

SCOPE



Autumn 2013

Inside this issue

Mummies uncovered

A world first for autism research

Brookwater now open



Mater

Exceptional People. Exceptional Care.



Welcome from the Editor

Welcome to the first edition of Scope for 2013.

The year is already in full swing and as you will see there is a lot happening at Mater.

Our 'Share your Beautiful Moments with Mater Mothers' campaign has kicked off again just in time for Mother's Day and you can see how it is going by visiting the Mater Mothers Facebook page (www.facebook.com/matermothers). See page 8 for further details about the campaign.

Also don't forget to mark your diaries for the Mater Doctors' Alumni Dinner this year at Customs House. It is sure to be another memorable evening.

I hope you enjoy this edition and if you have any story ideas or feedback for upcoming editions, please email me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes
Miranda

Contributors

Editor - Miranda Hunt

Senior Writer - Brooke Falvey

Staff Writers - Jacqueline Hayes and Sara McDonald

Thank you also to those who contributed to the current edition of *Scope*.

Scope welcomes your opinion. If you have an interesting patient case or a topical issue you would like to share with your colleagues, write to us.

Please email your contributions to the Editor, Miranda Hunt at miranda.hunt@mater.org.au. Names will be published unless otherwise stated.

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A message from the CEO

Welcome to the first edition of Scope for 2013, although with three months of the year already behind us, there is much news to report.

I feel it is best to start the year by acknowledging some of the exceptional achievements made by staff across both campuses in recent months.

Mater Private Hospital Redland (MPHR)—and our cousins Mater Gladstone— were jointly named Queensland’s best private hospitals for patient satisfaction by Medibank Private (page 11).

It is the fourth year running that MPHR has picked up the top gong and it is wonderful to know that we are living up to *Exceptional People. Exceptional Care.*

There are also exciting times afoot for Mater Medical Research Institute which has recently changed its name to Mater Research (page five). Also, almost 80 of our researchers are now settled into their new home at the Translational Research Institute (TRI) at the Princess Alexandra Hospital complex (page 12).

Mater Research has also been named as a partner in a new, world-first Cooperative Research Centre to assist Australians living with Autism Spectrum Disorder (page 8).

To be involved in a project of this magnitude confirms that our researchers and clinicians remain at the forefront of medical advancements in Australia.

And for those who live in the western suburbs, Mater Health Centre Brookwater is now open offering access to a growing team of exceptional specialists as well as Mater Pharmacy and Pathology services and a number of external allied health services (page 10).

When it comes to interesting developments, few stories can surpass that of a visit by the British Museum’s prized Egyptian mummies that were brought to Queensland X-Ray for scanning (page 6).

It is truly amazing that we had such an iconic piece of the world’s history onsite.

As April draws to a swift conclusion, we also mark the close of Mish Hill as Acting Director of Adult, Women’s and Childrens Health Services and welcome a new Executive Director to this position—Sean Hubbard.

Dr John O’Donnell
CEO, Mater Health Services



Cover Story

Staff from Queensland X-Ray at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane were last year tasked with scanning four of the British Museum’s prized Egyptian mummies following an exhibition at the Queensland Museum.

For more, see page six.



Research gets a new name



In order to boost connectivity to Mater and improve consistency in our communication, Mater Medical Research Institute (MMRI) has undergone a name change to Mater Research.

"In the same way that Mater Misericordiae Health Services Brisbane Ltd is known as Mater Health Services or Mater, the Mater Medical Research Institute Ltd will be simplified to Mater Research for most practical purposes," Mater Research Deputy Director Associate Professor Mark Bowles said.

When referring to any research activity at Mater, at the Translational Research Institute (TRI) or any other institution, staff should now use the name Mater Research.

A new logo and design has also been developed, and a suite of Mater Research templates are now available for staff via the Mater Research intranet.

To see the new look, visit research.mater.org.au.

International recognition for radiologist

Mater Children's Hospital Radiologist and Visiting Medical Officer Dr John Earwaker has been awarded the Medal of the International Skeletal Society (ISS) at the Annual Members dinner in Rome, Italy.

The International Skeletal Society is an educational non-profit society of radiologists, pathologists and orthopaedic surgeons and other specialists dedicated to furtherance of the art and science of musculoskeletal imaging and to the understanding, diagnosis and therapy of musculoskeletal disorders.

The society offers opportunity for exchange of ideas between members and non-members via annual meetings and publication of the society journal, Skeletal Radiology.

The Medal of the International Skeletal Society is presented to persons who have provided outstanding support to the endeavors of the International Skeletal Society.

Dr Earwaker is the first Australian ever to receive this medal since the Society's inception in 1976.

Mater staff present at Thailand forum

In November 2012, eight Mater staff travelled to Chiang Mai, Thailand, to present at the Joanna Briggs International Conference on Evidence Based Practice.

The conference theme was 'Channelling the Rivers of Knowledge to Improve Global Policy and Practice'.

Learning and Development Manager Katherine Jackman said the team was made up of staff from the Nursing Research Centre and Mater Mothers' Hospitals.

"This international forum was a terrific opportunity to share innovations in nursing, midwifery, educational and research practice," Katherine said.



Caption: L-R: Katherine Jackman (Mater Education), Cara Joyce Cabilan (Nursing Research Centre), Sonia Hines (Nursing Research Centre), Kate Kynoch (Nursing Research Centre), Judy Munday (Nursing Research Centre), Suzanne Oram (Mater Mothers' Hospital), Judy Cunningham (Mater Mothers' Hospital), Professor Anne Chang (Nursing Research Centre).

