

# AUTUMN

Autumn  
Edition  
2022

## Lions Medical Research Foundation Line

### What we do!

“The Lions Medical Research Foundation is committed to raising funds for Medical Research to improve the quality of life for the present and future generations.”

### Report from the Chair



LMRF Chair report 0322

It's hard to believe we are already a quarter of the way through the calendar year and for those impacted by COVID-19 and the rain bomb that hit SE Qld in late February/early March it is hard to get your head around where the time has gone.

It has nevertheless been a bust time for LMRF with the implementation of a new strategic plan and operating model, staff changes, the onboarding of two new Board members and the continuing challenge of raising funds in these difficult times.

The rising cost of fuel, the price pressures on food bought about by logistics and weather and the increased costs of putting a roof over our heads is clearly limiting the ability of households to donate and, as LMRF found out in a recent raffle, people are prioritising donations that relieve the immediate difficulty caused by floods and storms.

*“Today's research is tomorrow's cure”*



LIONS  
MEDICAL  
RESEARCH  
FOUNDATION

## Chair Report cont'd

This is absolutely understandable, and many Lions club are responding the same way. LMRF is hopeful however that as the Lion's year comes to a close and clubs are in donation mode Presidents, in particular, will remember LMRF.

Why you say? LMRF has continued to support two researchers throughout the pandemic and they have both made significant progress,,

SPARQ-ed will continue to be part of the Foundation's support for students who aspire to career in research, we have continued to reduce overheads and stabilised our finances.

We are also in the process of refreshing our Ambassador program.

The Foundation has committed (by way of a joint funding agreement with the University of Queensland) to provide an additional researcher to Associate Professor Carlos Salomon's team in a bid to accelerate field trials for his work in the early detection of ovarian cancer.

From a self help perspective, we have run several art unions and the recent Gala Dinner was both a great corporate promotion and a sound fundraiser thanks mainly to generous donation of \$58,000 by the Lions Club of Capalaba. A fantastic effort and very much part of a long history of support by that club.

We have also had some solid contributions from our bequest program and Mareeba Lions through Lions Tom Braes OAM have been generous in memory of his late wife Karen.

The key message from me is that your Foundation is in good hands and is managing well through pandemics and freak weather conditions however we are committed to a bigger future that can only happen through the support of Lions.

David Eades

Chair

LMRF

*" Today's research is tomorrow's cure"*



## From the Office



Narelle Parkins Executive Manager

Since our last edition of the Foundation Line there have been some significant changes in our office.

Apart from our newest employee Riyeni (Yeni) Amin, who I might add has fit in well, we have also had an office revamp. Gone are the old 'venetian blinds' and in with a new look window tinting, making it a much more pleasing atmosphere. Let there be Light – and trees.

The art union was drawn in January and the lucky winner of the \$10,000 Visa Debit Card was Jennifer Robinson from the Lions Club of Nanango. Keep your eyes peeled for the next Art Union which will be commencing in June this year. Prizes will be announced shortly.

Last week came the finale of the first of our major fundraising events. This was in the form of a gala dinner and researcher reunion. The aim was to bring together as many of the Foundation's researchers (past and present) under the one roof. And that roof just happened to Customs House on the beautiful Brisbane River. Not so beautiful a week ago with the major floods and the steady stream of debris, including a crane, but beautiful as ever in the light of the evening.

58 Years of Lions Medical Research Foundation

Funding

53 Early Career Bio Medical Scientists.

***What an achievement.***

Also, an achievement was the raising of the massive sum of \$72,069 for future research from the Gala Dinner attended by Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeanette Young PSM and her husband Professor Nimmo. Her Excellency was a delight to have on board and gave an extremely heart-warming speech praising the Foundation and what it stands for.

Her Excellency declared on the night of her willingness to become the Foundation's Patron and presented Chair David Eades with a framed Certificate of Patronage

**"Today's research is tomorrow's cure"**

## Thank You Capalaba Lions



President Graham Ericksen with Professor Ian Frazer  
Accompanied by Lions David Lodge and Armin Stintmann  
Presenting their cheque of \$58,000 to the Lions Medical Research Foundation.

**\$58,000 for 58 years**

*“Today’s research is tomorrow’s cure”*



## Oh What a Night - *and what a night it was.*

All glammed up and ready to break the COVID CURSE. One hundred and eighteen beautiful people attended the inaugural Gala Dinner of the Lions Medical Research Foundation. Professor Ian Frazer and television personality Liz Cantor shared the stage as Master of Ceremonies.



*BUNYA by the River*



*Prof Ian Frazer & Liz Cantor*

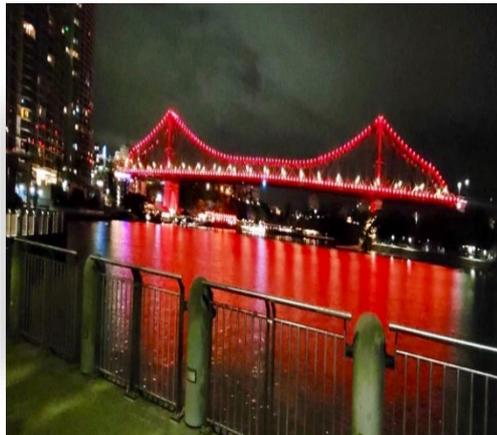


*Mirusia in song*



*Past Personality Quest entrant Natasha & Dad Prof Mike Roberts, Prof Robert Tindle & LMRF Directors Kathy McCosker and Penny Kourra.*

**“Today’s research is tomorrow’s cure”**



*River by night*



*Teneriffe girls letting their hair down*



*Gals from Carrara Lions Club – all frocked up*



*You can take the bush out of the boy after all*



*District Governors Nicole Phillips – Q1, Steve Hood – Q3 & Kathy McCosker - Q4*

*“Today’s research is tomorrow’s cure”*

## **LMRF Celebrates the Patronage of Her Excellency Dr Jeanette Young PSM Governor of Queensland**



*Pictured below is Her Excellency presenting the Certificate of Patronage to Lions Medical Research Chair David Eades*



*“Today’s research is tomorrow’s cure”*



## ELSA'S STORY

Elsa Larsen, big sister of Kristen told her story about the loss of her little sister to ovarian cancer. Elsa and Kristen travelled to London with great expectations. What should have been the experience of a lifetime, instead this experience turned into the worst nightmare anyone could endure – losing a loved one.

