



# Annual Report

## 2018

# Our Purpose

Queensland Eye Institute Foundation (QEIF) is Queensland's largest independent academic research institute devoted to eye-related health and diseases.

QEIF works every day to save sight by providing innovation and excellence in research, education and clinical care to reduce eye diseases, improve eye health, and ultimately eliminate preventable blindness in the community.

Its state of the art facilities in South Brisbane, include the Brisbane QEI Clinic, South Bank Day Hospital, Queensland Electro-Diagnostic and Imaging Centre (QEDIC), medical research and microsurgical teaching laboratories, medical library and the home of QEIF.

With no government funding QEIF's survival relies solely on the generosity of donors, businesses and the community.



# Introduction

## Welcome to our 2018 Annual Report.

While 2018 continued to be a particularly challenging year in terms of medical research funding for the whole sector, the generosity of charitable foundations and individual donors committed to making a difference to the health of our community has continued to play an important role in supporting vital medical research.

During the year, and with the generosity of Dr Ross Forgan-Smith (retired specialist pathologist) and his son Dr George Forgan-Smith (general practitioner) we were able to establish The Bette Forgan-Smith Postdoctoral Fellowship which was awarded to QEIF's Dr Audra Shadforth to support her research project for treating age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Support of this nature from individuals is becoming increasingly important in funding medical research, as more traditional forms of research funding (e.g. NHMRC) becomes even more competitive.

National and international collaborations are an important feature of QEIF's work. QEIF continues to develop new international collaborative research and education programmes. At the same time, we actively contribute to national and international associations, committees and advisory groups, in particular the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists and the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology.

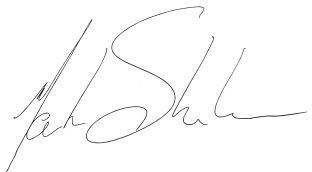
We are proud to note that Professor Lawrence Hirst, QEI's Honorary Clinical Scientist and former CEO, was recognised in the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours and made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his "significant service to medicine in the field of ophthalmology through the development of clinical care techniques and eye disease management."

We thank our team of dedicated clinicians, researchers, staff and volunteers who make QEIF the institute that it is - an outcome focused medical research and teaching institute.

Finally, we thank all our supporters during the past year, especially our donors who provide us with both financial and moral support. As always, we want to particularly acknowledge the Sylvia and Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation, its trustees and its Chair, Justice Debra Mullins, for their long-term support.

2018 has been a year of continued progress. We look forward to 2019 with optimism in our goal of saving sight.

**Mark Sheridan**  
CHAIRMAN



**Professor Mark Radford**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO



# Board of Directors



**Mark Sheridan**

**CHAIRMAN**

Mark is a Partner with Mazars (formerly Hanrick Curran) in Brisbane. He has a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) and is a Fellow, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand. He is also a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Australian Institute of Managers and Leaders. Mark was appointed a Director of QEIF in 2003, and Chairman in 2011. He is also Chairman of South Bank Medical Group, which operates day surgery facilities to support QEIF's long-term objectives.



**Professor Mark Radford**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO**

Mark has been Executive Director and CEO of QEIF since 2010. He has a Doctor of Medicine from Nagasaki University, Japan and a PhD from Flinders University of South Australia. Mark is a Fellow of both the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Institute of Managers and Leaders, and an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists.



**Professor Jeff Dunn, AO**

**DIRECTOR**

Jeff is Research Leader of Social and Behavioural Science at Cancer Council Queensland (CCQ)'s Cancer Research Centre and was previously CEO of CCQ for over 15 years. He is Professor and Chair of Social and Behavioural Science at the University of Southern Queensland (USQ). He currently holds Professorial appointments with USQ and Griffith University School of Medicine. Jeff was appointed an Officer in the Order of Australia in 2014 for distinguished service to medical administration through leadership roles with cancer control organisations, and to the promotion of innovative and integrated cancer care programs. Jeff is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD) and holds a PhD from The University of Queensland.



**Jemma Elder**

**DIRECTOR**

Jemma Elder is a Managing Director with Publicis Australia, an entity of the Publicis Groupe one of the world's largest media and communications agency networks. Her remit spans the management of businesses in commercial partnership with Publicis including Personalised Plates Queensland (Department of Transport and Main Roads), KiwiPlates (New Zealand Transport Agency) and Qantas Corporate SME Sales. Jemma brings extensive business, sales and marketing experience having previously worked in senior positions with ASX listed companies. Jemma holds a Bachelor of Business and Grad Certificate Applied Finance. She is a member of the AICD and sits on Advisory Committees that foster entrepreneurial learning & enterprise development.



