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# History Trust of South Australia

## **2023-24 Annual Report**

History Trust of South Australia

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2023-24 ANNUAL REPORT for the History Trust of South Australia

To:

The Hon Blair Boyer MP

Minister for Education, Training and Skills

This annual report will be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of *History Trust of South Australia Act 1981* and *History Trust of South Australia Regulations 2022* and the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

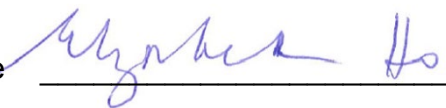
This report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

Submitted on behalf of the History Trust of South Australia by:

**Ms Elizabeth Ho OAM**

Presiding Member of Trustees

Date 27 September 2024

Signature 

## From the Chief Executive



Welcome to the History Trust of South Australia's 2023-24 Annual Report. The History Trust has had another impactful year, beginning with the relocation to new headquarters on North Terrace.

As the Migration Museum approaches its 40-year anniversary in 2026, it is time to renew this 1986 world-leading contribution to showcasing the stories of South Australia's diversity. During 2023-24, the History Trust undertook extensive community engagement with significant input from representatives of over 50 diverse cultural communities, and more than 200 individuals. The message was clear: there is strong community pride and

support for the museum and its historic site. In recognition of this, in June 2024, the SA Government committed \$6.3million towards critical conservation and repair of the Migration Museum's state heritage-listed buildings. These structural and accessibility works will be undertaken over the coming two years. During this period, the Migration Museum Foundation will redouble its efforts to generate sponsorship and philanthropic support to renew the exhibits and enhance the visitor experience of the many stories that have helped make South Australia the place we know and love. None of this would have been possible without the community co-design groundwork undertaken in the 2023-24 reporting year. Special gratitude to our Chair of Trustees and Chair of the Migration Museum Foundation, Elizabeth Ho OAM and appreciation to the many people who stepped up to share their views.

In April 2024 the History Trust made global news with the public announcement that we had found and acquired the long-lost 1974 Hino freighter bus that was once transformed into Priscilla, the 'leading lady' of the 1994 cult Aussie movie classic, 'The Adventures of Priscilla – Queen of the Desert'. Our 'Priscilla: Destination Fabulous' campaign seeks to raise \$2.2million to restore the old girl, to design and construct an unforgettable 'Priscilla: Driving Change' visitor experience at the National Motor Museum of Australia up at Birdwood - and to develop great learning resources to promote inclusion and understanding for generations of young people to come. We warmly thank our Minister, the Hon Blair Boyer MP, for the SA Government's contribution of \$100,000 to kick-start this ambitious campaign about popular culture, inclusion, and our incredible cinematic history.

By any measure, the efforts of the History Trust have generated significant positive impact when it comes to the sharing of South Australia's history, and for SA residents, visitors, and especially for our young people. Online teacher and student Australian Curriculum-aligned SA history-rich online learning resources developed by the Trust have been advancing student learning experiences across South Australia's primary and secondary education systems. In 2023-24 the resources were notably expanded to include brilliant new content for explaining the important role and functions of Local Government to young citizens.

Across the 2023-24 financial year the History Trust delivered creative partnerships and collaborations. Our 'Talking History' public program, hosted by History Advocate, Dr Kiera Lindsey, and delivered in partnership with the University of South Australia, engaged panel members on national and global contexts with brilliant presenters from home and away. Likewise, three public orations were dedicated to Dame Roma Mitchell AC, and Gladys Elphick MBE, and Hon Jennifer Cashmore AM, were memorable and paid homage to three amazing South Australians. And our History Advocate connected with hundreds of people in an extensive outreach through public speaking engagements.

Of course, every year, South Australia's History Festival just gets bigger and better. In 2024 it attracted record attendances of 145,000. Likewise, the annual 2023 Bay to Birdwood historical motor vehicle event grew stronger in the embrace of our community – and the passions of individual owners.

During the 2024 History Festival, the History Trust and Wakefield Press launched the second revised edition of the seminal Wakefield Companion to South Australian History. The result of thousands of hours of toil by Prof (Emeritus) Wilfrid Prest, hundreds of contributors and his dedicated team of editors, this publication deserves to sit at the heart of every South Australian home – and that of ex-patriot South Australians, both interstate and abroad. Without the support of the History Trust, this major undertaking could never have been achieved, and likewise not without the deep collaboration of Wakefield Press, and a shared commitment to its importance in the cultural life of South Australians.

As mentioned above, we remain most appreciative of the assistance rendered by the Government of South Australia to identify suitable new accommodation for the History Trust's central operations. The need to find a new home in 2022-23 also required significant upgrades in 2023-24 to our operating systems. As significant advances in our 21<sup>st</sup> century-facing digital transformation journey, we: migrated from a space-consuming paper-based records management model to an OPUS EDRMS (electronic data records management system); replaced an obsolete digital assets management system (DAMS) with Fotoware; undertook an extensive procurement process to acquire iMIS - a customer relationship management system (CRM) to help us connect more meaningfully with donors, sponsors and audiences, and we commenced migration of our reference library records to a Microsoft M365 tenancy.

It goes without saying that, notwithstanding the efforts of the History Trust's dedicated team of professionals, we would not have generated the impact we did without the generosity of our Trustees, volunteers, History Guardians, sponsors, donors, Regional Ambassadors, History Trust of SA Standing Committees, our Minister and the growing patronage of our valued audiences.



