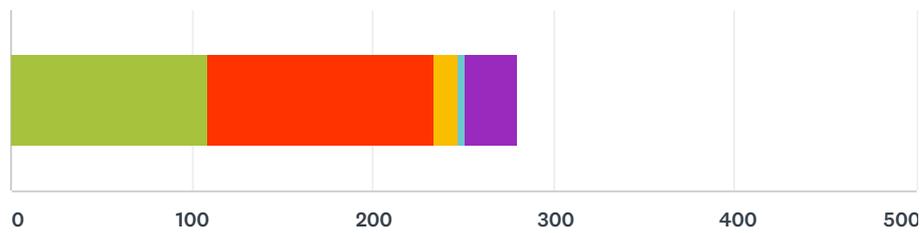


## Q1 How would you describe your connection to the Sydney Estonian community?

Answered: 275 Skipped: 4



- I was born in Estonia but now live in Australia
- I was born in Australia but one or both of my parents are/were of Estonian origin
- My partner has Estonian connections, but I do not
- I am a temporary visitor to Australia with an interest in Estonian activities in Australia
- Other (please specify)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I was born in Estonia but now live in Australia	39.27%	108
I was born in Australia but one or both of my parents are/were of Estonian origin	45.82%	126
My partner has Estonian connections, but I do not	4.73%	13
I am a temporary visitor to Australia with an interest in Estonian activities in Australia	1.45%	4
Other (please specify)	10.55%	29
Total Respondents: 275		

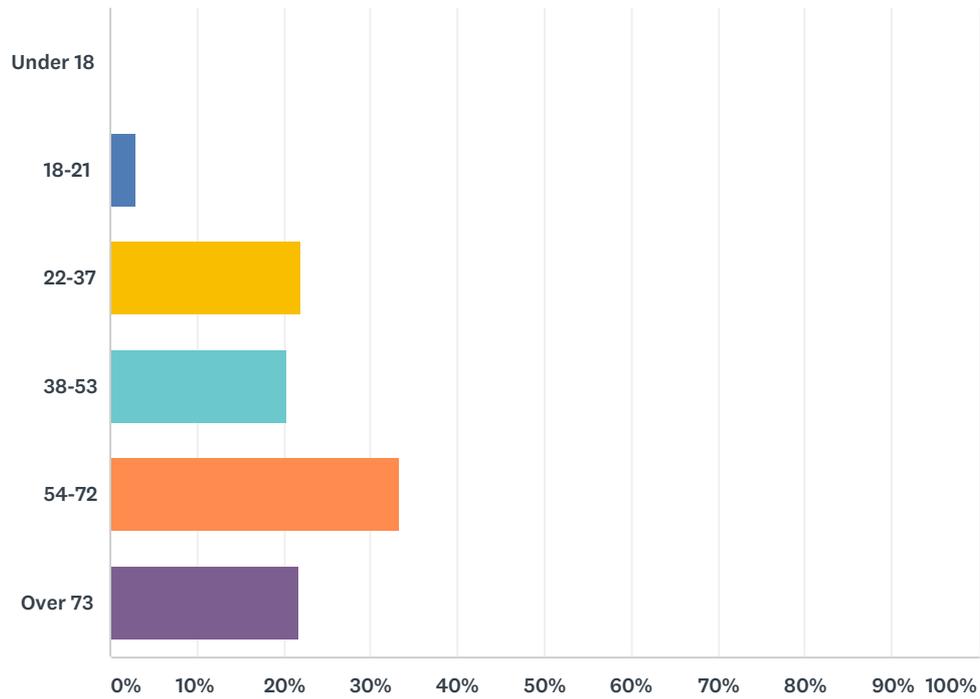
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I work in Estonia each year	3/21/2019 5:00 PM
2	I was born in Estonia, came here 2 years ago with WH visa and found an australian boyfriend. Now I'm in the middle of the process to get temporary and then permanent resident visa.	3/16/2019 8:56 PM
3	Born in Germany parents were born in Estonia	3/8/2019 8:40 PM
4	Not born in Australia, live in Estonia, regular visitor to Sydney Eesti Maja when living working in Sydney	3/8/2019 7:41 PM
5	I am living in Estonia, planning to come to live in Australia	3/7/2019 7:54 AM
6	I was born in Austria to Estonian parents, came to Australia post WWII	3/6/2019 12:34 PM
7	Born in Germany, both parents are of Estonian origin.	3/6/2019 10:10 AM
8	I was born in Germany but both my parents were Estonian	3/4/2019 5:43 PM
9	I was not born in Australia but one parent is of Estonian origin	2/28/2019 8:51 AM
10	Estonian in Estonia	2/27/2019 6:09 PM
11	Born in Germany after war	2/27/2019 4:10 PM
12	Born in Germany to Estonian parents.	2/27/2019 8:26 AM
13	2	2/26/2019 8:55 PM
14	I was born in another Country, but one or both of my parents are/were of Estonian	2/26/2019 8:28 PM
15	Grandparents were Estonian	2/24/2019 9:07 AM
16	A friend is Estonian	2/22/2019 7:50 PM
17	Born overseas of Estonian parents	2/21/2019 12:27 PM

## Sydney Estonian House Future – A Survey by the Estonian Relief Committee

18	Born in Germany post war	2/19/2019 8:55 PM
19	Born in Germany to Estonian parents	2/12/2019 12:23 PM
20	Born in Australia now live in Estonia	2/12/2019 6:39 AM
21	3rd generation Estonian in Australia but am overseas at the moment	2/12/2019 12:47 AM
22	Born in Germany, live in Australia and Ema was Estonian.	2/11/2019 4:11 PM
23	1. Married 52 years Esto/Aust. 2. An e-resident 2. Printed book	2/11/2019 3:27 PM
24	I was born in Germany tp Estonian parents	2/11/2019 2:45 PM
25	Born in Germany after WWII to Estonian parents	2/11/2019 1:36 PM
26	Born in Germany just before the end of WWII, my parents having escaped from the Russian reoccupation of Estonia.	2/11/2019 11:30 AM
27	I am Australian, but 2 of my grand parents have Estonian Origin	2/11/2019 9:28 AM
28	I was born in Germany lived as a refugee and came to Austrlaia with both my parents Estonian	2/11/2019 6:30 AM
29	Borned in neither Australia or Estonia, lived many years in Estonia, have family connections with Estonia	2/10/2019 6:41 PM

