2014 Harry Collins Award Nominees
for Excellence in Consumer and Community Participation
**Ros Sleeman**

**Reasons for nomination:**

- Ros represents a broad cross section of the Liverpool community and demonstrates a willingness to work closely with Liverpool Hospital in advancing the needs and expectations of the community;
- She brings to Liverpool Hospital and to her Community Representative responsibilities a very active community involvement of countless hours a week under the umbrella of the Liverpool City Council’s Seniors Network, including helping to organise and run:
  - BBQs for seniors, Liverpool Mayoral Concert, Bus hostess during Seniors week, collecting and distributing toiletries for the hospital aged care unit. The Smith Family Learning for Life students and fundraising for the National Seniors Liverpool/Fairfield branch and View club;
  - Her very active and often three days a week input at the Liverpool Hospital as a Community Rep which includes being a member of three of the hospital committees. In addition, Ros acts as a volunteer at the hospital when needed, taking part in such activities as the production of hospital training videos, PET interviews and investigations into A&E and GP clinics and the Electronic notice board;
  - If all this was not enough, Ros also has a professional medical background of over 40 years employment in hospitals as an Registered Nurse including 20 years with the Liverpool Health Service Public Health immunisation program. This ideal combination of medical professionalism and community involvement is the perfect platform which she contributes her energy and talents for the benefit of the Liverpool community and Liverpool Hospital.
Peggy Long

Reasons for nomination:

- Peggy is a foundation member of the Bankstown Network who has worked tirelessly to help bring about positive change for the patients of Bankstown Hospital;
- She never stops! Her enthusiasm and commitment never waives and she rarely misses an opportunity to speak to the decision makers about what they should know is happening in their hospital and also offers suggestions as to what they should do about it;
- Her direct approach and the ability to speak plainly can sometimes catch people off guard, but Peggy’s intention is always to help the patients have a positive experience and also for the staff to do their best for the people in their care;
- I feel that Peggy’s long association as a Bankstown Hospital Consumer Representative and all the work she has done and continues to do, should be recognised and applauded by her peers.
Mandy Walker

Reasons for nomination:

- Mandy is a dedicated member of our team and has given an enormous amount to the hospital in terms of fundraising, raising the interest of the general public and support for Bowral Hospital.
Sandra McDonald

Reasons for nomination:

- Sandra has done a lot of work with the Mental Health Community and the awareness she has given to the general community;
- She has done a lot of work with getting grants to improve the buildings and environments for Mental Health patients.
Robyn Williams

Reasons for nomination:

- Robyn to me is the consummate Community Rep. Even with her own health problems and caring for her teenage grandson she is willing to give whatever time she has for either committees or presentations involving the health service;
- I respect and admire her immensely.
Tricia is a quiet and gentle achiever with a passion to make (especially Bankstown Hospital) the best hospital it can possibly be. I have watched her grow in the role as consumer rep and chair of the Bankstown network over the past seven years;

- She interacts well with hospital staff and is not afraid to go straight to the GM if there is something she wishes to achieve or investigate further. She is involved at both district and the local level in a range of hospital committees with end of life being her key focus. More recently she is the consumer rep on Bankstown Hospital’s Masterplan key committee in an effort to ensure that both patients and carers are well accommodated for when the hospital gets a new look in the future. Tricia has a wicked sense of humour that brightens up our consumer network meetings;

- Through her participation in Health Consumers NSW Consumer Leadership training course and the University of Sydney’s Health Literacy forums, Tricia has become an ‘expert’ in health literacy skype forum where a number of academics come together from across the globe to discuss the very important topic of health literacy. A huge role which Tricia has taken on with great application and humility in light of the fact she has not been to university herself.

- It is in this role of health literacy guru that Tricia has been involved with reviewing a number of hospital brochures and publications and taken part in an assessment of the Cardiac Rehar...
Janice Slavik

Reasons for nomination:

- Janice has been a very active member of the Liverpool Network and the Consumer/Community Council. She always manages to keep her finger on the pulse of everything going on within the Liverpool Health District as well as the wider Health communities;
- She is always welcoming of newcomers to the Network and does all she can to make the voice of the Consumers and community heard;
- Janice has given freely of her time for over 10 years.
Dianne Price

Reasons for nomination:

- Dianne is another of those quiet achievers who gets on with the job without fuss or bother. As well as being a very active consumer rep, coordinates the Bankstown Dementia Carer’s Group Inc which comprises a drop-in centre for carers, provides regular outings and holidays and runs a support group for carers of people with dementia – all in a voluntary capacity;
- Dianne brings a wealth of experience to the consumer and community participation group as an ex carer of her mother who passed away from dementia some years ago. She has been involved in training programs for staff and aged care facilities at Bankstown Hospital in the Top 5 program when she tells her story as a carer of a person with dementia and how health professionals can improve the care and communication to patients and carers by using the Top 5 strategies;
- She sits on three committees at the hospital including the Disability and Carers Access Committee, the Top 5 committee and the consumer and community participation network committee.
Ros Birch

Reasons for nomination:

- Ros continues to be an inspiration to all Community Reps;
- Her quiet determination is a wonderful quality and so important when interacting with the hospital and the community.