



Snowdome
Foundation™

Shaping the future of blood cancer research

2023

Annual Review

with 2022–23 Financial Highlights



MISSION

Snowdome's mission is to accelerate next-generation treatments for Australian blood cancer patients to help them live longer, better lives.

VISION

Our vision is to give every Australian blood cancer patient the best opportunity for a cure.

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Our thanks go to:

Davidson Branding who worked tirelessly to bring this review to life once again.

Photographers Chris Budgeon and Lou Lou Memphis, videographers Everyday Balloons and Tim Young who have generously captured our people and events this year.

Without your support we could not have produced this review.

Snowdome honours the Country and Songlines of the traditional custodians of the land on which our office sits, the Wurundjeri peoples of the Kulin Nation. We recognise their spiritual relationship and continuing connection to the land, waters and seas, and celebrate their unique wisdom and commitment to Country. We acknowledge and pay respect to their Elders, past and present.

Message from our Chairman and Chief Executive



It is with an enormous sense of pride that we reflect on the milestones, challenges and triumphs of the past year at the Snowdome Foundation.

The 2023 annual review is both a collection of numbers, statistics and a celebration of the spirit that fuels our progress in making hope real for Australian blood cancer patients. In the face of challenges, our resilience, determination and innovation have sustained us and propelled us to new heights. It is the enduring spirit of collaboration that defines Snowdome.

In 2023, we welcomed new members to both the executive team and the board of directors, further enriching our diverse perspectives and expertise. This infusion of fresh minds promises to invigorate our approach to advancing blood cancer research, ensuring that we stay at the forefront of innovation and collaboration.

Since our inception in 2010, Snowdome has been unwavering in its commitment to driving impactful change in blood cancer research. We have raised an impressive \$60 million including \$18 million in matched funds from our valued partners. This financial support has translated into the funding of 67 groundbreaking research projects, the establishment of 98 research positions and the facilitation of over 250 research publications. Furthermore, our commitment to translational research has enabled in excess of 1,800 patients to actively participate in clinical trials across Australia, amplifying the impact of our contributions on the lives of those affected by blood cancer.

In alignment with our dedication to collaboration, Snowdome has forged meaningful partnerships by investing over \$9 million with world-class Australian researchers in partnership with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (USA) and the Leukaemia Foundation as part of the Translational Research Program. Together, we are pioneering advances that hold the promise of transforming the landscape of blood cancer research on a global scale.

In 2023, we granted over \$3.95 million to research projects, fostering innovation and accelerating the pace of discovery. Our collaboration with the Wilson Centre for Blood Cancer Genomics has facilitated more than 6,200 genomic tests, furthering our understanding of blood cancers and paving the way for personalised treatment approaches.

Moreover, we were thrilled to share that the Epworth Centre for Immunotherapies and Snowdome Laboratories treated its first blood cancer patient in May of 2023, marking an historic moment in our journey. The Centre continues to gain momentum and we eagerly anticipate the imminent treatment of the first patient with Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cell (CAR T-cell) therapy in the coming months.

In November, Snowball 2023 raised an impressive \$650,000. A recognition of the generosity and dedication of our supporters. These vital funds will support the development of immune therapies bringing new life-changing treatments to patients with blood cancer.

Our community continues to grow, with the Australasian Lymphoma Alliance (ALA) experiencing a 17 per cent growth in 2023. ALA now boasts 135 members across Australasia, showcasing their shared vision of advancing blood cancer research and improving patient outcomes across the region.

As we move into a new year, we are eager to continue to shape the future of blood cancer research with the passion, dedication and collaboration that defines the Snowdome Foundation and the unwavering backing of our supporters. Thank you.



John Salvaris
Chairman



Kirstee Macbeth
Chief Executive



“

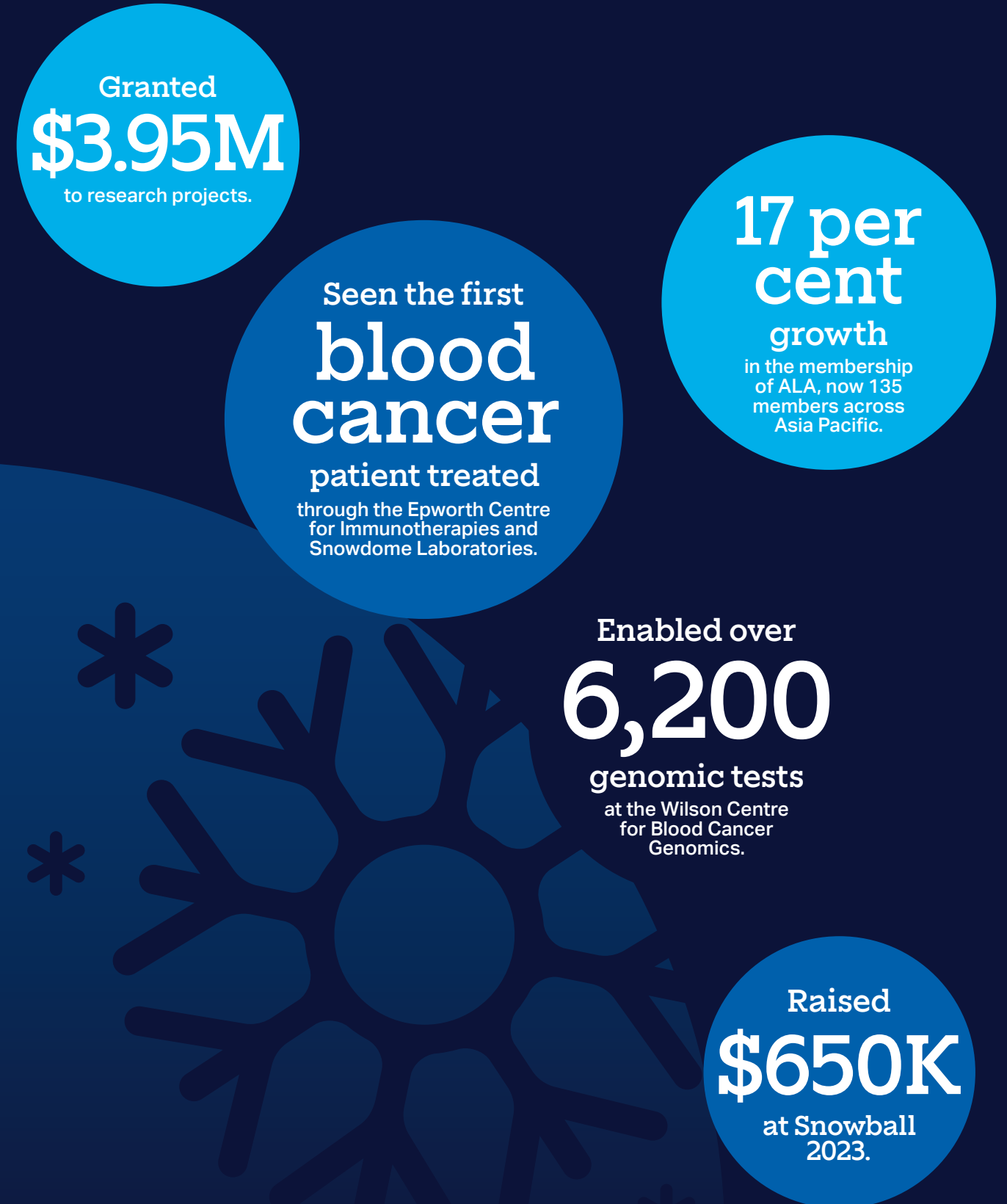
In 2023, we granted over \$3.95 million to research projects, fostering innovation and accelerating the pace of discovery.

