

THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

# AUXILIARIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2016/2017



# Vision

We are one team, working towards one goal – making sick kids better.

# Mission

To raise funds to assist the hospital in advancing the care of sick children, thus improving quality of life.

# Values

We show integrity in all our interactions, being moral, ethical, honest, transparent and trustworthy.

We display humility, being modest, not self-important; confidence in dealing with others.

We show gratitude and appreciation for the efforts of our donors and our colleagues.

We are compassionate, showing empathy in our dealings with each individual.

We are inclusive and respectful. We show loyalty and understanding.

The results of these values translates into action. We are known for delivery on our commitments.



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# Message from the President



95 years of Auxiliaries is an outstanding achievement. The contribution that all Auxiliary members have made to the hospital over this time is astounding.

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As I enter my first year as President of Auxiliaries, I am overwhelmed by your warmth and care and the dedication you show to The Royal Children's Hospital (RCH). I am so grateful to the wonderful Robyn Anderson, from whom I took over as President, for all of her wisdom and encouragement.

95 years of Auxiliaries is an outstanding achievement. The contribution that all Auxiliary members have made to the hospital over this time is astounding. This past year is no exception and I would like to thank you for your hard work, all of the functions you organise, the market days you attend and the goods that you make.

None of these events would be as successful as they are without the support of the Auxiliaries Office and RCH Foundation staff. Thank you to Peter Yates AM, Chairman, and Sue Hunt, Chief Executive Officer for their leadership and support. The Auxiliaries Office, and particularly Greg Hordacre, Laurel-Leigh Lawson and Lucia Di Maio, also offer us wonderful support, helping to organise and assist with a number of your fundraising initiatives. I wish Laurel-Leigh all the best in her new role. I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank former Auxiliaries Manager, Michelle Rule for all her hard work.

In February this year, the Auxiliaries Executive Committee (AEC) ran its first forum to start the process of planning for the future. Quite some time was spent exploring how Auxiliaries could capitalise

on our strengths by working together to run additional functions. We also discussed how this could increase funds for the hospital without placing an undue burden on any one Auxiliary.

At the forum, Auxiliaries were also asked to identify the biggest challenge they currently face, and an overwhelming majority agreed that this related to an aging membership and the need to seek new members. The AEC has listened carefully to what you have been saying. As such, our work for the next triennium will focus on developing strategies to engage younger people and to revitalise those Auxiliaries who have not been as active in the last few years.

It has been said many times before that the Auxiliaries are the heart and soul of the hospital. We all need to work together to ensure this remains so for the future and that we continue to support the wonderful work of the hospital.

Thank you for allowing me to join you on this journey.

**Dr Miriam Weisz**

President  
RCH Auxiliaries

# Message of thanks



You are the hospital's longest philanthropic partner, with deep roots embedded in the community, something you should all feel incredibly proud of.

This past 12 months has been another incredible year of fundraising for the RCH Auxiliaries and I would like to congratulate and thank each and every member. Your dedication to the hospital is an inspiration.

You truly are one team working towards one goal - making sick kids better.

If we think back to 1922, when the Auxiliaries' commitment and devotion to sick children started, it is incredible to think how your support of the hospital has evolved. Originally, Auxiliaries supported the provision of bed linen, nappies and fruit, items that were much needed in the early part of the twentieth century. Today, you support a myriad of departments, programs and specialist areas not heard of in 1922.

Although the times have changed and new paediatric health challenges face us, one thing has not - your dedication to supporting sick children. You are the hospital's longest philanthropic partner, with deep roots embedded in the community, something you should all feel incredibly proud of.

This commitment to each other and to supporting the community is one of your greatest strengths, which I know will ensure the Auxiliaries continue to prosper as we look to your upcoming centenary and beyond.

This year, your collective fundraising efforts contributed an incredible \$1,433,177 to the Good Friday Appeal. The 2017 Appeal was a record breaking success, topped off

by the Auxiliaries cheque presentation. This year it was presented by President, Dr Miriam Weisz and Madge Tate winner, Denise Mudie.

As you will read throughout this Annual Report, your fundraising endeavours have changed the lives of many patients and their families, and for that we are very grateful. Together, you have helped the hospital purchase the latest equipment, undertake ground breaking research, invest in training and education, and provide world-leading care. All this ensures that our children receive the very best care when they need it most.

On behalf of the entire team at the RCH Foundation and the wider hospital community, thank you. We are so lucky to have you.

I would like to take this opportunity to also thank the Auxiliaries Executive Committee, ably led by Miriam. Your leadership and guidance is greatly appreciated.

I look forward to continuing to work with you all throughout the year to raise much needed funds to support our hospital.

**Sue Hunt**

Chief Executive Officer  
RCH Foundation

JOHN STANWAY  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,  
THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

At the RCH, our number one commitment is to deliver great care. We do this at a number of levels, the most obvious of which is at the bedside, taking care of our most vulnerable children. But to continually deliver great care requires continually raising the bar, and this requires a multi-pronged approach.

It needs investment in new technology, equipment and programs, in new research and in our staff. We are able to make this investment thanks to philanthropy and our incredibly supportive community, including our dedicated RCH Auxiliaries.

Throughout 2016-17 the RCH has continued to build its reputation as a world-leader in paediatric care, through investing in initiatives that will ensure we are best placed to respond to the increasing complexity and demand of the contemporary healthcare landscape.

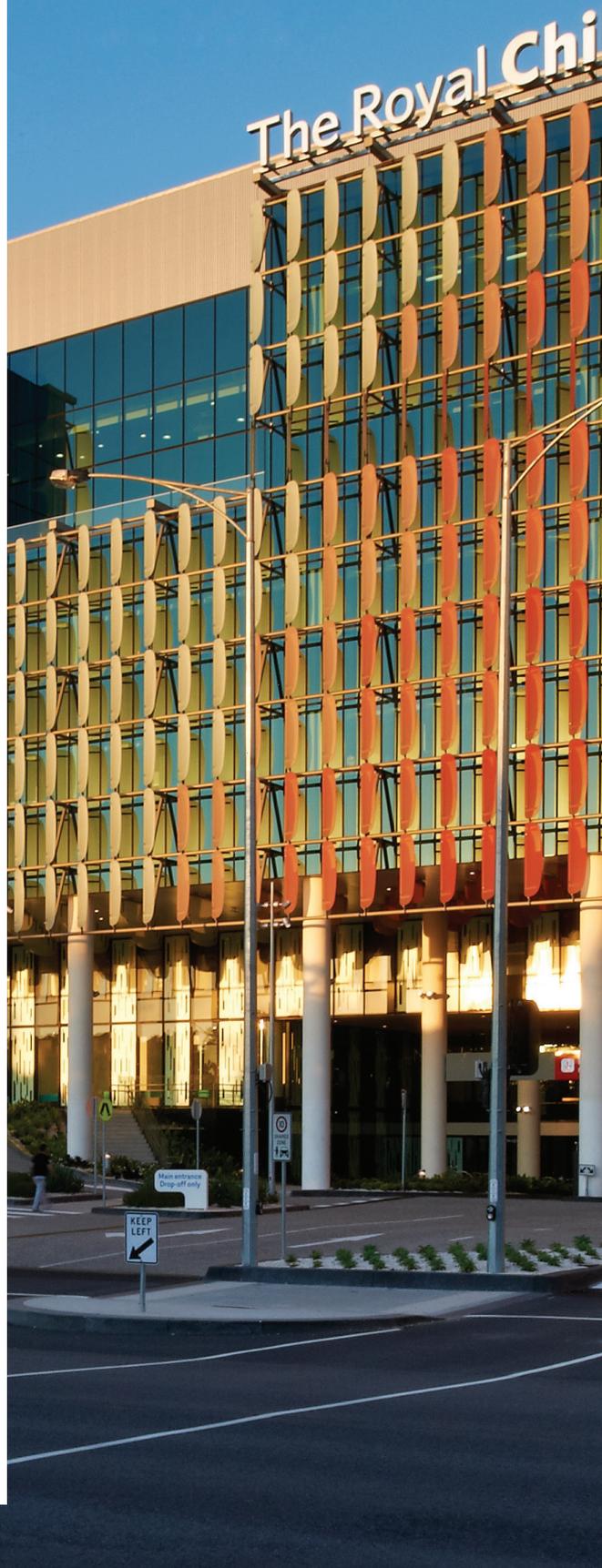
One year on from implementing our Electronic Medical Record (EMR), with money raised by our supporters we are now set to accelerate our digital transformation even further by establishing our first Digital Command Centre. The Centre will unleash the potential of the EMR by providing real-time data to continue to drive improvements in efficiency, productivity and ultimately, patient care.

State-of-the-art equipment such as our MR Pet and intraoperative MRI, continues to allow us to improve both the patient experience and quality of care, and our Simulation Centre is a great example of how supporter funds allow us to provide staff training and education opportunities they might not otherwise have access to.

From a research perspective, supporter funds allow our research partner the Murdoch Children's Research Institute (MCRI) to undertake significant research into new treatments and medications, while the Melbourne Clinical Trials Centre can invest in the necessary work that provides the strongest evidence for the evaluation and treatments in children.

These are just a few examples of projects funded this year through the extraordinary generosity of the Victorian community.

My sincerest thanks to the Auxiliaries and their supporters across the state.





AMY JOHANSEN  
RECIPIENT OF THE DAME  
ELISABETH MURDOCH NURSING  
DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Firstly, I wanted to say a huge thank you for this amazing opportunity, and for the generous welcome and encouragement I received at the Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing Development Scholarship Luncheon. This scholarship is very special. It was really lovely to meet some of the people who contribute to this scholarship. The drive and passion that you all have to enable this ongoing fundraising is remarkable. Like previous recipients, I feel very grateful to you all.

My scholarship plans focus on the long term neurodevelopmental and quality of life outcomes, in children supported by Extra-Corporeal Life Support (ECLS), which delivers heart and lung support to critically ill children. ECLS was developed around 30 years ago and short term survival outcomes have improved significantly over time. My focus now turns to long term patient outcomes. How might we best support them and their families, to improve quality of life beyond discharge?

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My research project aims to gain insight from families whose children were supported with ECLS. Utilising research findings and information from overseas site visits, my work will inform the design of a long term neurodevelopmental and quality of life follow up program clinic at the RCH. The clinic will provide neurodevelopmental and quality of life assessments at key age milestones, allowing us to implement early interventions and identify risk factors associated with poorer outcomes. These risk factors could also contribute to informed clinical modifications of our current acute management, aiming to improve patients' long term outcomes.

In April I completed my first site visit, travelling to Canada and the US, visiting paediatric centres with established neurodevelopmental follow up clinics. During this trip I gained a wealth of knowledge and began building professional networks. I'm already planning a second trip, which will hopefully take me to the UK in late 2017.

This year promises to be a busy one! Thank you again for your incredible support of RCH nurses like me.

# 2016/2017 Results

This year the RCH Auxiliaries raised \$1,433,177 for the hospital, as announced at the 2017 RCH Good Friday Appeal.

ABC Auxiliary	\$1,088	Knox-Sherbrooke Auxiliary	\$9,841
Absent Friends Auxiliary	\$12,451	Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club Auxiliary	\$44,746
aRCHers Auxiliary	\$909	Leukaemia Auxiliary @ RCH (LARCH)	\$62,433
BEADS Auxiliary	\$749	Let the Children Play Auxiliary	\$5,716
Beyond Sight Auxiliary	\$887	Lifetime 4 CF Kids Auxiliary	\$606
Brimbank Torch Auxiliary	\$7,566	Mish Mish Auxiliary	\$12,209
Broadmeadows Auxiliary	\$19,648	Mum's Kids Auxiliary	\$499
Cancer Crusaders Auxiliary	\$94,656	Neonate Mates Auxiliary	\$10,964
Cancer In Kids Auxiliary (CIKA)	\$236,684	Oesophageal Atresia Research Auxiliary (OARA)	\$1,737
Caring Friends of CF Auxiliary	\$12,022	Pankina Auxiliary	\$2,037
Caroline Auxiliary	\$12,497	Parkville Auxiliary	\$67,155
CasKids Auxiliary	\$29,107	Pelican Auxiliary	\$354
Caulfield Auxiliary	\$170	Prembubs Auxiliary	\$10,090
Charity Works For Kids Auxiliary	\$2,221	Roxburgh Park Auxiliary	\$25,484
Charli's Angels Auxiliary	\$19,810	Smiley Auxiliary	\$19,509
Children's Flyers Fun Auxiliary	\$337	South Western Auxiliary	\$44,391
Chip In Auxiliary	\$410	Southern Rainbows Auxiliary	\$6,118
Comfort for Kids Auxiliary	\$588	Special Kids EBC Auxiliary	\$9,104
Courage for Kids Auxiliary	\$3,559	St Kilda Auxiliary	\$11,868
CPR - Cardiac Paediatric Research Auxiliary	\$3,606	StroKidz Auxiliary	\$667
Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust Auxiliary	\$106,980	Templestowe Auxiliary	\$148,237
Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Luncheon	\$42,903	The Children's Brain Tumour Association	\$4,468
Do-Bees Auxiliary	\$3,418	The Melbourne Sinfonia Auxiliary	\$3,371
Ezy Breathing Auxiliary	\$367	Trailblazers Auxiliary	\$28,478
Footscray/Yarraville Juniors Auxiliary	\$13,273	VivaRCH Auxiliary	\$5,693
Geelong Auxiliary	\$59,187	Wangaratta Auxiliary	\$13,111
Haemophilia Auxiliary (HAUX)	\$2,158	Waverley Auxiliary	\$39,700
Hawthorn Auxiliary	\$1,703	Werribee Ladies For Kids Auxiliary	\$46,763
Heart Throb Auxiliary	\$20,259	Willy Seagulls Auxiliary	\$1,553
Heart To Heart Auxiliary	\$15,749	Yellow Ribbon Kids Auxiliary	\$3,988
Hidden Treasures Auxiliary	\$1,260	Young Set Auxiliary	\$1,323
Inverloch Diabetic Unit Auxiliary	\$64,742		



**Images clockwise from top:** Parkville Auxiliary celebrate 70 years of support the RCH, Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club Auxiliary; Jenny Booth, Cedric Mason and Lyn Wheat supporting the hospital, Heart Throb Auxiliary sell their goods at the 2017 Auxiliaries Winter Market at the hospital.



# Your Impact

This year, you supported more than 34 life changing programs and initiatives at the hospital.



# How music therapy makes a difference

## Patient and Family Centred

**Care:** Music Therapy Program for Neurosciences and Rehab Departments - \$66,467, supported by Knox/Sherbrooke, Viva RCH and Parkville Auxiliaries

In a medical environment, music can be incredibly powerful. It has been proven to relieve pain, decrease anxiety and stress, reduce blood pressure and pulse rate, and release endorphins to improve mood and relaxation. Music is also an excellent motivator.

