



Contributors

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Thank you also to those who contributed to the current edition of *Scope*.

Scope welcomes your opinion. If you have an interesting patient case or a topical issue you would like to share with your colleagues, write to us.

Please email your contributions to the Editor, Miranda Hunt at miranda.hunt@mater.org.au. Names will be published unless otherwise stated.

Editor correction: Scope sincerely apologises for the incorrect spelling of Sr Mary Flora Heaney in the 2010 Winter edition on page 24.



Welcome from the Editor

What a start to the year!

As we gear up for our Easter holidays and spending quality time with our families, there are still so many recovering from the spate of natural disasters that struck Queensland and other parts of the world. At Mater, there were many who experienced the cruel hand of mother-nature first-hand and our thoughts remain with them.

2011 has certainly started off with some challenges but there have also been some special moments for Mater in the past few months.

There have been new beginnings, a new look for Mater Private Hospital Brisbane and the launch of a new initiative on our quest for safety. It is also the year that the Sisters of Mercy celebrate 150 years in Brisbane.

The team from Scope look forward to sharing Mater's news with you throughout the year, and don't forget you can submit stories too. Just email me!

Best wishes Miranda Hunt

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by Don Murray

A few good women



In the weeks before and after 8 April 1861, the weather was 'unpropitious', or so says the census report of that year. Indeed, the *Census of the Colony of Queensland, taken on 7 April 1861* reports a great deal of interesting details about the 'new' colony of Queensland.

Perhaps most interestingly for those of us in the Mater community, the 1861 census tells us that Brisbane was comprised of some 5773 people — 3035 males and 2738 females.

Around one month later that number of females would grow ever so slightly ... but rarely have a significant few created a legacy so great.

On 10 May 1861, the Sisters of Mercy arrived in Brisbane from Ireland and commenced their work to teach, to heal and to support the community.

It is a work which has continued to characterise the role of the Sisters of Mercy in Queensland and, almost as a testament to their 150 years in this State, lives on in the Mission of Mater Health Services today.

As well as the Mission and the Values which drive Mater people each day, the Sisters have created a legacy of tenacity, courage and compassion which has seen Mater grow and expand to meet the health care needs of the community.

From Ireland to North Quay, to Mater Hill, to Redland and beyond, Mater has always sought opportunities to engage with the community in the most relevant manner.

Recently, I had the pleasure to officially launch Mater's latest step into the community with our Mater Health Centre model which will see Mater services grouped into partnerships with primary health care providers to deliver a comprehensive health service.

The first of the Mater Health Centres will be built at Hope Island in the coming year and will once again highlight Mater's willingness to step 'beyond Mater Hill'.

As we acknowledge the significant contribution of the Sisters of Mercy over the past 150 years, it is encouraging and comforting to know that their legacy lives on not just in the actions of our staff, but the very nature of our business.

Cover Story

Fresh new look for Mater Private Hospital Brishane

A modern aesthetic and a luxurious ambience are features of the newly refurbished Mater Private Hospital Brisbane.

The project was designed to create a relaxing enviroment for patients in hotel-like surroundings.

Included in the works was the refurbishment of the reception and waiting area on level 6, all wards on levels 8, 9 and 10 including purses' stations, corridors and patient lounges



Fast News

Mater Little Miracles Ball change of date

Due to the widespread flooding across Queensland in January, Mater Foundation has postponed the date of the Mater Little Miracles Ball.

Mater Foundation Executive Director Nigel Harris said some of the foundation's supporters had been directly affected by the floods.

"Because a number of our supporters are facing immense personal challenges, while others are focused on helping family, friends and neighbours recover, we understand that priorities change and lives are impacted in different ways," Mr Harris said.

"Accordingly, we made the decision to change the date of the Mater Little Miracles Ball to Saturday 25 June 2011.

"We are still looking forward to a magical evening to be held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre and hope that you will keep this date free and join us for this very special event."

Mater Foundation is committed to raising funds for health care and medical research at Mater and serving our Queensland community now and in the future.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the team on 07 3163 8000 or email materlittlemiracles@mater.org.au.

Redlands Clinic moves to Bayside Business Park

In January Redlands Clinic Cleveland relocated to Bayside Business Park in Weippin Street, Cleveland.

The new centre provides a modern, purpose-built GP clinic ensuring continuity of care for all Redlands Clinic Cleveland patients.

Redlands Clinic Principal GP, Dr Craig McCombe said patients visiting the clinic could expect the same professional, caring medical service they have always received.

"Our new location provides a state-of-the-art health care facility conveniently located next door to Mater Pharmacy, pathology, Qld X-Ray and specialist suites—and just across the road from Mater Private Hospital Redland," Dr McCombe said.

For more information, contact the clinic on 07 3163 7234.

A Christmas bear hug

On Wednesday 1 December, the halls of Mater Children's Hospital rang out with laughter as American ventriloquist David Strassman brought his much loved Ted E. Bare in for a visit.

Ted E. Bare, was tipped to hang up his shoes at the end of his Australian tour but showed no signs of slowing down during his visit to Mater Hill.

With a bandage around his paw, Ted E. Bare spoke to children and their families, leaving each patient he visited with a small toy.

Former Mater Children's Hospital Nursing Director Sue McKee said Ted E. Bare's visit was one of the highlights of the year.



"Ted E.'s visit provided welcome respite and a lot of laughter for children facing the prospect of Christmas in hospital. He brought joy to everyone's faces, children and staff alike," Ms McKee said.



Mater's focus on subfertility and miscarriages

Mater Mothers' Hospital is launching a new clinical service with the aim of assisting couples struggling to have a baby, due to subfertility or recurrent miscarriage.

Mater's new Fertility Assessment and Research Clinic (FAR Clinic) will be the central point of referral for all patients requiring expert fertility care. This new service is closely aligned with Mater's Pre-Conception Care service.

Mater, like other Queensland Health facilities, does not offer IVF services, however the FAR Clinic does provide a coordinated approach to fertility assessment and is actively engaged in research, investigating the merits of a number of therapies to assist couples to have a baby.

Women seen in this clinic are offered comprehensive fertility assessment and participation in the trials being co-ordinated by this service.

