Mater Children's Hospital 1931 - 2014

MATER



Summer 2014

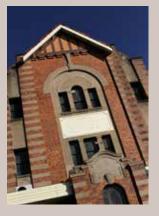
Exceptional People, Exceptional Care.

## Mater history now online

Mater's journey from one small private hospital in North Quay to where we are today is one of determination, growth and change, all without compromising our commitment to care.

You can read more about our story, and the thousands of people who have contributed to the provision of care in the tradition of Mercy for which we are renowned, by visiting **history.mater.org.au**.





#### On the cover

On Saturday 1 November 2014, more than 250 people gathered to farewell Mater Children's Hospital, before Mater's government-funded paediatric services transitioned to Lady Cilento Children's Hospital on Saturday 29 November. See pages five to seven for more.

#### Contributors

Senior Writer - Brooke Falvey

**Staff Writers** - Rudy Bell, Nadia Cavallaro, Phoebe Grealy, Veena Herron, and James Speet.

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

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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 news@mater.org.au. Names will be published unless otherwise stated.

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### A message from our CEO

"And so this is Christmas..."

John Lennon and Yoko Ono famously penned the lyrics, "And so this is Christmas, and what have you done?"

Christmas is the time when, as an organisation, we look back on everything that has been achieved over the past year ... and for Mater, what a busy year it has been!

It has been one of achievements and challenges. Celebrations and sadness.

Highlights have included the accreditation of Mater Private Hospital Redland as a 'Baby Friendly Hospital', an award win for Mater Private Hospital Brisbane's innovative room service offering at the Private Hospital Association of Queensland/ HESTA Innovative Practice in the Private Sector Awards and the first birthday of Mater Cancer Care Centre, whose exceptional team delivered more than 25,000 occasions of service in its first 12 months.

Construction is underway on the redevelopment of the Whitty Building and an expansion of Mater Pathology and development continues at Mater Private Hospital Springfield—with the hospital on track to open in late 2015.

As well as private patients, we also expect to treat more than 5000 publicly-funded elective surgery patients a year once Mater Private Hospital Springfield opens.

And then, last month, after providing exceptional paediatric care to the children of Queensland for more than 83 years, Mater Children's Hospital closed and our government-funded paediatric services transferred into the new government-owned and operated Lady Cilento Children's Hospital.

While we are sad to have farewelled so many exceptional Mater People who transferred to Lady Cilento Children's Hospital or left Mater for other opportunities, we must continue to look to the future—and, as always, strive to address the unmet needs of our community.

Among future developments is an expansion to Mater Private Hospital Redland which will deliver an extra 37 inpatient beds and three new theatres. This 50 per cent increase in bed numbers will enable us to meet the growing demand for private health services in the Redland Bay region.

Work is also underway on the redevelopment of the Salmon Building (formerly Mater Children's Hospital)—in preparation to house Mater's Centre for Neurosciences, Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane and a new-look Mater Children's Private Brisbane.

It is also our plan that when Mater Centre for Neurosciences opens in early 2015, it will include an advanced epilepsy service. At present, epilepsy affects up to 90 000 Queensland families and yet this type of service is not currently offered anywhere in Queensland.

Finally, thank you all for your valuable contribution to an exceptional year for Mater.

On behalf of everybody at Mater, I wish you and your families a safe and happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2015.

Dr John O'Donnell CEO, Mater Health Services



FAST NEWS



# Annabel gives back to those in need

Mater nurse and Catholic Education Week ambassador Annabel Pike recently travelled to Cambodia to train and mentor nurses at Sihanouk Hospital in Phnom Penh.

Students from Diocese of Toowoomba Catholic schools, upon hearing of her trip, created more than 130 personal care packs for those in need in Cambodia.

"While a simple gesture by our standards, words can't express how grateful these patients were to receive these care packs," Annabel said.

"They are literally Cambodia's poorest people. They are interviewed at the door of the hospital to determine their extreme poverty before being seen by a doctor or nurse."

## Clinical Teaching and Learning Award winners

Mater's annual Clinical Teaching and Learning Awards were presented at Royal on the Park Hotel on Thursday 23 October.

The awards recognise Mater People who have added significant value to the provision of care at Mater through an outstanding commitment to learning and development.



CEO Mission Award winner Jonaelle Lucas with CEO Mater Health Services John O'Donnell.

#### Congratulations to the winners of each award:

- Medical Intern of the Year: Dr
   Larissa Cowley
- Sr Eileen Pollard Graduate Nurse of the Year: Jennifer Nutchey
- Health Professional Student of the Year: Katherine Day
- Graduate Allied Health
   Professional of the Year:
   Marita Hales
- Clinical Supervisor of the Year: April Gregory

- Mater Education Student of the Year: Chris McGwinn
- Graduate Midwife of the Year: Johanna Quigley
- Excellence in Continuing Professional Development: Priscilla Pather
- Excellence in Teaching: Dr Sarah Janssens
- CEO Mission Award: Jonaelle Lucas.

All nominees were presented with a certificate to recognise their achievement. The winner of each category also received a prize.

### Top month for Cardiovascular Unit

Mater Private Hospital Brisbane's Cardiovascular Unit (CVU) and Operating Theatres both experienced record months in September The CVU, regarded as one of the top units in Queensland, continues to grow, with 165 cases in September—the highest number in the unit's history.

The various operating theatre and support teams at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane also completed the busiest



September in the hospital's 108 year history, with 1002 patients treated.

# A fond farewell after 83 years of exceptional healthcare

#### For the past 83 years, the parents and children of Queensland have trusted the staff at Mater Children's Hospital to care for their children.

In that time we shared laughter and tears; our staff were beside them to celebrate milestones and give support when times were tough.

