



THE MARY POTTER FOUNDATION

MARY POTTER MATTERS

SPRING 2006

Thank you for your positive feedback about our new look magazine and your generous response to our Mid Year appeal.



Your financial support ensures that patients in the Mary Potter Hospice have access to equipment and furnishings which enhance their comfort and assist with symptom and pain relief.

Sr Anne Sheridan LCM has been welcomed to the board of the Mary Potter Foundation and I look forward to introducing her more fully to you in the next issue of 'Mary Potter Matters'

The Holdfast Bay Mayoral Ball was a great success. Our gratitude is expressed to Mayor Ken Rollond for nominating the Mary Potter Foundation as the major recipient of the funds raised on the night, and to his wife Anne and the members of the organising committee for their hard work.

In this issue we invite you to our von Doussa cocktail event on the 1st September. The von Doussa committee supports the Mary Potter Foundation in memory of the late Alex von Doussa who passed away in the Hospice whilst still in his early 30's. It is testament to the wonderful character of Alex that this loyal committee is intent on preserving his memory and raising funds for the Hospice. I urge you all to support this event in any capacity that you can.

Elizabeth Clare

Dr Mary Brooksbank – A Leader in Palliative Medicine

Fear and anxiety associated with dying is an issue that Dr Mary Brooksbank would like to see removed. "As a society we are not well prepared for death" she says, "and it would be ideal if we could extend the type of care available at the Mary Potter Hospice into the broader community, through outreach and education."

Mary Brooksbank is speaking as the Medical Director of the Mary Potter Hospice a position she has held since 1995, six years after first joining the Hospice. Born and educated in Melbourne, Mary spent her early medical years practising surgery before overseas travel with her neurosurgeon husband Brian and young family made it difficult for her to continue in this field.

Her compassion for those affected by illness drew her to the (then) new field of palliative care which has now grown to become a recognised specialty. One of her greatest concerns has been to equip all doctors with the knowledge to enable them to recognise the needs and care required by people who are dying.

Hence Mary has a strong commitment to teaching undergraduate medical students at the University of Adelaide. "The Mary Potter Hospice has played a big part in the education of students over the years" says Mary.

She is also involved in writing the national guidelines for the care of people with lung cancer, patients with advanced melanoma and will soon also be involved in the



PHOTO COURTESY BRYAN CHARITON

guidelines for the care of those suffering prostate cancer. In addition, Mary was also on the Writing Group for the Therapeutic Guidelines Palliative Care, 1st and 2nd editions.

Dr Brooksbank is also keen to build a stronger research base for Palliative Care and is hopeful that the Mary Potter Hospice will play a future role in this area.

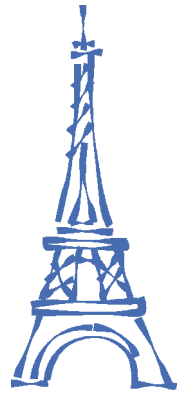
Practising palliative medicine, teaching and research – Mary Brooksbank is a very busy woman. But as many patients and their loved ones can confirm, Mary is also compassionate and committed. Asked to name her main concern, Mary says simply "With the pressures on time and funding, my main concern is to see that the special environment in the Mary Potter Hospice is maintained – and extended beyond into the community."

A South Australian Charity for South Australians





"I Love Paris"
MAYORAL CHARITY BALL



Left: Kali Hunter, Ann Magasdi and Elizabeth Clare.

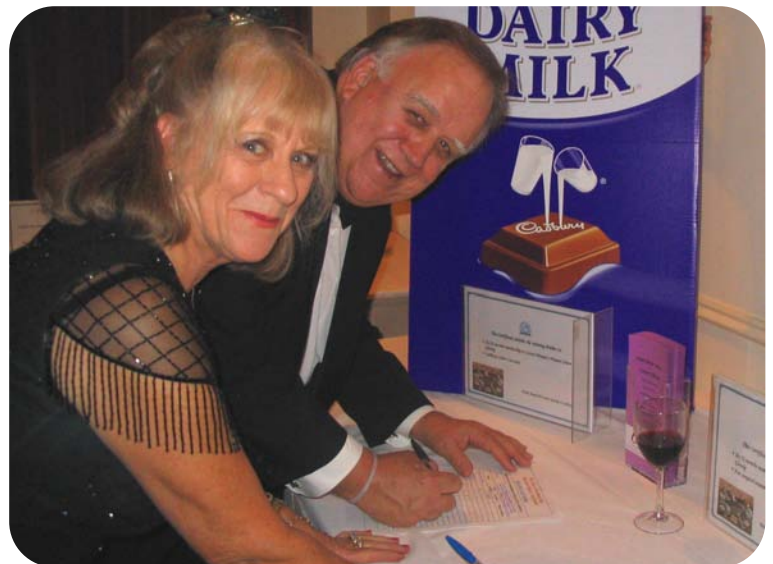
Over 400 people danced the night away to the music of the 18 piece 'Lindy Hip' orchestra in July at the Stamford Grand Hotel at Glenelg.

