BIENNIAL REPORT 2024–2025

ACLF
AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN'S LAUREATE FOUNDATION

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Sharing stories is how we develop empathy
and begin to understand someone
who might have a different life experience to ours,
and I believe we need these connections now
more than ever.

Sally Rippin

Australian Children's Laureate, 2024–2025

1 INTRODUCTION

Wow! What an amazing two years it has been with Sally Rippin launching into the 2024/2025 Children's Laureateship in February 2024 to show us that *All kids can be readers!* and bringing a new lens to reading, and how we can once again expand our understanding and reach.

During the past two years Sally has travelled the length and breadth of the country as we ask all our Laureates to do, and shared her message to a staggering 74,000 children and adults, live, either in person or online. She visited every state and territory and brought her very personal story to life talking about neurodiversity and how sometimes we need to think differently about how we get children reading.

Sally's online reach surpassed 15 million through media, social media, newsletters and more. She hosted National Simultaneous Storytime, appeared on Channel 7's Better Homes and Gardens program, spoke to children from the Northern Queensland School of the Air, worked with Vision Australia and met Her Majesty the Queen of England. We even snuck her (virtually) across the ditch and had her speak with audiences in New Zealand through our partnership with the Te Awhi Rito NZ Reading Ambassador Program.

This year we held the inaugural Laureate Week, partnering with the Australian School Library Association to take Sally and three of our past Laureates into schools in regional and remote Australia.

We continue to be supported by wonderful sponsors and donors, including the Australian Government and a number of private family foundations who appreciate the enormous benefits to our country and children of instilling a love of reading.

Our amazing team has once again taken things to a new level. Kris, our Program Manager put together an amazing Laureate Program with Sally and continues to build on the opportunities she creates. Justine looks after all our administration and has taken a growing role in our event management and the logistics of getting the Laureate around the country. We could not do it without them and our thanks goes out to both of them.

We have again participated in The Observership Program, bringing two new Observers through Board interactions. Our Board continues to do an amazing job and have given their time and experience freely and with passion. Thanks go to Board Members who retired during the period, Bill Hanlon, Gregg Driese, Robyn Sheahan-Bright, Laurine Croasdale, Lindy Batchelor and Emily Banyard. We are currently in the process of appointing new Board members to refresh and broaden the skills of the Board and look forward to seeing what they bring to the next Laureate term and beyond.

And now we can't wait to see what the 2026/27 Laureate will bring us as the Children's Laureate. We are pinching ourselves that [?] has agreed to join the company of our Laureates as our ninth Australian Children's Laureate and we can't wait to see what unfolds ... watch this space.

Bruce Ellis

Chairman
Australian Children's Laureate Foundation

The Australian Children's Laureate Foundation acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises their connection to the land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their culture, to the Elders past, present and emerging.

Farewell Message

'I want to take this opportunity to thank Sally for her efforts, and to congratulate her on a successful and hugely effective Laureateship.

What an absolute blessing Sally has been! I have been following her updates, and her hectic schedule, and am in awe of all she's achieved – not just for the Foundation, but for the children, parents, carers and teachers who have had the benefit of her message and presence. What strikes me most about the reports is the infectious joy that Sally spreads wherever she goes. She radiates a positivity which is impossible to resist - you can see it in the photos of the people around her.

The combination of her talents, her passion, her lived experience, and her expertise has been incredibly powerful in promoting the benefits and enjoyment of reading for all children. She has helped to shine a light for those who have been left behind in reading for whatever reason – she gives them hope.

Through Sally's hard work and enthusiasm, the reach of our programmes and mission has increased enormously. She has been instrumental in forging new programmes and partnerships as well as linking existing ones, for the benefit of as many people as possible.

Since the Foundation's relatively humble beginnings more than a decade ago, it's been my privilege to see the Laureate program grow and flourish. Sally leaves us with huge shoes to fill. She has lifted the bar significantly - spreading the message in ways we could hardly dream of in the beginning.

I sincerely hope that the Laureateship has been as rewarding for you, Sally, as it has been for us and for the tens of thousands of children you've touched.

I wish you every success in your future endeavours and look forward to following your next steps, wherever they lead.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Noni.'

Noni Hazlehurst AM

ACLF Patron

2 BACKGROUND TO THE ACLF

The Australian Children's Laureate Foundation (ACLF) is a not-for-profit organisation founded in 2008 as the Australian Children's Literature Alliance (ACLA). The ACLF's vision is 'enriching the lives of young Australians through the power of story'.

In 2014 the ACLA secured DGR status. In 2018 the ACLF changed its name from the ACLA to clarify the focus of its work. The ACLF is a collegial and inclusive organisation with representation from across the field of children's and young adult literature.

Reflective of our founding objectives, the revised ACLF Strategic Plan 2024–2025 articulates three values:

- DYNAMIC, EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION
- COLLABORATIVE AND INCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT
- OPERATIONAL INTEGRITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

About the Laureate

The Laureate is the national ambassador for reading, championing important issues affecting the entire industry, including readers, reading advocates, educators, libraries, booksellers and publishers.

The Children's Laureate must be an Australian author and/or illustrator of children's and/or youth literature, who is making a significant contribution to the children's literature canon of this country. The Laureate is appointed on a biennial basis and promotes the transformational power of reading, creativity and story in the lives of young Australians.

The ACLF aims to take the Laureate to diverse, marginalised and disadvantaged communities and audiences and to share the joy of reading with as many young people as possible.

The Laureate also forms strong international links with Laureate counterparts and this has led to further participation in, and promotion of, Australian creators at international literary forums. The establishment of an Australian Children's Laureate program to promote the importance of reading is based on the successful implementation of this idea in the UK. There are Children's Laureate programs in: Finland, The Netherlands, Ireland, Sweden, Wales, Italy; a National Ambassador for Young People's Literature in the US, and the Ti Awhi Rito New Zealand Reading Ambassador for children and young people, the third of whom, Kate de Goldi, was announced in June 2025.

We love working with the ACLF each year for our National Simultaneous Storytime campaign. It was such a delight to have Sally Rippin record a reading of our NSS book and host NSS live. She was fantastic to work with and brought that little bit extra to the presentation. Collaborations like these highlight the importance of organisations working together to promote the joy of reading and to continue spreading the vital message about its role in building strong, connected, and literate communities.

Katrina Gee
ALIA National Simultaneous Storytime

'Over the course of her publishing career, through dozens of beloved stories and vivid characters, Sally Rippin has poured her passion for storytelling and early literacy into everything she does. Not only has her work sparked a love of reading within countless children around Australia and the world, it has also set a wonderful foundation for an effective and uplifting Laureateship. Sally is a compassionate, insightful and generous Laureate, and Hardie Grant Children's Publishing has been thrilled to partner with the ACLF to support her mission. All kids can be readers, but not everyone can be the Children's Laureate – it takes a very special author and substantial, sustained support from a fantastic organisation.'

Marisa Pintado
Publishing Director,
Hardie Grant Children's Publishing

'The Library's strategic goal of 'creating new spaces and services for children and young adults' aligns closely with the mission and values of the ACLF. We have partnered with the ACLF to offer events with all the Laureates, both onsite at the State Library and online. These collaborative events have allowed us to share the transformational power of reading, creativity and storytelling with thousands of children and young people, parents and carers, teachers and librarians. The most recent example was our 2024 conference Lit Up! The stories behind the stories where the current laureate Sally Rippin, provided a keynote address for our audience of teachers, teacher librarians and children's librarians from public libraries. Sally's message 'All kids can be readers!' and her writing journey as the author of more than 100 books was warmly received by our audience.

