



STATE LIBRARY  
VICTORIA

# Donor Impact Report 2022-23

State Library Victoria Donor Impact Report 2022–23

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Australia

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State Library Victoria acknowledges the traditional lands of all the Victorian Aboriginal clans, and their cultural practices and knowledge systems. We recognise that our collections hold traditional cultural knowledge belonging to Indigenous communities in Victoria and around the country. We support communities to protect the integrity of this information, gathered from their Ancestors in the colonial period.

We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, who have handed down these systems of practice to each new generation for millennia.

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# Thank you from Chair of the Foundation Council, Alex Cartel



**Alex Cartel**  
Chair, Foundation Council

In my first year as Chair of the Foundation Council, I am proud to present to you the highlights of the philanthropic calendar over the past 18 months. It is humbling to view the range and depth of support State Library Victoria receives from Victorians and interstate donors.

This support is very much needed to supplement the programs and services the Library provides across its many activities from acquisition, conservation, preservation, librarian advice, education and entrepreneurial programs to name a few. Without the support of our donors, State Library Victoria could not meet the needs of many of our users and uphold the key tenet of our mission – to be free for all and inspire a love of learning and knowledge.

Thank you for your generosity.

**Alex Cartel**  
Chair, Foundation Council

# Welcome from State Library Victoria CEO, Paul Duldig



**Paul Duldig**  
CEO, State Library Victoria

The past year has provided an extraordinary insight for me into the special place that State Library Victoria holds in the hearts of the community we serve.

It is my intention to deepen and strengthen this bond by honouring our loyal supporters, such as you. We strive every day to make the State Collection accessible to all, without barriers or prejudice. We can only do this with your support.

So much has been achieved over the past 18 months and I am profoundly grateful for your involvement. These are testing times for many. Despite this, your spirit of generosity shines through. Your belief in the Library's mission allows us to remain an essential foundation of civil society – a trusted source of information and inspiration for all Victorians.

I hope you enjoy the highlights we bring you in this report and thank you again, so very much, for your generous support.

**Paul Duldig**  
Chief Executive Officer

# Acquisitions

Jan McDonald was a Rare Books Librarian at State Library Victoria who continues to generously support the Rare Books collection.

Jan's ongoing generosity has allowed the Library to add three remarkable rare books to the collection:

- A first edition of Yevgeny Zamyatin's dystopian masterpiece, *We*. This prescient novel influenced works like George Orwell's *1984* and offers a chilling portrayal of what the Soviet Union might become. While an English translation was published in New York in 1924, the original Russian language version was suppressed by censorship until 1952.
- *A Narrative of an Ascent to the Summit of Mont Blanc, Made during the Summer of 1827*. This 1828 printing is the first and only edition of the book, one of the earliest examples of pure mountaineering literature and a key mountaineering text. It is a significant addition to the Library's impressive Vic Spitzer collection on mountain climbing. This book was donated in tribute to Jan's late father, who had a strong interest in mountaineering. Jan, her sister and brother have donated several cherished works from her father's collection to the Library.
- *Epitome astronomiae Copernicanae* (1618) by Johannes Kepler introduces readers to his own interpretation of Copernican theory. The work was written during a period of upheaval in Kepler's life: his mother had been charged with witchcraft and threatened with torture, and the first volume's advocacy of the Copernican system soon earned it a place on the *Index librorum prohibitorum*, the Church's register of prohibited books. Copernicus' work too was censored by the Church: our copy includes the marks of revision demanded by the Church to make the work seem hypothetical rather than demonstrably true. In part to try to evade this controversy, the seven books of Kepler's *Epitome astronomicae Copernicanae* were issued in three instalments of inexpensive octavo volumes, titled *Doctrina spherica*, *Physica coelestis* and *Doctrina theorica*, over a period of four years. The volume on offer to us contains the complete work in one bound volume.

Iconic scientific works are a core strength of the Rare Books Collection, including a first edition of German astronomer Johannes Kepler's 1609 work *Astronomia Nova* (*A New Astronomy*), about the laws of planetary motion.

