

**WE BELIEVE
EVERY CHILD
DESERVES A CHANCE
AT A HEALTHY LIFE**



**March 2021
Newsletter**

Hello to you all

What an experience we have all been through both as Lion/Lioness/Leo members but also personally with our families. A much brighter future now lies ahead I am sure.

A very big thankyou to all the Clubs that despite having many fundraising events cancelled - especially BBQ's, still managed a donation to support our ongoing research projects.

The pandemic restrictions brought a halt to research projects at Hudson Institute in Melbourne and Telethon Kids Institute in Perth as scientists were unable to work. As a result, our quarterly payments were suspended for 6 months assisting our cashflow as our donation income was greatly reduced.

It is often said that Lions are not recognised for what we do so it was great to hear a report given at the Trustees AGM videoconference in November by Dr Jason Cain at Hudson Institute on the progress of Dr Sara Kahn who was awarded an ALCCRF Fellowship which is almost complete. Jason explained that Sara was an exceptional student and is on track to gain her PhD and become a paediatric oncology clinical scientist. Sara through her time spent at Sick Kids Children's Hospital in Toronto Canada and papers submitted to Australian and

a collaborative network worldwide. Jason concluded the report with the comment **"without the support of ALCCRF none of this would have been possible"** Early in the new year I was advised that it was highly likely that Sara will be offered a Paediatric Oncology Clinical Research role for the next four years at Hudson/MU and Monash Children's Hospital.

Our Trustees will be in Canberra for the MD Convention, if you are attending, please call at the display stand for an update on all the latest news and our Trustees will be available to answer any questions.

Once again, I give my thanks to all the Lions Lioness and Leos all around the nation for your support, we are getting closer to Zero Childhood Cancer, but not there yet - we still need your help. - enjoy our Newsletter

John Thorpe ALCCRF National Chairman
"We believe every child deserves a chance at a healthy life"



News From Around the Clubs

Tenterfield Lions Club held 2 BBQ's to raise funds for ALCCRF. The first was as we were coming out of COVID restrictions and was met with delight from the community. They were glad to see things were starting to get back to some normality. A raffle for a container of "Mens Stuff" for Fathers Day was held at our first BBQ, then we raffled a lovely quilt which was donated from a local quilt group at our 2nd BBQ.

Tenterfield Lions are proud to support ALCCRF as an Annual event.



LIONS CLUB OF TENTERFIELD



Raffle

Tickets \$2 each
Draw at the next Lions BBQ at Coles Saturday 3/10/2020

1st Prize – Quilt
Quilt kindly made and donated by ACE Quilters

2nd Prize - \$50 WLT Card

3rd Prize – Lions Christmas Cake

All proceeds to go to Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation



Lions Lynton, Jenny and Kim with Lions Lady Annette



Lions Lynton, Kim, Jenny, Lisa and Lions Lady Annette



Even in these tough pandemic times clubs are still making sterling efforts to fundraiser with a \$5,500 donation from the Lions Club of Gambier City

President Jan Hellyer presenting a cheque to Lion Garry Davis ALCCRF 201C2 District Chairman on 14th March 2021



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Two Currently Funded Projects of ALCCRF

Hudson Monash Paediatric Precision Medicine (HMPPM) Program

Rajithri (Dilru) Habarakada is the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF) Biobank Specialist for the Hudson Monash Paediatric Precision Medicine (HMPPM) Program, in a maternity leave appointment.



In the collaborative HMPPM Program, scientists at Hudson Institute have established a 'Living Biobank' of childhood brain/CNS and solid cancers - including living organoids or lab-grown 'mini-tumours' - to trial and develop targeted

treatments and improve clinical outcomes, survival rates and quality of life (limiting side effects) for childhood cancer patients. As the ALCCRF Biobank Specialist, Dilru brings technical and operational knowledge to the development of the 'Living Biobank' platform at Hudson Institute and oversees all biobanking activities for the HMPPM Program. She also coordinates the Monash Children's Cancer Biobank led by Dr Peter Downie at Monash Children's Hospital.