The Fertility Assessment and Research Centre can be reached on 07 3163 8437.



Website celebrates 150 years of Living Mercy

Tuesday 10 May 2011 marks the sesquicentenary of the Sisters of Mercy in Queensland and All Hallows' School.

"The theme chosen for the sesquicentenary is Living Mercy — a theme that encompasses our past, present and future," Sisters of Mercy Congregational Leader Sister Sandra Lupi said.

"It is a time for rejoicing and celebrating the vision, courage and fidelity of the past; the passion for mercy that sustains and motivates us in the present; and a call that inspires us to look to a 'future full of hope' as the legacy of mercy continues."

To celebrate, a special website has been created to highlight key events and stories.

150 Project Officer Andrew Beiers said the website would provide an opportunity for people to read the stories of Sisters of Mercy, and people of Mercy in their works of ministry.

The website features messages from ambassadors, an events calendar, photo gallery and links to the Mercy ministries across Brisbane. www.livingmercy.org.au

Congratulations Sister Mary

Congratulations to Sister Mary Lawson RSM who was recognised in the Australia Day Honours List by the Governor-General, as a Member of the Order of Australia.

Sr Mary, through her role with Brisbane Catholic Education, worked for a number of years in partnership with the Audiology Department at Mater and was also part of the team who played an integral role in the development of the Mater Infant Hearing Program between 2002 and 2004.

Today, Sr Mary is part of the Sisters of Mercy Congregation Leadership Team.

With this year marking 150 years of the Sisters of Mercy Brisbane Congregation, this achievement is a significant addition to the list of contributions to Queensland which have been made by the Sisters of Mercy.

New look Mater Private Hospital Brisbane revealed

The luxury refurbishment of Mater Private Hospital Brisbane is now complete with the new look hospital revealing a modern aesthetic and a luxurious ambience.

The refurbishment project—involving the reception and waiting area on level 6, all wards on levels 8 to 10 including nurses stations, corridors and patient lounges—creates a relaxing environment for patients that is supportive of healing in hotel-like surroundings.

Mater Private Hospital opened on Mater Hill in 1910 accommodating up to 300 patients, but by the late 1980s the need for a new building was apparent. A new Mater Private Hospital opened in 1993 with 160 patient beds, six operating theatres, a 24-hour private emergency service, day procedure unit, endoscopy unit, intensive care unit and coronary care unit.

Today Mater Private Hospital Brisbane has a total of 320 patient beds, preadmission clinic, welcome lounge, rehabilitation service, cardiovascular unit and four additional theatres

The design of the 1993 building was deliberately drawn from the style of the original hospital with a wide foyer area and extensive use of timber panelling providing an historical link between the old and the new.

Mater Private Hospital Executive Director Don Murray said the intent for the refurbishment of Mater Private Hospital Brisbane was for a more hotel-like feel and for patients and visitors to enjoy being in a light, bright, modern building.

"Over the years Mater has rebuilt all the hospitals on its campus and has adopted a more contemporary design rationale," Mr Murray said.

"As part of the planned upgrade of Mater Private Hospital Brisbane we adopted a more modern aesthetic and this has led to the replacement of some of the timber panelling used in the original building to create the lighter, brighter feel we were after."











A neutral colour palette enhances the spatial quality of the rooms and a botanical theme was selected for its connection to nature and soothing colours. The corridor carpet design features a dark chocolate border that runs against the centre services core. This has an aqua vine that reflects the colour theme of the new signage throughout the hospital.

"The interior designers explained that using earthy, natural colours and tones have been found through research to be more relaxing for patients and this has been borne out by the same theme incorporated into our welcome lounge which opened at the end of last year," Mr Murray said.

In the level 6 reception area the timber wall cladding and stained glass skylight have been retained but the area has been transformed with the re-location of the reception desk, new flooring and wall coverings, feature walls, upgraded lighting and new furnishings.

"We are thrilled to have all our wards open again and to be offering patients luxurious surrounds in which they can rest and recuperate on their road to recovery," Mr Murray said.

"Our staff are pleased with their upgraded environment and with their new staff stations. We have also purchased new original artworks as part of the refurbishment project," he said.

"The art works have been the subject of much discussion among patients, visitors and staff.



"It has been my experience of modern hotels around the world that they often feature art work that is a little quirky and perhaps the distraction of debating about the artist's intent keeps the minds of patients off their adverse health conditions."

"The artworks have added colour and content to the wards and corridors throughout levels 8 to 10, and the existing bronze artwork in the level 6 reception area has been further enhanced with backlit LED lighting."

An overarching theme of 'emergence' for the original artworks reflects culture, history, landscape, language and symbols to inspire creativity, compassion, healing and memory.

The themes have broadly informed the selection of artworks for each area with different colour schemes used for each level of Mater Private Hospital Brisbane.

World first study into Jet Fuel Exposure Syndrome at MMRI

Mater Medical Research Institute (MMRI) will undertake a multi-million dollar research study into the health implications of working with aviation turbine fuels and F1-11 deseal/reseal agents.

MMRI has received almost \$3 million in Australian Department of Defence funding to undertake the world-first three year study into Jet Fuel Exposure Syndrome (JFES).

Symptoms of JFES can include dermatitis, skin defatting, lung damage, gastrointestinal damage, confusion, muscle fatigue, insomnia and euphoria.

The study aims to determine the biological basis for the syndrome affecting Air Force personnel exposed to chemicals during maintenance on aircraft, but has wider ramifications for those exposed to fuel chemicals occupationally and via substance abuse.

JFES is suffered by many workers who have worked on the F1-11 deseal/reseal project but also with any aviation fuel. The deseal/reseal project involved stripping and resealing the lining of F1-11 fuel tanks, this work was undertaken in extremely confined spaces using high strength, toxic agents.

The full health affects of this work is yet to be fully understood and the JFES study aims to look at possible DNA changes in the workers and what may be causing them.

This study is a collaborative project between the Defence Centre for Occupational Health and MMRI and is being led by Professor Frank Bowling, Director of Biochemical Diseases at Mater Children's Hospitals.

