



ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Supporting writers at every stage

Writing NSW acknowledges all the First Nations people of what is now the state of NSW and pays respects to their elders and storytellers, past and present. We honour the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are privileged to work, the Gadigal and Wangal people of the Eora Nation, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water, and community.

We honour the rich storytelling traditions of the First Nations people, whose tales have been woven into the fabric of this land for many thousands of years. These stories connect us to the past, teach us lessons for the present, and inspire us to create a shared future. By acknowledging the Traditional Custodians and their stories, we commit to listening, learning, and fostering understanding as we make this journey of storytelling together.



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It is my pleasure to present the 2025 Annual Report for Writing NSW — a year defined by growth, resilience, and a deepening sense of purpose across our community. The organisation continues to play a vital role in supporting writers at every stage of their journey, and this year's results reflect the strength of that mission.

From a governance perspective, the Board has remained focused on long-term sustainability and strategic clarity. The financial result, a modest surplus following deliberate investment in digital capability reflects a considered approach to balancing immediate impact with future resilience. What stands out most in 2025 is the continued evolution of Writing NSW. The scale of activity, from hundreds of writing group meetings to thousands of individual interactions, demonstrates an organisation that is embedded in the daily practice of writers. Importantly, it also highlights the increasing demand for connection, professional development, and pathways into the industry.

One of the highlights of the year was the Night of Letters, an event that perfectly encapsulated the spirit of Writing NSW. A project that was a labour of love from the Board's Fundraising and Marketing committee, the event brought together some of Australia's most respected writers alongside an engaged and enthusiastic audience. The evening was a celebration of storytelling in its most personal and powerful form. The calibre of contributors, the warmth of the atmosphere, and the generosity of the audience underscored the enduring importance of literary culture, not just as an industry, but as a shared human experience. Events like this do more than showcase talent; they reinforce the role Writing NSW plays in convening, elevating, and sustaining the literary community.

None of this work happens in isolation. I would like to acknowledge the outstanding leadership of our CEO, Sophie Groom, whose clarity of vision and operational excellence continue to drive the organisation forward. My thanks also go to my fellow Board Members for their continued expertise and commitment, and to the Writing NSW team, whose dedication underpins every aspect of the organisation's success.

Finally, I extend sincere thanks to our funding partners, sector collaborators, and most importantly, our members. Writing NSW exists because of this community, and it is their engagement, trust, and ambition that shape what we do next.

As we look ahead, the focus remains clear: to expand access, deepen impact, and continue building a writing sector in New South Wales that is diverse, sustainable, and creatively ambitious.

Adam van Rooijen



For the year ended 31 December 2025, Writing NSW achieved a surplus of \$25,380 (2024: \$86,984). While this is a lower surplus than 2023 and 2024, it reflects deliberate investment in the organisation's future including the introduction of new digital equipment to improve accessibility and delivery of our programs, and a year in which government grant income was lower than in prior periods. Total revenue was \$786,086 (including interest income of \$37,547), and total expenses were \$760,706.



Retained surpluses at the end of the year stand at \$788,027 — a strong financial position that reflects years of prudent stewardship and provides the reserves necessary to support the organisation's mission through periods of funding uncertainty.

Writing NSW received an unqualified audit opinion from LBW & Partners, Chartered Accountants, confirming that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the organisation's financial position.

The bread and butter of Writing NSW, our membership and course programs, continued to new heights. Membership numbers continued to increase year on year, with fees reaching \$103,840 and course and program fees of \$225,437 showing that the high quality of the course program has ensured the organisation's capacity to generate sustainable income alongside grant funding. I am grateful to Sophie Groom and the entire Writing NSW team for their careful financial management and their tireless commitment to the writers of NSW.

Eliza Twaddell

	2025	2024
Revenue	\$748,539	\$722,492
Interest income	\$37,547	\$37,332
Total expenses	(\$760,706)	(\$672,840)
Surplus for the year	\$25,380	\$86,984
Retained surpluses	\$788,027	\$762,647

I'm delighted to share our 2025 Annual Report with you, celebrating a year of remarkable growth, creativity, and community for Writing NSW and its members. 2025 was our biggest year yet and one that reminded us, again and again, of the essential role this organisation plays in the lives of writers across New South Wales.

Writing can be a lonely pursuit, and we know that the support, connection, and solidarity we offer writers is just as important as the practical services we deliver. We see it in our survey responses, in the messages we receive from members, and in the daily conversations we have with writers. Writing NSW is not just a provider of programs, it is a community, and that community is growing.