The State Library has been a proud supporter of the ACLF since its inception more than a decade ago and we look forward to being part of the Laureate Program and building on an already inspiring and beneficial relationship.'

Pauline Fitzgerald
Head of Learning,
State Library of New South Wales

3 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sally Rippin, the current Children's Laureate, has conducted a highly successful laureateship term, building on the efforts of seven previous Laureates. The Laureate is now firmly established as a key spokesperson on children's literature, and as an influential ambassador for reading. During her two year term, Sally has reached countless people in person and via the media.

Each Laureate has pursued a unique project based on a powerful message:

'All kids can be readers!'
Sally Rippin, 2024–2025

'Imagine a Story'
Gabrielle Wang, 2022–2023

'Read For Your Life!'
Ursula Dubosarsky, 2020–2021

'Stories Make Us'
Morris Gleitzman, 2018–2019

'It's Your Story'
Leigh Hobbs, 2016–2017

'Share a Story'
Jackie French AM, 2014–2015

'This is My Place'
Alison Lester AM, 2012–2013

'Storykeepers'
Boori Monty Pryor, 2012–2013

This individual message both refreshes the ACLF's vision and widens its audiences during each term. Each Laureate brings a distinctive personal approach to the role, which has distinguished them from their predecessors. Each past Laureate also remains vitally connected to the ACLF program. The ACLF's audiences have increased dramatically with both face-to-face events and online events:

To date the ACLF has:

- Implemented seven consecutive Laureate terms with eight Laureates, and planning for our 2026 & 2027 program is well advanced. In February 2026, the ninth Australian Children's Laureate term will be launched, and planning has been in progress since late 2024.

- Continued to provide an online program and expanded the ACLF's social media presence and website to include films, interactive and downloadable free resources. **[See Collaborative and Inclusive Engagement below.]**

- Participated in and initiated the International Children's Laureate Summits, the seventh of which was held at Bologna Children's Book Fair in 2025 and conducted as a joint promotion with the Children's Publishers Sub-Committee of the Australian Publishers Association culminating in her appearance at the Australian Stand at Bologna Children's Book Fair in 2025.

- Held three Australian Children's Laureate Summits, the third 'One Loud Voice' on 11 May 2023 hosted by the University of Sydney and attended by previous Laureate, Ursula Dubosarsky.

- Consolidated partnerships with a wide range of organisations including the national and state libraries, and the national and state Children's Commissioners.

- Partnered with Story Box Library which has filmed several past Laureates for the *Australian Children's Laureate Series*, including the ACLF Patron, actress and writer, Noni Hazlehurst AM, reading Laureates' works.

- Continued to receive repeat invitations from the organisers of major Australian and international children's literary conferences, festivals, annual lectures and other events.

- Reached remote First Nations audiences working with AISWA, and with other culturally diverse groups via partnerships.

- Reached differently abled and neurodivergent audiences via targeted programs.

- Raised the profile of children's literature via increased media coverage. **[See Appendix B.]**

- Continued joint promotion via the Copyright Agency's Reading Australia website:<https://readingaustralia.com.au/?s=australian+childrens+laureate>

- Continued joint promotion with BookPeople (formerly Australian Booksellers' Association) in contributing to their monthly newsletters and to its *Kids' Reading Guide*.

4 ACHIEVING OUR OBJECTIVES VIA STRATEGIES 2024 & 2025

The ACLF's programs are guided by the three objectives outlined in the revised Strategic Plan 2024–2025 and related strategies and outcomes are detailed below in those terms.

Dynamic, Effective Advocacy and Communication

Strategy 1 Plan, implement and promote the Laureate Program in responsive and innovative ways.

The Program

The ACLF promote the transformative power of reading in changing young people's lives. The focus of this promotion is the work of the current Laureate in advocating both in person and online for universal access to reading in Australia.

The Laureate 2024 & 2025

Sally Rippin was born in Darwin and grew up in South-East Asia, moving country every couple of years because of her father's work. At twelve years old, Sally's family settled in Melbourne, where she completed her high school years before moving to China as a young adult to study traditional Chinese painting for three years.

Sally is Australia's highest-selling female author and has written over 100 books for children and young adults, many of them award-winning, including the popular *Billie B Brown* and *Hey Jack!* series, and the *Polly and Buster* trilogy. More recently, Sally has collaborated with Chris Kennett to create the *School of Monsters* series for beginning readers and Eliza Hull to co-write *Come Over To My House*, and *The World We Can Build*, illustrated by Daniel Gray-Barnett, exploring the lives of families who live with disabilities.

Her widely popular books are beloved across the globe and have sold more than ten million copies in eighteen countries.

Sally has mentored many emerging writers over the last twenty-five years and taught Writing for Children at RMIT University, the CAE and Writers Victoria. Until recently, she co-hosted a podcast and had a monthly program on 3RRR, interviewing people in the children's book industry. In 2022, Sally published a book for parents and educators, titled *Wild Things: How We Learn to Read and What Can Happen If We Don't* with the aim of creating awareness around neurodivergency and learning difficulties and how they may be best supported at home and in the classroom.

Currently, Sally is working on several books for children as well as adapting her work for the screen. Sally loves to write stories with heart and characters that resonate with children, parents and teachers alike.

The Launch

The announcement of Sally Rippin as the eighth Australian Children's Laureate (2024 & 2025) took place at The Wheeler Centre, Melbourne on Tuesday 20 February, 2024. It was a very successful event with 4,500 people watching the live stream and over 115 adults and children in the room. Viewers were from around the country, Homeschool students and even Manchester Street School in New Zealand.

Kristin Darell, ACLF Program Manager, welcomed the audience. ACLF Chair, Bruce Ellis, welcomed the new Laureate on behalf of the ACLF. The launch included Sally in three conversations– with Eliza Hull, a disability advocate and Sally's co-author, with Chris Kennett, illustrator of Sally's *School of Monsters* series, and with Marisa Pintado, Publishing Director at Hardie Grant Children's Publishing. Melissa Thompson was the Auslan interpreter. Also in attendance at the launch were past Laureates Leigh Hobbs, Alison Lester and Gabrielle Wang. Sally promised that:

'Over the next two years, as I travel the country the top three things I will be focussing on will be:

1) The importance of early identification and intervention.

2) The importance of advocacy and accommodations in the classroom for neurodivergent children and those with learning difficulties.

3) Understanding and appreciating the strengths of neurodivergency, as well as the challenges.'

'All reading is reading, whether a child chooses comics, cookbooks or catalogues.'

Sally Rippin

'It has been a pleasure for The Wheeler Centre to support the Australian Children's Laureate program during Sally Rippin's term, and the Australian Children's Laureate Foundation's collaborative approach has made this work both meaningful and seamless.
Sally's tenure has been deeply impactful, bringing warmth, passion and a vital focus on children's literacy needs to communities across Australia. The qualities that have come to define her vision, advocacy and influence over the last two years will continue to resonate long beyond her Laureateship.'

