

# Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

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Remembrance through Research



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# Message from the Chairman Liam Kelly

It is exciting to consider what the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation (GMRF) has achieved over the past 12 months. It is even more exciting to consider the direction this Foundation is taking, and how well-placed it is to further the impact and scope of its research.

GMRF's day to day operations are managed by our highly competent CEO Miriam and her wonderful executive team. I am privileged to be involved in shaping the strategic direction of the Foundation into the future.

You can read more about the 2019-2023 strategic intent of GMRF on page 6. A focus of this intent is maintaining excellence in biomedical and clinical research – ultimately influencing future treatments and interventions, and enhancing the health of the Australian community.

GMRF has strong academic partnerships with the University of Queensland and other institutes in Australia and around the world. We have facilitated collaboration through the establishment of the Australian Experimental Liver Cancer Research Network and the annual research workshop we host at Greenslopes Private Hospital.

When you are aiming to address health issues on the scale of liver cancer – the fastest increasing cause of cancer mortality in Australia – bringing experts in the field

together is crucial and this is something that we have achieved and continue to focus upon.

Collaboration and partnership is also a crucial element of our Veteran Mental Health Initiative. The team work closely with RSL Queensland, the Australian Defence Force, Department of Veterans' Affairs and a range of ex-service organisations to ensure the research we undertake is relevant and effective in addressing the health concerns of veterans and their families. We are conscious of and grateful for the great contribution these organisations make to the work of the Foundation.

I am incredibly proud to be involved in this research. I am also truly grateful to our very dedicated and skilled members of the Board of Directors and our direction for the future. While some of our programs and projects will deliver immediate impact, much of this research will be of greatest benefit to our children and grandchildren. On behalf of the Board, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the many supporters who share this long term vision and have committed to making it a reality.

Kelly

Liam Kelly QC - Chairman



"...It is exciting to consider the direction this Foundation is taking, and how well-placed it is to further increase the impact and scope of its research."

# Message from the **CEO Miriam Dwyer**



'From little things, big things grow' - As CEO for the past eight years, I believe this saying is an apt description of the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation.

As this Annual Report outlines, we have undergone significant expansion in our research focus areas. Take our Veteran Mental Health Initiative for example. What started with the one-project PTSD Initiative in 2013 has grown - particularly over the past 12 months - into a much broader program. We are now conducting a number of studies focusing on transition and reintegration issues, sleep disturbances, mental health first aid and family support.

All of this research, and the impact it is now making, has stemmed from one project which came about in partnership with RSL Queensland as part of our mutual commitment to better understanding the health issues affecting our veterans.

In 2019 we implemented a new strategic plan for 2019-2023. Our vision remains steadfastly the same, but we have honed and strengthened the methods we'll use to achieve it. I am incredibly grateful to all of the generous individuals, community groups and

business partners who have joined us on this journey of medical discovery. I would also like to thank our board and patrons for their sage advice and support. We have made significant progress and we are well positioned to further increase our impact in the years ahead.

Thank you to Liam Kelly QC, our Board Chair, who has been a valued advisor to me over the past 12 months. Thanks also to the wonderful GMRF Board who give so generously of their time to guide the Foundation.

My sincere thanks to Chris Went, CEO, and the Executive Team of Greenslopes Private Hospital, who continue to play a vital role in sustaining and reinforcing the value of GMRF to the fabric of the hospital. Last, but certainly not least – thank you to EVERYONE who works at GMRF. I am in awe of your commitment and dedication each and every day. It is because of your collective efforts that we are making a significant difference!

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Miriam Dwyer - Chief Executive Officer

"Together we have made significant progress and we are well positioned to further increase our impact in the years ahead."

# Message from the Director of Research Prof Darrell Crawford

Reflecting on the progress and output achieved over the past 12 months, I have a great sense of pride in the research team at the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation.

Across our Veteran Mental Health Initiative, Liver Research Unit, Liver Cancer Unit and Respiratory Research Unit we have had:

- 48 article and journal publications
- 14 presentations at national and international conferences
- Six successful grant outcomes
- Nine completed and ongoing PhD Students

You can read more about our publications in the Appendix of this report, but even as a snapshot it highlights the productivity and excellence of this small research facility and its committed team.

Importantly though, this is not a research team with a 'publish or perish' mentality. The end goal of our research is not just publication. It is to alleviate the burden of serious illness, both now and for future generations. I like to look at it in terms of three major facets to our research - innovation, impact and influence, looking at a problem from a new angle and targeting our research for maximum benefit, both through the development of new treatment options and shaping future policy.

You'll be able to see all three of these characteristics in the research outlined in the following pages of this report – through new major projects, contribution to a national senate inquiry, and much more.

I am grateful to everyone who has supported our research during the 2018-2019 Financial Year. As both a researcher and clinician, I see the power of medical research at work every day and I can assure you of the real and lasting difference your support makes.

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**Prof Darrell Crawford - Director of Research** 



"The end goal of all of our research is not just publication. It is to make maximum impact in alleviating the burden of serious illness."



# About us

Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation (GMRF) is an Approved Research Institute (ARI) and a unique and successful hub for research and discovery. We investigate areas of significant clinical need identified by a multi-disciplinary clinical leadership team. We engage with individuals, businesses, and communities to grow the research of the GMRF. We focus on translational research with immediate and meaningful impact. We are proud to be based on the campus of Greenslopes Private Hospital (GPH).

# **Our vision**

Enhanced health of the Australian community through the highest quality research.

# **Our mission**

To lessen the impact of disease today while also searching for the cures of tomorrow by:

- 1. Working to alleviate the burden of the diseases directly impacting our veterans and their families
- 2. Using a multi-disciplinary and collaborative approach to understand and address areas of significant clinical and social need
- 3. Delivering high quality clinical trials of emerging therapies and interventions
- 4. Facilitating and financially supporting a culture of research and innovation within Greenslopes Private Hospital
- 5. Sharing our research findings for the greatest benefit of all

# **Strategic Intent**

Driving the strategic direction for 2019-2023 are our core values of excellence, integrity, relevance and innovation. Our focused efforts will continue to deliver increased understanding around issues facing the veteran and military community, and those who love, support and rely on them.

We will continue our commitment to identify and deliver insights and therapeutic pathways that can change lives, improve treatments and cure disease within the general population. To enable this important work we will continue to strengthen our profile as a unique and successful research hub, demonstrate our impact and inspire financial support to ensure long-term sustainability.

### Maintain excellence in biomedical and clinical research

To be a voice that is trusted and respected by the military family and those organisations entrusted with their care

Translate awareness of GMRF into appropriate financial and other support for the work that we do

Share research outcomes and impact of our work to all Australians

Strengthen current academic partnerships and establish new affiliations to enhance the academic impact of GMRF

# GPH Cancer Wellness Program

# **Program Highlights**

Amanda Lucas - Program Coordinator

Funded by GMRF to complement the outstanding medical treatment offered at Greenslopes Private Hospital (GPH), the Cancer Wellness Program supports patients the whole way through their cancer journey.

The focus of the program has been on monthly education sessions providing patients and carers with practical tools and support to manage treatment and wellbeing. Sessions included:

- Supporting carers emotionally and physically
- Finance, superannuation and legal services
- Exercise, nutrition & cancer
- Survivorship
- Journaling

60 Patients reached

248

Attendees at regular education sessions.

In 2018 and 2019, the Cancer Wellness Program provided patients with access to a range of new activities and alternative therapies such as craft, acupuncture, Qigong and self massage.

Over the past 12 months alone, the program has doubled its reach, providing support and advice to 460 patients, their carers' and support networks. This growth highlights the value of the Program as more patients, carers and family members seek out its services. Based on feedback, participants are feeling empowered in navigating cancer treatment, and supported by health professionals and a community of fellow cancer patients.

The growth of the program has prompted GMRF, together with GPH, to look to the future and plan for an expanded program with the capacity to support even more patients and families.

