

# MAZDA FOUNDATION

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2003/2004



## Mazda Foundation

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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 Mazda Foundation's aims and objectives include (but are not limited to) the provision of financial aid to funds, authorities and institutions which qualify for income tax deductibility for gifts and which provide assistance;

- to young people through education and employment skills development, with particular emphasis on children from deprived backgrounds
- in the advancement of education and achievement of excellence at all levels in the community
- in the development of technology, to help improve Australia's international competitiveness
- towards the maintenance and improvement of the natural environment
- to address community needs identified by the Mazda Foundation from time to time
- in research, feasibility, surveys and other background work in relation to any of the above aims and objectives.

Substantial contributions to the Mazda Foundation have been made by Mazda Motor Corporation, Japan and Mazda Australia. Further contributions continue to be made by Mazda Australia, supported by the Mazda Dealer Network.

Donations to the Foundation, which are tax deductible, are also invited from individuals and organisations sharing the philosophy of the Mazda Foundation.

Mazda Foundation has been endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as a deductible gift recipient and cheques should be made payable to "Mazda Foundation".

Further information about the work of the Mazda Foundation can be obtained from the Foundation's website. Communications and donations should be directed to:

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Mazda Foundation Limited A.B.N. 12 465 501 576

### Board Of Directors

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<b>Malcolm Gough</b>	Chairperson Managing Director	Mazda Australia Pty Limited
<b>Peter Harvie</b>	Executive Chairman	Austereo Group Limited
<b>Don Kinsey</b>	Managing Director	Communicators
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<b>Christine Unsworth</b>	Executive Director	Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal
<b>Colin Johnstone</b>	Dealer Principal	Werribee Mazda - Victoria

## Introduction

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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 approximately \$2.9 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 2003/2004.

## Chairperson's Message

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*Malcolm Gough, Retiring Chairperson  
Managing Director, Mazda Australia*

Once again I am delighted to present to you this report which represents the deliberations of the Directors of the Mazda Foundation in allocating funds in the areas of education, development

of employment skills, promoting the achievement of excellence, helping develop technology to assist Australia's international competitiveness and helping with the maintenance and improvement of our natural environment.

My fellow Directors and I never cease to be amazed at the community spirit of those who contribute so much in so many ways for the benefit of our society. I am extremely grateful to the Directors who give so much time and expertise in deciding which projects we should support. My gratitude also extends to all members of the Mazda family. Our staff who are most generous in their support, to the dealer network, our suppliers and the general public, all of whom enable us to apply the objects of the Foundation. Twice each year we receive hundreds of grant applications from all over Australia and unfortunately we cannot even hope to support them all but we trust that those who have not been successful will find some other source to help them continue their wonderful work.

Over the years the process of making grants has begun through an open public invitation to make grant applications. This process has now changed. The Foundation will no longer call for grant applications but will nominate on our website priority areas for consideration.

Organisations which believe they have a project which falls within the priority area may submit a Project Notification form, the details of which can also be found on our website.

This will be my final report as Chairperson of the Mazda Foundation as I am moving overseas to another appointment within Mazda. I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to serve as Chairperson and be part of the Foundation since its inception. I have enjoyed the co-operation and good company of my co-directors and all those who have made my task so pleasant and rewarding. I am pleased to advise that Doug Dickson (below) will succeed me as Chairperson of the Foundation, as well as succeeding me as Managing Director of Mazda Australia.

Congratulations to you all and every best wish for the future.

Malcolm Gough  
Managing Director,  
Mazda Australia  
Pty Limited



*Doug Dickson, Incoming Chairperson  
Managing Director, Mazda Australia*

## Guide Dogs Association Of SA & NT Inc South Australia

\$26,906

Guide Dogs Association of SA & NT Inc provides specialist services to blind and vision-impaired people throughout South Australia and Northern Territory. The services, provided at home, at school, in the community and the workplace, ensure that South Australians and Territorians who are affected by vision impairment regain or retain the quality of life that is achieved through independent mobility. The Association employs 29 full-time staff, approximately 14 part-time telemarketers and enjoys the support of approximately 100 volunteers, including Puppy Raisers participating in the Puppy Raising Program.

The core responsibility is, however, the provision of Guide Dogs. The provision of Guide Dogs Services has, up until recently, been undertaken by one full-time Guide Dog Mobility Instructor (GDMI) and one full-time Guide Dog Trainer. The Guide Dog Instructor is responsible for the provision of professional services to more than 50 guide dog handlers, including training and support services. The Guide Dog Trainer is responsible for training up to eight dogs per year plus providing support and training to the Puppy Raising Program.

