



H.M.S.

ANNUAL REPORT 2005

HELEN MACPHERSON SMITH TRUST

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Trustees

Darvell M Hutchinson AM, Chairman
J Barry Hutchins OAM

Staff

John A Bryson, Chief Executive Officer
(to 5 May 2005)
W Barry Cook, Accountant (to 31 May 2005)
Darren J McConnell, Finance Executive
(from 9 August 2005)
Elizabeth M Gillies, Grants Executive
Pamela J Beech, Secretary and Receptionist

Investment Committee

Darvell M Hutchinson AM, Chairman
J Barry Hutchins OAM
J Gordon M Moffatt AM
John A Bryson

Bankers

National Australia Bank

Legal Advisors

Freehills

Auditors

PKF

Designers

MDM Design Associates

Contact Information

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Guidelines for grant applications
are available on our website.

The HMS initials and the floral pattern used throughout this report, are engravings that appear on some of Helen's personal effects.

Introduction

The life of Helen Schutt was not one that made headlines. She lived comfortably and quietly, first in Melbourne, then in Europe, secure in the financial and social legacy of her family.

Helen was particularly fortunate in her forebears: on both sides they were hard working and energetic Scottish immigrants. On the Macpherson side they were good judges of land and excellent farmers while the Smiths were entrepreneurs with a talent in business, particularly as timber merchants. Helen was born Helen Macpherson Smith in Scotland in 1874 to her Scottish father, Robert Smith and her Australian mother of Scottish descent, Jane Priscilla Macpherson.

Helen attended school in Scotland, Europe and Australia.

In 1901, aged 27, Helen married William John Schutt. He was 33, a barrister, raconteur, Essendon footballer and later to become a Justice of the Victorian Supreme Court. Of the 22 years of their married life in Melbourne little is known. They had no children and Helen's name rarely appeared in the social pages of newspapers or magazines.

It is through the reporting of William's life, especially after his retirement from the bench, that we learn something of Helen's life in Europe where she lived from late in 1923 until her death in 1951.

In Europe, Helen travelled widely, with a base in both Switzerland and the south of France. She and William made extensive trips together in Europe, their activities widely reported in the press.

William Schutt died in 1933, aged 65, after an accident on board ship while returning to Australia from one of his many visits to Europe to see his wife.

In April 1951, whilst living at the Hotel Majestic in Cannes, France, Helen contracted pneumonia and died.

The story of Helen could have ended there but for the fact that on her death she left her residuary estate of £275,000 (\$550,000) for the benefit of Victorian charities.

Despite this generous benefaction, Helen was buried in a paupers grave in the Saint Pierre cemetery in Marseilles. Later, acting on instructions from solicitors, her body

was exhumed and her remains cremated in accordance with her wishes. Helen's ashes were cast to the winds in the Marseilles cemetery. No tombstone or monument existed in honour of her lasting legacy to society, until the Trustees unveiled a monument beside her parents' graves in the Smith family plot in the Melbourne General Cemetery on St Andrew's Day 2001, to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Trust.

The capital value of the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust at 30 June 2005 exceeded \$78 million, and in the year to June 2005 the Trustees approved grants of \$7.3 million to fund a range of Victorian charities across most sectors of community life. The 2005 year grants are detailed in this Report.

Helen's legacy being perpetual will continue indefinitely. Helen's forebears – both Macphersons and Smiths – were strong, energetic and resourceful. Many family members contributed much to the advancement of Australian colonial life. It is fitting that Helen, and her family's financial legacy have and will continue to leave a lasting mark on Australia and its people.

The capital of the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust was valued at 30 June 2005 at over \$78 million. Grants totalling \$7.3 million were approved in the year bringing aggregate grants to over \$57 million since the trust was established.

Trustees' Report

For The Year Ended 30 June 2005



*Darvell M Hutchinson AM,
Chairman of Trustees.*



*J Barry Hutchins OAM,
Trustee.*

The 2005 financial year again benefited from a strong domestic economy and a buoyant Australian equities market, which in turn provided another strong result for the Trust. The considerable growth of the Trust over the past three years has created enhanced opportunities for us to assist the many Victorian charities we seek to serve.

Investments

The Trustees are pleased to report that in the year to June 2005, the investment portfolio grew by 20.06 per cent, even after accepting several off-market buy-back opportunities (Telstra, BHP, Rio Tinto and Coles Myer) to enhance our income yields for distribution to charities. Without these buy-backs the portfolio would have grown by 24.63 per cent, comfortably ahead of the ASX 200 and All Ordinaries indices over the same period.

With very few exceptions we continue to invest in stocks with potential for both capital growth and attractive grossed-up yields, inclusive of imputed franking credits. We still hold over 30 per cent of our portfolio in banking stocks and this strategy has again been vindicated.

With a strong rising stockmarket throughout most of the year our opportunities to generate Premium Income from the sale of Call Options were reduced.

Investment income

Operating Income (after transferring to Capital the dividend component of buy-backs and also Call Option Premiums received) at \$7.81 million was 11.83 per cent above the previous year and represented a yield of 10.9 per cent on the mean average market value of investments during the year.

The strong growth in yield over recent years has improved our opportunities for more strategic grant-making goals and this is evident in the Grants Summary section of the Report.

Grants

We continue to receive a significant number of applications from across the not-for-profit sector. During the year the Trustees have approved grants to more than 135 organisations which supported capital projects, the purchasing of equipment, and the undertaking of a wide range of program and research projects.

Our grant-making practices are now more defined and fall into three different types of activities. The first involves responding to each formal application we receive as part of the grant-making cycle. Secondly, we are providing greater opportunities for charitable organisations seeking to achieve common

outcomes across their sectors to jointly submit proposals where more substantial financial support is required. Finally, is our greater focus on initiating worthy pro-active grants. In collaboration with organisations and communities, we are jointly identifying community needs, and inviting organisations to develop high-level strategic projects that focus on systemic change involving multiple partnerships.

Last year's Annual Report referred to the launch of The Macpherson Smith Community Alliance, an exciting joint initiative with the Victorian Government that established a \$1 million fund, representing matched grants of \$500,000 each from our Trust and Regional Development Victoria. The Alliance approved 26 rural-based grants in October 2004 totalling \$478,481. All projects will assist selected small communities in rural Victoria to further revitalise their towns. Further details in regard to these projects are provided in this Report. The second grant round of the Alliance closed in August 2005.

Another joint pursuit of particular note is the research project 'Housing and Location Choices and Preference of People with a Disability', which is being undertaken by the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute. This particular segment of research will be integrated within the Collaborative

Research Venture that focuses upon 21st Century Housing Careers and Australia's Housing Future and will ensure that the needs of those with a disability are considered in the development of an evidence base related to Australian 21st Century housing careers. Most importantly, support for this project has been provided on the basis of a partnership between our Trust and the Gandel Charitable Trust and is a wonderful example of collaborative grant making.

At our May 2005 Grants meeting the Trustees resolved to establish a Helen Macpherson Smith Scholarship Fund with an initial contribution of \$3 million and a future \$2 million pledged from 2006 year grants. This \$5 million Scholarship Fund will be officially launched on the 55th Anniversary of the Trust in April 2006. The income from this endowment will provide tertiary scholarships for eligible rural students seeking to make the important transition to higher education.

We were delighted to approve grants totalling \$7.3 million in the year, all of which are detailed in this Report. Our aggregate grants passed \$57 million during the 2004-05 year.

Administration and staff

Our Administrative expenses represented 1.22 per cent of our total assets held at 30 June 2005.

In May 2005 John Bryson resigned as Chief Executive Officer of the Trust following our decision to put on hold our growth plans for offering consulting services to other philanthropic trusts until the outcome of an application by the Trustees to the Supreme Court for an Administrative Order is determined. John's association with the Trust continues as a member of the Investment Committee.

As reported last year, Barry Cook retired as Accountant on 31 May 2005. Barry provided valuable service to the Trust over the past six years, including our move to

80 Collins Street and significant upgrades of the accounting, administrative and communication systems. His replacement, Darren McConnell, commenced early in the new financial year as Finance Executive and Accountant. Our Grants Executive, Liz Gillies, further enhanced our grant-giving strategies during the year, which resulted in some highly-focussed collaborative partnerships with other philanthropic trusts and government agencies. Pamela Beech continues as our Secretary and Receptionist. The Trustees express their appreciation to our staff for their continued commitment and high level of dedication to the Trust.

Outlook

As to our likely 2006 income levels, we are confident that our strong investment portfolio will continue to provide marginal growth in income available for distribution, although the incidence of off-market buy-backs may reduce in 2005-06, and thus impact on our income potential.