Much has changed since Mater Children's Hospital opened in 1931. What has remained steadfast is the reason why the Sisters of Mercy established a paediatric facility—to meet an unmet need.

For 83 years, we have done just that.

Mater Children's Hospital has provided specialist paediatric healthcare services to children throughout Queensland and northern New South Wales.

It has become a second home to many patients and their families and has cared for thousands of children each year.

On Saturday 1 November 2014,

more than 250 people gathered for a ceremony to farewell Mater Children's Hospital, before the transition to Lady Cilento Children's Hospital in late November.

Most Reverend Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane, members of the Sisters of Mercy Brisbane Congregation, and representatives from Queensland Health and Mercy Partners gathered with Mater People and members of the community to reflect on 83 years of exceptional care provided at Mater Children's Hospital.

Mater Health Services Chief Executive Officer Dr John O'Donnell said Mater Children's Hospital was a much-loved part of the Brisbane community.

"We've been a part of the lives of generations of Queensland families," he said.

"We will watch the new hospital with pride in our significant contribution to building the quality of paediatric care in Queensland, and the knowledge that we have made the best decision for Queensland children."

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On 29 November 2014, Mater Children's Hospital closed and services transferred into the new government-owned and operated Lady Cilento Children's Hospital.

But this is not the end of Mater's story with the children of Queensland; we will continue to offer paediatric services for privately-insured patients through Mater Children's Private Brisbane and we will enhance services for young people through Queensland's first dedicated adolescent and young adult health service.





Sue McCreary and Bridget Harrington.



Rosalie Lewis.



Sr Mary Peters rsm and Joan Bremner.



Mater Health Services Chief Executive Officer Dr John O'Donnell, Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Sr Sandra Lupi and Mater Health Services Board Chair Brian Flannery.



Queensland Health Director-General Ian Maynard, Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Board Chair Susan Johnston, Acting Chief Executive Metro North Hospital and Health Service Terry Mehan, Children's Health Queensland Chief Executive Peter Steer.





Most Revered Mark Coleridge-Archbishop of Brisbane.

Right: Sr Gabrielle Ryan and Sr Clotilde Quinlan.

Below: Former Mater Adult, Women's & Children's Health Services Executive Director Mark Waters and Mater Chief Executive Officer Dr John O'Donnell.





Former Mater Chief Executive Officer Pat Maguire and Sr Madonna Josey.



The Sisters of Mercy.

### First aid courses available



Mater has been training clinicians since 1914 and has a strong reputation for producing exceptional learning outcomes, now we are expanding our healthcare education into the community.

Mater Education, an independent Registered Training Organisation, is now delivering a range of courses for students and health professionals as well as first aid courses for the general community.

Mater's accredited first aid course ensures participants get hands-on experience using our world-class simulation facilities.

The one day course, complete with fake wounds and injuries, equips people with the confidence and skills to respond in an emergency and is suitable for anyone wishing to gain a first aid qualification or renew an existing one.

There are also plans to eventually expand the offering to include a specialised first aid course for parents and grandparents, which will provide an emphasis on children and babies.

People wishing to take part can visit **matereducation.qld.edu.au** for more information.



Following the transition of Mater Children's Hospital, Mater continues to offer paediatric services for privatelyinsured patients through Mater Children's Private Brisbane, a new stand-alone facility providing specialised medical and surgical services for families.

The new Mater Children's Private Brisbane will operate under a level 5 surgical and level 4 medical Clinical Services Capability Framework (CSCF).

To help support the change all accredited specialists have been provided a decision making framework to assist in identifying suitable procedures and admissions. Mater Children's Private Brisbane is Queensland's only private paediatric hospital to be operating at this CSCF level.

Following the transition of Mater Children's Hospital to Lady Cilento Children's Hospital the facilities will need some time for new processes to settle.

### Fast Facts

- Mater Children's Hospital, including the Emergency Department, has closed.
- Lady Cilento Children's Hospital is the public hospital for children in Brisbane and Queensland's tertiary referral hospital for serious childhood injury and illness.
- Mater Private Emergency Care Centre, a fee-for-service emergency care centre, has been treating children for more than 20 years and will continue to provide exceptional care for children and their families.
- Mater will continue to provide paediatric care through Mater Children's Private Brisbane. This service will operate at the highest CSCF level of any private paediatric service in Queensland.

The former Mater Children's Hospital building—now called the Salmon Building—is currently undergoing building works to enhance our services for young people and their families.

To allow for the building works to safely take place access to Mater Children's Private Brisbane will change over the coming months:

From Saturday 29 November 2014	From Monday 15 December 2014
Salmon Building (formerly Mater Children's Hospital), Raymond Terrace, South Brisbane	Salmon Building (formerly Mater Children's Hospital), Raymond Terrace, South Brisbane
• Salmon Building entry via: Level 1, Stanley Street or Level 2, Raymond Terrace	<ul> <li>Salmon Building entry via: Level 4, former entrance for Mater Children's Emergency</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Admissions and Day Unit located on Level 5</li> <li>Inpatient ward located on Level 8</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Admissions and Day Unit located on Level 4, former entrance Mater Children's Emergency</li> <li>Inpatient ward located on Level 8</li> </ul>
Christmas Period	From 25 February 2015

This information may change so please be sure to check signage, ask Mater staff for assistance and check for updates on www.materonline.org.au.

## A vision for the future

I was recently looking at my smartphone and a strange thought occurred to me; this device which I rely so heavily on is, if you go back far enough, made from raw ingredients harvested from good old Mother Earth.

It's strange when you think about it everything material that we own, use and desire comes from our environment.

School kids learn about this concept by identifying the connections between the natural world and the one that we humans create—wooden chair (trees), glass bottle (sand) and crayons (bees wax), and it all seems to make sense.