## Q2 My age is:

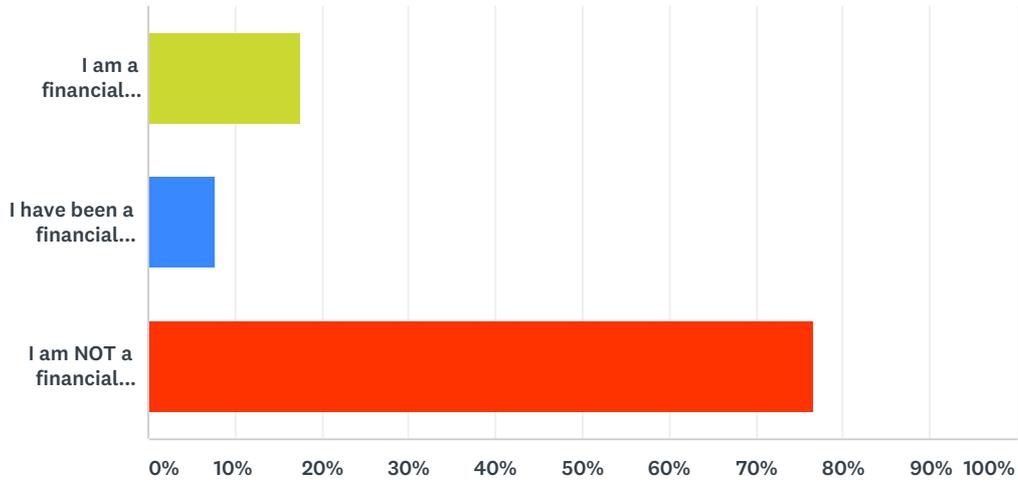
Answered: 277 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-21	2.89%	8
22-37	22.02%	61
38-53	20.22%	56
54-72	33.21%	92
Over 73	21.66%	60
Total Respondents: 277		

### Q3 Connection to or interest in ERC (Estonian Relief Committee):

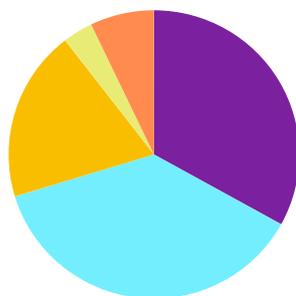
Answered: 269 Skipped: 10



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I am a financial member of the ERC	17.47%	47
I have been a financial member of the ERC in the past	7.81%	21
I am NOT a financial member of the ERC, but am a member of other Estonian groups	76.58%	206
Total Respondents: 269		

## Q4 How often have you been to Estonian House over the last five years (2014-2019)?

Answered: 239 Skipped: 40



- I have been a regular user of or visitor to Estonian House (once or twice a month)
- I have been an occasional user of or visitor to Estonian House ( a few times a year)
- I am not a regular user or visitor to Estonian House
- I have never been to Estonian House
- Other (please specify)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I have been a regular user of or visitor to Estonian House (once or twice a month)	33.05%	79
I have been an occasional user of or visitor to Estonian House ( a few times a year)	37.24%	89
I am not a regular user or visitor to Estonian House	19.25%	46
I have never been to Estonian House	3.35%	8
Other (please specify)	7.11%	17
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>239</b>

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Retired in Thirlmere	3/18/2019 9:23 AM
2	I have averaged about twice a year which I consider to be just below "a few times a year".	3/14/2019 6:13 PM
3	These days I visit the house two to three times per week	3/8/2019 3:47 PM
4	I have been an occasional visitor till the last 2 years when I have been coming regularly	3/4/2019 2:13 PM
5	some years more than a few visits	3/3/2019 3:39 PM
6	Vist and attend at least 3-4 times a month, sometimes more	3/1/2019 9:20 PM
7	Regular user at least once a week	2/27/2019 1:45 PM
8	Before 2017 I was a regular user of Estonian house, but now my circumstances have changed so I unfortunately haven't visited the house since 2018.	2/26/2019 8:09 PM
9	Regular visitor 2 - 4 a WEEK	2/22/2019 4:04 PM
10	Here at least 5-7 days a week	2/18/2019 9:46 PM
11	I have been a regular user preparing for Laulupidu 2019, otherwise I am an occasional user	2/16/2019 8:26 PM
12	I live in Melbourne & have never visited the Sydney Estonian House	2/12/2019 9:49 PM
13	Sometimes a frequent user, but sometimes overseas for long periods	2/12/2019 1:21 AM
14	Extremely regular (once a week)	2/11/2019 5:26 PM
15	I am a regular user of Estonian House (once or twice a week, some weeks up to four or five days a week)	2/11/2019 3:26 PM

Sydney Estonian House Future – A Survey by the Estonian Relief Committee

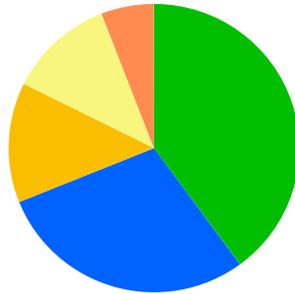
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16	Regular weekly user (1-2 times every week)	2/11/2019 10:30 AM
17	Had lunch at the cafe once	2/10/2019 7:45 PM

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## Q5 How often have you been to Sydney Estonian House prior to 2014?

Answered: 238 Skipped: 41



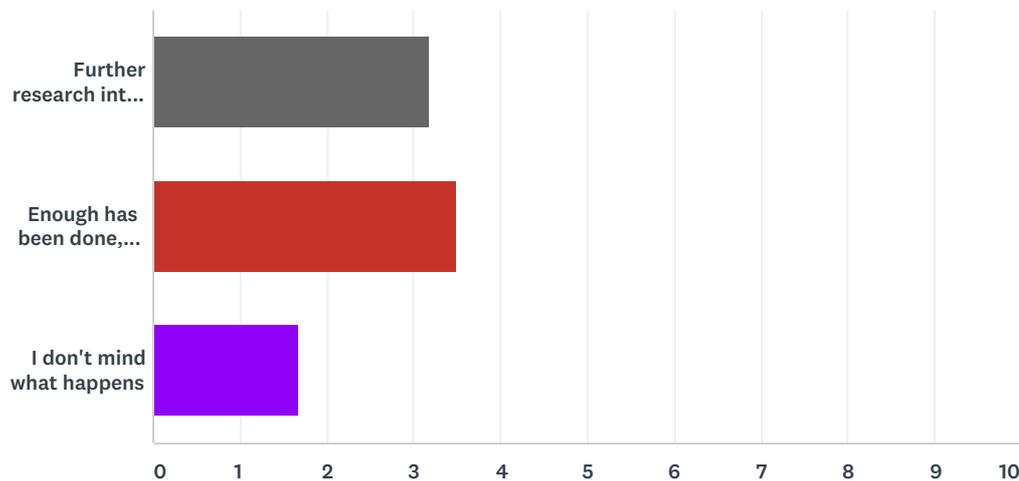
- I used to be a regular user or visitor to Estonian House (once or twice a month)
- I used to be an occasional user of or visitor to Estonian House ( a few times a year)
- I was not a regular user or visitor to Estonian House
- I had never been to Estonian House prior to 2014
- Other (please specify)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I used to be a regular user or visitor to Estonian House (once or twice a month)	39.92%	95
I used to be an occasional user of or visitor to Estonian House ( a few times a year)	28.99%	69
I was not a regular user or visitor to Estonian House	13.45%	32
I had never been to Estonian House prior to 2014	11.76%	28
Other (please specify)	5.88%	14
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>238</b>

