

# SCOPE

Autumn 2014



Mosquitoes in  
the crosshairs

Ten of the best

Mater enters alliance  
with The University of  
Queensland



Exceptional People. Exceptional Care.



## Welcome from the Editor

Welcome to the first edition of Scope for 2014.

The year has already commenced at a cracking pace, so I trust you can find a moment or two to read through the latest news and developments about Mater.

As you will discover, it will be a year of transition for Mater but it's also a year for us to explore new opportunities.

Similarly for me personally, it will also be a year of change as I go on maternity leave, so this will be my final editor's column for the year. It's a role I have enjoyed since we launched the first edition of the Scope magazine in 2005 and I couldn't have done it without the support of my team and the contributions of our readers. My thanks to you all.

While I am away, Scope will function as normal, so please continue to send through your story ideas and provide feedback to the team via [news@mater.org.au](mailto:news@mater.org.au).

I hope that you all have a great year ahead and enjoy this edition of Scope.

### Best wishes

Miranda



### On the cover

Mater's Director of Infectious Diseases, Dr Paul Griffin is running a trial to test transmission-blocking malaria vaccines. If successful, his findings could provide a treatment for what is a significant international health problem.

## Contents

- 3 A message from the CEO
- 4 Fast News
- 6 Dr Paul Griffin works towards eradication of malaria
- 7 What's the big idea? by Don Murray
- 8 Researchers feature among 'Ten of the best'
- 9 Planning and preparation by Sean Hubbard
- 10 Mater and The University of Queensland enter an Alliance Agreement
- 11 Redland named a 'baby friendly' hospital
- 12 Mater Children's Hospital: The early days
- 14 Case Study by Dr Anthony Camuglia
- 16 Specialist profiles
- 17 Australia's largest maternity service launches Mater Nappies
- 18 Entrepreneur Kate Farrar joins the Mater board
- 19 Medical oncologist rides for a cure
- 20 Researcher Dr Jakob Begun joins Mater Research
- 21 Mater Health Centre Brookwater turns one
- 22 New document management system for Mater
- 23 FLU VAX MAN returns to Mater

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Thank you 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 [news@mater.org.au](mailto:news@mater.org.au).

Names will be published unless otherwise stated.

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# A message

from our CEO

## Welcome to 2014!

This year promises to be monumental for Mater, not only for our immediate future, but in the care we will provide to future generations.

Undoubtedly the most significant change we will face this year is farewell to Mater Children's Hospital, ending 84 years of providing publicly-funded paediatric care at Mater Hill.

But before we say goodbye, we would like to reflect on the history of Mater Children's Hospital and will start this reflection by looking back on the early days of the hospital (page 12).

Our repurposing plans for the building following the transition to Lady Cilento Children's Hospital are also underway and our new services—Mater Neurosciences Centre and Mater Adolescent and Young Adult Centre—will be complemented by expansions to Mater Adult Hospital's Intensive Care Unit and Mater Children's Private Brisbane.

These plans, supported by existing services, will ensure Mater continues to offer care for all stages of life through neonatal, paediatric, adolescent, young adult and adult services.

We will soon commence refurbishment of the Whitty Building to create a world-class teaching and learning centre which accommodates a consolidated and expanded University of Queensland School of Nursing and Midwifery and School of Medicine at Mater. You can read more about these plans, and a recent event held at Mater to acknowledge our Alliance Agreement with The University of

Queensland on page 10.

Mater Mothers also remains in the spotlight, with the release of the remainder of our Mater products within our maternity and baby care range (page 17).

Research also hasn't been forgotten, with Dr Paul Griffin doing great things in the field of transmission-blocking vaccines for malaria. Given that malaria remains a significant international health problem, any developments in this field would be welcomed across the world (page 6).

Dr Cath Shannon has shared her motivation for taking part in Mater Foundation's Cambodia-Vietnam Cycle for Cancer which aims to raise \$200 000 for research into women's cancers (page 19).

Finally, as of February 2014, the incidence of influenza in our community was already on the rise, with 2.6 times the number of reported cases year-to-date as compared with the last five years on average—so don't forget to make an appointment with Mater's SHAW Unit on 07 3163 8190 to get your 'flu' vaccination.

**Dr John O'Donnell**  
CEO, Mater Health Services



“These plans, supported by existing services, will ensure Mater continues to offer care for all stages of life through neonatal, paediatric, adolescent, young adult and adult services.” - Dr John O'Donnell



## Enrolments available at Mater Childcare

Mater Childcare's highly qualified and dedicated team provide quality education and care for more than 200 children each day.

Vacancies currently exist for children aged between two and five years.

Mater Childcare offers two kindy programs with qualified early childhood teachers. The kindergarten program is based on the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines and aims to prepare children for their transition to the preparatory year through an emergent play-based curriculum.



For further information about the program, please contact Mater Childcare via 07 3163 3444.

## Mater recognised by Australian Council on Healthcare Standards

Mater Health Services has been recognised by the Annual Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) for the development of a tool which streamlines the management of clinical placements for students.

The Student Placement Online Tool (SPOT) was implemented across all nursing student placements at Mater's South Brisbane campus in early 2012, followed by midwifery at South Brisbane and Redland in late 2012 and the medicine and allied health disciplines in early 2013.

"With SPOT we can now understand where our current capacity levels are and where to find efficiencies; we know who is on campus today, where they are, who their supervisor is and what their learning requirements are," Mater Executive Director People and Learning Caroline Hudson said.

"Using this information in combination with placement simulation scenarios, Mater has been able to provide a substantial increase in student numbers for their education provider partners."

SPOT has been so successful that Mater is now making the application available to other healthcare institutions to manage and record their own student clinical placements.



## Easy access to Mater Pathology information

Specialists are now able to access up-to-date information on every test conducted by Mater Pathology online.

Visit [pathology.mater.org.au/for-doctors](http://pathology.mater.org.au/for-doctors), click on 'pathology test guide' and on the PathTest webpage use the search function to find test-specific information including Medicare status and collection requirements.



## Mater's Back Stability Clinic recognised nationally

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Mater's Back Stability Clinic was recently celebrated for winning an Australian Business Quality Award. The award is wonderful recognition for an excellent service to a complex group of patients.

Patient feedback on the service included:

"What I like about the Back Stability Clinic is the exceptional relationships building between the physiotherapist and patient; they build up a wonderful rapport and provide excellent advice and service."

"The expertise is what sets them apart from other places—my treatment has been very successful."

"They are well trained, professional and a very good place to be."

"I feel I'm going to get better and that I'm in safe hands—they know exactly how to get you well quickly. I'm confident in them."

"They are the best place I've ever been in my life—I'm feeling so happy with them, I haven't had any back pain now for years."

## Emergency waiting times on the decline

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Mater Adult Hospital staff were recently acknowledged for meeting the National Emergency Access Target (NEAT).

The September 2013 report for emergency department patients seen within the clinically recommended time indicates a best ever NEAT combined score for the Emergency Departments of 83.55 per cent (Mater Adult Hospital Emergency Department and Mater Children's Hospital Emergency Department).

# Save the date!

**The 2014 Mater Doctor's Alumni dinner will be held on Friday 22 August at Brisbane's premiere historic icon—Customs House.**

## New service for Mater Health and Wellness

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Mater Health and Wellness now provides the services of an accredited exercise physiologist (AEP). AEPs are skilled in both exercise science and human behaviour.

They are able to support clients with chronic conditions such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, mental health problems, cancer, arthritis and pulmonary disease to make lifestyle changes for improved health.

The team at Mater Health and Wellness can help adult patients who require exercise for weight management (in conjunction with bariatric surgery and dietary interventions), sub-acute injury rehabilitation following physiotherapy, exercise for diabetes management or osteoporosis prevention and cardiac rehabilitation.

Individual assessments are also available for healthy people who have a specific health or fitness goal that they would like to achieve.

