



John T Reid Charitable Trusts

2025 ANNUAL REVIEW

‘IMPACT, making lives better’



Cover page: Image Courtesy of the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (AAEH)



04 About Us
John T Reid Charitable Trusts

05 Our Trustees

06 Our Values

07 Funding Overview
24/25

09 Message from our Chair
Andrew McKenzie

12 Executive Officer's Report
Emma Edmonds

15 Finance Committee Update
Trevor Thomas

18 Risk Committee Update
Rob Anderson

20 New Trustee Welcome
Abby McKenzie

22 Impact Grant Update (AAEH)

27 Community Grants Updates

ABOUT US

Sir John Reid's philanthropy was based on his belief that well-targeted grants allowed good people to get on with good work for the benefit of the community.

This spirit of giving, combined with his wider networks, enquiring mind and support for humanitarian and social justice causes, ensured that from the outset, funding from the Trusts went to a broad range of organisations that were well placed to have a positive impact in their communities.

The Trust Deeds, typical of the founder, are straightforward and open. Registered charities and other institutions with 'Deductible Gift Recipient' (DGR) status can be supported in a number of broad categories: aged and palliative care, arts and cultural heritage, community and social welfare, education and youth, environment, and health support.

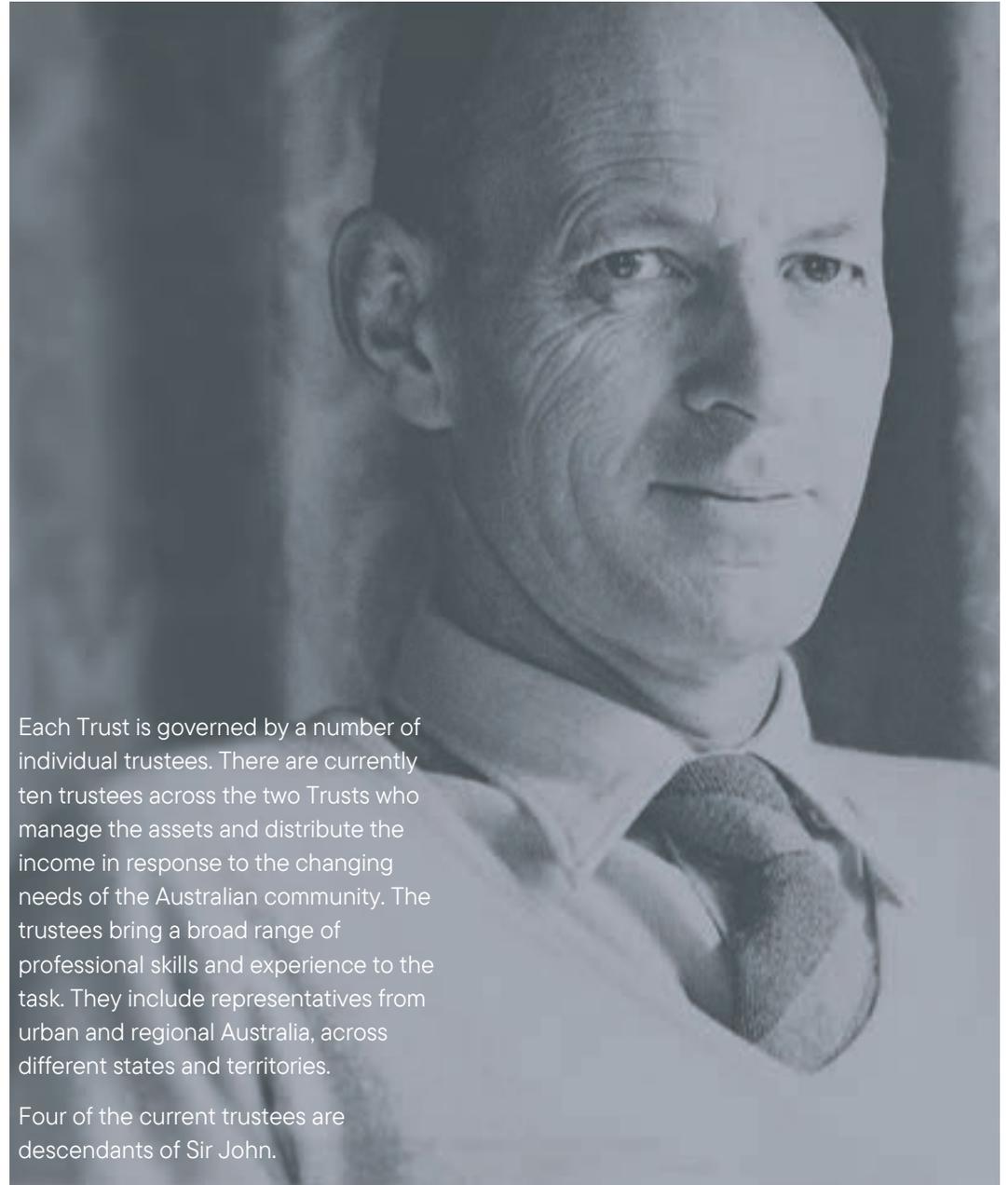
Sir John provided granting guidance for trustees to provide philanthropic support;

- with relatively large amounts to a small number of charities, rather than small amounts to many;

- to charities unable to secure government support;
- to specific projects rather than general purpose funds; and
- to provide special consideration to those charities, which Trustees think valuable to the community, but which lack popular appeal and support.

