



# Reflections on the past, looking to the future

As we wind down from a busy 2007 and take time to reflect on the past twelve months, it has indeed been a bitter-sweet year for the Trust.

In February, Barry Hutchins OAM, a trustee of 37 years, retired in February, and sadly passed away in March after battling cancer. We welcomed Keith Smith and Frances Awcock as trustees in the months following.

The Trust's corpus passed the \$100 million mark shortly before the end of the financial year - a tremendous milestone for the Trust and its beneficiaries, the people of Victoria.

In July we launched a new logo and visual identity for the Trust, as reported in the last edition of this Grants Bulletin, and this was followed by our new website at the start of November.

## Spotlight on:

### Arts, Culture & Heritage

## A musical collaboration - one of the first of its kind in Australia

The Trust has made a grant of \$35,000 for the development and creation of a thrilling new collaborative musical project, *Hidden Republic*, which will be a first for Australia.

*Hidden Republic* brings together some of Australia's finest artists from opposite sides of the musical spectrum - the acclaimed Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and the leading figures of contemporary Indigenous music, the Black Arm Band - and will be presented as part of the 2008 Melbourne International Arts Festival in Hamer Hall, the Arts Centre.

These musical powerhouses will join forces in a compelling and moving musical experience celebrating songs of hope and resilience from the open heart of Australia's contemporary indigenous music.

The commission builds on the success of the Black Arm Band's 'murundak' concert which premiered to huge acclaim at the 2006 Melbourne International Arts Festival and won the 2007 Helpmann Award for Best Australian Contemporary Concert.

The production seeks to elevate contemporary Indigenous music to a peak professional performance platform of the

Throughout the year, the Trust has been busy with its core business of giving grants which will benefit the people of Victoria and we are proud of the difference the Trust's grants have made to such a variety of worthy projects. These range from immediate need, to longer-term strategic projects, and to collaborative partnerships which serve to illustrate the way in which philanthropy is uniquely placed to build partnerships with the community sector, government and the corporate world.

Further in this Bulletin, we report on an exciting outcome of a past project but firstly we would like to announce the recipients from our most recent November grants round for which the Trust received a record number of requests for assistance.

The Trust is sent many wonderful projects to consider but unfortunately it cannot make grants to them all. In this round the Trust was able to give grants to just over half of those who applied.

As usual, we throw the spotlight on a few of these projects. We hope you enjoy reading about them.

highest standard. The project will enable the performance, promotion and celebration of contemporary Australian Indigenous music in an entirely new context, through the development of orchestral arrangements of contemporary Indigenous music.

The MSO will work with three Australian arranger/ composers to develop the orchestral arrangements in collaboration with indigenous artists of the Black Arm Band, spending time with the artists in their own communities, as well as workshoping with orchestral players in Melbourne.

*Hidden Republic* is a collaboration that endeavours to intersect with the Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities in a paradigm that extends beyond the arts. Believing that contemporary music has the power, and the responsibility, to give voice to and engage with community concerns with innovation, energy and creativity, the Black Arm Band is a force for social awareness and change.

Partners in the project with the Trust are Arts House, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Black Arm Band and the Melbourne International Arts Festival

## Arts, Culture & Heritage continued

### A major new hub for the performing arts

A grant of \$50,000 has been made to the Abbotsford Convent Foundation for the restoration of the Rosina building.

The Rosina building sits at the heart of the Abbotsford Convent precinct, enclosing a picturesque central grassed courtyard. Built in 1908, it is one of the few surviving examples of the European Baroque Revival style of architecture and was used by the Sisters for assemblies and theatrical performances.

To honour its history, as well as to ensure a diverse mix of creative and cultural enterprises across the 6.8 hectare Convent site, Rosina is slated as the Convent's premiere space for the performing arts.

While the downstairs area has been restored and is already in use as a multi-purpose space, in contrast, the first floor remains derelict. Completing the restoration of Rosina will allow for the development of a unique performing arts centre, sited in an important heritage precinct, with numerous other creative enterprises and activities on site.

It will deliver accessible, arts and cultural experiences to diverse community audiences; provide low-cost development, rehearsal and office spaces for small to medium sized performing arts organisations, local community and youth groups and other grassroots bodies; and include purpose built storage facilities that will enable companies and individuals to have a solid base and permanent space to house props and general equipment.

The Convent precinct attracts more than 10,000 visitors each month and oversees 300 tenancies.