Dilru completed a Bachelor of Biomedical Science and Psychology at Victoria University, then joined the HMPPM Program in 2021. She is currently undertaking a Masters of Cancer Sciences at the University of Melbourne to expand her knowledge in the areas of quality of research, cancer care, prevention and education.

"Cage Fighting" Neuroblastoma



Dr Andrew Care: Macquarie University Engineering a protein nanocage for targeted ionophoric-copper therapy Neuroblastoma is the most common solid tumour in young children, yet no significant progress has been made over the last 10 years to improve survival, which for those diagnosed with

high-risk neuroblastoma is less than 50 per cent. Unfortunately, current treatments also have severe lifelong side effects that diminish the emotional well-being and social integration of survivors. There is hope. Recently, copper has been shown to drive neuroblastoma growth, proliferation and metastasis. Dr Care's project aims to engineer an innovative natural nanoparticle (called a 'Protein Nanocage') that can selectively target and disrupt copper levels inside neuroblastoma, causing tumour cell death. This nanotechnology is specifically designed to have high efficacy while minimising the harmful impacts treatment can have on healthy growing cells, improving patient outcomes. This project received further support through Cancer Australia's Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme.

ELLIE'S STORY: FROM INTENSIVE CARE TO THE PLAYGROUND

For little Ellie and her family, a cancer diagnosis came out of the blue when she was just eleven months old. Now Ellie has just turned two - and she's an active, boisterous toddler. Her story underscores the power of the Zero Childhood Cancer program to improve outcomes for kids with cancer in Australia, and even save lives.

Ellie is an active, boisterous toddler



THE POWER OF GENOMIC INFORMATION IN CHILDHOOD CANCER

The Garvan Institute of Medical Research and Lions through Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF) and Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) are proud to be two of the partners in the Zero Childhood Cancer program. Through the Lions Kids Cancer Genome Project (**Genome Power**), Garvan and Lions are bringing the power of whole genome sequencing to Zero Childhood Cancer. Together, they are sequencing and analysing the tumour and normal genomes of children enrolled in Zero Childhood Cancer. This means that they read the entire DNA sequence (over 6 billion DNA bases, or letters) of each child's tumour, and compare it to DNA sequence from elsewhere in the body, to gain vital clues about how the tumour has developed and what drives it.

Whole genome sequencing has been a crucial part of Ellie's journey with the Zero Childhood Cancer program (see below). Through whole genome sequencing, Garvan researchers were able to identify the genetic change that was likely to be critical in driving her cancer's growth.

Ellie's story: uncovering what made her tumour tick. A year after the world-first Zero Childhood Cancer national clinical trial was opened, almost 130 children with serious and aggressive cancers have been enrolled on this state-of-the-art personalised medicine clinical trial that aims to give them the best possible chance of survival and quality of life.

One of those children is Ellie. Ellie was just eleven months old when she was admitted to the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick having been unwell for just a couple of weeks. A scan revealed a tumour so large in her chest it was pushing her heart to the right side of her chest. Within days, Ellie was in the Intensive Care Unit, on life support, because her little lungs could no longer help her to breathe unaided. The tumour - sarcoma - was aggressive, rare and resistant to chemotherapy.

Ellie was immediately enrolled onto the Zero Childhood Cancer Program, which meant her tumour biopsy was subjected to detailed genetic analysis, with the Zero team working around the clock to get results as soon as possible, as Ellie's condition was critical.

Whole genome sequencing performed through the Lions Kids Cancer Genome Project identified Ellie's cancer as infantile fibrosarcoma with a rare 'translocation' - a reorganisation of DNA - that was likely to be critical in driving her cancer's growth.

Ellie's story: a remarkable transformation. Crucially, the research and clinical teams had recently learnt about a new drug developed by the US company Loxo Oncology, that targeted the exact translocation now identified in Ellie's tumour. Loxo Oncology agreed to provide the drug on compassionate grounds, so treatment could begin.

Within four weeks, Ellie's cancer had shrunk to a point where Ellie was off life support and could breathe on her own. And six weeks later, she was home.

