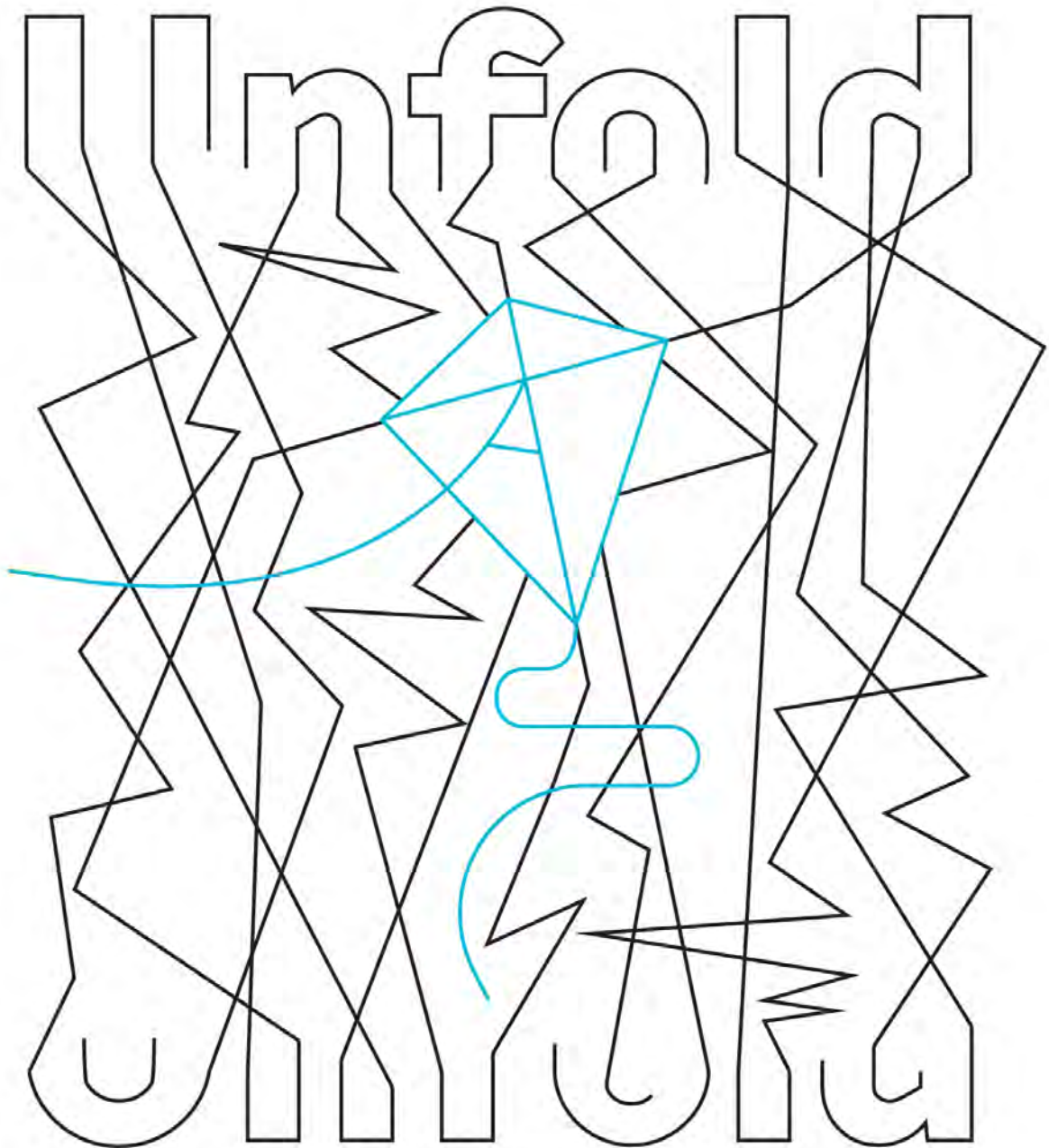


WRITERS

VICTORIA

All about writers



Annual Report 2021

About Writers Victoria

Writers Victoria is the first, largest and longest-running organisation for writers in Victoria. We have the expertise and platform to support Victoria's vibrant storytelling community, to ensure writers from all of Victoria's diverse communities have the skills and support to succeed, and to advocate for support for writers and storytellers more broadly. Our vision is for a diverse and flourishing writing community across Victoria, where a range of writers are supported and valued.

Our Purpose

To support and connect writers at all stages of their development and/or career.

2021 at a glance:

\$877,677	Annual turnover
\$1,401	Operating surplus (before depreciation)
\$1,080	Net surplus (after depreciation)
4	Volunteers worked with us
111	Writers and industry professionals worked with us in our workshop program
300	Employment opportunities provided for writers
2,476	Members (at 31 Dec 2021)
1,397	Participants
13	Residents in our writers studios
15	Writers supported through competitions, grants and fellowships

From our patron

I don't think I am alone in wondering if the last couple of years haven't been reminiscent of the old classic movie, *Groundhog Day*. This is the third Patron's Report I have written from within the pandemic: it is sometimes difficult to recall what our lives were like before Zoom and QR Codes and social distancing. The positive news is that slowly we are emerging from the worst of the pandemic and that the era of lockdowns – I am knocking the underside of my desk as I type this – are over.

It has been an honour to be part of Writers Victoria over this period. Once again, I have been impressed by the commitment of the staff, board and membership in ensuring that the organisation remains an important part of Victorian literary culture. That commitment has been indefatigable, and Writers Victoria has continued advocating for writers, and has continued to develop programs ensuring more diverse voices are being heard and read. It has continued to offer a terrific series of workshops and seminars. I know I am not alone in missing the face-to-face interactions that are part of being in a workshop, or meeting informally with writer friends. That communion in real time and real space will return; but until then I am very grateful for all the work that has been done to ensure those spaces exist online.

It has been particularly gratifying to hear from individual members of the organisation. Many people have told me how important Writers Victoria has been as a place that takes their work and their hopes seriously. Not every Victorian writer has access to information on writing, editing, creative writing courses, festival programs etc. I still remember clearly how overwhelming the world of publishing and writing seemed when I first began as a writer. It was through Writers Victoria I discovered there were journals I could send my stories to, and it was Writers Victoria that provided me with information on short story competitions. I believe the digital component of our outreach will remain core to Writers Victoria even when the pandemic is truly said to be over. We are a state-wide organisation, and the fostering of literary communities across Victoria is a key component of our work.

When I first took on the role of Patron, I expressed that I saw advocacy, community, and resourcing as the pillars of what we do as an organisation. The advocacy has been crucial at a time when governments have been short-sighted in understanding the material and existential and psychological costs of the pandemic on artist and writers. Community is the necessary lifeblood we all need in our labours and endeavours, that sense that we are not alone, and that there are ways of getting in touch with like-minded individuals. Through its publications, through its online and physical library, and through its outreach, Writers Victoria endeavours to make literary resources and knowledge available to everyone. Again, I want to thank the wonderful staff and board of this organisation in ensuring that advocacy, community, and resourcing remain pivotal to the work we do. A very special thank you also to the editors and contributors of the magazine. It remains a delight every time I get it in the post!

And again, I want to thank every individual member of Writers Victoria. It is also your commitment that keeps this organisation vital and responsive. It is appreciated. I feel very grateful to be part of this community.

Thank you.

Christos Tsiolkas

Chair's report

2021 saw all of us in Victoria, and indeed throughout Australia, understand resilience, compassion and kindness in a way that perhaps many of us didn't realise we had within us. Here, at Writers Victoria, this also translated into discovery and engagement about who we are as an organisation, our responsibility as members, and development in our aspiration as a place for all writers.

While Melbourne found itself declared the world's most locked-down city, Writers Victoria offered help to the collective minds of writers everywhere, with exceptional online programs and new services for manuscripts assessments and mentorship programs. Once again our team delivered the eagerly anticipated annual State of the Writing Nation, outdoing all expectations, given with exceptional intelligence and passion by the always remarkable Alice Pung OAM.

