

The
Katharine Susannah Prichard
Foundation Inc

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Acknowledgement of Country

KSP and the team acknowledge 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.



Our Purpose

Since 1985, the Katharine Susannah Prichard (KSP) Foundation's core mission is to preserve the historic home and legacy of celebrated Australian author Katharine Susannah Prichard (1883-1969) while fostering a vibrant community for writers and promoting literary development in Western Australia.



'The sweet peace of home enfolding me again..... Here I am reclining on the verandah with the garden looking at its beautifullest - lavender, cerise pelargonium and Christmas lilies, pink honeysuckle and nasturtiums all mixed and growing wild together. A golden-breasted whistler pouring out his song, too! I'm so grateful for the peace and loveliness.'

Excerpt of letter from Katharine to her son Ric, 1960s



Chair Report

Taking over the helm in 2024 from previous Chair, Kate Driver, has been an honour. My heartfelt thanks go out to Kate for her leadership, passion, and warmth during her time as Chair, and for making it such a smooth transition for me.

My first “gig” as Chair was to emcee **Katharine’s Birthday** event in December, which, as always, provided a joyous celebration of our 2024 poetry and short fiction competition winners, young and old.

In 2025, it was my absolute pleasure to celebrate the **40th Anniversary** of the Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers’ Centre, marking four decades of excellence in nurturing a vibrant arts community in the Shire of Mundaring.

This milestone anniversary was made even more special with a generous local sponsorship from KSP Foundation Life Member, Mardi May, that enabled a commemorative event to be held at the Centre in July. This included a celebration of our Patron and founding father of KSP, Professor Glen Phillips, and enabled us to run a unique competition aimed at unpublished writers with a completed fiction, non-fiction or poetry manuscript.

The three winners (and runners-up) were announced at the anniversary event, with each receiving a cash prize, mentoring, and access to a publishing workshop. We very much look forward to seeing their wondrous words in print.



L to R: Former KSP Chairs Elizabeth Lewis and Kate Driver, KSP Patron Professor Glen Phillips, KSP Chair Lisa Wolstenholme, and Shire of Mundaring Cr Neridah Zlatnik - 40th Anniversary Event

Thanks to KSP team members Sofija Stevanovic and Shannon Britza, we were thrilled to secure approximately \$100k in arts funding from Creative Australia to run the **Caruso Writer-in-Residence Program**, a ground-breaking initiative designed to support 20 incredibly talented Australian writers from marginalised backgrounds.

The program has been rolling out this year - thanks to dedication from office superstars Sofija and Emma - and we are proud to have received incredible feedback so far.

We are also looking forward to launching an anthology of work from the Caruso participants at the end of 2025.

As a key collaborator in sector-wide initiatives, KSP was involved in running the **Emerging Writers Program** for a fifth consecutive year, working alongside peak body for literature, Writing WA Inc, and four sister Writers’ Centres in Perth.

Chair Report, *continued*

We were proud to host five KSP members as part of the Emerging Writers Program - *Anna-Nicole Del-Re, David Harris, Elizabeth Lewis, Angie Macleod, and Kirstie Nicholson* - and we look forward to future iterations of this valuable initiative.

And... *drumroll...* a little magpie told us that some of these participants have secured publishing deals! We can't wait to see their words in print and celebrate together soon.

In 2024, KSP was the host venue for the **Festive Book Fair**, an annual community event in partnership with Dragonfly Publishing, and in 2025, was a partner in the **Literary Coasters** project, a unique initiative within **Love to Read Local Month**. We look forward to being able to share with you soon the beautiful coaster featuring selected "Treasured Author" Katharine Susannah Prichard.

Thanks to increased sponsorship from Little Black Dress Productions, KSP's popular **Spooky Story Competition** expanded in 2025, offering additional prize money and two print anthologies, one featuring adult and the other with youth shortlisted and winning entries. With new judges on board and a rejigged format, this year's event was extremely well received and a lot of fun!

