

# Dr Philip Moors AO: A legacy of profound good work...

## The sector pays tribute...



Surely there can be no greater testament to a chair of a philanthropic trust than an absolute cavalcade of commendation from its grantees. Their range is far reaching across: education, digital mental health, citizen scientists, biotech researchers, indigenous gathering places, entrepreneurship capability building, hospitality social enterprise, rural leaders, tenant legal resources, flora and fauna conservation, ancestor resting place restoration and women's leadership education.

It is gratifying to us, as Phil's co-trustees, to see him acknowledged in testimonials for: his vision, leadership, expertise, thirst for learning, sheer hard work and commitment. And for his personal attributes of being generous, respectful, thoughtful, warm and authentic.

Phil retires from the trust after 10 industrious and productive years as a trustee including six years as chair, succeeding the inaugural multi-decadal chair, Darvell Hutchinson and the marvellous benefactress, Helen Macpherson Smith.

Phil leaves a legacy of profound good works of which he should deservedly be proud. We will all strive to continue his, Darvell's and Helen's visionary work.

**Catherine Walter AM**

*Chair, HMSTrust*

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## Philanthropy Australia

Thank you, Phillip.

It is such a pleasure to be able to formally record our thanks and appreciation for everything you have done for philanthropy in Australia. I'm delighted to send this short message on behalf of the Philanthropy Australia Board, staff and broader membership. Our gratitude and appreciation can be framed around your three outstanding characteristics – your why, your what, and your how.

Why – your vision and purpose, both for the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust and the for-purpose community more broadly, is consistent, tangible and profound. It is clear that it drives you and it provides an example and inspiration for others.

What – your leadership, expertise and depth of knowledge, curiosity, professionalism and never ending thirst for learning, as well as your sheer hard work and commitment, have delivered enduring positive change for so many people and communities.

How – this is where you give us the magic trifecta. Your 'how' is so special – your grace, wisdom, generosity, respectful and thoughtful approach to everything you do, and your warmth and authenticity, all dial up exponentially the impact and influence you have on your work, your colleagues and your peers.

So congratulations on a decade of stellar leadership of the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust. I'd also like to add a personal thank you for your invaluable support and encouragement of me, my colleagues and of Philanthropy Australia. You have inspired us, supported us, encouraged us - and we have all truly loved and appreciated working with you – thank you.

**Sarah Davies AM**

*CEO*

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## People and Parks Foundation

Congratulations Phil, on your retirement as Chair of the HMSTrust, from the People and Parks Foundation, First People of the Millewa Mallee and Parks Victoria.

“As Chair of the First People of the Millewa Mallee Aboriginal Corporation and the Ponnun Pulgi Coordinator, thank you for your leadership and connection to our work laying our Ancestors to rest. This has been a long time coming. We are sorry to see you go, and I personally wish you the very best.”

### **Uncle Tinawin Nukkun**

*Chair, First People of the Millewa Mallee Aboriginal Corporation, Ponnun Pulgi Coordinator*

“Phil, we are deeply grateful for your leadership and sincere connection to our unique partnership project, Ponnun Pulgi. You and your team granted where others were afraid to grant. And then, as others were still too cautious, you doubled down and did it again, this time with a Lead Grant! You and your HMSTrust colleagues have walked with us on Country to visit the Ancestors’ Resting Places, and have seen the new growth blossoming there. Our three-way partnership and the capacity of the First People of the Millewa Mallee Aboriginal Corporation is stronger as a result of your involvement. Thank you to HMSTrust for being a key part of Healing Country Together with us.”

### **Alison Hill**

*Managing Director, People and Parks Foundation*

“I would to thank and acknowledge the vision and faith that Philip Moors AO has shown in the Resting Places Healing Country Together project in North West Victoria through the Helen Macpherson Trust. Philip walked country and deeply understood the significance of this project to our first peoples”.

### **Matthew Jackson**

*CEO, Parks Victoria*

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## Melbourne Business School

Melbourne Business School’s relationship with the HMSTrust dates from the very foundation of the School. In 1983 trustees donated \$100,000 towards the School’s building fund and in 1990 established an endowment to fund fellowships for women to study, teach and research at the School.

In 2008 the HMSTrust gifted \$1.5 million, matched by the School, to establish the Helen Macpherson Smith Chair of Not-for-Profit Leadership. This gift set the School on a journey towards greater engagement with the for-purpose sector, a new direction for a School traditionally focused on business.

