

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FOR THE 2025
CALENDAR YEAR



Victorian Association for
the Teaching of English

V A Victorian Association for **T E** the Teaching of English

VATE acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which the VATE office is situated.

We pay our respects to Elders from all nations – and to their Ancestors and Elders past and present. We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first storytellers; and that knowledge transfer through storytelling is woven into the fabric of this Country.

We acknowledge all First Nations peoples who make contributions to teaching and learning communities. VATE commits to use language that recognises First Nations peoples' continuing connection to land, waters, and cultures.

We believe a better tomorrow is possible and VATE pledges our unwavering support to the First People's Treaty in Victoria.

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We, the VATE Council, are proud to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria where we do our work. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and remember that sovereignty was never ceded.

As an organisation firmly committed to advancing social justice and equality, we want to play our part in righting the wrongs of the past and be part of creating a better future together. With profound respect for the sovereignty, culture, and rights of First Peoples, we're pleased to announce that we will walk with the [First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria](#) on the journey to Treaty.

We recognise that when it comes to First Peoples' communities, cultures and lands, the experts are of course First Peoples. The past can't be changed, but we can choose to take steps today that will help heal the ongoing pain caused by ongoing injustices. We believe a better tomorrow is possible and VATE Council pledges our unwavering support to the First Peoples' [Treaty process](#) in Victoria.

Supporting Treaty and Truth-telling

Truth-telling is a key pillar on the path to reconciliation. As part of our commitment to truth-telling and Treaty, VATE Council will commission an independent review of our organisation and our role in colonisation by identifying direct and indirect examples through our journal, *Idiom*. We will document and share the history of our organisation and the history of subject English in Victoria as it has been presented in *Idiom*. The information may well be difficult for us to read, however, 'facing up to past wrongs and the legacies they leave is essential to our collective healing process'.

To help build support for the shared journey to Treaty, we will:

Activate

- Allocate financial resources to donate and support the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria.
- Include a final line of solidarity as part of our organisation's Acknowledgement of Country.

Collaborate

- Provide in-kind resources such as meeting spaces, equipment, and expertise to support First Peoples' organisations or Traditional Owners involved in the Treaty process.

Educate

- Provide training and capacity-building opportunities for staff members to increase their understanding of First Peoples' issues, Treaty negotiations, and cultural competency.
- Commit to educating our members on the importance of Treaty.
- Support initiatives that promote cross-cultural understanding and respect, fostering a culture of inclusivity and appreciation.

Advocate

- Publicly endorse and advocate for the negotiation and implementation of Treaty with the state government.
- Raise awareness about the importance of Treaty and the rights of First Peoples through internal/external communication channels.
- Maximise the visibility of our support for Treaty.
- Commit to backing the Assembly at key moments.

By making this pledge, VATE Council affirms our commitment to the self-determination of [First Peoples in Victoria](#) as they assert their rights, tell their truths, and chart a path towards, and healing through, Treaty-making. Together, we will create a future where First Peoples' voices are heard, rights are respected, and justice is realised for generations to come.

We encourage you to join us on this journey.

Ambition Statement

In July 1959 an experimental initiative marked the formation of the Victorian Association for the Teaching of English. The purpose of the Association was to 'stimulate interest in the teaching of English and background studies' and three meetings were planned. By October 1960 the Association had become established enough to hold its first AGM and it had 160 members.

Since 1960 VATE has gone on to support its members as they have coped with the various changes to the teaching and learning of English over the last sixty years.

Ambition:

VATE is a not-for-profit subject association committed to a vision of subject English that is equitable, inclusive, robust, creative, responsive, and critical. Through collaboration and community, VATE serves its members and their students from all sectors and regions across the state of Victoria.

Purpose:

VATE exists to support its members at all stages of their English teaching career in the continuous process of renewal necessary to engage with the dynamic nature of both the profession and subject English. Through professional networks, advocacy, research, journals, professional learning, and resources, VATE leads and nurtures a community of teachers of secondary English committed to their students and the advancement of the profession.

Commitments:

VATE is committed to Makarrata and Truth-telling. VATE acknowledges that we work, teach and learn on unceded land. Our work will recognise and celebrate the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia as the first teachers and storytellers. For a fair and just society, we will promote and advocate for truth-telling in the English curriculum and collaborate with First Nations people and organisations to co-create programs and resources.

VATE will advocate for the English teaching profession and our students in a range of educational contexts and the wider community. We will develop and provide policies and programs that underpin our advocacy work.

VATE will strengthen and nurture learning communities, professional networks, collaborative inquiry communities, and other professional learning contexts which allow teachers to reflect collaboratively, creatively, and critically on current practices and future directions for English teaching.

VATE will continue to develop effective professional learning programs for teachers to ensure continued development in the learning and teaching of English at all secondary levels. We will strengthen our commitment to equity of access for all members by delivering professional learning through a range of modes.

VATE will initiate, support, identify, and disseminate research to our members through our journal, *Idiom*, and other publications and resources.

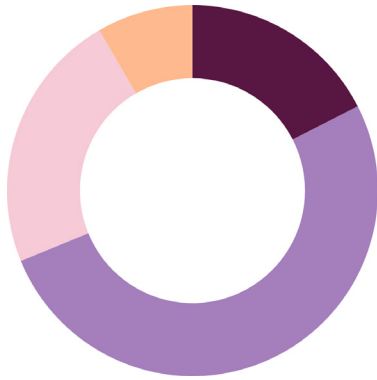
VATE will strengthen and expand our suite of publications. We will commit to developing new resources that are freely available to our members.

To benefit its members, VATE will develop strategic partnerships at state and national levels with other teaching and subject associations, bureaucracies, statutory bodies and organisations.

To respond to the challenges of climate change, VATE will develop environmentally sustainable practices to minimise our carbon footprint at all VATE events, through our publications, and in all aspects of our work.

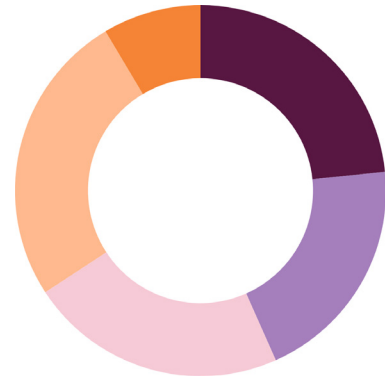
Membership Data

School members by sector



● Catholic	92
● Government	266
● Independent	127
● Not applicable	41
Total	526

School members by region



● North-Eastern Victoria	123
● North-Western Victoria	107
● South-Eastern Victoria	120
● South-Western Victoria	133
● Not applicable	43
Total	526

Membership 2021 – 2025

Individual membership

	Pre-service (free)	Pre-service	1-year	2-year	CRT-Alumni-Part-time	Life Members	Total
2025	222	-	50	70	33	21	396
2024	165	11	57	80	35	21	369
2023	110	14	43	93	27	19	306
2022	105	20	59	99	31	19	333
2021	198	23	71	84	48	18	442

Organisational membership

	0-150	151-350	351-900	901-1200	1200+	7-10 Concl.	Non-school	Complimentary	Total
2025	34	67	175	107	106	9	5	23	526
2024	100	175	107	105			6	33	526
2023	80	182	96	102			5	24	489
2022	98	180	102	97			6	24	507
2021	83	196	101	92			7	24	503

