



Helen Macpherson Smith Trust

2015 Annual Report



Our Story



2015 In Review



Grants



Financials



Our Story

Our Vision

Helen Macpherson Smith – Philanthropist

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Investments and Grants – An Historical Perspective

Our Vision

Helen Macpherson Smith Trust is an independent philanthropic trust established by Helen Macpherson Schutt (née Smith) in 1951. Almost \$110 million has been distributed in grants since HMSTrust was established, with a wide range of Victorian charitable institutions and a diverse range of projects benefiting every year.

Our Vision

A strong, just and sustainable Victoria.

Our Mission

Help build fair, creative and resilient Victorian communities through initiatives that promote positive change.

Our Values

Respect. Integrity. Stewardship. Collaboration. Accountability.

Our Strategic Aims

Building. Enabling. Leading.

Helen Macpherson Smith – Philanthropist



Helen Macpherson Smith was a very private woman who left few insights into the type of person she was. Her close friends and relatives described her as thoughtful, kind and caring, and there would be little doubt that this spirit of generosity was central to her interest in philanthropy.

While the founding of the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust in 1951 remains her towering philanthropic achievement, she had been a generous supporter of many causes throughout her life. She was one of the first Life Members of the Lost Dogs Home and gave financial support to the Royal District Nursing Service for 28 years.

Helen Macpherson Smith was born in Scotland on 17 April 1874 and moved to Melbourne with her family when she was aged six months. Her extended family prospered in Australia; the Macphersons in grazing and the Smiths as timber merchants. Her grandfather, John Macpherson, was one of the pioneers of the Canberra district but his property, 'Springbank', now lies largely under the waters of Lake Burley Griffin. Her uncle, John Macpherson, was briefly the Premier of Victoria in 1869.

In 1901, at the age of 27, Helen married barrister William John Schutt, but there were no children from the marriage. Schutt was a successful lawyer and was appointed to the bench of the Victorian Supreme Court in 1919. Helen left Australia for Europe in 1923 and never returned. William remained in Melbourne but made several trips to Europe over the following decade and travelled extensively with Helen. On a return voyage in 1933 he suffered a fatal fall and was given a ship's burial in the Red Sea.

After William's death Helen divided her time between Switzerland and southern France. She died from pneumonia on 19 April 1951, at the Hotel Majestic in Cannes, aged 77. Despite being a woman of means, inexplicably she was buried in a pauper's grave in Marseilles. Her body was later cremated and her ashes scattered to the winds of the Mediterranean coast, as was her wish. In 2001 an obelisk was erected in the family plot at the Melbourne General Cemetery as a permanent memorial.

On her passing Helen left £275,000, the majority of her wealth, to establish a perpetual philanthropic trust to benefit Victorian charitable institutions. Launched as the Helen M. Schutt Trust, the name was changed to the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust in 2001 to acknowledge the Macpherson and Smith families as the prime source of her legacy.

Wisely, Helen's will instructed her trustees to accumulate the major portion of HMSTrust's income for the first 21 years. By 1972, her original bequest had grown to \$3.95 million, providing a much stronger base from which larger and more effective grants could be made in the future.

In 2015, 64 years after her death, the value of HMSTrust's investments is over \$104 million and almost \$110 million of grants have been approved. Though she lived a very private life, the legacy of Helen Macpherson Smith's spirit of generosity will echo through the State of Victoria forever.

Our Team

The HMSTrust management structure is based on three key areas of operations: grantmaking, investment, and finance and compliance. Each area of operation is staffed with skilled professionals responsible for delivering on HMSTrust's vision, mission and strategic aims.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for overarching governance, and in addition to attendance at Trustees' Meetings, Trustees elect to sit on the Investment Committee and the Grants Advisory Committee.



Image HMSTrust Trustees: L-R: The Hon Rod Kemp, Fran Awcock AM (seated), Winsome McCaughey AO, Cathy Walter AM, Dr Phil Moors AO (Chairman), Keith Smith (insert).

Trustees

Dr Philip Moors AO *Chairman (appointed Chairman 1 August 2014)*
Frances Awcock AM
Darvell M Hutchinson AM *(retired 19 November 2014)*
The Hon Rod Kemp
Winsome McCaughey AO
Keith Smith *(UK-based)*
Catherine Walter AM *(appointed 17 September 2014)*

For further details of our Trustees, visit the full [Trustees](#) page on our website.



Image HMSTrust staff. L-R: Peter Wetherall, Lin Bender, Lea-Anne Bradley, Michelle Springall, Sarah Bartak, Glen Thomson and new four-legged member of staff, Ryley

Staff

Lin Bender AM *Chief Executive*
Glen Thomson *Finance Executive*
Peter Wetherall *Investment Executive*
Lea-Anne Bradley *Grants Manager*
Sarah Bartak *Grants and Communications Officer*
Michelle Springall *Executive Assistant and Project Officer*

For further details of our staff, visit the full [Staff](#) page on our website.

Grants Advisory Committee

Dr Philip Moors AO *Committee Chairman*
Frances Awcock AM
Winsome McCaughey AO
Keith Smith
Lin Bender AM

Investment Committee

Catherine Walter AM *Committee Chairman*
Dr Philip Moors AO
The Hon Rod Kemp
Peter Wetherall
Lin Bender AM

Investments and Grants – An Historical Perspective

On her death in 1951, the late Helen Macpherson Schutt (née Smith) left a bequest of £275,000 for the establishment of a charitable trust in perpetuity to benefit all Victorians. The impact of this lasting legacy from Helen to the people of Victoria is exemplified in a summary of capital growth and grants over the now 64 years of HMSTrust's operations.

Corpus Investment

The value of the corpus at 30 June 2015 was \$104.5 million:

| YEAR ENDED JUNE | BOOK VALUE | MARKET VALUE |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | \$ 000's | \$ 000's |
| 1952 | 550 | - |
| 1965 | 1,049 | - |
| 1975 | 3,270 | - |
| 1985 | 8,748 | - |
| 1995 | 23,388 | - |
| 2000 | 41,046 | 49,700 |
| 2005 | 64,792 | 78,189 |
| 2006 | 69,230 | 90,947 |
| 2007 | 76,828 | 108,645 |
| 2008 | 83,138 | 96,889 |
| 2009 | 82,033 | 76,640 |
| 2010 | 86,318 | 83,842 |
| 2011 | 84,162 | 89,516 |
| 2012 | 78,322 | 79,809 |
| 2013 | 81,867 | 89,966 |
| 2014 | 84,607 | 100,217 |
| 2015 | 88,117 | 104,535 |

Grants

Grants approved from the income earned on the corpus have been:

| FIVE YEARS ENDED | \$ 000s |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| 1960 | 98 |
| 1965 | 59 |
| 1970 | 93 |
| 1975 | 400 |
| 1980 | 1,324 |
| 1985 | 3,382 |
| 1990 | 6,917 |
| 1995 | 11,556 |
| 2000 | 9,883 |
| 2005 | 20,484 |
| 2010 | 30,389 |

| YEARS ENDED | \$ 000s |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 5,523 |
| 2012 | 5,536 |
| 2013 | 3,159 |
| 2014 | 6,131 |
| 2015 | 4,893 |
| TOTAL GRANTS SINCE INCEPTION | 109,827 |



2015 In Review

Chairman's Report

CEO Report

Snapshots

\$109,826,906 granted in the past

\$104,534,983 invested for the future

Chairman's Report



I am delighted to present this 2015 Annual Report of the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust at the conclusion of my inaugural year as Chairman.

Last year's Annual Report commemorated two important milestones in HMSTrust's history. In the first six months of FY2015 we celebrated those milestones, in particular the retirement of my friend, colleague and mentor, Darvell Hutchinson, after 50 years of outstanding stewardship. The function at Government House to mark this milestone year was a splendid occasion and a significant conclusion to a significant era.

A core strength of Helen Macpherson Smith Trust is our people, and we were delighted to welcome Catherine Walter AM as a Trustee in September 2014. Cathy brings a wealth of experience in governance, finance and investment. She stepped into the role of Chairman of the Investment Committee in December 2014.

There has been an increased community awareness of HMSTrust in the last 12 months, largely due to the new website, the media coverage relating to our milestone year, and the high level of communication and involvement by Trustees and staff in the not-for-profit sector.

From the outset, our investments have been managed in-house, a policy that has stood HMSTrust in good stead, taking our benefactor's initial 1951 bequest of £275,000 to a corpus of \$104.5m at year-end and a grand total of almost \$110m distributed in grants. Our investment result for FY2015 has been favourable, although the current economic downturn has been challenging. I commend the deft management of our investment portfolio by our Investment Executive, Peter Wetherall, and the Investment Committee.

Revenue of \$8.0m was earned on the corpus, while total expenses have stabilised at \$1.4m. HMSTrust reported total comprehensive income for the year of \$3.5m after the distribution of grants and HMSTrust transferred \$700,000 back to the corpus under the approved power of accumulation. I commend the work of our Finance Executive, Glen Thomson, for his fine work in bringing great clarity to our financial reporting.

Under the leadership of our Chief Executive, Lin Bender, we have delivered another year of carefully considered grantmaking. The combination of increased social need and diminishing government funding requires us all, grantseekers and grantmakers alike, to work more smartly to reduce costs and increase efficiencies. This past year, we have further refined our online application and reporting processes, providing us with the capability to capture critical data that better inform our grantmaking strategies and decision-making. This year, HMSTrust approved 77 grants for a total of \$5,069,392 (before withdrawn grants) across our five programs and four grant levels.

The philanthropic sector as a whole is professionalising and responding to the increasing diversity of social challenges. HMSTrust likewise is adapting its policies within the boundaries and spirit of Helen's will, which is reflected in HMSTrust's ongoing commitment to responsible stewardship, flexibility, innovation and effective grant making.

A key undertaking this year has been our documentation of a comprehensive Policies Handbook. The role of Trustees brings significant responsibilities at common law, with our benefactor's will as the cornerstone document and legislation defining the boundaries. In association with this document, a Grants Advisory Committee, comprising four Trustees and the Chief Executive, has been established as a forum for focused discussion on grantmaking strategy, policy and funding recommendations.

