

Mazda  
Foundation



*Report  
to the  
Community*

# Chairperson's Message



Malcolm Gough  
Chairperson  
Mazda Foundation

*I am delighted to present this report on the work of the Mazda Foundation to December 1997.*

*As in prior years, the directors had an extremely difficult task in deciding which of the hundreds of applications received, should secure the Foundation's support based on its aims and objectives.*

*The Foundation has always recognised the contribution Australia's youth make to our society and funding the development of youth education and employment skills was one of the priorities in the past year.*

*Another major aim of the Foundation is to promote the achievement of excellence at all levels in the community and this applies equally to those with ability or disability.*

*Supporting activities designed to maintain and improve our natural environment is also part of the Foundation's charter, as is assisting in the development of technology that enhances Australia's international competitiveness.*

*We acknowledge the many deserving applications which the Foundation was unable to support in 1997 and wish these organisations and the individuals they represent, the very best in their important endeavours.*

*Indeed, we congratulate those who do so much wonderful work within the community, particularly in assisting young people and those who are disadvantaged.*

*The Mazda Foundation will continue its efforts to raise and provide funds to support those who are committed to improving our lives and community in so many ways.*

## Introduction

The work of the Mazda Foundation began in 1990 when it was formed to provide assistance to a broad cross section of individuals and important causes throughout Australia.

It was seen as an ideal way for Mazda Australia, one of the country's major motor vehicle importers, to develop an equitable and broad community involvement apart from its commercial operations.

The Foundation was established through generous donations from Mazda Motor Corporation in Japan and Mazda Australia.

Since then it has been supported by contributions from Mazda Australia through the sale of Mazda vehicles, public donations and the proceeds of special fund raising functions held in various States.

Since inception the Foundation has provided more than \$1 million to various projects and activities throughout Australia.

The pages that follow outline the broad and diverse spread of community support provided by the Foundation during 1997.

## Board of Directors

Malcolm Gough Chairperson  
Managing Director  
Mazda Australia Pty Limited

Peter Harvie  
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Don Kinsey  
Former P.R. Manager  
Royal Children's Hospital - Victoria

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John Rickus  
Dealer Principal  
City Mazda - South Australia

Colin Johnstone  
Dealer Principal  
Werribee Mazda  
(Alternate Director for Mr J Rickus)



Mission Employment helps the unemployed through its horticultural course

## Sydney City Mission

The Sydney City Mission employment unit is the largest private trainer of job seekers in Australia.

Mission Employment has 21 offices around Australia through which it provides a range of training programs and support services to help the long term unemployed find jobs.

The Penrith office of Mission Employment has established a one hectare arboretum adjacent to the Sydney International Regatta Centre, the venue for rowing and canoe events at the 2000 Olympic Games.

The arboretum of some 10,000 trees and shrubs is being constructed and maintained by students enrolled in an Occupational Studies Horticulture course

The project forms part of their Certificate training and will give them skills in plant identification, propagation, landscape design and techniques, tree and garden maintenance, mowing and path construction.

Students also receive training in resume writing as well as job search and interview skills. Strategies to increase interpersonal skills and self confidence also form an integral part of the Certificate course which is recognised by both the TAFE and University sectors.

Twenty-four disadvantaged and long term unemployed young people are accepted into each course which runs for six months. Many graduates have found work in a range of horticultural areas including nurseries, botanic gardens and with landscape contractors.

**\$20,000**

## Victorian College for the Deaf

In most schools, communication for urgent or emergency matters is through an audible system of bells, buzzers or loud speakers.

Obviously such a system is not appropriate in a school where the students are deaf or hearing impaired. In addition to urgent matters, general school information — traditionally communicated through loudspeaker systems — needs to be disseminated via alternative means.

Through a \$25,000 grant by the Mazda Foundation, the Victorian College for the Deaf has been able to install a 'visual communication system' to facilitate better communication with students.

The system provides students with access to a wide range of educational programs previously reserved for hearing students.

It achieves this through the provision of television monitors in every classroom and student common areas. Through these monitors, the school can show programs and videos with sub titles running along the bottom of the screen.

This means deaf students are now closer to having the same educational



A Mazda Foundation grant is helping communication at the Victorian College for the Deaf

opportunities as their hearing peers.

