



THE LEAD GROUP INCORPORATED

The Lead Education and Abatement Design Group Incorporated aims to eliminate lead poisoning globally and to ensure that the ecosystem is protected from lead in all its uses.
ABN 25 819 463 114

President's Report FY2021 – presented to AGM 27/10/21

This Financial Year (FY) 2021 President's Report was presented by Michelle Calvert-Kilburn at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of The LEAD Group Inc. (TLG) held Wednesday 27th October 2021, 6 pm Sydney = London 8am = Auckland 8pm = LA 12am midnight - in the week of the 21st International Lead Poisoning Awareness Day (as declared by The LEAD Group on 20th October 2001) and the 25th Lead Poisoning Awareness Week (as declared by NSW Health Minister Dr Andrew Refshauge in 1997), and the 9th International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action 24th-30th October 2021 (as declared by the World Health Organization in 2013, in response to a 2010 proposal from Elizabeth O'Brien).

President's Report by Michelle Calvert-Kilburn

For this, our 31st year of operation, The LEAD Group not-for-profit charity has continued to make a significant impact across local communities in Australia, especially in the lives of LEAD Group Kit purchasers who benefit greatly from being advised by us to manage any lead contamination found in their environment. Through our online work with World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations (UN) and numerous NGOs worldwide, we have contributed to making the lives of many millions of individuals and families lead-safe worldwide.

LADP LEAD
ARCHIVES
DIGITIZATION
PROJECT

NB: Thanks to LEAD Group co-founder Kerry O'Donnell for all our great logos! See [The LEAD Group Inc Project - Kerry O'Donnell DESIGNS 1991-2020](#)

Until COVID-19 grants and JobKeeper payments for some staff became available in FY2021, The LEAD Group had not received a government grant since the change to a Liberal/National coalition government in 2013. During FY2021, with generous donations adding to our wage subsidies and grant income from government, we were able to embark on an ambitious project – the Lead Archives Digitization Project or LADP.

The LADP has meant truckloads of paper files, soft plastic pockets, filing boxes and cabinets headed out the door for reuse or recycling and there was cleaner air in the now more spacious office. It also, most importantly, has meant our World's Largest Lead Library Database has grown in both the total number of articles data-entered and found online and also in the number of articles in emailable electronic format.

On the day, 24/07/2020, the first LADP Team member was employed, the first new library article was the 19,575th article so became Library ID number (LID) 19,575 but as at 30/06/2021 we were up to LID 23,526 so 3,951 new entries had been added in Financial Year 2021 (**an increase of 20%**). Today (27/10/2021) the last LID is currently LID 24,897 as LAPD work has continued in the office and at home for some staff - during the Sydney COVID lockdown. Many hardcopy-only library articles had been added to the Library Database decades ago before we owned a scanner so all up 6,697 LIDs (or 28.5%) have been edited (searched for online and downloaded or scanned and saved in our system) in FY 2021. Of

the 24,897 Library articles data-entered as of today, only 4,684 have no digital (emailed, created by us, downloaded or scanned) version and 20,213 LIDs (81%) have an entry in the filename field.

LEAD Group members, advocates, researchers and students are all welcome to “TeamViewer” - to enter into our system to search and play around in the Library Database to see the fruits of our labour and access more articles about lead than have ever been amassed together anywhere else on the planet! Just ask Elizabeth for the TeamViewer login details.

Many thanks to our hardworking LADP Team past and current: Manli Chen, James Scotman, Atunaisa Matavesi, Lily D’Adam, Michelle Joyce, Thwin Htoo, Lizzie Choo, Farah Shabestari, Crystal Vincent and Ingrid Harvey. Special thanks to Farah and Lily for their willingness to train the newbies, and to Michelle and Atu who have continued to work as volunteers on the Project.

And for our web-users, the enormous amount of web-searching for each hard-copy article (stored in the office) that the LADP Team has done, means that there are now 11,760 (47% of all the articles data-entered to date) online lead articles fully searchable by Author, Title and KeyWords/Phrases or Topic Areas, at <http://192.168.16.4/lead/library.aspx> which is accessible via [Searchable Library Database of the Global Lead Advice & Support Service \(GLASS\)](#)

We still don’t have any staff to submit new grant applications so volunteers for this role are always welcome!

