

vision News



Spring 2021

Cutting edge research

How the Lions Eye Bank is changing lives.

Spotlight on glaucoma

Half of all people with this eye disease don't even know they have it.

Curing childhood blindness

The incredible gift that will help us save sight.



From the Managing Director

Welcome to the Spring 2021 edition of Vision News. Let's hope that a change of season brings a change of fortunes for our eastern states as well as continued wellbeing in Western Australia.

As I write this, Sydney is continuing to record very high daily rates of COVID-19 infections, while Melbourne and Canberra are also reporting daily increases. In the west, there is no room for complacency; we need to be prepared that at any time a chink in our armour will expose us to COVID-19 in the community.

At the Lions Eye Institute, we are absolutely committed to our duty of care to protect our patients, staff and volunteers from harm, and are doing all we can to keep everyone associated with us, safe and well. This is particularly important given the age and disease profile of our patients. Many of our patients are in the older age bracket, suffer from underlying health conditions or are vulnerable in other ways. A recent *Nature Medicine* paper demonstrated that people with age-related macular degeneration are at greater risk of severe complications from COVID-19, including intubation and death.

There is a sombre link between ophthalmology and COVID-19. An ophthalmologist working in Wuhan, Li Wenliang MD, was the first to raise the alarm about the coronavirus in late December 2019. After noticing what appeared to be a cluster of SARS-like pneumonia cases among patients, he warned his colleagues to protect themselves from infection. He was severely reprimanded by Chinese officials for his actions. Sadly, the 34-year-old Dr Li died after contracting COVID-19 from a glaucoma patient, in February 2020.

We know from our colleagues around the world that we cannot afford to let our guard down at any time. The screening, hygiene and physical distancing procedures that we have in place at our clinics will be there for the foreseeable future. We are strongly encouraging all staff to get vaccinated as soon as possible, and are happy to report that the majority are now either partially or fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

To other news, we were thrilled to learn of the generous donation by Rhonda Wyllie and her family of \$750,000 to enable us to purchase a stem cell robot. Facilitated through Telethon, this incredible gift will be life-changing for children with inherited retinal diseases such as retinitis pigmentosa, Usher syndrome and Stargardt disease. It will also help researchers to develop treatments for other diseases such as cancer and diabetes.

Also in this issue, we celebrate the tremendous progress with our Lions Outback Vision Kimberley Hub in Broome, the Institute's reconciliation journey, and warmly welcome our new Chief Executive Officer, Dr Glen Power.

I hope you and your loved ones stay safe and well.

Bill Morgan MB BS, PhD, FRANZCO
Managing Director, Lions Eye Institute

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LionsEyeInstAus



Top: Five of the nine panel members
Bottom: The CCAP at one of their regular meetings

The importance of the community voice

The Lions Eye Institute's refreshed Consumer and Community Advisory Panel (CCAP) is providing a much-needed link between the Institute and people with the greatest stake in eye health services and research.

The CCAP comprises a committed and diverse group of people with a range of experiences of vision loss. Their input to the Institute spans advice and feedback about health care practices, research projects, accessibility, communication, patient experiences and awareness.

Angela Boothroyd, patient and convenor for Friends of Retina (Perth) and a CCAP member, said, "The input and insights provided by CCAP members, most of who are patients at the Lions Eye Institute, help to ensure a consumer perspective is provided for efficient, caring and quality service.

"CCAP members bring their own unique experience of eye conditions, networks, professional skills, advocacy experience and a true commitment to the best patient care and quality research at the Institute."

Recently, the CCAP has:

- Reviewed and provided feedback about Institute communications, including newsletters and eye condition fact sheets.
- Provided advice regarding accessibility, facilities and services within the Institute.
- Provided feedback about issues such as labelling, staff awareness and training.
- Discussed the Institute's plans for growth and sustainability and given endorsement and feedback.

A core goal for the CCAP is to broaden its reach beyond clinical services and provide advice about research, clinical trials, community events and teaching.

Managing Director Professor Bill Morgan said, "People with low vision are impacted in so many different ways. The lived experience of the panel will help the Institute to become more understanding and accessible, for our patients and the wider community."

The Lions Eye Institute is immensely grateful to CCAP members for their support: Angela Boothroyd, Robin Miller, John Dunn, Sarah Keough, Robert Hitchcock, Maria Gonzalo, Donna Fahie, Julie Bechelli and Deborah Andrews.

