

quest

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Royal Hobart Hospital Research Foundation

AUTUMN 2013

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Our QUEST is for knowledge that will lead to better healthcare and medical services for the people of Tasmania. You can help us by supporting our research efforts with a gift, bequest or donation.

Each year the Foundation funds research into a variety of conditions affecting the lifestyle and wellbeing of the people of Tasmania, including cancer, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases.

This research is undertaken by a diverse range of health professionals at the Royal Hobart Hospital, and the University of Tasmania's Faculty of Health Science and the Menzies Institute.

Many of our researchers are nationally-renowned in their fields, whilst others are at the very early stages of promising careers. All of them are working to improve the quality of health and well-being for Tasmanians.

Your gift, bequest or donation can be vital in ensuring that this QUEST continues to provide benefits for Tasmanians, now and into the future.

ROYAL HOBART HOSPITAL
RESEARCH FOUNDATION

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RHH Research Foundation announces first round grant recipients for 2013

The RHH Research Foundation recently announced details of its first round of annual grant funding for 2013, providing three new starter grants and five new clinical grants for local medical research to be undertaken in Tasmania over the course of the year.

The Foundation's Chair, Mr David Catchpole, explained "the purpose of these grants is to assist emerging and highly skilled clinical researchers to collaborate with each other for the benefit of the local community".

After an intensely competitive selection process, the range of projects chosen for funding offers a broad scope of intended benefit for the wellbeing of many Tasmanians, with potential that is even more far-reaching.

Chief Executive Officer Heather Francis emphasised that research supported by the RHH Research Foundation is selected via a rigorous assessment process undertaken by the Foundation's scientific research advisory panel, which is endorsed by the NHMRC.

"Facing a particularly strong field of applications from interested clinicians, only projects and researchers of excellence can be selected to pursue their investigations. On this occasion, the Research Foundation has been oversubscribed by researchers' applications that amounted to more than three times above the funds available.



CEO Heather Francis and Troy Wanandy at the announcement of 2013 grant recipients

"There were many excellent projects submitted which, had funding been available, would have been considered further. There's great scope for additional investment in high quality local health and medical research and this is something the Foundation aims to achieve with the community's support through our fundraising initiatives," she said.

In addition to these new grants, a further six longer-term grants have already been committed. "In total, the Foundation has budgeted almost \$600,000 to support local health and medical research through grant funding in 2013, with a further call for grant applications to be undertaken in coming months following completion of a strategic review of research directions," she said.

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The Foundation's Chair, Mr David Catchpole