Hello darling Grey House team members and discerning quaran-teammates! We are now 463 days into our team-building exercise, and I think we are nearly finished with it. I started this newsletter in March 2020, to keep everyone in touch since we could not see each other at Grey House, or by travelling to share cocktails together, and erm….work together. But this week, dear old Grey House hosted me, Avshalom, Honalee, Line, Kyle, Stephanie, Jasmin, and Dina. So the office is all go again, or almost. And now, Avshalom and I are travelling, actually fair dinkum going inside a real-life airplane and flying overnight, clean to Israel. SOOOOOOOO….. LIBERATING!

This will be another mini-newsletter, due to the fact that we just found out that our Israel trip is on, and it’s tomorrow morning! Gotta run and pack.

Calendar of upcoming Grey House events:

June:
4: Honalee’s birthday, Avshalom and Temi fly to Israel
11: Susan goes on a 2-week vacation, back at work 28 June
14: Jasmin’s birthday,
25: Aaron’s birthday
30: Neuroimaging renewal and DunedinPoAm4x applications both due at NIA
July:
13: Aaron and Jessalee move to South Carolina
16: Temi and Avshalom back at work in North Carolina
If you have events coming up, and would like to share them, do let me know. Temi

TEAM MEETING SCHEDULE, SUMMER 2021
Tuesdays 9am-6pm. Farm Meetings with those who want to zoom
9:00-10:00
10:30-11:30 Renate zoom
12:00-1:00 Genomics group with David and Av zoom
1:00-2:00 Ben and Karen zoom
2:00-3:00 Maria and Ahmad zoom
3:00-4:00 Susan zoom
4:00-5:00 Leah, Barry, Steph D’S. zoom

Wednesdays 9am-6pm Meetings with those who want face-to-face
8:00-10:00 drive to Durham
10:00-11:00 Ahmad and co
11:00-12:00
12:00-1:00
1:30-2:30 HonaLee and Av
3:00-4:00
4:00-5:00
5:00-6:00

Thursdays 9-5 Meetings with those who want face-to-face
9:30-10:30 Kyle
11:00-12:00 Aaron thru July
12:30-1:30 Jasmin
2:00-3:00 Stephanie L.
3:00-4:00
4:00-6:00 drive from Durham back to farm

FIRST THE HAPPY NEWS:

From the lovely Jane Wilcox at the Dunedin Unit:
The Dunedin Unit has posted its new, improved policies and procedures handbook:
https://dunedinstudy.otago.ac.nz/for-investigators/policy-statement-code-of-practice

Dave Ireland and co have added a lovely page to the DMHDRU website’s MRI section including a couple of GIF’s:
Whatever next? London team members get to gaze enviously up at the bottom of a swimming pool:

A See-Through Pool Opens 10 Stories Above London
https://www.nytimes.com/2021/06/02/world/europe/sky-pool-london.html?referringSource=articleShare

Sla’inte!!!!!!

In addition to Greece, Italy, Croatia and Spain reopening, fully vaccinated U.S. travelers will now be able to visit Ireland without a quarantine or pre-departure test starting July 19.
The Grim Reason Why Finland Is the “Happiest” Place on Earth
Contrary to reports, it has nothing to do with drinking alone in your underpants.

It’s about why Finns are the happiest nation on earth this year, and Scandinavians in general always occupy the top spots on the worldwide wellbeing surveys.

Read in Slate: https://apple.news/A-PKc7A2lSDS8HHsxC73GUg

In 1993, 60 Minutes featured a segment on Finland, which opened with this description of Helsinki pedestrians going about their business: “This is not a state of national mourning in Finland, these are Finns in their natural state; brooding and private; grimly in touch with no one but themselves; the shyest people on earth. Depressed and proud of it.”

Next the Bad News:

Horrible supply-chain news. New Zealand is facing a wine shortage.

The flow of champagne into New Zealand continues to be hampered by Covid-19 and winemakers here warn the situation could soon get worse for vino drinkers.

The champagne shortage was first reported in January, when both Countdown and Foodstuffs said supply had been affected by shipping delays and port congestion.

On Monday, a Countdown spokeswoman said ongoing shipping problems due to the pandemic were still affecting imports of some popular champagne brands.
This week’s science visualisation:

How does science know what it knows?

What if scientific studies disagree?

Can I use science to make decisions?

These are tricky questions. Answering them just got easier.

From responding to a global pandemic to reducing the impacts of natural disasters, science plays a critical role in our lives today. But understanding “what the science says” can be challenging, especially when studies seem to disagree.

Decoding Science is a new resource from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine that explains the scientific process, how science builds
knowledge, and how we can use science to inform decisions—even in the face of uncertainty.

The resources at Decoding Science are based on the 2019 report *Reproducibility and Replicability in Science*. Here’s what you’ll find there:

- A 90-second explainer on how science works
- Clear answers to challenging questions
- Stories from real-life scientists
- A quiz to test your knowledge

Decoding Science is for anyone who wants to better understand (or explain) how science knows what it knows. If you enjoy it, please share it with your friends and colleagues!
RESEARCH-PROJECT PROGRESS SINCE 24 May:

Leah and Barry and Stephanie D'Souza got a new grant! It is my great pleasure to inform you that your grant proposal, “Predicting Suicide and Self-Harm Risk in Linked Administrative Data,” in the amount of $30,000, has received favorable reviews. American Foundation for Suicide Prevention received 216 applications in the November 15, 2020 grant submission cycle; scored a 2.85 on a scale of 1 (Excellent) to 9.

