director of the show.

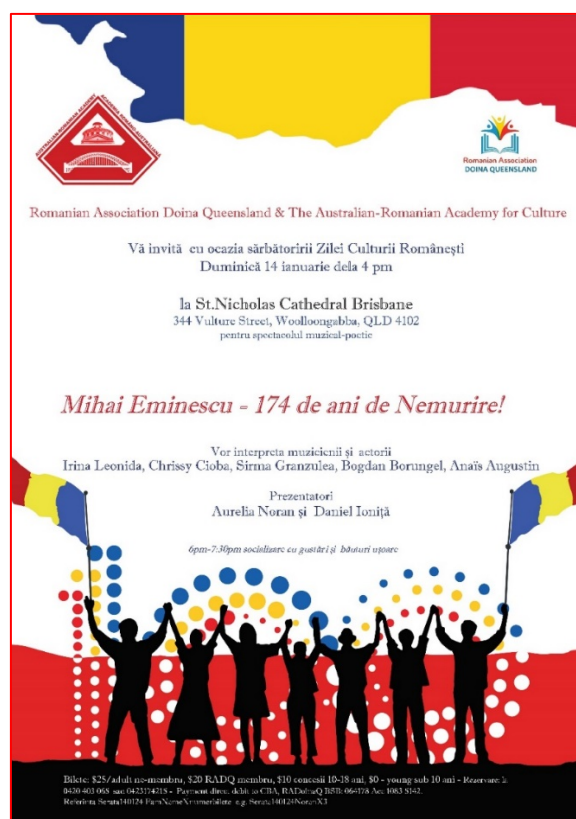


Figure 9 Music and Poetry Show for Romanian National Culture Day 2024 Poster, by Daniel Ionita



AUSTRALIAN-ROMANIAN ACADEMY
ACADEMIA ROMÂNĂ-AUSTRALIANĂ



Program Celebrare de Ziua Culturii Romanesti 2024

Mihai Eminescu - 174 de ani de nemurire

Duminica, 14 ianuarie 2024, la Catedrala St Nicholas, 344 Vulture Street, Woolloongabba, Qld

Welcome

from Romanian Association Doina Queensland Inc

Aurelia Noran	Despre Proiect Orizont Eminescu Mihai International (POEM-I) coordinator Profesor Constatina Hărăbor
Daniel Ionita	Welcome from Australian Romanian Academy
Maria Brereton (flaut) Diana Munteanu (pian) Helen Brereton (vioara, aranjm't)	<i>Pe lângă plopii fără soț</i> muzica: Anonymus
Daniel Ionita (autor)	<i>Reprezentarea sufletului românesc pe plan universal</i> Monolog despre Eminescu
Sirma Granzulea (voce)	<i>Sara pe deal</i> vers: Mihai Eminescu, muzica: Vasile Popovici, <i>Atât de fragedă</i> vers: Mihai Eminescu, muzica: Mondial
Anaïs Augustin (recita)	<i>La Steana</i> vers: Mihai Eminescu
Chrissy Cioba (voce)	<i>Lacul</i> vers: Mihai Eminescu, muzica: Cornel Dărvășa <i>Ave Maria</i> Cantec de: Charles Gounod și Johann Sebastian Bach
Maria Brereton (recita) Diana Munteanu (pian) Helen Brereton (vioara, aranjm't)	<i>Revedere</i> Vers: Mihai Eminescu, muzica: XXX
Irina Leonida (recita)	<i>O rămăi</i> Vers: Mihai Eminescu
Bogdan Borungel (voce, chitara)	<i>Focul vânt e gonit de vânt</i> vers: Serghei Esenin, muzica: Duce Bertzi <i>Înțelegere</i> vers: Mihail Lermontov, muzica: Mircea Baniciu
Daniel Ionitã (autor și recitator) Daniel Ionita (recitator)	<i>Insula Cuvintelor de Acasa</i> <i>Inscripție pe piatra de hotar</i> vers: Geo Dumitrescu
Sirma Granzulea (voce)	<i>Pe lângă plopii fără soț</i> vers: Mihai Eminescu, muzica: c. Gh. Serac <i>De ce nu-mi vii</i> vers: Mihai Eminescu, muzica: Carol Decker



AUSTRALIAN-ROMANIAN ACADEMY
ACADEMIA ROMÂNĂ-AUSTRALIANĂ



Program Celebrare de Ziua Culturii Romanesti 2024

Mihai Eminescu - 174 de ani de nemurire

Duminică, 14 ianuarie 2024, la Catedrala St Nicholas, 344 Vulture Street, Woolloongabba, Qld