**Greg Mackie OAM**  
Chief Executive Officer  
History Trust of South Australia

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## Overview: about the agency

### Our strategic focus

<p><b>Our Purpose</b></p>	<p>Our job is to encourage current and future generations of South Australians to discover that this state’s past is rich, relevant and fascinating. Among the many stories unfolding across South Australia in the present, many are worthy of being preserved for sharing in the future.</p> <p>The History Trust of South Australia is exactly what our name implies. We carry the community’s trust to safeguard our state’s stories and memory collections so that they will not be lost. This means that they will continue to enrich the lives of current and future generations.</p> <p>Our Act safeguards South Australia’s material heritage and encourages research and the public presentation of South Australian history.</p>
<p><b>Our Vision</b></p>	<p><b>Vision: Giving our past a future now!</b></p> <p>We are dedicated to giving our special past a future now!</p> <p>We are a renewed and contemporary History Trust of South Australia. Our agenda is inclusive and adventurous. We remain as proudly expert and professional as we are accessible and open. We are an active partner in creating a positive future informed by our unique identity.</p> <p>Our museums are welcoming and adaptable – social places where visitors of all ages, backgrounds, purposes and abilities know their community is included and their stories valued.</p> <p>We celebrate the ordinary as well as the extraordinary, relying upon our excellent and extensive research. We take the collection out of the store, creating and presenting events and exhibitions that inspire curiosity for locals and for visitors alike. These will ignite spontaneous conversations between strangers, excite school-age students, and explain how the connectedness between South Australians and the world has been shaped by our history.</p> <p>South Australia’s unique history should be an essential part of what all South Australians and our visitors can experience. It explains our society and the way it works, and how this feeds into the giant story of human endeavour across our world.</p>

<p><b>Our Values</b></p>	<p><b>We recognise</b> that history is a complex tapestry woven of many stories, some incomplete, that capture people and their times and place – including what is happening now.</p> <p><b>We engage</b> and serve local and global audiences using a digital first approach.</p> <p><b>We research</b>, collect, preserve and share material culture and document our non-material culture to better understand the past in the present.</p> <p><b>We respect</b> the dignity of every person, alive or deceased. We treat colleagues and the public with respect, demonstrating this through the highest standards of service, professionalism, honesty and integrity.</p> <p><b>We celebrate</b> diversity in all its many aspects.</p>
<p><b>Our functions, objectives and deliverables</b></p>	<p><b>Ensure most South Australians have a highly positive experience of The History Trust annually</b></p> <p>The people of South Australia are our most frequent visitors to our museums, audiences for our public programs and the students who engage with our education programs. All will value the ‘History Trust’ experience each time they engage with us.</p> <p><b>Be recognised as the leading voice for making the stories of South Australia relevant across the world, for the world</b></p> <p>Telling the stories of South Australia is a core purpose and our collections are fundamental to these stories. We want the History Trust to be the first organisation people think of when seeking information about South Australia’s history - and its place in the world.</p> <p><b>Explain the complexities of the past and build wisdom for today</b></p> <p>We present South Australia’s history in all its facets through quality curatorial and research work. We build wisdom for today through advice and guidance across our communities, our museums and exhibitions, and our engaging public and education programs.</p> <p><b>Be a leader of excellence in the network of historical enterprises</b></p> <p>We strive for excellence in everything we do. Our Act establishes our leadership role within SA’s history network, and we aim to be recognised for our leadership and excellence within South Australia and nationally.</p>



	<p><b>Significantly grow earned income</b></p> <p>Growing earned income will help us to continually expand and improve our offerings, including through philanthropy and development activities, grants, sales, paid services, memberships and paid events.</p>
<p><b>The History Trust promise</b></p>	<p>We collect and creatively tell stories of South Australia's past to keep our history relevant for present and future generations, so together we can better understand and celebrate our place in the world.</p>

