



notice board

BICYCLE RACKS

Just a reminder that bicycle racks have been installed at the undercroft just outside the Hospital's School's courtyard. To gain access to the racks to lock your bikes, ride along Hospital Road, turn left or right into Delivery Drive, ride down the hill and then ride up the hill to the right of the School's Courtyard. You will find the bicycle racks at the undercroft.

So with Summer here, jump on your bike and ride to work!

Any enquiries should be directed to Nick Knowles on extension 28155.

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 6616.

YOUNG INVESTIGATOR SEMINAR SERIES 2003

You are invited to attend the next round of seminars of this series for 2003 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 is 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

nursingmatters

Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick recently supported National Bandanna Day, which is the annual awareness day and fundraising event for CanTeen - The Australian Organisation for Young People Living with Cancer. To our delight, we were able to capture many of our nursing staff supporting this special day.



INTERNAL NEWSLETTER OF SYDNEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, RANDWICK
DECEMBER 2003



LAUNCH OF THE SYDNEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL'S CHILD PROTECTION UNIT

Dr Dimitra Tzioumi, Director of the Child Protection Unit and The Hon Bob Carr MP, Premier of NSW

The special needs of abused children and their families will be better served following the recent opening of Sydney Children's Hospital's, Randwick new \$1.1 million Child Protection Unit.

The purpose-built Unit provides a therapeutic, professionally appropriate and supportive atmosphere in which to help abused children, from tiny babies to adolescents.

"Children brought in to our Child Protection

Unit are in so many ways our community's most vulnerable people, and as such deserve the very best of care and support services that a hospital can provide," Prof White said.

Adult survivor of child abuse and co-founder of Care Leavers of Australia Network (CLAN), Dr Joanna Penglase, who spoke at the Unit's opening, congratulated the hospital for recognising child abuse and neglect as a major, community-wide problem.

Through the generosity of Michelle Perry and Jennifer Dickerson (Chair and Deputy Chair of the Art Fundraising and Review Committees), 43 new works of art have been hung throughout the new Child Protection Unit. Several of the works were donated by the artists, including the four water colour scrolls by Graham Kuo, that hang in the Reception Area, and several works by students from College of Fine Art, UNSW (COFA).



Recipients of Staff Recognition Awards

STAFF RECOGNITION AWARDS

Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick recently held its annual Staff Recognition Awards. The awards are held every year to formally acknowledge and honour staff members who have served 10, 20 or 30 years at SCH, Randwick. Special mention must go to Amy McIntosh (Public Affairs) and Paul O'Regan (Human Resources) for all their help in making the evening such a success. Also, thank you to Deborah Green, CEO, South East Area Health for her continued support of this very special event.

Staff honoured this year include:

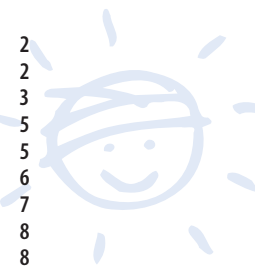
30 years service - Marita McLnerney and Paul Lendvay.

20 years service - Margaret Bresnahan, Yook Wong, Leo Gotherf, Naciye Gozuk, Sek Eng Lim, Maria Maldonado, Anne Willey and Matthew Crawford.

10 years service - Pauro Young, Evangeline Juego, Margaret Campbell, Michelle Walker, Tracy Opperman, Mary Dosen, Margaret Savage, Yvonne Belessis, Marianne Vonau, Clare Cunningham, Arthur Teng, Thomas Havas, Kellie Wilson, Kylie Stark, Carolyn Smith, Nicole Varman, Beverley Laplanche, Isabella Messina, Peta Gallagher, Donna-Maree Walsh, Dr Ross Toll, Dr Ian Jacobi and Kerrie Amy.

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volunteer update



WONDERFUL SUPPORT

Thank you to all our volunteers for their continued support during what has yet again been a very busy year. We wish you a very happy and safe holiday season and look forward to seeing everyone in 2004.

STAR CAFÉ

Some of the volunteers have left the Star Café and we are again looking to fill vacancies. If you are interested in volunteering at the Café or know of someone else who might be interested, please contact Mary Byrne on telephone number 9382 3570.

editor's notes

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.

In 2004, the first issue of The Way Forward will be distributed in February.

DEADLINE DATES FOR 2004 ARE:

13 January, 10 February, 9 March, 13 April,
11 May, 8 June, 13 July, 10 August, 14 September,
12 October, 9 November.

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employees of the month



Deborah Daley and Debra Grech, both Deputy Physiotherapists in Charge, have been chosen as our Employees of the Month for November 2003. Congratulations!

