DATE: 22 October 2014

Please attribute to Fairfield Hospital General Manager, Mr Arnold Tammekand.

Staff at Fairfield Hospital pass on their deepest condolences to the family of former Australian Prime Minister, The Hon. (Edward) Gough Whitlam AC, QC.

The Hospital is honoured to have had Mr Whitlam as a patron of the Whitlam Joint Replacement Centre (WJRC) at Fairfield Hospital, since it opened in 2003.

His enduring commitment to the people of Fairfield, and to Australian healthcare made him an ideal patron.

Gough attended the official opening of the WJRC’s Education Centre in 2009, with his late wife Margaret Whitlam, AO.

Gough was actively involved in fundraisers for the Centre and always took an interest in the Centre and its research.

His patronage has helped make the WJRC and Fairfield Hospital a centre of excellence for patients undergoing joint replacement.

At the Centre, specialist staff from a range of health disciplines come together to undertake assessments and provide patients with a coordinated care plan. This might include patient education, pain management, physiotherapy or other treatments.