The John T Reid Charitable Trusts comprise two Trusts that are administered together. Established in 1955, the first Trust provides funding to eligible organisations in Victoria. The second Trust, which dates from 1963, is directed to eligible organisations in all other Australian states and territories.

No funds from either Trust may be distributed overseas.



Each Trust is governed by a number of individual trustees. There are currently ten trustees across the two Trusts who manage the assets and distribute the income in response to the changing needs of the Australian community. The trustees bring a broad range of professional skills and experience to the task. They include representatives from urban and regional Australia, across different states and territories.

Four of the current trustees are descendants of Sir John.

OUR TRUSTEES



Above: Jen Grindrod, trustee



Above from L-R: Jeremy Smith, trustee, Trevor Thomas, trustee, Phil Endersbee, trustee, Rob Anderson, trustee, Abby McKenzie, trustee, Dominic Pelligana, Company Secretary, Andrew McKenzie, Chair, Will Lawson, trustee

OUR VALUES

Relationship based
Leveraging contacts
Connections
Personal touch

ENGAGEMENT

Radical
Curious
Inquisitive
Informed

INNOVATIVE

Sustainable
Making lives better
Outcomes focussed
Respectful

IMPACT

Ethical
Humble
Principled
Honourable
Trusted
Obligation to give

INTEGRITY

Proactive
Timely
Practical
Doers

ACTION
ORIENTED

Strategic
Ambitious
Capability builder

DRIVERS OF
CHANGE

FUNDING OVERVIEW 24/25

The 2025 Annual Review details the funding activities of John T Reid Charitable Trusts for the financial year ending on 30 June 2025. It showcases the various projects funded in the last financial year within each of the Trusts' focus areas.

Australian Trust
\$1,367,626

Victorian Trust
\$825,000

Aged & Palliative Care

Very Special Kids

Arts & Cultural Heritage

- Malthouse Theatre
- La Mama Theatre
- Clipper Ship
City of Adelaide
- Royal Botanic Gardens

Community & Social Welfare

- Wallara Australia Ltd
- Australian Alliance
to End Homelessness
- Alliance for Gambling
Reform
- The First Step Program
- Cottage by the Sea
- Launch Housing

Education and Youth

Australian National University

Environment

- Zoos Victoria
- Country Needs People
- Women's Environmental
Leadership Australia
- Karrkad Kanjdji Trust