It is not to say that this year, the second in this global pandemic, has not been without difficulties. It has not been easy for anyone: our staff, our writers, or our community, to continually navigate around the changing rules, regulations and expectations this year required. However, I feel confident that I speak on behalf of the entire Board when I say that we are proud, as I am sure you all are, of our Writers Victoria team, led by Lucy. Indeed, they brought everything this year, once again, to make sure that it felt as undisrupted as possible to everyone who called, emailed, came to a course or workshop when they could, or used a service.

I thank the Board for working especially hard during this year, being cohesive and forward-thinking. Much work was done on making sure that the organisation is not only financially stable today, but that we looked at how we could promote fundraising for the future, so that Writers Victoria is not threatened in the way other writers' centres have been, leaving writers vulnerable and unsupported. I thank the Board for acknowledging diversity in its multiplicity of definitions, from our membership to our programming. All of this is making us a stronger organisation and it has been a joy to be in the chair alongside all of you—your incredible dedication to Writers Victoria is humbling and beautiful.

Once again, it has been an honour to be in my seat next to our Patron, Christos Tsiolkas, who is always full of wise counsel. His positivity, encouragement and constant belief in Writers Victoria's mission and purpose has been a constant inspiration to us all to continue to imagine big.

While we are desperately missing the pure joy of our volunteers in the space, I cannot wait for – what I am hoping will be very soon – when we can once again have a full roster of you back with us! To our tutors, thank you, for your good humour and the great teaching you give our community. And to our organisational and government partners, we all thank you, because your belief in what we do, and support of our work publicly, enables us to continue during these most trying of times.

As ever, I would like to make sure that the last words of thanks end to you who is reading this now. I ask that you continue to talk about us to your community, share us on your social media, support us through joining our courses, our workshops and our events. Thank you, Writers Victoria Member. You are the true hero. Your membership is important. Without you, there is no Writers Victoria.

Noë Harsel

CEO's report

Our annual theme for 2021 was 'Unfold'. In its most literal definition, we wanted to see, after the events of 2020, how everything would pan out. 'Will audiences come back to face-to-face events?', we were asking ourselves. Little did we know that our capacity to deliver that programming would continue to be affected by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. And yet, we were able to use everything that we learnt through 2020 to continue to adapt, to innovate, and to sustain the work that we do for the writers of Victoria.

2021 saw the launch of our 2021-2023 strategic plan. After a tumultuous few years it has been invigorating to be able to gather to decide what we want to achieve over the next little while. We have necessarily built a plan that allows flexibility, one that means that whatever our circumstances and resources, we can adapt to meet its goals to connect, support, and grow our community of writers.

We farewelled a number of team members throughout the year. Our extremely long-standing Program/Competitions Officer, Deanne Sheldon-Collins, left in April, and our Online Learning Administrator Diem Nguyen took the role for three months before leaving in July. Lyndel Caffrey, our Writeability Program Manager, went on extended leave in June and has sadly had to leave permanently from January 2022. Membership and Project Officer, Frances Terret, left in August, as did Program Admin Officer Latifa Elmrini. Program and Partnerships Manager, Kate Cuthbert, left in early December. All these team members, while having been with us for different lengths of time, contributed a huge amount to the organisation and changed it for the better.

We took the opportunity in 2021 to restructure how our Programming team works and we now have two Program Admin Officers working three days a week: one focussing on Community (Danny Silva Soberano) and the other Competitions (Caitlin McGregor). Lou Garcia-Dolnik came on board as our Memberships Officer, and Jessica Obersby took over as Writeability Manager.

Our magazine, 'The Victorian Writer', also saw a change of leadership. Kirsten Krauth, Donna Ward and Elizabeth Flux all edited issues in 2021, and Liz took over as ongoing editor towards the end of the year.

I want to thank all our team and volunteers throughout the year. 2021 brought its own challenges that built on those of 2020, and I appreciate all your hard work, creativity, and flexibility. I also want to thank the Board of Directors for ongoing commitment and professional stewardship of the organisation. 2022's theme is 'Glimmer'. It's a theme of hope and optimism, but a gentle one that allows us some space to carve out the energy for how that hope might manifest.

Lucy Hamilton

The Writers Victoria team

STAFF

Lucy Hamilton	CEO
Sarah Hollingsworth	Marketing and Communications Manager
Kate Cuthbert	Program and Partnerships Manager (until December)
Lyndel Caffrey	Writeability Program Manager (on leave from June)
Jessica Obserby	Writeability Program Manager (from June) and Online Learning Administrator
Flora Lun	Accountant
Deanne Sheldon-Collins	Program Officer/Competitions Officer (until April)
Diem Nguyen	Program Officer/Competitions Officer (from April to July) and Online Learning Administrator (until July)
Caitlin McGregor	Program Admin Officer: Competitions (from July) and Online Learning Administrator (from May)
Latifa Elmrini	Program Admin Officer (until August)
Danny Silva Soberano	Program Admin Officer: Community (from August)
Frances Terrett	Membership and Program Officer (until August)
Lou Garcia-Dolnik	Memberships Officer (from July)
Bianca Breen	Online Learning Administrator (from May)
Kirsten Krauth, Donna Ward & Elizabeth Flux	The Victorian Writer Editors

BOARD

Noè Harsel	Chairperson
Peter Hill	Secretary
Victor Sekulov	Treasurer
Amy Maddison	Deputy Chairperson (until April)
Bryan Keon-Cohen	Director (until April)
Yasmin Naghavi	Director (Deputy Chairperson from April)
Sharon Mullins	Director
Mel Costello	Director
Justine Sless	Director (since April)
Paul Sutherland	Director (since April)
Alex Hammond	Director (Since April)
Mary Chakola	Board Observer

PATRON

Christos Tsiolkas

LIFE AND HONORARY MEMBERS

Arnold Zable	Eddie Creaney	Judith Rodriguez
Barbara Giles	Iola Mathews	Kevin Brophy
Bev Roberts	Isolde Lueckenhausen	Kris Hemensley
Christine McKenzie	Joan Sellar	Noel Turnbull
Chris Thompson	Joel Becker	Sue Penhall
Chris Wallace-Crabbe	Joyce Lee	

INTERNS

Amy Bullock	Ethan Lewis-Grand
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VOLUNTEERS

Isabel Robinson (Glenfern Artist Liaison)
Anna Sublet (Glenfern Artist Liaison)

REGIONAL AMBASSADORS

Bianca Stapleton – Campaspe	Rebecca Fletcher – Ballarat
Gail Chrisfield – Surf Coast	Robyn Black – Shepparton
Maree Jones – Sunraysia	Vicky Daddo – Gippsland

Writers and Experts

In another difficult year, Writers Victoria still managed to provide some 300 employment opportunities for 129 writers as tutors, mentors, manuscript assessors, guest speakers, judges, and writers, including (in alphabetical order):

Abigail Nathan
 Adalya Nash
 Hussein
 Alan Baxter
 Ali Alizadeh
 Alli Sinclair
 Amanda Martin
 Amra Pajalic
 Amy Andrews
 Amy Bodossian
 Amy Maddison
 Andrew Nette
 Andy Jackson
 Angela Meyer
 Angelita Biscotti
 Anna George
 Anna Spargo-Ryan
 Anne-Marie Peard
 Antoinette Holm
 Bonny Cassidy
 Bridget Caldwell-Bright
 Caitlin McGregor
 Cassandra
 (Frances) White
 Cate Kennedy
 Cath Crowley
 Chaille Bos
 Chelsea Cassio