As always, we need to express our extreme gratitude for the core funding we receive from the Shire of Mundaring. In July, we also secured an extra \$20k annually from the Shire to support staffing and programs going forward. This is brilliant news for aiding the sustainability of the Centre.

I couldn't write this report without celebrating the truly **majestic** contributions of our extraordinary Coordinator, Sofija Stevanovic: a passionate, warm-hearted powerhouse whose dedication, creativity, and care elevate everything she touches. Sofija doesn't just meet expectations - she redefines them. Again and again.

Equally deserving of high praise is our outstanding Administration Officer, Emma Hassner, whose professionalism, creativity, and steady dedication keep the Centre running smoothly behind the scenes.

Lastly, thanks to our Board members and volunteers for making all events and activities run so smoothly. We sadly farewell Board member Debby Hamilton. Thank you for your expertise during your time with us.

LOOKING FORWARD

As well as continuing our highly regarded residency and fellowship programs, we aim to increase community reach and collaborate with fellow arts organisations to provide meaningful creative projects.

We recently welcomed Shannon Britza back to the team as Chief Financial Officer. Her wealth of experience and depth of skills provide a huge value-add to our team.

It has been a deeply rewarding first year as Chair, and I look forward to the next 12 months standing alongside an amazing team helping the Centre to thrive.

Lisa Wolstenholme
Chair



Our Highlights

FY2025

347

writing group sessions held at the Centre, across ten groups and multiple genres from poetry to novel writing and non-fiction

40

residency & fellowship placements held at our retreats featuring a range of talented emerging and established writers from across Australia

225

active members and volunteers

1.6K+

visitors and attendees welcomed to the Centre

33

professional development workshops held

726

youth engaged through targeted programs

15K+

queries from retreat guests and the public answered

1K+

writing competition entries received



Our Caruso Inclusive Residency Program Participants



Arle Alizzi - Adele Aria - Bimbo Bakare - Ana Brawls - Georgia Cabelle
Lyn Dickens - Paige Floyd - Dani Frank - Michele Gould - Jodie How
Coco Huang - Susie Isaksen - Haweya Ismail - Tim Kinsella - Avni Labesthwar
Erin Pearce - Melissa O'Shea - Cass Sunday - Tony Tasam - Ange Yang

Our People

Board of Management

Lisa Wolstenholme
CHAIR

Alia Bath
VICE-CHAIR

Jake Liddelow
TREASURER

Rebekah-Jane Sheedy
SECRETARY

Mardi May
BOARD MEMBER

Rebekah-Jane Sheedy
BOARD MEMBER

Debby Hamilton
BOARD MEMBER to July 2025

Our Public Fund Trustees

Lisa Wolstenholme
CHAIR

Jake Liddelow
TRUSTEE

Denis McLeod AM
TRUSTEE

Shireen Watson
TRUSTEE

Robert Perks
TRUSTEE

Our Staff, Contractors & Volunteers

Sofija Stevanovic
COORDINATOR

Emma Hassner
ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

Shannon Britza
FINANCE OFFICER

Srijana Gurung
HOUSEKEEPER

Soraya Acosta Sanchez
YOUTH TUTOR

Dwayne Trinidad
IT CONSULTANT

Fern Pendragon
GARDENER

Our Writing Group Facilitators

Jane Wallis
Writefree Women's Group

Phil Mayne
Thursday Night Group

Wence Vahala
Non-Fiction Group

Dani Frank
Novel Writers Collective (I)

Emma Hassner
Sugar to Spice

David Wildsmith
Fantasy, Sci-Fi & Horror Group

Carolyn Parker
Novel Writers Collective (II)

Dianne Zanetti
Past Tense Group

Mardi May
Poets @ KSP

Our Literary Advisory Committee

Glen Phillips
Josephine Taylor
Mardi May

Emily Paull
Guy Salvidge
Soraya Acosta

Michaela Ironwood
Elizabeth Lewis

Our Patron



Prof. Glen Phillips
*First Chairperson of the
KSP Foundation, elected
14 August 1985*