As to our corpus, we remain optimistic that our 2006 financial year should maintain a sound net asset position approaching \$80 million, based on the recent full year reporting season by Australian listed companies. The outcome, of course, is heavily dependent upon no significant weaknesses in stockmarket trends.

Darvell M Hutchinson AM
Chairman of Trustees

J Barry Hutchins OAM
Trustee

General Grants Made in 2004-05

Aged Care

		\$
Ararat Retirement Village (Ararat)	Gorrinn House reconstruction	20,000
Baptist Community Care Ltd (Hawthorn)	Transport bus	10,000
Boroondara Aged Services Society (Canterbury)	High/low beds to be used by the Harcourt Nursing Home	20,000
Helping Hand Foundation Inc (East St Kilda)	Program support and volunteer training	5,000
Holloway Hostel for the Aged Association Inc (Keilor East)	Provision of 30 residential high care places	20,000
Macedon Ranges Health Services (Gisborne)	Furnishing of the 15 bed extension of 'The Elms' Hostel	10,000
Sale Elderly Citizens Village Inc	Ashleigh House refurbishment proposal	25,000
Samarinda Lodge Inc (Ashburton)	Purchase of high/low beds	14,625
Shepparton Retirement Villages Inc	Purchase of shower chairs	27,000
Southern Cross Care Vic (Oakleigh)	Cardinal Knox Village redevelopment	20,000
St Vincent's Health (Fitzroy)	Furnishings and fittings for Prague House bedrooms	25,000
Uniting Care – St Mark's Adult Day Centre (Chadstone)	Upgrade of facilities	10,000
Victorian Association of Health and Extended Care	Stage 2: Development of the Best Practice Model	275,000
West Wimmera Health Service (Nhill)	Redevelopment of the Rainbow Nursing Home	25,000
Western District Health Service (Hamilton)	Upgrade of Aged Care Services at Penshurst & District Health Service	10,000
Total grants		516,625



St Vincent's Health

(Total Grant of \$25,000)

Redevelopment of Prague House, Kew

Prague House is a specialist residential unit providing care for men who have experienced homelessness and who require support due to age-related conditions. This facility is managed by St. Vincent's Health and has been in operation since 1978.

There was an urgent need to provide a new, larger purpose-built facility. The current 34-bed building is cramped and needing major repair and there are increasing demands for residential services for financially and socially disadvantaged adults in Melbourne.

The new Prague House will be a 45-bed residential unit that is currently under construction on a site adjoining St. George's Health in Kew. It is designed to meet the specific needs of the residents and will provide the opportunity to accommodate women for the first time. Helen Macpherson Smith Trust has partnered with St. Vincent's Health to ensure the delivery of this important service for men and women who are homeless.

The residents of Prague House are both financially and socially disadvantaged and have special needs relating to psychiatric or intellectual disability and/or prolonged alcohol dependence. All have experienced homelessness – their lives have been spent moving between crisis centres, low cost rooming houses or sleeping out.

A resident who resides at Prague House would fit at least three of the following, and quite possibly all:

- have a mental health issue such as schizophrenia or bi-polar;
- have an alcohol related brain injury;

- be younger than most aged care residents;
- be a chronic smoker;
- frequently will present with two or more chronic medical conditions;
- have a history of either homelessness or a transient lifestyle;
- have little or no family contact and few, if any, friends;
- have no financial assets and in many cases have incurred a debt;
- be marginalised by society;
- have a history with the police which may include prison stays;
- many have almost no insight into their own behaviour and the impact on others; or
- find it difficult to be involved in activities and interests.

The building of Prague House has commenced and is due for completion in July 2006. The design is truly innovative and responds to the needs of this particular group of aged-care residents. The new facility is village-like and will contribute to the resident's sense of freedom without having to leave the premises. The privacy and dignity of residents will be improved through single rooms and improved bathroom facilities. The large multipurpose room enables the residents' popular activities of exercise, music, watching television and movies. The lounge rooms and outdoor areas on each of the two levels will enable all residents to have access to quiet areas for reading and board and card games. The lower level has a large patio area closely connected to the main dining room and multipurpose room, which will be used for larger functions such as birthday parties.

The Helen Macpherson Smith Trust has provided much-needed support through funding the purchase of furnishings and fittings for four bedrooms of the new facility. Each room will have a specialised 'High/Low' bed to assist with safely getting in or out of bed or enable assistance by staff if required, a bedside locker, chair, pictures for the walls, television and a laundry hamper.

Prague House ensures that there is a tangible service to the most disadvantaged aged men and women in our community and the grant from the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust ensures that the residents will live comfortably and contentedly in a secure and peaceful environment.



Des, a Prague House resident.



General Grants Made in 2004-05

continued

Arts, Culture and Heritage

		\$
Anglican Church of Australia – Diocese of Ballarat (Warrnambool)	Public appeal to conserve and restore the stained glass Windows at Christ Church, Warrnambool	5,000
Australia Pro Arte (East Malvern)	Data base update	6,775
The Australian Children's Choir Inc (Nunawading)	International tour to New Zealand	5,000
Australian National Memorial Theatre Limited (St Kilda)	Support for the Community Access Program (total commitment \$15,000)	5,000
Centre for Contemporary Photography (Fitzroy)	New Centre for Contemporary Photography	60,000
Chamber Music Australia (South Yarra)	Masterclasses by Peter Buck at the Victorian College of the Arts and participation by Chamber Music Australia at the Melbourne International Arts Festival	20,000
Fort Queenscliff Museum Foundation	Historical education program	15,000
HotHouse Theatre (Wodonga)	Production of 'Embers'	8,000
McClelland Foundation Ltd (Langwarrin)	Publication of a catalogue to be produced for the McClelland Contemporary Sculpture Survey and Award 2005	15,000
Melbourne Fringe (Fitzroy)	SOIL: Indigenous youth interactive, visual art installation	10,000
Monash University	Research project: A history of western philosophy of religion in five volumes	10,000
National Institute of Circus Arts Limited (Prahran)	Commemorative tapestry in honour of the late Sir Rupert Hamer AC KCMG	10,000
Shrine of Remembrance	Development of an education centre in the western area of the Shrine Undercroft	135,015
St Paul's Cathedral	Restoration and renewal of the Cathedral (total commitment of \$305,000)	205,000
Swinburne University of Technology (Hawthorn)	Feasibility study for the development of 'The International Journal of Philanthropy and Grantmaking'	10,000
Victorian College of The Arts (Southbank)	2005 Regional Program	10,000
Total grants		529,790



Centre for Contemporary Photography

(Total Grant of \$60,000)

The Centre for Contemporary Photography (CCP) was established by photographers, academics and enthusiasts in 1986. CCP has grown in popularity and status to become one of the leading photography galleries in Australia and the only public gallery dedicated to the support and display of Australian and international photography in Victoria. CCP is a not-for-profit, membership organisation that promotes and develops audiences for photo-based art while generating and extending critical discussion around the role and practice of photography.

In 2005 CCP relocated to architect designed galleries heralding Australia's premier purpose designed centre for viewing photography. The Helen Macpherson Smith Trust is the largest single non-government donor towards the new CCP. This support builds upon a longstanding relationship since 1991 between the Trust and CCP. In 1992 CCP's Helen Macpherson Smith Project Space was launched at the Johnson Street premises, providing a highly sought after small exhibition space dedicated to photo based work by emerging artists.

Over the last 20 years, photography has gained prominence as a serious artform worldwide and CCP has developed in tandem with, and contributed to this development. Bridging the worlds of media, advertising, science and technology, current affairs and documentary, fashion, personal expression and high art – photography is a popular, accessible and a powerful tool for communication.

CCP presents a broad conception of photography, catering for specialist and general audiences. CCP works from a tradition of photography and explores the many dimensions from documentary to cutting edge contemporary art and embraces historical through to digital technologies. CCP has a unique role among contemporary arts organisations, one where emerging artists can gain formative experience in the development and staging of exhibitions, where practising photographers can find new audiences, and established artists can experiment with new directions.

Designed by Sean Godsell Architects, the new CCP offers a destination worthy of the international and national attention now

focussed on photography as an artform. Situated at the corner of George and Kerr Streets Fitzroy, just a stone's throw from the heart of Brunswick Street, public transport, and a host of other significant contemporary cultural venues, CCP offers improved and increased exhibition spaces and improved services for exhibiting artists, visitors and students. In securing a 13-year lease, CCP looks forward to a period of stable growth and development.

Exhibition spaces vary – from the gracious and largest Gallery Three at the heart of CCP, supported by the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, to the two medium sized Galleries One and Two, punctuated by wells of natural light, through to the intimate Gallery Three. In a striking innovation, the Projection Window is a large screen on the building's exterior for evening projection of still and moving images, adding a public art dimension to CCP's regularly changing exhibition program.