Chloe Wilson
 Christie Nieman
 Christos Tsiolkas
 Claire Gaskin
 Craig Hildebrand-Burke
 Danny Silva
 Soberano
 Demet Divaroren
 Diem Nguyen
 Earl Livings
 Eliza Henry-Jones
 Ellena Savage
 Ellie Marney
 Eloise Grills
 Emilie Collyer
 Emily Bitto
 Emily Brewin
 Emma Cayley
 Emma Osborne
 Emma Viskic
 Emma Young
 Erina Reddan
 Euan Mitchell
 Evelyn Araluen
 George Ivanoff
 Georgia Richter
 Hannah Cartmel
 Helen Koehne

Hella Ibrahim
 Hoa Pham
 Ingrid Laguna
 Jacinta Le Plastrier
 Jackey Cole
 Jane Godwin
 Jeanine Leane
 Jessica Obersby
 Jock Serong
 Joel Martin
 Josiane Behmoiras
 JP Pomare
 Julie Koh
 Kaaron Warren
 Kate Cuthbert
 Kate Mildenhall
 Kate Ryan
 Kelly Gardiner
 Keri Arthur
 Kiran Bhat
 Kirstyn McDermott
 Koraly Dimitriadis
 Latifa Elmrini
 Laura Jean McKay
 Laurent Boulanger
 Laurel Cohn
 Laurie Steed
 Leah Jing McIntosh

Leah Kaminsky
Leanne Hall
Lee Kofman
Leena van Deventer
Leigh Straw
Lili Wilkinson
Liz Kemp
Lorna Hendry
Lou Garcia-Dolnik
Lyn Yeowart
Lyndel Caffrey
Mandy Ord
Marie Alafaci
Marisa Wikramanayake
Mark Smith
Maryrose Cuskelly
Maxine Beneba Clarke
McKinley Valentine
Michelle de Kretser
Michelle Scott Tucker
Mirandi Riwoe
Myfanwy Jones
Nick Gadd
Nicki Greenberg
Noë Harsel
Pooja Mittal Biswas
Quinn Eades
Rachel Flynn
Rafeif Ismail
Roanna Gonsalves
Robert Gott
Roz Bellamy
Sally Rippin
Sangeetha Thanapal
Sherryl Clark

Shivaun Plozza
Sonya Voumard
Spiri Tsintziras
Sulari Gentill
Sumudu Narayana
Sam van Zweden
Terri-ann White
Thuy On
Tony Birch
Victoria Purman
wāni le Frère
Wayne Macauley
Yuot A. Alaak

Our program

WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

The lessons of 2020 proved useful in 2021, with flexibility and resilience required while navigating rapidly-changing restrictions, necessitating sudden shifts from in-person to online program delivery. Our theme for the year was 'Unfold,' and it proved prescient as we responded to an environment that constantly changed shape, revealing new challenges, inconveniences and occasional delights.

Writers Victoria began the year by offering a range of workshops and other events both online and in-person, drawing upon skills developed in adapting to online delivery in 2020 whilst catering for audiences and tutors enthusiastic about once again engaging in-person. Our program built upon existing relationships and forged new partnerships, catering to writers of all levels, backgrounds, interests and genres. We ran 'The Story Intensive: For Teen Writers' with Melbourne Young Writers Studio, over two days at The Wheeler Centre, providing an opportunity for young writers to expand their craft, meet like-minded creatives and learn from industry professionals. For our adult audience, we kicked off the year with 'Story Bones Deep Dive: Start Your Year and Your Program Right' with Erica Reddan, investigating key elements of plot, character and conflict.

Despite the turbulence of the ongoing pandemic, Season 1 proceeded smoothly, with tutors and audiences showing great adaptability. We ran workshops and seminars across a wide range of areas, providing opportunities for writers to tighten their plots, enhance their editing skills, consider character, place and point-of-view and improve their awareness of areas including pitching, self-publishing and inclusivity; workshops on eroticism in poetry, fight scenes and writing for video games allowed writers to gain more specialised knowledge. In February, when a four-day snap lockdown was called, one weekend's workshop moved online quickly and successfully; in late May and early June, another lockdown necessitated postponement of a number of events.

We approached Season 2 in an atmosphere of uncertainty, with another lockdown announced the day before the first in-person event was planned. The ongoing crisis and resultant extended lockdowns meant the majority of events moved online, were cancelled, or were postponed to 2022. Nonetheless, we were able to offer a range of successful workshops on subjects as varied as writing animals, shaping essay collections and maintaining discipline in difficult situations, allowing writers to use craft as an escape or as a means of processing. In December, the ease of restrictions meant we were able to hold Starry One-Star Night, postponed from June, providing an opportunity for writers to come together after a difficult year.

Throughout the year, we maintained consistency through continuing to run, online, our Lunchtime Bites and Evening Appetiser seminars, for which the tutors are staff and board members, and our popular Established Author Forum with Christos Tsiolkas, Cate Kennedy and Michelle de Kretser. We ran Online Feedback Clinics in both Seasons 1 and 2, covering poetry, creative non-fiction, emerging and advanced short stories, crime, YA and romance writing, to great success. Writers Victoria Board Chair, Noë Harsel,

continued to host Live Write, providing an opportunity for writers to meet and write together on Zoom, facilitating both focus and a sense of community.

Finally, we continued partnerships with other organisations in the literary space, working with the Emerging Writers Festival, City of Literature Office, and The Wheeler Centre on events. Despite the rapidly changing situation, we were able to provide six online masterclasses through our partnership with Melbourne Writers Festival. We also supported community organisations, programming for Horsham's Art Is Festival, Glen Eira Storytelling Festival and Yarra Plenty Regional Library's Booklovers Festival. Our partnership with the City of Casey has also continued, with events well-attended online and planning underway for events in 2022. We have made formal plans with some of these organisations to continue partnership, with a multi-year agreement in place with Melbourne Writers Festival to deliver workshops and with Yarra Plenty Regional Library to provide our members with access to a range of literary journals.

WRITEABILITY & PUBLISHABILITY

Writeability had significant staff changes this year, with Lyndel Caffrey going on extended leave in June, and Jessica Obersby taking a contract as the Writeability Program Manager for the remainder of 2021. At the start of 2022, Lyndel formally resigned and Jessica is now ongoing in the role.

Writeability Fellowships

We were pleased to run the tenth annual Grace Marion Wilson Writeability Fellowships this year, providing tailored professional development to five disabled, emerging writers. We received 37 applications, which were judged by Lucy Hamilton, Jessica Obersby, and Roz Bellamy. The five 2021 Writeability Fellows were Beau Windon, Chim Sher Ting, Claire Capel-Stanley, Sarah Halfpenny and Steph Amir. All the fellows have commenced mentorships that will extend into 2022.

Storming the City

With funding from the City of Melbourne via their Arts and Creative Investments Partnership program, we began the first phase of the two-year Storming the City program in 2021. We invited a leadership cohort of emerging, disabled writers to self-select for the 'Training the trainer' program, a series of workshops designed to develop relevant skills and understandings to engage further with the writing industry. Fifteen writers took part in online workshops with industry professionals, on topics including disability awareness training, teaching creative writing, performance and public speaking, and chairing and interviewing skills.

Eight writers from this cohort have been commissioned to produce an anthology titled 'Weathering the Storm' in 2022.

Another goal of Storming the City was to support members of the leadership cohort to appear in public events at festivals. Gemma Mahadeo, Heidi Everett, and Roz Bellamy appeared on an online panel, hosted by Andy Jackson titled 'Storming the Stage' at the Emerging Writers Festival on 18 June 2021. Beau Windon, Nicole Smith and Heidi Everett then appeared on a panel hosted by Andy Jackson titled 'Storming the City: New Beginnings' at the Melbourne Writers Festival on 10 September 2021.