For children undergoing physical rehabilitation, with a neurological condition or with an acquired brain injury, music is also a link to their healthy self.

"Music is processed globally, stimulating all areas of the brain. This means that, even if part of the brain is damaged, music can still be enjoyed and remembered," said Michelle Fisher, Music Therapist. "Music Therapy is so effective because it works with the cognitive and physical aspects of recovery. Listening to music keeps the brain engaged and helps patients form new neural connections. Those well enough to play along also get the physical benefits without realising it. They're having fun."

In the majority of patients Michelle works with, their trajectory is similar. Following a trauma or operation, they are admitted to the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) in a reduced state of consciousness. For many, their prognosis is unclear. For families, working with Michelle at this early stage is a joy because they get to talk about who their child is when they're healthy.

Once Michelle has an idea of the child's musical history, she begins her sessions with them. With her acoustic guitar, Michelle softly sings and plays some of their

favourite songs. Familiar music is known to stimulate arousal in children with reduced consciousness, and reduce their agitation and confusion. Playing live also allows Michelle to adapt to the patient's responses in the moment. When a child has passed through the agitation state, it's time for the rehabilitation team to come in.

At this point Michelle begins working with the physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech pathology clinicians to support the child's ongoing care.

"I will flag if joint sessions are needed with the other Allied Health clinicians. These joint sessions help children accomplish their recovery goals through music. Each session I do is completely unique and tailored specifically to the child's needs."

Michelle will continue to work with a child until they've accomplished their rehabilitation goals and have been discharged from hospital.

"To see a patient who has been minimally responsive begin to mouth the words along to their favourite songs, to then regain their strength through playing along on their favourite instruments, is an incredible thing to witness."



**Image:** Music Therapist, Michelle working with Gillie in the RCH Music Room.

# Gillie's journey

Music has made all the difference for Gillie Lumby as he recovers from spinal surgery at the RCH. Born with cerebral palsy, Gillie recently underwent selective dorsal rhizotomy, a spinal operation to reduce the spasticity in his legs.

"His surgeon identified the nerves responsible and disconnected them to stop the spasticity which made it difficult for him to walk," said Gillie's mum Sharon. "This surgery is fairly rare, as there are a lot of factors to consider to be sure it's a success."

"Gillie is the only child to undergo this procedure at the RCH in the past two years."

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Though the surgery is a significant part of treatment, the post-surgery rehabilitation plays an even greater role in Gillie's recovery. As an aspiring drummer, Music Therapy was the perfect solution to encourage Gillie to regain his strength.

Music Therapy uses the power and experience of music to help children through their treatment. Thanks to Knox/Sherbrooke, Parkville and Viva Auxiliaries, children with neurological conditions and/or undergoing rehabilitation like Gillie are benefitting from Music Therapy.

When Gillie was recovering in the PICU, Sharon met with Music Therapist Michelle Fisher. They discussed what kind of music Gillie likes — AC/DC is his favourite — and his love of playing the drums. From there, Michelle worked with Gillie's physiotherapist and occupational therapist to coordinate the best rehabilitation care for him. Gillie began working with Michelle twice a week to improve strength and mobility in his trunk.

"At first Gillie was only allowed to lie prone on his bed, so we started small, asking him to reach forward a bit to tap the drums," said Michelle. "Once he was more mobile, we progressed to crawling from drum to drum and kneeling at drums to play. These were meaningful ways to motivate Gillie to start moving, which were easily adapted to his physical needs at the given time."

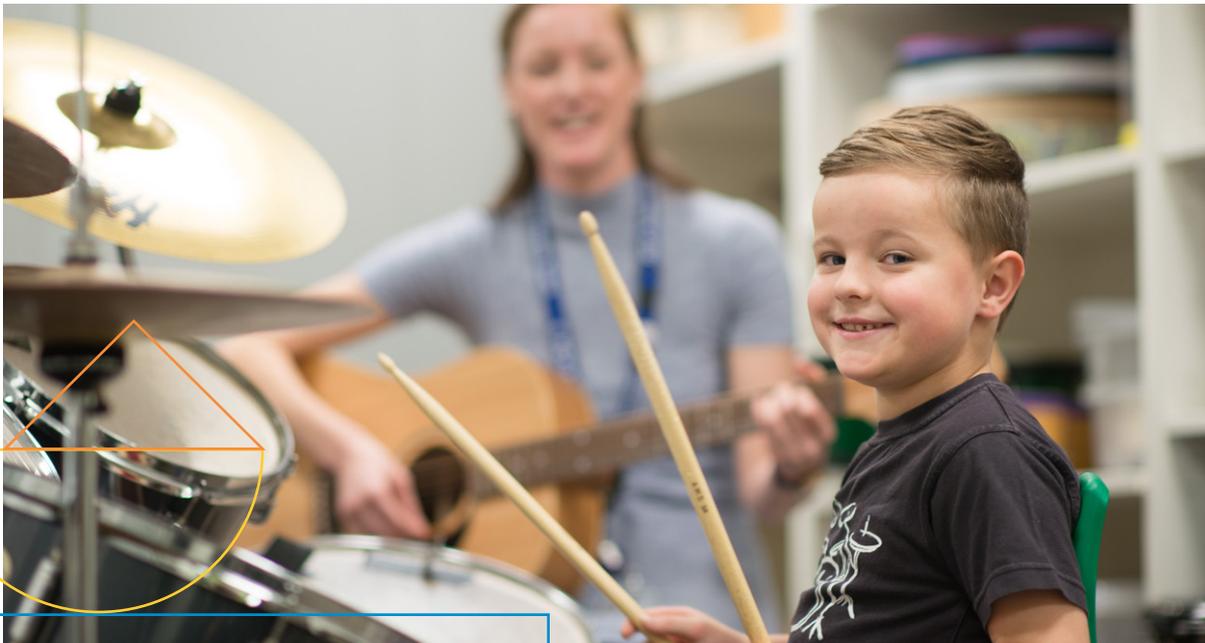
Additional inspiration came when Gillie found out about the RCH Music Room.

"When Gillie found out that there was a music room with a full drum kit, he was even more motivated to do his exercises and get out of bed to play," said Sharon. "Once he progressed to sitting in a wheelchair, he was on that drum kit."

Keen to play AC/DC's Highway to Hell, Michelle sourced the drum pattern for Gillie. With a few weeks of practice he was a pro, jamming with his dad Kendall, his younger brother Sammy and, in his final session, older brother Jesse.

"Music Therapy was wonderful for Gillie. It was something he really looked forward to, and it was fun to watch him play and be so happy," said Sharon.

Gillie is now home and continuing his year of recovery with physiotherapy and, of course, a few drum sessions along the way.



**Image:** Older brother Jesse joins Gillie for his last music therapy session at the RCH, where they jam to AC/DC's Highway to Hell.

# Advancing research

**Research:** The Victorian Prader-Willi Register and associated research - \$30,000, supported by Do-Bees and Trailblazers Auxiliaries

From day one Mia Griggs has been a fighter. In her 12 years, Mia has overcome immature brain development, seizures, eye surgery, and muscle tone so low that doctors suspected she would never walk.

As a toddler Mia was diagnosed with Prader-Willi syndrome (PWS), a non-inherited neurogenetic disorder. In most cases PWS is characterised by low muscle tone and a failure to thrive at birth, as well as delayed motor skills, learning disabilities, and abnormal growth patterns. However, its most recognisable and dangerous symptom is excessive appetite, which can put children at risk of obesity and life-threatening complications like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, sleep apnoea and respiratory failure.

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"As a toddler Mia was incredibly motivated by food," said her mum Joanne. "She also started to gain weight at a much faster rate than her twin brother Ruben."

As a PWS patient, Mia and her family participate in the Victorian PWS Register. Funded by the Trailblazers and Do-Bees Auxiliaries, the PWS Register is a joint RCH and MCRI project that collects important information about individuals with PWS who were born, living or receiving services in Victoria. The information is collected from medical records and family questionnaires, and includes birth details, the genetic diagnosis, growth details, eating and other behaviours, medications, accompanying medical conditions and medical procedures.

"Currently there are 204 individuals known to the Register, ranging from 15 months to 67 years of age," said Professor David Amor, the Lorenzo and Pamela Galli Chair at The University of Melbourne Department of Paediatrics and a Clinical Geneticist at the RCH. "Data from the Register is integral to recording the natural history of PWS. It's also essential to facilitate research that will directly improve patient care and ensure that we can provide up-to-date information about the frequency and severity of PWS, as well as any associated problems."

Data from the Register is being used to explore prevalence of PWS, its characteristics, the timing of diagnosis and to identify trends and patterns of the condition over time. As a post-doctoral Fellow at Victoria University, Joanne (Mia's mum) will soon be using the Register to support her own cutting-edge research into PWS. Joanne is extending her research on the effect of caralluma fimbriata extract on appetite suppression. Through the Register, Joanne will distribute a survey to determine how many Victorians with PWS have used the extract and conduct research into the effectiveness of higher dosages in successfully controlling appetite.

Over the past few years Mia has responded well to the extract and, unlike many children with PWS, has free access to food in her home. For many patients with PWS, food must be heavily regulated with fridges and cupboards locked to ensure they don't overeat.

"Though everyone recognises how valuable registers are to advancing research, they don't receive funding through the traditional channels," said Professor Amor.

"We are grateful to Trailblazers and Do-Bees Auxiliaries for seeing the benefit of the Register and providing us with the funding we needed, not only to launch it, but to keep it going. Their investment in the Register is going a long way and the research dividends will be huge."



**Image:** RCH patient Mia with Professor David Amor



**Image:** Clinical Research Fellows in Respiratory Medicine, Dr Katherine Frayman and Dr Shivanthan Shanthikumar in the Respiratory Lab at the RCH.

# Leading the way

## **Leadership, Education and Training:**

Clinical research fellows in Respiratory Medicine - \$92,360, supported by CF Research Trust Auxiliary

The RCH is producing some of the world's best respiratory specialists with the support of The Royal Children's Hospital Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust (CF Trust).

Each year, the CF Trust supports an up and coming respiratory specialist through a Clinical Research Fellowship. These Fellows divide their time between clinical and research work, caring for inpatients and outpatients, and completing a significant research project into Cystic Fibrosis (CF). Many of these research projects are world-renowned and have been published in leading and seminal journals.

"The RCH has a world leading paediatric Respiratory Medicine department and we are in the privileged position of being approached by some of the most talented young medical trainees in Australia and internationally," said Associate Professor Sarath Ranganathan, Director of RCH Respiratory Medicine. "This Fellowship program gives us the best opportunity to make the biggest impact on children's respiratory health locally."

Through their clinical work, Fellows improve patient care, ensuring that more patients are seen in a timely manner. Through their research, the Fellows are producing ground breaking work, which is making a significant contribution to CF research worldwide. Though these roles are integral to advancing paediatric Respiratory Medicine, they rely entirely on philanthropic funding.

The two most recent Clinical Research Fellows in Respiratory Medicine are Dr Katherine Frayman and Dr Shivanthan Shanthikumar.

Supported by the CF Trust in 2014, Dr Frayman has nearly finished her training and continues to work on her PhD, *Long-term outcomes following early infection and inflammation in cystic fibrosis lung disease*. Through her research, Dr Frayman is conducting a 25 year follow-up of babies diagnosed with CF between 1990-98. She is studying the impact of lower airway inflammation and infection, including the composition of the bacterial community (microbiome), on the development and progression of lung disease.

Her initial results indicate that there are differences in the lower airway microbiome of babies with and without CF, and that in young children with CF, reduced microbial diversity is associated with infection with known CF pathogens and increased inflammation.

"My work originated from the support I received from the CF Trust," said Dr Frayman. "I want to spend the rest of my career working with children affected by CF and this Fellowship has helped me to do that."

Dr Shanthikumar is the current Fellow and is working on his PhD, *Predicting the severity of lung disease in children with CF*. Currently there is no way to do so, but it is clear that CF lung disease begins in infancy. Dr Shanthikumar is looking into early life factors which might predict a child's health trajectory.

Part of his research includes the emerging area of epigenetics, which studies how our genetic makeup interacts with the environment and the changes the environment makes to genes. By understanding the predictors of CF lung disease, children can be prescribed appropriate treatment based on their chance of developing it. This will enhance the quality of life for those likely to develop lung disease, ensuring they get the best treatment, while those who don't need such rigorous care will be spared the burden of additional treatment.

"The CF Trust funding supports the integral training you need to become a well-rounded respiratory specialist. It also sets us up to be proper clinician researchers," said Dr Shanthikumar.

A/Professor Ranganathan is grateful to the CF Trust for continuing to support clinical and research excellence for RCH Respiratory Medicine, and up and coming specialists like Dr Frayman and Dr Shanthikumar.

"Without these roles, our department would be at a serious disadvantage," said A/Professor Ranganathan. "As one of the world's biggest paediatric teaching hospitals, and one of the largest paediatric Respiratory Medicine services, we rely on these Clinical Research Fellows to advance our practice and support our department. These Fellowships also place us on the global map for research into CF."

# A clear vision

## Equipment and Technology:

Ocular Coherence Tomography (OCT) machine - \$178,436, supported by Prembubs Auxiliary

Xavier Laurence Gallego was just 604 grams when he was born premature at 23 weeks. Despite his size, little Xavier has shown himself to be every inch the survivor.

At 23 weeks gestation most of the body's systems, like the lungs and brain, are underdeveloped. Though Xavier found the strength to fight through, his twin brother Ignatius sadly did not.

"Shortly after Xavier was born, the doctors told us that he wasn't responding and needed to be transferred to intensive care. They also told us that Ignatius wouldn't make it," said dad Glenn. "It was a confusing time because we were so excited to hear that Xavier was doing well, but grieving because we knew we had to say goodbye to Ignatius. We were all over the place."

For Xavier, the first 48 hours were crucial. Glenn and his wife Kathryn were "grateful for every minute he was alive." Though Xavier has grown stronger by the day, he fought a few battles to get here.

Xavier's latest battle is retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), a condition where the blood vessels in the retina mature incorrectly. This can cause bleeding, scar tissue and vision impairment.

To diagnose Xavier's condition, RCH ophthalmologist Dr Susan Carden used the new Ocular Coherence Tomography (OCT) machine. Supported by Prembubs Auxiliary, the OCT is an Australian paediatric first allowing ophthalmologists to take a never-before-seen look at babies' retinas including their maculas. This improves detection rates for prematurity-related eye disease, retinal disorders and cancers such as retinoblastoma. Early and accurate detection allows for more targeted treatment, and gives Victoria's sickest babies a better chance at 20/20 vision.

The OCT uses near-infrared light to generate a high-resolution cross-sectional image of the eye, showing its sub-surface details. The machine is perfect for small babies because it's portable and can easily be used crib-side, is non-invasive and doesn't touch the eye, and scans in just one to three seconds.

