



2020 / 2021
ANNUAL REPORT

About the Australian Society of Authors

The Australian Society of Authors is the professional organisation, community and voice of Australia’s writers and illustrators.

Since 1963, we’ve been the peak national body representing the interests of Australia’s writers and illustrators. We provide advocacy, support and advice for authors in matters relating to their professional practice.

The ASA exists thanks to the support of our members, over 3400 professional and aspiring authors including novelists, biographers, illustrators, academics, cartoonists, scientists, food and wine writers, historians, graphic novelists, children’s writers, ghostwriters, travel writers, romance writers, crime writers, educational writers, editors, bloggers, journalists, poets and more.

Our Purpose

Our purpose is to support writers and illustrators pursue sustainable creative careers.



Cover image:
Australian Botanicals © Alicia Rogerson 2021.

Alicia Rogerson is an illustrator featured on the ASA Style File - see her portfolio [here](#).

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Our Board

Nicholas Pickard - Chair



Helen O'Neill - Deputy Chair



Kirsty Murray - Treasurer



Liz Anelli - Director



Danielle Clode - Director



Sophie Cunningham - Director



Kelly Gardiner - Director



Prasad Gollakota - Director



Melissa Lucashenko - Director



Anne Maria Nicholson GAICD - Director

Meet our Team



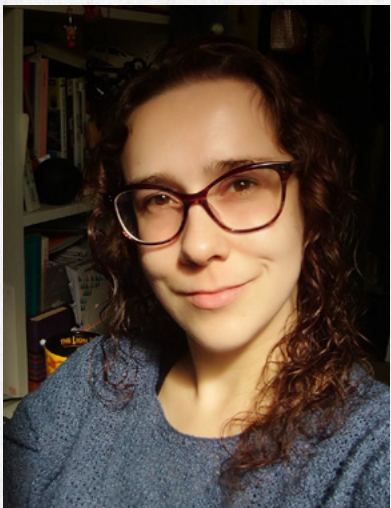
Olivia Lanchester - CEO



Jodie Spiteri-James - Professional Development and Events Manager



Lucy Hayward - Marketing and Communications Manager



Lauren Anderson - Services and Awards Coordinator / Style File Manager



Diana Chamma - Member Administration



Angeles Galvez - Bookkeeper

Chair's Report

Despite the extraordinary pressures placed on cultural organisations like The Australian Society of Authors during the COVID-19 pandemic, the last year has shown the resilience and importance of the Society for our members.

The ASA made it our priority to ensure we were able to continue to support you, no matter what stage of your career. We navigated this by keeping you informed about Government support where it was available, diversifying and digitising professional development opportunities, introducing a #ShopLocal campaign with the support of Australian booksellers, showcasing debut authors whose book launches were cancelled, conducting a sweeping review of the Contract Assessment Service and continuing our advocacy for the rights of authors and illustrators.

Since the last Annual General Meeting we have continued to take the key issues facing authors and illustrators to Canberra, meeting with representatives in government and across the parliament and attending industry roundtables to ensure your voice is heard when it comes to digital lending rights, copyright and public funding for literature.

The ASA Board is deeply disappointed at the lack of action from the Australian Government on the issue of digital lending rights.

Quite frankly, the inaction of the government on an issue that has widespread support from authors, illustrators, publishers and libraries is deplorable. We will keep the pressure on key decision makers in the lead up to the next election and beyond, to ensure we get the outcome that authors and illustrators deserve.

Similarly, the ASA Board remains intent on reminding government that authors and illustrators remain among the most underpaid creators in Australia and that funding for literature ought to be increased to ensure a healthy talent pipeline into the future. We support a new national arts and culture plan, as recently recommended by the House of Representatives Standing Committee of Communication and the Arts, and call for that plan to recognise the fundamental importance of investing in our nation's storytellers and artists, who sit at the heart of the arts sector.

According to the ASA's 2020 survey:

author's earnings are critically low: 80% of respondents are earning less than \$15,000 per annum, and the book industry is very crowded with an extremely long tail: 99% of all titles released in 2018, 2019 and up to October 2020 sold less than 1,000 copies each in that year.

While these challenges are not new, experienced writers are reporting to us that today it's tougher than ever. Authors have long accepted the need to develop a portfolio career as a writer, but with global competition, lower advances, discount sales, fewer freelance opportunities due to the disruption of the print media, and the significant reduction in event opportunities due to COVID, midlist authors are under huge pressure.

This is an issue that deserves government attention. If Australia wants a thriving literature sector, now is the time to invest in the development and creation of great Australian stories.

The way we need to keep prosecuting these arguments on behalf of the membership is to raise the profile of the Society, not only across the literary sector, but with government and the public. We will do this by pursuing more public campaigns through the media and online, growing our ASA Ambassadors program, and by attracting a diverse range of excellent Board directors to help shape the future of our industry.

This year we farewell from the board directors Liz Anelli, Helen O'Neill, Anne Maria Nicholson and Melissa Lukashenko. Each of these directors have served the Society with generosity, passion and a love of the ASA, its members, and its work. I would like to thank each of them for the work they have put into the Society over so many years combined. Your contribution to the ASA is immeasurable and we thank you all.

I would also like to thank the work of the entire Board, including the Executive Committee, the Investment Committee, the Fundraising Committee and the Nominations Committee who do so much behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of the ASA.

And finally, I would like to acknowledge CEO Olivia Lanchester who is in her second year as CEO. Olivia is an outstanding leader of the ASA and is steering the organisation through a very difficult period, working tirelessly to ensure the ASA has a bright future that is relevant and exciting. I would like to thank Olivia and the extraordinary staff of the ASA who make our organisation a world-leader in support, advocacy and policy. What you do with such a small team is a credit to you all.

I look forward to an even more active and productive year ahead.

Nicholas Pickard FRSA

Chair

11 November 2021



CEO's Report

The last year has been turbulent for authors. Despite some authors enjoying very strong sales over a bumper Christmas 2020, we are acutely aware of the many authors who've reported to us ongoing challenges posed by COVID-19: restrictions in NSW, Victoria, Queensland, ACT and South Australia, disrupted trading in bookstores, cancelled Book Week arrangements, cancelled event opportunities at schools or festivals, interruptions to international book fairs, reduced promotional opportunities for new titles, and the effect of anxiety and isolation on creativity.

The impact of COVID-19 has not been felt uniformly among authors, with debut novelists hit particularly hard, and nor has it been experienced evenly by booksellers. Online retailers are reporting strong profits while independent bookstores have had to temporarily close their doors, or pivot to click and collect sales. We were so pleased to hear recently that book sales surged as bookshops reopened in New South Wales, with the week ending 16 October breaking sales records for this time of year over the last decade. We hope that the increased reading we've seen during stay-at-home orders will continue into 2022, and we will do our best to support and amplify the Australian Booksellers' Association's upcoming 'While You Were Gone' campaign to spotlight Australian authors and illustrators.

Given these ups and downs, the ASA has come through the year well, experiencing a growth in participation for all our services and in membership numbers.

Our audited accounts show an operating profit of just under \$150,000, with roughly half this profit coming from increased income from activities and the other half coming from membership growth. This profit was assisted by low expenses, largely due to savings in office, travel and salary costs. I am very proud of the stability we've achieved through tight financial management and tireless work from our passionate and skilled staff. The ASA hasn't received organisational funding for 6 years. Apart from small amounts for project funding, we rely on membership revenue and income from activities to operate. We are a financially self-supporting organisation, re-investing any profits in member services.

Last year, we set ourselves the target of a strong profit so that we could invest in a new and improved Contract Assessment Service in 2022 and employ much-needed additional staff. I am thrilled we met our target and are now able to deliver on both these objectives.

