



Building Relationships
& STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

John T Reid
Charitable Trusts
Annual Review
2015

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Trustees	Staff
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Mr Philip L Endersbee , B. Bus	Mrs Jessica Hurle , Office and Communications Manager
Mr Doug L Goodman , LL. B.	Mrs Melanie Robertson , Administration Officer
Dr Barbara S Inglis , B.A. (Hons), M-es-L, Doc. de 3e Cycle, GAICD	Ms Megan Lawson , Administration Assistant
Mr Andrew G McKenzie , Dip. Ap. Sci. Ag. Dip. Fin. Pl. (SIA) Grad Dip Bus Mgt	
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Mr Trevor R Thomas , B.E. (Hons), M.B.A.	
Ms Cath S Webb , B.A., Dip Ed	

ABOUT US

The John T Reid Charitable Trusts comprises two Trusts established in 1955 and 1963 that are administered together. One Trust gives funds to eligible organisations in Victoria, while the funding range of the other covers the whole of Australia. We provide grants to charitable organisations within Australia to support communities in need. The Trust office is based in Melbourne and is managed by four part-time staff. Our Chairman plays a very strong role in leading this administration, and spends at least one day a week in the office.

Trust Deeds written in 1955 and 1963 provide guidance to the eight Trustees who manage the Trusts' assets and decide where funding will be distributed. These Deeds are straightforward, and describe that support can be given in the areas of social welfare, medical research, the arts and education. Environment was included as an eligible area of support as this became a concern within the community over recent years.

Our current funding process places projects within six main categories. Many projects will fall within more than one category of support; we encourage each applicant to present their proposal in their own words as it best promotes their needs rather than try to fit within a rigid category. The Trustees are fortunate to have such a broad Trust Deed to refer to, as they are not limited to funding specific amounts within specified funds, which is the case with many other Charitable Trusts and Foundations.

The John T Reid Charitable Trusts fund small, medium and large organisations, and the size of each grant is considered in terms of the ability of each organisation to manage that grant, and the other sources of funding available to them. This means that the Trusts do not have upper and lower limits to the amount of their grants, nor is it relevant to consider the "average size" of our grants.



The Trustees of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts

L-R Dr Barbara Inglis, Ms Jane Reid, Mr Andrew McKenzie, Mrs Belinda Lawson (Chairman), Mr Philip Endersbee, Ms Cath Webb, Mr Douglas Goodman, Mr Trevor Thomas

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Belinda Lawson
Chairman

It is my honour to be presenting this 2015 Annual Review as Chairman of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts. The first of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts was established in 1955, making this year the 60th anniversary of that event. Over that time, the Trusts have granted nearly \$80,000,000 to worthy recipients throughout Australia. Adjusted for the cost of living, that amounts to more than \$117,000,000 in 2015 dollars. There is much to celebrate.

Over the last 12 months we have had two very successful granting rounds. This Annual Review will provide an overview of some of these projects.

In relation to grants approved in previous years, a three-year grant in Alzheimer's research provided to the Queensland Brain Institute has resulted in a significant breakthrough. In March 2015 it was announced that researchers had successfully used ultrasound technology to destroy the neurotoxic amyloid plaque deposits on the brains of Alzheimer's-affected laboratory mice, halting progression of the disease and, more importantly, restoring memory. This novel non-pharmaceutical approach to the treatment of Alzheimer's is a promising step in developing an effective treatment of the disease in humans.

As Trustees of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts, we feel it is important to keep the descendants of Sir John T Reid informed about the activities of the Trusts. Each year, we host an event for family members where speakers provide information on a specific area funded by the Trusts. This year, we chose to highlight climate change and endangered species as they have been areas that the Trustees and family members have had an interest in for a long time. Mr Glen Holland, Healesville Sanctuary Director from Zoos Victoria, updated us on the work being done in the endangered species program at Healesville Sanctuary and in the Coranderrk Bushland Reserve. Ms Amanda McKenzie, CEO of the Climate Council of Australia spoke to us about her work with the Climate Council and in setting up the Australian Youth Climate Coalition. With nearly all of the Trustees and family members present, it was an informative and highly enjoyable evening.

I would like to thank all of the Trustees for their work over the past year. Being a Trustee of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts requires a significant commitment of time, skill and energy from each Trustee, and each of their contributions is immensely appreciated.