Women can also receive advice on exercising pre, during and post pregnancy while children can be assisted with exercise and active play for weight management, neuromuscular disabilities and support and advice for children who have a specific health or fitness goal.



**For further information or to make an appointment, please phone 07 3163 6000.**

# Dr Paul Griffin works towards eradication of malaria



Mater's Director of Infectious Diseases, Dr Paul Griffin has recently started a trial to test transmission-blocking malaria vaccines.

The Experimental Vivax Transmission to Anopheles (EVITA) trial stemmed from the current lack of transmission-blocking malaria treatment in clinical settings.

"Malaria is a terrible disease killing almost a million people per year, particularly in vulnerable populations, which contributes to an ongoing cycle of poverty and disease," Dr Griffin said.

Under the supervision of Dr James McCarthy and the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR), the EVITA trial aimed to evaluate the P.Vivax induced blood stage malaria model, followed by experimental mosquito feeding as a system to study infectivity to vector mosquitoes.

EVITA consisted of four healthy subjects who were inoculated with malaria to test the blocking of malaria transmission. A controlled group of mosquitoes were then forced to feed on the inoculated subjects for testing purposes.

After an incubation period of 10 days, mosquitoes were dissected to test for

the infectious component of the malaria disease.

According to the World Health Organisation<sup>1</sup> in 2011 there were 23.8 million reported cases of malaria worldwide.

Dr Griffin said although the study is based in Australia, he hopes to find an effective transmission-blocking vaccine that can immunise communities around the world.

"We hope that our work will eventually contribute to a reduction in the burden of malaria by utilising the transmission-blocking model we've established. We also hope to develop transmission-blocking drugs and vaccines much more rapidly through the

use of this model," he said.

Dr Griffin and his team plan to continue to use this model to test vaccines and treatments that will hopefully block the development of the parasite to the infectious stage.

**"Our overarching goal is to contribute towards worldwide malaria eradication. Malaria treatments are currently suboptimal and there is an unmet need for clinical treatments."**  
Dr Paul Griffin



1. <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.14120?lang=en>

- \* Despite efforts to improve control, malaria remains a significant international health problem.
- \* Malaria is one of the two most common causes of fever in returned travellers and must be considered even years after return or emigration from a malarious region.

## What's the big idea?

By Don Murray



Milestones and Mater go hand-in-hand. In an organisation the size of Mater there is often a service or clinical area celebrating a significant anniversary. In this edition of Scope alone we have a 10 year anniversary (Look Good Feel Better at Mater Private Hospital Redland) a 5 year anniversary (Mater Mothers' Hospital Refugee Maternity Health Service) and a 1 year anniversary (Mater Health Centre Brookwater).

In addition to our own milestones we are also privileged to witness those of our patients. Be it complete remission from cancer, restoration of function after rehabilitation or the birth of a child – we are fortunate to be a part of these journeys.

Just as every great journey starts with a small step, every Mater milestone starts with an idea, ambition or vision. It's often said that it takes a village to raise a child and the same logic can be applied to new ideas. Ideas need to be nurtured, supported and embraced to succeed. Our collective ability to stand behind new

ideas is what moves Mater forward and this is evidenced by several big Mater ideas that will shortly turn into reality.

The 'baby step' of Mater Health Centre Brookwater's first anniversary is part of a bigger idea that will culminate in the opening of Mater Private Hospital Springfield in late 2015. The hospital will serve the Springfield community and meet a currently unmet need.

The idea and eventual realisation of a consolidated paediatric tertiary hospital (Lady Cilento Children's Hospital) adjacent to Mater, has in turn spawned

more Mater ideas – the creation of a Neurosciences Centre within the vacated Mater Children's Hospital building, new adolescent services to bridge the gap between our new paediatric hospital neighbour and expanded services in Mater Adult Hospital and Mater Private Hospital Brisbane.

These ideas needed the energy and support of Mater people to make it beyond the drawing board. I feel fortunate to work within an organisation that can turn positive ideas into a reality that will improve patient care, meet unmet needs and benefit our community.

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## Neuroscience is front of mind

Designed with patients in mind, a new neurosciences centre at Mater will form a specialised hub for neuroscience activity in Queensland.

The transition of publicly-funded paediatric services from Mater Children's Hospital to Lady Cilento Children's Hospital later this year provides a unique opportunity for Mater to expand, reconfigure and redefine services on the South Brisbane campus.

To augment the Mater Neurosciences development strategy that has spanned the past 10 years, neurosciences has been identified as a service that would benefit from a move into a dedicated space where theatres, recovery, intensive care and inpatient accommodation are specifically modelled around neurosciences and spine services.

"Once the move of publicly-funded paediatric patients from Mater Children's Hospital to the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital occurs in November 2014, we

will relocate all current neuroscience and spine services into what is now the Mater Children's Hospital building," Mater Private Hospitals Executive Director Don Murray said.

"By developing a specialist Neurosciences Centre, we will also open up much-needed theatre time and bed capacity in Mater Private Hospital Brisbane."

The advance of the Mater Neurosciences Centre aligns with Mater's Mission to provide healthcare in response to the changing community need and foster high standards in health-related education and research.

Mater has a long and proud history of delivering neurosurgical services to the community with Neurosurgeon Dr



Geoff Toakley and Physician Dr Peter Landy establishing Queensland's first neurosurgical unit at Mater in 1954.

Since then, Mater's commitment to neurosurgery has experienced continued growth and has been evident through the development of specialised operating theatres and the introduction of leading edge technologies that enable faster, more accurate procedures with enhanced patient outcomes.





## Researchers feature among 'Ten of the best'

The outstanding work of two teams at Mater Research has been highlighted in the 2013 National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) publication 'Ten of the Best'.

NHMRC has published 'Ten of the Best' for the past eight years to highlight outstanding Australian research projects that are directly contributing to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of health issues facing Australians.

The two research teams, led by Dr Ingrid Winkler and Dr John Duley, have undertaken research to improve health outcomes for people affected by cancer.

Dr Winkler has discovered a way to protect normal healthy bone marrow cells from the adverse effects of chemotherapy.

About one third of the 24 000 cancer patients who receive chemotherapy each year suffer from an infection during, or soon after, their chemotherapy. This happens because chemotherapy is designed to kill all rapidly growing cells including cancer cells (the target), but chemotherapy also affects normal healthy cells in the bone marrow needed to replenish the blood and immune system, leaving a patient very vulnerable to infection.

Dr Ingrid Winkler said she had discovered the molecular switch the body uses to make

these bone marrow stem cells either go to sleep (which means they are resistant to chemotherapy), or wake up and regenerate the blood and immune system.

**"For patients this research has the potential to make chemotherapy-treatment less dangerous, so they have the best possible chance to be cured of their cancer," Dr Winkler said.**

Research led by Dr John Duley at Mater Pathology is looking into the development of a simple genetic test to predict which patients will suffer serious adverse side effects from the drug fluorouracil.

Although fluorouracil has been used for more than 50 years to treat solid tumours of the abdomen, neck and breast, about one in ten cancer patients suffer serious adverse side effects from the drug. Dr Duley's project aimed at finding a test to predict which patients would be likely to experience adverse events. The team

discovered an entirely new mechanism for fluorouracil toxicity, and hope to develop a simple genetic test for it.

"This would be a big advance in using fluorouracil, and perhaps a number of other related drugs. Although fluorouracil is an old drug, it is very cheap and effective, so it is still widely used. Helping to prevent injury, or even death, of cancer patients arising from chemotherapy would be very satisfying for all of our team," Dr Duley said.

Mater Research CEO Professor John Prins said the inclusion of two Mater Research projects in 'Ten of the Best' was a major achievement.

"It is extremely exciting for two Mater Research projects to be included in 'Ten of the Best' and to receive this acknowledgement for the amazing work that is being carried out here at Mater," Professor Prins said.



A/Prof Jean-Pierre Levesque and A/Prof Ingrid Winkler

Top image: A/Prof Bruce Charles, A/Prof Ross Norris, Dr Catherine Shannon, Dr John Duley and Dr Gareth Price.

