

ChIPS Wrapper 2025

Empowering Young People



ChIPS Awards

The Liz Dixon Award



Liz Dixon was an inspiring participant of the ChIPS program. Her courage, positive attitude, joyous spirit and commitment to those she cared about will be forever remembered. The Liz Dixon award was created to keep her memory, her love of the ChIPS Wrapper, and her passion for the arts alive. This honour is awarded to a CHIPER with the most creative contribution to the program over the past year.

2025 Award Winner - Kale McQuade

Previous Award Winners

2024 – Hado Alao
2023 – Talicia Bruton
2022 – Amy Fransen
2021 – Sarah Gill
2020 – Emily Cocks
2019 – Curtis Reeder
2018 – Jade Driscoll

2017 – Emily Wickam
2016 – Jessica Curgenvan
2015 – Tash Payne
2014 – Beth Sleeman
2013 – Sarah Menta
2012 – Jemma Young
2010/11 – Jess Marshall

2009 – Geri Herd
2008 – Scott Campbell
2007 – Karen Lay
2006 – Louise Pellegrino
2005 – Elisha Mont

The Chris Balnaves Award

Chris Balnaves (Bellsy) was an amazing CHIPER. He joined ChIPS in 1997 and it soon proved impossible to find anybody who didn't know him! Chris was once said to be the heart of ChIPS. He attended as many socials and Reference Committee meetings as possible and he always made time to introduce himself and befriend as many CHIPERS as he could.

Chris won the first ever Walsh Perpetual Trophy and continued to defend his title in the years following. Unfortunately Chris passed away in 2003. To honour his memory, the Chris Balnaves award was created and the award is given each year to a CHIPER who embodies his spirit. It allows us to always remember his dedication to ChIPS and the contributions he made. Chris was an amazing and inspiring person who will always be remembered and truly missed.



2025 Award Winner - Mitchell Seath

Previous Award Winners

2024 - Ayan Xusen
2023 - Stella Hemingway
2020 - Kale McQuade
2019 - Jake Cunningham
2018 - Zoe Perry
2017 - Natasha Payne

2016 - Emily Ryan
2015 - Laura Gysslink
2014 - Tyrone Kelly
2013 - Eliza Masterson
2012 - Jemma Young
2011 - James Williams

2010 - Jordan Hammond
2009 - Scott Campbell
2008 - Stacy Cumming
2007 - Louise Pellegrino
2006 - Bree Register
2005 - Andrew Selvaggi

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Introducing the Snack Packs

This year, the Pubs team shook things up. We rolled out four smaller versions of the Wrapper (shoutout to Vic for naming them "Snack Packs") along with the big end-of-year one. The goal was to take some pressure off the end-of-year madness and get those articles to us faster.



Welcomes and Farewells To Our New CHIPERS



A Warm Welcome To...

Hanna Visagie	Grace James
Eva Franks	Luc Percy
Ryan Cowley	Ella Manypeney
Angelica Tan	Bronte Grantham
Michael Venables	Sheniah Pius



On behalf of the ChIPS community, we are so excited to welcome you and look forward to meeting you all soon. We're thrilled to have you join us, and we can't wait to share this amazing program with you!

To Our Graduating CHIPERS

On behalf of the ChIPS community we would love to wish you all the very best as you begin this next chapter. Thank you all for being part of our community, your presence has meant so much to us. Farewell, and good luck with everything that lies ahead!

A Bittersweet Farewell To...

Zoe Petropoulos	Mikayla Ward
Belle Stobie	Emily Wickham
Julia Ludbrook	Muhjah Al Shamis
Nikita Mitchell	Blake Kerton
Caitlin Howley	Kalysha Danvers
Sarah Dhedhi	Robert Hinrichsen
Bryley Towns	Ella Bibby
Georgia-Rose Lowe	Fady Elyas
Phung Dong	



Chairperson's Report

This year has been one of creativity, collaboration, and connection. Each subcom has worked tirelessly to strengthen the heart of the program and bring new ideas to life. For the first time, our Pubs team introduced Snack Packs, a new way to share quick updates and stories from across ChIPS, which has been incredibly successful and well-received by the community. Advocacy have had an amazing year too, running six presentations and even submitting an abstract to the 2026 AAAH Conference, showing just how far our lived-experience voice has reached.

