Hospitals across the District recognised the Anzac Centenary in April by bringing staff together to mark the important milestone. Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital held a service in partnership with Bankstown RSL. Staff and volunteers also came together to watch an episode of Sisters at War. Bowral & District Hospital held an ANZAC biscuit bake-off, with staff pitting their baking skills and biscuit recipes against one another. A flag raising ceremony was also held. Campbelltown Hospital held a special Nursing Grand Rounds – Wartime Nurses 100 Years of ANZAC, providing an opportunity to remember the healthcare workers who have served for Australia in war efforts. Camden Hospital held an exhibition of old photos and war time memorabilia. Fairfield Hospital held a service which included a guest speaker from Fairfield RSL. Liverpool Hospital called on staff and the community to come together by hand-knitting poppies which were used to create an ‘ANZAC 100’ sign, displayed at a special service. Watch a video of Liverpool’s ceremony here: https://youtu.be/0cckjxm8Y5E

ICT Strategy launched
District Board members, community representatives and SWSLHD staff celebrated the launch of the District’s Information Communication and Technology (ICT) Strategy last month. The event was also attended by Mike Walsh, Chief Executive of ehealth and HealthShare NSW. District Chief Executive Amanda Larkin said the ICT Strategy provided a roadmap by which we could become a digital Local Health District and work towards becoming an integrated digital health community. Visit www.swslhd.nsw.gov.au/pdfs/SWSLHD_ICT_Strategy.pdf

Staff mark Centenary

ICT Strategy launched

Mike Walsh, Nick van Domburg, Nina Berry, Tricia Parker and Amanda Larkin launched the ICT Strategy.
April marked the 100th anniversary of the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli and a range of activities were held at hospitals across the District.

The ANZAC Centenary was an opportunity for us to honour all men and women of the Australian Defence Force – past and present – while also remembering the healthcare workers who have served for Australia in war efforts.

I am pleased to announce that Ms Alison Derrett has been appointed to the position of General Manager, Campbelltown and Camden Hospital and congratulate Alison on her recent appointment.

I would also like to thank Mr Chris Leahy for his support during the Campbelltown and Camden Hospital recruitment process. Chris will return to his role as General Manager of Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital and Ms Valerie Jovanovic has taken up a secondment as Acting General Manager, Bowral Hospital.

Nominations are now open for the 2015 NSW Premier’s Awards for Outstanding Cancer Research, which honours individuals and teams that work across the cancer research sector to lessen the impact of cancer for the people of NSW. This year, there will be eight award categories and I would encourage staff to nominate themselves or a colleague they feel is deserving. Nominations are open until Wednesday 20 May.


The YourSay workplace survey has been extended and will now run until 8 May, so you still have a few days to contribute your ideas and opinions to this important survey. Visit www.orcsurveys.com/yoursay2015survey.

I’d like to congratulate Liverpool Cancer services on 20 years of caring for the community. The service has helped an estimated 60,000 people with Cancer over the last two decades. A Gala Dinner is being held to celebrate this milestone. For more information visit www.swslhd.nsw.gov.au/liverpool/events.html

This month I was delighted to be part of the District’s Information Communications and Technology (ICT) Strategy launch. Rapid advances in ICT have contributed significantly to the improvement of health outcomes for patients and enabled smarter, more efficient ways of working.

The District acknowledges the opportunities and challenges facing a complex IT environment and the ICT Strategy has been developed to help us achieve the District’s vision of Leading care, healthier communities.


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**A beautiful legacy**

Liverpool Hospital’s Palliative Care Ward will undertake an innovative art project called Reflected Legacy.

The project will see artist Flutter Lyon spend three months in the Palliative Care Ward capturing the life stories of people in the last weeks of their life. These stories will become ink-pressing artworks and sound recordings that are given as gifts to the loved ones of the patients.

The Hospital is working with the Groundswell Project to fundraise for the program. Creative Partnerships Australia will match money raised until the campaign reaches its $8000 target. To donate visit http://bit.ly/1z8p1Oc.

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**Health tournament**

Some of the best and brightest Allied Health staff from Campbelltown and Camden Hospitals pitched their ideas as part of the 2015 Allied Health Innovation Tournament.

The tournament brought staff together to celebrate innovation in healthcare, with five pitches presented and judged by the Hospital’s executive team.

Congratulations to the winners, Alison Brennan and Katherine Kelly from Speech Pathology who presented on their project: ‘A cough a day keeps the pneumonia away - Implementation of cough reflex testing (CRT) for the detection of silent aspiration’.
Delivering a significant philanthropic investment that will improve the health of Australians, Bob Ingham AO and his family committed a further $1 million to their namesake not-for-profit research organisation the Ingham Institute for Applied Medical Research at the inaugural Ingham Institute Ball in March. A further $230,000 was raised on the night. Ingham Institute Chairman Terry Goldacre (pictured above, far right) declared the Ball an extraordinary success and thanked sponsors.

