

# News from the Field



Volume 8, Issue 2- Feb 2019

## Fairfield Hospital

### Message From The GM

There has been lots of activity so far this year. We have in operating theatres installed the new pendant. I just wanted to thank all the staff who were involved for their patience and expertise in making this work well.

As most of you appreciate we have been busy in the clinical areas and the ED. With this comes the need to all work as a team and I thank all the Medical, Nursing, Allied Health and clerical staff who all worked as a team to ensure that we have flow from ED to the wards and back into the community. It is very much appreciated as all facilities with SWSLHD experienced an increased workload over Christmas and even into February.

We have some changes in Nursing once again, with Susan Hair having to return to Bowral as the Acting GM.

Although only here for a few weeks I think Susan has made a real positive impact as an Executive Member and DONM.

CORE Chat continues throughout the organisation and we are getting a lot of positive feedback and examples of where CORE chat has been used by staff.

As most of you know the ED redevelopment continues. It hasn't been without challenges for many people, especially our ED Staff. I just wanted to personally acknowledge the issues this has presented, but in the main we have been able to work through most of the issues in a most collegiate way. Also I must acknowledge it is difficult working through a redevelopment going on in your area, but when we look beyond the building and noise, we will end up with a more functional ED that will be better for staff to deliver care from and more

importantly our patients.

Harry and I met with the Medical staff this month and we have re-established the Medical Staff Council, which is a really important council that provides advice to many locations within the LHD and provides a communication venue which I think is vital.

Finally, interviews for the General Manager position have been held the first week in March. I am sure that once a suitable candidate is known, we will be notified and start preparations for a smooth transition and I will return to my substantive position.

Ken Hampson  
Acting General Manager

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## EMERGENCY

### Update

With the beginning of the 2019 calendar year the ED Refurbishment has begun its final stage (Acute/Staff Station). With this stage under construction there have been significant changes to the configuration and flow in and out of the Emergency Department .

- \* Fast track has moved to the NEW MAU/ESSU unit (old GP Clinic)
- \* Sub Acute ED has moved to what use to be Fast Track.
- \* The Acute section of ED is dispersed in around the triage area.
- \* Resus has moved back to is original position and can be accessed via the ED/Radiology corridor and the Ambulance entry.
- \* Staff are situated in the two rooms opposite resus
- \* All Nurse & MET call annunciators have been reprogrammed temporarily to reflect these changes.
- \* The Reception Triage & Ambulance locations have not changed.

With any major refurbishment there are going to be challenges and disruptions, we nearly completed with estimated completion date of April 2019.

Thank you to all staff, in particular the ED team, for your patience and support while we progress through the project.

## Anniversary of The National Apology

On 13th February 2008, the formal apology made by the then Prime Minister Kevin Rudd on behalf of the Parliament of Australia, to Australian's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people for the forced removal of children from their parents and community over generations, acknowledged the suffering caused by the decades of mistreatment of Indigenous Australians.

It was one of the defining moments in modern Australian history. Fairfield Hospital celebrated this milestone event with a morning tea in THE BAWAGA ROOM (meaning shelter).



This is a very significant donation as this apology is only 1 of 8 in Australia. One of these apologies is actually in a High Court battle over how it belongs to.

Aunty Lily Arthur who sits with our Aboriginal Liaison Officer on the Fairfield Local Council Committee, donated the apology to Fairfield Hospital after hearing about all the work Katrina is doing here.

## Community Engagement

Fairfield Consumer & Community Participation Network had their first meeting for 2019 on Friday 22 February.

The meeting was dedicated to reflect on the networks 2018 achievements and plan for 2019 projects.

Dr Harry Doan - Director Medical Services provided an Executive update to the network .



The Community Participation Manager together with Community Representative Sammi Sayed will be presenting at the 2019 Patient Experience Symposium on Monday 29 April 2019 on Engaging with CALD women - changing perceptions & outcomes.

