



Annual Report 2025/26

OUR VISION

Quality evaluation that makes a difference

OUR MISSION

To strengthen and promote evaluation practice, theory and use

WHO WE ARE

We are a community committed to quality evaluation that makes a difference. Together, we advance the theory, practice and use of evaluation. We uphold standards and ethics, provide education and professional learning, and create an inclusive space where diverse voices are valued, connections are built, and careers in evaluation are strengthened.

OUR VALUES

Recognition

We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sovereignty and all First Nations' cultures as an integral part of our organisation.

OUR VALUES

Inclusion

We are welcoming, respect different ways of knowing, embrace diversity, and the principles of justice, equity and fairness.

OUR VALUES

Relationships

We are caring, compassionate and act with humility. We value collaboration and connection, and are a member-centred organisation.

OUR VALUES

Sustainability

We are stewards of our profession and respect our past, know our story and nurture a sustainable future through learning, being courageous and enabling growth.

We acknowledge the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this nation, the Traditional Owners, on whose land we gather and work. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past and present. We respect their traditions and embrace their traditional and contemporary expression.

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All photographs by Australian Evaluation Society

Bobby Maher, pictured during the aes25
Closing Plenary



REPORTS

President's report

Yuma, greetings everyone

Firstly, I acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of all the lands on which we AES members live and work. I particularly draw inspiration from the Ngunnawal community in the Canberra region who protect, preserve, and share their profound cultural heritage and spiritual connection to Country. I pay my respects to Elders past and present; and as the AES moves into its 40th anniversary year, it is a time to reflect on the vital role our elders play in our lives and communities as well as more broadly.

The 2025-2026 year has been a rich and energetic year in which the AES has embarked on a range of new and important projects that we hope will sustain the AES into the future.

The aes25 International Evaluation Conference hosted in Canberra was an opportunity to reflect on our assumptions. The conference theme, Beyond the Bubble, offered delegates a thought-provoking idea. Being prepared to go 'beyond the bubble' is essential in today's interconnected and rapidly changing world. If we are willing to embrace diverse perspectives and challenge our own assumptions, we benefit personally and professionally. We develop a more holistic and inclusive understanding of the world and become more effective thinkers.

Our annual conference injects many strong connections into our sector. This year I also attended the UK Evaluation Society (UKES) conference, and this provided an opportunity to discuss current trends with the UKES

President and meet evaluators from many countries and cultures. It is invigorating to experience how readily evaluators connect across boundaries as we share a profession that is truly international.

Making connections was a strong feature of Canberra aes25. The conference helped delegates catch-up with existing networks and form new connections; providing opportunities to socialise through social events and engaging exhibition spaces to explore during breaks. We evaluate the success of the conference each year, and this year the findings showed ways that delegates with diverse levels of experience benefitted - through learning, social connections, and relevant and engaging content.

In 2025, we were delighted to induct two new Fellows of the AES, John Stoney and David Roberts. This brings the total number of Fellows to 34. The Fellows are an integral part of our association, and we honour their wisdom and guidance.

Relationships are integral to the way we work. Our organisational values of Recognition, Inclusion, Relationships and Sustainability (<https://www.aes.asn.au/about-us>) inform how we work. I encourage all members to consider how these four values can be put into action by all of us, and how they strengthen our ability to pursue our goals.

In valuing sustainability, we strive to be good stewards of our profession by building on our past and nurturing a sustainable future through recognition, inclusion, and learning. Many of the projects underway this year within the four domains of Culture, Pathways, Leadership and Vitality are driven by our desire to be courageous and enable sustainable growth and development of the AES and its members.



This year, I want to note the substantial amount of new work being undertaken through the efforts of staff and members. The extra capacity provided by our Policy Officer Carina Calzoni, is enhancing the achievements of our energetic and experienced team of Chief Executive Officer Bill Wallace, Membership and Events Executive Fiona Zlotnik, and Administration Assistant Sonya Krzywoszja. In addition, I am grateful to all AES members who so generously give their time to strengthen evaluation through the work of our committees.

First Nations

First Nations evaluators leading a community of practice shaping the aspirations and practice of evaluation

We greatly value the generous guidance of the First Nations Committee to the AES across our initiatives. The committee acts as a vital Indigenous sounding board, which continues to strengthen the cultural responsiveness and integrity of initiatives under the AES Strategic Plan.

- Working across our strategic projects is vital to this integrity. We thank First Nations committee members who have volunteered for the Ethics and Cultural Safety Working group and the consultation phase for the Professionalisation project. Both projects will be stronger due to their input.
- Increased funding for the Conference Support Grants from the National Indigenous Australians Agency as well as the generosity of AES members enables a stronger model of support for recipients; drawn from across Australia, the Pacific and Melanesia.

Establishing an alumni network for Conference Support Grant recipients is a major achievement this year which fosters connection and professional development.

- The Committee is bringing its wisdom to the Evaluation Journal of Australasia, establishing a pathway to identify Indigenous peer reviewers and support First Nations representation on the Editorial team.
- We are grateful for all contributions across many areas of AES work, as these continue to ensure First Nations perspectives meaningfully inform and strengthen the strategic development of the AES.

Policy

The trusted voice on evaluation in Australia

Strengthening the ability of the AES to offer thought leadership has been a key goal of the Policy Committee this year, as it progresses projects in the Leadership domain of the AES Strategic Plan.

- The committee's flagship initiative is well advanced. Building on member ideas, a project group is developing an AES position statement to communicate clearly about our vision – Quality Evaluation that Makes a Difference. A lively session launched the project at the aes25 Conference; and strong member interest suggests that the results will fill a gap in our strategic leadership resources.
- The project identifies principles that underpin quality evaluation in the Australian context, informed by existing AES resources, international literature and member consultations. The position

paper will be a valuable reference for members when communicating about what is involved in delivering successful evaluation. Member input into this key AES resource is vital and I thank members and all committees who have contributed to this strategic project.

- A timely project has also begun that recognises the growing influence of artificial intelligence on evaluation. The Policy Committee has established the Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence in Evaluation project with a multidisciplinary team, who plan to develop an AES policy position that supports ethical, transparent and culturally responsible use of AI.
- To support strategic relationships across the evaluation ecosystem, the Committee has undertaken stakeholder mapping. This will support future policy development and advocacy, strengthening the AES's capacity to provide thought leadership, develop evidence-informed policy positions and support our vision of quality evaluation that makes a difference.

Pathways

A strong professional identity, and career pathways

Support for members continues to grow, with the Pathways Committee building on its strengths through maturing the popular Mentoring Program and progressing strategic projects that are central to the AES's future success.

- Relationships between experienced and newer members are facilitated through mentoring and we have seen the promotion and communication of mentoring models strengthened this year. Longer-term AES members also benefit from this sustaining development opportunity.

- The Ethical Guidelines Project is progressing vital work to align our Ethical Guidelines and Code of Ethical Conduct with the First Nations Cultural Safety Framework. This is a core element of our sector leadership.
- The Professionalisation Project has begun carefully, exploring options in a considered manner by building on existing AES work; preparing a consultation plan; and engaging with the First Nations Committee on key considerations for culturally safe professionalisation pathways.
- It is heartening to see the Pathways committee exploring ways to support AES members through a downturn in evaluation consultancy opportunities; building on the annual workshop program and initiatives that promote shared learning, reflection and mutual support.
- The year ahead will be especially important in the Pathways domain, as the Committee focuses on phase 2 of the Professionalisation Project, and begins work on the Competencies Project.

Vitality

A sustainable organisation fostering a sense of belonging, connections, and enhancing value for members

Regular sharing of information involving cross-pollination between the Regional Networks has been an important focus for the Vitality Committee, ensuring that AES membership supports connection and belonging in the challenging circumstances faced by our sector.

- A key result this year was the development of the Member Value Proposition. This guiding statement expresses our commitment to quality evaluation that makes a difference.

- It highlights what the AES stands for: "together, we advance the theory, practice and use of evaluation; and we uphold standards and ethics, provide education and professional learning, and create an inclusive space where diverse voices are valued; connections are built, and careers in evaluation are strengthened."
- This is a vital piece of work, and it will inform the development of a membership retention strategy, ensuring that member offerings align with the needs of members.

When considered together, we have an amazing breadth of strategic projects underway. Each project has a distinct focus. Together they will contribute to implementing the AES Strategic Plan. Completing these projects will support our mission to strengthen and promote evaluation practice in Australia.

As these projects develop, there will be opportunities for members and stakeholders to contribute their perspectives and expertise. I encourage members to be involved. Consultation approaches will vary depending on the purpose and stage of each project. Completing key projects will ensure a strong future for the AES and it is important that each project is considered carefully and proceeds at an appropriate pace. Again, I thank the many amazing AES members who are contributing their time, expertise and experience to these crucial strategic initiatives. It is these efforts that make the AES strong.

This year has been my first year as AES President and a Board Director. I am particularly grateful for the extraordinary effort and kind support of Board colleagues and the AES leadership team.

We are fortunate to have a strong and committed team who work hard to support the operations of the association. I'd like to recognise the expertise of Bill, Fiona, Sonya and Carina, as well as my fellow Board members, for their leadership, service and ongoing commitment to the AES.

The accomplishments of the AES over the year have been substantial and put us in a strong position to succeed in the work ahead.

As we strive to be good stewards of our profession, we can continue to build on our past and nurture a sustainable future.

Our strategic approach is driven by our desire to be courageous. I'm confident this will continue to enable growth of the AES and to support the wellbeing of members.



Kim Grey

President

Treasurer's report

Summary of the 2026 financial year results

The 2025–26 financial year saw a substantially improved operating result compared to 2024–2025, and continued investment in organisational capability.

The organisation reported a deficit of \$2,372, effectively a break-even result, compared with a budgeted surplus of \$25,676 and the previous year's deficit of \$33,733.

Total income was \$1.72 million, and while \$31,000 (almost 2%) below budget, was \$42,000 (2.5%) higher than last year. Membership income of \$263,000 was just over 1% above budget and almost 3% higher than last year, while professional learning income of \$323,000 was 2.6% above budget and almost 7% higher than last year. Publication income remained below expectations. Total expenditure was \$1.722 million, less than 1% below budget and broadly in line with last year, with savings in several operational areas offsetting increased investment in governance and administration services.

The conference generated \$1.1 million in income and a surplus of \$223,000, while professional learning generated a surplus of \$198,000. These stronger program results substantially improved the overall financial position. The organisation nevertheless continues to rely heavily on the annual conference to offset the deficit in core operations, and this underlying structural position remains an important area of attention.

CONFERENCE

The aes25 conference in Canberra delivered a particularly strong financial performance and remained a critical revenue stream for the organisation. Conference income was \$1.1 million, slightly higher than the previous year and a new conference income record. Expenditure at \$877,000 was just over 4% lower than last year and the resulting surplus (of \$223,000) was \$63,408 (almost 40%) higher than the previous year's surplus of \$160,000, lifting the return on conference income from 15% to 20%. Strong pre-conference workshop registrations helped offset slightly lower delegate registrations. The result reinforces the conference's strategic importance, while also highlighting the organisation's continuing reliance on conference profitability to support core operations.

WORKSHOP PROGRAM

Professional learning had an outstanding year. Income increased to \$323,000, up almost 7% on the previous year, while expenditure reduced to \$125,000, 4.3% below last year. The resulting surplus was \$198,000, an increase of \$27,000 (just over 15%) from \$172,000 in 2024–25. The program is becoming both larger and an increasingly important contributor to the organisation's total income, reducing some of the pressure on the conference for the organisation's financial sustainability.



