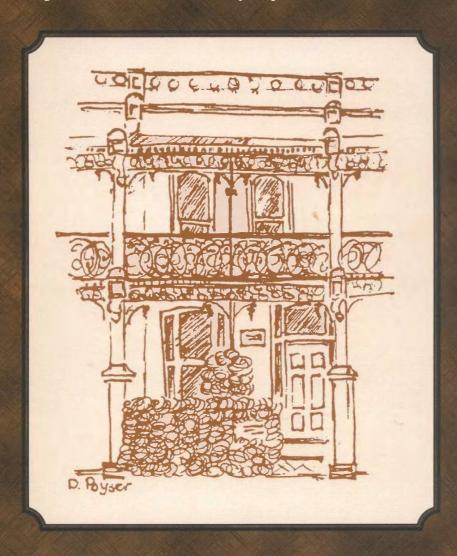
A Short History of

The Graduate Union

of The University of Melbourne





A Short History of

The Graduate Union

of The University of Melbourne

FAYE BROBERG

with assistance from
Geoffrey E Dye
Barbara Funder
Frank A Lees AM MBE



Copyright © The Graduate Union of The University of Melbourne Incorporated.

Published in 2002 by The Graduate Union of The University of Melbourne, Australia.

Cover Illustration: Delwyn Poyser.

Design & Typesetting by: The University of Melbourne Design and Print Centre.

Printed by GT Graphics, Collingwood.

ISBN: 0 7340 2916 0

Contents

Illustrations	
Acknowledgements	vi
Introduction	viii
Milestones of the Graduate Union	ix
Chapters	
The Early Years	1
War and Other Skirmishes	13
The Graduate Union Emerges	21
The Realization of Graduate House	29
Life and Times in Graduate House	41
The First Secretary-Warden	53
The People of the Graduate Union	61
The Way Ahead	73
Notes	79
Appendices	
Presidents	83
Chairmen of the Graduate Council	84
Fellows	85
Secretary-Wardens	86
Honorary Librarians	87
Domestic Staff	88
Benefactors	89
The First Residents	91
Reciprocal Clubs and Colleges	92
Affiliation with The University of Melbourne	95

Illustrations

Old Wilson Hall, 1901	2
Professor Barrett's Chambers, Collins Street	4
Dr James William Barrett	6
Professor Richard Berry	6
Dr Georgina Sweet	6
Professor Walter Baldwin Spencer	6
Lecture invitation card, early years	11
AIF March down city street, c1915	14.
Sir John Monash, 1923	16
Barry Street, looking towards University Square	22
The Hon Arthur Calwell, MHR	27
Gladstone Terrace, c1958	28
London House	30
Opening of Graduate House, Stage One	30
Graduate House, formerly Gladstone Terrace	32
Opening of Graduate House, Stage Two	34
Opening of Graduate House, Stage Three	34

The Johnston Library	36
Naming of the Potter Dining Room	38
Bill Berry and Barbara Funder in the office	42
The Graduate House Football Team, 1968	45
Sir Robert Menzies and Dr Douglas Donald	48
Tin Alley Players	50
Mr W E F (Bill) Berry	54
Mr Noel Bergere	58
Staff of Graduate House, 2002	62
Housekeeper Brenda Greaney	62
Volunteers during a mailout	65
A Graduate Union group on a bushwalk	68
The Geriatrix	72
Artist's impression of the new Graduate House	78

Acknowledgements

The production of this book would not have been possible without the willing co-operation of many people, not only in its compilation, but in the supply of anecdotal material on time spent at Graduate House and as members of the Graduate Union. The production team thanks those members for their contributions and interest.

The author acknowledges with thanks the work of the production team, who collected a large amount of material from which to write this book: Project Leader Geoffrey Dye co-ordinated the team so that deadlines were met, unearthed archival material and was the principal editor; Barbara Funder interviewed members, prepared some of the appendices and provided a lot of useful material from her encyclopedic knowledge of the Graduate Union; Frank Lees, a man with a sense of harmony and humour, liaised with the Graduate Council and contributed material to the final chapter.

The production team is very grateful to the staff at Graduate House for their assistance, in particular Secretary-Warden Eugene Spanti, for his enthusiasm and the provision of facilities, and Lyn Weston and Andrea Rulli, for their patience and assistance with the vast amount of photocopying and computer use that took place.

The author gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance provided by The University of Melbourne History of the University Unit and by The Past Graduates and Post-Graduates Society Incorporated towards the production of this book.

Reproduction of the following photographs is by kind permission of University of Melbourne Archives: Old Wilson Hall (UMA/1/1002), Professor Barrett's Chambers (UMA/1/2350), Dr James William Barrett (UMA/1/1096), Professor Richard Berry (UMA/1/1976), Dr Georgina Sweet (UMA/1/1071), Professor Walter Baldwin Spencer (UMA/1/1220), AIF March (Doris McKellar Collection), Sir John Monash (UMA/1/1273).

Permission to reproduce the following photographs is as indicated: London House (Eugene Spanti), Bush walk (Andre Cleghorn).

All other photographs are by courtesy of Graduate Union Archives.

The author thanks Perrott Lyon Mathieson (Architects) for permission to reproduce the artist's impression of the new Graduate House.

The cover illustration is reproduced by kind permission of Delwyn Poyser.

The authority for style throughout the work is *Style manual for authors, editors and printers,* 6th revised edition, 2002 (formerly *AGPS Style manual*).

Introduction

This short history of the Graduate Union is an initiative for the 150th Anniversary of The University of Melbourne in 2003. The Council of the Graduate Union appointed Mr Frank Lees (President of the Graduate Union), Miss Barbara Funder (Council member) and Mr Geoffrey Dye (Librarian and member of the 150th Anniversary Publications Task Force) to assist author Faye Broberg in the preparation of this work.

For nearly one hundred years, graduates of the University have kept alive the spirit of fellowship and support of their alma mater. The formation of the University Club by Sir John Madden in 1901 inspired graduates to form an association which would promote their interests and the maintenance of their links with the University, at the same time developing a greater interaction between the university and the community. This book sketches the progress of the graduates in achieving their aims, from the establishment of The Melbourne University (Graduates) Association in 1911 (later to become the Graduate Union) to the creation of Graduate House as the eleventh college in The University of Melbourne, with a glimpse of plans for the immediate future.

In preparing this work, material has been drawn from printed records, written reminiscences and interviews with members of the Graduate Union and residents of Graduate House. A short history of this type cannot treat in detail the many personalities and events which have made their mark upon the Graduate Union and its interaction with the University: that task may be fulfilled in a more comprehensive work in the future.

Milestones of the Graduate Union

- 1911 4 May. The first meeting of graduates for the purpose of founding an association was held.
 14 July. The Melbourne University Graduates Association comes formally into existence with Colonel John Monash as Chairman.
- 1914 14 August. Third annual general meeting. Colonel Monash given leave for war service.
- 1919 A deputation, including R. G. Menzies, made an application to the State Government for funds for urgent building requirements.
- 1926 Generous bequest from Sir Sydney Myer.
- 1938 An affiliation with the University Union from 1938 to 1952 resulted in the MUA being absorbed into the Union and known as the 'Graduates Section'.
- 1948 W E F (Bill) Berry is appointed part-time paid Secretary of the Graduates Section of the University Union.
- **1950** First edition of *The Melbourne Graduate*.
- 1953 The Graduate Union is formed as an independent body.
- 1957 The Graduate Union purchases Gladstone Terrace.
- 1962 3 July. Graduate House, Stage One opened.
- 1965 18 March. Graduate House, Stage Two opened.
- 1969 10 May. Graduate Union incorporated as a company limited by guarantee.
- 1970 Purchase of 210-214 Leicester Street. Later named Stella Langford Annexe in memory of donor, providing another fifteen resident places.

- 1971 10 May. Graduate House, Stage Three opened. The Johnston Library officially opened.
- 1972 Affiliation of the Graduate Union as the 11th College of the University of Melbourne.
- 1974 Purchase of Kidd's Warehouse, 216 Leicester Street, Carlton. Leased to The University of Melbourne and Baillieu Library, Alumni Office and Maintenance Department.
- 1984 Purchase of Bouverie Clinic, 233 Bouverie Street, Carlton. Leased to The University of Melbourne as a child-care centre, and later as a Koorie Centre.
- 1991 12 June. Graduate Union status changed from company limited by guarantee to incorporated association.
- 2001 Sale of Bouverie Street property to The University of Melbourne.
- **2002** Commencement of planning for a state-of-the-art Graduate House, Stage Four.

The Early Years

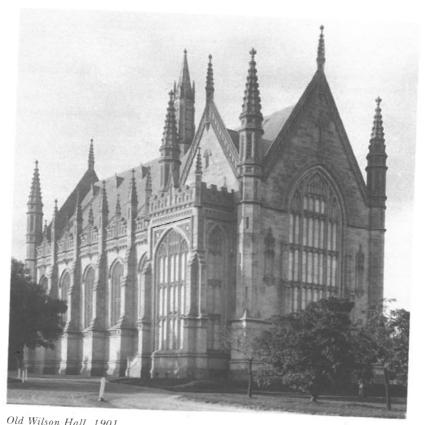
In 1911, Australia had been a federation for ten years, motor cars were a novelty, telephones were few and far between and the country was separated from Europe by an uncomfortable boat trip lasting several months. It was still the time when many Australians referred to England as 'home' and 'Mother England'. Queen Victoria had gone, so had her son Edward and his era.

Victoria's grandson, George V, was the King of England and Australia. There were many colonies around the world founded by Britain, giving rise to the expression 'the sun never sets on the British Empire'. It was in that year, in the farthest colony of all, that a group of graduates formed the Melbourne University Graduates Association (MUGA).

The MUGA had been in existence for only three years when a pistol shot took the life of an Austrian Archduke and subsequently the lives of millions of people in the First World War. Sadly, some of those fallen men were MUGA members, whilst another member, General John Monash, distinguished himself on the battlefield by becoming one of Australia's great war heroes. He had been elected the first Chairman of the MUGA, and was to have an influential role in the growth of the graduate organisation.¹

The MUGA re-grouped after the war and survived many other crises, including lack of funding, lack of its own headquarters, student revolutions and changing society values.

Links were later forged with scholars from emerging nations where, today, they recall the time when the Graduate Union's own Graduate House was their 'home'. Many have fond memories of the



Old Wilson Hall, 1901

'college in a terrace' atmosphere opposite a park, the excellence of learning at The University of Melbourne and the friendly 'welcome home' feeling at the end of each day with the comradely goodwill of a meal shared in the dining room.

The vision of Graduate House as a residence for local, interstate and overseas scholars was realised in 1962. Now, forty years later, plans have been laid for a multi-storey building offering state-ofthe-art facilities in a new Graduate House. In line with international university trends, in-room computer access, en-suite bedrooms, a business centre, study areas, gourmet meals and a bar will be among many 21st century innovations.

1911 - The Beginnings of the Graduate Union

Since the foundation of The University of Melbourne, past graduates have felt the need to cross-refer to colleagues and keep alive the spirit of fellowship of their student years. In tandem was the thought of assisting postgraduates in their studies and research. This concept is the common thread throughout this history, summed up in the philosophy espoused by the longest serving Secretary of the Graduate Union, WEF (Bill) Berry (1948–1984). His mantrum was 'past graduates for postgraduates'.

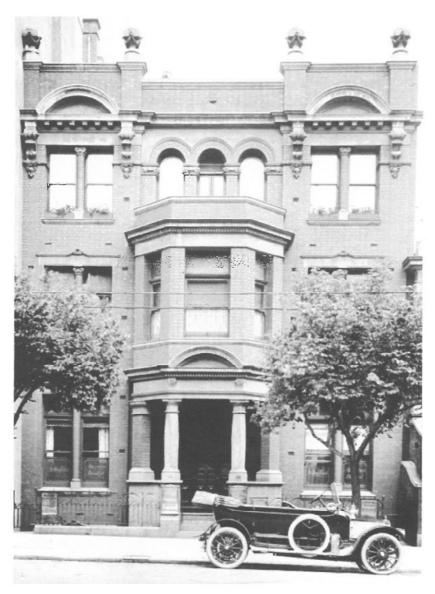
By 1911, The University of Melbourne had been flourishing for over fifty years and had sent forth many talented professionals into the community. Over this time, a recurring theme when these graduates met was the need for a more formal arrangement for socialising, networking and offering support and ideas to their alma mater. The formation of the University Club by Sir John Madden in 1901 was an inspiration to graduates who felt they could also form an association that would meet their needs. Casual conversations eventually culminated in action.

The first meetings

A handwritten note from the Secretary of the University Club, dated 20 April 1911 was sent to interested parties, including Professor Richard J A Berry, stating:

'I have the honor to inform you that at a meeting of the General Committee of this Club, held on 20 April, the following resolution was carried: "That the proposal to hold a Graduate Dinner on the 29 April, receive the hearty support of the Club and that the Committee do its utmost to secure as good an attendance of members as possible".'

The proposed dinner did take place and a provisional committee for a Graduates Association was elected. Minutes of the first general meeting record that that they were:

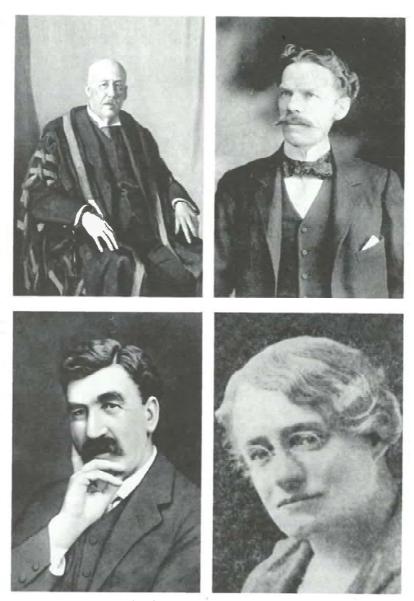


Professor Barrett's Chambers, Collins Street

'not representative of the different faculties of the University, consisting as it did of 8 members of the Faculty of Medicine, 2 from the Faculty of Science, 3 from the Faculty of Arts, and one each from the Faculties of Law and Engineering, these numbers being exclusive of the Vice Chancellor.'2

Within two days of the Graduate Dinner being held, a circular was produced calling for expressions of interest in holding a meeting of graduates for the purpose of founding an association. Three days later the meeting took place at the professional rooms of Dr J W Barrett at 105 Collins Street, where the composition of the committee was to be addressed.

