

Regional News – May, 2010.

Annual Scientific Meeting News



**TSANZ and ANZSRS
Annual Scientific Meetings**
1 – 6 April 2011
**Perth Convention &
Exhibition Centre**
Perth, Western Australia

ANZSRS Invited Speaker

- Professor John Moxham,
King's College London School
of Medicine, UK

TSANZ Invited Speakers

- Professor Harm Tiddens,
Erasmus MC-Sophia Children's
Hospital, The Netherlands
- A/Professor Daniel Sterman,
University of Pennsylvania
School of Medicine, USA

- TSANZ abstracts due:
29 October 2010
- ANZSRS abstracts due:
19 November 2010
- Early Bird registration
until 18 February 2011

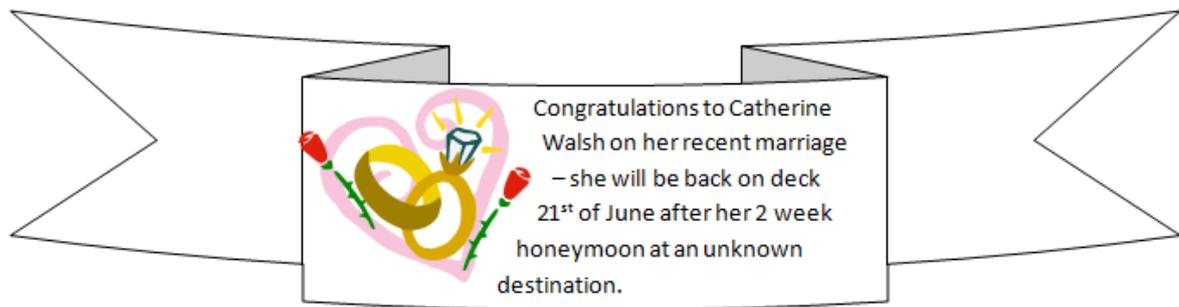


New South Wales / ACT

Well it has sure belted down with rain here in Sydney the last few weeks! Winter has finally arrived and we were reassured that was the case with the recent downpour.

We have our next branch meeting coming up, this time it will be hosted at the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research at Glebe on June 30. We will continue our discussions on reference values and also have a brief research presentation. Many thanks in advance to Michael Panagopoulos from Ascencia for sponsoring the June branch meeting.

And just for some NSW/ACT news.....



Finally on to our series of laboratory histories from NSW/ACT. Robyn Schoeffel has kindly contributed this article on Royal North Shore Hospital, it brings me back to my days of doing research at the Woolcock with Greg, Robyn, Rein and the rest of the gang.....

RESPIRATORY INVESTIGATION UNIT (RIU) of ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL (RNSH):

A brief history

February 26th 1959- The Respiratory Investigation Unit was founded. Initially known as the David Hughes Laboratory it was located in the basement of the old Thoracic Block. Initial funding was from a grant from the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis in Australia (NSW Division).

Medical Directors over the years have included- June Raine from 1963 to 1968, Dr Russell Vandenberg from 1968 – 1983, Dr Peter Pigott from 1983 to 1985, Prof Norbert Berend from 1985-2006 and from 2006 Ass Prof Dr Greg King.

Renamed the Respiratory Investigation Unit the laboratory moved to the Main Building RNSH, level six, in 1976. In this year Dr Rein Simmul started as a scientific officer, was made a senior scientific officer and Manager in 1979, a position he maintained until his retirement in 2009.

In 1976 the RIU measured the response to progressive exercise, exercising DLCO and spirometry and the first computer was introduced to the department, capable of not much more than simple word processing. Trevor Nash, Michael Berthon-Jones and David Bassin played a role in the automation of the unit. Euan Tovey was employed as a Research Fellow. His research included the effect of dust mites on asthma. Other research was carried out by David Allen, Penny Field, Rein Simmul and Gary Baker on the effects of Metabisulphate, Sulphur dioxide and MSG in asthma.

