ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26

The Katharine Susannah Prichard Foundation Inc.



About Us

The Katharine Susannah Prichard (KSP) Foundation Inc. is a non-profit charitable organisation operating since 1985 with a core mission to preserve the historic home and legacy of celebrated author Katharine Susannah Prichard (1883–1969), while also fostering a vibrant community for writers and promoting literary development in Western Australia.

Our Values

> CREATIVITY
We champion all forms of storytelling and creative expression.

> COMMUNITY
We provide an inclusive and respectful space for connection, celebration and development of the storytelling craft.

> COLLABORATION
We bring people and ideas together to create opportunities and value for our members, partners, and the wider creative community.

> COURAGE
We encourage authentic creative storytelling, because the world needs to hear these voices.

> CONSERVATION
We carry Katharine Susannah Prichard's legacy forward by creating a vibrant home for the creative community.

KSP and the team acknowledges the Noongar people as the Traditional Custodians of Whadjuk Boodjar (Perth and South-Western Australia), the land on which we work, meet, and create stories. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, cultures, and Elders past, present, and emerging — Australia's First Storytellers.

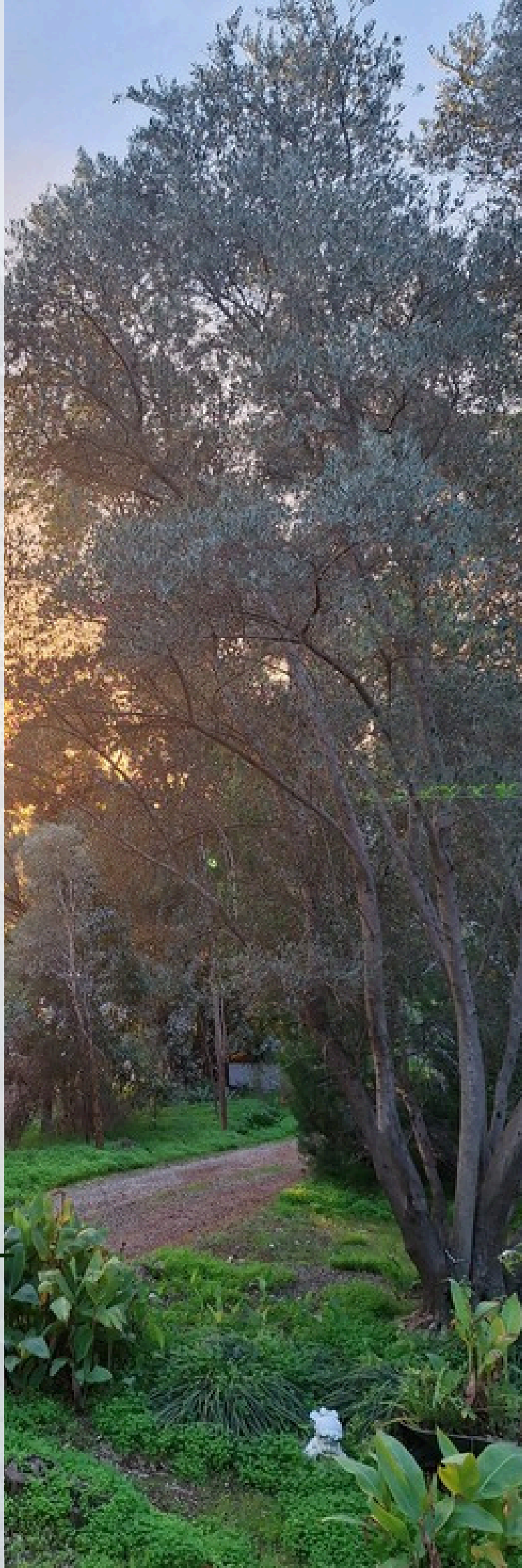


Table of Contents

3	Our Legacy	12-13	Our People
4-5	Financial Year Highlights	14	Our Partners & Supporters
6-8	Chair's Report	15	Financial Snapshot
9-11	Coordinator's Report	16	Our Details



OUR LEGACY

For over 40 years, the KSP Foundation has played an important role in supporting and strengthening Western Australia's literary community through the activities and services delivered at the heritage-listed KSP Writers' Centre in the Perth Hills suburb of Greenmount.