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Retired in Thirlmere	3/18/2019 9:26 AM
2	From about 2001 to 2014 my attendances declined from about 6 times a year to 2 times a year.	3/14/2019 6:13 PM
3	Lived elsewhere, away from Sydney	3/10/2019 6:20 AM
4	Once per week	3/8/2019 3:47 PM
5	some years more than a few visits	3/3/2019 3:39 PM
6	Weekly visitor to Estonian House	2/26/2019 8:09 PM
7	Regular visitor 2 - 4 a WEEK	2/22/2019 4:04 PM
8	I was a regular user preparing for Laulupidu 2014, before that an occasional user	2/16/2019 8:26 PM
9	Sometimes a frequent user, but sometimes overseas for long periods	2/12/2019 1:21 AM
10	I used to be a regular user, but stopped going for a few decades	2/11/2019 10:42 PM
11	I have been a regular user of Estonian House (once or twice a week, some weeks up to four or five days a week)	2/11/2019 3:26 PM
12	Regular weekly user (1-2 times every week)	2/11/2019 10:30 AM
13	I was a regular user. See my answer to the previous question. This applies to prior to 2014	2/10/2019 9:29 PM
14	Back in the 70s	2/10/2019 7:45 PM

**Q6 Over the last few years, three options for the future of Sydney Estonian House have been presented at several public forums to assist the Co-Operative in planning and decision-making. We would like to know what you think should happen next in relation to these future options.**

Answered: 235 Skipped: 44



	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEUTRAL	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Further research into each of the future options is needed	13.81% 29	16.67% 35	25.24% 53	25.71% 54	18.57% 39	210	3.19
Enough has been done, let's decide and move on	7.77% 16	15.53% 32	22.33% 46	29.13% 60	25.24% 52	206	3.49
I don't mind what happens	55.26% 105	27.37% 52	12.11% 23	4.21% 8	1.05% 2	190	1.68

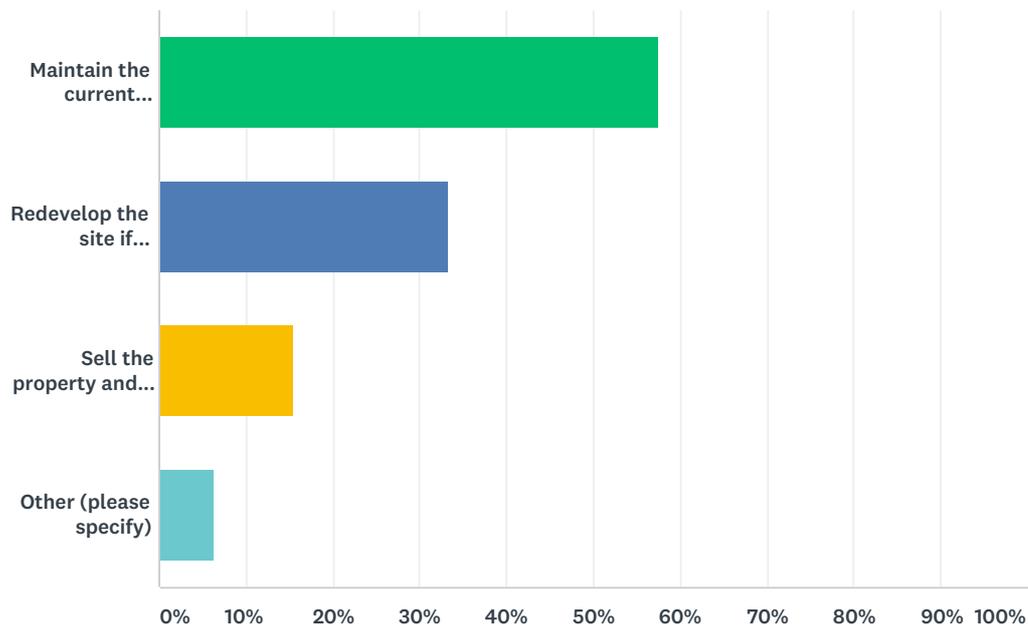
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I thought that the desired option had already been decided by the voting results at the last AGM of the Co-Operative.	3/14/2019 6:13 PM
2	wasn't this discussed before? what is the point of doing the same questionnaire with limited/lower participation again?	3/10/2019 8:38 PM
3	Forget these options and move on	3/8/2019 3:47 PM
4	I don't know enough to comment	3/6/2019 2:15 PM
5	"	3/3/2019 2:58 PM
6	What are the options?	2/28/2019 6:24 PM
7	There may be enough research conducted in the past but time has moved on and since then perhaps new opportunities have emerged. I don't think we can move on until we establish the facts about what the research found and what has changed since the time that the research was done.	2/27/2019 1:09 PM
8	there are too many groups trying to look after the house	2/27/2019 6:39 AM
9	I do mind what happens. Options 2 an 3 are defined not appropriate so it must be 1.	2/26/2019 9:03 PM
10	The members need to vote on the future	2/22/2019 4:04 PM
11	We have an Estonian House, lets work with it	2/21/2019 12:35 PM
12	please keep Eesti Maja, it is a central part of the community and the younger generations deserve to enjoy it just as much as the older generations did.	2/16/2019 5:01 PM

