

Annual Report 2025

Adelaide Hills, Adelaide Plains, Alpine Valley, Barossa Valley, Beechworth, Bendigo, Blackwood Valley, Canberra District, Clare Valley, Coonawarra, Cowra, Currency Creek, Eden Valley, Geelong, Geopraphe, Gippsland, Glenrowan, Goulburn Valley, Grampians, Granite Belt, Great Southern, Gundagai, Hastings River, Heathcote, Henty, Hilltops, Hunter, Kangaroo Island, King Valley, Langhorne Creek, Macedon Ranges, Manjimup, Margaret River, McLaren Vale, Mornington Peninsula, Mount Benson, Mount Gambier, Mudgee, Murray Darling, New England Australia, Orange, Padthaway, Peel, Pemberton, Perricoota, Perth Hills, Pyrenees, Riverina, Riverland, Robe, Rutherglen, Shoalhaven Coast, South Burnett, Southern Fleurieu, Southern Flinders Ranges, Southern Highlands, Strathbogie Ranges, Sunbury, Swan District, Swan Hill, Tasmania, Tumbarumba, Upper Goulburn, Wattonbully, Yarra Valley

Advancing Australian wine through trusted
science and practical solutions.

AWRI

Australian Wine Research Institute Annual Report 2025

The Australian Wine Research Institute Ltd was incorporated on 27 April 1955. It is a company limited by guarantee that does not have a share capital, and is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

The Constitution of The Australian Wine Research Institute Ltd (AWRI) sets out in broad terms the aims of the AWRI. The AWRI's activities are then guided by its mission, values and behaviours.

Mission

Working in partnership to translate scientific and technical know-how.

Values

Values provide guidance in how AWRI will deliver on its mission. AWRI's values are:

- Excellence
- Integrity
- Passion

Behaviours

The behaviours that support our values are:

Excellence

- Outcomes focused, delivering results
- Personal mastery – being the best one can be
- Asking and answering the right questions
- Relevant to industry
- Collaborating to achieve faster, better or cheaper outcomes

Integrity

- Accountability to stakeholders
- Dealing honestly, impartially and consistently
- Scientific and professional rigour

Passion

- Enthusiasm for our people, our industry and our products
- Spirit of creativity
- Enjoying work and celebrating achievements
- Desire to do better
- Pursuing knowledge and understanding

Location

AWRI's laboratories and offices are housed in the Wine Innovation Central Building within an internationally renowned research cluster on the Waite Research Precinct at Urrbrae in the Adelaide foothills. Grape and wine scientists from other organisations are co-located with AWRI in the Wine Innovation Central Building.

The Waite Research Precinct is also home to other research and teaching organisations including: Australian Genome Research Facility, Australian Plant Phenomics Facility, CSIRO, South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI), the University of Adelaide's School of Agriculture, Food and Wine and the Waite Research Institute.

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AWRI acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country we work on throughout Australia. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

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71st Annual Report - 30 June 2025
Presented to the Australian grape and wine community

Chair and Managing Director's report



Introduction

This year marks an extraordinary milestone for the Australian Wine Research Institute as we celebrate 70 years of innovation, collaboration and impact across our nation's wine sector. Since 1955, the AWRI has stood at the intersection of science and industry—translating curiosity into discovery, and discovery into real-world value for growers, winemakers and the industry at large.

As we reflect on seven decades of achievement, what stands out most is not just the scientific breakthroughs or the world-class capabilities we've built, but the people, partnerships and passion that have driven our success. In 2025, the AWRI is not only celebrating its history, it is embracing its future with energy, optimism and a renewed commitment to helping Australian wine thrive in an ever-changing global landscape.

Wine Australia's National Vintage Survey estimated the 2025 Australian winegrape crush to be 1.57 million tonnes, 11% higher than 2024 but 8% below the 10-year average (2015–2024) of 1.71 million tonnes. A range of macro and localised weather effects impacted growing conditions across Australian regions. 2024 was recorded as Australia's second-hottest year on record, but also the wettest since 2011; however, the distribution of rainfall was not uniform across the country. Western Australia and inland New South Wales experienced significantly wetter than average conditions, while South-Eastern NSW, most of Victoria, Southern and South-Eastern South Australia and parts of Tasmania had below average rainfall, with some areas experiencing drought conditions. An unseasonal cold snap in September led to frost damage across regions in South Australia, Victoria and NSW/ACT, particularly affecting the yield of early-ripening white varieties such as Chardonnay. Areas experiencing hotter and drier conditions generally experienced low disease pressure; however, a heatwave in December affected vines across Victoria and South Australia, and there was a major bushfire in the Grampians region. The AWRI continues to be the 'go-to' organisation for industry in supporting producers through these challenging climatic conditions.

Global influences

Globally, the wine industry continues to face the challenge of an ongoing downturn in wine consumption. The International Organisation of Vine and Wine has estimated global wine consumption in 2024 as 214.2 million hectolitres, down 3.3% from the previous year and, if confirmed, the lowest volume recorded since 1961 (213.6 million hectolitres). Several factors are contributing to this decline, including geopolitical tensions, increased production and distribution costs, inflationary pressures and changes in social trends and consumer behaviour. Conversations are continuing within the Australian wine community about how best to adapt to these global trends and what structural or policy changes are needed to ensure that our industry maintains a sustainable footing.

Restructuring our commercial operations for financial sustainability

Following an organisational restructure in June 2024, in which ten staff positions were disestablished, AWRI has adapted its operations to ensure continued delivery of research and services for industry. We remain grateful for the contributions of former colleagues whose expertise helped shape our capabilities.

AWRI has taken decisive steps to place its commercial operation, Affinity Labs, on a financially sustainable footing. In response to changing industry demand for commercial testing services, a comprehensive operational review was undertaken in early 2025 to identify Affinity Labs' core capabilities and areas of strongest market need. In May 2025, Affinity Labs restructured its service offerings. While grapevine virus testing and elimination services have been discontinued, these services remain available to industry through Agriculture Victoria.

By contrast, demand for our 'Good Laboratory Practice'-accredited studies on agrochemicals for producers of a wide range of crops continued to grow. As one of only two laboratories accredited to perform this work in Australia, Affinity Labs has strengthened this specialised capability, which provides a stable foundation for developing and delivering targeted services to grape and wine producers.

Continuing focus on delivering for industry

The past two years have brought considerable challenges for AWRI. Nonetheless, our focus on delivering the best possible outcomes for industry through world-class science and support activities remains unwavering. There continues to be many exciting research, development and extension projects underway at the AWRI, all conducted in close collaboration with grape and wine producers across Australia. We encourage you to read the highlights included in this Annual Report.

Whether it's new options for managing wine taints and faults, the ability to test grapevines to the clonal level, a better understanding of ways to optimise NOLO wine, or the latest knowledge on wine flavours, the AWRI team is constantly listening, learning and applying industry insights to ensure that its work is relevant, efficient and ready for industry to apply and use.

Progress in Wine Australia projects

AWRI's strong partnership with Wine Australia has continued to deliver important outcomes for the Australian wine industry. Our extension and adoption projects delivered good results and have strengthened the collaboration between our extension team and Wine Australia's National Extension and Adoption Manager, leading to more streamlined processes and enhanced communication between our organisations.

A significant review of the AWRI library project was conducted during the year, demonstrating strong industry demand for the use of the

AWRI library's critical information-provision services.

Important achievements from the Wine Australia-supported 'Impact Project' portfolio this year include:

- The initial (beta) rollout of the grapevine clonal ID service, including sample-processing and sequencing data analysis against reference genomes.
- An assessment of commercial bentonites' metal leaching properties, confirmation of zeolite supply consistency, and a summary of expected regulatory changes to metal limits in wine as progress towards single-step stabilisation.
- Technical validation of the use of smart surfaces for the removal of volatile sulfur compounds from wine at increasing throughputs, design of a modular housing system, and initial cost comparisons against existing technologies.
- Achievement of 95% consistency in detection of *Brettanomyces* accuracy during pilot trials, refinement of sample handling protocols and development of commercialisation agreements for *Brettanomyces* diagnostics.

Following the finalisation of the One Grape and Wine Sector Plan in August 2024, Wine Australia released its 2025-2030 Strategic Plan in May 2025. We will continue to work in collaboration with Wine Australia to understand how our capabilities can help achieve the goals for industry success and sustainability outlined in this plan.

Supporting learning and development

Supporting staff career-development and fostering an attitude of lifelong-learning is an ongoing priority at AWRI. Our internal leadership development program continued during the year, with two new staff joining the program in February after two had completed their participation. In addition, staff across the organisation accessed a range of other professional development opportunities including training in management, communication skills and leadership, as well as participation in national and international scientific and technical conferences.

Maintaining international networks

The 'BAG' alliance with the University of Bordeaux and Geisenheim University, which was formally expanded last year to include the University of Adelaide, continued its collaborative activities in 2024/25. A presentation delivered in June 2025 to members of the EU parliament on the global challenges facing the wine sector was a key highlight. AWRI also continued participation in international

scientific networks such as OENOVITI and contributed scientific expertise to the international regulatory forums FIVS, OIV and WWTG. This work supports the Australian Government, Australian Grape & Wine and Wine Australia in maintaining market access for Australian wines through provision of specialised technical knowledge.

Partnership with University of Adelaide

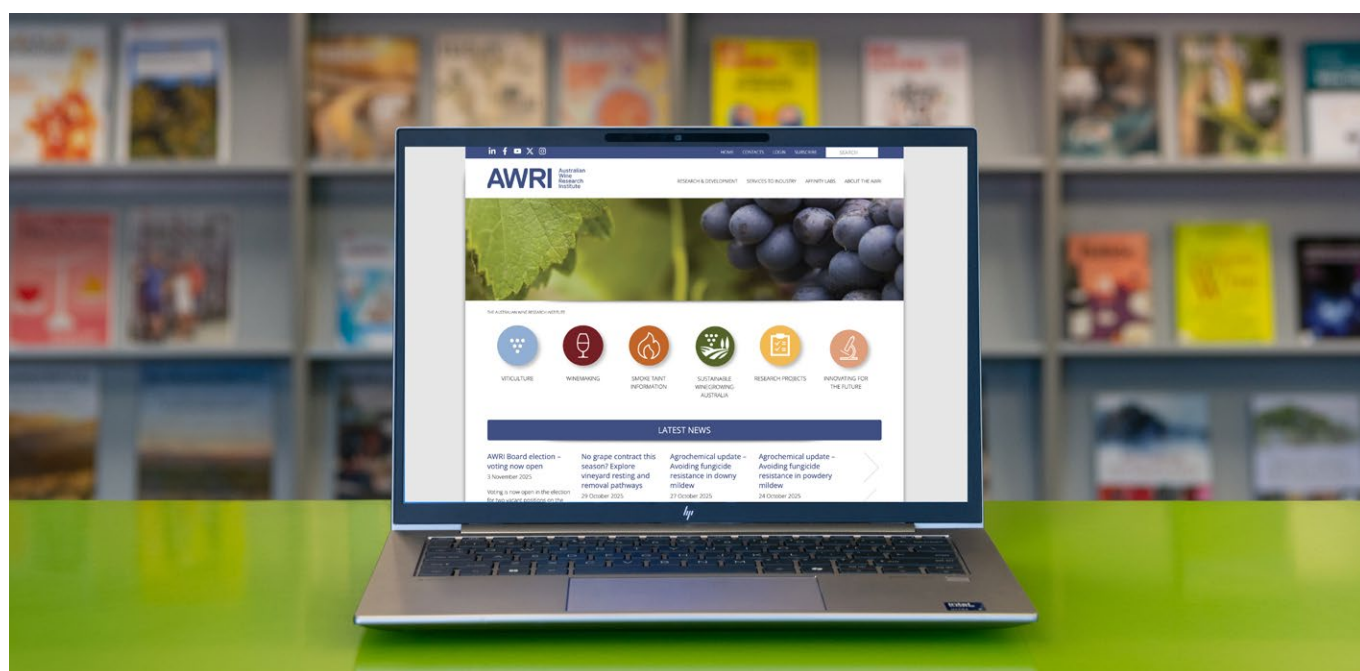
AWRI's strategic partnership with the University of Adelaide continues to strengthen. The arrangements developed through the novation of AWRI's investment agreement with Wine Australia, delivering additional funds in support of the Australian wine industry, are now well embedded, and the three organisations are working productively together for the benefit of the Australian wine sector. We are looking forward to exciting developments over the next year, as Adelaide University (formed through a merger with the University of South Australia) launches on 1 January 2026.