Virginia Binns, Director of Allied Health, nominated Debbie and Debra their commitment and diligence in managing the operational areas of the Physiotherapy Department.

Virginia says, "As my role as Director of Allied Health has exponentially expanded, Debbie and Debra ensure the Physiotherapy Department efficiently runs during my many absences."

Virginia continues, "In consultation with myself, Debbie and Debra led a team restructure in the Physiotherapy Department so that its services were better aligned with the newly developed structure of SCH, Randwick. The whole process was carried out with minimal angst and continues to work well today."

Position: Deputy Physiotherapists in Charge.

Best part of your job? DD - Being able to job share my position and what other department has a pool and a gym?

Worst part of your job? DG - Anything that interferes with helping kids be as well as they can be especially paperwork.

When you were young what did you want to do when you grew up?
DD - I seriously thought I would be taller!

First full-time job? DG - Check out chick at Jewels.

How long have you been at SCH, Randwick? DD - Long enough to remember when it was called Prince of Wales Children's, some wards were huts, all physios wore culottes and staff were allowed to smoke in the tea rooms.

Strangest thing you've ever had to do on the job: DG - Dress a skeleton as a disco dancer.

Your mentor or greatest inspiration?
DD - Anyone with a positive attitude.

Where will you be in 10 years?
DG - Hopefully travelling.

Job you most admire? DD - Shift workers, they take care of things while the rest of us sleep.

Deborah and Debra will enjoy a complimentary meal 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!!!



message from Professor White

Dear Colleagues

On this occasion I have asked Clare Godfrey, Clinical Director, Nursing (Non-Procedural Directorate One), to share with you her perspective on current issues as well as her vision for the future.

Les White
Executive Director

As 2003 comes to a close I have great pleasure in presenting several summaries of some of Directorate One's (Non-Procedural) highlights and achievements for the year.

In the Respiratory Unit Dr Yvonne Belessis won the New Investigator Award at the National 5th Australian and New Zealand Cystic Fibrosis Conference in Melbourne for her paper on pulmonary aspiration in Cystic Fibrosis [CF]. At the same conference Rebecca McDonald [CNC] gave a presentation on improving nursing communication throughout the lung transplant process. Dr Brad Martin won the Tow Prize for his presentation on Community Acquired MRSA. Dr John Morton presented Sydney Children's Hospital data on Azithromycin in CF in Vienna and chaired the CF section of that meeting. The Unit has also achieved two publications in international journals this year. To contribute to future planning for Respiratory Medicine the service also underwent an external review.

The HIV/Immunology service has been very busy this year. Hosting HIV camps for positive children as well as running several seminars for teachers on anaphylaxis and communicable diseases. The Australasian Society for HIV Medicine 2003 conference held in Cairns saw Dr Christine Hughes and Kidead Nadew [CNC] present papers on lipodystrophy in children on antivirals and transitioning children with HIV to adult services. A/Prof John Ziegler was successful in obtaining two years funding from the Department of Health for an Allergy nurse to educate teachers about anaphylaxis management.

The Emergency Department [ED] listed their greatest achievement as surviving the worst access block on record over the winter period whilst maintaining relatively short waiting times. This is an amazing feat when you consider that they were also undergoing building works within the Department as part of the Mental Health enhancement. Quality continues to have a high profile within the Department, for example, the advanced practice role of the Clinical Initiatives Nurse has continued to evolve and now provides therapeutic interventions at triage and monitors the waiting patients. A comprehensive competency based education program supports this role. ED has collaborated with the Centre for Children's Cancer & Blood Disorders [CCC&BD] in a project to reduce time to anti-biotic for children

with fever and neutropenia and an abstract from this project has been accepted for international presentation in 2004 from this project. Other quality projects included triage consistency audit project and auditing of the advanced practice nursing interventions. Dr Matthew O'Meara accepted the Baxter Award for the ED for their project "Improving the care of children with asthma in Emergency".

C3South had a busy year with planning and redevelopment as a result of the Mental Health enhancements. Relocation of the ward at the end of April to both C2South and C2West proved both a challenge and an opportunity for staff to observe and participate in the function of two other wards. Policy development and recruitment of additional staff progressed well and the ward reopened in mid October. Despite the separation of staff between two ward areas, the nursing team stuck together. They are now better acquainting themselves with all of their new staff members and new ward features. The staff are also re-acquainting themselves with their chronic patients whom they were not able to accommodate during the closure.