Chris saves time and money

Mater biomedical technician Chris Koplick has designed and manufactured a piece of test equipment to speed up the way hospitals test infusion pumps.

Director Infrastructure Services Peter Nomikos said the new device cuts down the time required to test various pressure parameters of the pumps from more than 10 minutes to two minutes.

“With more than 500 pumps across the Mater complex that require annual testing, the time saved by using Chris’s device is considerable,” Mr Nomikos said.

“A commercially-available tester costs \$5500 however Chris’ test device cost less than \$200 and is faster and easier to use than the more expensive model.”

Mr Koplick came up with the design himself then proceeded to manufacture it from a combination of bits and pieces taken from disposed electronic equipment and low cost items.



Grants awarded to researchers

Mater researchers Dr Jim Coward and Associate Professor John Hooper recently won Queensland Cancer Council funding for project grants submitted via the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC).

Dr Jim Coward—Targeting inflammatory pathways in epithelial ovarian cancer—\$99 891 in 2013 and \$99 891 in 2014.

Associate Professor John Hooper—A novel Src regulated protease activated signalling pathway in hematogenous metastasis—\$100 000 in 2013 and \$100 000 in 2014.

“This should give hope to those currently beginning to prepare applications for next year,” Mater Research Deputy Director Professor Michael McGuckin said.

In other good news for Mater Research, Josephine Forbes was appointed an Adjunct Professor by The University of Queensland Faculty of Health Sciences.

Dr Paul Dawson takes centre stage

Dr Paul Dawson presented at the Mater Research sponsored symposium Placental Transport, at the Australian Health and Medical Research Congress held in Adelaide in late 2012.

The symposium showcased recent Mater Research findings on the importance of maintaining sufficient supplies of nutrient sulfate during pregnancy.

Sulfate is an important nutrient for growth and development. During pregnancy, the developing baby is totally reliant on sulfate, which is obtained from the mother and transported from mum to baby through the placenta.

Dr Dawson’s research has identified key proteins in the placenta which are critical for transporting sulfate and studies are now focused on the consequences of sulfate deficiency to the baby.

This may have important clinical implications, particularly for bone and brain development.



Queensland X-Ray's Kerry Lapish, Sibylle Zinnocker and Bede Yates with Nezperrenub.

What lies beneath

When *Mummy: Secrets of the Tomb* closed to the public in late October, more than 200 000 people had visited the Queensland Museum to see the 3000 year old mummies.

But it was staff from Queensland X-Ray at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane who were given a special viewing—of what lay within the historical sarcophagi.

The team—led by senior radiographer Bede Yates—were tasked with using computerised tomography (CT) to scan four of the British Museum's prized possessions.

"The British Museum was curious to check on the condition of the mummies after travel and will use the scans to complete high resolution datasets to create interactive displays on life-sized computer screens when the mummies have been returned to the museum," Mr Yates said.

For many years, the only way to extract data from Egyptian mummies was to unwrap them—a destructive and irreversible process.

However, modern non-invasive imaging techniques such as X-rays and CT scanning have made it possible to look inside the mummy casings without disturbing the wrappings.

Three of the mummies scanned by the Mater team were in cases known as cartonnages made of a light-weight material of linen or papyrus scraps hardened with plaster and/or resin—often decorated in bright colours.

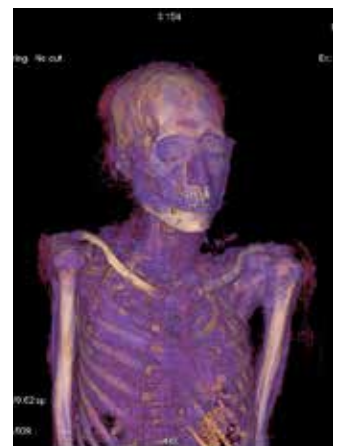
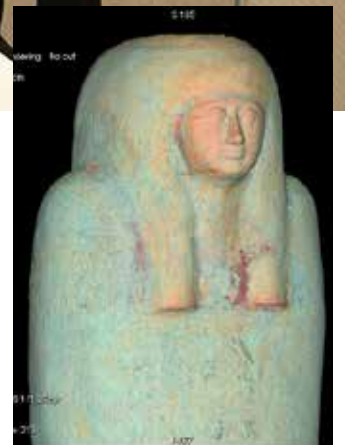
Queensland Museum's Cultural Environments Collection Manager Nick Hadnutt said the scanning was 'a wonderful opportunity to get up close and personal' with the mummies.

"It was the first time they had travelled so far, so it was natural to try and understand the impact the travel may have had on them," Mr Hadnutt said.

The team set about scanning the mummies to see whether the individuals had moved within their casing. They also wanted to check if any of the amulets placed on the mummies during the mummification process had moved.

"It is quite astounding to consider the journey that these mummies have taken from the tombs of ancient Egypt to the halls of our health system here in Queensland."

Queensland Museum Chief Executive Officer Dr Ian Galloway said the results of the CT scan would be analysed by the experts at the British Museum to verify that the condition of the mummies had been maintained since previous scanning and investigations.





Change is a given

By Don Murray

2013 is well underway and with it Mater's growth continues.

A new year often brings predictable change, as plans are implemented and ideas realised, but it can also bring unpredictable changes as well.

It is possible that 2013 could herald the arrival of a new Federal Government and with it changes to the landscape of health care in Australia. What will this mean for Mater?

