



**STROKE  
RECOVERY  
ASSOCIATION  
NSW**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2024/2025**

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**SUPPORTING  
SURVIVORS OF STROKE  
TO REDUCE THE  
IMPACT OF STROKE**



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# STROKE RECOVERY ASSOCIATION AT A GLANCE

**\$ 1,378,980**

Association Net Assets (as of 30 June 2025)

## STRATEGIES



***Mutual support***



***Collaborate with government***



***Education***



***Consumer voice***



***Promote recovery***



***Information***

## MEMBERSHIP

**1,004 Members**

*69 new members*

### MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN

- 8 corporate memberships
- 16 health professionals
- 682 Stroke survivors
- 18 volunteers

### MEMBERSHIP TYPES

- 223 General members
- 771 Club members

## CLUBS/GROUPS/CHOIRS

### 31 STROKE CLUBS/GROUPS

- 20 rural Stroke Clubs/groups
- 11 metropolitan Stroke Clubs/groups

### 3 STROKE CHOIRS

- 2 face to face
- 1 online choir

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There were considerable changes to the Stroke Recovery Association and our services in the 2024/2025 period. While staff at the Association continue to achieve well in excess of what is expected, the Stroke Project Officer position was lost due to completion of the funding contract period. This meant that the Community Liaison Officer and the CEO had to take on more responsibility for the online programme which is so vital to members in rural and remote areas.

The Association membership figures are strong with Clubs/groups and choirs making up 77% of the membership structure. These support systems are progressing exceedingly well under the stewardship of the Community Liaison Officer. Over the financial year she has secured funding of approximately \$80,000 from ClubGrants, and carers week grants, over that period. Also, a considerable amount of In-Kind donations were also acquired to support Clubs/groups and choirs to support new and struggling Clubs.

Monthly online governance training for Clubs/groups/choirs has continued. This is an invaluable tool to educate members on the roles and responsibilities of running their respective groups. As required by government legislation we continue to undertake the required criminal record checks for all executive, and this process will be repeated for every new Club executive who takes up a role.

Online groups play a vital support role for many of our members in rural and remote communities. A committed group of members attend these regularly and it is lovely to see the growing connections between individuals from various parts of the state. The Association has worked with many of our partners in both the health and disability sectors to continue the Topical Tuesday education Group and the Stroke Chat group is gaining momentum.

Stroke Advocacy is a key focus of our work. The Association continues to reach out into the health and disability sectors to build partnerships with like-minded organisations who may have a broader reach within the sectors.

We continue to work closely with our partners at Health Consumers NSW, the primary consumer organisation consulted by NSW Health on matters impacting health in NSW, the George Institute for Global Health Consumer Research committee, the Ability Access Transport Committee (Transport NSW); NSW Health Agency for Clinical Innovation Stroke and Rehab Networks (NSW Health), NSW Disability Advocacy Network, and NSW Health Consumer Taskforce. Creating close links to these organisations ensures that our platform for advocacy continues to grow strong and resilient.

This past year we were invited by Physical Disability Council of NSW and Health Consumers NSW to meet the NSW Health Minister, the Hon. Ryan Park. The outcome of that meeting has been a guarantee from the Minister to work with the sector to develop a Disability Health Strategy. This groundbreaking consultation process will form an important additional focus of our Advocacy work over the next year.

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

All the planned events for the 2024/2025 period were able to go ahead with great success. The overview on page seven indicates of the number of events that the Association staff have organised over the past year, eleven (11) in total. All events continue to engage well with our members and health professionals.

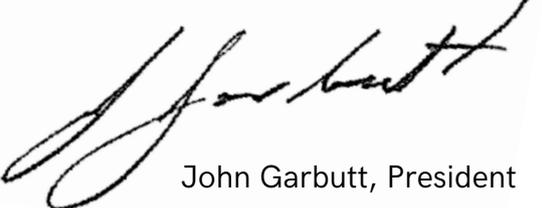
The Creating Connections Stroke Conference September 2024 was again run as a hybrid, face to face and live streamed event. The conference was attended by eighty (80) people face to face and over one hundred and forty-five (145) online. The Building Capacity Conference, May 2025 was postponed due to resource constraints. The Board reflected that we would only be able to afford to run this very expensive but essential project every two years. It is planned to go ahead with the conference in May 2026.

