

ANNUAL REPORT

2016–17



THE
R E ROSS
TRUST

The R E Ross Trust

The R E Ross Trust is a perpetual charitable trust established in Victoria in 1970 by the will of the late Roy Everard Ross. Since its inception, the Ross Trust has distributed over \$105 million in grants for charitable purpose in Victoria.



Roy Everard Ross

Roy Everard Ross was born in July 1899 at Mansfield, Victoria and died in Melbourne in November 1970. He trained as a land surveyor and engineer and went on to become a property owner, businessman, investor and successful local government engineer.

In 1968 Mr Ross founded Hillview Quarries at Dromana on the Mornington Peninsula. Hillview Quarries is wholly owned by the Ross Trust. Its operations generate income for the Trust to distribute as grants.

Mr Ross was a keen bushman with a strong interest in and extensive knowledge of native plants, trees and birds. His interest is reflected in his wish for the Trustees to take into consideration the 'protection and preservation of flora and fauna' when distributing the Trust's income.

The biography and history of Mr Ross – Roy Everard Ross – Engineer Investor Quarryman Philanthropist – was published in July 2003. Copies of the publication can be obtained from the office of the Ross Trust.

Trustees

Mr Geoff J Nicholson

Mr Ian A Renard

Ms Eda N Ritchie

Ms Jenny V Stephens

Mr Ian M Vaughan

Ms Sylvia Admans
Chief Executive Officer

Ms Margarita Sagris
Grants and Office Manager

Ms Dina Vlanes
Grants, Administration and Executive Assistant

Ms Pam Mitchell
Finance Manager

Ms Louise Kuramoto
Program Manager (Maternity leave from December 2017)

Ms Venetia Taylor
Program Manager

Ms Rebecca Chew
Program Manager (Maternity leave replacement from February 2017)

Production details

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Design: Viola Design

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Our thanks to all the organisations and individuals who have contributed photos, images and stories to this report.

The Ross Trust guidelines and application forms are available on our website.

The Trust's logo was designed to convey the essence of a charitable trust – growth, warmth, energy and an outward reach.



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Trustees' Report

In keeping with the R E Ross Trust's practice of annual rotation of the role of Chair, I held the position for the 2016–2017 financial year. What a pleasure and privilege! This model enables the incumbent Chair to do a twelve-month 'deep dive' into the work of the Trust as well as into the philanthropic sector more generally. The journey brings considerable learning, a deeper appreciation of the significant contribution philanthropy can make to positive social change, and an enhanced admiration for the many individuals in the sector who give their intellect, time and generosity to such great effect.

In the last financial year Trustees embarked upon a process of modernisation of the Trust's governance, in keeping with our aim to pursue continuous improvement for the organisation. Commencing with a board review of both entities, the Ross Trust and Hillview Quarries, valuable feedback was obtained. Based on this, a skills matrix was developed to support Trustee succession planning now and into the immediate future, and a new policy implemented which establishes a term of office of 12 years for future Trustees. The current policy of retirement in the year in which a Trustee turns 75 years still applies. Consistent with this, Ian Vaughan retired after ten years very committed service to the Trust and Hillview Quarries. On behalf of all Trustees, I wish to thank Ian sincerely for his enthusiasm and diligence. He brought an insightful and inquiring mind to consideration of all Trust and Hillview matters, and his strong strategic sense contributed greatly to the work undertaken by both entities over those ten years. We subsequently welcomed Jeremy Kirkwood who commenced as a Trustee on 1 August 2017. Jeremy brings both financial acumen and extractive industries expertise, as well as experience of serving on not-for-profit boards.

With the support of the Ross Trust I have continued as a Council Member of Philanthropy Australia, the industry peak body for philanthropy. This is an experience I have found absorbing, instructive and extremely rewarding. The Trustees believe it is important to contribute to a vibrant and strong sector not just through our own work but also through other forms of participation. Trust staff are also encouraged to make broader sector contributions.

At our annual strategy day in May 2017, we again invited a wider group of philanthropic colleagues to contribute and share their professional expertise. Together we explored aspects of theory and

practice in philanthropy to address the question 'Are we doing the best we can to make a difference?' We thank those colleagues for generously giving their time and insights to assist us in setting future strategy and direction for the Ross Trust. As a result of these deliberations, the Trust is embarking upon its own 'Theory of Change' process to better examine the effectiveness and impact of our granting.

In June 2017, the Trust's CEO Sylvia Admans advised us of her intention to retire in early 2018. Sylvia will have served as CEO for seven years and in that time has made an enormous contribution to the work of the Trust. At an organisational level processes have been refined and enhanced, staff have been guided to new learnings about granting strategies, and Trustees greatly assisted by Sylvia's very extensive knowledge and understanding of philanthropic practice. More broadly in the sector, it is obvious that Sylvia is held in very high esteem by her colleagues, and it is to her credit that she will finish her professional career with a reputation of which she can be proud. We are grateful for her leadership and stewardship, and will say a heartfelt thank you to her in January 2018. In this annual report we have given Sylvia the opportunity in a profile piece to reflect on her career at the Ross Trust and in philanthropy over the past 19 years.

The Trust's granting has increased in order to support important initiatives from the 2016 Strategy Day and continue to meet community need. In the 2016-17 financial year, the Trust approved \$4,205,672 in 92 new grants, 58% of which were multi-year grants. The Trust's multi-year funding is done knowing the importance of this to our recipients as it allows much needed certainty and the ability to plan and retain staff.

Jenny Stephens, Chair of Trustees 2017

Trustee Highlights



Geoff Nicholson, Trustee:

Unquestionably the success of Hillview Quarries and the Investment Fund in providing the Trust funding for donations over the year. HVQ had a bumper year with sales and profits and the Investment Funds has progressed well. Both succeeded in providing \$4.2m that the Trust was able to pass on to needy causes. This gave me great pleasure.



Ian Renard, AM, Trustee:

We are in the process of a complete change of Trustees over a four year period which will conclude by 1 July 2018. The benefits of this renewal are already apparent, and I have found the insights of the newer Trustees illuminating and stimulating.



Eda Ritchie, AM, Trustee:

Our interest and learnings in regard to impact investment are developing steadily and our work as Directors of our own social enterprise, Hillview Quarries Ltd, is a continually challenging and rewarding part of our work. We have an opportunity not only to support philanthropic ends but also to identify good practice through our monitoring and reporting and an opportunity to influence policy.



Jenny Stephens, Trustee:

Gaining deeper insights into how to think about more effective philanthropy has been a highlight of the past year for me. One of these is reflected in earlier and current Trust practice of backing good people who have sets of values aligned to those of the Trust, and making a connection with them at the level of these values. A key learning for me is the importance of listening to community organisations about what they identify as needing to be done, and then what they need from philanthropy in order to get on and do it.



Ian Vaughan, Trustee:

As I come to the end of my 10 years with the Trust, I am pleased to have seen the Trust continually change over the years. A wider range of disadvantaged communities has been supported, while also adding a sharper focus on major issues such as Family Violence and Homelessness. Good governance has always been paramount, and continues to evolve with the latest new Trustees, who are challenging past practices and providing fresh initiatives.

CEO's Report

The new financial year opened with planning well advanced for the relocation of the Trust office from South Melbourne to East Melbourne. It was an exciting time for staff as we prepared for the move in September 2016. We are now well ensconced in our new office and have found the move to be very beneficial for staff, Trustees and grant seekers with excellent proximity to the city and more modern facilities. I would particularly like to thank Margarita Sagris, the Trust's Grants & Office Manager, for the manner in which the move was seamlessly conducted.

In December 2016, Program Manager Louise Kuramoto started 12 months maternity leave and Rebecca Chew joined the Trust in February 2017 to fill the vacancy created. Otherwise the Trust's staffing has remained stable.

The Trust has continued to be a responsive grant maker with 79% of all grant applications made to the Trust receiving funding. As well as approving 92 new grants over the 11 meetings this financial year, the Trust paid previously approved grants of \$4,124,386. Interestingly, the trend of mergers of not-for-profit organisations continues and Hands on Learning, with which the Trust has collaborated closely in recent years, has merged with Save the Children Australia, as a means of taking their model to scale and creating greater stakeholder engagement. The Trust continues to watch these mergers with interest.

A major Program of the Trust is the Emergency Relief & Material Aid Program, which commits around \$500,000 per annum. Every three years the Trust undertakes a review for the Program's relevance and reach and makes recommendations for its improvement. This review was undertaken by Trust staff and Mary Pearce. Pleasingly the Trust has been able to share this work with those other Trusts and Foundations who are also interested in this under-funded area.

Investing in training and development for staff and Trustees has continued with a particularly rich year of offerings. Attendance at the Philanthropy Australia Conference in September 2016 in Sydney, the National Community Foundations Forum in Inverloch, Victoria, the AEGN conference in Melbourne and the Philanthropy Summit 2017 in Wellington, New Zealand in May offered excellent opportunities for several staff and Trustees to expand their philanthropic knowledge and consolidate and grow networks.

A major piece of work has been progressing our 2016 Strategy Day outcomes in homelessness and family violence. The Trust hosted visits for a number of trusts and foundations to learn more about the

Youth Foyers model, facilitated by Launch Housing and we continue to be interested in the area of youth homelessness, supporting a number of new projects. The development of a family violence collaboration has made steady progress working alongside other trusts and foundations, as well as government and not-for-profit partners. Importantly, these major strategic pieces of work take considerable development resources, in both staff time and money and the Trust is committed to working long term in these two priority areas.

There has been continued interest in the Trust approach to impact investments, with an invitation to take part in the Generosity Forum panel in May 2017. In addition, staff participate in funders forums, continue the focus on our place-based work and I have again have been part of the Philanthropy Australia Awards judging panel and the Give Where You Live Innovation Grants panel.

As this is the last time I shall report as CEO of the Trust, I wish to thank all those wonderful people and their organisations with which the Trust has worked over the last seven years. When you add to this my sector colleagues, Trustees and staff here at the Trust, I have been exposed to such incredible drive, energy and commitment and so have nothing but the utmost respect for this broad church which philanthropy embraces.

Jenny Stephens, as Chair for the 12 months of the report, has brought a freshness and determination to the role from which the Trust will benefit long into the future. The staff of the Trust are as ever committed, inventive and thorough in their roles and I thank Pam, Dina, Venetia, Margarita, Louise and Rebecca. I hope you enjoy reading this report and commend it to you.

Sylvia Admans, Chief Executive Officer



Staff Highlights



Ms Sylvia Admans
Chief Executive Officer

The highlight in 2016–17 was the relocation of the Trust office after 36 years in Albert Rd, South Melbourne. The Trust's Jolimont office provides much improved amenity, the capacity for the staff to work more closely together, closer proximity to the city and even saves on operating costs.



Ms Dina Vlanes
Grants, Administration
and Executive Assistant

I've appreciated the further implementation of the online grants database, which automates many functions I previously did manually. I really enjoy new improved ways of working that benefit both the grant seekers and staff.



Ms Louise Kuramoto
Program Manager

Attending the Philanthropy Australia Conference in Sydney was a highlight for me this year. It was a great chance to connect with colleagues from other states in Australia and delve deeper in to new and emerging trends in philanthropy practice.



Ms Margarita Sagris
Grants and Office Manager

We were visited by Clontarf Foundation staff and young boys during a morning tea. The young boys spoke of their experiences with Clontarf and their individual experiences at school and the benefit it has had on their lives.



Ms Venetia Taylor
Program Manager

A highlight is being out on the road, meeting and listening to community in East Gippsland and the LaTrobe Valley. The collaborative partnerships that have eventuated are "linkage" grants in action and deliver greater benefit for those communities. Place-based funding is long term and so rewarding through the relationships you develop.



Ms Rebecca Chew
Program Manager

I joined the Ross Trust this year and there have been many highlights. I have enjoyed learning more about the breadth of work being undertaken by community and service organisations supported by the Trust. It's a privilege to practice philanthropy and it's a highlight to see and hear how it has made a difference. My work benefits from the shared learnings and advice of my colleagues and the Trustees – a combination of years of experience, expertise and gut instinct!



Ms Pam Mitchell
Finance Manager

My highlight for the year was the move to the new offices in East Melbourne and the completion of the "paper free" office project which has meant a more effective use of everyone's time.

Ms Sylvia Admans, CEO (2011–2018)

Ms Sylvia Admans has been the Chief Executive Officer of the Ross Trust since January 2011. Under her leadership, the Trust has continued to grow its reputation as a thoughtful, responsive and trusted grant maker. This year marks Sylvia's last as CEO; she will be retiring in January 2018. We take this opportunity to thank Sylvia for her strong and empathic leadership, and gather some farewell insights.

What led you to your role with the Trust?

My pathway to the Trust was through a number of different roles within philanthropy and also two levels of government – federal and local. My role here has been informed by community need and the potential of philanthropy to respond to this need in so many different ways. My primary motivation has always been to ensure that potential is realised, at an individual, organisational and community level.

How has the Trust changed or evolved during your time as CEO?

As with so much in philanthropy, it is about evolution. I was attracted to the Trust because of its well-earned reputation for relationship-based work that is sustained and responsive. So during my time, it has been a matter of continuously working on making something which is effective, more so. Internally our systems have improved though the values which represent the Trust have remained constant and strengthened.

What are some of the highlights of your years with the Trust?

Definitely the progressive nature of the organisation. Its willingness to adapt and try new ways of working. The place-based work is particularly rewarding. The commitment to the long-term stands out. Relationships which were in place when I joined remain in place and will continue after my time. That stickability is a virtue of philanthropy. The willingness to embrace social impact investing and pursue opportunities and do original work in this space. Working with such an experienced governing group has taught me a lot and the complex nature of the Trust being underpinned by the income from a commercial business has been a great learning experience.

Why is the work of the Trust important?

Because it has to be done, due to the perpetual nature of the organisation. Knowing that this will continue forever, that's a unique position to be in. There are not many sectors that have the certainty that the philanthropic sector does. Wisdom is important; well-informed use of resources is such an asset for the community sector. The resources are so much more than money – the power to convene, influence, cajole, advocate, enable, invest are all precious capabilities to be used wisely for community betterment.

What will you be focussing on next?

Time, my time. I want to choose how I use it and what for. I've always said I want to be carefree however I realise carefree and philanthropy don't go together. You are in philanthropy because you care and want to create change and I now know I shall never lose this ...

What do you hope for the Trust's future?

Nothing but the best – that it continues to be a progressive and influential philanthropic organisation. That with maturity (the Trust is 50 in 2020) its courage and influence are magnified.



The Ross Trust Approach to Granting

The Ross Trust mission is to direct its resources to areas of the highest priority need where there is the greatest potential for impact towards projects and other activities that address disadvantage and inequity; encourage and promote social inclusiveness, community connectedness, health and well-being, and protect and preserve Australian flora and fauna.

An **Open Grant** is a process through which organisations can submit unsolicited applications for specific programs or projects that fall within the Trust's granting guidelines.

A **Collaboration** is a formal relationship between the Trust and an organisation or organisations that have demonstrated effectiveness in areas in which the Trust has a specific interest. The Trust has developed these medium to long-term relationships in an effort to effect change on select issues of importance with the view that funding and assisting organisations in a more intensive and supported way will help them to have greater impact.

A **Program** is an area of work the Trust could administer itself, but chooses to work through respected organisations that have particular expertise to either give grants, or deliver a program on the Trust's behalf. It is an outsourcing arrangement that is closely managed by the Trust's staff. The programs have been designed and developed to achieve positive impact for the benefit of the community in the Trust's priority areas.

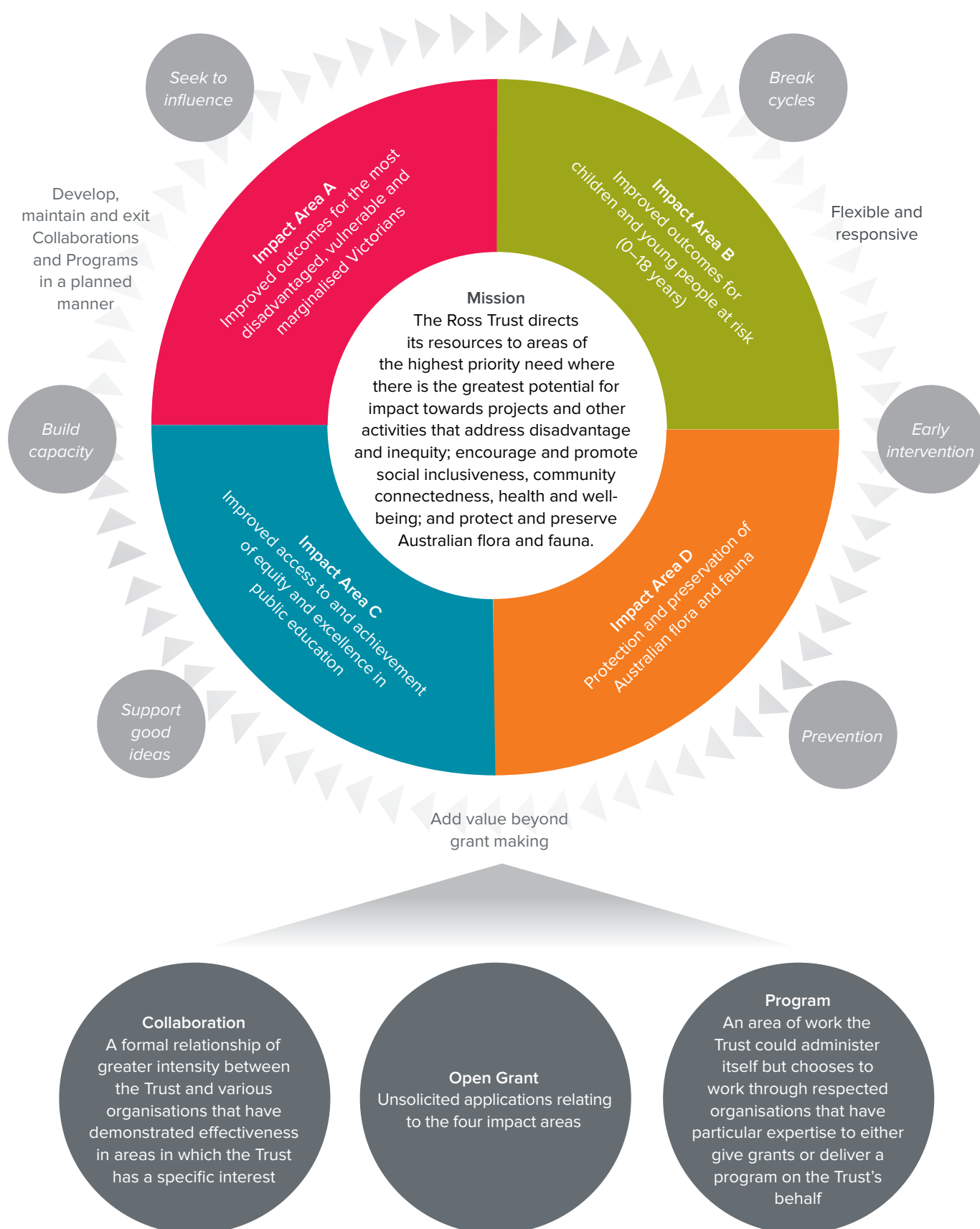
Selection of organisations to be involved in the Trust's Programs and Collaborations is based on a history of achieving successful outcomes in specific impact areas, not through unsolicited applications.

