



# GROUP NEWS

SUMMER 2008 EDITION

## Message from our Chair 2009

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

First of all, may I wish you all the very best for the upcoming Festive Season and hope that you all have a happy, healthy and successful 2009.

Can I also wish you all the best for patient accrual! It is critical for the future of ANZGOG that we generate lots of clinical trials and that we end up putting as many as possible of the patients under our care into trials, not only because we know they have better outcomes but also because it keeps ANZGOG hale and hearty and takes a lot of pressure off. November was a record month for patient trial entry and although it is likely that we will have a small fall off over summer, please put as many patients as possible into our current trials. Our funding from Cancer Australia could be at risk unless we are seen to be an active and responsible group.

2009 should be an exciting year. We will almost certainly be joining ICON-6 and may also join with the AGO for a new first line ovarian cancer trial in 2009. PORTEC-3 should be recruiting well next year and the Symptom Benefit Study will expand both locally and internationally which I think will put us on the map.

Whilst on the subject of being put on the map, I wish to send my personal best wishes and thanks to Michael Friedlander. There is little doubt that any success we have had with ANZGOG has been due

to his energy, his vision, his drive and his unfailing commitment to get ANZGOG up and running and for ANZGOG to be a major player in International Trials. The research community and of course all gynaecological cancer patients in Australia and New Zealand owe him a lot and we know he will continue to work unfailingly and unstintingly in the future to continue his support for us!

Special thanks also go to all at the NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre. Without their efforts and skills we would undoubtedly not be where we are today.

Finally thanks to all of you for continuing to support ANZGOG. I hope as many as possible register for the combined meeting with ASGO in April. It promises to be an outstanding meeting.

2009 should be a busy year. My priority will be to work out a strategy to get some support for an increase in Federal and even State infrastructure funding for clinical trials. This is the only way we are going to survive and certainly the only way to improve outcomes for women with gynaecological malignancies. I realise that many units are struggling to accrue because of lack of resources, particularly support for data management and research nurses. We need to put this right as a priority.

I hope everyone has a good break over Christmas and New Year and that you all return ready, willing

and energised to continue your support of ANZGOG in 2009.

With best wishes

*Professor Michael A. Quinn*  
ANZGOG Chair 2009



## New Details

### **Mailing address**

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NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre  
Locked Bag 77  
CAMPERDOWN NSW 1450

**Telephone:** +61 2 9562 5000

**Email:** [enquiry@anzgog.org.au](mailto:enquiry@anzgog.org.au)

### **Delivery Address**

ANZGOG Operations Team  
92-94 Parramatta Road  
Level 4  
CAMPERDOWN NSW 2050

ANZGOG Trials Team  
6-10 Mallet Street  
Level 2  
CAMPERDOWN NSW 2050

### **Facsimile:**

ANZGOG Operations Team  
+61 2 9565 1863

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+61 2 9562 5094



# Fundraising Snapshots 2008

## Comedy for Cancer 3

What a huge success!!!! Comedy and Charity locked hands on the night of November 8th at the Roundhouse auditorium raising over \$77,000 for ovarian cancer research. ANZGOG is deeply grateful to the organizers of this triumphant night of comedy and would like to thank all who supported the event, including its main sponsors Speedo and Everest Babcock and Brown.



The Scene



Clear Message



Prof. M. Friedlander



Game on

## Luncheon for Legends

Brisbane's most exciting new restaurant, Jelly Fish on the Eagle Street boardwalk in the heart of Brisbane's business precinct, was the venue for the Royal Queensland Show 'warm-up' luncheon for country visitors in August, supporting ovarian cancer research.

The luncheon, which attracted more than 130 guests, featured an innovative new approach to seafood preparation using multi-flavoured batters and garnishes and seasoned with the colourful banter of Stanthorpe-born Jan Power, media personality, celebrated 'foodie' and farmers market champion.

The luncheon created a new awareness of ANZGOG and raised almost \$6500 to our cause.

Luncheon sponsors included Ray White Rural, Elders Ltd, Black Toyota and Queensland Country Life. The Queensland Seafood Industry Association also supported the event.



Luncheon Supporters

## ANZGOG Highlights 2008

- \* The ANZGOG Operations Team and ANZGOG Trials Team completed a smooth relocation to separate premises.
- \* ANZGOG clinical trial accrual exceeded 500 patients since our inception.
- \* Comedy for Cancer 3, a fundraiser for ANZGOG's Ovarian Cancer research raised over \$77,000.
- \* Other 2008 community fundraisers contributed over \$14,000 in support of ANZGOG.
- \* Individual donations amounted to almost \$29,500.
- \* The ANZGOG website [www.anzgog.org.au](http://www.anzgog.org.au) had a makeover!
- \* The SYMPTOM BENEFIT trial opened up in six sites and has already recruited 12 patients.
- \* PORTEC-3 has ten active sites and has recruited three patients.
- \* A recruitment initiative was launched with a mailout of new Screening Note Pads to all Principal Investigators.
- \* Thanks to Lindt Australia, ANZGOG was able to show appreciation to its hard working Study Coordinators by making their lives a bit sweeter!
- \* ANZGOG was successful in securing pro bono legal services from Blake Dawson and pro bono insurance advice from Clayton Utz.



## *Inaugural Joint Conference*

Noosa Sheraton Resort and Spa 1-5 April 2009



Australian Society of Gynaecologic Oncologists **ASGO**

**T**he planning for the ANZGOG and ASGO Annual Scientific Meeting 2009 is well underway. A fun, inspirational and educational program is in the works with plenty of opportunities to network as well as to soak in the sun!

Registration forms for the ASM will be emailed to all members in January and will also be found on our website [www.anzgog.org.au](http://www.anzgog.org.au). We encourage all Study Coordinators and Consumer/Community Committee members to submit registration applications and we will endeavor to provide more than one scholarship per site.

Members are encouraged to submit a New Trials Concept and/or an Abstract for a research proposal to be presented at the ASM. Application information for submissions has now been emailed to all members. If you would like to submit your application online, please do so at [www.anzgog.org.au](http://www.anzgog.org.au) by clicking on the ANZGOG/ASGO ASM 2009 link on the Home page.



***Deadline for call for Abstracts:***

February 2, 2009

***Deadline for New Trials Concepts:***

February 12, 2009

If you have any questions please contact Ayanthi Salgado on (02) 9562 5054.

*ANZGOG would  
like to thank our  
members and friends for  
supporting the Group in all its  
endeavours.*

*We wish you a Safe & Joyous  
Holiday Season and a  
Prosperous & Peaceful  
2009!*

