

John T Reid Charitable Trusts



2023 Annual Review

JOHN T REID CHARITABLE TRUSTS ANNUAL REVIEW 2023

To mobilise all available resources and activate change for the common good.

Front Cover Image:
LifeFlight Foundation
Critical Care Doctor Project
see story on page 21
LifeFlight Crew in Helmet
Image: LifeFlight Foundation



Image: The bim (rock art) team, Warddeken rangers, Ngalingbarli Traditional Owners, John T Reid Trustees/staff, and KKT staff at Kudjebinj
See Chair's Report on page 5. Photography by Karrkad Kanjdji Trust

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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, health support and environment. In recent years a specific environment category has been included to address the ever-growing challenges of sustainability and climate change.

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 nine 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.

2023 trustees L-R: Top row, Dr Barbara Inglis, Ms Nicole Butera, Mr Rob Anderson, Bottom row: L-R Mr Phil Endersbee, Mr Andrew Mckenzie (Chair), Mr William Lawson, Mr Trevor Thomas, Ms Jen Grindrod, Mr Doug Goodman. Ms Cath Webb (Deputy Chair)



Funding Overview

The 2023 Annual Review provides information on the activities of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts in the financial year to 30 June 2023, highlighting several significant projects in each funding area.

Aged and Palliative Care

Very Special Kids
Wintringham

Arts & Cultural Heritage

La Mama Theatre
Malthouse Theatre
Museums Board of Victoria, trading as
Museums Victoria

Community and Social Welfare

Alliance for Gambling Reform
The First Step Program
Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa
Tranby National Indigenous Adult Education
and Training
Welfare Rights Centre
You Matter

Environment

Australian Solar Energy Society Ltd
(trading as Smart Energy Council)
Invasive Species
Royal Botanic Gardens
Watertrust Australia
Zoos Victoria

Health and Medical Research

Animal Management in Rural and Remote
Indigenous Communities
Dementia Australia
Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical
Research



Grants by Trust

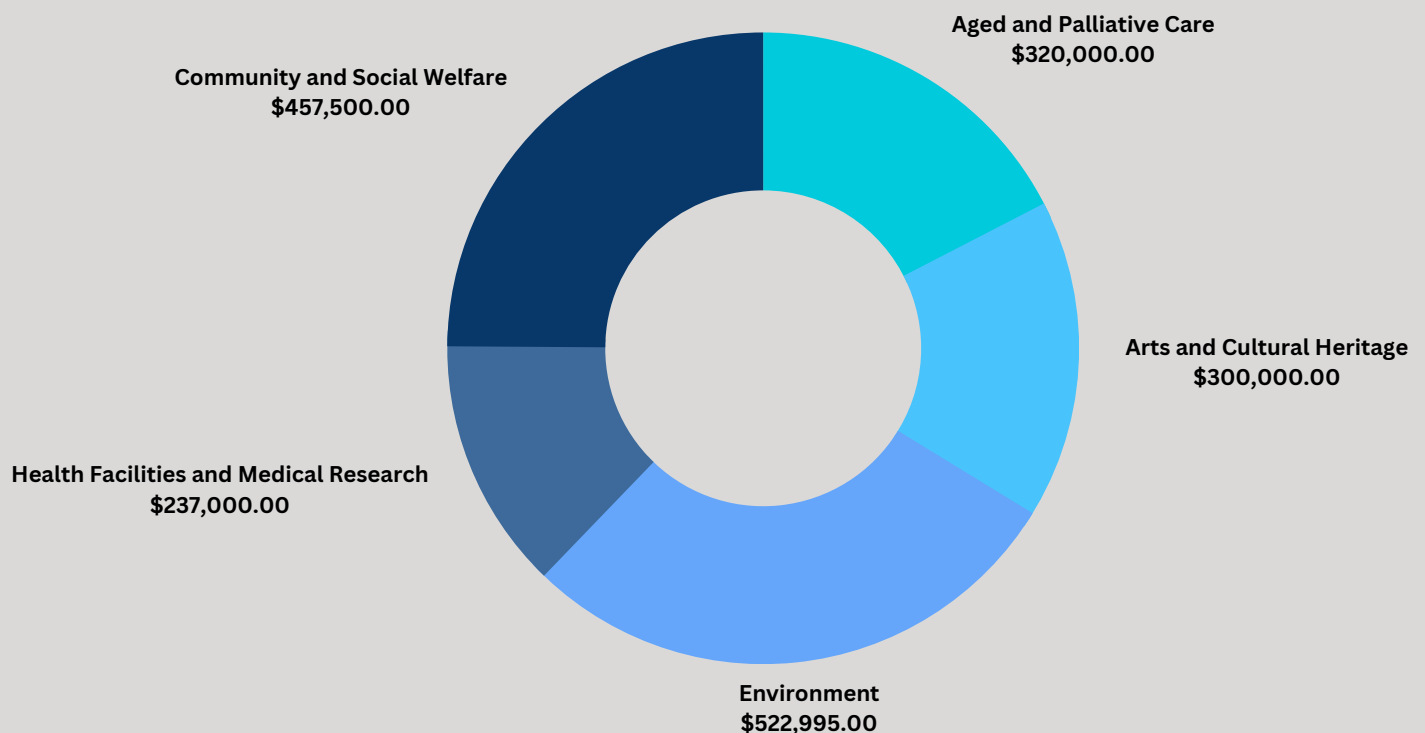
Australian Grants

\$739,500.00

Victorian Grants

\$1,097,995.00

Grants by Program Area



CHAIR'S REPORT

"I cannot recall in my almost 20 years at the Trusts that we have ever been through a period of change such as we are currently experiencing."