Place-based grants are made across all four impact areas to support projects in communities of significant disadvantage: the Gippsland region, Robinvale, and Benalla. Grants made in this area are primarily developed through consultation with the local community and made with a whole-of-community view.

Granting limitations

The Trust provides grants to organisations operating in Victoria, or to organisations that will use the funds to benefit people in Victoria. The only exception concerns support for projects in the Pacific Islands and adjacent areas, an area of focus expressly referred to in the will of R E Ross. The Trust does not accept applications made by individuals for their own personal benefit, or for the benefit of other nominated individuals.

Ross Trust Granting Strategy



Facts and Figures

The Trust accepted 116 applications for grants in the 2016–17 year. Of these, 92 (79 per cent) were approved, totalling \$4,205,672. The grants were made in three ways: Open Grants, Collaborations, or Programs, across one of four impact areas: Vulnerable Victorians; Children at Risk; Education, Arts and Culture, and; Australian Flora and Fauna.

116 ↓
APPLICATIONS
RECEIVED

92 ✓
APPLICATIONS
APPROVED

79%
APPROVAL
RATE

\$4,205,672 ✓
IN GRANTS APPROVED

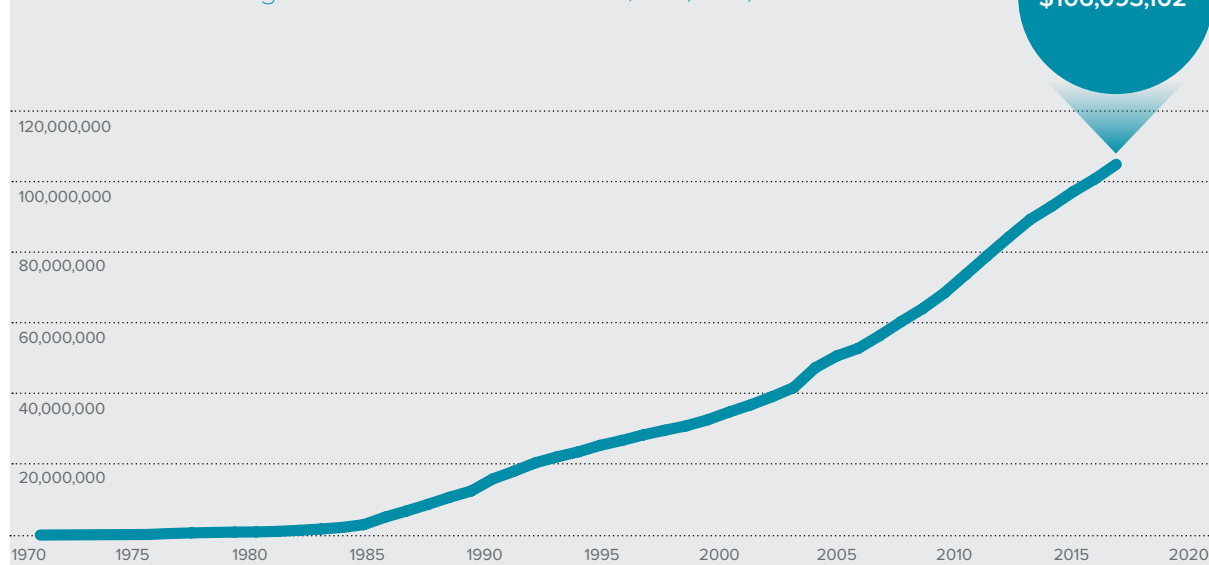
\$4,124,386 💰
IN GRANTS PAID

\$45,714
AVERAGE GRANT AMOUNT APPROVED
\$35,000
MEDIAN GRANT AMOUNT APPROVED

\$1,288–
\$250,000
RANGE OF GRANTS APPROVED

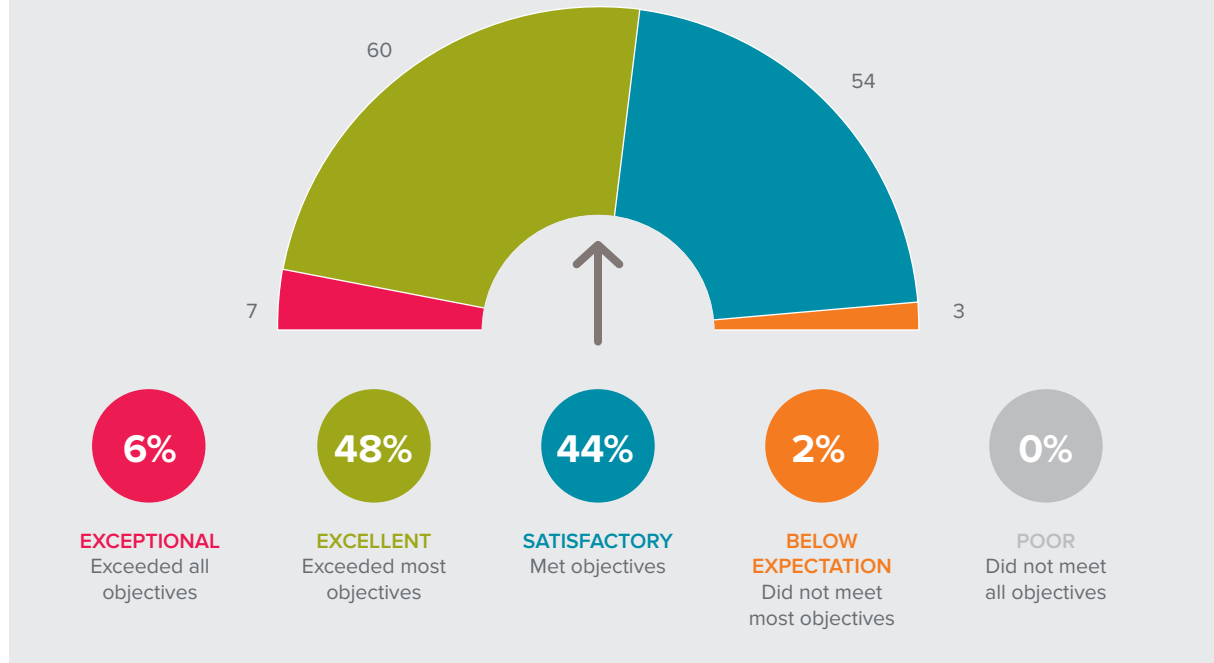
Grants made by Ross Trust since inception

The R E Ross Trust has been granting to the Victorian community since 1971. In this time grants made have totalled \$106,093,102.

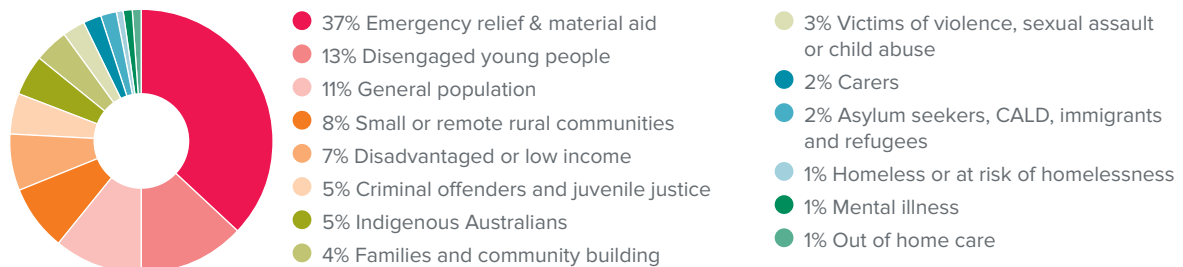


Outcomes reports

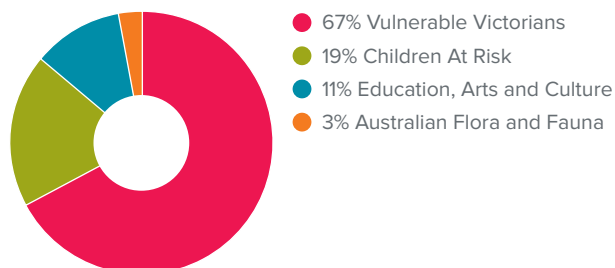
In recent years the Trust has begun to allocate a rating to progress and final reports received. This system allows us to take a holistic view of the Trust's grantmaking outcomes and draw out key learnings and themes as to why some grants exceed objectives and others are unable to meet objectives. In the 2016–17 year the Trust assessed 124 reports, 98% of these were rated satisfactory or above.



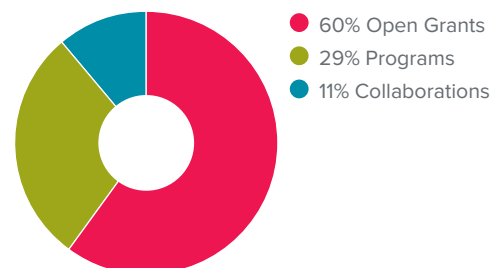
Population groups assisted across all impact areas (approved grants)



Grants approved in each impact area 2016–17



Distribution across grant types 2016–17



Impact Area A

Improvement of social and economic outcomes for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable people in Victoria



During 2016–17 the Trust maintained its focus on providing grants to support those experiencing personal, social or financial disadvantage.

Priority was given to applications that assist:

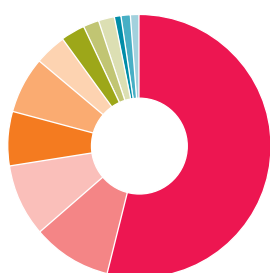
- Newly arrived migrants, refugees and asylum seekers and culturally and linguistically diverse communities
- Greater access to health services for disadvantaged
- Aboriginal Australians
- Individuals/families experiencing violence, abuse or neglect
- Offenders, ex-offenders, and those at risk of offending and their families
- People with mental health issues
- People living in small rural communities
- People who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

The Trust continued to support projects that: meet the immediate and basic needs of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable; provide early intervention; invest in long-term efforts to overcome disadvantage; and seek to understand the causes and contributing factors to social and economic disadvantage.

The Trust supports projects that achieve outcomes in a variety of ways, including: arts, cultural, recreational and sporting activities; community and personal services; building the capacity of organisations, including professional development of staff and volunteers; education and training; and publishing and disseminating knowledge and information.

In 2016–17, the Trustees approved 52 grants totalling \$2,824,907 under Impact Area A, some of which may be paid over a period of up to three years.

Grants approved under Impact Area A



- 55% Emergency relief & material aid
- 10% Disadvantaged or low income
- 9% Small or remote rural communities
- 7% Indigenous Australians
- 7% General population
- 4% Criminal offenders and juvenile justice
- 3% Carers
- 2% Asylum seekers, CALD, immigrants and refugees

- 2% Victims of violence, sexual assault and child abuse
- 1% Sex workers or trafficked individuals
- 1% Mental health
- 1% Homelessness or at risk of homelessness

Location of approved grants



Grants approved by the Trust in 2016–2017 under Impact Area A

Asylum seekers, CALD, immigrants and refugees

Centre for Participation

\$15,000

P21 learner driver program

Community Four Ltd

\$19,680

SymLab - Project Careers

Duke Street Community House

\$9,937

Cooking and food literacy

Migrant Resource Centre North West Region

\$3,650 (over two years)

Know the Score: Keeping CALD Families Informed

About Secondary School

Total: \$48,267

Carers

P S My Family Matters

\$90,000 (over three years)

Co-ordinating the care

Total: \$90,000

Criminal Offenders and Juvenile Justice

CommUnity Plus Services Ltd

\$60,000 (over two years)

Best Start – a new beginning for offenders and their families

Deakin University

\$30,000

The role of Peer Mentors in breaking the cycle of crime and imprisonment in Geelong

Somebody's Daughter Theatre Company

\$30,000

Transforming the Journeys: a response to family violence

Total: \$120,000

Disadvantaged or low income

Barrier Breakers Inc.

\$50,000 (over two years)

Extend Advocacy Services

CareWorks SunRanges Inc

\$46,000 (over two years)

Serving Our Clients Better

Combined Churches Caring Melton

\$10,000

COACH Community Mentoring Program

Council of Single Mothers and their Children

\$10,000

Branding and website upgrade

Doveton College

\$10,000

General operating expenses (in recognition of Ian Vaughan's service as Trustee of The Trust)

Footscape Inc

\$40,000 (over two years)

Children's Orthotic Project

Southern Peninsula Community Support and Information Centre Inc

\$75,000 (over three years)

SPCSIC Family Case Management Project

Northern Bay College

\$28,000

Northern Bay College Family Engagement Program

Total: \$269,000

Emergency Relief and Material Aid

Anglicare Victoria

\$99,000 (over three years)

Asylum Seeker Resource Centre

\$60,000 (over three years)

Brotherhood of St Laurence

\$81,000 (over three years)

Casey North Community Information & Support Service

\$81,000 (over three years)

Centre for Non-Violence Inc

\$120,000 (over three years)

Community Support Frankston Inc

\$61,620 (over three years)

Council of Single Mothers and their Children

\$90,000 (over three years)

Cranbourne Information & Support Service

\$75,000 (over three years)

Dandenong Ranges Emergency Relief Service

\$45,000 (over three years)

Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal

\$120,000 (over three years)

Goulburn Valley Community Care & Emergency Relief Inc

\$60,000 (over three years)

Launch Housing (formerly Hanover Welfare Services)

\$120,000 over three years

MacKillop Family Services

\$75,000 (over three years)

Mornington Community Information and Support Centre Inc.

\$75,000 (over three years)

Morwell Neighbourhood House & Learning Centre

\$60,000 (over three years)

Orbost Neighbourhood House

\$45,000 (over three years)

Southern Peninsula Community Support and Information Centre Inc
\$75,000 (over three years)

St Mark's Community Centre
\$39,000 (over three years)

The Queen's Fund
\$84,000 (over three years)

Western Port Community Support
\$75,000 (over three years)

Total: \$1,540,620

General Population

Inner Melbourne Community Legal
\$90,000 (over three years)
Health Justice Partnerships at Royal Women's Hospital, Royal Children's Hospital and Royal Melbourne Hospital

Kilfinan Australia
\$10,000
Kilfinan Australia capacity building

Neighbourhood Houses Victoria
\$60,000 (over two years)
Social Outcomes Focused Learning and Development Project

The Funding Network Australia
\$12,000
Pitch coaching and communications workshops

Think HQ
\$15,000
Lumin

Total: \$187,000

Homelessness or At Risk of Homelessness

North East Support and Action for Youth
\$29,940 (over two years)
Café Cards

Total: \$29,940

Indigenous Australians

Gippsland Lakes Community Health
\$20,000
Building organisational capacity

Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention & Legal Service
\$30,000
Policy & advocacy support to meet the additional demand placed on FVPLS Victoria due to the Royal Commission into Family Violence

First Australians Capital Ltd
\$30,000
First Australians Capital

Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association
\$60,000
Gathering Place Coordinator

Winda-Mara Aboriginal Corporation
\$48,111 (over two years)
Indigenous Family Therapy Project

Total: \$188,111

Mental Health

WISE Employment
\$30,000
Peer support and vocational rehabilitation for people with a Mental Illness: scoping the opportunity for the Clubhouse Model in Victoria

Total \$30,000

Sex workers or trafficked individuals

HerSpace Limited
\$19,895
HerHealing – tailored one-on-one mental health support for women affected by sexual exploitation

Total \$19,985

Small or Remote Rural communities

Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal
\$250,000 (over two years)
Small Grants for Rural Communities

Robinvale District Health Service
\$2,074
QuickHands Boxing Program

Total \$252,074

Victims of violence, sexual assault or child abuse

Emerge
\$50,000 (over two years)
Enabling independence for women and children experiencing domestic violence

Total \$50,000

Total Impact Area A: \$2,824,907



Asylum Seeker Resource Centre

Volunteer and Finance Programs

\$125,000 (2015–17)

Amali Aluthgamage, Health Program Manager for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC), would like all people coming to Australia to have equitable access to services. Supporting the Health Program to be culturally responsive to members from diverse backgrounds is an important priority for her.

How long have you been working at ASRC, and what was your background before that?

I have been working at the ASRC for seven and a half months. I came to Australia as a migrant when I was five years old with my parents and brother. I was educated in Australia and Scotland and have a Master of Public Health and a Master of Social Anthropology. I have worked in Aboriginal Health in both mainstream and community-controlled health services and have worked internationally in public health in Colombia, Argentina, United Kingdom and Sri Lanka over the past ten years.

