Our mission is to invest in outstanding Australians from all fields of endeavour who demonstrate remarkable qualities of leadership and have the ability to deliver outcomes and inspire others for the benefit of Australia.

The General Sir John Monash Foundation was established in 2001 with an initial contribution from the Australian Federal Government together with further contributions from corporate and private sponsors and donors.

Its purpose is to raise funds for, and to administer, Australia’s own postgraduate scholarships – the John Monash Scholarships – to foster leadership, expertise and international networks, as well as build Australia’s capabilities for the future. The John Monash Scholarships are amongst the most important postgraduate scholarships currently available in Australia.

The John Monash Scholars

To date, the General Sir John Monash Foundation has awarded 165 Scholarships. These John Monash Scholars come from a diverse range of disciplines, possess a distinct capacity for leadership and are aiming to make an impact in vital ways for the benefit of Australian society. John Monash Scholars are outstanding in their chosen fields and are already demonstrating their value by contributing to Australia’s future as scientists, academics, business people, entrepreneurs, lawyers and in vital areas of domestic and global policy.
This Annual Report spans a significant time of reflection and recognition with 2018 being the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Hamel, a decisive Monash-led military victory which turned the tide of WWI.

This was highlighted with 39 of our Scholars from 2005 to 2018 being poetry. With the support of the Pratt Foundation and in fair access to law and reflecting Australian culture through development, education, social justice and equality, improving the areas of economics, health care, urban management and corporations who continue to support us.

It is a time of remembrance for all Australians, honouring those tens of thousands of men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. It is also a time we particularly recognise General Sir John Monash, who played such a pivotal role as a great leader, soldier and strategist, not only in the War but in repatriating the troops and helping Australia in the immediate post-war years.

In this 100th anniversary year it is fitting that through these Scholarships we acknowledge the contribution of General Monash as a significant influence in shaping the future of the nation.

The Foundation was well represented at the celebration of the opening of the new John Monash Centre in Villers-Bretonneux and at the ceremony of ANZAC Day in France. Two Directors, Ian McCauley and Lee Urenman attended. I joined them on a tour of WWI Western Battlefields as well as visiting the John Monash Centre. The experience was deeply moving. The special regard held for Australia in the villages of that region even to this day is profoundly touching. John Monash is a hero not only in Australia but in France.

During the first half of this Financial Year we celebrated the award of John Monash Scholarships to eighteen inspiring new Scholars who illustrate the multifaceted skills that so accurately reflect the many facets of John Monash. The 2018 cohort of Scholars will be tackling the challenges of developing innovative solutions in sustainable energy, uncovering the complexities of treating neurological genetic disorders, assessing policy in the areas of economics, health care, urban management and development, education, social justice and equality, improving fair access to law and reflecting Australian culture through poetry. With the support of the Pratt Foundation and in collaboration with the American Australian Association, we also awarded a Special Commonwealth Defence Scholarship to an Australian Defence Army member whose doctorate would be focussed on the topic of cyber security. This is just a brief summary and you can read more about our amazing 2018 Scholars in the following pages.

Our community of 165 Scholars is flourishing and we are pleased to see the growth in cohesion and mentorship across the years. This was highlighted with 39 of our Scholars from 2005 to 2017 gathering in New York at our annual symposium. It was inspiring to be part of their discussions as they explored how they might consider the challenges of our time and collaborate further with each other. The Scholars came from studies and work across the UK, Europe, the US, China and Australia. We were delighted to see so many of them and look forward to planning the next Global Symposium in Melbourne in 2019.

Our Scholar Advisory Committee has been established and will play an important role in supporting the ongoing collaboration and connection across the Scholar community. As the number of John Monash Scholars grows, the development of structures around our Alumni engagement becomes increasingly important. We are very grateful to the generous group of Alumni Ambassadors, a new level of donors, whose contribution will fund this vital program of activities to engage alumni in a range of projects including Symposia and other less formal events. The aim is to create an alumni organisation which ultimately will not only provide a mentoring and network grouping but also engage scholars in assisting the Foundation as it grows. Alumni are also involved on all our selection panels and as reviewers which helps us to provide over the years a consistent judgement on leadership potential and suitability as a John Monash Scholar. Thank you to the many Scholars who have engaged with us this year and helped us with scholar engagement and leadership.

We continue to steward our finances responsibly. The collective support from our Chairman’s Circle Members continue to grow and will enable the support of an additional scholar in this category in 2019. Thank you to the many generous individuals and corporations who continue to support us.

Our funding focus for the year ahead will continue to be growing our endowment and bequest program to ensure our long term sustainability.

This year we sadly lost two wonderful supporters, Mrs Susan Wakil AO and Dr Frank Wolf OAM. May their memories live on through our wonderful scholars whom they have supported.

I hope you enjoy reading about the many achievements of John Monash Scholars in the following pages with many publishing books and winning awards as well as completing post graduate degrees at the highest level. We have welcomed 57 Scholars who have returned to Australia and follow closely the progress of Scholars connecting with Alumni across many years.

The Foundation is committed to ensuring we have a solid platform from which our Scholars can be supported, promoted and connected. We are very grateful to the Alumni Ambassadors whose generous support enables us to continue to grow.

We are always striving to develop and improve our systems and processes, including the induction of new Scholars. The 2018 cohort of eighteen Scholars was the first to have an ‘in residence’ experience as part of the Orientation Ceremony at St Pauls College (University of Sydney). The inaugural Alumni Dinner held in the formal dining room was a great success with new Scholars connecting with Alumni across many years.

This has been an important year for us at the Foundation as we have continued to honour and celebrated the memory of General Sir John Monash most particularly as the great military leader and Australian hero, whose thoughtful and strategic leadership had such an impact on the course of World War One and a new approach to warfare. In such a range of settings, including sober ceremonies at the Shrine of Remembrance, lively presentations and discussions on leadership, or perhaps storytelling, there always seems to be a new detail or anecdote illustrating again and again how much we can learn from John Monash; the man, the leader, engineer, innovator and friend. I am regularly reminded how fortunate we are that the Foundation was formed to honour his name and how relevant his multi-dimensional life resonates with the rich diversity of our Scholars. The stories and accounts in the following pages will give you a glimpse into the inspiring world of the Foundation.

Alumni Community Strategy

In the last Annual Report we noted the work being done to develop a structure and agenda to enhance the connectivity across the growing community of John Monash Scholars, improve communication and develop a calendar of formal and informal events. We have made great progress with this endeavour and have established a Scholar Advisory Committee (SAC) with regional representation.

A new category of supporters, the Alumni Ambassadors, is playing a fundamental role in the progress of this strategy and will secure a robust future for the Alumni Community. The Foundation is committed to ensuring we have a solid platform from which our Scholars can be supported, promoted and connected. We are very grateful to the Alumni Ambassadors whose generous support enables us to continue to grow.

Milestones and Events

We have been proud and honoured to celebrate the life membership of two remarkable Australian leaders, women who have over many years blazed their own trails and continue to guide and inspire others in their own unique way. We celebrated the conferment of life membership on Dame Quentin Bryce AD CVO and Professor Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO with separate celebratory occasions in Brisbane and Sydney.

The annual John Monash Oration on the 28th of August 2017, sponsored and hosted by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, was a timely and stimulating discussion with Australia’s Chief Scientist, Dr Finkel AO and 2004 Scholar Laura Olsen, offering insightful points on the need for strong leadership, reminiscent of John Monash himself, to pave the way for the future.

It was an occasion that symbolised what is so special about the Foundation community and the unique dynamic between John Monash Scholars, regardless of where they are in the world.

The induction workshops were generously and wisely designed and delivered by Scholar Advisory Committee (SAC) members, Dr Amy McLennan and Dr Katherine Daniell. Amy also led the interactive sessions along with Laura Grant in Melbourne prior to the Presentation Ceremony in February. Another great example of SAC Alumni and Staff collaboration is the Global Symposium, held in New York in March 2018 (see pages 15–16). We are planning the next global engagement of scholars in Melbourne in 2019.

Foundation HQ

In late 2017 we secured a further 5-year lease for our offices in Bennelong House in the Melbourne CBD, encouraging us to settle deeply into our intimate space where we have enjoyed hosting scholars and supporters.

2001 Scholar Andrew Hudson’s visit to Melbourne from New York in October 2017, inspired an informal gathering of scholars, directors, supporters and friends of the Foundation. Andrew is Executive Director of Crisis Action in New York. This visit was particularly meaningful as it demonstrated the rich and unusual connections that form between Monash scholars. Amongst the scholars who attended Andrew’s presentation was 2010 Scholar Laura Grant, who has returned to Melbourne after working overseas for many years, most recently with the UN peacekeeping mission in Timbuktu, Mali. Laura and Andrew had been connected by the Foundation when Laura was awarded her scholarship because of their shared focus on humanitarian work and human rights. Over the past seven years Andrew has been a mentor for Laura, providing career advice and connecting her with people around the world, although the two had never met face to face until this informal gathering at our headquarters.

It was an occasion that symbolised what is so special about the Foundation community and the unique dynamic between John Monash Scholars, regardless of where they are in the world.

In June 2018 we enjoyed hosting a group of our greatly valued volunteers who support us by applying their expertise and time to review applications and on interview panels. The caliber and commitment of our volunteers cannot be over-estimated, they play a vital role in ensuring we identify our future Scholars and maintain a rigorous selection process.

As if on an eerily fitting and inspiring year I am filled with gratitude for the goodwill and generosity of our supporters and volunteers, the outstanding success of our Chairman Bill Ian Segal and Board of Directors, hard work and good company of the team and endless inspiration from our Scholars. We look forward to sharing the year ahead with you and please remember, you are always welcome to stop by HQ and say hello.

As our Scholars progress in their careers and the research and their studies of their come to fruition, opportunities for collaboration and thought leadership become increasingly abundant.

Chief Executive Officer

Ms Annamatee Kalls

Chairman

Ms Jillian Segal AM

4

5

This is an image of a page from a document.
165 John Monash Scholars

Scholarships awarded

Total scholars years

Average years of Scholarships awarded

Scholars by state

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<th>State</th>
<th>Scholars</th>
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Fields of study

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<tr>
<td>Indigenous Health</td>
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<td>Microbiology</td>
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<td>Quantum Mechanics &amp; Physics</td>
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Study location

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Scholars returned to Australia

57

2018 Scholarship Selection Process

Number of degrees held by 2018 John Monash applicants by state

<table>
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<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Degrees held by 2018 John Monash applicants</th>
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<td>Macquarie University</td>
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<td>University of New England</td>
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<td>University of Technology Sydney</td>
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<td>University of Western Sydney</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Western Australia</td>
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Applications received

291

Candidates interviewed by 11 first-round panels

100

Candidates interviewed at the National panels

40

Scholars selected for 2018

18
Every year I leave the panel and think, the future is in great hands

Professor Lisa Foa (Tasmania State Interview Panel Chair)

The selection of John Monash Scholars is core to our purpose. It is a rigorous process supported by a framework of governance that ensures each applicant has a fair and positive experience throughout the application journey.

Marketing the Scholarship in order to reach the widest pool of potential applicants includes presentations to universities around the country and information distribution to industry bodies. Government organisations and more broadly across the Foundation’s social media platforms and website. Preparation for selection is extensive and commences many months prior to the day that the applications open.

On May 1st, 2017 the applications for the 2018 John Monash Scholarships officially opened. Three months of further information distribution and a myriad of enquiries from prospective applicants followed as hundreds of applications on the 1st of August, 291 applicants had pressed ‘submit’.

2018 John Monash Scholars

165 John Monash Scholars

The 2018 Scholarship Selection Process

The first round of interviews is the central focus of the Foundation’s calendar from August 30th through to early October. In 2017, the final State panel was held in Victoria on the 3rd of October and after this stage of selection, of the 100 candidates interviewed, 40 candidates were invited to the final national round of interviews. The national panels were held simultaneously in Melbourne and Sydney on the 8th and 9th of October, graciously hosted by Allen & Overy Law Firm in both cities.

