

BORDER **TRÜST**

Annual Report

2022 - 2023

Your community foundation

Activating the power of giving for lasting impact across our region.



BORDERTRUST

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Border Trust acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their enduring connections to land, waterways and community.

We pay our respects to elders past and present.

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Trustee for Towong Community Bushfire Disaster Relief Fund ABN 64 221 473 179

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Welcome to Border Trust

Border Trust Community Foundation is the local catalyst for positive change. We connect the generosity of donors with the ideas and creativity of local community groups and not-for-profit organisations, funding projects and initiatives that build our community's capacity to cope with disruption and create positive change, now and into the future. Together we are building a generous, connected, resilient community.

We activate the power of giving for lasting impact across our region.

Border Trust is currently a member of Community Foundations Australia and Philanthropy Australia. Our affiliation with these bodies provides a valuable support network at an operational and governance level.

Border Trust was established in 2004 as a community-based charitable organisation to serve the Albury Wodonga region. Initially, the cities and shires of Albury, Alpine, Corowa, Greater Hume, Indigo, Towong and Wodonga were established as the geographic boundaries of the Foundation. Tumbarumba Shire joined Border Trust in August 2010.

With the emergence of Into our Hands Community Foundation and the growth of Tumut Foundation, Border Trust's current region of support is Albury, Federation (previously known as Corowa), Greater Hume, Indigo, Towong and Wodonga. For the purposes of specific initiatives such as our Bushfire Relief Fund, we include Alpine and Snowy Valleys (previously Tumbarumba) LGAs on an exception basis.

This is such an exciting time for Border Trust. With the adoption of our renewed strategic plan, we've mapped a high-level pathway for the foundation to amplify our values, purpose and impact.

And importantly, we've outlined how we, with our donors, partners and community, will continue to make a real difference across our region.

Our Annual Report 2022 - 2023 provides a snapshot of our work, collaborations and impact. We hope you enjoy the stories and value, as we do, the ongoing legacy of our **collective efforts**.



Sue Gold
Executive Officer

Sue was appointed to Border Trust's Board in 2022 and became Executive Officer in January 2023.

She is dedicated to working collaboratively to ensure the foundation's long-term sustainability and community capacity building and impact endeavours.

“

I'm thrilled to work with an extraordinary team committed to helping others on their pathway to a better future and stronger community, as people work together to tackle the issues that matter to them.”

Since 2005, Border Trust has distributed over **\$3.9 million** to local projects and initiatives.

Meet the Team



Julia Vesval

Acting Chair

Julia is a strategic marketing communications expert; holding a Master of Science of Management majoring in Marketing & Communications. Julia joined the Board in November 2020, bringing her knowledge and skills.



Tim Frazer

Board Secretary

Tim has been involved with Border Trust since its inception in 2005. He is currently a Director and Company secretary. In Tim's view, Border Trust helps make this an excellent community to grow up in and proudly call home.



Mackenzie Putt

Board Treasurer

Mackenzie grew up in Benalla and moved to Albury-Wodonga to study accounting. Mackenzie joined Border Trust in November 2022 as a way of giving back to the community. He enjoys being able to contribute to positive changes in the region through Border Trust.



Megan Hunt

Deputy Chair

Megan joined the Board of Border Trust in July 2020, and prior to that was a valued member of the Border Trust Fundraising Committee. Megan has a passion for community, people and looking for opportunities to make a collective impact where she can across the community.



Kristy Campbell

Board Director

Kristy relocated to our region in 2012. Her hope is that our regional communities have access to great services and opportunities, as well as the skills and experience to build their future success and growth.



Thomas Coelli-Donaghy

Board Director

Tom moved to Albury Wodonga in 2022 from the Northern Territory and was very excited to join Border Trust to connect with the local community in a meaningful way. This is his way of giving back to the community, where he lives and now calls home."

Meet the Team



Sarimah Hellyer

Board Director

Sarimah has been a Director of Border Trust since March 2019.

"I have a keen interest in building the Border Trust brand to a level where it is owned and embraced by the entire community".



Michael Leonhard

Board Director

Michael brings to Border Trust his many years of experience in both the corporate and community sectors, in positions of leadership. Michael joined Border Trust as a way to be part of the community and put his engagement skills to good use.



Glenys Atkins

Community Engagement & Impact

Glenys has been a part of Border Trust in one way or another since it commenced in 2005. "I'm part of the furniture here now, but I've always worked in and loved the charitable sector - it's where my heart is. I really can't imagine it any other way!"