Socials have kept our community connected, running two socials so far and organising graduation for the 2025 cohort, which we're all looking forward to celebrating soon. They also ran an online social that, for the first time, included participants from the Perth ChIPS program, a really exciting step in building connections across states. And of course, we're all eagerly awaiting the work of the Camp Committee to come to life at what's sure to be another unforgettable Jan Camp. It's also been wonderful to see so many ChIPERS engage with RefCom throughout the year, including at our RefCom takeovers during intakes. It's always exciting to see new faces joining the program and becoming part of the ChIPS community.

To our volunteers, thank you for the time, energy, and endless support you give to us throughout the year. Your dedication, encouragement, and belief in our ideas make such a difference and help bring everything we do to life. To our staff Harry, Jimmy, and Bec, thank you for everything you do behind the scenes. Your ongoing guidance, support, and care for each of us are what keep both RefCom and the broader ChIPS program running so smoothly and the program wouldn't be what it is without you.

To everyone who's been part of this year's journey, whether you led a subcommittee, contributed to a meeting, or simply showed up when things were tough, thank you. It's your commitment and spirit that keep's ChIPS the welcoming, empowering, and vibrant community that it is. And to anyone considering joining RefCom next year, do it! It's such a rewarding experience and a chance to learn, grow, and help shape the program that gives so much to so many. Here's to another year of growth, teamwork, and the magic that happens when ChIPERS come together.

Stella Hemingway
RefCom Chairperson 2025



January Camp

January Camp kicked off with a big bang—literally—a space-themed bang! From the 15th to 17th of January, Lady Northcote transformed into a space station where CHIPERS were sorted into intergalactic teams: ET, Neil Armstrong, TARDIS, and Milky Way, each with their own cosmic totems. I was in Team Milky Way and put to the test in a range of activities and challenges such as giant swing and archery (a personal favourite) among them. Between activities, whether during meals or free time, it was a joy to meet, mingle, and make new friends with fellow CHIPERS.

Party night brought us back to Earth with an enchanted forest theme. From dragons and fairies to dark angels, we all let loose on the dance floor joined by 7-foot-tall unicorns and the sound of off-key (but passionate) singing filling the air.

Finally, the moment we'd all been waiting for... Team Milky Way 'took home the chocolates' and won the camp! Knowing our hard work had paid off was incredibly satisfying. Heartbroken to leave, yet exhausted and ready for our own beds, it was time to head home and conclude an unforgettable adventure.

Being that this was my first camp with CHIPS, I was filled with both excitement and trepidation, but it's safe to say I had an amazing time.

A joint article written by:
Jess Sidwell and Victoria Charleston





Space Camp

2025



The Amazing Race



Let's Race! Over the school holidays, the ChIPS Socials Committee turned the RCH into a giant game board with their Amazing Race inspired event, racing against the clock, solving clues, and laughing their way from one challenge to the next.

A massive shoutout to the incredible Socials team at RefComm for putting together such a creative, energetic, and unforgettable event! The race was filled with clever clues, challenging puzzles, and just the right mix of fun and friendly competition. From start to finish, the energy was high, and the excitement never dipped. I had an absolute blast racing from station to station with my team, solving riddles to figure out our next destination. It really brought out our teamwork and communication skills, we laughed, strategised, and pushed each other to keep going.

Every station had its own charm, but my favourite was the Starlight Room and the crossword station, though it really tested us, it highlighted our determination and drive to achieve a mutual goal. This social wasn't just a game, it was an awesome bonding experience that brought everyone closer together. I'd give it a solid 10/10!

Can't wait to see what the Social Committee has planned next!
Jess Sidwell



Run For Rachael

at the RCH Run for the kids

On the beautifully crisp Sunday morning of the 6th of April, a group of CHIPERS set off on the early morning venture that is Run for the Kids, completed in memory of Rachael Farrelly. Contrary to the name, no running was involved. Instead, it was an incredible stroll. The route taking us through sections of Melbourne I have never paused to consider the beauty of, such as standing atop of the Bolte Bridge whilst catching my breath and taking in the city in one sweeping view. True to tradition, we were on a mission to be the last ones to cross the finish line, and we were successful in accomplishing this, finishing the 4.7km course in just over an hour and a half. Although I never had the privilege of meeting Rachael, I felt the love and joy she brought into the world radiating from the incredible group of people that she united as a sea of purple shirts made up of her family, friends, and fellow CHIPERS.