In 1987, the KSP Foundation established its flagship annual Writer-in-Residence Program, now the longest continuously operating writers' residency program in Australia. The Foundation also offers an annual fellowship program, writing retreats, competitions, community events, youth programs, workshops, peer writing groups, mentoring, volunteering opportunities and pathways to publication.

FINANCIAL YEAR HIGHLIGHTS



359

organisation members & active volunteers



306

youth engaged through targeted programs



325

writing group sessions held at the Centre



40

residency & fellowship placements hosted



2K+

visitors & attendees welcomed to the Centre



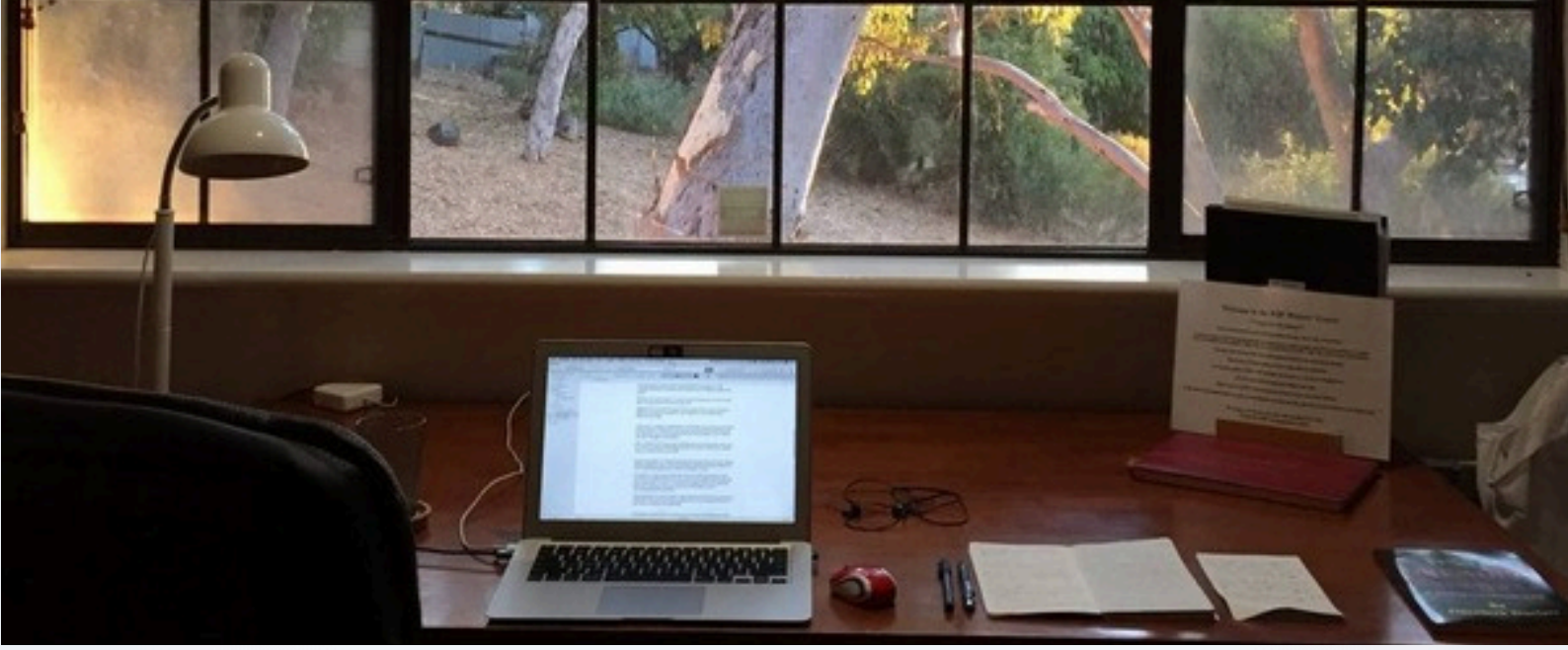
25

writing workshops & community events held

Being surrounded by other writers fostered an atmosphere where I felt connected to my project and was able to centre my days around thinking through the plot and characters. … Writing in a cabin surrounded by butterflies and winding garden paths is a lovely dream, and I'd recommend living it out in reality if you ever have the opportunity.