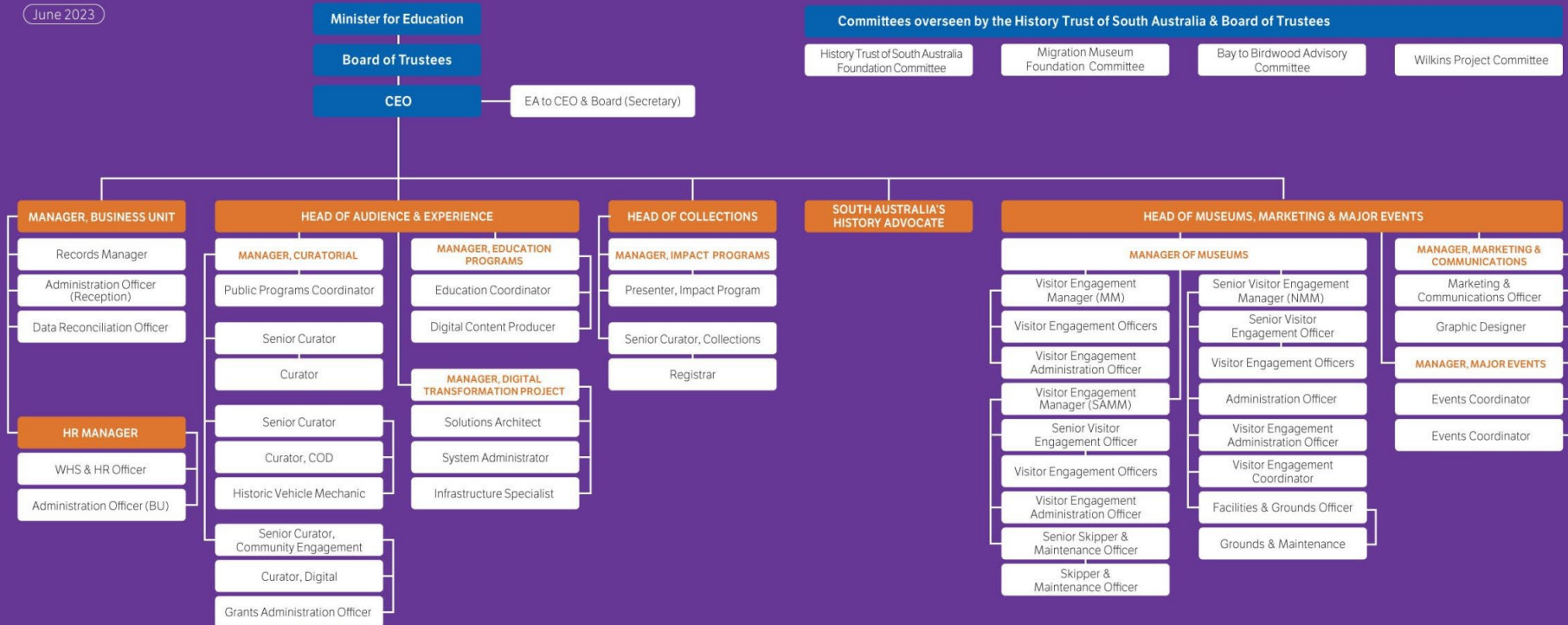
**Our organisational structure**

Office of the Chief Executive Officer  
Audience and Experience  
Business Unit  
Collections and Research  
Museums, Marketing and Major Events

<https://www.history.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/org-chart-scaled.jpg>

# HISTORY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA ORGANISATIONAL CHART

June 2023



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## **Changes to the agency**

During 2023-24 there were no alterations to the agency's structure and objectives as a result of internal reviews or machinery of government changes.

The History Trust has updated the Strategic Plan 2023-27. For the full document go to: <https://www.history.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/History-Trust-of-SA-Strategic-Plan-2023-2027-digital.pdf>

## **Our Minister**

The Hon Blair Boyer MP, is Minister for Education, Training and Skills

Minister Boyer's oversight includes:

- Department for Education, Training and Skills
- History Trust of South Australia

## **Our Board**

Trustees are appointed by the Governor in Executive Council on the recommendation by the Minister for Education, Training and Skills.

### Presiding Member

Ms Elizabeth Ho OAM (until 13 July 2025)

Attended six meetings

### Trustees

Dr Eva Balan-Vnuk (until 16 November 2025)

Attended five meetings

Dr Vesna Drapac (until 26 October 2025)

Attended five meetings

Ms Carolyn Grantskalns (until 26 April 2026)

Attended five meetings

Mr Michael Neale (until 24 November 2025)

Attended six meetings

Mr David O'Loughlin (appointed on 23 May 2024)

Attended one meeting

Professor Alan Reid AM (until 26 October 2025)

Attended six meetings

Ms June Roache (end of term 6 May 2024)

Attended four meetings

Dr Jared Thomas (until 17 July 2026)

Attended four meetings



Back row from left: Michael Neale, Prof Alan Reid AM, Dr Jared Thomas, David O'Loughlin, Dr Eva Balan-Vnuk  
Front row from left: Carolyn Grantskalns, Greg Mackie OAM (CEO), Elizabeth Ho OAM (Presiding Member), and Dr Vesna Drapac.

## **Our Chief Executive**

Greg Mackie OAM leads the History Trust of South Australia, working with the Strategic Leadership Group, and incorporating oversight of the State History Collection; Museums covering motoring, maritime, migration themes, and the Centre of Democracy; Public Programs; Major Events; Community History Programs; Research; Education; Digital Transformation, and South Australia's History Advocate agenda.

Our Museums are:

- Migration Museum – 82 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide
- National Motor Museum Australia – Shannon Street, Birdwood
- South Australian Maritime Museum – 126 Lipson Street, Port Adelaide
- Centre of Democracy - Institute Building, Cnr North Terrace & Kintore Avenue Adelaide (with the State Library of South Australia)



## **Legislation administered by the agency**

*History Trust of South Australia Act 1981*

*History Trust of South Australia Regulations 2022*

## The agency's performance

### Performance at a glance

The Board of the History Trust of South Australia met on six occasions 6 July 2023, 31 August 2023, 19 October 2023, 22 February 2024, 18 April 2024, 13 June 2024 as required under the *History Trust of South Australia Act 1981*.

### Agency specific objectives and performance

The History Trust continues to work with communities to bring the stories of South Australia alive, both locally and globally. The reach of the Trust's work is achieved through partnerships, capacity building, public programs, grants, and community engagement initiatives. This year, partnerships with the University of South Australia (UniSA), Wakefield Press, Reconciliation SA (RecSA), The Gladys Elphick Awards Committee, the Tourism Industry Council of South Australia (TICSA), Channel 44 (Ch44) and Freemasons SA/NT have strengthened the reach and relevance of history in our community.

The History Trust is an enthusiastic contributor to civics education through its Centre of Democracy and special initiatives, assisting students towards active citizenship. March 2024 saw the launch of an extensive suite of learning materials about local government, created with the support of the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA). The resources include teaching and learning guides, explanatory posters, fact sheets and two extensive video series. To support our commitment to public schools across the state, copies of the LGA teaching and learning guide and posters were sent to all 469 public primary schools across South Australia.