Environmental, social and governance

AWRI is committed to operating sustainably and its environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance remains a key priority of the AWRI Board and management team. Key activities for 2024/25 include:

- WIC Winemaking Services, based at the Hickinbotham Roseworthy Wine Science Laboratory, underwent its Sustainable Winegrowing Australia recertification audit and maintained its accreditation.
- Progressing the gender action plan through the review of key metrics recorded during recruitment processes, resignations, promotions and leave utilisation.
- Five AWRI staff attended the Women in Wine Symposium in Hobart on 22 November 2024. The group has provided a list of actions to be considered for implementation across the AWRI.
- A cohort of volunteer Employee Support Officers was trained to assist employees by acting as an alternative point of contact when employees want to know what they can do if they experience harassment, discrimination, bullying or victimisation in the workplace.
- Regular reporting to the AWRI Board regarding compliance with the AWRI's statutory obligations.

AWRI models its governance framework on the Australian Institute of Company Directors' Not-for-Profit Governance Principles and reviews its framework to ensure it remains in alignment with the principles and to identify areas for improvement.





Looking towards vintage 2026

The Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting warmer and wetter conditions for the upcoming growing season across most of Australia. This may increase risks of disease and localised flooding or waterlogging but could also potentially help mitigate the very dry conditions experienced over winter in some regions. AWRI will continue to provide updates to growers and winemakers about the impacts of weather conditions on grape and wine production, and steps that can be taken to prevent or manage potential concerns.

Thanks to our partners, supporters, Directors and staff

In closing, we would like to thank members of Australia's grape and wine community for their valued support over the past year. We are grateful to Wine Australia for its ongoing support and collaboration, and to Australian Grape & Wine for its support, industry leadership and ongoing representation of Australia's growers and winemakers.

Every year AWRI cooperates closely with researchers, clients and investment partners across Australia and around the world. We thank these partners for their contributions and commitment to the Australian grape and wine industry.

The AWRI Board works behind the scenes to support AWRI's strategy and ensure the Institute's long-term success. The Directors who served this year are thanked for their dedication to the AWRI and willingness to contribute to our industry.

And finally, we would like to thank the AWRI staff who work tirelessly to support a successful and sustainable Australian wine industry. Thank you for your ongoing commitment, enthusiasm and resilience.

Kieran Kirk
Chair

Mark Krstic
Managing Director

Everything we do starts with you

65

wine regions across Australia

.....

2,156

wineries from large to small

.....

5,408

grapegrowers across the
wine regions

.....

People employed

203,392

directly and indirectly in industry

.....

\$5.7B

in sales value

What your levies made possible this year

Outcome highlights

With the support of Wine Australia, with levies from Australia's grapegrowers and winemakers and matching funds from the Australian Government, we have achieved some incredible things. Here's a snapshot of what your levies made possible:

- 1** A Chardonnay study is exploring whether there is a more cost-effective option to expensive oak barrels. Researchers are comparing low-density polymer vessels with stable oxygen permeability and added toasted oak staves to neutral (4-year-old) oak barrels with staves also added.
- 2** DNA from more than 300 individual vine samples were analysed from 54 discrete heritage vineyards/varietal sites, assumed to have been planted prior to 1900. They were shown to be planted with germplasm that is genetically polyclonal, comprising vines with different genetic fingerprints.
- 3** The development of a new method to recycle winery fermentation lees into a useful extract as a fermentation nutrient. Collaboration with an enzyme supplier is helping to optimise and improve the lees extraction process.
- 4** New alternatives to traditional phenolic fining agents have been explored. Carbon-based materials were assessed as alternatives to PVPP for phenolic removal in white wines, with results highlighting graphene and carbon nanotubes as promising multifunctional options for improving wine clarity and stability.
- 5** A new paper has introduced a rapid NMR method for quantifying proline in wine. Initially available through Metabolomics Australia, this method offers producers a fast, cost-effective way to monitor proline levels, providing valuable insights for viticultural management and informing quality control or blending decisions.
- 6** Delivery of a report on the development and trialling of winery-compatible CO₂ recovery solutions. It addresses technical, market, supply chain and financial considerations for capturing, treating and reusing fermentation-derived CO₂.
- 7** Demonstrated the feasibility and commercial potential of autonomous vineyard spraying using the GOtrack autonomy kit. The project focused on validating technical performance, understanding operational workflows and identifying key enablers and barriers to broader industry adoption.
- 8** Investigated the feasibility of using zeolites as an alternative to bentonite for protein fining in winemaking, with exploratory work into potential dual functionality for cold and heat stabilisation.
- 9** Research has commenced on developing an effective and sustainable method for removing volatile sulfur compounds (VSCs) from wine, aiming to match the performance of traditional copper-based treatments.

Our Behavioural Scientist informs the development of our evidence-based engagement programs to better support Australia's grapegrowers and winemakers.



AWRI helpdesk team answered **1,600** enquiries about winemaking and viticulture.



We issued **24 eBulletins** to over **3,000** subscribers that covered a range of topics including agro-chemical updates, response to weather events and the latest information on smoke taint.



Technical assistance was provided to grape and wine producers in **58** of Australia's **65** wine regions.



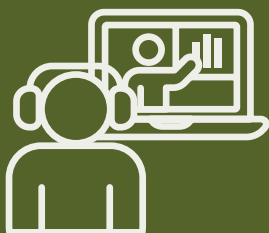
Over **90%** of enquiries to the AWRI helpdesk were resolved within **24 hours**.

71%

71% of helpdesk users are small levy payers.



3,711 resources were accessed through the John Fornachon Memorial Library, with **2,139** of these accessed directly via our librarian.



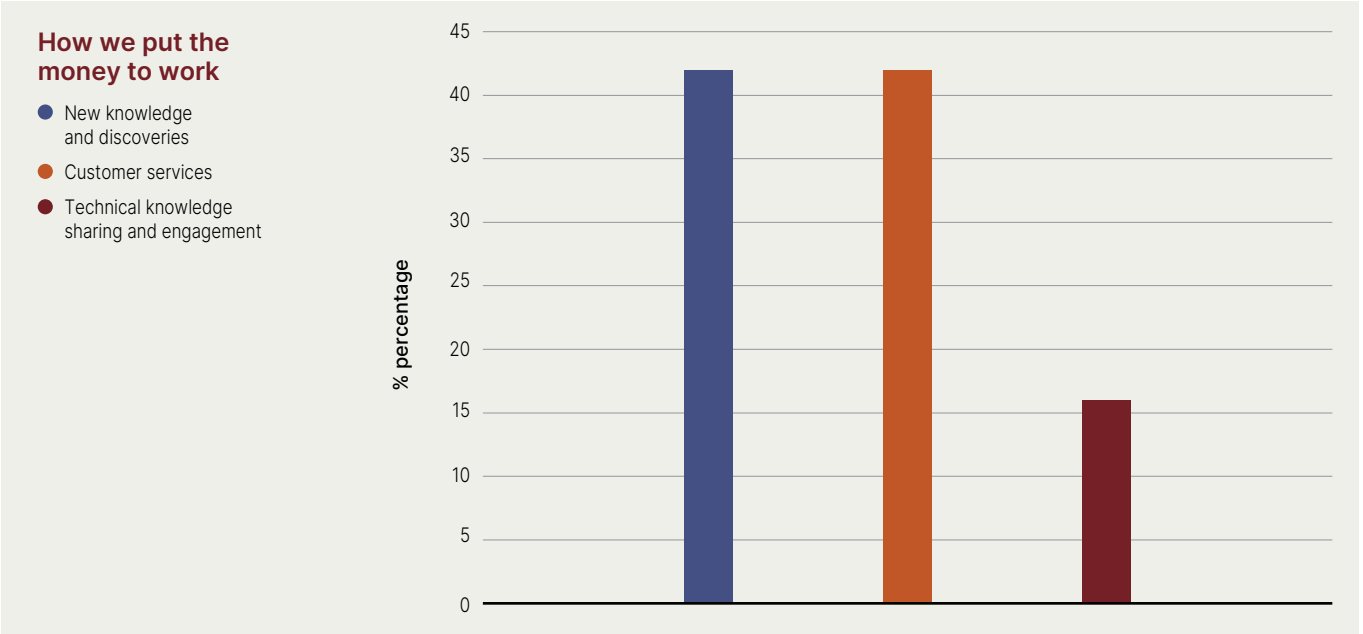
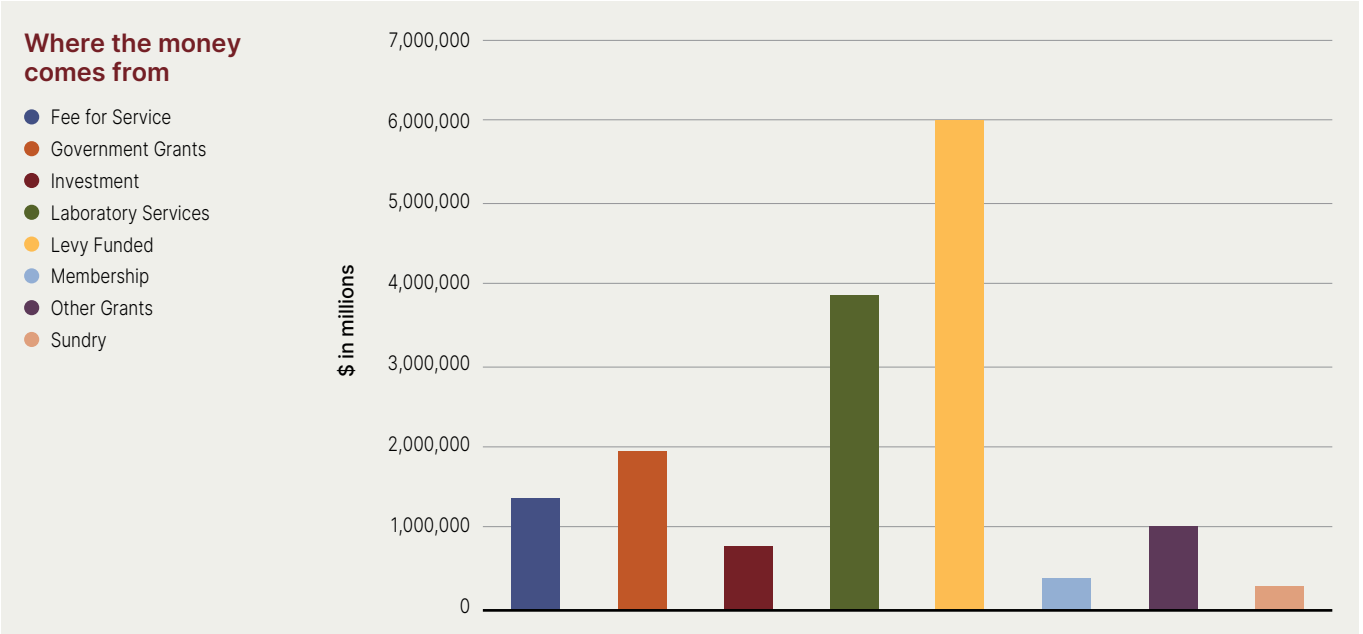
We delivered **13** webinars to **1,697** participants across **21** wine regions.