- **Liv Hartwig**

KSP 2026 Upcoming Writer-in-Residence



MORE HIGHLIGHTS



470+

writing competition entries received



28K+

website views & public queries answered



570+

days accommodating writers in KSP retreats

164 works & 95 authors

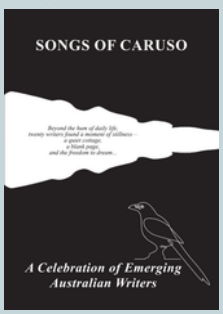
Six anthologies published featuring 164 original works by 95 Australian authors

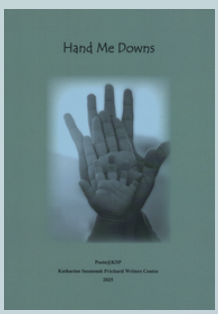














© KSP Foundation Inc.

Above: Lisa Wolstenholme (left) with Caruso program participants at the *Songs of Caruso* launch, December 2025, KSP Writers' Centre

CHAIR'S REPORT

A year of creativity, community and organisational growth

Throughout the year, our team has continued to build on the KSP Foundation's strengths, nurture a vibrant program of literary and creative activity, and lay strong foundations for the future.

This has been made possible through the commitment of our staff, volunteers, Board members, members, partners and supporters. Together, we continue to provide a welcoming home for writers, readers and the wider creative community at Katharine's Place.

GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Board has continued to strengthen KSP's governance and strategic direction during 2025-26.

A review of the Constitution was completed, with particular attention given to KSP's dispute resolution provisions and preparation of subsequent changes at the 2026 AGM. We are grateful to outgoing Board member David Lloyd for sharing his governance expertise and guiding this important work.

The Board has also made significant progress on the development of a new five-year Strategic Plan. Through workshops, activities and community consultation, Alia Bath and Matthew Tomich have helped guide a process designed to ensure that KSP's future direction reflects both our long-standing commitment to the needs and aspirations of our community.

The community consultation undertaken during the year provided valuable insight into what people value about KSP and how they would like to see the Centre develop. This input has helped inform both the Strategic Plan and the Foundation's recent funding and program development.

We also welcomed Sue Clapton to the team as Secretary and thank David Lloyd for his contribution to the Foundation during his time on the Board.

BUILDING ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY

A particularly positive development this year has been the increased core funding provided by the Shire of Mundaring. This additional support has enabled the Foundation to increase staff wages and hours, strengthening our capacity to sustain and develop programs, workshops, events and essential business-as-usual activities.

We are extremely grateful to the Shire for its continuing investment in KSP and its recognition of the value the Foundation brings to the writing, cultural and wider community.

The Foundation has also continued to pursue opportunities to diversify and strengthen its funding base. During the year, staff prepared and submitted an application for two-year core funding through the Western Australian Government's Creative Organisations Two-Year Funding Program. KSP's proposed 2027-29 *Stories at All Stages* program includes mutliple new strategic partnerships and significantly expands paid opportunities for writers across different stages of their creative development, while also strengthening access, equity, community engagement and long-term organisational capacity.

Planning has also commenced for large-scale infrastructure improvements to strengthen accessibility, safety and the capacity of the Centre facility and grounds. These investments are important to ensuring Katharine's Place remains a welcoming and sustainable community facility into the future.

A SIGNIFICANT YEAR FOR KSP

The successful completion and acquittal of the Creative Australia-funded 2025 Caruso Writer-in-Residence Pilot Program was a significant organisational achievement.



Above (left to right): Michaela Ironwood and Sofija Stevanovic at the KSP Writers' Centre

The program supported 20 Australian writers from marginalised backgrounds through mentorship, workshops and a residency experience at KSP, culminating in the *Songs of Caruso* anthology that launched at the Centre in December 2025. The program was warmly received and provided valuable learning that can inform future initiatives.

The Board extends its thanks to everyone who contributed to delivering and acquitting this substantial program, including KSP's dedicated employee team: Former Coordinator Sofija Stevanovic (who led the Centre from 2022-2025), Executive Assistant Emma Hassner, CFO Shannon Britza and incoming Coordinator Michaela Ironwood, who has quickly become a highly valued member of the KSP family.

The Foundation has also continued to build strong partnerships and develop new opportunities that will strengthen our role within Western Australia's literary and cultural ecosystem.

