



MENTOR

NEWSLETTER OF THE
ALBERT COATES MEMORIAL TRUST

ISSUE NO. 1, APRIL 2017

ISSN 2207-6115 PRINT

ISSN 2207-6123 ONLINE



Kate Torney CEO,
State Library of Victoria

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Welcome to the new format newsletter of the Albert Coates Memorial Trust, now named MENTOR. Our sincere thanks to **Walter Gherardin** for his tireless and passionate work in editing the Trust's newsletter over the past 10 years.



Lunch with Speaker

KATE TORNEY,

CEO STATE LIBRARY

June 14th, 2017

Ballarat Yacht Club,

Wendouree Parade, Ballarat

**'Libraries in the digital age:
Where to from here?'**

Kate Torney grew up in Ballarat, worked in Broadcast Journalism for 20 years and became Director of News for the ABC.

In 2015 she was appointed CEO of the State Library of Victoria. It is now the busiest public library in Australia, and undergoing major refurbishment.

Kate is enthusiastic about the expanding role of libraries and electronic media. How do we keep libraries relevant? Will E-books replace print copies? What will happen to book shops? These are relevant issues for us all.

Albert Coates Memorial Trust Lunch

Date: 14th June, 2017

Time: 12 noon for 12.30

Place: Ballarat Yacht Club

Cost: \$30, drinks extra

Bookings: Shirley

Phone: 0434 540 171

Email: shirleymacfrog@gmail.com

*Make your
booking now!*

Photograph above: Roger Trudgeon, Marie Pryor, Mark Hocking (awardee), Rudy Novotny at the Presentation event, 2016, Australian Catholic University, Ballarat.



ALBERT COATES AND THE FALL OF SINGAPORE

Albert Coates worked in the 2/10AGH in Malacca (in Malaya) during 1941. He was transferred to Singapore to operate on Sir John Latham (Australian Ambassador to Japan) in September 1941, then escorted him back to Australia. He returned to Singapore on 5th December 1941, and was senior surgeon in Malacca and then Singapore, operating on many casualties.

At the evacuation of Singapore on February 13th, 1942, patients and staff of the AGH embarked for Java. The steamer was sunk and the survivors found themselves on the Dutch-controlled island of Sumatra.

The Singapore garrison surrendered on 15th February.

Coates worked in extremely trying conditions in Sumatra, until capture by the Japanese in Padang on 17th March, 1942. Then began his time as a POW, and his work on the Burma-Thailand railway May 1942-August 1945.



The GRIEVING MOTHER

Sculptor: Peter Corlett

This bronze sculpture to commemorate the mothers who lost family members in wars, was unveiled in Ballarat on 15th February, 2017.

It was sculpted by Peter Corlett and unveiled by the Governor General, His Excellency Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC. It stands in a garden area adjacent to the iconic Arch of Victory in Ballarat.



75th ANNIVERSARY of the FALL OF SINGAPORE



The DVA arranged an excellent commemorative service for the 75th Anniversary of the Fall of Singapore, held at the Australian Ex-POW Memorial in Ballarat on the 15th February, 2017. The Governor General, His Excellency General the Hon Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd), gave the address, and Major General Simone Wilkie AO the Call to Remembrance.

Some 20 ex-POWs were present, along with a large crowd and the RAN band.



Photographs: Don Moss



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

NEW SCHOLARSHIP AT ACU BALLARAT, 2016

The **Albert Coates/Australian Legion of Ex Service Men and Women Scholarship** awarded to a 2nd year student to assist with elective costs. Available to nursing students at Australian Catholic University, Ballarat

The Albert Coates Memorial Trust scholarship at Australian Catholic University, ACU, was recently established, with an annual award of \$2,500 to a second year Nursing/Paramedicine student, studying in Ballarat, to assist with course costs. **Mark Hocking** is the inaugural recipient and is studying for a double degree in nursing and paramedics.