In conjunction with the monitors, a system of flashing lights in classrooms and common areas draws attention to the screens in an emergency situation.

A further \$14,000 has been allocated to extend the communications system to new classrooms.

**\$25,000 + \$14,000**

## Asialink

The Mazda Foundation was pleased to continue its support of Asialink with a \$40,000 grant in 1997.

Asialink does much to broaden the understanding of Asian culture, society and business, particularly among young Australians.

The Foundation has supported Asialink since its inception in 1991 and continues to acknowledge the role this organisation plays in promoting understanding and insight into the association between Australia and its near neighbours.

Located at the University of Melbourne, Asialink is primarily involved with education, public affairs and arts programs.

The organisation's stated mission is to create a new generation of Australians who are confident and capable of living and working in Asia and who are able to ensure a prosperous future for Australia in



Asialink broadens our understanding of Asia the region.

The work of Asialink has been covered in detail in past Mazda Foundation reports. Further information about Asialink and its activities can be obtained from the Asialink Centre at 107 Barry Street, Carlton, Victoria 3053.

**\$40,000**

## Theatre Royal

Australia's oldest theatre, the 160 year-old Theatre Royal in Hobart, introduced a special Youth Subscription Program in 1996.

The program was devised in consultation with teachers and representatives from the Department of Education, Community and Cultural development.

Its objectives are to:

- provide secondary students with access to high quality theatre
- to encourage students to take responsibility for their actions by allowing them to make their own decisions and arrangements in an independent manner
- and to promote appreciation of theatre and the arts.

The program is aimed at full time students in years 7-12 and more than 600 young people participated over the past year.

**\$10,000**

## Royal South Street Society

The Mazda Foundation has again contributed to 'The Grand National Eisteddfod of Australasia' conducted by the Royal South Street Society in Ballarat.

Since its inception in 1891, the eisteddfod has been organised and conducted by members and supporters of the Society in a completely honorary capacity. The first competitions were conducted over 10 days, but now they run for over 11 weeks.

In 1997, the biggest year in the history of the eisteddfod, 7822 entries were received from all over Australia and New Zealand and more than 66,000 on stage performances were given.

Debating and highland dancing returned to the eisteddfod and competitors in these disciplines joined others in ballet, singing, choral, piano, orchestral, speech, drama, brass bands and callisthenics.

The famous 'Herald-Sun Aria' Opera



Cameron Hill



Top: Mara Micich  
Bottom: Sarah Slater

competition is also a part of the eisteddfod.

A Mazda Foundation grant of \$20,000 provided prizes in the school instrumental and orchestral sections of the eisteddfod in addition to meeting administrative costs associated with the provision of adjudicators.

Australians should be proud that the honorary work of the members of the Society and their helpers has created one of the most internationally respected and recognised eisteddfods in the world.

**\$20,000**

## Barwon Valley School

Barwon Valley is a 'Dual Mode' school that caters for young students with intellectual and or physical disabilities.

Its philosophy is to provide disabled students with the opportunity to develop skills that many in our society take for granted.

Music is an excellent learning medium as it provides an immediate response, a stimulus and the opportunity to exercise co-ordination and cognitive skills.

The specific objectives of the school's music program are to:

- provide the opportunity for self expression and participation through music
- encourage socialisation and reduce isolation
- help students experience and appreciate a range of musical activities that can also become leisure skills
- develop appropriate listening and response skills and encourage music as an integrated classroom activity.

The Mazda Foundation grant has allowed the school to purchase four keyboards, two

large marimbas (large wooden xylophones which can be used by four students at a time), percussion instrument sets, chimes and pipes, a standard xylophone, a rainmaker, a talking drum, congas, bar chimes, cabasas, a drum machine and a microphone.

As the music programs progress and are evaluated, the results will be distributed within the Association of Specialised Schools in Victoria.

**\$4,700**

## Australian Ballet School

The National Teacher Training Program is an initiative of the Australian Ballet School and the first of its kind in Australia.

It was developed so that parents and students could be assured that a ballet teacher held a qualification from a recognised professional training organisation.

The standard of training received by a young ballet student in the early stages is critical to both their development and well-being.

