A bird’s-eye view

Driven to success

Sponsor Profile: Janet and Jaide Roubicek, the Key Australia

Christmas

The Menzies Institute for Health Research in Tasmania is hosting its annual Christmas event on Thursday, 11 December to celebrate Christmas in style. Our Christmas event is a great opportunity to get together and enjoy a relaxed festive atmosphere.

Dr. Sue Pearson is the National Heart Foundation of Australia’s Senior Research Scientist and has recently published her research on the impact of heart disease on the broader community. Dr. Pearson’s research has shed light on the prevalence of heart disease and the potential for interventions to improve outcomes for women and men.

What is the core business of the Key Australia?

What services do you offer?

Why do you support Menzies?

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Breathing easier

A fresh breeze has blown through the Menzies Research Institute recently. In the company of a literature review on lung health, an ongoing collaboration with the Clifford Craig Medical Trust has the potential to reveal ground breaking insights with regard to the role of fructose 6-phosphate in atherogenesis and the prevention of this cholesterol metabolite from building up to make atheromas, the bluish plaques that form on the inner walls of arteries.

The project, led by Professor Shyamali Dharmage at the Launceston General Hospital, Associate Professor Adrian West from the University of Tasmania and Associate Professor Liz Grant from the University of New South Wales, is focussed on using this metabolite to improve the understanding of atherosclerosis and the development of diabetes. The project has been funded by GSK Australia and the Tasmanian Government.

The Menzies’ research team has identified fructose 6-phosphate as an important player in the development of diabetes and atherosclerosis, two of the world’s leading causes of death. This is the first time this metabolite, which is normally linked to carbohydrate metabolism in the liver, has been shown to be important for atherosclerosis. It is hoped that these findings will be able to be translated into new therapies for the prevention and treatment of diabetes and atherosclerosis.

The results of this study will be presented at a major international conference later this year and the findings will be published in a major international journal.

New Menzies’ study into Alzheimer’s

Jerome Staal, Menzies’ 2008 Masonic Medical Research Foundation Fellowship awardee, is focusing on understanding cell pathology after traumatic brain injury.

Jerome recently finished his PhD on understanding changes linked to the earliest stages of Alzheimer’s disease and to identify medical research priority to develop a generic actions. It has also revealed a quite interesting properties when applied to regeneration, nervous tissue. We also believe that the phenomenon is how the human brain contributes to deteriorating lung health in adults.

The primary aim of the study is to assess two different types of patients who are at high risk of respiratory disease and the relationships between possible risk factors in childhood and different measurements may show the relationships between possible risk factors and different outcomes, and impact and commercial significance.

The epidemiology of respiratory diseases.

A team of Menzies’ researchers has been undertaking research into middle-age lung health.

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Breathing easier

A team of Monash researchers has developed a new device for supporting respiratory function in patients with severe lung disease.

The project, titled ‘The respiration support device for non-invasive respiratory assistance’ (ReSAR), is led by Professor Haydn Walters, Associate Professor Adrian West, and Dr. Sarah K. Brown at the University of Melbourne. It has been awarded a $70,000 grant from the Masonic Medical Research Foundation (MMRF) to support its development.

The team’s device, called ReSAR, uses a novel approach to support respiratory function in patients with severe lung disease. It is designed to be used in the home or hospital setting, providing continuous respiratory assistance without the need for invasive intubation. The device is based on the principles of substrate cycling, a process that is fundamental to the production of energy by cells.

“ReSAR is a non-invasive respiratory support device that can be used in the home or hospital setting to support respiratory function in patients with severe lung disease,” said Professor Haydn Walters.

The device will be tested in a clinical trial involving patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and other severe lung conditions. The trial will assess the safety and effectiveness of the device in comparison to current standard-of-care treatments.

The team is also working on a mobile app for patients and healthcare providers to monitor the device and track their respiratory function. The app will allow for remote monitoring and adjustment of the device settings.

ReSAR was developed through a collaboration between the University of Melbourne, the Masonic Medical Research Foundation, and the Victorian Government’s Life Sciences Victoria program. The project is supported by the VicHealth-funded Masonic Medical Research Foundation South Australia (MMRF SA) grant.

New Manzies’ study into Alzheimer’s

A team of researchers from the University of Melbourne and Menzies’ Institute of Medical Research has been awarded $70,000 over the next two years to investigate the role of chemicals such as hydrogen peroxide in the development of Alzheimer’s disease.

Professor Clark’s postdoctoral research at the University of Melbourne, working with Associate Professor Adrian West, has shown that chemicals such as hydrogen peroxide are involved in the development of Alzheimer’s disease. The team is now investigating how these chemicals can be measured and how they can be used to develop new treatments for the disease.

