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Activi doyen's gift

by GIOVANNI TORRE

THE life of the late John Corbett was characterised by giving and a local family can now benefit from a grant established to honour the memory of the doyen of the Activi Foundation.

Mr Corbett, a WWII veteran, fought in Syria and Lebanon before participating in the capture of Shaggy Ridge on the Kokoda Trail.

Medals

He was awarded medals including the African Star and the Defence Star but faced an even more stern test of his courage and determination after the war: His son Keith was

born with an intellectual disability into a society that attached great stigma to such conditions.

Mr Corbett was one of the founding members of the Activi Foundation in 1951, which began as the Slow Learning Children's Group, after he established a small school in Doubleview.

He urged parents to challenge social barriers and bigoted attitudes by being proud and open about their children.

When he died in 2008 he left a bequest to The Hawkevale Trust. The Personal Service Grant established with the bequest will



provide ongoing support to a person with a disability for their entire life.

Trust chairperson Laurence Iffa said the grant would give a family peace of mind, knowing their loved one would receive ongoing support even when they were no longer able to help.

"John Corbett was a remarkable man and his memory will live on in this bequest for a grant for a family in need," Mr Iffa said.

Families with a member with an intellectual or developmental disability or acquired brain injury are encouraged to apply for the grant, which will be awarded December 3.

Application forms can be obtained from The Hawkevale Trust on 9387 8288 or www.hawkevaletrust.org.au.