The Mary Potter Foundation was the major recipient of funds raised on the night along with the charities 'Tutti Ensemble' and 'No Strings Attached'.

With a theme of 'I Love Paris' the evening was all things Parisian, with Eiffel Towers decorating the tables and French cuisine on the menu.

The evening raised over \$25,000 for the three charities.

Right: Board member John Field and his wife Delia bidding at the silent auction.



\$10,000 Donation from St John of Jerusalem

The Mary Potter Foundation was the recipient of a \$10,000 donation from the Knights of St John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller at their investiture dinner at the Adelaide Club. After receiving the cheque, the Executive Director Elizabeth Clare thanked the ancient order for their ongoing support for the Mary Potter Hospice. In speaking about the Hospice, she highlighted the work the Hospice does in assisting patients' loved ones in coming to terms with their grief and loss and in particular, small children who lose a parent or grand parent.

Long time supporter of the Mary Potter Foundation Vilis Milisits OAM KSJ, was one of four new Knights invested into the Order of St John of Jerusalem at the ceremony in June. He is pictured (right) with his wife Rosemary Milisits OAM.



The Mary Potter Rose – Delivered direct to your door

The Mary Potter Rose is a beautiful hybrid tea rose with a rich clear pink bloom with over fifty petals, has a long stem and is perfect for cutting and drying. This rose has performed exceptionally well, having won an award for its fragrance in Baden Baden in Germany in 1992. Over sixty roses are planted at the Mary Potter Rose Memorial Garden, Brougham Gardens North Adelaide, adjacent to the Women's and Children Hospital.



The Mary Potter Rose continues to attract the attention of rose lovers and those who want to support the Mary Potter Foundation through the purchase of a rose for the home garden or as a living gift.

The rose can be delivered direct to your door by phoning the Mary Potter Foundation on (08) 8239 0119.

Looking for Voluntary Work?

The Mary Potter Foundation is happy to receive enquiries from people looking to volunteer in the following areas:

- Office – franking and sorting of mail during busy periods
- Sale of lottery books
- Badge days
- Special events
- Serving in the Op Shop in Pirie St

Please phone the Mary Potter Foundation on (08) 8239 0119 if you would like to help.

Volunteer Ron Grigg has been helping the Mary Potter Foundation for over 11 years.

Ron (right) who turns 90 in December says he "enjoys meeting people and raising money for a very worthwhile cause. When my wife died, working for the Foundation helped me to get out of the house and eased the loneliness."



Below: Mr & Mrs Stokes, winners of the 'Winter Warmer Raffle'.

The raffle included a quilt which was donated by Margaret Hicks and the team from the 'Log Cabin Angels' Hope Valley.

This raffle raised over \$1,000 for the Mary Potter Foundation.



Furnishings and Specialised Equipment purchased for Hospice

The Mary Potter Foundation, through the generous assistance of the Fay Fuller Foundation has supplied a new electric bed and five pressure relief mattresses for the Mary Potter Hospice.

The equipment, worth \$30,000 will greatly assist in enhancing patient comfort.

The Foundation has also recently purchased jarrah outdoor settings for each of the patios leading from the bedrooms of the Hospice.

The settings come complete with chair cushions to improve patient comfort and will replace the older outdoor furniture.

Donations to The Mary Potter Foundation from the BankSA Staff Charitable Fund and several private benefactors have made this purchase possible.

Calling all Kids – Design the Loving Tree Invitation

Children up the age of 12 are invited to send us their designs for the 2006 Loving Tree invitation. All you have to do is send us your picture showing how you think the 2006 Christmas Loving Tree will look – make it as colourful and bright as you like and send it to the Mary Potter Foundation at Post Office Box 2003 North Adelaide SA 5006.

Don't forget to put your name and address on it and if the judges choose your design, then your picture will be featured on the 2006 Lighting of the Loving Tree invitation.

All children who submit an entry will receive a special invitation to the Lighting of the Loving Tree on Wednesday 6th December and prizes awarded to the most original designs.