There may be new legislation and policies but ultimately our organisation will remain committed to its core purpose—to provide exceptional care.

Mater Private Hospital Brisbane has now been in its current building for 20 years and the organisation has been on Mater Hill since 1910.

In that time there have been numerous changes of government at both State and Federal level and Mater has survived them all.

We are in it for the long haul and committed to the vision of the Sisters of Mercy. This will remain unchanged.

Part of the Sisters' Mission is to meet unmet needs and the newly opened Mater Health Centre at Brookwater is intended to do just that.

The centre got off to a flying start with more than 700 people attending an open day in late February.

It was fantastic to see the new facility embraced by the local community.

I am excited about Mater's future at Springfield and look forward to further developments in the area in the years ahead. Mater is undoubtedly going to change the health care offering for the local community for the better.

As nice as change is, sometimes it is good to maintain the status quo.

Nowhere is this more apparent than at Mater Private Hospital Redland which topped the Medibank Private list of Queensland's best private hospitals for the fourth year in a row. It is a fantastic achievement.

2013 will be a year full of change as health care is always responding to the needs of patients. It is great to be part of such a progressive industry and I wouldn't change that for the world.

Mater Cancer Care Centre coming soon

Development work for a new integrated cancer centre is currently underway at Mater with the service expected to open in early June.

Mater Cancer Care Centre will allow all patients—regardless of their level of health insurance cover—who visit Mater South Brisbane for ambulatory cancer treatment access to a streamlined holistic service.

In addition, Mater will launch an ambulatory day oncology service for private patients.

This comprehensive and compassionate service has been designed with individual treatment needs in mind to enable a holistic approach for each patient.

Mater Private Hospital Brisbane Executive Director Don Murray said the Mater Cancer Care Centre was the start of a long term strategy for cancer services at Mater.

"At Mater, patient care is at the centre of everything we do, every day and the new Cancer Care Centre will provide our patients with an integrated treatment service as well as access to a Pharmacy retail and dispensary service."

The facts ...

- A state of the art dedicated space to conduct private day haematology, oncology and palliative care services.
- 13 private treatment pods.
- 18 public treatment pods.
- Five 'flex' treatment pods which provides capacity to flex between public and private demand.
- Four dedicated private sessional rooms.
- Dedicated waiting areas for patients.

Fundraising reaches \$100 000 mark

Cancer patients at Mater Private Hospital Redland will soon benefit from an expansion in support services after a \$9 470 donation from Redlands RSL helped the hospital reach its \$100 000 fundraising target.

A gift of \$60 000 from a local resident was used to purchase a 'gamma probe', which enables surgeons to perform lymph node biopsies which are less invasive and generally result in quicker recovery times and fewer side effects.

Mater Private Hospital Redland Director of Clinical Services Tracey Hutley said the remaining \$40 000 would be used to expand cancer services at the hospital.

"On behalf of our staff, I would like to thank the Redland community for their continued support which enables us to



Photo courtesy of Bayside Bulletin

provide our patients with exceptional care year after year," Mrs Hutley said.

"Thank you also goes to Redlands RSL who have helped us reach our \$100 000 target so we can turn our plans into reality."

Above: L-R: Mater Private Hospitals Executive Director Don Murray, Mater Private Hospital Redland Director of Perioperative Services Grant Jones and Redlands RSL General Manager Peter Harrison.

Share your beautiful moments with Mater Mothers

Mother's Day is rapidly approaching and once again Mater is celebrating mums and babies with the extension of our *Beautiful Moments* advertising campaign for 2013.

This year, we are really excited to be able to build the campaign using images which have been shared by Mater mums and their families through our Facebook site and other campaign opportunities from 2012.

The campaign will be featured on local billboards, in print advertising, social media and online. It encourages people to share real moments—video, pictures or stories—to share 'the journey' of becoming a family and growing together.



Please join us in sharing your beautiful moments with Mater Mothers at [facebook.com/matermothers](https://www.facebook.com/matermothers).

*Mater has very specific social media policies to protect the privacy of our staff and patients. If you are a Mater staff member please check Mater's staff social media policy available on Mater's intranet site before posting.

Changing of the guard

By Mish Hill

It has been a busy few months within the Mater Adult, Women's and Children's Health Service (AWCHS) with a number of new appointments across campus.

Among the changes was the appointment of Dr Louis MacPherson as the new Medical Director of Women's Health and Newborn Services following Dr Don Cave's move to Mater's Clinical Safety and Quality Unit (CSQU).

Doctors Richard Lewandowski and Martin Wood have also taken up new roles within Mater as Director of Surgery (Mater Adult Hospital) and Director of Surgery (Mater Children's Hospital) respectively.

Pam McErlean who was the Nurse Unit Manager of Mater Children's Hospital Ward 8 East has taken on the role of Project Leader for the Queensland Children's Hospital Transition, so we will be hearing a lot more from her as we edge closer to the transition in late 2014.

On another topic, I would like to recognise the great work done by the Child Youth Mental Health Service (CYMHS) Recovery and Resilience Team who were involved in providing a consultation service to Bundaberg and the surrounding region following the severe flooding earlier this year.

In maternity news, we are again embarking on a



comprehensive advertising campaign celebrating the beautiful moments at Mater Mothers and we want you—and your patients—to be a part of it.

Once again, we are asking Mater mums and dads, as well as grandparents, midwives and obstetricians to share their beautiful moments. For more information, see page eight.

Finally, it is time for me to sign off from this column and hand over the reins to our new Executive Director— Sean Hubbard.