In particular, I want to acknowledge and thank Anne Grindrod, our immediate past Chairman, who completed her five-year term last November. The Trusts benefited greatly from the experience, commitment, keen foresight and kindness that Annie was able to bring to her Chairmanship, and the many improvements that were put in place during her term will continue to assist us in our philanthropic work well into the future.

Finally, I want to thank Debbie Ashbolt and her team, whose professional approach to the administration of the Trusts makes what we do very enjoyable. Her knowledge of our grants, not for profit organisations and her organisational skills are second to none. I am extremely grateful for all she does for the Trusts.



Belinda Lawson
Chairman

CEO'S REPORT



Debbie Ashbolt

Chief Executive Officer
John T Reid Charitable Trusts

In November 2014, we farewelled Anne Grindrod as outgoing Chairman. I have enjoyed working with Anne over many years, and thank her for providing such a strong role model and support in the work we have done within the office. In the five years Anne was Chairman, Anne and I worked together on many areas within the administration of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts. We moved to our lovely office in Surrey Hills, employed two part time administration staff, streamlined our application system, updated the website and worked on many areas of Governance within the Trust. I miss Anne's presence in the office and wish her well in her future involvement in the philanthropic sector.

As one door closes, another opens, and I have enjoyed welcoming Belinda Lawson into the Chairman's role. I have worked with Belinda for many years in her role as a Trustee, and it has been a rewarding seven months as we work together to ensure the ongoing success of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts. We have updated our Trustee Handbook, and have formalised our Risk Policy and Staffing Policy. I look forward to working with Belinda in the coming year as we focus on some key areas of need identified within the community.

I would like to thank our wonderful administration staff for their support over the past year, as I had some personal leave. Our Administration Officer, Melanie Robertson, has taken on more responsibility since August when our Communications and Office Manager Jessica Hurle went on maternity leave. Congratulations to Jessica and her husband Aaron on the birth of their daughter Maya in September. Maya has had several visits to the office, as Jess has managed to maintain the website and complete some other work from home whilst on maternity leave. I really appreciate Jessica's dedication in doing this, and Melanie's preparedness to work extra hours. We have also welcomed back Megan Lawson to continue the work she started last year inputting historical grant details into our database.

The 2015 Financial year has seen many challenges faced by the Not-for-profit sector, as Government funding cuts have had a big impact on many organisations. At the John T Reid Charitable Trusts, we have noticed the demand for funding core business within many organisations, an area of funding which the Trusts has not focused on in the past. Whilst the majority of the grants approved this year have been for new projects, there are several which support the core work within the organisation, as that is where the greatest need for support has been. At the John T Reid Charitable Trusts, we consider each funding enquiry on its own merit, and aim not to be limited by rigid rules around the projects we fund. We are fortunate that our Trust Deeds were written in a manner to allow a broad range of areas in which to fund.

I feel very honoured to hold this role within the John T Reid Charitable Trusts, and enjoy the opportunity to speak with so many passionate, dedicated people working within the not-for-profit sector in Australia. The highlight of my month is reading all the detailed reports we receive from our funding recipients, and we are very proud that we receive written reporting and acquittal reports from every organisation we fund. We take reporting very seriously, and grant recipients are well aware from the time they receive their grant that receiving written reports each six months are an important part of our governance process. The Trustees dedication in reviewing these reports and providing feedback to the administration staff is wonderful, and I thank them for their unwavering support.



Debbie Ashbolt
Chief Executive Officer

2015 FUNDING OVERVIEW

The 2015 Annual Report provides information on the activities of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts in the financial year to 30 June 2015. Further in the report we have highlighted several projects in each funding sector.

Grants Approved

The Trustees approved funding to the following organisations at their meetings in November 2014 and May 2015, totaling \$2.5 million:

Aged & Palliative

Breakaway
Queensland Kids

Arts & Cultural Heritage

Outback Theatre for Young People

Community & Social Welfare

Asylum Seekers Centre NSW
Australian Red Cross (Cyclone Pam)
Australian Red Cross (Nepal Earthquake)
Bayley House
Beyond Blue
Challenge Employment
Deaf Children Australia
Fitted for Work
Gunawirra
One Voice
Oz Harvest
OzHelp Foundation
SNAICC
St Vincent de Paul Queensland
The Australia Institute
WA Motor Industry Foundation