"The JFES study aims to explore the health issues of workers to find the cause of their ongoing health problems. It is possible that the outcomes of this study may also assist people, especially children who have long term health issues from substance abuse including petrol sniffing," Professor Bowling said.

"The molecular changes that occur in those affected by JFES persist in their cells many years after exposure. From an understanding of these changes we hope that we may be able to protect the health of workers."

Professor Bowling will be supported by three Mater colleagues—Professor Deon Venter, Associate Professor Nigel Waterhouse, Professor Brett McDermott and an external collaborator Dr Mervyn Thomas.



Queenslanders; we've all got to start somewhere...





Mater Mothers' Hospitals at South Brisbane turned fifty in December last year.

In that time, we have delivered nearly half-a-million little bundles of joy to people from all over the place. One in seven Queenslanders are born here. In fact, more people begin their lives at a Mater Mothers' Hospital than anywhere else in Australia. Entire dynasties start here...

If these walls could talk they would tell the story of hundreds of thousands of families dotted all over Queensland and the world. Of course there would be some sad stories, some amusing and many more simply about the joy of having a new baby.

It is the latter which I think will be the talk of the town in the coming months with the launch of the "I'm a Mater Mum" campaign around Mother's Day. Designed to raise funds for mothers and babies research, the campaign will get tongues wagging and keyboards writhing as literally thousands of people tell the story of having Mater babies.

I urge you all to think about the contribution Mater Mothers' Hospitals have made to your families and friends, then to head over to the Mater website and consider giving something back — share your stories and help other Mater Mums start their own.

Mater Adult Hospital celebrates 100 years

"The war demonstrated, beyond any doubt that the Mater Public was an essential part of the life of the whole community." Expressions of Mercy

One hundred years ago, on 2 February 1911, Mater's first public hospital was opened to address the health care needs of Brisbane's growing community in South Brisbane.

The two-storey 40-bed hospital featured an operating theatre, sanitary block and two wards on each floor.

Patient care was supervised by 12 honorary physicians and surgeons, with a resident medical officer on the spot at all times.

Honorary surgeons were integral in ensuring Mater Adult Hospital could continue to provide care to the community.

Mater Public Hospital treated more than 3000 patients in its first three years and found their four ten-bed wards consistently full.

By the mid-1920's, the original forty beds had trebled to 120, in which almost 2000 patients were treated each year.

In 1927, honorary surgeons performed 466 abdominal operations, mainly appendectomies and hernia repairs, 230



Mater Health Services Chairman John McAuliffe, Sister Madonna Josey, Director of Nursing and Midwifery Services Mish Hill and Chief Executive Officer Dr John O'Donnell.

gynaecological procedures, 38 operations on bones and joints, 18 amputations, 44 excisions of tumours, nine chest operations, 500 ear, nose and throat procedures and 192 eye operations.

In October 1975, Queensland Health Minister, Dr Llew Edwards, announced that the government would fund a new Mater Adult Hospital at a cost of \$28 million, a project that would take three years to complete.

The new Mater Adult Hospital opened in late 1981.

Mater Adult Hospital Nursing Director Jeff Potter said the milestone marked a momentous day in the history of Mater.

"Since its inception, Mater Adult Hospital has been an integral part of the community which is testament to the foresight of the Sisters of Mercy and the exceptional care provided by our staff since the hospital opened," Mr Potter said.

Mater takes patients during Cyclone crisis

In January, many people across Queensland faced what has been described as the state's most significant ongoing natural disaster—severe flooding in south-east Queensland followed by Cyclone Yasi in the north.

During these troubled times, Mater played an integral role in providing ongoing health services to the residents of Queensland.

Staff worked with Queensland Health to assist with the transition of patients from North Queensland during the lead up to Cyclone Yasi.

"We assisted with paediatric, neonatal and maternal transfers, which were carried out by our Neonatal Retrieval team and we offered further support to other adult patients," Mater Health Services Chief Executive Officer Dr John O'Donnell said.

Mater staff also worked tirelessly throughout the flood crisis to ensure the community could access our services.



Dr O'Donnell said it was through the 'exceptional efforts of our staff' that Mater was able to continue to provide services.

"Some people were unable to attend work safely during the floods and those who could attend were faced with the challenge of managing various clinical, operational, structural and external issues," Dr O'Donnell said.

"It was a great delight to see how well these challenges were managed and the teamwork, professionalism and wisdom with which they were handled. My thanks to all involved." he said.

"It has been an unprecedented start to the year and I am extremely proud of the dedication, compassion and concern shown by everyone at Mater during these times."

Improved PCR testing for Gonococcus and Chlamydia

Mater Pathology recently announced the introduction of an exciting new technological upgrade in testing for Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea PCR—the Viper XTR™.

Based on polymerase chain reaction technology (as with the superseded ProbeTec system), technological improvements have resulted in an assay with increased specificity and a zero incidence of equivocal results.

This means that such tests will not need to be repeated resulting in a shorter turn-around time.

Another benefit of the new test system is that it is not affected by sample inhibition related to blood, lubricants or fluorescent dyes.

The Viper™ assay is Food and Drug Administration cleared for the broadest range of collection types of any assay on the market including; cervical swabs, urethral swabs, physician and self collected high vaginal swabs, Surepath and Thinprep LBC vials and urine samples for both symptomatic and asymptomatic patients.

Mater Pathology Director of Microbiology Dr Martyn Tilse said the Viper XTR™ specimen collection system had been improved as well.

"Mater Pathology will be replacing the old pink endocervical and blue male urethra swabs with female endocervical and male urethral specimen collection kits," Dr Tilse said.

While the old swabs can still be tested in the Viper XTR™ system, the new swabs are supplied with an easy to use transport medium that ensures specimen stability for up to 30 days at a wide range of temperatures (2 to 30 degrees Celcius).

"I am sure the Viper XTR™ system will improve and streamline the laboratory diagnosis of both Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea

> by providing patients with a faster, more specific result and a stabilised specimen transport

medium," Dr Tilse said.

