

# CMRI puts health of our children first

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## Lyn Mills

Canberra Auxilliary's lunch on the grounds of Government House raises funds for medical research.



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## CMRI lunch

Lana Docanto, Lyndsey Rice, Jennifer Philps, Tracey Bryan and Scott Cohen. *Photo: Lyn Mills*

Life can change in a nano second. An accident, a diagnosis, a natural disaster or a myriad of other things that change circumstances and require tenacity and determination to deal with. For Loreign Randall, elegant, charming and healthy, falling off her bike when riding around the lake with her grandchildren has changed her life. She is paralysed and in a wheelchair, but stoic and determined to make every day a better one.

When it comes to tiny babies being born with or developing a life-threatening medical problem, our hearts break and it inevitably requires all the stoicism, tenacity and determination parents and families can muster to make things right. At the Children's Medical Research Institute, the fire in their bellies is integral to the day-to-

day research among those who toil long and hard to make the lives of sick littlies better. Especially those with cancer.

There is no magic wand and research requires money. The CMRI has seen a diminution in grants this year and the need, of course, grows so the annual CMRI Canberra Auxiliary lunch is not just a perfect picnic and pre-Christmas bargain buy, but essential to the ongoing CMRI research - when coupled with other fund-raising activities through the year this is all a great effort by those who toil hard to make it a success.

To catch up with familiar faces, to find treasures among the handiwork, to stock up the pantry with jams, puds and perfect Swedish cookies and find must haves among a range of Christmas decorations is all so nice and relaxed. And all for a cause that everyone knows is the most important of all, the health of all children.

Read more: <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/lifestyle/cmri-puts-health-of-our-children-first-20131126-2y7xf.html#ixzz2ltwlksp2>