**John Lowes**

**DIRECTOR – APPOINTED APRIL 2018**

John is a Special Counsel with Shand Taylor Lawyers which he joined as a Partner in 2007. Previously he was the Principal of Lowes & Co, a predominantly property focused law firm which he ran for 11 years. Prior to this he was a Partner for eight years with an international law firm.

With over 37 years as a practising solicitor, John has concentrated on all aspects of property, small business law and private client advisory. He has also acted for a broad range of health professionals and specialist medical groups. John gained Specialist Accreditation in Property Law from the Queensland Law Society in 2002 and served for ten years as a member of their Specialist Accreditation Board.



**Judge Anthony Rafter**

**DIRECTOR – RESIGNED FEBRUARY 2018**

Anthony is a District Court Judge in Queensland. He was admitted as a Barrister of the Supreme Court of Queensland in 1985, and then Senior Counsel in 2003. Prior to joining the QEIF Board in 2012, Anthony was Chairperson for the Nursing Tribunal and a Board member of Legal Aid Queensland.



**Kelly Langdon**

**COMPANY SECRETARY**

Kelly has been associated with QEIF since 2004 in a general management capacity. Her qualifications include a Bachelor of Human Resource Management and Economics. Kelly was appointed as Company Secretary in 2015 and enjoys the variety and scope of the work together with the opportunity to bring her strong commercial acumen to the not for profit sector.

# Impact & Outcomes



## Clinical Care & Treatment

### Anna Blake Clinical Services Manager

I am delighted to report 2018 has been full of many accomplishments and achievements for the QEI Clinic. As it continues to grow we have provided more than 17,000 patient consultations throughout the year.

We have been fortunate to welcome a new corneal specialist, Dr David Gunn to the QEI Clinic. His expertise has led to an increase in services provided to patients including refractive eye surgery and implantable contact lenses.

The QEI Clinic and South Bank Day Hospital have continued to receive referrals from Surgery Connect for outsourcing of public patients to be assessed and treated in the private sector. This year has seen an increase in the Government's eligibility requirements to receive public patient referrals and a new tendering process. The QEI Clinic has worked very closely with South Bank Day Hospital to ensure compliance targets are met.

Changes in legislation have led to an increased need to provide staff training in areas such as Mandatory Data Breaches and Fair Work - Anti Discrimination Legislation.

The QEI Brisbane Clinic has been working with architects to plan and design the new QEI Clinic in Clayfield. A significant amount of time and consideration has gone into choosing a suitable location and managing the integration processes with the QEI Brisbane Clinic.

Placements increased for Optometrists, Orthoptists, health information managers and medical students with many students making direct contact with QEI to organise their university placements.

2018 has seen an increased focus on technology including the integration of 'Oculo' which facilitates the safe delivery of referrals from Optometrists. Since its introduction we have seen an increase in referrals as Optometrists are encouraged to refer to Ophthalmologists registered to use the system.

The QEI Clinic continued the collection, cleaning and distribution of 300 pairs of donated glasses to villagers in Ndola, Zambia. To the villagers a pair of glasses has meant that they can read, do tailoring work and other tasks enabling them to seek employment.

### QEI Clinic

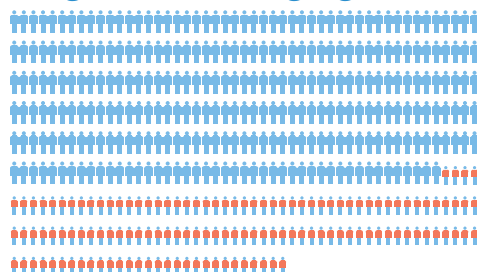
17,214

patients seen in 2018

42

staff in 2018

### Queensland Electro-Diagnostic & Imaging Centre



429 patients seen in 2018,

134 were children

### Clinical Trials



7 trials undertaken



Dr David Gunn has joined the QEI Clinic as an Ophthalmologist specialising in medical and surgical diseases of the cornea, complex cataract surgery and laser and refractive eye surgery. Dr Gunn

is active in eye disease research and publishes in national and international medical journals. He is involved in training medical staff and is an honorary faculty member of The University of Queensland.

