

Kia ora and welcome to our December newsletter,

It's summertime and we're lucky to be able to hold our fundraising events. Read about our fabulous Golf Tournament, and the upcoming Vine Run, with something for everyone. And please let us know if you are interested in our new clinical trial - all the details are below.

With the South Island in Traffic Light Orange, you can be reassured that all our staff and researchers are vaccinated for your safety.

Have a safe and fabulous Christmas and as always, thank you for supporting brain research in Canterbury.

## **Record \$56,000 raised for brain research in Canterbury**

Last week we held our most successful fundraising event ever. The 10th Annual Friends of the Brain Institute Golf Tournament was held at Christchurch Golf Club at Shirley Links.

In 27° heat, 132 players toughed it out with lunch donated by **Strawberry Fare** and **Pegasus Bay** wines out on the course. Thanks to Principal Sponsor **Pacific Radiology** and hole sponsors **Craig's Investment Partners, Gaze Commercial, ANZ Private, Chris Thomson, Hadley McLachlan, Anderson Neurology, Ash & Shar Sutherland Todd, Hellers, Orari Ltd, Willis Towers Watson, Unimed** and **GVI Logistics. Max Bremner** from Kong Cocktail Bar donated the



Hole in One prize on the 7th hole and someone came within 3cm which was exciting (but disappointing) to have been so close to the \$10,000 prize.

For the first time we had an NZBRI Parkinson's team. Neil, Craig, Eric and Graham (pictured) had a great time and are fabulous examples of why we do brain research, to make a real difference in people's lives and our community.

## New Clinical Trial

We are looking for 10 Parkinson's participants for a 12-weeks drug trial run by Prof Tim Anderson at the New Zealand Brain Research Institute. The aim of the trial is to check whether one particular medication may improve cognition by increasing blood flow to the brain.

The study consists of nine clinic visits at the New Zealand Brain Research Institute (66 Stewart Street). Each visit involves blood and urine collection, neurological examination, ECGs and blood pressure check, questionnaires about mood and daily life as well as several tests of thinking and memory. Participants will also be asked if they are willing to have an MRI scan of their brain. Participants will wear a heart rate and activity monitor for seven consecutive days between visits and keep a medication diary. Participants will be reimbursed for petrol cost and time (\$300 per visit).

We are looking for two groups of Parkinson's participants.

- 1. Parkinson's participants between the ages of 40-80 years old with:
  - Sleep disturbances (i.e acting or shouting in your sleep)
  - Low mood from time to time
- 2. Parkinson's participants between the ages of 50-80 years old with:
  - o Marked memory and thinking problems that affect your everyday life
  - A spouse, child or person who knows them well to join them on clinic visits and provide information about their activities of daily living

Please contact Dr Kyla-Louise Horne to register your interest and hear more about the study.

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## Pegasus Bay Vine Run - Sunday 30th January 2022

Next month is the event you've been waiting for! The Vine Run at Pegasus Bay is an amazing day out, with 6km and 10km courses and the all-new half marathon course. Bring a picnic for the family or enjoy the catering options available.

Join in the fun and run or walk amongst the picturesque hills, valleys and vineyards of Pegasus Bay to support brain research in Canterbury.

Register now at <u>www.vinerun.co.nz</u>

## Donate Now

For more information about our work or how to support us, contact us at: Website: <u>www.nzbri.org</u> Or email: <u>info@nzbri.org</u>

Join us on <u>Facebook</u> for up-to-date NZBRI research as well as staff profiles and NZBRI events.

Stay safe Ngā mihi

The New Zealand Brain Research Institute Team





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