



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 FY2024 – presented to AGM 11/11/2024

This Financial Year (FY) 2024 President's Report was presented by Elizabeth O'Brien on behalf of Michelle Calvert-Kilburn at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of The LEAD Group Inc. (TLG) held Monday 11th November 2024, 6 pm Sydney = 7 am London/Dublin = 8pm Auckland = 2am New York = 5:30pm Adelaide - after the week of the 24th International Lead Poisoning Awareness Day (as declared by The LEAD Group on 20th October 2001) and the 28th Lead Poisoning Awareness Week (as declared by then NSW Health Minister Dr Andrew Refshauge in 1997), and the 12th International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action 20th -26th October 2024 (as declared by the World Health Organization in 2013, in response to a 2010 proposal from Elizabeth O'Brien of The LEAD Group Inc, then known as The Lead Education and Abatement Design Group Incorporated).

President's Report by Michelle Calvert-Kilburn

For this, our 34th 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.



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](#)

Once our COVID-19 grants and JobKeeper payments for Lead Archives Digitization Project (LADP) ceased in FY2023, only two LADP staff – Farrah Shabestari and Lizzie Choo – kindly continued ed on as volunteers for 5 days a fortnight and minimum wage recipients for the 6th day per fortnight, throughout FY2024.

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%**), and as at 30/06/2022 we were up to LID 26,069 so 2,543 new entries had been added in Financial Year 2022 (with a reduced staff due to fewer wage subsidies and no COVID grants). Since then, with just two LADP staff

(and those two staff providing invaluable admin assistance as well – Farrah with Kits and Lizzie with Bookkeeping), as at 30/06/2024 we were up to LID 27,359 so only 290 new entries had been added in Financial Years 2023 and 2024 as Farrah and Lizzie took on more and more of the Kit, bill-paying, receipt-creation and bookkeeping management.

Throughout the four full financial years 2021-2024 that the Lead Archives Digitisation Project (LADP) has been running, a total of 7,784 new library items have been added to The LEAD Group’s library database.

[In the current financial year 2025, with extra library data-entry by two new staff in the Philippines - Paul Jacobe and Marie Jean Villarosa (whose wages are generously paid by Eric Ritter of Fluoro Spec Inc in the USA) – since 24/08/2024, we are, as at 11/11/2024 up to LID 28,082 meaning that in the financial year-to-date, already 723 new entries have been added to the world’s largest lead library that is available to the public.]

LEAD Group members, advocates, researchers and students are all welcome to “TeamViewer” - to enter into our system to search and research 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. And now that we have migrated to the Cloud, every digital file is also sendable by cloud link – preparing us for the time when Kit documentation can be done online, without emailing!

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 14,137 (compared to 11,760 at the same time in 2021) 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!

In this, our 34th 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 (LEAPP) Alliance!

During Financial Year 2024, due mainly to Lucinda Curran’s work as the Assistant to the Lead Scientist, Elizabeth O’Brien, we published three 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 – all uploaded thanks to our wonderful volunteer web-administrator Jimmy Yang - 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 84th, 85th and 86th issues of *LEAD Action News* can be found by clicking on the following links at <https://www.lead safeworld.com/media-page/> :

[2024 June – LANv22n2 – Grandma Lead Citizen Science and Broken Hill Solutions](#)
[*LANv22n2-Contents](#)

[2024 April – LANv22n1 – Grandma Lead Wisdom](#)

[*LANv22n1-Contents](#)

[2023 December – LANv21n4 – Model National Lead Safety Policy and 2023 VAP](#)


[*LANv21n4-Contents](#)

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

- LEAD Action News vol 22 No 2, [Grandma Lead Citizen Science and Broken Hill Solutions](#)  [Contents](#)