Can you tell us a little about the health programs the ASRC runs and what your job entails?

The Health Program is the largest facility of its kind in Australia offering primary health services to people seeking asylum in Australia, most of whom do not have access to Medicare. It offers general practitioners, nurses, and a suite of allied health professionals including pain specialists, immunisation clinics, massage, acupuncture, a diabetes nurse educator, physiotherapy and podiatry. We are in the process of strengthening our health promotion and education model specifically for culturally and linguistically diverse people. My work involves planning, monitoring and evaluation, strengthening processes and systems, implementing best practice standards and ensuring we are meeting key performance indicators and program requirements according to the ASRC strategic plan.

Are there any unique challenges you have had to face working at ASRC?

I have found it personally challenging to work at the ASRC as I am Sri Lankan and many of our members who are seeking asylum are from Sri Lanka. I did not anticipate the emotional challenge of this prior to my commencement but I believe that my personal commitment to my role and to cultural responsiveness comes from my connection to Sri Lanka. My migrant experience and living within a diasporic community has allowed me to gain an insight into supporting and working with culturally and linguistically diverse people.

What do you value personally about your work?

I value that I have the opportunity to work at an organisation which supports people to live in Australia. My country has been war torn for almost 30 years and I understand the impact this has had on many people and their families. It's wonderful to be a part of something so meaningful.

I am interested in supporting organisations to be culturally responsive so that people from diverse backgrounds are able to access the same high quality health services that Australians are able to access. There are many cultural considerations that need to be understood and structural barriers need to be lifted. Inclusive practice is vital so that all service users and employees feel a sense of belonging. I am passionate about consumer-led planning, achieving diverse representation in the sector and respecting the value of lived experience in service and program design.



Asylum Seeker Resource Centre
03 9326 6066
asrc.org.au

Kinfolk Enterprise

Kinfolk Volunteer Program

CURRENT GRANT: \$20,000
PURPOSE: ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY
POPULATION SERVED: DISADVANTAGED OR LOW INCOME
GEOGRAPHICAL AREA SERVED: MELBOURNE METRO
GRANT HISTORY: \$20,000 (2016–18)

Kinfolk is a not-for-profit social enterprise café and catering business that aims to foster social inclusion through its volunteer program, which involves 50–60 people each week. The Trust’s funding enabled Kinfolk to extend the hours of the Volunteer Manager, which has facilitated more effective volunteer management and support.

“Community is a core value at Kinfolk; it’s at the heart of our business model. There’s the support, participation and engagement of our customer community and the communities our charity partners work with. There are the relationships we craft with our local suppliers, and then there is the volunteer community,” says Johanna Reilly, Operations Manager at Kinfolk.

Kinfolk donates all of its surplus to charity: in 2016, \$23,344 was raised for two charity partners. It also provides valuable work experience to volunteers from diverse backgrounds. Some are transitioning out of prison into the community. Others experience mental health issues, disability, unemployment or homelessness.

The opportunity to gain valuable employment skills and training Kinfolk offers can be life-changing. This year, 57 volunteers were identified as challenged in the employment market. Fifty-six were unemployed at the time they commenced volunteering, and 16 had never been employed before. Twenty-six of these volunteers have now gained employment; 11 directly with Kinfolk.

A degree in social work and a background in hospitality fine dining helps Volunteer Manager, Katie Huk, to provide ongoing support to volunteers, and to liaise with agencies and families when volunteers relapse or re-enter care. Support also comes from the team of approximately 25 paid staff, as teaching, training and empowering volunteers is a collaborative effort.



Community is a core value at Kinfolk.

“In a typical café, baristas are concerned with volume, consistency and milk temperatures,” Johanna says. “In one recent meeting of our baristas, the focus was brainstorming how best to communicate the complexities of docket interpretation to a volunteer staff member who can’t read.”

Surveys of volunteers indicate that the volunteers experience increased feelings of belonging and being valued through their experience of Kinfolk.

“For individuals who have a history of anxiety or depression, who might feel excluded or marginalised or frustrated by their inability to participate in the job market as a result of disability or difference, the supportive Kinfolk community is uplifting and empowering,” says Johanna.

“It gives volunteers the confidence to practice new skills, to overcome fears and barriers, and it creates a culture that enables them to succeed.”

kinfolk

Kinfolk Café
03 9620 7799
kinfolk.org.au

Domestic Violence Resource Centre

Towards Promoting the SmartSafe+ app to enhance safety for women

CURRENT GRANT: \$9,967 (2015)

PURPOSE: FUNDS FOR SPECIFIC PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES

POPULATION SERVED: VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT OR CHILD ABUSE

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA SERVED: VICTORIA STATEWIDE

GRANT HISTORY: \$65,094 (2011–16)

SmartSafe+ is an interactive smartphone app developed by the Domestic Violence Resource Centre (DVRC) to support women's safety and help them collect evidence to obtain a Family Violence Intervention Order, or prove a breach.

Like a diary but with the extra features and security that smartphones and internet technology can provide, the SmartSafe+ app was developed in 2015. Available free of charge from the App Store (iOS) and Google Play (Android), SmartSafe+ can collect court-admissible evidence of a family violence incident. The evidence is then safely stored off-device in the cloud, where a perpetrator can't access it.

For women escaping domestic violence, safely storing evidence of family violence incidents is an important factor in building a case against an abusive partner or proving an intervention breach.

"The app has helped me collect data that in isolation might seem trivial or difficult to prove but will indicate patterns of my ex's behavior," says Jane*, a domestic abuse survivor.

Funds from the Trust went towards the cost of developing the app, and helped DVRC to employ a community development project worker to deliver presentations and workshops about the app to workers. A printed resource and a series of 'how to' videos was also produced, to raise awareness.

SmartSafe+ won the Victorian Premier's inaugural iAward for Public Sector Innovation in June 2016, and the DVRC are currently in negotiations with the State and Federal Governments regarding nationwide rollout of the app.



Domestic Violence Resource Centre SmartSafe+ app

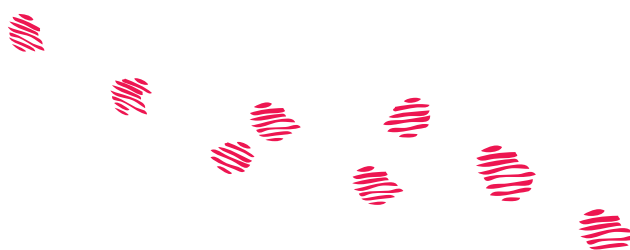
"Women reported they had gained confidence in telling their story and that their voice was strengthened," says Emily Maguire, CEO of the DVRC.

"They also report better pushback against gaslighting, where perpetrators tell their victims that they imagined previous incidences, or claim that they are irrational or overly emotional."

**Name changed to protect identity.*



Domestic Violence Resource Centre
03 9486 9866
dvrcv.org.au



Emergency Relief and Material Aid Program

CURRENT GRANT: \$1,465,620 (2014-17)

PURPOSE: FUNDS FOR SPECIFIC PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES

POPULATION SERVED: DISADVANTAGED OR LOW INCOME

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA SERVED: VICTORIA STATEWIDE

GRANT HISTORY: \$11,002,236 (2003–2017)

The Trust's Emergency Relief and Material Aid (ER&MA) Program supports a range of agencies supporting people affected by poverty and adverse circumstances. The program was reviewed in 2017 to mark the end of the triennial funding cycle, and a new three-year commitment made.

The Trust has been operating a dedicated ER&MA Program since 2003 and has since granted over \$11 million to this program. Now in its fifth funding cycle, a total of \$1,465,620 was approved to 19 agencies throughout Victoria. The funding targets geographic areas and population groups where funding is most needed and will have maximum impact.

After the 2017 review a new three-year commitment was made for the period of 2018–2020. **The review indicates that the need for ER&MA remains strong, and is likely to increase due to the high cost of housing, transport, utilities and medical expenses, and changes to government policy at a state and federal level.**

Key recommendations for the ER&MA Program moving forward include:

1. A limit of 50 per cent of the Trust's grants to agencies be applied to food relief, as there are several food relief agencies operating in Victoria. Further, all agencies which receive an ER&MA grant be encouraged to access alternative sources of food relief whenever possible.
2. The allocation of funds to agencies on the Mornington Peninsula be capped at \$25,000 for each agency, as 21.5 per cent of the ER&MA program funds are distributed in this geographic area. Doing this will help to ensure adequate funding is available for other areas.
3. Funds be provided to new agencies in Casey, Frankston, the La Trobe Valley and Shepparton, or increased in those locations, as they have been identified as areas of high disadvantage and growing need.
4. The amount of funds made to agencies be limited to \$30,000 per organisation, except for the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) and the Loddon Mallee Accommodation Network, in recognition of their very wide reach in rural and regional Victoria.



The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal Back to School program provides \$50 vouchers to students in need on the Trust's behalf.



The R E Ross Trust
03 9690 6255
rosstrust.org.au

A full list of the organisations funded in the 2018–2020 period over page.

For the 2018–20 period, funding will be provided to the following organisations:

Anglicare	\$99,000
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre	\$60,000
Brotherhood of St Laurence	\$81,000
Casey North Community Information & Support Network	\$81,000
Community Support Frankston	\$61,620
Council of Single Mothers and their Children	\$90,000
Cranbourne Information & Support Centre	\$75,000
Dandenong Ranges Emergency Relief Service	\$45,000
Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal	\$120,000
Goulburn Valley Community Care & Emergency Relief	\$60,000
Launch Housing	\$120,000
Loddon Mallee Accommodation Network	\$120,000
MacKillop Family Services	\$75,000
Mornington Community I & SC	\$75,000
Morwell Neighbourhood House	\$60,000
Orbost Neighbourhood House	\$45,000
Southern Peninsula Community S&IC	\$75,000
St Mark's Community Centre	\$39,000
The Queen's Fund	\$84,000
Western Port Community Support Centre	\$75,000
	\$1,540,620

Impact Area B

Improvement of outcomes
for children and young
people at risk (0–18 years)



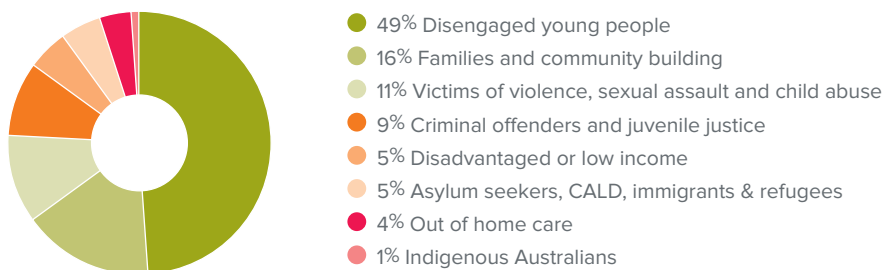
The Ross Trust prioritises programs working with children, young people and their families who are vulnerable and at risk.

Priority is given to applications addressing:

- Prevention and early intervention
- Vulnerable families with children in their early years
- Quality support for at-risk young people and their families
- Education, employment and training for young people in their middle years
- Wellbeing of young people at risk.

In 2016–17, the Trustees approved 24 grants totalling \$812,300, some of which will be paid over a period of up to three years.

Grants approved under Impact Area B



Location of approved grants



Grants approved by the Trust in 2016–2017 under Impact Area B

Asylum seekers, CALD, immigrants and refugees

St Albans Heights Primary School Community Hub

\$6,600 (over two years)
Community Hub playgroup

Western Edge Youth Arts

\$8,000
Building Belonging Through Performance

Western English Language School

\$22,000 (over two years)
Fly Girls

Total: \$36,600

Criminal offenders and juvenile justice

Wesley Mission Victoria

\$75,000 (over three years)
Keeping women and children safe by responding to male perpetrators of family violence

Total: \$75,000

Disadvantaged or low income

Stawell Neighbourhood House Inc

\$23,400
Free, Fun and Fabulous School Holiday Program

Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation

\$10,000
Early Language & Literacy (EL&L) Maryborough Project

Sports Challenge Australia

\$10,000
To build improved mental & physical health in "at risk" children in Geelong East

Total: \$43,400

Disengaged young people

Brotherhood of St Laurence

\$26,000 (over three years)
Healthy Lives, Positive Futures

Banksia Gardens Community Services

\$60,000 (over two years)
Project REAL – Re-Engagement in Education and Learning

Operation Newstart Victoria

\$35,000 (over two years)
Contribution towards cost of two specialist youth workers each for Operation Newstart Geelong and Operation Newstart Western

Sunshine Harvester Primary School

\$3,000
A Bridge to Transition: From Sunshine Harvester Primary School to Braybrook College

The Salvation Army

\$46,000 (over two years)
Tools for the Trade

The Salvation Army

\$50,000 (over two years)
Youth Participation Worker

The Smith Family

\$50,000
Lakes Entrance School Community Hub (LESCH)

Travellers Aid Australia

\$10,000
Pathways to Education Program

WEstjustice

\$60,000 (over two years)
Expanded School Lawyer Project

Phunktional Limited

\$40,000
Feasibility Report for the establishment of a "Robinvale Youth Performing Arts Company" – A Centre of Excellence for Sunraysia

Big Brothers Big Sisters Australia

\$16,000
The purchase and installation of Social Suite software package

Total: \$396,000

Families and community building

Robinvale District Health Services

\$40,000 (over two years)
Playgroups

Save the Children Australia Trust

\$90,000 (over two years)
Children's Wellbeing Initiative - East Gippsland

Total: \$130,000

Indigenous Australians

Wirrpanda Foundation (The)

\$10,000
Deadly Sista Girlz

Total: \$10,000

Out of home care

MacKillop Family Services

\$12,500
In Safe Hands, Cara at MacKillop

Permanent Care and Adoptive Families

\$22,800
Support for young people living in permanent care and adoption

Total: \$35,300

Victims of violence, sexual assault or child abuse

Children's Protection Society

\$86,000 (over three years)
Mothers in Mind

Total: \$86,000

Total Impact Area B: \$812,300

bestchance Child Family Care (The Cheshire School)

Parent Counsellor

CURRENT GRANT: \$76,964 (2015–18)
PURPOSE: FUNDS FOR SPECIFIC PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES
POPULATION SERVED: DISENGAGED YOUNG PEOPLE
GEOGRAPHICAL AREA SERVED: MELBOURNE METRO
GRANT HISTORY: \$352,964 (1991–17)

The Cheshire School, employed psychologist Angela North as a Parent Counsellor to assist students with social, emotional and behavioural problems to overcome disruptive behaviours and successfully return to mainstream education.

bestchance Child Family Care is an independent, not-for-profit organisation that provides education and support services to children and families. The Trust is funding the bestchance program at The Cheshire School, which employs a psychologist as a Parent Counsellor.

The Cheshire School works with students with severe social, emotional and behavioural problems and their families in small, focused classes to empower them to make positive changes so they can successfully return to mainstream education.

“The Parent Counsellor, Angela North, has had a far reaching impact on students and their families. Over the past two years all but one student who has come through the program has graduated and returned to mainstream school,” says Kylie Jackson, Principal of The Cheshire School.

Programs last a minimum of 18 months to support children from Foundation through to Grade Four. They help identify the fundamental causes of a child’s issues and assist the child in overcoming them.

Part of Angela’s role is to give parents increased parenting skills and confidence, and to help them advocate for their child. Angela has achieved this through home visits, linking families with external



Tailored play therapy sessions offered by Angela provide students an opportunity to explore and process their thoughts and feelings in a safe and therapeutic environment

community resources, and hosting regular morning teas for current and previous students’ parents to discuss topics such as respite options and medication.

“We anticipate that over the life of the funding cycle, Angela will work with 60 enrolled students and their families at 180 schools, and provide advice and support on how best to proceed with their students to an additional 108 schools,” says Kylie.



The Cheshire School
03 8562 5100
bestchance.org.au

Hands on Learning Australia

Expanding the HOL method

\$300,000 (2016–19)

Cam Wiseman has been the Executive Director – Finance at Hands on Learning Australia (HoLA) since 2013. To serve the educational needs of disadvantaged young people more effectively, he helped negotiate a merger between HoLA and Save the Children Australia (STCA), which came into effect on 1 April 2017.

What motivated you to pursue a role with HoLA?

I have always been passionate about achieving positive social change through innovative approaches that challenge the status quo. My fundraising experience includes senior roles over 15 years with World Vision and Oxfam Australia. I started volunteering with HoLA in late 2009 and joined as employee in mid-2010. In 2013 I became the Executive Director – Finance, responsible for securing the organisation's financial sustainability, and helping to more than triple the number of partner schools implementing the program in the four years since.

Can you share a little of HoLA's journey to this point?

The Hands on Learning (HoL) method was developed at Frankston High School in 1999 by founder, Russell Kerr. With the support of Social Ventures Australia, HoLA was formed in 2008 to prevent the harm of early school leaving by creating school-based opportunities for young people to discover their talents and experience success. In mid-2017 the HOL program is operating in 70 schools across Victoria in both urban and regional locations, and in both secondary and primary settings.

HoLA recently merged with Save the Children Australia. What does this merger mean for HoLA?

The merger brings together HoLA's long-term ambition to prevent early school leaving and STCA's vision of a world in which every child attains the right to a quality basic education. By joining forces, we can broaden the reach of HOL and achieve much more for disadvantaged young people than we could

possibly achieve by working alone. We will be able to leverage our joint expertise and our local knowledge to drive innovation in the sector, create efficiencies and improve educational outcomes.

The HOL program and methodology remains unchanged as a result of the merger, and continues under the HOL brand, now highlighted as being part of STCA.

What are you planning to achieve over the next five years with HoL?