Irina Leonida (recita)	<i>Oda in metru antic</i> vers: Mihai Eminescu, translation Daniel Ionita <i>Sonnet Trecut-au anii</i>
Daniel Ioniță (voce)	<i>La calu bălan</i> vers: M.R Paraschivescu, muzica: Nicu Alifantis <i>Eu n-am plecat de-acasă niciodată</i> Text/ muzica: Daniel Ioniță <i>Balada lui Mălă</i> text Cezar Ivănescu, muzica Adrian Ivașițchi
Sirma Granzuliea (recitator, bilingual romana/ aromana)	<i>Lui Eminescu</i> vers: Kira Iorgoveanu
Irina Leonida (recita)	<i>Eminescu</i> vers: George Roca
Daniel Ioniță (voce)	<i>Eroina Ști tu</i> text Adrian Păunescu, muzica Mihai Napu <i>Să-mi cântă cobzar</i> traditional <i>Așară te-am așteptat</i> Partaj
Anaïs Augustin (recita)	<i>Somnoroase Păsărele</i> Vers: Mihai Eminescu
Irina Leonida (recita)	<i>Treburau să poarte un nume</i> Vers: Marin Sorescu
Bogdan Borungel (voce, chitara)	<i>Din prea mult sau prea puțin</i> Text/muzica: Vasile Șeicaru <i>Andrii Popa</i> Text/ muzica: Mircea Baniciu <i>Dor de Eminescu</i> Vers: Adrian Păunescu, muzica: Alexandru Zărnescu – B. Borungel & D. Ionita – Hora Unirii)
Bogdan Borungel, Daniel Ionita	<i>Hora Unirii</i> Vers: Vasile Alecsandri, muzica: Alexandru Flechtenmacher
Daniel Ionita	Closing remarks
Aurelia Noran	Despre Romanian Association Doina Queensland

2

Figure 10 Program for Music and Poetry Show for Romanian National Culture Day 2024

PICNIC FOR 1 JUNE INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY

Another very successful event organized by the Association was the "Children's Picnic". Madalina Balliu Botesch has coordinated this event with the help from the rest of the committee members. Special thanks go to Dorinel Buliga, who provided the music and Aurelia Noran who secured the undercover venue in the Rocks Riverside Park, near Brisbane.



Figure 11 Picnic to celebrate 1 June 2024, International Children's Day, Poster by Anisoara Laura Mustetiu

We also had a very special guest, the actor and photographer, Catalin Ovidiu Anastase, who gave a great performance for our children of the wonderful book "Yarran" written by the talented Romanian Australian writer, Anisoara Laura Mustetiu. Catalin Anastase also gifted studio photos to the children who were at the picnic and could be incentivised to stay still and have their photo taken. Anisoara Laura Mustetiu was an absolute superstar in providing Yarran books for the community which were gifted to the children by the Association. Maria Brereton also played her magic flute to the delight of the young and old audiences.



Figure 12 Catalin Anastase reading Yarran at 1 June Picnic

The children and their parents enjoyed wonderful group activities including party and outdoor games, dancing, story listening, face-painting along with the food and drink. We also were overwhelmed with the popularity of the yellow hats with the tricolor ornament. We loved to see the little ones looking like sunflowers and smiling like sunshine. This event would not have been as successful without the donation received from a Oprica Costea, one of our most treasured members of the Association and community.

The picnic was a great opportunity to discuss with the parents and careers the possibility to establish a school of Romanian language. The overwhelming positivity of everyone who participated was a great incentive for our team to launch into the next major project for the Association aimed at establishing the very first Romanian Language School in the state of Queensland.



ROMANIAN RETRO ROARING 20'S BALL

The Romanian Retro Roaring 20's Ball was the biggest and most complex event organized by the Association which took place on the 29 June 2024 at the Serbian Australian Community and sold over 130 tickets. The Invitation is shown in the Figure 13 Romanian Retro Roaring 20's Ball 29 June 2024 Poster by Aurelia Noran.

This event has reunited many of the fabulous artists in the community for a show that aimed to re-create the atmosphere of the interbellic Bucharest, when the newly reunited country of Romania was blooming as a sophisticated European nation with archaic roots into its multimillennial Geto-Dacian past.