Gene Smith
Head of Programming, The Wheeler Centre

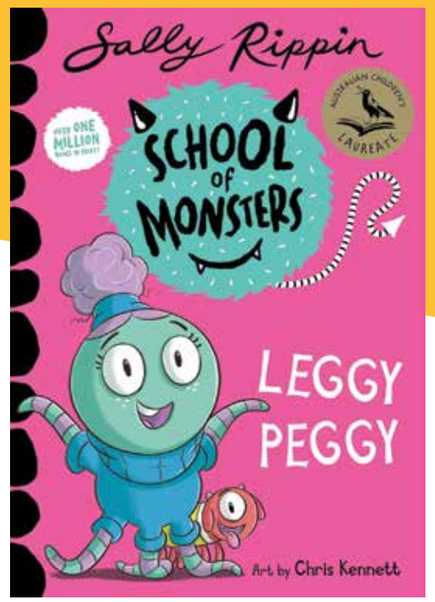
The Laureate's Message Postcard

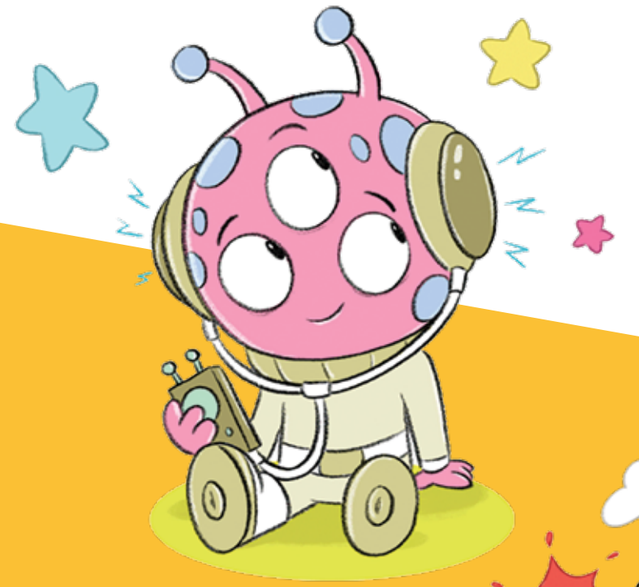
Sally's message was promoted by a postcard illustrated by Chris Kennett featuring characters presenting diverse reading capacities based on their series *School of Monsters*.

3,500 copies were produced in association with Hardie Grant Children's Publishing, Sally's publisher. Magpies magazine distributed 2,000 postcards to schools, libraries and subscribers and the rest were used as promotional materials by the ACLF and Hardie Grant and were available for free downloading on the ACLF website.

Strategy 2 Advocate to government, industry and community the importance of the ACLF and its work by expanding engagement and relationships.

The ACLF is a powerful advocacy body, participating in campaigns, liaising with government and engaging in national and international advocacy.



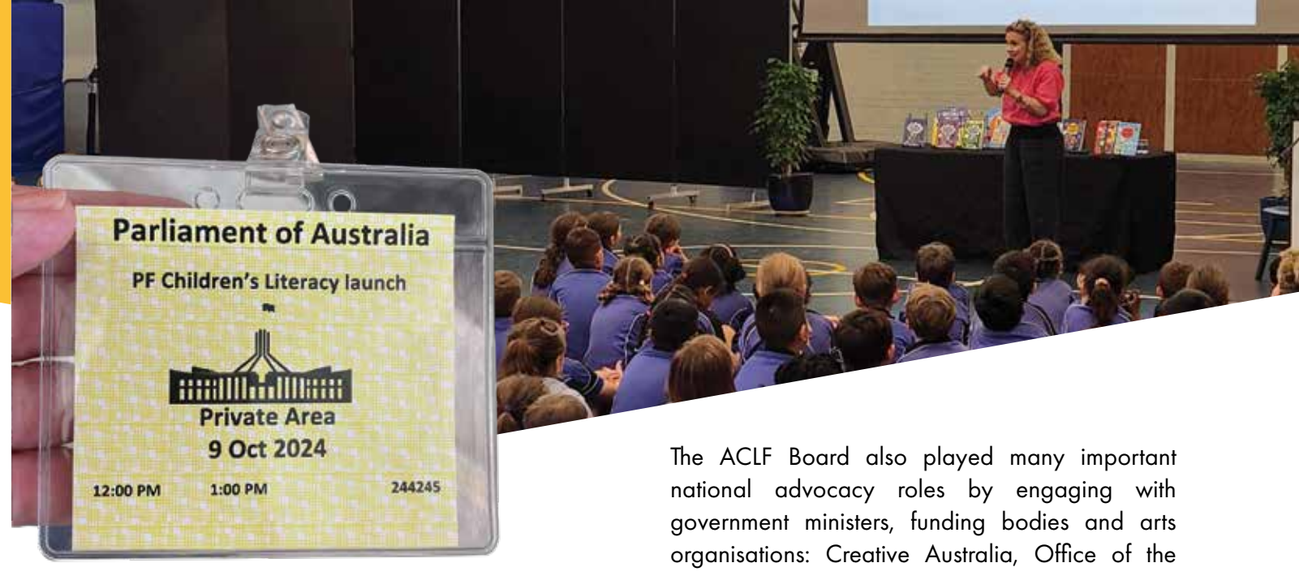


National Advocacy

The Laureate has advocated for the industry by:

- Engagement in 14 official 'Laureate days' per year promoted across a combination of newsletters and social media posts.
- Invitations to numerous other regular key events and countless other smaller events privately arranged, in each year.
- Speaking via appearances at conferences, festivals, events and award ceremonies which has potentially also reached millions online. She is like her predecessors, in constant demand as a speaker throughout Australia. The Laureate has directly engaged with over 74,000 people directly in person or online and reached 15 million through social media and other media channels.
- Visiting or speaking to schools online in all Australian states and territories, and overseas.
- Visiting nearly all State Libraries and at local libraries in a variety of regions.
- Conducting multiple media interviews. **[See PR & Media Coverage 2024 & 2025 below]**
- The One Loud Voice network launched in 2021, aims to embrace a wide range of audiences. with brief author videos about the importance of reading. https://www.childrenslaureate.org.au/one-loud-voice

[See Collaborative and Inclusive Engagement below for lists of events.]



Sally has partnered with organisations by:

- Providing a message in the BookPeople's *Kids Reading Guide (2024–2025)* stocked by 100 bookshops nationally as well as being available digitally via the website. The Laureate was also a keynote speaker at the BookPeople Conference in Brisbane, in June 2025.
- Publishers using Laureate stickers, or wording inside her titles, promoting the ACLF.
- Providing comment on a broad variety of reading campaigns and events as Laureate.

The ACLF Board also played many important national advocacy roles by engaging with government ministers, funding bodies and arts organisations: Creative Australia, Office of the Minister for the Arts, Australia Reads, attended the launch of Parliamentary Friends of Children's Literacy group at Parliament House in Canberra in October 2024, Graham Perrett MP, Arts Advisor to the Special Envoy for the Arts, Sharon Claydon MP, Create Australia, attended Fund Raising seminar in Newcastle hosted by Creative Australia, created a funding submission to the Minister for the Arts.

In July 2025, Sally Rippin was appointed a member of the inaugural Board of the newly formed organisation Writing Australia.