Activities and sessions conducted

New activities: craft, yoga and lab tours





# **Research Highlights 2018/2019**



# **Veteran Mental Health**

The Veteran Mental Health Initiative is committed to understanding transition and reintegration issues and ensuring veterans get the support they deserve.

### VETERAN AND MILITARY REINTEGRATION STUDIES

Many veterans struggle with the transition from service to civilian life. The issues can present in many ways: difficulty finding work, the breakdown of family and other relationships, or mental health issues such as depression and anxiety.

Launched in 2016 in partnership with RSL Queensland, the Veteran Reintegration Study is a five year, multiphase study aimed at improving transition for Australian veterans.

Over the past 12 months, the team has developed and trialled a tool to assess how a veteran is adjusting postservice, as well as an individualised 'needs profile' to enable targeted treatment. GMRF Associate Director of Mental Health Research Dr Madeline Romaniuk and her team have analysed over 725 survey responses from veterans, and is using the information to develop a series of assessment tools to track veterans' adjustment to life after military service.

The team has also commenced the Military Reintegration Study which aims to improve transition for Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel by developing a method to determine 'readiness' for civilian life prior to discharge. The study is an extension of the five-year Veteran Reintegration Study also conducted in partnership with RSL Queensland.

GMRF's reintegration research has found that 78% of veterans struggle with the transition process from military service to civilian life.

Military Reintegration Study has gained organisational support and Command approval from the Australian Defence Force as well as Department of Defence – Joint Health Command.

"It's our hope these tools will be used as routine practice to enable timely detection and assessment of reintegration difficulties and lead to new targeted interventions for clinicians."

### MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID FOR FAMILIES OF VETERANS

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training teaches participants about mental health, warning signs of distress and how to access health services. Our study conducted in 2018/2019 was the first to investigate MHFA training with family members of veterans. We had 59 participants complete the training over an eight month period. The findings are being prepared for publication and may inform a national roll-out of the training offered through government and ex-service organisations.

### **COMPASSIONATE MIND TRAINING FOR VETERANS AND PARTNERS**

We began the Compassionate Mind Training (CMT) Study in 2018 to address feelings of self-criticism and shame among veterans who have been exposed to trauma. The aim of the study is to investigate the benefit of CMT for veterans and their partners and determine long term relational well-being, self-compassion and the reduction of psychological symptoms.

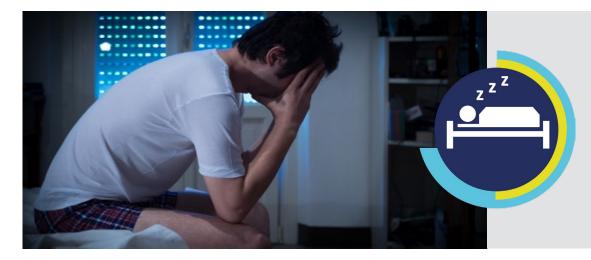
These studies were funded by Medibank's Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund.

### **PTSD INITIATIVE - VIETNAM VETERAN SUB-STUDIES**

Our world-first study into the whole body impact of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) continues to inform treatment and research. In the past 12 months, we had a further 177 GPs complete our online education module to better manage the comorbidities of PTSD. We have also launched new sub-studies investigating issues associated with PTSD.

### IMPROVING SLEEP QUALITY FOR VETERANS WITH PTSD

Launched in 2019, the Veteran Sleep Therapy Study is investigating cognitive behavioural therapy for insomnia, the current gold standard treatment, in combination with Imagery Rehearsal Therapy - a novel intervention of re-scripting disturbing and recurring nightmares. Individuals practice "rehearsing" the altered dream, with the goal of reducing the frequency and intensity of upsetting dreams. This study is funded by a grant from the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA). The researchers will use the findings to contribute to improved understanding among treatment providers on how to best manage sleep disturbances.



The Vietnam Veteran Study continues to contribute to further understanding of the whole body impact of PTSD. The study has led to a number of sub-studies, including investigating the impact of PTSD on sleep quality and risk of obstructive sleep apnoea in veterans.



# **Liver Research Unit**

Fatty liver disease is increasing rapidly in Australia. Left unchecked, it can cause significant and potentially irreversible damage, leading to cirrhosis and liver cancer. The GMRF Liver Research Unit has been working to better understand fatty liver disease in order to develop better treatment options for the one in four Australian adults who will face this illness. We're doing this through two main research areas:

### UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF IRON IN FATTY LIVER DISEASE PROGRESSION

Over the past 12 months, the unit has furthered research into the links between iron, adipose tissue (fat tissue) and the liver. Fat tissue is responsible for production of inflammatory mediators that may affect the liver. This research follows on from the work of GMRF PhD Student Dr Laurence Britton, who was awarded his PhD in 2019, which examined factors that lead to worsening liver injury in fatty liver disease.

A key publication for the unit in the past 12 months was *Iron inhibits the secretion of apolipoprotein E in cultured human adipocytes*. Published in 2018, this study provided further evidence that iron has significant effects on fat tissue and that the targeting of iron in fatty liver disease may have a positive clinical impact. The findings have led to the unit's current studies in fatty liver disease.

### **IMPROVING LIVER TRANSPLANT OUTCOMES**

The unit is exploring how more fatty livers could be successfully used in liver transplantation. At present, approximately 40% of livers are rejected for use as donor organs, with excess fat significantly increasing the risk of failure post-transplant. PhD student Raji Baidya has identified key cell death pathways in liver cells injured by fat and hypoxia (lack of oxygen). These findings are applicable to livers undergoing liver transplantation. This work will now focus on targeting these pathways to reduce cell death with the ultimate aim of improving outcomes following liver transplantation.



1 in 4 Adult Australians has, or will develop, fatty liver disease

10

# **Liver Cancer Unit**

The global burden of primary liver cancer is rapidly increasing due to late detection, limited treatment options available and recurrence due to therapy resistance. These are some of the major problems that need to be solved and our unit's research themes will address some of these current problems in the field.

### **CANCER STEM CELL RESEARCH**

The Liver Cancer Unit is investigating cancer stem cells which are components of a cancer that are able to form tumours and keep the tumour growing. These cells can evade detection and are resistant to drug treatments. Our work is focusing on how these cells change their function to enhance cancer growth and spread. In addition, we are investigating drugs than specifically target this cell type and combinations of drugs which will likely lead to better treatments for liver cancer.

### LIQUID BIOPSY RESEARCH

The second theme of research is to develop noninvasive tests to identify cancer early. By using saliva, we hope to identify markers that help determine if a patient has cancer rather than liver disease alone. A saliva-based non-invasive test would enable patients with significant liver disease to be monitored more regularly and cancer detected earlier. A key publication for the Liver Cancer Unit over the past 12 months was *Monitoring immune checkpoint regulators as predictive biomarkers in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)*. Published in July 2018, this study will help identify the best treatments available to maximise primary liver cancer survival rates. The findings have also provided insight into key biomarkers for predicting HCC (primary liver cancer).

### AUSTRALIAN EXPERIMENTAL LIVER CANCER RESEARCH NETWORK

GMRF hosted its second annual Liver Cancer Forum in November 2018. The forum brought together researchers and clinicians to share updates and establish opportunities for collaboration. Through this event, GMRF has established the Australian Experimental Liver Cancer Research Network which has a primary focus of getting liver cancer on the national health agenda.

The Liver Cancer Unit also had a student, Bijay Dhungel, successfully complete his PhD through the GMRF PhD Scholarship Program.

### THERE HAS BEEN A 400% INCREASE IN THE RATE OF LIVER CANCER IN AUSTRALIA OVER THE PAST 25 YEARS. GMRF IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF NEW TREATMENTS.





# **Respiratory Research Unit**

Over the past 12 months, the Respiratory Research Unit has made a significant contribution to the understanding and treatment of respiratory illnesses through research and clinical trials. Lab processes have been established and the unit is on the verge of a major breakthrough in understanding the genomic evolution of Mycobacterium abscessus in humans and the environment. The unit secured funding to progress research in genetic sequencing of more patient isolates and to expand water sampling of distribution systems in Brisbane and other cities.