Previous AGM Minutes

Agenda type	AGM for the 2024 calendar year
Date	Wednesday 28 May 2025
Time	5pm
Venue	Online via Zoom
Present	Alex Bacalja (ABA), Kate Blandford (KBL), Emma Dower (EDO), Emily Frawley (EFR), Kate Gillespie (ex-officio, KGI), Hugh Gundlach (HGU), Terry Hayes (THA), Carmel Huggard (CHU), Ross Huggard (RHU), Amanda McGraw (AMC), Jo O'Mara (JOM), Simon Ross (SRO), Gurjit Singh (GSI) Jessica Chen (JCH), Katerina Duckstein (KDU), Emma Jenkins (EJE), Kieran May (KMA), Josephine Smith (JSM)
Apologies and proxies	Jan Bailey (JBA), Leon Furze (LFU) Val Kent (proxy vote to Terry Hayes)



Agenda

Item	By	Notes
<p>1. Acknowledgement of Country:</p> <p>VATE acknowledges and respects the Ancestors, Elders and families of the traditional owners of the land on which this meeting takes place.</p>	JOM	JOM is proud of the ongoing work and commitment towards First Nations initiatives.
<p>2. Welcome and Attendance:</p> <p>Present and Apologies</p>	JOM	Apologies: JBA and LFU.
<p>3. Minutes of previous AGM</p>	JOM	<p>Motion: Minutes of the AGM for the 2023 calendar year be approved.</p> <p>Moved: RHU</p> <p>Seconded: THA</p> <p>Motion passed by show of hands.</p>
<p>4. Ordinary Business Presentation of Reports</p> <p>At the conclusion of each presentation, a Motion will be put to the meeting to accept the report and voted on.</p> <p>4.1 President's Report (JOM)</p> <p>4.2 Financial Report and Tabling of Audited Accounts (RHU)</p> <p>4.3 Executive Officer Report (KGI)</p> <p>4.4 AATE Report (JOM)</p>	<p>JOM</p> <p>RHU</p> <p>KGI</p>	<p>4.1 President's Report</p> <p>Motion: The President's Report be accepted.</p> <p>Moved: JOM</p> <p>Seconded: CHU</p> <p>Motion passed by show of hands.</p> <p>4.2 Financial Report and Tabling of Audited Accounts</p> <p>Motion: The Finance Report and Tabling of Audited Accounts be accepted.</p> <p>Moved: RHU</p> <p>Seconded: ABA</p> <p>Motion passed by show of hands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would like to highlight the work of JOM, KGI and JCH and their work with the auditor to confirm the finances. • We are in a much better state than other NFPs and teaching associations. • Membership numbers have increased in 2024. • Indicators are positive. <p>KGI: Helps to allow financially disadvantaged schools to take out membership and access PL.</p> <p>4.3 Executive Officer's Report</p> <p>Motion: The Executive Officer's Report be accepted.</p> <p>Moved: JOM</p> <p>Seconded: EDO</p> <p>Motion passed by show of hands.</p> <p>Would like to thank the VATE Office staff. Excited for new Council members to be involved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanks to JOM, RHU and AMC as President, Treasurer and Vice President. • Thanks to the VATE community for their involvement, feedback, support and networking. • Mindful of how difficult it can be for teachers to get out to attend PL.

<p>4. Presentation of Reports (cont.)</p>	<p>KGI</p>	<p>ABA: Is there something that VATE can do more of? KGI: Would like to see more advocacy for teachers and increased presence around research.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additionally, would like to see a greater galvanised voice at a national level around supporting (English) teachers. • Largest shortages in teaching is in English – most teachers out of field. • VATE members need to speak up about good work that they are doing and how VATE has helped them shape their work. • VATE's actions have aligned well with our Ambition Statement – consistency and synergy around work.
	<p>JOM</p>	<p>4.4 AATE Report</p> <p>Motion: The AATE Report be accepted. Moved: JOM Seconded: THA Motion is passed by show of hands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AATE needs to reaffirm itself around advocacy. Financial struggles continue around deficits. English House in SA has been sold but they will require a new office/location. • English House not sold to cover deficit – it was sold as it was redundant to purpose. • AATE Treasurer Sue Gazis is increasing transparency around finances and where profits and losses are being made – will become easier to see income streams. <p>KGI: Mission drift from AATE away from advocacy and supporting ETAs – some ETAs are volunteer-based, no office staff.</p>
<p>5. Confirmation of the 2025–2027 Council election</p>	<p>KGI</p>	<p>Emma Dower, Hugh Gundlach Terry Hayes, Ross Huggard, Amanda McGraw, Jo O'Mara, Jared Prentis, Simon Ross.</p> <p>KGI would like to acknowledge the outgoing members and their work – ABA (previously AATE delegate), JBA (work with Department of Education), LFU (regional voice and work with AI – Parliamentary inquiry).</p>
<p>6. Meeting closed</p>	<p>JOM</p>	<p>JOM declares that the AGM for the 2024 calendar year is closed.</p>

Minutes compiled by **Kate Gillespie**, Executive Officer/Secretary, 28 May 2025

Minutes verified by **Joanne O'Mara**, VATE President, 28 May 2025

President's Report

2025 has been another engaged, productive and successful year as the VATE staff, Council and membership work together to achieve common purposes.

VATE Office

I extend my thanks for the continued genius of the VATE Office staff. The breadth and depth of VATE resources, advocacy, professional learning and engagement with members is only possible because of the dedication, skills and innovations of this team.

Thanks are extended to Jessica Chen, Finance Officer; Katerina Duckstein, Events and Member Services Officer; Kate Gillespie, Executive Officer; Emma Jenkins, Education Officer; Kieran May, Administration Officer; and Josephine Smith, Publications and Communications Officer.

VATE Council

The VATE 2025/26 Council comprises of Kate Blandford, Emma Dower, Emily Frawley, Kate Gillespie (ex-officio Secretary), Hugh Gundlach, Terry Hayes, Ross Huggard (Treasurer), Jared Prentis, Amanda McGraw (Vice President and Research Officer), Jo O'Mara (President) and Simon Ross.

I would like to thank all Council members for their commitment, engagement and the stimulating discussions we have had over the past year and particularly thank VATE Executive (Amanda McGraw, Vice President; Ross Huggard, Treasurer; and Kate Gillespie [ex-officio Secretary]), for their support and leadership of VATE.

VATE Council priorities

The Council priorities for 2024–5 included: Teaching Out of Field – English; Pre-service teachers; Regional and rural members; Research and advocacy. Amanda McGraw has done an excellent job in her work as Research Officer in establishing the more formal research program. The first year of research publications and events established the Research Snapshot, Dialogue Seminars, Discussion Papers, and Longview Essay.

VATE initiatives

Advocacy

VATE Council has been active with advocacy on behalf of the membership.

The reports, responses and submissions below have been prepared and distributed over the past year.

On a personal note, I would particularly like to thank all members who have been engaged in these issues. Some of the results that we have managed to achieve in collaboration with other organisations and through discussion are only possible because of membership engagement. This engagement is often through correspondence with the Office or completing member surveys. It is only through the membership engaging in this way that Office and Council can act on their behalf.

- VCAA CEO's [response](#) to VATE's October correspondence (October 2025)
- VATE's [letter](#) to the VCAA CEO seeking clarification re: VATE's MTA sessions (October 2025)
- VATE's [report](#) to the VCAA review (June 2025)
- [Letter](#) from the VCAA to VATE re: 2024 English Language exam (January 2025)
- VATE Council Treaty [pledge](#) (January 2025)
- [Letter](#) from VATE to the VCAA re: 2024 English Language exam (January 2025)

You Can Teach That: Teaching First Nations Perspectives

VATE's [You Can Teach That: Teaching First Nations Perspectives](#) series is designed to support English teachers to build their own Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural responsiveness in order to provide their students with accurate, informed and culturally appropriate context, knowledge, skills, language and pedagogies. In 2025, the following interviews were added to the suite of on-demand videos and teaching resources:

- Truth-telling and education - Dr Matthew Keynes
- Prioritising Blak voices - Dr Tamika Worrell
- Creativity and cultural advocacy - Kirli Saunders
- The distinct voices and identities of Zenadth Kes/the Torres Strait - Samantha Faulkner
- Writing as a political act - Dr Anita Heiss
- Reconciliation, Truth-telling and Treaty in Victoria - Uncle Charles Pakana

VATE Leadership Network

The VATE Leadership Network (led in 2025 by Kate Blandford and Emma Dower) provided an opportunity for English leaders to network and work on their goals and priorities. This has been a very successful initiative which has been redeveloped to continue in 2026.