'In a circular dated 1 May 1911, the Vice Chancellor, Dr J H MacFarland, convened a meeting of graduates for the purpose of founding an association. The first meeting was held on 4 May 1911, at the rooms of Dr J W Barrett, at No. 105 Collins Street. At the end of the previous month (29 April) a large and successful dinner had been attended by some two hundred and sixty persons at the Grand Hotel (Windsor), when the first provisional committee was elected. The committee itself was attended, in addition to the aforementioned gentlemen by Dr. Helen Sexton, Mrs Cherry, Dr Georgina Sweet, Professor Tucker, Professor Baldwin Spencer, Colonel J G Monash, Mr Frank Tate, Dr Harvey Sutton, Dr Syme, Dr Adam, Dr Springthorpe, Dr Amess and Professor R J A Berry as honorary secretary. Mr J T Collins was unavoidably absent. The Warden of the Senate, Dr T P McInerney, and Mr John Lang (founder of the Sports Union) were co-opted. Faculty representatives were as follows: Law, Mr J G Latham, Mr Weigall, Mr E H Serle and Mr Leon; Arts, Mr H W Allen; Engineering, Mr Merrin; Science, Professor Lyle; Music, Mr Laver; Medicine, Dr H D Stephens.'3



Some of the members of the first Committee (clockwise from top left); Dr James William Barrett, Professor Richard Berry, Dr Georgina Sweet and Professor Walter Baldwin Spencer

Three sub-committees were formed at this first meeting, in order to examine several ideas: Professor Berry had proposed that a residential University Club be formed, Dr Barrett suggested a Graduates Association and a third sub-committee was given the task of investigating the possibility of a Graduates Day at the University.

The second meeting took place just eleven days later on 15 May 1911. On the motion of Colonel Monash, it was agreed that the Melbourne University (Graduates) Association should be brought into being.

The objects of the MUGA were stated as follows:

'...to bring the Life and Thought of the University and of the Community into more direct relation with each other; to provide an organisation by means of which public discussions of University problems and lectures by distinguished visitors and others could be arranged; thirdly, to bring past members of the University in closer touch with one another'.

The annual subscription was 12 shillings and 6 pence for town members, and ten shillings for country members. For the sum of five guineas a graduate could become a life member. The life membership amounts were to become a bankable commodity that enabled the Graduate Union in later years to purchase property.

To encourage membership, a Graduates Day was proposed and also a Graduates Journal to be mailed to members, informing them of forthcoming events. A paid editor, to receive the sum of 150 pounds a year, was also suggested. The editor's other duties would be those of registrar of the MUGA. It was hoped at least 800 of the total 2 500 graduates could be persuaded to enrol for membership.

Professor Berry's suggestion to form a residential club resulted in overtures to The University Club, formed in 1901 by Sir John Madden, then Chancellor of the University, and the club's first President. The University Club was favoured with a prize which was valued by many Melbourne citizens at that time – a liquor licence! A favourable

Constitution was a further bonus. However, the vision for the new graduates club was to be rather more ambitious. It was proposed to have a dining-room, a smoking-room, a social hall, a billiards and card room and a reading and writing room, among others.

To make the scheme work, some form of alliance with the University Club, possibly a formal merger, was obviously desirable. Running expenses were estimated at 2500 pounds a year.

To celebrate the establishment of the MUGA and its aim of setting up a residential club, a general meeting of past graduates was held in the Independent Church, Collins Street, on 14 July, 1911, when the Melbourne University (Graduates) Association came formally into existence. Dr Barrett, who hosted the first meeting, was a sponsor with Mr F A Campbell. At the first meeting of the Executive Council, Colonel John Monash was elected Chairman.⁵

An unexpected hurdle had been the finding of a secretary prepared to stick with the job. Even in those days, whilst it was agreed that the idea of an Association was a good one, perhaps one's own career came first. Several secretaries came and went in quick succession. The position finally rested with Mr E D Ulrich, who happily reported some six months later, in January 1912, that eighty five pounds was deposited with the London Bank of Carlton. This was a substantial sum for the time, with a considerable buying power representing, in some cases, the basic yearly wage of the average working man. Following Mr Ulrich, Mr C Stanton Crouch took over as Secretary and remained in the position for seven years. An arrangement with the Melbourne University Club was struck, requiring that the sum of two shillings per member be paid as an affiliation fee.

The first annual dinner of the MUGA took place at the Grand Hotel (now The Windsor) on 20 April 1912, with Colonel Monash as President. Mr J G Latham took office as Chairman of the Executive Council for the year 1912-13. During its first year, the membership had fluctuated between 152 and 184 members – well short of the 800 members that had been anticipated in the calculations at the inaugural meeting twelve months earlier.

The second annual meeting, held on the 29 July 1913, saw the election of Mr H W Allen as Chairman, replacing Colonel Monash. At that time the first number of *The Melbourne University Review* was published under the sponsorship of the MUGA.

1912 - The Lectures begin

A stated aim of the MUGA was (the holding of) 'lectures by distinguished visitors and others.' These lectures proved to have several benefits: they gave the MUGA a public profile and encouraged graduates to join the association.

One of the earliest lectures took place at the Independent Hall in Collins Street on 7 June 1912. The subject of the talk was 'Discipline', delivered by Colonel Hubert Foster, R E Challis Director of Military Science at the University of Sydney. He was introduced by Colonel John Monash and by accounts of the time he was warmly received.

The young society was ever vigilant to capture the most interesting people to spend time in Melbourne and there were many international travellers arriving here at that time. One lecture with 'Limelight Views' was 'Cities, Past, Present and Future', delivered by Mr W R Davidge of the London County Council.

To encourage socialising among the members after a lecture, a small notice was sent to graduates which read as follows:

M.U.G.A.

The Executive Council desires to promote Social intercourse among members. To that end, arrangements have been made with 'Sargent's Swanston Street, to reserve a room where light refreshments will be served to members and their friends after each lecture. The room is large, and it is hoped that members will take these opportunities of meeting one another. The tariff is, – Coffee and Cakes, 9d., Conversation, free.⁷

It is not known how many members turned up at Sargent's and whether or not they enjoyed the coffee and cakes and free conversation. This café became a popular meeting place and in 1914 the annual general meeting was held here. Lectures were regularly held over the next two years, before the constraints of war put a stop to them.

In Wilson Hall on 6 September 1912 an interested gathering of MUGA members heard two men talk and give 'Lantern Views' of their times in the Antarctic: Mr Griffith Taylor was a geologist with the Scott Expedition and spoke on 'Scientific Problems of the Antarctic'; Captain Davis of the Mawson Expedition spoke on 'The Voyage of the 'Aurora'.'8

The MUGA committee continued to meet at Dr Barrett's Chambers in Collins Street. Several committees had been formed to look after various facets of the Association. There was a Finance Committee and an Entertainment Committee. The latter was charged with organising all social activities including luncheons, sporting days, lectures and of course, the Annual Dinner. On 5 April 1913 this was held at the Oriental Hotel. The Chairman was Mr J G Latham. Later that year a Graduates Day was organised for early October, involving luncheon in the Students Union, inspection of laboratories, demonstrations and lecturette, followed by afternoon tea in the Students Union.

The lecture activity continued each month. Attendance was encouraging and fraternising after the lectures was eagerly looked forward to by the graduates. There was a feeling that the Association was finally building camaraderie that would stand it in good stead for the future. War was looming, and this fellowship would be an essential element in holding the MUGA together.

The topics of the lectures are a revealing source of interests at the time. Some of the subjects now seem decidedly quaint, but in the early 20th century they drew respectable crowds of graduates who debated the topics afterwards at Sargent's Café.

A lecture took place on 23 March 1914 entitled 'Solving Social

The Presidents and Councils of the

Melbourne University Association, the Secondary Teachers' Association, and the State School Teachers' Union

request the pleasure of your company at a Lecture to be given by

PROFESSOR TUCKER,

in the Old Council Chamber, Town Hall, Melbourne, on TUESDAY EVENING, 23rd JUNE, 1914, at 8 o'clock.

Subject: The case for Phonetic Spelling.

ADMIT PARTY.

C. STANTON CROUCH, Hon. Sec. M.U.A. FRANK SHANN, Hon. Sec. S.T.A. H. H. TREYVAUD, Hon. Sec. S.T.U.

A typical lecture invitation card from the early years

Problems', delivered by Professor Irvine, from Sydney. He commented on trends in universities, such as the establishment of schools of Commerce at Oxford and Cambridge and that the Oxford Movement for the education of working men seemed revolutionary, and indeed, incomprehensible to many! This address also pointed out the consternation in pure academic circles at the thought of the introduction of mundane subjects – such as solving social problems – to the 'hothouses of learning'. He went on to point out that universities had viewed these subjects with suspicion and alarm, as being 'likely to unsettle youthful minds, or to introduce the fury of controversy into the otherworldly calm of academic life'.9

For all those people not adept at spelling in the English language, it would have been interesting to have attended a lecture entitled 'The Case for Phonetic Spelling'. It was delivered by Professor Thomas George Tucker at the Melbourne Town Hall on 23 June

1914. The speaker was sponsored by the Melbourne University Graduates Association, the Secondary Teachers Association and the State School Teachers Union.¹⁰

A man who was to become the first salaried Vice-Chancellor of The University of Melbourne delivered a lecture to the MUGA in 1914. The subject covered his experiences in the Antarctic with both the Shackleton and the Scott expeditions. The man was Raymond Priestley, and during his time as Vice Chancellor in the 1930s he was faced with many more dilemmas than he ever faced in the Antarctic. He is remembered as the man who founded the University Union, which was later to provide a home for the MUGA when it became the Graduates Section of the Union.

The MUGA was slowly gaining members and creating a society of comradeship and purpose. Dr Felix Meyer was elected Chairman at the third annual meeting in August 1914 and for the next four years the MUGA was forced to curtail its activities due to the outbreak of war.

War and Other Skirmishes

In 1914 Australia was a new nation eager to help its 'Mother Country' in its hour of need. Young men in their thousands volunteered for overseas service and soon found themselves in exotic places such as Africa, Turkey and France. It is well documented that these eager young men would put up their ages in order to be accepted into the army, as a source of adventure. The graduates from The University of Melbourne were similarly affected and many in the ranks of the MUGA volunteered for active service.

With the announcement of hostilities, Colonel Monash, among others, was granted leave from the MUGA for war service. It was decided that University Day be abandoned and all graduates who volunteered for war service were admitted to honorary membership. Functions were limited to one annual reunion and the subscription was reduced to five shillings per annum. At that time the membership stood at 268 and the phrase 'serving in Egypt' was a common notation in the membership files. Contributions, within the narrow limits of the Association's finances, were made to the patriotic funds. All subscriptions and activities of the Association were suspended for the year 1917-18.1

Colonel Monash, the Association's first Chairman, distinguished himself as the first Australian General in command of the heroic Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. John Monash became an Australian hero, known to every school child. He was presented with a knighthood and his name was given to Melbourne's second University.



AIF March down city street c1915

On 21 November 1918, as peace returned, the remnants of the Executive Committee decided it was time to revive the nearly dormant Melbourne University Graduates Association. In April 1919, the seventh annual meeting was presided over by Captain John Lang, returned from active service. Around this time, the Melbourne University Graduates Association was sometimes referred to as The Melbourne University Association (MUA).²

In May 1919 a reception was held in Wilson Hall for returned University men, with eight hundred being present. For the first time, mention was made in the Association of the University's need for a new Union House and the MUA sent its representative, the young barrister, R G Menzies, to join a deputation to the State Government for money for urgent building requirements. The Premier, Sir Arthur Stanley, promised 200 000 pounds if the University itself could raise 50 000 pounds.³

When the Association's Secretary, Mr Stanton Crouch, resigned on grounds of ill health in 1919, Mr R G Menzies agreed to act as an honorary secretary-treasurer for the remainder of that year. Later, as Sir Robert Menzies, he was to be remembered as one of the pre-eminent Prime Ministers of Australia.

It was during the 1920s that a small leaflet, *The Graduate*, was issued to members. The 1925 minute book indicates that '...9 numbers of *The Graduate* were issued, and this feature of the Association's work seemed to be appreciated by members. It is intended to extend and develop it.'4

In 1921, the lecture 'Science in Warfare and in the Post War Period' was presented by Professor T H Laby. He addressed members of the MUA in the Natural Philosophy Lecture Theatre. This lecture followed an annual meeting at which Dr Mattingley proposed that the Life Membership Subscription be doubled from five guineas to ten guineas. It is not recorded if the members were outraged at this extraordinary price rise, but the concept of life membership was one way to ensure that the bank balance of the Association remained healthy.



Sir John Monash, 1923

The decade of the 'twenties saw the beginning of monthly luncheons, a tradition that continues to be popular today. Members were encouraged to bring guests – and guests were encouraged to become members. There was a speaker at each luncheon and a small profit was extracted for the MUGA from the attendance costs.

A luncheon in 1924 held at the Rivoli tea rooms was attended by around 100 guests. Remembering the cultural attitude that pervaded Australia until the 1970s, it is not surprising to learn that the subject was related to 'Mother England'. Mr S C Lazarus, a recently appointed lecturer in Philosophy at The University of Melbourne, was speaking on 'Reminiscences of Oxford'.

The luncheon guests were highly amused when he pointed out a little-discussed side of this University town. He claimed that few writers had ever really captured the essence of Oxford. Certainly it had twenty six Colleges from Worcester in the East, to Magdalen in the West. However, in the neighbourhood there was a marmalade factory, and a motor works – and also a brewery! None of the 'business' elite in this part of Oxford town would 'talk about the academic side of Oxford with its studies and examinations'. Much laughter was reported.

Possibly one of the most well known speakers to entertain the MUA was the internationally renowned New Zealand physicist Sir Ernest Rutherford, the man who 'split the atom'. He held the prestigious position of President of the Royal Society when he visited Melbourne in 1925. He was immediately approached by the MUA and agreed to be the key speaker at a luncheon at Scott's Hotel in Collins Street. He spoke of conditions at Cambridge University, explaining that Cambridge was 'the most vigorous in the British Empire'. He went on to expand on the increase of student numbers to 5000 following the war, and that 'after the war there was a wild rush for engineering and chemistry which had now subsided because there were not sufficient positions available to absorb the students'.⁷

Echoing a modern topic of conversation among academics, Professor Archie Strong delivered a lecture to the graduates in which he railed against 'the American methods of hawking "cheap" University wares to the doors – a popularising of education in that way was bad'. He commented that 'Lord Bryce (it is unknown if he was a colleague or acquaintance) had told his father that "Australian universities had little hold on the community – in fact, less than universities in other countries".

