

**New
Bicentennial
Eye Clinic**

**Marjorie's
Story**

**How the Money
was Spent**

Make a Bequest

Introducing the new Bicentennial Eye Clinic

An interview with Associate Professor Alex Hunyor, Vitreoretinal Surgeon, Sydney Eye Hospital.

What is the Bicentennial Eye Clinic all about?

The idea of the clinic came at the time of the Bicentennial of Sydney Hospital in 2011. It was an opportunity for us to create a new space within the Hospital for a couple of highly specialised areas of ophthalmology – the corneal and retinal units.

The Eye Hospital deals with a range of different areas of ophthalmology which have become increasingly specialised in the last 10-20 years. In terms of the number of patients seen, the two busiest subspecialties are cornea and retina. These are also two highly technology-dependent areas of ophthalmology.

The Bicentennial Eye Clinic is a purpose-built facility specifically for those specialties, with brand new 'state of the art' equipment. It gives us the ability to do all the consultations, diagnostics and a lot of treatments in that one area. Obviously there are still things we need to do in the operating theatre but there is a range of treatments which are able to be done in the Clinic.

What will this mean to patients, say compared with the outpatients clinic?

It's part of an overall plan to upgrade the facilities of the Hospital. One of the reasons this is important is that it will allow us to relocate some services from our existing outpatient clinics, and eventually, we'll be able to progressively refurbish and improve the older outpatients department to the same standard.

For our patients, what it offers is a newer, more comfortable environment for them and one where they can have everything done in the one place. Whereas, for example, some of the corneal treatments required that the patient have the procedure done in the operating theatre, now we have the facilities to do them in one of the rooms at the Bicentennial Eye Clinic. The same goes for retinal treatments, particularly the injection clinics.

So with both the Bicentennial Eye Clinic and the main outpatients clinic, we are striving to streamline and improve the experience for patients.

There has been a lot of new equipment installed in the new clinic, more than 1 million dollars' worth...

Yes. The original space was being used for another, non eye-related purpose and so we redesigned and completely rebuilt the clinic for this purpose. Everything is brand new, including, as you say, over 1 million dollars' worth of equipment which was generously provided by the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation.



Are there any 'stand out' pieces of equipment that 'make' the clinic?

The main features were the purchase of the corneal and retinal diagnostic equipment. They're the latest technology for diagnosing corneal and retinal problems. We also have an operating microscope and retinal laser machine.

How many doctors work in the clinic?

This clinic initially will have three cornea clinics and four retinal clinics per week, and will also have some other clinics such as injection clinics for macular degeneration. In total there will be at least a dozen doctors working in the clinic. This includes corneal and retinal specialists, as well as trainee fellows and registrars. The corneal and retinal fellows, along with fellows in other subspecialties, are also funded by the Foundation.

How has the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation made a difference?

The Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation has continued in its tradition of funding major equipment purchases over the past 2 decades. What has happened historically, particularly in the last 10 years, is that the Foundation has allowed the Hospital to remain at the cutting edge of ophthalmology by funding some 'big ticket' items of equipment, which have been difficult for the Hospital to afford because they are large single purchases.

There were three contributors in terms of funding of the Bicentennial Eye Clinic. The Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation donated the largest amount of money, \$1.2 million, for the clinic's fit out and all the equipment. Then there was also the Sight for Life Foundation which contributed \$200,000 – and the remainder of the money came from the Hospital.

Do these new machines have data saving abilities? Will this in turn improve admin processes?

All the new equipment inside the Bicentennial Eye Clinic is networked with the area server so all the information we gather from the diagnostic equipment in the clinic is available in the main outpatients clinic, and vice versa.

Ultimately the hospital will move to paperless (electronic) medical records, and the data from all the diagnostic equipment will be able to be incorporated into the electronic medical records.

Marjorie's Story

My story starts in 1991 when I was accidentally hit on my head and literally saw stars! Two days later, I suddenly went blind in the left eye. I immediately rang up to my GP, who saw a detached retina. He immediately rang my ophthalmologist, who took one look and sent me straight down to Sydney Eye Hospital at Woolloomooloo.

At 8 pm the nurse booking me in asked which doctor I would like. I said "the best you have". He replied "Well, you've won that one. Dr. Hunyer is on duty. All the rest of them are up at Terrigal at a Conference!"

After the operation for a major detached retina, next morning Dr. Hunyer sat beside my bed and told me I was borderline being permanently blind. How does a patient really express the emotion and gratification to this dedicated doctor who has restored their sight? The 'thankyous' is just not enough.

And what an innovation is the DVD. At Woolloomooloo patients were invited to a clinic 25-10-91 with Dr. Playfair the lecturer (from my note on the cover of 'The Retina Book'). We all had so many questions, and he was wonderfully informative. We concluded with morning tea.

Seventeen years later I had shingles in the optic nerve and went blind again the left eye. Suddenly, I found myself in the wonderful hands and care of Dr. Fred Wechsler, who took one look and urgently sent me straight from his surgery to Sydney Eye Hospital for a corneal transplant in Dec. 2008.

Four years on the transplant is perfect. I am so grateful to the donor who has given me sight, and taken away the fear of being blind.

We patients are so in debt to all doctors who are inspired to do medicine at Univ, and then specialise.

My 'thankyous' is in contributing to the Foundation appeals, and leaving a bequest in my will.

Marjorie



Equipment in the new Bicentennial Eye Clinic

Zeiss Visucam 500 Fundus Camera: Retinal imaging system for photography and angiography (study of the blood vessels and other structures) of the back of the eye (retina and choroid). This imaging provides valuable information about the retina, especially the macula, in a range of conditions – especially macular degeneration and diabetic retinal disease.

