

Writers Victoria

# 2013 Annual Report



# About Writers Victoria

Writers Victoria is all about writers.

With nearly 3000 members, we are the state's largest organisation supporting Victorian writers.

For almost 25 years Writers Victoria has been a leading provider of information, resources and skills development for our members and the broader writing community. Our diverse annual program continues to deliver targeted professional development and support in response to the needs of members and participants from all over Victoria (and beyond).

## Our Purpose

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

## From Our Patron

"Writing can be a solitary pursuit, but it can also confer membership of a rich and diverse community. Writers Victoria, as well as providing support and professional development, brings the State's emerging authors together into that literary community."

– Noel Turnbull



# Chair's Report

Writers Victoria has nearly 3000 members from across Victoria, people at all stages in their writing careers and working in all genres. The Committee of Management has these members in mind as we meet and deliberate on ways to ensure that Writers Victoria can best use its resources, opportunities and networks to continue to serve them, as well as to contribute more broadly to Victoria's rich literary and cultural life.

The organisation began and ended the year in a solid financial position. To build on this, a focus for the Committee of Management during 2013 was to set strategic directions so that Writers Victoria can become more financially independent and sustainable in the longer term, relying less on grant funding to support the wide range of services we want to provide.

The Committee wish to acknowledge the hard work and professionalism of Jacquelin Low, who once again took on the role of Acting Director and prepared a successful three-year funding application for Arts Victoria, before handing over to Kate Larsen in May of 2013. Kate has worked extremely hard since taking up the role, maintaining the program while undertaking a series of new initiatives. We thank Kate, Jac and the team for all their dedication and all their work.

I would personally like to acknowledge and thank the Committee of Management for all their work through the year, particularly the Deputy Chair and Treasurer, Simone Lunny, and the Company Secretary, Eddie Creaney. It has been a great pleasure to work with such wise and skilled people.

Isolde Leuckenhause ended her time as Chair in April after serving so competently on the Committee for five years. Isolde has been made a life member of Writers Victoria.

These Committee members also resigned during the year: Ben Starick, to focus on his business and fatherhood; Maria Katsonis, to write a book; Virginia Murdoch, to work overseas; and Francesca Rendle-Short, to take a sabbatical. We thank them all, and also Scott Bonnanno, who served on the Committee for a short time.

Noel Turnbull, our patron, continued to share generously his advice and considerable knowledge. Finally, we would like to honour and thank all the members of Writers Victoria, our life blood.

– May Lam

# Director's Report

I was thrilled to join the Writers Victoria family in 2013. A small organisation with a massive remit, Writers Victoria is a dynamic hub of literary activity, conversations and connections.

2013 was another busy year of providing workshops, courses, information and inspiration to the thousands of members and participants who accepted our challenge to 'craft their world with words'.

Alongside our year-round workshop program, initiatives such as the Grace Marion Wilson Emerging Writers Competition and Glenfern Fellowships now have their own legacy within Melbourne's literary scene. In 2013 we welcomed a number of new initiatives, including the Write-ability Fellowships for writers with disability, our Writing the Refugee Experience project, and new residential courses in regional Victoria. As a major employer of the state's writers, we were proud to work alongside hundreds of talented authors, writing tutors, mentors and manuscript assessors over the course of the year.

Our work was made possible by our dedicated community of members, who remain at the heart of everything we do. We are also grateful for the very generous support of Arts Victoria, the Australia Council for the Arts, the Grace Marion Wilson Trust, Readings Foundation, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, Australian Communities Foundation, and our partners, donors and supporters.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Writers Victoria staff, interns and volunteers: a group of devoted and enthusiastic professionals who work hard to support our diverse writing community. Thank you, all.

# Writers Victoria Team

## Staff

Kate Larsen	Director (from May)
Jacquelin Low	Acting Director (to May), Administration and Finance Manager (to August)
Martin Tunley	Administration and Finance Manager (from August)
Anna Kelsey-Sugg	Publications Manager / Editor (from February)
Johannes Jakob	Publications Manager / Editor (to January)
Mary Napier	Program Manager (to August)
Alexis Drevikovsky	Administration Assistant (February to May) Acting Program Officer (from August)
Sally Williams	Marketing and Membership Coordinator (to October)
Bronwyn Lovell	Editorial Assistant, Acting Membership Officer (from November)
Elise Hearst	Administration Assistant (to February)
Lisa Logan	Contractor (to May)
Sally Beck	Contractor (to May)

## Committee

May Lam	Chairperson (from April)
Isolde Lueckenhausen	Chairperson (to March)
Simone Lunny	Deputy Chairperson (from July) and Treasurer
Virginia Murdoch	Deputy Chairperson (February to July)
Ben Starick	Deputy Chairperson (to February)
Eddie Creaney	Secretary
Bronwyn Blaiklock	
Kylie Trounsen	
Durkhanai Ayubi	(from March)
Mindy Leow	(from August)
Scott Bonnano	(from August)
Clare Renner	(from November)
Maria Katsonis	(to June)
Francesca Rendle-Short	(to October)

## Patron

Noel Turnbull

**Life Members**

Bev Roberts  
Chris McKenzie  
Chris Thompson  
Chris Wallace-Crabbe  
Iola Mathews  
Isolde Lueckenhause  
Joan Sellar  
Judith Rodriguez  
Kevin Brophy  
Kris Hemensley  
Sue Penhall

**Interns**

Cory Zaroni  
Deborah Kane  
Jeremy Johnson  
Katherine FitzHywel  
Lorna Hendry  
Michael Knispel  
Michelle Allan  
Sarah Vincent  
Shivaun Plozza