The smartphone analogy however isn't quite so accessible to either young or old minds. How do you get a smartphone from dirt, rocks and wood?

The answer, of course, is too long for these pages, but at its core are teamwork and innovation over millennia.

What started as a disparate set of ideas culminated in an innovation that can

help you navigate, browse the internet, take photos, manage your finances and even make phone calls.

Isaac Newton famously described this evolution of ideas by stating that he was standing on the 'shoulders of giants'—a reference to the brilliant minds that had come before him and whose work allowed him to achieve great things.

At Mater we certainly have our own share of giants, the largest of which is Catherine McAuley, who founded the Sisters of Mercy in 1831.

Catherine's vision and ideology gave her Sisters of Mercy the raw ingredients to achieve many great things.

Our first hospital at North Quay in 1906

by Don Murray

> was directly inspired by Catherine's vision to meet unmet needs, and I am pleased to write that this vision continues today—the Mater Private Hospital Redland expansion, Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane, Mater Centre for Neurosciences and Mater Children's Private Brisbane detailed in these pages are evidence of that.

So, let's take time to celebrate the 'giants' and also those of us who are slightly smaller in stature, because when it comes to turning our ideas and resources into something truly exceptional, we all have a part to play.

## Mater Private Hospital Redland set for expansion

Mater Private Hospital Redland (MPHR) will expand by 37 inpatient beds and three surgical theatres as part of a \$38.4 million expansion project scheduled to commence mid-2015.

Currently operating with 60 inpatient beds and two theatres, the expansion will allow the hospital to meet the growing demand for private health services in the Redland Bay region and will see the growth of orthopaedic surgery, rehabilitation, respiratory medicine and urology in addition to day case maxillofacial surgery, oncology, ophthalmology and plastic and reconstructive surgery.

The expansion will also include a dedicated space for chemotherapy patients and the rework and growth of waiting areas, recovery spaces and the

main entrance foyer.

It is anticipated that the expansion will allow an additional 3000 theatre cases in the first year of operation, which will rise to an additional 5750 cases per year over the following decade.

Mater Private Hospitals Executive Director Don Murray said there was a strong need to expand local private health services to meet demand now and in the future.

"Mater has always aimed to provide health services in communities where



there is a need and expanding MPHR follows this philosophy," Mr Murray said.

"It is important for Redland patients and their families to have access to Queensland's very best medical specialists and surgeons locally instead of travelling to Brisbane and other areas to access medical care."

Construction is planned to be complete at the end of 2016 and works are not expected to interrupt services currently offered at MPHR.



As part of Mater's broader commitment to provide comprehensive care which meets the specific needs of young adults, the Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane will offer a dedicated healthcare environment for patients predominantly aged 16-25 and their families.

Featuring innovative service models focused on the primary condition as well as the associated impacts on adolescent social, emotional, and educational development, the service will help patients and their families through transition from paediatric services into care during the young adult period and subsequent transition to adult services.

At all times the focus will be on providing a complete care package which meets the emotional and physical healthcare needs of the patient.

In addition to specialised management of patients with chronic and complex conditions such as Diabetes, Cystic Fibrosis, Spina Bifida, and Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane (MYAHCB) will deliver programs across the spectrum of specialties relevant to the predominantly 16-25 year old cohort.

Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane will feature the integrated service models designed for young adults and their families: **MYAHCB Emotional Health Unit**—a highly-specialised service specifically developed to provide mental health assessment, treatment and liaison. Primarily designed for privately-insured young adults who require treatment of depressive disorders, anxiety disorders and anorexia nervosa, the Emotional Health Unit will be the only private service of its kind in Queensland.

**MYACHB Inpatient Services**—In addition to specialised management of patients with chronic and complex conditions, the inpatient service will provided clinical care across the spectrum of specialties relevant to the 16-25 year old cohort.

**MYAHCB Programs**—Programs designed to provide support for young adults by offering a holistic emotional and educational approach as they transition from paediatric health services, through young adult and subsequently into adult health services.

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**MYAHCB Outpatient Services**—A wide range of clinical services will be covered including: Gastroenterology: Irritable Bowel Clinic, Cystic Fibrosis, Urology and Spina Bifida Clinic, Diabetes, Craniofacial Surgery, Queensland Diabetes Centre, Queensland Centre for Intellectual and Developmental Disability and an emotional health clinic.

**MYAHCB ADAWS**—The existing Adolescent Drug and Alcohol Withdrawal Service (ADAWS) will remain in its current location on Clarence Street, South Brisbane and become part of Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane.

> The Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane will open in the Salmon Building in early 2015.

#### New appointments ...

Dr Trisha O'Moore-Sulivan has been appointed Acting Director of Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane, while Greg McGahan has accepted the role of Manager at the new Centre.

> Mater Adolescent Drug and Alcohol Withdrawal Service (ADAWS).

### Commitment counts

## The word commitment adorns the back of every Mater business card—it is one of our five values.

Defined as 'being dedicated to a cause' it seems entirely fitting that the word commitment has such a strong connection to Mater.

During my time at Mater I have been struck by the pervasive nature of our values and the way they are lived so comprehensively by our staff, VMOs and volunteers. They are frequently referenced in our daily interactions and provide us with a moral compass by which to guide ourselves.

When looking back on our 100-plus year history, it's clear that Mater's commitment to providing exceptional care for our community has been

#### unwavering.

This commitment has helped our organisation achieve great things but has also created a legacy for other institutions to do the same.

After 83 years, Mater Children's Hospital has transitioned to Lady Cilento Children's Hospital— a move that displays Mater's commitment to the children of Queensland.

As we move forward we will deliver new services for our community including Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane, Mater Centre for



Neurosciences and Mater Children's Private Brisbane.

