

MARCH 2003



Professor Les White(left) with Dr Robert Farnsworth(right) at the Hospital's Staff Recognition Awards

DR ROBERT FARNSWORTH HONOURED IN AUSTRALIA DAY LIST

Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick is proud to announce that Dr Robert Farnsworth, Visiting Medical Officer - Urology, was included in this year's Australia Day Honours list.

Robert has had a long working history with SCH, Randwick and was recently recognised for his 40 years of dedication and service to the Hospital at its annual Staff Recognition Awards. Robert has held several senior management roles at the Hospital and is widely respected by his peers. He had a key role in setting up the Spina Bifida Clinic at the Hospital and has been instrumental in establishing world leading urological surgical services, particularly for children and the disabled. He was one of the surgeons involved in the first renal transplant performed in NSW in 1965.

From 1972-97, Robert headed up the Department of Paediatric Urology at the Prince of Wales Children's Hospital (now SCH, Randwick) as well as the Department of Urology at Prince of Wales Hospital. During this time he taught at the University of New South Wales continuing his commitment to the training of medical trainees in Paediatric Urology. He has also contributed to Nursing Education programs.

Since 1962, Robert has had continuous involvement in the urological management of spinal injured patients and as a result of his research and clinical practice he was invited to be the urological foundation Fellow of the Australian College of Rehabilitation Medicine in 1980. Robert has lead other internationally recognised research including:

- Improving bladder function for children with spina bifida.
- Treatment of urinary tract infections in children.
- Refining the use of urinary tract nuclear medicine scanning.
- Development of surgical techniques in reconstructive paediatric urology leading to further research into adolescent and adult care.

Congratulations Robert on your outstanding and much deserved award.

SIXTH ANNUAL AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND PAEDIATRIC SYMPOSIUM FOR GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

On the Australia Day Weekend Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick held it's annual Paediatric Symposium for General Practitioners. This meeting provides practical information to GPs to assist in their management of paediatric patients and covers a wide range of topics. Special thanks must be given to all speakers for giving up valuable time on this holiday weekend. The excellent standard of their presentations made the weekend a success. The success of the weekend can best be summarised by a letter that was sent to Dr Fiona Mackie, Coordinator GP Education.

"Dear Fiona,
I attended the recent Paediatric Symposium for GPs and would like to congratulate you and all those responsible for a highly informative, enjoyable and professional weekend. I found the venue, the catering and the overall spirit of the symposium made it more a pleasure than a penance especially on an otherwise 'long weekend'.

Please continue to provide such high-quality and reasonably priced education for GPs and pass on my thanks to the many people responsible."

Dr Michael Panetta



Participants at the recent GP Symposium

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employee of the month

Chris Payne, Administrative Assistant, Child Protection Unit, has been chosen as our Employee of the Month for January/February 2003. Congratulations!

Dimitra Tzioumi, Staff Specialist, Child Protection Unit nominated Chris for providing daily client/patient care and administrative support that exceeds everyone's expectations. Chris is seen as an integral part of the Child Protection Unit as her fantastic organisational skills keep the Unit running smoothly even in the middle of a crisis.

Dimitra says that Chris is the most wonderful, competent and exceptional Secretary she has ever worked with. Chris is known for getting things done even before others realise that they need to be done!

Dimitra adds that working in the Child Protection Unit reception area can be emotionally demanding and Chris is able to handle all situations with her calm and professional attitude.

Position: Administrative Assistant, Child Protection Unit.

Best part of your job? The great people I work with in the Unit, and the many people I have contact with around the Hospital, both on a personal and work basis.

Worst part of your job? Seeing the downside of things that can happen to children and their families.

When you were young what did you want to do when you grew up? I always wanted to be a nurse, but somehow along the line I was steered towards secretarial work.

First full-time job? Legal Secretary.

How long have you been at SCH, Randwick? Two years...it has gone really quickly.

Strangest thing you've ever had to do on the job? Change a nappy.

Your mentor or greatest inspiration? My lifelong mentor would have to be my Dad, and my greatest inspiration is a lady called Evelyn, who runs a dog rescue group.

Where will you be in 10 years? Hopefully, I will be retired and have my health, my husband and my pets.

Job you most admire? There are many jobs I admire, but since working in the Hospital, it would have to be medical professionals and hospital workers.