At the cutting edge of corneal transplants

Advances in surgical techniques have come a long way since the first corneal transplant was performed in 1905. Today, corneal transplants are one of the most common and successful surgeries performed in Australia.

More than 2,000 corneal transplants are performed every year. Bill Waterer, a patient of the Lions Eye Institute (pictured), received two corneal transplants between 2018 and 2020. One of those transplants failed, leading Bill to a third surgery this year to restore sight in his right eye. Bill's experience is not uncommon, which is why researchers at the Lions Eye Bank are investigating ways to reduce the incidence of corneal transplant failure.

Lions Eye Bank Transplant Coordinator, and researcher, Dr Jelena Kezic said, "Corneal transplant can involve either the replacement of the entire cornea (penetrating keratoplasty) or the selective replacement of specific diseased layers of the cornea such as the endothelium (endothelial keratoplasty).

"The longevity of these endothelial grafts largely depends on the number of endothelial cells that are viable, and the higher this number is, the better the outcome."



Preparing a cornea for transplant

Dr Kezic said the team at the Lions Eye Bank are exploring ways to increase the number of viable endothelial cells, before transplantation as well as after, "Endothelial cells can be damaged at all stages of the transplant process, so our research is two-fold.

"Firstly, we are examining the effects of the processes involved in preparation of donor corneal tissue for endothelial transplantation, including storage time and handling techniques.

"Secondly, we are testing the use of rho-kinase inhibitors, which are pharmaceutical drugs, to improve endothelial cell number and viability during the preparation of donor tissue. For our study, we will be adding the rho-kinase inhibitor to the organ culture medium in which we store corneal tissue to see if it improves endothelial cell number. If successful, we would then progress to a clinical trial."

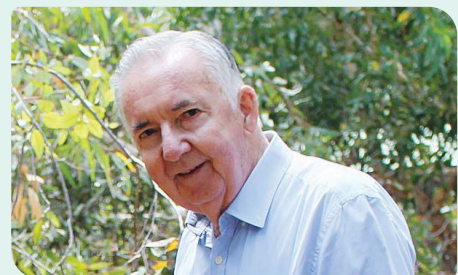
The Lions Eye Bank was established in 1986, and this year celebrated 35 years of saving people's sight.



Donate and save sight

By donating to the Lions Eye Institute, you can support the work of the Lions Eye Bank and help save the sight of people like Bill.

Call (08) 9381 0777, visit lei.org.au/donate or email donorcare@lei.org.au



Bill Waterer, a bilateral cornea recipient

The cornea is the clear outer layer of the eye. It acts like a filter, letting in light and keeping out dust.



The cornea is indicated by the orange line

As light enters the eye it gets refracted (bent) by the cornea's curved edge, which determines how well you can focus on objects up close and far away. The cornea is only half a millimetre thick, and is made up of five layers. Almost anyone can be a cornea donor even if they have poor eyesight. Visit donatelife.gov.au for more information.



A cornea waiting for transplant

One mother's inspiring tale of gratitude

We share an anonymous letter from a transplant recipient to the family whose thoughtful gift restored her sight.

To the family of my cornea donor,

I am able to type this letter to you today because of the gift your loved one gave to me. My life and my future has been changed because I have been given the gift of sight through the selfless generosity of cornea donation.

I understand the immense loss and grief you are suffering now that your family member is no longer with you in this world, but I write to thank them for being a donor, and you their family for allowing that donation unobstructed.

Prior to my recent cornea transplant, I was blind in both eyes due to an extremely rare and devastating eye infection, which destroyed my corneas and took my sight away from me very quickly and extremely painfully in early 2020. I spent a large portion of 2020 in hospital unable to even open my eyes. I very nearly lost my eyes completely. My eyes were saved by amazing doctors, but the damage to my corneas was severe, leaving me with no useable vision, I could not even see my own hands, only thick whiteness.

As a working, independent mother of young kids the loss was immense, as was the overwhelming fear that I had become a burden to my family and my children. It was not possible to try a cornea transplant until quite some time had passed to ensure it would be successful, so I had no choice but to spend a year as a blind mother.