The Association has embarked upon a program to invest in the future of Guide Dog Services in South

Australia and Northern Territory through the employment of two South Australians to undertake Cadetships with the Association. They have also employed an experienced Guide Dog Mobility Instructor to provide the specialist tuition required to qualify Cadets in accordance with the standards specified by the International Federation of Guide Dog Schools for the Blind.

The two Cadets will initially undertake the necessary training to qualify as Guide Dog Trainers, ensuring the training of sufficient dogs to meet the rapidly growing demand for guide dog services throughout the large area of responsibility. One of the two Cadets will then continue on to qualify as a Guide Dog Mobility Instructor, thus ensuring the association is well equipped to meet anticipated growth in demand for specialist Guide Dog services, well into the future.

The support of the Mazda Foundation has provided a Mazda E2000 medium wheel base van. The vehicle is fitted with custom crating to safely contain and secure our Guide Dog stock at all times. The primary use of this vehicle is the transportation of Guide Dogs in training. The provision of this vehicle allows the two Cadets to train up to eight dogs at a time.



## The Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund For Children Victoria

\$5,000

This grant assisted the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund to conduct “Talent Spectacular” which was developed to provide an arena for students of music and dance to gain valuable performance experience and evaluation from respected Australian performers as judges and adjudicators. All the proceeds from the Talent Spectacular were donated to the Fund to provide continued support for children with cancer and their families.

The competitors performed in a number of categories including singing solo and duet, piano, dance and instrumental and were judged by well-known Australian performers, Nehama Patkin OAM, Daryl Cotton and Philip Gould.

The Malcolm Sargent Cancer fund offers

- Financial assistance to families for household and family expenses, and emergency situations, such as food, electricity, telephone, rent, travel expenses and funeral assistance
- Educational and special interest tutoring to help children re-adjust after long periods away from school as a result of treatment.
- Emotional and practical counselling for children and their families, through the funding of Malcolm Sargent Social Workers
- Special equipment and rehabilitation aids for child-specific needs.

## Hear And Say Centre Queensland

\$15,000

The Mazda Foundation made a grant of \$15,000 to the Hear and Say Centre to extend audiological services to deaf children throughout Queensland.

The extension of the service revealed a glaring lack of screening in newborn babies for hearing impairment. As a result of neonatal hearing screening, a program was introduced called “Deaf Babies Must Not Wait” and the impact was dramatic. More profoundly deaf children are now presenting at a much younger age to join the new Cochlear Implant Education Unit. Children aged from 6 months have now been implanted at the Centre.

Through the screening program some 10 to 12 additional families each year are turning to the Centre for help, creating a crisis situation as there is already a long waiting list.

Once implanted with the cochlear hearing device it takes some years of teaching through the Auditory Verbal Therapy program.

With the increasing numbers of children attending the Hear and Say Centre as a result of early detection significant funding is necessary to maintain the service and end the waiting lists.

## ANGLICARE – Foster Care New South Wales

\$6,400

ANGLICARE was established in 1856 and is one of the oldest caring and welfare organisations. It serves the needs of children and young people, families, the disadvantaged, the frail aged and those struggling with disability.

One of ANGLICARE’s services is the Foster Care Program, a part of the Child & Family Services.

Child & Family Services is especially focused on providing foster care to children and young people who have been abused or are at risk of being abused.

ANGLICARE’s Permanent Foster Care Program provides long-term foster families for over 60 children and young people. These children have

been so badly abused that the Children’s Court has decided that they are not safe growing up in their own families, so safe and permanent foster care families are found for the children.

The Project is to provide help for these young people in foster care with their educational needs, by providing them with outside extra tuition school hours.

The aim of the additional tuition is to get in early and tailor it to the young person’s individual requirements. School success may mean staying in mainstream schooling, or catching up with extra coaching so the young person remains in the same class with friends and peers.

Dr Carl Olsard, School of Mechanical Engineering, University of Adelaide, Australia is in the process of devising a project for the possible improvement in the type of air-conditioning used in cars.

Thermo acoustics, as its name implies, uses sound to create a temperature difference. The technology was developed over 20 years ago and has slowly gained acceptance as a viable commercial technology.

It is intended to develop a technology demonstrator of a thermo acoustic air-conditioner for cars.

