

# A Gift



The Royal  
Melbourne Hospital

THE HEART OF  
MELBOURNE'S **HEALTH**

to The Royal  
Melbourne Hospital  
will help save lives





# How do we spend the time of our lives?

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It only takes a moment for things to change.

Your morning shower takes three minutes. You fill the kettle in ten seconds, wait three minutes for the water to boil, three more to steep the tea.

You sit in traffic or wait for public transport, spend long minutes at the checkout, and wait on hold for the next customer service person to speak with you.

By bedtime you start to read the next chapter of your book, but two minutes later you are asleep.

While our day fills with big and little things, someone's life is changing.

At this moment a young man lies in intensive care because he thought he was invincible at 107 kilometres an hour.

A young woman who wanted to celebrate her 30th birthday next year won't — instead her friends will raise their glasses in honour of her lovely life cut short by cancer.

And a friend, a mother, a brother, an aunt are sitting by beds saying everything is going to be fine.

A diagnosis, a gentle slipping away, a battle, a recovery, precious moments with a loved one, a journey home.

The Royal Melbourne Hospital is here for each and every one of these moments — taking care of people when they need us most.

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Stories like this don't change but your legacy for services, patient care and ground breaking research can provide brighter outcomes for future generations.



At the time that this photo was taken, circa 1940, the hospital was a modern marvel. Today, the hospital is almost unrecognisable as it continues to move with the times.

## From the archives

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The foundation stone for the new Royal Melbourne Hospital located on Grattan Street was laid on 13 November 1941.

Since 1848, The Royal Melbourne Hospital, Victoria's first hospital has touched the lives of millions of people, providing care and treatment for the sickest in our community.

Today, The Royal Melbourne Hospital is world-renowned for its pioneering research, for its medical breakthroughs and for its important education of tomorrow's healthcare workforce.

The Royal Melbourne Hospital is one of three services under Melbourne Health. Together with NorthWestern Mental Health and The Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, The Royal Melbourne Hospital continues to build on a legacy of excellence in caring for the community.

# What price is health?

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Well it's priceless. But it does not come without cost to drive innovation, research, dedicated staff, top facilities, and training the next generation of healthcare professionals.

That is where the vision of The Royal Melbourne Hospital sits and fits. First in Care, Research and Learning. Striving for excellence at every turn in the ever changing scene of healthcare — from research right through to the compassionate caring of our staff.

My life has been immersed in The Royal Melbourne, in all aspects of the journey already. I see it all. I see the need for new approaches where current ones are limited. I see the dedication of my research and clinical staff who are driven by the same values and have been with me for decades.

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And I see the exciting breakthroughs in research and their implementation in our comprehensive campus into clinical care through equally rigorous clinical research.

So I see The Royal Melbourne Hospital as a place to leave my legacy. For care, teaching and research. To the clinical arm of one of the top three of the world's largest precincts of medical care, teaching and research.

**Professor Finlay Macrae AO, MBBS, MD, FRACP, FRCP, AGAF**

Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne, The Royal Melbourne Hospital Head, Colorectal Medicine and Genetics, The Royal Melbourne Hospital.





## Research to find a cure

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The Watt-Geyer Memorial Research Fund was established by Allan Watt and Chris Geyer, a couple who led their lives with broad social awareness.

When they were diagnosed with cancer, within a year of each other, Allan and Chris chose to leave a legacy that will improve cancer patient outcomes for years to come. From a gift in their Will and In Memoriam donations received from their family and friends, the Watt-Geyer Memorial Research Fund supports vital research into cures for colorectal, liver and brain cancers.

Chris's nephew says: "The dual nature of the gift is remarkable as it reflects what I treasured so much about these very beautiful people. Not only will these funds

benefit the community as knowledge comes to light and research is furthered, but I smile at the thought that there will also be an impact upon the direct recipients of the money. Lunch money today; cures for cancer tomorrow.

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"Today and tomorrow are for someone else; for many people, for many years to come."

# A donors gift inspires my gift

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Tracey was just 17 years old when she was diagnosed with chronic kidney disease.

At a time when she had everything ahead of her, Tracey's days were now defined by the emotional and physical roller coaster of dialysis, and the desperate hope for a kidney transplant. Tracey went from being a popular care free teenager to feeling very alone, anxious and ashamed.

Tracey received her first transplant in 1997 at The Royal Melbourne Hospital. When her transplanted kidney began to fail in 2011, all her fears and emotions came flooding back. Tracey realised that she was sick and might have to have multiple transplants.

Receiving her second transplant from a living donor in 2013 was extra special and Tracey felt that she had another chance at life. "I am so grateful for the years of care I received at The Royal Melbourne Hospital. It was like a second home to me, a safe haven where I called the staff my friends.

