



Still giving: Andrew Lancashire's memorial charitable fund account is helping others.

Legacy honours son's bravery

MULTIMEDIA designer Andrew Lancashire's sketch books chart his creative journey from the age of 10 to 22. They include his crazy characters that later came alive in the anime cartoons he produced on his PC. His work earned distinctions in his multi-media design degree at Swinburne University of Technology. Andrew's parents, Jim and Chris Lancashire, treasure his sketchbooks as part of his legacy, just as they value the memorial fund account they set up in his name with the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation.

Both legacies hold great meaning for the Lancashires, whose only child died at the age of 22 of osteosarcoma. Andrew was a happy, normal guy with a lovely girlfriend, lots of friends and a car. He loved tenpin bowling, computer games and was a talented guitarist. He was passionate about his studies and his part-time job with a web design company.

On August 11, 2007 — three days before his 21st birthday — pain in his left leg prompted him to have a scan. That same day, his leg broke. More scans led to a diagnosis of osteosarcoma. Over the next year, his parents were awed by their son's will, courage and humour as he confronted the gruelling treatments.

"He didn't cry much. He wanted to get on with it. He said, 'We're going to fight it'. And he pretty much never wavered from that. We didn't want to show Andrew how hard it was for us. Maybe he was doing the same thing," Jim says.

Over 15 months, Andrew had 10 operations including surgery to replace his femur, knee joint and hip joint, and 16 rounds of chemotherapy. Ultimately, his leg was amputated. Yet he was willing to take part in a research trial, hoping that it would buy him more time.

He died 18 days into this challenge.

Chris is writing a book about Andrew to raise awareness of osteosarcoma and help other families who may be facing similar circumstances.

The Andrew James Lancashire Memorial Fund is also ensuring their son's life continues to have a positive impact. The main beneficiary will be sarcoma services at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre.

For anyone who has lost a loved one, they recommend starting a memorial fund account with the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation.

"Even though he is not physically here, through the memorial fund we see him living on by giving to others in different ways, forever.

"That's what we aim for," Chris says.

Giving to make a difference

LORD Mayor's Charitable Foundation chief executive Catherine Brown sees the positive impact of charitable fund accounts for both donors and the charitable organisations the Foundation supports.

"Donating to charity is a very personal decision," she says. "We all have different reasons for giving and special causes we are passionate about. At the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, we're committed to fulfilling your philanthropic goals to make a difference in ways that matter to you. And our charitable fund accounts can help you to do just that."

"We also provide opportunities for donors to participate in supporting charitable projects that the Foundation has prioritised."

The Foundation's charitable funds manager, Sandie Baskin, says there are many reasons why people establish charitable fund accounts with the foundation.

Charitable fund accounts enable you to:

- Support and give back to your community in ways that matter to you.
- Honour loved ones, by

naming a charitable fund account in memory of them.

► Save time — the Foundation deals with all administration and governance.

► Reduce your tax bill — donations are tax deductible.

► Avoid managing multiple requests from many charities.

► See first-hand the difference your gift has made.

"Establishing a charitable fund account is a very simple process and an alternative to private foundations which are costly to establish and can be time-consuming to administer and maintain," Ms Baskin says. "Our charitable fund accounts only incur a 1 per cent administration fee and all donations are fully tax deductible.

"With a donation of your choice, whether its \$2000 or \$2 million, a charitable fund account can be established within 24 hours.

"It's simple to do and a tailored way for donors to remember family and friends while making a difference now and in the future."

All it takes is three simple steps to set up your own charitable fund account

- 1 Contact the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation.
- 2 Choose your charitable fund account's name.
- 3 The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation will establish the account within the Public Ancillary Fund — as little as \$2000 can get you started.

For more information contact the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation Philanthropic Services team on 9633 0033, or philanthropy@lmcf.org.au

Charitable fund that keeps on giving

The Association of Civilian Widows is helping people of all ages and backgrounds through regular grants.



Good works: Vona Thompson of the Association of Civilian Widows visits groups supported by the charitable fund account with the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation. Vona is seen at the Caroline Chisholm Society with CEO Helen Cooney (main picture); with Mrs Jean McGenniskin at Melbourne Legacy (above); and at Western Chances with CEO Rhyll Dorrington and scholarship recipients Julia and Mark.

VONA Thompson is pleased to see how grants from her group's charitable fund are used to support people of all ages.

Ms Thompson, 81, is a former state councillor and member for more than 30 years of the Association of Civilian Widows.

Ms Thompson's branch, Northcote, wound up in 2009 but it continues to support people in need through its charitable fund account with the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation.