QEI's Honorary Clinical Scientist and former CEO, Professor Lawrence Hirst was awarded an AM in the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours for his "significant service to medicine in the field of ophthalmology through the development of clinical care techniques and eye disease management."



Queensland Eye Institute

Published by Samantha Kennerley [9] · July 18, 2018 ·

Like Page

If you have an appointment or are planning a visit to the QEI Clinic, here's a video to help you find us at 140 Melbourne Street in South Brisbane, and also what to expect during your visit. We look forward to seeing you!

#savesight #preventblindness #qei #qeif



YOUTUBE.COM

Welcome to the QEI Clinic



# Impact & Outcomes

## Research

### Professor Traian Chirila Chief Scientist

Research activities in our laboratories have continued within QEIF's major research programs.

Work on tissue-engineered cell-biomaterial constructs based on proteins isolated from silk, developed at QEIF for cellular therapies aimed at treating ocular surface disorders, at regenerating corneal endothelium, and as substrates for retinal cell transplantation, has continued through the year. Dr Suzuki and Professor Chirila have produced membranes from the silk cocoons using a new method that avoided the thermal degradation of the silk proteins, and the results have been published during the year.

Professor Harkin and Dr Young have focused on research related to the regeneration of the corneal endothelium, with partial support from a grant awarded by the National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC) of Australia.

A large collaborative project involving QEI, LEI Perth, and CERA Melbourne, supported by an NHMRC grant and coordinated by Professor Harkin, has been finalised. In this project, the physical properties of silk fibroin membranes were optimized by a combined approach of using macromolecular porogens and crosslinking enzymatically the fibroin substrate. Superior handling properties of the new membranes have been demonstrated when implanted into animal retina, in experiments carried out at LEI. At QEIF, we have demonstrated these membranes also retained the ability to support the development of functional RPE cells derived from induced pluripotent stem cells. The results have been submitted for publication.

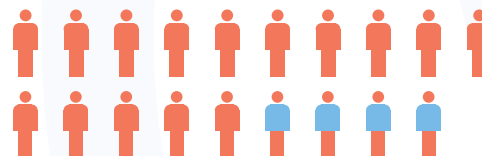
Drs Suzuki and Smith, together with Professor Chirila, have continued their work

on promoting the UV-induced crosslinking of collagen as a general procedure to treat conditions caused by laxity of tissues. In this context, the development of a new treatment of floppy eyelid syndrome has progressed with the experimental establishment of the safe range of irradiation, and the results were submitted for publication. A patent application has been also filed for protection in Australia and USA.

During the year, Assoc. Professor Barnett left to take up a position at Bond University. Research has been continued by Cassie Rayner initiated by him whilst at QEI on the processes leading to disease of the retina and the optic nerve, and the development of an antioxidative strategy against retinal degeneration.

Two grant applications have been submitted to NHMRC, one to Retina Australia, and one for the Genentech AMD Research Fellowship. Dr Shadforth was successful in obtaining a grant from IHBI and the Bette Forgan-Smith Postdoctoral Fellowship to continue her work on the pathomechanism and treatment of AMD. The researchers published 13 articles or book chapters in scientific publications, and attended a number of national and international conferences.

Collaborative research on various projects continued with other organizations including: the University of Würzburg, Germany; the University of Marseille, France; Aston University, Birmingham, UK; Gunze Co., Kyoto, Japan; National Agriculture & Food Research Organization (NARO), Tsukuba, Japan; Queensland University of Technology, the University of Queensland, and the University of Western Australia.



**19** researchers in total, **4** students



**12** current research projects in 2018



**13** publications in 2018



**8** presentations in 2018



L-R Dr George Forgan-Smith, Dr Audra Shadforth, Dr Ross Forgan-Smith and Professor Mark Radford

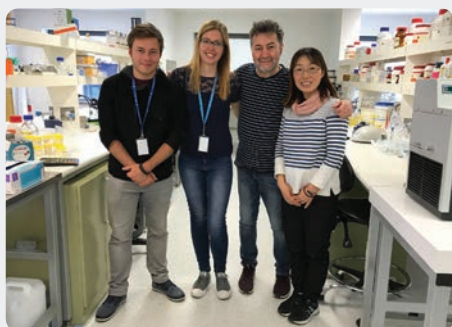


## Research



In partnership with the Queensland University of Technology, QEI are developing a therapeutic contact lense that acts as a bandage for eye surface injuries which could fast track the healing of previously difficult to treat corneal wounds.