Highlights of the 20/21 financial year include:

The launch of seven new resources, including new comprehensive FAQs on our website, a new guide titled Authors Wills and Literary Estates, and updated protocols for writers, illustrators and publishers when writing about Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people, or their Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP). We warmly thank Terri Janke and Company for drafting this guide.

An amplified professional development program, including 6 free information sessions throughout the year. We're pleased that our program is now entirely digital with all sessions

accessible anywhere in Australia. We've also started recording our workshops so if the time of the event isn't convenient for you, you can watch a recording of it for a limited time.

An increase of 46% in the number of mentorships, and new mentors added to our Mentor Register.

The ASA commencing its Reconciliation journey, committing to a REFLECT Reconciliation Action Plan.

A focus on advocacy on behalf of our members as summarised on pages 17-20

The ASA has continued to support Untapped: Australian Literary Heritage Project, a library ebook lending pilot program, delivered by the University of Melbourne in collaboration with Australian public libraries and authors. This project has digitised important out-of-print Australian books where the rights have reverted to the authors. Authors are licensing their works into public libraries for digital lending, as well as making them available for sale as ebooks. The participating authors will receive payments from libraries on loans as well as royalties on any retail sales. Libraries around Australia will promote the titles to their readers.

After months of working for home, our staff are all back in the office. I warmly thank the members of the ASA team: Lauren Anderson, Lucy Hayward, Jodie Spiteri-James, Angeles Galvez and Diana Chamma. Throughout a somewhat disjointed year, they have put in long hours to ensure seamless delivery of services to members. I am grateful to them for their diligence, hard work, and humour, and for making coming to work such a pleasure.

I also thank the ASA Board for its insights and vision. Our directors are incredibly generous with their time and serve on the Board to give back to their community. In particular, my warm thanks to the Chair, Nick Pickard, who has spent the last two COVID-affected years tirelessly advocating for creators across the entire arts sector, and who has spearheaded the ASA's increased advocacy.

Lastly, thank you to all members for your loyalty and support, upon which we utterly depend. You are the lynchpin and heart of the book industry.

Please contact us anytime. We are only ever a phone call or email away and we're here to support you.

Olivia Lanchester
CEO
9 November 2021



Highlights of 2020-21

54 advices
provided by Banki
Haddock Flora Lawyers

291 members'
titles listed in New to View

410
complex advice queries
answered

100+
phone and email enquiries weekly



75 job
opportunities for
illustrators through the
ASA Style File

1314 units
sold via our distribution service,
earning participating members
sales of \$12 062.18

7 new resources including:

- New comprehensive FAQs section on our website
- More Than Words: Writing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Culture and Copyright in Australia
- Author Wills and Literary Estates
- Updated 2021 Trade Publishing Agreement Template
- New Author/Editor Agreement
- Updated ASA's Guide to the Australian Book Industry 2020-21
- Updated rates of pay for festivals and public appearances

5 new member benefits:

- Access to a new members-only Publishing Consultancy service
- Discounted public liability insurance offer from CoverForce
- Free title set up and free revisions for independent authors looking to publish with IngramSpark
- A 20% discount off an annual subscription to The Hot Sheet, a fortnightly industry newsletter published by Jane Friedman
- A 15% discount off Nielsen's Book2Look widget

Professional Development Program

2131

attendees of our Professional Development Program

390

attendees to our most popular event of the year: Creating Compelling Characters and Riveting Plots with Michael Robotham and Sunil Badami

25

authors paid to present sessions in the Professional Development Program

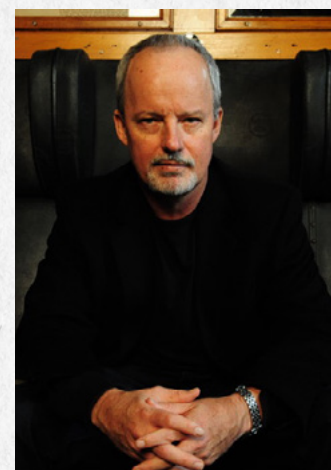
34

mentorships ranging from 3 to 25 hours

6

free information sessions

A selection of our author presenters in 2020-21:



Michael Robotham



Trent Dalton



Melissa Lucashenko



Christian White



Pip Williams



Sunil Badami



Deb Abela



Omar Sakr



Radhiah Chowdhury

Literary Speed Dating

Three events with:

35 publishers **9** agents **1249** pitches

44% received an expression of interest from a publisher or agent

LITERARY SPEED DATING SUCCESS STORIES:

Margaret Hickey



Mali Cornish



Filip Vukasin



“

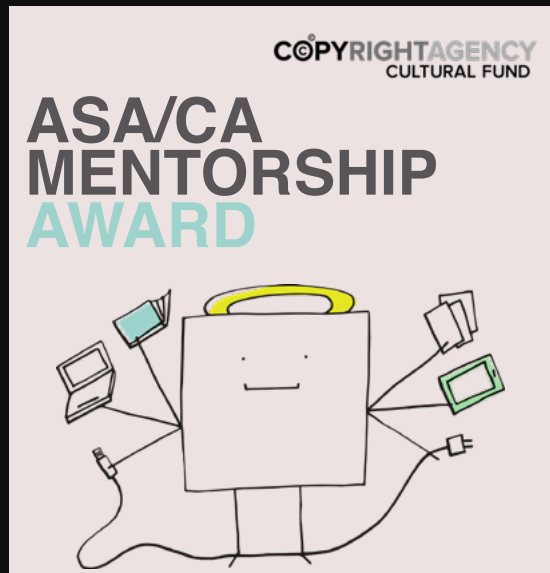
ASA Literary Speed Dating is one of the best opportunities out there for emerging Australian writers to connect with agents and publishers. I met my wonderful agent Sarah McKenzie at the December 2020 event, and less than six months later I was in talks with publishers. My crime fiction novel WAKE will come out with Hachette Australia on 31 May 2022.

Even if I had not made a match, my participation in Literary Speed Dating would have been well worth it. It gave me the motivation to polish my pitch, and the real time feedback and reactions were invaluable. When it came time to pitch to publishers, I had a package ready to go, and the confidence that I had it right.

- Shelley Burr



Awards



20 winners receive 20-hour mentorship packages



Lucy Treloar wins 2020 Barbara Jefferis Award



Eleanor Limprecht wins 2020 Blake-Beckett Trust Scholarship



Tim McGuire wins Ray Koppe Residency

“

So long as you are ascribing things to, and categorising women you are denying the complexity of their humanity. When girls are children up until the moment they become sex objects, not allowed a safe adolescence, you deny them their humanity. When women of colour are exoticised and made into things that can be conquered, you are denying them their humanity. When mothers are either 'good' or 'bad' depending purely on how self-sacrificial they are, you are denying their humanity. When older women are invisibilised or silenced and disregarded because either you don't find them sexy anymore, or they can't bear your sons, you are denying their humanity. And if a work of literature cannot capture something of humanity, then it's just not good. It is our responsibility as writers, and readers, and publishers, and booksellers to say to any writer who either doesn't get, let alone doesn't really like women, not good enough. Not good enough for our awards, and not good enough for our lists.

- Bri Lee,
Barbara Jefferis Award
presentation speech



Advocacy

Inquiry into Creative and Cultural Industries and Institutions

In October 2020, the ASA made a major submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee's Inquiry into Creative and Cultural Industries and Institutions. In this submission, the ASA set out the deep economic and non-economic impact of Australian literature.