The State and National interviews would not be possible each year without the volunteered expertise of our Panel Chairs, Panelists and Secretariats, all of whom give their time to the John Monash Scholarship Selection process amid already hectic schedules. Achieving our core vision of investing in outstanding future leaders of Australia would not be possible without every one of our volunteers. In 2017, the time and efforts dedicated to the John Monash Scholarship Selection process saw the selection of 18 incredibly inspiring Australians, all with a clear goal and vision for the best possible Australia. It is a lengthy and involved process to reach the end result, but all involved in the selection of our Scholars share an understanding of the rewards. The Foundation prides itself on the feedback from applicants that regardless of the outcome, they find going through the process a valuable opportunity for self-reflection and development.

The online review process is the first stage of the Foundation’s threefold selection process. It is made possible by the tireless efforts of a team of nearly 60 volunteer application reviewers who thoroughly assess the applications and assist in the shortlisting of candidates for interview. Following the conclusion of the review stage, 100 of the candidates were invited to the first round of interviews which take place in every Australia State and Territory plus one panel by Skype for candidates overseas.

2018 John Monash Scholars

NICOLA BILTON
BHP John Monash Scholar
PhD in Quantum Physics, Imperial College London
Nicola has a Bachelors of Science with Honours in Laser Physics and Technology from the University of Adelaide and was awarded the University Medal. At Imperial College she will work on the development of a cutting-edge quantum accelerometer, a component of next generation navigational systems. She intends to return to her current employer, Defence Science and Technology Group to use quantum sensing technologies in next generation technology.

AMY BURTON
Zelman Cowen John Monash Scholar
Master of Laws, Georgetown University
Amy has a Bachelor of Arts with Honours and Bachelor of Laws with Honours from Monash University. She has worked for Salvo Legal Humanitarian and was awarded the 2017 Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year at the Women in Law Awards. At Georgetown University she will research the growing use of social enterprise law firms to improve access to justice for individuals who are not eligible for legal aid but cannot afford a private lawyer. Amy then plans to develop and launch a similar program in Australia, which she hopes will also increase employment opportunities for graduate lawyers who aspire to work in humanitarian law.

JAMES CAMPBELL
Victorian John Monash Scholar
Master of Laws in Public Interest and Social Justice, University of California, Berkeley
James holds a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws with First Class Honours from Monash University, and was awarded the University Medal and the Supreme Court Prize. He was a lawyer at King & Wood Mallesons, where he was a member of the Firm’s Human Rights Law Group. James has a passionate commitment to community development, law reform and policy advocacy for the most vulnerable and least visible members of the Australian community. He has worked and volunteered as a crisis intervention and community support worker in family violence and community law. At Berkeley University James will specialise in public interest and social justice law. He will examine how the Australian community legal sector can harness new technologies to provide access to justice for Australians most in need. James has significant leadership experience as Convener and Chairperson of the LGBTIQ youth organisation, Minus18.

KRYAN CARTERS
Bofors/Segal John Monash Harvard Scholar
Master of Public Policy, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
Ryan was an award-winning professional cricketer who left the sport to focus on his Economics degree at the University of Sydney and leadership of the charity he founded, Batting for Change. This charity supports opportunities in higher education for young women living in poverty in developing, cricket-playing nations. Ryan hopes postgraduate study will give him the skills and experience to consolidate a career in policy and public service. He intends to address inequalities including economic growth and gender equity. He is particularly committed to addressing critical issues of domestic violence, the gender pay gap, the paucity of women in leadership and inadequate childcare.

EMMA DALLE
Chairman’s Circle John Monash Scholar
DFHill in Zoology, University of Oxford
Emma has a Bachelor of Science in Ecology and Conservation with Honours and a University Medal from Griffith University. After working with endangered Red Pandas in Nepal, Emma secured the Red Panda Trust, a conservation venture. She then worked as an ecologist for the Zoological Society of London for fourteen months. At Oxford she will study the behavioural ecology of carnivors with a focus on conservation and preservation. Emma plans to return to Australia to lead research initiatives to protect Australia’s carnivors, including the Tasmanian Devil and Spotted-tail Quolls. These native Australian animals play a vital role in Australia’s food chains and their extinction would unbalance supporting populations with serious implications for Australian ecology.

AMY DENNISON
Woodside John Monash Scholar
Master of Laws, University of California, Berkeley
Amy has a Bachelor of Engineering with first class Honours, a University Medal and a Bachelor of Laws from the University of New South Wales. She has a Master of Laws with a University Medal from the Centre for Energy, Petroleum, Mineral Law and Policy at the University of Dundee, UK. Amy was Director of Legislation and Policy in the Northern Territory Government and a visiting lecturer at Charles Darwin University Law School. She will specialise in energy and environmental policy to contribute to the development and implementation of policy and regulation in the Northern Territory.

EMMA DUNN
Chairman’s Circle John Monash Scholar
DFHill in Zoology, University of Oxford
Emma has a Bachelor of Science in Ecology and Conservation with Honours and a University Medal from Griffith University. After working with endangered Red Pandas in Nepal, Emma secured the Red Panda Trust, a conservation venture. She then worked as an ecologist for the Zoological Society of London for fourteen months. At Oxford she will study the behavioural ecology of carnivors with a focus on conservation and preservation. Emma plans to return to Australia to lead research initiatives to protect Australia’s carnivors, including the Tasmanian Devil and Spotted-tail Quolls. These native Australian animals play a vital role in Australia’s food chains and their extinction would unbalance supporting populations with serious implications for Australian ecology.
FELIX DONOVAN
Rodin Cutler NSW John Monash Scholar
Master of Public Policy, University of Oxford

Felix has a Bachelor of Arts with Honours and the University Medal in Government from the University of Sydney. While at the University of Sydney, Felix coordinated the academic assistance program at Marrarville High School, debated for the university in the finals of international competitions and edited all three student publications. He worked in the NSW State Department of Education as the Manager of Data and Insight, developing evidence-based early childhood education policy and designing rigorous evaluations of government initiatives. His study at Oxford will enable him to lead education policy in the future.

STEVEN ETTEMA
Woodside John Monash Scholar
DPhil in Engineering Science, University of Oxford

Steven has a Bachelor of Civil Engineering with first class Honours from the University of Queensland. He worked as a numerical modeler and coastal engineer at BMT Group (an engineering science and technology consultancy) providing engineering, scientific and data collection services on a range of projects. Work undertaken by Steven has included modeling a wide variety of coastal and estuarine systems to better understand and improve environmental outcomes. One such case involved the development of numerical models for how turtle hatchlings interact with the environment. Steven’s research at the University of Oxford will focus on improvements to tidal and wind turbine efficiency through system and resource-scale modelling and optimisation. Steven aims to inform energy policy and further develop renewable energy technologies in Australia.

MAJOR NATHAN JOHNSON
Pratt Foundation Commemorative Defence John Monash Scholar
PhD Electronic and Cyber Warfare, Arizona State University

Nathan is a military officer with a Bachelor of Science from the Australian National University and a Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching from the University of Melbourne. He was a Teaching Head and Head of Science in a rural-university secondary school in Bingin, Victoria. She founded Boundless, a social enterprise that provides over suburban and regional students with access to professional work experience placements. Her studies will help her develop a model for effective education in disadvantaged communities. Sonia’s goal is to reverse the widening inequality and segregation in the Australian school system.

SONIA LOUDON
Helen and Michael Gannon John Monash Scholar
Master of Education Policy and Management, Harvard University

Sonia has a Bachelor of Laws with Honours and a Bachelor of Science from the Australian National University and a Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching from the University of Melbourne. She was a Senior Urban Planner at Hansen Partnership and was the 2013 Australian Young Planner of the Year. Birgild was involved in the development of Nightingale Housing, a design-led social enterprise that aims to create an alternative housing model for owner-occupiers that prioritises sustainability and affordability principles. Birgild’s research will focus on effective, equitable, proactive and innovative housing. She hopes to impact the way Australians approach planning and design to contribute to a sustainable housing sector.

JORDAN ENGLISH
Zeiman Cowen John Monash Scholar
Bachelor of Civil Laws, University of Oxford

Jordan has a Bachelor of Laws with first class Honours and the University Medal in Law and a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Queensland. He was an Associate to Justice Edelman of the High Court of Australia. He has professional experience in anti-corruption and anti-money laundering laws, and is interested in studying the laws that govern the relationships between individuals. As an Indigenous Australian, Jordan is committed to increasing Indigenous representation in the law by being a role model for other Indigenous Australians and positively influencing the perspectives of non-Indigenous Australians.

MAJOR NATHAN JOHNSON
Pratt Foundation Commemorative Defence John Monash Scholar
PhD Electronic and Cyber Warfare, Arizona State University

Nathan is a military officer with a Bachelor of Science from the Australian National University and a Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching from the University of Melbourne. He was a Teaching Head and Head of Science in a rural-university secondary school in Bingin, Victoria. She founded Boundless, a social enterprise that provides over suburban and regional students with access to professional work experience placements. Her studies will help her develop a model for effective education in disadvantaged communities. Sonia’s goal is to reverse the widening inequality and segregation in the Australian school system.

LOUIS KLEE
Australian Cultural John Monash Scholar
PhD Literature, University of Cambridge

Louis has a Bachelor of Philosophy with Honours from the University of Cambridge. He has a Master of Fine Art in Writing for Performance from the University of Melbourne and a Master of Philosophy from the University of Cambridge. He is an established playwright, poet and critic. In 2017, he received the Peter Porter Prize for one of his poems, was awarded the Anne Edgeworth Young Writers Fellowship in 2016 and won the Palgrave Macmillan Essay Prize. His work has appeared in The Australian Book Review, Meanjin, Overland, Best Australian Poems 2017, Currency Press and Award winning Australian Writing 2017. Amongst other publications he has campaigned on environmental, social and political issues. On completion of his postgraduate study, Louis will contribute to Australian Cultural life through an academic career, public writing and criticism.

HEATHER MURIE
Anzac Centenary John Monash Scholar
PhD in Scientific Computing, University of Cambridge

Heather has a Bachelor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering with Honours from the University of Cambridge and a Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Linguistics from the University of New South Wales. She is currently a biomedical engineer with University College London, where she is designing the world’s first photogenetic cortical implant for the treatment of focal epilepsy. Prior to this, she worked as an implant design engineer with Bionic Vision Australia, the first Australian research consortium developing a bionic eye. Through her PhD research, Ahmad will continue to develop neural implant technologies to treat neurodegenerative conditions. He is passionate about the potential of high-tech manufacturing in Australia, particularly in the biomedical space. He hopes to one day run his own medical device company alongside his academic career.

ASHMAD SHAH IDI
Australian Universities’ John Monash Scholar
PhD in Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering, University College London

Ahmad has a Bachelor of Engineering in Mechatronics with First Class Honours and a Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Linguistics from the University of New South Wales. He is currently a biomedical engineer with University College London, where he is designing the world’s first photogenetic cortical implant for the treatment of focal epilepsy. Prior to this, he worked as an implant design engineer with Bionic Vision Australia, the first Australian research consortium developing a bionic eye. Through his PhD research, Ahmad will continue to develop neural implant technologies to treat neurodegenerative conditions. He is passionate about the potential of high-tech manufacturing in Australia, particularly in the biomedical space. He hopes to one day run his own medical device company alongside his academic career.

DR KEVIN TAN
Susan and Isaac Waki John Monash Scholar
Master of Business Administration and Innovation in Healthcare, Copenhagen Business School

Kevin completed his medical degree and holds an MBBS (Hons)/BMedSc from the University of Melbourne. He was also recently awarded a Master of Public Health through the University of Sydney, and spent a semester at Lund University, Sweden. He worked as an advanced trainer and Chief Radiation Oncology Registrar at the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre, the largest cancer hospital in Australia. During his training, Kevin developed an interest in cancer survivorship. While over 1 million Australians are living with or beyond their cancer diagnosis, many survivors continue to face unmet needs. These include elderly patients and long-term survivors of childhood malignancies. At Copenhagen, Kevin will combine his medical knowledge with skills in economics, policy, innovation and design to tackle this public health challenge.