## Aged Care

### Social inclusion for the elderly

The Trust has made a grant of \$50,000 to Monashlink Community Health Service as the auspicing body for a regional Leadership Development Initiative in the inner east of Melbourne aimed at increasing the capacity of local communities to address social isolation of older people. The goal of this initiative, undertaken by the Inner East Primary Care Partnership, is to increase the social inclusion of the elderly in local communities to reduce isolation and improve their health and well-being.

The Inner East Primary Care Partnership is a partnership of over 70 service providers committed to strengthening the planning, co-ordination and delivery of primary care services by using a range of innovative and collaborative strategies designed to improve outcomes for people using health and support services. It covers the Local Government areas of Boroondara, Manningham, Monash and Whitehorse and comprises local government

authorities, community health centres, non-government agencies, community groups and social welfare organisations.

The Leadership program is designed to bring people together from across health and community service organisations and broader community groups to develop skills and strategies for enhancing community inclusion and connectedness in their geographic areas of interest.

The uniqueness of this program lies in the approach of bringing together people from different sectors of the community (older people, service providers, community groups and service clubs, faith communities, business and others) who have a common concern about the impacts of social isolation, but different perspectives on ways in which this could be addressed in their local community. The capacity of this diverse group will be enhanced by their interaction with each other, as well as input from guest speakers, exposure to projects that have worked in other areas, and the opportunity to work together to develop local projects.

## Community Support

### Looking after our human rights

The Human Rights Law Resource Centre (HRLRC) is the first specialist human rights legal centre in Australia.

Established in 2005, it is an independent community legal centre which seeks to promote, protect and contribute to the fulfilment of human rights, particularly the human rights of people that are disadvantaged or living in poverty through the practice of law.

The Centre also aims to support and build the capacity of the legal and community sectors to use human rights in their casework, advocacy and service delivery.

The Helen Macpherson Smith Trust has approved a grant to the Centre of \$100,000 payable over three years for operational and organisational capacity building.

The Centre works in four priority areas: first, the effective implementation and operation of the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities*; second, socio-economic rights, particularly the rights to health and adequate housing; third, equality rights, particularly the right to non-discrimination; and, fourth, the rights of people in all forms of detention.

The Centre undertakes its activities through partnerships which co-ordinate and leverage the capacity, expertise and

networks of pro bono lawyers and barristers, university law schools, community legal centres, and other community and human rights organisations.

By harnessing the capacity and commitment of the private sector, the HRLRC, in the 18 months to June 2007, provided and facilitated over \$2.5 million and 8,000 hours of human rights legal work (despite having an annual budget of less than \$160,000). This work was undertaken by over 50 lawyers and is the equivalent of four full-time lawyers, in addition to the two lawyers employment at the Centre.

In spite of this extensive work, there remains significant unmet demand for human rights legal services in Victoria. While the Centre is regularly approached by law firms and barristers offering their pro bono services to promote and protect human rights, it is often unable to use these valuable services due to the Centre's financial and co-ordination capacity constraints.

The Trust's grant will go part-way to alleviating these constraints, enabling the Human Rights Law Resource Centre to contribute substantially to the promotion and protection of the human rights of marginalised and disadvantaged people in Victoria.

### Helping new migrant men settle into the Australian way

A new three year project undertaken by a partnership consisting of Women's Health in the South East, the Ethnic Communities Council of the South East, and Windermere Child & Families Services will assist culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) men who have recently arrived as migrants to settle into Australian culture.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that, for many men of CALD backgrounds, their lack of understanding and acceptance of the Australian social and legal contexts has led to family violence, disruption and breakdown. Increasing demand for family counselling and domestic violence interventions, from CALD communities and families, indicates the transition from one culture to the Australian culture is especially difficult, where the Australian cultural values are seen as alien by the incoming groups.

Often the man of the CALD family becomes isolated after arrival in Australia, whereas the woman is often involved in settling in children, finding a school, finding housing, and the like. The loss of connection experienced by the man has led to a regrettable increase in violence within the family group - behaviour that is often a response to feelings of powerlessness, loss of status, frustration and insecurity. Too often the immediate response of Australian services has been to intervene on behalf of the women and children in the legal sense, rather than seeing the wider issues that may have led to the behaviour.

The project, *Strengthening the role of CALD men within their families in the Australian context*, seeks to train older men of various CALD communities (who have often gone through similar experiences) to work with the newly arrived males, and to help them weather the transition to their new country more effectively, thereby reducing unacceptable behaviour, and strengthening the family unit.