Clinical trial activity within the research unit has increased significantly, with two new bronchiectasis trials, a nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM) trial and a respiratory infection prevention trial. The unit was selected to be the first site worldwide to trial a novel intervention for refractory NTM infections. This study will start recruiting in early 2020. The Respiratory Research Unit formalised the NTM Research Network in Queensland, with the first meeting held in July 2019. The Unit was also instrumental in the establishment of the first Australasian Bronchiectasis Registry.

"Our work looks at how these diseases are contracted, the ways they affect patients, how they are managed and how we can improve quality of life."



**20 publications** in journals, abstracts and book chapters

Four new trials covering a number of respiratory illnesses



**Established** the NTM Research Network in Queensland

# **Affiliated Research**

Our contribution to cancer research goes beyond our own cancer unit thanks to our donor-funded Cyril Gilbert Testimonial Fund.

GMRF Affiliated Researcher, Dr Luke Hourigan was awarded funding for a project in 2015. Dr Hourigan's study explored new endoscopic techniques aimed at reducing the risk of large bowel polyps recurring (pre-cancerous lesions) after removal.

Since being published in prominent journal, 'Gastroenterology', in February 2019, the findings have been having a direct impact on clinical practice. Dr Hourigan's technique was evidenced to result in a fourfold reduction in adenoma recurrence rates and was simple, safe, and inexpensive. It also has the potential to be incorporated in conventional polypectomy to enhance effectiveness of the

### procedure.

Thanks to further funding by GMRF donors, Dr Hourigan is about to commence a new study into Barrett's Oesophagus (BO), a potential precursor to a type of cancer called oesophageal adenocarcinoma (OAC).

The incidence of OAC has risen seven fold in the last three decades, far outstripping the rate of change for any other malignancy in the developed world. One thousand Australians will be newly diagnosed with OAC annually, with most expected to die from the disease.

The data collected from this study will help identify at-risk patients for earlier detection and treatment of OAC. This research study also aims to help establish optimal treatment options for dysplastic BO. By targeting and treating BO in this stage, carcinoma can potentially be prevented.





1,338 Australians died from oesophageal cancer in 2016. "The study outcomes could be life-changing for thousands of Australians. If we can recognise patient risk factors, our surveillance strategies and treatment options could potentially be more targeted and effective."

# **Clinical Trials Unit**



The GMRF Clinical Trials Unit their Favourite Investigational Site Awards from 2014, 2017, 2018 and 2019.

# Growth in impact and reputation

Over the last 12 months, the GMRF Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) has been involved with the commencement of several new trials including first-in-man and proof of concept studies, in therapeutic areas of oncology, liver and respiratory diseases. These trials offer new treatment options for patients at the Greenslopes Private Hospital (GPH). Expansion into the area of lung cancer, haemochromatosis (liver disease) and preventative respiratory trials in healthy elderly adults.

The Unit has a total of 15 trial staff, expanding in clinical trials coordinators, assistants and a new Governance Coordinator. All staff undertook Basic Life Science Qualifications training, Good Clinical Practice training, attendance at Trial Investigator meetings and varied role training.



Awarded Favourite Investigational Site 2019 by the Association of Regulatory and Clinical Scientists (ARCS) Australia for the third year in a row and the fourth time overall.



**14 new clinical trials** in oncology, liver and respiratory illnesses.



**42 Total Trials** conducted in 2018/2019 (30 oncology and 12 other)



Five International
 Publications from
 GMRF trials in the area
 of melanoma

**First in Australia** to recruit on early phase haemochromatosis study

# **Clinical Trials Unit**

### **CLINICAL TRIAL FIRSTS**

In 2018, the CTU was the first site in Australia to recruit for an early phase international Haemochromatosis study. The target was originally identified 25 years ago by researchers who are now part of GMRF's Liver Disease Research Unit.

The Unit was also the first site in Australia to screen and randomise a patient for a new Immunotherapy combination trial in prostate cancer.

### **AFFILIATE MEDICAL OFFICERS**

The number Principal Investigators of CTU trials has increased over the past 12 months. There are 13 GPH Medical Officers operating as GMRF affiliates including 7 Oncologists/Haematologist, 3 Gastroenterologist and 3 Respiratory Physicians.

Dr Ken O'Byrne has initiated three new lung cancer trials in the last year recruiting and organises the Annual Brisbane Cancer Conference where several of our affiliate Oncologists presented at the2018 November Meeting.

Dr Victoria Atkinson has been a pivotal Principal Investigator for a number of international melanoma studies some of which have been recently published for several of the GMRF-CTU studies.

Some of these melanoma trials have resulted in pivotal data that has been used to register these drugs for earlier stages of melanoma disease.

### **SPONSOR AUDIT**

In January 2019, an independent Auditor on behalf of a Sponsor audited the CTU site for an early phase Haemochromatosis study. GMRF were the first of six sites in Australia and the 2nd highest internationally to consent to this study. The audit had no major or minor findings, reflecting the professional quality and patient safety oversight of the Principal Investigator and the CTU.

### RAMSAY HEALTH CARE CLINICAL TRIAL NETWORK

GMRF CTU team continued to be involved and assisted the Ramsay Health Care Clinical Trial Network, with dissemination of feasibilities of clinical trials and assisted sites with specific trial unit related queries.

GMRF representative (Suzanne Elliott) coordinated the RHC CT Network/GMRF Booth and co-exhibited with the RHC CT Network Project Manager (Danielle French) on the Queensland Consortium at the ARCS Sydney conference.



### The Clinical Trials Unit is facilitating access to potentially lifechanging new treatments for patients battling illness right now.

GMRF Clinical Trial participant, Howard, was diagnosed with advanced melanoma in 2016, just a few months after retiring from the police force.

Howard was given the choice between surgery and a clinical trial, and commenced a GMRF trial in February 2017.

"I was really impressed with the whole clinical trials set-up. Everybody knew their part and there was never any false promises," Howard says.

Early into the trial, Howard began receiving encouraging results from his monthly treatment.

"The treatment finished early, and I remember the words that ended it; Complete Response. Not cured per se, but not a single cancer cell found in my body. It was such a relief. Now I can start to look to the future again, I can go back to those retirement plans," Howard says.

# **GMRF** PhD Scholarship Program



Ritu receiving a GESA Young Investigator Finalist Award 2019



**2nd PhD Milestone** completed - Mid Candidature



Nominated as a Young **Investigator Finalist** Award by GESA



**First Author** Publication in the World Journal of Stem Cells

# **RITU SHRESTHA** LIVER CANCER UNIT

As a second year PhD student, Ritu Strestha is just at the start of her career in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) research. Given what she's already achieved, the years ahead are bright and promising.

Ritu has embarked on a project identifying novel druggable targets to improve therapy for HCC, a primary liver cancer. She hasn't been daunted by the enormity of the problem primary liver cancer presents as a cancer with a survival rate of just 1-3% in advanced stages. Ritu is exploring links between the process of epithelial to mesenchymal transition (EMT), immune checkpoints and cancer stem cells and how they are contributing to tumour progression and therapy resistance.

"It is still in the early stages, but the long-term impact of my project will be to improve the therapeutics in HCC by reducing resistance to treatment of cancer stem cells," Ritu says.

It's been a productive year for Ritu, completing the mid-candidature of her PhD in July and recognised as a finalist in the Young Investigator of the Year Award at the 2019 Gastroenterology Week in Adelaide in September. Ritu is now identifying pathways involved in regulation of immune checkpoints in HCC that contribute to therapy resistance and testing various inhibitor drugs.

"It's exciting to have my research recognised by experts. It tells me I am on the right track to make a real difference in the fight against liver cancer."

# GMRF PhD Scholarship Program

# **RAJI BAIYDA** LIVER RESEARCH UNIT

Raji Baiyda joined the GMRF Liver Research Unit as a PhD student in 2017 to help progress the Unit's work in increasing the number of donor livers suitable for transplantation.

