

# News from the Field



Volume 7, Issue 10 – Oct 2018

## Fairfield Hospital

### Message From The GM

October has been a busy month as we gear up for a few celebrations. Firstly Fairfield Hospital Celebrates its **30<sup>th</sup> Birthday** during November.

Minister Hazzard is visiting to be part of the celebrations and to participate in our **Annual Staff Awards** and have a tour of our facility. I think he will want to see the progress of the ED.

We are also going to be having an Open Day with community celebrations on that day with some entertainment, stalls and & Open Consumer & Community Participation network meeting.

Part of the celebration is to also hold a sausage sizzle for lunch especially for our staff to say thank you for all the hard work that you continue to do every day and especially over our busy winter. (I can hear you say the pace is still the same Ken!)

It is really important that we concentrate on our patient flow all the time. We have to have our processes fairly slick and everyone has a part to play in that whether part of the admission, treatment or discharge phase. We are working on this but need to be a bit more focussed.

I would also encourage every staff member who might have cause to attend the ED as part of their work practices, to go up and have a walk around. We have communicated the changes, but sometimes one has to visualise them to appreciate that work flow has changed and will continue to change over the next few months.

With the Resuscitation rooms now being refurbished, do you know where to go if someone asks to you go to the temporary resus room? If you don't know, go and have a look and talk to one of the ED staff to help

you. We also ran a mock resus which Dr Matt Vukasovic kindly facilitated for us in the new location. We found a few errors, followed the bed flow and even brought the portable radiology machine down. Most of the issues although small, we were able to fix. We now are going to run a Paediatric Resus, which Dr Laurence McCleary will work with the ED staff to stage.

We also are going to start planning to run mock arrests sims on ward areas, and I was fortunate to participate in one last week in 1B. The debrief was good, as we all learned from it and the staff even asked for more! Thanks 1B and thanks to the ICU Educator and Director. Team work !

We have now had a few Managers and Executive attend the CORE Chat education sessions. I think they have been worthwhile and equip us for those discussions we might need to have. I think that everyone who goes to CORE Chat that truly gains from it are those staff who also look at themselves. That can be a hard thing sometimes, but it can also be powerful in helping us all.

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Christmas is approaching and we will be communicating with staff further around our activity downturn and our need to maximise leave over this period of time.

Finally the General Managers position will be readvertised early in 2019, and we hope to have a suitable applicant on board by February or March 2019 depending on their circumstances.

## EMERGENCY

### Update

We have moved the resuscitation bay into a temporary "resus bed" in the ambulance bay.

This will have some effect on logistics of movement of patients, ambulances, radiology services, clinical capacity.

This arrangement is expected to be in place for 2 months .

We thank everyone for their cooperation whilst we undergo the refurbishment of the Emergency Department.

Dr Harry Doan - Director of Medical Services





The Fairfield Renal Dialysis Unit will miss Mr Cecil Boland who passed away on 31/8/2018 at 92 years old.

Mr Boland began his Haemodialysis in May 2011 until July 2018 in the Fairfield Dialysis Unit. He dialysed 3 times a week. The Fairfield Dialysis Unit was his second home as he became very close with the staff and made friends with other patients.

He was the most senior patient in the unit, the staff and hospital Executive celebrated his 90th birthday in the Unit. Mr Boland served in the New Guineas as an engineer, joined the army and went to WWII after his 18th birthday. Mr Boland noted that while he coped “pretty well” with coming home after WWII, others did not fare so well. He was awarded a Quilt of Valour after he was identified a worthy recipient (WWII veteran). The quilt which was hand made by a volunteer was handed over to Mr Boland at Fairfield hospital on 9 May 2016. Many of us had known Mr Boland as our very special guest speaker at the Hospitals ANZAC day service in 2016, 2017 & 2018 where he shared his story with staff and guests. He felt unwell and was transferred to Liverpool Hospital where he passed away. One staff from the Unit attended his funeral on behalf of the Unit and Hospital and a Social Worker gave his family grief & loss counselling. **May he rest in peace**

## NATIONAL CARERS WEEK 14-20 OCTOBER 2018

Carers are our unsung heroes! Carers Week celebration at Fairfield Hospital included handing out 100 tea/coffee vouchers with a goodie bag for carers.

