



OUT HERE FOR GOOD

Annual Report 2024

The John Villiers Trust (JVT) is an independent trust that supports charitable organisations working in country Queensland to build better, fairer, more resilient communities.

We want to spark genuine, sustainable change that focuses on a wide range of activities to support the wellbeing and development of young Queenslanders living in rural, regional and remote communities, where our namesake - John Villiers - spent much of his life.

Established on John's death in 2002, JVT continues to nurture his legacy of supporting organisations to achieve transformative impact in Queensland communities through active engagement and strong partnerships.

John's Will reflected his love of country Queensland - he bequeathed the majority of his estate for the benefit of public charitable purposes in the state. For over 20 years, we've nurtured this original gift and have grown it from \$6.75 million to over \$25.8 million, and have awarded \$11.5 million in grants to date.

JVT exists solely to drive positive, long-lasting change in country Queensland.

We aim to listen to and amplify the voices of rural, regional and remote communities, and believe their future is in the hands of young people. We continue to evolve and extend our work, with our focus on connecting organisations, ideas and people. Our approach is to pool our resources with like-minded donors, funders and advisors, to achieve greater impact.

As a Public Ancillary Fund (PuAF) with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status, we have more opportunities to help country communities access the support they need to continue to thrive. Through our strategic grant making and fundraising, collaborating with other funders, and providing options for people to donate through the Trust, we have a chance now to grow our impact and further enrich communities through strategic giving.

Our FY24 Annual Report provides a snapshot of our work, and in the following pages, we share some of the stories and successes from the past year.

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The John Villiers Trust acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders of Australia and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.



Our Strategic Intent

Vision

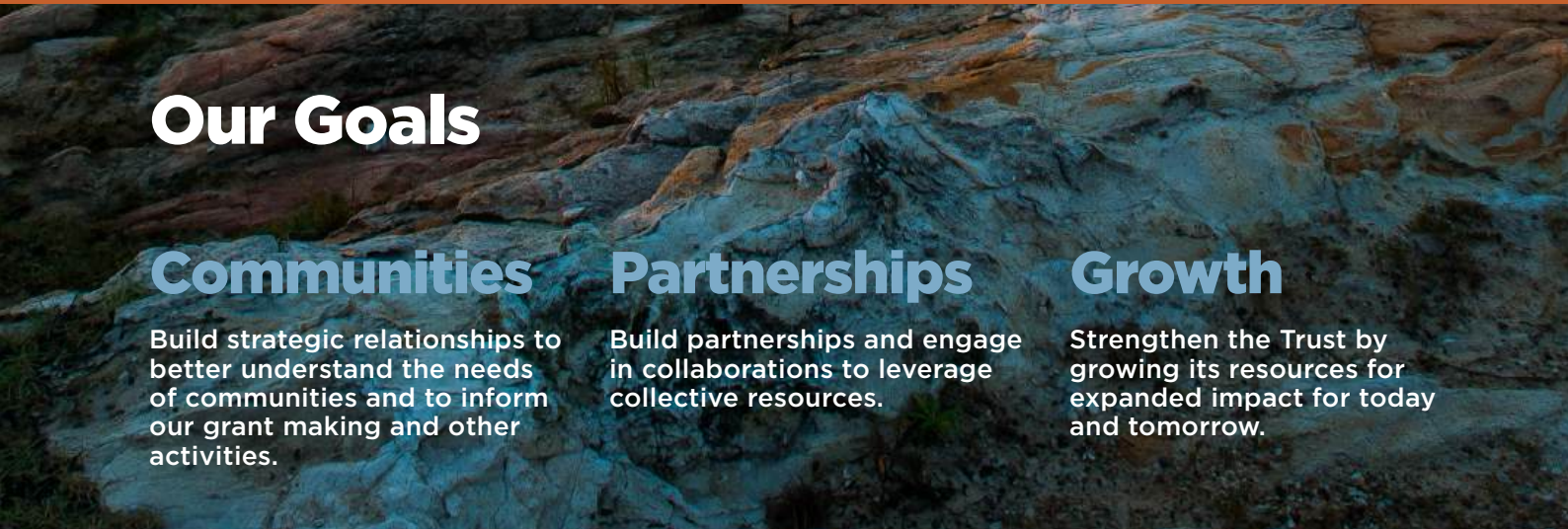
Vibrant Queensland communities enriched by strategic giving.

Mission

To achieve transformative impact in Queensland communities through active engagement and strong partnerships.

Scope

We focus on support for children and youth in rural, regional and remote Queensland communities.



Our Goals

Communities

Build strategic relationships to better understand the needs of communities and to inform our grant making and other activities.

Partnerships

Build partnerships and engage in collaborations to leverage collective resources.

Growth

Strengthen the Trust by growing its resources for expanded impact for today and tomorrow.

Our Values

Respect

We respect our benefactor’s legacy, and those we work with.