Charlie Kennedy



The Good Friday Appeal

A Perspective from a Volunteer

Hi my name is Nae and I am on the youth council for the Good Friday Appeal. This year was my second year volunteering with the Good Friday Appeal. Last year my shift was at Kids Day Out, this year I was at the Super Clash at Marvel Stadium. It is an AFL match between North Melbourne and Carlton.

My role was a Donation Angel to raise much needed funds for the Royal Children's Hospital. I also have done many other fundraising shifts through GFA such as events at Crown Casino, racing events and even the rugby!

I enjoy being able to give back to the hospital that helped me ❤️



To our Amazing Volunteers and Med Team



We'd like to say a sincere thank you to all the medical staff and volunteers who have dedicated their time, energy, and compassion to the ChIPS program. Your unwavering support and commitment have made a meaningful difference in the lives of so many in our community. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed, and we are truly grateful for everything you do.

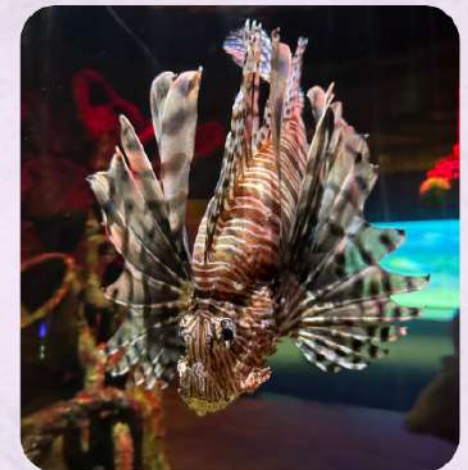
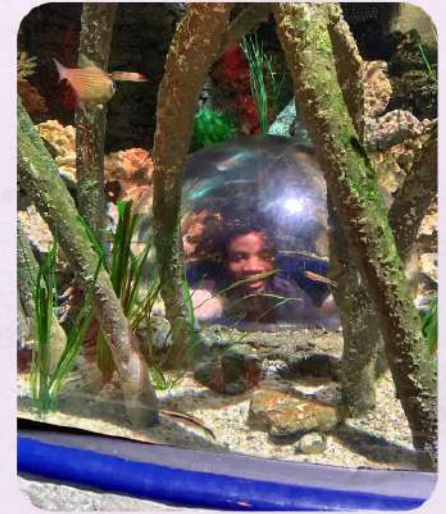
The Aquarium Social

During the middle of the year school holidays, there is the ChIPS July social, which was held UNDER WATER, just kidding, the wonderful ChIPS community went to the aquarium located in the city. We were able to do this because of the efforts of the awesome 2025 Socials Committee.

The social started with all of us meeting outside the aquarium and when all arrived it was the start of an amazing, wonderful, action-packed adventure full of discovery. We split off into groups and started to make our way through the twisting tunnels of the sea life filled maze. Some highlights from the adventure were the weird stingray looking thing, the sharks, the turtles, the sea horses and of course the penguins.

It was a lot of fun getting to see all these cool things with my fellow ChIPS friends. And of course, it's not a social without ending with food, after we were done exploring, we went to the food court where we got lunch. And that was the end of another awesome ChIPS social.

Written by the one and only and everyone's best friend, Hadi.



September Camp

ChIPS Holiday Vacation

This September camp our worlds were rocked at Camp Manyung Discovery Camp, lining the Morning Peninsula and overlooking the beautiful blue waters of the coast. The ChIPS crew spent three days soaking up the not so sunny weather and following musical themed activities with rockstar enthusiasm.

Upon disembarking the tour bus, bags were put away and we were sorted into our teams: Musical Theatre, 90s, Emo and K-Pop! I was definitely famished from the excitement of starting yet another camp (I swear the rolls at camp are something different). Jumping into activities such as the giant swing, archery, tree top ropes and a creative activity that involved some bedazzled dance moves coordinated with a song aligned with our team genre.

Finally, on the last night at camp, the touring ChIPS ChUNES gave a spectacular performance presenting numerous original songs, as well as breathtaking solo acts that touched so many hearts. Leaving camp on a high note was Charlie, dancing to Pink Pony club by Chappell Roan, a definite highlight to remember.