QEI's Senior Scientist Professor Damien Harkin (above) is leading the project.



Mateo Folini and Laura Krajewski (above with QEIF's Chief Scientist, Professor Traian Chirila and Senior Research officer, Dr Shuko Suzuki) from Polytech Marseille, France completed their internships at QEI in 2018. Mateo studied the development of a silk sericin based adhesive for ocular surgery and Laura investigated the antioxidative effect of silk sericin.

## 2018 Publications

- (1) Bobba S., Di Girolamo N., Munsie M., Chen F., Pebay A., Harkin D., Hewitt A.W., O'Connor M., McLenachan S., Shadforth A.M.A. and Watson S.L.: The current state of stem cell therapy for ocular disease. *Exp. Eye Res.*, 177: 65-75 (2018).
- (2) Galloway C.A., Dalvi S., Shadforth A.M.A., Suzuki S., Wilson M., Kuai D., Hashim A., MacDonald L.A., Gamm D.M., Harkin D.G. and Singh R.: Characterization of human ipsc-rpe on a prosthetic bruch's membrane manufactured from silk fibroin. *Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science*, 59: 2792-2800 (2018).
- (3) Harkin D.G., Dunphy S.E., Shadforth A.M.A., Dawson R.A., Walshe J. and Zakaria N.: Mounting of biomaterials for use in ophthalmic cell therapies. *Cell Transplant.*, (2018).
- (4) Hirst L.W. and Battistuta D.: Eight-year trends in the australian surgical approach to pterygium removal. *Clin Exp Ophthalmol*, (2018).
- (5) Khaled Al Abdulsalam N., Barnett N.L., Harkin D.G. and Walshe J.: Cultivation of corneal endothelial cells from sheep. *Exp. Eye Res.*, 173: 24-31 (2018).
- (6) Li S., Jiang J., Yang Y., Wu G., Li S., Thomas R. and Wang N.: Pupil size associated with the largest iris volume in normal chinese eyes. *Journal of Ophthalmology*, (2018).
- (7) Pearce F.C., Thomas R., Thomas M.D., Wong N.J.Y. and Walland M.J.: Iridotomy: Is that enough? Progression after laser peripheral iridotomy in caucasian primary angle closure suspects. *Clin. Experiment. Ophthalmol.*, (2018).
- (8) Smith T.M., Suzuki S., Cronin B.G., Haghighatpanah M., Petcu E.B., C.J. P. and Chirila T.V.: Photochemically induced crosslinking of tarsal collagen as a treatment for eyelid laxity: Assessing potentiality in animal tissue. *Ophthalm. Plast. Reconstr. Surg.*, (2018). 21
- (9) Thomas R., Mengersen K., Thomas A. and Walland M.: Visual symptoms following iridotomy. *Clin. Experiment. Ophthalmol.*, (2018).
- (10) Walshe J., Richardson N.A., Al Abdulsalam N.K., Stephenson S.A. and Harkin D.G.: A potential role for eph receptor signalling during migration of corneal endothelial cells. *Exp. Eye Res.*, 170: 92-100 (2018).
- (11) Xie X., Chen W., Li Z., Thomas R., Li Y., Xian J., Yang D., Wang H., Zhang S., Kang Z., Wang N., Beijing I. and Intracranial Study G.: Noninvasive evaluation of cerebrospinal fluid pressure in ocular hypertension: A preliminary study. *Acta Ophthalmol*, (2018).
- (12) Yang C.H., Albiets J., Harkin D.G., Kimlin M.G. and Schmid K.L.: Impact of oral vitamin d supplementation on the ocular surface in people with dry eye and/or low serum vitamin d. *Contact lens & anterior eye : the journal of the British Contact Lens Association*, 41: 69-76 (2018).
- (13) Zhang Q., Jan C., Guo C.Y., Wang,F.H., Liang Y.B., Cao K., Zhang Z.H., Yang D.Y., Thomas R., Wang N.L. and Group P.f.t.H.E.S.: Association of intraocular pressure-related factors and retinal vessel diameter with optic disc rim area in subjects with and without primary open angle glaucoma. *Clin. Experiment. Ophthalmol.*, 46: 389-399 (2018).