**Seniors stay healthy**

Local seniors were encouraged to Be Inspired during NSW Seniors Week. The week focused on activities celebrating self-expression, offering our senior community opportunities to have fun while enjoying being active, social and healthy. A Seniors Expo at Warragamba Town Hall offered people the chance to try cupcake decorating, crocheting and beading, while volunteers demonstrated their line dancing skills and gentle exercises on stage. UWS School of Medicine students also offered mini medicals.

SWLHD Director of Health Promotion, Mandy Williams, stressed the benefits of embracing opportunities to stay active and socially included.

For more information about free SWLHD Health Promotion Service programs Active Over 50 or Stepping On, call 8738 5911 or visit www.activeandhealthy.nsw.gov.au.

**Conference afoot**

More than 300 health professionals from around the world met at Liverpool Hospital to attend the Sydney Diabetic Foot Conference in April.

Research from the Australian Diabetes Council showed that seven of the ten suburbs with the highest rates of diabetes in NSW were located in Sydney’s west.

Head of Liverpool Hospital’s High Risk Foot Clinic, Mr Matthew Malone, said the Sydney Diabetic Foot Conference provided a platform for the most current education and knowledge.

**Patient launches book**

A former Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital stroke patient has inspired the community by writing a book less than two years after his diagnosis, as part of his recovery journey.

Tony Finneran launched his book, Gone But Not Forgotten, in the Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital Stroke Rehabilitation Ward as a tribute to the staff who helped him recover.

Mr Finneran said the seed for the concept of the book was sewn in bed 1a of Stroke Ward 2B at Bankstown Hospital one night during his treatment.

“I knew I had to become left hand dominant with any future computer work and if my first goal was to return to work then I needed to challenge my skill sets,” Mr Finneran said.

Mr Finneran has chosen to donate a large portion of the sales of the book, which is about the history of Sydney’s buses, to the National Stroke Foundation.
**Quick news**

**Get healthy**
There’s a new place to get healthy in 2015, and it’s not the gym or the doctor. It’s a place where most Australians already spend a third of their life – at work. Businesses and workers across the Macarthur region are set to benefit from the $12 million workplace health initiative developed by NSW Health and WorkCover NSW. Get Healthy at Work provides businesses with all the tools, resources and support they need to address lifestyle-related risk factors for chronic disease at the workplace. The service makes it easy for employers to support workers to make healthier food choices, become more active and maintain a healthy weight, as well as supporting those who want to quit smoking or reduce harmful alcohol use. For more information visit gethealthyatwork.com.au.

**A united effort for kids**
Cinderella rushed from the ball and Captain America took time out from saving the world to visit Campbelltown Hospital’s children’s ward. They delivered showbags donated by United Cinemas Narellan. Our staff enjoyed the visit too!

**Xpress Check**
The Liverpool Sexual Health Clinic has launched an Xpress Clinic, where clients without any symptoms can use a touch screen computer to have an STI screen in just 20 minutes. The Xpress Clinic allows you to complete a computerised history and then see the nurse to have your tests collected. HIV results are texted to you the next day. Clients are able to attend during their lunch break or on the way home from work. The service is free and available to everyone, including SWSLHD staff. Visit www.sticlinic.com.au.

**Stepping Up**
NSW Health has launched the Stepping Up website to boost the number of Aboriginal people working in health professions and help managers recruit and retain Aboriginal staff across the broad spectrum of health roles. The website lists job opportunities in SWSLHD and across NSW Health. Visit www.steppingup.health.nsw.gov.au/.

**Sustainability in Health**
The NSW Nurses and Midwives Association and SWSLHD are jointly sponsoring a forum on Environmentally Sustainable Practice in Hospitals and Community Settings on Friday 15 May at Liverpool Hospital. The forum explores ways for health employees to make their own services more environmentally sustainable. For information: www.nswnma.asn.au/education/education-calendar/

**HETF training portal**
The HETI Clinical Supervision Training Space has gone live at www.clinicalsupervision.health.nsw.gov.au. The Space is a training portal where new, intermediate and advanced clinical supervisors can access training resources wherever and whenever they like - via their desktop, tablet or smartphone. Follow HETI on Twitter and LinkedIn to be part of the conversation.

**Privacy Awareness Week**
It’s Privacy Awareness Week 2015 (3-9 May) and this year’s theme Privacy matters @ any age highlights the importance of protecting your personal information no matter your age. NSW Privacy Commissioner Dr Elizabeth Coombs said while the use of smart devices, mobile apps and online services was convenient and fun, it was important to protect your personal information. For details visit bit.ly/1PqYiR4.

**GP cancer forum**
Local GPs are invited to attend the Cancer Therapy GP Forum and Open Day at Liverpool Hospital on 16 May. The Forum will provide information on advances in cancer management, services provided by the Cancer Therapy Centre and a tour. The GP Forum is part of Liverpool Hospital Cancer Services 20th Anniversary celebrations. For more information call 1300 179 765.

**Karitane at KARI**
Karitane held an information stall at the KARI Unity day in April. The event was held at the Whitlam Leisure Centre to celebrate community and Aboriginal culture in Liverpool.

More than 500 people enjoyed health information stands, a reptile petting zoo, face-painting, entertainment, bbq, aboriginal cultural activities, balloon twisting and meeting NRL stars.