Figure 13 Romanian Retro Roaring 20's Ball 29 June 2024 Poster by Aurelia Noran

The wonderfully talented writer and publicist, Anisoara Laura Mustetiu, has researched and gifted us a fabulous article that was used as the inspiration for the Ball's artistic program and show. The full article was published in Revista Internationala de Cultura, Poezie si Proza "Emotii si Lumina" that can be found

here: <https://emotiisilumina.com/tag/balurile-din-bucuresti-in-1920>



Balurile din Bucuresti in 1920



MAGIA BALURILOR DIN BUCUREȘTIUL ANILOR 1920, de ANIȘOARA LAURA MUSTEȚIU

ACTUALITĂȚI, FILE DE CALENDAR, LITERATURĂ, PROZĂ, PROZA CONTEMPORANĂ / Revista Emotii si Lumina / 3 July 2024

Magia Balurilor Dragi cititori, vă invit într-o călătorie magică în timp și spațiu, unde vom colinda pe tărâmul cultural al... [Read More](#)

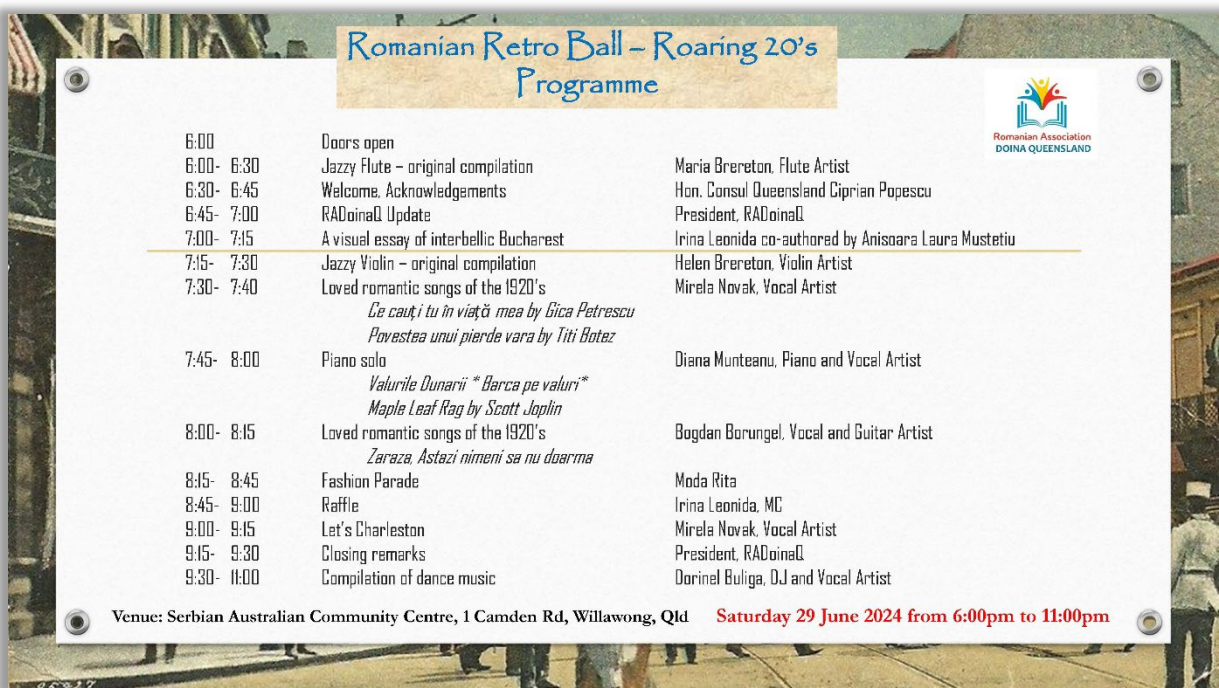
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Figure 14 <https://emotiisilumina.com/tag/balurile-din-bucuresti-in-1920>, accessed Monday, September 9, 2024

The Ball's artistic program was delivered by a talented group of local artists who delighted the audience with instrumental and songs, poetry, a fashion show and of-course the traditional DJ's set. The Ball took place in an elegant venue, at the Serbian Australian Community Centre in a large and beautiful room with magical décor fashioned by the talented designer Laura Buliga with the help from many. The food was purchased as a set menu and was inspired by the traditional Romanian dishes but with a Serbian twist. The wines and alcohol were of Romanian provenance and provided by Romwine. Dorinel and Sebastian Buliga have done a fantastic job providing the sound engineering for the show and the dance. Dorinel DJ'd the dance, which had the crowd on their feet dancing and roaring until the closing time of the ball.

