

ANNUAL 20 REPORT 25

**DON DUNSTAN
FOUNDATION**



Flinders
University



Adelaide
University

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	1
CHAIR'S REPORT	2
OUR PURPOSE	4
ACHIEVEMENTS	5
CORPORATE UPDATES	6
DUNSTAN MILESTONES	7
LOWITJA O'DONOGHUE ORATION	8
HOUSING SYMPOSIUM	11
RAISE A GLASS	13
THE VALLEY CALLED HOPE	14
DUNSTAN DIALOGUES	15
SALA	16
IPAA DON DUNSTAN ORATION	17
LOOKING TOWARDS DON'S CENTENARY	18
WEBSITE UPGRADE	19
SURVEY REPORT	20
FINANCIAL REPORT	22
OUR PEOPLE	23
SUPPORT US	24

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Don Dunstan Foundation acknowledges and thanks Adelaide University and Flinders University for their invaluable continuing partnership in 2025.



The Foundation also thanks the Government of South Australia for its continuing support.



Government of South Australia

The Foundation acknowledges the Kurna people as the Traditional Custodians of the Adelaide Region. The Foundation pays tribute to the Kurna people's physical and spiritual connection to land, waters and community, enduring now as it has throughout time. The Foundation pays its respects to the Kurna culture and to Elders past, present and emerging.



The Foundation extends this respect to all First Nations people and communities across South Australia, recognising that we live and work on land that always was, and always will be, Aboriginal land.



The Foundation recognises and supports the principles of the Uluru Statement from the Heart and we are committed to working together on the essential work of building relationships, fostering respect, and taking action for positive change, truth-telling and justice. We walk with First Nations peoples in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.



The Don Dunstan Foundation is a proud WE'RE EQUAL organisation committed to treating everyone equally, regardless of their age, ability, gender diversity, sexuality, relationship and reproductive status, race, religion, and culture.



Front and back cover images courtesy of Dave Laslett, 2025 SALA Don Dunstan Foundation Award winner

CHAIR'S REPORT



Hon Dr Jane Lomax-Smith AM
Chair, Board of Directors

This year, the Don Dunstan Foundation began work on its new policy agenda which includes some of the great challenges of our age – climate justice, housing and homelessness, and the empowerment of Aboriginal people, key among them.

As part of our work, we conducted a survey with our community to better understand who they are, what social issues they care about, and the ways in which they engage with our work. We found that our community cares especially about climate change and the environment – highlighted this year by the disastrous algal bloom – along with honouring Don Dunstan’s legacy by shaping a younger generation of progressive leaders.

As part of our dedication towards creative, forward-thinking, evidence-based policy thinking, we revamped our Dunstan Dialogue series – reimagining it as a forum where decision-makers, researchers, the social services sector, professionals, the private sector, and people with lived experience can talk openly about solutions to our thorniest policy problems. Our first forum was held in April on climate justice, focusing on how we as a community can look after people already suffering from climate extremes. In September, we discussed the criminal justice system and the shameful incarceration rates of Aboriginal children and young people.

Our events program for 2025 included the annual Lowitja O’Donoghue Oration delivered by Australia’s first Aboriginal Productivity Commissioner, Romlie Mokak, who spoke about the power of love, and its absence, in policy-making. Romlie argued that love for community and connection is a powerful driver of better policy outcomes.

In June, our second housing symposium brought together some of Australia’s best thinkers to consider the impact of the housing crisis on the rental system, particularly for the “missing middle” – people who don’t qualify for public housing, but who are struggling to afford good housing in the private rental market. Housing Australia CEO Scott Langford presented the keynote address and encouraged private, public, and community sectors to work together as partners.

Throughout the year we hosted several events to further celebrate Don's legacy and its continued influence on policy and culture today. Our annual "Raise A Glass" celebration was held in September to honour Don's role in ending the "six o'clock swill" in 1967. We marked the 50th anniversary of the decriminalisation of homosexuality – one of the Dunstan decade's most significant policy changes – with an event bringing together music, reflection, and powerful storytelling as part of the Feast Festival. We also partnered with the City of Adelaide to explore the historic relationship between Malaysia and South Australia, and participated in important discussions about the future of Australia's democracy, including with an OECD mission to Australia.