Chris will enjoy a complimentary meal for two at Mamma Theresa's at Kingsford and a bouquet of flowers compliments of Clementine Flowers, Randwick. Metro Parking will also throw in a cheque for \$100. ENJOY!!!

volunteer update

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY

Our volunteers were recently treated to a special morning tea to celebrate NSW Health Volunteer Appreciation Day. Volunteers were presented with a 2003 Volunteer Pin to thank them for their service and dedication to the Hospital's Volunteer Programme. It was great to see so many familiar faces and a good time was had by all.

NEW VOLUNTEER

Welcome to Janice Schwartz who will be assisting with the Oncology Clinic every second Tuesday. We hope Janice enjoys her time here at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick.

STAR CAFE

The Hospital's Star Cafe is currently looking for volunteers. The hours and days are flexible and all proceeds from the Cafe go toward Hospital research. If you are interested in volunteering your time or know of someone that may be interested in giving their time to the Cafe, please telephone Mary Byrne, Volunteer Co-ordinator and Hospital Liaison Officer on telephone number (02) 9382 3570 for more information.



Volunteers at their recent morning tea

EDITOR'S notes

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The Way Forward is the SCH, Randwick internal newsletter.

Should you want to submit to The Way Forward please do so before the following dates.

DEADLINE DATES FOR 2003 ARE:

11 March, 15 April, 13 May, 10 June, 15 July, 12 August, 16 September, 14 October, 11 November and 16 December.

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welcome to foundation news

WHAT DO RACHEL GRIFFITHS, ROLF HARRIS, PRO HART AND THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET HAVE IN COMMON?



A "Pinnie" going under the Hammer

They will all be taking part in an event called 'Pinnies' from Heaven on Thursday, 27 March 2003 at Newmarket Stables, William Inglis and Son, Young Street, Randwick to benefit Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick.

The second annual 'Pinnies' from Heaven involves approximately 30 prominent Australian artists and celebrities, who have each been sent an apron on which they have created their own art piece. Each apron will then be auctioned to help raise funds for the Arts Programme at the Hospital.

Participants in the event include: The Australian Ballet, Danelle Bergstrom, David Boyd, Fred Cress, Peter Cundall, Ken Done, Peter Doyle, John Firth-Smith, Robyn Gordon, Rachel Griffiths, Karen Gutman, Rolf Harris, Pro Hart, Graham Kuo, Colin Lanceley, Rove McManus, Colleen Quinn, Salvatore Zofrea as well as other well known Australian identities.

For ticket information, please contact the Foundation on (02) 9382 1188.

RALLY FOR RECOVERY CONTINUES TO HELP SICK KIDS

Sunday, 23 March

On Sunday, 23 March, the wheels will be set in motion as participants head off on the Rally for Recovery 2003 - an inexpensive six-day motoring rally to the town of Bright, Victoria - providing a driving adventure while visiting numerous attractions along the way.

More than 30 entrants from all over Australia will be taking part in the third annual Rally for Recovery, with the aim of raising maximum funds to directly benefit patients treated at the Centre for Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick.

For further information, please contact Vera Entwistle on telephone: (02) 6557 6654 or via e-mail: rallyforrecovery@bigpond.com

KOBBERS KRUISER-KLUB EASTER EGG RUN

13 April

On Sunday, 13 April 2003, members of the Kobbiers Kruiser-Klub will jump on their bikes and hit the streets again to help raise funds for Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick. Commencing their trip at Dunningham Park, Cronulla at 11.00am, the group will be handing out Easter eggs and raising funds via bucket collections and a raffle along the way - finishing their trip at the Sydney Children's Hospital.

adventure

JOIN THE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME WITH THE WILD THORNBERRYS!

The red carpet will be rolled out for Eliza Thornberry and the gang at the Australian Premiere of Nickelodeon's The Wild Thornberrys Movie on Sunday, 30th March at 10.30am at the Village/Greater Union/Hoyts Centre, George Street, Sydney - in support of Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick.

Produced by Nickelodeon and released by United International Pictures in Australia, The Wild Thornberrys Movie is based on the immensely popular animated TV series. From the Serengeti Plain of Africa to a proper London boarding school, Eliza Thornberry - television's favourite 12-year-old who can communicate with animals - embarks on an epic adventure like no other in her first film odyssey, The Wild Thornberrys Movie.