Transparency

We present ourselves in an open, accountable way.

Integrity

We behave with honesty and integrity as custodians of the fund.

Collaboration

We build connections to achieve better outcomes for Queensland communities.

[See online version for more details](#)

Message from the Chair & CEO



Doing better together

We are delighted to report that over the past 12 months more funders have realised the benefits that flow from working together.

At JVT, we have already seen how much can be achieved through co-funding. This year, we successfully increased our collaboration with partners and currently have \$13,537,135 in co-funding across our 14 grantees.

It has been pleasing that these alliances are being noticed and recognised for the additional value and results they are having. When we helped establish the Queensland Kids Funders Alliance (QKFA) in 2022, our intent was to bring together a group of philanthropic foundations to explore opportunities where we could collaborate on joint partnerships. So we were honoured that [Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership \(TQKP\)](#) nominated the QKFA for the 2024 Queensland Philanthropy Innovation Award, and to be named as finalists in the category.

It's fantastic to work with passionate and dedicated funders as part of QKFA. We are grateful to [Hand Heart Pocket the Charity of Freemasons](#)



The Queensland Kids Funders Alliance (QKFA) make the finals of the 2024 Queensland Philanthropy Innovation Award.

[Queensland](#), [The Bryan Foundation](#), and [Tim Fairfax Family Foundation](#) for sharing our commitment to making things better for country Queensland kids, and for their ongoing support and desire to share resources, connections and opportunities.

FY24 funding highlights

One of our four new grants in 2024 will see us partnering with our Funders Alliance partners, The Bryan Foundation. We're delighted to be working together to support The Bryan Education Foundation to help improve the learning and wellbeing of children and families, specifically in rural, regional and remote Queensland.

Our other grants this year are supporting Q-SEED (Queensland Social procurement, Employment and Economic Development) – a joint initiative of CQUniversity

and organisations to work together with communities and stakeholders, to develop solutions that have the potential to create long-term, meaningful change.

We know we can do better together, and hope that as these projects focus on building partnerships and plans, more funders and supporters will get involved to help achieve the systems change needed.



Lea-Anne Bradley at the Q-SEED launch in Townsville

These collaborations reflect our commitment to seed funding projects that get traction and then supporting them as their work gains momentum and buy-in, to get to the next level.

and ArcBlue alongside the local Townsville community – and two phases of Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership's Thriving Kids in Disasters (TKiD) project.

These collaborations demonstrate our approach: we provide seed funding so projects can gain traction and, as their work gains momentum and attracts buy-in, we then support them to get to the next level.

Our grants to Q-SEED and TKiD enable our partners to identify opportunities to make systems change for community benefit, rather than financing specific projects. We are funding the right people

In another example of the benefits of co-funding, the Clem Jones Foundation joined us in committing funding to support more Queensland-based initiatives through the FRRR ABC Heywire Youth Innovation grant program. The dedicated grants mean that in the future, more youth-led projects can come to life in the state.

Doing things differently

Sector collaboration and place-based approaches continue to gain momentum and support. This is encouraging as it recognises the



IDAC launch, December 2023. Credit: Grace Costa

unique needs of rural, regional and remote Queensland, and indicates a commitment to developing initiatives and solutions with, and for, local communities.

We were pleased to see the [Investment Dialogue for Australia's Children \(IDAC\)](#) progress during the year, with the recruitment and launch of the First Nations and Community Leadership Councils.

The Councils bring together passionate individuals from diverse backgrounds and experiences, to ensure a strong community voice is at the forefront of the Investment Dialogue.

We know that community guidance, input, and collaboration is vital to the success of projects aiming to make long-term, positive intergenerational change. So we look forward to the range of perspectives and ideas that come out of the Councils, on how we can work together with the government to improve the wellbeing of children, young people, and their families.

Board and team update

During the year we welcomed two new directors to our Board. Fiona Maxwell and Douglas Bates joined us in April, bringing strong leadership and governance skills to JVT. They are both from country Queensland, and are driven by a desire to get better outcomes for children and young people in rural, regional and remote communities.

We are confident that their experience and expertise, coupled with a first-hand knowledge of life in the bush, will make both Fiona and Douglas valuable members of the team.

Our CEO, Lea-Anne Bradley, is also helping to strengthen JVT's connection to regional communities, having moved to Cairns during the year. We're pleased to have some

"boots on the ground" in northern Queensland.

In 2023, JVT was lucky to secure [Jodie Gosel-Agotnes](#) as our new Operations & Grants Manager, bringing valuable additional stakeholder management and operational leadership skills to our team. Raised on a farm, she has experienced the challenges faced by regional communities and is committed to improving support for these areas.