WILLIAM WITHERIDGE
Commonwealth Bank of Australia John Monash Scholar
PhD Economics, New York University

William holds a Bachelor of Economics with First Class Honours, a Bachelor of Commerce and a Master of Economics from the Australian National University. He worked for the CEIC Chief Economist conducting research on global economic challenges and policy recommendations for the G20. He was previously an economic policy adviser in the Australian Government Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, including for Australia’s G20 Presidency in 2014. He will undertake a PhD in Economics with a special interest in macroeconomic policy. William is passionate about improving Australian economic policy particularly through tax reform and he aims to be a senior economic adviser to Government.
2018 Global Symposium in New York

Global Leadership - In commemoration of the Battle of Hamel

New York, 15-16 March 2018

John Monash Scholars' Global Symposium bring scholars and supporters together with the aim to build relationships, share networks, spark debates and catalyse new and innovative collaborations, as we continue to develop Australia’s future leaders. The 2018 Global Symposium in New York was the first held in the USA, appropriately located in the centenary year of the Battle of Hamel, a noted moment in Australian leadership on the world stage and the first time a non-American had led American troops. The Symposium drew inspiration from General Sir John Monash’s actions, and the themes of leadership and mateship were woven throughout the three days of the event.

The event, a collaboration of the Foundation and the American Australian Association (AAA), was a true celebration and commemoration of the unique mateship between Australia and the USA, cemented 100 years ago on the battlefields of France. The 59 John Monash Scholars in attendance from around the world were joined by 17 AAA Scholars who bonded over social events and through the stimulating day of workshops, discussing, debating and exploring the Challenges and Future of leadership.

Following is a diary of the Symposium and associated events, written by 2017 Monash Scholar Bridget Hickory who graduated in May from Columbia University, with a Master of Journalism.

Day 1: Family catch-ups and a tour of the UN

The weekend began warmly, with the aptly-titled “IMS family reunion.” Scholars from across North America, Europe, and China flooded into The Eugene, an apartment complex in the Hudson Yards district which enjoys extraordinary views down the river. Take away the business casual and New York skyline, and the morning felt more like a cheery family breakfast: complete with awkward slideshow. In a mighty effort of international Scholar wrangling, Alexandra Coelli and her partner Brendan put together a video compilation to introduce everyone to themselves on screen.

In the afternoon, the group made its way to the United Nations Headquarters, which was led by Australian consular staff. I was in the thick of journalism studies at Columbia University and, broke away to conduct a couple of interviews from the glamorous location of a nearby Donut. But fellow Scholar Ben Mylius, who is also at Columbia, told me, “the tour was a great opportunity to learn more about the wheelings and dealings that go into international diplomacy, in the spaces themselves – including the Security Council Chamber (where we snapped a quick and scholarly photo for posterity!).”

That evening, we reconvened for a reception at the Australian Consulate, along with Scholars from the American Australian Association. It was a privilege to hear from Monash Scholar Andrew Hudson and AAA Scholar Sarah Morris, Andrew spoke about his work as the Executive Director of Crisis Action, an international organisation that works to protect civilians from armed conflict, while Sarah, who is based at Cornell University, discussed her research on the dynamics of aircraft wingtip vortices. The discussion was facilitated by American journalist Lara Setrakian, the CEO of News Deeply, a publication that has made its mark providing in-depth coverage of the war in Syria and the Ebola epidemic. I’m confident it was the only event in New York that night where audiences had the pleasure of hearing about wingtip engineering and conflict resolution over the same glass of wine!
Day 2: Leadership and lessons from General Sir John Monash

On the second day of the Symposium, we met — a little bouncy but enthusiastic — at the Commonwealth Bank Australia, before we headed to an event space in the East Village for pizza and beer. With official events out of the way, people continued the conversations they’d started earlier in a more casual setting. I overheard snapshots of chat that I’m sure would become the seeds of something bigger: scholars Sarah Lux (with her young daughter Ilia) and Hannah Barber, discussing the importance of early childhood education and women in the workplace; Sarah is the founder of Mindr, which hosts talks and workshops where babies are welcome and has partnered with UN Women and the World Food Programme, and Hannah has just finished a Master of Education in human development and psychology at Harvard. I spent much of the evening discussing international corruption and money laundering with scholar Vafa Chahiri, a former Australian diplomat now studying a PhD in Public Policy at Oxford. And I went home with a book recommendation: The Demon’s Guide to Wealth Management by Australian academic Jason Sharram, who is based at Cambridge University (Vafa is right: it’s a must-read for diplomats, law enforcement and journalists).

The afternoon finished with a celebratory reception hosted by the Commonwealth Bank Australia, before we headed to an event space in the East Village for pizza and beer. With official events out of the way, people continued the conversations they’d started earlier in a more casual setting. I overheard snapshots of chat that I’m sure would become the seeds of something bigger: scholars Sarah Lux (with her young daughter Ilia) and Hannah Barber, discussing the importance of early childhood education and women in the workplace; Sarah is the founder of Mindr, which hosts talks and workshops where babies are welcome and has partnered with UN Women and the World Food Programme, and Hannah has just finished a Master of Education in human development and psychology at Harvard. I spent much of the evening discussing international corruption and money laundering with scholar Vafa Chahiri, a former Australian diplomat now studying a PhD in Public Policy at Oxford. And I went home with a book recommendation: The Demon’s Guide to Wealth Management by Australian academic Jason Sharram, who is based at Cambridge University (Vafa is right: it’s a must-read for diplomats, law enforcement and journalists).

Day 3: Farewells and thoughts for the future

Sunday was a time to say farewell. NYC-based Ben Mytilus organized an elaborate scavenger hunt, sending intrepid groups of scholars across the island in search of local treasures. I missed the fun due to schoolwork, but I can find the space to consider these questions. After a quick break for lunch — I snuck, overheard notes over sandwiches with AAA scholar Emma Cilekens on the New York journalism hustle — we reconvened for activities built around the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals. This was an opportunity to find commonalities amongst our fields and a reminder we are all working together in pursuit of a greater goal. The announcement of the 2018 John Monash Scholars was held on 30th November 2017 at the Sydney Opera House. This event was a celebration of our 18 proud John Monash Scholars for 2018, chosen through the intensive Scholarship selection process that ran from August to October of 2017.

The ceremony helped welcome the first steps of each member of the 2018 cohort in their journey as a John Monash Scholar. The night was opened with a cocktail reception in the presence of the NSW Premier, The Hon Gladys Berejiklian, and distinguished guests made up of Australian business leaders, philanthropists and members of the tertiary education sector. The 2018 Scholars were each introduced with a gift by a representative of their scholarship supporter with the assistance of 2005 John Monash Scholar Dr Ben Etherington, who read the citations for each new Scholar for the 150 friends, supporters and selection volunteers. 2009 John Monash Scholar Dr Amy Mcleannan provided the vote of thanks at the close of the momentous occasion.

Chairman Jillian Segal AM noted that the 2018 Scholars, as with John Monash Scholars of years past, were an exceptional group. “It was not only what the John Monash Scholars have achieved, but the enormous potential they carry ahead, that makes them so exciting.” During the event The Foundation awarded Life Membership to long-time supporter The Honourable Professor Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO, thanking her for her extraordinary efforts and involvement with the Foundation.

Events and Activities

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The 2017 John Monash Oration was proudly supported by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia

The annual John Monash Oration is always a highlight of the year. The 2017 Oration featured a keynote speech by Australia’s Chief Scientist, Dr Alan Finkel AO while 2004 John Monash Scholar Lara Olsen gave a response on the theme of “Leadership in Science: How it impacts jobs of the future, innovation and energy security in Australia”. The Oration took place at the Commonwealth Bank of Australia’s Colonial Theatre in Sydney and was attended by well over 100 Australian business leaders, senior academics and Foundation supporters. Kelly Bayer Rosmarin, Group Executive for Institutional Banking & Markets for the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, served as the night’s host.

Dr Finkel is Australia’s Chief Scientist and recently led the Expert Panel that conducted an Independent Review into the Future Security of the National Electricity Market. In his keynote speech, Dr Finkel echoed General Sir John Monash’s words, “equip yourself for life, not solely for your own benefit but for the benefit of the whole community”. Through his reflection on Monash’s message, he proposed three core values to the present and future leaders of Australian society:

* Aspiration, Encouragement and Education
  Ending his speech, Dr Finkel encouraged the public to ‘live up to his expectations’ and learn from General Sir John Monash’s teachings.

* Lara Olsen has worked in many areas of the renewable energy sector before becoming Regional Manager, Business Development for Tesla Energy Asia Pacific. As a John Monash Scholar Lara completed an MBA from INSEAD. In her thoughtful response to Dr Finkel’s speech, Lara reflected on John Monash’s legacy, his humility belief that he was always a student, his courage to never give up in the face of adversity and his leadership. Lara explained her admiration for the strong community of distinguished John Monash Scholars both past and present. “We’re a richer country for what these Scholars can contribute”. Lara said in relation to the values that the Foundation and John Monash Scholars hold.

The Foundation has continued to be able to present these engaging and thought-provoking events with the support of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia. This was the 8th Oration held in celebration of the close partnership between the Foundation and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

Other Events in Australia

**2018 John Monash Scholars Dinner**

26 October 2017

Scholar Andrew Hudson (2005) dropped by the General Sir John Monash Foundation office. With some Foundation friends, Scholars and Supporters in attendance, Andrew gave a talk about his work as Executive Director of Crisis Action and the life-changing opportunities the scholarship has provided.

**2018 John Monash Scholars Dinner**

22 February 2018

The 2018 John Monash Scholars Dinner was hosted by La Trobe University and is an annual tradition where the newly selected cohort of John Monash Scholars are welcomed and celebrated prior to the Presentation Ceremony on the following day. A welcome on behalf of the Board and past John Monash Scholars was provided by Foundation Chairman Julian Segal AM and 2013 Scholar Hsu Poh Ker, respectively. A thank you on behalf of the 2018 Scholars was provided by 2018 Scholar Marianne Haines.

** Scholars Catchup in Canberra**

3 May 2018

A small drinks event for Scholars in Canberra was hosted by the Foundation’s CEO Andrew Hudson. The night was attended by the busy Scholars who regularly stay connected to the Foundation today in numerous ways such as volunteering and providing support to new Scholars.

**Talk by Andrew Hudson with Foundation Friends**

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### Impact

**HIV slayer**

**Dr Genevieve Martin**

During her undergraduate medical degree, 2014 Scholar Genevieve Martin worked with Professor Suzanne Crowe AM, an HIV expert at the Alfred Hospital, on the impact of HIV infection on age-related changes in the immune system in women. As a medical student and doctor, she also worked closely with people living with HIV.

These experiences taught Martin that despite the astounding progress that has been made in developing therapies for HIV, the infection remains incurable, with ongoing impacts upon the life and health of people living with the virus.

“I was inspired to conduct research towards HIV cure strategies for my doctoral research because of the exciting immunological research in this field and the potential to make a real-world impact.”

In addition to her John Monash Scholarship, Genevieve’s DPhil research at Oxford University was awarded a Clarendon Scholarship and the Nuffield Department of Medicine (NDM) Prize. She has also just received a Highly Commended in the NDM Graduate Student Prizes in recognition of her research to date.

“*My work aims to characterise aspects of T-cell immunity in individuals who commence antiretroviral therapy (ART) early during HIV infection,*” Genevieve explains. “*My findings have implications for how we measure the success of HIV curative interventions and demonstrate the influence of immunologic events prior to starting ART on the progression of the infection.*”

Earlier in the year, Genevieve helped advocate for her work as part of a project, the CHEKUB HIV garden, led by her DPhil supervisor Professor John Frater and others of a UK-wide collaborative conducting research towards an HIV cure.

