

TELEMATICS TRUST

ANNUAL REVIEW 2018–19

TRUSTEES FOREWORD

The Telematics Trust has been supporting innovative education and training projects for more than 30 years. Each year is a new and exciting chapter for the Trust, providing a glimpse into the ideas fuelling Victoria's innovation agenda and shaping our state's future.

Our Trustees seek out projects that align with the mission of transforming lives through education and training for the economic, social and cultural benefit of Victorians.

In the 2019 grant round, the Trustees were thrilled to receive a strong and varied field of applications. With a focus on driving community impact through innovation, the Trustees selected 12 projects that offer widespread community benefit through education and training across several areas including health, family and care services, culture, research, environment and more.

In total, the Trustees granted \$443,754 to organisations and institutions across Victoria in 2019. This brings the total amount granted by the Trust to \$12.3 million since 1988.

Many of this year's grantees submitted projects that bridged technology, collaboration and communication to enhance accessibility, user experience and service delivery. Such projects build the capacity of Victoria's communities to achieve environmental, social, cultural and economic justice on their terms. Whether through digital communications, or digital technology like virtual reality, these projects will benefit their end users in a myriad of ways.

In December 2018 the Trust welcomed Gavin Appel as a new Trustee. Gavin brings more than two decades of experience in operational, investing and consulting roles across start-ups, corporates and the venture capital industry. Gavin's exceptional understanding of digital innovation is an asset to the Trust and those it supports, as is his passion for working with outstanding leaders to deliver growth and success.

Since the previous Annual Review, the Trust also appointed a new Secretariat. Australian Communities Foundation was officially chosen by the Trustees in December 2018 and this newly minted partnership is an exciting step for us in furthering our mission to reach diverse groups.

Every grant round raises the bar on quality innovation and the Telematics Trustees look forward to welcoming new expressions of the vast knowledge, experience and passion for impactful innovation that exists within our state in 2020.

Thank you for taking an interest in our work and our 2019 Annual Review. To get in touch with questions, ideas or suggestions, please contact the Secretariat.

The Trustees

Ricci Swart

Sally Joy

Danny Gorog

Gavin Appel

TELEMATICS TRUST VISION

Our vision is for technology to transform lives through education and training for the cultural, social and economic benefit of Victorians.

OUR MISSION

The Trust is committed to funding initiatives that support our vision by demonstrating innovative use of technology through education and training.

The initiatives demonstrate the innovative use of technology through education and learning, and they aim to measurably improve the well-being of the community and environment.

The Trust provides unique funding opportunities to individuals, educational institutions, government, business, social enterprises and not-for-profit organisations.

The Trust funds initiatives that use technology to reach diverse groups and address important practical problems in our community and environment through education.

OUR HISTORY

The Telematics Course Development Fund (Telematics Trust) is a public charitable trust founded on 18 December 1987 by the Hon. John Cain, then Premier of Victoria. The Trust was initially funded with a \$3 million grant by the Victorian State Government over a two-year period, and its corpus has since grown to \$13.2 million.

The Trust was established for the purposes of public education and training in Victoria, for the promotion of the development, marketing, sale and delivery by 'telematic means' of education and training courses, and for the use of new information technologies for distance learning outside existing educational and training institutions within Victoria.

Since 1988, the Telematics Trust has assisted numerous organisations through the provision of grants, equity and debt investments in projects that the Trustees believe will further or promote technology-based education and training in Victoria.

The Telematics Trust is committed to the development and use of new information and communication technologies (ICT) that support innovative educational initiatives within Victoria and as such provides unique funding opportunities to individuals, educational institutes, business and not-for-profit organisations that are exploring the possibilities of using information and communications technology for educational purposes.

The Trust is particularly interested in targeting and funding the application of information and communications technology to learning processes and projects that are:

- in need of special attention
- would be assisted by seeding grants
- are not within the province of other funding bodies.

