

ANNUAL REPORT

2015-2016



THE ALBERT
COATES MEMORIAL
TRUST
BALLARAT
VICTORIA

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The Albert Coates Memorial Trust

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Cover:

Left: Awardee Sandra Cahir, Federation University Australia (Ballarat) School of Nursing with Dr Paul Hemming, Chancellor.

Right: Brendan McCarthy, University of Melbourne School of Rural Health with Dr Don Moss, Chair, Albert Coates Memorial Trust and Dr Paul Hemming.

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STATEMENT
OF
PURPOSE

The Albert Coates Memorial Trust provides tertiary level scholarships for health professionals in regional Australia.

The Trust honours the life of Sir Albert Coates through publications, education programmes and associated educational awards.

Trust programmes are supported by donations, bequests and fund-raising activities.

ABOUT THE ALBERT COATES MEMORIAL TRUST

The Albert Coates Memorial Trust is a volunteer-run, Ballarat-based organisation which, since 1998, has raised funds to present scholarships for medical purposes, with a strong emphasis on regional areas. The scholarships are awarded in areas of interest and relevance to the life and achievements of Sir Albert Coates, the Ballarat-born surgeon of the Thai-Burma Railway.

During World War 1, Albert Coates served in Gallipoli, Egypt and Flanders as a medical orderly and with the Intelligence Corps. At 46 he volunteered for duty in World War II and went as Senior Surgeon with the 2/10th AGH of the 8th Division to Malaya. Captured by the Japanese in Sumatra he was taken to Burma. As a surgeon on the infamous Thai-Burma railway, he saved hundreds of lives and gave inspired leadership to those with whom he served.





REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

DON MOSS FRACS FACS HON CHAIR

The Coates Trust continues to grow, and be successful in its aim to honour the life of Sir Albert Coates, particularly through educational scholarships.

Many may have predicted that the ability to maintain interest in the past achievements of war veterans would fade as the years go by. It has therefore been particularly pleasing to see the huge growth in interest over recent years. The centenary of our involvement in World War 1, at Gallipoli and the Somme, has led to a surprising number of new books, and in visits to these areas.

Additionally many younger people have developed an interest in military history. It is also pleasing to see the belated recognition of the Vietnam and Korean war veterans, and the acknowledgement of the contributions of our soldiers in more recent international conflicts.

Coates was not a man to glorify war, but his life and enormous contribution to caring for his fellow POWs, deserves his name to be more widely known.

The Trust continues to coordinate with Federation University to run the annual Coates Oration, and the list of orators over the period 2001 to 2015 has been quite extra-ordinary.

For 2015 the orator was Dr. Lachlan Grant, historian of the Military History section of the Australian War Memorial. In addition an annual lunchtime lecture is held, and in March 2016, Hon Robert Knowles AO gave an address on the problem of Bullying in the Professions. Further details of these events will be outlined in this report. Both continue to attract excellent audiences.

The Trust also sponsors a series of scholarships in medical and nursing fields, combining with Melbourne University, the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, and the Department of Health Victoria for nursing scholarships.

In combination with Federation University we award three scholarships in Nursing, the Visual Arts and Biomedical Sciences.

In May 2016, we awarded the first Coates scholarship with the Australian Catholic University (Aquinas Campus, Ballarat) and are working with Notre Dame University to develop a further educational scholarship.

The students from Sir Albert Coates' first school, Mount Pleasant Primary, develop projects on the life of Coates, and this year the prizes were sponsored by funds contributed by members of the Gherardin and Coates' families.

These scholarships would not be possible without the substantial contribution of the Australian Legion funds, administered via the Victorian Veterans' Council. The work of Ted Lynes OAM, who died earlier this year, was hugely important in developing this financial support. We acknowledge his enormous contribution to the Trust since its inauguration. Additional funding support by other sponsors, including the Ballarat Club and W&D Finance, is listed later in the report.

The Trustees and Committee members continue to work hard to achieve the aims of the Trust. Each member has taken on a role to help, and I am sincerely grateful to them all. Sir Albert Coates, in talking of his POW work, said '*any mug could've done it*'. When it comes to the work of Coates Committee members, I simply don't believe it!



SECRETARY'S REPORT

ROGER TRUDGEON MA HON SECRETARY

The past twelve months has seen a significant range of activities accompanied by a number of important administrative developments, helping the Trust to operate smoothly and adhere to regulatory requirements. Membership of the trustees of the Coates Trust has remained the same through 2015/2016, continuing into the next financial year also. Don Moss continues as Chair of the Trustees and the committee, with Bruce Clark as Treasurer and Roger Trudgeon as Secretary. Marie Pryor and Rudy Novotny are continuing as Trustees.

Members of the Trust met with the Veterans' Branch of the Department of Premier and Cabinet to work through matters of mutual interest in our relationship with the Victorian Veterans' Council (VVC). The Coates Trust receives the majority of its funds through the VVC and the meeting ensures that the council is kept informed about the allocation of the funds provided by the Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women which are invested through the VVC.

