

# 2015 annual report



**Fight Cancer Foundation™**  
*Giving hope. Saving lives.*

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**Patrons in Chief**

His Excellency  
General the Honourable  
David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd)  
Governor of New South Wales

Her Excellency  
Professor the Honourable  
Kate Warner AM  
Governor of Tasmania

Her Excellency  
The Honourable  
Linda Dessau AM  
Governor of Victoria

**Patrons**

Sir Gustav Nossal AC CBE  
Deborra-lee Furness  
Hugh Jackman

**Ambassadors**

David Boon MBE  
Mark Beretta  
Simon Marshall

**Medical Advisor**

Professor Jeffrey Szer AM

**Honorary Lawyers**

Corrs Chambers Westgarth

**Honorary Accountants**

ShineWing Australia

**Honorary Auditors**

PKF Melbourne Pty Ltd



# Message from the President and Managing Director



We're very proud to report that in 2015, Fight Cancer Foundation continued to consolidate and build on our programs and services to support people living with cancer and their families.

This year marked our 26th year of giving hope and saving the lives of people living with cancer. We pay tribute to the group of dedicated volunteers who created Fight Cancer Foundation (then the Bone Marrow Donor Institute) in 1989, lead by the visionary John Opie AM. We believe the programs, achievements, campaigns and events covered in this report continues their legacy.

2015 marked the significant expansion of the Back on Track education support program, with the program launching in the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick and the Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide.

Launched by our Patrons Deborra-lee Furness and Hugh Jackman, Back on Track at the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick ensures that young learners receiving treatment for cancer at both major Sydney children's hospitals remain engaged with their education and are able to transition back to their regular school environment.

The Back on Track program at Adelaide's Women's and Children's Hospital is the first dedicated education support program for children with cancer from South Australia and the Northern Territory. It is delivered in partnership with the Department for Education and Child Development Hospital School, supported by TeamKids - Women's & Children's Hospital Foundation.

Our accommodation centres continue to provide comfortable and affordable accommodation for hundreds of patients and their families each year in New South Wales (Hilltop), Tasmania (John Opie House) and Victoria (BMDI Rotary House). Our newest accommodation centre, Hilltop opened in 2013 and has cemented its position as a valuable resource for rural and regional patients travelling to Albury and Wodonga for medical treatment. The centre welcomes the imminent opening of the Albury and Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre and looks forward to providing much needed care and support to its patients.

We are also proud that our commitment to research into improved treatment methods for leukaemia and other blood disorders was expanded during the year. Our long and close relationship with Melbourne Health and The Royal Melbourne Hospital saw significant investment in world class research, resulting in increased understanding of key research themes and improved clinical outcomes for patients. Our scholarship program offers the next generation of cancer scientists the opportunity to investigate new avenues of research, providing knowledge breakthroughs that will ultimately help find a cure.

Fight Cancer Foundation's support of BMDI Cord Blood Bank in Melbourne continues to look to the future, with groundbreaking research and technology providing the promise of significant breakthroughs, with enormous potential for stem cell transplants around the world. Established and managed in partnership with The Royal Children's Hospital and Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, the BMDI Cord Blood Bank has more than 12,700 cord blood units stored ready for transplant and has released more than 525 units for life saving transplants around the world.

Our longstanding involvement with the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry continues through Leonie's position on the Management Board, ensuring the future strategic direction and capabilities of Fight Cancer Foundation's first project. The Registry continues to provide a second chance at life for patients around Australia with blood and immune disorders.

Our work continues due to the dedication of our Patrons, Ambassadors, volunteer directors and committee members, office staff, corporate supporters and our selfless volunteers, all of whom are fundamental to our success. Thank you to our regular financial supporters who continue to support our work and enable us to achieve our vision of giving hope and saving lives of people living with cancer.

**Leonie Walsh** *President*  
**Eric Wright** *Managing Director*





## Education Support Program

### Helping Kids with Cancer get Back on Track

Fight Cancer Foundation's education support program helps young learners receiving treatment for cancer stay engaged with their education. Maintaining a connection with a learner's school and education is important in reducing isolation and helps to make sure they can transition back to their regular school environment as easily as possible.

The program's specialist Education Advisors work with families and schools to develop individual support and learning plans that meet the educational, social and welfare needs of learners. They also provide tutoring and one-on-one learning activities, as well as fostering strong connections with learners' schools and peers.

The role is varied, challenging and rewarding. Education Advisors are trained teachers who all have a passion for working within the unique children's hospital environment. There's no such thing as a typical day for an Education Advisor - but here's a snapshot of what it can be like working to help young learners get back on track through Fight Cancer Foundation's education support program.



# Sonja Fea

Kindergarten Teacher, Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne



**8.30am** Education Support Team daily briefing. Attended by the entire teaching team, patient allocation and possible learning and teaching activities are discussed.

**8.45am** Quick catch up with teachers in the Early Years/Primary Years team to discuss who will work with particular learners today.

**9.00am** Visit allocated learners on the wards to let them know about today's Group Learning session and to schedule individual learning sessions/times for developing Individual Learning Plans.

**9.30am** Discussion with hospital social worker about a particular learner. School is a major concern for this learner and their family - they worry they might fall behind peers and how their health condition will affect progress at school - discuss strategy for providing support to learner, family and school.

**9.45am** Meet with author/illustrator Alison Lester to discuss some possibilities about how she can support our literacy focus. Alison volunteers her time on a regular basis to work with both our learners and our teachers.

**11.00am** Facilitate a Group Learning session on the ward, focusing on a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Maths) boat challenge, 'Who sank the boat?' Use design thinking principles to encourage learners to build their own boats from a variety of materials and explore concepts of weight, mass and volume as they determine the weight required to sink these vessels. Who can build the most 'sea worthy' vessel? How much weight does it take to sink this vessel?