Mornington Peninsula

We delivered the Writeability Goes Local program at Mornington Peninsula during 2021, in partnership with Mornington Peninsula Shire and Peninsula Writers Club. It had been delayed due to Covid-19 in 2020, and we decided the best way forward was to deliver it online, rather than in person. The program began with the 'Why Writing Matters' and 'Own Voices' forums facilitated by Jax Jacki Brown and Jess Walton in May. Following this, local mentor Anna Spargo Ryan met with the 24 participants on the second Saturday of every month for the remainder of the year and into early 2022. We also welcomed Carly Findlay as guest tutor in November.

Publishability

In May, we delivered the Publishability training for editors and publishers at Varuna – National Writers House. Led by facilitators Jax Jacki Brown and Fiona Murphy, it covered topics such as the social model of disability, best practice language, disability representation in literature and how to make access and inclusion a priority.

Catalyst Anthology project

The Catalyst Anthology was published on our website in November. It includes work from Jax Jacki Brown, Janet Macpherson, Tully Zygier, CB Mako, Tim Williams, Samantha Weerasekera, Nicole Smith, Jessica Obersby, Artemis Munoz, Robert Whalley, Nini Priestly and Chanel Geddes.

Dulcie Stone Awards – partnership with VALID

We continued to work with VALID in 2021 on The Dulcie Stone Short Story Competition for writers with an intellectual disability, with entries closing October 2021. The Awards night was to be on 2 December 2021 but due to unforeseen circumstances it was postponed to 2022.

NDIS

In September Fiona Cook delivered whole-staff professional development on NDIS and the arts, improving our understanding of how we can serve NDIS clients across our range of programs.

Throughout 2021 we continued to publicise potential NDIS funded services, and receive regular queries and are signing up writers for membership, mentorships, workshops or manuscript assessments via their NDIS funds.

BUSINESS WRITING

Our Business Writing Program was redeveloped in early 2021 thanks to the support of Creative Victoria COVID relief funding. We were able to reimagine this program for online delivery, and offer it as a cost-per-service model to both corporate and community organisations. This program saw modest but steady demand for both in-house workshops and one-on-one coaching in business writing skills.

Services

MANUSCRIPT ASSESSMENTS

In 2021, 82 writers booked a total of 85 assessments, 19 of which were followed by a post-assessment consultation. These numbers reflect the continuing popularity of the manuscript assessment service. Some feedback from a client:

'This assessment is wonderful and exactly the kind of feedback I was looking for. I can work with all of this! The specific changes required to certain chapters is particularly helpful. Please thank the assessor profusely for me... This fills me with confidence as I begin the third draft.'

MENTORING

A total of 61 mentorships were booked in 2020, a slight rise from 51 of the previous year. The service continues to offer writers both short-term and long-term options – of these bookings, 22 were one-time or introductory sessions, 38 were ongoing mentorships, and one was a business advice meeting. This suggests that our mentorships continue to build positive relationships, providing writers with an avenue for ongoing advice and support from industry professionals.

STUDIOS

In partnership with the National Trust, Writers Victoria continues to manage nine Writers' Studios at the historic homestead of Glenfern in East St Kilda. While Melbourne lockdowns meant the studios were closed for some of the time, when able to be used the residents enjoyed a peaceful place to write and a community with which they can share ideas and advice.

GLENFERN RESIDENTS

Alexandra Collier	Isabel Robinson
Stephen Sholl	Georgina Banks
Jane Leonard	Tali Lavi
Anna Sublet	Tanya Milne
Katrina Watson	Bram Presser
Rose Lang	Melissa Manning
Martine Lleonart	

LIBRARY

The Writers Victoria library provides a quiet place for members to read, research and write. Members can use the library's collection of literary journals, newsletters, anthologies, prize-winners and books on the craft of writing. Pamphlets advertising competitions, awards, places to write and writing services are on display. The library also provides members with a space to showcase their own publications on our members' bookshelf. Due to lockdowns and ongoing working from home arrangements, the library remained closed for 2021, and we are hopefully of a reopening in 2022.

COMPETITIONS AND FELLOWSHIPS

After a hiatus in 2020 due to the pandemic, the Neilma Sidney Literary Travel Fund opened for its sixth round in April 2021. We received 82 applications, requesting a total of \$389,683. The judges for this round were editor Renée Otmar, bookseller, writer and editor Jaclyn Crupi, and writer Jeanine Leane; they awarded \$58,687 to 12 applicants. The grant recipients were Amanda Anastasi, Annabel Strafford, Brooke Maddison, Kate Wild, Lowana Tudor-Smith, Madeleine Gray, Mark Smith, Marjon Mossammaparast, Michael Ryan, Michelle Scott Tucker, Miranda Luby, and Shakira Hussein. The original deadline for acquittal of these grants was July 2022; however, several have been extended to the end of 2022 to take into account border closures and other travel restrictions relating to the COVID pandemic.

Mandy Sayer (NSW) won the 2021 Hazel Rowley Literary Fellowship for her proposed biography of the McDonagh sisters, Australia's first female filmmakers. The Fellowship awards \$15,000 to a writer working on a biography project and was judged by Jenny Hocking, Jeff Sparrow, Della Rowley, and Lynn Buchanan. The winner was selected from a shortlist of seven writers: Jo Oliver, Amanda Lourie, Michelle Scott Tucker, Sheila Ngoc Pham, Jillian Graham, Kate Rice and Mandy Sayer.

2021 saw the second year of the Commission for a Woman Writer of Colour, which is funded by an anonymous donor and offers a paid commission to the value of \$200 for a new piece of work to be published in the Victorian Writer magazine. This year's winner was Gurmeet Kaur, for her poem 'Double Helix'.

Writers Victoria were delighted to partner with LIMINAL and Pantera Press to administer the inaugural LIMINAL & Pantera Press Nonfiction Prize, which was open to First Nations writers and writers of colour. The prize had 169 submissions, of which 20 were longlisted. Judges Brian Castro, Maddee Clark and Shakira Hussein awarded the inaugural prize to Hassan Abul for his essay "Third Cowboy from the Sun". Hassan won \$10,000 and publication in LIMINAL's forthcoming anthology with Pantera Press. The judges also awarded two runners-up prizes: one to André Dao, for his essay "Five Stele in Commemoration of Forgetting", and one to Mykaela Saunders for her essay "Communing with Uncle Kev". André and Mykaela each received \$1,000, as well as publication in the forthcoming anthology.

Writers Victoria also continued our partnership with the Deborah Cass Prize for early-career writers from migrant backgrounds. Now in its seventh year, the prize awards an unpublished writer \$3,000 plus a mentorship and an introduction to a publisher. Bryant Apolonio won the 2021 Prize for his story 'Independencia'. Judges Melanie Cheng, Lee Kofman, and Sisonke Msimang also awarded two runners up, who each received \$500: Irina Frolova for her short story 'On the Tail of the Firebird', and Patrick Arulanandam for his story 'The Seconds of Holroyd House'. The winners were announced at an online ceremony with keynote speaker Sisonke Msimang, MC James Button, and judge Melanie Cheng presenting the awards. Bryant also gave a beautiful reading from his winning piece.

MEMBERS

As always, we are grateful to the members who joined, renewed, donated and supported us in 2021; particularly during what was an unexpectedly challenging year for so many people.

Dipping into the archives of 'The Victorian Writer' highlighted the breadth of content produced for our members and the depth of writing talent supported over many years by our magazine. In 2022, we will continue to shine a light on our members' stellar achievements by increasing the ratio of content penned by members in the magazine and by encouraging members to keep us abreast of their achievements so we can bring prominence to them in the Member Milestones section.

Running Memberships from home continued to present challenges, especially during Subscriberthon October, where we had over 150 books, magazines and vouchers delivered by publishers to our marketing and communications manager Sarah's house and sent to prize winners. We continued to send our newsletter book giveaways for members from home and, eventually, the office, from 14 publishers, which was received with great enthusiasm by our members. As we transitioned to working in a hybrid model from the office as well as home towards the end of the year, we were able to accommodate a more diverse offering of giveaways to our members. Courtesy of a wide range of publishing houses, 267 books were gifted to our members, through Subscriberthon and our newsletter giveaways during 2021.