Images courtesy of National Health and Medical Research Council/James Braund.



# Planning and preparation

By Sean Hubbard



After a long and rewarding process of review and investigation, the Mater Board of Directors has approved a number of business cases which help to set the agenda for Mater's future after the transition of publicly-funded paediatric services to the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital (LCCH) later this year.

Whilst this is the culmination of years of planning, it is a time of great change and sadness as we say farewell to the Mater Children's Hospital as we know it and to many staff as they move to their new home at LCCH.

This change will require Mater to reconfigure its South Brisbane campus and redefine services.

The biggest of these changes is the repurposing of the Mater Children's Hospital building to house Mater Children's Private Brisbane, dedicated Mater Neurosciences Centre and

Mater Adolescent and Young Adult Centre.

Mater plans to continue to provide private paediatric healthcare during and after the transition of Mater Children's Hospital to LCCH in November this year.

The LCCH and the Mater Children's Hospital building are linked via three walkways making Mater the ideal position for a private children's service.

Once LCCH opens, we will move from a Level 6 Service (i.e. Clinical

Services Capability Framework) to Level 5 Service with planned access to Paediatric Intensive Care Unit beds in LCCH as needed.

The new private children's service at Mater will be a 20-bed ward located on Level 7 of the existing Mater Children's Hospital building, with additional day beds on Level 5, adjacent to theatres.

While there is much work yet to be done, I can confirm planning for the future is well underway.

## Five years of specialised care

Five years ago, the first dedicated Refugee Maternity Service in Australia was established at Mater Mothers.

Developed to provide specialised care to birthing refugee women at Mater, the service comprises female health practitioners and interpreters who provide care to women from more than 34 countries.

The diversity of not only the clients, but their experiences provides a constant challenge for the team, who care for women throughout their pregnancy, birth and postnatal period.

"The women we care for have been affected by torture and trauma, extreme deprivation and loss of loved ones and therefore many experience significant mental health, grief and loss issues," Social Worker Cassandra Dove said.

In order to enhance the provision of care to the women accessing the service, Ms Dove and Clinical Midwife Michelle Steel have both further developed their skills.

"I have completed a Masters of Social Work specialising in Refugee Health and Michelle recently volunteered at a birth centre in Nairobi for two months," Ms Dove said.

Their exceptional efforts and dedication to the success of the service have been recognised via abstracts being accepted for various conferences, the provision of lectures to tertiary institutions from both the midwifery and social work perspective, and a number of educational presentations to Mater people. The team have also contributed to developing state-wide guidelines, research, policy drafting and evidence-based practice changes.


Ms Dove and Ms Steel hope to expand their positive impact by taking the clinic into the community and developing a group education program.

"One area we would like to research further



is the cultural appropriateness of perinatal depression screening and determining the most helpful mental health interventions and pathways for pregnant refugee women," Ms Dove said.

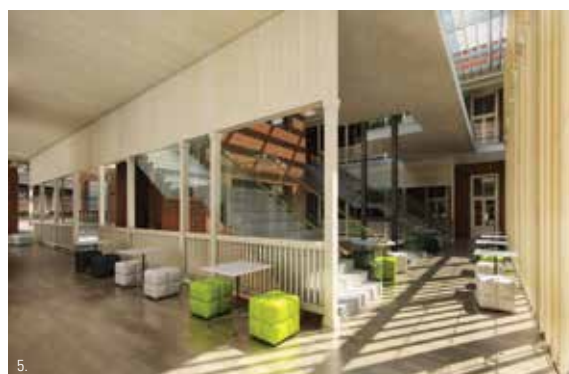
"I believe our best achievement is that we have a busy clinic; it means that refugee women in the community trust us and our model of care," she said.

 For further information about the service, please email Cassandra via [cassandra.dove@mater.org.au](mailto:cassandra.dove@mater.org.au) or Michelle via [michelle.steel@mater.org.au](mailto:michelle.steel@mater.org.au).

# Mater and The University of Queensland enter an Alliance Agreement



Mater and The University of Queensland (UQ) have a long-standing relationship in clinical education and the training of students in a number of healthcare disciplines, in particular medicine, nursing, midwifery and allied health services.



In October 2013, Mater and UQ made a commitment to strengthen our relationship even further and enter into an Alliance Agreement to create a unique and outstanding clinical teaching environment which allows students to experience the best of theory and practice in a tertiary teaching hospital.

The agreement extends to the restoration and refurbishment of the Whitty Building—to allow for delivery of unique UQ/Mater nursing and midwifery programs—the first collaboration of its kind within Australia.

The new education centre will include world-class training facilities and a clinical school for medical, nursing and midwifery and allied health students.

The refurbishment will see the heritage-listed facility accommodate education and teaching spaces, administrative offices, student

amenities and various business units.

It will also be given an external facelift to update its façade, while staying true to its heritage value. The main entry will be upgraded, a new annex constructed between two of the current wings and landscaping undertaken within the surrounding area.

It is anticipated preparatory works will begin in 2014, to allow for construction works in 2015.

The facility is scheduled to open in 2016, and is one way Mater is achieving its goal of safer, optimal patient outcomes through inter-professional education and practice.

In celebration of the Alliance Agreement between Mater and UQ, the signing of this formal agreement was officially recognised on Thursday 16 January 2014.



1. Mater Health Service's CEO Dr John O'Donnell and Vice Chancellor and President of The University of Queensland (UQ), Prof Peter Haj.

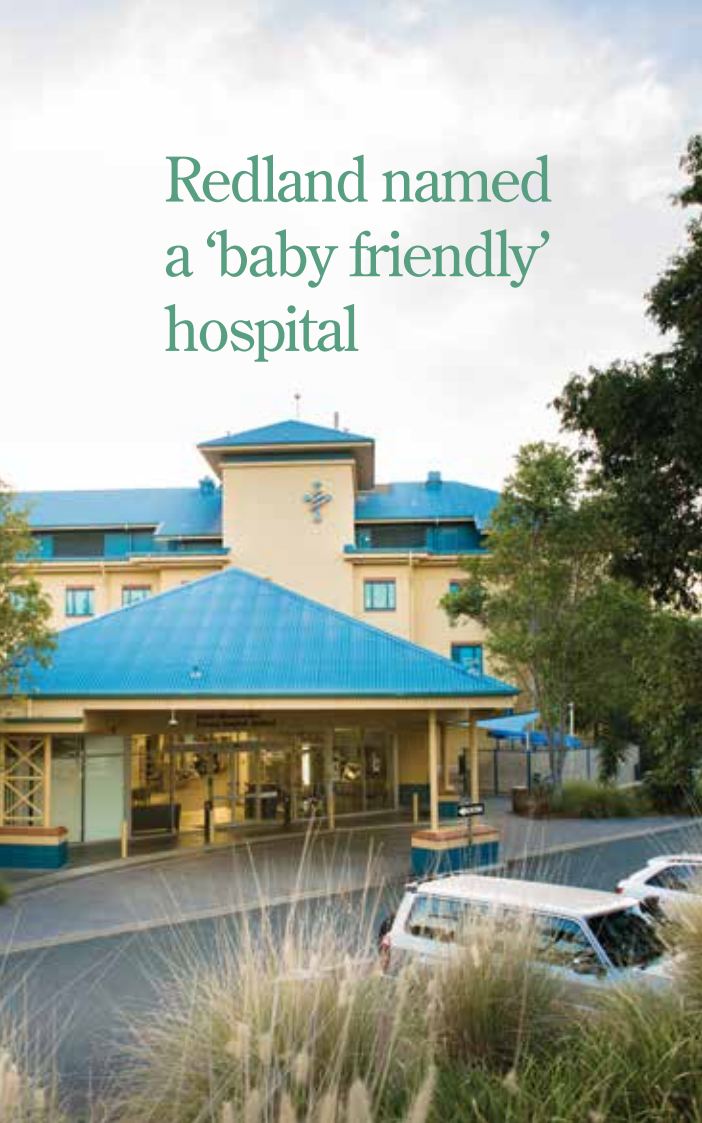
2. Donna Bonney, Jen Pitt, Maree Reynolds and Cheryl Clayton.