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Since 2010, Snowdome has:



In 2023, Snowdome has:





In March 2023, we were delighted to witness the goal of affordable, universally accessed, best-practice healthcare being achieved, remedied by funding through the MBS.

Wilson family



Landmark Achievement in Genomic Testing



As recent as the late 1990s, a diagnosis of blood cancer often carried with it a grim prognosis. Treatment options were limited to the pillars of surgery, radiotherapy and/or chemotherapy.

These conventional methods were invasive, often debilitating and perhaps most significantly, they lacked precision. The turning point arrived with the understanding that the unique genetic profile of a patient could pave the way for more precise and effective treatments. This insight opened new avenues for therapies that could target cancer cells with better accuracy.

However, there was a catch. These cutting-edge treatments were often prohibitively expensive and largely inaccessible to the patients who needed them the most.

In 2017, fuelled by a vision to bridge this gap in healthcare, the Wilson family set out to make a lifechanging difference to patients with a blood cancer diagnosis. Their mission was to make genomic testing the standard-of-care, accessible to everyone through the Wilson Centre for Blood Cancer Genomics (the Centre).

Today, over 6,200 genomic tests have been subsidised by the Centre since its establishment, resulting in patients receiving more precise diagnosis. Of these, at least 30 per cent have benefited from clinically significant interventions that have improved their treatment options, allowing them to avoid unnecessary procedures and receive the precise care they need to lead a healthier and longer life. Furthermore, the Centre has released more than 113 research publications, awarded 7 fellowships, and was involved in 118 research presentations.

These achievements, alongside the incredible work of the team at the Centre, led to the announcement by the Australian government that new Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) subsidies for genomic testing would be made available for Australian blood cancer patients. The impact of these changes cannot be overstated. With routine testing now more readily available, clinicians can diagnose blood cancer cases with greater precision, enabling them to choose treatments that have the highest likelihood of success. Furthermore, patients no longer need to worry about the financial burden of these tests, removing a significant barrier to receiving the best possible care.

Through their philanthropic funding, the Wilson family acted as a catalyst by accelerating the use and adoption of genomic testing in blood cancer diagnosis and prognosis.

“We are immensely proud to see genomic testing become embedded as standard-of-care for blood cancers in Australia. In March 2023, we were delighted to witness the goal of affordable, universally accessed, best-practice healthcare being achieved, remedied by funding through the MBS. Accessible genomic testing will not only improve the lives of those affected by blood cancer, but it will also pave the way for further advancements in precision medicine, offering the potential for similar breakthroughs in other areas of healthcare.”

The Centre also supports the molecular haematology service at the world-leading Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, offering testing, training, benchmarking services, and expanding capacity across Australia.

The story of the Centre stands as a powerful demonstration of the potential of innovation in healthcare. By envisioning a future where the best possible treatment is available to all, the Centre has reshaped the landscape of clinical care, and in doing so, has given Australian blood cancer patients the best chance to live longer, healthier lives.



the Wilson Centre
for BLOOD CANCER GENOMICS

Revolutionising Blood Cancer Treatments

Australian blood cancer patients now have access to a state-of-the-art laboratory complex in Victoria that offers innovative and personalised treatment options. The Epworth Centre for Immunotherapies and Snowdome Laboratories (Centre), located in Richmond, Melbourne, is a Centre of Excellence in blood cancer patient treatment and care. The Centre was made possible through a \$13 million partnership between the Epworth Medical Foundation and the Snowdome Foundation, and was funded entirely through philanthropic donations.

The Centre aims to provide better outcomes for blood cancer patients by offering access to clinical trials, clinical research and academic programs. Epworth is the first private hospital group in Victoria to offer immunotherapies for cancer treatment, with patient cells processed on-site in the purpose-built laboratories.

The Centre launched in 2021 and achieved its first milestone by successfully treating the first blood cancer patient in February 2023.

Peter Hyatt, 70 years of age, was diagnosed with myeloma in 2022. He underwent four months of standard chemotherapy treatment followed by an autologous stem cell transplant at the Centre. This involved the collection and processing of Peter's stem cells, then reintroducing them into his body. As a result of this treatment, Peter's immune system was enhanced, and he achieved full remission.

The Centre, under the guidance of Professor Miles Prince AM, Director of Molecular Oncology and Cancer Immunology, is at the forefront of delivering cutting-edge cancer treatments. This world-class facility not only provides current cancer therapies but also has the flexibility to adapt and offer more personalised immunotherapies into the future.

In addition to the stem cell treatment, the Centre is actively planning to initiate Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy through clinical trials at Epworth Freemasons. This ground-breaking approach involves manipulating and reprogramming the patient's T-cells in the laboratory then reintroducing them back in the body, enabling them to specifically target and eliminate cancer cells. Previously, such advanced treatments were only accessible overseas, but now patients can benefit from them in Australia.

Snowdome is very fortunate to have visionary partners and philanthropists who have made this Centre a reality. The partnership between the Snowdome Foundation and Epworth Medical Foundation, supported by our generous donors, is a demonstration of the power of collaboration in advancing medical research and treatment.

The future looks bright for blood cancer patients as clinical trials of CAR-T cell therapies are set to begin at the Centre in 2024. This is a significant step towards lifechanging treatments, and Snowdome is eagerly anticipating seeing the impact that these trials will have on patients' lives.





Gunn Family Women in Haematology Fellow: Dr. Belinda Guo



Transforming Myeloproliferative Neoplasms Treatment with Blood Biomarkers.

The Gunn family's commitment to fostering the careers of talented women in the field of haematology has provided a crucial platform for researchers like Dr. Belinda Guo.

Dr. Guo's research centred on blood biomarkers for predicting bone marrow failure in myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPN), addressing a critical gap in the understanding and management of this complex group of bone marrow cancers.

MPN is characterised by an abnormal production of blood cells in the bone marrow. While the symptoms can generally be managed for most patients, there is a lifetime-risk of progression to bone marrow failure as a result of scarring (fibrosis). With an estimated 650 new diagnoses each year*, the need for predictive tools to guide treatment decisions has never been more urgent. Dr. Guo's work aims to address this gap by identifying novel blood biomarkers that can predict the onset of bone marrow failure.

The core challenge lies in predicting which patients are at risk of progressing to the fibrotic stage, where scar tissue forms in the marrow, leading to life-threatening consequences. Current treatments, such as targeted inhibitor therapies, provide temporary relief, but their discontinuation often results in the return of symptoms. Dr. Guo's research aims to provide a more sustainable treatment solution, offering patients and clinicians a reliable tool for assessing the risk of progression and making informed decisions about treatment strategies.

Her research successfully identified a potential blood-based signature for bone marrow fibrosis and failure, as well as a novel approach to facilitate translation into clinical applications – platelet transcriptomic sequencing, where Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) is used to detect genetic changes in a specific type of blood cell called platelets.

These findings represent a comprehensive and impactful step forward in the development and application of a blood-based biomarker for predicting and monitoring bone marrow fibrosis and failure in patients with MPN. By developing a predictive tool for assessing the risk and timing of bone marrow failure, Dr Guo is empowering patients and their clinicians to make informed decisions about their treatment journeys.