As Mina, Ellie's mother explains, "We were told to think about saying goodbye, she was so sick we didn't even know if she would reach her first birthday. Now today to be celebrating her second birthday, when she is such an active, boisterous and energetic two-year-old is beyond our wildest dreams. We can't thank the teams at the children's hospital and research institute enough."

Ellie's story: a new approach made available to others. A clinical trial of larotrectinib, the drug used to treat Ellie, is now open in Australia for all children whose cancer is identified by the Zero Childhood Cancer program as having this same genetic change as Ellie's cancer. This means that these children will have access to this targeted therapy, which appears to be both more effective and far less toxic than standard chemotherapy.

A year of Zero Childhood Cancer. One year since its launch, Zero Childhood Cancer has produced some remarkable results for children like Ellie. Childhood cancer is extremely complex, meaning this kind of 'evidence-based miracle' will not be possible immediately for every child. However, the more that is understood about what drives the growth of childhood cancers and the more drugs that are developed to combat these drivers, the greater number of children with remarkable success stories like Ellie's are likely in the future.

In summary, here are key outcomes of Zero Childhood Cancer in the past year:

- 128 children have been registered for the trial; each of these are children with an aggressive cancer that is identified as having less than a 30% chance of survival.
- Of these 128 children, 36% have been enrolled at the time of relapse, 38% at diagnosis and 26% with progression of disease
- In terms of cancer types, 36% of the children have brain cancer, 29% sarcoma, 13% leukaemia, 6% neuroblastoma and 16% other rare cancers.
- For 67% of children a personalised treatment plan has been recommended
- Average turnaround time from receipt of samples to personalised treatment recommendation is 9 weeks

"Every Child deserves a chance at a healthy life"

CutHair4CancerKids Project

Davina before hair cut



I never thought that a little idea one afternoon during lockdown would lead me to become the Chairperson of the CutHair4CancerKids project.

I never thought that I would achieve so much support from everyone, particularly my family, my mentors Sam, Melissa and Lawrence, DGE Harry and Rodney from Lions Charlton, RG Robyn and ALCCRF National Chairperson John Thorpe.

I never thought that I would have the influence to convince 3 other girls which are Trish, Natalie and Stacey to cut their hair with me, and to work alongside some of our other cubs in creating promotional videos, scripts, etc.

Above all, I never thought that I would be able to say that I did this and was able to get everyone to help in raising money for ALCCRF and making wigs for cancer kids.

This goes to show that nothing is impossible if you have the passion and try. I am truly grateful for the love and support from everyone, and I hope this project will keep going on in the future with more Lions across Australia and the world.

Some of my friends who are donating their hair to support as well!



Trisha
I wanted to donate my hair because my friend Davina wanted to donate her hair, at first I didn't want to but after I kept on watching Videos about why we donate our hair I feel ok now.
What makes me happy about donating my hair, is that I can help the kids with cancer and make them feel happy and loved.

Nat
Two years ago, Nat cut her long hair and donated it to Variety Australia to be made into beautiful wigs for cancer stricken kids who lost their hair due to treatments.

Stacey
Stacey decided to join in this cause because she would love to help other kids in need. And also because her hair is so long!



Davina after hair cut

PDG Harry before his shave



Childhood Cancer Research Foundation
CutHair4CancerKids

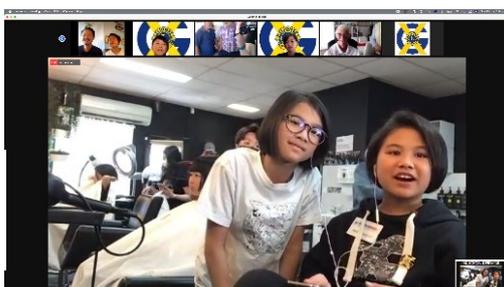
Harry's hair being shaved



Harry and Rodney finally finished



Divina with her new shorter hair



Girls with their new shorter hair



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1st Prize to Armidale Lions Club,
Brian Ferris, Graeme Haynes and Shane Chaffey
with their new BBQ

