

# THE Daffodil

STORIES OF YOUR SUPPORT

## Our community means everything.

With another successful Daffodil Day behind us I'd like to take a moment to reflect on all that we have been able to achieve over the past few months.

Your gifts and ongoing generosity have enabled us to invest in research that gets us closer to a cancer free future, provide consistent high-quality support and prevention programs that empower people to cut their cancer risk, and provide a home away from home for the many South Australians who are forced to travel to Adelaide for treatment.

I feel incredibly honoured to be leading this organisation, and our team of experts, as we work every day to be here for all South Australians, whenever they need us.

I couldn't be prouder to share the work that we've been able to achieve with you, our donor community.

Your generosity and selfless commitment to Cancer Council SA makes a real difference to all South Australians and their families impacted by cancer.

I hope you enjoy this collection of stories, knowing that your valuable contributions are what enables us here at Cancer Council SA to make a real difference to the lives of South Australians who need it most.



Kerry Rowlands  
Chief Executive  
Cancer Council SA



Scott and his Mum Dee.

## Your Appeal gifts deliver a big impact!

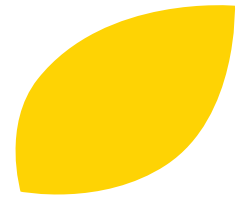
Your generous tax-time donations raised a phenomenal **\$208,080**—more than double our fundraising target!

We are so very grateful for each and every one of you who have made this possible. Thanks to you, regional South Australians like Scott will be able to access our 'home away from home' at 202 Greenhill Road whenever they need to travel to Adelaide for life-saving cancer treatment.

*"Country people like me appreciate your support. . . it's hard to be away from home but Cancer Council SA's supportive accommodation services make such a difference when it's needed most." — Scott, regional South Australian and cancer survivor.*

It was incredibly humbling to see so many fellow South Australians come together and contribute to our Tax Appeal by giving what they could to ensure all South Australians—including those in regional areas—will have the assistance they need across every stage of their cancer experience.

# The 'home away from home' you've made possible.



You might remember reading about Cancer Council SA Ambassador Will McDonald's cancer story that he shared in our February Newsletter. Will was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2020 and through sharing his story, encouraged you - his fellow South Australians - to join him in supporting Cancer Council SA's new integrated 'home away from home'. It was his goal to ensure every regional South Australian had a place to call home during their cancer treatment here in Adelaide.



Will McDonald, Channel 9 Newsreader and Cancer Council SA Ambassador

Will was thrilled to learn that his appeal to you helped raise over **\$77,500!** These gifts have helped significantly in supporting the new building.

*"Thank you for helping make this wonderful vision a reality. This will be a place for every South Australian diagnosed with cancer to call home. I'll never be able to thank Cancer Council SA enough for the way they have supported me, and donors like you who make that possible."* – Will McDonald, 44.



202 Greenhill Road



Kym Callaghan from Port Lincoln stayed at Greenhill Lodge for a month in May 2021 while undergoing prostate cancer treatment.

*"It's not just the shock of the diagnosis, it's also not knowing how long you'll be away from home. When you live 800 kms away, you can't just 'slip home' for the weekend. Greenhill Lodge has everything—you can cook in the kitchen, get takeaway, get the bus to treatment. Without it I'd have been lost."* – Kym, Lodge guest.



An artist's impression of one of the new room types.



**Give every South Australian every chance.**

# You're at the forefront of future cancer treatments.

Your visionary investments into Cancer Council's Beat Cancer Project help drive the progress of South Australian researchers like Dr Madelé van Dyk from the Flinders Health and Medical Research Institute. Dr van Dyk's Australian-first research project is moving away from 'one-size fits-all' cancer treatments, instead focussing on a more personalised approach that considers every person's individual characteristics.