Our membership reached 1,798, a 20% increase on 2024 and a 51% increase over four years. That growth reflects the genuine value writers find in being part of this organisation, and it drives us to keep expanding what we offer and who we reach. We were particularly pleased to welcome more members from regional NSW this year, and our investment in new digital equipment is already making a real difference to writers who cannot easily access our Callan Park home in person.

Our professional development program ran every week from February to December, covering more than 50 different elements of writing craft and business. We added new areas including Comics and Graphic Novels, extended our Speculative Fiction offerings, and introduced shorter, more affordable seminar formats to make our programs accessible to more writers. 780 people enrolled in courses and workshops, with 88% rating the program very good to outstanding—a result our team and tutors should be enormously proud of.

In 2025, Writing NSW paid over \$217,000 directly to writers in fees, salaries, and wages, a figure that reflects our deep commitment to the livelihoods of working writers, not just their development.

We're proud of the many milestones we've achieved this year. We hosted over 500 writing group meetings, assisted more than 3,200 writers directly, and held over 100 dedicated writing events, from weekly retreats to online write-ins, giving writers dedicated time and space to simply come together and write. We awarded 11 significant scholarships, mentorships and fellowships, including new Year of the Novel scholarships for First Nations, CaLD, and young writers, and our inaugural Curlew Regional Writers Grant.

Our events program was a highlight of the year. The Kids & YA Festival saw attendance up 42%. Night of Letters filled Writing NSW with some of Australia's finest writers and most passionate supporters of literature. Our Open House event with HarperCollins gave members direct access to publishers—one of whom went on to be shortlisted for a major prize and sign with a literary agent. Our First Friday series, Inside Publishing program, and Talking Writing events continued to bring industry knowledge directly to writers wherever they are. And there is so much more, from those headline moments to the quieter ones: a member finishing their first draft, a writing group celebrating a publication, a writer finally feeling they are able to express the thing they've been long wanting to share.

As we look ahead to 2026 and beyond, Writing NSW remains steadfast in our commitment to fostering a supportive, diverse, and vibrant community for writers across New South Wales. We continue to expand our reach, deepen our programs, and advocate for writers and our sector.

With very sincere thanks to our wonderful team, our volunteer Board, our funding partners Creative Australia and Create NSW, our sector partners, and, most of all, our community, for their enthusiasm, trust, and collaboration throughout 2025.

Sophie Groom



OUR MISSION

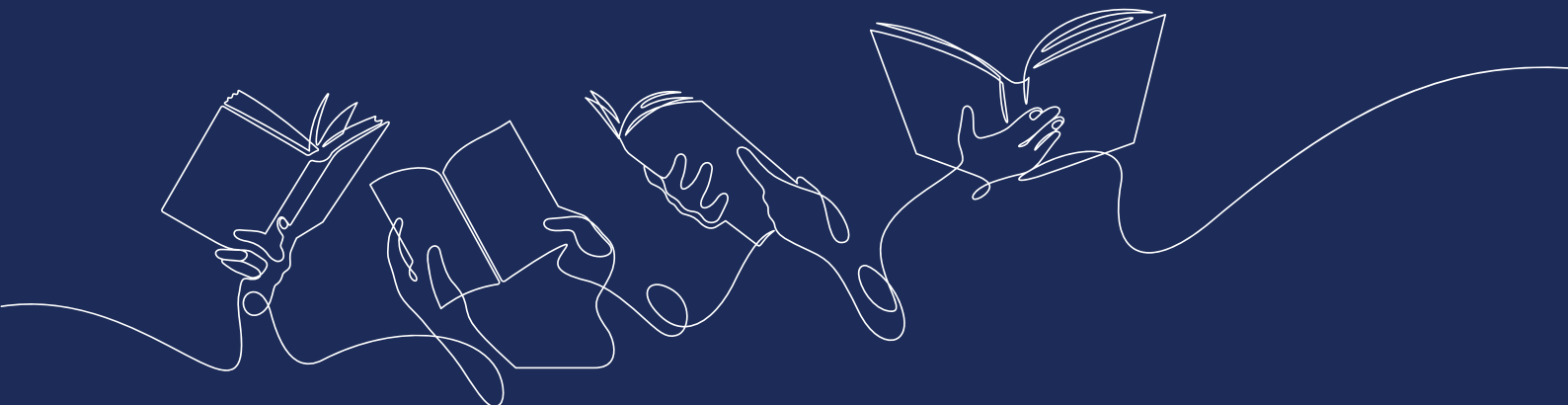
Writing NSW fosters a vibrant and diverse writing culture in NSW, connecting and supporting writers from all backgrounds, across all genres, and at all stages of their careers.