The Associations Social Media presence has increased considerably. Sharing information through Facebook and Instagram has become a vital form of communication for the Association and also many of our Clubs/Groups/Choirs. The expert speaker presentations on the YouTube Channel are now our main source of Stroke information distribution. It is a great tool for both health professionals and Stroke Survivors.

This report contains a summary of statistics on the services and events organised by the Association and as you can see, we are meeting all key performance indicators set by the board at the Annual Strategic Planning meeting. We are a small organisation that continues to punch above our weight in all areas.

The Board has managed the organisation to be in a stronger and more cohesive position than ever before. I applaud my fellow Board members for all they have contributed to and supported the work of the Association over the past twelve months. I commend the work of our very committed and diligent staff. We have been a great team. I welcome Kimone Haddon from the Bega Stroke Recovery Club who will be joining the Board.

The long and the short of it is, the Association is well run, and your voice grows stronger at all levels of decision making that matter in relation to Stroke in NSW. The next financial year will bring with it great change and I look forward to working with you all going forward, as we continue to build on and develop the programmes of the Association in the 2025/2026 period.



John Garbutt, President

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

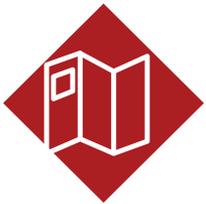
## INFORMATION / ADVOCACY



**3,161**  
Phone calls



**29,907**  
Mail/Email



**2,053**  
Information Sheets &  
Pamphlets



**4,370**  
Newsletters distributed

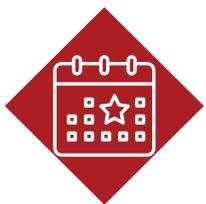


**116**  
Visits to Stroke Recovery  
Clubs/groups/choirs



**275**  
Meetings & committees  
attended

## MEMBER ENGAGEMENT



**11**  
Combined Club Events



**689**  
Event Attendees

## ONLINE



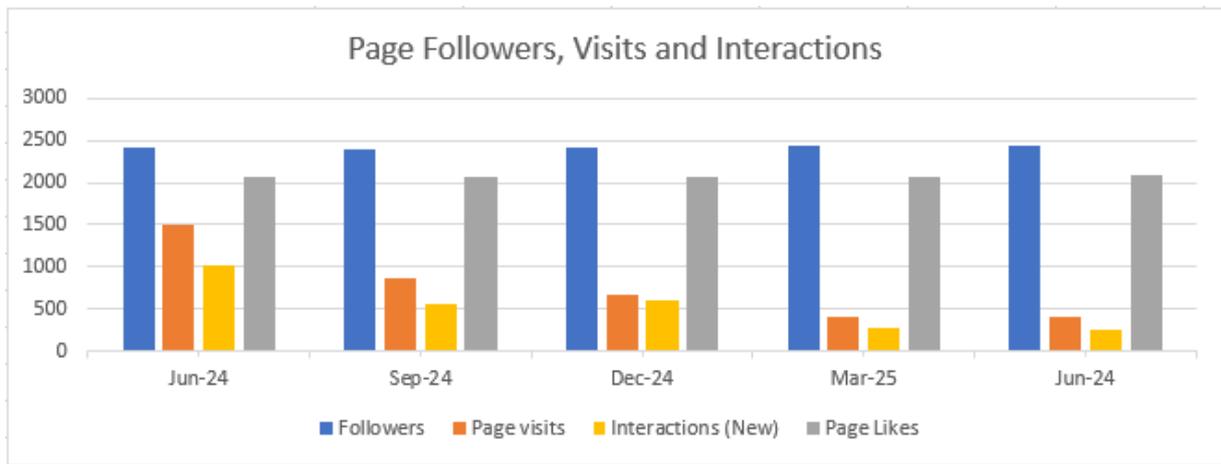
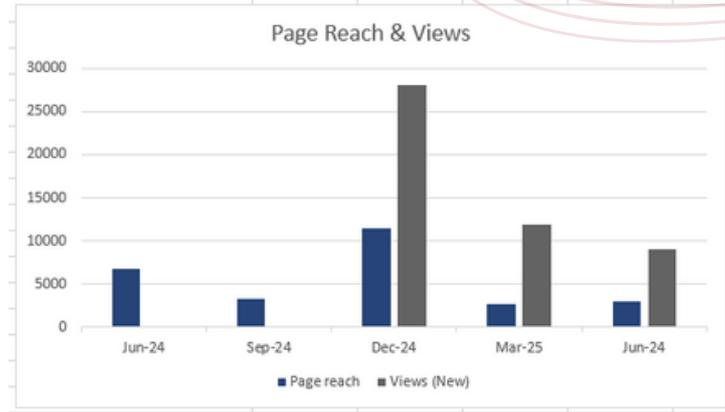
**142**  
Online Stroke  
support groups