**Volunteers**

Kristin Pedroja (Special Events Coordinator)  
Sue Penhall (Competitions Coordinator)  
Terry O'Loughlin (Librarian)  
Adam Dixon  
Allee Richards  
Andrew Bifield  
Anna Brasier  
Belinda Ramsay  
Brendan Paholski  
Cate Davis  
Christine Down  
Deborah Kane  
Denise Hansen  
Edna Truong  
Gabrielle Ryan

Gian Garambone  
Greta Rehak  
Helen Haloulos  
Isabella Cunningham  
John Back  
Justin Hill  
Karina Johnson  
Kevin Whitton  
Lella Cariddi  
Marina Calcina  
Maryrose Cuskelly  
Michelle Allan  
Nalini Haynes  
Naomi Carter  
Oznur Gonullu  
Paris Hokin  
Priscilla Beck  
Rebecca Grover  
Robert Frolla  
Sarah Fallon  
Shirley Wang  
Simone Pereira  
Susie Chong  
Ted Mouritz  
Terry Volbrecht  
Thomas Wilson  
Zoe Retzepoglou

**Editorial Committee**

Adolfo Aranjuez  
Alexis Drevikovsky  
Allee Richards  
Anna Kelsey-Sugg  
Bronwyn Lovell  
Cory Zaroni  
Jane Fraser  
Sally Williams

# Writers

In 2013, Writers Victoria worked with over 215 writers and industry professionals as tutors, mentors, manuscript assessors, guest speakers, judges, writers and bloggers, including:

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A. S. Patric	Festival of Words)	Ellie Marney
Adam Zwar	Carmel Bird (Woodend Winter Arts Festival)	Elouise Quinlivan
Alex Adsett	Cate Kennedy	Estelle Tang
Alex Miller	Catherine Deveny	Euan Mitchell
Alice Pung	Cece Ojany	Fatima Sehbai
Alison Arnold	China Miéville	Felicity Young (Woodend Winter Arts Festival)
Alison Goodman	Chris Anastasiades	Foong Ling Kong
Allee Richards	Chris Womersley	Fran Cusworth
Amanda Brotchie	Christine Nagel (Woodend Winter Arts Festival)	Francesca Rendle-Short
Amanda Martin	Christopher 'Ruz' Hayes-Kossmann	Frank Moorhouse
André Dao	Claire Gaskin	Freya Blackwood
Andrea Frost	Clare Allan-Kamil	Gabriella Coslovich
Andrea Goldsmith	Clare Strahan	Garry Disher
Andrew Grimes (Woodend Winter Arts Festival)	Cory Zaroni	Glenda Millard
Andy Josselyn	Damon Young	Graeme Simsion
Angela Meyer	Dan Disney	Gus Gordon
Angus Cerini	Dan Findlay	Hariklia Heristanidis
Anita Heiss	Dani Valent	Hoa Pham
Anne Gracie	Daniel Young	Hugh Kiernan
Antoinette Eklund	Darrell Pitt	Isobelle Carmody
Archie Fusillo	David Sornig	Jack Heath
Ari Boyd	Deborah Kane	Jack Waghorn
Arnold Zable	Deborah Robertson	Jackie French
Balli Kaur Jaswal	Dennis Altman	Jacqueline Dutton
Barbara Santich	Di Websdale-Morrissey	Jan Sardi
Ben Michael	Diane Stubbings	Jane Godwin
Ben Pobjie	Dmetri Kakmi	Jane Montgomery Griffiths
Bethanie Blanchard	Doug McLeod	Jane Routley
Beverly Almeida	Durkhanai Ayubi	Jane Sullivan
Bronwyn Bancroft	Earl Livings	Jay Griffiths
Bronwyn Blaiklock	Elizabeth Redman	Jeff Sparrow
Bronwyn Lovell		Jenny Spence
Candice Bruce (Ex Libris		Jim Davidson

Jo Case	Lucy Treloar	Petra Poupa
Joel Becker	Lyndel Caffrey	Phillip Edmonds
Johannes Jakob	Lynley Dodd	Rachel Edwards
John Bartlett	Lynn-Maree Milburn	Rachel Hennessy
John Harding	Maria Tumarkin	Raimondo Cortese
John Holton	Marian Dalton	Rob Meldrum
Jon Bauer	Marion May Campbell	Robert Gott
Jordie Albiston	Marisa Raniolo Wilkins	Robert Hillman
Josh Earl	Mark Wilson	Robert Skinner
Josiane Behmoiras	Martin Shaw	Robin de Crespigny (Warm Winter Words)
Judith Buckrich	Mary Delahunty	Romy Ash
Judith Bunn	Mary Hoban	Rosanne Hewitt-Cromwell
Judith Sackville O'Donnell	Maryrose Cuskelly	Ross Mueller
Julia Quinn	Matt Blackwood	Royston Ellis
Julian Burnside (Warm Winter Words)	Matt Hetherington	Sally Rippin
Julie McNamara (UK)	Matthew Hooper	Sam Twyford-Moore
Karen Andrews	Maxine Beneba Clarke	Samela Harris
Karen Pickering	Meg Mundell	Sara Sheridan
Karen Tayleur	Melissa Lucashenko	Sean McMullen
Kate Holden	Michael Brindley	Shane Maloney
Kate Larsen	Michael Meehan	Sheila Drummond (Woodend Winter Arts Festival)
Katie Evans	Michael Pryor	Sherryl Clark
Keith Austin	Michael Shelford	Shivaun Plozza
Kelly Gardiner	Michelle Wright	Sian Prior
Kerrin O'Sullivan	Mohamed Abbas Omar	Sofie Laguna
Kevin Brophy	Myfanwy Jones	Sonia Orchard
Kirsty Murray	Myke Bartlett	Spiri Tsintziras
Kooshyar Karimi (Warm Winter Words)	Naomi Manuell	Steven Amsterdam
Lally Katz	Natasha Pincus	Susanne Lobez (Woodend Winter Arts Festival)
Laura Jean McKay	Ned Manning	Suzanne McCourt
Laura McPhee-Browne	Nicholas Birns	Terry Denton
Laurent Boulanger	Nina D'Aleo	Toni Jordan
Lee Kofman	Olga Holownia	Tony Birch
Leigh Hobbs	Paddy O'Reilly	Tye Cattanach
Lena Pasqua	Paul Callaghan	Valeria Parv
Lian Low	Paul McNally	Vanessa Russell
Lili Wilkinson	Paul Mitchell	Zora Sanders
Lisa Jacobson	PD Martin	
Liz Kemp	Penni Russon	
Liz Steele	Penny Hueston	
Loretta Florance	Peta Murray	
	Peter Rose	