BIGGEST BBQ 2020 WINNING CLUBS



2nd Prize winner Baldivis Lions Club. members
picking up their BBQ from Bunnings



3rd prize winner Moss Vale Lions Club.
President Lion Jim Armstrong
collecting their BBQ from Bunnings



A BBQ apron can improve your members look
while holding a Lions Biggest BBQ just \$20 each
- postage free

Visit <https://alccrf.lions.org.au/alccrf-shop/>
to download an order form



Australian Lions

Childhood Cancer Research Foundation

ABN 73 902 500 922

PO Box 97 Mandurah WA 6210

2021 LIONS BIGGEST BBQ A MESSAGE FROM ALCCRF TRUSTEES TO ALL LIONS

To Lions, Lioness and Leo Clubs of Australia,

Welcome to the "Lions Biggest BBQ" for 2021 – a project that is still the largest fundraiser for the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation! This annual event gives Clubs across the country the opportunity to support their own Foundation's vision of 100% Survival for Kids with Cancer because "Lions believe that every child deserves a chance at a healthy life".

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating effect on most Australians and curtailed all forms of fundraising usually performed by Lions Clubs, and BBQ's have been no exception! Funds raised in 2020 are down by as much as 70% with many Clubs being forced to cancel planned BBQ activities in line with State emergency legislation, relating to health requirements and restrictions on public gatherings.

In anticipation of all restrictions hopefully being lifted in 2021, we are again providing all Clubs with an updated Marketing Kit, plus information which highlights how best to promote the Lions Biggest BBQ activities in your local area. It's easy to register – simply complete the attached Application Form (ITP1) and return it in the Reply-Paid envelope to me at **PO Box 97, Mandurah WA 6210** or email to **peter@lambgroup.com.au**.

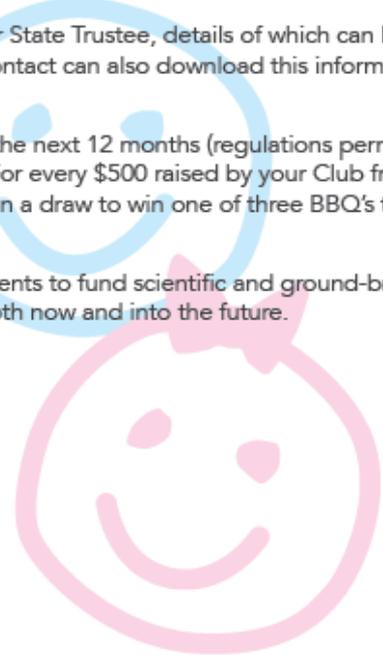
For any further advise, speak to your District ALCCRF Chairman or State Trustee, details of which can be found in the rear of the Marketing Kit. Your Club members and media contact can also download this information from the ALCCRF website at <http://www.alccrf.lions.org.au>

This year's 2021 Lions Biggest BBQ can take place any time over the next 12 months (regulations permitting) between January and December – when it best suits your Club. For every \$500 raised by your Club from the Lions Biggest BBQ, we will issue a numbered ticket which will go in a draw to win one of three BBQ's to the total value of \$2,500 – this draw will take place in January 2022.

The ALCCRF requires your Club's support to ensure our commitments to fund scientific and ground-breaking research into finding a cure for kids cancer continues unabated both now and into the future.

Thank you and good luck for 2021 Lions Biggest BBQ activities.

Peter Lamb,
PDG, Trustee, Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation



DON'T FORGET Everything you'll need to market and promote a successful 2021 BBQ is available to download from <http://www.alccrf.lions.org.au/>

The Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation is a Category 'A' Project of Lions Australia



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Australian Lions

Childhood Cancer Research Foundation



ABN 73 902 500 922

"Every child deserves a chance at a healthy life"
Our Vision
100% Survival for kids with cancer

WIN one of three outdoor barbecues for your club!

Once again this year, we're running a competition where three lucky Australian Lions, Lioness or Leo Clubs will win one of three fabulous outdoor barbecues valued at a total of \$2,500. So, get your 'Intention to Participate' (ITP1) form back to us for a chance to win your club a brand new outdoor kitchen barbecue.