Education & Youth

Child Abuse Prevention Service
Kids Under Cover
Little Souls Taking Big Steps
Reading Out Poverty
The Alannah and Madeline Foundation
The Link Centre
The Reach Foundation
The Smith Family
Travancore School
Yarra Ranges Special Development School
Youth Futures WA

Environment

Australian Youth Climate Coalition
Earthwatch
Eastern Hills & Murray Plains Catchment
Tasmanian Land Conservancy
World Wide Fund for Nature

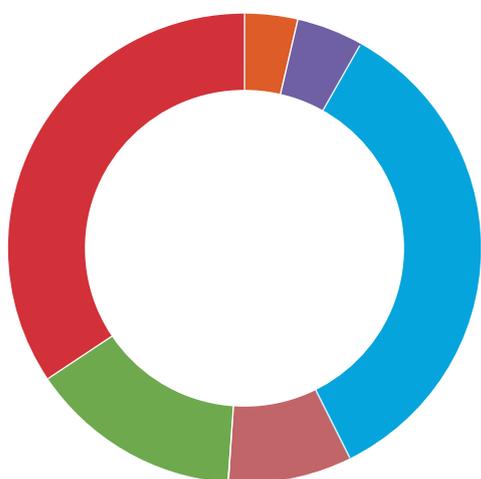
Health & Medical Research

Cancer Council Victoria
Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Institute
The Royal Victorian Eye & Ear Hospital

Active Grants year to 30 June 2015

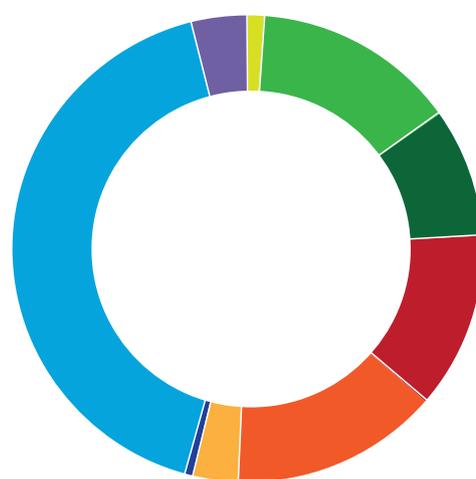
In monitoring the grants distributed by the John T Reid Charitable Trusts, the Trustees closely review the reporting on all our active grants. Active grants are considered to be all grants that have unexpended funds. Some of those grants will have been paid in the financial year to 30 June 2015, and others will have been paid in previous years. Several active grants are multi-year grants that are paid over two or three years.

The graphs opposite show the active grants in both category spread and geographic spread. The total of active projects in the 2015 financial year is \$8.8 million.



Active Grants year 30 June 2015 by category:

● Aged & Palliative	\$315,700
● Arts & Cultural Heritage	\$402,540
● Community & Social Welfare	\$3,020,577
● Education & Youth	\$760,915
● Environment	\$1,292,300
● Health & Medical Research	\$3,010,000



Active grants year to 30 June 2015 by Geographic Spread:

● ACT	\$100,000
● National	\$1,226,000
● NSW	\$785,822
● NT	\$1,078,000
● QLD	\$1,274,155
● SA	\$281,000
● TAS	\$20,000
● VIC	\$3,697,055
● WA	\$340,000

HIGHLIGHTS AGED AND PALLIATIVE CARE

Many older Australians are living in isolation, and suffer from medical symptoms which are often undiagnosed. Over the past year, the John T Reid Charitable Trusts has funded research into age-related disease and also programs supporting the expansion of the older generation's social networks.

Breakaway, Socialising for Senior

Breakaway provides specialised respite programs and services for several groups including adults with disabilities, frail aged and young carers.

The John T Reid Charitable Trusts co-funded a 'Socialising for Seniors' program, to enhance well-being, bring lonely and isolated seniors together for friendship, fun, connection with community, mind and body stimulation.

In June 2015, supported by Breakaway volunteers, 28 seniors aged 54 to 91 connected and interacted together.

Seniors enjoyed:

- Hearing of facilities and activities available in the area
- Information on Active Ageing, Falls Prevention and local programs and services available on the Central coast
- Presentation on quick and easy nutritional meals
- Training on iPads for social connections
- Activities to stimulate mind and body - Zumba, Chair Chia, social games and trivia
- Entertainment - Evening with the King (Elvis), harpist, one-man-band, the North Lakes Children's School Choir, Singing Hands Choir, reptile show and a bus trip to the Gosford Regional Art Gallery.