*"Every person is different in so many ways, so it makes sense that each person reacts differently when undergoing cancer treatment. Selecting the right drug and selecting the right amount of drug is the ultimate goal in Precision Medicine. We're selecting the right type of drug really well, but are only half-way there, because we're still using a 'one-size-fits-all' dose. I believe we can do better."*

**Thanks to funding from the Cancer Council Beat Cancer Project—made possible because of your generous donations—Dr van Dyk reports back that this has enabled her to lead a national project that is having a global impact.**



Dr Madelé van Dyk, Cancer Council's Beat Cancer Project researcher.

Dr van Dyk and her team are now working with other states to help them set up their own therapeutic drug monitoring program, with South Australia being used as a national example of how the program can work successfully. This has also led to international collaborations with the Netherlands and Germany with really exciting potential, which Dr van Dyk credits is only possible because of the funding she's received from Cancer Council SA.

Thanks to the investment of people like you, a total of **24 South Australian researchers** have received funding from Cancer Council SA in 2022.



# Your gifts give more than hope each Daffodil Day.

Every day, with your help, we are working on our hope for a cancer free future, and now, thanks to your kind donations to our Daffodil Day Appeal in August we are even closer to making this future a reality.

Daffodil Day, held annually in August, is Cancer Council's most iconic and much-loved fundraising event centred around our beloved Daffodil, an international symbol of hope—hope for better treatments, new research and of course, hope for a cancer free future.

Thanks to your donations, **\$57,715** was raised through our Daffodil Day Appeal that hit letterboxes in August.

Your incredible donations made via our Daffodil Day Appeal help keep cancer research moving forward, allowing us to continue funding life-saving research into all cancers.



Kellie and her daughter.

People like Kellie who have heard the words 'you have cancer' know just how important research is. She knows it is key to saving more lives and more families like hers, and that it is only possible because of people like you.

*"The only way to protect other families from the heartbreak and loss that we've been through is investing in cancer research today... research is vital to lifting the awful burden of cancer from families like mine"* - Kellie

**Thank you, once again, for giving South Australians the best chance of surviving cancer.**

# Three years of cancer research funding, thanks to you.

Over the past three years, with the help of grants you have so generously funded, Cancer Council Beat Cancer Project researcher Dr Tessa Gargett has explored new and highly effective ways to treat cancer.

Between 2019–2021, **\$240,000** was invested into Dr Gargett's work investigating how the body's immune system can be enhanced to attack and kill cancer cells more effectively.

*"With this funding we have been able to complete a world-first phase 1 clinical trial at the Royal Adelaide Hospital testing the safety of a new cell-based therapy (known as CAR-T cells) in patients with melanoma, sarcoma and other cancers.*

*"This would not have been possible without the generous funding from Cancer Council SA and I am extremely grateful for their support of my work." – Dr Gargett*

**Thank you for making progress in cancer research like this possible through your visionary support. Your commitment is helping to make a better future for people impacted by cancer.**



Dr Tessa Gargett, Cancer Council Beat Cancer Project researcher.

Thanks to people like you, Dr Gargett has been able to achieve:

- Further investigation into why immunotherapy is successful in treating some tumours and not others.
- Testing new kinds of immunotherapy, working across all cancers.
- Extending her immunotherapy research to include melanoma, brain and solid tumours.
- Running a clinical trial at the Royal Adelaide Hospital which tested a personalised cell therapy in patients with melanoma which was later extended to two new cell therapy clinical trials in patients with brain cancer.