Jess Sidwell





ChIPS on Tour

2025

ChIPS ChUNES

Semester One

Every Tuesday since term one, a dedicated group of unique individuals have been participating in the revival of ChIPS ChUNES, the ChIPS music program. We started off creating some covers of well known songs and learning more about music theory. We have now created four original songs that will be professionally recorded in August! To create these songs we engaged as a group with our minds and our hearts, exchanged ideas, thoughts and even our energy. Some songs are chronic illness focused, which takes courage, others taking a more prehistoric route.

Special shoutout to returning CHIPER and now volunteer Tyrone Kelly and staff Harry and Jim for helping us out. It has been such a pleasure to create honest and authentic work that we can't wait to share with the wider ChIPS community!

Victoria Charleston



Semester Two

In the back half of 2025, we have really seen the hard work of all the CHIPERS involved in the music program pay off with our professional recording day and performance at September Camp! Due to popular demand, rehearsals continued in term 3 leading up to our recording date across the 16 & 17th of August at Studio 52, where Missy Higgins recorded her first tracks!

This was a really exciting and once in a lifetime experience to get behind the mic, learn the processes of creating a song and see how all the layers of the song come together, while it may have sounded funny to be yelling 'nurse' in isolation we all harmonised well. This culminated in our performance at September Camp which included our brachiosaurus t-shirts! It was a real moment of pride to be able to show what we have been working on and get feedback from the audience. We also got to see the humorous fruits of our labour with Kale's blooper reel.

What's next? Well we will be performing again at graduation then Kale's documentary about us will enter a short film competition next year so stay chuned!

Victoria Charleston





CHIPS CHUMES

2025



Harry's Highlights

What a year! Looking back, I'm really impressed by the creativity, energy, and commitment of the ChIPS community. One of my absolute highlights has been the return of ChIPS ChUNES. Meeting weekly to create songs and make music, what's not to love! Getting in the recording studio and the incredible performance with real-life dinosaurs at CHV was probably my highlight of the year. Shout out to Kale for his hard work on the ChIPS ChUNES documentary coming to a screen near you soon.

Another highlight for me has been seeing ChIPERS from the Advocacy/JEDI Committee deliver the "Know Me Later" education workshops for RCH Allied Health staff. These sessions are creating real impact, young people sharing their stories about interactions with the healthcare system and educating professionals about what really matters in patient care. I've seen clinicians have so many 'aha' moments during these sessions.

I've been enjoying the Snack Packs, the quarterly publications have been a real win for the Committee and everyone loves them... guessing the baby photos has been a highlight. It was also great to have an online social with ChIPERS from the new programs in Perth and the Sunshine Coast. The Socials Committee put in a huge effort to make it happen, and the trivia night was a hit. Lots of laughs, plenty of friendly competition, and a real sense of connection across states. It felt like a big step in bringing the wider ChIPS community together.

I'm deeply grateful to our Reference Committee members, Peer Leaders, volunteers, and medical staff for their dedication and passion this year, we can't do it without you. I'm proud of our staff crew (me, Bec and Jimmy) for delivering another huge year while keeping it fun and flexible.

PS: Jan Camp 2026 is going to be a banger!

Jimmy's Jabber

Wow, what another massive year for the program. Time has flown by and it feels like the end of the year is ramping up instead of winding down. As always, I don't know where to start about the year that has been. I have to say that one major highlight has been ChIPS ChUNES and everything the band achieved. First they wrote some tasty jams – some poetic explorations into life with a chronic illness and some joyful dinosaur themed fun. The recording experience was tough but we managed to get it all done over two days! Then obviously the camp performance was a great way to cap off all the hard work with everyone getting the recognition they deserved! Always remember that "everybody loves a brachiosaurus".

The Socials Crew put in a massive effort too with a really diverse offering. Amazing Race at RCH, Sea Life Aquarium visit, Online Social with interstate ChIPERS plus the end of year Graduation Ceremony. Keeping things exciting through the year is no easy job and it keeps the program exciting. Also showing interstate programs how it's done makes us remember how lucky we are to have what we have. We're looking forward to a huge 2026 with new ChIPERS joining us in November 2025 and a heap of exciting things planned. Thanks for a great year!

Bec's Blog

For me, 2025 will always be the year we invented the Snack Pack and went on tour with the band! And what a great year it was with too many things to mention in one brief wrap up. We began with another very successful and fun Jan Camp, with one of my fave creative activities possibly ever! I loved watching the RAGE style music video clips on day three. Congrats to the committee, you did an amazing job.