14 new technical fact sheets were created providing the latest information on winemaking and viticultural practices.

Turning money into outcomes for you

Thanks to levies from Australia’s grapegrowers and winemakers and matching funds from the Australian Government through Wine Australia, commercial income, grants and other income, we were able to invest in world-class research, technical support and services to support industry.





Researching new ways to improve wine quality

Insights projects

AWRI's insights projects are focused on building new knowledge. They are more traditionally structured with wine quality as the focus. Research concentrates on identifying and understanding the relevance of key aroma, mouthfeel and colour compounds. This knowledge is then used to develop and improve viticultural practices and wine production techniques, in a targeted approach, to safeguard the Australian grape and wine sector through further strengthening its ability to meet the high quality, integrity and authenticity standards required to gain and maintain access to domestic and international markets.

Volatile compound insights: Flavour attributes of current and future commercial significance to growers and winemakers

Researchers are currently working to improve understanding of flavour compound formation and their biochemical and chemical changes. Highlights from the research conducted include:

The American Society for Enology and Viticulture (ASEV) awarding the prize for the best oenology paper for 2024 to AWRI's publication, "Prevalence of Wildfire Smoke Exposure Markers in Oaked Commercial Wine". Lead author, Mango Parker was invited to attend the ASEV conference in June to accept the award.

Different winemaking practices were trialed to determine if they might change the level of stone fruit-related aroma compounds in Chardonnay wine. Wines were made from grapes grown in McLaren Vale's warm climate and the Adelaide Hills' cool climate, using two yeast strains (one high-ester and one low-ester producer), and three levels of grape solids addition (1, 3 or 5%). In the McLaren Vale Chardonnay, wine with more 'stone fruit' aroma and flavour also had higher concentrations of ethyl esters, especially ethyl octanoate, whereas only small sensory differences were seen for the Adelaide Hills wines.

A peer-reviewed article was published, demonstrating accurate nonogram per litre quantification of thiophenols, sulfur analogues of volatile phenols in wines made from grapes exposed to smoke from the December 2019 Cudlee Creek fire. While research conducted overseas had recently identified thiophenols as undesirable compounds in wine contributing to the ashy aftertaste associated with smoke taint, the concentrations of thiophenols in Australian wines ranged from below the limit of detection to 445 ng/L and might have some statistical relationship with smoke aroma and flavour but only in some wines. In contrast, volatile phenols and glycosides, AWRI's standard smoke markers, were very strong predictors of smoke flavour in the wines.

Fermentation management through optimal microbial consortia

The stimulation of high cell-density growth of *Oenococcus oeni* in grape juice by specific non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts has been successfully demonstrated as a practical method for wine bacteria

propagation. Experimental work has been undertaken to refine the propagation method in preparation for adaptation to winery conditions. The experiments identified *Metschnikowia* as a preferred co-cultivation partner in minimally agitated propagations and provided evidence of a strain-specific effect on the stimulation of *O. oeni* growth. Given the limited number of commercially available *Metschnikowia pulcherima* strains, the project team is now revisiting the use of *Torulaspora delbrueckii* as a potential alternative partner to *O. oeni* for propagation purposes.

Addressing production challenges through the management of wine non-volatiles

A study looking at possible phenolic fining alternatives was conducted. The study evaluated carbon-based materials – activated carbon (AC), graphene (G) and bare and functionalised carbon nanotubes (CNTs), as potential alternatives to PVPP for phenolic removal in white wines. Phenolic removal in Riesling and Chardonnay wines, measured by absorbance and HPLC, showed that at moderate doses (400-800 mg/L), graphene and CNTs matched PVPP by selectively targeting compounds like tyrosol and caftaric acid. AC was effective only at higher doses (2,000 mg/L) but caused broader, less selective removal. Functionalised CNTs showed variable efficiency with targeted effects depending on surface chemistry. Protein removal tests in Chardonnay revealed that AC, graphene and CNTs significantly reduce haze-forming proteins in a dose-dependent manner, outperforming PVPP. These findings highlight graphene and carbon nanotubes as promising multifunctional alternatives to PVPP for enhancing wine clarity and stability.

Wine components and interactions influencing the in-mouth sensory properties of Australian wine

A model wine study was completed to explore the influence that non-volatile matrix components have on the volatility of key aroma volatiles. This was motivated by the previous observation that higher concentrations of both proline and tannin may be associated with increased sensory perception of fruit-related attributes. The effects of wine-derived tannin, polysaccharides, proline and ethanol on the partitioning of wine volatiles to the headspace were investigated. Tannins were found to have the largest effect on headspace partitioning, increasing the headspace concentration of β -damascenone, and decreasing the headspace concentration of hydrophobic esters, while proline showed a limited impact. These results suggest that the perception of aroma attributes in wine is complex and may be modulated by altering the matrix composition, in particular tannin concentration. Further studies will explore the role of tannin composition on volatile headspace partitioning.



Researching new ways to improve wine quality (cont)

Impact projects

Moving from fundamental discovery research to real-world outcomes for the wine sector is a key priority for AWRI. Impact projects are selected due to the potential size of their impact for industry. They are developed in conjunction with potential end-users and the manufacturing or supply chain partners required to put solutions in place, using co-design principles. These projects are funded by Wine Australia and contributions from partners.

Single-step heat and cold stabilisation

This project investigated the feasibility of using zeolites as an alternative to bentonite for protein fining in winemaking, with exploratory work into potential dual functionality for protein removal efficiency, aluminium leaching and compatibility with winery processing systems. While no single zeolite met performance criteria for both heat and cold stabilisation, the project has advanced technical, regulatory and commercial understanding of zeolite behaviour and clarified a viable path forward for a single-function heat stabilisation product. The mechanism behind zeolite-driven cold stabilisation remains poorly understood and irreproducible and is no longer a core focus for commercial development. Although the dual-function product concept is no longer a core development focus, this project has delivered a refined and commercially relevant opportunity centred on heat stabilisation with a clear and achievable path forward for developing a sustainable, low-additive alternative to bentonite for Australian winemakers.

Smart surfaces

The project aims to develop an effective and sustainable solution for removing volatile sulfur compounds (VSCs) from wine using nanoengineered high-surface-area platforms, specifically focusing on achieving performance comparable to copper-based treatments. To date, the results have confirmed consistent removal of key VSCs, hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), methanethiol (MeSH) and ethanethiol (EtSH) in both white and red wines, without compromising desirable aroma compounds. Importantly, long-term storage trials have been initiated to assess post-treatment stability and support real-world implementation.

Validation of volatile sulfur compound removal at increasing throughputs is ongoing, with promising preliminary results.

Brettanomyces diagnostics

The Brett LAMP (Loop-Mediated Isothermal Amplification) project set out to determine whether a rapid, low-cost and winery-deployable diagnostic test could meet the wine sector's need for early detection of *Brettanomyces* spoilage yeast. Trials have demonstrated the LAMP method reliably detects *Brettanomyces* at 95% accuracy and provides results within hours, significantly faster than outsourced testing or in-house plating and PCR. The technology provides wineries with a critical window to act before spoilage becomes sensorially apparent.

This project is now ready for commercial release and adoption into industry.

Grapevine clonal identification

This project aims to develop and commercialise a genetic test for grapevine clonal identification, with the overall objective of increasing grower confidence in the identity of clones in existing vineyards and for future plantings. It will also substantially improve the quality assurance for providers of grapevine planting material.

Grapevine clonal identification services will be rolled out through Affinity Labs in the second half of 2025.

CRC-P

Researching lifestyle wines

The Australian wine sector could be a leading producer of 'lifestyle wines' – wines lower in alcohol and calories than traditional wines. Working towards this vision, a consortium of industry stakeholders, from across the supply chain, are trying to understand what is needed to produce, market and sell no- and low-alcohol (NOLO) wines that exceed consumer expectations.

AWRI's researchers are developing ways to address key NOLO winemaking challenges: microbial stability and shelf-life, flavour capture and re-use, mouthfeel and textural deficiencies, and the image of NOLO wine among consumers. Initial work includes sensory analysis and benchmarking of NOLO products currently in the market, the use of additives, different styles of fermentation and microbial stability both during production and shelf-life.



Engaging industry

Library

The John Fornachon Memorial Library holds one of the largest collections of grape and wine resources in the world, with more than 203,000 print and digital resources on offer via a range of information discovery tools and services. The library supports the Australian grape and wine sector by providing free access to technical information that assists learning, understanding and adoption of research outcomes.

Top 5 information packs accessed



Brettanomyces



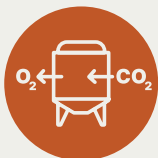
Resting vineyards



Bottle closures



Yeast assimilable nitrogen



Carbonic maceration

Top 5 resource topics requested by all users



Oenology



Viticulture



Brettanomyces



Sustainability



Sensory profiles

An independent cost-benefit analysis of the library determined an implied annual value of **\$674,724**. That's a **\$2.90** return for every dollar spent.

More than **42%** of library users are from the large levy payer category.

98%

of library users receive requested resources within **one business day**.

58%

of library resources are accessed online **immediately**.

Information services

AWRI website

167,198

website users

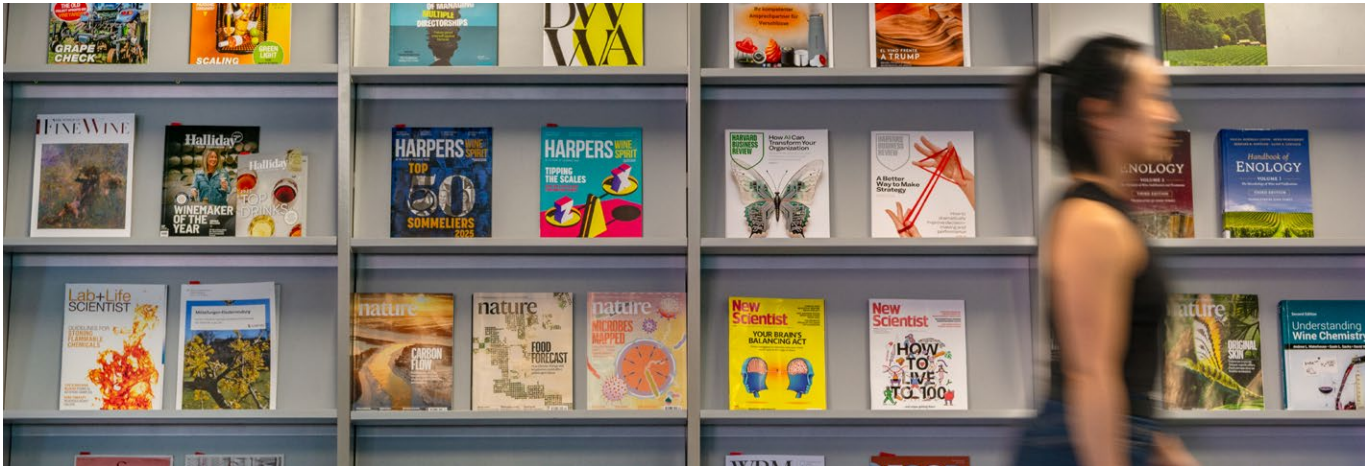
999,722

page views

Top 5 pages accessed on the AWRI website

- AWRI home page
- Winemaking calculators
- Fining agents
- Wine flavours, faults and taints
- Winemaking resources





Helpdesk

AWRI’s helpdesk plays an important role supporting grapegrowers and winemakers across Australia. The helpdesk provides rapid, confidential, technical support on winemaking and viticulture topics, delivered by an experienced, multi-disciplinary team.