These services are a fitting testament to our commitment to the community and our dedication to the cause of meeting the healthcare needs of future generations.

### Mater Centre for Neurosciences

## In 2015, Mater will take another step in the evolution of its neurosciences offering with the opening of a statewide epilepsy service.

Mater Centre for Neurosciences, which will be located in the Salmon building, will provide services for adults, adolescents, and young adults seeking specialised care for neurosurgery, spinal surgery, neurology and epilepsy.

The Centre will provide a range of comprehensive services for neuroscience patients including:

#### Neurosurgery

The neurosurgery service will specialise in the treatment of the following conditions:

- Brain tumours
- Aneurysms or vascular malformations of the brain
- Surgery for epilepsy
- Tumours of the pituitary gland
- Acoustic neuromas
- Trigeminal neuralgia, hemifacial spasm and glossopharyngeal neuralgia
- Pathologies affecting the spine
- Peripheral nerve disorders

The Centre will provide neurosurgery for both privately insured patients and government-funded patients.

#### Neurology

The neurology service will specialise in the treatment of the following neurological conditions and diagnostic approaches:

- Parkinson's disease
- Geriatric neurology, including dementia
- Stroke
- Nerve conduction studies/EMG
- EEG
- Neuro-ophthalmology

Neurology services for both privately insured patients and governmentfunded patients will be provided.

#### Stroke unit

A comprehensive Stroke Unit will comprise of a dedicated Stroke Coordinator and rehabilitation services for stroke patients. The unit will have extensive links with Stroke Foundation Queensland and the National Stroke Foundation to facilitate the optimal assessment, management and rehabilitation of stroke patients.

#### Epilepsy service

Mater Centre for Neurosciences will provide an epilepsy service that embraces a multidisciplinary approach, with specialists and healthcare professionals collaborating on a full range of epilepsy care needs.

Facilitated by a dedicated Epileptologist, the comprehensive new service will be the first dedicated unit in Queensland for epilepsy patients who require diagnostic procedures, monitoring, case conferences and surgery.

> The Mater Centre for Neurosciences will open in the Salmon Building in early 2015.

# Springfield prototype rooms receive tick of approval

Two prototypes, representative of a Mater Private Hospital Springfield patient room and a cancer care treatment pod, received positive feedback from more than 100 staff members, helping to finalise design.

Built at South Brisbane campus, the two rooms were open for a month to staff and a consumer group from the Springfield region, all of whom were asked to complete a survey.

The ward room received overwhelmingly positive results relating to décor and furnishings and rated highly in the areas of comfort, familycentred care, quality and safety, as well as catering for staff.

With modern and neutral furnishings, the cancer care treatment pod also received positive comments, as well as some suggestions which have led to design changes. Stage one of Mater Private Hospital Springfield is quickly taking shape with construction of the main structure of the building now complete.

Works are progressing well with the hospital on track to be complete by the end of 2015.

The \$85 million hospital will provide a range of medical and surgical services as well as a combination of inpatient, day and chemotherapy beds to be supported by \$21.4 million in Australian Government funding for a cancer care centre.

Since early 2013, Mater has been



providing healthcare services to the Greater Springfield community at Mater Health Centre Brookwater. The centre is an integrated health facility covering a range of specialist and allied health services such as Mater Pharmacy, Mater Pathology, Queensland X-ray, Active Rehabilitation Physiotherapy, my FootDr, Brookwater Dental Surgery, Greater Springfield Orthodontics and Brookwater General Practice.

*For more information on Mater Private Hospital Springfield visit mater.org.au/mphs.* 



## LIFE IN THE FRONT ROW

Create your perfect home base at Art House, less than 2km from Mater Health Services and the Lady Cilento Children's hospital.

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# Diabetes discovery may revolutionise treatment

Professor Mike McGuckin, from Mater Research Institute-UQ (MRI-UQ) is on the verge of a significant new approach to treatment for people with Type 2 diabetes.

Prof McGuckin, and his team have discovered that a protein produced by immune cells relieves stress in the cells in the pancreas which produce insulin, the beta cells.

The inability to produce enough insulin to control blood sugar is the core problem in Type 2 diabetes.

Professor McGuckin said researchers believed that stress in beta cells was central to this inability to produce enough insulin to control blood glucose.

"The research shows that this protein, called IL-22, can restore the control of blood sugar levels by restoring appropriate insulin production and also correcting sensitivity to insulin in responsive tissues," he said.

"This finding is significant because it means diabetics could potentially replace insulin injections with less frequent injections of IL-22."

With more than 1.5 million Australians affected by diabetes, Professor McGuckin said some more work was needed to be done before clinical trials in diabetes patients could begin.

"Whether it revolutionises diabetes treatment depends on what happens in these clinical trials," he said.

"Because it is a biological therapy, IL-22 may have sideeffects that we have not seen so far in the research, limiting its appropriateness as a treatment.

"However, it also opens up a new pathway for treating diabetes based around the way IL-22 works.

"In other words, other treatments might not include IL-22, but the pathways that it drives."

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The researchers are working with partners in the pharmaceutical industry to develop prototype therapies with a view to moving towards clinical trials in patients with diabetes.

The paper has been published in the internationally prestigious *Nature Medicine*.

MRI-UQ is a joint venture between The University of Queensland and Mater Research. DEVELOPMENT



# Past and future reflected in names of new buildings

Three building names on Mater Hill have changed, reflecting on Mater's rich heritage and focusing on plans for the organisation's future.