Oximeters were purchased for measurement of overnight oxygen saturation in patients in 1980. The first body plethysmograph was purchased and the single breath DLCO test was set up. The RIU became one of the first respiratory laboratories to become fully automated. A full report including a computerised interpretation and a serial summary of previous results was available at the completion of the tests. Patient throughput was increased enormously. Tests routinely performed were progressive exercise, spirometry, histamine challenges, lung volumes, and single breath DLCO. The Sulphur dioxide challenges and oesophageal balloons for measurement of lung compliance were used for research.

In 1981 the RIU had two beds operating three nights per week for overnight sleep studies with measurement of continuous overnight oxygen saturation, chest wall movement, respiratory flow at the mouth and ECG. CPAP was introduced with Rein Simmul manufacturing homemade masks. The sophistication of measurement

increased between 1985 and 1995 with multi-channel recordings of EOG, EEG, ECG, air flow, respiratory chest wall movement, measurement of leg movement and O₂ saturation. All sleep studies were performed overnight in the RIU, set up, observed and analysed by the RIU staff. In 1995 the Sleep Investigation Unit was formed separating sleep from Respiratory Investigation, both now located on Level 8 at RNSH. Home and ward measurement of overnight oximetry has continued to be offered by the RIU.

Sensormedics equipment was purchased in 1991. Tests available included Spirometry, lung volumes, DLCO, histamine challenges, calculation of respiratory shunt and progressive exercise. This equipment was updated in 1999 to Vmax22 and Vmax29C. New tests of 4.5% Saline challenge, Eucapnic Voluntary Hyperventilation, Altitude Simulation Respiratory muscle pressures (MIPS, MEPS and SNIP), methacholine challenges, FOT and eNO were added to the routine tests performed. More equipment updates occurred in 2009/10 when Encore 29C's and a wheel chair accessible plethysmograph were purchased. Medgraphics Ultima PF and Multibreath Nitrogen Washout are used by research staff.

Current staff include Robin Schoeffel, Charlotte Tekstra-Kay, David Bolton and Christopher Htun. Robin started with the unit in 1999 becoming the acting manager in 2007 when Rein went on long service leave and manager of the RIU on Rein's retirement in 2009. Charlotte and David both started as sleep technicians and have either totally defect-



ed to Respiratory Investigation (Charlotte in 2004) or continue to be shared between the SIU and RIU (David). Chris Htun started in Asthma research for the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research working at RNSH then joined the RIU staff in 2007.

The RIU has a close association with the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research. Currently, Catherine Walsh and Dr's Sri Mahadev and Sophie Timmins, Woolcock PhD candidates, are all working from the Respiratory Investigation Unit at RNSH.

Until Next Time,

Phillip Munoz

(filling in for Catherine as she enjoys her honeymoon)

Catherine

Catherine Walsh
ably assisted by Phillip Munoz

Catherine Walsh

New Zealand

June already.... Where has this year gone??? With 2 months to go until the branch meeting it is great to see the snow already falling down south it looks like the branch ski trip... oops meeting will be successful.

Congratulations

A big congratulations goes out the Greenlane clinic lab. Brooke Cantley, Tracey Righton and Buba Milivojevic-Poleksic passed the CRFS exam bringing a total of 6 staff at Greenlane with CRFS. That means all staff in Greenlane now have CRFS, that is a great achievement that I am sure the team is proud of!

Gabrielle Monti-Sheehan has recently celebrated 30 years of working in the Dunedin Respiratory lab, not sure what that would be in respiratory anniversary, but I am thinking a gold coloured filter ☺

Registration

The CPRB received a response from the Director General relating to our submission on the proposed changes to the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance (HPCA) Act, and in particular to the issue of professions who have current applications with the Ministry of Health for regulation under the Act.

The CPRB has been informed that the decision of the Minister is that all professions who have applications for regulation currently under consideration are required to submit a new application for regulation under the new criteria, which will come into effect from 1 July 2010. This means that the Clinical Physiologist professions need to re-apply for regulation under the HPCA Act under the new criteria.

Maureen Swanney and David Robiony-Rogers will be consulting with the other members of the Clinical Physiologists Registration Board to devise a strategy for moving forward and pulling together a new application for regulation of the professions of Cardiac, Respiratory and Sleep Physiology under the revised criteria for the HPCA Act.

For further information on the HPCA Act and analysis of the feedback on the HPCA Act review please visit the Ministry of Health's website www.moh.govt.nz/hpca

You will all be provided an opportunity to discuss this issue at the ANZSRS 2010 meeting in Queenstown.