Through her dedication and with the support of initiatives like the Gunn Family Women in Haematology Fellowship, the future of MPN treatment is poised for a transformative shift, one blood biomarker at a time. The Snowdome Foundation is honoured to support this vital research project.

“This Fellowship has also allowed me to further investigate the biology responsible for progression to bone marrow scarring and failure, and identified candidate targets that could play a key role in this process. This new knowledge could lead to a more complete understanding of what causes bone marrow failure in MPN (and perhaps more generally) and identify new treatment options that will hopefully improve patient outcome in the long run.”

Dr Belinda Guo



The Gunn Family Fellowship has been instrumental in helping me gain credibility, establish independence, and build a network to grow and expand this study.



*Myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPN). Leukaemia Foundation.

A Year of Exceptional Research Grant Awards

Through the incredible generosity of our philanthropic donors and partners, the Snowdome Foundation is able to provide Australia's best clinicians and researchers with much-needed funding to support their commitment to discovering next-generation diagnostic tools and treatments.

In 2023, Snowdome awarded the following grants to exceptional researchers pursuing innovative approaches to blood cancer research and treatments.

- Dr Patrick Connerty: Bob and Jean Cannon Travel Grant (2023)
- Professor Mark Dawson: Molecular determinants of immune evasion to CAR-T cells at single clone resolution
- Dr Jennifer Devlin: Bob and Jean Cannon Travel Grant (2023)
- Associate Professor Michael Dickinson: Optimising immunotherapy for aggressive lymphoma
- Associate Professor Jane Oliaro: Developing next-generation armoured CAR-T cells for the treatment of multiple myeloma
- Dr Matthew Rees: B-cell maturation antigen resistance in multiple myeloma
- Associate Professor David Ross: HSANZ Snowdome Foundation Mid-Career Award (2023)



Dr Patrick Connerty



Professor Mark Dawson



Dr Jennifer Devlin



A/Prof Michael Diskinson



A/Prof Jane Oliaro



Dr Matthew Rees



A/Prof David Ross

Since 2010, Snowdome has supported the following researchers

Snowdome is honoured to support the amazing work of Australian blood cancer researchers and clinicians.

Over the past 13 years, Snowdome has funded 67 multi-year research projects, enabling 98 research positions. We are delighted to showcase their efforts and remain committed to promoting collaborations between researchers and individuals who are passionate about advancing blood cancer research.

A/Prof Mary Ann Anderson

A/Prof Piers Blombery

Dr Charles de Bock

Prof Richard Boyd

Dr Nicole Brooks

Prof Chan Cheah

Dr Katherine Cummins

Prof Mark Dawson

A/Prof Michael Dickinson

Dr Pilar Dominguez

Dr Katie Fennell

Dr Gareth Gregory

Prof Sean Grimmond

Dr Carolyn Grove

Dr Belinda Guo

A/Prof Eliza Hawkes

James Hicks

Prof Ricky Johnstone

A/Prof Lev Kats

A/Prof Melita Kenealy

A/Prof Amit Khot

Tracy King

Dr Jamie Kuzich

Emily Li

Prof Richard Lock

Dr Kylee MacLachlan

Prof Ravi Majeti

Dr Jacek Marzec

Dr Elizabeth Moore

Prof Charles Mullighan

Prof Stephen Nutt

A/Prof Jane Oliaro

Dr Michael Osborn

Prof John Pimanda

Prof Miles Prince AM

Dr Indu Raman

Prof David Ritchie

Prof Andrew Roberts AM

Prof Jake Shortt

Prof Andrew Spencer

Prof Jeff Szer AM

Dr Peter Tan

Dr Siok Tey

A/Prof Daniel Thomas

Dr Ella Thompson

Dr Joshua Tobin

Prof Judith Trotman

Dr Ashwin Unnikrishnan

Dr Kate Vandyke

Dr Meaghan Wall

Prof Andrew Wei

A/Prof David Westerman

Dr Carrie van der Weyden

Dr Simon Willis

Dr Colin Wood

Dr Costas Yannakou

Dr Paul Yeh

Dr Jessie Zhao

International Partnerships and Collaborations



International collaborations and knowledge exchange are fundamental to advancing and promoting vital research, from early studies to those ready to translate into new treatment protocols.

Snowdome is very proud to partner with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) in the USA and the Leukaemia Foundation here in Australia to advance blood cancer research through the LLS Translational Research Program.

The program is focused on accelerating research that shows high promise of translating into new clinical application for all blood cancers.

Now into its fifth year, the collaboration between our organisations has resulted in the funding of ten Australian research projects, worth a total of AUD \$9 million.

In 2023, the recipient of this highly coveted grant was Professor Mark Dawson, a clinician-scientist based at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Parkville, Melbourne.

Professor Dawson and his team have pioneered advanced pre-clinical models aimed at understanding how cancer cells develop resistance to Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cell (CAR T-cell) therapy. Their research aims to understand the properties of cancer cells that allow them to evade emerging cellular treatments, laying the groundwork for innovative therapeutic strategies. This paves the way for the design and development of novel therapeutic approaches.

The Snowdome Foundation is thrilled to support one of the top 2023 global blood cancer research projects. The research undertaken by Professor Dawson and his team recognises the potential to enhance the effectiveness of immune therapy, a vital component of blood cancer treatment.

About Professor Mark Dawson

Professor Mark Dawson is the co-program head of the Cancer Biology and Therapeutics Program, Group leader of the Cancer Epigenetics Laboratory and Consultant Haematologist in the Department of Haematology at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. His research interest is studying the role of epigenetic regulators in the initiation, maintenance and progression of cancer. Professor Dawson has identified new therapeutic strategies for a range of cancers and has helped set the platform for clinical trials with first in class epigenetic therapies.

In recognition of his research achievements, he has been elected to the Australian Academy of Science, the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences and as an EMBO member. He has received multiple prestigious awards including the 2023 Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Paul Marks Prize for Cancer Research, the McCulloch & Till Award from the International Society of Experimental Haematology, the Jacques Miller Medal from the Australian Academy of Science and the Prime Minister's Prize as Life Scientist of the year in 2020.

Professor Dawson is a fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians and Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia. He is currently a Professor in the Sir Peter MacCallum Department of Oncology and Centre of Cancer Research at the University of Melbourne. He is the Sir Edward Dunlop Fellow for the Cancer Council of Victoria and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute International Research Scholar.



Snowdome Honorary Patron



In November 2023, we were thrilled to announce Sam Neill as our new Honorary Patron.

