



The Story Island Project Annual Report 2017-18

My son's Grade 1 teacher recently told me how pleased she was with what my son knows about how to write a story. I told her it's because he had been to some Story Island workshops on storytelling and he had such a good time.

He really had a go in the workshops, and I was so happy to see it because he sometimes struggles with writing.

When Story Island came to work with my son's class to make books, he enjoyed it so much that he made two books when all the other kids only made one. It's great to see him so enthusiastic about writing.

Kathryn, parent, West Moonah

President's Report – the plot thickens!

2018 has been a year of wonderful consolidation for The Story Island Project, and there have been several significant developments in this year's chapter of unfinished work.

I never cease to be amazed by Kate and Emily's superb ideas and organisation, energy and enthusiasm, and by their vision and determination to provide such wonderful experiences for kids. Thank you, Emily and Kate, from me and from the rest of the Board for what you have achieved so far for the Story Island Project!

Outgoing Board members

A huge thank you to our four retiring Board members – we are extremely sad to see you go but understand the other competing demands in your lives.

Susan Bartie has been magnificent in shepherding our application for DGR status – we just could not have done this without you.

Victoria Ryle brought us fantastic knowledge of publishing children's work and of all the difficulties of starting an organisation such as this. I can't speak highly enough of your wisdom and expertise – thank you, Victoria.

Lily Stojcevski brought the viewpoint of young people to our Board meetings and was also a volunteer for us this year in some of our workshops. Thank you, Lily – we have so much enjoyed your enthusiasm and your different perspective.

Beth Warren was our Secretary this year, excellent at strategy and giving very wise and considered input into all our meetings. We will miss that wisdom and your sense of humour too, Beth.

Thank you to all these inaugural Board members for their generous input in terms of time, advice and ideas.

Planning days

Mel Maddock has been the fabulous organiser of our two planning days so far. Mel led the first day, on October 26, 2017, and invited Fae Robinson (from Fae Robinson Futures) to lead our second planning day on 4 August 2018. These days have been invaluable in helping us to focus on our priorities in a strategic manner. We especially appreciate Fae Robinson's extreme generosity in donating her time to prepare for the day, lead it and write notes afterwards. With Fae's help, we have identified the need for an organisational infrastructure and clarified our aims and the means to achieve them.

And thank you to everyone who has supported the project so far – members of the Board, especially Emily and Kate, our volunteers, *Fae Robinson futures*, the venues who have hosted us, the authors who have participated in workshops, those who have funded projects, Nick Gross for his design work and many supporters in the arts world.

Keep a lookout for our next instalment, with new characters, exciting action and unpredictable twists in 2019!

Lynne Hanlon
President
26 November 2018

Our Mission

Story Island Project is a not-for-profit organisation that nurtures the creativity and writing skills of young Tasmanians and celebrates their diverse voices. With the support of our enthusiastic volunteer tutors we run dynamic storytelling workshops where children and teenagers are empowered to create their own stories. Our focus is on communities that are often overlooked, where people may experience poverty and disadvantage or are marginalised in other ways.

Our vision is for children and teenagers to harness the power of their imaginations so they can grow to be resilient and creative shapers of their own lives.

Tasmania has many strengths but there are big barriers to overcome: nearly half of Tasmania's adults do not have the basic skills to understand and use information from newspapers, magazines, books and brochures. Tasmania has the lowest levels of educational retention, completion and attainment in the country. And every morning, around 16,000 Tasmanian children wake up to a life of poverty.

We want to change this picture so that young Tasmanians have the creative confidence and writing skills to participate in a good life.

We do this by offering free workshops where students get individualised support from our expert storytellers and volunteer tutors.

Board members 2017 18

President Lynne Hanlon

Senior Vice President Susan Bartie

Vice-President Beth Warren

Treasurer Louise Mills

Secretary Beth Warren

Public Officer Kate Gross

General members

Emily Bullock

Finegan Kruckemeyer

Melinda Maddock

Louise Mills

Victoria Ryle

Lily Stojcevski

2017–18 Programs

Over 440 young people benefitted from Story Island activities in 2017–18, attending programs we delivered across a range of school and community settings.

October 2017	Bee Literate editorial workshop	Goodwood Community Centre
October–December 2017	<i>Stories of the Brooker Highway</i> youth editorial team workshops	Montrose Bay High
November 2017	What's My Story	Cosgrove High School
March 2018	Moonah Taste of the World Festival storytelling stall	Benjafield Park, Moonah
April 2018	Drop-in storytelling sessions	Hobart Showgrounds
	Cabinet of Curiosities Workshop	Goodwood Community Centre
May 2018	Storytelling sessions	Goodwood Community Centre
	Cabinet of Curiosity workshops	West Moonah Community House
June 2018	Cabinet of Curiosity workshops	West Moonah Community House
	Creating characters and settings workshops x 2	Dominic College, Glenorchy
July 2018	Writing from objects workshops x 2	Dominic College, Glenorchy
	Global Story Club	Salvation Army, New Norfolk
	Write out of this World workshop	Migrant Resource Centre Glenorchy
	Global Story Club	Moonah Primary School
August 2018	Global Story Club	Moonah Primary School
	Starting a Story workshop	Bowen Road Primary School
October 2018	Our Own Street Library x 3	Moonah Primary School
	The Unconformity	Queenstown

November 2018	Our Own Street Library x 3	Moonah Primary School

Program highlights

Stories of the Brooker Highway

In late 2017, we wrapped up our major project for the year, Stories of the Brooker Highway. This year-long community storytelling project celebrated the northern suburbs as a place rich in stories, and a community filled with strong, creative voices. In this project, we collected stories from the community about the Brooker Highway and introduced these to young people in six schools located along the highway, who produced creative responses to it.