We partnered with the Institute of Public Administration Australia (SA) IPAA to host the annual Don Dunstan Oration delivered by retiring state MP Susan Close, former Deputy Premier of South Australia. Susan sounded a warning about threats to democracy, particularly in the context of Australia's increasingly segregated education system and threats to our environment.

Our work is made possible by the support and expertise of our partners, sponsors, volunteers and supporters. We are grateful for the passion and energy they continued to bring to our mission.

I'd like to offer a particular thanks to Matt Clemow, whom we welcomed as chair of the Committee of Management early in 2025, taking over from Cathie King. Matt brings deep experience in public policy, partnerships, government, and media. A special thank you goes to Cathie for her outstanding leadership and dedication as chair over many years, along with Gerrie Mitra who stepped down from her valued role as committee member.

We also welcomed two new highly credentialed leaders to the Committee of Management: Julia Sumner brings a wealth of expertise across the business, not-for-profit, and government sectors, and Kirstie Parker is a highly-respected Aboriginal leader and co-chair of Reconciliation Australia.

Whilst our work covers some tough issues, we are excited by the rise of a new generation of progressive voters, advocates and leaders. In 2026, we are working towards an ambitious program to mark the centenary of Don Dunstan's birth in September. The centenary is a chance to share Don's story to younger people and to shape future steps for South Australia to continue to influence the nation – and the world – for good.

Hon Dr Jane Lomax-Smith AM
Chair, Board of Directors

OUR PURPOSE

*"Building a State of Hope, Inspired By
Don Dunstan."*

WHAT WE DO

The Don Dunstan Foundation is a non-profit think-tank dedicated to advancing social justice and creating a more equitable and sustainable future for South Australia and beyond. Inspired by the visionary leadership of former Premier Don Dunstan, a champion of social reform and human rights, we work to address critical social issues and build a stronger, more inclusive community.

Strategic
Focus

1

Climate Justice

Addressing the impacts of climate change on vulnerable communities and advocating for sustainable solutions.

Strategic
Focus

2

Dunstan's Legacy

Honouring Don Dunstan's legacy by carrying forward his vision of a just and equitable society, ensuring his values continue to inspire action

Strategic
Focus

3

Arts and Civil Society

Fostering a vibrant arts and cultural scene and supporting emerging artists.

Strategic
Focus

4

Aboriginal Empowerment

Supporting Indigenous rights, self-determination, and cultural heritage.

Strategic
Focus

5

Housing and Homelessness

Promoting affordable housing and supporting initiatives to end homelessness.

ACHIEVEMENTS



10
events with
our valued
partners

8400
social
media
followers



1000
people
welcomed
at DDF events.

100
mainstream
media
mentions



Julia & Kirstie
welcomed to the
Committee of
Management

\$3,000
supporting
emerging artists



2
interns from
Flinders
University

64,661
emails sent to
supporters
across the year



CORPORATE UPDATES

Governance Changes

Two highly credentialed leaders were appointed to the Don Dunstan Foundation's Committee of Management in 2025, with leadership of the Committee also being handed over during the year.

The Committee of Management provides day-to-day governance oversight of our work.

In 2025, we farewelled long-standing Foundation director and Committee chair Cathie King, after years of outstanding voluntary service. Matt Clemow stepped into that role.

We also said goodbye to Committee member Gerrie Mitra, who had chaired the finance sub-committee, providing skilled oversight in that area and many others.

This opened up positions on the Committee which were filled by two outstanding community leaders - Julia Sumner and Kirstie Parker.

Julia has a mix of high-level experienced in business, the not-for-profit sector, and government. She has been the CEO of renowned Adelaide fashion business Acler for seven years. Previously, she served as a chief-of-staff and ministerial adviser to State Government ministers and held various senior roles with Oxfam Australia for more than eight years. She has a personal connection with the Dunstan years through her father Chris – well known as Attorney-General in the Bannon Government.