My surgery was amazing, that morning I could not see my own reflection, I could not see who was in the room with me, I had to be guided every step I took. The following morning I could see half the eye chart, I could see my husband and children's faces for the first time in over a year, I could navigate independently, I could see again!

To put into words how much the donation from your loved one means to me, and has changed my life going forward is hard. It is everything. It gives me the chance of a positive future, it gives my children their mother back and me the chance to watch them smile and grow again. There is not a moment that will go by in my life, or their lives where we are not grateful for this gift.

I promise that I will always honour your loved one and their memory and gift to me by making every moment of my life going forward worth something, by treasuring every little beautiful thing that they have allowed me to be able to see. Every time I open my eyes I will be grateful.

Thank you, and I hope that the thought of the gratitude I feel and the appreciation of your pain can bring you at least a moment of comfort in your grief.

It means the world to me.

Cornea recipient



Left: Dr Angus Turner with patient Mavis Arnott

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN LAUNCH

Right top: Traditional Aboriginal dancing
Right bottom: Smoking ceremony

Our reconciliation journey

The recent launch of the Lions Eye Institute's first Reconciliation Action Plan is a critical part of our commitment to improving health outcomes among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The leading causes of vision impairment and blindness in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples aged over 40 are refractive error (61 per cent), cataract (20 per cent) and diabetic retinopathy (5.5 per cent). These are all treatable conditions, yet with 62 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders living in rural and remote areas, access to quality eye care and treatment is limited.

Reconciliation Action Plan Coordinator Wendy Murray said, "Across Australia vision loss among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples occurs at almost three times the rate of non-Indigenous Australians.

"The eyesight of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is very strong when they are young, but subject to deterioration as a result of limited or poor access to services and other health related factors."

Established in 2010 and led by Dr Angus Turner, Lions Outback Vision assessed and treated more than 3,400 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in 2020 alone. Lions Outback Vision provides outreach and telehealth services throughout Western Australia, and has recently established a permanent clinic in Broome, the Lions Outback Vision Kimberley Hub.

A vision for reconciliation

Our vision for reconciliation is to make a significant contribution to **closing the gap** in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's eye health and to **reduce the incidence of blinding diseases** among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.





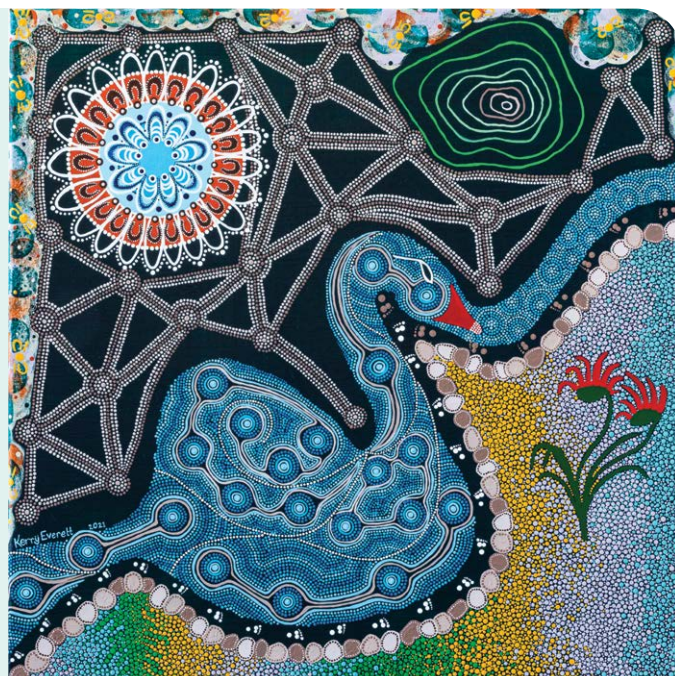
The development of the hub was made possible thanks to our dedicated supporters. Read more about the hub on page 12.

The Lions Eye Institute's work with Indigenous Australians can be traced back to the 1970s, when Professor Ian Constable AO established a diabetic retinopathy screening program in rural Western Australia.

"Much of the vision loss experienced by Indigenous Australians is preventable, which is why this action plan and the work of Lions Outback Vision is vital to help close the gap in eye health between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians," Ms Murray said.

Did you know?

90 per cent of vision loss for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is **preventable or treatable**, yet 35 per cent have never had an eye examination.