Both HoLA and STCA see a need for collaboration, partnership and proactive change in order to meet the educational needs of disadvantaged young people. This merger will improve outcomes for children by sustainably growing student access to the HOL method – both in Victoria and other suitable regions in Australia. By exploiting our joint expertise, we can develop new innovations in program design, implementation and community-led collaboration and effectively advocate for system reform.

What do you value personally about your work?

I love how simple the HOL approach is and the way it can add value in any mainstream educational context. Its adaptability and ready scalability provides for a tweak to our education system rather than relying on a complete revolution. It's very motivating to hear the same stories from so many kids, that I can relate to through my own educational journey, that Hands On Learning is the thing that keeps them connected to their school and education.



Hands on Learning Australia
03 9787 3049
handsonlearning.org.au



Save the Children Australia
1800 76 00 11
savethechildren.org.au



South Port Uniting

Bicycles Over LunchTime

CURRENT GRANT: \$22,144 (2015–17)

PURPOSE: FUNDS FOR SPECIFIC PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES

POPULATION SERVED: DISENGAGED YOUNG PEOPLE

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA SERVED: SOUTHERN METRO

GRANT HISTORY: \$22,144 (2015–17)

Bicycles Over LunchTime (BOLT) is an early intervention program for boys at-risk of disengagement aged nine to 12 that takes a hands on approach to helping the boys reengage in school through bicycle repair and informal mentoring and guidance.

“A lot of our programs are around hands on learning. The kids rip the bike apart and then problem solve to put it back together. It's a fun, safe environment for these young people. The confidence and problem-solving skills and communication skills they gain translate back into the classroom,” says Chris Milne, Senior Manager for South Port Uniting.

In BOLT, trained youth workers lead lunchtime sessions on bike maintenance, bike and road safety, bike riding and stunts, and rebuilding and re-spraying bikes.

Informal discussions on topics including resilience, communication and anger management, as well as positive male mentorship and socialising helps the boys build peer relationships and keeps them engaged in education and the local community.

The majority of the 72 boys doing the BOLT program are from low-income families in Frankston, Werribee and Elwood, with over half regarded by schools as at risk of disengaging. Feedback from schools has been extremely encouraging, with formal school sampling in 2016 finding improved behaviour in all the boys who did the BOLT program. Engagement and confidence also increased dramatically.

The scope and range of the programs run has expanded rapidly since BOLT's inception two years ago. It now reaches more than 600 boys and girls each year in 45 programs per week at 30 locations, with a whole suite of new programs, including BOLT FOR GIRLS, COLT (Cooking Over LunchTime), BOLT After School, and BOLT VCAL – a VCAL subject delivered at South Port Uniting's South Melbourne site.



The mentoring relationship between the boys and the youth worker is a critical part of the program's success.

The agency has also established a formal agreement with the Department of Justice to place youth offenders into work as support volunteers, and are negotiating with the Victorian School for the Deaf to implement BOLT VCAL into the school.

“Probably the biggest feedback from the schools is that these young disengaged students identify something positive in the school ground after attending the BOLT programs, and school attendance has obviously increased. When we've got disengaged young people we want to re-engage them in education. And this is the program that has been able to do that,” says Chris.

Uniting

South Port Uniting
03 9690 1188
southportuniting.org.au

The Victorian Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders

Supporting Kids and Youth

CURRENT GRANT: \$225,000 (2014–17)

PURPOSE: SPECIFIC PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES

POPULATION SERVED: FAMILIES/COMMUNITY BUILDING

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA SERVED: VICTORIA STATE WIDE

GRANT HISTORY: \$1,456,030 (1978–2017)

A program developed and delivered by the Victorian Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders' (VACRO), Supporting Kids and Youth (SKY), provides support to children and young people with a parent or significant adult family member in the Victorian Adult Criminal Justice System.

Tanya* came to Australia as a refugee at the age of 13, eventually marrying a man she discovered was abusive and controlling. When the family's finances came under strain from her husband's gambling and ice use, she became embroiled in co-offending with her husband. They were both charged and sentenced to several years' custodial sentence, leaving their four children in the care of an extended family member.

"The youngest child, Danielle* aged eight, was referred to SKY counselling by a concerned school welfare officer who reported that Danielle was not playing with other children, and was often inattentive in class," says Horace Wansbrough, Family Counsellor for the VACRO SKY Counselling Program.

SKY provides an effective wrap-around approach with other service providers. Case conferencing and integrated support plans ensure family services, Community Corrections officers, and housing services have a shared understanding of client goals, roles and responsibilities.

After involvement in arts and play-based SKY counselling sessions, and with the wrap-around case coordination meeting both Tanya and Danielle's needs, their relationship improved.



Building a family tree together brings children and parents closer after an experience of parental incarceration.

More frequent prison visits were arranged and age-normative play appeared in Danielle. Healthy socialisation with other children also recommenced.

The demand for SKY counselling is large. Fifty-six children connected to SKY counselling in 218 counselling sessions in the last year, with a consistent waiting list of between five and eight clients, with many more being referred on to alternative community supports. Despite the intake workers' best efforts, many clients report that they would prefer to remain on the waitlist as they find generic services don't have adequate insight into their needs.

** Not their real names.*



Victorian Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders
03 9605 1900
vacro.org.au

Impact Area C

Improvement of access
to and achievement of equity
and excellence in public
education



The Trust seeks to promote, sustain and increase access to, equitable and quality individual and collective knowledge in Victoria.

Priority was given to applications contributing to:

- Advancing knowledge and understanding
- Increasing educational opportunity for the general population
- Promoting access, engagement and preservation of Victoria's history, art and culture

- Making information accessible to rural communities and future generations.

In 2016–17, the Trustees approved 11 grants totalling \$443,465 in Impact Area C, some of which will be paid over periods of up to three years.

Grants approved by the Trust in 2016-2017 under Impact Area C

Disengaged young people

Australian Centre for Contemporary Art

\$30,000 (over two years)
ACCA GO Program

Australian Schools Plus

\$110,000 (over two years)
Supporting disadvantaged schools in regional Victoria

Total: \$140,000

Families and Community building

Greensborough Preschool

\$1,288
Celebrating diversity – creating a sense of belonging

Jewish Museum of Australia

\$18,000
Collections online

Kids' Own Publishing

\$25,000
Kids' Own Publishing Business Plan

Total: \$44,288

General population

Casa Cultura Inc.

\$9,177
That Inspires Respect

Philanthropy Australia

\$75,000 (over three years)
Philanthropy Champions

Victorian Association of State Secondary Principals

\$60,000 (over two years)
Ourschool -- helping state secondary schools build thriving alumni communities to benefit current students

Total: \$144,177

Indigenous Australians

Sharing Stories Foundation

\$30,000
Celebrating Koorie Culture across Victoria through Vibrant Multi-touch Books and Displays

Total: \$30,000

Small or Remote Rural communities

Bendigo Science & Technology Museum

\$75,000 (over three years)
Training preservice primary teachers to teach more and better science in the country classroom

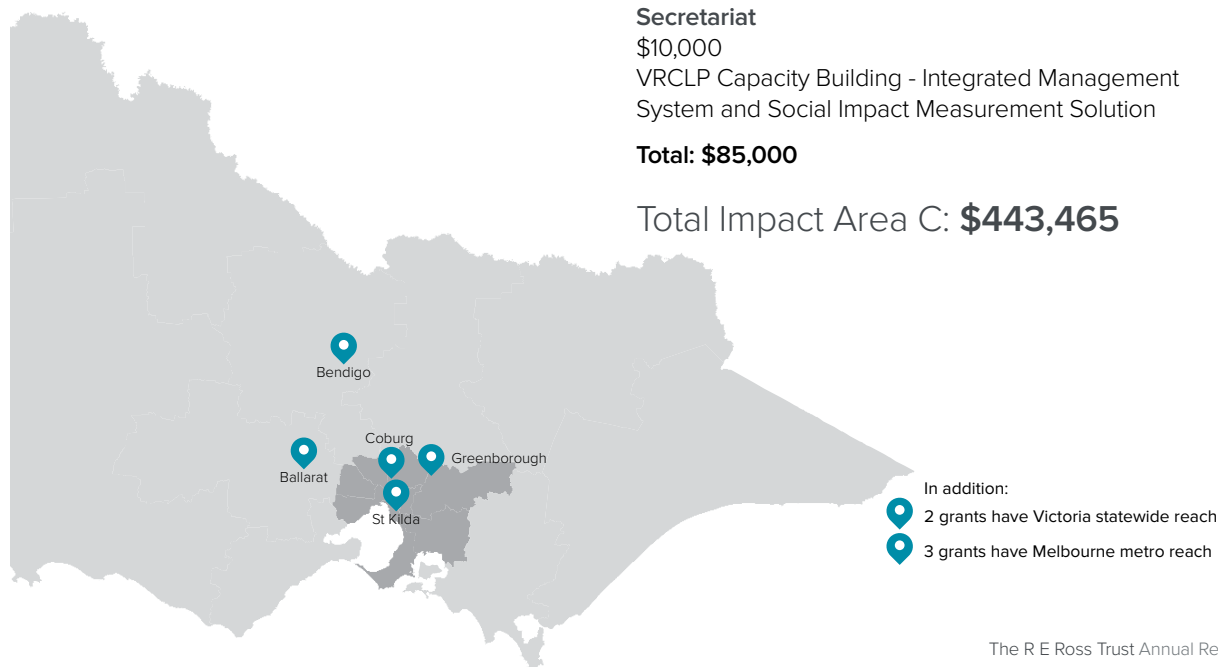
Victorian Regional Community Leadership Program Secretariat

\$10,000
VRCLP Capacity Building - Integrated Management System and Social Impact Measurement Solution

Total: \$85,000

Total Impact Area C: \$443,465

Location of approved grants



Centre for International Child Health

R E Ross Trust Regional Fellowship

CURRENT GRANT: \$354,300 (2014–17)
PURPOSE: SPECIFIC PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES
POPULATION SERVED: OVERSEAS STUDENTS
GEOGRAPHICAL AREA SERVED: PACIFIC ISLANDS
GRANT HISTORY: \$1,116,250 (2005–17)

The Centre for International Child Health is based at the University of Melbourne and the Royal Children's Hospital. Since 2005, the Trust has worked with the Centre to run a Regional Fellowship program for doctors and nurses working in child health in Papua New Guinea.

The Program is developing leadership capacity in child health in Papua New Guinea (PNG), our nearest neighbouring country. In PNG, 57 out of every 1000 babies born die from preventable diseases like pneumonia, malnutrition, diarrhoea, and tuberculosis before reaching school age, compared with four out of every 1000 in Australia.

As in other parts of the Pacific, many children in PNG do not reach their full potential because of illness and under-nutrition and a number of intersecting factors, including poor education, poverty and unsafe environments.

This program aims to improve capacity to address these health gaps. In 2008 the Trust's Program was extended to the Solomon Islands, a close neighbour with similar child health problems.

This year, the Trust's funding has helped train 17 PNG and Solomon Islands doctors in paediatrics through the School of Medicine and Health Sciences in PNG, assisting by providing small project grants, and working directly with the trainees on research, clinical training at the bed-side, and mentorship. The funding has also supported surveillance for childhood diseases in PNG, the establishment of a child health nursing course in Solomon Islands from which 14 nurses will graduate in 2017, improved oxygen therapy in remote areas, and improved skills in the areas of immunisation and paediatric cancer nursing, cardiology and general paediatrics.

As part of this, the program has helped two paediatric specialists from PNG, Dr Fiona Kupe, and paediatric oncology nurse, Julie Melo, spend time at the Royal Children's Hospital (RCH) in Melbourne.



Centre for International Child Health, University of Melbourne,
MCRI and Royal Children's Hospital
trevor.duke@rch.org.au



Dr Fiona Kupe

Dr Kupe is leading immunisation initiatives across the National Capital District in PNG. She visited the Melbourne Children's Immunisation Clinic at RCH for vaccine teaching and a clinic on the World Health Organisation Expanded Program on Immunisation, on her way to France to participate in a two-week long Fondation Mérieux, Advanced Course of Vaccinology at the University of Geneva.

"I have been working as a General Paediatrician for four years now in Port Moresby, PNG. I spend about half of my time treating sick children. The rest of my job involves other child health activities such as immunisation, nutrition, and school health programs," explains Fiona.

"I want to improve immunisation coverage in PNG. Currently, less than 60 per cent of the population is fully vaccinated. To protect the entire community from vaccine preventable diseases, for example measles, we need to make sure that over 95 per cent of the population is vaccinated."

"For a country with limited resources, immunisation is an affordable way to improve people's health. This is true for governments, and also for families. If children are vaccinated, families can save money on costly doctor's visits and hospitalisations."



Dr Julie Melo

In March 2017, the RCH welcomed paediatric oncology nurse Julie Melo to the Kookaburra Ward. Julie spent three months at the RCH learning and developing her skills in childhood cancer nursing, which she is now putting into practice back home at the Port Moresby General Hospital.

"I spent time in the wards, in day oncology, and travelled to meet with parent groups all across Victoria. I worked closely with nurse coordinators, allied health staff, and oncologists. My training had a special focus on supporting the families of children going through chemotherapy," says Julie.

While paediatric cancer is not one of PNG's leading causes of hospital admission, it is becoming increasingly common. When Julie first started caring for children who have cancer, they were cared for in the general paediatric ward. Every Thursday was chemotherapy day; she would wheel the patients out of the ward and into adult day oncology to receive treatment. Last year, the Port Moresby General Hospital opened the country's first dedicated paediatric oncology ward.

"Having greater ward space for children to receive treatment should greatly increase our ability to provide good quality care. As the only hospital in PNG looking after children with cancer, we get referrals from all over the country. I hope to become the first dedicated nurse coordinator for our child oncology ward. I want to focus on building strong relationships with parents of patients," continues Julie.

"Providing good quality care is about more than just diagnosing illness and administering drugs. Social support for patients and their families is important for making sure our patients are able to attend hospital, and receive the best care. I am hopeful that I can help bring about these changes and have a positive effect on our patients."

Community Music Victoria

Victoria Makes Music 2: StreetSounds

CURRENT GRANT: \$25,550 (2015–17)

PURPOSE: FUNDS FOR SPECIFIC PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES

POPULATION SERVED: FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY BUILDING

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA SERVED: STATEWIDE

GRANT HISTORY: \$25,550 (2015–17)

Community Music Victoria (CMVic) is in the final year of a three-year grant to encourage community instrumental music-making through the formation of street bands in under-resourced and disadvantaged areas of Victoria.

StreetSounds is the second major project in the Victoria Makes Music 2 (VMM2) program, an instrumental music-making initiative by CMVic. For the project, StreetSounds established ten new street bands groups that meet regularly in under-resourced and disadvantaged areas across Victoria, and are open to anyone, regardless of age, ability, instrument or training.

“We have managed to access quite diverse communities, and people have made beautiful connections within the bands. That’s been a really special part of it – that people are getting to hang out with people that they normally wouldn’t,” says Lyndal Chambers, Project Manager of StreetSounds.

Bands play in street processions and community events such as the inaugural StreetSounds Festival in Geelong, where the bands came together to strut their stuff, play music and participate in workshops.

StreetSounds partners with a range of local community organisations that encourage members to join. A three-way partnership between Djerriwarrh Health Services, Royal Children’s Hospital’s ‘Festival of Healthy Living’



Anyone can join StreetSounds bands. Some of the project’s key principles are spontaneity, openness and accessibility.

and CMVic resulted in the The Fabulous Mel-tones, a multiculturally diverse group. In Inverloch, they paired The Invy Horn Jam – a club of mostly older horn players – with the Wonthaggi VCAL.

“Those kids had a whole array of substance abuse problems and were really not fitting into the current school system. They played with us every practice and then came back for performances,” Lyndal says.

“It was a really interesting process, because initially the kids and the older players ignored each other but eventually they started to interact. We did a performance last Wednesday at the library in Wonthaggi. And the kids were so comfortable. They just jumped into it.”



Community Music Victoria
03 9662 1162
cmvic.org.au

The SUBSTATION

Everyday People

CURRENT GRANT: \$15,000 (2016)

PURPOSE: FUNDS FOR SPECIFIC PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES

POPULATION SERVED: GENERAL POPULATION

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA SERVED: WESTERN METRO

GRANT HISTORY: \$15,000 (2016)

To celebrate the 100-year anniversary of The Substation building in Newport, The SUBSTATION, a not-for-profit multi-arts centre, presented Everyday People, a program of artistic projects that celebrated and investigated the local history of the area through the voices and stories of local people. Two of the projects were funded by the Trust.

"In celebrating our centenary we planned Everyday People, a program of artistic works to celebrate the local history, businesses and people of our surrounding area which put their voices and stories at the forefront in the process of developing and making the work," says Brad Spolding, Director of The SUBSTATION.

Two of the projects presented were funded by the Trust: The Newport Archive and The Local History Collection.

The Newport Archive is an audio tour created by acclaimed artist Tamara Saulwick and audio designer Joe Talia, that explores the origins of Newport and its surrounds.

Tamara spent eight weeks interviewing forty local people and researching the SUBSTATION building, surrounding landmarks and landscape of Newport. These elements were woven into a 40-minute audio work. **Equipped with headphones and an mp3 player as their guide, participants were invited to walk unaccompanied through Newport's streets in a journey that knitted the present with past memories, finishing at The SUBSTATION.**

The Local History Collection was organised by the local library, which was situated in The SUBSTATION at the time. Newport residents brought in and uploaded their personal images of the area to create an online database of 514 archival images and records.



The Substation has acquired the Newport Archive as a permanent ongoing work which visitors can experience at any time.

The workshop taught participants to scan and upload images, and provided a chance for them to connect and share stories of the area. This collection is now permanent at the new Newport Library, and has had over 3,600 online views.

"The collection of projects we presented enabled us to build relationships with local residents and businesses and highlight the unique histories of our local area through contemporary art works," says Brad.