Launched at the Chelsea Flower Show, the aim of the CHEKUB (Collaborative HIV Eradication of Reservoirs: UK BRC) HIV Garden was to stimulate discussion around HIV stigma and therapies.

You can watch the Oxford Sparks interview at this link: https://tinyurl.com/GenevieveMartin

Genevieve has also presented her work at several national and international conferences over the course of her studies. In July she will present some of the findings from her DPhil Research at the AIDS 2018 conference in Amsterdam.

### Pledge to rural Australia

**Jillian Kilby**

2013 Scholar Jillian Kilby believes in Sir John Monash’s philosophy, “Equip yourself for life, not for your own benefit but for the benefit of the entire community.” Having quoted these words in her application six years ago, Jillian still practises them today.

In April this year, Jillian was awarded the 2018 NSW-NT AgriFutures Rural Women’s Award in recognition of her commitment to creating more commercially successful startups in rural communities.

Having completed her scholarship studies at Stanford University and built a client-base for her business, Infrastructure Collaborative, in California, Jillian says her desire to contribute to regional Australia brought her home.

Currently Dubbo-based, she says her main pitch to the Rural Women’s Award was a plan to run workshops to develop a clearer picture of the resources future founders in regional NSW might need to launch their own businesses.

Even before winning her $10,000 bursary, she had set in motion the Regional Startups Insight Study to consult with as many potential founders as possible. A key focus was women who are considering creating new businesses but need support to take their idea from concept to reality.

“A farmer’s daughter from Coonamble and a trained civil engineer,” Jillian started the Infrastructure Collaborative on a 50,000-acre property west of Walgett. Her mission is to create a thriving regional Australia with a strong foundation of infrastructure.

Using a unique blend of design thinking and bridge-building between government and the private sector, she works with clients on initial scoping and the planning shelves to being shovel ready.

She continues to be extremely grateful for the support offered to her by the John Monash family.

“It is really daunting to move home after studying abroad, however having men and women championing my pathway with introductions to mentors in the industry, roles on boards and a nomination for an award, was pivotal,” she says.

“I want to be intentional about giving back, so I wonder, what can I do to help start a movement to attract entrepreneurial Monash Scholars back to Australia?” Perhaps part of the answer lies in Jillian’s conviction that building start-up communities in the regions is key. She is also launching and facilitating an initiative in Dubbo called The Exchange, a community for start-ups to come together.

### Master of Catastrophe

**Dr James Daniell**

2008 John Monash Scholar James Daniell has been collecting earthquake, volcano and other natural disaster data and statistics since he was a kid.

James’ scholarship allowed him to undertake a PhD at the Geographical Institute of the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) in Germany, where he produced a new methodology for rapid global earthquake loss estimation. This delivers an accurate estimation of economic and social losses within hours of an event. His CATDAT loss database for natural disasters is the world’s largest.

James’ methodology really came into its own during the catastrophe Caribbean Hurricane season of 2017, which resulted in nearly US$50 billion of damage.

The loss estimates, which combine long-term economic analysis with demographics, previous hurricane data, building typologies, and wind and flood modelling, were incredibly useful to governments, NGOs and media outlets trying to grasp the scale of the disaster.

However, James says the achievement he is most proud of is the GRADE (global rapid post-disaster damage estimation) loss estimation approach that he developed with colleagues at the World Bank.

Launched in May 2018, GRADE utilises methodologies and modelling from James’s doctorate. The World Bank has used it for numerous major disasters over the last three years.

James says the GRADE approach will enable quicker funding for post-disaster recovery and reconstruction, as well as allow governments and other agencies to make faster decisions about how to allocate aid and resources.

While he enjoys evaluating academia, government and commercial projects, James also works within the NGO sector. His Hotel Resilient initiative has involved collaborating with governments through his startup company, Risklayer, to develop CATDAT risk modelling for hotels, as well as Hotel Resilient Standards.

Last year James was named the Early Career Scientist of Europe for Natural Hazards at the European Geosciences Union. He has undertaken numerous keynote speaking engagements, including the World Reconstruction Conference in Brussels and Infranix in Lyon, and has been interviewed by the BBC and Al Jazeera News about the impact of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria.

“Being able to choose the best institution globally for my PhD to develop my idea for rapid natural peril loss models has been invaluable,” James says.

“Being a John Monash Scholar has given me the opportunity to learn from other scholars, and often using ideas or tools from different fields of study that allow me to adapt or think about problems in a different way.”

### Life-changing journey

**Marianne Haines**

For 2018 Origin Foundation John Monash Scholar Marianne Haines, the opportunity to pursue her PhD at the University of Calgary has been life-changing.

Marianne, who is researching the use of photosynthetic bacteria (common name algae!) to generate bio-fuel, says she now has a few roles in the Energy Bioengineering (EGB) lab and her team is “spectacular”. Understanding which conditions are favourable for optimal productivity is one of her current research areas.

Marianne is currently in the process of designing and building a reactor to test her hypotheses. She hopes to use these results to inform a larger scale operation.

“I have also been heavily involved in the construction of our new outdoor pilot plant. This will help us move from friendly and predictable laboratory conditions to those which fluctuate and are more realistic,” she says.

“One day, I have the plant operational, we can test the whole system. Over the next three years, we’ll run a series of experiments and determine with greater accuracy the likelihood and cost of commercialisation.”

Even before Marianne officially commenced her student tenure, she contributed to a primary school outreach program called Fixing the Atmosphere, a four-week initiative involving eight local schools.

“Our team visited each school once per week, and in a series of presentations and hands-on activities, we taught the students about the cars that pitch a broad nose, micro-organism and what we do here at the University of Calgary (UofC).”

In addition, she and a colleague put on a puppet show at the Calgary Zoo as part of a Soapbox Science event (Women scientists publicly share their science). They stripped a wooden box that depicted the algae-to-fuel conversion process. Highlighting the rewards of science has always been important to Marianne, who was involved in presenting programs targeted at lower socioeconomic high schools in Victoria prior to receiving her scholarship.

“Too often, young Australians aren’t even aware of what a ‘scientist’ does. It’s just such a broad term that puts us all in one basket. One of the most rewarding experiences I’ve had was lecturing to an audience of around sixty young women and being inundated with questions until well past the bell.”

Marianne is also currently mentoring five undergraduate summer students. “This means daily meetings and task delegation,” she says. “It’s great because I can get five times as much done!”

While she was a personal trainer back in Melbourne and even ran her own boot-camp, the focus for Marianne is now her PhD: although she lets slip that she might be training for an IronWoman triathlon competition,
Impact

Music of Life
Michael Grebla

Michael Grebla, 2016 Zealmon Coven John Monash Scholar, had an indirect journey to music composition. During a particularly challenging semester as an undergraduate, he lost the ability to sing for a couple of months which led him to serious contemplation about his love of music and engineering. At the time, Michael was studying science and engineering, partly to please his mum.

“I realized while I had an interest in science, I didn’t have a passion for it. I did have a passion for engineering but not as much as for music,” he says.

While a career in singing wasn’t the answer, Michael had an enormous curiosity for composing. The artists who impacted him the most were all composers, including Beethoven, Bach and Phillip Glass. He subsequently switched to a combined Music and Engineering degree.

Having completed his Bachelor of Music and Mechanical Engineering at the University of Western Australia, Michael went on to complete a Master of Music Composition at the New England Conservatory, supported by his John Monash Scholarship.

Michael graduated in May 2018 with Academic Honours, having had the chance to compose for orchestra, learn from some remarkable teachers and make some lasting friendships along the way. In January 2018 he participated in the Australian Youth Orchestra’s National Music Camp in Adelaide where he was one of four composers chosen to write and premiere a work.

Michael also attended the Zodiac Music Academy & Festival in the French Alps, winning the Composition Award for Most Outstanding New Work. The two-week festival and training program offers daily classes with a mentor plus rehearsals of each composer’s work. Michael’s mentor was renowned composer and Berklee College Professor of Music, Andrew Lauder.

“I had the opportunity to work closely with the quartet performing my work and met a number of people who expressed interest in either playing my piece in their home cities or just working on a new composition together,” Michael says.

His winning string quartet, titled Sfidare, reflects his Romanian-Italian heritage. It means ‘defy’ in Italian and ‘defiance’ in Romanian. The composer note says the work is a “tribute to those who challenge and defy to declare their place in the world”.

Michael says gaining a footpath in America has been extremely important for him at this stage of his life, and this achievement is due to his John Monash Scholarship. “Braking into the US without a degree from a good school can make it very difficult,” he says. Next on the agenda is moving to New York City to be a freelance composer for a year. He is also hoping to sponsor and have his quartet performed in America and Australia.

TED Talks for Parenting
Sarah Lux-Lee

Before her 2014 John Monash Scholarship, Sarah Lux-Lee was working for the Australian government as a public policy advisor. She wanted to broaden her knowledge and networks overseas—and ultimately, her overall perspective.

Lux-Lee says her Master of Public Administration at Columbia University in New York was “not only the learning from thought leaders and world leaders, but also had the opportunity to implement what I was learning through internships at the World Health Organization and UN Women.

“I got to move the literature forward through research with Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz, and since graduating, the networks and experiences I gained as a Monash scholar continue to drive me every day.” Lux-Lee’s social venture Mindr, dubbed the “TED Talks of Parenting” by Time Out Magazine, runs talks, workshops, classes and events led by global experts, where crying babies are welcome. Speakers include Nobel laureates, United Nations leaders, representatives from Fortune 500, leading universities as well as innovative start-ups.

“So many new parents find that once they have a baby, their avenues for intellectual and professional development narrow considerably,” she says. “You can’t take a baby to a conference, and childcare continues to be astronomically expensive in both Australia and the US.”

“At Mindr, we’re transforming the experience of new parenthood into a time of learning, growth and deep interconnection, and we’re helping organisations to recognise and harness the intellectual capital of new parents throughout all stages of the work-life cycle.”

In April 2017, Mindr was awarded third place in the Columbia Venture Competition’s Start-up Challenge, winning $10,000 which Sarah is putting towards building an online platform to help organisations better serve their parent workforce.

Mindr was also featured in the New Yorkers for its work with anti-nuclear activist Beatrice Fihn, a mother of two, who accepted the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons).

In March this year, Mindr partnered with the United Nations to co-host the World’s Biggest Mama Meetup, a global campaign that brought together mothers in more than 60 cities around the world on International Women’s Day. “The flagship event that day took place at the United Nations Headquarters—the first time, to our knowledge, that babies were allowed, en masse, at the UN—and included an address by Under-Secretary-General Iumi Nakamuta,” Sarah says.

In terms of next steps, Mindr is working to get employers on board with its mission.

“We want to help employers support employees who are going through the transitions into and beyond new parenthood.”

Batting for Change
Ryan Carters

2018 Koh/Sygal Harvard John F. Kennedy School of Government scholar Ryan Carters gave up the lifetime of a career in professional cricket to study for a Master in Public Policy at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. “Sport is fantastic in many ways,” Ryan says, “but what is more important is achieving a more equal playing field across our society. I wanted to educate myself to contribute to that mission.”

In 2017, the charitable initiative he founded, Batting for Change, raised over $50,000. This enabled the organisation to support scholarships for over 500 women living in poverty in India and Sri Lanka, and to assist the development of teachers’ colleges in Nepal and Tanzania.

“In 2018 we are excited about expanding our fundraising efforts through the Corporate Cricket Challenge, our Batting for Change Cup Pre-Match Party, and our Batting for Change XI wandering cricket team,” Ryan says.

During his two-year program at Harvard, Ryan will take a range of courses in economics, political science, policy analysis and management, in addition to applied policy work. He hopes that this study will equip him for a career in the public service addressing economic inequality and gender inequality.