Kirstie Parker is a Yuwaalaraay woman from northern NSW. Kirstie and her immediate family have lived in Adelaide for many years. She is a highly-respected Aboriginal leader whose current roles include Co-Chair of Reconciliation Australia and Head of First Nations at the South Australian Film Corporation. Her former professional roles include elected female Co-Chair of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, CEO of the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence, Editor of the Koori Mail newspaper, and Director of Tandanya – National Aboriginal Cultural Institute. Kirstie also co-chaired the national Close the Gap Committee, the national Change the Record Coalition, and the National Health Leadership Forum. She is a signatory to the historic Uluru Statement from the Heart that was issued to the Australian people in 2017 as an invitation to walk together with First Nations towards a better future.

The New University

In 2025, the Foundation prepared for a new 'owner' - Adelaide University.

The new university - created from the University of South Australia and the University of Adelaide - was due to begin operations in 2026.

Since our inception, the Don Dunstan Foundation has been part of the university ecosystem in South Australia. Our two members are Flinders University and the University of Adelaide.

In 2025 we prepared a new Constitution to recognise the change of 'ownership' from the University of Adelaide to Adelaide University. This also means that, from 2026, Adelaide University Vice Chancellor Professor Nicola Phillips will replace longstanding board member Professor Peter Høj, who was a director of the Foundation in his role as the final Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide.

DUNSTAN MILESTONES

60 YEARS SINCE

Appointment to Queen's Counsel (1965)

In 1965, Don Dunstan was appointed as a Queen's Counsel. This professional milestone recognized his significant legal expertise and standing within the South Australian justice system. It marked the beginning of a decade where his legal mind would be used to draft and champion some of the most progressive legislative reforms in Australian history.

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Social Welfare (1965)

Don Dunstan took on the portfolios of Aboriginal Affairs and Social Welfare in 1965. This was a turning point for the state as he moved away from paternalistic policies toward a focus on self-determination and rights. His early leadership in these roles set the stage for South Australia to become a national leader in social justice and Indigenous empowerment.

The Racial Discrimination Act (1965)

South Australia led the nation by enacting the Racial Discrimination Act in 1965. This was the first legislation of its kind in Australia, making it illegal to discriminate against someone based on their race in public places or for services. It was a bold statement of intent from the Labor Government that equality was a non-negotiable value for the state.

Dame Roma Mitchell's Appointment (1965)

In a landmark moment for the Australian legal profession, Don Dunstan appointed Dame Roma Mitchell as a Justice of the Supreme Court of South Australia in 1965. She was the first woman in Australia to be appointed to a superior court. This move broke a significant glass ceiling and highlighted Dunstan's commitment to gender equality within the highest levels of government and law.

50 YEARS SINCE

Decriminalisation of Homosexuality (1975)

On 27 August 1975, South Australia made history by becoming the first Australian state to decriminalise male homosexuality. This was a courageous and landmark achievement for human rights. Following the tragic death of Dr George Duncan, the Parliament eventually took action to ensure that the law protected the rights and dignity of the LGBTQIA+ community.

Sex Discrimination Act (1975)

The Sex Discrimination Act 1975 was a first for Australia. It made it unlawful to discriminate against people based on their sex or marital status in areas like work, education, and housing. By passing this act, the Dunstan Government provided a legal framework for women to pursue equal opportunities and protection, fundamentally changing the landscape of the South Australian workforce and society.

Maslin Beach Becomes Australia's First Nudist Beach (1975)

On 14 February 1975, the Dunstan Government officially declared a section of Maslin Beach as Australia's first legal nudist beach. While it might seem like a small detail, it was a world famous example of Dunstan's "social liberties" approach. It signalled a shift toward a more relaxed, modern, and European style of living that embraced personal freedom and cultural openness.