The level of commitment demonstrated by each member of staff and by my fellow Trustees is exemplary, and I thank them all most warmly for their dedication and hard work. HMSTrust's achievements over the past twelve months give me great confidence that in the year ahead we will continue delivering our vision of a strong, just and sustainable Victoria.

Dr Philip Moors AO
Chairman

CEO Report



FY2015 has been a year of transition for HMSTrust, which is reflected in this first online edition of our Annual Report.

Transitions

Our move to online communication and data capture commenced in November 2013 with the launch of our new website. This was followed by our online application process going live in February 2014, and in recognition of reaching \$100 million in total grants, we developed a searchable public database in November 2014 listing over 4,500 approved grants. This year's interactive Annual Report draws all of its information from our website's database, while still providing readers with the choice to download and/or print the Annual Report.

Last year's Commemorative Annual Report focussed on HMSTrust having reached two significant milestones – Darvell Hutchinson's retirement after 50 years of outstanding stewardship and HMSTrust reaching \$100 million in total grants. These milestones were celebrated this financial year, culminating in a wonderful reception at Government House on 13 November 2014. HMSTrust's newly appointed Chairman, Dr Philip Moors AO, expressed the sentiment shared by the many friends, colleagues and grantees, when he said: "Darvell Hutchinson's legacy is so much more than our corpus of \$100 million, it is the culture of astute management, empathy, respect, collaboration, transparency and continuous learning."

Philip Moors was appointed Chairman of HMSTrust in August 2014 and Darvell Hutchinson officially retired at the Annual Meeting of HMSTrust in November 2014. We welcomed Catherine Walter AM as Trustee in September 2014 and Chairman of the Investment Committee in December. Both transitions have been seamless, reflecting a deep respect for HMSTrust's history while responding to changing social and economic environments.

Grantmaking

This year, Trustees approved 77 grants for a total of \$5,069,392 (before withdrawn grants) across our four grant levels. The full listing of our FY2015 grants is in the Grants section of this Annual Report and can be searched on the Approved Grants and Case Studies section on our website.

HMSTrust remains committed to our smaller grants, with 46 Community One-off Grants approved for a total of \$1,137,633. This grant level attracts a broad range of applications that identify trends across sectors and place, highlight potential collaborative clusters and generally inform our grants strategy. In addition to conventional project funding, this grants level has supported some organisations to scope a larger long-term project or pilot a trial before embarking on full implementation. We are delighted that Sarah Bartak has extended her role by taking on the responsibility for our Community One-off Grants from July 2015.

Building organisational capacity is one of HMSTrust's five key objectives and in May 2015, HMSTrust trialled a one-off funding initiative. The focus was strengthening the effectiveness and efficiencies of organisations servicing the needs of disadvantaged communities in Shepparton. Eleven organisations were funded across a range of sectors, including a self-identified cohort of four agencies who have come together to work collaboratively on a range of essential back-of-house functions common to all four organisations, under the title Shepparton Community Share.

Our larger grants reflect escalating social issues that challenge traditional service delivery and in turn challenge funders to review what and how we fund. Increasingly, HMSTrust is supporting strategic capacity-building projects that enable organisations to be more effective, efficient and sustainable. Two Lead Grants this year, \$274,606 to Western Chances and \$200,000 to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre in Dandenong, not only support essential staff roles, but are extensions of previous grants that had delivered outstanding outcomes to their respective organisations and are testament to the wisdom of supporting good people doing good work.

We feature thirteen new case studies in this year's Annual Report, representing a range of grants across our four funding levels and five programs. These case studies showcase HMSTrust's grants matrix at work and are a valuable resource for grantseekers to better understand HMSTrust's funding criteria.

Two major Lead Grants awarded in our 2014 milestone year commenced operating in FY2015. \$1.2 million was granted to The Monash Institute for Pharmaceutical Sciences for the establishment of the HMSTrust Laboratory. This global facility opened its doors in April 2015 and was officially launched by the Victorian Minister for Health, the Hon. Jill Hennessy MP, on 12 August 2015. The headline in *Australian Life Scientist* magazine perfectly captured the spirit of the grant: “From little grants big labs grow”.

The second milestone grant in 2014 was the establishment of the perpetual Hutchinson Indigenous Fellowship with a grant of \$1.045 million to the University of Melbourne. Victorian multi-disciplinary artist, Tiriki Onus, was awarded the inaugural Hutchinson Fellowship in November 2015, leading the way for generations of Victorian Indigenous artists to undertake this unique 12-month Fellowship at the University of Melbourne.

Measuring social impact has become an important focus for grantees and grantmakers alike, however it is often years before the full impact of a grant may be realised. In 2010, HMSTrust approved a grant of \$600,000 to the Royal Children’s Hospital to develop targeted diagnostic sequencing. This project is now delivering well beyond our original expectations, having leveraged \$8 million of additional funding and, in response to the overwhelming number of national and international diagnostic requests, the Victorian Clinical Genetics Service is transitioning into a fully accredited clinical diagnostic service. We understand that long-term impact requires us to be patient in our grant making expectations.

Building. Enabling. Leading.

HMSTrust’s strategic aims of Building, Enabling, and Leading continue to guide and link our three areas of operations from investment and finance through to grantmaking. We are building our corpus for the long-term, achieving financial efficiencies and developing in-house capabilities to be more effective funders, and working closely with grantees, sector colleagues and government to share information, learnings and opportunities.

As we move from transition into consolidation and strategic development, I thank our Chairman, Philip Moors for his support and leadership and extend my appreciation to our Trustees for their thoughtful consideration and guidance. I especially acknowledge the tremendous work of our small team of talented and committed professionals who deliver against our strategic objectives: Glen Thomson *Finance Executive* and Peter Wetherall *Investment Executive*; Lea-Anne Bradley *Grants Manager*, Sarah Bartak *Grants and Communications Officer*, and Michelle Springall *Executive Assistant and Project Officer*.

We are all passionate about what we do and continue to be curious about what we can do better.

Lin Bender AM

Chief Executive

Snapshots

Every grant has a story...



Image Celebrating HMSTrust milestone year, Government House November 2014 HMSTrust Trustees, His Excellency The Hon Alex Chernov AC and Mrs Chernov



Image HMSTrust grantees and Lin Bender AM, CEO HMSTrust at Government House, November 2014



Image Possum Skin Cloak workshop using traditional methods, Tiriki Onus project, (Hutchinson Indigenous Residency)



Image Darvell Hutchinson AM, Mrs Chernov, The Hon Alec Chernov AC, Deborah Cheetham AO, Tiriki Onus (inaugural Hutchinson Indigenous Fellow) at Government House, November 2014.

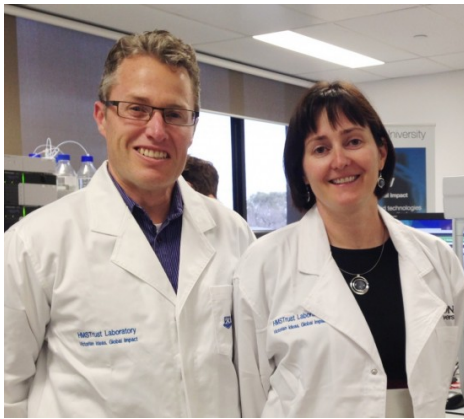


Image Phil Wright and Dr Michelle McIntosh at the HMSTrust Laboratory



Image Launch of the HMSTrust Laboratory at The Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS) August 2015. the Hon Jill Hennessey MP, Minister for Health, Prof Margaret Gardner AP, Vice-Chancellor Monash University, Dr Philip Moors AO Chairman HMSTrust plus representatives of Shimadzu and PerkinElmer



Image Fran Awcock AM Launching the Y'MCA Cookbook



Image HMSTrust Trustee, Fran Awcock AM with Tangipo Wallbank, Krystyna Podgorska, Sharon Oakley, Solmaz Shadman and Hilda Pohle at the Y'MCA Cookbook Launch

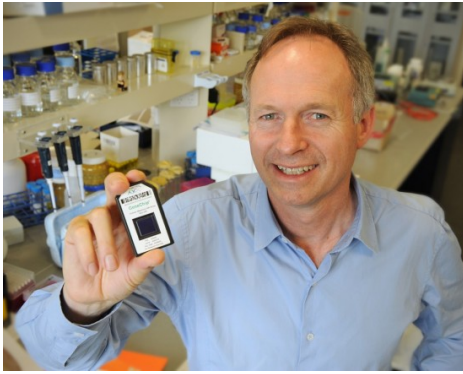


Image Prof Andrew Sinclair, Dep Director Murdoch Childrens Research Institute with the Human Mapping GeneChip



Image Prof Andrew Sinclair and Dr Luke Lambeth at the MCRI, Royal Childrens Hospital