A thrilling adventure story for the entire family, The Wild Thornberrys Movie also features the celebrity voices of voices of Rupert Everett, Lynn Redgrave, Marisa Tomei, Michael Balzary (Flea), Lacey Chabert and Tim Curry.

This is a great opportunity for families to be part of a movie premiere extravaganza, to meet their favourite Wild Thornberrys character and be the first to see the long awaited feature length movie based on the Emmy-nominated (2000-01) hit series The Wild Thornberrys.

Tickets are priced at \$15 per person and include The Wild Thornberrys Movie screening and a show bag jam packed with goodies.

Tickets are available by calling the Foundation on (02) 9382 1188 - but you will have to be quick, there are only a limited number available.

general information

REPORTING OF CHILDREN AT RISK ON THE BASIS OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

Whenever a disease notification is received for a child under the age of 16 years, which may be an indication that the child is 'at risk of harm', the Public Health Unit is required to advise the referring doctor of their statutory obligations under the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998. The notifiable diseases to which this policy currently applies are (i) sexually transmissible diseases (chlamydia, gonorrhoea and syphilis); and (ii) hepatitis C.

Acquisition of a sexually transmissible disease may be an indication of the child being 'at risk of harm' on the basis of sexual intercourse or sexual assault, whilst a hepatitis C notification may be an indication that a child is 'at risk of harm' on the basis of injecting drug use.

Under the Act, a person who has reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is 'at risk of harm' must, as soon as practicable, report to the Department of Community Services (DoCS) the name of the child and the grounds for suspecting that the child is at risk of harm, so that DoCS can assess the extent to which an investigation is required. The DoCS Help Line number is 13 36 27.

Such children should also be referred to appropriate specialist or support services, and in the case of a child who is injecting drugs, to a drug and alcohol service, and advice should be sought from the Child Protection Unit on telephone numbers (02) 9382 1412 or (02) 9382 1413.

Please refer to NSW Health Frontline Procedures for the Protection of Children and Young People, 2000 at <http://internal.health.nsw.gov.au/policy/hsp/child-protection/procedures/frontlineprocedures.pdf>, to section 27 of the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 at <http://www.community.nsw.gov.au/enact/readings.htm> and to the Interagency Guidelines for Child Protection Intervention, 2000 at <http://internal.health.nsw.gov.au/policy/hsp/child-protection/guidelines/guidelines.html> for guidance on your obligations.

POLICE CARDBOARD CUTOUTS: A SIMPLE SECURITY MESSAGE

Thanks to the generosity of The Spot Business Association and the Seals Club of Maroubra, the Hospital has been donated some life-sized cutouts of Police to help educate staff and visitors about local safety and security issues.

Whilst they may not deter thieves, the messages and reminders that these models carry will hopefully make Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick a more difficult target.

It is very distressing that some members of the community are so desperate that they will stoop so low as to steal from families and staff in a children's hospital but that seems to be life in the 21st Century.

Hopefully, this slightly different approach to raising security awareness will tip the balance back in the favour of the "Good Guys"!

PS. With Easter just around the corner, will the little elves who overdressed the police model on Level 4 in a "Santa" suit, please now consider purchasing a "bunny" suit...Ho, Ho, Ho!

WE ALL COME FROM SOMEWHERE - CULTURAL DIVERSITY AT SYDNEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, RANDWICK

In 2002, Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick (SCH, Randwick) took part in an innovative pilot research project with the Centre for Cultural Research at the University of Western Sydney and the Multicultural Health Unit, South East Health. The project provided the organisation with valuable insight into how SCH, Randwick works with difference on a daily basis and manages diversity issues. It provides a series of recommendations on how to improve our performance in relation to diversity.

Highlights from the research projects findings include:

- Not all issues raised by parents/ carers related to their "cultural" backgrounds.
- The diversity of an individual has a number of dimensions that may effect their interaction with hospital services such as socio-economic, age, geographical location, education, sexuality, ethnicity, gender religious and spiritual beliefs.

The report states that "The issue of cultural Diversity is not one that can be isolated from other cultural practices within the Hospital". Cultural diversity is a variable that impacts on the continuum of care.