**1.00pm** Facilitate three individual learning sessions on the ward for learners who were unable to attend the Group Learning session. Sessions are based on learning goals articulated in an Individual Learning Plan. We accommodate different learning profiles, rates of learning and individual passions by developing an Individual Learning Plan for each student, negotiating between the learner, teacher and their parents/carers. It reflects conversations with the learner's regular teachers and sets out goals and strategies that are challenging and achievable.

**2.30pm** Discussion with Clinical Nurse Coordinator about a particular learner. This learner is leaving hospital tomorrow and should be ready to return to school in a week. Need to determine what information the school needs in order to ensure appropriate support is set up.

Call learner's school to discuss plans for transition. This learner will return to school in a changed physical state and the school will need to modify the timetable and learning activities. Facilitate planning process involving school, child and family, health professionals and social workers to ensure the return to school is as seamless as possible.

**2.45pm** Encourage a learner to attend daily music education session with our qualified music teacher. This particular learner loves music but is having trouble maintaining motivation to keep up with schoolwork.

"Spent time working with our music teacher to develop strategies that build on students' interests in the arts to re-engage them in learning activities."

**3.00pm** Attend interdisciplinary team meeting in the Children's Cancer Centre. A range of professionals involved in the care of children and young people meet to discuss the needs of the school-aged children and young people in their care. In the meetings the health care needs of newly-diagnosed children are discussed, as is how best to support them, their families and their school.

**4.15pm** Meet with a family whose child is not enrolled in 4 year old kindergarten program as timing of diagnosis coincided with enrolment period. Discuss benefits of quality early childhood education, provide advice about what to look for when choosing a kindergarten program and how to enrol.

**5.00pm** Ensure that data relating to key interactions and progress/challenges is recorded in each patient's medical records.



# Accommodation Centres

## A home away from home

Our accommodation centres in Albury, Hobart and Melbourne continue to provide much needed comfortable and affordable accommodation for seriously ill patients and their families who must travel to access medical treatment. The home away from home atmosphere relieves some of the financial and emotional burden caused by serious illness, and the collegiate environment and services help support patients and their families during an uncertain time.

Throughout 2015, our centres provided accommodation to hundreds of families in need. Our House Managers are crucial to the smooth running of the accommodation centres, fulfilling multiple roles as manager, counsellor, caretaker, handyman, cleaner and friend. The position is hectic, often challenging and extremely rewarding. Here our House Managers Helen Murray, Samantha Kanizay and Vicki Rochester share a glimpse of what their day can look like.





# Accommodation Centres

A home away from home



**8.30am** Helen, House Manager at Hilltop in Albury arrives, checks the meeting room on the lower level after a Lions Club meeting the night before, empties the rubbish bins and collects the newspaper before opening her office.

**9.00am** Vicki, House Manager at BMDI Rotary House in North Melbourne speaks with a much appreciated volunteer masseuse who helps patients and their families relax. Three residents are booked in for sessions throughout the week.

**9.15am** Samantha, House Manager at John Opie House in Hobart organises an emergency room booking and gets on top of her end of month paperwork, completing Patient Travel Assistance Scheme (PTAS) invoices, updating the invoice register and banking sheet.

**10.00am** Vicki checks in a patient and their carer, showing them their room, shared amenities and local services. The patient is struggling financially and doesn't qualify for PTAS, so Vicki accesses a subsidised accommodation support fund generously raised by a local social club to help at this stressful time.

**11.00am** Ladies arrive at Hilltop for the monthly McGrath Breast Care Nurse's Mayflies meeting. As many are new attendees, Helen greets them and shows them to the meeting room. Many cancer support groups meet at Hilltop, providing care and support to cancer patients staying at the accommodation centre, as well as the surrounding area.

**11.45am** Samantha meets with John Opie House's cleaner to provide a list of cleaning tasks and the room servicing list. Samantha has also reworked the booking schedule and waiting list, so is able to let a patient and their family know that accommodation has become available.

**12.00pm** Vicki receives delivery of dining tables and chairs for families living at BMDI Rotary House to be able to eat meals together. The generous donation is from a company refurbishing their premises and the tables and chairs must be unloaded and stored so they can be placed in rooms as they become available.

**1.15pm** Samantha speaks with a social worker at the Royal Hobart Hospital who is helping a newly diagnosed patient find accommodation while they receive treatment for cancer. She then arranges a time for the patient to visit John Opie House with their carer and the social worker.

**1.30pm** Helen puts on a load of washing before providing a guided tour of Hilltop for 25 oncologists, oncology nurses and representatives from cancer support groups from a regional centre two hours away. The tour is arranged by the Radiation Unit at the Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre. The new Cancer Centre provides services to patients from Shepparton in Victoria to Griffith in New South Wales.

**2.00pm** Vicki supports the wife of a resident who has just been rushed back to hospital following a relapse.

**2.30pm** Samantha works on an upcoming local fundraising event, liaising with Fight Cancer Foundation's Event Coordinator on invitations, sponsorship approaches and promotional materials.

**3.15pm** Vicki is rejigging her bookings and waiting list when a family drops in to advise that their young son has relapsed, following 18 months of treatment. A tumour has grown close to a major organ and emergency surgery will take place shortly. Vicki further supports the family by taking them to an appointment at the Royal Children's Hospital and arranging their accommodation for the foreseeable future.

**3.25pm** Vicki organises an air conditioning contractor to service all BMDI Rotary House's air conditioning units. As most of the residents staying at the centre are seriously ill or visiting seriously ill patients, clean and working individual units are essential to maintaining optimal health.

**3.45pm** The buzzer goes and Helen meets a carer sent by the Albury Base Hospital about accommodation for her 91 year old mother. After seeing the centre, the carer is very happy to book her mother in as she realises she has comfortable, affordable choices for her mother - not just a motel room.

*"She's happy ... as she realises she has comfortable, affordable choices."*

**4.15pm** Samantha prepares for a visit from Fight Cancer Foundation Patron, Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AM, Governor of Tasmania by going over the final itinerary and briefing guests.