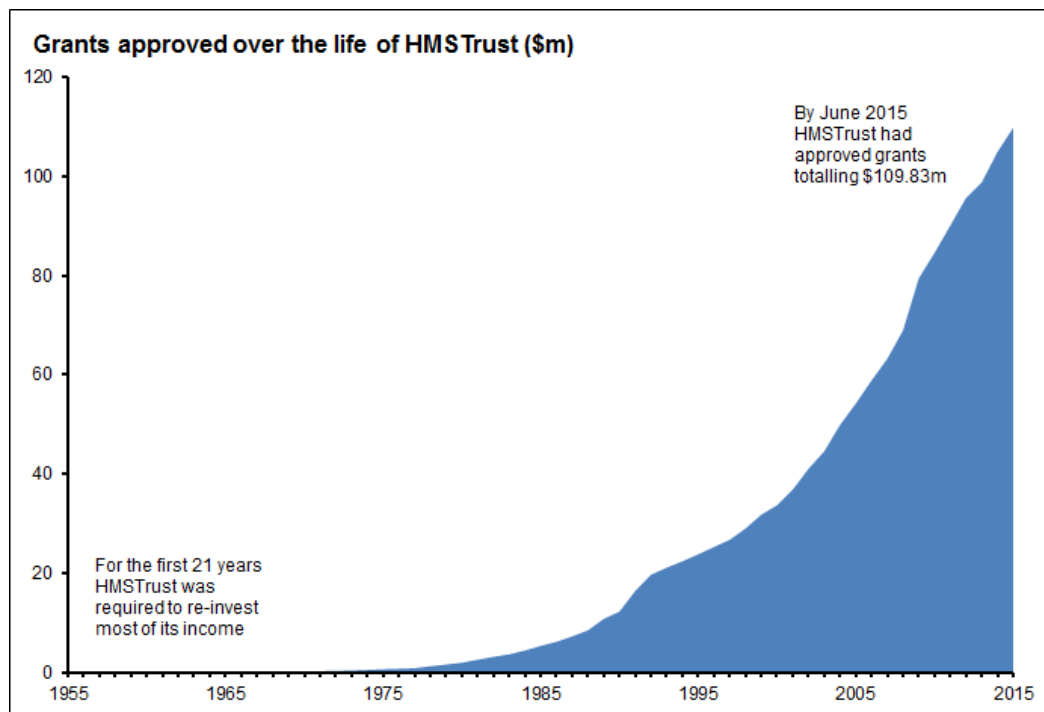
Image Tour of the HMSTrust Biobank at St Vincents Institute



Image Prof Tom Kay, Director SVI, Ms Sue Best, Director, NRL, Dr Phillip Moors, Chair, HMSTrust at the launch of the HMSTrust Biobank at St Vincent's Institute, September 2015

\$109,826,906 granted in the past

The Helen Macpherson Smith Trust was originally endowed with £275,000 (\$550,000) in 1951. By June 2015, this had grown and generated sufficient income to allow the Trustees to approve \$109.83m in grants.



The astute investment and management of Helen's original bequest has enabled HMSTrust to approve average annual grants totalling more than \$5 million over the past 15 years.

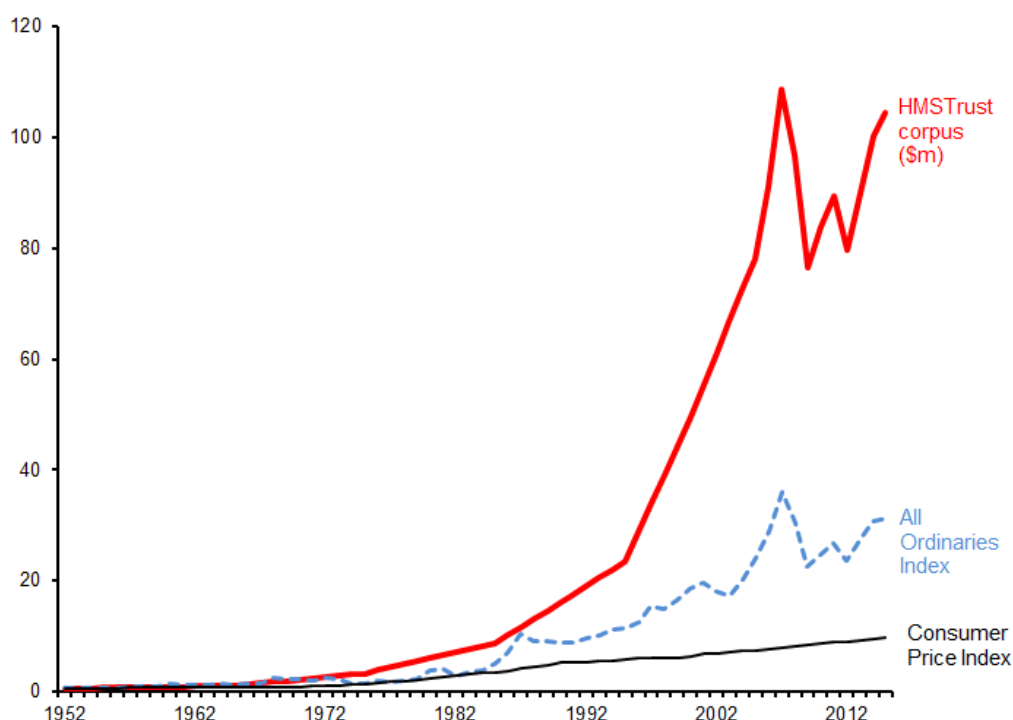
By June 2015, 4,556 grants totalling \$109,826,906 had been approved by the trustees. Adjusting for inflation, this has the equivalent buying power today of \$164 million.

Helen's personal philanthropy has guided HMSTrust's grantmaking strategy from its earliest beginnings. Helen M. Schutt appears regularly in the listings of charitable donations made to various causes in *The Age* and *The Argus* newspapers from 1916 to 1944. Helen's commitment to health, children, disadvantaged, regional Victoria and community renewal are reflected throughout HMSTrust's grantmaking history.

Helen Macpherson Smith's spirit of generosity has touched countless Victorians over the last six decades and will continue to do so in perpetuity. Hers is a truly amazing legacy.

\$104,534,983 invested for the future

“Compound interest is the eighth wonder of the world” - Albert Einstein



Remarkably, the invested assets of HMSTrust's corpus have grown from the initial benefaction of \$550,000 in 1951 to more than \$104.5m. This is a commendable achievement. If the \$550,000 had simply matched the growth of the All Ordinaries Index over this period the corpus would be worth \$31.2m today, and if it had only matched inflation it would be worth as little as \$9.7m. At the same time these investments have also generated income to cover HMSTrust's expenses and almost \$110m in approved grants.

This exceptional investment performance did not happen by chance. First, Helen wisely instructed her trustees to re-invest two thirds of the income generated over the first 21 years. One of the features of compounding is the substantial benefit gained from strong growth early in the life of a fund. Secondly, the Trustees made a decision to invest primarily in Australian equities which have generated good capital growth over the last 64 years. Finally, but very importantly, HMSTrust has invested astutely in the better performing companies.



Grants

How We Grant

2015 Grants

Case Study : North Melbourne Language & Learning

Case Study : Holy Trinity Parish

Case Study : Haven Home Safe

Case Study : YSAS

Case Study : Nexus

Case Study : Shepparton Community Share

Case Study : Arts Access Victoria

Case Study : Footscray Community Arts

Case Study : Big West Festival

Case Study : Western Port Biosphere

Case Study : Connecting Country

Case Study : Mental Health Legal Centre

Case Study : Women's Health West

How We Grant

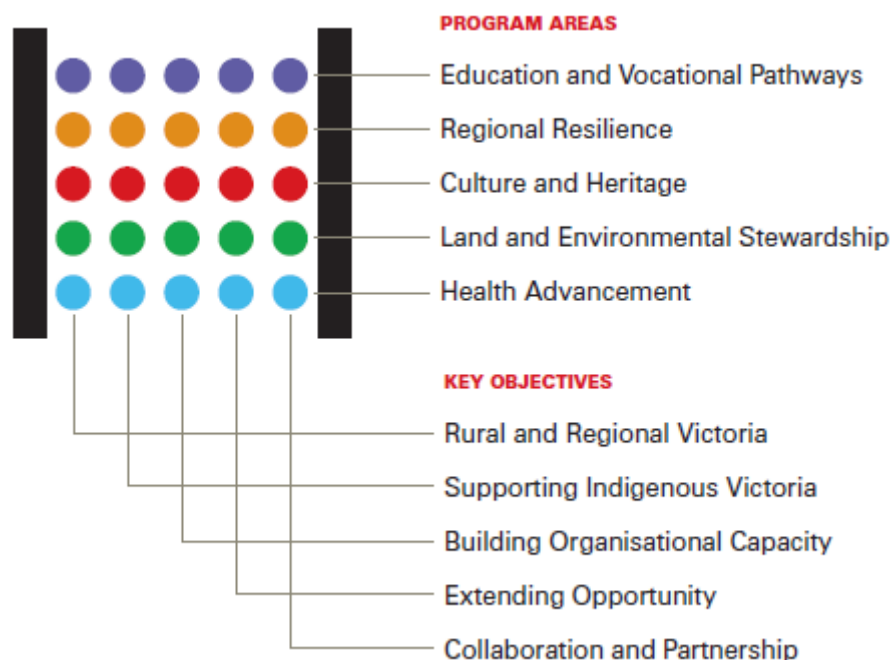
In her will, Helen Macpherson Smith instructed her Trustees to provide grants "as they shall think fit".

HMSTrust's grants strategy reflects the legal parameters of the will, Helen's philanthropic preferences and the prime source of her legacy, regional Victoria.

The Helen Matrix explained

To be eligible, a grant application must meet particular criteria. Firstly, the organisation must have the required tax charity concession status and be situated in Victoria and operate solely in Victoria. Secondly, the project must fall within one of HMSTrust's five program areas and is required to address at least one of the program's three key focus areas as outlined below. Thirdly, the project must match at least three of HMSTrust's five key priority objectives to be considered for a grant.

The colour-coded diagram represents the matrix of programs and objectives and can be seen in each of our online case studies which appear on our website.



HMSTrust Programs

Each of the five programs has three focus areas. Applications need to match at least one focus area in the selected program.

Education and Vocational Pathways

Education and vocational initiatives that help individuals to improve their circumstances, whether it is to break the cycle of disadvantage or to achieve full potential as community leaders.

Focus areas:

- Engaging and retaining children and youth in education;
- Transitioning unemployed people and their communities into meaningful work;
- Enabling migrants and refugees to transition into Victoria's culturally diverse community.

Regional Resilience

Projects and programs that deliver benefits to rural and regional communities.

Focus areas:

- Social enterprise;
- Cross-sector and cross-community collaboration;
- Long-term social cohesion.

Culture and Heritage

Creative initiatives that give voice to communities by attracting local participation, encouraging public engagement and developing a sense of place.

Focus areas:

- Strengthening collective capacity;
- Building collaborative cultural networks;
- Fostering creativity to enrich lives.

Land and Environmental Stewardship

Initiatives that deliver responsible conservation of Victoria's natural environments through cooperative projects and sustainable practices.