Temi and Avshalom, David Corcoran, Ben Williams, and Karen Sugden got a new grant too! DunedinPoAm4x: Developing a saliva test for how fast a person is aging. $40,000 from Duke’s Incubator Fund.

Aaron Reuben gave a flash talk at the 2021 APS Virtual Convention "Childhood Air Pollution Exposure Elevates Risk of Psychopathology at the Transition to Adulthood". He got lots of questions from audience members.

Tweet: @DukeOLV. TruDiagnostic signed an exclusive license agreement with Duke University to use the Pace of Aging (DunedinPoAM) Measure… https://t.co/rWctfzfSq2

TruDiagnostic, an Epigenetics/Health and Aging company, has signed a License Agreement with Duke to commercialize the Pace of Aging (PoAm) Measure from the laboratory of Dr. Terrie Moffitt (Psychology & Neuroscience) and Dr. Avshalom Caspi (Psychology & Neuroscience). The Moffitt- Caspi lab collaborated with the University of Otago (New Zealand) to analyze a birth cohort of one thousand research participants who have been studied for 45 years. The PoAm measure characterizes the rate at which a person’s biological age is changing, thereby providing a metric to monitor and predict health outcomes.

Report from Sean Hogan: Great progress on the vaccine hesitancy survey in Dunedin.– We have 645 forms in hand of which 173 are telephone forms. All NZ folk have now been allocated and are being chased and we will be adding Aussies to that for telephone follow up this week. To put this another way we have a 70% return rate for the whole sample and a return rate of 80% for NZ residents. Go team go!

Temi did an interview with The People’s Pharmacy show on NPR with Joe & Terry Graedon, and it will also be a podcast.

Joseph Dowsett’s suPAR GWAS article was published in Communications Biology on the 2nd June. “Eleven genomic loci affect plasma levels of chronic inflammation marker soluble urokinase-type plasminogen activator receptor.”

Jasmin Wertz has an R&R at Social Science and Medicine: The vital personality.
Kyle Bourassa and Line Rasmussen have an R&R at Brain, Behavior, and Immunity for the "Linking Stressful Life Events and Chronic Inflammation Using suPAR (Soluble Urokinase Plasminogen Activator Receptor)"

Signe and Leah have an R&R at PNAS: "Nationwide evidence that education disrupted multigenerational transmission of health & social disadvantage"

Jenny Van Dongen has an R&R at Nature Communications. "Identical twins carry a persistent epigenetic signature of early genome programming"

Hans Ip has an R&R at Translational Psychiatry. "Genetic Association Study of Childhood Aggression across raters, instruments and age"

Kyle Bourassa has been invited to submit a new paper to a special Issue of Prevention Science called “Toward a Lifespan Prevention Science: A Focus on Middle and Late Adulthood.” The paper is titled “Childhood Adversity and Midlife Health: Shining a Light on the Black Box of Potential Psychosocial Mechanisms”

Kyle Bourassa has a manuscript out for mock review, due June 8: “Childhood Adversity and Midlife Health: Shining a Light on the Black Box of Potential Psychosocial Mechanisms”

Wendy Slutske and Leah Richmond-Rakerd’s manuscript is out for mock review, due June 11: “Disordered Gambling in a Longitudinal Birth Cohort: From Childhood Precursors to Adult Life Outcomes”

Madeline Meier has a manuscript out for mock, due June 16: “Long-term Cannabis Users Show Neuropsychological Deficits and Smaller Hippocampal Volume in Midlife”

Kyle Bourassa has another manuscript out for mock review, due June 25. "Accelerated Aging in Midlife is Antedated by Treatable Adolescent Health Conditions.”

Stephanie Langevin has a Dunedin concept paper out for approval: “Life-course persistent antisocial behaviours and accelerated aging in a longitudinal birth cohort.”

Max Elliott has a CP out for approval. “Can individual differences in the macroscale organization of cortex be reliably measured and mapped onto cognition and aging?”
Rachel Latham and Helen Fisher have a new E-risk CP out for approval. “Violent experiences and violent neighbourhoods during adolescence: understanding and mitigating the impact on psychiatric disorders at the transition to adulthood”.

Ahmad is making stunning progress on the renewal application for Phase 52 brain imaging in Dunedin. Susan Harward has been madly doing budget scenarios. Ben Williams and Renate Houts have been helping, with info on blood ADRD biomarkers and statistical power analysis.

Avshalom, Temi, and Susan finished the revision of the 19-cohort proposal to NIA this week. We aim to get it in before Susan goes on 2 weeks of vacation June 11.

A new Crim-comicbook will be published in July 2021 from Oxford University Press. A comic textbook about developmental criminology.

Projects underway and making good progress on the march toward mock review:
Kyle Bourassa, Pediatric medical conditions (obesity, asthma, smoking, depression) predicting PaceofAging
Jasmin Wertz, parenting genomics in multiple cohorts
Annchen Knodt, cannabis and brain, exploratory
Karen Sugden, education and aging in multiple cohorts
Agnew-Blasé, Jess, mother-child polygenic ADHD scores and family chaos
Dan Belsky, Dunedin PoAm4x
Leah Richmond-Rakerd, mental health and ADRD in NZ IDI
Aaron Reuben, ADRD risk factors
Line Rasmussen, little p and suPAR
Karen Sugden, DunedinPoAm4x and dementia in ADNI
Max Elliot, the gradient in brain
Madeline Meier; cannabis and brain/cognition
Have a serene week everyone.

My sister’s baby chipmunk, rescued from an evil cat.