## Sydney Estonian House Future – A Survey by the Estonian Relief Committee

13	If the future of the building is left undecided the building will self-destruct	2/15/2019 2:19 PM
14	The original options were presented poorly from a consistency of assessment and commerciality point of view. often emotional presentations that had biases of the research groups. other senarios not tested.	2/13/2019 1:14 PM
15	Living in Melbourne I don't know enough about the issues/discussion surrounding Sydney Estonia House	2/12/2019 9:49 PM
16	We should move on but planning laws have changed significantly and we should explore these new options now to take full advantage.	2/12/2019 12:29 PM
17	Only one future option was completed in full by the deadline date. That was Arvo Tinni's option to keep upkeep of SEH going. At the last Co-op AGM, the candidates supporting the upkeep of SEH option were resoundingly voted in. As far as I am concerned, the decision has already been made by the community for then upkeep of SEH option. There is nothing more to discuss for the next 10 years.	2/11/2019 3:26 PM
18	It was made irrefutably clear at the Co-operative AGM in 2017 that the shareholders did not want redevelopment or sale of the property. Elected to the Co-operative Board in 2017 were four Directors who declared a position of retaining and upgrading the premises, and working in collaboration with the Estonian Society of Sydney. The 'Future Options' process that was instigated by the current Chairman of the ERC, who was at the time Chairman of the Co-operative, was initiated and conducted without consultation with the primary and most significant stakeholder, the Estonian Society of Sydney. The resounding defeat of the then Chairman of the Co-operative in his bid to be re-elected to the Board of the Co-operative in 2017 was a clear signal from the shareholders that they do not want this 'Future Options' discussion to continue.	2/11/2019 3:14 PM
19	I have not seen the Reports for Options 2 and 3. These should be issued before anything else is commenced	2/11/2019 12:10 PM
20	so far the discussions have not addressed the real problem	2/11/2019 9:38 AM

## Q7 From where you sit now, which of the following do you think is the best option for Sydney Estonian House?

Answered: 238 Skipped: 41



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Maintain the current building with upgrades as required	57.56% 137
Redevelop the site if financially possible - new building and facilities at the current address	33.19% 79
Sell the property and move all Estonian activities to a new site	15.55% 37
Other (please specify)	6.30% 15
Total Respondents: 238	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Sell site and then lease (or Buy) industrail unit to fit out with hall & rooms. Some church & other groups have done this with sucess. Needs to be relatively new and close to transport.	3/6/2019 3:56 PM
2	I don't know enough to comment	3/6/2019 2:15 PM
3	Whatever the majority decide to do	3/3/2019 1:46 PM
4	Whatever the majority wish to do	3/3/2019 1:33 PM
5	Is it possible to gut the building and refurbish what is inside? Then we can avoid having to get another planning approval but accommodate changed needs.	2/27/2019 1:09 PM
6	STAY - depends on \$ on what can be achieved	2/22/2019 4:04 PM
7	I have no interest in this whatsoever	2/16/2019 9:27 PM
8	an option between 1 and 2 exists	2/13/2019 1:14 PM
9	I don't know enough about previously proposed options	2/12/2019 9:49 PM
10	Don't know	2/12/2019 10:54 AM
11	All above are possible. Are they financially viable, I can't tell. Should a property be occupied and used, it should be used and be open from morning to late (almost) every day. Is cooperation with Latvians/Finns/Ethiopians etc possible? Estonian Society of Sydney should be open to organise activities in other locations even if it remains based at the/a Sydney Estonian House.	2/12/2019 1:21 AM
12	f the above if feasible	2/11/2019 4:12 PM

## Sydney Estonian House Future – A Survey by the Estonian Relief Committee

13	I don't live in Sydney so would rather not interfere.	2/11/2019 6:54 AM
14	Partial redevelopment may be option, retain part, redevelop part.	2/10/2019 9:39 PM
15	Need more information but one of the first 2 options	2/10/2019 6:46 PM

## Q8 Do you have anything to add about the future of Sydney Estonian House?

Answered: 111 Skipped: 168

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Not right now since details of the stances taken by the executive bodies of both the Co-operative and the Estonian Society of Sydney have still to be revealed.	3/14/2019 6:13 PM
2	Love the location!	3/13/2019 10:25 PM
3	Flogging a dead horse - Esto.population will assimilate into general public fabric & club house will be sold eventually, proceeds distributed to share holders. Amen!! Best course - emigrate back to Estonia & become an Estonian again. They need you there!!	3/11/2019 8:39 PM
4	Think wider than Estonians and Estonia house including Australians and all other nations to keep the venue operating.	3/10/2019 11:56 PM
5	I'm highly skeptical about the benefit of this questionnaire for advancing the issue. It's basically the same questionnaire as over a year ago, these subjects were discussed, this adds nothing new. It's difficult to see the motivation behind this new - less advertised round of survey. PLUS for several reasons you can't reliably pool the answers from different rounds of questioning, they would also be very difficult to compare since identifiers like age groups are too broad or lacking.	3/10/2019 8:38 PM
6	A place of heritage is paramount for Estonian descendants. I look forward to introducing our young son to our cultural heritage.	3/9/2019 9:17 AM
7	The author of this questionnaire needs to remember that Mart Rampe's plan to sell-off Eesti Maja was quashed the moment that the Estonian community lost confidence in his programme to sell, redevelop or maintain the house and thus voted him off the committee. The future of Sydney Eesti Maja had hints of the disposal of Thirlmere's Eesti Maja which left the community cold with no house. Through this questionnaire I can't imagine why EAK needs to be concerned with the sale of Sydney Eesti Maja; I am lead to believe that EAK has a charter to provide financial assistance to those in need within the Estonian community and is in the admirable position to provide financial assistance, in the form of a grant or a non-profit loan to Sydney SELTS, to maintain our wonderful Eesti Maja building: this would be most productive and the benefits would be long lasting. Sydney Eesti Maja has been called "the life blood of the community" and is in good use from many groups within the community, and if Mart Rampe gets his hands on this hall then this will be the end of our wonderful community in Sydney. It may be nice to have money from the sale of a building but this will not maintain the community as we know it. Another thing, the opening (Kurat ... have I got your attention?) of the most recent reminder for the EAK questionnaire may be regarded as crude and vulgar by some members of the community, especially the elderly; it makes no difference to me but should have been thought-out a little more before typing the message.	3/8/2019 3:47 PM
8	You have an excellent facility right in the Sydney CBD which will be difficult to replace if it were to be disposed of.	3/7/2019 10:33 AM
9	Please do not sell the property.This has been home to many Estonians.	3/6/2019 5:03 PM
10	I don't know the details, but overall I think whichever option frees up funds from building maintenance to allow funds for activities and initiative is best.	3/6/2019 2:15 PM
11	I wish bickering between organisations would stop. We need to pull together. I feel it is important that the Estonian archive should continue to be at the Estonian House. It is a most valuable asset which should be maintained and cherished.	3/6/2019 12:41 PM
12	Stop going round in circles. Take some calculated risks. It may take some imagination and courage. That's probably an oxymoron for a conservative mindset.	3/5/2019 12:49 PM
13	We could redevelop if it makes financial sense, but still keep part of it for Estonians use for highly discounted rate or better for free to promote our culture, language etc. I was part of mudilasring and its definitely has helped me to teach estonian to my daughters who do speak the language even though their father is australian. I strongly hope we can keep Estonian house where it is at the moment and not to sell in order to move somewhere out of the city that makes it even harder for people to gather and keep our culture and language alive	3/4/2019 8:03 PM
14	Estonian organisations which are shareholders in Eesti Maja should use their funds to maintain the building and carry out essential works including better disability access asap.	3/4/2019 2:13 PM