Negotiations for a new award at the Australian Catholic University, Aquinas Campus in Ballarat were successfully concluded, with the first scholarship awarded in May, 2016. The scholarship is for a second year Nursing/Paramedic student and is designed to help cover the costs of their practical placement conducted in year two of the course. Negotiations for a further new scholarship to be offered by Notre Dame University were also commenced for Victorian medical students enrolled in programs based in Ballarat.

The Coates Trust is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC) and complies with the various annual reporting requirements. Reporting is submitted online by the secretary, including financial reports and details of the Trust's administrative changes and activities.

A major project during the year continues to be the Mount Pleasant Primary School Year Six projects. This culminated in 2015 in an exhibition at the Gold Museum in December/January. The projects were remarkable in their creativity and use of artistic and technological skills. In addition to the two prizes for the best projects, sponsored by the Gherardin family, a kind donation by Arthur and Robyn Coates enabled two extra runners-up prizes.

The Trust is grateful for the range of financial and in-kind support received in providing its program of scholarships and associated activities. We thank the Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women for their generous financial contribution which funds the majority of the scholarships. We acknowledge the practical support of the Victorian Veterans' Council in managing those funds. Federation University Australia, the University of Melbourne and the Australian Catholic University provide financial and in-kind support of Trust related events and programs, for which we are most grateful. W&D Finance and the Ballarat Club both provide very welcome funds for scholarship awards. Individual donors provide much needed support to help us maintain the value of scholarships.

My thanks to the members of the Coates Trust committee for their on-going practical support of the work and activities of the Trust. Thanks to Sam Maskell and Crowe Horwath for auditing the Trust's accounts. I acknowledge with thanks the extensive range of work carried out by Elizabeth Trudgeon in designing posters, fliers, invitations, exhibition and information panels and other administrative support. Thanks also to Ballarat Legacy for providing a meeting place for the Trust, to Alison Freeman for catering services and High Tech Printing for all its support.



TREASURER'S REPORT

BRUCE CLARK OAM HON TREASURER

It is noted that the Trust carries forward into the new financial year a \$28,737 scholarship funding reserve which is an important cash flow requirement. The scholarship allocations commence in September and the major annual income items fall into the October/November time frame.

The Albert Coates Memorial Trust appreciated greatly the very important donations received during the financial year 2015 - 2016 from the major donors and many individual supporters of the Trust.

In particular, the Trust appreciates the on-going and significant financial support of the Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women in co-operation with the Victorian Veterans' Council.

Importantly, it should be noted that generally low and falling interest rates have negatively impacted on the income the Trust has received and the outlook for 2016 - 2017 is that similar or worse conditions will prevail.

FINANCIAL REPORT

ACMT Financial Report 2015 - 2016

Objectives	Outcomes 2015-2016
To provide substantial Scholarships at Primary, Tertiary Graduate and Post Graduate levels, focusing predominantly on the Medical Profession.	<i>Improved clarity of future Scholarship funding through re- negotiated MOU with VVC/ Legion</i> 13 Scholarships awarded totalling \$35,800
To seek Donations and Income at Private, Institutional and Corporate Levels to sustain ongoing Scholarships.	Total Income for the financial year \$57,500 Donations \$43,509 Interest \$5,443 Functions \$8,548
To minimise Operating costs of the Trust	Total Expenses (excluding Scholarships) \$10,285 Functions & Oration \$4,736 Postage & Printing (incl. Display panels) \$2,671 Misc. other \$2,878
To continue to grow the Trust's Equity	Total Equity \$169,783 Increase \$11,415