To order new collection media please contact Mater Pathology on 07 3163 8500 or ask your Mater Pathology courier for a Supply Requisition



Mater Mothers' Private Redland lights first birthday candle



Manly West parents Scott and Terri Clarke celebrated the birth of their first baby, Lucy, who was delivered at Mater Mothers' Private Redland on February 18.

Mater Mothers' Private Redland has celebrated its first birthday—and the births of almost 400 babies.

The new look service was opened on 3 March 2010, to provide women in Brisbane's bayside suburbs with access to an unparalleled level of maternity care.

Mater Private Hospital Redland Director of Clinical Services Tracey Hutley said that in the past 12 months, Mater Mothers' Private Redland had cared for almost 400 new mums and their babies—delivering a new generation of Baysiders and providing exceptional care.

Ms Hutley said enhancements, which included a first class refurbishment of the physical surrounds, a new and improved service offering and a change of name to Mater Mothers' Private Redland, had been welcomed by parents and staff.

"The new-look facility was designed to create a warm and welcoming feel, with a stylish modern look, among first-class clinical facilities," Ms Hutley said.

"Mater Mothers' Private Redland has lived up to our expectations and we are really looking forward to continuing to grow the service to meet the community's needs."

New parents Scott and Terri Clarke, of Manly West, recently celebrated the birth of their daughter Lucy at Mater Mothers' Private Redland and were full of praise for the `boutique hotel' feel of the service.



"It's been great because Scott has been able to sleep on a sofa bed in the room with us and help me," Mrs Clarke said.

"It's a lovely place, great location and the midwives are fantastic—I'd like to take one home with me." - *mother Terri Clarke*

Mater Mothers' Private Redland's association with the Mater Mothers' Hospitals tertiary facility at South Brisbane provides women with access to integrated tertiary services for women and babies including obstetrics, gynaecology, neonatology, maternal fetal medicine, obstetric medicine, perinatal outreach education and a midwifery group practice.

Specialist Profiles

www.materonline.org.au

Dr Kate Cayzer



Gastroenterology

Before her medical degree, Dr Kate Cayzer undertook a Bachelor of Medical Science working as a Research Officer in the Liver Clinic at Royal Brisbane Hospital, studying the cellular biology of hepatitis B and auto-immune liver disease.

She then obtained her medical degree through The University of Queensland and completed her advanced postgraduate training in gastroenterology at Mater Adult Hospital and the Royal Brisbane Hospital.

Dr Cayzer has a special interest in hepatology and through her position as VMO at the Royal Brisbane Hospital, is involved in clinical trials for the treatment of hepatitis C, hepatitis B and fatty liver disease.

The scope of her private practice encompasses general gastroenterology and therapeutic endoscopy and colonoscopy and she has sessions at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane's Endoscopy Unit.

Dr Cayzer said the most challenging aspect of her work was keeping abreast of the advances in medical knowledge and how it is being applied to gastroenterology.

Dr Linus Chang



Gastroenterology

Dr Linus Chang is a graduate of The University of Queensland.

Following completion of his medical degree Dr Chang undertook his basic physician and gastroenterology training at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane before completing his specialty training in Townsville.

Dr Chang undertook further gastroenterology subspecialty training in endoscopic ultrasound and its role in the diagnosis and staging of upper gastrointestinal cancer at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital in Perth, with further periods of observation and hands-on training in the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, USA and St Luc Hospital in Montreal, Canada.

Along with upper digestive tract malignancies, Dr Chang has special interests in diseases of the pancreas and biliary tree, hepatitis B and high quality colonoscopy in the prevention of colorectal cancer, including colonoscopy training.

Dr Chang consults with Mater Hill Gastroenterology and has regular sessions at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane's Endoscopy Unit.

Dr John Gibbons



Gastroenterology

Dr John Gibbons graduated from The University of Queensland in 1988 and completed his advanced training at Greenslopes Private Hospital and the Royal Brisbane Hospital.

He later undertook advanced therapeutic and Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangio-Pancreatogram (ERCP) training at Sydney's Westmead Hospital.

He returned to Brisbane and worked as a senior VMO at the Royal Brisbane Hospital for more than 10 years while setting up his private practice.

Dr Gibbons' special interests include therapeutic endoscopy and colonoscopy, endomucosal resection, inflammatory bowel disease as well as ERCP.

He said therapeutic endoscopy now enabled the management of specific premalignant and early malignancies to be undertaken without the need for surgical resection.

Dr Gibbons said the area was continuing to develop with a broadening of the role of the therapeutic endoscopist.

His greatest professional achievement has been the establishment of Gastro Services, which provides sessions at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane's Endoscopy Unit.



Dr Jillian Rosenstengel



Gastroenterology

After graduating from The University of Queensland, Dr Jillian Rosenstengel undertook her gastroenterology training at Townsville Hospital and the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital.

She also completed further post-fellowship training in Endoscopic Ultrasound at Indiana University Medical Centre, USA.

Her special interest is in endoscopic ultrasound of the hepatobiliary tree, pancreas, gastrointestinal tract and mediastinum. She also has an interest in EUS-guided coeliac plexus neurolysis for malignant hepatobiliary pain.

Dr Rosenstengel said she chose to specialise in endoscopic ultrasound as it is an emerging and quickly evolving field.

She is also involved in advanced training curriculum development for gastroenterology, which she says is one of the most rewarding aspects of her role.

Her private practice covers a wide range of conditions including general gastroenterology, inflammatory bowel disease, hepatology and diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopy.

She has sessions at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane's Endoscopy Unit.

Dr Mahi Ranasinghe



General Surgery

Dr Mahi Ranasinghe is a General Surgeon who graduated from the University of Colombo in 1993 with honours and completed surgical training in Sri Lanka. Dr Ranasinghe was Board certified as a specialist surgeon in Sri Lanka in 2002.

Since migrating to Australia in 2002, he has worked in Hervey Bay and Metro South Health in the capacity of staff surgeon.

He obtained Australian fellowship in 2007 and is a credentialed upper and lower GI endoscopist.

Dr Ranasinghe's surgical interests are broad however he has special interests in laparoscopic bowel surgery. He is also interested in providing emergency surgical services and emergency endoscopy services to the district.

