

A gift of hope  
to future  
generations





Together, we  
can stop disease  
before it starts



# A gift in your Will is a gift for generations to come

Medical research is transforming the future of human health at an incredible rate. Who would have thought diagnostic tests that used to take days can now provide instant results? Or we would now have effective treatments for diseases that were thought to be incurable as recently as a decade ago?

Ground-breaking advancements such as these take years of expert work and do not happen without the underpinning of fundamental knowledge. We must first gain a better understanding of disease – the causes and effects, the intricacies and complexities, the threats and predictors – before we can develop a cure.

Only then can we deliver life-changing – and life-saving – results.

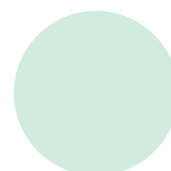
We are deeply honoured that so many thoughtful supporters have chosen to remember the Centenary Institute in their Will. Gifts in Wills play a crucial role in safeguarding the Institute's future capabilities by helping ensure that the important progress we are making today can continue until a treatment or cure is found.

By remembering the Centenary Institute in your Will, you would be ensuring that we can continue to fund world class medical breakthroughs that will ultimately change the lives of future generations.

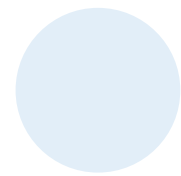
**Every gift, no matter the amount, makes a difference. Together, we can transform the health of future generations.**



**Professor Mathew Vadas AO**  
Executive Director







## **At Centenary, we are dedicated to accelerating lifesaving research that will create a healthier future for all**

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.

Our team of distinguished researchers are focussed on addressing major health problems facing society across three critical areas:



### **Cancer**

Brain, breast, colon, liver, lung, lymphoma, pancreatic and throat.



### **Inflammation**

COVID-19, dementia / Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, liver disease, malaria, multiple sclerosis, tuberculosis, vascular disease and respiratory illness including COPD, asthma and bushfire smoke exposure.



### **Cardiovascular**

Cardiovascular disease, congenital heart disease and stroke.

Your gift to Centenary will not only help provide essential resources to our dedicated teams of scientists – it will also provide hope to those whose lives could be changed by the next medical breakthrough.

**For more information on making a gift to Centenary in your Will please contact us on 02 9565 6117 or [giving@centenary.org.au](mailto:giving@centenary.org.au)**





With your  
support, a  
treatment or cure  
is within reach





“It really is the simple things, having a coffee with my wife and reading to my kids” – Rhys



## Together, we can help everyone enjoy a longer and healthier life

In 2013, Rhys was told he had just months to live. He was dying from a disease he didn't even know he had.

At age 35, Rhys had a lot to live for. He was a loving husband, a father of three young children and had a successful career as an anaesthetist. One morning Rhys drove himself to the emergency department with abdominal pain. He discovered he had stage four melanoma that had metastasised to his brain, lungs and abdomen.

The diagnosis came as a shock because he had no noticeable symptoms and the skin cancer showed no visible primary site, making self-detection impossible.

Having been told the median survival rate for someone presenting with the same symptoms was between three to four months, Rhys endured many surgeries and a series of radiotherapy treatments to try to control the disease.

Rhys was fortunate to be accepted into a clinical trial being run by his treating clinician – also Head of the Centenary Institute's Melanoma Oncology and Immunology Program. Remarkably, the tumours began to shrink after four weeks. Though Rhys has needed additional treatment, he has great faith in medical research and the future development of new drugs to prolong his life further.



## **With your support, we can help create a brighter future for all**

When Michael and Emily found out they were expecting their first child, they were overjoyed. The night before the first scan Michael went out to play volleyball.

Emily received a call from one of Michael's teammates to say he had collapsed. By the time she arrived at the hospital, a police officer was waiting for her with the devastating news that Michael had died on the court of a fatal cardiac arrest.

Researchers at our Agnes Ginges Centre for Molecular Cardiology were able to identify the genes responsible for Michael's death – information that can be immediately translated to determine if his twin girls are at risk.

This cutting-edge research will enable more accurate and earlier diagnosis of genetic heart disease, and for potentially lifesaving strategies to be initiated to prevent sudden death.