TELEMATICS TRUST FUNDING

SINCE INCEPTION



433

grants issued



288

individual organisations
and university departments
supported

SINCE 1988 THE TRUST HAS MADE GRANTS OF OVER

\$12.3 MILLION

OUR GRANTING IN 2018-19

In the 2019 financial year, the Trust supported **12 projects** with one-off grants of up to **\$50,000** across **8 focus areas**

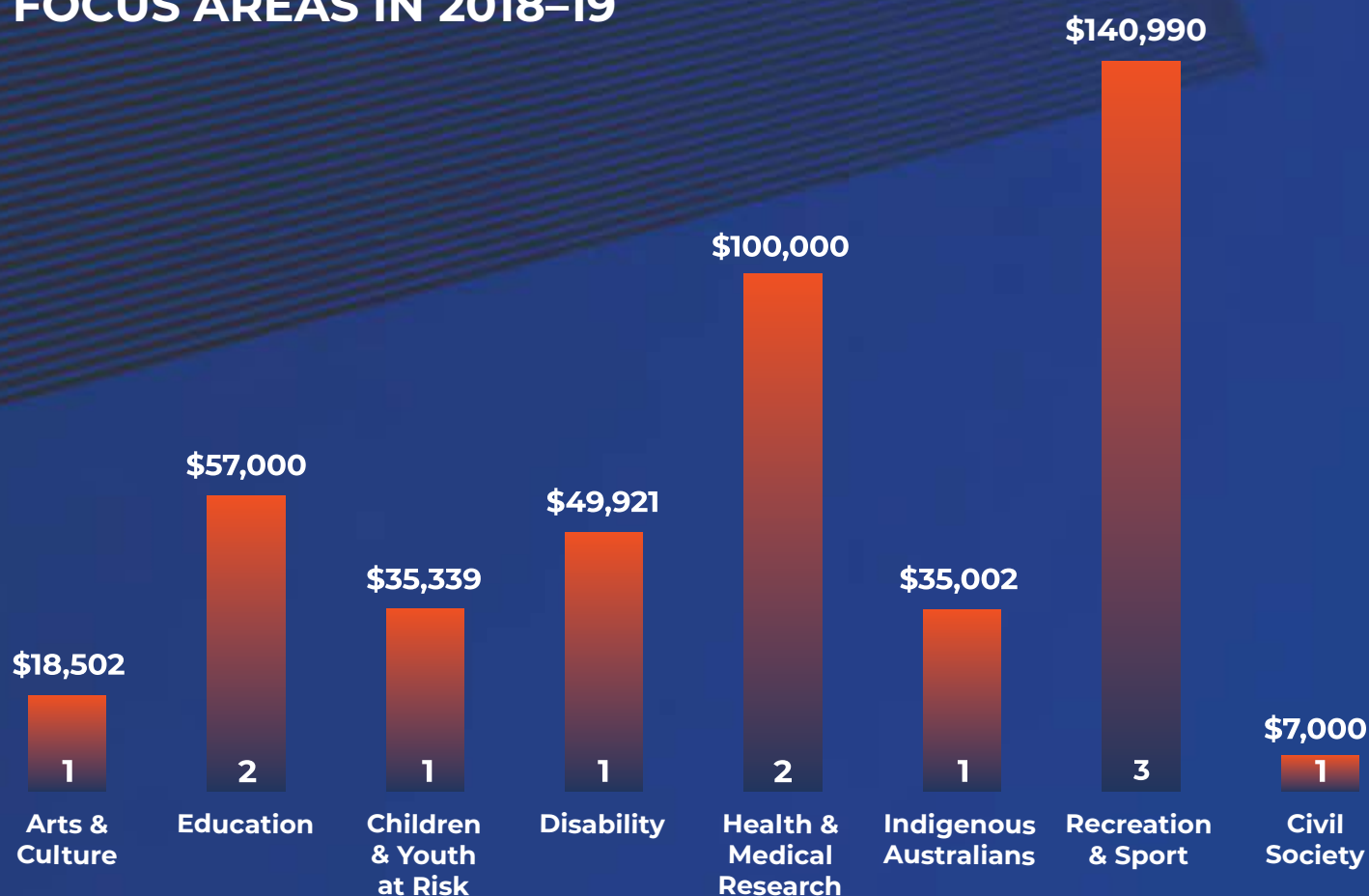
Grants approved:

12 

Total value of grants:

\$443,754

FOCUS AREAS IN 2018-19



2019 GRANT RECIPIENTS

COURSE | SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Grants Approved: **3**

Value of Grants: **\$92,002**

Percentage \$ of total Grants: **20%**

MELBOURNE HEALTH | \$50,000

Melbourne Health's research vision is to be a leading centre for delivery of translational health, research and education. Melbourne Health is the second largest public health service in Victoria, serving a population of more than one million living in the inner, northern and western corridors of Melbourne as well as regional and rural Victoria and southern New South Wales.

Organ Donation Risk Calculation App

The Trust is supporting Melbourne Health to transform the lives of people needing an organ transplant, by increasing accessibility to transplantable organs from Elevated Risk Donors. An Organ Donation Risk Calculator App will present data about an available organ; its risk and benefits; to facilitate decision-making about acceptability for patients, clinicians and transplant teams.

GISBORNE MONTESSORRI SCHOOL | \$7,000

Gisborne Montessori School is a small, non-denominational, independent school, providing Montessori education for babies, toddlers, preschool and primary school aged children in accordance with the philosophies developed by Dr Maria Montessori. It is one of 4 independent Montessori schools in Victoria currently holding primary registration as well as an early childhood education (pre-school) license.

Introducing STEM following Montessori pedagogy

The Trust is supporting the introduction of robotics and coding to students in a sequential, hands-on manner to fit in with Montessori philosophy. Many children in the school are diagnosed on the autism spectrum and the hands-on approach to learning allows these children to understand concepts before applying them abstractly.



ODYSSEY HOUSE VICTORIA | \$35,002

Established in 1979, Odyssey House Victoria provides long-term intensive residential treatment for individuals and families (including parents with addictions and their young children) within a 143 bed Therapeutic Community in Lower Plenty.

Tackling disadvantage: Upskilling Aboriginal AOD Workers

The Trust is supporting Odyssey House Victoria to address economic and social disadvantage within Aboriginal communities, by delivering accessible, culturally appropriate alcohol and other drugs (AOD) training to upskill AOD workers who self-identify as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities via online means.

AUGMENTED REALITY | VIRTUAL REALITY

Grants Approved: **3**

Value of Grants: **\$118,502**

Percentage \$ of total Grants: **27%**

CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY | \$18,502

The School of Education has an innovative approach to education and a reputation of new ideas in online, flexible and distance education, along with a long history in providing high quality on-campus and blended undergraduate and post graduate education degrees.

Mayday Hills: Virtual tour linked to life and death

The Trust is supporting the development of a website that takes the visitor on a 3-dimensional virtual tour of Mayday Hills, the former mental hospital in Beechworth, Victoria, and related gravesites at the Beechworth cemetery. Onsite at Mayday Hills and Beechworth Cemetery visitors will be able to use their smartphones to link via QR codes to gain knowledge about locations and people.



LA TROBE UNIVERSITY | \$50,000

La Trobe University is in the top 1.2% of universities worldwide and is rated at, above, or well above world standard in all broad research areas. This project is in the School of Engineering and Mathematical Science.

