The extraordinary difference your Bequest could make.
“My late husband, Rex and I decided to support medical research. We did a lot of our own thorough research and were very impressed with St Vincent’s Institute and the calibre of their people and work. We wanted to support the future of medical research for the benefit of the next generation, and you can do the same.”

Pamela McCormack
Every Bequest gives hope.

I would like to thank you for your continued support and interest in our quest to understand the complexities of diseases, bringing us closer to breakthroughs and improved health.

St Vincent’s Institute of Medical Research was established by a £200,000 bequest left by John ‘Jack’ Holt in 1951.

Advances in medical treatment which benefit us today were made possible by the generosity of Jack Holt and others who recognised the importance of medical research.

Once you have looked after your family and loved ones through your will I would ask you to consider leaving a bequest to SVI.

Your bequest would be used to fund research into common diseases, including type 1 and 2 diabetes, Alzheimer’s and heart disease, which affect an ever increasing number of us in the community.

It doesn’t matter how big or small your gift is, as each and every gift gives hope for the future.

Together, we can help realise a new vision for the health of the next generation.

After all, SVI is where hope begins.

Brenda Shanahan
Chair
St Vincent’s Institute of Medical Research
St Vincent’s Institute of Medical Research ~ Where hope begins.

Established in 1958, St Vincent’s Institute of Medical Research (SVI) is an independent medical research institute conducting critical research into the cause, prevention and treatment of common diseases that affect many Australians.

It is this desire to discover that has transformed SVI into a recognised world leader in medical research, focusing on:

- cancer
- type 1 diabetes
- type 2 diabetes
- obesity
- heart disease
- arthritis
- osteoporosis
- Alzheimer’s disease and other neurological disorders

Your help helps everyone.

If you or your loved ones have been affected by disease, you will know first hand just how important it is to find better treatments and means of prevention.

However, the simple fact is we, like all medical research institutes, rely heavily on the generosity and support of our donors and supporters…for without you there would be no discovery. No cure.
**Why we do it.**

**Don Purton** has been treated since his early 40s to deter development of the type of heart conditions which killed both of his parents prematurely. Heart disease is Australia’s number one killer.

**Olive Sims** was affected by the very bone diseases that her granddaughter Natalie Sims now researches – arthritis and osteoporosis. One in two Australian women over 60 suffer from osteoporosis.
Why support SVI?

When you choose to leave a gift in your Will to SVI, the whole community benefits. Your generosity will provide a source of funds that will allow us to continue our important research.

You can direct your bequest to the area of research you wish to support. Just imagine, your bequest could advance the cutting edge work of a scientist; purchase vital equipment to speed up discovery; or help develop a drug to treat Alzheimer’s disease.

For us – the supporter, the scientist and the discovery are all critical steps on the pathway towards a healthier future.

SVI’s Protein Metabolism and Chemistry Unit work to understand how the body controls its use of energy, with implications for type 2 diabetes and obesity.

The research in the Structural Biology Unit involves proteins implicated in cancer, brain disease and bacterial and viral infections.
Our achievements.

At SVI, we don’t just hope, we do.

Our scientists have made extraordinary breakthroughs, which have been possible because of the generosity of our supporters.

- Our researchers led Victoria’s first successful islet transplant into a patient with type 1 diabetes: the program has now resulted in a number of patients with type 1 diabetes becoming insulin independent.

- Our researchers identified the three-dimensional shape of a protein which is important in leukaemia and inflammatory diseases: their promising research is now directed towards designing new drugs to treat these conditions.

- SVI scientists are world leaders in research into a protein called AMP-activated protein kinase, which is one of the most promising drug targets against obesity and type 2 diabetes.

By working to understand communication within bone, SVI researchers are developing treatments for diseases such as osteoporosis, arthritis and cancers that grow in bone.