OUR VALUES

Community
Creativity
Diversity
Professionalism
Support

OUR VISION FOR THE SECTOR

NSW has a thriving literature sector that helps shape our collective identity, contributes new ideas and innovation to our creative industries and economy, and supports a diverse community of writers.



Highlights of 2025



KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

MEMBERSHIP

1798

+20% on 2024

COURSES

780

Participants

PROGRAM RATING

88%

Very Good or Above

PAID TO WRITERS

\$217K

Salaries, Wages & Fees

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SCHOLARSHIPS &
PRIZES AWARDED

11

ELEMENTS OF
WRITING TAUGHT

50

MANUSCRIPT
ASSESSMENTS

91

KIDS & YA FESTIVAL
TICKET SALES

+42%

INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

MEMBERS
REPORTING NEW
PUBLICATIONS

57

PITCHING
OPPORTUNITIES

60

PUBLISHER 1:1S
FACILITATED

69

PARTNERSHIP
EVENTS HELD

19

COMMUNICATIONS REACH

WEBSITE

99K+

Engaged Sessions

SOCIAL FOLLOWERS

15K+

Facebook & Instagram

SUBSCRIBERS

9,800

Newsbite Newsletter

WRITER
INTERVIEWS

55

Published Online

WRITING GROUPS & WRITE-INS

WRITING
GROUPS

31

WRITING GROUP
MEETINGS

530

WRITING SPACES
HOSTED

11

WRITE-IN
EVENTS

111

Membership & Constituency



Writing NSW's membership continued its strong upward trajectory in 2025, reaching 1,798 members, a 20% increase on 2024 and a 51% increase since December 2021. We are deeply grateful to the many members who have been part of our community for years, in some cases decades, and equally delighted to welcome those joining us for the first time. This growing and engaged community remains at the heart of everything we do.

Our 2025 annual survey received 463 responses, offering rich and detailed insight into who our members are and how we can best support them. This feedback plays a vital role in shaping our programs and services, and we are encouraged by the strong engagement and thoughtful contributions we receive each year.

Our community spans Greater Sydney, regional NSW, and beyond, with over 30% of respondents based in regional areas. We are pleased to see this geographic reach continue to expand, and we remain committed to ensuring our programs are accessible to writers wherever they are.

While our membership continues to grow, we recognise that there is more to do to ensure our community fully reflects the diversity of the writing sector and the broader community we serve. In 2025, 13% of survey respondents identified as d/Deaf or living with disability. We are committed to making meaningful progress in this area, with inclusivity embedded in our planning and delivery. The purchase of new digital equipment in 2025, made possible through the support of the Office of Responsible Gambling, is already strengthening our ability to provide a more accessible and inclusive experience for members who are d/Deaf or have disability, particularly through hybrid and online participation and improved audio technologies.

Our membership continues to reflect the broader realities of the writing sector. Income levels remain modest, with 67% earning below the national median and only a small proportion deriving the majority of their income from writing. These realities underscore the importance of our role in advocating for writers and providing affordable, accessible opportunities to develop craft and sustain creative practice.

We serve a broad spectrum of writers, from those just beginning their journey to established professionals. In 2025, 46% of respondents identified as aspiring writers working towards publication, 25% as early career writers, and 22% as professional writers. This diversity of experience is reflected in the wide range of programs and services we offer, spanning genre, career stage, craft and business.

'Well done - a terrific organisation uplifting literature and culture in Australia, improving mental health with the chance of expression and finding a voice, and launching many author careers.'

— SURVEY RESPONDENT, 2025





In 2025, our courses and professional development programs continued to thrive, with strong and growing engagement from the writing community. Our program ran continuously from February to December, with courses, workshops, and seminars delivered each week across in-person, online live, and on-demand formats. A total of 780 people enrolled directly in courses throughout the year, and participant feedback remained overwhelmingly positive, with 88% rating the program as very good or outstanding. This continued level of satisfaction reflects the quality, relevance, and responsiveness of our teaching and support.