"This technology means babies can be better monitored and receive earlier treatment for conditions that were difficult to detect before," said Dr Carden. "With this technology we're hoping to prevent children from having a lifetime of blindness."

The OCT can also be used in surgery, just like it was for Xavier. To correct his ROP, Xavier recently underwent laser eye surgery. The OCT was used to scan for anatomical issues which might affect the operation and to confirm that Xavier's surgery was going well. Thanks to the ophthalmology team, Xavier has the best chance at clear vision.

"Thank you to Prembubs Auxiliary for this incredible contribution to our practice. The OCT is bringing neonatal care in line with adult healthcare and changing the lives of babies at risk of blindness, so they have a happier and healthier future."



**Image:** Ophthalmologist Dr Susan Carden takes a scan of baby Xavier's retina.

# Your support in 2016/17

Outlined below is a list of the grants financially supported by Auxiliaries in 2016/17

## PATIENT AND FAMILY CENTRED CARE

### **Cardiac Camps**

Heart Throb Auxiliary

### **Development of a Child and Family Friendly Renal Cookbook**

Caroline Auxiliary

### **Establishment of a Paediatric MS Clinic**

Parkville Auxiliary

### **Improving Transition of Patients with intellectual disability and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder with Mental Health Issues**

Parkville Auxiliary

### **Music Therapy Program for Kelpie Ward**

CasKids Auxiliary

### **Music Therapy Program for Neurosciences and Rehab Departments**

Knox/Sherbrooke, Viva RCH and Parkville Auxiliaries

### **Oesophageal Atresia Research Nurse Position**

Oesophageal Atresia Research Association

### **\*Parent-Child Mother Goose Program**

Waverley Auxiliary

### **\*Social Work Liver Transplant Fund**

Yellow Ribbon Auxiliary

### **\*Social Work Samaritan Fund**

LARCH Auxiliary

## LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION AND TRAINING

### **Clinical Research Fellows in Respiratory Medicine**

Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust Auxiliary

### **\*Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing Development Scholarship**

Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing Development Luncheon

### **\*Diabetes Complications Screening Nurse**

Inverloch Diabetic Unit Auxiliary

### **Elizabeth Fearon Scholarship**

League of Former Trainees Auxiliary

## EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

### **Cystic Fibrosis Physiotherapy Equipment**

Caring Friends of CF Auxiliary

### **Dressing Trolley**

Templestowe Auxiliary

### **Freezer for Immunisation Centre**

Templestowe Auxiliary

### **iPads as Communication Devices for RCH Speech Pathology Patients**

Southern Rainbows Auxiliary

### **Improving Central Line Care - Education for Nurses.**

Templestowe Auxiliary

### **Mental Health Resource Box**

Parkville Auxiliary

### **Ocular Coherence Tomography machine**

Prembubs Auxiliary

### **Oesophageal Pacemakers for PICU (remaining balance)**

Courage for Kids Auxiliary

### **Preparing Traumatized, Vulnerable Young People for a Happier and Safer Future**

The Melbourne Sinfonia Auxiliary (also part funded by Smiley's Auxiliary)

### **RT60 Right Kit Six Channel Stimulator**

Southern Rainbows Auxiliary

### **Ultrasound machines**

American Women's Association, Werribee Ladies for Kids and Templestowe Auxiliaries

## RESEARCH

### **Assessment of Oesophageal Motility in Children with Oesophageal Atresia**

Oesophageal Atresia Research Association

### **Brain Tumour Clinical Trials Program**

Cancer Crusaders Auxiliary

### **Enhancing Specimen Collection for Tissue Bank**

LARCH Auxiliary (also part funded Cancer in Kids Auxiliary)

### **Establishment of a Translational Research Centre in Paediatric Solid Tumours**

Cancer in Kids Auxiliary

### **Solid Tumour Study Coordinator**

Cancer in Kids Auxiliary

### **\*The Victorian Prader-Willi Register and associated research**

Do-Bees and Trailblazers Auxiliaries

# Working together to make the greatest impact

The RCH Auxiliaries continue to be amazing supporters of important initiatives at the RCH. Over the last 12 months, approximately \$2 million in funding has been committed by various Auxiliaries towards a variety of grants.

A significant project the Auxiliaries have supported together are the treatment chairs in Day Medical and Day Cancer. Thanks to collaboration between Broadmeadows, Roxburgh Park, Wangaratta, Pankina, Templestowe, Kooyong and Geelong Auxiliaries, the hospital has been able to purchase 17 treatment chairs, helping to make day treatments safer and more comfortable for sick children.

The RCH is constantly striving for excellence and its staff are extremely grateful to the Auxiliaries for their enduring generosity.

This generosity is what inspires them to continue to put forward innovative projects for funding, with the ultimate aim of providing the best care for children and adolescents in Victoria and across Australia.

Another project where collaboration could make a great impact is Brigid Jordan's work in ensuring that patient mental health is being addressed as part of routine care hospital wide. This project needs \$150,000 in funding and the outcomes will mean:

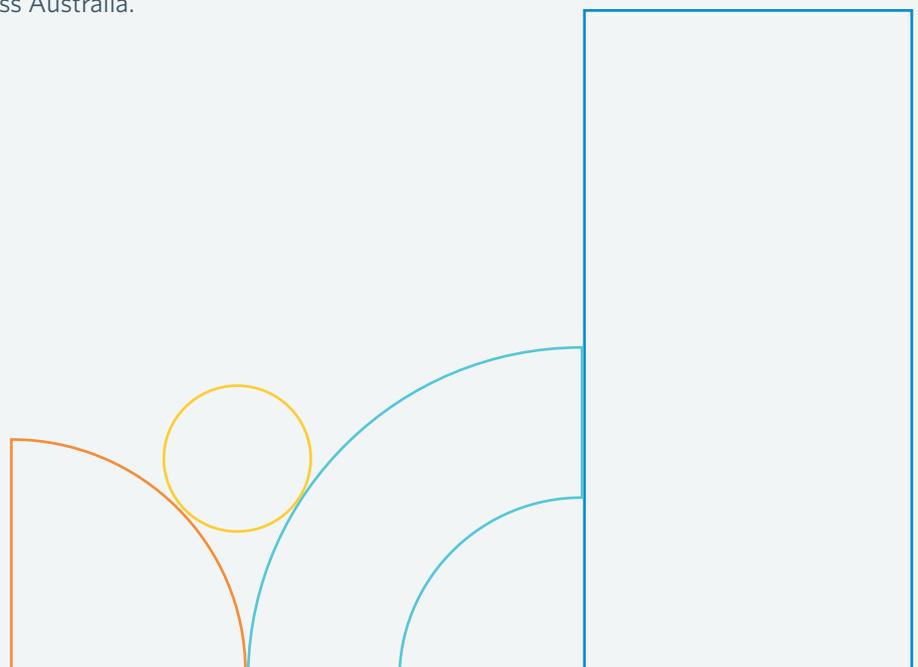
- reduced emotional distress in infants following hospital admission
- reduced behavioural regulation problems (like crying and poor sleeping and feeding) following hospital admission
- increased patient and parent satisfaction with assistance provided by the RCH to help them deal with the emotional impact of admission.

This is just one example of where your combined support could make a difference at the RCH over the coming year.

Thank you for working with us to ensure a happier, healthier future for sick children.

## **Rachael Hurley**

Director, Grants  
RCH Foundation





# Your stories



# Good Friday Appeal

Throughout the year Auxiliaries are raising funds for the RCH in the lead up to Good Friday.

## KIDS DAY OUT

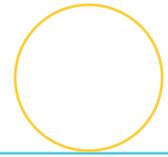
Thank you to the many Auxiliaries who helped make the Good Friday Appeal Kids Day Out such a wonderful success. This year Cancer Crusaders ran the Auxiliaries stand at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, which included a basketball game, fishing game, mini golf and a lucky dip. Congratulations for taking on such a large task and raising an incredible \$14,800.

Smiley Auxiliary and Neonate Mates also took part in this year's Kids Day Out. Smiley braved the cold at 6am to set up their stalls outside in anticipation of the thousands of attendees. They celebrated their most successful year yet, raising over \$5,000. Neonates also delighted the crowds, selling raffle tickets to attendees who went into the draw to win one of three giant, 10 kilogram chocolate blocks.

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**Clockwise from top left:** President Dr Miriam Weisz and 2016 Madge Tate winner Denise Mudie present the Auxiliaries cheque at Kids Day Out, the CFA support The Good Friday Appeal, Cancer Crusaders Auxiliary at Kids Day Out



**ANNE RANDALL**  
DIRECTOR  
GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL

As all Victorians well know, the Good Friday Appeal is very much driven by organisations such as the Auxiliaries who feel a very deep connection to The Royal Children's Hospital. We are so lucky to live in a community where the importance of the work done by our great hospital is recognised.

As usual, 2017 saw the wonderfully energetic members of The Royal Children's Hospital Auxiliaries continue your important role with both on and off campus fundraising.

Your direct link to the hospital enables you to see the results of your hard work and we are proud to have your amazing annual contribution as a part of our Good Friday Appeal.

I congratulate Miriam and all the Auxiliaries for their commitment in supporting The Royal Children's Hospital so that that our children get the best possible care.

We look forward to continuing working with the RCH Auxiliaries into the future.

**Anne Randall**

**Image** courtesy of Herald Sun



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**Images from top:** Waverley Auxiliary celebrate 50 years of fundraising for the RCH, Dr Miriam Weisz, Her Excellency The Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria, Amy Johansen, current Scholarship recipient and Sue Hunt, RCH Foundation CEO at the Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing Development Scholarship Luncheon.

# Celebrating fundraising

This has been another incredible year of fundraising for the RCH Auxiliaries. Outlined below is just a sample of the broad range of activities undertaken throughout the year to support the hospital.

## DAME ELISABETH MURDOCH NURSING DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP

In May, the RCH community came together for the 2017 Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing Development Scholarship Luncheon. Guests were joined by keynote speaker, The Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria, who spoke about the inspirational women she has encountered through her role as Governor. Amy Johansen, current Scholarship recipient, spoke with sincerity and passion about her role researching the long-term effects cardiac and respiratory life support can have on patients. The event was a great success, raising almost \$43,000 to support the annual nursing Scholarship. Thank you to the organising committee, ably led by Robyn Anderson, for all their hard working bringing the Luncheon together.

## INVERLOCH BALL

A big congratulations to Inverloch Auxiliary for raising over \$60,000 at their dinner dance. It was a wonderful event enjoyed by all thanks to the amazing chefs from Brent Sinclair Catering, some live entertainment, a raffle and an auction. Congratulations to Kerrie and Ross Beaglehall who continue to take this event from strength to strength.

## MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW

Once again Auxiliaries demonstrated their creative talents selling a range of homemade goods at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show.

This year's Show was the most successful so far, raising close to \$10,000 for the hospital. Thank you to Barb Nicoll and the organising committee for coordinating such a fruitful fundraiser.

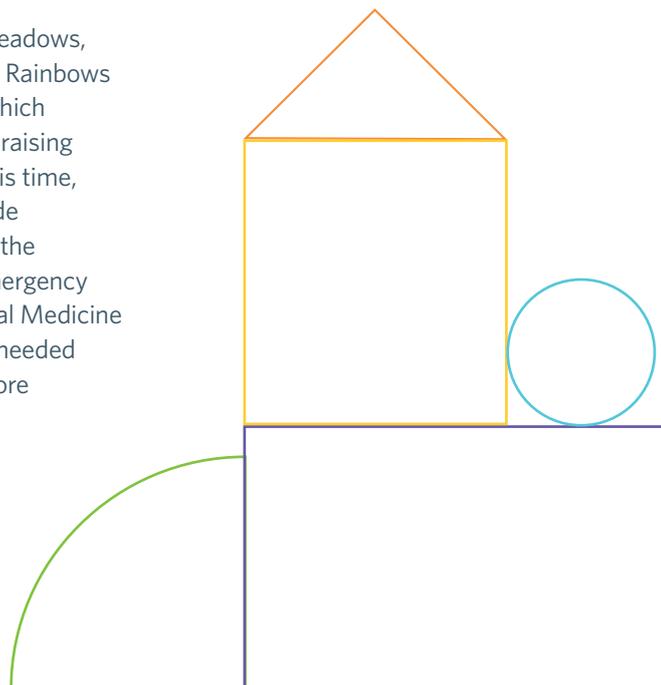
## BROADMEADOWS, CASKIDS, PANKINA, SOUTHERN RAINBOWS AND WAVERLEY TURN 50

Congratulations to Broadmeadows, CasKids, Pankina, Southern Rainbows and Waverley Auxiliaries which celebrated 50 years of fundraising for the RCH. Throughout this time, all five Auxiliaries have made significant contributions to the hospital, supporting the Emergency Department, Developmental Medicine and the purchase of much-needed equipment. Here's to 50 more wonderful years.

## PARKVILLE TURNS 70

A hearty congratulations to Parkville Auxiliary on celebrating 70 years of supporting the RCH. This incredible milestone is a testament to Parkville's dedication and passion for helping sick children.

This year Parkville supported several projects including the Paediatric MS Clinic, support for patients with intellectual disability and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder transitioning to adult health care, and a resource box for RCH Mental Health.



# Celebrating 95 Years

To celebrate 95 years of supporting the hospital, we look back at the RCH Auxiliaries across the decades.

## 1920s

In 1920, Miss Mary Guthrie raised concerns with the Committee of Management about the financial capacity of the hospital to continue to deliver the services needed within the budget they had been allocated from the Government. As a solution, Miss Guthrie formed the Auxiliary movement to fundraise for and supply articles to the hospital. To establish this, members of the Committee of Management were encouraged to invite women from their local community to a meeting at the Melbourne Town Hall. From here, 10 Auxiliaries were formed, along with an Executive Council. In their first year, Auxiliaries saved the hospital more than £1,914. By the end of the decade, another 12 Auxiliaries had formed, supporting the establishment of a canteen in the outpatients department, supplying bed linen and garments along with fundraising to extend the babies' ward.

## 1930s

Throughout the 1930s Auxiliaries grew steadily, making substantial contributions to the hospital through the provision of goods. As the prospect of another World War loomed, Auxiliary members gained their first aid certificates and were trained as 'internal nurses' should existing nurses be sent to care for wounded soldiers. The Waste Products Fundraiser was also established with Auxiliaries collecting tubes, wrapping from X-Ray films and wine bottle tops to sell, with proceeds supporting the hospital. The number of Auxiliaries continued to grow and by the late 1930s there were 37 groups with over 4,000 members.

## 1940s

By the 1940s the Waste Products Fundraiser was raising £107 per month. Despite war time rationing, Auxiliaries recorded increasing donations each year. 1946 also saw the establishment of the first cause related Auxiliary, The Railways Employee Orthopaedic Hospital Auxiliary. In 1949 the Auxiliaries Opportunity Shop was opened in the outpatients area of the hospital. The Miss Children's Hospital competition also commenced.

