ANU Springbank Circle

ANNUAL DONOR NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2021 CELEBRATING YOUR ENDURING GIFTS



Australian National University



Image: ANU researchers working at the lab bench at The Australian National University. Photo by ANU.

Keith family's hope for new discoveries in haematology research

The late Kent Keith and his wife Marion formed a deep connection with ANU through the many friends and colleagues Kent met during his time as a researcher. Today, Kent's bequest is supporting critical medical research in haematology, and Marion has chosen to continue his legacy.

During his career as a wildlife biologist with CSIRO, Kent's work connected him to research opportunities at ANU. He enjoyed doing research work out in the country, and the couple often hosted ANU staff at their home in Boorowa. When Kent heard about the University's Sustainable Farms Initiative, he partnered with ANU and the George Alexander Foundation to direct the proceeds from the sale of his Ballanda Park property to support the project. He believed in its mission – to create a sustainable future for Australian farmers and better understand the relationship between environmental management, farm profitability and farmer mental health.

Kent's support of medical research began when his first wife, Noel, passed away from leukaemia in 2001. To honour Noel's wishes, Kent established the Keith Family Research Endowment in Clinical Haematology at the ANU College of Health & Medicine.

"Noel had been under the care of Dr Ian Prosser, a haematology specialist at ANU and Canberra Hospital," says Marion. "It was Noel's wish to leave half of their estate to the University to support medical research in this area."

Kent and Marion joined the ANU Springbank Circle in 2014, when Kent decided to leave a testamentary gift to the University. Kent bequeathed his Limberlost property to ensure future support for the Keith Family Research Endowment. Marion, who has also chosen to bequeath to the Endowment, fondly recalls attending past Springbank Circle events with Kent.

"The last Springbank event we went to was in 2018," says Marion. "We really enjoyed catching up with donors and listening to the guest speakers. It's a special group of people with a common goal of supporting the University and making a lasting impact."

Kent's bequest to support the Keith Family Research Endowment in Clinical Haematology was fulfilled in 2021. Professor Mark Polizzotto, Head of the Clinical Hub for Interventional Research at the ANU College of Health & Medicine, explains that Kent's and Marion's support will improve the quality of clinical research and trials in haematology, and will raise new hopes in the treatment and care of patients with blood disorders.

"Clinical trials are the bridge from scientific discoveries to advances in human health," says Professor Polizzotto. "The great generosity of the Keith family will enable us to strengthen clinical trials in the Canberra region, providing crucial dedicated support to develop a local workforce of specialists in cancer and haematology clinical trials."



Image: The late Kent Keith and Marion Keith at the ANU Celebration of Giving in 2015. Photo by ANU.

Message from the Vice-President (Advancement)

I am delighted to present the first edition of the annual ANU Springbank Circle Newsletter, which celebrates the incredible generosity of our bequest donor community.

As 2021 comes to a close and we approach the new year ahead, I would like to reflect briefly on some of the wonderful highlights and achievements from our vibrant ANU community.

To coincide with the University's 75th anniversary this year, ANU Vice-Chancellor Professor Brian P. Schmidt and ANU Chancellor the Hon Julie Bishop announced the 2021-2025 ANU Strategic Plan. Over the next five years, ANU will strengthen its national mission and meet its unique responsibilities as Australia's national university. The University will conduct transformative research, prioritise the delivery of an exceptional experience for its students, and will embed equity and inclusion at all levels of the University.

In September, we recognised and celebrated the achievements of several extraordinary individuals with the 2021 ANU Alumni Awards. I hope you enjoy reading about this year's recipients and the significant contributions they have made in their respective fields.

Thanks to the generosity of our ANU community, the 2021 ANU Giving Day appeal in October was a huge success. More than 300 donors contributed \$126,772 to support a variety of priority projects and initiatives. This included \$20,925 for the Vice-Chancellor's Strategic Priorities Fund, and \$52,871 to support the Kambri Scholars Program.

Our donors have continued to show tremendous support for our students and staff by donating to the ANU Student Urgent Relief Fund and the ANU Staff Relief Fund. This support is providing critical financial assistance to our students and staff who are experiencing sudden or unexpected hardship, beyond what the University is able to provide.