LOWITJA O'DONOGHUE ORATION

2025 Lowitja O'Donoghue Oration: A Resounding Success

The Don Dunstan Foundation, in collaboration with the Lowitja Institute, the Lowitja O'Donoghue Foundation, and Reconciliation SA, successfully hosted the 2025 Lowitja O'Donoghue Oration on May 28, 2025.

This annual event honours the legacy of Dr. Lowitja O'Donoghue and addresses critical issues facing Indigenous communities.

The 18th Oration, held during Reconciliation Week, featured a keynote address by Romlie Mokak, the first Aboriginal Productivity Commissioner, who delved into the theme of "Honouring Lowitja: For the Love of Our People". Around 500 people gathered at Elder Hall, Adelaide University, and online. We thank the generous support of our sponsors, including BHP, SA Power Networks, and the Government of South Australia, whose contributions were instrumental in ensuring the success of the Oration.

A VIP reception preceded the Oration, bringing together distinguished guests, including The Hon. Dr Jane Lomax-Smith AM, Lord Mayor of Adelaide and Chair of the Don Dunstan Foundation, Hon Susan Close MP, Deputy Premier of South Australia, Hon Kyam Maher MLC, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Attorney-General, and Hon Chief Justice Chris Kourakis. The reception provided an opportunity for attendees to network and discuss the importance of reconciliation and social justice.

The Oration was hosted by Flinders University, with Professor Simone Tur serving as the Master of Ceremonies. The event featured a diverse range of attendees, including First Nations leaders, community members, academics, policymakers, and students.

By hosting the Lowitja O'Donoghue Oration, the Don Dunstan Foundation aims to:

- Honour the legacy of Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue and her tireless work for Indigenous rights and social justice.
- Promote dialogue and understanding on Indigenous issues.
- Inspire future generations to work towards a more just and equitable future for all.

We are committed to continuing this important work and look forward to future Orations that will further the legacy of Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue.

LOWITJA O'DONOGHUE ORATION





HOUSING SYMPOSIUM

2025 National Rental Summit: The Missing Middle

The second Don Dunstan Foundation Housing Symposium was held at the end of June at Flinders University's city campus, bringing together key stakeholders from across the housing and homelessness sector in Australia.

The state of Australia's rental system was put under the microscope, with a focus on "The Missing Middle" – people who don't qualify for public housing, but who are struggling to afford good housing in the private rental market.

Key Highlights:

Thought Leadership: The CEO of Housing Australia, Scott Langford, delivered a keynote address on Housing Australia's role in bringing about change and the importance of cross-sectoral cooperation.

Expert Panel Discussions: A series of panel discussions explored pressing housing issues, including the lived experiences of South Australia's rental system; how we build and shape what's required; and what sorts of communities we can hope to create.

Community Engagement: The symposium provided a platform for attendees to network, share ideas, and collaborate on innovative solutions.

Notable Attendees:

- Hon. Nick Champion MP, Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Housing Infrastructure, and Planning
- Scott Langford, Housing Australia CEO
- Dr Kate Raynor, Centre For Equitable Housing
- Julie Nemet, RentRight SA Tenancy Services Manager
- Jennifer Howard, Safe Pets Safe Families CEO and Founder
- Maria Palumbo, Junction CEO
- James Hooper, Socia Investors Executive Director
- Wayne Hughes, 5North CEO and Founder
- Vas Iannella, HomeStart Finance Chief Customer Officer
- Christie Bailey, Brown Falconer Director
- Matt Romaine, City of Charles Sturt City Futures General Manager
- Dr Alice Clark, ShelterSA Executive Director

The symposium's success can be attributed to the support of various organisations, including SA Power Networks, and the enthusiastic participation of attendees. By fostering collaboration and sharing knowledge, the Foundation's Housing Symposium has made a significant contribution to addressing the complex challenges facing South Australia's housing sector.

HOUSING SYMPOSIUM



RAISE A GLASS

The 2025 Raise a Glass event was a resounding success, celebrating the enduring legacy of Don Dunstan. Held at the prestigious Stathmore Hotel, the event attracted more than 80 people.