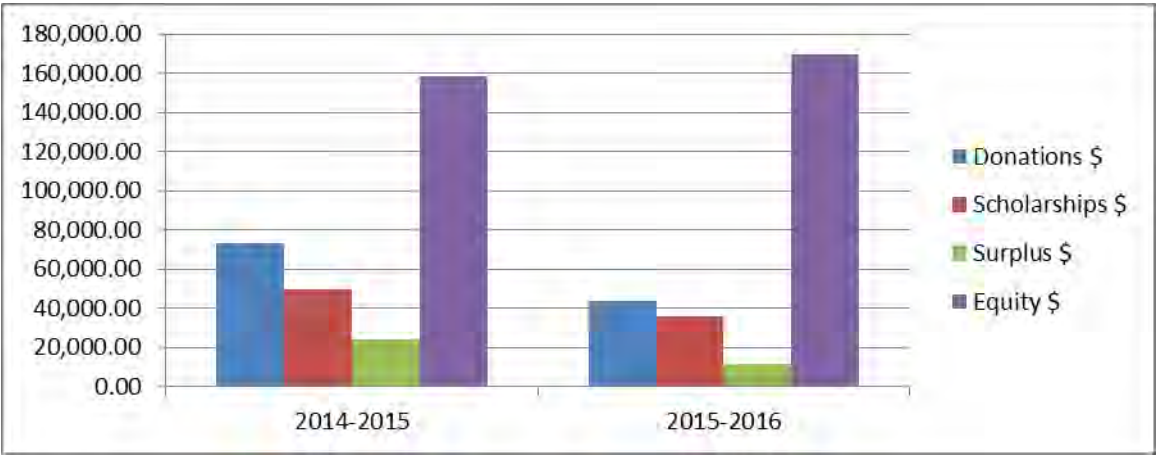
DONATIONS

ACMT Donations for financial year 2015 - 2016

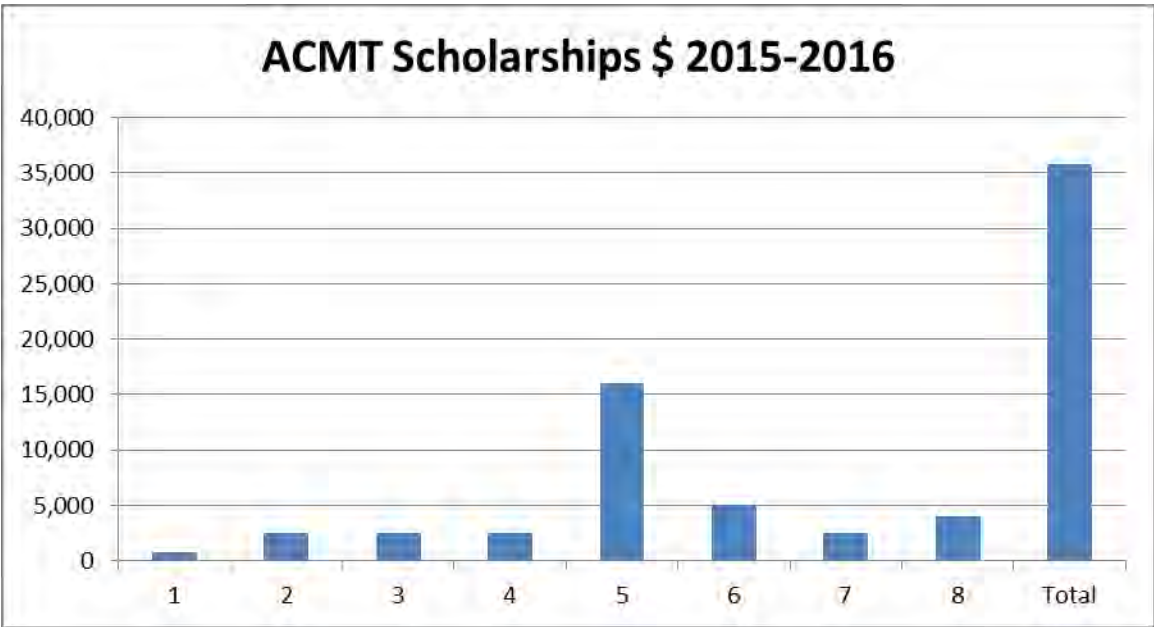
Donor	Purpose	Amount \$
Various Book Donations	ACMT-General	583
Donation Box (Coates Statue)	ACMT-General	202
Gherardin W & W, Coates A & R	Mt. Pleasant Primary	800
Moss B. Sen.	Rural Health	1000
Numerous Donors	ACMT-General	1,424
W&D Finance	Future Scholarships	\$2,500
Ballaarat Club	Future Scholarships	\$4,100
<i>Australian Legion</i> (Victorian Veterans Council)	Rural Nursing & Medical Scholarships	\$33,500
		Total Donations \$43,509

FINANCIAL COMPARISONS

ACMT- Financial Comparison 2015- 2016 with Previous Year



SCHOLARSHIPS SUMMARY 2015 - 2016



- 1 Mt Pleasant Primary School Awards - Gherardin & Coates (\$800)
 - 2 Undergraduate Nursing - Legion/ ACMT (FUA) (\$2,500)
 - 3 Undergraduate Bio Medical Science - W & D/ ACMT (FUA) (\$2,500)
 - 4 Undergraduate Visual Arts- Pryor/ ACMT/ Ballaarat Club (FUA) (\$2,500)
 - 5 Rural Nursing Scholarship/ ACMT (Barwon Health) (\$16,000 - 2 at \$8000 each)
 - 6 Surgical Anatomy - Legion/ ACMT (University of Melbourne) (\$5,000)
 - 7 Nursing/Paramedics Scholarship - Legion/ACMT (Australian Catholic University) (\$2,500)
 - 8 Rural Clinical School – Legion/ACMT (University of Melbourne) (\$4000 - 2 at \$2,000 each)
- Total Scholarships awarded for 2015- 2016 \$35,800**



AUDITED REPORT (SUMMARY) FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2015 - 2016

AUDITOR'S REPORT

Albert Coates Memorial Trust

31/08/2016

*In the Treasurer's and Auditor's opinion the attached Statement of Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet for the **Albert Coates Memorial Trust**, is properly drawn up and gives a true and correct view of the financial affairs and operations for the Year.*

The Total Equity of the Trust as at 30/06/2016 is \$169,783.24, (Including the James Pryor Fund of \$16,586.15). The above also includes a projected GST refund of \$94.00 for the June 2016 quarter.

