

A Community Arts Project honouring
Sir Gustav Nossal



Sir Gustav Nossal 2004 by Dean Home

National Portrait Gallery, Australia

*Purchased with funds provided by
Karen McLeod and Anthony Adair 2004*

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*A community Arts Project
proudly supported by:*

Nossal High School
40 Sir Gustav Nossal Boulevard
Berwick, Victoria, Australia



Sir Gustav Nossal - *a life long learner*

Sir Gustav Nossal has served our nation well and universally, is recognised as one of Australia's best known medical research scientists and advocates.

Sir Gus was born in Bad Ischl, Austria in 1931. He moved to Sydney with his family when he was eight years old to escape Nazi occupation. Unable to speak English, a young Sir Gus worked hard becoming dux of the junior school before eventually graduating as dux of St Aloysius' College in 1947. His academic achievement earned him an exhibition scholarship at university where he enrolled at the age of 17. Sir Gustav Nossal graduated from Sydney University's Medical School with first class honours earning a Bachelor of Science in Medicine in 1953 and a Bachelor in Surgery in 1955.

With his studies complete, Sir Gus took up a job in Sydney at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital however his appointment only lasted a relatively short time with him

moving to Victoria in 1957. In Melbourne he commenced working with Macfarlane Burnet in medical science at the Walter and Eliza Institute of Medical Research and it was while in this role, he continued his studies earning his PhD at the University of Melbourne in 1960. Also during this period of his career, (1959 to 1961), Sir Gus served as the Associate Professor of Genetics at the Stanford University before returning to Australia to once again work with Macfarlane Burnet.

Sir Gustav Nossal - *the scientist and humanitarian*

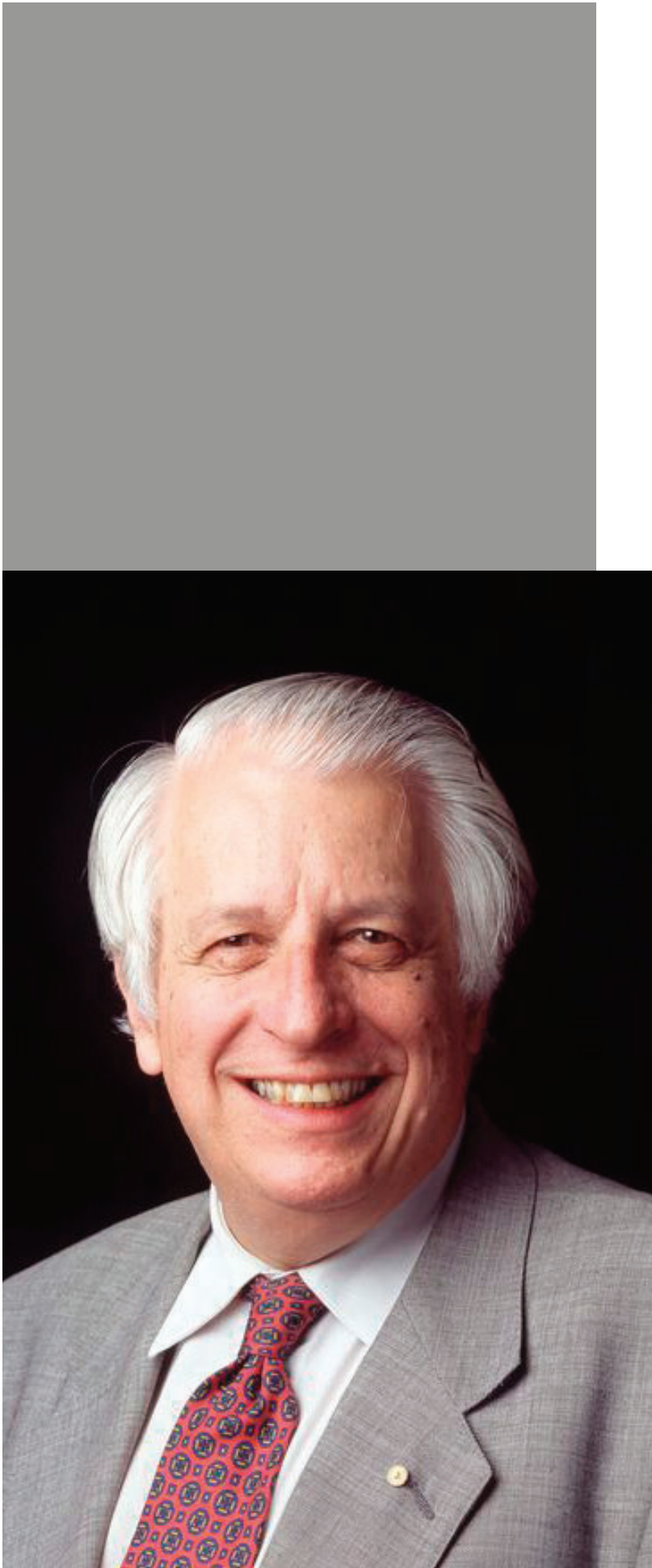
In his own words, Sir Gustav Nossal was “...lucky enough to get involved in the science of immunology fairly early in its history.” His research focussed on how the immune system makes antibodies to fight off infectious diseases and was among the first to promote the concept of autoimmune diseases.