# Our Program

## 2013 At A Glance

\$707,127 annual turnover

\$35,200 surplus (incl. \$21,000 allocated reserve for parental leave policy)

\$14,200 surplus (without allocated reserve)

4.9 EFT core staff

59 volunteers

372 employment opps for writers

106 publication opps for writers

3,770 members (at some point throughout the year)

853 professional development activities

79 courses

3,027 attendances

20,200 info requests

## Workshops and Courses

Writers were invited to 'craft their worlds with words' through the 2013 program of workshops, professional development days, tutorials, masterclasses and industry information panels.

Once again, our Summer School kicked off the program with great success, recording the highest attendance level to date with more than half of the workshops booked out and three repeat workshops created to cater to demand. The popularity of Summer School led to our inaugural Winter School - five one-day intensive courses in June.

The Salon was established as a regular gathering in the Writers Victoria library designed to facilitate networking and discussion. These free events drew consistently high numbers and fostered a sense of community amongst members.

The Writers Victoria partnership with Clunes International Booktown involved three residential masterclasses, an experience that proved invaluable in the writing journeys of the course participants. One later wrote: "The masterclass was more than instruction, more than practice, more than a supportive environment.

It was a chance to focus on words to the exclusion of everything else. A chance to sink more deeply into my craft than daily life would ever permit. A chance to stroll around in my skin as a writer."

We also worked alongside the National Trust (Victoria), Arts Law Centre of Australia, Arts Victoria, Text Publishing, the Small Press Network and Editors Victoria as partners on our 2013 program. Writers Victoria also hosted a number of sessions during the 2013 Emerging Writers' Festival and Melbourne Writers Festival.

"I have been struggling with my second novel and the timing and content of the course was perfect to help me bring out the best in the story. Thank you again. I LOVE WRITERS VICTORIA."



## Regional

The Grace Marion Wilson Trust supported a number of partnership activities through our Regional Professional Development Program.

10 workshops were presented for writers in four communities in regional Victoria, which were attended by 472 people.

In June, the Woodend Winter Arts Festival presented three sessions, including: Carmel Bird and Sheila Drummond on memoir and historical writing; a crime panel with Susanne Lobez, Felicity Young and Andrew Grimes; and mentoring with editor Christine Nagel, agent Sheila Drummond and mentor Toni Jordan.

In August, Apollo Bay Arts Inc presented a seminar at the 20th anniversary of their Warm Winter Words festival on 'Seeking Asylum' with Robin de Crespigny, Kooshyar Karimi and Julian Burnside. In September, Write Around the Murray took Tony Birch to Albury-Wodonga for a series of five events and the Ex Libris Festival of Words in Port Fairy presented an author talk with Candice Bruce.

Also thanks to the Grace Marion Wilson Trust, Writers Victoria presented three residential masterclasses in regional Victoria the first time (in partnership with Clunes Booktown). 28 emerging and established writers from within and outside of Victoria worked intensively with memoirist Peter Rose, YA author Kirsty Murray and poet Jordie Albiston.

Thanks to a new partnership between Writers Victoria and the National Trust (Victoria), the Melbourne-based ANE Writers group was awarded a week-long residency at Mooramong, a rural heritage property on a working farm in the middle of Victoria's pastoral Western District.

The Writers Victoria team participated in a range of regional and outer-metropolitan writers' festivals, including: Bendigo Writers' Festival, Words in Winter (Daylesford) and the Brimbank Reading and Writing Festival (Sunshine).

Towards the end of the year, we began selling 'The Victorian Writer' magazine in a number of regional bookshops in order to provide literary information and inspiration to all of Victoria's writers.

"...there was something remarkable about getting away from the city, away from regimen and routine and responsibilities. "

## Write-ability

Our Write-ability partnership with Arts Access Victoria

continued in 2013 thanks to the support of the Ian Potter Foundation. With the Mentor in Residence role expanding to two days per week, Write-ability supported a range of writers with disability wishing to develop their skills and writing careers.

Writers with disability were offered up to four hours of free, one-on-one support. This included meetings, phone or Skype conversations or feedback on pieces of work.