From 29 November, Mater Adult Hospital, the Mater Children's Hospital building and Mater Corporate Services Building were renamed as follows:

- Mater Adult Hospital has been be renamed Mater Hospital Brisbane.
- The former Mater Children's Hospital building has been renamed the Salmon Building (in memory of Mother Alban Salmon, 1880—1951)
- Mater Corporate Services Building has been renamed the Duncombe Building (in memory of Mother Damian Duncombe OBE, 1899 – 1980)

Mater Health Services Chief Executive Officer Dr John O'Donnell said the name changes were designed to better reflect Mater's services in the future and also to commemorate the significance and vision of two Sisters of Mercy; Mother Alban Salmon and Mother Damian Duncombe OBE. "The Duncombe Building will continue to house a wide scope of services including support services, training facilities and Mater Cancer Care Centre.

"In addition, as Mater's services continue to extend beyond Mater Hill, and include services for adolescents and young adults, Mater Adult Hospital has been renamed Mater Hospital Brisbane.

"This change better reflects the position of the hospital in relation to the ongoing development of Mater's broader geographic services, such as Mater Private Hospital Springfield, our three health centres and our growing number of pathology and pharmacy services across South East Queensland."

These name changes may require alterations to your existing printed and online material, such as business cards, letterhead and websites.

If you have any questions or would like more information please contact marketing@mater.org.au.

# Junior doctors shine at ANZMET conference

Two doctors who have undertaken training at Mater were awarded prizes at the recent Australian and New Zealand Medical Education and Training Forum (ANZMET) conference held in the Hunter Valley.

Current Mater intern Dr James Cafaro received the Best Oral Presentation award for his talk titled 'Junior medical staff providing meaningful research to rural communities'.

Dr Cafaro's presentation was based on field research he undertook as a medical student on a trip to the Solomon Islands.

Dr Katherine Curtis, who undertook training at Mater from 2012 until July this year, was awarded Australasian Junior Doctor of the Year 2014. Katherine, who is now based at Bundaberg Hospital, received the award in recognition of her achievements in enhancing educational opportunities for junior doctors and representing the voice of junior doctors in Queensland.

The awards are truly significant individual achievements and highlight the potential of Mater as a training institution for junior doctors.

The ANZMET conference, attended by more than 500 delegates, brings

Dr James Cafaro

together medical students, interns and pre-vocational doctors, medical educators, supervisors, directors of training, medical superintendents, health service representatives and accrediting councils to discuss and plan medical education and training across Australia and New Zealand.



### Central Queensland welcomes new Executive Officer



Mercy Health and Aged Care have welcomed Annette Czerkesow as the new Executive Officer for Mater Hospitals Rockhampton, Gladstone and Yeppoon.

Ms Czerkesow is enthusiastic about her new role, based at Mater Rockhampton.

"Mater hospitals in Central Queensland are fantastic facilities," Ms Czerkesow said.

"This is an exciting time to come on board with Mater. The Rockhampton hospital will celebrate its Centenary in 2015 so there will be many community and staff events next year."

Having recently relocated from regional New South Wales, Ms Czerkesow has moved to Mater from Brisbane Waters Private Hospital in Woy Woy, where she had worked for 18 years, including six years as the hospital's General Manager.

She has extensive experience in management and the healthcare sector.

"I understand the challenges faced by health care providers and patients in rural areas are vastly different to those in capital cities," Ms Czerkesow said.

"I will be regularly travelling to Mater Yeppoon and Gladstone to work with the staff at each hospital so that we can continue to meet the needs of the local community by providing excellent healthcare options.

"Working for Mater is appealing to me as I am really comfortable and committed to the mission and values of the organisation."



## Staff present at International Colloquium in Singapore

In early November, six delegates from Mater presented at the 9th Biennial Joanna Briggs International Colloquium in Singapore.

The theme of this year's event was *Scaling New Heights: Challenging the Status Quo.* 

The scientific program was led by experts in the field of evidencebased practice, research, clinical care and quality improvement and topics focused on Leadership Management, Evidence-Based Practice, Quality Improvement, Research and Education.

The following projects were presented by Mater staff:

- Sonia Hines, Nursing Research Centre—
   Identification and nursing management of dysphagia in individuals with acute neurological impairment: a systematic review.
- Cara Joyce Cabilan, Nursing Research Centre—Falls risk assessment and falls prevention strategies in private oncology and neurosurgical setting: a best practice implementation project; Prehabilitation for surgical patients: a systematic review.
- Kate Kynoch, Nursing Research Centre— Interventions to meet the needs of family with a

relative admitted to an adult critical care unit: a systematic review.

- Meryl Jones, Paediatric Emergency—A quality assurance project to improve the vaccine competence of nurses working in the Paediatric Emergency Department.
- Judy Munday, Nursing Research Centre— Nurses' experiences of advocacy in the perioperative department: a systematic review.
- Mel Barlow, Mater Education Centre—Implementation of evidence-based interprofessional Basic Life Support (BLS) training in an adult cancer care setting in Brisbane, Australia.

"As a researcher, international conferences are advantageous because I learn from and with other healthcare professionals around the world," Cara Joyce Cabilan said.

"The information I acquired is potentially beneficial for the organisation, and for me professionally and academically."

## Audiologists give gift of hearing

Mater Audiologists Caroline Balke and Emma Reichman recently spent two weeks volunteering in My Tho City in Vietnam where they gave the gift of hearing to 15 children.

The mission work accomplished by Ms Balke and Ms Reichman was part of the Building Across Borders program—an initiative of St Laurence's Collegewhere students, teachers and Mater Audiologists volunteer at a school for hearing impaired children.

The visit was also enhanced by a donation of 20 fully-digital hearing aids from Phonak Australia and Phonak Vietnam.

"All of the students at this school had hearing impairment and did most of their communicating in sign language," Ms Balke said.

"We are both well educated in sign language but it was very difficult to communicate with them because Vietnamese sign language is different to Australian sign language.