The National Teacher Training Program's first intake graduated in 1996 and in just one year the course has earned an international reputation with the 1997 intake including students from Israel, Japan and Singapore.

Graduates of the Program are awarded either an Advanced Diploma of Dance (Teaching) or an Advanced Diploma - Professional Dancers Teaching Course, which reflects their high level of skills and commitment.

A lack of appropriate studio availability



The 1998 intake for the National Teacher Training Program included many international students. Top right: Milos Mutavdzic. Bottom right: Elisa Fuduric.

within the Australian Ballet Centre in Melbourne meant having to hire less than ideal facilities outside the building in the early years.

Through the provision of a \$30,000 Mazda Foundation grant, the Australian Ballet School has now constructed a state-of-the-art multi-purpose studio for the National Teacher Training Program within the Australian Ballet Centre.

**\$30,000**



## Monash University



Monash University Bachelor of Music scholarship recipients with Mazda Foundation director Don Kinsey (centre). From left: David Rampant, Tatiana Vega, Imogen Manins and Arthur Dyason.

A Mazda Foundation grant has provided \$500 scholarships for the achievement of excellence in each of the four years of the Bachelor of Music course at Monash University.

First presented in 1993, the scholarships recognise and encourage application, enthusiasm and performance in addition to ability in a student's chosen field of music.

A number of scholarship recipients have now progressed and commenced notable careers as soloists and members of orchestras.

In December 1997 the Monash University Music Department launched its first compact disc featuring a live recording from a concert performed at the Robert Blackwood Hall.

It contains 'Te Deum' by Hector Berlioz and other works performed by the New Monash Orchestra, the Monash Women's Choir, the Victorian Boys' Choir and the Wesley Adult Choir.

**\$2,000**

## Mt Stromlo Observatory

Stromlo Exploratory is a state of the art astronomy, education and tourist centre at the Mt Stromlo Observatory in Canberra.

Situated between the observatory's 74" and Yale-Columbia telescope domes, Stromlo Exploratory features high-tech exhibits aimed at all ages with a backdrop featuring magnificent views across the Murrumbidgee Valley to the Brindabella ranges.

The exhibits are based on themes such as the solar system and different cultural views towards astronomy, including Aboriginal astronomy and story telling.

A variety of 'educational trails' have also been built into the exhibits for students.

The landscape surrounding the venue features sculptures, a space playground and a 'Star Travel' nature trail in the surrounding forest that provides an educational walk through the galaxy.

The Mazda Foundation has funded two of the 'Star Stops' on the nature trail, each featuring planet exhibits, scaled according to their distance from the sun.

Each 'stop' has an audio description of a planet plus a 'touch & see' model of its surface. The emphasis at each 'stop' is to link the themes of distance and travel time in space.

Stromlo Exploratory makes astronomy accessible to all who want to explore the mysteries of the universe. It is a key centre of learning for young people and provides many with their first opportunity to look through a telescope.

**\$15,000**



Stromlo Exploratory – a key centre of learning.

## Landcare Australia

A grant of \$15,000 per annum over two years has been allocated to Landcare Victoria for 'Project Platypus'.

Project Platypus is a major Landcare Victoria initiative that aims to improve water quality in the Wimmera River by involving communities within the catchment in a massive, co-operative land rehabilitation program.

The upper catchment of the Wimmera produces some 85,000 tonnes of salt per year and, as it is a closed system with no outlet to the sea, all salts and other pollutants build up. This creates problems not only for the river environment, but for those who use the catchment for farming and recreation.

Fifty towns in the region rely on water from the Wimmera, but not one of them

receive water that fully meets the World Health Organisation recommendations for human consumption.

Declining water quality threatens the future of the communities in the Wimmera/Mallee region and the survival of wildlife such as the platypus, whose habitat is under threat.

Project Platypus is an extraordinary community operation based on the integration of resources, technical advice, corporate bodies, three tiers of government, local businesses and individuals in order to address land and water degradation, tree decline and loss of wildlife.

The Mazda Foundation grant is helping to fund the activities of full-time project coordinator Kerryn Schrank.

There is no doubt that the success of the project will have far reaching benefits for other similarly threatened regions of Australia.

