



**FOLLOWING EXTENSIVE PLANNING** and 12 months of construction, 9 December 2020 marked a significant milestone in the hospital's 130-year history with the new \$68.7 million clinical services building opening its doors to the community and welcoming its first patients.

Featuring state-of-the-art amenities and a contemporary design, the new building provides additional capacity for the community to receive the highest level of quality health care.

The clinical services building includes an emergency department, operating theatres, adult and paediatric inpatient wards, bariatric rooms, rehabilitation spaces and four negative pressure rooms to support infection control.

Bowral & District Hospital General Manager, Ken Barnett, said staff and community were at the heart of the redevelopment project and had been engaged and consulted throughout planning, construction and delivery.

“The new building has been designed to provide significantly more single and double rooms, each with an ensuite, to support our community to recover with the privacy, respect and dignity that they deserve,” he said.

“Additional consideration was given to provide amenities to families with relatives in palliative care. There are also increased birthing offerings for expectant mums, and the building design ensures rooms have plenty of natural light and views of the Highlands landscape.”

Improved access and wayfinding are key design features, with both physical and aesthetic connections to the existing hospital and a complementary colour scheme that celebrates the Southern Highlands.

An additional \$55 million for stage two of the Bowral & District Hospital redevelopment project has been committed by the state government.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the opening of the new building is being celebrated with the launch of a video showcasing the new facility and some of the faces that helped bring it to fruition.

**View the launch video on the hospital's Facebook page or on YouTube at [https://youtu.be/A\\_zWMAXI3AU](https://youtu.be/A_zWMAXI3AU)**

For more information:

Visit [www.swslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/bowral/redevelopment.html](http://www.swslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/bowral/redevelopment.html)

Contact our team on 4861 0200 or 4861 0281

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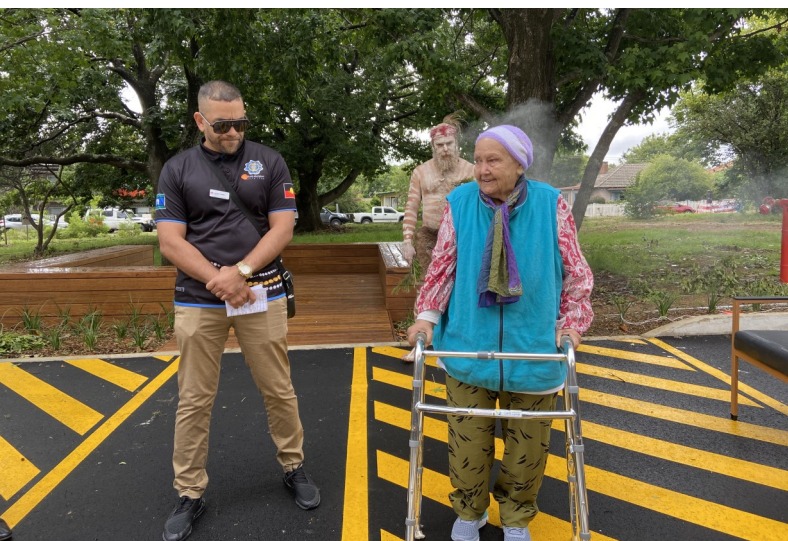




**AS PART OF** preparations for the opening of the new hospital, which sits on the traditional lands of the Gundangara Nation, a smoking ceremony was held to help ready the building for welcoming staff and the community.

A smoking ceremony is an ancient custom among Indigenous Australians in which native plants are burnt to produce smoke and acknowledge the ancestors, while paying respect to the land, waters and sea of country.

The smoke is believed to have healing properties and the task is undertaken to ritually 'cleanses' the space prior to use.



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**Top:**

The nurses and reception area in the new maternity and paediatric wing.



**Middle:** Level 1 reception/foyer.

**Bottom:** Kids nook in the paediatric wing.



**Top:**

A new double room with built-in patient entertainment and ensuite.

**Middle:** Birthing suite.

**Bottom:** Kids nook in the paediatric wing.

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