



ANNUAL REPORT 2026

THE WRITERS' SOCIETY

University of New England Clubs and Societies

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the country upon which we're affiliated. Armidale is situated on the lands of the Anaiwan nation and I'm coming to you all from Bundjalung country.

Indigenous Australians have passed stories across generations for thousands of years. It is with great sadness that I ask us all to take a moment to recognise the ways European colonisation has damaged or destroyed Aboriginal storytelling practises, songlines, and all manner of narrative expressed through imagery and dance. I extend my respect to all indigenous elders of the lands we each come from, both past and present, and hope to continue to learn from all Aboriginal peoples joining us today about the intricate, nuanced Dreamtime stories woven by the world's oldest continuing culture.

I would like to give special thanks to the incredible executive team – Vice President Savannah Ashby, Secretary Simone White, and Treasurer Irene Lemon. Each of them has worked tirelessly to pull this club into fruition, and we hope to share the spoils with you all as we move into a new year.

Thanks must also be given to our wonderful UNE Life team: Nick Troon, Jacob Hunt, and Ash Taylor, who have supported our affiliation and believed in us from the very beginning.

ACHIEVEMENTS

LIFESAVER DAY

- Great success at our first stall, where we acquired 32 expressions of interest.
- Discussed ideals with the community and worked towards bringing them to life.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- Executive team was voted in unanimously.
- Anyone interested in the club was given their first opportunity to meet the team.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

- Strong foundations with the UNE Games Society.
- Prospects for future collaboration.

AFFILIATION

- Fully fledged by establishing out bank account and completing internal processes.
- Released the first round of memberships for staff and students.

EVENT PLANNING

- Established a timeline for monthly writing meetings (both on campus and online).
- Developed plans for regular open mic nights.
- Secured responsibility for November Novel Writing Month.

FUTURE GOALS

STUDENT WORK SUBMISSIONS

- Online and physical copy anthology that would provide opportunities to promote members' work to a vast number of other students, staff, and community members.

EXPANDING MEMBERSHIP

- Increased advertising on the horizon.
- Greater student engagement through events and outreach.

MERCHANDISE

- Build community and identification.
- Member-led designs to represent us as a whole.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Reporting period: 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 (including post-affiliation information from 8 August 2026 up to 4 October 2026).

Prepared by: Simone White

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The current Executive Committee was unanimously voted in at the Inaugural General Meeting in April 2026.

- President: Casey Morgan
- Vice President: Savannah Ashby
- Secretary: Simone White
- Treasurer: Irene Lemon

MEMBERSHIP

The Club was not officially affiliated with UNE Life Clubs and Societies until August 2026 and was unable to open paid membership as per the Constitution until September 2026. However, The Writers' Society collected 55 *Expression of Interest* memberships during the reporting period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

Membership type	Number
Expression of Interest	55

Following affiliation with UNE Life Clubs and Societies in August 2026, the club gained 6 *Student Members* and zero *Staff Members*.

MEETINGS

Meetings held by the Club during the reporting period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 focused on establishing the Club's aims, online and on campus presence, and forming relationships with prospective members and other clubs at UNE.

Date	Type	Purpose	Attendees
4 March 2026	Executive Meeting	Established Executive Team responsibilities and the aims and purpose of the Club.	4
10 April 2026	Inaugural General Meeting	The meeting established the aims and purpose of the Club, adopted the Club's Constitution, elected the Club's first Executive, and discussed plans for setting up the Club's bank account and future events.	8
7 May 2026	Executive Meeting	Post IGM discussion to action bank account opening, Executive training, and social media.	3
20 June 2026	Executive Meeting	Meeting with UNEGS to discuss future collaborations on events.	5

CORRESPONDENCE

OVERVIEW

The Club's correspondence has been managed through TidyHQ and the Club's Facebook and Instagram social media accounts.

EMAIL

Date	Purpose
25 November 2025	Executive position nominations notification.
10 April 2026	Inaugural General Meeting notification.
28 April 2026	The President provided an update to the <i>Expression of Interest Members</i> about the status of affiliation and the club's plans to notify members once meetings had been planned. The email also requested feedback on potential timing.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Club posted 12 updates across its Facebook and Instagram social media accounts during the reporting period. Further updates since the reporting period ended have also informed followers of events, writing prompts, and membership status.