We continued to offer a flexible mix of learning formats, ensuring access for writers at all stages and in all locations. In 2025, we expanded our course offerings to cover more than 50 different elements of writing, including new areas such as comics and graphic novels, extended learning in self-publishing and digital publishing, and a broader range of speculative fiction and fantasy courses. These additions reflect both emerging industry trends and the evolving interests of our membership.

Building on developments from previous years, we further embedded shorter formats into our program. These more affordable and time-efficient options have improved access for writers balancing work, caring responsibilities, or other commitments, while maintaining the high standard of instruction our participants expect.

Accessibility remained a central focus in 2025. The introduction of new digital equipment has strengthened our ability to deliver inclusive programming. This investment is already improving access for members who are d/Deaf or living with disability, as well as for writers in regional and remote areas who are unable to attend in person. It also lays the groundwork for expanded hybrid delivery in the years ahead.

We were pleased to welcome a significant number of new tutors to our teaching community in 2025, including Chris Phillips, Anna Downes, Saman Shad, Renee Otmar, Irma Gold, Elena Gomez, Michelle Law, Christof Bogacs, James Jiang, JS Breukelaar, Petronella McGovern, Tricia Dearborn, Dr Rachel Franks, Claudine Tinellis, Anna Featherstone, Madeline Te Whiu, Zahid Gamielien, Kelly Rigby, and Deborah Pike. Each brings valuable expertise and perspective, strengthening the breadth and depth of our program.

Across all our offerings, we have continued to prioritise affordability, keeping prices as low as possible while ensuring the sustainability of the organisation. This balance remains critical to our mission of supporting writers across New South Wales to develop their craft and build sustainable creative careers.

'I think the centre does an excellent job supporting writers. I am based in regional NSW, and am limited in face-to-face opportunities to learn and network, however the online courses that I have undertaken have been excellent in terms of building skills, knowledge and feedback from tutors and peers.'

— WRITERS PARTNERING WITH US TO DELIVER OUR PROGRAM IN 2025 —

We are deeply grateful to the tutors, manuscript assessors, mentors, guest speakers and judges who worked with Writing NSW throughout the year. Their depth of knowledge, care and professionalism underpin so much of what we do, and we thank them for the generosity with which they share their expertise with our community. Through their teaching, feedback and thoughtful engagement with writers' work, they help to foster confidence, rigour and creative growth at every stage of the writing journey.

We are proud to work alongside such a committed and inspiring group of writers.

Allison Tait	Jazz Money	Petronella McGovern
Aura Parker	Joel McKerrow	Pip Harry
Belinda Connors	Josie Montano	RA Spratt
Belinda Murrell	JP Pomare	Rachel Franks
Christof Bogacs	JS Breukelaar	Rebecca Diep
Dani Vee	Kate Cuthbert	Rebecca McRitchie
Deborah Abela	Kate Holden	Renee Otmar
Deborah Pike	Kate Temple	Rico Craig
Elena Gomez	Katrina McKelvey	Rosie Dub
Eleanor Limprecht	Kelly Rigby	Sally Rippin
Eliza Henry Jones	Kirsten Tranter	Saman Shad
Elisabeth Storrs	Kristin Darell	Samera Kamaledine
Emily Bitto	Laurel Cohn	Seana Smith
Emily Maguire	Leonie Tyle	Sian Prior
Fiona Kelly McGregor	Lliane Clarke	Simmons Howell
Fiona Lloyd	Louise Park	Stuart MacDonald
Fiona Murphy	Maame Blue	Sue Whiting
Fiona Wright	Madeline Te Whiu	Susanne Gervay
Gretchen Shirm	Maggie Hamilton	Tim Ferguson
Hayley Lawrence	Megan Daley	Tristan Bancks
Hilary Bell	Melina Marchetta	Tricia Dearborn
Inga Simpson	Michelle Law	Vanessa Berry
Irma Gold	Nat Amoore	Vishali Seshadri
Ivy Ireland	Nathan Luff	Will Kostakis
Jacqueline Harvey	Nick Earls	Zahid Gamiendien
James Jiang	Pamela Cook	Zoe Bechara
James McKenzie Watson	Pamela Hewitt	Zoya Patel

Mentorships, Fellowships, Prizes

It was a great privilege to award a number of prizes and scholarships to writers across the year, supporting work of exceptional promise and ambition. In 2025, this included five Cultivate mentorships, three Year of the Novel scholarships, the Indigenous Writer's Mentorship, the Varuna Fellowship, and the Curlew Regional Writers Grant. We are continually inspired by the calibre of applicants and grateful for the opportunity to support writers at pivotal moments in their practice, helping to create the time, space and encouragement needed for their work to flourish.