I would like to thank Jen Pitt who stood in as the Acting Director of Nursing and Midwifery Services, AWCHS, for the past nine months and Tina Luton who was the Acting Nursing Director, Mater Adult Hospital. Their commitment and professionalism during this time was truly remarkable.

I also sincerely thank everyone who has supported and guided me through the past nine months, particularly the senior leaders in AWCHS and the Mater Executive and Board.

It has been an interesting—and at times challenging—journey and I am looking forward to returning my focus to our Nursing and Midwifery Services.

New Executive Director announced

After six months of extensive 'headhunting' throughout Australia and New Zealand, Sean Hubbard CA (SA) has been appointed to the role of Executive Director—Adult, Women's and Children's Health Services, starting in March 2013.

Mater Health Services Chief Executive Officer Dr John O'Donnell said Mr Hubbard had a lengthy history in hospital management, particularly with the Life Healthcare Group in South Africa (1999—2010) in which he had various roles including Regional Finance Manager, Executive Hospital Manager and Executive Regional Manager.

"Since 2011 Sean has been the Deputy Chief Executive Officer

of Joondalup Health Campus in Perth which is operated by Ramsay Health Care and is a co-located 'public' and private hospital of some 500 beds," Dr O'Donnell said.

"Clearly Sean's experience in managing a major public contract in a mixed public contract and private hospital environment equips him admirably for many aspects of the task of Executive Director – Adult, Women's and Children's Health Services at Mater."

As well as successful leadership of hospitals, Mr Hubbard's background also includes commissioning new hospitals and services and this experience is relevant given the service changes associated with the commissioning of the Queensland Children's Hospital.

"I would like to record my sincere appreciation of Mish Hill's efforts as Acting Executive Director throughout this recruitment process. Mish's leadership throughout this time has been appreciated by all," Dr O'Donnell said.



Brookwater community open day a great success

The local Brookwater community came out in force to celebrate the opening of Mater Health Centre Brookwater on Saturday 23 February 2013.

The day included something for the whole family with free health checks including blood sugar readings, physio assessments, foot and lower limb checks and blood pressure checks.

Children were also catered for with a jumping castle, face painting, a climbing wall and live music.

A raffle saw several prizes up for grabs including a \$200 Woolworths gift card, a \$200 Masters gift pack and two \$300 Mater Pharmacy gift packs.

Mater Private Hospital Executive Director Don Murray said Mater was thrilled to open the new Mater Health Centre Brookwater to deliver a diverse range of health services to the local community.

“The open day was a great success and provided an excellent opportunity for the local community to check out the services available at Mater Health Centre Brookwater, whilst having fun and being entertained along the way,” Mr Murray said.

The 2000 m² metre medical hub opened on 18 February 2013 and offers Mater Pharmacy, Mater Pathology, GP services, physiotherapy, dental and podiatry services, medical imaging as well as specialist suites.

The new Mater Health Centre facility is the result of an alliance between Woolworths and Mater Health Services.



Mater Research-led project featured in scientific journal Cell

An international research project led by Mater Researcher Associate Professor Geoff Faulkner has been included in the latest issue of the prestigious scientific journal Cell.

The paper entitled “Endogenous Retrotransposition Activates Oncogenic Pathways in Hepatocellular Carcinoma” focuses on the discovery of new types of genetic abnormalities in tumour cells, which could ultimately lead to improved cancer therapies and help identify individuals at risk of liver cancer.

“About 20 per cent of patients with liver cancer have these pieces of mobile DNA—called retrotransposons—that can mutate into genes known to prevent tumour growth,” A/Prof Faulkner said.

“For technical reasons, retrotransposon mutations are often very hard to detect. To find them, we had to develop a new technology to track each retrotransposon ‘jump’ in DNA taken from tumour cells.

“We found retrotransposon mutations were relatively common in liver tumours. This opened up an entirely new line of enquiry for the disease,” A/Prof Faulkner said.

The research could present new options for cancer detection in patients.

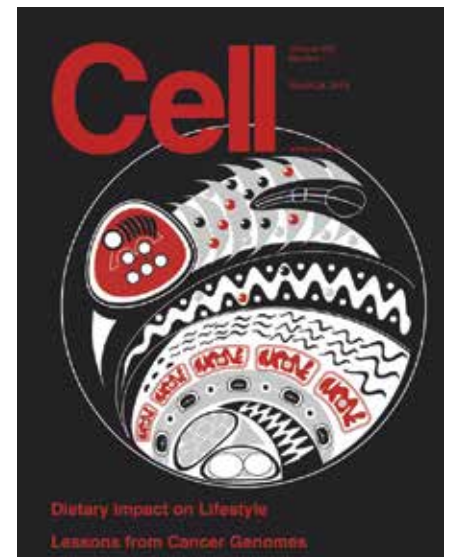
“Tumour cells carrying retrotransposon mutations are probably circulated in blood,” A/Prof Faulkner said.

“Therefore we may be able to efficiently screen for these mutations in individuals with liver cirrhosis and predict which patients are at greater risk of subsequently developing a tumour.”

The work may also support future clinical studies.

“Retrotransposons and viruses are very similar in many ways. It could be that viruses like hepatitis B and C turn off the body’s ability to prevent retrotransposons from causing mutations,” A/Prof Faulkner said.

“We are exploiting this idea to test whether anti-retroviral drugs can be used to block retrotransposons from causing mutations in liver cells, but the first step is to perform this work in a laboratory setting.”