International Advocacy

The Laureate has participated in person and virtually at a number of major international events advocating reading. Her appearances have included:

- The Need to Read event on 16 September 2024 where Sally Rippin (Australian Children's Laureate) and Alan Dingley (Te Awhi Rito New Zealand Reading Ambassador) discussed the importance of engaging young people with reading. This was released on video and hosted by The Wheeler Centre.https://www.wheelercentre.com/events-tickets/season-2024/the-need-to-read-sally-rippin-and-alan-dingley-in-conversation

- Reading IBBY's International Children's Book Day message 'The Language of Pictures' (written by Ruth Nisser, and provided by IBBY-Netherlands) on the IBBY Australia video production celebrating the annual event, 2 April 2025. The ACLF also contributed a short video to the production outlining its advocacy for reading. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sb9Y_p_ZJwA

- In partnership with the Australian Literacy Educators Association (ALEA), Sally with the UK Waterstones Children's Laureate Frank Cottrell-Boyce and the Laureate nanÓg Patricia Forde released a video on International Literacy Day 2024 exploring its theme.

- The seventh International Children's Laureate Summit at the Bologna Children's Book Fair in Italy from 13–16 April included a panel discussion with Laureates and Reading Ambassadors–Frank Cottrell-Boyce (UK), Laureate na nÓg Patricia Forde (Ireland), Giovanni Colaneri (Italy), Agnes Török (Sweden), Rian Visser (The Netherlands), Tialda Hoogeveen (The Netherlands, Friesland). Program Manager Kristin Darell, also participated in a panel with her counterparts in other Laureate programs and was pleased to participate in discussions with two countries that are contemplating establishing a Laureateship – Croatia and Ukraine. Additionally, Sally Rippin shared the importance of Australian stories on the international stage with Australian ambassador Julianne Crowley. Australia has been heavily involved in the Summits since their inception and plays a respected role in this arena.

- In December 2025 an interview with Sally was published in *JuLit* the journal of The Association for Children's and Youth Literature – Arbeitskreis für Jugendliteratur – in Munich, which is also the home of IBBY Germany.

'The Australian Children's Laureate provides a voice for young readers, reminding adults of the joys that reading brings to our kids. Sally Rippin has been an exceptional Laureate, championing reading and reminding us of the support that's needed to ensure every Australian child and young adult has access to great books and stories, created and created with them in mind.'

Australian Publishers Association

'Behind every Children's Laureate
at the biennial gathering of Children's Laureates
in Bologna there is a team dedicated to making sure that the enthusiastic,
sometimes whimsical, always ambitious ideas of each CL can be delivered in a way that
creates most meaning and most impact – and, in almost all cases, at the very lowest cost possible.

The Australian Children's Laureate Foundation has consistently set a standard which the rest of the CL world is keen to follow. The Foundation is tireless in producing intelligent and purposeful publications and in demonstrating best practice in terms of how to disseminate ideas widely so that each Australian CL can be sure their work has made a mark. The result is a programme which brilliantly runs schemes that easily combine reading for pleasure with sound pedagogical principles for learning to read. Thus it speaks to everyone – all children, parents and teachers as well as other writers and illustrators. It should also appeal to funders who want to see their generosity make a real difference.'

Julia Eccleshare, MBE, DLitt
Chair of the International Children's Laureate programme

Read around the world

'Thank you for working with us on the
Need to Read event on 16 September 2024 where
Sally Rippin (Australian Children's Laureate) and Alan Dingley
(Te Awhi Rito New Zealand Reading Ambassador) discussed the importance
of engaging young people with reading. It was quite significant
to bring these two together to speak to a wide audience across Australia
and New Zealand, giving their perspectives on the value and impact
of reading,and sharing proven strategies that inspire and encourage young readers.

Thank you too for inviting The Wheeler Centre to join the collaboration for this event. They contributed the expert facilitation from Bec Kavanagh as well as their long experience in hosting online events so it all went very smoothly. Through our collaboration for this event, we also appreciate the opportunity we had to share our experiences in Australia and New Zealand on leading and managing a national reading ambassador programme. Though we have some different factors and conditions, it has been very interesting and useful to learn more about the approach taken in each country.
Thank you very much for this collaboration, it has been a great pleasure working with you
and we hope to continue our connections and discussions.'
Ngā mihi nui

Kate Irvine
National Manager Capability Services to Schools,
National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa

Strategy 3 Continue to build and expand media and website activity promoting the Laureate message and actions.

PR & Media Coverage 2024 & 2025

The program relies on the Laureate communicating a strong message to the community. The theme 'All kids can be readers!' promotes the variety of formats and differing needs of children who may be differently abled, neurodivergent or experiencing learning difficulties.

The *launch* was promoted by Deb McInnes, DMCPRmedia, and resulted in widespread media coverage as Sally gained media attention throughout her term. [See Appendix B. for brief list.]

Apart from the launch, there have been several major events attracting huge digital audiences, for example:

- *ALIA National Simultaneous Storytime:* videos partnering with ALIA – 2024 was our biggest and most successful NSS to date with over 2.3 million participants at over 21, 000 locations! 2025: The Laureate hosted the event joined by 2,204,698 (!!!) kids online https://www.instagram.com/p/DJ5x6JHT7rb/

- *Laureate Week:* Apart from the 1,000 students who attended in person, an online workshop was also made available to students throughout Australia and attracted over 3,000 viewers.

- SLV Book Bash, 25 June 2025 to a live and online audience totalling 12,935.

Young readers have been encouraged to engage with the Laureate by contributing magpie and monster drawings to the website. The ACLF offers a range of promotional materials and new activities almost every month, available on our website.

Key Media Partners

The ACLF has also benefited from the contributions of six Key Media Partners with a wide readership and/ or viewing audience:

- ***Incite*** – ALIA's Journal published an article on Sally Rippin's Laureateship in 2024,which is sent to ALIA members and around the world. See: Incite Vol 45, Issue 1, March 2024 <https://www.alia.org.au/Web/Web/Research-and-Publications/INCITE/INCITE-Magazine.aspx>

- ***Magpies Magazine*** – released an article on each Laureate and the latest article reached 2,400 schools, libraries and subscribers. See: 'Sally Rippin' Australian Children's Laureate 2024–5' Magpies Volume 39, Issue No 1, March 2024, pp 4–7.

- ***Better Homes and Gardens with Johanna Griggs*** –Television segment on Sally Rippin's Laureateship 13 August 2024 https://7plus.com.au/link/Episode/BHAG30-029

- **Story Box Library** – Until 2024, has curated an 'Australian Children's Laureate Series' containing films and readings from some of their works:<https://www.childrenslaureate.org.au/laureate-videos>

- ***Access:* School Library Association** (ASLA) Journal, Volume 38, Issue 4, December 2024 <https://search.informit.org/toc/access/38/4>

- ***The School Magazine*** 'Q&A with Sally Rippin' <https://www.theschoolmagazine.com.au/news-events/q-a-with-australian-childrens-laureate-sally-rippin>

'Sally and I went and visited a school in Melbourne and she was greeted by the children as an absolute rock star! They all knew her, and could name many of her book series. Watching Sally chat with ease with the children, and the way she unlocked their imaginations was pure joy to witness. This woman is an absolute gem, and she is passionate about the work she is doing as an Author and as our National Laureate. I really hope you enjoy getting to know her on tonight's show. A huge thank you to Kristin Darell and Justine Burton for helping us co-ordinate this story.'