Following a banquet at Menzies Hotel in 1926, sponsored by the MUA, one of the guests bestowed a large endowment. He was Mr Sydney Myer, owner of the growing Myer Emporium. With this bequest, the place of lunches and dinners as fund raisers was firmly established.⁹

In April 1934 Mr Justice Lowe was appointed President, succeeding Mr B T Zwar. The new Vice Chancellor of the University, Dr R E Priestley, was a guest of the Association, having forged an alliance many years previously when he delivered a lunchtime talk to the group in 1914 about his experiences as a member of both the Scott and the Shackleton Antarctic expeditions.

Joining the University Union

At the annual general meeting at The Lyceum Club in 1936 the membership stood at four hundred and fifty three. This included sixty life members, with the added prospect of a further one hundred and fifty, who had already been enrolled by the University Union in return for contributions to the Union House Appeal. The Executive Council was authorised to enter into negotiations with the Union Board of Management for the admission of MUA members. The subscription was fixed at the existing price of ten shillings and sixpence, for which use of facilities in the new building would be allowed.

Negotiations continued through 1937 and were passed at the final meeting of the Melbourne University Association on 21 December 1937, with Dr. Weigall presiding. This resulted in the

MUA becoming an autonomous Graduates Section of the Union.

Between mid-May and 30 June 1938, seven thousand graduates received circular letters inviting them to membership. Five hundred and ninety pounds was paid in subscriptions. Membership of the Graduate Society exceeded eight hundred, made up of the existing life and annual members of the Melbourne University Association, and others who gave a minimum sum (five guineas) to the Union Building Appeal.

Over the next decade, and through the course of the Second World War, the Graduates Section of the University Union was socially active. There was a film group, a tennis group, and 'Union nights' were organised as social events. The luncheons and speakers continued.

After the war, many returned servicemen and women either took up undergraduate courses or pursued postgraduate work. From 1947 to 1949, the Mildura Branch of The University of Melbourne, at the ex-RAAF 2 Operational Training Unit wartime station, was home to nearly 5000 undergraduates, mainly ex-servicemen and women.

The Melbourne University (Graduates) Association existed on its own for twenty seven years from 1911, becoming part of the University Union in 1938. During these years, the MUA wielded considerable influence in University affairs.

In 1948 a staff appointment brought the realisation of a Graduate residence much closer. It was decided that a part-time paid secretary should be appointed to look after the affairs of the Graduates Section. The minutes of a 1948 meeting record:

'The Honorary Secretary outlined the qualifications of various applicants and explained that Mr W Berry, a member of the administrative staff, and Mr Eldridge, a Sydney Graduate recently retired from the Senior Mastership of the Royal Australian Naval College, appeared to be the most eligible. Associate Professor Burton and the Secretary had approached the Vice Chancellor, Mr J D G Medley, concerning

the prospect of the Section acquiring the services of Mr Berry in a part-time capacity. It was moved by Mr Frank Read and seconded by Mrs K Fitzpatrick that we recommend to the Union Board of Management, that Mr W Berry be appointed part-time paid Secretary. Carried unanimously.¹⁰

It had been thirty seven years since the formation of the Melbourne University Graduates Association. The Graduates Section of the University Union was to carry the torch from the MUGA forward to 1953, when a rekindling of the graduate ideals would take place in the form of The Graduate Union of The University of Melbourne, steered by the new part-time paid Secretary.

The Graduate Union Emerges

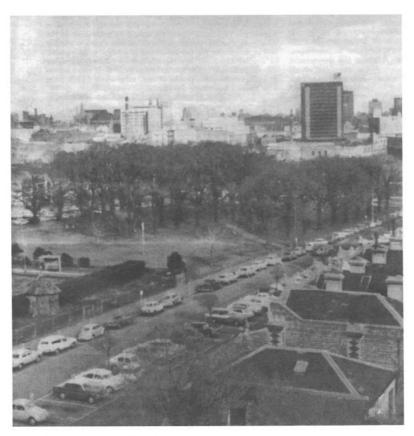
By 1953 Australia had settled into a period of calm following the upheaval caused by the Second World War. Population figures were accelerating due to both the immigration program and the 'baby boom'. The country was in its fourth year of rule by a Liberal Government headed by Mr R G Menzies who had been an influential member of the MUGA after the First World War.

In the same year, the Graduates Section of the University Union broke away to become an independent body known as the Graduate Union of The University of Melbourne. Its former Secretary, Sir Robert Menzies, would maintain his ties with the Graduate Union during and following his 17-year term of office as Prime Minister.

In the late 1940s and early 1950s the Graduates Section of the University Union worked in a tiny office in Barry Street, Carlton. Due to cutbacks, the Secretary, Bill Berry, was running the office virtually single-handed and had started producing the early issues of *The Melbourne Graduate* in August 1950.

A correspondence column was introduced in the second issue (November 1950) in order to let the members express their views. One of the first letters contained a condemnation of the new publication in these words:

'Sir, I trust there will be no need to publish this letter in your correspondence columns, in that there will be no further issue of *The Melbourne Graduate*. The recent drive for membership of the Union stressed the Union's needs



Barry Street, looking towards University Square, c1960

for funds. Now comes (a) *The Melbourne Graduate*, with a request for more funds 'because printing is expensive', and (b) a request for increased patronage of the Union dining room, which is a 'pertinent source of loss', and so may have to be closed.

'Graduates with whom I have discussed *The Melbourne Graduate* are unanimous that the Gazette meets their needs in providing information of University activities, and that *The Melbourne Graduate*, if No. 1 is a fair sample, will simply

clutter further the already overworked printing presses of Melbourne. If we must burst into print, let us aim to inform the public of the more worthwhile activities of the University, rather than bleat inconsequentially in one another's ears. Or, if a section of the Union feels that *The Melbourne Graduate* meets its needs, let it be maintained by a specific subscription, and not by a levy on Union funds as a whole. Yours, etc. A B Edwards. October 2, 1950.'1

The writer's wish was not granted, and *The Melbourne Graduate* continues to be published to this day. The publication usually ran to around fifty pages and one edition had almost 100 pages. It grew to a quarto size sheet in 1957 and has been redesigned several times since then to keep pace with readers expectations.

The Graduate Union was still concerned with the foundation of its own postgraduate residence. In the May 1951 edition, WEF (Bill) Berry, the editor, published a piece entitled 'Towards a Residential University'. A large-scale appeal for building funds was about to be launched and the Kew Mental Asylum area had been chosen as a possibility for further expansion. A member, Dr Ben Wadham, was a young graduate in 1953 and recalls the atmosphere around the University at that time:

'It was a time of change as the former Graduates Section of the Melbourne University Union left its nest to establish its separate existence and animus. Hospital Junior House Officers in those days grossed \$20 (sic) per week and keep, so it was my mum who presented me with life membership of the GU when that became available.

'It was, of course, Bill Berry's vision that largely drove the Graduate Union in its early days and my brief stay at London House in 1968 strengthened my belief in the desirability of a similar facility in Melbourne (though, sadly, Melbourne lacked the resource of a Lord Nuffield!). The increasing

numbers of overseas graduates pursuing postgraduate studies in Melbourne was an important raison d'etre as well. The progress of our organisation was severely inhibited by the interest rate hikes and galloping inflation in the 1970s.

'In its early days the Graduate Union provided a vehicle for attracting donations from graduates in support of their alma mater through the Graduate Fund. Relationships between the Union and the University administration were ever changing and, some years ago, the University sponsored the Alumni as a separate body, complementary to the Graduate Union with significant help from our own organisation: as part of its activity the Alumni became responsible for the Graduate Fund. At the same time, as perusal of our Newsletters shows, the Graduate Union expanded the range of activities available to our membership.'

One initiative to raise money was 'Operation Bootstrap'. Council member Barbara Funder explained:

'...In 1959 the Graduate Union was seeking to increase its membership to its present total in excess of 5000 members. Early in that year the Council granted 250 pounds for the purpose of conducting a membership drive among graduates of the University. As a means of rapid identification the drive was labelled 'Operation Bootstrap' (a title which may have been offensive to some). The use of the term 'bootstrap' implied that this unsatisfactory state of affairs could be remedied by our own efforts and that we could haul ourselves up by our own bootstraps. Members were asked to consider inviting another graduate to join the Union and those on a supplementary Roll of Members received (as happens at present) a Chairman's letter, but also a message card and reply-paid envelope for his prospective member/friend. At the time Council wondered

if this savoured of 'high pressure methods used by certain American publications to increase their circulation!' It was thought then that the failure of graduates to interest themselves was simply due to lack of invitation or recommendation. They aimed at a target of 5 000 members! The September 1959 issue of *The Melbourne Graduate* reports a successful beginning.'²

Intense lobbying was required by the Graduate Union to convince the University administration that a postgraduate housing facility would be an asset, especially if Melbourne was serious in encouraging international students to study here.

One distinguished graduate of The University of Melbourne, Dr E W O (Warren) Perry, was an early contributor to *The Melbourne Graduate*. Now a nonogenarian, Warren Perry was an annual member until about 1954 and later took out life membership. He recalls being on the Council in the mid-1950s in the company of the late Charles Focken and the late Noel Bergere, who became a Master of the Supreme Court and father of the Graduate Union's constitution.

At that time, Melbourne was Victoria's sole University, and Dr Perry remembered some of the great scholars and administrators who were all early members of the Graduate Union. These included Professors Chisholm, Medley, Paton, Lodewyckx, Samuel, and Sir John Latham, its first President. Dr. Perry comments:

'William Berry was an outstanding personality in those early years when, as a member of the Registrar, Frank Johnston's staff, he looked after the Graduates Section in the University Union (later the Graduate Union). He was a superb and energetic administrator and a concise clear speaker at meetings, attributes which made him an excellent CEO of the Graduate Union later on.

'Our annual Black Tie Dinners were a feature of the Graduate Union in the fifties and sixties. Academic gowns were worn and names of some significance in the University and the Union, Latham, and Norris were present. A former Minister for Education, Sir John Bloomfield drew a wide audience.

'My memories have been slumbering soundly for so long and I speak of a more formal and, in some ways, more picturesque era. I acknowledge the need for the Graduate Union to adjust to the present day, especially with the advent of Graduate House and its young postgraduate scholars and non-resident members.'

Luncheons at the Victoria Coffee Palace

Before the Graduate Union moved to its permanent home with a dining room in the terraces adjacent to The University of Melbourne, the monthly luncheon meetings had been held in various restaurants and hotels.

During the decades of the 'forties, 'fifties and 'sixties, the Victoria Hotel (formerly the Victoria Coffee Palace) became the regular venue. It was there that an array of interesting speakers guaranteed large audiences. The central venue was a boon to the many doctors and dentists whose rooms were in nearby Collins Street and to the engineers, stockbrokers and lawyers from the western end of the city.

The Victoria had a spacious dining room capable of holding well over 100 people and delivered the style and service expected during that era. The tables were covered in crisp linen napery, with gleaming silver and glassware. Every table had fresh flowers, and the waiting staff were formally dressed in black and white uniforms.

Members would assemble for pre-prandial drinks and were greeted by Bill Berry. Over the standard pale fino sherry served in the reception area, acquaintanceships would be renewed and



The Hon Arthur Calwell, MHR addressing a luncheon at the Victoria Coffee Palace, 1961

networking would commence. From across the many yards of floral carpet, a discreet pianist would be heard playing a selection of music, ranging from Ivor Novello to Rodgers and Hammerstein!

The meals were usually of three courses, but there was definitely no lean cuisine. There was always a selection of fine wines with non-alcoholic beverages for those who needed to keep their heads clear for an afternoon's work back in their rooms!



Gladstone Terrace, c1958

There were many speakers on many fascinating subjects. The former Australian High Commissioner in London, Hon Sir Thomas White, chose 'Some Aspects of British-Australian Relations' in May 1957; Mr Andrew Garran spoke on 'Adventuring in the Public Service'; and the famous Australian Opera singer, Joan Hammond spoke at the November luncheon that year. One other notable of the period was Arthur Calwell, who spoke in April 1961, when he was Leader of the Federal Opposition.³

As a result of much fund raising activity, within four years of its declaration of independence, the Graduate Union found its permanent home when, in 1957, a row of seven terrace houses known as Gladstone Terrace was offered for sale on the corner of Grattan and Leicester Streets, just south of the main University Campus and opposite a park.

The purchase price was raised through several avenues. The subscriptions of the graduate members and life subscriptions which had been slowly collected over the previous five years now amounted to 6 000 pounds. Two thirds of the purchase money was provided by the National Bank, with some assistance from a University guarantee, negotiated by the Council of the Graduate Union and its Secretary, Bill Berry. It was considered that the price paid, 21 500 pounds, was 'full and fair' at that time.⁴

The Realisation of Graduate House

In 1930 in the City of London, a grand old Georgian building in Mecklenburgh Square, WC1N became London House and subsequently the inspiration for Melbourne's Graduate House. London House is mentioned in the writings of Virginia Woolf and Charles Dickens. Situated opposite a park, London House was set up as a Charitable Trust by several London businessmen under Sir William Goodenough. They recognised the need for a residential centre for international graduates undertaking postgraduate work in their city. Their intention was to provide a quality residence for graduates from the Commonwealth, USA and Europe.

London at that time was the mecca for many postgraduate students who needed a modestly priced option for accommodation. At that time there was competition with the Inns-of-Court, the Royal Colleges of Physicians and of Surgeons, the numerous specialist colleges forming the University of London, and many other professional training establishments.

Acknowledging a similar need for The University of Melbourne, and following the London model, Gladstone Terrace was seen as a suitable model when it became available in 1957. One distinct difference between the London funding and that of Melbourne's Graduate House was that for the former, money was raised from high profile businessmen, but for the latter, from the Union's own membership and life subscriptions. Dr Bill Lempriere, a councillor in the 1950s and 1960s, had espoused the idea of a London House model for Melbourne and relations between London House and Graduate House were



London House, the inspiration for Graduate House



Opening of Graduate House Stage One. Sir Leslie Martin (Chairman, AUC), Chancellor Sir Arthur Dean, and Vice-Chancellor Sir George Paton, July 1962.