Awards and Scholarships

Teacher Inclusion Scholarship

To ensure that the VATE State Conference is accessible to as many English teachers as possible, two scholarships are available to help remove the financial barriers for eligible applicants. This year's Teacher Inclusion Scholarships were sponsored by VATE and VATE members and friends who generously donated payment for work they undertook for VATE either in 2024 or 2025:

Madeleine Coulombe, Faye Crossman, Andrew Duval, Leon Furze, Karen Graham, Karen Lynch, Howie Manns (Monash University), Amanda McGraw (Federation University), Luci Pangrazio (Deakin University), Carlo Perrotta (The University of Melbourne), Steven Roberts (Monash University). The recipients of this year's scholarships were Joanne Baker, Murtoa College, and Melanie Schols, Nathalia Secondary College.

Marion Meiers Scholarship

The Marion Meiers scholarship supports VATE members to attend the annual National AATE/ALEA Conference. This scholarship is intended for teachers who are prepared to make a strong commitment to supporting the activities of VATE into the future.

2025 Recipient: Bri Hassett

Pre-service Teacher Awards

VATE presents a number of Pre-service Teacher awards for outstanding achievement by those undertaking an English Method.

Australian Catholic University: Josephine Ryan Award

2025 Emily Muller

Deakin University, Gillian Barnsley Award

2025 Tayla Stielow

Monash University, Margaret Gill Award

2025 Shauna Leung

The University of Melbourne, Ian Hansen Award

2025 Jack Milgate

Victoria University, Michael Hamerston Award

2025 Shanali Bandaranayake

Jo O'Mara

President

Treasurer's Report

As VATE Treasurer over the last nine years, it has always been apparent to me that this role requires a critical eye and due diligence, given that as a not-for-profit organisation, VATE's key role is to actively support and champion the interests of the Victorian English teaching profession. Subject associations, such as VATE, are an integral part of the wider educational sector and as such, inevitably reflect the economic constraints which are being experienced by schools. In many schools, funding of the English learning area has been significantly reduced and this has directly impacted on the capacity of many teachers to access VATE services. This has inevitably impacted on our income stream. However, thanks to the careful oversight of our ongoing Financial Officer, Jessica Chen, our financial position continues to be solid and a healthy, if reduced, profit made in 2025. Our membership base continues to be healthy, generating only marginally less income than in 2024. It is clear that VATE continues to be a core component of the teaching of English in most Victorian secondary schools.

Key areas of activity

VATE publications

Despite a much scaled-back VATE bookshop restricted to only VATE publications, in alignment with Council determination, ongoing modest sales of two existing publications, *Into the Woods* (\$636) and *Activating Reading Capabilities* (\$3027) continued, whilst reduced from 2023 and 2024; in line with expected sales. However, the commissioning and production of our own suite of highly-regarded and much-used teaching guides for VCE English and Literature continued. Sales of those relating to texts always correlate to how new the texts are on the VCAA lists and how new is the related Study Design. Hence, profit decreased to \$34,213 from a bumper year in 2024 (\$53,443), but more aligned with the 2023 sales (\$42,532). So, VATE publications continue to be a feature of most secondary English resource libraries.

Exam production

As in recent years, the VATE in-house development and production of reliable and accurate VCE English, EAL, Literature and English Language trial exams, proved to again be very popular and lucrative. Over the last three years, the income stream from these sales has consistently risen, from \$129,983 in 2024 to some \$145,384 in 2025. These exams are used across the state, in the majority of schools, and have been proven to provide Year 12 students with outstanding preparation for their respective final VCAA exams. VATE trial exams have been noted to be more accurate than some other commercially-produced exams. The move to more streamlined exam working parties in 2025 has assisted herein. Our assured and diligent Publications Officer, Josephine Smith, once more, ensured that all aspects of the production of these exams were efficiently coordinated and production deadlines met with ease.

Events

Despite the difficulties experienced by many teachers to be released to engage in professional learning activities, the income generated by participation in such activities continued to be very substantial for VATE. Indeed, the significant increase observable in 2024 was almost matched in 2025, with a very pleasing \$636,222 accrued from VATE events. This would attest to the need for VATE to continue to be a significant provider of such professional learning activities, especially as the profession continues to be renewed. The creative and varied mix of in-person, hybrid and online sessions clearly supports this adeptly. As in recent years, the oversight and initiative of our Education Officer, Emma Jenkins, along with the key logistical support of Katerina Duckstein, our Events Officer, have been instrumental in this success.

VATE State Conference

Our annual flagship State Conference, held again at Deakin University, was once more a popular and successful event, valued by English teachers statewide with a veritable smorgasbord of sessions and presentations. Regrettably, as in 2024, participant numbers were marginally smaller, reflecting difficulties with respect to teacher release, often due to difficulties in accessing casual relief teachers and internal budgetary constraints. The income generated (\$169,727) was marginally less than in 2024 (\$208,409). The importance of hybrid presentation cannot be over-estimated in enabling teachers who cannot be released from school to access specific sessions.

New initiative

Council continually oversees the financial position of VATE and seeks to explore new ways in which to support members. One such initiative, in direct response to member requests, was to draw upon some of our accrued bank interest to enable a Research Officer position to be funded. It was determined that \$70,000 would be allocated over 2 years and some \$31,062 was spent in 2025. This enabled specific sessions and papers to be provided to members, all expertly curated and facilitated by Amanda McGraw.

Overall financial position

As already noted, alike 2024, 2025 was a year of economic strictures and financial challenges. However, our total expenses of \$1,353,314 were very much on a par with those of 2024 (\$1,314,535). Our cash flow continues to be healthy. It is especially pleasing to note that we continued to achieve an overall modest surplus/profit, unlike many comparable organisations, of \$137,618 (as compared with \$261,828 in 2024). Most importantly, our total net assets, as an organisation, have continued their healthy upward trajectory, rising from \$2,822,007 in 2023, \$3,060,758 in 2024 and \$3,272,674 in 2025. It may be concluded accordingly that the financial position of VATE continues to be very healthy and our future secure, notwithstanding external economic volatility and the impact of budgetary pressures in schools.

Future considerations

VATE Council is only too well-aware of the pressures being experienced by so many English teachers in Victorian secondary schools, not only financially, but also due to under-resourcing, a lack of trained English teachers and the increasing expectations imposed by school leaders. This is especially keenly felt in most regional areas. Teachers also want greater access to pertinent research which can enhance their teaching repertoire. It will continue to explore and facilitate means by which to proactively support the needs of English teachers, and financial support will ensure that this occurs. Happily, funding is available to support such initiatives

Final acknowledgements

Finally, I wish to again acknowledge and sincerely thank Jessica Chen, Finance Officer, for her willing, assured and helpful financial work and acumen, which underpins my voluntary work as Treasurer. I also wish to acknowledge and warmly thank Kate Gillespie, the inspirational and energetic Executive Officer who oversees the engine room of VATE, assuredly aided by the indefatigable Josephine Smith. They operate as a wonderful and creative and focused team. Alongside them, the creative energy of Emma Jenkins, and reliability of Katerina Duckstein and Kieran May, all ensure that the VATE Office is effective, productive and visionary. We owe the VATE Office team our gratitude as we all seek to manage the fluid educational environment. Allow me to finally also sincerely thank our astute President, Jo O'Mara aided by Vice President, Amanda McGraw, for their skilful co-leadership and foresight, along with my Council colleagues, for their support and trust or me in this role.

