

# Annual Report 2024-25

Reconciliation  
**Tasmania**



*Jim Everett-Puralia Meenamatta,  
Nipaluna / Hobart 2025 National  
Reconciliation Week Breakfast*



*Youth Speak Out 2024 welcome ceremony at  
Government House, where students joined Her  
Excellency, The Hon. Barbara Baker AC, Governor  
of Tasmania to express their views on reconciliation*



*MyState Bank Reconciliation Action  
Plan launch, with artwork by  
Bianca Templar*

*“At its heart, reconciliation speaks to repairing relationships. My view is that reconciliation is about understanding the wrongs of the past and their impact in the present, and finding a proper way forward together. It’s about asking: what is the truth and what does repair look like? This can only take place through building mutually respectful relationships between Aboriginal people and the wider community, which ultimately benefits us all.”*

**Pauline Cook**, CEO Reconciliation Tasmania

# Membership

248  
Members

## Including:

- 179 individual members
- 69 organisational members (up from 47 in previous year)
- 57 student/concession members
- 32 First Nations members

## In 2024-25 we:

- Launched individual membership for the first time and
- Reformulated our organisational membership model



2538  
followers



1290  
followers



692  
followers



3176  
Newsletter  
subscribers

## 4 Local Action Network Groups:

- **West Tamar to Upper Midlands** Local Action Network
- **Kingborough** Reconciliation Action Network (KRAG)
- **Cradle Area & North West** Local Action Network
- **Tahuné Linah**/Huon River Reconciliation Action Network
- Other informal groups such as **Eastern Shore** Local Action Network

# Reconciliation in Workplaces

Engaged  
with

96  
Organisations

## Including:

- 26 workshops
- 19 referrals/advisory briefings
- Quarterly online **Reconciliation Circle Forums**, with an average of 139 participants
- 4 **Reconciliation Action Plans/Commitments** completed, and 7 underway



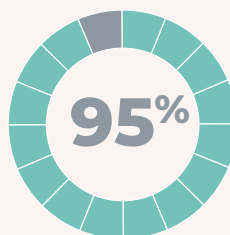
*Growing up in the 80's I've had to relearn Tasmania's history, and I'm grateful that I can. It's challenging, but important."*

Workshop participant



*Addressing the privilege we all hold in being able to look away from these issues because we're non-Indigenous – maybe 'reconciliation' is the promise to keep looking."*

Workshop participant discussing the meaning of reconciliation



said our workshops helped them understand the historical and ongoing impacts of colonisation

# Reconciliation in Education

Engaged  
with

56  
schools and early  
learning services

## Including:

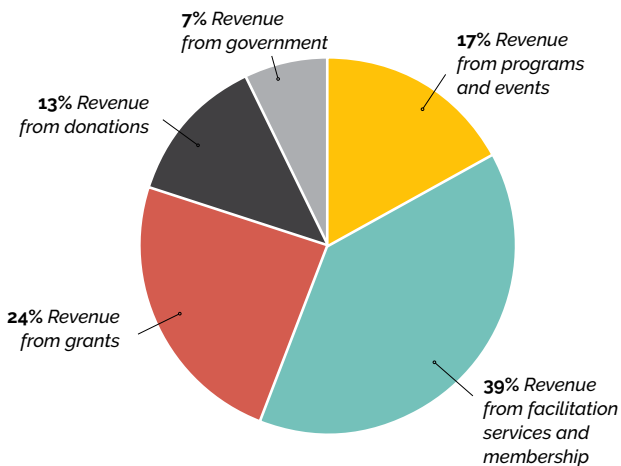
- 40 schools, 16 early learning services
- 11 **Narragunnawali Reconciliation in Education** workshops
- Quarterly online **Education Circles** with school principals and sector leaders
- Quarterly online **Teacher Circles**
- **Youth Speak Out 2024**, including student-led presentations at Government House and Parliament House