The recommendations relate to four distinct areas:

- Interpreter and language issues.
- Training and Education.
- Hospital Policies and Guidelines.
- Future Joint Initiatives with internal and external partners.

The SCH, Randwick Access and Equity Committee will be developing strategies to address the priorities. The Hospital has just committed to furthering the research initiative with a focus on models of care.

If you are interested or would like more information please contact Kathy Litchfield, Diversity Health Coordinator on telephone number (02) 9382 3343 or Margaret Savage, Executive Support Manager on (02) 9382 1575 for more information.

casemix information

	JANUARY 2003	JANUARY 2002
Admissions -	843	797
Discharges -	830	765
Day only cases -	382	345
Hospital Average Length of Stay	2.8 DAYS	2.8 DAYS
Hospital Average Length of Stay (excl Day Only)	4.2 DAYS	4.2 DAYS
Occupancy -	82.40%	77.13%
Non admitted patients -	16,804	12,338

column 8¹/₂

WISE WORDS FROM THE KITCHEN

I'm creative; you can't expect me to be neat too.

So this isn't Home Sweet Home ... Adjust!

If you write in the dust, please don't date it!

Kitchen closed - this cook has had it!

Ring bell for maid services ... If there is no answer do it yourself!

I clean the house every other day ... Today is the other day!

A balanced diet is a biscuit in each hand.

message from Professor White

Dear Colleagues

On this occasion I have asked Alexandra Viles, our Acting Human Resources Manager, to share with you her perspective on current issues as well as her vision for the future.

Les White

Executive Director



quality
improvement
matters

THERE'S NO BETTER TIME TO SALARY PACKAGE!

As the new year gets into full swing and we enjoy the little bit of extra cash the award increases have put in our pay - I thought it might be timely to remind you of the other way you can put that little bit more in your own pocket and out of the hand of the tax man!

By now most of you have heard about salary packaging, given its been running for nearly 12 months. I thought however that I might share with you some of the advantages that you may not have heard about that make it "no better time to Salary Package".

With the inclusion of school fees and credit cards on the already lengthy list of benefits you can package, it is very near impossible for staff members not to find something that they are able to package. In fact challenge us and see if we can't find something that you can package!

If you start to package now the deductions are spread equally over the life of the package, making for a better cash flow.

Remunerator have dedicated a Salary Packaging Manager to South East Health, who has just recruited experienced financial services people to provide you with the best possible advice - and they will guarantee it or you get your money back!!!

The Salary Packaging Officer will provide:

Financial information on

- Tax savings for the full year and for each pay, especially where the package is for less than 12 months.
- The effect on the Employee Payment Summary (Group Certificate).
- The potential effect, if any, on income tests, Super Surcharge, Medicare Levy or HECS.

Payroll information on

- The new net pay and payment of benefits.
- How the 9% super contribution is calculated.

Benefits Information on

- The range of benefits and how to package them especially the many forms of mortgages.
- How to arrange reimbursements of benefits.
- How to allow for existing additional super contributions.
- How to incorporate existing car benefits.

Administrative Support

- How to complete the forms.
- Lodgment of the forms on your behalf.
- Remunerators Salary Packaging officers can even show you how to salary package your Randwick Campus Parking ON TOP of the \$8755 limit - so you can save even more!!!
- Shift workers can save even more! - as salary packaging is worked out on your base income (before penalties and overtime) the cost centres share of the saving is worked out on this also. If you earn any extra money above your base you get to keep the full amount of this salary packaging advantage.

Remunerator, the HR department and Nursing Workforce have combined resources to provide "drop-in" information sessions, giving you the opportunity to ask any questions, get help with forms or find out how salary packaging can benefit you!

Feel free to drop-in anytime between 0900-1630, at any of the following locations.

- RHW TUTORIAL ROOM (Level 4, Royal Hospital for Women) on Tuesday, 4 March.
- CAMPUS CONFERENCE ROOM 2 (Level 2, Campus Centre) on Wednesday, 12 March.

AND, remember that your HR department on Level 3 across from the Executive Unit is available to provide assistance at any time.

Come in and meet the HR team of Rachel, Paul, Judith and myself.

