

The John Villiers Trust Newsletter



Community | Partnerships | Growth

It's been a very busy six months since we last wrote, with new projects, new partnerships, and a new CEO. Together with our partners and grantees, JVT is helping to amplify the voices of country Queensland communities, and invest in work that empowers children and youth to thrive.

In this edition, meet our new CEO Fiona Maxwell, and get your update on some of our current grants and partnerships.



Introducing our new CEO

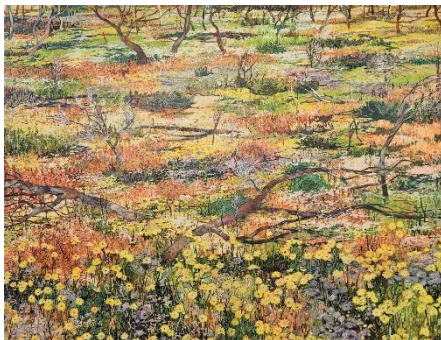
In May, Fiona Maxwell was appointed JVT's new CEO, after we bid farewell to Lea-Anne Bradley, who led the organisation for four-and-a-half years. Fiona knows JVT very well, having served on our Board since 2024.

[Read more about Fiona's background and her vision for JVT here.](#)



Improving disaster management systems for kids

The Thriving Kids in Disasters (TKID) Action and Investment Plan was released in April, and offers strategies to make a difference to the wellbeing of kids, families and communities in disasters. [Read the plan here](#), and find out more [about the TKID program here](#).



Outback Art Prize winners announced

Our Chair, Ian Galloway AM, joined exhibition entrants, VIPs, judges, and art lovers at the awards ceremony on 15 March for the 2025 John Villiers Outback Art Prize. This year, 40 finalists were selected from 153 entries. [Find out who the talented winners are here](#).



Investing in continuous improvement

NRL Cowboys House is removing distance as a barrier to quality secondary education for First Nations students from remote north Queensland communities. JVT's funding will help the organisation ensure its achieving its intended impact. [Find out how here](#).



A property with a purpose

The MaraWay is a self-funded Indigenous social enterprise dedicated to changing lives and strengthening communities, filling a critical gap for youth in Far North Queensland. [Find out more here](#).



Making school cool for NQ students

Schools Plus is working with Mossman State School to plan, implement, and embed a program to improve school attendance for First Nations students, strengthen cultural identity, and enhance wellbeing. [Learn more about the program here.](#)



A path to new possibilities

Marigurim Yan, the Butchulla word for ‘strong walk’, is the inspiration behind a research-based educational program guiding First Nations youth to dream big and think deeply about their futures. [Find out how here.](#)

Help your country communities thrive

JVT is building a better way to improve lives and continue transformative change — and we appreciate your consideration in helping us do that.

Your donations are pooled with our funds and those of other donors. Through our grant process, we then identify the best projects and programs to support. We report back to you, our donors, to share the impact of your contribution.

This smarter, more strategic approach allows us all to have a far greater collective impact on the lives of young Queenslanders than we could individually.

[Donate now](#)

The John Villiers Trust (ABN 83 508 203 243) is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient by the Australian Taxation Office. Donations to The John Villiers Trust of \$2 or more are tax deductible in Australia.