Johanna Griggs
Presenter, Better Homes & Gardens

Website & Social Media Strategy and Outcomes

The ACLF has implemented a social media strategy which has resulted in the following:

Social Media Statistics (to End November 2025)

Update:
In June 2025, a Charles Sturt University student Zachary Morton, taking part in the Internship Program, undertook a *Social Media Strategy 2026 and 2027 Summary Report* to guide the ACLF in its future social media offerings.

Bolinda Audio, as a major sponsor has offered downloaded free audio titles to the ACLF as part of that support, highlighting the work by authors from diverse backgrounds, and for diverse readers.

ACLF Newsletter

Sally has written regular messages for the website newsletter (delivered to the current 2,300 subscribers) with a different theme each month to inspire children's writing, illustration and reading.

Event Statistics for 2024 & 2025 Laureate Events

	Event Numbers Collated
Total Kids (or mixed) LIVE	43581
Total Adults LIVE	4123
Total kids (or mixed) PRE-RECORDED	26340
Total Adults PRE-RECORDED	500
Overall Total	**74209**

Collaborative and Inclusive Engagement

Strategy 1 Develop robust strategic partnerships including participation in key regional, national and international events with educational, cultural and arts organisations.

The ACLF has relied on many mature partnerships to assist in its program delivery and promotion.

Collaborative Engagement

The ACLF has with existing and new partners worked collaboratively to champion reading. **[See Acknowledgment of Partners & Sponsors below]**.

- Engagement with the library sector has been detailed under Dynamic, Effective Advocacy and Communication. The ACLF has also worked with the Australian School Library Association (ASLA) which has supported the inaugural Laureate Week in July 2025.

- The primary and secondary educational sector is widely engaged with the program. AISWA is a major partner in the touring program. The tertiary education sector has supported the ACLF, in particular via its Internship Program with Charles Sturt University.The Foundation for Learning and Literacy is also a major partner in advocating for literacy.

- The ACLF also engages with the early childhood sector by involvement in early childhood conferences and via liaison with organisations such as the Early Childhood Teachers' Association and Early Childhood Australia. eg The Laureate was MC at the Early Childhood Awards in November 2024.

- Publishing and bookselling industry promotion is vital. The Children's Publishers Sub-Committee of the Australian Publishers Association has supported the program since 2013. Hardie Grant Children's Publishing supported the promotion of Sally's term as Laureate. The APA supported her attendance at Bologna in 2025.

- We maintain regular contact with past Laureates, and arrange their involvement in the program, for example, Leigh Hobbs, Gabrielle Wang and Ursula Dubosarsky participated in the inaugural Laureate Week in regions in July 2025.

- 'Laureates Online'<https://www.childrenslaureate.org.au/laureates-online>a series of virtual workshops by current and previous Laureates was launched in October 2021 and continues to be developed.

Key National Events in which the Laureate participated include:

- ALIA, National Simultaneous Storytime, 2024 and 2025
- Sydney Writers Festival, 20–26 May,2024
- SLNSW Lit Up! Festival, Sydney, 3 May 2024
- Keynote Speaker, PETAA Leading with Literacy Conference, 17–18 October, 2024
- AISWA 'Literacy Bites' workshop and touring, October 2024
- Event with Queen Camilla, at Green Square Library and Literary Awards Ceremony, 22 October 2024
- Young Readers' Day, Adelaide Writers Week, 2 March 2025
- Narelle Oliver Lecture, Book Links (Qld), Brisbane,14 May 2025
- SLV Book Bash, 25 June 2025, where a life size 'Hairy Sam' Monster was introduced to the live and online audience!
- AATE/ALEA Conference, Hobart, 3–6 July 2025
- Adult Writing Workshop, Casuarina Library, Darwin, 2 August 2025
- Byron Bay Writers Festival, 8–10 August 2025
- Kids and YA Festival, Rozelle, NSW, 9 August 2025
- Celebrate Reading Conference, The Literature Centre, WA , held at State Library of WA, 23 and 24 August 2025, including celebrating CBCA 80TH Anniversary
- Gleebooks, Raising Readers event, 20 September 2025
- Farewell to Laureate, The Wheeler Centre, 14 November 2025

'Sally was a delight to work with for the State Library Victoria's Book Bash. She researched the best style of delivery by watching past presentations and was happy to come and rehearse her workshop. Sally was very open to feedback and working collaboratively with the Library's Education Team. Her manner and pacing when delivering was warm, friendly and calm - perfect for a primary audience. Sally also managed to smoothly bring the presentation back when there was a technical glitch. We would love to work with Sally and the Australian Children's Laureate Foundation again in the future.'

Mairead Kennedy
Manager, Education and Family Programs, State Library Victoria

4 ACHIEVING OUR OBJECTIVES VIA STRATEGIES 2024 & 2025 continued

'In 2024, Sydney Writers' Festival was delighted to partner with the Australian Children's Laureate Foundation to coordinate both a family-focused, and a parent/guardian-focused session as part of our annual program. These sessions, featuring Sally Rippin, highlighted the importance of creating readers for life, and ways in which we can encourage reading for pleasure. The ACLF were extremely generous and accommodating in their dealings with us, and we received excellent feedback from the sessions.'

Nathan Luff
Children's and YA Manager, Sydney Writers' Festival

'We were thrilled to welcome this year's Australian Children's Laureate, Sally Rippin to Somerset Storyfest. Sally is truly inspiring, captivating young minds with her engaging storytelling and infectious enthusiasm. Her ability to connect with children and ignite their passion for reading made the event unforgettable for all attendees.'

Andrea Lewis
CEO/Founder, Somerset Storyfest

"We had the absolute privilege of hosting the Sydney farewell party for Sally Rippin to thank her and the Laureate team for the incredibly hard work they have done in promoting and celebrating the joy of reading over the last 2 years (and beyond). It has been an especially important period as Sally not only celebrated reading for pleasure to huge audiences around the country, but also highlighted the barriers people face on their reading journey. So many important conversations have been had so we can make sure books and reading are accessible to all. Thank you Sally and the hard working laureate crew for highlighting that all kids can be readers.'

Rachel Robson
Children's Specialist, Gleebooks

AISWA Early Childhood team, in partnership with the Australian Children's Laureate Foundation (ACLF), has been thrilled to host Sally Rippin as the Australian Children's Laureate.

Sally has engaged and inspired budding authors and illustrators across WA the past two weeks, sharing her message 'All kids can be readers!' We also spent a morning at Paper Bird: Children's Books and Art in Fremantle, where we were joined by Sally Rippin fans and the PP students from Lance Holt School. A huge thank you to the schools that made us feel so welcome throughout our travels:

Australian Christian College – Darling Downs
Living Waters Lutheran College
Rockingham Montessori School
Austin Cove Baptist College
Helena River Steiner School
Australian Islamic College Perth
Atlantis Beach Baptist College
Immaculate Heart College
Emmanuel Christian Community School

'Sally Rippin's Laureateship has been a remarkable success. Her ability to connect with children, families, and communities has deepened appreciation for the role of books in young people's lives. For booksellers, this has been especially valuable: her advocacy has highlighted the importance of bookshops as welcoming places where children discover stories that speak to them. Sally's message—that reading builds empathy, confidence, and joy—has resonated strongly with our members, reinforcing the work they do every day. We are grateful for the energy and generosity she brought to her Laureateship and the lasting impact it has had on readers and the bookshops who serve them.'