Ross Huggard

Treasurer

Research Officers' Report

Research/ing English

The role of Research Officer is a new VATE Council position and in 2025 VATE implemented a suite of initiatives intended to support English teachers to make meaningful research/practice connections in their work.

VATE's goals in relation to the research initiatives, are to:

- Provide members with easy **access** to contemporary and enduring research in the field in order to enhance knowledge.
- **Curate resources** that support English teachers to make effective links between research and practice.
- Enhance a professional learning culture where English teachers engage dialogically and critically in **ideas for practice** emerging from research.
- **Initiate and nurture** research and practitioner inquiry opportunities for members.

In 2025, the Research Officer, in collaboration with VATE Council and the VATE Executive Officer, selected three priority areas to focus each initiative. The priority areas linked well to members' special interests identified through VATE surveys. The focus areas in 2025 were: teaching reading in English, critical digital media literacy, and teacher identity and sustaining the English teaching profession.

Four new VATE initiatives enabled members to access and discuss research in each of these areas. The initiatives are:

- The publication of a **Research Snapshot** linked to each focus area. The Snapshot, written by a practising researcher, includes summaries of key research as well as access to each selected article. The articles can be used to inform practice, to extend subject area knowledge, and to act as readings for faculty members to examine.
- The publication of a **Discussion Paper** linked to each focus area. The Discussion Paper, written by an educational researcher with expertise in the field, explores a related contention and includes discussion prompts to foster dialogue.
- The organisation of a **Dialogue Seminar** linked to each focus area. The purpose of the online seminar is to engage researchers and teachers in a shared dialogue about key aspects of research and the implications for practice and thinking. The seminar includes an opportunity for attendees to participate in discussion groups.
- The publication of an annual **Longview Essay**. The essay is linked to one of the focus areas and in 2025 was published at the end of the year. The Longform Essay, written for an audience of English teachers, is composed by a practising researcher.

The events in 2025 were highly successful. The Dialogue seminars were well attended and involved teachers from all parts of the state. Based on positive responses from members, the initiatives will continue in 2026.

Amanda McGraw

Research Officer



Below is an outline of 2025 events

	Initiative	Focus	Key participants
Term Two focus <i>Teaching Reading in English</i>	Research Snapshots #1	<i>Engaging secondary English students in reading</i>	Author: Assoc. Prof. Amanda McGraw
	Dialogue Seminar #1 45 delegates	<i>Teaching Reading in English</i>	Speakers: Assoc. Prof. Margaret Merga Prof. Larissa McLean Davies Facilitator: Assoc. Prof. Amanda McGraw
	Discussion Paper #1	<i>Text Selection in English</i>	Author: Professor Jo O'Mara
Term Three focus <i>Critical digital media literacy</i>	Research Snapshot #2	<i>Digital media literacies</i>	Author: Dr Alex Bacalja
	Dialogue Seminar # 2 33 delegates	<i>Critical literacy and AI: Preparing young people for an increasingly complex online world</i>	Speakers: Assoc. Prof. Luci Pangrazio Leon Furze Facilitator: Dr Alex Bacalja
	Discussion Paper #2	<i>Critical digital media literacies</i>	Author: Dr Alex Bacalja
Term Four focus <i>Teacher agency, identity and sustaining the profession</i>	Research Snapshot #3	<i>English teacher identity and sustainability of the profession</i>	Author: Prof. Graham Parr
	Dialogue Seminar # 3 93 delegates VATE State Conference	<i>Teacher identity: Exploring the connections between teacher identity, agency, wellness, workload and sustainability</i>	Speakers: Prof. Graham Parr Kate Blandford Allie Baker Facilitator: Assoc. Prof. Amanda McGraw
	Longview Essay #1	<i>Teacher identity and sustaining the profession</i>	Author: Dr Fleur Diamond

Executive Officer's Report

In our final communication to members for 2025, I wrote the following:

*Everything is on fire,
but everyone ... is doing beautiful things
and trying to make life worth living,
and I know I don't have to believe in everything,
but I believe in that.*

—Nikita Gill

As the year draws to a close, with too much sadness and devastation, I want to thank you, the VATE Village, for the work you do with and for young people every day, and the support you show your English teaching colleagues across the state by being a member of VATE.

To the members of VATE, my continued thanks for supporting your students and school communities in and out of the English classroom. Thank you also for supporting VATE and your English teaching colleagues across the state – whether it was through contributing to a discussion on one of our active online Networks, presenting at any one of our PL opportunities, writing a resource or publication, purchasing a product, supporting your staff to attend an event, contributing to our surveys, or just emailing us in the office. We are a strong, committed, and vibrant community.

VATE Office: '...a crew is inescapably, beautifully, dutifully linked.'

I would like to acknowledge the work and commitment of the VATE Office 'crew'. My endless appreciation and thanks to my colleagues for supporting members with intellect, consideration and care: Josephine Smith, Publications and Communications Officer; Emma Jenkins, Education Officer; Jessica Chen, Finance Officer; Katerina Duckstein, Events and Member Services Officer; Kieran May, Administration Officer.

Thank you to all those who support the work of the office and the association: Karys McEwen, YA Book Stack podcast host; Kushla Ross, VATE's designer; Tatanja Ross, VATE's videographer/photographer; Darby Jones, VATE's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural sensitivity editor; Shane Barby and Jeffrey Grad from MacAid for IT support; Roy Gibson, for accounting support; and Sean, the VATE cleaner.

VATE Council and Working Parties

The VATE Council and Working Party members volunteer their time and expertise to discuss, advocate for the membership, and develop the work of the association. I am grateful to all members of the 2025 Council and Working Parties for their commitment and contributions to VATE's ambition and purpose.

VATE Executive

My continued thanks to Jo O'Mara, Amanda McGraw and Ross Huggard for their leadership of the Association. Jo is a principled, energetic, and inspirational President; she actively engages with all aspects of VATE's work. I am grateful for her guidance and support.

VATE achievements in 2025

I am proud to work for an organisation that honours its commitment to Makarrata and truth-telling. A highlight of 2025 was Council's support for Treaty in Victoria. The work of the First Peoples' Assembly inspired our discussions. With Josephine Smith, I walked the final leg to Parliament of the Walk for Truth. Led by Kerrupmara/Gunditjmara man and Yoorrook Commissioner Travis Lovett, this powerful and resonant act of truth-telling demonstrated that we can, collectively, work for a better future. I look forward to VATE continuing this work and supporting the work of Gellung Warl.

Language and terminology guide

In 2025, VATE developed and published its first Language and terminology guide. The purpose of the inaugural guide was to assist members with the appropriate use of language when writing, presenting, and speaking about and to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It provides examples of best practice, as well as the rationale behind the specific language uses VATE adheres to.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER LANGUAGE AND TERMINOLOGY GUIDE



A Story in Miniature: Writing prize

The competition received 342 entries from 120 schools across Victoria in 2025. All entries to the competition were read by Emma Jenkins, VATE's Education Officer, and a shortlist was compiled and judged by author Averil Robertson. Entries were judged anonymously.