Top 10 winemaking enquiry topics	
Follow up query	23%
Analysis and interpretation	11%
Smoke	10%
Winemaking practices	9%
Hazes and deposits	9%
Microbiological faults	7%
Packaging, storage, transport	7%
Organoleptic fault	7%
Taints and contamination	6%
Other	3%

Top 10 viticulture enquiry topics	
Agrochemical issues	49%
Biosecurity, pests, disease, virus	13%
Extension	12%
Sustainability	10%
Viticultural practice	9%
Soil and vine nutrition	2%
Varieties	2%
Climate and weather	1%
Behavioural science	1%
Production requirements	1%

Number of winemaking investigations

150

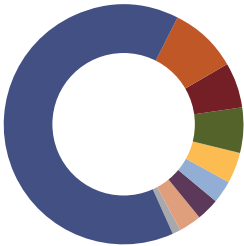
14% of winemaking enquiries required an investigation.

71%

of people who use the helpdesk belong to the small levy payer category.

Who uses the helpdesk

Wine companies	63%
Vineyard businesses	9%
Internal (AWRI)	6%
Other	6%
State and regional associations	4%
Suppliers	3%
Overseas	3%
Government	3%
Agrochemical manufacturers	1%



Helpdesk turnaround times

Same day	79%
Within 1 day	11%
Within 2 days	4%
Within 3 days	2%
More than 3 days	4%



Helpdesk new vs returning contacts

Existing contacts	84%
New contacts	16%



AWRI helpdesk averages 6.5 queries each day.

Sustainable Winegrowing Australia

Sustainable Winegrowing Australia is a community of growers and winemakers creating products that are better for people, better for the environment and better for our industry. Together, they're securing a thriving future for the whole Australian wine community.

The equivalent of around 155 million bottles of wine now qualify to bear the Sustainable Winegrowing Australia trust mark.

155M



74% of program members are certified.

74%



Certified members have passed an independent audit against the Freshcare Australian Wine Industry Standards of Sustainable Practice.

Over 99,000 hectares of Australia's vineyards were covered by Sustainable Winegrowing Australia membership.

99K



In vintage 2025, 84% of grapes were crushed in Sustainable Winegrowing Australia member wineries.

84%





Sustainable Winegrowing Australia has been globally benchmarked by Intertek, the Sustainable Wine Roundtable and against The Australian Agricultural Sustainability Framework. These reviews keep the program globally relevant and support ongoing market access.

Ensuring every levy payer has access to technical support

We're here for every grapegrower and winemaker, no matter where they're located. For producers outside South Australia, we're not always top of mind which is why we are building our presence and evolving the way we deliver our services.

In FY2025, levy payers across Australia accessed our services. The map below shows the wine regions where the people we support live and the services they accessed. Were you one of them?



**Attended
a technical
education event**



**Received
technical support
or investigation**

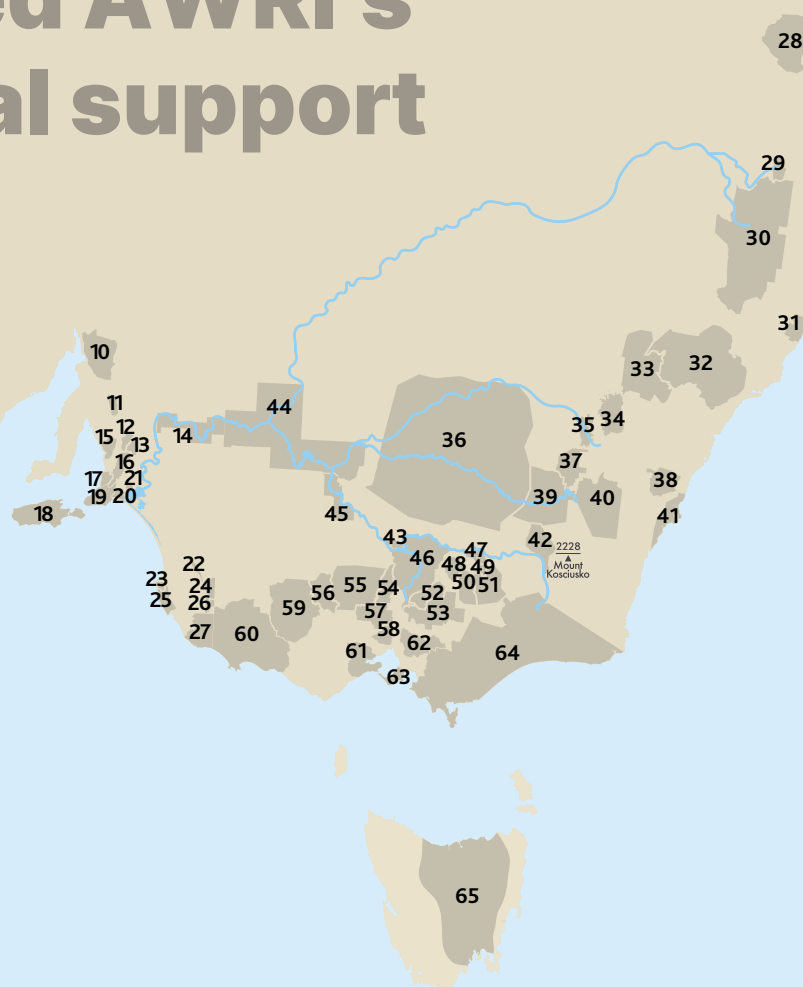


**Accessed technical
information online**

1	Swan District	● ● ●	35	Cowra	●
2	Perth Hills	●	36	Riverina	● ● ● ●
3	Peel	●	37	Hilltops	●
4	Geopraphe	●	38	Southern Highlands	● ● ●
5	Margaret River	● ● ● ●	39	Gundagai	●
6	Blackwood Valley	●	40	Canberra District	● ● ● ●
7	Pemberton	●	41	Shoalhaven Coast	● ● ●
8	Manjimup	●	42	Tumbarumba	●
9	Great Southern	● ● ●	43	Perricoota	● ● ● ●
10	Southern Flinders Ranges	● ● ●	44	Murray Darling	● ● ● ●
11	Clare Valley	● ● ●	45	Swan Hill	●
12	Barossa Valley	● ● ● ●	46	Goulburn Valley	●
13	Eden Valley	● ● ●	47	Rutherglen	●
14	Riverland	● ● ● ●	48	Glenrowan	●
15	Adelaide Plains	● ● ●	49	Beechworth	● ● ●
16	Adelaide Hills	● ● ● ●	50	King Valley	● ● ● ●
17	McLaren Vale	● ● ● ●	51	Alpine Valley	●
18	Kangaroo Island	● ● ●	52	Strathbogie Ranges	●
19	Southern Fleurieu	●	53	Upper Goulburn	●
20	Currency Creek	●	54	Heathcote	● ● ●
21	Langhorne Creek	● ● ● ●	55	Bendigo	● ● ● ●
22	Padthaway	●	56	Pyrenees	● ● ● ●
23	Mount Benson	●	57	Macedon Ranges	● ● ● ●
24	Wrattenbully	●	58	Sunbury	●
25	Robe	● ● ●	59	Grampians	● ● ● ●
26	Coonawarra	● ● ● ●	60	Henty	● ● ●
27	Mount Gambier	●	61	Geelong	● ● ● ●
28	South Burnett	●	62	Yarra Valley	● ● ● ●
29	Granite Belt	● ● ●	63	Mornington Peninsula	● ● ● ●
30	New England Australia	●	64	Gippsland	● ● ● ●
31	Hastings River	● ● ● ●	65	Tasmania	● ● ● ●
32	Hunter	● ● ● ●			
33	Mudgee	● ● ● ●			
34	Orange	● ● ● ●			



60 of Australia's 65 wine regions have accessed AWRI's technical support



Delivering fee-for-service activities to invest back into industry

Affinity Labs

Affinity Labs serves an important role in the Australian grape and wine industry, providing internationally recognised and accredited reference laboratory services, covering all parts of the production chain from viticulture to packaged wine. Affinity Labs continue to be actively involved in pre-competitively funded applied research projects and provides services to the broader agricultural industry and producers of other foods and beverages.

Total number of samples processed

42,128

Total number of results produced

1,543,639

Total number of customers

781

Affinity Labs industry split



Wine 72%



Spirits 11%



Beer 5%



Other 12%

Affinity Labs website

24,587

website users

249,268

page views

Technology is expensive. By working with other sectors, we can provide the wine industry with the best possible services and technologies.

Additional industries not only provide more revenue, but also economies of scale, further improving our profitability and resources returned to AWRI.

ShowRunner

ShowRunner, a comprehensive show management software system created at AWRI, encompasses all facets of a wine show, from online entries to electronic scoring and result generation.

40

Wine shows across Australia used the ShowRunner platform. That's more than half of Australia's wine shows

16,601

Wines entered using the ShowRunner platform

Did you know ShowRunner was originally designed as a custom solution for the AWRI's Advanced Wine Assessment Course?

The platform has since evolved to accommodate the specific procedures of the **Australian wine show** system.



Metabolomics South Australia

Metabolomics SA provides specialist metabolomics services, training and research support to academia and industry across sectors including agriculture, agri-biotech, food and beverage, environmental and biomedical sciences.

With ISO 9001 certification, Metabolomics SA offers cutting-edge metabolite characterisation, method development and application of emerging technologies to advance research and national priorities.

Industry partnerships grew strongly, with 14 businesses supported, including 6 new businesses.

Metabolomics SA employs nine specialist scientists, with expertise across analytical chemistry, bioinformatics, data engineering and quality assurance.



Training and capability development activities in metabolomics sample handling, instrument operations and data analysis supported:



Advanced education

AWRI's advanced education courses help growers and winemakers maintain and update their skills, supporting an innovative wine sector.



WIC Winemaking Services

Wine Innovation Cluster (WIC) Winemaking Services is based at the Hickinbotham Roseworthy Wine Science Laboratory and is a joint venture between AWRI and the University of Adelaide, established in 2010. It's location within the University of Adelaide and purpose-built small-lot and pilot-scale winemaking facility enables the delivery of high-quality research and small-scale commercial winemaking services.

Production

- More than 1,700 litres of wine was produced in vintage 2025 at small or pilot-scale quantities.
- 6 trials were conducted to support AWRI research
- 14 trials were conducted by commercial clients

NOLO products produced



Almost 1,000 litres of NOLO product were produced this year across 16 batches.

Our dedicated staff

Number of staff

108

Total incl FT, PT & casual

Number of visiting
researchers

28





Board members

The AWRI Board is comprised of a mix of industry representatives and directors possessing complementary skills who may or may not work in the sector. Our Directors offer a wealth of experience across scientific, business and government domains. Each Director has responsibility for particular aspects of organisational governance and leadership in addition to their fiduciary duties.

Board Chair

Prof. K.D. Kirk

Audit committee

Ms P. Giannini (Chair), Mr B.M. McClen, Hon S.J. Courtney

Personnel committee

Prof. K.D. Kirk (Chair), Mr I. Jones

Communications and marketing committee

Ms T. Barry (Chair), Hon S.J. Courtney, Ms C.J. MacDonald

Nominations committee

Dr J.S. Harvey (Independent Chair), Ms N. Palun (Independent member), Ms C.N. Wright

Pictured left to right: Iain Jones (Levy Payer elected Director), Carolyn MacDonald (Appointed Director), Trish Barry (Appointed Director), Kieran Kirk (Chair) (Appointed Director), Trish Giannini (Appointed Director), Mark Krstic (Managing Director), Corrina Wright (Levy Payer elected Director), Sarah Courtney (Appointed Director), Brett McClen (Levy Payer elected Director). Absent Damien Sheehan (Levy Payer elected Director).



