



THE  
IRELAND  
FUNDS  
AUSTRALIA

# Delivering Impact



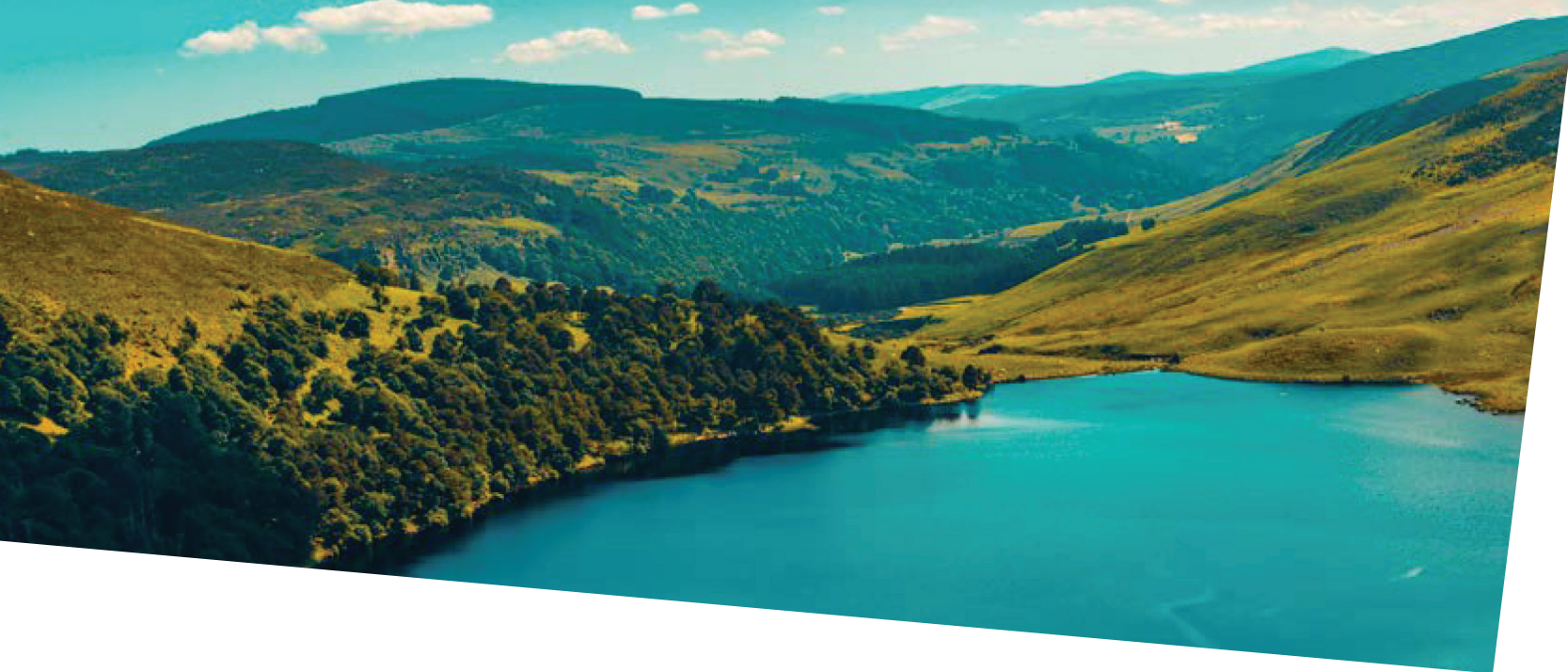
*Driving Change  
together*

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Annual Grant Round 2025  
IMPACT REPORT

—  
Progress  
Through  
Philanthropy  
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# About The Ireland Funds Australia

Founded in 1987, The Ireland Funds Australia is part of a powerful global philanthropic network spanning 12 chapters across the world. Together, we are dedicated to making a lasting social impact by supporting communities in need through education, culture, peace, and community development — both in Ireland and the countries in which we operate.

## Delivering for Ireland

Delivering for Ireland has always been at the heart of The Ireland Funds Australia. We are a dynamic philanthropic community dedicated to driving positive change and lasting impact across the island of Ireland and in Irish communities worldwide.

Our mission is clear: to connect people who care with causes that matter — supporting education, culture, community development, and peace. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our donors, we are able to power initiatives that foster growth, spark innovation, and deliver real social transformation. Your support is the lifeblood of our work, enabling us to fund our annual June grant rounds and invest in projects that matter.