Escaping the Classroom

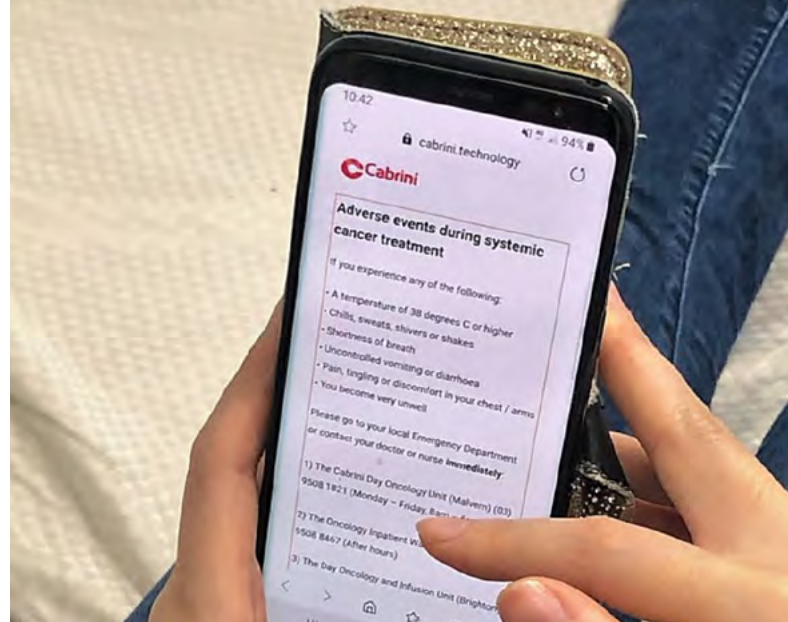
Escape rooms are popular recreational activities involving solving a series of puzzles within a time limit. Recently, La Trobe University developed a prototype electronic device for educational escape room games. This project will work towards making this open source and will create significant upgrades and training materials to make them easy for teachers to use.

LIFE SAVING VICTORIA | \$50,000

Life Saving Victoria works with communities, educational institutions, government agencies, businesses and the broader aquatic industry, as the peak agency in the state for water safety. Life Saving Victoria's mission is to prevent aquatic related death and injury in all Victorian communities and has the vision that all Victorians will learn water safety, swimming and resuscitation.

eSwimming

Life Saving Victoria will pilot an innovative new project 'eSwimming' to teach swimming skills in a manner never attempted before, that aims to reduce drowning death and injury in Victoria. This will be achieved through development of an interactive dry land swimming aid, supported by exciting technology, that simulates the action of swimming - without water.



E-LEARNING PLATFORM

Grants Approved: **4**

Value of Grants: **\$181,500**

Percentage \$ of total Grants: **41%**

AUTISM BEHAVIOURAL INTERVENTION ASSOCIATION (ABIA) | **\$49,921**

ABIA trains, educates, and supports parents, carers, and professionals working with children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Platform for connection/delivery of autism services

ABIA will develop a new platform to deliver and co-ordinate ABA programs and learning; to connect families, therapists, doctors and providers, including regional and remote Australia; to translate such programs into culturally diverse environments and languages; and to "train trainers" via access to a digital platform.

CABRINI TECHNOLOGY GROUP | **\$50,000**

Cabrini Technology Group incorporates, provides and implements world-class biomedical and information and communication technology. It installs, repairs, maintains and calibrates advanced health and IT equipment and provides expert consulting services to over 700 organisations through Australia and New Zealand.

A digital platform for educating oxygen therapy patients

The project involves the development of a digital platform for the education, engagement and monitoring of the 2000+ Victorian domiciliary oxygen therapy patients under the care of the State-wide Equipment Program. Through better connecting and educating the users of this service, the platform is expected to improve clinical outcomes and patient experience.



MACKILLOP FAMILY SERVICES | **\$35,339**

Mackillop Family Services support children and families in Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia. Programs include Out of home care (including foster, kinship and residential care), Disability Services, Youth Support Services, Education Services, Family Services and Support and Heritage and Information Service.

Talking Foster Care

Victoria is facing a critical shortage of foster carers. Through an innovative series of podcasts, Mackillop Family Services aim to address the increasing gap between children requiring foster care and the availability of suitable carers. In an Australian first, this series of podcasts will feature carers sharing insights and advice about their valuable role.

