

TRANSPLANT TALK



ISSUE 1.

2019

Arrow and the Hawkesbury Canoe Classic (HCC) fund targeted therapies



Dr Tim Molloy

Dr Tim Molloy said: "Having support of Arrow and the people who take part in the HCC is invaluable to me and my research. We've come a long way in the treatment and search for a cure for leukaemia, but we haven't reached the finish line yet. Since 1994, the year that the Hawkesbury Canoe Classic first started supporting Arrow, there have been dozens of new targeted therapies that have reached various stages of development for the treatment of not just leukaemia, but a range of different bone marrow related diseases, and these are starting to offer real hope for significantly improving the outcome for a large number of patients."

Arrow Chairman Mark O'Hara and Vice Chairman Neil Pennock were among the paddlers who took on the 111 km overnight event in October last year. Their 13 hour paddle was captured in a video that will be launched next week to provide a real insight into what the HCC is all about.

And it's time to get ready for the 2019 Classic which takes place on the 26th & 27th October 2019. As if the Classic is not enough, the HCC are planning to add some exciting new challenges for 2019 including a new relay format. To find out more visit www.canoeclassic.net



Donations in memoriam

We gratefully acknowledge donations received in memory of:

- Katherine Robertson
- Alan Sara

Events

- Hawkesbury Canoe Classic 26 - 27 October www.canoeclassic.net
- Arrow AGM 15th November



Thank you Tour de Cure and CBA

Tour de Cure have been long term supporters of our Tracey Scone Wig Library. Adding to their wig library support, for the second year running, Arrow was the grateful recipient of Tour de Cure's CAN4CANCER fundraising walk where CBA staff raise money through pacing the city streets. CAN4CANCER 2018 was bigger than ever before with walks in six capital cities: Adelaide, Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney. For walkers and their support crew, it was an opportunity to get fit, enjoy the great camaraderie and engage with local communities

along the way while exploring spectacular scenery.

Arrow's Vice Chairman, Neil Pennock, was there at the start of 2018's walk to receive a \$10,000 donation raised by over 1400 participants. The donation will be used to support patients and carers experiencing difficulty keeping up with travel costs associated with the many trips that need to be made for check ups and appointments.

Neil Pennock accepts the \$10,000 donation from CAN4CANCER



arrow

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OR COMPLETE THE FORM OVERLEAF

NURSING SCHOLARSHIP UPDATES



L to R Gemma White (Fiona Stanley Hospital, Perth), Kathleen Irish (John Hunter Children's Hospital) and Jenny Collins (Royal Melbourne Hospital).

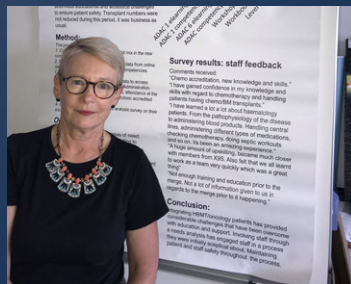
Helping to upskill transplant Data Managers

Transplant data plays a vital role in guiding treatment decisions that lead to improved safety, quality and outcomes for patients.

Jenny Collins, a Data Manager from Royal Melbourne Hospital, describes how a \$3000 Arrow scholarship helped to improve data management processes: "Thanks to the scholarship opportunity provided by Arrow, myself and

two other data managers were able to travel interstate to attend the Australasian Bone Marrow Transplant Recipient Registry (ABMTRR) workshops at the Blood 2018 conference in Brisbane. The workshops provided an opportunity to understand some new features of the ABMTRR database, how these can improve our data management processes and ultimately improve patient care."

Support for Michele's abstract presentation at Blood 2018



Michele Rule presenting her abstract at Blood 2018 in Brisbane.

Michele Rule is the current Clinical Nurse Consultant in Haematology/Oncology at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney. She was accepted to present an abstract at Blood 2018 titled, 'Haematology/ Bone Marrow Transplant/Oncology moved one

floor down but were we up for the challenge?' After extensive capital works, the Haematology / Bone Marrow Transplant ward at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney closed temporarily in October 2017. During these renovations, HBMT/oncology patients were co-located on a mixed medical ward. This posed enormous educational and workforce challenges to ensure patient safety. Michele's abstract described how these challenges were overcome with an education and support process that involved nurse training, workshops and a survey on their education needs. Michele was a recipient of Arrow's Shaun Rosen Nurse Education and Training Scholarship.

Arrow sponsors ABMTRR workshops at Blood 2018 in Brisbane

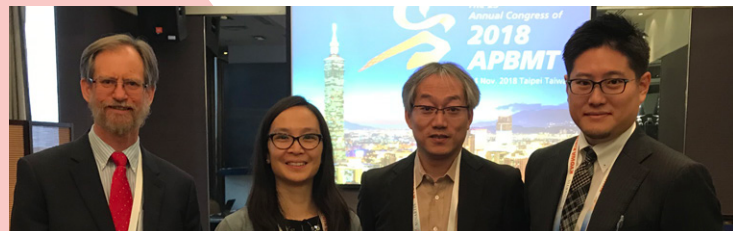
Arrow is pleased to have sponsored ABMTRR workshops that demonstrated how data managers can streamline data management processes. The ABMTRR ran 2 workshops on the weekend prior to Blood 2018 and manned a table in the trade exhibition to enable further engagement with clinicians and researchers in BMT. Arrow also provided funding for 3 ABMTRR staff to attend the Blood 2018 conference.