Income & Expenses (Summary).

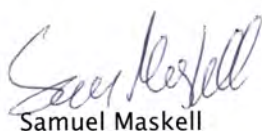
	2014- 2015	2015- 2016	Change
Income	\$85,904.94	\$57,500.42	-33.07%
Expenses	<u>\$61,668.14</u>	<u>\$46,084.97</u>	-25.27%
Surplus	\$24,216.80	\$11,415.45	
Donations	\$73,458.50	42,826.10	- 41.70% Scholarships
	\$49,600.00	35,400.00	-28.63%
Equity	\$158,367.79	169,783.24	+7.21%

Comments and Financial highlights for the audit period:

The Trust's only financial liability at 30.06.2016 was \$4,000 to the University of Melbourne relating to the Rural Clinical School Scholarships.

Scholarships awarded in 2015 -16:

Mt Pleasant Primary School Awards- Gherardin & Coates	\$800
Undergraduate Nursing- Legion/ ACMT (FUA)	\$2,500
Undergraduate Bio Medical Science - W & D/ ACMT (FUA)	\$2,500
Undergraduate Visual Arts - Pryor/ ACMT/ Ballaarat Club (FUA)	\$2,500
Rural Nursing Scholarship/ ACMT (Barwon Health)	\$16,000
Surgical Anatomy- Legion/ ACMT (Melbourne University)	\$5,000
Australian Catholic University	\$2,500
Rural Clinical School – Legion/ACMT (2 at \$2000ea)	\$4,000


Samuel Maskell

B. Bus. CPA
Hon. Auditor



Bruce Clark
OAM F Fin
Hon. Treasurer

TRUSTEES 2016



Roger Trudgeon
Hon. Secretary



Don Moss FRACS
Hon. Chair



Bruce Clark OAM
Hon. Treasurer



Rudy Novotny



Marie Pryor

TRUST COMMITTEE



Winifred Gherardin



Shirley McIver



Walter Gherardin
OAM



Neil Shiells



Desley Beechey



Roger Mitchell
FRACS



Jock Prodger



Arthur Coates



Robyn Coates



Lorna Morgan



Peter McCracken



Samuel Maskell CPA
Auditor
Crowe Horwath



Gwenda McManus

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SCHOLARSHIPS



UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE & ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

Scholarships sponsored by the Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women

University of Melbourne and Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Postgraduate Diploma in Surgical Anatomy —
Albert Coates Memorial Prize, 2015

Value: \$5000

Recipient: Dr Brian Chee

The Annual Conferring Ceremony, 2015, for Post Graduate Diploma of Surgical Anatomy, RACS, at the University of Melbourne was held on 7th September, 2015, at University House. Assoc. Prof. Stephen Tobin gave the Occasional Address. He became Dean of Education at RACS in 2012, a significant role involving surgical education programs and professional development for surgical educators.

Dr Brian Chee, the recipient of the Albert Coates Memorial Prize, said in a letter to the Trust that it was 'a privilege to receive an award named after a man who rose from his humble beginnings, to become the great surgeon and humanitarian that he was. Last year, my life took an interesting turn when I

applied for and secured a job as a Critical Care HMO at the Northern Hospital, which included rotations through anaesthesia, Intensive care and Emergency Medicine. Throughout my work I found myself interested in the care of the critically ill patientswho required urgent surgical interventions. I strongly believe that a good appreciation and knowledge of Anatomy is essential for understanding the various bodily functions and disease processes.....'.

Dr Chee's full letter can be seen in the next edition of Mentor.



Dr Brian Chee speaking after accepting the Albert Coates Memorial Prize



Assoc. Prof. Stephen Tobin, Dean of Education, RACS, gave the Occasional Address



Prof. Geoff McColl, Melbourne Medical School, made the Introductions.

Left: Dr Brian Chee after accepting the Albert Coates Award.



SCHOLARSHIPS

Sponsor: Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men & Women Scholarships

Regional Nursing Scholarships administered by the Department of Health Victoria — Geelong - South Barwon, 2015 -2016

Scholarships for postgraduate training in Emergency and Critical Care Nursing and training for Rural and Isolated Practice Endorsed Registered Nurse Certificate (RIPERN).



Sir Albert Coates Regional Nursing scholarships

Two scholarships, each \$8000, were awarded to candidates for Post Graduate **Critical Care** courses. The recipients were **Grant Holmes** and **Danielle Tartaglia**. Grant is studying a Master of Nursing Practice at Deakin University and Danielle is studying a Graduate Certificate of Nursing Practice (Emergency) at the University of Melbourne.