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"Many other people where on the journey with me which is why I am leaving a gift to the renal care unit. Money can't buy happiness, but with research and up to date equipment, it buys me time."



# Reflecting on your life

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As our population grows, demand for public hospitals increase and funding is always desperately needed to ensure the very best care is available.

When you reflect on the milestones that were important in your life, please consider leaving your legacy to The Royal Melbourne Hospital or NorthWestern Mental Health.

You may choose where you would like to have the most impact, for example:

- Supporting a particular department such as Cancer, Stroke, Diabetes or Trauma
- Purchasing state-of-the-art medical equipment and technology
- Providing modern facilities and services that ensure patients benefit from nurturing environments
- Supporting research into preventions, treatments and cures for diseases that afflict our community

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At The Royal Melbourne Hospital and NorthWestern Mental Health, the areas of greatest need change all the time so you may also choose not to specify where your gift is directed.

## Our promise to you:

- You don't have to tell us you've left a gift, we respect your privacy (although we would like the opportunity to thank you!)
- If you remember The Royal Melbourne Hospital in your Will, we will use your gift carefully and efficiently... so it has maximum impact for people who need it most
- We'll answer any questions you have and we'll keep you up-to-date with our work, if you want us to!





# Why make a Will?

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## Did you know over half of all adult Australians don't have a valid Will?

Many others change their Will on average around five times in their lifetime to reflect a major milestone such as marriage or retirement. Having a valid and up-to-date Will is the only way to safeguard your family's future and ensure your wishes are carried out when you die. Having no impact on your life style today, it can bring you piece of mind.

### Suggested wording:

After taking care of family and loved ones, you can make an immense difference to the lives of thousands of others by leaving a gift to The Royal Melbourne Hospital. It is very important that you seek legal advice to ensure your wishes are carried out.

You can choose to:

- Leave a specific sum of money
- Leave a particular asset such as shares or property
- Leave a fixed percentage of your estate
- Leave a residual share of your estate after the distributions to other beneficiaries
- Leave a nominated asset (after use by a primary beneficiary in his or her lifetime)

The following is suggested wording only:

I give to The Royal Melbourne Hospital or the NorthWestern Mental Health (Melbourne Health ABN 73 802 706 972) [the whole of my estate] or [x% of / the residue of my estate] or [the sum of \$\_\_\_\_] free of all duties and taxes thereon and direct that it be applied for:

A. The general purposes of the hospital in such a manner as the Board of the hospital may determine.

### OR

B. The support of \_\_\_\_\_ program, purpose or department. If this program ceases to exist or does not require ongoing funding, then it is to be used for general purposes.

I declare that the receipt of the Executive Director or other authorised officer of The Royal Melbourne Hospital will be sufficient discharge for my trustees.

# The Heart of Melbourne's Health Society

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When you leave a gift in your Will to The Royal Melbourne Hospital you will automatically become a member of The Heart of Melbourne's Health Society, a very special group of people.

The Heart of Melbourne's Health Society was established as our way to say thank you for remembering the many generations of The Royal Melbourne Hospital's future patients. This is an honorary membership in recognition of your foresight and generosity.

## The benefits of this membership are:

- Invitations to special functions, tours and events
- A commemorative Heart of Melbourne's Health Society pin
- A Royal Melbourne Hospital certificate acknowledging your generosity

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The Royal Melbourne Hospital is eternally grateful of the contributions made by people like you and we look forward to welcoming you as a member of the Heart of Melbourne's Health Society.



# We would love to hear from you

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Should you make the decision to leave a gift in your Will, we would be delighted if you would let us know. We can work with you to ensure that your lasting legacy is one that you will be proud of.

We would also like to thank you personally and to keep you informed of our latest achievements – if you want us to!

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Best day and time to contact you: \_\_\_\_\_

- I have already included The Royal Melbourne Hospital in my Will
- I intend to include The Royal Melbourne Hospital when I next revise my Will
- I am considering including The Royal Melbourne Hospital in my Will
- I do not currently have a Will but intend to make one
- I would like further information about the Heart of Melbourne's Health Society



# Thank you

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Leaving a gift of any size to our Hospital makes a positive impact on the dedicated care provided to our patients.

No matter how much you choose to bequeath, there is one thing you can be sure of: your gift is precious and deeply appreciated.



The Royal  
Melbourne Hospital

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THE HEART OF  
MELBOURNE'S **HE**♥**LTH**

Locked Bag 800, Carlton South VIC 3053

T (03) 9342 7111

E [info@rmhfoundation.org.au](mailto:info@rmhfoundation.org.au)

[thermh.org.au/support-us](http://thermh.org.au/support-us)