While welcoming three new faces, we also farewelled Board and committee member Elizabeth Jameson, who stood down from the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee (ARCC). Elizabeth had previously been a Director, and then Chair of the ARCC. While no longer on a committee, she remains dedicated to supporting JVT and the work we are doing. We are grateful for her time and expertise, and wish her well as she completes her PhD this year.

The year ahead

There are significant opportunities to support long-term, meaningful change by increasing our focus on helping country children and young people thrive during disasters. While excellent work is being undertaken in Queensland in disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery, generally the needs of children and youth are overlooked. The challenge is even more pressing for children living

in country communities which are frequently impacted by disasters, and logistically harder to reach with disaster support.

Our aim is to help focus attention on the impact of disasters on child and youth wellbeing, development, and resilience in country Queensland – something JVT is passionate about.

We hope the 2025 financial year sees increased collaboration between philanthropy, communities and government for the benefit of children and youth in rural, regional and remote Queensland. Together we can increase our impact for these communities.

A shared passion

The dedication and passion of our grantees, funding partners, and country communities continues to inspire us, and validate our commitment to working together to create long-term, sustainable change.

We are incredibly grateful to our donors who share our vision and recognise the value of our work benefitting rural, regional and remote Queensland communities.

We are thankful to our JVT Directors, committee members and staff – and all those we have collaborated with in FY24 - for their enthusiasm, dedication and genuine care for country Queensland.

Dr Ian Galloway AM, Chair
Lea-Anne Bradley, CEO.



JVT's Board

Success criteria

Five success factors guide our philanthropic giving and amplify our impact. We assess successful grants against these criteria.



PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION WITH LIKE-MINDED ORGANISATIONS

We build partnerships that leverage collective resources.

We fund collaborative efforts from grant applicants where their complementary knowledge, connections and experience enhances the impact of their grant.

We are committed to collaborating with other funders to increase support for rural, regional and remote Queensland.



PROJECTS THAT HAVE MULTIPLE OR DEEP IMPACTS

We support projects that will have multiple or deep and long-lasting impacts for rural, regional and remote Queensland communities, children and youth.



HARM PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION TO BRING BETTER OUTCOMES

We believe early intervention is the wisest investment: it prevents harm and drives better outcomes for communities in the long term.



INVESTMENTS THAT BUILD ORGANISATIONAL AND SECTOR CAPACITY WHICH WILL OUTLAST OUR INVOLVEMENT

To build momentum that will outlast our involvement, we invest in capacity building for charitable organisations and the sector that supports the community.



IDEAS THAT ARE COMMUNITY-LED, DRIVEN OR INFORMED

We understand each country community is unique and their input about their needs is crucial in shaping the most successful solutions.

Our case studies on pages 9-11 provide examples of these success factors in action.

FY24 grants & partnerships

JVT is unlike most charitable organisations. Our unique intermediary approach focuses on connection, providing not just funding but vision, structure, and collaboration.

We seek like-minded donors, funders and advisors whose ideas, causes and goals align with ours, to unite resources and invest for long-term transformative change. Through collaboration, we are able to foster change and build powerful relationships in multiple ways, and in many locations, right across Queensland.



\$517,091

Grant payments in FY24

We distributed \$517,091 to grantees this year.



\$668,191
4 Grants

New grants in 2024

This year we awarded four new grants totalling \$668,191, payable in this and future years.



\$2,458,110
14 Grants

Total commitment

Our total commitment to our 14 active grantees across multiple years is \$2,458,110.



\$13.5
Million

Total co-funding

Total additional co-funding from other sources across our 14 active grantees is \$13,537,135.




\$11.5
Million

Total grants since 2002

Since 2002, communities across Queensland have benefitted from 196 grants totalling \$11,504,356 from The John Villiers Trust.

Organisations & projects we supported across FY24

Schools Plus 

Schools Plus 2020 - 2024

Three projects providing high-impact support for rural school clusters in need

\$450,000 over three years to improve learning outcomes and engagement of students in Chinchilla, Eidsvold and Normanton schools by investing in leader development and local community partnerships.

[Read more >](#)



Top Blokes Foundation

2021 - 2024

Improving the mental health and wellbeing of young men and boys in schools in Toowoomba

\$282,041 over three years to positively impact more than 550 young males, and build a sustainable hub in the Toowoomba and Darling Downs region by working with local communities to build their capacity to fund, introduce and maintain the programs. [Read more >](#)



White Box Enterprises

2022 - 2025

Strengthening futures through social enterprise

\$300,000 over multiple years to co-fund an Indigenous Business Coordinator role to boost Indigenous enterprises, youth employment and bring new income sources into country communities.

[Read more >](#)

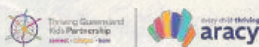
AUSDANCE
QLD

Ausdance QLD 2022 - 2026

SafeDance for Kids

\$100,000 over multiple years to help build a transformative safety education program for children learning all styles and traditions of dance. Cultural training will also support safe participation in dance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

[Read more >](#)



ARACY: Every Child Thriving

2022 - 2025

Thriving Queensland Kids Country Collaborative Partnership Officer

\$255,000 for three years to co-fund a position as part of [Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership \(TQKP\)](#) to put 'boots on the ground' and amplify the voices of country kids.