LOOKING AHEAD

The year ahead presents exciting opportunities for the KSP Foundation.

We have recently developed the new ‘Go West’ residency program in partnership with the National Trust of Australia (WA) and Dear Tourism, Love Tab Consulting. While funding is being sought through the Creative Organisations Two-Year Funding Program, the partners have formalised their commitment through Memorandums of Understanding and intend to proceed with the residency in 2027, adapting the program to available resources.

We will continue to strengthen our established residency and fellowship programs, support our workshops and community groups, pursue meaningful partnerships and collaborations, and invest in the long-term sustainability and accessibility of Katharine’s Place.

The Board is particularly excited about the opportunities that will arise from our recent strategic planning process and the Foundation’s ongoing funding and partnership development.

A FINAL REFLECTION

I have spent the past two years as Chair of the KSP Board of Management and feel extremely grateful and honoured to have held the position.

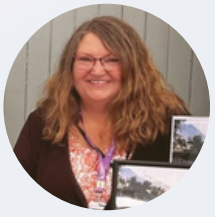
The role of Chair is never an isolated one. It is made possible by talented, creative and committed Board members, staff and volunteers who contribute their time, knowledge and energy to the Foundation.

I would particularly like to thank our staff for their dedication throughout the year, and acknowledge everyone who contributes to the life of KSP – from our volunteers and members to our writers, workshop facilitators, writing group facilitators, competition judges, partners, supporters and audiences.

In early 2026 we farewelled Sofija Stevanovic, our former Coordinator. We extend our sincere thanks for her incredible contributions to KSP and wish her all the very best in her current and future endeavours.

KSP is truly a wonderful community to be a part of. I will step down as Chair at the 2026 AGM, although I hope to continue contributing as a Board member for as long as I can.

I have every confidence in the Foundation’s future and in the person who will take on the role of Chair. KSP has a remarkable legacy, an extraordinary community and exciting opportunities ahead.



Lisa Wolstenholme
Chair, 2024-2026

COORDINATOR'S REPORT

A year of connection, creativity and new beginnings

It has been a privilege to join the KSP Writers' Centre team and become part of a place with such a remarkable literary legacy.

I first became involved with KSP in 2025 as a member of the Literary Advisory Committee and Youth Tutor, before stepping into the Coordinator role in 2026. In my first six months as Coordinator, I have enjoyed getting to know our members, welcoming writers and fellows to the Centre, working alongside Emma and Shannon, and collaborating with the KSP Board and our wonderful volunteers.

Most of all, I have enjoyed throwing myself into the many different aspects of life at Katharine's Place – from workshops and events to grant applications, community engagement, strategic planning and even tending the acre of gardens.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF KSP

In July 2025, KSP celebrated its 40th anniversary with a special Patron's Afternoon Tea, bringing together members of our community to recognise the people who have contributed to the Centre's enduring success.

The event, thanks to sponsorship from KSP Life Member Mardi May, provided an opportunity to celebrate our long history and acknowledge our Patron, poet and academic Professor Glen Phillips, while also officially presenting the recipients of KSP's Literary Development Awards.

It was a warm and memorable afternoon that reflected the strong sense of community that has sustained KSP across four decades.

A VIBRANT PROGRAM

The second half of 2025 was full of events, partnerships, workshops and writing opportunities.

KSP partnered with Writing WA for a *Love to Read Local* event (a self-publishing session led by Kristy Nita Brown), supported a book launch for KSP member Ivy Bazley and delivered a Poetry Paint and Sip session (pictured below) led by Elizabeth Lewis, Lakshmi Kanchi and Tim Kinsella.



A highlight of our program was *Pitch to Publish* in July, an online information and pitching event featuring publishing industry representatives who shared their knowledge and advice with the public, while providing pitching opportunities for the 2024-25 Emerging Writers Program participants.

KSP's well-attended workshop series offered a diverse range of professional development topics, including *Symbolic Storytelling* with Bimbo Bakare and *Memoir and Ethics* with Dr Yves Rees.

Our popular annual events and competitions continued to bring the community together, including KSP's Spooky Stories program and end-of-year Katharine's Birthday celebration.