Of course RefCom kicked off in early March and I have loved working closely with the Pubs crew, what a team!! This year we did things differently with the invention of the Snack Packs. Our goal was to reduce the stress of bringing the entire Wrapper together at the end of the year, and I think it worked a treat. The Snack Packs were super colourful and fun to read, and were well received by our supporters, funding partners, and the wider community. This years Pubs team have done a fantastic job and you should be proud of everything you have achieved, including this Wrapper!

ChIPS Holiday Vacation was my other highlight of the year, what a fantastic camp! Behind the scenes everything ran smoothly and the live show from the ChIPS ChUNES band was AMAZING!! I haven't been involved in ChUNES at all and it blew me away to finally see first hand all the hard work that had been going on! Congrats to everyone involved and yes it is true, everybody does love the brachiosaurus! The song has been stuck in my head for months.

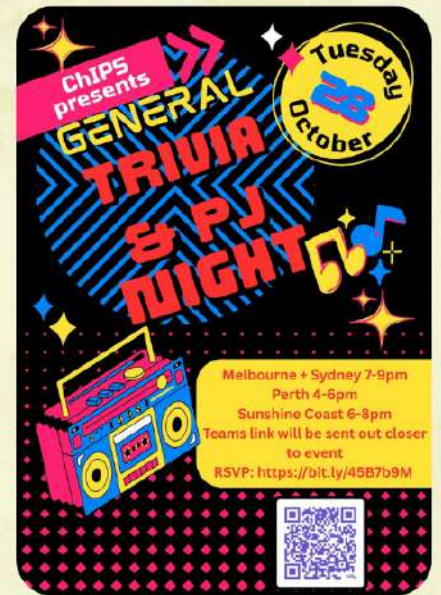
Again we welcomed new ChIPERS and said goodbye to so many at the ChIPS Graduation. Well done to the socials committee for all your hard work bringing the graduation together. It's always hard saying farewell to ChIPERS but this year was so much harder because I think I was around when all of you entered ChIPS (yes I've been around a long time now!). I have seen you grow and blossom into the amazing young people you are today and it truly brings out the mum in me, I'm so proud of you all!

And of course I can't finish without saying a HUGE thank you to Harry and Jim. You guys are ace and I love working with you. Thank you for all the support, hard work and laughter! And another HUGE thank you to all our awesome volunteers. You guys are even acer!! Without your support the program just wouldn't be the same. See you all in 2026!



The Online Trivia Social

Hello, it's me Hadi, I have been given the wonderful task of writing another awesome article about another wonderful social that was held this year, the online Trivia and PJ Night. The social was amazing and really fun. What made this social special was that we had guests from other ChIPS programs from around Australia join us, so that was great. Now let's talk all the things we did during the event, once the call started, we were waiting for everyone to join so we played karaoke which was fantastic. After everyone arrived we went into an icebreaker where we split into teams, each team chose a theme and then grabbed an item related to that theme and everyone had to guess each teams theme. After that we had a short break and then went into the most fun part of the day, KAHOOT. There were three quizzes and it just seemed like everyone had a great time answering the questions and thinking of answers and bantering with each other. The 2025 Socials committee did a great job making this Social happen. See you all at the next Social.



From everyone's best friend Hadi

NAIDOC Week

Celebrating NAIDOC Week Through Art

To honour NAIDOC Week, we came together for a cultural art session led by Skyla from Living Culture. We learned about traditional Aboriginal art symbols, their meanings, and how they are used to tell stories and represent Country.

Using this new knowledge, we worked together to create a colourful serpent mural which symbolised strength, connection, and cultural storytelling. It was a creative and meaningful way to celebrate NAIDOC Week and deepen our appreciation for Aboriginal culture.

The mural will be put up on the walls of the ChOFFICE for everyone to enjoy.



Piper's Personal Story

ChIPS has been a huge part of my life! I was 5 when I started developing symptoms of my first chronic illness; it was a huge nightmare for little me. It was awful for my family to witness me going through something so horrible, and they had no answers as to why this was happening. After many visits to different

doctors and emergency rooms, being told that nothing was wrong and that all tests were fine, Mum persevered as she knew something wasn't right. She went to another GP and sat in her office crying and begging for a referral to the RCH to find out what was happening to me. When I finally got diagnosed, I had just turned 8. I had my first appointment with a specialist, she asked me two questions, and with my answers, I was officially diagnosed with my first chronic illness.