"In order to get a message across to a student, we had to speak to a translator, who then spoke to the nun/teacher, who then signed to the student. We nicknamed the process Vietnamese whispers!"

The pair successfully fit hearing aids onto 15 children whose families could not afford to treat their hearing impairment.

"We spent a lot of time training and



educating the nuns and I think this was the most essential gift we could give," Ms Balke said.

"The look of surprise and joy on the children's faces when they were fitted with their first hearing aids was priceless, and knowing this will help them through their education at school and in the outside world brings a lot of satisfaction."

This was the first year Mater audiologists had taken part in the Building Across Borders program.



Available online at www.matermothers.org.au and www.pharmacyonline.com.au and selected retail stores.

RESEARCH

Funds to investigate IBD solution

Mater researcher Dr Jake Begun has been awarded a \$50 000 Ferring Innovation Grant to research a novel way to deliver anti-inflammatory proteins to help sufferers of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD).

Dr Begun was awarded this funding to test the concept of placing an anti-inflammatory protein in a nano-particle that could be included within a pill. Currently these types of medications can only be administered by injection.

"I am looking forward to researching this new way of drug delivery for people suffering the effects of Inflammatory Bowel Disease that would help avoid the need for injections and the related side effects," Dr Begun said.

Research into this concept has already started, and Dr Begun will present his research to Ferring in mid-2015.

Dr Begun has also been awarded the Reginald Ferguson Fellowship in Gastroenterology by The University of Queensland to fund clinical research into adolescents with IBD and translational research into its causes.

He said the fellowship would allow him to devote protected research time to complement the work he does in-hospital to treat patients with IBD.

"I'm particularly excited to be investigating innovative models of IBD care in adolescents because they are often treated as children or as adults, and do not have a devoted method of care."

# Five million dollars in research funding

Mater Research has successfully secured more than \$5 million in National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) funding.

Mater Research Professor John Prins said his team was to be commended on their achievement, which saw funding approved for 30 per cent of applications—compared to the national average of 15 per cent.

"I'm particularly proud of our NHMRC success this year as we've secured funding for innovative clinical and scientific projects that will further build our strength as an institute that pursues exceptional research in both the laboratory and in-hospital," Prof Prins said.

The following researchers have been awarded funding for projects that will commence in 2015:



**Associate Professor Kristen Radford:** Awarded funding for a three year project grant for research into a new approach to the design and evaluation of T-cell vaccines for cancer and infectious diseases.



**Professor Mike McGuckin:** Awarded funding for a four year project grant for research into IL-22 as a suppressor of Pancreatic beta-Cell Stress and a treatment for diabetes.



**Dr Paul Dawson:** Awarded funding for a five year project grant for research into the neuroprotective role of sulphate in preterm babies.



**Associate Professor Andreas Schibler:** Awarded funding for a three year project grant to fund a clinical trial looking at High Flow Cannula Therapy in Bronchiolitis in children.



**Professor Andrew Perkins:** Awarded funding for a three year project grant for research into master gene KLF circuitry in health and disease.



Associate Professor Ingrid Winkler: Awarded funding for a four year project grant for research into haematopoietic stem cell glycome regulation.

RESEARCH



### Associate Professor Kristen Radford receives funding boost

Associate Professor Kristen Radford has received two major research grants—worth more than \$750 000—to continue her work towards finding a cure for cancer.

A/Prof Radford received £212,000 (\$388 127) in Worldwide Cancer Research Funding for her project *Targeting human CLEC9A+ dendritic cells as a new strategy for cancer immunotherapy* and \$382 077 from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for a three year project grant for research into a new approach to the design and evaluation of T-cell vaccines for cancer and infectious diseases.

"My first reaction was of huge relief as funding is very tight at the moment. Next was the excitement of now having funding to do all the research we have spent so long planning and writing funding applications to receive," A/Prof Radford said.

The funding grants will be used to employ research staff and buy reagents and consumables for two similar projects—each with an overarching aim to develop a new vaccine for cancers.

"We study specialised white blood cells called dendritic cells that are responsible for driving immune responses. Previously dendritic cell vaccines were made by collecting blood from the patient, manipulating it in the lab and returning it to the patient," A/Prof Radford said.

"The vaccine we are making is aimed to very specifically activate only the cancer fighting dendritic cells, with the advantage that it doesn't require removal of patients' blood.

"Manufacturing the vaccine in the lab would make the treatment much easier on the patient," A/Prof Kristen Radford said.

"We predict this will be a more practical, specific and effective vaccine that will be suitable to treat many cancer patients."

A/Prof Radford hopes to have developed at least two vaccines by the end of the three-year research projects.

"Cancer is 'the big unsolved problem' and I just hope I can complete a small part of the puzzle and contribute in some way to helping understand cancer so we can better treat it."

# Research excellence winners announced

The exceptional medical research and commitment to translating it into practice—undertaken at Mater was recently recognised at the 2014 Mater Research Awards for Research Excellence.

Associate Professor Ingrid Winkler, Odette Peteresen, Dr Helen Liley and Professor Andrew Perkins were awarded the Institute Medals while Dr Linda Gallo received the Early Career Researcher Award and Irina Kulina (Clinical) and Rebecca Jacobsen (Biomedical) received the Research Higher Degree Student Awards.

Congratulations to the following medal and award winners:

- Sr Regis Mary Dunne Medal for outstanding research contribution: Associate Professor Ingrid Winkler
- Sr Madonna Josey Medal for outstanding contribution to the operation of the Institute: Ms Odette Petersen
- Sr Eileen Pollard Medal for incorporating research into clinical care provision: Dr Helen Liley
- Sr Michaeleen Ahern Medal for excellence in student supervision: Professor Andrew Perkins
- Research Higher Degree (Biomedical) Award: Rebecca Jacobsen
- Research Higher Degree (Clinical) Award: Irina Kulina
- Early Career Researcher Award: Linda Gallo

Congratulations also to Christine Zhang, Maryam Azlan and Hu Hee Kim who are celebrating the completion of PhDs in 2014.



