

skin cancer **tas**
Local people, caring for our community

Newsletter 2020

From The Chair

I wish that this finds you as well as can be expected.

For some, 2020 has been a challenging year for their own health, the health of their family members or those in their community. COVID-19 certainly has had an impact on us all. Whilst the majority of these impacts have been felt in a negative way, a positive has been how we have all been adaptable and flexible with how we work, including access to medical professionals. Telehealth services are now the norm and look to be an ongoing way in which rural and remote Australians can access their doctors' advice and assistance.

I am eternally grateful to the small but passionate band of volunteers who continue to ensure that skin cancer remains an important topic for Tasmanians, whether it be awareness of the disease through visits to schools and events, support of those directly affected or tireless work in advocating for equitable access for all Australians.

Some of the major highlights for 2020 were:

Participation in the 2020 Wellness Expo at PW1 in February presented by the West Moonah Community House and Rotary Tasmania. We always enjoy strong support at this event and will again participate in 2021. Hope to see you there.

- ☐ Ken Harriss again facilitated and participated in **Run From the Sun 2020**. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, we were unable to visit as many schools compared with previous events and were unable to offer our skin scans at pharmacies, however the response and support from the colleges and schools was incredible. Many have already signed up for Run From The Sun 2021 (has a nice ring to it) It will mark our fifth year doing this event. Ken – you are amazing! The Run From the Sun Ride was the biggest one yet with over 75 riders and over \$2,000 raised by this amazingly generous group. Thank you to all of the businesses who supported the event this year.
- ☐ Collaborations with Melanoma Patients Australia to provide a dedicated Tasmanian Online Support Group, and their provision of free Melanoma Symposiums ensuring Tasmanian have access to the latest information.
- ☐ Collaboration with Beard Season to encourage Tasmanian men to grow a beard during the winter and initiate discussion about melanoma amongst their mates. We also had the pleasure of meeting with John Elliott (aka Camel Man) during his time in Tasmania who is raising funds for Beard Season.
- ☐ Attending the virtual **Global Coalition for Melanoma Advocates Conference** in November with fellow advocates from across the globe. Whilst it does not replace the face to face meeting, it was wonderful sharing ideas and resources.

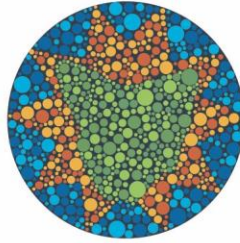
Words cannot express our appreciation for our tireless volunteers who continue to give up their time to raise awareness of this disease here in Tasmania. Ken Harriss – your hard work, energy and constant support of me has been amazing this year. Naylla Amadio - who has continued to ensure our Facebook page contains up to date, engaging and relevant material, and to those who have given up their time to represent us over 2020.

We say goodbye to one of our hard-working board members, Kate Atkinson (Vice Chair). Kate has been with the organisation since March 2014 and has been a huge part of the growth of Skin Cancer Tasmania. Thank you Kate. We will miss you.

To our board members: Scott Nicol (Treasurer), Wendy Sullivan (Secretary), Nikki Elkerton, Candice Terhell, Andrew Johns and Tim Jackson, thank you for your ongoing guidance and support.

Di Mason
Chair





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2020 Run From The Sun Melanoma Awareness Ride

Due to COVID-19 impacts, the 2020 Run From The Sun event only ran over one week in September.

The crew presented to over 300 students, 20 teachers and 1 school nurse, and traveled over 600kms. Thank you to everyone who participated and made us feel so welcome. If you know of any secondary schools or colleges that would like us to visit between Monday August 30 and Friday September 10 2021, send them our email: info@skincancer.org.au

Ken atop Mt Wellington



Don College

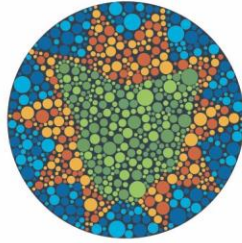


Thank you to Jackson Motor Company again for your support



Tamar Skin Cancer Clinic





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Fahan School

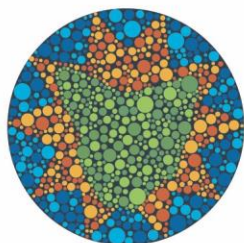


Launceston Gorge



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RUN FROM THE SUN RIDE

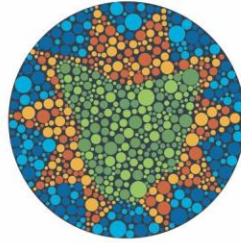


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Run From The Sun Skin Cancer Tasmania Fundraising Ride Sunday 13 September

A wonderful day – the biggest one yet! Over 75 riders taking part in a ride around the channel area. Amazing support from businesses in Kingston Beach, Cygnet and the Franklin Tavern. Thank you to these businesses as well as those who supplied prizes on the day





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2020 Tasmanian Volunteering Awards

Skin Cancer Tasmania is thrilled to hear that Ken Harriss was again nominated for the 2020 Tasmanian Volunteering Awards. Ken was a finalist in the Anglicare Tasmania Community Care and Health Award. Whilst he did not win his category at the virtual awards on Monday 7 December, Ken - you're a winner in our eyes.

Testimonials

Some testimonials from our talks – we value and appreciate the feedback as it shows how much our work means to you in the community:

Hi Di

Once again, many thanks for the excellent presentation that you and Ken made. As I said on the day, you are a very good presenter and your information certainly resonated with my students. We had a lot of discussion afterwards. The visual using the skin assessor machine certainly made them think and also showed more graphically how sunblock works. That video combined with the actual skin assessing equipment would be brilliant but I totally understand the COVID restrictions.

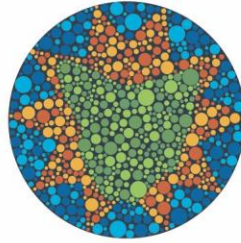
Minka Don College

Hi Di,

Thank you very much for coming and talking to my year 7 Health classes on Friday. I had both classes today and they gave very positive feedback about your presentation. It was also great to see them all wearing their sunscreen and wristbands and having discussions about the UV radiation in PE today. This was a very valuable learning experience for the students which linked well with our Health curriculum. I would definitely be interested in hosting you again in the future. All the best with your other presentations - I hope they go well.

Sophie Fahan School





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Changes to the board



Farewell

Kate Atkinson has been a valuable member of Melanoma Tasmania and Skin Cancer Tasmania since 2014. Her nursing experience in palliative care and the field of skin cancer has been crucial to the organisation and we will miss her wisdom and guidance. All the best Kate

How You Can Help Us

Skin Cancer Tasmania has outgrown our current space and are looking for a medium-sized storage area for our marquees, merchandise and literature at an affordable price for a small not for profit. Must have access on weekends. If you have an office space or storage unit available, please contact Di at di@skincancertas.org.au



Display one of our awareness posters in your school/workplace or sporting club. Send us an email to: info@skincancertas.org.au

Come and help at our Bunnings BBQ (Kingston) on New Years Day between 8.45am - 4pm. Contact details below