The History Trust is dedicated to building the confidence of educators to teach South Australia's histories and stories. Visit our website to learn more <https://education.history.sa.gov.au/>

From August 2023 to March 2024 an extensive co-design project was conducted. Engaging with circa 200 contributors to gather peak body and community perspectives on future renewal of the first Migration Museum in the world was a vital investment in community trust. Trustees endorsed the resulting report 'Renewing the Migration Museum - the community speaks' as a platform on which to base their vision for major improvements to both the amenity and the quality of exhibitions. They also endorsed Guiding Principles embraced by an experienced multicultural Reference Group and History Trust Steering Committee. Alongside renewal aspirations, the History Trust developed a case for vital structural repairs on this historical site costed at \$6.3million which was included in the 2024-25 State budget.

The History Trust delivered three public named orations to nearly 500 people in 2023-24. The oration recordings are available through the History Trust website <https://www.history.sa.gov.au/orations/>

The Hon Kyam Mayer MLC, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs delivered the 2023 Gladys Elphick Oration in July. In a year of history-making, Minister Maher spoke of the state's leadership in the establishment of a South Australian First Nations Voice to

Parliament, and how this helped shape the national conversation as we headed towards the federal Referendum.

In September 2023, South Australia's Chief Psychiatrist, Dr. John Brayley, gave the Jennifer Cashmore Oration. It was titled: "From Asylums to Community Care and Beyond - Human Rights and Mental Health: Lessons from History." Dr Brayley's presentation covered both the history of mental health practice and services and new developments in our changing mental health landscape. This oration was delivered in partnership with the South Australian Health & Medical Research Institute and SA Health.

The Dame Roma Mitchell Oration was held in November 2023, and presented by the Hon Dr Susan Close MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Minister for Defence and Space Industries, and Minister for Climate, Environment and Water. Dr Close explored how the South Australian community could strive to develop a sustainable future together and seek solutions to the many pressing climate change matters that are not aired in the mainstream. This oration was delivered in partnership with the University of Adelaide Law School and the Law Society of South Australia.

The annual Bay to Birdwood in October saw over 1500 historical vehicles from across Australia parading from West Beach to the Adelaide Hills township of Birdwood. Many owners invest significant time and resources into preparing their vehicles for the event and the awards. The Hon Blair Boyer MP, Minister for Education, Training and Skills joined 90,000 enthusiastic spectators who lined the 67-kilometre route and over 9,000 people who attended Fashions on the Field and Bay to Birdwood vehicle viewing at the National Motor Museum.

The winners of awards: Concours d'Elegance; Preservation; and Historic EV Conversion, were presented with their trophies by Bay to Birdwood Patron, The Hon Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia.

The Sir Hubert Wilkins Project collaboration with the South Australian Museum, State Library of South Australia, and other significant stakeholders, continues to preserve and promote the legacy of world-acclaimed South Australian-born polar explorer and adventurer Sir Hubert Wilkins (1888-1958).

History Trust public programs connected diverse audiences with the stories of South Australia - both in person and online. This year's highlights included: the sold-out Drinking in History at the Wheatsheaf Hotel; the launch of Peter Duncan's memoir in partnership with Wakefield Press; the annual Prof (Emeritus) Alan Reid AM's democracy lecture in partnership with Uni SA's Centre for Research in Educational and Social Inclusion (CRESI), and the sold-out 'Malevolence or Benevolence? Freemasons, Power and South Australia' evening in partnership with the Freemasons SA/NT and Ayers House function Centre.

The much-loved Talking History series was back for another year in partnership with Uni SA showcasing South Australian stories and researchers spanning the downright uncanny to Adelaide's pioneering policewoman Kate Cocks, through to South Australia's Irish settlements. Chaired by History Advocate Dr Kiera Lindsey, Talking History remained a popular and accessible public history series for audiences.

On 12 April 2024 the History Trust announced to the world its most ambitious new project to date, The Priscilla restoration project, and *Save the Queen* promotional campaign. The launch attendees heard from the Minister for Education, Skills and Training, the Hon Blair Boyer MP, History Trust CEO Greg Mackie OAM, Head of Audience and Experience, Dr Kristy Kokegei and special guest, Rebel Penfold-Russell, Executive Producer of the 1994 hit movie, *The Adventures of Priscilla: Queen of the Desert*. All spoke on the importance of the restoration project to Australia, South Australia, the global LGBTQIA+ community - and the National Motor Museum.

Launching globally, the Trust worked with The Guardian newspaper to run an online article on the discovery, 30-years later, of the Priscilla bus, catapulting the *Save the Queen* campaign into the international media. The feature story received over 180,000 views in the first ten hours and achieved over 500,000 views the following week. There were over 500 media mentions globally, and a global audience reach of more than 150 million was achieved. Fundraising continues. To learn more and pledge your donation visit <https://www.history.sa.gov.au/priscilla/>

The theme for the May 2024 South Australia's History Festival was POWER.

In early 2024, the History Festival embarked on a project capturing 100 portraits of 100 South Australians, gathering 100 unique and individual perspectives on power.

In partnership with SA Power Networks, the project featured 100 "Power Portraits." It was a free outdoor exhibition on selected Stobie poles across South Australia and it also uniquely celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Stobie pole.