Focus areas:

- Conserving biodiversity at all landscape scales;
- Protecting and managing Victoria's water systems;
- Nurturing landscapes as sustainable environmental systems.

Health Advancement

Major multi-year grants that lead to better health outcomes and quality of life.

This grant category is only available at the Social Impact Grant level.

Focus areas:

- Translational research;
- Improved access to health services;
- Learning opportunities.

HMSTrust Key Objectives

Applications should meet at least three of the Trust's five Key Objectives.

Strengthening rural and regional Victoria

Strengthening the capacity, resilience and potential of communities in rural and regional Victoria.

Supporting Indigenous Victoria

Supporting initiatives that protect, restore, sustain and empower indigenous communities, heritage and land.

Building organisational capacity

Developing the skills and capacities of individuals, groups, communities and sectors that provide long-term benefits to Victorians.

Extending opportunity

Supporting projects that extend and protect basic rights and freedoms to which all Victorians are entitled.

Collaborating and Partnering

Maximising the impact of HMSTrust's social investments through collaboration and partnership across community sectors, with other service providers and/or other funders including government.

2015 Grants

5 Lead Grants. 7 Social Impact Grants. 65 Community Grants. \$5,069,392 in total.

Lead Grants

Education and Vocational Pathways

Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Inc

\$200,000

ASRC Dandenong – Education and
Employment Pathways

www.asrc.org.au

Western Chances

\$274,606

Western Chances Program Management

www.westernchances.org.au

Regional Resilience

**Australian Centre for Rural Entrepreneurship
Ltd**

\$248,981

Building an entrepreneurial rural Victoria

www.acre.org.au

YSAS Pty Ltd

\$290,000

Next generation youth 'Alcohol and Drug'
services in Victoria

www.ysas.org.au

Health Advancement

Mental Health Legal Centre Inc

\$250,000

Advance Statements for Improved Recovery
Journeys

www.communitylaw.org.au/mhlc

Social Impact Grants

Education and Vocational Pathways

Deakin University

\$200,000

Diversity Field Officer Project – supporting businesses to create meaningful employment for people with disability

www.deakin.edu.au

North Melbourne Language & Learning Inc

\$200,000

Community Learning Champions (CLC)

Project: Championing Learning for Engagement and Employment

www.nmll.org.au

Regional Resilience

Nexus Primary Health

\$199,000

Don't Let It Get Ugly (DLIGU)

www.nexusprimaryhealth.org.au

Culture and Heritage

Arts Access Victoria

\$114,047

ARTfinder: a community capacity-building project to improve planning, sourcing and delivery of inclusive arts programs

www.artsaccess.com.au

Land and Environmental Stewardship

Greening Australia Victoria Inc

\$134,500

Nurturing our land, protecting our culture

www.greeningaustralia.org.au

Western Port Biosphere Reserve

\$180,000

Engaging biosphere major water users in addressing catchment issues through a water stewardship approach

www.biosphere.org.au

Health Advancement

Women's Health West Inc

\$196,333

Action for Equity: A Sexual and Reproductive Health Plan for Melbourne's West 2013-2017

www.whwest.org.au

Community Grants (One-off up to \$30,000 & Multi-year \$30,000-\$90,000)

Education and Vocational Pathways

Arabic Welfare Incorporated

\$17,100

Responding to Arabic-speaking refugee/migrant youth: developing cultural awareness training
www.arabicwelfare.org.au

Association of Hazaras in Victoria Inc

\$9,500

Afghan Women's Empowerment Project
www.bamyan.org.au

Bridging Worx Incorporated

\$83,000

'Project Pacific' – wellbeing/education support program for Pacific Island students in Victorian secondary schools
www.bridgingworx.org.au

Community Leadership Loddon Murray Inc

\$21,500

Operation next gen: Down to Business
www.cllm.org.au

Country Education Project Inc

\$83,000

The Big School
www.cep.org.au

Dress for Success Mornington Peninsula

\$20,000

Going Places Stronger Centre
www.dressforsuccess.org/morningtonpeninsula

Eastern Volunteer Resource Centre Inc

\$22,000

Empowering volunteers for life
www.easternvolunteers.org.au

Eureka Community Kindergarten Association Inc

\$30,000

The KinderGarden Project: putting the garden back into Kindergarten
www.ecka.org.au

The First Step Program Limited

\$26,294

First Steps to employment and reintegration
www.firststepprogram.org

Fitzroy Adventure Playground Association Inc

\$30,000

"Performing Better" – Cubbies African Drumming & Dancing Program
www.cubbiesadventureplay.org.au

Foundation 61 Inc (F61)

\$24,830

Machinery and equipment for metal workshop
www.foundation61.org.au

Foundation Boroondara

\$90,000

Foundation Boroondara CHANCES Scholarship Program
www.foundationboroondara.org.au

Glenroy Neighbourhood Learning Centre

\$16,946

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) Curriculum Development Project
www.glenlink.vic.edu.au

Good Cycles Limited

\$24,960

Cycle into our community
www.goodcycles.org

Haven Home Safe

\$30,000

The Sidney Myer Haven Program – 'Social Curriculum' Development
www.havenhomesafe.org.au

Healesville Indigenous Community Services Association

\$90,000

Taking it to the next level
www.hicsa.org.au

Holy Trinity Parish

\$60,000

The Holy Trinity Arrowsmith Program
Holy Trinity Parish on FaceBook

Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Service Inc

\$29,775

Supporting Sustainable Employment
www.lcms.org.au

Odyssey House

\$45,000

Building resilience in schools
www.odyssey.org.au

SEAAC Youth Services

\$90,000

Multicultural Experiential Learning Program
www.seaac.org.au

The Social Studio

\$30,000

The Social Studio: strategic priorities for long term sustainability
www.thesocialstudio.org

Weenthunga Health Network Inc

\$90,000

Consolidating Weenthunga's capacity and networking capabilities
www.weenthunga.com.au

Wingate Avenue Community Centre Inc

\$30,000

Creating 'real' employment pathways for newly arrived migrants and refugees
www.wingateave.com.au

Wyndham Legal Service Inc

\$60,000

School lawyer project
www.wyndhamls.org.au

Regional Resilience

Bethany Community Support Inc

\$30,000

Bridging the Gap – training package

www.bethany.org.au

Caroline Chisholm Society

\$20,000

Volunteers supporting pregnancy in the Goulburn Valley

www.caroline.org.au

Dungala Kaiela Foundation

\$30,000

Long term sustainability of the Rumbalara Football Netball Club

www.dkf.org.au/

Goulburn Valley Family Care Inc

\$28,000

Building Our Shared Capacity – a collaboration of Goulburn Valley community service organisations

www.familycare.net.au

Kildonan UnitingCare

\$27,530

Financial Literacy Community Care Workers Shepparton

www.kildonan.org.au

Primary Care Connect

\$24,000

Collective Procurement

www.primarycareconnect.com.au

Sunraysia Community Health Services Inc

\$29,983

Construct specialised parent-child attachment garden; purchase nursery furniture for Day-Stay

www.schs.com.au

Women's Health Grampians Inc

\$86,500

Grampians Preventing Violence against Women – Cross Community Collaboration

www.whg.org.au

Bluebird Foundation Inc

\$30,000

PlayNation

www.bluebirdfoundationinc.org.au

Caroline Chisholm Society

\$30,000

Shepparton collaboration for expectant and new mothers

www.caroline.org.au

Ganbina

\$30,000

Ganbina Strategic Direction Project

www.ganbina.com.au

Kids Plus Foundation

\$88,192

Kids Plus capacity building and organisational development

www.kidsplus.org.au

McCallum Disability Services

\$30,000

Murdoch Community Centre

www.mccallum.org.au

Rural Housing Network

\$30,000

DIFOT – Delivered In Full On Time

www.ruralhousing.com.au

Volunteering Victoria

\$90,000

Volunteer Support Organisation and Network Capacity and Capability Building Project

www.volunteeringvictoria.org.au

The Bridge Youth Service Inc

\$30,000

Working smarter using social media tools (Platforms)

www.thebridge.org.au

ConnectGV

\$27,500

Review of existing IT and Communication systems

www.connectgv.com.au

Glastonbury Community Services

\$30,000

Integrated CALD Community Services – Collective Impact In Action

www.glastonbury.org.au

Kids Thrive

\$90,000

Kids Thrive InSchools Philanthropy (ISP): a rural and regional children's leadership program

www.kidsthive.org.au

Mooroopna Education and Activity Centre Inc

\$11,300

Fostering communication in the country

www.mcgin.com.au

Shepparton Foodshare

\$30,000

Sharing Our Story – putting feeding our community front-of-mind in the Shepparton region

sheppartonfoodshare.strikingly.com

Volunteering Western Victoria

\$88,000

Governance Mentors, building community through governance

www.vvv.org.au

Culture and Heritage

Arena Theatre Company

\$10,000

Trapper

www.arenatheatre.com.au

Big West Festival

\$30,000

Mobile Art Spaces

www.bigwest.com.au

Footscray Community Arts Centre Limited

\$90,000

“Power Up” – Indigenous Creative Producers and Arts Managers Capacity Building Program

www.footscrayarts.com

Hobsons Bay Community Arts Centre Inc

\$30,000

Zinetastic!: Igniting visual and written literacy in students through zinemaking

www.thesubstation.org.au

McClelland Sculpture Ltd.