Robyn Huppert
Communications Manager, BookPeople

'Book Links is delighted to support the wonderful vision of the Australian Children's Laureate Foundation. Every two years we host a fun fundraising quiz for the ACLF celebrating children's literature, where friends and colleagues from the kids' lit world come together in friendly rivalry for the thrill of being crowned the winning team. One of the true highlights for us is welcoming the Laureate to deliver the Narelle Oliver Lecture. This year, we were inspired by Sally Rippin's warm and insightful conversation with Dr Lara Cain Gray, which left the audience buzzing with ideas and admiration. We can't wait to discover who the next Laureate will be and to continue sharing the joy and importance of children's literature with our community.'

Jenny Stubbs
President, Book Links (Qld)

Key Regional and Remote Events in which the Laureate participated include:

- Somerset Storyfest 2024.
- In Conversation with Jacinta Parsons, North Fitzroy Library, August 26, 2024.
- Scribblers Festival, Claremont, WA, October 2024.
- 'All kids can be Readers! event, Vision Australia Headquarters, distributed online to regions, August 2024.
- The Lighthouse, Toowoomba, 13 May 2025.
- Touring in WA with AISWA's support, October 2024.
- Touring Cairns, speaking at the Bulmba-ja Arts Centre, West State School, Hambledon House Community Centre, School of Distance Education and Smithfield Shopping Centre, May 2025.
- Visited Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery to conduct a School Holiday Workshop with Daniel Gray-Barnett 8 July, 2025.
- Participated in the inaugural Laureate Week beginning 28 July 2025 with regional school visits and talks to over 1,000 students in person by the Laureate, Sally Rippin (Darwin, NT) and past Laureates, Leigh Hobbs (Burnie, Tasmania), Gabrielle Wang (Whyalla, SA) and Ursula Dubosarsky (Kewdale, WA). Schools that participated were The Essington School – Darwin, Northern Territory; Carlisle Primary School – Kewdale, Western Australia; Stella Maris Catholic Primary School – Burnie, Tasmania; OLHC Samaritan College – Whyalla, South Australia. An online workshop was also made available to students throughout Australia.
- Words on the Waves Festival event aligned with the CBCA (Central Coast). Speaking at Erina Library Hub, Central NSW Coast, event focussed on disability awareness, 18 September 2025.
- Focus on Dyslexia Event, Warrnambool Library, Victoria, 22 October, 2025, with Vision Australia and Dyslexia Australia, streamed live.

Laureate Week
ACLF Proudly partnered with ASLA

'Sally Rippin's generosity in sharing her experiences as a writer, a parent grappling with the learning and literacy needs of her son and an advocate and champion for young people's rights to access stories on their own terms, made her an inspirational speaker at our 2025 Celebrate Reading Conference. She is the definition of everything an Australian Children's Laureate should be.'

Elizabeth Spencer
The Literature Centre

'The Australian School Library Association is thrilled to partner with the ACLF on this initiative [Inaugural Laureate Week]. Bringing Laureates into regional school libraries and giving children the opportunity to meet authors they may never otherwise encounter is a powerful way to spark imagination, nurture a love of reading and writing, and show young people that their voices and stories matter.'

Martha Itzcovitz
ASLA President

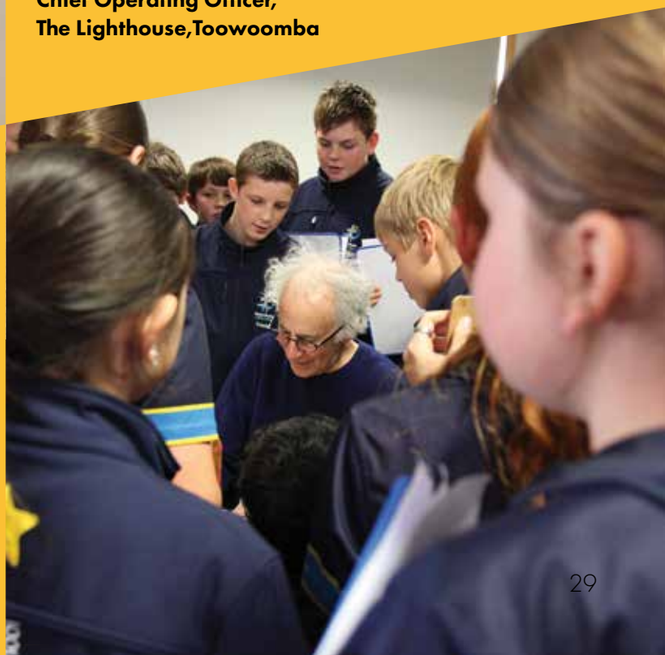
'That was so cool.
We read her books in the library
all the time, and she is real!'

And from Johnny (aged 9)

'Sally Rippin's visit to Toowoomba was everything we hoped it would be, and more. There was a quiet kind of magic in the way she connected with everyone she met, from wide-eyed young readers to seasoned educators looking for fresh inspiration.

At Rockville State School, the joy was palpable. The children had poured so much heart into creating their own book, Superhero, and to see Sally not only take the time to acknowledge it, but to reciprocate and honour their work with signed copies of her own books. It was more than encouragement; it was genuine recognition of their efforts and imagination. The Super Session was another standout. Sally's approach was generous and grounded. She spoke with such enthusiasm about her writing journey, and offered step-by-step instruction for illustrating that left the youngest students feeling inspired and capable. The guest authors who also attended were transfixed by watching Sally read from one of her novels as the children quietly drew! There was only the sound of her voice and the scratching of pencils to be heard! Just when you think it can't be topped, the Master Class for the senior students ensured every student believed they truly could be the writers of the future. To have the Children's Laureate visit our regional community meant so much. It validated the work we're doing, encouraged our young storytellers, and reminded us that creativity belongs to everyone, everywhere. We are so grateful for the time, care, and inspiration Sally brought with her.'

Emily MacManus
Chief Operating Officer,
The Lighthouse,Toowoomba



Inclusive Engagement

The Laureate has spoken to diverse audiences in partnership with organisations focussed on diversity such as:

- During Children's Book Week 2024, a videoed event was hosted by Sarah Bloedorn, of Vision Australia, where Sally was joined by Young Adult writer and blind sports athlete Zara Perry and Australia's first blind fashion designer Nikki Hind, and produced by Vision Australia in partnership with the ACLF.

- Engagement with First Nations children was facilitated via remote touring with AISWA's support, in October 2024.

- The ACLF Board has partnered with generous sponsor Bolinda Audio in 2024 & 2025 with monthly releases of audio books having been tied to the program.

- The Laureate was a keynote speaker at Somerset Storyfest 2024, Gold Coast, Qld, to provide support for the inaugural DANZ Children's Book Awards – the first diversity book awards in Australia and NZ. To her surprise, Sally was also co-winner in the Picture Book category, judged by children.

- The Foundation for Learning and Literacy released a videoed Symposium, in 2024: a conversation about their writing between Sally Rippin and Gregg Dreise, author, songwriter and illustrator, and a descendant of the Kamilaroi and Euahlayi people of south-west Queensland and north-west New South Wales.

- Creating an introductory video to celebrate Yarra Plenty Libraries' '*Come Over to My House* Exhibition and Video Series, for International Day of People with Disability, 3 December 2024 .