Raji has recently identified key cell death pathways in transplant liver cells injured by fat and hypoxia (lack of oxygen).

"Due to the obesity epidemic, many potential donor livers will have excess fat. Fatty livers tend to fail or are susceptible to complications after transplant," Raji says.

Now that she has determined how these livers are failing, her focus will turn to how she can stop this process by targeting these pathways in order to reduce the likelihood of cell death in transplant livers.

To date, Raji has presented this work at five major conferences and completed the mid-candidature review of her PhD in July this year. With one year remaining, Raji will now perform further studies to test her theories.

"I'm into the testing stage to determine if targeting the initiation and execution steps of cell death can improve overall liver function," Raji says.

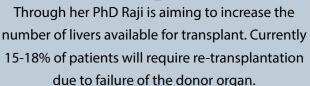
"If we can 'rescue' livers or successfully treat a donor liver there is a better chance of a successful outcome."







2nd PhD Milestone completed - Mid Candidature



# **GMRF** PhD Student Update

# SLAWOMIR ANDRZEJEWSKI OPHTHALMOLOGY RESEARCH

Slawomir Andrezejewski is in the third year of his PhD investigating aspects of therapeutic targeting in retinal disease. The aim of his research project is to develop gene therapy to treat various blinding conditions such as diabetic retinopathy using the Adeno-Associated Viral (AAV) vector as the therapeutic agent. The AAV vector will be equipped with various genes to improve the pathological environment in affected retinal tissue.

Slawomir completed the Mid-Candidature Review of his PhD in February 2019. In June 2019, he attended the British Society for Gene & Cell Therapy Annual Conference where he conducted a presentation titled *Effect of human vitreous humour components and neutralising antibodies on transduction activity of recombinant AAV2, AAV5, AAV6 and AAV8.* 

Slawomir's research has progressed significantly over the past 12 months, with testing of AAV antibody prevalence from over 200 human serum samples from healthy and diabetic donors. The results have shown that AAV5 and AAV8 vectors are attractive because prevalence of anti-AAV5 and anti-AAV8 neutralising antibodies is low among Australians and remains low in diabetics. Slawomir has also tested the prevalence of anti-AAV neutralising antibodies, in human vitreous humour obtained from 80 post-mortem eye cups. The research identified that neutralising antibodies for AAV5 and AAV8 capsids are also very low in concentration, making these vectors attractive to use in the broad population.

Slawomir's PHD scholarship is funded through the generous support of the Thorsen family Foundation

# **WOLE AKOSILE** VETERAN MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH

Psychiatrist, Dr Wole Akosile a QUT PhD candidate is using the data from the PTSD Initiative Vietnam Veteran Study to undertake his PhD entitled *Molecular mechanisms* and pathways in the development of cardiovascular disease in individuals with PTSD.

Dr Akosile's thesis provides strong evidence of the link between PTSD and coronary artery disease. It demonstrates the role played by inflammation and inflammatory factors in creating a milieu that is both synergetic and fatal leading to the sequential development of both disorders.

Further to this, the thesis provides some evidence of a possible syndemic interaction in veteran population between the two disorders. Inflammation seems to be the final pathway and the papers arising from this thesis demonstrates the role played by inflammasomes.

Inflammosomes play a central role in the process of inflammation across several systems in the body including the cardiovascular system. This thesis demonstrates that Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms in these inflammasomes (NLRP12 and NLRP3) have been shown to be associated with elevated coronary calcium score in Vietnam Veterans.

Dr Akosile contributed to three publications (one currently under review) over the past 12 months and is scheduled to complete his PhD in November 2019.

# **GMRF** Innovation Grants

### **Enhancing outcomes at Greenslopes Private Hospital**

The GMRF Innovation Grants Program is empowering staff at Greenslopes Private Hospital (GPH) to use their first-hand experience to enhance clinical outcomes for patients and fellow staff. Now in its seventh year, the grants program has been used to fund a range of projects that have made a significant and measurable difference to the health of patients and staff. In 2018, GMRF awarded \$35,620 in grants for three projects.

# Pressure Injuries: Can these be Prevented by Education and Management?

GPH Nurse Unit Manager, Cath Stewart implemented a trial education program to help nursing staff better identify and treat hospital acquired pressure injuries. The education strategy was conducted over a three month period from May-July 2019 providing in-service training to 452 staff, which included 344 one-to-one training sessions. As a result, there was a significant decrease in the number of pressure injuries compared to the corresponding period in 2018. Also, 95% staff surveyed reported an increased confidence in detecting pressure injuries.

### **Temporary Cardiac Pacing Simulator**

GPH Coronary Care Facilitator, Clare Foster conducted a research project on the development and trial of a

temporary cardiac pacing simulator, functioning as a patient's heart in training scenarios for cardiac care nurses. The simulator enables nurses to gain hands-on practice of theoretical concepts in the use of cardiac care equipment. The project is ongoing and to-date five participants have completed training and provided positive feedback.

### Does computer based cognitive retraining influence cognitive function, activities of daily living and rehabilitation outcomes of orthopaedic patients? A Comparative Study.

Carissa Bernal Carrillo and a team from the GPH Rehabilitation Unit are trialling a computer-based cognitive therapy program aimed at improving cognitive function, ability to perform daily tasks and quality of life outcomes for patients. The program helps staff to better identify the resources and therapy suited to a patient's recovery as an inpatient and the services and supports a patient requires for discharge. It also allows staff to commence practice with patients earlier, with the goal of getting patients home sooner. Initally implemented between March and September 2019, the program has been extended to a 12 month trial.

The GMRF Innovation Grants Program is made possible by Thynne + Macartney Lawyers, Greenslopes Private Hospital, and generous GMRF donors.











### Chairman

### Mr Liam Kelly BA (Hons) LLB (Hons) (UQ)

Liam Kelly graduated from the University of Queensland in 1988 with honours in English literature and in law. He was awarded the university medal for law. He was also awarded the Rhodes Scholarship for Queensland in 1989 and attended Magdalen College at Oxford University from where he graduated in 1991 with a Bachelor of Civil Law. He commenced private practice as a barrister in Brisbane in 1992 and continues to practise at the bar as a Queen's Counsel. His field of work is commercial litigation.

# Director

### **Ms Chris Went** CEO of Greenslopes Private Hospital

Chris Went was appointed to the position of CEO at Greenslopes Private Hospital on 11 December 2017. Ms Went was previously CEO at St Andrew's Ipswich Private Hospital (also a member of Ramsay Health Care). Having completed her nursing training in 1992, Chris also has post graduate qualifications in the clinical specialties of cardiology and emergency as well as business administration.

Chris has represented the private sector on the Queensland Clinical Senate for the past six years, was a member of the Department of Health Patient Safety Board for three years and has represented the Australian Private Hospitals Association on the Queensland Clinical Education and Training Council.





### **Ms Carmel Monaghan**

### **B.BusComm**, MBA

Ms Carmel Monaghan is Ramsay Health Care's Chief of Staff, following her appointment to this position in January 2015. In this role she is responsible for planning and directing the administrative, operational and strategic activities of the Office of the Chief Executive Officer. She is also responsible for the Company's global marketing strategy, brand management; public affairs; communications; and corporate social responsibility agenda. Ms Monaghan holds a Bachelor of Business (Communications) from Queensland University of Technology and a Master of Business Administration in 2002. In April 2016, Ms Monaghan was appointed as a Director of Générale de Santé, a publicly listed hospital operator in France in which Ramsay Health Care (UK) Limited has an interest.

