

CODEREAD Dyslexia Network

**Dyslexia Awareness Month 2025 Wrap-Up Together,
we made Australia glow red!**



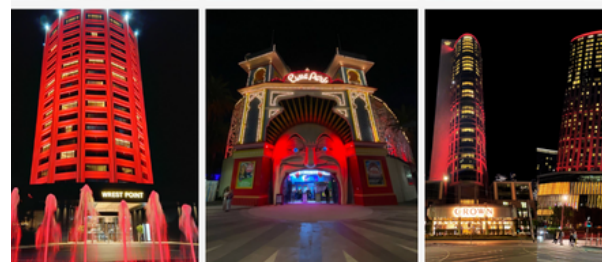
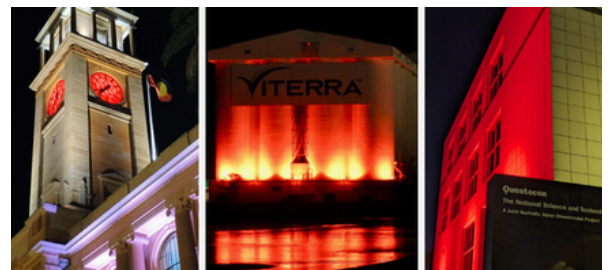
LIGHT IT RED FOR DYSLEXIA

This year's Light It Red campaign saw an incredible **106 landmarks** illuminated across Australia! Special thanks go to Amelia Matlock and Grace for leading coordination and communication, and to the members who captured the red glow — including Jules Stone, Sharon Ann, Amelia Matlock, Adrian Borg, Sandra Marshall, Bruce Morgan, Simon Dean, Melissa Ernesti, Kathryn Olsen, and Marshall Roberts. Their photos helped the message shine brighter than ever.

THANK YOU MESSAGE

A Huge THANK YOU!

As October ends, we celebrate everyone who brought Dyslexia Awareness Month 2025 to life — our biggest year yet! Together, we've created much-needed awareness for dyslexia across Australia, thanks to the incredible passion and dedication of our community.



THE RED CARPET EVENT

What an unforgettable night! Thank you to everyone who made this year's Red Carpet Event such a success. Special recognition goes to Tricia Gardner for her leadership in logistics and event coordination, Sandra Marshall for receiving this year's Sandra Tidswell Outstanding Advocate Award, and Marscia Paradiso for her operational support. The Gardner Family — Eleanor, Caitlyn, Cameron, and Colin — handled logistics, gift wrapping, and raffle management with professionalism and heart. Entertainment by Jordan "Biggie" Steffens, and support from Bill Hansberry and Bartek Rajkowski, made this night truly special.



You can see the photobooth snaps sneak peak from this amazing event [here](#)! Official photos to release soon.



YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Our inspiring Youth Ambassador, George Rowland, was featured in the Hervey Bay Advertiser and had the honour of meeting the Governor of Queensland, helping inspire young Australians about dyslexia awareness.

[\[Read the story »\]](#)

MEDIA, ADVOCACY & AWARENESS

Children's author and Australian Children's Laureate (2024-2025) Sally Rippin, who is a fantastic advocate in the dyslexia space (Wild Things: How We Learn to Read and What Can Happen If We Don't, Billie B Brown, Hey Jack! and School of Monsters) joined Kerrie Fergusson, a new member of the Code REaD Dyslexia Network, in an insightful discussion on dyslexia and creativity. Kerrie is a Councillor on Inner West Council in Sydney, a children's fantasy writer and advocate with a background in media, public relations, and community service, brings a deep passion for improving dyslexia awareness and access to early diagnosis. Watch their inspiring interview [here](#):





Julie Mavlian was very busy during the month in her role as media lead for Code REaD. She raised awareness through the Less Chatter, More Matter podcast and her LDA webinar, Identifying and Supporting Students with Dyslexia, now part of LDA's on-demand library. She also hosted a morning tea at school with lots of delicious red food!