Health and Medical

Research

Breast Cancer Network
Australia

GRANTS BY FOCUS AREAS 24/25

Aged and Palliative Care

\$100,000.00

Arts and Cultural Heritage

\$200,000.00

Community and Social Welfare

\$1,112,826.00

Education and Youth

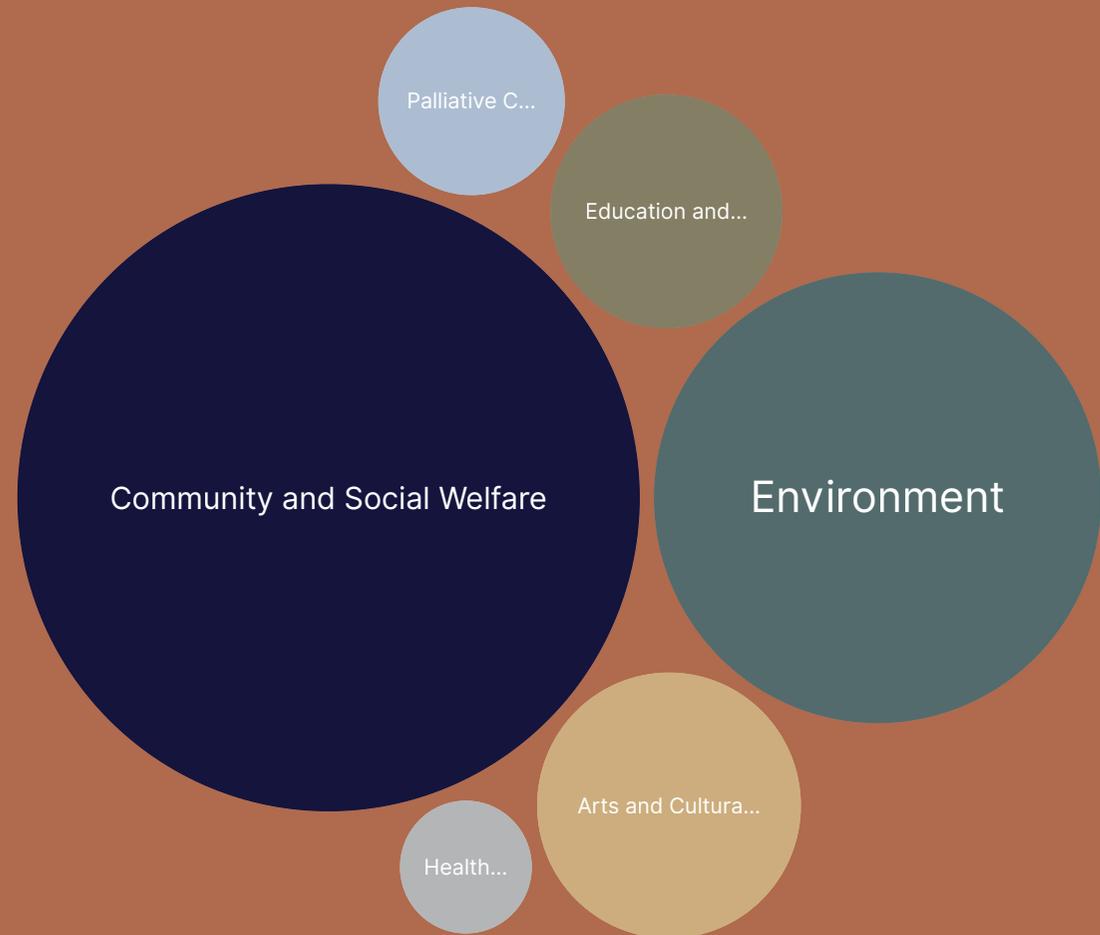
\$154,800.00

Environment

\$575,000.00

Health and Medical Research

\$50,000.00



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

While it has been busy this year it is nice to report that the very rapid rate of change of my first 2 and a half years as Chair at the Trusts has slowed to something much more manageable.

The last major change project, the Trusts Consolidation project led by Jeremy Smith, is nearing its day in Court. Indeed, by the time you read this, we may have already had that day and assuming all goes to plan we will be operating under a new corporate trustee as a single entity. There are considerable savings with this model in terms of costs, accounting, auditing, and administration. The up-to-date and flexible structure will make it much easier to sustain and continue our philanthropic business into the future.

The office has managed all this superbly and, as the time taken to manage change has dropped away, moved into the research role required to deliver on our granting side, particularly in our Impact grants.



Above: Andrew McKenzie, Chair

In addition Suzanne has kicked off her corporate video looking to preserve some of the “whys and hows” of the Trusts by capturing thoughts and musings of past Chairs and Trustees. You can read more about what the office has been up to in Emma’s report.

We continue to improve our management and governance systems with a now regular review of all policy and procedures scheduled in the Board Calendar which is reviewed at the Risk Committee meetings – you can read more about what this Committee does in Rob’s report.

Our investments have done well. Markets have been kind. Our corpus has grown and now sits at over \$80M, income is very solid covering both our granting and costs. You can read more about how our portfolio has developed in Trevor’s report.

On the granting side you can read about some of the excellent Community Grants made this year (you might remember these as our smaller Trustee Led grants) and those of you who made it to the Family Event got to see an excellent presentation from David Person, CEO at the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (AAEH) where he detailed the work we are supporting there in our first major Impact Grant (our long term, large scale “moving the dial” grants).



From top to bottom; Margaret Ross, Belinda Lawson, Andrew McKenzie, filming of JTR Corporate Video

We are now researching for our new Impact Grant. This is in the Environment area and more specifically on the Great Southern Reef. This Committee is being chaired by Jen Grindrod.

The Trustees have, as always, done a fantastic job. We recently had a new Trustee join our ranks, Abigail McKenzie who is a 4th Generation family member. I hope she enjoys her time with the Trusts growing into her role.

As new blood comes on board, sadly we will be saying goodbye to one of our longest serving and dedicated Trustees – Mr Phil Endersbee.

After over 25 years as a Trustee, Phil recently advised me of his retirement from our Board where his last meeting will be in November 2026. This, for me is very very sad news.

Phil came on Board about 6 months or so after I joined the Trusts. We got on well from the onset. So well that then Chair, Margaret, stopped us sitting together because we talked and laughed too much in the “back row”.

Phil has an extraordinary mix of skills and experience in business, amazing networks and dedicated work in philanthropy that will continue after he leaves us on the other Boards he currently sits on. I feel could write this whole report on what Phil has given to the Trusts over his 25 years and it still wouldn't cover the half of it. He will be sorely missed.

Finally I wish to advise that at the May 2025 meeting I announced my own retirement from the Trusts.

The Chair has to give 18 months notice so my last meeting as a Trustee will be November 2026. The Board formed a committee to look at the question of succession and appointing a new Chair. The Board will have considered the committee's recommendations at our November 2025 meeting.

It has been an extraordinary privilege to have been involved with the Trusts and I feel Grandad and Granny would be very happy with where the Trusts are today.

Andrew McKenzie

Chair, John T Reid Charitable Trusts



Above: Emma Edmonds, Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The past 12 months have been more “settled” for the office, as the rate of change at the Trusts has been at a gentler pace and new practices have become “business as usual”. The impact operationally is a more flexible, agile workplace with established processes that will help sustain the Trusts within the everchanging digital world.