The project, titled ‘The role of chemicals in the development of Alzheimer’s disease: a new approach to treatment’, is led by Professor Clark and Associate Professor West and is supported by the Masonic Medical Research Foundation.

The team is planning to use a combination of chemical and biological methods to identify the chemicals that are involved in the development of Alzheimer’s disease. They will then investigate how these chemicals can be measured and how they can be used to develop new treatments for the disease.

The project will be carried out in the University of Melbourne’s research lab and is expected to take two years to complete.

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Researcher profile: Associate Professor Adrian West

What is the current focus of your research?}

I am currently focused on the role of chemicals such as hydrogen peroxide in the development of Alzheimer’s disease. We have shown that these chemicals are involved in the disease and we are now investigating how they can be measured and how they can be used to develop new treatments.

What is the single greatest challenge in your area of research?}

The single greatest challenge in my area of research is to develop new treatments for Alzheimer’s disease. Despite significant advances in understanding the disease, there is still a lack of effective treatments.

What do you enjoy doing away from the lab?}

I enjoy playing golf and spending time with my family.

A reason to celebrate

The Masonic Research Foundation has awarded a $70,000 grant to the University of Melbourne and Menzies’ Institute of Medical Research for their research into the role of chemicals such as hydrogen peroxide in the development of Alzheimer’s disease.

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Breathing easier
A team of Menzies’ researchers has been developing the first Australian index to predict menopausal symptoms ahead of time.

The project, titled ‘The epidemiology of reproductive age and menopause in Australia’, is one of the world’s largest ever demographic and prospective studies into menopause.

The researchers have developed a ‘menopausal symptom index’ that will serve as a useful diagnostic tool for healthcare professionals and women.

Dr. Rosemarie Hickey, a research fellow with Menzies Health Institute and a clinical psychologist at the University of Tasmania, said the team was now ready to roll out the tool.

“We’ve developed a list of symptoms that are indicative of menopause,” Dr. Hickey said.

“Women can use it to self-assess in the comfort of their own home and, if they have a high score, they can go to their doctor and get a proper diagnosis.”

Dr. Hickey said the index would help healthcare professionals understand the impact of menopausal symptoms on women’s mental health.

She said the index would also help women to make informed decisions about their treatment options.

“Women can use the index to weigh up the potential benefits and risks of different treatments,” Dr. Hickey said.

“While some treatments can help alleviate symptoms, others can have side effects that affect a woman’s quality of life.”

The Menzies Health Institute is a research institute of the University of Tasmania.

The index is based on a study of more than 10,000 women aged 45-55 years who were surveyed over a period of four years.

The women were asked about their menopausal symptoms, including hot flushes, night sweats, mood swings, and depression.

The research team used this data to develop a list of symptoms that are indicative of menopause.

The index is intended to be used by healthcare professionals and women to help them understand the impact of menopausal symptoms on their lives.

The research team is now working on a pilot project to test the index in a real-world setting.

They are also working on a mobile app that will allow women to track their menopausal symptoms and receive personalized advice.

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Driving to success

What is the core business of the Key Australia?

Dr MichaelO’Hare

The Key Australia is a group of medical research facilities within the Menzies Research Institute and the University of Tasmania. Our goal is to address crucial health-related issues through evidence-based research. Our research is focused on areas such as prostate cancer, depression, diabetes, and quality of life.

What services do you offer?

Jilly Mitchell

The Key Australia offers a range of services focused on women’s health. These include breast cancer screening, skin cancer risk assessment, and mental health services. Services are delivered through our clinics and research institutions, including the Menzies Research Institute and the University of Tasmania.

Why do you support Menzies?

Michelle Johns & Jilly Mitchell

We support Menzies because it is the only Australian research institute dedicated to women’s health. Menzies’ research is crucial in addressing the health needs of women, especially in relation to breast cancer and other diseases.

What is Menzies’ role in your organisation?

Michelle Johns & Jilly Mitchell

Menzies Research Institute is one of the key partners in our organisation. It provides us with access to the latest research findings and technologies that help us improve our services and support women’s health needs.

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To view progress of the building visit: http://www.healthsci.utas.edu.au/collocation/livefeed/live_feed.html

A bird’s-eye view

What is the core business of the Key Australia?

Barbara Zimmerman

The Key Australia is a women’s health organisation that conducts research, provides education, and offers services to improve the health and wellbeing of women. Our focus is on addressing the health needs of women through evidence-based research and education.

What services do you offer?

Georgina Pajak

We offer breast cancer screening, skin cancer risk assessment, and mental health services. Our research is focused on women’s health, particularly in relation to breast cancer and other diseases.