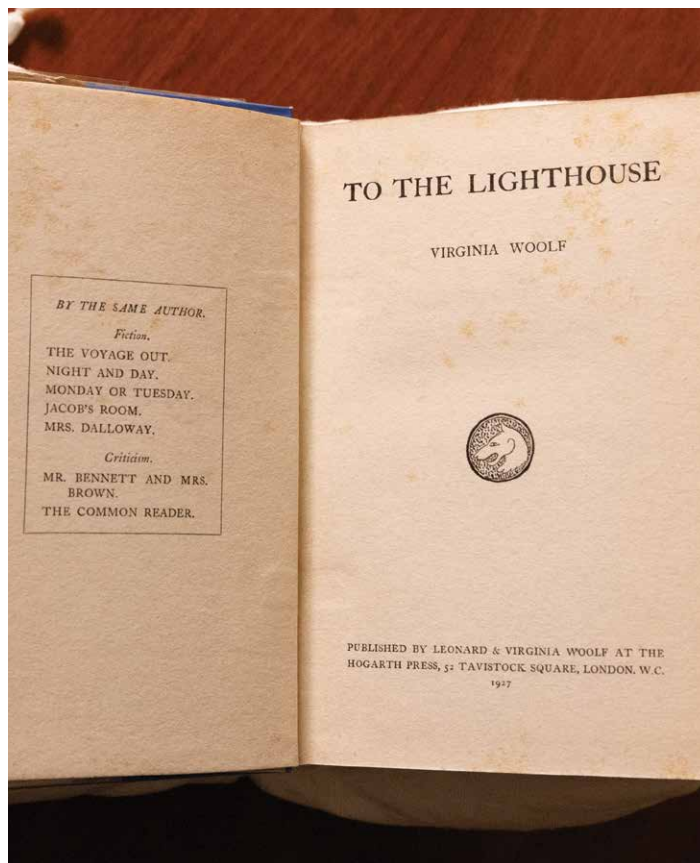
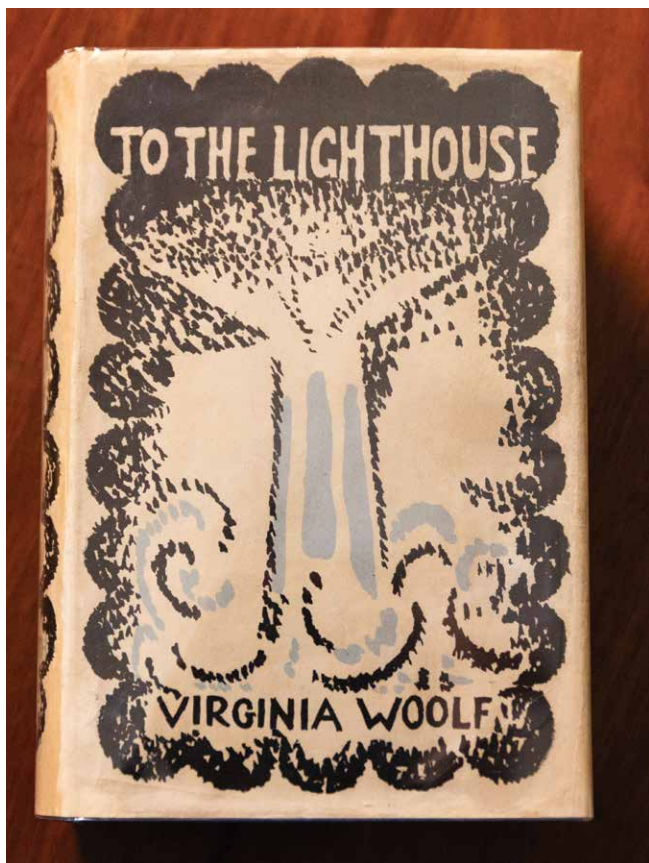
We express our sincerest appreciation and admiration to Jan for preserving these invaluable works and her enduring commitment to building the Library's Rare Books collection.



Jan McDonald



Virginia Woolf. *To The Lighthouse*. London, Hogarth Press, 1927  
Purchased with funds from the Women Writers Fund



## Building the State Collection

The Women Writers Fund restores under-represented voices by redressing the historical gender imbalance in the State Collection.

Established in 2021 by founders and generous donors Krystyna Campbell-Pretty AM and Helen Sykes, the fund makes significant purchases of important works by women writers to add to the Library's Rare Books Collection.

Thanks to the many supporters of the fund and a remarkable \$1 million donation from the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, we have exceeded our 120th acquisition!

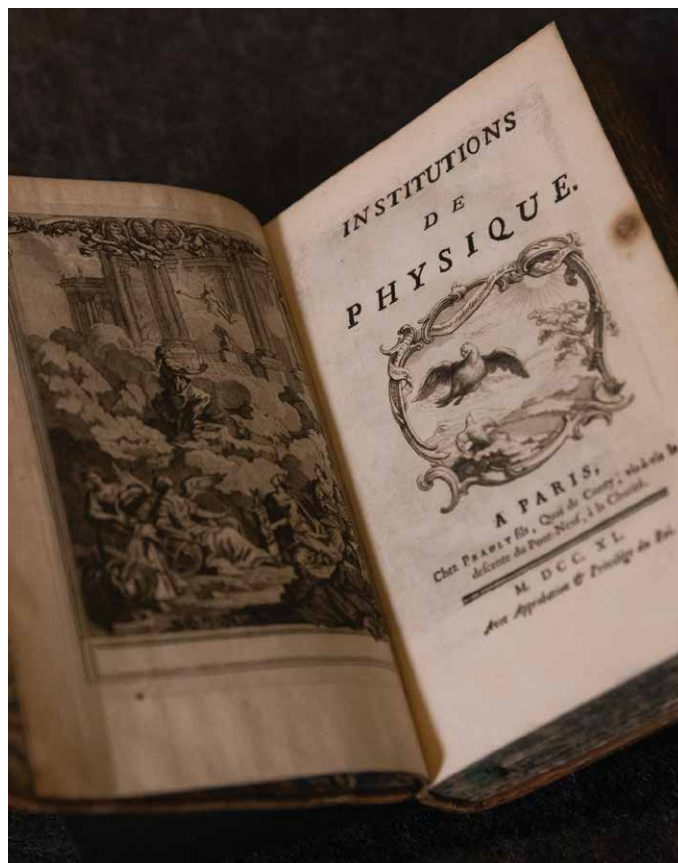
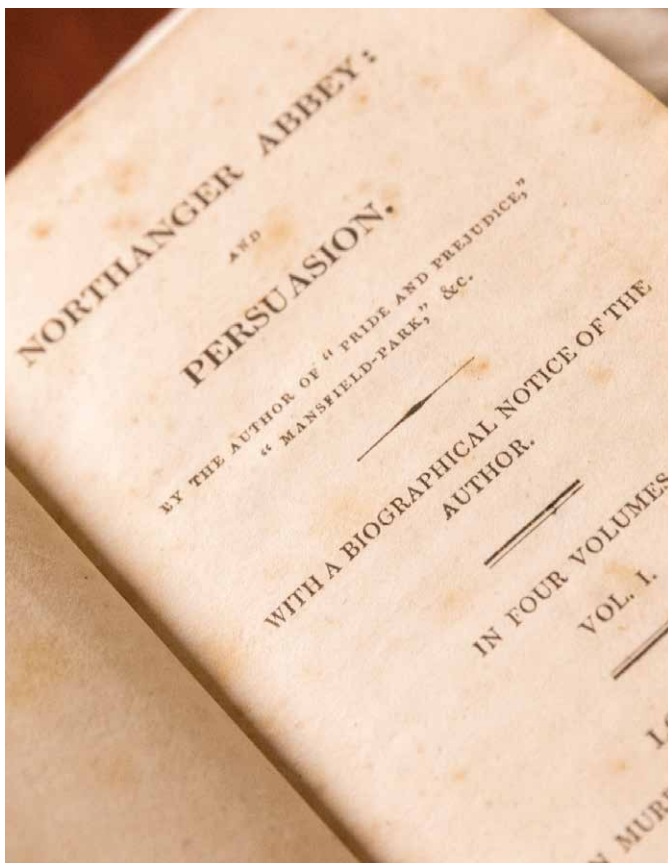
Without the Women Writers Fund the Library could not have purchased notable works by women writers such as Enlightenment scientist Laura Bassi's work concerning the compression of air (1745), first editions of Jane Austen's *Persuasion* and *Northanger Abbey* (1818) or Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse* (1927) and *Orlando* (1928). More recent acquisitions, made with the support of Christine Bell and Krystyna Campbell-Pretty AM, include the works of Mexican philosopher,

