

TRANSPLANT TALK

ISSUE 2.

2018

Arrow Chairman and Vice-Chairman set to take on the 42nd Classic



Veteran paddler and Arrow Chairman Mark O'Hara, is gearing up for his 18th Hawkesbury Canoe Classic (HCC) and will paddle with first timer, Vice-Chairman Neil Pennock, on the 27th - 28th October.

Over the past 24 years, the overnight 111km paddle has raised almost \$4 million in support of Arrow's research scientists at the Blood Stem Cell and Cancer Research Unit at St Vincent's

Hospital, Sydney. The HCC also funds the Arrow/HCC PhD Scholarship Program, and recently contributed towards the redevelopment of the St Vincent's Hospital Haematology and Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit.

Stay tuned for a post paddle story on how Mark and Neil blitzed the 111km!

Show your support by registering to paddle, sponsoring a paddler or volunteering.

Find out more at:
www.canoeclassic.net



Neil Pennock and Mark O'Hara

Michael and Vicki Quigley donate \$1 million to Arrow



Mark O'Hara, Michael and Vicki Quigley (centre), Prof. David Ma.

Longstanding Arrow supporters, Vicki and Michael Quigley, have donated \$1 million to Arrow to support the work of Professor David Ma and his team at the Blood Stem Cell and Cancer Research Unit at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney.

In 2010, Mr Quigley also donated \$2 million, being his first year's salary as the CEO of NBN Co, to Neuroscience Research Australia to support research into neurological diseases.

In making this donation to The Arrow Foundation, Mr Quigley said; "My wife and I are pleased to be able to make this donation and hope that it may be used to further the research work of Prof. Ma and his team which is focused on diseases treatable by blood stem

cell transplantation. Not only have my wife and I directly benefited from previous research efforts in these transplantation techniques but we also understand that there is a growing number of very serious diseases for which stem cell transplantation may prove to be a very effective treatment."

Prof. David Ma said "It is an honour that the Quigley family is providing this generous donation to support my research aiming to improve the life of patients diagnosed with haematological and other diseases that are potentially treatable with blood stem cell transplantation.

This donation will allow me to expand my programme and to employ skilful researchers to use state of the art technology to fast

track innovative research into better patient treatments."

Mark O'Hara, Arrow Chairman said, "Survival rates for bone marrow transplant patients have improved because of medical research and this significant donation will enable Professor David Ma and his team to continue their work towards better outcomes for future transplant patients. Vicki and Michael Quigley's have been generous supporters of medical research for many years and I thank them for this tremendous gift."

Official launch of the new Haematology, Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit

Arrow Chairman, Mark O'Hara, and CEO Robyn Flood attended the official opening of the St Vincent's Haematology, Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit on behalf of the many Arrow supporters who helped Arrow raise the \$300,000 needed to fund a room that is specially designed to improve infection control and provide greater comfort for patients during treatment and recovery.

Donations in memoriam

We gratefully acknowledge donations received in memory of:

- Katherine Robertson
- David Cresswell
- Karen Bugden

Events

- Hawkesbury Canoe Classic (HCC) 27th - 28th October
www.canoeclassic.net
- Dave Coke Wards Memorial 27th - 28th October
- Arrow AGM Friday 16th November 2018

The Arrow Bone Marrow Transplant Foundation
Patient Room



Mark O'Hara and Robyn Flood

The launch took place on Thursday 2nd August, and marks the successful completion of a three year fundraising campaign supported by the Hawkesbury Canoe Classic (HCC), the Allan Frenkel Foundation, Dave 'Coke' Wards Memorial and many other corporate and individual Arrow supporters without whom we could not have achieved this tremendous outcome for patients.

MAKE A DONATION TODAY!

VISIT WWW.ARROW.ORG.AU

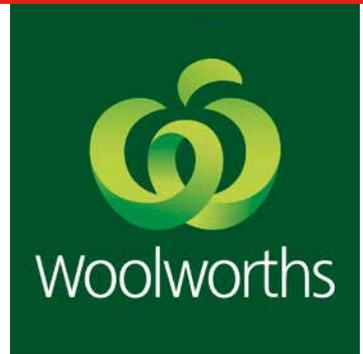
OR COMPLETE THE FORM OVERLEAF

MAJOR SUPPORTERS



Woolworths supports families in crisis with \$30,000 of grocery cards

So far this year, Arrow has supported more than 40 transplant patients and their families with grocery expenses. To help us provide this valuable support, Woolworths is now partnering with us and has generously donated \$30,000 in Woolworths Gift Cards.