Image: Vice-President (Advancement), Barbara Miles. Photo by ANU.

Despite the many obstacles we have faced individually and together, our community has strengthened throughout this time. Our students have shown resilience and commitment to their studies in the face of remote learning. Our academics have continued to strive for excellence and embraced new and innovative ways to deliver their programs.

We are optimistic about the year ahead, and look forward to welcoming our community back to the ANU campus in early 2022. Our international students are planning their return to Canberra, and we anticipate an exciting program of academic, alumni, and donor events throughout the year.

I hope you enjoy reading some of the wonderful stories about members of our ANU Springbank Circle community in this newsletter.

On behalf of all of us at the University, thank you for your generous commitment to ANU.

Wishing you a joyous festive season and a happy and healthy 2022.

Anbara

Barbara Miles Vice-President (Advancement) The Australian National University

Dr Myint Zan shares his story and legacy plans

Dr Myint Zan, a proud ANU Law alumnus based in Myanmar, has been giving generously to ANU since 2018 through the creation of student prizes and early-career research grants in Law and Philosophy, as well as the newly-established Annual Myint Zan Lecture in Law and Philosophy. He has recently confirmed a bequest to ANU to support students and early-career researchers from a diverse range of fields – including law, sciences, the humanities and social sciences – to be fulfilled according to the University's greatest need at the time.

Helping disadvantaged students and supporting research with positive societal impact are two key features of Dr Zan's intended bequest. He tells his ANU story here:

"I completed a Master of International Law on scholarship at ANU, from March 1980 to August 1981. I have studied at three Australian universities and Michigan Law School, and taught at two other Australian universities. I have given philanthropically to ANU and Michigan and to my late parents' alma mater, the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Medicine, where they studied in the 1950s. Fortuitously, however, it was ANU that provided the scholarship that launched my early career. I have always remained grateful for this support, and my hope is that my bequest to ANU will 'pay it forward' many times over.

My postgraduate studies actually started at Monash University. In those days, under the Whitlam Government, it was much more affordable for both domestic and foreign students to study in Australia. However, the strict policies of the then-Burmese socialist regime posed many challenges for private students who wanted to study abroad. Many like myself had to pay "advance income tax" on a supposed future salary before being issued with a passport. I was welcomed at Monash, and worked parttime, but was later offered a scholarship at ANU. The Sub-Dean of Monash Law, Francine McKniff, kindly wrote that she was 'sorry to lose me from Monash', but understood the financial realities for students. I was surprised and delighted to later discover that Francine herself left a major bequest to the Monash Faculty of Law.

ANU is one of the top universities in Australia – and indeed, the world – and I am proud to be an alumnus. I fondly remember Dr J-P Fonteyne, the highly effective teacher and coordinator of the Graduate International Law Program. My bequest is partly an acknowledgement of the impact and prestige of the ANU as a major teaching and research institution; partly, it is in memory of the scholarship I was given all those decades ago; and partly, it comes from my desire to help those in need.

I say this without self-pity, but I struggled a lot, financially and emotionally, during my early and mid-career. After I left ANU and went to the University of Michigan Law School in the United States, the Burmese regime invalidated my passport. Although I was offered PhD scholarships by the University of Tasmania, Monash University and the University of Melbourne (twice) in the years 1983 to 1985, I was unable to take them up. I went back to Burma in November 1984, just a few days before my late father, Dr San Baw, a renowned orthopaedic surgeon, died of cancer. After my father passed away I was arrested in Burma, held without charge and trial and incommunicado, and was released after 10 months. I then worked at universities in Malaysia, Australia and the South Pacific, before I retired from full-time teaching in 2016.

So, despite having originally come from what might be regarded as an "elite" class background in Burma, I also experienced disadvantages and challenges, not least in my own studies and academic career. This is why it's important to me to help educationally disadvantaged students and early-career researchers, and I have left it to ANU to determine exactly how to distribute this support in the future.