Photo courtesy of Breakaway



HammondCare, Intervene Project

HammondCare have a passion for improving quality of life for people in need through serving people with complex or aged care needs. The charity is held in very high regard for the quality of care that they provide as well as their innovative, research-based approach to improving the quality of life for people in their facilities. HammondCare specialise in dementia care, palliative care, rehabilitation, specialist mental health for older people and other health and aged care services with a particular commitment to dementia care.

"MANY THANKS FOR THE FORESIGHT AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT THAT MAKES THIS WORK POSSIBLE, WE LOOK FORWARD TO KEEPING YOU UPDATED ON FURTHER PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT'S OBJECTIVES."

Peter Cheel

Head of Foundation, HammondCare

The effective management of pain is one of the biggest contributions to improving quality of life for older Australians, particularly those living with dementia. HammondCare's Intervene Project is the charity's pain intervention initiative specifically designed for vulnerable older people living with dementia.

The Trustees of the John T Reid Charitable Trust were pleased to co-fund Stage One of this complex three-year project, which aims for national systematic change that will create an effective, proactive culture of pain management.

The scoping, data collection and review of the literature (Stage One) is now complete. The next stage will involve disseminating this information.

HIGHLIGHTS

ARTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Trustees believe that the Arts should be available to all Australians, and will often fund projects that allow access to those who would otherwise be unable to attend Arts related activities. This may be because of financial constraints or geographic isolation. The cultural heritage of the country is also seen as an area worthy of support.

Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF), MIFF Accelerator

MIFF Accelerator, an annual MIFF initiative, is a four-day educational, professional and inspirational skills development program for up and coming directors who are identified as leaders in their field. The program provides access for young directors to discuss current trends in international filmmaking with established producers, directors and financiers and build their skills to tackle the challenges of the feature film world.

In 2014, the Accelerator program comprised 17 sessions of talks by industry professionals with participants attending 11 screening session and

networking events with other MIFF guests, agency representatives and Accelerator speakers with the highlight being two packed-house screenings of Accelerator shorts.

Part funding from the John T Reid Charitable Trusts also went towards the 2015 program.

"THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO OUR ACCELERATOR PROGRAM. WE HAD AN AMAZING 2014 PROGRAM."

Mary Chen
Coordinator
Melbourne International Film Festival





Photo courtesy of Royal Historical Society of Victoria

Royal Historical Society of Victoria, Writing Local History

The Writing Local History project with the Royal Historical Society of Victoria aims to seek amateur historians to improve the telling of their local community's history.

The recruitment of a highly experienced workshop leader has taken place, with Rosalie Triolo recently delivering workshops in Benalla and Hamilton.

Further workshops in Sale and Mildura will take place in late 2015 and early 2016, when the program and essential written materials will finish being developed.

"THE WORKSHOP IN BENALLA WAS EXCELLENT, THE PRESENTER WAS VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE AND THE HANDOUTS WERE PARTICULARLY GOOD FOR FUTURE REFERENCE. I'M SURE THE STANDARD OF LOCAL HISTORY WRITING IS NOW ON THE UP AFTER THIS SESSION!"

Kay Ball
Workshop Attendee

HIGHLIGHTS COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL WELFARE

Through the enquiry process, the Trustees monitor the most urgent areas of need within the Australian Community. The projects funded in this sector cover a wide area, both geographically and in terms of the people supported. We have noticed a large number of funding enquiries in the disability sector this year, along with great need to support the homeless, asylum seekers and people facing mental health issues.

Gunawirra, Young Aboriginal Mothers Group

The Young Aboriginal Mothers Project (YAMP) at Gunawirra is an early intervention service providing group programs, counselling, psychotherapy and casework services for Aboriginal women and their infants and children from pregnancy to age five.

The weekly mothers groups are facilitated by experienced therapists and incorporate a range

of activities such as infant massage, cooking and nutrition, photography, film-making, art, outings and community leadership.

With past funding from the Trust successful, the Trustees were pleased to fund YAMP again in 2014, specifically working with a group of pregnant mothers and mothers with newborns.



Photo courtesy of Gunawirra



Photo courtesy of Lifeline



Photo courtesy of Lifeline

Lifeline, Online Crisis Support Chat

Lifeline's Crisis Support Chat is a national online service that compliments the telephone service, by providing Australians in crisis with an alternate option for help seeking.