In 2009, after selling its residential property and raising funds through street stalls, the Association donated almost \$1.1 million to their Association of Civilian Widows Victoria Fund.

This year, the association's made grants of more than \$18,000 each to Western Chances, the Caroline Chisholm Society, Melbourne Legacy and Emerald Hill Mission.

The choice of charities reflects the association's commitment to support families to educate their children.

Last month, Ms Thompson saw the impact of this year's grants when she visited three beneficiary charities.

"It was as if we had scoped a human lifespan in a day," she says. "We met a baby at Caroline Chisholm Society, young people at Western Chances, and a widow supported by Legacy."

"It was a revelation for me to see the diverse range of people we reach all over Melbourne and this assistance will continue into the future. And to think that this charitable fund's support will always be there, by using only the interest generated, is incredible."

Western Chances CEO Rhyll Dorrington says almost all scholarship recipients who did year 12 in 2010 completed the course, surpassing the national average of 78 per cent.

"This \$18,000 grant will help more than 20 young people with scholarships. It will cover basic things that will help young people to pursue their career path, talent or education."

"Their needs are enormously varied, and can range from text books to laptops to specialist tuition in music or dance or some other subject," Ms Dorrington says.

A current recipient is a Sudanese boy who, as a volunteer with the Migrant Information Centre and now with Jesuit Social Services, developed and implemented a program that helps to divert Sudanese youth from crime.

"The scholarships have much wider, powerful impacts beyond that young person and their family," Ms Dorrington says.

"It's inspiring that many of the scholarship recipients want to give back to the community."



Legacy: Wayne Belford with fiancée Melissa Ryan.

Network of love

THROUGH a charitable fund account created in memory of Melissa Ryan, \$20,000 has been granted to special causes as her fiancé, Wayne Belford, continues to campaign for safer truck traffic laws.

As the second anniversary of Melissa's death approaches, Mr Belford and Melissa's supportive network of about 150 family and friends are keeping her memory alive by raising funds for the Melissa Ryan Princess Foundation Fund.

Melissa died after a collision between her car and a truck in January 2011, the day before her 33rd birthday. Thanks to the efforts of Melissa's network, her charitable fund account has accumulated \$68,000 since it started on October 7, 2011.

The Royal Children's Hospital Children's Cancer Centre is a beneficiary in memory of Melissa's brother Matt, who died of leukemia.

"We also support the Road Trauma Support Services Victoria for their counselling program, which helps people who've been impacted by deaths on the road," Wayne says.

The Cerebral Palsy Education Centre is the charitable fund's next major charitable recipient. This month's Balnarring Picnic Races, at which a race was named in Melissa's honour, was another big fundraising event.

"Mel's legacy is a positive focus through very difficult times," he says. "It's 22 months now since Mel was killed and sometimes it feels like it happened yesterday, and sometimes it feels like a lifetime."

"The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation is helping us to create a positive legacy out of the tragedy and I'm fortunate to have a close network of friends who are an amazing support."

To donate to the Melissa Ryan Princess Foundation Fund, phone the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation on 9633 0033.

Students flourish with sustainability scholarships

THE "pay it forward" principle has funded the first round of bursaries from a charitable fund account that was started by a sustainable building conference in Melbourne.

CSIRO and Sustainability Victoria hosted the 2008 conference, which drew 2000 delegates from 60 countries.

The Sustainable Building Conference Scholarship Fund was established with the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation using the profits raised from the conference.

This charitable fund account now enables tertiary students to attend other sustainability and environmental conferences, which is a

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Lindsay Bevege

future bursaries to attend sustainable urban planning conferences held in Melbourne.

The students used their \$500 bursaries to attend the recent Thriving Neighbourhoods conference in Melbourne.

Lindsay Bevege, who was on the organising committee of both conferences, says the bursary scheme aimed to enrich the experiences of university students across these disciplines and promote Melbourne as an educational leader in sustainable urban planning.

"One of the big difficulties in managing complex urban environments is that you

have people from very different backgrounds who aren't familiar with working with each other," he says.

"The idea here is to get them to look at issues of urban planning from a common perspective. This conference is something they wouldn't normally have access to in their studies."

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NOW AND FOREVER

A charitable fund account creates a legacy, and inspires philanthropy for future generations.



Establishing a charitable fund account is a caring and generous way to support your community today whilst holding the legacy in perpetuity for future generations to benefit. For as little as \$2000, and in less than 24 hours you can establish a fund account in the name of your choice and realise your philanthropic goals to help your local community.

To donate a lifelong gift, contact Philanthropic Services on 9633 0033 or email philanthropy@lmcf.org.au. For more information on work of the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation visit us at lmcf.org.au