We called attention to the crisis in author earnings, and highlighted that despite reading being the second-most popular way Australians engage with the arts, literature receives the lowest level of funding of all the major art forms. In our submission we identified 6 steps to assist the sustainability of Australian literature:

1. The introduction of a 3-tier Boost Package for Literature over 3-5 years
2. The modernisation of the eligibility criteria for Australia's lending rights schemes (PLR/ELR to include digital formats (ebooks and audiobooks)
3. The introduction of author-centric provisions into the Copyright Act to level a playing field which has become unbalanced
4. An increase in the funding available for strategic investment by Australia Council, informed by an overall federal strategic plan for literature
5. The reinstatement of the book industry in analysis conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics
6. The removal of tax on literature prizes

The Standing Committee has recently released its report in response to the Inquiry: *Sculpting a National Cultural Plan; igniting a post-Covid economy for the arts.*

The bipartisan report included 22 recommendations, underpinned by a recognition of the fundamental importance of the arts in our society. The ASA welcomed many of these recommendations, in particular the recommendation for a national cultural plan, and the review of the lending rights schemes, both of which were included in our submission to the Federal Inquiry.

Read our Submission [here](#).

Digital Lending Rights

We have continued our campaign to expand the lending rights schemes (PLR / ELR) to include digital formats (ebooks and audiobooks). In addition to writing to the Minister for the Arts and encouraging our members to write to their local MPs:

- On 19 February 2021, authors Melissa Lucashenko, Nick Earls and Olivia Lanchester appeared at a public inquiry for the Creative and Cultural Industries and Institutions Inquiry.
- On 14 April 2021, Nick Pickard and Olivia Lanchester met with Emma McBride MP to discuss our submission to the Creative and Cultural Industries and Institutions Inquiry.
- On 30 April, director and author Kirsty Murray and Olivia Lanchester appeared at the Australian Digital Alliance conference to call for digital lending rights.

We are extremely grateful to the following authors who have become DLR ambassadors to support our campaign:



Nick Earls



Morris Gleitzman



Natasha Lester



Jennifer Mills



Kirsty Murray



Carrie Tiffany

“

*Public and Educational Lending Rights have been instrumental in supporting Australian writers to both progress and sustain their careers. Personally, it was a great support to me early on, affording me the time to learn and build my trade. It was during that period I wrote *The Book Thief*, which couldn't have been accomplished without those PLR and ELR incentives. The rewards for my previous work being in both public and school libraries was one more component that helped me push on, and to keep my ambitions alive - to be read not only here at home, but also throughout the world. Expanding towards a Digital Lending Right in parallel with digital reading and borrowing trends only makes perfect sense. It holds one more key to a promise - that upcoming Australian writers might have the same opportunities I had.*

- Markus Zusak



Industry Resolution on Reversion of Rights

Following campaigning by the ASA over the last financial year, the Australian Publishers Association (APA) has agreed to amend its Member Code of Conduct to improve the recommendations around termination/reversion clauses in publishing contracts. The Code now recommends that publishers include reversion clauses in publishing contracts that are based on clear and objective thresholds.

For example:

- when sales have dropped below an agreed defined level, as shown on one or two consecutive royalty statements, or
- when royalties have dropped below an agreed defined level, as shown on one or two consecutive royalty statements.

This is a welcome step forward from traditional arrangements where authors have reverted rights to their work once the work has been ‘out of print’ for a period of time or where the work is ‘not available in any edition’. Since the advent of ebooks and print-on-demand technology, it’s possible that works never go out of print and are always available in at least one edition.

Many Australian publishers have already recognised that the ‘out of print’ approach is obsolete and moved to include objective thresholds to trigger rights reversion in their publishing contracts. The update to the APA’s Code of Conduct encourages all publishers to move to this same standard, and represents a breakthrough in industry collaboration, for the benefit of all authors.

Copyright Access Reforms

In August 2020, Minister Paul Fletcher announced a range of copyright access reforms. These include:

- the introduction of:
 - a limited liability scheme for use of orphan works
 - a new fair dealing exception for non-commercial quotation
- the amendment and expansion of the:
 - library and archives exceptions
 - education exceptions
- some changes to the government statutory licensing scheme

While some of the proposed reforms were the subject of prior consultation and were relatively uncontroversial, the announcement included proposed changes to the educational statutory licence administered by Copyright Agency which alarmed creators.

Supported by the ASA, Copyright Agency led the advocacy on behalf of authors and

publishers to resist a campaign to undermine the educational statutory licence. Local content creators agree there are important steps to modernise copyright in Australia, but we have advocated for legislation which supports a sustainable and thriving local creative sector. We will report to the membership once we have seen the draft legislation, due to be released soon.

Internet Archive

Over the last year, we have continued our objections to the practices of Internet Archive. The ‘Open Library’ managed by the Internet Archive was recently again making headlines when the National Library of New Zealand made the decision to donate hundreds of thousands of books from their Overseas Publications Collection, many of which are still in copyright, to the Internet Archive. These include books by Helen Garner, Frank Moorhouse, Gerald Murnane, Sally Morgan, David Malouf, Colin Thiele, Mem Fox, Tim Winton and more.

The ASA has no objection to the sharing of any out-of-copyright works, for which permission is no longer necessary but for in-copyright works, we consider Internet Archive to facilitate copyright infringement as it scans physical books and then makes those digitised copies freely available for lending to users around the world, without permission from or payment to creators.

This is in contrast to standard public library practices, under which publishers are paid a retail price for either a print book or ebook licence, a portion of which is on-paid to authors/illustrators.

Internet Archive has been roundly condemned by international publishers and authors’ groups, and a copyright infringement lawsuit has been brought against them by US publishers Hachette, Penguin Random House, HarperCollins and John Wiley.

We are pleased to report that in light of objections from author and publisher organisations internationally, NZNL is reconsidering its decision to donate books to the Internet Archive.