We were delighted and very thankful to receive from generous raffle prizes donate by wonderful supporters including Romwine, J&R Boutique Formal Outfits, 5 Star Chauffeur and Gold Coast Journeys Pty Ltd.



Romanian Retro Ball – Roaring 20's Programme		
6:00	Doors open	
6:00- 6:30	Jazzy Flute – original compilation	Maria Brereton, Flute Artist
6:30- 6:45	Welcome, Acknowledgements	Hon. Consul Queensland Ciprian Popescu
6:45- 7:00	RADoinaQ Update	President, RADoinaQ
7:00- 7:15	A visual essay of interbellic Bucharest	Irina Leonida co-authored by Anisoara Laura Mustetiu
7:15- 7:30	Jazzy Violin – original compilation	Helen Brereton, Violin Artist
7:30- 7:40	Loved romantic songs of the 1920's <i>Ce cauți tu în viața mea by Gica Petrescu</i> <i>Povestea unui pierde vara by Titi Botez</i>	Mirela Novak, Vocal Artist
7:45- 8:00	Piano solo <i>Valurile Dunării * Barca pe valuri*</i> <i>Maple Leaf Rag by Scott Joplin</i>	Diana Munteanu, Piano and Vocal Artist
8:00- 8:15	Loved romantic songs of the 1920's <i>Zaraza, Astăzi nimeni sa nu doarmă</i>	Bogdan Borungel, Vocal and Guitar Artist
8:15- 8:45	Fashion Parade	Moda Rita
8:45- 9:00	Raffle	Irina Leonida, MC
9:00- 9:15	Let's Charleston	Mirela Novak, Vocal Artist
9:15- 9:30	Closing remarks	President, RADoinaQ
9:30- 11:00	Compilation of dance music	Dorinel Buliga, DJ and Vocal Artist

Venue: Serbian Australian Community Centre, 1 Camden Rd, Willawong, Qld **Saturday 29 June 2024 from 6:00pm to 11:00pm**

Figure 15 Romanian Retro Roaring 20's Ball Program, 29 June 2024

The artists, dressed for the occasion in designer outfits Gatsby style, have performed songs and compositions popular in the bars and in the salons of Bucharest during the interbellic era. Beautiful Maria Brereton, wearing a divine outfit with a white cape, created by Rita Grigutiene, has opened the Ball with a jazzy flute compilation to set the mood and capture the attention.

The Honorary Consul of Queensland, Ciprian Popescu, has captured the moment and addressed the public with his usual aplomb. Aurelia Noran wearing another beautiful Rita Grigutiene outfit made the address on behalf of the Association to welcome the guests and inform them on past achievements and future plans. The formal and short proceedings were followed by the visual essay in the masterful interpretation of the actor in residence, Irina Leonida and co-authored with Anisoara Laura Mustetiu.

Helen Brereton (aka Aliona), wearing Rita Grigutiene outfits, with her inspired Jazzy violin has played around the ballroom and gave a fabulous performance and an unforgettable experience to the guests. The lovely Mirela Novak sang wonderful sparkling classic pieces from the Gica Petrescu and Titi Botez repertoire. Diana Munteanu, wearing a gorgeous Rita Grigutiene outfit has played the piano amazingly. Bogdan Borungel enchanted the public with his fabulous voice and total charisma.

Rita Grigutiene along with her team has sponsored and coordinated a fashion parade of luxurious retro outfits. Our thanks go to the models including Maria Brereton, Elis Ancuta, Laura Buliga, Diana Munteanu, Aida Noran, Andrei Munteanu and Helen Brereton.



Figure 16 Retro Rita Grigutiene Fashion Models Andrei Munteanu, Laura Buliga, Elis Ancuta, Aida Noran, Helen Brereton, Diana Munteanu, Rita Grigutiene, Maria Brereton. Photo courtesy Brennan Finighan, Clear Image Photography

All those moments were captured by the professional photographer, Brennan Finighan and his assistant, Mary Wilson. We have to thank Brennan and Mary for the two magnificent photo booths which offered magical décor fit for the occasion, where the guests could take memorable photos for safekeeping.