A highlight of the evening was the keynote address by Kyam Maher, Attorney-General and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. Mr. Maher provided insightful commentary on Don Dunstan's groundbreaking work in advancing Aboriginal justice and land rights.

The event also featured a special auction and a wine wall, generating significant funds to support the Foundation's ongoing initiatives. The generous support of attendees and sponsors ensured the event's success.

The annual event marks the date in 1967 when Don Dunstan ended the so-called "6 o'clock swill".



THE VALLEY CALLED HOPE

As part of the 2025 Feast Festival, the Don Dunstan Foundation was proud to present A Valley Called Hope at Nexus Arts. This event served as a centrepiece for our 2025 program, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the decriminalisation of male homosexuality in South Australia.

This landmark moment in 1975, a private members' bill from Labor MP Peter Duncan, was the first of its kind in Australia and remains a foundational victory for human rights in our state.

The evening combined historical reflection with powerful artistic performance. We were honoured to host a panel of speakers who provided firsthand accounts and expert perspectives on this struggle for equality, including activist and historian Will Sergeant, former Minister, MLC, and tireless advocate for social reform the Hon. Anne Levy, and renowned journalist and commentator Simon Royal.

The discussion was further elevated by the Adelaide Chamber Singers, who performed moving musical excerpts from Watershed: The Death of Dr. Duncan. These performances provided a visceral connection to the tragic events that ultimately served as the catalyst for legislative change.

A Valley Called Hope was more than a retrospective - it was a celebration of progress and a reminder of the Foundation's ongoing commitment to advocating for a fairer, more inclusive society. We thank Feast Festival and the South Australian community for joining us in honouring this vital piece of our collective history.

Photography by itsmissysnaps, courtesy of Feast Festival.



DUNSTAN DIALOGUES

Re-Imagining the Dunstan Dialogue Series

The Dunstan Dialogues Series has been re-imagined as a Chatham House forum where decision-makers, researchers, the social services sector, professionals, the private sector and people with lived experience can come together to discuss how we can work together as a community to make South Australia a better, fairer place.

Climate Justice

In April we hosted our first forum and discussed the impacts of climate change on communities here and now, particularly the impact of extreme weather and temperature. We focused on how we, as a community, could look after people already suffering from climate extremes. Indeed, heatwaves are causing illness, even death; the unsettled climate also puts pressure on the cost of living.

We looked ahead to how we could prepare for what was coming as the globe continued to heat. The discussion was insightful and helpful in defining the key policy issues, and there was a view in the room for the opportunity ahead of COP31 – particularly if Adelaide hosts it – to elevate climate justice as a key policy concern in South Australia.

Transforming Justice for South Australian Children and Young People

In September we hosted a policy forum in partnership with the Justice Reform Initiative and invited prominent thinkers and thought leaders in our state to discuss transforming the South Australian youth justice system. We considered key policy areas that need addressing, particularly for Aboriginal children and young people, and ways of engaging politicians and the general public in this transformation.

The discussion informed the Justice Reform Initiative's 12-month project funded through the Minderoo Foundation, which aims to develop, in partnership with key stakeholders, a national advocacy strategy to make recommendations about how to end the harmful incarceration and criminalisation of children in Australia.

SALA FESTIVAL

Celebrating Artistic Excellence and Social Impact

The Don Dunstan Foundation is committed to fostering a vibrant and inclusive arts community. Through our partnership with the South Australian Living Artists (SALA) Festival, we are proud to support the SALA Don Dunstan Foundation Award. This prestigious award recognizes artists whose work explores social justice themes and aligns with the legacy of Don Dunstan.

In 2025, the award was presented to Dave Laslett for his show LANDWORKS – a primary collection show featuring a series of tableau photographic works created from living and working in the South Australian outback for the past 10 years. Dave describes himself as a “land-based artist” which means that he spends a lot of time alone walking the landscapes of the Flinders Ranges.