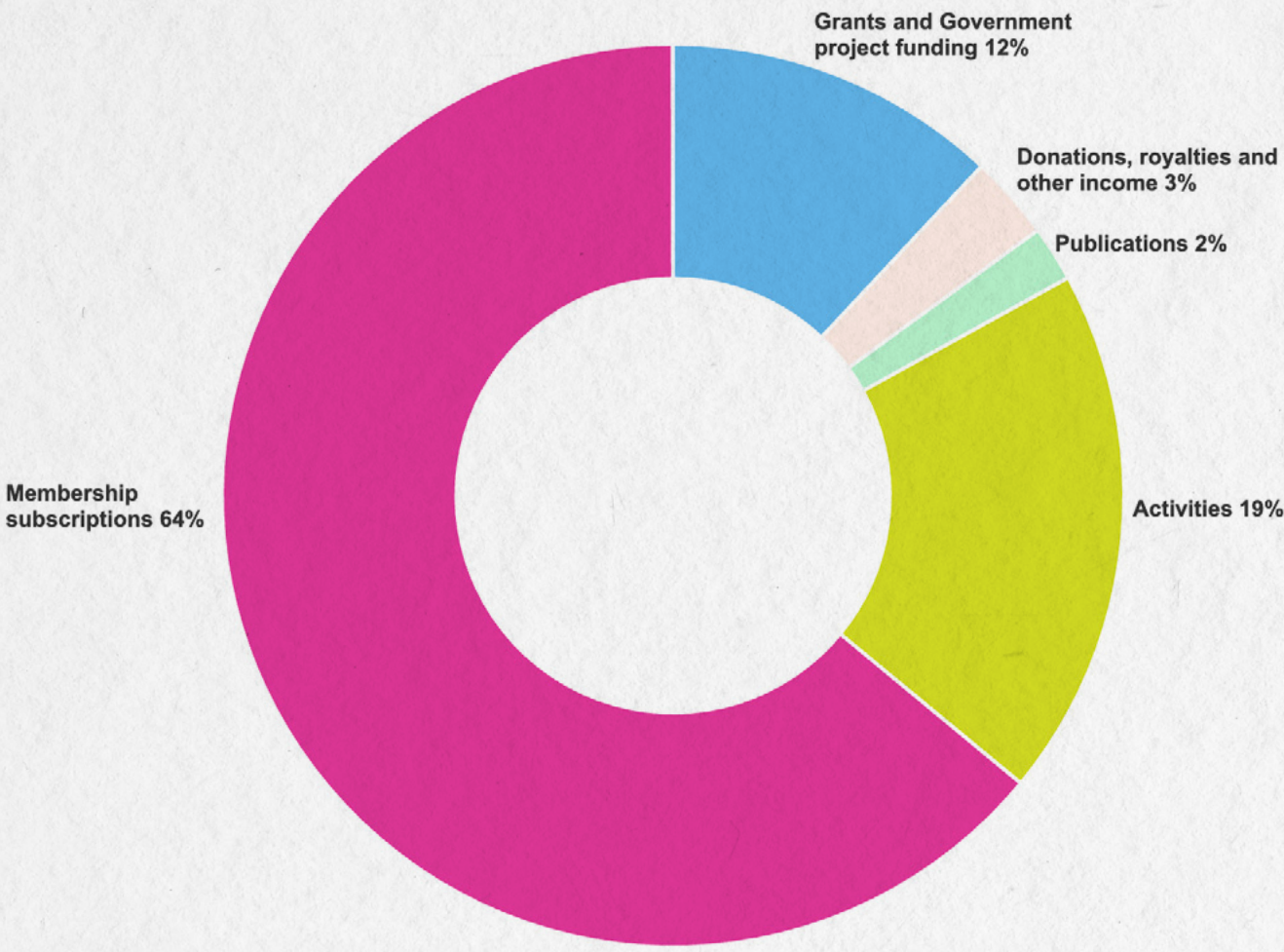
The Year Ahead

For the financial year 2021-22, we are planning:

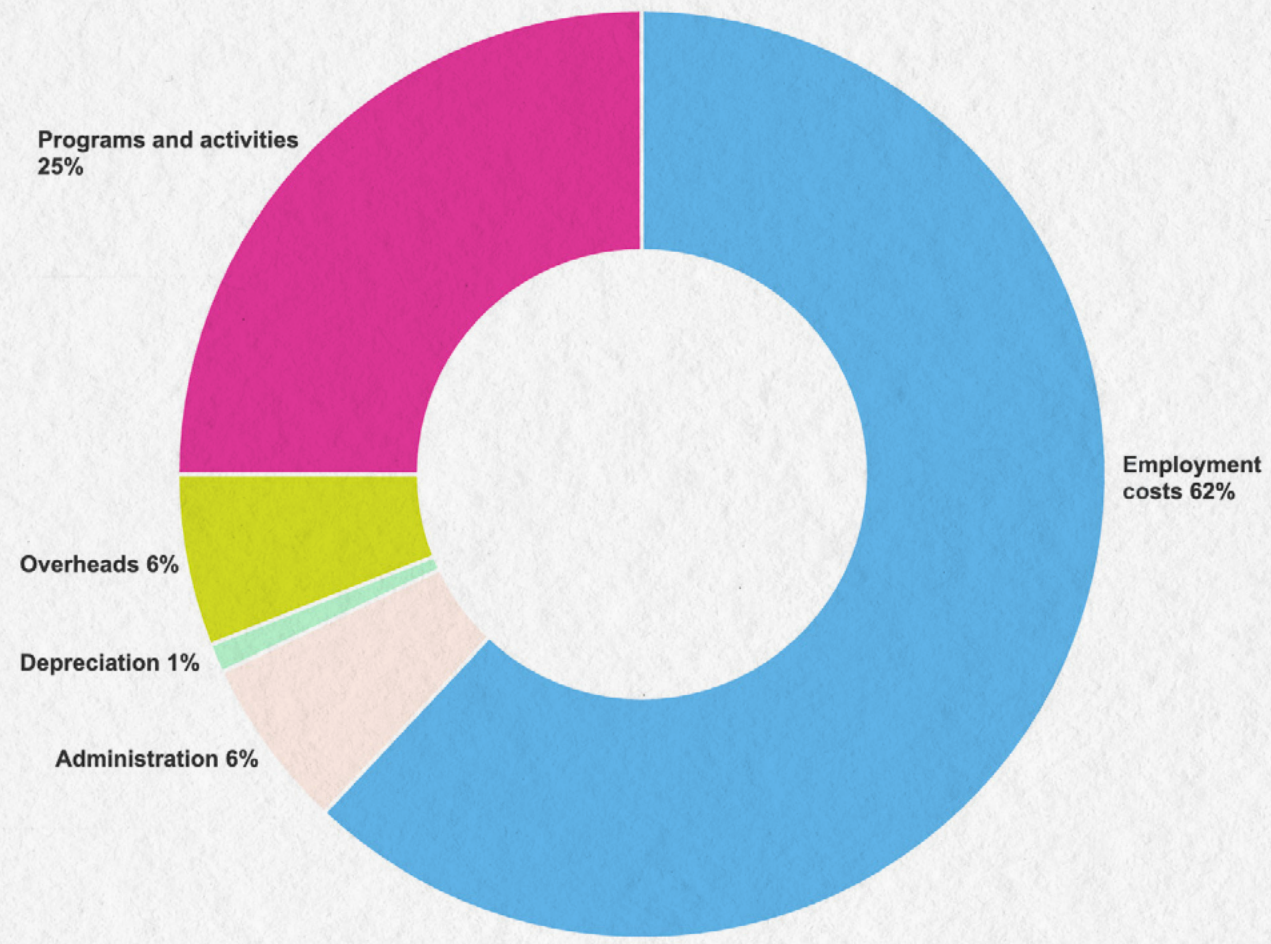
- The Colin Simpson Memorial Lecture in March 2022
- The launch of our new Contract Assessment Service
- The launch of substantial new resources, including The ASA's Guide to Getting Published
- Based on feedback from our 2021 Annual Survey, an amplified professional development program which will cover topical issues, your creative business, honing your craft, and information sessions for emerging and established authors
- An overhaul of our website and database with increased access to information for every stage of your career - conditional on government funding

Finance Overview

Income



Expenditure



Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to present the Annual General Meeting's Treasurer's report for the year to June 30, 2021. In the face of rolling lockdowns and a challenging economic environment, the ASA has increased membership, offered innovative services to Australian writers and illustrators and advocated for the literary arts, bringing expenses in well below budget and exceeding projected earnings.

Once again, the auditors have given the ASA a clean bill of health. The ASA's 2021 annual budget, approved in May 2020 at the height of the first lockdowns, was conservative and streamlined anticipating severe economic impacts from the pandemic. As we approach the second-year milestone of COVID-19, our astute CEO, Olivia Lanchester, and her hard-working team have delivered outstanding financial results. Thanks to the CEO's careful management of expenses and the team's increased revenue generating activities, the ASA has finished the 2020-21 financial year with a record surplus of \$149,801. The ASA is now in a firm position to employ much-needed additional staff and extend services to our members.

Revenue

Income generated from activities increased by 40% to \$147,246. It's worth noting that these activities not only offer professional development to our members but also create employment opportunities for Australian writers who are contracted by the ASA to mentor, educate and share their expertise.

Over the course of the year, membership of the ASA grew from 3,325 to 3,659 generating an increase in subscriptions revenue of \$49,387 (10.7% increase). Publications revenue also increased from \$22,111 to \$28,312 (28% increase) thanks to the creation of new resources.

Expenses

Operating expenses were lower than budgeted. As in 2020, savings were made on expenditure associated with events, salary costs, board meetings and office overheads. Due to border restrictions, all board meetings were held on Zoom, saving on director's travel costs.

