



25 years of progress in Australian cancer research



ACRF Chairman,
Mr Tom Dery

This year marked a milestone for our Foundation. 2009 was our silver anniversary; 25 years since the vision of the late Sir Peter Abeles set the Australian Cancer Research Foundation on its path of providing unprecedented multi-

million dollar private funding to cancer research in this country.

Sir Peter's vision was to accelerate key research which would improve our knowledge of cancer at its very core so as to discover ways to control and ultimately cure this devastating disease. To this day that vision drives the ACRF.

The ACRF's single-minded purpose continues; that is to fund, exclusively, infrastructure and capital works for projects at the forefront of medical science.

Three Trustees who have remained on the ACRF's board throughout its history – Lady (Sonia) McMahon, Sir Ian Turbott AO, CMG, CVO HonDLitt, and Mr John Boettcher AO – supported Sir Peter in his mission in those very early days of the Foundation.

The original Medical Research Advisory Committee (MRAC) who stringently assessed applications for funding included esteemed scientist Professor Ronald Penny AO. Similarly, today's experts on ACRF's MRAC, headed by Professor Ian Frazer, continue to advise the ACRF's Board of Trustees.

The first grant given by ACRF was for \$1 million for an Immunotherapy Centre at St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney when Immunotherapy – now a key element of our cancer knowledge bank – was very much on the fringe of mainstream research.

Since that first year the Foundation has granted over \$60 million to Australian medical research teams at many of the country's leading cancer research institutes. Those funds are used to purchase major equipment, construct research laboratories and equip cancer centres.

More than two-thirds of our grants have been awarded since 2004, a reflection of the rapid progress made since the human genome was decoded and the sequencing of human DNA advanced our understanding of the relationship between genes and disease. That increase is also a reflection of the increasing generosity of the many companies, individuals and community groups who support ACRF.

ACRF will continue its critical contribution to breakthrough projects; projects which increase our knowledge and result in ways to prevent cancer and in more effective treatments. Ultimately cancer will be overcome.

Professor Ian Frazer, who discovered the cervical cancer vaccine, recently said of the Foundation "The ACRF provides critical funding for infrastructure support that enables our research to be competitive on an international basis."

In 2009 we received ten grant applications for projects that would make a difference to the lives of the one in three people who will be touched by cancer. Those applications totalled \$34.8 million. As we go to press, we are working on a five year plan to enable us to increase our income and research funding significantly over the next five years. We trust you will stay with us and join us in our mission to create a world free of cancer. We depend on you and are deeply grateful for your support over the last twenty-five years.



1989 St Vincent's Institute Melbourne grant L-R ACRF's Prof Jack Martin, Victoria's then Premier Mr John Cain, Sir Peter Abeles, Lady (Sonia) McMahon.

ACRF 25th Anniversary Life Members

Lady [Sonia] McMahon ACRF

Director since June 18, 1984. Board member – National and NSW Branch of the Australian Brain Foundation, Microsearch Foundation. Director – Tinine Pty Ltd. Chairman – Private Investment Company. Patron – Australian Ladies Variety Association.

Sir Ian Turbott AO CMG CVO

HonDLitt, University of Western Sydney. ACRF Director since June 18, 1984. Chairman – Penrith Lakes Development Corporation Limited, IT Graham Investments Pty Limited, Australian Youth Trust. Director – Commonwealth Council, Ted Noffs Foundation. Fellow – Institute of Directors Association of Australia. Emeritus Chancellor – University of Western Sydney.

Mr A John Boettcher OAM ACRF

Director since June 18, 1984. Former Honorary Governor – Science Foundation for Physics, University of Sydney. Former Director, Phillips Electronics Australia Limited. Director – Cauty Pty Ltd.

Professor Thomas (Jack) Martin, AO

Emeritus Professor of Medicine, University of Melbourne and John Holt Fellow, Bone Joint & Cancer Unit at St Vincent's Institute of Medical Research, Melbourne. Professor Martin was appointed to the ACRF's Medical Research Advisory Committee in 1997 and was Chairman of that committee in 2008.