"Newport is undergoing rapid change from an industrial area to a residential area. As this evolution takes place, we believe it is important to maintain connections to local history through local stories and community."

**THE
SUBSTATION**

The SUBSTATION

03 9391 1110

thesubstation.org.au

Museums Australia Victoria

Connecting community museums: a sustainable network for regional Victoria

\$150,000 (2014–17)

The Trust has supported Museums Australia Victoria (MA (Vic)) in creating a sustainable network of regional museums and galleries with standardised guidelines for best practice. Executive Director, Laura Miles, believes it is vital to preserve the cultural heritage of regional museums.

What was your background before working at MA (Vic)?

My professional background is in science and arts journalism. The common thread with museums is the clear communication of culture and ideas. I've worked at MA (Vic) for just over nine years.

What has been MA (Vic)'s journey to this point?

MA (Vic) is the professional industry body for museums, galleries and their strategic partners. Our team of experts works with a strong network of resourceful and highly-motivated museums, galleries and supporters including the Trust, other philanthropic bodies, tertiary education providers, grant funders, private sector sponsors and more. It's this mix of expertise and goodwill that makes our network resilient to the challenges in the sector and our broader society.

Can you share a little of what MA (Vic) does regionally with the Trust's funding?

The Trust's funding was incredibly important to the support of our regional museums in particular. The Trust team has a very fine understanding of the regional Victorian landscape and directly helped us to build capacity in museums and galleries in our flagship Museums Accreditation Program. The Program is a holistic initiative which supports museums and galleries to align their operations with nationally-endorsed guidelines of best practice; the National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries. We expanded our reach to include 100 museums in the Program, and

created an online map to allow the public to discover them. We also made a special video, published on our YouTube channel, to provide a snapshot of the diverse mix of museums in the #MAP100 list.

Why are these programs important?

MAP and the other programs we run are incredibly important to the capture, preservation and sharing of our cultural treasures: our objects, places, and stories. There are over 1,000 museums (collecting organisations) in Victoria and the vast majority are run entirely by volunteers, our local experts on our cultural heritage. It is a great privilege for MA (Vic) to work with these highly dedicated custodians of our history, and our task is to offer services which best support them. As such, we continually review our work to ensure it is relevant for our stakeholders.

What is your vision for museums, both rural and urban, in the future?

Our vision for the future is to have more paid staff in museums, particularly in regional Victoria, and stronger career pathways for emerging professionals.

What do you value personally about your work?

I value the robust sharing of ideas and integrity of the MA (Vic) team; it's an approach we widely endorse to the sector. It is most obvious at our major events, such as our annual awards and conferences, and on social media.



Museums Australia (Victoria)
03 8341 7344
mavic.asn.au



Impact Area D

Protection and preservation
of Australian flora and fauna



Roy Everard Ross was a keen bushman with a strong interest in and extensive knowledge of native plants, trees and birds. In his will he expressed a wish for the Trustees to consider the protection and preservation of Australian flora and fauna in their grant-making decisions.

The Trust prioritises applications that demonstrate conservation value and provide scientific biological or botanical evidence to support Mr Ross' wishes.

A partnership with the Norman Wettenhall Foundation also falls under this impact area. Since 2008, the Trust has partnered with the Foundation to distribute more

than \$520,000 in practical environmental grants to small Victorian communities.

In 2016–17 the Trustees approved five grants totalling \$125,000 in this Impact Area, some of which will be paid over three years.

Grants approved by the Trust in 2016-17 under Impact Area D

Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater Inc

\$30,000 (over two years)

Habitat Security for Victoria's Critically Endangered State Emblems

Australian Conservation Foundation

\$20,000

Murray-Darling Rivers Fellowship Program

Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network - AEGN

\$15,000 (over three years)

Sustain support for the Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network

The Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species

\$10,000

Optimising Felixer: an automated feral cat control device

Trust for Nature

\$50,000 (over two years)

Conservation finance and partnerships project

Total Impact Area D: \$125,000

Location of approved grants



Wettenhall Environmental Trust

Small Environmental Grant Scheme

CURRENT GRANT: \$165,000 (2014-17)
PURPOSE: SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS
POPULATION SERVED: GENERAL POPULATION
GEOGRAPHICAL AREA SERVED: VICTORIA STATE WIDE
GRANT HISTORY: \$520,000 (2008-17)

The Trust has worked with Wettenhall Environment Trust since 2008 to distribute over \$500,000 in small environmental grants to Victorian communities. In 2016-17, the Foundation distributed nine grants on the Trust's behalf, with a total value of \$57,337.

The Wettenhall Environment Trust is a philanthropic environmental organisation that supports projects that enhance or maintain the vitality and diversity of Australia's natural living environment.

The partnership enables the Trust to draw on the Foundation's knowledge, expertise and networks to receive, research and approve small grants of under \$10,000 on its behalf. In turn, the partnership builds the capacity of the sector by increasing the reach of Wettenhall Environment Trust's existing environmental grants programs.

The Trust selects innovative projects which monitor, record and share data together with community groups, and deliver community education and capacity building in projects that result in long-term improvement of the natural environment as well as serving as models for future projects.

2016-17 marks the ninth year of the program. Grants made on the Trust's behalf are outlined below, with two detailed over the page.

Barrabool Hills Landcare

Flora of the Hills Field Guide
\$7,000

Wodonga Urban Landcare

Swainsona Pea Protection
\$2,500

Koetong Landcare

Protecting the rare, threatened and endangered species in Pheasant Creek Flora Reserve by improving knowledge and understanding of their habitat
\$9,078

Yarra Ranges Landcare Network

Gardens for Wildlife – Upwey Pilot Project
\$5,390

Nillumbik Landcare Network

Monitoring Nillumbik's Habitat Health: Non-invasive fauna monitoring assessing long-term forest and woodland health
\$9,925

Friends of Eastern Otways

Remote camera monitoring of fauna in the Eastern Otways
\$2,432

Environmental, Sustainability & Conservation Committee

Rainbow Bee Eater
\$5,250

Museums Victoria

Conservation, species diversity and ecological requirements of Uperoleia 'toadlets' in Gippsland, Victoria
\$9,462

Turtles Australia

Turtles in the classroom and Conservation Dogs
\$6,300





The Nillumbik area is rich in biodiversity with local landholders keen to take part in monitoring projects on their land.

Barrabook Hills Landcare Group Flora of the Hills Field Guide

The Barrabook Hills Landcare group partnered with TAFE and the local community to produce a field guide for the flora of the Barrabool Hills landscape near Geelong. Through workshops, meetings and community participation, the group mapped over 80 indigenous species during student-led field studies to determine what the landscape looked like before European colonisation.

“The Small Environmental Grant Scheme funding is often used to support groups that can do good work with a small amount of money, who really care about where the money is coming from and what they produce with it,” says Beth Mellick, Executive Director of The Wettenhall Environmental Trust.

“Local guides are still an important way to educate the community about their native species and one of the tools in the toolbox for long term conservation.”

Nillumbik Landcare Network

Monitoring Nillumbik's Habitat Health: Non-invasive fauna monitoring assessing long-term forest and woodland health

The native forests and woodlands that extend across much of the Nillumbik Shire provide habitat for a rich diversity of native plants and animals. 2016–17 marked the first year of a shire-wide habitat health monitoring project to measure changes in the health of Nillumbik's forests and woodlands, and determine if collective works are having the desired impact.

“We are seeing Landcare groups and networks become increasingly strategic about their work, recognising the importance of establishing baseline data from which to monitor habitat health. Fauna surveys are also a great way to engage landholders and volunteers,” says Beth.

Thirty randomly selected sites will be surveyed throughout spring on private and public land, using motion-sensing cameras and sound recorders to capture an annual snapshot of the faunal use of these habitats. Information gathered can then be used to inform future works.



Wettenhall Environment Trust
03 5472 1316
nwf.org.au

Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network

Operational Support

\$59,500 (2007–2019)

Amanda Martin, Chief Executive Officer for the Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network (AEGN) believes growing effective environmental funding is imperative at such a critical moment for the environment. The Trust has been an AEGN member and supporter from its conceptual stages.

What is your background?

I have a Zoology and Immunology degree but have worked across a range of sectors. I was CEO of the Victorian National Parks Association, and Manager of Planning and Policy in Parks Victoria. I've been CEO at the AEGN for nine years, but immediately before my AEGN role I worked for the Poola Foundation.

What has been AEGN's story so far?

The AEGN has grown from a tiny start up organisation with 20 members in an emerging philanthropy sector, to now having nearly 120 members in a larger, more sophisticated sector. We started by asking people in philanthropy what they needed to get them to give to the environment, or if they were already giving, what they needed to give more effectively. Unanimously, they said they wanted access to trusted experts, a safe space to discuss their giving and opportunities to collaborate and share their experiences. Many of our staff have been working in the environment and finance sector for over 20 years and have deep knowledge on environmental issues and good relations with topic experts.

You recently completed a new strategic review of the business. Can you talk a little about this?

In 2014 we had the Nous consultancy group review our work. They recommended that we increase our staff group from 2.5 FTE to 5 FTE and open a Sydney office. These recommendations are now fully implemented and we have a lovely Sydney office and a terrific group of staff.



Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network
03 9663 7844
aegn.org.au

How do you plan to increase philanthropy support for the environment?

We find that many people want to fund environment protection but they are uncertain about how to go about it, so we build the skills, knowledge and confidence of our members so they can make informed decisions. We showcase funding examples; have a conference and lots of events; and encourage members to share their stories at events and on our website. We also coordinate a 'clearing house' which allows people to post projects onto our website so people can collaborate with them. WK Kellogg Community Philanthropy Chair, Jason Franklin, said it's one of the most effective rapid response funds he knows of.

What do you value personally about your work?

I value waking up every day and knowing I can make a difference to the issues I care about and I can work with my values as a platform. But I just love AEGN members – they are committed, passionate, interesting and incredibly caring people. I also have a fantastic group of staff and a terrific expert board.

What is your vision for the future of AEGN?

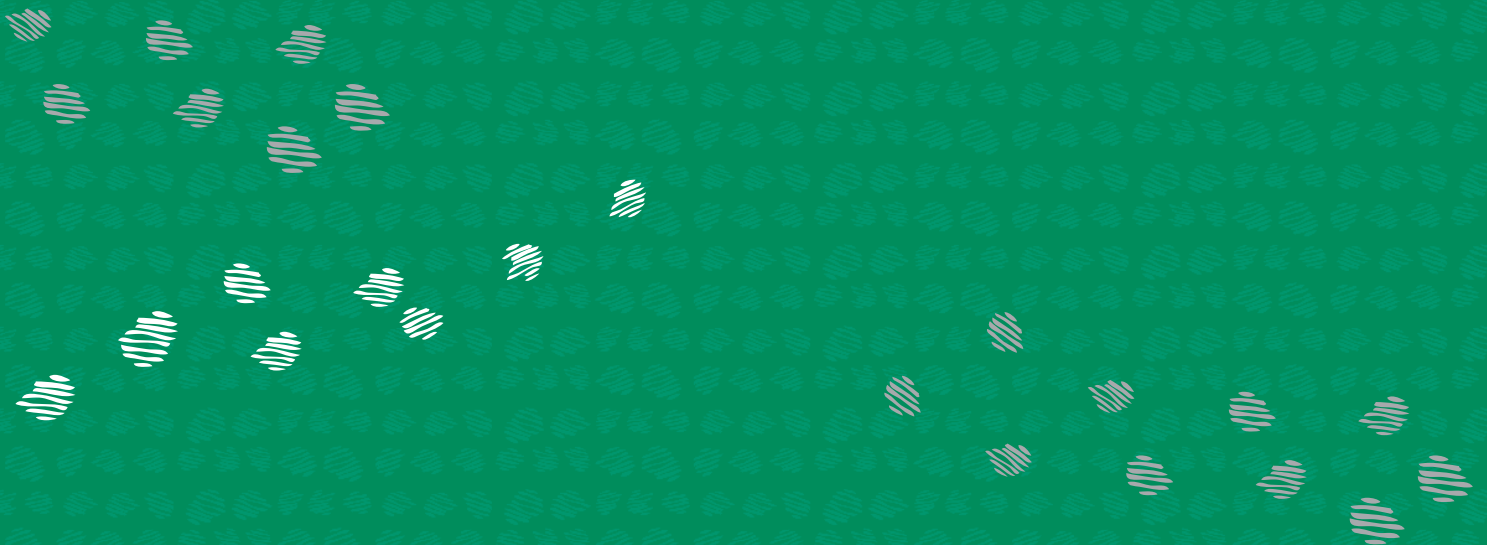
Our environment is in grave danger. We are at a critical time where we have the opportunity to turn things around for the future. If we don't act now, we could lose not only our precious environmental diversity and beauty, but also the earth's systematic capacity to support a healthy human population. It's now or never for environmental funders and this is a message we are keen to get out.

In five years' time I want to be able to say that we have been responsible for raising an extra \$50 million from the philanthropic sector into environmental protection. I imagine we will have 300 members who have been instrumental in stopping broad-scale land clearing; building a high-functioning network of terrestrial and marine-protected areas.



Place-based Grant Making

Place-based approaches to grant making are one strategy adopted by the Ross Trust to target specific communities of significant disadvantage. They are characterised by a variety of government and community agencies agreeing on a shared set of objectives and working collaboratively to address community issues.



Since 2002 the Ross Trust has adopted a place-based approach to its granting. Since this date almost \$4.5 million has been approved for projects across Gippsland, Loddon Mallee (Robinvale), Benalla and through the Foundation of Regional and Rural Renewal.

Place-based approaches can be an appropriate response where an area is experiencing multiple complex issues and there are a range of community members and agencies with different strategies and possible solutions to them.

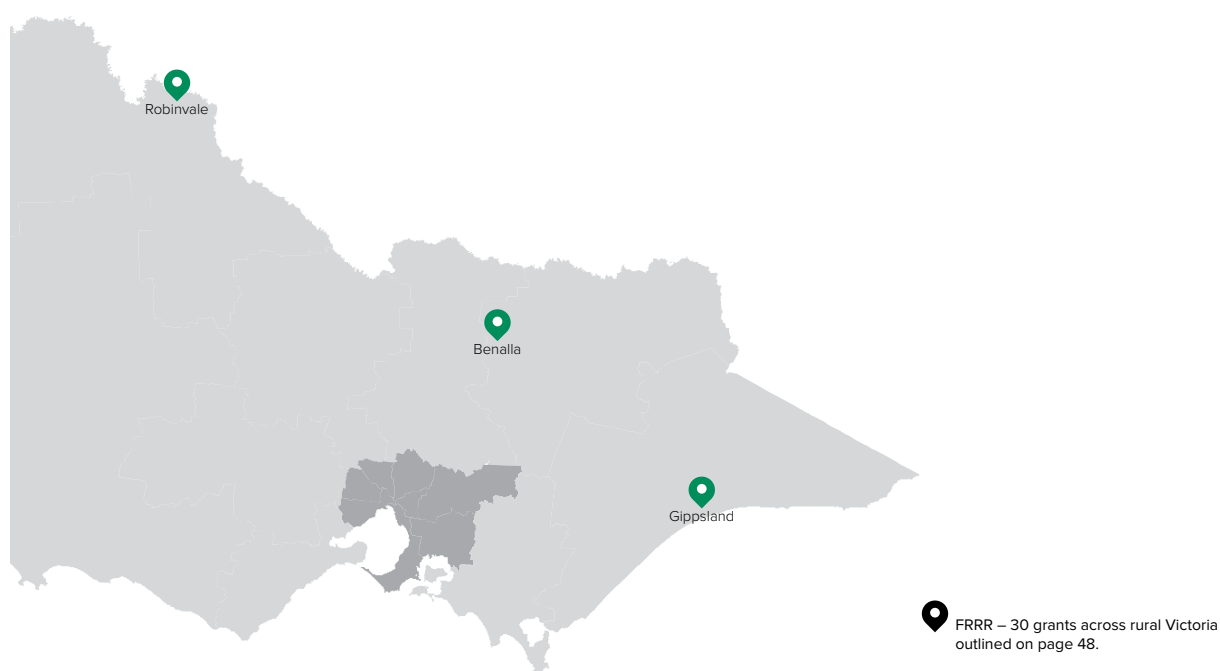
The Trust works differently across the three different locations, depending on the unique needs and context of each location, however all strategies have involved building the capability of the community to respond to their own needs, encouraging collaboration and partnership, and investing in local skills and resources.

In Benalla the Trust has worked in collaboration with the Tomorrow:Today Foundation to assist them deliver a whole-of-community education program in partnership with government, philanthropy and community.

In Robinvale and Gippsland the Trust has worked with stakeholders across multiple activities and has taken on a mix of convening, facilitating and funding roles, adjusting its approach to meet the needs of the particular situation.

Importantly, the Trust entered into each of these communities with intentions of staying long-term.

Location of place-based initiatives



Tomorrow Today Foundation

The Education Benalla program

CURRENT GRANT: \$330,000 (2015–17)
PURPOSE: ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY
POPULATION SERVED: SMALL REGIONAL COMMUNITIES
GEOGRAPHICAL AREA SERVED: BENALLA
GRANT HISTORY: \$750,000 (2010–17)

This cross-sector partnership aims to support children and young people in this disadvantaged region to achieve educational success. The Trust has supported the program from its conceptual stages since 2009, with a total of \$750,000 funded to date. Partnerships are at the heart of the Foundation's success.

Tomorrow Today developed the Education Benalla Program, a cross-sector partnership with schools, community groups, government agencies and businesses.

The Program is actively supported by over 140 successful partnerships involving local schools, day-care centres and preschools, service groups, clubs, businesses, local government, health authorities, other not-for-profits, funders and more than 70 registered volunteers.

Each year over 1500 children, parents and carers are actively involved in the Program, with flow-on effects to up to 3000 more.