It was so hard for me to talk about my pain other than to my family and doctors. My friends didn't comprehend what I was going through, and that is understandable. In the past, I have been accused of "faking my illness because I look fine", I've been told that "I'm just wanting attention", and many more horrible things. Having an invisible illness or any illness at all can result in people's lack of empathy and understanding. Unfortunately, I have developed two more chronic illnesses as I've got older. I don't let illness define me. I still love going out with friends and family. I enjoy F1, Football, anything to do with cars and animals.

Before joining ChIPS, I felt very alone and isolated as no one of my age understood, and I wished I had more people to talk to. I felt so different from my friends and couldn't understand why I couldn't do some of the things they could. I stay strong and try not to let it get to me. Although some days are harder than others. I had a really good friend who had passed away back in 2023. I could tell her anything, and she wouldn't judge me; she understood what I was going through, as she had a chronic illness too. I will always continue her legacy by supporting others who are going through hard times and understand to the best of my ability as to what they are going through.

When I joined ChIPS, I was quite shy and a little nervous. I have now been part of this wonderful community for three years, and I couldn't wish for a better program! I don't feel judged or misunderstood. Everyone is so kind, understanding and supportive! I am so grateful to be a part of such a beautiful program. My peers and the staff are amazing, wonderful people. I have made so many beautiful friends. In the ChIPS program I have been to camps, presented at the H.E.L.P conference in Adelaide August 2024, become a peer leader, been to so many fun socials, made beautiful friends, and had my story published in a medical journal in England.

Joining the ChIPS program has so many benefits. I feel like I can freely be open about things and discuss my pain with the other members. Although we don't all have the same illnesses and we are under no obligation to discuss what illnesses we have, we all know we are part of this wonderful community, all for the same reason, and we all just get it! I've learnt so many things about the many different types of chronic illnesses. It has given me more awareness and an understanding of what other people go through every day, also. We don't judge, we support.



MELBOURNE



Publications Committee

This year the Pubs Committee really shook things up. We came up with the idea of Snack Packs (big shout-out to Vic for the name that instantly stuck!), and decided each one would represent a season, Autumn, Winter, Spring, and Summer, so every release felt a little different. Putting them together was honestly so much fun, and it was really special to give CHIPERS something new and exciting while still sharing current information in a fresh way.

For the Wrapper cover, we simply could not choose one photo, so naturally we chose four, one for each season. Think you can guess which one matches each season? Hint: the order might just throw you off. Choosing the articles was definitely a challenge because ChIPS is packed with so many awesome events, but we tried to line everything up with the seasons so the whole Wrapper flowed nicely.

It's been amazing seeing every idea grow from a Snack Pack draft into the full Wrapper (with a few twists and tweaks along the way!). Watching the concepts evolve into something polished and meaningful has definitely been one of the highlights of the year.

I would like to thank the team for the incredible work we've put into creating this year's Wrapper and Snack Packs. Everyone brought such a fun mix of skills and ideas. Sam, your layouts and designs made the whole year look incredible. Vic, thank you for coordinating, gathering info, and writing, you kept everything moving. Jess, thank you for always jumping in to help write when needed. Caitlin, thank you for being the most supportive co-leader. And Mama Bec, your guidance, encouragement, and steady energy kept us going when we needed it.

Thank you to the whole ChIPS community for embracing our new Pubs ideas this year, and to every ChIPER who wrote articles, shared info, or sent in photos, you helped us bring this Wrapper to life. We truly couldn't have done it without you.

Being both mine and Caitlin's last year as CHIPERS, creating something this meaningful has been really special, and we'll treasure it for years as we look back on our ChIPS adventures. I'm beyond grateful to have been the Leader of Pubs this year, it's been such a joy working with this team and creating something CHIPERS can look back on and smile about.

Georgia Rose - Pubs Committee Lead



Georgia



Caitlin



Sam



Jess



Victoria

Advocacy/JEDI Committee

What happens when a bunch of passionate young people with chronic illness team up as an advocacy group? Something pretty spectacular!