Loving Tree To Get New Lights

The Loving Tree outside the Mary Potter Hospice will be brighter than ever this Christmas thanks to the kind generosity of some of Adelaide's leading businesses. MIE Electrical Managing Director David Smith has garnered support for the project from SA Access Hire who will provide the elevated work platform. David has kindly donated his installation work and is currently sourcing the lights.

Sue Bardy Retires

Registered nurse Sue Bardy has retired from the Mary Potter Hospice after 23 years. Sue has retired at the age of 73 to finish her academic studies.

Whilst this is a feat to be admired, Sue's other great achievement lies in her marathon activities. She is still an active participant in half marathons and 18 years ago it was Sue who first began the Mary Potter Foundation's Walk for Love. Through Sue's instigation this event has turned into a major fundraiser for the Foundation and has raised many of hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Mary Potter Hospice.

Sue is pictured (right) receiving a small gift from Elizabeth Clare at a farewell function held in Calvary Hospital on her retirement day in early July.



Mary Ensures a Friendly Reception in Hospice

Mary Jackson's friendly face is familiar to patients and their loved ones within the Mary Potter Hospice. Mary, who has been at the Hospice for over 18 years, enjoys helping the many families who come through the Hospice, often in sad circumstances.

Mary remembers once when a consignment of honey for a Chilean patient was prevented by Customs from entering the country. Mary was asked to make a plea on the patient's behalf and she successfully negotiated for the lady to have her special honey before she passed away. "We make every effort to ensure that our patients' needs are met in any way we can" Mary said.

When asked what she enjoys about her job, Mary happily says "the opportunity to be part of this wonderful place called The Mary Potter Hospice."

The Story of Alex von Doussa

Alex von Doussa was diagnosed with terminal cancer when he was 31. He was determined not only to live but to spend as many happy times with his wife Margie, son Oliver and family and friends as he could.

Alex made a Heaven Box for Oliver which Oliver now uses to put Father's Day cards in, letters or anything special he wants his Dad to know about. It also contains some special memories from the fun time they had while Alex was with them. Alex spent some time in the Mary Potter Hospice including the last two weeks of his life where they stayed as a family and celebrated Christmas together.



Alex's family and friends have decided to support the Mary Potter Foundation in memory of him as they understand how important the care was not only for Alex but also for his family at the time of his death.

The von Doussa committee is holding the 'Bob Downe and Smell the Roses' cocktail event at the Hilton Hotel on the 1st September (see below). On the night there will be a silent auction of 'memory boxes' that are based on the idea of Alex's Heaven Box and each box will include simple experiences that will be future wonderful memories for the purchaser.

These will contain holiday packages, accommodation, travel, theatre tickets, trips to the Zoo – anything that can create a beautiful memory. If you are able to donate to the Memory Boxes please phone **Hilary at The Mary Potter Foundation on (08) 8239 0119**.

And please buy a ticket and come along on the night – it promises to be a fun night.

Bob Downe & Smell the Roses
 A charity Cocktail Event for the
 Alex von Doussa Committee supporting
 the Mary Potter Foundation.
 7 - 10pm, Friday 01 September 06
 Adelaide Hilton Ballroom Tickets \$95
 RSVP Hilary at the
 Mary Potter Foundation
 PO Box 2003, North Adelaide, SA 5006
 Ph. (08) 8239 0119 Fax. (08) 8267 3875
 E. admin@marypotter.org.au

Telethon Cheque Handed Over

Mark Colson, General Manager of Channel 9 Adelaide handed a cheque for \$11,000 to Mary Potter Foundation Chairman Danny Watson at a special luncheon for Telethon charities.

The Mary Potter Foundation raised the funds through the sale of lottery books and participating in other fundraising events associated with Telethon during the 2005 year.



New House & Land Lottery Opens



For your chance to win this beautiful Channel 9 Telethon Distinctive House and Land package, please see the enclosed flyer for details.



WIN THIS HOUSE!

Upcoming Events

THE MARY POTTER FOUNDATION

"Bob Downe & Smell the Roses"

A charity Cocktail Event for the Alex von Doussa Committee
Friday, 1st September

Annual General Meeting

The Mary Potter Foundation Inc
Tuesday, 19th September

Badge Day

City and North Adelaide
Friday, 17th November

Lighting of the Loving Tree

Wednesday, 6th December

Strathalbyn Races

Wednesday, 21st March 2007

For more information on the above events please contact:
Hilary on 8239 0119.

Upcoming Events

CALVARY HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

Brunch

Stamford Grand Hotel,
Glenelg
Sunday, 19th November

Trading Table

Calvary Hospital
Friday, 1st December

For further information regarding any of these functions please contact:
Nora Arnfield 8447 2242 or
Margaret Clifford 8379 5831.