3. Joanna Vasilioiu, Sr Angela Mary and Bruce Wolfe.

4 - 6. Artist's impressions of the proposed refurbishment of the Whitty building.



# Redland named a 'baby friendly' hospital



Mater Mothers' Private Redland has achieved 100 per cent compliance to the Baby Friendly Health Initiative (BFHI).

The team at Mater Private Hospital Redland spent almost two years working towards the goal, with accreditors visiting the facility in late 2013 to carry out an audit of services.

As part of the process, more than 20 Mater Mothers' Private Redland staff, ranging from midwives and nurses to obstetricians and paediatricians as well as procurement, kitchen and support services staff, were interviewed.

Mater Private Hospital Redland Director of Clinical Services Tracey Hutley thanked her team for their tireless efforts.

"As all of our staff will know, this was a 12 to 24 month project that involved all members of the Redland team, skilfully led by Helen Coates and Ellie Grieve in partnership with members of the Mater Mothers' Hospital team.

"This is a wonderful recognition of everyone's commitment to BFHI and clinical care that is in accordance with best practice.

The hospital also achieved four commendations including:

"All VMOs and MOs have completed the Group 2 online educational package. Well done. This was evident from the two interviews we were able to undertake with a VMO and paediatrician at the hospital."

"Congratulations to all staff in regards to the importance that is placed on and use of skin to skin during the entire inpatient episode regardless of the parent's choice of infant feeding regime."

The Baby Friendly Health Initiative was developed by the World Health Organisation and UNICEF in 1991 as a global effort aimed at improving infant health by supporting mothers to breastfeed their babies.

Even before Riley was born he was fighting for his life.



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 Easter Appeal

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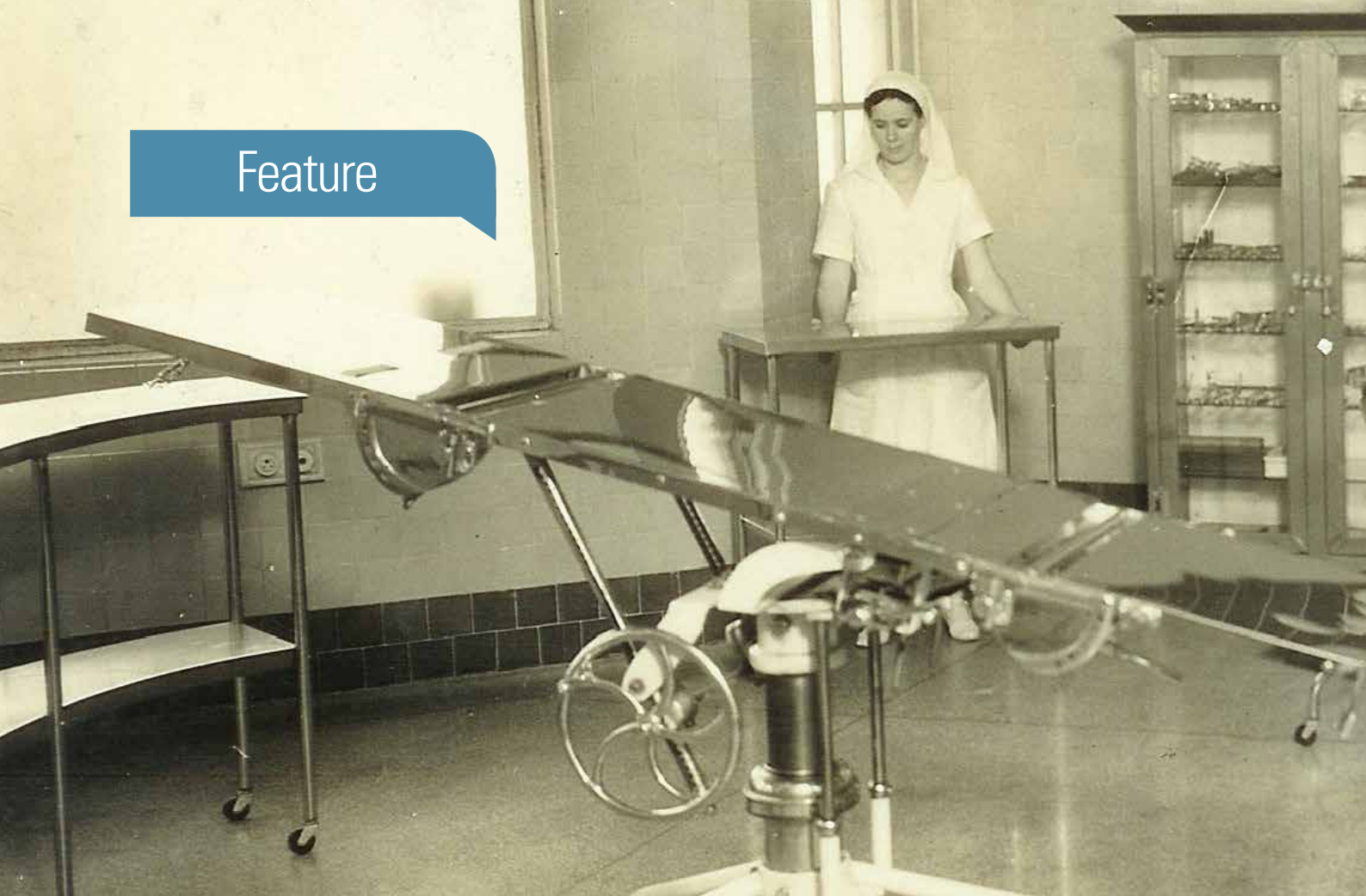
1800 440 155

[www.materfoundation.org.au](http://www.materfoundation.org.au)



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## Mater Children's Hospital: The early days

It is rare to find a service ingrained in the hearts of a community, but for more than 80 years, Mater Children's Hospital has become a valued and much-loved part of the community it has served.

Each year hundreds of thousands of children, and their parents, have passed through the doors of Mater Children's Hospital knowing they would be welcomed by a caring and compassionate team ready to help.

Later this year, Mater will bid farewell to publicly-funded paediatric services—and the thousands of staff who have proudly delivered exceptional care to more than 250 000 patients each year.

But before we say goodbye, let's look back on the history of a hospital which changed the landscape of paediatric healthcare, not only in Queensland, but across the country.

### In the beginning ...

From its origins, the history of the Mater Children's Hospital is one of struggle.

After years of planning, Mother Mary Patrick Potter—after whom the hospital was eventually named—watched as Archbishop of Brisbane James Duhig lay the Foundation Stone for the Mater Children's Hospital on 24 May 1926.

Her dream was to build an 80 bed modern public hospital, complete with medical and surgical beds, a nursery for small sick babies and an operating theatre.