Sir Gus has not only served the Australian community with his research and wisdom, he has served the global community in a range of settings including a year at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, a year as a Special Consultant to the World Health Organisation and more recently with the Bill and Melinda Gates Children’s Vaccine Program. He is a distinguished scientist being elected Fellow of The Royal Society of London, Foreign Associate of the US National Academy of Sciences and Member of the Academie des Sciences, France.

Closer to home, Sir Gus served as Director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research for 31 years (1965-1996). He was President of the Australian Academy of Science (1994-1998), a member of the Prime Minister’s Science, Engineering and Innovation Council (1989-1998), and Chairman of the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (1987-1996).

Sir Gustav Nossal is also a great humanitarian. Throughout his medical research he has always sought to identify how his findings can be used to benefit those less fortunate in society. With the support and encouragement of his wife Lyn, Gus became passionate about the welfare of aboriginals and took every opportunity he had to start discussions about the poor state of Aboriginal health. It was that commitment that led to him being appointed the Deputy Chairman of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation (1998-2000).

In 1997 he was knighted for his ground-breaking work in immunology and in 1989 was made a Companion of the Order of Australia. Also in 1997, Sir Gustav Nossal was identified as a National Living Treasure while in the year 2000, he was named the Australian of the Year.



Recognising a local legend

Nossal High School is a State Education, academic, select entry school located in Berwick, Victoria. The school is proudly named in honour of Sir Gustav Nossal.

The school has launched a public campaign to fund the commissioning of a life-sized bronze statue of this Australian, "local legend" that will honour Sir Gus and his great work for years to come. A regular visitor to the school and a person always willing to sit, chat and discuss ideas and issues, the planned sculpture will depict a seated Sir Gus, (similar to the one illustrated) and will be sited prominently on the forecourt of the Nossal High School, located on Sir Gustav Nossal Boulevard, adjacent to the Federation University campus (formerly Monash University), in Berwick.

Nossal High School has commenced the process of raising funds to reach its target of \$90,000 to commission the artwork. All money raised is being held in the school's Arts Fund for the sole purpose of financing the design, production and installation of the artwork. Donations over \$2.00 paid into this account attract a taxation deduction.

Details of special donor packages are enclosed.





How you can be a part of the project

Nossal High School is inviting individuals, groups and organisations to be a part of this important public recognition of a life of commitment and service to humanity. Donations are now being sought to fund the project, with a significant portion of the target already achieved.

In addition to general individual donations, special Donor Packages are also available.

Donations can be made at the school's office, via credit card or as a direct deposit into the dedicated fund. All donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible and receipts will be issued. Click the QR code or contact the school for details.



Platinum Donor ~ \$10,000

Platinum donors will have a prominent plaque featuring their name (and where appropriate their logo) showcased on the Friends of Sir Gustav Nossal Honour Board. They will also receive an invitation to the dedication of the statue, commemorative photograph with Sir Gus, recognition with a framed certificate of appreciation and be acknowledged in the Nossal High School Newsletter which is distributed electronically throughout the community to approximately 3000 subscribers.

Gold Donor ~ \$5,000

Gold donors will have a prominent plaque featuring their name (and where appropriate their logo) showcased on the Friends of Sir Gustav Nossal Honour Board. They will also receive an invitation to the dedication of the statue, recognition with a framed certificate of appreciation and be acknowledged in the Nossal High School Newsletter.

Silver Donor ~ \$2,000

Silver donors will have their name showcased on the Friends of Sir Gustav Nossal Honour Board. They will also receive an invitation to the dedication of the statue and be acknowledged in the Nossal High School Newsletter.

Bronze Donor ~ \$1,000

Bronze donors will have their name showcased on the Friends of Sir Gustav Nossal Honour Board. Their contribution will be acknowledged in the Nossal High School Newsletter.



Nossal High School

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