



ST VINCENT'S
HOSPITAL
MELBOURNE



The Devonshire Arms Serving staff and community

Historical overview

The Devonshire Arms Hotel building – known affectionally as the DA – has welcomed many through its doors over the years.

It is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register as a place of cultural heritage significance to the State of Victoria. Recognised as a 'a very rare remnant' of early Melbourne and Fitzroy, it is Melbourne's oldest known existing former public house building dating back to pre Gold Rush times, circa 1843. In that era, neighbourhood hotels were key centres of community and business life and provided accommodation to both visitors and locals.

The owner/builder of the Devonshire Arms was prominent local identity and entrepreneur, Francis Clark. He also owned bakery premises at the corner of Gertrude and Fitzroy Streets, now also part of the St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne campus.

The DA lost its liquor licence in 1920. Then followed several decades of quieter use before the hospital acquired it in preparation for future development. In the 1970s space was allocated to orthopaedic surgeon, Harry Crock, for what turned out to be pioneering research work into the anatomy of the spine. Crock's work increased both understanding of back pain and options for its management.

The next phase of the building's history saw it turned into a residential facility (known as Depaul House) for the treatment and support of individuals with alcohol and other addictions. From 2006 to early 2021 the building was the administrative base for St Vincent's Department of Addiction Medicine.

Most recently, the Devonshire Arms has been home to both clinical and administrative teams with important roles to play in supporting staff and community. During a critical phase of the COVID pandemic, workers based at the DA included a mobile team dedicated to providing vaccination support to members of the community experiencing homelessness.

Welcome to the DA!

For more than 180 years the Devonshire Arms (the DA) has stood solidly and inconspicuously watching over the activity of Fitzroy and Princes Streets and beyond. The walls have an encyclopaedia of stories to tell. Like an onion, its layers of history can be peeled back to reveal its hospitable heart.

Today, the Devonshire Arms is home to those who serve our business in ways that guarantee St Vincent's mission and values remain the foundation our staff require to ensure our services have their greatest impact in the communities we serve. Its doors are always open to you and our team is at your service.

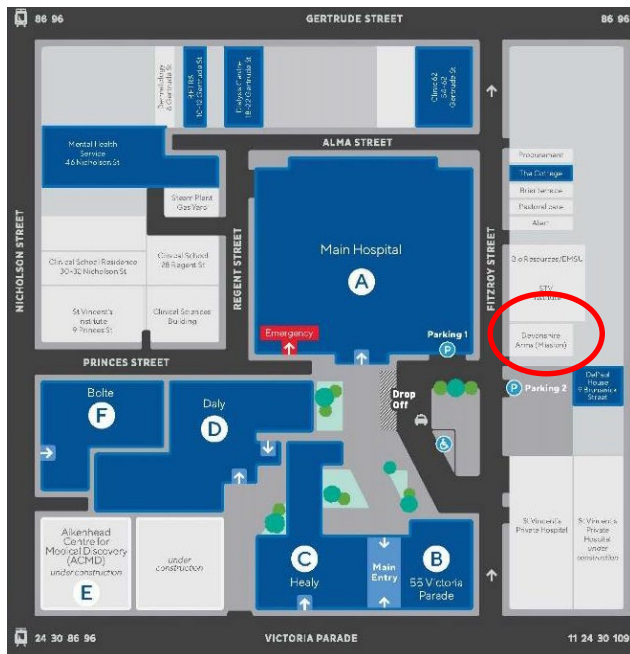
Welcome to the DA!

Getting to the DA

The Devonshire Arms building is located at 38 Fitzroy St, Fitzroy.

It is close to the tram lines running along Victoria Parade, Nicholson Street and Brunswick Street. Parliament Station is the nearest railway station.

Paid parking is available in hospital parking facilities and other nearby commercial venues including Melbourne Museum. Please check the hospital website for current details.



Archives & Heritage

The **Archives & Heritage Program** plays a pivotal role in identifying, preserving and enabling access to the records and heritage items which are core and enduring to the story of St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne, from its foundation to the present day.

