



Indigenous healing aided with bequest

PhD psychology student and counsellor for the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service Graham Gee believes there is still a lot of healing to be done for Indigenous Australians affected by the trauma of the Stolen Generations.

The removal of Aboriginal children from their natural families in the 1960s and 70s continues to affect the mental health and social and emotional well being of their communities today, he says. As a descendant of the Northern Territory's Garawa people, it's a topic that lies close to Graham's heart and an issue he plans to do something about. Thanks to the generous bequest of Isabella Ina Oldham, Graham (GDipPsych 2007 PGDipPsych 2008) has received a scholarship that has enabled him to undertake full-time research into resilience to trauma, largely focusing on Indigenous people. It has helped Graham fast-track his career, and will also have a flow on effect to the Aboriginal communities he works with.

"I hope my research helps to show that factors such as cultural identity and having a sense of control in one's community and personal life directly contributes to resilience (to trauma) and greater health outcomes," he says. "This is true, I believe, for all populations and is particularly relevant for

The Isabella Ina Oldham Scholarship was established with a bequest in 1999 to support Indigenous students embarking on postgraduate degrees.



minority groups such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people." Graham hopes his research findings will influence psychologists to take these factors into account when working with Indigenous clients, and more broadly, contribute to helping Indigenous and non-Indigenous health practitioners work more effectively with this client group.

With two young daughters - and his wife a stay-at-home mother - Graham would not be able to study full-time without the support of scholarships established with

bequests. "I would have been resigned to doing the whole degree part-time, a very long and daunting process indeed."

Being able to rely on the extra financial support has helped Graham find time to volunteer as a steering

"I'm grateful to the generosity of benefactors... one of the reasons I did this interview was so that they can see what types of outcomes their support is contributing to."

committee for the Australian Indigenous Psychology Association, which advises on Indigenous mental health and social and emotional well being issues and aims to increase the number of Indigenous trained psychologists. Recently, Graham was also selected as a board member of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Is-

lander Healing Foundation, formed in response to Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's Apology to the Stolen Generations. Its role is to develop healing initiatives and programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia. Graham would like Heritage Society members to be aware of how their support will help others like him make a difference. "I'm grateful to the generosity of benefactors... one of the reasons I did this interview was so that they can see what types of outcomes their support is contributing to."

Music education to carry on with generous bequest

AS Victoria's first Education Department secondary school inspector, Dr Alexandra Cameron MBE transformed young lives by developing music appreciation and class singing in government schools.

Heritage Society member Dr Cameron changed the face of music education in Victoria by introducing free orchestral instrumental tuition in schools. She was inspired to do this after seeing it being done in England, where she studied. There, music lessons were provided free to students in years 1 to 3. During her time as music inspector, she developed free music tuition in Victorian schools from Form 1 to matriculation.

During this period, Dr Cameron (BMus 1950 GDipEd 1953 BEd (PG) 1956 MEd 1970) was also studying at the University of Melbourne.

Due to her work commitments, she always felt that the time she had to dedicate to her own studies was inadequate.

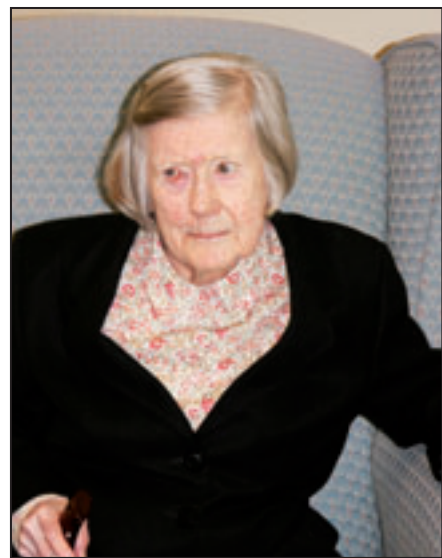
Now, having retired and being able to afford to do so, she has decided to leave in her Will a valuable scholarship for a University of Melbourne music student who has completed his or her final year Bachelor of Music (violin, viola, cello, double bass

or music education). The student will also have to demonstrate their interest in the University and its work. Dr Cameron decided to leave a bequest for a scholarship so the students who receive it can continue on with their music studies in Australia or overseas without having to work at the same time. "I often wished when I was studying that I could have such a full-time luxury," she says.

"I hope the scholarship I am leaving in my Will continues to carry on my work with music students."

As well as developing instrumental music in schools, Dr Cameron established the Saturday Music School, which included Melbourne Youth Orchestra, and the January Music Camp. Dr Cameron says these groups have continued to develop since her retirement 30 years ago.

"I left it all in good hands," she adds. On her retirement, she formed the



Pictured: Dr Alexandra Cameron's work in music education will carry on through the scholarship she has left to the University in her Will.

Chamber Strings of Melbourne at the request of several music students, and continued to work with the orchestra until she retired this year, in time to celebrate her 100th birthday.

Dr Cameron's efforts to transform music education saw her win a number of awards during her career, including an MBE for music education in Australia.

"I still look back and reflect upon how valuable my life has been – and hope the scholarship which I am leaving in my Will continues to carry on my work with music students," she says.

A Message from Bequest Manager Sue Girling-Butcher

Dear Members,

Welcome to the first edition of the Heritage Society Newsletter for 2010.

With this year's Heritage Society program well underway, I hope you'll enjoy reading about recent and upcoming events in this edition. Many thanks to those of you who attended our first two events in the Morning Tea with an Expert series. I enjoy having the opportunity to meet members at our events and to listen to your life stories, including your involvement in community

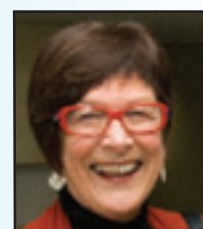
activities and latest travel experiences. Inspired by your example, I am taking leave at the end of this month to go on a two week walking trip in Arnhem Land! I'll let you know how it goes in the next edition.