Starting out with bloating and putting it down to too much pizza, Kristen (20 yrs old) endured slight discomfort but not enough to worry and bother the medical staff about. She then had one very severe pain and thought she should go see about it. She was admitted to Royal London Hospital where she was operated on for appendicitis. It was then that it was discovered there was nothing wrong with her appendix but there was indeed something wrong. Several tests later the gruesome discovery was disclosed. Kristen had Category 4 Ovarian Cancer and it was too late.

Kristen did everything right – she fought for her life. But only then when she came to terms with the fact that her life was to be cut short that she decided to advocate for Ovarian Cancer awareness and cures. This 'silent killer' has no signs until it reaches its advanced stage and then unfortunately it is too late. There is no cure. During the next twelve months Kristen as ill as she was, spoke out and raised not only awareness, she also raised over a million dollars for Ovarian Cancer research. Elsa (big sister) has continued with Kristen's advocacy.

*Picture of Elsa below:*



**"Today's research is tomorrow's cure"**



## CARLOS – sorry to see you go

All good things must come to an end and the time has now come to say goodbye to Associate Professor Carlos Salomon.

Dr Carlos joined the Foundation as an LMRF Fellow in 2016. Carlos was chosen from many applicants to be the recipient of funding for the forthcoming three years by a panel of medical experts who believed that his research was something of extreme value. It was also research that was significant to the well being of hundreds of females around the world dying of this debilitating disease Ovarian Cancer - dubbed "The Silent Killer".

Carlos was so successful during his first three years that the Foundation decided to extend his Fellowship for a further three years to 28 February 2022. Also, during his time with the Foundation Dr Carlos was promoted to Associate Professor – another thing for LMRF to be proud of.

Whilst the Foundation is saying goodbye to Assoc Prof Carlos, it will still be involved in the research of early detection of this disease by co-joining with University of Queensland in funding a new researcher in the same team - Dr Dominic Guanzon. Dominic will be working under Carlos and is eager to reach the same goals.

A banner for the Lions Medical Research Foundation. On the left is the foundation's logo and the text 'LIONS MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION'. Below this is the slogan 'TODAY'S RESEARCH IS TOMORROW'S CURE' and a Facebook icon with the text 'FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK'. On the right, a quote is displayed in white text on a dark background: 'Through medical research we can create new knowledge that will enhance quality of life for people around the world.' Below the quote is the attribution '- Dr Carlos Salomon LMRF Senior Research Fellow'. To the right of the quote is a portrait of Dr Carlos Salomon, a man with a beard and short hair, wearing a suit and tie.

*"Today's research is tomorrow's cure"*



## **An Award for Kee**

Dr Kee Cheung OAM (former LMRF Treasurer) being presented with a Professor Ian Frazer Humanitarian Award by the Governor of Queensland Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeanette Young PSM and Professor Frazer AC



*The award was being presented in honour of Kee's work as Honorary Treasurer of the Lions Medical Research Foundation.*

*Thank you Kee, from the Directors and staff, and all the best in your retirement.*

*"Today's research is tomorrow's cure"*



## *Results of Diamond Ring Raffle*

A great big thank you to those who purchased raffle tickets in the diamond ring. The raffle was drawn on the night of the Gala Dinner 11<sup>th</sup> March, by Professor Donald Cameron (LMRF Fellow 1978) and was won by one very excited lady - Mrs Tanya Leggatt from Ormiston. Tanya is the wife of one of our past research fellows Dr Graham Leggatt.

A huge thank you to Marius Peens of London Loans for donating the diamond ring.



*“ Today’s research is tomorrow’s cure ”*



## A Big Thank You

The Directors of Queensland and Northern New South Wales Lions Medical Research Foundation would like to sincerely thank those attending its inaugural Gala Dinner 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and would like to acknowledge and thank the following persons who helped to make this event happen.

Professor Ian Frazer AC  
Liz Cantor  
Mirusia  
Elsa Larsen  
Former Lord Mayor of Brisbane Graham Quirk  
Mardi Neumann - Neumann Steel  
Marius Peens – London Loans & Estate Jewellery  
Peter Kao – Cannon Hill Development Pty Ltd  
Beth (Bessie) Krogh  
Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation  
Stacey Cain – Lady Elliot Island Tours  
Professor Peter Ravenscroft  
Dr John Healy  
Gay Power – Coastal Inspirations  
Paul Ryan  
Katherine McCosker  
Penny Kourra  
Lann Levinge - Levinge Events & Zoo Keepers

and a very special thank you to Customs House and LMRF Executive Manager Narelle Parkins and assistant Riyeni Amin

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Eades".

David Eades Chair

“Today's research is tomorrow's cure”



# Remember

*“Today’s research is tomorrow’s cure”*

# Please Support

**Remember us in your Will!**

Every dollar helps us fund medical  
researchers to save lives!