**4.45pm** Helen begins end-of-day tidying, wiping benches, tables and chairs - dust from the ongoing construction of the Cancer Centre gets everywhere. She waters the plants and calls any guests scheduled to book in who are yet to arrive.

**5.05pm** Samantha closes the office for the day, settling the EFTPOS machine, shutting down her computer, checking external doors are locked and all night lights are turned on.

**7.00pm** Vicki makes welcome baskets for patients and families who will arrive tomorrow while she waits to check the last family of the day into BMDI Rotary House - before starting all over again the following day.





# BMDI Cord Blood Bank

## A second chance at life

The BMDI Cord Blood Bank operates as a partnership between Fight Cancer Foundation, the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute and the Royal Children's Hospital. It's one of three public cord blood banks in Australia, which together form the AusCord network of public cord blood banks, with the other banks in Sydney and Brisbane.

Working closely with the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry, the banks source and provide cord blood for patients needing a stem cell transplant for treatment of leukaemia and other life-threatening illnesses. Many people in Australia and around the world benefit from the life-saving gift that is the donation of cord blood following the birth of a child.

The journey of a cord blood unit from umbilical cord and placenta to transplant involves a lot of time, processes and skilled people. Here we follow a cord blood unit through collection, testing and processing - to saving the life of a patient with leukaemia in the United States.



# BMDI Cord Blood Bank

## A second chance at life

**Day1: 7.00am** A mother in labour arrives at the Royal Women's Hospital - even though expectant mothers can pre-register to be a cord blood donor, she's approached by a Cord Blood Bank (CBB) Collection midwife. Meeting the initial selection criteria, she gives consent for the collection to proceed.

**11.45am** When the baby is born and the umbilical cord clamped and cut, the CBB Collection midwife collects all the blood from the placenta and umbilical cord with a needle. A small sample of blood is also taken from the mother.

**12.00pm** The cord blood unit (CBU) is weighed, labelled and refrigerated. The tubes containing the mother's blood are also labelled and stored.

**3.30pm** The CBU and mother's blood are transported to BMDI Cord Blood Bank, where they are refrigerated overnight ready for processing the following day.

**Day 2: 7.30am** The CBB Processing Team processes the CBU, weighing the unit and counting the cells to make sure there are enough to be used in a future transplant. Red blood cells and plasma are then removed, leaving only white cells and blood stem cells. The mother's blood samples are sent to external testing to check for infectious diseases.

**11.30am** A protective solution is added to the processed CBU so it can be frozen at a rate of -1°C per minute. Once frozen, the CBU is placed in a cryostorage tank at a temperature of -196°C.

**1.00pm** Samples of cord blood are sent for external testing, including microbiological to ensure the CBU is not contaminated, DNA extraction and tissue typing. Additional samples are tested in the CBB laboratory for blood cell identity and to count the number of blood stem cells present.

**Week 2** Completed test results show the CBU is good for storage and possible future use. The unit will now be in cryostorage for six months, after which the CBB Maternal Liaison Nurse will monitor the health of the donating mother and her baby to make sure they (and the CBU) are healthy.

**Week 36** The CBU is listed on the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry (ABMDR) and international bone marrow donor registries. People around the world requiring a bone marrow transplant can now access the CBU for a second chance at life.

**Week 82** An American transplant centre identifies the CBU as a possible suitable match for a leukaemia patient and submits a request through the ABMDR. The CBB Transplant Team prepares a detailed report about the CBU for the American medical team.

**Week 90** A formal request to release the CBU is made by the American transplant centre. The CBB Transplant team prepares the international documentation and the Processing Team test samples for cell quality, further infectious diseases and tissue typing.

**Week 91** With all pre-release test results received and the paperwork complete, the CBU is ready to be shipped to the transplant centre and the CBB Director authorises release. CBB Quality Manager reviews the paperwork and approves release while CBB Transplant Staff prepare a cryoshipper, which allows the CBU to be transported frozen in vapour phase liquid nitrogen.

**Week 92** The CBU is thawed by the American transplant centre and infused like a blood transfusion into the patient with leukaemia. The transplant is a success and outcome data is sent to the CBB Transplant staff who collate, analyse and report the data as part of the quality review of the CBB.



“Now listed ... people around the world requiring a bone marrow transplant have a second chance at life.”





# Research

## Improving treatment methods and outcomes

Fight Cancer Foundation is proud of our longstanding partnership with Melbourne Health and The Royal Melbourne Hospital to fund translational research into blood disorders. Cancers of the blood – leukaemias, lymphomas and multiple myeloma – affect people of all ages and are one of the largest causes of cancer death in Australia. The ongoing translation of laboratory and clinical research to clinical practice and policy creates better patient outcomes.

Researchers working at The Royal Melbourne Hospital are dedicated to finding the answers to the infinite questions raised by cancer. Their work at the ACRF Translational Haematological Laboratory paves the way by applying basic science knowledge to samples of patients to create new treatment pathways. They are extremely busy, dedicated and intelligent, and here a post-doctoral scientist illustrates what it's like to be at the forefront of developing better outcomes for patients with blood disorders.

### Dr Joanne Davis

Research Officer, ACRF Translational Research Laboratory,  
The Royal Melbourne Hospital

I work in a very interactive lab situated in the hub of scientific and clinical research at The Royal Melbourne Hospital. Our work largely focuses on linking clinical trials of new drugs for blood cancers with understanding the immunology behind how these treatments work. My research concentrates on how our immune system recovers after bone marrow transplantation, and also how it is impaired when blood cancer takes over.

My role as a post-doctoral scientist gives me the opportunity to design and run experiments, mentor students, and organise the administrative side of things, such as writing grants and papers, and managing ethics. I find that I have a burst of experiments, then while I'm analysing and planning the next steps, I fit in the admin (with many cups of green tea by my side!). Many senior scientists find that they miss doing hands-on research, and I still enjoy the challenge that basic research brings. There is great satisfaction in performing an experiment over a number of weeks, then discovering something new and unexpected at the end.