Over the past two years, under the inspired leadership of HMSTrust’s retiring Chair, Dr Philip Moors AO, the School’s work with the for-purpose sector has been re-directed and reinvigorated. The Chair will be transformed into a Centre for Social Purpose, modelled on similar centres at business schools elsewhere in the world.

At a time in Australia’s history when the demands on the for-purpose sector have never been greater, Philip Moors’ legacy will see the HMSTrust and the School rise to meet this challenge, as they have done before, at the very establishment of the School and in inspiring talented women to pursue careers in leadership and management.

### **Ian Harper AO**

*Dean & Director*

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## **Biolinks Alliance**

A large grant from the HMSTrust to Biolinks Alliance in 2016 was a change-all moment for the organisation. That year, Phil Moors came to a network Symposium event on glider conservation we held in Seymour and recognised the importance of what he saw in that room - the incredible interest and appetite for knowledge there is in the community, as well as understanding of the need to work together to tackle conservation issues.

Funding provided by the HMSTrust has been pivotal in enabling Biolinks to grow from a good, but difficult idea held by a group of concerned individuals, to a growing network of member groups with far reaching networks, a solid bank of scientific knowledge, a sustainable model for long term planning and a unique tool called 'Local to Landscape' for planning landscape-scale species protection.

We are ever grateful for Phil Moors, and the Board he led, for their clever investment in building our operational capacity. It has allowed us to weather the depressing decline in funding for the environment from governments. We have now planned, and are starting to implement, five landscape projects - Glideways in the Melbourne Ark; Central Goldfields; Grampians to Pyrenees; Heathcote Biolinks and Yam Paddock to address the most urgent conservation issues in Central Victoria.

**Sophie Bickford**

*Executive Director*

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## **Justice Connect**

Thanks to the visionary support of the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust (HMSTrust), Justice Connect has developed Dear Landlord, which is our first interactive digital self-help tool to prevent homelessness.

In Justice Connect's frontline tenancy sustainment work, we continually saw women and children facing avoidable evictions for falling behind in rent. By creating Dear Landlord through user-centred design, we have been able to scale our reach and intervene earlier to maintain safe housing for more Victorians experiencing financial insecurity.

Our first version of Dear Landlord was an interactive letter-writer, which helped renters to know their tenancy rights and supported them to negotiate affordable payment plans with their landlords. Drawing on Justice Connect's commitment to high-impact digital interventions and our evidence-based learnings, the first version of Dear Landlord was rapidly adapted for Victorians at risk of homelessness during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, with a 900% increase in users in February-March 2020. Both before and during COVID-19, user feedback has been consistently positive on the benefits of Dear Landlord: "Helped me to feel more confident about requesting a rent reduction from my landlord. A fantastic resource."

Given the ongoing social and economic impacts of COVID-19, we know that more renters than ever are facing financial hardship and the related risks of eviction. With HMSTrust's continuing and generous support, Justice Connect is currently progressing a new version of Dear Landlord, which is focussed on addressing housing and financial insecurity for Victorian renters during the COVID-19 transition and the recovery phase.

**Chris Povey**

*CEO*

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## Shepparton Community Share

In 2015, the HMS Trust undertook a community capacity-building grant round in Shepparton. Four independent, Shepparton-based not-for-profits applied for grants aimed at building a more formal and effective collaborative network.

Five years later this group of agencies known as Shepparton Community Share, is still going strong. We have developed inventive HR solutions, established a coordinated paid internship program and built a shared internal audit capacity to enhance continuous improvement.

Our relationship with the HMS Trust has been a warm and supportive one. We have been invited to be bold and provided opportunities to share our experiences more broadly. As the Chair of the Trustees, Phil Moors has not just encouraged this style of grant-making, he has been an active participant and leader. Phil and all of the Trustees travelled to Shepparton in late 2016 to facilitate a community forum, reviewing the Shepparton grant round. That commitment to personal involvement typifies Phil's approach as an inquisitive investor and an engaged mentor.

We are not the first funding recipients to acknowledge the relationship with the HMS Trust is a special and unique experience. As a Trustee for the last decade and Chair since 2014, Phil Moors has played a central role in enhancing the reputation of HMS Trust to deliver exciting opportunities and sustainable change. We thank Phil for his friendship and wish him every happiness in retirement.