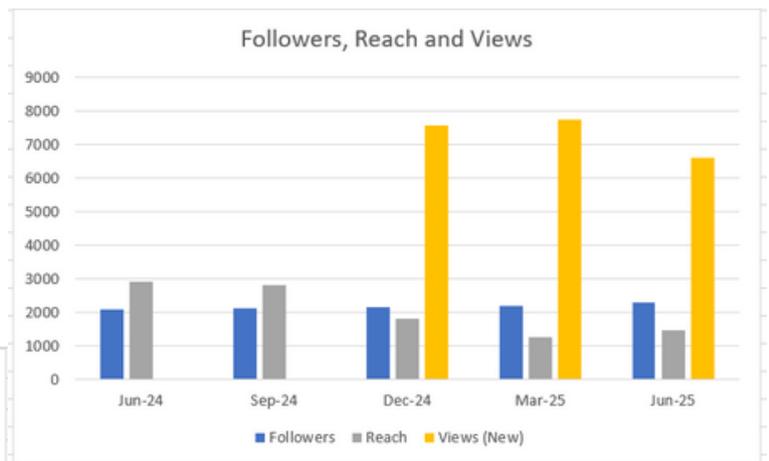
**914**  
Attendees on  
online groups

# SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

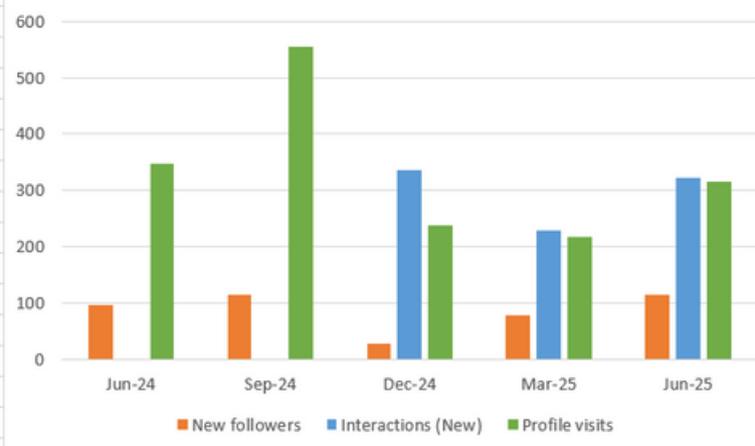
## FACEBOOK



## INSTAGRAM

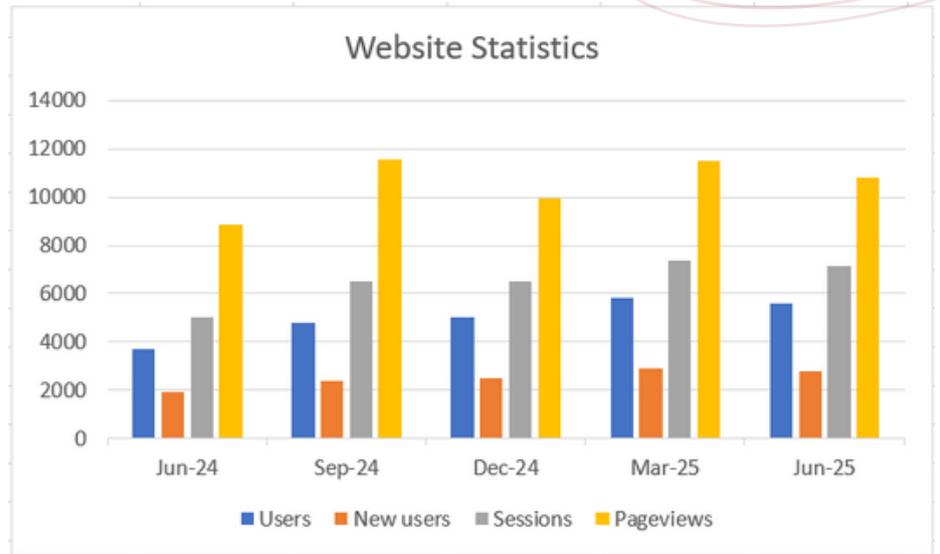


### New Followers, Interactions and Profile Visits

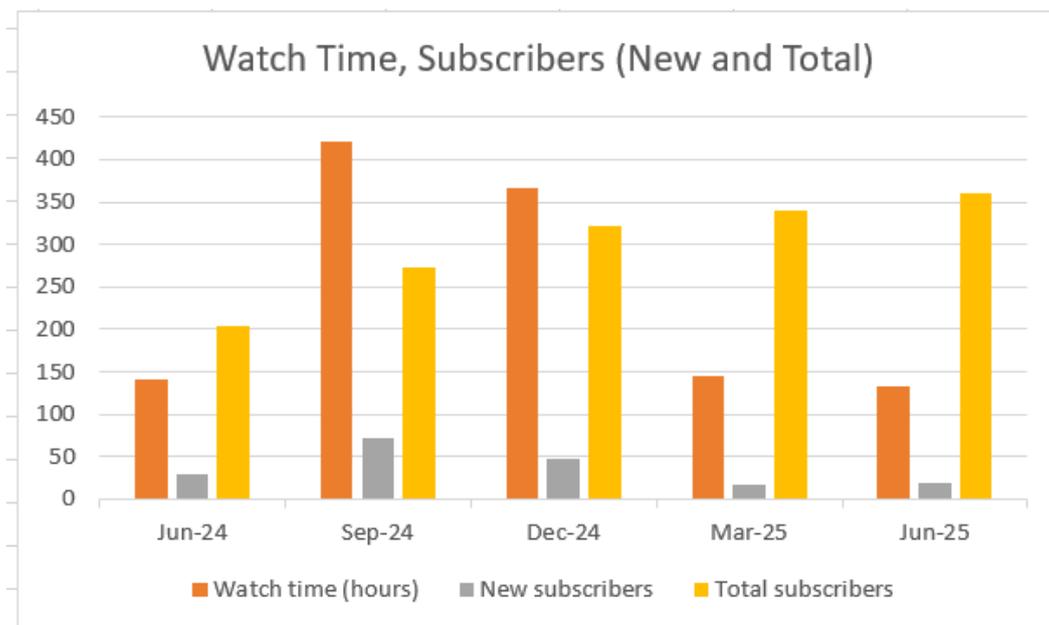
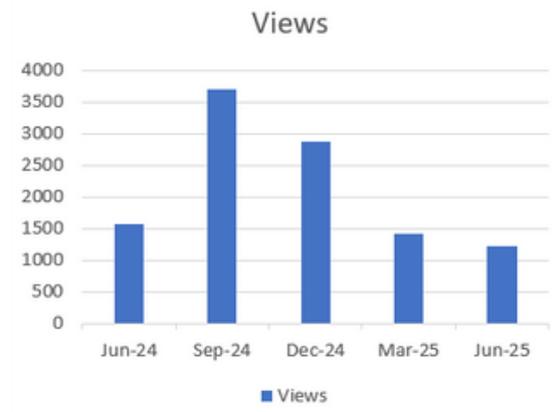
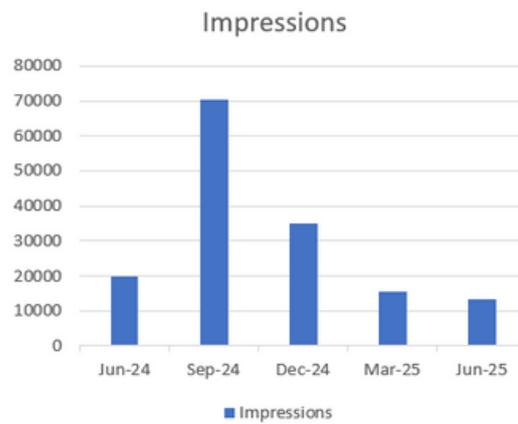


# SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

## WEBSITE



## YOUTUBE



# TREASURER'S REPORT

This has been a successful year for the Stroke Recovery Association financially.

The financial overview on the following page gives you a compact picture of how monies have been received and expended over the past year and a comparison with the previous financial year.

Our funding grants from NSW Health and Department of Communities and Justice remains constant. However, we were not successful in securing further grants for the 2024/2025 financial year. This means that our reliance on these two main sources of funding is a financial risk to the association that the Board constantly monitors.

In 2024/2025 we significantly exceeded the income we had expected to receive. This was as a direct result of two significant bequests.

