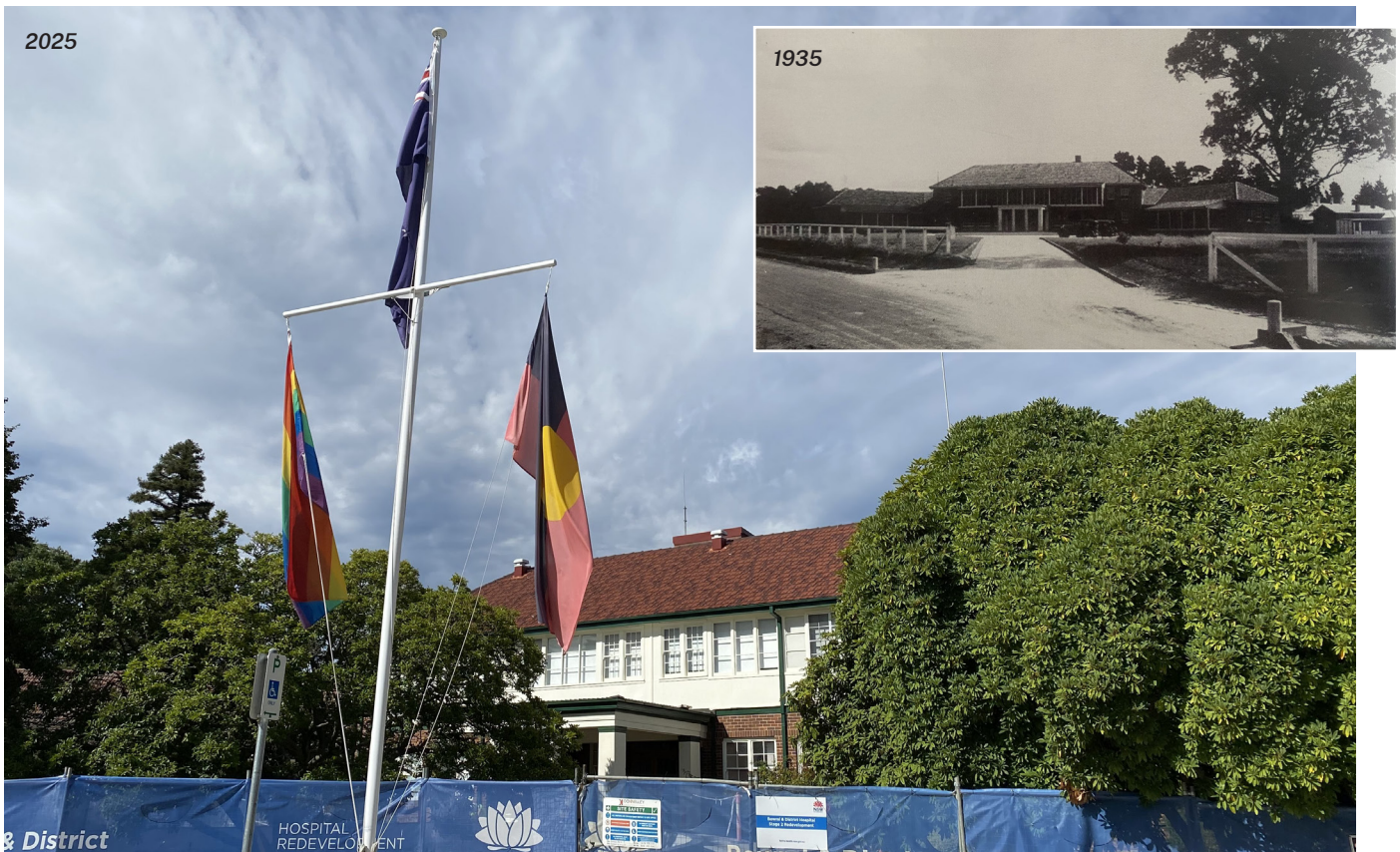


FEBRUARY 2025

Bowral & District Hospital Redevelopment Newsletter

Counting down to first patients in the new **Outpatient Centre (OC)**



The transformation of our 1930's era former hospital building into a modern, fit-for-purpose Outpatient Centre is almost complete. Next week the blue mesh screens will come down and we'll be welcoming our first patients in the new Outpatient Centre (OC).