Sir Albert Coates Surgical Scholarship, University of Melbourne Rural Clinical School. 2015

Value: \$4000 (two awards of \$2000)

Recipients: Ellie Bowditch, Brendan McCarthy

School of Nursing, Midwifery and Healthcare - 2nd Year undergraduate scholarship Federation University Australia (Ballarat)

Value: \$2500

2016 Recipient: Stacey Moll

School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences - Jim Pryor Visual Arts Scholarship

Value: \$2500

2016 Recipient: Elisabeth May

Sponsor: The Ballaarat Club



School of Applied and Biomedical Sciences - W & D Finance Biomedical Scholarship

Value of each award: \$2500

2016 Recipient: Joseph Dawson

Sponsor: W & D Finance



Sandra Cahir
School of Nursing
Federation University Australia



Brendan McCarthy, Ellie Bowditch
School of Rural Health
University of Melbourne



Michelle Steicke
Biomedical Science
Federation University Australia



Patricia Taylor
Visual Arts
Federation University Australia



Kellie Woodhouse
Rural Emergency Nursing - Critical Care

2015



Susan White
RIPERN - Urgent Care
Mallee Track

Medical, Nursing,
Biomedical
Science & Visual
Arts
Awardees



Alison Noble
Rural Emergency
Nursing, Critical Care

Photographs: Elizabeth Trudgeon

Photograph of Susan White
supplied

NEW SCHOLARSHIP



Albert Coates/Australian Legion of Ex Service Men & Women Scholarship, 2016

Value: \$2500

Recipient: Mark Hocking



Associate Prof. Joe Fleming, Master of Ceremonies



L to R: Rudy Novotny (ACMT Trust), Mrs Hocking, Mark Hocking, scholarship recipient, Mr Hocking, Marie Pryor (ACMT Trust), Roger Trudgeon (Hon. Sec. ACMT Trust)

Photograph: Elizabeth Trudgeon



Roger Trudgeon, Hon. Secretary of the Albert Coates Memorial Trust spoke on behalf of the Trust and presented the award Ian Wilson Photography

This is the first year of the **Albert Coates Memorial Trust Scholarship**, which was recently established, at the Australian Catholic University, Aquinas Campus. The scholarship is 'awarded to a student who has achieved academically and has also shown a commitment to the Mission and values of ACU and to community engagement in their local area'. Associate Professor Joe Fleming was Host and Master of Ceremonies. It is an annual award to a second year Nursing/Paramedicine student.

Mark Hocking is the inaugural recipient and is studying for a double degree in nursing and paramedics. The scholarship of \$2500 is to assist with course costs such as expenses incurred with regional placements. Roger Trudgeon (Trust Hon. Secretary) spoke on behalf of the Trust and presented Mark with two books, the Albert Coates biography and *Glimpses*.



L to R: Roger Trudgeon, Marie Pryor, Mark Hocking, Rudy Novotny
Photograph: Elizabeth Trudgeon



L to R: Assoc. Prof. Joe Fleming (ACU), Roger Trudgeon (ACMT), Mark Hocking Ian Wilson Photography

COATES ORATION AND SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION



Dr Lachlan Grant, Senior Historian in the Military History Section of the Australian War Memorial presented the 2015 Albert Coates Oration at Federation University, Ballarat, 22nd October 2015. His address was entitled: **'Voices from the Past: recovering memories of the POWs for The Changi Book, 70 years on'**.

His address was based around the research and writing of *The Changi Book*, a compilation of reminiscences and stories from Changi POWs, made at the end of the Second World War. The book is an Australian War Memorial publication commemorating the 70th anniversary of the end of the war.

Dr Grant said that many myths persist about the wartime experience of prisoners of the Japanese. These are mostly about the horrific conditions on the Burma - Thailand Railway.

Of the 22,000 Australians to become prisoners of the Japanese, one third died in captivity. However, of the estimated 87,000 Allied prisoners who passed through Changi 850 died there.

Changi was a complex located on the north-eastern tip of Singapore Island and made up of villages, woodlands and military barracks built by the British in the 1930s.

The British and Australians there were mostly under the control of their officers.

He finished by saying: 'Seventy years on, as an historian, I feel indebted to these men and women who kept a record of their wartime experiences - so we can understand, interpret and share for future generations.'



David Manning with Dr Lachlan Grant



Patricia Taylor receiving her certificate, with Dr Paul Hemming and Dr Don Moss



Brendan McCarthy & Ellie Bowditch



Kellie Woodhouse and Alison Noble
Critical Care, 2015

Photographs: Elizabeth Trudgeon

Organised by
Federation University
Australia, in association
with the
Albert Coates Memorial
Trust

Following his address, Dr Grant spoke with David Manning, left, who was a prisoner on the Thai-Burma Railway after the sinking of the Perth. This exchange was a very poignant moment for the audience.



