

News from the Field



Volume 2, Issue 10– Oct 2013

Fairfield Hospital



Message From The GM

Fairfield was visited by the Minister for Health to review our Hand Clinic and to farewell two of our O&G Doctors who are retiring – Dr Brenda Parkinson and Dr William Tai. I too would like to offer my thanks to both Doctors on behalf of the Patients and Staff at Fairfield Hospital – enjoy your retirement and stay healthy

Last Wednesday was clean up day at Fairfield and what a lot of 'junk' and out of use equipment and materials were found. Many bins were filled with stacks and stacks of used paper and old files and notes that had just been stock piled and of no use. The day was so successful a follow up clean up day is scheduled for this

Wednesday – that's how much was lying around, so here is your last chance to get rid of that unwanted, broken and not needed stuff.

Award judging for the Staff Recognition Awards has now taken place and we all await with excitement for the announcement of the nominees on Friday the 15 November in the Staff Cafeteria – make sure you come along and help celebrate with lunch starting at 12MD. Followed by staff service award presentations from 12.45pm.

Fairfield Hospital 25th Silver Anniversary Ball will be held on Friday the 29 November at the Marconi Club – make sure you book a seat or even

get a table of 10 together in what promises to be an exciting night of fun and celebration of this great Hospital's 25 Birthday on the current site

Lastly I would like to inform you that our Hospital wide accreditation survey starts on Tuesday 19 November and I'm very excited because I have witnessed first hand the incredible amount of work you all have been putting into the survey. I must thank Maria Pron for driving the process and probably driving us nuts at the same time, but you have all responded to her requests magnificently and this has placed us on a solid footing

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Patient Based Care Training

South Western Sydney Local Health District together with the Clinical Excellence Commission organised this "Patient Based Care Training" to enhance the understanding of patient based care for staff especially clinical and management leaders of the District. The first of a two sessions was held at Fairfield Hospital on Thursday 31 October 2013 in the Whitlam Joint Replacement Centre. The three hour seminar focused on the way care is delivered to better meet patient needs and preference as

well as build leaders on the area of health care quality. Patient based care is a requirement of the National Safety and Quality Health Services Standards which Fairfield Hospital will be assessed against during the week of 19-22 November 2013. The session at Fairfield Hospital was well attended by staff, clinicians and management. Attendees enjoyed listening to the patient experiences and taking part in the group discussion and self assessment of Patient Based Care

Challenge strategies for Fairfield. Results of group discussion and feed back will be collated and presented once completed.



The new Fairfield Hospital facebook page!



Clean Up Day



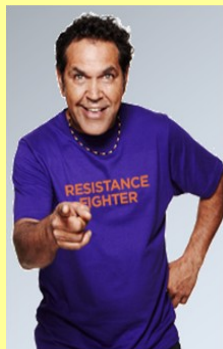
Wednesday 30 October 2013 was clean up day at Fairfield hospital.

Fairfield Staff had the opportunity to go through their wards and departments, under the direction of their Service Managers, to discard any items that were no longer required. After much hard cleaning, a sausage sizzle BBQ was also organised for staff.

An amount of \$275 was raised on the day for Rural Fire Service. Great work by Fairfield staff!

Antimicrobial Stewardship

Antimicrobial resistance is a growing problem worldwide and is considered a major threat to public health and patient safety. Overuse or misuse of antimicrobials promotes the emergence of antimicrobial resistance. Research shows that up to half of antimicrobial regimens prescribed in Australian hospitals are considered inappropriate. As antimicrobial resistance increases and the development of new antimicrobial agents declines, it is critical that antimicrobials are used wisely and judiciously. An effective approach to improving antimicrobial use in hospitals is an organised antimicrobial management program known as Antimicrobial Stewardship. Effective hospital Antimicrobial Stewardship programs have been known to decrease antimicrobial use and improve patient care. Optimal antimicrobial use leads to improved patient outcomes, reductions in adverse outcomes associated with antimicrobial use and financial cost savings. Work has already commenced at Fairfield Hospital to ensure the right patients receive appropriate antimicrobials. This has included HDU ward rounds with an ID physician and clinical pharmacists, infectious diseases consultations and audits and risk assessments to investigate the use of antimicrobials. Scheduled work is underway to implement an online decision support antimicrobial approval system. Play a part in this rewarding program by pledging to fight against antimicrobial resistance during Antibiotic Awareness Week (18 -24 November 2013). For more information please visit the NPS MedicineWise website: www.nps.org.au



We need you to join the fight!