“Australia has made substantial progress in gender equality in recent decades, but there is still a long way to go,” he says. “I take inspiration from the many wonderful, strong women in my life. They showed me subject to high rates of sexual assault and domestic violence, lower pay for the same work and significantly worse financial prospects in retirement.”

“I hope to address some of these issues in my career, alongside female leaders light the way. Working in public policy is a chance to help strengthen systems that support all Australians as we strive for inclusive prosperity.”

Ryan has also won the Frank Knox Memorial Fellowship, which will be valuable support for his growing family with a new baby due in the first semester of his Harvard studies. Knox Fellows are selected using a rigorous and competitive process based on future leadership promise, strength of character, balanced judgement and devotion to democratic ideals.

On the topic of leadership Ryan says he doesn’t think there is any one type of good leader.

"Some lead by thinking in ways that others haven’t. Some lead by bringing a team together or mobilising action, some lead in the spotlight and others lead in a quiet way that empowers others," he says.

“...I aspire to be the type of leader that earns and extends trust, seeks many views and helps others become better, more confident versions of themselves.”

A Voice for Refugees
Catherine Stubberfield

2010 John Monash Scholar Catherine Stubberfield has been at the forefront of discussion around offshore processing and Australia’s treatment of refugees as an External Relations Officer for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

"In the past year in particular, we’ve done a lot of work on reporting and explaining the immense ongoing harm to refugees and asylum-seekers under Australia’s current ‘offshore processing’ system,” Catherine says.

“The myriad negative impacts of that approach have been mostly hidden from public view, but people need to know the realities to make their own informed decisions about the policy. Being able to put facts on the public record and contribute to broader understanding in a way that is apolitical and humanising has been one of the most rewarding aspects of my work.”

Catherine, who completed her Master’s Degree in Human Rights and Democratization at the European Inter-University Centre in 2009, says the understanding of international human rights that she gained as a result of her John Monash Scholarship helped open the door to her UNHCR career.

Since graduating, she has worked for UNHCR in Thailand and Sudan, before beginning at its Regional Representation in Canberra. She says in recent years, understanding the nuances of International Law, European Law and Australian domestic law has been increasingly relevant.

“Traveling to Manus Island and Nauru is one of the most challenging, but also important, aspects of my role with UNHCR Canberra.”

Around 40 refugee children under the age of five have never known any permanent home outside of offshore processing facilities. Over 50 more transferred by Australia to Nauru have spent more than half their lives in punishing conditions and in limbo.

While 1200 refugees are expected to be settled in the US under the bilateral agreement reached between the governments of Australia and the United States, far too many will be left behind and are in increasingly desperate need.

“Striving for solutions for all remains a central focus of our work,” Catherine says. “Greater understanding of the real human cost of the current approach is still very much needed. Despite this, Catherine is proud of Australia’s positive history of welcoming refugees, and the fact that it boasts some of the best settlement services in the world.”

"There is so much to be celebrated here," she says. "I feel very lucky that I can contribute so directly to this area. I hope that changes to Australia’s current refugee policy will allow my role to focus more on the positive side, and to bringing an international perspective back into what is, ultimately, a global humanitarian challenge."
Body pride activist

Dr Gemma Sharp

2007 John Monash Scholar

Gemma Sharp completed her MSc in breast cancer research at Cambridge University. "During my time at Cambridge, I started to notice that I was more interested in the behaviour of the people around me than the cancer cells in my tissue culture flasks," Gemma recalls.

"I wanted to talk with the patients who were actually being affected by breast cancer, not just their kindly donated tumour specimens."

This led to Gemma returned to Australia to study psychology after completing her MSc.

"I originally continued research in the cancer field, investigating the effectiveness of an appearance-based intervention to reduce sun-tanning behaviours, and thus risk of skin cancer," she says. "However, the body image concern element of the project really captured my attention and I have been based predominantly in this field for the last six years."

Gemma’s seventh university degree (and hopefully, she adds, the last for a little while), a PhD in Clinical Psychology at South Australia’s Flinders University, investigated the psychological predictors and outcomes of labiaplasty, the most common form of female genital cosmetic surgery. It involves the surgical reduction of the labia minora. "According to the International Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, labiaplasty is the most popular form of cosmetic invasive surgery, and to choose to focus on this topic," Gemma says.

"I think we can be quite dismissive of people who have cosmetic procedures as superficial and vacuous, but who among us is entirely satisfied with how we look?"

Gemma quickly learned through her research that genital appearance concerns are actually very common in girls and women, and anyone can be affected. "In general, young girls are hardly socialised or encouraged to ask questions or explore their genitalia. Instead, we tend to use euphemisms like 'down there' or avoid talking about genitals altogether. This can create a sense of shame and embarrassment, which sometimes develops into genital appearance concerns in later life."

Gemma’s mission has become to break down societal taboos around women’s labia, a perfectly normal body part. She says her studies at Oxford are providing her with a greater understanding of how to develop and implement evidence-based healthcare programs.

"There are huge discrepancies in health between urban and rural and remote Australia, and there is so much we can do to improve that situation," she says.

"I believe it’s important to be able to treat diseases in a broader community, and not just treat the person in front of me."

As 2018 Open Water Captain for the Varsity Channel Relay, Victoria guided a team of six swimmers from Oxford to swim across the English Channel in a competition against Cambridge in June. She will soon travel to Cork, Ireland for the annual irrigation-only Cork Distance Week, the hardest open water swimming camp in the world, “a fantastical opportunity”

Known as the Triple Crown of Open Water Swimming, this feat of endurance required her to swim 46km around Manhattan island in New York less than a month after completing a 14km swim across the English Channel, and two months after crossing 39km from Catalina Island to mainland Los Angeles.

Victoria, who in 2018 will complete her combined MSc in Evidence-Based Social Intervention and Policy Evaluation/MBA at Oxford University in the UK, is committed to improving indigenous healthcare delivery in Australia.

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Where law meets art

Shevaun Wright

2017 John Monash Scholar

Shevaun Wright has a unique approach to art. Informed by her indigenous heritage and legal background, Shevaun’s work is achieving considerable acclaim.

Currently based in the US, Shevaun’s work, The Rape Contract was featured in a group exhibition at the Samuel Freeman Gallery in Los Angeles. Titled PARATEXTUAL, the exhibition aimed to analyse the aesthetic, political, ideological and social manipulations at play in our everyday lives.

The Rape Contract was created in response to Shevaun’s experience of aspiring a close friend to negotiate the Australian legal system as a victim of rape.

The work is presented as a contract for “Victim Services”, but below the surface, it also contains notes, personal writings, psychiatric and police reports penned in invisible ink.

At the end of 2017, Shevaun was also included in a major exhibition at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Arts (ACCA) titled, Unfinished Business: Perspectives on art and feminism.

Between May and July 2017, Shevaun featured in the Campbelltown Arts Centre group exhibition, looking at me through you, which explored the diverse cultural issues affecting Sydney’s greater western region, using comprehensive statistics from Sydney’s Skin Cancer Register.

Shevaun converted data from Socio-Economic Indicators for Areas (SEIFA) into a string of vinyl lettering stuck to the floors of several rooms throughout the gallery.

Informed by her work in personal injury law, Shevaun wanted to “equate the under-investment of relatively disadvantaged outlooks with bodily injuries,” telling SBS news that she conceived of the work “as a thread through the show, bringing the works together”.

In June 2018, Shevaun also held a solo exhibition titled Apologies at Melbourne’s Man Gallery.

The exhibition drew its title from a costs appeal by Andrew Bolt and The Herald and Weekly Times against Pat Eatock in her successful application for a declaration that they had breached section 18C of the Racial Discrimination Act.

Despite losing their case, Bolt and the Herald sought legal costs against Eatock on the basis that she had failed to secure a better judgment than their offer to compromise their apology.

Echings parts of the judgment and apology onto either sides of successively receding perspex pages, the work asks viewers to consider the framework of colonial histories in which the judgment, the law and apology exist.

As 2018 also marks the 10th anniversary of former Prime Minister Rudd’s apology to the Stolen Generations, the works in the exhibition are a call to think about the notion of costs, not only in monetary terms, but intergenerational trauma.

Shevaun’s John Monash Scholarship is supporting her to complete a Master of Fine Art at the Mary Kelly Interdisciplinary Studio, UCLA. In 2017, she also became a BBC Fellow of the Barbelf Centre for Arts and Creativity in Canada and received an Australia Council Individual Development Grant.

The Logic of Misogyny

Dr Kate Manne

What is misogyny? And how is it prone to be misunderstood? These questions and many others are addressed in 2006 John Monash Scholar, Dr Kate Manne’s new book, Down Girl: The Logic of Misogyny (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).

“Misogyny is an exploration of misogyny in public life and politics,” Kate says. “It argues that misogyny should not be understood primarily in terms of the hatred or hostility some men feel toward all or most women.”

“Rather, it’s primarily about controlling, policing, punishing, and exiling the ‘bad women’ who challenge male dominance. And it’s compatible with reworking the ‘good ones’ and singling out other women to serve as warnings to those who are out of order.”

Down Girl has been receiving accolades from critics around the world, including being named Book of the Year 2017 by Cordelia Fine for The Big Issue, included among the Dozen Most Memorable Books of 2017 by The Washington Post, and named Best Book of 2017 by The Telegraph.

Kate continues to be invited to speak about her book, the nature of misogyny, and her concept of “himpathy,” with engagements planned well into 2018.

Kate is an assistant professor of the Sage School of Philosophy at Cornell University. Prior to her appointment there, Kate was a senior fellow at Harvard’s Institute of Politics. He has been receiving praise for his research on the nature of feminism, women’s rights, and sexual violence.

Kate’s John Monash Scholarship is supporting her to complete her PhD in philosophy from MIT.

Scholar Publications

Down Girl: The Logic of Misogyny by Kate Manne (2006 John Monash Scholar) Published 2017 Oxford University Press

Literary Primitivism by Ben Etherington (2005 John Monash Scholar) Published 2017 Stanford University Press

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Celebrating the Centenary

This financial year falls into a period of great significance for the nation and particularly the General Sir John Monash Foundation, with 2018 being the centenary of the Battles of Beersheba, Hamel, Amiens and ultimately the end of WWI. The legacy of General Sir John Monash is vast and multifaceted but poignantly encapsulated in his role as the commanding general of the Battle of Hamel which also guided the success of Amiens through its effective design and tactics. The Foundation has in its own way acknowledged and engaged with the commemoration of this key time in our history in a variety of ways, including attendance at events around the world, creation of a commemorative scholarship, AFL games in France and our Global Symposium.

Opening of the new John Monash Centre and ANZAC Day in Villers-Bretonneux

The Director’s travel diary

On 4 July 1918, Lieutenant General John Monash mounted his first attack as Commander of the Australian Corps in the Battle of Hamel, alongside the US Army infantry. The resulting strategic victory established Australia’s honourable reputation in battle and changed the face of modern warfare.

The Battle of Hamel was also the first occasion of an Australian leading American troops abroad. It signifies a pivotal moment in matership, camaraderie and the development of the Australian-American relationship.

One hundred years later, to commemorate this momentous occasion in Australia’s joint history with the US, two special scholarships were created in collaboration with the American Australian Association (AAA). The John Monash Commemorative Scholarship for an Australian Defence Veteran to study in the US and the AAA Commemorative Scholarship to support an American Defence Veteran to undertake study in Australia.

On 15-16 March 2018, Nathan was one of 39 John Monash Scholars from around the world who joined with AAA Scholars and other Foundation friends to mark the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Hamel at the John Monash Scholars’ Global Symposium in New York.

Speaking at the symposium as the recipient of the 2018 John Monash Memorial Commemorative Scholarship made it an especially significant moment for Nathan. His presentation drew a parallel between the principles of leadership that John Monash exemplified at the Battle of Hamel and the lessons still taught and practised in the military today.

“The way that Australian Defence Force (ADF) training establishments such as the Royal Military College, Duntroon and the Australian Defence Force Academy train and develop leaders is based on many of the principles established by General Monash,” Nathan says.