In December 2016, Tomorrow Today partnered with the Department of Education and Training to run a forum on improving school readiness for Benalla's young children. "Fifty-three professionals from 20 different agencies attended, contributing their ideas, knowledge and experience. A steering group developed a whole-of-community plan to ensure that all Benalla children start school ready to learn," says Tomorrow Today's Executive Officer, Pat Claridge.

Another successful venture was catalysed by a



The 2017 Hands on Trade's Day was the result of one of Tomorrow Today's successful multi-sector partnerships

local businessman who recognised the challenge of recruiting young apprentices and suggested a 'Hands on Trades' Day where young people could see and experience trades in operation. Tomorrow Today invited the Local Learning and Employment Networks (LLEN) and local schools to the discussion. The LLEN brought in GOTAFE and apprenticeship providers. The LLEN provided funding and GOTAFE contributed staff and resources. In May 2017, over 700 students from 17 schools attended the huge interactive exhibition and experienced 20 different trades.



Tomorrow Today Foundation
03 5762 1211
tomorrowtoday.com.au

Robinvale

Phunktional Arts

CURRENT GRANT: \$40,000 (2016–17)
PURPOSE: SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES
POPULATION SERVED: SMALL REGIONAL COMMUNITIES
GEOGRAPHICAL AREA SERVED: ROBINVALE
GRANT HISTORY: \$299,800 (2010–17)

Since 2010, Phunktional has invested over \$1.5 million in northwestern Victoria, creating art with young people and the wider community. The Trust has been a proud partner throughout the journey of this long-term, place-based, community engagement model, providing four grants totaling almost \$300,000.

Phunktional's work in the region has been an effective catalyst for increased social cohesion and community pride. Designed to engage and connect different generations and diverse cultures, Phunktional's work builds local capacity through mentoring and employment opportunities, increasing the motivation of young people to stay in school, providing avenues to investigate cultural tensions, and inspiring young people to share their responses meaningfully through art.

“Our arts projects in northwestern Victoria provide young people with opportunities to engage with moral dilemmas through art, the courage to speak out and be individual thinkers, and the resilience to deal with complex social issues,” says Gerard Veltre, Artistic Director of Phunktional.

With the support of the Trust, Phunktional is currently in the process of producing a six-part mini-series, written by young people in Robinvale. This project is being housed at Robinvale College, and is being delivered with the support of Robinvale District Health Services, Murray Valley Aboriginal Co-operative, local Elders and youth, education, health, and arts workers in Robinvale. The project provides ongoing arts activities for at-risk young people supported by culturally appropriate, local and nationally recognised Community Arts and Cultural Development artists and arts workers.



Phunktional artists recording and filming with the Australian National Academy of Music and Melbourne Youth Orchestras.

To maximise the legacy of Phunktional's work in the region, the Trust is also supporting a feasibility study to establish a Robinvale Youth Performing Arts Company as a centre of creative excellence for the northwestern corner of Victoria, including Sunraysia, Robinvale and Swan Hill. A world class training organisation would provide significant creative opportunities for local young people, including pathways to higher education, training and employment.



Phunktional
03 9654 3257
phunktional.org.au

Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal

Small Grants for Small Rural Communities Program

CURRENT GRANT: \$375,000 (2014–17)
PURPOSE: SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES
POPULATION SERVED: SMALL REGIONAL COMMUNITIES
GEOGRAPHICAL AREA SERVED: VICTORIA STATE WIDE
GRANT HISTORY: \$1,672,000 (2002–17)

This Program, delivered through the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR), offers small not-for-profit community groups in regional and remote Australia access to grants up to \$5,000 in value. The Trust has committed a total of \$1,672,000 to the Victorian element of the Program since 2002.

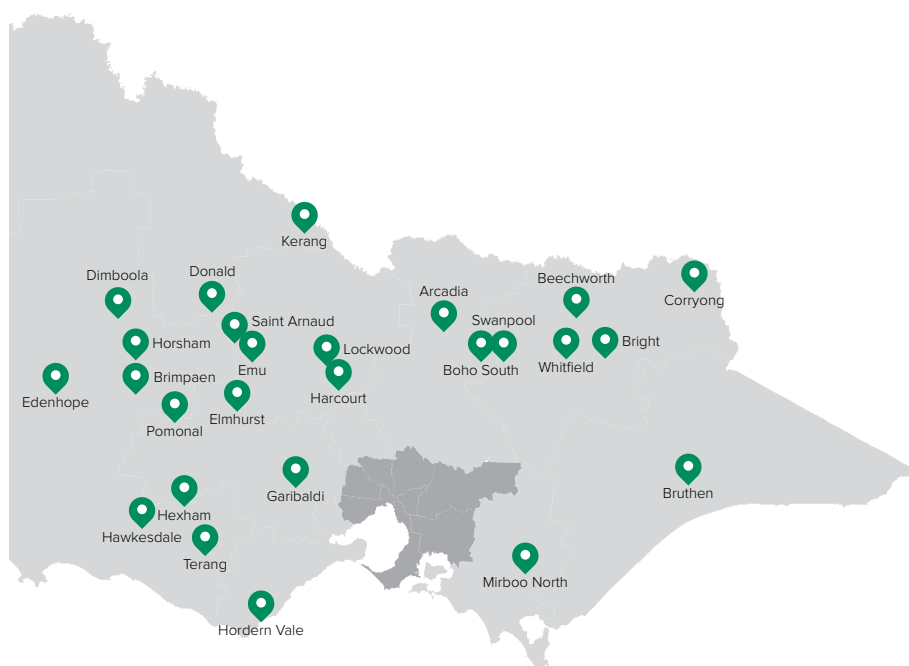
The Small Grants for Rural Communities Program recognises that small rural, remote and regional communities have a low capacity to raise funds due to their small population size and reduced opportunities for business sponsorship. They also often find it hard to access philanthropy and pro bono support.

In the 2016 year, the FRRR distributed its 25th funding round. It received 272 applications from Victorian community groups, of which 72 were funded, half of the funded applications came from towns with

fewer than 1000 people. The Trust funding was able to support 30 of these projects, investing a total of \$112,500.

The grants support projects delivering positive local education, environment, social welfare and community wellbeing, health, arts and cultural outcomes in such communities. In doing so, they contribute to stronger, more resilient and more sustainable towns and regions, like Castlemaine in northwest Victoria detailed over the page.

Location of approved grants



Castlemaine Press

Printmaking from the ground up

A grant to establish facilities for Castlemaine Press has provided affordable community access to printmaking facilities and space for collaborative projects, artists' residencies and exhibitions in a good entrepreneurial model.

Castlemaine Press is an incorporated, not-for-profit, community access printmaking studio in Castlemaine, Victoria. The Trust granted \$3,528 to the Press to set up the initiative and purchase materials and equipment. As a result of the studio becoming fully-functioning, membership grew from 35 to 76 members.

"Castlemaine Press is thriving. We're programming regular workshops, group printmaking sessions, beginners' courses in partnership with the Castlemaine Community House, exhibitions and artists' talks," says Kir Larwill, who is on the Management Committee for Castlemaine Press.

The creative practice of printmaking is equipment and expertise intensive. Even established artists and arts graduates are dependent on access to equipment and technical expertise to continue their practice.

An acid bath, trestle tables, floor sealer, materials for wooden bench construction and drying racks were purchased with funds from FRRR, while volunteer labour was used to construct and set-up the facilities within the space. The grant was also able to contribute towards the creation of a website.

The Press offers affordable printmaking facilities for artists, hosts classes for beginners and experienced printmakers, and provides space for artist residencies and exhibitions. The Press has also been hosting collaborative projects, with artist and print exchanges within Australia and overseas.



Castlemaine Press is a community access printmaking studio in Castlemaine, Victoria

"This year we had our first international print exchange – In My Backyard. We also had an artist exchange with Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Art Centre in Yirrkala, Northern Territory," says Kir.

"Two young women artists from Yirrkala made prints in the Castlemaine Press studio during the Castlemaine State Festival alongside local artists and community participants in a Steamroller Print event."



Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal

1800 170 020

frrr.org.au

Gippsland

Lakes Entrance Aboriginal Health Association

Paula Morgan, Executive Officer for the Lakes Entrance Aboriginal Health Association (LEAHA), believes the capacity building the Trust supports is vital for allowing new health organisations to grow and develop.

What was your background previously?

I'm a strong Gunai woman. Being Aboriginal, I've seen the health of my family deteriorating over the years, so I have always had a keen interest to take up nursing. I finished year 12 and became a Registered Nurse, and have spent most of my nursing career within the Aboriginal health sector. I have worked at LEAHA as a Registered Nurse for six years, and the last six years I have been the Executive Officer.

Why is funding capacity building so important for your organisation?

Capacity building funding is obviously a very important area because LEAHA is a new Aboriginal health service. We're only 10 years old, and continue to advocate for sustainable health care funding. We do not receive any direct Federal Primary Health Care funding like many of the other Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) in the state do. That's predominately because the funding rounds have not opened up in our time as an ACCHO. The Trust has supported us to build the capacity of the LEAHA Executive Officer role, the LEAHA board and the organisation as a whole. The Trust's funding has supported LEAHA to continually improve our governance; improve policy and procedures in relation to best practice, as well as supporting the LEAHA Executive Officer role to travel to Melbourne to advocate on LEAHA's behalf. LEAHA's peak body VACCHO also play a huge role in supporting LEAHA's future sustainability.

The Trust funds a number of programs in Lakes Entrance. Are there connections that happen between LEAHA and other organisations that the Trust funds? How does this benefit your organisation and the programs you run?

The Smith Family's Lakes Entrance School Community Hub is a great example of a really important link with

another organisation that the Trust is also funding in the area. That's more an education-based program, but it has helped build good linkages between our health service and the different schools in the area in relation to the Aboriginal children that attend those schools. The principals are ringing our Aboriginal health workers and nurses directly for support, so it's opening up opportunities for us to sit at the same table as them. The relationships are built from there, which is fantastic.

What positive benefits are there with linking with other Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations?

Some of the other ACCHOs in the state, especially the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO), look at our model positively. LEAHA has a model where we work side-by-side with a mainstream community health service. Gippsland Lakes Community Health provides much of our back of office support, like HR and finance, so we can concentrate more on our community needs. I sit at the state-wide table for Victorian ACCHOs. The more rural and regional you become, the harder it is to employ different professionals, whether it be doctors or HR managers, so if we can share some of those resources it makes sense.

What do you value personally about your work?

I love my work. I go to work every day to help my Aboriginal community. In my role as a registered nurse, and now the Executive Officer, I can help advocate on behalf of my community's needs. I'm just blessed to be able to work for community, in community. It's all about community. Gippsland is where my actual local mob are, so I'm pretty lucky to be able to work in amongst my people and help them with their health and wellbeing.



Lakes Entrance Aboriginal Health Association

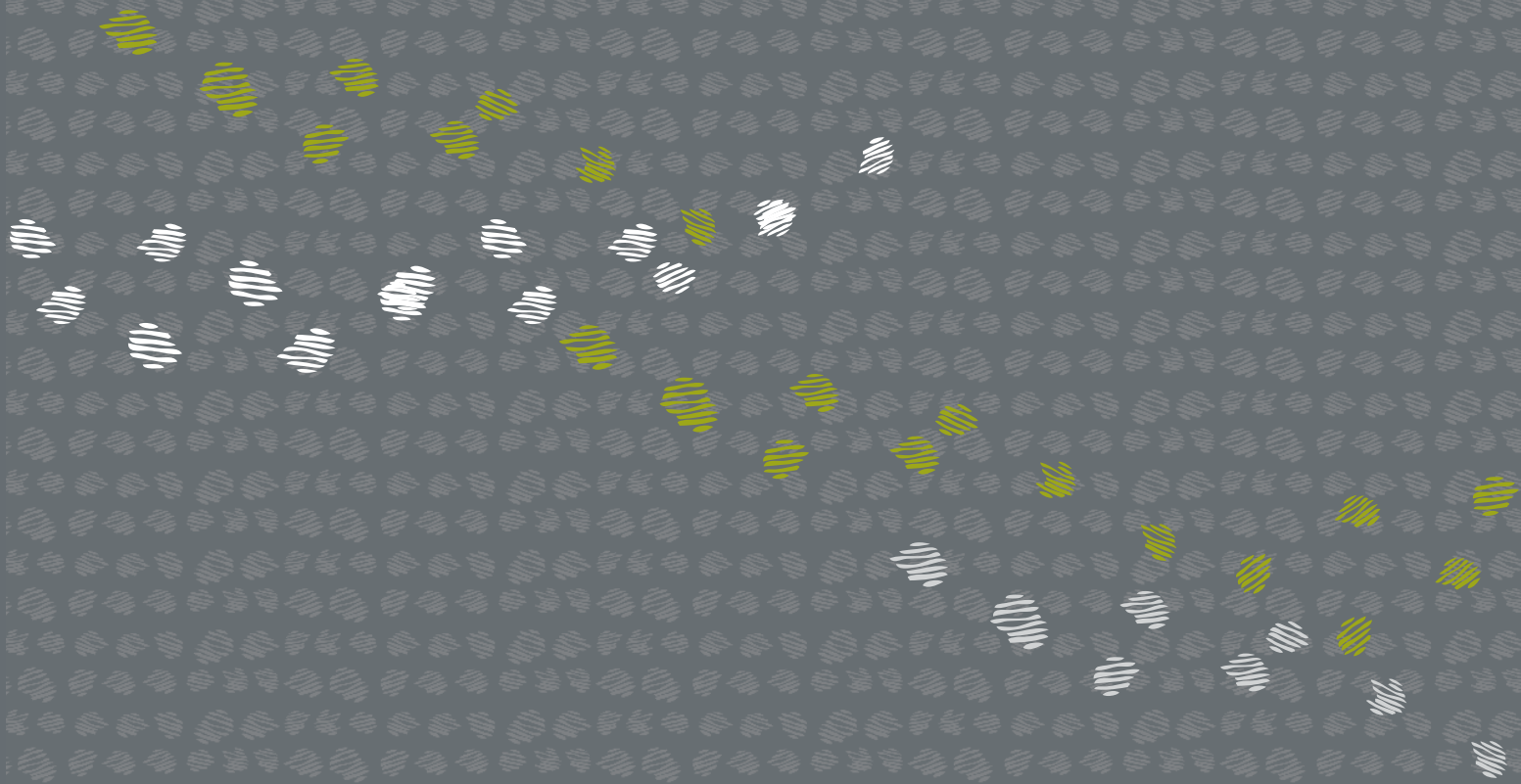
03 5155 8465

glch.org.au/aboriginal-services/lakes-entrance-aboriginal-health-association



Hillview Quarries Pty Ltd

Giving to the Mornington
Peninsula and beyond



Hillview Quarries Pty Ltd

Giving to the Mornington Peninsula and beyond

As a wholly owned subsidiary of the Trust, 100 per cent of the profits of Hillview Quarries are distributed to community organisations through the Trust's granting strategy. Hillview Quarries also provide financial assistance and quarry product to local organisations on the Mornington Peninsula throughout the year.

Hillview Quarries is located in Dromana on the Mornington Peninsula. For over 40 years, it has supplied superior brown and grey granite products to local, state and federal government authorities, and to private contractors, retail garden supply outlets and the public.

Hillview's site is host to many species of flora and fauna, and Hillview Quarries has won awards and been praised for its quarry rehabilitation and environmental focus. It is proud to have a long history of being sensitive to the environmental needs of the site and the community by carefully managing and nurturing native species of plants and animals. The quarry operates with a full-time horticulturist on payroll. All revegetation is done with trees propagated in its own nursery, from seed collected from trees on site. To date, over 80,000 trees have been planted.

In the 2016–17 year quarry cash donations and sponsorships of \$126,057 and product donations of over \$18,800 (listed over) were made to local organisations, bringing the total amount gifted to the Mornington Peninsula community to almost \$14.8 million.