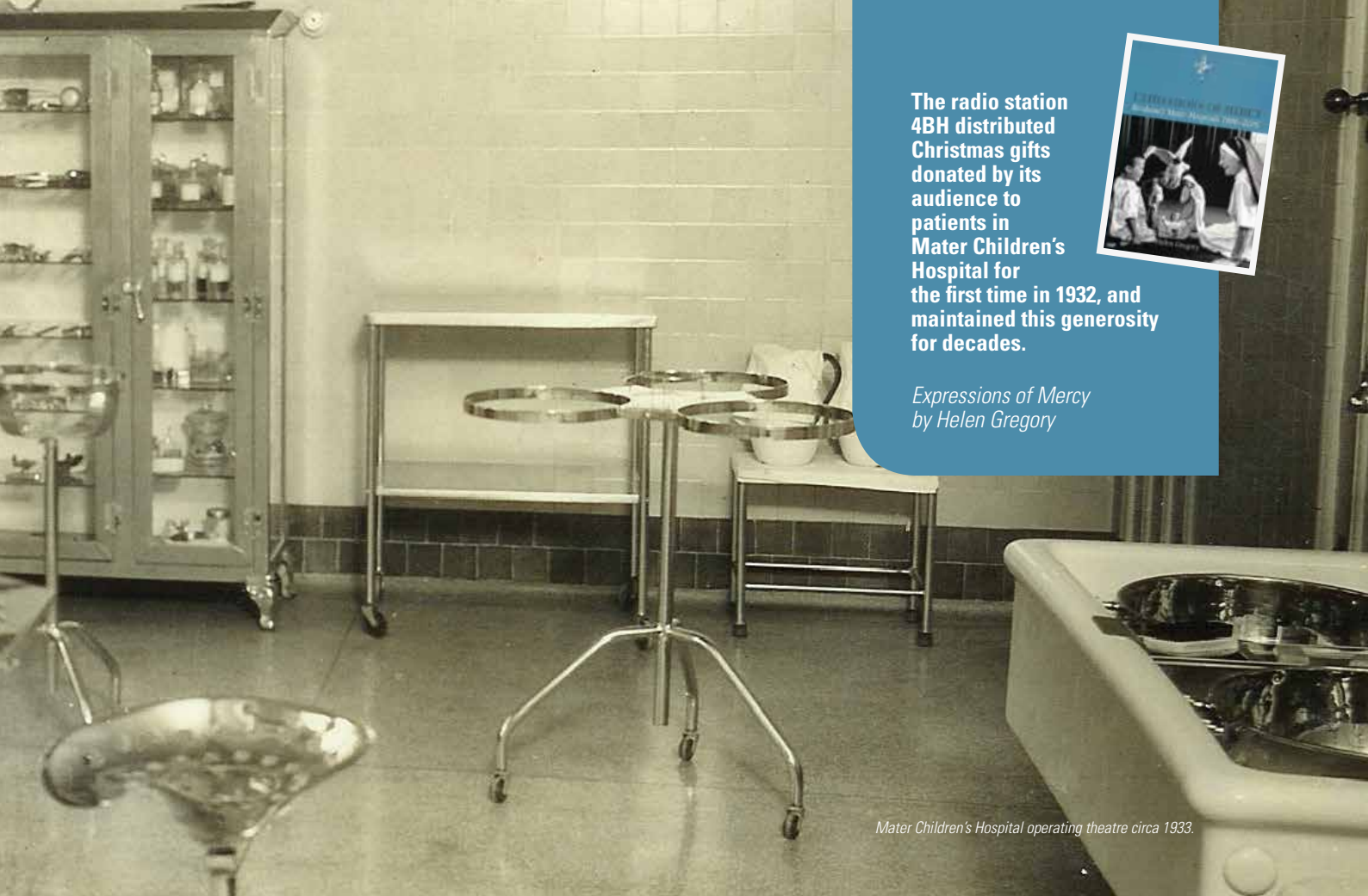


*One of the Sisters looks in on a young patient.*

However, because of financial constraints brought on by the depression, construction of the building was limited to one-half of what had been intended, with provision being allowed for completion at a future date.

Despite its being then, as now, the only public children's hospital south of the Brisbane River, no Government financial assistance was forthcoming.

But the community rallied behind the Sisters, and the first Annual Report of the Mater Children's Hospital in 1932 gives an account of



The radio station 4BH distributed Christmas gifts donated by its audience to patients in Mater Children's Hospital for the first time in 1932, and maintained this generosity for decades.



*Expressions of Mercy  
by Helen Gregory*

*Mater Children's Hospital operating theatre circa 1933.*

community support—financial as well as donations in kind, including food and linen.

Soon after the hospital opened an outbreak occurred of what was called Infantile Paralysis, and the hospital received a large number of patients.

The first Annual Report details that more than 8200 patients were treated in its first year and reveals a fascinating list of causes for admission including typhoid, whooping cough, diphtheria, acute poliomyelitis, polio-encephalitis, and what was quaintly termed diseases of the organs of vision.

Poliomyelitis topped the list of infectious diseases with 12 admissions in the first year and given many patients remained in hospital for months, the Sisters eventually made arrangements so the children could continue their education while in hospital.

The depression of the 1930s defeated hopes of completing the original plan for an 80-bed hospital, but in subsequent years some additions were made in the form of new nurseries, operating theatres and a university research and teaching unit.

A significant achievement in the early 1960s was the completion, without Government assistance, of a new Mater Children's Emergency Department—the only one of its kind on the south side of the river.

The new service was soon receiving 33 000 attendances a year.

Despite many improvements, the children's hospital building (now known as the Potter Building) remained essentially the same until 1973, when excavations started for a three-storey extension to complete the original hospital plan of 1931.

The dream conceived by Mother Mary Patrick Potter 45 years earlier, was realised with the official opening of the completed Mater Children's Hospital on 9 March 1976.

**Next time in Scope: Growing years, 1970-2000.**

1. Mater Children's Hospital kitchen
2. The original Mater Children's Hospital
3. Mater Children's Hospital ward





# Bioresorbable Vascular Scaffolds for Coronary Artery Disease: A Potential Revolution in Treatment

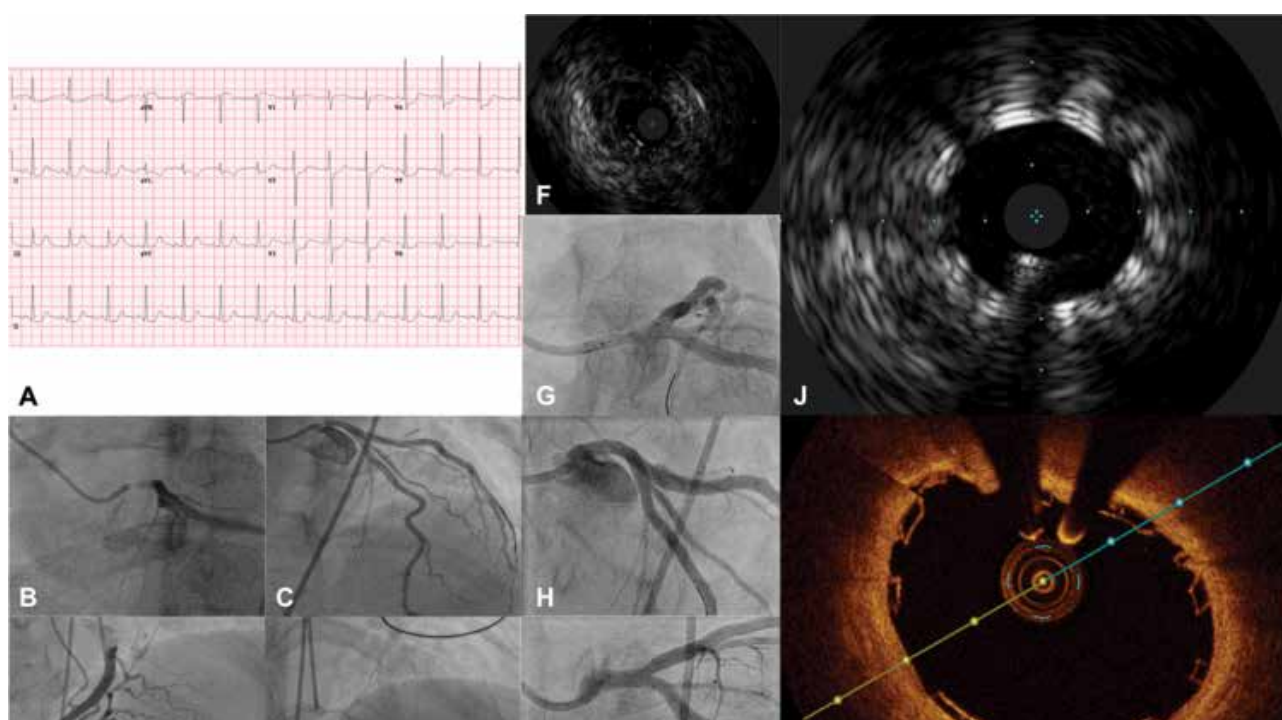


Figure 1: Takayasu aortitis complicated by ostial LMCA disease.