I believe that assisting students and academics at all stages of their careers is quite crucial. It's not merely the funding, but the psychological support and validation that comes with that. Some recipients may not be from disadvantaged backgrounds, but still need significant help to complete their studies, advance their careers, and benefit their communities. I am aware that other sources of funding can sometimes be prohibitively competitive. After some pondering, I chose ANU as the sole beneficiary of my Australian will, to maximise the impact of my bequest.

As a donor, I receive particular satisfaction when hearing from students who have been helped by my philanthropy. I trust my giving will help many students and researchers, from various backgrounds, disciplines and interests. I want to give undergraduates, postgraduates, and researchers a good start in their work, whatever fields they decide to pursue. I have chosen to include a number of universities in my philanthropic plans, especially to honour my late parents – Dr San Baw, a pioneer of ivory hip prostheses and other orthopaedic innovations, and my late mother, Professor Myint Myint Khin. In memory of my late parents, I have established three endowed funds at the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and at the Abramson Cancer Centre, both at the University of Pennsylvania. At ANU and Michigan I also give to law, which is my own field of expertise.

I have left the scope of my ANU bequest deliberately broad, because I don't want it just to support people who are academically brilliant – after all, how does one define brilliance? I am more interested in helping those who have experienced disadvantages, have interests across a range of disciplines, and have a real dedication to undertake research that is novel, innovative, and helps less fortunate members of society. I would also like their research to benefit ANU and its scholarly community. I do hope my philanthropy can contribute to those goals."

Image: Students outside the ANU College of Law. Photo by the ANU College of Law.

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The ANU Springbank Circle

The ANU Springbank Circle recognises and celebrates the contribution you are making by leaving a lasting impact through a gift in your will.

We hope to provide you with opportunities to connect with our beautiful campus, our worldrenowned researchers, inspirational students, and dedicated staff. We will also keep you updated with events, news, and activities taking place across the University. The ANU Springbank Circle is our way of saying thank you for your generosity and commitment to the University.

Save the date!

ANU Springbank Circle Long Lunch Saturday 2 April 2022, 11am - 2pm Final day of the 2022 Alumni Week aMBUSH Gallery, Level 1

This event will be held in accordance with ACT government social distancing requirements.

2022 ANU Alumni Week Monday 28 March - Saturday 2 April 2022

With a range of panel talks, networking opportunities, campus tours and much more, the annual ANU Alumni Week is your chance to connect, share and celebrate all things ANU.

The story of Springbank and ANU

'Springbank' was a farming property owned by the MacPherson family (1831-1844), the Kaye family (1844-1855), and the Sullivan family (1888-1913). Springbank farm encompassed the river flats of the Molonglo River, Black Mountain, and a sizeable portion of land on which The Australian National University now stands. In 1964, part of the property was submerged to make way for an artificial lake, Lake Burley Griffin. The high ground, which the homestead once occupied, now forms Springbank Island–located in the West Basin of Lake Burley Griffin, adjacent to the University foreshore. This rich history connecting Canberra's origins with the University campus provides a fitting name for the ANU Springbank Circle.

Have you considered a living bequest?

A gift in your will is a wonderful way to provide enduring support for learning, education, and research beyond your lifetime.

Living bequests, also known as blended gifts, give our donors the opportunity to experience the positive impact of their gift during their lifetime. This special way of giving allows you to make the initial donation to establish an opportunity now, with the fulfilment of your commitment provided through your estate.

Donors who have decided to plan their giving in this way, have been able to meet the recipients of their support, and see first-hand the difference their philanthropy can make to their chosen area.

If you would like to learn more about how to commence a living bequest, please contact the Gift & Estate Planning team for a confidential discussion.

Image: Christine Whitworth Roach with the 2019 Whitworth Roach competitors. Photo by Jane Duong.



Giving to keep classical music alive

Christine Whitworth Roach had her first experience of classical music at age 10 when her parents, Sylvia and William Whitworth, took her to a Chopin piano recital. Listening to, playing, and appreciating classical music became a constant in Christine's life. When she began looking for ways to give back to the community, her mind turned to the ANU School of Music.

"Classical music is special. It is beautiful, something to admire," says Christine. "With some support, a student from a disadvantaged background can buy a new musical instrument or receive tuition and take advantage of the opportunity."

