

**ALBERT  
COATES  
MEMORIAL  
TRUST**



**THIS ISSUE**

Lunch with the Speaker - Anne Tudor 29th May 2024	1
*Annual Oration *Rural Scholarship Awardees *Notre Dame Awardees	2
*Mt Pleasant PS Awards *Aust. Catholic Uni Nursing/ Paramedic.	3
*Regional Nursing Award *Leckie Award *New Scholarship - Victoria Uni - Paramedics	4

# MENTOR

Newsletter of the Albert Coates Memorial Trust

Issn 2207 - 6115 print

Issn 2207 - 6123 online

Issue 14

Autumn 2024

**Lunch with the Speaker: Wednesday, 29th May from 12.00 noon.**

Our speaker will be Anne Tudor OAM and her topic will concern Dementia Awareness in Australia.

Anne Tudor OAM, and her wife, Edie Mayhew, contributed locally, nationally and internationally to increasing dementia awareness and understanding about the importance of inclusion, empathy and service provision in the community.

Edie was diagnosed at age 59 in 2010 and died from complications related to dementia in 2020. They were partners for 36 years.

Anne's mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and Vascular dementia in the late 80s and died in 2005, the same year Edie first started showing signs of memory loss. They moved to Ballarat in 1992 to support Anne's parents.

Their advocacy began in 2011 and included local, national and international presentations of their personal journey with dementia, to support others impacted by dementia and to provide community education, through social media, film making, print, radio and TV interviews.

They wanted to offer an honest and balanced view of dementia and challenge the stigma and discrimination associated with it.

Anne was a secondary school teacher for 20 years before embarking on studies to qualify as a Clinical Psychologist and Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist. She worked at Ballarat Health Services for 10 years as well as in private practice. She retired in 2014 to focus on Edie and their advocacy.

Anne and Edie received the Outstanding Achievement by a Volunteer: Supporting Diversity, at the Minister for Health Awards in 2016, and was the recipient of the Mayor's Ballarat Senior of the Year Award in 2017. She was also awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia and the Premier's Victorian Senior of the Year in 2021. In 2023 she received the Zonta Award as one of Ballarat's Great Women and was honoured with a Damascus College Shining Light Award for her service to our community this year.

We look forward to seeing many of our friends and supporters.

**Cost:** \$30.00 per head

**Location:** Selkirk Stadium, 989 Norman Street, Ballarat

**Bookings and Enquiries:** The Lunch With Speaker bookings and enquiries can be made by contacting Neil on 0438 422 455 or email at [bereng7@gmail.com](mailto:bereng7@gmail.com). Please advise Neil of any special dietary requirements.

Lunch payments of \$30.00 per person can be made to the Coates Trust by electronic funds transfer at:  
BSB 633 000  
Account Number 144 729 282.



**The Annual Sir Albert Coates Oration**, in collaboration with Federation University Australia, was delivered by Professor Misty Jenkins on Thursday 9th November, in the Geoffrey Blainey Auditorium, Federation University Australia, Mt Helen.

In the oration, Dr Jenkins detailed some of the research she is undertaking using a new form of immune-targeted therapy that trains T Cells to fight against certain forms of brain cancer, particularly in children.

If you would like to watch the Oration it can be viewed at this link: <https://youtu.be/cEyX4MFXR40>

Following the oration, certificates were presented to several Scholarship awardees - seen below with Assoc. Prof. Misty Jenkins.



### The University of Melbourne Rural Clinical School 2023

Two scholarships were awarded in 2023 with the recipients being Anna Baylis and Armand Gumera,

Anna is a fourth year medical student She grew up on a small farm in the Macedon ranges and has a particular interest in women’s health, especially in GP obstetrics, and the difficulties that rural women experience to give birth.



Anna arranged an elective in the A&E department at Darwin hospital, and was keen to learn about indigenous health, and the steps to reduce the disparity of access of remote communities to quality medical care.

Armand Gumera, was born in the Philippines and used his award to undertake an elective at the Philippine General Hospital.



This elective in Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Philippine General Hospital was an invaluable addition to his medical training.

As a medical student with a background in nursing, this experience was profoundly enriching, offering insights into the complexities of cardiothoracic procedures and patient care in a setting distinct from my previous experiences.

During this rotation, he had the opportunity to assist and observe a wide range of surgeries, including mitral valve repairs, congenital heart defect repairs, thoracic surgical oncology and much more.

Each procedure offered a unique learning experience, expanding his understanding of cardiothoracic surgical techniques and patient management.

The complexity and precision required in these surgeries were particularly striking, highlighting the importance of meticulous planning and execution in the operating theatre.

Interacting with patients was another significant aspect of this elective.

Engaging with individuals from diverse backgrounds provided his understanding of the socio-cultural factors influencing health and the patient experience in the Philippines.

These interactions were not only clinically informative but also personally enriching, as they underscored the importance of empathy and communication in patient care.

The mentorship provided by the surgical team at the Philippine General Hospital was exceptional.

The surgeons and medical staff were not only experts in their field but also dedicated educators, keen to share their knowledge and experience.

Their willingness to teach and guide students like Armand was inspiring, offering a model of professional excellence and commitment to medical education.

### Notre Dame Scholarships

Brianna Murphy (left) and Lily Davis (right), seen here with ACMT Chairperson Don Moss and Committee Member Ross Phillips, were the recipients of the Notre Dame University ACMT Awards.

Brianna did her elective in Dublin and felt her ND



training stood her well in terms in ED and General Medicine. She commenced as an Intern at Monash Medical in January, with her first term on rotation to Wonthaggi hospital.

Lily completed her elective in the radiology department at the main hospital in Malta.

Her internship is at Western General hospital.

Both were delighted with the support from the Coates Notre Dame scholarships, to help with the costs of their electives.