Researchers in SVI’s Molecular Cardiology Unit work to find ways to improve the cardiovascular health of Australians.
"My father, George Carson was passionate about medical research. In 2005, we as a family established The George Carson Bequest in memory of dad as a way of supporting medical research at SVI. This support has allowed researchers at the Institute to form closer connections with cardiologists, helping to translate discoveries made at the bench into practical solutions for Australians living with heart disease."

Ian Carson
About Bequests.

A Bequest is an instruction in your Will to leave a gift to a specific person or charity.

Actually, it is a common misconception that only wealthy people leave money to charity when they die. The reality is that most bequests are made by ordinary people who want to make a positive difference.

However, while around 30% of Australians intend to leave a bequest to a charity, only 7.5% actually do. By making a simple decision to include SVI in your Will, you can make a difference to the future health of Australians.

Types of Bequests.

Bequests can be made in a variety of ways to suit your situation, but there are three main types of bequests:

1. A set amount of money (pecuniary bequest);
2. A residue or a % of the residue of your estate once other bequests have been made (residuary bequest); and
3. A specific asset, eg property, art works, shares (specific bequest).

For many of our donors, the residuary bequest is the most popular. Importantly, you can decide how you wish to support medical research.

Tip. It is recommended that you review your Will every few years. Circumstances change and your Will should reflect your current wishes. Family, friends and charity may all be part of your intent. Talk to your solicitor about the type of gifts that may best suit you and your estate.
Updating or changing your Will.

You may wish to change or update your Will; you can do this by adding a codicil – a page that has been signed and witnessed that makes an amendment to your Will.

What happens if you don’t have a Will?

If you pass away without having a Will your estate will be distributed according to the Administration and Probate Act that applies in your state or territory.

Leaving a bequest will not affect your present financial circumstances.

By leaving a bequest, you are making a contribution to support SVI, without affecting your present financial circumstances.

By having a Will drawn up your wishes for the distribution of your estate will be carried out.
SVI exists because of Jack’s Bequest.

You would think that medical research and the successful training of racehorses are poles apart…

Jack Holt, the fourth son of Irish immigrants, became one of the most successful Australian racehorse trainers of the early 20th century, training winners in the Melbourne Cup, two Caulfield Cups, six Cox Plates and a Victorian Derby.

Despite his success, Jack lived modestly until his death, with his two sisters in a small cottage that he had constructed in Mordialloc.

By all accounts, Jack considered himself an ordinary man. However, in 1951 he made an extraordinary gesture. He bequeathed £200,000 (an enormous sum in those days) to establish a school of medical research, which is known today as St Vincent’s Institute of Medical Research (SVI).

Jack lived in an era when infectious diseases such as polio and tuberculosis still posed major health risks. Sixty years later, thanks to Jack’s legacy, researchers at SVI bring hope to Australians suffering from cancer, heart disease, arthritis, diabetes and Alzheimer’s.

Today, by supporting medical research at SVI, your bequest can provide hope for decades to come.

One person’s legacy can make a profound difference.
**The Jack Holt Society.**

We have established ‘The Jack Holt Society’ to honour the generosity of those individuals who have notified us of their intention to pledge a gift in their Will to SVI.

The society is a way that SVI can thank you now for your foresight and very special contribution. The Society gets together a couple of times a year for small functions, to share stories, and to learn more about research at the Institute.

If you have left a bequest or are considering leaving a bequest, please contact the Bequest Manager for further information on membership of the Jack Holt Society.

All information is in strict confidence.

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*Jack Holt*
How do I leave a Bequest to SVI?

Leaving a gift in your Will is the biggest way you can help to reduce the impact of common diseases in our community.

**Step one**
If you do not have a Will, you will need to obtain independent legal advice about creating one. If you do not have a solicitor, contact a solicitor or Public Trustee in your State.

**Step two**
If you do have a Will, then all you need to do is add a codicil – a short legal amendment to your existing Will.

