

THE 7TH ANNUAL KERACLUB - ONLINE ONLY

This year, the 7th annual KeraClub, an event for people with keratoconus, will be held as a webinar. Taking place via Zoom on Thursday 4th August 5:30 PM - 7 PM AEST.

Topics include:

- What's next for the patients with keratoconus?
- Getting the most out of your contact lenses
- Save Sight Keratoconus Registry updates



Expert Speakers



Live Q and A



Zoom Webinar



Register to get your free ticket at
<https://KeraClub2022.eventbrite.com.au>

Let us introduce you to our expert speakers....



Professor Stephanie Watson OAM is a corneal specialist known for her ground-breaking research in corneal therapies. She is head of the Corneal Unit at Sydney Eye Hospital, head of Corneal Research group at Save Sight Institute and chair of Australian Vision Research – previously known as the Ophthalmic Research Institute of Australia.

She is also the Deputy Director of Industry, Innovation and Commercialisation, Sydney Nano Institute. As a corneal specialist, she is appointed at the Prince of Wales and Sydney Childrens Hospitals. Professor Watson was the only Australian to make the Power List of the Top 100 women in Ophthalmology in 2021.



Dr Himal Kandel has been the Kornhauser Research Associate at the Save Sight Keratoconus Registry since January 2019 after completing his PhD at Flinders University, Adelaide. For his PhD, he was awarded the Vice Chancellor's Prize for Doctoral Thesis Excellence, and South Australian International Student of the Year award.

Dr Kandel has published over 50 research papers in reputed journals and has a special interest in patient-reported outcomes research. His research seeks to answer real-world questions in keratoconus management using the world first Save Sight Keratoconus Registry.

Let us introduce you to our expert speakers....



Larry Kornhauser OAM was diagnosed with keratoconus at age 12 and received a corneal transplant at 18. He went on to complete a Bachelor of Economics with honours and later completed a diploma of French language while living in France.

He worked for over 35 years as an economic journalist, first at the Australian Financial Review and later in France where he co-founded and edited an international newsletter for the energy sector. He also has worked as a translator for a range of international organisations and various economic journals. Since his return to Australia, he has also written articles on personal computing and done database development.

In 1999, he helped create Keratoconus Australia and became its inaugural president, a position he still holds. These days he also manages his family business and investment interests.

Larry has travelled extensively, played many sports, raised three children and never let his keratoconus dictate what is possible.

Let us introduce you to our expert speakers....



Mark Koszek graduated from the University of New South Wales in 1996, completed his Master of Optometry in 2002 and his Graduate Certificate of Ocular Therapeutics in 2012.

Mark is a founding partner and the Professional Education Officer of EyeQ Optometrists who have a network of 47 practices Australia wide. Mark has lectured extensively throughout Australia, New Zealand and Asia on contact lenses, dry eye and ocular diseases. Mark has a special interest in orthokeratology, miniscleral contact lenses, dry eye, ocular diseases and behavioural optometry.



Justine McLaughlin was diagnosed with Keratoconus in her late teens and managed it through glasses and hard contacts until an emergency corneal transplant in 2005. She has since had a further 2 corneal grafts, including one just a year ago. She is passionate about the importance corneal tissue donation plays in improving Keratoconus patient's lives.

She qualified as a solicitor and has spent the last decade in NSW Local Government as an elected Councillor and Deputy Mayor. She is currently a Committee member of Keratoconus Australia.

Let us introduce you to our expert speakers....



Dr. Yogambha Ramaswamy is a senior lecturer in the School of Biomedical Engineering at The University of Sydney. She commenced her academic career as a Vice-Chancellor's Research Fellow at the University of New South Wales. She was also a recipient of NH&MRC Peter Doherty Early Career Research Fellowship.

Dr. Ramaswamy has more than 10 years of experience in the field of biomaterials and tissue engineering and has made significant contributions to this field relative to opportunities. Currently, her research is focussed on utilizing biomaterials and nanotechnology platforms to understand the role of physical cues on stem cells and cancer cells.

Dr. Ramaswamy is the co-chair of the nano-bioengineering cluster, Sydney Nano-Health at the University of Sydney.



Narina Janian works in the Advancement Portfolio at the University of Sydney where she engages with alumni and the broader community through a wide range of communications, events and engagement programs. She is responsible for working closely with people who wish to philanthropically support the Save Sight Institute's research and education initiatives.

7th Annual KeraClub 2022

Let us introduce you to our expert speakers....