poet and nun Sor Juana Inés De La Cruz, *Poemas de la unica poetisa Americana* (1709) and a unique first edition of Toni Morrison's debut novel *The Bluest Eye* (1970) signed by its original owner, groundbreaking author Erica Jong.

We especially thank the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust for 5 significant purchases including:

- A signed first edition of Helena Bochořáková-Dittrichová's *From My Childhood*, Obzina, Prague, 1929. This rare book contains 94 woodcuts following the life of a middle-class girl in the Czech Republic. It is a landmark work of women's literature.
- Emilie du Chatelet's French translation of Isaac Newton's *Principia mathematica* from 1759, which will complete the Library's representation of this iconic female scientist.





- First edition of *An Historical and Moral View of the Origin and Progress of the French Revolution; and the Effect it has produced in Europe, Volume I*. British philosopher and author Mary Wollstonecraft's important treatise on the origins of the French Revolution, written in 1794 while she was living in Le Havre.
- *Persuasion* and *Northanger Abbey*, are first editions of the final two works of iconic Regency novelist Jane Austen, published in 1818, just six months after her early death aged 42 in December 1817. The books are accompanied by a biographical note by Austen's brother, which was the first time she was named in print as the author of these and her other works, which had been published anonymously.
- Mary Gartside, *An Essay on a new theory of Colours, and on composition in general; illustrated by coloured blots (in water colour) shewing the application of the theory*, London, 1808. Mary Gartside was the first woman to publish on colour theory, and her work preceded that of the famous German scholar and poet Johann Wolfgang von Goethe in 1810. It has been speculated that she also influenced the great English artist JMW Turner.

The Helen Macpherson Smith Trust also funds a program of events to celebrate and promote the achievements of women writers, including an annual signature lecture.

We extend our deep gratitude to Krystyna Campbell-Pretty AM, Helen Sykes, the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust and all of our supporters who donated to the Women Writers Fund. Together we will continue to amplify the voices of women writers and create a more inclusive and vibrant literary landscape.



(L to R) Christine Christian AO, Cathy-Di Zhang, Dr Erin Helyard and Catherine Walter AM at the inaugural Salon After D'Arc

Laurence Wilson, *Melbourne*, 1905



## Caring for the collection

The major conservation of Laurence Wilson's iconic painting, *Melbourne*, is now complete thanks to support from the Marquill Foundation and the Vera Moore Foundation.

The major conservation of Laurence Wilson's iconic painting, *Melbourne*, is now complete thanks to support from the Marquill Foundation and the Vera Moore Foundation.

*Melbourne* has long been an exhibition highlight in the Library's Cowen Gallery. Created in 1905, it captures a panoramic view of the city's streets from the Queen Victoria Gardens, showing in detail the rapid growth of Melbourne in the first decade of the 20th century. The conservation work included extensive repair, repainting and cleaning to return the piece to how it would have appeared 118 years ago.

The Marquill Foundation have funded the conservation of several important paintings in the Library collection. With their generous support, we continue the crucial conservation work required to safeguard these priceless works.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the Marquill Foundation and the Vera Moore Foundation for their dedication to the arts and their invaluable contribution to Victoria's cultural heritage.



### Digitising the Library's first medieval manuscript

In 1862 Charles Clay, an English doctor and collector, gave Sir Redmond Barry an incredible gift for the newly established Melbourne Public Library – the Library's first medieval manuscript, a medieval pharmacopoeia. Today the digitisation of this rare 15th century manuscript is being made possible by donor Stephen 'Sven' Wyley and Greg Noonan.

The medieval pharmacopoeia is an early example of an English manuscript made of paper, rather than vellum. It records medicine as taught at Oxford University around 1400 and is one of few surviving medical texts written in both Latin and Middle English.

Digitising this manuscript is a long-term project that requires meticulously detailed work. The process will take a year to complete, after which the manuscript pages will be rebound in a new vellum case. The Library will retain its current 19th century binding as evidence of its historical journey.

Thanks to Stephen and Greg's generous donations, this globally important manuscript will be preserved and shared with the world online.



# Supporting the Library's programs

State Library Victoria's diverse range of programs inform, entertain and inspire people at every stage of life.

## LEGO Robotics Workshops

### Enabled by the Lewin Family Foundation

With the invaluable support of the Lewin Family Foundation, the Library hosted a four-day series of captivating LEGO® Robotics school holiday workshops for more than 200 children in September 2022.

Developed with *LEGO Masters* alumna Annie O'Reilly, the workshops taught children to use LEGO® SPIKE™ Prime – a combination of building, hardware, and coding – to create robots capable of locating lost library books. The workshops empowered children to learn about the Library while tapping into their creative problem-solving skills.

Thanks to outreach support from education charity, Ardoch, the Library invited children from all over Victoria to attend, with a special focus on those from disadvantaged primary schools.

This innovative program would not have been possible without the support of the Lewin Family Foundation. We thank them for nurturing creative thinking in children and fostering their passion for learning.