Our use of electronic tools has now extended to the board, as we have introduced an online meeting management tool, Microsoft Decisions. This has made meeting preparation and follow up much easier for staff, and we hope it also makes it easier for Board members to access the information they need.

Decisions employs AI tools, which we have begun using as we slowly explore AI more broadly. We are mindful of the potential impact of AI on the not-for-profit sector, both positively and negatively. It already seems clear that AI will have a dramatic impact on the world in ways that are not completely predictable.

Work on our corporate video, which we hope will capture some of the wisdom, history and ethos of the Trusts, is well under way, with five interviews conducted to date. It will be screened for family members at the family event scheduled for November 2026.

The office has supported committees, panels and the merger process throughout the year. Our work in the Risk Committee has included monitoring cyber security developments, updating policies, our risk matrix, and crisis readiness plan, alerting the committee to changes in legislation that potentially affect the Trusts, and engaging a PR company, to replace the skillset lost with trustee departures. New policies and procedures have included an anti-bullying policy, safeguarding guidelines in response to the ACNC review of charities' safeguarding standards, and workplace mental health guidelines, in preparation for new psychological health regulations in Victoria.

As always, the office has managed the granting programmes. In the last financial year, we distributed \$2,192,62 in grants, with a further \$2,507,005 committed to our current partners. Our Community Grants stream, with four rounds under our belt, is now established. The grant recipients span a diverse range of projects, from theatres to indigenous land management, medical research to community buildings, fencing builds to mentoring young people.

An exciting development this year was the awarding of our inaugural Impact Grant to the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness.

The first grant payment to the AAEH was made in early 2025 and they have wasted no time in utilising the funds to make an impact on the sector. The office has spent a lot of time providing background research arranging and attending meetings relating to the Impact Grants and following the awarding of the first grant, an Environmental Impact Grant Committee has been established.

A comprehensive first stage review of funding and projects in the Great Southern Reef has been undertaken, with multiple meetings with funders and experts in the field. Site visits will commence in early 2026 as we look for a suitable project to help restore and protect this incredible natural environment.

Other work the office has undertaken has included looking at governance issues with the trustees, getting out and meeting people in the philanthropic and not for profit sectors and the everyday operation requirements of running an organisation.

Emma Edmonds
Executive Officer, John T Reid Charitable Trusts



Above: Emma Edmonds, Executive Officer and Nicole Butera, Trustee at the November Trustee Meeting



Above: Suzanne Griffin and Emma Edmonds attending the JTR Family Event

FINANCE REPORT

“Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.”

— Warren Buffett

Increasing Impact in the Investment Portfolio

All investments have real-world consequences—some beneficial, others harmful. Impact investing is a rapidly growing field that intentionally seeks to generate positive outcomes while minimising negative ones. Over the past decade, the trustees have increasingly focused on reducing harm through ethical screening and actively allocating capital to investments that deliver measurable social and environmental benefits alongside financial returns.

A key factor in selecting Koda Capital as our investment manager three years ago was their strong alignment with our impact values. As highlighted in this year’s report, our portfolio now includes several investments that not only perform well financially, but also mobilise capital for meaningful social and environmental change.



Above: Trevor Thomas, Finance Committee Chair

The trustees are acutely aware that while we grant approximately \$4 million annually, we manage a corpus of around \$80 million.

The more we can align the impact of our investments with our granting priorities, the greater our overall contribution to the causes we support. It is counterproductive to invest \$80 million in activities that perpetuate the very problems we aim to solve with our \$4 million in grants.

Portfolio Performance

In a year marked by global volatility and shifting economic tides, the Trusts' investment portfolio delivered solid returns, while maintaining a cautious stance as global share markets reached record highs. Under advice, we reduced exposure to listed equities to mitigate potential downside risk.

Our financial stewardship continues to be guided by a commitment to long-term sustainability, ethical alignment, and measurable impact. While the range of impact investment opportunities continues to expand—albeit more slowly than desired—early-stage investment funds have proliferated in recent years.

As of 30 June 2025, the consolidated portfolio grew by \$6.47 million, representing an annual return of 8.45%. Since appointing Koda Capital in July 2022, the portfolio has delivered a cumulative return of \$16.42 million, or 7.88% per annum. This reflects the resilience of equity markets despite a turbulent macroeconomic backdrop, including geopolitical tensions and shifting interest rate environments.

The portfolio outperformed our absolute benchmark (CPI + 5%) by 1.35% over the year. However, it underperformed the Morningstar Growth Index by 2.49%, due to our cautious approach to equities. Since Koda Capital's appointment, returns have tracked closer to benchmark at 8.89% p.a., just 1.01% p.a. below the index.

As of 30 June 2025, the consolidated portfolio grew by \$6.47 million, representing an annual return of 8.45%.

Strategic Asset Allocation and Rebalancing

The portfolio remains strategically tilted toward private debt, credit, and alternative assets—sectors offering attractive risk-adjusted returns and lower correlation to public markets, which have reached historically high valuations.