# Financial Snapshot

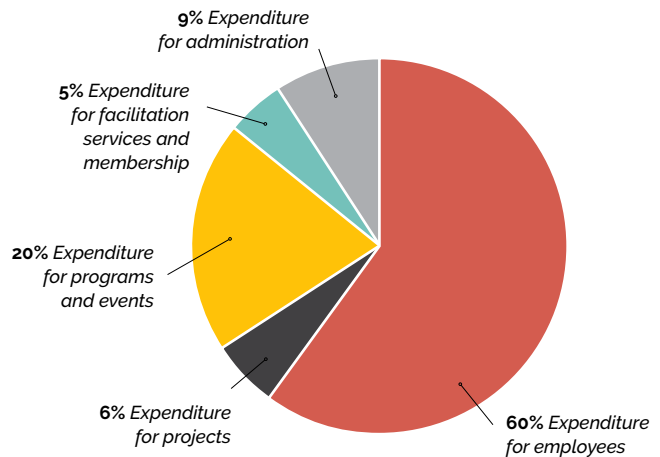
Financial year 2024-25 saw us operate with a surplus of \$37,590

Comprehensive audited Financial Reports can be accessed on our website, [www.rectas.com.au](http://www.rectas.com.au).

## Total Revenue \$684,701



## Total Expenditure \$647,111



## Chris Crerar Reconciliation Scholarship

Established in 2024, the **Chris Crerar Reconciliation Scholarship**, honours the memory of our much-loved colleague Chris Crerar and his lifelong commitment to social justice and equity for Tasmania's First Peoples.

This scholarship commenced in Semester 1, 2025, and supports a Tasmanian Aboriginal student beginning their first undergraduate degree at the University of Tasmania, providing \$5,000 per year and connection with Reconciliation Tasmania throughout their studies.

The inaugural recipient of the scholarship is Bonnie Talbot, who is enrolled in a Bachelor of Exercise and Sport Science at the university's Launceston Campus.

The scholarship fund has raised \$30,716, with over 120 donations from members and friends, including a significant contribution from our **Running for Reconciliation** fundraising team.



Bonnie Talbot with Chris's parents Bruce and Pam Crerar, and RT Board Member Simon Cook

Our Running for Reconciliation Team completed the Point to Pinnacle as a fundraising initiative for the scholarship





## Our Board

*Reconciliation Tasmania Board: (back row L-R) Georgie Crockett, Bonnie Bonneville, Donna Watson (until Nov 2024), Co-Chair Beth Gilligan, Simon Cook, CEO Pauline Cook (front row L-R) Lee Wilson (until April 2025), Co-Chair Clair Anderson, Simon Gates*

## Recognising our 2024 Reconciliation Champion

We proudly acknowledge **Aunty Judith-Rose Thomas** as our 2024 Reconciliation Champion. A highly respected artist, educator and cultural leader, Aunty Judith-Rose has dedicated her life to sharing her knowledge, strengthening community connections, and inspiring greater understanding and respect for Tasmanian Aboriginal culture.

*Aunty Judith-Rose (centre) with Bridie White and Georgie Crockett at the Reconciliation Tasmania 2024 AGM, Launceston*



*We chose the serpent as it is a strong symbol for both the school and the broader community. It represents resilience and strength. The serpent creates a path as it moves along the land, this is a metaphor for our journey toward Reconciliation at EC. There were over 200 students and teachers involved in our submission"*

**Elizabeth College, Whole School Project: 'Now More Than Ever', Youth Speak Out**





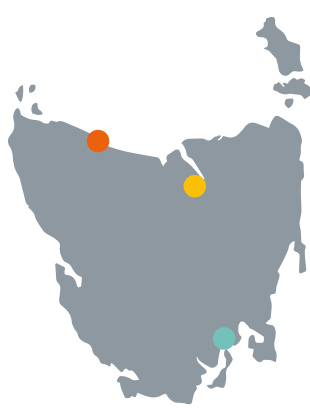
NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2025

# Bridging Now to Next

## Driving truth-telling, building connections and inspiring change

Our 2025 National Reconciliation Week Breakfast program was our biggest yet, reaching more people than ever before. Across Tasmania, over 1500 people came together to listen, learn and share in powerful moments of truth-telling. Our speakers shared moving, and at times confronting, messages that created impactful experiences and laid a renewed foundation to reframe reconciliation for the future.