MARKETING

The current Executive has established a Loop workspace for collaborating with Executives and future Committee members on marketing campaigns and events. An Annual Campaign has been developed which includes:

- Monthly on campus and online meetings.
- Quarterly open-mic night events.
- Monthly writing prompts to be published on social media and emailed to current members.
- Participation in November Novel Writing Month.
- Participation in National Poetry Month.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Reporting period: 1 July 2025 to 4 October 2026

Presented by: Irene Lemon, Treasurer

Constitutional basis: Clauses 5.3.2 and 8.2.1 (report and statement of accounts for the preceding financial period)

OVERVIEW

This is the Club's first financial period since its Constitution was adopted on 10 April 2026. The Society recorded no income or expenditure in 2025. All 2026 income came from membership purchases made through our online membership platform (TidyHQ, with payments processed by Stripe) in September 2026. The Club has had no processed expenditure to date.

There is an amount owing from the previous bank account, and UNE Life Clubs and Societies is currently processing our request to transfer the funds. There is also a reimbursement for the 2026 Life Saver Day stall (printing) to be submitted once funds are released. There is also a payment for brand new accounts to be confirmed with UNE Life.

For transparency, the club has reported on all income and expenditure up until the date of the report.

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2026 (TO 4 OCT)	2025
INCOME		
Membership fees (gross)	\$33.78	\$0.00
Less: payment gateway fees (Stripe)	(\$2.40)	\$0.00
Less: platform fees (TidyHQ)	(\$1.56)	\$0.00
Net membership income	\$29.82	\$0.00

Expenditure		
Total expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00
Net surplus for the period	\$29.82	\$0.00

Payment gateway and platform fees are deducted at source, so the \$29.82 net figure is the amount received by the Society. No GST or other tax was collected or paid.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (AS AT 4 OCTOBER 2026)

	Amount
Opening balance (1 July 2025)	\$0.00
Net surplus for the period	\$29.82
Closing balance	\$29.82

MEMBERSHIP FEES (COLLECTED OUTSIDE 25-26 FY)

Six paid memberships (Student or Staff, 2026 pro-rata) were purchased between 6 and 29 September 2026, each at \$5.63 gross and \$4.97 net of fees.

Membership type	Number	Gross	Net
Student or Staff, 2026 pro-rata	6	\$33.78	\$29.82

DIGITAL ASSETS AND BRAND

The Club holds the following digital assets and brand materials, none of which carry a purchase cost or are recorded at a monetary value. This list forms the Society's asset register for handover purposes (see UNE Club Rules & Regulations 7.2).

Account logins and administrator access for these assets belong to the Club, not to individual office bearers, and are to be passed to the incoming Executive at handover.

ONLINE PRESENCE

Asset	Platform / link
Society website	WordPress: https://pioneering-unewriterssociety.wordpress.com/
Membership and events site	TidyHQ: https://writers.unelife.club/
UNE Life club page	https://www.unelife.com.au/2023/11/11167/une-writers-society/
Writing Wednesdays event page	https://www.unelife.com.au/events/writing-wednesdays-une-writers-society/
New England Times Network listing	https://network.netimes.com.au/listing/une-writers-society/
Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/unewritersociety/
Facebook page and direct messaging group	https://www.facebook.com/UNEWritSoc/

EMAIL ACCOUNTS

Asset	Address
Gmail account	unewriterssociety@gmail.com
TidyHQ email	hello@writers.unelife.club

BRAND ASSETS

Asset	Notes
Society logo	Not trademarked
Brand colours	Not trademarked
Society flag	Not trademarked

COMPLIANCE

- Funds are held in the Society's own account, separate from any personal funds (UNE Club Rules & Regulations 5.2; Constitution 12.2).
- No payments have been made, so the two-signatory requirement (Constitution 12.4) has not yet been triggered.
- Financial records, including the transaction ledger and cash flow report, are available on request, as required by UNE Club Rules & Regulations 5.1 and 5.3.
- This report and the accompanying records will be submitted to UNE Life Student Experience with the Affiliation Form within 14 days of the AGM (Constitution 12.5 and 15.3).

BUDGET OUTLOOK

The Constitution asks the Treasurer to budget so that funds remain available for an annual prize and/or event (5.3.4). With a balance of \$29.82 and no expenses, the Society currently has no committed spending. Planned events include monthly club gatherings (both on campus and online), a November Novel Writing Month campaign, and ad hoc club events. Events will be budgeted with revenue, so we break even for our first full year of operations.

HANDOVER

Financial documents, ledger access, and administrator access to all digital assets listed in section 5 will be handed over to the incoming Executive following the election of the new Executive (Constitution 5.3.3).

RECOMMENDATION

That the meeting receive the President's Report, Secretary's Report, and Treasurer's Report and statement of accounts for the period 1 July 2025 to 4 October 2026.