### Impact where it is needed most

Maximum impact is always our goal. In this Impact Report, we are proud to share how your generosity has made a difference in FY2025. In a world facing rising costs and global uncertainty, we are proud to bring some stability and hope to the organisations we support. What you'll see in these pages are not just numbers, but stories of innovation, resilience, and compassion. Behind every grant is a leader, a community, and a future being strengthened by your belief in our mission. To our donors, our supporters, and our incredible voluntary board — thank you. None of this would exist without you.

Kind regards,

**Teresa Keating**  
Executive Director,  
The Ireland Funds Australia



**Yvonne Le Bas**  
Chair,  
The Ireland Funds Australia



### Our Impact

Since its inception, The Worldwide Ireland Funds has raised more than AUD \$900 million and supported 3,200+ organisations. From grassroots charities to large-scale initiatives, our funding drives change where it is needed most.



### Our Founders

Our story began when visionary leaders Tony O'Reilly and Dan Rooney saw the power of bringing people together — not just to connect and celebrate, but to give back. That tradition continues today: people come for the connection and stay for the mission – celebrating 50 years in 2026 – what a legacy!



### Challenges of our time

We believe the challenges of our time are global — and so are the solutions. From supporting FoodCloud, which rescues surplus food to feed people and reduce waste, to championing Grow It Yourself (GIY) initiatives that address food security and sustainability, we back projects that deliver real, practical impact.



### We nurture the next generation

We also invest in the future through our Young Leaders Network — a unique program that inspires and nurtures the next generation of philanthropists and changemakers. In Australia, our Young Leaders Committee is one of the most vibrant worldwide, reflecting our belief that leadership and generosity know no borders.

With strong roots, a global reach, and a clear mission, The Ireland Funds Australia continues to connect people who care with causes that matter — creating impact today and shaping a better tomorrow.



# Projects Supported

2024 — 2025

- Community Development / Education in Ireland**
- Phoenix Education Centre East Belfast
  - Trinity Hyman Tarlo Scholarship
  - Royal College of Surgeons Ireland
  - TCD Library
  - Trinity Access Program
  - Limerick Learning Hub
  - 174 Trust Northern Ireland
  - No Mind Left Behind
  - Inner City Enterprise
  - Belvedere Youth Club
  - TSJCI
  - UCD Wong Scholarship

- Community Development / Education Australia**
- Irish Support Agency NSW
  - Irish Australian Support Association of QLD
  - Irish Australian Support & Resource Bureau VIC
  - Australian Indigenous Education Foundation

# Total Donations

2024 — 2025

Grants	\$558,708
Phoenix Education Centre East Belfast	\$10,000
Trinity Hyman Tarlo Scholarship	\$10,000
Royal College of Surgeons Ireland	\$21,330
TCD Library / TAP	\$3,000
Limerick Learning Hub	\$50,000
174 Trust Northern Ireland	\$25,000
No Mind Left Behind	\$87,378
Inner City Enterprise	\$55,000
Belvedere Youth Club	\$5,280
TSJCI	\$230,000
UCD Wong Scholarship	\$25,000
Irish Support Agencies NSW, QLD & VIC	\$16,720
AIEF	\$20,000

# Stories of Impact



## No Mind Left Behind

No Mind Left Behind, created by The Ireland Funds, helps young people achieve their dream of a college education. Each scholarship eases the burden of books, accommodation, and essential expenses—giving students the chance to thrive.

“Going to college has always been my dream, but without this scholarship it wouldn't have been possible. It has given me hope—and the certainty that I can finish college.”

**Nicole**  
1st Year Business Studies & Polish

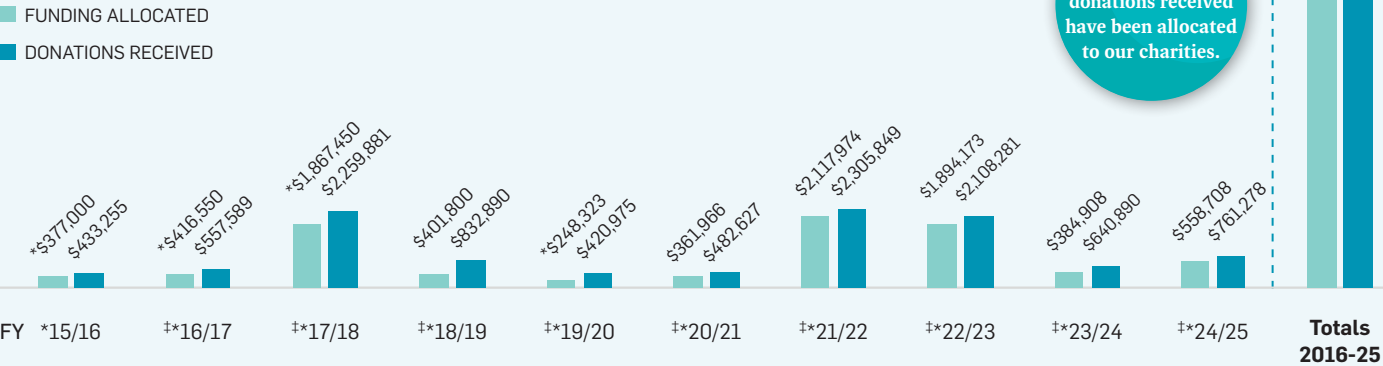
“This scholarship eased my financial stress and let me focus on my studies and new opportunities. It has truly opened doors for my future.”

