

ASID ANNUAL REPORT 2024/2025

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

ABN: 41 000 865 823



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OUR MISSION & STRATEGIC GOALS

Mission

ASID is a peak body in intellectual disability research in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. Research gives us good evidence. Good evidence helps to make good policy and practice. Good policy and practice help people with intellectual disabilities to have good lives.

Strategic objectives 2025-2028

- Publish and share research that makes life better for people with intellectual disabilities
- Share information based on research, and share new things that make a difference for people with intellectual disabilities
- Connect with organisations that make life better for people with intellectual disabilities, to promote research to practice
- Manage the business of ASID well

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Board of directors

- Christine Bigby – President
- Stuart Wark – Vice President
- Laura Hogan – Secretary
- Alan Hough – Treasurer
- Allyson Thomson
- Paul O’Dea
- Maurice O’Connor
- Prudence Lennox
- Vivienne Riches
- Henrietta Trip
- Michelle King

Divisional committee chairs

- New South Wales – Samantha Frain
- South Australia – Fiona Rillotta
- Victoria – Daniel Romano
- Queensland – Maurice O’Connor
- New Zealand – Hemant Thakkar
- Western Australia – No active division
- Tasmania – No active division

Board committee chairs

- Laura Hogan – Communication committee (Michelle King from Sept. 2025)
- Stuart Wark – Journal committee
- Christine Bigby – Executive committee
- Vivienne Richards – Division liaison committee and Webinar working group

BOARD REPORT & OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

This report tells you about the activities of ASID for the 2024/25 financial year. This is from July 2024 to June 2025. It also looks ahead to activities from July to November 2025.

2025 is the 60th anniversary of ASID. Stuart Wark has put together an ASID honour roll. This identifies people who have led ASID or held positions such as journal editors. The honour roll is on the ASID website [here](#). We have found some people who have not been recognised for all the unpaid work they have done for ASID. We will award these people Distinguished Service Awards. They are:

- Linda Goddard
- Richard O'Loughlin
- Angus Buchanan
- Denise Whardall
- Ian Pearce
- Laura Hogan
- Liz Morrison
- Wendy Southward
- Chris Yates

The full list of all awards for service to ASID is on the website (see [Annual Awards - Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability](#)). We also found that two important researchers were not yet ASID Fellows. We will award them Fellowships at the conference – they are

- Jeff Sigafos
- Keith McVilly

BOARD REPORT & OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

Disability policy and services in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand continue to change. This means new challenges for people with intellectual disabilities and their families. Policies continue to ignore the unique support needs of people with intellectual disabilities as a group. ASID and its members create, publish and share research. This is very important. It raises awareness about things that are important to people with intellectual disabilities and their families. Research also provides evidence for practice and policy. ASID also brings people together, online or in person to share ideas and research.

The board of ASID now takes responsibility for a webinar once a month. Divisions continue to run in person events and webinars. This means we have run more webinars and other events this year. It has made people more aware of ASID's work. We are getting more requests for information and our views on policy issues.

This report gives information about the things ASID has done in the last year. It is organised under our strategic directions.

Involve people with intellectual disabilities, their families or friends in ASID activities

- ASID uses [plain English](#) in most communication.
- We update the [website](#) regularly.
- We provide support for all board members.
- We invited people with intellectual disabilities to write commentaries about some of the articles published in RAPIDD.
- People with intellectual disabilities have helped to write articles published in our journals.
- People with intellectual disabilities speak at events about their experiences. They also speak about policy or the research they have done.
- We make an award for disability workers who use research. 2025 is the second year of this award.
- We involve ASID members in the work of the Board. For example, the journal committee and the webinar working group include ASID members who are not on the board.

BOARD REPORT & OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

Publish research that makes life better for people with intellectual disabilities

- We publish the Journal of Intellectual and Developmental Disability (JIDD) every 3 months. It publishes only research. Users downloaded 161,000 articles in 2024. The impact factor is 1.9.
- We publish Research and Practice in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (RAPIDD) every 6 months. It publishes research, commentary and reviews. The 2024 volume of RAPIDD was two special issues about the Disability Royal Commission and people with intellectual disability. Users downloaded 43,000 RAPIDD articles in 2024. The impact factor is 1.9.
- We published research about Facilitated Communication and the Rapid Prompting Method and promoted the Position Statement in RAPIDD.
- We have decided to award new journal prizes in 2026. These will be \$5,000 for the best article in each journal.
- Patricia O'Brian chaired a panel to select a new editor for each of the journals. The new editors were appointed in October 2025.
- Christine Bigby will be editor of JIDD and Alan Hough editor of RAPIDD.
- We thank Rafat Hussain for editing JIDD between 2021 and 2025 and Christine Bigby for editing RAPIDD between 2014 and 2025. These are huge commitments, which they did without pay.
- Both journals are planning special issues in 2026 – JIDD about leadership and management in intellectual disability services (more information: Submit a Manuscript to the Journal of Intellectual & Developmental Disability - Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability) and RAPIDD about progress for people with intellectual disabilities after 20 years of the UNCRPD (more information: 20 Years of the UNCRPD: What's changed, and what hasn't, for people with intellectual disabilities?)