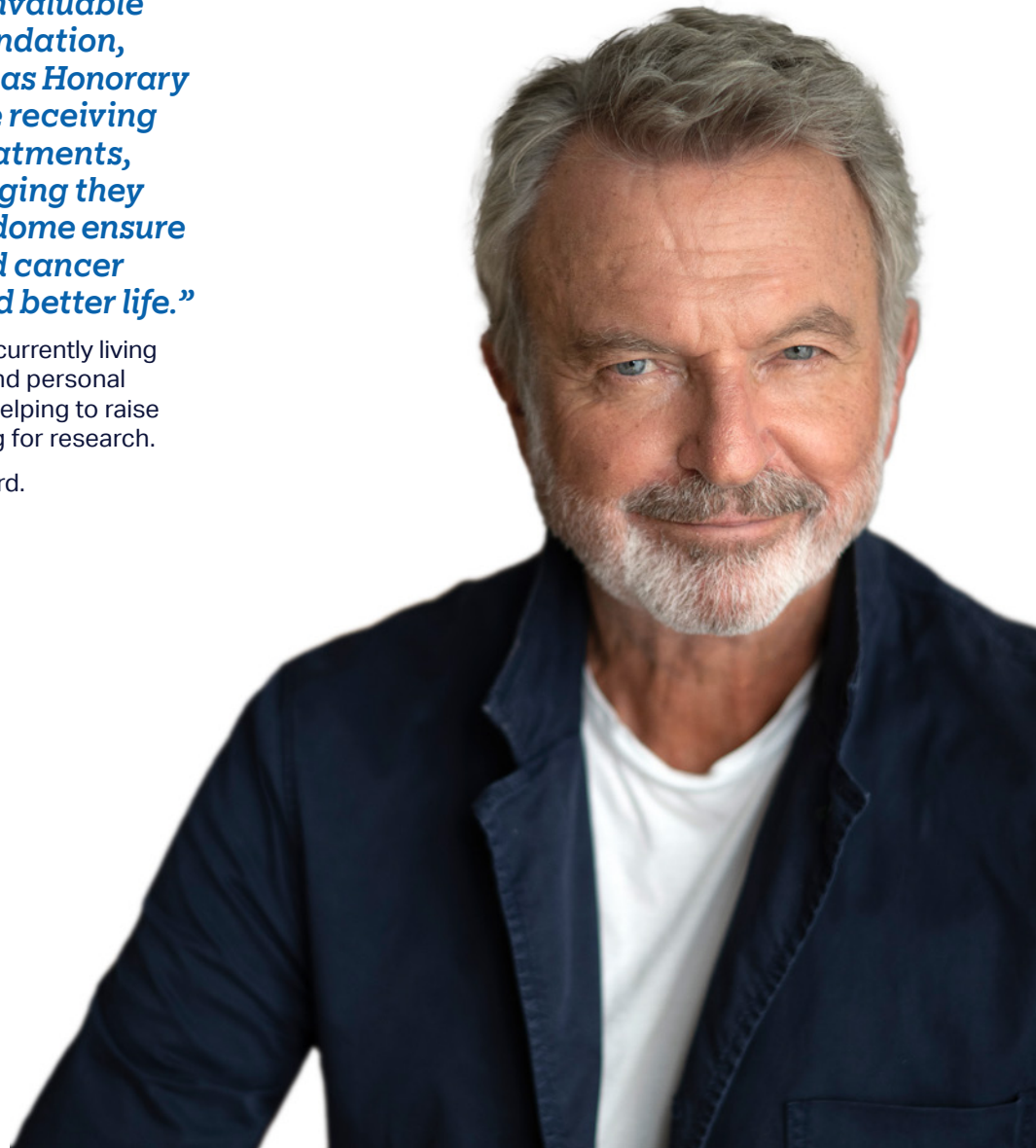
We are humbled that one of the most esteemed figures in the film and television industry has become part of the Snowdome family. Sam's support will undoubtedly help bring attention to the invaluable work we are doing to advance cutting-edge treatments for Australian blood cancer patients.

Renowned for his compassionate nature off-screen, as much as his captivating performances on-screen, the esteemed actor was diagnosed with a rare form of blood cancer, angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma, in 2022. After undergoing chemotherapy treatment, Sam's cancer did not improve. However, he was then placed on experimental treatment which, thankfully, has enabled him to go into remission.

“I am proud to support the invaluable work of the Snowdome Foundation, and to be joining the family as Honorary Patron. Having been on the receiving end of next-generation treatments, I understand how life-changing they can be. I hope to help Snowdome ensure that every Australian blood cancer patient can live a longer and better life.”

With more than 135,000* Australians currently living with blood cancer, Sam's influence and personal experience will resonate with many, helping to raise awareness and much needed funding for research.

We are honoured to have Sam on board.



*Blood cancer facts and figures. Leukaemia Foundation.

Making Hope Real



Thanks to our Supporters.

The Snowdome Foundation gratefully acknowledges the following Major Donors, Foundations and Estates for their generous contributions that provide support for all our programs in 2023.

Major Donors

Peter & Sarndi Addison
Mr Tony & Mrs Helen Gandel
Mrs Edith Greiman
Mr Peter & Mrs Rae Gunn
Mr Mike & Mrs Jackie Haintz
David & Wilma Keith Family
Dr George Klempfner & Mrs Yolanda Klempfner AO
Mr Harvey & Mrs Janette Lewis
Ms Helen Nicolay
Mr Niv Novak
Mrs Rosemary Pitt
Sietel Limited – Mr Richard Rees
Mr Ian & Mrs Virginia Rehfisch
Mr Rodney & Mrs Ann Smorgon Family
Mr Graham & Mrs Annette Smorgon
Mr Hendrikus & Mrs Debbie Verhagen
Mr Bruce Wilson
Mr Russell & Mrs Diane Withers
Mr Philip & Mrs Trix Wollen

Foundations

Bounce Foundation
Goldman Sachs Gives
GP Harris Foundation
GURNER™ Foundation
Harbig Family Foundation
Jan and Robert Lyng Charitable Fund, a giving fund of the APS Foundation
Lazarovits Foundation
Morris Family Foundation
Mostyn Family Foundation
Percy Baxter Charitable Trust
Rae and Peter Gunn Family Foundation
Samuel Nissen Charitable Foundation
Silberscher Family Foundation
Sunrise Foundation
The Calvert-Jones Foundation
The Pratt Foundation
The Wolf Foundation

Estates

Estate of Marjorie May Kingston

The Lewis Family: Advancing Research

Harvey and Janette Lewis have lived a life that has been an extraordinary journey filled with love, adventure, philanthropy and an unwavering commitment to advancing blood cancer research. This steadfast dedication has motivated them to support the Snowdome Foundation and it serves as a powerful example of the impact that philanthropy can have.

The Lewis' lives took a significant turn 18 years ago when Janette began experiencing health issues. A routine blood test raised concerns and ultimately led to a shattering diagnosis of leukaemia. It was during this challenging time that Harvey and Janette's paths crossed with Professor Miles Prince AM and the Snowdome Foundation.

Under Miles' care, Janette underwent multiple rounds of treatment and achieved remission several times. It was through Miles that Harvey and Janette learned of the Snowdome Foundation and its mission to help Australian blood cancer patients live longer, better lives. Inspired by our work, they made the decision to become very generous philanthropic supporters and have been part of the Snowdome family ever since.

The Lewis family's philanthropic work has seen them donate generously towards the Epworth Centre for Immunotherapies and Snowdome Laboratories, and the paediatric Phase II trial treating Relapsed Acute lymphoblastic leukaemia with VEnetoclax and Navitoclax (the RAVEN study). They also actively participate in Snowdome fundraising events, give their time and resources to help engage other donor networks and, more recently, became active participants in the new, annual Snowdome Ladies Lunch which provides a platform to showcase our researchers and clinicians.

A generational success story, Snowdome is incredibly fortunate to have three generations of the family involved. Central to Harvey and Janette's philosophy is to encourage their children to engage in philanthropy, ensuring that the values they uphold are passed down through generations.

Their message to those contemplating donating to the Snowdome Foundation is simple yet powerful; contribute and help raise awareness about the remarkable potential of new research in blood cancer treatment.