This year's History Festival was a resounding success, captivating audiences with a cornucopia of events that celebrated South Australia's diverse heritage. Throughout May, over 542 events across the state brought history to life.

South Australia's History Festival would not be possible without its partners and sponsors. In 2024, these were: Presenting Partner, Freemasons South Australia & The Northern Territory and Keystone Adelaide; Major Partner, the City of Adelaide; Project Partner, SA Power Networks; Distribution Partner, Drakes Supermarkets; Wine Partner, Yalumba; Event Partner, The Piccadilly; Supporting Partners, Kalyra and Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium; Program Partners Mile End Office Furniture and Wakefield Press; Focus Program Partner for From Many Places, the Multicultural Communities Council of South Australia; and Media Partner, Channel 44.

One highlight, amongst many, of the History Festival was the success of SA's History Advocate's South Australian Stories Survey Initiative (SASSi) findings. This project was developed to discover more about the diversity of history practices and projects across the state.



SASSi represents a unique form of public history research and engagement which has the potential to strengthen history networks by identifying priority areas for future advocacy and for brokering fresh collaborations. After five months of consultation with over 50 organisations and individuals SASSi attracted 260 respondents statewide who together described over 400 distinct history projects. Further information can be viewed <https://www.history.sa.gov.au/?s=SASSi>.

Agency Objectives	Indicators	Performance
<p><b><u>On-site</u></b></p> <p><b>Exhibitions:</b> including permanent and temporary exhibitions</p> <p><b>Events:</b> including Festivals, performances, lectures/talks, workshops, and holiday programs</p>	<p>Total Exhibitions:</p> <p>38</p> <p>Total Events:</p> <p>138</p> <p><b>Total onsite attendances</b> <b>159,511</b></p>	<p>South Australia's citizen and visitor experience of our history is enhanced through our cultural heritage offerings.</p> <p>Our public programs and events provide greater access to historical knowledge for citizens with an interest in our stories of place and people.</p>
<p><b><u>Off-site</u></b></p> <p><b>Exhibitions:</b> including permanent and temp exhibitions</p> <p><b>Events:</b> including Festivals, performances, lectures/talks, workshops, and holiday programs</p>	<p>Total off-site Exhibitions:</p> <p>20</p> <p>Total off-site Events:</p> <p>683</p> <p><b>Total off-site attendances</b> <b>478,369</b></p>	<p>By touring exhibitions, we provide access to history, stories and collections for regional South Australians.</p> <p>By taking our public programs and events offsite we provide experiences and greater access to historical knowledge and stories of place and people for more South Australians.</p>

<p><b>Education Programs</b> Onsite</p>	<p>Total Education programs: CoD – self-guided 76 MM - 244 NMM - 77 SAMM - 139 Total - 536</p> <p>Student visitation: CoD – 3,119 MM – 5,340 NMM – 2,432 SAMM – 5,586 Total – 16,477</p>	<p>Onsite education programs ensure visiting students are provided with curriculum aligned high-quality educational opportunities to engage with our state’s maritime, migration, motoring and democratic histories.</p>
<p><b>Education Programs</b> Off-site</p>	<p>Programs delivered: 17 (inc Vailo)</p> <p>Students reached: 4,636 (inc Vailo)</p>	<p>Museum in a Box kits provide greater statewide access to our collections and programs, with off-site program provision to metropolitan and regional schools who cannot visit our museums or who wish to extend their learning Since launching in July 2023 we have seen steady and repeat bookings – speaking to the quality and relevance of the kits to South Australian teachers.</p> <p>In November 2023 we became the VAILO ADL500 Education Partner, sponsoring the Schools Day and providing motoring themed education programs to 3,500 South Australian school children at the event.</p>

<p><b>Education Program</b> Teachers PDs and Volunteers</p>	<p>PDs delivered: 7 Attendance numbers: 112</p>	<p>Professional Development for teachers is delivered both online and in person, with in person events proving to be more popular over the last financial year.</p> <p>The History Trust also provides professional development opportunities via our volunteer teachers learner’s advisory panel.</p>
<p><b>Education Program</b> Digital Engagement</p>	<p>Website visitation by number of sessions: 11,600</p>	<p>A dedicated education website provides teachers with access to a range of free education content and materials to aid in the teaching of South Australia’s histories and stories. 67% of users are from South Australia. The most visited resource page from this financial year was an extensive range of resources dedicated to local government and aligned to the civics and citizenship curriculum.</p>

<p><b>Digital Engagement</b></p>	<p>Number of visits to websites: 473,280</p> <p>Number of websites page views: 2,360,801</p>	<p>Consistent overall engagement continues across core history and museum websites, providing access to museums, collections, education programs and South Australian history resources. Digital collections visitation has increased 26% with 51,782 objects viewed. Engagement with the SA History Festival continues to grow with 27% increase in visitation and 183,892 individual page views.</p>
<p><b>Collection Management activities / Collection preservation</b></p>	<p>Acquisitions 2023-24: 978</p> <p>Total items in the State History Collection: 37,177</p> <p>Collection items available to the public online: 2,541</p> <p>% of the core collection digitised: 36%</p>	<p>The State History Collection aims to represent the depth and diversity of South Australia’s history, while recognising that there are many other public and private custodians of the state’s moveable cultural heritage. The collection of the National Motor Museum has a national focus.</p>