"I first became interested in understanding sudden cardiac death as a trainee in the 1990s. I sat down with a mum and dad who had just lost their 21 year old son. He'd been running along a beach, previously healthy, never had a symptom in his life. When they asked me why their son had died suddenly, I didn't know the answer.

There was very little knowledge on the topic at the time. I had no answers, and the world had no answers. I thought I should devote my life to finding some. My team's research at Centenary over the last 20 years has shown that sudden cardiac deaths in young people are often due to genetic or inherited defects. Philanthropic support plays a critical role in accelerating our research outcomes.

Thanks to the generosity of our donor community, we now know about hundreds of genes involved in heart problems that can lead to sudden death. While there is still much work to be done, we are confident that the highly targeted therapies under development are creating a brighter future for children and young adults who were born with defects in their hearts."

Professor Chris Semsarian AM  
Head, Agnes Ginges Centre for Molecular Cardiology

## Your legacy is a lasting gift to future generations

Many of us have the desire to make a difference in the world, to leave it better than we found it. That is exactly what Steve intends to do and encourages others to join him.

“I believe in giving back to the community and encourage others to contribute to the Centenary Institute, both now and in the form of a bequest. It's essential that Centenary's efforts are supported for the wellbeing of humans into the future. A bequest means, even after you are gone, you can still contribute to a better and healthier world.”

If you are considering leaving a gift, Steve highly recommends visiting the Institute in person. “Centenary's work is at the cutting edge of medical research. I have really enjoyed the opportunities to meet with the scientists and to hear about their achievements and initiatives.”

**For more information on visiting the Institute, please contact us on 02 9565 6117 or [giving@centenary.org.au](mailto:giving@centenary.org.au)**



“A bequest means that even after you are gone, you can still contribute to a better and healthier world” – Steve





What you do  
today can change  
the future forever

Professor Jenny Gamble  
Head, Vascular Biology Program

## With your support, we can develop lifesaving treatments that will keep families together for longer

Marion enjoyed her time living on a large cattle property in Lilydale, Victoria with her only son, Geoff. When Geoff grew up, he pursued a career in academia and moved to London. There, he married and had two children of his own. Marion was proud of her son – he was a doting father who enjoyed spending time with his two sons, camping and teaching them to fish.

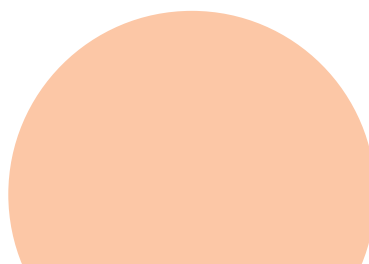
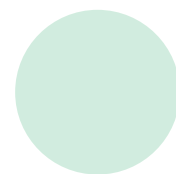
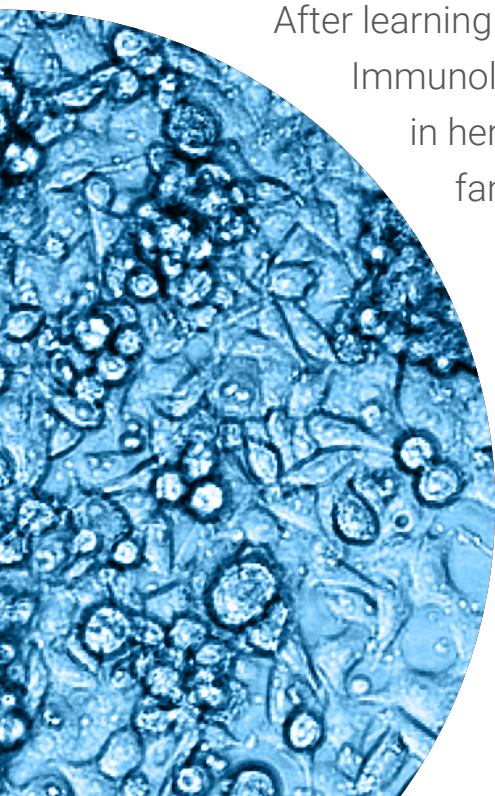
Everything changed the day that Geoff went to get a mole on his ankle checked by his doctor.