Alexandra Viles

A/HR Manager

PS: Dear Colleagues

You are well aware of my personal enthusiasm for a salary packaging across SCH, Randwick. It is rare that one finds a strategy which benefits in equal measure the organisation and the individual employee. I had expected that given the relatively small size, team spirit and commitment to transparent communication at SCH, Randwick we would rapidly become industry leaders in this domain.

The fact is that South East Health is the second lowest packaging performer in the health system and that SCH, Randwick is at best in the middle of the pack within the Area. Our colleagues at Children's Hospital Westmead have, by contrast, a much higher proportion of staff packaging. I am concerned and extremely puzzled about these findings and I will continue to explore what obstacles, anxieties or false perceptions may be inhibiting my colleagues.

My personal experience with Remunerator has been a relatively straightforward bureaucratic process with very obvious benefits. In my previous e-mails and discussions on salary packaging I also received ample feedback, almost all positive, which I distributed widely. Any minor obstacles or concerns have been addressed and the performance of Remunerator has continued to improve. So I ask, why would one be throwing away considerable amounts of personal income and institutional benefit?

With the beginning of the new FBT year it is a great time to have another look at salary packaging. As indicated above, our HR department, the Area office and Remunerator have gone to great lengths to simplify, explain and support the process. I will also continue to enthusiastically support these endeavours and deal rapidly with any issues that may arise. As usual, I would be delighted with any feedback and opportunities for improvement. I always take enormous pride in the team spirit at SCH, Randwick and this should be no exception.

Best Wishes, Les White (Prof)

QUARTERLY ROUNDUP

The "Quarterly Roundup" is an initiative of the Clinical Effectiveness Support Unit (CESU); a collaborative involving CESU members and some senior management staff with specific quality related portfolios.

This regular report will update all staff on activity profiles and performance of the hospital, while assisting managers in setting the quality agenda in their areas.

The structure of the report reflects the domains of the Department of Health Strategic Plan, upon which Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick strategies are based. These are:

- Healthier People.
- Fairer Access.
- Quality.
- Health Care.
- Better Value.
- Shaping the Future.

Some highlights of the first edition are:

COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT

A significant area of complaint is the family's perception of not being listened in relation to changes in their child's health status. It is recommended that strategies to improve communication and raise awareness of how behaviours are perceived by families be considered.

REPORTED INCIDENTS

A proposal for a medication safety improvement project, submitted to The Australian Council for Safety and Quality in Healthcare, has been supported and will commence in 2003.

A full copy of the report is available on the Intranet directly via the SCH, Randwick Home Page.

school of Women's & Children's Health

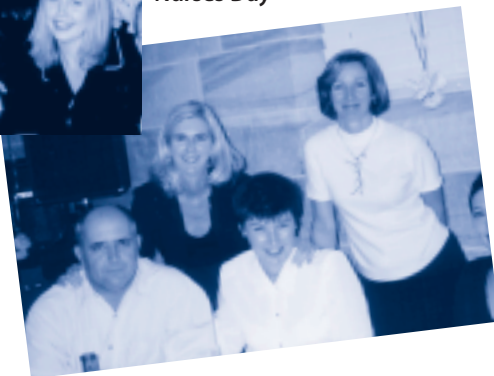
The Commonwealth Government has committed itself to trying to increase the number of doctors who practice in rural areas. One component of this strategy is to encourage medical schools to recruit students from rural backgrounds. In 2003 the Faculty has 164 government-funded positions in Year 1 of the course. Thirty of these positions have been reserved for students from a rural background. In fact an additional ten students from rural backgrounds qualified through the main cohort. Thus we have forty students from rural backgrounds entering Year 1 this year. This has exceeded all targets that had been set either internally or externally. A second component has been teaching students in rural locations. The School of Rural Health has been established on the Albury/Wodonga and Wagga Wagga sites for a number of years and both Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour are now on board. This year we have eight students doing nearly all of their paediatric clinical time in Year 5 in Wagga Wagga or Albury/Wodonga. By 2004 a quarter of the students will complete a half of their clinical rotations in rural areas. Thirdly, all students, whether or not they are part of a rural stream, spend at least eight weeks in rural locations. Professor Richard Henry recently visited Kempsey, Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour and is confident that in 2004 we will add both Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie to our Year 5 rotations. Albury Wodonga and Wagga Wagga will take some students on short-term rotations and other students on longer rotations. We also have out of Sydney rotations to Wollongong and Canberra but clearly these do not count as rural rotations.

