

RCH Alumni

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You're invited to the RCH Alumni Gala Lunch and AGM with an Alum- Oration from Clinical Associate Professor Jenny Hynson OAM

"Unfortunate Events and Unexpected Rewards: the Development of a Palliative Care Service for Children"

Thursday, 13th November 2025

Kew Golf Club (120 Belford Road Kew East)

Annual General Meeting at 12 noon followed by lunch at 1pm

Clinical Associate Professor Jenny Hynson OAM

Jenny had always intended to be a journalist until her secondary school English teacher told her it 'wasn't going to happen'. She then thought that being a paediatrician might be nice and so that was the pathway she pursued until, in her second year of training, she had an encounter with a patient that took her somewhere she hadn't imagined. Paediatric Palliative Care was not a specialist area of practice or training at that time but there was a need and with the help of wise and supportive colleagues, Jenny helped establish and lead a statewide service for Victoria's sickest children and their families.



She also worked with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians to develop a curriculum for the new specialty of Paediatric Palliative Medicine and began training young registrars, some of whom now work with her in the team. Jenny has completed a PhD and contributed to a number of major international texts and journal articles in the field of paediatric palliative care. She was also a founding member of the Children's Bioethics Centre at the RCH. In 2021, Jenny was awarded the Royal Australasian College of Physicians Chapter of Palliative Medicine Award for Outstanding Contribution by a Fellow to the discipline of Palliative Medicine. In 2024, she had the great honour (and surprise) of receiving a Medal of the Order of Australia.

Jenny will explain what drew her to palliative care and describe the development of the Victorian Paediatric Palliative Care Program which is now in its 25th year. It is the story of a collaborative effort to meet an unrecognised need.

Lunch tickets \$90/head. Please register by 30th October via <https://www.trybooking.com/DEZLE>

Any queries to the Honorary Secretary, Christine Rodda - christine.rodde@unimelb.edu.au