CARUSO AND THE BEGINNING OF 2026

I came into the Coordinator role during the final stages of KSP's Caruso Writer-in-Residence Pilot Program, co-founded by Shannon Britza and Sofija Stevanovic.

A major early task was coordinating the final paid opportunities for participants and supporting the successful acquittal of KSP's Creative Australia funding. The program culminated in the *Songs of Caruso* anthology (produced by Dragonfly Publishing for Wild Weeds Press) that was formally launched at the 2025 Katharine's Birthday event, with several participants sharing their work with the KSP community.

Feedback from Caruso alumni has also provided valuable insight into how future programs can continue to improve accessibility and inclusivity.

LISTENING TO OUR COMMUNITY

One of the most valuable areas of work during the year has been listening to our community and using that feedback to inform KSP's future.

As part of the Board's strategic planning process, we launched the *Have Your Say at KSP* survey to better understand what our community values and how people envision the Centre developing. We received a total of 54 responses, with the results provided to the Board to inform its ongoing strategic planning.

We also conducted a dedicated residency survey, receiving 60 responses about how our community uses the KSP cabins and what changes or improvements writers would like to see.

This feedback is already helping to shape future programming. One particularly exciting development is the planned introduction of a three-night Micro Fellowship, designed for writers whose work or caring commitments may prevent them from participating in our existing one- and two-week fellowship opportunities.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to share their experiences and ideas. Your feedback is an important part of shaping the future of KSP.

CONNECTING WITH WRITERS AND READERS

Our program continued into 2026 with workshops, including *Writing Healthcare* with Dr Tanya Scott and *Crafting Romance* with Libby Iriks.

In March, I was delighted to represent KSP at the inaugural Kalamunda Readers Festival (pictured below, left, with Rebekah Sheedy and Elizabeth Lewis). It was a wonderful opportunity to connect directly with writers and readers, and I am very grateful to the Board members who volunteered their weekend to help at the KSP stall.

In April, KSP also donated two writing retreats to the Fremantle Press auction fundraiser supporting its transition to new premises.





KSP Patron's Afternoon Tea, July 2025, KSP Writers' Centre

A key focus during my time as Coordinator has been strengthening KSP's connection with the wider writing community. One of my early realisations was that there are still writers in Perth who do not know about the remarkable literary hub we have here in the Perth Hills.

Alongside our events, programs and industry partnerships, I have placed greater emphasis on online community engagement and sharing what is happening at KSP.

It has been a joy to connect with writers at all stages through our social media channels and see increased engagement, including growth in competition entries, residency applications and online followers.



Poets @ KSP, November 2025, KSP Writers' Centre

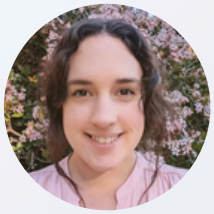
LOOKING AHEAD

There is already considerable momentum heading into 2026–27.

We will continue implementing changes informed by our surveys, developing our residency, fellowship and youth programs, pursuing new funding opportunities and strengthening relationships with our creative and community partners.

We will also continue building awareness of KSP among storytellers across Australia, while ensuring that Katharine's Place remains a welcoming and accessible place for our existing members and visitors.

I look forward to more achievements at the Centre across the next year and can't wait to keep sharing Katharine's Place with the WA writing community and beyond.



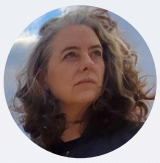
Michaela Ironwood
Coordinator

OUR PEOPLE: Board of Management



Lisa Wolstenholme
Chair

Lisa is a multi-published author of contemporary fiction and Director of Dragonfly Publishing. Since 2015, she has served the KSP Foundation in a variety of roles including as Secretary, Events Committee member, and Wild Weeds Press administrator. Lisa's expertise spans small press publishing, project management, and IT.



Alia Bath
Vice Chair

Alia is a writer and cellist based in the Perth hills. Since 2018, she has worked with Masonik, an interdisciplinary arts collective. In 2025 she published her first work, an epic allegorical poem. Her creative practice is informed by a diverse background in the arts, journalism, communications and project management.



Jake Liddelow
Treasurer

Jake joined the KSP Board in 2019 and has held the role of Treasurer since that time. He holds a degree in commerce with majors in finance and accounting from the University of Western Australia.



