



Thursday, September 26, 2013

Open your eyes to the work of the Lions Eye Institute.

In the lead-up to World Sight Day, the Lions Eye Institute (LEI) will throw open its doors on **Saturday, October 5**, to give Western Australians a behind-the-scenes look at the medical advances that are helping to save sight around the world.

The LEI Open Day will give people a great introduction to eye health with information about the latest in clinical operations and treatments for a range of eye conditions, the anatomy of the eye, research breakthroughs, the world of ophthalmic photography and a seminar on laser surgery.

Tours will run every 15 minutes from 12pm to 4pm, with each tour lasting around 90 minutes.

The LEI is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. The Institute, based at 2 Verdun St, Nedlands, on the QEII Medical Centre campus, is one of the largest medical eye institutes in the southern hemisphere and has been responsible for many significant advances in eye research.

The LEI's Managing Director, Professor David Mackey, said the Open Day was a great opportunity to learn more about one of Western Australia's most successful research institutes.

"With its big push to build lasers, the development of the artificial cornea, retinal vein bypass surgery, ab-interno microfistula implantation for glaucoma surgery, non-invasive predicting tissue pressure in the optic nerve head for glaucoma and, more recently, its macular degeneration gene therapy trials, the LEI has a long history of taking a laboratory idea all the way through to the patient," he said.

Professor Mackey said the Open Day also underlined the LEI's support of this year's World Sight Day, on October 10, with its theme Universal Eye Health and its call for people to get their eyes tested.

More information about the Open Day can be found on the LEI website at www.lei.org.au or phone 9381 0777.

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