\$21,243

Heavy Metal: Youth, Sculpture and Belonging

www.mcclellandgallery.com

Melbourne Recital Centre

\$23,000

Share More Music Artist Training and Performance Project

www.melbournerecital.com.au

Naomi Milgrom Foundation

\$30,000

MMentor is a mentoring program associated with MPavilion

www.mpavilion.org

Polyglot Theatre

\$50,000

Polyglot Theatre’s Kids In Control Community Collaborations Program (KIC): Building creative and sustainable communities

www.polyglot.org.au

Rawcus Theatre Company inc

\$10,063

Catalogue

www.rawcus.org.au

Robin Boyd Foundation

\$28,000

Employment of Programs Officer

robinboyd.org.au

Short Black Opera Company Pty Ltd

\$10,000

Dhungala Winter Choral Program

www.shortblackopera.com.au

Western Edge Youth Arts

\$20,000

Are We Geelong?

westernedge.org.au

Women’s Circus Limited

\$12,000

Somewhere, Now

www.womenscircus.org.au

Land and Environmental Stewardship

Arthurs Creek District Landcare Group

\$14,765

World’s best practice conservation planning for the Nillumbik Landcare Network

Arthurs Creek District Landcare Group on FaceBook

Connecting Country (Mount Alexander Region) Inc

\$75,600

Stewards for woodland birds

www.connectingcountry.org.au

The Conservation Ecology Trust

\$27,810

Ecological burning – restoring and maintaining biodiversity in threatened woodlands

www.conservationecologycentre.org

Lord Somers Camp and Power House

\$25,000

Merricks Creek weed eradication and bank restoration project

www.lordsomerscamp.org.au

RMIT University

\$30,000

Collaborative stewardship of natural resources under a changing climate

www.rmit.edu.au

Victoria University

\$26,534

Promoting coexistence between people and birds in Victoria

www.vu.edu.au

Note:

This list represents grants approved in the 2015 financial year and does not include a number of forward commitments for major grants made in previous years and grants approved in previous years but withdrawn in the current year.

North Melbourne Language & Learning

Project

Community Learning Champions: Championing Learning for Engagement and Employment

Date

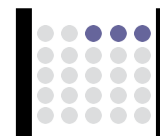
2015

Program

Education and Vocational Pathways

Amount

\$200,000 over 3 years



TRUST OBJECTIVES

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Building organisational capacity

Consolidate the project in North Melbourne and Flemington and extend to the Carlton communities

Extending opportunity

Increase participation in local learning and civic engagement opportunities, build tangible and sustainable employment pathways, and provide opportunities to participate in meaningful work

Collaboration and partnership

Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Brotherhood of St Laurence, City of Melbourne

Empowering community leaders

"Our champions bring unique skills, insights and connections that complement our professional team." Tara Willersdorf, Community Programs Project Officer, NMLL



Image Community Learning Champions outside Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre, Carlton.

Migrant and refugee communities in the inner north suburbs of North Melbourne, Flemington and Carlton experience difficulty in navigating education, training and employment systems. North Melbourne Language & Learning and Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre are implementing a place-based model that has been shown to be a highly effective way of developing and supporting lifelong learning, rooted in communities and driven by the energy, passion and commitment of local community champions.

Snapshot:

- At the heart of the Community Learning Champions approach is the principle of the supported volunteer. It recognises that much of the knowledge and expertise needed to address local issues are found within communities themselves.
- 25 local people are being recruited and trained as Community Learning Champions to:
 - consult their communities about learning needs;
 - influence partner organisations' program development;
 - inspire and support their communities to engage in local learning;
 - increase participation in civic engagement opportunities; and
 - help address barriers to participation in further education and employment.
- The Community Learning Champions support their respective communities with entry points to education and training in an environment that is localised, small, easy to access, low on red tape, flexible and responsive.
- The project significantly increases the involvement of Culturally & Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities in planning, designing and delivering courses and activities in their local settings that are tailored, relevant and build social networks.

www.nmll.org.au

Project

The Holy Trinity Arrowsmith Program

Date

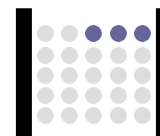
2015

Program

Education and Vocational Pathways

Amount

\$60,000 over two years



TRUST OBJECTIVES

Building organisational capacity

Extending opportunity

Collaboration and partnership

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Implement and evaluate the Arrowsmith Program pilot, in order to continue and expand the program across Victoria

Change the lives of children with learning disabilities by strengthening the weak cognitive capacities that cause dysfunction.

Catholic Education Office; State Government of Victoria; Monash University; Cities of Kingston & Glen Eira; Victorian schools

Turning children with learning disabilities into effective, confident, self-directed learners for life

"We believe that every child deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential."
Michael Juliff, Co-ordinating Principal of the Federated Schools of Holy Trinity Parish



Image Students hard at work on their cognitive exercises in the The Holy Trinity Arrowsmith Program Classroom

In 2015 The Holy Trinity Parish commenced a 3-year pilot of the Arrowsmith Program, a revolutionary program that uses cognitive exercises and neuroplasticity to equip students with the skills and brain capacity to function in the mainstream classroom confidently and independently.

Snapshot:

- 1 in 10 children in Victoria has a learning disability.
- The Arrowsmith Program is a unique program which identifies, intervenes and strengthens weaker cognitive capacities for students with a learning disability across the broad spectrum of mild to severe learning problems.
- Effective for students having difficulty with reading, writing and mathematics, comprehension, logical reasoning, problem solving, visual and auditory memory, non-verbal learning, attention, processing speed and dyslexia.
- Three Holy Trinity teachers underwent specialised training in Canada to become qualified Arrowsmith teachers in preparation for the pilot.
- The pilot is split across two schools over three years with 30 students, ranging in age from 6-11 years (Years 1-5) participating in four cognitive sessions each day and the rest of the time with their homeroom class.
- Throughout the program, the teachers record data on each student daily and weekly, to ensure that benchmarks are met and to make adjustments if needed.
- An independent research study on the pilot is being conducted by Monash University.
- Findings from the research will be shared with the broader community.

Visit the Holy Trinity Arrowsmith Program Facebook page

Haven; Home, Safe

Project

The Sidney Myer Haven Program – Social Curriculum Development

Date

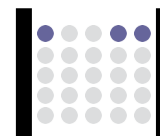
2015

Program

Education and Vocational Pathways

Amount

\$30,000



TRUST OBJECTIVES

Rural and regional Victoria

Extending opportunity

Collaboration and partnership

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Based in and serving the City of Greater Bendigo

Providing disadvantaged people with assistance to develop the skills needed to maintain tenancies and sustain employment

Partnerships with a broad range of service, business, health and welfare, and education and training providers across the region

A visionary integrated service model for living skills

“The Sidney Myer Haven Social Curriculum is a leading-edge life enhancement program, to break the cycle of homelessness”. Ken Marchingo, CEO Haven; Home, Safe



Many who move from crisis accommodation are poorly equipped to survive, let alone thrive and frequently fall back into the homelessness system. The Social Curriculum program aims to break this cycle by providing residents in transitional housing with personalised, accessible pathways to education, training and employment.

Snapshot:

Haven; Home, Safe has been providing services to the homeless and disadvantaged for over two decades across Victoria's Loddon and Mallee regions. The Sidney Myer Haven initiative in Bendigo, combines a 23-unit medium-term residential complex supported by an intensive life-skills development program aimed at supporting residents to step up and become valuable and engaged community members.

- HMSTrust provided funding to scope the development of the education component of The Sidney Myer Haven, the Social Curriculum. The report provides a strong guide and framework for a person-centric program which can also be used by other service providers.
- The report exposed the need for a focus on foundational learning, which is often less developed or missed altogether, along with pre-vocational and core living skills to enable residents to live independently.
- The goal of the Social Curriculum program is to provide life learning and foundational skills that engage, open doors and build participants' capacity and potential to sustain tenancies, gain financial control, develop self-reliance, build trust, friendships and belonging.
- Residents are supported to develop a personalised plan that sets goals for making positive change in their lives.
- The Social Curriculum Report brought together many regional providers for the first time, resulting in a deeper understanding of the issues and problems faced by disadvantaged people trying to improve personal capacity and skills.

www.havenhomesafe.org.au

YSAS (Youth Support and Advocacy Service)

Project

Next generation youth 'Alcohol and Drug' services in Victoria

Date

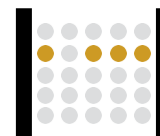
2015

Program

Regional Resilience

Amount

\$290,000 over two years

**TRUST OBJECTIVES****PROJECT OBJECTIVES****Rural and regional Victoria**

Enable treatment providers across Victoria to incorporate the latest technology and new evidence-based interventions for drug problems into their services

Building organisational capacity

Provide more effective services through a network of regional youth drug treatment leaders

Extending opportunity

Facilitate easier access to drug treatment for young people and families in regional Victoria

Collaboration and partnership

32 Victorian youth drug treatment providers; Deakin University; Young and Well Collaborative Research Centre

Improving drug treatment services for young people in regional Victoria

"We wanted young people involved in the development process to ensure that ERIC addresses and is relevant to their needs."

Dr Kate Hall, Deakin University



Image Angela Simpson, Dom Ennis, and Kate Hall (YSAS/Deakin Project Team)

Too many rural and regional young people are not accessing treatment for their drug and alcohol problems. Geographic barriers and concerns about anonymity are particular issues in small rural communities. YSAS is developing a multi-pronged service that combines: training, building a coordinated regional network, developing and piloting a new intervention for addictive behavior in partnership with Deakin University, and initiating a 24hr access point to real-time support and referral.

Snapshot:

- YSAS and Deakin University are developing, piloting and evaluating the ERIC intervention (Emotion Regulation & Impulse Control), a structured, evidence-based intervention addressing the underlying issues that lead to addictive behaviour.
- The ERIC intervention is being adapted for regional youth drug treatment services and for phone and/or internet-based delivery.
- YSAS is coordinating and resourcing a network of regional practice leaders to build the capacity of youth drug treatment services in regional communities across Victoria.
- Through YoDAA, (Youth Drug & Alcohol Advice), the YSAS online platform, a seamless 24-hour linking system will be created that enables Helpline services such as eheadspace and Directline to become access points for young people and their families seeking more intensive drug treatment in their local community.
- The Young and Well Cooperative Research Centre will provide training and ongoing advice on how technologies can be utilised to improve therapeutic outcomes for young people in regional drug treatment services.
- Project outcomes will be shared with all youth drug treatment organisations in Victoria, State and local governments, research centres and peak bodies in the youth, drug treatment and associated sectors.

ysas.org.au

yodaa.org.au

Project

Don't Let It Get Ugly

Date

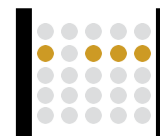
2015

Program

Regional Resilience

Amount

\$199,000 over two years



TRUST OBJECTIVES

Rural and regional Victoria

Building organisational capacity

Extending opportunity

Collaboration and partnership

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Collaborate with rural sports clubs, schools and youth programs to provide safe and supportive community environments through policy development and interactive education

Build the skills and capacity of Nexus and its staff to better understand local young people and provide innovative services that meet their needs

Ensure that every young person has the right to accessible locally relevant health information so they can make informed health choices

12 key partnership organisations including State and local government, Victoria Police, health and sporting organisations, University of Melbourne

Empowering young people to be community champions of health messages

"DLIGU has equipped our kids with skills and knowledge of healthy lifestyle messages including where to go for local help."