A Selection of 2025 Prize Winners

CULTIVATE MENTORSHIPS

Cassandra Li
Naima Amrin
Solomiya Sywak
Sanchana Venkatesh
Wayne Mok



YEAR OF THE NOVEL FIRST NATIONS WRITERS SCHOLARSHIP

Jenny Fraser

YEAR OF THE NOVEL CULTURALLY & LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE WRITERS SCHOLARSHIP

Sanchana Venkatesh

YEAR OF THE NOVEL YOUNG WRITERS SCHOLARSHIP

Miranda Michalowski

INDIGENOUS WRITERS MENTORSHIP

Yasmin Johnson

CURLEW REGIONAL WRITERS GRANT

Robyn Pryor

WRITING NSW X VARUNA FELLOWSHIP

Kirsty Windeyer

'It means a great deal to have the story I'm developing recognised in this way. I'm hoping this mentorship will provide space to sharpen the manuscript and help me build greater clarity around my voice and where the story sits in the broader literary landscape.'

YASMIN JOHNSON, MENTORSHIP WINNER

In addition to serving as an in-person hub for around 300 writers each week, Writing NSW delivers a range of industry-focused programs designed to foster connection, share knowledge, and provide accessible support to writers at all stages of their careers. Below are just a few highlights from this year's professional and networking initiatives.

First Friday

Our free monthly online interview series continued in 2025, connecting writers with leading voices from across the publishing and literary sectors. Sessions explored a wide range of topics, including research into Australian reading habits and the book industry, independent and academic publishing, writing for children, and pathways into the industry for emerging and young writers. The series also highlighted self-publishing, the realities of working as a poet in Australia today, and the importance of accessibility in the arts. Featuring guests from organisations such as Australia Reads, Perentie Press, Sydney University Press, Red Room Poetry, and Accessible Arts, alongside experienced authors and industry professionals, the program offered valuable insight and practical guidance to writers at all stages of their careers.



Inside Publishing

Our festival outreach program brings Sydney-based publishing professionals to writers across NSW. In 2025 we partnered with Words on the Waves and History Unbound, as well as supporting a number of regional festivals to connect with writers for panel appearances.



Open House

In May 2025, HarperCollins was in residence at Writing NSW, providing members with panels on the editorial process, marketing, and publicity, followed by one-to-one manuscript feedback sessions with publishers. Participants described the personalised feedback as a highlight of their year.

Pitch Sessions

In 2025 Writing NSW facilitated 60 one-to-one pitching sessions with publishers and agents. To date, ten of these have continued into ongoing conversations about potential publication.

'I attended the Open House. The opportunity to gain actual feedback from HarperCollins editors was incredibly useful, and led to me having the confidence to submit my manuscript to the Australian Fiction Prize, which I was then shortlisted for. While I didn't win, I now have an agent - hooray! Your workshop was invaluable.'

OPEN HOUSE PARTICIPANT, 2025

Residencies & Community



Writing NSW's Callan Park home remained a vital creative hub in 2025, hosting 11 writing residency spaces and welcoming writers, writing groups, and community organisations throughout the year. A total of 31 writing groups operated under our facilitation, meeting regularly both in person and online. Across the year, these groups met 530 times, providing consistent, peer-supported spaces that sustain writers through the long and often solitary process of developing their work.

Our Write-In program expanded significantly in 2025, with the introduction of fortnightly online sessions at a variety of times to ensure accessibility across different schedules, time zones, and locations. Combined with our regular Thursday in-person writing retreats and casual writing spaces, we delivered 111 dedicated write-in events across the year. These sessions continue to play a crucial role in fostering connection, accountability, and creative momentum within our community.

Writing NSW also continued to strengthen its role as a hub for the broader arts sector. In 2025, 21 community and arts organisations made use of our venue on a pro bono basis, up from 14 in 2024, alongside 19 partnership events delivered throughout the year. This growing engagement reflects both the value of our space and our commitment to supporting the wider creative ecosystem.

The impact of our programs is reflected in the achievements of our members and constituency. In 2025, 57 members reported significant publication or performance outcomes, alongside almost 60 additional writers from our broader community reaching similar milestones. Together, these outcomes highlight the importance of sustained, accessible creative spaces in supporting writers to develop, complete, and share their work.