Mater Research joins world-first autism research centre

Mater Research will share in \$31 million Federal Government funding for a world-first project to assist Australians living with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

The funding will be used to establish a Cooperative Research Centre (CRC), hosted by The University of Queensland, which will draw on the expertise of researchers from throughout Australia and abroad.

Mater Research Deputy Director Professor Michael McGuckin said Developmental Paediatrician Dr Honey Heussler and Developmental Disorders Team Leader Dr Paul Dawson were instrumental in putting together Mater’s portion of the bid.

“Both Dr Heussler and Dr Dawson will utilise the funding to pursue clinical and basic science research in autism,” Prof McGuckin said.

The three main aims of the research will be to help people living with ASD to:

- Ensure early diagnosis, coupled with targeted early intervention strategies
- Enable education in an appropriate environment by skilled professionals
- Provide the best chance to find a meaningful and fulfilling place in society through higher education, employment and better opportunities for long-term social relationships.

UQ Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Max Lu said the CRC’s work is expected to benefit more than one million Australians; improving their quality of life, education and employment options.

The centre’s chief executive officer will be Professor Sylvia Rodger from The University of Queensland.

“This CRC will involve an innovative ‘whole-of-life’ approach involving leading scientists, in harnessing existing knowledge of ASD behaviour to accurately diagnose 50 per cent of children with ASD before their second birthday and more than 70 per cent by their third birthday,” Professor Rodger said.

Other core participants in this CRC includes:

- Autism Queensland Inc.
- Queensland University of Technology
- Griffith University
- AEIOU Foundation
- Department of Education, Training and Employment Queensland
- LaTrobe University

Researchers on the move

Mater Research has a rich history of collaboration, integrating with Mater clinicians on a range of studies.

This year the institution has taken its collaborative tradition one step further by forming part of the Translational Research Institute (TRI), an industry-leading 'think tank' based in a new state-of-the-art facility situated next to the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

Led by Professor Ian Frazer, TRI brings together more than 650 of the best and brightest minds from Mater Research, The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute, Queensland University of Technology Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation and Princess Alexandra Hospital Centres for Health Research to exchange ideas on therapeutics and treatments.

Mater Research Chief Executive Officer/Director Professor John Prins said the move had been in the making for several years with Mater a keen collaborator.

"After more than a decade of working closely with Mater clinicians and delivering on our 'bench-to-bedside' philosophy, we've made a name for ourselves both locally and globally in cancer, immunology, transplantation, mental health, pregnancy-related disorders, growth and development, diabetes and obesity," Prof Prins said.

"Now, it's time to take our expertise and knowledge and contribute to a broader research community. We all know the value of working together for better health outcomes.

"Collaboration is key to successful research and working together with other scientists and researchers will only improve and help our quest for research excellence, delivering better outcomes to our community.

"I look forward to working closely with our researchers and our other partner institutes to deliver better health outcomes locally, nationally and internationally."

About 70 Mater laboratory-based researchers relocated to TRI in January 2013 while others will remain on Level 2 of Aubigny Place or within clinical settings.

Mater Research contact details
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TRI Campus: 07 3443 7619
research.mater.org.au





Mater Health Services
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 School of Nursing and
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 Catherine Turner, Health
 Workforce Australia
 Chief Executive Officer
 Mark Cormack and Mater
 Health Services Director of
 Learning and Development
 Donna Bonney.

University of Queensland Mater Clinical School opens in the heart of Cleveland

Nursing and midwifery students from the Redlands can now access high quality learning opportunities in their local area with the opening of a University of Queensland (UQ) Mater Clinical School in the heart of Cleveland.

The new UQ Mater Clinical School at Redland was officially opened by Mater Health Services Chief Executive Officer Dr John O'Donnell on 25 February, with the first intake of UQ students in early March.

The school will be used for the teaching of theoretical and practical aspects of the UQ Bachelor of Nursing and the dual degree Nursing and Midwifery course, with students utilising nearby health care facilities such as Mater Private Hospital Redland and the Redland Public Hospital for practical clinical experience.

Mater Director of Learning and Development Donna Bonney said she was thrilled that after two years of planning, a high quality tertiary education facility had come to fruition.

"This investment in the future nursing and midwifery workforce will result in very positive outcomes for the Redland area, and Queensland in general," Ms Bonney said.

UQ has appointed School of Nursing and Midwifery academic Danny Sidwell as the Clinical Lecturer at the new school.

As well as being a local resident, Mr Sidwell is a highly-regarded clinician with a vast array of experience in both the public and private health care sectors including as a clinical lecturer at the UQ Mater Clinical School South Brisbane.



The new clinical school is located on Middle Street, Cleveland, close to the Cleveland train station, the public library and many coffee shops—providing an ideal hub for students.

The establishment of the UQ Mater Clinical School at Redland was possible due to funding from Health Workforce Australia as an Australian Government initiative.





Mater Private Hospital Redland Clinical Director Tracey Hutley said her team strived to deliver exceptional care to patients and their families.

“Once again this award belongs to our amazing staff, from specialists and nurses to midwives and support staff. Without their commitment to patient care, this achievement would not have been possible,” Mrs Hutley said.

“We survey our patients weekly and from there we try to learn and grow to ensure we provide the highest level of care and service for our patients.”

Medibank Group Executive Provider Relations Cindy Shay said the results of the Medibank Private’s Hospital Experience Survey showed the experience of most private hospital patients was a positive one.