Michelle Pritchard has a lived experience with Keratoconus. She was diagnosed at age 16. After many years of procedures, including three corneal transplants, graft rejection, becoming legally blind and regaining her sight, Michelle is passionate about being able to support those who are experiencing a life with Keratoconus. She has been involved in KeraClub since its inception.

Michelle is now based in the Netherlands where she is pursuing a life-long dream, furthering her musical career and has recently completed a Master of Music at The Royal Conservatoire, The Hague with Cum Laude (distinction).

KeraClub is co-hosted by...

Save Sight Institute, Sydney Nano Institute, and Keratoconus Australia. This event is for all ages of people living with keratoconus and their families.



KERATOCONUS
AUSTRALIA



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

—
**Save Sight
Institute**



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

—
Nano Institute

Programme

- 5:30 pm: Welcome; Acknowledgement of country - Professor Stephanie Watson OAM
- 5:32 pm: Introduction to KeraClub and KeraClub 2022 - Michelle Pritchard
- 5:36 pm: What should we tell our patients? Evidence-based clinical practice (Clinical impact of research) - Professor Stephanie Watson OAM
- 5:46 pm: Bioengineering & Nanotechnology for keratoconus: New hopes - Dr. Yogambha Ramaswamy
- 5:56 pm: Getting the most out of your contact lenses - Mark Koszek
- 6:06 pm: The role of Keratoconus Australia in supporting keratoconus patients - Mr. Larry Kornhauser OAM
- 6:16 pm: Summary presentation - Professor Stephanie Watson OAM and Dr. Himel Kandel
- 6:18 pm: Patient-perspectives - Justine McLaughlin
- 6:26 pm: Quality of Life research at the registry - Dr. Himel Kandel
- 6:35 pm: Contributing to keratoconus research - Narina Janian
- 6:40 pm: Panel discussion and Q&A - Open to all speakers and moderated by Professor Stephanie Watson OAM
- 7:00 pm: Close

7th Annual KeraClub, Thursday 4th August
2022, 5:30 PM - 7 PM AEST via Zoom

Register Now!

Are you, or a loved one, living with
keratoconus?

Register now to:

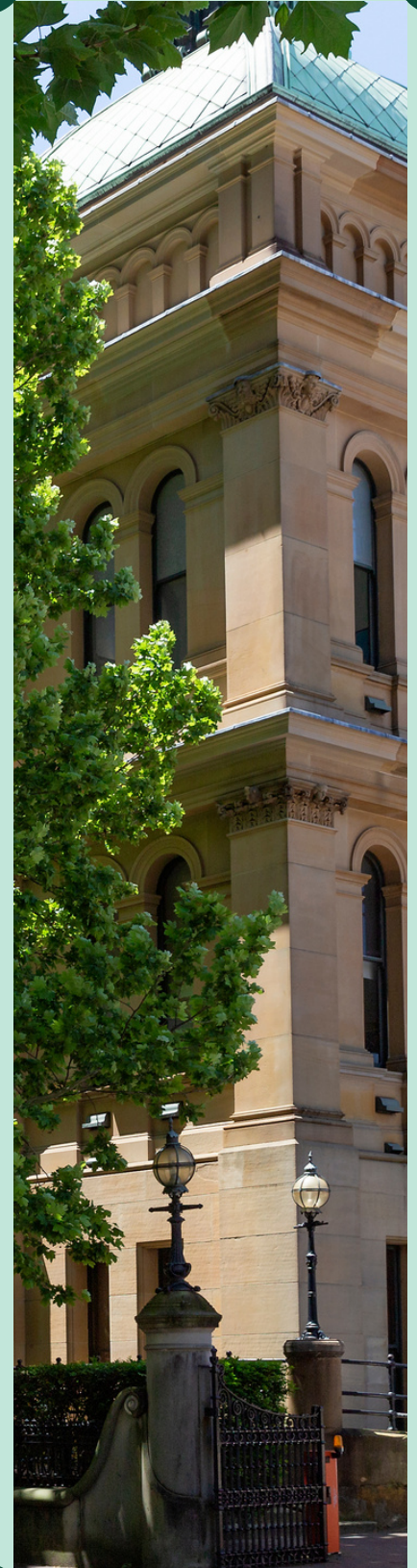
- Direct your questions to ophthalmologists / optometrists who specialise in the condition
- Learn from researchers on the latest developments
- Participate in discussions among clinicians, researchers, and patients, and share with us how you've taken control of your keratoconus

This year's talks include topics on:

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Registration is free but essential.

Please contact us at
ssi.community@sydney.edu.au if you need
more information.



<https://KeraClub2022.eventbrite.com.au>



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