Education and public programs can now be conducted in the Visy Education Space.

Suitable for school groups, this facility also enables specialist photography classes, previously taught off-site, to be presented within the CCP envelope.

Audiences are encouraged to extend their visit through the stunning retail space with a select range of contemporary photographs from the best of Australia's photographers. The visitor experience is also enhanced with a unique offering of new and selected second-hand photography books catering for general and specialist interest in photo-based arts. The Centre enjoys the support of over 550 financial members, and runs an active volunteer and intern program. Entry to CCP galleries is always free, encouraging visitation from broad sections of the community.

At the heart of this remarkable new home for photography, the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust's gallery rewards visitors to the CCP for their time and interest in the many voices of contemporary photography.



Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne including Gallery Three.

General Grants Made in 2004-05

continued

Shrine of Remembrance

(Total Grant of \$ 135,015)

The Shrine of Remembrance honours the sacrifices of Australian men and women who have served the nation in armed conflicts and peacekeeping operations. As well as those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in war, the Shrine pays homage to those who returned from battle alive but irrevocably changed, to those who lost someone close, and it symbolises the efforts of those who fought for it to be built so Victorians could mourn their dead. On a higher plane it symbolises the ideal of nationhood, of the Anzac legend and our youth blooded in battle. It is one of Victoria's most important cultural assets and has the potential to contribute to future social cohesion, sense of purpose and shared goals within the community.

As we move on from the conflicts of the 20th century, Shrine Trustees recognise the importance of maintaining and enhancing the Shrine's relevance. Education development is now a major focus. It is the long term objective of Shrine Trustees that every Victorian primary and secondary student visits the Shrine for a significant experience that has the potential to shape their values and ensure the Anzac spirit remains alive in the hearts of future generations.

With the generous support of the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust in 2004, Shrine Trustees were able to develop and implement a comprehensive education program that addresses Victorian curriculum needs while recognising the core values of the Shrine. The program is in its first year of operation and has been instrumental in doubling school visitation.

The program offers teacher manuals, student resource and activity sheets, reading material and comprehensive web based resources. Several staff members and volunteers have been trained in implementing the program with great success.

This quote from a Year 10 student summarises the positive outcome of this program:

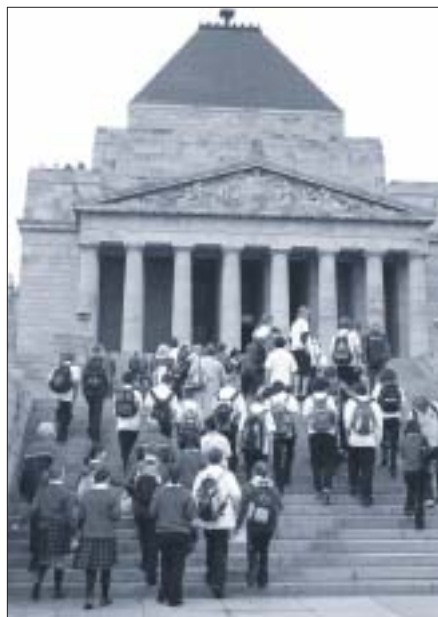
"The Shrine is a sacred place. It perpetuates memories of soldiers who died for the nation. We as young people will become the caretakers of these memories. Thank you for sharing this with us and helping us understand the meaning of sacrifice - Greater love hath no man, than to lay down his life for a friend".

As a result of rapidly increasing school visitation, the Shrine Trustees realised the need for a purpose built learning environment for students to prepare, enhance and reflect on their Shrine experience. With further granting from the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, the Shrine will open its Education Centre in November 2005. Being 300 square metres, it will feature three classrooms, an auditorium and a research area for students, as well as house the education team. The Shrine is looking forward to implementing additional value added education activities and offering the Shrine experience to a growing number of student visitors within this space. Shrine Trustees recognise the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust as a significant partner in this important development.

The Shrine looks forward to fostering further educational opportunities for Victorian school students in partnership with the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, being a partnership based on our shared vision that Victorians have a duty to ensure the legacy of our veterans is passed on and embraced by future generations.



Victorian school children paying their respects at the Stone of Remembrance in the Sacred Sanctuary.



A group of secondary students participating in an education program.



Community Support

		\$
Cottage By The Sea, Queenscliff Inc	Sponsorship of holiday program for disadvantaged children at Queenscliff	10,000
Aboriginal Community Elders Services (East Brunswick)	Development of a geriatric service proposal for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Elders	20,000
Andrews Centre (Endeavour Hills)	Support for the integrated counselling and welfare services project	10,000
Anglicare Victoria (West Melbourne)	Development of a new Family Services Centre at Lilydale	100,000
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Inc (West Melbourne)	Support appointment of the Resource Centre Manager for further 12 months	25,000
Balmoral Bush Nursing Centre	Family and Community Centre	44,000
Barwon Family Resource Centre Inc (Belmont)	Counselling services	10,000
Bethany Community Support Inc (North Geelong)	Caring Friends Children's Garden	16,675
Big Brothers – Big Sisters Melbourne Inc (Richmond)	Youth Mentoring Services in the City of Casey	116,078
Carers Victoria (Footscray)	Establishment Grant for the Carers Victoria Registered Training Organisation	75,000
Victorian Court Information and Welfare Network Inc	Facilitating the availability of Court Network Support in regional Victoria (total commitment of \$145,500)	28,500
Crisis Support Services Inc (North Melbourne)	Colour printer	9,749
Darebin City Council (Preston)	Local Government Leading the Way – Partnerships to Reduce Family Violence	140,000
Deakin University (Geelong)	Research project: Whose duty of care? Victorian international students and problem gambling	20,000
Doncare Community Services (Doncaster)	Women Against Domestic Violence pilot support program	13,000
Echo Inc (Emerald)	Support to enable access to a psychologist	6,000
Geelong Ethnic Communities Council Inc (Geelong West)	Geelong Broadcast Education Centre	25,000
Goulburn Valley Family Care Inc – Shepparton	Refurbishment, further development and enhancement of the newly acquired premises	20,000
Hanover Welfare Services (South Melbourne)	Service Delivery Model for Women at Risk	40,000
Hawkesdale and District Family Services Centre	Building project for an Integrated Family Services Centre	20,000
Heathmont Inter Church Help Inc	Food Parcels for People Program	5,000
Inner East Community Health Service (Richmond)	Health Time and Social Cafe Meals Program	25,000

General Grants Made in 2004-05

continued

Community Support (continued)

		\$
Kids Under Cover Inc (Carlton)	Bungalow Accommodation Program	34,000
Kildonan Child and Family Services (Collingwood)	Community Youth Garden Project	10,000
Lord Somers Camp and Power House (St Kilda)	Support for refurbishment of ablution facilities at Lord Somers Camp	10,000
Mackillop Family Services Ltd (Footscray)	Construction of counselling rooms	50,000
Melbourne Citymission Inc	Facilitator – Agora (total commitment \$40,000)	20,000
Melbourne Citymission Inc	Transitional Support Programs evaluation	50,000
Murdoch Children's Research Institute (Parkville)	Building Community Capacity to link Murdoch Institute Research to needs of young children and families in local communities (total commitment \$165,000)	55,000
Murrindindi Family Resource Program Inc (Alexandra)	Equipment and resources	1,998
Neighbour's Place Inc (Bacchus Marsh)	Food parcels	2,500
The Reach Foundation (Collingwood)	Accreditation of the Reach Youth Leadership program	35,000
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	Capacity Building program in support of Indigenous community development	20,000
Sacred Heart Mission (St Kilda)	Dining hall redevelopment	45,000
Save The Children Victoria (Auburn)	Breakfast Nutrition program	5,000
Shekinah Homeless Services Inc (Reservoir)	Shekinah Strategic Planning Process	32,307
Southern Family Life Service Association Inc (Sandringham)	Community Caring with Volunteers	50,000
St Luke's Anglicare (Bendigo)	Youth Assists Australia (total commitment of \$30,000)	15,000
Try Youth and Community Services	Speech screening for children making the transition to primary school	8,750
Uniting Care Ballarat Parish Mission	Upgrade the wiring and install heating into Reid's Guesthouse	25,000
Uniting Care: Footscray-Yarraville Outreach Mission (West Footscray)	Relocation and fit out of the Footscray Baptist Church	25,000
Victorian Homeless Fund (South Melbourne)	Houses project	20,000
Victorian Emergency Relief Fund (West Melbourne)	Emergency Relief Fund	10,000
Windermere Child & Family Services Inc (Narre Warren)	Child and Family Welfare Benchmarking Proposal	20,000
Total grants		1,323,557



Macpherson Smith Community Alliance

(Total Grant of \$ 500,000)

The Macpherson Smith Community Alliance, launched on 12 May 2004, is a joint initiative between the Victorian State Government and the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust.