- Creating a video to support the Hook Into Books campaign, 2024.

- An Auslan edition of *Come Over to My House* by Sally Rippin and Eliza Hull illustrated by Daniel Gray-Barnett (Hardie Grant Children's Publishing, 2022) was created.

- Many Laureate events such as the launch in 2024 and SLV's Book Bash in 2025 were accompanied by Auslan interpreters.

The ACLF is also contributing a video to support the Foundation for Learning and Literacy's *#we all like a good story...* Imagine the Possibilities campaign in 2025.

'Vision Australia Library
has greatly appreciated the partnership
with ACLF and Sally Rippin during her laureateship as an
opportunity to celebrate the many wonderful ways that people can read.
Working with Sally has provided a great platform to reach new audiences, have important
conversations about access and inclusion and to support children who have a print disability.'

Sarah Bloedorn
Manager, Library Services, Vision Australia

'Sally Rippin's time as Australian Children's Laureate 2024-2025 has been a deeply impactful chapter in the promotion of literacy across Australia. Her passion for ensuring that every child feels seen, supported and included in their reading journey has resonated powerfully nationwide, and at Bolinda audio we've seen an incredible response from libraries who have supported her work throughout her laureateship.

Bolinda audio is proud to publish Sally's beloved *Billie B Brown, Hey Jack,* and *School of Monsters* series in audio, alongside her co-authored picture books and her adult title *Wild Things*. Her audiobooks have become essential listening in homes and libraries across ANZ and around the world, enriching the lives of countless young readers and offering accessible formats that empower all children to engage with storytelling.

Sally's laureateship has elevated the importance of inclusive storytelling. Bolinda audio celebrates her immense contribution to Australian literacy; her legacy will continue to inspire the Australian children's book landscape long after her Laureate tenure concludes.'

Rebecca Herrmann
Founder and Co-CEO, Bolinda

Strategy 2 Utilise Commissioners for Children and Young People in each state and territory to establish a Young Laureate's Advisory Ambassador group.

Research was completed by a university intern on the viability and possible processes for the recruitment and appointment of a Young Ambassador's advisory group. The Board resolved to meet about this initiative in August 2025.

Strategy 3 Initiate relevant research, collect, and analyse pertinent data, including the annual ACLF survey.

The ACLF collects data and conducts research via:

Observership Program: The ACLF (via Mandy van den Elshout) has engaged with The Observership Program https://www.observership.com.au/which recruits skilled individuals via application and interview to voluntarily assist the ACLF's development in key areas. We thank Amanda Lauchlan (2022), Daniel Carlin and Christopher Kong (2023), Joanna Zhang (2024) and Hema Tk (2025) for their expert work with the ACLF.

Internship Program: The ACLF also worked with interns from Charles Sturt University in association with their Lecturer Kasey Garrison from the Faculty of Arts and Education, Children's Librarianship Specialisation Coordinator – Lindy Batchelor worked with Jody Gilroy, Jess Vassallo, Ala Muti, Jess Jones, Lucy Gallagher and Zachary Morton– Mandy van den Elshout worked with Zachary Morton, Daniel Muller and Renee Strong – to conduct research and to develop appropriately-targeted resources.

A regular survey of our supporters is also conducted.

'With the lockdowns and closures of many libraries and information agencies during and after the pandemic, we had to pivot our course to develop virtual placement experiences and the ACLF was a huge support in this. They have been working with our students in the Master of Education-Teacher Librarianship degree with these virtual placements for the past 5 years. Even though many agencies are now open, students are still finding it challenging to find hosts able to accommodate them so the flexibility of the ACLF in the virtual format has been invaluable. They have supported more than ten students graduate and become fully qualified teacher librarians since 2021. My students have been very pleased about their experiences as well, noting that they have "got a lot of value" out of it, describing it as "very interesting" and "incorporating all of their learning from their course" with "extremely lovely," "helpful and supportive" supervisors. I am so grateful to Mandy and Lindy and the rest of the ACLF for their ongoing support and I look forward to continuing to build this relationship in the future.'

Dr. Kasey L. Garrison
Senior Lecturer, Associate Head of School – Research, Children's Librarianship Specialisation Coordinator, Teacher Librarianship, School of Information & Communication Studies, Faculty of Arts & Education, Charles Sturt University

'The Foundation for Learning and Literacy has been delighted to partner with the Australian Children's Laureate Foundation over the last few years. In her Laureate role last year, Sally Rippin chaired a wonderful discussion with Gregg Driese entitled *First Nations Literature for Young People* under the 2024 Symposium theme *We all like a good story*. This is available on YouTube and has had over 250 views. I know Sally is also planning to generously provide an Ambassador video for this year's theme *Imagine the possibilities*. As a strong supporter of ACLF, I have also been impressed by Sally's excellent presentations at peak teacher professional associations, for example, the recent Australian Association for the Teaching of English/Australian Literacy Educators Association conference in Tasmania. She is warm, enthusiastic, speaks from the heart and relates extremely well with the profession.'

Robyn Ewing AM
Co-Convenor, Foundation for Learning and Literacy

Operational Integrity and Sustainability

Strategy 1 Secure core and ongoing funding through grant applications, donations, fundraising projects and sponsorship.

Treasurer's Report

The Australian Children's Laureate Foundation presents the Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2025.

During the 2025 financial year, the Foundation reported a shortfall of ($20,391) (2024: ($8,950)) and a net cash balance of $120,083 (2024: $157,653). The shortfall over the past two years is predominantly related to a change in the timing of receipt of some of our grant funding.

Total Assets were $120,527 (2024: $158,140) and Total Liabilities were $73,508 (2024: $90,730) with Total Member Funds of $47,019 (2024: $67,410).

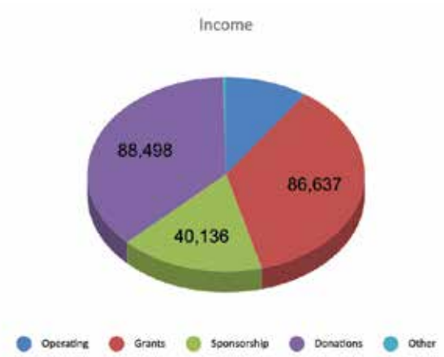
The Income Statement shows Total Revenue of $108,637 (2024: $130,519). Revenue was made up of Operating and Other Income of $8,132 (2024: $15,752), Grants $47,705 (2024: $38,932) which includes Copyright Agency Cultural Fund and Creative Australia, and Sponsorship and Donations of $45,800 (2024: $42,698). The Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia (AISWA) also generously supports touring and operating costs.

Total Expenses of $129,028 (2024: $139,469) represented a decrease of $4,487 or 7.5% on the total for the previous year.

Generous support by the Gourlay Charitable Trust, the CBAH Asha Daan Trust, the Deafness Foundation, The Australian School Library Association, Book Links QLD and a number of industry partners and sponsors.

Bruce Ellis
Acting Treasurer

2024/25 Income and Expenditure



Graphs represent totals across the 2024 and 2025 financial years

'The Copyright Agency's Cultural Fund is proud to support the Australian Children's Laureate and the important connections the role makes with young readers, teachers, librarians, parents, and the writing sector in general. Sally Rippin has been an exemplary Laureate and has brought her trademark passion and warmth to the role. *Come Over to My House*, co-authored with Eliza Hull and illustrated by Daniel Gray-Barnett, has featured prominently on Reading Australia during this time. It has been such a joy to see Sally's work and mission resonate with the community. Congratulations on an outstanding term.'