One of the more recent additions to the **Archives & Heritage Collection** has been a copy of a theatre nurse's personal journal and photographs documenting the COVID pandemic years. Other collection highlights include annual reports, photographs, building plans and governance records through the years; nursing memorabilia and records of the Nurses Training School; and research papers of hospital historians. The Collection is used to communicate the hospital's purpose as a mission-centred values-based tertiary health service. It provides an authoritative source to meet a wide variety of information requests and business needs. It also supplies inspiration and content for diverse publications, artworks, tours, milestone celebrations and other outreach, research and education purposes.

The Archives & Heritage Curator offers:

- **Authoritative information** on St Vincent's history and milestones
- **Professional guidance on what material is of long term significance** to the collection and how to donate and transfer items to the collection
- **Assistance with using resources** whether for general or academic research purposes
- **Collaborations on outreach & education activities** - these including collection & precinct tours, presentations and exhibits (by arrangement).

Key contact – Barbara Cytowicz,
Hospital Archivist & Heritage Curator

E: Barbara.Cytowicz@svha.org.au

T: 03 9231 3040 Tuesday – Friday

<https://www.svhm.org.au/about-us/our-heritage>



Arts

The Arts Program provides a number of Art in Health services that help to improve patient and staff experience across all our hospital sites.

The St Vincent's **Art Collection** is one of the largest hospital collections in Australia with over 1500 art works from contemporary and emerging First Nations and other Australian artists. The majority of the collection is on display and the rest is stored in purpose built racks.

The Art Curator offers the following services:

- **Art installation service** for display of art works in public areas across hospital departments
- **Advisory service** for the use of art works in publications, events and for Arts in Health interventions
- **Collection management service** including acquisition, valuation and de-accessioning of art works
- **Management of the Art Gallery**, an exhibition space for artists and community groups located on the Ground Floor, Building D.



Key contact – Monique Silk, Art Curator

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Tuesday – Thursday

Cultural Inclusion

The Cultural Inclusion Program demonstrates St Vincent's commitment to the provision of a high-quality health service accessible and responsive to the multi-faith and socially, culturally and linguistically diverse community the hospital serves.

The Cultural Inclusion Lead offers staff a suite of tools and resources including:

- A comprehensive **Cultural Responsiveness Training** program consisting of 20 modules, delivered through blended format across the health service
- **Research support** including statistics, peer reviewed articles, input into policies and procedures etc., with standard lead time 24 – 48 hours
- **Targeted consulting services** for culturally appropriate responses for a single patient or staff member
- **Event management and project support** including around Cultural Diversity Week, (around March 21 each year), Refugee Week (around June 20 each year) and support for diverse CaLD (culturally & linguistically diverse) projects.



Key contact – Monita Mascitti-Meuter, Cultural Inclusion Lead

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Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 4.00pm

Formation and Mission Education

Formation and Mission Education invites everyone at St Vincent's to pay closer attention to their lived experience at work and to notice how they take shape in us.

The word **Mission** is used to describe our shared purpose – the essence that anchors all of us who work at St Vincent's and empowers us to provide excellent healthcare, equitably and compassionately. We have inherited this essence from those who have come before us. As care takers, we are invited to deepen our awareness of how it influences and connects to our work.

The Formation and Mission Education Lead provides:

- **Bespoke formation experiences** for specific departments
- **Orientation and Inspired to Serve** for staff new to St Vincent's
- **Hospitable and welcoming spaces for meaningful conversations** with small groups of staff. Meaningful conversations vary from debriefing, reflective practice, and ethical dialogue to clinical ethics forums
- **Pilgrimage/walking tours** of the Fitzroy St Vincent's precinct which use the portals of Place, the Arts, the Archives and the History to invite staff to explore the meaning of their work.



Key contact – Linda Di Sipio, Formation and Mission Education Lead

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Monday – Thursday



Looking eastward down Princes Street towards the Devonshire Arms building circa 1970s. Clinical Photography Collection, SVHM Archives.

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