There is an unmet demand for senior clinical academics to work in rural areas. Bruce Dowton is keen to hear from anyone interested in an academic career in Rural New South Wales, with a view to helping that individual obtain the appropriate academic as well as clinical experience. Richard would be happy to discuss matters with anyone who was interested. A number of you have worked hard to submit research grant applications to NHMRC. Sorry to those who have Conjoint Appointments who received a surprise email from the Research Office indicating that you were not permitted to put your grants through University of New South Wales. The problem has arisen because of an interpretation from NSW Health around whether staff specialists are allowed to put their research grants through the University. Clearly they have been doing so for many years and with great benefit to the University and indeed to the researchers in terms of the administrative structures available to manage the process. At the twelfth hour, the Area agreed that we could maintain the previous process of conjoins putting grants through the university while the issues that had arisen were being addressed. At the time of preparation of this article, there has not been a definitive resolution. It is stressed that there has been tremendous good will at the Area level to try to resolve this crisis. As you would all have anticipated the Dean has also been very proactive in this regard.

nursing matters



SCH, Randwick nursing staff enjoying last year's International Nurses Day



Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick will celebrate International Nurses Day for one week this year from Monday, 12 May to Friday, 16 May.

The week kicks off on the Monday with an afternoon tea from 2.30pm to 4.00pm in the Lecture Theatre Foyer. A slide photo presentation will also run at this time.

On Tuesday, 13 May there will be a BBQ lunch served in ICU. On Wednesday, 14 May night duty staff will be catered for and breakfast will be served from 7.00am for those coming off night duty. Thursday, 15 May will be Mufti Day with a guess the NUM photo competition.

And last but not least, on Friday, 16 May the week of events will culminate with a Harbour cruise. The cruise will sail from the Opera House at 7.00pm returning at 11.00pm. The night will include a Harbour buffet, music and award presentations. Unlike other years, nursing staff are celebrating the day over a week period, and inviting partners to share the Harbour Cruise event. The cost of the cruise is \$55.00 per person. To make sure no one misses out on a great evening of celebrations, all nursing staff are encouraged to buy their tickets as soon as possible. If you want more information contact Nursing Services on telephone number (02) 9382 1893.

GRAND ROUNDS

GRAND ROUNDS

John Beveridge Lecture Theatre, Level 1, Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick

1700 every Wednesday - Refreshments 16:45. Convened by A/Prof John Ziegler.

5 MARCH 2003

TBA

SPEAKER:

CO-ORDINATOR: Susan Adams

CHAIRPERSON:

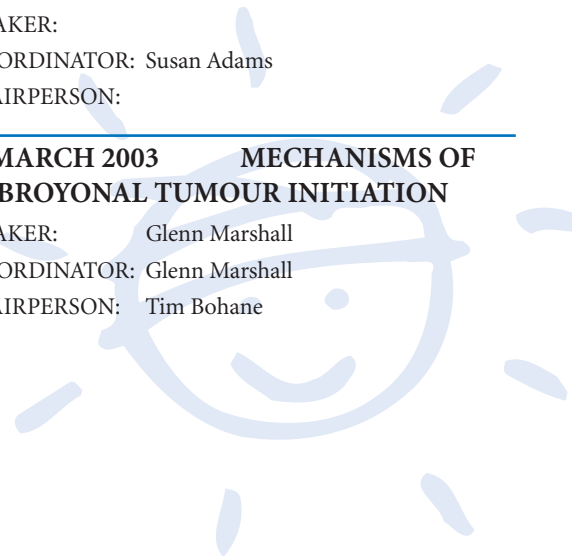
12 MARCH 2003

**MECHANISMS OF
EMBRYONAL TUMOUR INITIATION**

SPEAKER: Glenn Marshall

CO-ORDINATOR: Glenn Marshall

CHAIRPERSON: Tim Bohane



public affairs

BIKE SAFETY DISPLAY

In 2002, Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick initiated a Health Promotion Window Display at the Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation Shop. The first display featured bike safety and included a competition for children to enter to win a bike and helmet donated by Maroubra Cycles. This competition was drawn pre Christmas and was won by a young patient at SCH, Randwick - Sam Froggatt. Sam was very excited to win the bike and his parents had no chance of getting him off it until he reached Ronald MacDonald House! Congratulations Sam.