## Background:

A 21-year-old Caucasian female presented to the emergency department with a week of intermittent chest and arm pain at rest, consistent with a history of unstable angina pectoris.

## Assessment:

Twelve lead electrocardiogram (ECG) demonstrated global ischaemic changes (Figure 1, panel A) that only partially resolved with sublingual nitroglycerin administration. The patient had no significant prior medical history and no traditional risk factors for coronary artery disease. There were no systemic symptoms such as fever or night sweats. Her only medication was the oral contraceptive pill. There was no history of dietary, stimulant or other recreational drug use. Clinical examination was normal. Ongoing symptoms and ECG findings suggestive of ischaemia prompted urgent invasive cardiac catheterisation.

Coronary angiography demonstrated a normal right coronary artery (Figure 1, panels D and E) with immature

collateralisation to the left system shown. The left main coronary artery (LMCA) had a critical ostial to proximal stenosis with TIMI I flow beyond (Figure 1, panels B and C and Video 1). This appearance persisted despite multiple doses of nitroglycerin into the aortic root and LMCA.

## Treatment:

Given the critical nature of the stenosis and haemodynamic instability with ventricular dysrhythmia, percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) was undertaken. The left anterior descending artery (LAD) and left circumflex artery (LCX) were wired and gentle pre-dilatation of the LMCA was performed to facilitate flow. Optical coherence tomography (OCT) and intravascular ultrasound (IVUS) were performed. Severe stenosis of the proximal LMCA was demonstrated (Figure 1, panel F). Some minor atheroma was seen in the proximal LAD on OCT, but there was no evidence of coronary dissection or other significant changes. As expected, the ostial to proximal LMCA was not seen well with OCT, a recognised limitation of this technology. PCI to the LMCA was undertaken with



implantation of an Absorb 3.5 x 12 mm (Abbott Vascular, Santa Clara, CA) bioresorbable vascular scaffold (Figure 1 panels G, H, I). Satisfactory scaffold apposition and expansion were demonstrated by IVUS and OCT (Figure 1 panels J and K).

The subsequent post procedural course was stable, with echocardiography 48 hours later revealing normal LV systolic function.

Computed tomography and magnetic resonance angiography were performed and showed aortic wall thickening with concurrent segmental dilatation of the aortic root and descending thoracic aorta, consistent with Takayasu arteritis (TA). Serum inflammatory markers were mild to moderately elevated. Rheumatology was consulted and instituted prednisone and azathioprine therapy, after conferring a diagnosis of TA with LMCA involvement following the findings on the aortic CT and MRI studies.

After discharge the patient returned to her usual activity and is completely asymptomatic.

#### **Author's note:**

This case was performed by Dr Shahar Lavi and myself in Canada at the end of last year. I was fortunate enough to have ready access to bioresorbable scaffolds during my Fellowship at London Health Sciences Centre and I have trained in their utilisation and deployment (with and without optical coherence tomography guidance) in both elective and acute settings.

Even though the described case highlights a rare scenario, BVS is also suitable for more widespread use in atherosclerotic coronary artery disease. The advantage of the technology is that once the stent is no longer needed (after a few months the artery remodels and the stent is no longer required to scaffold the artery open) the BVS disappears by being metabolised to carbon dioxide and water. This has the potential benefits of decreasing rates of very late thrombosis, reducing long term use of antiplatelet therapy and restoring more physiological arterial function. At this point in time Absorb is only available in Australia within a research trial setting.



**If you would like to submit a Case Study for Scope, please email [brooke.falvey@mater.org.au](mailto:brooke.falvey@mater.org.au).**



**Dr Anthony Camuglia**

## Cardiology

Dr Camuglia is an interventional and general cardiologist who joined Heart Care Partners in 2014 after returning from Canada where he completed a fellowship in interventional cardiology at London Health Sciences Centre, University of Western Ontario, Canada.

He performs coronary procedures predominately by the radial artery approach and is experienced in acute and elective coronary interventions.

He also has experience in structural heart disease interventions including percutaneous management of aortic valve disease.

Prior to his interventional training, Dr Camuglia graduated medical school with first class honours from Monash University, Melbourne and subsequently underwent post-graduate internal medicine training at The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne and then advanced cardiology training at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and The Prince Charles Hospital, Brisbane.

Dr Camuglia has published several articles in peer-reviewed journals and has also presented research findings at national and international meetings.

He will be consulting at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane.



**Dr Jermaine (Jim) Coward**

## Oncology

Dr Coward is a consultant medical oncologist specialising in gynaecological and thoracic cancers.

He was appointed as a UK Medical Research Council Clinical Fellow at Barts Cancer Institute, London (2006) and conducted basic research into the role of IL-6 in ovarian cancer.

This included the first translational clinical trial of anti-IL-6 antibody therapy in patients with platinum resistant ovarian cancer and this work culminated in his PhD award in 2010.

Immediately after completing specialist oncology training at the world renowned Royal Marsden Hospital, London (2012), he was appointed as a Senior Research Fellow and Leader of the Inflammation and Cancer Therapeutics Group at Mater Research now housed at the Translational Research Institute.

He has recently published in leading journals including New England Journal of Medicine, Cancer Research and Clinical Cancer Research.

He currently has a number of high profile collaborations with researchers at Peter MacCallum and MD Anderson Cancer Centres with a focus on investigating the role of inflammatory cytokine networks in ovarian cancer.



**Dr Robyn Aldridge**

## Obstetrics and gynaecology

Dr Aldridge is an Obstetrician and Gynaecologist who recently joined the team at Eve Health.

She holds a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery and is a Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (FRANZCOG).

Dr Aldridge is passionate about caring for women and their families and compassionately cares for women with gynaecological concerns at any stage of their pregnancy journey.

She has trained and worked in some of New Zealand and Australia's leading tertiary hospitals and was, most recently, Director of Clinical Governance at Monash Medical Centre in Melbourne and a senior lecturer in obstetrics at Monash University.

Dr Aldridge encourages natural birth but also offers complete obstetric care, including assisted vaginal delivery, caesarean section and vaginal birth after caesarean section.

For the past four years, she has cared for women with twins in a specialist clinic and birth suite, making her a particular expert in multiple births.

She is also experienced in resolving a wide range of gynaecological concerns for women.

# Australia's largest maternity service launches Mater Nappies

Mater Mothers' Hospitals' maternity and baby care product range is expanding with the launch of Mater Nappies. The product range, developed by Mater Midwives + Mums, continues the exceptional care and expertise from the hospitals into the home.

Mothers with babies born at Mater Mothers' Private Brisbane and Mater Mothers' Private Redland will receive the first size of nappies; Mater Nappies - Newborn First Weeks, specially designed to fit babies up to 3.5 kg.

These nappies feature umbilical cord protection to reduce the pressure on baby's cord as it heals. Mater Nappies – Newborn, are available for babies above 3.5 kg.

Mater Nappies are made from ultra-soft materials that quickly absorb liquid and draw away moisture to help keep baby's delicate skin dry. These nappies have also been dermatologically tested and proven not to cause skin irritation.

The Mater Nappies' range includes five

sizes to suit growing babies up to toddler age, with the larger sizes being launched in April.

The maternity and baby care product range also includes Mater Baby Wash, Mater



Baby Moisturiser and Mater Body Balm for pregnancy, with more products coming soon in 2014.

Mater products are available from Mater Pharmacies, Mater Florist, online via [www.matermothers.org.au](http://www.matermothers.org.au) and selected pharmacies.

**i** Proceeds from Mater products support Mater Little Miracles. For more information call 1300 162 837 or email [products@mater.org.au](mailto:products@mater.org.au).



