



REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 13 OCTOBER 2025

HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR 1 JULY 2024 – 30 JUNE 2025

DELIVERING SERVICES	
ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
NCACL VOLUNTEERS DELIVER CLIENT SERVICE	38 volunteers (two-thirds interstate) donated 910 days to the Centre, the equivalent of 3.6 full time people assisting this year's 745 clients and providing 789 hours of service
NCACL BLOGS	Blogs about NCACL collections were created by 14 different individuals around the world and appeared monthly on NCACL's Blogspace
UC EDUCATION STUDENTS	Children's Literature undergraduate unit (300 students) Semester Project studied books in the NCACL Database featuring 659 Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander books housed in NCACL temporarily in office area for the semester. Students were supported by NCACL volunteers. Students selected books, commented on these and designed educational activities for young people. Education Masters students studied a collection of Australian nonfiction children's books on the environment
UC CULTURAL HERITAGE STUDENTS	UC Cultural Heritage unit (17 students) worked with NCACL collection of SRA Australian Legends artworks to individually create descriptions of chosen Science Research Associates (SRA) artworks. Graeme Jessup, publisher, donated artworks & related books from 20 children's books published early-1970s-mid-1980s. Initial series title is 'Australian Legend Series', later series title is 'Australian Stories'. A cultural Heritage student undertook a 100-hour internship to assess and treat original artwork from 'The Black Swan', a book in this series
INTERNSHIPS & WORK EXPERIENCE	Charles Sturt University (CSU) students Christina Bowman and Vlotina Souflias, both studying for their Master of Teacher Librarianship, each engaged in 10-day professional work experience at NCACL as part of their degree requirements. These provide valuable connections with the professions and CSU

VALUING, INSURING AND REPORTING COLLECTIONS	
NCACL COLLECTION VALUED FOR AFFILIATE INSURANCE	External valuer examined NCACL's collections and determined its replacement value for insurance purposes is \$13,692,280 for the three-year period 2025-2028
NCACL AFFILIATES RISK AND INSURANCE	UC Risk and Insurance Coordinator collected required information & provided annual insurance 5 June 2025
ACNC ANNUAL REPORT	NCACL's <u>Annual Report</u> was posted and approved by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). Next report due 31 Jan 2026
COLLECTIONS GROWTH	
ARTWORKS	Donations finalised and accepted under the Cultural Gifts Program (CGP) included artworks by Liz Anelli and Deborah Niland. CGP donations still in process include artworks by Bob Graham (<i>Ellie's Dragon</i> ; <i>Maxine</i> ; and <i>The Underhills: a Tooth Fairy Story</i>); Alison Lester (<i>Sing Me the Summer</i>); Bob Graham's artwork for <i>Jigsaw: a Puzzle in the Post</i> , Frane Lessac (<i>A is for Australia</i>) and Leigh Hobbs (various artworks for his books)
BOOK COLLECTION	NCACL added to its book collection 2,105 books including 650 books from 20 publishers and their imprints. There were 290 donations from 24 authors & illustrators and 1,165 donations from 29 individuals & organisations. <i>Total number of books in the NCACL collection as of 30 June 2025 is 61,215</i>
BOOK TRANSLATIONS	Donations over the year included 289 translations in 54 different languages. Of these 289 translations, 28 were in 20 different Aboriginal and Torres Strait languages. (This includes books in 42 Aboriginal/Torres Strait languages.) The largest number of translations or country of origin include in order of number French, Dutch, Chinese and British. <i>Collection size of NCACL's translations is 6,010 books in 115 languages or countries of origin</i>
AUTHORS & ILLUSTRATORS RESEARCH FILES	New research files created: Sean E Avery, Sophie Beer, Johanna Bell, Sophie Blackall, Samantha Campbell, Benton Cullen, Mandy Foot, Lesley Gibbs, Suzanne Houghton, Graeme Jessup, Zanni Louise, Jess McGeachin, Heide McKinnon, Nerida McMullin, Carl Merrison, Christopher Nielsen, Chris Nixon, Raewyn Paisley, Harry Pip, Shivaun Plozza, Heather Potter, Sher Rill, Paul Seden, Alison Tait, Corey Tutt and Nova Wheetman. <i>The unique Research File collection holds 606 files</i>