“This is important because people who take out private health insurance want to know they’ll have access to services that suit their individual needs. This survey shows private hospitals are delivering this,” Ms Shay said.

Medibank Private rates Mater number one

Mater Private Hospital Redland has topped a list of Queensland’s best private hospitals for patient satisfaction—for the fourth year in a row.

Each year, Medibank Private surveys patients nationwide, asking them to share their thoughts on every stage of the hospital experience.

In 2012, there were 17 322 responses covering 140 private hospitals with respondents sharing their thoughts on everything from the standard of medical treatment provided to privacy levels, cleanliness and food quality.

Exceptional recognition

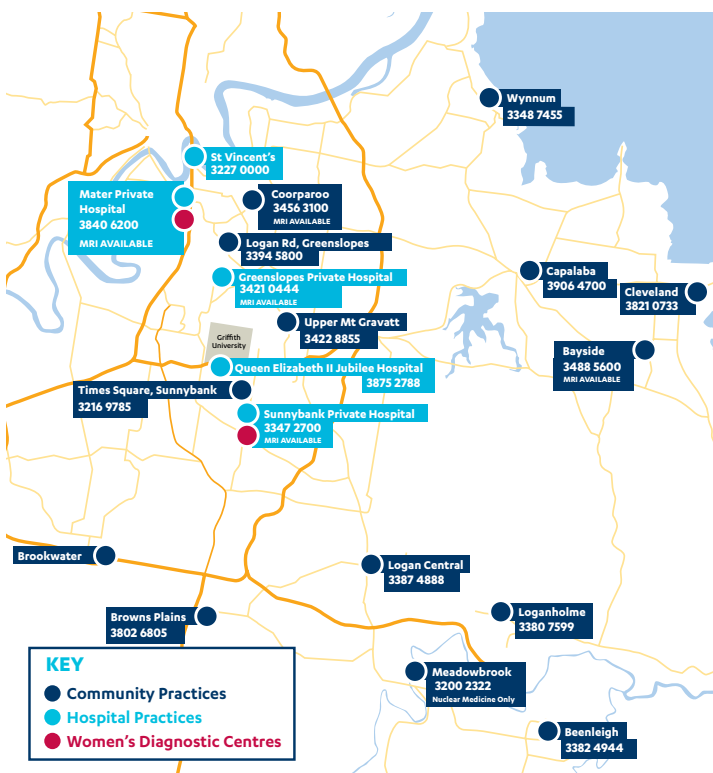
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Gold State Award |

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ICARIS Trial for back pain in labour

For the one-in-three women who experience severe back pain during labour and birth, a new trial of sterile water injections at Mater Mothers' Hospital (MMH) presents new hope for less invasive pain relief and a natural birth.

While sterile water injections (SWI) of the lower back have been used in midwifery practice at MMH since February 2009, the new 'Impact on Caesarean Section Rates following Injections of Sterile Water' (ICARIS) trial will examine if the injections can lead to a reduction in caesarean section numbers.

Professor of Midwifery Dr Sue Kildea said the advantages of SWI during labour include that it often has an immediate effect of pain relief; has no effect on mother's state of consciousness and no effect on baby and it does not limit a mother's mobility or adversely affect the labour progress.

"It is also a simple procedure that can be administered by a midwife and repeated as needed," Prof Kildea said.

But there may be added benefits, with previous studies suggesting women who received the SWI were less likely to require a caesarean section.

"It is not clear if this is because they received an injection or because of other influences in the labour process but we hope that a large study, such as the ICARIS trial, will help to answer this question," Prof Kildea said.

"There is also limited information about analgesic and epidural anaesthesia use following sterile water injections in labour and the ICARIS trial will aid in filling these knowledge gaps.

The randomised, controlled trial of four intradermal sterile water injections versus a placebo will run for two years and include participants birthing at Mater Mothers' Hospital, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, Ipswich Hospital, Townsville Hospital, Nambour Hospital, Royal Hospital for Women (Sydney), Rockhampton Hospital, The Flinders Medical Centre, Lyell McEwin Hospital and the Women and the Children's Hospital (Adelaide).

"Once women have presented to their birth suite in labour and are experiencing back pain and requesting analgesia, their midwife will invite them to participate in the trial," Prof Kildea said.

The ICARIS trial is being conducted by the Midwifery Research Unit, a collaboration between Mater Research and Australian Catholic University, and has been funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

The study has been approved by the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital Human Research Ethics Committee and the Australian Catholic University Human Research Ethics Committee.

For more information on the trial, contact Project Co-ordinator Natalie Dos Santos (Wednesday—Friday) on 07 3163 6313 or Project Leader Nigel Lee on 0427 231 390.



Movers and Shakers

Vanessa Grinvalds

After a rigorous recruitment process, Vanessa Grinvalds has been appointed to the position of Project Manager—Organisational Delivery for the Springfield Hospital development.

"It is an exciting time for the Mater family as we further expand our services beyond Mater Hill," Mater Private Hospitals Executive Director Don Murray said.

"Vanessa has a broad portfolio of skills and experience which will hold her in good stead for facing the challenges that the new role and project will bring."

Dr Joe McCormack



Dr Joe McCormack has resigned from his role as Director of Infectious Disease Medicine.

Dr McCormack joined Mater

in September 1984, having previously worked in United Arab Emirates and Dublin.

As Director of Infectious Disease Medicine at Mater Adult Hospital (MAH) and Mater Private Hospital Brisbane (MPHB), Dr McCormack was a much loved and respected member of the Division of Medicine.