Heidelberg HRA Fundus Imaging: Retinal imaging system for specialised photography, in particular autofluorescence imaging and ICG angiography. This gives additional information about the structures at the back of the eye in a wide range of conditions.

Zeiss Cirrus and Heidelberg Spectralis OCT: These are the latest model optical coherence tomography scanners for assessment of macular conditions and glaucoma. In addition, the Heidelberg Spectralis has an anterior segment module that permits imaging of the front part of the eye, enabling surgeons to visualise parts of the eye that could not otherwise be seen.

Oculus Pentacam: This is an optical scanner of the corneal surface, enabling surgeons to diagnose keratoconus and other corneal disorders. It is extremely useful to provide care after a patient has undergone corneal transplantation.

Nidek Confoscan: This is a high-magnification microscope for the live cornea, enabling surgeons to see individual infection-causing microorganisms, and also to assess the health of the deeper layers of the cornea.

Nidek OPD3 Aberrometer: This instrument measures the finer optical abnormalities of the eye, helping surgeons determine why some patients do not have adequate vision.

Leica Operating Microscope: This instrument is used for in-clinic minor corneal procedures, which may avoid sending the patient to the operating theatre.

How the Money was Spent in 2013

Over the years, the Foundation has managed to provide more than \$12,417,000 for the benefit of Sydney Eye Hospital, which in turn benefits many thousands of public patients attending the Hospital every year. With the help of our loyal supporters, we have assisted with the building of the new Eye Hospital in Macquarie Street, purchased state-of-the-art equipment and funded numerous research projects into the prevention of blindness.

Today, more than ever, with demand increasing and government funding always under pressure, your generous support is vital to ensuring that the Sydney Eye Hospital can continue to provide the excellent eye care that it has done for some 130 years.

Clinical Fellowships

Graham Lovett Vitreoretinal Fellowship	\$49,504
Dr Eddie Donaldson Vitreoretinal Fellowship	\$50,233
Corneal Fellowship	\$48,313
Glaucoma Fellowship	\$45,903
Oculoplastic Fellowship	\$47,214
Professorial / Medical Retina Fellowship	\$90,824

Research

Keratoconus Research Project	\$95,000
MRI Linking Eyes to MS	\$37,248

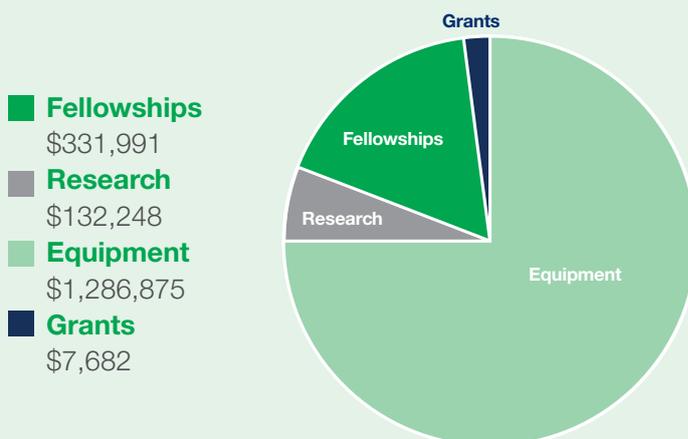
Equipment

iPhone Pharmacopeia App	\$610
Corneal Unit - Collagen Cross Linking Device	\$23,625
Goldman Perimeter	\$2,000
Bicentennial Eye Clinic	\$1,194,086
Sydney Eye Hospital Outreach Clinic - OCT	\$66,554

Grants

Nurses Grant including Orthoptists	\$6,818
Eye Operations DVD Grant	\$864

Total \$1,758,796



Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation Board of Management



All Members of the Board of Management are financial members of the Foundation as well as giving freely of time in the interests of enhancing the ability of Sydney Eye Hospital to provide first class eye care to the public of Sydney and beyond.

Current Board Members:

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Make a Bequest: It's a different way to help

A Bequest in your Will is a gift that lives on.

It's a way of ensuring that the assets (money, property or valuables) that you need now will eventually be used to help the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation. It's something that you can arrange in addition to – or instead of – giving cash right now.

By making a Bequest, you will be in good company. Bequests from our donors are a major source of income to assist the good work done for people with eye problems at Sydney Eye Hospital. They also provide urgently needed funds for research into the prevention of blindness.

The main advantage of the Bequest system is that it allows donors of all means to make a valuable donation to the Foundation in the knowledge that their generosity will help save the sight of thousands of adults and children who come to the Hospital for help each day.

Should you decide to make a Bequest to Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation, clear instructions in your Will are necessary to ensure your wishes are carried out.

If you would like more information, please contact the Foundation's Chief Executive Officer, Mr Kevin Gardner, on (02) 9382 7408 or email:

kevin.gardner@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au

He will be pleased to assist.



YES! I Proudly Support the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation



MAIL GPO Box 1614,
Sydney, NSW 2001
PHONE 02 9382 7408
FAX 02 9382 7415
ABN 78 002 197 677

CEO kevin.gardner@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au

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Please accept my gift of:

\$50 \$35 \$100 OR My choice:

My cheque/money order is enclosed OR Please debit the amount above to my credit card:

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OR Please deduct \$ _____ each month from my credit card until I advise otherwise.

Yes, I would like further information on (please tick)

- Bequests Planned Giving (eg: monthly) Volunteering
 I have already included Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation in my Will

Thank you for your generosity.

All cheques and money orders to be made payable to: SYDNEY EYE HOSPITAL FOUNDATION.

All donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible, a receipt will be sent to you shortly.