- **Patway/Burnie:** 180 attendees (sold out)
- **Launceston:** 350 attendees
- **Nipaluna/Hobart:** 1,000 attendees (sold out)



Clair Andersen, Pauline Cook, Theresa Sainty and Merinda Sainty



DENNI aka 'madam pakana' delivered powerful performances at our Launceston breakfast, and in Nipaluna where she was joined on stage by students from Elizabeth College

## Reach & Impact

- **276** education attendees incl. Aboriginal students
- **298** organisations represented
- **67** total tables booked (656 total attendees)
- Extensive media coverage including in **The Mercury** and **ABC**

## Thank you to our speakers and performers, including:

- Her Excellency the Honourable Ms Sam Mostyn AC, Governor General of Australia
- Thomas Mayo
- Jim Everett-Puralia Meenamatta
- Prof Kate Warner
- Theresa Sainty
- Dewayne Everettsmith
- Ayla Williams
- Charlotte Loring
- Guy 'Chalky' Grey
- Terrill Riley-Gibson
- DENNI aka 'madam pakana'
- James Henry, Merinda Sainty
- The Treenoner Dance Mob



Chalky Grey, Pauline Cook, Karen Smart (The Treenoner Dance Mob), Her Excellency the Honourable Ms Sam Mostyn AC, Governor General of Australia, Thomas Mayo and Kate Warner at the Patway/Burnie 2025 National Reconciliation Week Breakfast

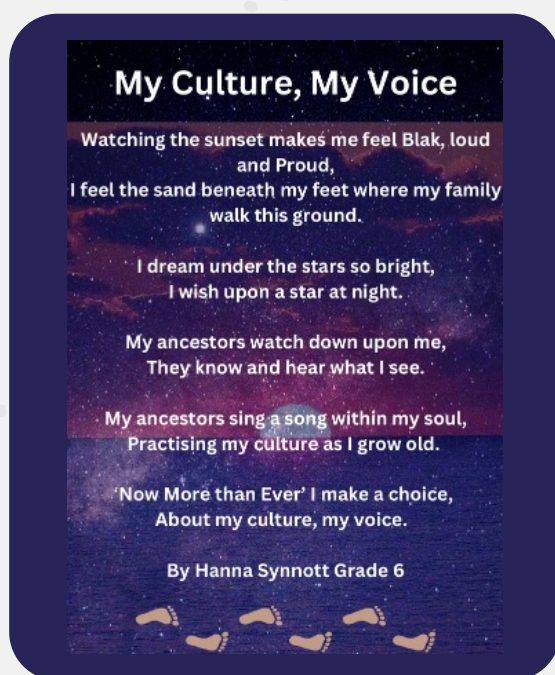




**“Come over to us,  
assimilate with us,  
come to understand  
country with us.”**

*Jim Everett-Puralia Meenamatta delivered a powerful message, and an invitation to 1000 attendees, in his keynote at the Nipaluna breakfast*

Youth Speak Out – Written entry  
**Hanna Synnott**, St James Catholic College,  
Grade 6



### **‘Beyond Division’**

Youth Speak Out – Speech entry  
**Hallie Cormack**, St Mary's College, Grade 10

*“Reconciliation is more than just a concept; it is a commitment to transforming relationships based on respect and understanding. It involves a collective effort to confront and rectify the injustices of the past. Now, More Than Ever, we must strive for reconciliation, which calls for honesty, empathy, and action. We must engage in meaningful dialogue, fostering an environment where first nations people voices are not only heard, but amplified. This requires us to listen to their stories, learn from their experiences, and understand their worldviews”*

Reconciliation  
**Tasmania**



### **Our major supporters**

MyState Foundation  
Tasmanian Government  
University of Tasmania  
Reconciliation Australia  
Our philanthropic partners

### **Thank you**

The Board, CEO and team at Reconciliation Tasmania extend our sincere thanks to our members, volunteers, sponsors, partners and the wider community. Your support and commitment make it possible for us to continue to work with Tasmanian Aboriginal people for truth, justice and a better future.

National Reconciliation Week photos by Jillian Mundy.