Professor Rob Sutherland, FAA

Director of the Cancer Research Program, Garvan Institute of Medical Research, a Senior Principal Research Fellow of the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia, and Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of New South Wales. He was a member of ACRF's Medical Research Advisory Committee from 1987 through 2007 and is the longest serving member of that Committee.

2009 Research grants finalists

ACRF's multi-million dollar grants program for 2009 included four outstanding finalists. Each of the world-changing projects that reached the finals this year has the potential to move cancer research to another level.



ACRF-funded research equipment

Children's Medical Research Institute (CMRI) & University of Newcastle NSW: to build and equip two dedicated laboratories for the world's first Chemical Proteomics Centre for Kinomics. This is a new discipline, merging genomics (genes) and proteomics (proteins) implicated in certain human cancers and is a priority area for new drug targets.

The Centre for Cancer Biology, South Australian Pathology and the University of Adelaide: for equipment to establish a new Cancer Genomics Facility, enabling researchers to obtain insights into genetic modifications that underpin development of new tools for better diagnostics, disease prognosis, drug response, and resistance to chemotherapy.

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Melbourne: for a new capital works program for one of Australia's leading research institutes. The program will expand and redevelop the principal research laboratories in Parkville.

The Kolling Institute of Medical Research, Sydney: for equipment to enable the establishment of a new ACRF centre at Sydney's North Shore Hospital, which will provide a uniquely integrated facility for validation and localization of cancer biomarkers.

Watch acrf.com.au for the announcement of the annual awards.

Leading researchers join advisory committee



Prof Doug Hilton

Three acclaimed researchers have this year joined the ranks of the Foundation's prestigious Medical Research Advisory Committee (MRAC). This committee assesses and recommends to the ACRF Board of Trustees the most outstanding cancer research projects to receive multi-million dollar grants each year.

We extend our warmest welcome to:

Professor Georgia Chenevix-Trench, BA (Hons), PhD, Professor Doug Hilton, BSc (Hons), PhD and Professor Jennifer Stow BSc (Hons) have, in the past, all received support from the ACRF for their own projects.

“*The ACRF fills a niche that no other organisation does in Australian medical research,*” said Professor Stow.

ACRF funding, which is not available from other sources, enables many facilities Australia-wide to establish world-class laboratories, fitted out with state-of-the-art equipment that they just could not otherwise afford. It is an organisation that supports major Australian cancer research projects like no other,” said Professor Chenevix-Trench.

Prof Jennifer Stow (front) and Prof Georgia Chenevix-Trench



Did you know?

ACRF's Chief Executive, David Brettell, has also had major leadership roles in world sporting events such as the recent Sydney World Masters games, Sydney Olympics 2000 and Beijing Olympics 2008.

Brettell, considered a global expert in Volunteering, has taken ACRF to an unprecedented level of funding. Two-thirds of ACRF's grants have been awarded since Brettell commenced at ACRF in 2003.

ACRF's Chief executive David Brettell



ACRF marks an ever higher level of achievement

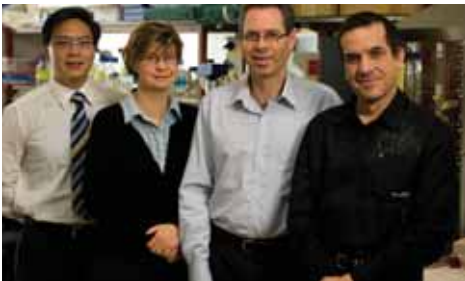
We'd love you to share how good it feels when we hear that important research initiatives you've helped fund are achieving major results (which sometimes take many years).

Four major medical breakthroughs and an important launch that occurred this year all directly linked to ACRF funding.

- An innovative Australian-first, the ACRF Centre for Therapeutic Target Discovery was launched in January 2009 in Melbourne. It's a collaborative, integrated cancer research centre where clinicians, diagnosing and treating cancer patients work up close to research scientists. The ACRF's largest ever grant of \$5 million funded the centre.
- A team at the WA Institute for Medical Research, discovered a

molecule to target one type of pancreatic cancer tumour, avoiding toxic side effects and improving survival. Pancreatic cancer has a very poor prognosis and this research started 8 years ago in a laboratory funded by a \$1.2 million grant from ACRF.