Hillview Quarries Head Office



View from Hillview Quarry toward Melbourne



Hillview Quarries Pty Ltd
03 5987 2600
www.hvq.com.au

In the 2016–17 year quarry product donations, estimated value over \$18,800, were made to the following organisations:

Balcombe Grammar	Mornington Baseball Club
Balnarring Fire Brigade	Mornington Secondary College
Dromana Community Garden	Mount Erin Secondary College
Dromana Men's Shed	Mt Martha Bowls Club
Eastbourne Primary School	Mt Martha Preschool
Flinders Preschool	Our Lady of Fatima
Gunnamatta Life Saving Club	Red Hill & District Memorial Preschool
Inghams Growers Association	Red Hill Opportunity Shop
Lord Somers Camp and Power House	Rosebud Police Social Club
Main Ridge Men's Shed	Thompsons 81
Main Ridge Pony Club	Tyabb Railway Station Primary School
McCrae Lions Club	Waterfall Gully Preschool
Merricks Beach	Westernport Secondary College

In the 2016–17 year financial donations or sponsorships were provided to the following organisations:

Caroline Chisholm Education Foundation	\$5,500
Funding for scholarships through the SMP Connect Program	
Clothes 4 U	\$2,500
Towards rent for charity store	
Dromana Art Show (Dromana Rotary Club)	\$1,500
Sponsorship of 2016 Art Show	
Dromana College	\$4,500
Sponsorship of the 2017 Scholarship Program	
Dromana Cricket Club	\$1,000
\$1000 Sponsorship for 2016/17 season	
Dromana Football & Netball Club	\$15,000
Sponsorship of 2017 season	
Dromana Junior Football & Netball Club	\$1,200
Jumper sponsorship for 2017	
Dromana Potters Group	\$300
Sponsorship of Annual Exhibition	
Dromana Primary School's Fete	\$1,000
Sponsorship of 2017 fete	
Frankston Dolphin Sports	\$3,675
Funding towards kits for the various sports at the club	
George Hicks Foundation	\$1,000
Funding for lunch event	
International Cool Climate Wine Show 2017	\$1,500
Silver package sponsorship	
Keenagers Table Tennis Club	\$250
Towards costs of annual tournament	
Lions Club of McCrae & District	\$5,000
Funding to purchase a shipping container to store equipment	
Lions Club of McCrae & District	\$3,500
Sponsorship of Dromana Australia Day & Photographic Art Display	
Main Ridge Bowls & Petanque Club Inc	\$500
Sponsorship of the 2016/2017 season	
Main Ridge Bowls and Petanque Club	\$500
Funding towards new entrance sign and advertising	
Main Ridge Men's Shed Inc	\$2,890
Funding to purchase a saw top	

Main Ridge Tennis Club Sponsorship of the 2016/2017 season	\$500
Mornington Football & Netball Club Sponsorship of 2017 season	\$800
Mornington Peninsula Schools' Environment Week Committee Inc Sponsorship of Schools Environment Week	\$2,000
Pearcedale CFA Sponsorship of the Annual Community Golf Day	\$440
Peninsula Home Hospice Sponsorship of Women of Action Country Luncheon	\$1,500
Peninsula Specialist College Funding to assist with purchasing new buses	\$35,000
Red Hill Consolidated School Sponsorship of Twilight Country Fair to raise money for new playground equipment	\$5,000
Red Hill Football Netball Club Sponsorship for 2017 season	\$550
Red Hill Riders Mountain Bike Club Sponsorship of Arthurs Seat Trail Ride	\$1,500
Red Hill Show Sponsorship of the 89th Red Hill Show	\$5,000
Rosebud Bowls Club Inc Sponsorship of the 2016/2017 season	\$300
Rosebud Cricket Club Inc Sponsorship of 2016/2017 season	\$250
Rosebud Football Netball Club Sponsorship for 2017 season	\$1,100
Rotary Club of Dromana Donation towards the community fundraising dinner for equipment for Rosebud Hospital	\$1,500
Rye Football Netball Club Sponsorship of 2017 season	\$700
Rye Pre-School Funding to assist with 2016 fundraising targets	\$2,500
Rye Sports & Social Club Sponsorship of 2017 Rye Gift	\$1,500
Sorrento Bowls Club Sponsorship for 2017/18	\$250
Sorrento Football & Netball Club Sponsorship of 2017 season	\$800
Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club Funding to replace rescue paddle boards	\$7,800
Southern Peninsula Cancer Support Group Donation towards fuel costs to help volunteer drivers take patients to treatments/appointments	\$500
The Southern Peninsula Food for All Inc Donation to assist with Christmas 2016 food parcels	\$1,000
Tootgarook Netball Club Sponsorship of 2017 season	\$500
Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association Sponsorship for 2017/18	\$250
Woodworkers of the Southern Peninsula Inc Funding to purchase a defibrillator	\$3,500
Total	\$126,057

Governance of The R E Ross Trust

The R E Ross Trust is a perpetual Charitable Trust established in Victoria in 1970 by the will of the late Roy Everard Ross. The will named the five original Trustees and provided for Trustees to choose new Trustees upon the retirement or death of serving Trustees.

Each of the five Trustees holds two half shares in a nominee company, R E Ross Nominees Pty Ltd. All five Trustees are Directors of that company which is the nominal owner of the assets of The R E Ross Trust. All issued shares are held in the name of R E Ross Nominees Pty Ltd on trust for The R E Ross Trust. The company employs the staff of The R E Ross Trust, including the Trust's Chief Executive Officer, who is responsible for the management of the Trust.

The Trust's Chief Executive Officer is selected by the Trustees. The current Chief Executive Officer, Ms Sylvia Admans, also holds the office of Company Secretary. Ms Pam Mitchell is Assistant Company Secretary.

Trustees retire no later than June 30 in the financial year in which they turn 75 years or complete a term of 12 years, whichever comes first.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

Statutory responsibilities

The main responsibilities of the Trustees are set out in the provisions of the will and the Trustee Act 1958 (Vic). Responsibilities include:

- Administration of the Trust, including the employment of staff and other services that Trustees deem “necessary or desirable in carrying out the trusts of [the] will”, the expenses of which may be met from the income of the Trust
- Investment of the funds of the Trust, including holding these investments in the name of a custodian trustee for which purpose the Trustees may form a company, R E Ross Nominees Pty Ltd, the expenses of which may be met from the income of the Trust
- Payment and application of the income of the Trust to charities or for charitable purposes.

In their capacities as Trustees of The R E Ross Trust and as Directors of R E Ross Nominees Pty Ltd and Hillview Quarries Pty Ltd, the Trustees also have responsibilities under a number of Victorian and Commonwealth laws, including corporations, industrial, environmental and taxation laws.

Other responsibilities

The present Trustees consider their responsibilities also include:

- Pay and apply the Trust's income to achieve positive impacts for public benefit (Will and Trustees' decisions)
- Treat applicants and recipients of Trust grants fairly and consistently
- Make information publicly available on the basis of Trustees' granting decisions (guidelines), audited annual accounts and grants made each year.

Trustee decisions and meetings

Decisions

The Will provides for decisions to be made by a majority of Trustees. Except in circumstances approved by Trustees, all significant decisions are made at meetings of Trustees. The Trust maintains a Financial Authorities Register which sets out who may exercise authority under certain circumstances which have financial implications.

Meetings

During the year there were 12 scheduled meetings of the Trust including the annual Strategy Day and four meetings of the Investment Committee. Eleven meetings of the Directors of Hillview Quarries Pty Ltd, including the annual Strategy Day were held as well as three meetings for the Directors of R E Ross Nominees Pty Ltd. The Chief Executive Officer attended all meetings.

Remuneration

Payment of Trustees

By special Orders of the Supreme Court of Victoria, the Trustees are paid commission if the Attorney-General of Victoria is satisfied with the Trust's Annual Accounts. The Trust submits a copy of the Annual Accounts in the form of the Annual Report, together with a report of the activities of the Trust, to the Attorney-General each year.

Staff

Trustees determine the remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer following an annual review of performance. Remuneration of staff is determined in accordance with the policies and annual budget approved by the Trustees. The Chief Executive Officer conducts an annual performance review of all other staff members.

Strategy

In May 2017, Trustees reviewed in detail The R E Ross Trust Strategic Plan.

The Plan covers:

1. Philanthropic

- Be a flexible and responsive philanthropic trust
- Add value beyond our grant-making
- Develop, maintain and exit collaborations and programs in a planned manner

2. Organisational

- Examine our systems and allocation of resources for effectiveness and efficiency
- Maintain a strong team approach

3. Governance and Financial

- Increase income by diligent management of the Trust's funds and businesses
- Maintain high standards of corporate governance.

Trustees approved the revised Strategic and Operational Plan in July 2017. It is monitored in twice yearly reviews.

Auditors

The Auditor for The R E Ross Trust and R E Ross Nominees and its subsidiaries is Pitcher Partners.

Disclosures

Geoff Nicholson, Trustee

- Non Executive Director, Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman Limited
- Non Executive Director, Launch Housing (and subsidiary Homeground Real Estate Pty Ltd)
- Non Executive Director, United Energy Distribution Holdings Limited
- Non Executive Director, Marchmont Hill Consulting Pty Ltd
- Non Executive Director, Athletics Australia Limited

Ian Renard, AM, Trustee

Eda Ritchie, AM, Trustee

- Chair, Victorian College of the Arts Foundation
 - Board Member, Melbourne Recital Centre
- Jenny Stephens, Trustee

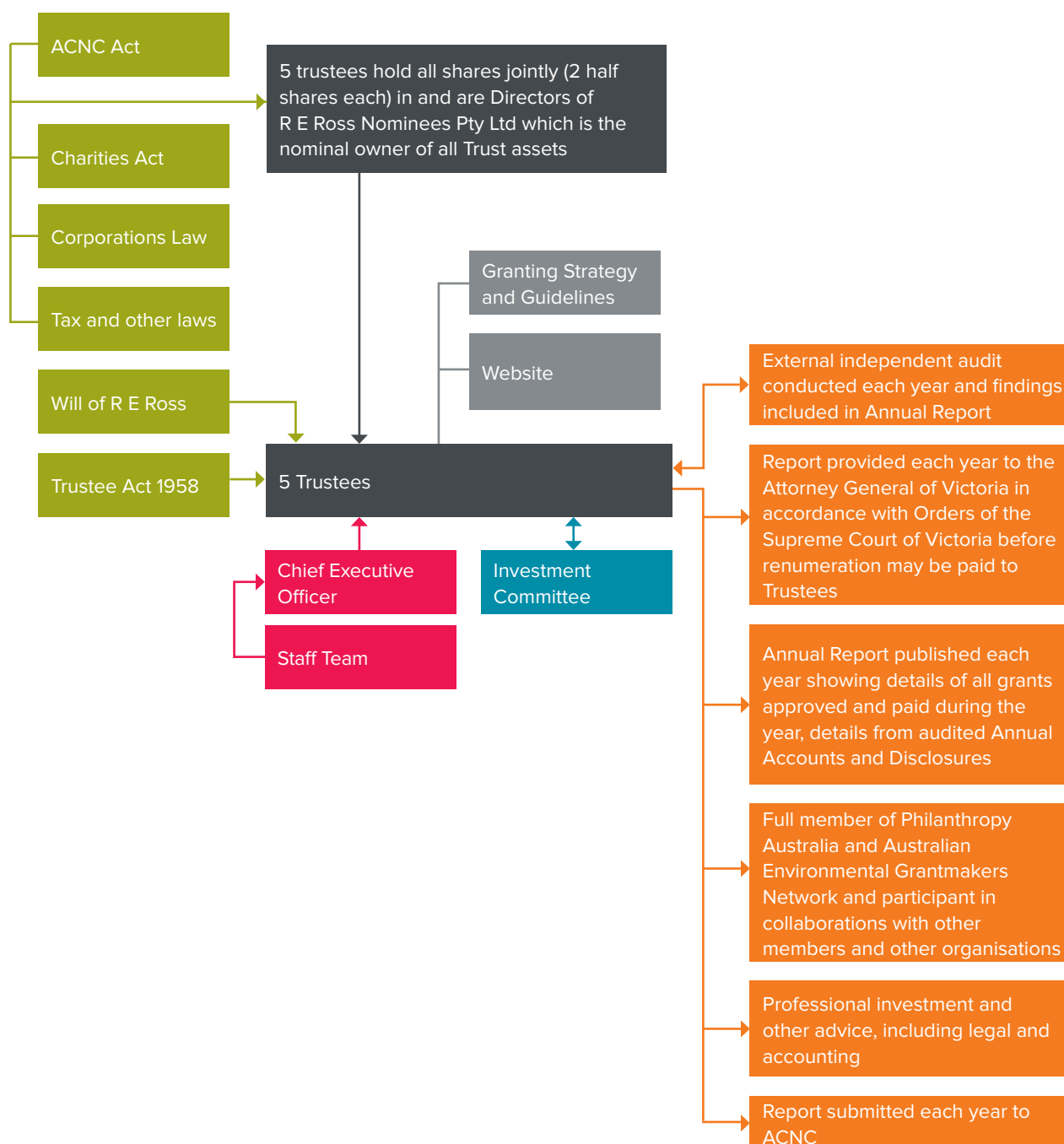
- Director, Tanjable Pty Ltd

- Council member, Philanthropy Australia.

Ian Vaughan, Trustee

- Director, Godfrey Hirst Pty Ltd
- Director, Sampford-IXL Pty Ltd
- Director, Backwell-IXL Pty Ltd

Summary of Governance Arrangements



Governance Framework

1. Comply with Trustee Act 1958 (Vic.) and all other relevant laws.
2. Maintain at least real value of corpus assets (Will and Trustee Act).
3. Earn maximum income taking account of necessity to maintain real corpus asset value and to distribute income (Will and Trustee Act).
4. Pay and distribute income to achieve positive impacts for public benefit (Will and Trustees' decisions).
5. Meet obligations to staff, professional advisors, and suppliers of goods and services.
6. Treat applicants for and recipients of grants fairly and consistently.
7. Make information publicly available on the basis of trustees granting decisions (guidelines), audited annual accounts and grants made each year, through the website.
8. Trustees hold 11 meets per year and an annual Strategy Day.

Investments and financial report

Framework

The will of Roy Everard Ross provides the Trustees hold on trust the balance of the “real and personal estate” of Mr Ross remaining after payment of debts, expenses and duties following his death, in order “to pay or apply the income there from in perpetuity...”. The will authorises the Trustees to invest the Trust’s monies as they “think fit” and “to vary, alter, transpose and re-invest” monies.

The Trustees have the approval of the Australian Taxation Office to withhold from distribution up to 20% of income earned each year. The Trustees invest these withheld distribution funds (Reserves) to generate income which will provide a buffer in the event of negative fluctuations in income in future years. In the year under report, 20% of income was withheld.

The Trust is a tax concession charity, is registered for GST but is not a deductible gift recipient.

Investments

Investment objectives

The Investment Parameters set out the Trust’s investment objectives which are to:

- a. generate a total return of CPI +3% p.a. over a rolling five year period;
- b. maximise the amount of income earned, where income includes imputation credits for which The R E Ross Trust will be able to claim a refund from the Australia Taxation Office. Income is to be distributed from the portfolio on a quarterly basis; and
- c. at least maintain the real value of the funds under management as measured by the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) over a five year rolling period.

Investment policy

The Trust’s Investment Manager for the 2016-17 was Evans & Partners. The Investment Manager is authorised to direct the investment and reinvestment of such monies as are allocated by The R E Ross Trust in an actively managed diversified portfolio.

The Portfolio is to consist of the asset classes and investment ranges listed below. The Investment Manager has discretion to manage the Portfolio within these ranges subject to any overriding directive which may from time to time be given by The R E Ross Trust. Such directive shall be in writing to the Investment Manager.

The asset allocation profile is as follows:

Cash 0% to 15%

Hybrids & Fixed Interest 0% to 35%

Australian Equities (inclusive of listed property) 45% to 75%

International Equities 0% to 20%

Alternative Investments 0% to 5%

The asset allocation profile was modified by the Trustees October 2016.

All securities other than Cash and Short Term Securities must be listed on a recognised stock exchange, or have a reasonable prospect of being listed within six months of subscription, or be units in an unlisted trust or fund which has been agreed in writing by The R E Ross Trust as an authorised investment, or otherwise approved in writing by The Trust. No more than 20% of Fixed interest and Hybrids can be invested in securities which are unrated or rated less than BBB. All Cash and Short Term Deposits are to be placed with financial institutions which are rated no less than AA.

The Portfolio may not include any Excluded Securities which at 30 June 2017 were:

- Armaments
- Alcohol
- Gambling
- Tobacco
- Coal Seam Gas

Investment reporting

The Investment Manager provides written reports on a quarterly basis and for the financial year as a whole.

Hillview Quarries Pty Ltd

The Trust maintains an investment in its wholly owned quarrying business, Hillview Quarries Pty Ltd. All Trustees serve as the Directors of Hillview Quarries Pty Ltd. The Trust owns the land used for quarrying operations.

Investment performance

Gross income for the year totalled \$8,353,742 an increase of 22.0% on the previous year.

At 30 June 2017, the book value of the net assets of the Trust was \$53,908,887 represented by:

\$37,749,245 Residuary (corpus) funds (an increase of \$809,082 on the prior year).

\$13,371,709 Reserves of accumulated income (up to 20% withheld from distribution).

\$2,787,065 Accumulated surplus (an increase of \$1,461,792 from the prior year).

The total estimated Market Value of the investments was \$42.3 million, compared with the previous year's end value of \$38.4 million.

Financial Information and Reporting

For the year ended 30 June 2017, the Trustees prepared a special purpose financial report (Annual Report) on The R E Ross Trust and its controlled entity, Hillview Quarries Pty Ltd.

The information contained in this Financial Report is drawn from the Annual Report of The R E Ross Trust for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.

Payment of income as grants

Income paid as grants during the year totalled \$4,124,386 (2016 \$3,947,727). Grants refunded by previous recipients amounted to \$0 (2016: \$21,375).

Approval was given during the year for 92 new grants with a total grant value of \$4,205,672. Some of these grants were approved for payment in instalments over a number of years. 170 grant payments totalling \$4,124,386 were made in the year, including payments of grant instalments which comprised part of grant amounts approved in previous years.

From its establishment in 1970 to 30 June 2017, the R E Ross Trust has made grants totalling \$111,658,961 – of these \$96,887,576 have been made by the Trust directly and \$14,771,385 by Hillview Quarries Pty Ltd at the request of the Trust.

Expenses

Expenses comprise the three categories listed below which almost mirror the responsibilities of the Trustees.

- Investment of the funds of the trust, including activities of Trustees, staff and payments to third parties;
- Activities of Trustees, staff and third parties directly related to the application of the income of the Trust to charities and for charitable purposes; and
- Administration of the Trust, including all activities of Trustees, staff and third parties not directly related to investing activities or to application of the income of the Trust to charities and for charitable purposes.