MEMBERSHIP

Membership income remains a strong contributor to core operations. Income of \$263,000 was \$7,280 (almost 3%) higher than the previous year, reflecting increased strength in renewals and organisational memberships. At 30 June 2026, AES had 1,084 members, almost unchanged from 1,091 a year earlier; however, member retention increased to 77%, compared with 69% in 2024–25. Continued attention to member value, renewals and organisational membership remains important to strengthening the organisation's non-conference income base.

CASH INVESTMENT

During 2025–26, the previous term deposit of \$200,000 was increased to \$350,000, generating over \$9,000 in interest and supporting returns on the organisation's cash reserves.

Balance sheet analysis, June 2026 against June 2025

Cash and term deposits at 30 June 2026 totalled \$1.128 million, \$45,000 (almost 4%) lower than the previous year.

- Total assets have decreased by 4.9%
- Total liabilities have decreased by 8.1%
- Total equity (members' funds) at \$639,152 is broadly in line with the previous year (\$641,524)

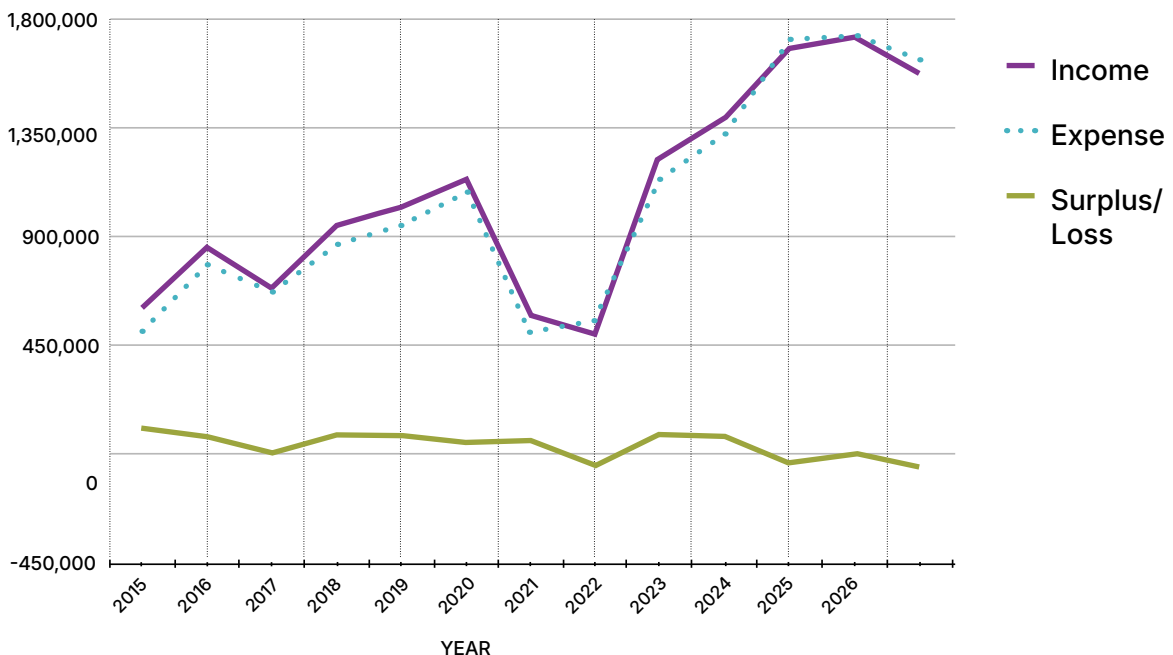
LOOKING FORWARD

The organisation enters the 2027 financial year with sound liquidity and substantial reserves, and core financial health metrics indicating a strong capacity to meet short-term obligations. However, core operations remain structurally dependent on conference profitability: conference income represents approximately 64% of total income, and non-conference operating expenditure is currently approximately 136% of non-conference operating income. The priority remains to strengthen sustainable non-conference income and manage core operating costs while continuing to invest in membership, professional learning and organisational capability.

Finance summary

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26 Actuals	2026/27 Budget
INCOME							
Prof development	244,257	249,220	255,418	298,430	302,169	323,299	350,000
Conference income	NIL	NIL	708,092	825,379	1,074,106	1,099,800	930,000
Memberships	209,224	231,312	231,586	247,492	256,205	263,484	250,000
Publications	22,014	27,908	25,276	22,844	35,600	23,850	31,000
Other Income	90,819	8	8	8	9,402	9,419	10,000
Total Income	566,314	508,448	1,220,380	1,394,153	1,677,482	1,719,852	1,571,000
EXPENDITURE							
Prof development	112,718	125,692	126,097	113,180	130,165	124,632	128,500
Conference	NIL	NIL	536,907	652,912	914,539	876,825	679,500
Strategic projects	21,582	34,461	4,569	1,657	27,144	22,995	46,500
Membership	3,061	18,743	21,097	7,334	24,522	11,510	33,000
Publications, inc EJA	54,425	52,801	60,951	59,924	65,978	67,600	70,000
Other expenses	466						
SUB-TOTAL	192,252	231,697	749,621	843,174	1,162,348	1,103,562	957,500
Admin/Governance	311,486	319,610	387,803	479,034	548,866	618,662	667,500
Total Expenditure	503,738	551,307	1,137,424	1,322,208	1,711,214	1,722,224	1,625,000
SURPLUS / (LOSS)	62,576	(42,859)	82,956	71,945	(33,732)	(2,372)	(54,000)

Income, expenses and surplus 2015-2027



ABOUT US

The Australian Evaluation Society (AES) is a professional organisation for people involved in evaluation, including evaluation practitioners, managers, teachers and students of evaluation, and other interested individuals.

We have over 1,000 members involved in all aspects of evaluation and performance measurement. The AES is governed by a Board of Directors and managed by a Chief Executive Officer and staff.

Our members represent diverse professional sectors and areas of evaluation practice and meet regularly through regional networks, Special Interest Groups, discussion groups and an annual conference.

The AES offers professional development through an annual international conference, a peer-reviewed evaluation journal, and regular workshops and seminars.

Objects of the AES

Establish and promote ethics and standards in evaluation practice

Encourage advances in the theory and practice of evaluation

Provide education and training related to evaluation

Provide forums for networking, professional development and the discussion of ideas

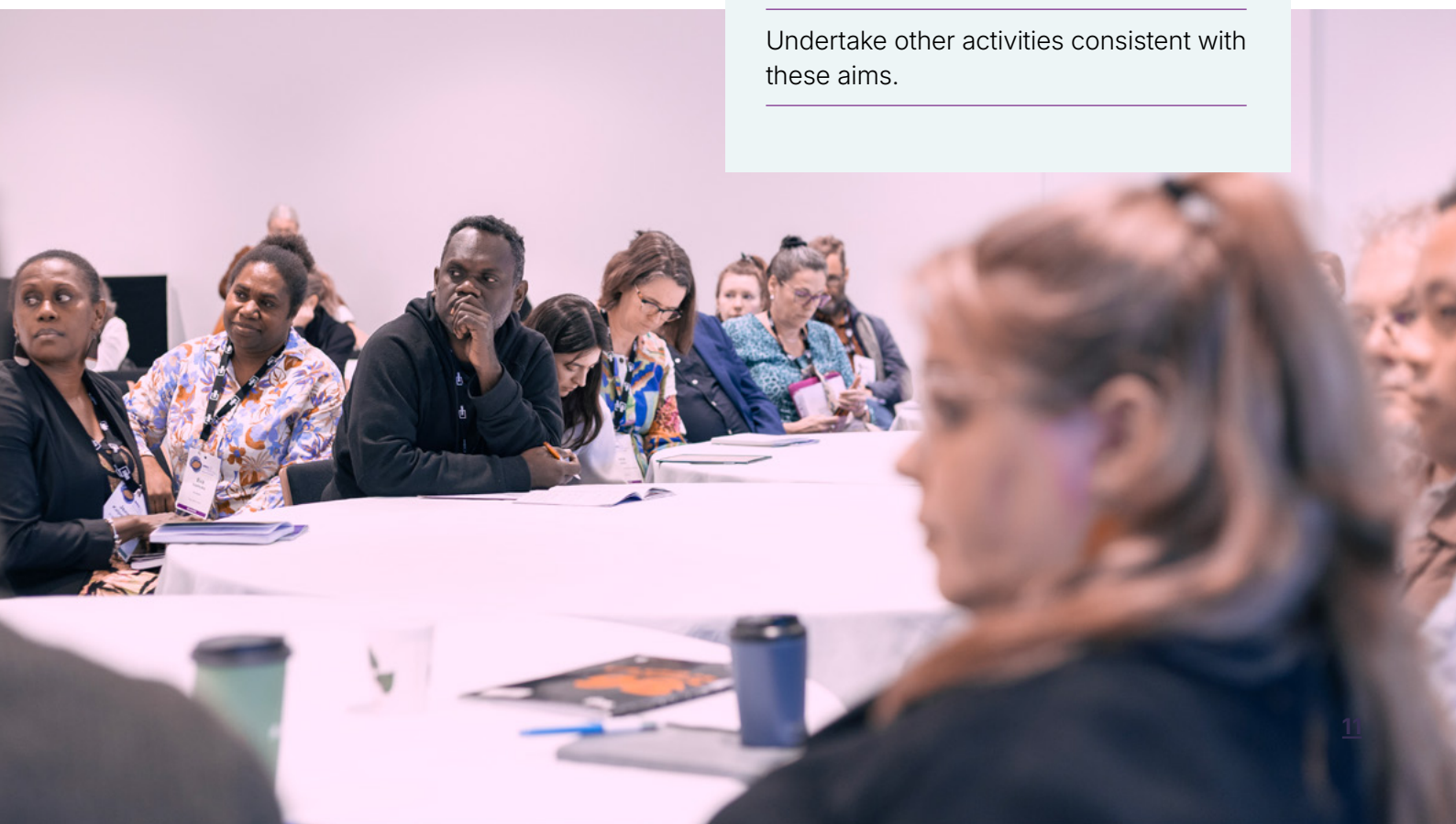
Increase understanding of evaluation and advocate for quality evaluation

Be inclusive of Indigenous and all cultural perspectives

Have governance systems that reflect and incorporate best practice

Provide a forum that allows the diverse voices of the community to be heard, including those who commission the evaluations, those who carry them out and the evaluands

Undertake other activities consistent with these aims.



Member benefits



Recognition and support

Belonging to the longest established professional evaluation organisation in the region, with a network of over 1,000 practitioners, commissioners and academics involved in all aspects of evaluative enquiry and performance measurement.



Code of ethics

Members abide by the AES Code of Ethics, and are guided by and support the AES Guidelines for the Ethical Conduct of Evaluations.

Members are encouraged to rely on the Code when faced with situations that require them to balance competing ethical principles.



Professional learning opportunities

Belonging to the longest established professional evaluation organisation in the region, with a network of over 1,000 practitioners, commissioners and academics involved in all aspects of evaluative enquiry and performance measurement.



Group mentoring

The AES Group Mentoring Program is an innovative online member-only mentoring program, where seasoned evaluators guide small groups of emerging and mid-career evaluators through their professional journey.



Networking

Members make contacts with colleagues in evaluation by joining in regional group meetings and other activities for training, networking and discussion of current evaluation topics.