Competition closes on the 31st December 2021!

Each club that participates gets a ticket. For every additional \$500 raised, your club will get an extra ticket in the nation-wide draw.

Also, don't forget to order this year's Biggest BBQ aprons for your team to wear at your big event!

Good luck in the draw and for your Biggest BBQ 2021.



WIN! ONE OF THESE THREE FABULOUS KITCHEN BBQS !!

Subject to availability at time of draw. Otherwise, equivalent barbecue to be supplied.

The Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation is a Category 'A' Project of Lions Australia



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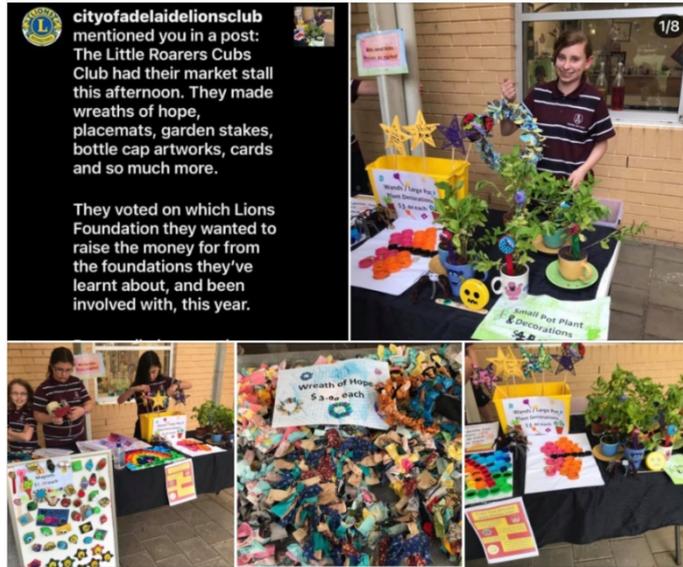
Australian Lions Longest Coin Line Information

Australian Lions Longest Coin Line
28 March at 01:38 · 🌐

Lions Club of Elmore Vale members Christina Bryne, Jim Cowburn, Val Cragg and Garry Patten ran a Coin Trail at Jesmond Shopping Centre and thanks to the generosity of shoppers raised \$429.15 for the Coin Line!



Australian Lions Longest Coin Line
11 November 2020 · 🌐



Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF)

11 November 2020 · 🌐

BIG THANK YOU to The Little Roarers Club. The club did a market stall to raise funds for ALCCRF & the longest coin line. \$140.50 WELL DONE. Thanks again from all of us at Alccrf

Lions Club of Raymond Terrace
23h · 🌐

The afternoon team raising funds to support Australian Lions Children's Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF) whose aim is elimination of Childhood Cancer.



👍❤️ 18

2 comments

Lions Lady Marilyn, Lion Bob, prospective members Glenda and Phil and Lion following their Biggest BBQ at Bunnings.

Donations in the Lion are going to the coin line.