High-Impact Investments

The Trusts' commitment to impact is most visible in the private markets portfolio, where \$7.7 million is allocated to investments contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

These include:

Conscious Investment Management Impact Fund:

Focused on sustainable cities, special disability housing, affordable housing, and renewable energy.

Palisade Impact Fund:

Targets early-stage clean energy projects and digital inclusion, ensuring lower-income households are not marginalised by costly connectivity in an increasingly digital world.

Murray-Darling Basin Balanced Water Fund:

Supports water-conscious decision-making in Australian agriculture and integrates environmental restoration with financial returns.

The 2025 financial year has reaffirmed the Trusts' ability to deliver both strong financial returns and meaningful impact. The portfolio is well-positioned to navigate future uncertainty, supported by a disciplined investment approach, a clear ethical framework, and a growing suite of high-impact investments.

We remain committed to aligning our capital with our values—supporting a more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient future.

Trevor Thomas

Finance Committee Chair, John T Reid Charitable Trusts

Below: Farren Williams, Senior Advisor and Partner Koda Capital





Above: Rob Anderson, Risk & Governance Committee Chair

RISK AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

The Risk Committee has continued to focus on strengthening the Trusts' capability and resilience over the last year with work in the following areas:

Records Retention and Management

Cyber Risk

Board Calendar

Risk Register and Crisis Readiness

Records Retention and Management

Following on from last year's focus on moving the Trusts' records to digital platforms, the Committee has worked with the Office to now utilise the Microsoft Decisions software platform to manage the Trusts Board Papers, further entrenching the digitisation strategy.

Cyber Risk

The Committee continues to monitor, discuss and review mitigation strategies for evolving and emerging changes in cyber risks. Despite the relatively low profile of the Trusts, these risks have now become a 'normal' part of the Business Environment the Trusts are operating in.



Board Calendar

The Annual Board Calendar that outlines those regular activities that must be undertaken each year to ensure no critical items are overlooked and to support regular policy review and development continues to add value and is updated as new activities arise.

Risk Register and Crisis Readiness

Our annual review of Material Risks was again undertaken, including engagement with Paper & Spark to assess the value they could provide in dealing with media enquiries under some of the scenarios we need to be prepared for.

A look forward on Trustee Terms also highlighted changes in some risks that require further action this year to develop adequate mitigation approaches, e.g. succession planning risks

Rob Anderson

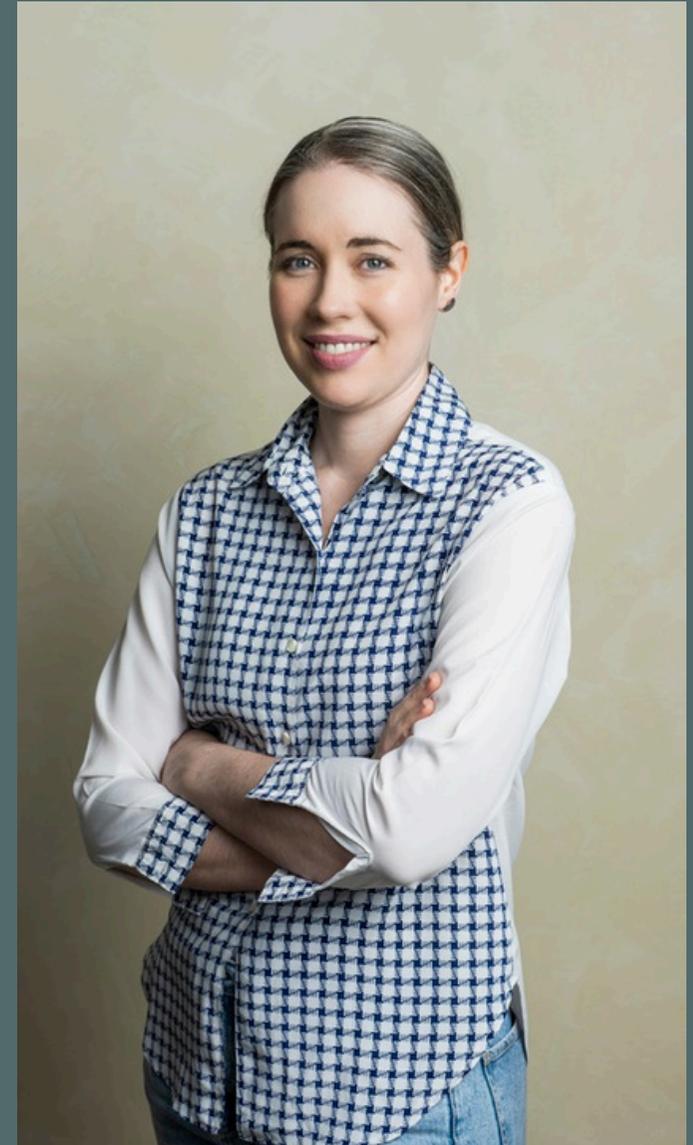
Trustee, John T Reid Charitable Trusts

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW TRUSTEE, ABBY MCKENZIE

Growing up, my early exposures to the Trusts prompted a lot of curiosity. I wanted to understand what this organisation was, how it worked, and who it might be able to help.