# Impact & Outcomes



## Education

### Dr Brendan Cronin Cornea and anterior segment

Optometry nights continue to be extremely successful events for the Queensland Eye Institute. Once again, these have been over-subscribed in 2018 and to accommodate all attendees we now undertake each event twice.

The Registrars have rediscovered the significant benefits of Wet Labs for surgical experience and we have had a significant increase in Wet Labs for 2018. We plan on performing even more of these in 2019.

Our Optometry students continue to find rotations at QEI extremely beneficial with a large increase in the number of Optometry students. Many students now rotate around multiple Doctors so not only have we had a significant increase in the number of students but also the number of sessions they attend.

Medical students continue to rotate through Queensland Eye Institute for their ophthalmology term through the Wesley Hospital Clinical School. This remains a very popular rotation with the medical students.



L-R Dr Abhishek Sharma, Dr Anthony Kwan, Dr Brendan Cronin and Dr Elias Kehdi

220  
attendees

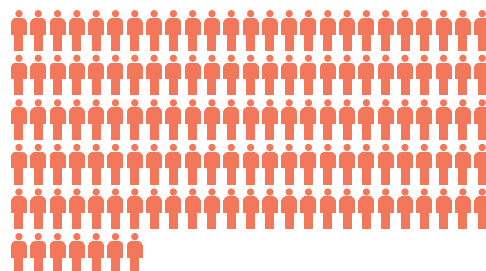
### GRAND ROUNDS

346  
attendees

### OPTOMETRY NIGHTS

92  
attendees

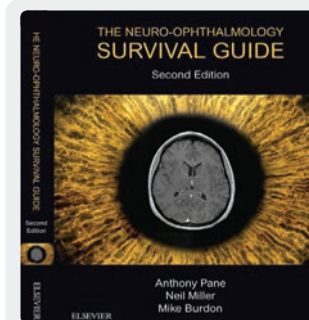
### WETLABS



132 Optometry Students



14 Ophthalmology Medical Students



The Neuro-Ophthalmology Survival Guide, a practical, symptom-based, 'how-to' guide for ophthalmologists and optometrists written by QEI's Neuro-Ophthalmologist Dr Anthony Pane, Professor Neil R Miller and Mike Burdon was shortlisted for Medical Book of the Year at the British Medical Association's Medical Book Awards in 2018.



As part of QEI Clinic's Specialist and Clinical Epidemiologist, Professor Ravi Thomas' commitment to education, he visits India on an annual basis. Lecturing on glaucoma and providing hands-on teaching and clinical skills, he also teaches the principles and practice of evidence based ophthalmology. The Vision Glaucoma program was started while Professor Thomas worked in India, and with ongoing support from Allergan and Zeiss has continued since he moved to the QEI Clinic. The program focuses on smaller hospitals and cities and provides upskilling for Ophthalmologists working there.

"Teaching in India is a way for me to give back to my country and where I received my education," says Professor Thomas. The 2018 program took place at hospitals in New Delhi, Lucknow, Patna, Kochi, Thrissur, culminating with a conference in Bangalore.



# Impact & Outcomes



## Donations



In August over 300 people attended an exclusive pre-screening of the international box office hit, Crazy Rich Asians raising over \$11,000 for research. Actor, Chris Pang who played Colin Khoo in the movie, joined guests who had the opportunity to win raffle prizes including Singapore Airlines tickets and accommodation at Singapore's Fullerton Hotel.



For the QEIF Tax Appeal we highlighted the story of Michelle, who has been a patient of the QEI Clinic for almost 30 years. Michelle (above with her parents), was only six-weeks old when she lost sight in one eye due to a cataract and then when she was nine Michelle was diagnosed with glaucoma in her other eye.



QEIF Ambassador Phoebe Young shared her follow up story for the Christmas Appeal. In 2001 while studying in her first year at university, Phoebe was hospitalised with a severe allergic reaction causing her eyes, skin and lungs to blister and burn, and her extremities to perish. Her eyes' stem cells (which repair and regenerate the surface of the cornea) have been destroyed affecting her sight. Unfortunately last year Phoebe's left eye became completely blind from glaucoma and there is a real risk her right eye will suffer the same fate.