Dave’s work resonates deeply with the values of the Foundation, with sustainability being central to both Dave’s life and his work. Dave lives off-grid and is mindful of how he interacts with the natural environment, with his work exploring themes of industrialisation and consumption, nihilism through to realism, and despair through to hope.

Through our support of the SALA Don Dunstan Foundation Award, the Don Dunstan Foundation continues to honour Don's legacy and promote a more just and equitable society. We are proud to recognise and celebrate the talent and vision of artists like Dave Laslett.



IPAA DUNSTAN ORATION

Retiring state MP Susan Close sounded a warning about threats to democracy in the 2025 Dunstan Oration.

The annual event, run by the Institute of Public Administration Australia (SA) IPAA in partnership with the Don Dunstan Foundation, was a valedictory speech of sorts for Dr Close, who is leaving parliament after a career that saw her ascend to Deputy Premier and take crucial ministerial positions in education and the environment.

Dr Close told the December event that Australia’s “quest for fairness, our self-styled ‘fair-go’ and egalitarian country are under threat, and we cannot look away from that”.

“At its heart, this speech is about democracy, our democracy, and how we collectively can strengthen it and not allow self-serving bullies to take it away from the people,” she said.

She talked in detail about two policy areas: education and the environment.

She was deeply concerned about Australia’s “highly segregated” school system, which separates students based on the socio-economic status of their parents to a degree not seen in similar nations.

Nature and climate change was her other key theme. She connected the threats to our environment to democracy, given the failure to do more to protect nature will have a disproportionate negative impact on disadvantaged people.



LOOKING TOWARDS DON'S CENTENARY

Why Celebrate?

September 21, 2026, is the centenary of Don Dunstan's birth. Born in Fiji to Australian parents, Don would grow up to become one of the most significant figures in South Australian and Australian political history.

As Premier for much of the 1970s, he led a reforming Labor Government responsible for a long series of policy firsts, transforming the state in a way which remains relevant and powerful today. He implemented Australia's first Aboriginal land rights legislation, first Anti-Discrimination Act, and made South Australia a leader in public housing, heritage protection and consumer laws.

Beyond his substantial local achievements, Don Dunstan had a national and international impact, leading the campaign against Australia's White Australia policy, and showing a new form of successful progressive leadership.

Don died in 1999, but his legacy remains powerful today. His centenary is an opportunity to celebrate his achievements – and that of the state – during his political career. More than that, though, it's a unique chance to inspire a new generation of Australians who want to see long-term positive change driven by a principled approach to politics.

Key Events and Projects

The Don Dunstan Foundation is leading a range of events and programs designed to celebrate Don's centenary and elevate our key policy focus areas: climate justice; housing and homelessness; Aboriginal empowerment; the arts and civic society.

In addition, local organisations are also working with us on their own celebrations: notably the 50th anniversary of the opening of Rundle Mall, Australia's first pedestrian Mall (a project guided by Don as Premier); and two historical exhibitions about Don and his achievements.

With an eye firmly on engaging with younger Australians – millennials and Gen Zs in their 20s and 30s – we are producing a multi-part podcast series using the Dunstan legacy as a launch-pad for a discussion about contemporary politics and democracy.

In September, we are planning a suite of events, all of which will include forward-looking, influential younger advocates as part of the conversation. Don's key concerns remain highly relevant to younger Australians and we believe his approach, style, and integrity will be a powerful inspiration to them.

WEBSITE UPGRADE

The Don Dunstan Foundation launched its redesigned website in July 2025, delivered in partnership with Argon Design.

Built with a strong focus on accessibility and user experience, the new platform makes it easier for people to explore our work, engage with our policy priorities, and connect with the Foundation. The site features streamlined navigation, mobile-friendly design, and more engaging content, allowing users to quickly find what they need and stay informed.

A key feature of the website is our growing Spotlight series, which highlights pressing social issues and supports our focus on evidence-based policy. Each article is paired with practical resources to support advocacy and community action.