2010 Branch Meeting

For those of you who have been living under a rock (or volcanic ash cloud) this year's branch meeting is being held in Queenstown 19-20 August. Registration forms have done the circulation, if you have missed out or someone who is keen to attend, we will even let the "West Island" members attend and see our we do it.

In addition to Paul Kelly and Leigh Seccombe I am pleased to announce another invited guest. Mike Brown President of ANZSRS and our newest life member will be making his way across the ditch. Mike will be presenting on hypercapnic drive assessment, as well giving us a "presidential view" of the direction of our society.

ANZSRS- NZ Branch 2010 ASM

19-20 August 2010- Queenstown



Adventure Physiology in the Adventure Capital

Paul Kelly (Christchurch), Leigh Seccombe (Sydney)- Hypoxia and Ventilation in the extremes



The New Zealand branch is very lucky to be having such a high calibre of speakers at our meeting and as the Rugby World Cup advertising said “you’ve got to be there”.

A reminder to all NZ members that we have 3 travel grants values at \$500 each thanks to Care medical. Applications close at close of abstracts.

Application forms are available from me if you have not got them already.

For any member wishing to present research at the meeting, the call for abstracts will be out soon. This is a great opportunity to present to a smaller audience rather than the larger ASM and it would be nice to get some of our members presenting.

So come along for some **Adventure Physiology in the Adventure Capital**.

Well that is it for another regional news from New Zealand.

‘til next month.

Chris

Christopher O’Dea

christopher.odea@cdhb.govt.nz

Queensland

Greetings from the Sunshine State! It’s not getting cold here AT ALL

Weddings to Remember

A huge congrats to our two talented scientists, Jarrod and Sharna, who got married last month (not to each other). I’m sure Jarrod looked very dashing – just waiting on photographic evidence to confirm. (*Jarrod typing now – YES, I looked very dashing!*). Sharna looked beautiful along with myself (*Deb typing now!*). The day was one to remember and a great time was had by all! Photos will be available for the next branch news. Those attending our branch meeting next will get a sneak peak! Tough decision though - State of Origin, Wedding Photos, State of Origin, Wedding Photos? If it was real footy, I’d pick the State of Origin!

QLD Rep Missing-In-Action

While we’ve all been slogging away in our respective lung labs, our QLD rep has been honeymooning in a tropical paradise with his beautiful new bride. He should be

back any day now. Make sure you ease him back into work gently Brenton or just throw him in the deep end – whatever works! (*Jarrod typing now – DEEP END!*).

Upcoming Get-Together

Next Wednesday 16th June at the Brisbane Private Hospital, Claire Shackleton (ex-Perth) will be speaking to us about her time in WA and her current work with Dr Peter Sly. Our other speaking spot will be Skye Yates (PAH) and Mark Davis (RBWH) presenting their work on developing a Spirometry Training Course for Queensland Indigenous Health Workers. Phase 1 is almost complete. Catering and parking is sponsored by Bird Healthcare/MSDA, venue sponsored by GSK – much appreciated.

Knees Up

A few weeks ago, the Brisbane 2010 ASM Local Organising Committee had a get together at a tapas restaurant in Brisvegas to celebrate the success of the March meeting. Congratulations Team – you totally deserved it! And how good was that soft shelled crab!