Publications

Online, member-only access to the Evaluation Journal of Australasia (EJA) and six SAGE Publishing titles, and the AES Guidelines for the Ethical Conduct of Evaluations.



Members' centre

Electronic access to information and resources for members only, including the latest issue of EJA, issues of e-news.



AES Awards for Excellence in Evaluation

Members are eligible for nomination for the prestigious AES Awards for Excellence in Evaluation.



Consultants' Directory

Members profile their evaluation services and consultancy through the online Consultants' Directory and receive tender information made available to the AES.



Annual international evaluation conference

Evaluators stay in touch with the latest trends and issues in evaluation through the annual AES International Evaluation Conference, for which members receive advance notice and discounted registration fees.



International links

Members are part of an international network of evaluation societies.



Corporate governance

How we are governed

The Australian Evaluation Society is a charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not for-profits Commission (ACNC). Since May 2015, the organisation has been a public company limited by guarantee after it transferred its registration as an association from the Australian Capital Territory. A Board of Directors provides overall governance and strategic direction for the organisation. The Board is legally responsible for governing the organisation. The Chief Executive Officer manages operations and has delegated responsibility for implementing the directions and decisions of the Board.

Accountability of the Board

The Board is accountable to the membership of the AES. All members of the Board must adhere to the requirements of the ACNC and the Australian Corporations Act 2001, as well as the provisions set out in the AES Constitution and policies.

Appointment of the Board

Following adoption of the new Constitution at the Special General Meeting in July 2023, the Board consists of six Directors, all elected by the membership. The Board elects the office bearers, President, Vice-President, and Treasurer, from amongst the Directors. The Board has the discretion to appoint up to three ordinary Board members, ensuring that at least two members of the Board are First Nations people and taking into account the overall mix of knowledge, skills and attributes of Board members.

Role of the Board

The Board is subject to the provisions of the Australian Corporations Act 2001, its obligations to the ACNC and the AES Constitution. The Board may delegate certain powers to committees of members. All Board positions are unpaid.

Indemnity of the Board

The AES has directors' and officers' insurance and professional indemnity for all Board members.

Board and staff

Board members 2025–2026

PRESIDENT

- › Kiri Parata (to September 2025)
- › Matt Healey (Oct 2025 to Nov 2025)
- › Kim Grey (from November 2025)

VICE-PRESIDENT

- › Anne Stephens (to September 2025)
- › Andrew Hawkins (from November 2025)

TREASURER

- › Tony Kiessler (to September 2025)
- › Lee-Anne Molony (from October 2025)

DIRECTORS

- › Nicole Tujague
- › Jade Maloney
- › Matt Healey
- › Jill Thomas
- › Kim Grey (from September 2025)
- › Melanie Syron (from October 2025)

Meeting attendance

Kiri Parata	2 of 2
Anne Stephens	2 of 2
Tony Kiessler	2 of 2
Kim Grey	3 of 4
Lee-Anne Molony	4 of 4
Nicole Tujague	4 of 7
Jade Maloney	6 of 7
Andrew Hawkins	7 of 7
Matt Healey	5 of 7
Jill Thomas	4 of 6
Melanie Syron	3 of 3

Staff

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

- › Bill Wallace

MEMBERSHIP & EVENTS EXECUTIVE

- › Fiona Zlotnik

POLICY OFFICER

- › Carina Calzoni

EJA MANAGING EDITOR

- › Jeff Adams

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

- › Sonya Krzywoszyja

President: Kim Grey

Kim Grey is a long-standing member of the AES. She contributes to the Policy Committee, the ACT regional committee, and the Editorial Board of the Evaluation Journal of Australasia. Kim was co-convenor of the AES 2025 conference in Canberra and on the conference organising committee in 2017. In 2015 Kim contributed to projects highlighting the United Nations International Year of Evaluation. Kim joined the AES in the 1990s and has been privileged to see it mature and grow through phases of development.

Kim has experience in evaluation that spans three decades: working inside government as an internal evaluator and leading teams focused on evaluation capability development and evaluation governance. Kim has also provided training in evaluation, in both academia and consulting, working with the Realist Research, Evaluation and Learning Team at Charles Darwin University. Kim has recently been appointed as an Adjunct Fellow at the Public Service Research Group at UNSW.

As an experienced manager of evaluation across many areas of social policy, Kim has considerable insight into strategic organisational governance of evaluation planning. An ongoing interest is the development of capability for the range of staff involved in evaluation in its journey from planning to doing and utilising evaluation findings.

Kim follows the broad field of evaluation and is particularly interested in impact evaluation, participatory and realist evaluation. She has a Master's Degree in Evaluation from The University of Melbourne, and has conducted research into the use of theory in evaluation. Kim has presented on evaluation at many conferences and events in Australia, New Zealand, Taiwan, and Canada. Kim is passionate about the evaluation profession and curious about how we build resilience, which she explored in her recent AES Blog post - Resilient evaluators and resilient systems.



Vice-President: Andrew Hawkins

Andrew Hawkins is Chief Evaluator at ARTD Consultants, where he has worked for the past 18 years. Andrew takes a broad view of evaluation. He starts from the idea that no tradition has a direct line to the truth, and that different approaches often hold different views about what 'validity' even means when it comes to choosing methods and making claims. Good practice depends on mutual appreciation between traditions rather than choosing sides. Andrew came to evaluation through psychometrics and behaviour change work and now sees the discipline less as a branch of social science and more as a way of helping people act well under uncertainty. He has worked across most policy domains in the public and not-for-profit sectors, with a focus on cost-effective, fit-for-purpose designs. More recently he has been developing propositional evaluation as an approach that shifts the focus from accumulating knowledge to reasoned action and managing the risk of failure. He offers it as one lens among many. He holds a Master of Administrative Law and Public Policy and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology (Hons), both from the University of Sydney.

Treasurer: Lee-Anne Molony

Lee-Anne Molony is Chief of Practice & Operations at Clear Horizon, where she supports organisations across Australia to strengthen strategy, monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL). With more than two decades' experience working across government, philanthropy, not-for-profit and community sectors, she is an experienced evaluator, facilitator and trusted adviser with a strong commitment to building evaluation capability and helping organisations use evidence to improve decision-making and outcomes. Lee-Anne is recognised for her practical, collaborative approach to evaluation, organisational learning and capacity building. As Treasurer, Lee-Anne contributes her experience in governance, financial stewardship and organisational leadership to support the Society's commitment to sound governance and a strong evaluation profession.

THE YEAR'S HIGHLIGHTS

AES International Evaluation Conference

The 2025 AES International Evaluation Conference was held from 15 to 19 September at the Canberra Convention Centre. The theme of 'going beyond the bubble' explored today's interconnected and rapidly changing world. The conference invited the evaluation community to go beyond the bubble by challenging assumptions, seeking new ideas, embracing diverse perspectives, and questioning what really matters.

On the eve of the conference, a Welcome Reception was held at the National Portrait Gallery. Ngunnawal Elder Aunty Serena Williams officially opened the conference on 17 September with a Welcome to Country. We were also delighted to hear from Liz Wren of Gilibanga at the conference opening.

The Gala Awards Dinner was held in the Great Hall of Australian Parliament House on 18 September. It was inspiring to hear from recipients of the support grants for emerging Indigenous evaluators who spoke from the heart, sharing reflections on the meaning of cultural safety in evaluation. We honoured the strong work of members through the AES Awards for Excellence in Evaluation and announced new Fellows of the Society: John Stoney and David Roberts.

The conference was packed with an extensive program of speakers with diverse experiences across disciplines, sectors and cultural perspectives. The closing session gave us an intriguing range of ignite presentations from big thinkers, including our keynote speakers. We were also grateful for the opportunity to offer our thanks to Kiri Parata for her service as AES President.

Keynotes

Ray Lovett, a proud Ngiyampaa/Wongaibon man and Professor, at the Yardhura Walani Centre, Australian National University, and **Bobby Maher**, a Yamatji, Noongar, Kija woman and scholar at the Yardhura Walani Centre, stated clearly that the time for token consultation is over.

Andi Fugard, Director of Quantitative Impact Evaluation with IFF Research (UK), challenged us to question binaries and assumptions in evaluation practice.

Bianca Montrosse-Moorhead, Professor of Evaluation, University of Connecticut (US) offered a fresh frame for thinking about professional identity, collaboration, and growth.

Patricia Rogers, Brad Astbury and Eleanor Williams (Aus) provided an inspiring panel discussion on how evaluation can respond to the challenges of our time.



Facts and valuing



619

conference delegates attended aes25.



360

people participated in the pre-conference workshop program.

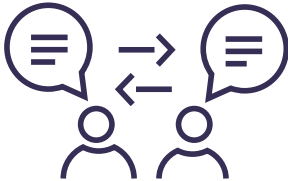
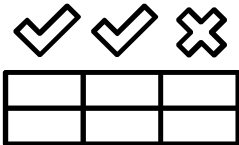
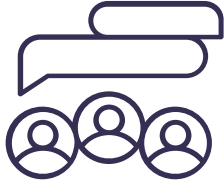
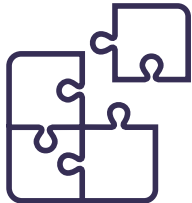


15

people received Conference Support Grants.

The conference helped delegates form new connections as well as strengthening their existing professional networks; providing ample opportunities to socialise with other delegates; and providing a quality exhibition space for delegates to meet and socialise throughout the conference. Using a mixed approach; the conference evaluation showed the ways that delegates with different levels of experience benefitted through learning, social connections, and relevant and engaging content.

Highlights of the different intent and experiences of participants are shown in the aes25 evaluation report (p.5):

	Learning	Social
First timer new delegates	 • To assess their own understanding • Exploring potential areas of interest in evaluation	 • Interest to meet the larger evaluation community
First timer experienced delegates	 • To strengthen their existing practice • Exploring alternate approaches	 • Interest to meet people with similar competences and experiences
Returning experienced delegates	 • To challenge the current understanding and premise of evaluation	 • Interest to reconnect with existing connections

Conference First Nations Partner

Gilibanga Create-Make Light:
Blak Evaluators & Trusted Allies Network

Conference sponsors

ARTD
ACIL Allen
Urbis
Where to | Ipsos
Grosvenor
Rooftop Social
Policy Performance
Bellberry
Verian Group
Australian Centre for Evaluation
Bluebird Consultants
Clear Horizon
First Person Consulting
Iris Ethics

Conference committee

Kim Grey (co-convenor)
Ruth Nicholls (co-convenor)
Julie Elliott (program chair)
Graham Smith (program chair)
John Stoney (workshop chair)
Scott Bayley (workshop chair)
Tony Kiessler (First Nations advisor)
Martina Donkers
Dana Cross
Emma Wensing
Joan Ten Brummelaar
Kate O'Malley
Josephine Haussler
Rani Austin
Lorraine Heywood
Fiona Zlotnik (conference manager)
Sonya Krzywoszyja (administration)
Bill Wallace (conference director)

Conference evaluation

The evaluation was conducted by Zach Lee, who is a Master of Evaluation student at The University of Melbourne. Zach was guided by Capstone Fellow, John Stoney. The conference evaluation was supported by the aes25 conference committee.



Conference logo

The concept reflects the idea of thinking 'beyond the bubble' and outside of what we know to connect to new ideas, knowledge, people, place and ways of doing. Opening our perspective up, is to open up the opportunity for greater positive impact and connection.

