

# Social robotics research

## *Improving the quality of life for people with dementia*

In 2017, more than 413,000 Australians are living with dementia and 244 new cases are diagnosed every day.

The second leading cause of death in Australia, dementia is also the single greatest risk of disability for older Australians.

However, thanks to researchers like Professor Wendy Moyle from the Menzies Health Institute Queensland at Griffith University, the quality of life and care for people living with dementia can be much improved.

Welcome to the world of social robots, where research, technology, compassion and companionship come together in the form of a therapeutic robotic seal called PARO and a communication robot called Giraff.

Your generosity can support this vital work, making a huge difference to people with dementia, their carers and loved ones.

Please donate today.



Professor Wendy Moyle's internationally recognised work with companion robots is helping to reduce the distresses of dementia. The key is a white, fluffy robotic seal called PARO.

Invented in Japan, PARO responds to touch, temperature, light, voice and even its name.

Professor Moyle's research has shown how interaction with PARO improves the mood of people with dementia, and reduces their anxiety, agitation and tendency to wander.

The ramifications are exciting for improved patient wellbeing. Furthermore, communication robots can improve the ability for people to remain independent for longer, as well as for easing future pressure on aged care facilities.

But support is needed for this potentially life-changing research to continue.

*'Just about every family will experience the impact of dementia, either for themselves, their loved ones or family members.'*

– Professor Wendy Moyle

There is no cure for dementia. It can affect us as individuals. It can affect those we love. Its impacts are felt throughout society.

At Griffith University, our research is showing how social robots can improve the quality of life for people with dementia, their carers and loved ones.

Your generosity ensures this research can continue, funding vital areas such as:

- research testing and validation
- student scholarships
- new technology
- upgrading existing technology.

**Please help us to make a difference in the battle against dementia.**

**For more information on supporting this research, contact:**

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