Michelle Steicke receiving her certificate



Sandra Cahir receiving her certificate from Dr Paul Hemming, Federation University Australia

COATES ORATION DINNER



Dr Hajar Kheslat ,
Melbourne University Rural Health



David Sergeant
President, Ballarat Club



Kellie Woodhouse,
Rural Nursing in Critical Care

The Oration Dinner was held at Prospects Restaurant, SMB Campus, Lydiard Street South, Ballarat on Thursday 22nd October, 2015. During the course of the evening, award recipients Kellie Woodhouse and Dr Hajar Hasan Kheslat spoke about their experiences in their field. David Sergeant, President, spoke on behalf of the Ballarat Club which funds the Jim Pryor Visual Arts Scholarship.

LUNCH WITH SPEAKER



The Hon. Rob Knowles

On Wednesday, March 16th, the Trust held a most successful luncheon. **The Hon. Rob Knowles AO chaired the inquiry, set up in March 2015, into the issues surrounding bullying and sexual harassment conducted for the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, (RACS.)** Rob Knowles is a former Victorian Health Minister and current Chair of the Board of the Royal Children's Hospital and has represented the Ballarat Province as Minister for Housing & Aged Care (1992-1996).



Roger Mitchell gave a vote of
thanks to the speaker on behalf
of the Trust

He gave a presentation on 'Bullying in the Professions'. He spoke of the results of the survey of surgeons and trainees which highlighted the prevalence of the issue of bullying. He also reflected on the frequency of the problem in other workplaces, as often highlighted in the media. He pointed out the need for a broad cultural change to reject this behaviour, and of some steps the RACS has taken to achieve effective change. Many of the bullying personalities did not appear to understand the consequences of their attitudes, and often became defensive when questioned. His talk was challenging, and created much interest.



Maria Sozanski, Roy Taylor
and Pam Taylor



Gordon Williamson, Shirley Shiells
and Annette Williamson



Shirley McIver, and Paddy Marshall
Photographs: Elizabeth Trudgeon

LETTERS FROM PAST AWARDEES



2013
VISUAL ARTS
(JIM PRYOR AWARD)
RECIPIENT,
TAS
WANSBROUGH

Tas Wansbrough exhibited some of her work in an exhibition in Queen's Hall, Parliament House, in September as part of a tribute to the 125th anniversary of Victorian women presenting to Parliament a petition with 30,000 signatures calling for women's right to vote.

'My sincere apologies for not keeping in touch on a regular basis regarding my artist career progress since receiving my Albert Coates (Jim Pryor) Award. I can assure you though that the award continues to be a huge source of pride for me.

I am travelling to Canberra with the Committee for Ballarat to visit Parliament and the Australian War Memorial in October and I am really looking forward to connecting with the Albert Coates story at AWM.

I should give you a quick update. I finally graduated from the Bachelor of Fine Art last year and was very grateful to receive the National Association of Visual Artists - Ignition Award for Professional Practice and the Federation University - Travel Award.

I will use the Travel award to visit the British School at Rome and then travel to Carrara in northern Italy to study marble carving in the heartland of the marble quarries.

In the meantime I am busy studying a Masters in Teaching in the hope one day of earning some actual money!

On top of all of that I am super excited to let you know that I am exhibiting later this month at the Parliament of Victoria'.

Kind regards,

Tas Wansbrough Sculptor & Visual Artist
Bachelor In Fine Art, Federation University



2015
RIPERN AWARD
RECIPIENT, RURAL
EMERGENCY
NURSING,
SUSAN WHITE

'Working in a small rural health service I have at times been concerned regarding the limitations of my registration and the limited care which could be provided to presentations to our urgent care department.

With no doctor the majority of weekends, patients have been referred through our nearest regional hospital, 100kms from Mallee Track. Some of these presentations could have been managed by the RIPERN.

The RIPERN Course has provided the foundation to provide timely, safe and appropriate care to patients, who access the Urgent Care Department at our facility.

The expansion of my skills and knowledge, in the areas of Health Assessment and Medication Management, have been developed through this course along with suturing and wound closure.

I would like to thank the Albert Coates Trust members for the scholarship to assist my study. The foresight to allocate money to the various health regions to upskill nurses in rural isolated communities will certainly provide skilled nursing staff to assist medical officers around the state'.

Kind regards,

Susan White

Susan (Sue) White



2015 MELBOURNE
UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF
RURAL HEALTH
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT,
ELLIE BOWDITCH

Surgical Elective Report

In Ophthalmology

I spent the month of January 2016 in the specialty area of Ophthalmology for my clinical elective in surgery. I was able to observe and practice in pre-operative and post-operative cataract care, and diagnosis consultation, patient education and management of chronic eye conditions. My elective exposed me to specialty surgical practice in both public and private hospitals and private clinical settings.

In the clinic I saw many patients being managed indefinitely for common chronic conditions of the eye with the occasional patient presenting with a rarer condition and other things not generally seen in more general practices. I was taught how to manage common conditions well, and excited by the rarer pathologies to learn about those.