Christine was inspired to provide opportunities for students to learn classical music, excel in performance, and achieve their musical dreams. Her generosity supports the ANU Orchestra and the annual Whitworth Roach Classical Music Performance Competition, which is a key event on the ANU School of Music calendar. She also established the Whitworth Roach Scholarship to encourage first-year undergraduate students to undertake studies in classical music performance at the ANU School of Music.

With a desire to continue her support beyond her lifetime, Christine has recently established an Endowment for the ANU School of Music, with further investment planned through a gift in her will. Christine's legacy will ensure support for students and classical music programs at the ANU School of Music will continue far into the future.

Christine says, "I hope to spark interest in keeping classical music alive. My giving is to honour my parents and family, and I want to do that by rewarding students for their hard work in studying classical music."

Head of the ANU School of Music, Associate Professor Kim Cunio, reflects on Christine's generosity. "Christine is one of those rare people who sees something that needs help and acts decisively. She has been a stalwart in supporting the ANU School of Music for years and we applaud her generosity and leadership. We thank Christine for her significant contribution that will foster classical music performance in Canberra for many years to come."

Christine has been a member of the ANU Springbank Circle for many years, and enjoys being part of this special donor community. She particularly enjoys coming to lunches and meeting people, and hearing from students, researchers, and academics about their work at the University.

"I only wish there was more opportunity to spend a good amount of time at Springbank events and activities," says Christine. "I think a festival for bequest donors over a couple of days is a great idea, so we can spend more time together and learn about more ways to give."

2021 ANU Alumni Awards, celebrating our exceptional impact makers

For 75 years, our graduates have been making significant contributions that have advanced and enriched communities and nations. In the words of our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Brian P. Schmidt, "our extraordinary graduates continue to lead meaningful change in every part of the world."

Every year, we celebrate the trailblazing achievements of remarkable ANU alumni in our flagship ANU Alumni Awards. With over 85 recipients announced since 2013, the Awards have showcased the excellence, diversity, and calibre of the ANU community.

We present to you the outstanding recipients of the 2021 ANU Alumni Awards.



Associate Professor Kamalini Lokuge OAM, HOSM (MInltLaw '03, PhD '15) 2021 Alumna of the Year

Kamalini has been a crucial figure in our nation's COVID-19 response. Her work with international organisations has helped control disease outbreaks across the world. Kamalini believes in working closely with communities to empower them with effective and accessible healthcare programs. "To prevent people from getting sick... I realised I needed to understand them, the context of their lives, and that of their families and communities."



Distinguished Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson (BA '89) 2021 Indigenous Alumna of the Year

Through her work as an academic, author, and activist, Aileen has made a significant impact on First Nations women and feminism. Her book 'Talkin' up to the White Woman', published 20 years ago, has never been out of print. "My message to Indigenous students at ANU is to be strong enough to get up every time somebody knocks you down and keep going. And hopefully, you will be the change-makers that this country needs, in so many different ways."



Dr Veronica Fynn Bruey (PhD '19) 2021 International Alumna of the Year

A Liberian civil war survivor, Veronica is an academic-advocate of law and policy reform regarding race, ethnicity, human rights, social justice, and equality. Her work centres on her mission to make the world a better place, especially for girls and women survivors of war and violence. Veronica's mantra in life has been to never stop dreaming. "Dream big. You have the full capacity and ability to dream whatever you want to dream... and you have the power to own your dream."



Afnan Hannan (BEc, BEng '14) 2021 Young Alumnus of the Year

Afnan Hannan is an engineer on a mission to provide clean and reliable energy to remote communities around the world. He credits ANU with opening his eyes to the challenges of the world, and inspiring him to work on solutions. "What ANU taught me is accepting there is no single ultimate truth or right answer, but there is always room for going forward and every step forward is a step worth taking."

Himangi Ticku (BA 4 2021 Student Volum Himangi has been re often seen as voicel

Himangi Ticku (BA '18, JD, current student) 2021 Student Volunteer of the Year (Postgraduate)

Himangi has been recognised for being a voice for detainees, who are often seen as voiceless in the criminal justice system. "Volunteering is the best kind of school you could ever go to. It encourages you to think beyond yourself and really broaden your perspective."