Within the Advocacy/JEDI crew, Stella (Subcommittee Co-Lead), Piper, Mac, Inga, Charlie, and myself Niki, have been sharing our experiences as consumers of the healthcare system while creating change and having a genuinely great time doing it. From ward rounds, where we visited hospital rooms at RCH to chat with patients and spread the word about ChIPS, to REF meetings and advocating for the value of lived experience in healthcare, we've been busy making an impact across the hospital. We've delivered five presentations, including at the Adolescent Health and Education Day, to Allied Health staff across the RCH, the Monash Social Work Department, the ANZPIC Radiology Presentation, and the Allied Health Education Collaboration.

Through these presentations, we've shared our insights, personal stories, and top tips as young healthcare consumers, helping shape more effective ways for health professionals to engage with young people across different healthcare settings.

We've presented on topics like What is ChIPS? and the BBJ Rule, a guideline for health professionals to Be Present, Be Led, and Just Ask, which aims to ensure patients' experiences are positive and they feel understood and heard.

From sharing our ideas to speaking up about what matters most to us, we've shown just how powerful young voices can be.

Niki Mitchell – Advocacy/JEDI Committee Lead



Niki



Stella



Piper



Inga



Charlie



Mac



Socials Committee

Wow... what a busy, chaotic, thrilling, productive, exciting and fun year we have had in the socials committee! Starting on Refcom Lift-Off Day, it was evident from the beginning that our differences as people would work in our favour when it came to socials and sure enough, that was the case with four AMAZING socials being planned and executed through 2025.

Our first social was based at RCH, doing a take on the TV show "The Amazing Race". With road blocks, detours, and speed bumps, small teams had to race around the hospital completing various challenges (as well as bonus challenges) including paper plane making, team Jenga against Hadi and a collaboration with Wadja, the First Nations service at RCH.

Our second social was an outing to SeaLife Aquarium whilst the Animal Crossing Collab was running in the July school holidays! Whilst there were a few speed bumps, the majority of the event was super fun with CHIPERS being able to see all different types of sea creatures, including the amazing luminous jellyfish, and even get up close and personal with some coral and starfish!

We had an online social at the end of October, running a Kahoot and comfy PJ night with members of Sydney, Sunshine Coast and Perth CHIPS in attendance. Well done to everyone at having a go with some tough questions and congratulations to Stella, Kayden and Jorja rounding out our top 3 of the night!

At the time of writing this, the social crew are deep into planning our fourth social which is a graduation for the Class of 2025. A huge amount of preparation is going into this event by all team members and I cannot wait to see how this night comes out... definitely hoping it is a night to remember for all involved!

A huge thank-you to Paris (my co-lead) and the other socials members Hadi, Mitchell, Belle and Anna for a very productive year and wishing the incoming socials subcommittee of 2026 all the best!

Ella Bibby - Socials Committee Co-Lead



Paris



Ella



Hadi



Anna



Belle



Mitchell

Camp Committee

2025 has been a year that's absolutely flown by but looking back, it's packed with so many great memories. Being part of the Camp Committee has definitely been a change of pace and has kept us all busy, but I'm excited to see how everything comes together in January.

This year I had the pleasure of working alongside Emily, Kayden, Sarah, Nae and Julia. As a team, we've had great communication, worked hard, and shared plenty of laughs, especially thanks to some of the hilarious things AI has come up with! One of my personal highlights was going on road trips to check out campsites and all the laughs we had along the way. I'm super keen to see how some of the new ideas we've planned turn out at camp!

A big thank you to Harry, our staff member, and Felipe, our volunteer, for all the support you've given us throughout the year. And of course, a massive thank you to my team for the time, energy and dedication you've put into creating a fun and memorable camp for everyone to enjoy. I hope you all remember the fun, laughter and good times we've shared. It's been a busy year, but a great one and I'm so proud of what we've achieved together.

Thanks again team for an amazing year!
Amy F - Camp Committee Lead



Amy



Emily



Nae



Julia



Sarah



Kayden



Meet Our Peer Leaders

What is Your Favourite Season?



Mitchell

Summer, I like the heat and I like going to all the different beaches down the coast.



Emily

My favourite part about spring is daylight savings by far. Nothing beats a sunset hot girl walk!



Mac

Autumn because I love a good blankie.



Hadi

Spring because it gets warmer and nature becomes more vibrant. I also really like autumn because my birthday is the day autumn starts.



Piper

My favourite season is winter! I love the cold, I can layer to make some cute cool outfits.