“The question is, which direction to pursue next?”

When we started to look at the function of a bone marrow transplant recipient's immune system, we discovered that a protein called perforin was crucial in regulating bone marrow rejection. We then found another lab had unique models and tools to help us investigate this further. Together we published a paper and now have formed a strong collaboration where we share a top international student, design experiments and analyse data together. This has helped us to expand our research, with the hope that one day we may be able to use this knowledge to design clinical trials to improve bone marrow transplant outcomes.

To sum up, my typical day is a fusion of lab-based research, lots of time at the computer analysing data, reading scientific papers and doing admin, plus a few meetings added in for good measure! Then there's always tomorrow to look forward to...





# Events

## Red Ball

Saturday 5 September

Guests stepped back in time at our 1950s inspired Red Ball extravaganza. Kerri-Anne Kennerley was a brilliant host for the evening and our wonderful Patrons Deborra-lee Furness and Hugh Jackman stole the show at one of our most successful Red Ball events yet!



## Footy Colours Day

Friday 4 September

In 2015 more than 425,000 Australians united in the fight against cancer at their school, club or workplace by hosting a Footy Colours Day event and wearing their team's footy colours. Together almost \$520,000 was raised to help young Australians living with cancer by people all around the country wearing their team's colours with pride.



## Breakfast for Hope

Friday 20 November

More than 80 guests enjoyed a delicious two course breakfast to support our Hobart accommodation centre John Opie House. Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AM, Governor of Tasmania captivated guests with a personal story of a close friend's cancer journey.



## Little Red Luncheon

Friday 27 March

AFI and Logie Award-winning actor and director Kerry Armstrong and ABC's Peter Gee entertained more than 100 guests at an exquisite three course meal to support seriously ill regional Tasmanians. The luncheon held at Frogmore Creek Winery raised vital funds to support John Opie House, providing comfortable and affordable patient accommodation in Hobart.



## Randwick

Wednesday 5 August

Our Patrons Deborra-lee Furness and Hugh Jackman were delighted to officially launch our Back on Track education support program into the Kids Cancer Centre at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick.





# Community



## Walk for John

John Fenech was diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumour in late 2012 and passed away 12 months later. In his honour, John's son Tyrone and daughter-in-law Carley gathered a team to walk from Burnie to Hobart to raise funds for Fight Cancer Foundation's accommodation centre John Opie House, where John stayed during his illness. The Walk for John team set off on Tuesday 6 October, trekking 243km over a six day period and raising vital funds along the way. The team triumphantly reached John Opie House on Sunday 11 October to a crowd of cheering supporters.



## The Riff Raff Club Wednesday 2 December

The Riff Raff Club is an exclusive group of travel industry professionals who are committed to the fight against cancer. The Riff Raff Club's Annual Lunch raised more than \$56,000 to support families living with cancer.



## Diner Rouge Saturday 30 May

For the seventh year, Thierry Cornevin hosted the annual Diner Rouge at his acclaimed restaurant Bistro Thierry. Sixty five guests enjoyed an exquisite eight course Parisian degustation menu and exciting live auction. The night raised more than \$50,000 - showing that everyone can make a difference in the fight against cancer.



## Introducing Jade Hunter

In 2015 Jade Hunter joined the fight against cancer as TEAM Champion for Sydney active events. Jade - a writer, blogger, model, presenter and fitness ambassador - lead our TEAM at The Sun-Herald City2Surf and The Sun-Herald Summer Starter sharing training insights and tips for preparing for a fun run.

"I am so proud to be a TEAM Champion for Fight Cancer Foundation. It means so much to be running for TEAM Fight Cancer, a cause that's very close to my heart as I lost my beloved Grandfather last year to cancer," said Jade.



## Bendigo Bank East Malvern MRC Foundation Race Day Saturday 19 September

Fight Cancer Foundation celebrated all things Footy Colours Day at the second Bendigo Bank East Malvern MRC Foundation Race Day! Racegoers enjoyed partaking in a host of footy themed activities and were treated to exclusive AFL and NRL merchandise giveaways! A highlight from the day was the running of the inaugural Fight Cancer Foundation Handicap, won by Good Value.





# Board of Directors



**Leonie Walsh**  
*President & Chairman*

Leonie is a management consultant specialising in commercialisation and new business start-ups in the technology sector. Leonie underwent a bone marrow transplant in 1989 and after recuperating, joined the Bone Marrow Donor Institute Board from 1992-1995. Leonie re-joined the Board in 2009. She was appointed Victoria's inaugural Lead Scientist in 2013, a role which encourages greater connections between Victoria's scientific and research community and industry. Leonie received an Honorary Doctorate from Swinburne University of Technology in 2014.



**Anthony Hancy**  
*Vice President & Deputy Chairman*

Appointed to the Board in 2008, Tony gained extensive experience in health care and technology at Accenture as Managing Partner for health care practice in the Asia Pacific Region, and then overseeing Accenture Technology Ventures' operations in Australia and New Zealand. Tony is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and Australian Institute of Management.



**David Alsop**  
*Company Secretary & Director*

David joined the Board in 1999 and was appointed Company Secretary in June 2009. David became involved with BMDI after his son received a bone marrow transplant in 1996, and has special responsibility for the support groups. David is an architect and provided project management advice for the construction of BMDI Rotary House.



**Eric Wright**  
*Managing Director*

Eric, a Board Member since 1997 and Managing Director since 2006, has 30 years of experience in the banking and finance industry with extensive experience in human resource management, sales management and project management. Eric is a member of the BMDI Cord Blood Bank Management Committee, Cord Blood National Management Committee and Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry Donor Centre Advisory Committee.



**Anthony Lewis**  
*Honorary Finance Director & Chairman, Finance, Audit and Risk Committee*

Tony, a Chartered Accountant, was appointed to the Board in 2010. He is an honorary financial adviser to the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and honorary finance director of the Australian Print Workshop. Tony also has a number of company board appointments.



