



The Millennium Foundation
Funding research, Saving lives, at Westmead



Lorna Raine chair of A Night With The Stars organising committee



The Cast of Shout

A Night with The Stars

Congratulations to Lorna Raine, Treasurer of The Millennium Foundation and Committee Chair for the outstanding success of A Night With The Stars held on 7th March 2008 at Sydney Convention Centre.



MC's Kate Ritchie and Grant Denyer

The opening fire twirling performance set the scene for the event as the night was on fire with a deluge of entertainment with performances from The Whitlams, Shannon Noll, The Hon Tony Abbott, The Hon Bronwyn Bishop and the cast of Shout. Double Gold Logie Winner Kate Ritchie and Grant Denyer hosted the event and other celebrities including: Dicko, Farmer Dave Graham, Virginia Gay, Shannon Ponton, Kostya Tszuy, Jason Hodges, Johnny Raper and Joy Smithers worked the floor to encourage the audience to dig deep and support medical research.

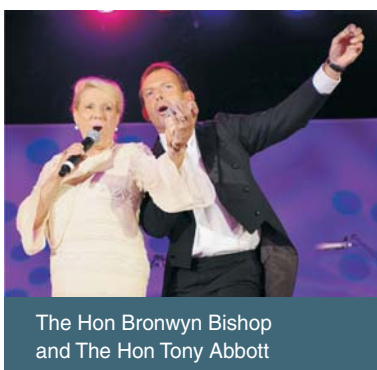
An outstanding \$880,000 was raised on the night, with the live auction generating vigorous bidding between the tables.



Shane Noll performs with his band

Prostate cancer was highlighted as the evenings cause this year. The disease kills approx 3,000 Australian men each year, and is diagnosed in over 18,000. The audience heard from Henry Wegwitz who described his ordeal with prostate cancer and the excellent clinical care he received from Westmead Hospital. His message was clear, the only way to cure this disease was through research.

This is the 11th anniversary of the event, which has raised 5.8 million dollars for The Millennium Foundation and continues to go from strength to strength. This is due to the huge commitment of Yum! Restaurants International to the event and its staff including Lorna Raine as the valued Committee Chair, Dianne Scrivener and all the Yum! volunteers that assist on the night.



The Hon Bronwyn Bishop and The Hon Tony Abbott

We would also like to thank all the major sponsors on the night including: Watercooler, Yum! Restaurants International, KFC, Pizza Hut, Maxco, Brass Tacks, Kids West, Wenty Leagues, Channel 9, Channel 10, Singleton Ogilvy Mather, ClubsNSW, Qantas, Volkswagen, Carat Australia, Arab Bank Australia, Total Concept Media, Sydney Kitchens, Philon, Paul & Valerie Ainsworth Charity Fund, Tiffany & Co, JPS Development and Construction, Harvey Norman Security, Medtronic, Timberland, Babor, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Australia, Blacktown Workers, Cadbury Schweppes, Pepsi, Dyldam, Henry Kendall Group, Austral Bricks, Streets, St George, Offset Alpine Printing, Thiess, Pearsons, LTM, Ramsay Health Care, Designer Chair Covers Instyle, Hawk Australia.

Sad Farewell

It is with regret that The Millennium Foundation says goodbye to Peter Treseder AM our Executive Director for the past six years.

During Peter's tenure as Director, the Foundation has grown from a small charity to a major fundraising body making a very significant contribution to medical research. During this time its reputation and brand awareness has increased significantly and the Foundation has more than tripled its net revenue.

The same determination that Peter has displayed in his participation in endurance expeditions has been applied to the benefit of the Foundation where Peter has demonstrated tenacity, determination and commitment to successfully reach fundraising goals.

Over the last six years, the Foundation has amongst other things, lobbied to raise over \$35 million for the new Westmead Millennium Institute Building, and income from the Foundation showcase event A Night With The Stars and income from the Pollie Pedal have each doubled. The Foundation and the Institute are now widely recognised as important contributors to medical research not only within this state but also within the entire Commonwealth.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of The Millennium Foundation we would like to thank Peter for his passion and dedication to make a difference. We wish him every success in his new endeavours.