Five Write-ability participants received mentoring from professional authors and industry experts in 2013 as part of the new Write-ability Fellowships, supported by the Grace Marion Wilson Trust: Heidi Everett (working with mentor Lyndel Caffrey), Robbie O'Brien (with mentor Matthew Hooper), Jack Waghorn (with mentor Bethanie Blanchard), Kate Hood from regional Victoria (with mentor Antoinette Eklund) and Carly Findlay (with mentor Sam Twyford-Moore).

Throughout 2013, the Write-ability program continued its sector development and capacity building work, including activities with our friends and partner organisations based at the Wheeler Centre.

For the 2013 Emerging Writers' Festival, the Write-ability program worked across a number of events. This included the launch of 'The Emerging Writer' hosted in Auslan by Ross Onley-Zerkel who shared his experiences as a deaf writer to a large audience at the Fitzroy Town Hall.

Write-ability was also thrilled to work with Scope on the 2013 Telescope Awards for writers with disability from across Victoria.

"This has opened doors for me to enter the writing world as a deaf writer."

## Diverse Writers

Thanks to the support of the Grace Marion Wilson Trust, five writers from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds worked with mentor Maria Tumarkin at the start of 2013: Hoa Pham, Lian Low, Fatima K Nazar, Beverly Almeida and Hariklia Heristanidis.

“Unless you have experienced trauma it’s difficult for someone to understand. It’s a waste if I don’t put all that into writing.”

‘You, Your Story and the World: Writing the Refugee Experience’ was a collaboration between Writers Victoria and the Ecumenical Migration Centre made possible by the generous support of the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation.

The project aimed to provide refugees and people from new arrival communities with the skills and confidence to write, give them a platform to tell their arrival stories, and create new ways for them to participate in their adopted city through the powerful medium of storytelling. Participants included new and established writers from DRC Congo, Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, South Sudan and Afghanistan.

Demand for the workshops, which were facilitated by memoirist Robert Hillman, was overwhelming. Many participants chose to publish their stories in postcard, memes and online articles – to educate the broader community and pro-actively dispel myths of why they left their home countries.

## Competitions and Fellowships

The 2013 Hazel Rowley Literary Fellowship was awarded to Stephany Steggall at Adelaide Writers’ Week in March. Steggall used the \$10,000 prize to help her write her upcoming biography of Thomas Keneally.

2013 was the fifth year of our annual Grace Marion Wilson Emerging Writers Competition.

The prize for creative non-fiction went to Judith Bunn for ‘Pink’, and second prize to Kerrin O’Sullivan for ‘Homesickness – terra incognita’. First prize for short fiction was awarded to Michelle Wright for ‘Family Block’, and second to Shivaun Plozza for ‘Fox, Birdie and Me’. Chris Brophy and Alice Bishop received honourable mentions. Winning entries were published in the Sept/Oct edition of ‘The Victorian Writer’ magazine.

Michelle Wright was also announced as the recipient of the inaugural Templeberg Residential Writing Fellowship in Sri Lanka, thanks to a new partnership with Templeberg Villa in Galle.

The 2013 Glenfern Fellowships for Emerging Writers (supported by the Grace Marion Wilson Trust) were awarded to Emily Stewart, Lyndel Caffrey and Janine Mikosza. The Glenfern Fellowships for Mid-Career and Established Writers (supported by the Readings Foundation) were awarded to Leah Kaminsky, Jacinta Halloran and Christine Keighery.

Five writers with disability were awarded Write-ability Fellowships (supported by the Grace Marion Wilson Trust): Heidi Everett, Robbie O’Brien, Jack Waghorn, Kate Hood and Carly Findlay.

The winner of our Crime Writing Competition for RMIT students was awarded to Tom Reed and Writers Victoria member Laura McPhee Browne won our very short story competition with her eight-sentence story ‘The Book Club’, which was published on the back of eight Writers Victoria business cards. At our 2014 Season 1 program launch at the end of 2013, new member Ned Zvekic was announced as the winner of the Halcyon Hideaway Writing Retreat.

Writers Victoria continues to support a number of partner awards and prizes, including: the Victorian Premier’s Literary Award for an Unpublished Manuscript, the Melbourne Fringe Festival’s Best Emerging Writer Award, the Offset Magazine short story competition, the Lord Mayor’s Creative Writing Awards, the Deakin Literary Award from Verandah Journal, the Odyssey Short Story Award, Telescope Awards and the Rachel Funari Prize for Fiction.

# Our Services

## Manuscript Assessments

63 manuscripts assessed through Writers Victoria in 2013. Of these, 44 were followed by a post-assessment consultation.

## Mentoring

78 people booked initial mentor meetings through Writers Victoria in 2013; and 32 people extended their mentorship relationships in 2013.

## 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.

Through the extension of our partnership with the National Trust, Writers Victoria also offers two Cells for Writers at the Old Melbourne Gaol. On the last Sunday of every month, the writers' cells open for members of the public to engage with the writers and ask them about their writing projects.

### Glenfern residents:

Andrea Frost  
Christine Keighery (Glenfern Fellow)  
Emily Stewart (Glenfern Fellow)  
Emma Schwartz  
Fiona Harris  
Fiona Wood (assistant caretaker)  
Glenn Morley  
Ilka Tampke  
Iola Mathews (caretaker)  
Jacinta Halloran (Glenfern Fellow)  
Janine Mikosza (Glenfern Fellow)  
Leah Kaminsky (Glenfern Fellow)  
Leslie Cannold  
Linda McLaren  
Lyndel Caffrey (Glenfern Fellow)  
Martine Lleonart

"I am bowled over with the extent and quality of the WV manuscript assessment service. I have received pages and pages of detailed advice (not to speak of huge amounts of encouragement). For someone who's been writing now for about four years with nothing more than a small circle of friends and relatives egging me on, this really feels like Christmas!"