[Read more >](#)



Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR)

2023 - 2025

Amplifying the youth voices of Queensland

\$100,000 over three years to increase the impact of the FRRR ABC Heywire Youth Innovation Program. This includes funding for outreach, capacity building, and youth-focused projects in Queensland.

[Read more >](#)



CQUniversity & ArcBlue

2023

Q-SEED Phase 1: Supporting the local community to build a bespoke socio-economic solution that meets their needs

\$50,000 of seed funding to help build the foundations of a bespoke place-based program that is designed to help create economic opportunities for the Townsville region.

[Read more >](#)



Outback Exploratorium

2023

Breaking down barriers to STEAM learning in outback Queensland

\$50,000 for capacity-building support to plan the transformation of the Outback Exploratorium into a sustainable profit-for-purpose social enterprise. It aims to advance an out-of-school, STEAM educational ecosystem in country Queensland.

[Read more >](#)



Cowboys Community Foundation

2023 - 2026

Boarding for success – evaluating our impact

\$150,378 over three years to improve evaluation methods to ensure NRL Cowboys House is achieving its intended impact: to provide unique, culturally-safe boarding for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders from remote north Queensland attending partner schools in Townsville.

[Read more >](#)



The Waltzing Matilda Centre

2024 - 2026

John Villiers Outback Art Prize

\$52,500 for a further three years to include a new Children's Art Project and Digital Exhibition, which encourages budding artists aged 5-14 years to get involved with the John Villiers Outback Art Prize, and gives them a voice and opportunity to express themselves through art.

[Read more >](#)



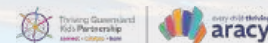
ARACY: Every Child Thriving

2023 - 2024

Thriving Kids in Disasters project Phase 1

\$65,000 to identify strengths and opportunities for improvement in Queensland's disaster management, preparedness, and recovery arrangements to support child well-being, development and resilience.

[Read more >](#)



ARACY: Every Child Thriving

2024 - 2025

Thriving Kids in Disasters project Phase 2

\$106,931 to build on the findings of the phase 1 TKiD report and build partnerships and an action plan to respond to its recommendations.

[Read more >](#)



CQUniversity & ArcBlue

2023

Q-SEED Phase 2: Co-designing employment opportunities with young people, youth organisations, and employers

\$196,260 to see this program to fruition, strengthening social and economic outcomes and increasing job opportunities for at-risk youth in Townsville.

[Read more >](#)



The Bryan Education Foundation

2024-2026

Integrated School Hubs

\$300,000 over two years to help The Bryan Education Foundation establish a 10-year program to improve the learning and wellbeing of children and families in rural and regional Queensland.

[Read more >](#)

Read the case studies on the following pages for more detail on some of these initiatives

Grantee updates

During FY24, JVT's grantees continued to prove how much can be achieved when we work together. Building on fledgling or existing initiatives and ideas, they used our funding to expand and further their work supporting rural, regional and remote Queensland.



The Children's Art Project captures the everyday experiences of kids who grow up in the outback.

Waltzing Matilda Centre

In FY24 younger artists were encouraged to get involved with the John Villiers Outback Art Prize, through the new Children's Art Project and Digital Exhibition.

Eighty-seven budding artists aged 5-14 years submitted their artwork expressing what they love about living in the bush or what they would like to see or change in their region. Entries were exhibited in a digital gallery, as part of the annual John Villiers Outback Art Prize.

JVT funded the project to give young people from rural, regional and remote communities a voice and opportunity to express themselves through art, in a format shared across a wide audience.



Youth support organisations came together at CQU Townsville to start the second phase of Q-SEED.

CQUniversity & ArcBlue

JVT funded Q-SEED Phase 1 in 2023 to help create a place-based solution in Townsville to deliver socio-economic, employment and procurement opportunities requiring crucial attention in regional Queensland.

Due to the success of this pilot, and development of a Regional Action Plan, JVT provided an additional \$196,260 to see the program progress to co-designing employment opportunities with young people, youth and support organisations, and employers.

The Q-SEED project also secured equivalent funding from Advance Queensland, to implement and embed social and local procurement opportunities.

The program's design allows for scalability, with the hope that the program can be expanded further across Townsville and to other regional communities in the future.



Harry and Jordan present at the ABC Heywire Regional Youth Innovation Summit. Photo credit: ABC supplied

Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR)

JVT funds Queensland-based initiatives through the FRRR ABC Heywire Youth Innovation Grants program. In 2023/2024, five Queensland projects were awarded grants, four of these thanks to JVT's contribution:

- \$10,000 to Breakaway Toowoomba to encourage greater visibility of disability with a youth-led community event.
- \$5,000 to Bridges Health and Community Care Ltd in Monto for mental health education delivered through theatre.
- \$10,000 to Coen Region Aboriginal Corporation for youth and community events.
- \$10,000 to Puuya Foundation Lockhart River to strengthen youth wellbeing.