Pat Wilde
President The Millennium Foundation



Above left: Richard Davies, Managing Director of Amgen (left) and The Hon Tony Abbott (right)
Above right: Paul Bell, Chair, Westmead Millennium Institute Advisory Committee (left) and Peter Treseder, Executive Director The Millennium Foundation (middle), receives \$200,000 cheque from The Hon Tony Abbott, Julie Owens Member for Parramatta, Chris Hayes Member for Werriwa, and The Hon Pat Farmer.

Pedal Power

Pollie Pedal 2008 was again an enormous success raising \$200,000 for a dedicated prostate cancer laboratory at Westmead Millennium Institute.

A group of 40 cyclists, lead by The Hon Tony Abbott, pushed their bodies to the limit riding over 1,000kms in 9 days from Melbourne to Sydney.

The ride was very challenging, with participants rising early each day with burning muscles facing over 100kms in the saddle. Riders from ages 76 to 21 participate in the event and come from all sections of the community from Federal Ministers and Managing Directors to university students, Army Officers and retirees.

Richard Davies, Managing Director of Amgen Australia, was one such rider. Amgen has been the major sponsor of the Pollie Pedal for the past 2 years, and as well as supporting the cause financially, Richard rides and encourages Amgen employees to follow his lead.

"Pollie Pedal 08 was a huge opportunity to be involved in a good thing. Prostate cancer is a terrible disease which affects a significant number of men in Australia. The opportunity to ride 1000km in 9 days, to raise significant funds for research, and see rural Australia close up is a great mix that has attracted both Amgen as a company and myself in a personal capacity.

This year was more memorable as my wife rode the whole way as well, and even put up with camping! As a CEO with only 2 years experience in Australia, it never ceases to amaze me that Australian federal politicians will put so much of their personal time and effort into such a worthwhile cause. I am not sure I know another country where this happens.

Tony Abbott and his political colleagues should be warmly congratulated for their dedication to this worthwhile endeavour", said Richard.

"Of course, the ride is only made possible by the army of supporters and helpers, who work tirelessly to ensure the riders have tents, warm food, clean kit, and go the right way. Thank you on behalf of the riders."

The Millennium Foundation would like to thank all the participants, volunteers and staff that were involved in the organisation of Pollie Pedal 2008 and would also like to acknowledge our sponsors. Amgen Australia Pty Ltd, Novartis Pharmaceuticals, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Yum! Restaurants International, Paul Hartmann Pty Ltd, Servcorp and Goulburn Soldiers Club.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Pat Wilde, President of The Millennium Foundation on receiving an AM (Member of the Order of Australia) in the 2008 Australia Day Honours.

Pat received his award for service to the community, particularly through The Millennium Foundation, to the aged care sector through the development of residential facilities, and to heritage, medical and environmental organisations.

Opening of the Patrick and Jane Wilde Research Laboratory

The Sydney West Area Health Service, Chief Executive, Professor Steven Boyages, welcomed the new Federal Health and Ageing Minister, the Hon. Nicola Roxon, to Westmead campus and Westmead Millennium Institute (WMI).

It was the Minister's first visit to a research facility since her appointment to the federal cabinet last November. Ms Roxon visited several of the WMI laboratories before officially opening the 'Patrick and Jane Wilde Research Laboratory'.

The laboratory which is part of the Centre for Transplant and Renal Research, a unit of WMI, was named in honour of two long term supporters and benefactors of renal research at Westmead.

Minister Roxon said she was delighted to be able open the laboratory and acknowledged the community's contribution to medical research.

"Our government recognises the selfless support of individuals like Patrick and Jane Wilde. Their support enables groundbreaking research to be conducted in facilities like the one we are here to open today."

"Research plays an integral part in ensuring the excellence of clinical care and we are committed to ensuring that Australia's best and brightest researchers have sufficient support and financial assistance to continue to work at the forefront of their fields" she said.