Ella

Winter! I'm able to snuggle up with a blanket and a good book (and it doesn't aggravate my heat intolerance!)



Caitlin

Spring, as it's the Goldilocks season and the weather is just right!



Stella

Spring, because the days are getting longer and its finally starting to warm up and the garden is in bloom.



Amy

Autumn due to the nice days and cooler nights



Elise

Autumn, as I love the golden leaves. You can enjoy the warm days at end of summer, and get out the winter clothes again.



Julia

Spring because the flowers start blossoming and the weather start getting better.



A huge thank you to our peer leaders for stepping up, offering support and making this program a fun, welcoming and inclusive safe space for everyone!

Family Recipes

Sticky Date Pudding

Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 180 degrees celsius.
2. In a heat proof bowl, mix your dates and bicarb soda, then pour your boiling water over the top, leave the date mixture to stand.
3. Cream your butter and sugar until pale.
4. Add in your eggs, one at a time and beat your mixture well after each egg you add.
5. Gently fold in your sifted flour.
6. Stir in your date mixture.
7. Pour the batter into your lightly buttered cake pan.
8. In your oven bake for 30 to 40 minutes until your skewer comes out clean.
9. Make your toffee sauce by combining the ingredients in a saucepan, bring it to a boil while stirring then let it simmer for 5 minutes.
10. Set your sauce aside and reheat it when you are ready to serve.

Sticky Date Pudding Ingredients

- 180g chopped dates
- 1 tsp bicarb soda
- 1 cup boiling water
- 2 tbs butter
- 1 cup soft brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 cup sifted self raising flour
- cream (to serve)

Toffee Sauce Ingredients

- 1 cub soft brown sugar
- 3/4 cup whipping cream
- 1/2 tsp vanilla essence
- 2 tbs butter



Pineapple Tart

Pie Base Ingredients

- 2 cups of crushed sweet biscuits
- 1/4 a cup of sugar
- 1/2 a teaspoon of cinnamon
- 115-170 grams of butter

Pie Filling Ingredients

- Chilled Tin of Condensed Milk
- 1/2 cup of freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1 small tin of crushed pineapple
- 1 tablespoon of custard power

Instructions

1. Begin your pie base by melting the butter, then combine all of the base ingredients.
2. Press the base mixture into a springform pie tin and then chill in the fridge.
3. To begin the filling, beat together your condensed milk and lemon juice. Pour the lemon filling into your pie base.
4. In a small saucepan, stir together your pineapple and your custard powder, then bring to a boil. Allow it to cool.
5. After the mixture has cooled, pour it over the filling.
6. Decorate with whipped cream if desired.



The Baby Puzzle

How to Play:

Get ready for a giant version of the fan-favourite snack pack puzzle! All you have to do is match the baby photos below to your reference committee members, peer leaders, and staff featured throughout the Wrapper. Write the corresponding letter next to each number, have fun—and don't forget to brag if you get the most correct!



1. ____



2. ____



3. ____



4. ____



5. ____



6. ____



7. ____



8. ____



9. ____



10. ____



11. ____



12. ____



13. ____



14. ____



15. ____



16. ____



17. ____



18. ____



19. ____



20. ____



21. ____



22. ____



23. ____



24. ____

- a. Georgia
- b. Caitlin
- c. Sam
- d. Jess
- e. Victoria

- f. Ella
- g. Paris
- h. Hadi
- i. Mitchell
- j. Niki

- k. Stella
- l. Piper
- m. Inga
- n. Charlie
- o. Mac

- p. Amy
- q. Emily
- r. Nae
- s. Julia
- t. Sarah

- u. Kayden
- v. Harry
- w. Bec
- x. Jimmy

Answers can be found on the inside back cover

The ChIPS program would like to sincerely thank the following people and organisations for their ongoing support. Without you we would not be able to run such an amazing program!

Good Friday Appeal
Royal Children's Hospital Foundation
Nelson Alexander Foundation
The Balnaves, Dixon and Farrelly families
Grill'd Local Matters

And thank you for your in-kind support:
Victoria Police
Southern Cross Trophies
and all our wonderful volunteers and medical staff.

This amazing photo was taken by Charlie Kennedy and represents winter



Contact ChIPS at: The Royal Children's Hospital
50 Flemington Road Parkville VIC 3052
Ph: (03) 9345 6616 www.rch.org.au/chips