Connections painting

Connections

To commemorate the Institute's inaugural Reconciliation Action Plan, we commissioned a painting by Kerry Everett. Kerry is a Plangermairreenner woman from the Ben Lomond people, a community of the Cape Portland nation in North-East Tasmania. Kerry is also an Aboriginal Eye Health Coordinator with Lions Outback Vision.



Kerry Everett pictured with her granddaughter

"This painting represents the journey of Lions Outback Vision and the vision of Dr Angus Turner with the support of the Lions Eye Institute to take a specialised ophthalmology service out to remote and urban Aboriginal communities. It is about connecting patients to our services."



Professor David Mackey

Spotlight on glaucoma

Glaucoma affects around 300,000 Australians and can lead to blindness, yet 50 percent of people with glaucoma are not aware they have it. We asked leading genetic researcher at the Lions Eye Institute, Professor David Mackey, about glaucoma, his research and the importance of early screening programs.

Did you know?

Glaucoma is the leading cause of blindness in Australians aged 55 years and over, and is the second leading cause of blindness worldwide.



It is thanks to the **generous donations of our supporters** that we are able to continue our research into eye diseases like glaucoma.



What is glaucoma?

Glaucoma is a group of eye diseases which damage the optic nerve. The optic nerve sends signals to the brain to produce the images you see. When there is significant damage to this nerve, your peripheral (side) vision is lost. Without treatment, this vision loss will gradually extend towards your central vision and cause complete blindness.

What causes glaucoma?

Glaucoma is often caused by an increase in pressure in your eye, called intraocular pressure, which can damage the optic nerve. Anyone can develop glaucoma. Our research has shown that over half of people with glaucoma will have relatives also affected. If you have a family history of close relatives affected with glaucoma (mother, father, sister, brother), you have nearly ten times higher risk of developing it. Several hundred genes have been associated with glaucoma and our research team can now test for these in families with glaucoma.

Why is it important to catch glaucoma early?

Glaucoma develops slowly and you may not notice loss of peripheral vision until the disease is quite advanced. By this stage, the damage done to a person's eyesight is permanent.

How is your research making a difference?

While there are a number of very effective treatments to manage glaucoma once it is detected, the key to reducing the incidence of the disease is in early detection. My research has shown genetics play a key role in whether someone will develop glaucoma. Through family and genetic screening programs we have identified many people at risk of glaucoma, and arrange examinations and early treatment to prevent further vision loss.

If someone in my family has glaucoma, what should I do?

If you have a close blood relative with the condition (such as a father, mother, sibling or child), ask your GP or optometrist to refer you to an ophthalmologist for a complete eye exam and be sure to mention your family history of the disease.

Increase your impact with Containers for Change

The Lions Eye Institute has registered with Containers for Change to help make a positive difference in our community.

By returning your eligible drink containers to one of the 200 Containers for Change refund points across Western Australia, you will help keep recyclable items out of our oceans, parks and landfill. You can choose to support the work of the Lions Eye Institute through this initiative.

Lions Eye Institute Chief Executive Officer Glen Power said, "The Institute has a commitment to reducing our environmental impact, and we have participated in Containers for Change since the program started in October last year.

"It has been heartening to see local community support of the Lions Eye Institute through the scheme. Every little bit helps us to advance our research and, more importantly, improve the eye health of Western Australians."



Donate to the Lions Eye Institute using scheme ID **C10301865**. Find details of collection points and more at lei.org.au/containers-for-change



Fundraising Coordinator Yoke Lim
with CEO Glen Power

Since the Containers for Change scheme began in October 2020, thanks to compassionate people like you...



635 million +
containers saved
from landfill



\$2.3 million +
donated to charity

Did
you
know?

Our race to cure childhood blindness

The Lions Eye Institute's race to cure inherited retinal diseases, the leading cause of childhood blindness in Australia, has been significantly advanced by an incredible donation of \$750,000 from Mrs Rhonda Wyllie and her family, thanks to the support of Telethon.

The late Mr Bill Wyllie was also a wonderful supporter of the Lions Eye Institute, as well as being one of its Patrons. The donation will fund a life-changing piece of medical equipment known as the stem cell robot.



Bronwyn Doak, mother to Eamon and Kealan Doak, and Rhonda Wyllie embrace after the life-changing announcement at the Telethon Leeuwin Luncheon on Sunday 23 May. Credit: John Koh, The West Australian.