SUSTAINABLE GARDENING **VICTORIA | \$46,240**

Sustainable Gardening Australia (SGA) is a not-for-profit social organisation dedicated to achieving a healthy biodiverse planet and vibrant, sustainable communities.

Garden Chemical Product Guide **Communication Tool**

The Trust is supporting the development of a web-based information tool to inform and educate consumers about chemical garden products and alternative approaches to address problems of pests, weeds and disease. It will allow them to make smarter, safer choices to minimise any harmful impacts of these products on their health and on the environment.





ONLINE HUB

Grants Approved: **2**

Value of Grants: **\$51,750**

Percentage \$ of total Grants: **12%**

CODE FOR AUSTRALIA | \$7,000

Code for Australia brings citizens, government and industry together to collaboratively solve social issues by helping governments increase their digital fluency and create services that are grounded in the needs of people.

Civic Makers

Civic Makers is a series of events to bring government, non-profits, academia and community together to collaboratively address and work towards solving wicked problems in Melbourne. Using technology as a vehicle for collaboration, the events will bring together a diverse group of people with a range of skills from the Code for Australia community.

THE GARDENIST | \$44,750

The Gardenist is an online place for hungry, thinking gardeners with an appetite for collective knowledge and enquiry.

The Gardenist Online Community

The Trust is providing seed funding to develop an innovative educational platform that brings together a network to create an online community of members. The Gardenist will facilitate communication, sharing of knowledge, skills and sensitivities providing connection between a diverse membership that has a common passion for horticulture and the environment.

STORIES OF IMPACT FROM TELEMATICS TRUST ALUMNI

LIFE SAVING VICTORIA

2017 | \$50,000

Virtual reality (VR) technology is becoming an increasingly popular educational tool for its ability to replicate scenarios and environments that are not always accessible or feasible in the real world. Water safety training and education is one such example where VR technology is helping individuals and communities learn about water dangers, emergency situations and injuries through immersive learning experiences.

For Life Saving Victoria's (LSV's) Emergency Care Education – Virtual Reality Excursions Pilot, which was funded by Telematics Trust in 2017, virtual reality provided an exciting opportunity to deliver water safety education to regional and rural schools throughout Victoria.

"We know VR is becoming more popular in the gaming world, so why not use the same technology to learn something useful?" says Mevan Jayawardena, Chief Operating Officer at Life Saving Victoria. By removing financial, cultural and geographic barriers to access skills-based training the program allowed for an "all emergencies, all communities" approach to safety education.

Life Saving Victoria focuses on water safety education and training for Victorian communities, working with educational institutions, governments, businesses and the broader aquatic industry to ensure all Victorians are safe in and around the water.

The impact of building community capacity to respond to and act in situations involving aquatic rescue, first aid and more emergency situations is twofold. First is the decreased risk of death and injury for communities that have undertaken the training and are sufficiently prepared for these situations; and second is the decreased reliance on emergency service providers, which can be stretched, delayed or limited depending on location.

Working with students and teachers was key for Life Saving Victoria when it came time to translate the program for the classroom.

"Our content development team included teachers who were able to advise on how we can make this practical and connected to the classroom reality," says Jayawardena. "We engaged with students and teachers from inception which resulted in a product that was far more useable and valuable to the end user."