Marion was devastated to learn that Geoff had been diagnosed with melanoma which had spread to his lungs, brain and other areas of his body. As Geoff's condition worsened, Marion flew to London to be with him. He passed away eight days later.

Marion shared that she never thought she would outlive her son and that “no parent should ever have to survive their children.”

After learning about Centenary's Melanoma Oncology and Immunology Program, Marion chose to include Centenary in her Will in the hope that research would spare another family from a similar tragic loss.

Marian's generosity has helped our researchers take the lead in developing a promising new class of drug that may prove to be highly effective for the treatment of certain cases of melanoma.







“When I first started treating melanoma patients in 1980 there were no effective treatments. It has been hugely rewarding to see this change over the eight years I’ve been with Centenary.

It would be fantastic if the present studies can lead to further improvement in treatment, particularly in patients not responding to current targeted and immunotherapy treatments.”

Professor Peter Hersey  
Head, Melanoma Oncology and Immunology Program

Our scientists  
are dedicated to  
conducting ground-  
breaking research that  
will create a healthier  
future for all

## Getting started



When making a Will, the first priority is to talk to your loved ones about your intentions and let them know that leaving a gift to medical research is important to you. This can help to ensure that your personal legacy and wishes will be met.

Your bequest will depend on your personal and family circumstances and it is important to seek independent and professional advice. Following that, it's easy to make a bequest to the Centenary Institute. You can either include the bequest when you write or update your Will, or simply add one as a codicil to your existing Will.

There are a number of ways you can make a bequest to the Centenary Institute:

- **A residual gift:** the remainder of your estate after specific gifts have been disbursed to family and loved ones.
- **A percentage:** you can choose to leave a percentage of the residue of your estate, or a percentage of your entire estate. This allows for growth or depreciation in the value of your estate.
- **A specified gift of cash:** Also known as a pecuniary bequest or gift.
- **An asset:** this could be real estate, shares, stocks, bonds, artwork, jewellery or other personal property.


## Wording in your Will

Here is our suggested wording if you choose to update your Will to include a gift to the Centenary Institute. You can share this wording with your solicitor.

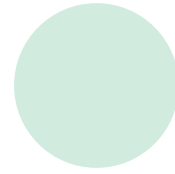
"I give and bequeath to the Centenary Institute Medical Research Foundation, ABN 85 778 244 012 free from all taxes and duties, for their general purposes:

- the residue of my estate (OR)
- \_\_\_\_% of my residuary estate (OR)
- the sum of \$\_\_\_\_ (OR)
- list of asset or assets

A receipt from the Executive Director or other authorised person shall be a complete and sufficient discharge for the executor."



## Our promise to you



We understand that this is a significant decision for you and your family, and one that we want you to feel happy with. That's why we make the following promises to our bequestors:

- We recognise and appreciate your Will is personal to you, and that your loved ones always come first.
- We will always respect your right to privacy.
- We will communicate openly and honestly, and answer your questions quickly.
- We won't put you under pressure; this is an important decision to be made in your own time.
- If you do choose to let us know that you have included a gift to Centenary in your Will, we will keep you informed on the impact your gift will have.
- With your permission, we will acknowledge and recognise your generosity.
- We will use your gift carefully and efficiently so that it makes the greatest impact possible on our research.
- You have the right to change your mind at any time.

We'd love to hear from you and we're here to answer any questions you may have. We encourage you to get in touch with us for a confidential discussion with a member of our team.

**02 9565 6117**

**[giving@centenary.org.au](mailto:giving@centenary.org.au)**

**Centenary Institute Medical Research Foundation  
Locked Bag 6, Newtown NSW 2042**





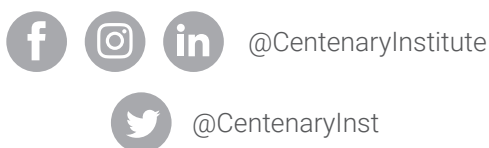
# A gift of hope to future generations

Please let us know if we can answer any questions  
or provide further information.

Simply phone 02 9565 6117  
or send an email to [giving@centenary.org.au](mailto:giving@centenary.org.au)



[centenary.org.au](http://centenary.org.au)



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