Our free one-hour Lunchtime Bites and Evening Appetisers seminars for members continued online.

Subscriberthon ran as usual in October. It was received with great optimism and enthusiasm by both new and renewing members, indicating our community's continuing interest in Writers Victoria activities and the ecosystem we foster. We had a generous selection of major prizes from publishers and journals including Aniko Press, Australian Poetry Journal, Black Inc, Express Media/Voiceworks, Griffith Review, Hachette, Kill Your Darlings, Meanjin, Overland, Pantera, Penguin, Subbed In and Westerly. For our First Prize, we once again offered a \$150 voucher to a Melbourne bookstore of the (metropolitan and regional regional) winners' choice, alongside a curated book pack with accompanying notes from staff about their book picks. For our second prize, Hill of Content donated two \$100 vouchers to a metropolitan and regional winner, alongside

a set of books from the 'Growing Up' series from Black Inc. We continued to offer a book pack of Stella Prize-shortlisted titles to a lucky winner on Miles Franklin's birthday, a daily book prize authored by one of our members (Filip Vukašić's 'Modern Marriage') from Affirm Press, and weekly book packs from a range of publishers.

ADVOCACY

In addition to providing writers with hundreds of income generating opportunities, Writers Victoria continues to advocate for writers.

Much of this work includes active involvement with Arts Industry Council of Victoria and the National Writers Centre Network, and in 2021 continued to involve many discussions with government at both a State and Federal level about the effects of COVID-19 for writers.

THE WRITERS VICTORIA FUND

In 2021, Writers Victoria reimagined the Disadvantaged Writers Fund, renaming it 'The Writers Victoria Fund'.

The Writers Victoria Fund aims to increase opportunities for writers who experience financial and social barriers to developing their writing skills and connecting with the writing and publishing community.

Donations to the Fund help provide free or heavily subsidised professional development opportunities for emerging writers throughout the state of Victoria experiencing difficulties arising from financial hardship.

In 2021 we were able to use the Fund to fully cover or subsidise the cost for 19 writers to attend courses, take up membership, undertake a mentorship or access a manuscript assessment service.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Writers Victoria is committed to promoting and showcasing the work of our members and community. 2021 saw the publication of 91 writers and industry professionals across our digital and print channels. We featured writers at all stages and across genre, style and form in our magazine, 'The Victorian Writer', with the themes 'Wordsmith', 'Body Language', 'Unbecoming' and 'Transformation'. The magazine was particularly important to us to keep publishing throughout lockdown, as a way of connecting with our members and promoting their work in a particularly strenuous time for creatives. On our website under 'The Writing Life', we published work from Writeability participants, interviews with authors, tutors for upcoming workshops, and members writing about their upcoming and recently released books. We communicated regularly with our members via our digital newsletters, of which we sent 31 separate editions, and our broader community with monthly newsletters and other relevant updates, of which we sent 22 in total.

Following the success of Flash Fiction in 2020, we began receiving queries from previous Flash Fiction participants in March 2021, asking whether we would be running it again. Considering the huge amount of positive feedback we received following Flash Fiction in 2020, and the goodwill it fostered in the writing community, we confirmed that we would be running #WVFlashFic21 throughout the month of April. We posted a daily prompt on our social media accounts and via a Flash Fiction newsletter, with participants writing up to 30 words inspired by and/or using the prompt word. The theme of 'Unfold', our 2021 program theme, lent itself well to prompt words, and saw words such as 'display', 'emerge', 'expand' and 'origami' as prompts for the participating writers. We again sent daily winners a handwritten writerly postcard from one of our team members, and the overall winner was awarded a free workshop of their choosing from our program. In total, we received 4706 entries to Flash Fiction: an average of 157 entries every day. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with our Flash Fiction competition now seen as a staple of the writing calendar yearly, and participants providing feedback such as:

'My heartfelt thanks to @Writers_Vic for April 2021 Flash Fiction. The imagination component of grey matter was getting quite stodgy. Now it's back in pliable working order. It wouldn't have happened if not for the daily prompts. Sincerely grateful' – Simone Bowers (via Twitter)

'Just like that, April is over. What has professionally been a massive month for me has been made that much sweeter by the glorious @Writers_Vic Flash Fiction competition. The sense of community, the brilliant 30-word stories I've read and wonderful prompts are all so inspiring!' – Zachary Pryor (via Twitter)

'Some of the words are so challenging – but I love jumping over the hurdles and seeing how others have done so too. Also LOVE the community around this. Inspiring, heartwarming, satisfying.' – Louise Zedda-Sampson (via Twitter)

We continued to build on our social media presence, which has been growing significantly over the past few years. Social media is a key way for us to reach our members, subscribers, fellow organisations, and to connect with new audiences and writers regarding our wide range of services. During 2021 we gained 566 Twitter followers, 1354 Facebook followers, and 1022 Instagram followers. We made a distinct effort to post Writers Victoria news and announcements, workshop information, and opportunities and competitions, among other content relevant to our members, to not only keep our community engaged and informed, but to grow our following. Our social media was a key method of connecting with the writing community during a time of extended lockdowns and uncertainty. Our website remains central to our communications, and we continued to post announcements, updates, information on prizes and competitions, and reading and writing opportunities throughout the year. Our social media also redirects followers to our website, where they are able to explore our services, become a member, and become more engaged and aware of what we have to offer. The combination of our social media profiles and our website is proving to be effective in reaching our audience and keeping them involved and engaged.

FUNDRAISING

As well as accepting donations to both The Writers Victoria Fund and to Writers Victoria more generally throughout the year, we ran the following fundraising campaigns in 2021 to raise funds for the Writers Victoria Fund.

End of Financial Year Campaign

After pausing our annual donor drive in 2020, we brought it back in 2021 with a view to raising funds for the Writers Victoria Fund. Thanks to your support, during May and June we were able to raise \$2,482 to support writers with financial barriers to access our programs, more than doubling our target of \$1,000.

State of the (Writing) Nation

In November we ran our annual State of the (Writing) Nation in partnership with our friends at The Wheeler Centre. Alice Pung gave a stirring address on the theme of disadvantage, and was supported by Shu-Ling Chua and introduced by Writers Victoria Patron, Christos Tsiolkas.

The event was presented online on a pay-what-you-can model, with all proceeds (\$1,109) going to the Writers Victoria Fund.

Treasurer's report

Writers Victoria achieved a close to break-even position in 2021, with a small surplus of \$1,080, being in line with our budgetary projections.

COVID continued to play a significant influence on our operations not only in the activities and programs we were able to provide to our members, but also to our staff as we come to grips with working around this epidemic.

Our financial position last year was boosted by government funding, whereas in 2021 Jobkeeper funding concluded. Certain grants, offered for COVID relief, were quite restrictive and Writers Victoria did not receive any of those in this financial year. Nevertheless a number of grants from Creative Victoria and Australia Council linked to COVID recovery were fortunately received in 2020 and continued to run in 2021.

Operationally, our studio revenue was severely impacted by COVID restrictions and our membership numbers had fallen over the year. Workshop income (mostly online), manuscript and mentorship services again saw an increase in the year, which strongly indicates that the demand and appetite for such services is being well met by our organisation. Expenditure was tightly managed, and significant energies were being employed to manage our cash position, with pressing cash obligations playing a part this year. Cash holding decreased by just under \$200,000 as a result.

Our financial sustainability remains healthy and we continue to manage our operations in a financially sound and responsible manner. The arts funding environment in Australia continues to be a challenging one, both with increasing demand for smaller funding pools and the ongoing changing atmosphere in which we operate. This applied pressure on the organisation requires strong strategic management going into the future.

Writers Victoria has successfully managed its strategic objectives and with the uncertainty that COVID brings in relation to economic, financial and social trends the organisation and its staff have navigated these factors with resounding success.