He takes a keen interest in surgical training and is an instructor for the RACS asset course. At any given time he has surgical registrars training under him.

Dr Ranasignhe said he enjoys the clinical challenges and satisfaction which comes from helping patients.

Dr Ranasinghe is based at Mater Specialist Centre, Bayside Business Park, Weippin St, Cleveland.

Dr Georgia Hume



Gastroenterology

Dr Georgia Hume graduated from The University of Queensland with first class honours before she completed her postgraduate training in gastroenterology at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH).

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Her special interests include Inflammatory Bowel Disease, general gastroenterology, colonoscopy and endoscopy.

She is currently involved in Inflammatory Bowel Disease research as part of the RBWH Inflammatory Bowel Diseases Research Group and is completing her PhD through the Queensland Institute of Medical Research and The University of Queensland.

Dr Hume has been a part-time staff specialist at RBWH for the past seven years.

She said that one of the most rewarding aspects of her role was the diversity of her private practice, which includes sessions at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane's Endoscopy Unit.

Her greatest professional achievement so far has been continuing her public and private practice while undertaking research and her PhD with tremendous support from her colleagues and husband following the birth of each of her four children.

Case Study by Dr Christian Hamilton-Craig

A look at Cardiac Imaging

Dr Christian Hamilton-Craig specialises in cardiology and cardiac imaging. He consults and provides echocardiography, stress echo and cardiac CT imaging, in conjuction with Queensland X-ray at Heart Care Partners, Mater Private Clinic. He is also a senior lecturer in medicine at The University of Queensland, and affiliate Assistant Professor of Radiology at the University of Washington, USA.

Background

Imaging of the cardiovascular system has undergone significant development in recent years. New modalities allow improved imaging of cardiac structure, function, metabolism and perfusion.

Echocardiography (ECG) is the mainstay for imaging of the cardiac chambers and valves and new developments available in Australia include 3D echo and microsphere contrast echo for enhanced endocardial definition which has now been approved by the

Therapeutic Goods Administration for clinical use. A contrast echo can also image tissue perfusion.

Cardiac Computed Tomography allows non-invasive diagnosis of coronary artery disease with high definition and excellent negative predictive value. Coronary CT Angiography can now be performed with extremely low radiation doses, with excellent diagnostic accuracy.

Cardiac MRI provides gold-standard quantification of left and right ventricular function, infarct size and myocardial scar and fibrosis.

PET-CT allows imaging of tissue metabolism and activity fused with CT anatomical data.

This case illustrates the use of these new modalities, and how they can influence clinical management and decision-making

Presentation

A 50 year old, previously-well man presented with chest heaviness to Mater Private Emergency Care Centre. He also



reported pre-syncopal events. A chest X-ray and ECG were normal and the initial serum troponin level was borderline.

To evaluate for an acute coronary syndrome, a 64-slice Coronary Computed Tomographic Angiogram was performed. showing normal coronary arteries with no atherosclerosis (fig 1).

Enlarged sub-hilar lymph nodes were noted as an incidental finding (fig 2). The serum angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) level was normal, however the patient had ongoing chest discomfort and repeat serum troponin was positive, indicating ongoing myocardial damage (Tnl 1.1 ng/ml, N < 0.03).

Investigations

ECG was reported as having normal ventricular and valvular function. However microsphere contrast echocardiography revealed a regional wall motion abnormality in the mid-septum, in a non-coronary distribution, with an associated resting perfusion defect.

A cardiac MRI was performed as the gold standard test for evaluation of cardiac structure and function. This confirmed



Fig 2: Cardiac CT axial image showing large peri-hilar lymph nodes as an incidental finding (red arrows).

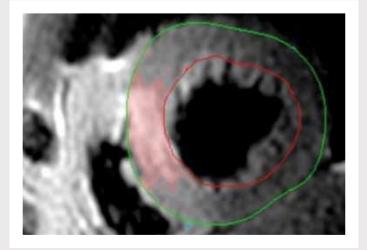
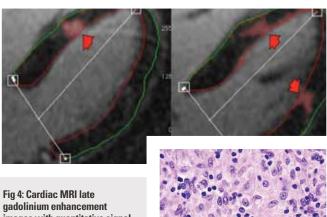


Fig 3: Cardiac MRI short-axis view of left ventricle, T2-black blood sequence demonstrating oedema in the mid-septum (red zone).



non-caseating granuloma typical

of sarcoidosis.

Fig 4: Cardiac MRI late gadolinium enhancement images with quantitative signal analysis, showing nodules of enhancing tissue in the septum and lateral walls (red arrows), corresponding to the areas of oedema in fig 2.



Fig 6: PET-CT image showing significant activity in the hilar lymph nodes (lower left), with activity in the myocardial septum (red arrow) corresponding to the zone of oedema and enhancement seen on cardiac MRI.

two discrete zones of abnormal wall motion in the mid-septum and mid-lateral segment.

T2-black blood images revealed considerable myocardial tissue oedema (fig 3), and late enhancement showed two bright foci of gadolinium uptake (fig 4).

The combination of abnormal wall motion in a non-coronary distribution, myocardial oedema, focal gadolinium enhancement, and enlarged sub-hilar lymph nodes suggested active Cardiac sarcoidosis.

Trans-bronchial lung biopsy confirmed active sarcoidosis (fig 5). A PET-CT scan was performed to assess for disease activity, which confirmed significant activity in the hilar lymph nodes with activity in the myocardial septum corresponding to the zone of oedema and enhancement seen on cardiac MRI. (fig 6).

Treatment

An automatic implantable defibrillator (ICD) was inserted for primary prevention of sudden cardiac death on the basis of active, symptomatic cardiac sarcoidosis. Oral immunosuppressive therapy was commenced by a consulting respiratory physician. The patient remains well and has returned to work.

Cardiac sarcoidosis is present in up to 20 per cent of patients with proven pulmonary sarcoidosis and carries a risk of conduction block, ventricular arrhythmias and sudden death.

New modalities in cardiac imaging allow diagnosis of myocardial disorders which may have, in the past, been overlooked. This allows for earlier diagnosis and treatment.