The income and expenditure report indicates that there has been a profit of just over \$162,505 in 2024/2025. While Subsidies and Grants are still our major source of guaranteed monies received, this year the profit is clearly a result of the increase monies received from bequests. Bequests and Donations increased by a staggering 2064% coming from two significant bequest, the Estate of Josephine Mary Adams and the Estate of George Sydney Smith. We are enormously appreciative of the generosity of these two members.

The overall annual expenditure in 2024/2025 was \$ 694,849, a considerably reduced amount from 2023/2024 of \$ 876,837. There has been a substantial amount of work undertaken by staff to reduce costs and considerable behind-the-scenes work automating administrative processes and internal systems that increase efficiencies and productivity through reducing time spent by staff on routine administrative tasks.

Staffing positions have been reduced due to the loss of the Information Linkages and Capacity Building programme funding. Staff continue to work diligently to source alternative funding, however, this is becoming a much more competitive area with commonwealth government policy changing to ensure that the bigger Charities are more favoured in their funding processes.

The two primary grants we receive from NSW Health and NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) are current for the 2025/2026 period. This means more stability and security for both the Association financially and staff. Staff will need to spend considerable time to secure the existing funding level going forward. We are confident of the monies' received from NSW Health and while we have DCJ Funding until June 2026, this vital source of funding is not guaranteed. It is imperative to retain the DCJ grant at its current level in order to maintain and provide staff positions to support services to members, particularly those who attend the Stroke Recovery Clubs/groups/choirs.

# TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board has reinvested the considerable reserves we have accumulated with over \$1,000,000 now being our base investment portfolio. The return from interest, though lower than the previous years is still 4% of our revenue in the 2024/2025 period. This will again be used for the subsidisation of ever-increasing staff wages and the organisation of conferences for members.

Staff have again been successful in working with Clubs/groups/choirs to source monies from the various Grant programmes. In the past financial year, the Community Liaison Officer has successfully acquired approximately \$80,000 and a further \$85,000 in-kind for the ongoing use of Clubs/groups/choirs for the benefit of members. Lani's success in this area is outstanding.

The expenses amount noted in the auditor's report for Clubs/groups/choirs is \$ 123,455, a similar amount to the previous financial year of \$ 123,034 indicating that they are fully operational again. These figures continue to be incorporated into our audited statement, as required by the Australian Not-for-Profit and Charities Commission. The onboarding of the Club/Groups/Choirs accounts into our financial reporting process is a constant source of frustration for staff. This process becomes very complicated when audit is undertaken. However, it remains imperative that the Board monitors the spending of these monies diligently to ensure that our legal obligations are fulfilled. It is vital that we maintain our status as a charity and strictly comply with all processes of the Australian Not-for Profit and Charities Commission. In addition, Government Funding requires very stringent financials acquittals to complete for all grants received, all of which add more to the workload of staff.

The staff and Board express our appreciation for the outstanding work of our honorary auditor Vishal Modi from Nexia. A copy of the independent Auditor's Report is included on pages 12 - 14 of this report. As we move into the 2025/2026 financial year, we are in a very strong and viable financial position with a total equity of, \$ 1,378,980 an increase of 13% on the 2023/2024 figure of \$ 1,216,475. Our retained revenue will be managed carefully to enable the Association to continue to grow and move forward. Some of this cash reserve continue to be used to employ administrative support for the Association's office. This is an expense we will continue to incur in future years.

Looking ahead, we are grateful the considerable reserves we have built up over the past fourteen (14) years from bequests. The Board will continue to invest these wisely while drawing down on those when necessary to continue to maintain the high standard of services that members have come to expect. Financial security is a matter of high importance to the board and staff, and we are constantly vigilant for any source of funding to assist in the growth and development of the organisation.

In summary, at the conclusion of the 2024/2025 financial year, the Association is in a very sound financial position. Financial diligence remains a primary concern of the Board. A full financial overview of the Association is reviewed by the Board and staff monthly.

If you would like a more detailed copy of our audited financial statements, it is available



Karen Felton, Treasurer

# AUDITOR'S REPORT



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## Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Stroke Recovery Association Incorporated

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Stroke Recovery Association Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, and the Committee members' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Association 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 Association'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 Association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional & 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.