**David Tennant**

*CEO, FamilyCare*

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## WEstjustice

Over the years, WEstjustice has enjoyed a wonderful relationship with Helen Macpherson Smith Trust (HMST) under the leadership of Phillip Moors. It commenced with initial support of one of our very successful youth programs, the School Lawyer Program. In 2017, HMST agreed to fund the development of the School Lawyer Program Framework, which led to the codification and expansions of the concept nationally. Over the years we have extended the model to include Youth Law Clinics and we are soon to provide a similar service to young people in out of home care and youth detention. More recently, HMST has invested in our Youth Employment Justice Project which seeks to educate and empower young people with regard to their employment rights and responsibilities and circumvent exploitation and discrimination.

As a result of the School Lawyer Program and Youth Employment Justice Project, hundreds of school aged children have received education and assistance with legal problems ranging from debts, fines, family violence, criminal law, consumer issues and more recently, employment law. Our young people deserve the best start in life - for those experiencing disadvantage, knowledge regarding legal rights and responsibilities can often be the key to breaking these cycles and providing effective pathways to success.

We would like to thank Philip Moors for his support over the years and wish him all the very best in the future.

**Melissa Hardham**

*CEO*

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## STREAT

Across the last decade STREAT have been lucky enough to find some philanthropic funders who have looked beyond the fledgling scale of our size and impact and backed our dreams to scale both. HMSTrust has been one of these funders. In 2013 we started conversations with the Trust about our dreams to build our major Cromwell site where we could increase the number of marginalised young people we could train in our hospitality social enterprises, along with the range of training opportunities we could offer them. This Cromwell site has been utterly transformational for us, helping us rapidly scale our youth impact as hoped, and also our business operations, the engine that sustains our social enterprise business model.

Our sincerest thanks to Phil and the whole HMSTrust team for backing our vision and also helping grow the social enterprise sector in Victoria. As we now enter our second decade with increasing need, we thank you for helping us build a solid foundation for the unprecedented challenges ahead of us. Thank you for helping us make meals that matter. They'll always be a place for you at our table, please come and share some deliciousness with us soon.

**Rebecca Scott**

*Co-founder and CEO*

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## Youthrive Victoria

Youthrive Victoria, originally the Macpherson Smith Rural Foundation, was an initiative of the HMSTrust in 2008, established with a \$5m corpus to fulfil their vision of a thriving confident rural Victoria driven by inspiring leaders. Phil Moor's consistent personal support of Youthrive Victoria has been a constant source of strength throughout his 10 years as a trustee and most noticeably during his 6 years as chairman.

During Phil's tenure Youthrive Victoria has been received 4 subsequent grants to entrench and enhance the establishment of University Scholarships, mentoring and future rural leaders' programs, and our Creswick based operations. We currently have more than 400 active alumni members.

Our programs attract the best and brightest young people who are committed to the viability of their communities. Here are two recent examples.

Kate Maddern, who lives in Birchip and works with the Birchip Cropping Group, has been awarded the 2020 Rhodes Scholarship. Another past scholarship holder was runner up.

In 2020 two past scholarship holders, Jacob Chacko and Nick Young were appointed as Associate Directors to the Youthrive Victoria Board to enhance the development of two of our outstanding leaders and ensure the voices of young adults are heard at the board table.

Phil's leadership was a guiding light through Youthrive Victoria's move to independence from HMSTrust and the renaming/rebranding which has been critical to our success.

Phil has also personally demonstrated his strong support to Youthrive Victoria through his regular attendance at our events where he seeks out our young adults to better understand their challenges and aspirations for themselves and their communities.

**Bruce Anderson**

*Chair*

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## ACRE

As early pioneers of entrepreneurship education in Victoria, ACRE would like to commend the leadership of Phil Moors and the role HMSTrust has played to build the case for young Victorians learning entrepreneurship capabilities through social enterprise.

ACRE believes that entrepreneurship education is an essential lever for change as young people navigate multiple challenges in the future in an uncertain and rapidly changing world. Recently Access Economics reported that by 2030, 63% of all jobs will require enterprise skills and yet these capabilities are yet to be embedded in the education system. For young people wanting to stay in their rural communities, this also means developing skills for self-employment.

HMSTrust's early investment in this work has been pivotal in trialling and independently evaluating the globally recognised Social Enterprise Schools Initiative (SES) here in Victoria. As a result, over 220 teachers have been trained with over 4500 students participating across 90 school settings with outstanding results. Social Enterprise Schools is now expanding rights across Victoria thanks to the early adopter role HMST has taken to supporting this important social innovation.

Phil has taken a deep interest in this work, accounting for much of the success we are now experiencing. Congratulations on all you have achieved Phil, we have benefitted greatly from your unwavering support, strategic thinking and great humility, qualities of a great leader!