## 1950s

In 1955, for the first time the funds raised by Auxiliaries were presented on Good Friday as part of the annual Appeal. Many new Auxiliaries were established, particularly in the rapidly expanding outer suburbs. New fundraising initiatives were also created and for the first time Christmas Cards were sold, generating £125 for the hospital. Shortly after her Coronation, Queen Elizabeth II visited Australia. Four Auxiliary members were fortunate enough to be drawn from a ballot to represent the hospital at a luncheon for Her Majesty, hosted by the Women's Organisations of Victoria.

## 1960s

The start of the decade saw the opening of another Auxiliaries Opportunity Shop, this time on Nicholson St and the launch of a public Appeal to help finance the building of a new hospital. Auxiliaries provided the funds to furnish 39 nurses bedrooms, two libraries and a writing room in the new nurse's home. In 1965, Dame Elisabeth Murdoch AC DBE retired as President of the Children's Hospital Committee of Management and became the first patron of Auxiliaries. Throughout this decade many new special interest Auxiliaries opened, fundraising for a single department in the hospital.



**Image:** Christmas toy preparation year 1944, nurses at the new babies ward early 1920s.

## 1970s

The 1970s saw large changes in Auxiliaries, prompted by the increasing proportion of women entering and remaining in the workforce after marriage. During this time, Auxiliaries continued to take on new challenges, including packing 60,000 show bags to sell at The Royal Melbourne Show. Along with their tireless work in the canteen and opportunity shops, members continued to assist the hospital in many ways, providing magazines, toys, books and knitted goods. Auxiliaries also took on the role of driving patients from their homes to the hospital.

## 1980s

Fundraising throughout the 1980s continued, with Auxiliaries joining forces with the Girl Guides Association for the Book A Bed fundraiser. This successful venture raised more than \$9,000 to purchase books for the children's library. The first of the Annual Seminars was also instigated, providing a forum for medical and allied health professionals to share their knowledge and expertise with Auxiliary members. The 1980s did see some challenges, with the Auxiliaries no longer needed to assist in the Canteen. This saw the end of an almost life-long tradition for some members.

## 1990s

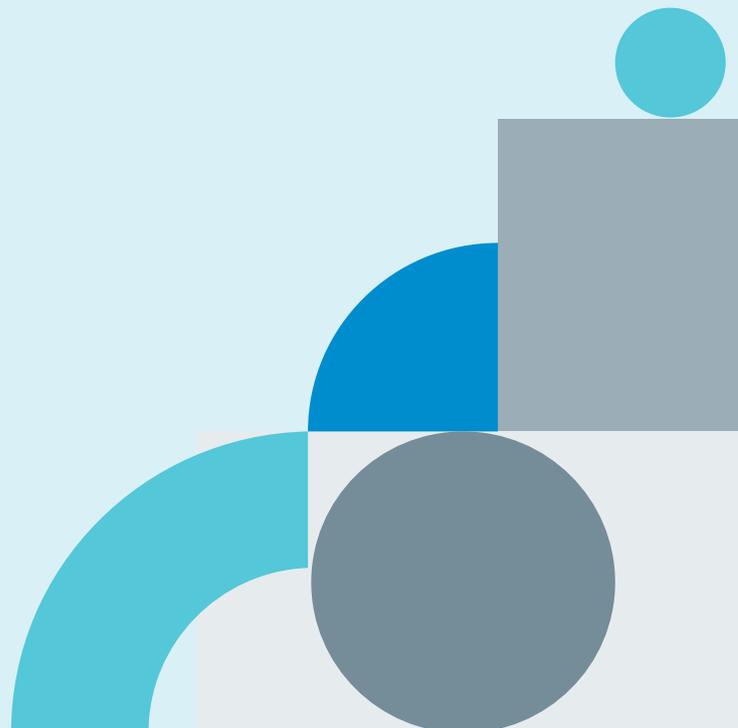
With the recession upon us and reduced funding for the hospital, Auxiliaries rose to the challenge, raising a record \$553,170 for the RCH. Auxiliaries continued their fundraising efforts with the establishment of Cuppa for Kids, raising \$22,000 in its first year. Coordinated fundraising also saw the establishment of the St Patrick's Day Market at the hospital and a range of children's clothes developed to sell in the gift shop. In 1994, the inaugural Madge Tate Service Awards was given to Maude Ham, recognising 60 years of service to Broadmeadows Auxiliary. This Award was established in honour of the founding member of Croydon Auxiliary, Madge Tate.

## 2000s

The start of the decade saw Auxiliaries acknowledged for their efforts and contributions to the hospital, receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from the State Government during the United Nations Year of Volunteers. St Andrew's Day market was introduced at the hospital, along with the establishment of many externally based market stalls. A range of Auxiliaries branded goods were developed for sale, including tote bags, towels, aprons, baby goods and gardening gloves. The Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing Development Scholarship was also launched in 2009 and still remains the largest Scholarship offered to a member of the RCH nursing staff. Fundraising continued to grow, with more than 50 new Auxiliaries created.

## 2010s

Throughout the last seven years, Auxiliaries fundraising has continued to grow. The markets and stalls have increasingly developed, with Auxiliaries now taking part in many iconic Melbourne events including Kids Day Out on Good Friday and the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show. In 2010, the Auxiliaries officially joined The Royal Children's Hospital Foundation, a partnership which continues to flourish.

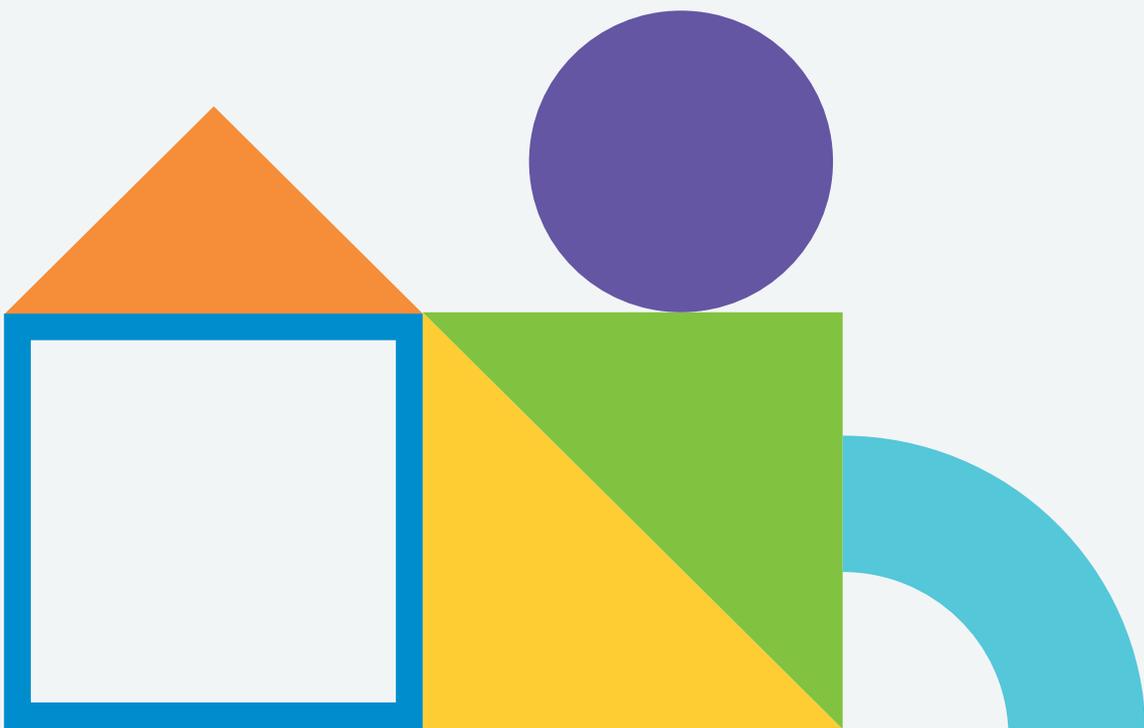




**Image:** Footscray Yarraville Juniors Auxiliary market day stall in Main Street 2014, Made by Us market, Malvern Town Hall 2012.

# Who you are

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# Auxiliaries Executive Committee



## PATRON OF AUXILIARIES

**Louise Gourlay OAM**

Louise Gourlay joined The Royal Children's Hospital in 1982 as a member of the Board of Management. Louise was President of Auxiliaries from 1985 until 1994, becoming Patron of Auxiliaries in 1998. Louise received a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in 1999.



## PRESIDENT

**Dr Miriam Weisz**

Dr Miriam Weisz has a longstanding connection to the hospital, supporting the RCH Centre for Adolescent Health as Chair of its Development Board for 10 years. She is delighted and honoured to continue her commitment to the RCH through Auxiliaries.



## VICE PRESIDENT

**Barb Nicoll** - Templestowe Auxiliary

Barb Nicoll was co-opted in April 2016 to the AEC and is proud to take on the role of Vice President. Working in education for over 30 years, Barb has always been dedicated to achieving the best outcomes for children. After retirement, she became a member of Templestowe Auxiliary and has enjoyed the friendship and purpose of being part of an Auxiliary.



**Paula Appelhans** - American Women's Association

Paula Appelhans is President of the American Woman's Association (AWA) in Melbourne and has led the AWA Auxiliary since late 2015. Paula's career has focussed on healthcare law and she is also a published researcher on disability issues in Southeast Asia.



**Alison Orum** - Charli's Angels Auxiliary

Alison Orum has a long volunteer history dating back to her days as a Brownie 50 years ago. She began her 16 year association with the RCH first as a volunteer in 2001 before joining Charli's Angel's Auxiliary five years later.



**Helen Mann** - Parkville Auxiliary

Helen Mann began her fundraising career in 1971 and has been on many fundraising committees. Her involvement with the RCH began in 2001 when, as a member of the American Women's Association, she volunteered in the RCH Auxiliaries Shop. Helen joined Parkville Auxiliary in 2016.



**Susan Haywood** - Caulfield Auxiliary

Susan Haywood has been active in her community for years, successfully running a salon before moving into theatre production as a wig mistress. A former RCH patient, Susan found the Auxiliaries six years ago and has been a member of Caulfield Auxiliary since.

## EX-OFFICIO

**Sue Hunt** - Chief Executive Officer

## TREASURER EX-OFFICIO

**Andrew Long** - Chief Financial Officer

# Reports from the Auxiliaries

## ABSENT FRIENDS AUXILIARY

Founded: **2010**  
President: **Lyn Lewis**  
Secretary: **Stewart Mackie**  
Treasurer: **Pam Aitken**

We are so proud of our small but dedicated Auxiliary which again achieved an annual fundraising total of over \$10,000 for the year. We are thrilled to be able to contribute these funds to the RCH, allowing them to make a difference in the lives of those who need it most.

We would like to thank everyone who volunteered and assisted us throughout the year, in particular Lesley Mackie, Stewart Mackie and Val Perry who played a vital role in organising and running the market stall at the hospital each month.

We would also like to acknowledge and extend our thanks to major sponsors Bunnings Cranbourne, Bendigo Bank Marriott Waters and Best Western Hamilton Lakeside Motel for their ongoing support.

## AMERICAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Founded: **1931**  
President: **Paula Appelhans**  
Secretary: **Irena Karoblyie Bauer**  
Treasurer: **Raishel Jones**

AWA has had a busy year. Since 2016, AWA has either purchased or grouped with other Auxiliaries to purchase equipment for the RCH amounting to over \$80,000! AWA members approved grant funding to assist purchase a non-invasive ventilator and joined other Auxiliaries to purchase ultrasound treatment equipment. One of our members, created an Everyday Hero Page for her trek to Mount Everest Base Camp as a way to fundraise for diabetes research. This fundraising page will continue for the next year with presentations to further fundraise. AWA is also on track to promote our annual Halloween fundraiser in October. This event has grown over the last few years and now incorporates many community organisations as well as opened opportunities for collaboration with other RCH Auxiliaries. AWA Members look forward to growing our community involvement and fundraising for RCH.

## BEADS AUXILIARY

Founded: **2012**  
President: **Jasmine Lai**  
Secretary: **Jo Buckle**

BEADS Auxiliary, which stands for Beat Every Autoimmune Disease Successfully, was established over five years ago to help raise awareness of autoimmune related diseases like arthritis and thyroiditis.

We're committed to supporting the Rheumatology Department at the RCH and work to raise much needed funds for further research into these diseases.

Thank you to all who have contributed generously throughout the year in support of our Auxiliary. We look forward to continuing our fundraising efforts to help sick children live better lives.

## BRIGHT STARTS AUXILIARY

Founded: **2014**  
President: **Louise Farley**  
Secretary: **Brianna Wright**  
Treasurer: **Adam Dooley**

The Bright Starts Auxiliary again worked hard to fundraise throughout the year with the Christmas stall being a major highlight.

Our team did not let a recent downturn in donations deter us and instead persevered, selling as many items as possible at our much loved Christmas stall, which helped played a vital role in the overall funds we were able to donate. The Bright Starts team is looking forward to another great year of fundraising ahead.

## BROADMEADOWS AUXILIARY

Founded: **1967**  
President: **Janice Memery**  
Secretary: **Dani Tabone**  
Treasurer: **Julie Campbell**

The Broadmeadows Auxiliary has once again been very busy, working tirelessly to make the significant contribution of four treatment chairs for the Day Cancer Unit at a total cost of \$80,000.

We feel that this purchase is representative of our whole Auxiliary as this money has been raised by both current members and original members who have since passed. We are saddened by the recent passing of Mrs Pauline Gray and her contribution to the team will be greatly missed.

This year eight members have received service awards which demonstrates the continued commitment our Auxiliary members have to the hospital.

## CANCER CRUSADERS AUXILIARY

Founded: **2013**  
President: **Janine Langdon**  
Secretary: **Sharron Markovic**  
Treasurer: **Ruth Murray**

Cancer Crusaders had another successful year of fundraising in support of the Brain Tumour Clinical Trials Program. Our calendar of events gets bigger, better and more successful each year. Having our Oaks Day function featured in the local newspaper allowed us to promote the Cancer Crusaders message and inform the community of our fundraising efforts for the hospital.

Other functions included two High Teas, a Christmas Market Night and our annual Dinner Dance, with a big part of our fundraising coming from monthly stalls and hospital Market Days. Our December stall raised a massive \$8,006.

With our support, there has been an increase in the number of participants in the Brain Tumour Clinical Trials Program. We are very proud to be a part of this and hope to continue our support into the future.

## CANCER IN KIDS AUXILIARY (CIKA)

Founded: **1980**  
President: **Sandra Lehrer**  
Vice-President: **Ellen Webb**  
Secretary: **Wendy Halligan**  
Treasurer: **Stephen Halligan**

It's been another busy year for CIKA as we continue our funding for the Children's Cancer Centre Tissue Bank and the Clinical Trials Coordinator salary.

