

## **About the Heart of Soweto Programme**



**Prof. Simon Stewart** is group leader of the Population Studies and Profiling Group at the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Research Institute in Melbourne, Australia ([www.bakeridi.edu.au](http://www.bakeridi.edu.au)).

He is also a National Health & Medical Research Council of Australia Senior Research Fellow.

For the past 10 years his main focus of research has been developing community models of multidisciplinary care to optimise the prevention and management of chronic cardiac disease. He has also undertaken large population-based research to monitor the evolving epidemic of cardiovascular disease. One of these is the Heart of Soweto Study in South Africa, where he is a visiting professor at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Simon is currently an executive board member of the World Society of Heart Failure and associate editor of the *International Journal of Cardiology*.

## **International Projects Co-ordinator**



**Dr Gabriella Tikellis**

Dr Gabriella Tikellis joined the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute in March 2008 as an epidemiologist in the preventative cardiology unit. She works in the area of population health through involvement in studies such as the Heart of Soweto and the AusDiab Study.

Dr Tikellis completed her Graduate Diploma in Epidemiology and Biostatistics in 1996 and her PhD in ophthalmic epidemiology in 2002. As Grading Manager and Research Fellow at the Centre for Eye Research Australia, she researched retinal changes associated with diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular disease. In this capacity she helped establish a retinal grading centre and develop software. She has presented at national and international conferences and has published over 25 papers in peer-reviewed journals as a post-doctoral fellow.

## **Visiting Postdoctoral Research Fellow**



**Dr Melinda Carrington**

**Dr Melinda Carrington** is a researcher whose expertise lies in advanced cardio-respiratory monitoring and evaluation. She works at the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute in Australia, managing the Clinical Prevention and Surveillance Unit and studying preventative cardiology as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia (NHMRC).

Her research works towards delineating risk in cardiovascular disease management programmes and preventing chronic heart failure through a home-based programme led by nurses. She is also a co-investigator on the Heart of the Heart study, which screens Aboriginal people for chronic heart failure.

Dr Carrington has co-ordinated large-scale studies like the National Blood Pressure Screening Day (a \$A1-million campaign which tested 14 000 people at 100 centres throughout Australia) and the Healthy Hearts – Beyond City Limits programme (screening 5 000 adults in rural Victoria). She also co-ordinates a number of disease management programmes worth more than \$A3-million, including the NHMRC funded NIL-CHF Study, the Young@Heart project for private health insurance patients, and the NHMRC-funded WHICH? Study.

### **Heart of Soweto Data Co-ordinator**



**Ann Nadonza**

**Ann Nadonza is the data manager in the Preventative Cardiology unit of the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute. She** has completed a five-year Computer Engineering course and a Masters in Business Administration and has seven years of data management experience. She has been involved in and managed databases for various clinical trials and clinical audits run within the unit as well as larger studies.

### **Heart of Soweto Data Manager**



**Anny Tandyo**

**Anny Tandyo** is a data manager in Preventative Cardiology at the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute. Her main responsibilities include designing system solutions, developing database systems, and data extraction/manipulation for other researchers. Her current projects include developing a risk score estimation system for the Healthy Heart Study, a database system for the Diabetes and Cardiovascular Risk Reduction Programme and a database system for Heart of Soweto. She has a Masters degree in Computer Science.

### **PhD Candidate**



**Ms Geraldine Lee**

**Geraldine Lee** qualified as a nurse in London in 1990 and has worked in coronary care, cardiothoracics and cardiac rehabilitation. She has qualifications in physiology, education and mental health sciences, and co-ordinates the Masters of Nurse Practitioner course at La Trobe University in Australia. In 2007, she commenced working as a research nurse at the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute in Preventative Cardiology. She is also undertaking a PhD (at Monash University) examining the utility of the electrocardiogram in low- to middle-income countries as part of the Heart of Soweto study.