Through his role at Mater, Dr McCormack has trained generations of doctors and mentored many current and future physicians through Internal Medicine and Infectious Disease programs.

Dr Louis MacPherson

After seven years as the Clinical Director of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Townsville Hospital, Dr Louis MacPherson has joined Mater as the new Medical Director of Women's Health Services and Newborn Services.

Dr MacPherson obtained his qualifications in South Africa and has predominantly practiced in medical management and women's health. He has worked in numerous environments including independent private clinical practice, group private practice management as well as in military, mining and public hospital facilities.

Dr MacPherson is a member of the Medico-Legal Society of Queensland and will this year complete his post-graduate law degree.

He is committed to training and education programs for junior Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and is a member of the RANZCOG Queensland Training and Accreditation Committee, of which he is training supervisor, integrated training program coordinator and nominated membership examiner.

Nigel Waterhouse

Associate Professor Nigel Waterhouse has resigned from his position at Mater Research to assume the role of Senior Microscopist and Cell Biologist at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research from 2 April.

Despite this move, A/Prof Waterhouse will stay formally connected with Mater Research and will continue to supervise some ongoing projects and staff.

Work has been undertaken to ensure members of his research group are supported and mentored into the future.

"The funding for this team is not under threat and their research will continue with more limited input from A/Prof Waterhouse together with support from other members of the scientific leadership group," Deputy Director Research Professor Michael McGuckin said.

Dr Martin Wood

Dr Martin Wood has recently started in his new role as Director of Surgery, Mater Children's Hospital (MCH).



Dr Wood has worked at MCH for the past five years as a Consultant Neurosurgeon.

He graduated from Aberdeen University Scotland with a Bachelor of Medical Science (Hons) in 1995 and MBChB in 1997 before obtaining a Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons/Neurosurgery in 2005.

Dr Wood then undertook advanced training in Neurosurgery and post fellowship training in Skull Base Surgery, Hydrocephalus and Paediatric Neurosurgery.

He is President and co-founder of the Brainchild Foundation which aims to improve the care and support provided to children with brain and spinal cord tumours and is a Senior Lecturer for The University of Queensland and a member of the Neurological Society of Australia and Society for Minimally Invasive Spinal Surgery.

Dr Don Cave

In January, Dr Don Cave resigned from his role as Director of Perinatal Medicine and Women's Health to take up a role as Senior Medical Consultant with Mater's Clinical Safety and Quality Unit (CSQU) where his expertise will be well utilised.



Dr Cave joined Mater as Director of Gynaecology in December 2005 and was instrumental in the redevelopment of the new Mater Mothers' Hospital, which opened in 2008.

"His vision and strategic direction has ensured that all women attending the Mater Mothers' Hospitals are provided with evidence based obstetric and gynaecological care in line with

the core values of Mater Health Services," Acting Executive Director Adult, Women's and Children's Health Services Mish Hill said.

"It is his dedication to his profession which has ensured the continued success of the Mater Mothers' Hospitals into the future."

Dr Richard Lewandowski

Dr Richard Lewandowski has commenced in his new role as Director of Surgery, Mater Adult Hospital (MAH).



Upon graduating from The University of Queensland, Dr Lewandowski became a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1990 and a Fellow of the Royal

Australasian College of Surgeons— Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery in 1993.

He then furthered his surgical education and training by obtaining a Fellowship Diploma in Craniomaxillofacial Surgery from the Eastern Virginian Graduate School of Medicine, Norfolk, Virginia, USA.

Dr Lewandowski is co-founder and current Chairman of Operation Smile which, together with Mater Health Services, continues to assist patients worldwide.

In May 2004, Dr Lewandowski was awarded the 'Queensland Great' Award by Premier Peter Beattie for his dedication to providing cranio-facial surgery to children and young adults in developing countries.

He has previously been a Senior Lecturer for The University of Queensland and is a renowned guest speaker, both nationally and internationally.

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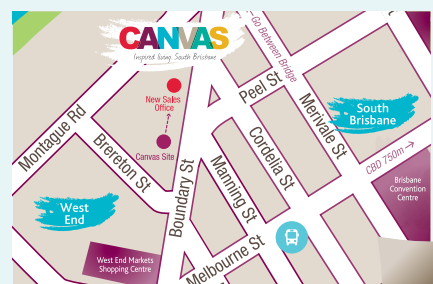
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A healthy start to life

Issues discussed at the forum and agreed upon included:

- Targeting early life events (the year before and after birth) are critical for improving disparities in Indigenous life-long health outcomes.
- There is growing importance of epigenetic research and the effect on trans-generational health disadvantage.
- Current Indigenous maternal and infant services need strengthening.

Professor Kildea said that the forum discussed ways to move forward to improve the health of mums and babies.

Mater Professor of Midwifery Sue Kildea was one of five key speakers to address a national forum focused on exploring the issues surrounding women's and children's health issues, specifically within the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

The forum, *Better health outcomes for mums and bubs*, was hosted by the Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR) and aimed to produce a set of practical, realistic recommendations designed to achieve better health outcomes.

Some of the recommendations included:

1. Engaging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities with emerging Indigenous health centres in all facets of women's health
2. Providing low cost but healthy food in both urban and remote Indigenous communities
3. Ensuring we have culturally safe and responsive maternity care, including primary maternity 'birthing in country' centres and safe women's places that build parenting capacity.



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Flashback 1993

On 7 February, Mater Private Hospital Brisbane celebrated 20 years in its new location on Vulture Street, South Brisbane.