The design subtly features an eye shape to reflect the idea of thinking outside of your own perspective, but also the bubble. The layers show the outward progression of reaching outside of our closer network of people, places and knowing, then more broadly to a deeper and wider connection, and finally that impact it has on Country and greater networks of community and connection.

Cause/Affect is a First Nations owned multidisciplinary creative studio boldly going after better. Cause/Affect is here to bring about better outcomes through considered, insight led creative solutions. Cause/Affect also know that purpose is nothing without passion — so that's why they are focussed on creating better outcomes for people and more connected communities.

Awards for Excellence in Evaluation

The Awards and Recognition Working Group (ARWG) continued to promote excellence in evaluation practice.

There was a high level of interest in the year's Awards round, with nine nominations received. The group recommended five recipients across five categories. The committee were impressed with the responses, both those that received awards and those that did not. The level of nominations points to excellent practice across the field.

Congratulations to this year's awardees!

Looking ahead to 2026-2027 ARWG will continue to focus on sharing excellent practice, and ensuring that the awards categories reflect current practice.

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

Aneta Cram
Dana Cross
Rick Cummings
Kevin Dolman
Farida Fleming
Kym Hamilton
Jess Kenway
Amanda Mottershead

2025 Awards recipients



Indigenous Evaluation Award

Awarded to

Myuma Pty Ltd.





Evaluation Systems Award

Awarded to

Evaluation and Insights Team
of the National Emergency
Management Agency



Emerging New Talent Award

Awards to

Caitlin Morton



Public Sector Evaluation Award

Awarded to

ARTD Consultants, Taylor Fry
& NSW Ministry of Health -
Towards Zero Suicides Initiatives



EJA Publication Award

Awarded to

Sandra Nyashaddai Ayoo,
Meghan Leeming, Stacy Huff

'Meta-evaluation: Validating program evaluation
standards through the United Nations Evaluation
Quality Assessment (EQAs)'



Evaluation Journal of Australasia (EJA)

The Evaluation Journal of Australasia furthers the aims of the AES in promoting the theory, research and practice of evaluation.

Four issues were published in this reporting period, including a special issue: “Culturally sensitive and equitable evaluation”. This included 7 academic and 6 practice articles. The articles were a mix of theoretical, empirical and practical papers that reflect contemporary evaluation issues. The authors are a mix of professional consultants, academics and not-for-profit evaluators. Each issue includes an evaluator perspective from a Fellow or respected evaluator who shared their insights with Anthea Rutter.

Most of the content is provided by Australian-based authors, with two articles directly addressing First Nations issues.

Performance metrics

The performance metrics for the EJA show that readership in terms of full-text downloads continue to increase year on year.

FULL TEXT DOWNLOADS					
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Downloads	40,001	39,468	36,927	23,305	19,825

The EJA quality scores show steadily improving results. The Cite score (number of citations divided by the number of documents in the past 4 years) has been steadily increasing. It is currently 2.1. The Journal’s percentile in Sociology and Political Science is the highest achieved to date and reflects the improved cite score. When compared to other journals, the Scimago journal rankings are in the Quartile 2 range, which is the best result for the EJA in recent years.

SCOPUS CITE SCORE					
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Cite score	2.1	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.2
Percentile in Sociology & Political Science	61	56	53	52	54

SCIMAGO JOURNAL RANKINGS					
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Sociology & Political Science	Q2	Q3	Q2	Q3	Q3
Development	Q2	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q3



The Editorial Team continues to pursue a strategy that aims to improve the Journal's quality, while ensuring that it remains relevant and useful for AES members. In 2027 there will be a special focus on the 40th anniversary of the AES, with a series of articles that reflect on the Society's history and the Journal's contribution to the evaluation profession.

Editorial Team

The editorial team has been refreshed with two new members being appointed – Nicole Tujague, Southern Cross University and Ahmed M. Gharib, University of Tasmania – joined the Editorial Team; and one resignation (Kwadwo Adusei-Asante) was received.

The team has Australian regional and international representation with members based in the Northern Territory, Queensland, Victoria, Tasmania, as well as Singapore and New Zealand.

An Editorial Advisory Board consisting of 19 members (with representation from Australia, New Zealand, the United States, and the United Kingdom) has provided valuable advice to the editors and assisted with manuscript reviewing, promoting the journal, and contributing manuscripts.

EDITOR

John Guenther

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Ahmed M. Gharib

Anthea Rutter

Ming Hwa Ting

Nicole Tujague

MANAGING EDITOR

Jeffery Adams

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Fiona Zlotnik

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The AES strategic priorities 2024–2028 include four strategic domains: Culture, Pathways, Vitality and Leadership. To support the strategy the AES has four strategic advisory committees: First Nations Committee, Pathways Committee, Vitality Committee and Policy Committee.

First Nations Committee

First Nations evaluators leading a community of practice shaping the aspirations and practice of evaluation

This year, the First Nations Committee has continued to benefit from the commitment and generosity of members from Australia (8), Aotearoa New Zealand (2), and the Pacific (3). Committee membership naturally fluctuates as members balance their many professional and community responsibilities.

Aligned with the priorities of the AES Culture Domain, the Committee has continued to provide cultural guidance and Indigenous critical thinking across a range of Society initiatives. We have worked closely with other AES committees and working groups, acting as an Indigenous sounding board to strengthen the cultural responsiveness and integrity of programs supporting the AES Strategic Plan. Over and above this advisory role, two of the First Nations committee members volunteered for the Ethics and Cultural Safety Working group and contributed greatly to the research

and drafting of a key document. The group has proactively engaged the First Nations Committee to advise of the methodology and progress of the work undertaken. In addition, a First Nations committee member has been involved in the consultation phase for the Professionalisation project.

A key achievement has been progressing an alumni network for Conference Support Grant (CSG) recipients to foster ongoing connection, support and professional development. Our sincere thanks to former CSG recipient and proud Torres Strait Islander, AES and First Nations Committee member, Jamie-Lee Wagner, for leading this important work.

The Committee again reviewed a strong field of applications for the CSG program. Increased funding from the National Indigenous Australians Agency, together with the generous sponsorship of AES members, has enabled a strengthened support model for recipients. This investment continues to create opportunities for emerging First Nations evaluators across Australia, the Pacific and Melanesia.

The Committee has also strengthened Indigenous representation within the Evaluation Journal of Australasia (EJA) by establishing a pathway to identify



Indigenous peer reviewers and supporting greater First Nations representation on the Editorial team.

We value all Committee members for their wisdom, generosity and ongoing commitment. Their contributions continue to ensure First Nations perspectives meaningfully inform and strengthen the work of the AES.

During the 2026-2027 year, it is the intention of the committee to continue this work and further develop the Alumni group program.

FIRST NATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sharon Clarke
Kevin Dolman
Fiona Fandim
Lea Gage
Allan Mua Illingworth
Tony Keissler
Kiri Parata
Doyen Radcliffe
Melanie Syron
Nicole Tujague
Jamie-Lee Wagner
Nan Wehipeihana

Pathways Committee

A strong professional identity, and career pathways

Over the past year, the Pathways Committee strengthened core programs and advanced several major strategic initiatives. The Mentoring Program continued to mature, with the 2025 cycle concluding successfully and the 2026/2027 program commencing. Recruitment was supported through aes25 activities and refined onboarding processes and promotional materials to better communicate mentoring models.

A new feature for 2026 was the creation of short videos introducing each mentor group, which “convey the vibe for each group” and support clearer expectations for mentees.

Significant progress was made across strategic projects. The Ethical Guidelines Project developed a Principles Charter and completed internal reviews, literature scans, and—by mid-2026—updated Ethical Guidelines and a Code of Ethical Conduct to align with the First Nations Cultural Safety Framework. The Professionalisation Project conducted horizon scanning, a review of existing AES work, and preparation of a Board briefing paper and consultation plan, with strong engagement from the First Nations Committee on key considerations for culturally safe professionalisation pathways.

The Pathways Committee also welcomed James Ong as a new member. In addition to the ongoing delivery of our annual workshop series, the Committee also supported the review of the aes26 pre-conference workshops and explored ways to support AES members through the current downturn in evaluation consultancy opportunities.

The Pathways Committee remains committed to upholding the AES mission, vision and values through a collaborative and reflective approach to its work. In 2026–2027, the Committee will continue to provide collegial support for AES members through the annual workshop program and initiatives that strengthen career pathways, while fostering opportunities for shared learning, reflection and mutual support. The year ahead will focus on advancing key strategic projects, including the completion of the Ethical Guidelines Project; progression to phase 2 of the Professionalisation Project; and commencement of the Competencies Project. Collaboration within and beyond AES will be central to how this work is undertaken.

PATHWAYS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Julie Elliott
Jo Van Twest Farmer
Amy Gullickson
James Ong
Lydia Phillips
Taimur Siddiqi
Anne Stephens
Jill Thomas
Sue Wilson

Vitality Committee

A sustainable organisation fostering a sense of belonging, connections, and enhancing value for members

This year the Vitality committee has continued the sharing and cross-pollination between the Regional Networks. These regular meetings are one of the important ways that we can ensure that the events that are delivered meet member needs, but also to identify opportunities to collaborate. You might say that Vitality is vital!

Jokes aside, Vitality is about connection – it's a key part of how we can ensure that membership with the AES is not transactional but reflects a members' genuine belonging to a sector. One of the key priorities that we delivered on this year was the development of the Member Value Proposition. It provides a cohesive, guiding statement of what we, as a committee, and the AES more broadly works towards to provide value for all members.

We are a community committed to quality evaluation that makes a difference. Together, we advance the theory, practice and use of evaluation. We uphold standards and ethics, provide education and professional learning, and create an inclusive space where diverse voices are valued, connections are built, and careers in evaluation are strengthened.

This Value Proposition will guide the work of the AES well into the future, and we're thrilled by what it represents, and what it inspires us to do next!

With the Value Proposition finalised we will be turning next to a membership retention strategy and exploring how the existing products and services of the AES can support retention but also be understood through the lens of the Value Proposition.

VITALITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Janet Conte
Christabelle Darcy
Martina Donkers
Robert Grimshaw
Matt Healey
Caroline Henwood
Lisette Kaleveld
Mark Mackay
Jasper Odgers
Alison Reedy
Kim Vesely
Emma Wensing

Policy Committee

The trusted voice on evaluation in Australia

Over the past year, the Policy Committee has continued to progress the AES Strategic Plan 'Leadership domain' by strengthening the Society's role as a trusted voice on evaluation and progressing strategic initiatives that support quality evaluation in Australia.

A major focus has been the Quality Evaluation that Makes a Difference project, the Committee's flagship initiative to develop an AES position on the Society's vision. Building on the successful launch of the project at the 2025 AES International Evaluation Conference, the Committee established a member project team through



an open expression of interest process and appointed co-chairs to lead the work. Throughout the year, the project has progressed from planning to developing a conceptual framework; identifying principles that underpin quality evaluation; undertaking targeted literature reviews; and preparing a consultation paper and consultation plan. Master of Evaluation capstone projects have also contributed new evidence and perspectives to inform the Committee's thinking. The Committee acknowledges the leadership of co-chairs Eleanor Williams, Anabelle Chen and Andrew Hawkins; the guidance of Committee Chair Rob Sale, and the valuable research contributions of Master of Evaluation capstone students Rob Sale and Nina Ellis.