### **Professor John Pearn**

AO RDF MBBS (Hons I), MD (QId), PhD (Lond), DSc, MPhil, DCH, FRACP, FRCP, FRCPS (Glas), FRACMA, FCollTropMed (Australas), FCollTropMed (USA), FAMA, FADI, FAIM, FLS

Major General John Pearn has served as one of Australia's most senior doctor-soldiers. As Professor Pearn, he is a Senior Paediatrician at the Queensland Children's Hospital in Brisbane; where, at its predecessor the Royal Children's Hospital, he has been a full-time staff clinician since 1968. His major clinical, research and teaching interests in paediatrics and internal medicine have included medical genetics, clinical toxicology, bioethics and accident prevention. Major General John Pearn also served in a second career in the Australian Defence Force, rising progressively through various senior command and executive positions in the Defence Health Service. In 1998 he was appointed Surgeon General to the Australian Defence Force. Professor Pearn retired from the GMRF Board on 14th November 2018.

### **Mr Stephen Copplin** FCPA, FAICD

Stephen is the Executive Chairman of the Marketing Director Centre Pty Ltd. His professional career spans numerous industry sectors, including finance, insurance, investment banking, technology, media and creative industries. Stephen is a Fellow Certified Practicing Accountant, a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and he has recently completed 15 years as an Adjunct Professor in the School of Business and the School of Electrical Engineering at the University of Queensland. As a professional Company Director, he currently holds a number of non-executive board positions with both public and private companies. Stephen retired from the GMRF Board on 14th November 2018.





Professor John Pearn



### Mr Tom Ryan B Pharm, FACP, FAICD

Mr Tom Ryan formerly a Director and Chairman of Australian Pharmaceutical Healthcare Systems (APHS). Mr Ryan was a founding partner of the APHS Group. The APHS group provides pharmacy services within private hospitals, as well as providing oncology services to a variety of public and private hospitals and also providing an extensive service to aged care facilities for both prescription supply and clinical consultancies, and community pharmacy services. Mr Ryan owned and operated the pharmacy service at Greenslopes Private Hospital from 1995 until 2010.

### **Professor Gerald Holtmann** MD, PhD, MBA, FRACP, FRCP

Professor Gerald Holtmann is a Clinical Academic with substantial leadership experience in the clinical and academic setting. He is Director of the Department Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane, and serves on the Board of Directors of the West Moreton Hospital and Health Service and is the Associate Dean Clinical at the University of Queensland. His research in the field of Neurogastroenterology has been published in more than 350 articles and book chapters in leading journals including the NEJM, Lancet and Gastroenterology. Besides his clinical and academic activities, he completed a Master in Business Administration (MBA) at the University of South Australia.

### **Professor Ross Young**

### BSc(Hons), MSc, Dip Clin Psyc, PhD, MAPS

Professor Ross Young was appointed Executive Dean, Faculty of Health QUT in January 2013 following seven years as Executive Director, Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation (IHBI), QUT. Professor Young is a Clinical Psychologist and his research interests lie in the integration of psychological and biological risk factors in mental illness. His research includes work in substance misuse, schizophrenia, anxiety disorders, mood disorders and more broadly in behavioural medicine. This includes work in pharmacogenomics and the development of personalised medicine via the use of gene chips. Professor Young has over 210 published book chapters and papers in genetic, medical, psychiatric and psychological journals.









Professor Ross Young

### Associate Professor David Colquhoun MBBS, FRACP, FCSANZ

Associate Professor David Colquhoun is a Cardiologist in private practice. He has been extensively involved in research over the last 35 years involving multi-centre international trials and investigator initiated trials in the area of lipids, nutrition, nutraceuticals, diabetes and obesity. He has been the AMA spokesperson for Cardiology in Queensland. He is a member of the Scientific Committee of National Institute of Complementary Medicine. He was a member of the Queensland Government Smart State Council working group on prevention and early intervention approaches to tackle chronic disease. He is Chair of the Prevention and Clinical Cardiology Council of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand. Associate Professor Colquhoun resigned from the GMRF Board on 30th October 2018.

### **Mr Karl Morris** BCom, FAICD, MSAFAA, FFSIA

Karl Morris is Executive Chairman of Ord Minnett Limited with a career spanning over 30 years in financial services and wealth management. He is a Commerce graduate of Griffith University and holds diplomas from the Stockbrokers and Financial Advisers Association of Australia, Institute of Company Directors and FINSIA. Karl is Chairman and a Master Member of the Stockbrokers and Financial Advisers Association of Australia, Chairman of QSuper, Director of the Royal Automobile Club of Queensland (RACQ), Board Member of JP Morgan Australia Advisory Council, Board Member of the Financial Sector Advisory Council, Board Member of Archdiocese of Brisbane Catholic Foundation, Chair of Mary MacKillop Brisbane Catholic School Access Fund, Chair of Griffith University Foundation Board, Governor of the University of Notre Dame Australia and Patron of Bravehearts.

### Dr Michael Harrison

### MBBS(1st Class Honours). FRCPA (General Pathology)

Dr Michael Harrison is the Chief Executive Officer/Managing Partner of Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology and is a Consultant Pathologist at the main Taringa Laboratory. Dr Harrison graduated from the University of Queensland in 1977 with an MBBS (1st Class Honours) and in 1984 was awarded FRCPA (General Pathology). Dr Harrison is the President of Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia and Chairman of the Quality Use of Pathology Committee. He has presented at many national and international meetings on the topics of Quality, Laboratory Management and eHealth.



Associate Professor David Colquhoun



Mr Karl Morris



# **GMRF** Patrons

### Patron — Dame Quentin Bryce AD CVO

Ms Quentin Bryce has enjoyed a rich and distinguished career as an academic, lawyer, community and human rights advocate, senior public officer, university college principal, and vice-regal representative in Queensland and for Australia.

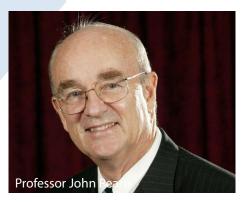
Her contribution to advancing human rights and equality, the rights of women and children, and the welfare of the family was recognised in her appointment as an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1988 and a Companion of the Order of Australia in 2003. Also in 2003, she was invested as a Dame of Grace of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem. On 5 September 2008, Ms Quentin Bryce was sworn in as Australia's twenty-fifth Governor-General. Her term concluded in March 2014 and Prime Minister Tony Abbott announced on 25 March 2014 that Ms Bryce had become a Dame in the Order of Australia.



### Patron — Professor John Pearn

AO RDF MBBS (Hons I), MD (Qld), PhD (Lond), DSc, MPhil, DCH, FRACP, FRCP, FRCPS (Glas), FRACMA, FCollTropMed (Australas), FCollTropMed (USA), FAMA, FADI, FAIM, FLS

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# **GMRF Ambassadors**

### Veteran Ambassador — Tim Thomas

Tim Thomas is an ex-special forces Commando with deployments to Afghanistan and East Timor. He is a passionate advocate of better understanding and support for ex service personnel as they transition from service to civilian life. Tim joined the GMRF Team as a Veteran Ambassador to help promote GMRF's research in veteran mental health and reintegration.

### GP Ambassador — Dr Phil Parker

Dr Parker works as a general practitioner at Newstead in inner Brisbane. He enlisted as an Army soldier in 1988 and has served in both full and part time roles over 27 years. In 2012, he deployed to Afghanistan as the Senior Medical Officer in the province of Uruzgan. In this role he coordinated coalition forces medical care and provided mentoring to senior Afghan military and police health staff.

Dr Parker is also an experienced and qualified educator, a role that has supported his affiliation with the GMRF. As the Foundation's GP Ambassador, he provides advice about PTSD management within primary health care and continues to educate fellow GPs about the condition. As a GP, Dr Parker remains committed to the care and support of veterans and their families.

### Media Ambassador — Pat Welsh

7 News sports editor, reporter and presenter Pat Welsh is one of Australia's leading sports journalists and commentators. Pat is best known for his all-round sporting knowledge and presenting prowess. His extensive experience includes nine Olympic Games, rugby league, horse racing, cricket and three decades of golfing commentaries. Pat was a Founding Board Director for the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation. He's continued his unwavering commitment to the Foundation as an Ambassador, generously donating his time and talents to GMRF events such as the Supporter High Tea and the Research Awards Night.