If you would like to submit a Case by Case article, please email brooke.falvey@mater.org.au. All cases submitted should include a brief background, description of how the case progressed, outcome and images.

Turning research into practice to fight lung disease

Mater Medical Research Institute (MMRI) has joined forces with with Mater Pathology to fight lung disease.

MMRI respiratory specialist Dr David Serisier, Director of Research Associate Professor Mike McGuckin and Mater Pathology's Rohan Lowry are working together to investigate a debilitating lung disease—bronchiectasis.

Bronchiectasis is a common lung disease characterised by chronic mucus production and irreversible dilation of the bronchial tree. Patients suffer frequent, recurrent respiratory infections causing significant impact on their wellbeing resulting in frequent visits to health care providers and repeated courses of prescribed antibiotics.

"Recent evidence suggests that an old drug—erythromycin—has 'new tricks', including the ability to modulate inflammation and immune function in people with inflammatory lung diseases," Dr Serisier said.

"We are evaluating the ability of low-dose erythromycin to improve symptoms and quality of life by modifying inflammation and mucus production," he said.

As part of the study, patients and healthy volunteers are undergoing bronchoscopies to collect lung samples which then undergo scientific evaluations in the laboratory at MMRI and an evaluation of the clinical pathology at Mater Pathology.



The team hopes this will improve the common understanding of both the airway abnormalities in bronchiectasis and the mechanism by which erythromycin and other macrolides might have positive effects.

Macrolides are a class of antibiotics that have been associated with significant benefits in the treatment of certain lung diseases related to airway infection and inflammation.

MMRI is one of the few research institutes which truly integrates research and clinical health care, as highlighted by this clinical trial.

Working together, Mater clinicians, pathologists and researchers have the resources to achieve improved outcomes for patients in the future.



Strange Medicine

Story by telegraph.co.uk

An apple a day keeps the doctor away

A Florida University study has found that women on an 'apple diet' saw their cholesterol drop by almost a quarter in six months, while they also lost weight.

Dr Bahram Arjmandi, from the Department of Nutrition, Food and Exercise Sciences at Florida University, described the results as "incredible".

In the study, 80 women aged 45 to 65 were asked to eat 75 grams of dried prunes a day for a year and the other 80 were asked to eat the same amount of dried apple, in addition to their normal diets.

Blood samples were taken at the start of the study and at three, six and 12 months.

"Incredible changes in the apple-eating women happened by 6 months—they experienced a 23 per cent decrease in LDL cholesterol, which is known as the `bad cholesterol'," Dr Arjmandi said.

They also had lower levels of bio-markers linked to heart

disease, such as C-reactive protein and shed, on average, 1.5kg.

Dr Arjmandi, who presented the research at the Experimental Biology conference in Washington, DC, concluded that there was some truth in the old adage "an apple a day keeps the doctor away".

Apples have long been known to be a good source of fibre, but the study, funded by the US Department of Agriculture, added to evidence that they had additional health benefits which made them a `miracle fruit'.

"Everyone can benefit from consuming apples," Dr Arjmandi said.

Previous studies have shown that apple pectin and compounds called polyphenols—also present in substances including blueberries, tea and dark chocolate—stimulate the breakdown of fats in the blood and reduce inflammation of vessel walls, which both reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease.

New Director of Surgical Services appointed

Dr John Bingley became the Director of the Division of Surgical Services at Mater Health Services on 2 January 2011.

He has taken over the role from Dr Geof Hirst who retired from the position at the end of 2010.

Dr Bingley graduated from The University of Queensland in 1987

He then spent several years fulfilling a Government scholarship by working in a variety of provincial Queensland hospitals and this gave him considerable insight into the difficulties experienced by rural and regional health care.

Dr Bingley then devoted five years to medical research at The University of Queensland, gaining a Masters of Medical Science and culminating in being awarded a PhD in Vascular Biology.

Following this outstanding academic achievement, Dr Bingley started training as a vascular surgeon with a special interest in endovascular procedures.

He commenced in vascular surgical practice in 2004 as a VMO at Mater Adult Hospital and also in the private sector.



Mater Adult, Womens' and Children's Health Services Executive Director Dr Mark Waters said he was pleased Dr Bingley had agreed to join Mater in a full time capacity.

"John's experience in a diverse variety of medical fields will put him in an excellent position to further develop the delivery of surgical services at Mater," Dr Waters said.

Dr Waters said Dr Bingley's appointment had been strongly supported by his many surgical and nursing colleagues.

MMRI launches new website

In 2010, Mater Medical Research Institute, Mater Health Services and Mater Foundation collaborated to organise all research on the campus into a thematic structure, with the aim of fully integrating clinical practice, research and teaching.

To reflect this change, Mater's research areas have been clustered into four broad, multi-disciplinary themes which has promped the need to re-invent the MMRI website.

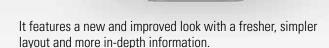
Each theme involves multiple aspects of basic research, clinical departments and hospitals within Mater Health Services and MMRI.

The four themes are:

- Understanding and preventing disease
- Improving treatment of disease
- Mothers' and babies' health
- Healthy development.

The new website is based around the new theme structure and providing readers with an understanding of the new direction MMRI is taking.





The development of the website is being completed in two stages.

With stage one now complete, stage two will be launched soon and will provide more detailed information about the research programs, people and groups who are conducting research under each of the themes.



The new website can be viewed by visiting http://research.mater.org.au.

It's a team effort



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The quest begins!

Mater Health Services has always sought to provide the highest standard of care and live up to our Values of quality, commitment, care, dignity and mercy.

We are fortunate to have had an excellent safety record to date and as part of our continued commitment to exceptional care, Mater has once again upped the ante on patient and staff safety.

In March, Mater CEO Dr John O'Donnell launched the organisation-wide *SafeQuest* program.

Officially titled, *SafeQuest*—for a safer Mater community, the program calls on all Mater people, including staff, patients, visitors and VMOs, to speak up for safety and commit to a safety culture.

Closely linked to Mater's Mission, *SafeQuest* is designed to help make Mater people accountable as providers of safe, high quality care and ensure that the organisation engages with the broader community as partners in health care improvement.