**Katerina Andronis**  
*Director*

Katerina joined the Board in 2013. She is a senior IT and change management professional and works in the acute health care sector. Her focus is analysis of health care strategies, identifying business and clinical processes, evaluating core priorities of an organisation and developing an implementation strategy based on present and future technologies which support safe and effective patient care and business outcomes.



**John Barbour**  
*Director*

John is a Chartered Accountant and Certified Financial Planner and has been a Board member since 1992. In 2003 John was appointed to the BMDI Cord Blood Bank Management Committee and was elected Chairman in 2004.



**Sophia Elliott**  
*Marketing & Business Development Director*

Sophia has been a Board member since 1991 and was appointed Director of Marketing and Business Development in 2007. Sophia has a 35 year career in advertising, marketing and PR and held positions of General Manager and Director of several private and public companies. She was also on the Committee of the ADA Business Forum of Victoria. Sophia retired from the Board in July 2015.



**James Muller**  
*Director*

James was appointed Board member in August 2012, having joined the Development Board in 2008. James has an extensive career in facility services provision and is an independent consultant specialising in the field of facility management services with a particular focus on large government institutions. James is a member of Leadership Victoria, the Venue Management Association (Australasia) and the International Association of Venue Managers. He has previous and continuing involvement at Board and Committee level in a number of not-for-profit community organisations.



**Kate Nicholls**  
*Director*

Kate joined the Board in 2014 and currently works as a Director and Senior Consultant with Avant Group, a leading business strategy and government grant consulting firm. Kate previously worked in the aerospace and defence sectors and managed the Corporate Membership division of the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Kate has qualifications in mechanical engineering and also holds a Masters of Marketing and Post Graduate Diploma of Management from Melbourne Business School. Kate was appointed Director upon the retirement of Sophia Elliott in July 2015.



**Kylie Whittard**  
*Director*

Kylie is a management consultant specialising in the non-profit and education sectors, and currently works with Teach for Australia. She provides strategic and stakeholder management and brand advice to a range of organisations. She holds an MBA from the University of Melbourne. Her previous board positions include the Adult and Community Further Education Board and the Victorian Art Deco Society.



# Financial Summary 2015

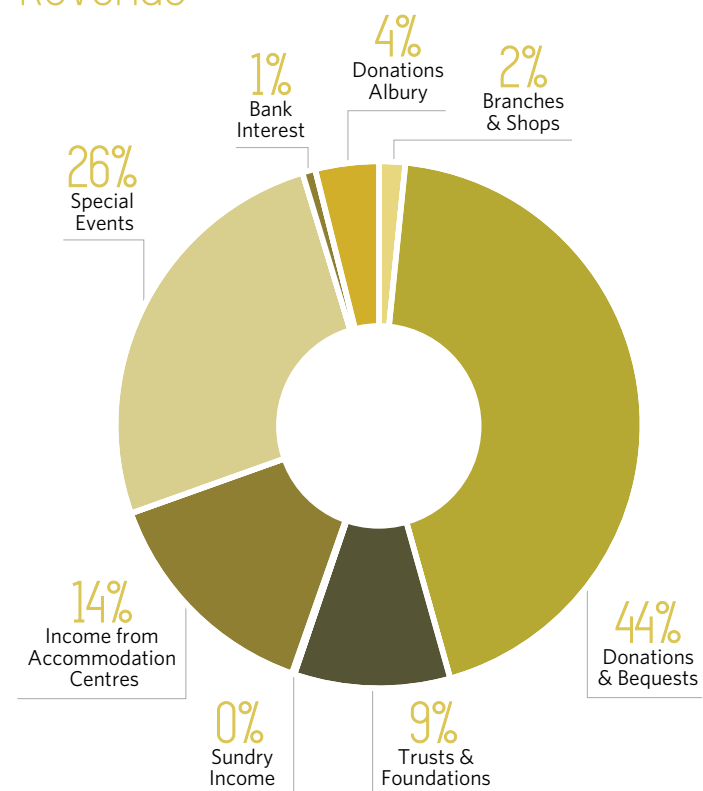
The consolidated surplus of the companies for 2015 was \$1,154,689 (2014 deficit -\$162,450).

The Group continues to pursue development of diversified and sustainable income streams including events such as the annual Red Ball, community based campaigns such as Footy Colours Day, support from corporations and their staff charitable foundations, philanthropic trusts and foundations, and our dedicated regular individual supporters.

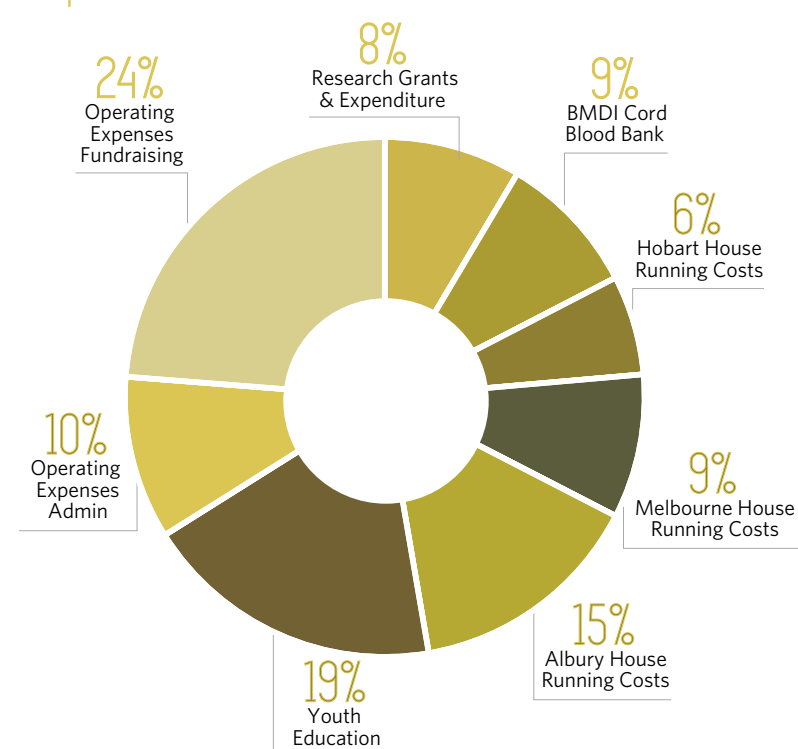
The level of funding certainty achieved through this diversification allows us to confidently support our charitable programs such as accommodation centres for cancer patients and their families, education programs to ensure children being treated for cancer are provided the opportunity to continue their schooling and reach their full potential and also to support vital medical research into better treatment methods and cure.