Year 7 and 8 category

Winner: Kitty Le (Albert Park College) – 'Canteen Line'

Highly commended: Lyra Moxham (Brunswick Secondary College) – 'Routine Procedure'

Highly commended: Loukya Balasuriya (Melbourne Girls Grammar School) – 'Polar'

'Kevpa' by Amelia Breen, Sacred Heart College Geelong

'The Dance' by Heidi Orr, Templestowe College

Year 9 and 10 category

Winner: Joshua Loftes (Melbourne Grammar School) – 'The Last Lemon'

Highly commended: Phoebe Richmond (Beaconhills College Pakenham) – 'Moon Chased'

Highly commended: Hana Shirazi (Prebyterian Ladies' College) – 'Dying Glow'

'Jason' by Kenny Shao, Albert Park College

'Happy Meals' by Michelle Ngo, Huntingtower School

Year 11 and 12 category

Winner: Aathanah Akilan (The Mac.Robertson Girls' High School) – 'Penny For Your Thoughts?'

Highly commended: Raayed Mustansir (Cornish College) – 'Small Lives, Big Stories'

Highly commended: Naomi Dellar (Ballarat Grammar School) – 'PLEASE CONFIRM YOU ARE NOT A ROBOT'

'The Edge' by Merylyn Nishitha, Swan Hill College

'Replay' by Mahreen Naaz, Virtual School Victoria

Teacher category

Winner: Nicole Heber (Yarram Secondary College – ‘Letters’)

Highly commended: Helen Begley (Bundoora Secondary College) – ‘Grab The Tissue’

Highly commended: Emily Frawley (Maribyrnong College) – ‘The Umbrella Man’

‘Before’ by Helena Brain, Sacred Heart College Geelong

‘Stand in the Light’ by Martin Toman, Beaconhills College Berwick

Thank you to [Allen & Unwin](#) and [Text Publishing](#) for their support of the 2025 A Story in Miniature writing competition.

You Can Teach That: Teaching First Nations Perspectives (funded by the Strategic Partnership Program through the Department of Education)

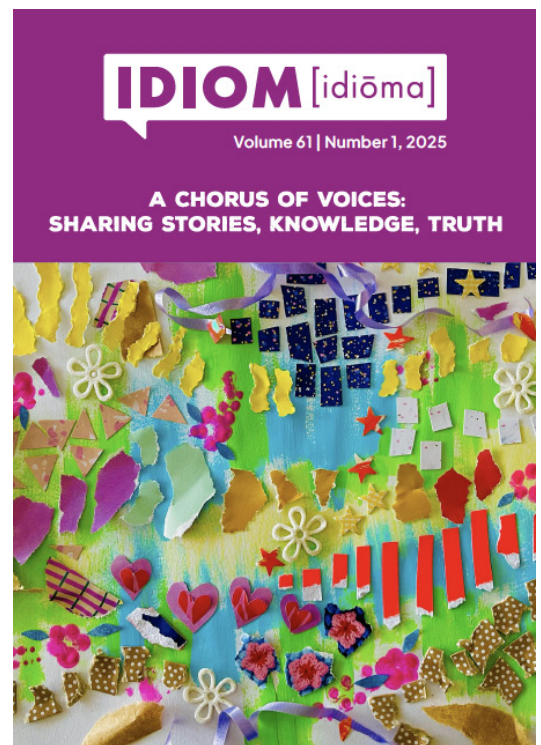
All video interviews and teaching resources were completed in 2025 and continue to be freely available on the [VATE website](#). To complement these resources, 13 teachers also attended the Teaching First Nations Professional Learning Stream at the State Conference.

Idiom: A Chorus of Voices: Sharing Stories, Knowledge, Truth

In the first edition of Idiom for 2025, ‘A Chorus of Voices: Sharing Stories, Knowledge, Truth’, VATE elevated and amplified Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices in a testament to VATE’s ongoing commitment (enshrined in our Ambition Statement) to working towards Makarrata and truth-telling. It was a manifestation of VATE’s pledge to support the First Peoples’ Assembly of Victoria as we walked the path towards Treaty and reconciliation. This Idiom was developed with Darby Jones as Contributing Editor, a writer and editor with matrilineal ties to the Kamilaroi mob in Southwest Queensland

The cover artwork, created by Bianca Valentino, a Blak artist living and creating on Yugambah Country, is a vibrant, mosaic style piece that celebrates the power, diversity, and depth of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices in education and literature. The issue is book-ended by two poems, specially commissioned for this edition of Idiom: the opening poem, ‘white margins’, was written by Barrina South, a Barkindji poet and critic; and the closing poem, ‘The Unforgetting’, by Raelee Lancaster, a Brisbane/Magandjin-based writer and librarian, raised on Awabakal and Worimi Lands and descended from the Wiradjuri and Biripi Peoples.

As well as contributions from the VATE member community, this edition of Idiom features articles by invited First Nations writers, academics and speakers including Bridget Cama and Allira Davis (Uluru Youth Dialogue), Jessica Gannaway (The University of Melbourne), Melitta Hogarth (The University of Melbourne), Jeanine Leane (The University of Melbourne), and Cara Shipp (Big Picture Learning Australia), as well as representatives from First Nations organisations such as Ngarrngga (The University of Melbourne), Narragunnawali: Reconciliation in Education Program, and the Yoorrook Justice Commission.



State Conference: English at the intersection: Reclaiming our stories

Program

Keynotes: Matthew Keynes; Tanya Notley

Guest speaker: Fiona Longmuir

Writers Talk Writing: Melanie Cheng

Panels: Research Dialogue; Avenues for advocacy; A place at the table

Silver Sponsor

ANZUK Education

Complete Works Theatre Company

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The Melbourne Public Humanities Institute, The University of Melbourne

Bookseller

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Traders

Insight Publications

Exhibitors

Matilda Education; SchoolHouse; Complete Works Theatre Company; The Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership; Department of Education; Frankenstories; Free Agency; ANZUK; The Melbourne Public Humanities Institute, The University of Melbourne; Click Against Hate; Aware Super; Teachers and School Staff for Palestine.

Giving back: Supporting our wider community

To reflect our commitment to sustainability and social solidarity, VATE no longer purchases delegate and presenter gifts and instead donates these funds to charities. We see this as an important act in supporting our wider community and reflects our responsibility to 'going green' and our core values of equity, inclusion, and social engagement. In 2025 VATE donated funds to the following two organisations: Djirra and the Murray Art Museum Albury.

English Teachers as Bad Writers Club

A new initiative designed to support teachers to develop their writing practice, to step into their writerly identity to hone their own creative writing skills.

In partnership with the [Bad Writers Club](#), this active professional learning experience allowed teachers to share their creative writing, participate in discussion, ask questions and celebrate each other's successes (and failures). Workshops were facilitated by experienced screenwriter and creative writing coach, Amanda Falson.

2025 VATE Fellowship: Teaching First Nations literature, knowledges and ways of learning in English

The inaugural VATE Fellowship provided teachers with an opportunity for deep professional learning where knowledge, skills and dispositions related to the teaching of First Nations literature, knowledges and ways of knowing were enhanced over time. The Fellowship was designed to raise the status of teaching and acknowledge collective professional achievements of the teams of teachers involved.

We received 16 applications to participate in the Fellowship with 5 schools selected to participate in the inaugural Fellowship: Brentwood Secondary College; Emerald Secondary College; Echuca College; Sacred Heart Secondary College; Wulerrp Secondary College

School teams participated in the year-long program supported by Critical Friends, Amanda McGraw and Emma Jenkins. VATE supported school-based inquiries with a small stipend. [Dr Aleryk Fricker](#) assisted Amanda and Emma in shaping and guiding the program and facilitated the first Professional Learning day. [Dr Tamika Worrell](#) facilitated the second Professional Learning day.

Nurturing our community

Understanding the financial limitations of many schools, combined with staff and CRT shortages, the VATE Office developed a range of after-school, free professional learning linked to our vibrant online Networks. In 2025 these included: (Breaking) Middle Ground (unpacking the free member resources under the Middle Ground banner; VCE English and EAL Network: New texts for 2026 (based on VATE's Inside Stories publications); VCE Literature Network: New texts for 2026 (based on VATE's Literature Perspectives publications); Middle Years Book Swap; Curly Questions: Unpacking the VCE Study Designs for English and EAL, English Language, and Literature.