My initial impressions still align with my current understanding: our family has a system of charitable funding in place, and family members have the unique opportunity to become trustees and influence where that funding will be spent within the community.

I didn't have the privilege of meeting Sir John before he passed away, but through his daughter and grandson — my Gran and Dad — I've learned that championing organisations is both a consistent, steady focus, and a dynamic, responsive skill. Though my career in animation is fields away from the philanthropy sector, I'm greatly looking forward to learning the ropes. I have come aboard during the implementation of many changes to the Trusts' processes, and it's an honour to be guided in this by staff and trustees both family and independent.



It has also been a special experience to watch my dad work in his final year as chair.

I am personally invested in many social issues, especially but not limited to refugees, women's health, rehabilitation and the environment. I hope these interests in addition to my career within the arts will serve me in contributing meaningfully alongside my fellow trustees.

Abby McKenzie
Trustee, John T Reid Charitable Trusts



Above L-R: Abby McKenzie and Andrew McKenzie at the November Trustee Meeting



HOMELESSNESS IS SOLVABLE

The Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (AAEH) is an independent champion and catalyst for ending homelessness in Australia. Its work includes driving the Advance to Zero (AtoZ) movement, a national initiative that supports local collaborative efforts to end homelessness, starting with rough sleeping – one community at a time.



The support of JTR Charitable Trusts' three-year Impact Grant has allowed AAEH to accelerate this mission, strengthen national capacity and deepen its impact in communities across the country.



Left: David Pearson attending the November 2024 JTR trustee meeting

A major milestone enabled by the grant has been the launch of a new purpose-built AtoZ database. While described as a database, it's a comprehensive toolkit designed to help communities:

- Build by-name lists so every person experiencing homelessness is known and connected to the support they need
- Coordinate housing and care across agencies and services
- Track inflows and outflows from homelessness, monitoring whether it is becoming rare, brief and once-off
- Plan, improve and advocate based on accurate local data.

Now in use across New South Wales, Western Australia, South Australia and regional Victoria, the database represents a powerful step forward in collective capacity to end homelessness. It not only provides communities with detailed insights that help match people with housing and support, but also addresses a critical national gap: there are currently no systems in place to regularly measure rates of homelessness across Australia.

This platform creates a way to fill that gap and will continue to evolve in capability over time.

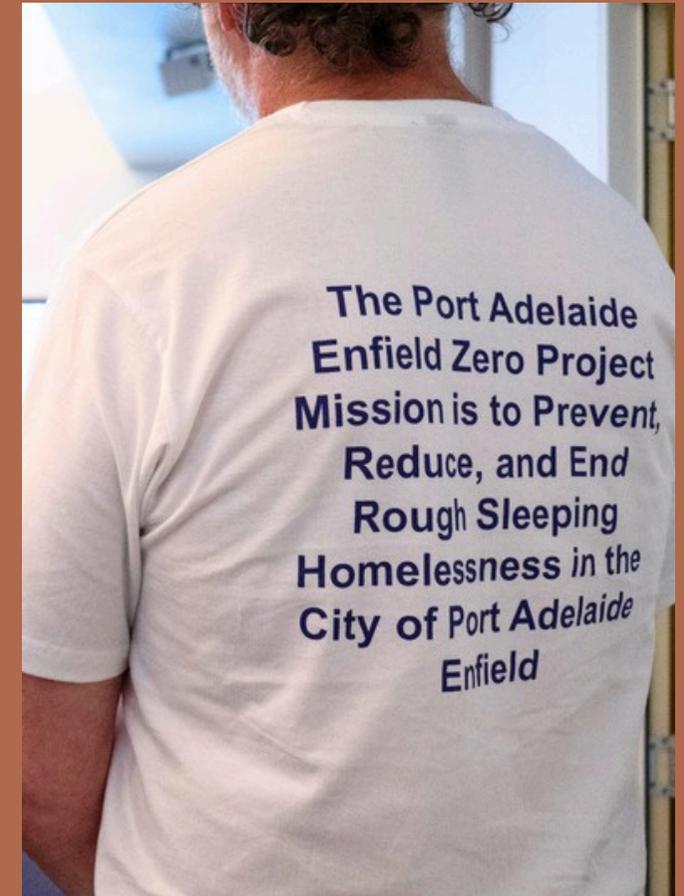
The Impact Grant has also supported the growth of AAEH's national team. Newly created roles, including a National Database Lead and National Data and Impact Lead, now steer the database project, ensuring communities have the expertise required to use data effectively, measure outcomes and share learnings nationally. This team is critical in sustaining momentum and supporting the growing movement to end homelessness.

In 2025 alone, three new communities joined the AtoZ movement, bringing the total to 31 communities across Australia actively working to end homelessness.