On Friday 1 February, The South Western Sydney Local Health District Consumer & Community Council, Consumer & Community Participation Managers, TYE coaches and Key Stakeholders had a Review and Planning Forum for 2019.

It was a very constructive forum exploring current and future work opportunities for Consumer & Community Engagement.



SAVE THE DATE: Our Annual Consumer Participation Conference this year will be held on Friday 20 September 2019.



## Ward 1B – Patients Group Lunch

Ward 1B is looking at its current model of care. Under the current review, we the nursing and allied health team have created a common area where patients walked down to have lunch together as a group. The focus is to facilitate rehabilitation process and to condition the patient back to their pre-hospitalisation functioning. Furthermore, the patients would also benefit from interaction from other patients in a view to alleviate boredom and social isolation whilst being a patient in the hospital. At this stage, we are only trialling with lunch time. Feedback from both patients, carers, family and team members will be taken into consideration to further extend this project for a breakfast group also.

This highlights the changes in patient care in Ward 1B.



## Ward 1B – Seniors Week Activities



Ward 1B celebrated the Seniors week on Wednesday 20.02.19. The theme for this year was "Love your Life". As such the event included a session on Tai-Chi and information about services available in the Community. The Tai-Chi Session was held by Minh Phan from the Physiotherapy Department and Louise Norden from the Social Work Department who explained about services.

The event was very successful, as patients, visitors and staff members who attended, actively participated in the event. We received very good feedback from the participants. Above all the emphasis was on healthy ageing and keeping oneself active, and it was also a celebration of the contributions of the senior members in our community. To some age is just a number, but to others it's a gift.

## STAFF NOTICE

I am pleased to announce that Susan Hair has commenced interim arrangements as the Director of Nursing & Midwifery.

Rachael Anderson has commenced in her role as the Operational Nurse Manager.

Leonie Stevens has commenced her long service leave until September 2019.

Fairfield Hospital would also like to thank Kyle Farrell for relieving in the position of Director Corporate Services whilst Suchit Handa was on leave.

It is with great sadness to inform staff that Ms Sue Skillen, former Physiotherapy Assistant at Fairfield Hospital passed away on 13 February 2019. She was a well respected member of staff having worked at Fairfield Hospital for over 32 years.

In lieu of flowers, her family have asked for donations to the Emergency Services for the purchase of a defibrillator in her memory.



## New Graduates

Congratulations to the February 2018 Intake Transitional Nurses who will be completing their 12 months Transition program. Transition Nurses are integral to the maintenance of a skilled and valued nursing / midwifery workforce. We hope the journey has been enriching and exciting for you all here at Fairfield Hospital.

Photo: Transition Nurses (from right) - Daniela Barota, Nha Thu Huynh, Teresa Surace, Pusp Lal, Sichheng Sieng, Huy Bui with Teresa Benetos Director Nursing and Midwifery, NUMs- Poumansing Gujraz and Belinda Pellizzon, Transition co-ordinator Nalini Singh and CNE Jennifer Stein.  
Missing: Transition Nurses: Weigiang Wang, Monica Webb.



And welcome to the 2019 February intake New Graduate Registered Nurses commencing their 12 months transition support program at Fairfield Hospital



**Good Health-Great Jobs:  
the next step up**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this training is to motivate those involved in the recruitment process to build positive and meaningful relationships with Aboriginal applicants and colleagues.

**Target Audience:** All managers, team leaders and staff involved in the recruitment processes.

**Date:** Thursday 7 November 2019  
**Time:** 8.30 am  
**Location:** Whitlam JRC, Fairfield Hospital

To register search COM12149 on My Health Learning  
Enquiries: [SV@SLHC-AboriginalWorkforce@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:SV@SLHC-AboriginalWorkforce@health.nsw.gov.au)  
or call 02 8738 5713

 **Health**  
South Western Sydney  
Local Health District