When asked about the significance of donating to Snowdome's cause, Harvey emphasised the importance of discovering more targeted and less invasive treatments. He firmly believes that it is crucial to stay informed about the latest advancements and their outcomes, not just for his family, but for the thousands of Australian men, women and children diagnosed with blood cancer each year.

The Lewis family's story is an example of the transformative power of giving. Their unwavering dedication to the Snowdome Foundation serves as an inspiration to all those striving to advance blood cancer research.



The Morris Family: Creating Change

Similar to many of our donors, the Morris family embarked on a partnership with the Snowdome Foundation after a personal encounter with blood cancer, and a strong aspiration to create a positive impact. Over the years, the family have been resolute advocates for Snowdome and our shared vision to provide real hope to Australians diagnosed with blood cancer.

The Morris family's relationship with Snowdome began when their mother, Maree, was diagnosed with multiple myeloma in 2002. Maree's clinician was Professor Miles Prince AM. Miles not only offered his medical expertise, but also provided invaluable emotional support to the entire family throughout their journey. This profound trust in Miles and what he was trying to achieve as co-founder of the Snowdome Foundation, acted as the catalyst for the Morris family's alignment with Snowdome in 2010 when they made their first donation.

The Morris Family Foundation supports philanthropic investment in innovative projects that create change at grassroots level. This approach is mirrored in their support of Snowdome and in our belief that the answer lies in translational research. That is, research that translates basic science into practice to produce more meaningful and applicable results that directly benefit patients.

The family's goal was clear; enhance the longevity and quality of life for patients diagnosed with blood cancer by supporting research.

They encourage prospective donors to adopt a similar, long-term perspective. Their hopes are grounded in a brighter future; to transform the lives of patients and their families, offering them hope, relief and ultimately, a cure.

The Morris family's legacy serves as a beacon of hope for countless individuals and families experiencing blood cancer reaffirming that, collectively, we have the capacity to make meaningful change and to accelerate next-generation treatments for Australians living with blood cancer.





Snowball 2023

Celebrating Snowdome



On 22 November 2023, we hosted Snowball. More than 250 guests came together to celebrate our 10th anniversary (albeit in our 13th year), the impact we have made, the lives we have changed, and to help shape the future of blood cancer research, forever.

Guests enjoyed a delectable dining experience by chef Andrew McConnell and his team at Handmade Events, paired with champagne and some of Australia's finest beers, wines, spirits and cocktails in the most magical and beautifully designed world under the dome.

Most importantly, we raised an incredible \$650,000! These funds will be channelled into the development of immune therapies that will bring new, life-changing treatments to Australian blood cancer patients.

During the evening, we heard inspirational and heartfelt stories from personal experiences, to hope-filled dreams for the future. Echoing throughout each speech was the resounding call for continued research and support towards finding a cure for blood cancer.

Rob Tandy, Snowdome co-founder, welcomed guests and introduced the evening by thanking everyone for their incredible support of Snowdome over the past 13 years. The translational research and groundbreaking therapies funded by Snowdome significantly contributed to extending his father's, Dr John Tandy, life after his myeloma diagnosis. Despite the initial prognosis of 3 to 5 years, John was able to live an extra 13 years, enabling the family to build precious memories together and to welcome 9 grandchildren.

John Salvaris, Snowdome Chair, followed, showcasing the incredible achievements of the Snowdome Foundation. He thanked our Snowdome family whose generous donations made the Epworth Centre for Immunotherapies and Snowdome Laboratories a reality (see page 10 for the full story) and the Wilson Centre for Blood Cancer Genomics be established at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, giving patients access to world-class genomic testing. As a result of the Wilson family's generosity, genomic testing is now approved through the Medical Benefits Scheme (MBS). You can read more about this story on page 8.

Snowdome Chief Executive, Kirstee Macbeth, reminded us that although Snowdome's achievements have been incredible, there is still more work to be done. Snowdome must continue to provide access to funding for innovative research, promote how our work translates to results, and to pioneer precision medicine for better health outcomes. To help us achieve this, Kirstee thrillingly announced our new Honorary Patron, Sam Neill. One of the most esteemed figures in film and television, Sam's deeply personal experience with blood cancer reflects the experiences of numerous individuals associated with our organisation, and his involvement will greatly contribute to raising awareness, establishing credibility, and inspiring others to contribute towards Snowdome's mission.

Guest speaker and Snowdome co-Founder, Grant Rutherford, touched everyone through his very poignant and personal story of loss and hope by turning 'One Day to Today'. Grant highlighted the significant influence Snowdome has had over the past 13 years and our ability to transform hope into tangible outcomes for Australians diagnosed with blood cancer. Making this hope real is only possible with the committed support of our Snowdome family and co-founders.

Lastly, Professor Miles Prince AM joined Grant to highlight Snowdome's pioneering vision for the future; a future where our support for researchers leads to remarkable advancements in blood cancer research. Miles' rousing call emphasised the importance of adopting a strategic approach of giving generously and in creating this future together. Who could say no to that?

For those who joined us, to all the supporters, donors, sponsors and event partners, to the Snowball Organising Committee and to Lauren Frazer for her incredible style and ability to transform any space, thank you! This event would simply not be possible without you.

Thank you for joining us under the dome. For a full list of our amazing committee members, event partners, sponsors and partners, please see pages 33 and 35.



Australasian Lymphoma Alliance



Snowdome proudly supports the Australasian Lymphoma Alliance (ALA)

The ALA is a collaboration of specialist lymphoma clinicians who share research, practice and findings to better shape the care of lymphoma patients.

In 2023, Professor Chan Cheah, Chair of the Alliance, led a group of 135 members, including six New Zealand, one Japan-based and three Singapore-based clinicians. All Australian states are represented, ensuring Australian clinicians can easily access expert advice and opinions in determining diagnosis and treatment pathways. In 2023, the membership grew 17 per cent, further increasing the reach of the ALA's invaluable work. Associate Membership has also been extended to a member in Sri Lanka.

Achievements for ALA members in 2023 include:

- 1 new consensus practice statement published for chronic lymphocytic leukaemia
- 6 published papers in the medical literature
- 1 poster presentation at the Australian Blood Conference
- 1 research review written of 'The diagnosis, management and follow up of peripheral T-cell lymphomas: A Consensus Practice Statement from the Australasian Lymphoma Alliance'
- Over 65 patient cases were presented at the Australasian T-Cell Lymphoma Network fortnightly eGrand Rounds
- 27 members involved with abstract submissions and 11 speakers at the European Hematology Association conference
- 68 members involved with abstract submissions and 1 poster presentation at the American Society of Hematology conference
- 66 members involved with abstract submissions and 2 invited speakers at the Blood conference in Melbourne.

In August 2023, Professor Miles Prince AM chaired an ALA webcast with international speaker Professor Steven Horwitz on recent updates in the diagnosis and management of patients with peripheral T-cell lymphomas (PTCL).

Another successful Lymphoma Interest Group Breakfast was held during the Blood Conference in Melbourne in November 2023. Co-hosted with the Lymphoma and Related Diseases Registry (LaRDR) and Lymphoma Australia, the event was attended by 85 guests face-to-face, with a small number joining virtually.

The ALA Travel and Publication Grants were also launched in 2023. The Travel Grants are designed to assist Haematology Trainees and Haematology Registrars working in the field of lymphoma to attend a scientific meeting. The Publication Grants are designed to address the rising cost of publication, and to assist ALA members/investigators at regional and smaller sites with publication of ALA projects and retrospective data.