**\$15,000**

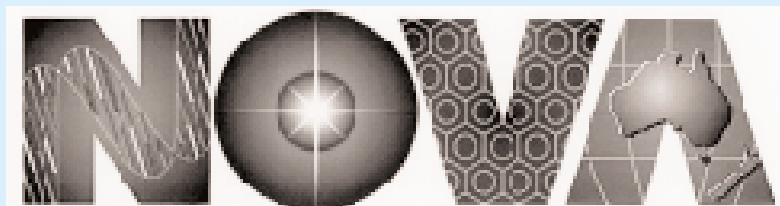
## Australian Academy of Science

In 1997, the Mazda Foundation provided a \$5,000 grant to the Australian Academy of Science in Canberra to assist with the development of world wide web site called 'Nova — Science in the News'.

Particularly relevant to librarians, teachers,

of the depth of its content, the many resources it made accessible and its very approachable style of presentation".

In line with its environmental interests, the Mazda Foundation chose to support the site pages dedicated to the 'environmental effects



**SCIENCE IN THE NEWS**

students and journalists, the Nova site provides accurate and up-to-date information for those who wish to keep informed on scientific, health and environmental issues.

The project won the 1997 Australian Financial Review/Telstra Australian Internet award for the best science web site.

Award judges said "the Nova site had strong competition, but won in its category because

of population growth in Australia'.

The web site covers population growth nationally and globally, the various types of growth such as natural birthrate and migration, as well as the possible effects of growth on different continents.

The Nova site can be reached at [www.science.org.au](http://www.science.org.au).

**\$5,000**



Institute director, Dr Ove Hoegh-Guldberg working on One Tree Island.

The mission of the University of Sydney's Coral Reef Research Institute is to enhance the conservation and good management of coral reefs through education and research.

A Mazda Foundation grant of \$60,000 over three years has been allocated to the Institute to fund four post graduate fellowships.

Each fellowship is three years in duration for environmental studies at the University of

## Coral Reef Research Institute

Sydney's tropical marine research station on One Tree Island.

The Mazda Foundation Doctoral Fellowships will allow recipients to conduct extensive studies of the island's coral structures.

"The Great Barrier Reef is a vital part of Australia's heritage and it is essential that every step is taken to ensure its protection," said Mazda Foundation chairperson, Mr Malcolm Gough, when announcing the grant.

One Tree Island is located at the southern end of the Great Barrier Reef. The island and surrounding waters form a scientific zone within the Capricornia section of the Reef Marine Park.

The research station supports research into

many aspects of biology, hydrology and geology of coral reef ecosystems. Its facilities include an air conditioned biochemical laboratory, a 'wet' laboratory with flow through seawater aquaria, a 'dry' laboratory, boats, diving equipment and accommodation.

These facilities and its research only zoning, make the station unique and ideal for coral reef research.

The Mazda Foundation is delighted to be associated with the Coral Reef Research Institute and its other key supporters, including Sir David Attenborough, Professor Michael Pitman, Mr Robyn Williams and Mrs Valerie Taylor.

**\$20,000**

## The Shepherd Centre

The Shepherd Centre provides an intensive infant and pre-school oral communication program for deaf and hearing impaired children.

It runs its program through three locations in metropolitan Sydney as well as two in the regional centres of Bathurst and Wollongong.

The Shepherd Centre's prime aim is to assist deaf children to achieve spoken communication within the family, at school and in the wider community.

For more than 25 years it has been teaching deaf children to utilise their residual hearing to

learn to listen, speak and understand language.

The Centre also provides training, support and guidance to parents — the child's first teachers.

While devices such as the cochlear implant give hearing impaired children the ability to hear sounds, the challenge is to help the child differentiate between the sounds of speech and environmental sounds — which in the early stages can be confusing.

The Shepherd Centre program teaches young children to differentiate between environmental and speech sounds in order to build words, sentences and eventually meaningful language.

To complement the teaching activities and services of The Shepherd Centre it is important to have access to state-of-the-art audiological

facilities. These facilities allow staff to assess hearing levels and monitor a child's progress at regular intervals.