**Step three**
Decide on what type of bequest you would like to leave. (Pecuniary, Residuary or Specific)

**Step four**
Discuss your wishes with your family and Will executors to ensure that your reasons for your decision are understood.

**Step five**
If you would like to nominate an area of research to support please feel free to contact SVI to discuss. Don’t forget…
 include SVI ABN 52 004 705 640 in your suggested wording.

**The level of gift.**
The level of gift is deeply personal. One way would be to consider thinking of us at SVI as one of your children or grandchildren. For example if you had four children and were dividing your estate equally you may consider SVI as your fifth child.
Suggested wording.

**Pecuniary Bequest**
I give, devise and bequeath to St Vincent’s Institute of Medical Research, 9 Princes Street, Fitzroy, Victoria 3065 ABN 52 004 705 640 for its general purpose OR specific purpose ______________ free from all duties, the following $__________ and direct that the receipt of the Executive Director for the time being will be a sufficient discharge to my trustees.

**Residuary Bequest**
I give, devise and bequeath to St Vincent’s Institute of Medical Research, 9 Princes Street, Fitzroy, Victoria 3065 ABN 52 004 705 640 for its general purpose OR specific purpose ____________ free from all duties, the following _____% OR the remainder of my estate and direct that the receipt of the Executive Director for the time being will be a sufficient discharge to my trustees.

**Specific Bequest**
I give, devise and bequeath to St Vincent’s Institute of Medical Research, 9 Princes Street, Fitzroy, Victoria 3065 ABN 52 004 705 640 for its general purpose OR specific purpose ______________ free from all duties, the following item/s _____ and direct that the receipt of the Executive Director for the time being will be a sufficient discharge to my trustees.
‘Why we choose to do research at SVI’

‘My husband (Carl Walkley) and I arrived back in Melbourne from Boston in early 2008 to establish the Stem Cell Regulation Unit at SVI.

We chose to come to SVI above all other research institutes in Australia for a number of different reasons, including the high calibre and diverse research at SVI.

In addition, the size of the Institute allows for collaborations across the labs and the interaction with clinicians at St Vincent’s Hospital facilitates translation of our research into the clinic.

Carl and I are also parents. We are passionate about our research and hope to be able to produce outcomes and breakthroughs that will provide improved medical treatments which will benefit our children and the next generation to follow.’

Associate Professor Louise Purton
Head of the SVI Stem Cell Regulation Unit
Researchers in the Stem Cell Regulation Unit aim to understand the influence of adult stem cells on diseases of the blood and bone, including cancers such as leukaemia and osteosarcoma.
“My wife, Pauline, died of Alzheimer’s disease so by visiting the Institute I was able to find out what we know about the disease and the great promise that research holds. I was inspired by the dedicated scientists who are working so hard to make a difference. I feel very humble and grateful to be a part of assisting SVI to continue their work...in the hope that one day soon something extraordinary will happen. For me, I see my bequest as an investment, knowing that my support will be used for the benefit of the whole community.”

Arthur Stokes
Help give hope that future generations will be free from the diseases which affect many Australians today.
Please Let Us Know

We would be grateful if you can share with us your wishes. Remember you can always pick up the phone and chat, no obligations… we promise.

☐ I have already included SVI in my Will
☐ I intend to include, or am considering including SVI in my Will
☐ I would like to chat to someone at SVI about making a bequest
☐ I would like to tour SVI

Title: __________ First Name: ____________________________

Last Name: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

Suburb: __________ State: _____ P/Code: ______

Tel: _____________ Mobile: __________

Email: ____________________________

My Area/s or Disease of Interest: ____________________________

_________________________________________________________________

Please tear off, put in an envelope and post your completed form (no stamp required) to:

Bequest Manager
St Vincent’s Institute of Medical Research
Reply Paid 65759
Fitzroy VIC 3065

Tel: (03) 9288 2480
Email: bequest@svi.edu.au
Web: www.svi.edu.au