Annette Chapman, President, Broadford Netball Club



Image From the Don't Let It Get Ugly social media campaign

Don't Let It Get Ugly (DLIGU) aims to ensure young people in the central Victorian Shires of Mitchell, Murrindindi and Strathbogie are able to make informed choices about sexual behaviours, drug use and family violence.

Snapshot:

- The Don't Let It Get Ugly (DLIGU) project targets young people (16-24 years) in central Victoria.
- The proactive and engaging approach to preventative health was developed following Nexus' success of an earlier youth-led partnership-based project around binge drinking.
- Nexus works closely with local sports clubs, schools and youth groups to develop policies and build capacity to become safe, supportive and sustainable environments.
- The project will directly reach over 300 local young people.
- The witty and bold, peer-led social media campaign aims to raise the awareness of risky behaviour in over 20,000 people.
- Using a continuous consultation and review approach, young people are encouraged to have input into their own health through relevant youth-led initiatives.
- Nexus Primary Health provides accessible, integrated health and support services.

www.nexusprimaryhealth.org.au

Shepparton Capacity Building Cohort

Project

Shepparton Community Share

Date

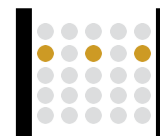
2015

Program

Regional Resilience

Amount

\$109,500 combined



TRUST OBJECTIVES

Rural and regional Victoria

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Establish a network amongst four key Shepparton-based not-for-profit agencies providing services to vulnerable people in rural and regional Victoria

Building organisational capacity

Create a model to support the exchange of information and identify and deliver shared improvements to support activities

Collaboration and partnership

Collaboration between FamilyCare, ConnectGV, Bridge Youth Service, Primary Care Connect

Building capacity and collaboration among four Shepparton social service providers

"Some of the most important positives are the simplest things – like having time and opportunity to talk to each other." David Tennant, CEO, FamilyCare



Image L-R: Kim Turner (Independent Facilitator), Melinda Lawley (The Bridge CEO), Rebecca Lorains (Primary Care Connect CEO), Bruce Giovanetti (ConnectGV CEO), David Tennant (FamilyCare CEO)

In May 2015, HMSTrust trialled a capacity-building grants round in Shepparton, which resulted in 11 Community One-off Grants being awarded. Four of the grantees formed a cohort, each submitting a separate application, taking responsibility for a component of the innovative collective impact project.

Snapshot:

The Shepparton Community Share agencies and their areas of activity are: **ConnectGV**, provider of disability services, reviewing information technology and communication needs across the partner agencies; **Primary Care Connect**, community health provider, investigating the potential for efficiencies in the ordering and management of essential services; **The Bridge Youth Service**, youth support provider, exploring opportunities to develop and enhance social media opportunities among the partners; and **FamilyCare**, regional provider of child and family services, facilitating the development and implementation of a framework.

Objectives include:

- Engage an independent facilitator to develop a governance model;
- Increase efficiencies and improvements in essential support and back-office functions;
- Build collaboration between the partner agencies individually and as a group;
- Build relationships with key external stakeholders, including other community agencies, funding bodies and product and service providers in areas covered by the projects; and
- Document and evaluate the collaboration to capture learnings for the benefit of other agencies operating in Shepparton and in similar communities.

FamilyCare www.familycare.net.au

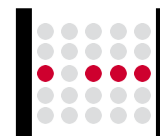
Primary Care Connect www.primarycareconnect.com.au

The Bridge Youth Service www.thebridge.org.au

ConnectGV www.connectgv.com.au

Project
ARTfinder
Date
2015

Program
Culture and Heritage
Amount
\$114,047 over two years



TRUST OBJECTIVES

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Rural and regional Victoria

Collect data and deliver community planning forums and arts and disability training workshops in four regional areas

Building organisational capacity

Expand capacity to research, identify and inform on suitable arts programs for people with disability

Extending opportunity

Foster arts initiatives designed to build inclusive communities

Collaboration and partnership

Victorian Office for Disability, Municipal Association of Victoria, local government, artists, universities, disability/mental health services and people with disability

New database empowers Victorians with disability to engage in the arts

"It was of special benefit for me to see and hear directly from those with disabilities and to learn of the many groups striving to make a difference." Margo O'Neil, Ambassador, Peninsula Arts Society after attending an Art Matters planning forum



Image Butterfly Surgeons from Arts Access Victoria's Get Out program who performed at Art Matters in Frankston. Photo: Paul Dunn

One million Victorians live with a disability. ARTfinder is a new online, state-wide directory that will improve access to inclusive arts programs across Victoria. With recent shifts to individualised funding, people with disability have greater self-determination but if they cannot easily locate suitable and accessible arts programs, their participation remains limited.

Snapshot:

- ARTfinder is a community capacity-building project which will improve planning, sourcing and delivery of inclusive arts programs specifically designed for Victorians with disability.
- Researching Victorian arts programs for people with disability for the ARTfinder online directory.
- Assisting Victorians with disability and their carers to easily locate, or advocate for, affordable accessible arts programs for local respite, recreation and professional arts practice.
- Delivering Art Matters planning and training programs in eight Victorian local government areas.
- Increasing the capacity of local governments, disability services and arts organisations to plan, promote and deliver accessible arts programs.
- Ensuring regional and rural artists with disability are identified and connected to Arts Access Victoria's Pathways Program for professional development.
- Negotiating with National Disability Insurance Agency Barwon Region to ensure the ARTfinder database will be compatible with the National Health Services online directory which currently has no capacity to search for arts programs for people with disability.

www.artsaccess.com.au

Footscray Community Arts Centre

Project

“Power Up” – Indigenous Creative Producers and Arts Managers Capacity Building Program

Date

2015

Program

Culture and Heritage

Amount

\$90,000 over 18 months



TRUST OBJECTIVES

Supporting Indigenous Victoria

Building organisational capacity

Extending opportunity

Collaboration and partnership

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Encourage and support the professional development of emerging Indigenous creative producers and arts managers

Build the capacity of Indigenous Victorian arts workers and build cultural competency within arts organisations, sector-wide

Provide strategic, hands-on opportunities in skills development, career advancement and professional network-building

Ilbjerri Theatre Company, Brown Cab Productions, Victoria University, Footscray Community Arts Centre's Indigenous Advisory Group, Wominjeka Festival, NAIDOC Week and other festivals

Enabling the Victorian Indigenous arts community to author, develop and deliver its own work

“Power Up encourages excellence, drives ambition and will create pathways for Indigenous Victorians into employment in the broader arts sector.” Megan Cope, Creative Producer, FCAC



Image Hannah Presley, curator of WEAVE, at Wominjeka 2014. Photo: James Henry

There is an insufficient supply of qualified Indigenous senior arts managers and producers to meet industry demand. The 3-year Power Up program develops and builds on skills of the next generation of Indigenous creative producers and administrators through a results-based program.

Snapshot:

- Footscray Community Arts Centre, together with its collaborating partners, reviewed past initiatives, analysed successes and failures, and consulted broadly with Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural organisations and leaders to design a culturally appropriate program for long-term impact.
- Power Up includes structured mentorships, strategic work placements, workshops and engagement with professional development programs.
- Four emerging Indigenous creative producers or arts managers will be ‘upskilled’ and ready to take on senior producing and managing roles within the Victorian Indigenous arts sector.
- The program will develop competency and best practice in community engagement in the broader Victorian arts sector.
- Learnings from the program will inform the development of long-term industry initiatives, ensuring the continued development of high quality Indigenous arts managers and producers.
- The Centre’s Indigenous Cultural Program presents work authored entirely by Indigenous artists and developed in consultation with the community, including Elders in Residence Aunty Carolyn Briggs and Uncle Larry Walsh.
- The program will be shared as best practice models.

footscrayarts.com

Project

Mobile Art Spaces

Date

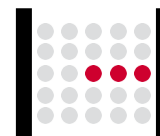
2015

Program

Culture and Heritage

Amount

\$30,000



TRUST OBJECTIVES

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Building organisational capacity

Build collaborative networks and alliances between local services and festivals to foster cultural engagement and community cohesion

Extending opportunity

Offer opportunities for participants and the community to develop skills in cultural leadership and advocacy

Collaboration and partnership

Wyndham City Council, Truganina South Primary School, Arndell Park Community Centre, YMCA, Co-Health Arts Generator, Mobile Cinema partners including SBS, Umbrella Entertainment, VU Centre for Cultural Partnerships

Mobile Art Spaces literally come 'to you' foregoing ticketing, travel and formal cultural expectations

"There is a need for strategies to build accessible local hubs that counteract social disconnectedness between neighbours, streets and cultures." Genevieve Collier, Art Teacher, Truganina South Primary School



Image Mobile Radio comes to school

Big West Festival works with communities in Melbourne's outer western belt in a program that spans five local government areas across 84 suburbs covering 1290km² with over 140 nationalities and 80 languages. Racial discrimination, language, disadvantage, finance and geography are barriers to social participation. Mobile Art Spaces developed from Big West's biennial 10-day festival, in response to the demand for more frequent opportunities for intercultural exchange.