2022 brings to us even more challenging times but once again Writers Victoria is extremely well positioned to be the premier source of support for Writers in Victoria.

Victor Sekulov

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

A.B.N.18 268 487 576

**FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2021**

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

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WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

BOARD'S REPORT

Your Board members present this report of Writers Victoria Incorporated for the financial year ended 31 December 2021.

BOARD MEMBERS

The names of Board of Directors throughout the year and to the date of this report were:

Chairperson	Noe` Harsel Re-Elected 21 st April 2021
Vice Chairperson	Yasmin Naghavi Elected 21 st April 2021
Secretary	Peter Hill
Treasurer	Victor Sekulov
Director	Melanie Costello Co-opted 21 st October 2020
Director	Sharon Mullins Co-opted 17 th June 2020
Director	Justine Sless Elected 21 st April 2021
Director	Paul Sutherland Elected 21 st April 2021
Director	Alex Hammond Elected 21 st April 2021
Director	Bryan Keon-Cohen Until 21 st April 2021
Vice Chairperson (until April 2021)	Amy Maddison Until 21 st April 2021

OBJECTIVE

Writers Victoria supports, connects and encourages writers at all stages of their development.

STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVES

- **Writers:** Provide writers with craft development, writing skills and industry knowledge.
- **Members:** Retain, grow and diversify our membership base.
- **Community:** Support writing communities across Victoria.
- **Industry:** Strengthen our profile and increase our contribution to the literary sector.
- **Operations:** Be an effective and sustainable organisation.

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the entity during the financial year continued to be the provision of professional development opportunities to writers.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

No significant changes occurred in the nature of this activity during the year.

EVENTS DURING THE YEAR AND SUBSEQUENT TO YEAR END (Covid -19 Pandemic)

The Covid- 19 Pandemic has severely restricted Writers Victoria's operations during the year and continued to limit events being held after the 31st December 2021. Due to the Covid -19 restrictions many planned activities have been postponed. No other matters have arisen since the end of the financial year that have significantly affected or may significantly affect the operation of the association, the results of the operations, or state of affairs of the association in future financial years.

OPERATING RESULT

The surplus for the year amounted to \$1,080, the 2020 surplus (deficit) was \$145,347.
Signed in accordance with a resolution of the members of the Board.


_____

Date 17 March 2022

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER THE AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT- FOR- PROFITS COMMISSION ACT 2012 AND THE ASSOCIATIONS INCORPORATION REFORM ACT 2012 TO THE BOARD OF WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

I hereby declare, that to the best of our knowledge and belief, during the financial year 31st December 2021 there have been:

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



Name of Firm: **E Townsend & Co**
Chartered Accountant

15 Taylor Street
Ashburton VIC 3147

Date 17 March 2022

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
REVENUE			
Operating Revenue	2	832,394	666,560
Interest Received		2,981	7,461
Other Revenue		42,302	318,560
TOTAL REVENUE		877,677	992,581
EXPENDITURE			
Audit of Financial Report and Grant Audit	3	3,500	3,000
Program Costs		194,362	151,983
Manuscript Services		71,569	63,712
Depreciation		321	4,007
'The Victorian Writer' Magazine Expenses		42,036	45,420
Licence Fee		26,376	8,097
Employment Benefit Expense (Salaries and on-costs)		454,151	488,782
Disadvantaged Writers Provision		0	4,328
Other Expenses		84,282	77,905
Total Expenses		876,597	847,234
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) BEFORE INCOME TAX ATTRIBUTABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE ENTITY	3	1,080	145,347
Income Tax		0	0
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		0	0
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR ATTRIBUTABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE ENTITY		1,080	145,347

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4	731,741	798,409
Trade and Other Receivables	5	5,540	124,572
Other Assets	7	7,352	6,178
Inventories	6	0	0
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		744,633	929,159
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Financial assets	8	0	0
Property, Plant & Equipment	9	24,750	321
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		24,750	321
TOTAL ASSETS		769,383	929,480
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Membership in Advance (one-year)		41,023	44,280
Funding Received in Advance/Contract Liabilities	12	185,807	297,410
Workshops paid in Advance		32,224	21,137
Trade and Other Payables	10	97,350	132,203
Short-term Provisions Payable	11	25,572	27,575
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		381,976	522,605
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Diverse Writers Liability Carried Forward		38,107	48,500
Long-term Provisions Payable	11	1,265	4,148
Membership in Advance (two-year)		55,388	62,660
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		94,760	115,308
TOTAL LIABILITIES		476,736	637,913
NET ASSETS		292,647	291,567
EQUITY			
Reserves	15	31,000	31,000
Retained Earnings		261,647	260,567
TOTAL EQUITY		292,647	291,567

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	General Reserve	Retained Earnings	Total Equity
2019			
Balance at 31 December 2019	21,000	125,220	146,220
2020			
Surplus (deficit) attributable to members	0	145,347	145,347
Transfer from General Reserve	10,000	(10,000)	
Balance at 31 December 2020	31,000	260,567	291,567
2021			
Surplus (deficit) attributable to members	0	1,080	1,080
Transfer to/ from General Reserve	0	0	0
Balance at 31 December 2021	31,000	261,647	292,647

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipt of Grants inc GST		397,033	169,847
Receipts from Customers inc GST		348,902	257,962
Membership fees inc GST		155,542	166,229
Other Income including Advertising		12,950	5,561
Publishability		7,996	0
Interest Received		2,981	7,461
Donations		7,952	4,328
Cash Flow Boost		0	81,732
Job Keeper		27,450	212,100
Vic Government Business Support		0	20,000
Total Receipts		960,806	925,220
Payments to Suppliers & Employees		(1,002,724)	(663,175)
NET CASH GENERATED (USED) BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	17	(41,918)	262,045
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment		(24,750)	0
NET CASH GENERATED (USED) BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES		(24,750)	0
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH HELD		(66,668)	262,045
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the year		798,409	536,364
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	4	731,741	798,409

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The financial statements cover Writers Victoria Incorporated as a not-for-profit entity. It is an association incorporated in Victoria under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. It is a not-for-profit income tax exempt charity; as such it is exempt from income tax.

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

Reporting basis and conventions

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified where applicable by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

Accounting Policies

Revenue

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Revenue is recognised as the performance requirements are met in accordance with AASB15.

Grant Revenue is recognised as the Grant program is utilized or expended for programs that have designated performance requirements in accordance with AASB15. If the Grant has no performance requirements it is recognised under AASB1058.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST).

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The directors evaluate estimates and judgments incorporated into the financial report based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the group.

Key estimates – Impairment

The entity assesses impairment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the entity that may lead to impairment of assets. Where an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. Value-in-use calculations performed in assessing recoverable amounts incorporate a number of key estimates.

No impairment has been recognised in respect of this financial year.

Income Taxation

The entity is endorsed by the Taxation Office as an Income Tax Exempt Charity. Therefore, no income tax is payable by the entity.

Leasehold Improvements and Plant and Equipment

Leasehold Improvements and Plant and Equipment are carried at cost as the entity has adopted the Cost Model under AASB116 Property, Plant and Equipment or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. All assets are depreciated over the estimated useful lives of the assets to the entity.

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of Leasehold Improvements and Plant and Equipment are depreciated on a straight line basis over their useful lives to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Asset	Depreciation Rate	Method
Leasehold Improvements	10 %	Cost
Plant & Equipment	20-33%	Cost

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in the income statement. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Financial Instruments

Recognition

Financial instruments are initially measured at cost on trade date, which includes transaction costs, when the related contractual rights or obligations exist. Subsequent to initial recognition these instruments are measured as set out below.

Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss

A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term or if so designated by management and within the requirements of AASB 139: Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement. Derivatives are also categorised as held for trading unless they are designated as hedges. Realised and unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of these assets are included in the income statement in the period in which they arise.

Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are stated at cost using the effective interest rate method.

Held-to-maturity investments

These investments have fixed maturities, and it is the entity's intention to hold these investments to maturity. Any held-to-maturity investments held by the entity are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets include any financial assets not included in the above categories. Available-for-sale financial assets are reflected at fair value.

Financial liabilities

Non-derivative financial liabilities are recognised at amortised cost, comprising original debt less principal payments and amortisation.

Contract Liabilities/Funding Received in Advance

Contract Liabilities represent Grant Funds and other revenue that has not been utilized or expended as per the Program requirements. In prior years this has been referred to as Funding Received in Advance.

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Fair value

Fair value is determined based on current bid prices for all quoted investments. Valuation techniques are applied to determine the fair value for all unlisted securities, including recent arm's length transactions, reference to similar instruments and option pricing models.

Impairment

At each reporting date, the entity assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. In the case of available-for-sale financial instruments, a prolonged decline in the value of the instrument is considered to determine whether impairment has arisen. Impairment losses are recognised in the income statement.

As a not-for-profit entity the value in use of an asset may be equivalent to the depreciated replacement cost of that asset when the future economic benefits of the asset is not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate net cash inflows and where the entity would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the entity has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the entity's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of six months or less.

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021 \$	2020 \$
NOTE 2 REVENUE – OPERATING		
Membership	141,402	151,117
Grants Received – Other	189,615	47,435
Grant Auspicing	7,996	23,516
Manuscript Services Income	94,896	83,125
Creative Victoria Grant Operational	147,400	147,400
Creative Victoria Strategic.I.F. Stage 1	0	54,544
Creative Victoria Strategic.I.F. Stage 2	23,924	2,876
Advertising	4,873	5,161
Writeability Council Program	13,200	0
Writing Studios Revenue	12,421	6,023
Partnered Fellowships	30,299	16,322
Seminars and Workshops	166,368	129,041
Total Operating Revenue	832,394	666,560
OTHER REVENUE		
Cash Flow Boost	0	81,732
Job Keeper	27,450	212,100
Vic Government Business Support	0	20,000
Donations – Sponsorship	7,952	4,328
Sundry Income Including Book sales	3,100	400
Publishability Income	3,800	0
Total Other Revenue	42,302	318,560
Interest Received	2,981	7,461
TOTAL REVENUE	877,677	992,581
NOTE 3 REVENUE AND EXPENSE ITEMS		
Auditor's remuneration paid or payable to E Townsend & Co		
Audit of financial statements and Grant Audit	2,400	1,900
Other Services Preparation of Financial Accounts	1,100	1,100
	3,500	3,000
Bad and doubtful debts		
Trade Receivables	500	500
Total bad and doubtful debts	500	500
License expense on operating license		
Operating License Minimum License Payment	26,376	8,097

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

NOTE 4 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Reconciliation of cash

Cash at the end of the financial period as shown in the cash flow statement is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:

	2021	2020
Current Assets		
Cash on hand	143	144
Cash at Bank –	731,598	798,265
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	731,741	798,409

2021	2020
\$	\$

NOTE 5 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Current

Trade Debtors	6,040	125,072
Less: Provision for Impairment of receivables	(500)	(500)
	<u>5,540</u>	<u>124,572</u>

Other Debtors	0	0
Total Trade and Other Receivables	5,540	124,572

NOTE 6 INVENTORIES

Current

At Cost	0	0
Finished Goods	0	0

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

	2021 \$	2020 \$
NOTE 7 OTHER CURRENT ASSETS		
Current		
Prepayments	7,352	6,178
Total Prepayments	7,352	6,178

	2021 \$	2020 \$
NOTE 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Non Current		
Term Deposits invested longer than one year	0	0
Term Deposits that are invested for over one year are classified as Non – current .The current Term Deposit is invested for 6 months.		

	2021 \$	2020 \$
NOTE 9 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Office Equipment at cost	83,508	83,508
Less (Accumulated depreciation)	(83,508)	(83,187)
Total Office Equipment	0	321
Website at cost being developed	24,750	0
Less Accumulated depreciation	0	0
Total Website	24,750	0
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	24,750	321

Movements in carrying amount for each class of Property Plant and Equipment

	Website	Office Equipment	Total
Carrying amount at beginning of year		4,328	4,328
2020			
Additions at cost		0	0
Disposals		0	0
Depreciation Expense		(4,007)	(4,007)
Carrying amount at end year	0	321	321
2021			
Additions at cost	24,750	0	24,750
Disposals	0	0	0
Depreciation Expense	0	(321)	(321)
Carrying amount at end year	24,750	0	24,750

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

NOTE 10 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	2021	2020
Current		
Trade Creditors	15,131	11,708
Other creditors	65,434	87,621
GST Payable	9,505	22,465
Amounts Withheld PAYG Withholding	7,280	10,408
TOTAL TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES	97,350	132,202

NOTE 11 PROVISIONS

	2021	2020
Current Provisions		
Staff Annual Leave	15,426	15,256
Provision for Disadvantaged Writers	10,146	12,319
	25,572	27,575
Non-current Provisions		
Long Service Leave	1,265	4,148
TOTAL PROVISIONS	26,837	31,723

NOTE 12 FUNDING RECEIVED ON ADVANCE/ CONTRACT LIABILITIES

	2021	2020
Grants Carried Forward/ Contract Liabilities		
Storming the City	7,897	0
Liminal	7,800	0
Publishability	0	7,997
Myer Foundation	9,206	81,179
Grace Marion Wilson	3,000	20,101
Creative Victoria SIF 2	0	23,923
Australia Council Adapt Grant 2020	4,000	17,996
City of Casey	9,639	7,575
Hazel Rowley 2020	0	7,500
Gift Voucher not yet redeemed from the previous years	898	7,439
Sundry Projects	7,367	0
Subtotal	47,807	173,710
Grants Received in Advance		
Myer Foundation Received in Dec for 2022	138,000	15,000
Creative Victoria	0	73,700
City of Melbourne (ACIP)	0	35,000
Subtotal	0	123,700
TOTAL FUNDING RECEIVED IN ADVANCE/ CONTRACT LIABILITIES	185,807	297,410

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

NOTE 13 CAPITAL AND LEASING AND LICENCE COMMITMENTS

Operating Lease Commitments

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements:		
Payable- minimum license payments		
-no longer than one year	26,376	8,097
-longer than one year but not longer than five years	0	0
-greater than five years	0	0
-the 2020 year rent was reduced due to Covid-19 Rent reduction		
Total commitment	26,376	8,097

Capital Expenditure commitments

Capital Expenditure commitments contracted for		
-Plant & Equipment purchases	NIL	NIL
-Capital Expenditure projects	NIL	NIL

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

NOTE 14 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES & CONTINGENT ASSETS

Estimates of the potential financial effect of contingent liabilities that may become payable are:
No contingent liabilities or Assets exist.

NOTE 15 RESERVES

General Reserves

The General Reserve of \$31,000 was created for a potential parental leave liability and in 2021 it remained at the same value.

NOTE 16 EVENTS DURING THE YEAR AND AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE (COVID 19 PANDEMIC)

The Covid 19 Pandemic has severely restricted Writer Victoria's operations during the year and continued to limit events being held after the 31st December 2021. Due to the Covid 19 restrictions many planned activities have been postponed.

There have been no other material non-adjusting events after the reporting date, nor has any information been received about conditions at reporting date that have not been included in this report.