The annual Old Time Wood Days was again our main fundraiser with thanks to Andrew and Christine Duyvestyn and their family and friends for their tireless work in raising close to \$30,000 yearly.

Stalls both at the hospital and Trentham have grown to become another one of our great fundraising initiatives, overseen by the very capable Pam, Sala and Rocket Ruth.

We would like to acknowledge Ted Taplin and Fiona Gilchrist Nee Love (CIKA Child) who have recently passed. Our thanks to our members, the Macedon Ranges Focus group and all others throughout Victoria who support us and help to organise many other events on a weekly basis.

## CARING FRIENDS OF CYSTIC FIBROSIS AUXILIARY

Founded: **2006**  
President: **Pat Borcich**  
Vice-President: **Yvonne Felton**  
Secretary/Treasurer: **Daryl Gunn**

Another great year of fundraising has allowed us to support a non-invasive ventilator, which treats children with acute respiratory conditions. Our team raise these funds during the monthly stalls at the hospital.

We extend our thanks to the small group of women whose hard work knitting, sewing and crocheting items for our monthly stalls contributes greatly towards our fundraising efforts.

## CAROLINE AUXILIARY

Founded: **1951**  
Convenor: **Ecila Engler**

Over the past year, the Auxiliary has fundraised by holding stalls at the hospital and local shopping centres. We also ran raffles prior to Easter and Christmas, selling tickets across two IGA supermarkets.

Due to the tireless fundraising efforts of our members we were able to finance the Renal cookbook project. Congratulations and thank you to all our members for their continued support in raising funds for RCH patients.

## CASKIDS AUXILIARY

Founded: **1967**  
President: **Joy Clarke**  
Vice-president: **Gail Simpson**  
Secretary: **Robyn Anderson**  
Treasurer: **Helen Smale and Nola Fairbairn**

CasKids Auxiliary are pleased to have raised \$29,771 over the past year, and donated \$50,000 to supported the Music Therapy Project in the Kelpie Ward. We have supported the RCH Emergency Department since 1995 and are now working towards supporting a smartphone app to assist with medical management and clinical assessment of presenting patients at a cost of \$35,000.

Our nine active members and five supporters work hard in organising six hospital stalls yearly as well as attending Market Day stalls and the Donvale Rotarian Markets three times a year. Thanks to the Bairnsdale RSL Women's Auxiliary for their continued support in supplying knitted toys and children's clothing for these stalls. Thanks also to Noel Paydon for his assistance with our Donvale stalls. Our fashion parade event at Blue Illusion Glen Waverley and a Cuppa for Kids High Tea at East Doncaster Baptist Church are also important events which profile our Auxiliary and encourage people to support us.

We celebrated our Auxiliary's 50th this year with wonderful guest speakers Dr Miriam Weisz, Sue Hunt, and Dr Amanda Stock.

Special thanks to our office bearers for their ongoing support and commitment. We also acknowledge and thank the Auxiliaries office staff for their support over this past year and the RCH Foundation staff for their assistance.

## CHARLI'S ANGELS AUXILIARY

Founded: **2004**  
 President: **Sue Manson**  
 Secretary: **Alison Orum**  
 Treasurer: **Ornella Raponi**

The aim of our Auxiliary is to contribute to the ongoing wellbeing of children who have had to deal with being diagnosed with Cancer and the treatment required to hopefully return them to good health.

Of particular interest to our Auxiliary members is the research into the developmental delay experienced by many of these children. Funding this type of research will be the focus of our fundraising efforts into the future.

Charli's Angels Auxiliary is a small and very effective group of six people who in the true Auxiliary way have created/found or made time to fundraise for our chosen project so that these children will continue to thrive after their treatment is finished.

We are very proud to have \$70,000 to make available to the RCH. We are also very proud to have Alison Orum our Auxiliary Secretary, as a member of the Auxiliary Executive Committee. Alison has chosen to focus her executive efforts on encouraging schools/teachers and students to be interested in learning about the work of Auxiliaries and the RCH as a whole.

Our Auxiliary has been very fortunate to have the support of Peninsula Grammar for the past eight years. This relationship is extremely important to us as an

Auxiliary and as members of the Mornington Peninsula community, and for this we say a very big thank you.

## CAULFIELD AUXILIARY

Secretary: **Barbara McIntyre**  
 Treasurer: **Jillian Drysdale**

The Caulfield Auxiliary has been beset over the past year with illness and some deaths including both President, Pat Piper and vice president Sal Prain. Another member lost her husband and apart from associate members who do some fundraising, we have been hoping to recruit new members. We are hopeful of continuing as a viable Auxiliary.

## DO-BEES AUXILIARY

Founded: **2008**  
 President: **Doris Tatman**  
 Secretary: **Beryl Reeves**  
 Treasurer: **Peter Tatman**

Semi-retirement has not stopped Do-Bees Auxiliary from continuing to support the RCH Neuro Development and Disability (formerly Developmental Medicine). With the help of the Waverley Auxiliary, our trust account funds are supporting research into Prader-Willi Syndrome.

Beryl's card holders continue to be in demand and help to raise funds throughout the year, as do goods donated by friends of the Auxiliary - ARAS in particular.

We are continually inspired by the amazing work of Professor Dinah Reddihough and Professor Katrina Williams and her team, and look forward to another great year supporting the RCH.

## EZY BREATHING AUXILIARY

Founded: **2006**  
 President: **Emma Mercer**  
 Secretary: **Heather Luedi**  
 Treasurer: **Beat Luedi**

Ezy Breathing Auxiliary is a small group aimed at supporting in particular families with children with tracheotomies. Emma was sitting in hospital with for her Tyler on one of his many stays in hospital and realised these families did not seem to get much support, they all had other major problems each one different, but one thing in common, the tracheostomy. So Emma decided to start Ezy Breathing with the support and encouragement of Sue-Ellen the respiratory nurse. Emma has worked hard to raise funds, with trivia nights,

stalls at the hospital etc. She organises the Trachy Kids Christmas Party at the hospital every year, and has even convinced her brother to attend as santa for the past few years. Emma runs the Face Painting at the Good Friday Kids Day Out at MCEC and this year raised over \$1,500 for the Auxiliaries.

This year Tyler turned 18 and has to leave RCH at the end of the year so Emma is unsure of our future. She is hoping someone who still has a child at the RCH will take over from her.

## FOOTSCRAY/YARRAVILLE JUNIORS AUXILIARY

Founded: **1960**  
President: **Shirley Jenkins**  
Secretary: **Margaret Plowright**  
Treasurer: **Margaret Day**

Although scattered throughout the suburbs, our team commit to gathering monthly to discuss and organise the events, which are vital in helping us raise funds for the Satellite Pharmacy.

Whilst our theatre luncheons are most popular and profitable, our hospital stalls on Market Days, in particular our Easter stall, are also other great fundraising initiatives run by our team. In addition to this, we are also thrilled to offer our time and support to the RCH Auxiliaries gift shop.

## GEELONG AUXILIARY

Founded: **1976**  
President: **Gwen Bromley**  
Secretary: **Jan Crockart**  
Treasurer: **Thais McCallum**

Geelong Auxiliary celebrated our 40th anniversary in early 2016 and we are pleased to say that we continue to grow. Over the past year, our most memorable highlights include the 50+ strong turnout to our luncheon and offering one of three exquisite dollhouses at our Annual Spring Raffle.

Our 8th Annual High Tea was another highlight with Bek, new member and guest speaker, sharing her daughter Tulli's story. Guests were also treated to a Spring fashion preview presented by The Ark Clothing Company. We ran another fashion event, with the support of The Ark Clothing Company in November. This night in particular is a memorable one as our team grew by nine members.

It's due to the tireless efforts of our growing team that we could fund two treatment chairs for the Day Medical and Day Cancer Units, at a cost of \$40,000.

We're excited to continue our fundraising efforts into the next year and look forward to supporting the RCH for many years to come.

## HEART THROB AUXILIARY

Founded: **1994**  
President: **Amanda Carabott**  
Secretary: **Jenny Gordon**  
Treasurer: **Bernadette Barnes**

Heart Throb is a special purpose Auxiliary committed to organising and funding an annual camp experience for young cardiac patients.

We sadly lost Rhonda Robins, our founding President, last year. We thank our new president, Amanda Carabott for her leadership and our RCH friends for their support.

We organised and funded our 22nd annual camp in November at YMCA's Lake Dewar facility. It was another fantastic team effort and an unqualified success much appreciated by participants and their families. We extend a big thank you to everyone who was involved with this event.

A raffle and regular hospital stalls and generous donations received from loyal supporters also contributed to another busy year of fundraising.

We warmly welcomed several new members and their fresh ideas into our team this past year. We look forward to making next year our best one yet, starting with our first High Tea fundraiser at Zumbo's in June.

## HEART TO HEART AUXILIARY

Founded: **1989**  
President: **Phyl Brown**  
Secretary: **Val Wright**  
Treasurer: **Jo Scully**

With help from our great group of members, family and friends, we have had another successful year of fundraising for the cardiac unit.

Raffles, a chocolate drive and stalls have all helped to fund cardiac equipment. These events along with the support from local communities and the wonderful knitters, cake bakers and craft makers who make the goods we sell at our stalls, go a long way in helping us fundraise. We would also like to extend our thanks to the Gladstone Park Shopping Centre for their support in making our stalls a success. We gladly support the Heart Throb camp and recognise the members who offer their time in working at the RCH Auxiliaries shop as well as the Auxiliaries Office staff for their ongoing help.

## INVERLOCH DIABETIC UNIT AUXILIARY

Founded: **1997**

President: **Kerrie Beaglehall**

Secretary: **Ross Beaglehall**

We had a very exciting year, once again holding our Fundraising Dinner Dance which is in its 20th year. We had a wonderful red carpet event raising \$60,000 from the night to fund the RCH Diabetic Complication Screening Program. We are a very small committee of two, myself and my husband Ross. We do however have a wonderful caring and supportive circle of family and friends, and the community of Inverloch that supports us and this night 100 per cent.

October 8, 2016 came and the lights went down, the music started, gourmet meals were served by Brent Sinclair, Andrew Peace wines was enjoyed and the Auctioneers voice rang out. Pens were busy on silent auction papers and raffle prizes were won.

The room was filled with happy caring loving people that joined together and opened their hearts and wallets to support the RCH. The Diabetic Complication Screening Program has now been running for 20 years. Over that time complications in diabetic children has gone from approximately 30% to 1%.

When the night is over, the hall packed away and the 10 months of volunteer work to put this fundraiser together comes to an end, it leaves me with the humble satisfaction that \$60,000 will help hundreds of diabetic children grow into healthy teenagers and adults. Though they will still have to live with diabetes, they won't go blind, have a heart condition, kidney failure or amputation.

I am humbled by the people that give willingly their time, money, products and kindness to help the cause. I do believe we live in a wonderful world.

## KNOX-SHERBROOKE AUXILIARY

Founded: **1977**

President: **Sue Woodward**

Secretary: **Maxine Lane**

Treasurer: **Lyn Elshaw**

The Knox-Sherbrooke Auxiliary are proud to be able to continue supporting the Music Therapy program after another successful year.

A trip to Warragul lifestyle village was the highlight event in April this year, complete with morning tea,

entertainment, a visit to the Gippstown Heritage Park, Art Gallery, Sculpture Garden and Gallery and lunch at the lifestyle village.

Although saddened by the recent passing of member Ron Neville, our team have worked tirelessly to ensure the success of our stands at the hospital along with the Cuppa for Kids event.

The Knox-Sherbrooke Auxiliary will celebrate its 40th birthday in September and we look forward to another great year of supporting the RCH and its patients.

## KOOYONG AUXILIARY

Founded: **1983**

President: **Marie Devereux**

Secretary: **Caroline Hill**

Treasurer: **Carmel Quinn**

The Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club Auxiliary are proud to have raised a total of \$36,000 for the RCH over the past year. These funds will be put towards purchasing equipment and are in addition to the \$60,000 already allocated for three treatment chairs in the Day Medical and Day Cancer Units.

Holding five functions each year at the Kooyong Tennis Club has contributed significantly to the amount we've been able to raise. These key events included a ladies grass doubles tournament in March, a Christmas in July lunch, a trivia night in October and card parties in both April and September.

We would like to acknowledge the 30 year's service of long standing member Mrs Edna Lavelle who sadly passed away in February this year. After three resignations this past year, our 13 members are now looking forward to another year of successful fundraising.

## MISH MISH AUXILIARY

Founded: **2015**

President: **Danielle Pumo**

Secretary: **Suzan Yaman**

Mish Mish Auxiliary is a group of women (mostly newly arrived migrants) who use their craft skills to create wonderful wares to raise money for the Education Institute division in the hospital. We try to hold two to four stalls per year at the RCH to raise funds, as well running fundraisers at Bethal Primary school. Most of the women have children that attend the school or they attend the Community Hub programs which are run through the school.

## PARKVILLE AUXILIARY

Founded: **1946**  
President: **Liz Dohrmann**  
Secretary: **Kaye Danielson**  
Treasurer: **Marilyn McInnes**

This past year has seen a truly impressive effort by our Auxiliary as well as our dedicated and passionate supporters, from Parkville and beyond, fundraising for this wonderful hospital.

We've had a very busy year of running pod stalls and participating in Market days, selling a variety of home-crafted soft toys and home-baked goods. Our activities over the festive season aided our fundraising efforts significantly with our Christmas hamper proving to be our biggest contributor. Simultaneously, we raffled a beautiful Christmas gingerbread house and sold items from the RCH Auxiliaries gift shop in Main Street several times a week. Our team have also donated their time helping out in the RCH Foundation office and at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show.

Between 1 July 2016 and 31 March 2017, we raised a total of \$44,732.45 which enabled us to grant \$26,000 in support of Music Therapy. These funds have also allowed us to give \$19,917 to Occupational Therapy and donate \$800 to RCH Psychology for Mental Health Box distribution. Lastly, we were able to contribute \$24,000 to the Improving Transition of the Patient project. These fundraising initiatives and the team's tireless hard-work has helped the Auxiliary pay out a total of \$70,717.

Our 70th anniversary in August 2016 was a definite highlight and was celebrated with a very enjoyable dinner. We're proud to have been able to support the RCH and make a difference in the lives of young children throughout this time.

## PANKINA AUXILIARY

Founded: **1967**  
President: **Judith Arms**

Over the years we have lost a lot of valuable members and are now a smaller group. We are still making knitted dolls, toys, rugs, beanies and other goodies.

As we no longer are able to hold our stalls, a big thank you to Lucia who has been a great help to us selling our products. We will continue to support the RCH as long as we are able.

## ROXBURGH PARK AUXILIARY

Founded: **2003**  
President: **Lyne Scown**  
Secretary: **Glenice Gardner**  
Treasurer: **Wendy Hancock**

Our committed Auxiliary of 20 members have dedicated their time to holding stalls on the pods at the hospital as well as running a successful garage sale event. Over this past year, our members could also be found holding stalls in our local shopping centre or volunteering their time assisting in the RCH Auxiliaries Shop four days a month.