Myke Bartlett

Rachael Howlett

Ramona Koval

### Cells for Writers residents:

Alexandra Schleibs

Christina Roberts

Eleanor Maloney

Emma Stapleton

Glen Dower

Jenny Sinclair

Kalinda Ashton

Megg Minos

Myfanwy Jones

Ree Maloney

Richard Holt

Sue Oaks

Wendy Poussard

## **‘The Victorian Writer’, website and enews**

‘The Victorian Writer’ magazine published the works of more than 90 writers in 2013, including features by or interviews with Isobelle Carmody, Frank Moorehouse, Maxine Beneba Clarke, Melissa Lucashenko, Dani Valent, Garry Disher, Dennis Altman, Angus Cerini, Mary Delahunty, Andre Dao and Sally Rippin.

Over 10 editions the magazine connected with and promoted the work of some of our fellow Cities of Literature – Reykjavik, Edinburgh and Dublin – and covered topics including children’s literature, journals, place, food and wine, crime, festivals, politics and how to make a living from writing.

In 2013 Writers Victoria introduced a new, blog-style features section to our website, publishing regular articles from guest blogger Lee Kofman along with features and writing exercises by other Victorian authors including Euan Mitchell, Hoa Pham, Fatima Sebbai, Penni Russon, Paddy O’Reilly, Sian Prior and Lisa Jacobson. The Writers Victoria enews was sent out 48 times to approximately 3000 people each issue.

“I have been meaning to write and tell you how much I like the now not-so-new format of ‘The Victorian Writer’. The latest issue has finally galvanised me into action. It’s a beauty and I enjoyed it cover to cover. Thank you and congratulations to all involved including the contributors.”

## **Members and Advocacy**

Writers Victoria supported and worked on behalf of more than 3770 members in 2013, as well as providing services to the broader Victorian writing community.

We are the only organisation in Victoria that works with writers all year round, across all genres, at all stages of their careers and in all parts of the state. We currently have the largest number of individual members of all of the Australian state writers’ centres and of all of colleague peak arts bodies in Victoria.

This gives us unique insight into the needs and aspirations of Victoria’s writers and a singular authority to speak and advocate on their behalf. In 2013, this included lobbying around the Federal Budget and new National Cultural Policy, as well as feeding into state-based campaigns and consultations.

Our diverse annual program is developed in direct response to the needs of our members and participants through ongoing feedback and consultation. Many thanks to everyone who took the time to feed into the process, which has led to a diverse range of activities within The Write Place program for 2014.

## **Library**

The Writers Victoria reference library provides a quiet place for members to read, research and write. It includes a growing collection of literary journals, anthologies, prize-winners and books on the craft of writing. It also provides members with a space to showcase their own publications on our members’ bookshelf.

# Treasurer's Report

The 2013 fiscal year was another strong year for Writers Victoria and a year in which a number of developments occurred both in the external funding landscape and internally.

Arts Victoria, a key funding source for Writers Victoria, changed its funding arrangements, introducing the Organisation Investment Program to provide multi-year funding to a new, diverse group of arts organisations. Writers Victoria was successful in securing triennial funding under the new program for 2014 to 2016. However, changes in the funding landscape at both a state and federal level have highlighted the importance of financial independence for Writers Victoria's long-term sustainability and this has led to increased focus on the production of ongoing, stable and self-generating cashflows.

To this end, Writers Victoria has made a number of changes to its program of works to improve profitability while ensuring that the programs continue to best serve our members.

The program arrangements with Writers Australia came to an end, allowing the organisation to spend additional time building local partnerships and programs, including our innovative Write-ability program for writers with disability and our programs to service and support regional writers. Writers Victoria also continued to benefit from the support of the Australia Council, the Grace Marion Wilson Trust, Lord Mayor's Charitable Trust and Readings Foundation during 2013, which enabled a number of these programs to occur.

Internally, staff movements provided an opportunity to undertake a staffing restructure and align resources to support the revised program and our members. A paid parental leave scheme was introduced, with our Finance and Administration Manager being the first staff member to benefit from this program following the birth of her twins during the year.

In addition, Writers Victoria continued to focus on enhancing its financial management processes and reporting during the year, specifically bedding down the new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system which is a key tool in understanding our membership and program preferences.