<p><b>Grant programs</b></p>	<p><b>Museum and Collections (MaC)</b></p> <p>A total of \$236,593 was allocated in 2023-24. MaC Projects grant round 7 was run in two parts during 2023-24. Small grants were open all year and funded to \$23,699.</p> <p>The History Trust received 37 MaC applications of which 31 were approved and 35 small grant applications of which 30 were approved.</p> <p><b>South Australian History Fund (SAHF)</b></p> <p>The SAHF grant round received 81 applications. \$136,315 was allocated to 35 projects.</p>	<p>MaC grant fund supports the History Trust’s MaC Development and Standards Program by providing direct grants to community museums and historical groups that manage collections and promote South Australia’s history.</p> <p>SAHF provides grant support to projects, research and publications that contribute to the knowledge, understanding and sharing of South Australia’s rich and diverse history.</p>

<p><b>YouTube engagement (Education)</b></p>	<p>Total video views (Education): 22,165</p> <p>Watch hours (Education): 968.8</p>	<p>YouTube and social media continue to provide important ways for the History Trust to engage teachers and students. Social media campaigns to support education resulted in 13,476 views over the year.</p> <p>YouTube also provides a platform to host our quality curriculum-aligned content. With a 246% increase year on year, the platform is popular with those seeking education content on South Australia’s history.</p>
<p><b>YouTube engagement (History Trust)</b></p>	<p>Total video views (HTSA): 73,737</p> <p>Watch hours (HTSA): 3,500</p>	<p>The most popular video published in last financial year was <i>How to History: Historical Inquiry</i> and demonstrates how the History Trust can provide support for teachers in the classroom, in this case teaching history skills from the curriculum.</p>

<p><b>Research</b></p>	<p><b>2023 - 2024</b></p> <p>The History Trust researches and preserves South Australian history for future generations.</p> <p>History Trust employees undertake research across a range of fields, including history, museology, audience engagement and collections. Research undertaken in 2023-24 focused on the organisation’s partnerships with universities, particularly in the undertaking and development of Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage and Discovery projects.</p> <p>The History Trust is a Partner Organisation in the current ARC Linkage projects:          ‘LGBTQ Migrations: Life Story Narratives in the South Australian Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums (GLAM) Sector’;          ‘Reconciling with the Frontier: Accounting for Colonial Conflict’;          ‘Comedy Country: Australian performance comedy as an Agent of Change’.          ‘Co-designing Aboriginal Digital Museology Frameworks in the Southern Gulfs’.</p>	<p>The History Trust researches and preserves South Australian history for future generations</p>



<p>Volunteers</p>	<p>Number of History Trust volunteers: 64 Hours contributed: 6,399 hours</p> <p>Number of volunteers for HTSA Major events:</p>	<p>Volunteers enhance the capacity of the History Trust to fulfil its objectives. In return volunteers benefit from a social connection to other people and the dignity of making a value contribution to public good.</p> <p>The 2023 Bay to Birdwood event saw 71 volunteers contributing 425 hours</p> <p>The 2024 History Festival included more than 2856 volunteers for the month of May 2024.</p>
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**Corporate performance summary**

The History Trust demonstrated continued adherence to fair and equitable practices, including recruitment and the performance and development review process.

**Employment opportunity programs**

<b>Program name</b>	<b>Performance</b>
Equal Opportunity Program	The History Trust is committed to employing on merit regardless of race, gender, sexuality, marital status, age, pregnancy or physical or intellectual impairment for all positions within the agency. In addition, The History Trust has a trained Equal Opportunity Officer, who is available to provide support and advice to employees.

**Agency performance management and development systems**

<b>Performance management and development system</b>	<b>Performance</b>
The History Trust has a manual system	The History Trust continues to undertake performance reviews with employees twice a year, in accordance with the commissioner’s guidelines.  Compliance in 2023-2024 was 91% of employee headcount.

**Work health, safety and return to work programs**

<b>Program name</b>	<b>Performance</b>
Management of Work Health and Safety	During 2023-24 the History Trust maintained management of Work Health and Safety systems.  The History Trust has continued to manage a program of continuous improvement in 2023-24, including site inspections, policy review, risk assessments, and other WHS documentation.

<b>Workplace injury claims</b>	<b>Current year 2023-24</b>	<b>Past year 2022-23</b>	<b>% Change (+ / -)</b>
Total new workplace injury claims	1	0	+100%
Fatalities	0	0	0
Seriously injured workers*	0	0	0
Significant injuries (where lost time exceeds a working week, expressed as frequency rate per 1000 FTE)	0	0	0

\*number of claimants assessed during the reporting period as having a whole person impairment of 30% or more under the Return to Work Act 2014 (Part 2 Division 5)

<b>Work health and safety regulations</b>	<b>Current year 2023-24</b>	<b>Past year 2022-23</b>	<b>% Change (+ / -)</b>
Number of notifiable incidents ( <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012, Part 3</i> )	0	0	0
Number of provisional improvement, improvement and prohibition notices ( <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012 Sections 90, 191 and 195</i> )	0	0	0

<b>Return to work costs**</b>	<b>Current year 2023-24</b>	<b>Past year 2022-23</b>	<b>% Change (+ / -)</b>
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	\$8,605	\$237,736	-96%
Income support payments – gross (\$)	\$102,846	\$83,770	+23%

\*\*before third party recovery

Data for previous years is available at:

<https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/workplace-injury-claims-history-trust-of-south-australia>

### Executive employment in the agency

<b>Executive classification</b>	<b>Number of executives</b>
SAES-1	1

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/executive-employment-at-the-history-trust-of-south-australia>

The [Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment](#) has a [workforce information](#) page that provides further information on the breakdown of executive gender, salary and tenure by agency.

