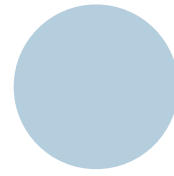


2020 Donor Impact Report





Your generous support is improving human health and saving lives

Message from our Executive Director

As one of Centenary's valued donors your vision and generosity have not only contributed to but have inspired the world-leading medical research being undertaken at the Institute.

Philanthropy can be one of the most powerful catalysts Australia has to improve the health outcomes of our communities. Your investment in the Institute has directly saved lives, improved patient outcomes and changed the future for individuals, families and the community.

For this I extend my sincere appreciation on behalf of all who have already benefited from your philanthropy as well as those who will in the future.

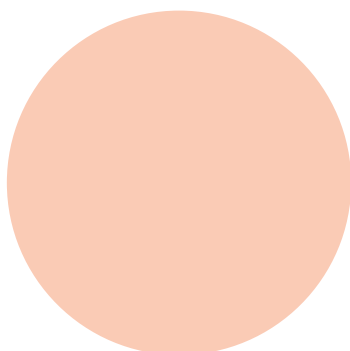
Australia's future as a high performing and innovative nation in medical research is firmly linked to the long-term engagement with the

community. When paired, visionary philanthropists combined with brilliant individuals who are committing their lives to science will lead our excellence in scientific output.

I hope this update on the progress you have helped make possible provides comforting insight into Centenary's research and what continues to be achieved with thanks to you.

Yours sincerely

Professor Mathew Vadas AO



A snapshot of giving at Centenary in 2020



1,505

individuals, foundations
and corporates that made
a philanthropic gift



5

generous individuals
whose gifts in their Will
were realised



8

states and territories
where our donors reside



74

donors who made
their first gift



29

consecutive years that
four donors have given to
Centenary



5

community fundraising
events supported our
research



7

projects were made
possible through funding
by charities, trusts and
foundations



\$32,000

the largest single gift
received by Centenary



250+

staff, students and
visiting researchers were
supported by you

In 2020 you joined over 1,500 individuals and organisations who contributed to changing the future of human health through their support of the medical research taking place at Centenary.



Backing the next generation of Centenary's leaders

Since 2017 the Kenyon Foundation has supported some of Centenary's early career researchers who have been applying their inquisitive minds to finding new approaches to understanding diseases with the ultimate goal of improving human health in the areas of inflammation and cancer.

The Kenyon Foundation's annual gift of \$20,000 has enabled four young researchers at Centenary to accelerate their careers and importantly to contribute to world-class scientific output at Centenary.

Dr Matt Johansen from the Centenary UTS Centre for Inflammation is the recipient of the 2020 Kenyon Foundation Inflammation Award for his research project exploring the efficacy of the compound MCC950 as a potential treatment for reducing excessive inflammation in COVID-19.

"I am incredibly humbled to have been selected as the 2020 awardee of the Kenyon Foundation Inflammation Award. This award will not only support my career progression, but will also financially assist our efforts to identify the most effective therapies for COVID-19."

"As government funding is increasingly more difficult to acquire, the financial support from philanthropic organisations such as the Kenyon Foundation is a significant boost that promotes fundamental scientific research for early career development," said Dr Matt Johansen.

Established in 2016, the Kenyon Foundation was created by the children of Helen and the late Arthur Kenyon AM, sons David and Richard and daughter Louise, to honour the hard work, aspirations and vision of their parents.

The Kenyon Foundation provides financial support to the community through annual gifting programs and donations, particularly in the areas of education, sporting groups, cultural organisations, medical research and bodies assisting the disadvantaged, disabled and homeless.

The Centenary Institute is extremely thankful to the Trustees of the Kenyon Foundation for their vision and commitment to supporting these enthusiastic and innovative young scientists.



Honouring Skittles' memory to help save young lives

Aaiden Bellingham was a much loved young man who, as a result of a sudden cardiac episode, was sadly taken from his family and friends at the age of 24.

Fondly known as 'Skittles', Aaiden was a well-known and much admired member of the University of Canberra Pumas football community and had been recognised as their 'Club Person of the Year' in 2016. Following his passing, the following year, the UC Pumas renamed the award in Aaiden's memory.

The Club now joins Aaiden's dad, Adrian, and other family and community members as the driving force behind the Bellingham Cup which they launched in 2019 and held again in 2021. Proceeds and donations from the event are gifted to the Agnes Ginges Centre for Molecular Cardiology at Centenary with nearly \$7,000 raised to date.

"The Bellingham Cup is not only a wonderful tribute to Aaiden, but an invaluable way to spread the word about the importance of medical research in the area of sudden cardiac death in the young," says Adrian.



Up to three young Australians under 35 lose their lives following a sudden cardiac arrest each week. Under the leadership of Professor Chris Semsarian AM,

the ultimate goal of the Agnes Ginges Centre for Molecular Cardiology is to improve the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of genetic heart diseases and sudden cardiac death in the community, particularly in the young.