Michelle Hudson

Donor Engagement & Partnership

Michelle joined the team September 2023 and brought with her more than 20 years of experience as a marketing, communications and engagement specialist. Michelle grew up locally and has a passion for community building and resiliency.



Alexandra Jankowski

Events & Marketing Officer

Recently returning to her hometown of Albury, Alexandra joined the team in August 2023.

"I'm thrilled to have joined the team, it's an amazing opportunity to be part of an organisation creating such positive change and impact in our community."



Alana Nesire

Data & Administration

Alana has been a volunteer, employee and donor since the early days of Border Trust. "Border Trust has come so far since it began! I'm proud of the fact we have a local foundation that facilitates connections, encourages giving and prioritises the needs of this community".

Our Focus

We work to promote and support a resourceful and generous community by encouraging and enabling philanthropy. We continue to build a permanent endowment for the long-term benefit of the local community.

LOCAL

Border Trust is 100% place-based and focused on building community capacity in the border region. We take an evidence-based approach, and we understand our communities, businesses and landscapes, as well as what they need to reach their potential.

GENEROUS

Border Trust activates and celebrates a culture of giving and generosity across the Border region. We are inspired by the kindness, care and altruism that motivates the gifts of time, money, energy and ideas that make our region a better place for everyone.

CONNECTED

Border Trust creates the connections that drive and sustain positive change. We are the conduit that links the possibility provided by our donors and philanthropic partners, with the practice of grassroots change provided by our grant recipients.

Encouraging a giving culture

Promoting leadership in the community

Building community capacity

Promoting social justice

Developing partnerships and building relationships

Our Region

The Border Trust region includes six Local Government Areas (LGAs) across the Victorian and NSW border
– Albury, Federation, Indigo, Greater Hume, Towong and Wodonga.



We're building a generous, connected and resilient community with the skills, capacity, drive and resources to create positive local change.

Thank you to our Foundation Builders

It's because of you we're able to operate and create positive change in our community.

Hume Bank has generously supported Border Trust since we began our philanthropic journey in 2005.

As our inaugural Foundation Builder, Hume's unwavering support continues to include the in-kind provision of high profile, street level office space which has given us the ability to focus on our core purpose – to enable local people to shape the future of their community. Their support has flowed through to other specific fundraising causes and campaigns including the annual Back to School Program: a reflection of our shared values and commitment to the wellbeing of our region.



Adroit Insurance and Risk have a strong connection to several Community Foundations including Border Trust, with the Albury office enthusiastic and engaged participants in almost everything we do.

Their support extends to the annual Adroit Insurance and Risk Charity Golf Day, which kicked off in 2013 and has continued year on year (with a notable COVID exception), raising more than \$100,000 in that time.

Based in New York, international philanthropic organisation Global Giving, has established a relationship with Australian Community Foundations affected by the 2019/2020 bushfires. Through a mix of specific purpose grants and untaged donations, Global Giving's contributions are highly valued, not only in a financial sense, but also through a shared understanding of the impact that communities working together can have.



Border Trust has enjoyed a longstanding relationship with Lester and Son, another significant local business who support our Foundation Builder Program.

Recognising the value of a strong and connected community, Lester and Son's annual contribution commenced in 2012 and was carried on by the new owners in 2019.

Towong Community Bushfire Disaster Relief Fund

The Towong Community Bushfire Disaster Relief Fund was established in response to the 2019/2020 bushfires which devastated our region.

Along with the Community Enterprise Foundation (covering the Alpine LGA) and the East Gippsland Community Foundation (covering East Gippsland), Border Trust was selected to partner with the Victorian Bushfire Appeal to support the long-term recovery of the Towong Shire.

As trustee of the Towong Community Bushfire Disaster Relief Fund, Border Trust will distribute \$2,850,945 through grant programs to support long term recovery initiatives.

Our thanks to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal for their trust in us to distribute these funds and to Bushfire Recovery Victoria for providing operational capacity to administer the fund.

Grants Distributed: **30**

Amount Distributed: **\$1,306,791** (to June 2023)

Featured Story: Corryong Op Shop



\$50,000 Grant: Revamp & Facelift

Corryong Op Shop provides low-cost second-hand goods to the wider Upper Murray community with proceeds from sales distributed bi-annually to the parents' groups of the 3 local schools.

In the aftermath of the 2019/2020 bushfires, the Op Shop provided an essential service to the local community, throwing open their doors to those in need.