Highlights

- The ASA posted an Operating Profit of \$149,801. This is comfortably ahead of budget, thanks to increased revenue from every revenue stream including memberships, activities and publications, plus savings in costs
- Membership grew by 334 members over the course of the financial year
- Total Expenses of \$674,759 were under budget by \$11,000 (1.6%). This result is largely due to a fall in office and general expenses and salary savings
- As at 30 June, 2021, equity stood at \$2,116,501

Investment Committee

The Investment Committee oversees the management of The Barbara Jefferis Award Fund, the Endowment Fund and the Investment Fund. This committee is made up of three ASA directors,

and two independent individuals with governance experience. Financial advisors Minchin Moore are engaged to manage the ASA's portfolios. The Barbara Jefferis Award Fund was independently audited with positive results.

The overall performance of ASA investments to June 30, 2021 exceeded our target growth of CPI +3.25% to end the financial year with a gain of CPI +4.4% on each of the three ASA portfolios.

During the financial year, the Investment Committee reviewed the ESG guidelines in our Investment Policy and Strategy document. In consultation with Minchin Moore, the ASA investment portfolios were rebalanced to meet stringent ESG standards.

Fundraising Committee

The newly formed Fundraising Committee met twice to June 30th and consulted with fundraising specialists to develop strategies to drive donations. Changes to the ASA website resulted in an increase to member donations. Historically, bequests have enhanced the financial security of the ASA. On the instigation of the Fundraising Committee, a solicitor was engaged to create a 'will kit' to advise members on how to ensure their copyright is dealt with appropriately for the sake of their heirs. The ASA humbly encourages members and potential benefactors to consider including a bequest to the ASA in their will. The Fundraising Committee looks forward to developing a wide range of initiatives and activities to further support the ASA.

Conclusion

As Treasurer, I congratulate and thank the ASA's management and staff for their tireless work and expert financial management in yet another challenging year. The ASA is now in a secure position to employ new staff, expand services and increase advocacy to the benefit of all Australian writers and illustrators.

Kirsty Murray
Treasurer
November 2021



Audited Accounts



The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

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For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Financial Statements

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The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

The directors present their report on The Australian Society of Authors Limited for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

1. General information

Information on directors

The names of each person who has been a director during the year and to the date of this report are:

Nicholas Pickard	Chair
Experience	Nicholas is a communications, marketing and government relations specialist with senior level experience in the UK and Australia. He has managed the profile, reputation and advocacy campaigns of organisations and public figures across government, transport infrastructure, creative industries and the media. A former journalist and ministerial adviser with a track record in C-suite advisory, Nicholas worked on Heathrow Airport's successful third-runway expansion campaign with editorial oversight across public affairs, media, corporate affairs, advertising and digital. Returning to Sydney in 2016, to take up the role of Director Corporate Affairs for the Copyright Agency, he drove sector wide collaboration to create a major campaign for the content industries before taking up a newly created position as Executive Director, Public Affairs and Communications at APRA AMCOS. Nick is a member of the ASA's Investment Committee.
Helen O'Neill	Deputy Chair
Experience	Helen O'Neill, an award-winning author and journalist, believes passionately in the rights of writers and in the future of our industry and our art. She has published five non-fiction books so far, including 'Daffodil – the Biography of a Flower', 'A Singular Vision: Harry Seidler' and 'Florence Broadhurst - Her Secret and Extraordinary Lives' which appeared in multiple editions across Australia, the UK and the USA. A former staff journalist on The Sydney Morning Herald, The Australian and Vogue Australia, her work has been published across the globe and documentaries she has worked on have screened internationally. She serves on the Nominations Committee of the ASA.

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

Directors' Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Information on directors

Kirsty Murray
Experience

Treasurer

Kirsty Murray has written twenty works of fiction and non-fiction for children and young adults and her work has been published in both Australia and internationally. Based in Melbourne, she is passionate about Australian stories. Kirsty has taught creative writing in hundreds of schools, universities and libraries to writers of all ages. Her books have won and been shortlisted for many awards including the WA Premier's Book Award, the CBCA Award and the NSW Premier's History Award. Kirsty has been a Creative Fellow of the State Library of Victoria, an Asialink Literature Resident in India and a guest speaker at literary festivals around the world. Kirsty is a member of the Investment Committee and newly formed Fundraising Committee.

Liz Anelli
Experience

With thirty years' experience in international and Australian publishing markets, author/illustrator Liz brings her artist's eye for detail and enthusiasm for creative problem solving. Before moving to Australia in 2012 she combined her illustration practice with teaching art and design in UK universities, developing cross-curricula programs in schools and as a key facilitator for The Magic Pencil and The Campaign for Drawing <http://www.thebigdraw.org> which she brought to Newcastle in 2013. She will engage with and encourage such Australia-wide programs that promote cultural diversity and visual literacy.

Anne Maria Nicholson
Experience

An author, journalist and broadcaster with extensive experience in Australia and internationally. She has already served one term as a board member and Deputy Chair of the ASA and has been a judge of the Barbara Jefferis Award. She has had two novels published by HarperCollins with two more in the pipeline. During a 20-year career with the ABC Anne Maria was one of the country's leading arts and cultural reporters for the national broadcaster's news and current affairs program. She reported and produced for Lateline and Foreign Correspondent where she was responsible for managing both the editorial and financial aspects on overseas assignments. During stints as a Network editor, she managed the news gathering from correspondents in Australia and internationally for the major news bulletins. She is a member of the Fundraising Committee of the ASA.

Leonie Norrington
Experience

Term expired 13 November 2020

Leonie was born in Darwin and grew up in southern Arnhemland. 'I am interested in the places where cultures and languages meet,' she says, 'especially how people use language and story to bridge cultural differences or to make statements about their separateness.' She writes in English, Kriol and Indigenous language and her stories are a beautifully conceived reflection of life in far north Australia. Her books have won or been shortlisted for many Australian Children's literary awards. Leonie is an insightful, passionate speaker and has presented at writers festivals in Australia, Indonesia and the Edinburgh Book Festival.

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

Directors' Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Information on directors

Prasad Gollakota
Experience

Prasad is a corporate financial advisor with almost 20 years professional experience within investment banking and corporate advisory firms, covering both the private and public sectors, in Australia, the UK and Europe. Prasad is a CFA Charterholder, and has completed an LLB (Hons) / BComm as well as a Masters in Applied Finance.

Prasad has always had a strong personal interest in 'story', and this has lead him to pursue a Masters in Arts (Script Writing) at the University of London, which he completed in 2013.

Joining the board of ASA is a union of Prasad's professional experience and his passion for story, with the end goal to help support writers and illustrators in Australia.

Prasad is a member of the ASA Investment Committee and Fundraising Committee.

Danielle Clode
Experience

Elected 13 November 2020

Danielle Clode is the author of ten books including Killers in Eden, Voyages to the South Seas and, most recently, The Woman who Sailed the World. Her writing encompassing natural history, essays, science-writing, historical fiction, science fiction and children's books. Danielle's books have won the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for non-fiction, FAW award for excellence in nonfiction, a Whitley Award for popular zoology and have been shortlisted for the Children's Book Council of Australia and National Biography awards. She has worked as a full-time freelance writer for the last 20 years, holding several writing fellowships and serving on various state and national literature judging panels. Her supplementary work includes teaching creative and academic writing, technical writing and grant editing and research consultancies. She is a senior research fellow at both Flinders and Melbourne Universities in creative writing and zoology. Danielle is a member of the ASA's Fundraising Committee.

Sophie Cunningham
Experience

Elected 13 November 2020.