More youth-developed and led projects in Queensland will be funded through the grants program thanks to additional funding committed by the Clem Jones Foundation in FY24.

You can read more about the projects funded [here](#).

Our funding also helped enable an outreach trip to Far North Queensland and the employment of a Youth Intern to help assess the 2023 grant round, **building capacity, commitment and experience in the next generation.**

Case Studies:

ARACY – Every Child Thriving: Helping Queensland kids thrive



A collaboration for better outcomes for children, young people, their families and communities across Queensland.

The vast and varied state of Queensland is an amazing place to grow up.

While most kids in Queensland feel loved and safe in their families and receive the support they need to grow up healthy and well, too many are still missing out on the services, resources and opportunities that would give them a great start in life and a fair chance to thrive alongside their peers in the rest of Australia.

Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership (TQKP) is a statewide partnership of people and organisations working to change the systems that shape the lives of children and young people. Their vision is for every Queensland child and young person to thrive. This means their needs are being met across the six wellbeing areas identified in ARACY's The Nest framework: Material Basics; Healthy; Valued, Loved and Safe; Learning; Identity and Culture; and Participating.

JVT has been a proud supporter of TQKP since 2022. We support children and young people in country communities to thrive and, like TQKP, are committed to improving the systems that shape Queensland childhoods.

Over the past two years, we've been delighted to see TQKP progress a broad range of state-wide initiatives to help advance the wellbeing of Queensland children, youth, and families.

One of TQKP's success stories is the Thriving Queensland Kids Country Collaborative. Formed in 2023, the Country Collaborative is a voice for rural, regional and remote Queensland - connecting communities with initiatives, and initiatives to each other.

There is now an established leadership council and 30 representatives from across country Queensland feeding expertise into the Country Collaborative, so that TQKP can target action at a systemic level. This approach ensures the needs and voices of rural, regional and remote communities are highlighted in the development of all TQKP's initiatives, and that opportunities are identified to draw on the wider initiatives, to meet the unique needs of country communities.

In addition, the Country Collaborative is identifying and progressing targeted opportunities that have emerged as a particular priority or need within country Queensland communities. Examples include delivering the Thriving Kids in Disasters (TKiD) Report (read more about TKiD on page 10), and developing the Social Network Analysis for Country Queensland project, which will create the first comprehensive map of connections among decision makers and influential voices.

You can read more about TQKP's range of initiatives on their website: www.tqkp.org.au.

Supporting workforces with practical evidence

One of the known challenges for country communities is access to the tools and resources they need to help children and families thrive. TQKP is working to bring evidence and robust tools to the people who can put them to work for kids. When we properly equip the people who work directly with children, we see huge benefits for children, families and entire communities.

The Country Collaborative ensures the experience and perspectives of rural, regional and remote families and workforces are considered in the development of TQKP work such as:

- Working with the Queensland Brain Institute to create educational opportunities, to ensure that the workforces and systems that impact Queensland kids are informed by the latest brain science.
- Developing a partnership with the Alberta Family Wellness Initiative to promote the use of two proven frameworks - the Brain Story metaphors and Resilience Scale - to better communicate the needs of children and young people and show how we can create positive outcomes.
- Promoting and designing Childhood Builder programs, with shared language, evidence, metaphors, and resources that suit Queensland.
- Sharing the evidence about how to best frame our messages about child wellbeing, using language designed to shift public understanding, generate support for better policies, and engage the whole community in our work, ultimately building positive change for all Queensland children.
- Disseminating evidence-based resources such as ARACY's The Nest framework, and Common Approach training, to help frontline workers have important conversations with families about their needs, and decision makers plan for the future.



The Nest is Australia's first evidence-based framework for national child and youth wellbeing.

ARACY – Every Child Thriving: Thriving Kids in Disasters project



Improving our disaster management systems for kids

Overall, Queensland is extraordinarily good – through plenty of practice and learnings over decades – at disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

We know children and young people are disproportionately impacted by, but often invisible in, disaster management settings, despite the best efforts of those involved.

JVT is here to support work and ideas that seed long-term meaningful change. We love country Queensland and we believe the future of its communities is in the hands of young people.

That's why JVT committed to help Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership (TQKP) identify strengths and opportunities for improvement in Queensland's disaster management, preparedness, and recovery arrangements to support child well-being, development and resilience.

The **Thriving Kids in Disasters (TKiD)** project focuses attention on the impact of disasters on infants and youth in rural, regional and remote Queensland – something JVT is passionate about.