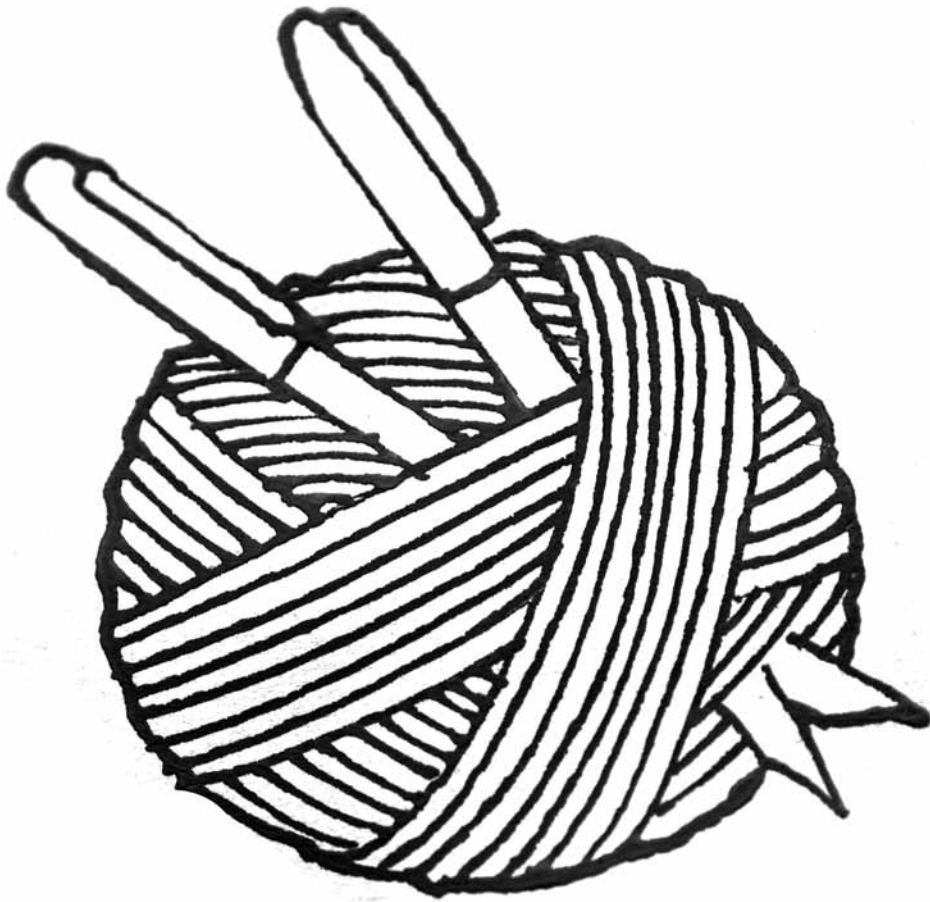
The outcome of this work resulted in net surplus of \$35,200, a significant increase to that of 2012. A portion of this surplus has been transferred into a General Reserve to ensure that Writers Victoria is able to continue to fund its paid parental leave program in the future. We will look to maintain this reserve as appropriate year on year.

I'd like to extend my thanks to Jacquelin Low and Martin Tunley for all their hard work across the year. Thank you also to the many paid and volunteer staff who work on behalf of you, the members, and on behalf of the Committee of Management.

– Simone Lunny

# Audited Financial Reports

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**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
**A.B.N. 18 268 487 576**

**FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 DECEMBER 2013**

**Liability limited by a scheme approved under  
Professional Standards Legislation**

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**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
**A.B.N. 18 268 487 576**

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**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
**A.B.N. 18 268 487 576**

**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

	Note	2013 \$	2012 \$
Revenue	2	707,127	736,892
Auditor's remuneration	3	(3,450)	(3,500)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(3,618)	(1,471)
Employee benefits expenses		(307,783)	(310,281)
Other expenses		(357,076)	(414,124)
<b>Surplus for the year</b>		<u>35,200</u>	<u>7,516</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<u><u>35,200</u></u>	<u><u>7,516</u></u>
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity		35,200	7,516

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
**A.B.N. 18 268 487 576**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2013**

	Note	2013 \$	2012 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	267,269	256,616
Trade and other receivables	5	24,278	8,975
Inventories	6	559	587
Other current assets	7	6,224	14,180
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>298,330</u>	<u>280,358</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	8	7,607	11,225
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>7,607</u>	<u>11,225</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>305,937</u>	<u>291,583</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and Other Payables	9	177,369	191,768
Provisions	10	5,057	7,505
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>182,426</u>	<u>199,273</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Provisions	10	7,001	11,000
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>7,001</u>	<u>11,000</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>189,427</u>	<u>210,273</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>116,510</u>	<u>81,310</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Reserves	11	21,000	-
Retained earnings	12	95,510	81,310
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>116,510</u>	<u>81,310</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
**A.B.N. 18 268 487 576**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

	Note	Retained earnings \$	General Reserve \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 January 2012		73,794		73,794
Surplus attributable to members		7,516		7,516
Balance at 31 December 2012		81,310	-	81,310
Surplus attributable to members		35,200		35,200
Transfer to General Reserve	11		21,000	21,000
Transfer To Reserves		(21,000)		(21,000)
Balance at 31 December 2013		95,510	21,000	116,510

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The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
**A.B.N. 18 268 487 576**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

		2013 \$	2012 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts from customers		354,387	599,121
Payments to suppliers and employees		(629,865)	(726,684)
Interest received		9,273	11,505
Receipts from Grants		276,858	144,098
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>14</b>	<u>10,653</u>	<u>28,040</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Payments for plant and equipment		-	(11,340)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>(11,340)</u>
Net increase in cash held		10,653	16,700
Cash at beginning of financial year		256,616	239,916
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>	<b>4</b>	<u><u>267,269</u></u>	<u><u>256,616</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
**A.B.N. 18 268 487 576**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

---

**1 Statement of Significant Accounting Policies**

The financial statements cover Writers Victoria Inc. as an individual entity. Writers Victoria Inc. is an association incorporated in VIC under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

**Basis of Preparation**

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

The significant accounting policies used in the preparation and presentation of these financial statements are provided below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements are based on historical costs, except for the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

**Inventories**

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

**Property, Plant and Equipment**

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

**Financial Instruments**

Financial instruments are recognised initially using trade date accounting, i.e. on the date that association 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).

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**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
**A.B.N. 18 268 487 576**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

---

**Impairment of Assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the association reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is recognised immediately in the income and expenditure statement.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the association estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

**Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees at the end of the reporting period. 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.