SafeQuest is a combination of safety initiatives, risk management strategies and communication programs which aim to address priority issues and build on the culture of safety across the entire Mater community.

As *SafeQuest* develops, Mater will provide information about a range of specialised safety initiatives which affect different parts of our organisation in different ways.



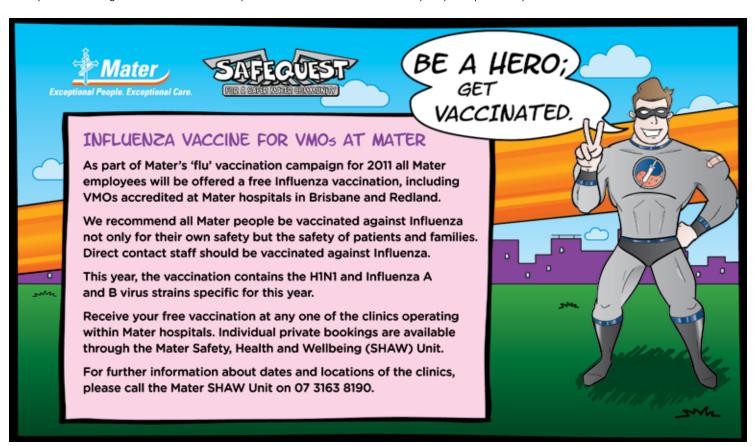
As key safety initiatives for the first phase of *SafeQuest*, Mater has taken the challenge to focus on the following areas:

- Staff Vaccination
- Clinical Handover
- Hand Hygiene
- Pressure Ulcer Prevention
- Medication Safety
- Risk of Deteriorating Patient
- Falls Prevention
- Venous
 Thromboembolism
 (VTE) Prevention
- Smoking Cessation
- Healthcare Ergonomics

All of these initiatives are underpinned by an organisation-wide commitment to safety and all of them have unique targets and goals which contribute to Mater's continuous improvement.

As *SafeQuest* grows we will continue to develop and enhance our programs to have even greater impact across broader areas to ultimately achieve our aim of zero preventable harm for patients, and zero harm for staff and visitors.

"Everybody at Mater—patients, staff, visitors, VMOs—is important in helping us to identify ways to improve our systems and provide safer care for our community. Safety is everybody's responsibility," Dr John O'Donnell said.



The Philanthropic Investor

Andrew Buchan is a director at HLB Mann Judd specialising in Wealth Management.

Philanthropy is defined as the voluntary donation of money, goods or time to benefit the public good.

In places such as the United States and Europe, structured philanthropic giving is well established, while in Australia individuals tend to give spontaneously in response to an immediate need.

As well as emergency relief, charitable opportunities arise in health and medical research, education, socially and financially disadvantaged communities, the environment and the arts.

Giving is a very personal act and motivations can include passion for a cause that has touched family members, a sense of obligation, religious belief or even a lack of heirs.

There are three main ways to fulfil philanthropic desires:

- donate directly to a chosen charity
- set up an account within a public charitable fund
- establish a Private Ancillary Fund (PAF/foundation).

PAF's are philanthropic trust funds that can be set up and controlled by individuals as vehicles for private giving.

According to the Assistant Treasurer Nick Sherry there are currently 800 individual PAF's in Australia, which have received donations of \$1.3 billion and distributed over \$300 million.

Advantages of PAFs include:

- establishment is relatively simple and inexpensive
- tax deductible donations can be accepted
- income is generated within a tax exempt environment
- control of the end beneficiary remains with the individual, family group, or business
- management of investments can remain with the trustees
- distributions can be made to selected charities in perpetuity.

In order to preserve the integrity of the trust, donations are irrevocable and cannot be withdrawn. In addition, gifts may be tax deductible in instalments over a period of five years.

With the philanthropic trend expected to continue, a charitable and philanthropic plan will increasingly be incorporated as part of an overall financial strategy.

It is important to seek professional advice in order to structure a PAF within the new legal framework and to ensure investments are well managed and structured in a tax effective manner.















Mater nurse volunteers in Africa

Mater Children's Hospital nurse Alison Pickering last year swapped her life at Mater for four months volunteering in one of Africa's largest slums—Kibera.

As part of the African Inland Mission (AIM) volunteer scheme, Ms Pickering lived in Jamhuri, a lower to middle class section of Nairobi in Kenya, and worked as a nurse in Kibera.

"I was based in a centre called Conesus which had a medical clinic, school, English classes, bible classes, knitting and sewing school, a club foot clinic and widows beading group," Ms Pickering said.

"Some of my tasks involved holding health classes for the school kids once a week, home care assistance for HIV patients and a support group, working in the club foot clinic, assisting in the medical clinic and educating patients at the clinic.

Ms Pickering said the opportunity to take part in volunteer work abroad was one of the main reasons she studied nursing.

"I love the continent of Africa; it intrigues and amazes me, the people are fantastic and I have a few Kenyan friends so I thought Kenya would be a good place to start," she said. While it was an unforgettable experience, Ms Pickering admitted that if she had her time over she would have opted to work in an orphanage.

"Believe it or not, working in an orphanage is a lot less confronting," she said.

"Whatever you can think that is bad in the world is exacerbated ten times over in Kibera; poverty, sickness, lack of health care, death, child abuse, poor sanitary conditions, social injustice and the list goes on.

"A picture may tell a thousand words but it will never give it justice."

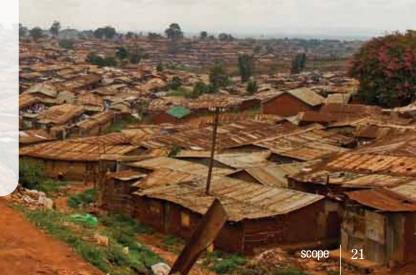
"It's not hidden; it is in your face every day you go in there. I knew it would be hard and it challenged me but I am glad I did it."

Ms Pickering said she would encourage anyone wanting to get involved in similar volunteer work to do so.

"Keep in mind that a picture may tell a thousand words but it will never give it justice. This work is confronting and in your face but also life changing."