The Heritage Society has grown to include 235 members this year. The income generated from bequests has had a huge impact on all aspects of university life, from the funding of Chairs, major research projects and building programs to the provision of scholarships, library and cultural collections. As student Graham Gee's story in this newsletter shows, bequests have a huge impact

on the lives of students – and a positive flow-on effect to the community and economy when they later embark on their careers.

Without your support, this would not be possible and I thank you for your generosity in including the University in your Will.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our next morning tea, with Professor Frederick Mendelsohn on Thursday, 22 July.





Pictured above: New Heritage Society members Dr Brian and Ann Dooley.



Above: HS members Dr Ron and Elizabeth Rosanove.

Honouring the Anzacs

WHEN periodontist Dr Ross Bastiaan AM RFD isn't working on teeth, he's using his dentist's drill to carve moulds for commemorative bronze plaques. Dr Bastiaan has dedicated 20 years to creating plaques and installing them at war sites across the world. He shared the intricate technique and inspiration behind these not-for-profit projects at the Heritage Society Morning Tea with an Expert on 19 May.

A trip to Gallipoli in 1988 spurred the start of the passion that has seen Dr Bastiaan travel across the world marking historical military sites with commemorative plaques. He was shocked to find at Gallipoli there was no memorial to acknowledge the significance of the place where so many Anzacs lost their lives. Annoyed, he decided to take action.

"For a nation that cherishes that site, I couldn't believe we didn't have anything there to commemorate that chapter in our history," Dr Bastiaan told Heritage Society members.



Member Dr Allan Mawdsley speaks with presenter Dr Ross Bastiaan.

Presenting photographs of his plaques and visits to war sites, Dr Bastiaan shared how it all began when he sought funding and permission to erect a memorial at Gallipoli.

The idea was rejected by the Australian Government and Commonwealth War Graves Commission, but the Turkish Government gave permission for the bronze memorial plaques to be installed. With private sponsorship, Dr Bastiaan created and installed a series of plaques sharing the story of the Gallipoli attack in English, Turkish, German and French.

It would be the first of more than 200 military history plaques Dr Bastiaan created for more than 20 countries, at war sites including the Menin Gate in Belgium, the Kokoda Trail and at Sandakan in Borneo. Dr Bastiaan's interest in military history stems back to his childhood, when he was taken under the wing of a family friend, Lawrence McCarthy, a World War I Victoria Cross winner. As Dr Bastiaan grew up in a family of limited resources, Mr McCarthy became his benefactor,



Bequest Manager Sue Girling-Butcher and member Dr Owen Tassicker.

giving him books on the Great War and helping defray some private school costs. Dr Bastiaan told Heritage Society members his work was partly inspired by a desire to repay the generous war veteran's kindness.

"I felt I owed him a great debt because he'd been good to me," Dr Bastiaan said.

"The only thing I could think of doing was to put a marker and tell the story of where he had fought." Dr Bastiaan's work has seen him invited to serve on the Council of the Australian War Memorial and honoured as a Member of the Order of Australia.

Please see the [What's On?](#) section for details on upcoming events in the Morning Tea with an Expert series.

What's new on campus?

THE University is experimenting with new teaching and learning spaces that aim to cater to students' many different learning styles. These new spaces feature integrated electronic technologies, 'at home' style furniture and 24 hour access in some locations. Here is a glimpse at some of the new precincts.



< Eastern Precinct

This contemporary precinct includes a new Student Centre that services almost 9000 students, a redeveloped plaza with outdoor BBQ and performance facilities, and new collaborative and reading room work spaces.

Brownless Biomedical Library >

New and improved self service facilities, varying study spaces, Medical History Museum displays, dedicated study spaces, a café and a student centre providing a range of services.

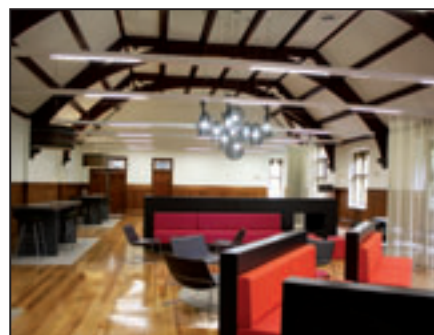


< Engineering Student and Learning Centres

Two Engineering design studios, a Student Centre and a Learning Centre offering a mix of social and study spaces and IT facilities, with 24-hour access.

Graduate School of Arts >

The historic Old Arts building now offers new and improved social and informal learning spaces alongside formal teaching spaces, video conferencing facilities, a dedicated reception desk and an impressive Graduate Lounge.



A note for your diaries: 2010 Heritage Society Lunch



THIS year's Heritage Society Lunch will be held on Thursday, 4 November. This special event is held annually to recognise and thank you for your ongoing support to the University. You will be sent a formal invitation with full details closer to the date.

What's on?



Morning Tea with an Expert @ the Baillieu Library

"Our Plastic Brains"
How do ideas and activities affect the brain?

Guest speaker: Prof. Frederick Mendelsohn AO (MBBS 1965 PhD 1972 MD 1973)
Thursday, 22 July
10.30am - 12pm

"I am Melba"
Insights into the making of an award-winning book (pictured above) on the life of famous Australian opera singer Dame Nellie Melba.

Guest speaker: Ann Blainey (BA (Hons) 1957)
Thursday, 16 September
10.30am - 12pm

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Lisa Flower on (+61 3) 8344 1750) or email lflower@unimelb.edu.au

BEQUESTS

To join the Heritage Society, please contact:

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