- Associate Professor Geoff Lindeman and Dr. Jane Visvader from the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute in Melbourne discovered a "population of cancer cells" likely to be responsible for breast cancers that develop in women carrying mutations of a specific gene. This opened up a whole new way of thinking that will lead to new prevention strategies.
- Thanks to the backing of the ACRF, Professor Michael Parker's team at the St Vincent's Institute Melbourne has visualized a second protein receptor involved in certain types of leukaemia, progressing the same team's 2008 breakthrough it will be used as a platform to develop new leukaemia treatments.



Breast cancer breakthrough: second from right, Prof Geoff Lindeman and WEHI team

Some Australian innovations have the power to change the world

The cervical cancer vaccine developed by Professor Ian Frazer, kick-started by a grant from ACRF, is helping save the lives of thousands of young women around the globe.

ACRF's latest TV commercial was shot in Vanuatu, where there is a high incidence of cervical cancer. Professor Ian Frazer was working there on an Australian-run vaccination program.

We interviewed Professor Frazer when he was in Vanuatu and he told us about the exciting "Eureka moment" which happened on the day he and his research partner, the late Professor Jian Zhou, first saw the virus on a next-generation microscope: "...the day we knew we had a potential vaccine".

Professor Frazer emphasized how crucial it is that the pace and funding of vital research keeps up - "Research ideas go nowhere unless there's the funding needed to support the work that needs to be done." added Professor Frazer.

"Every dollar you spend on cancer research is a dollar invested in your children's future health"

- Professor Ian Frazer

"We've already got some exciting info on why we get cancer and what's wrong with cancer cells; now, with the help of funding from the ACRF and other bodies, we should be able to make a big difference in cancer control in Australia".

View the TVC and the interview with Professor Frazer at youtube.com/AustCancerResearch



ACRF embraces Online and Social Media

This year, increasingly, we have shared our news and connected to a new community of friends and supporters on Facebook, Twitter, Youtube and LinkedIn.

"Staying at the forefront of change and capitalising on innovation are underlying elements of ACRF's culture" says Suzie Graham, Exec. Manager of Philanthropy.

"We all feel we owe it to our brilliant researchers to be across the most effective techniques that will maximise funds for our annual grants program. And we'd love you to join us"



Rachael @RachaelLoneragan



Ally @textureofthesin

Tweeting about cancer

On her unique and totally honest Twitter page, Rachael Loneragan, (@RachaelLoneragan) a senior media executive, entertains her followers with her wry humour and amusing commentaries as part of her personal battle with breast cancer.

@Textureofthesin, another supporter with breast cancer, has organised sales online of her beautiful photographic artwork to raise funds for cancer research. *Thank you Ally for your support.*

Expert online collaborations

ACRF has teamed up again with online partners like Everydayhero.com allowing fundraisers easily to create their own webpage and connect to friends for support.



ACRF's Claire McArthur with Sticky's CEO, Craig Wilson

Raising funds and providing information to our friends and supporters online means being easy to find. So our selection by leading search engine optimisation (SEO) and ad agency, Newcastle's Sticky Ads, to take part in a benchmarking program

to get to the top has been a fantastic boost. We're looking forward to great results in 2010. Thank you Craig Wilson and Gordon Whitehead.

Living Years.com launched in 2009 and is a beautiful and thoughtful way for people who have lost someone close to them to create, with ease, an In Memoriam tribute. A personalised website means you can share cherished photographs, videos and stories online, wherever you are.

The publishers of Living Years support the ACRF and other charities. Thank you Kate vanderVoort.

Awesome stories of community fundraising

They run marathons, shave their heads, draw on their artistic talent, organise parties, cycle, host parties, run sales, collect unwanted goods. They are the individuals, families, and businesses who support us and these are just a very few highlights of the huge effort of a record number of supporters boosting our fundraising for cancer research. **(all other stories are on our website at acrf.com.au)**

In the **Sydney Morning Herald Half marathon** five individual supporters and two large teams raised more than \$20,000 while the **City2Surf** attracted eighty-two dedicated ACRF supporters who ran, jogged, walked and "crawled" to Bondi Beach, jointly raising over \$25,000. Forty five inspired runners raised more than \$10,000 in **Run Melbourne** and record funds were raised this year in **Adelaide City Bay Run, Bridge to Brisbane, Gold Coast Marathon, Melbourne Marathon and the Sydney Running Festival**

Knox Old Boys Rugby team honoured one of their biggest supporters Mr. Po Mar, with a tribute game for cancer research.