**Matt Pfahlert**

*Co-founder and CEO*

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## Orygen Digital

Without the support of Helen Macpherson Smith Trust and the dedicated and inspiring work of Trustees like Phil Moors, Orygen Digital wouldn't be what it is today.

In 2010, Helen Macpherson Smith Trust gave us the very first grant we ever got. Ten years on, Orygen Digital is the world largest digital centre developing evaluating and disseminating digital interventions for youth mental health services in the world. It is an understatement to say that this early support was a catalyst to everything that was to come.

This year Orygen Digital was granted \$7 million from the Victorian Government and the Telstra Foundation to roll out the MOST platform to Victorian headspace centres. The ACT Government has also recently committed \$8.7M to roll out MOST in their territory. This will constitute the first network of digitally enhanced services anywhere in the world. We couldn't have got to this point without the initial trust and support of Helen Macpherson Smith Trust.

“Reflecting on the last 10 years working on digital youth mental health, and how in 2010, you gave us the very first grant to support Horyzons. What a game changer that was for us, leading us to where we are today: with an opportunity to have a major impact on the lives of 10,000s of young people in Victoria, Australia and around the world. Thanks so very much for trusting and supporting us, and for being the first do to so. It meant the world to us. It made all the difference” – Professor Mario Alvarez-Jimenez

A further heartfelt thanks all at the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust for getting on board early with YOTES, which has helped us solidify the employment component of our MOST platform.

Your support and guidance has made a huge difference. Thank you so very much for your generosity, trust and support. Thank you, Phil, for your dedication to making young lives better.

**Professor Mario Alvarez-Jimenez**

*Director, Orygen DIGITAL*

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## Western Chances

We are delighted to contribute to the celebration of Phil!

The Helen Macpherson Smith Trust has been a strong supporter of Western Chances since 2012, not only financially but for additional support. We know if we call on the Trust for help, we will be given generously of time and wise advice.

This doesn't just happen; it's due to the culture created at the organisation and the leadership example set by Phil as a Trustee and then Chair.

Phil has retained a very strong interest in Western Chances' work, he has attended many of our scholarship award presentations and our annual Good Business Forum lunch. I know Phil has been strongly moved on many occasions by the presentations from our scholarship recipients due to his depth of commitment to supporting young people to fulfil their potential. He is always keen to see first-hand the impact of the Trust's funding, making sure that the grants are wisely spent.

In the case of Western Chances, the effect of the grants we have received have had a huge impact, not only on our scholarship recipients but on their families, their school and their community.

On behalf of the Western Chances Board and staff, and the many thousands of scholarship recipients whose lives have been changed, we wish Phil every best wish for his future.

**Terry Bracks**

*Founding Chair*

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## Oonah Belonging Place

I am writing to wish you well in your retirement and more importantly thank you for the support that you and the Trust has provided Oonah/HICSA over the past 11+ years.

Without your belief in our Belonging Place dreams and generosity that allowed up to pursue them, I firmly believe we would not be where we are today.

The work that we have been able to do has dramatically changed people's lives, my own included.

Oonah has grown from an Organisation that had office space (1 room) at a Swinburne Indigenous Learning Centre and no employees to one that now has 17 employees, 4 contractors, over 20 volunteers and a plan to hopefully one day build a facility that will house all our services.

HMSTrust has been on this journey with us from the very beginning and we are so grateful you took a chance on us.

Words cannot express how we appreciate the support and friendships you have shown us over the years. We hope that in your retirement, you can look back and remember what your support has done for us and we wish you all the very best for a long and happy future full of all the things you love.

Please stop by and visit us if you are ever in Healesville.

**Anne Jenkins**

*CEO*

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## Connecting Country

HMSTrust's funding and input into Connecting Country's 'Stewards for Woodland Birds' and 'Habitat Health Check' projects (2017-2020) provided essential support for our long-term biodiversity monitoring. This help allowed us to create a community-driven program, and to engage, empower and train skilled volunteers to monitor biodiversity in our region. These citizen scientists will continue to be actively involved in monitoring into the future. Many volunteers now have the skills and capacity to recruit and train future monitoring volunteers. Popular community education events, and acknowledging the achievements of monitoring volunteers through a thank you event, helped strengthen community networks and build new social connections. The project collected important, scientifically-robust, ecological monitoring data. This data has now been shared via public databases, making it accessible to future researchers, land managers and the community, and available for environmental decision-making. Our monitoring programs simply would not have continued without HMSTrust, and we are most grateful for their support.