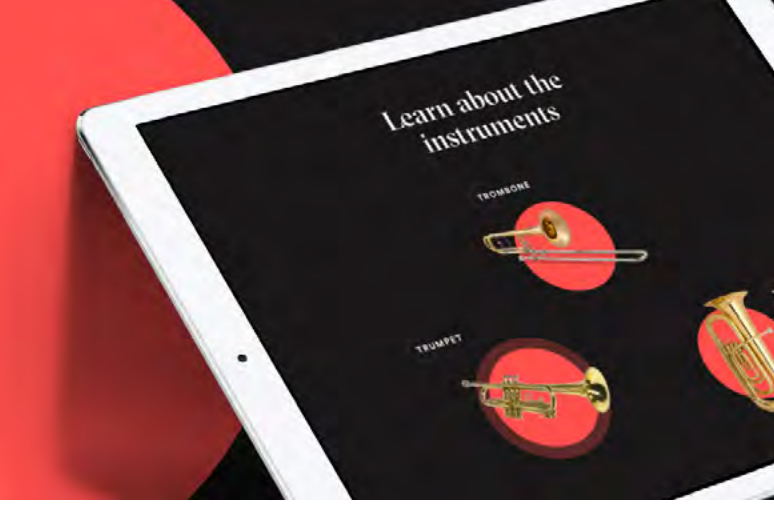
The value of early-stage engagement was clearly reflected in the project's outcomes, which included positive student engagement, successful learning and supportive teaching practices.

To identify the right platforms and partners, Life Saving Victoria identified what was within its capability and where it needed help.

"We wanted to be connected to platforms used widely," Jayawardena says, "hence we partnered with Google to use the Expeditions platform. We used platforms that were scalable (Google Expeditions and YouTube) and hardware that was affordable (Cardboard, Samsung and Oculus)." For the evaluation of the project, LSV chose Swinburne University, "who were active in evaluating the use of VR".

The project's virtual reality environments were modelled on authentic real-world environments and assisted by Ambulance Victoria, Microflite Helicopter Services, the Mildura community and a number of schools.

The virtual reality excursions have been confirmed for roll-out to all Victorian schools regardless of geographic location. LSV officially launched the resources and demonstrated their use in schools and the community in September 2019. This is an exciting step forward for virtual reality-based training and the tremendous community benefits such projects can bring.



MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

2017 | \$50,000

Music lovers all over Victoria can now discover the inner workings of a symphony orchestra with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra's (MSO) online resources. The MSO Learn platform gives everyone in the community the opportunity to explore, enjoy and appreciate classical music instruments, how they work and how they sound.

The MSO Learn platform makes music education and auditory enjoyment easily accessible. "We wanted to provide a tool that would empower teachers who may not have a classical music background to integrate classical music knowledge and learning into their classrooms," says Emiko Hunt, Digital Marketing Manager at MSO.

"MSO Learn overcomes traditional access barriers – not everyone can access instruments and music lessons, but everyone can learn about these instruments, how they work, and hear how an orchestra works through MSO Learn," Hunt explains.

"We know that exposing children to music at an early age has many developmental benefits – from strengthening brain development, promoting creativity and expression, to promoting a lifelong passion for music."

The first iteration of MSO Learn was built as an iOS app in 2011, which was difficult and costly to update. One of the key objectives for this version was that the project needed to be more user-friendly.

"We wanted to provide a tool that would empower teachers who may not have a classical music background to integrate classical music knowledge and learning into their classrooms."

"We knew that we wanted to make MSO Learn accessible to a broader audience and decided that a website was a better option," Hunt explains. "This also meant that the site could be accessed through devices such as iPads and interactive whiteboards in a classroom setting."

"We knew that in the future we wanted to grow and develop this learning platform, so the site was built with future advancements in mind," Hunt says. This meant finding a project partner with proven experience in building effective digital learning tools as well as similar thinking in terms of design, functionality and communication. The resulting website was built with a flexible content management system to allow for ongoing updates, edits and refreshed content.

The online platform has reached audiences far and wide, Hunt says. "While MSO Learn was primarily built for teachers and school-age children, we have also had a wonderful response from adults – young and old!"

"To be able to develop engaging tools that make music education more accessible for parents, teachers and students makes us really proud!"



PROJECT ROCKIT

2017 | \$50,000

PROJECT ROCKIT celebrates technology and empowers young people to use it safely, positively and responsibly. The anti-bullying education developed by PROJECT ROCKIT, which was funded by the Telematics Trust in 2017, has been seminal in Australia's youth-driven movement against bullying.