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Australian Lions

Childhood Cancer Research Foundation

LAYING IT ON THE LINE FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER



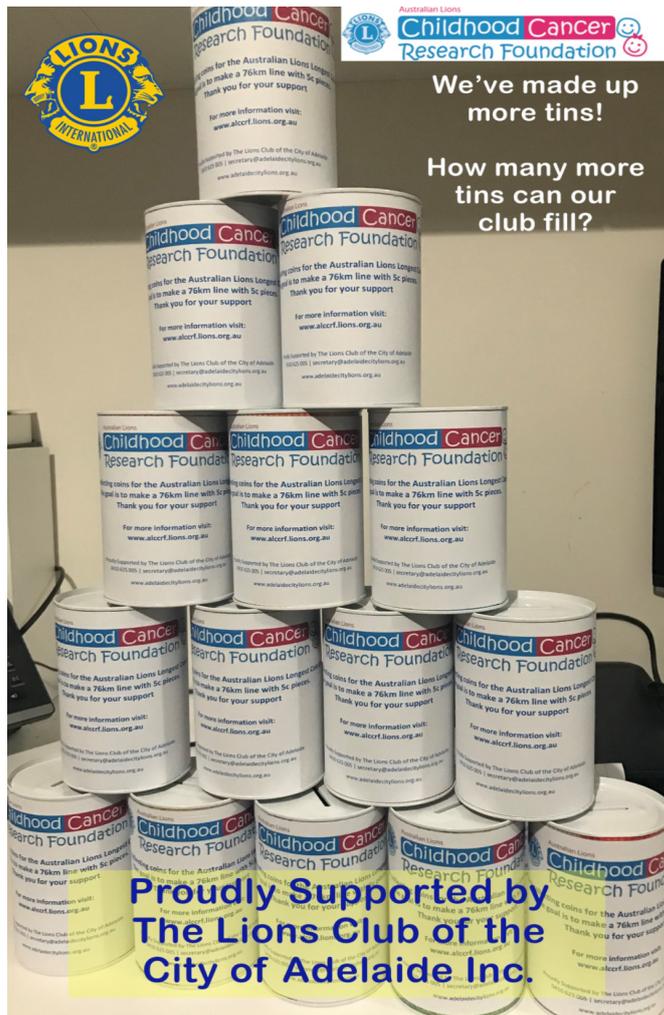
Guinness world record longest coin line for childhood cancer



The Lions Club of the City of Adelaide Inc.

12 April at 15:53

We are one of the many clubs that supports the [Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation \(ALCCRF\)](#). We have just made up another tower of tins in support of the [Australian Lions Longest Coin Line](#) which will be made with 5 cent coins and we need your help! Contact us if you would like to make a donation, or collect a tin to help collect for us. Every 5 cents will make a difference.



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ALCCRF Awards

The Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF) Awards were established to recognise support for the Foundation's vision of 100% survival for kids with cancer.

Recipients of these awards will be recognised for being one of our ambassadors helping kids fulfil their right to a healthy life. The awards can be presented to Lions and other community members who have dedicated time and effort on behalf of childhood cancer research.



Gold \$1,000

Gold Plate on Walnut Base
225 x 300mm

Silver \$500

Silver Plate on Walnut Base
200 x 250mm

Bronze \$250

Bronze Plate on Walnut Base
175 x 225mm

All awards come with an ALCCRF lapel pin in Gold, Silver or Bronze.

Payment: Please forward cheque made payable to "ALCCRF" with the application form **Mail to:**

ALCCRF
PO BOX 770,
BELCONNEN ACT 2616



Visit www.alccrf.lions.org.au to download an Application form from the following awards

ALCCRF Gold Awards
 ALCCRF Silver Awards
 ALCCRF Bronze Awards

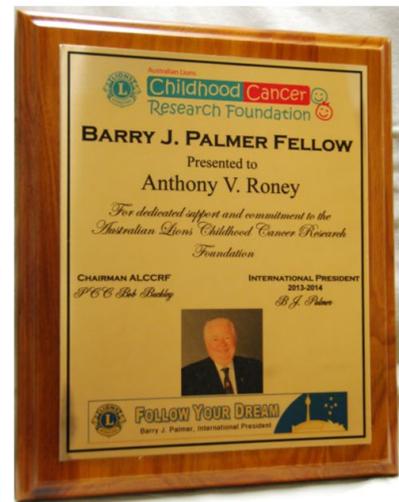
Barry J Palmer Fellow

Consider awarding a special Lion, Lioness, Leo with an ALCCRF Award or a Barry J Palmer Fellow



"We believe every child deserves a chance at a healthy life"

Recognise a Dedicated Lion In your Club or a member of your local Community



ALCCRF B.J.Palmer Fellowship

\$2,000



Our Mission

Prevent kids with cancer dying by raising funds nationally and donating these funds to the best high impact childhood cancer research conducted right across Australia

Our Vision
 100%Survival for Kids with cancer



Help open the door to a healthy life for a child with cancer

Donate today at alccrf.lions.org.au/



WE BELIEVE
EVERY CHILD
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