NOTE 17 CASH FLOW INFORMATION

Reconciliation of cash flow from operations to surplus (deficit) for the year

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Surplus (Deficit) for the year	1,080	145,347
Add back non-cash items		
Depreciation	321	4,007
Provision Doubtful Debts	0	500
Increase (Decrease) in Provisions	(4,886)	4,740
Changes in Assets and Liabilities		
(Increase) Decrease in Trade & Other Receivables	119,032	(119,223)
Increase (Decrease) in Payables and Accruals	(34,853)	56,629
(Increase) Decrease in Other Assets	(1,174)	4,797
Increase (Decrease) in Inventories	11,087	0
Increase (Decrease) in Funding in Advance/Contract Liabilities	(111,603)	154,235
Increase (Decrease) in Membership in Advance (2yrs)	(7,272)	(2,579)
Increase (Decrease) in Membership in Advance (1 yr)	(3,257)	(1,408)
Increase (Decrease) in Diverse Writers Liability C/Fwd	(10,393)	15,000
Net Cash Generated (used) By Operating Activities	(41,918)	262,045

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

NOTE 18 ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The entity is economically dependent on Grant Funding. If funds are not spent in accordance with Grant Conditions future grants can be suspended. The entity is dependent on the continued receipt of grants.

NOTE 19 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Financial risk management policies

The directors' overall risk management strategy is to assist the entity in meeting its financial targets, whilst minimising potential adverse effects on financial performance. Risk management policies are approved and reviewed by the Board of Directors on a regular basis. These include credit risk policies and future cash flow requirements.

The entity does not have any derivative instruments at the end of the reporting period.

Specific Financial Risk Exposures and Management

The main risks the entity is exposed to through its financial instruments are interest rate risk, liquidity risk and credit risk.

(a) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that parties that owe money do not pay it.

The maximum exposure to credit risk, excluding the value of any collateral or other security, at balance date to recognised financial assets, is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the statement of financial position and notes to the financial statements.

The entity does not have any significant concentration of credit risk exposure to any single, or group, of counter-parties under financial instruments entered into by the entity. A profile of credit risk appears above under the Note on 'Trade and Other Receivables'.

(b) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises due to the possibility that the entity might encounter difficulty in settling its own liabilities. The entity manages this risk by managing credit risk on amounts owed to it, monitoring forecast cash flows and ensuring cash liquidity remains.

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Financial liability and financial asset maturity analysis

	Within	1 Year	1 to 5 years		Over 5 years		Total	
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial liabilities due for payment								
Trade and other payables	97,350	132,203					97,350	132,203
Funding in Advance/Contract liabilities	259,054	318,547					259,054	318,547
Membership in Advance (two-years)			55,388	62,660			55,388	62,660
Total expected outflows	356,404	450,750	55,388	62,660			411,792	513,410
Financial assets – cash flows realisable								
Cash and Cash Equivalents	731,741	798,409					731,741	798,409
Trade and other Receivables	5,540	124,572					5,540	124,572
Financial Assets	0	0					0	0
Other Assets	7,352	6,178					7,352	6,178
Total anticipated inflows	744,633	929,159	0	0	0	0	744,633	929,159
Net inflow (outflow) on financial instruments	388,229	478,409	(55,388)	(62,660)	0	0	332,841	478,409

c) Market Risk

Interest rate risk

Exposure to interest rate risk arises whereby future changes in interest rates will affect future cash flows or the fair value of financial assets and liabilities.

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Price Risk

Price risk relates to the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in their market price.

Sensitivity analysis

The following table illustrates sensitivities to the entity's exposure in interest rates and equity prices (if equities held). The table indicates the impact on how profit and equity values reported at the end of the reporting period would have been affected by changes in the relevant risk variable that management considers to be reasonably possible. These sensitivities assume that the movement in any particular variable is independent of other variables.

		Profit		Equity
		\$		\$
Year ended 31 December 2020				
+ or - 2% in interest rates	+/-	15,968	+/-	15,968
+ or - 10% in listed investments	+/-	-	+/-	-
Year ended 31 December 2021				
+ or - 2% in interest rates	+/-	14,635	+/-	14,635
+ or - 10% in listed investments	+/-	-	+/-	-

(d) Foreign currency risk

The entity is not exposed to fluctuations in foreign currency.

Net Fair Values

The net fair values of listed investments have been valued at the quoted market bid price at balance date adjusted for transaction costs expected to be incurred. For other assets and other liabilities, the net fair value approximates their carrying value. No financial assets and financial liabilities are readily traded on organised markets in standardised form other than listed investments.

The differences between fair values and carrying values of financial instruments with fixed interest rates are due to the change in discount rates being applied by the market to those instruments since their initial recognition by the entity. Most of these instruments which are carried at amortised cost (e.g. trade receivables, loan liabilities) are to be held until maturity and therefore their current net fair values bear little relevance to the entity. As appropriate the net fair values and carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities are disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position and in the notes to the financial statements.

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

NOTE 20 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Disclosures to Key Management personnel are set out in note 21.

Transactions with related parties

All transactions with related parties are on normal commercial terms.

Receivable from and payable to related parties

There were no trade receivables from or Trade payables to related parties at the current and Previous reporting date.

Loans to /from related parties

There were no loans to or from related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

None of the Governing Committee received a salary from the association.

Note 21 KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL DISCLOSURES

The aggregate compensation made to key management personnel of the incorporated association is set out below.

2021	2020
\$	\$
157,417	147,975

NOTE 22 ASSOCIATION DETAILS

The registered office of the association is:

Level 3
The Wheeler Centre
176 Little Lonsdale Street
Melbourne Vic 3000

The principal place of business is at the registered office

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

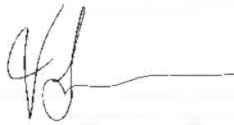
STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

The Board has determined that the association is a reporting entity and that these general purpose financial statements should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 of the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Board, the financial report attached:

- 1 Presents fairly the financial position of Writers Victoria Incorporated as at 31 December 2021 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.
- 2 At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that Writers Victoria Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by: -



Victor Sekulov, Treasurer



Noe' Harsel, Chairperson

Dated this 17 March 2022

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Writers Victoria Incorporated (the Entity) which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 31st December 2021 the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity, and the Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies and the declaration by those charged with governance.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Entity as at the 31st December 2021 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of my report. I am independent of the Entity in accordance with 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 my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report management is responsible for assessing the Entity'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 management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report

My 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 my 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.

WRITERS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I 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 the basis for my 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 Entity's internal control.


Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

Conclude on the appropriateness of management's 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 Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists. I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease or 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.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Name of firm E Townsend & Co
Name of Auditor Eric Townsend



Address 15 Taylor Street
Ashburton Vic 3147

Dated this 17 March 2022

With thanks

In 2021, we were grateful for the very generous support of:



We also worked with a broad range of partners, including (in alphabetical order):

Affirm Press
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Arts Access Victoria
Arts Industry Council
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 Wordy-Gurdy
Publishing and
Editing
 Writers Marketplace
 Yarra Plenty Regional
Library

Anna Spargo-Ryan
 Anne Carson
 Anne Elvey
 Anne Gallo
 Anne Pitt
 Anne-Irwin Schutze
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 Ashe Davenport
 Bec Bridges
 Bei-En Zou
 Bernadette Winfield-
Gray
 Beryl McGrady
 Bianca Simpson
 Binh Pham
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 Brigid Magner
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 Carol Ely
 Carol Marshall
 Cath James
 Catherine A Heywood
 Cathy Fokes
 Cathy Richards
 Cecily Moreton
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 Christine Okalyi
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 Dr Wendy Crouch
 Edwina Preston
 Eiman Nosrati
 Elektra Orfanos
 Elisa Rivera
 Elizabeth Beatty
 Ellie Brady
 Elly Robinson
 Emily Weekes
 Emma Batchelor
 Emma Simpson
 Eris Fleming
 Ernest Price
 Eva Light
 Eva Lomski
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 Veronika Plinte
 Vicky Daddo
 Vijayabhaskara Reddy
 Vikki Bye
 Wendy Graham
 Williams Goodman
 Yamiko Marama
 Yasmin Naghavi

We are also
 extremely grateful
 to those who have
 made a financial
 bequest to Writers
 Victoria in their will.