## Sydney Estonian House Future – A Survey by the Estonian Relief Committee

15	Specific room please, for Kunst ja Kasitoo meetings.	3/4/2019 9:58 AM
16	I think it should remain in its present location. It is central which is an essential part	3/4/2019 9:33 AM
17	House needs to be accessible to families with young children, i.e. PARKING close by	3/4/2019 1:31 AM
18	We do need to have a place where we can go to meet other Estonians.	3/3/2019 8:11 PM
19	The Estonian House is crucially important to maintaining Estonian culture into the future. Without it, and without the proposed development, the House will slowly degenerate along with Eesti Kultur in Sydney and NSW. I teach my grandchildren Estonian, which I very gladly learnt for my wife's parents so my father-in-law could talk to his grandchildren. Both our daughters are fluent in Estonian, and we want all our grandchildren to maintain this link to the culture and thus to their family in Estonia. Estonian House is crucial to all this effort. Trevor Ford	3/3/2019 6:35 PM
20	More should be done to attract the younger generations.	3/3/2019 6:11 PM
21	More public events in estonian house to finance estonian house for estonians	3/3/2019 5:56 PM
22	I think its important for Estonians to have a cultural centre. I think the archives should stay and free space. The building has emotional attachment, elders want it to stay( having spoken to some). Upgrade the building, make it pay for itself, through rental space. But keep it for Estonians. And if everyone is undecided, review it in a few years.cheers linda	3/3/2019 3:51 PM
23	the future of Sydney Estonian House is in our hands	3/3/2019 3:39 PM
24	I'm not sure what ERC has to do with any of this.	3/3/2019 2:52 PM
25	I give 10 years then they will have to close the Selts anyway	3/3/2019 2:11 PM
26	Well, not about Eesti Maja - but actually it is a mug of black coffee and a smorrebrod and I nearly deleted without reading because of the 'Kurat' :) !! Thought it 'Estonian spam' !!!!	3/3/2019 1:41 PM
27	To maintain our Estonian heritage and culture here in Sydney (and NSW) it is essential we keep the Estonian House where it is in its present form.	3/3/2019 7:23 AM
28	Sydney Estonian House is the life line of our community and is a central and welcoming place for the Estonian Community, guest and non-Estonians. The House is a place where we all can share, experience, learn, peruse the archives and teach cultural activities. The current location is suitable for the young and old as it is accessible by quality public transport in a busy city. We need to promote the venue in a positive light and support the wonderful hardworking volunteer community who keeps the venue operative. We must remember that we are volunteer community for our community. We are not a political organisation, thus the politics and factions created by the egos of some committee members in their organisations must now stop! This negativity is the biggest blockage to the enable us to continue in a positive light. Three cheers the Sydney Estonian House, the volunteers and its community groups. Keep dancing, singing, crafting, learning the language and look after our building and heritage for the next generations. Note: If Estonian House is closed or sold, then there will be no more Estonian Community, the opportunity will be lost. The funds from the sale of real estate will end in someones kitty, which will then be dived out in a small grant application. The small grant application will only be beneficial for short term gain, generally for a short-term project and the forgotten. Invest in the future, invest in Estonian House.	3/1/2019 9:20 PM
29	There is lots of unused space that could be turnes into a money making business when the rooms are available. First that come to mind is flexible work place/hotseating - this can only happen once the facility has uplifted to a decent level.	2/28/2019 6:24 PM
30	when the Estonian House gets sold (which will eventually happen, but hopefully in distant future!) that will be the end of the Estonian era in Sydney. the community is not strong enough (anymore) to be relocated. I hope Eesti maja is kept and used better. The location is superb in Surry Hills and i do not think any other location in Sydney would work as well. However, EM is not being used to its full potential. It has been breath taking to see how active EM has become again. Those who wish to hastily sell it, should come and visit and see it to themselves when four groups are using it simultaneously during some days of the week. The Sydney Estonian community is still strong but needs a centre to stay alive and active. People of all ages still meet there and love it and are prepared to help in any way needed to keep it for another 20 years (at least).	2/28/2019 8:57 AM
31	Why is this question being even asked again and again. We want to keep the house as it is but if the house needs to raise more funds then renting out space for other functions should be considered. I know that this will incur costs but I think these costs can be compensated for. This would also give the house more of a live feel and would engage more with the local community which should enhance the longevity of the house.	2/27/2019 10:52 PM
32	Keep it, as it has a historical link to the past.	2/27/2019 4:21 PM