Staff also received a tea/coffee voucher if they completed the online HETI module “Partnering with Carers”.

Thank you to the Fairfield Consumer & Community Representative Nasrin, who assisted with completing a carers week survey with patients and carers at Fairfield Hospital.



## Community Engagement

In October the Fairfield Consumer & Community Participation Network had a consultation and tour of the After Hours GP Clinic on site. The Network had some concerns about the clinic so Dr Harry Doan, Director Medical Services organised a meeting with Dr Joseph Nicolas and Aslan Bassem whom are the operators of the After Hours Clinic. The consultation provided valuable feedback which was taken on board. One of the actions taken as a result is an installation of a disability ramp to provide access to the Clinic.

Sixty Year 5/6 students from Smithfield Public School came in for a Hospital tour to learn about how the hospital works and all the different professions that work together to provide better health care for our patients and carers. Students & Teachers were inspired by the personal career stories of Dr Harry Doan (Director Medical Services) and Belinda Pellizzon (Nursing Unit Manager Emergency Department). These tours are organised in partnership with South West Sydney Program.





Celebrating Mental Health Month at Fairfield Hospital

The theme for 2018 is “Share the Journey” and focuses on the importance of social connections in:

- 1) Our journey to better mental health &
- 2) Our ability to cope with life’s challenges . Good social connections not only improve our overall mental health & wellbeing, they also build our resilience.

On the 10th October, annual World Mental Health Day staff at Fairfield attended a very interactive presentation on Five Ways to wellbeing by Gabi Martinez (from SWSLHD Mental Health Wellbeing Promotion team)

The focus of the presentation was Five Ways to wellbeing.

Evidence suggests that a small improvement in our wellbeing can help us to thrive, to cope through challenging times and decrease some mental health problems. Staff were enthusiastic in participation which concluded with a short Zumba warm up routine.

In the month September the BounceBack program also held a number of meditation and mindfulness sessions including a physiotherapy presentation focused on benefits of physical exercise.



**WELLBEING BEGINS WITH HEALTHY STAFF**

A mini expo about the effects of tobacco and the benefits of quitting

The Fairfield staff wellbeing/smoking cessation clinic held a mini expo about effects of tobacco and the benefits of quitting as part of the BOUNCEBACK staff wellbeing program..

The mini expo was an opportunity to discuss best ways to quit smoking.

During the expo, staff had the opportunity to perform a Carboxyhaemoglobin (COHb) tests. Staff that visited the stall also received a small gift.



**MOVEMBER**

Help our very own Justin Smith, Nursing Unit Manager Paediatric Ward 1C, who is participating in Movember! Donations can be made in the below link.

<https://mobro.co/13858772>



# THE GOLDEN HEART charity function 5

Fundraising to support Fairfield Hospital

An amazing effort by the Vietnamese community's 3rd annual fundraising dinner held on Saturday 13 October 2018 at the Golden Palace Seafood Restaurant Cabramatta.

Over 600 guests attended the event which raised in total of \$106,188.00 which will go towards purchasing an Orthoscan. This piece of equipment is an image intensifier used in hand surgery.

Members of The Golden Heart Charity Function then came into the hospital on Friday 26 October to present the cheque to Fairfield Hospital before heading off to a "Thank You" dinner for all who had volunteered and participated to make this event a success. **A true local community effort!**



The Infection Prevention Community of Practice had successfully hosted Fairfield's first PPE Met Gala. Thank you all for showing support for Infection Prevention Week by visiting and voting in the "Wear it or Share it" competition.

The winners voted by staff, patients and visitors are:

**1st: Operating Theatres - 47 votes**

**2nd Maternity Services - 38 votes**



**3rd Equal**

**Emergency - 37 votes**

**Ward 2A - 37 votes**



**Recovery & Anaesthetics - 37 votes**



Thank you to Priceline Pharmacy Wetherill Park for sponsoring the competition with a prize for the winner.