This window display is an initiative of the Health Promotion Committee and has been supported by Kidsafe. The RTA has provided additional resources. Child mannequins were donated by Downtown Duty Free. The latest display features water safety with Royal Life Saving Australia providing additional resources. A competition with the chance to win sun safety suits will start in February.

The Bike Safety Health Promotion Window Display



ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick is pleased to announce that Melissa Parkin, Speech Pathologist and Catherine McKersie, Social Worker, were recently presented with awards from the South East Health Allied Health Professional Awards.

Melissa received her award for Clinical Excellence, while Catherine received her award for Outstanding Team Member.



Award recipients

Melissa Parkin(left) and Catherine McKersie(right)

Congratulations must also go to other SCH, Randwick nominees including:

Neroli Dickson, Occupational Therapist.
Megan Robinson, Occupational Therapist.
Bernadette Walsh, Social Worker.

PATIENT FRIEND NEWS

You may have noticed new folders on wards labelled "Where can parents get a meal?" These resource folders are to assist parents and carers to locate and order food from both on and off the campus. Please let families know that these folders are available for their use. Coming soon will be a Consumer Noticeboard for each ward to inform consumers about various consumer developments around the Hospital and other handy information - an SCH, Randwick Parent and Consumer Council initiative.

A consumer is defined as "an individual who uses or is a potential user of health services, including the family and carers of patients and clients". Feel free to contact Coralie Macmillan, Patient Friend on (02) 9382 0680 for more information or to give feedback about the Hospital.

PAEDIATRIC RECOVERY ACQUIRES GREAT NEW DEVICE TO ASSIST IN SAFE TRANSFER OF PATIENTS

Manual handling is an important issue in Paediatric Recovery. The Unit transfers approximately 20 to 35 patients on any given day. As stated in the Health Industry Classification Project (1997), it was reported that the manual handling of trolleys was a major contributing cause to nurse injuries. This was an identified problem in the Recovery Unit with documented incidents involving IV poles and trolley beds during patient transfers. The related factors were generally a combination of the environment (i.e. moving in and out of lifts), equipment load and the logistics of manoeuvring trolleys along different floor surfaces throughout the Hospital.

To solve this problem a manual handling aid, a mobile IV attachment toe has been easily connected to the trolley allowing the IV pole to be toed along by the trolley itself. So there is no more pushing, pulling, lifting and straining - just easy moving. This is a great safety initiative reducing the risk of injury to staff and patients.

SYDNEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, RANDWICK ARTS PROGRAMME

A large mural has been installed on the corridor of Level 1 of the Campus Centre for the children on their way to Theatre and for their families waiting for them to come to Recovery. The mural is titled "Journey to the Wish Fulfilling Tree" and was paid for by movie director Jane Campion (The Piano), whose daughter Alice made the journey along a then, very white corridor. Two colour concept drawings for the mural, by the artist Jo-Anne Breneger, will be hung in the Recovery Ward.

movers and shakers

Welcome to Elizabeth Kenway who is a Clinical Psychologist working for the Learning Difficulties Clinic at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick (SCH, Randwick). Liz comes to SCH, Randwick with years of experience in learning difficulties and will be an asset to not only the clinic, but also to the Hospital's Psychology Department.

Congratulations to Andrew Gadow who has recently been appointed AudioVisual Support Officer at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick. Prior to Andrew working here at the Hospital, he had been studying, completing a Bachelor of Arts - Fine Arts at the University Of Western Sydney (UWS). He has also been pursuing his video and sound art practices, exhibiting at many art galleries around Sydney. Andrew was a co-director of an art gallery in Western Sydney and has previously been employed as an AudioVisual Support Officer at UWS. His contact details are telephone number (02) 9382 1640 or page 43131.

Congratulations to Ida O'Brien, who recently started her position as CNC Palliative Care (part-time). Ida can be contacted on page 43177.

pat on the back

CONFERENCE GRANT

Congratulations to Tiina Piira, Paediatric Pain Research Unit, who recently received a conference grant from The Ian Potter Foundation. Tiina will use the grant to bring Dr David Southall to the International Symposium on Paediatric Pain in Sydney in June 2003.