World Sight Day was celebrated with an eye-themed Morning Tea with some amazing creations from the QEIF team.



QEIF joined up with Play for Purpose, a sports and charity raffle which has \$500,00 worth of prizes in each draw. \$5 from each \$10 ticket sold goes directly to QEIF to support our sight saving work.

Tax Appeal 2018, **242%** ROI achieved

Christmas Appeal 2018, **177%** ROI achieved



# Impact & Outcomes

## Digital Marketing

**32,656** website sessions -  
an increase of **17%** on 2017

Online donations  
increase of **71%**

Instagram  
increase of **383%**

Facebook  
increase of **42%**

**Queensland Eye Institute**  
Published by Dorottya Géczi [?] · May 3, 2018 ·

Did you know that the silk thread produced by domesticated silkworms is a key material for tissue engineering? Researchers at QEI have been investigating silk protein as a potential biomaterial for the cultivation of ocular cells, including retinal cells. This could mean protection to cells affected in diseases such as age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Our Senior Research Officer, Dr Shuko Suzuki presented the findings of our recent study at the Australasian Society for Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering Conference.

#savesight #preventblindness #qei #queenslandeyeinstitute #qei foundation #vision #eyehealth #eyesight #research #silkprotein #biomaterials #tissueengineering #science #donate #notforprofit



565 People Reached 89 Engagements

Racheli Angeles Hansen, Justin Hannan and 19 others

---

**Queensland Eye Institute**  
Published by Dorottya Géczi [?] · April 27, 2018 ·

QEI's clinical trial on treating Amblyopia has made it to Channel 9's News. The aim of the study is to explore how a new device, developed by Dr Stuart Hazell and his colleagues at Amblyoptica, can help the treatment of Amblyopia, also known as "Lazy Eye".

#savesight #preventblindness #research #amblyopia #qei #qelf #qei foundation #notforprofit #eyehealth #vision #science



**A New Device May Improve Lazy Eye**  
01:31

682 People Reached 175 Engagements

**Queensland Eye Institute**  
University of Würzburg visit.  
Published by Dorottya Géczi [?] · July 6, 2018 ·

QEI's CEO, Professor Mark Radford and Chief Scientist, Professor Traian Chirila recently visited Würzburg, Germany to meet with Professor Paul Dalton, QEI's Honorary Senior Scientist and Professor in Biofabrication at the University of Würzburg and Deanna Nicdao who is enrolled in the international Biofabrication Master's programme and was a student at QEI during the first two semesters of her studies. The world first international Master's programme comprises four semesters and is jointly offered by four universities from Germany, Australia and the Netherlands.



**Queensland Eye Institute**  
Published by Samantha Kennerley [?] · April 20, 2018 ·


A few years ago, QEI's Dr Anthony Kwan and Professor Patricio Schlottmann trained together at Moorfields Eye Hospital in England. Just last week, they reconnected as Prof Schlottmann presented at the 2018 Medical Retina Speaker Tour. At the event, Prof Schlottmann presented research on the management of neovascular AMD (nAMD). For the non-doctors among us, this means more research that can help people suffering from age-related macular degeneration, which is considered one of the main causes of severe vision loss.



**Queensland Eye Institute**  
Published by Justin Hannan [?] · March 27, 2018 ·

The team at QEI showed their support of World Glaucoma Week by hosting a morning tea, where all of the staff wore badges and provided brochures to the patients; recognising the need to help educate everyone on the severity of Glaucoma. The QEI Clinic also had a visit from the National Glaucoma and Dry Eye Senior Marketing Manager, Mary-Ann Tapscott who spent time in the clinic with Professor Ravi Thomas.

#savesight #preventblindness #qei




216 People Reached 37 Engagements

---

**Queensland Eye Institute**  
Published by Dorottya Géczi [?] · May 16, 2018 ·

QEI's researchers have developed a new treatment for floppy eyelid syndrome (FES), a common eye condition when the eyelid of one or both eyes loses elasticity and becomes rubbery, lax and it is easily everted or turned upward. If left untreated, FES can lead to vision loss. Read more about QEI's world first research on insightnews.com.au.