Some of the advantages of a thermo acoustic air-conditioning system compared to a conventional vapour compression system are:

- it has no moving parts (except for the fan), hence they are extremely reliable
- the working fluid is either air, or helium that are benign to the environment and hence are environmentally friendly and non-corrosive
- it can be powered from the engine's waste heat, which improves the vehicle's fuel efficiency and reduces greenhouse gas emissions
- the cooling power is continuously variable. If cooler air is desired, then more power is applied to the system
- the dimensions of parts do not involve exact tolerances, nor are exotic materials required.

The aims of this project are aligned to three of the four aims and objectives for the Mazda Foundation:

- Assistance in the advancement of education and achievement of excellence at all levels in the community. The project will be undertaken in conjunction with final year mechanical engineering students at the University of Adelaide, as part of their homes thesis
- Assistance in the advancement of technology, to help improve Australia's international competitiveness. In Australia, little research has been undertaken in the field of thermo acoustics. The development of a thermo acoustic air-conditioner is a potential "game changer", as the technology has broader applications in energy conversion from landfill gas, refrigeration, cooling of computer equipment, liquefaction of natural gas, and many more
- Assistance towards the maintenance and improvement of the natural environment. The goal is to power the thermo acoustic air-conditioner with waste heat from the engine, which will reduce fuel consumption. The refrigeration and air-conditioning world are desperately trying to find suitable replacements for the current greenhouse gas contributing (HFC) or ozone depleting (CFC) refrigerants. Thermo acoustic systems have the potential to change this situation.

## Summerville City Farm & Landcare Tasmania

## \$31,136

The Bridgewater High School Farm has been developed over the last 12 years into a whole community resource that is now known as the Summerville City Farm & Landcare Centre.

The farm is managed by the Bridgewater High School Management Group Inc. and is funded by the Friends of the Farm Committee, a group of local farmers, parents and former students. The grant provided a tractor for use by staff and students on the farm.

The development of the school farm has been an extension of the whole farm plan to implement change in attitudes and aesthetics through the involvement of the young in the community at all stages.

Courses and programs have been introduced into the curriculum throughout the school with particular emphasis on special alternative programs for students that have been identified as being at risk.

Outcomes of the program have been:

- Increased attendance at school
- Improved social skills, particularly communication
- Successes in other learning areas
- Programs are a pathway to other farm activities/careers
- Increased employment
- Attitude more positive, more confidence
- Development of leadership skills
- Sense of responsibility.



## The Sovereign Hill Museums Assoc Victoria

\$10,455

The Narmbool Trust is a division of The Sovereign Hill Museums Association. The Association is a non-profit community based organisation, which runs a nationally renowned Outdoor Museum at Ballarat in Victoria.

In June 2000 Mr & Mrs Andrew Ferry gave their pastoral property Narmbool to the Association. The gift included the homestead and its collection. Narmbool comprises some 5,000 acres with a significant area of bush land and carries 20,000 sheep.

It was Andrew and Robin Ferry's wish that the property be used for education purposes.

The principal objective is to establish a program called "Landventures" – educational activities for secondary students with a strong emphasis on land conservation and sustainability.

The program will be especially aimed at schools from the public sector that do not have their own camp facilities.

The Mazda Foundation assisted with some of the infrastructure costs associated with the Landventures Program.

The concept of live-in education programs giving practical experience in aspects of environmental sciences and land conservation was developed following a number of focus groups with Principals and Outdoor Education teachers. The program also covers aspects of modern farm management.

Students will stay in modern energy efficient accommodation complex. Linked to this is an Environmental Learning Centre – a striking building offering laboratory spaces, specimen cupboards and work areas.

Participants in the "Landventures" program collect seed and are responsible for propagating and planting trees indigenous to the area.

Landventures provides an excellent platform for Science in Schools Partnerships. This is a program run by DSE to encourage school students to take up science as a career. The students work with the scientists in the field at Narmbool, and visit the scientists in their work place.

## Royal Victorian Institute For The Blind Victoria

\$4,818

The Mazda Foundation is delighted to provide funding for a new piano for teaching Braille music to students at the RVIB.

It is probably not widely known that blind children are more sensitive to pitch and need to be trained on instruments that are perfectly in tune. Students with perfect pitch cannot bear to listen to, or play, out of tune instruments. Approximately 70% of children with severe vision impairments have relative or perfect pitch. The development of this sensitivity provides some compensation for a life destined to be spent in darkness or near darkness.