Also thanks to a COVID-19 Cash Boost and then JobKeeper payments from the Australian federal government, we were able to employ Jimmy Yang as our part-time web-admin guy from May 2020 to March 2021. Due to donations, we employed Monika Mangal as our web-administrator, database manager and Kit administrator for nearly a year. Our Lead Scientist and Lead Advisor Elizabeth O’Brien’s COVID-19 JobKeeper wage supplement continued from the end of March 2020 to mid-March 2021.

We were unable to enter all the enquiry emails in the database in FY2021 or data-enter wanted lead articles sent by email or found online, but at least the LADP team has digitised a mountain of the paper archives and we hope the remaining filing cabinet and boxes stored around Elizabeth’s home and yard will all be digitised by early 2022, so we can then attend to electronic info management.

In this, our 31st year of operation, we again provided thousands of Australian enquirers with free information and referrals on lead-safety and the prevention and management of lead contamination of the environment. Also some advocacy work, mostly because Elizabeth O’Brien now works as a full-time volunteer and Tim Pye in the United Kingdom has made amazing leaps forward with his brilliant idea - the Lead Exposure and Poisoning Prevention (LEAPPP) Alliance!

During Financial Year 2021, we published two issues of our “quarterly” e-newsletter *LEAD Action News* on both our main website - www.lead.org.au/nl.html - and our newer Lead Safe World website www.lead safeworld.com/media-page – including numerous references to our lead safety art competition:

www.volcanoartprize.com - the Volcano Art Prize (VAP) which utilised the \$480 “property” or “in-kind” donation from the VAP sponsor pictureproducts, for prizes, along with \$600 in cash prizes from LEAD Group Kit sales.



The two FY2021 issues of *LEAD Action News* (the second one being our **82nd issue**) can be found by clicking on the following links at <https://www.lead safeworld.com/media-page/> :



[2020 November – LANv21n2 – Celebrating 30 Years of Lead Safety Advocacy](#)

[*LANv21n2-Contents](#)

[2020 September – LANv21n1 – Two child cases plus two leaded products](#)

[*LANv21n1-Contents](#)

And also by clicking on the following links at <https://lead.org.au/nl.html> :

1. LEAD Action News vol 21 No 2, [Celebrating 30 Years of Lead Safety Advocacy](#)  [Contents](#)
2. LEAD Action News vol 21 No 1, [Two child cases plus two leaded products](#)  [Contents](#)

In 2020 the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action (ILPPWA) generated more than 90 events in 60 countries – **the highest number of countries to date** - compared to 2019 when 89 activities were held in 73 cities in 55 countries – **the previous highest number of countries to date**. Interestingly, ILPPWA generated 102 events held in 103 cities – the highest numbers to date - in 47 countries in 2016. The LEAD Group published the [List of Events for the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action 25 to 31 October 2020](#) and in FY2021 we published the following three Australian ILPPWA event-related articles in *LEAD Action News*:

1. [Lead Action Week Plan by Hazelwood North Action Group, Victoria, Australia](#)
2. [ILPPWA Facebook Posts from Hazelwood North Action Group](#)
3. [Prize-Winning & Highly Commended Entries in Volcano Art Prize 2020](#)

In **LANv21n1** (*LEAD Action News* vol. 21 no. 1) we published the following **articles**:

[2020 September – LANv21n1 – Two child cases plus two leaded products](#)