L-R Chantelle Smoor & Sheree Clark

Chantelle Smoor, Sheree Clark and locals in Newman (WA) hosted a dazzling **Cocktails for Cancer** party, honouring Chantelle's brother John Simpson.

Young designer Mikaela Hiew celebrated the memory of her grandmother with **MUSE 09** a fundraising fashion parade showcasing Mikaela's beautifully designed 'ready to wear' and couture garments.



Courtesy of Canberra CityNews
One of Mikaela Hiew's stunning designs

Melbourne's martial arts community joined Catherine Tan in her fundraising fight against cancer with Unite & Fight Cancer, a massive gala dinner and martial art demonstration.

In an historic first, twelve brave paddlers paddled two outrigger canoes across treacherous Bass Strait. **Crossing for Cancer** - an awe inspiring achievement.

Bussies on Bikes saw more than 35 enthusiastic bus drivers ride from Sydney to Canberra and back to aid the Australian Cancer Research Foundation and Canteen.



Catherine Tan with ACRF Trustee, Mr Greg Camm



Colin Bartley and one of the two crews in treacherous Bass Strait

Respect to every one of our fundraisers. Thank you to you and your families and supporters. Each has been touched by cancer in some way and has committed to help us raise funds to overcome this devastating disease. Without your support we could not continue our ambitious funding program to conquer cancer.

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Australian Cancer Research Foundation



Every dollar of every donation received goes to cancer research.

Please complete, detach and return this coupon along with your donation, in the envelope provided.

Save postage costs and bank charges.
Donate securely online at www.acrf.com.au by clicking on the "Donate" button.

OR

Return this coupon to ACRF:
GPO Box 9989 in your capital city

Thank you for your support of Australia's best cancer research.

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(made payable to the Australian Cancer Research Foundation)

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Expiry Date:

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Date of Birth:

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Cardholders Signature: _____

Please complete...

- I would like information about including the ACRF in my will.
- I would like to make monthly contributions to the ACRF, please send me a Regular Giving Pack.
- I would consider organising a fundraiser in support of ACRF, please send me more information

ACRF complies with the Federal Privacy Act and has a full Privacy Policy which can be downloaded from www.acrf.com.au You are able to gain access to your information, which is confidential and will not be disclosed to other organisations. If you have any questions relating to this policy or if you do not wish to receive information from ACRF, please contact our Privacy Officer on 1300 884 988.

ACRF's fundraising Cancerians Committees

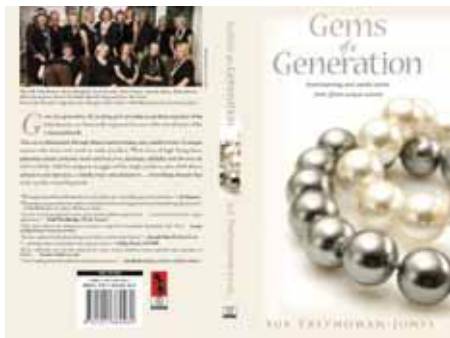
ACRF's Cancerians Committees every year organise events which provide consistent income to help secure our grants. Thank you Cancerians Committee members for your long-term financial contribution and for the thousands of hours you spend to support ACRF's annual funding program.



Stylish South Pacific invitation

Themed "South Pacific" this 'tropical chic' experience was once again the main event on Canberra's social calendar. Thank you President, James Service, guests of honour, Professor Ian Frazer and Caroline Frazer, and the amazing

Canberra Cancerians who have raised well over \$2million for cancer research. Virginia Hansen and the Committee followed up with their most successful ever annual golf day at Royal Canberra.