Recognising the growing influence of artificial intelligence on evaluation practice, the Committee also established the Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence in Evaluation project. Following an expression of interest process, a multidisciplinary project team was formed to develop an AES policy position that supports ethical, transparent and culturally responsible use of AI in evaluation. The project has established governance arrangements; commenced evidence reviews and developed a principles-based approach that will guide future member consultation. The Committee acknowledges the leadership of co-chairs Kristy Hornby, Miriam Ramsay and Anjali Vishwanathan for their thoughtful stewardship during the establishment phase of the project, and the valuable research contribution of Master of Evaluation capstone student Lyla Pedersen.

The Committee also commenced a stakeholder mapping project led by Andrew Hawkins, to strengthen AES's relationships across the evaluation ecosystem and support future policy development and advocacy. Throughout the year, the Committee worked closely with the Strategy Taskforce and other AES committees to

coordinate consultation planning, ensuring strategic projects are aligned and member engagement is meaningful and manageable.

Together, these initiatives are strengthening the AES's capacity to provide thought leadership, develop evidence-informed policy positions and support the Society's vision of quality evaluation that makes a difference.

During 2026–2027, the Policy Committee will continue progressing the Quality Evaluation that Makes a Difference and Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence in Evaluation projects through consultation with committees, members and stakeholders. The Committee will also continue to strengthen AES's policy leadership by identifying emerging issues affecting evaluation practice and developing evidence-informed policy positions and guidance that support quality evaluation and the Society's strategic vision.

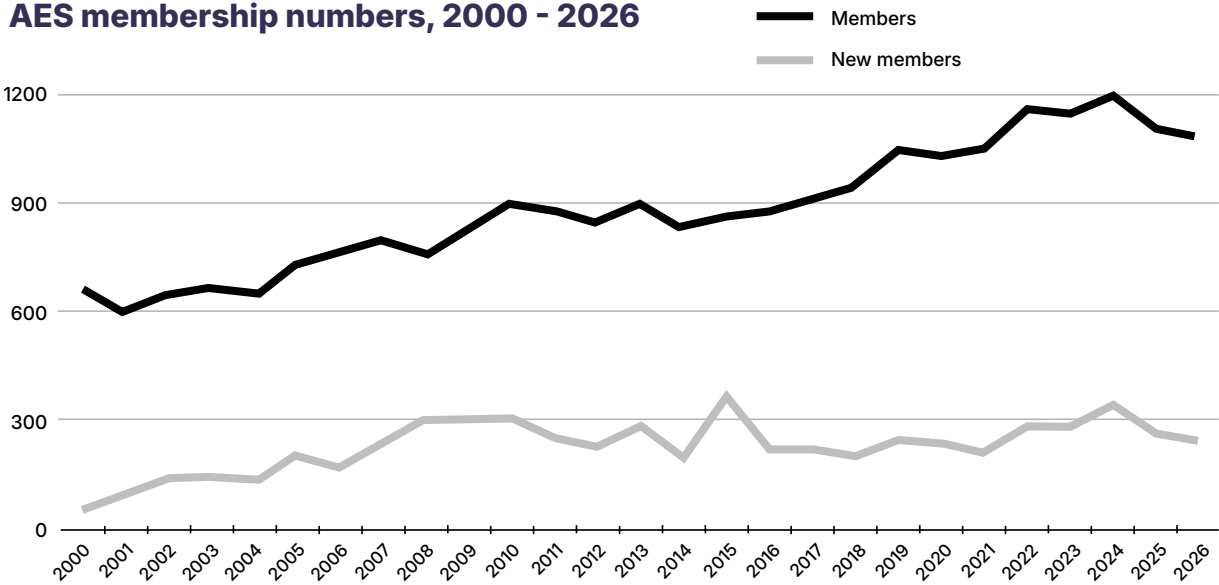
POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Gosia Buck-Smith
Carina Calzoni (Policy Officer)
Liam Downing
Ahmed Gharib
Kim Grey
Andrew Hawkins
Kristy Hornby (co-chair)
Cally Jennings
Robert Sale (co-chair)
Kara Scally-Irvine
John Stoney
Angkana Whiley

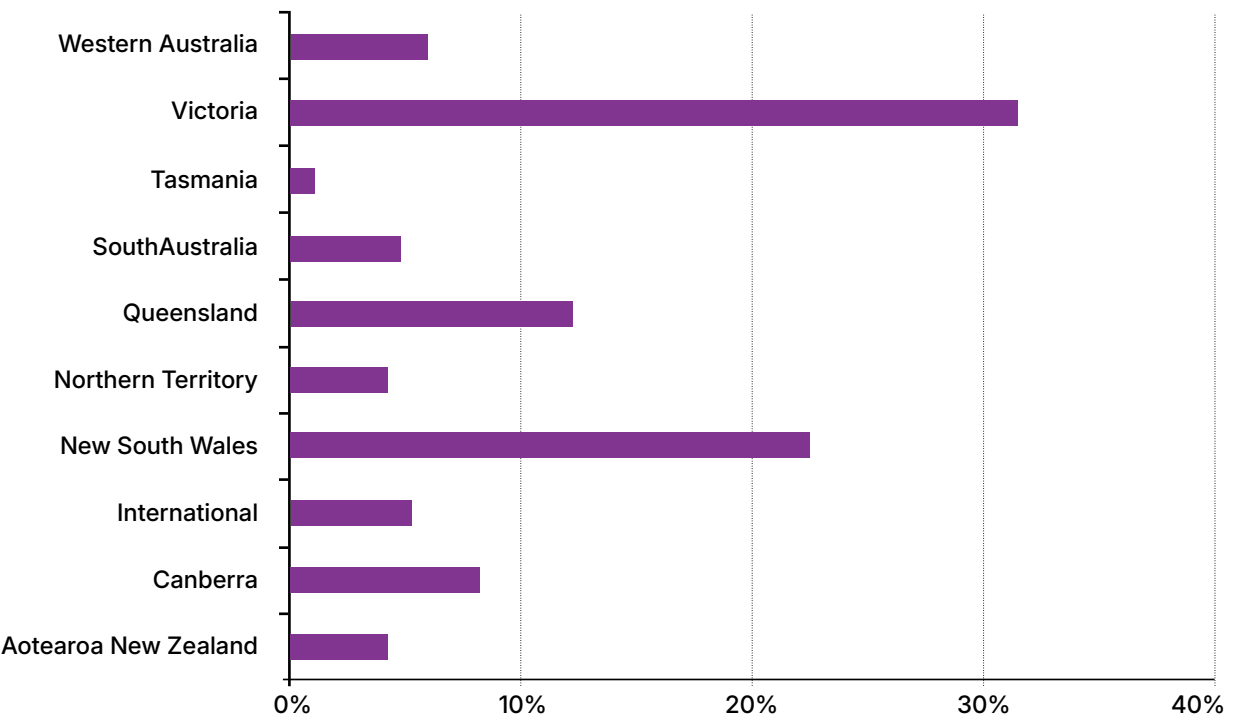
MEMBER NETWORKS

Membership trends

AES membership numbers, 2000 - 2026



Membership by region, 30 June 2026





Regional networks

Canberra (ACT)

The ACT Regional Network continued to provide opportunities for professional learning, networking, and community building throughout 2025–26. Activities focused on supporting evaluator connections, fostering reflective practice, and creating inclusive opportunities for engagement across Canberra and the surrounding south-east NSW region.

The annual Winter Reading Group was held on 21 August 2025. The discussion, led by Ruth Faragher and Ruth Pitt, explored Bianca Montrosse-Moorhead's "garden of evaluation" approaches. Participants reflected on rubric-based approaches and considered how different evaluation perspectives aligned with their professional and personal practice. Additional visual resources contributed to a rich and engaging discussion.

As part of the aes25 Conference, the committee organised two social dinner events and a post-awards gathering during aes25. These events were well attended and provided valuable opportunities for informal networking and strengthening professional connections among members.

Following the conference, we hosted an interactive breakfast debrief on 15 October 2025. Led by Sam Mayes, Ruth Nicholls and Martina Donkers, the session enabled members to reflect on key conference themes and learning. Discussion included Andi Fugard's concepts of "beyond the binary" thinking and fox/hedgehog professional identities.

The annual end-of-year event was held on 27 November 2025. In addition to providing a networking opportunity, the event was used to gather ideas and feedback from

members to inform future regional activities.

Our first event for 2026 was held 23 April, an in-person networking evening. Around 15 people attended, including both AES members and non-members, creating an opportunity to strengthen existing connections and welcome new people into the local evaluation community. The evening marked the return of 'evaluation bingo' with an updated bingo card to help attendees meet new people and learn more about those from within the ACT evaluation community. The event was well received and generated positive engagement among participants. We shared the bingo card with other AES regional groups for potential use in their own networking and member engagement activities.

The ACT Regional Network remains committed to fostering a connected evaluation community. The committee will continue to explore ways to support member engagement while maintaining the successful activities that have become regular features of the region's calendar.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Scott Bayley
Martina Donkers (co-convenor)
Julie Elliott
Ruth Faragher (until Dec 2025)
Susan Garner (until Dec 2025)
Kim Grey
Josephine Haussler (from Dec 2025)
Samantha Mayes
Ruth Nicholls
Ruth Pitt
Graham Smith (from Dec 2025)
John Stoney
Emma Wensing (co-convenor)

New South Wales

In 2025–2026, the NSW Committee continued to offer regular free online events for evaluators to engage with contemporary evaluation topics and practices. Those events offer an informal platform for evaluators to learn and share with their peers and complements nicely the AES formal training offering. These events covered topics of interest which appealed to a wide range of evaluators, emerging or more seasoned:

- **July 2025:** Open space
- **August 2025:** Ethics Pathways for Evaluators
- **October 2025:** Critical Elements in Understanding Context
- **December 2025:** End of year event, in-person networking event in Sydney
- **February 2026:** our free events coordinator, Greg Masters, led a discussion on Economic evaluation with Melanie Kelly to discuss the existing and emerging needs and challenges for economic evaluation across Australian governments.
- **March 2026:** This sold-out event on 'Trust in evaluation' was facilitated by Amy Vassallo and Laura Baker. George Argyrous, Faye Forbes, Sandra Butoto and Brian Keogh took part in a panel discussion.
- **April 2026:** Eleanor Williams from the Australian Centre for Evaluation (Commonwealth) joined Natalie Martino and Annemarie Woltmann to discuss 'What can ACE do for evaluators?'
- **May 2026:** Sofia Ahmed, Joelle Breault-Hood and Daniel Vogels—colleagues from the NSW Department of Education—led an advanced session on evaluation synthesis which was attended by AES luminaires and featured a practical discussion of applications of the proposed approach.

- **June 2026:** Ben Barnes facilitated a discussion with UK Government specialists on their key guidance document for evaluation, the Magenta Book.

- Further sessions are planned for the following months except for September when the conference will be held.

In their feedback, participants regularly highlighted the value of these events in terms of interactivity and content with the opportunity to share with their peers and hear from experienced evaluation practitioners.

The NSW Committee set up a LinkedIn group in replacement of the NSW newsletter to allow more dynamic engagement with NSW members. Following a membership drive this year, there has been a significant increase in membership and activity. Following a direct invitation to all NSW members, there was significant increase in the LinkedIn group's membership.