The Alliance has established a \$1 million fund on the basis of a matched grant of \$500,000 each from the trust and from Regional Development Victoria. The fund is to support projects identified by the Community Capacity Building Initiative (CCBI).

The CCBI, a joint initiative between Regional Development Victoria and the Department for Victorian Communities and supported by the Victorian Farmers Federation was launched in May 2000. Sixty different communities tendered to take part in this initiative. The 11 groups ultimately selected involved more than 55 small towns in regional Victoria. The CCBI initiative aims to build

people capacity in local key people and to empower them to build relationships between existing organisations and people in the community, develop the community, enhance the local economy, and involve outside organisations where there were skill gaps.

The CCBI program is founded on the important understanding that local people play a critical role in building the capacity of their communities, through their motivation, vision, energy and commitment. The work of the CCBI project groups enabled the identification and development of a wide range of community projects. The aim of the \$1 million fund is to assist the participating rural Victorian communities to bring these projects to fruition.

The first grants round was held in September 2004 and the following allocations made:



The Alliance brings a local community together to participate in rural projects.

		\$
Cardinia	Dick Jones Park redevelopment	\$45,000
Corangamite	Derrinallum Lismore Community House and History Centre	\$52,388
	Regional Youth Leadership Project	\$22,014
East Gippsland	Nowa Nowa Multipurpose Community Room	\$59,065
Mildura	Ouyen Farm Safety Expo	\$5,300
	Welcome Pack for Newcomers	\$5,148
	Mallee Brumby Breakfast	\$3,382
	Farmers' Festival	
	Shopfront Program – Aussie Host	\$2,700
	Born Leaders '04	\$2,420
Moira	Nathalia Community Park and Skate Facility	\$45,000
Moorabool	Communities and Active Technologies Project	\$36,500
	Northern Grampians St Arnaud Community Monthly Newsletter	\$3,600
	Art Display Panels	\$7,947
	St Arnaud Springtime Festival	\$7,000
	St Arnaud Community Cinema Fitout	\$11,357
	St Arnaud Community Shed	\$8,900
Strathbogie	Honeysuckle Recreation and Environment Project	\$30,000
	Central Market Upgrade	\$13,000
	Southern Grampians Chameleon Arts Collective Inc Web Page	\$4,000
Swan Hill	Robinvale Riverfront Renewal Plan	\$40,000
	Robinvale Euston Young Growers Network	\$10,000
Towong	Corryong Recreation Reserve	\$5,000
	Shelley Railway Station Park Development	\$8,680
West Wimmera	Unveiling the Regional Attractions	\$10,000
	Family & Community Centre (Balmoral Bush Nursing Centre)	\$31,000
Yarriambiack	Woomelang Youth Centre Redevelopment	\$9,080
Total grants		\$478,481

General Grants Made in 2004-05

continued

Victorian Court Information & Welfare Network

(Total Grant of \$145,500)

Victorian Court Information & Welfare Network, known as Court Network is a unique, voluntary, non-legal court support service operating throughout Victoria. Information, support and referral services are provided by approximately 350 trained volunteers supporting people accused of crime, families who have become secondary victims of crime, adults and children who have been violated or exploited by crime, and litigants who have little or no support.

Court Network operates its service on-site in the Supreme, County, Coroner's, Family, Children's and Melbourne and district Magistrates' Courts. It is the only court based service explicitly and solely concerned with the needs of court users.

As a statewide service, Court Network also provides services in the regional courts of Gippsland, Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo and Echuca.

Outcomes for court users include:

- a safer court environment;
- access to support, information and referral before, during and after a court appearance;
- access to a well managed and highly trained team of volunteer Networkers;

- provision of written and verbal information on relevant and appropriate community and legal services;
- emotional and practical support;
- assistance with arranging interpreters and disability access at the courts;
- pre-court tours for people to familiarize them with the courts; and
- free access to services and a telephone helpline.

A grant of \$145,500 was provided by the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust specifically to assist regional expansion of Court Network. It has assisted Court Network to undertake a regional expansion to establish its service in Warrnambool, Wodonga, Mildura and Shepparton. This expansion project commenced in March 2005 and will be completed by April 2006.

Court Network is now established in Warrnambool. The service has been active since May 2005. Training of Network volunteers in Mildura commenced in August 2005. Court Network will then be operating within the Mildura Courts from September 2005. Next to commence will be Shepparton in October 2005. Service and set up will commence in Wodonga in February 2006.

This Grant has provided financial support for the regional expansion of Court Network which has involved:

- funding of a Regional Expansion Project Manager position;
- developing proposals of the Court Network service to individual regional courts;
- negotiations between Court Network and individual regional courts as to how this service will be supported and sustained within the region;
- support for the promotion of Court Network throughout these communities;
- training of volunteers;
- expansion of Court Network by hiring part-time Program Managers in the regions to manage this service locally, while maintaining strong links to the Melbourne Head Office.

The completion of this regional expansion project will allow communities in four new locations in regional Victoria to benefit from the Court Network service in their local courts. This support will be ongoing and sustainable.



Court Networkers at the Court Network 25th Anniversary Celebrations at Government House, Melbourne in June this year.



Darebin City Council

(Total Grant of \$140,000)

Local government leading the way – Partnerships to reduce family violence

Darebin City Council is a local government located in the inner north of metropolitan Melbourne. It covers the areas of Fairfield, Northcote, Preston, Reservoir, Alphington and Bundoora. There are over 128,000 people who call Darebin home, and they make up one of the most diverse communities anywhere in Australia. Over 35 per cent of Darebin's residents were born in countries other than Australia. Residents originate from 126 countries. More than 118 languages are spoken in Darebin. Over 1,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders make up one of the largest indigenous communities anywhere in metropolitan Victoria. A significant number of Darebin residents live in poverty, with the proportion of Darebin households earning less than \$15,000 per year at five times the Melbourne average. The proportion of households earning more than \$100,000 annually in Darebin is 6.3 per cent – only half that of the rest of Melbourne.

Darebin has a strong commitment to improving the health, safety and wellbeing of its community. As a result of family violence being prioritised in the community safety plan, the Darebin Family Violence Working Group was established. Representation included support agencies, family violence specific services, Commonwealth and State Government departments, local police, the Darebin Domestic Violence Network, the court system, as well as representatives from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) and ethnic communities. The purpose of this group is the coordination of a partnership approach to address family violence issues in Darebin.

Although local governments have historically not been directly involved in addressing family violence at the service system level, Darebin City Council has taken leadership on this issue. To date, Darebin City Council is unique in Victoria for having initiated, coordinated and maintained for several years a partnership involving local support

agencies, police and the court with the purpose of addressing family violence at the service system level. Local government is perceived as a 'fair broker' with the ability of bringing diverse groups together – as demonstrated by the Darebin Family Violence Working Group.

The grant awarded by the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust will provide for a two year project that both formalises local agreements and protocols in regard to family violence in Darebin and to share our learnings about processes and outcomes of the partnership with other local governments, service providers and police in Victoria. Darebin will actively engage with other local governments to explore what has 'worked' and encourage similar partnerships led by local government in other municipal areas. This initiative has the potential to have local government bringing agencies together that will significantly improve the ability to respond to family violence in Victoria.



Networking between Darebin's health and safety council workers, partner organisations and local agencies.

General Grants Made in 2004-05

continued

Melbourne Citymission

(Total Grant of \$40,000)

Agora

The Agora was the heart of Athens, the focus of political, commercial, administrative and social activity, the market place, the religious and cultural centre and the seat of justice, encouraging debate, discussion and critical thinking. It was an inclusive space that valued the contributions of all in creating a strong vibrant community, a dynamic place that fostered new ways of thinking and being responsive to the environment.

Melbourne Citymission's vision is to build inclusive communities. Communities where all people are valued and everyone experiences a sense of belonging to communities where difference and diversity are celebrated.

The Agora is a unique cross sector Think Tank that has been recently endorsed by The Hon. John Thwaites MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Victorian Communities as part of the State Government's Social Policy Framework – A Fairer Victoria.

The Mission is working in a funding partnership and leadership role with the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, Ernst & Young, and the Department for Victorian Communities in taking forward the Agora Project. The Agora agenda, space and commitment is shared by the business, government and not-for-profit sectors and presents a timely opportunity to look at new and innovative ways to address disadvantage in Victorian communities, working together across the three sectors.

Establishment of an Agora Think-Tank

In April 2004 Melbourne Citymission hosted the Agora Think-Tank, bringing together over 100 leaders from the business, not-for-profit and government sectors to begin a process of creating a cross-sector vision for future Victorian communities where everyone is included. The Agora created a space and provided opportunity for participants to share their expertise, build relationships, network and encourage critical thinking and debate.