Figure 17 Romanian Retro Ball Fashion Models Andrei Munteanu, Rita Grigutiene - Designer , Helen Brereton, Diana Munteanu, Elis Ancuta, Aida Noran, Aurelia Noran, Laura Buliga and Maria Brereton (l-r clockwise), Photo courtesy Brennan Finighan, Clear Image Photography

The Management Committee have spent countless hours to come up with the best option for this event and we learned many lessons along the way.

Special thanks go to the key organizers including Aurelia Noran, Madalina Balliu Botesch and her family, Laura and Dorinel Buliga and their family and Munteanu family, who were there for every step along the way helping to make the event such a success.



Figure 18 Romanian Retro Ball table and décor design by Laura Buliga, photo courtesy Aurelia Noran

We are very proud of the fantastic support we received from the community, including the Association's members for the events organized and hope to continue to offer an array of innovative, interesting and fun activities to entice participation, joy and wonderful experiences for everyone.

PROJECTS

During the year, a number of projects have been commenced with the view of testing the members' and communities' appetite and preferences.

FOLK ENSEMBLE DOINA QUEENSLAND



Folk Ensemble Doina Queensland

Public group · 89 members

The Folk Ensemble Doina Queensland intends to provide a regular opportunity (fortnightly) to learn and practice Romanian traditional dances. We are lucky to have amongst the excellent dancers and experienced instructors Dorinel and Laura Buliga, who are passionate about our traditions and are very keen to pass them onto the next generation. The regular dance classes (weekly or fortnightly) have been a joyful experience, where the fun of dancing combines with the warm personal friendships along with the great skills in dancing many styles of dances from various regions of Romania including Moldova, Muntenia, Banat, Oltenia.

SPORTS TEAM VALAHIA



Sports Team Valahia

Public group · 19 members

The Sports Team Valahia has been established to allow our children and youth to connect and play sports together. After a few sessions of volleyball coordinated by Aida Noran, the time constraints have caused the group to pause. So far, we did not find an enthusiastic and committed coordinator to re-energise this activity but are on the look-out for that special someone with a knack for enticing everyone to play sports.

CLUB DRUMETII



Group by Romanian Association Doina Queensland

Club Drumetii

Private group · 33 members

The Club Drumetii has been established to offer the community and nature lovers the opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors and take nature walks and hikes while connecting with like-minded people. Camelia Visan is our knowledgeable and enthusiastic coordinator and guided everyone at the first “Drumetie at Mount Coot-tha on the Spotted Gum Trail”. It was an enjoyable experience where we explored the beautiful eucalyptus forest for a couple of hours followed by a stop in the Botanical Garden.



15

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2024 AT 7:45 AM – 10 AM

Drumetie Mount Coot-tha Spotted Gum Trail

Brisbane Botanical Gardens & Planetarium

Figure 19 Event organised by the Association for Club Drumetii

THINKUKNOW ONLINE SAFETY WORKSHOP

Daniela Rusu, one of the Association’s members, who is also a Police Officer and a volunteer for “ThinkUKnow” program, has coordinated and delivered together with her colleague Caleb Mohan, a

valuable workshop to equip the parents and carers in the community with the knowledge to handle on-line risks.

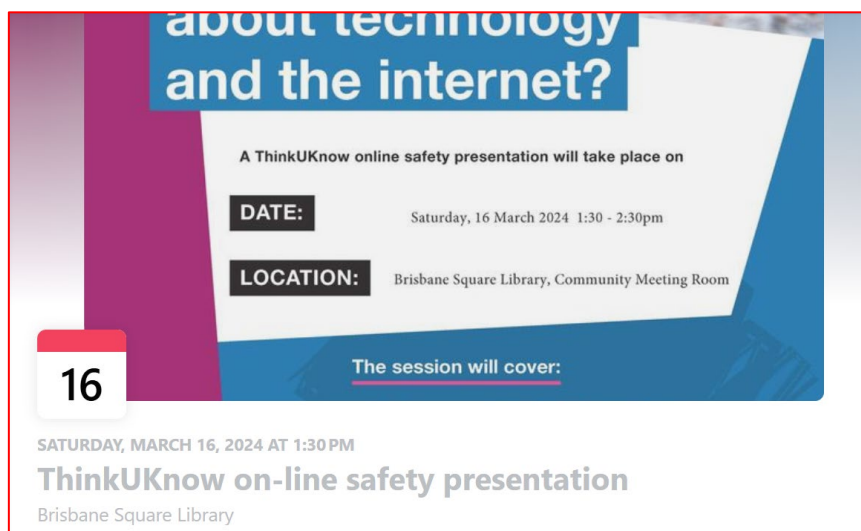


Figure 20 Event poster, ThinkUKnow Online safety presentation

The flagship project that was commenced during May- June 2024, was the establishment in Queensland of the first School of Romanian Language Culture and Civilisation. This is a long-term project that will take a concerted effort to design a program that suits the community and also creates an institution able to engage the community children and members and inspire them to learn the language and continue the Romanian traditions in the years to come.