The ALA continues to improve outcomes for lymphoma patients through the collaboration and sharing of expertise, experience and knowledge. Since the ALA was formed, there has been over 25 publications by Early Career Researchers, 14 Educational Webinars, 9 Consensus Practice Statements written, and three Breakfast Meetings held with LaRDR and Lymphoma Australia.

Environmental, Social and Governance Compliance



The Snowdome Foundation is committed to creating a positive impact in all areas of our business.

Our Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) statement reflects our dedication to responsible, sustainable and ethical practices and behaviours.

Environmental

Acknowledging our environmental responsibilities, we are committed to minimising our carbon, water and waste footprint and promote sustainable practices that reduce impact on the environment. Our strategies include encouraging the use of public transport to and from the workplace, limiting hard copy printing, using environmentally friendly paper, recycling and separating waste, and using environmentally friendly cleaning products.

Social

We value diversity, equality and inclusion, fostering a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for our staff, board directors, partners, researchers, clinicians, committee members and volunteers. These values are reflected in the following ways:

- The gender diversity of our board and executive (55% female and 45% male)
- We are proud that our organisation has been led by female Chief Executives since its establishment in 2010
- We have supported and embraced the integration of people with disabilities in our workplace. We have worked together with external employment services to provide employment opportunities for people with disabilities with outstanding results.

Governance

We have a strong governance structure with policies and procedures for operations, board and committee diversity. Our governance practices adhere to the highest ethical standards, ensuring transparency, accountability and responsible decision-making.

We are committed to continual review and improvement, and engage external parties to audit and review financials and strategy. A reflection of our commitment in this area is the return of a near perfect audit in 2022 and 2023.

Our rigorous adherence to cybercare is a priority for Snowdome with continuous review of all requirements to ensure the integrity and safety of the data we hold.

ESG principles are part of our core values to fulfill our mission to accelerate next-generation treatments for Australian blood cancer patients to help them live longer, better lives.



Financials 2022 – 23

The Snowdome Foundation is a leading not-for-profit organisation focused exclusively on raising funds to support translational research and clinical trials. Since inception in 2010, the Group has raised \$60.2 million for blood cancer research.

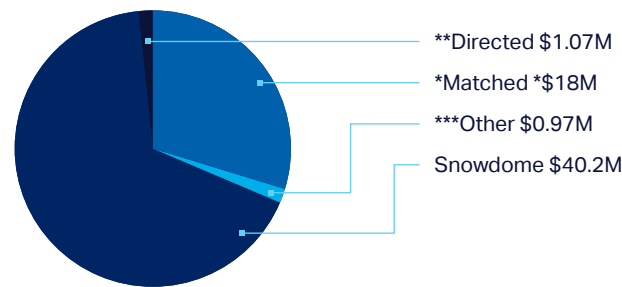
Snowdome Group's result saw a balance sheet position which remains strong with high levels of liquidity maintained and net assets exceeding liabilities by \$7.35 million. Group results saw a deficit result of \$1.8 million in Fiscal23 reflecting grant payments of \$3.95 million (up \$1.6 million on prior year's level), a one-off transfer payment (\$960,499) to establish Blood Cancer Research WA (BCRWA) as a fully independent entity, and donations in Fiscal23 (\$3.5 million) reflecting normalised levels. Expenses continued to be tightly managed.

Reported accounts show a substantial reduction in Snowdome Foundation Limited (SFL) profitability in Fiscal23, compared to surplus of \$5.2 million in Fiscal22. This difference can largely be explained by two, once-off structural transactions impacting both Fiscal23 and Fiscal22 years accounts. Fiscal22 accounts benefited from an inter-company transfer from Snowdome Limited ATF Snowdome Foundation (SL) which lifted donations (and reported surplus) by \$3.1 million.

The transfer reflects SFL will be Snowdome Group's primary operating and grant funding entity going forward, on a group consolidated basis the transfers net out. Fiscal23 accounts were negatively impacted by the BCRWA separation which amounted to a \$1.2 million earnings differential year-on-year (sum of only six months BCRWA earnings in Fiscal23 and the one-off transfer payment). The combined impact of the two once-off items totalled \$4.3 million and coupled with the \$1.6 million increase in grant funding in Fiscal23, along with a reduction of donations year-on-year, accounted for the \$6.6 million movement between account periods.

Snowdome is in a strong position to support its grants pipeline, with most grants fully funded, and all grants having at least two years of prefunding committed.

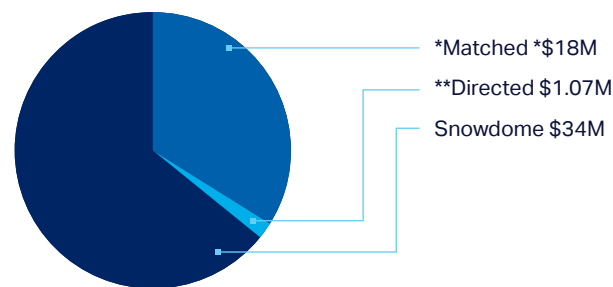
Revenue raised by Snowdome from inception to the end of FY23: \$60.2 million.



Snowdome has had another successful year in maintaining all existing grants, as well as offering new grants during the fiscal year. During Fiscal23, a total of \$3.95 million of research grant funding was paid.

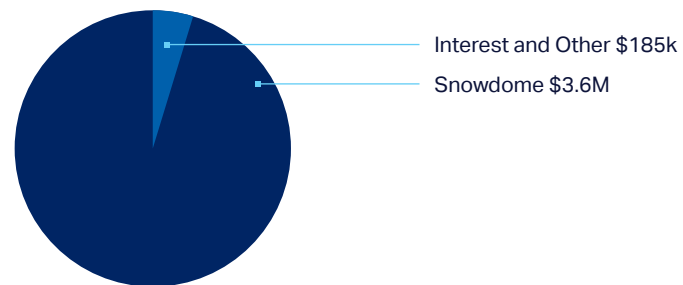
Since inception, Snowdome has funded 67 research grants for an amount of \$53 million, enabling more than 98 funded research positions.

Research funded through Snowdome from inception to end of FY23: \$53 million.



At the end of FY23, 95 per cent of available funds had been granted.

Revenue received during the FY23: \$3.8 million.



*Matched – funding support matched by collaborative partners

**Directed – when Snowdome donations are paid directly to the administering organisation

***Other – Interest earned via Term Deposits and general miscellaneous income

Pharmaceutical grant funding for the Australasian Lymphoma Alliance has not been included in the figures above (\$404,000)

Legal Structure

The Snowdome entity consists of Snowdome Foundation Limited DGR (Deductible Gift Recipient) Item 1 and Snowdome Limited DGR Item 2. As a result, the Snowdome entity can accept tax deductible donations from all donors including Private Ancillary Funds. Going forward, the Snowdome Foundation Limited DGR1 entity will become the principal group member in terms of fundraising for all new grant activity.

Governance

Throughout the year, the Snowdome Grants Committee reviews and recommends strategic projects to be funded. We are mindful that many of our grants are multi-year research projects. As such, we seek to fund them with multi-year donations to provide certainty of funds. We start the process by first attaining the donation commitment and then extending the grant commitment.

All grants provided have clear, measurable key performance targets which are reviewed every six months by the Snowdome Grants Committee.

The Snowdome Finance, Audit and Risk Committee oversees financial performance to minimise risk for the organisation.