When a child is diagnosed with blood cancer or disease that requires a bone marrow transplant it changes everything. A parent or family member often needs to cease work to become a full-time carer, making it difficult to cope with everyday living costs such as groceries.

Arrow CEO, Robyn Flood, said that financial pressure adds to the emotional distress experienced by families during the treatment process. "We are experiencing a growing number of requests for financial assistance and this

support from Woolworths enables us to help many more families when they need it most."

Danielle Bourke, a welfare worker at the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital (LCCH) in Queensland said "Financial support is a huge practical help to Oncology/BMT families here at LCCH. At a time when families are thrown into an unexpected situation, needing to seek urgent medical treatment for their child and having to take time away from their usual work, business or regular home life. Many financially impacted families need

help with things such as putting food on the table. Often bills are already set up as direct debits and we commonly fall back on applying for food vouchers for families in need.

Due to the length of inpatient stays for bone marrow transplant patients, a parent always needs to be present, and modified patient diets often increase the family's food budget. Many of the families we support are impacted by costs such as parking, public transport, travel costs (outside of state travel subsidies such as PTSS),

extra food costs as a result of running two households (home and hospital), daycare costs for siblings and medication. While charity assistance will never replace the loss of income that families often face, it does provide highly needed assistance for families at a time of crisis."

Thank you Woolworths for so generously donating \$30,000 worth of grocery cards in support of bone marrow transplant patients and their families and carers.



Allan Frenkel Foundation raises \$42,000 for Arrow on its 20th year

A year after losing Allan to Acute Lymphatic Leukaemia, his family hosted a dinner to raise funds for teens with cancer, with a focus on patient support. The Allan Frenkel Foundation has since held a fundraising dinner in Allan's memory every year, and this year we joined them in celebrating 20 years of raising vital funds for patient support.

Over the years, the Allan Frenkel Foundation has purchased PUVA wands designed to alleviate painful

ulceration and blistering of the mouth because of GVHD (Graft versus Host Disease); contributed to the new Haematology, Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit. at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney and supported Arrow's emergency funding, travel and accommodation assistance.

Our most sincere gratitude goes to Marisa, Eduardo, Ian and Pablo Frenkel and their friends, family and supporters, thank you.

Chinese banquet hosted by Sydney Executive Business Association (SEBA) raises \$22,000 for Arrow



L to R: Gloria Vincent, Mark O'Hara, Neil Pennock, Luciana Ozcan, Greg Bugden, Benjamin Chow

Having lost his wife Karen to leukaemia, SEBA President Greg Bugden selected Arrow as the recipient of funds from this year's annual fundraising dinner at the Marigold Restaurant in Haymarket, and what a night it was. Julie Soon shared her touching experience with leukaemia, and Dr Tim Molloy presented an interesting insight into the progress that medical researchers are making. Chris Smith from 2GB did a fantastic job as MC for the evening and property auctioneer Jamie

Thomas created a bidding frenzy.

It was a night to remember and we thank all members of the SEBA fundraising committee for the tremendous effort that they put into making the event such a huge success.

SEBA is a forum that allows busy people an opportunity to make a contribution and support community services. To find out more about SEBA visit: www.seba.org.au



Dr Melinda Tursky

Dr Melinda Tursky on her 2017 achievements in research

In 2017 Dr Melinda Tursky continued her research in targeting genes which drive the progression from normal to cancerous blood cells in the Blood Stem Cell and Cancer Research Programme, St Vincent's Centre for Applied Medical Research. During this period, Melinda's work focused on discovering therapeutic potential of specific inhibitors that target early genetic events driving progression to and maintaining leukaemia using advanced pre-clinical models. In this research, the target genes were ERG and mutation GATA1s,

which contribute to development of acute leukaemia in children with Down syndrome. Her research resulted in establishment of two drug testing models and the effect of various drugs on gene expression and inhibition of leukemic cells in the laboratory were tested. One candidate gene inhibitor in particular was identified as a potential therapeutic drug for inhibiting the growth of ERG-driven leukaemia. Furthermore, it also works together with some of the current chemotherapy and enhances their

anti-leukaemic effect. Additional work is being undertaken utilising reprogrammable 'induced pluripotent stem cells' (iPSC) derived from skin or blood cells to further assess the therapeutic potentials of this inhibitor. In 2017 this research work on iPSC or drug testing was presented at several local and international scientific meetings and conferences, including two oral presentations. Melinda is the current Arrow/HCC Research Scientist.

'When people see me, they think it's me': Carolyn shares her wig library experience



Carolyn Jenkins

range of colours and styles that so closely match the hair she once had.