Roger Trudgeon (Trust Hon. Secretary) spoke on behalf of the Trust and presented Mark with two books, the 'Albert Coates Biography' and 'Glimpses'. Assoc. Prof. Joe Fleming was Master of Ceremonies. The ceremony began with an acknowledgement of Country by Madelaine Sealey. Trust members had the pleasure of meeting with Mark and his parents after the ceremony.



Orator, David Morrison AO

David Morrison AO delivered the oration at the Annual Coates Oration on the 10th October, 2016.

Lieutenant General Morrison was Chief of the Army from 2011-2015. He was the Australian of the Year for 2016, and joins the list of prominent Australians who have been Coates orators.

General Morrison concluded his appointment as Australia's Chief of Army in May 2015. During a 36 year career he saw

service in Bougainville and East Timor. He was awarded an AO in 2010 for outstanding performance and loyalty to his profession. General Morrison is probably best known for his strong public stance on gender equality.

COATES ORATION 2016



2016 Scholarship Recipients

L to R: **Grant Holmes**, (Emergency & Critical Care Nursing Post Grad.) **Danielle Tartaglia**, (Emergency & Critical Care Nursing Post Grad.) **Lt. Gen. David Morrison**, **Stacey Moll**, (Health, Nursing) **Nayan Bhindi**, (Rural Health Academic Centre) **Elisabeth May**, (Arts & Education). Back row L to R: **Mark Hocking**, (Nursing/Paramedicine) **Joseph Dawson**, (Science Technology, Biomedical Science).

ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS GRADUATION & AWARD PRESENTATION, 2016



Dr Aaron Stanes recipient of the
Albert Coates Memorial Prize,
2016



Keynote speaker, Assoc. Prof.
Frank Gaillard, was the recipient of
the inaugural Albert Coates
Memorial Prize in 2001



Coates Trust members L to R: Shirley McIver,
Barry Lonsdale, Don Moss, Gwenda McManus,
Roger Trudgeon, at the Graduation.

MOUNT PLEASANT PRIMARY SCHOOL PROJECT

MUSEUM IN A SUITCASE

On Monday 19th December, 2016, an exhibition of the Albert Coates projects completed by Year 6 students at Mount Pleasant P.S. was presented at the school. Projects were judged on their creativity, knowledge of Albert Coates' life and work and quality of presentation.

2018 NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

Rural Nursing Scholarships now available in
Hume Health Department Region of Victoria.
Closing date August 31st, 2017.
See Coates website for further information.

For enquiries on eligibility, application forms or
other questions contact Carmel Hurley, Dept. of
Health & Human Services - Hume Region on:
Ph: 03 5761 1248 or
Email: Carmel.Hurley@dhhs.vic.gov.au

Prize winners were: **Tahlia Breheney** for a sculpted head of Albert Coates, **Sebastian Haywood** for a scripted and filmed newscast, **Oscar Haywood** for a time lapse photoshoot of images on how to make a commemorative poppy which had historical facts about Sir Albert behind each flower, **Josh Taylor** for an inventive board game and **Penny Jones** for a song which she sang to the class. These talented students were awarded first prizes of \$300 and runners up of \$100.



Prizes were awarded to L to R: Tahlia Breheney, Josh Taylor
(slightly behind), Oscar Hayward, Penny Jones, Sebastian Hayward

The Albert Coates Memorial Trust is a volunteer-run, Ballarat-based organisation which, since 1998, has raised funds to present scholarships in nursing, paramedicine and medicine and with a strong emphasis on regional areas.

CONTACTING THE TRUST: Any enquiries about scholarships and the work of the Trust can be made as follows:

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Editor/ Photographs except where otherwise acknowledged/Design: Elizabeth Trudgeon

Printed by: High Tech Printing Services, Ballarat

Date: April, 2017

Newsletter published by: Albert Coates Memorial Trust

Donations towards the work of the Trust: over \$2 are tax deductible