Financial Year 2023 (FY23) Accounts

Snowdome's financial year accounts have been audited and submitted to the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC).

Notwithstanding the lingering impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic, coupled with general business uncertainties and rising inflation, Snowdome donors generously supported us in Fiscal23.

Snowdome has continued to meet all grant commitments, with \$3.95 million invested in Australian blood cancer research grants in Fiscal23, a 74 per cent increase on Fiscal22.

Highlights of the 2023 financial year include:

Pro Bono Support of \$415,000.

Snowdome continues to be well supported by our pro bono partners with a total of \$415K donated during the fiscal year.

We thank each of them for their continued ongoing support.

Granting of \$3.95 million to blood cancer research.

During the financial year Snowdome granted \$3.95 million.

As of July 2023, Snowdome has a collective \$7.7 million of outstanding grant obligations to be paid in future financial years.

Income breakdown financial year 2023



Expense breakdown financial year 2023



Financials 2022 – 23



FY23 Financial Year Accounts

Australian Charities & NFP Commission (ACNC) Financials Expanded.

Snowdome Foundation Limited (DGR 1) – ABN 79 624 141 117

Snowdome Limited (DGR 2) – ABN 26 239 780 877

Income Statement for the Year Ended June 30 2023	Snowdome Ltd ATF Snowdome Foundation (DGR2) (AUD\$)	Snowdome Foundation Limited (DGR1) (AUD\$)	Consolidated (AUD\$)	Consolidated 2022 (AUD\$)
Income				
Donations	1,000	3,475,886	3,476,886	7,091,805
Fundraising Events Income	-	510,606	510,606	518,253
ALA Income	-	59,351	59,351	89,425
BCRWA Income	-	232,617	232,617	576,824
WiL Income	-	-	-	43,221
Pro Bono Services Received	-	415,496	415,496	172,815
Interest Income	2,692	175,663	178,355	16,269
Other Income	-	7,125	\$7,125	6,506
Total Income	3,692	4,876,744	4,880,436	8,515,118
Expenses				
Grants to Organisations	-365,209	-3,947,574	-4,312,783	-5,359,303
Fundraising Events Expenses	-	-96,206	-96,206	-132,480
Employee Benefits Expense	-	-654,546	-654,546	-460,111
ALA Expenses	-	-70,863	-70,863	-45,291
BCRWA Expenses	-	-27,456	-27,456	-41,236
BCRWA Distribution Expenses	-	-960,499	-960,499	-
WiL Expenses	-	-	-	-41,691
Pro Bono Expenses	-	-415,496	-415,496	-172,815
Depreciation and Amortisation Expenses	-1,800	-6,404	-8,204	-12,141
Bank and Credit Card Charge	-490	-	-490	-229
Fees and Permits	-1,141	-	-1,141	-594
Other Expenses	-249	-143,886	-144,135	-94,747
Total Expenses	-368,889	-6,322,930	-6,691,819	-6,360,638
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year	-365,197	-1,446,186	-1,811,383	-2,154,480

Statement of Financial Position As at 30 June 2023	Snowdome Ltd ATF Snowdome Foundation (DGR2) (AUD\$)	Snowdome Foundation Limited (DGR1) (AUD\$)	Consolidated (AUD\$)	Consolidated 2022 (AUD\$)
Assets				
Current Assets				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	104,919	7,093,227	7,198,146	9,080,411
Trade and Other Receivables	-	204,158	204,158	119,847
Financial Assets	-	-	-	151,402
Total Current Assets	104,919	7,297,385	7,402,304	9,351,660
Non-Current Assets				
Plant & Equipment	-	3,536	3,536	5,385
Intangible Assets	1,504	6,679	8,183	14,539
Total Non-Current Assets	1,504	10,215	11,719	19,924
Total Assets	106,423	7,307,600	7,414,023	9,371,584
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Trade and Other Payables	-	9,298	9,298	11,770
Financial Liabilities	-	-	-	151,402
Provisions	-	29,623	29,623	29,129
Other Liabilities	6	-	6	-
Total Current Liabilities	6	38,921	38,927	192,301
Non-Current Liabilities				
Provisions	-	21,911	21,911	14,715
Total Non-Current Assets	-	21,911	21,911	14,715
Total Liabilities	-	60,832	60,838	207,016
Net Assets	106,417	7,246,768	7,353,185	9,164,568
Funds				
Settled Sum	100	-	100	100
Retained Surpluses	106,317	7,246,768	7,353,085	9,164,478
Total Funds	106,417	7,246,768	7,353,185	9,164,578

Board of Directors

The Snowdome Board of Directors consists of 10 independent non-executive directors and one executive director.

Our passionate, skilled and highly engaged directors bring diverse experiences and expertise from various industries and sectors. They are our governing body, ensuring Snowdome realises its mission through responsibility for our strategic direction, establishing goals for management and achieving these through various committees. We also acknowledge the ongoing support of our Board Alumni.

The Snowdome Foundation would like to acknowledge and thank Grant Rutherford who retired from the Board in 2023.

The Snowdome Board of Directors would also like to welcome Anna Whitlam and John Nevins who joined in October and November 2023 respectively.



Mr John Salvaris
BEC CA CPA

Chairman.

Partner of KPMG specialising in corporate tax matters for financial services organisations. John was appointed to the Board in 2017 and became the Chairperson in 2020.



Prof Richard Boyd
BSc (Hons) PhD

Chief Scientific Advisor of Cartherics Pty Ltd, a cancer immunotherapy company.

Richard joined the Snowdome Foundation in October 2015.



Mrs Helen Buckingham OAM
BA, Dip Ed, Grad Dip Careers, AICD Dip

Helen offers a personal perspective living with multiple myeloma since 2004. Helen was elected to Legislative Council of the Victorian Parliament in 2002 and has been involved with Snowdome since its inception in 2010.



Mrs Helen Gandel

Pharmacist and philanthropist supporting a variety of community charities.

Helen joined the Snowdome Board in May 2016.



Ms Amanda Jones
BAppSc, Grad Dip IP Law, FIPTA

IP Professional and former Medical Scientist. Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) Grant Proposal Manager, University of Melbourne. Amanda has a personal connection to blood cancer through both her mother and sister.

Amanda joined the Snowdome Board in December 2014.



Dr Andrew Pascoe
MBBS

Executive Chairman of the Asia Pacific eHealth Group (APeHG).

Andrew joined the Snowdome Board of Directors in 2013.



Prof Miles Prince AM
MBBS (Hons) MD FRACP FRCPA
AFRCMA AFRACD FAHMS

Blood cancer specialist and a Professor of Medicine at both Melbourne and Monash Universities, Professor /Director of Molecular Oncology and Cancer Immunology at Epworth Healthcare, Director of the Epworth Centre for Immunotherapies & Snowdome Laboratories and Haematologist at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. Miles is a co-founder of the Snowdome Foundation.



Mr Michael Robertson
LLM (Hons), BA

Senior Lawyer, Corporate Advisory, ANZ.

Michael joined the Snowdome Board in March 2016.



Mr Rob Tandy
BSc MPC

Facilitator from the tourism, investments and property industries. Rob brings a personal perspective of blood cancer lived through his father's diagnosis of multiple myeloma.

Rob is a co-founder of the Snowdome Foundation.