Impact through collaboration

AWRI has ongoing partnerships with universities, research organisations, government and commercial entities both nationally and internationally. We also collaborate closely with Wine Australia to assess and deliver on the needs of the Australian wine sector. These partnerships are central to delivering on our mission – working in partnership to translate scientific and technical know-how.

AWRI benefits greatly from collaborations with individuals and organisations from the following countries: Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, South Africa, UK and USA.

The assistance and cooperation provided by these partners across the globe are gratefully acknowledged.

The Board of the AWRI acknowledges the continuing financial support of Wine Australia; the Government of South Australia; the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; the Australian Government Department of Industry, Science and Resources; and Bioplatforms Australia, along with a large number of confidential commercial clients. AWRI is committed to investing the funding it receives from Wine Australia in accordance with the performance principles for Research and Development set out by the Australian Government.



**Wine
Australia**



**Government of
South Australia**



Australian Government

**Department of Industry,
Science and Resources**



Australian Government

**Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry**



**BIOPLATFORMS
AUSTRALIA**

AWRI Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025



Directors' report

Directors' report

The directors present this report to the members of The Australian Wine Research Institute Limited (the Company) for the year ended 30 June 2025.

Overview of result

For the year ended 30 June 2025 the Company recorded a deficit of \$520,905 (2024: deficit of \$2,113,996). This deficit can primarily be attributed to the application of a "low vintage" funding reduction under the Company's Wine Australia Investment Agreement of circa \$1.38m. The Company also incurred one-off costs as a result of downsizing its work force (\$342k), primarily within its Affinity Labs commercial operations to align with structural changes in the wine industry and to preserve the short to medium term financial sustainability of those operations. This follows the restructuring of its workforce which took place in June 2024 and has culminated in the reduction of its workforce from 101.4 Full-Time Equivalents to 82.7 Full-Time Equivalents over that period. Notwithstanding those changes, the Company remains ready and capable of achieving its objective of supporting the Australian grape and wine industry through world class research.

Other material developments

Under its Investment Agreement with Wine Australia, there is a mechanism that allows for a proportional reduction in funding as a result of lower vintage volumes and consequently levies collected from wine grape growers. On 16 May 2025 the Company was informed that it would be subject to a reduction (the third year in a row in which this has taken place) of circa \$382k in funding under the terms of its Investment Agreement with Wine Australia. This reduction would take effect in the financial year ending 30 June 2026. This funding reduction will have a material affect on the operations of the Company in the upcoming year however action taken in prior years to re-align its workforce capacity to anticipated lower R&D funding availability will mitigate the impact of the funding reduction.

Events subsequent to reporting date

On 1 September 2025, the Company became aware that it was entitled to additional income of \$215,317 from project activities that concluded in the year ended 30 June 2023. This income will be recognised in the next financial year when the Company anticipates receiving payment.

With the exception of the item above, the Directors are not aware of any other matter or circumstance that has occurred since 30 June 2025, that has significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the organisation, the result of those operations or the state of affairs of the company in subsequent financial years.

Objectives and strategy

The Company's long-term objective is to support the Australian grape and wine industry through world class research that results in practical solutions and the dissemination of knowledge and leading practices.

To meet its objectives, the Company has developed a strategy which encompasses five broad strategic pillars:

- **Tune-in to industry** - Deeper engagement with all levy payer cohorts to ensure every industry program meets industry needs and expectations.
- **Push scientific boundaries** - Invest in our people, technology and partnerships to push the boundaries of scientific and technological research.
- **Transfer the knowledge** - Devise and deliver evidence-based knowledge transfer programs that drive industry profitability and sustainability through widespread adoption.

- **Secure our future** - Diversify funding streams and breadth of research capability to ensure our contribution to the wine industry is enduring.
- **Unlock commercial potential** - Recalibrate our commercial unit to market all our products and services to a wider audience with exceptional service standards.

These strategic pillars are supported by a foundation of People and Business Excellence where our world-class people, research infrastructure, business systems and platforms ensure the organisation continues to deliver quality science, commercial and adoption outcomes for the Australian wine industry.

Principal activities

The Company's principal activities during the year were:

- **Research** activities that strive for scientific excellence and industry relevance;
- **Development** activities that seek to bridge the gap between scientific discovery and value-adding technology or processes;
- **Extension** activities that seek to disseminate research and development outcomes to facilitate rapid uptake by the viticultural and winemaking sectors; and
- **Commercial** services, delivered via its Affinity Labs brand, aimed at providing competitive specific and/or tailored solutions for individual entities across all industry sectors which leverage the other key activities of the AWRI.

Directors and directors' meetings

The Board of the AWRI met six times during the year ended 30 June 2025. In addition, directors attended board strategy sessions and special purpose committee meetings during the year.

The following table includes:

- names of directors holding office at any time during the financial year; and
- the number of scheduled and unscheduled board and board committee meetings held during the financial year for which each director was a member of the board or relevant board committee and eligible to attend, and the number of meetings attended by each director.

	Appointment date	Cessation date	Board meetings			
			A	B	C	D
Prof. Kieran D. Kirk AM (Chair)	1 Jan 2017	–	4	4	2	2
Ms Trish R. Barry	1 Nov 2023	–	4	4	2	2
Hon Sarah J. Courtney	1 Nov 2022	–	4	3	2	2
Mr Wayne I. Ellis	1 Jan 2023	24 Feb 2025	2	2	–	–
Ms Patricia Giannini	16 Sep 2020	–	4	3	2	2
Mr Iain Jones	1 Mar 2025	–	1	1	2	2
Dr Mark P. Krstic	1 Feb 2020	–	4	4	2	2
Ms Carolyn J. MacDonald	1 Nov 2023	–	4	4	2	1
Mr Brett M. McClen	1 Jan 2021	–	4	4	2	2
Mr Damien J. Sheehan	1 Nov 2023	–	4	3	2	2
Ms Corrina N. Wright	1 Jan 2021	–	4	3	2	1

(A) SCHEDULED MEETINGS HELD (B) SCHEDULED MEETINGS ATTENDED
(C) UNSCHEDULED MEETINGS HELD (D) UNSCHEDULED MEETINGS ATTENDED

Prof. Kirk was appointed Chair from 1 January 2023

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

'Held' represents the number of meetings held during the time the director held office or was a member of the relevant committee
Unscheduled board meetings are typically called for a special purpose that do not form part of the board approved yearly calendar.

	Committees							
	Audit		Personnel		Nominations		Communications & Marketing	
	H	A	H	A	H	A	H	A
Prof. Kieran D. Kirk AM	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–
Ms Trish R. Barry	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	4
Hon Sarah J. Courtney	2	2	–	–	–	–	4	4
Ms Patricia Giannini	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–
Mr Iain M. Jones	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–
Ms Carolyn J. MacDonald	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	4
Mr Brett M. McClen	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–
Ms Corrina N. Wright	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–

(H) HELD (A) ATTENDED

Ms Giannini is the Chair of the Audit committee.

Prof. Kirk is the Chair of the Personnel committee.

Ms Trish Barry is the Chair of the Communications & Marketing Committee.

There was no requirement for the Nominations Committee to meet during the course of the year.

Details of directors holding office during the course of the financial year, their qualifications, experiences and any special responsibilities are set out below:

Prof. Kieran D. Kirk AM Chair (non-executive) from 1 January 2023

Qualifications BSc (Hons), PhD, DPhil

Experience Dean of the College of Science and Medicine at the Australian National University (ANU), Chair of Clonakilla Wines. Previously Director of ANU Research School of Biology, Head of ANU Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and Research Fellow at University of Oxford. 30 years' experience in the Australian research sector with a publication record of over 160 research papers in the field of biochemistry. Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Science and Member of the Order of Australia.

Special responsibilities Prof. Kirk is the Chair of the Personnel committee.

Dr Mark P. Krstic Managing Director

Qualifications BAgSc (Hons), PhD, MBA, GAICD

Experience Chair of The Australian Wine Industry Technical Conference, Director of the National Wine Foundation, professional member of the ASVO, member of Horticulture Innovation's Table Grape Strategic Investment Advisory Panel, Co-Chair of the Wine Steering Committee, member of the Waite Strategic Leadership Group, member of Sustainable Winegrowing Australia Joint Steering Committee, OENOVIT and BAG Alliance Executive Committee, Honorary Senior Fellow at the University of Melbourne, Adjunct Professor at Macquarie University. Graduate of the Australian Wine Industry Future Leaders Program and 2020 ASVO Viticulturist of the Year.

Ms Trish R. Barry Non-executive Director

Qualifications B Bus (Hons), GradCert (Wine Mkt), GAICD

Experience An experienced marketing and communications professional with over 20 years of experience in the wine, tourism, hospitality and financial service sectors. Ms Barry is CEO and founder of Mastermind Consulting; a Wine Australia Future Leaders Alumni (2012); 2020 Wine Communicators of Australia Wine Communicator of the Year and Digital Communicator of the Year. Ms Barry is actively involved in wine sector consulting to wine clients across Australia and New Zealand. She is a member of Wine Communicators of Australia, a Wine Australia Future Leaders Coach and an industry advisor to the Royal Agricultural Society NSW Sydney.

Special responsibilities Ms Barry is the Chair of the Communications & Marketing committee.

Hon Sarah J. Courtney Non-executive Director

Qualifications BE (Chem) (Hons), BCom (Finance), MWineTech, GAICD

Experience Owner of Fish Hook Wines in Tamar Valley. Currently Chair of the Tasmanian Forest Products Association, Director of Homes Tasmania, Chair of Theatre North and Director of Sarah Courtney Advisory. Previously served as a Minister in the Tasmanian Government, holding a number of senior portfolios including Primary Industries and Water, and was Minister for Health during COVID-19.

Special responsibilities Ms Courtney is a member of the Audit and Communications & Marketing committee.

Mr Wayne I. Ellis Non-executive Director

Qualifications BApplMgt

Experience A highly experienced operations leader with a background in operational and supply chain management spanning over 25 years in Australia and New Zealand. Mr Ellis is an Industry Consultant specialising in end-to-end value chain evaluation and solutions for the wine industry. Mr Ellis brings extensive skills and experience across a wide range of industry sectors including wine, project management, supply chain management and operational management in the electronics industry.

Ms Patricia Giannini Non-executive Director

Qualifications BEc, GradDipAcc, CA

Experience An experienced CFO and commercial advisor with 25+ years experience working within large corporate entities and start-ups, public practice and advisory, and across finance and operations. Ms Giannini's experience includes KPMG audit, a facilitator and exam marker in Audit and Financial Reporting at the Institute of Chartered Accountants as well as a range of CFO, COO and commercial advisory roles including M&A, capital raising and business strategy spanning a wide range of sectors including property funds management, technology, agriculture, food & beverage, manufacturing and mining.

Special responsibilities Ms Giannini is the Chair of the Audit committee.

Mr Iain Jones Non-executive Director

Qualifications BSc, Mres (Microbiology)

Experience Global Quality and Technical Services Manager at Treasury Wine Estates, with over 25 years' experience across the wine supply chain. Mr Jones has led diverse functions including laboratories, quality assurance, environmental management, R&D, health and safety, engineering, lean improvement, and climate impact mitigation. He currently serves as Chair of the Australian Grape and Wine Technical Advisory Committee and sits on the board of Vinehealth Australia.