BEST MEDICAL TEAM

Dear Prof White

We would like to congratulate you and your staff for providing such excellent service.

We like to especially thank the Inflammatory Bowel Disease team headed by Dr Tim Bohane for the excellent work they have performed on our daughter. We as parents feel so much more comfortable knowing that our daughter is being taken care of by a very highly qualified and well-organised team.

You must be very proud of leading the best medical team for children in Australia. Congratulations to Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick.

Yours truly, Felix & Cheen

notice board



NSW SCHOOLS ENCOURAGED TO GET INTO FITKIDS 4 SICKKIDS

With growing concerns in the community about inactivity and obesity in children, the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick in conjunction with its Schools Program and all relevant NSW education bodies will launch a new fundraising initiative early in 2003 - FitKids 4 SickKids. The campaign aims to promote good health for school children - as well as raising much needed funds for life-saving medical equipment and services, training programs and medical and child health research at the Hospital.

As part of FitKids 4 SickKids, participants will be required to record their physical activity and nutritional habits on a recording sheet for four weeks - and will gain points for choosing the healthiest option. Parents or caregivers and teachers will then be required to sign off the child's recording sheet - ensuring the campaign works effectively and can also become an educational tool. Funds will be raised for the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick through an entry fee of \$4.00 for each child participating in the month long campaign.

After the campaign has finished, schools with the highest percentage of students who took part in the campaign and gained maximum points will then go into a draw to be eligible to win sporting equipment and other prizes for themselves and their school.

For more information, please contact Tristan Jones, Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation, on telephone number (02) 9382 1188.

AGGRESSION MINIMISATION WORKSHOPS 2003

The module is designed for staff from all disciplines working in the hospital or community health setting who work with the public and who may need to use strategies to minimise someone else's aggressive behaviour.

Date	Time	Venue/Topic
10th March	0830 to 1230	CR5 Core Module
21st March	1130 to 1545	CR6 Core Module
26th March	1130 to 1545	CR5 Core Module
31st March	1130 to 1545	CR5 Core Module
2nd April	1130 to 1545	CR3 Managing Bullying in the Workplace
7th April	0830 to 1230	CR5 Core Module
14th April	1130 to 1545	CR5 Core Module

Conference Rooms (CR): CR1 (Level 0, opposite Children's Outpatients Department), CR3 (Level 0, Allied Health), CR5 (Level 1, near Lecture Theatre).

To book contact Allison Boyle via email. Please notify cancellations in advance via e-mail or call telephone number (02) 9382 1854. All workshops start promptly and finish on time.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON PAEDIATRIC PAIN (ISPP)

The Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick's Pain Service/Research Unit is hosting the International Symposium on Paediatric Pain (ISPP) - "Pain in Childhood: The Big Questions"

When:	15-19 June 2003
Where:	The Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre
Poster abstracts deadline:	15 December 2002

Registration brochures are available for both the Education Day 15th June and the main Conference 15-19th June from either Tiina Piira, Pain Research Unit C2N, telephone contact number 9382 1585 or Marita McInerney CNC Pain, telephone contact number 9382 1625. Tiina and Marita are located in C2N.

More information about guest speakers and the symposium can be found at the website <http://www.dconferences.com.au/ISPP2003.html>

YOUNG INVESTIGATOR SEMINAR SERIES 2003

You are invited to attend the next round of seminars of this series for 2002 presenting research from the School of Women's and Children's Health and Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick. It is a forum for our postgraduate students to present their ongoing research (presentation once a year will be compulsory) as well as being a platform for Registrars and Fellows involved with research. Allied Health and Nursing staff are included in the series. All postgraduate supervisors and other academics and senior staff are invited to attend and participate.

The seminars are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month. They consist of two speakers, each presenting a 20-minute seminar followed by 10 minutes of question time.

LOCATION:	SCH Lecture Theatre, Level 1
ENQUIRIES:	Veronica Hammond, telephone number (02) 9382 6777 or email hammondv@sesahs.nsw.gov.au

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides free, confidential, professional counseling for any personal or work related concerns.

To obtain a brochure or to make an appointment phone (02) 9382 3681 or (02) 9382 8236.