Supporting the VATE membership: A financial commitment

At its July meeting and August planning day, the VATE Office and Council discussed the 2026 membership categories and prices. VATE understood the financial restraints many English faculties (and schools) were experiencing – in all our work, we continue to be committed to equity of access.

With vision and principle, and with an understanding that changes would impact VATE membership income, VATE Council unanimously approved significant adjustments to membership rates and categories. For organisational (school) members, the decision was endorsed to reduce membership fees and add two new categories (in addition to our new categories introduced in 2025).

VATE started this journey in 1959 – I look forward to continuing our work as the VATE community in 2026.

Kate Gillespie

Executive Officer

white margins

Barrina South

teaching to read Country

to care for it, together

rhythm

from white margins

harmony

Blak words

demand

a chorus of voices

space

sharing Spirituality, Lore and Language

each word, paragraph, sentence

dark kalti in the milky way

uncovers

natji in the baaka

locates

amplify

place

attention

Tiddas' truth

picket political change

now written down

claim our seats at the table

we have always been here

crescendoing

always will

listen

Barrina South is a Barkindji poet and critic. As a [Red Room Poet](#), she was commissioned to write an ekphrastic poem for the National Gallery of Australia. Recently, her work has featured in the *Griffith Review*, *Rabbit*, *Cordite Poetry Review*. In 2024, Barrina published her debut poetry collection titled *Makarra*, through [Recent Work Press](#). In 2005, *Makarra* was Highly Commended in the Victorian Premier's Literary Award and short listed in the Mary Gilmore Award.

AATE Delegate's Report

Current AATE Council

Karen Yager (President), Rachael Radvanyi (President Elect), Sue Gazis (Treasurer), Erika Boas (Commissioning Editor), Claire Jones (Research Officer), Kelli McGraw (AJEE/EiA Editor), Sharyn Stafford, Claire Burton, Prue Gill, Jo O'Mara, Daniel Howard, Anne Wood, Sarah McDonald

In June 2025, I assumed the important role of the VATE/ Victorian delegate to the national body of English teachers (AATE) as a member of the Council Executive. AATE predominantly meets online to allow representatives from all states and territories to readily participate. These meetings occurred in March, June, and September, with the AGM being held in October. In addition, as is the norm, a lengthy in-person meeting took place at the duration of the AATE/ALEA National Conference in Hobart in July 2025. Accordingly, my involvement began with the June 2025 meeting.

VATE Council has continually expressed its ongoing concern about the operations and finances of AATE over recent years, in particular, the extent to which VATE members attain palpable benefit from the considerable capitation fees we pay the national body has oft been voiced. Moreover, the extent to which AATE performs its core advocacy role has been an ongoing concern. These issues underpinned the contributions I sought to make at these meetings.

Key matters which AATE Council explored included:

- Development of a Reconciliation Action Plan (VATE has shared its own with AATE).
- Status of the AATE-published Australian Journal of English Education.
- Operations and nature of national conferences, with an emphasis on ensuring their profitability, with specific input on behalf of VATE concerning this matter.
- Establishment of a Finance Committee to assist the Treasurer to manage and try to ensure greater financial surety for AATE.
- Becoming more active in terms of advocacy with direct contact with the federal Minister, Jason Clare, in trying to publicise and explore the national crisis in English teacher supply and recruitment processes, including the establishment of the new Teaching and Learning Commission to replace a number of key existing educational peak bodies (AITSL, ACARA, AERO and ESA). I presented a paper on VATE's behalf about the need for more visible advocacy and the need for an external review of the operations and organisational structure of AATE. This has subsequently provoked much discussion and ongoing consideration and reflection.
- Sale of longtime Adelaide headquarters of AATE ('English House') and subsequent purchase of a smaller and newer office space (also in Adelaide). The location of the office being in Adelaide was strongly challenged by VATE, on the grounds that it should be located in a more central location to national educational decision-making (such as Sydney or Canberra).
- Arising out of this property sale, AATE has new greater liquidity but as of June 2025, a loss/deficit of \$87,000 was noted, which remains a real concern for the future of the organisation. This echoes VATE's longtime concerns about AATE's viability. The AATE Treasurer (Sue Gazis) believes that more professional learning offered by AATE, more careful marketing and tighter administration should all assist in 2026.
- Planning for the July 8–11 2026 National Conference in Perth.
- Announcement of the 2027 National Conference to be held in Melbourne, and organised by VATE, tentatively from 19–22 November. Its theme will be 'Hold the world to its word'.
- The 2025 AATE/ALEA Conference was held in Hobart. Total registrations: 497 with 516 individuals including those sharing a registration. Invited speakers included: David Astle; Margaret Merga; Peter Afflerbach; Denise Chapman; Jeffrey Wilhelm; Luci Pangrazio; Robbie Arnott; Dominic Wyse; Lilly Brown; L-FRESH the Lion; Sally Rippin; First Dog on the Moon; Will Kostakis; Martin Flanagan; Lili Wilkinson; Fiona Levings; Lucy Christopher; Laura Scholesand; and Kristin Ziemke. The Garth Boomer address was presented by Karen Yager.

Ross Huggard
AATE Delegate

2025 Contributors

2025 Council

Outgoing: Alex Bacalja (The University of Melbourne), Jan Bailey (Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar School), Leon Furze

2025–2027 Council: Kate Blandford (Hoppers Crossing Secondary College), Emma Dower (Lalor Secondary College), Emily Frawley (The University of Melbourne), Kate Gillespie (VATE, ex-officio), Hugh Gundlach (The University of Melbourne), Terry Hayes, Ross Huggard, Amanda McGraw (Federation University), Joanne O'Mara (Deakin University), Simon Ross (Parkdale Secondary College)

2025 Working Parties

State Conference

Helena Brain (Sacred Heart College - Newtown), Prue Gill, Kate Gillespie (VATE), Terry Hayes, Susan Hopkins (Monash University), Greg Houghton, Emma Jenkins (VATE), Liz Loke (Glen Waverley Secondary College), Simon Ross (Parkdale Secondary College), Margaret Saltau, Josephine Smith (VATE), Jen Sze (The University of Melbourne)

Exams

Allie Baker (Beechworth Secondary College), Helen Billett, Clare Caldwell (Mazenod College), Faye Crossman, Kirk Dunn (Mount Scopus Memorial College), Jed Harrington (Mazenod College), Danielle Heyes (Wesley College), Elspeth Maddocks (Methodist Ladies' College), Heather Maunder, Jan May, Caitlin Penrose (Montmorency Secondary College), Margaret Saltau, David van Es (Bendigo Senior Secondary College),

Publications and resources

2025 Member Text Survey

Editing and layout: Kieran May and Josephine Smith (VATE)

2026 Inside Stories

Editor: Faye Crossman

Writers: Rachel Kafka (Mount Scopus Memorial College), Blair Mahoney (Melbourne High School), Ernest Price (Kilvington Grammar School), Melanie Van Langenberg

2026 Literature Perspectives

Editor: Briony Schroor (Nossal High School), David van Es (Bendigo Senior Secondary College), Marion White

Writers: Natalie Faulkner (Nossal High School), Danielle Heyes (Wesley College), Kaz Lynch (Virtual School Victoria), Elspeth Maddocks (Methodist Ladies' College), Anna Purcell (MacRobertson Girls High School), Clare Ridgway-Faye (Princes Hill Secondary College), Margaret Saltau, Philip Thiel (MacRobertson Girls High School),

Middle Ground

Rhiannon O'Hara (St Michael's College - Adelaide): Put engaging learning back in MOTION: A Year 7 English stop motion unit