SCHOOL OF ROMANIAN LANGUAGE CULTURE AND CIVILISATION "DOINA" BRISBANE



Figure 21" Facebook Group "Doina" School of Romanian Language Culture and Civilisation

COLLABORATIONS

We collaborated with many wonderful cultural organisations that share our passion and actively contribute to Romanian culture, tradition, education and social life.

Amongst our partners are:

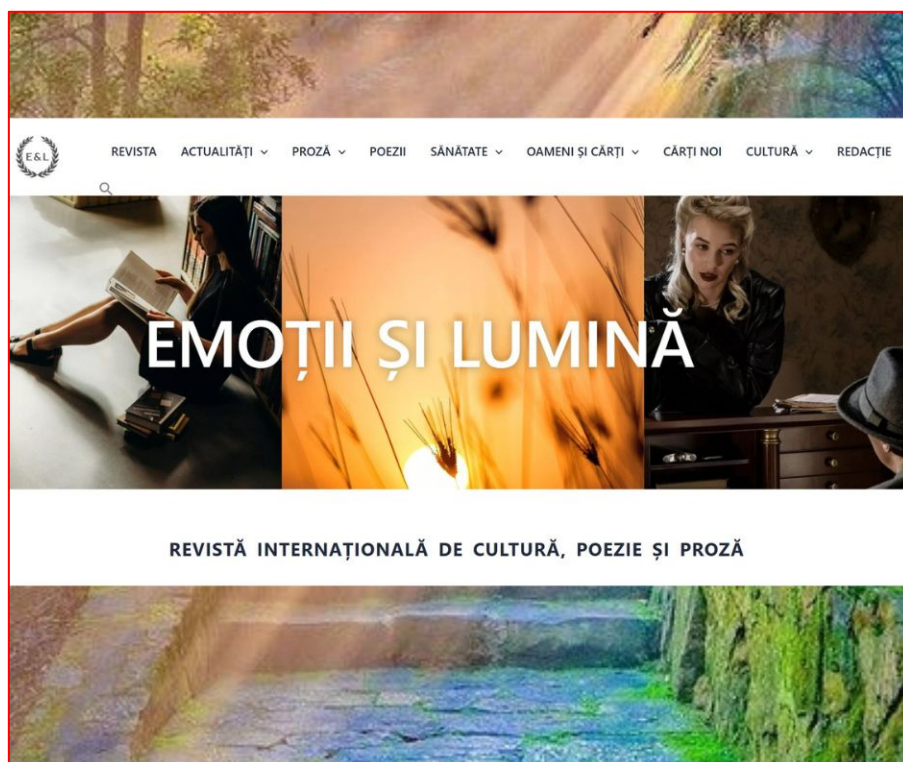


**HONORARY CONSULATE OF ROMANIA
CONSULATUL ONORIFIC AL ROMANIEI
IN QUEENSLAND**



**AUSTRALIAN
ROMANIAN
ACADEMY**





MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Association has operated under the direct management and leadership of the Management Committee (MC). The Management Committee has met at least fortnightly for one to 2 hours in hybrid mode (both in person and/or on Teams). The MC managed all aspects of operations with caution and due care to establish a good reputation and track record in the community.

To help with the coordination of specific types of activities, the following subcommittees have been established:

- Subcommittee Events (SCE) – management and coordination of Folk Ensemble “Doina Queensland” and events
- Subcommittee International Relations (SCIR) – development and promotion of international collaborations
- Subcommittee School (SC School) – establishment, management and coordination of the School of Romanian Language, Culture and Civilization “Doina Queensland”

The following table outlines the roles and the contribution made by the members of management committees and subcommittees.