“War has modernised, and the environment is far more dynamic today, but the fundamentals of leadership, such as professionalism, having a robust and diverse education, the ability to think critically and using initiative, are all still the essential qualities.”

A great honour

The 2018 Pratt Foundation Commemorative Defence American Australian Association (AAA) John Monash Scholarship was awarded to Major Nathan Johnson.

For Nathan, receiving a scholarship in commemoration of the Battle of Hamel is a great honour. As a military officer, he has served in Special Operations Command in Afghanistan, lead multinational United Nations forces in South Sudan and provided technical support to the Australian Defence Force’s counter-terrorism unit.

“The story of the Battle of Hamel is gospel in the army,” Nathan says. “General Monash and his diggers’ achievements are the foundations of the ANZAC spirit and many military traditions.

General Monash’s tactics at the Battle of Hamel were the epitome of intelligence and commitment to learning. No detail escaped his attention, such that victory was almost pre-determined.

The impact that Monash left on the army and the nation is legendary.”

New York Symposium

Board directors Lee Liberman and Jan McCahey traveled from Melbourne and London respectively with their husbands, Professor Leslie Reti and David McCahey, to attend the opening of the John Monash Centre in Villers-Bretonneux on the 25th April.

“The museum named in honour of General Sir John Monash is compact, with large screens displaying multiple images from the Western Front of WWI: The Troops, Munitions, Medical Support Corps, Doctors, Nurses and Hospitals on the frontline as well as behind, and images of much needed flat terrain and appreciating visually the conditions our troops were faced with. Understanding the different battles fought and visiting the John Monash Centre highlighted for us all the very special qualities John Monash brought to the field – leadership matters”.

Jan describes how the journey “became a very confronting experience…so many war graves in otherwise peaceful surroundings. Perhaps the most chilling was one of the first we came across, in West Flanders – a sea of black crosses for over 44,000 soldiers. And words a family had chosen to inscribe on the gravestones of their young son, ‘a young life lost…for what?’ – continue to stay with me.” In contrast she explains it is “uplifting too – all of the war graves sites maintained to a meticulous standard showing such respect for the sacrifices made by so many young men and their families. And the Australian contribution is so well known, respected and talked about by members of local communities.”

The following day, Foundation Chairman Jillian Sargal and her husband John joined her Board colleagues to set off on one of the battlefields across France and Belgium.

Jillian reflects, “it was a very special experience to visit the WW1 French battlefields in the company of two fellow directors and our spouses. One can read about the particular horrors of WW1 but nothing compares to actually seeing the flat terrain and appreciating visually the conditions our troops were faced with. Understanding the different battles fought and visiting the John Monash Centre highlighted for us all the very special qualities John Monash brought to the field – leadership matters”.

Jan describes how the journey “became a very confronting experience…so many war graves in otherwise peaceful surroundings. Perhaps the most chilling was one of the first we came across, in West Flanders – a sea of black crosses for over 44,000 soldiers. And words a family had chosen to inscribe on the gravestones of their young son, ‘a young life lost…for what?’ – continue to stay with me.” In contrast she explains it is “uplifting too – all of the war graves sites maintained to a meticulous standard showing such respect for the sacrifices made by so many young men and their families. And the Australian contribution is so well known, respected and talked about by members of local communities.”

Walking through row upon row of graves in the cold predawn on 26th April to ANZAC Day Service, Lee describes how hard it was to reconcile the peace and incredible beauty of the hills above Villers Bretonneux with the unimaginable horror of 100 years ago.

It was a bright moment at the close of the ceremony, as the rain began to bucket down, when 2018 Scholar William Witheridge was able to find Lee and Jan despite the umbrellas and hoods. William, currently living in Paris where he works for the OECD, seized the opportunity to attend the Centenary Anzac Dawn Service and visit the newly opened Sir John Monash Centre. He described the Dawn Service “as a solemn tribute to the courage and sacrifice of Australians and Allies who fought in the First World War and since. The significance of the Battle there was emphasised by the Prime Ministers of Australia and France and Prince Charles attending along with thousands of Australian and French people. A really, really special experience”.

“Perhaps the most chilling was one of the...”

Her Excellency The Honourable Linda Dessau AC (Governor General of Victoria) awarding the 2018 Pratt Foundation Commemorative Defence American Australian Association (AAA) John Monash Scholarship to Major Nathan Johnson.
To receive a scholarship commemorating the contribution of the John Monash name is a great privilege for any Australian, but there is an additional personal connection that Nathan shares being an army officer. “Not only do I have a responsibility to the legacy of Monash, but also to the Australian Defence Force, the Australian Army and the people of Australia. My mission and responsibility is to be a leader in my academic pursuits and to build on Australia’s proud reputation in the US.”

Nathan says winning the John Monash scholarship has been the highlight of his life to date. “I am getting married in March 2019, so that statement is true at the time of publication,” he quips.

“There is no doubt in my mind that the scholarship has changed my life and career immeasurably and I can’t be more thankful to everyone at the Foundation for the opportunity.”

As a project manager for Army Headquarters in Canberra, Nathan is leading the development of electronic warfare technology for the Army. He has chosen to research cyber security as part of his PhD at Arizona State University.

Cyber security expertise

“I want to understand how to use the essential communications we use in the army, such as radios and voice communication, can potentially create vulnerabilities and opportunities for cyberattacks,” Nathan says. “It’s not only important to understand this, but also to analyse impacts, so that we can still fight battles in the event of a cyberattack.

“I can be of great benefit to the army if I become an electronic and cyber warfare expert with an understanding of how to design and build robust systems in the future.”

When Nathan got promoted to the rank of Major, one of his Commanding Officers told him that he is “a very wise and wise enough to start identifying weaknesses in the organisation and speaking out how to fix it fast ever.”

“Those words have stayed with me and become the basis for my application to the Foundation,” Nathan shares.

“Receiving the John Monash and Chief of the Australian Army scholarships is evidence that communications integrity (both radio and cyber security) is of the highest importance to our military leaders.”

In his brother’s footsteps

Nathan was inspired to pursue a military career by his brother, who joined the Army in 1999. Determined to follow in his brother’s footsteps, Nathan began training as an Army Officer at the Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra in 2005.

“I joined the Royal Australian Corps of Signals, which is responsible for providing communications services to the Army and also has a counter communications regiment known as Electronic Warfare,” Nathan relays.

Nathan’s first job as an officer was commanding an electronic warfare troop and he was later deployed on operations. He has spent the majority of his career working in electronic warfare which also provided the opportunity to complete his Master’s Degree in Military Electronic System Engineering at Cranfield University in Shrivenham, UK.

Nathan has started his studies at Arizona State University and says it’s going to be “full on.” “That said, the university has been extremely welcoming and supportive of the research I want to conduct, which is really encouraging,” he says.

“I hope to have the opportunity to teach the next generation of officers and soldiers within the ADF about this key domain of warfare and pass on this knowledge that the army, the Foundation and Australia has entrusted me with.”

A Special Memento

Bruce Moran, a long standing Member and financial supporter of the Foundation, came to HQ bearing a charming gift. In the early 1990’s a group of John Monash’s friends, formed a special ‘Klub’ to enable their great friend to be their guest on the restricted premises of the Melbourne Club of which they were members. The King of Klubs held regular dinners and a regular attendee was Bruce Moran’s father Paddy. He had saved a menu from one of these dinners. It remains in pristine condition and now framed, it sits on Moran’s old desk at the Foundation’s office. The menu for the evening is an intriguing glimpse into the culinary fashions of the time and the list of dinner guests suggests it would have been a lovely evening.

Petty Officer Emily Leonard
AAA-John Monash Commemorative Defence Scholar

Emily is the special commemorative year Defence Scholar and part of the collaboration between the Foundation and the AAD that symbolises the ongoing spirit of mateship between Australian and the US. She arrived in late June to commence a Master of Public Policy and Management at the University of Melbourne and the Peace Corps.

Emily is a U.S. Navy veteran with six years of experience and training as a nuclear reactor operator and electronics technician focused on safety operations, technologies, and administration, says she is very pleased to improve U.S. veteran healthcare policy and implementation.

“It is a US Navy veteran with six years of experience and training as a nuclear reactor operator and electronics technician focused on safety operations, technologies, and administration, says she is very pleased to improve U.S. veteran healthcare policy and implementation.”

On the 7th of July, the small town of Peronne in the north of France held a commemorative weekend of events to celebrate 100 years since the liberation of the towns in the region at the end of WWI, paying tribute to the thousands of Australian soldiers who lost their lives so far from home. The event was capped around an exhibition AFL match played between two teams of Australian footballers, selected from across Europe.

I was very honoured to be the women’s representative for the event, supporting the men’s teams for the match and running a clinic for the local girls and boys in the town. Both the clinic and the match were taken to in great spirit, with numerous local participants and spectating. The town even organise parachutists to land on the pitch with Australian and French flag moments before the first bounce.

With women’s AFL really booming across Australia at present, it’s been wonderful to spread the enthusiasm overseas, getting so many keen young girls involved in the clinic, with the heads of some of the Cambridge women’s players. This is the first year Cambridge University has formed a women’s team and this year saw the first ever Oxford vs Cambridge women’s varsity AFL match, played alongside the 58th annual men’s match.

Oxbridge John Monash Scholars fly the flag for women’s AFL in France

ANZAC Day Footy
Dr Genevieve Martin

On April 25th 1918, the town of Villers-Bretonneux was successfully defended in a battle that is considered by many to have played a critical role in the outcome of World War I. One hundred years later, I travelled to Villers-Bretonneux to take part in commemorative events. Having moved overseas as a young Australian, I reflect on the young age at which many of my relatives left Australia to serve their country – and how difficult that must have been for them. The three days spent in Villers-Bretonneux symbolises the ongoing spirit of ‘mateship’ and the people of Australia. My military heritage, and military service, has entrusted me with.”

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Governance

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Governor General of Australia
His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd)

Governor of New South Wales
His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)

Governor of Queensland
His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC

Governor of South Australia
His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC

Governor of Tasmania
Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC

Governor of Victoria
Her Excellency The Honourable Linda Dessau AC

Governor of Western Australia
Her Excellency The Honourable Kerry Sanderson AC (until May 2018)

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Alexandra Coelli (Secretary)
Emeritus Professor Peter Darvall AO
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Dr Jane Wilson

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John Elopoulos (external advisor)
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Senior Executive Team
Chief Executive Officer
Annette Rolle

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Emeritus Professor, Monash University; Board Member, Holmeong Institute; Former Vice Chancellor and President, Monash University

Stephen Gerlach AM
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Carolyn Kay
Guardian, The Future Fund; Director, Aliens Linklater; Director, Somerte Group; Director, Brambles; Board Member, Australia-China Council

Leon Kempler AM
National Chairman, Australia- Israel Chamber of Commerce; Chairman, Advisory Council of the National Science and Technology Centre Quesaon; Director, Wonderrket Wlak Victoria; Director, Israel Innovation Institute; Ambassadorial Fellow, Deakin University

Lee Lemberman
Founder, Lee Lemberman Foundation; Executive Committee – Board of Councillors, University of Southern California (USC) Shosh Foundation; Publisher and Editor, A Day in the Life of Africa, A Day in the Life of Israel, Chair, Day in the Life of Africa Aids Education Fund

Jan McCahey
Partner, PwC Australia; Global Public Policy Leader, PricewaterhouseCoopers International Limited

Emeritus Professor Alan Robson AO CSWA Emeritus Professor, The University of Western Australia; Chair of Trustees, The Western Australian Museum; Chair of Advisory Council, Science and Industry Endowment Foundation (SIEF) Chair of Board Peron Institute for Neurological and Translational Science, Former Vice-Chancellor, The University of Western Australia

Dr Mark Schember
Sub Warden, St Paul’s College at The University of Sydney; Chairman, Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, Doctor, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Veterinarian, Australian Turf Club, Honorary Faculty Member, Veterinary Science at The University of Sydney, Director, World Youth Hope Orchestra, Vice-President, University of Sydney Rugby Club; Student Liaison, Faculty of Medicine at the University of the University of Sydney, Member, NSW Govt Panel for Professional Disciplinary Hearings

Dr Jane Wilson
Chairman, Clean Energy Finance Corporation; Director, Trumen Corp Pty Ltd; Chair of the Advisory Committee, Science at The University of Sydney; Member, NSW Govt Panel for Professional Disciplinary Hearings

Wendy Simpson OAM
Executive Chair, Wengoo Pty Ltd; President, Executive Director, World Vision Australia; Non-Executive Director, Sydney Prayer Breakfast Ltd; Chair of the Advisory Committee, Trumen Corp Pty Ltd; Member, Advisory Board, Taste Creative

Dr Jane Wilson
Guardian, The Future Fund; Director, Sonic Healthcare; Director Transurban Group Co-Chair, The Australian Advisory Board on Technology and Healthcare Competitiveness

Academic Review Panel
Emeritus Professor Robert King (Chair)
Alexandra Coelli (Secretary)
Emeritus Professor Peter Darvall AO
Dr Jacquie Mowbray
Alison O’Connor
Dr Jane Wilson

Scholars Advisory Committee
The Scholars Advisory Committee was established this Financial Year chaired by Dr Mark Schember and inaugural chair Dr Amy McLennan.