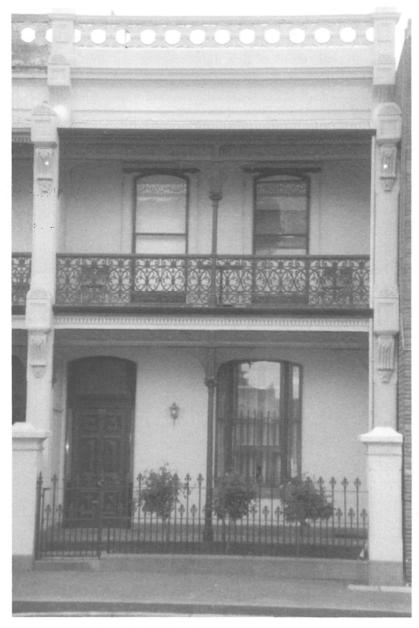
cemented by Mr Bill Berry in 1968 when he visited London.¹

The park in Leicester Street, to become known as University Square, was the home of a bowling club and had a large expanse of grass and a tall stand of fine elm trees. Over the coming years residents would use the park for much needed relaxation from studies, in walking along the pathways, lounging under the trees, or playing games.

Over the next five years, gradual refurbishment of Gladstone Terrace, tenanted for some years, began to take place. Each of the seven houses in the terrace was connected to the other to create easy access and extensive renovations were needed to make them suitable to fulfil two roles – that of a graduate residence and also an office for the association.

The first stage of Graduate House was officially opened by Sir Lesley Martin, Chairman, Australian Universities Commission, on 13 July 1962. This was the first of three stages of a building program and provided accommodation in one terrace house for seven postgraduate scholars. The first resident was Brian Parker, an MA candidate from London, who moved into 228 Leicester Street in 1962. He was soon joined by another six postgraduate scholars and over the next decade the number grew to fifty four residents.

The buying and selling of property by the Graduate Union became a common occurrence in the ensuing years. In 1968, the building at 205-211 Grattan Street was purchased for \$38 000 and subsequently sold to the University in the same year. A smaller terrace at 210-214 Leicester Street selling for \$70 000 was considered a wise purchase. The site of the forthcoming multistorey building for Graduate House was then purchased for \$311 000 in 1974. Known as Kidd's Warehouse, (later Danks), it is situated next door to the present Graduate House. This last purchase gave the Graduate Union a frontage of more than 200 feet in Leicester Street facing University Square and an area of three-quarters of an acre for future expansion.



Graduate House, formerly Gladstone Terrace.

Graduate House takes shape

The houses of Gladstone Terrace, now renamed Graduate House, were of the classic Victorian style which needed to be renovated in stages to suit the needs of postgraduate scholars, researchers, staff and members. The first house was trialled with seven residents, on a bed and breakfast basis.

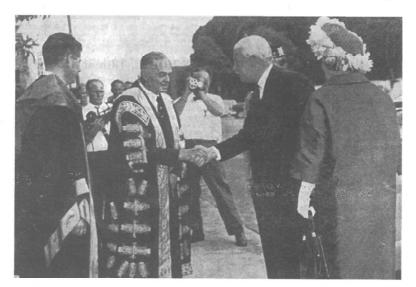
By March 1965, four more terrace houses had been renovated as a second stage, allowing for twenty-four resident places, a dining room, common rooms and offices. A further stage in the expansion, to include the remaining terraces, brought the resident numbers up to forty. Three neighbouring terraces, the result of a benefaction from life member, Stella Langford, were added in 1971, allowing for a total number of fifty-four postgraduate residents.

The rooms in Graduate House

The public function rooms of Graduate House have hosted many social occasions, including a Japanese tea ceremony, musical soirees, drinks before dinner, the Women's Forum discussions and Council Meetings. There was also a wedding involving three librarians – the bride, the groom and the celebrant! Over the years, bequests have enabled the Graduate Union to maintain and refurbish the rooms for the better enjoyment of members and residents.

The Johnston Library

This imposing room was named in honour of Sir William Johnston, the second President of the Graduate Union, who joined the Graduate Council in 1950. The Johnston Library collection has been built up and nurtured by several honorary librarians. Mr Bruce Burne, an historian and archivist and former resident in Graduate House, took charge until 1986. He was followed by Miss Josephine McGovern, a former State Parliamentary Librarian, who gave distinguished service until 1995 and who was also responsible for the installation of part of the library of the late Sir George Pape in the Anderson Room in Graduate House. The library was then



Stage Two Opening, May 1965: Sir Rohan Delacombe and Chancellor Sir Arthur Dean



Stage Three Opening, May 1971: Sir James Tait QC, Professor Sir David Derham with portrait of Sir William Johnston

entrusted to the late Colin Watson, a member of the Graduate Council from 1995 to 1998. Colin's particular interest was in the Australiana collection and he donated many volumes from his own library. After his death in 1999, Josephine McGovern stepped in again as Honorary Librarian and regrettably passed away in 2001. In recent years, Miss Esther Pedicini, a former librarian in industry, also gave valuable part-time assistance. Mr Geoffrey Dye, the present Honorary Librarian, whose background is in secondary education, was appointed in September 2001.

Whilst not large, the Library has been used and enjoyed by members and generations of postgraduate scholars from various parts of the globe. It has also been an elegant venue for Fellows dinners and luncheons in earlier days.

The Stillwell Room

Since its opening in March 1965, the Stillwell Room, also known as the Common Room, is probably the most used room in the college. It is named in honour of Frank Leslie Stillwell (1888-1963), a noted geologist and Antarctic explorer, who left a bequest of \$2 000. The centrepiece of the room is the elegant oil-painting of Dr Stillwell by Orlando Dutton, a gift from his relatives, the Shaw family. Many generations of past graduates have read the morning papers there, played bridge, chess and scrabble, drunk coffee, argued vociferously about every imaginable topic or dozed off after a heavy day studying or researching. Welcomes and farewells for hundreds of scholars and other visitors have been held in this room.

M V Anderson Room

Sometimes known as The Green Room, this has been the scene for pre-prandial drinks and discussion. It is named after the late Magnus Victor Anderson, a leading Chartered Accountant, Council member and benefactor. It was also used for Council meetings.

Opened in 1971, the elegant, formal room houses a portion of the Library, gifted to the college by the late jurist, Sir George Pape. Some fine furniture has been contributed by the Miller Foundation.



The Johnson Library in Graduate House

Over the decades, hundreds of members and residents have gathered in the Anderson Room for readings by the Tin Alley Players, recitals on the handsome Lipp piano, (a gift from the Salvado family), 'Over-Graduate' lectures and 'Graduates of the Year' welcome functions. A Japanese Tea Ceremony was also performed there. Its late benefactor can rest, assured his room is truly a centre of College life.

Ian Potter Dining Room

Apart from the regular meals for residents, the dining room hosts regular monthly luncheon meetings, seasonal dinners and private members functions. In the 1960s, the residents were expected to dress for dinner in a manner befitting the status of the college. The Secretary-Warden, Bill Berry, a man with an eye for detail, was ever vigilant that all residents were wearing a tie in his dining room.

Undaunted by views of many that ties were superfluous in a college setting, Warden Berry always had two ties hanging on a rack outside the dining room, ready to be handed to any errant scholar who turned up without one. The situation came to a head when, one day, a student appeared in the dining room wearing a see-through raincoat and nothing else – certainly not a tie! He streaked through the room and hurriedly got out of the path of the Secretary-Warden. Negotiations over the next few days resulted in a complete relaxing of the tie rule.

In 1988, a generous gift from the Potter Foundation enabled a re-decoration program for this much-used room. A reception and candle-lit dinner in October that year celebrated its official naming as the Ian Potter Dining Room. On that occasion, the late Sir Ian, a leading stockbroker, financier and philanthropist was present with Lady Potter and expressed his hope for the expansion of Graduate House in the near future.



Naming of the Potter Dining Room in 1988: Noel Miller (benefactor) Lady Potter, Sir Ian Potter, Mrs Judith Howard and Dr Ralph Howard

The Ian Potter Dining Room has hosted many speakers over the last few decades. Antarctica has proven to be a popular theme, with one of the more recent talks being delivered by Dr Phillip Law. Well known playwright Jack Hibberd spoke about the theatre, while Aboriginal activist Gary Foley spoke about Land Rights.

The Reverend Tim Costello very bravely faced a luncheon group with his subject 'A Just Republic – or just a Republic' in the late 1990s, at a time when emotions were running high in the 'for or against' factions throughout the country. The members of the Graduate Union still enthusiastically support these occasions.

One example of the chef's talent for flexibility occurred during a visit to Melbourne by the Archbishop of Greece. He was expected for a cocktail party with an entourage and many other guests were expected. The kitchen had spent a heated day preparing delicate canapes and nibbles, aware of the impact of presentation. Around five minutes to the appointed hour, a forerunner of the Archbishop's party arrived to announce that any food would need to be *vegetarian!*

The angels on horseback, smoked salmon, rare roast beef with horseradish and many other innovative hors d'oeuvres were quickly put to one side, whilst the chef made a few urgent phone calls to a couple of downtown gourmet food departments. Two taxis were hurriedly despatched. The vegetable-only canapes were served to allow time for the taxis to return with the acceptable dishes.

The Art Collection of Graduate House

Those who have visited Graduate House will have noticed that the walls are hung with many fine prints, engravings and other works of art. The College collection began in the 1970s with the gift of the portrait of Frank Stillwell by his family. Whilst this is the first work in the collection, the earliest works are those of David Loggan (1635–1692), who created some magnificent engravings of old Cambridge. Now over 400 years old, these engravings depict Pembroke, Christ and Emmanuel Colleges.

In the Anderson Room are the Ackerman book prints, after designs by Rowlandson, and the Alken hunting prints. Along with the Loggan engravings these were the anonymous gift of a former Senior Fellow of Graduate House and have been on public display for around thirty years.

A collection of twelve etchings by Adrian Feint, some Trinity College Prints and a series of Leonard van der Sluys linocuts are on display in the Anderson Room and the Potter Dining Room. They are displayed by courtesy of the late Dr George Garratt, a well-known art collector and friend of Graduate House. He once jokingly expressed his pleasure at dining there, surrounded by his largesse!

Australian art is represented by Ellis Rowan in a series of flower prints displayed in the hallways, some of which are small galleries in themselves. These prints were donated by a former Council member, the late Andrew Fry, a Commandant at the Glen Waverley Police Academy. They, and several Lionel Lindsay examples, are probably the major works, although there are many others including some 18th century engravings by the Englishman, Peter Spendelowe Lambourn, (or Lamborne), in the Johnston Library.

One of the more recent acquisitions is a Kenneth Jack painting of the Cloisters at The University of Melbourne, the gift of Murray and Shirley Payne. The intention is to extend the art collection so that other works can be hung to great effect in the new Graduate House.

The 11th College of The University of Melbourne

In 1972 the Graduate Union was welcomed into the University by 'affiliation as a College of the University by Statute'. It is especially noteworthy that the Statute envisaged a college of graduates having both members and members-in-residence. The number of residents has grown by the successive conversion of the Graduate House Annexe at 210-214 Leicester Street, into a total residence for 54 postgraduate scholars who were predominantly doctoral or master's degree candidates.

Life and Times in Graduate House

Since 1962 there have been nearly 2000 residents from twenty two nations who have enjoyed hospitality at Graduate House. Accents from many countries have echoed through the corridors and common rooms. From Europe there have been residents from Britain, Germany, Yugoslavia, Sweden, France, Ireland, Netherlands, Poland and Denmark. Many links in the east were forged by the Graduate Union with scholars from Japan, China, Taiwan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, India and Pakistan. Other scholars have travelled from Ethiopia and Nigeria, Brazil and the United States of America.

Student memories of times at Graduate House are many and varied. One of the more eloquent and revealing recollections is that of Professor of Civil Engineering, John Fenton:

'Ah, the lovely terrace, bluestone paving, the Bowling Club, heat off the paving and the asphalt on a summer evening, the Prince Alfred around the corner, the park opposite where the more athletic might have kicked the footy. Athleticism, however, was not the dominant memory of my time there, it was more eclecticism. The people, ah, the people! Bill Berry (Warden), avuncular, pipe-smoking, sherry-before-dinner-offering, whimsical; Barbara Funder (Secretary), charming, friendly, efficient; Mrs Farrall (Matron), efficient and demanding; Mrs Hamilton, the friendly maternal cook.



Bill Berry and Barbara Funder in the office

'And the rituals – the return in the evening from my office 50 metres away, greeting Bill and Barbara, the formality and friendliness of a good dinner in pleasant circumstances with wonderful conversation with wonderful people. And being asked to give a seminar on my work there and the painful recollection that it was the most boring technical talk I or anybody has ever given. The bluestone lane at the back of my tiny room. And like all youth, the feeling that all of this could go on forever. And so, after being away for 32 years, I now find myself back as a Professor of Civil Engineering, still just 50 metres from Graduate House, but an aeon of time and a universe of distance away. The past can never be reconstructed, but what a past it was in those golden days in a golden era.'

Other residents recall the 'click of the bowling balls on a summer's night', the smell of dinner cooking on a cold winter's evening and the feeling of slipping between fresh, crisp sheets after a hard day's studying. Enjoyable times were spent at the weekend barbecues in the courtyard and with music in the common room.

There have been several notable resident visitors at Graduate House, distinguished in their chosen fields. Dr H C Coombs stayed in a room overlooking the park. He was a former Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, Chancellor of the Australian National University and also a Fellow of Graduate House – but to the young, fit residents he was admired by some as a worthy potential squash opponent.

The former Federal Ombudsman, Professor Jack Richardson, was another resident. Master of the Queen's Musicke, Dr Malcolm Williamson, enjoyed the comfort of a room on the ground floor, not far from the Lipp piano in the Anderson Room. Michael Keating, former First Secretary of the Prime Minister's Department, also enjoyed staying for one day a week. Other notable residents include the famous Australian novelist Christina Stead, Australian composer Brian Howard and the Chief of the World Health Organisation, Hans Pedersen of Denmark.

The many interesting residents furthering studies in their own fields have included a criminologist from Ethiopa, Tefera Zewde; an Oxford Professor, H A Turner; a physiologist from China, Wang Xiao Wing; the French botanist Dr Christian Dumas from Lyon and several Rotary scholars.

John Fenton recalls some of the more eccentric postgraduates from his days in the late 1960s:

'And what residents! What a wonderful collection of people: The Abominable Sloman, the cynical chemist; Rupert and his Kharmann Ghia and his love of art, strange for a vet, I thought at the time; the interesting professor of electron microscopy from Ljubljana; the unhappy American couple;

Piergiorgio, the irrepressible Roman nuclear biologist; Amilcar, the Brazilian whose views on women I thought needed correcting; Graeme, the arrogant biologist; Kerry the quiet Tasmanian; Soen, the blind Indonesian, who adopted me as his guide for a few weeks – how very very very different and wonderful they all were.'