## Sydney Estonian House Future – A Survey by the Estonian Relief Committee

33	Definitely require an outcome since these questions and forums have been going around for years with not outcome!! Nowadays there are so many younger people visiting Sydney Estonian House, it is central to many and close to the city for the younger generation to hang out if required for their activities. Please let's resolve the issues and move on - keep Sydney Estonian House where it is but have some upgrades down. This is our heritage, our culture and we do not want to lose this as well!!!	2/27/2019 2:20 PM
34	I am definitely against selling and moving. Current location is perfect. We don't need an Estonian house somewhere in the suburbs. People are not going to attend regular activities like folk dancing, singing, language classes and Mudilasring if its time consuming to get there. We should learn from the mistake Lithuanians made with their house, they are experiencing problems with their neighbors with whom they share the house and the suburb is not safe. People are concerned about their safety when attending events late at night.	2/27/2019 2:14 PM
35	Cultural centre for Estonians & should be retained.	2/27/2019 1:45 PM
36	Please contact ERM (Eesti Rahva Muuseum). They have had to go through a similar process for deciding what to do with a building with long heritage but one which did not accommodate modern requirements. They decided to develop a new building next to the old one (the latter is currently not being used) but of course here we do not have that luxury, but at least they could advise and give guidance as to what is important to maintain to ensure the persistence of Estonian culture.	2/27/2019 1:09 PM
37	If finance is available I would support a new building for Estonian House that provides and improves on current functions. Otherwise some refurbishment and upgrade of the current building is needed. It does look and feel dated.	2/27/2019 12:49 PM
38	Although this is a complex historical, moral, emotional and also legal issue, there is absolutely no urgency in this matter. We must look to, respect and honour the original intent and purpose of those who established the Estonian Society of Sydney and who in turn commissioned Estonian House (via the legal vehicle of convenience of the Estonian House Co-op). To ignore all this is simply morally bankrupt and the false urgency behind the redevelopment and/or sale options reeks of special interest commercial opportunism. The only option that respects and honours the original intent and purpose of our "founding fathers" is to stay put and maintain Estonian House with upgrades as required.	2/27/2019 10:50 AM
39	Move it to Parramatta	2/27/2019 10:36 AM
40	I strongly support Estonian House remaining at Surry Hills.. Not only did I have my wedding reception there, but it's such a beautiful building with decades of history.. It would be devastating to so many within the Estonian community to have it sold or relocated..	2/27/2019 7:50 AM
41	I'm heritage-minded. We should maintain the building erected by the Sydney Estonian community of the 1920s and 1930s. That community is an important part of the story of Estonians in Australia.	2/27/2019 7:36 AM
42	The house has become too old to fix with band-aids. The demolishing and rebuilding will still only give us a site that has no parking facility and will be too expensive to develop (with our resources) A new house with good public transport access and plenty of free parking (such as a suburban bowling club) has better appeal also dormitory style accommodation for interstate and international visitors would suit. Join all the societies in Sydney together so that they are not working against each other.	2/27/2019 6:39 AM
43	Let us have another Forum ASAP	2/27/2019 6:39 AM
44	If the building is, generally speaking, structurally sound I don't believe it should be redeveloped. Too often perfectly good buildings are demolished for no good reason. It is always easy to see the negatives. A little harder to think laterally or creatively. It is easy to look at Eesti Maja and say it has become old and tired, but I think if community members can put their thinking caps on, things can be radically improved. I think we all want a good cafe serving Estonian food.. kiluvõileivad! Where could it go? At the front entrance? Indoor/outdoor. Could a designer help with ideas? The front entrance, generally speaking, needs a serious revamp. Another idea could be a "library" of Estonian books, publications, music that is not hidden away. Have it near the cafe or the bar.	2/26/2019 11:27 PM
45	I frequently use the building for folkdancing and am in agreement with the Selts that those who are using the building often should have a greater say than those who do not frequent the venue. It's important to acknowledge ways in which new people can come and use the space however it is important to maintain a relationship with those currently occupying it	2/26/2019 10:26 PM
46	Enlist more voluntary workers and charge non-members more for admission. Do not outprice the Archives.	2/26/2019 9:59 PM
47	The option presented for development was unacceptable.	2/26/2019 9:03 PM

## Sydney Estonian House Future – A Survey by the Estonian Relief Committee

48	Eesti Maja in its current form acts as a central location within Sydney and runs independently with only the best intentions for the Sydney Estonian community as a whole. If this were to change it would be detrimental to the Estonian community. It must continue to serve the various groups that use it, and revenue for upgrades should be generated in a way that does not compromise any person or groups position in Eesti Maja.	2/26/2019 8:48 PM
49	Estonian House is needed to keep the Estonians Estonians.	2/26/2019 8:25 PM
50	Estonian house has potential, and it's location is absolutely crucial to its survival and dare I say it, the survival of Sydney Estonian Society. The cafe space had potential but unfortunately wasn't managed correctly. It needed someone in there with many years of hospitality experience. With improvements the house has the potential to become a venue to be hired out - great location and good facilities. There have been successful events with other cultural groups within Sydney (Finns, Swedes) and I think these relationships should be nurtured and expanded upon. There could also be the possibility to hire the space out for external groups for parties/weddings/celebrations etc. These events would have to have a dedicated "event manager" who had experience who could provide the service that customers expect.	2/26/2019 8:09 PM
51	Moving out of Sydney is a really bad idea, it is a central location for most people to go to and it's iconic in its location	2/24/2019 9:09 AM
52	It would be great if the new site was an accessible (both public transport and car). Yet, I hope it is not in Western Sydney (Paramatta Road), or similar congested access that is difficult to access from the South Coast line. The hope for future is for the new generation (our children) to be part of the Estonian community in Sydney. Thank you for all your efforts. Kind regards	2/23/2019 6:56 AM
53	Is is a fantastic asset, other communities use the hall, we have young dancers (majority under 30 ears old ) there every week, we have 3 language groups, 2 singing groups (loke & Kooskolas) , 3 different language lessons - Monday,Wed, Sat , the archive people ....., events Mothers Day, Christmas, arts and crafts group Good to see a survey asking individuals and not just the head of a group.	2/22/2019 4:04 PM
54	The current Estonian House is large enough for our current needs, we own it and the location works. We need everyone to work together and so that we can plan for the future with the building that we already have.	2/21/2019 12:35 PM
55	I firmly believe the Estonian house should remain in its current location, for reasons being, ease of public transport & general accessibility, long standing familiar location for the Estonian community, central to Sydney CBD (especially for OS visitors), The current location of the Estonian house is in a prime position to further capitalise on the property, particularly if possible to re-develop and gain some sort of ongoing rental income from part of the property whilst keeping part for Estonian House usage, a win win situation!	2/20/2019 6:00 PM
56	I think Estonian House is used regularly for many activities (Kooskõlas choir, Fold dancing, Lõke, Estonian Children's playgroup, Handicrafts group etc) and not to forget regular functions held by Estonian Society of Sydney. Archives are definitely most important part of the Sydney Estonian House - considered the best collection of Estonian history outside Estonia and providing information to researchers here and from Estonia about Estonian community here. The biggest challenge is maintaining and upgrading the house.	2/20/2019 1:05 PM
57	I support the Estonian House remaining operational in Surry Hills, because it is such a fantastic central location and thus more likely to continue to bring new Estonians and their friends to events at the House, therefore also ensuring that the Estonian Community in Sydney remains alive and active. Various options to increase attendance and financial viability of the House's operations should be investigated though.	2/20/2019 10:44 AM
58	I've come to the conclusion the house should be sold. At present minimal upgrades only are done, despite grand plans. I think for example a defunct bowling club or similar could be bought within a range maybe 10-15 kms from the CBD. We could actually have some parking! We need as a community bold and enterprising people, but often it seems, plans for renewal are sabotaged and it's back to square one....	2/19/2019 9:08 PM
59	Sydney Estonian house should be kept, it is a valuable real estate asset for future generations to use. I believe it is an ERC responsibility to provide significant, if not major funding to maintain Eesti Maja in good order and condition. If ERC does not contribute to maintaining Eesti Maja for cultural activities and for Estonians to use, in my view it becomes an irrelevant organisation which does not support Estonians or Estonian activities.	2/19/2019 9:41 AM
60	I dont mind redeveloping if the money is found and the whole house will still remain with Estonians and for the use of Estonian community. Otherwise I support to maintain the current building and find the money to fix and upgrade.	2/18/2019 9:46 PM