BOARD REPORT & OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

Share information based on research and share information in different ways

- We did not hold a large conference in 2024/25. 216 people attended a one-day event in Sydney in November 2024, either in-person or online. People spoke about the findings of the Australian Disability Royal Commission on people with intellectual disabilities. In March, 156 people attended a one day conference organised by the Aotearoa New Zealand Division.
- Papers from RAPIDD about the Disability Royal Commission were translated into plain language for this event. They are on the ASID website: [Plain English Research Summaries - Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability](#)
- We are holding the Australasian conference in [Sydney in November](#). The theme is “Learning from the Past, Shaping the Future”.
- We are planning to hold the 2026 conference in Christchurch, New Zealand.
- Between July 2024 to November 2025, we held 20 events. A full list is at the end of this report. Recordings of most events are available to members free of charge. You can find them in the [members area](#) of the website.
- Speakers shared research and lived experience at these events. Speakers also shared commentary on current issues and policy.
- We share information about research on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).
- We have commissioned two literature reviews as a first step to writing position statements. The first is about access to written information. The second is about people with intellectual disability and the criminal justice system.
- We have also commissioned work on including the views of people with intellectual disability in service providers. An issues paper will be published in 2026.

Bring people together across ASID

- We circulate Board meeting minutes to divisions.
- A picture and information about each Board member is on the website.
- There is a new webinar working group which is now planning a program of webinars for all members across Australia and New Zealand.

BOARD REPORT & OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

Connect with organisations that make life better for people with intellectual disabilities

- We partnered with Inclusion Australia for the 2025 conference.
- ASID is a collaborator with the Australian National Centre for Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health.

Manage the business of ASID well

- The Association Specialists provide administrative support to ASID.
- We also pay experts to do some work for ASID.
- The communications committee has updated [ASID policies](#). You can see these on the ASID website.
- There are also new guidelines for divisions to make it easier to organise events.
- We have proposed changes to the constitution to help ASID run more smoothly. The proposed change will mean there does not have to be a division of ASID in each Australian state or in New Zealand unless members want there to be one. It also means the Board can make decisions out of formal meetings.
- We invested savings in a term deposit. This gives us more income to support our work.

Volunteers do most of the work of ASID. The Board thanks everyone who has contributed time to ASID this year.

DATE	EVENT TITLE	TOTAL REGISTRATIONS	DIVISION
11-Jul-24	<u>Stronger Together: Inclusive research with people with intellectual disability</u> (Hybrid)	48	SA/NSW
23-Sep-24	<u>ASID QLD 1 day conference - what's working well, what's not, and what's next in the lives of people with intellectual disability</u> (In Person)	75	QLD
3-Oct-24	<u>Tired of spinning plates: Re-storying care in the lives of people with intellectual and learning disabilities and their family carers</u> (Hybrid)	18	SA
24-Oct-24	<u>The importance of trauma informed approaches: And parallels with disability rights</u> (Online)	68	NZ
19-Nov-24	<u>Support worker conference - Meeting of minds in the middle</u> (In Person)	64	TAS
28-Nov-24	<u>The Disability Royal Commission: One Year On</u> (Hybrid)	216	NSW
17-Mar-25	<u>Data, Design and Delivery: Research to support people with a learning (intellectual) disability</u> (In-Person)	156	NZ
8-Apr-25	<u>Delivering the service-for-one model</u> (Webinar)	25	QLD
1-May-25	<u>Maximising the benefits of research for people with an intellectual disability</u> (Webinar)	36	Board
29-May-25	<u>Easy Read: Culture, Inclusion, and Future</u> (Webinar)	79	NZ
3-Jun-25	<u>What should individuals and families expect from a behaviour support practitioner?</u> (Webinar)	96	VIC
5-Jun-25	<u>From Compliance to Best Practice</u> (Webinar)	45	Board