This elective allowed me to practice specific skills like how to operate a slit lamp, using an ophthalmoscope to examine the retina and performing tonometry for intraocular pressures. It was very useful to become comfortable describing the appearance of crucial parts of anatomy like the optic nerve head, the macula and surrounding retina because these areas have huge variation in appearances when affected by disease processes.

What I found quite remarkable was being able to attend the theatre for operations that my supervisor did visiting my home-town where I lived for 20 years, where I didn't realise such speciality fields were available for local patients.

One of the best parts about doing this elective was being able to see the specialist services that are offered in rural and regional communities. It gave me realistic expectations of my goals for my career which I will continue to work towards for the remainder of my studies and has provided me with the motivation to continue to do this.

Thank you to the Sir (Albert) Coates committee for providing not only the scholarship as a monetary support to get maximum benefit from my surgical elective but the recognition of receiving this award which I have found

Kindest Regards,
Ellie Bowditch

MD3 The University of Melbourne



2015 CRITICAL
CARE RURAL
NURSING
SCHOLARSHIP
RECIPIENT,
EMMA - JANE LUSH

I would like to formally thank you for the Rural Critical Care Nursing scholarship. February saw my relocation to Melbourne for a week to

undergo orientation at Deakin University, with roughly 24 hours of lectures in 4 days. At the end of the week I was excited to jump in and begin my transition to a formal critical care certificate.

For the remained of semester 1, myself and only one other student would dial in to teleconference on most Wednesdays..... (In Semester two) Again I was required to relocate, this time to Adelaide for two weeks to volunteer at the Flinders Medical Centre Intensive Care Unit. This was a valuable experience, as I gained exposure to many clinical modalities not available in Mildura such as haemofiltration, observing coronary artery angiogram, intra-aortic balloon pumps and intra-cranial pressure monitoring.

.....This year has been enormously challenging, but thanks to your assistance the financial burden has been eased substantially allowing me to focus on the clinical and academic requirements. I can't thank you enough for assisting my career progression and enhancing the nursing care available in rural Mildura.

I hope I have and continue to make Sir Albert Coates and the Trust proud.

Attached is a photograph from Emma-Jane's graduation from the certificate course the scholarship helped her achieve.

'I am pleased to update you that I am in a nurse educator role in addition to my position in Intensive Care - updated to Clinical Nurse Specialist! The course has certainly opened doors for me and I am very grateful for your support'.

Thank you,
Emma-Jane Lush

‘Having recently completed my studies involving RIPERN, (Rural & Isolated Prescribing Registered Nurse) the challenges and rewards of stretching and broadening my nursing knowledge base are fresh in my mind. The course has allowed me to grow professionally.....in a direction that will not only benefit myself, my nursing and medical challenges, but also the community. Having the support of the Albert Coates Trust through a financial scholarship was instrumental in allowing me to undertake this course’.

Thanking you,

Michelle Holland

‘The Albert Coates scholarship was instrumental in allowing me to do the RIPERN course. With five children, two currently at university, the financial assistance was invaluable in allowing me to undertake a course that enlightened me to disciplines in nursing, medication administration and diagnostic tools, that I had not been exposed to in my everyday role as a general medical nurse’.
Thank you again,

Ken Holland

‘Hello, my name is Lynne Coates and I am employed at Mallee Track Health & Community Service (Ouyen Hospital) as a Registered Nurse. I’ve worked in Aged, Acute and Urgent Care. I have just recently changed roles and I am now a Supervisor of Pattinson House Hostel. I was awarded the Albert Coates Scholarship (no relation) to help fund my studies for the RIPERN (Rural & Isolated Prescribing Registered Nurse) course. The past 10 months have been busy, juggling full-time work, study and family life; whoever said it gets easier when your children are older got it very wrong. I want to express my greatest gratitude for helping me to fund my studies that has educated and enlightened me’.

Lynne Coates

OVER 100 SCHOLARSHIPS

Over the past eighteen years the Albert Coates Memorial Trust has awarded more than 100 scholarships and awards. For its first three years the Trust was focussed on raising funds to create the permanent memorial to Coates which has been located in Sturt Street Ballarat since 2000. Once Louis Laumen’s powerful sculpture of Coates as a POW on the Thai-Burma Railway was achieved, the Trust wanted to shift its attention to what were called ‘living memorials’ in the form of providing support to regional and rural students mainly connected with health and medical courses that were dear to the heart of Sir Albert Coates. The Trust’s first support for tertiary students commenced in 2001 with the award in the Graduate Diploma in Surgical Anatomy (University of Melbourne/Royal Australasian College of Surgeons).

In 2003, the Trust commenced a series of awards with Federation University Australia (then called the University of Ballarat) firstly in the School of Nursing and in successive years, Visual Arts (2004 to present) and Engineering (2004-2008) and from 2011, the Biomedical Science Scholarship, sponsored by W&D Finance. Also from 2011, the University of Melbourne Rural Clinical School has offered a Coates scholarship for rural medical students to assist them with placements.