Professor Graham Mitchell has what he refers to as 'unreliable recollections' of his time at Graduate House:

'From my CV, the years 1966-9 indicated "PhD student, The Walter & Eliza Hall Institute" and for something like 3½ years I was a resident of Graduate House that was within easy walking distance of the Institute. In fact, I occupied the same room for much of that time - upstairs last room heading south - that overlooked the bowling green and with a balcony that provided hours of afternoon sunbaking (something one would not do these days, of course). If I recall correctly, the weekly accommodation cost was \$17, not bad for *full* board including virtually all meals and regular room cleaning! I do remember several things -Matron Farrall trying desperately, yet unsuccessfully, to catch me out on some violation of house rules (the nature of which should remain obscure); learning to throw an American football in the park opposite with Jack Marchalonis - in return, teaching him to kick a real football; late night pizzas at Toto's; fantastic Graduate House parties and buying wine for the Wine Club from Dan Murphy's nearby, the whole selection criterion being lowest price; some marvellous and colourful characters (that are still the basis of several of my stories) including long term residents and visiting professors; and, of course, Bill and Barbara in the front office.

'All in all, it was a great time at Graduate House and extraordinary value - I distinctly remember my mother



The Graduate House Football Team 1968 'Non victores sed gloriosi'

giving it the thumbs up one day. It was an experience that, to my regret, I have not reflected upon enough or appreciated fully. It is such a pity that when the time finally comes to do both, age-related processes render recollections unreliable, selective or plainly fictitious. By the way, it was a great PhD also, I think!'

Modesty prevents Professor Graham Mitchell from mentioning that he was also a member of the Graduate House Football team. In August 1968 they challenged International House and remained true to the spirit of the moment – 'Non victores sed gloriosi' – loosely translated as 'Not victorious, but glorious'.

With all the high jinks and hilarity in Graduate House, it is a place of study and learning. Keeping the residents comfortable requires the effort of a team comprising a Secretary-Warden, office staff, a housekeeper, kitchen and domestic staff, while overall control of Graduate House is in the hands of:

"...a House Board of up to 12 members, including an elected residents representative, acting for and responsible

to the Graduate Council of the Graduate Union, a body incorporated in Victoria. The Graduate Council appoints a Secretary Warden who is usually the Chief Executive Officer of the Graduate Union and is responsible for other team members of the house. The Secretary Warden is responsible to the House Board for the good order and discipline of the House, and for bringing to its notice all matters which may lead to its improvement and further development'.¹

Graduate House rules have, on occasion, been broken by residents: sometimes visitors have been known to have stayed overnight. Some of the keen-eyed staff have reported seeing unknown figures quietly slipping away from the house in the morning. The overload of intellectual talent at any given time in Graduate House obviously did nothing to stem the rush of hormones.

Social activities for the residents have been an important commitment. House parties were organised, or outings to interesting places, giving a welcome excuse to pack away the books and have some fun. Barbecue lunches and dinners took place at weekends, introducing many international scholars to casual Australian hospitality.

Dr. Shou-Jen Kou was a resident in 1988 and recollects:

'One month ago I was appointed to be a visiting teaching staff member and research fellow in The University of Melbourne, Department of Surgery, St. Vincent's Hospital. Having been lucky to come to Graduate House and join the Graduate Union of Melbourne University I would like to take this good opportunity to exchange and understand the different kinds of ideas and opinions in the various ethnic peoples who study under the same roof of Graduate House. Here I am very happy to see the optimal multiculture without social prejudice. I do hope that in this world today people of different origins and cultures share similar skills, ambitions and many habits of daily living.'2

Richard Kee mistakenly came to Melbourne, thinking it was the American city of the same name in Florida. He wrote:

'I hadn't planned on coming to Australia. When the Prof. said "a year in Melbourne" I thought he meant the one in Florida! However, the U.S.A no longer harbours phychologists fleeing the icy collecting sites of Ireland's storm-lashed western coastline, and I realised after accepting the offer that I was being transported. This seems to run in Irish families.

'Still there are worse places to collect seaweed and The University of Melbourne's School of Botany is perfect for those of us seeking experience in algal fine structure and life histories.

'September will see me flying north to endure another Irish winter and a busy Master's programme. After that will come further studies on foreign shores. It seems that Prof. has been muttering something about Nova Scotia being far enough away!'³

The house staff were, and still are, always ready to meet the challenges of a diverse group of residents with differing needs. Explaining that an electric blanket should be put flat on the mattress and not over the sleeper was just one of the many cultural conundrums that needed to be explained to students from different backgrounds.

One day in the early 1990s there was a problem not previously encountered. It did not belong to the human population of Graduate House, but rather to some errant insects trying to make their home in the building. Bees were the problem. The bee collector was duly summoned. He spent a few hours poking around to see where the bees were swarming and then went off to his next call. Half an hour later, one of the staff discovered a box sitting inside a doorway marked 'Bees'. Alarmed that the bee collector had left the box behind, she quickly gathered some of the staff and pondered on how they could move the box outside the building without disturbing its contents.

Finally, the breakfast chef, Margaret, took a broom and very gently eased the box out of the doorway, down a small step and left it outside the building. Wiping their brows with relief that the box was now in a safer place, the group was approached by one of the scholars. She was looking for a box of books she had packed, as she was leaving soon. Her name was Bee. The sting in this tale is, of course, that Margaret had spent fifteen minutes gently nudging a box of Bee's books outside the building. They still laugh about it. Bee returned to her own country, unaware of the consternation she had caused.



Sir Robert Menzies and Dr Douglas Donald, Century Club Dinner at Graduate House, 1969

GRADUATE UNION ACTIVITIES

The Century Club

This was a gathering of those generous enough to donate \$100 or more. Sir Robert Menzies was prominent in the Century Club, which held several noteworthy dinners.

An inaugural dinner was held on the 1 May 1969 at which the principal guests were Sir Robert Menzies, the registrar Mr A T J Bell, Professor R F Henderson and Dr Pierre Gorman. Sir Robert was admitted to membership after several personal gifts of \$2000 each to the University from the sales of his book *Afternoon Light*. Professor Henderson, with similar generosity, has made gifts totalling more than \$55 000 for the purposes of the Institute of Applied Economic Research. The Century Club continued for some years until other fund raising activities took over.

The Overgraduate Lectures

This tongue-in-cheek title was coined by Secretary-Warden Bill Berry. He decided that the learned past graduates could still do with some learning. To that end he occasionally invited experts in the fields of Economics, Engineering and Law to talk to interested graduates in the M V Anderson Room. The cost was \$100 and they were always fully booked. Some of the money went to the speaker and some to the Graduate Union.

Life Member Shirley Horne recollects the 1980s:

'Many changes took place within The University of Melbourne in the 1980s, some more acceptable to the Graduate Union than others. In some cases the changes threatened to overlap with the services developed rather earlier by the Graduate Union. These included improved and more varied types of accommodation, different types of seminars and lectures.

'These gave rise to different opinions as to the function of a Graduate Union and sometimes to discord among the Council, Secretary-Warden and the residents. During this period the long-standing Secretary Warden provided imaginative leadership for the future, laid a foundation for subsequent planning, but also stimulated discord among staff and council. The 1980s were also a time when nearby properties became available which enabled expansion in the Union property'.



Tin Alley Players - Scene from Trelawny of the Wells, Act II

The Tin Alley Players

These players were, in a sense, the Graduate Union's own graduate dramatic group, whose productions were actively promoted by the Graduate Union. Tin Alley Players performed for over fifty years, beginning in 1939, however they only joined forces with the Graduate Union in 1954, a formal affiliation that resulted in them having a permanent home in Graduate House from 1968. Throughout this half-century, the company performed with 'remarkable artistic and dramatic success'. During his time as Secretary-Warden, Bill Berry served for many years on the

committee of the Tin Allcy Players and encouraged the company to use Graduate House as a venue for meetings and play-readings.

The Tin Alley Players held readings in the Anderson Room and in the Johnston Library to help draw members. In return, the Graduate Union reciprocated by promoting their performances. One of their more memorable productions included *Othello* with a young Hilary McPhee playing a lead role.

Some of the luminaries who performed with the Tin Allcy Players have made their mark on the wider cultural scene. These include George Fairfax, Sue Nattrass, Beverley Dunn, Gerda Nicholson, Hilary McPhee, Marcel Cujola, Noel Ferrier, Wynn Roberts and Campbell McComas. Other members who have performed over those years include:

Sir George Paton (first Patron)

Meg Smith

Professor M Belz

Professor K Macartney

Louise Homfrey

Elden de Steiger

Gwen Reid

Eleanor Hutton

Janet McKenzie

Dorothea Robertson

David Niven

John Sumner

Richard Burman

Paul Elliott

Paul Clarkson

Bruce Clarkson

Margaret Scott

D and M Calder

Meg Mitchell

M Fotheringham

Doug Salek

Simon K Wilson

Helen Robinson

Tim Blood

Simon Plant

John Billings

Elizabeth Wentworth

Jane Waldock

Christopher Bell⁵

Life Member Meg Smith remembers those historic productions:

The Graduate Union was something I was aware of as an undergraduate, as I attended, and occasionally read in, the Tin Alley Players monthly play readings in the Graduate Lounge of the University Union building. TAP had been founded by Keith Macartney, Elden de Steiger and Professor Maurice Belz in 1939. In 1955, after nine years of employment in Melbourne and England, I returned to TAP and became involved with play readings and productions.

'Then the Graduate Union acquired its own home in 1962. TAP transferred its readings to the Anderson Room, and continued there for some years. Bill Berry was quite fond of us as members, I think, as he once said to me – "You do something in the GU – not just have an Annual Dinner". Unfortunately, TAP died in the 1980s, but the Graduate Union survives and grows.'

The First Secretary-Warden

Bill Berry liked to call a spade a spade and an oxymoron a contradiction. He was never lukewarm about an idea, but was either passionately for it, or against it and would forcefully make his point. He would tell the residents, 'I have a kind heart, but you'll have to quarry for it'. However, in contrast, his 'office door was always open' for residents to discuss any concerns they might have had – from the personal to the academic, to where they could buy clothing, or the demystifying of Australian rituals or language.

He was Secretary of the Graduate Union from 1948 to 1984 – a term of thirty six years and in that time profound changes took place. When he began, the Graduate Union was a small 'homeless' group of past graduates with a dream to assist postgraduates. When he retired, he left a 6000-strong membership, affiliated as a College of The University of Melbourne, and able to host over fifty postgraduate scholars in its own fully owned residences.

The formation of a Graduate House and permanent home for the Graduate Union was Bill's aim. He believed that a university should be an extended community where graduates kept in touch and shared a sense of duty to their alma mater. His particular interest was the housing of postgraduate scholars close to their university. He also saw the need to establish a centre for non-resident graduates where they could socialise and work towards promoting the welfare of the University and the encouragement of higher education.

Bill realised that to achieve this aim he needed to approach the question of building up the membership and consequently the funds, as a marketing challenge. With this in mind, he instigated several



The first Secretary-Warden Mr W.E.F. (Bill) Berry.

ideas to encourage membership. Part of this drive was the formation of a newsletter, of which he was the founding Editor and publisher.¹

The first edition of *The Melbourne Graduate* appeared in August 1950. The Editorial Committee comprised Miss Myra Roper, Associate Professor Keith Macartney, Mr R R P Barbour and Mr W E F Berry. The dramatic critic was Mr W A G Scott and the literary reviewer, Mr Ian Mair. Printed beneath were the words 'Published each University term by the Executive Committee of the Graduates Section of the Union, for distribution without charge to members of that Society.' From 1950–1984 *The Melbourne Graduate* was published as occasion demanded or finance permitted. The magazine, in a larger revised format, continues to the current day.

Bill Berry's involvement with the graduates came about when he was appointed an administrative cadet in the Registrar's section in 1937 to look after graduate affairs. Bill returned to the university after the war, having served with the 2/14 Infantry Battalion, AIF from 1940-1945 and resumed his post as a graduate administrator. He also took his Bachelor of Commerce degree in 1945 and a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1947.

His job of 'looking after' the affairs of the Graduate Union involved keeping the Graduate Roll and editing the University Gazette. However, he was very much aware that his position was a junior one without power to effect changes or improve the state, and the status, of the graduates group. He was concerned about how he could be instrumental, and influential, in the affairs of the Graduate Union whilst fulfilling a minor executive role. Being an intensely practical man, the solution for him was a simple one.

He resigned from the Registrar's Office where a career was assured and took a job in industry that would not only give him added experience in running an organisation, but would also give him sufficient status to run the Graduate Union. So, for some years Bill worked in industry by day and conducted Union meetings and business at night and on weekends.³

Luncheons and other fund raisers

A talent for marketing proved vital in the task to interest both past graduates and commercial concerns in supporting the Graduate Union. To that end, social events, luncheons, dinners and admissions to life membership became important for networking and encouraging donations from members.

The monthly luncheon became a lively regular event that featured largely in the fundraising plan. It offered the opportunity for past graduates to get together around a dining table and exchange views and ideas. Bill organised interesting speakers from all avenues of society in order to tempt the members and to encourage new members.

The luncheons of that era began in the late 1940s and took place at the Victoria Coffee Palace in Little Collins Street. Mixed in

with the academic speakers and civic leaders, Bill Berry decided now and then to add a popular figure of the time to stimulate bookings. This idea worked well when the crime fiction writer Ngaio Marsh spoke to an intrigued throng in February 1949, drawing the largest ever attendance recorded at one of those luncheons.

Speakers over the past fifty years have included an impressive company of High Court Judges, a Civil Celebrant, zoologists, philosophers, plastic surgeons, parliamentarians, PhDs in many disciplines, economics experts, aboriginal activists, a mutation researcher, a playwright, a curator, a publisher, a dancer, engineers, an ombudsman, a Lord Mayor, an RSL President, Police Commissioners, clergy, a genealogist, journalists, Antarctic explorers and anyone else brave enough to face the informed questioning that often followed.

The 'Year of Graduation' gatherings afforded another way to attract new members. These were tried for a while with those who had completed their degrees in a given year, inviting them to attend a late afternoon gathering in Graduate House. It was hoped that these past graduates, who often stayed on for dinner, would become members. As with the monthly luncheons, Bill used these gatherings as a forum to spread the word about the aims of the Graduate Union and attract more new members. The response was generally fairly good. However, one particular night, the technique worked even better than the optimistic Mr Berry could have imagined.

The first year chosen was, in fact, an entire decade - that of the 1920s. On this occasion, a graduate named Stella Langford was so impressed with the aims and ideals of the Graduate Union that she took Bill Berry aside and confided that she intended to make provision for the Graduate Union in her will.