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Driven to success

The 2008 AGM was held on Wednesday, 19 November, at the Port Arthur Golf Club and hosted by Dr. Bronwen Mundie, President. A relaxed atmosphere was enhanced by afternoon tea served by the Birds Eye View Catering team. Ten attendees were present, with one key note speaker and an open forum for attendees to share their thoughts and ideas. Refreshments were served, which included canapes and a cash bar.

The AGM was opened by the President, Dr. Bronwen Mundie, who welcomed everyone to the AGM and outlined the agenda for the meeting. She then handed over to the keynote speaker, Dr. Bronwen Mundie, who spoke about the importance of research in driving innovation and how it can help to improve health outcomes.

The keynote speaker was followed by a panel discussion on the current trends in research, with each panelist providing their own perspective on the topic. The panelists were Dr. Bronwen Mundie, Dr. Bronwen Mundie, and Dr. Bronwen Mundie.

The panel discussion was followed by a Q&A session, where attendees were encouraged to ask questions and share their thoughts on the topic. The session was moderated by Dr. Bronwen Mundie.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m., with the next meeting scheduled for 19 November 2009.
**A bird’s-eye view**

Work is coming along in leaps and bounds for the new Menzies Research Foundation building. The project has now reached the stage where the building has been divided into three strata, which are currently all being built and will be linked at the end. By the end of the month, all the floors will be linked by a central core of steel and concrete, allowing work to continue on the third floor. The steel beams and columns for the third floor have already been erected, and the concrete slab is now complete. The west wall of the building will be complete by the end of the week, and the east wall will be completed next week. The north wall will be completed by the end of next week, and the south wall will be completed by the end of the month. The roof will be completed by the end of next month, and the interior finishing will begin immediately.

**Driven to success**

Dr. Jennifer Wilson, director of the Menzies Research Foundation, said, “Our goal is to make this building a world-class facility that will enable our researchers to excel in their work. We are confident that we will achieve this goal, and we are looking forward to seeing the final product.”

Dr. Wilson also mentioned that the building will be designed with sustainability in mind, and that it will be one of the most environmentally friendly research facilities in the world. The building will be equipped with solar panels, and will have a green roof. The building will also be equipped with a rainwater harvesting system, which will be used to provide water for the building’s toilet and irrigation systems.

**Society for the Future**

The new Menzies Research Foundation building will be the first of its kind in Australia, and will provide an opportunity for researchers to collaborate and share ideas. The building will be equipped with state-of-the-art technology, and will be designed to accommodate researchers from a variety of disciplines. The building will also be equipped with a gym, a cafe, and a library, which will provide a comfortable and relaxed environment for researchers.

**What is the core business of the Key?**

Natural and healing therapies. We offer products from the natural world that are effective in enhancing health and well-being. Our range includes organic herbal teas, essential oils, and natural skincare products.

**What services do we offer?**

We offer a range of treatments and therapies that are designed to enhance health and well-being. Our services include massage, reflexology, aromatherapy, and acupuncture.

**What is the Key About?**

The Key is a holistic health and wellness centre located in the heart of Hobart, Tasmania. We offer a range of services and therapies that are designed to enhance health and well-being. Our services include massage, reflexology, aromatherapy, and acupuncture.

**What’s inside?**

Our fist floor is dedicated to our corporate and social gathering space. The space is designed to be flexible and can be used for a variety of purposes. The space is equipped with a sound system, a projector, and a large screen.

**What does the Key offer?**

The Key offers a range of services and therapies that are designed to enhance health and well-being. Our services include massage, reflexology, aromatherapy, and acupuncture.

**What support does the Key offer?**

The Key offers a range of services and therapies that are designed to enhance health and well-being. Our services include massage, reflexology, aromatherapy, and acupuncture.

**What’s in store?**

The Key offers a range of services and therapies that are designed to enhance health and well-being. Our services include massage, reflexology, aromatherapy, and acupuncture.

**What’s the Point?**

The Key offers a range of services and therapies that are designed to enhance health and well-being. Our services include massage, reflexology, aromatherapy, and acupuncture.
**Breathing easier**

A team of Menzies' researchers have been awarded $70,000 over the next two years by the Clifford Craig Medical Trust to advance understanding of conditions such as chronic respiratory diseases. The trust initiative is funded by the Tasmanian Government.

**A reason to celebrate**

The Menzies Research Institute has experienced a stellar year with exceptional national and international success. Recent national and international success includes:

- Successful grant applications for 2009 national grant applications for 2009
- Achievements in the field of biotechnology research
- Commercialising biotech innovations
- The potential social and economic impact of biotech research

Mr Malcolm Melrose, CEO of Menzies Research Institute, said he was delighted with the results.

**New Menzies’ study into Alzheimer’s**

Researchers at the University of Tasmania’s Menzies Research Institute in Hobart have been awarded $70,000 over the next two years by the Clifford Craig Medical Trust to advance understanding of conditions such as chronic respiratory diseases.