A new nursing/paramedics scholarship commenced in 2016 at the Australian Catholic University, with another in the pipeline with Notre Dame University in 2016/2017.

From 2003 the Trust began a continuing and greatly valued association with Albert Coates’ old school, Mount Pleasant Primary School. Each year students from Year 6 participate in a voluntary Coates project with prizes awarded for the best projects.

The original awards took the form of book prizes and small sums of money. Following years of steady fund raising the Trust was able to increase the value of the scholarships. The most significant boost occurred in 2006 when the Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women entrusted a large endowment fund through the Victorian Veterans’ Council, with funds generated each year benefiting the Coates Trust. Awards now range from \$300 to \$10,000 depending on the courses involved. Scholarship funds are struggling now to keep up due to low interest rates, so the challenge to build our reserve funds is as great as ever. The Coates Trust is very grateful to the sponsors, donors and partners who support the growing scholarship program.

Roger Trudgeon



On Thursday 15th December, 2015, an exhibition of the Albert Coates projects completed by Year 6 students at Mount Pleasant Primary School was opened at the Gold Museum, Ballarat. Seventeen projects were displayed until the middle of January, 2016. The 'suitcases' used by the students contain, books, postcards, surgical gowns and gloves, student stethoscopes, military hats and rucksacks, puzzles and photographs.

This year, two winners, a girl and a boy and two runners-up were presented with their cheques by Roger Trudgeon, Secretary of the Trust.

The Trust thanks teachers, Jenny Dyer and Paul McAloon, and Principal Phil Gladman for their support of the project.

The students are to be highly commended for their creativity, interest and knowledge in presenting the projects.

Prize Winners

Charlotte Edgington

1st Prize

'Coatesville'

Jesse Ealing

1st Prize

'Albert Coates Quiz'

Harriet Marrow

Runner Up

'Quilt'

Sophie Hocking

Runner Up

'Board Game'



Roger Trudgeon, Hon. Secretary of the Trust made the presentations

Below: Phil Gladman, Principal, Jenny Dyer, teacher, Paul McAloon teacher, Jesse Ealing, prize winner, Don Moss, Chair ACMT



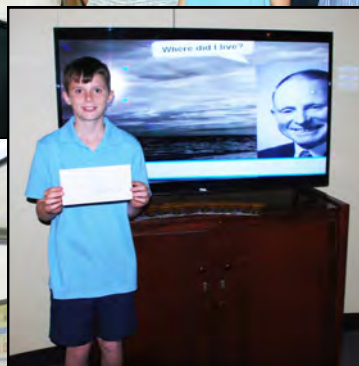
Charlotte Edgington - 1st prize



Sophie Hocking



The project was kindly supported in 2015 by the Gherardin family, the Rotary Club of Ballarat South and Robyn and Arthur Coates. Photographs: Elizabeth Trudgeon



Jesse Ealing - 1st prize



Harriet Marrow

SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

The Albert Coates Memorial Trust is grateful for the support of organisations which have sponsored scholarships and the many individuals who have given financial and practical support.



Victorian Veterans Council



The Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women has been the most generous contributor to the Trust's work through a major corpus of funds administered by the **Victorian Veterans' Council**.

These funds underpin very significant awards in rural emergency and critical care nursing and training for Rural and Isolated Practice Endorsed Registered Nurse certificate (RIPERN) and a number of other scholarships offered by the Trust.



In 2013, **W & D Finance** generously signed a further three year agreement to sponsor the Biomedical Science scholarship at Federation University Australia.



Since 2000, **Federation University Australia (Ballarat)** has been a key supporter in helping coordinate the promotion, selection and presentation of Coates Trust scholarships.

In presenting the Coates Oration, it has kindly sponsored the production of invitations, mail outs and other costs. The Trust gratefully acknowledges the ongoing generosity of the University.



The Trust appreciates the support of the **Gold Museum, Ballarat**, where archival material has been held for many years and administrative support has been provided.



Since 2001, the Trust has worked closely with the **University of Melbourne** and the **Royal Australasian College of Surgeons** in formally presenting the Sir Albert Coates Scholarship in the Postgraduate Diploma in Surgical Anatomy.

The graduation ceremony at University House and social gathering afterwards is a great opportunity for Trust members and Coates family members to meet with academic staff and graduates of the course.



The Trust appreciates the support of the **Ballarat Club** which generously funds the Jim Pryor Visual Arts Scholarship, Federation University Australia.



The Trust has received on-going support in kind from donors of prizes including **Sovereign Hill and other private donors**. Sovereign Hill provided accommodation for the Albert Coates Oration speaker.



The **Rotary Club of Ballarat South** generously sponsored the Museum in a Suitcase project. Funds allowed for the development of the project and for its continuance.



The Trust is grateful to **Ballarat Legacy** for hosting the monthly meetings of the Coates committee.

NOTES



Albert Coates Memorial Trust

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