#savesight #preventblindness #qei #qelf #research



**New eyelid treatment pioneered by Aussie researchers - Insight News: insight News and Trends**

212 People Reached 33 Engagements

# Sustainable Funding



**SOUTH BANK  
DAY HOSPITAL**

A MEMBER OF SOUTH BANK MEDICAL GROUP

## South Bank Day Hospital

The South Bank Day Hospital (operated by South Bank Medical Group) provides a unique partnership with the QEI Clinic enabling patients to have their clinical diagnosis, procedure, treatment and care all under one roof at 140 Melbourne Street, South Brisbane.

2018 saw a 20% uplift in revenue with over 5000 patients seen for ophthalmic, dermatology, dental, plastics or intravitreal injection procedures.

All profits generated by the hospital are invested back into the work of the QEI Foundation

### Revenue

**\$8,419,115** 2018

**\$7,006,999** 2017

### Patient Numbers

2018

**5087** 12% increase on 2017

2017

**4542** 27% increase on 2016

2016

**3584**



**LADY BJELKE-PETERSEN  
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL**

A MEMBER OF SOUTH BANK MEDICAL GROUP

## Lady Bjelke-Petersen Community Hospital

The Kingaroy-based Lady Bjelke-Petersen Community Hospital is also operated by South Bank Medical Group and provides vital services in the South Burnett region of Queensland.

2018 saw a 53% increase in revenue with 1175 patients across ophthalmic, general surgery, orthopaedic, gynaecology, dental and its Palliative Care Unit.

### Revenue

**\$1,737,445** 2018

**\$1,136,135** 2017

### Patient Numbers

2018

**1175** 22% increase on 2017

2017

**963**

# Our Team

## Board of Directors

**Mark Sheridan**  
CHAIRMAN

**Professor Mark Radford**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO

**Professor Jeff Dunn**  
DIRECTOR

**Jemma Elder**  
DIRECTOR

**John Lowes**  
DIRECTOR- appointed April 2018

**Anthony Rafter**  
DIRECTOR- resigned February 2018

**Kelly Langdon**  
COMPANY SECRETARY

## Clinical Faculty

**Dr Mark Chiang**  
GLAUCOMA, CATARACT AND DISEASES OF THE RETINA

**Dr Brendan Cronin**  
CORNEA AND ANTERIOR SEGMENT

**Dr David Gunn**  
CORNEA, CATARACT & REFRACTIVE SURGERY

**Dr Elias Kehdi**  
PAEDIATRICS

**Associate Professor Anthony Kwan**  
RETINAL DISEASES

**Dr Anthony Pane**  
NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY

**Dr Abhishek Sharma**  
MEDICAL AND SURGICAL RETINAL DISEASES

**Dr Tai Smith**  
OCULOPLASTIC, LACRIMAL AND ORBIT SURGERY

**Professor Ravi Thomas**  
GLAUCOMA AND CLINICAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

## Research Faculty

**Professor Traian Chirila**  
SENIOR SCIENTIST

**Associate Professor Nigel Barnett**  
SENIOR SCIENTIST

**Professor Damien Harkin**  
VISITING SENIOR SCIENTIST

**Professor Lawrence Hirst**  
RESEARCH SCIENTIST

**Dr Shuko Suzuki**  
RESEARCH OFFICER

**Dr Jinchun (Fiona) Li**  
RESEARCH OFFICER

**Dr Audra Shadforth**  
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

**Dr Jennifer Young**  
RESEARCH OFFICER

## Honorary Research Faculty

**Professor Murray Baker**  
UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**Associate Professor Idriss Blakey**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

**Professor Paul Dalton**  
UNIVERSITY OF WURZBURG, GERMANY

**Dr Tim Dargaville**  
QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

**Dr Katie Edwards**  
QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

**Dr Beatrix Feigl**  
INSTITUTE OF HEALTH & BIOMEDICAL INNOVATION (IHBI)

**Professor Eugen B Petcu**  
GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

**Associate Professor Katrina Schmid**  
QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

**Professor Andrew Whittaker**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

## Management Team

**Kelly Langdon**  
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

**Anna Blake**  
CLINICAL SERVICES MANAGER

**Jane Dodds**  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER

**Rachell Hansen**  
PARTNERSHIPS MANAGER

**Dorottya Geczi**  
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS EXECUTIVE

**Carmel Johnston**  
EA TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO



# Financial Snapshot

Extracted from the Audited Financial Statement for January 1 to December 31, 2018