I took a look back at what I had written here last year and noted that I was hoping the rate of change might have slowed and we could be getting on with our more "normal" work of granting to good projects. I cannot recall in my almost 20 years at the Trusts that we have ever been through a period of change such as we are currently experiencing.

So it is with real sadness that I have to advise the retirement of three trustees; Dr Barbara Inglis who has been with the Trusts for 15 years, Mr Doug Goodman, also 15 years and finally Ms Cath Webb who has been with us for 20 years. You can read a farewell from these Trustees later in this report. I can simply say that their contributions to the Trusts over this time have been stellar. They have all brought truly insightful thinking to our grant making process, governance and day to day management at the Trusts. That is over 50 years of experience walking out the door. Experience of this calibre is hard to replace and they will be greatly missed.

With these retirements comes the need for new trustees. Ms Nicole Butera joined us in November 22. Nicole runs her own accounting business which specialises in work for NFPs and already has a great depth of knowledge about the Trusts work having managed our books for many years alongside Dominic Pelligana then at KPMG.

Mr Jeremy Smith joins us at the November meetings later this year. Jeremy is the National Chair of Gadens lawyers and will bring a wealth of experience in corporate law, governance, and change and strategic management.



Above: Chair, Andrew McKenzie.

Then only a month or so ago our landlord advised that she would be selling and we would have to move. This has brought forward the work needed to digitise the many years of files currently held hard copy in filing cabinets. We sought advice from a professional archivist and know what we need to keep to illustrate the Trusts work for posterity, but it's a very large task indeed and our move date is end of June next year.

As I spoke about at the Family Event earlier in the year, we have split our granting into two broad areas – Trustee Led grants for generally immediate need project driven grants sourced through the trustees and Expert Led grants, longer term 3 to 5 years or more and large amounts capable of creating change. The first of our Trustee Led grant rounds progressed well, but we are still working on how best to kick start the Expert Led grants. Trustees will be working on building this framework at the November meetings.

Finally, after talking about it for years and years, the trustees got out together on a field trip. We were lucky enough to be hosted on Warddeken and Djelk Indigenous Protected Areas in Arnhem Land with the Karrkad Kanjdji Trust.

Camped at Barrapunta, we spent three days getting around this vast area and got to see the ranger programs and rock art preservation projects in action. It was a fabulous experience for everyone and something we will repeat, but it has to be said that this was a spectacular start to the field trip program!

Look forward to catching up with you all at the next Family Event in 2024.

Andrew McKenzie
Chair, John T Reid Charitable Trusts

ARNHEM LAND FIELD TRIP WITH KARRKAD KANJDJI TRUST

Photography by Stacey Irving, Karrkad Kanjdji Trust

We drove from Darwin to Barrapunta campsite. It's a long drive, but I'm very glad we did. The tyranny of distance is alive and well in Arnhem Land. Its crushing really. Gets into everything like the bulldust. Takes real commitment to stay positive and keep moving forward, but we saw plenty of that.

The Trusts have always supported good people and we met lots on this trip; Dom, Stacey, Alfred, Rosemary, Conrad, Rob and all the rangers and coordinators. We are funding into a very good operation indeed.

The Rangers sense of pride in their country, their employment and the work they were doing was so evident in every conversation and action. Humbling uplifting and very positive.

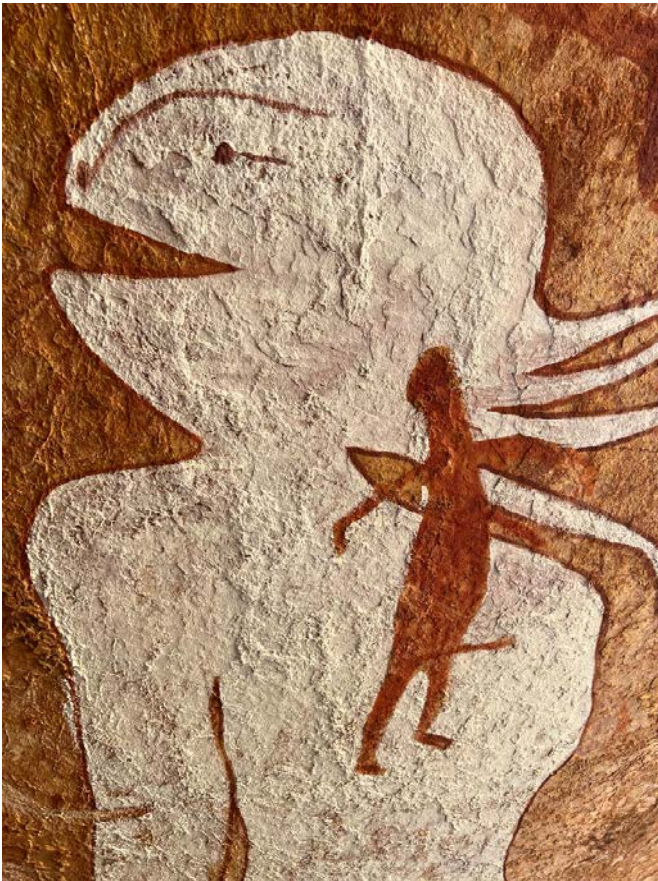
Andrew McKenzie
Chair, John T Reid Charitable Trusts