Phase 1

Phase 1 of the TKiD project produced a report that examined how current disaster management arrangements in Queensland could better support the resilience and wellbeing of infants, children, and young people. It found that the challenge of disasters is even more pressing for children living in country communities. It also found that disasters are a critical threat to positive child development, and this has been insufficiently recognised.

With disasters increasing in severity and frequency, we need to act now to improve the systems and supports in place to mitigate impacts.

Phase 2

Phase 2 of the project is currently translating TKiD report recommendations into an action plan to better gear our systems to support kids in disasters.

We can reduce long-term impact and minimise trauma for kids if we consider them as distinct and unique stakeholders in the planning for all aspects of disaster management. Thanks to the report, we now have an evidence base that tells us what kids need in the context of disasters, what the system is doing well, and the next steps required to enable systems change. The goal is to do better.

Want to learn more? Read the [Thriving Kids in Disaster \(TKiD\) full report](#) or [summary](#)



The risk of disasters for Queensland children

- Worldwide, kids are recognised as the population group most at risk during disasters.
- A child born in Australia in 2020 will experience four times as many heat waves, three times as many droughts, and one and a half times as many bushfires as those born in 1960.
- Of all Australian states and territories, Queensland is the most prone to disasters, having experienced over 100 significant events since 2011.
- Disasters are increasing in frequency, with Queensland experiencing an unprecedented 13 events over the 2023/2024 season.
- 100% of Queensland's Local Government Areas have been activated under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements since 2021, with 1.6 million children and young people impacted.
- Kids in rural and regional areas are up to eight times more likely to experience a natural disaster than their city counterparts. In remote areas it is up to 16 times.

The Bryan Education Foundation: Integrated School-Based Hubs project



Helping children in rural, regional and remote areas access the educational and wellbeing services they need to reach their full potential - via their school!

In 2024, JVT committed funding to help The Bryan Education Foundation (TBEF) establish a 10-year program to improve the learning and wellbeing of children and families in rural and regional Queensland, through integrated school-based hubs.

Integrated school-based hubs bring together education, health, and community services through a space and approach that is welcoming, accessible, culturally safe, and relationship-focused. They drive holistic outcomes by offering supports, services and opportunities where families are. Programs, activities, and services include early years learning, schooling and support services; adult education; skills and training initiatives for parents; and health and community services.

How is JVT involved?

The Bryan Foundation (TBF), Queensland Government, and key partners have collaborated to deliver [FamilyLinQ](#). FamilyLinQ is Queensland's first purpose-built integrated school model incorporating community hub facilities.

So far the project has piloted two urban integrated school hubs. JVT is partnering with TBF to support TBEF to expand the model, specifically focusing on opportunities for rural, regional and remote communities to adopt the integrated school-based hub approach.

Our funding will enable a plan to be developed that identifies opportunities for growth and adapts the model to meet the unique needs of country communities.

Alignment with JVT's priorities

The Integrated School-Based Hubs project aligns closely with JVT's goals, strategic intent, and success criteria. The program:

- ✓ Will use and leverage existing relationships and resources. The Bryan Foundation and Queensland Government are currently funding two urban pilots. The Paul Ramsay Foundation and the Sabemo Foundation are already co-funders. Research by Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership (TQKP), Social Ventures Australia and ARACY will be used. Partners involved in the Queensland Kids Funders Alliance and the National Investment Dialogue processes have expressed interest in getting involved.
- ✓ Is based on the idea of early intervention to bring better outcomes for children and their families.
- ✓ Will be community-led and informed, reliant on the buy-in, engagement, and contribution of local people and organisations.
- ✓ Has the potential to have multiple and deep impacts, as it aims to build stronger country communities.
- ✓ Builds the capacity of partners to appropriately plan for future development within communities, and builds capability of communities to engage in local decision making.

The integrated school-based hubs approach has the potential to improve education, health, and employment outcomes for rural, regional and remote communities. Children, families, and teachers will have much-needed access to an expanded resource and support network, thanks to new connections built across communities, organisations and regions.



Our Board

The key role of the JVT Board is to fulfil the Trust's Vision and Mission, and in so doing set and monitor the business strategy and ensure the organisation meets its legal, financial and regulatory requirements.



Dr Ian Galloway AM
Chair

Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee member; Finance and Investment Committee member; Development Working Group member.

Ian holds a Masters in Management and a Doctor of Philosophy in Entomology from The University of Queensland. He was CEO of Queensland Museum Network for 13 years, and prior to that, Deputy CEO at Museum Victoria and Director of Land Protection at the Queensland Department of Lands. He also worked with the Department of Primary Industries as an entomologist.

Ian was Chairman of the National Trust of Australia (Queensland) for seven years and remains as a Trustee of the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary Hospital Foundation. In 2003, Ian received a Centenary Medal and in 2019 became a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to the museums sector, to historical preservation, and to the environment.