The NSW Committee is made up of members from across government, consultancies, universities and other organisations. Committee members volunteer their time, ideas and energy to support engagement of NSW members, via the organisation of monthly free events focusing on peer learning.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laura Baker	Jasper Odgers
Ben Barnes	(convenor)
Phillip Belling	Naomi Ruming
Gavin Faunce	Emily Saurman
Yann Guisard	Amy Vassallo
Brian Keogh	Annemarie Woltmann
Linda Klein	
Natalie Martino	
Greg Masters (free events coordinator)	



Northern Territory

Over the past twelve months, the NT Regional Network has worked closely with AES staff to plan and prepare for aes26, to be held in Darwin in September 2026. Although the regional network committee comprises only two people (co-convenors), establishing the conference committee significantly increased active engagement among NT members. The conference committee includes representatives from NT and Commonwealth government agencies, non-government organisations, not-for-profit organisations and consulting firms from Darwin and other regional centres across the Territory.

Conference-related activities included developing the conference theme, “making space, valuing place”, and the sub-themes: traditions and new ways; ethics and integrity; boundaries and bridges; and roots and routes. The committee identified and secured six keynote speakers, including two prominent Indigenous Australians, Robyn Ober and Selwyn Button. Four international keynote speakers were also secured from diverse disciplines and contexts: Emily Gates (USA), Ligia Teixeira (UK), Emmanuel Jimenez (Philippines) and Bagele Chilisa (Botswana). In addition, the committee contributed to developing the conference program through moderation and selection from 273 abstracts.

In October 2025, the network held an online seminar, “Takeaways from the aes25 conference from an NT perspective”. This was followed by face-to-face networking events in Alice Springs in late October and in Darwin in early November.

In April 2026, the network held an in-person event to coincide with a Darwin meeting of conference committee members and AES National Office staff for a program selection working day. The event was well attended, provided members with an update on conference planning, and helped build interest and momentum for aes26.

The co-convenors have also met with new AES members in the NT to welcome them to the AES, learn about their interests and reasons for joining, and connect them with network activities and AES resources.

aes26 in Darwin will be the highlight of 2026–2027 for the NT Regional Network and conference committee. In the lead-up to the conference, the network has arranged two online seminars.

The first seminar, planned for late July 2026, will explore how evaluation can act as a bridge between policy design and frontline practice in implementing the Northern Territory Domestic and Family Violence Risk Assessment and Management Framework. The second seminar will be presented by Professor Bagele Chilisa as a prelude to the conference. Professor Chilisa will present her keynote in early August on the 21st Century Evaluation Paradigms Challenge and the People, Environment, Place, Space and Time framework. This presentation links directly to the conference theme and is intended to generate early interest in aes26.

After the conference, the network aims to maintain and build on the interest in evaluation generated by aes26 by increasing participation in network activities and encouraging more members to contribute to their planning and delivery

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Christabelle Darcy
Alison Reedy

Queensland

The Queensland Regional Network Committee is pleased to have provided multiple opportunities for members to connect, learn and share experiences with each other in-person and online throughout 2025-2026.

Interactive in-person sessions involving evaluation capacity building games facilitated by Dr Samantha Abatto were excellent learning and networking opportunities. These events included:

- Change train game for evaluation capability building on 23 October 2025
- Thinking Bee Odyssey - A serious game for evaluators and others to train your brain on 29 April 2026

In May 2026, Andrew McLachlan presented an online seminar 'Causal reasoning in program evaluation: A critical review'. The seminar built on Andrew's aes25 conference paper with the online seminar allowing the space and time for some welcome deeper discussion with the audience.

AES and SIMNA (Social Impact Measurement Network Australia) members living and working on the Sunshine Coast continued to gather regularly, online and in-person, to network, collaborate and grow connections. The latest event in May 2026 was well attended and a real highlight:

"There was a real buzz at the table, the conversations were fantastic, and no one was in a hurry to leave when it was over."

"It was a great afternoon with lots of interesting conversations!"

- Participants, Sunshine Coast networking event June 2026

While we are reflecting now on the financial year, we always take the chance near the end of the calendar year to get together too! Our end-of-year networking in December 2025 event was well attended with new and familiar faces enjoying the chance to connect and share stories.

Looking ahead to 2026-2027, the committee will have an eye to the AES International Evaluation Conference returning to Brisbane in September 2027. We will look to build excitement and momentum in the lead up to the conference with opportunities for Queensland members and the broader evaluation community to engage, make connections and learn from each other through online and in-person events.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Samantha Abbato
Robert Grimshaw (Co-convenor)
Rebecca Roebuck
Kate Sunners
Kim Vesely (Co-convenor)
Sophie Widdup
Marianne Wyder



South Australia

During 2025–2026 the South Australian Regional Committee has continued its focus supporting the evaluation community through the provision of engagement and learning opportunities.

We continued to host regular learning opportunities both online and face-to-face events. We found that online presentations seemed to be favoured by attendees, and these events attracted large numbers of attendees. Online events also mean that we were able to 1) have speakers from outside of South Australia, 2) ensure local members not based in the city could attend events, and 3) attract attendees from around Australia, New Zealand and other countries. We were fortunate in having speakers of high calibre and who were able to present interesting and diverse material.

The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) funded Australia Awards Program conducted another short course in monitoring and evaluation run through the University of Adelaide's Joanna Briggs Institute. This provided the committee with an opportunity to combine a face-to-face event with the chance to host the visiting delegation who visited Adelaide to learn about evaluation as part of the Australia Awards Program. The event was well attended by locals and the delegation.

The end of year face-to-face event was held in the city at "The Mill", an arts centre. This event was well attended, and consequently additional face-to-face events were planned for 2026.

Looking ahead to 2026–2027, the committee's aim is to continue to provide high-quality learning opportunities for members and to facilitate discussions that contribute to the field of evaluation. We will continue to use online presentations as the primary means of delivering our learning opportunities. However, we again plan to host at least one face-to-face event each half year to provide members and attendees with a more engaging networking opportunity. We will also continue to promote the benefits of AES membership at all our events to help grow local membership.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Stephanie Carter

Maria Eliadis

Mark Mackay (Convenor)

John Pilla

Tania Plueckhahn

Susan Rooney-Harding

Colin Sharp

Charlie Tulloch

Victoria

During 2025-26 we focused on hosting a series of engaging online and in person seminars and events. Over this period, it included eight well-attended events which incorporated several priority themes including advance evaluation methods, government evaluation systems, and professional practice and capability.

Highlights for the year included a highly engaging session on Synthetic Control Modelling hosted by George Argyrous and Squirrel Main who provided an introduction to these quasi-experimental methods as well as combining theory with practical demonstrations using RStudio. This was later followed by a session on experimental evaluation methods with presenter Detective Superintendent David Cowen who spoke about his experiences in supporting innovation and continuous improvement at Victoria Police.

Two events specifically focused on new guidance material available to the evaluation community: one from Douglas Orr introducing the Australian Centre for Evaluation's ACE Evaluation Library which seeks to make evaluations available for learning and transparency, and another from Kat Goldsworthy introducing a new Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guide produced by the Australian Institute of Family Studies.

We also hosted a follow up event from the 2025 AES Conference featuring Keynote Speaker Bianca Montrosse-Moorhead facilitated by Amy Gullickson exploring evaluator professional identity, collaboration and growth.

We held two in-person events to support membership engagement and interaction. First was an introduction to the EvaluAdd buddying program designed to strengthen peer learning and professional connections within the Victorian evaluation community.

Second was a combined event with the Social Impact Measurement Network Australian (SIMNA) and the Learning and Evaluation for Australian Funders (LEAF) group to explore the question of "What counts as good evidence and who gets to decide?".

Committee members continue to be active contributors to several strategic priority areas of the AES including representation on the Ethical Guidelines, Professionalisation and Quality Evaluation That Makes a Difference project teams. The committee is looking forward to the opportunities these projects will bring.

Looking ahead to 2026-2027 we aim to continue our seminars including increasing opportunities for members to engage in person. We are looking forward to welcoming new committee members who have recently expressed interest in joining the Victorian Committee.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mandy Charman
Erin Davis
Hilary Davis
Su-Ann Drew
Caroline Henwood (Convenor)
Mohib Iqbal
Cynthia Mulenga
Melinda Nicholls
James Ong
Emily Tee
Eleanor Williams

Western Australia

During 2025-26 we are hosting a series of engaging seminars and events:

- **August 2025 (winter)** - The group discussed the EJA paper "The shape of things: the graphic language of program logics and several alternatives". 9 people attended.
- **October 2025 (spring)** – aes25 panel discussion to reflect on the conference. Online event with panellists Lisette Kaleveld and Paul Flatau (Centre for Social Impact), Theo Nabben (Grower Group Alliance) and Jakob James (Community First Development). 36 registrations.
- **December 2025 (summer)** – Social gathering at Leadlight, Northbridge to celebrate the end of the year. 8 people attended and made suggestions for content in 2026.
- **April 2026 (autumn)** – "Tips, tricks and tools to support data analysis". In-person event. 10 people attended.
- **June 2026 (winter)** - "Thinking bee odyssey: a serious game to sharpen the thinking skills behind evaluative judgement" facilitated by Samantha Abbato (AES Queensland) with 8 participants. The Centre for Social Impact, University of Western Australia hosted the event with AES, allowing CSI UWA Graduate of Social Impact students and Alumni to participate and introduce them to the AES.

Feedback

The 'Thinking bee odyssey': "It was an engaging game that highlighted our own individual preferences of thinking and decision-making lenses and reminded us of the other different lenses that we can use to strengthen our evaluative thinking skills. It's so useful for developing critical thinking skills in general and I will use it to promote critical thinking as an antidote to 'AI dependence thinking' with my work colleagues".

The 'Tips, tricks and tools to support data analysis' event: "I left feeling inspired, supported and energised. One of the aspects I enjoyed most was the open exchange of ideas, experiences and practical tools. Participants generously shared their approaches, successes and the occasional frustrations that come with evaluation work. I came away with several ideas that I have already been able to apply in my own role. I look forward to participating in many more Australian Evaluation Society events in the future".

We aim to hold at least four seasonal learning events and two larger face-to-face networking events to broaden our WA membership and committee in alignment with the Vitality domain of the AES Strategic Plan.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Janet Conte (Co-convenor)
Penelope Cooke
Rick Cummings
Kevin Dolman
Christina Kadmos
Lisette Kaleveld (Co-convenor)
Dorothy Lucks
Amanda Mottershead
Theo Nabben

Special Interest Groups

Multicultural Evaluation Special Interest Group (MESIG)

During this year, we refined our purpose and mission, facilitated the publication of a special edition of the EJA focused on culturally sensitive evaluation, convened an annual reflection meeting, and hosted a webinar open to all AES members.

In July 2025 we identified a few ways our purpose and mission statements could be adjusted to bring them more closely in line with the AES Strategic Plan. Those adjustments were approved by the MESIG working group and the MESIG webpage on the AES website was updated in 2025.

In December 2025 a special edition of the EJA was published, featuring 7 articles/entries that exemplified culturally inclusive evaluation (Special Issue: Culturally Sensitive and Equitable Evaluation, Volume 25 Issue 4, December 2025).

The annual reflection meeting in December 2025 was open to all AES members. Approximately 35 people registered for the event and six people attended on the day. At the meeting we brainstormed ideas for what the MESIG could do in 2026 to achieve our purpose and mission. The brainstorming session identified many ideas, and meeting participants were invited to register their interest in joining the MESIG working group to develop the ideas into deliverables. Three people registered their interest and are now part of the MESIG Working Group.