The website also brings together a comprehensive library of reports, publications, transcripts, and toolkits, alongside clear pathways to get involved, donate, and support our work. It is now the central hub for connecting with the Foundation and driving meaningful change.



SURVEY REPORT

The Don Dunstan Foundation Community

The Don Dunstan Foundation conducted an online survey to better understand who our community are, the social issues they care about, and the ways in which they engage with our work. In line with our focus on Aboriginal Empowerment, we also asked about reconciliation and the 2023 Voice to Parliament referendum.

The survey was open from May to August 2025 and received 81 responses. There were two broad findings:

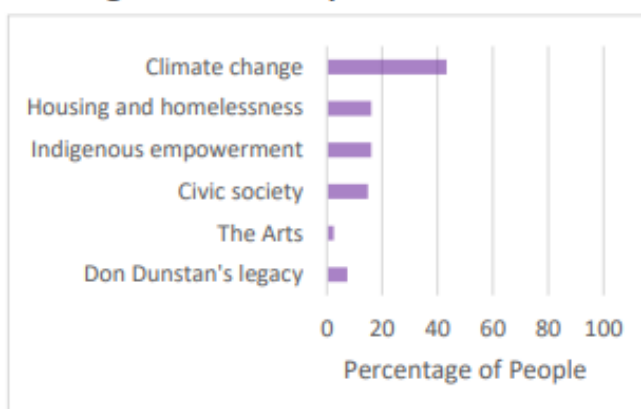
Our Community Cares About Social Justice

People engage with the Foundation because they value social justice. Climate change and the environment was identified as the most pressing social issue, with 93.8% of respondents saying it is an important social issue and 43.2% ranking climate change as the most important focus area of the Foundation.

“I want a society that is more than an economy and that emphasizes equity and environmental justice”

“[The Voice] was a real wake up call that we can't passively sleep walk towards reconciliation”

Figure 2: Most Important Focus Area



Note. Question: Which of the Don Dunstan Foundation's key focus areas are most important to you? Please rank the issues below in terms of their importance to you from 1 (most important) to 6 (least important). Figure 2 captures what was ranked first. (81 responses)

Aboriginal empowerment and reconciliation were also important to our community, with 82.7% saying that historical acceptance is an important step toward reconciliation. Half of our respondents (50.6%) were concerned that the 2023 Voice to Parliament referendum had impacted Australians' views on reconciliation.

SURVEY REPORT


Our Community Cares About Don's Legacy

The most common motivator for engaging with the Don Dunstan Foundation was the legacy of Don. Whilst only 7.4% of respondents rated Don's legacy as the Foundation's most important focus area, 35.8% spoke about their desire to honour the impact of Don in creating a more just and fair society.

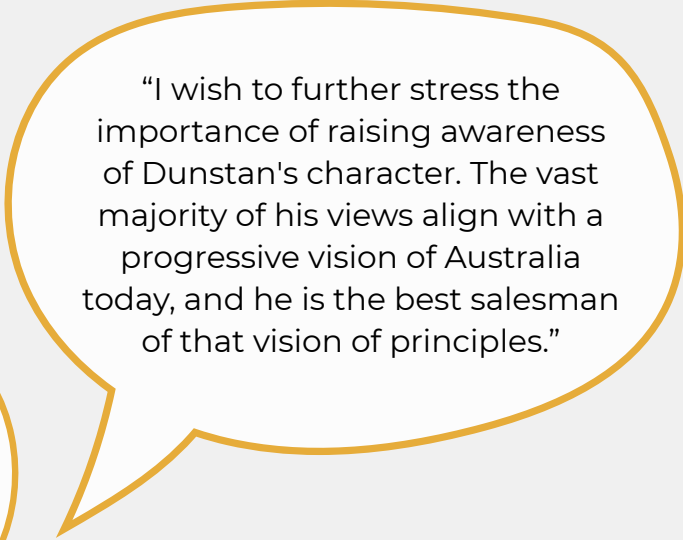
Open-ended responses consistently touched on the role of the Foundation for shaping a younger generation of social activists and researchers who continue to realise Don's vision – a priority highlighted by the fact that the average member of our community is retired and aged over 55 years old.