Looking ahead, AAEH is preparing to launch the Victorian Alliance to End Homelessness (VAEH) in November 2025. The VAEH will unite communities, organisations and services across the state around the AtoZ framework. Its role will be to lead, coordinate and support efforts aimed at ending homelessness in Victoria, beginning with rough sleeping. It will enable better support, sustainability and effectiveness of the AtoZ work already taking place in Victorian communities.

Across all these initiatives, the impact of JTR's support is already visible in lives changed.

To date, 4,496 people have been housed through Advance to Zero efforts nationally.



Above: Press Conference with Reece Davis at the 2024 Australian Zero Homelessness Summit in Fremantle

With the generous support of JTR, these efforts can continue to expand, ensuring more communities can join the movement - and more people can find a safe and permanent home.

Story and images courtesy of Australian Alliance to End Homelessness

Right: 2024 Australian Zero Homelessness Summit in Fremantle (hosted by AAEH/WAAEH).



COMMUNITY GRANT UPDATE
AGED AND PALLIATIVE CARE

TRANSFORMING PAEDIATRIC PALLIATIVE CARE

Very Special Kids is Victoria's only children's hospice, supporting close to 800 families facing the unimaginable challenges of life-limiting childhood illness.



Above: The Chung family, Sophia with mum and dad.

Very Special Kids provides holistic palliative care for children and young people with life-limiting conditions, and tailored support for their families – through life, death and bereavement. Its integrated approach includes emotional, clinical and practical support to improve quality of life and create positive, lasting memories.

In 2023, the organisation opened a state-of-the-art hospice, further strengthening its commitment to world-class, holistic paediatric palliative care.

In addition to the physical transformation, Very Special Kids also introduced an enhanced medical model of care that recognises the full impact of serious illness.

The important role of a Chief Medical Officer was expanded with the appointment of Dr Katie Moore to lead this critical area of care. With a background in paediatric oncology, clinical bioethics and family therapy, Dr Moore leads a dedicated multi-disciplinary team providing 24/7 medical support. Her approach goes far beyond clinical treatment – ensuring that care addresses the physical, emotional, psychosocial and spiritual needs of each child and their family.



Above: Dr Katie Moore, Chief Medical Officer at Very Special Kids

“The care we provide here is not just about treating symptoms. It’s about understanding what these illnesses mean for the whole family – whether they have to move house, give up jobs, or how siblings are affected.”

Dr Katie Moore

This holistic approach can be life-changing for families like Sophia's.

Diagnosed with a rare genetic disorder as a baby, Sophia requires complex, round-the-clock care and therefore had never been able to leave the hospital. When her mother, Zoe, was subsequently diagnosed with an aggressive form of breast cancer, Very Special Kids provided a five-week emergency respite stay. This support helped the family transition from hospital to home, giving them confidence and relief during an overwhelming time.

“The care and kindness we received while at Very Special Kids House cannot be put into words. We didn't know about Very Special Kids before this, but now we can't imagine our lives without them,”

Zoe, mother of Sophia

Very Special Kids believe no family should walk this journey alone. The organisation provides a tailored approach to help at every stage, from diagnosis to bereavement.

The enhanced medical model, made possible by multi-year funding from the John T Reid Charitable Trusts and the Bertalli Family Foundation, has enabled Dr Moore's appointment and the expansion of our holistic care services. Thanks to this ongoing generosity, Very Special Kids can ensure children with life-limiting conditions, and their families, receive the comprehensive support they need, both now and into the future.

Story and Images Courtesy of Very Special Kids

DRIVING CHANGE THROUGH EVIDENCE: ADDRESSING THE RURAL HEALTH EXPENDITURE DEFICIT

In August 2025, the Forgotten Health Spend report, an update of the Evidence Base for Additional Investment in Rural Health in Australia (2023), was released. Commissioned by the National Rural Health Alliance (NRHA) with generous support from the John T Reid Charitable Trusts, it delivered a compelling update on the growing shortfall in health, disability, and aged care funding across rural, regional, and remote Australia.

Developed in partnership with Nous Group, the report revealed that the expenditure deficit has surged from \$6.5 billion in 2023 to \$8.35 billion in 2023–24, equating to a shortfall of \$1,090.47 per person, per annum living outside metropolitan areas. Indeed, for some rural areas (MMM5)*, there is more than \$4000 per person per year underspend and under-service.

This evidence base is crucial for galvanising awareness and change. The report highlights the systemic barriers rural Australians face—geographic isolation, workforce shortages, higher costs, chronic underfunding, and underinvestment in health, disability and ageing and associated infrastructure.

The report allows for measurement across years and provides a clear roadmap for targeted investment. It equips policymakers, funders, and community leaders with the data needed to make informed decisions that can close the gap and improve health outcomes.

*MMM5; communities between 2k and less than 10k. These community members are receiving about \$4000 less health expenditure. That means MMM2 (outer urban regional) - MMM7 (very remote) receive an average of \$1090 less health expenditure per annum per person.

Indeed, it provides the evidence for advocacy, research and policy development on the ground whether to communities, local governments, researchers, health providers or entities who deliver care to rural people. The report provides additional benchmarking, and tools to advocate effectively for change at both state and federal levels.