In April 2026 the MESIG hosted a webinar open to all AES members, titled: Navigating Culturally Responsive Evaluation During Periods of Backlash and Backsliding. The webinar was a panel of presenters from the US, who are affiliated with the Center for Culturally Responsive Evaluation and Assessment (CREA) based at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. 47 people registered for the webinar, and most attended on the day. There was a good amount of engagement via the chat function of the webinar and MESIG members got positive anecdotal feedback from attendees, as well as some requests for further conversations on the topic.

MEMBERS

Erin Blake
EeMun Chen
Yonas Dare
Amy Dellit
Kathrine Dinh
Lena Etuk
Elissa Mortimer
Mark Oliver
Ali Rasoli
Eva Sarr



Systems Evaluation Special Interest Group

During the year the SIG strengthened the AES's role as a place where evaluators can be complex together. Through three online seminars, the SIG translated systems thinking from abstract concept to practical evaluation, helping members navigate settings such as housing, program networks and drought resilience — all reliably resistant to simple explanations.

The year began with Andrew Hawkins' October 2025 seminar, which jolted members to think less about "solving the whole system" and more about acting with humility within a sphere of influence. The nudge resonated because it addressed a familiar dilemma in complex environments - contributing something useful without pretending to know everything. By focusing collaboration, local responsiveness and practical judgment, the session advanced the AES Pathways domain by supporting evaluators to grow their professional identity and skills in ways that quietly align with contemporary practice. We can be humble and cool.

In February 2026, Matt Healey's seminar on Social Network Analysis extended that conversation into method. Participants unpacked how relationships, influence and emergence can be mapped and analysed through tools such as degree, closeness, betweenness and eigenvector centrality (for those with influential friends), showing that systems evaluation is not only a mindset but also a usable methodological repertoire. This strengthened both Pathways and Leadership, positioning AES as a source of practical, high-quality thinking on evaluation in complex systems — thereby nudging up our eigenvector centrality, which is always nice.

The July 2026 session with Dr Marwan El Hassan brought these threads together through the Future Drought Fund MEL Framework. Drawing on the Fund's systems-based Theory of Change, the seminar showed how concepts such as resilience, spheres of influence and nested MEL architecture can support adaptive learning and real time adjustment in a changing climate. We also learnt about goats. Collectively, these events fostered connection, curiosity and belonging among members, contributing to AES Vitality by creating a year-round space where evaluators could learn with one another while strengthening AES's trusted voice on evaluation in Australia, and indulging our shared fondness for making sense of complicated things in any season.

The Systems Evaluation SIG will continue creating spaces where evaluators can safely enjoy complexity in public. Our aim is to deepen practical capability across the AES Pathways, Leadership and Vitality domains by offering seminars that take systems ideas seriously without taking ourselves too seriously. We plan to extend the repertoire into areas where influence, adaptation and contribution analysis meet everyday practice — the sorts of topics that reliably attract people who find comfort in feedback loops, emergent patterns and the occasional theory of change and logic model. We intend to keep supporting evaluators to think clearly about complicated things, and to do so with enthusiasm.

MEMBERS

Julie Elliott
Andrew Hawkins
Brian Keogh
Kara Scally-Irvine

Australian Public Sector Evaluation Network

The Australian Public Sector Evaluation Network (APSEN) refreshed the Steering Group and membership list last year, and this year has sought to better understand membership needs. It developed and distributed a member engagement survey, and while the response rate was modest, the results pointed strongly towards an interest in seminars and journal club-style events. The network introduced its first journal club discussion of Amy Gullickson and Kathryn Meldrum's paper "Stairways to Heaven: Seeking Evaluative Reasoning in Publicly Available Evaluation Reports from the Australian Education Sector 2014–2024". APSEN also partnered with the APS Evaluation Profession on a joint event exploring international perspectives on public sector evaluation. Members' response to these events suggests real interest for exactly this kind of peer exchange and information sharing alongside colleagues from across jurisdictions and sectors.

APSEN's work seeks to support the AES's Vitality domain: fostering a sense of belonging and connection. With over 500 members from the public, private, academic and not-for-profit sectors, the Steering Group has also begun the important conversation around how APSEN's role sits alongside sister networks such as the Evaluation Profession and the Impact Evaluation Practitioners Network, so that each offers members something distinct. That clarity of purpose in itself lays the groundwork for the program of activities ahead in 2026–27.

Building on the momentum and member feedback from this year, the Steering Group will run a regular program of journal club events and issue a quarterly newsletter to keep members connected between meetings. The Australian Centre for Evaluation will also continue exploring joint events with the evaluation profession, responding directly to the demand for seminars identified in the early results of the APSEN member engagement survey.

MEMBERS

Jenny Booth
 Angela Kinnell
 Gosia Bucki-Smith
 Ruth Nicholls
 Cobi Calyx
 Josephine Norman
 Giulia Capuzzo
 Mark Robinson
 Anabelle Chen
 Luke Ryan
 Gavin Faunce
 Allison Salmon
 Taryn Gazzard
 Todd Sansness
 Florent Gomez
 Debbie Stockton
 Kristy Hornby
 Charlie Tulloch
 Ansari Jainullabudeen
 Eleanor Williams



Ethics In Evaluation Special Interest Group

The Ethics in Evaluation Special Interest Group was established and launched on 26 February 2026, offering a collegial space for AES members to connect, reflect and learn together. The SIG provides a community for shared learning and broader ethical inquiry that strengthens our collective understanding of what ethical evaluation looks like in an evolving context.

The SIG is organised around three working arms at different stages of development: an active seminar series; a research stream that is taking shape and will be expanded following the aes26 conference; and a resources arm which we anticipate co-curating and co-developing with members in the future.

Our seminar series opened in February with Dr Colin Sharp and David Turner speaking on the historical foundations and recent developments of evaluation ethics in Australia. This generated strong interest and set the tone for a program running roughly bi-monthly. In April, Gerard Atkinson of Iris Ethics presented “Ethical review for evaluators,” de-mystifying Human Research Ethics Committees and the ethical review process. In June, we opened registrations for the next seminar, to be delivered by Emma Williams, on how ethical choices are made in evaluation. Interest in the series has continued to grow with each seminar.

The SIG is also building its community through an open, ongoing expression-of-interest process, which continues to attract members from several states and territories, and from consulting, government, and university settings. It includes those new to ethics through to specialists. Early responses show member interest in peer learning and networking, developing practical resources, and research and

inquiry into ethics in evaluation. Members have also raised specific real-world challenges, including informed consent, non-extractive and reciprocal data collection, ethically including vulnerable voices, and navigating ethics review proportionate to risk.

In its first months, the SIG has established itself as a welcoming community and built an active, cross-sector membership, giving it a firm base and clear momentum heading into its next year.

In the year ahead, the SIG’s aim is to grow its membership and deepen members’ involvement in contributing to its work. Central to this will be continuing our bi-monthly seminar series and establishing a research agenda including exploring how evaluators make ethical decisions in practice. An early opportunity to advance these aims will be our half-day workshop, “A step-by-step guide to evaluation practice,” at the aes26 conference in Darwin.

MEMBERS

Su-Ann Drew
Kristy Hornby
Emma Williams

Diversity And Inclusion Working Group

During the year we laid the foundations for implementing the AES Diversity and Inclusion Policy. Following an EOI process, the working group was formed and met five times before moving to a quarterly schedule to support sustained progress.

The group clarified its role and worked through the practical steps required to translate principles into organisational practice. We identified key barriers to implementation and began shaping strategies to address them. A significant portion of the group's effort focused on navigating definitions and shared understandings of diversity and inclusion, ensuring alignment before moving into more advanced implementation activities.

Looking ahead, the working group will focus on deepening its relationship with the Vitality Committee and the structures needed to operationalise the policy. A key priority is formally bringing the group under the Vitality Committee's governance, ensuring clearer accountability, stronger alignment with strategic objectives and more direct support for implementation activities. As part of this transition, the group will update its membership to include representatives from the Vitality Committee, creating a more integrated team with shared oversight and diverse perspectives. With this strengthened structure, the Working Group aims to move from foundational thinking to practical action by undertaking an advisory role across the AES.

MEMBERS

Laura Bird
Joelle Breault-Hood
Ahmed Gharib
Niketa Kulkarni
Anjali Parsot
Kim Vesely
Majon Williamson-Kefu



Fellows of the AES

Since its inception in 2024, the Fellows Management Group has met four times a year and acts as a conduit between the wider Fellows group and the AES Board, to which it reports regularly. The 2025–26 period has been one of consolidation, with the committee turning its attention from establishing itself to shaping the contribution that Fellows can make to the profession.

A significant focus has been the review of the nomination process for new Fellows, undertaken in conjunction with the Board. The terms of reference and methodology were submitted to the Board early this year, and additional members will be recruited from the wider Fellows group to support the work. Alongside this, the committee has begun to review and consider the role of being a Fellow, mindful that each Fellow is at a different stage of their professional career and that a prescriptive approach would not serve the group well.

Fellows continued to contribute visibly to the society's conference programme. Marion Norton organised and presented a well-received session at the 2025 conference in Canberra, and Rick Cummings has brought together a group of Fellows to present in Darwin this year.

Two new Fellows, David Roberts and John Stoney, were inducted at the 2025 conference in Canberra, bringing the total number of Fellows to 34. Both were interviewed by Anthea Rutter during the year, and these interviews will appear in the Evaluation Journal of Australasia in due course. The committee also farewelled Scott Bailey, who stepped down during the year, and was warmly thanked for his representation of the Fellows and for his ongoing support.

Although it falls outside the reporting period, we were saddened by the passing of our friend and colleague, Anne Markiewicz. After advising our colleagues of Anne's death the Fellows group shared wonderful stories of their relationships with Anne, remembering her as a highly respected monitoring, evaluation and training specialist whose contributions to the AES were exemplary. The management committee extended its condolences to Ian and Anne's family.

In 2026–27 the committee will complete the review of the nomination process and settle a shared statement of the expectations of being a Fellow. Its broader aim is to make fuller use of the collective expertise of the Fellows by contributing to the Quality Evaluation That Makes a Difference project and facilitating a webinar on the state of evaluation. The management group will continue to explore involvement with the Australian Centre for Evaluation. The management group will also fill the two vacancies on the management committee. An expression of interest and the terms of reference have been circulated to all AES Fellows, and the Board has approved a small amendment to the management group's composition that makes the Regional Representative position optional, allowing it to be filled by an additional Fellow.

AES Fellows Management Group

Janet Clinton
Andrew Hawkins (Board representative)

Marion Norton
Anthea Rutter

Fellows of the AES

Lyn Alderman (Qld, 2021)
Anona Armstrong (Vic, 2003)
Scott Bayley (ACT, 2016)
Amohia Boulton (NZ, 2022)
Darrel Caulley⁺ (Vic, 2005)
Sharon Clarke (SA, 2022)
Janet Clinton (Vic, 2021)
Rick Cummings (WA, 2013)
Jess Dart (Vic, 2021)
Sue Funnell (NSW, 2003)
John Guenther (NT, 2023)
Amy Gullickson (VIC, 2024)
Penny Hawkins (NZ, 2009)
Dorothy Lucks (WA, 2021)
Anne Markiewicz⁺ (Vic, 2015)
Chris Milne (NSW, 2003)
Theo Nabben (WA, 2003)
Jenny Neale⁺ (NZ, 2015)

Marion Norton (Qld, 2023)
John Owen (Vic, 2003)
Doyen Radcliffe (WA, 2024)
David Roberts (Vic, 2025)
Patricia Rogers (Vic, 2016)
Anthea Rutter (Vic, 2016)
Colin Sharp (SA, 2003)
Ralph Straton (WA, 2004)
John Stoney (ACT, 2025)
Ian Trotman (NZ, 2003)
Zita Unger (Vic, 2013)
Yoland Wadsworth (Vic, 2007)
Nan Wehipeihana (NZ, 2021)
Gill Westhorp (NSW, 2019)
Jerome Winston (Vic, 2004)
Alan Woodward (NSW, 2019)



ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

AUSTRALIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY LTD

ABN 13 886 280 969

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Prepared by Prepared by V.P. Cannizzaro & Co - Certified Practising Accountants

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Board of Directors Report

Australian Evaluation Society Ltd. for the year ended 30 June 2026

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the entity during the financial year were:

- Promote Ethics and Standards in evaluation practice in Australia
- Advancing Social or public Welfare.