Table 1 Association's Officers Attendance to committees and meetings

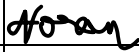
Item	Name	Role	Active at 30/06/24	Meetings present			
				MC	SCE	SC IR	SC School
1	Aurelia Noran	President & MC Chair	Yes	25	22	3	X
2	Madalina Balliu Botesch	MC Secretary	Yes	24	21	2	X
3	Diana Plesnila	MC Treasurer	Yes	11	10	1	X
4	Irina Leonida	MC Member	Yes	9	7	1	X
5	Liviu Cioba	MC Member	Yes	17	10	1	X
6	Mariana Cioba	MC Member	Yes	17	10	1	X
7	Vasilica Romanescu	MC Member	Yes	16	11	X	X
8	Helen Brereton	MC Member	Yes	5	5	2	X
9	Laura Buliga	Coordinator SCE	Yes	X	13	X	X
10	Dorinel Buliga	Coordinator SCE	Yes	X	12	X	X
12	Simona Adochiei	Coordinator School	Yes	5	X	X	X
13	Beatrice Lecca	Treasurer	No	6	2	X	X
14	Daniela Crihan	MC Member	No	4	X	X	X
15	Gabriel Crihan	MC Member	No	5	X	X	X

It is with immense gratitude that we salute each and every member of these committees who volunteered their time, skills and expertise to deliver the significant program of events, projects and activities that were outlined in this report.

In accordance with the legislative requirements, the officers of the Association appointed as members of the Management Committee or Subcommittees have confirmed that they received No compensation or

benefits from RADoinaQ during the period of reporting as shown in Table 2 Declaration of benefits and remuneration for FY 23 - 24

Table 2 Declaration of benefits and remuneration for FY 23 - 24

#	Name	Role	Disclosed benefit	Date	Signature
1	Aurelia Noran	MC President	Zero benefits or remuneration	7/8/24	
2	Madalina Balliu Botesch	MC Secretary	Zero benefits or remuneration	9/8/24	MBB
3	Diana Plesnila	MC Treasurer	Zero benefits or remuneration	11/8/24	DP
4	Irina Leonida	MC Member	Zero benefits or remuneration	15/8/24	IL
5	Liviu Cioba	MC Member	Zero benefits or remuneration	16/8/24	LC
6	Mariana Cioba	MC Member	Zero benefits or remuneration	16/8/24	MC
7	Vasilica Romanescu	MC Member	Zero benefits or remuneration	20/8/24	VR
8	Helen Brereton	MC Member	Zero benefits or remuneration	28/8/24	HB
9	Laura Buliga	Coordinator SCE	Zero benefits or remuneration	28/8/24	HB
10	Dorinel Buliga	Coordinator SCE	Zero benefits or remuneration	28/8/24	HB
12	Simona Adochiei	Coordinator School	Zero benefits or remuneration	30/04/24	SAdochiei
13	Beatrice Lecca	Treasurer	Zero benefits or remuneration	01/09/24	BL
14	Daniela Rusu	MC Member	Zero benefits or remuneration	28/08/24	DR
15	Gabriel Crihan	MC Member	Zero benefits or remuneration	28/08/24	GC

OPERATIONS

OFFICE MANAGEMENT

INSURANCE

The Association has maintained during the year Public Liability insurance of \$20m. There was no claim made under the insurance policy during the year.

ASSOCIATION'S RECORDS

A cloud-based Google Netdrive has been established with adequate permissions for the Management Committee and coordinators to ensure both confidentiality, access and availability to Association's documentation.

MEMBERSHIP MANAGEMENT

The Secretary has been leading the management and handling of the membership and member's records. Suitable measures are in place to ensure confidentiality of members' data and information.

The communication with members has been made via encrypted channels including email and a "private" WhatsApp group.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The Treasurer has been leading and managing the accounting and financials of the Association. The Management Committee has maintained close control and oversight of the financials of the Association with reports presented and approved fortnightly at MC meetings.

COMMUNICATION MANAGEMENT

The main communication channels are:

- @ Romanian Association Doina Queensland [Facebook](#)
- WhatsApp Community and Member's Group
- YouTube channel [\(11\) RomanianAssociationDoinaQld - YouTube](#)

The webpage domain [Home | Romanian Association](#) has been purchased in addition to the email and cloud storage. Due to lack of resources, the webpage has not yet been developed to be operational.



GRANTS AND PROPOSALS

The Association submitted during the year a number of proposals and grant applications to State and local governments including:

- Tender to Brisbane City Council for Windsor Community Centre Lease- [Unsuccessful](#)
- Application to Celebrating Multicultural Queensland – Events program for \$9,282 (inc.GST) to fund Romania Day Celebrations 2025

An application for sponsorship of \$10,000 for Romania Day celebration on 30 November 2024 is in progress.

