

This is your story...



*A story of your generosity,
compassion and kindness.*



**Olivia
Newton-John**

Cancer Wellness & Research Centre

This is your story...

Putting patients at the heart of everything we do.

All it takes is one thought to turn a dream into hope. In 2005 you helped us embark on a visionary journey of creating Victoria's first comprehensive and dedicated cancer centre.

From the outset, the concept of patient-centred comprehensive care was integrated into the structure itself.

Wards sit alongside research labs focused on trials and breakthroughs. The inclusion of wellness was fundamental in guiding the design of the Centre, to create a space that supports patients.

The ONJ Cancer Centre has always been a story of vision, courage and hope from ordinary Australians like you.

You are helping us provide world-class care. Staff at the ONJ Cancer Centre pride themselves on ensuring every patient and their loved ones feel comfortable and cared for from the moment they walk through our doors.

With your help, we put our patients at the heart of everything we do.

The ONJ Cancer Centre helps patients live better with cancer through world class treatment, integrated research, leading clinical trials and tailored wellness programs.

Your support can help us add more stories of exceptional patient care at the ONJ Cancer Centre.



Olivia
Newton-John
Cancer Wellness & Research Centre

This is Kate's Story...

How cancer changed everything.



"I'm a wife and mother to two beautiful children. My life was really good. I had always been a healthy person but that changed at the age of 45 when I was diagnosed with cancer.

I needed a colonoscopy. As I was coming around from the anaesthesia my husband and I were told the news... I had cancer... stage 3 bowel cancer.

I was shocked. I wondered how could this happen to me. I'd never been sick.

I was referred to Austin Health and the ONJ Cancer Centre. When I came to the Centre I met with a liaison nurse who took me through everything that would happen.

For six weeks I underwent intensive radiation and chemotherapy. Once the cancer shrank Dr Philip Smart performed surgery to remove it. One of the really frightening moments was being told I would need to wear a colostomy bag forever. However, six months later Dr Smart performed wonderful re-constructive surgery.

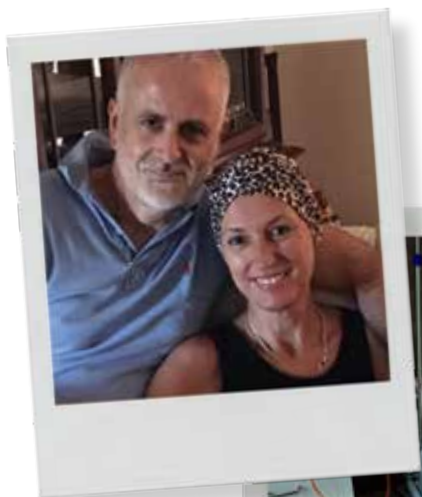
Two and a half years later, I am cancer free.

It was a scary time, however the staff at the ONJ Centre were amazing, providing world-class care and support in a beautiful setting."

Kate 

This is Suzi's Story...

Of hope and determination.



"In May 2015 I woke up with a sore back. I was never sick, I was fit, health conscious and ate really well. However, for a week and a half I felt like I had a chill. Eventually I went to the doctor who ran blood and urine tests and then said I needed to see a haematologist.

When you are referred to a specialist you expect to be told what the issue is. But you never expect to be told you have Myeloma. It's one of the toughest cancers to beat but I am determined.

Everything happened so fast. The staff talked gently, diplomatically and beautifully, giving me confidence to begin the treatment. They guided me as I prepared for an autograft procedure, a stem cell procedure where cells are treated and stored, ready to be transplanted back into me at a later date.

When I was at the ONJ Centre I met Olivia Newton-John. I told her that everyone who walked into my room were encouraging, supportive and understanding. Even though I was petrified, everyone at the ONJ were amazing. They gave me hope."

Suzi



This is Dr Andrew Lim's story...

a story of exceptional patient care combined with cutting-edge research



"We are very fortunate to have many different types of opportunities for patients to access treatment at the ONJ Cancer Centre. We have world leaders, a thriving clinical trial program and close connections between research and bedside care.

I work in a field with ready access to new ideas. Sometimes these new ideas are 'difference makers' for patients.

Research into blood cancer has moved forward incredibly quickly with each passing year, and sustainable funding is critical to that research happening.

For patients like Suzi both research and care are integrally important. She has a number of supports within her treating team. Suzi has a specialist haematologist, a team of doctors, nurse coordinators and a veritable army of nurses to help her through the complicated areas of Myeloma treatment, stem cell collection and bone marrow transplantation.

Without kind and caring people who can give, we would have little chance of being able to support the people and the resources who are on the front line of research and wellness."

Dr Andrew Lim
Clinical Haematologist,
Austin Health

This is Jan's story...
a story of the gift of time.



"My world was turned on its head when I suffered a major seizure and collapsed face first on the floor.

I was told I had incurable brain cancer.

Months of chemotherapy, radiation therapy and rehabilitation followed.

Jane and I benefited from the world-class physicians, caring staff and researchers, and an array of wellness programs, particularly the Brain Cancer Support Group and the Carers Support Group.

These caring and compassionate people know better than anyone what you're going through. From the bone crushing fatigue to the nausea, from the inexplicable spontaneous tears to the financial and legal fears, they get it.

The care I received gave me the gift of time thanks to this amazing place and the superheroes that reside in it."

Ian



*You can add to your story
by supporting the ONJ
Cancer Centre today.*

Your gift will help ensure we can continue to provide exceptional patient care throughout the Centre. Your gift will support innovative treatments, ground-breaking research and unique wellness therapy programs.

**Please show your support today.
Support the ONJ Cancer Centre.**

After all, this Centre is everyone's story.



**Olivia
Newton-John**
Cancer Wellness & Research Centre

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