Special responsibilities Mr Jones is a member of the Personnel Committee

Ms Carolyn J. MacDonald Non-executive Director

Qualifications BA (Journalism), GAICD

Experience Ms MacDonald is an experienced senior executive with more than 15 years of leadership experience across the scientific research, broadcasting, and digital media industries. She was Chief Operating Officer at WEHI, Australia's leading medical research institute for 5 years before becoming Director of Communications at CSIRO in 2025.

Special responsibilities Ms MacDonald is a member of the Communications & Marketing committee.

Mr Brett M. McClen Non-executive Director

Qualifications BAgSc (Hons), MBA

Experience Head of Viticulture & Sustainability at Brown Family Wine Group. More than 20 years viticultural and management experience across a range of Australian wine regions, as well as experience working with other irrigated horticultural crops. Professional member and previously a director of the ASVO.

Special responsibilities Mr McClen is a member of the Audit committee.

Mr Damien J. Sheehan Non-executive Director

Qualifications B.AppSc (Viticulture)

Experience General Manager and Viticulturist for Mount Langi Ghiran winery in the Grampians region, Victoria. Current deputy chair of the Grampians Wine Association, a previous chair of Wine Victoria and currently a member of the Technical Sub-committee of Wine Victoria. Over 30 years of experience in viticulture and actively involved in both regional and state associations over that time. Appointed to the Victorian Wine Ministerial Advisory Committee (2015-2019) and currently serving on the steering committee for the new Victorian Wine Strategy.

Ms Corrina N. Wright Non-executive Director

Qualifications BCom, BAgSc (Oen), MAICD

Experience Owner and winemaker for Oliver's Taranga Vineyards, contract processing facility Oliver & Press Winemakers and owner of Swell Brewing Co. Advisory Board member of the Australian Women in Wine Awards and previously a director of the Winemakers' Federation of Australia and McLaren Vale Grape, Wine & Tourism Association. An active wine show judge and President of the Australian Alternative Varieties Wine Show. 2019 ASVO Winemaker of the Year.

Special responsibilities Ms Wright is a member of the Nominations committee

Ms Shiralee Dodd Company Secretary

Qualifications BA, LLB (Hons), GradDip (Legal Prac)

Experience Ms Dodd was appointed Company Secretary on 1 July 2012. Ms Dodd has operational responsibility for corporate governance within the organisation and oversees the legal team as well as being part of the Executive Management Group.

Indemnification of officers and auditors

During the financial year, the Company paid a premium in respect of a contract insuring the directors of the Company (named above), the Company Secretary, all members of the Company's Executive Management Group and members of the Biosafety Committee (a committee including two representatives who are not employees of the Company, charged with oversight of matters pertaining to the development and use of genetically modified organisms and required to be appropriately indemnified by the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator) against a liability incurred in their capacity as a director, secretary, executive or committee member to the extent permitted by the *Corporations Act 2001*. The contract of insurance prohibits disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium.

The Company has not otherwise, during or since the end of the financial year, except to the extent permitted by law, indemnified or agreed to indemnify an officer or auditor of the Company or of any related body corporate against a liability incurred as such an officer or auditor.

Rounding and presentation amounts

The Company is of a kind referred to in ASIC Legislative Instrument 2016/191 dated 1 April 2016 and, in accordance with that Legislative Instrument, all financial information presented has been rounded to the nearest dollar unless otherwise stated.

Members' guarantee

In accordance with the Company's constitution, each member (both during the time he or she is a member and within one year afterwards) is liable to contribute \$2 in the event that the

Company is wound up. The total amount members would contribute is \$20 (2024: \$26).

Auditor's independence

The auditor's independence declaration as required under section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) Act 2012 is attached and forms part of the directors' report for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

Dated at Yering on this the 16th day of September 2025.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors, pursuant to subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022*.



Kieran D. Kirk
Chair



Mark P. Krstic
Managing Director

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025	2024
Revenue from operating activities			
Wine Australia			
Investment agreement project funding		5,611,708	5,569,967
Investment agreement capital funding		25,000	–
Other project funding		264,953	315,317
Capital specific grant funding		–	17,241
Other grant funding		2,080,016	1,761,542
Commercial services analytical and consulting income		4,147,139	4,074,395
Contract research and other commercial income		2,551,570	2,509,845
Other revenue		115,170	128,610
Total revenue		14,795,556	14,376,917
Other income/(loss)	2	4,052	(63,773)
Expenses from operating activities			
Personnel expenses	3	10,689,673	11,163,633
Analytical and project operating expenses		2,530,003	2,341,474
Infrastructure and general services expenses		1,501,460	1,629,329
Research funding contributions		337,191	610,149
Depreciation and amortisation expense	8,9,10	1,238,818	1,413,149
Travel expenses		199,823	284,300
Total expenses		16,496,968	17,442,034
Results from operating activities		(1,697,360)	(3,128,890)
Finance income		847,917	506,485
Profit/(loss) for the period		(849,443)	(2,622,405)
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss			
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income		328,538	508,409
Total comprehensive income for the period		(520,905)	(2,113,996)

The notes on pages 34 to 40 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Retained earnings	Co-investment reserve	Financial assets at fair value through OCI reserve	Total equity
Balance at 1 July 2023	13,818,296	541,396	638,684	14,998,376
Total comprehensive income for the period				
Profit/(loss)	(2,622,405)	–	–	(2,622,405)
<i>Other comprehensive income</i>				
Realised gain/(loss) on revaluation of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	–	–	24,377	24,377
Unrealised gain/(loss) on revaluation of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	–	–	484,032	484,032
Total other comprehensive income	–	–	508,409	508,409
Total comprehensive income for the period	(2,622,405)	–	508,409	(2,113,996)
Transfers between retained earnings and other reserves				
Transfers to/(from) reserves	–	(77,500)	–	(77,500)
Transfers to/(from) retained earnings	77,500	–	–	77,500
Balance at 30 June 2024	11,273,391	463,896	1,147,093	12,884,380
Balance at 1 July 2024	11,273,391	463,896	1,147,093	12,884,380
Total comprehensive income for the period				
Profit or loss	(849,443)	–	–	(849,443)
<i>Other comprehensive income</i>				
Realised gain/(loss) on revaluation of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	–	–	(127,825)	(127,825)
Unrealised gain/(loss) on revaluation of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	–	–	456,363	456,363
Total other comprehensive income	–	–	328,538	328,538
Total comprehensive income for the period	(849,443)	–	328,538	(520,905)
Transfers between retained earnings and other reserves				
Transfers to/(from) reserves	–	(25,000)	127,825	102,825
Transfers to/(from) retained earnings	(102,825)	–	–	(102,825)
Balance at 30 June 2024	10,321,123	438,896	1,603,456	12,363,475

Nature and purpose of reserves

Co-investment reserve

The objective of the co-investment reserve is to provide funds for co-investment in specific funding opportunities, enabling the Company to access certain funding programs subject to the following requirements:

- (i) That any co-investment be matched on at least an equal basis from externally sourced funds
- (ii) That co-investments create value over the medium to long term for the ultimate benefit of the Australian grape and wine sector
- (iii) That co-investments be made only in instances whereby the overall grant funds available to the Australian grape and wine sector are expanded - that is, excluding grant funding programs which already exist for the benefit of that industry.

Financial assets at fair value through Other Comprehensive Income (OCI) reserve

The reserve is used to recognise increments and decrements in the fair value of financial assets at fair value through Other Comprehensive Income.

The notes on pages 34 to 40 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2025

	Note	2025	2024
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	766,708	987,558
Trade and other receivables	5	3,563,045	2,674,926
Inventories	6	71,488	74,492
Prepayments		336,170	347,887
Total current assets		4,737,411	4,084,863
Financial assets at fair value through OCI	7	10,349,555	10,463,957
Property, plant and equipment	8	2,235,302	3,036,959
Intangible assets	9	223,926	540,746
Right of use assets	10	2,732,469	2,939,090
Total non-current assets		15,541,252	16,980,752
Total assets		20,278,663	21,065,615
Liabilities			
Payables and accruals	11	2,154,951	2,254,229
Contract liability	12	3,855,592	3,946,967
Provisions	13	1,707,563	1,761,443
Total current liabilities		7,718,106	7,962,639
Payables and accruals	11	4,520	7,755
Provisions	13	192,562	210,841
Total non-current liabilities		197,082	218,596
Total liabilities		7,915,188	8,181,235
Net assets		12,363,475	12,884,380
Equity			
Retained earnings		10,321,123	11,273,391
Co-investment reserve		438,896	463,896
Fair value reserve		1,603,456	1,147,093
Total equity		12,363,475	12,884,380

The notes on pages 34 to 40 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025	2024
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash receipts from project grants and other income		13,907,201	16,385,417
Cash paid to suppliers and employees		(15,306,418)	(15,671,966)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		(1,399,217)	713,451
Cash flows from investing activities			
Cash receipts from capital specific funding		25,000	(41,519)
Interest received		308,326	283,569
Dividends and imputation credits received		399,783	184,396
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		4,052	164,344
Acquisition of property, plant, equipment and intangibles		(124,658)	(580,586)
Receipts from leases		10,533	10,990
(Acquisition)/proceeds from disposal of financial assets		593,313	(932,554)
Payment of transaction costs related to financial investments		(37,983)	(41,732)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		1,178,366	(953,093)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(220,850)	(239,642)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 July		987,558	1,227,200
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June	4	766,708	987,558

The notes on pages 34 to 40 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

1 Material accounting policies

The Australian Wine Research Institute Limited (the "Company") is a company limited by guarantee, domiciled in Australia, incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001*, registered as a charity under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) and endorsed by the Australian Tax Office (ATO) as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) organisation under the general DGR category of 'Approved Research Institute'.

The registered office of the Company and its principal place of business is:

Cnr Hartley Grove and Paratoo Road
Urrbrae, SA 5064

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on the 16th day of September 2025.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements, and have been applied consistently by the Company.

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified to achieve consistency in disclosure with current financial year amounts and disclosures.

(a) Basis of preparation

(i) Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the Company are Tier 2 general purpose financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and Regulations 2022*, Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures, Accounting Interpretations and other authoritative pronouncements of the AASB. The Company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

The Company is exempt from income tax under Section 50-5 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*, and accordingly no provision for income tax is included in these financial statements.

(ii) Basis of measurement

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs except for some financial assets which are measured at fair value, and do not take into account changing money values.

(iii) Functional and presentation currency

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the Company's functional currency.

The Company is of a kind referred to in ASIC Legislative Instrument 2016/191 dated 1 April 2016 and, in accordance with that Legislative Instrument, all financial information presented has been rounded to the nearest dollar unless otherwise stated.

(iv) Use of estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amount of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making judgements about the carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised. The Company has identified the useful lives of property, plant and equipment (note 8), amortisation period of intangible assets (note 9), and provisions for employee entitlements (note 13) and their respective note 1 accounting policies as areas under which significant judgements, estimates and assumptions are made, and where actual results may differ from those estimates under different assumptions and conditions.

(v) Changes in accounting policies

The Company has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

The following Accounting Standards and Interpretations are most relevant to the Company:

Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting (Conceptual Framework)

AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements - Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities

(b) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand and deposits held at call.

(c) Financial assets

Financial assets are initially measured at fair value. Transaction costs are included as part of the initial measurement, except for financial assets at fair value through profit or loss. Such assets are subsequently measured at either amortised cost or fair value depending on their classification. Classification is determined based on both the business model within which such assets are held and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset, unless an accounting mismatch is being avoided.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows have expired or have been transferred and the Company has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. When there is no reasonable expectation of recovering part or all of a financial asset, its carrying value is written off.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets not measured at amortised cost or at fair value through other comprehensive income are classified as financial

assets at fair value through profit or loss. Typically, such financial assets will be either: (i) held for trading, where they are acquired for the purpose of selling in the short-term with an intention of making a profit, or a derivative; or (ii) designated as such upon initial recognition where permitted. Fair value movements are recognised in profit or loss.

Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income

Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income include equity investments which the Company intends to hold for the foreseeable future and has irrevocably elected to classify them as such upon initial recognition.

Impairment

The Company recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses on financial assets which are either measured at amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income. The measurement of the loss allowance depends upon the Company's assessment at the end of each reporting period as to whether the financial instrument's credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, based on reasonable and supportable information that is available, without undue cost or effort to obtain.

(d) Property, plant and equipment

(i) Recognition and measurement

Items of property, plant and equipment are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset. Purchased software that is integral to the functionality of the related equipment is capitalised as part of that equipment.

When parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items (major components) of property, plant and equipment.

Gains and losses on disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment are determined by comparing the proceeds from disposal with the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment and are recognised net within other income in profit or loss.

(ii) Subsequent costs

The cost of replacing a part of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised in the carrying amount of the item if it is probable that the future economic benefits embodied within the part will flow to the Company, and its cost can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. The costs of the day to day servicing of property, plant and equipment are recognised in profit or loss as incurred.

(iii) Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated over the depreciable amount, which is the cost of an asset, or other amount substituted for cost, less its residual value.

Depreciation is recognised in profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of each part of an item of property, plant and equipment, since this most closely reflects the expected pattern of consumption of the future economic benefits embodied in the asset. Leased assets are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term or their useful lives unless it is reasonably certain that the Company will obtain ownership by the end of the lease term.

The estimated useful lives for the current and comparative periods are as follows::

• plant and machinery	3 – 10 years
• office furniture and IT	3 – 10 years
• laboratory equipment	3 – 10 years

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each financial year-end and adjusted if appropriate.

(e) Intangible assets

Intangible assets that are acquired by the Company and have finite useful lives are measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation is calculated over the cost of the asset, or another amount substituted for cost, less its residual value. Amortisation is recognised in profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of intangible assets from the date that they are available for use, since this most closely reflects the expected pattern of consumption of the future economic benefits embodied in the asset. Amortisation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each financial year-end and adjusted if appropriate.

(f) Right of use assets

A right of use asset is recognised at the commencement date of a lease. The right of use asset is measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability, adjusted for, as applicable, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date net of any lease incentives received, any initial direct costs incurred, and, except where included in the cost of inventories, an estimate of costs expected to be incurred for dismantling and removing the underlying asset, and restoring the site or asset. Right of use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the asset, whichever is the shorter. Where the Company expects to obtain ownership of the leased asset at the end of the lease term, the depreciation is over its estimated useful life. Right of use assets are subject to impairment or adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities. The Company has elected not to recognise a right of use asset and corresponding lease liability for short-term leases with terms of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets. Lease payments on these assets are expensed to profit or loss as incurred.

(h) Impairment

The carrying amounts of the Company's non-financial assets are reviewed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, then the asset's recoverable amount is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset is the greater of its value in use and its fair value less costs to sell. Value in use is determined as the current replacement cost of an asset.

An impairment loss is recognised if the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss. Impairment losses recognised in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

(i) Contract liabilities

Contract liabilities represent the company's obligation to transfer goods or services to a customer and are recognised when a customer pays consideration, or when the company recognises a receivable to reflect its unconditional right to consideration (whichever is earlier) before the company has transferred the goods or services to the customer.

(j) Employee benefits

(i) Other long-term employee benefits

The Company's net obligation in respect of long-term employee benefits is the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods plus related on-costs. The liability is measured such that it is not materially different from the estimate determined by discounting using market yields at the reporting date on corporate bonds with terms to maturity and currencies that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

(ii) Termination benefits

Termination benefits are recognised as an expense when the Company is demonstrably committed, without realistic probability of withdrawal, to a formal detailed plan to either terminate employment before the normal retirement date, or to provide termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. Termination benefits for voluntary redundancies are recognised as an expense if the Company has made an offer of voluntary redundancy, it is probable that the offer will be accepted, and the number of acceptances can be estimated reliably. If benefits are payable more than 12 months after the reporting period, then they are discounted to their present value

(iii) Short-term benefits

Short-term employee benefit obligations are measured on an undiscounted basis and are expensed as the related service is provided. A liability is recognised for the amount expected to be paid under short-term bonus plans if the Company has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past service provided by the employee and the obligation can be measured reliably. Such liabilities represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

(k) Revenue recognition

The Company recognises revenue as follows:

(i) Revenue from contracts with customers

Revenue is recognised at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the Company is expected to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. For each contract with a customer, the Company: identifies the contract with a customer; identifies the performance obligations in the contract; determines the transaction price which takes into account estimates of variable consideration and the time value of money; allocates the transaction price to the separate performance obligations on the basis of the relative stand-alone selling price of each distinct good or service to be delivered; and recognises revenue when or as each performance obligation is satisfied in a manner that depicts the transfer to the customer of the goods or services promised.

Revenue for contracts for consulting services is recognised on the basis of the value of work complete.

(ii) Grants

Grant revenue is recognised in profit or loss when the Company satisfies the performance obligations stated within the funding agreements. If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before the Company is eligible to retain the contribution, the grant will be recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until those conditions are satisfied. Where there are no sufficiently specific performance obligations, grant revenue is recognised in accordance AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*.

(iii) Revenue from providing services to customers

Fee for service income is recognised upon invoicing of customers.

(iv) Finance income

Finance income comprises interest income and dividends. Interest income is recognised as it accrues in profit or loss using the effective interest rate method. Dividend income is recognised in profit or loss on the date on which the Company's right to receive payment is established.

(v) Other revenue

Other revenue is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

(l) Goods and services tax

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as a current asset or current liability in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis. The GST components of the cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

(m) Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any allowance for expected credit losses. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days. The Company has applied the simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses, which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on days overdue. Other receivables are recognised at amortised cost, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

(n) Fair value measurement

When an asset or liability, financial or non-financial, is measured at fair value for recognition or disclosure purposes, the fair value is based on the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date; and assumes that the transaction will take place either: in the principal market; or in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market.

2. Other income

	2025	2024
Net gain/(loss) on sale of property, plant and equipment	4,052	(63,773)
	4,052	(63,773)

3. Personnel expenses

	2025	2024
Wages and salaries	9,165,318	9,788,920
Other associated personnel expenses	499,137	354,709
Superannuation contributions	1,025,218	1,020,004
	10,689,673	11,163,633

4. Cash and cash equivalents

	2025	2024
Cash on hand	114	313
Bank deposits at-call	766,594	987,245
Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of cash flows	766,708	987,558

5. Trade and other receivables

	2025	2024
Trade receivables due from those other than related parties	1,284,880	993,026
Trade receivables due from related parties	15,136	54
Other receivables	2,263,029	1,681,846
	3,563,045	2,674,926

Trade receivables are shown net of expected credit losses amounting to \$22,703 (2024: \$30,417) at reporting date. This allowance account is used to record expected credit losses until the Company is satisfied that no recovery of the amount owing is possible; at that point the amounts are considered irrecoverable and are written off against the financial asset directly.

6. Inventories

	2025	2024
Course materials on hand - wine	71,488	74,492
	71,488	74,492

7. Other investments

	2025	2024
--	------	------

Non-current

Financial assets at fair value through OCI, comprising listed investments at fair value in:

Interest rate securities	4,406,583	5,448,444
Equity securities	5,942,972	5,015,513
	10,349,555	10,463,95

All equity securities and interest rate securities are quoted on the Australian Securities Exchange. Interest rate securities include corporate bonds, subordinated notes and convertible and reset preference securities. Equity securities include direct shareholdings, exchange traded funds and managed funds.

8. Property, plant and equipment

	Plant and machinery	Office furniture and IT	Laboratory equipment	Capital WIP	Total
Cost					
Balance at 1 July 2024	767,233	1,214,804	13,790,464	–	15,772,501
Additions	–	58,299	52,716	–	111,015
Transfers from intangible assets	–	–	–	8,000	8,000
Disposals	(46,333)	(14,308)	(431,428)	–	(492,069)
Balance at 30 June 2025	720,900	1,258,795	13,411,752	8,000	15,399,447
Depreciation and impairment losses					
Balance at 1 July 2024	655,810	1,049,074	11,030,658	–	12,735,542
Depreciation charge for the year	36,008	88,745	793,86	–	918,622
Transfers	–	–	2,050	–	2,050
Disposals	(46,333)	(14,308)	(431,428)	–	(492,069)
Balance at 30 June 2025	645,485	1,123,511	11,395,149	–	13,164,145
Carrying amounts					
at 1 July 2024	111,423	165,730	2,759,806	–	3,036,959
at 30 June 2025	75,415	135,284	2,016,603	8,000	2,235,302

9. Intangible assets

	Computer software	Intangible assets under development	Total
Cost			
Balance at 1 July 2024	1,202,969	230,437	1,433,406
Additions	13,642	–	13,642
Transfers	11,500	(19,500)	(8,000)
Disposals	–	(210,937)	(210,937)
Balance at 30 June 2025	1,228,111	–	1,228,111
Amortisation and impairment losses			
Balance at 1 July 2024	892,660	–	892,660
Amortisation charge for the year	113,575	–	113,575
Transfers	(2,050)	–	(2,050)
Disposals	–	–	–
Balance at 30 June 2025	1,004,185	–	1,004,185
Carrying amounts			
at 1 July 2024	310,309	230,437	540,746
at 30 June 2025	223,926	–	223,926

Computer software

Computer software assets are recognised as the attributable software licence and development costs paid to third parties, and do not include employee costs or an attribution of relevant overheads, as only an immaterial component of software development and testing processes are performed in-house. These software assets are amortised over periods of between three and five years, based upon their estimated useful lives and expected technical obsolescence.

Intangible assets under development

Intangible assets under development represents expenditure towards the development of computer software which as of that date is not classified as ready for use. During the course of the year, the Company wrote-off the carrying amount of assets under development as it assessed that it was no longer viable to bring these assets to a state whereby they would be ready for use.

10. Right of use assets

	2025	2024
Buildings (WIC) – right of use		
Cost		
Balance at 1 July	6,100,140	6,100,140
Balance at 30 June	6,100,140	6,100,140
Depreciation and impairment losses		
Balance at 1 July	3,170,895	2,967,556
Depreciation charge for the year	203,340	203,339
Balance at 30 June	3,374,235	3,170,895
Carrying amount	2,725,905	2,929,245
	2025	2024
Equipment – right of use		
Cost		
Balance at 1 July	16,408	–
Recognition as right of use asset	–	16,408
Balance at 30 June	16,408	16,408
Depreciation and impairment losses		
Balance at 1 July	6,563	–
Depreciation charge for the year	3,281	6,563
Balance at 30 June	9,844	6,563
Carrying amount	6,564	9,845
Carrying amount of right of use assets	2,732,469	2,939,090

Interest in WIC building

The Company has a 50-year nominal occupancy right to approximately 53% of the space in the Wine Innovation Cluster (WIC) Central building owned by the University of Adelaide. The other occupants are currently the University of Adelaide and Fight Food Waste Cooperative Research Centre. The term of occupancy is reviewable after 30 years based on the remaining economic life of the building. The value assigned to the AWRI's interest in the building is net of amounts contributed by Wine Australia (WA). The building cost is being depreciated over a period of 30 years from the date of practical completion (26 November 2008).