We were saddened by the recent passing of member Thelma Keyser, but are thankful for her contribution. Being able to fundraise for the RCH has been enjoyable and we're thrilled to contribute money for the purchase of five treatment chairs for the Day Medical and Day Cancer Units. In addition to being able to donate money where best needed, we also acknowledge and extend our support to the ICU.

## SOUTHERN RAINBOWS AUXILIARY

Founded: **1967**  
President: **Aggie Coyle**

Southern Rainbows supports equipment and research. At present there is only one member, living in hope that some interested people will come along to join the team.

Fundraising activities include the sale of knitted goods and crafts through occasional street stalls and fortnightly pod at the RCH.

## ST KILDA AUXILIARY

Founded: **1922**  
President: **Dot Cridge**  
Secretary/Treasurer: **Joh Kane**

When the St Kilda Auxiliary was established in 1922, sewing groups were formed and tasked with making the patient bedding as well as doctors' and nurses' gowns. Auxiliary members also donated their time manning kiosks and undertaking opp shop duties. Years have flown by from the Auxiliary's formation date but the goal has always remained the same: raising and donating funds to buy new equipment for sick children. We're delighted to share our latest donation of \$158 with the RCH and look forward to continuing and inviting new members to share in next year's fundraising efforts.

## STROKIDS AUXILIARY

Founded: **2004/2005**  
President: **Darren Kohne**  
Secretary: **Belinda Stojanovski**  
Treasurer: **Jackie Nielsen**

Strokidz have had a fun and jam-packed 2017 with events ranging from a day at Werribee Open Range Zoo to a lunch and movie day for the kids affected by stroke and families.

For the past 10 years, the Ollie comfort bear has been donated to kids that have suffered a stroke and been admitted to the RCH. We are committed to donating funds from our events this year towards the purchase of a new comfort bear to replace Ollie.

## TEMPLESTOWE AUXILIARY

Founded: **1939**  
President: **Glenda Fraser**  
Secretary: **Barb Nicoll**  
Treasurer: **Raelene Trotter**

We have had another very successful year of fundraising due to the dedication and generosity of our members.

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Our Auxiliary supports the Platypus Ward and has funded projects including \$2,870 for a surgical treatment trolley, \$2,039 for central line education for nurses, \$860 for an Immunisation Centre freezer, \$20,000 for a Day Cancer Unit treatment chair, \$20,000 for the Complex Movement Disorders Program and \$55,000 for new Orthopaedic Traction Equipment on the Platypus Ward. We were also delighted to be able to donate \$22,000 towards the Children's Cancer Centre Tissue Bank and subsequently enjoyed a very interesting tour of the MCRI laboratory.

This funding could not have been possible without our monthly hospital stalls which are supported by members and friends who supply cakes, jams, pickles, knitwear, terrariums, books, toys and handmade crafts. Stalls at Eltham Shopping Centre and Chirnside Park Country Club on Good Friday also contributed significantly to our overall fundraising total. We support the RCH Auxiliaries Shop selling goods in Main Street and have participated in Paddy's and Andy's Markets. Other highlights have been attending the AGM, Auxiliaries Forum, Living Treasures afternoon tea, Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show, Geelong Auxiliary's High Tea and having a stall at American Women's Association's Halloween Day.

## TRAILBLAZERS AUXILIARY

Founded: **2005**  
President: **Anne McGeary**  
Treasurer: **Diane Powlesland**

Trailblazers Auxiliary are a small group who are proud to sell home propagated plants on the Auxiliaries stalls and in other locations as part of our fundraising campaign. We have also held two successful garage sales this year while the Entertainment Book continues to grow in popularity.

Our Auxiliary is proud to assist the dedicated team in Neuro Development and Disability. They, along with the children attending this department, continue to be our motivation.

## WANGARATTA LADIES AUXILIARY

Founded: **1977**  
President: **Kerrie Steele**  
Secretary: **Sara Jones**  
Treasurer: **Pat Griffin**

Our integral fundraising events include: Good Friday, Mother's Day, Father's Day and Christmas raffles along with numerous street stalls selling our home-baked goodies, craft items and knitwear. We also hold monthly Hoy afternoons, sausage sizzles and Pokies trips twice a year with both lucky ticket and raffle prizes ensuring tickets always sell-out. Our biggest and most successful fundraiser of the year is the Oxley Bush Market which coincides with the Wangaratta Jazz Festival.

In 2015/2016 we allocated \$10,000 to the Early Learning Mosaic Mural. On 18 June 2016 some of our members were treated to a lovely luncheon and presented with flowers at the unveiling. In early September 2016 we funded a \$20,000 treatment chair in the Day Medical and Day Cancer Units, and in November we supported a Specialised Comode to the value of \$4,728.

The Wangaratta Ladies Auxiliary is passionate about supporting cancer kids whilst also raising funds to support approved equipment grants and wish list items.

## WAVERLEY AUXILIARY

Founded: **1967**  
President: **Louise Hastie**  
Secretary: **Verita Crook**  
Treasurer: **Kath Walker**

This year saw Waverley Auxiliary celebrate 50 years of operations and our inaugural member Elizabeth Wilson presented with her 50th badge at our AGM, a magnificent achievement.

Our members continue to work with enthusiasm and passion as we raise funds to make a difference in the lives of children and families with cerebral palsy, spina bifida and autism. We support the Mother Goose Program and Neuro Development and Disability with funds raised supporting department-run webinars for families, carers and professionals based at home or work. Monthly e-newsletters providing updates of Developmental Medicine Training, education events and blog posts are also produced with subscriber lists surpassing 1,000 and reaching across 30 countries.

Fundraising initiatives include cinema days, Morning Melodies at the Mulgrave Country Club and member hosted games days as well as assisting in the Auxiliary shop and running hospital stalls. Other highlights include the annual Melbourne Singers music concert, an autographed AFL football raffle and the Spring Fashion Parade and luncheon where members model garments.

It has been another great year centred around belonging, caring and having fun as we work together to make sick children better.

## WERRIBEE LADIES FOR KIDS

Founded: **2013**  
President: **Val Wills**  
Secretary: **Alma Verity**  
Treasurer: **Mabel Cornwell**

We have had another successful year having our monthly stalls at the hospital which have been well patronised. We also have had very successful stalls at Altona Meadows, Tarneit Gardens and Werribee Plaza.

We have a weekly knitting/craft group at Heathglen Retirement Village with all proceeds going to our stall. We have a lot of other wonderful workers who donate very generously to the cause.

We have donated \$50,000 toward an imaging machine. We look forward to another great year helping the sick children.

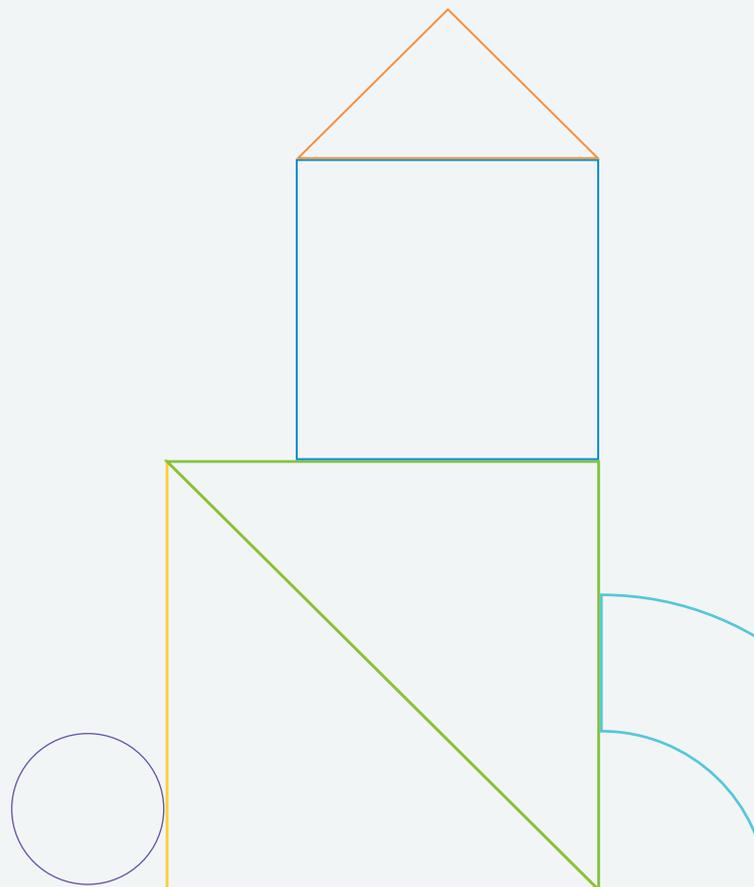
## WRAPPED IN LOVE AUXILIARY

Founded: **2004**  
President: **Lynette Blainey**  
Secretary: **Denise Reynolds**  
Treasurer: **Billy Jackson**

Quilters throughout Victoria have continued to support the Wrapped in Love Auxiliary by making and donating one-of-a-kind quilts to RCH patients. We are generously supported by and extend our thanks to the many sponsors who provide fabric, thread and batting. The time and care taken by patch workers and quilters is evident in the quality of the quilts donated.

The Wrapped in Love Auxiliary visits the hospital each month and over the past year have gifted nearly 2,000 quilts to sick children. These bring comfort both to the children and their families during very stressful times, many bringing these quilts with them every time they are admitted to the hospital.

We're grateful to have received thank you letters from the children and their families and look forward to another great year of bringing quilted comfort to those in need.



# Minutes from the 2016 AGM

## PRESENT

### **Louise Gourlay OAM**

Patron of Auxiliaries

### **Sue Hunt**

Chief Executive Officer,  
RCH Foundation

### **Peter Yates AM**

Chairman, RCH Foundation

### **Carole Lowen**

Former President of Auxiliaries

### **Davina Johnson OAM**

Former President of Auxiliaries

### **Donna Eade**

Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing  
Scholarship Winner

### **Anne Randall**

Director of the Good Friday Appeal

### **Christine Unsworth**

Former Director of the Good Friday  
Appeal

### **Professor Fiona Newall**

Director of Nursing Research and MC

The 94th Auxiliaries Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday 2 July 2016 in the RCH Ella Latham Theatre.

Master of Ceremonies, Professor Fiona Newall, called the meeting to order at 10.10am.

Fiona introduced herself as the RCH Director of Nursing Research and said that she had seen firsthand the work that Auxiliaries do to improve patient care in the hospital. She noted that she was delighted to MC the Auxiliaries AGM.

Fiona introduced the President of Auxiliaries, Robyn Anderson. Robyn opened the formal proceedings of the meeting.

She thanked Denise Mudie, AEC Secretary, for her attention to detail, her expertise in managing and understanding the figures and spreadsheets and for spending so much time updating and informing the committee of the status of all Auxiliaries.

Robyn said that as Auxiliaries contemplate the past year they have every right to feel proud and satisfied with a job well done. Due to their successful fundraising, there have been many achievements right across the board. From purchasing equipment and supporting research, to funding specialist patient and family centered care programs and funding staff leadership and education initiatives. Robyn said that over the last 12 months Auxiliaries have supported 35 projects totaling just over \$1,450,000.

Robyn noted that Auxiliaries are the beating heart and soul of the RCH, the emotional connection and the social thread, which is what makes the group unique. She said that whilst many other hospitals nationally and internationally have Auxiliaries, the RCH Auxiliaries function differently. At the Royal Melbourne Hospital, there is one main Auxiliary with many sub groups pooling their funds to be used at the discretion of the charity. At the RCH, each Auxiliary determines its own destiny and has the ability to choose which area or project they support within the hospital. Robyn stated that the Grants process had made a great difference to the choices Auxiliaries can make and presented opportunities for several Auxiliaries to work together to fund larger projects.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Robyn began her report by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, and paid respect to their elders, past and present, and the elders from other communities who may have been present.

Robyn warmly welcomed everyone to the Ella Latham Theatre to celebrate 94th anniversary of the Auxiliaries and to reflect on achievements and successes over the past year.

Robyn also confirmed that this was her last AGM as President. She reflected on the past three and a half years she was President and said she was very proud of the work of the current AEC and all the members that have served on the committee since April 2013. Robyn commended the time given by the members on compiling and updating documents, attending events, meetings and strategic workshops. She said that it had been a team effort and she was proud of each and every member.

## APOLOGIES

### **Hon Rob Knowles AO**

Chairman, RCH

### **Peter Yates AM**

Chairman, RCH Foundation

Robyn told a story about what had happened to her recently when visiting the Royal Melbourne Hospital. She said that in chatting to a volunteer they explained that they were once involved with the Dirty Hands, Happy Hearts Auxiliary, which supports the Garden Program. This Auxiliary is still active and was commenced in 2000 by Julie Robinson. Robyn also found out that Dame Elisabeth Murdoch AC DBE was Patron of the Garden Program and contributed a forward to a book about the program, called *A Breath of Fresh Air; Stories from the garden at The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne*.

Robyn also spoke of another side of being an Auxiliary member. She said that some members are fortunate enough to spend time fundraising with their Auxiliary friends and then go home, talk to their partners about their day or spend time with their children or grandchildren. She said that on the other hand, some Auxiliary folk have the ongoing stress of dealing with a child at home who has survived a medical problem, but who has been left with the side effects, which can bring pain and anguish to the whole family. Robyn asked that attendees think of those families and those whose children have passed away, but who are still committed to working for the hospital to ensure that future generations survive the medical issues that confront many children today. Robyn also added that we consider the Auxiliary members who have lost loved ones and thanked their Auxiliary teammates for their support of them in their time of grief.

Robyn said that Auxiliaries are grateful for the friendships made through years of fundraising. She acknowledged with appreciation the support of the RCH Foundation, the RCH and RCH Foundation Boards and hospital medical staff.

Robyn announced with great pleasure that Carole Lowen had received the Order of Australia medal in the Queen's birthday honours. She congratulated Carole on 15 years of service as President of RCH Auxiliaries and on this well-deserved honour. Robyn was asked to share a 'Pledge' which Carole wrote when she embraced her new role as President in 1998.

### **My Pledge to Myself**

by Carole Lowen

When we take on these positions there are a few things we must keep in mind, as I certainly must in my position of President of Auxiliaries of The Royal Children's Hospital.

This is an honoured position entrusted to me and I must honour it and do it to my very best.

This position has had many wonderful people before me and I must uphold their wonderful work.

We are custodians of this important position and my only wish and hope is that I can be up to their standard. I shall put my stamp on it as long as it doesn't undo any work before my time.

Therefore I must lead by example ie. always treat everyone with the highest respect as I would wish to be treated myself. I must never stoop to reprimand or criticise any volunteer but always be positive for this brings out the best in people.