Snapshot

- Mobile Art Spaces comprise four platforms, providing opportunities for skills development, creativity, relationship building and the public presentation of ideas and stories.
 - Mobile Radio – a portable radio station in a caravan;
 - Art Truck – a versatile stage for performance and theatrical design;
 - Flashpoint — a song writing and recording studio on a bus with spontaneous live performance outcomes led by Massive Hip Hop Choir; and
 - Mobile Cinema – a mentoring and skills development program for curation and production of multicultural film festivals.
- HMSTrust funded a pilot collaboration between a primary school, a community centre and the YMCA in the City of Wyndham on a project for, by and about their community.
- The project employed emerging CALD and professional artists from Melbourne's west and presented original artworks that celebrated the collective creativity of the region.
- Big West Festival leveraged HMSTrust's grant to secure three-year funding from the Australia Council to further roll out the program in Wyndham, Brimbank, Melton South and Braybrook in 2016-18.
- The flexible and replicable model draws on existing community skills and cultural assets.

bigwest.com.au

Western Port Biosphere

Project

Engaging Biosphere Major Water Users in Addressing Catchment Issues Through a Water Stewardship Approach

Date

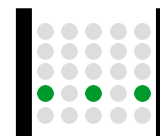
2015

Program

Land and Environmental Stewardship

Amount

\$180,000 over three years



TRUST OBJECTIVES

Rural and regional Victoria

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Enable best practice water management in the Western Port community to achieve restoration of local waterways and preservation of the Biosphere

Building organisational capacity

Enhance Western Port Biosphere's capacity and outreach with the community.

Collaboration and partnership

Water Stewardship Australia, Melbourne Water, South East Water, Port Phillip & Westernport Catchment Management Authority, Parks Victoria, Inghams Enterprises, EPA Vic, Dept of Environment, Land, Water & Planning, local councils, businesses and community groups

Cleaning up one of Victoria's dirtiest creeks to protect and enhance the Biosphere

"As a good steward and water manager, we can demonstrate to customers, community, government and regulators, that we are doing the best we possibly can with the water available to us." Julia Seddon, Head of Business Sustainability, Ingham Enterprises.



Image Lower Watson Creek as it enters the Ramsar wetlands site and Yaringa Marine National Park

A collaboration between Western Port's major water users, the community, water agencies, local government and other stakeholders seeks to achieve a sustainable water balance, good water quality, good water governance and healthy water-related areas for this UNESCO-declared area.

The Mornington Peninsula and Western Port Biosphere Reserve is home to internationally significant mangrove seagrass and mudflat communities, migratory bird populations and saltmarsh habitats. Located on the fringes of urban Melbourne, challenges include rapid urbanisation, port development and climate change. As a signatory to the Ramsar Convention of 1972, Australia has an international obligation to preserve and protect these areas.

Snapshot:

- The Biosphere project is engaging water-using companies and the community to become Water Stewards utilising the framework of the Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS) International Water Stewardship Standard.
- A range of stakeholders are engaging with the project including major business, government, schools and private landholders.
- Inghams Enterprises' pilot site for the Water Stewardship Standard resulted in a 70% reduction in potable water demand, improvement in effluent management, and attention to local waterways, winning multiple international prizes and recognition for their work. The company's Somerville processing plant is the second site in the world to achieve AWS certification and the first to achieve gold level.
- The benefits of being a Water Steward include: monitoring and managing water related risks, cost savings through efficiencies, simplified compliance, potential for funding on-site works, recognition of good practice and a more secure water future.

www.biosphere.org.au

Connecting Country (Mount Alexander Region) Inc

Project

Stewards for Woodland Birds

Date

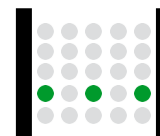
2015

Program

Land and Environmental Stewardship

Amount

\$75,600 over two years



TRUST OBJECTIVES

Rural and regional Victoria

Building organisational capacity

Collaboration and partnership

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Enable local landholders and community environment groups to implement habitat enhancement works for the Woodland Birds program

Build the environmental stewardship capacity of local landholders across eleven priority zones

30 local landcare and friends groups, Birdlife Australia, the Norman Wettenhall Foundation, Trust for Nature, North Central Catchment Management Authority and the Mount Alexander Shire Council

Securing the future of central Victoria's woodland birds

"Thanks to the HMSTrust, this project is supporting local communities to take greater ownership and responsibility for the long-term persistence of their local birds, their ecology and their conservation." Chris Timewell, Connecting Country Director



Image Community members on the look-out for woodland birds and other native wildlife at a recent Connecting Country field day, Sedgwick, Victoria.

Connecting Country uses a grassroots approach to land and biodiversity management. This project empowers local landholders and groups in central Victoria to initiate, implement and maintain restoration projects for local woodland bird habitat.

Many landholders in the Mount Alexander region of central Victoria are concerned about the decline in the 'threatened' Victorian Temperate Woodland Bird Community due to drought, on-going habitat decline and other damaging processes.

Connecting Country has developed a 10-year action plan to secure the populations of five woodland bird species across the region – the Hooded Robin, Diamond Firetail, Painted Button-quail, Jacky Winter and Brown Treecreeper. Eleven priority zones for protection and restoration of habitat for these species has been identified, each of which includes a mix of public and private land.

Snapshot:

The Stewards for Woodlands Birds project:

- Empowers landholders and community environment groups through training in woodland bird identification and conservation practice.
- Increases capacity of local landholders to actively engage and inspire other landholders to develop local projects and to monitor birds and habitat restoration.
- Strengthens communities and increases social cohesion in rural areas.
- Enthuses new landholders to implement habitat enhancement works for woodland birds on their properties.
- Identifies and further develops funding for local projects which will contribute to the larger Woodland Birds project.

www.connectingcountry.org.au

Project

Advance Statements for Improved Recovery Journeys

Date

2015

Program

Health Advancement

Amount

\$250,000 over 2 years

**TRUST OBJECTIVES****PROJECT OBJECTIVES****Rural and regional Victoria**

Provide Advance Statement best practice templates and advice to rural and regional services and extend to the state-wide telephone service

Building organisational capacity

Embed a core service, based on collaborative networks, across legal, health and government sectors and attract quality volunteers and students

Extending opportunity

Help Victorians to assert their legal rights and effectively engage in the Recovery Orientated Framework exercising these rights

Collaboration and partnership

Saltwater Area Mental Health Clinic, Thomas Embling Hospital, Orygen, RMIT, Ashurst, Sparke Helmore Lawyers, Department of Health

Maximising autonomy, dignity and control

"Advance Statements obtained when the patient is at a stable optimal point and able to involve their carers or advocates in defining their wishes for future care, are an integral initiative established in the new Act." John Serry, Psychiatrist member, Mental Health Tribunal



The new Victorian Mental Health Act 2014 aims to ensure that people receiving treatment for mental illness are involved in all decisions about their assessment, treatment and recovery, and have their views and preferences respected through the use of Advance Statements. Mental Health Legal Centre is working to embed Advance Statements across legal, health and government sectors.

Snapshot:

- The Advance Statement is based on a collaborative approach between the consumer, the treating team and legal practitioners to build a platform for treatment and recovery that considers a patient's treatment preferences.
- The Centre provides mental health services with critical independent legal assistance and staff training to enable clients to develop their own effective, person-centred Advance Statements
- Advance Statement clinics are delivered on a fortnightly or monthly basis co-located at Saltwater Clinic, Thomas Embling Hospital and Orygen, increasing both practitioners' and consumers' knowledge and understanding of Advance Statements.
- Statewide telephone support services are delivered to regional mental health services and lawyers.
- RMIT is developing a technology-based solution to assist people in completing the forms.

communitylaw.org.au

Women's Health West

Project

Action for Equity: A Sexual and Reproductive Health Plan for Melbourne's West 2013-2017

Date

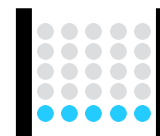
2015

Program

Health Advancement

Amount

\$196,333 over three years



TRUST OBJECTIVES

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Supporting Indigenous Victoria

Improve the sexual health of Indigenous youth in the western suburbs

Rural and regional Victoria

Support women's health services across Victoria by sharing transferable resources and evaluation findings

Building organisational capacity

Build the capacity of partner organisations through policy and workforce development, training, governance and leadership, joint planning and evaluation, and resource sharing

Extending opportunity

Improve the health and human rights of high risk disadvantaged members of the community

Collaboration and partnership

Seventeen project partners including state and local government, youth and healthcare organisations

First comprehensive plan in Victoria to increase the sexual and reproductive health of disadvantaged communities

"Introducing 'Girls Talk, Guys Talk', to specialist schools is an exciting new phase of the project." Jo Richardson, Prevention Manager, cohealth



Image L-R: Health Promotion Workers Ngahina and Shukria, Women's Health West CEO Robyn Gregory and Health Promotion Manager Elly Taylor, pictured with the Action for Equity Health Plan for Melbourne's West.

A four-year health promotion plan for Melbourne's West is having significant impact on the future direction of sexual and reproductive health in Victoria by providing good practice models, expanding the research base and informing policy makers.

Snapshot:

2013 statistics for Melbourne's west reveal that only 53% of youth practised safe sex; no publicly accessible condom vending machines; sexually transmissible infections had doubled between 2009-2011; high rates of sexual violence and unwanted pregnancies; and high rates of preventable illness among young people in the region. In response, Women's Health West developed a four-year *Action for Equity* plan for Melbourne's west in collaboration with seventeen cross-sector organisations.

- *Action for Equity* aims to improve access to contraceptives, fertility control, Pap testing for disadvantaged women, treatment of sexually transmissible infections and to ensure that health services are youth, diversity and disability accessible.
- Six discrete projects will be undertaken ranging from: health promotion to current and exiting women prisoners; sexuality education for young people with disability; installation of publicly accessible condom vending machines across 7 local government areas (LGAs); and delivery of sexual and reproductive health promotion theory and practice knowledge, as well as clinical and service-system knowledge in regard to fertility and pregnancy for medical practitioners.
- An evaluation strategy is planned that will measure process, impact and outcomes.
- All project tools, resources and outcome findings will be disseminated and available through an online resource hub.

whwest.org.au



Financials

Investment Review

Finance Review

Financial Summary

Investment Review



The investment activities at the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust are guided by the organisation's strategic aims of Building, Enabling, and Leading.