There are three music teachers at the school and they find this an exciting area to work in as the children are so responsive. While core teaching is based on the ability to read Braille Music, there is a great deal of inspiration for both teachers and students to be gained from the contribution blind artists have made



in the field of improvised music. Blind pianist, Art Tatum remains the outstanding virtuoso on piano in jazz.

Every child who attends the school is involved in the music program and over 150 students each year learn to read Braille Music.

## Curtin University Of Technology Western Australia \$9,091

This grant will enable Dr Marcello Pennacchio and Professor Jacob John to conduct a study of blue-green algae blooms.

In accordance with one of the main aims and goals of the Mazda Foundation, which is to provide "Assistance towards the maintenance and improvement of the natural environment", the results of this highly topical study, along with those already gathered as part of the study, will help generate an overall profile of the different species and toxins produced by Western Australian cyan bacteria.

This information which will be of great value to the authorities that routinely monitor blue-green algal blooms, will determine the levels of toxicity that

occur during algal bloom episodes, the species and strains that produce the toxins and the environmental conditions required for their release.

This will enable others to rapidly and accurately identify potentially harmful species, their strains and their toxins without the need for detailed and costly chemical analysis and toxicity tests each time a bloom occurs. It will also arm relevant authorities with information, which they can use to develop strategies to combat this ever-increasing problem.

Furthermore,

it will be of benefit to other Australian states, especially where there is an overlap of species. This was recently agreed upon by several prominent researchers.

## McCallum Disability Services Victoria \$3,700

McCallum Disability Services (Employment) is a Business Service, which operates a number of small businesses from a site in Sebastopol, Victoria. It employs 90 people with a disability and competes in the open market place. McCallum's prime objective is to provide employment for people with a disability who may not be able to find work in the workforce. By acquiring productive equipment, which improves efficiency, McCallum can continue to operate a viable business and achieve its primary objective.

A need was identified by staff and employees for more modern, efficient equipment. The equipment purchased was an additional cloth cutter and digital camera.

The subsequent purchase of the equipment has resulted in very positive outcomes.

The Digital Camera is being used:

- as a training aide for supported employees
- for transmitting images to customers re quoting and quality issues
- to record outings and events organised by the employee social club
- to produce photos for a regular newsletter
- for promotional purposes.

The cloth cutter has:

- significantly increased the cloth unit's production capability which consequently increases viability and profitability
- enabled staff to train more supported employees
- allowed more supported employees to access 'cutting' jobs.

McCallum Disability Services has recognised the need for modern, safe and efficient equipment for its business operations. The acquisition of the equipment has immediately resulted in efficiency gains, quality improvements and improved work practices.



## Cabrini Monash University Academic Surgical Department Victoria

\$16,875

The St Frances Xavier Cabrini Hospital and its research division, the Cabrini Clinical Education and Research Institute which incorporates the Cabrini Monash University Academic Surgical Department has developed a randomised control trial to investigate the pain people experience following major colorectal surgery.

This trial funded by Mazda Foundation is being conducted by Professor of Surgery, Adrian Polglase and Dr Justin Chee, Research Fellow, both of Cabrini Monash University Academic Surgical Department.

Major colorectal operations are required to be performed for colorectal cancer, diverticular disease, inflammatory bowel disease and generic disorders that predispose people to colorectal cancer.

The recovery from this type of surgery can be painful

and currently a variety of medications and techniques are used to reduce the pain people experience following colorectal surgery. These agents all have potentially serious side effects including respiratory depression, low blood pressure, altered mental state, urinary retention, nausea and vomiting, bleeding, deep venous thrombosis and pulmonary embolism.

There is no doubt that despite current best medical practice, some patients continue to have pain following surgery. In an effort to minimise post-operative pain following colorectal surgery, a randomised control trial has been developed to investigate the continuous infusion of local anaesthetic directly into the incision required for surgery.

## The Bell Shakespeare Company NSW/VIC

\$25,000

As an extension of The Bell Shakespeare Company's highly successful Education and Community Programme, the Company piloted a new community initiative in 2002, known as Shakespeare In Action.

The programme was run in five disadvantaged schools in Sydney's Campbelltown region with great success, and is being continued in these same five schools. Additionally in 2003 Bell Shakespeare tested the programme in Melbourne's western metropolitan region.

With no Government funding for this programme, the successful continuation and development of this important initiative depends on attracting funding from individual donors.

The Mazda Foundation is pleased to support the Shakespeare In Action programme in 2004 with the introduction of an all important after school program, and to expand the initiative in the Melbourne metropolitan area.