Whilst this position may be seen to be one of power I see it as not one of power to be yielded by a big stick, it is one of empowering others and only then will the power come back to me. I do believe by treating other people very well one is treating oneself very well. Many people forget this and often puff themselves up by putting others down. In fact they are stooping.

We are here to help sick kids get better, we are not here for ourselves. If we are chosen and can help this wonderful tradition, we are truly blessed.

Robyn acknowledged Carole's Pledge and thanked her for her Presidency, her dedication to the RCH Foundation Board, the hospital, the Auxiliaries and all members. Carole was presented with flowers by Denise Mudie.

Robyn talked about the wonderful Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing Development Scholarship Luncheon and how successful it was. She spoke about Baroness Susan Greenfield CBE FRCP, who was the guest speaker, and also the 2015 scholarship recipient, Donna Eade, who spoke about the problems experienced by transgender children and young adults.

Robyn acknowledged the loss of Rhonda Robins from Heart Throb Auxiliary and mentioned that Rhonda had lovingly prepared the flowers for the past two AGMs. She also made the beautiful posies for the past two Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing Development Scholarship Luncheons.

Robyn thanked all the people who support and assist the Auxiliaries throughout the year. She expressed her gratitude to the RCH Foundation staff, especially Sue Hunt and Andrew Long, who have been great supporters and contributors as ex officio members of the AEC. She also thanked Michelle Rule, Laurel-Leigh Lawson, Lucia Di Maio in the Auxiliaries Office; Shakira Silvestri, Caitlin Smooker and Alicia Olive in the Communications team; Rachael Hurley and Dorani Lacey in the Grants Office; and Maille Halloran and Angela Blatancic who co-managed the RCH Auxiliaries Shop, for making the Auxiliaries' load a little lighter with their expertise. Robyn said they are pivotal to the success of the Good Friday Appeal and a tremendous amount of work goes into that by almost all staff.

She acknowledged her husband, Stewart Anderson, who has supported her by attending functions, driving her to and from functions and being so forbearing when Robyn was busy with Auxiliaries.

Robyn concluded by saying that Auxiliaries should keep up the good work, keep believing in themselves and keep their support for the RCH as their focus. She also asked that they retain at all times the decency, traditions, respect and integrity which has been shown for the past 94 years by each and every wonderful Auxiliary member. She said these values are what make the Auxiliaries unique and they must not be lost.

As Mandela said, "A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination." That is why we will prevail.

## AUXILIARY MANAGER'S REPORT

Robyn and Barb Nicoll, Vice President of Auxiliaries, shared the reading of the 2016 Auxiliaries Managers Report.

Michelle commented on the selfless act that all Auxiliary members do every day just by being Auxiliary members. She wrote about how some Auxiliaries have many members while others only have one, but all share the same goal to make a difference.

Michelle acknowledged members who are no longer with us and thanked them for their devoted service. She also thanked the Auxiliaries Executive Committee.

## PATRON'S REPORT

Louise Gourlay OAM welcomed everyone to the AGM and acknowledged the previous Patrons.

Louise acknowledged Robyn and all of the hard work she has contributed over the past three years as President. She said that Robyn had taken on the position of President at a difficult time in the life of Auxiliaries and remained focussed and committed to Auxiliaries regardless of the circumstances. Louise said that Robyn was a good Christian woman who lived her values and had high standards for Auxiliaries and the RCH. She noted that Robyn passionately believes in the cause and has worked hard to ensure Auxiliaries would proceed into the future with strength and integrity.

Robyn asked that the Minutes of the 93rd AGM be confirmed. Proposed by Louise Hastie. Seconded by Gwen Bromley.

Robyn moved that the 2015-16 Auxiliaries Annual Report be adopted. Seconded by Ruth Murray.

Robyn asked that the 2015 Auxiliaries Manager's Report be accepted. Moved by Anne Peter-Budge. Seconded by Wendy Hancock.

Louise moved that the election of the office bearers for 2016 be accepted. Seconded by Phyl Brown. Alison

Orum was elected, and Helen Mann and Susan Heywood were co-opted. Louise thanked Alison, Helen and Susan for agreeing to hold office as general members of the AEC for the next three years.

## GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL

After thanking Robyn and Louise, Fiona introduced Anne Randall, Director of the Good Friday Appeal.

Anne spoke about how delighted she was to attend the Auxiliaries AGM. Anne spoke of the connection between Auxiliaries and the Good Friday Appeal.

Anne talked about Herald Sun Photographer David Caird's experience working at the RCH and what outstanding photos he had taken throughout the Good Friday Appeal lead up. She shared David's photo presentation with Auxiliaries sharing images from the many Herald Sun stories.

## MADGE TATE SERVICE AWARD

Robyn said it was her privilege to once again present the Madge Tate Service Award and spoke on the history of the award. Robyn then announced that Margo Ferguson of Pankina Auxiliary was receiving the award posthumously. Robyn accepted the award on behalf of Margo's family, as they were unable to attend.

Robyn also announced that there was a second recipient for 2016. The recipient was praised for her hard work and dedication on the AEC, which Robyn said made her a deserving recipient of the Madge Tate Service Award. Denise Mudie was announced as the second recipient accepted the award and was handed a badge, flowers and her certificate by Gwen Bromley.

## VOTE OF THANKS

Barb thanked all Auxiliary members for being so dedicated to making this past year successful. Barb said that Auxiliary members are people who 'walk the talk' and devote themselves to making a difference to the lives of sick children and their families, carrying on the work of their predecessors who had a dream to care for children.

*There was a short break.*

## 2015 DAME ELISABETH MURDOCH NURSING DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Donna Eade thanked Auxiliaries for nominating her as the scholarship recipient, which allows her the opportunity to study international best practice and nursing care for transgender children and adolescents. Donna said she believes the scholarship will help her advance the clinical component of her role as Clinical Nurse Coordinator (CNC) to produce the very best outcomes for RCH Gender Service patients.

Donna explained how chromosomes and hormones determine the sex that we are born with. For most people this aligns with their gender, which is one's inherent sense of being male or female. However, when it doesn't align, it can be highly distressing and this distress is referred to as gender dysphoria. Young people who experience gender dysphoria are reported to have high rates of anxiety, depression, self-harm and even suicide.

The transgender children and adolescents seen by the RCH Gender Service are ordinary people, from all walks of life, with almost half of referrals coming from small communities in rural Victoria. Donna stated that the aim of the RCH Gender Service is to reduce the impact of gender dysphoria in children and adolescents, and

improve health outcomes for these young people.

Media coverage has raised community awareness of what transgender means and subsequently the RCH has seen a surge in referral numbers, increasing from eight in 2011, to over 170 in 2015. This phenomenon is occurring worldwide.

The RCH Gender Service is the first and, at the time, only multidisciplinary gender service in Australia. Donna's role as CNC was also the only role of its type in the country.

Donna informed attendees that the World Professional Association of Transgender Health (WPATH) is responsible for the recommended standards of care that are adhered to by the RCH Gender Service. She noted that the RCH Gender Service team had just returned from the WPATH symposium in Amsterdam. This symposium brought together world leaders in transgender health to discuss research and best practice. Attending the symposium provided an incredible opportunity for the team to collaborate and network with other international nurses and service providers.

At the symposium, Donna presented a poster representing her work called *Envisioning the multidisciplinary gender service in Melbourne, Australia using a program logic model*. Following the symposium Donna flew to London with Associate Professor Michelle Telfer to visit Professor Russell Viner at the University College Hospital & UCL Institute of Child Health to learn how their child and adolescent gender service works.

Donna confirmed that in late 2016, she would visit other nurses and key child and adolescent gender service providers in the USA, Canada and New Zealand to learn how they are caring for this group of young people internationally. Donna expected this experience to provide her with opportunities to share knowledge,

develop key networks and identify what aspects of already established nursing roles or service models might translate into her unique clinical role.

Donna was presented flowers by Jenny Holmes.

## LIVING TREASURE AWARD

Robyn announced that the following people were inducted as Living Treasures and each was presented with a badge and certificate by Denise:

- **Lyn Elshaw**
- **Sandra Bonnici**
- **Wanda Buchanan**
- **Heather Brett**
- **Thais McCallum**

Robyn also acknowledged two further members who were inducted as Living Treasures, but were unable to attend the AGM:

- **Pam Phillips**
- **Sala Rubenstein**

## JOY CLARKE, PRESIDENT, CASKIDS AUXILIARY

Joy Clarke began by saying that CasKids is a small Auxiliary that has worked hard to raise funds. She noted that they host various fundraising stalls, work on the pods, host a fashion parade, and support the Dog Lovers Show and the International Flower and Garden Show.

Joy spoke about the interactive media wall in the RCH Emergency Department, which CasKids supported. With the new hospital featuring an interactive media wall on Main Street, it was decided that CasKids would buy a similar screen for the RCH Emergency Department. CasKids worked hard for three years to raise enough

money to support this project and, in 2016 the interactive media wall was installed for sick children waiting to be admitted to hospital and their siblings. CasKids Auxiliary are thrilled that a plaque has been installed alongside the media wall in recognition their support.

Sue thanked Joy for her contribution and welcomed Ruth Murray of Cancer Crusaders to the stage.

## RUTH MURRAY TREASURER, CANCER CRUSADERS AUXILIARY

Ruth Murray spoke about how three years prior, and after fundraising for Cancer in Kids Auxiliary for approximately 10 years, Ruth formed Cancer Crusaders Auxiliary along with her husband Peter Murray and her friend Sharron Markovic. Ruth commented how the timing was opportunistic, as a lot of her friends were looking for other things to do as their children were finishing their schooling, and becoming independent.

Cancer Crusaders is a group of 12 hardworking people from Wyndham striving to provide better outcomes and improve treatments for children suffering from brain cancer. At the time, Cancer Crusaders were concluding their funding of the Brain Tumour Clinical Trials project. This project cost \$173,000 over two years. In this short amount of time the work Cancer Crusaders funded had improved the number of children participating in a clinical trial from less than seven per cent to more than 25 per cent.

Ruth thanked Dr Michael Sullivan and Christelle Bott for their ongoing clinical trials work on behalf of Cancer Crusaders.

To raise the amount of money Cancer Crusaders makes each year, Ruth and her fellow members hold a number of events throughout the year:

- **Two High Teas**
- **Dinner Dance**
- **Oaks Day Function**
- **Christmas Market Night**
- **Various stalls and market days at the RCH throughout the year**

Ruth stated that Cancer Crusaders' aim is to maximise the money raised at every available opportunity. She said that Cancer Crusaders present their items in the best way possible, and their cellophane and ribbon wrapping are their specialty.

Ruth also noted that Cancer Crusaders hold all of their events in the Wyndham community to create awareness and gradually building support for their work. Cancer Crusaders also ensure that the size of our venue suits the number of people coming. Ruth said the key is to fill the room with appropriate numbers and sell out as that is a good feeling and results in much less stress.

Ruth was proud to announce that the Cancer Crusaders Dinner Dance on 28 May 2016 raised \$20,650 after receiving a late donation. The event included a grand auction, 100 silent auctions, a raffle and a "guess how many chocolates in the jar" game, as well as beautiful meals and a great band for dancing.

Cancer Crusaders Oaks Day function requires the least work, as they host it at a restaurant in the middle of Werribee South farmland. It's a great day and gives everyone the opportunity to get dressed up and attend Oaks Day without the crowds of people. They have a lovely lunch, a raffle, two sweeps, and three Fashions on the Field prizes. The afternoon raises about \$3,500 each year.

Ruth said that Cancer Crusader's biggest extravaganza is their Christmas Market, which has been running for a few years and continues to go from strength to strength. This event not only involves the committee, but all of their families

and some friends as well. To host the market, Ruth removes furniture from her home and fills it with as many trestle tables as she can fit in. Each table is loaded with Christmas baking, preserves, farm fresh vegetables, hampers, toiletry gift packs, jewellery, handbags, aprons, candles, toys and anything else Cancer Crusaders can get their hands on that people will buy at Christmas. The market also includes a lucky door prize, a raffle and a barbecue on the back verandah. The work that goes into this event is enormous and each year Cancer Crusaders wonder if they will do it again, but then they see the financial result and stop questioning it. The 2015 market raised \$11,000.

Ruth said that, in nearly three years, Cancer Crusaders came within \$5,000 of raising \$250,000. She said that they all love and thrive on the thought that they make a difference to sick kids.

Sue thanked Ruth for her speech and welcomed Robyn back to the stage.

Robyn thanked everyone for attending and gave a special thanks to Fiona for MCing the event.

Robyn then welcomed Louise Gourlay to the stage to close the meeting.

Louise thanked all Auxiliary members for attending and congratulated them for another outstanding year. She then invited all attendees to enjoy lunch at Parkville Café.

*The 94th Auxiliaries Annual General Meeting 2016 ended at 12:30pm.*

# Awards



# Madge Tate Service Award

Established in 1994, the Madge Tate Service Award is named after the late Madge Tate who was a member of Croydon Auxiliary from 1932 until her passing in 1992.

This prestigious award is a means of recognising an eminent Auxiliary member's dedication and extraordinary service to the Auxiliaries.

Congratulations to **Denise Mudie**, Caskids Auxiliary and the late **Margo Ferguson**, Pelican Auxiliary who are the 2016 recipients.



## MARGO FERGUSON

In her nearly 40 years with the RCH Auxiliaries, Margo Ferguson made quite an impression.

A fundraising force to be reckoned with, Margo began working with the RCH Auxiliaries after a friend encouraged her to join the cause. Initially a member of the Pelican Auxiliary, Margo was also secretary and treasurer for Pankina Auxiliary, and ran their fundraising stall at the RCH.

A typical day at the stall started with quite the journey for Margo. She travelled with two large bags of donated items via bus, train and then tram to arrive at the hospital. Despite her years, Margo usually put in a solid six hours of work before packing up for the journey home.

"When asked why she continued to raise money for the hospital, Margo would say she did it for the kids," said Sue Hunt, RCH Foundation CEO. "She was also motivated by the work of former RCH Auxiliary members and friends."

During her time with Auxiliaries, Margo was honoured with a Living Treasure award. Her dedication to the hospital and passion for helping sick kids has been recognised posthumously with the 2016 Madge Tate Service Award.

Though Margo is dearly missed, her contribution to the hospital will not be forgotten.



## DENISE MUDIE

In her 32 years as a member of CasKids, 2016 Madge Tate Service Award winner Denise Mudie has shown incredible passion for supporting the RCH.

“For me, being an Auxiliary member is an opportunity and ability to make a difference by donating my time, energy and expertise to raise money for the hospital. Though the RCH is not the only beneficiary, as I reap the reward of meeting the staff and families of patients at the RCH; the general public when working on stalls at markets and fairs; and the friendship and fellowship of, not only the Auxiliary I belong to, but the wider community of RCH Auxiliary members.”