"At PROJECT ROCKIT, we're young people speaking to young people, but we want to be able to support educators and parents to feel confident in having conversations around (cyber)bullying and the online world as well," says Chloe Eckert, Head of eLearning and Digital at PROJECT ROCKIT.

On top of providing 12 months access to the interactive, online workshop program to 4,000 students, the support from the Telematics Trust enabled PROJECT ROCKIT to tour regional Victoria where young people could attend an event that Eckert says was "designed just for them; where their voices and concerns could be heard, and they could feel united and confident to speak up."

The events gave students the opportunity "to bond, share ideas, find like-minded peers and create a community amongst themselves". The event evaluation showed that 89 per cent of students enjoyed the workshops and felt that they were a valuable resource.

After a positive initial response, the team at PROJECT ROCKIT decided to turbocharge the initial proposal by creating larger community events involving multiple schools.

"Many of the schools are geographically far from each other and often don't get opportunities to come together and share ideas," Eckert explains. "We were able to unite young people in regional areas in Victoria who don't readily or consistently have access to wellbeing resources and upskill them to tackle (cyber)bullying."

"We were keen to partner with someone who was also passionate about empowering young people, but someone who had existing relationships and had shown dedication to providing resources to support young people in regional areas."

PROJECT ROCKIT identified the Youth Affairs Council Victoria (YACVic) and YACVic Rural as ideal partners on the delivery of the project, both of which work closely with young people and the sector that supports them.

"The existing relationships," that these organisations had with schools and students, "meant schools who did not know of PROJECT ROCKIT were still keen to come along because of their trust in YACVic, which ensured an easy onboarding of schools to the event," says Eckert.

It also gave the team an understanding of issues at a local level, Eckert adds. "At the workshops, we were able to provide a tailored, more personalised approach, as we were working with partners who were familiar within the communities."

A promising future lies ahead for PROJECT ROCKIT, with a Digital Ambassadors event series scheduled for 2019 and 2020 which will help more than 10,000 students across Australia become resilient and positive digital citizens.

OUR TRUSTEES

RICCI SWART (CHAIR)

Ricci Swart was appointed to the Board in December 2009 and has been Chair since 2018. She has over thirty years' experience in film and new media, producing several award-winning documentaries and feature films. She has extensive experience in identifying the potential of innovative technologies, working with government, education and the philanthropic sectors.

Formally a board member of the Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI), Ricci is now Chair of ACMI's Development Committee and also serves on the Board of Haifa University.

DANNY GOROG

Danny Gorog was appointed in June 2014. Danny Gorog is a founder, investor and currently the CEO of Snap Send Solve. He is an active investor in early stage start-ups as well as a board member and adviser. In September 2009, Danny co-founded Outware Mobile (www.outware.com.au), Australia's leading mobile app developer responsible for developing apps for ASX 100 companies.

Danny is also currently a board member at Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and Director at DWS Group (ASX:DWS).

GAVIN APPEL

Gavin Appel was appointed in January 2019. Gavin built his career in the technology industry over the past 20 years holding global operational roles in start-ups, corporates and the venture capital industry.

He founded Ignition Lane in 2018 to work with ambitious leaders to unlock the potential within businesses and deliver results. Prior to Ignition Lane, Gavin was one of the first employees and CTO at Hitwise (acquired for US\$240 million), SVP at Experian and VC Partner at Square Peg Capital.

SALLY JOY

Sally Joy was appointed in December 2009. Sally has worked in education technology for more than 25 years. She worked at Monash University for 20 years in a wide range of roles including Head of the Department of Marketing, and Associate Dean for Education, Technology and Innovation. She was also the inaugural academic director for Open Universities Australia and worked with Think Education as Victorian State Director and Deputy Director of Think Futures as well as being previously the Campus and Online Manager for SAE QANTM. Sally is published widely in the area of education and buyer behaviour and has a strong interest in how technology supports a move to a more sustainable lifestyle. She has worked with the Telematics Trust since 1996 and chaired the funding assessment group for over ten years.



Telematics Trust

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