

# MEDIA RELEASE

March 2021

## Small Animal Specialist Hospital Opening in Adelaide with Local Founding Partners

The Sydney based, Small Animal Specialist Hospital Group ('SASH') announced today that it is expanding its services to Adelaide.

Dr Justin Wimpole, SASH CEO said "We are delighted at the opportunity to partner with the local veterinary community in Adelaide; providing pets and their families a new outlet for specialist and referral support, and the 24-hour emergency care their pets need.

Established in Sydney in 2007 and opening a second hospital on the Central Coast of New South Wales in 2017, SASH employs over 70 specialists and 230 vets, nurses, client services and service support professionals. We are privileged to care for over 18,000 pets and their families each year across our NSW hospitals through a wide range of specialist services including Anaesthesia, Animal Cancer Centre, Avian & Exotics, Canine and Feline Blood Bank, Cardiology, Dermatology, Feline Radioiodine, Internal Medicine, Neurology and Neurosurgery, Medical Oncology, Ophthalmology, Pathology, Physiotherapy, Pituitary Centre, Radiology, Radiation Oncology, Reproduction, Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation, Surgery and our 24-hour Emergency and Critical Care department. Pets travel from all over Australia to be cared for by SASH, which also provides radiation oncology services via our world-class dedicated Linear Accelerator for animals."

Dr Wimpole added "We are partnering with respected local veterinarians including specialists, residency-trained clinicians and other recognised experts in their fields who have an extensive understanding of the needs of their local veterinary and pet owning community, and to that end we are thrilled to be joining forces with three local veterinarians who will lead our Adelaide operation. The combination of David Davies, Andrew Dunn and Ryan Taggart, together with the expertise and support of the SASH Group creates a unique opportunity for SASH and for Adelaide. We are privileged to be able to expand our hospital group into Adelaide with such a talented group of local vets, all well-known to the local veterinary community."

Dr Ryan Taggart, one of the three SASH Adelaide Local Founding Partners said "Our core motivation is to serve the South Australian veterinary community and to demonstrate an unsurpassed level of care and service, not just for our patients, but for pet owners, primary care veterinarians, and our employees. David, Andrew and I are elated to partner with SASH to build a world-class animal hospital in Adelaide that the entire veterinary community in South Australia can be proud to be associated with."

Dr Andrew Dunn added "At our core will be surgery, medicine and a 24-hour emergency service, however we will be expanding our range of services over time. We are excited to be opening on day one with South Australia's first high-field MRI dedicated to the state's pets.

## LOCAL FOUNDING PARTNERS



Dr David Davies

David graduated from Murdoch University in 1992 with first class honours and the Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association Award for Clinical Proficiency. After seven years in general small animal practice in Adelaide and the United Kingdom, David returned to Murdoch University for specialist training in Small Animal Medicine, including stints at Massey University in New Zealand and the Royal Veterinary College in London. In late 2002 David completed his specialist training and returned to Adelaide to establish a referral service. David obtained Fellowship of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists in Canine Medicine in 2004 to become South Australia's only registered specialist in Canine Medicine.

David's focus is on integrating the best-available scientific evidence, the diverse skills and talents of the entire veterinary care team and a healthy dose of compassion into his daily clinical practice. David has co-authored ten publications in national and international peer-reviewed veterinary journals in areas that include infectious disease, oncology and neurology. He enjoys providing up-to-date continuing veterinary education to colleagues and has acted as an examiner for the next generation of specialists on several occasions.

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Dr Andrew Dunn

Andrew graduated with first class honours from the University of Sydney in 1995. He spent 12 years in mixed general practice in NSW, South East South Australia and England before taking up a small animal surgery residency in 2007 at the University of Sydney and the Small Animal Specialist Hospital (SASH) in Sydney. There he completed a three year Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists specialist surgical training program with an externship at The University of Glasgow.

To date, Andrew has authored ten publications in international peer-reviewed journals in the areas of developmental orthopaedic disease, cruciate ligament injury, oncology, reconstructive surgery, orthopaedic trauma and surgical biology.

He is passionate about patient and client welfare. His professional interests are evenly spread across orthopaedics, neurosurgery, oncology and soft tissue surgery.



Dr Ryan Taggart

Ryan received his DVM degree from Cornell University in 2005. He served three years in the U.S. Army after graduation before completing an internship in small animal medicine and surgery at Mississippi State University. He then undertook a residency in veterinary orthopaedic, soft tissue and neurologic surgery at Purdue University, where he achieved the American Association of Veterinary Clinicians Resident Award. Prior to relocating to Adelaide in 2016, Ryan was senior staff surgeon at VCA in Albuquerque, New Mexico (USA). He has authored publications for several journals including Veterinary Surgery, the Journal of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care and the American Journal of Veterinary Research.

Ryan is passionate about workplace culture and teaching. He has been awarded the Katie McAllister Compassion Award and the Dr. Ann L. Johnson and Dr. Walter E. Hoffman Teaching Award. His professional interests include complex fracture repair, oncologic and reconstructive surgery and total joint arthroplasty.

## SASH CEO (SYDNEY)



Dr Justin Wimpole

Dr Justin Wimpole graduated from the Faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Sydney with first class honours in 2003. During his undergraduate degree Justin also spent a summer at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University in New York where he studied electrophysiology and renal physiology and completed Cornell's prestigious Veterinary Leadership Program. After graduating, Justin completed an Internship in Small Animal Medicine and Surgery at the Veterinary Specialist Centre in Sydney where he developed an excellent grounding in small animal practice.

Justin went on to work as an emergency clinician before embarking on residency training to become a specialist at the Veterinary Specialist Centre mentored by Dr Graham Swinney. During his residency training, Justin spent time training at various prestigious specialist practices in Australia, the UK and the US. Justin became a Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists required for specialisation in 2012. Justin's major interests are endocrinology, immune mediated diseases, diagnostic imaging and oncology.

### Contact for Media Enquiries

Please contact Marie-Rose Siluk for further information and interview opportunities.

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