New era of care

Campbelltown Drug Health Service has moved into new state-of-the-art premises, signalling Campbelltown Hospital’s $632 million stage two redevelopment is well and truly underway.

After more than 20 years at Coopers Cottage, the team was excited to move into the new purpose-built centre including expanded new consultation and treatment areas in D Block last month.

Camden and Campbelltown Hospitals General Manager Alison Derrett said the new location would further enhance client care.

“The new build allows Campbelltown Drug Health Services, to be located within the one facility ensuring a streamlined, multidisciplinary approach to client care.”

Drug Health Services Acting Operational Nurse Unit Manager Wanda Brabender said staff and clients were delighted with the new premises.

“Our new centre means we can achieve evidenced-based treatment in a positive custom-built environment,” Ms Brabender said.

“This is a milestone for the hospital redevelopment as Drug Health Services is the first service to move into the hospital campus,” Ms Derrett said.
60 seconds with...

Adam Leonard.

What is your role?
I am the new Director, People and Culture (formerly known as Workforce and Development).

Is staff culture something you're passionate about?
Absolutely. A healthy workplace culture starts with good leadership, but every one of us has a part to play. Behind great culture is a belief that people are valuable and important, and that every person does matters. When we believe this, we show respect for one another and work well together.

How would you describe our culture?
I have seen staff and managers who are passionate about what they do and work hard every day to provide the best possible care for patients. I see an equal passion and commitment in all areas of the District.

What do you do for fun?
I enjoy watching baseball (go New York Mets and Sydney Blue Sox!), as well as playing music. I was a guitarist with some cover bands in the 80s and 90s. I also enjoy riding my Kawasaki Vulcan S motorcycle, being part of my local church and spending time with my wonderful wife and son.

Chairman Message

I would like to thank you for your hard work during the winter months as we saw an increase in demand for our services. In particular, our emergency departments have done a fantastic job, delivering safe, high quality care to thousands of patients.

This year has been an insightful experience for me, as I learn more about the District, and the work that you do to support the health of the south western community. I have met many staff and I have plans to continue executive rounding with other board members during October and November.

At last month’s board meeting, we reviewed the progress to date on the strategies that make up the District’s Strategic Plan 2018-2021 and a lot has already been achieved. We also approved the Clinical Governance Framework, which is an important piece of work.

The framework is underpinned by five core principles developed in consultation with staff and reflects the current evidence base for effective clinical governance. By aligning day-to-day practice with these principles, systems and processes the delivery of safe, high quality care will be strengthened.

Finally, the board approved the Bankstown Clinical Services Framework. A Clinical Services Framework for the Bankstown Health Neighbourhood to 2031 commenced in late 2018 in collaboration with Bankstown health services and broader stakeholders. The Bankstown Clinical Services Planning will be a two-stage process and this plan is the first stage which outlines a high-level framework. Over the next year, a more detailed Clinical Services Plan will be developed.

I hope to meet you during my next executive round in the coming months.

Check out the latest edition of Thrive out this month.

International guest

We had a special visit from Valerie Browning AM, a midwife and ambassador for the Barbara May Foundation. Valerie came to Liverpool Hospital to share how your support helps provide care for mothers and babies in Ethiopia.

You can support the wonderful work of the Barbara May Foundation through our Workplace Giving Program. Visit our intranet, speak to a champion and stay tuned for Workplace Giving Month in October.
A stroke of genius

In a world-first, two of our top researchers, Dr Sonu Bhaskar and Associate Professor Murray Killingsworth, are leading stroke research as co-directors of the new NSW Brain Clot Bank.

The Brain Clot Bank is a partnership initiative by NSW Health Pathology, NSW Statewide Biobank, local health districts, Ingham Institute and the community. The Brain Clot Bank will provide a platform for research and innovation in stroke, leading to better treatments.

It was launched last month in Sydney. The initiative has attracted local, national and international attention - having featured in The Sydney Morning Herald, ABC News and Nine News.

“The whole platform has been designed with a single ambition or mission - to improve the outcomes of patients with stroke in NSW, Australia and then globally,” Dr Bhaskar told The Sydney Morning Herald.

Dr Bhaskar was also a key speaker during National Science Week last month, leading education on stroke and dementia.

Bowral’s finest retires

Bowral & District Hospital held a luncheon to farewell one of its top clinicians, Dr Simon Grant OAM.

Dr Grant started at Bowral 36 years ago and will be remembered for his selfless work ethic, humour and adaptability.

Last year, Dr Grant received a Medal of the Order of Australia for his service to medicine, particularly endocrinology.

Dr Grant’s secretary Ms Marilyn Cady also retired after 30 years of service, and Bowral staff held a morning tea for both. Thank you both for your steadfast service.

Warm hearts

Thank you to our 60 staff, volunteers and their families who braved the cold to raise money for Cancer Services at a recent Bulldogs v Wests Tigers match.

The $2500 raised using a District-first new ‘tap and go’ option will support additional resources for patients to support their treatment and recovery.

Future leaders

Well done to two of our staff who demonstrated their commitment to clinical excellence through leadership.

Campbelltown Hospital’s Dr Tasneem Mayat and Fairfield Hospital’s Stephanie Nunn were two of 3000 clinicians who recently graduated from the NSW Clinical Excellence Commission’s Executive Clinical Leadership Program.

At the graduation ceremony, NSW Health Secretary Elizabeth Koff said it was wonderful to have such excellent health staff from South Western Sydney Local Health District complete this program.

“Many of them will become the leaders who guide our health system in the future.”

Staff, volunteers and their families.
Let’s chalk

District staff supported World Breastfeeding Week by engaging with local high school students to promote its importance for mothers and babies.

Hospitals across the District held student-based activities to raise awareness, including chalk artworks on hospital footpaths.

District Clinical Midwifery Consultant Annette Wright said breastmilk promotes better physical development, stronger bones and a better immunity in babies. It also helps reduce the risk of breast cancer in women. As health care professionals, it is important to share this message.

“Let’s empower families and enable breastfeeding to bring up healthy children.”

Bright idea

Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital’s paediatric nursing staff brightened the lives of young patients by wearing brightly-coloured, whimsical scrubs on the ward.

“The feedback has been really positive,” Nurse Unit Manager Nora Omar said, adding that it helped children identify and engage with staff.

What a great way to provide personalised, individual care!

DonateLife

This year’s DonateLife Week was a fantastic success with activities held around the District, staff raising community awareness and a visit from two Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs players.

District Chief Executive Amanda Larkin said DonateLife Week was a great opportunity to start a conversation about organ donation with your loved ones.

“It really is essential you have the conversation with your family about becoming an organ or tissue donor,” Ms Larkin said.

Contact us

To submit a story, event or provide images contact us on 8738 6848 or email SWSLHD-Communications@health.nsw.gov.au. Don’t forget to follow us and share our posts on social media @ South Western Sydney Local Health District.