Dr Fred Chen examining a younger Eamon Doak

A Western Australian first

In a Western Australian first, the stem cell robot will allow researchers at the Lions Eye Institute to potentially save the sight of hundreds of children by accelerating the development of therapies for patients with inherited retinal diseases.

The Lions Eye Institute's Dr Fred Chen has dedicated his career to solving the mystery behind inherited eye diseases.

"Having a stem cell robot will be a game changer for our research," said Dr Chen. "It will allow researchers to develop treatments for myriads of childhood diseases including cancer, diabetes and inherited diseases like cystic fibrosis and inherited retinal diseases."

"We have already discovered a treatment for one gene that causes inherited eye disease and it is our mission to discover treatments for all 250 types of genetic eye diseases," he said.



Join us at the
**Telethon Family Festival
on Sunday 17 October**

and meet Iris, our friendly eye health mascot! This year's festival will be held at Optus Stadium. Tickets are free for kids. Find out more at telethon7.com/telethon21



Bringing hope to families

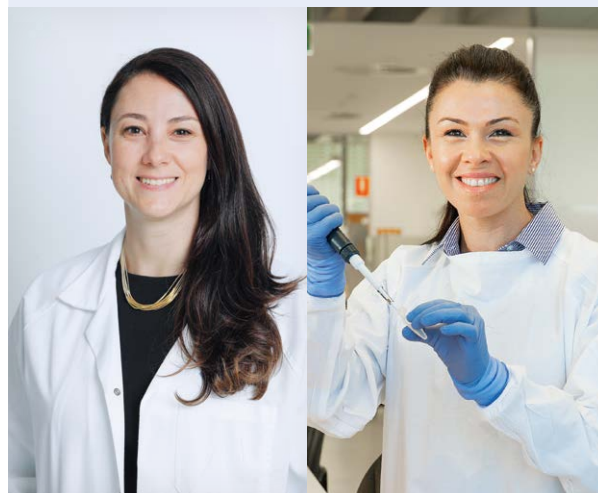
Professor Bill Morgan, Managing Director of the Lions Eye Institute, said the new piece of equipment will allow our laboratory staff to work more efficiently and effectively to develop new drugs to treat inherited retinal diseases such as retinitis pigmentosa, Usher syndrome and Stargardt disease.

“Having the stem cell robot will bring hope to families like the Doaks, whose two young boys Eamon, 8, and Kealan, 6, were both born with Usher syndrome,” he said.

“Usher syndrome is a particularly cruel disease. Children are born deaf and face becoming legally blind in their 20s or 30s. There are currently no treatments for Usher syndrome, and Eamon and his brother Kealan will soon start losing their sight without a medical breakthrough.”

The stem cell robot will help Dr Chen and his team develop the treatments Eamon and Kealan need to save their sight.

“It is critical we develop treatments for them now, to stop the degeneration of their retina,” Dr Chen said. “The robot will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We estimate we are five years away from crucial scientific discoveries that could save Eamon and Kealan’s sight.”



Dr Livia Carvalho and Dr Carla Mellough

Finding new treatments for Usher syndrome

Dr Livia Carvalho has made it her life’s mission to discover treatments that will help the many children and adults with inherited retinal diseases.

In collaboration with Dr Fred Chen and Dr Carla Mellough, Dr Carvalho and her team are developing new treatments for Usher syndrome.

A recent grant of \$120,000 from Telethon will allow the team to validate their gene therapy treatment through a comprehensive testing regime.

What is a stem cell robot?

The stem cell robot is a multi-purpose machine that can be used for research into a large number of disorders. Its primary function is to increase productivity to accelerate the development of therapies for patients with inherited retinal diseases, including Usher syndrome and many other childhood diseases.

By automating the cell culture work involved in producing human mini-organs, it will be capable of converting significantly more human skin cells into retina and other tissue types, accelerating the rate at which scientists can study the cause of diseases and develop new treatments and cures.



The stem cell robot, or Fluent Automation Workstation, from Tecan



Associate Professor Angus Turner (far left) with senior representatives from the AMA and RANZCO

Kimberley Hub continues to gain momentum

The Lions Outback Vision Kimberley Hub is transforming the way that eye health services are delivered in Australia's North West, providing permanent specialised eye health services in Broome and outreach care to 20 communities and five regional towns across the Kimberley.