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. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Those cashflows are discounted using market yields on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows.

**Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the association 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.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the outflow required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting year. The discount rate used is a pre tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The increase in the provision due to the unwinding of the discount is taken to finance costs in the statement of other comprehensive income.

**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 three months or less.

**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
**A.B.N. 18 268 487 576**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

---

**Revenue**

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

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers.

Revenue from Grants received is recognised as income in the period to which the grant relates.

**Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, 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 payables 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 components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority are classified as operating cash flows.

**Comparative Amounts**

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

Where a change in comparatives has also affected the opening retained earnings previously presented in a comparative period, an opening statement of financial position at the earliest date of the comparative period has been presented.

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**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
A.B.N. 18 268 487 576

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

	2013 \$	2012 \$
<b>2 Revenue and Other Income</b>		
Revenue		
Sales revenue:		
Rendering of services	675,027	702,832
Other revenue:		
Interest received	9,273	11,505
Other revenue	22,827	22,555
	<u>32,100</u>	<u>34,060</u>
Total revenue	<u>707,127</u>	<u>736,892</u>
<b>3 Auditor's Remuneration</b>		
Auditor's Remuneration		
Auditing Services	1,725	1,750
Other Services	1,725	1,750
	<u>3,450</u>	<u>3,500</u>
<b>4 Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Cash on Hand	104	494
Cash at Bank	267,165	256,122
	<u>267,269</u>	<u>256,616</u>
Reconciliation of cash		
Cash and Cash equivalents reported in the statement of cash flows are reconciled to the equivalent items in the statement of financial position as follows:		
Cash and cash equivalents	267,269	256,616
	<u>267,269</u>	<u>256,616</u>
<b>5 Trade and Other Receivables</b>		
Current		
Trade Debtors	25,613	9,630
Less: Provision for Doubtful Debts	(1,529)	(655)
	<u>24,084</u>	<u>8,975</u>
Other Debtors	194	-
	<u>24,278</u>	<u>8,975</u>



**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**

A.B.N. 18 268 487 576

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
<hr/>		
The association does not hold any financial assets with terms have been renegotiated, but which would otherwise be past due or impaired.		
The other classes of receivables do not contain impaired assets.		
The carrying value of trade receivables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short term nature of the balances.		
<b>6 Inventories</b>		
Current		
At cost:		
Finished Goods	<u>559</u>	<u>587</u>
<b>7 Other Current Assets</b>		
Current		
Prepayments	<u>6,224</u>	<u>14,180</u>
<b>8 Property, Plant and Equipment</b>		
Office Equipment	15,840	15,840
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(8,233)</u>	<u>(4,615)</u>
	<u>7,607</u>	<u>11,225</u>
<b>Total Plant and Equipment</b>	<u>7,607</u>	<u>11,225</u>
<b>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	<u>7,607</u>	<u>11,225</u>

**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
A.B.N. 18 268 487 576

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

	2013	2012			
	\$	\$			
<b>Movements in Carrying Amounts of Property, Plant and Equipment</b>					
Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year.					
	Freehold Land	Buildings	Office Equipment	Leased Plant and Equipment	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 January 2012	-	-	511	-	511
Additions	-	-	11,340	-	11,340
Depreciation expense	-	-	(626)	-	(626)
Balance at 31 December 2012	-	-	11,225	-	11,225
Depreciation Expense	-	-	(3,618)	-	(3,618)
Carrying amount at 31 December 2013	-	-	7,607	-	7,607

**9 Accounts Payable and Other Payables**

**Current**

Trade Creditors	9,936	4,746
Other Creditors	47,894	29,089
Income in Advance	99,890	151,196
GST Payable	13,157	1,527
Amounts Withheld PAYG Withholding	6,492	5,210
	<u>177,369</u>	<u>191,768</u>

**10 Provisions**

Provision for Long Service Leave	7,001	11,000
Provision for Holiday Pay	5,057	7,505
<b>Total provisions</b>	<u>12,058</u>	<u>18,505</u>

**Analysis of Total Provisions**

Current	5,057	7,505
Non-current	7,001	11,000
	<u>12,058</u>	<u>18,505</u>

**11 Reserves**

**General Reserve**

This reserve is used to recognise potential parental leave liability.

**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
A.B.N. 18 268 487 576

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

	2013 \$	2012 \$
<b>12 Retained Earnings</b>		
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	81,310	73,794
Net surplus attributable to the association	35,200	7,516
Transfer To Reserves	(21,000)	-
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	<u>95,510</u>	<u>81,310</u>
<b>13 Capital and Leasing Commitments</b>		
<b>Operating Lease Commitments</b>		
Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements:		
Payable - minimum lease payments		
Not later than 12 months	28,500	28,500
Between 12 months and five years	139,750	142,500
Later than five years	-	23,750
	<u>168,250</u>	<u>194,750</u>
<b>14 Cash Flow Information</b>		
<b>Reconciliation of cash</b>		
Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:		
Cash on Hand	104	494
Cash at Bank	<u>267,165</u>	<u>256,122</u>
	<u>267,269</u>	<u>256,616</u>

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**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
A.B.N. 18 268 487 576

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

	2013 \$	2012 \$
<b>Reconciliation of net cash provided by operating activities to surplus from ordinary activities after income tax</b>		
Operating surplus (loss) after income tax	35,200	7,516
<b>Non-cash flows in surplus from ordinary activities:</b>		
Depreciation & Amortisation	3,618	1,471
<b>Changes in assets and liabilities, net of the effects of purchase and disposals of subsidiaries</b>		
(Increase) Decrease in current inventories	28	236
(Increase) Decrease in current receivables	(15,303)	10,392
(Increase) Decrease in prepayments	7,956	(7,875)
Increase (Decrease) in trade creditors	36,907	20,692
Increase (Decrease) in current provisions	(2,448)	(16,332)
Increase (Decrease) in non-current provisions	(3,999)	4,500
Increase (Decrease) in income in advance	(51,306)	7,440
<b>Cash flows from operations</b>	<u>10,653</u>	<u>28,040</u>

**15 Association Details**

The registered office of the association is:

Level 3, The Wheeler Centre , 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

The principal place of business is:

Level 3, The Wheeler Centre , 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

WRITERS VICTORIA INC.