The project will take place in the Southern Metropolitan region of Melbourne which comprises 10 local government areas and accounts for 22.6% of Victoria's population. It includes the City of Greater Dandenong which is the most culturally diverse locality in Victoria with residents from 151 different birthplaces, and over 57% born overseas.

The grant of \$100,000 payable over three years to help the partnership to establish, implement and evaluate this new model of interaction with CALD communities, which will use a peer educator and mentor model. The project focuses on the empowerment of CALD men, to work through this time of dislocation and disruption, so that they may take up again significant family and community roles, albeit within the Australian context. It is expected to ultimately strengthen CALD families and communities

## Disability Care & Support

### An Early Years Program for kids with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Abercare Family Services has received a grant of \$25,000 to run a two year early intervention program for children with special needs which are not being met.

*Early Years, Learn Play Talk* is an innovative program which has been specifically designed to assist children aged between 3 and 4 years who are currently on a Department of Human Services central waiting list. The children appear unlikely to receive assistance which addresses their needs prior to commencing school and will be severely disadvantaged. They have been identified as having language and developmental delays or Autism Spectrum Disorder.

The program follows a model that has three tiers of services incorporating a parent training program, outreach home visiting service and social skills development groups. The program will operate in the local government areas of Wyndham and Brimbank.

## Health

### Innovative Cancer Research Scheme

The Trust approved a grant of \$100,000 over three years to the Cancer Council towards a visionary and unique cancer research program.

The Venture Grants Scheme initiative was borne out of the identification of the need for funding innovative projects that would open the way for significant advances in knowledge, ideas that could revolutionise cancer research and treatment.

Five projects have been selected from forty applications after a rigorous selection process. Each of the projects has the potential to revolutionise the way cancer is prevented and treated.

The research institutes undertaking the projects include the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and Monash University.

## Outcomes

*In 2006, the Trust approved a grant of \$110,000 to pilot two human rights projects. Below is a report from Dr. Diane Sisely on an exciting strategic development for the grant.*

### Strategic Linkages by Dr. Diane Sisely, Australian Centre for Human Rights Education

“By partnering with universities in Australian Research Council applications, philanthropic trusts can achieve their desired outcomes better and drive their grant funds further.

#### Background

As the head of the Victorian Equal Opportunity Commission I had become very aware of the difficulties faced by many people in redressing injustices through the individual complaint based anti discrimination system. We need to adopt a proactive, systemic human rights framework focusing on the whole, on what is required to live a decent life

The Victorian Government in May 2005 issued a Statement of Intent concerning the better protection of the human rights of people in Victoria. This represented a major opportunity to really make a difference, but the task was difficult, there would be naysayers and our understanding of human rights is not well developed.

#### What we did

With a colleague, Mike Salvaris, I approached the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust. The Trust recognised the strategic opportunity and provided us with funding of \$110,000 for two pilot projects. The first to gather the views of people as to what they value and wish to have protected to enable them to live decent lives and the second, a pilot for an audit of peoples' access to their human rights.

Following this, on the 25th May 2006, the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities entered into Victorian law.

Around the same time academics at RMIT University had received philanthropic funds to establish the Australian Centre for Human Rights Education and were interested in collaboration. Together we decided to apply for an Australian Research Council Linkage Grant to extend the work and to supplement the funds provided by the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust.

Linkage grants traditionally involve academics, government and/or business collaborating on a project; business provides funds, the academics provide their time and the ARC provides funds to undertake the project. In our case our “business” partner was the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, the \$110,000 grant from the Trust went into our application as an “industry” contribution and encouraged the other “industry” partners to come on board.

#### What we achieved

We were successful in our application and received \$193,993 from the ARC. But when the contributions of all “industry” partners are included we have been able to leverage much more.

Some philanthropic trusts choose not to fund university research projects because they believe that this is what government research funds, such as the ARC, are for, but they may not realise that this is not an either/or situation.

By providing funds and participating in such projects as partners, philanthropic trusts qualify the project for matching funds by the ARC, and in the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust's case, the Trust also insisted on its university partner providing equivalent resources as a condition of its grant. In this way Helen Macpherson Smith Trust helped to leverage its initial grant of \$110,00 to provide an additional \$712,173 to develop stronger human rights and systematically improve the lives of people in Victoria.”