At the end of the conference and in subsequent meetings since there has been unanimous support for continuing the Agora as a neutral space for robust debate, the middle ground, where it is acceptable to have open and honest conversations without prejudice, and to identify opportunities for new ways of working together across the sectors, understanding and working within the constraints to create solutions.

The terms of reference to take the Agora philosophy forward are:

- the key principle of the Agora is a fundamental commitment to cross-sector development in addressing social disadvantage;
- explore how social policy can be developed differently, bringing together the 'brain power' of the three sectors in developing new and innovative approaches to social policy that address specific issues of disadvantage;
- the three sectors working in partnership, rather than isolation, will be more effective in ensuring people on the margins are included;

- there are many 'building inclusive community' conversations in Victoria, but until Agora, there was no place for a cross sector clearinghouse of ideas;
- the three sectors need to grow a vision of a new way of working together that values and respect each sector's contribution in building inclusive and sustainable communities;
- sharing practice wisdom and knowledge will promote greater understanding across the sectors and encourage greater cooperation and innovation, even though it must be recognised that cross-sector relationships will take time to foster and develop;
- the Agora space will be dynamic and respectful, it will identify who is missing from the discussions and invite their participation, and will engage strongly with the corporate sector;
- the neutrality of the Agora space will provide the middle ground where open and honest discussion can take place and no one person, organisation or sector can dominate;
- the people who are committed to engaging in the conversations across the sectors will sustain the Agora process, the key to which will be the facilitation of conversations that address disadvantage and inequity; and
- the Agora will explore how resources can be leveraged from the private sector to address significant social policy issues.



Disability Care and Support

		\$
Advisory Council For Children With Impaired Hearing Victoria (Blackburn)	Establishment of a Capital Fund to further develop the organisation's audiology, education and research facilities, resources and advocacy (total commitment of \$250,000)	125,000
Araluen Centre (Lower Plenty)	Establishment of a Multi-Sensory Room	10,000
Arbias (Preston)	Exhibition of artwork produced by members of the Recreational and Social Support Program	1,300
The Australian Friendship Circle Inc (East St Kilda)	Support for three projects: Home Visitation Program, Sunday Drop Off Centre and Day Camp	5,000
Back to Back Theatre Inc (Geelong)	The Minotaur Project	5,000
Biala Box Hill Inc (Box Hill)	Repair and Improve the outdoor playing area at Biala, Box Hill	10,000
Child and Family Care Network	Contribution to the construction of an Early Intervention Centre (total commitment \$75,000)	37,500
Community AXIS (Horsham)	Support for creating employment in Job Seeking Program	25,000
Gateways Support Services Inc (Geelong West)	Social Disco Events in Geelong	1,500
Guide Dogs Victoria (Kew)	Regional Program for Teenagers	6,100
Karinya Counselling Centre Inc (Glen Waverley)	Furniture and Equipment to support the Disability: A Journey of Life program	5,398
Karkana Support Services Inc (Horsham)	Upgrade of the Adult Training Support Service	10,000
Mental Health Research Institute (Parkville)	History of the Cunningham Dax Collection	12,000
Moira Child & Family Support Inc (Moorabbin)	Additional contribution to the new house which will replace the Moira-Helen Schutt House	25,000
MS Society	Contribution to the Nerve Centre – a Lifestyle Assessment Planning Service (total commitment \$300,000)	100,000
Noracom (Watsonia North)	Website to promote learnings from the project	7,500
South Port Parks Parish Mission (South Melbourne)	Building Project at the PMUC Kinder	10,000
Spanish Latin American Welfare Centre (Footscray)	Disability Social Support Services Project	15,000
St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria Inc (Box Hill)	Compeer Program – recruiting, training and matching volunteers for friendship with mentally ill adults	22,500
Supported Housing Development Foundation Ltd (Kew)	AHURI Project: Housing and Location Choices and Preference of People with a Disability (total commitment \$100,000)	50,000
Travellers' Aid Society Of Victoria	Purchase of TTY Telephones for TADAS Centre	2,800
Try Youth and Community Services	Workshop Ready Project	10,000
Uniting Care – Community Options (Surrey Hills)	Individual Lifestyle Project	16,732
Woodbine Centre Inc (Warracknabeal)	History of Woodbine Publication	2,500
Yooralla Society of Victoria	Equipment – Box Hill Respite House	5,268
Total grants		521,098

General Grants Made in 2004-05

continued

Community Axis

(Total Grant of \$25,000)

Community AXIS is a quality endorsed community based not for profit specialist employment service that provides job opportunities for people with barriers to employment. Over the years Community AXIS has delivered a range of programs, which include providing assistance to the deaf and hard of hearing, long term unemployed under the Personal Support Program, Community Jobs Program targeting a range of people with special needs, and our self funded Transition Support Program, that focuses on providing a pathway for students from school to employment and beyond. In an effort to enhance the opportunities of our jobseekers, Community AXIS established a small business arm – Overdrive Services, concentrating on gardening and associated maintenance. Currently Overdrive Services provides on-going employment for three jobseekers.

Early in 2005, Community AXIS was approached by the Horsham Rural City Council to take over the mowing service that the council was providing to the elderly citizens of the city. Community AXIS could see the need within the local community given that the commercial cost for lawn-mowing to the aged and frail would be prohibitive, which would result in poorly maintained properties and potential financial hardship.

The \$25,000 grant received from the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust was used to set up a trial for jobseekers employed through Overdrive Services. The trial has been in place now for over six months and they are servicing over 88 customers mowing lawns, trimming edges and general garden pruning. Throughout this period jobseekers have rotated through Overdrive Services, providing training and employment opportunities for an additional three jobseekers (totalling six), which allows them to now compete in the open employment market alongside all other mainstream jobseekers. Some of the benefits that the project has produced for the jobseekers include the building of a solid work ethic, development of interpersonal skills, the payment of award wages, and a self belief in their ability to produce a good

day's work. In addition, customers who are elderly and age pension recipients, have continued to receive an affordable gardening service that maintains neat and tidy properties, which generates pride and adds to the overall beautification of the Horsham area.

The publicity that the project has produced has enabled Community AXIS and Overdrive Services to increase our positive exposure within the community, which continues to attract more customers wanting to utilise the service. The success of the project has encouraged Community AXIS to seek alternative funding sources and has provided the opportunity to develop a sustainable pricing structure to warrant the future of the project.



Members of the Overdrive Services crew, hard at work pruning, for an elderly resident in Horsham.

Supported Housing

(Total Grant of \$100,000)

Choice and access to secure affordable housing are fundamental for inclusion and participation in community life for people with disabilities. The ongoing challenge is to open up the choices in private, public and community housing for people with disabilities. For the past 10 years Supported Housing Ltd (SHL) has been working one house at a time to increase the stock of housing available to people with disabilities. This very practical approach means today SHL provides housing to approximately 900 Victorians with disabilities who require support to live in the community.

Whilst this represents great progress there is so much more that government, community and private agencies can do to boost the housing outcomes for people with disabilities.

Supported Housing Ltd is a non-profit company committed solely to provision and promotion of housing for people with disabilities who require support to live in the community. SHL works with people with

mental health issues, acquired brain injuries, intellectual disabilities, physical and sensory disabilities and HIV/AIDS.

The Helen Macpherson Smith Trust is providing funds to SHL to allow this issue to be addressed on the basis of a significant research effort to be carried out by the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI). This national research will examine the housing and location preferences of people with disabilities.

AHURI is the national applied policy research institute in the field of housing and urban studies. The institute is a unique partnership between governments and universities that is managed by a professional independent research company (AHURI Ltd).

The project will examine how choices about where we live and how our lives are shaped by factors such as financial and employment circumstances, stage of life and independence. For people with

disabilities there are also considerations relating to the level and type of disability and associated support needs. These considerations and the dire shortage of appropriate housing choices have limited life opportunities for many people with disabilities.

This important applied research project will include:

- a focus on people with disabilities in the literature and policy review to establish what is known about their housing choices and preferences;
- a focus on people with disabilities, to the extent possible, in an analysis of the existing data sets to establish recent trends and changes in their housing, choices and preferences;
- preliminary interviews with people with disabilities to ensure appropriate questions are asked in the 'Housing 21 Survey' being conducted by AHURI; and
- interviews with people with disabilities to validate the survey data and expand the capacity of the data to answer key research questions.

This research is a vital step to ensure we have data to effectively have people with disabilities considered and planned for within the general housing policy mix.

The funding from the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust will assist the rigorous capture of data from people with disabilities, advocates and relevant agencies like SHL to improve the basis for planning policies and to achieve improved housing outcomes for people with disabilities across Australia.