Lab Profile

Greenslopes Lung Function Laboratory **Greenslopes Private Hospital**

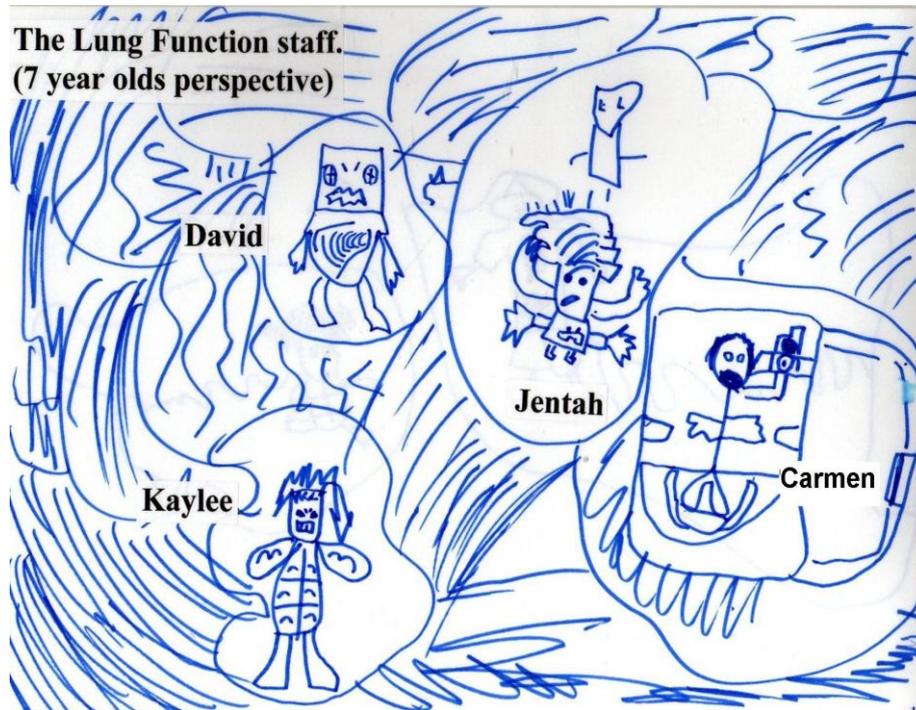
The Greenslopes lung function laboratory was originally part of the Greenslopes Repatriation Hospital and was established in 1980 by the Department of Veteran Affairs. The founder was Dr. Barry Hickey, who is still a respiratory specialist at Greenslopes Private Hospital today. In May 2008 the laboratory was relocated to the outpatients department and runs as a privatised laboratory under the partnership of Dr. Allan Finimore and Dr. John Aukes.

Four respiratory scientists fill three full-time equivalent positions in the laboratory: David Irvin, Jentah Kennedy and Carmen Gillespie, headed by senior scientist Kaylee Lamb.

The laboratory provides services to Veterans through DVA as well as inpatients of the hospital and those referred by the eight respiratory specialists from GPH and general practitioners. The laboratory operates from 8am to 4pm, five days a week.

In 2009 the laboratory performed approximately 8450 tests on over 4600 patients and increasing every year. We perform a wide variety of respiratory function tests including spirometry, plethysmography, transfer factor, MIPS & MEPS and SNIP studies. We perform both histamine and mannitol bronchial provocation tests as well as exercise oximetry, six minute walk tests and cardiopulmonary exercise stress tests. Other tests include skin allergy tests, basal metabolic rate tests, shunt studies and high altitude simulation oximetry. Greenslopes lung function is fully equipped with Medgraphics equipment consisting of 2 body plethysmography

boxes, 2 standalone spirometers, and cardiopulmonary exercise equipment.



Well that's all the news from the QLD lot. I'll leave you with this thought. If you were given an unmarked map of Australia (or New Zealand for our Kiwi readers), how accurately could you point to your city/town of residence? I was looking at the weather map on the news the other day and I'd be lost without the little dot and name pointing to my city. I know I live on the east coast of Oz in the middle.....somewhere. Note to self: must look at an atlas!

Deb Z out (BSc Geography. University of Canterbury, 1997)

Jarrod - nowhere to be seen (last seen returning to work on Monday, don't know whether he survived!)

Jarrod

and his off-sider **Debbie Z**

Jarrod Warner
Jarrod.warner@yahoo.com
Debbie Zagami
deborah_zagami@health.qld.gov.au

South Australia

Hi all,

Winter has definitely arrived here in SA and with it the rain, so much in fact that the state water security commissioner feels the water crisis (ie drought) is over and has started working part-time.

With no recent meetings, the metro hospitals are gearing up for change in the structure of the health service. The changes will see a change from two area health services to just one "Adelaide Health Service" on July 1. As this deadline quickly approaches we wait to see what, if any, changes this will bring into our little labs here in Adelaide. Hopefully by the next branch meeting this will look a little clearer.

The SA branch will next meet at the Chest Clinic at 6.30pm on 22/6/10 and the meeting will be proudly sponsored by Pharmaxis.