# Grants Approved November 2007

## Grant Statistics

for the financial year 2008

Grants Approved Round 1:  
November 2007

Total number of applications received: 139

Total number of grants approved: 71

### Grants approved by Sector

(includes amounts payable in future years)

#### Aged Care

10 grants totalling \$227,450

#### Arts, Culture & Heritage

9 grants totalling \$180,000

#### Community Support

30 grants totalling \$863,648

#### Disability Care & Support

9 grants totalling \$141,500

#### Education

3 grants totalling \$140,282

#### Employment & Vocational Training

2 grants totalling \$30,000

#### Environment

2 grants totalling \$85,000

#### Health

6 grants totalling \$225,000

#### Total for this round:

71 grants totalling \$1,892,880

### Aged Care

Cabrini Health  
[www.cabrini.com.au](http://www.cabrini.com.au)

Research Project: How well, does an elderly 'at risk' population understand health information and osteoporosis health knowledge?  
\$20,000

Dunmunkle Lodge Inc  
Major building program - 45 Bed New Facility  
\$20,000

Kellock Lodge Alexandra Inc  
Kellock Lodge Aged Care Development Project  
\$20,000

MonashLink Community Health Service  
[www.monashlink.org.au](http://www.monashlink.org.au)  
Inner East Leadership for Social Inclusion Initiative  
\$50,000

Multicultural Aged Care Services Geelong Inc  
[www.macs.org.au](http://www.macs.org.au)  
Support for a shade installation in two courtyards  
\$10,000

Ottrey Homes - Cobram & District Retirement Village Incorporated  
<http://www.ottreyhomes.com.au/>  
Sensory Garden project  
\$20,000

Palliative Care Victoria  
[www.pallcarevic.asn.au](http://www.pallcarevic.asn.au)  
Strengthening Quality Community Care Through Best Practice Palliative Care Volunteer Training  
\$40,000

Rose Lodge, Wonthaggi & District Elderly Citizens Homes  
20 bed building extension  
\$20,000

Uniting Care Community Options  
[www.ucco.org.au](http://www.ucco.org.au)  
Bringing Consumer and Carer needs to Centre Stage: Project Scoping Proposal  
\$7,450

Warramunda Village Inc  
Warramunda New Dementia Unit  
\$20,000

## Arts, Culture & Heritage

Abbotsford Convent Foundation  
[www.abbotsfordconvent.com.au](http://www.abbotsfordconvent.com.au)  
Restoring Rosina Building - Major new hub for the performing arts  
\$50,000

BalletLab Association Inc  
[www.balletlab.com](http://www.balletlab.com)  
Australian premiere of 'Robin'  
\$10,000

Circus Oz  
[www.circusoz.com](http://www.circusoz.com)  
Circus Oz Book 'Circus Oz, The Adventure - The First 30 Years'  
\$25,000

Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces  
[www.gertrude.org.au](http://www.gertrude.org.au)  
Emerging Writers Programme  
\$15,000

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra Pty Ltd  
[www.mso.com.au](http://www.mso.com.au)  
MSO and Black Arm Band collaboration 'Hidden Republic'  
\$35,000

Mornington Botanical Rose Gardens Incorporated  
Mornington Botanical Rose Gardens  
\$15,000

Multicultural Arts Victoria  
[www.multiculturalarts.com.au](http://www.multiculturalarts.com.au)  
State of Culture Project  
\$10,000

Next Wave Festival  
[www.nextwave.org.au](http://www.nextwave.org.au)  
Sweet Region - a touring performance of young contemporary dancers from Next Wave's regional program  
\$10,000

The National Theatre  
[www.nationaltheatre.org.au](http://www.nationaltheatre.org.au)  
Heritage Survey of National Theatre (Conservation Plan)  
\$10,000

## Community Support

Barwon Youth Accommodation Service Inc  
'Cafe' Meals Project for the Homeless in Geelong  
\$11,648

Box Hill Citizens Advice Bureau  
[www.ourcommunity.com.au/boxhillcab](http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/boxhillcab)  
Emergency Relief  
\$2,500

Brophy Family and Youth Services Inc  
[www.brophy.org.au](http://www.brophy.org.au)  
Building Resilience in Corangamite Kids  
\$27,500

Casey North Community Information & Support Service Inc  
[www.vicnet.net.au/~cncis](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~cncis)  
Keeping It Together Program - a preventative program to reduce family breakdown  
\$20,000

Eastern Access Community Health  
[www.each.com.au](http://www.each.com.au)  
Healesville Community Labyrinth Project  
\$10,000