DATE	EVENT TITLE	TOTAL REGISTRATIONS	DIVISION
10-Jul-25	<u>Perspectives on making written information accessible</u> (Webinar)	73	Board
23-Jul-25	<u>Improving Access to Justice: The Role of the Queensland Intermediary Scheme in Supporting People with Intellectual Disabilities during Police and Court Processes</u> (Webinar)	39	QLD
28-Aug-25	<u>Safeguarding the Communication Rights of Minimally- and Non-Speaking Individuals</u> (Webinar)	67	Board
4-Sep-25	<u>More Choices, Better Spaces, Less Restraint</u> (Webinar)	53	Board
29-Sep-25	<u>Real world challenges for young people with intellectual and cognitive disabilities in transition to adulthood</u> (In Person)	49	QLD

Past webinar recordings and materials are accessible to all ASID members by logging into the Member's Area on the website:

<https://asid.asn.au/events-and-webinars/webinars-past/>



TREASURER'S REPORT

In the past year, ASID received \$411,660. We spent \$268,231. We got \$143,428 more than we spent.

I want to talk about how much ASID owns. On 30 June 2025, we owned things worth \$966,272. We owed \$52,650. We owned \$913,621 more than we owed.

This year, we invested some money in term deposits. This is providing more income for ASID.

At the Annual General Meeting, we will share some exciting news. ASID will be supporting some projects that will help achieve our goals.

Alan Hough – ASID Treasurer

Alan Hough – ASID Treasurer



AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORTS

1 JULY 2024 TO 30 JUNE 2025

Audited by Bentleys Tasmania Audit Pty Ltd



Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability Ltd

(Company Limited by Guarantee)

ABN: 41 000 865 823

Special Purpose Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY LTD

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For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

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AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY LTD

Director's Report

The directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the Company for the period ended 30 June 2025.

Directors

The names of the board members of the association during the whole financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated.

Christine Bigby (President)	Paul O'Dea
Stuart Wark (Vice President)	Allyson Thomson
Alan Hough (Treasurer)	Prudence Lennox
Laura Hogan (Secretary/)	Vivienne Riches
Maurice O'Connor	Henrietta Trip
Michelle King (Joined 28/11/24)	

Objectives

The objective of the Company is to improve the quality of life for people with an intellectual disability. This includes promoting the rights, development and wellbeing of people with intellectual disability, promoting the research and understanding of intellectual disability, supporting people with intellectual disability to take part in the governance of the Company, bringing together people who have an interest in the field of intellectual disability, promoting high ethical standards of practice in the field of intellectual disability, and promoting communication, research, scholarship and the dissemination of knowledge about intellectual disability.

Contributions and Winding Up

Each Member undertakes to contribute an amount not exceeding \$10 to the Company's property if the Company is wound up while they are a Member or within one year after they cease to be a Member. This contribution is for payment of the Company's debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a Member; the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up; and adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 is set out on page 11.

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



President



Treasurer

Date: 7 Nov. 2025

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY LTD
Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
REVENUE	2	411,660	474,258
EXPENSES			
Administration & Other	3	134,432	131,655
Conferences & Events	4	60,482	241,856
Publication & Editorial	5	73,317	73,535
		<u>268,231</u>	<u>447,046</u>
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		<u>143,428</u>	<u>27,212</u>
Other comprehensive income		-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		<u><u>143,428</u></u>	<u><u>27,212</u></u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY LTD

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	508,089	759,595
Trade and other receivables		-	-
Financial Assets	7	416,617	14,847
Other Assets	8	(600)	-
Total Current Assets		924,107	774,442
Non-Current Assets			
Annual Conference - Seeding Fund		40,718	40,718
Financial Assets	7	1,447	1,447
Total Non-Current Assets		42,165	42,165
Total Assets		966,272	816,607
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	9	23,847	23,026
Other liabilities	10	28,804	25,431
Total Current Liabilities		52,650	48,458
Total Liabilities		52,650	48,458
Net Assets		913,621	768,149
Equity			
Retained earnings		913,786	768,313
Financial Asset Reserve		(164)	(164)
Total Equity		913,621	768,149

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY LTD

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

	Financial Asset Reserve	Retained Surplus	TOTAL
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2023	(385)	741,101	740,717
Financial Asset Revaluation	221	-	221
Net Surplus/ (Deficit) for the Year	-	27,212	27,212
Balance at 30 June 2024	(164)	768,313	768,149
Financial Asset Revaluation	-	-	-
Prior Year Adjustment	-	2,044	2,044
Net Surplus/ (Deficit) for the Year	-	143,428	143,428
Balance at 30 June 2025	(164)	913,786	913,621