The Chat service offers short-term support for people who are overwhelmed and having difficulty coping or staying safe. The service operates in real time using 'chat' technology. It is a confidential one-to-one chat with a Lifeline Online Crisis Supporter.

John T Reid Charitable Trusts felt it important to fund the expansion of the operational hours of Lifeline's Chat service, to help more people in need Australia wide.

The additional service hour has meant increased availability for people experiencing crises and help seekers at risk of suicide, particularly at times when other services are unavailable, or people need an alternative to phone or face-to-face support.

The scoping, data collection and review of the literature (Stage One) is now complete. The next stage will involve disseminating this information.

"THIS FUNDING WILL ENABLE GREATER REACH WITH AUSTRALIANS IN DISTRESS OR EXPERIENCING SUICIDAL CRISIS, PARTICULARLY AT TIMES WHEN OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES ARE UNAVAILABLE, OR WHEN PEOPLE NEED AN ALTERNATIVE TO TELEPHONE OR FACE TO FACE SUPPORT."

Pete Shmigel,
CEO, Lifeline Australia



Photo courtesy of ASC NSW

Asylum Seekers Centre NSW, Accommodation Caseworker

The Asylum Seekers Centre (ASC) in NSW was founded in 1993 to support the critical needs of women, men and children fleeing conflict, persecution and torture. They support community based asylum seekers awaiting the result of their application for refugee status, by providing over 1400 clients with emergency and crisis accommodation, financial support, legal advice, nutrition, medical/health services as well as education, social inclusion and fitness programs.

In 2014, 75% of the asylum seekers requesting support from the ASC arrived homeless or were about to become homeless. The dire need of an accommodation centre was recognised, to not only provide short term accommodation for clients but intensive casework support at a critical time.

Funding provided by the John T Reid Charitable Trusts has enabled the ASC to appoint a dedicated Accommodation Caseworker, which will enhance the level of care provided to clients and who will manage and operate the new accommodation centre located in Petersham, within walking distance to the ASC.



Photo courtesy of Sunraysia Residential Services

Sunraysia Residential Services, Benetook Chooks

Sunraysia Residential Services (SRS), based in Mildura, is a community based disability and community care service for the communities of Sunraysia, the Millewa, the Mallee and far South-Western New South Wales.

SRS were able to purchase a 10 acre area in Mildura suitable for use as a hobby farm for clients. The Trustees granted to enable SRS to start up a social enterprise farm which after three years will be self-funding.

Funds from the John T Reid Charitable Trusts went towards the renovation of the old house on the property for use by staff and clients, as well as the construction of an egg packing shed.

"THE FUNDING DONATED BY JOHN T REID CHARITABLE TRUSTS WAS THE CATALYST WE NEEDED THAT INSPIRED THE CONFIDENCE AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR OTHERS TO SUPPORT SRS."

Marian Luehman
Chief Executive Officer,
Sunraysia Residential Services



Photo courtesy of TAD Disability Services

TAD Disability Services, Freedom Wheels Program

Freedom Wheels modified bikes enable children with disabilities to receive the exercise that they may not otherwise be able to get and join in a sociable, inclusive activity with the family. These bikes also give children with disabilities a huge boost in confidence as they are able to do an activity that others so often taken for granted.

The Trustees of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts were delighted to enable TAD to assess 60 children with disabilities in order to evaluate their suitability for a Freedom Wheels modified bike.

The program has, and will continue to, assist children to achieve better health outcomes through greater ease of activity, freedom and independence in their daily lives.

"THE SUPPORT YOU HAVE SHOWN HAS BEEN TRULY WONDERFUL. WITHOUT SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU, TAD WOULD QUITE SIMPLY BE UNABLE TO CONTINUE OUR WORK."

Warren Holland
Director of Services, TAD Disability Services

HIGHLIGHTS

EDUCATION AND YOUTH

Keeping young people engaged at school has been a focus for many of the applicants to the John T Reid Charitable Trusts this year. In addition to this, preparing young people for the transition to employment, and support for young people who have been subject to trauma or abuse, have also been areas of focus.

The Alannah & Madeline Foundation, Expansion of the Children Ahead Program

As the leading national not-for-profit organisation protecting children from violence and bullying, The Alannah and Madeline Foundation's vision is that all children will live in a safe and supportive environment.

The Children Ahead Program is unique in offering a child-focused, long term, holistic, post-crisis intervention model, and there are no known services that are the same or as comprehensive.