**Frances Howe**

*Director*

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## Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Monash University was honoured to be the first recipient of an HMSTrust Social Impact grant in 2014. The \$1.2M grant established an open-access analytical facility to support local researchers from universities, research institutes and start-up biotechnology companies. The HMSTrust Laboratory employs six staff, has provided 927 hours of training to honours, PhD candidates and post-doctoral researchers and has accrued more than 63,000 hours of instrument running time which has generated data for hundreds of publications. The initial investment has resulted in \$4.65M in revenue through grants and contract research services over the past five years.

The laboratory has an internationally recognised accreditation for quality management systems (ISO9001) and is one of Monash University's leading technology research platforms. The HMSTrust Laboratory staff train researchers to the highest industry standards, preparing them for entry into the workforce and supporting internationally significant research. For example, the staff are currently providing analytical services to a World Health Organisation funded initiative, E-MOTIVE intervention, which involves evaluating the effectiveness of a bundle of healthcare products to reduce maternal deaths.

In 2020 the HMSTrust Laboratory remained operational throughout the pandemic to ensure essential research activities continued and the team provided support to two companies developing treatments for COVID-19. Clinicians from a Melbourne hospital contacted the HMSTrust Laboratory in August about a critically ill patient. They needed a laboratory that could measure the amount of medication in the patient's blood and spinal fluid to inform their clinical decisions. The HMSTrust Laboratory was the only group in Victoria who had the instrumentation and expertise to develop and validate the necessary methods in less than 48 hours. The investment in 2014 has benefited hundreds of researchers, dozens of companies, created jobs and saved the life of at least one Victorian.

**Professor Michelle McIntosh**

*Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences*

*Director Medicines Manufacturing Innovation Centre*

*Director HMSTrust Analytical Laboratory*

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## River Nile Learning Centre

We're immensely appreciative of HMS Trust's support of River Nile since our early beginnings. Of note was a 2016 grant giving us capacity to achieve specific needs, essential to our successfully gaining registration to become a school. This has made our business model sustainable and transformed the difference we make in empowering young refugee and asylum seeker women through education. 2020 is our fourth year as a school. In those 4-years, we've trebled student enrolments and increased revenues 7-fold enabling us to invest in and grow our services.

We appreciated Dr Philip Moors' leadership of HMS Trust and investment in our relationship including through bringing the HMSTrust Board to our centre in 2017 to gain insight to their grant impacts in transforming the lives of the young women we support. Soon after, Phil contributed personally, with a generous, surprise, family donation.

Most recently, as COVID-19 struck, HMSTrust provided a Rapid Response Grant enabling us to pivot to strengthen the health and safety of our workplace. Our work is made possible thanks to the generous support of many. High among them, HMSTrust and Phil Moors have been wonderful partners. We thank Phil and HMS Trust for their contribution to our work and that of so many in our community.

**Lisa Wilson**

*Principal – River Nile School*

*Director – River Nile Learning Centre*

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## HMSTrust Grants Advisory Committee

It has been a privilege on both a personal and professional basis to have had the chance to work with you over the past almost 4 years. I have truly appreciated your support and friendship throughout that time. On taking up the role of GAC Chair, I have been particularly impressed with how you have built an interested, caring relationship with grantees, with a genuine aspiration to see our grantees being successful – it is something that I hope to be able to emulate! I have also had the opportunity to witness your leadership of HMSTrust in the broader philanthropic community and have seen at first hand, the deep respect that the industry has for you and therefore, the HMSTrust. Congratulations on your 10 years with HMSTrust, thank you for the encouragement and support you have given me – a philanthropic newbie!!

**Claire Higgins**

*Chair, HMSTrust Grants Advisory Committee*

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## HMSTrust Staff

The past six years under your leadership have been transformative. Taking over from Darvell Hutchinson after his 50 years at the helm of HMSTrust required a special kind of leadership. You brought to the role a patient strength of purpose that, together with your respect for the history of the Trust, your commitment to a civil society, a deep empathy for people, and care for the environment, ensured that Helen's legacy remained secure and relevant. Under your leadership, HMSTrust has adapted to the social, economic and environmental changes that impact our work, and you leave us with a clear roadmap for the next five years of grantmaking, our 2021-2025 Strategic Plan.

On behalf of Glen, Sarah, Amber and Michelle, thank you for your support, friendship and guidance. Tea and conversation is always on the other side of the green door at Windsor Place.

**Lin Bender AM**

*CEO*

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