**Matilda**  
1st Year Global Business

To date via generous donors and our Women in Leadership and Philanthropy series we've raised **\$425,038** for the No Mind Left Behind Scholarship Programme.

# IFA donations received vs funding allocated

June 15/16 to June 24/25



## Learning Hub Limerick

The Learning Hub partners with parents, schools, agencies, and the wider Limerick community to create a safe and inspiring space where young people can thrive. With programmes that spark curiosity, creativity, healthy living, and sustainability, the Hub welcomes nearly 40,000 visitors each year and supports over **1,000 children, young people, and families every week.**

Since 2019, we have proudly donated **\$350,000** to help fuel this vital work.





# 174 Trust

Founded in 1983, **174 Trust** is a non-denominational Christian charity in North Belfast dedicated to building a just, peaceful, and inclusive society. From preschool and youth groups to disability supports and services for young carers, it offers safe spaces and vital programmes that bring people together across divides.

Since 2014, its award-winning **Duncairn Centre for Culture & Arts** has become a hub for performances, exhibitions, and workshops—using creativity to drive reconciliation, pride, and regeneration in the community.

We have proudly donated **\$445,550** to support this important work.



# Australian Indigenous Education Foundation (AIEF)

The **(AIEF)** empowers Indigenous children with access to top-quality education and career opportunities nationwide.

Over the past 10 years, **Ireland Funds Australia** and **AIEF** have partnered to co-fund 80 Indigenous scholarship places across four leading schools—Marist College, St Peter's Lutheran College, St Catherine's School, and Kincoppal Girls School—investing **\$800,000** in brighter futures.

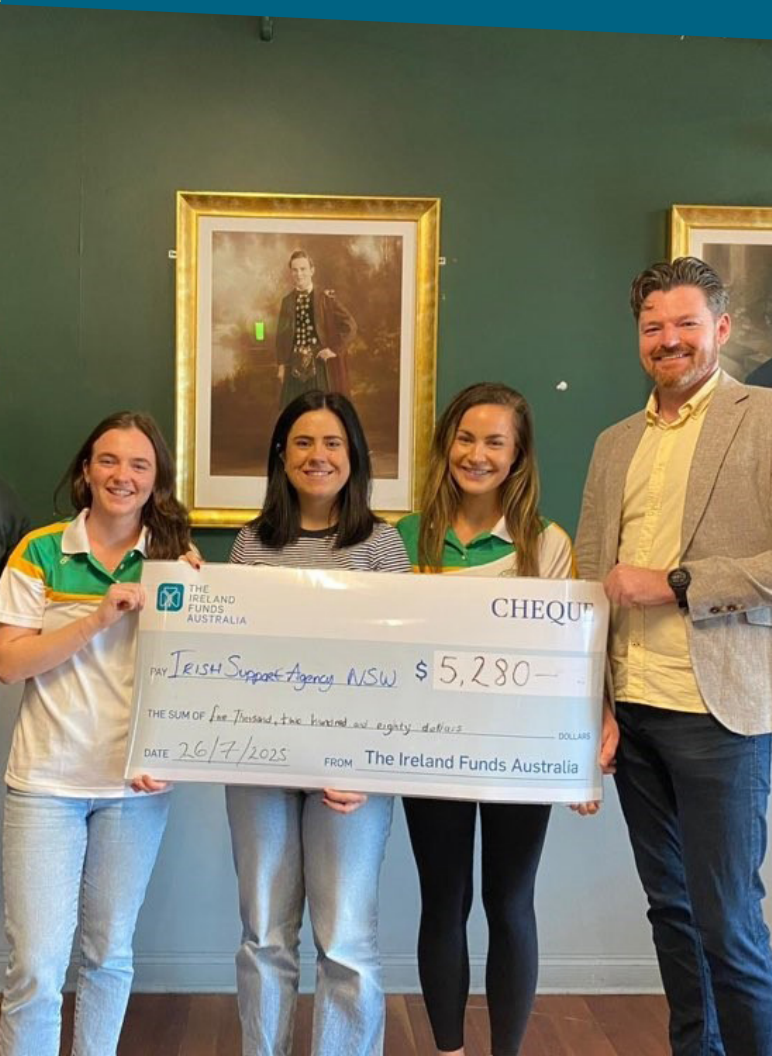


# Trinity St. James's Cancer Institute

Trinity St. James's Cancer Institute (TSJCI) brings together Ireland's top university and largest public hospital to revolutionise cancer prevention, detection, and treatment. Named Ireland's first internationally accredited cancer centre in 2020—and now the country's first comprehensive cancer centre—TSJCI is benchmarked against the world's best.

