



# Newsletter

WALLERBERDINA STATION

June 2018

## A game changer in the fight against prostate cancer



Ashley "Moose" Haywood

Recently, Fairfax media outlets including, The Age, Sydney Morning Herald and the Financial Review, published a story on an experimental treatment, made possible by a radiopharmaceutical known as Lutetium-177 (Lu-177), which is made at ANSTO's Lucas Heights campus.

It is reported that a proof-of-concept trial, the results of which are published in Lancet Oncology, has been hailed as a game-changer for people who have prostate cancer.

With respect to the story, Mark Moore, the General Manager of ANSTO Health, said "ANSTO is the only manufacturer of Lutetium-177 (Lu-177) in Australia, which is produced in the OPAL multipurpose reactor, and is involved in the trial". for medical trial purposes. "ANSTO has a commitment to delivering solutions that lead to improved health outcomes, a more sustainable environment and delivering solutions for our industries."

Ashley "Moose" Haywood, from Hawker, is a member of the Barndioota Consultative Committee and Economic Working Group, and has had prostate cancer. "I'm a volunteer ambo driver, so I'm pretty used to rides in the rig, but it was a shock when I had to go to Port Augusta

as the passenger instead of the driver," said Moose.

They took a sample from my prostate and 5 per cent came back positive for cancer – then after a detour through Port Augusta, I flew onto Adelaide for surgery where I got my prostate cancer diagnosis. "The best option for me was removal because of my age, but for those whose course of treatment might involve nuclear medicine, the prospect of a new approach is really exciting. Through both my own cancer treatment and as a volunteer Ambulance driver, I have really started thinking about the link between nuclear medicine that can save people's lives, and the national facility," he said.

Moose is a supporter of the proposed National Radioactive Waste Management Facility, which is currently being considered at nearby Wallerberdina Station.

"When you think about the fact the waste that would be stored at the national facility comes from nuclear medicines that enable trials like this, the importance of the reactor is pretty clear in my mind," he said.

For more information on ANSTO, see [www.ansto.gov.au](http://www.ansto.gov.au).

## New factsheets available

The following factsheets have been released:

- Agriculture
- Safely managing radioactive waste
- Why we need a Facility
- New framework

You can find these factsheets on our website:  
[radioactivewaste.gov.au](http://radioactivewaste.gov.au)



## Business construction workshop

Take this opportunity to hear from experts on how small businesses can prepare and benefit from the construction of a large scale facility.

Learn about how the construction sector works and how local businesses can link with business engagement specialists

Find out how to re-skill, up-skill and what the required competencies will be needed from a Vocational Education and Training Provider.

Find out how small to medium businesses can comply for large projects or sub-contract in regards to insurances and work health and safety

18th July 2018

5:00 pm to 7:30pm

Great Northern Lodge Conference Room  
45 First Street, Quorn

Places are limited

RSVP to  
[suzanne.selby@industry.gov.au](mailto:suzanne.selby@industry.gov.au)

Light refreshments will be provided

Free event



## Site Characterisation update

The onsite work to assess Wallerberdina Station's technical suitability to host a National Radioactive Waste Management Facility has been completed.

The process involved documenting the surface and subsurface environment as well as existing infrastructure. The data collected on-site is now being processed and will be used to create a site suitability report. This report will be available before the community vote on 20 August 2018.



## Community Benefit Programme progress

Since the announcement of the successful grant recipients in Round 2 of the National Radioactive Waste Management Facility Community Benefit Programme in April, AusIndustry have been working closely with the grant recipients to finalise grant agreements. The construction of two aged care independent living units in Hawker, which was a Round 1 Barndioota project in the Community Benefit Programme, is now underway.



## Economic Working Group update

In the last meeting, the group discussed various issues and outcomes including, the Hawker Industry Expo Day and various proposals for government support should the facility be located in the area. In the next meeting, the group will discuss the economic and social impact study.

## Agriculture roundtable meeting

The Minister's Agriculture Roundtable Meeting was held on Tuesday 12 June. Representatives from major Agricultural Associations attended including, Livestock SA, Grain Producers SA and Grain Trade Australia along with representatives from ARPANSA, the Department of Environment and Energy, the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, Food Standards Australia and New Zealand, ANSTO, Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Radioactive Waste Taskforce. This provided an opportunity for the Agricultural Associations to ask the Minister any questions concerning the co-existence of agriculture alongside a Facility. Food Standards Australia and New Zealand and The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources were able to confirm that the Facility poses no risk to human health, the environment or agricultural produce due to the strict licensing requirements put in place by ARPANSA.

The discussion was very positive focussing on the strength of the regulatory frameworks and the environmental monitoring regime at and around the facility which gives complete confidence that there is no radiological or other contaminants in crops or the environment. Participants heard that there has never been any domestic or export market concerns involving radiation for Australian farmers even with current radioactive waste facilities operating across Australia, including South Australia for the past 60 years.

## A day in the life of nuclear medicine



ANSTO Workers handling a Gentech cannister containing nuclear medicine

In Australia, over 500,000 nuclear medicine procedures are performed annually. Australia is fortunate to have a modern, state of the art nuclear reactor in Sydney, run by ANSTO (the Australian Nuclear Science & Technology Organisation), to produce much of the radiotracers needed for these procedures. Transporting the short-lived radiotracers to all parts of the vast continent of Australia presents challenges.

The Australian and New Zealand Society of Nuclear Medicine (ANZSNM) was founded in 1969 and is the major professional society representing those practising Nuclear Medicine in Australia and New Zealand with over 1000 members in over 250 nuclear medicine facilities.

The Society includes Physicians/Radiologists, Physicists, Radiopharmaceutical Scientists, Technologists, Nurses and others interested in the practice of Nuclear Medicine.

The ANZSNM is the major provider of ongoing education and professional development for its members. The Australian Nuclear Science & Technology Organisation (ANSTO)

ANSTO is Australia's national nuclear organisation. Its functions and activities are set down by the ANSTO Act 1987. ANSTO is a statutory authority with its own Board and reports to the Australian Parliament. ANSTO Health supplies more than 85 per cent of the nuclear medicine used in hospitals and medical practices across Australia. Each week ANSTO Health delivers over 10,000 patient doses of potentially lifesaving nuclear medicines within Australia.

To learn more about the work done in Nuclear Medicine in Australia:

visit <http://www.anzsnm.org.au/>

### Contact us:

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