(L to R) Teen Writing Bootcamp attendee and mentor Maxine Beneba Clarke, 2022



(L to R) Joan Lefroy AM, Dr George Lefroy AM and Elle Michaelides at Teen Writing Bootcamp 2023

### Teen Writing Bootcamp

Enabled by Serp Hills Foundation and The JTM Foundation

State Library Victoria’s Teen Writing Bootcamps are free programs that give budding teen writers the chance to learn from great writers. The bootcamps tackle different writing styles and genres while exploring literature analysis and publishing skills to give teens the tools and confidence to further their writing ambitions.

In 2022, six online bootcamps invited teen writers from around Australia to work with mentors Nevo Zisin, Emily Gale, Alicia Sometimes, Nova Weetman, Maxine Beneba Clarke and Leah Jing McIntosh. They investigated several different writing genres including fiction, non-fiction, screen and science writing, slam poetry and own voices.

In 2023, six online bootcamps were held between February and June and included mentors Lili Wilkinson on science fiction, Didem Caia on memoir and personal essaying, Dan Giovannoni on playwriting, Flora Chol on Poetry, Jessica Walton on young adult fiction and Clea Chiller on comics.

To close the bootcamp series, a day of hands-on writing workshops were held at the Library for the 2022 and 2023 bootcamp participants.

Rich digital resources created for the program remain online for anyone to use at any time.

The success of these Teen Writing Bootcamps would not have been possible without the generous support of Serp Hills Foundation and The JTM Foundation. With their ongoing support, we look forward to inspiring and nurturing young writers in the future.

***“I cannot thank you enough for this experience for our daughter. It was exactly what she needed without us even realising it – so enriching for her to be stimulated in this way and to have mentors to look up to ... Thank you so much!!!”***

Parent of 2022 Bootcamp attendee



Teens browsing the book giveaway at the Teen Writing Bootcamp, 2023

***“I appreciate the program’s flexibility, enabling me to thrive as an entrepreneur while balancing parental responsibilities. The business and marketing coaching sessions have been invaluable. I’ve connected with fellow founders and the scholarship seed funding has driven significant technological advances in my business.”***

Anna Taylor

### **Lisa Ring and Family Scholarships** Enabled by Lisa Ring and family

The Lisa Ring and Family Scholarships help early-stage business founders to succeed in Australia’s entrepreneurial landscape. Through the Library’s StartSpace program, the Scholarships provide knowledge, skills and networks crucial for success.

Inaugural recipients Anna Taylor and David Hartley were chosen for their ambitious business ideas. The impact of the scholarships on their work has been remarkable.

Anna’s business, Podcard, a personalised podcast platform, experienced significant growth in sales, community engagement and corporate partnerships. Similarly, David’s venture, SoundSmith, a marketplace connecting musicians with viral creators, surpassed targets and attracted over 5,000 creators.

Anna and David’s achievements show the transformative power of the Lisa Ring and Family Scholarships, made possible by the commitment of Lisa Ring and her family to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship.



Lisa Ring



(L to R) Anna Taylor, Lisa Ring and David Hartley

(L to R) Kennie Kurniawan, Daniel Delaway, Aiden Rayner, Paul Duldig and Aun Ngo at 2023 Lisa Ring & Family Scholars event



***“The program has provided dedicated time and guidance for my venture. StartSpace’s professional working environment has been crucial and attending industry conferences has expanded my network and made valuable connections. I’m truly grateful.”***

David Hartley

This year’s scholarship recipients were Aiden Rayner, founder of Don’t Move Until You See It, an online chess training platform which allows players to actively practice chess visualisation, and Daniel Delaway, founder of The Archive, a platform for the preservation and sharing of human stories captured in cinematic video.

***“Lisa Ring has given us so much opportunity through the scholarship, and it was great to see her in person engaged and excited about our projects.”***

Aiden Rayner

# Your donations at work

## Walter and Helena Cass Collection Appeal 2018

In 2018 the Library asked for your help to preserve and reveal the extraordinary Walter and Helena Cass Collection of manuscripts and realia.

Your response was incredibly generous, allowing us to begin the important work of preserving, conserving and rehousing this valuable collection.

The Walter and Helena Cass Collection (previously the Walter Cass Collection) offers a captivating window into the lives of two remarkable individuals: Walter Cass, a commander of the 54th Battalion, at the forefront of fighting at the Somme and Fromelles during the First World War (WWI), and Helena Cass, a WWI nurse, pioneering radio broadcaster and renowned journalist. It offers a unique view of significant world events as they unfolded.

The Library is completing a comprehensive collection finding aid and catalogue record, building on work begun by Esther Crocker, a student from Charles Sturt University. This includes creating detailed biographical and historical notes. It will be a valuable resource to explore and navigate this large and extensive collection.

Your generosity has unlocked treasures within the Walter and Helena Cass Collection and fostered a greater understanding and appreciation of their lives and contributions. We could not have done this without you.



Canadian nurse's uniform of Helena Cass, part of The Walter and Helena Cass Collection





Greg Douglas sitting in his forklift at the Shepparton Food Share warehouse. He was one of the volunteers working each day during the Covid lockdowns in Shepparton and surrounds in August 2021. With one third of the population in lockdown, it created a shortage and over-demand of grocery deliveries which in turn led to a crash of the supermarkets' online services.

### Focus on Country Victoria Appeal 2021

#### Collecting regional stories of courage and loss

In 2021, the Library's Focus on Country Victoria Appeal asked Victorians to help raise \$100,000 to document the effects of COVID-19 and bushfires on our regional and rural communities. Thanks to your overwhelming generosity, this important and historic work is well underway.

The Library commissioned nine photographers with personal connections to specific areas in Victoria including Shepparton, Mallacoota, Trentham, Warnambool, Mildura, Beechworth, Bendigo, Gisborne, Kyneton, Mooroopna, Leopold, Torquay, Anglesea, Geelong, Port Campbell, Camperdown and Portland. Together, they captured 84 unique photographic stories and some 1600 digital images, offering a vivid portrayal of these communities.

To complement the photographs, the Library engaged 4 historians to conduct interviews with project participants. Twelve interviews were conducted to capture the lived experience of regional Victorians, of various backgrounds, over the COVID-19 and bushfire years. These recordings will reside in the Library's Manuscripts Collection.