Mater's story in South Brisbane began when the Sisters of Mercy opened a 130-bed private hospital (now known as Aubigny Place) on Mater Hill in 1910.

The 1910 opening ceremony was a much celebrated occasion attended by 8 000 people who crammed onto the site to witness Cardinal Moran and Governor Sir William MacGregor officially bless and open the new facility.

For more than 70 years, the hospital served the people of Brisbane, but by the late 1980s, with demand for private health services on the rise, the need for a new building was apparent.

A 20 000 square metre hospital was designed by Peddle Thorp Architects and was delivered eight weeks ahead of schedule to be opened on 7 February 1993. The building's facades were



designed in various planes to capture the charm and character of the original hospital.

Today Mater Private Hospital Brisbane has 320 patient beds, preadmission clinic, welcome lounge, cardiovascular unit, four additional theatres and a 24-hour Emergency Care Centre.

A \$6.7 million refurbishment completed last year—involving the reception and waiting area on level 6, all wards on levels 8 to 10 including nurse's stations, corridors and patient lounges—creates a relaxing environment for patients which is supportive of healing in hotel-like surroundings.

Mater Children's Private Hospital – 15 years

Mater Children's Private Hospital (MCPH) this year marks 15 years of service as Australia's first private acute paediatric hospital.

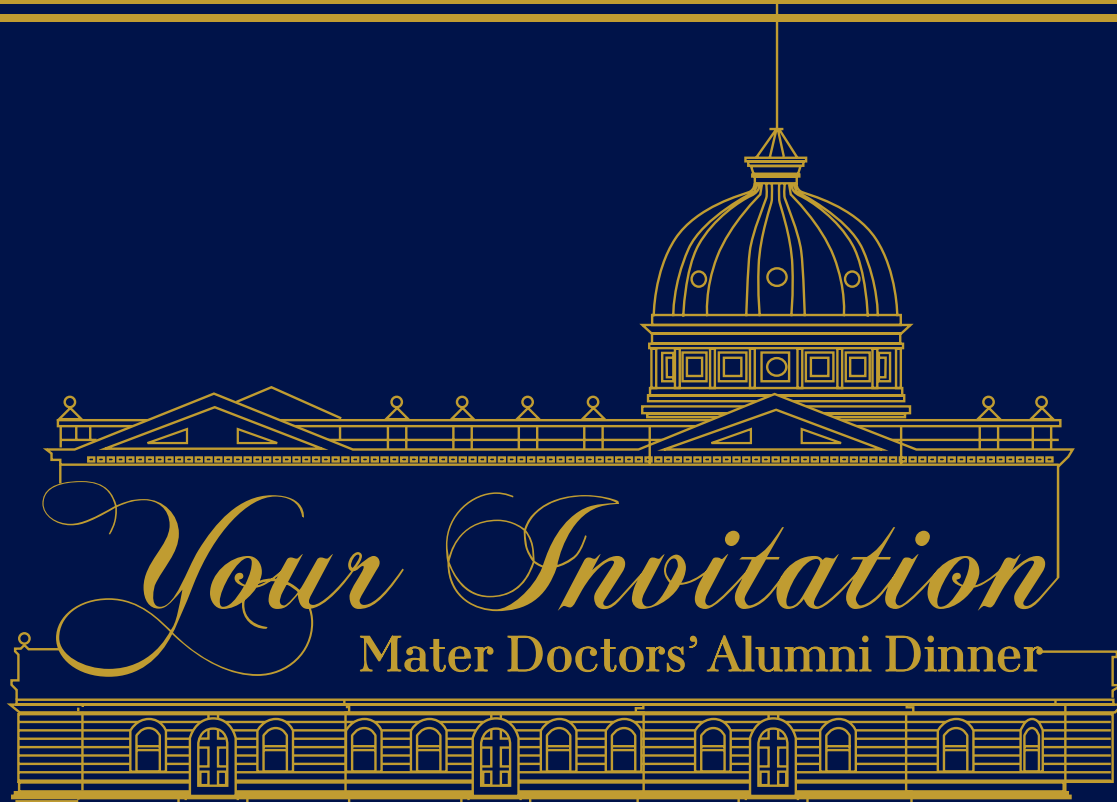
Opened on 9 March 1998, the hospital has earned a reputation for providing the best of hospital care for the next generation.

MCPH offers 26 inpatient beds in 20 private rooms, a six-bed high observation area for acute care patients and 15 day surgery beds.

From children with asthma and diabetes, to sporting injuries and bouts of chicken pox, MCPH treats more than 3 000 patients each year and links to one of Brisbane's busiest dedicated Emergency Departments.

The first surgical procedure performed at MCPH was a repair of a cleft lip conducted by Dr Michael Lannigan in 1998.

Save the Date



Your Invitation
Mater Doctors' Alumni Dinner

• Friday 23 August 2013 •

Time: 7 pm to 11.30 pm

Dress: Cocktail

Phone: 07 3163 8623

Venue: Customs House, 399 Queen Street, Brisbane City

Enquiries: Karen Miller

Email: karen.miller@mater.org.au

Please join us and be part of our special annual Mater Doctor's Alumni dinner; celebrating Mater's rich history and its bright future of providing exceptional care.

We will be holding this event at the historic Customs House, one of Brisbane's premier heritage icons; providing guests with a great opportunity to reunite with past and present Mater friends and colleagues whilst enjoying the delights of award winning cuisine.

Thank you for being one of Mater Health Services' Exceptional People