The Foundation was positioned as playing an important role in leading change. Respondents spoke about the need for the Foundation to have a greater media presence and to engage more with researchers, policy makers, advocacy groups, and non-government organisations.

Our community also sought more campaign and advocacy resources for how to get involved in activism (e.g., by highlighting opportunities in the Foundation's monthly newsletter).



“Citizens need to find their voice and to express their power and institutions like the Don Dunstan Foundation have a crucial role to play”.



“I wish to further stress the importance of raising awareness of Dunstan's character. The vast majority of his views align with a progressive vision of Australia today, and he is the best salesman of that vision of principles.”

FINANCIAL REPORT

ASSETS	2024	2025
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$222,940	\$125,840
Trade and other receivables	\$811	\$11,646
Assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss	\$1,740,503	\$1,870,612
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	TOTAL \$1964,254	TOTAL \$2,008,098
Non Current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	\$3,749	\$2,865
Total Non Current Assets	\$3,749	\$2,865
TOTAL ASSETS	TOTAL \$1,968,003	TOTAL \$2,010,963
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	\$19,622	\$13,756
Contract liabilities	\$92,500	\$94,813
Employee benefit liabilities	\$7,231	\$14,917
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	TOTAL \$119,353	TOTAL 123,486
TOTAL LIABILITIES	TOTAL \$119,353	TOTAL 123,486
NET ASSETS	TOTAL \$1,848,650	TOTAL \$1,887,477
EQUITY		
Retained earnings	\$1,848,650	\$1,847,477
TOTAL EQUITY	TOTAL \$1,848,650	TOTAL \$1,847,477

OUR PEOPLE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Hon Dr Jane Lomax-Smith AM, Chair
Professor Peter Høj AC, Vice-Chancellor and President, The University of Adelaide
Professor Colin Stirling, Vice-Chancellor and President, Flinders University
The Hon Rev Dr Lynn Arnold AO, Director

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Matt Clemow, CoM Chair
Dr Nathan Manning, Adelaide University
Professor Sharyn Roach Anleu, Flinders University
Professor Ian Goodwin-Smith, Flinders University
Associate Professor Megan Moskos, Adelaide University
Dr Sanjuga Vas Dev, Community representative
Julia Sumner, Community representative
Kirstie Parker, Community representative

STAFF

David Washington, Executive Director
Nardy Zanos-Jardine, Engagement & Events Manager

Retired from the Foundation in 2025:
Cathie King, CoM Chair and BoD Director
Gerrie Mitra, CoM Community representative

INTERNS

Emily Haines
Mellyna Laufer

Without their contributions of expertise and time, the Foundation could not have achieved its many outcomes in 2025 and is grateful for their involvement and support.

VOLUNTEERS

The Foundation is grateful for the many committed volunteers who provided their support in 2025 across a range of activities, including assisting at events, undertaking research and projects, and assisting in the office.

To register your interest in volunteering, please contact the Foundation



SUPPORT US

Donations

Donations are an important source of financial support enabling the Foundation to continue our work to inspire action for a fairer world. You can donate via the Foundation's website.



Scan to support our work

E-news

The Foundation produces e-newsletters about its impact including current projects and events. Subscribe to the e-newsletter through the Foundation's website.



Scan to sign up

Follow us



@Dondunstanfoundation



@Dondunstanfoundation



@thedondunstanfoundation

ANNUAL 20 REPORT 25

A large, gnarled tree with exposed roots in a landscape of rolling hills and greenery. The tree's trunk is dark and twisted, with a dense network of roots spreading out across the ground. The background shows rolling hills with sparse vegetation under a soft, golden light, suggesting a sunset or sunrise.

The Don Dunstan Foundation
Level 8, 115 Grenfell St
Adelaide SA 5005

(08) 8313 3364
dunstan.foundation@adelaide.edu.au
www.dunstan.org.au