The CCC&BD have continued to be a leader in the field of paediatric haematology/oncology within Australia. Many staff are involved in research and providing excellent clinical and supportive care to the patients and their families. In 2003, the Centre established a Consumer Advisory Group that met on six occasions this year. The annual Kids Cancer Update was held in August this year, in conjunction with the CCIA, and for the first time had telehealth link-ups with Tamworth, Newcastle, Canberra, Wagga and Coffs Harbour, to enable participation by those who couldn't get to Sydney. In September the 3rd Remembrance occasion was held, organised by Donna Drew [CNC] and held every two years. Families and staff formally meet together to remember the children of the CCC&BD who have died over the past 40 years.

There are both nurses and doctors representing SCH on the NSW BMT network working parties, actively contributing to the process of guiding the direction of this group. A clinical pathway is being developed for apheresis in C2North and there has been active collaboration with the ED department with the fever and neutropaenia project. There have been Poster presentations by

nurses including Kay Montgomery (ANZCCSG) and Lucy Maurice, Anne Senner, Donna Drew and Jayne Murdoch (ANZCCSG). Oral presentations have been made by CNCs Lucy Maurice and Ida O'Brien [Palliative Care CNC] at the paediatric conference at Nepean, and Anne Senner presented at the CHW Research Day and also to ARCHI. Two CNCs have received scholarships from the Nurses Registration Board to attend and present at international conferences - Karen Johnston (APON) and Lucy Maurice (ASBMT). Anne Senner has received a grant from CANI to progress her research work on nausea. Jan Hardy, Alice Harvey, Lucy Maurice and Anne Senner have had a paper accepted for publication in the Journal of Paediatric Nursing. Senior medical staff continue to publish widely, including publications by Dr Richard Cohn and others in Medical and Paediatric Oncology, the Journal of Paediatric Haematology/Oncology and the Journal of Telemedicine. The CCC&BD Fellows have also been active in presenting at both national and international conferences. Dr Stephen Laughton has presented his work at ANZCCSG as well as a poster presentation at the prestigious ASH meeting in San Diego. Janis Chamberlain has also presented a poster at ASH, as well as an oral presentation at the HSAZ and the TOW Prize.

Sleep Medicine has had a year that has been busy and productive with the addition of a part-time sleep scientist. SCH had the foresight to support and then nurture in its formative years a Sleep Unit, which now has a dedicated team catering for the whole spectrum of sleep medicine. There are over 80 different sleep disorders that are classified. Our patients now range from neonates to teenagers. We see consultations from almost every subspecialty in this hospital affirming that sleep medicine does encompass all areas of paediatrics and child health.

And last but by no means least the Child Protection Unit had a momentous year seeing them finally moved to their permanent brand new home on level O next to the Emergency Department. The opening ceremony was a huge success with many distinguished guests including the Honourable Bob Carr MP, Premier of NSW.

So on behalf of Directorate One (Non-Procedural) I would like to conclude by wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Clare Godfrey

grandrounds

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

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

26 NOVEMBER 2003

DIAGNOSTIC PITFALLS

SPEAKER: Ramanand Kamath
COORDINATOR: Phil Emdar
CHAIRPERSON: Barry Duffy

3 DECEMBER 2003

MULTIPLE "SIDS": SICK KID OR SICK PARENT?

SPEAKER: Kieran Moran
CHAIRPERSON: Susan Adams

10 DECEMBER 2003

CONGENITAL NEPHROTIC SYNDROME - THREE BABIES WITH OEDEMA

SPEAKER: Leigh Haysom, Ken McLean & Andrew Rosenberg

COORDINATOR: Andrew Rosenberg

CHAIRPERSON: Phil Emdar

17 DECEMBER 2003

CERVICAL SPINE INJURIES (the final Grand Rounds for 2003)

SPEAKER: Barry Duffy, Marianne Vonau & Chris Johannson

COORDINATOR: Andrew Numa

CHAIRPERSON: Tim Bohane

quality improvement matters

2003 BAXTER AWARD WINNERS!!!

Congratulations go to our Emergency Department (ED) for its successful submission in the annual Baxter 2003 NSW Health Awards. These hotly contested awards recognise the leading Quality Improvement (QI) initiatives undertaken by health services across the state.

The ED won the Minister's Encouragement Award in the Effectiveness Category for its project titled 'Children with Asthma in the Emergency Department', which aimed to address deficiencies in acute and long term asthma management resulting in repeated acute presentations. Three changes including the provision of an asthma action plan on discharge, promotion of the need for medical follow up and standardising assessment using a proforma were implemented. This resulted in reductions in representation that have been maintained for two years.