Financial reporting

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2017

Revenue and other income	Note	2017(\$)	2016 (\$)
Revenue from continuing operations	3	8,353,742	6,850,743
Less: expenses			
Employee benefits expense		(621,793)	(649,824)
Depreciation expenses		(34,521)	(17,727)
Other expenses		(714,705)	(676,082)
		(1,371,019)	(1,343,633)
Operating surplus prior to granting		6,982,723	5,507,110
Grants paid during the year		(4,124,386)	(3,947,727)
Net profit/loss from continuing operations		2,858,337	1,559,383
HVQ dividend		3,300,000	2,600,000

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2017

Current assets	Note	2017 (\$)	2016 (\$)
Cash and cash equivalents	4	2,119,998	1,874,577
Receivables	5	5,105,078	4,050,042
Investments	6	39,819,055	37,009,973
Other assets			
Total current assets		47,044,131	42,934,592
Non-current assets			
Receivables		5,432,592	5,432,592
Other financial assets	6	164,008	164,008
Property, plant and equipment		2,544,557	2,514,955
Total non-current assets		8,141,157	8,111,555
Total assets		55,185,288	51,046,147
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	7	1,200,744	725,156
Provisions		76,525	59,634
Total current liabilities		1,277,269	784,790
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions		–	20,757
Total non-current liabilities		–	20,757
Total liabilities		1,277,269	805,547
Net assets		53,908,019	50,240,600
Trust funds			
Residuary estate funds		37,749,245	36,940,163
Other Reserves		13,371,709	11,975,164
Accumulated surplus		2,787,065	1,325,273
Total trust funds		53,908,019	50,240,600
Investments per balance sheet		39,819,055	37,009,973
Market value of investments		42,263,627	38,420,182

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The trustees have determined that The R E Ross Trust is not a reporting entity on the basis that, in the opinion of the trustees, there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy, specifically, all of their information needs. Accordingly, this financial report is a special purpose financial report, which has been prepared to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

The financial report covers The R E Ross Trust as an individual entity. The R E Ross Trust is a group, formed and domiciled in Australia. The R E Ross Trust is a not-for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The financial report was approved by the trustees as at the date of the trustees' report.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, the accounting policies set out below, and the disclosure requirements of:

- AASB 101: Presentation of Financial Statements
- AASB 107: Cash Flow Statements
- AASB 108: Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
- AASB 1054: Australian Additional Disclosures

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this report:

(a) Basis of preparation of the financial report

(i) Historical Cost Convention

The financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by revaluations to fair value for certain classes of assets as described in the accounting policies.

(ii) AASB139: Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement

The requirements of AASB139: Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement, which deal with the recognition of impairment losses in the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, have not been applied to such losses on the Trust's investments. These requirements are explained in Note 1(g) Financial Instruments.

(b) Going concern

The financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis.

(c) Income tax

The Trust is a non-profit charitable organisation and is not subject to income tax on its income. The Trust

is entitled to receive a refund of imputation credits attached to franked dividends received.

On 28 June 1992 the trustees were granted clearance by the Australian Taxation Office to accumulate up to 20% of the net income, before grants, of the Trust each year. The purpose of this is to maintain and enhance the capital asset base of the Trust for derivation of income to be distributed by way of grants for future years.

(d) Impairment of non-financial assets

Goodwill, intangible assets not yet ready for use and intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are not subject to amortisation and are therefore tested annually for impairment, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that they might be impaired.

For impairment assessment purposes, assets are generally grouped at the lowest levels for which there are largely independent cash flows ('cash generating units'). Accordingly, most assets are tested for impairment at the cash generating unit level.

Assets other than goodwill, intangible assets not yet ready for use and intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are assessed for impairment whenever events or circumstances arise that indicate the asset may be impaired.

An impairment loss is recognised where the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount of an asset is defined as the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

Where the future economic benefits of an asset are not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate net cash inflows and where the economic entity would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits, the recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the asset's depreciated replacement cost which is defined as the current replacement cost less accumulated depreciation calculated on the basis of such cost.

(e) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and at banks, short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less held at call with financial institutions.

(f) Revenue

Dividend, interest, distributions and refundable imputation credits are recognised when the right to receive the revenue is established.

Interest revenue is recognised when it becomes receivable on a proportional basis taking in to account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(g) Financial instruments

The trust's investment portfolio comprises direct or indirect holdings in equities and other instruments listed on the Australian Securities Exchange, unlisted managed funds and investments in unlisted companies.

(i) Classification

The economic entity classifies its financial assets in the following categories: financial assets at the lower of cost and market value, loans and receivables, held-to-maturity investments, and available-for-sale financial assets. The classification depends on the nature of the item and the purpose for which the instruments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its financial instruments at initial recognition.

(ii) Available-for-sale financial assets

The trust's investments in direct or indirect holdings in equities and other instruments listed on the Australian Securities Exchange and unlisted managed funds are designated as available for sale and are therefore classified as "available-for-sale financial assets". When available-for-sale financial assets are recognised initially, they are measured at fair value, usually the cost of acquiring the asset.

After initial recognition, available-for sale financial assets are measured at lower of cost or fair value with unrealised losses being recognised in the "Residuary Reserve" until the investment is derecognised or until the investment is determined to be impaired.

The carrying amount of the entity's financial assets is reviewed annually by the trustees to assess whether there is any evidence that a financial asset is impaired. Impairment occurs when there is either a significant or prolonged decline in value below cost. When the trustees determine impairment has occurred, the cumulative loss previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified from the "Residuary Reserve" to "Accumulated Surplus".

The fair value of investments that are traded on the Australian Securities Exchange is determined by reference to quoted market bid prices at the close of business on the reporting date. The fair value of investments in unlisted managed funds is determined using reports provided by the funds' managers.

(iii) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are measured at fair value at inception and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

(iv) Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities include trade payables, other creditors and loans from third parties including inter-company balances and loans from or other amounts due to trustee-related entities.

Non-derivative financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost, comprising original debt less principal payments and amortisation.

Financial liabilities are classified as current liabilities unless the group has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period.

(h) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Property

Property is measured on a cost basis.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is measured on the cost basis.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all property, plant and equipment is depreciated over their estimated useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held available for use, consistent with the estimated consumption of the economic benefits embodied in the asset.

Leasehold Improvements

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

(i) Employee benefits

(i) Short-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and any other employee benefits expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The expected cost of short-term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences such as annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

(ii) Long-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of long service leave and annual leave which is not expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflow to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

Employee benefit obligations are presented as current liabilities in the balance sheet if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

(j) Grants

Grants are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income when approved by the Trustees and when the grant is due and payable within one year. Where grants approved by the Trustees are due and payable after more than twelve months from year end, the expense and equivalent liability will not be recognised as the execution of these payments are dependent upon the satisfaction of the conditions of the granting arrangement.

(k) Treatment of Residuary Funds / General Reserves

(i) Reserves are increased by the transfer of up to 20% of net income to reserves. The transfer in the 2017 year was 20% (2016: 20%) of net income before grants.

(ii) Residuary Funds are increased by profit on disposal of investments and decreased by losses on disposals of investments and by unrealised losses on fall in market value below purchase cost.

(l) Investments and other financial assets

Interests in listed and unlisted securities are brought to account at cost, and are measured at the lower of cost and market value at each reporting date.

Controlled entities are accounted for in the consolidated financial statements.

(m) Trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the company prior to the end of the financial year which remain unpaid at year end. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

(n) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

(o) Goods and services tax (GST) and Payroll Tax

(i) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and purchased assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the consolidated statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the consolidated statements of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(ii) Payroll tax

On 4 April 2017 the trust received a tax ruling from the State Revenue Office of Victoria of their determination

of the Trust as a non-profit organisation having as its whole or dominant purpose a charitable purpose and therefore qualifying for an exemption under section 48(1)(a)(iii) of the Payroll Tax Act 2007.

As a result of the above, the wages paid or payable by the trust in relation to the provision of work of a charitable nature are exempt.

Note 2: Financial Risk Management

The economic entity is exposed to a variety of financial risks comprising:

(a) Market price risk

Market price risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk).

(b) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates.

The economic entity has significant interest bearing investments.

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

The maximum exposure to credit risk, excluding the value of any collateral or other security, at balance date of recognised financial assets is the carrying amount of those assets, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in consolidated statement of financial position and notes to financial statements.

The economic entity does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single debtor or group of debtors under financial instruments entered into by the economic entity.

The economic entity minimises concentrations of credit risk in relation to trade receivables by undertaking transactions with a large number of customers.

Note 3: Revenue	2017 (\$)	2016 (\$)
Royalties and fees from Hillview Quarries Pty Ltd	1,147,035	1,050,351
Other Revenue		
Dividend income	4,794,321	3,775,548
Interest income	657,693	670,548
Imputation credits refunded	1,754,693	1,354,296
Total revenue	8,353,742	6,850,743

Note 4: Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash on hand	114	32
Cash at bank	624,252	34,339
Cash on deposit	1,495,632	1,840,206
	2,119,998	1,874,577

Note 5: Receivables

Current

Trade debtors	93,490	80,692
Other receivables	5,011,588	3,969,350
	5,105,078	4,050,042

Note 6: Investments

Current

Investment portfolio	39,819,055	37,009,973
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Interests in listed and unlisted securities are brought to account at cost and are measured at the lower of cost and market value at each reporting date. The market value of investments at reporting date is \$42,263,627 (2016: \$38,420,182).

Non Current

Private company shares	164,008	164,008
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Note 7: Payables

Current

Unsecured liabilities

Trade creditors	599,858	275,446
Sundry creditors and accruals	600,886	449,710
	1,200,744	725,156



PITCHER PARTNERS

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T SAKELL
G I NORSKIN
K L BYRNE
S D WHITCHURCH
D J HONEY
G J NIELSEN
N R BULL
A M KOKKINOS
G A DEBONO
F V RUSSO
A T CLUGSTON
M G JOZWIK
B POWERS
K J DAVIDSON
J C CHENG
M DAWES
M J WILSON

K KRIGONI
G M RAMBALDI
D A KNOWLES
J BRAZZALE
S SCHONBERG
S DAHN
A R YEO
P W TONER
D R VASUDEVAN
A T DAVIDSON
C D WHATMAN
A E CLERICI
P MAURONE
A D STANLEY
D C BYRNE
P B BRAINE
R I MCKIE
M R SONEGO
S J DALL
D W LOVE
A SULEYMAN
D R DOHERTY
J L BEAUMONT
B A LETHBORG

28 November 2017

The Trustees
The R E Ross Trust
Ground Level
Suite 2, 43 Agnes Street
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Trustees

EXTRACTS OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THE R.E. ROSS TRUST ANNUAL REPORT 2017.

This is to confirm the financial information presented on pages 59 to 66 of the R.E. Ross Trust Annual Report 2017 has been extracted from the R E Ross Trust and controlled entities' 2017 Special Purpose Financial Report dated 30 August 2017.

The 2017 Special Purpose Financial Report was audited by Pitcher Partners and was not subject to audit qualification.

We have reconciled the extracted information presented of pages 59 to 66 of the R.E. Ross Trust Annual Report 2017 to the R E Ross Trust and controlled entities' 2017 Special Purpose Financial Report, noting no exceptions.

Yours faithfully
PITCHER PARTNERS

K L BYRNE
Partner

Grants paid by the Trust in the 2016–17 year

Organisation	Amount
Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention & Legal Service	\$30,000
Aboriginal Literacy Foundation	\$10,000
African Australian Multicultural Employment & Youth Service	\$20,000
Anglicare Victoria	\$33,000
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Inc	\$20,000
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Inc	\$50,000
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Inc	\$15,000
Australian Centre for Contemporary Art	\$15,000
Australian Conservation Foundation	\$20,000
Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network	\$5,000
Australian Muslim Women's Centre for Human Rights	\$25,000
Australian Schools Plus	\$55,000
Ballarat Secondary College	\$9,300
Banksia Gardens Community Services	\$30,000
Barrier Breakers	\$25,000
Barwon Centre Against Sexual Assault	\$7,900
Barwon Community Legal Service	\$30,000
Bendigo Baptist Community Care	\$20,000
Bendigo Family & Financial Services Inc	\$28,625
Bendigo Science & Technology Museum	\$25,000
bestchance Child Family Care	\$24,164
Big Brothers Big Sisters (Melbourne) Inc	\$16,000
Brotherhood of St Laurence	\$27,000
Brotherhood of St Laurence	\$26,000
Bush Heritage Australia	\$5,000
Bush Heritage Australia	\$4,000
CareWorks	\$28,000
Casa Cultura	\$9,177
Centre for International Child Health	\$118,100
Centre for Multicultural Youth	\$10,000

Centre for Multicultural Youth	\$15,000
Centre for Non-Violence	\$40,000
Centre for Participation	\$15,000
Children's Book Council of Australia	\$4,400
Children's Protection Society	\$30,000
Circus Oz	\$10,000
Clontarf Foundation	\$30,000
Combined Churches Caring Melton	\$10,000
CommUnity Plus Services Ltd	\$30,000
Community Four Ltd	\$19,680
Community Hub	\$2,000
Community Music Victoria	\$8,516
Community Support Frankston	\$15,000
Concern Australia	\$10,000
Council of Single Mothers & their Children	\$37,000
Council of Single Mothers & their Children	\$10,000
Cranbourne Information & Support Service	\$27,000
Dandenong Ranges Emergency Relief Services Inc.	\$10,000
David Wirrpanda Foundation	\$10,000
Duke Street Community House	\$9,937
East Gippsland Network of Neighbourhood Houses	\$4,500
Emerge Women & Children's Support Network	\$25,000
Farnham Street Neighbourhood Learning Centre	\$30,000
First Australians Capital	\$30,000
First Step Program Ltd	\$21,082
Footscape	\$20,000
Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species	\$10,000
Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal	\$125,000
Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal	\$45,540
Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater	\$14,800
Getting Ahead Working Group	\$6,000
Gippsland Lakes Community Health	\$20,000
Good Cycles	\$15,000

Green Collect	\$30,000
Green Collect	\$25,000
Greensborough Pre School	\$1,288
Healesville Indigenous Community Service Association	\$30,000
HerSpace	\$19,895
Human Rights Law Centre Ltd	\$25,000
Ilbjerri Theatre Cooperative	\$50,000
Inner Melbourne Community Legal	\$30,000
Jewish Museum of Australia	\$18,000
Jirrahlinga Wildlife Sanctuary	\$15,000
Justice Connect	\$30,000
Kensington Neighbourhood House	\$6,620
Kids' Own Australia Inc	\$25,000
Kilfinan Australia	\$10,000
Kinfolk Cafe	\$10,000
Koorie Heritage Trust Inc	\$30,000
Kurunjang Primary School	\$7,000
Launch Housing	\$40,000
Lifeline Gippsland	\$15,000
Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services	\$13,223
Mackillop Family Services	\$33,000
Melbourne Writers Festival	\$8,800
Mental Health Legal Centre	\$25,000
Migrant Resource Centre North West	\$3,650
Mornington Community Information & Support Centre	\$30,000
Museum Victoria	\$25,000
Museums Australia (Victoria)	\$50,000
Neighbourhood Houses Victoria	\$30,000
North Carlton Railway Station Neighbourhood House	\$12,197
North East Support and Action for Youth	\$29,940
North Melbourne Language & Learning	\$13,954
Northern Bay P-12 College	\$28,000
Ocean Grove Neighbourhood Centre Inc	\$10,000

Operation Newstart Victoria	\$20,000
Orbost Neighbourhood House	\$10,000
Peninsula Mindfulness Inc	\$6,000
Permanent Care and Adoptive Families	\$22,800
Philanthropy Australia	\$25,000
Phunktional	\$30,000
Phunktional	\$40,000
Playgroup Victoria	\$10,000
Polyglot Puppet Theatre Ltd	\$25,000
Refugee & Immigration Legal Centre Inc	\$25,000
Refugee & Immigration Legal Centre Inc	\$15,000
Regional Arts Victoria	\$20,000
RISE - Refugees, Survivors & Ex-Detainees	\$24,000
River Nile Learning Centre	\$20,000
Robinvale District Health Service	\$2,074
Robinvale Network House	\$10,000
Robinvale Network House	\$10,000
Rosebud Secondary College	\$27,119
Sacred Heart Mission	\$20,000
Satellite Foundation	\$15,000
Save the Children	\$70,880
Save the Children	\$100,000
SecondBite	\$10,000
Sharing Stories Foundation	\$30,000
SisterWorks	\$30,000
SNAICC - Secretariat of National Aboriginal & Islander Child Care	\$30,000
Somebody's Daughter	\$30,000
South Port Uniting Care	\$11,072
Southern Peninsula Community Support & Information	\$30,000
Southern Peninsula Community Support & Information	\$30,000
Sports Challenge Australia	\$10,000
St Albans Heights Primary School	\$3,300
St Kilda Gatehouse	\$30,000

St Kilda Mums (Eureka Mums)	\$29,788
St Mark's Community Centre (Anglicare Victoria)	\$13,000
St Mary's House of Welcome	\$10,000
State Library of Victoria	\$50,000
Stawell Neighbourhood House	\$23,400
Sunshine Harvester Primary School	\$3,000
The Australian Literacy & Numeracy Foundation	\$10,000
The Funding Network	\$12,000
The Lowitja Institute	\$10,000
The Mirabel Foundation	\$28,520
The Norman Wettenhall Foundation	\$55,000
The Queen's Fund	\$10,000
The Queen's Fund	\$28,000
The Salvation Army	\$23,000
The Salvation Army	\$25,000
The Smith Family	\$40,000
The Smith Family	\$50,000
The Way Community	\$15,000
Think HQ	\$15,000
Tomorrow Today Foundation	\$100,000
Travellers Aid Australia	\$10,000
Trust for Nature	\$25,000
Uniting Care Ballarat	\$15,000
Victorian Association for the Care & Resettlement of Offenders	\$50,000
VICSEG New Futures	\$22,000
Victorian Association of State Secondary Principals	\$30,000
Victorian Regional Community Leadership Programs	\$10,000
Warrnambool East Primary School	\$10,000
Wedderburn Community House Inc	\$10,000
Wesley Mission Victoria	\$30,000
Western Edge Youth Arts Inc	\$8,000
Western Port Community Support	\$30,000
WEstjustice	\$30,000

Whittlesea Community Connections Inc	\$20,000
Williamstown Community Education Centre	\$20,000
Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association Inc	\$30,000
Windamara Aboriginal Corporation	\$30,000
Wise Employment	\$30,000
Wombat Forestcare Inc	\$6,800
Women and Mentoring WAM	\$20,000
Youth Insearch	\$20,000
Total	\$3,992,041
Net accrued grants FY2016 to FY2017	\$132,345
Total	\$4,124,386



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