This provision was generous enough to fund the purchase of the three Victorian Houses directly on the south side of Kidd's Warehouse. The Stella Langford Annexe today augments the accommodation available to postgraduate scholars. Bill Berry would often distribute enrolment forms outside Wilson Hall after Graduation ceremonies to encourage new members. Meg Smith was one graduate approached by the eager Secretary-Warden. She recalls::

'Receiving a postgraduate degree in 1971, I was met by Bill as I came out, with his application for membership form, to the amusement of us both'.

The Council meetings

The Graduate Councils of the day included many notable names from the academic, professional and business communities and the office staff were required to keep Councillors informed of current matters, progress and ideas which led to discussion and decisions at the bi-monthly meetings.

Until the Union found its home in Leicester Street, Council meetings were held at various University venues, city professional rooms, and then permanently in the Anderson Room in Graduate House. The Chairman presided and led discussions and many historic, far-reaching decisions were reached as the College expanded.

Noel Bergere, a Master of the Supreme Court and the father of the Graduate Union's Constitution, was an invaluable advisor to Council. He had been crippled by poliomyelitis at age three and would drive himself up to meetings from his city chambers in an old, specially-fitted Humber Snipe. Barbara Funder was deputed to keep him a parking spot in front of Graduate House and assemble his wheelchair.

The Council meetings began promptly at 5.30pm. Although he often made a late entry into the discussion, Councillor Bergere was always quick to grasp the thread. The dissecting scalpel of his logic and commonsense was applied during a dry recital of the facts, delivered in his quiet voice. As with young barristers in his court, he could be devastating to any ill-prepared member. He was, however, a loyal and wise friend to many, including Bill Berry who, himself,



Noel Bergere, Councillor and author of The Graduate Union Constitution

was not always free from the occasional rebuke. Together they were an indomitable pair, sometimes to the frustration of the Council.

Whilst the Council meetings generally ran smoothly, it is a matter of record that over the years many heated discussions took place, particularly over property matters and Noel Bergere and Bill Berry were often at their centre. It took strong men and women to volunteer for Council duty – many did, and their individual wisdom and expertise played a vital part in the successful growth of the Graduate Union.

Stage One of Graduate House opened in 1962, and WEF Berry was appointed the Founding Warden. Over the next 24 years he guided the activities of the Graduate Union and Graduate House. He remained in this position until his retirement in 1984. Even after his retirement, his individual spirit often led him to question Union and University policies and many lively, sometimes fiery, exchanges at meetings would take place.

There are many examples of Bill's practical attitude to life. The Graduate Union was dependent on the University for the funding of many services in the very early days. When they could no longer afford to pay for secretarial help, Bill taught himself to type. Aside from typing, Bill developed other skills as the needs arose. He cut hedges, served the drinks and even waited on tables. When the kitchen was without a chef, Bill went to the market and bought the produce required for the meals.

Bill's fierce commitment to getting the job done – shaping Graduate House and its residential program – led people to either consider him as a friend or a foe. Dr Robin Sharwood crossed swords with Bill Berry on many occasions, and recalls those interesting times:

'My involvement with the Graduate Union began in 1974, when I was made a Fellow, and continued for a number of years, culminating in the office of President (1986-1989).

'I enjoyed my early relations with Mr Berry, already a legendary Secretary-Warden. A great character, I admired his single-minded dedication to the Union, of which (in its modern form) he was largely the architect.

'Unfortunately, his single-mindedness had its downside. He wanted to run things in his own way, and increasingly, he sat pretty lightly to its formal governing structures. When he agreed (reluctantly) to resign, he chose to play the role, not of Elder Statesman (which would have readily been accorded to him), but of leader of a Government-in-Exile.

'For some years, the Union was a deeply troubled organisation, which was costly to it in all sorts of ways, although, somehow, it continued to fulfil its core functions. My position as President in that period, was, to say the least, difficult. Despite everything, however, I continued to like Mr Berry personally, and never doubted his good intentions, however exasperating I might have found his activities. The Graduate Union still was, and still is, his enduring legacy to the University community. I am qualified to note that it now appears to be entering the "broad, sunlit up-lands" which must always be its goal.'

Bill believed absolutely in the notion that a University ought to actively keep in touch with its graduates and with some intense lobbying to outside interests, he raised considerable sums of money for the Graduate Building Fund and also the Graduate Fund for University purposes.

It has been calculated that in his working career at the Graduate Union, Bill dealt with thousands of people – including many members, the various Councils, with Presidents and Chairmen and the core of his job, generations of residents. His practical advice and help to generations of students forged friendships which lasted long after their departure from the College.

His involvement with the scholars did not end at Graduate House. Many knew the comforts of a good lunch at the Berry home in Ivanhoe with Bill and his wife Vera, a warm and welcoming hostess. There were many wide ranging discussions around a log fire and a walk in the park with the dogs. It was a touch of home, away from home. Those students would return to their own countries with glowing praise for their time at Graduate House. So successful was Bill at encouraging membership that in the decade of the 'eighties, the Graduate Union numbers greatly increased.

The Council, in March 1982 admitted Bill to Honorary Life Membership of the Graduate Union, as a mark of signal honour. Bill Berry died in 1999. He had founded a small society of committed graduates after his retirement, and this group became the trustee of a generous bequest. Now, the William Berry Post-Graduate College Trust continues his work and directs its donations to the upkeep of the residential quarters in Graduate House.

When Bill Berry retired in 1984, Mr Geoffrey Fairhall inherited a robust group with membership in excess of 6000 graduates, and a graduate residence. Whilst there is a social aspect to the organisation, Bill saw the real agenda as helping postgraduates in further studies, and raising money to that end. His philosophy 'past graduates for postgraduates' continues to this day.

The People of the Graduate Union

The intellectual, the eccentric, the charismatic, and the colourful are the types of people who have shaped the character of the Graduate Union over the past ninety years. At least two Prime Ministers, a Governor of Victoria, a Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, a Chief Justice, some Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors are among the thousands of people who have been involved in Graduate House either as Councillors, Fellows, benefactors, residents or as rank and file members.

The Founders

Since the original council of the Melbourne University Graduates Association of 1911, many notable names have contributed to its success. The first Chairman, Sir John Monash, was followed by Mr J G (later Sir John) Latham for the year 1912-13. He was a politician, a diplomat and Chief Justice of the High Court, and went on to become Chancellor of The University of Melbourne, having also led the Australian delegation to the League of Nations in 1926.

Another notable Chairman was Sir George Syme (1929-30) of *The Age* newspaper empire, who unfortunately died during his term of office. Dr J W Barrett, who generously provided the rooms for the earliest meetings of the MUGA was to go on to serve in the First World War. He became Vice Chancellor of The University of Melbourne in 1931 and was acting Chancellor in 1934. It was he who recommended the appointment of Raymond Priestley as Chancellor in 1935.¹



Staff of Graduate House, 2002, (left to right): Geoffrey Dye, Andrea Rulli, Lyn Weston, Diane Thomas, Peter Cunningham, Lou Tarquinio, Paul Reidy, Rosie Ellul, Margaret Schintler, Eugene Spanti (absent; Brenda Greaney)



Housekeeper Brenda Greaney in the dining room

The Graduate Union Years

Since gaining independence in 1953 as the Graduate Union, there have been many august individuals who have served as Presidents. Sir John Latham maintained his interest in the association he helped found in 1911 and in 1953 he became the first President under a new constitution. He was followed by Sir William Johnston, Sir Alexander Fitzgerald, Sir James Tait, Dr Phillip Law and Mr Maurice Brown. The Rev Dr J Davis McCaughey was appointed in 1981; Sir John Minogue, 1983; Dr Robin Sharwood 1986; then by Professor Kenneth Hunt, Dr Ralph Howard, and Justice David Harper. In 2001 Mr Frank Lees became the thirteenth President of the Graduate Union.

Dr Ronald Davey, a former Vice President and Chairman in the 1980s and an Honorary Life Member remembers those years and records his appreciation:

'Having received my first degree from The University of Melbourne on a scholarship, I chose to repay the University by service to the Graduate Union which serves the community of scholars by providing a post-graduate college for students from all over the country and the world. A personal benefit to me has been the formation of friendships with a number of very fine people of like mind, who believe that helping such students is of real benefit to the University and the country. This has amply repaid my contributions.'

The Secretary-Wardens

There have been eleven Secretary-Wardens looking after the day-to-day interests of the Graduate Union.² After the retirement of Bill Berry, Geoffrey Fairhall held the post for the next six years and consolidated the membership. Ian Barrah followed and was succeeded by Fran O'Brien. She was a friendly and practical woman who knew the ways of the Graduate Union. Fran had joined the staff of the Graduate Union as a receptionist and typist. Her skills soon became evident and she progressed to House Manager, and finally became

Secretary-Warden. Many postgraduate scholars remember her commonsense, down-to-earth attitude and efficient ways. Tragically, she died suddenly in office barely two years later. Several Secretary-Wardens were then appointed in quick succession.

In 2001, Eugene Spanti took the position. His qualifications in the areas of hospitality and food services will be important assets as the new Graduate House expands these facilities.

The Graduate Union Fellows

Once the Graduate Union was established as a bona fide college of The University of Melbourne, Bill Berry decided it was time to suggest to the Council that this new college should appoint its own Ordinary Fellows and Research Fellows.

No attempt was made to specify the duties or functions of the first Fellows, since it was felt that time and experience would show whether the concept was valid and how it could be developed. The tenure of the first Fellows was three years with a renewable period of two years.³

It was assumed that the Fellows would have a special relationship with junior postgraduate members in residence. At first this was the case, with special Fellows Nights being convened by Professor H F Simon. Gradually, however, the residential composition of Graduate House changed and it became more senior in character as more and more post-doctoral scholars sought admission.

Another of the original functions of the Fellows was to share in the formal control of Graduate House. By 1976, it was clear that some change in the original concept was needed. The Graduate Council set up a Fellowship Nomination Committee, not only to consider possible new appointments, but also to re-examine the bases of rights, duties, privileges and the constitutional requirements for fellowship.

In September 1977 the Articles relating to Fellows were changed in some important particulars. Direct reference to the University's Professorial Board and to existing Fellows in making new appoint-



Volunteers Fran Rule, Patricia Boaden, Marie Keogh and Eva Nagy during a mailout, assisted by Chloe the bichon

ments was no longer required. Achievements in fields other than academic ones were to be considered as grounds for appointment.

The Fellowship was most active through the decade of the 'seventies, but has lapsed in recent years. However, lately there has been some interest in its revival.

Today's Volunteers

It is well known in the Graduate Union community that the regular commitment and enthusiasm of a special group of members ensures that the monthly mail-outs and the quarterly *The Melbourne Graduate* arrive on time. These are, of course, the volunteers, some of whom have given many years of their time as helpers.

Life Member Patricia Boaden, a graduate in Arts and Music, was a member of the Graduate Council in the early 1990s and has now returned in a new role as a regular volunteer. Patricia enjoys the company of her group and brings along a canine helper, her bichon, Chloe, who is a source of amusement and pleasure to all who meet her.

Marie Keogh, a Life Member, is another regular volunteer. A graduate in Arts in 1958, she studied in the Faculty of Education

in the '70s and '80s. Marie joined the Graduate Union for quiet reading and relaxation and an occasional evening dinner. Now, in retirement from her position as director of Mercy College Campus in Ascot Vale, she has found satisfaction in serving as a volunteer.

Arts graduate and Life Member Eva Nagy enjoys the social activities in the Graduate Union, but wants to be useful as well. For her, the volunteer's group fulfils this purpose and has the added advantage of the intellectual stimulus provided by a companionable group of diverse personalities.

Stanley and Margaret Dean have been familiar faces at functions since the 1960s. Stanley, a graduate in Engineering and former Chairman in the late 1960s and Margaret, an Arts graduate from the University of Bristol, assist with the monthly mailouts as a way of supporting the Union's provision of a means for graduates to communicate and meet.

The Speakers

'The matter of the first luncheon of the Association was considered. It was decided to hold the lunch at the Victoria Coffee Palace'. 4

This notation in early Minutes marks the beginning of a series of monthly luncheon meetings with guest speakers, from April 1921.

Many speakers have held the attention of graduate audiences since 1911. Originally, the lectures were delivered at night in a hall, followed by a supper at various nearby venues. The idea of the luncheon with a lecture took hold in 1921 and has continued through the years despite the various name changes of the Union. Luncheons were hosted by the Graduates Section of the University Union from 1936-1952 and were then continued by the independent Graduate Union.

The first luncheon speaker was Sir Henry Braddon, KBE, MLC, a businessman and lecturer in Business Principles and Practice in the University of Sydney. He was followed by many eminent academics, scientists and business people throughout the decade of the 'twenties.

During the economic depression of the late 'twenties and early 'thirties, the MUA attracted such speakers as Sir Malcolm Sargeant, Sir Bernard Heinze and Mr Neville Cardus, Music Critic for *The Times* of London.

During the 1940s Mr Noel Coward asked that an extra two shillings be added to the two shillings and sixpence charged at the Victoria Coffee Palace, as he was speaking for charity. There were boom attendances during these years with the accommodation of upwards of 250 members, causing considerable delight to the Union's executive. Sir Keith Murdoch was another notable speaker during the 'forties. Some of the speakers who entertained and informed during the decade of the 'fifties included Mr Frank Crean, who became the Treasurer in the Whitlam Government, Sir John Medley, Sir Macfarlane Burnet and Joan Hammond. Politics and science were represented in the 'sixties by Arthur Calwell, Senator Sam Cohen and Professor Gustav Nossal.⁵

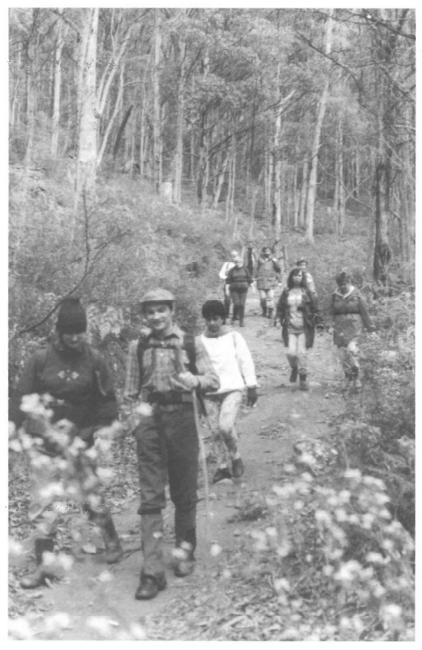
It was not until 1975 that the luncheons moved to the dining room at Graduate House. Meetings are now always held on the first Wednesday of the month and attendance continues to be strong.