Sophie Cunningham is the author of six books including City of Trees: Essays on Life, Death and the Need for a Forest; Warning: The Story of Cyclone Tracy; Melbourne; Bird; Geography, and the children's book Tippy & Jellybean: The True Story of a Brave Koala who Saved her Baby from a Bushfire. She is also the editor of the collection Fire, Flood, Plague: Australian writers respond to 2020. She is a former book publisher and editor, a former Chair of the Literature Board of the Australia Council, a former editor of the literary journal Meanjin, a co-founder of The Stella Prize and is now an Adjunct Professor at RMIT University's Non/fiction Lab. In 2019 Sophie Cunningham was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for her contributions to literature. Sophie is a member of the ASA's Nominations Committee.

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

Directors' Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Information on directors

Kelly Gardiner Experience	<p>Elected 13 November 2020</p> <p>Kelly Gardiner writes historical fiction for all ages. Her latest series is The Firewatcher Chronicles.</p> <p>Her other books include Goddess, based on the life of Mademoiselle de Maupin; 1917: Australia's Great War, shortlisted for the NSW Premier's Young People's History Prize and Asher Award; the Swashbuckler pirate trilogy; and a picture book, Billabong Bill's Bushfire Christmas. Her young adult novels Act of Faith and The Sultan's Eyes, were both shortlisted for the NSW Premier's Literary Awards, while Act of Faith was shortlisted for the ASA's Barbara Jefferis Award.</p> <p>A former journalist and editor, Kelly now teaches creative writing at La Trobe University. Kelly is a member of the ASA's Nominations Committee.</p>
Melissa Lucashenko Experience	<p>Appointed 13 November 2020</p> <p>Melissa Lucashenko is a leading Goorie (Aboriginal) novelist from Queensland. Her work has been awarded the Queensland Deloitte Literary Prize, the Nita B. Kibble Award, and the Victorian Premier's Award for Indigenous Writing. In 2019 Too Much Lip won Australia's premier writing prize, the Miles Franklin and the Queensland Award for a Work of State Significance.</p> <p>Melissa is also a Walkley Award winner for her Griffith Review essay "Sinking Below Sight: Down and Out in Brisbane and Logan", and a founding member of prisoner human rights organisation Sisters Inside.</p> <p>Melissa writes about ordinary Australians and the extraordinary lives they lead. Melissa is a member of the ASA's Nominations Committee.</p>
Chris Pash Experience	<p>Term expired 13 November 2020</p> <p>Chris Pash is a writer of narrative nonfiction. His book, The Last Whale published by Fremantle Press 2008, was partly based on his experiences in the 1970s as a cadet reporter at the Albany Advertiser in Western Australia's south. In the mid 1990s he built and ran the regional newswire Asia Pulse, a joint venture company between Asian news companies. He lives in Sydney and is the Editor of AdNews, founded in 1928, Australia's oldest title about the media. He is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and a former Chair of the ASA.</p>

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

Directors' Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Information on directors

Margrete Lamond Experience	<p>Resigned 13 November 2020</p> <p>Margrete is an author, editor, publisher, curator and researcher. As an author, she has published over 20 titles, the most recent of which, The Sorry Tale of Fox and Bear, was short-listed for the 2018 NSW Premier's Literary Award. She began her publishing career at Scholastic Press in 2002, was publisher at Little Hare Books from 2006 to 2010, at Hardie Grant Egmont from 2010 to 2017, and is now Creative Director and Publisher at Dirt Lane Press. Throughout this time she has continued to write. She holds a Master's degree in children's literature and is a PhD candidate with Monash University, with an empirical interest in the biological impacts of literary reading. She also operates a manuscript and portfolio review service for picture-book creators.</p>
Brenton E. McKenna Experience	<p>Resigned 13 November 2020</p> <p>Brenton E. McKenna is a young Yawuru artist and writer who fell in love with comic books at a young age. He studied visual arts for two years at Goulburn TAFE and in 2000 was one of twenty successful applicants to be awarded a highly sought-after mentorship with the Australian Society of Authors. He has attended several art workshop/residencies and in doing so has generated much national interest in recent years.</p>
Eugene Bacon Experience	<p>Resigned 10 September 2020</p> <p>Eugen Bacon, MA, MSc, PhD, is an African Australian author and a professional editor. A computer scientist mentally re-engineered into creative writing, her stories have won, been shortlisted and commended in international awards, including the Bridport Prize, L Ron Hubbard Writers of the Future Contest, Copyright Agency Prize and Fellowship of Australian Writers National Literary Awards. Eugen is a recipient of the Katharine Susannah Prichard (KSP) Emerging Writer-in-Residence 2020. Her creative work has appeared in literary and speculative fiction publications worldwide, including Award Winning Australian Writing, Aurealis, Bards and Sages Quarterly, The Victorian Writer and through Routledge in New Writing. Recent publications: Writing Speculative Fiction, Macmillan (2019). Claiming T-Mo, Meerkat Press (2019). In 2020: A Pining, Meerkat Press. Black Moon, IFWG. Inside the Dreaming, Newcon Press. Eugen loves chocolate, swimming, Toni Morrison and Ray Bradbury.</p>

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

Directors' Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Principal activities

The principal activities of The Australian Society of Authors Limited during the financial year were the advancement of culture by supporting and protecting the professional interests of Australian writers and illustrators. We are the peak professional association, community and voice of Australia's authors and illustrators.

No significant changes in the nature of the company's activity occurred during the financial year.

Our Value Statement

Authors and illustrators create the stories and ideas that are integral to our national identity and culture.

Our Purpose

Established in 1963 as the peak national association for Australian Authors, our purpose is to support Australian authors and illustrators to pursue their creative career fairly.

What do we do?

- We support, advise, educate and connect our members.
- We celebrate and promote the work of Australian authors and illustrators.
- We advocate for fair remuneration, fair copyright and fair contracts.

Our Services

The ASA provides the following services to its members:

- Professional development program
- Mentorships program
- Information and resources, including comprehensive FAQs, recommended rates of pay, contract templates, and an advice service
- Fortnightly newsletter with industry and member news, as well as opportunities
- Access to book distribution service with John Reed Books
- Access to member benefits and discounts
- Advocacy to government and industry to promote the interests of Australia's writers and illustrators.

We also administer the Barbara Jefferis Literary Award, the ASA Medal, ASA/HQ Commercial Fiction Prize, and the Blake Beckett Trust Scholarship.

Members guarantee

The Australian Society of Authors Limited is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of, and for the purpose of winding up of the company, the amount capable of being called up from each members and any person or association who ceased to be a member in the year prior to the winding up, is limited to \$ 20, subject to the provisions of the company's constitution.

At 30 June 2021 the collective liability of members was \$ 73,180 (30 June 2020: \$66,500).

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

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Directors' Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Meetings of directors


During the financial year, five meetings of directors were held. Attendances by each director during the year were as follows:

	Directors' Meetings	
	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Nicholas Pickard	4	4
Anne Maria Nicholson	4	4
Kirsty Murray	4	3
Chris Pash	1	1
Helen O'Neill	4	3
Liz Anelli	4	4
Leonie Norington	1	1
Prasad Gollakota	4	4
Margrete Lamond	1	1
Eugene Bacon	1	1
Brenton E. McKenna	1	-
Melissa Lucashenko	3	3
Danielle Clode	3	3
Kelly Gardiner	3	3

Auditor's independence declaration

The auditor's independence declaration in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, for the year ended 30 June 2021 has been received and can be found on page 8 of the financial report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

Chair: 
Nicholas Pickard

Dated 1 September 2021

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

Auditors Independence Declaration to the Directors of The Australian Society of Authors Limited

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2021, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

BDJ Partners



Gregory W Cliffe
Partner

Dated 1 September 2021

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Please refer to the
website for our
standard terms of
engagement.