Dhani Gilbert (BSc & BEnv & Sust, current student) 2021 Student Volunteer of the Year (Undergraduate)

Dhani has been recognised for her environmental advocacy and her contributions to caring for Country. "To me this award is about more than just my own journey and contribution because this award acknowledges the diverse capacity of undergraduate students at ANU."

ANU turns 75

On 1 August 1946, ANU was established by an Act of Federal Parliament. To this day, we are still the only university that has been created by the Parliament of Australia. Over the past 75 years, we have made a remarkable impact and contribution to our nation through our research, education and policy.

This year, we launched our year-long 75th Anniversary celebrations, which coincided with the launch of 'ANU 2025' –our strategic plan, signalling the direction of the University and reaffirming our national mission.

Get involved

The history of ANU is made up of the stories of our global community of over 126,000 alumni. Through our special storytelling project, '75 Features', we will be showcasing the history of ANU through the voices of our alumni. Every alumni story is unique and enriched by the connections made with friends, partners, and mentors. We welcome you to share your ANU story as part of the University's milestone anniversary. To get involved, please contact our Alumni Relations team.

Alumni Relations T: +61 2 6125 5004 E: alumni@anu.edu.au

Celebrating five years of the Kate and Bill Guy Bequest

The last wishes of Dr Kate Guy were for her bequest to support Art History and Classical Studies and provide assistance for Indigenous students studying medicine and engineering.

Kate, who passed away in 2016, bequeathed two properties from her estate to ANU, so that the proceeds from their sale could be used to support these areas. Kate also wished for her bequest to recognise her late husband, Bill Guy, who passed away some years before Kate.

Kate and Bill were ANU alumni and close friends of the University. Kate was a General Practitioner and gained her medical qualifications at the University of Aberdeen. Bill was an engineer and had a love of vintage cars. They both studied at the ANU School of Art in the 1970s as mature age students, with a special focus on Art History and Classical Art. They were taught by Dr Ann Moffatt, now Honorary Senior Lecturer at the ANU Centre for Classical Studies and former Convenor of Classics.

Dr Moffatt remembers them fondly. "Kate and Bill were very active and involved in the Friends of the ANU Classics Museum, and fascinated by antiquities. They were always great fun and an entertaining couple – their rapport was so lively. Bill was bemused by Kate, who had a vibrant presence. They would drive Bill's vintage cars and dress up for the period."

Five years on, Kate's bequest has rewarded the achievements of four talented students who have excelled in Art History and Theory at the ANU School of Art & Design, through the Kate and Bill Guy Art History and Theory Honours Prize.

Anna Stewart-Yates was awarded the 2021 Prize. "It is so heartening to have my efforts recognised – especially in a field where opportunities can be few and far between. Throughout my undergraduate studies, I have worked part-time and saved money in the hope of continuing my education in art history overseas. I still hope to travel to the UK to undertake a Master degree, and this award will make a big difference to my ability to do that."

Caitlin Hughes was awarded the 2020 Prize. "Kate and Bill Guy have recognised the importance of the arts, storytelling, and Art History through the establishment of this award. I thank them for promoting more opportunities for the next generation of emerging art historians. I am honoured to have been named as one of the recipients."

Kate's bequest also established the Bill and Kate Guy Scholarship, which has supported two Indigenous students at the ANU Medical School and the ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science.

Ella Imber-Ireland is a recipient of the scholarship and completes her Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degree at the end of 2021. Ella is grateful for the scholarship, which allowed her to focus on her studies.

"Medicine is a very intensive course, requiring long hours. The scholarship improved my life so much, as the time that I would have had to spend working to afford living expenses, I could spend on achieving personal as well as academic goals."

Dr Anne Martin, Director of the Tjabal Indigenous Higher Education Centre, sees education as being the key to change for Indigenous Australians. "A university education changes lives. Australia's First Nations peoples should have the opportunity to come to ANU and succeed in their studies. With generous support from donors like Kate and Bill, we can offer scholarships to Indigenous students, so they are supported financially throughout their university education."