As a valued member of CasKids, Denise has helped plan some of their most successful events, including stalls, Trivia Nights and Cuppa for Kids High Teas. She’s also been Treasurer for seven years.

“Being a part of CasKids has been a joy. Our core group has grown up together, and we’ve now seen our kids grow up and have grandchildren. We have matured together through the trials and tribulations of life and formed a very close and cohesive group.”

In addition to her work with CasKids, Denise spent four years as Secretary for the Auxiliaries Executive Committee (AEC). During this time Denise kept the AEC well informed, documenting everything from meeting minutes and action lists, to finalising the most recent update of the Madge Tate Memorial Book.

“My contribution as an Auxiliary member has always been about the RCH and the children, though I think I have gained more out of the experience than I could have ever given,” said Denise.

Though thrilled to be honoured with the Madge Tate Service Award, Denise admits she was pleasantly surprised to even be nominated.

“I was very surprised to be nominated and then receive the award. There are a lot of people in this organisation very worthy of this honour. I didn’t expect it and didn’t have my heart set on it, but I’m incredibly touched to have received it. The work I’ve done has been for the benefit of the hospital and to be recognised for that is lovely.”

# Long Service Awards

## 50 YEARS

**Betty Lane**  
American Women's  
Association

**Elizabeth Wilson**  
Waverley Auxiliary

## 45 YEARS

**Barbara Bourke**  
South Western Auxiliary

**Dorothy Timmerman**  
Waverley Auxiliary

**Phyllis Hill**  
Geelong Auxiliary

**Robyn Riseley**  
CasKids Auxiliary

## 40 YEARS

**Dawn Anderson**  
Wangaratta Auxiliary

**Dorothy Boyle**  
Geelong Auxiliary

**Greta Diskin**  
American Women's  
Association

**Pat Griffin**  
Wangaratta Auxiliary

## 35 YEARS

**Clariss Clarke**  
Templestowe Auxiliary

**Helen Moon**  
Waverley Auxiliary

**Janice Memery**  
Broadmeadows Auxiliary

**Judy Conn**  
South Western Auxiliary

**Leanne Bartlett**  
South Western Auxiliary

**Lee Purkiss**  
Waverley Auxiliary

**Vivian Davey**  
American Women's  
Association

## 30 YEARS

**Linda Kerr**  
American Women's  
Association

**Patricia Stolp**  
Geelong Auxiliary

## 25 YEARS

**Audrey Stewart**  
Waverley Auxiliary

**David Webb**  
CIKA

**Faye Love**  
CIKA

**Gael Holliday**  
Heart to Heart Auxiliary

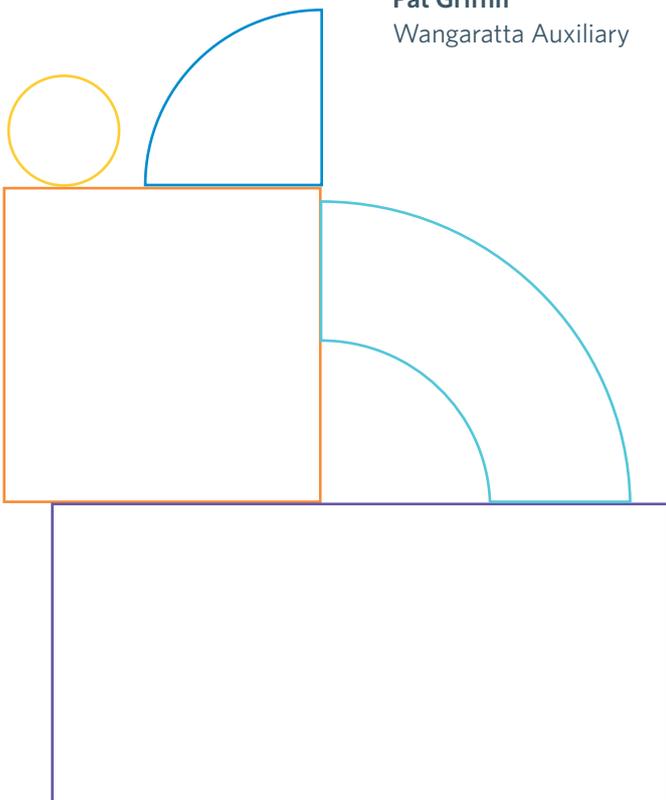
**June Campbell-Grigg**  
Broadmeadows Auxiliary

**Noel Smith**  
Heart to Heart Auxiliary

**Scotia Ryan**  
Waverley Auxiliary

**Sue Attwater**  
American Women's  
Association

**Sue Mitchell**  
Waverley Auxiliary



## 20 YEARS

**Amanda Carabott**  
Heart Throb Auxiliary

**Bernie Dawson**  
CIKA

**Brett Beaglehall**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Carla Poletti**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Gaye Murphy**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Gerard Joss**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Graeme Murphy**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Greg Tabner**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Heather Atkins**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Heather Dowson**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Jim Dawson**  
CIKA

**Joan Davies**  
Geelong Auxiliary

**Julie Casilli**  
CIKA

**Kerrie Beaglehall**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Laura Beaglehall**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Lauren Tabone**  
Broadmeadows Auxiliary

**Maria Di Falco**  
Heart Throb Auxiliary

**Marilyn Galli**  
American Women's  
Association

**Maureen Joss**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Phillip Bowden**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Rhonda Roffrey**  
CasKids Auxiliary

**Ross Beaglehall**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Russ Miller**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Sam Casilli**  
CIKA

**Shiela Forster**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Tina Bowden**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Trevor Dowson**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

## 15 YEARS

**Bev Noonan**  
Parkville Auxiliary

**Carol McGuinness**  
Caroline Auxiliary

**Dawn Bredin**  
Waverley Auxiliary

**Dorothy Gow**  
Footscray-Yarraville  
Juniors Auxiliary

**Dulcie Cedaro**  
Heart to Heart Auxiliary

**Les Grigg**  
Broadmeadows Auxiliary

**Paul Poletti**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Peggy Mathison**  
Parkville Auxiliary

**Ron Neville**  
Knox-Sherbrooke Auxiliary

**Sarah Roberts**  
Broadmeadows Auxiliary

**Trevor Thomas**  
Courage for Kids Auxiliary

**Tris Thomas**  
Courage for Kids Auxiliary

## 10 YEARS

**Alison Orum**  
Charli's Angels Auxiliary

**Barbara Houston**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Beryl Millman**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Gwen Bromley**  
Geelong Auxiliary

**Jan Gilbertson**  
Parkville Auxiliary

**Kevin O'Brien**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Lloyd Bennetts**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Maree Andrews**  
Pankina Auxiliary

**Marj Gissing**  
Pankina Auxiliary

**Roz Hulls**  
Inverloch Diabetic Unit  
Auxiliary

**Stella Delaney**  
Roxburgh Park Auxiliary

**Susan Pretty**  
Charli's Angels Auxiliary

**Wanda Buchanan**  
Templestowe Auxiliary

## 5 YEARS

**Annie Do**

American Women's Association

**Adel Conn**

Knox-Sherbrooke Auxiliary

**Betty Watson**

Pankina Auxiliary

**Betty Window**

Waverley Auxiliary

**Bridget Brownell**

American Women's Association

**Cathy Graham**

American Women's Association

**Cherie Clayton**

American Women's Association

**Christine Gordon**

Courage for Kids Auxiliary

**Cynthia Hawkins**

American Women's Association

**Diane Grant**

American Women's Association

**Elisa Alford**

American Women's Association

**Eve Duddy**

American Women's Association

**Gail Beard**

American Women's Association

**Heidi Bergman**

American Women's Association

**Heidi Halson**

American Women's Association

**Jennette Dynon**

American Women's Association

**Jocelyn Anne Kidd**

American Women's Association

**Judith Mayer**

Caroline Auxiliary

**Julie Ensinger**

American Women's Association

**Kamillah Males**

American Women's Association

**Kathryn Keane**

American Women's Association

**Katey Kane**

American Women's Association

**Katie Dooley**

American Women's Association

**Laura Kipley**

American Women's Association

**Laura Heyning**

American Women's Association

**Leonie Last**

Geelong Auxiliary

**Leslie Coote**

American Women's Association

**Li Jones**

American Women's Association

**Lucy Murray**

Geelong Auxiliary

**Melanie Hughes**

American Women's Association

**Mandy Curtis**

American Women's Association

**Margaret Lee**

Caroline Auxiliary

**Maureen Anderson**

Knox-Sherbrooke Auxiliary

**Melissa Delia**

American Women's Association

**Michelle Edwards**

American Women's Association

**Michelle Marchiori**

American Women's Association

**Nadia Hartley**

Templestowe Auxiliary

**Nancy Johnson**

American Women's Association

**Pam Wilcox**

Pankina Auxiliary

**Raishel Jones**

American Women's Association

**Robyn Murray**

Geelong Auxiliary

**Susan Loveday**

American Women's Association

**Tennille Bunger**

American Women's Association

**Teranne Keogh**

American Women's Association

# Living Treasures

No organisation is quite like the RCH Auxiliaries. Its unique heritage transcends not only Victoria, but the entire country. Much has been achieved by its members over the past 95 years.

Who would have known that from humble beginnings the RCH Auxiliaries would have flourished to become what it is today.

Every generation from founding members onwards, has contributed to the success of our great hospital. The RCH would not be what it is today without the dedication of the RCH Auxiliaries and their unfailing tradition of giving.

We are extremely proud to honour our 'Living Treasures'. These are Auxiliary members who have devoted themselves to our common goal and made an exceptional contribution. The 'Living Treasures' are the embodiment of the highly respected and valued institution that is Auxiliaries and its presence ensures that our future is bright.

We are proud to announce the following Auxiliary members, who are to be inducted as our newest Living Treasures in 2016/2017.

**Heather Brett** Werribee Ladies for Kids Auxiliary

**Lynn Elshaw** Knox-Sherbrooke Auxiliary

**Pam Phillips** CIKA

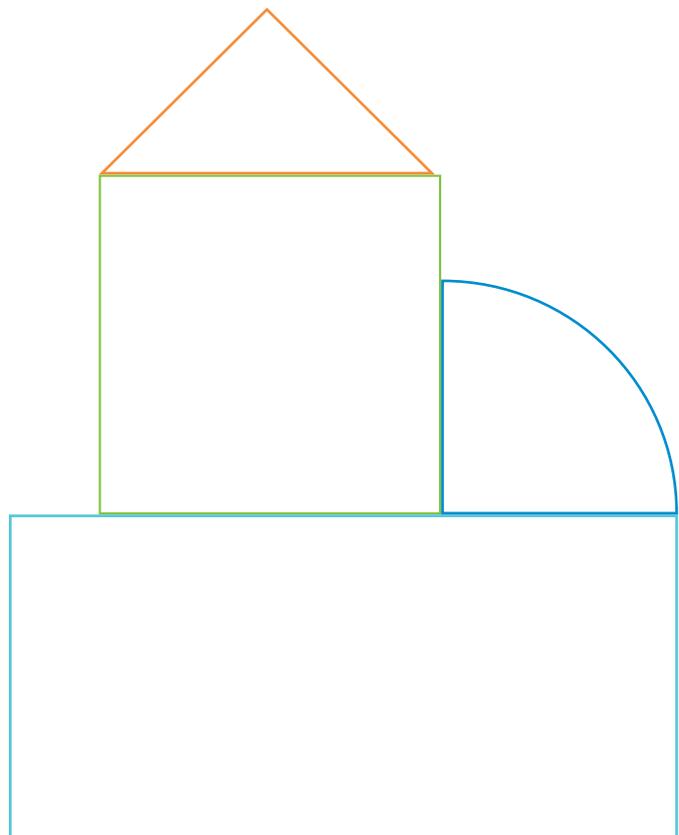
**Ruth Murray** Cancer Crusaders Auxiliary

**Sala Rubinstein** CIKA

**Sandra Bonnici** Roxburgh Park Auxiliary

**Thais McCallum** Geelong Auxiliary

**Wanda Buchanan** Templestowe Auxiliary



# Vale

This year we sadly lost some of our dearest friends and, though they are no longer with us, we treasure their memory, their legacy and their contribution to the RCH.

Our thoughts are with their families and friends.

**Edna Wallis**

Knox-Sherbrook Auxiliary

**Grace Hutton**

Pankina Auxiliary

**Iris (Edna) Lavelle**

Kooyong Auxiliary

**Malcom McCallum**

Geelong Auxiliary

**Nancy Low**

Knox-Sherbrooke Auxiliary

**Pat Bathgate**

Knox-Sherbrooke Auxiliary

**Pat Piper**

Caulfield Auxiliary

**Pat Windmill**

Geelong Auxiliary

**Pauline (Sadie) Gray**

Broadmeadows Auxiliary

**Ron Neville**

CIKA

**Thelma Keyser**

Roxburgh Park Auxiliary

**Sal Prain**

Caulfield Auxiliary

## VALE FRED AUMANN

Templestowe Auxiliary supporter

In early 2017, the RCH Foundation received a \$1.1million bequest from Fred Aumann. This generous gift was thanks to Fred's longstanding connection to the Templestowe Auxiliary.

Fred was the eldest son of David and Hilda Aumann, who owned orchards in Templestowe. Fred's mother was an early member of Templestowe Auxiliary for a time, as was his sister in law, Pat, who still donates to the Auxiliary. Although Fred eventually left the Templestowe area for Gippsland, his family's connection to the Auxiliary made a significant impression on him.

In accepting Fred's generous bequest, the RCH Foundation wished to acknowledge his connection to the Templestowe Auxiliary and the support his family has given to the RCH over many generations. A gift of \$100,000 from Fred's bequest was transferred to the Templestowe Auxiliary.

"When we told our members about the \$100,000 donation from Fred's bequest they were just blown away. We were all so excited," said Glenda Fraser, President of Templestowe Auxiliary. "It's an incredible amount of money and has made for an outstanding annual fundraising total."

Fred's family and friends joined Templestowe Auxiliary members for a morning tea and a tour of the hospital earlier this year. Guests were able to reflect on the special connection between the Aumann family and the RCH through the Templestowe Auxiliary. Glenda says this generous gift will help her group accomplish even more over the coming year.

"Thanks to Fred Aumann's gift, we can now fund even more projects for the hospital. It's a wonderful incentive for us to keep working hard and supporting the hospital. After 78 years Templestowe Auxiliary is still going strong."

# Thanks

This Auxiliaries Annual Report is a collaborative effort. Thanks to the following people whose help and expertise is invaluable.

In no particular order: Dr Miriam Weisz and all the members of the AEC, Alvin Aquino (RCH Creative Studio), RCH Corporate Communications, Good Friday Appeal, RCH Foundation staff and Stuart Anderson of Focus Print Group.

Special thanks to the RCH staff members, families and Auxiliary members who so graciously gave their time to be interviewed.

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**Laurel-Leigh Lawson**

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## Credits

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