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY LTD

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
Cash flows from/(used in) operating activities			
Receipts from operations		446,314	616,564
Payments to suppliers and employees		(301,969)	(498,025)
Net cash flows from/(used in) operating activities	11	<u>144,345</u>	<u>118,539</u>
Cash flows from/(used in) investment activities			
Dividends Received		81	85
Interest received		5,838	2,702
Net cashflows from/(used in) investment activities		<u>5,920</u>	<u>2,787</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		150,265	121,326
Cash at the beginning of financial year		<u>774,442</u>	<u>653,115</u>
Cash at the end of financial year	11	<u>924,707</u>	<u>774,442</u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY LTD

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Basis of Preparation

The Board have prepared the financial report on the basis that the company is not a reporting entity as there are unlikely to exist users who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. Accordingly, this Special Purpose Financial Report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and 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 1048 Interpretation and Application of Standards

AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures

These financial statements do not conform with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuation of the provision for long service leave.

The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars (\$).

b. Income Tax

The company is exempt from income tax pursuant to the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. Accordingly, Australian Accounting Standard AASB 112 has not been applied and no provision for income tax has been included in the financial report.

c. Revenue

Revenue is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefit will flow to the incorporated association and the revenue can reliably measured. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Interest Income

Interest income is recognised as it accrues, using the effective interest method.

Royalties and Editorial Contributions

Royalties and Editorial Contributions is recognised as revenue in accordance with the publishing agreement.

Membership Subscriptions

Membership fees are recognised as income on a pro rata basis, in accordance with the period of the membership.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY LTD

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

d. Good 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. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

e. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash & cash equivalents in the statement of financial position comprise cash at bank and in hand and short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less where the investment is convertible to known amounts of cash and is subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

f. Financial Instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument, and are measured initially at fair value adjusted by transactions costs, except for those trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component and are measured at the transaction price in accordance with AASB 15.

The Company's financial assets include cash & cash equivalents, trade & other receivables and term deposits, which are subsequently carried at amortised cost, and listed investments which are subsequently carried at fair value through other comprehensive income.

The Company's financial liabilities include trade and other payables, which are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or when the financial asset and all substantial risks and rewards are transferred. A financial liability is derecognised when it is extinguished, discharged, cancelled or expires.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY LTD

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
2. REVENUE		
Membership Subscriptions	52,366	55,137
Grant Income	8,100	-
Conference Proceeds	92,761	233,837
Royalties	115,948	80,337
JIDD Editorial Contribution	87,000	87,000
RAPIDD Editorial Contribution	11,919	11,919
Divisional Income	36,049	3,241
Total Revenue	<u>404,143</u>	<u>471,470</u>
OTHER INCOME		
Interest Received	5,838	2,702
Dividends Received	81	85
Other Income	1,596	-
Total Other Income	<u>7,516</u>	<u>2,787</u>
TOTAL REVENUE & OTHER INCOME	<u>411,660</u>	<u>474,258</u>
3. ADMINISTRATION & OTHER EXPENSES		
Accounting	1,018	752
Auditing	3,420	3,250
Bank Charges & Fees	1,267	1,110
Corporate Fees	95	96
Divisional Expenses	36,873	6,425
Dues & Subscriptions	1,287	697
Insurance	-	6,003
Miscellaneous Expense	-	20,915
Postage & Courier	16	38
Secretariat Services	70,603	69,286
Telephones	728	930
IT Expenses & Website	7,196	3,810
Other Expenses	4,972	2,792
Storage	885	500
Strategic Projects	6,071	15,050
	<u>134,432</u>	<u>131,655</u>

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY LTD

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
10. OTHER LIABILITIES		
Memberships in Advance	28,804	25,431
	<u>28,804</u>	<u>25,431</u>
11. CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
Reconciliation of operating surplus for the year to net cash flow from operations		
Cash & Cash Equivalents		
Cash at Bank	508,089	759,595
Term Deposits	416,617	14,847
	<u>924,707</u>	<u>774,442</u>
Operating result	143,428	27,212
Adjustment for:		
Investment Income	(5,920)	(2,787)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	-	89,101
(Increase)/decrease in other assets	600	13,193
Increase/(decrease) in payables	2,863	2,361
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	3,373	(10,481)
Cash flows from operating activities	<u>144,345</u>	<u>118,599</u>

12 MEMBERS' GUARANTEE

The Company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum \$10 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the entity.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY LTD

DECLARATION BY OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The officers of the Company have determined that the Company is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Directors of the Company:

- a) the attached financial statements and notes thereto comply with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, the Accounting Standards as described in note 1 to the financial statements, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
- b) the attached financial statements and notes thereto give a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board made pursuant to section 60.15 (2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Christine Bigby

President

A. Hough

Treasurer

Date: 7 Nov. 2025