Full accounts for Fight Cancer Foundation, Bone Marrow Donor Institute and Ovcare National Cancer Centre can be found at: [www.fightcancer.org.au](http://www.fightcancer.org.au)

## Revenue



## Expenditure



# Combined Statement

## Combined Statement of Surplus or Deficit and other Comprehensive Income Year Ended 31 December 2015

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Branches and Shops	66,495	52,488
Donations and Bequests	1,829,743	532,791
Trusts and Foundations	397,300	269,000
Special Events	1,069,814	894,566
Income from Accommodation Centres	588,869	571,006
Sundry Income	6,749	7,442
Financial Income - Bank Interest	33,039	25,217
	<b>3,992,009</b>	<b>2,352,510</b>
<b>Capital Purpose Income - Hilltop House</b>		
Donations & Bequests	162,260	310,759
	<b>4,154,269</b>	<b>2,663,269</b>
<b>LESS OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
Operating Expenses - Administration	(310,541)	(290,461)
Operating Expenses - Fundraising	(725,490)	(767,104)
Research Grants & Expenditure	(260,652)	(279,265)
BMDI Cord Blood Bank	(271,006)	(226,951)
Melbourne House Operating Costs	(273,730)	(264,388)
Hobart House Operating Costs	(189,433)	(193,854)
Albury House Operating Costs	(449,522)	(448,727)
Youth Education	(573,973)	(467,668)
	<b>(3,054,347)</b>	<b>(2,938,418)</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year before share of associate surplus</b>	<b>1,099,922</b>	<b>(275,149)</b>
<b>Share of associate surplus (BMDI Cord Blood Bank)</b>	<b>54,767</b>	<b>112,699</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) for the year</b>	<b>1,154,689</b>	<b>(162,450)</b>
<b>Other Comprehensive Income:</b>	-	-
<b>Gain on revaluation of Property</b>	<b>1,264,429</b>	<b>433,649</b>
<b>TOTAL SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>	<b>2,419,118</b>	<b>271,199</b>



# Combined Statement

## Combined Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,455,277	1,139,408
Trade and other receivables	112,305	79,936
Net GST receivable	22,484	26,284
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>2,590,066</b>	<b>1,245,628</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Property, Plant and Equipment	10,815,613	9,708,632
Investment in Associate - BMDI Cord Blood Bank	945,302	890,535
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>11,760,915</b>	<b>10,599,167</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>14,350,981</b>	<b>11,844,795</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Trade and other payables	328,081	245,835
Employee Entitlements	130,942	127,146
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>459,023</b>	<b>372,981</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Employee Entitlements	11,000	9,974
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>9,974</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>470,023</b>	<b>382,955</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>13,880,958</b>	<b>11,461,840</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Accumulated Surplus	6,685,152	5,585,230
Reserves and other equity interests	7,195,806	5,876,610
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>13,880,958</b>	<b>11,461,840</b>

# Corporate Governance

Fight Cancer Foundation, Bone Marrow Donor Institute and Ovcare National Cancer Centre Boards meet monthly to formulate the strategic plan of the Group and monitor adherence to the plan. During 2015, the directors attended the following meetings.

DIRECTOR	POSITION	OCCUPATION	NO. ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND	NO. ATTENDED
L K Walsh	Chairman	Management Consultant	12	11
A C Hancy	Deputy Chairman	Company Director	12	9
D H Alsop	Secretary	Architect	12	9
E M Wright	Managing Director	Company Director	12	12
A B Lewis	Finance Director	Chartered Accountant	12	7
K Andronis	Director	Company Director	12	11
J C Barbour	Director	Chartered Accountant	12	9
S J Elliott	Director	Company Director	12	-
J Muller	Director	Business Development Executive	12	9
K Nicholls	Director	Senior Consultant	12	9
K J Whittard	Director	Management Consultant	12	8

The Board has formed a number of sub-committees to consider specific areas of the Group's activities. All Committees must have a member of the Board serving on them to ensure that the objectives set by the Board are fulfilled. In particular the Development Board, Audit Committee and Finance Committee assist the Board in ensuring that the organisation meets its objectives.

## Development Board

The Development Board provides input and recommendations into the strategic direction of the Group and is a key part of the Board's succession planning strategy. Members of the Development Board are Associate Directors:

K Nair (Chair)	R Garg	A Ferfaglia	S Gildea
S Barbour	V Godinho	A Horan	L Wynn

## Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

The Group has a Finance, Audit and Risk Committee which reviews internal policies and procedures and meets with the Company's external auditors. It also reviews accounting policies and procedures, forward budgeting and financial planning of the Group and provides the Board with guidance and recommendations. The Committee meets regularly and comprises:

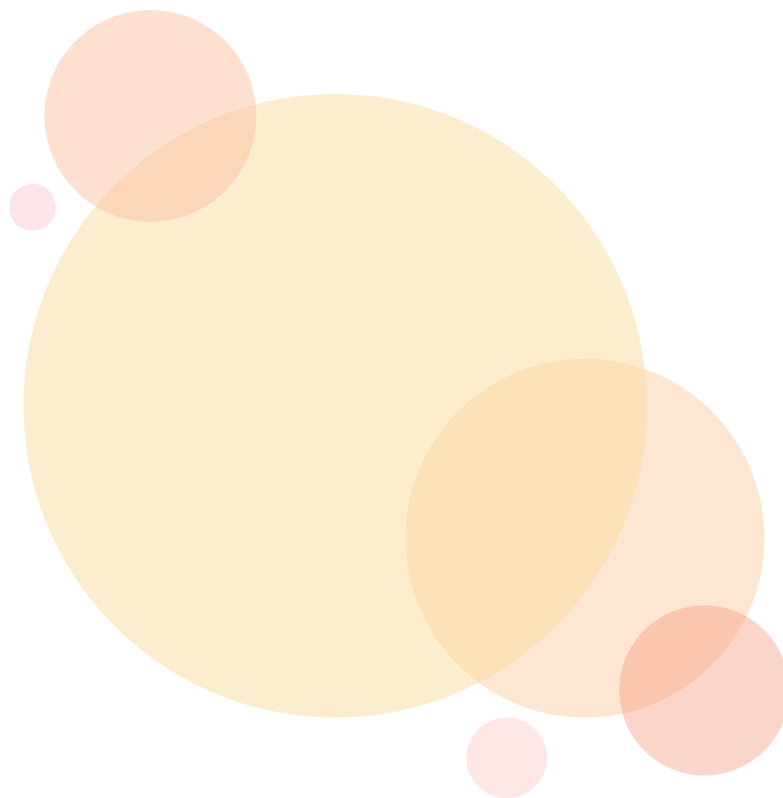
A B Lewis <i>BEC, FCA, FCPA, MAICD</i>	A Cinanni <i>B.Bus (Acctg), CA</i>
J Lonergan <i>B.Comm, CA</i>	J Law <i>B.Comm, CA</i>