Ms Roxon said she would work closely with her NSW counterparts to ensure that Western Sydney and its growing research infrastructure needs were recognised.

The Centre for Transplant and Renal Research which has grown exponentially now consists of 48 researchers.

"We needed a more user friendly work space which would foster our collaborative approach to research work" said Associate Professor Philip O'Connell, Director of the Centre for Transplant and Renal Research.

"This was the first enhancement of our laboratories since their construction three decades ago and it will enable our work to be more cohesive."

Research in the new laboratory will continue to explore novel sources of insulin producing tissue from humans and genetically modified species and ways to prevent and cure Type 1 diabetes. More than 150,000 Australians have Type 1 diabetes (also known as juvenile or insulin-dependent diabetes). These patients are at risk of developing serious complications including kidney failure.

The Patrick and Jane Wilde research laboratory provides accommodation not only for the rapidly growing Centre for Transplant and Renal Research but also space for scientists working at the recently established Australian Centre for Pancreatic Islet Transplantation.

Mr Wilde said the research work conducted at Westmead had quite literally given life back to his wife Jane and himself following a kidney pancreas transplant conducted in the mid 1990's.

He added that their contribution to research at Westmead was in recognition of the gratitude they felt. He concluded by saying he was proud to be associated with a Centre which has gained an international reputation for its investigations into causes, treatments and cures for progressive renal disease and transplantation.

Westmead Millennium Institute Update: Australia 2020 Summit

Professor Tony Cunningham, Director, of Westmead Millennium Institute, was invited to attend the Australia 2020 Summit held in Canberra on 19 and 20 April.

Professor Cunningham was among 100 medical experts who participated in discussions on a long-term national health strategy.

At the summit the health delegates endorsed several recommendations including the support of better translation of Australia's research efforts into commercial and health outcomes. This they agreed could be achieved by initial public investment supported by increased private and philanthropic investment in research and development.



Researcher interview – Stuart Turville

Research Fellow Stuart Turville has recently returned to Westmead Millennium Institute after 5 years overseas working in medical research institutes in Belgium and New York, the last 3 years in Rockefeller University.

He completed his PhD under Professor Tony Cunningham researching the infectious transfer of HIV in human dendritic cells and remains passionate in translating his research in how these cells handle the HIV virus to create effective microcides that can block the transfer of the disease. He firmly believes that understanding this fundamental process is the key to success.

Stuart is a perfect example of the exceptionally talented researchers that have made the decision to return to Westmead Millennium Institute to further their field of research.

"There are certainly more opportunities in the USA. Research Institutes in the USA have a multi million dollar budgets and PhD students receive almost double the funding their Australian counterparts receive. Additionally, the institutes are much larger in scale, the HIV research Group was the size of an entire research institute in Australia'.

So why the return to Westmead?

'Australian medical research and particularly at WMI is far more strategic, methodical and detail driven than that of other countries. It focuses on quality of research rather than quantity of research.'

'Professor Tony Cunningham fosters an approach of intellectual freedom and is a fantastic mentor, which is extremely important to me and my career as a researcher. I am very pleased to be back.'

Upcoming Events

For information on these events contact The Millennium Foundation 9845 6289.

Clubs of Western Sydney Charity Race Day

2 August 2008

New American Songbook

Those in the audience at the Hills Centre on May 6th where given a performance to remember by The Young Ambassadors.

Performing for the first time in Sydney since 1982, the show brought the house down with applause and the odd teenage scream as the 26 dancers/singers moved through four decades of music and theatre. Two memorable segments were a hilarious version of Monty Pythons' 'Spamalot' and a fantastic rendition of The Phantom of the Opera.

'We were amazed at the talent of The Young Ambassadors throughout the night. They are an impressive group of young adults that justly deserve the accolades from audiences around the world', said Peter Treseder, Executive Director of The Millennium Foundation.