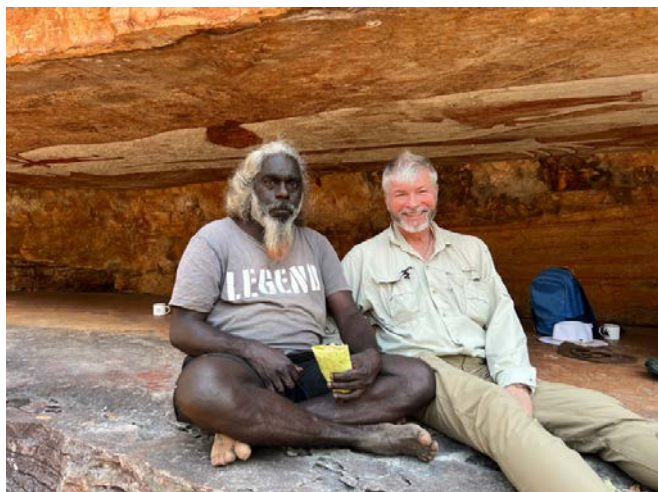
Above: Rosemary Nabalwad, senior Kurduwil Traditional Owner and a director of Warddeken Land Management, showing John T Reid trustees/staff her latest maribou, made by her and other women at the Mamadawerre outstation.



Left: Warddeken rangers and John T Reid Trustees/staff at Kudjekbinj.



Left: Painting of Naworo at Kudjekbinj



Left: Conrad Maralngurra, Ngalingbarli Traditional Owner and a director of Warddeken Land Management and KKT, with Andrew McKenzie, Chair of John T Reid, at Kudjekbinj



Left: Dinner at Barrapunta campsite.



Left: Alfred Rickson, Barrapunta Traditional Owner, demonstrating traditional cool burning technique.



Left: John T Reid trustees and staff at Barrapunta airstrip.



Image: Cool burning in the Mimal Land Management area
Photography by Stacey Irving, Karrkad Kanjdji Trust

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

"the theme of review and change has continued in all areas..."

As I've entered my second year with the Trusts, the theme of review and change has continued in all areas, not least of which has been the Board composition. Three long serving Trustees, Barbara Inglis, Cath Webb and Doug Goodman are resigning this year.

The value that their expertise and passion have given the trusts is unquantifiable. All three have helped me in my first 18 months in the role. Barbara in risk and communication, (she plays a very convincing journalist), Cath in helping me understand the culture and history of the Trusts, whilst Doug's assistance was invaluable when I was opening new bank accounts for the trusts this year and our legal structure needed to be explained to bank employees.

The departure of these three long serving Trustees, (combined with the resignation of Belinda Lawson and Jane Reid at the end of 2021), leaves a large gap. The Trusts are actively working on succession plans. Our fourth-generation trustees, William Lawson and Jen Grindrod extensively surveyed fourth-generation family members this year, gauging interest and skills for potential new trustees. As a result, we welcome three family members to our November Trustee meeting as observers.

Key priorities in the office over the past twelve months have included moving banks, examining risks, working on policy, continuing to work on digitising our operations and working with our chair, Andrew McKenzie to progress our new granting strategy. These things are initially very time consuming to set up, but as for example our change in banks, lead to streamlined, more efficient systems when up and running.

At our May meeting we had our first Trustee led, invitation only grant round. This ran smoothly and grants were allocated to six organisations, to a total of \$1,265,000. This grant round will run annually.

During the May grant round, our grant applicants were for the first time, able to open their own online John T Reid portal for submitting grant submissions and reports. The portal is directly linked to our database and uploads to it automatically. This creates a smoother experience for grantees, reduces workload and brings us in line with industry practice.

The May meeting also saw our first expert panel, with three highly knowledgeable experts on the Great Southern Reef, presenting to the Board.



Above: Executive Officer, Emma Edmonds

Expert panels are likely to become a feature of the long-term large grants strategy that we are currently developing.

Following our move to cloud-based storage for softcopy office documents in 2022, this year we conducted an extensive review and audit of all the hardcopy documents held in the office. Simultaneously, the risk committee reviewed areas related to cyber security ensuring the Trusts' systems and documentation remain secure.

An archivist was consulted who recommended we consolidate and digitise our files. We looked at both what to keep and how to store it whilst considering legal, historical and functional issues.

After presenting her recommendations and our audit of all hardcopy documents to the board, we are now moving forward with a project to scan and digitise our hardcopy documents, with a deadline for completion of June 2024. This will help protect against document loss and improve our ability to operate remotely, should the need arise.

Lastly, a highlight this year for me has been getting out and meeting staff from other trusts and our grant recipients. Our trip to Arnhem land was an incredible opportunity, for which I am very grateful. The generosity of spirit with which we were welcomed and the activities we participated in will stay with me for a long time. It was truly special to be given an insight to this wonderful part of the world and its people. Meeting with and visiting grantee organisations has given me an opportunity to see and hear firsthand about the wide variety of projects the Trusts support and their positive impact on Australian society and the environment.

