

# ORIA TIMELINE

THE OPHTHALMIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

## 1953

ORIA is established to advance eye research in Australia by providing funding for research into eye disease.

First signatories of the board included:

Joseph Ringland Anderson, Sir Norman McAlister Gregg, James Aloysius Flynn, John Bruce Hamilton, Arthur Herbert Joyce, Alfred Ladyman Fostevin, Darcy Ambrose Williams

## 1956

A Sydney based ophthalmologist who had dedicated his life to eye health as a clinician and researcher announced his intention to donate a significant portion of his estate to the ORIA.

The donor stipulated name and identity remain anonymous (hereinafter referred to as "DW").

ORIA opened a separate account named the DW Fund.

The ORIA Board appoints an investment advisory committee.

## 1959

The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) was set up to be led by the Research Director

## 1976

The ORIA Board decides that the Director of Research position calls for a tripartite agreement signed by ORIA, the Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital and the University of Melbourne. The agreement was symbolic of a collaboration, allowing evidence from emerging research to be integrated into practice while enabling ophthalmologists, those at the coalface, to identify research priorities based on best practice, expert consensus and patient-centred care.

## 1994

The Gift of Sight Society is set up to raise funds and build on the capital base for research grants. Its main focus is to attract donations from ophthalmologists and their patients.



Gift of Sight Society rolls out a macular degeneration awareness afternoon.

Gift of Sight Society rolls out a series of awareness programmes for retinal diseases.

## 1999

## 1954

The first ORIA Board members include:

- Walter Lockhart Gibson, Dame Ida Mann, Archie Anderson, Arthur Herbert Joyce, Alfred Ladyman Fostevin, Hugh Ryan, Kevin Ledgett, Ron Lowe, John Bruce Hamilton, W. Deane-Butler, Sir Norman McAlister Gregg

Ida Mann becomes the first female member of the ORIA Board.

- Ida Mann leverages her trachoma research, highlighting the prevalence of trachoma, causing disproportionately high rates of blindness among Aboriginal population of the Kimberley and Western Desert.

## 1958

- ORIA establishes the DW Fund trust deed in the ACT.

## 1960

- Professor Ida Mann, the Hon Secretary, is the principal author of the paper *Experimental Trachoma Produced by a West Australian Virus which is published in the British Journal of Ophthalmology.*

## 1980

- Ida Mann is honoured for her many contributions to ophthalmology and made a Dame (DBE).

## 1996

- ORIA receives a signed letter from the beneficiaries of the copyright from Sydney Long's artistic works, re-assigning these benefits to ORIA.
- The beneficiaries of the copyright from Sydney Long's artistic works requested that the copyright "benefit a group researching vision disabilities in children."

- ORIA receives many requests from major and regional galleries, museums, academic institutions and book publishers to sign a licence to reproduce Sydney Long's works.

- ORIA has developed strategies to leverage these requests to create awareness and demand for Sydney Long's works and to promote the ORIA brand.