Moving through the new offices, therapy, and clinical consultation spaces you can see that many of the historical elements have been retained, bringing the charm of yesteryear into this contemporary space.

Our building commissioning activities are in full swing as we test all the services and technologies and provide orientation and training for the staff who will be working in the OC.





The general orientation for staff covers a range of subjects crucial to users' understanding of the space they'll be working in including special features in the consult, therapy and meeting rooms and the nurse call/ emergency response system. Scenario testing by the hospital's rapid response team is a key part of the orientation to ensure all staff can respond swiftly should there be a medical emergency.

Before we know it, the reception area will be buzzing with patients, and the gymnasium will be full of equipment and a hive of activity.

With its prominent position on the hospital campus, accessing the OC will be possible from both the front and rear of the building. Accessible parking spaces and drop off zones will be clearly marked in the P2 parking area (off Mona Rd) and the P3 car park (off Ascot Rd).

There will be maps and posters around the campus to assist patients and visitors to find their way.

After an extended period flanking the OC construction zone, the NSW Pathology and Renal Dialysis teams will have respite from the construction activities on their doorstep.

Staff who are currently working out of the Outpatient Clinic and the Watson Rehabilitation Centre will be moving into the OC, consolidating our medical, nursing and allied health clinics into a single, centrally located hub and breathing life back into this beautiful, historic building.

We look forward to welcoming our community into this fantastic new space and are planning for a community open day in the coming months – stay tuned, we'll let you know when it's happening!



Fun fact

The colour palette for the OC's paint, furniture and furnishings has taken inspiration from the many seasonal colours seen within our local environment, and particularly the almost 100-year-old magnolia tree that sits proudly in the centre of the entrance ramps.

We're so pleased that our tree preservation protections appear to have worked well with the tree looking beautifully lush as you approach the main entrance.



Art in the space



Local artist Lily Cummins has completed her mural in the corridor linking the north and south wings of the new OC. It will be a vibrant pop of welcoming colour for patients and visitors crossing from the north to the south of the OC or entering the building from the Ascot Rd entrance.

The NSW Health Infrastructure Arts in Health team are on-site this week to coordinate the installation of three original commissioned artworks by local artist Lily Cummins, as well as a selection of original framed art that has been donated to the hospital over time.

We look forward in the coming months to sharing the First Nations Welcome Project which is led by Gunai artist Kirli Saunders in collaboration with Red Room Poetry, local community members, Elders, and local school students.



Yarning space in the dreaming garden

Hospital General Manager Bradley Warner met with members of community and the redevelopment team on country recently to review options for the façade of the new yarning space to be constructed within the Aboriginal Dreaming Garden. “The new yarning space will be a unique construction built to meet the health needs of our community,” Bradley said. “It will be both a safe and a welcoming space for all”.

What comes next?

Once the OC is operational, the current Outpatient Clinic building will be decommissioned, and the Watson building will be demolished to make way for Phase 2 of Stage 2, the transformation of the former Milton Park hospital into a contemporary General Services Building (GSB). When it opens later this year, the GSB will accommodate:

- Clinical information department
- Education and Simulation centre
- New mortuary
- Loading dock
- Administration unit
- other back-of-house services such as linen and hotel services



Work is well underway in the GSB with scaffolding in place on the new eastern end of the building following the partial demolition completed late in 2024.

Acknowledgement of Country

Bowral & District Hospital stands proudly on Gundungurra land. We acknowledge and pay respect to the peoples of the Dharawal and Gundungurra Nations, the traditional custodians of this land. Bowral & District Hospital staff and community will continue to be “Taking Care of Country”.



For more information:

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