Josephine Johnston
CEO, Copyright Agency

Strategy 2 Implement and sustain best practice corporate governance.

Strategic Planning & Governance

The ACLF is managed by an experienced voluntary board, with expertise in education, literature and publishing, legal and financial matters and philanthropy. The Board thoroughly revised its Strategic Plan in 2023, for 2024 and 2025, and included three more streamlined values to reflect the objectives which had driven the organisation since its inception. The ACLF Strategic Plan drives a Biennial Report process. A *Board Skills Matrix* ensures that appropriate skills are either represented or being sought after.

Board &Part-Time Contractors

The program is directed by the Board, and managed by two part-time contractors whose dedication and expertise are greatly valued – Kristin Darell, Program Manager and Justine Burton, Marketing and Administration Officer. Former Office Administrator, Lee Burgemeestre, offers expert freelance design skills to the team.

Note: Lindy Batchelor, Robyn Sheahan-Bright and Laurine Croasdale retired in August 2025, and Emily Banyard, in November 2025; Gregg Dreise served February 2024 to March 2025.

Bruce Ellis
ACLF Chair

Dr Robyn Sheahan-Bright
ACLF Deputy-Chair

Emily Banyard

Lindy Batchelor

Laurine Croasdale

Daniel Carlin

Gregg Dreise

Ron Gorman

Kim Kane

Mandy van den Elshout

Kristin Darell
ACLF Program Manager

Justine Burton
ACLF Office Administrator

Lee Burgemeestre
Freelance Designer

4 ACHIEVING OUR OBJECTIVES VIA STRATEGIES 2024 & 2025 continued

A network of volunteers and supporters across Australia assists in a variety of ways. There is a strategic team approach for each state and territory that includes the Board liaising with representatives from:

- The National Library and each State Library
- Universities in Australian capital cities or regional areas
- The National and State Commissioners for Children and Young People
- The Departments of Education
- Children's literature and reading and writing advocacy organisations
- Booksellers, publishers and related advocacy organisations
- Other volunteers

Strategy 3
Continue professional, sustainable operational management.

The budget is monitored via financial statements, grant acquittals and regular reportage of donations. The ACLF updates the Strategic Plan progress at each Board meeting.

5 CONCLUSION

The ACLF has, with each Laureate's term, grown in its influence and increased the power of its advocacy. In 2024 and 2025, Sally Rippin has addressed the needs of neurodivergent young readers and championed the literacy needs of those who 'don't fit in' to standardised educational settings.

Her audiences both in person and online have exceeded 74,000.

Her message has been conveyed to a breadth of audiences, many of whom have not previously appreciated the importance of literacy.

Sally Rippin has been an outstanding advocate and has advanced the work of the ACLF in both tangible and unquantifiable ways, via her powerful message:

'All kids can be readers!'

Appendix A. Acknowledgement of Partners and Sponsors 2024 & 2025

Major Creative Partners 2024–2025: Copyright Agency Cultural Fund, Creative Australia (formerly Australia Council for the Arts), The Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia (AISWA), Hardie Grant Children's Publishing, Children's Publishing Committee (CPC) of the APA, Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA), Australian School Library Association (ASLA), The Wheeler Centre, Book Links (Qld) Inc.

Private donations and benefactors include: Gourlay Charitable Trust and CBAH Asha Daan Philanthropic Trust.

Arts and Educational Organisations and Partners in Activities: ABC Early Education TV and Radio, Australian Association for the Teaching of English (AATE), The Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia (AISWA), Australia Reads, Australian Literacy Educator's Association (ALEA), Australian Publishers Association (APA), Australian School Library Association (ASLA), BookPeople, Children's Book Council of Australia (and various state and sub-branches), Copyright Agency Reading Australia, Foundation for Learning and Literacy, Hook Into Books, Independent Schools Victoria, Indigenous Literacy Foundation, NCACL, PETAA Webinars for both metro & regional and remote audiences, Schools of Distance Education (Cairns), Seven Network, Somerset Storyfest, Story Box Library, Sydney Writers Festival, The Literature Centre, The Lighthouse Toowoomba, The School Magazine, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Te Awhi Rito NZ Reading Ambassador, Vision Australia, Words on the Waves, Your Kids Next Read.

Other: Our continued thanks to Feathers of Australia artists Andre and Catherine van Niekerk who built the successful business – *Fathers of Krysna* – in South Africa. Having built an international reputation in their field, they immigrated to Australia on a distinguished talents visa. They generously create the beautiful magpie sculptures presented to each of the Laureates at the beginning of their term.

Maxwell & Williams have generously donated homewares for fund-raising initiatives.

Appendix B.
Media Coverage

Selected Examples (arranged by date):

2024

Steger, Jason 'Rippin Yarns make Sally the new Australian Children's Laureate' *The Sydney Morning Herald* February7, 2024 <https://www.smh.com.au/culture/books/rippin-yarns-make-sally-the-new-australian-children-s-laureate-20240206-p5f2w5.html>

'Sally Rippin Australian Children's Laureate 2024-2025' *Paperbark* Words <https://paperbarkwords.blog/2024/02/27/sally-rippin-australian-childrens-laureate/> [Published in *The Australian*]

'Sally Rippin – Australian Children's Laureate 2024-2025, Q&A *QBD Books* https://blog.qbd.com.au/sally-rippin-australian-childrens-laureate-2024-25-qa/

'How can we get children to read?' *The Weekend Australian* February 14, 2024

'Sally Rippin's mission to get more kids reading' *Australia Reads* March 13, 2024 <https://australiareads.org.au/news/childrens-laureate-24/>

'Member Spotlight: Sally Rippin' *Australian Society of Authors* April 1, 2024 <https://www.asauthors.org.au/news/member-spotlight-sally-rippin/>

'Interview: Australian Children's laureate, Sally Rippin' *The Press Gang* June 9, 2024 <https://pressgang.news/2024/06/29/interview-australian-childrens-laureate-sally-rippin/>

'Australian Children's Laureate 2024-2025: Sally Rippin' *Schools Catalogue Information Service (SCIS)* Issue 129, Term Two 2024 <https://www.scisdata.com/connections/issue-129/australian-children-s-laureate-2024-25-sally-rippin/>

'All kids can be readers! Reflections halfway through being Australia's Children's Laureate' *Journal of the Australian School Library Association – ACCESS*, Volume 38, Issue 4, December 2024

2025

'Sally Rippin on advocacy, change, and the future of reading' *School News Australia* March 18, 2025 <https://www.school-news.com.au/news/sally-rippin-on-advocacy-change-and-the-future-of-reading/>

'Celebrating International Children's Book Day with Sally Rippin' *Business Victoria* 2 April 2, 2025 https://business.vic.gov.au/news-and-updates/2025/celebrating-international-childrens-book-day-with-sally-rippin

'All kids can be readers: Q&A with Sally Rippin' *The School Magazine* June 18, 2025 <https://www.theschoolmagazine.com.au/news-events/q-a-with-australian-childrens-laureate-sally-rippin>

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AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN'S LAUREATE FOUNDATION