A dedicated team within the Library is now cataloguing the photographic and oral history material, ensuring that this valuable collection will soon be easily accessible through the Library's online catalogue.

***"One of the things I noticed about the residents in Gippsland was their resilience and ability to keep going. Even when there were delays and changes to the rebuilding rules, people just kept going and found ways to adapt to the new situation they found themselves in. Their positivity was motivation for me to not let the little problems in life bother me."***

Tiffany Garvie,  
photographer



**(Top)** Dick Narik breeds and loves his Indian Game chickens, he has MS and could not attend any shows during the lockdowns.  
**(Bottom)** Olivia Waretini contemplating her move from Eora Nation to Wathaurong Country and arriving just as the state locked down.



## Marvellous Melbourne Appeal 2022 Preserving the Butterfield collection

Thanks to the incredible generosity of the Vera Moore Foundation, Professor Dimity Reed AM and all our supporters who contributed to the 2022 Marvellous Melbourne Appeal, the Library has started the important work of preserving Melbourne's architectural history contained in the Butterfield Collection.

The 1878 Butterfield Collection contains 154 plans by renowned English architect William Butterfield for the design of Melbourne's iconic St Paul's Cathedral.

The Library's world-class paper conservation team has already spent 450 hours on the meticulous conservation effort. This work is critical to ensure the long-term protection and integrity of these invaluable architectural documents.

Through your amazing support, the Library can continue this work until the entire Butterfield Collection undergoes the necessary treatment. By late 2025 the plans will be safely preserved, precisely described, catalogued, and made accessible to researchers and admirers of Melbourne's rich architectural heritage.



Appeal brochure



School students enter the Library for a Storytelling Workshop with author Reece Carter, 2022

### Access Education Program Appeal 2022

Thank you to everyone, especially our many first-time donors, who so generously supported the 2022 Access Education Program appeal.

The program gives bursaries to schools that are financially, socially and geographically disadvantaged, making it possible to bring their students to the Library for our enriching education programs. With financial support for transport costs, teacher replacement and other associated costs, the program overcomes barriers that prevent students in Victoria from enjoying all the Library has to offer.

We are especially grateful to Lady Primrose Potter AC, CMRI, who gave generously to the Access Education Program Appeal.

Already over 500 students have benefited from this excellent program, none of whom would have had the opportunity without your support. Thank you!



***“I am a strong believer in the power of a good education to provide students with the opportunity to achieve their potential. As a student of Ascham, I was fortunate to receive an education that empowered me with self-confidence and independence. My donation to this appeal is to ensure that students from disadvantaged backgrounds can enjoy this right and opportunity, particularly those from rural and regional schools that cannot afford the travel costs to visit Melbourne.”***

Lady Primrose Potter AC,  
CMRI



### Save Our Stories Appeal 2023

Newspapers form an essential part of research at State Library Victoria, particularly in family history. Over years, one of the most requested newspapers to be digitised is *The Sun News-Pictorial*. As Australia's largest selling daily with over 650,000 copies sold during the 1920s-1950s, *The Sun News-Pictorial* was a pictorial record of events and social happenings as well as a commentary on politics and regional city stories. The newspaper provided an invaluable record of births, deaths and marriages as well as advertisements that charted commerce in Melbourne over the years. Unfortunately access to *The Sun* is limited with viewing only available onsite at the Library through microfilm or hard copies, hampering the research efforts of many of our regional and interstate users.

With the generosity of Grace Management Information Solutions, State Library Victoria was gifted the master microfilms for *The Sun* from 1922-1990, enabling the Library to digitise the newspaper for those years out of copyright (1922-1954). With the overwhelming support of Library users and the Victorian community, State Library Victoria was able to raise \$220,000 to digitise *The Sun News-Pictorial*, bridging the gap between physical and virtual access and allowing the general public to explore volumes freely on the national database, Trove.

With the generosity of one very loyal donor, these appeal funds were matched, enabling every page of every edition of *The Sun News-Pictorial* to be digitised. Over 900 donors contributed to the 2023 Save Our Stories Appeal, many first-time supporters of the Library. We commend you all for your generosity. We also thank both Laurie Oakes and Niki Savva, former Canberra bureau chiefs for *The Sun*, for providing their endorsement to the appeal.

Digitisation of *The Sun* is scheduled for early 2024 by National Library Australia (Trove) and we look forward to announcing the completion of this work next year.



Save Our Stories appeal launch, 2023

### Thank You Morning Tea

On Wednesday 23 August 2023 the Library hosted a special thank you morning tea for supporters of the Save Our Stories Appeal in the beautiful, sunshine-filled Isabella Fraser Room. This was an opportunity for regular and first-time supporters to mingle, view early editions of *The Sun News-Pictorial* and hear from Library staff about the planned digitisation of *The Sun*, a project that would not be happening without their support.

State Library CEO Paul Duldig delivered a heartfelt thank you speech and Library staff and subject matter experts Paul Dee and Tim Hogan recounted colorful anecdotes and fond memories about growing up with *The Sun News-Pictorial* and the important role this newspaper had in documenting the history of Victorians, from all walks of life. This clearly rang true for many of our supporters who spent the remainder of the afternoon trawling the 15 volumes on display, asking Library staff questions, discussing their own memories, and pointing out snippets that held significance to their own family history.

The morning tea served as a wonderful opportunity for supporters to hear first-hand how their generous contributions will assist in preserving a valuable historical resource for generations to come.



CEO Paul Duldig thanks donors for their contribution to the Save Our Stories end of financial year appeal, 2023



## Spotlight on our supporters

### Sharon Rowell

Sharon Rowell holds a deep, life-long appreciation for libraries. Raised in West Kimberley, she remembers the opening of the Derby Civic Cultural Centre and library in the 1960s and described it as, "A real milestone for the town."