# **GMRF** Committees

### **Executive Committee**

### Members

Mr Liam Kelly | Chairman Ms Carmel Monaghan | Company Secretary Ms Christine Went | GPH Chief Executive Officer Ms Miriam Dwyer | GMRF Chief Executive Officer Ms Jane O'Brien | Chief Operating Officer Professor Darrell Crawford | Director of Research Dr Suzanne Elliott | Associate Director of Clinical Trials Dr Madeline Romaniuk | Associate Director of Mental Health Research Ms Emma Bryant | Director of Development

### **Scientific Advisory Committee**

### Members

Professor Ross Young | Chair Associate Professor David Colquhoun (*Resigned 30/10/2018*) Professor Darrell Crawford Dr Michael Harrison Professor Ken Donald Professor Gerald Holtmann

### Veteran Health Research Strategic Oversight Committee

### Members

Professor Gerald Holtmann | Chair Professor Darrell Crawford Mr Bill O'Chee RSL Queensland Representative Dr Andrew Khoo Dr Ian Gardener

### **Finance and Audit Subcommittee**

### Members

Mr Stephen Copplin | Chair *(Retired 14/11/2018)* Ms Christine Went Mr Tom Ryan Mr Liam Kelly Mr Karl Morris

# Acknowledgment

### **Discovery Partners**

We gratefully acknowledge the long term support and investment in our medical research by all of our supporters. Our Discovery Partners come from a vast range of backgrounds but they are unified by a strong commitment to advancing research to restore lives. The Discovery Partner Honour Board is found in the heart of Greenslopes Private Hospital and acknowledges individuals and organisations that have made a significant contribution to our research since the Foundation began in 2005.

### Corporate

### Emeritus (\$1 million +) RSL Queensland The University of Queensland Faculty of Health Sciences – School of Medicine Greenslopes Private Hospital

### Mastery (\$500,000 +)

Ramsay Health Care

### Visionary (\$250,000 +)

Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology Medinet Medibank

### Innovator (\$50,000 +)

27

Thynne + Macartney Lawyers APHS

Baxter Healthcare Calleija Jewellers Channel 7 News **Device Technologies Australia** Flight Centre Limited Johnson & Johnson Medical Pty Ltd Medtronic Australasia Pty Ltd **Olympus Australia Pty Ltd Phillips Medical Systems** QML Pathology Queensland University of Techonology, Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation (HBI) Queensland X-Ray Roche Products Pty Ltd Spotless Group Limited Stryker Australia





Thynne

Macartnev

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medibank For Better Health

CREATE CHANGE



### Emeritus (\$250,000)

Diggers Dozen Volunteers

### Mastery (\$100,000 +)

Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch RSL & Kedron Wavell Services Club Inc War Widows Guild of Australia (QLD) Inc NFIA (National Fire Industry Association) Patron's Walk for Charity

### Visionary (\$50,000 +)

Civic Solutions Gill's Old Bastards Qld Ex-Prisoner Of War Association Inc. Greenslopes Private Hospital Volunteers



### Innovator (\$10,000 +)

Alma Williams & Friends City of Brisbane Consistory No 1 A & AS Rite of Freemasonry Coorparoo & Districts RSL Sub Branch Greenbank RSL Services Club Inc Greenbank RSL Sub-Branch Greenbank RSL Sub-Branch Women's Auxiliary Redlands RSI Sherwood-Indooroopilly RSL Sub Branch Sherwood Services Club Inc. Stephens RSL Sub Branch Walking on Sunshine Womens Interest Group Society (WIGS) Wynnum RSL Services Memorial Club Rotary Club of Carindale

# Acknowledgment

### Individual

### Emeritus (\$100,000 +)

Mrs Norma Jean Bracken John & Elaine Feddersen Mr & Mrs John & Wendy Thorsen Blair & Joy Smith Joanne Usher

### Mastery (\$50,000 +)

The Barnett Family Prof Darrell Crawford Mr & Mrs Brett & Zahra Godfrey Pearl Logan, Lyn Unsworth & The Logan Family Foundation Dr Rowland Noakes Marjorie Trundle Mr Bob Ney

### Visionary (\$25,000 +)

Jeffrey Boyling Mrs Betty Buising **Dr Christopher & Simone Layton** Miria, Mike, Rewiti & Tua Ross Roger & Marjorie Trundle

### Innovator (\$5,000 +)

The Airey Family Mr Rolf Albrecht The Broderick Family Dr L Barrett

28

Mr Leslie A Batros Mr & Mrs Bernard and June Berry Dr A Bofinger Dr R Bach & Dr C Boothroyd Mrs Mary & Mr Wally Boydell Mrs Margaret Brodie Mr Malcolm Broomhead Mr Vivian Byatt Dr Lillian Cameron **Rick and Sue Chisholm** Peter & Sandra Clarke Assoc Prof David Colquhoun Bil Colthurst Mrs Joan Evelyn Court **Douglas & Helen Cowlishaw** Mr Douglas Cranstoun Mr Peter Darmody Dr Jeff Deslandes **Ronald Dutton** Dr Anna Frian Dr Mark Erian Ms Helen du Frocq **Dr Stephen Fine** 

Mr & Mrs D Fort Mrs Jane Francis Mr Colin Garrett Dr John Gibson

Mr Cyril Gilbert OAM POW Changi Mr David McDougall POW Changi Mr & Mrs Geoff & Helen Glanville Mr Cyril Golding Prof Emeritus Richard D Gordon AO Mr Keith & Mrs Olive Gore Mr G. M. Grant Dr Trevor Gray Mr & Mrs Lloyd & Sharon Grundy Dr Ross Gurgo Dr Bruce Hall Mr Robin Harvey Steve & Julie Hearn Mrs Patricia Hemsley Dr P locavella Dr Eileen Heyne & Dr Imre Kalas Mr & Mrs Willam & Lynette Deacon Mr & Mrs Norma and Robert James Dr J Preston Dr R Kennedy Dr N Kewal Mr A Kinkade Mr T Kinnane Dr P Kortlucke The Irving/Legerton Families Bruce & Wendy Levien Keong Lim Dr A Majumdar Freda Mangano

Wayne & Renee McAuliffe Ken McDonald Dr Glenda McLaren Mr James McNeil Petra Milaudi Dr B Moore Mr & Mrs Ken Naramura Assoc Prof A Nicol Assoc Prof D Nicol Professor Andreas Obermair George O'Kane Kevin & Miriam O'Shea W.G. Patrick **EK & JO Pearson** Kevin & Barbara Petersen Mrs J Pockett Dr G Powell Dr Kirsten & Dr Chris Price Dr S Rahman Dr J Reddrop **Mr Edward Rigden Dr D Rosengren** Roy Ryan Henry & Judi Scheuber Dr P Sharwood OAM RFD Mrs Betty Smith Ms Sheila B Smith

Dr Lynda Spelman Mrs Anne Stanton Assoc Prof C Steadman Professor Michael Stowasser Assoc Prof Christopher Strakosch Dr Katherine Stuart Mr Nichalos (Pepper) & Mrs Maria Taifalous Mrs Jean Thompson Anne & Brian Thornton Mrs Gwendoline C Trimble and WOFF J. "Bushy" Trimble A33761 Mrs Joye Trundle Mr & Mrs Nicholas and Eugenia Vallianos Dr G Wagner Dr P Waterhouse Dr Noela Whitby AM & Prof Michael Whitby **Dr P Whiting** Mrs Alma Williams Mr & Mrs John & Leone Wilson Dr Glen & Mrs Susan Wood Terry and Camilla Barker Mr John Beattie Ian Chappell **Raymond and Veronica Freier** Ronald J Vellacott

**Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation** 

# Acknowledgment

### Foundations, Trusts & Estates

### Foundations

**Paul Ramsay Foundation** Cory Charitable Foundation **Goldman Sachs JBWere Foundation** James N Kirby Foundation State Trustees Australia Foundation The Honda Foundation