Stunning book cover "Gems of a Generation"

Committee member and tireless worker, Sue Trethowan-Jones, launched 'Gems of a Generation' – a book which embraces the wisdom of 15 amazing Melbourne women. Proceeds from the sale of her book are in aid of cancer research. The **Melbourne Cancerians**, headed by Jodie Emmett, backed up with a Girls' Night In later in the

year. You can purchase Sue's beautiful book on www.acrf.com.au.

Bexley North Cancerians team of dedicated superwomen organised a record number of successful events with new President Carole Pont, Mid-winter Luncheon, Kilometre of Coins Collection, A fun-day and trivia luncheon and their annual Christmas Event. Bexley North Cancerians were nominated for the NSW Volunteer of the Year awards.



L-R June Peverell, Betty Holman, President Carole Pont, June Streatfeild

Launceston Cancerians' new President, Rachel Williams organised the annual and fabulous Entally House jazz afternoon – already Launceston's signature event and again a big success.

Helen Packwood and her team always amaze with original and spectacular themes for **Kempsey Cancerians'** annual sponsors' event. This year it was the "Snow Ball" and ACRF's Jennifer Coffey was guest speaker. Thanks to the committee and President, Chris Cooney.

The **Hobart Cancerians** Committee have celebrated Tasmania's own Errol Flynn with a successful movie fundraiser, backed up

with a weekend fundraiser in conjunction with the beautiful Richmond Wine Centre. Special thanks to President Gillian Groom and Jeannie Taranto.

On Sydney's North Shore, young entrepreneur and long time supporter of ACRF, Edwina Hunter, put together a **New committee of friends** who staged their stylish inaugural event "Christmas in July" fashion fundraiser at the stunning St Patrick's Manly's International College of Management. Chief Executive, David Brettell and Gabrielle Dunn whose daughter Olivia was one of the models on the night attended the function.



L-R Joanne Hunter with sister Edwina and Jane Wormald.



Leading Sydney model, Olivia DunnFrost

A gift for the future of cancer research

Some of the ACRF's largest research grants have been made possible by bequests from people who, during their lives, decide to contribute to a future without cancer.



ACRF's Planned Giving Coordinator, Jennifer Coffey, visited a very special couple who have recently decided to leave a bequest to the Foundation in their will. Claudia and Peter Fisk live in picturesque Leura in the Blue Mountains and their delightful garden has recently been featured as a highlighted attraction at the Katoomba Festival.

Claudia told Jennifer she worked in the travel industry and in art galleries until the couple moved to their beautiful Blue Mountains retreat. Peter, a retired TV director, worked on the popular TV drama "All Saints" until last year. "Peter is a

Left: Peter and Claudia Fisk in their beautiful Leura garden

cancer patient who has been in treatment for a number of years" explained Jennifer. "At the moment the two travel to Sydney's Concord Hospital three times a week for Peter's chemotherapy procedures", she added.

The Board of Trustees of the Foundation and the researchers we fund acknowledge with gratitude the thoughtful generosity of Claudia and Peter Fisk, and those who have remembered the Australian Cancer Research Foundation in their wills. You are helping us fund breakthrough research with the potential to change the world.

About the Australian Cancer Research Foundation

There are many worthwhile organisations raising funds for cancer treatments and for cancer research.

The ACRF provides major funding of between \$1.5 million and \$10 million, not readily available from government or other sources, to outstanding cancer research projects from every state in Australia, addressing every type of cancer.

Our grants are awarded to leading Australian research scientists based at Australia's leading research institutes, universities and hospitals. Most of these centres also have their own fundraising charities. Our grants fund state-of-the-art laboratories and equipment to support prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

Please consider making a donation to the Australian Cancer Research Foundation today.

Call 1300 884 988, visit www.acrf.com.au or send your donation to Australian Cancer Research Foundation GPO Box 9989 in all capital cities.