In desperate need of a revamp, the Op Shop Committee successfully applied for funding to update the premises. The facelift and upgrades will encourage new volunteers, bringing new enthusiasm to the shop, both from the committee and community. As outcomes go, providing a pleasant working and shopping experience should lead to a greater turnover of goods. In turn this means the shop can disburse more funds to the schools for the benefit of local students – community growth and resilience at its best.

FRRR Back to School Program

Helping kids fit-in and not stand-out

The national Back to School Gift Voucher Program, facilitated by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) is delivered locally by Border Trust with the support of Hume Bank and local donors.

The vouchers are used to assist families to purchase uniforms, books, footwear, stationary, toiletries or other school necessities. This small gift helps students start the school year happy, confident and with the resources they need to feel they fit-in and not stand-out.

Run in conjunction with schools from across North East Victoria and Southern NSW, the Program provides \$50 Target, Kmart or Uniform Shop vouchers which are discreetly directed to those students most in-need.

At the start of the 2023 school year, 60 regional schools registered to participate in the program, with requests more than doubling the 580 vouchers available.

Total distribution since 2006:
12,170 vouchers = \$608,500

LGA	2023 Vouchers	Value
Albury	229	\$11,450
Federation	27	\$1,350
Greater Hume	60	\$3,000
Indigo	41	\$2,050
Towong	26	\$1,300
Wodonga	197	\$9,850
Total	580	\$29,000

“

Recently, a family arrived at our school from a war-torn country.

When I gave them a \$50 voucher to purchase new shoes for the child and explained that people in our community donate the money to buy the vouchers to help people who need a hand occasionally, the father cried. The father still thanks me for his son's school shoes and his son values them as his most precious possession. It was the only new thing his son had ever had”.

- Testimonial - School Teacher

Facilitated Nationally by:



Delivered Locally by:



Supported Locally by:



Named Sub Funds

A Border Trust Named Sub Fund is a unique opportunity for local people to give back to the community they love, supporting local causes that matter. Named Sub Funds can be established by organisations, individuals or families to support issues they care about most.

Border Trust's Named Sub-Funds

- Adroit Insurance & Risk
- Michael and Sue Houlihan
- Katharine Sleeman
- Rand Silo
- The Scots School Albury
- John & Hal Hennessy
- City2City Run Walk
- ACE Radio 2AY & Edge FM with philanthropic partner, Handbury Foundation
- Fischer Community Leadership
- Back to School Program
- Give500 Annual & Perpetual
- Highlands
- Greater Hume
- Bobby Garratt Memorial

ACE Radio 2AY & Edge FM with philanthropic partner, Handbury Foundation, 2023 distributions

Albury Wodonga Regional Foodshare

\$10,000

Feed Our Kids – Breakfast Club

Lifeline Albury Wodonga

\$5,000

Crisis Support Workplace Training

Autism Spectrum Australia – Aspect Riverina School

\$4,000

Reading and Literacy Resources

Petaurus Education Group Inc

\$4,800

Sisters who SHINE Project: Empowering the Border's future superstars

Careflight Limited

\$3,552

Trauma Care Training for Wodonga First Responders

Terry Floyd Foundation

\$7,440

School Cyber Safety Program

Named Sub Fund Grant Distributions 2023



Hume Bank City2City Run Walk

\$130,000

Wodonga Hospital Stroke & Telemedicine Program



Katharine Sleeman

\$4,750

Albury Wodonga Volunteer Resource Bureau: Drive to Connect Program 2



Adroit Insurance & Risk

\$5,000

Country Hope: Art Therapy Program



Michael and Sue Houlihan

\$5,000

Junction Support Services: Welcome Here, Welcome Home Packs



Collective giving for a stronger Border community.

Give500 is a starting point for philanthropic-minded individuals and groups to pool their donations, support their community and experience the grant-making process first-hand.

Donors to Give500 make one donation each year to the value of \$500. These funds are pooled together to deliver life-changing grants benefiting our community.

Year on year, and as the number of Give500 donors grows, the impact of the campaign grows too.

All donors are invited to our Pitch Night to hear from shortlisted applicants and to cast their vote for a winner and the two runner up projects. Each \$500 donation = one vote at the Pitch Night, held annually in November.



2021 Winner

Junction Support Services:
Therapy Dog Program
\$15,000



Runner-up

Survivors of Suicide and Friends:
Solstice the Documentary
\$2,500



Runner-up

Aspect Riverina School:
Resilience on the Spectrum Program
\$2,500



2022 Winner

PCYC:
Kinder Gym Program
\$18,000



Runner-up

Petaurus Education Group:
Sisters who SHINE Program
\$3,000



Runner-up

The Body Confident Collective:
Embrace Albury Wodonga
\$3,000



Border Trust thanks Albury Business Connect for their continued support of this life changing campaign and of us, Border Trust.