Sharon trained as a Teacher/Librarian in Perth and the joy she finds in books is obvious. "I have a lifelong love of reading and it was wonderful to share the enjoyment of books with my children when they were growing up. Books still provide special connections with friends as well as with my daughter and her friends," she said.

After Sharon's husband transferred to Melbourne, she discovered State Library Victoria and was captivated by the La Trobe Reading Room. She says, "It oozes history and the special place of books."

Sharon values the Library's free universal access to knowledge and information, serving as a counterbalance to 'fake news' and fleeting trends. She notes, "It is solid and dependable and not expendable."

She continues, "It engages people in many different ways, from research to family and social history with the recent drive to collect books by women ... I enjoy the many special exhibitions and wonderful spaces and collections. It's always a buzz to see the variety of people and how well used all the areas are."

Sharon believes, "Libraries and their spaces are an essential amenity." And we agree!

Thank you, Sharon, for supporting us and the valuable work libraries do.

## Dr Geoffrey Cains

Dr Geoffrey Cains, a medical doctor and passionate bibliophile, has made many contributions to the world of Australian literature. In 2013–14, he sold his vast collection of Australian literary manuscripts to State Library Victoria.

Geoffrey is Australia's leading collector in this field. He continues to support the Library by generously donating additional materials from his own collections. He also promotes Australian literature through his sponsorship of the National Biography Award, was a major patron of the Wayzgoose Press during its early years and has been a significant donor to *Australian Book Review*.

Geoffrey's academic achievements include obtaining a PhD in Australian Literature from Monash University in 2016. His doctoral thesis focused on suppressed Australian books, leading to his publication of *Access Denied*, a bibliography that explores suppressed books in Australia. Geoffrey was also the inaugural State Library of New South Wales Visiting Scholar in 2018.

Geoffrey Cains has made important contributions to Australian literature, medicine and preserving cultural artifacts. His love for research, collecting and giving back has made a lasting impact on the literary world.

## The J. Permsew Foundation

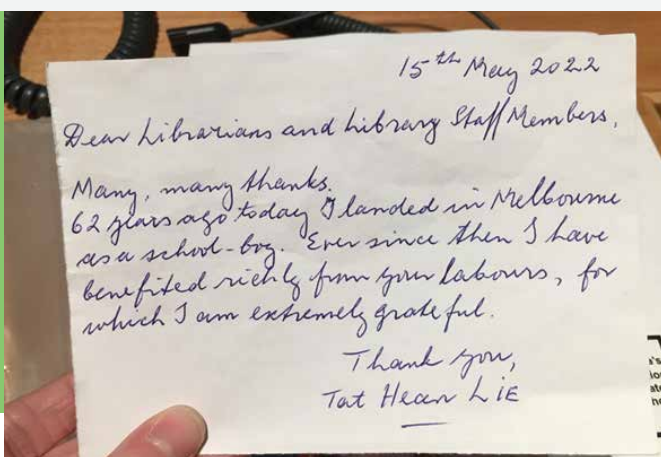
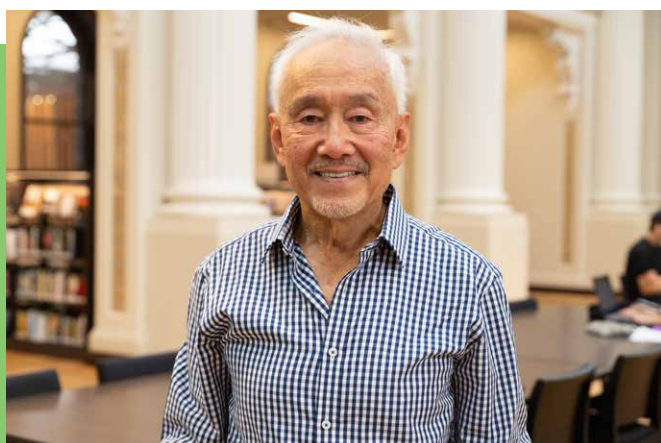
The J. Permsew Foundation is a philanthropic endeavour founded by the Brown Family. Originally from Melbourne, the family support various charities but have a passionate and personal connection to State Library Victoria.

We are grateful to the J. Permsew Foundation for its invaluable support which helps the Library continue to be a source of knowledge and inspiration, and a haven for countless readers and learners. Thank you.

***"State Library Victoria is our favourite building in the world! We love its ethos, its spaces, the programs it offers and, of course, the books. We are particularly passionate about supporting women writers through the Women Writers Fund."***

The J. Permsew Foundation

Tat Hean Lie in the Ian Potter Queen's Hall



*Dear Librarians and Library staff members.*

*Many, many thanks.  
62 years ago today I landed in Melbourne as a schoolboy.  
Ever since then I've benefited richly from your labours for which I am extremely grateful.*

*Thank you,  
Tat Hean Lie.*

# A lasting legacy

A gift in your Will, whatever the size, will help the Library continue to expand our collections, upgrade our databases and run cultural programs for our growing number of visitors. You'll help us plan ahead and fund innovative projects that inspire new audiences. We are extremely grateful to our incredible supporters for making the choice to leave a gift in their Will to State Library Victoria. These gifts ensure the Library will continue to inform and inspire future generations.

## Living legacy – Dr Elizabeth Morrison

"I want to express my appreciation for the careful, enthusiastic and often indispensable help I have received from staff at State Library Victoria over the years since 1979 when I became interested and commenced research into Victoria's colonial newspaper press. Since then, I have completed two theses and produced books, chapters in books and periodical articles based on my newspaper research.

From the State Librarian down to library attendants, I received invaluable assistance. I was given access to rare hard copy newspapers in a time long before Trove and when microfilming was still in progress. After I relocated to Canberra, I was given permission and assistance to photograph the David Syme Letterbooks held in Manuscripts which were central to the biography I was writing (*David Syme: Man of the Age*, published 2014). I am so grateful.

Long into retirement, I have been working on a project about newspaper serialisation of Australian colonial fiction and focussing on Donald Cameron, a journalist and prolific writer of fiction for newspapers and magazines in the late 19th century. Published in August 2023 as *Man of No Mean Talent: Donald Cameron and Australian Colonial Newspaper Fiction*, I hope this monograph will prove a meaningful addition and partial corrective to the colonial Australian literary record.



