

CL Butchers Pharmacy Library



MONASH University
Library



Located in the Manning Building on the Parkville campus, the CL Butchers Pharmacy Library primarily serves the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Celebrating the CL Butchers Pharmacy Library



Encouraging creative learning and enthusiastic endeavour

The opening of the refurbished CL Butchers Pharmacy Library marks another milestone in the Monash University Library's ongoing efforts to respond to changing teaching and learning styles. Driven by the goal to create library spaces that are a pleasure to use, we have made the most of contemporary

design supported by the latest technology. The result is the creation of a progressive information resources environment that engages both students and academics and enriches the learning and research journey.

Situated in the Manning Building in the heart of the campus, the Pharmacy Library shares a rich history with the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (formerly the Victorian College of Pharmacy).

One of the most pleasing features of the refurbished library is the display of works, by some very prominent Australian modern artists, carefully selected from the Monash University Museum of Art collection. In a real way these works change the way users view the library – a place that is alive and vibrant and thoughtfully encourages creative learning and enthusiastic endeavour.

As part of the Manning Building upgrade of the Parkville campus redevelopment project, the Pharmacy Library refurbishment was completed in mid-2008. It is the fifth branch to be upgraded under the library's own guidelines and incorporates the same design features and fittings as the Hargrave-Andrew Library at Clayton, the Berwick Library and Learning Commons and the libraries in Malaysia and South Africa. Far more than just about sporting a new look, our plan to upgrade all ten library branches is a statement of our commitment to the university's strategic goals.

Cathrine Harboe-Ree
Monash University Librarian
November 2008

Back in time

The Pharmacy Library traces its roots back to 1873 when a library was established for use by local members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria.

Charles Leslie Butchers was a generous donor to the library and an enormous support to both the students and staff of the then Victorian College of Pharmacy. The memorial funds raised after his death were directed to the establishment and continuation of the library. Alfred Thomas Stanley Sissons, Dean of the College at the time, said of Mr Butchers, 'No one was a warmer supporter of the student's library, or donated books more freely to it, than he did.'¹

The CL Butchers Pharmacy Library was opened on the ground floor of the Manning Building in 1972. In 2001, the building underwent renovations and the library was extended and a computer laboratory was installed.

The recent refurbishment incorporates a culture wall showcasing artefacts and information about the history of the library and the faculty it serves.



Pharmacy students and lecturers outside Pharmaceutical Society, Swanston Street premises, 1887. Photo courtesy of Monash University Archives, Image 2164.

The design of the refurbished library reflects the technological sophistication of its users, and makes the most of light and space.

Today and the future

The design of the refurbished library reflects the technological sophistication of its users, and makes the most of light and space. Key features of the refurbishment include almost double the space of the original library, more computer workstations, a variety of seating and desks to accommodate different study styles, a modern,

open-plan layout allowing for easier navigation, a fully equipped training room and a flexible learning area. It also includes increased accessibility and facilities for those with disabilities, improved signage and the latest technology, such as a wireless network and data and powerpoints for notebook users.



¹ *Victorian College of Pharmacy: 125 stories for 125 years/1881-2006*, Victorian College of Pharmacy, Monash University, Parkville, 2007.

Art and the body

How do we imagine the human body? And how might this impact upon the contemporary research and practice of pharmacy?

The artworks from the Monash University Collection selected for the Pharmacy Library offer different views of the human body – they include the social, the cellular and the humorous.

In Donna Bailey's large photographic portraits of her daughter Zoe, *Generation Y girl and Mulberry lips* 2003, a confident young woman collaborates in the capture of her own image. These photographs are portraits of one person, but might also be seen as portraits of a generation – a generation determined to be responsible for how they are portrayed and to play an active role in choices relating to their own bodies.

A prominent work in the library, positioned at the end of the central corridor, is John Young's *Junior (stoppage #7)* 1989.

On a bright red ground a circular white form is centrally positioned, it bulges at its cardinal points.

This painting has the strong graphic presence of a sign, but its meaning is ambiguous, could this form represent an unspecified substance in the bloodstream, or might it be an alternative to the internationally recognised red cross?

Also positioned along this central corridor are two works by Jane Trengove, *Square cushion* and *Round cushion* 1993. These paintings lift details from our daily lives out of their usual context, against a black background the bright forms of the cushions are like luscious pills or sweets. The buttons at the centre of each cushion suggest the soft form of the body they are made to receive.

The close study of the natural world is the subject of Fiona MacDonald's four framed collages, *Moss, Furnitory & Wallflower, Pansy & bramble*, 1993-4. In these works botanical drawings have been cut and layered to suggest a relationship between the taxonomic process and the tools of dissection, such as scissors. The study of the pharmaceutical properties and benefits of plants has long linked our understanding of both botany and the body.

Geraldine Barlow
Curator/Collection Manager
Monash University Museum of Art
November 2008



Jane Trengove, *Square cushion* and *Round cushion*/1993 both oil on board, 90.0 x 90.0 cm, Monash University Collection, Monash University Museum of Art

More information

For more information on the CL Butchers Pharmacy Library please see www.lib.monash.edu/pharmacy
For information on Monash University Library's resources and services please see www.lib.monash.edu