John T. Reid Charitable Trusts' endorsement of the NRHA and this report supports research that amplifies the national conversation about rural health equity.

The report, which would not have been possible without the support, ensures that regional voices are not only heard but backed by rigorous analysis and credible statistics.

Importantly, the report is already driving practical outcomes. Regional communities are using its findings to shape evidence-informed strategies for service delivery, workforce retention, and infrastructure development and advocacy for improved patient assistance transport schemes, rural health research funding, thin and failed market discussions with the Government. It is guiding training programs, funding applications, and cross-sector partnerships, enabling communities to respond to their unique challenges with precision and confidence.

The Forgotten Health Spend report also reframes rural health not as a financial burden, but as a matter of equity, parity and national responsibility.

Rural, remote and regional communities after all contribute 2/3rds of Australia's export income, 50% of our tourism income and 90% of the food we eat in Australia, despite only making up 30% of the population.

This shift in narrative is fostering momentum for coordinated regionally tailored solutions that reflect the diversity of rural Australia. Through its investment, the Trusts are helping transform evidence into action—ensuring that rural Australians are prioritised in the policies that shape their futures.

Ultimately, this work exemplifies the Trusts' commitment to impact. By supporting research that drives accountability and collaboration, the Trusts are helping build resilient, thriving communities where equitable health outcomes are not just a goal, but a reality.

Story and Image Courtesy of National Rural Health Alliance



From L-R: NRHA Deputy Chair Geoff Argus, Mr Sam Birrell MP, NRHA Chair Heather Keighley, NRHA Chief Executive Susanne Tegen, Ms Fiona Phillips MP, National Rural Health Commissioner, Prof Jenny May AM.

COMMUNITY GRANT UPDATE
COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL WELFARE

SAGES COTTAGE
A LITTLE FARM
A BIG HEART
AN EVEN BIGGER IMPACT

With its heritage-listed cottage, working farm, and welcoming café, it's a peaceful, beautiful place sitting on 38 acres in Baxter, on the Mornington Peninsula - but what makes it truly special is what happens there every day.

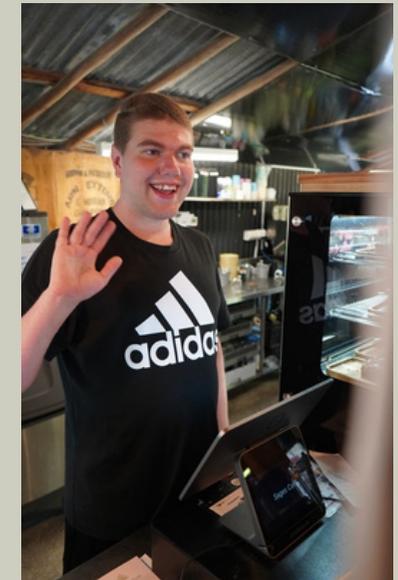


Sages is where we see transformation. It's where young people with disability gain real skills, build confidence, and find purpose.

Whether it's learning how to run a café, grow produce, care for animals or work in retail, our clients are thriving and the best part is that every dollar earned at Sages goes straight back into supporting programs and maintaining the farm, making it a true social enterprise.

Wallara has been working in Melbourne's south-east since 1959, and supporting people with disability has always been our mission. But with Sages, we saw an opportunity to do something different, to create a place where the whole community could come together, learn from one another, and build a more inclusive future.

That vision came to life this year with the opening of The Hub@Sages. This purpose-built facility was six years in the making, made possible by some incredibly generous supporters. It allows us to increase our training places by 50%, meaning 150 people with disability can now access hands-on, life-changing opportunities each year.



Above: Chris Hume, Sages Client and Hospitality Employee

“This is amazing and I love the fact it's a new building. It will be great to do programs in here.”

Chris Hume,
Sages Client and Hospitality Employee

But the Hub is more than just a building, it's a space for connection. Already, we're working with partners like Monash University, St Kilda Football Club, and Frankston RSL to run programs from the new media room and training spaces. Local wellbeing providers will use the site, and schools—from primary to tertiary—will visit to learn what inclusive education really looks like.

We're also restoring the original Sages Cottage to become a vibrant public space for art, events, and dining.

The impact of this project is real. During construction, the Hub created 18 jobs and generated over \$6 million in economic activity.

Once fully operational, it will contribute \$2.3 million annually to the local economy and support 15 new roles—many filled by people with disability.

With capacity to welcome 100,000 visitors a year, Sages is a space for everyone. It's where inclusion becomes action and where community becomes stronger.

We're proud of what's growing at Sages. And we invite you to be part of it.



Above : the new Hub@Sages

Story and Images Courtesy of Wallara Australia Ltd

Contact Us



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Acknowledgements

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri People, the Indigenous Custodians upon whose lands the Trusts' office are located and we pay respects to Elders, past and present.

Thank you to the organisations who provided images for the projects featured in this year's Annual Review.

A pdf version is available at www.johntreidtrusts.com.au