Emma Edmonds
Executive Officer
John T Reid Charitable Trusts

FINANCE CHAIR'S REPORT

"The strategy reflects the trustees' focus on balancing risk with long term returns, generating sufficient income for grant making and having an appropriate ethical and impact alignment of our investments."

The 2023 Financial Year was one of significant upheaval in financial markets and change within the Trusts' investment portfolios.

The appointment of Koda Capital as investment managers in 2022 led to a thorough review of the Trusts' investment policy and strategy, stress testing, confirming the risk tolerance and liquidity needs, articulating expectations around whole-of-portfolio alignment with mission and values and refining broader governance delegations. In tandem, the entire portfolio was reviewed and a significant shift in approach and fund manager selection resulted.

Koda's brief, added alignment between investment impact and the Trusts' giving priorities to the standard financial and diversification goals. In recent years, the trustees have added a number of specific "Impact Investments" to the portfolio, but that is now part of a broader strategy of ensuring that the investment managers we select are focused on environmentally and socially responsible investment, at a time in which de-carbonisation of global economic activity is critical.

The trustees would like all investments in the portfolio to be contributing to a better world and not contributing to the problems that the Trusts' granting program is aimed at addressing. The trustees believe this is an opportune time to make this investment strategy change, given the maturity of the responsible investment landscape and the wide range of high-quality investments that are now available to deliver strong financial outcomes whilst addressing major challenges in the world.

The transition of the portfolios to align with this new strategy will be achieved over a period of several years, with the vast majority of the adjustments implemented over FY23 in a prudent manner and the balance requiring existing investments to mature or reach points at which redemption requests can be progressed.



Above: Finance Chair, Trevor Thomas

The timing of the transition to the revised strategy benefitted the Trusts' portfolios as the inclusion of a higher percentage of "alternative investments" protected capital from some of the volatility and negative sentiment seen in the markets for listed securities and bonds, as Central Banks around the world aggressively tightened monetary policy.

Part of this shift involved transitioning from fixed rate bonds and listed hybrid securities, to private credit markets with predominantly floating, rather than fixed rate interest. These delivered strong single digit to low double digit returns for the year (7-12% pa), compared with bond markets which posted an anaemic return of 1.2%.

Slowing economic activity in China and the continued impact of the war in Ukraine weighed on market sentiment and that saw the Australian Dollar weaken, as local interest rates failed to keep pace with rises in other markets.

Global inflation data continued to sit well above central bank targets and although falling through the year, did not respond as swiftly as hoped to interest rate rises creating headwinds for many economies and sectors.

Despite these headwinds, global equity markets delivered strong returns and outperformed the Australian share market for the year (22% vs 14%), with large technology companies faring particularly well. This assisted in the valuation of our international investments as well as our Australian equities, both of which made a positive contribution to performance over the year.

The diversified asset mix that now includes a much higher allocation to alternative investments is consistent with how other large foundations and endowments are investing for the current market environment. The strategy reflects the Trustees' focus on balancing risk with long term returns, generating sufficient income for grant making and having an appropriate ethical and impact alignment of our investments. Success will be measured over the long term and will be monitored regularly.

Koda only held our portfolio on the Netwealth portfolio management platform for part of the Financial Year which means that full FY23 return figures are not available in the standard time weighted percentage terms that will be available for FY24 onwards.

Given the material changes in strategy and direction, longer term returns are less meaningful this year and we look forward to the year ahead when the benefits of repositioning the portfolio begin to come through.

Trevor Thomas
Finance Chair and Trustee
John T Reid Charitable Trusts

Above: Executive Officer, Ms Emma Edmonds

RISK CHAIR'S REPORT

"Risk Committee activity over the last 12 months has been focussed primarily in four areas"



Above: Risk Committee Chair, Rob Anderson.

In the last year the Risk Committee held meetings in November 2022, February, May and August 2023, with a further meeting scheduled for November 2023 prior to the trustee meetings.

Risk Committee activity over the last 12 months has been focussed primarily in four areas:

1. Records Retention and Management - Development of strategies to address the future management of the Trusts physical records, including a review with an Archivist to determine appropriate actions for consideration by the trustees to deal with historically significant documents, (such as Sir John's diaries) and Trust information that should be moved to Blackbaud and documents that should be shredded. Recommendations made by the Risk Committee were approved by trustees at the May meeting and the Office has now commenced implementation.

2. Cyber Risk - Continued focus on emerging and changing Cyber risks with the Office working to improve staff awareness and working with Finrea on an assessment of the Trusts maturity against the Australian Government 'essential eight' maturity model which supports development of priority areas to address the Cyber risk profile for the Trusts.

3. Board Calendar - In August the committee also reviewed the first draft of an Annual Board Calendar following trustee discussion in May and this is scheduled for review again at the November Risk Meeting.

4. Crisis Readiness - Media simulation practice was undertaken again this year involving the Trusts Chair and staff responding to a specific scenario.

Rob Anderson
Chair – Risk Committee
John T Reid Charitable Trusts

RETIREMENT OF TRUSTEE, BARBARA INGLIS

"I look back with sincere gratitude for this opportunity to help bring about positive change in the Australian community through the generosity of the Trusts."



Above: Dr Barbara Inglis.

I have had the enormous pleasure and privilege of contributing to the work of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts over the last 15 years, and as I finish my time as a trustee, I look back with sincere gratitude for this opportunity to help bring about positive change in the Australian community through the generosity of the Trusts.

