#### FOUNDATION

# **BACK ON THE HORSE**

MANY DOCTOR Q READERS MIGHT REMEMBER CHELSEA HIGGINS, A YOUNG HORSE RIDER WHO SUFFERED A DIFFUSED BRAIN INJURY AFTER BEING CRUSHED BY HER HORSE IN 2010. CHELSEA'S REHAB INCLUDED CONSISTENT USE OF ONE OF FOUR SPECIAL IPADS DONATED BY THE AMA QUEENSLAND FOUNDATION, THANKS TO THE DR STAN AND MAUREEN DUKE FOUNDATION. NOW, CHELSEA IS BACK ON THE HORSE AND CLOCKING UP THE AWARDS.

The AMA Queensland Foundation team first met Chelsea when they donated money to the Royal Children's Hospital for iPads and software for paediatric rehabilitation.

After her fall, Chelsea spent nine days in a coma before returning to Brisbane for an intensive six months of rehabilitation at the Royal Children's Hospital. She was trying to regain her ability to speak and was unable to write as she was totally paralysed on her right side.

Chelsea has used the iPad for occupational, speech, and music therapies, and praises the strong role it played in her recovery. She says the long-term benefits are obvious and while she still has some trouble writing, she's a whizz when it comes to using her smart phone or a computer. Even though Chelsea's fall has resulted in permanent damage, she lives an extraordinary life. In 2012 alone Chelsea received the Queensland Para Equestrian of the Year award, the Queensland Women in Sport 'Rising Star' Award, and was the third Qualifier for the 2012 London Olympics, just to name a few.

On top of a heavy training schedule, Chelsea is planning to undertake a diploma in business in July and is on track to represent Australia at the 2016 Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro. **Q** 

### Doctor's doing good

This is just one example of how AMA Queensland Foundation supports doctors doing good. To see more success stories or to donate please visit our website: www.amaqfoundation.com.au

## WILLIAM BUCK SUPPORT FOUNDATION

William Buck have a strong connection to the medical industry. We have been working with medical professionals for many years and are proud to support a charity which is close to our clients' hearts. The AMA Queensland Foundation are fantastic supporters of rural healthcare and medical research and are true to their charter of 'doctors doing good'.

Previously, William Buck have directly supported the AMA Queensland Foundation in providing a donation to Muscular Dystrophy Queensland. This donation allowed Muscular Dystrophy Queensland to purchase a two-year-old in Mackay with a new Hi-Lo bed which made a huge difference to her and her family. Additionally, William Buck have also provided a scholarship to a James Cook University student, Preston Cardelli, who is particularly interested in working in rural and remote medicine in Far Northern Australia and working within Indigenous communities

William Buck look forward to continuing their support of the AMA Queensland Foundation and being involved in their fantastic projects. **Q** 



### iPADS IN PAEDIATRIC REHAB

The iPads can be used with a wide range of software to assist in learning, literacy and social skills. The Paediatric Rehabilitation department at the Royal Children's Hospital use over 300 iPads for rehabilitation in their multi-disciplinary clinics, which are held four times a week and assist hundreds of children.

The iPads are used for in-patients and are also taken home or sent to children as part of the outreach program. The touch facility of the iPad is invaluable in enabling access, as many patients do not have the motor skills or physical ability to hold a pencil or use a regular keyboard or mouse. The iPad is also very effective in distracting children when hospital staff are required to do a medical examination or procedure.

AMA Queensland Foundation would like to thank the Stan and Maureen Duke Trust for making this and many other generous donations to Royal Children's Hospital possible.



## **PLEDGING BEQUESTS**

AMA QUEENSLAND FOUNDATION DIRECTOR ROSS EXPLAINS HIS REASONS FOR PLEDGING A BEQUEST TO THE FOUNDATION.

Over the 15 years of working closely with AMA Queensland and serving on the Foundation board I have met many remarkable people dedicated to improving the health and well being of their patients and their community and made lots of great friends. What is even more remarkable to me is just how inclusive the association is in its advocacy for members and non-members alike. It really is an organisation with doctors doing good at its very heart.

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We discussed this as a family and agreed that words will never be enough, so we decided to make our thank you more tangible by making a bequest to the Foundation on behalf of all those doctors and nurses... Our family's link with the profession became even stronger when our son Nick decided he wanted to do medicine, which was wonderful news. It was just four months later that life threw one of those tricky curved balls that can literally hit you for a six. Nick was diagnosed with a tumour in one of his thoracic vertebrae the day before he was to fly overseas to study for six months as part of his commerce degree at the University of Queensland. It was a tough period for Nick and our family, but made so much easier because of the support and kindness from so many friends and colleagues from the AMA and the hospital. It was nothing short of amazing, and Mandy, Sarah and Paul, Nick and I will be eternally grateful.

We discussed this as a family and agreed that words will never be enough, so we decided to make our thank you more tangible by making a bequest to the Foundation on behalf of all those doctors, nurses and AMA staff who were so kind and supportive to us during that tough time.

The good news? Nick had the operation, lost a rib and a vertebra, gained some titanium, finished his commerce degree, is in second year med at Griffith on the Gold Coast, and enjoying it immensely. To all those who provided the skills expertise, support and kindness during that time – thank you. Our bequest is for you. **Q** 



### END OF YEAR TAX APPEAL

2013 End of Year Tax Appeal raised an incredible \$36,580. Thank you to all 103 donors who helped to smash the \$25,000 target (and double the funds raised in the 2012 appeal). All funds will go towards continuing to support financially disadvantaged medical students at James Cook University who are keen to continue to pursue careers in rural and regional Queensland. **Q** 

## For further details...

On the AMA Queensland Foundation or to have a discreet chat about possibly leaving a bequest, please contact Colleen Harper, Foundation Manager, (07) 3872 2204 or c.harper@amaq.com.au

#### DOCTORS DOING GOOD

Do you have a project which needs financial assistance?

Contact Colleen Harper, Foundation Manager: **Phone:** (07) 3872 2204 **Email:** c.harper@amaq.com.au **Website:** www.amaqfoundation.com.au