Life Members Honoured
Dame Quentin Bryce AD CVO
Professor Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO

On the 26th September 2017, the Governor of Queensland, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, graciously hosted a small, elegant lunch to celebrate the conferment of Life Membership of the General Sir John Monash Foundation on Dame Quentin Bryce AD CVO.

Dame Quentin was a Patron of the Foundation from 2009 – 2018 while Governor of Queensland and following this became Patron-in-Chief as the Governor of General of Australia, from 2009 until 2013, presiding over five Presentation Ceremonies, presenting awards to over 40 Scholars. Dame Quentin’s gift of warmly engaging with each individual ensured that all the Scholars felt very special to receive their awards from her in person.

Dame Marie’s support was pivotal at the turning point of the Foundation as it transitioned from a new Scholarship provider, to become Australia’s own most prestigious postgraduate Scholarship organisation.

A perfect example of Dame Marie’s dedication to our Scholars goes back to 2011. Dame Marie – then the Governor of NSW – and her beloved husband, the late Sir Nicholas Shenhed AC OBE kindly hosted an event for the Foundation at Government House in December 2011. Dame Marie helped us invite 50 key guests and gave an inspiring speech about the Foundation. She has been an integral part and gave an inspiring speech about the development of the General Sir John Monash Foundation. [Extract from the speech given by Foundation Chairman, Jillian Segal AM on 30th November 2017].

We acknowledge the passing of Sir Nicholas Shenhed AC OBE (11 February 2018). As a way to celebrate the life of Sir Nicholas, the Foundation presented a Dinner to 30 key guests hosted by Chairman Jillian Segal AM on 11th February 2018.

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A perfect example of Dame Marie’s dedication to our Scholars goes back to 2011. Dame Marie – then the Governor of NSW – and her beloved husband, the late Sir Nicholas Shenhed AC OBE kindly hosted an event for the Foundation at Government House in December 2011. Dame Marie helped us invite 50 key guests and gave an inspiring speech about the Foundation. She has been an integral part and gave an inspiring speech about the development of the General Sir John Monash Foundation. [Extract from the speech given by Foundation Chairman, Jillian Segal AM on 30th November 2017].

We acknowledge the passing of Sir Nicholas Shenhed AC OBE (11 February 2018). As a way to celebrate the life of Sir Nicholas, the Foundation presented a Dinner to 30 key guests hosted by Chairman Jillian Segal AM on 11th February 2018.

On the 26th September 2017, the Governor of Queensland, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, graciously hosted a small, elegant lunch to celebrate the conferment of Life Membership of the General Sir John Monash Foundation on Dame Quentin Bryce AD CVO.

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Foundation Members

The General Sir John Monash Foundation membership includes the individuals who supported the Foundation during its establishment period and current and past board members. The Foundation is grateful for the support and guidance that these individuals have provided and continue to provide to both the organisation and the John Monash Scholars.

Life members

Professor Dame Marie Bashir AO CVO
Dame Quentin Bryce AD CVO
His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd)
Mr Ken Crompton
General Peter Craven AO CBE (Retd)
Dr Yolanda Klopfer AO
Mr Michael Robinson AO

Members

Major General James Barry AM MBE RDF ED (Retd)
Mr Michael Bennett
Dr Peter Binks
Emeritus Professor Peter Boyce AO
Mr Wesley Browne OAM
Mr David Clarke
Major General Kevin Cooke AO RDF ED (Retd)
Emeritus Professor Peter Darvall AO
Mr John Davies
The Right Honourable William Deane AC KBE QC
Emeritus Professor Anne Edwards AO
The Honourable Tim Fischer AC
Mr Stephen Gerlach AM
Mr Charles Goode AC
Mr John Green
Professor Paul Greenfield AO
The Right Reverend the Honourable
Dr Peter Hollingworth AC OBE
Ms Carolyn Kay
Mr Leon Kempler AM
Emeritus Professor Richard Larkins AO
Ms Lee Liberman
Mr Sam Lipsky AM
Mr David Lowry AM
Mrs Jan McCahey
Mr Bruce Moran
Mrs Lana Moran
Mr Hugh Morgan AC

Emeritus Professor Mal Nairn AM
Dr Helen Nugent AO
Ms Lara Olsen
Mr Brian Parsonson
Professor Roland Perry OAM
Mr George Polites AC MBE CMG
Mr John Ralph AC
Emeritus Professor John Richards AM
Professor Alan Robson AO CIWIA
Justice Stephen Rothman AM
Dr Mark Schembri
Ms Jillian Segal AM
Dr Peter Shergold AC
Ms Wendy Simpson OAM
Mr Steven Skala AO
The Honourable Warwick Smith AM
Emeritus Professor Deane Terrell AO
Professor Deborah Terry Terrell
Emeritus Professor Mark Wainwright AM
Dr Jane Wilson

Susan Wakil AO (28 May 2018)
Susan has left a vast legacy as a thoughtful and expansive philanthropist, with a special commitment to education, nursing, health and the arts. Susan and her husband Isaac, through their Foundation have supported to date five John Monash Scholars, who will all continue to keep her memory and legacy alive for generations to come.

Vale

It is with great sadness that the Foundation notes the passing of two friends and supporters.

Dr Frank Wolf OAM (18 April 2018)
As Chairman Circle Members, Frank and his wife Karen have contributed to the support of the annual award of the Chairman’s Circle Scholarship. Frank will be remembered as a great example for our Scholars of the many paths a career can take. He held an overseas doctorate, became an industry leader in Australia and was a great and very generous supporter of education.

Foundation Volunteers

Foundation Volunteers play an important role in the selection of the John Monash Scholars. The Foundation is grateful for their support and generosity as First Reviewers as well as State, Territory and National Selection Panel Members. The Foundation would not be able to conduct its selection process without the generously donated time of the following individuals:

2018 State and Territory Panelists

Skype Panel for Overseas Applicants

Mr Michael Bennett (Chair)
Dr Rebecca Nelson*
Professor Doug Hilton AO FAA FTSE
Dr Sarah Ryan
Dr Les Westerbeek-Veld
Ms Susan Coles

Tasmania Panel

Professor Lisa Foa (Chair)
Dr Carey Denholm
Mr Iwan Walters*
Mr Michael Spinks
Associate Professor Michael Charleston

Western Australia Panel

Professor Deborah Terry (Chair)
Emeritus Professor Alan Robson AO CIWIA
Ms Jo Williams
Ms Alexa Morcombe*
Mr Brian Haggerty
Professor Cheryl Praeger AM FAA

Northern Territory Panel

Professor Martin Carroll (Chair)
Professor Clare Martin
Ms Julie Chip
Dr Sam Brophy-Williams*
Mr Gary Richardson
Emeritus Professor Charles Webb

South Australia
The Honourable Catherine Branson QC (Chair)
Ms Carolyn Hewson AO
Dr Ashley Kingsborough*
Mr Jim Hazzl
Associate Professor Susan Neuhaus CSc
Mr Robert John Whittington QC

ACT Panel

Dr Gordon de Brouwer (Chair)
Ms Anne-Marie Landdow
Mr Ken Maxwell
Dr Catherine Stubberfield*
Professor Peter Kanowski
Ms Philippa King

Queensland Panel

The Honourable Margaret White AO (Chair)
Dr Jane Wilson
Ms Laura Grant*
Professor Joanne Wright
Mr Neal O’Connor*
Mr Roland Dane

New South Wales 1st Panel

Professor Andrew Pitman (Chair)
Ms Ruth Lee
Ms Christine Stasi
Ms Sally Loane
Professor Susan Dodds
Dr Hsein Chen*

New South Wales 2nd Panel

Ms Sally Herman (Chair)
Mrs Vera Boyarsky
Professor Justin Bellby
Professor Judy Raper
Mr Kevin Chuprez
Ms Alison O’Connor*

Victoria 1st Panel

Mr Vedran Drakulic (Chair)
Dr David Clarke*
Mr Angus Melbourne
Ms Sally Maccinodo
Ms Iane Hansen
Professor Christina Trevor

Victoria 2nd Panel

Professor Margaret Abernethy (Chair)
Her Honour Judge Francais Millane
Professor Robert Wood
Mr Peter Nash
Dr Mark Dawson*
Ms Suzanne Leichte

Queensland Panel

Emeritus Professor Andrea Hull AO (Chair)
Mr Peter Francis
Dr Cathy Vaughan*
Dr Joshua Funder
Dr Misty Jenkins
Mr Silvo Salt

Sydney National Panel

Professor Peter Darvall AO (Chair)
Dr Mark Schembri*
Dr Suzanne Mcdaniel
Dr Emerit Cradler
Ms Janina Jancu
Ms Sally Ann Williams

2018 Scholarship First Reviewers

Dr Christine Agius
Ms Diane Allison
Dr Matthew Baker*
Professor Nicole Bell
Mr Simon Benjamin
Dr Peter Binks
Dr Bernion Broadstock
Dr Sam Brophy-Williams*
Ms Robin Bucknam
Ms Kate Burgess
Dr Hsein Chen*
Professor Lawrence Cram
Dr Katherine Daniel*
Mr Fernando do Campo
Dr Richard Frampton
Mr Stephen Frazier
Mr Robert Glassemann
Mr Colin Goulian QC
Ms Kate Griffiths*
Mr Michael Haimer
Ms Anneh Hauserode
Ms Natalie King
Dr Jonathan Kaimanerfeldt*
Dr Diana Lawrence
Dr Genevieve Martin*
Mr Andrew May
Dr Darro McCarthy*
Dr Amy McManus*
Dr Kate Mitchel*
Ms Claudia Newman-Martin*
Ms Alison O’Connor*
Dr Tim O’Shea*
Ms Stephanie Pow*
Professor Emerita Marian Quarry
Mr Haylee Rayner
David Rechter
Dr Katherine Rock*
Dr Danielle Marek Roosa*
Ms Jimi Round*
Dr Adam Schenker
Dr Owen Sigg*
Emerita Professor Ilana Snyder
Mr Michael Star
Ms Rhyn Sten
Mr Lachlan Strahan
Ms Jacqui True
Ms Kate Valentine
Ms Caitlin Vaughan
Mr Ade Vincent
Dr Bridget Vincent*
Mr Iwan Walters*
Emeritus Professor Charles Webb
Dr Matt Weinham
Dr Phoebe Williams*
Mr Sam Wilks*
Ms Michael Wise
Mr Nick Woodhams* John Monash Scholar

First Reviewers

Selection Panel Members. The Foundation would not be able to conduct its selection process without the generously donated time of the following individuals:
This financial year, the Foundation has again received substantial donations to endow Scholarships, and to add to our endowment. This continues the upward growth and consistent financial performance of the Foundation as it works to fulfill its long-term goal of establishing a $100m endowment fund, which will enable it to weather cyclical investment returns and to continue providing Scholarships in perpetuity to outstanding Scholars.