## Mt Pleasant Primary School Awards



The evening of Thursday 14th December was the Year 6 Graduation for students at Mt Pleasant Primary School and it was a pleasant occasion for several members of the ACMT committee to present awards to several children who had completed projects concerning the life of Sir Albert Coates.

Using resources from a "Museum in a Suitcase, and a handout on the life of Albert Coates, the children prepared their projects, using various forms of media.

Each of the students presented their projects to their classmates, teacher, Shirley McIver and Robyn and Arthur Coates - they all had a very good knowledge of Albert Coates and their projects were creative and well prepared.

An example of one of the projects can be found at this link.

<https://monkey3three.github.io/albertcoates/>

## Australian Catholic University Nursing/Paramedicine

2023 Scholarship Recipient - Chloe Charnstrom writes:

*I am a third year Bachelor of Nursing and Paramedicine*

*student in Ballarat. I am writing in appreciation of the support your organisation has shown me this year.*

*Firstly, I would love to advise you that I remain truly passionate about my degree and the positive change healthcare professionals make. This year I have been able to become involved in the industry, working as a carer in an aged care facility and I am so grateful to be kickstarting my career.*

*In 2021, I made the 300km move to Ballarat to pursue my dreams of a healthcare degree.*

*As a first-generation university student, this was a massive goal and achievement, and support, like the Albert Coates Scholarship, has been fundamental in my ability to achieve such goals.*

*Growing up as a primary carer for my mother, a cancer fighter, I was able to see the direct impact healthcare professionals can have on their patient's quality of life. This positive impact became my driving force, inspiring me to give my all both at university and work to benefit those patients when they are most vulnerable.*

*This scholarship has been amazing and has allowed me to thrive, both in my studies and extracurricular life this year. I have been able to attend placements outside of Ballarat, without financial strain, with the funds facilitating my transport costs and accommodation. With my family circumstances, I am self-funding my university experience, and your support has meant I am able to spend more time supporting my family and have been able to work less hours and thus dedicate more time to study. I have also been able to spend time with my peers in study groups and sport teams, forming unparalleled friendships.*

*It has also allowed me to dedicate more time to other sides of university life. Recently, I have been appointed as a general member of the Paramedicine Committee and the Vice President of the Nursing society. I have also gained invaluable experiences through volunteer personal development days, placements and additional learning sessions.*

*Graduating at the end of 2024, I hope to gain a nursing graduate year and then continue to become a Paramedic with Ambulance Victoria. Scholarships and opportunities, like you have provided me, allow me to form such goals and I am very grateful. I truly hope you do not underestimate the impact your scholarship has.*

*Thank you again for supporting students like myself; your time and effort truly does not go unnoticed.*





## Regional Emergency Nursing Grampian Region

Asha James is a nurse from Ballarat, who is undertaking a Masters of Advanced Clinical Nursing at Monash University (leading to nurse practitioner).

She plans to continue to work in the Grampians regional area.

The interview panel felt her aim to improve her knowledge base will make a significant contribution to patient care in the region.

She was awarded a \$2,500.00 scholarship for 2024.



## The Leckie Scholarship Award

### Tracy Calleija, Leckie scholarship winner 2024

*In my graduate nursing year at Grampian's Health Services, I was lucky enough to get a rotation in the Special Care Nursery.*

*It became evident to me that working with neonates and their families was exactly the career I wanted to pursue.*

*Attaining permanent contracts in the nursery was difficult over the last 4 years, as there were not many employment opportunities. I kept my clinical skills relevant by working casually until permanent hours were advertised.*

*In May 2023, I became successful in gaining a full-time permanent contract. Through completing a Diploma of Health (Neonatal Care), I will strengthen my knowledge around providing optimal patient care and supporting families in their times of need.*

*I am excited to broaden my knowledge in regards to complex neonatal health conditions, which will enable me to provide better education to other colleges and patients.*

*In the future, I wish to apply for a Clinical Nurse Specialist role at Grampian's Health and when the time is appropriate, my goal is to be an Assistant Nurse Unit Manager*

*Receiving a Foundation Scholarship means that I will be able to complete my post graduate course without the burden of financial pressure. This will be a massive stress relief and will enable me to completely focus on the course work and increase my learning potential.*

*With the scholarship, I might be able to decrease some hours to give me extra time to study and learn the content without the added stress of financial difficulties.*

## New ACMT scholarship in Paramedics at Victoria University

The Albert Coates Memorial Trust has confirmed with Victoria University, to establish an award for a trainee paramedic who is completing their first year of training. The award will be for \$2500 for each of the 2nd and 3rd years of the applicants course.

The award will be known as the Albert Coates Memorial Trust in support of VU Bachelor of Paramedicine students.

Eligibility criteria for the award will require

1. Successful completion of first year Bachelor of Paramedicine.
2. Demonstrated financial challenges.
3. Demonstrated commitment to pursuing a career in paramedicine.

## ALBERT COATES MEMORIAL TRUST

PO Box 2478

Bakery Hill, Victoria 3354  
[www.albertcoates.com.au](http://www.albertcoates.com.au)

Email Address:  
[albertcoatesmt@gmail.com](mailto:albertcoatesmt@gmail.com)

ABN 22 346 252 276

Donations to the ACMT are tax deductible.

The Albert Coates Memorial Trust sponsors a range of student scholarships at Federation University Australia and the University of Melbourne.

In association with the Department of Health, Victoria, it also offers scholarships for the post-graduate training of rural emergency care nurses.

Scholarships are also offered at the Australian Catholic University (nursing/paramedics), at the University of Notre Dame (medical) and Deakin University (medical).

A Peri-Natal Scholarship is offered at Ballarat Health Services.

### Albert Coates Memorial Trust Committee



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