LANv21n1-Content

1. Two child cases plus two leaded products plus two LEAD Group Kits equals Lead Action News
2. Lead Poisoning of Our 3 Children by Reuse Painted Timber Dining Table
3. Can the lead poisoning of a 3 yr old in Australia help end Ayurvedic lead poisoning globally
4. HCCC NSW Ayurveda Doctor Rama Prasad – Interim Prohibition Order 18 Sept 2020
5. HCCC NSW Public Warning about Heavy Metals in Manasamithra Vatika Ayurvedic Medicine 18 Sept 2020
6. TGA Australia Manasamithra Vatika (Manasamitram Pills) Ayurvedic medicine Safety Advisory 25 Sept 2020
7. 96 PubMed articles on lead & other heavy metal poisoning from Ayurvedic medicines Sept 2020
8. The LEAD Group Fact Sheet – Health Impacts of Lead Poisoning Sept 2020
9. The LEAD Group Fact Sheet – Health Impacts of Lead Poisoning Sept 2020 CHINESE
10. Health Effects of PbB Level Below 10 ug per dL & Even Below 1 ug per dL Sept 2020
11. Lead is an issue beyond Childhood re Lanphear et al 2018
12. Lead in Literature – Walt Whitman The World Below the Brine
13. The Scaffell Project – Screen Children At-risk For Elevated Lead Levels
14. Vote for the People's Choice Prize in Volcano Art Prize 2020
15. Citizen Science Project LeadSafe Vs Sugarsoap for Cleanup after Lead Paint Removal
16. JustOne Lead Soldier Is what Tamara Rubin reports on her blog fear-mongering
17. JustOne Lead Soldier What I have learned about lead, part 2a – Lead Balloon
18. Freese Industrial Strength Denial Ch 4 Chapter Review – by Theresa Gordon
19. Freese Ch 4 Leaded Gasoline in Industrial-Strength Denial May 2020 Extracts
20. Mt Isa Resident Letter to The LEAD Group October 2019
21. Mt Isa Resident Letter Enclosures to The LEAD Group October 2019
22. Mt Isa Resident Letter Enclosures to The LEAD Group April 2020
23. Mt Isa Living with Lead Alliance – Lead and Your Mob flyer 2020
24. ACCC Media Release Voluntary battery stewardship scheme granted authorisation

In [LANv21n2](#) (LEAD Action News vol. 21 no. 2) we published:

2020 November – LANv21n2 – Celebrating 30 Years of Lead Safety Advocacy

LANv21n2-Contents

4. [Celebrating 30 Years of Lead-Safety Advocacy](#)
5. [Celebrating 30 Years of Lead-Safety Advocacy cont'd](#)
6. [The LEAD Group Inc Project - Kerry O'Donnell DESIGNS 1991-2020](#)
7. [Are you taking any Ayurvedic medicines that contain bhasmas \(ashes\) of metals?](#)
8. [Metal Bhasma-containing Ayurvedic Medicines Found Online, 30th October 2020](#)
9. [Lead Action Week Plan by Hazelwood North Action Group, Victoria, Australia](#)
10. [ILPPWA Facebook Posts from Hazelwood North Action Group](#)
11. [Update on No Lead Smelter in Hazelwood North](#)
12. [Complaint to Peru Health Ministry re: Cerro de Pasco / Reclamo al Ministerio de Salud Peruano: Cerro de Pasco](#)
13. [Kindy Left to Sink Over Lead](#)
14. [Global Dimensions of Lead](#)
15. [Following WHO guidance, Australia needs to limit lead in paint to 90ppm](#)
16. [Andrew Crowther – LEAD Group Data and Communications Manager - Biography](#)
17. [Prize-Winning & Highly Commended Entries in Volcano Art Prize 2020](#)
18. [List of Events for the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action 25 to 31 October 2020](#)

The LEAD Group is very proud to be the organization that inspired the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations (UN) to mark ILPPWA each year since 2013. It was excellent that 2020 was the third year that the VAP award ceremony was not the only Australian ILPPWA event. The LEAD Group was joined for the second time on WHO's ILPPWA list of events page by another NGO, Hazelwood North Action Group (advocating against lead emissions from a proposed secondary lead battery smelter in Victoria) which held a Lead Week of Action event in Australia (see above).

It's heartening to see that the word is spreading!

Michelle Calvert-Kilburn,

President, The LEAD Group Inc (charity)

www.lead.org.au; www.leadsworld.com; www.volcanoartprize.com



One of The LEAD Group's Volcano Art Prize

 **mug**
winners 2021

Artists: Francis, Berkeley and Rosemary
Card. Ages: 5, 3, 1

Title: Superheroes in a Leaded World

Lead-Safety Message: Teaching our kids to
overcome their exposures and be
ambassadors of a safer world to come

Description of Work: Iphone photos +
PicsArt app

URL: <https://volcanoartprize.com/portfolio-item/superheroes-in-a-leaded-world/>