11. Payables and accruals

	2025	2024
Current		
Trade payables due to those other than related parties	131,771	190,760
Trade payables due to related parties	–	–
Lease liability	3,235	3,235
PAYG and GST	309,642	369,295
Redundancy costs payable	82,492	315,738
Non-trade payables and accrued expenses	1,627,810	1,375,201
	2,154,951	2,254,228
Non-current		
Lease Liability	4,520	7,755
	4,520	7,755

12 Contract liability

Any unexpended WA funding is reimbursable to WA, except where WA agrees that amounts can be retained by the AWRI for purposes approved by WA, at which point such amounts are considered to be committed towards that purpose.

The unexpended investment agreement funds for the current year totalled \$161,341 (2024: \$90,953). During the year no unspent prior years' funds relating to WA projects were returned to WA, however, \$120,953 of prior years' unspent funds was approved for use against current year WA projects.

	2025	2024
Unexpended funds carried forward to satisfy future performance obligations		
WA current year's investment agreement funding unexpended	161,341	90,953
WA prior years' funding unexpended	40,988	70,988
	202,329	161,942
Income received in advance	3,653,263	3,785,025
	3,855,592	3,946,967

13. Provisions

	2025	2024
Current		
Employee entitlements	1,707,563	1,761,443
Non-current		
Employee entitlements	192,562	210,841
Number of employees (full-time equivalents)	79.8	96.1

14. Lease commitments

The Company has no material lease commitments as at 30 June 2025 and 30 June 2024.

15. Capital commitments

	2025	2024
Property, plant and equipment		
<i>Contracted but not provided for and payable</i>		
Within one year	54,368	–
One year or later and no later than five years	–	–
Later than five years	–	–
	54,368	–

16. Research funding commitments

	2025	2024
<i>Contracted but not provided for and payable</i>		
Within one year	203,191	214,404
One year or later and no later than five years	50,000	214,404
Later than five years	–	–
	253,191	428,808

17. Related parties

Key management personnel compensation

Key management personnel comprises the directors of the Company and other persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Company. Key management personnel compensation comprised:

	2025	2024
Total remuneration	1,738,851	1,816,127

During the year non-executive directors became entitled to compensation totalling \$122,750 (2024: \$126,710). A number of directors voluntarily elected not to receive \$61,000 of this entitlement (2024: \$61,000), instead redirecting such amounts to support otherwise unfunded activities of the Company including individual and group professional development for AWRI staff, and the provision of support to visiting scientists.

Key management personnel and director transactions

A number of key management personnel, or their related parties, hold positions in other entities that result in them having control or significant influence over the financial or operating policies of these entities.

A number of these entities transacted with the Company in the reporting period. The terms and conditions of the transactions with key management personnel and their related parties were no more favourable than those available, or which might reasonably be expected to be available, on similar transactions to non-key management personnel related entities on an arm's length basis.

Related parties arising through relationships with key management personnel:

Clonakilla Wines
Mastermind Consulting
Oliver & Press
Oliver's Taranga Vineyards
Swell Brewing Co.

Other related party transactions

During the year the Company provided administrative services and leased office premises to a jointly controlled entity, The Australian Wine Industry Technical Conference Incorporated.

Other related parties:

The Australian Wine Industry Technical Conference Incorporated

Transactions with related parties

	Transactions value for the year ended 30 June		Balance outstanding as at 30 June	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
Services received from related parties	5,626	18,322	–	–
Services provided to related parties	191,320	133,981	15,136	54

18. Auditor remuneration

During the year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by accounting firm BDO Audit Pty Ltd, the auditor of the Company, and its network firms:

	2025	2024
Audit of the financial report	29,580	27,500
<i>Other services:</i>		
Preparation and lodgement of fringe benefits tax return	1,640	1,471
	31,220	28,971

19. Contingencies

In the opinion of the Directors, there were no material or significant contingent liabilities at 30 June 2025 (2024: NIL).

20. Subsequent events

On 1 September 2025, the Company became aware that it was entitled to additional income of \$215,317 from project activities that concluded in the year ended 30 June 2023. This income will be recognised in the next financial year when the Company anticipates receiving payment.

With the exception of the above, there has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any further item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely to significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company, in subsequent financial years.

21 Limited liability

In accordance with the Company's constitution, each member (both during the time he or she is a member and within one year afterwards) is liable to contribute \$2 in the event that the Company is wound up. The total amount members would contribute is \$20 (2024: \$20).

Responsible persons' declaration

The directors of The Australian Wine Research Institute Limited (the Company) declare that, in the directors' opinion:

- (a) the financial statements, comprising the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of financial position, statement of cash flows, statement of changes in equity, and accompanying notes, are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and:
 - (i) comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2022*; and
 - (ii) give a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2022*.



Kiaran D. Kirk
Chair



Mark P. Krstic
Managing Director

Dated at Yering on this 16th day of September 2025.

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Australian Wine Research Institute Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of The Australian Wine Research Institute Limited (the registered entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial report, including material accounting policy information, and the responsible persons' declaration.

In our opinion the accompanying financial report of The Australian Wine Research Institute Limited, is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (i) Giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2022*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the registered entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other information

The responsible entities of the registered entity are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is information included in the registered entity's annual report, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of responsible entities for the Financial Report

The responsible entities of the registered entity are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the ACNC Act, and for such internal control as the responsible entities determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, responsible entities are responsible for assessing the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible entities either intends to liquidate the registered entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The responsible entities of the registered entity are responsible for overseeing the registered entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website (<http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>) at: http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

BDO Audit Pty Ltd

Josh Carver
Director

Adelaide, 1 October 2025

Memorial funds

Consisting of (and collectively the "Trusts"):

The John Fornachon Memorial Library Endowment Fund

The Thomas Walter Hardy Memorial Trust Fund

The H. R. Haselgrove Memorial Trust Fund

The Stephen Hickinbotham Memorial Research Trust

Statement by directors of the trustee company

The Australian Wine Research Institute Limited (the "Trustee") acts as unrewarded trustee for the above listed Trusts. As detailed in note 2 to these financial statements, the Trusts are not reporting entities because, in the Trustee's opinion, it is unlikely that users exist who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy, specifically, all of their information needs. This is a special purpose financial report that has been prepared to meet the reporting obligations of the Trustee.

In the opinion of the directors of The Australian Wine Research Institute Limited (the Trustee):

- (a) (i) the statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income give a true and fair view of each Trust's profit or loss for the year ended 30 June 2025; and
- (ii) the statements of financial position give a true and fair view of each Trust's state of affairs as at 30 June 2025
- (b) at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Trusts will be able to pay their debts as and when they fall due.

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



Kiaran D. Kirk

Chair

Dated at Yering on this 16th day of September 2025.

Notes to the financial statements

1. Nature and purpose of the Trusts

- (a) The John Fornachon Memorial Library Endowment Fund was established on 30 September 1970, to provide for the establishment and maintenance of the Fornachon Memorial Library, for the promotion of study and general knowledge of the wine industry. The Fund was established by way of public appeal on a memorial to the late John Charles Macleod Fornachon, the Director of Research of The Australian Wine Research Institute Limited from 1955 to 1968.
- (b) The Thomas Walter Hardy Memorial Trust Fund was established on 29 June 1993 to assist in the communication of information within the wine industry and associated activities, allied to the wine industry on behalf of the Trust. The Trust was established in memory of the late Thomas Walter Hardy.
- (c) The H.R. Haselgrove Memorial Trust Fund was established on 12 December 1979 to provide for the promotion and encouragement of wine research by, or under the direction of, The Australian Wine Research Institute Limited as a memorial to the late Harry Ronald Haselgrove.
- (d) The Stephen Hickinbotham Memorial Research Trust was established on 7 October 1986 to provide financial assistance and support in the pursuit of scientific research and associated activities, allied to the wine industry. The Trust was established in memory of the late Stephen John Hickinbotham. The Australian Wine Research Institute Limited assumed responsibility for the Trust on 25 May 1992.

2. Statement of accounting policies

In the opinion of the Trustee, the Trusts are of a type identified in Statement of Accounting Concepts 1 as non-reporting entities. Accordingly, the financial statements constitute 'special purpose financial reports' which have been prepared solely to meet the reporting obligations of the Trustee, and the limited information needs of the Trusts' members.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting standards, except as stated below, and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

The following accounting standards have not been adopted because, in the opinion of the Trustee, the cost of compliance outweighs the benefit of the resultant information:

- AASB 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures
- AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows
- AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures
- AASB 132 Financial Instruments: Presentation

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis.

Accounting policies have been consistently applied, with the only significant policy being in relation to investments.

Investments consist of interest rate securities and exchange traded funds, all of which are quoted on the Australian Securities Exchange and recorded at fair value through other comprehensive income. Investment income is brought to account as earned, with accrued earnings at balance date being included in the statement of financial position as receivables.

Statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	The John Fornachon Memorial Library Endowment Fund		The Thomas Walter Hardy Memorial Trust Fund		The H.R. Haselgrove Memorial Trust Fund		The Stephen Hickinbotham Memorial Research Trust	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
Income								
Investments	9,743	9,305	5,786	5,446	6,863	6,343	5,599	6,734
Donations and other income	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total income	9,743	9,305	5,786	5,446	6,863	6,343	5,599	6,734
Expenses								
Investment management expenses	766	720	554	522	617	575	640	595
Contribution to library assets	–	5,494	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total expenses	766	6,214	544	522	617	575	640	595
Profit/(loss) from ordinary activities	8,977	3,091	5,232	4,924	6,246	5,768	4,959	6,139
Other comprehensive income								
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:								
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	5,490	4,822	2,505	2,291	4,005	3,347	4,391	3,672
Total comprehensive income for the period	14,467	7,913	7,737	7,215	10,251	9,115	9,350	9,811

Statements of financial position

As at 30 June 2025

	The John Fornachon Memorial Library Endowment Fund		The Thomas Walter Hardy Memorial Trust Fund		The H.R. Haselgrove Memorial Trust Fund		The Stephen Hickinbotham Memorial Research Trust	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
Assets								
Cash at bank	33,401	7,521	23,119	10,800	13,649	9,130	29,099	9,106
Investments	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Receivables	6,455	4,153	3,492	2,163	4,434	2,811	3,083	3,035
Total current assets	39,856	11,674	26,611	12,963	18,083	11,941	32,182	12,141
Investments	140,024	153,739	79,334	85,245	110,344	106,235	102,978	113,669
Total non-current assets	140,024	153,739	79,334	85,245	110,344	106,235	102,978	113,669
Total assets	179,880	165,413	105,945	98,208	128,427	118,176	135,160	125,810
Liabilities								
Committed funding contribution	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total current liabilities	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Net assets	179,880	165,413	105,945	98,208	128,427	118,176	135,160	125,810
Trust funds								
Settled sum	12,785	12,785	50	50	20,000	20,000	50	50
Founders donation	–	–	25,000	25,000	–	–	–	–
	12,785	12,785	25,050	25,050	20,000	20,000	50	50
Accumulated surplus								
Opening balance	138,918	136,196	63,208	58,523	88,879	83,382	115,099	109,241
Profit/(loss) for the year	8,977	3,091	5,232	4,924	6,246	5,768	4,959	6,139
Transfers to/(from) accumulated surplus	4,410	(369)	91	(239)	(147)	(271)	4,010	(281)
Closing balance	152,305	138,918	68,531	63,208	94,978	88,879	124,068	115,099
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income reserve								
Opening balance	13,710	8,519	9,950	7,421	9,297	5,679	10,661	6,708
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	5,490	4,822	2,505	2,290	4,005	3,347	4,391	3,672
Transfers to/(from) reserve	(4,410)	369	(91)	239	147	271	(4,010)	281
Closing balance	14,790	13,710	12,364	9,950	13,449	9,297	11,042	10,661
Total trust funds	179,880	165,413	105,945	98,208	128,427	118,176	135,160	125,810

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