EVENTS MANAGEMENT

The Management Committee in consultation with the Subcommittee Events and stakeholders has delivered the events included in the table below.

Register

Major Events

Summary		2023-2024				
Register Coordinator		Madalina Balliu Botesh				
Updated		26/07/2024				
Updated by		Aurelia Noran				
#	DATE	TYPE	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION / ADDRESS	COORDINATOR	Guests
1	Saturday 19 Nov 2023	Recital	Poetry	St Nicholas Woolloongabba	V Romanescu	110
2	Saturday, 2 December 2023	Picnic	Romania Day	Shorncliffe Pier	L Cioba	100
3	Saturday, 13 January 2024	Recital	Ziua Culturii Rom 2024	St Nicholas Woolloongabba	V Romanescu	96
4	Saturday, 1 June 2024	Picnic	Ziua Copilului	Rocks Riverside Park	SCE	60
5	Saturday, 29 June 2024	Ball	Interbelic Bucharest	Serbian Community Centre	SCE	150
					Total	516

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING

This section covers the financial reports for the first year of operation that commenced on 26 October 2026 with the incorporation of the Association and ending on 30 June 2024.

The Treasurer delivered the accounts management and were reviewed by a competent finance professional, Ian Megom for accuracy and presentation.

Romanian Association Doina Queensland Inc

ABN 57 248 642 741

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 30 June 2024

		2024
	Note	\$
INCOME		
Membership ncome	1	4,795.00
Services Income	2	12,333.00
Sundry income	3	1,281.00
		18,409.00
EXPENDITURE		
Administration Expenses	4	1,187.52
Services Expenses	5	12,788.55
		13,976.07
Net Surplus/(Deficit)		4,432.93

Romanian Association Doina Queensland Inc

ABN 57 248 642 741

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 June 2024

		2024
	Note	\$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash on hand and at Bank	6	6,062.93
Other Receivable	7	2,000.00
Total Current Assets		8,062.93
Total Assets		8,062.93
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable		630.00
Revenue in advance	8	3,000.00
Total Current Liabilities		3,630.00
Total Liabilities		3,630.00
Net Assets		4,432.93
EQUITY		
Current Year Surplus		4,432.93
Retained Surplus		-
Total Equity		4,432.93

Romanian Association Doina Queensland Inc

ABN 57 248 642 741

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the year ended 30 June 2024

		2024
	Note	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts from customers		21,489.00
Payments to suppliers		(15,426.07)
Interest received		-
Net Cash Flows Used by Operating Activities		6,062.93
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Payment for plant and equipment		-
Net Cash Flows Used in Investing Activities		-
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceedings from borrowings		2,000.00
Repayments of borrowings		(2,000.00)
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities		-
Net Increase in Cash Held		6,062.93
Cash at the beginning of the year		-
CASH AT THE END OF THE YEAR	6	6,062.93

Romanian Association Doina Queensland Inc

ABN 57 248 642 741

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

RADOINA QLD's financial year is at 30 June and the basis of accounting is accrual accounting (for example, the memberships for FY25 and FY26 are considered income in those respective years.

	2024
Income	\$
1. Membership Income	
2024 membership fees	4,795.00
	4,795.00
2. Services Income	
Event ticket sales	12,333.00
	12,333.00
3. Sundry Income	
Donations	1,281.00
	1,281.00
Expenditure	
4. Administration Expenses	
Administration expenses	205.00
Insurance	892.24
Telephone & Internet	90.28
Other expenses	-
	1,187.52
5. Services Expenses	
Event Expenses	12,238.55
	12,238.55
Assets	
6. Cash on Hand and at Bank	
Bank accounts	
RADoinaQ Account 10835142	4,716.45
RADoinaQ Account 10836989	1,346.48
	6,062.93
7. Receivables	
Bond - Serbian Club	2,000.00
	2,000.00

Liabilities	\$
8. Revenue Received in Advance	
Membership fees 2025	2,250.00
Membership fees 2026	750.00
	3,000.00



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Rev	Author	Reviewer		Approved for Issue			Notes on revision
		Name	Signature	Name	Signature	Date	
A	Aurelia Noran	MC members		MC			Issued for MC review and input
B	Diana Plesnila	AN		MC			Added Financials
0	Aurelia Noran	MC		MC		10/09/24	Issued to Members

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