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## Entrepreneur Kate Farrar joins the Mater board

Mater Health Services has welcomed Entrepreneur of the Year finalist Kate Farrar to the Board.

Currently Managing Director of QEnergy, Ms Farrar has substantial energy market experience, with more than 15 years in the industry.

From 1999 to 2007, she held the role of Chief Operating Officer of Ergon Energy's Powerdirect Australia business.

Under Ms Farrar's leadership, Powerdirect Australia grew to become one of Australia's top five energy retailers, covering a diverse customer base ranging from domestic and small business customers to large mines and airports.

In 2007 Ms Farrar led the sale of Powerdirect to AGL for \$1.2 billion—\$0.5 billion above expectations.

Ms Farrar was previously a Director with ABN AMRO Morgans (now RBS Morgans), a national financial advisory firm.

In 2006 she won *Queensland Business Review's* Public Sector 'Women in Business Award' and was a Queensland finalist in the Hudson Community and Government Award category of the Telstra Business Women's Awards.

This year, Ms Farrar was a finalist in the Entrepreneur of the Year awards.

Ms Farrar also undertakes philanthropic work for Mater Foundation.

In her role as Managing Director of QEnergy, Ms Farrar drives the company's aspiration to become the retailer of choice for all Australian small businesses.

Beginning in Queensland, QEnergy now serves 17 500 business customers across the Eastern seaboard and the Northern Territory.

## Press Ganey Success Story competition

Three teams from Mater were recently named amongst the seven finalists in the *2013 Press Ganey Success Story competition*. The Success Story competition is an internationally recognised award, with a wide variety of applicants from across Australia and New Zealand. It rewards the efforts of healthcare providers who integrate patient satisfaction data with specific initiatives in order to produce outstanding clinical outcomes and quality improvements.

### **Mater Private Hospital Redland**

was recognised for their response to improving patient and staff satisfaction following a large increase

in activity over the past few years. A working group comprised of senior management, educators and service improvement representative was established to review deficit in service provision on a weekly basis. Through a team-based approach focused on patient care, initiatives such as manager rounding and bedside handover, along with new roles and structures, have put patient and staff satisfaction levels back on track.



Pauline Wolstenholme, Tenealle Gunn, Ellie Grieve (NUM) and

### **Mater Mothers' Hospitals**

were recognised for their continuous improvement approach to increasing patient satisfaction.

Initiatives such as the 'Exceptional Service Program', implemented by administration services staff, and a brand revitalisation program, have contributed to an improvement in patient satisfaction scores throughout all services within Mater Mothers' Hospitals.



Amy Hamill, Claire Williams, Janet See and Denise Mitchell.

### **Mater's Ambulatory and Outpatient Department**

was recognised for their innovative and patient-focused model of service delivery. Through a multi-disciplinary approach focused on communication, accountability and recognition, improvements have been made to the structure of speciality clinics and referral and appointment management processes, waiting times and resource planning. This model of patient care ensures that the right person is providing the patient with the right service every time.



# Medical oncologist rides for a cure

As Mater's Director of Medical Oncology, Dr Cath Shannon sees almost 100 women a week who have been diagnosed with either breast or gynaecological cancers.

"For many of these women, they are on a long journey—either to complete recovery or as part of an ongoing battle with chronic disease," she said.

**"From that moment of diagnosis, their lives change forever and the impact is felt not only by the patient but their friends and family."**

Mater Research is currently conducting world-class research into common cancers that affect women, including breast and ovarian cancer—but more help is needed.

"Anything we can do to make this experience easier or more pleasant we should be doing, but we need funding to achieve our goals," Dr Shannon said.

"I am truly inspired and encouraged by the work that Mater Foundation do year in year out; their tireless fundraising efforts are our lifeline to forging new territories in cancer research."

To help fund Mater's research in women's cancers, Dr Shannon will join a team of fundraisers for Mater Foundation's Cambodia-Vietnam Cycle for Cancer.

Joining Dr Shannon on the ride will be Mater Chief Executive Dr John O'Donnell, Mater Foundation Executive Director of Fundraising Lesley Ray, Nutrition and Dietetics Director Sally McCray, Environmental Sustainability Director Chris Hill and Social Worker Cassandra Dove.

The 16 fundraisers will take part in a five-day cycling adventure through Cambodia and Vietnam which will include visits to the legendary temples of Angkor and the vibrant cities of Phnom Penh and Saigon.

They will also spend two days helping out at a women's community health project in southern Vietnam, interacting with local women and participating in activities to promote their health and wellbeing.

"I am embarking on Mater Foundation's Cambodia-Vietnam Cycle for Cancer with pride and trepidation; however raising funds for research is the only way we can help stop this truly terrible disease," Dr Shannon said.

**To sponsor Dr Shannon in her challenge, visit [cycleforcancer.everydayhero.com/au/cath](http://cycleforcancer.everydayhero.com/au/cath)**



**One in three Australian women will be diagnosed with cancer before the age of 85\*.**

**In 2015, Mater Foundation will host a Machu Picchu Trek Adventure to raise funds for prostate cancer research at Mater. To find out more about the trip, contact Mater Foundation's Director of Business Development Paul Reis on 07 3163 8000.**





## Researcher Dr Jakob Begun joins Mater Research



American researcher Dr Jakob Begun has joined Mater Research to continue his investigations into human microbe interactions and the genetics of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD), and how to translate this into a better understanding of the disease and future therapeutics.

Dr Begun, who completed his medical degree and his PhD program at Harvard University, said he was attracted to working at Mater Research because of the strong expertise within the organisation.

**“Professor Tim Florin is very well known in the field of gastroenterology, as is Professor Mike McGuckin in the field of immunology,” he said. “I was very much drawn to the expertise within Mater Research.”**

Dr Begun also believes Mater Research’s clinical links is of great benefit for researchers.

“Being linked to the hospital, Mater provides great clinical facilities, so there is a wealth of patient-clinician-scientist

focused research opportunities available.”

Dr Begun joins Mater Research following seven years at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, but it is not his first time living in Australia. He first experienced Australia in unusual circumstances.

“As a 14-year-old, my parents sold our house in the United States and we sailed around the Pacific for two years,” he said. “We eventually stopped in Sydney where I completed Year 11 and 12, before heading back to America for university.”

“My parents and brother still live in Australia so it is a great bonus to join the Mater Research team and be near family too.”

Dr Begun will work at Mater Research at the Mater South Brisbane campus and also at the Translational Research Institute.



## Geoff Faulkner wins Millennium Science Award

Mater researcher Associate Professor Geoff Faulkner has been awarded the 2014 Millennium Science Award by the Lorne Genome Conference for pioneering a technique to pinpoint gene mutations in liver, ovarian and brain cancer.

The annual award is granted to a young researcher working in Australia with not more than 10 years postdoctoral research experience and acknowledges outstanding contributions to Australian scientific research based on molecular biology methods, including novel analytical concepts.

Dr Faulkner, who leads Mater Research’s Genome Plasticity and Disease group at Translational Research Institute, said he is honoured to be included in the company of the past recipients of the award and emphasised his team of 13 researchers play a key part in his research outcomes.

“It’s a great honour to have been recognised for my work and it’s an exciting area of research due to the potential application for both the diagnosis and treatment phases of liver, brain and ovarian cancer,” he said.

“I’m particularly proud of the expertise we have assembled at Mater Research and my team includes some of the best international research talent in this specialised area including researchers from Spain, Germany, and the United States.

“I’ve also had great funding support from the Mater Foundation and also from Mater clinicians who understand the value in providing samples for this research.”



# Mater Health Centre Brookwater turns one



Mater Health Centre Brookwater celebrated its first birthday last month after a successful year of providing much-needed healthcare to the Greater Springfield community.

The centre, located within Woolworths Brookwater Village Shopping Centre, is a multidisciplinary medical hub comprising a number of specialist suites as well as Mater Pharmacy, Mater Pathology, Active Rehabilitation Physiotherapy, my FootDr podiatry services, Greater Springfield Orthodontics, Queensland X-ray and Brookwater Dental Surgery.