Few people are given the chance and the wherewithal to 'take on' the big issues affecting our communities – be they in the areas of health, education, community welfare, the environment or the arts.

For more than 60 years, the trustees have been able to do just that, seeking to identify and support those who offer solid solutions to society's challenges. Much has changed in the world since Sir John Reid established the Trusts, but one thing has remained constant – Sir John's advice to empower good people so that they can achieve good things – and this is what I have always endeavoured to uphold.

While I have enjoyed all facets of the Trusts' work, I have derived particular satisfaction contributing to programs that have assisted Indigenous Australians, as well as those that have supported the arts. Along the way, I have learned a great deal from many people about the importance of trust and the power of collaboration, which lie at the heart of every successful program.

I would like to give special thanks to the four Chairs with whom I have served as a trustee: Margaret Ross, Anne Grindrod, Belinda Lawson and Andrew McKenzie. Their leadership has been inspirational; their insights invaluable; their friendship irreplaceable.

I wish the John T Reid Charitable Trusts every success in the years to come.

Dr Barbara Inglis
Trustee; 2008-2023
John T Reid Charitable Trusts

RETIREMENT OF TRUSTEE, DOUG GOODMAN

"It has been a great honour, and an immense privilege, to have been afforded the opportunity to contribute in a small way to that wonderful legacy."

"We can't change the world, but we may change some lives". Words said to me by a then trustee when I was first appointed as a trustee.

While the John T Reid Trusts have not changed the world in the global sense, they have since their establishment, through their funding of projects which have impacted, or which have the potential to impact, the lives of many people, or funding large and small charities which helped those in need, changed many, many lives for the better.

It has been a great honour, and an immense privilege, to have been afforded the opportunity to contribute in a small way to that wonderful legacy.

I understand an early trustee once uttered words to the effect of "It is hard to give money away wisely". Given that applications for funding from eminently worthy organisations, almost always exceeded the funding available to the trustees for granting, the trustees were usually required to make choices between which applications should be funded and which not, so reinforcing the "hard part" of the quote.



Above: Doug Goodman.

While as trustees we did not always initially agree, the discussions were always conducted in a very civil and respectful manner, resulting in a consensus. For that and for their support and wonderful, unwavering good humour, I thank my fellow trustees, as it meant being a trustee was not only an honour and a privilege, it was also a great pleasure. I will very much miss our meetings.

While the focus of philanthropy and the strategies of the Trusts may change over time and from time to time, I have an unshakeable confidence that the calibre of the trustees of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts and their deep commitment to philanthropy will see Sir John's legacy continue to grow.

Doug Goodman
Trustee, 2007 to 2023
John T Reid Charitable Trusts

RETIREMENT OF TRUSTEE, CATHERINE WEBB

“In my twenty-two years with the Trusts, it has been a privilege to be part of generational change”

I am sure all current and departing trustees feel the same as I do: that participating in the work of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts is a privilege.

To be able to support organisations and individuals with a vision of creating a better world – or at least improving their own corner of it – is humbling, as is being able to share in the practical and innovative solutions generated by those visions.

I particularly value that we, as an organisation, can fund nationally and across a wide range of thematic fields. We are not limited by our trust deed to fund in specific areas. This means we have been able to grant to excellent organisations, at a range of scales, in all states and territories, and across a breadth of societal needs. While all our work is important, I have especially appreciated being able to contribute to:

- helping those folk who have fallen on hard times,
- repairing and conserving objects and buildings of cultural importance,
- funding research into both physical and mental health,
- providing grants to organisations that improve our environment, and
- funding performing and visual arts that make all our lives better.



Above: Catherine Webb.

In my twenty-two years with the Trusts, it has been a privilege to be part of generational change, both at the start of my tenure, when I was the first of the new generation, and towards the end as I have watched with great joy our next generation of trustees joining us.

These new trustees bring a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to our work. I also want to thank all the trustees and Chairs I have served with for their wisdom, dedication and friendship, and all the past and current staff who have been exceptional in their commitment. I know the Trusts are in excellent hands.

Many have written here and elsewhere of Sir John's generosity and ethics, but one of the most important things he taught me was that if you are lucky in life, then you have an absolute obligation to support those who are not. The Trusts are the legacy of this philosophy, and it has been an honour to be part of it.

Catherine Webb
Trustee; 1996-2001, 2006 to 2023
John T Reid Charitable Trusts

WELCOME NEW TRUSTEE

NICOLE BUTERA

"The Trusts are in an exciting phase of change with the move to more strategic giving and I am thrilled to be a part of this journey..."

I was introduced to the Trusts many years ago when I worked at KPMG and was involved in providing the Trusts with accounting services.

Since leaving KPMG, I have started my own accounting business and now provide an outsourced accounting service to a number of small not-for-profit clients across Australia.

Through my work I have seen just how important philanthropic funding is to many organisations in order for them to remain sustainable and continue their good work.



Left: Nicole Butera with new puppy, Murphy.



Above: Nicole Butera.

It is a privilege to be a trustee working alongside fellow JTR trustees, having the opportunity to meet with many organisations the Trusts are having an impact on, being involved in providing them with funding for their projects and hearing the great impact these organisations are having in our society.

The Trusts are in an exciting phase of change with the move to more strategic giving and I am thrilled to be a part of this journey that we are embarking on.