Udette Petersen, Sr Madonna Josey, Sr Michaele Ahern and Associate Professor Ingrid Winkler.

PATHOLOGY

## Paediatric Cytogenetic Microarray Testing

Microarray technology is available at Mater Pathology for diagnosis of patients with intellectual disability, developmental delay, autism or congenital abnormalities.

Microarray testing has been recommended by the American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG) as the first tier test 1 for the investigation of individuals with unexplained developmental delay/intellectual disability, autism spectrum disorders or two or more congenital anomalies

## Why do a microarray instead of a karyotype?

Aneuploidy or large unbalanced chromosome rearrangements are often found in the above patients by karyotype, however many pathogenic rearrangements are below the resolution of this test. Microarrays offer a high resolution and genome wide method for detecting copy number changes (such as deletions and duplications).

#### What array type does Mater Pathology use?

Mater Pathology uses the Affymetrix 750K SNP array which has a total of 750,000 probes consisting of approximately 550,000 probes to allow for the detection of copy number changes at an effective resolution of approximately 100 kb. The Affymetrix SNP array has an added benefit over CGH-arrays used by some other providers in also having ~200,000 SNP probes which detects regions of long contiguous stretches of homozygosity (LCSH) which can be an indicator of uniparental disomy (UPD) or regions which are identical-by-descent (IBD).

## What type of results can you expect?

### 1. No copy number changes (CNC) detected.

Many results will have no changes detected and the cause of the patient's illness remains unexplained.

Microarrays can NOT detect single gene mutations, disorders such as Fragile X syndrome, CNC's below the array resolution or cases where there is low level mosaicism. Microarrays also do NOT detect balanced rearrangements however this is unlikely to be associated with an abnormal phenotype.

### 2. A copy number change is detected.

Different types of CNC's may be detected including:

(a) A pathogenic CNC

- A deletion or duplication of known clinical significance with a recognised phenotype.
- (b) A variant of uncertain significance
- A region which has been described in individuals with developmental delay/intellectual impairment, but is also been found in unaffected individuals and family members. Genes within these regions may show variable penetrance or variable expression and the clinical significance of these regions has not been fully elucidated.

(c) A variant of unknown significance

- A region which has not been well described in the literature or in relevant databases and the significance of which is unknown.
- (d) Incidental finding
- A copy number change that is unrelated to the clinical presentation

of the individual but has clinical significance.

#### 3. A region/s of LCSH has been detected.

Large regions of LCSH on a single chromosome may be an indicator of UPD. This is of potential clinical significance when the chromosome involved is imprinted, such as chromosome 15 in association with Prader Willi/Angelman syndrome.

Multiple regions of LCSH on several chromosomes may be an indicator of consanguinity. Such individuals are at risk of a recessively inherited single gene disorder which may require further assessment via a clinical genetics service.

#### Practical Information:

**Specimen requirements:** 5mls of peripheral blood in an EDTA tube and a Mater Pathology request form for microarray testing with any relevant clinical information noted. Such information is essential when trying to interpret copy number changes.

Billing: A Medicare item number is available for this test. No out of pocket fees apply.

**Further Information:** If you would like to find out more about microarray testing, please contact the Cytogenetics Department at Mater Pathology on (07) 3163 8212 or visit materonline.org.au.

<sup>1</sup> *Reference: The American Journal of Human Genetics 86, 749–764, May 14, 2010.* 



### Dr Michael Burke



#### Nephrology

Dr Michael Burke was educated in Brisbane and completed his medical training, with Honours, in 2003 at The University of Queensland.

Dr Burke undertook his nephrology advanced training in Queensland and South Australia. He is a lecturer for the School of Medicine, University of Queensland, and provides an ongoing and active contribution to undergraduate medical teaching. He is also involved in preparing physician trainees for the FRACP examination.

He is completing a PhD examining the effects of immunosuppressive drugs on cancer development in kidney transplant recipients.

Dr Burke's research has been presented at national and international meetings.

His studies in peritoneal and hemodialysis complications, renal bone disease, and kidney transplantation have been published in peer-reviewed journals.

Dr Burke has clinical expertise in chronic kidney disease and diabetic nephropathy, management of renal anaemia and bone disease hypertension, haemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis and kidney transplantation.

Dr Burke offers consultations through his rooms at Mater Medical Centre.

#### Dr Chris Gillespie



#### **Colorectal surgery**

Dr Chris Gillespie graduated from The University of Auckland in 2000 and spent his first intern and resident years in Gisborne, New Zealand, as well as working in Scotland and Ireland in emergency medicine and gynaecology roles.

Subsequent general surgical training was undertaken at St Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne, from 2004-2011, including one year at King's College Hospital in London for emergency and intensive care rotations.

Following this, Dr Gillespie completed a two-year accredited post-fellowship training program in colorectal surgery, under the Colorectal Surgical Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSSANZ).

These years were spent at Auckland City Hospital and Gold Coast Hospital.

Dr Gillespie is accredited for general and colorectal surgery, colonoscopy and gastroscopy, and is Clinical Lead for the colorectal pelvic floor clinic at Queen Elizabeth II Hospital with skills in anorectal physiology assessment for functional colorectal disorders.

Dr Gillespie conducts private practice at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane.

#### Dr Anna Salkeld



#### Pathology

A graduate of University of Cape Town, South Africa, Dr Salkeld trained in Anatomical Pathology at Canterbury Health Laboratories in Christchurch, New Zealand, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and Austin Hospital in Melbourne.