Left to right: Dr Ian Winter, Executive Director, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute; Mr Telmo Languiller, Parliamentary Secretary, Community Services; and Mr Joseph Connellan, CEO, Supported Housing Limited.

General Grants Made in 2004-05

continued

Education

		\$
Ardoch Youth Foundation Inc (Balaclava)	Local Education Support Centres (total commitment \$50,000)	25,000
Ballarat and Queen's Anglican Grammar School (Wendouree)	Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts	25,000
The Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture Inc (Parkville)	School's In for Refugees Project (total commitment \$100,000)	50,000
Total grants		100,000

Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture

(Total Grant of \$100,000)

School's In for Refugees Project

Each year, Australia receives up to 13,000 humanitarian and refugee entrants from war-torn countries around the world. The Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture (VFST) was established in 1987 to meet the needs of such refugees, and now provides client services to approximately 3,000 refugees and asylum seekers each year in the form of counselling, advocacy, family support, group work, psycho-education, and natural therapies. In addition, VFST works with government, community groups and other providers to develop services and programs to meet the needs of refugees, particularly in the health and education sector.

In providing a grant to VFST, the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust is supporting a developmental program in schools. This program is located in Melbourne's South East, where the highest percentage of refugees settle on arrival in Victoria. Through placing a School Support Officer in the region, the 'School's In for Refugees Project' aims to enhance the capacity of the Victorian education system to contribute to the recovery, settlement and educational outcomes of refugee children and young people.

The need for the project was never greater, because of the profile of the latest group of refugees from Southern Sudan, where access to schooling has been either impossible or

fragmented during the civil war. Currently, up to 70 per cent of refugees settling in Victoria come from Africa, mainly from Southern Sudan. Children fleeing from wars in Africa are likely to have experienced extreme disruption in their lives. For example, for most of the last fifty years Sudan has been embroiled in a civil war. Since 1983 the war, in addition to famine, has led to the deaths of over two million Sudanese and the displacement of over four million others. As a result of this history, Sudanese refugees referred to VFST have experienced massive human rights abuses, extensive periods fleeing violence or living in refugee camps, interrupted or no education, and family dislocation and breakdown. This naturally impacts on a child's development and progress in the Victorian education system, and on the knowledge and resources required by a school to support the child.

The 'School's In for Refugees Project' is enabling VFST to work closely with school staff to implement strategies, teaching resources, policies and programs which address the particular needs of refugee students and their families. Through professional development and co-facilitation of classroom activities, teachers enhance their knowledge of the refugee experience and its impact; assess changes that are required for school policies to support diversity; implement classroom practices that ensure appropriate educational support for refugee students who may have little previous education and limited English language.

A range of strategies exists for achieving a supportive environment for refugee students. One of the programs which is introduced to schools by VFST is the Kaleidoscope for the Classroom group work program, which has an aim of promoting student wellbeing and cultural diversity. This is conducted in classrooms where there is a mix of refugee and non-refugee students, and it encourages connection between group participants. Having participated in such a group, students commented "What made the group work well, was that everybody spoke and listened to each other to learn about each other. I liked to learn things about other people's cultures and beliefs. I felt like I had acceptance when people said what I did was interesting. I think people accept others more now and don't care about their cultural differences".



Refugee children in VFST classroom program.



Employment and Vocational Training

		\$
Brotherhood of St Laurence (Fitzroy)	Getting Communities to Work – Stage 1	10,000
Jesuit Social Services (Richmond)	PermaSkills Project (total commitment \$75,000)	50,000
Total grants		60,000

Environment

		\$
Greening Australia Victoria Inc (Heidelberg)	Pilot course to promote sustainable rural communities	50,000
Total grants		50,000

Greening Australia Victoria Inc (Total Grant of \$50,000)

Greening Australia is a not-for-profit, non-government organisation that works with landholders, community, government and business to revegetate and regenerate our unique Australian landscape. Established in 1982 in the United Nations Year of the Tree, Greening Australia contributes (via hundreds of projects across Australia) to practical, long term solutions to complex environmental problems. We are a federation consisting of eight state and territory bodies and a national body, Greening Australia Limited. Greening Australia Victoria (GAV) operates throughout Victoria with over 60 staff in 13 locations.

Greening Australia Victoria Inc is committed to leading the community in developing and managing a healthier and more productive environment. Our mission is to engage the community in vegetation management to protect and restore the health, diversity and productivity of our unique Australian landscapes.

The project

The development and delivery of the pilot 'Natural Systems for Agricultural Production' course in Victoria has been jointly funded by the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust and The William Buckland Foundation. The first of three pilots will be launched in September

2005 at the Creswick Landcare Centre, Victoria followed by two further pilots in the North and North West of the state. The course is designed to be practical in nature and focuses on bio-benefits in agriculture.

The Natural Systems for Agricultural Production course is designed to meet the needs of land managers who want to raise farm production and incomes while increasing the sustainability of (natural) farm resources. Participants will be introduced to a wide range of topics relating to the use of natural systems for increased agricultural production and resource (vegetation, soils, water, climate) management in a productive and sustainable setting.

Participants will explore: landscape mapping, bushland ecology, vegetation communities and plant identification, vegetation (plant and weed) management strategies, integrating natural systems into productive farming including alley farming, use of shelter belts, natural pest control, water quality/salinity control, indigenous fodder crops for enhanced grazing capacity, native commercial crops (hardwood timber, aquaculture, indigenous food and oil crops, cut flowers). Participants will learn how to prioritise some of these elements within a whole farm plan.

The joint funding of this course by the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust and The William Buckland Foundation will develop participant understanding of production systems in relation to indigenous ecosystems and management (management skills). Interactions with the local ecosystem will be better understood and participants will be able to manipulate systems (vegetation, soils, water, climate) in order to achieve worthwhile management outcomes.



Seed collection training.

General Grants Made in 2004-05

continued

Health

		\$
Alfred Group of Hospitals – Alfred Hospital (Prahran)	Burns Unit Coordinators Office	6,000
Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association of Victoria Inc (Hawthorn)	Dementia Risk Reduction Project – Maintain Your Brain	35,000
Baker Medical Research Institute	Seed Research Project	50,000
Ballarat Health Services	Dialysis Unit Redevelopment	15,000
Bionic Ear Institute (East Melbourne)	Grant for general purposes	5,000
Bionic Ear Institute (East Melbourne)	Development and evaluation of the STAR cochlear implant strategy	126,470
Bone Marrow Donor Institute Inc (Carlton South)	Bendigo Accommodation Centre	25,000
Burnet Centre (Prahran)	Contribution toward the fit-out of the viral cultural laboratory in the Prahran Precinct (total commitment \$500,000)	100,000
The Butterfly Foundation (Prahran)	Day Centre for Early Intervention, Ongoing Treatment and Support for Adolescents with Eating Disorders (total commitment \$150,000)	50,000
Cabrini Health (Malvern)	Research Project: Family communication of genetic information to promote health and prevent cancer	18,000
The Cancer Council of Victoria (Carlton)	Cancer Support and Information Service Unit: Cancer Connect Program and the Cancer Support Groups Program	25,000
Can-Survive (Camberwell)	I-can-survive Workshops	12,000
Centre for Eye Research Australia Limited (East Melbourne)	Research Project: To identify and collect families with short-sightedness (myopia) in order to identify disease genes	50,000
Cystic Fibrosis Victoria Inc (Southbank)	CFV Regional and Rural Support Program	15,000
Epilepsy Foundation of Victoria (Camberwell)	Living with Epilepsy Camps	3,500
Epworth Medical Foundation (Richmond)	Train visiting surgeons in the use of robotic surgery who work in the public health system	60,000
Gippsland Rotary Centenary House (Traralgon)	Gippsland Rotary Centenary House	50,000
Howard Florey Institute (Parkville)	Tomtec Cell Harvester for testing of newly developed compounds on cells in culture	45,000



		\$
Macfarlane Burnet Centre for Medical Research (Prahran)	Seeding of the Microbicides Project	40,000
Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children – Victoria (Parkville)	Vehicle Repair Assistance Program	10,000
Maryborough and District Health Service	The Manse House Accommodation Project	20,000
Monash Institute of Medical Research (Clayton)	Research Project: Investigation of the biological effects of increased activin C	35,000
Out Doors Inc (Fitzroy)	Research Fellow	20,000
Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute (East Melbourne)	Research Project: Anti-cancer blood cell transplantation initiative	105,000
Pomegranate House (Ballarat)	Support to provide assessment, intake and short term psychological interventions	50,000
Royal District Nursing Service (St Kilda)	Contribution to the establishment of Helen Macpherson Smith Institute of Community Health (total commitment \$750,000)	100,000
Royal District Nursing Service	Nursing History Project to celebrate 120th Anniversary	48,925
Royal Children's Hospital (Carlton)	Joint development of the new Neurosciences and Cancer Centres within the Royal Children's Hospital	100,000
The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital (East Melbourne)	Pilot Two Dose Adjustment for Normal Eating Programs	3,000
Royal Women's Hospital (Carlton)	Medical Research in the Pregnancy Research Centre	50,000
South East Palliative Care Ltd (Dandenong East)	Relocation and Fitout of New Headquarters	25,000
St Vincent's Health (Fitzroy)	Update of Kew facilities	20,000
St Vincent's Institute of Medical Research (Fitzroy)	Refurbishment and preservation of facilities (total commitment \$300,000)	100,000
Total grants		1,417,895

General Grants Made in 2004-05

continued

Maryborough District Health Service

(Total Grant of \$50,000)

Manse House Project

Located in central Victoria, Maryborough District Health Service provides residential aged care, palliative care, acute hospital and community-based services to the 31 communities of the Central Goldfields and sections of Northern Grampians, Loddon and Pyrenees Shires.