Harnessing Trinity's strengths in genetics, genomics, and immunology, TSJCI is attracting global experts from leading institutions like Johns Hopkins, Memorial Sloan Kettering, and Mayo Clinic.

Ireland Funds Australia is proud to support the inaugural two global fellowships with TSJCI and the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre in Melbourne, with fellows set to begin in 2027.



# Irish Support Agencies

Across New South Wales, Queensland, and Victoria, the **Irish Support Agencies** care for the Irish community in Australia—offering crisis help, mental health support, housing assistance, and welfare guidance. They also combat isolation with outreach, social activities, and befriending programs, ensuring Irish people feel **connected, supported, and never alone**. In 2024 and 2025 we are proud to have supported the Agencies through our **Young Leaders**.





# Snapshot of Events FY 2025

## Brisbane Lunch

AUGUST 2024



We had a fantastic lunch at Hillstone St Lucia Golf Links. Guests loved hearing from Catherine Murphy (ABC Sport) and Les Kiss, Head Coach of the Queensland Reds. The day wrapped up with Baileys and Irish coffees, thanks to Diageo, Guinness and Lion

## Women In Leadership & Philanthropy

AUGUST 2024



Our WILP Reception was hosted by EY in August with special guest Geraldine Slattery, President, BHP. It became very clear why she is the leader of Australia's #1 company. Thanks to the talented Sarah O'Carroll, CEO Forbes Australia, for leading the conversation.

## Young Leader Global 5K

SEPTEMBER 2024



With around 150 runners taking to the streets of Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane, we raised over \$16,000 for our Young Leader Support Projects - The Irish Support Agencies of NSW, QLD and VIC and Belvedere Youth Club in Ireland.

## Zach Tuohy Book Launch

NOVEMBER 2024



We hosted Zach Tuohy, one of the AFL greats, and Catherine Murphy, Director and ABC Sports Presenter, at Melbourne Celtic Club. They shared insights from Zach's journey—told in his autobiography The Irish Experiment—from GAA dreams to AFL stardom.

## Sydney Garden Party

NOVEMBER 2024



Our Lunch at the Iconic SCG was fabulous with guests entering via the Walk of Honour, including Irish superstar Ronan Keating and wife Storm. A heartfelt tribute to our late co-founder Sir Anthony O'Reilly was made.

## Young Leader Kick Off Drinks

FEBRUARY 2025



We were thrilled to welcome over 110 Young Leaders to our annual Young Leader Kick Off Drinks generously hosted by the iconic Opera Bar. We enjoyed a fabulous evening connecting with old friends and new as the sun set over Sydney Harbour.

## Women In Leadership & Philanthropy

MARCH 2025



Partnering with the Irish Consulate and Enterprise Ireland for our special Lunch, over 150 guests filled Parliament House to celebrate St Brigid's Day and International Women's Day. We were inspired by the journeys of Beverley McGarvey President, Network 10 & Paramount and Rosie Keane, Consul General.

## Dermot Kennedy's Misneach Festival

MARCH 2025



We were honoured to be named a Charity Partner for Irish superstar Dermot Kennedy's inaugural Misneach ("Courage") Festival, held at Sydney's Domain. Drawing 25,000+, the event was a celebration of music, resilience and community, with an incredible line-up of artists. Dermot's performance was unforgettable.

## Melbourne Race Day

MAY 2025



It was a fabulous day at Caulfield, guests came together to have fun, enjoy a 3-course lunch and entertainment by DJ Karla. We heard from Sean Keogh, Stud Manager, Coolmore, Irish AFL legend Zach Tuohy and impromptu appearances from Jockeys Declan Bates and John Allen which certainly added to the excitement!

## Young Leader Corporate Breakfast

JUNE 2025



We hosted our Breakfast in partnership with the Irish Consulate - **Finding Champions in Unexpected Places: Mentorship & Beyond** – Helen Waldron, AI Group, and Roisin Thanisch, Google, shared their experiences of mentorship.