A Mazda Foundation grant of \$23,000 has been allocated to The Shepherd Centre for the establishment of an audiological unit at the Wollongong Centre which services the Illawarra region and assists families in the New South Wales Southern Highlands and South Coast.

**\$23,000**



Cooper aged 4 with his mother. Cooper attends the Shepherd Centre and his local pre school where he can now mix with hearing children of his own age.

## Royal Children's Hospital

The Learning Difficulties Centre at Melbourne's Royal Children's Hospital was established in January 1996 and fulfils a great need in the community through the assessment and treatment of children who experience difficulty with basic academic skills.

The Centre continued to flourish in 1997 with assessments and remedial treatment provided to 159 children aged between seven and 17.

A grant of \$50,000 from the Mazda Foundation assisted the initial development of the Centre and has supported its on-going programs.

The Centre actively involves both parents and school teachers in its remedial programs and offers them guidance in the management of

learning and behavioural difficulties.

Teacher liaison is a major function of the Centre and is helpful in establishing learning conditions and strategies that improve the academic progress of children experiencing difficulties with reading, spelling, writing and mathematics.

Particular attention is paid to children with numeracy difficulties.

The Centre has undertaken a research project to better understand the nature of numeracy problems and has also developed specific testing methods in this area.

The Centre's remedial programs have expanded in recent times, with one full time and

two part time special educators conducting 86 remedial programs.

The success of these activities has led to many families enrolling their children in successive programs.

Feedback from referral sources, including paediatricians, other health professionals and schools has been very positive.

The results of the studies and programs carried out at the Learning Difficulties Centre will be disseminated throughout the profession and as such, will be of benefit to children throughout Australia who experience difficulties with basic academic skills.

**\$50,000**

## Financial Statements

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 1997

<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>
Cash at Bank	28000
Short Term Deposits	625000
Interest Receivable	<u>7577</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>\$ 660577</u>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>	
Long Term Deposits	<u>550000</u>
Total Non Current Assets	<u>550000</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$ 1210577</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Creditors	-
Total Current Liabilities	-
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	-
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>\$ 1210577</u>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>	<u>\$ 1210577</u>
Statement of Income and Expenditure Year Ended 30th June 1997	
<b>Income</b>	
Donations Received:	
Mazda Australia Pty Limited	54706
Mazda Customers and Mazda Staff	<u>227</u>
	54933
Interest received and receivable	87074
Net Fund Raising Income	<u>132184</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 274191</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Grants	<u>\$ 168960</u>
Legal Fees	-
Accounting and Other Service Fees	-
Directors' remuneration	-
Auditors' remuneration	-
Government and Bank Charges	<u>47</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>\$ 169007</u>
Net Surplus for the year	<u>\$ 105184</u>
Accumulated Funds at start of year	<u>\$ 1105393</u>
Accumulated Funds at end of year	<u>\$ 1210577</u>

## Statement of Principal Accounting Policies

### Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical costs and, except where stated, do not take into account changing money values or current valuations of non current assets.

Donations are brought to account on a cash received basis whereas interest and expenses are accounted for on an accrual basis.

### Taxation

Income Tax has not been provided for as the Foundation is exempt from taxation under Item 1.5 of section 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (formerly Section 23(j) of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936).

The Foundation is eligible to receive donations under Recipient 2 of Section 30-15 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (formerly Section 78(1) of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936).

The above information has been taken from the Financial Statements of the Mazda Foundation which have been audited by Mr G Roberts of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu who has provided his services without cost to the Mazda Foundation.

## Mazda Foundation

Established in 1990 as a public benefit trust, the Mazda Foundation is administered through an independent body and provides endowments as appropriate each year. The aims and objectives of the Foundation include:

- assistance to young people through education and employment skills development.
- assistance in the advancement of education and achievement of excellence at all levels in the community.
- assistance in the development of technology to help improve Australia's international competitiveness.
- assistance towards the maintenance and improvement of the natural environment.

Contributions to the Mazda Foundation are tax deductible and are sought from individuals and organisations sharing the philosophy of the Mazda Foundation. Communications and donations should be directed to:

The Secretary  
Mazda Foundation  
P O Box 183  
SOUTH MELBOURNE VIC 3205  
Facsimile: (03) 9690 5481

Mazda Foundation Limited  
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