Lack of transport, an ageing population and low socioeconomic status are major issues within these communities. The Health Service uses its outreach services to provide health promotion, community connectedness programs, allied health, counselling and nursing services to people who would otherwise have difficulty accessing health services.

In common with many other rural localities the recruitment and retention of skilled health care professionals presents a challenge. This not only affects the medical workforce but also includes dentists, appropriately skilled allied health professionals and specialty program staff. Over the past five years the Health Service has worked closely with other local service providers and community groups to identify and address these difficulties. The Central Goldfields Shire Municipal Public Health Plan identifies that the lack of appropriate

and adequate accommodation for health professional students and General Practice trainees on placement is a significant issue.

The Manse House project will renovate the dilapidated 'Manse' building to provide an accommodation facility at the Maryborough Hospital campus. This is a joint local project between the Health Service and the Rotary Club of Victoria (Maryborough branch). The 'Manse' is located on the Maryborough Hospital campus and was earmarked for demolition as part of the redevelopment plans. The local community raised concerns at the potential loss of this local historic building (constructed in the 1860s) and the building was left, although not habitable in its current state.

The Accommodation Project will renovate the building. Works required to bring the building up to standard include roofing, damp course, external drainage, internal demolitions, restumping, carpentry, electrical, sewerage and water supply, fencing and cabling for information technology links.

Accommodation will include two ensuite bedrooms (one catering for disabled occupants); two single bedrooms with shared bathroom; kitchen/dining area; study and laundry.

The provision of suitable accommodation at the 'Manse' will address the following key areas of need for the Health Service and its community:

1. Suitable accommodation for medical students, General Practice trainees and visiting medical practitioners who come to the area as part of their training and to provide services to the local community.
2. The capacity to provide placements for Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Dietetic students who require accommodation as part of a rural placement.
3. Developing a good lifestyle outside the major urban and regional centres which is essential for successful recruitment of health professionals as rural communities compete with the cities for a skilled work force.
4. Improve access and support for those living outside the Maryborough township through the provision of temporary overnight accommodation (where there is a demonstrated need for such assistance) for family and carers when they have a seriously ill family member hospitalised.
5. Provide temporary accommodation, where required, to assist with the recruitment and relocation of professional staff to Maryborough District Health Service.

The Manse project will promote Maryborough as an attractive place to gain rural experience both as a student and graduate. 'First impressions' of life in the country for the students on placement in the Central Goldfields Shire need to be positive and suitable accommodation is critical to this.

It is an exciting project for the Maryborough District Health Service where the assistance of its donors, including the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, and its volunteers will transform a past treasure into an asset for future, locally provided, health services.



The 'Manse', built in the late 19th century will be restored and redeveloped to provide accommodation for training health professionals, and to accommodate families of hospital patients.

Pomegranate House

(Total Grant of \$50,000)

Pomegranate House provides community psychology services to people who are unable to access such services in the Grampians region.

Pomegranate House offers psychological therapy on a non-residential, non-crisis basis to clients who have been assessed as requiring psychological services. Services are provided in relation to mental health issues for children, young adults, adults and/or their families. Clients can self refer but in the main are referred by their general practitioners, community organisations or a public psychiatric service. Clients are required to make the appointment personally and receive a series of sessions either as individuals, couples or in groups. People are encouraged to pay a fee set on a sliding scale of \$1 for every \$1,000 of annual income, but no one is turned away on the basis of not being able to pay.

Pomegranate House was established in August 2003 as a two-year pilot project through a collaborative process involving St John of God Health Care; Centacare, Catholic Diocese of Ballarat; Ballarat and District Division of General Practice, and the University of Ballarat. The collaborating organisations, at a meeting in July 2005, reconfirmed their commitment to and enthusiasm for the service, with St John of God Health Care contributing further financial resources to ensure future sustainability.

The Senior Psychologist and Office Manager who are employed by St John of God Hospital, Ballarat, manage the service. The team also comprises a counselling psychologist, employed by Centacare. This position is maintained through funding received by the Ballarat and District Division of General Practice from the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing's Better Outcomes in Mental Health Care Initiative. The service also plays a significant role in training probationary masters and doctoral psychology and psychotherapy students from the University of Ballarat. The students usually complete six-month placements at Pomegranate House.

Demand is so great for the service that since Pomegranate House opened in August 2003, there has been a steady increase in referrals leading to a waiting list, which from January 2004 increased from one week to a current six week waiting time for a first appointment.

The central aim of the service is to provide innovative psychological treatments in order to achieve the best possible mental health outcomes for clients. As the two-year pilot phase was nearing completion and because of the increased demand for the service, Pomegranate House reviewed the Service Model and identified strategies that would enable ongoing achievement of this aim. It was decided that a clinician who would be a dedicated driver of early intervention strategies would best allow Pomegranate House to achieve better mental health outcomes. A specialist position to provide assessment, intake and early intervention was identified as the most relevant need,

and funding submissions were made to trusts and St John of God Health Care's Social Outreach and Advocacy program. By 30 June 2005, sufficient funding was received from the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust and other sources, to enable a full-time psychotherapist to be employed in the abovementioned project from 1 August 2005.

The addition of a program dedicated to assessment and early intervention will enable Pomegranate House to better intervene with people displaying early signs and symptoms of mental health problems. The expected outcome is that this will help prevent the progression to a diagnosable disorder for those experiencing their first symptoms of mental health problems. For people who have already had first episodes of mental illness, being able to offer services early on when the first contact is made with an agency, could reduce the impact of mental illness and its duration.



Staff and students at Pomegranate House.

General Grants Made in 2004-05

continued

Scholarships

		\$
Macpherson Smith Scholarship Endowment Fund	Income from this endowment will be applied to provide tertiary scholarships for eligible rural students seeking to make the important transition to higher education.	3,000,000
Total grant		3,000,000

Summary of Grants

		\$
Aged Persons Care and Support		516,625
Arts, Culture and Heritage		529,790
Community Support		1,323,557
Disabled Care and Support		521,098
Education		100,000
Employment		60,000
Environment		50,000
Health		1,417,895
Scholarships		3,000,000
Total of grants listed		7,518,965
Less grants approved in previous years now cancelled		(197,500)
Total grants in financial statements of this Annual Report		7,321,465

Investments and Grants

A Historical Perspective

The impact of the lasting legacy from the late Helen Schutt to the people of Victoria is exemplified in a summary of capital growth and grants over 50 years. On her death, Helen left a bequest of £275,000 for the establishment of a charitable trust to benefit all Victorians.