### Estates

Estate of Christina Ann Alexander Estate of Mr Victor John Bahr Estate of Mrs Norma Jean Bracken Estate of Mr Jeremiah Coffey Estate of Mrs Marjorie H Eastman Estate of Mrs Josie Clare Grinsell The Family of Dick and Elsie Hagerty Estate of Mrs Mary Lamond Hinkley Estate of Elizabeth Hughes Estate of Mr Mark Kellv Estate of Jean Linz Estate of Eugenie J MacLennan Mr G.D (Doug) Murray Estate of Shirelle Nahow Estate of Adele C Radke Estate of Mrs Nancy Rauchle Estate of Mr Alfred Rawnsley Estate of John & Joan Smith Estate of Mrs Jovce Smith Estate of Mrs Lucie Spatz Estate of Mr Robert Chigwidden Estate of Barbara Gay

Estate of Alfred "Snow" & June Grace Rawnsley

### In Memoriam

Nulma Ball Murray Alexander Barnett Keith and Marjorie Boyling Brian John Brandenburg Delia Helen Cameron Olga Clarke Mrs Gert Francis Mr John Leslie Harrison Mr Lou Jurasko Henry James Elly Kinder (AE2, ex POW) (Buick) Ross Kinder (8th Division, ex POW) Cecil Gordon Lansdown Lynda Laughton **Rhonda Linsdell** The Miers Family Mrs Gemma Minto Lance & Eileen Ninnes Mr Jack Oliphant **Gilbert Stanley Rider David Shepherdson** Col Shields Mr Leslie Francis Smith (ex P.O.W) Peter H Solomon Mr Michael Storah **Darryl Sugars** Gordon Symes Wayne George Thomas Thomas Edwin Titmarsh 2/25th PoW Kuang-Liang Wu Mrs May Young Mrs Bernadette Ney

### **Cyril Gilbert Testimonial** Fund

The Cyril Gilbert Testimonial Fund was established tofight the impact of cancer. The following donors have united to bring Mr Cyril Gilbert OAM the fund to a level where it makes a truly impactful difference in cancer care:

### Diamond (\$100,00)+

Mark Kelly

### Platinum 50K +

**Greenslopes** Private Hospital Mr Paul Ramsav AO The OLD Ex Prisoner of War Association Mr & Mrs Blair & Joy Smith & Mrs Joanne Usher Assoc. Prof Victoria Atkinson

**Greenslopes Private Hospital Volunteers** 

### Gold 20K +

**RSL** Oueensland Mrs Colleen Makhecha Marjorie & Keith Boyling

### Silver 10K +

Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology **Diggers** Dozen **Greenslopes Private Hospital** Mr Robert Peter Kemp Peta-Jane & Bruce Kemp Dr Pretoria Bilinski Janet Hooper & Louise Sanderson Alma Williams & Friend

Nick and Lexie Amarandos Dr Phil Moon The Moon Family

### Bronze 5K +

Associate Prof. Andrew Nicol Mr Richard Lizzio Ms Carmel Monaghan Redlands RSI Mr Pat Welsh Anne Marie & Paul Wright The Irving Legerton Families Helen Parker & Betty Croft Margaret McNickle Neil Mackay Barker

### **GPH Cancer Wellness** Program

### **Founding Supporters**

Blair Smith & Joanne Usher

### **Champions (\$5,000+)**

Les Batros Peta-Jane Kemp Premier Fire Pty Limited KPU's The Right Note **Rotary Club of Carindale** 

# GMRF Community

### Volunteers

Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation (GMRF) greatly values the time and efforts of the men and women who volunteer to support our research and fundraising activities. We are especially grateful to all the volunteers at Greenslopes Private Hospital. Your spirit and energy inspire us every day.

### **Clinical trial and research participants**

GMRF would like to thank those who have directly contributed to medical research in the past 12 months through participation in clinical trials or studies.

Our PTSD and Veteran Mental Health Initiatives would simply not be possible without the involvement of veterans and their families who volunteer to participate in these studies.

The GMRF Clinical Trials Unit would also like to thank all patients for their time and participation in clinical trials across oncology, liver, and respiratory illnesses. It is thanks to these participants that we can conduct trials which will contribute to the general public having access to life-changing new treatments in the future.









# GMRF in the Community



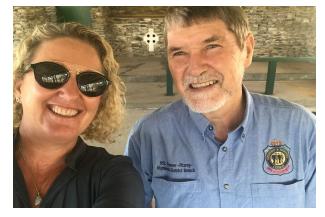
Hundreds of runners turned out for the second annual Red Run on 4 November 2018 to run, walk or jog for remembrance.



The Col's Shields Memorial Golf Day was on again in September 2019, with the group raising \$4,008 for GMRF's cancer research.



The Right Note hosted the Garage Bar Choir in September, singing together as one voice and raising \$1,050 for the Cancer Wellness Program.



The RSL Pioneer Fitzroy Highlands District Branch hosted GMRF CEO Miriam Dwyer for a presentation and generously donated \$5,000.



Brian Davies (pictured with NRL Immortal Wally Lewis) and trekkers on the NFIA Patron's Walk for Charity set a \$250,000 fundraising target for GMRF and the Queensland Brain Institute.



Alma and her family and friends continued their fantastic fundraising efforts at her open garden in the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers and other community events.

# Financial Highlights 2018/2019

# Legend for Funding Donations and fundraising - 23.09% Grants - 23.37% Clinical Trials - 46.87% Interest - 3.35% Other -3.32%

# **GMRF SPENDING**

**GMRF FUNDING** 





# ZERO. THAT'S HOW MUCH OF YOUR DONATION IS SPENT ON ADMINISTRATION AND FUNDRAISING.

These costs are covered by in-kind support from Greenslopes Private Hospital and income from our Clinical Trials Unit. All donations go o life-changing research and support initiatives.

### Jane O'Brien CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

GMRF maintained a sound financial position in 2018/19. Total revenue grew to \$5.179M led by growth in clinical trials and grant funding for our veteran mental health research. Revenue from donations also increased thanks to our wonderful supporters.

Total expenditure was \$4.337M which was a slight increase on prior year. The Foundation continues to allocate as much as possible to research activities and this is reflected in the expenditure breakdown with just over 80% spent directly on research and clinical trial activities. The significant in-kind support provided by Greenslopes Private Hospital again allowed us to keep general operating and administrative costs to a minimum, accounting for just over 5% of total expenditure. The Clinical Trials Unit had another very successful year and was again able to generate sufficient surplus to cover these overheads so that we continue to be able to allocate 100% of all fundraising and donations directly to research.

Cash balances and retained earnings remain strong, ensuring a strong financial base and financial stability in the longer term.

"What a privilege it has been to see the Foundation go from strength to strength, knowing that it is our wonderful and generous supporters who have played a big part in facilitating this!" Jane O'Brien

# **Supporting GMRF**

We don't receive government funding, so the progress of our medical research depends on the support of our generous donors. You can get involved in making life-changing research happen through some of the options below.

### Donate

Tax-deductible donations can be made by cash, cheque, or credit card. You can also donate online via our website www.gallipoliresearch.com.au.

### **Become a Regular Giver**

Regular donations are essential for us to plan ahead for future initiatives, secure in the knowledge of regular financial support. GMRF Regular Givers receive an itemised tax receipt for all donations each year, allowing you to easily process your tax return.

### Become a Discovery Partner

Our Discovery Partners are committed and generous supporters who enable us to reach for even bigger goals in our quest for new treatments and breakthroughs. We are proud to display the names of our individual, community and corporate Discovery Partners on the GMRF honour boards, located at Greenslopes Private Hospital.

### **Memorial Gifts**

Memorial donations can be made to the GMRF in lieu of floral tributes. Memorial gift envelopes are available from the Foundation Office or can be requested via your funeral director.

### **Community Fundraising**

GMRF relies on the amazing efforts of local groups to raise funds in their community. Get in contact with us to find out about how you can set up a community fundraising event or get your community group involved with supporting our research.

### Leaving a Gift in your Will

Leaving a gift in your Will is one of the most significant ways you can assist our work and leave a lasting legacy for future generations. After considering family and friends, you might consider making a provision in your Will to support GMRF. Contact us on 07 3394 7284 for an obligation-free chat to find out more.