### Financial performance - **Financial performance at a glance**

The following is a brief summary of the overall financial position of the agency. The information is unaudited. Full audited financial statements for 2023-2024 are attached to this report.

<b>Statement of Comprehensive Income</b>	<b>2023-24 Budget \$000s</b>	<b>2023-24 Actual \$000s</b>	<b>Variation \$000s</b>	<b>2022-23 Actual \$000s</b>
Total Income	10,126	12,092	1,966	11,430
Total Expenses	12,310	11,065	1,245	11,714
<b>Net Result</b>	<b>(2,184)</b>	<b>1,027</b>	<b>3,211</b>	<b>(284)</b>
Other Comprehensive Income	0	3,601	3,601	3,033
<b>Total Comprehensive Result</b>	<b>(2,184)</b>	<b>4,628</b>	<b>6,812</b>	<b>2,749</b>

<b>Statement of Financial Position</b>	<b>2023-24 Actual \$000s</b>	<b>2022-23 Actual \$000s</b>
Current assets	6,111	7,159
Non-current assets	47,398	43,779
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>53,509</b>	<b>50,938</b>
Current liabilities	1,933	2,483
Non-current liabilities	2,132	3,639
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>4,065</b>	<b>6,122</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>49,444</b>	<b>44,816</b>
<b>Equity</b>	<b>49,444</b>	<b>44,816</b>

### Consultants disclosure

The following is a summary of external consultants that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for the work undertaken during the financial year.

<b>Consultancies with a contract value below \$10,000 each</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
All consultancies below \$10,000 each	Various	Nil

**Consultancies with a contract value above \$10,000 each**

<b>Consultancies</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
KWPX	Audit and development of social media	\$37,371
Fuller	Strategy and PR planner	\$47,405
<b>Total Consultancies with a contract value above \$10,000</b>		<b>\$84,776</b>

Data for previous years is available at:

<https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/consultants-engaged-by-the-history-trust-of-south-australia>

See also the [Consolidated Financial Report of the Department of Treasury and Finance](#) for total value of consultancy contracts across the South Australian Public Sector.

**Contractors disclosure**

The following is a summary of external contractors that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for work undertaken during the financial year.

**Contractors with a contract value below \$10,000**

<b>Contractors</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
All contractors below \$10,000 each - combined	Various	\$102,191

**Contractors with a contract value above \$10,000 each**

<b>Contractors</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
Australian Green Clean	Asbestos	\$10,385
Halcyon Knights Australia	Administration support	\$10,726
Bmp Marketing Pty Ltd	Social Media Production	\$12,000
Studio 1 Exhibitions Pty Ltd	Exhibition Development	\$14,400
Angela Hazebroek OAM	Co-design and social planning consultant	\$15,028
Cultural Heritage Consulting	Vessel Project	\$17,672
Adelaide OHS&W Consultants	Heritage Vessel Project OHS&W support	\$19,300
Erin Bridges	Video and editing	\$19,848
Hosking Willis Architecture	Professional Architect	\$20,880
Cerulean Creative Studios	Exhibition Development	\$23,100
Major Sumner	Exhibition Production	\$23,800
Brennan IT	Internet Development	\$24,620
Donor Republic	Fundraising Support	\$25,500
Altus Traffic Pty Ltd *Main	Traffic Control	\$28,581
Shape Australia Pty Ltd	Building Fit out Contractor	\$33,012
ISS Facility Services Aust Ltd	Cleaning Contractor	\$35,132
Square Holes	Social Media	\$36,190
For Mile Events Pty Ltd	Traffic Control	\$36,191
Peoplebank Australia Ltd	Temporary ICT Support	\$36,794
C44 Adelaide Limited	Radio Broadcast	\$40,236
Baukultur Pty Ltd	Professional Architect	\$41,897

<b>Contractors</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
Morris Hargreaves Mcintyre	Audience Research	\$43,540
Aon Risk Services Australia Lt	Valuer	\$69,000
Avepoint Au Pty Ltd	EDMRS Project	\$72,456
SCC (Sa) Pty Ltd T/A	Cleaning Contractor	\$87,814
Super Studio Australia Pty Ltd	Marketing and Philanthropy	\$140,589
Hays Specialist Recruitment	Temporary Administration Support	\$262,193
Comunet Unit Trust	ICT Managed Services and set up new infrastructure	\$563,397
	Total	\$1,764,281

Data for previous years is available at:

<https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/contractors-engaged-by-the-history-trust-of-south-australia>

The details of South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website. [View the agency list of contracts.](#)

The website also provides details of [across government contracts.](#)

## Risk management

### Risk and audit at a glance

No instances to report.

### Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
N/A	Nil

*NB: Fraud reported includes actual and reasonably suspected incidents of fraud.*

### Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

**The Board of the History Trust of South Australia exercises oversight of the management processes for identifying and responding to the risks of fraud, and the internal control that management has established to mitigate these risks.**

Financial reports are reviewed by the Board of the History Trust of SA at each meeting. The reports include detailed notes outlining any variations to predicted year to date outcomes.

The History Trust maintains a Financial Management Compliance Program, which includes details of the control elements deemed critical and relevant for the Trust to ensure reliable financial reporting. The Manager, Business Unit reviews and assesses the effectiveness of the compliance controls annually and provides the Board with the reviewed FMCP Checklist outlining the outcomes of the review.