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61	Lets move on it is quite clear from what I have heard and seen that the vast majority of my long term & deep network that its time to close this subject and place energy into positive continuation of the existing house. Any attempt otherwise will be met with vigorous energy as you have already experienced. Hoping you will use and exhibit publicly all the correspondence to those who wish to see it for reasons of transparency. Many of us have copies of our submission to this survey to share amongst ourselves in case there is any reason to do so :) But I should also say a BIG thanks for all your time and energy in exploring alternatives it was a great initiative	2/18/2019 2:09 AM
62	We need more young people to take an interest in Estonian House and more activities held there.	2/17/2019 10:20 PM
63	See on meie pärand!	2/17/2019 8:36 PM
64	Estonian House represents a strong emotional connection to Estonia for me and my family. I plan to bring my young sons there when they are old enough. I hope that it continues in some shape or form. I haven't been visiting as regularly as I should recently, but my father did Estonian scouts and dancing there, we have attended some of the dinners together. I hope to be informed of the plans for the future.	2/16/2019 8:42 PM
65	What is the planned future of the archives? The Estonian and Australian governments could be included in the discussion. What is the projected usage of Eesti Maja in 10 years time, when the demographic of the traditional users will have changed significantly? There is no point moving now if no one will be using the building in the future. In 10 years time many of those who have an emotional attachment will have passed on, why upset them now? Will the current activities safely continue during the disruption caused by developing/ building elsewhere? There is a risk involved in the choice of a new location, even though the current location may not be ideal. The ERC has the funds to maintain the building. For what purpose is the ERC preserving its capital? I don't see the urgency for change at this point in time. I am in favour of maintenance.	2/16/2019 8:26 PM
66	Any Estonian house should be debt free (ie no mortgage), close to public transport & designed to accommodate many kinds of activities.	2/16/2019 6:20 PM
67	the committees involved should make clear what is needed and allow for younger generations and fresh ideas to come in and give their input. the 23-35 year olds are very passionate about the estonian culture and the future of what happens. this passion needs to be nurtured and channeled in the right direction and used to sustain the future of Eesti Maja and the Estonian culture in Sydney	2/16/2019 5:01 PM
68	The current site has historic 'sentiment'. Let's show what the current generation of users can do to enhance the building's intended long-term use.	2/15/2019 2:19 PM
69	A new building in an accessible location with car parking may have more appeal to the younger Estonian community.	2/14/2019 6:14 PM
70	The House needs to meet our needs as a community and allow future generations the space to come together. As a community, we should decide on what our needs are prior to any major decisions are to be made.	2/13/2019 7:41 AM
71	Making an emotional decision will not resolve the problems. Taking advantage of the now possibilities may perhaps give the society everything that they need plus maintain an important thread to what we are all about. But this is a commercial decision.	2/12/2019 12:29 PM
72	I give 10 years for SES don't think there will be any activities for it to keep financially going, then it may be sold and the archives will have to move to the Australian Archives	2/12/2019 11:23 AM
73	No	2/12/2019 10:54 AM
74	Look at what is happening in other places in the world - Melbourne, Hamilton, Canada. We are not unique, and have the same issues as elsewhere. We should learn from what they are doing, and follow suit.	2/11/2019 10:42 PM
75	It's a symbol for so many people... we cant lose it.	2/11/2019 9:42 PM
76	IT is imperative that the House stay at its present location. With the price of land in Sydney now, I can't understand why nothing more hasnt been done, get developers involved with the Esto House included in bottom floors. There is so much space at the current house that is not used.	2/11/2019 5:54 PM
77	Please keep in mind that the youth are the ones who rely on the future of EM and our opinion should weigh heavily	2/11/2019 5:39 PM
78	The current location is perfect, the house has much potential especially with the street facing storefront, the Archives needs more attention and greater accessibility. The front of the house should be re-done to make it more appealing and a general overall plan should be done, rather than small bits over time. The future is also in the kids and younger generations, who have been left out of the conversation, not by choice.	2/11/2019 5:26 PM

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79	Having heard from other European communities on similar topics, it is evident that a dedicated location is crucial for the continuation of community belonging and cultural preservation. Although there have been some successes with the community halls being in more suburban areas (usually where there are a lot of residents from the same background), considering the complexity of commute in Sydney, I personally would be a lot less likely to frequent the Estonian house if there was inter suburb travel involved (unless of course the I was lucky enough for the new site be closer to my home). Thank you.	2/11/2019 5:17 PM
80	Current position of Eesti Maja is ideally located for those who use public transport. Parking one's car in the area is not good so a car park station (underneath?) would be good. An internal lift instead of stairs for elderly or disabled??	2/11/2019 4:23 PM
81	According to Eesti Maja accounts, I give Estonian House a minimum for two years and a maximum of 5 years, from 11/2/2018, before it goes into receivership, unless averting action is taken now. BP.	2/11/2019 3:36 PM
82	The future of Sydney Estonian House for the next 10 years has already been decided by Co-op members. Only Co-op members have the right to decide what happens to SEH. This link should not be forwarded to anyone who is not a Co-op member as they have no right to voice an opinion about the future of SEH.	2/11/2019 3:26 PM
83	Do not sell, do not redevelop as I have worked with property developers and we'll end up getting screwed and we'll lose the site. Sydney is too expensive to move any new site.	2/11/2019 3:24 PM
84	Sydney Estonian House was built for the Estonian Society of Sydney, which is responsible for managing use of the premises. The Estonian House Co-operative Society Limited was established merely as a vehicle for the Estonian Society to build itself Estonian House. The majority of the shares the ERC holds were donated to the ERC by the Estonian Society of Sydney in 2005. The future of Sydney Estonian House must be decided by the Estonian Society of Sydney for whom the house was built, in collaboration with the Co-operative and members of the Sydney Estonian community who use the premises for academic, cultural and social activities.	2/11/2019 3:14 PM
85	Cherish and maintain the current Estonian House,,out of respect of the voluntary efforts of those who built and have maintained it. The future of Estonian House can be decided only by the shareholders.	2/11/2019 2:57 PM
86	In the current property market, the site of Estonian house would still being in a good price whereas if moved to a less expensive area with parking etc an economical purchase might be conceivable?	2/11/2019 2:48 PM
87	If nothing is done, the House will end up being condemned and will need excessive amounts of money to fix. Only a small percentage of Estonians living in Sydney use the facility because activities provided are limited in their appeal and parking is costly.	2/11/2019 1:50 PM
88	A new location would need to be very close to public transport and have adequate free parking.	2/11/2019 1:20 PM
89	We have gone through this ex already. Please organise the detailed "business case" reports for Options 2 & 3 before starting anything new. So far it has only been talk! The Report on Option 1 can be used as a guide. The moneys that ERC has should be used to carry out required maintenance on the Est House.	2/11/2019 12:10 PM
90	I think it would be a big loss to the community if the current Estonia house was sold off . The only options that should be in debate whether we keep the current building already developed on the site maintaining entire ownership of the redevelopment. DO NOT SELL ESTONIA HOUSE	2/11/2019 11:49 AM
91	Maintain the building as a proud symbol of Estonian culture and its contribution to that of Australia! Because of its facilities and prime location, lease it to other national groups without a home, for their functions and celebrations.	2/11/2019 11:41 AM
92	1.We need to redevelop site and consider all financial options and plans very carefully to achieve that . 2.We need to avoid ceeding control in any form to others 3.In the meantime the Esto Co-op and Eesti Selts need to unite and act as one body. 4.All options to achieve redeveloping need to be re-assessed very carefully. 5.The paper(Meie Kodu) has closed ( there is no adequate means to get news to many as a result), expenses will increase ( the latest expensive electric re-wiring , etc.) , the roof is still a further disaster waiting to happen. And much more to come as years go by 6. People do not seem to be able to see further than their noses... it is like Venezuela at present. The blind follow the blind!	2/11/2019 10:55 AM