Melissa Blacklock (Southern Cross Grammar): Poetic landscapes: Exploring local environments through poetry

Helena Brain (Sacred Heart College - Newtown): Ghost Busters: Study and creation of gothic literature

Howie Manns (Monash University): Slinging slang in the classroom

Stephanie Wescott (Monash University), Cayt Mirra (Alkira Secondary College), and Steph Conroy, (St Leonard's College): Who's afraid of the patriarchy?: Feminist ideas, texts and representations

Emma Catchpole: Raising neurodivergent voices through reading circles

Nicole Smith (Haileybury College) and Nicholas Waxman (Geelong Grammar School) on behalf of Drama Victoria: Was and Will Be: Exploring and embodying First Nations play text

Maya Mulhall (Blackburn High School): Pre-reading contextualisation of First Nations literature

YA Book Stack podcast

Host: Karys McEwen

Guests: Emily Gale, Keshe Chow, Solli Raphael, Kay Kerr, Dr Lilly Brown, Erin Gough, Chemutai Glasheen, Prue Bon, Ange Crawford, Linda and Marly Wells, Margot McGovern, Mark Smith

2025 Idiom

Volume 61, Number 1: A Chorus of Voices: Sharing Stories, Knowledge, Truth

Managing Editor: Josephine Smith (VATE)

Contributing Editor: Darby Jones

Contributors: Prue Bon (Emerald Secondary College), Bridget Cama (University of New South Wales), Deborah Cordingley (MacRobertson Girls High School), Helen Cozmescu (The University of Melbourne), Allira Davis (University of New South Wales), Jessica Gannaway (The University of Melbourne), Hugh Gundlach (The University of Melbourne), Brinagh Hassett (Catholic College Sale), Melitta Hogarth (The University of Melbourne), Roxanne James (St Catherine's School), Emma Jenkins (VATE), Matthew R. Keynes (The University of Melbourne), Jeanine Leane (The University of Melbourne), Michelle Maglitto (Fintona Girls' School), Megan Mooney Taylor (Diamond Valley College), Maya Mulhall (Blackburn High School), Maggie Nolan (University of Queensland), Joanne O'Mara (Deakin University), Meredith Penman (Alice Miller School), Troy Potter (The University of Melbourne), Chris Rea (Catholic Regional College Sydenham), Emma Ross (The University of Melbourne), Erica Sandison, Melanie Saward (University of Queensland), Bernadette Sheedy (Box Hill High School), Cara Shipp (Big Picture Learning Australia), Rachel Stephens, Jennifer Sze (The University of Melbourne), Sara Tajima (The University of Melbourne), Sarah Truman (The University of Melbourne), Rachael Thompson (Damascus College), Carla Ziino (Penleigh and Essendon Grammar)

Volume 61, Number 2: Reading sideways: Critical media literacy in the English classroom

Managing Editor: Josephine Smith (VATE)

Contributing Editors: Kate Gillespie (VATE), Josephine Smith (VATE)

Contributors: Melanie Aquilina (MacKillop College - Werribee), Dani Cantor (Balwyn High School), Stuart Fankhauser (Nossal High School), Bridget Forster (Mentone Girls' Grammar), Emily Frawley (The University of Melbourne), Danyal Fryer, Anne Gamble (Mentone Girls' Secondary College), Emma Jenkins (VATE), Mairead Kennedy (State Library of Victoria), Ramesh Mahalingam (Nossal High School), Blair Mahoney (Melbourne High School), Joanne O'Mara (Deakin University), Anthony Politini (Aitken College), Bianca Rose (Pascoe Vale Girls College), Bernadette Sheedy (Box Hill High School), Riya Thomaskutty, Kristina Zeravica (The Geelong College),

2025 VATE Sample VCE Exams

VATE Sample EAL Exam

Exam Editors: Amy Christensen (Scotch College), Avril Good (St Albans Secondary College)

VATE Sample English Exam

Exam Editors: Faye Crossman, Helen Billett

Working Party: Allie Baker (Beechworth Secondary College), Helen Billett, Amy Christensen (Scotch College), Kirk Dunn (Doncaster Secondary College), Avril Good (St Albans Secondary College), Ross Huggard, Jan May, Josephine Smith (VATE)

Section C Writer: Clare Caldwell (Mazenod College)

Section C Supplementary Material Writer: Jan May

VATE Sample English Language Exam

Editor: Louisa Willoughby (Monash University)

Working Party: Selina Dennis (Coburg High School), Natalie Gleeson (Kambrya College), Josephine Smith (VATE)

VATE Sample Literature Exam

Editors: Heather Maunder and Margaret Saltau

Working Party: Jed Harrington (Mazenod College), Danielle Heyes (Wesley College), Elspeth Maddocks (Methodist Ladies' College), Heather Maunder, Margaret Saltau, Josephine Smith (VATE), David van Es (Bendigo Senior Secondary College)

Events

ACMI x VATE A Matter of Fact: Middle Years Conference

Melanie Aquilina (MacKillop College Werribee), Alex Bacalja (The University of Melbourne), Helena Brain (Sacred Heart College - Newtown), Dani Cantor (Balwyn High School), Andrew Duval (Writelike), Hannah Ferguson, Hayley Harrison, Emma Jenkins (VATE), Bianca Prendergast (Balwyn High School), Kate Rees (Plenty Valley Christian College), Nicole Smith (Haileybury College), Jennifer Sze (The University of Melbourne), Nicholas Waxman (Geelong Grammar School), Garry Westmore (ACMI), Ekaterina Xanthopoulos (St Michael's Grammar School)

English Teachers as Bad Writers Club

Amanda Falson

English Teaching Capabilities

Tracy Doig (Vermont Secondary College), Amanda McGraw (Federation University), Ernest Price (Kilvington Grammar School)

Meet the Assessors - EAL

Michael Daniel (Camberwell Grammar School), Jenna Gomes (East Doncaster Secondary College), Linda Hogan (Brighton Grammar School)

Meet the Assessors - English

Helen Billett, Ross Huggard, Branka Shallies

Meet the Assessors - English Language

Selina Dennis (Coburg High School), Marlya MacNeill (Mazenod College)

Meet the Assessors - Literature

Trevor Harrison (Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School), Elspeth Maddocks (Methodist Ladies' College), Margaret Saltau

Online Student Revision Lecture - EAL

Amy Christensen (Scotch College)

Online Student Revision Lecture - English

Georgia Bate (MacRobertson Girls High School), Helen Billett, Sarah Coleman (Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School), Tara Crivari (Yarrabing Secondary College), Katherine Deex (Toorak College), Charlotte Douglas (McKinnon Secondary College), Kirk Dunn (Mount Scopus Memorial College), Natalie Faulkner (Nossal High School), Emily Fitzpatrick (Star of the Sea), James Fogarty (Parade College), Sue Hatton (Copperfield College), Natalie Henry (Montmorency Secondary College), Ross Huggard, Jan May, Louise Roberts (Carey Baptist Grammar School), Vana Watkins (Geelong Grammar School),

Online Student Revision Lecture – English Language

Natalie Gleeson (Kambrya College), Rowena Morris (Kyabram P-12 College), Stephanie Schepton (St Michael's Grammar School)

Online Student Revision Lecture – Literature

Amanda Carroll (Melbourne High School), Natalie Faulkner (Nossal High School), Katherine Griffin (Surf Coast Secondary College), Jed Harrington (Mazenod College), Christine Lambrianidis (Westbourne Grammar School), Sophia Marsden-Smith (Geelong Grammar School), Cayt Mirra (Community College Gippsland), David Moore (Parade College), John Morrissey (Flinders Christian Community College), Sonia Murr (Kilvington Grammar School), Graham Preston (Northcote High School), Tory Tedeschi (Siena College), Emma van Wees (St Bernard's College)