Significant Changes

No significant changes in the nature of the entity's activity occurred during the financial year

Operating Result

The Losses for the financial year amounted to \$2,372.

Going Concern

Based on the current assessment as of the date of signing the financial report, the directors have concluded that the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate for the organisation.

Directors

The names of each person who has been a Director during the year and to the date of this report are:

Kim Grey, President

Lee-Anne Molony, Treasurer

Andrew Hawkins, President

Jade Maloney

Nicole Tujague

Matthew Healey

Jill Thomas

Melanie Syron

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors on:



Kim Grey (President)



Lee-Anne Molony (Treasurer)

Dated 30 August 2026

Assets and Liabilities Statement

Australian Evaluation Society Ltd. as at 30 June 2026

Accrual Basis

	Notes	30 June 2026	30 June 2025
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents			
ANZ Business Account		778,273	973,274
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents		778,273	973,274
Trade and Other Receivables			
Term Deposits		350,000	200,000
Trade Debtors		732	11,000
Prepaid Expenses and Event Deposits	2	356,038	375,556
Total Trade and Other Receivables		706,770	586,556
Total Current Assets		1,485,043	1,559,830
Non-Current Assets			
Plant and Equipment and Vehicles	3	12,644	13,690
Intangibles	4	4,163	6,241
Total Non-Current Assets		16,806	19,931
Total Assets		1,501,849	1,579,761
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	5	716,924	795,986
GST Payable		70,708	74,342
Employee Entitlements	6	75,065	67,909
Total Current Liabilities		862,697	938,237
Total Liabilities		862,697	938,237
NET ASSETS		639,152	641,524

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.



	Notes	30 June 2026	30 June 2025
MEMBER'S FUNDS			
Retained Profits			
Retained Earnings Beginning of Year		641,524	675,256
Current Year Earnings		(2,372)	(33,732)
Total Retained Profits		639,152	641,524
TOTAL MEMBER'S FUNDS		639,152	641,524

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.
These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

Income and Expenditure Statement

Australian Evaluation Society Ltd. for the year ended 30 June 2026

Accrual Basis

	2026	2025
INCOME		
Interest Income	9,419	9,402
Conference Income	1,099,800	1,074,106
Membership Fees	263,484	256,205
Publications Sales	23,850	35,600
Workshop Income	323,299	302,169
Total Income	1,719,852	1,677,482
EXPENDITURE		
Administration & Governance	611,927	541,359
Conference Expenses	876,825	914,539
Cost of Publications	67,600	65,978
Depreciation	6,735	7,323
Loss on disposal of Fixed Assets	-	184
Membership Services	11,510	24,522
Special Projects	22,995	27,144
Workshops	124,632	130,165
Total Expenditure	1,722,224	1,711,214
Current Year Surplus/ (Deficit)	(2,372)	(33,732)
Current Year Surplus/ (Deficit) attributable to members	(2,372)	(33,732)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

Movements in Equity

Australian Evaluation Society Ltd. for the year ended 30 June 2026

Accrual Basis

	2026	2025
EQUITY		
Opening Balance	641,524	675,256
(Decreases)		
Profit / (Loss) for the Period	(2,372)	(33,732)
Total (Decreases)	(2,372)	(33,732)
Total Equity	639,152	641,524

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

Statement of Cash Flows

Australian Evaluation Society Ltd. for the year ended 30 June 2026

	2026	2025
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts from Members and Customers	1,836,056	1,717,742
Payments to Suppliers and Employees	(1,886,866)	(1,803,292)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(50,810)	(85,550)
INTEREST RECEIVED		
Interest Received	9,419	9,402
Total Interest Received	9,419	9,402
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Payment for property, plant and equipment	(3,610)	(6,078)
Payment for investments (Term Deposit)	(150,000)	(200,000)
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	(153,610)	(206,078)
Net Cash Flows	(195,001)	(282,226)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	973,274	1,255,500
Net change in cash for period	(195,001)	(282,226)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	778,273	973,274

Notes to the Financial Statements

Australian Evaluation Society Ltd. as at 30 June 2026

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements cover Australian Evaluation Society Limited as an individual entity. Australian Evaluation Society Limited is a not-for-profit entity incorporated in Victoria under Corporation Act 2001 and reporting under Australian Charities and Not For Profits Commission Act 2012 ('the Act').

In the opinion of the Board of Directors, Australian Evaluation Society Limited is not a reporting entity since there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are not able to command the preparation of reports tailored to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. These special purpose financial statements have been prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the Act.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows, AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures, AASB1048 Interpretation of Standards and AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures. We have not assessed if the financial statements comply with all the recognition and measurement requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets, and financial liabilities.

Significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

Income Tax

The Entity is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Each class of property and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the Board of Directors reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

Employee Provisions

Provision is made for the entity's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee provisions have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and Cash Equivalents, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed.

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised at the point of delivery as this corresponds to the transfer of significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods and the cessation of all involvement in those goods.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method.

Membership fees are payable annually in advance and are due on the Anniversary of the month of joining. Membership fees are treated as income when the subscription is received except when the membership exceeds one year. Income received in respect of memberships exceeding one

year are carried forward as income in advance (current liability) and recognised in the subsequent period. Fees received from new members whose membership has not been approved prior to year-end are brought to account as income in advance (current liability) and carried forward to the year in which the membership is approved.

Conference and Seminar events income and expenditure are recognised in the year that the event is held. Events income and expenditure which is received or expended prior to year-end, but which relates to an event to be held after year end, is recognised as income in advance (current liability) and conference expenses prepaid (current or non-current asset) and is carried forward to the year in which the event is held.

Where conference administration is outsourced, income received and expenditure incurred by the conference organiser prior to year-end, but which relates to a conference to be held after year end, have not been recognised.

Government grants and subsidies income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt. Grants relating to expense items are recognised as income over the periods necessary to match the grant to the costs they are compensating.

If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the entity is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.



Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The entity's evaluations, estimates and judgments are incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the company. There are no areas involving high degree of judgment or complexity or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements.

Accounts Payable and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

2. PREPAID EXPENSES AND EVENT DEPOSITS

	2026	2025
PREPAYMENTS		
Prepaid Expenses and Event Deposits	356,038	375,556
Total Prepayments	356,038	375,556
Total Prepaid Expenses and Event Deposits	356,038	375,556

3. PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2026	2025
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Art Collection	2,500	2,500
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(833)	(745)
Office Furniture & Equipment	30,094	26,484
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(19,118)	(14,549)
Total Plant and Equipment	12,644	13,690

4. INTANGIBLES

	2026	2025
WEBSITE COSTS		
Website Development	31,299	31,299
Less Accumulated Amortisation	(27,136)	(25,058)
Total Website costs	4,163	6,241
Total Intangibles	4,163	6,241

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.
These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

5. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	2026	2025
TRADE PAYABLES		
Accounts Payable	2,056	5,875
Total Trade Payables	2,056	5,875
OTHER PAYABLES		
ANZ Credit Card	19,586	23,256
Prepaid Income	695,282	753,337
Sundry Creditors	-	13,518
Total Other Payables	714,868	790,111
Total Trade and Other Payables	716,924	795,986

6. EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS

	2026	2025
PAYGW Payable	7,136	8,864
Provision for Annual Leave	28,136	23,427
Provision for Long Service Leave	39,793	35,618
Total Employee Entitlements	75,065	67,909

7. TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

Australian Evaluation Society Ltd did not have any transactions with related parties during the financial year ended 30 June 2026. None for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

Declaration by the Members of the Board

Australian Evaluation Society Ltd. for the year ended 30 June 2026

We, Kim Grey and Lee-Anne Molony being members of the Board of Directors of Australian Evaluation Society, certify that-

- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- the financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of Australian Evaluation Society Ltd during and at the end of the financial year ending on 30 June 2026 and satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

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



Kim Grey (President)



Lee-Anne Molony (Treasurer)

Dated 30 August 2026

Compilation Report

Australian Evaluation Society Ltd. for the year ended 30 June 2026

Compilation report to Australian Evaluation Society Ltd.

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of Australian Evaluation Society Ltd, which comprise the asset and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2026, income and expenditure statement, the statement of cash flows, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is set out in Note 1.

The Responsibility of the Board of Directors

The Board of Australian Evaluation Society Ltd are solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements, the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information and for the determination that the basis of accounting used is appropriate to meet their needs and for the purpose that financial statements were prepared.

Our Responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the partners we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting as described in Note 1 to the financial statements and APES 315 Compilation of Financial Information.

We have applied our expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile these financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1 to the financial statements. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants.

Assurance Disclaimer

Since a compilation engagement is not an assurance engagement, we are not required to verify the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the information provided to us by management to compile these financial statements. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion on these financial statements.

The special purpose financial statements were compiled exclusively for the benefit of the Board who are responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them. We do not accept responsibility for the contents of the special purpose financial statements.



VP Cannizzaro & Co

Fellow Certified Practising Accountant & Chartered Tax Advisor
PO Box 606, Carlton South Victoria 3053

Dated 26 August 2026

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY LTD

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Australian Evaluation Society Ltd (The Entity), which comprises the assets and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2026, income and expenditure statement, the statement of movements in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements and the declaration by the members of the board.

In our opinion the accompanying financial report of Australian Evaluation Society Ltd is in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act), including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2026 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2026.

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 Entity in accordance with 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.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Entity's financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibility of the Responsible Entities for the Financial Report

The responsible entities of the Entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act and the needs of the members. The responsible entities' responsibility also includes such internal control as the responsible entities determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a 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 responsible entities are responsible for assessing the 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 intend to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.



LIABILITY LIMITED BY A SCHEME
APPROVED UNDER PROFESSIONAL
STANDARDS LEGISLATION

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.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.


BPR Audit Pty Ltd (Aug 30, 2026 14:41:11 GMT+10)

Bernie Rohan
Director

BPR Audit Pty Ltd
(Authorised Audit Company)
Reg. No. 311673
PO Box 468
Canterbury VIC 3126

Dated: 30/08/2026

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AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY LTD

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2026 there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Australian Charities and Not-for Profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.


BPR Audit Pty Ltd (Aug 30, 2026 14:41:11 GMT+10)

Bernie Rohan
Director

BPR Audit Pty Ltd
(Authorised Audit Company)
Reg. No. 311673
PO Box 468
Canterbury VIC 3126

Dated: 30/08/2026



LIABILITY LIMITED BY A SCHEME
APPROVED UNDER PROFESSIONAL
STANDARDS LEGISLATION