## **Newsletter** Volume 18 – May 2017

www.stgeorgescancerinstitute.co.nz

### **Greetings**

Our new radiation treatment facility was opened by the former Prime Minister, John Key on Friday 4 November 2016. His relaxed and friendly manner made the opening a special occasion.





Radiation treatment is no longer carried out in our post earthquake compromised bunkers but in a lovely purpose built single storey building.

We are very proud of the new facility with its greater patient comfort and confidence in being above ground.



We extend our sincere condolences to the family of one of our benefactors, Charles Shadbolt, who sadly passed away earlier this year. His generous support was greatly appreciated.

Our exercise programmes are proving extremely successful and featured in the New Zealand Woman's Weekly in December 2016.

We are still conducting information evenings in the Cancer Care Centre to various groups. These tours start with refreshments and some delectable nibbles from our Food Services team followed by a tour of the facility with one of our Radiation Oncologists explaining cancer, treatments and a great opportunity to ask questions is provided. Feedback shows people leave with a better understanding and feeling about cancer. If you are a member of a group who would like to visit the Centre please contact me on 021 662 195 or Dawn on 0-3-375 6013 or 027 432 3371.

# Recent Fundraising Activities High tea with Julz







Julz worked for many days creating a wonderful ambience at her place where she held a high tea on Sunday 6 November 2016 with funds going to the Cancer Institute.

Stunning food, decorations and an enthusiastic crowd raised \$2,200 through buying tickets to the event and raffles. We really appreciated your efforts Julz as I know how many hours it took you.



#### **Annual 4WD event**

Again, I extend my thanks to John Belcher for organising another successful 4WD event on Sunday 5 March 2017. The owners of Mt Somers Station generously opened up their property for the enthusiasts to enjoy the terrain and scenery in perfect weather. The event raised \$3,210.

Here's to a mild winter.

Cilla Glasson Chair, Cancer Institute Trustees Limited and Fundraising Committee

### **New Fundraising initiative**

St George Cancer Care has established an Art Committee who are tasked with ensuring there are continuous exhibits of local artists work displayed in the Centre.

When the new bunkers were built to house the linear accelerators, which had to be moved following the earthquakes, a link walkway was needed which has created a wonderful space to display art. We pride ourselves on providing a warm and inviting environment for patients and their families and this will certainly enhance that space.

Artists will apply to the Committee to display their work and a minimum of 20% commission will go to the St George's Cancer Institute. Each exhibit will likely be displayed for around 6-8 weeks. This will allow a large number of patients to view and/or purchase the art. At the end of each exhibit there will be an opportunity for staff from the wider St George's Hospital and site to view and purchase.

Our first artists to exhibit will be:
John Smith,
Photographer
<a href="http://www.photonz.net/">http://www.photonz.net/</a>





Judith Ross, Silk Quilter <a href="http://judithrossquilts.webs.com/">http://judithrossquilts.webs.com/</a>

John and Judith both have a close connection to cancer services in Christchurch in that they have both been radiation

therapy managers at Christchurch Hospital so it seemed very fitting to have them as our first exhibiters. This first exhibition commenced in late April.

Viv Ali Practice Manager, St George's Cancer Care

# Dr Brendon Anderson, Consultant Radiation Oncologist

MBBCh (Witwatersrand 1990), BSc (Canterbury 1999), FRANZCR (Christchurch 2008)

I've been consulting as a Radiation Oncologist at the St George's Cancer Care since late 2015. I also work at Christchurch Hospital as a Radiation Oncologist where I've been since 2008.

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I completed my undergraduate medical training in South Africa and then moved with my wife Elene to Boston MA in the United States for further training before immigrating to New Zealand where I trained as a Radiation Oncologist.

My areas of sub-specialisation include:

- Central Nervous System tumours
- Sarcoma and Connective Tissue tumours
- Lung Cancer and Thoracic Malignancies
- Haematological Malignancies
- **Prostate Cancer**
- Palliative Radiation treatment
- Stereotactic Radiation treatment

I have a particular interest in developing high-dose, highly targeted stereotactic radiation treatment. This treatment is known as SRT/SRS (Stereotactic Radiotherapy/ Radiosurgery) in the brain and SABR (Stereotactic Ablative Body Radiotherapy) or SBRT (Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy) outside the brain. Stereotactic radiation treatment has the potential to treat tumours traditionally thought of as being resistant to conventional radiation treatment. It also has the potential to significantly reduce the number of fractions of radiation treatment needed, saving patients' time and valuable linear accelerator (treatment machine) resource.

I am also interested in integrating new imaging technology, such as PET scanning, into modern radiation oncology practice. I'm a member of the South Island PET Variance Committee.

### Men's Wellness evening – Hokitika

On Tuesday 4 April 2017, St George's Cancer Institute hosted a Men's Wellness Evening at the Hokitika and Westland RSA.



Fifty five invited quests from Hokitika and the surrounding district were in attendance to hear a panel of four medical specialists led by Associate Professor Chris Atkinson

(Radiation Oncologist) discuss a wide range of topics relevant to men's health. Dr lain Melton (Cardiologist) spoke on cardiac issues relevant to men in their later years and described various treatment procedures. Dr Nick Buchan (Urologist) gave a presentation on prostate cancer and erectile dysfunction which was well received and Dr

Chris Wynne (Radiation Oncologist) described his research

programme in the area of chemotherapy in colourful terms.

Associate Professor Chris Atkinson ably chaired the proceedings while at the same time delivering a message of moderation in lifestyle as well as an appropriate exercise regime.

The feedback from

attendees was extremely positive and it is hoped to hold similar evenings in other South Island centres in the near future.

#### St George's Cancer Institute Newsletters

We trust you find the updates on the St George's Cancer Care Centre and the fundraising activities of the St George's Cancer Institute interesting.

As previously advised, in an effort to reduce printing costs and improve distribution, you can receive future newsletters via email.

We may already have your email address in our database, however until you give us permission to send newsletters via email, we are legally unable to do so. We encourage you to

add your name to our email distribution list - please advise details:
EMAIL:
NAME:
Thank you for your interest in the St George's Cancer Care Centre and your support of the St George's Cancer Institute.
If you no longer wish to receive future newsletters, please tick (✓) the box and advise your name.
NAME:
Please complete and return in the enclosed self addressed envelope or email dawn.hinton@stgeorges.org.nz advising you wish to be removed from the database. Thank you.

#### DONATION CARD

To support the St George's Cancer Institute, please fill out the form, including your cheque or credit card details, and post to:

Fundraising Coordinator, St George's Cancer Institute, Private Bag 4737, Christchurch 8140. I will be paying by (tick appropriate) MasterCard Cheque Internet Banking Expiry Date CVV Card no Signature \_ Internet banking to St George's Cancer Institute, Account no 06-0801-0643073-00 \_\_ Mr/Mrs/Miss/other Surname: \_\_ First Name: Address: e-mail:

A receipt quoting the St George's Cancer Institute number CC26864 will be posted to the above address.

Thank you