Dr Elizabeth Morrison

I would like to use my donation for further digitisation of Victorian 19th century newspapers held in State Library Victoria.

I send my grateful good wishes to all at State Library Victoria who contribute to the curation and conservation of its priceless treasures while making them available to all."

**Dr Elizabeth Morrison**



### Suzette Chapple

Suzette Chapple was a Friend of the Library (now known as Cultural members) for over 20 years and a welcome face in the Foundation Lounge. With her love of berets and rare books, Suzette would regularly attend Library events. She was a passionate advocate for the Library. Sadly, Suzette passed away in 2022. She left a legacy to support the Library's Rare Book Collection. We will miss Suzette's lively personality and keen interest in all things books. We thank and honour her for her enthusiasm, years of support and for her gift to all Victorians.

### Elizabeth Alexandra

Elizabeth Alexandra was another long-term supporter of the Library. She regularly attended Library functions on the arm of her long-term friend, Matt. Elizabeth was always elegant and graceful with a sharp intellect and a strong love of Melbourne's cultural life. We thank Elizabeth for the legacy she left to build the State Collection for future generations. We will miss Elizabeth and her infectious passion for State Library Victoria.

### Patrick Singleton

Patrick Singleton was renowned within librarian circles for his many years of service at the Baillieu Library, University of Melbourne, and for his fine collection of 16th and 17th century editions of classical Greek and Roman writing. The Library was extremely fortunate to receive many of Patrick's books as a legacy after his death in 2020, aged 93. The gift was facilitated by Patrick's friend, John Findlay. Patrick also left a financial gift in his Will to the Library, which will be used to fund acquisitions in his area of interest for the Rare Books Collection and to contribute to the important work of caring for the State Collection. We are very grateful to Patrick for remembering the Library in leaving a gift in his Will. We will continue to honour his memory.

### Wayzgoose Press: Preserving a legacy of print artistry

Founded in 1985 by Mike Hudson and Jadwiga Jarvis, Wayzgoose Press quickly established itself as a leading name in Australian private press printing. Their dedication to quality and innovative designs gained international recognition and became revered among letterpress printers.

The bold designs and illustrations of the Wayzgoose Press set them apart, pushing the boundaries of traditional Australian private presses. In the mid-1990s, they embarked on a series of typographic renderings of poems by Australian writers, creating masterpieces unparalleled in Australian printing history.

State Library Victoria recognised the exceptional craftsmanship of Wayzgoose Press early on and began to collect the Press' works in the late 1980s. The Library now holds over 80 Wayzgoose Press limited edition books and broadsides.

In 2010, the Library acquired part of the Wayzgoose Press archive, encompassing their extensive correspondence with private presses, letterpress printers and artists. The production archive was also included, consisting of designs, proofs, woodblocks and more. It is the most comprehensive record of an Australian private press ever assembled.

Over the years a deep connection formed between Wayzgoose Press and State Library Victoria. So much so that Mike Hudson and Jadwiga Jarvis agreed to leave the Library their substantial estate, including the remains of the Wayzgoose Press archive. They intended their wonderful gift would establish a fund to foster development of the Library's Book Arts collection.

Sadly, Mike Hudson passed away in late 2020, followed by Jadwiga Jarvis in early 2021. The Library will ensure their bequest is used according to their wishes to foster and promote the book arts. It is a fitting legacy for these outstanding print artists and pioneers.

### Leaving a legacy

If you would like a confidential conversation about the impact you can make through a gift in your Will, please get in touch with Judy Buchan on **(03) 8664 7460** or [jbuchan@slv.vic.gov.au](mailto:jbuchan@slv.vic.gov.au)



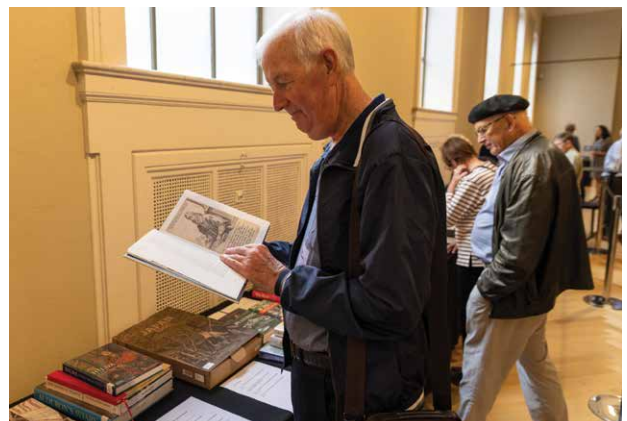
# Honouring our loved ones

## Bookplate gifts

Bookplate gifts help the Library care for and preserve our extraordinary collection. With each bookplate gift comes the opportunity to place a personalised label inside a Library book to honour a loved one, celebrate a special occasion or simply show appreciation for the Library.