[\[Listen To The Podcast Now »\]](#)

[Identifying and Supporting Students with Dyslexia](#)

- **Sarah Blake**, our new Co-Opted Director spoke on 100.9 FM about Dyslexia Awareness Month. Sarah will also be leading our new Western Australia working group to directly advocate for changes in Western Australia. If you would like to be involved please let us know, click [here](#).
- **Marshall Roberts** interviewed for two important articles for Education HQ
Don't wait six months to diagnose a child with dyslexia: peak body's critical update
 and
Beware of structured literacy's 'implementation casualties': expert
- **Marshall Roberts** also initiated the [AustralianTeacherLegalAction](#) campaign, an important Board endorsed initiative as we sharpen our focus on initial teacher education. This campaign is calling for accountability from universities that provide education degrees that are not adequately preparing teachers to teach reading effectively. The campaign aims to move the long-standing "reading wars" debate beyond academia and into the courtroom. It invites teachers who believe their degrees were "not fit for purpose" to register their interest, highlighting both the financial and emotional impacts of inadequate teacher training in literacy instruction.
- **Scott Shirren** joined Marshall in one of the EdHQ articles and continued to provide free education sessions within psychology networks and professional circles.
- **Debi Flett and Amelia Matlock** attended the [Disability Standards in Education Sector](#) consultation and along with **Thom Neville** are preparing a formal submission. Amelia also Prepared a submission on the [revised IDA definition of dyslexia](#)
 Link to [Public Comment on the Revised 2025 Dyslexia Definition](#)
- **Julie Hermansen** spoke at Yamba View Club on dyslexia.

SANDY DUNCANSON SOCIAL JUSTICE LECTURE

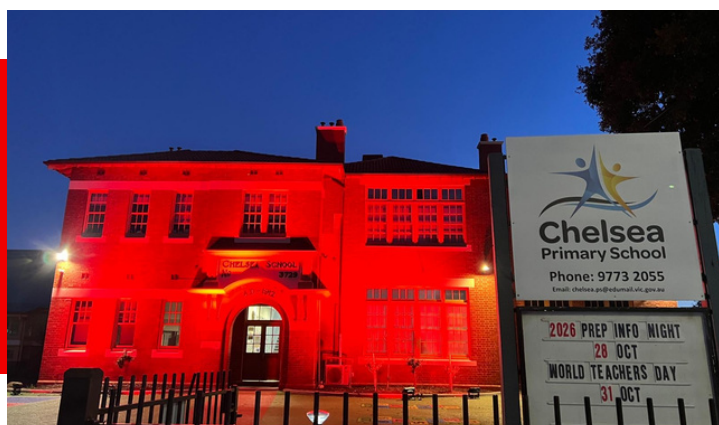


Each year, the University of Tasmania hosts the **Sandy Duncanson Social Justice Lecture** to honour the legacy of Alexander (Sandy) Duncanson and promote awareness of social justice issues. This public event brings together students, staff, legal professionals, and the wider Tasmanian community in a shared commitment to equity and inclusion.

The **2025 lecture** featured an introduction by **Marshall Roberts** and a keynote address by **Distinguished Professor Pamela Snow**, and last year's Sandra Tidswell Outstanding Advocate Award recipient whose insights continue to inspire meaningful dialogue and action across the country on evidence-based approaches to support student literacy.

CHELSEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

A special mention goes to Chelsea Primary School in Victoria, who lit up their entire school red to raise awareness for dyslexia.



To every school, organisation, council, photographer, supporter, and volunteer who took part in this year's activities — **THANK YOU!**

Your collective efforts have amplified the voice of the dyslexia community and helped bring understanding, visibility, and hope to so many. Together, we've made Australia glow red with awareness and unity — and together, we will continue to drive change.

#CodeREaD #LightItRedforDyslexia #DyslexiaAwarenessMonth #OctoberWrapUp #LIR2025