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

		2021	2020
Note		\$	\$
	Revenue	788,116	609,677
4	Investment income	44,862	33,684
	ATO Cash Flow Boost	-	84,688
	Employee benefits expense	(420,296)	(462,912)
	Overheads	(90,230)	(86,666)
	Subcontractor and event fees	(153,922)	(76,606)
	Property expenses	(13,903)	(13,510)
	Depreciation	(4,826)	(11,752)
	Surplus (deficit) before income tax	149,801	76,603
2(a)	Income tax expense	-	-
	Surplus (deficit) for the period	149,801	76,603
	Unrealised movement in market value of investments	91,807	(43,545)
9	Revaluation of property	-	-
	Other comprehensive income for the period	91,807	(43,545)
	Total comprehensive income for the period	241,608	33,058

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

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Statement of Financial Position As At 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	680,263	572,973
Trade and other receivables	6	36,694	15,207
Other assets	7	8,790	5,547
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		725,747	593,727
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Financial assets	8	1,009,936	889,751
Property, plant and equipment	9	994,220	987,403
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		2,004,156	1,877,154
TOTAL ASSETS		2,729,903	2,470,881
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	10	83,616	43,076
Employee benefits	11	23,771	26,467
Deferred income	12	486,919	519,124
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		594,306	588,667
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee benefits	11	19,096	7,321
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		19,096	7,321
TOTAL LIABILITIES		613,402	595,988
NET ASSETS		2,116,501	1,874,893
EQUITY			
Reserves		52,332	(39,475)
Accumulated funds		2,064,169	1,914,368
TOTAL EQUITY		2,116,501	1,874,893

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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The Australian Society of Authors Limited

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Statement of Changes in Equity For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	Accumulated Funds \$	Asset Revaluation Surplus Note 9 \$	Financial Assets Reserve \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2020	1,914,368	-	(39,475)	1,874,893
Surplus (deficit) attributable to members of the entity	149,801	-	-	149,801
Unrealised movement in market value of investments	-	-	91,807	91,807
Balance at 30 June 2021	2,064,169	-	52,332	2,116,501

	Accumulated Funds \$	Asset Revaluation Surplus Note 9 \$	Financial Assets Reserve \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2019	1,841,863	-	(28)	1,841,835
Surplus (deficit) attributable to members of the entity	76,603	-	-	76,603
Transfer realised gains/losses from reserve to accumulated funds	(4,098)	-	4,098	-
Unrealised movement in market value of investments	-	-	(43,545)	(43,545)
Balance at 30 June 2020	1,914,368	-	(39,475)	1,874,893

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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The Australian Society of Authors Limited

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Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
Note	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Receipts from members and others	820,736	913,571
Payments to suppliers and employees	(753,322)	(684,493)
ATO Cash Flow Boost	51,380	33,308
Interest received	139	211
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	15 118,933	262,597
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(11,643)	(2,544)
Net cash used by investing activities	(11,643)	(2,544)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held	107,290	260,053
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the period	572,973	312,920
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	5 680,263	572,973

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

The financial report covers The Australian Society of Authors Limited as an individual entity. The Australian Society of Authors Limited is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The functional and presentation currency of The Australian Society of Authors Limited is Australian dollars.

Comparatives have been adjusted where required to comply with changes in the current period.

1 Basis of Preparation

The Directors have prepared financial statements on the basis that the company is a non-reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. These financial statements are therefore special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in order to meet the reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*, AASB 107 *Statement of Cash Flows*, AASB 108 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*, AASB 1048 *Interpretation of Standards* and AASB 1054 *Australian Additional Disclosures*.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs unless otherwise stated in the notes. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Income Tax

The company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

(b) Revenue and other income

Revenue from contracts with customers

The core principle of AASB 15 is that revenue is recognised on a basis that reflects the transfer of promised goods or services to customers at an amount that reflects the consideration the company expects to receive in exchange for those goods or services. Revenue is recognised by applying a five-step model as follows:

1. Identify the contract with the customer
2. Identify the performance obligations
3. Determine the transaction price
4. Allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations
5. Recognise revenue as and when control of the performance obligations is transferred

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Revenue from contracts with customers

Generally the timing of the payment for sale of goods and rendering of services corresponds closely to the timing of satisfaction of the performance obligations, however where there is a difference, it will result in the recognition of a receivable, contract asset or contract liability.

None of the revenue streams of the company have any significant financing terms as there is less than 12 months between receipt of funds and satisfaction of performance obligations.

Specific revenue streams

The revenue recognition policies for the principal revenue streams of the company are:

Member Subscriptions

Revenue from the provision of membership subscriptions is recognised on a straight line basis over the financial year.

Activities

Activities includes revenue from contract assessment services, mentorship, Style File and professional development. Revenue from activities is recognised at a point in time when the relevant performance obligation is satisfied.

Grants

Revenue from grants is recognised at a point in time when the company has satisfied its performance obligations under the relevant grant agreement.

Statement of financial position balances relating to revenue recognition

Contract assets and liabilities

Where the amounts billed to customers are based on the achievement of various milestones established in the contract, the amounts recognised as revenue in a given period do not necessarily coincide with the amounts billed or certified by the customer.

When a performance obligation is satisfied by transferring a promised good or service to the customer before the customer pays consideration or before payment is due, the company presents the contract as a contract asset, unless the company's rights to that amount or consideration are unconditional, in which case the company recognised a receivable.

When an amount of consideration is received from a customer prior to the entity transferring a good or service to the customer, the company presents the contract as a contract liability.

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The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Specific revenue streams

Costs to fulfil a contract

Where costs are incurred to fulfil a contract, they are accounted for under the relevant accounting standard (if appropriate), otherwise if the costs relate directly to a contract, the costs generate or enhance resources of the company that will be used to satisfy performance obligations in the future and the costs are expected to be recovered then they are capitalised as contract costs assets and released to the profit or loss on a systematic basis consistent with the transfer to the customer of the goods or services to which the asset relates.

Donations and gift income

Donations and gifts are recognised when they are received by the company.

Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the company is entitled to it.

Interest revenue

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

(c) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

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The Australian Society of Authors Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(d) Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment of losses.

Where the cost model is used, the asset is carried at its cost less any accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses. Costs include purchase price, other directly attributable costs and the initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and restoring the asset, where applicable.

Assets measured using the revaluation model are carried at fair value at the revaluation date less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Revaluations are performed periodically, but at least triennial, by external independent valuers.

Land and buildings

Land and buildings are measured using the revaluation model.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured using the cost model.

Depreciation

Plant and equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the assets useful life to the company, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

(e) Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

Financial assets

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Financial assets

Classification

On initial recognition, the company classifies its financial assets into the following categories, those measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss - FVTPL
- fair value through other comprehensive income - equity instrument (FVOCI)

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition unless the company changes its business model for managing financial assets.

Amortised cost

Assets measured at amortised cost are financial assets where:

- the business model is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

The company's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment.

Interest income, foreign exchange gains or losses and impairment are recognised in profit or loss. Gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in profit or loss.

Fair value through other comprehensive income

Equity instruments

The company has a number of strategic investments over which are they do not have significant influence nor control. The company has made an irrevocable election to classify these equity investments as fair value through other comprehensive income (financial assets reserve) as they are not held for trading purposes.

These investments are carried at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in other comprehensive income. On disposal any balance in the financial assets reserve is transferred to accumulated funds and is not reclassified to profit or loss.

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Financial assets

Dividends are recognised as income in profit or loss unless the dividend clearly represents a recovery of part of the cost of the investment. Other net gains and losses are recognised in OCI.

Fair value through profit or loss

The company does not have any financial assets through profit or loss.