Hope to see you all there.

Mel

Melanie Toomey
Melanie.toomey@health.sa.gov.au

Victoria / Tasmania

Nothing received

Matthew

Matthew Ellis
m.ellis@alfred.org.au

Western Australia

Hello again from Perth. It has been a quiet month on the news front, which probably means that we have been working too hard and have spent all our time running after patients.

QA

Well, our search for a standard man continues... as you can see from our photos, taken at Royal Perth Hospital Respiratory Lab (yes, we are an adult hospital). We are not having much luck with suitable QA subjects. Eeyore begrudgingly helped out, but please do let us know if you would like to volunteer.

Clinical meeting

The next clinical meeting is coming up very shortly, Thursday 10 June at Royal Perth Hospital. Rowena White, Speech Pathologist from RPH will be speaking on "A brief guide to Laryngectomy, Tracheostomy and Vocal Cord Dysfunction". Thanks to Kevin Hick of Niche Medical for his sponsorship of the meeting. We hope to see you then. Following this, our next WA branch meeting is scheduled for Wednesday the 25th August.

Other reminders

We hope your abstracts are coming together for Perth 2011, and that you have all organised lab cover for the Respiratory Symposium in October, following the Bunbury joint ANZSRS/TSANZ meeting. We are anticipating that the Symposium will be an informative and interesting afternoon.

News about town

A big **congratulations** goes to Liz Salamon for receiving a Respiratory Professionals Congress Travel Grant from the European Respiratory Society to attend this year's meeting in Spain, to present her work on Nitrogen washout. We hope it all goes well and that Liz enjoys her trip!

Graham Hall will very soon be moving from Respiratory Medicine at PMH and crossing the road to take up a senior research position at the Institute of Child Health Research in Perth. It

won't be a complete good bye however, as Graham will still be involved in the Respiratory lab, overseeing research activities, as well some other activities. It does however open new opportunity for some-one ready to take that next step in their careers to become a senior scientist. Contact Graham if you think this could be you!

Elise Chu

Ably assisted by Elizabeth Salomon

anzsrsa@yahoo.com.au



ANZSRS important dates 2010

Don't forget to
pay your ANZSRS
membership fees
for 2010

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|------------------|---------|---|
| June | 8 | VIC/TAS branch meeting |
| | 10 | WA branch meeting (Royal Perth Hospital) |
| | 10 | Applications due for AARC/ARCF fellowship due |
| | 16 | QLD branch meeting |
| | 22 | SA branch meeting (Chest Clinic) |
| | 30 | NSW/ACT branch meeting (Woolcock Institute) |
| July | 21 | NSW/ACT branch Pharmaxis education session (Sydney) Abstracts for APSR due |
| August | 17 | SA branch meeting |
| | 18 | QLD branch meeting |
| | 19-20 | NZ branch ANZSRS/TSANZ meeting (Queenstown) |
| | 24 | NSW/ACT branch meeting (Sydney Children's Hosp.) |
| | 25 | WA branch meeting |
| September | 15 | Early Bird Rego for APSR closes |
| | 18 - 22 | ERS meeting - Barcelona |
| | 24 | Application for CRFS exam due |
| | | |
| October | 12 | SA branch meeting |
| | 14 | World Spirometry Day |
| | 16-17 | WA branch combined TSANZ meeting (Bunbury) |
| | 18 | WA branch Respiratory Symposium (Perth CCRF) |
| | 20 | QLD branch meeting |
| | 21-23 | ASTA meeting (Christchurch) |
| | 27 | NSW/ACT branch meeting (Gosford Hosp.) |
| | 29 | CRFS exam |
| | | |
| November | 17 | World COPD Day |
| | 19 | Abstracts due for Perth ASM 2011 |
| | 22 - 25 | APSR meeting - Manila |
| | 30 | SA branch meeting |
| December | 6 - 9 | AARC meeting - Las Vegas |
| | 10 | NSW branch Christmas Dinner |

Meetings on in 2011

ANZSRS: Perth: April 1 -6
 ATS: Denver: May 13-18
 ERS: Amsterdam: Sept 24-28
 APSR: Shanghai: Nov 3-6
 AARC: Tampa: Nov 5-8