Our Supporters

Primary Funding Partner



Projects & Programs

Caruso Inclusive Residency Program 2024-25



Emerging Writers Program 2024-25



Publishing Partner



Little Black Dress Productions c/o Tabettha Beggs

SPONSOR & FOUNDER, KSP SPOOKY STORIES COMPETITION

The Family of Flora Smith

ANNETTE CAMERON POETRY AWARD

Mardi May

40TH ANNIVERSARY INITIATIVE

All of Our Individual Donors & Organisation Members

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE KSP WRITERS' CENTRE

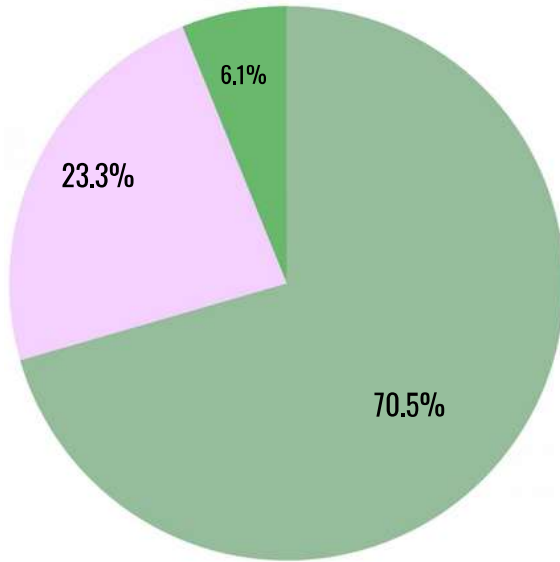


Woorloo Prison Farm Section 95

MAINTENANCE & GARDENING

Financial

FY2025 Summary



Income

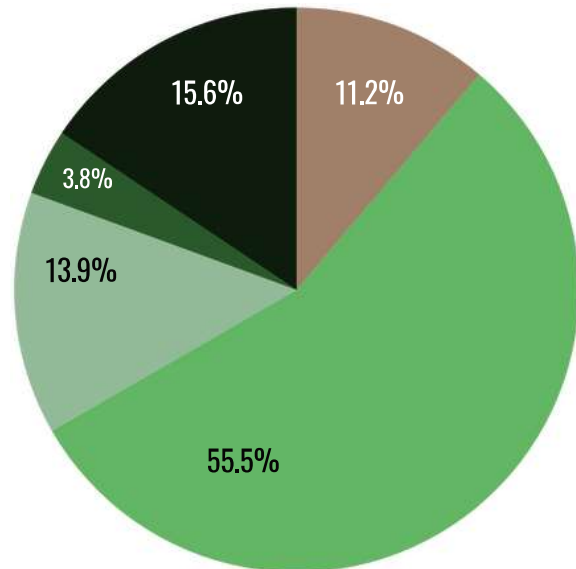
Total: \$208,209.31

- Membership Fees - 6.1%
- Service Revenue - 23.3%
- Grant Funding & Philanthropy - 70.5%

Expenses

Total: \$216,203.98

- Events, Projects & Program Expenses - 3.8%
- Administration & Operational Expenses - 11.2%
- Facility Maintenance - 13.9%
- Artist Fees & Support - 15.6%
- Personnel & Related Expenses - 55.5%



The 2025FY saw KSP maintain a stable financial position, with results exceeding expectations in several key areas, including membership fees and retreat hire revenue. Expenditure remained well managed, with personnel costs on budget and maintenance costs under budget (including approximately \$17k for much-needed heritage verandah renovations). 15.6% of total spending was directed toward artist support, reflecting KSP's core mission and value to funders. The approved prior use of Retained Earnings offset a forecast deficit of just under \$8k, and strong participation across programs reinforced KSP's community relevance. Looking ahead, the Foundation remains in a sound financial position, with over \$200k in cash assets to support operations and program delivery into 2026.

Supporting writers at all levels
of the craft since 1985



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