As a trustee, I hope to bring my accounting and finance knowledge and skills to help other trustees understand the financial position of the organisations we are looking to help and also provide some insights into the sector.

In my spare time, I sit on a number of boards, provide foster and respite care and like to travel and spend time with my new puppy.

Nicole Butera
Trustee, appointed November 2022
John T Reid Charitable Trusts



Creative development workshop of Malthouse Theatres production of Telethon Kid by Alistair Baldwin.
Image by Tamarah Scott

TRUSTEE GRANT ROUNDS 2023

In May 2023, the trustees approved their first round of trustee led grants as part of the new granting strategy proposed in 2022.

Trustee led submissions are by invitation only and grants are funded for short term projects with an immediate and current need.

Projects can come from any of our granting areas:

Aged and Palliative Care, Arts and Cultural Heritage, Community and Social Welfare, Education and Youth Support, Health and Medical Research and the Environment.

The six projects granted in May fall in the areas of Arts and Cultural Heritage, the Environment and Health and Medical Research, all meeting many of the diverse and current

needs affecting communities locally and nationally.

We are now excited to introduce each of the six new projects and grantees.



Above: L-R Myf Powell Development & Pathways Manager with Caitlin Dullard CEO

LA MAMA

pathways program

“designed to offer multiple entry points towards career development and capacity building in the performing arts”

La Mama Pathways is designed to offer multiple entry points towards career development and capacity building in the performing arts.

This program broadly offers opportunities for skill building, access, engagement, development and outreach in line with La Mama’s primary vision and mission.

Pathways aims to open doors and empower the next generation of artists and arts-workers, sharing La Mama’s legacy, whilst fostering our future creatives and cultural ecosystem.

The grant goes towards supporting the following:

- **WRITING INTENSIVE** is a theatre writing series in partnership with Australian Plays Transform (APT). Entry to this program will be via application, and an external selection committee will decide the final cohort.
- **EMERGE** is an open access program for theatre makers aged 18 – 26.
- **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES** offering open access, free professional development on topics to be determined by our community.
- **MENTORSHIPS** will be offered for producers, stage managers, and other creatives.
- **DRAMATURGICAL SUPPORT** will offer one on one sessions with experienced dramaturgs for selected writers who submit scripts to our open, free script appraisal service.
- **CONNECT** will offer the opportunity for networking as well as consultation to shape future programs. These sessions are free and open access events.

Source: La Mama Theatre submission 2023



Above: Malthouse creative team leading this project. L-R: Bernadette Fam, New Work Manager; Joe Paradise Lui, Artist in Residence and Matthew Lutton, Artistic Director
Image by Tamarah Scott.

MALTHOUSE THEATRE

new work by new artists

“Be unafraid, be entertained, be switched on. Welcome to Malthouse.”

This grant will support the presentation of new theatre productions by new artists making their Malthouse mainstage debut over the next three years.

Malthouse will partner with a select group of exceptional artistic voices that could not be brought to the Malthouse stage without additional support. This may be due to the experimental nature of the work, to facilitate appropriate cultural consultation, or to realise the ambition of a large-scale work (larger than usual cast, for example).

This funding will allow Malthouse to complete the cycle of artist development which unfolds for years behind the scenes through new writing commissions, workshopping, and professional development programs. These can often be left unseen by audiences, particularly for new artistic voices.

Funding will be allocated to enable the production and presentation of two new works per annum, engaging 20 Malthouse debut artists annually.

Source: Malthouse Theatre submission 2023



SMART ENERGY COUNCIL



Above: Staff at Invasive Species

SMART ENERGY COUNCIL

climate capital forum

“We actively connect the smart energy industry across Australia, building momentum and unlocking the barriers that hold us back from embracing a smart energy future.”

JTR has committed a one year grant supporting Smart Energy Council’s Climate Capital Forum.

The funding will assist Smart Energy Council to:

- Reach out to key business sectors including renewable energy, rare earth minerals and batteries to participate in the forum and build a powerful voice for economic reform.
- Reaching out to key Federal and State Ministries, including Treasury, to brief them on the roadmap and pursue fundamental economic reform.
- Briefing and engaging media. The launch of Climate Capital Forum has already received coverage in Sky News, Sydney Morning Herald; Renew Economy and Climate & Capital Media.
- Organise a series of round table events in Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne to allow a broad range of experts to discuss and debate the best financial mechanism that can help Australia modernise and decarbonise its economy.

Source: Smart Energy Council submission 2023

INVASIVE SPECIES

protecting against invasive-led
extinction and degradation

“An Australia where wildlife and ecosystems are safe from invasive species”

The Invasive Species Council is the leading expert on strategically addressing invasive species impacts and the only national environment advocacy organisation dedicated to protecting wildlife from the impact of invasive species.

The State of Environment Report 2021 tells us that invasive species are the most prevalent threat to Australian wildlife and have been the primary cause of extinction. As global trade grows, so does this threat to nature.

We must build our capacity to amplify our impact if we are to prevent further invasive species-led extinctions, avoid the degradation of ecosystems and restore Australia’s unique wildlife and iconic places. Building our capacity will allow us to tackle additional high impact invasive species at all stages of the invasion process and accelerate the speed of our success in time that will make a difference for nature. It will also help to minimise the costs to Australia of averting extinctions and losses for Australia.