This year we welcomed new donors and members to the Chairman’s Circle, which has grown to twenty-six members, to the Australian Universities Consortium, which now has nineteen member universities; and a new category of donors, the Alumni Ambassadors, which has five donors. The Lee Liberman Foundation continued its support as a major donor of the Scholar Symposium held in New York in March 2018.


The Foundation continues to adopt a conservative investment strategy focused on protection of capital and minimizing large variations in portfolio returns.


### Financial Highlights

**Statement of Financial Position**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018 $ mil</th>
<th>2017 $ mil</th>
<th>2016 $ mil</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
<td>$8.04</td>
<td>$6.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-current assets</td>
<td>$32.65</td>
<td>$26.85</td>
<td>$24.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total assets</td>
<td>$37.15</td>
<td>$34.89</td>
<td>$31.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current liabilities</td>
<td>$2.62</td>
<td>$1.90</td>
<td>$1.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-current liabilities</td>
<td>$2.39</td>
<td>$2.31</td>
<td>$1.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liabilities</td>
<td>$4.91</td>
<td>$4.22</td>
<td>$3.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets</td>
<td>$32.24</td>
<td>$30.67</td>
<td>$28.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equity</td>
<td>$32.24</td>
<td>$30.67</td>
<td>$28.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Efficiency & Effectiveness**

The Foundation continues to operate in an efficient and effective manner with office operations supporting the growth in the number of Scholarships awarded and of Alumni.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Numbers of Scholarships awarded per year</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of Scholars (cumulative)</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarships awarded ($ mil, cumulative)</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>21.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of full time equivalent staff</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New Funding Committed in 2018**

In 2018 the Foundation received $1.68m in new funding commitments, of which $0.5m was received during the Financial year (in accordance with accounting standards, revenue is recognized upon receipt of the funds pledged), from the sectors identified.

### Statement of Surplus or Deficit and Comprehensive Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018 $ mil</th>
<th>2017 $ mil</th>
<th>2016 $ mil</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding revenue</td>
<td>$3.67</td>
<td>$4.31</td>
<td>$6.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>($1.43)</td>
<td>($1.68)</td>
<td>($1.65)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results from operations</td>
<td>$0.24</td>
<td>$0.63</td>
<td>$4.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance income</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
<td>$1.99</td>
<td>$0.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus for year</td>
<td>$1.58</td>
<td>$2.62</td>
<td>$4.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comprehensive income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total comprehensive income*</td>
<td>$1.58</td>
<td>$2.62</td>
<td>$4.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferred to endowment reserve</td>
<td>($1.75)</td>
<td>($1.75)</td>
<td>($4.50)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Amounts transferred from comprehensive income to be retained in our endowment fund for the provision of future scholarships

### New Funding

- **Private Donors**: $1.37m
- **Australian Universities**: $0.31m
- **Corporations**: $1.00m
- **Federal & State Government**: $0.58m
- **Scholarships awarded**: $2.59m
- **Scholarship related expenses**: $0.36m
- **Administration & governance**: $0.26m
- **Promotion & fundraising**: $0.22m

**Total**: $3.15m
As Australians we should honour our great leaders. Monash contributed so much to this country—his name is embedded in our history and our future. By supporting a perpetual John Monash Scholarship we can help to develop our future leaders who will carry his name as part of their heritage and their values.

John Roth

As Australians we actually need a lot of leadership and we need to challenge our young people and need to give them the opportunity to be challenged. I think that’s very important. We believe it is through education people can grow and develop, and education opens up so many more opportunities in life. Meeting our Scholar it becomes real, that this is what we’ve been able to do and she can actually use this gift. It is a gift that goes around in a circle — we’re fortunate enough to have it: we give it and she gives it back, so we think it’s a wonderful connection.

Helen Gannon

“Thank You”

Major Benefactors, Supporters of Perpetual Scholarships

Donations made to the Foundation’s endowment fund supporting scholarships awarded every year in perpetuity.

Major Government Benefactors

- Australian Government, Department of Education and Training – Zelman Cowen John Monash Scholarship
- Australian Government, Department of Veterans’ Affairs – Anzac Centenary John Monash Scholarship
- NSW Government – Roden Cutler NSW John Monash Scholarship
- Victorian Government – Victorian John Monash Scholarship

Major Private Benefactors

- Mr John Roth and Ms Jillian Segal AM – Roth/Segal John Monash Scholarship
- Mrs Helen Gannon and Mr Michael Gannon – Helen and Michael Gannon John Monash Scholarship

Supporters of Current Scholarships

Organisations and individuals currently sponsoring John Monash Scholarships:
- Australian Government, Department of Communications and Arts – Australian Cultural John Monash Scholarship
- BHP – BHP John Monash Scholarship
- Commonwealth Bank Australia – CBA John Monash Scholarship
- Mr Tim Fairfax AC* – Australian Cultural John Monash Scholarship
- Murray Darling Basin Authority – MDRA John Monash Scholarship
- The Ian Potter Foundation – Ian Potter Foundation John Monash Scholarship
- Commonwealth Bank of Australia – David Turner John Monash Scholarship
- Origin Foundation – Origin Foundation John Monash Scholarship
- Pratt Foundation – Pratt Foundation Commemorative Defence AAA John Monash Scholarship
- Susan & Isaac Wakil Foundation – Susan & Isaac Wakil Foundation John Monash Scholarship
- Wesfarmers – Wesfarmers John Monash Scholarship
- Woodside – Woodside John Monash Scholarship
- Denotes co-supporters

Australian Universities’ Consortium

Universities which together sponsor the Australian Universities’ John Monash Scholarship:
- Australian Catholic University
- Australian National University
- Bond University
- Curtin University
- Flinders University
- Griffith University
- La Trobe University
- Macquarie University
- Monash University
- Murdoch University
- RMIT University
- The University of Adelaide
- The University of Melbourne
- The University of Newcastle
- The University of Queensland
- The University of Sydney
- The University of Western Australia
- UNSW Australia

Alumni Ambassadors

Alumni leadership development and engagement activities:
- Mr Daniel Bezen
- The Boyarsky Family Trust
- Mr Robert Cameron AO and Mrs Paula Cameron
- Kelly + Partners Foundation
- Lee Liberman Foundation

Chairman’s Circle Members

Individuals who together sponsor the Chairman’s Circle John Monash Scholarship:
- Mr Richard Alcock AO
- Mr John Allpass
- Mr Philip Bacon AM
- Mr Philip Benjamin and Mrs Sandy Benjamin OAM
- Mr Robert Cameron AO and Mrs Paula Cameron
- Emeritus Professor Peter Darvall AO
- Mr Bill Ferris AC and Mrs Lea Ferris
- Dr Penelope Foster and Associate Professor John McRae AO
- Mr Stephen Gethlis AM
- Mr Charles Good AC and Mrs Cora Good
- Mrs John Green and Jenny Green
- Professor Paul Greenfield AO and Mrs Louise Greenfield
- Mr John Grill AO and Ms Rosie Williams
- Mr Steve Harker and Mrs Linda Harker
- Emeritus Professor Richard Larinok AO and Mrs Caroline Larinok
- Mr David McCauley and Mrs Jan McCauley
- Judge Frances Millane and Mr Alan Millane
- Mr Simon Mordant AM and Mrs Catriona Mordant
- Mr Allan Myers AC QC
- Mr John Roth and Ms Jillian Segal AM
- Mr Geoff Simpson and Ms Wendy Simpson OAM
- Mr Steven Skala AO and Mrs Louise Skala
- Ms Josephine Sukkar AM and Mr Tony Sukkar AM
- Mr Andrew Waite and Mrs Karen Burgess
- Mr Rod Watkins and Ms Alison Watkins
- Mr Steven Wilson AM and Dr Jane Wilson
- Dr Frank Wolf OAM (dec.) and Mrs Karen Wolf

Donors

Supporters of the Foundation and John Monash Scholarship Program during 2017-2018:
- Ms Elizabeth Sapers
- Dr Jeremy Bell
- Dr Tim Trudgian
- Ms Eryn Stephens
- Dr Jean-Paul Carvalho
- The Honourable Tim Fischer AC
- Ms Kelly Bayer Rosmarin
- Mr Maurice Newman AC
- Mr Wesley Browne OAM
- Ms Janina Iancu
- Mr Michael Robinson AO
- Ms Jillian Segal AM
- Dr Mark Schembri
- Mr Charles Paul Curran AC
- Mrs Jill Nes
- Dr Katherine Daniell

Supporters of Major Events

- Commonwealth Bank of Australia (John Monash Oration)
- Lee Liberman Foundation (Global Symposium, New York)
- PwC (Announcement and Presentation Ceremonies)
- Woodside (Global Symposium, New York)

Gifts In-Kind

The following organisations and individuals have generously provided pro bono and in-kind support to the Foundation:
- KPMG
- PwC Australia
- Shrine of Remembrance
- Sydney Opera House
- TFE Hotels
- Together with Solicitors

Special Gift

The Honourable Tim Fischer AC, has generously committed to the Foundation, half of the net proceeds from the publication of his book “Maestro John Monash: Australia’s Greatest Citizen General”, as a salute to the positive legacy of General Sir John Monash.

The John Monash Scholarships Aid Program

Special support to Scholars facing financial hardship:
- Lee Liberman Foundation

Pro Bono and In-Kind Partnerships

The following organisations have provided long standing support and services to the Foundation:
- Aliens – Legal Advice, Facilities and Hospitality
- Deloitte Access Economics – Consulting Services
- Singapore Airlines – Provision of travel for Scholars
- Lee Liberman Foundation

Bequests

The General Sir John Monash Foundation sincerely thanks those individuals who have advised us that their Wills include bequests to the Foundation.

Thank you...
The image on the cover of this Annual Report is the recently unveiled sculpture of General Sir John Monash at the War Memorial in Canberra. Leading sculptor Charles Robb was commissioned to create a likeness of General Sir John Monash for the Australian War Memorial to mark the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Hamel.

During the 93-minute battle that cemented his reputation as a visionary, Monash led the victorious Allied troops against the Germans.

He meticulously planned every detail, using a combined arms approach that brought together artillery, infantry, tanks and aircraft in what has been described as the first modern battle.

The bronze sculpture, which required just over half a tonne of clay, commemorates Monash’s legacy as an outstanding General during the First World War, but also aims to highlight his distinct character and his dedication to civic duty after the war.

Working in collaboration with award-winning poet Sarah Holland-Batt, Robb surrounded himself with images of Monash to help him create a likeness that signified his vision and leadership.

The sculpture depicts Monash as the stable axis of a world in flux, a pivotal driver of Australia’s war efforts, and a powerful witness to the tremendous events of the early twentieth century.

Monash wears a civilian suit and his Returned and Services League badge, while carrying a book. “This is a reference to his literary dimension,” Robb said. “But it could be a field notebook, it could be a diary or it could be a book of poetry. It’s got that open-ended reference to the different intellectual spirits he really brought to the various tasks that he applied himself to, including the war.”

Fittingly, the sculpture stands in the war memorial’s sculpture garden, a more peaceful context separated from the ‘horror and inefficiency’ of war that Monash despised. However, it is also a reminder that there are values and truths by which we live that are worth fighting for.

The sculpture was dedicated by Lieutenant General Angus Campbell AO DSC, Chief of Army, in a public ceremony on 4 July 2018. A dedication prayer was also offered by Rabbi Ralph Genende, Chief Rabbi of the Defence Force.

Monash joins stretcher bearer John Simpson Kirkpatrick and Sir Edward “Weary” Dunlop as heroes honoured by a sculpture at the Canberra monument.

Sculpture of General Sir John Monash