To keep up with the work of the Foundation, upcoming events and fundraising activities, visit acrf.com.au, contact us toll free on 1300 884 988 or email info@acrf.com.au

Australian Cancer Research Foundation



The Foundation acknowledges with gratitude those who left a Bequest to ACRF in 2009:

Estate of the Late Nancy Elizabeth Anne Atkins
Estate of the Late Cyril Abner Audus
Estate of the Late Mrs R M Barnes
Estate of the Late Alice Robeena Barton
Estate of the Late Arthur George Booth
Estate of the Late Selma Andrew Burne
Estate of the Late Raymond Roy Burrows
Estate of the Late Helen Cashin
Estate of the Late Margaret Emily Monot Chapman
Estate of the Late Elizabeth Ingrid Cohen
Estate of the late Ms Florence Makepeace Copper
Estate of the Late Stanley Edward Craven
Estate of the Late Albert Louis Damart
Estate of the late Sylvia Joyce Davis
Estate of the Late Gwenneth Vivian Dent
Estate of the Late Elizabeth Edith Dixon
Estate of the Late Marjorie Dominy
Estate of the Late Barry George Eaton
Estate of the Late Marjorie Evans
Estate of the Late Isabella Jean Fyfe
Estate of the Late Jill Thelma Garsia
Estate of the Late David Goillon
Estate of the Late Helga Grant
Estate of the Late Grace Honeyball
Estate of the Late Geraldine Monica Hopkins
Estate of the Late Owen Taylor Ison
Estate of the Late Helen Boville Jacobs
Estate of the Late Maurice Donald Jenkins
Estate of the Late Patricia Dawn Kriedeman
Estate of the Late Gabrielle Lorraine Lee
Estate of the Late Alfia Liotta
Estate of the Late Sophia Jane Lister
Estate of the Late Betty Stuart Lloyd
Estate of the Late Dymphna Marian Longstaff
Estate of the Late Vera Helen MacGregor
Estate of the Late Emily May Mallory
Estate of the Late William Mann
Estate of the Late Edric Ainslie McCloy
Estate of the late Grace Olive McDonald
Estate of the Late John Tennyson Miles
Estate of the Late Mr David H G Miller
Estate of the Late Rose Emma Murphy
Estate of the late Colin Joseph Nichols
Estate of the Late Catherine Nolan
Estate of the Late Tanya Pasic
Estate of the Late Malcolm Francis Carlyle Rudder
Estate of the Late Antonius Eduardus Schevers
Estate of the late Kurt Siegmund
Estate of the Late Zena Lucy Siepen
Estate of the Late Olga Steele
Estate of the Late William James Taylor
Estate of the Late Jean Tunnah
Estate of the Late Elsie Irene Wearne
Estate of the Late Joan Mary Westaway

Please visit acrf.com.au to link to our videos on youtube and find out how to join our online social media networks.



The Foundation gratefully acknowledges all donations as gifts from families and friends in memory of those who died this year. Memorial gifts are a thoughtful and meaningful way to honour those you love, and we and the researchers we fund deeply appreciate your support.

To all donors, on behalf of Australia's leading scientists, we say thank you and acknowledge with sincere thanks our private foundation donors. We also acknowledge workplace giving companies and employees, corporate foundations, and partners:

ABN Amro, ACF, Allens Arthur Robinson, AMP, Avant, BHP Billiton, CAF, DADHC, Deutsche Bank, Ernst & Young, Everyday Hero, Fusion Workforce, Hoxton Industries, Hunter Hall, JP Morgan, KPMG, Leighton Holdings, Lion Nathan, Living Years, MAP, Mayne/Symbion Health, M&C Saatchi, Microsoft Unlimited, Potential, National Library of Australia, Neutrog Fertilizers, PepsiCo, PricewaterhouseCoopers, QBE Insurance Group, Qiagen, Queensland Police Service, Ritchies Supermarkets, The Smiths Snackfood Company, Sticky Advertising, Stockland, United Way, Wine Partners of Australia.

Thanks also to our Federal government workplace giving employees from: Attorney General's Dept, Australian Communications and Media Authority, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, Department of Immigration and Citizenship, Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, Department of Education, Science and Training, Department of Health & Ageing, Food Standards of Australia & New Zealand, the Commonwealth Department of the Treasury and the Department of Human Services.

Warmest thanks also to the following organisations, who additionally supported ACRF through events and fundraisers in 2009: Deutsche Bank Volunteering Expo, DADHC Giving Pays launches and Workplace Giving Forum, Ernst & Young Online Workshop, Gatorade PepsiCo Team at the Sydney City2Surf, Sakata Bake-Off.