## Balance Sheet Comparatives

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2018 \$</b>	<b>2017 \$</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	3,972,613	4,394,966
Trade and other receivables	2,108,822	2,048,021
Other assets	3,205,728	75,584
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>9,287,163</b>	<b>6,518,571</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Trade and other receivables	546,241	1,446,721
Investments in subsidiaries	37	37
Financial assets	-	924,881
Property, plant and equipment	7,846,092	8,756,684
Intangible assets	52,056	36,746
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>8,444,426</b>	<b>11,165,069</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>17,731,589</b>	<b>17,683,640</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Trade and other payables	5,404,305	5,399,863
Employee benefits	677,163	610,872
Other financial liabilities	108,521	123,049
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>6,189,989</b>	<b>6,133,784</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>11,541,600</b>	<b>11,549,856</b>

## Income Statement Comparatives

<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>2018 \$</b>	<b>2017 \$</b>
Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation	1,680,000	1,930,000
Bequests and other donations	3,152,666	981,890
Clinical cost recoveries	2,502,422	2,296,631
ArvoAsia17 income	-	687,237
Other income	691,834	436,577
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>8,026,922</b>	<b>6,332,335</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Employee benefits expense	3,856,722	3,746,987
Depreciation and amortisation expense	999,043	1,033,818
Research costs	47,337	174,433
Occupancy costs	1,687,600	1,891,604
Administrative expenses	88,742	80,483
Fundraising expenses	139,010	198,099
Clinical costs	227,692	229,520
ArvoAsia17 expenses	-	431,298
Other general expenses	959,145	322,188
Finance costs	29,887	22,281
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>8,035,178</b>	<b>8,130,711</b>
<b>NET COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(LOSS)</b>	<b>(8,256)</b>	<b>(1,798,376)</b>

# Our History

**1965**

The Australian Foundation for the Prevention of Blindness (Queensland Division) incorporated with Dr John Ohlrich as the driving force.

**1986**

UQ Chair of Ophthalmology established at the Princess Alexandra Hospital with the generous support of Charles Viertel OBE, Optical Prescription Spectacle Makers, and the Royal Australian College of Ophthalmologists, Lions International and Perpetual Trustees. Lawrence Hirst appointed Chairman and Executive Director.

**1991**

Australian Foundation for the Prevention of Blindness name changed to Prevent Blindness Foundation (PBF).

**2005**

QEI officially opened at the Mater Hospital with Professor Lawrence Hirst as its first CEO. The realisation of a dream shared by many people.

**2010**

Professor Lawrence Hirst relinquished his role as CEO to concentrate on his clinical work. Dr Mark Radford appointed as CEO of PBF and QEI.

**2013**

Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation awarded PBF a special grant to redevelop 140 Melbourne Street, South Brisbane to be PBF's future home and establish South Bank Day Hospital. PBF name changes to Queensland Eye Institute Foundation (QEIF).

**2014**

QEI Clinic opens in South Brisbane and QEIF acquires Dr Denis Stark's Visual Electro-Diagnostic and Imaging Centre.

**2015**

QEIF celebrates its 50th Anniversary whilst QEI celebrates its 10th anniversary.

**TODAY**

Today QEIF is Queensland's largest independent academic research institute devoted to eye related health and diseases working every day to save sight and prevent blindness. Our state of the art facilities in South Brisbane, include the QEI Clinic, South Bank Day Hospital, Queensland Electro-Diagnostic and Imaging Centre, medical research and microsurgical teaching laboratories, medical library, auditorium and the home of QEIF. All of this is the result of the efforts of many people who had the strategic vision and drive to succeed, but, in particular, the support of the Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation has been crucial.

# Thank you from the team at the QEI Foundation.

The work of the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation is due to the support of so many people: our generous donors, supporters, partners, volunteers, our staff and our Board.

As always we are grateful for the moral and financial support of the Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation, and especially its Board of Trustees and its former Chairman, George Curphey and current Chair Justice Debra Mullins.

Our purpose to SAVE SIGHT would not be possible without the unstinting support of our donors and we would like to sincerely extend our thanks to each of you. And to the many other individuals and organisations that provide assistance in numerous different ways, thank you again for your support in 2018.

T 07 3239 5050

W [www.qei.org.au](http://www.qei.org.au)

A 140 Melbourne Street  
South Brisbane QLD 4101