In 2020, Professor Semsarian and his team discovered a potential new phase of disease in young sudden cardiac arrest survivors. The team identified a genetic cause of arrest in 22% of sudden cardiac arrest survivors studied, where previous clinical investigations had failed to reveal a diagnosis.

The Centenary is grateful to be the beneficiary of funds raised through the Bellingham Cup and appreciates the awareness generated for this life saving cardiovascular research. Photographs of the event always make us smile and enable us to remember Aaiden's spirit.



Magnifying the impact of support by giving together

Just like you, members of Centenary's Board of Governors and Foundation Committee believe strongly in the collective impact that donors can make.

In 2020, philanthropic contributions from the Board and Committee enabled the awarding of a \$50,000 grant to Dr Elinor Hortle. The grant enabled Dr Hortle to complete a significant research project she had been working on since 2017, which was under threat due to funding uncertainty created by the pandemic.

Dr Hortle had been looking at the role of potassium in the immune response to Tuberculosis (TB) with her findings having potential scientific relevance in the global fight to end TB. Caused by a bacteria infection, TB is the world's leading infectious killer responsible for 1.4 million deaths each year with 10 million people falling ill from the disease. The final stage of Dr Hortle's research involved taking her study from zebrafish models to human cell lines which would increase the scientific data gathered.



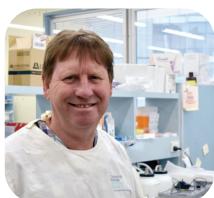
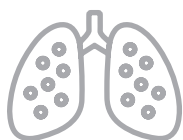
"The Centenary Booster Grant allowed me to keep working on my project for an extra six months. It probably doesn't seem like much, but this additional data will be crucial for getting our paper published in a high impact journal, and for convincing funding bodies that my discoveries have relevance to human disease."

"Short term contracts in medical research can be extremely demoralising for young researchers; it's heartbreaking to abandon years of research just when you've laid the groundwork for the really exciting, translational science. My sincerest thanks to the Board and Foundation for believing in me. I am forever grateful" said Dr Elinor Hortle.

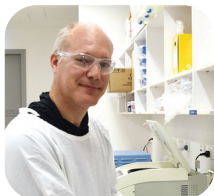
Dr Hortle has also recently secured a new role in the Centenary UTS Centre for Inflammation and continues as one of the Institute's leading young scientists.

The Centenary Institute gives its thanks to the many Governors and Foundation Committee members whose cumulative support has helped the organisation retain such outstanding research talent.

Because of you, we have made life-changing breakthroughs and lifesaving discoveries



Discovered for the first time a link between chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), an often fatal lung condition, and the gut microbiome.



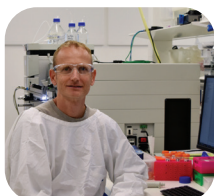
Revealed that humans share important genetic mechanisms with a prehistoric sea sponge, a fundamental discovery in evolution that advances understanding of genetic diseases.



Gained a new understanding as to the nature of proteins, as well as how they exist and operate in the human body.



Determined that genetic testing can reveal previously hidden heart defects in nearly a quarter of sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) survivors who seem to have a normal heart.



Demonstrated that the enzyme SphK2 is a key player in the regulation of insulin which could lead to a new treatment approach for diabetes.



Established that tumour-resident T cells are a critical determinant in survival rates of patients suffering from throat cancer.

Thank you for all you made possible in 2020

We are so grateful that you have chosen our scientists as the beneficiary of your philanthropy. Your continued support inspires us all as we work to improve human health through our medical research endeavours.

Supporting Centenary

The Centenary Institute is privileged to benefit from the generous philanthropic support of individuals, corporates, trusts and foundations.

giving@centenary.org.au

02 9565 6100

Bequests

A gift in your Will to the Centenary Institute is a lasting tribute to your belief in providing all Australians with the opportunity to live healthier, longer lives. We can help you plan today to secure permanent support for Centenary tomorrow.

Grace Windeyer, Individual Giving Manager

g.windeyer@centenary.org.au

02 9565 6117

Designated funds

Gifts directed to key priorities are a powerful way to advance our mission. Discover the areas you can support.

Ivan Shin, Director of Development and Philanthropy

i.shin@centenary.org.au

0435 579 056

Online giving

Gifts to Centenary make an immediate impact on the research programs that need them the most.

centenary.org.au/donate

Gifts by mail

Reply Paid 83998

Newtown NSW 2042

Centenary Institute

The Centenary Institute is a world-leading independent medical research organisation based in Sydney. Since 1985, our scientists have brought renewed health and hope to Australians and people around the world by unlocking knowledge of complex diseases, and developing treatments that save lives. Philanthropy plays a critical role in accelerating our research.