RESEARCH COLLECTIONS DOCUMENTED	Unique collections documented and/or enhanced include the May Gibbs collection, the Ephemera collection, the IBBY Australia Archive, CBCA archive of published short story collections, the Working Title Press publisher collection and the Australian Children's Laureate Foundation Archive (underway)
GUIDES TO AUTHORS' PAPERS	Guides to the papers and manuscripts of <u>Patricia Gray</u> and <u>Hazel Edwards</u> now available from NCACL's website
DIGITAL & ONLINE ACCESS	
CULTURAL DIVERSITY DATABASE	NCACL's <u>Cultural Diversity Database</u> launched April 2019 offers over 435 titles to a <u>very positive reception here</u>
ABORIGINAL AND OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES DATABASE	NCACL <u>database</u> of children's books by and about Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander Peoples launched 22 July 2020 offers over 700 books to a <u>very positive reception here</u>
AUSTRALIAN VERSE NOVELS RESOURCE	The <u>Australian Verse Novels Resource</u> launched mid 2022 adds currently features 75 titles
PICTURE BOOKS FOR OLDER READERS DATABASE	<u>Picture Books for Older Readers database</u> launched 30 June 2023 currently features 347 books
NCACL NEWSLETTER PROMOTION	Lynn Fletcher OAM created two newsletters in <u>2025</u> and two in <u>2024</u> distributed online to subscribers and also available through the website
REACHING COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST	
NCACL NATIONAL FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN	NCACL ran a fund raising campaign during June 2024 via NCACL e-newsletter, Facebook and X social media platforms. Facebook included four 'stories' by authors, an illustrator and a publisher
EXTERNAL SUPPORT GROUP	An external group , approved by the NCACL Board, met via Zoom over six months to offer ideas and support for the NCACL. NCACL Board members included L Fletcher & B Alderman plus authors, illustrators, former publisher and other professionals experienced in various facets of Australian children's literature. A f2f workshop was held on 10-11 October with Penny Miles, Senior Associate, Tony Grybowski & Assoc, consultant, plus NCACL Board members John Faulks & Kirrin Sampson. Report produced for consideration by NCACL Board on 18 Nov 2024
NCACL SOCIAL MEDIA	NCACL's Facebook has around 6,100 followers and NCACL's X has around 4,880 followers. X (formerly Twitter) launched 6 May 2014 and Facebook launched 25 June 2014

BLUE GUM COMMUNITY SCHOOL EXHIBITION	Blue Gum Community School The Bower class of 3-5yr olds visited NCACL over several months. They imagined 'A Permanent Home for NCACL' and created artwork for an exhibition during Children's Week at UC's Mura Gadi Gallery October 21 – 25, 2024 from 9am – 4.30pm. Exhibition of their artwork featured in a formal opening Thursday 24 October 2024 at 12 Noon
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	ACT teacher librarians' professional development program run by Jacqui Lucas from ALIA at NCACL
ARTICLES, PRESENTATIONS & BLOGS INVOLVING NCACL	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCACL's third annual presentation for Foundation for Learning and Literacy 21 August 2024 Australia-wide <u>presentation</u> on the topic, 'Living Lives : Autobiographies, Biographies & Memoirs featured in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Database' • Webinar in collaboration with Dr Lara Cain Gray promoting the book, <i>The Power of Picture Books for Readers of ALL Ages</i> 4 Sept 2024, 7.30-8.30pm + NCACL's Picture Books for Older Readers database, live webinar attended by 58 persons in a range of professions Australia-wide <u>here</u> with NCACL earning \$1,500 as a share of attendance fees • 'A look inside the National Centre for Australian Children's Literature Inc (NCACL)' by Belle Alderman, pp30-33 vol 45 Issue 2, 2024 in <u>INCITE</u> the magazine for the Library and Information sector, the Australian Library & Information Assoc e-journal • 'Seeing the big picture—why illustrated picture books are essential reading at any age' <u>article</u> by Lara Cain Gray in <i>Griffith Review</i> promotes NCACL's Picture Books for Older Readers Database • Commemorative 50th Anniversary Issue of NCACL'S journal, <i>Behind The Imagined</i> <u>issue 7, 2024</u> created by Jane Carstens, Editor • NCACL monthly blogs began Feb 2023 <u>NCACL Blogs</u> feature external contributors who promote/profile NCACL collections, activities and projects. Evaluation and recommendations for changes by two experienced bloggers were implemented to engage a wider readership 	