



The Victorian Bar Foundation

The Victorian Bar Foundation Limited
ACN 143 603 927
Level 5, 205 William Street
Melbourne 3000
T 03 9225 7111
E: foundation@vicbar.com.au
W: www.vicbarfoundation.com.au

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Dear Member of the Bar,

The purpose of this letter is to encourage you to donate to the Victorian Bar Foundation.

The Victorian Bar Foundation was established in 2011. The Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation progressing the interests of justice in Victoria, particularly through legal education. At present the Board of the Victorian Bar Foundation comprises:

The Hon Justice John Digby (Chairman), The Hon Justice Kate McMillan, The Hon Justice William Alstergren, The Hon Susan Crennan AC QC, Ross Gillies QC, John Karkar QC, Neil Young QC, Peter Jopling AM QC, Paul Anastassiou QC, Stewart Anderson QC, Philip Crutchfield QC, Georgie Coleman, Justin Hooper (Honorary Secretary), Sarah Fregon (Victorian Bar Foundation Company Secretary).

The Victorian Bar Foundation is the prime vehicle through which the Victorian Bar contributes to the above objective.

The Foundation is quite separate and distinct from the Victorian Bar Benevolent Fund, which focuses on assisting members of counsel who are in need of such assistance.

Since its establishment, the Foundation has contributed to causes including:

- a) **the Indigenous Barristers' Development Fund**, a fund administered by the Bar's Indigenous Lawyers Committee to assist in the retention and development of Indigenous Barristers at the Victorian Bar;
- b) **the Menzies Foundation's** establishment of **the Sir Ninian Stephen Menzies Scholarship in International Law**, a scholarship providing for its recipient to undertake post-graduate studies in international law at a prestigious university in Australia or abroad (<http://menziesfoundation.org.au/scholarships/international-law>);
- c) **Trinity College's** establishment of the **John Gibson Scholarship**, a scholarship (in honour of deceased Victorian Bar member, John Gibson) providing for a student from a refugee background to attend Trinity College (<https://www.trinity.unimelb.edu.au/supporting-the-john-gibson-scholarship>);
- d) **the Melbourne Law School's** establishment of the **James Merralls Visiting Fellowship in Law**, a fellow ship (in honour of Victorian Bar member, James Merralls AM QC) providing for world leading private or constitutional law scholars to teach at Melbourne Law School (<http://law.unimelb.edu.au/alumni/mls-news/issue-11-june-2014/james-merralls-visiting-fellowship-in-law>);

- e) **the Monash University Refugee Scholarship Program**, supporting specific scholarships to eligible refugees across both undergraduate and postgraduate degrees
(<https://www.monash.edu/study/fees-scholarships/scholarships/find-a-scholarship/monash-asylum-seekers-scholarship-4094>); and
- f) **Victorian Bar Foundation Student Achievement Award and Mentoring Program**, a pilot program commenced in 2018 to provide encouragement and support, including mentoring by Victorian Barristers, to students from 15 outer north western suburban high schools showing an interest in and aptitude for the study of the law
(<https://www.vicbar.com.au/public/community/victorian-bar-foundation>).

In the course of recent financial years, in particular, donations have been made by the Victorian Bar Foundation to the John Gibson Scholarship, the James Merralls Visiting Fellowship, the Menzies Foundation, the Monash University Refugee Scholarship Program, and prizes, events and mentoring by Victorian Barristers have been arranged for students presently undertaking legal studies at fifteen outer north western suburban high schools.

In the longer term, the Victorian Bar Foundation's aim is to create a freestanding corpus that is able to regularly contribute not only to purposes similar those described above but also to other scholarships appropriate educational beneficiaries and like initiatives.

On behalf of the Foundation's directors, I ask that you make a donation to the **Victorian Bar Foundation** before 30 June 2018.

Yours sincerely



John Digby
Chairman

Enclosed: Victorian Bar Foundation Donation Form