# Young Leader Network

The Ireland Funds’ Young Leader Network is a unique platform for rising leaders and philanthropists. From 25 upwards, we nurture a generation ready to lead, give, and inspire positive change.

Our National Committee drives this mission through events in Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane, with membership fees supporting projects selected by Young Leaders each year.

Join us — build your network, shape the future, and make a difference.

Contact [lfisher@irelandfunds.org](mailto:lfisher@irelandfunds.org)



# How you can help

## Giving Programmes

The Governor Programme was created to boost support for flagship projects beyond event fundraising. With new giving tiers, supporters can make a one-off or annual tax-deductible gift to help us expand this vital work.

Supporters can help us to further our vital work by making a one off, or annual, tax-deductible contribution to become a member of:

GIVING PROGRAMME	ANNUAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION
Platinum Governor Programme	\$25,000
Governor Programme	\$15,000
Associate Programme	\$5,000
Benefactor Programme	\$1,000

## Corporate Partner

Your company can become a Partner Sponsor of The Ireland Funds Australia by contributing a nominated amount for a 3-year period. This would allow us to meet some or all overheads and underwrite the cost of day-to-day operations freeing us to focus on fundraising for the recommended and worthy projects we would like to support.

## Event Sponsor

We are very lucky to have many companies donate items to us for our Live and Silent Auctions at our 3 annual fundraisers in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. If you can help we would love to hear from you.

## WILP 100 Club

Launched in 2023 our Women in Leadership & Philanthropy series unites women passionate about Ireland to inspire leadership, empower others, and give back.

Join our 100 Club with a monthly gift of \$100—directly supporting the No Mind Left Behind Scholarship Programme. Every dollar makes a lasting impact, and all donations are tax deductible.

## Become a Young Leader

The Young Leader Network is a key Ireland Funds Programme for the emerging generation of philanthropist connecting the global Irish community inspiring positive change. Membership costs \$200 annually, of which \$150 is tax-deductible.

## Donor Advised Grants

Enable donors to recommend projects they are passionate about and wish to support. This is a wonderful way to work with donors and ultimately match them with specific projects. Ask us about pledges and bequests.

## Other ways

If you have a particular skill and some time you can donate to us, we would love to talk to you. If you like what we do please promote the work of The Ireland Funds Australia to your friends.

## Bequests

Consider leaving a bequest to The Ireland Funds Australia in your will. Your legacy will help us continue supporting vital education, community, and cultural projects for generations to come.

For more information on any of the above activities please contact Teresa Keating, Executive Director:

☎ 0410 633 598  
✉ [tkeating@irelandfunds.org](mailto:tkeating@irelandfunds.org)





# Thank you

Every donation to The Ireland Funds has the potential to change a life. This is the extraordinary impact of your generosity. We are proud of the charities we fund throughout the year and we are grateful for the important work they do building better communities. We extend our thanks to all of our supporters, including our Private and Corporate Donors, our Platinum Governors, Governors, Associates and Benefactors, our Women in Leadership and Philanthropy series, Young Leaders, and guests at our fundraising events - without your dedicated support this valuable funding would not be possible



Make a difference with us by clicking [here](#) or scanning our QR code

# Acknowledgements

The Ireland Funds Australia extends our sincere gratitude to our major sponsors for their continued generosity and support.

The following organisations & people make valuable contributions that enable us to continue our work.



Dermot Kennedy

Miriam Innes



# The Ireland Funds Australia

## Board of Directors

Yvonne Le Bas

*(Chair)*

Chief Financial Officer,  
Resolution Life Australia

Patrick Tuttle

*(Treasurer)*

Executive Director, Azora Finance

Ciaran Davis

CEO, HT & E

John Gallagher

Legal Counsel and Compliance Officer, AXA

H.E. Tim Mawe

Ambassador of Ireland to Australia

Dr Tom Moore

Doctor

Catherine Murphy

ABC Sports Journalist & Presenter

Ray Wilson

Non-Executive Director, Plenary Group

David Woodward

CEO Glen Dimplex Australia

Teresa Keating

Executive Director

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Anthony McGrath

1987 - 1991

Cameron O'Reilly  
& Peter Cosgrove

1991 - 1993

John O'Neill AO

1993 - 1999

Charles Curran AC

1999 - 2010

Alan Joyce AC

2010 - 2012

John O'Neill AO

2012 - 2016

## Our Mission Statement

The Ireland Funds' mission is to harness the power of a global philanthropic network of friends of Ireland to promote and support peace, culture, education and community development across the island of Ireland and among Irish communities around the world.

**Teresa Keating**

Executive Director

The Ireland Funds Australia

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Progress Through Philanthropy