Dr Cherrell Hirst AO
Director

Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee member; Finance and Investment Committee member.

Cherrell graduated from The University of Queensland in medicine and practiced for 30 years, predominantly as Director of the Wesley Breast Clinic, subsequently becoming a Non-Executive Director and/or Chair of a wide variety of corporate entities in the health, biotech, education and business sectors. She is currently on the Board of the Bolton Clarke Group.

Cherrell was Chancellor of QUT from 1994 to 2004, was named Queenslander of the Year in 1995, and became an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1998. She was awarded the Queensland AICD Gold Medal in 2015 and made a Life Member in 2022. Cherrell is an inductee of the Queensland Business Leaders Hall of Fame. She has also been awarded five Honorary Doctorates, predominately for her work in education and health.



Ashley Davis
Director

Finance and Investment Committee Chair.

Ashley holds Commerce and Economics degrees from The University of Queensland, as well as a Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance and Investment from the Securities Institute of Australia. Ashley is a Private Wealth Adviser at Shadforth Financial Group and was part of Shadforth's Investment Committee for 10 years.

He remains active in the ongoing development of the Group's investment philosophy. His expertise lies in portfolio construction and developing highly effective wealth accumulation and retirement planning strategies.

In 2023, Ashley was ranked 35th in Barron's Top 100 Financial Advisers in Australia. He has a wealth of experience, having played a key advisory role in the financial sector for over 23 years, managing a portfolio of over \$1 billion in funds.



Persephone Lobb
Director

Finance and Investment Committee member; Development Working Group Chair.

Persephone emigrated to Australia from the UK 35 years ago, having developed her advertising and marketing career in the UK, Europe and the US. She was a Director at Clemenger BBDO Brisbane before establishing the Queensland-based branding and digital marketing agency, NOUS, in 1999.

With 30 years of experience working across both public and private sectors throughout Queensland, Persephone has a deep understanding of its social, economic and geographic challenges.

Persephone has a Joint Honours degree in Philosophy and Politics from the University of Durham and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Our Board - continued



Tony Gambling
Director

Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee Chair.

Tony has degrees in Economics and Marketing and a Masters in Advanced Finance. He is the Director of Regional Development for Regional Development Australia, Central and Western Queensland. Tony is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, CPA Australia, the Institute of Managers and Leaders, and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Governance.

Tony has spent much of his career working for large corporations including NAB and IBM, as well as in his own small businesses. He was General Manager of Mango 4 Office Technology and has considerable experience working with companies within the emerging technologies sector. He was a founding member of the Central Queensland Committee of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Queensland Small Medium Enterprise Committee of CPA Australia, and is a former Non-Executive Director of RACQ. Living in Rockhampton, Tony draws on his experience to perform his duties for JVT.



Fiona Maxwell
Director

Development Working Group member.

Fiona Maxwell is an experienced CEO, Board Chair, and Director with 20 years' experience in social-sector leadership and governance. She is the Queensland Executive Director for FareShare, Australia's largest charity kitchen, and Deputy Chair of DVConnect, a statewide domestic violence crisis service for Queenslanders.

Fiona was the CEO of Brisbane Powerhouse, the Queensland Manager for Philanthropy Australia, and the Executive Director of the Next Wave Festival for youth arts. She holds a Master's Degree in Arts Administration and has shared her deep expertise in philanthropic strategy and governance by serving on industry peak bodies and grant-making committees throughout her career.

Fiona was born in Townsville, and grew up in Winton, Brisbane, Mt Isa and Cairns. She is passionate about opportunities for young people in regional Queensland.



Douglas Bates
Director

Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee member.

Douglas Bates is a legal practitioner and company director with over 35 years' experience in legal services. Douglas is a Director of FIIG Holdings Limited, a public unlisted company specialising in corporate bonds, and a senior consultant at Hamilton Locke.

Douglas was the Executive Chairman of FIIG for 20 years, a barrister at the Queensland Bar for 18 years, and a solicitor in Brisbane, London and Hong Kong. Born and raised in Roma, Douglas is attuned to country people and their experiences.

He has a Bachelor and Master of Laws and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Elizabeth Jameson AM
Committee Member

Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee member.

Elizabeth Jameson is an experienced Board Chair and Non-Executive Director of over 30 years' standing, and an Australian governance consultant with a strong corporate/commercial legal background.

She has sat on and chaired the boards of over 20 for-profit and not-for-profit organisations, and is currently Chair of the Endeavour Foundation, and Queensland Theatre.

Elizabeth spent almost 15 years as a lawyer and partner of a national law firm and founded national governance consultancy, Board Matters, and associated legal practice, Board Matters Legal.

She was a facilitator for the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is completing a PhD in corporate governance.

Elizabeth has stepped down as a committee member but remains as a critical supporter and friend of JVT.

Investment update

JVT continues to strengthen our financial position while supporting rural, regional and remote Queensland communities.