Phase 1 of the transformation of the former Kimberley Klub backpackers hostel, generously donated by the Wen Giving Foundation and Hawaiian Group, was completed earlier this year. It includes a full-service eye clinic with state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment that is staffed by Lions Outback Vision including three resident ophthalmic doctors, a first for the Kimberley, and two resident optometrists.

Phase 2 of the redevelopment includes education and training spaces, facilities for multi-disciplinary use by visiting specialists in areas such as cardiology and ear/nose/throat, and a café to support the Lions Outback Vision healthy eating for diabetics program. Building works are expected to be completed by the third quarter of 2022.

Treatment close to home

The Lions Outback Vision team is delighted with the response of patients and community members to the Kimberley Hub. "Now we are on the ground permanently in the north, patients are very appreciative of the opportunity to be treated close to home," said Associate Professor Angus Turner, McCusker Director of Lions Outback Vision. "We have had an extremely busy but hugely rewarding few months since that first clinic in April. Almost five hundred patients were seen in the hub clinic from April to June this year with just over fourteen hundred across the Kimberley in the first half of the year. This also allows our Vision Van to focus on providing eye health services to the rest of the State."

It took almost two years and a lot of hard work to realise our vision for a dedicated eye clinic in the State's North West. Thank you to our supporters for helping to make our dream a reality.

Welcome to the Lions Outback Vision Kimberley Hub



February 2020 The team arrives in Broome



December 2020 Internal fit out is complete

In recent months, the Lions Outback Vision team has celebrated Reconciliation Week with a morning tea hosted at the hub and attended by WA Country Health and Aboriginal Medical Services representatives, who made a canvas of handprints symbolising working together. The hub has become a popular destination for guests and supporters. Recent visitors have included Dr Andrew Miller and Mr Bennie Ng from the Australian Medical Association, Mr David Andrews from the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists, various government representatives, donors and a delegation from the Local Government Insurance Scheme.

Another visitor was the Lions Eye Institute's founding Managing Director and Patron, Professor Ian Constable AO, who helped out in Broome clinics in July. Professor Constable said, **"The whole Lions Eye Institute community and supporters can be very proud of this pioneering achievement. It is a model that should be emulated in other remote areas and by other important medical specialties."**



October 2019 The original backpacker hostel, donated by Wen Giving Foundation



April 2020 The team begin clinics in a temporary location during construction



April 2021 Open for business

Establishing a centre of research excellence

The Lions Eye Institute is planning to establish a new centre of research excellence in Broome, using artificial intelligence, telehealth and state-of-the-art imaging technology to bridge the geographic challenges that result from 100,000 people living across an area of almost one million km², roughly four times the size of the United Kingdom.

There will be a particular focus on Aboriginal eye health, reflecting the fact that vision loss is almost twice as common (11.2 per cent) in Aboriginal people compared to the non-Aboriginal population (6.6 per cent).

Diabetic retinopathy causes 27 per cent of irreversible vision loss in Aboriginal people, and the natural history of diabetic eye disease in Aboriginal people is not well understood, underlining an urgent need for clinical research to build knowledge to better prevent irreversible damage to vision.

From humble beginnings

Having interviewed Professor Ian Constable AO for the position which first brought him to Western Australia, the Lions Eye Institute's inaugural Chair, Brian King, has been a part of the Institute since its inception, and shares his perspective of how the Institute has grown over almost four decades.



Fast forward to today and the research functions have relocated to the Harry Perkins building at QEII Medical Centre, freeing up space to refurbish the clinic to what it is today – one of the most advanced sub specialist eye health clinics in Australia, at the forefront of world best practice. Each examination room would now have more resources for patients than the total available in 1975. An amazing achievement.

Some time ago I started to notice changes to my vision. I knew the symptoms and an appointment with Professor Constable confirmed my suspicion of cataracts. The cataract surgery was a success and I have annual check ups with Professor Constable to this day.

Brian King AM MBE Hon DIttrs WA
A very grateful patient

“The Lions Eye Institute has grown from very humble beginnings, thanks to the foresight of the Lions Save-Sight Foundation (LSSF) and the incredible generosity of a number of supporters over the years.