THE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The Graduate Union thrives because of the individualism of its members. Whilst they have a mutual goal – the support of post-graduates by past graduates – members have formed common interest groups to further enhance communication and socialisation. All the following 'arms' of the Graduate Union help raise funds through their particular areas of interest.

GradLinks

GradLinks describe themselves as 'a sub-group of the Graduate Union of The University of Melbourne'. They provide social activities for single graduates from all universities who are less than



A Graduate Union group on a bush walk

forty five years of age. This group gives graduates the opportunity to network at both personal and professional levels through the organised monthly social activities. The subgroup's intent is to re-create a conducive environment in which friendships and networks, similar to those established in undergraduate years, can be fostered.

GradLinks consists of dynamic and lively professionals with varying qualifications and interests. A typical month of activities includes a monthly luncheon at Graduate House. A social night at the House is a popular way to introduce potential members to the group over drinks and dinner. Dressing up for the occasion is encouraged. Other activities include tennis afternoons, cocktail parties and recently a Pub Discovery tour explored some of the more interesting hotels around Melbourne. A Wednesday dance night is proving successful and a beginners night is included every few months for those needing to learn the steps.

Liz Shellard is a graduate in Social Work and has been a member of GradLinks since 1998. She was initially attracted to this younger social sub-group because it offers the opportunity to socialise and network with other graduates.

Liz was co-opted to the Graduate Council in 1999 and subsequently to the 2000 Elections. She has been involved in various committees, including the House Board in 2001, which is concerned with the residential component of the college.

Since joining the Union, and now as a member of Council, Liz has especially enjoyed meeting other graduates of all ages and disciplines and having contact with the resident postgraduate scholars. She has also been entertained by the variety of guest speakers at the Union's monthly luncheons and seasonal dinners.

Liz Shellard offered the comment, '... my involvement with the Graduate Union has enriched my life in many, many ways and I look forward to being part of the future of the new Graduate House.'

Solo Graduates

Solo Graduates was formed to cater for a group of single people who expressed the need for both intellectual challenges and social interaction with professionals like themselves.

Membership of Solos is obtained by joining the Graduate Union of The University of Melbourne and is open to all people with a tertiary qualification (ie a 3-year post-secondary course). The group is run by an elected committee whose main function is to assist with the coordination of events. The group's events are run by members and there is no paid organiser. The range of activities is very broad and includes both indoor and outdoor functions. There are about ten to twenty events per month.

The main social function for each month is the fourth Friday social night at Graduate House in Carlton. The format for this evening is a social gathering with a meal and wine. Up to sixty five people attend this function which provides an opportunity for socialising prior to, during, and after the meal. Sometimes theme nights are incorporated into the evening. This burgeoning group is actively seeking members, and encourages those who are interested to attend several functions before deciding if they will join the group.

A typical Solos newsletter reveals their interests.

'... July has us in a firm winter grip. Why not break the hold at Port & Poetry around a log fire at Eltham. We'll be introducing Performance Poetry ... Jenny's music party was a great success with plenty of live music, chat and song. It was a good night around the fire. Theatre nights continue to be popular with a good 'roll up' at the Clocktower where Wolf Lullaby was performed. Bushwalks continue to be ever popular'.

Andre Cleghorn recounts how he joined Solos.

'Until I read an advertisement in *The Age* newspaper for the Solo Graduates Group, I did not know of the existence of the Graduate Union or what this small ad would do. About eight years on I find myself a councillor at a crucial and

exciting time in the life of the Graduate Union.

'I joined like so many other younger members, for the social functions in a collegiate atmosphere. Later I learnt about the residential accommodation provided for postgraduate students and visiting academics and other activities the Graduate Union offers. The next stage in the development of Graduate House, the new building on the 'Kidds' warehouse site offers so many possibilities to invigorate the Graduate Union and provide the facilities our members expect.'

The Italian Group

In the early 1990s, Ingrid Burke, an active Graduate Union member, started a series of Language Dinners where a language other than English could be spoken under 'real' conditions over a splendid meal. Italian, French or German were the chosen tongues and for some years the dinners were extremely popular. The beverages loosened inhibitions and conversations flowed. A teacher was on hand to help with the grammar and the participants rallied enthusiastically. With the untimely passing of Ingrid Burke, the only activity to survive was the dinner where Italian was spoken.

On the first Monday night of the month, the Anderson Room at Graduate House is alive with Italian speakers enjoying a predinner drink. After dinner in the Ian Potter Dining Room, the group enjoys coffee and discussion around an article from a paper or magazine. The group emphasises the fact that all that is needed is some basic vocabulary and a real interest in the Italian tongue.

The Women's Forum

A group of graduate women convened by Shirley Horne and Patricia Boaden decided that they would like to have a discussion group in which they could express their opinions on a wide range of subjects, without the interjections of those who assume they know far more than the fairer sex.

Every second Monday morning, the Anderson Room is the venue for discussions on the chosen subject of the day. Topics range from from Democracy through Refugees to the Gold Standard, and any other area of interest. Each speaker is heard in silence with only the occasional strongly vented challenge being allowed.

When all have spoken, an Open Forum begins to either support or demolish the topic, with speakers defending their theories and propositions against spirited, but never hostile, opposition. The intellectual stimulation is followed by a luncheon in the Ian Potter Dining Room. The meal is always spiced with further rhetoric on the morning's topic.



The Geriatrix enjoying lunch at Graduate House

The Geriatrix

Some long standing members of the Graduate Union who enjoy regular socialising together, now revel in the name 'Geriatrix'. This name was coined by well known Melbourne identity and wine buff Jimmy Watson, of the esteemed restaurant in Lygon Street, Carlton, which was formerly the meeting place for the group. They have now succumbed to the cosy atmosphere of Graduate House, where they fill the dining room with their laughter and intend to continue doing so for many years to come.

The Way Ahead

'Oxford undergraduates spent their time reclining in rooms on orange cushions, wearing suede shoes or playing marbles on the steps of the Bodleian'. This was part of a speech given by Mr S C Lazarus, Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Oxford, as part of his address in May 1924 to the Melbourne University Association. He did not elaborate on the activities of postgraduates at Oxford, but the image of scholars reclining in rooms on orange cushions is diametrically opposed to the dedicated and serious scholars who undergo postgraduate studies in the 21st century.¹

No longer is a postgraduate scholar content with lodgings that provide a comfortable room and a small desk with three meals a day. Neither is a fireplace valued as a place over which to toast crumpets and muffins, as was the case in the ivy covered colleges of Oxford and Cambridge – an activity which has been woven into novels and stories in countless books over several hundred years.

A larger, modern postgraduate residence is necessary to keep pace with the growing numbers of scholars wishing to pursue studies at The University of Melbourne. The present Graduate House can host only fifty-four postgraduate scholars at any one time and there is a long waiting list. Kidd's Warehouse had been viewed as a possible site for a new, larger Graduate House.

Over the last few decades, various suggestions and plans were considered for the site. When the park opposite Graduate House was redeveloped as University Square, an underground parking area was provided beneath the square, with access from Berkeley Street, to ease the growing pressure of increased motor traffic and

parking limitations around the university. The new car park created concerns about the complex issues of traffic management in Grattan Street.

At a meeting of Convocation addressed by Dr Daines, Deputy Principal (Property and Buildings) in The University of Melbourne, the representative of the Faculty of Engineering, Mr Frank Lees, suggested that a tunnel from the car park to Bouverie Street, beneath the Kidd's building, would improve traffic flow. The demolition of Kidd's Warehouse for the construction of a tunnel would leave vacant land on which the Graduate Union could build additional premises. Negotiations between the Graduate Union and The University of Melbourne resulted in the University purchasing the underground rights and, in an equitable manner, accepting that the Graduate Union would retain the above ground rights. Settlement took place in July 2002 and the demolition of Kidd's Warehouse began in September. Construction of the new Graduate House is expected to commence in 2003.

International Trends in Postgraduate Housing

Every generation has different expectations, and in the 21st century graduate housing will need to incorporate all the facilities expected in an international business hotel. This was the finding of the present Secretary-Warden of the Graduate Union, Eugene Spanti, on a recent tour of graduate housing in Europe, with Dr John Binns, presently a Councillor and former Chairman of the Graduate Union Council.

Dr Binns noted that providing facilities of an international standard is an essential requisite if Graduate House is to compete for postgraduate patronage in the coming decades. He commented:

'In order for us to achieve our ultimate goal of an affiliated postgraduate residential college, I feel it is very important to understand and identify primarily the philosophy and tradition of the Union and its members and ensure that all their needs are attended to in the most effective and efficient manner, so that the new Graduate House becomes our "jewel in the crown".'

Secretary-Warden Spanti added that in-room computer access with Internet links is considered to be a necessary part of the facilities. Postgraduate residents expect to be able to retrieve their own e-mail, have Internet access, use of facsimiles, printing and photocopiers. These facilities are available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, and are free of charge in the more progressive postgraduate housing overseas.

The Graduate Union is realising the need to compete with many other residence options in Melbourne, therefore it is essential to be able to offer a state-of-the-art facility close to the University. Applying good and fair business practices in a university environment is necessary to survive in today's world where toasting muffins over an open fire has become an anachronism.

Innovative thinking for a profitable future

The present Graduate House is ideally located for postgraduate study, being close to The University of Melbourne and less than a kilometre away from some outstanding centres of biological research and medical practice in Australia – the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, the Howard Florey Institute, the Royal Melbourne and Royal Women's Hospitals, the Veterinary Research Institute and the Royal Dental Hospital.

The fact-finding tour revealed ways of raising cash flow in order to ensure the finest facilities. The hiring of Board Rooms and meeting rooms to both the University and to the general business community translates into a marketable service to attract potential members from graduates who are working in business.

The diversity of Graduate Union members

Research has pointed out the differing needs of the residents and members. Residents, understandably, do not like to be disturbed by the sounds of functions taking place whilst they are trying to study. This has been a concern in the layout of the present Graduate House. In consultation with all the proposed users of the new building, a design has been struck that allows residents to enjoy full privacy, but also access to the function rooms on the lower floors.²

The dietary and leisure needs of scholars are also being evaluated. As a result, self-catering facilities in the rooms are being considered, as is the variety of meals provided by the kitchen.

The dining facilities are planned to provide for many tastes and persuasions with a sophisticated self-service food bar offering a wide range of meats, seafoods, vegetables and fruits. In order to encourage patronage, public dining and full bar facilities open to non-members are being considered. As the new Graduate House is in the lower middle of the University campus, near the Law School, a majority of passers-by coming from the University are seen as potential members.

Graduate House - Reciprocal Accommodation

Over the last few decades, reciprocal arrangements with graduate housing overseas have been established. The Graduate Union has alliances with many overseas colleges in the United Kingdom, U.S.A, Europe, Canada and Hong Kong. Graduates can stay in residences such as London House, United Oxford and Cambridge University Club, The Harvard Club in Boston, the Cornell Club in New York, University Club Toronto, Hart House, Toronto, the Caledonian Club in Edinburgh and the Auckland University Club. A full list appears at Appendix Nine.

How the Graduate Fund assisted The University of Melbourne

For close to forty years, the Graduate Union offered solid financial assistance to The University of Melbourne from its

Graduate Fund. Monies were collected from members when membership renewals were due. The graduate member was given the option of including a cheque to be added to the Graduate Fund for University uses.

Beneficiaries of this Fund included The School of Veterinary Science and the Baillieu Library and in 1982 \$4 000 was donated towards the cost of a portrait of a former Chancellor, Sir Oliver Gillard. Proceeds from the Fund seldom exceeded \$5 000 in any year.

In the same year, the retiring Vice-Chancellor, Sir David Derham attended the November meeting of the Graduate Council to explain the University's plans to improve its graduate contacts, especially in fund-raising potential. At that meeting, Council agreed to release some \$60 000 from the accumulated Graduate (Trust) Fund for the setting up of a Graduate Secretariat. Regular monies were donated for particular University purposes, as this extract from 1962 indicates:

'By resolution of the Council 500 pounds of last year's Graduate Fund proceeds were voted towards assisting the establishment of the University's Far Eastern collection of books and manuscripts. At a small luncheon party last month given by the Vice Chancellor and arranged by the Professor of Oriental Studies, the cheque was formally passed over by the President of the Union, Sir Alexander Fitzgerald to Professor H F Simon, the Head of Department, with good wishes for the success of the infant School of Oriental Studies.'³

The University of Melbourne and the Graduate Union agreed that the Graduate Fund should be dissolved in 1995 and further, that funds available should be divided between the Graduate Union and the University's new Graduate Centre.⁴ Subsequently, the Graduate Union Building Fund was the grateful recipient of some \$60 000, which was about half the estimated amount remaining.



Artist's impression of the new Graduate House

The past nine decades have seen the growth of The University of Melbourne as a respected institution of learning. Postgraduate scholars have continued to benefit from the valuable exchange of knowledge through interaction with visiting international academics at Graduate House. Sir John Monash and his contemporaries would surely be satisfied that the spirit of camaraderie and scholarship which marked their counterparts in the formative years of the Graduate Union is being maintained.

CHAPTER ONE

- 1. Handwritten note on University Club letterhead from G Prior to Professor Berry, dated 20 April 1911.
- 2. Minutes of first general meeting of Graduates Association of The University of Melbourne, 4 May 1911.
- 3. W E F Berry, 'A short history of the Society of Graduates (The Melbourne University Association, 1911-1937)', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 4, no. 2, 1953, pp. 51-53.
- 4. Ibid.
- 5. Ibid.
- 6. Ibid.
- 7. 'Archival material', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 41, no. 3, 1988, p. 16.
- 8. 'From the archives', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 41, no. 8, 1988, pp. 8-9.
- 9. Ibid.
- 10. Ibid.

CHAPTER TWO

- 1. WEF Berry, loc. cit.
- 2. In the years 1912 to 1920, there were instances where either of these titles was used to refer to the one association.
- 3. WEF Berry, loc. cit.
- 4. Minutes, Melbourne University Association, 19 May 1925.
- 5. 'Archival material', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 41, no. 3, 1988, p. 9.
- 6. 'From the archives', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 42, no. 1, 1989, p. 4.
- 7. Ibid.
- 8. Ibid.
- 9. WEF Berry, loc. cit.

10. Minutes of Committee meeting, Graduates Section of the Melbourne University Union, 20 February 1948.

CHAPTER THREE

- 1. A B Edwards, (letter to the editor), *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 1, no. 2, 1950, p. 84.
- 2. Barbara Funder, (letter to the editor), *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 41, No. 3, 1988, p. 2.
- 3. 'Monthly luncheons', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 8, no. 9, 1957, p. 3.
- 4. 'The graduate connexion, 1911-1981', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol, 38, no. 1, 1982, p. 5.