Eastern Volunteer Resource Centre Inc  
[www.eastervolunteers.asn.au](http://www.eastervolunteers.asn.au)  
Enhancement of Volunteering in the City of Whitehorse  
\$5,000

Edmund Rice Camps Inc  
[www.ercvic.com](http://www.ercvic.com)  
Camp Executive Training  
\$5,000

Heathmont Inter Church Help Inc  
Immediate relief - Food Parcels  
\$5,000

Human Rights Law Resource Centre

[www.hrlrc.org.au](http://www.hrlrc.org.au)

Operational and Organisational Capacity Building Grant

**\$100,000**

Kids Who Care Foundation

[www.kidswhocare.org.au](http://www.kidswhocare.org.au)

Support for young carers camps

**\$5,000**

Kilmany Uniting Care

[www.kilmany.org.au](http://www.kilmany.org.au)

Walking Together - indigenous and non-indigenous people walking together to create positive change

**\$50,000**

Lifeline Geelong Barwon Region

[www.geelonglifeline.org.au](http://www.geelonglifeline.org.au)

Volunteer training requirements - Suicide Prevention Workshops

**\$6,000**

Lions Village Licola Inc

[www.licola.org.au](http://www.licola.org.au)

Restoration of Licola Wilderness Village following bushfires, mudslides and floods

**\$25,000**

Lord Somers Camp and Power House

[www.lordsomerscamp.org.au](http://www.lordsomerscamp.org.au)

Funds to support young people to undertake activities at the camp

**\$5,000**

Mallee Accommodation Support Program

[www.masp.org.au](http://www.masp.org.au)

Accommodation for homeless young people in Mildura

**\$20,000**

Mildura Aboriginal Corporation

To improve the health, wellbeing and life outcomes of aboriginal children and young people in the Sunraysia region of North West Victoria.

**\$40,000**

Monash University

[www.monash.edu.au](http://www.monash.edu.au)

Research Project: From Dependence to Independence: Examining the support needs and pathways of young people leaving state care in rural Victoria

**\$75,000**

New Hope Foundation Migrant and Refugee Centre

[www.nhf.org.au](http://www.nhf.org.au)

Housing For All - refugee housing project

**\$25,000**

Odyssey House Victoria

[www.odyssey.org.au](http://www.odyssey.org.au)

Developing Victorian Guidelines on Parental Drug Use and Child Protection

**\$40,000**

One Umbrella

[www.oneumbrella.org.au](http://www.oneumbrella.org.au)

One Million Meals: Dandenong and Frankston Food Rescue Operation

**\$20,000**

Royal Society For The Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals

[www.rspcavic.org.au](http://www.rspcavic.org.au)

Support for the provision of a Welfare Boarding service, currently offered at 11 RSPCA Shelters across Victoria

**\$10,000**

St Mary's House Of Welcome Limited

[www.smhow.org.au](http://www.smhow.org.au)

St Mary's House of Welcome Redevelopment

**\$20,000**

Tenants Union of Victoria

[www.tuv.org.au](http://www.tuv.org.au)

Access to the Private Rental Market: Industry practices & perspectives

**\$35,000**

The Torch Project

[www.thetorch.asn.au](http://www.thetorch.asn.au)

Re-Igniting Community Victoria

**\$100,000**

The Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture Inc

[www.foundationhouse.org.au](http://www.foundationhouse.org.au)

Schools Support for Refugee Background Students

**\$48,000**

University Of Melbourne

[www.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.unimelb.edu.au)

Development of a detailed proposal for funding of a major initiative in public discourse and deliberative democracy

**\$12,000**

Victorian Arabic Social Services

[www.vass.org.au](http://www.vass.org.au)

Speaking Out Against Racism - SOAR

\$30,000

Victorian Association Of Youth In Communities Inc

[www.vayc.org.au](http://www.vayc.org.au)

Development and support of new and existing youth clubs

\$5,000

Women's Health in the South East Inc

[www.whise.org.au](http://www.whise.org.au)

Strengthening the role of CALD men within their families in the Australian context

\$100,000

Youth Affairs Council of Victoria (YACVic)

[www.yacvic.org.au](http://www.yacvic.org.au)

Stage 2 of Youth Voice: Navigating the system

\$6,000

## Disability Care & Support

Araluen Centre

[www.araluen.org](http://www.araluen.org)