My first consultation with Professor Constable was in the Royal Perth Hospital in 1975 shortly after he arrived in Western Australia. At that time the eye clinic at Royal Perth Hospital consisted of a crowded waiting area, two examination rooms and basic eye examination equipment. Under the guidance of Professor Constable and with support from the LSSF, new methods of laser and cataract surgery, along with other novel procedures such as vitrectomy, served to rewrite the way ophthalmology was practiced in the State.

In 1983 the Lions Eye Institute was established as a stand alone clinic and research centre with the recruitment of three of the best young sub specialist ophthalmologists. It soon outgrew its premises. A Federal Government grant saw construction of a purpose built research facility next to Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. A significant patient bequest enabled the fit out of a new clinic and day surgery within the same building. The Institute fast became the referral centre for complex blinding eye disease not only from Western Australia but from interstate and overseas, in particular Indonesia.

Brian King was inaugural Chair of the Lions Eye Institute, from 1983 to 2004, and a board member until 2010.



(L to R) Professor Ian Constable presenting Brian King with an award for his service to the Lions Eye Institute

Dr Glen Power joins the Institute

The Lions Eye Institute is delighted to announce the appointment of Dr Glen Power to the newly created role of Chief Executive Officer.

Over the past 22 years, Dr Power has held senior roles within the Australian health industry including Chief Executive Officer of Perth Clinic, St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospitals, and St John of God Warrnambool Hospital. He has also held the role of Chief of Staff and Principal Policy Advisor to the Western Australian Minister for Health.

Dr Power will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Institute, and will play a crucial role in leading a number of exciting projects, including our plans to deliver much needed eye health care in the Midland region of Perth.



Dr Glen Power



Research Week returns for 2021

Lions Eye Institute Research Week is returning for 2021! Research Week brings research to the community through a series of events that include:



LEI
RESEARCH
WEEK

Saturday 23
October: A movie
with a difference,
Backlot Studios
West Perth

Join us for an audio description movie screening and experience a visit to the cinema through the eyes of someone with no vision. Suitable for people of all abilities.

Wednesday 27
October: Ian Constable
Lecture, University
Club of WA

If you are interested in space and science, this free evening lecture is for you. Our keynote speaker is internationally renowned astrophysicist and Head of the International Space Centre, Professor Danail Obreschkow.

Thursday 28
October: Lunch
and Learn,
City of Perth library

Lockdown, COVID-19 and increased screen use are all factors in worsening eyesight. Bring your lunch and learn practical tips to protect your eyes, and your kid's eyes, from our experts.



Professor Danail Obreschkow

Visit lei.org.au/events, call (08) 9381 0777 or email events@lei.org.au to find out more.

Become a Sight Saver today

90%

of vision loss is preventable or treatable. Together we can be the solution.

By becoming a Sight Saver, and donating to the Lions Eye Institute each month, you can help uncover research breakthroughs, transform lives and give hope to those facing blindness and eye disease.

Sight Saver members receive:

- research updates
- event invitations throughout the year
- a tax deductible receipt at the end of each financial year

Giving monthly allows the Lions Eye Institute to plan ahead for future sight saving research with the knowledge that your support is ongoing.

Setting up your regular donation is easy.

- You choose the donation amount.
- All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible and a receipt is sent automatically at the end of each financial year.
- You can opt out or change your donation amount at any time.

Please fill out the form below (indicating monthly payment) and return it to our reply paid address, or call Carolyn in fundraising on (08) 9381 0777 to set up your automatic monthly donation.



Yes I want to save sight

Please accept my donation of \$..... (Donations over \$2 are tax deductible)

☐ Please make my donation monthly, I want to be a Sight Saver

Please find enclosed my ☐ cheque ☐ money order OR, please debit my ☐ Mastercard ☐ American Express ☐ Visa

Card No: _____ Expiry Date: ____ / ____

Cardholder's Name: _____ Signature _____

Tax receipt details:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

☐ I would be interested to learn more about how I can include the Lions Eye Institute in my Will.

☐ I have already provided for the Lions Eye Institute in my Will.

☐ I would like to be included in donor recognition.

We recognise the generosity of donors on our donor recognition board, website and in our annual report.

Be a
sight
saver

Your
donation
helps eradicate
blindness

Mail to:
Lions Eye Institute
Reply Paid 62815
Nedlands WA 6009
(No stamp required)

Or call (08) 9381 0777