

President's Report 2005 (extract)



David Nomchong

The **Hawkesbury Canoe Classic Association (HCC)** is a major strategic partner and sponsor for Arrow. Over the last 10 years they have contributed an average of \$135,000 a year to the Foundation. The funds raised by the HCC are focused in two areas, research and patient facilities.

The Arrow HCC Scholarship for PhD students currently has three recipients:

- **To Ha Loi** who is studying the value of further defining Lymphoma and Leukaemia by gene expression profiles;
- **Melissa Khoo** who is investigating Stem Cells as a treatment for Parkinson's Disease, and;
- **Naveed Khan** who has taken the Leukaemia Research Laboratory in a new direction by introducing Microarray Analysis and understanding Wnt Signaling.

In addition Arrow provides a Research Grant to Professor Ma's Research Unit at St Vincent's Hospital. The grant supports a **Senior Research Scientist, Tim Malloy**, who together with Professor Ma's team has undertaken two major research projects from 2001 to the present.

Another important partner is the Dave 'Coke' Wards Surfing Contest and Trivia Night which supports Arrow. Driven by **Chris Beeby** and **Wayne King** in memory of a loved friend they contribute an average of \$10,000 a year to Arrow, a significant amount over the last 15 years of their support.

The Family and Friends of Katherine Robertson have been instrumental in raising significant funds and support for Arrow, and **the family and friends of Matthew Rennie**, a recent transplant patient, have established an annual benefit concert, **Light the Night**, in support of Arrow and Liverpool Hospital Cancer Ward. The inaugural Concert was held on the 7th November 2005 and was an outstanding success with over 600 attendees. **Shaun and Adam Rennie and Monica and Greg Smith** are the driving force behind this event and they gathered the heart of the entertainment industry to support the event.

Karl Schutte and Gary Dingley, who are both active members of the HCC, created the **Canoeing Cancer Crusaders Movie Night** to show support to a recently diagnosed friend, and have contributed over \$3000 to Arrow.

Greg Corrigan from Tankstream Systems donated a huge amount of time and resources to get our web presence to its current professional state.

In September Arrow met with the CEO of St Vincent's & Mater Health Sydney, **Mary Foley** and the General Manager of Marketing & Communications **David Jackett** to discuss the opportunity of the Arrow Bone Marrow Transplant Foundation's participation in the St Vincent's Research Precinct development.

The Research Precinct will provide a unique opportunity to bring together the talents of researchers and clinicians from across the Darlinghurst Campus in one building. This will facilitate information sharing and cross fertilization, and it will provide a critical mass of researchers necessary to achieve the best outcomes in the long term.

Arrow is keen to provide support for a world class adult stem cell research facility with a primary focus on cancer and Haematological diseases and sees the St Vincent's Research Precinct develop as a unique opportunity to focus attention on this important area of research and raise funds that support this concept.

The strategy for the next five years is focused on how we can achieve this goal.

As we **Target a Cure** we need to ensure the funds we raise are employed in the most effective way. More and more research ceases to be conducted by single unrelated units hidden in little labs around the world, and more and more the synergy of cross fertilization from multi-disciplined groups is producing the best outcomes.

Arrow will continue its current programme of activities as we seek to increase our fund raising efforts towards a future that sees a cure it may be that cure will come from the synergies developed at the St Vincent's Research Precinct in a laboratory funded by the Arrow Bone Marrow Transplant Foundation and its supporters.



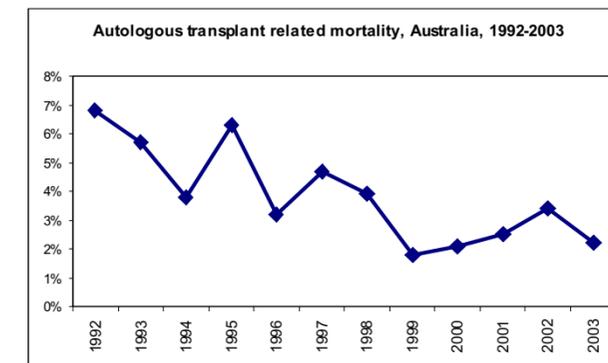
Arrow House - a Home Away from Home for over 132 patients and family members each year

Major improvements in safety of transplants

by Ian Nivison-Smith, Unit Manager / Statistician, ABMTRR December 2005

Bone marrow and peripheral blood stem cell transplants have been carried out worldwide since the early 1980's and thousands of lives have been saved by this procedure. Transplants can be allogeneic, when a patient receives marrow cells from a genetically matched brother or sister or unrelated volunteer, or autologous, when a patient is infused with their own cells that were previously collected while the disease was in remission.

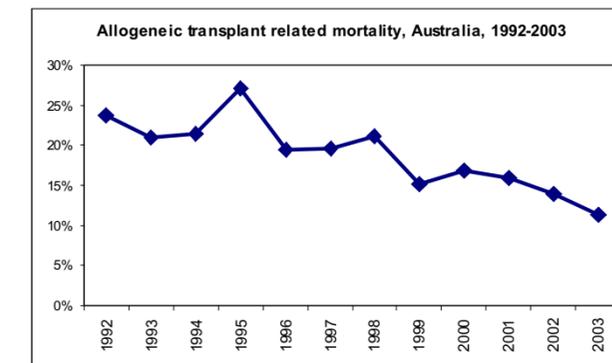
The Australasian Bone Marrow Transplant Recipient Registry (ABMTRR) collects data on bone marrow and stem cell transplants carried out in Australia and New Zealand. The ABMTRR is one of the most accurate and complete registries of its type in the world.



The chart shown above displays the rate of transplant related mortality (i.e. deaths in the first 100 days post transplant) for autologous transplants carried out in Australia in recent years. As can be seen, this rate has almost halved over this time.

Recipients often encounter serious complications, particularly in the first 100 days after their transplant. In recent years the prevention and treatment of these complications has been the subject of concerted international medical research effort involving many thousands of clinicians and scientists worldwide.

The huge amount of research and development on procedures and medications to improve the safety of bone marrow and stem cell transplants has resulted in a significant reduction of post-transplant mortality. The ABMTRR is a valuable international data resource which has been supported in its work by the Arrow Bone Marrow Transplant Foundation since it commenced collecting data in 1992.



The chart shown above displays the rate of transplant related mortality (i.e. deaths in the first 100 days post transplant) for allogeneic transplants carried out in Australia in recent years. This rate has also decreased significantly.

The 2006 Executive Committee of the Arrow Bone Marrow Transplant Foundation

The following Members were elected onto the Arrow Executive Committee at our AGM held Tuesday 15th November 2005

- President:** David Nomchong
Vice President: Heidi Fisse
Treasurer: David Eden
Secretary: Halyna Schan
Executive Members: Associate Professor Tony Dodds, Professor David Ma, Pam Neate, Ian Nivison-Smith, Ian Yates, Mark O'Hara, Brent Fisse, David Peters and Dr Ian Burns.

Welcome to our newest Executive Committee Members; Dr. Ian Burns and David Peters. We wish you all the best in the roles that you have undertaken, and look forward to working together with you in an exciting new year with Arrow.



Thank you to everyone who supported Arrow's Sale of Christmas Cards 2005.

A special note of appreciation to Beryl and Lisa Cuthbertson from Canberra for once again taking on the mammoth job of organising the selection of Christmas cards, and to Darren Williams from Telstra, and the lovely ladies from HOAC and Sydpath SVH for selling the cards on behalf of Arrow.

(The full version of the 2005 President's Report can be viewed in our Annual Report or at www.arrow.org.au)