Preparing for the 2025 VCE Examinations

Georgia Bate (MacRobertson Girls High School), Natalie Gleeson (Kambrya College), Angela Keam (Loreto Mandeville Hall), Julia Lippold (Lauriston Girls School)

VATE Dialogue Seminar

Alex Bacalja (The University of Melbourne), Leon Furze, Amanda McGraw (Federation University), Larissa McLean Davies (The University of Melbourne), Margaret Merga (Notre Dame University), Luci Pangrazio (Deakin University)

VATE State Conference

Shemalah Anthony (St Mary's Coptic Orthodox), Melanie Aquilina (Mackillop College Werribee), Heath Armstrong (Parade College), Alexander Bacalja (The University of Melbourne), Allie Baker (Beechworth Secondary College), Natalie Bellis (St Paul's Anglican Grammar School), Kate Blandford (Hoppers Crossing Secondary College), Emily Bleeker (Parkdale Secondary College), Julia Bonifacio (Caulfield Grammar School), Louise Bossio (Northcote High School), Jacquie Bourtzis (Islamic Museum of Australia), Susan Bye (ACMI), Dani Cantor (Balwyn High School), Anna Carrig (Northcote High School), Jane Carter (Cranbourne Secondary College), Nicole Case, Kate Cash (Kardinia International College), Ashleigh Cavalin (Haileybury), Melanie Cheng, Lauren Clapperton (Warragul Regional College), Jo Clyne (Hellenic Museum), Rochelle Coyle (Marymede Catholic College), Ange Crawford, Anne Dalmau, Selina Dennis (Coburg High School), Justine Douglas (Xavier College), Andrew Duval (Writelike), Michael Earp, Grace Elkins (The University of Melbourne), Amanda Falson (Bad Writers Club), Joanne Foley (Northcote High School), Emily Frawley (The University of Melbourne), Rhoda Fu (Carey Baptist Grammar School), Simon Gitson (Mackillop College Werribee), Natalie Gleeson (Kambrya College), Hugh Gundlach (The University of Melbourne), Tom Harris (Hellenic Museum), Hayley Harrison (Connect Literacy), Brinagh Hassett (Catholic College Sale), Terry Hayes, Rosa Holman (Ruyton Girls' School), Ross Huggard, Jenny Isaac (National Gallery of Victoria), Leah Kemp (Strathmore Secondary College), Matthew R. Keynes (The University of Melbourne), Stuart King (Eltham College), Shamira King (Upwey High School), Catherine King (Kingwood College), Lauren Kyte (Salesian College Sunbury), Courtney Langton (Strathmore Secondary College), Julian Lee-Holman (Lauriston Girls School), Meg Lindsay (St Michael's Grammar School), Fiona Longmuir (Monash University), Michelle Maglitto (Fintona Girls School), Blair Mahoney (Melbourne High School), Catherine Malcolm (Wellington Secondary College), Rick Mason (Camberwell Grammar School), Mary McCarthy (Werribee Secondary College), Susan McCormack (Billanook College), Karys McEwen, Amanda McGraw (Federation University), Michelle McRae (St Joseph's College - Newtown), Maya Mulhall (Blackburn High School), Simone Murray (The University of Melbourne), Claire Nailon (Nazareth College), Tanya Notley (University of Western Sydney), Tegan O'Dea (Warragul Regional College), Mark O'Sullivan (Nazareth College), Willis Osburn (Kambrya College), David Pargetter (Kingwood College), Graham Parr (Monash University), Bianca Prendergast (Balwyn High School), Kylie Price (Eltham College), Kayla Pulice (Hume Central Secondary College), Melissa Ramos Amaya (Kambrya College), Katrina Renard (Carey Baptist Grammar School), Donita Richards (Bad Writers Club),

Simon Ross (Parkdale Secondary College), Stephanie Schepton (St Michael's Grammar School), Anne Schmidt (Clyde Secondary College), Michelle Smith (The University of Melbourne), Teagan Spence (Hume Central Secondary College), Sarah Stone (Hume Central Secondary College), Cindy Sullivan (Hume Central Secondary College), Nurdan Tabak (Hume Central Secondary College), Jacinta Walsh (Northcote High School), Rhiannon Ward (Luther College), Kelly Warneck (Cheltenham Secondary College), Vana Watkins (Geelong Grammar School), Jake Watson (Catholic College Sale), Hannah Watts (Woodleigh School), Kathleen Whitechurch (Luther College), Nyree Wilson (Dandenong High School), Marlowe Wynne-Woodley (Melbourne High School)

VATE Writing in the Regions

Ernest Price (Kilvington Grammar School)

VCE English and EAL Day

Georgia Bate (MacRobertson Girls High School), Helen Billett, Breannen Bingham (Melton Secondary College), Anna Carrig (Northcote High School), Emma Catchpole (Wellington Secondary College), Amy Christensen (Scotch College), Sarah Coleman (Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School), Alex Connor (Elevation Secondary College), Michael Daniel (Camberwell Grammar School), Kirk Dunn (Mount Scopus Memorial College), Kate Fewster (Trinity Grammar School), Hayley Harrison (Connect Literacy), Ross Huggard, Sarah Longden (Drouin Secondary College), Dominic Loschiavo (St Michael's Grammar School), Clare Mackie (Haileybury), Chris Mason (St Bernards College), Lannhi Nguyen (Brentwood Secondary College), Prithi Rao (Ivanhoe Grammar School), Louise Roberts (Firbank Grammar School), Iva Roncevic (Mentone Grammar School), Amanda Scott (Geelong Grammar School), Sarah Smith (Mount Waverley Secondary College), Melanie Sukunda (Brentwood Secondary College), Melanie Van Langenberg

VCE English Language and Literature Day

Dani Cantor (Balwyn High School), Natalie Gleeson (Kambrya College), Alison Godfrey (Coburg High School), Rosalind McMorro (Sacred Heart Girls College), Graham Preston (Northcote High School), Stephanie Schepton (St Michael's Grammar School)

VCE Mini-method - English

Georgia Bate (MacRobertson Girls High School), Liz Loke (Glen Waverley Secondary College), Sarah Longden (Drouin Secondary College), Vana Watkins (Geelong Grammar School)

VCE Mini-method - English Language

Natalie Gleeson (Kambrya College), Mark Leary (Parade College), Hannah Monagle (Sacred Heart College - Kyneton), Ryan Walsh (Yarrabing Secondary College)

VCE Mini-method - Literature

Angela Keam (Loreto Mandeville Hall), Liana Mannens (Mentone Girls Grammar School), Nicole Marie (Bemin Secondary College), Briony Schroor (Nossal High School)

Middle Years Network Events

(Breaking) Middle Ground

Melissa Blacklock (Southern Cross Grammar), Helena Brain (Sacred Heart College - Newtown), Howie Manns (Monash University), Rhiannon O'Hara (St Michael's College - Adelaide)

Middle Years Book Swap

Lauren Kyte (Salesian College Sunbury), Karys McEwen

VCE Network Events

VCE English and EAL Network: New texts for 2026

Chair: Faye Crossman

Writers: Rachel Kafka (Mount Scopus Memorial College), Blair Mahoney (Melbourne High School), Ernest Price (Kilvington Grammar School), Melanie Van Langenberg

VCE Literature Network: New texts for 2026

Chair: Briony Schroor (Nossal High School)

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VCE Networks: Curly Questions

Helen Billett, Louise Bourke (John Monash Science School), Selina Dennis (Coburg High School), Natalie Gleeson (Kambrya College), Avril Good (St Albans Secondary College), Danielle Heyes (Wesley College), David van Es (Bendigo Senior Secondary College)

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