#### Committee members' responsibility for the financial report

The Committee members of the Association are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and for such internal control as the Committee members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Committee members are responsible for assessing the Association'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 Committee members either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

# AUDITOR'S REPORT



## Auditor's responsibility 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 Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: [www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf](http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## Report on the Requirements of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulation 2015 (NSW)

We have audited the financial report as required by section 24 of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW). Our procedures included obtaining an understanding of the internal control structure for fundraising appeal activities and examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting compliance with the accounting and associated record keeping requirements for fundraising appeal activities pursuant to the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and Charitable Fundraising Regulation 2021.

Because of any inherent limitations of any assurance engagement, it possible that fraud, error or non-compliance may occur and not be detected. An audit is not designed to detect all instances of non-compliance with the requirements prescribed in the above-mentioned Act and Regulation as an audit is not performed continuously throughout the period and the audit procedures performed in respect of compliance with these requirements are undertaken on a test basis. The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

## Opinion

In our opinion:

- a) The financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial results of fundraising appeal activities for the financial year ended 30 June 2025;
- b) The financial report has been properly drawn up, and the associated records have been properly kept for the financial year ended 30 June 2025, in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and Regulations;
- c) Money received as a result of fundraising appeal activities conducted during the financial year ended 30 June 2025 has, in all material respects, been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and Regulations; and
- d) There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Vishal Modi'.

**Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Vishal Modi'.

**Vishal Modi**

Director

Dated at Sydney this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October 2025

# AUDITOR'S REPORT



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To the Committee Members of Stroke Recovery Association Incorporated

## **Auditor's Independence Declaration under section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012***

As lead audit director for the audit of the financial statements of Stroke Recovery Association Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2025, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

- (a) the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- (b) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

A stylized, handwritten signature of the word "Nexia" in blue ink.

Yours sincerely

**Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vishal Modi".

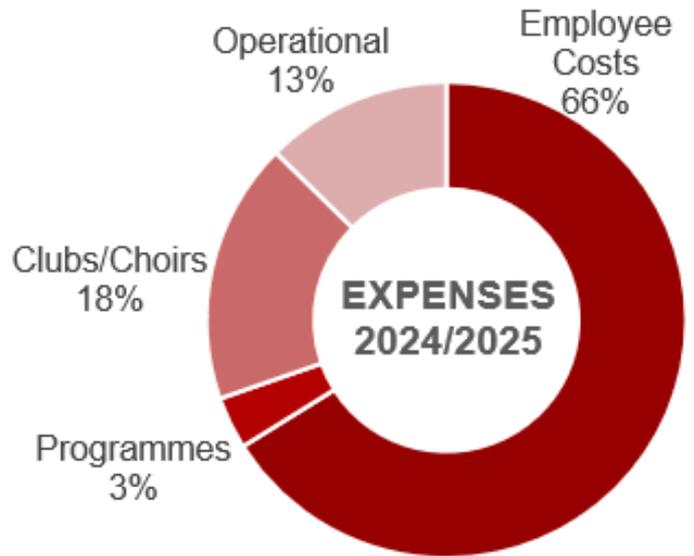
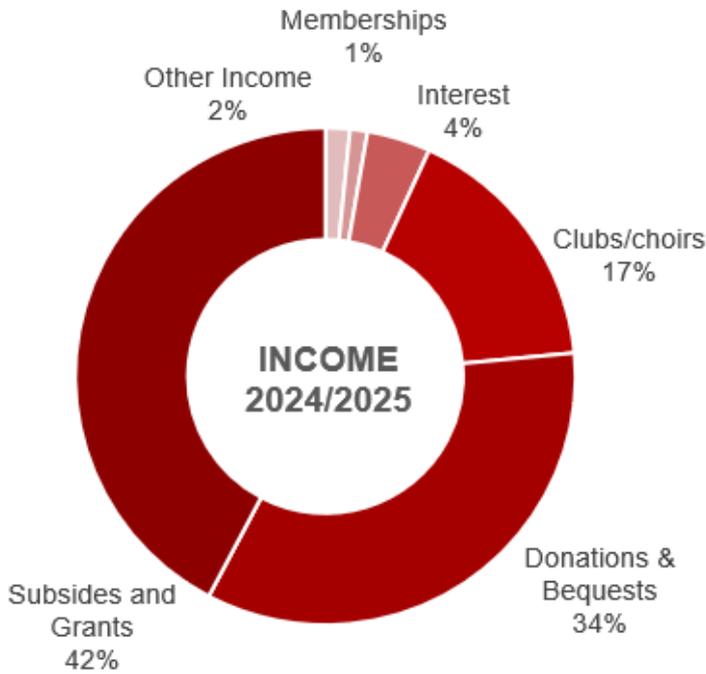
**Vishal Modi**