# Acknowledgements

A&G Engineering Pty Ltd	Beth Wiggins	Colleen Morell	FDC Construction & Fitout Pty Ltd	Gregory Shalit & Miriam Faine	Karingal	Management Consultancy International	Nicole Quon	Rosetto Family	The Eirene Lucas Foundation
Adam Ferrogia	Bistro Thierry	Community Enterprise Foundation	Fenech Family	Group Four Building Surveyors & PSI Global	Kate Nicholls	Mandalay Accommodation	Nine Network Australia Pty Ltd	Ross H & Laurel J McRae	The G W Vowell Foundation Limited
ADMC	Bob Wyatt	Condell Park High School	Fight Cancer Foundation Croydon Branch & Members	Hamish Blake & Andy Lee	Katerina Andronis	Marco Artini	Noirot Australia	Rotary Club of Deniliquin	The Hour Glass
Agri Food Ingredients	Bondi Bather	Connor Shiel	Fight Cancer Foundation Donald Branch	Hannah Grzesiak	Kathleen McDonald	Margaret Prentice	Ocean Grove Uniting Church	Rotary Club of Grovedale	The Marian & E.H. Flack Trust
Alan Fletcher & Jennifer Hansen	Branxton Pharmacy	Coogee Boys' Preparatory School	Fight Cancer Foundation Drysdale Recycle Shop & Volunteers	Helen A Herculson	Katia Galam	Marion C Hagston	Ochre Digital	Rotary Club of Melbourne South	The Meat & Wine Co.
AlburyCity	Brasacchio Developments Pty Ltd	Dainty Group	Fight Cancer Foundation Geelong Branch	Helen Brocklehurst	Katie McKinnon	Martin's Travel Group	Olga Kononchuk	Rotary Club of Warrnambool East	The Photobooth Co.
Alchin & Long Group	Brighton Beach Primary School	Dapto Citizens Bowling Club	Fight Cancer Foundation Geelong Recycle Shop & Volunteers	Helen Murray	Kay Bennett	Maureen Brummell	Opie Family	Russell Peters	The Pratt Foundation
Alexandra Community Pharmacy	Brown Brothers Milawa Vineyard	David Abbey	Fight Cancer Foundation Maryborough Branch & Members	Hermione Friesen	Kayla Nisbet	Mecca Brands	Paspaley Pearls	Saltway Investments Pty Ltd	The Smart Group Pty Ltd
Alf Armstrong	Butcher's Delight	David Burr	Fight Cancer Foundation Murray-Campaspe Branch & Members	Hitachi Data Systems Australia Pty Ltd	Keith & Helen Hughes	Meegan Spurr	Patricia Spencer	Samantha Kanizay	The William Angliss (Victoria) Charitable Fund
Alison Davies	Cal Spencer	Daylesford Accommodation Escapes	Fight Cancer Foundation Swan Hill Branch & Members	Home & Commercial Maintenance	Kennedy Builders	Mei Teow	Paul Borrud	Scania Australia	Tim Mannah
Alison H MacDougall	Camberwell South Primary School	Deborra-lee Furness and Hugh Jackman	Fight Cancer Foundation FremantleMedia Australia	Howlong Golf Women's Bowling Club	Kerry Johns	Melbourne Football Club	Paul Forbes	Schneider Electric	Tobin Brothers Foundation
All Souls' Opportunity Shop	Campbell Burns	Deniliquin Northsiders	Foxtel	Hutchinson Builders	Kirsty O'Reilly	Melbourne Rebels Rugby Club	Paula Chamberlain	Sefton High School	Toni Nason
Allan Ward	Campbell's Business Management Service Pty Ltd	Dennis Bastas	Frank & Diana Politi	Ian Murton	Konfir Kabo	Melissa Nixon	Peppers Beach Club Port Douglas & Quicksilver	Servcorp	Tonia Timmermans
Ally Bradley	Canley Vale Public School	Department of Training & Workforce Development	FremantleMedia Australia	Ibiza Hair	Krishna Nair	Mercedes College	Peter Drummond	Seven Network (Operations) Ltd	Top Gear Cleaning Services
Amit Holkner	Capital Smart	Derek Young	Frogmore Creek	ICS Industries	Kristi-Lyn Charter	Michael & Angela Rodd	Philippa B Walsh	Shannon Cole	Total Face Group
Amy Horan	CBA Community Grants	Design Junkies	G B Cannon (Medical) Pty Ltd	Inner Wheel Club of Albury	Kwai Lin Opie	Michael Weitnauer	Pinnacle People	Sharon Dutton	Tour to Portsea
Andy Moj	CBA Staff Social & Charity Club (Vic) Inc	Dianne Senior	Gabby Walters	Instyle Homes	Kylie O'Reilly	Michael Wright	PKF Melbourne Pty Ltd	Silk Contract Logistics	Transtar
Annemaree Binger	Celebration Homes	Diesel Gym	Gartner Rose	IOOF Foundation	Lance Dixon	Michelle Schweitzer	PoPP Performace/Laughter Works	SIM Clinical	Trevor & the late Robyn Smith
Anthony & Helen Lewis	Chancellor State College	Domenico Santilli-Centofati	Gayle K Danchin	Italo-Australian Pensioners Association	Laurence Ware	Miller & Partners Chartered Accountants	Prancing Horse Estate	Simon Corrigan	Trumpet Events
ANZ	Charlie & Maria Rico	Dow Chemical Australia Pty Ltd	Gayle Rowney	Ivor Gaylard	Leah Hyland	Mi-tec Medical Publishing	Prixcar Services	Sotheby's Australia	Turtle Island Resort
Antoni Cianni	Clair Routledge	Dr Derry Rogers & Assoc.	GB Galvanizing Service Pty Ltd	Jack LeBel	Legal Aid NSW Wagga Wagga Regional Office	MJMaughan Foundation	Quality Pharmacy	Southern Cross Austereo	Uncle Tobys
Aquaworks Premium Spring Water	Cliff & Betty Benson	Dr Tass Cosmetic Clinics	Geoffrey Edelsten	Jade Hunter	Leichhardt Municipal Council	Molly Yeoh	RAC Insurance	Southern Riverina Hunting Club	van der Molen Family
ARL	Club Kirawee	Drakes IGA McDowall	George & Ida Papadimitriou	Jean L Smith	Leo Browne	Monica Tietjens	RDA Brakes	Sportsman's Arms Hotel	Velissaris Photography
Artist Photographer	CMFEU	Edna Carroll	Geraldine Allen	Jeanette De Montemas	Lewis Family	Monique Loschiavo	Red Emporer Chinese Restaurant	Spuds 'R' Us	Vicki Francis
Aston Fitness	CMV Staff Charitable Foundation	Elizabeth J Francis	Gibson Property Corporation	Jessica Matavao	Libbi Mott	Moonbi Public School	Reece Australia Information Technology Support Centre	Sri Brown	Vicki Rochester
Aussie Home Loans	Coca-Cola Australia Foundation Ltd	Ella Finn	Gina Zikos	Joan Newton	Lifestyle Portraits	Moya Hughes	Reece Plumbing Centre Seymour	St Finn Barr's Catholic Primary School	Walk for John Team
Australian Communities Foundation	Coles Supermarkets Australia	Elly Lukas	Gleeson Family	Joanna Wood	Lina Brassachio	Mr & Mrs Hargrave	Relax It's Done	St Peter's Primary School	Wendy Ralph
Australian Radio Network	Coles Burnie	Energy Australia Geelong	Graeme & Helen Hall	Joanne Lonergan	Lindsay & Paula Fox	Mr & Mrs Serge Pun	Renella Group	Stage Art	Western Bulldogs Football Club
Australian Rugby Union Ltd	Coles Devonport	Enid Williams	Graham Webb	Joe White Bequest	Lioness Club of Strathmerton	Murat Matt Eryurek	Resolution X	Staging Connections	Westkon Precast Pty Ltd
B Lewis	Coles Eastlands	Erik J de Haart	Grand Hyatt Melbourne	John E Toomey	Lions Club of Speed	Muriel Frazer	Riff Raff Club	Stan & Patricia Wurst	Westpac Foundation
Barbara Speldewinde	Coles Glenorchy	Estate of the Late Ellen Blakemore	Greg & Jaquelyn Muller	John Hines	Lions Club of Wodonga	Muriel Pollock	Robco Building Maintenance Pty Ltd	Steven & Paula Jones	Westpac Group Matching Gifts Program
Barry J Shearer	Coles Mowbray	Estate of the Late George Warren Thornton		Johnson Family	Lions Cord Blood Foundation Inc	Musgrave Hill Bowls Club	Roberto Carnelos Pinheiro	Sydney Seaplanes	Will Skilton
Bayford Group	Coles New Town	Estate of the Late Margaret Willson		Jozette Dellemain	Lyn Baker	Musk Springs	Robyn Gillis	Sydney Sports Medicine Centre	William Barnard
Beach Fit Bondi	Coles Tasmania	EY Property Advisory		Judy Styles	Lyn Elford	My Chemist Warehouse Group	Roland Pless	Tahmoor Coal Pty Ltd	Wilmoore Allstone
Bell Potter Securities	Coles Ulverstone	Fangear		Julian Moore	Lyndall J James	Naked Truth	Ronald McDonald House Charities	Tasty Trucks Perth	Wilson & Gilkes
Ben Desmond	Colin & Jocelyn Mead	Fay Duncan		Justin Law	M B Rich	Narlene Ioane	Ronny Garg	Telstra Finance	Xen
Benita Iulianetti	Colin & Siew Sen Choy			Justine Dobbs	Magnetic Productions	Nelson Alexander Real Estate		Terry Meredith	Zouki Nominees
Bensimon Diamonds				Kanga Coachlines	Mallacoota P-12 College	New Norfolk Community Pharmacy		Thalia Haven	
Bernard J Bell					Malvern Central School				
Bernie Vince									
Berwick Pharmacy									





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*Giving hope. Saving lives.*

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