Impairment of financial assets

Impairment of financial assets is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis for the following assets:

- financial assets measured at amortised cost

A loss allowance is not recognised for equity instruments measured at FVOCI.

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial assets has increased significant since initial recognition and when estimating ECL, the company considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on the company's historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward looking information.

The company uses the presumption that an asset which is more than 30 days past due has seen a significant increase in credit risk.

Trade receivables

Impairment of trade receivables have been determined using the simplified approach in AASB 9 which uses an estimation of lifetime expected credit losses. The company has determined the probability of non-payment of the receivable and multiplied this by the amount of the expected loss arising from default.

The amount of the impairment is recorded in a separate allowance account with the loss being recognised in finance expense. Once the receivable is determined to be uncollectable then the gross carrying amount is written off against the associated allowance.

Where the company renegotiates the terms of trade receivables due from certain customers, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

Other financial assets measured at amortised cost

Impairment of other financial assets measured at amortised cost are determined using the expected credit loss model in AASB 9. On initial recognition of the asset, an estimate of the expected credit losses for the next 12 months is recognised. Where the asset has experienced significant increase in credit risk then the lifetime losses are estimated and recognised.

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The Australian Society of Authors Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Financial liabilities

The company measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

The financial liabilities of the company comprise trade payables, bank and other loans and finance lease liabilities.

(f) Impairment of non-financial assets

At the end of each reporting period the company determines whether there is an evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where this indicator exists and regardless for goodwill, indefinite life intangible assets and intangible assets not yet available for use, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated.

Where assets do not operate independently of other assets, the recoverable amount of the relevant cash-generating unit (CGU) is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash-generating unit.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in surplus or deficit.

Reversal indicators are considered in subsequent periods for all assets which have suffered an impairment loss, except for goodwill.

(g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with original maturities of three months or less and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Bank overdrafts also form part of cash equivalents for the purpose of the statement of cash flows and are presented within current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

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The Australian Society of Authors Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(h) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than twelve months after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements.

Employee benefits are presented as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the company does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date regardless of the classification of the liability for measurement purposes under AASB 119.

(i) Adoption of new and revised accounting standards

The company has adopted all of the new, revised or amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new, revised or amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

The adoption of these accounting standards has not materially impacted the measurement or disclosure of any transaction for the company.

3 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The directors make estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances.

These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information is known then the actual results may differ from the estimates.

The significant estimates and judgements made have been described below.

Key estimates - impairment of property, plant and equipment

The company assesses impairment at the end of each reporting period by evaluating conditions specific to the company that may be indicative of impairment triggers. Recoverable amounts of relevant assets are reassessed using value-in-use calculations which incorporate various key assumptions.

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The Australian Society of Authors Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

4 Revenue and Other Income

Revenue from continuing operations

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Revenue		
- Subscriptions	511,173	461,786
- Activities	147,246	88,930
- Donation and gift income	3,429	1,115
- Grant income	89,809	33,349
- Publications	28,310	22,111
- Other income	8,149	2,386
	788,116	609,677

Investment Income Distributions and interest income Franking credits

	39,927	28,120
	4,935	5,564
	44,862	33,684

5 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and in hand	665,916	561,477
Other cash and cash equivalents	14,347	11,496
	680,263	572,973

6 Trade and other receivables

CURRENT		
Trade receivables	3,700	2,356
Investment income receivable	11,447	9,389
Imputation credits	4,936	3,462
Other receivables	16,611	-
	36,694	15,207

The carrying value of trade receivables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the fair value of each class of receivable in the financial statements.

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The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

7 Other non-financial assets

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Prepayments	8,790	5,547

8 Other financial assets

Financial assets at fair value

NON-CURRENT

Equity securities - at fair value through
Other Comprehensive Income

1,009,936	889,751
-----------	---------

9 Property, plant and equipment

Property at independent valuation
Mountain Street, Ultimo
Total land and buildings

985,000	985,000
985,000	985,000

Software

At cost

49,515	49,515
--------	--------

Accumulated depreciation

(49,515)	(49,515)
----------	----------

Total software

-	-
---	---

Furniture, fixtures and fittings

At cost

22,377	22,377
--------	--------

Accumulated depreciation

(22,377)	(22,377)
----------	----------

Total furniture, fixtures and fittings

-	-
---	---

Office equipment

At cost

1,423	-
-------	---

Accumulated depreciation

(1,423)	-
---------	---

Total office equipment

-	-
---	---

Computer equipment

At cost

12,765	2,544
--------	-------

Accumulated depreciation

(3,545)	(141)
---------	-------

Total computer equipment

9,220	2,403
-------	-------

Total property, plant and equipment

994,220	987,403
---------	---------

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

9 Property, plant and equipment

The company's property at Mountain Street, Ultimo was revalued at 4 June 2018 by independent valuers. The 30 June 2018 balance was increased in line with the valuation by \$85,000 to \$985,000.

The company will obtain a valuation of the property during the year ending 30 June 2022 once COVID-19 restrictions are eased to allow this.

Valuations were made using the price that would be received to sell the asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

10 Trade and other payables

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Unsecured liabilities		
Trade payables	8,466	9,148
GST payable	33,417	39,763
Accrued expenses	32,158	26,502
Barbara Jefferis Literary Fund	-	6,716
Other payables	9,575	(39,053)
	83,616	43,076

All amounts are short term and the carrying values are considered to be a reasonable approximation of fair value.

11 Employee Benefits

CURRENT		
Annual leave	23,771	26,467
NON-CURRENT		
Long service leave	19,096	7,321

12 Deferred Income

CURRENT		
Subscriptions received in advance	358,366	333,394
Grants received in advance	104,718	154,927
Other deferred income	23,835	30,803
	486,919	519,124

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

13 Members' Guarantee

The company is incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* and is a company limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$ 20 each towards meeting any outstandings and obligations of the company. At 30 June 2021 the number of members was 3,659 (2020: 3,325).

14 Contingencies

In the opinion of the Directors, the company did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2021 (30 June 2020: None).

15 Cash Flow Information

Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Surplus (deficit) for the period	149,801	76,603
Cash flows excluded from surplus attributable to operating activities		
Non-cash flows in surplus:		
- depreciation	4,826	11,752
- financial assets income and expenses	(28,378)	(9,501)
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of the effects of purchase and disposal of subsidiaries:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(21,487)	(8,347)
- (increase)/decrease in prepayments	(3,243)	1,335
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	40,540	(25,450)
- increase/(decrease) in deferred income	(32,205)	215,325
- increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	9,079	880
Cashflow from operations	118,933	262,597

16 Events after the end of the Reporting Period

The financial report was authorised for issue on 1 September 2021 by the Board of Directors.

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

17 Company Details

The registered office of and principal place of business of the company is:

The Australian Society of Authors Limited
Suite C1.06
22-36 Mountain Street
Ultimo NSW 2007

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

ABN 26 008 558 790

Directors' Declaration

The directors have determined that the company is not a reporting entity and that these special purpose financial statements should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 2 of the financial statements.

The directors of the company declare that:

- The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 9 to 24, are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and:
 - comply with Australian Accounting Standards as stated in Note 1; and
 - give a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
- In the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Chair
Nicholas Pickard

Dated 1 September 2021

The Australian Society of Authors Limited

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of The Australian Society of Authors Limited

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of The Australian Society of Authors Limited (the company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the company is in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, which has been given to the directors of the company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the directors' financial reporting responsibilities under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.



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Other Information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is included in the Directors' Report (but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon).

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the directors determine necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.



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- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

BDJ Partners



.....
Gregory W Cliffe
Partner

Dated 8 September 2021



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Thank You

This year we've been grateful for the generous support of:



We'd also like to thank our members -
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