'Feedback from the wonderful Women Writers Network helped me transform a hope and wish draft into a credible finished product.'

———— SURVEY RESPONDENT, 2025

'The Novelist Writing Group has helped me shape one manuscript and is currently helping me shape another.'

———— SURVEY RESPONDENT, 2025



Kids & YA Festival

The 2025 Writing NSW Kids & YA Festival, held on 9 August at the University of Tasmania's Rozelle campus, was a sold-out celebration of children's and young adult writing, with attendance up 42% on the previous year. Curated by internationally bestselling author Jacqueline Harvey, the program featured panels on series fiction, picture books, graphic novels, verse novels, non-fiction, and career sustainability. A mock acquisitions meeting with Penguin Random House, one-to-one pitching sessions with publishers, and a pop-up bookshop from Better Read Than Dead made for an unforgettable day. Every attendee received a complimentary copy of Writing Hannah, generously donated by author Libby Gleeson.

'It was such a thrill to have so many of Australia's best loved literary creators for young people gathered at the fabulous University of Tasmania campus at Callan Park.'

JACQUELINE HARVEY

Night of Letters

On 30 October 2025, the Writing NSW community gathered for Night of Letters, a joyful evening celebrating Australian storytelling, hosted by Michaela Kalowski. Miles Franklin Award winner Shankari Chandran, Melina Marchetta, Richard Cooke, James Colley, Mark Mordue, Saman Shad, Michael Robotham, and Jessie Tu shared letters dedicated to their writing inspirations, with a special musical performance by Nardi Simpson. The event was generously supported by Hachette Australia, Next Chapter Retirement Solutions, Allen & Unwin, HarperCollins Australia, Simon & Schuster Australia, and Creative Australia's Plus 1 matched funding program.

'You're a wonderful resource, and your location and facilities are charismatic and beautiful.'

SURVEY RESPONDENT, 2025

Talking Writing

Writing NSW hosted two Talking Writing panel events in 2025: Storytelling Through Music, featuring Mawunyo Gbogbo, Max Easton, and Liam Keenan in conversation with Katharine Pollock; and Debut Authors, featuring Judi Morison, Natasha Rai, and Kate Horan discussing their pathways to publication with Sarah Runcie.



Writing NSW's website continued to serve as a vital free resource hub for writers across Australia and beyond in 2025, with a diverse suite of digital programs reaching tens of thousands of writers over the course of the year.

Our Competitions and Opportunities listings remained one of the most widely used resources, with more than 26,000 writers accessing this regularly updated database of opportunities from across NSW, Australia, and internationally. This service plays a key role in connecting writers with pathways to publication, funding, and professional development.

Find A Writer, introduced in 2023 and expanded in 2024, continued to grow as a platform in 2025. This online directory provides promotional support for writers available for work or seeking collaboration, connecting professionals across our community with opportunities in areas such as editing, ghostwriting, school visits, copywriting, and public appearances.

Writers on Writing also continued as a cornerstone of our digital offering, providing weekly craft advice from experienced practitioners. In 2025, we featured 55 authors and industry experts, sharing insights on topics including character development, point of view, authorial voice, research practices, and writing from personal experience. Alongside this, our Spotlight On interview series highlighted members of our community and the diverse ways they have built writing careers, offering practical insight and inspiration drawn from lived experience. Delivered through both our website and weekly newsletter, these programs offer practical guidance and inspiration to writers at all stages of their practice, as well as helping build audiences for the featured writers.

Our weekly newsletter, Newsbite, remained a central point of connection for our community in 2025, with a subscriber base of 9,800. Each edition shares opportunities, industry news, upcoming programs, and curated resources, helping writers stay informed and engaged with both Writing NSW and the broader sector.

We continued to use the reach of our digital platforms to support and amplify the broader writing sector. In 2025, our website recorded more than 99,000 engaged sessions, complemented by a social media following of over 15,000 across Instagram and Facebook. Through community-focused initiatives such as Writing on our Calendar, our free monthly listings calendar promoting literary events across NSW, and our library of information sheets offering expert guidance on common challenges faced by writers, we provided accessible, practical support that extended well beyond our direct programs.



Writing NSW (NSW Writers' Centre Inc) is an incorporated not-for-profit association registered under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW) and with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. The organisation is governed by a voluntary Board of Directors that meets regularly throughout the year.