Building

Within this context "Building" means strengthening HMSTrust's investment capabilities.

During FY2015 two important changes were made to the Investment Committee. First, Catherine Walter assumed the chair of the Committee in December 2014 on the retirement of the long-serving Darvell Hutchinson. Catherine is an experienced lawyer and company director and has involvement with investments as a director of the listed investment company, Australian Foundation Investment Company Ltd. She is also a former director of the Victorian Funds Management Corporation and a former chairman of the multi-employer superannuation fund, equipSuper. Secondly, after a competitive tender process Frontier Advisors was appointed as an investment advisor to the Committee, with a particular focus on asset allocation advice. Frontier is one of Australia's leading independent investment consultants and has already made a positive contribution to HMSTrust's investment activities.

HMSTrust is one of few trusts which manages most of its investments internally. The advantages of this are greater control over the investment process and lower costs. This year the costs of the investment operations increased from 0.20% to 0.23% of the average assets under management due to the increased holding in the Vanguard International Shares Index Fund.

Enabling

The purpose of the investment operation is to "Enable" HMSTrust to fulfil its granting mission. This is expressed in two investment objectives. The first is to generate net income, including franking credits and after operating expenses, of at least \$4.1m (\$4.0m in 2014, indexed for inflation). This year the net income generated was \$0.8m above this target which allowed Trustees to elect to transfer \$0.7m back to the corpus under the approved power of accumulation.

The second investment objective is for the return on the Capital Account (corpus) to match or exceed the return on the strategic asset allocation over rolling five-year periods. This is the return that would have been achieved if each asset class was held at the strategic weighting, and the return of each asset class equalled its specific index return (e.g. the Bloomberg Bank Bill Index in the case of the cash asset class). This objective has not yet been in place for five years, but in FY2015 the return of the Capital Account was 7.4% compared with 8.4% for the strategic asset allocation. The main reason for the under-performance was an independent valuation of HMSTrust's office building which resulted in a \$296k reduction in carrying value. All other asset classes met or exceeded their respective benchmarks. To put this return in context the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index returned 5.7% for the year. The main reason the overall portfolio did better than that was its significant exposure to international shares which returned 25.2%, helped significantly by a pronounced decline in the value of the A\$.

The strategic asset allocation and actual asset allocation at 30 June 2015 are shown in the table below. The main changes over the year were an increase in the exposure to international shares from 15% to 19% and a reduction in Australian shares from 75% to 69%. HMSTrust has held hybrids in the Income Account for many years but included them at 2% in the Capital Account for the first time this year in response to the very low interest rates offered by term deposits.

| ASSET CLASS | STRATEGIC WEIGHT | MIN. | MAX. | 30 JUNE 2015 WEIGHT |
|-------------------------|------------------|------|------|---------------------|
| Australian shares | 70% | 50% | 90% | 69% |
| International shares | 15% | 0% | 30% | 19% |
| Australian property | 5% | 0% | 20% | 2% |
| Growth Assets | 90% | | | 90% |
| Hybrids | 0% | 0% | 5% | 2% |
| Australian bonds | 5% | 0% | 25% | 0% |
| International bonds | 0% | 0% | 10% | 0% |
| Cash | 5% | 0% | 50% | 8% |
| Defensive Assets | 10% | | | 10% |

The investment objective for the Income Account is to generate an interest rate greater than the 90-day Bank Bill swap rate. In FY2015 this was again achieved comfortably with the portfolio earning an average rate of 4.22% compared with 2.50% for the benchmark.

Leading

HMSTrust has a strategic objective to provide leadership in philanthropy. This year the HMSTrust Investment Executive produced a series of six 30 minute webinars on the principles of investment on behalf of Philanthropy Australia. These webinars are designed for trustees with little or no previous experience of investing, to help them improve their understanding and governance of the investment funds under their stewardship. Interactive webinars, enabling participants to ask questions, are planned for the current year.

Outlook

The investment outlook for the coming year is challenging. Weaker global growth and increased supply have led to significant falls in commodity prices, which combined with a sharp decline in capital investment, are presenting headwinds to the Australian economy. China, our biggest trading partner, is slowing as it transitions from an economy driven by capital investment and exports to one focussed more on domestic consumption. Of all the major economies only the US is experiencing reasonable growth, but even there the likelihood of the central bank raising interest rates will have to be absorbed by financial markets. Interest rates in Australia are expected to remain low and the A\$ should remain weak, especially against the US\$.

Peter Wetherall

Investment Executive

Finance Review



The Helen Macpherson Smith Trust is a perpetual charitable trust whose principal activity is to hold Helen's residuary estate (corpus) in trust, to invest the corpus to maintain and grow its real value, to earn income from the corpus and to distribute that income to charitable institutions situated in Victoria.

Background

In accordance with the terms of the will, HMSTrust maintains both a Capital Account (representing HMSTrust's corpus) and an Income Account (representing the amount available for granting). The Trustees have the power to accumulate and retain up to 15% of the operating surplus of HMSTrust each financial year in the Capital Account. The assets of HMSTrust are held in the name of the custodian trustee, HMS Nominees Ltd.

Internal control

A comprehensive annual budget is approved by the Board of Trustees in May every year. Quarterly actual results are reported against budget and revised forecasts for the year are prepared regularly.

Special purpose annual financial statements are prepared for HMSTrust and these are audited by BDO. The financial summary presented here is an extract of the audited annual financial statements which are available for download off the ACNC website.

HMSTrust has implemented a risk management plan which is reviewed by the Board of Trustees on an annual basis, and maintains comprehensive insurance policies.

Operating results for the year

HMSTrust continued to perform strongly in the 2015 financial year and reported total comprehensive income of \$3.5m with a corresponding increase in total accumulated funds from \$104.9m to \$108.4m.

Revenue (excluding realised and unrealised gains on investments) of \$8.0m was earned on the corpus during the 2015 financial year. Whilst this was 30% higher than the \$6.1m earned in the previous financial year, included in the current financial year is \$2.0m revenue from off-market share buy-backs and capital distributions which are taken to the Capital Account (nil for 2014 financial year).

Total expenses of \$1.4m were incurred during the year in operating HMSTrust to achieve its objectives. Expenses relate to the three core activities of HMSTrust: internal investment management, grantmaking activities, and finance and compliance. Employee and Trustee benefits were at a similar level to those incurred in the 2013 financial year with the 2014 financial year being temporarily lower due to staffing changes which meant some positions were vacant for part of the year.

The operating surplus on the income account of \$4.8m allowed for a total of \$4.9m (after grants withdrawn) in grants to be approved during the 2015 financial year. This resulted in a \$0.1m deficit on the Income Account which together with a \$0.7m transfer from the Income Account to the Capital Account (due to the exercise of the power of accumulation), resulted in the Income Account reducing from \$4.7m at 30 June 2014 to \$3.9m at 30 June 2015.

Glen Thomson

Finance Executive

Helen Macpherson Smith Trust

Financial Summary

Statement of surplus or deficit and other comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2015

| | | 2015 \$ | 2014 \$ |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| REVENUE | | | |
| | Franked dividends | 4,226,022 | 3,681,962 |
| | Unfranked dividends | 476,799 | 315,908 |
| | Imputation credits on dividends | 1,811,152 | 1,244,051 |
| | Managed fund distributions | 933,999 | 322,707 |
| | Interest income | 446,290 | 495,083 |
| | Other income | 87,669 | 80,206 |
| | | 7,981,931 | 6,139,917 |
| EXPENSES | | | |
| | Employee and trustee benefits | (887,418) | (682,571) |
| | Depreciation and amortisation | (98,508) | (88,922) |
| | Impairment of building ¹ | - | (296,250) |
| | Legal expenses | (123,154) | (51,699) |
| | Other operating expenses | (278,824) | (353,357) |
| | | (1,387,904) | (1,472,799) |
| OPERATING SURPLUS | | 6,594,027 | 4,667,118 |
| | Net grants approved during year | (4,892,706) | (6,131,277) |
| SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR | | 1,701,321 | (1,464,159) |
| Other comprehensive income | Change in fair value of investments | 1,804,522 | 10,213,991 |
| TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME | | 3,505,843 | 8,749,832 |
| | | | |
| | Attributable to Capital Account | 3,618,325 | 9,550,942 |
| | Attributable to Income Account | (112,482) | (801,110) |
| | | 3,505,843 | 8,749,832 |

¹ An independent valuation of 27 Windsor Place led to a write down of the building.

² Includes withdrawn grants amounting to \$176,686 (2014: \$92,115).

Helen Macpherson Smith Trust

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2015

| | | 2015 \$ | 2014 \$ |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | Cash and cash equivalents | 9,988,524 | 9,316,036 |
| | Trade and other receivables | 3,550,763 | 3,195,363 |
| | | 13,539,287 | 12,511,399 |
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS | Investments in financial assets | 97,826,406 | 96,398,263 |
| | Property plant and equipment | 2,602,399 | 2,660,186 |
| | Intangibles | 46,427 | 64,823 |
| | | 100,475,232 | 99,123,272 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | 114,014,519 | 111,634,671 |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | Trade and other payables | 61,510 | 747,353 |
| | Grants approved but unpaid | 5,480,052 | 5,934,541 |
| | Employee benefits | 32,566 | 22,984 |
| | | 5,574,128 | 6,704,878 |
| NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | Employee benefits | 5,991 | 1,236 |
| | | 5,991 | 1,236 |
| Net grants approved during year | | | |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | 5,580,119 | 6,706,114 |
| NET ASSETS | | 108,434,400 | 104,928,557 |
| ATTRIBUTABLE TO: | | | |
| - CAPITAL ACCOUNT | Capital profits reserve | 88,116,650 | 84,606,701 |
| | Investments revaluation reserve | 16,418,333 | 15,609,957 |
| | | 104,534,983 | 100,216,658 |
| - INCOME ACCOUNT | Retained surplus | 3,770,183 | 4,409,935 |
| | Investments revaluation reserve | 129,234 | 301,964 |
| | | 3,899,417 | 4,711,899 |
| TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS | | 108,434,400 | 104,928,557 |

