



Monash University
Medical Undergraduate Society
Class of 74

Monash Medicine 74

Newsletter



November 2025

**Monash Med 74
committee**

Peter Dwyer, President



Peter McLaughlin, Treasurer



John Mackenzie, IT

Editorial*John Mackenzie, Committee IT*

Welcome to our November newsletter.

Since the August edition, Coffee at the Botanic Gardens on the 27th August has been enjoyed by 14 of our colleagues, and the 50-year *Reunion Magazine* has been uploaded to the website - this can be viewed (and downloaded) by following the link to the Archives on the website at:

<https://monash-med74.dyndns.org/>

... At last, you'll have something worth reading when being kept waiting for a doctor's appointment !

Also, whilst navigating our website, you'll see a new link to "*Tech Talk*". This is a separate category within the Blog which will cover some common and useful technology topics, whilst allowing readers to make comments and ask questions.

A recent highlight was when Bluey McLaughlin and I visited Monash (in my case for the first time since graduating in 1974 !), and we were blown away by the development of the Clayton campus and the surrounding technology precinct from the former "cow paddocks". Many thanks to the Monash Alumni Office for showing us around.

Finally, please help us plan the Mini-Reunion in 2027 by visiting our website and completing a quick and simple survey.

Many thanks.

**From the President***Peter Dwyer*

A final handover recently took place with Jim Mullany and Jane Fyfield on the 14th October, enabling the old bank passbook account (with cheque book) to be upgraded to a new account with online access.

Many thanks again to Jim, Jane and the old committee for their outstanding contribution over many years (15 !), but I still remain hopeful of obtaining some occasional advice ... It seems such a shame to let all that knowledge and experience go to waste.

Our attention now goes to planning and organising the Mini-Reunion in 2027. A good many steps have already been taken, but we would very much like to hear your comments and feedback before arrangements become locked in.

Many thanks in advance, and best wishes for Xmas and 2027.



Mini-Reunion 2027 - Survey



Attendees at the 50-year Reunion voted overwhelmingly in favour of a "mini-reunion" to be held sometime in 2027. The Committee has therefore been looking at all options for the date, venue and program ...

Date:

Friday the 19th and Saturday the 20th of March 2027 has several advantages:

- The Melbourne weather is generally better around this time,
- Good Friday falls a week later on the 26th of March 2027,
- School holidays don't start until the 26th of March through to the 11th of April,
- Ramadan is from the 8th of February to the 9th of March 2027, and
- Daylight saving time doesn't end until the 4th of April 2027.

Venue and Program:

Monash University now has an Alumni Office helping alumni stay in touch, and the Clayton Campus has a designated building, the "*Monash Club*", for staff and alumni. There are also free tours of the Clayton Campus on Mondays to Fridays which include the Medical/ Anatomy department.

So, on Friday 19th March, depending on numbers of those interested, we were proposing at Monash Clayton - morning tea, a tour of the University, possibly followed by a lunch "Banquet".

Then on Saturday 20th March, the main get together could be at the Metropolitan Golf Club or Kooyong Tennis Club for a leisurely long lunch.

Have your say:

To get an idea of numbers and preferences, please provide your feedback and comments before any tentative plans become locked in. This can be done via a simple survey on our website at:

https://monash-med74.dyndns.org/reunion_contactus.html

Thank you.

Coffee at the Botanic Gardens



14 of our colleagues met for coffee at *The Terrace* in the Royal Botanic Gardens on Wednesday afternoon 27th August.

Lively conversation continued unabated throughout the afternoon, and thanks were conveyed to Chris Drummond for her superb organisation.

The report and more photos are present on the website Blog.

Once Were Cow Paddocks

When the Victorian Government chose the Clayton site for Monash University in the mid-1950s, one of the advantages was the large, relatively undeveloped farmland, which was then purchased from private owners who had used it for dairy farms, orchards and market gardens.

Over the following decades, the area has been transformed by the ongoing development of Monash University and the surrounding technology precinct - home to the Victorian Heart Hospital, the Australian Synchrotron, Moderna, and much more.



Monash University, Clayton site, 1960

Moderna, on the corner of Wellington and Blackburn Roads, is in partnership with the Australian and Victorian Governments, producing around 10 million doses per year of mRNA vaccines including Covid, influenza and RSV.

Next door to Moderna is the Australian Synchrotron, described as "one of Australia's most significant pieces of scientific infrastructure", with many applications including medical and biotechnology research. Guided tours are available on Saturdays, see:

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/593274>

A map of Monash University and the the adjacent technology precinct shows the massive development compared to the former cow paddocks. View and download the map here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1r3J24uBZV6C1LVuO1mijUzoV9e3vVnNf>