Source: Invasive Species submission 2023



Above: L-R Dr John Sherman GP, with Patrick Lawrence CEO



Above: Staff at Very Special Kids

FIRST STEP

first step evaluation and sector reform

“First Step’s vision is a community where people who use drugs and alcohol and people living with mental distress can live well, be safe and be supported.”

As outlined in the Final Report of the Royal Commission, First Step is the pre-eminent example of a multi-disciplinary team approach to supporting people living with addiction and mental illness. Our approach needs evaluation, benchmarking our clients lives while receiving assistance at First Step against their lives before and afterwards. A detailed, independent evaluation will:

1. Help us to codify, document and provide evidence for our model of care,
2. Provide an evidence base to the Victorian care sector about best practice integrated care
3. Help First Step refine its Integrated Model of Care
4. Begin to demonstrate First Step’s return on investment to government and philanthropy.

A mixed methods outcomes evaluation (interviews, validated health and treatment outcomes, comparison with benchmarks) of First Step’s treatment of co-occurring conditions by one team on one site will provide the Victorian system with a blueprint for life-saving care.

Source: First Step submission 2023

VERY SPECIAL KIDS

enhanced medical model of care

“We understand every child’s experience with a life-limiting condition is unique, and every family requires tailored support specific to their family’s journey”

Along with significant physical upgrades in the new Very Special Kids Hospice, the Service Delivery Leadership Team has developed a new medical model of care to deliver enhanced paediatric palliative care to children and young people with life-limiting conditions.

This enhanced approach requires additional nursing and medical staff to ensure the healthcare delivered to children and their families continues to be best practice and of a high standard in the new facility. This includes equipping staff to cater to a wider cohort of children and young people with increasingly complex needs, as well as being able to respond quickly and efficiently to address a child’s pain levels and discomfort.

Management of pain and other symptoms is a key element of children’s palliative care. More onsite presence in these specialist clinical roles will provide the ability to respond more quickly and efficiently to patient needs, avoiding the need to wait for an on-call medical doctor to be onsite to authorise these changes – as is the case currently. The management of pain and other symptoms will be more effective, ensuring the child is as comfortable as possible during their respite stay.

Source: Very Special Kids submission 2023



Above: LifeFlight Helicopter Bell 412. Image: LifeFlight Foundation

GRANTEE FEATURE STORY

LIFEFLIGHT FOUNDATION

Critical Care Doctor Project

LifeFlight Australia is a world leader in aeromedical care, with a core purpose to save lives and serve the community. (Source: LifeFlight website)

For over 40 years, LifeFlight has been a trusted emergency helicopter rescue service to the communities of Queensland. For those seriously ill and injured patients needing critical care, LifeFlight offers the assurance of emergency support 24/7, 365 days a year.

Queensland's rural and remote communities in particular, rely on LifeFlight to receive critical support from highly skilled medical professionals while being transported to hospital facilities.

In 1998 the Bundaberg base was established with its resident helicopter Bell 412 servicing popular tourist destinations, remote and rural communities.



Up until August 2022 the Wide Bay Burnett service did not have a Critical Care Doctor as part of their onboard crew, so medically complex missions in the region were often performed by crews tasked from either the Sunshine Coast or Toowoomba bases.

Critical Care Doctors are vital to the onboard crew, employing their advanced medical skills to operate under urgent, challenging and highly stressful conditions. They work alongside the helicopter pilot, aircrew officer, rescue crew officer and Queensland Ambulance Service Flight Paramedic. They are highly trained to make life saving decisions or perform critical care procedures on site or in the air.

Previously, there was no funding available for a Critical Care Doctor at Bundaberg, therefore requests for funding were sought to appoint and equip a Critical Care Doctor, piloting a 3-day week roster with the vision to grow into a full-time 24/7 roster.

The project's goal was to further enhance the aeromedical services being provided by the highly skilled and experienced QAS Flight Paramedics, by augmenting the crew with a LifeFlight Critical Care Doctor, expanding the onboard medical skill set available to the community. The Wide Bay Burnett catchment area includes Hervey Bay, K'gari, Bundaberg, Monto, Eidsvold, Mundubbera, and Kingaroy, where LifeFlight could provide vital services to these regional and remote areas that are unable to be accessed by other forms of vehicles, or when a mission critical response is required.

In 2021, John T Reid Charitable Trusts approved a generous grant to contribute to LifeFlight's Critical Care Doctor Project. The funding was used to purchase necessary specialist medical equipment to best equip the Critical Care Doctor to meet LifeFlight's world-class standards and has since seen a substantial increase in the number of people assisted in the region.

The project outcomes were set out to successfully achieve:

- Expanded delivery of early intervention medical services that preserve life and improve patient outcomes; and
- Continued success in providing lifesaving aeromedical services due to LifeFlight's proven capability to recruit, train and deploy specialised medical personnel.

In 2022, the first Critical Care Doctor was rostered on a part time basis at the Wide Bay Burnett service and within a year, had completed 189 missions delivering urgent medical care to patients across the region.

Having a medically equipped Critical Care Doctor, has enabled the LifeFlight Wide Bay Burnett service to respond to a range of complex conditions from cardiac issues and serious injuries to the transfer of expectant mothers and infants for specialised care.

"The appointment of a Critical Care Doctor has substantially boosted aeromedical services and LifeFlight's capacity to provide support to critically ill patients in the region." LifeFlight Foundation.