All policies, which have been developed or reviewed, are approved by the Board.

Financial Authorisations are updated and approved by the Board on a regular basis.

The History Trust has developed a series of processes to guard against the risk of fraud and irregularities are reported to the Board:

- All transactions (including Purchase Card activity) are approved by the appropriate Trust financial authorisation delegate.
- All transactions are checked on a monthly basis against the general ledger.
- Manager, Business Unit reviews all transactions involving expenditure over \$2,000.
- Risk registers are maintained, including measures to mitigate the risk of fraud. Risk registers are reviewed annually by Senior Managers and the Chief Executive Officer, and noted at a Board meeting at the time.
- All new employees and volunteers are required to undertake a child-related employment screening and attain a clearance via the Department for Communities and Social Inclusion prior to the commencement of their



employment with the Trust. The Trust mandates this Code of Conduct every five years in accordance with our commitment to compliance under the *Children's Protection Act 1993*.

- During induction, new employees are required to read and sign-off on policies covering various business practices, including the Code of Ethics for the South Australian Public Sector and the South Australian Public Sector Fraud and Control Corruption Policy.

Data for previous years is available at <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/fraud-detection-at-history-trust-of-south-australia>

### Public interest disclosure

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018*:

- **NIL**

Data for previous years is available at : <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/whistle-blowers-disclosure-history-trust-of-south-australia>

Note: Disclosure of public interest information was previously reported under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* and repealed by the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018* on 1/7/2019.

## Reporting required under any other act or regulation

Act or Regulation	Requirement
NIL	

### Reporting required under the *Carers’ Recognition Act 2005*

The *Carers’ Recognition Act 2005* is deemed applicable for the following: Department of Human Services, Department for Education, Department for Health and Wellbeing, Department for Industry, Innovation and Science, Department for Infrastructure and Transport, South Australia Police and TAFE SA.

*Section 7: Compliance or non-compliance with section 6 of the Carers Recognition Act 2005 and (b) if a person or body provides relevant services under a contract with the organisation (other than a contract of employment), that person's or body's compliance or non-compliance with section 6.*

The History Trust does not provide or fund direct services to carers.

## Public complaints

### Number of public complaints reported

<b>Complaint categories</b>	<b>Sub-categories</b>	<b>Example</b>	<b>Number of Complaints 2023-24</b>
Professional behaviour	Staff attitude	Failure to demonstrate values such as empathy, respect, fairness, courtesy, extra mile; cultural competency	-
Professional behaviour	Staff competency	Failure to action service request; poorly informed decisions; incorrect or incomplete service provided	-
Professional behaviour	Staff knowledge	Lack of service specific knowledge; incomplete or out-of-date knowledge	-
Communication	Communication quality	Inadequate, delayed or absent communication with customer	1
Communication	Confidentiality	Customer's confidentiality or privacy not respected; information shared incorrectly	-
Service delivery	Systems/technology	System offline; inaccessible to customer; incorrect result/information provided; poor system design	-
Service delivery	Access to services	Service difficult to find; location poor; facilities/ environment poor standard; not accessible to customers with disabilities	-
Service delivery	Process	Processing error; incorrect process used; delay in processing application; process not customer responsive	-
Policy	Policy application	Incorrect policy interpretation; incorrect policy applied; conflicting policy advice given	-
Policy	Policy content	Policy content difficult to understand; policy unreasonable or disadvantages customer	2

<b>Complaint categories</b>	<b>Sub-categories</b>	<b>Example</b>	<b>Number of Complaints 2023-24</b>
Service quality	Information	Incorrect, incomplete, out-dated or inadequate information; not fit for purpose	-
Service quality	Access to information	Information difficult to understand, hard to find or difficult to use; not plain English	-
Service quality	Timeliness	Lack of staff punctuality; excessive waiting times (outside of service standard); timelines not met	-
Service quality	Safety	Maintenance; personal or family safety; duty of care not shown; poor security service/ premises; poor cleanliness	-
Service quality	Service responsiveness	Service design doesn't meet customer needs; poor service fit with customer expectations	-
No case to answer	No case to answer	Third party; customer misunderstanding; redirected to another agency; insufficient information to investigate	-
		<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>

<b>Additional Metrics</b>	<b>Total</b>
Positive feedback comments	Many via HTSA Social Media and Visitor Engagement Officers on a daily basis
Number of negative feedback comments	3
Total number of feedback comments	
% complaints resolved within policy timeframes	100%

Data for previous years is available at:

<https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/e0286abe-d1ba-4cbd-a48b-628b854f3cf9>

**Service Improvements**

The low number of customer complaints and negative feedback is evidence of the high-quality customer service and training of our public facing employees. There were two complaints received relating to customer dissatisfaction with the cashless museum policy. This is currently being evaluated and reviewed for how this is communicated and where there is potential to modify. The other negative feedback received was resolved to the customers satisfaction and was in relation to a communication misunderstanding. Teams have been provided with additional training to ensure that these types of incidents are prevented from occurring in the future.

Overwhelmingly the feedback received is of a highly positive nature, with visitors' commendation of the museum exhibitions, tours and events experiences and acknowledgement of the skills and knowledge of HTSA employees.

**Compliance Statement**

The History Trust of South Australia is compliant with Premier and Cabinet Circular 039 – complaint management in the South Australian public sector	Y
The History Trust of South Australia has communicated the content of PC 039 and the agency’s related complaints policies and procedures to employees.	Y

## **Appendix: Audited financial statements 2023-24**