Development of an Art - Sensory Room

\$15,000

Back To Back Theatre Inc

[www.backtobacktheatre.com](http://www.backtobacktheatre.com)

Back to Back Theatre Community Programs 2008

\$7,500

Baptcare

[www.baptcare.org.au](http://www.baptcare.org.au)

Early Years - Learn, Play, Talk program

\$25,000

DEAL Communication Centre Inc

[www.vicnet.net.au/~dealcc](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~dealcc)

Giving a Voice: Increasing communication options for students without functional speech or handwriting skills

\$15,000

Garfield North Outdoor Education Centre Inc

Sewerage Treatment Plant

\$4,000

Melbourne Fringe

[www.melbournefringe.com.au](http://www.melbournefringe.com.au)

Production of 'Looking Up'

\$10,000

Monkami Centre Inc

[www.monkami.com](http://www.monkami.com)

Stepping Out; A Pilot Project

\$10,000

Outlook (Vic) Inc

[www.outlookvic.org.au](http://www.outlookvic.org.au)

Recycling Goods Shop at the Darebin Resource Recovery Centre

\$30,000

Woorinyan Incorporated

Building Redevelopment Campaign at Cranbourne Road Frankston site

\$25,000

## Education

Create (Geelong) Inc.

Joint evaluation of the Parent Connect and Computer for Every Child Project

\$20,282

Evolve at Typo Station

[www.evolve.org.au](http://www.evolve.org.au)

Education Development Program

\$100,000

The Link Centre Ltd

[www.linkcentre.com.au](http://www.linkcentre.com.au)

Social Development Program

\$20,000

## Employment & Vocational Training

Alpha Autism Inc

[www.alpha-autism.org.au](http://www.alpha-autism.org.au)

Resource and Learning Centre

\$20,000

Geelong Ethnic Communities Council Inc

[www.diversitat.org.au](http://www.diversitat.org.au)

Enviro-Youth Program

\$10,000

Thornbury Women's Neighbourhood House

[www.twnh.vic.edu.au](http://www.twnh.vic.edu.au)

Greener Houses Growing Greener Neighbourhoods

\$50,000

Warrnambool Wildlife Rescue Inc

[www.warrnamboolwildlife.org.au](http://www.warrnamboolwildlife.org.au)

Koaladoors Project

\$35,000

## Health

Australian Stem Cell Centre

[www.stemcellcentre.edu.au](http://www.stemcellcentre.edu.au)

Research Project: Marrow Organoid Development  
\$30,000

Centre For Eye Research Australia

[www.cera.org.au](http://www.cera.org.au)

Research project: Identification of genes for short-sightedness (myopia) in an Australian twin cohort  
\$30,000

Epilepsy Foundation of Victoria Inc

[www.epinet.org.au](http://www.epinet.org.au)

Providing Culturally Relevant and Accessible Epilepsy Information  
\$10,000

Monash University

[www.monash.edu.au](http://www.monash.edu.au)

Research Project: Colon cancer stem cells: a model for the discovery of anti-cancer drugs and the identification of new tumour markers  
\$25,000

The Cancer Council Victoria

[www.cancervic.org.au](http://www.cancervic.org.au)

Venture Grants Scheme  
\$100,000

University Of Melbourne

[www.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.unimelb.edu.au)

Research Project: The discovery of critical early markers of arthritic disease  
\$30,000

## Other News

### New 4-year Funding Partnership for Macpherson Smith Community Alliance

In October, the Victorian State Government and the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust launched a new \$2 million partnership for the Macpherson Smith Community Alliance.

The Alliance will build on the successful Community Building Initiative, which is tapping into the skills and resources of towns across Victoria to manage and adapt to change, and create thriving communities.

Peter Batchelor, Minister for Community Development, launched the initiative at Port Arlington, near Geelong.

“This \$2 million partnership is a pool of funding created to assist each small rural and regional community participating in the Brumby Government’s successful community building program,” Mr Batchelor said.

“The Alliance will provide grants to support projects identified as being important for the local community, allowing the CBI projects to move from the planning stage into action.

“Here in Portarlington, that funding could go towards improving local transport, establishing a neighbourhood house or upgrading the local harbour – the important thing is that the local community will set the priorities.”

There are 19 Community Building Initiatives across Victoria, working with more than 100 small towns to identify and implement the priorities of the local community.

More information on the Macpherson Smith Community Alliance can be found at <http://msca.hmstrust.org.au>

## About Us

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