Carolyn said "It's improved my life no end. I can go out into the world and feel normal. Even though I don't have breast cancer anymore, the person I see when I look in the mirror still looks ill, and that can make it hard to move on. The wig has helped me to move on because it makes me look the way I feel now. It gives me so much more confidence and I don't know what I'd do without it."

The Tracey Scone Wig Library is a patient support service of Arrow and is available free of charge to any cancer patient experiencing hair loss from chemotherapy. For more information go to www.arrow.org.au to view the Wig Library video.

A big thank you to Tour de Cure for their ongoing sponsorship of the Tracey Scone Wig Library and their \$12,000 donation in 2018.

For most patients, hair loss associated with chemotherapy is only temporary. Carolyn Jenkins is one of the few who lives with permanent hair loss as a side-effect of her treatment. When her friend recommended that she visit the Tracey Scone Wig Library, she hadn't expected to find such a wide



The Trace Richey Nursing Scholarship expands its horizons

AMP Technology & Operations team

Imagine cooking lunch for over 80 people including three types of curries, sandwiches, cakes and cookies and then, a few days later, taking on the 14km City2Surf. That's exactly what the AMP Technology and Operations team did, and they raised over \$10,000 for the Trace Richey Nursing Scholarship that gives nurses the chance to study the Master of Cancer and Haematology Nursing course at the University of Sydney. Arrow Vice-Chairman, Neil Pennock, established the Trace Richey Nursing Scholarship after experiencing first-hand the care provided by haematology nurses and said: "I saw the incredible work the nurses do up close and

personal when Trace went through his bone marrow transplant and was left with more love, respect and gratitude than he ever knew possible. One of the nurses who cared so lovingly for Trace shared how she wanted to study for this very Masters course at the University of Sydney but couldn't afford it, so the Trace Richey Nursing Scholarship was established."

Neil said this was the most thoughtful way of showing his appreciation and leaves Trace with a legacy that continues to honour his memory by helping so many more nurses into the future.

Arrow supporter Paul Seshold swaps his bike for a kayak

At Arrow's 30th anniversary celebration last year Paul Seshold made a successful bid for a silent auction prize to spend the morning paddling around the Port Hacking River with Arrow Chairman Mark O'Hara.

On Saturday 24 February, almost 4 years after Paul and his wife Elizabeth cycled the Col du Tourmalet to raise \$150,000 for

Arrow, they joined Mark on a paddle that took them from Burraneer Bay past Lilli Pilli Point and across to the edge of Royal National Park from Deer Park to Lightning Point.

The weather was perfect with slight cloud cover creating a warm morning and only a gentle breeze to ruffle the water. After spending 2 ½ hours paddling they then joined Mark's wife Sue for a gourmet



Paul and Elizabeth Seshold

breakfast which Sue prepared and served on a balcony overlooking the picturesque Burraneer Bay.

Paul later thanked Mark and Sue saying, "Thank you very much for the outing and brekky yesterday. We both enjoyed it very much.

Great to kayak in a new area!"

We would like to thank Paul and Elizabeth for their continued support of Arrow and their generous contribution to our fundraising.



Eden family

Eden family runs for research

Arrow is pleased to have purchased a \$22,000 bioinformatics suite thanks to the Eden Family's City2Surf donation. The suite will allow researchers to work faster and more efficiently with the most up to date tools now available to them.

Over \$115,000 has been raised by supporters making a donation to Arrow online. Arrow uses GiveNow for online donations via the donate button on Arrow's website: www.arrow.org.au. Donations can be one-off or set up on a monthly basis.

Liverpool Hospital presents review into post-transplant nausea and vomiting

With support from the Hawkesbury Canoe Classic, Arrow recently provided funding for a literature review aiming to give nurses and dietitians a better understanding of the duration and severity of nausea and vomiting experienced

post autologous and allogeneic bone marrow transplant. The initial abstract was presented at the Health Beyond Research and Innovation Showcase 2018 in Sydney in June.



Support the work of ARROW

YES.. I would like to become a Member (\$30) Please send me information on how to leave a gift in my will.
 YES.. I would like to donate \$75 \$50 \$100 Other amount \$ _____ Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible

Title _____ Given Name _____ Surname _____

Address _____ Suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ Mobile _____ Email _____

My cheque/money order is enclosed Please charge my credit card: Name on Card _____

Master Card Visa American Express Expire Date ____/____/____

Credit card Number _____ Cardholder's Signature _____

Date ____/____/____

Information & Privacy Policy: Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive further correspondence from Arrow.
 PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO: **ARROW BONE MARROW TRANSPLANT FOUNDATION. 16 Leichhardt Street, DARLINGHURST NSW 2010.**