Without their generous contributions we could not create such positive change in our community.

Give500 Featured Recipient: Petaurus Education Group



Sisters Who SHINE: Inspiring Local Young Girls to Reach for the Stars!

With the support of Give500, the incredibly successful Sisters who SHINE school holiday program was held in April and July at Charles Sturt University, Thurgoona.

Over 70 young women enjoyed activities and educational sessions focusing on cyber safety, AI and robotics, First Nations language, finance, nutrition, resilience, mentorship, wellbeing and hands-on opportunities promoting interest in STEM-related industries while always including themes of positivity, kindness and teamwork.

“

As a single mum, I am immensely grateful for the fully funded program that is Sisters who SHINE ... Sisters who SHINE has had a huge impact on my daughter, nurturing her confidence, self-esteem, and leadership abilities”.

- Mother of Participant

Stories from our Community

Henty Respite Ltd

Project: Avondale House



In an extraordinary community effort, Henty Respite raised \$2,352,500 to build Avondale House, a four bedroom respite care centre. This funding also supported the construction of four two-bedroom assisted living units – a centre of care, retreat and respite for people needing care, and for those who care for others.

Border Trust was pleased to provide a \$5,000 grant towards the purchase of outdoor furniture for this wonderful facility. The open house, which Border Trust were delighted to attend was held in February 2023 and attracted over 200 visitors. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, confirming the community needs were met and that the project will endure change well into the future.

Global Giving

Project: Alpine Valley's Community Leadership

With a strong connection and understanding of the place-based community foundation model and network, Global Giving reached out to Community Foundations across Australia who were impacted by the 2019/2020 bushfires. Recognising that Community Foundations are there on the ground, the funding provided was flexible and targeted to local needs. This provided a unique opportunity to build capacity at an organisational and community level. With leadership a key focus area, Border Trust provided 4 scholarships for people who:

- Actively contribute to long term recovery within the bushfire affected community of Towong, Victoria and/or

- Actively contribute to building organisational and community capacity within Border Trust's region of Albury, Greater Hume, Federation, Indigo, Towong and Wodonga and
- Upon graduation from the program, actively contribute to or participate in Border Trust's initiatives or events.



Stories from our Community

Scanlon Foundation & Border Trust

With Albury Wodonga identified as an area of need to support new arrivals, Border Trust partnered with the Scanlon Foundation to distribute \$35,000 to local organisations working to build a sense of belonging and identity within minority communities.

Albury Wodonga Regional FoodShare	Feeding our Community Multicultural Program	\$5,000
Albury Wodonga Volunteer Resource Bureau	Multicultural Community Lunch Program	\$4,000
Albury Wodonga Volunteer Resource Bureau	Multicultural Exercise Program	\$4,000
Murray Valley Sanctuary Refugee Group	Fuelling Social Inclusion	\$10,000
Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd	Improving water pressure at the Bhutanese Community Farm	\$12,000



Fischer Community Leadership



Border Trust is proud to auspice the Fischer Community Leadership Committee (FCL), a community group committed to enabling and empowering leadership within the community from the grassroots up. FCL is specifically focused on delivering programs collaboratively across the Riverina community of NSW.

Fischer Community Leadership Pilot Program

Launched as an initiative of Fischer Community Leadership, auspiced by Border Trust, with program development by Alpine Valleys Community Leadership, the pilot program was delivered in Henty and Holbrook during 2022. The program focused on developing leadership skills and creating a group of community leaders who are equipped to take action and make a difference.

The program is aptly named in honour of Tim Fischer, former Australian politician and diplomat who served as leader of the National Party from 1990 to 1999 and who called Lockhart home.

The 2022 Pilot program was completed by a cohort of eighteen diverse participants, delivered over 8 sessions from May to September 2022, with the program topics including:

- Understanding yourself
- Group dynamics
- Governance essentials
- Grant funding and grant writing
- Managing volunteers
- Leading on climate change
- Community-led project management
- Working with three levels of government
- Learnings from local leaders



Thank you to our Sponsors and Supporters

We gratefully acknowledge the contribution and ongoing generosity of the following organisations who support our operational capacity.

HANDBURY
FOUNDATION



ATURA
Albury



Family Vet Centre



FRRR
Foundation for Rural
Regional Renewal



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