Research presented on patient nutrition

Jessica Cheng, Senior Dietician at St Vincent's Hospital Sydney, was recently sponsored by Arrow to attend the 23rd annual Asia Pacific Bone Marrow Transplant Conference in Taiwan to present preliminary data on a research project undertaken with Occupational Therapist, Cindy Tan. The research, titled: "A prospective audit of functional, cognitive, body composition, and nutritional changes during the first 3-months post-allogeneic haematopoietic

stem cell transplant", was presented with the group pictured below.

Jessica said: "It was a wonderful opportunity for me to observe the work being done in other Asia Pacific countries. The nursing sessions provided many insights into the care provided to patients undergoing transplantation in countries such as Japan, Singapore, Taiwan and China."



The Nutrition Working Group of the APBMT (Asia Pacific Bone Marrow Transplant) L to R: Prof. Phillip Rowlings (Director of haematology Calvary Mater Hospital Newcastle) Jessica Cheng (Senior Dietitian St Vincent's Sydney) Dr Shigio Fujii (Haematologist - Osaka International Cancer Institute, Osaka) Dr. Yakushijiin (Kobe University, Kobe, Japan)

Trace Richey Nursing Scholarship

The Trace Richey Nursing Scholarship will support cancer nurses undertaking the Master of Cancer and Haematology Nursing offered by the University of Sydney. Arrow has made a monetary commitment of \$35,000 over 5 years towards this program. The current Scholarship recipients are Rebecca Needham and Alana Hoskins. Below they give us some insight into what they believe this qualification will provide.

Rebecca Needham

I am Registered Nurse currently working in an outpatient cancer centre at Royal North Shore Hospital. One of my current goals



for my career is to become a Clinical Nurse Specialist working at the outpatient cancer centre. I am currently working towards this goal by completing a Master of Cancer and Haematology Nursing at the University of Sydney. This qualification will allow me to increase my knowledge and skills specific to cancer nursing and develop my clinical judgement and practice. My longer-term career

ARROW RECEIVES NO GOVERNMENT FUNDING

PERSONAL STORY

goal will be to work as a Clinical Nurse Educator in the outpatient cancer centre. The patients in the outpatient cancer centre are often extremely unwell and require high quality care to ensure their safety. As an educator, I would be a leader in the centre in providing good quality care and ensuring that all team members are also equipped to do this.



Alana Lavonne Hoskins

I am currently aspiring and working towards a clinical nurse educator role within haematology and oncology. I am particularly interested in learning more about graft vs host disease, as the long lasting effects can be detrimental to a patient's everyday life. The haematology and oncology master's degree will equip me to be more aware of a patient's experience and how cancer impacts patients and their families.

History repeats for Michael

When Michael Quigley, a retired telecommunications engineer and former CEO of NBN Co. rejoined the Arrow board in 2018, it was a decision he'd made once before.

After a successful 35-year career in the global telecommunications industry, Michael is no stranger to problem solving, a skill that's also essential for the ongoing success of medical research.

Michael turned his attention to the challenges facing medical researchers after receiving a life saving bone marrow transplant for Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia in 1991. An interest in medical science, and his experience as a patient, were the catalysts for then joining Arrow's board and becoming its President until he took up responsibilities for Alcatel in the US as the Chief Operating Officer.

On returning home to run the National Broadband Network, Michael donated \$2 million (his first year's salary) to NeuRA, explaining in an interview with The Australian that he is a "true believer in what true science can do for society." He said, "Any one of us can

succumb to these diseases and I think as a society we only advance by understanding science and then finding the technologies that spin out of that. I was a direct recipient of that process, and I wouldn't be here if people didn't pump money into leukaemia research 20 and 30 years ago." Thanks to Michael, and the many others who have funded bone marrow and stem cell transplant research over the years, patients diagnosed today are more likely to respond positively to transplants; and the complications of unrelated donor transplants have decreased.

Having again proved the importance of medical research after successfully undergoing a second bone marrow transplant for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia in early 2018, Michael has since re-joined the Arrow board, and very generously donated \$1 million to Arrow in support of the critical research undertaken by Professor



David Ma and his team at the Blood Stem Cell and Cancer Research Unit at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney.

Michael said, "My wife and I are pleased to be able to assist Professor Ma and his team. Their dedication to medical research and medical education ultimately impacts in a positive way on the lives of patients and their families."

Medical research takes time and commitment. It's taken decades to make bone marrow transplants available to patients with autoimmune diseases such as multiple sclerosis and other blood diseases, and we need your help to further improve outcomes for future patients.

Belinda shares the story behind her brother's bequest



First Australia Bone Marrow Association meeting. L to R: Belinda, Marcus & Julie Jones

My brother, Marcus Shepherd, was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) in 1982 (age 32). He had his initial chemotherapy and went into remission in New Zealand, prior to further evaluation and consultation at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney.

Luckily, I matched his tissue and blood type and Marcus had a bone marrow transplant under Professor Jim Biggs and his dedicated team in June 1982. His post-transplant recovery diligently was monitored by the transplant team. With throat ulceration and minor skin irritations, he returned to New Zealand six months later, returning to Sydney for check-ups.

On one of his visits, he attended the first Australia Bone Marrow Association meeting. The dedication, support and friendship

that followed from transplant team members, was quite outstanding.

He had lived until he was 32 years, with the later couple of years marred by respiratory problems, with regular chest infections and eventual pneumonia.

He was much admired and respected amongst peers, family and medical personal. Hence the inspiration to give back in the form of a bequest to support leukaemia and bone marrow transplant medical research, families, donors and patients.

For information about how to leave a gift in your will call Arrow on (02) 8382 2698, email info@arrow.org.au or visit: <http://arrow.org.au/how-to-help/bequest/>