Mr Ian Thompson
BBus (Accounting) Grad Dip
(Corporate Finance), CPA, GAICD

Former Senior Managing Director and Chief Credit Officer at Standard and Poor's Rating Service.

Ian joined the Snowdome Board in December 2014. Ian retired from the Board in October 2023.

Executive

Our team is comprised of talented, generous and committed people, driven by making a difference to the lives of those affected by blood cancer.

In 2023, we embraced fresh talents into our team, enhancing our capabilities in fundraising, marketing, grant management and administration. New team members with diverse expertise from various industries and backgrounds bring fresh perspectives and innovative ideas to the Snowdome Foundation.



Kirstee Macbeth
Chief Executive and
Company Secretary



Cathy Rhodes
Head of Operations
and Finance



Margaret Dandis
ALA & TCL Administrative
Manager



Tanya Jorgensen
Grants Manager



Teodora Kusevska
Marketing and
Communications
Manager



Daniel Manning
Donor Engagement
Manager



Chloe Lanyon
Administration
Assistant

The Snowdome Foundation would like to acknowledge and thank Fiona Douglas and Sally Cane for their contributions to Snowdome during 2023. Snowdome would also like to welcome Teodora Kusevska and Daniel Manning who joined the executive in August and October 2023 respectively.

Committees

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

- Ian Thompson (Chair)
- Jackson Considine
- Mark Inston
- John Nevins
- Michael Robertson
- John Salvaris

Remuneration Committee

- John Salvaris (Chair)
- Amanda Jones
- Rob Tandy

Grants Committee

- Prof Richard Boyd (Chair)
- Helen Buckingham OAM
- Amanda Jones
- Dr. Olivia Milne
- Dr. Andrew Pascoe

Snowdome Lymphoma Governance Committee

- Mark Inston (Chair)
- Prof Chan Cheah
- Dr Pietro Di Ciaccio
- Dr Gareth Gregory
- Dr Greg Hapgood
- A/Prof Eliza Hawkes
- Prof Miles Prince AM

Development Committee

- Dr. Andrew Pascoe (Chair)
- Ian Allen
- Helen Gandel
- John Salvaris
- Prof Miles Prince AM
- Rob Tandy

Snowball Committee

Steering Committee

- Rob Tandy (Chair)
- Helen Gandel
- Dr. Andrew Pascoe

Organising Committee

- Pennie Callaghan (Chair)
- Vanessa Cohen
- Alastair Evans
- Lauren Frazer
- Helen Gandel (Snowdome Board Director)
- Jackie Haintz
- Stephen Jolson
- Georgie Larkins
- Kirstee Macbeth (Snowdome Chief Executive)
- Georgie Stayches

Snowdome would also like to thank Sally Cane, Teodora Kusevska and Daniel Manning for their contributions to Snowball 2023.

Partners and Collaborators



Supported by Snowdome Foundation



Collaborators

To advance blood cancer research and bring hope to Australian blood cancer patients, Snowdome Foundation is proud to collaborate with:



Children's Cancer Institute

Mayo Clinic

Monash University

South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI)

Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre

University of Adelaide

Haematological Society of Australia and New Zealand

The Royal College of Pathologists of Australia

University of Melbourne

Mater Research

University of New South Wales

University of Queensland

University of South Australia

University of Western Australia

Pro bono partners and supporters

The ongoing generosity of these organisations allows the Snowdome Foundation to optimise the allocation of funds towards the advancement of medical research for blood cancer.



CHRIS BUDGEON



Snowball 2023

The Snowdome Foundation raised an incredible \$650,000 at Snowball 2023.

These vital funds will support the development of immune therapies that will bring new life-changing treatments to patients with blood cancer. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our event partners and supporters that made the night such a success.

Pro Bono Event Partners

© Town Square 2022



Event Sponsors



ANTON



BANG & OLUFSEN



Cutler & Co.



Life, Love and Giving Back

Bev and Steve Novak became supporters of the Snowdome Foundation in 2013. They were drawn to our mission of accelerating next-generation treatments and getting them to Australian blood cancer patients, faster. However, they never imagined that their journey would become so entwined with ours.

In 1981, Steve met Bev. From that moment on, the two became inseparable. So, in 2012 when Steve was diagnosed with a rare form of blood cancer called Waldenström's Macroglobulinemia, the devastating news rocked them both. However, their 41 years of love and devotion to each other endured and helped them navigate the treatment journey, together.

While the pathway was challenging, Steve's love of life, knowledge and a passion for making a difference continued to shine brightly. Steve had an insatiable thirst for knowledge. His interests spanned the realms of physics, science, mathematics, technology, history, geopolitics, religion, philosophy and more. He dedicated countless hours to learning and discussing these diverse topics, ensuring that conversations with him were always enlightening and engaging. Whether it was delving into the mysteries of the universe or dissecting the nuances of economic theory, Steve was a passionate explorer of the world of ideas. And in between all that, Steve constantly injected every day with love, fun, laughter, music and the absolute joy of life to those around him.

As Steve's 75th birthday approached in June 2021, the world was still in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, Bev knew that they needed to celebrate in a special way, despite the restrictions and challenges. Amidst the chaos, Bev decided to channel her love for surprises into a meaningful gesture. She set up a fundraising page on the Snowdome Foundation website. In secret, friends and family came together, contributing to the page. Through this fundraising campaign, Bev wanted to give hope to other families so that they would not have to endure the same journey she and Steve faced.

Steve loved the surprise and gesture so much, that in 2022 for his 76th birthday, another fundraising page was created. For Steve and Bev, this was not just about giving back. It reflected Steve's desire to help those facing a similar path, especially with rare blood cancers where treatment options are limited, and side effects can be severe.

Very sadly, just two months after his 76th birthday, on 25 August 2022, Steve passed away. Steve's life embodied the power of knowledge, love and the profound impact one can have on the lives of others.

Through the ongoing support of Bev, Steve's legacy lives on, offering hope and assistance to those in need. In his memory, Bev continues to champion the cause of blood cancer research, ensuring that future generations may have a brighter and healthier tomorrow.



What's in a Name?

The Snowdome Foundation is named after Chloe Rutherford.

Diagnosed with leukaemia in 2007, Chloe seemingly beat the disease only to relapse and die of complications arising from pneumonia in 2009. She is survived by her loving mother, beautiful sister and her adoring dad, Grant Rutherford, who is a big part of Snowdome.

The Foundation's unusual name emerged from a case of mistaken identity rather than a flash of inspiration, but it's entirely appropriate.

On the first of many visits to the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne, Chloe thought she saw a gift shop, with snowdomes from all over the world adorning its glass walls.

In fact, it was the nurses' station in the middle of the ward, but to Chloe it was beautiful and magical, and like all things beautiful, she just had to have a snowdome of her own. As she bravely battled her blood cancer, more and more snowdomes appeared; gifts from family, from friends both old and new and from the nurses who cared for her.

So, when the Foundation was conceived, it seemed only fitting to name it after Chloe's love of snowdomes.

Dedication

The Snowdome Foundation is dedicated to all those that have been touched by blood cancer.

Sadly, in 2023, Snowdome bid farewell to more cherished members of our family. We would like to honour the memory of Mr Chris Cummings, Mrs Mary Jones and Mr Steve Lazos.





Snowdome Foundation™

Making Hope Real



snowdome.org.au

Snowdome Limited (DGR 2) – ABN 26 239 780 877
Snowdome Foundation Limited (DGR 1) – ABN 79 624 141 117

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