Board of Directors

Adam van Rooijen (he/him)—Chair

Adam van Rooijen has built a career spanning digital advertising, publishing, and technology. He has worked at Random House in London and HarperCollins Publishers in Sydney, developing campaigns for internationally recognised authors. He currently works in the Services division of Apple Australia.

Shankari Chandran (she/her)—Deputy Chair

Shankari Chandran is a lawyer and award-winning author. Her novel *Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens* (Ultimo Press, 2022) won the 2023 Miles Franklin Literary Award. Her work has been recognised by the International Dublin Literary Award, the Fairway National Literary Award, and the Norma K Hemming Award, among others.

Eliza Twaddell (she/her)—Treasurer

Eliza Twaddell is a Chartered Accountant and policy and stakeholder engagement professional with a decade of experience across government, the private sector, and not-for-profits. She brings a diverse set of financial and strategic skills to the Board.

Jarrah Dundler (he/him)

Jarrah Dundler lives in Kyogle, Bundjalung country, Northern NSW. His debut novel *Hey Brother* was shortlisted for the Vogel Literary Award. He has extensive experience in grant and tender writing for not-for-profits and brings a strong regional NSW perspective to the Board.

Laura Eadie (she/her)

Laura Eadie is a leader with a 20-year track record spanning public and private sectors, consulting, and startup ventures. She has helped organisations secure substantial funding, develop strategic initiatives, and navigate complex policy reforms. Laura is a member of Writing NSW and a keen creative writer.

Fiona Hazard (she/her)

Fiona Hazard is a publishing professional with extensive experience in the UK and Australia, including as Group Publishing Director for Hachette Australia and New Zealand. A graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, she is currently Head of Global Strategy & Development at Keeperton.

Chloe Michele (she/her)

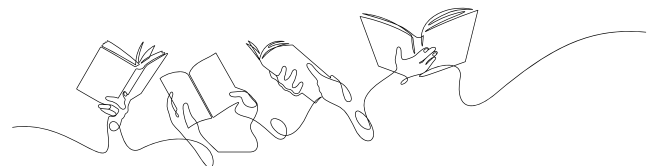
Chloe Michele is a fundraising expert with 13+ years across the not-for-profit, higher education and private sectors. She is currently at UTS, leading strategic partnerships for the School of Design. Her writing has been published in *New Australian Fiction*, *Rabbit Poetry*, and the *UTS Writers Anthology*.

Kajal Narayan (she/her)

Kajal Narayan is Head of Marketing at Pantera Press. With ten years' experience in publishing, including at HarperCollins and Rockpool Publishing, she has expertise in fiction and non-fiction and a passion for working with new voices in Australian literature.

Christine Shamista Ratnasingham (she/her)

Christine Shamista Ratnasingham is a human rights practitioner with a doctorate in law and a background in literary studies. Her book of poetry *Soft Side of Red* was published in 2023 (Gazebo Books). She is passionate about human rights, good governance, and writers accessing quality support.



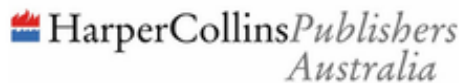
Principal Funding Partners

Writing NSW gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of our principal funding partners, whose investment sustains our core programs and operations. Creative Australia, the Australian Government's arts funding body, and Create NSW, the NSW Government's arts and cultural development agency, provide essential support that enables us to deliver services to writers across the state. In 2025, we were also pleased to receive support from the NSW Office of Responsible Gambling, which contributed to key program delivery and accessibility initiatives.



Event & Program Partners

Writing NSW extends its sincere thanks to the many organisations and individuals that supported our events and programs in 2025. We are especially grateful to Hachette Australia, Next Chapter Retirement Solutions, Allen & Unwin, HarperCollins Australia, Simon & Schuster Australia, Penguin Random House Australia, Pantera Press, Walker Books Australia, Somerset Storyfest, Alison Green, Michelle Laforest, Mercer Wines, Thea Wines, and Gundog Estate for their generous contributions. Their support enriches our programming and helps us create meaningful opportunities for writers and audiences alike.



THANK YOU

We are very grateful to our volunteers, especially our hard-working Board; our dedicated and passionate staff; our highly-engaged members and constituents; and our principal funding partners, Create NSW and Creative Australia, for making our work possible.



'Writing NSW is a collegial lifeline for many writers.'

SURVEY RESPONDENT, 2025



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