The program is open to Melbourne families with children aged 0-18 years who have been affected by violence or abuse and living in the Port Philip, Bayside, Yarra, Brimbank and Melbourne municipalities.

Funding received from the John T Reid Charitable Trusts allowed for the expansion of this crucial program in Brimbank.

"YOUR SUPPORT IS INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT AS IT ALLOWS TO CONTINUE HELPING CHILDREN ALL OVER THE COUNTRY."

Dr Judith Slocombe
CEO, The Alannah and Madeline Foundation



Photo courtesy of The Alannah & Madeline Foundation



Photo courtesy of Little Souls

Little Souls Taking Big Steps (Little Souls), Natural Playground Equipment and Resources

Little Souls provides a best practice model of early intervention therapy for children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Their programs combine both an individually tailored one-on-one therapy program based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis together with structured and meaningful social integration with typically developing children.

The Trustees were pleased to recently provide funding to Little Souls for the construction of a natural playground within their centre, including the purchase of raised wooden garden beds, wooden seating units with storage, wooden play equipment, hanging garden pots and other natural learning resources.

"THE CHILDREN ARE THOROUGHLY ENJOYING THE NEW EQUIPMENT AND IT HAS ADDED A BURST OF COLOUR THAT ENSURES THAT LEARNING IS FUN."

Lyn Mitchell,
Fundraising Manager,
Little Souls Taking Big Steps



Photo courtesy of Youth Futures WA

Youth Futures WA, NEST Program

The mission of Youth Futures is to provide young people with professional services that increase community participation and enhance wellbeing. They work with the most disadvantaged, at-risk and vulnerable young people in Perth and recognise that for many young people to break the cycle of poverty and disadvantage they require additional support to address underlying issues.

The NEST program at Youth Futures aims to empower disadvantaged teen mothers to maintain custody of their infant and to develop skills that will help them break the cycle of poverty, enhancing their family's independence, health and wellbeing into the future.

Through the Trusts' reporting process, the Trustees were thrilled to recently hear of the achievements that have occurred as a result of our funding.

"WITHOUT THE KIND SUPPORT OF THE JOHN T REID CHARITABLE TRUSTS, MANY DISADVANTAGED YOUNG MOTHERS WOULD NOT BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP A BOND WITH THEIR NEWBORN OR THE CHANCE TO DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS AS A PARENT."

Erica Blaney,
Business Development Manager,
Youth Futures WA



Photo courtesy of Yarra Ranges Special Development School

Yarra Ranges Special Development School, 22 seater bus

Yarra Ranges Special Development School is a school for students with intellectual, multiple and sensory disabilities including autism spectrum disorder.

The acquisition of a new 22 seater bus, to take place by the end of 2015, will make an enormous impact on the lives of the students and those that care for them, enhancing their opportunities to engage with the wider community and improve their self-esteem.

"THE NEW BUS WAS DELIVERED LAST FRIDAY. YOU MAY HAVE FELT THE GROUND SHAKE WITH ALL THE JUMPING UP AND DOWN THE STUDENTS WERE DOING! SO EXCITED."

Teresa Burdeu,
Business Manager,
Yarra Ranges Special Development School

HIGHLIGHTS ENVIRONMENT

Philanthropic support within the environmental sector often includes enabling key environmental groups to educate the public on the most pressing issues facing our native fauna, flora, waterways and ecosystem. At times this involves support to enable collaboration between organisations, the training of volunteers, or communication with landholders to explain how their land management has an ultimate effect on the environment on a larger scale.

Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC), State Climate Boot Camps

The AYCC is Australia's largest youth-led organisation, with 120,000 members and over 600 active volunteers nationally. They educate, engage and inspire young people to take action on climate change. Since their inception in 2007, the AYCC have reached over 40,000 high school students with sustainability education and have run 15 leadership summits for 100-150 participants.

In 2013 with the help of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts, the AYCC held their first National Bootcamp pilot, which in-turn attracted more philanthropic funding; creating an event that is now self-sustaining.

In November 2014, the Trusts approved further funding to the AYCC, to expand the bootcamps to a state level. The February National Bootcamp was the largest national summit AYCC ever held, bringing together over 240 people including 30 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, for three transformational days of skills-based training.