The following are some of the many Wide Bay Burnett missions LifeFlight were tasked since the appointment of the Critical Care Doctor project;

LifeFlight airlifts two children from K'gari beach car rollover

Media Release, January 2023

Teen airlifted after New Year water-skiing accident

Media Release, January 2023

LifeFlight chopper crew winches hiker injured in 8 metre mountain fall

Media Release, December 2022

RACQ LifeFlight Rescue airlifts man injured in serious crash

Media Release, October 2022

Following the success of the community funded and sponsor-supported three day a week doctor roster at the Bundaberg base, as well as the increase in demand, the Australian Government agreed to provide funding to expand the roster to 7 days a week during daylight hours.

The 2022-23 Federal Budget saw the Australian Government commit \$1.1 million over three years for the continued employment of a Critical Care Doctor to provide aeromedical services in the region.

"With thanks to the support from the John T Reid Charitable Trusts, those living in the Wide Bay Burnett region will continue to have access to a world-class lifesaving health service giving them the confidence that when things go wrong, they're not disadvantaged by their remoteness."

LifeFlight Foundation.

Source: LifeFlight Submission, Final Report and LifeFlight Website

Image: LifeFlight Foundation





Above: Lowland Leadbeater Possum. Image: Zoos Victoria

HAINING FARM SUCCESS STORY

LEADBEATER POSSUM

New hope for one of Victoria's Faunal Emblems

Written by Dr Dan Harley Senior Ecologist, Zoos Victoria

The lowland Leadbeater's Possum is one of Victoria's most imperilled mammals, with fewer than 40 individuals remaining in the last wild population at Yellingbo. Recovering numbers is challenging given more than 99% of suitable habitat has been cleared for agriculture.

The recovery programme for the possum experienced major setbacks during 2020-22, when translocation trials to two new locations, Wallaby Creek and Tolmie, were unsuccessful due to high rates of predation on the translocated possums by feral cats.

However, annual monitoring data collected at Yellingbo during June this year has provided new hope. The latest estimate indicates that the population contains 34 possums, a 42% increase on the 2022 estimate of 24 individuals. This is the first significant population increase during two decades of monitoring and management.

While these results are encouraging, the small population size and restriction to a single location continue to make the population extremely vulnerable. Preventing the extinction of this unique genetic group will require establishing possums at new locations.

One of the most successful actions undertaken to date to support the recovery of lowland Leadbeater's Possum is 29 hectares of revegetation at Haining Farm. This restoration was led by Greening Australia in partnership with Parks Victoria and Zoos Victoria, with extensive support provided by the John T Reid Charitable Trusts.

Five years after establishment, the condition of the revegetation is looking so good that it is now considered capable of supporting lowland Leadbeater Possums providing nest boxes, supplementary food and cats are excluded. The latter requires construction of a predator exclusion fence, which will also keep foxes out.

The revegetation at Haining Farm could support more than 10 possum family groups, and offers the most reliable and rapid avenue to double the total population size.

Establishing the possums at Haining Farm will first involve transferring subadults born in the wild at Yellingbo to the new Threatened Species Quarantine Facility at Healesville Sanctuary, which was also supported with a grant recently funded by the Trusts.

The possums will be paired up at the facility providing a temporary holding period at Healesville Sanctuary most likely to span 3-6 months to ensure strong bonds are formed between the new pairs ahead of their release to Haining Farm.

Haining Farm will provide visitors with a unique opportunity to observe the intensive recovery efforts underway to save one of our critically endangered Faunal Emblems.



JOHN T REID CHARITABLE TRUSTS FAMILY EVENT 2023

Museums Victoria

In May the annual JTR Charitable Trusts' Family Event was held at Museums Victoria.

In 2021, the Trusts provided a grant to support Museum Victoria's 'Country is Always Talking' project; a multi-sensory integration of First Peoples storytelling and knowledge into the Forest Gallery, a major attraction at the Museum which is scheduled to be completed in 2024.

Families and friends of the Trusts were able to experience the Forest Gallery as they were guided through the Forest on arrival. There were live exhibits, crafts for kids, as well hearing from the Museum's Justice Nelson, Head First People - Experience, Kelly Koumalatsos, Exhibition Content Lead, our own Chair, Andrew McKenzie and trustees, Jen Grindrod and Will Lawson.

We wish to thank everyone who were able to attend and look forward to welcoming family and friends to the next Family Event in 2024!



Above L-R: Justice Nelson, Head First People - Experience, Kelly Koumalatsos, Exhibition Content Lead, guests Jarmilla and David McKenzie



Above L-R: Chair, Andrew McKenzie, trustees Will Lawson and Jen Grindrod, Farren Williams (Koda Capital) and Emma Edmonds (JTR Executive Officer)



Above L-R: Jarmilla McKenzie, Kay McKenzie, Grace Athanassiou, Elizabeth McKenzie



Above L-R: Max Bittisnich and Jen Pittock



Above L-R: Mrs Jean Hedges with Andrew McKenzie



L-R: Mrs Margaret Ross AO and Dr Ian Ross with trustee, Phil Endersbee



Image: Mimal ranger conducting a cool burn near the Barrapunta outstation, Mimal Land Management area
Photography by Stacey Irving Karrkad Kanjdji Trust



Image: Haining Farm 1956



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 web version is available at
www.johntreidtrusts.com.au



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