Mater Private Hospital Executive Director Don Murray said Mater Health Services, the health centre team and the local community had many reasons to celebrate the centre's first year of operation.

"The centre opened with specialists from urology, obstetrics, gastroenterology and hepatology disciplines and this has grown

substantially to 11 specialties, including orthopaedic surgery, neurosurgery and cardiology," Mr Murray said.

"Instead of travelling to larger centres, the Greater Springfield community can easily access a range of specialist care and allied health services locally."

The health centre was Mater's first foray into the western Brisbane region and its third health centre in South East Queensland, with centres already established at Redland and Hope Island on the Gold Coast.

"Mater chose Brookwater as an ideal location for the health centre after identifying the region as a community in need of allied health and specialist

services now and in the future," Mr Murray said.

"The development of Mater Private Hospital Springfield, to open in late 2015, is an extension of Mater's commitment to providing exceptional healthcare to the people of Greater Springfield."

Construction of stage one of Mater Private Hospital Springfield, will commence in the coming months, with future expansion planned to meet the needs of the growing region.



For further information on Mater Health Centre Brookwater visit [www.materonline.org.au/publications/quick-guide-for-gps](http://www.materonline.org.au/publications/quick-guide-for-gps)

## Progesterone trial for women

Mater's Fertility Assessment and Research service are looking to recruit pregnant women who are at risk of miscarriage to take part in a trial which aims to lower the rate of miscarriage in pregnancy.

The randomised, placebo-controlled trial—Supporting Threatened Outcomes with Progesterone—involves women in their first trimester who have a 'threatened' miscarriage to take daily doses of progesterone.

Mater Fertility Service Principal Investigator Dr Luke McLindon said progesterone was necessary for maintenance of pregnancy and often these levels were lower in pregnancies that ended in miscarriage.

"Progesterone creates a mature endometrium and a favourable immunity environment for early embryonic development," Dr McLindon said.

"With the exception of anticoagulants for thrombophilias, there is presently no agreed therapeutic approach which has been shown to reduce the risk of pregnancy loss in women who present with a threatened miscarriage.

"Our belief is that by supporting this early pregnancy with progesterone we may be able to improve the pregnancy outcome for many couples."

Women who are up to 10 weeks pregnant and who present with a threatened miscarriage, including spotting and bleeding, are suitable candidates for the trial.

Participants will be required to self-administer pessaries containing either progesterone or placebo every night up to 12 weeks gestation.



**For more information contact Mater Fertility Service on telephone 07 3163 8437.**





## Look Good Feel Better celebrates 10 years

For 10 years, the Look Good Feel Better program at Mater Private Hospital Redland has been giving local women with cancer a brighter outlook and a reason to smile.

The service teaches women how to use cosmetic techniques and hair alternatives to help manage the appearance-related side effects of cancer and its treatment through a number of services, including its unique workshops.

Mater Private Hospital Redland Clinical Services Director Tracey Hutley said the Look Good Feel Better program had made a positive difference to the recovery of cancer patients at the hospital.

"I have seen the program give cancer patients confidence at a time in their life when they are very vulnerable and coming to terms with their disease and the treatment ahead of them," she said.

The program's South Brisbane branch, which has helped more than 3000 women in the past 14 years, also celebrated a milestone with their first workshop at the new Mater Cancer Care Centre.

## Document management system now live

As part of a range of changes to the overarching governance of clinical and non-clinical policies and other key corporate documents, Mater's new document management system was made accessible to all Mater staff in February.



Known as the Mater Document Centre, it replaces DocuCube as Mater's principal document management system for key corporate documents such as policies, procedures, guidelines, work instructions, clinical care paths and clinical forms.

Based on the Microsoft SharePoint platform, the Mater Document Centre provides:

- improved functionality for the management of corporate documents, i.e. the ability to more easily store governance data about each document
- improved search functionality
- improved reporting regarding the requirements for review and expiration of documents.

** For information about the project, please contact Kathryn Kynoch on [Kathryn.Kynoch@mater.org.au](mailto:Kathryn.Kynoch@mater.org.au).**


## Patient parking for Mater Cancer Care Centre

As part of our commitment to providing exceptional patient care, Mater Cancer Care Centre will soon offer a dedicated patient parking facility to ensure patients have safe and convenient access to the centre at all times during their care.

Located on Level 0 of Hancock Street Car Park, the patient parking is only 200 m from Mater Cancer Care Centre. Patient pick-up and drop-off can also occur directly outside the centre located on Raymond Terrace, South Brisbane.

Incorporating state-of-the-art design and technology, Mater

Cancer Care Centre provides patients with a safe and comfortable environment, while promoting positive health and wellbeing.

** For further information about the centre please visit [www.cancercare.mater.org.au](http://www.cancercare.mater.org.au)**





FLU VAX MAN supervises as Mater Health Service's Chief Executive Officer Dr John O'Donnell gets his vaccination for 2014.

## FLU VAX MAN returns to Mater this April

It's that time of year again and Mater's favourite 'flu'-fighting hero, FLU VAX MAN, has been roaming the cafes, wards and halls spreading his vaccination message.

Vaccination against influenza is the single most effective measure in preventing transmission of 'flu'.

In healthy adults, influenza vaccination has been shown to decrease absenteeism from work due to upper respiratory illness by 43 per cent and absenteeism due to all illnesses by 36 per cent

It is extremely important that all health care workers receive their vaccination annually to stop the spread of the 'flu' and prevent transmission not only to patients but to you, your family and friends.

As of February 2014, the incidence of influenza in our community was already on the rise, with 2.6 times the number of reported cases year-to-date as compared with the last five years on average.

This means we are likely to be heading for a much bigger flu season than in the past few years.

***i* For more information about getting your 'flu' vaccination, contact Mater's SHAW Unit on 07 3163 8190.**

### Hand Hygiene—it's a Healthy Habit

As Influenza strains changes from year to year, annual vaccination is the single most effective way of protecting yourself against the 'flu'. However, practicing good hand hygiene is also an important part of protecting yourself, patients and the community.

#### Remember the five moments of hand hygiene:

1. Before touching a patient.
2. Before a procedure.
3. After a procedure or body fluid exposure risk.
4. After touching a patient.
5. After touching a patient's surroundings.

## Queensland children's hospital honours Lady Phyllis Cilento

Queensland's newest children's hospital has been named the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital in honour of Lady Phyllis Cilento—a much-loved pioneering Queensland physician.

"In choosing a name for Queensland's new children's hospital, we were keen to honour a pioneering champion of child and family health, someone whose life's work made a real difference to future generations," Premier Campbell Newman said.

Considered ahead of her time for her early advocacy of vitamins, natural childbirth and family planning, Lady Cilento authored 24 books and left a lasting legacy in paediatric healthcare in Queensland.

She also served at the Hospital for Sick Children (now the Royal Children's Hospital) in Herston in the 1930s and established a private obstetrics practice at her home in Annerley where she raised her six children

Lady Cilento's son David said his family were deeply honoured to have such a recognition bestowed upon their late mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

In late February, the Queensland Government also announced that the academic and research facility adjacent to the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital will be known as the Centre for Children's Health Research.

Children's Hospital and Health Service Chief Executive Dr Peter Steer said the centre would help to "place Queensland among the best paediatric health care providers in the country".

"The building will be the largest dedicated child and adolescent health research centre in Queensland, home to staff from Children's Health Queensland and our partners Queensland Children's Medical Research Institute, Queensland University of Technology, The University of Queensland and the Translational Research Institute," Dr Steer said.

"Research and its translation into practice is vital for better health care outcomes for the children and young people in our care."



# Easter 2014

Wishing you a happy Easter

*The Word was the real light that  
gives light to everyone.*

*(John 1:9)*

Image taken by Leanne Kaesler



Exceptional People. Exceptional Care.