Photo courtesy of AYCC



Photo courtesy of WWF

World Wide Fund for Nature Australia (WWF), Project Pioneer

WWF is one of the world's most respected independent conservation organisations, with more than 50 years' experience at an international level, and more than 36 years of operation in Australia.

WWF recognise that one of the biggest threats to the Great Barrier Reef right now is the quality of water that runs from agricultural land. Grazing cattle is the dominant land use and has been identified as a sector where improved farming and land practices could significantly benefit the water quality water than runs into the Reef lagoon, impacting the Reef and the species that rely on it.

Through Project Pioneer, WWF has partnered with the University of Sydney Resource Consulting Services, industry leaders and leading beef producers to develop, trial and measure improved livestock and pasture management practices that not only deliver significant economic gains for farmers, but also significantly reduce harmful run-off from farms and improve water quality in the Reef.

The scoping, data collection and review of the literature (Stage One) is now complete. The next stage will involve disseminating this information.

"THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT, TOGETHER WE WILL BE ABLE TO PROMOTE PROFITABLE ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE FARMING TO PROTECT THE GREAT BARRIER REEF."

Dermot O'Gorman
CEO, WWF Australia

HIGHLIGHTS

HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH

The Trustees have spent a lot of time developing their strategic plan on funding in the health and medical research sector. The Trustees' strategy is to ensure they remain informed of the work being done in all areas of need. When a specific need is identified, the Trustees then approach the institute and scientists that have expertise in the area. This strategy means that we do not take any unsolicited requests for funding in the medical research area, however enquiries are still considered in relation to community education and awareness within the health sector.

Queensland Ballet, Dance for Parkinson's Disease

In 2011 Queensland Ballet introduced a community wellness program to promote the benefits of dance as part of a healthy lifestyle, which included dance classes tailored for seniors aged over 50. Through this they identified successful overseas programs, particularly Dance for Parkinson's, which had received significant results worldwide.

Through the grant of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts, Queensland Ballet delivered a pilot program over 30 weeks throughout 2013 and 2014 inviting members of the Parkinson's community to dance classes.

The popular classes were run by professionally trained dancers and movement experts to people of all abilities, teaching the art, technique and the fun of dancing.

Dance for Parkinson's allowed the participants to explore the range of physical and creative possibilities that are still very much open to them, within an inclusive setting that is knowledgeable and understanding of each participant's medical condition.



Photos courtesy of Queensland Ballet



Photo courtesy of Queensland Brain Institute

University of Queensland, Queensland Brain Institute (QBI), Fellowship in Ageing Dementia Research

The Trustees thoroughly enjoy seeing progress of long-term projects through the Trusts' reporting process. One large project achieving outstanding results is the Fellowship in Ageing Dementia Research at the Queensland Brain Institute.

Alzheimer's disease is a neurodegenerative disorder and the most common form of ageing dementia, for which there is currently no cure. The Trusts' funding supports QBI's research into neuron failure.

In a media release in March 2015 it was announced that using Ultrasound technology, researchers could break the neurotoxic amyloid plaques and restore memory.

In April 2015 the projects Group Leader, Professor Victor Anggano, showcased the projects and it's promising discoveries.

"THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT HAS BEEN IMMEASURABLE IN DEVELOPING NOVEL STRATEGIES FOR TREATING COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT ASSOCIATED WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE."

Clare Pullar,
Pro Vice-Chancellor (Advancement),
The University of Queensland



Photos courtesy of Royal Melbourne Hospital Neuroscience Centre



Royal Melbourne Hospital Neuroscience Centre with The University of Melbourne, Subarachnoid Hemorrhage Research

Another large long-term project funded during 2014/2015 is research into subarachnoid hemorrhage biomarkers at The Royal Melbourne Hospital Department of Neurosurgery and The University of Melbourne.

The research project investigates cerebrospinal fluid biomarkers in patients with vasospasm secondary to subarachnoid hemorrhage.

The project is now in its third year and during this time a comprehensive database of information from patients with subarachnoid hemorrhage has been established, with 55 patients recruited.

The initial work has produced encouraging results and a number of molecules of interest have been identified as targets in terms of their predictive as well as therapeutic potential for vasospasm.

Specifically, the Trusts funds have been utilised to support the appointment of a research assistant, collection of cerebrospinal fluid, maintenance of the database and laboratory funds analysis.

The Trustees look forward to the year ahead for this project, when work will be consolidated and ultimately translated into clinical practice.



www.johntreidtrusts.com.au