Kate's gift in her will to support Classical Studies was directed to the ANU Classics Endowment, which provides ongoing funding for a variety of activities in Classics and Ancient History. This includes student awards, teaching, research, curatorship, and maintenance of the ANU Classics Museum, as well as funding for casual teaching and academic positions.

Professor Emerita Elizabeth Minchin, renowned Australian classicist, curator of the ANU Classics Museum, and Springbank Circle donor, also knew Kate and Bill. "Bill was the President of the Friends of the ANU Classics Museum for some years, and Kate supported Classical Studies with donations during her lifetime. On hearing about the purpose of the Classics Endowment, Kate decided that her bequest would be directed to that fund, so that it would have a long-lasting impact. I think Kate and Bill would be pleased that their gift has helped to grow the fund and increased support for the study of Classics and Ancient History at the ANU."



Realised bequests 2020-2021

We would like to acknowledge the recent passing of the following members of the ANU community and express our gratitude for their forethought and generosity:

Diana Oakes Balmain bequeathed her estate to ANU as an unrestricted gift. Funds were directed to support the Vice-Chancellor's Strategic Priorities Fund and the Kambri Scholars Program.

Michelle Jean Dean gave her personal collection of art and reference books to the ANU Library for use by students, researchers and staff.

Emeritus Professor Peter Holland (PhD '68) bequeathed part of his estate to support Aboriginal, African and Pacific Islander postgraduate students undertaking research in the fields of ecology and environmental science.

Norman Kevan Knowles (BA '93) bequeathed his Japanese language collection to the ANU Library, which included books, journals, tapes, discs, and newspapers.

John Hague McNaught (BEc '72, BA '69) left a gift to support cancer research. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, who helped the University to realise John's wishes.

Emeritus Professor John Newton and **Dr Silva Newton** bequeathed gifts in support of physics and nuclear physics, which were directed to the Heavy Ion Accelerator Facility Endowment at the Research School of Physics.

Alexander Nicholas Porschaeff (BA '64) bequeathed his residual estate to the John Curtin School of Medical Research.

Tonia Louise Shand gave part of her estate to ANU to support scholarships and research at the ANU Southeast Asia Institute.

Siegfried Richard Wagner bequeathed his residual estate to promote research and development in renewable energy, including solar, wind, and battery technology.

Season's Greetings

Warm wishes to you, our ANU Springbank Circle donors, and welcome to those of you who joined our wonderful community in 2021.

It has been another challenging year for all of us. We have missed inviting you to campus and celebrating your generosity with our in-person donor events and annual Springbank Circle Long Lunch.

Although we were unable to see most of you face to face in the latter half of this year, we enjoyed the many phone conversations, letters, emails, and in some cases, video calls! We are hopeful that in 2022, we will be able to welcome you back to campus for some exciting events and activities.

As we have been unable to host you as a group over the last two years, we are planning our annual luncheon earlier next year to coincide with the 2022 ANU Alumni Week. This special week will take place from 28 March -2 April 2022 and will offer our ANU Alumni community, donors and friends opportunities to take part in a wide range of activities – including panel discussions, Q&As and campus tours.

The ANU Springbank Circle Long Lunch will take place on Saturday 2 April 2022 and will celebrate the culmination of Alumni Week. Please do save this date in your diaries. We will provide you with further details in the new year. We can't wait to see you there!

We know many of you have continued to support our students, researchers, and staff with donations throughout the year. You have helped us to award prizes, bursaries, and scholarships for so many undergraduate and postgraduate students across many ANU colleges and schools. You have also contributed funds to enable critical research, innovation, and discovery in health and medicine, climate and environmental science, and the arts and social sciences, to name a few.

The loyalty and care you have for the work that we do at ANU is appreciated. And, the special commitment you have made through a gift in your will, ensures long-lasting support for our future generations of students and researchers.

As this year ends and another begins, we wish you all an enjoyable festive season and a safe and happy year ahead.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Warm regards Sarah, Rachel and the Donor Relations team



Australian National University

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