LANv22n2-Contents

1. [A Message from Grandma Lead](#)
2. [Grandma Lead visits Broken Hill](#)
3. [When is the best time to donate](#)
4. [Water and Lead](#)
5. [From the Vaults - 7 Point Plan](#)
6. [Info Pack 56 - What is a Safe Blood Lead Level](#)
7. [Volcano Art Prize 2024 submit entry by 20241011](#)
8. [Lead – Important Dates](#)
9. [Volunteer with Us - Researching Writing](#)
10. [LEAPP Alliance UK Update](#)
11. [Featured Post – UnLeaded Kids – Lead in Products](#)
12. [Citizen Science Projects](#)
13. [Citizen Science Project – Lead Exposure from Dust, Eggs, Cassava etc](#)
14. [Citizen Science Project – Backyard Chickens and Lead in Oz](#)
15. [Citizen Science Project – Magnetite Solution to Leadlighting](#)
16. [Why are Eggs a Possible Source of Lead Exposure](#)
17. [Featured Post - Basel Convention Competency Over Ships Under Attack](#)
18. [Quotable Quotes – The Giants doco re Bob Brown](#)

- LEAD Action News vol 22 No 1, [Grandma Lead Wisdom](#)  [Contents](#)

LANv22n1-Contents

1. [A Message from Grandma Lead](#)
2. [Can You Help](#)
3. [Volcano Art Prize - entries are open](#)
4. [Children - Time to Check Blood Lead Levels](#)
5. [Plumbophobia](#)
6. [US RECALL - Baby Food Pouches](#)
7. [Grandma Lead Wisdom](#)
8. [Introducing the Grandma Lead Advice Call!](#)
9. [Action on Leaded Aviation Fuel in the US... and Australia](#)
10. [Donate - Make a Meaningful Impact with Just \\$10!](#)
11. [Partnership with The LEAD Group](#)
12. [What Should I Test for Lead](#)
13. [What Should You Do if Exposed to Lead](#)
14. [The Perfect Predator](#)
15. [Vaping, Smoking and Lead](#)
16. [Calling All Volunteers](#)
17. [2023 ILPPWA Lead Experts Q&A Panel](#)
18. [What do Beethoven and Lead Have in Common](#)
19. [Share Your Feedback](#)
20. [Bowden Lead Mine Update](#)
21. [LEAPP Alliance UK](#)
22. [Lobbying Your Local Member of Parliament](#)
23. [Chocolate - Lead and Cadmium](#)
24. [Safe Management of Lead Pain](#)
25. [Industrial Lead Paint Management](#)
26. [Benefits of Joining](#)
27. [Quotable Quotes - Benjamin Franklin letter 17860731](#)

- LEAD Action News vol 21 No 4, [Model National Lead Safety Policy and 2023 VAP](#)  [Contents](#)

LANv21n4-Contents

1. [Volcano Art Prize \(VAP\) 2023 First Prize and People's Choice Winners, Contents](#)
2. [Model National Lead Safety Policy illustrated by 2023 Volcano Art Prize Entries](#)
3. [Initial steps to prevent lead exposure and lead poisoning](#)
4. [Steps in primary prevention of lead exposure](#)
5. [Steps in secondary prevention of lead exposure](#)
6. [Steps in tertiary prevention of lead poisoning](#)
7. [Addendum 1 - Organisations to run government-funded lead safety media campaigns](#)
8. [Addendum 2 – Global Cumulative Lead Mine Production & 1000 Yrs of CO2](#)
9. [Addendum 3 – Responsibility for Creating a Lead Safe World & Averting Climate Crisis](#)
10. [Addendum 4 – References - Model National Lead Safety Policy](#)
11. [Addendum 5 – G7 Report Lead as a Major Threat to Human Health and the Environment](#)
12. [Prize Winning & Highly Commended Entries in Volcano Art Prize \(VAP\) 2023](#)

Our Lead Scientist and Lead Advisor and co-founder Elizabeth O'Brien was particularly chuffed at the work she and Lucinda did – with input and review comments from multiple members of The LEAD Group's Technical Advisory Board but particularly from Tim Pye and Committee Members Dr Andreas Breitbarth and Ananda Card - to get the SUMMARY Model National Lead Safety Policy Proposal by The LEAD Group (published in April 2023) and the full Policy (published 18 July 2023) – both accessible at <https://leadsafeworld.com/solutions/>

Now to convince the Australian and other federal governments to work together with The LEAD Group to tailor the model policy to each country's national lead-safety strategy needs.

LEAD Action News vol 21 No 4 also included [Prize Winning & Highly Commended Entries in Volcano Art Prize \(VAP\) 2023](#) (also at <https://www.lead.org.au/lanv21n4/LANv21n4-12.pdf>).