She worked as a Consultant Pathologist at Healthscope Pathology and Austin Pathology in Melbourne before joining Mater Pathology in January 2014 as a full-time histopathologist and cytopathologist.

Dr Salkeld reports all areas of surgical pathology.

Her special interests include uropathology, breast pathology, placental pathology and dermatopathology.

Dr Salkeld works out of Mater Pathology, Level 6, Mater Adult Hospital, Raymond Terrace, South Brisbane.



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real-time, relevant information for medical professionals in an easy to navigate digital format. www.materonline.org.au IN LOVING MEMORY

## Dr Desmond David McGuckin

28 October 1928 to 2 November 2014

## Desmond David McGuckin was born in 1928 to Mary Roche and John Hilarion McGuckin.

After the tragic passing of his father, Des and his brother John were raised by their devoted mother Mary. The family lived in the back of Mary's smallgoods shop at Woolloongabba, along with Mary's sisters, Kathleen and Norah.

Des felt being raised in a house full of females influenced his outlook in life; particularly his gentle nature and sense of humanity.

In 1940, Des started boarding at Downlands College in Toowoomba, on a scholarship. During this time, he considered becoming a priest based on his desire to help others. One of the school's priests, however, suggested that Des consider studying medicine as an alternate way to contribute to the community. In 1946, Dr McGuckin began his first year as a medical student at The University of Queensland—one of the younger students in a mixed group, which included many ex-service men.

He completed his degree in 1951 and commenced his long relationship with Mater as a student doing rotations during 1950/51.

Three years later he was appointed Paediatric Registrar and went on to specialise in paediatric surgery.

In 1960, Dr McGuckin was appointed Visiting Consultant Paediatric Surgeon to both Mater Children's Hospital and Royal Children's Hospital, and ran his own private practice.

In 1971, Dr McGuckin, accompanied



#### Sr Camillus Mary Lynch was born in 1924 in Ireland. She left her home at the age of 22, bound for Australia, arriving in January 1947.

During the 1950s, Sr Camillus did all of the cooking within Mater Children's Hospital, and for three wards within Mater Adult Hospital.

Sr Camillus spoke about this time in a recent interview:

"At that time there was little or no government funding to build the original Mater Mothers' Hospital and the Sisters of Mercy had to raise the funds to pay for the building, so every spare moment was occupied running fetes, cake stalls, raffles, crocheting and doing



by anaesthetist Dr Tess Brophy, was operating on a child with oesophageal atresia when a fire broke out in Mater Children's Hospital.

While everyone in the hospital was evacuated, the pair continued their work in the theatre's ante-room until the baby was stable enough to move. It was this kind of heroics that made both Dr McGuckin and Dr Brophy remarkable pioneers in their field.

He is survived by his wife Lyn and his children Susan, Genevieve, Kate, Mike, John, Caitlin and Barton.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

fancy work, sewing and anything that could be sold or raffled—jams, pickles, chutneys—the days were never long enough".

When the original Mater Mothers' Hospital was constructed, Sr Camillus was asked to become the 'Business Manager' and fit-out the new kitchen within the building. At the same time, she was still involved in fundraising for the hospital, and also taught cookery to the student nurses.

Sr Camillus left Mater in 1977 and became the cook at Emmaus, a role she held for four years. After returning to the Mater Convent in 1985, she cooked for the Sisters of Mercy until 1991.

Sr Camillus was well known for her sponge cakes and her delicious scones, which have been enjoyed by many over the years. Another love of hers was growing African Violets, and the bush house was her pride and joy!

Sr Camillus lived at the Mater Convent until August 2013, when failing health necessitated a move to Emmaus. She passed away very peacefully at Bethesda, Nudgee on the evening of 25 October 2014.

May her soul rest in eternal peace.

#### PERSONAL CHALLENGE



# Mater researcher joins the peloton for Noosa Smiddy Cycle

Dr Jim Coward, Consultant Medical Oncologist and Senior Researcher, is taking to the saddle in April 2015 as part of a cycling peloton raising funds for ovarian cancer research.

Dr Coward will join Mater Foundation's Smiling for Smiddy team to pedal through the hills of the Sunshine Coast hinterland in an effort to raise \$100 000 for Mater Research.

"I recently became an avid cyclist and am inspired and honoured to take on the Noosa Smiddy Cycle. I want to push myself to cycle this challenge and am encouraged by the mateship and the spirit of Smiddy," Dr Coward said.

"I am passionate about raising funds for not only my own, but other streams of cancer research. Being involved in the Smiling for Smiddy community is a great way to make an impact." Thanks to the efforts of previous fundraising initiatives, Dr Coward and his research team have been able to develop and test ways of reducing the size of cancerous tumours which will form the basis for clinical trials–which they hope to start next year.

The ovarian cancer research team is making valuable headway in the study of ovarian cancer. The team has also found a way to inhibit a particular protein's ability to encourage ovarian cancer cells to spread through the body.

Mater Research has used statins (which are normally used to reduce cholesterol) in conjunction with chemotherapy treatment. This combined treatment has enhanced responses to chemotherapy, in patients who have previously shown resistance to chemotherapy treatment.



Mater's ovarian cancer research team is committed to helping improve diagnoses rates and outcomes for patients. Two out of every three women diagnosed with ovarian cancer will ultimately pass away from the disease. This rate has not changed in 15 years.

"Join me for this fun and challenging event that also allows us to make a significant impact on ovarian cancer research at Mater," Dr Jim Coward said.

There are limited spots left but there is still time to join Dr Coward. Register at www.noosasmiddycycle.org.au.

May the spirit of Mercy be with you this Christmas