Kibera - Nairobi, Africa

- Population more than 1.2 million people
- No sewerage infrastructure
- No running water
- No rubbish collection
- No hospital
- 20 per cent of Kibera has electricity
- Average monthly rent \$10—\$20
- 50 per cent unemployment
- The average house is made from cement or mud floor and iron or mud walls with an iron roof
- Houses average 5 m x 5 m in size but often smaller



Sustainability update

During the month of March, Mater Sustainability committee ran the "Turn it Off" campaign.

The campaign focused on staff making a permanent commitment to turning off lights, computers and air conditioners when not in use and also unplugging phone chargers.

The campaign linked to the annual Earth Hour global challenge which encouraged homes and businesses to turn their lights off on 26 March 2011 at 8.30 pm.

The message for this year's annual Earth Hour challenge was "Going beyond the hour"—which encouraged participants to make simple, everyday changes to reduce our carbon footprint.

Promotional materials for this campaign have aimed to carry on this message and focus upon lasting changes in behaviours.



Mater's Sustainability Committee has been successful in implementing other schemes which decrease Mater's carbon footprint including the roll out of duplex printing throughout non-clinical departments.

Since Monday 1 June 2009, the duplex printing initiative has saved over 2.7 million pages of paper, 5400 reams or 324 trees.

The Sustainability Committee aims to continue to roll out a variety of schemes which will decrease Mater's carbon footprint.

Mater Doctor Portal reaches 100 external users

A pilot of new web-based software designed to improve communication between Mater Health Services and external providers has reached more than 100 external users.

Mater Doctor Portal (MDP) allows patient information to be shared, thereby enhancing continuity of patient care, while maintaining individual privacy and confidentiality for Mater's shared patient population.

Mater Health Services Chief Executive Officer Dr John O'Donnell said Mater had been pursuing a "smart hospital" strategy for many years.

"In keeping with this theme, we have over the past 12 months seen clinicians in Mater Adult Hospital, Mater Mothers' Hospitals and many specialists at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane gain access to the major components of an integrated health record through one Mater clinical portal," Dr O'Donnell said.

"The feedback we have received from general practitioners and VMOs who have participated in the pilot of Mater Doctor Portal has been overwhelmingly positive," Dr O'Donnell said.

Practice Manager Helen Chambers said Mater Doctor Portal made it easier to put together a complete patient file.

"Mater Doctor Portal allows me to gather patient information such as GP details, next of kin, and Medicare number which is especially beneficial for patient billing and also corresponding with the GP, details of whom are not included on the chart label," Ms Chambers said.

Mater Doctor Portal also now contains radiology reports from Queensland X-ray and Qscan.

Mater Doctor Portal version 1.3 will be released in late March and will include the following new features:

- improved Practice patient lists
- private theatre list for surgeons
- private theatre list for anaesthetists
- new Private theatre gadget in My Portal section
- improved format for Firefox users
- ability to download and print any content
- additional information on pharmacy, referrals, waiting lists, patient insurance details and help and support content
- general performance improvement.

For all general Mater Doctor Portal questions and requests for information, please contact Electronic Health Record Project Officer Gerard Gallagher on 07 3163 5348 or email gerard.gallagher@mater.org.au.

Restaurant Review

Medical Liaison Officer Libby Coman writes about her New Years' Eve dining experience at Tiramisu Bar Ristorante in Paddington.

Tiramisu Bar Ristorante is one of my personal favourites where the food, wine, service and atmosphere are consistently good.

The owner always recognises his patrons and welcomes guests in his charming, friendly way making everyone feel like a long-lost friend.

Our party was made up of five and having only made the booking earlier in the week, we were pleased to find there was no set menu or exaggerated prices. Although it was New Years' Eve, it was business as usual.

Sicilian-born owner and chef, Mario Curro, migrated from Sicily eight years ago, bringing with him his highly-guarded family recipes for antipasto and primi pasta, secondi pasta and dolce.

We started our meals with the Pizza Marguerite, a light and fresh pizza topped with garlic, tomato, mozzarella, fresh basil and oregano. The antipasto selection also provided a flavoursome starter.

We then shared the Linguini Gamberi and Barramundi, a combination of garlic, chilly, extra virgin olives, fresh barramundi, tomatoes and rocket. It was simple but delicious.



I always recommend to friends the Linguini alla Marinara which melds barramundi and baby calamari with prawns, fresh garlic and tomato sauce.

The meat dishes are also exceptional, being both tender and tasty, especially the lamb and Scaloppini dishes.

For dessert we opted for a mix of traditional tiramisu and panna cotta followed by a liquor coffee and affogatos.

Tiramisu is fully licensed as well as BYO and can cater for all functions including cocktail parties and weddings.

Staff are friendly and professional, providing prompt service with a smile.

Ambience	Food	Staff	Overall score
3.5	5	4	4.5
Tiramisu Bar Ristorante 283 Given Terrace, Paddington			

Book Review



Senior Marketing and Communications Officer Nicola Shew reviews The White Queen by Philippa Gregory.

Mystery. Intrigue. Passion. And murder. Lovers of historical fiction will not be disappointed with the first captivating novel in Philippa Gregory's series on the War of the Roses, which brings to life one of the most tumultuous periods of English history.

In The White Queen, the 15th century struggle for the English crown between the houses of York and Lancaster is depicted through the eyes of Elizabeth Woodville, a young Lancastrian

widow who defies political tensions to marry King Edward IV of York.

Her life as Queen of England and the mother of future kings evolves from one of medieval regal lavishness to a dogged fight to save her family, and turns Woodville into a central figure in one of the most intriguing mysteries to baffle historians over the last 500 years—the missing Princes in the Tower.

Gregory has made a name for herself as the new doyenne of historical fiction in recent years, bringing English history to modern readers and finding international success with her Tudor series about the life of Henry VIII and his six wives, including The Other Boleyn Girl, which was made into a movie in 2008.

As in many of Gregory's novels, one of my favourite sections in The White Queen is the author's note at the end, in which she discusses parts of the novel which may be historically controversial. Her frankness about these elements of the story gives the reader confidence that, although it is a novel written to entertain, Gregory has written the book with a commitment to historical accuracy where possible.



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