'We would like to thank all those involved in the production both in the USA and Australia for choosing to support The Millennium Foundation, and Baxter Health Care and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Saints for their continuing partnership'.

Ensuring A Brighter Future In Medical Research

The Millennium Foundation enjoys the support of individuals who are convinced of the need to fund ongoing research, as well as to provide grants to initiate projects leading to cures.

Will Gifts are the ultimate expression of support for medical research, where the good works initiated in one's life can be extended into the future. There are so many projects in search of cures that openings always exist for benefactors to come forward. Westmead Millennium Institute researchers have proved themselves worthy of such support, and The Millennium Foundation stands ready to advise on and receive Will gifts of any size.

All gifts are acknowledged, with major donors named on our Honour Wall.

For further information, contact Brian Banfield on 02 9845 6289.



Penrith Dolls, Bears, Craft and Collectables Show

Another successful Dolls, Bears, Craft and Collectables Show was held at Penrith Panthers on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th May.

Over 1,800 visitors went through the show, which attracted exhibitors from all over Australia. \$33,000 was raised which will fund important medical research.

Thank you to all sponsors that assisted on the day.

Hitting Disease Hard

The annual Yum! Golf Day and the Holroyd Mayoral Charity Golf Day both raised substantial funds with the aim of funding critical medical research.

\$45,000 was raised at the 2008 Yum! Golf Day which in its 8th year has raised over \$400,000 for The Millennium Foundation. Team Baiada was the winner of the day however, all participants enjoyed the glorious weather at Pymble Golf Course.

Yum! and The Millennium Foundation would like to thank the following sponsors: Marketing Zoo, Inghams, Cadbury Schweppes, Brendon Cocks, The Leading Edge, Brass Tacks, Inghams. SOS Printing, Eakin McCaffrey Cox, Salmat.

The Holroyd Mayoral Charity Golf Day was extremely successful raising \$22,000 which was split between Ronald MacDonald House and The Millennium Foundation.

Over 40 teams had a fantastic day of golf at Oatlands Golf Course. The day was proudly hosted by Holroyd City Council in conjunction with four major Clubs in Holroyd including; Club Merrylands Bowling & Sports, Guldford Leagues Club, Merrylands RSL and Wenty Leagues Club. Thank you to Clr Dr John Brodie for choosing to support The Millennium Foundation.



Albert Baladi, Managing Director Yum! Restaurants International with the winners at YUM! Golf Day

In Memoriam

Mr Jack Anderson
Mr Fred Bardagallo
Mr John Barilla
Mr Terry Bandiera
Mr Matthew James Butler
Mrs Yvonne Buwalda
Mrs Esther Culling
Mr Antonio Caldaroni
Mr Barry Clissold
Mrs Leslie Dalziell
Mr Peter Norman Dustin
Mr Henry (Bill) De-Wyn Mietzke
Mr Ian Stephen Downes
Mrs Diana Downey
Mr Alan Edwards
Ms Suzanne English
Mr A Ernest
Ms Cathy Flynn
Mr Charlie Galea
Mr Peter Gardiner
Mrs Lorraine George
Mr Gunther Geyer
Mr Emmanuel Grech
Ms Dorothy Green
Mrs Barbara Greensill
Mrs Eileen Holland
Mr Paul Hinchliffe
Mrs Judith Emily Holmes
Mr Francis Ah Wah Koo
Mr Kurt Peter Lee
Mrs Sharon McCloghry
Ms Meryl Miller
Judge Neil Milson
Mr Jack Mungrove
Ms Nada Annie Murray
Ms Brenda Pakenham
Ms Valerie Parcel
Mr David (Ross) Philpott
Mr Bangalore Rangaraj
Mr Peter Richards
Ms Isis Saenz
Ms Helen Shave
Ms Shirly Shearer
Mrs Glen Short
Mrs Sue Touma
Mr Stuart West
Ms Suzanne White

Birthdays

Mr Evans Hinchliffe
Mr J Smith
Mr Joe Ulanas
Mrs Lois Whan