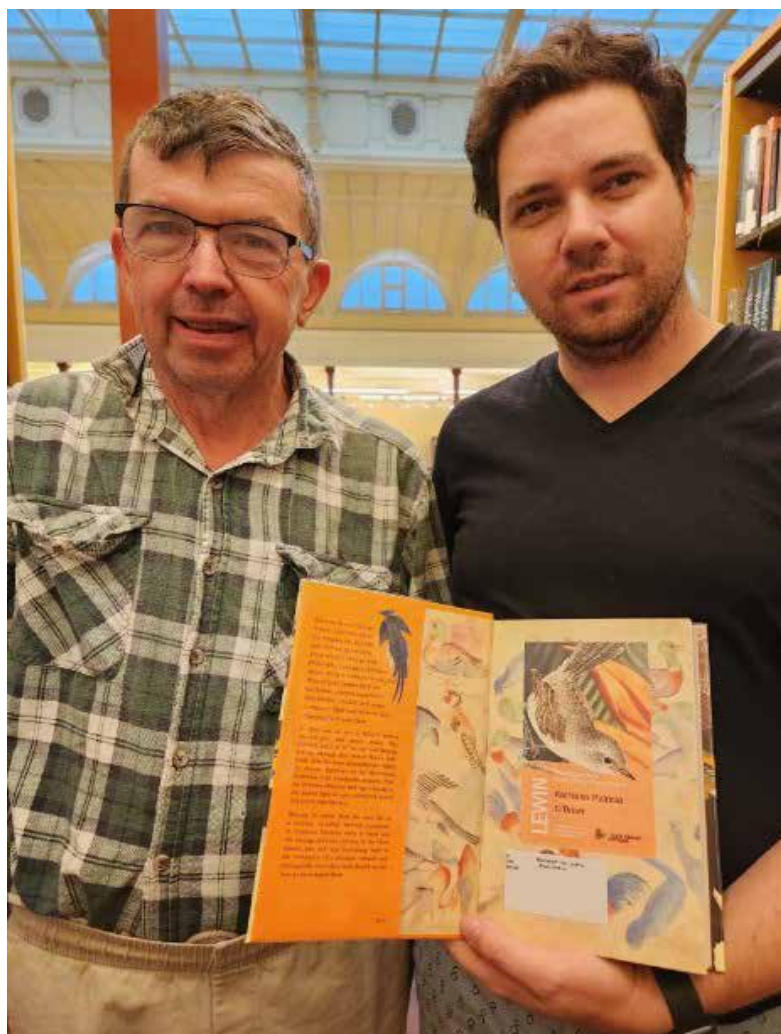
We extend our gratitude to all our supporters who have participated in our bookplate program. Your kindness and generosity have made a significant difference to the Library's work and leave a lasting legacy.

In October, for the first time we updated the bookplate images to a botanical theme and we look forward to reviewing the bookplate designs on an annual basis.



Prof. Em. Dr. Robert Shanks at the bookplate donor morning tea, 2022

(L - R) Dan and James O'Brien with the bookplate donated in memory of Kathleen O'Brien



"I just wanted to pass on how grateful my partner James and his dad Dan are for your kind and generous work on the Bookplate program. We organised a Bookplate in memory of James' mother Kathleen, who sadly passed away from cancer a few years ago. Dan spent many hours reading this book in the Library and was deeply touched by Belinda's help sourcing a book that related to Kathleen's passion for birds and wildlife, and for your generous invitation to the morning tea. Dan immediately ordered himself a copy of the book so he could keep reading it at home!

The Redmond Barry Reading Room, where this book lives, is a beautiful place to visit the book and think of Kathleen's life. Kathleen was buried in Canberra, so having a Melbourne tribute to her is very meaningful to the family."

Jessica Locke



Shona Dewar at the 2023 morning tea event for bookplate donors holding one of the many books in the State Collection with a bookplate she has donated

### Bookplate donor reflection – Shona Dewar

"I first visited State Library Victoria as a 17-year-old undergraduate at the University of Melbourne. I marvelled at the stately architecture of The Ian Potter Queen's Hall and I decided then I would like to work there some day. In 1988, I obtained a position within the Library.

Each in their own way, my parents had an influence on this journey. My mother was a voracious reader from an early age. During the 1930s Depression, she left school early and worked as a secretary to supplement her family's income. Eventually, she fulfilled her dream of a university education after raising four children. She studied literature, art history, French, German and Italian at Monash University. She gained a Bachelor of Arts, a Graduate Diploma in Children's Literature, and qualified as one of the first library technicians in Australia. In the 1970s, she worked part-time in the Monash Rare Books Collection. Later, she volunteered in the State Library Pictures Collection where she accessioned and labelled the J. T. Collins collection of photographs of Victorian buildings.

When Mum died, I purchased a bookplate in her memory. That first bookplate, dated June 2004, was placed in *Godden's Guide to English Blue and White Porcelain*, by Geoffrey A. Godden. The following year,

I purchased one in my father's name. It was placed in *Rome*, edited by Marcia B. Hall.

Dad died when I was in my early 20s, just a year after I graduated as a librarian. An industrial chemist, his innovative research earned him several prizes and wide respect from his colleagues. As a young man, he gained a working knowledge of French, German, Latin and Greek, and played piano, violin and saxophone. In retirement, he enjoyed living quietly at home, listening to classical music, and walking our beloved family dog.

My later bookplates are 'In memory of RA and ER Dewar'. I indicated that a wide range of subjects would be appropriate: literature, languages, art, music, history, travel, gardening and science. The staff making the selections have always chosen well. The books remind me of my parents' commitment to their children's education, lifelong learning, research, creativity and innovation. I'm very proud to have made these contributions to the Library's rich collections."

**Shona Dewar\***

\*We are delighted to add that in October, Shona proudly marked 35 years of service at State Library Victoria.



# 2022 End of year cocktail reception

Thanks to everyone who joined us for the memorable end of year cocktail reception on 7 December in the enchanting Cowen Gallery. We were delighted to celebrate your wonderful support and share some of the exciting things the Library has in store.

State Library Victoria President, Christine Christian AO, Foundation Council Chair Alex Cartel and CEO Paul Duldig enjoyed the opportunity to speak with many donors and members about the important work the Library does.

A brilliant performance by the award-winning physical theatre ensemble, Born in a Taxi, topped off the night.

We hope to see you all again this year!





# How you can support State Library Victoria

## There are many ways you can support State Library Victoria:

Leave a gift in your Will and become a member of the Redmond Barry Society

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Remember your loved ones through a plaque in the La Trobe Reading Room or a bookplate that will appear in a new book from the Library's collection

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### Donate:

- **Online:** [slv.vic.gov.au/donate](https://slv.vic.gov.au/donate)
- **Call (03) 8664 7589** for our bank details or to speak to a member of the Philanthropy team to find out more information on our programs

We rely on the generosity of our supporters to keep knowledge and learning open to all. Thank you for considering how you can partner with us.



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