## A cancer free future will be my legacy.

*"I have been unfortunate enough to have watched breast cancer impact three generations in my bloodline—my great grandmother, my grandmother and my dear mum.*

*And then my best friend Janice was diagnosed with cancer.*

*Janice was like my sister. The first time I was alone after she told me the news, I cried for what felt like hours. We went through it together. I sat with her through every chemo session and I shaved my head so she didn't have to do it alone. But there were some questions I couldn't answer, so we both reached out to 13 11 20 for help. It blew my mind to see how supportive they were, and it cemented*

*my appreciation of the role Cancer Council plays for so many people.*

*After my experience receiving assistance from Cancer Council SA, I decided to leave them a Gift in my Will to help them continue their work.*

*It's a comfort to know that whether it's for me in the future, my loved ones or perfect strangers—they're doing it for all South Australians. It gives you a warm feeling in your heart." – Margaret, Cancer Council SA supporter*

**If you would like to leave a gift in your Will like Margaret, please get in touch with Emily O'Brien on 8291 4111 or [bequests@cancersa.org.au](mailto:bequests@cancersa.org.au).**

# You're ensuring no one has to go through cancer alone.

A cancer diagnosis can be distressing, not only for the person diagnosed but for family, friends and loved ones too. At Cancer Council SA, we understand and are committed to ensuring that no one has to go through cancer alone. Thanks to your generosity our information and support phone service—Cancer Council 13 11 20—is here to help. Trained nurses like Amanda provide emotional and practical assistance to those who need it across all stages of cancer, including diagnosis, treatment, and adjusting to life after cancer.

Amanda is just one of our 10 experienced nurses who, between them, answer **more than 5,000 calls a year** from people impacted by cancer.

*"To be diagnosed with cancer can be overwhelming. It can be hard to know where to start.*

*We can provide a listening ear, offer emotional support, help answer questions, guide people to relevant and trustworthy information, and also link callers with a range of other services including accommodation, counselling, financial assistance, legal services and support groups.*

*Often when people impacted by cancer call us, they don't know what assistance they need. They just know that we are here, and we are a good starting point. We'll just have a chat about what's happening in their life and from these conversations we can understand what they need, if we can offer it to them or if we can refer them to another service that can help." – Amanda, Cancer Council 13 11 20 Nurse*



Amanda, Cancer Council 13 11 20 Nurse.

**Cancer Council SA relies on people like you to provide our services. We sincerely thank you for ensuring support is just a phone call away and that nurses like Amanda can be here to ease the fear and loneliness caused by a cancer diagnosis.**

**If you or someone you know has been impacted by cancer, we are here for you. You can contact Cancer Council 13 11 20 or visit our website by clicking here or via the QR code.**



In the past year more than

# 5,000

connections were made with Cancer Council 13 11 20 for information and support



In 2021, more than

# 117,500

resources were distributed to the community about cancer, treatment and assistance programs



Did you know?

# 59

per cent of all calls made to our Cancer Council 13 11 20 team related to psychological/emotional support and assistance with practical issues such as paying bills



# My reason to Relay.

“My name is John and I’ve been participating in Relay For Life for the past 15 years. It’s my favourite time of year!

I joined Relay For Life in 2007 and haven’t looked back. I only own two shirts—one is my purple Relay participant shirt and the other is my yellow Relay committee shirt—and I wear them proudly every chance I get.

My mum had been living with bowel cancer for five years, when in 2006 she started pestering me a lot to have a test done.

My test was not clear... I was diagnosed with bowel cancer and went on to complete 12 courses of chemotherapy over six months.

On the morning of my eleventh treatment, Mum passed away. By pestering me constantly, she had saved my life. I had no symptoms, and if I hadn’t had a test done, I might not be here today.

Raising money to support an organisation like Cancer Council SA is very close to my heart, because I’ve seen the benefit of cancer research and support firsthand.

I’m so grateful to be walking alongside other passionate people like you, who are also helping to get us closer to a cancer free future, one step at a time.” –John Clements, Adelaide Hills Relay For Life participant.



John Clements, Relay For Life participant



John, and his wife Louise.



(L to R) Michael Grayling, Steve Bell and John Clements (All Relay For Life Global Hero of Hope representatives).

If you are interested in learning more about Relay For Life you can contact Cancer Council SA on 8291 4111 or visit our website by clicking here or via the QR code.



**Celebrate.  
Remember.  
Fight Back.**