CHAPTER FOUR

- 1. 'London House for overseas graduates', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 43, no. 2, 1990, p. 3.
- 2. 'The graduate connexion, 1911-1981', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol, 38, no. 1, 1982, p. 5.

CHAPTER FIVE

- Rules of Graduate House.
- 2. 'Residents' news', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 41, no. 3, 1988, p. 10.
- 3. Ibid.
- 4. 'Tin Alley Players', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 42, no. 3, 1989, pp. 8-9.
- 5. Ibid.

CHAPTER SIX

- 1. 'Milestones', The Melbourne Graduate, vol. 53, no. 2, 2000, p. 6.
- 2. (Inside front cover), The Melbourne Graduate, vol. 1, no. 1, 1950.
- 3. 'Award of Honorary Life Membership: Mr W E F Berry', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 33, no. 1, 1982, p. 1.

CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1. Raymond Priestley founded the University Union, the body that later accepted the Melbourne University Graduates Association into its ranks and gave it a home from 1938 until its emergence as the independent Graduate Union in 1953.
- 2. The title 'Secretary-Warden' has been used predominately throughout the years, but occasionally the term 'House Manager' has been used. These titles have both covered the work that would normally have been done by the chief executive officer of an organization.
- 3. 'Appointment of Fellows', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 19, no. 7, 1968, p. 44.
- 4. Minutes of Executive meeting of the Melbourne University Association, 29 April, 1921.
- 5. 'City luncheon meetings of the Graduate Union, 1921-1973', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 32, no. 4, 1981, p. 35.

CHAPTER EIGHT

- 1. 'Amusing English rules', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 42, no. 1, 1989, p. 4.
- 2. Perrott Lyon Mathieson (Architects), Feasibility study for the development of the Kidd's Warehouse site and adjoining holdings, prepared for the Graduate Union of the University of Melbourne, St Kilda, 2001.
- 3. 'Graduate Fund, 1961', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 13, no. 2, 1962, p. 7.
- 4. 'The Residents' Amenities Fund and the Graduate Fund', *The Melbourne Graduate*, vol. 48, no. 4, 1995, p. 4.

Appendix One

Presidents

Hon Sir John Latham	1957 - 1958
Sir William Johnston	1958 – 1961
Sir Alexander Fitzgerald	1961 - 1965
Sir James Tait	1965 - 1971
Dr Phillip G Law	1971 - 1977
Mr Maurice Brown	1978 – 1980
Rev Dr Davis McCaughey	1981 – 1983
Hon Sir John Minogue	1983 – 1986
Dr Robin L Sharwood	1986 – 1989
Professor Kenneth H Hunt	1990 - 1995
Dr Ralph W Howard	1995 – 1996
Hon Justice David L Harper	1996 – 1999
Mr Frank A Lees	2000 -

Appendix Two

Chairmen of the Graduate Council

Mr E Noel Bergere*	1957 – 1959
Dr William W Lempriere	1959 - 1961
Mr R Myles Green	1961 - 1963
Dr James G Campbell	1963 - 1965
Mr Francis J Mulrooney	1965 – 1967
Dr Kenneth F Skues	1967 – 1968
Dr C Douglas Donald	1968 – 1970
Mr James G Dunstan	1970 - 1972
Professor Peter C Reade	1972 - 1974
Mr Thomas S Bellair	1974 - 1975
Dr Ralph W Howard	1975 – 1977
Mr John O Parker	1977 – 1979
Mr Stanley K Dean	1979 - 1981
Dr T Ronald Davey	1981 - 1982
Mr Thomas H Kneen	1982 - 1984
Mr Mark W Sibree	1984 - 1986
Dr Ralph W Howard	1986 - 1987
Mrs Shirley B Horne	1987 – 1990
Dr Owen W Parnaby	1990 - 1993
Dr Leonard K Allen	1993 – 1996
Mr John A Sayers	1996 – 1999
Dr John C Binns	1999 - 2001
Dr David T Bellair	2001 -

^{*} first Chairman of the newly constituted Graduate Union

Appendix Three

Fellows

Hon Sir Daryl Dawson*
Hon Robert J Hawke
Professor Margaret Manion
Sir Arvi Parbo
Professor Peter C Reade
Dr Robin L Sharwood
Professor Harry F Simon
Mr David Yencken
Dr Pierre P Gorman*
Professor Kenneth H Hunt**
Dr Phillip G Law*
Dr Herbert C Coombs
Hon Sir Billy M Snedden**
Professor Victor M Trikojus**
Professor John Turner**

^{*}Resigned

^{**}Deceased

Appendix Four

Secretary-Wardens

Mr William E F Berry ¹	1948 - 1984
Mr Geoffrey R Fairhall	1985 – 1991
Mr Ian R Barrah²	1991 – 1995
Mr George B Deacon ³	1992
Ms Judith Watt	1995 – 1996
Mr Jack Clarke ⁴	1996
Mrs Fran O'Brien	1996 – 1998
Dr Rita Albert	1998 - 1999
Mrs Marcelle Wood ⁵	1999 - 2000
Mr Ian Cayser ⁶	2000 - 2001
Mr Eugene Spanti	2001 -

^{1.} Secretary 1948 – 1984; Secretary-Warden 1962 – 1984

^{2,3.} During 1992 there was a dual holding of the office of Warden

^{4.} Acting, seconded from Trinity College

^{5.} Acting

^{6.} House Manager

Appendix Five

Honorary Librarians, The Johnston Library

Mr Bruce T Burne	1983 – 1986
Miss Josephine McGovern	1986 - 1995
Mr Colin Watson	1995 – 1998
Miss Esther Pedicini ¹	1995 - 1998
Miss Josephine McGovern	1998 - 2001
Mr Geoffrey Dye	2001 -

¹ Part-time assistant

Appendix Six

Domestic Staff

Matron Housekeepers 1962 – 2002

Mrs Madge Farrall Mrs Jeanne W Miller Mrs Greta Brown Mrs Brenda Greaney

The above people served for many years - with occasional changes in title.

Chefs 1962 - 2002

Mrs Jessie Hamilton Mr Otto Pova Mr Albert Davenport Mr Barry Egginton Mrs Greta Brown Ms Amanda Dempster Huntsbury's Catering Mr Paul Reidy Mr John Gasparotto

Porters 2000-2002

Mr Justin Potter Mr Lou Tarquinio

Appendix Seven

Benefactors

The William Berry Post-Graduate College Trust (Restoration of Games Room, Maintenance of Residents quarters)

The Stillwell Family (Bequest and Portrait in the Stillwell Room)

The Potter Foundation (Dining Room)

Mr Noel Miller (Furnishings in Anderson Room)

Sir George Pape (Books in Pape Library, Anderson Room)

Dr J Orde Poynton Library (Books for Johnston Library)

Mr Murray and Mrs Shirley Payne (Painting of University Cloisters)

Dr George Garratt (pictures and etchings)

(Linocuts and Prints, Anderson Room and Potter Dining Room)

Anonymous Fellow and Life Member

(Glass and engravings, Johnston Library Maps and Visitors Book)

Mr E Noel Bergere (Bequest and Record Collection)

Mr Andrew Fry (Australian Prints)

Past Graduates and Post Graduates Society Inc.

(Binding of 'The Melbourne Graduate' for the years 1963 to 2001)

Dr Ralph Howard (Furnishings Potter Dining Room)

Mr W E F Berry (Books for Johnston Library)

Magnus V Anderson (Bequest – The Anderson Room)

The following companies and members each donated funds to furnish individual bedrooms in Graduate House – some in memory of family members.

Cawthorn Family

Werner P Friederich and Iris Friederich

Miss Dorothy Irving

Dr Douglas Donald

Berry Family

Mobil Oil Australia

Shell Co. of Australia

Repco Ltd

Myer Emporium

A H Massina & Co Pty Ltd

L Revelman Esq

BHP Co Ltd

Dr and Mrs M Rothberg

Victorian Women Graduates Association

C H Malpas Esq

Comalco Industries

Herald & Weekly Times Ltd

Lady Rivett

Commerce Graduates Association

Appendix Eight

The First Residents – 1962

Brian Parker, MA (London)

Proceeding to MA in Middle Eastern Studies

Dr George Nixon (Glasgow) Visiting Professor of Dentistry

T Raymond Casey Lecturer, French Department

D Lancashire (London) Temporary Lecturer in Oriental Studies

Dr Leslie C Norins (Baltimore) Postgraduate Research

Dr C Mendel (Japan) Visitor, Department of Oriental Studies

Dr D G Palmer (Otago) Research, Royal Melbourne Hospital

J R P Gibbons (Yorkshire)

Melbourne Permanent Postgraduate Committee

Dr J Orde Poynton (Cambridge) Consulting Bibliographer,

Baillieu Library and Curator of the Poynton Collection

Dr Chaturaporn (Thailand) Postgraduate studies in neurosurgery

V Ruangsak (Thailand)

Proceeding to Masters, Engineering Science

A Abdul-Maadek (Iraq)

Librarian, Commonwealth Office of Education

S M Haran (Indonesia)

Librarian, Commonwealth Office of Education

A Jemanah (Ethiopia)

Librarian, Commonwealth Office of Education

Appendix Nine

Reciprocal Clubs and Colleges

Australia

University House

Australian National University, PO Box 1535, Canberra City, ACT 2601, Tel: (02) 6249 5211, Fax: (02) 6249 5252

Monash University Club Tel: 9565 3590

The Commercial Travellers Club Ltd MLC Centre, Martin Place, Sydney, NSW 2000, (GPO Box 77, Sydney, NSW 2000), Tel: (02) 9232 7344, Fax: (02) 9232 3207

Kingswood College

University of Western Australia, Hampden Road, Crawley, WA 6009, Tel: (08) 9380 2642

Kathleen Lumley College Inc 51 Finniss Street, North Adelaide, SA 5006, Tel: (08) 8267 3270, Fax: (08) 8239 1705

New Zealand

Auckland University Club 23-25 Princes Street, Auckland, Tel: +37 2275 (Non residential)

United Kingdom

United Oxford & Cambridge University Club

71 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5HD

Tel: +(207) 930 5151, Fax: +(207) 930 9490

uocuc@uocuc.demon.co.uk, http://www.uocuc.co.uk

London House

Mecklenburgh Square, London ScIN 2AB

Tel: +207-837 8888, Fax: +207-837 9321

St James's Club

St James's House, Charlotte Street, Manchester MI 4DZ

Tel: +(061) 236 2235, Fax: +(061) 236 0714

University of Edinburgh

Staff Club, 9-15 Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 iHT

Tel: +(031) 667 1011 Ext: 4502

University of Glasgow

52 Hillhead Street, Glasgow G12 8PZ

Tel: 0141-334 5465

Contact: The Conference and Vacation Office

The Caledonian Club

32 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh EH3 6QE

Tel: +(031) 557 2675, Fax: +(031) 556 5744

U.S.A.

Harvard Club of Boston

374 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02215-2860

Tel: +617-536-1260, Fax: +617-536-0175

(The Harvard Club of New York offers a reciprocal arrangement

for a limited period from June 15 to September 13)

University Club San Francisco

800 Powell Street, San Francisco, California 94108

Tel: +(415) 781 0900, Fax: +(415) 677 9323

The Graduate Club Association

155 Elm Street, PO Box 1875, New Haven, Connecticut, 06508

Tel: +(203) 624 3197

The University Club

420 Summit Avenue, St Paul, Minnesota, 55102

Tel: +(612) 222 1751, Fax: +(612) 222 3336

Canada

University Club of Toronto

380 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5G 1R6

Tel: +(416) 597-1336, Fax: +(416) 597-2994

University Club of Vancouver

1021 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6E 2E8

Tel: +683 9171 (Non residential)

Hong Kong

Robert Black College

University of Hong Kong, University Drive (off Kotewall Road),

Tel: +(852) 2549 3719, Fax: +(852) 2559 4528

Email: rblack@hkusua, Website: http://www.hku.hk/rblack

Appendix Ten

Affiliation with The University of Melbourne

STATUTE 9.11 - THE GRADUATE UNION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE INCORPORATED

Recitals

- Under section 18 of the Act the Council has full power with the consent of the appropriate governing body to make and alter statutes for the affiliation to or connection with the University of any college or educational establishment provided always that such a statute does not affect the religious observances or regulations enforced in such colleges or educational establishments.
- The Graduate Union of the University of Melbourne Incorporated (herein referred to as "the Association") was incorporated under the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981¹ on 12 June 1991.
- The objects of the Association are set out in its Statement of Purposes and 3. include.
 - promoting the welfare of the University; (a)
 - encouraging and assisting postgraduate studies and research in the (b) University or in other teaching institutions recognised by the University. and
 - fostering and maintaining academic, educational and cultural relations (c) between graduates of universities.
- 4 To achieve its objects the Association has established on land acquired for the purpose a collegiate centre providing residential and non-residential accommodation and educational, cultural and recreational facilities for graduates, diplomates, visiting scholars and other suitable persons.
- 5 The conduct and management of the Association is vested in the Graduate Council
- 6 At the request of the Graduate Council of the Association the Council of the University on 1 April 1972 by statute recognised and acknowledged the Association as a college of graduates and granted it affiliation to the University.
- The Graduate Council has consented to alteration of the statute referred to in recital 6 (as amended from time to time) and to its re-making as follows:

Affiliation of the Graduate Union of the University of Melbourne

- 9.11.1 The Association is hereby affiliated to the University as a college of and within the University provided that
 - it continues to use the facilities of the collegiate centre established by the Association as a college for graduates and other persons who are members of the Association and who are undertaking courses or research connected with the University or with a teaching institution recognised by the University; and
 - (h) no person is permitted to enter into residence in any of the premises of the College unless the person(i) is a member of the Association; or

 - is a graduate or diplomate of the University or of a teaching (ii) institution recognised by the University; or
 - (111) is undertaking a course of study or research at the University or the college or at a place appointed or approved for the purpose by the University or the college; or
 - (iv) is a visiting academic to the University or to a teaching institution recognised by the University; or
 - (v) is the spouse or adult companion of any of the persons referred to in this paragraph.



Sir John Monash initiated the establishment of an association of graduates in The University of Melbourne in 1911. This is the story of their progress through various name changes up to the creation of a postgraduate college within the University.

The graduate organizations have known the guiding influences of many eminent persons, including two Prime Ministers, a Governor of Victoria, a Chief Justice and a Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, perpetuating the original ideal – past graduates for postgraduates.