Director

Date: 21 October 2025  
Sydney

# FINANCIAL POSITION

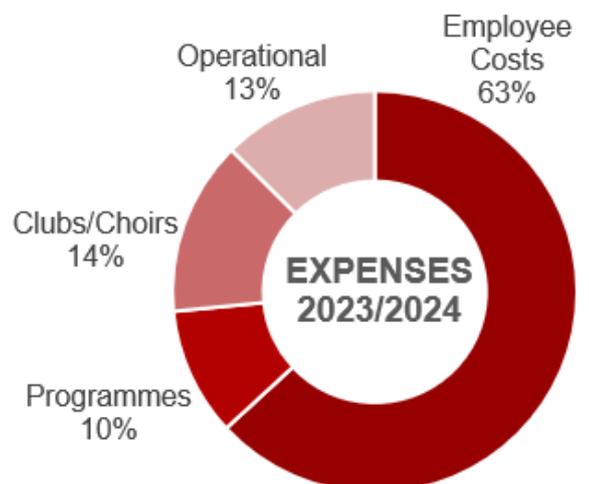
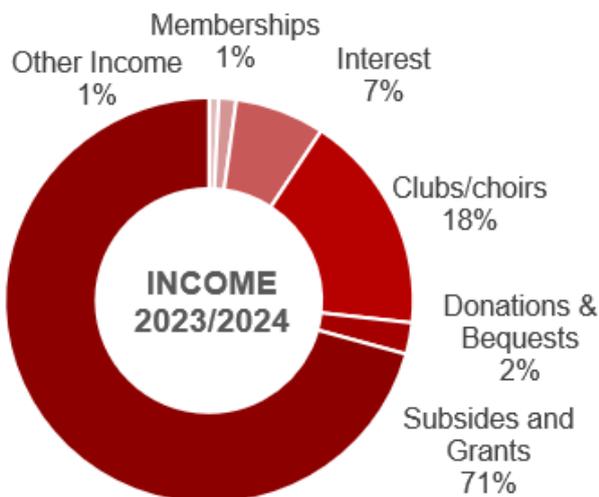
## Financial year - 2024 / 2025



Net position 2024/2025

**\$ 162,505**

## Financial year - 2023 / 2024



Net position 2023/2024

**- \$ 224,060**

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	2023/2024 \$	2024/2025 \$
<b>Revenue</b>		
Revenue	607,553	822,118
Other Income	45,224	35,238
<b>Expenses</b>		
Employee benefits expense	502,218	416,234
Superannuation	51,307	43,004
Stroke Awareness Week	-	
Insurance expenses	6,055	6,599
Printing and stationary	29,856	24,671
Travel expenses	31,679	14,261
Conference expenses	50,822	2,713
Grants paid	-	-
Program expenses	8,026	7,705
Club expenses	123,035	123,455
Other expenses	73,839	56,119
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>	<b>(224,060)</b>	<b>162,505</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income, net of income tax</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total comprehensive loss/profit for the year</b>	<b>(224,060)</b>	<b>162,505</b>

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	2023/2024 \$	2024/2025 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,390,497	1,565,874
Trade and other receivables	15,226	24,190
Other assets	3,996	2,907
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>1,409,719</b>	<b>1,592,971</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>1,409,719</b>	<b>1,592,971</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	31,489	16,479
Employee benefits	161,755	197,512
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>193,244</b>	<b>213,991</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>193,244</b>	<b>213,991</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>1,216,475</b>	<b>1,378,980</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Reserves	308,249	308,249
Retained earnings	908,226	1,070,731
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>1,216,475</b>	<b>1,378,980</b>

# GRANTS AND SPONSORS

## MAJOR BEQUESTS:

The Estate of George Sydney Smith  
The Estate of Josephine Adams

## MAJOR FUNDERS:



## CORPORATE SPONSORS:



Thank you to the following organisations, councils and clubs who have provided over  
**\$ 165,000**  
in cash and in-kind funding grants to our Stroke Recovery Clubs/groups/choirs in 2024/2025.





# CONTACT US



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[@StrokeRecoveryAssociationNSW](https://www.linkedin.com/company/StrokeRecoveryAssociationNSW)



[@StrokeNSW](https://www.x.com/StrokeNSW)