The stories and images collated in this project were featured in an exhibition curated by the Story Island Project, held at Moonah Arts Centre in August-September. We launched the exhibition of stories to a full house and were treated to a moving presentation by celebrated author Danielle Wood about her visits to her grandparents' home at 422 Brooker Highway. Eileen Brooker officially launched the exhibition and spoke of her memories of her father Edward Brooker, the Minister for Transport after whom the highway is named. Eileen entertained us for about 20 minutes and without notes or a microphone, a pretty amazing effort for a 95-year-old! Students from Montrose Bay High School also read excerpts of their fabulously creative stories about the Brooker Highway that were showcased in the exhibition.

In October 2017, we received a Nyrstar Community Grant that enabled us to publish the stories gathered through this project as a book. The grant also allowed us to hold editorial workshops with a team of fantastic young editors from Montrose Bay High School in October/November. The editorial group was integral to the publication's quality look and content; students took responsibility for the publication, gaining authentic experience in selecting and editing the stories ready for publication and writing the book's editorial and blurb. Chris Gallagher, director of the Tasmanian Writers Centre, officially launched the book at Glenorchy Library to an enthusiastic local audience.

Cabinet of Curiosities

In August 2018, we were delighted to unveil a new item of furniture for our storytelling workshops that was custom designed for us by Tasmanian furniture designer, [Linda Fredheim](#)! Linda crafted a fabulous old-world steamer trunk, which we plan to fill with all kinds of weird and wonderful objects that will spark imaginations in our storytelling workshops. Linda also made a custom display shelf and table for use in our workshops. In early 2018 we ran some pilot workshops at a range of community centres in Hobart's northern suburbs with the Cabinet of Curiosities theme, and plan to develop a series of

workshops along this theme for 2019. We were able to obtain these pieces from Linda thanks to funding from the Federal Government's [Stronger Communities](#) grants scheme.

Contributions from authors and artists

- One of Dominic College workshops was led by Finegan Kruckemeyer, who enthralled us all with the activities he ran with over 130 students across two sessions. Thank you so much, Fin!!
- Danielle Wood spoke at the launch of the Stories of the Brooker Highway exhibition.
- At the Moonah Taste of the World Festival, we were lucky enough to work with authors Angelica Banks (Danielle Wood and Heather Rose), Lian Tanner, Emily Conolan and Louisa D'Arville.
- Author Julie Hunt is one of our regular volunteers.
- Performer Matthew Stolp launched the Our Own Street Library at Moonah Primary School.

Volunteer program

This year our volunteer program really started to find its feet. Sydney Story Factory have been so generous in allowing us to attend their volunteer training workshops and sharing all sorts of materials with us to prepare us to train our own volunteers. We now have a team of 12 volunteers keen to work with us! Those volunteers have been giving very useful feedback on the workshops to enhance future workshops. Training will be held in February/March for the next batch of volunteers.

Sourcing funds

Emily and Kate have done a mighty job (with help from Mel Maddock) writing submissions and were successful in procuring funding from:

- Nyrstar Community Grant
- Glenorchy Community Fund
- Stronger Communities Programme
- Communities for Children
- Arts Tasmania (auspiced by The Unconformity)

Thank you, too, to Young Dawkins for his insight into seeking funds and resources.

Story Island Project Financial Report

1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

As at 30 June 2018 The Story Island Project had a cash-at-hand balance of \$3,497.05. Over the course of the year expenditure exceeded income by \$105.79, however this includes an overpayment reimbursed early in 2018-19 year therefore the actual year expenses exceeded earning by \$370.89.

The majority of the income was received as grants: Stronger Communities (\$6,000) and the Glenorchy Community Fund (\$2,109). There was additional income from workshops, sales and donations.

Expenditure was limited, with the major expense items relating to insurance and the creation of the Cabinet of Curiosity funded by the Stronger Communities Grant.

There were no major assets purchased during the year. Purchased items not considered consumables are noted in Attachment 3, and for accounting purposes have been allocated as expended items for the year.

There was no expenditure on salary or employee-related expenses.

Insurance will be an ongoing expense with the next invoice due early in the 2018 19 financial year.

Attachments:

1. Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2018
2. Income statement 1 July 2017 – 30 June 2018
3. Note on Assets 30 June 2018

Louise Mills

Treasurer

21 November 2018

ATTACHMENT 1 BALANCE SHEET**Reporting period: 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018****Account** **Balance****Asset**

Current Asset

Cash on Hand 3,497.05

Total for Current Asset 3,497.05

Total Assets 3,497.05

Liability

Current Liability

N/A Payable 0

Total for Current Liability 0

Total Liabilities 0

Equity

Previous Year(s) Earnings 4,335.34

Current Year Earnings -838.29

Total equity 3,497.05

Total Liabilities and Equity 3,497.05

ATTACHMENT 2 - INCOME STATEMENT**Reporting period: 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018**

Account	Balance
Revenue	
Government Grants	8,109.00
Interest Income	9.34
Other income (donations, sales and workshops)	4,225.95
Total Revenue	12,344.29
Operating Expenses	
Administration fees	62.00
Contract Services	225.00
Equipment	6,652.07
Insurance - general	1,057.10
Office Supplies	566.15
Printing and reproduction	3,227.26
Venue hire	375.00
Catering	68.00
Graphic design	950.00
Total Operating Expenses	13,182.58
NET PROFIT	-838.29

ATTACHMENT 3 ASSETS**Year ending 30 June 2018**

Item	Quantity	Value	Accounting Notes
Cabinet of Curiosity items		\$6 000	Expended item allocated to equipment (cash at hand)

Story Island Project details

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TFN: 988 827 366

Incorporation number: IA11920

BSB: 017-010

Account number: 4074-92166