We have a unique opportunity at JVT - enabling others to make their own mark, their own difference, and build their own legacy. We're committed to making the most of this opportunity.

The JVT portfolio produced a very strong result in FY24.

Under the stewardship of our investment partner, JBWere, the JVT investment portfolio returned 11.6% for the 2024 year (net of costs), outperforming its benchmark again. Grants totalling \$517,091 were distributed in FY24. While this amount was lower than in some years, we are confident that the funding offers significant potential benefit for country Queensland communities, and is therefore an extremely meaningful investment.

Careful management has resulted in the Trust growing substantially in value since its inception, giving us the ability to prudently offer more, or larger, grants. JVT's capital position grew strongly across the year, with net assets at 30 June 2024 of approximately \$25.86 million, and expected grants of over \$1 million to be distributed in FY24.

Following extensive discussion and modelling, the Finance and Investment Committee (FIC) recommended to the Board that the portfolio's asset allocation be altered to target a slightly higher exposure to growth assets. After considering the net asset position, the Board approved the change and decided to raise the growth asset exposure from 64% to 75%. This will help increase the long-term return of our capital and ensure JVT can work for the benefit of rural, regional and remote Queensland communities over the long term.

The FIC and Board remain comfortable with the new asset allocation benchmark of 25% defensive assets and 75% growth assets, as well as JBWere's performance as our investment manager.

Our focus on children and youth, and lasting partnerships, reflects our aim of creating transformative, long-term impact. We will continue to look for opportunities for sustainable growth within our current risk appetite, to ensure we are able to continue to support country Queensland communities well into the future.

Ashley Davis
Finance and Investment Committee Chair

Financial summary

The John Villiers Trust

Statement of Surplus or Deficit and Other Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 (\$)	2023 (\$)
REVENUE		
Franked dividends	307,690	338,372
Unfranked dividends	52,701	33,434
Distribution income	156,427	138,285
Imputation credits on dividends	135,815	151,181
Interest and other income	242,816	140,328
Donations	16,689	29,100
	912,139	830,700
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Administrative expenses	(153,551)	(125,074)
Audit fees	(10,000)	(9,350)
Employment costs	(201,730)	(166,950)
Finance costs	(3)	(2)
Insurance	(16,011)	(16,113)
Investment management	(125,286)	(115,386)
Software licences	(14,801)	(13,964)
Trustee commission	(35,000)	(32,000)
	(555,682)	(478,839)
OPERATING SURPLUS	355,757	351,861
Net grants approved during the period	(668,191)	(402,878)
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	(312,434)	(51,017)
Other comprehensive income		
Change in fair value of investments in financial assets	2,140,794	2,221,738
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	1,828,360	2,170,721

The John Villiers Trust

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2024

		2024 (\$)	2023 (\$)
CURRENT ASSETS	Cash and cash equivalents	722,595	361,384
	Trade and other receivables	252,684	254,951
		975,279	616,335
NON-CURRENT ASSETS	Investments in financial assets	25,680,974	24,063,516
		25,680,974	24,063,516
TOTAL ASSETS		26,656,253	24,679,851
CURRENT LIABILITIES	Grants approved but unpaid	596,666	378,066
	Trade and other payables	66,613	74,582
	Employee benefits	11,731	15,804
		675,010	468,452
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	Grants approved but unpaid	109,403	179,903
	Employee benefits	8,984	-
		118,387	179,903
TOTAL LIABILITIES		793,397	643,355
NET ASSETS		25,862,856	24,034,496
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
Attributable to Capital Account	Settlement sum	6,669,808	6,669,808
	Retained surplus	15,210,647	15,243,516
	Investments revaluation reserve	3,982,401	2,121,172
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS		25,862,856	24,034,496

A full copy of The John Villiers Trust financial statements is available on the [ACNC website](https://www.acnc.gov.au) or by contacting us at admin@jvtrust.org.au

OUT HERE FOR GOOD

Show your love for country Queensland and help The John Villiers Trust achieve transformative impact and amplify the voice of rural, regional and remote communities.

The John Villiers Trust (ABN 83 508 203 243) is a Public Ancillary Fund registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission, and is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient by the Australian Taxation Office. Donations to JVT of \$2 or more are tax deductible in Australia.

To make a donation visit:
jvtrust.org.au/giving/donate

To apply for a grant visit:
jvtrust.org.au/grants

To include a gift or bequest in your Will visit:
jvtrust.org.au/giving/leave-a-legacy

Stay up to date on all our latest news, and grant and partnership opportunities.
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newsletter

The John Villiers Trust ABN: 83 508 203 243
Level 1, 826 Ann St, Fortitude Valley 4006
PO Box 177, Fortitude Valley Qld 4006
T: 07 3102 9588 E: admin@jvtrust.org.au

jvtrust.org.au

Registered Charity Number: CH3199