A.B.N. 18 268 487 576

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has determined that the association is a reporting entity and that this general purpose financial statement should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial statements as set out on pages 1 to 12:

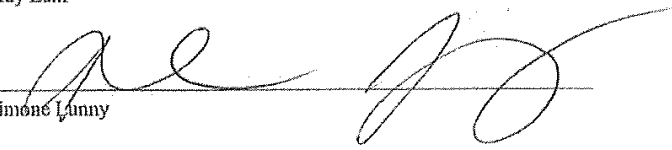
1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Writers Victoria Inc. as at 31 December 2013 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Writers Victoria Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

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

President:

  
May Lam

Treasurer:

  
Simone Lunny

Dated this

17<sup>th</sup> day of March 2014

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF WRITERS VICTORIA INC.  
A.B.N. 18 268 487 576**

**Scope**

I have audited the financial report as set out on pages 1 to 13 of Writers Victoria Inc. for the financial year ended 31 December 2013. The Committee is responsible for the financial report. I have conducted an independent audit of this financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the association's financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

**Independence**

In conducting my audit, I followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

**Audit Opinion**

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia the financial position of Writers Victoria Inc. as at 31 December 2013, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

**Name of Firm:** Joseph Boyar  
Chartered Accountant

**Name of Principal:**

Joseph Boyar



**Address:** Caulfield South

**Dated this** 17 day of March 2014

**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**

**A.B.N. 18 268 487 576**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Membership	142,740	144,098
Grants Received - Other	143,026	154,499
Seminars & Workshops	155,793	168,652
Advertising	33,005	31,295
Manuscript Assessments	62,682	59,832
Publications	3,949	5,770
Grants Received - Arts Victoria	133,832	138,686
Interest Received	9,273	11,505
Sundry Income	2,890	1,573
Writers Studio	19,937	20,982
	<u>32,100</u>	<u>34,060</u>
	<u>707,127</u>	<u>736,892</u>

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The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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**WRITERS VICTORIA INC.**  
**A.B.N. 18 268 487 576**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

	2013 \$	2012 \$
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Amortisation	-	845
Auditor's Remuneration	3,450	3,500
Bank Charges	863	766
Booking Fees	6,078	6,641
Computer & Website Expenses	1,568	1,880
Depreciation	3,618	626
Doubtful Debts	1,529	-
Postage & Mail Prep	33,281	35,636
General Expenses	2,610	2,531
Governance	1,893	7,451
Insurance	1,044	857
Long Service Leave	2,792	4,500
Manuscript Assessments	52,725	50,030
Marketing & Promotions	21,645	21,624
Office Expenses	5,215	3,273
Printing & Newsletter	48,679	49,252
Purchases	3,356	4,001
Regional Funding	-	9,737
Rent	29,809	29,794
Salaries	280,322	280,542
Seminars & Workshops	139,858	183,447
Staff Training & Welfare	275	498
Subscriptions	811	958
Superannuation Contributions	24,394	24,741
Telephone	1,315	790
Travelling Expenses	858	2,326
Workcover	3,939	3,130
	<u>671,927</u>	<u>729,376</u>
Surplus before income tax	<u>35,200</u>	<u>7,516</u>
<b>Surplus for the year</b>	<u>35,200</u>	<u>7,516</u>
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	81,310	73,794
Transfer To Reserves	<u>(21,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Retained earnings at the end of the financial year</b>	<u>95,510</u>	<u>81,310</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



# With Thanks

In 2013 we were grateful for the very generous support of:

**ARTS  
VICTORIA**



We were also delighted to work with a broad range of partners and donors, including:

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Bendigo Writers Festival  
Box Hill TAFE  
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Emerging Writers' Festival  
Ex Libris Festival of Words (Port Fairy)  
Express Media  
FreePlay Festival  
Halcyon Hideaway  
Hazel Rowley Literary Fellowship committee  
Holmesglen TAFE  
Indigenous Literacy Foundation  
Lip Magazine  
Lord Mayor's Creative Writing Awards  
Malthouse Theatre  
Melbourne Fringe Festival  
Melbourne PEN  
Melbourne Writers Festival  
National Trust (Victoria)  
Odyssey House  
Offset Journal  
Other State and Territory Writers Centres  
Other UNESCO Cities of Literature (Dublin, Edinburgh and Reykjavik)  
Overland Journal  
Padre Coffee  
Readings  
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Wendy Elks  
Yolanda French

We are also grateful for the support of those members (who prefer to remain anonymous) who have chosen to make a financial bequest to Writers Victoria in their will.

Thank you, all.





Front cover image from June 2013 'Victorian Writer' cover. Artist Carmel Seymour.  
Internal graphics by Toby Gibson.