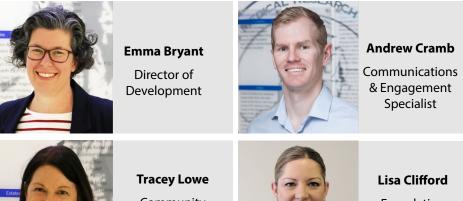
### Stay in touch

There's always a lot happening here at GMRF and we love to keep our community of supporters up-to-date on our impact. Visit the GMRF website to sign up to our Tribute Newsletter or follow us on Facebook or LinkedIn.

### Get in contact

To find out more about our work and how you can support us, get in touch with the GMRF Development Team (pictured below!)

- Phone: 07 3394 7284
- Email: enquiries.GMRF@ramsayhealth.com.au
- Web: www.gallipoliresearch.com.au
- Visit us: Greenslopes Private Hospital, Lower Lobby Level, Admin Building



Foundation Administrator



Community Engagement & Fundraising Coordinator

100% of your donation goes to medical research.

Our administration costs are covered by the generous in-kind support of

Greenslopes Private Hospital and the income from our Clinical Trials Unit.







Research to restore lives

# VETERAN MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE PUBLICATIONS

Kidd, C. & Romaniuk, M. (2019). Resilience and psychopathology in trauma-exposed Australian Veterans: An exploratory factor analysis of the Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale. Journal of Military, Veteran and Family Health, 5(1), 27-39.

Romaniuk, M., Evans, J., & Kidd, C. (2018). Evaluation of an equine-assisted therapy program for veterans who identify as 'wounded, injured or ill' and their partners. PloS one, 13(9), e0203943.

Gilmour, J., & Romaniuk. M. The underlying dimensions of posttraumatic stress disorder in Australian Vietnam veterans: A confirmatory factor analysis of the Clinician-Administered PTSD Scale for DSM-5 (CAPS-5). Accepted May 2019 with the Journal of Military, Veteran, and Family Health.

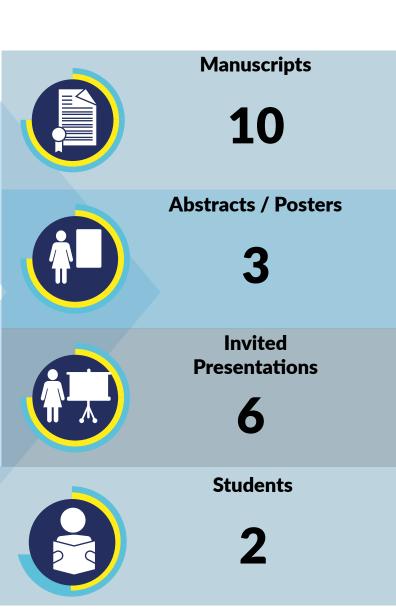
Romaniuk, M., Evans, J., & Kidd, C. (2019). Evaluation of

the online, peer delivered 'Post War: Survive to Thrive Program' for Veterans with symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder. Journal of Military and Veterans Health, 27(2), 55.

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DNA methylation from germline cells in veterans with PTSD. Mehta D, Pelzer ES, Bruenig D, Lawford B, McLeay S, Morris CP, Gibson JN, Young RM, Voisey J; PTSD Initiative. J Psychiatr Res. 2019 Sep;116:42-50. doi: 10.1016/j.jpsychires.2019.06.001. Epub 2019 Jun 6.

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### VETERAN MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE PUBLICATIONS CONTINUED

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Akosile W, Voiset J, Lawford B, Colquhoun D, Young RM, Meheta D. The Inflammasome NLRP12 is associated with both depression and coronary artery disease in Vietnam Veterans. Psychiatry Res 2018 Dec 270; 775-779.

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Gibson J., Elkojje A., Theal R., McLeay S. and R. O'Sullivan. Polysomnographic features of REM Sleep Behaviour Disorder in Vietnam Veterans with and with PTSD. Presentation at the Australasian Sleep Association Sleep Down Under Conference in October 2018. Journal of Sleep Research, Special Issue: Sleep DownUnder 2018 Connections Abstracts, 2018; P011.

Hampton S., Romaniuk M. Investigating the Utility of Compassionate Mind Training in Ex-Service Personnel with PTSD and their Partners. To be presented at the Australasian Conference on Traumatic Stress 2019; in press.

Evans J., Romaniuk M. Investigating the Utility of Mental Health First Aid Training for Families Supporting an Ex-service Personnel with a Mental Health Condition. To be presented at the 2019 Australasian Military Medicine Association Conference; in press.



### LIVER RESEARCH UNIT PUBLICATIONS

Britton LJ, Bridle K, Jaskowski LA, He J, Ng C, Ruelcke JE, Mohamed A, Reiling J, Santrampurwala N, Hill MM, Whitehead

**GMRF Liver Research Unit** Research to restore lives

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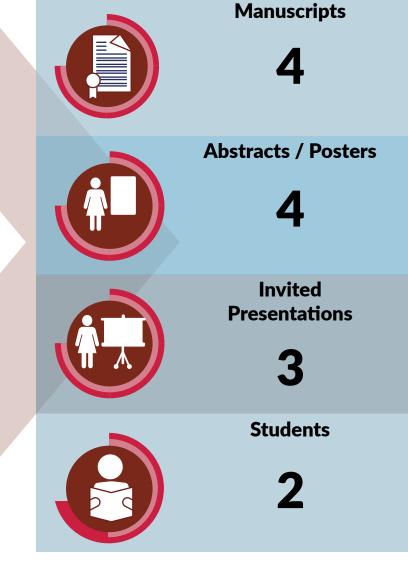
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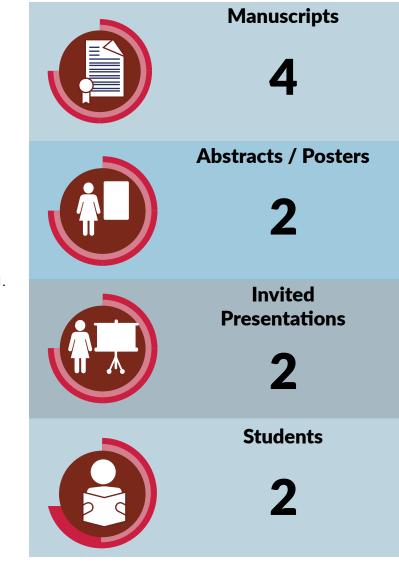
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**GMRF Respiratory Unit** Research to restore lives

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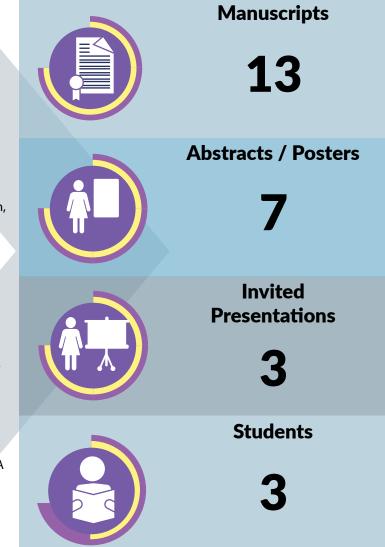
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GMRF Clinical Trials Unit

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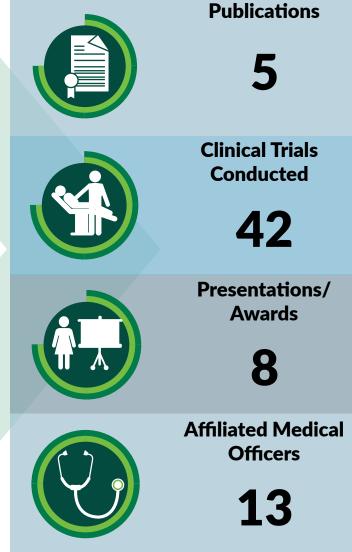
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