Since then the value of the corpus has grown to \$78.2 million, as reflected in the following table:

Year ended June

	Book value \$000's	Market value \$000's
1952	550	-
1965	1,049	-
1975	3,270	-
1985	8,748	-
1995	23,388	-
2000	41,046	49,700
2001	42,702	58,612
2002	45,610	62,364
2003	53,558	57,834
2004	57,873	65,123
2005	64,792	78,189

In the same period, grants approved from the income earned on these investments have been:

Five years ended	\$000's
1970	93
1975	379
1980	1,324
1985	3,382
1990	7,712
1995	11,676
2000	9,883
2005	23,484

Year ended

2001	3,133
2002	4,192
2003	3,552
2004	5,286
2005	7,321
Total grants	57,933

Financial Summary

Statement of Financial Performance for the Year Ended 30 June 2005

	2005 \$	2004 \$
Income from investments	15,017,509	14,529,589
Less administration expenses	(1,040,186)	(1,182,457)
Operating surplus	13,977,323	13,347,132
Less transfers to capital		
Dividends from buy-backs	(7,085,882)	(7,248,189)
Premiums on call options	(124,043)	(300,020)
Net surplus	6,767,398	5,798,923
Accumulated income brought forward	705,972	192,876
Prior years adjustment	457,907	-
Available for distribution	7,931,277	5,991,799
Grants approved during year	(7,321,465)	(5,285,827)
Accumulated income at 30 June 2005	609,812	705,972



Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2005

	2005 \$	2004 \$
Current assets		
Cash, deposits and receivables	9,656,377	15,855,398
Investments at market value	1,487,596	209,520
	11,143,973	16,064,918
Non current assets		
Receivables	149,122	261,142
Investments at market value	73,927,906	57,185,962
Office furniture and equipment	37,305	51,913
Leasehold improvements	36,794	53,360
	74,151,127	57,552,377
Total assets	85,295,100	73,617,295
Liabilities		
Payables	345,475	3,649,919
Grants unpaid	3,076,392	4,033,265
Scholarship endowment fund	3,000,000	-
Total liabilities	6,421,867	7,683,184
Net assets	78,873,233	65,934,111
Held for:		
Corpus	78,263,421	65,228,139
Income	609,812	705,972

An Historical Insight

Helen's Forebears: The Macphersons' in Australia



Reverend Peter Macpherson, MA.
Helen's Uncle



John Alexander Macpherson
Helen's Uncle
(became Premier of Victoria)



William Duncan Macpherson
Helen's Uncle
(manager of the 'Nerrin Nerrin' property)

As in previous years, we continue to provide a variety of insights into the family background of our benefactress Helen and her lasting legacy.

Our 2003 Annual Report reviewed Helen's maternal grandfather, John Macpherson, who was an excellent judge of farming lands, whilst the 2004 Report highlighted Helen's paternal grandfather, architect John Smith of Scotland.

This year we return to the Macpherson forebears and review Helen's uncles and aunts on her mother's side of the family, which provides a wonderful insight into the significant contribution that some of them made to the advancement of Australian colonial life and beyond. However, in common with many historical records of the time, there is little detail of the lives of the women of the family.

Helen's mother, Jane Priscilla was the youngest of the eleven children of John Macpherson and Helen Watson. Their six other daughters were Catherine, Helen Jane, Jessie Ann, Joan Mary, Isabella and Christina Elizabeth. The sons were Peter, John Alexander, William Duncan and James Philip. Each Macpherson child is now listed starting with the eldest.

1. Peter

Peter was born at Bathurst, New South Wales on July 2, 1826 and educated at Dr John Dunmore Lang's Australian College, Sydney. His distinguished academic career continued at Edinburgh University, where he took his M.A. degree with honours.

However, Peter was disinherited by his father because of his decision to enter the Free Church College. The Free Church was far more vigorous than the Synod of Australia, condemning 'beastly intoxication' and the running of lotteries.

Theologians in Scotland and Australia recognised Peter Macpherson as a scholar of the highest order. He established the 'Standard', a monthly periodical published between 1859 and 1861 and was a recognised authority on philology, especially Aboriginal languages, publishing numerous articles on the subject. Several of Peter's scrapbooks and papers are held in Melbourne's La Trobe Library and the Mitchell Library in Sydney.

Peter's first marriage in 1866, to Margaret ended in tragedy with the death of both Margaret and their only daughter in 1870. Peter married again early in 1886 but died the same year at his home in Sydney. His widow, Isabella, established a home for 'waifs and strays' and among those who sought shelter with her was Australian poet and writer Henry Lawson.

2. Catherine

Catherine was born on 6 February 1828. She married the Reverend Allan Macvean, a leading light in the Presbyterian Church and its Moderator in 1880-81. Allan Macvean was a theological scholar of high repute and during his term as Moderator, the first conference of all the Presbyterian Churches of Australasia was held, with a view to Federation.

3. Helen Jane

Helen Jane was born on 27 January 1830. She was the first of the five Macpherson children born in Limestone Plains (now Canberra) after father John Macpherson became Canberra's first resident landowner when he took up this land grant of 640 acres. Helen Jane was the first white child born in Australia's national capital.

4. Jessie and 5. Joan Mary

Little is known of these aunts of Helen. However, one of Aunt Joan's children, Christina Elizabeth Macpherson-Smith, had a distinguished career in the First World War helping refugees and children in distress. She worked in Bosnia and was awarded the Order of St Sava, never before given to a woman. She was buried in the Serbian Orthodox cemetery in Dubrovnik in May 1931.

6. John Alexander

The Macphersons' second son, John Alexander, born on 10 October 1833, achieved the greatest public prominence of all the children, becoming Chief Secretary, then Premier of Victoria for a brief period from 20 September 1869 to 9 April 1870. He became President of the Board of Land and Works, and Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey in the third McCulloch ministry from 9 April 1870 to June 1871, and in the fourth McCulloch ministry, was Chief Secretary from October 1875 to May 1877.

John Alexander was educated at Melbourne's Scotch College and then at Edinburgh University. He qualified as a barrister but chose a life on the land. In 1858 John married Irish-born Louisa Elizabeth



*Hon. James Philip Macpherson
Helen's uncle*



*Jane Priscilla Macpherson
Helen's mother*

Fetherstonhaugh, whose family dates back to Brackley Castle in Ireland, where they settled in about 1600. In 1864, at the age of 31, John had become actively interested in politics. He unsuccessfully contested the seat of Dundas in the Victorian Legislative Assembly. Undaunted, shortly afterwards he stood for, and won, the seat of Portland. When in the following year, the opportunity came to contest the Dundas seat; he campaigned successfully and held the seat for twelve years.

In 1875 he built the stately villa at 3 Lansell Road, Toorak, now the Victorian headquarters of the Victorian Country Women's Association. In Hamilton, MacPherson Street, though spelt as one of the variants of the Macpherson name, honours John Alexander Macpherson's contribution to the life of the State of Victoria. After retiring from politics, he resided in Surrey, England.

7. William Duncan

The third son, William, was born on 14 October 1837, and was educated at Scotch College. William lived at the family's main Western District property 'Nerrin Nerrin' for 45 years as manager, then as managing trustee. 'Nerrin Nerrin' was taken up by father, John Macpherson in 1846 and consisted of 52,027 acres of splendid land carrying 40,000 sheep. William met Mary Moffat Wilson on a visit to Ireland in 1864, and on a return visit in 1868 they were married.

8. Isabella

Little is recorded of Isabella. She was born on 20 September 1840, married Major Claudius Raven, and died on 10 March 1910.

9. James Philip

The fourth son, James Philip, was born on 20 November 1842. Also educated at Scotch College, Melbourne, he was both Dux of the school and a prominent member of the College cricket team. He studied law and practiced as a solicitor, but was drawn to the land, owning properties in Victoria and New South Wales.

James also had interests in politics, becoming a member of the Victorian Legislative Council for Nelson province in 1886, a seat held until his death in 1891. There were no children to his marriage.

10. Christina Elizabeth

Despite family folklore, the Christina Elizabeth of this Macpherson family has no connection with the Christina Elizabeth Macpherson who played 'Waltzing Matilda' while A.B. 'Banjo' Paterson was a house guest at Dagworth Station at Winton, Queensland. Christina Elizabeth, was born on 17 December 1844, and the first of the three wives of William Smith, brother of Helen's father, Robert. They were married on 26 August 1869 and Christina died two years later.

William was an identity in Melbourne's colonial commercial life. Besides the family timber business interests, he was a Director of the Colonial Bank of Australasia for over 30 years, and of several other companies. He died at Montreux, Switzerland in January 1900.

11. Jane Priscilla

Jane Priscilla Macpherson, the mother of our Benefactress Helen, was the Macphersons' last child, and known to the family as 'Prissy'. She was born on 15 January 1847, but little is recorded of her life. She married Robert Smith (a brother of William Smith) at her parent's mansion home in Nicholson Street, Fitzroy on 20 February 1873. Robert was 37 and Jane Priscilla 26. Our Benefactress, born Helen Macpherson Smith, was Prissy and Robert's only child. Jane Priscilla died on 2 December 1914 and was buried in the Smith family plot at Melbourne General Cemetery with her husband, who died in 1904.

The wealth which Helen inherited from both sides of her hard working Scottish immigrant families ultimately gave rise to Helen's 'lasting legacy' to Victorians by establishing the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust upon her death in 1951.

On St Andrew's Day, 2001, the 50th Anniversary year of the Trust, Helen was re-united in spirit with her parents in the Smith family plot, when an obelisk was unveiled to commemorate daughter Helen's great benefaction to Victorians.

However, her generous benefaction is not the only lasting mark her family left on Australia, as evidenced by the contributions made by many of the above mentioned family members to the advancement of Australian colonial life.



Helen's hand written note reflects the generous intention of her legacy to the many Victorian charities that have benefited from that generosity, and to those who will do so in the future.

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