Community Participation

General Manager Arnold Tammakand attended the October Fairfield Interagency Meeting held at Fairfield Council. He presented with Fairfield Consumer and Community representative Carmen Lazar about the services provided and delivered by Fairfield Hospital.

The feedback from the Interagency was very positive, they were extremely impressed by the good work we do and the devotion of management.

Going forward, the General Manager together with the Community Participation Manager – Robyn El-Khair will be taking opportunities to visit different community networks and organisations to promote the services of Fairfield Hospital to the wider community.

Bushfire Appeal @ Fairfield

Sharne Smith, a staff member from Maternity kindly coordinated donations from Fairfield staff for the bushfire victims. All donated goods were delivered to the Springwood Community Centre to distribute to the residents of Springwood.

It was a small but thoughtful gesture from Sharne and Fairfield staff to show that we as a group were thinking of them.

Donations received filled Sharne's car to the brim.

Staff have been so generous that donations are still coming in for the Springwood residents.



Mental Health Week 2013

Kindness: : little acts, big impacts!

Mental Health Month is a national mental health promotion campaign held in October each year with its aim to increase awareness and promote mental health and wellbeing for all people.

This year's theme was 'Kindness: little acts, big impacts!' and was a reminder of the importance of kindness and generosity to our mental health and wellbeing, both as givers and receivers of kindness.

Just like your physical health and fitness, your mental health is worth taking care of and improving. This is true for everyone whether they have or have not experienced mental illness.

To celebrate Mental Health Month at Fairfield Hospital several promotional activities were held by the Liverpool/Fairfield Mental Health Consultation Liaison (C/L) & Perinatal (PIMHS) teams. These included information

stands in the front foyer of the hospital and Antenatal clinic with numerous resources available in various languages. Small acts of kindness were provided in the form of fruits, chocolates and information. Resource packs were also distributed throughout the hospital and departments. Staff of Fairfield Hospital were also invited to participate in a find a word puzzle.

* 1st prize winner Marie Brown (ED)

* 2nd prize winner Charmaine Rodricks (GP unit)

* 18 other prizes were given to entrants.

It is hoped these activities have highlighted the importance of being kind to others and to ourselves.



“ kindness: little acts, big impacts”

Education / Research

Grand Rounds

Grand Rounds on Wednesday 2 October 2013 was presented by Fairfield Frug Health Services on the topic “ Opioid Dependency” presented by Dr. Peter McCaul

Grand Rounds on Wednesday 21 October 2013 was presented by the Department of Cardiology on the topic “Assessment chest pain – latest advances “ by Dr. Albert Shafransky.

Fairfield Library

Fairfield Library has recently received a series of new books. Visit the Library or call for more information.

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Health Events Held In October

Carer's Week Forum was held on 16 October 2013 from 11am -4pm at Fairfield Council meeting room 5.

Cardiology Education Day was held on Friday 25 October 2013 in the HDU Seminar room.



Staff

Kate Farell is our new Graduate Health Management Trainee that has come across from Bankstown Hospital Human Resource department. Fairfield will be Kate's final placement for the first year of her Graduate Health Management Trainee program.



After 39 years of service, Fairfield Hospital wished Anne Grabham, a happy retirement with an afternoon tea. Anne worked in many Wards within Fairfield, but the last five years were with Ward 1B.



The Speech Pathology Department had a farewell morning tea to three of its staff members Annetarie Tripolone, Jenni Steel and Karli Gleeson.



25th Anniversary Ball

25th ANNIVERSARY BALL

FAIRFIELD HOSPITAL

Come along and join in the festivities to mark the 25th anniversary of the opening of Fairfield Hospital at its current site

Friday 29 November 2013

Club Marconi

7pm

**Staff Recognition Awards
Lucky Door Prizes
DJ**

Cost: \$75 three course dinner
(Bar will be open throughout the evening to purchase drinks)

Tickets available from the General Manager Unit & Nursing Administration

Dress: Formal / Cocktail

EQIP National Standards

Fairfield Hospital is working together diligently for upcoming Organisation Wide Survey that will held from 19- 22 November 2013.

In preparation for the survey, Maria Pron – Quality and Risk Manager sends out daily emails containing useful information in countdown for the accreditation process.

Information sessions have also been organised commencing Tuesday 5 November til Thursday 14 November 2013.

All staff are encouraged to attend a session as the surveyors may stop and ask any staff, patient or visitor questions during the survey.

Additional sessions for Departments/Services can be arranged upon request. For enquiries please contact Maria Pron/Sajma Khan on 68358/68118 or vial email.