It is widely acknowledged that young people who are considered at risk of failure within the Education System and the broader community are best served by providing on-going projects that encourage the discovery of personal potential through activity.

This is what the Shakespeare In Action program can do:

- it challenges and empowers
- it lifts and surprises teachers who feel some of their students are lost causes
- it encourages those teachers to include "active" Shakespeare in their classrooms
- and it allows kids, who would otherwise never have an opportunity like this, to better understand their own potential.

## The Currajong School Victoria

\$6,501



Currajong is a special school setting for children aged from 5 to 14 years whose social, emotional, behavioural disorders are at a level of severity, which precludes attendance within the mainstream educational system. The goal in working with these young students over a period of approximately three years, is to assist them in developing the learning and coping strategies they need to enable them to re-enter their local schools with healthy self-esteem, established work habits, and acceptable behaviours.

Art is a central and therapeutic part of the curriculum, whereby children can begin to achieve success and start to rebuild self-esteem and feelings of competence. Part of the art program involves pottery and the Mazda Foundation grant enabled the replacement of an old dangerous and corroded kiln with a modern unit including a temperature controller and electric kiln vent system which will serve the school for many years.

## The Reach Foundation Victoria

\$35,000

The Reach Foundation (Reach) was established in 1994 by Jim Stynes (AFL Brownlow Medallist, youth motivator, and Victorian of the Year 2003) and Paul Currie (drama coach and film director).

Since then, Reach has run preventative programs to positively impact over 165,000 young Victorians aged 13-18 years.

Reach seeks to build young people's confidence and self-esteem, in order to prevent/counteract negative emotions and destructive behaviours leading to problems such as alcohol, drug abuse, delinquency and suicide.

Reach has extended its programs to Northern Melbourne, an area that has many young people

facing significant socio-economic hardship. In order to do this, Mazda Foundation has funded 2 Youth Days. Interactive forums using youth culture, where about 500 young people from several schools come together each day (total 1,000) to be introduced to the Reach philosophy. These Youth Days create a significant shift in the young people, and also act as a feeder program to the more intense 5-week courses.

A five-week series of two-hour workshops of intensive interaction for 30-40 young people held each term (terms 1-3). The Reach programs are run by a team of Young Leaders (aged 16-23) in line with the philosophy of "youth inspiring youth", and are supported by adult professionals (psychologists etc).

## The Royal Society For The Blind South Australia

\$1,835

The RSB sought the financial support of the Mazda Foundation in purchasing a Tactile Image Maker and A3 capsule copier paper for RSB's Print Alternative Services.

The Tactile Image Maker and capsule copier paper produces tactile maps and graphics using heat sensitive capsule paper for people who are blind or vision impaired. The controlled heat source causes any black lines, letters or shapes that are drawn, printed or copied onto the capsule paper to swell. The result is an instant tactile graphic.

These tactile maps/diagrams range from:

- Street maps, floor plans, shopping centre layout
- University grounds, scientific apparatus
- Remote control layout
- Dials and knobs on a microwave, TV or air conditioner
- Symbolic languages, ie Japanese
- Study materials
- Recreational and leisure materials
- Diagrams to support children learning basic shapes

These tactiles are essential for daily living activities that sighted people take for granted.

The tactile Image Maker allows for a variety of sizes up to A3 which will ensure clients have a choice of sizes to best suit their needs. Over one hundred (100) Braille tactile users in South Australia will benefit from this important equipment.

The Royal Society for the Blind has approximately 9,500 clients in metropolitan and regional South Australia, all of whom can benefit from the appropriate use of Low Vision Aids and Equipment located at the Low Vision Centre.

## The Shepherd Centre New South Wales

\$29,131

Over the past few years there have been tremendous developments in the level of sophistication and capabilities of hearing aids for children that are deaf or hearing impaired. In order to ensure that the Shepherd Centre is able to access both children's hearing and their hearing aids new equipment was needed.

The Mazda Foundation provided this grant to enable the purchase of an Aurical Diagnostic System. This system not only tests hearing levels of children, but it also tests that their hearing aids are working at their top level. Such information is vital throughout the intensive period when a child's suitability for cochlear implantation is under consideration.

The new equipment enables these procedures to be undertaken in an effective and efficient way. It has the added benefit of being portable, and can perform all tests necessary for effectively measuring hearing loss in children.





Further information about the work of the Mazda Foundation can be obtained from the Foundation's website.

Communications and donations should be directed to:

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