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93	It is important that the Estonian House remains in it's current location. It should be renovated to include essential upgrades but it should not be redeveloped. If it was redeveloped, the hall would loose it's community atmosphere and furthermore, the redevelopment may never be completed, causing the collapse of the Sydney Estonian community. Even though I am young, the Sydney Estonian House maintains an important part in my life as I visit is at least once a week with various activities including dancing practice. It is in a prime location that is central and accessible to people from all parts of Sydney. It has a lot of heritage and many people feel a strong connection to it. It is full of wonderful memories and is a central meeting point, allowing for the continuation of old friendships and the formation of new friendships. The hall is the home to our thriving dance groups, our enthusiastic choirs, our inclusive language lessons, our diverse events, our creative craft group, our dedicated archives and most importantly...our memories and our friendships. The Estonian community is a family and the the Sydney Estonian House is our family's home. If our home was to be repositioned or redeveloped, it would lead to the separation and eventual collapse of our family. The Sydney Estonian House is the HEART of the Sydney Estonian Community. Consequently, it is essential that the house remains where it is and upgrades are made to the existing building to maintain the growing enthusiasm and continuation of our Estonian community.	2/11/2019 10:30 AM
94	The future discussions should be : how to attract people to come to the Estonian House, particularly millennials . The current House is fine as it is for its current users.	2/11/2019 9:38 AM
95	We need to figure out what we can do to relocate the groups in Estonian house who use it regularly (Sydney Virmalised, Lõke, Estonian lessons + more) to keep the Estonian Community alive and well for the future generations to come, if we do either redevelop or move.	2/11/2019 9:33 AM
96	NO	2/11/2019 9:21 AM
97	The Estonian community needs to act now. Failure to do so will see the legacy of our parents disappear forever. Do not squander this opportunity.	2/11/2019 8:08 AM
98	It is unfortunate that it is run by too many committees. Just one should be running the house, bookings and anything else to do with site. This stops arguments and building of power bases.	2/11/2019 6:35 AM
99	Keep the site. It is irreplaceable	2/10/2019 10:48 PM
100	Next year 2020 will mark 80 years since 1940 when Sydney Estonian House was first opened. We should celebrate this milestone with a fundraising night where donating say \$1000 gets your family name plate on a brick in a memorial wall of donors at the front entry. Where Lachlan Bell's painted mural currently is (sorry mate). This wall is say 6 m? long x 2.0m high = 720 bricks = \$720,000. Good seed money - either for upgrade works or towards redevelopment = impartial.	2/10/2019 9:39 PM
101	Great spot. Central and easy to get to. Needs maintenance. Commercial opportunities should be explored eg Hire out to local community groups in the Surry Hills/Darlinghurst area. Investigate the model on how the Latvian House in Strathfield is run. Very good business proposition which brings in substantial income which sustains their viability.	2/10/2019 9:29 PM
102	New site, community center, for archives, free storage, exhibition s, cafe, a meeting place to drop in and meet, cultural activities that involve all Australia ns, to educate. Easy parking, preserve culture, sing!, dance. Function s.	2/10/2019 8:52 PM
103	Suggest contacting the Eesti Rahvamuuseum (ERM) management to get ideas and perhaps create opportunities to see how sustainably promote Estonian culture. Couldn't the Estonian Consulate be based in the new building with the help of the Estonian Government? Modernising may have to be the only way if the old building can't be saved. But I may be wrong and the work required may not be as comprehensive as sounds and maybe we can upgrade the existing building after all.	2/10/2019 8:43 PM
104	Don't waste the opportunity to maintain an awesome and centrally located Estonian house in Sydney. Short sighted financial gain will just be regretted in the long term. Please do not have a repeat of what happened at Thirlmere!	2/10/2019 8:05 PM
105	Draw more younger people to decide it's future	2/10/2019 7:23 PM
106	The original intentions of Estonian culture have vastly changed (as witnessed by the unexpected and disappointing closure to 'Meie Kodu'). With generational change come changing connections to Eesti. As such we now witness activities such as folk dancing, choir or social events as key markers for one's Estonian identity (rather than an ability to speak the language). It must be worth seriously considering a greater diversity of options with our Scandanavian neighbours to access to the facilities for the sake of the long-term justification for the existence of such an incredibly underused asset in the prime location in Sydney.	2/10/2019 7:21 PM
107	It seems to me that the younger generation has to make the major decisions now, as we oldies will soon not be able to take part in activities. The archive is very valuable, and its future needs to be considered.	2/10/2019 7:09 PM

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108	I feel the use of the site should be maximized. Raising revenue should be a major priority and broader Estonian community involvement should be prioritized. Many no longer visit or participate due to the cliques that exist which are less than welcoming. The Estonian House is a landmark amongst the Estonian Community and should be kept, treasured and utilized to ensure there is a place for Estonians to come together and Estonian culture to flourish.	2/10/2019 6:56 PM
109	Keep the good location... all our friends from neighbour countries Finland, Sweden, Latvians and Lithuanians have impressed their opinion that we are lucky to have a community house so close to city center. Also, it has strong history as it's built by Estonians from zero and all these memories that people have got from different events are priceless	2/10/2019 6:42 PM
110	Blah blah	2/8/2019 10:11 AM
111	Estonian House is a fantastic asset to the Estonian community. But a new generation needs to step up and guide its future.	2/8/2019 10:07 AM

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