Sue Clapton
Secretary

Sue is a retired social worker and creative writer who has recently turned to her love of writing while enjoying time with her grandchildren. She is an active member of the Write or Die Author's Group in Perth.



Mardi May
Board Member

In 1994, Mardi joined KSP's Thursday Night Group and has been on the Board since 2008. She facilitated KSP's Social History Writing Group (Past Tense) for 20 years and the Poets @ KSP group since its inception in 2008; she has published 19 books in these genres. Mardi was the KSP Literary Advisory Committee liaison for over 10 years as a selector for the Writer-in-Residence program. She is a Life Member of the KSP Foundation Inc.



Rebekah-Jane Sheedy
Board Member

Rebekah brings a broad range of skills and experience in publishing and editing, having worked for several WA publishing initiatives. She holds a Graduate Certificate in Editing and Electronic Publishing from Macquarie University and a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Literary and Cultural Studies from Curtin University. Rebekah has been an active volunteer with the KSP Writers' Centre since 2018 and joined the Board in 2023.



Matthew Tomich
Board Member

Matthew is a communications and engagement professional with a career spanning community radio, regional arts and the public sector. He is a former General Manager of the National Young Writers' Festival and a previous Board Member of Youth Work WA and Propel Youth Arts WA. He joined the KSP Foundation Board of Management in 2025.



David Lloyd
Board Member

David was privileged to have a career in the State public service which was also a vocation, retiring as an Executive Director Corporate Governance in the education sector. The KSP writing group he joined in 2024 is a joy. David joined the KSP Foundation Board of Management in 2025. Board and staff share a commitment to KSP as a wonderful community resource.

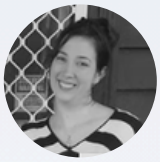
OUR PEOPLE: The KSP Team



Michaela Ironwood

Coordinator & Youth Program Tutor

Michaela is the Coordinator of the KSP Writers' Centre. She has held various roles at the Centre including as a Literary Advisory Committee member, youth group tutor, and event volunteer. She holds a BA in Creative Writing, was a participant in the 2024-25 Emerging Writers Program, teaches young writers at both KSP and Peter Cowan Writers Centre, and her debut young adult fiction novel will be published with Elephant Page Publishing in 2028. Michaela is particularly passionate about supporting emerging and young writers.



Shannon Britza

Chief Financial Officer

Shannon is a published author, KSP Foundation Life Member and the organisation's longest-serving employee, having formerly served as Coordinator and CEO from 2013 to 2022. She holds a Bachelor of Writing from Edith Cowan University and is the co-founder of KSP's Caruso Inclusive Residency Program. Shannon holds specialist certifications in accounting and bookkeeping, Xero and Syft software, and membership with the Golden Key International Honour Society, Autism Association of WA, and Institute of Community Directors.



Emma Hassner

Executive Assistant

Emma has been an active volunteer within the Shire of Mundaring since 2011 and a KSP Foundation member since 2019. After facilitating the Novel Writers Collective group at the KSP Writers' Centre, she founded the Sugar to Spice romance writing group at KSP in February 2024. Emma is honoured to serve the KSP community and support writers on their creative journey.



Glen Phillips

Patron

Professor Glen Phillips is an internationally known poet, fiction writer, teacher and former Director of the Landscape Centre at Edith Cowan University. At the first KSP Committee Meeting on 14 August 1985, Glen was elected as Chairperson, and is the longest-serving Chair in the Foundation's history. Glen is a supporter and advocate for the Centre, and provides guidance as a Literary Advisory Committee member and consultant.

HOUSEKEEPING

Srijana Gurung

LITERARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Glen Phillips - Mardi May - Guy Salvidge
Elizabeth Lewis - Emily Paull - Soraya Acosta
Josephine Taylor - Michaela Ironwood

PUBLIC FUND TRUSTEES

Lisa Wolstenholme - Jake Liddelow
Denis McLeod AM - Shireen Watson (JP)

WRITING GROUP FACILITATORS

Mardi May	*Poets @ KSP*
Phil Mayne	*Thursday Night Group*
Wence Vahala	*Non-Fiction Group*
Dani Frank	*Novel Writers Collective (I)*
Maggie O'Brien	*Novel Writers Collective (II)*
Shelley Kissick	*Past Tense Social History Group*
David Wildsmith	*Fantasy, Sci-Fi & Horror Group*
Emma Hassner	*Sugar to Spice Romance Group*
Jane Wallis	*Writefree Women's Writing Group*

CONTRACTORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Dwayne Trinidad, IT
Rachel Denham-White, anthology editor & event volunteer
Zoe Deleuil, KSP 2025 Short Fiction Awards Judge
Lakshmi Kanchi, KSP 2025 Poetry Awards Judge
Ruth McIver, KSP 2025 Spooky Story Competition Judge (adults)
Fionna Cosgrove, KSP 2025 Horror Competition Judge (youth/teen)
Wooroloo Prison Farm Project 95 Team, Garden Maintenance

OUR PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

Multi-Year Funding

Shire of Mundaring

Arts Project Funding

Australian Government

Creative Australia

Pro Bono Publishing

DP

Literary Program Sponsors

Tabetha Beggs (c/o Little Black Dress Productions) in support of KSP's annual Spooky Story Competition
The Estate of Flora Smith (Annette Cameron Award) as part of KSP's annual Poetry Competition
Mardi May in support of a series of KSP 40th Anniversary Special Projects in 2025/26

Friends of Katharine (Organisation Donors)

Tanya Scott	2026 Daisy Donor
Natalie Cooke	2026 Daisy Donor
Denise Faithfull	2025 Jonquil Donor

Partnerships, Programs & Affiliations

Little Black Dress Productions

Writing WA Love to Read Local Week

Swan Volunteer Resource Centre

Government of Western Australia Department of Justice

Writing WA

Companion Card

Emerging Writers Program

act belong commit

Writers United WA

Supporting Suppliers

Canvas Your Life

Canva

zoom

Aussie Broadband

Humanitix

xero

2025–26 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

$218,069
TOTAL REVENUE
+4.7% vs prior year

$212,851
TOTAL EXPENDITURE
–1.6% vs prior year

$5,218
RESULT: SURPLUS
From $8k deficit

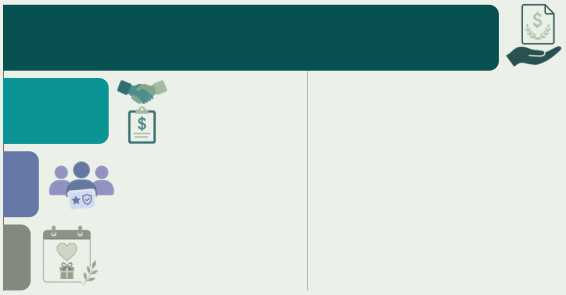
WHERE OUR INCOME CAME FROM

74.7% **Grants & Sponsorships**

15.9% **Service Revenue**

5.3% **Membership Fees**

4.0% **Other Income**
- Events, Projects & Philanthropy



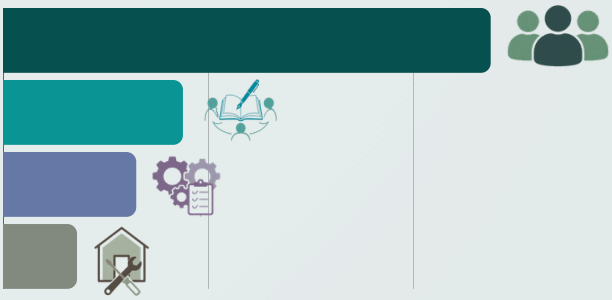
WHERE OUR FUNDS WERE INVESTED

55.8% **Personnel**

20.6% **Artist Fees & Community Programs**

15.2% **Administration & Operations**

8.4% **Facility Maintenance**



FINANCIAL POSITION

KSP maintained a sound financial position in 2025–26, with income of $218k exceeding expenditure of $213k and resulting in a $5.2k surplus.

76% of expenditure was invested in personnel, artist fees and community programs, underscoring KSP's commitment to writers and creative activity. With healthy cash reserves exceeding $175k, the Foundation is well positioned to sustain operations, facility maintenance and program delivery into 2027.



The Katharine Susannah Prichard Foundation Inc.
A Support Hub For Writers Since 1985

kspwriterscentre.com

11 Old York Road, Greenmount, Western Australia 6056
kspwriterscentre.com | (08) 9294 1872 | office@kspwriterscentre.com

@ksp_writers_centre