QI INFORMATION ON THE INTRANET

There is now a great deal of resource material available on the SCH Intranet to assist managers and staff to develop, implement and evaluate Quality Improvement initiatives. The following information is easily found on the SCH homepage in the CESU Quarterly Roundup Website under the 'Quality' link:

Developing Quality Improvement Initiatives (recent addition)

Have you ever sat down to develop a project and not been quite sure whether it is a QI or research initiative? It is true that for most projects it is easy to distinguish between the two but for a smaller number of projects the boundaries are not quite clear. This information will help you to distinguish between QI projects that can be easily implemented and those projects that may require further investigation to determine whether they need to be referred to the institution's Human Research Ethics Committee for approval as a quality or research project.

Planning and Implementing QI initiatives

The 'Clinicians Tool Kit' and the 'Easy Guide to Clinical Practice Improvement' documents can now be viewed and downloaded directly from the Intranet. Both documents are compulsory reading for those wishing to avoid the traps when planning and implementing QI initiatives.

Recording QI initiatives

A recording template, supportive guidelines and examples to follow are now available.

School of Women's & Children's Health

The academic year is drawing to a close. The final result for Year 5 students in paediatrics was that three failed the term during the year. One of these failed a second rotation, namely general practice and community medicine, so will be repeating those terms next year. The other two students are undergoing a remedial term and hopefully will pass this and proceed to Year 6 in 2004. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all of those who have contributed to medical student teaching and assessment during the year. There remain a small and dedicated band of Staff Specialists and Visiting Medical Officers and a larger group of registrars and Fellows who make major teaching contributions. I am keen to try to spread the workload more evenly in

2004. The Area has decided to make a formal acknowledgement of the importance of teaching by Senior Medical Staff and has indicated that future contracts will include a requirement to teach medical students. I know that all of us have multiple competing demands and that it is relatively easy to place a lower priority on student teaching. In this regard I would like to highlight the fact that both Professor Les White and Dr Michael Brydon have been strong contributors to student teaching and assessment.

We are putting together the student program for next year and as always are looking for teachers for the undergraduate students and the postgraduate Diploma students. Annette Burgess and Melissa Graf will be contacting

individuals to confirm their availability.

There will be some changes to student rotation outside Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick for next year. Now that Canberra has its own medical school, they will be unable to take our paediatric students. I have visited Port Macquarie and established a rotation in paediatrics there with two students spending three weeks at a time in Port Macquarie. We hope that in 2005 we might be able to send three students at a time to undertake the majority of their paediatrics at Port Macquarie, in a similar fashion to the way we have organised things at Albury Wodonga and Wagga Wagga.

Professor Richard Henry

public affairs

NEW SERVICE FOR SYDNEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, RANDWICK



Prof Marie Bashir AC with Prof Les White

The new Child and Adolescent Mental Health Inpatient Service was recently launched by Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir AC, Governor of NSW. The new Unit will go some way towards addressing the problem of young people being admitted to adult psychiatric units. It already has established very close links with the Emergency Department, Neurology, General Paediatrics, Intensive Care, Toxicology, Pharmacy and diagnostic services.

SLEEP ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING



Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick was well represented at the recent Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Sleep Association (ASA) in Auckland in October. Pictured (L-R): Dr Carolyn Dakin, past Sleep Medicine Fellow now Paediatric Respiratory and Sleep Physician in Brisbane; past Fellow Dr Laurel Teoh, now in Westmead, in front of her infant CPAP poster; Dr Arthur Teng, who gave a paediatric update

at the Conference, and current Fellow Dr Leanne Gauld who gave a presentation on melatonin. Dr Teng was re-elected as Honorary Secretary of the ASA. Dr Ganesh Thambipillay, Honorary Associate Sleep Physician, SCH, also attended.

TV STAR SUPPORTS CANTEEN



Samuel with supporters before setting off for Melbourne

Samuel Johnson, the Secret Life of Us star, recently took off from Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick atop his unicycle on the journey of a lifetime between Sydney and Melbourne determined to raise more than \$600,000 for CanTeen - The Australian Organisation for Young People Living with Cancer.



movers and shakers

Aryanti Lay is an Indonesian Cross-Cultural Worker who has recently been appointed to work in South East Health with Indonesian women who are pregnant or with children up to five years of age. Aryanti's role is to support women accessing main stream health services and to implement strategies in collaboration with Indonesian communities to address inequities in health outcomes for Indonesian women and their children. Aryanti is located at Waverley Community Health Centre, 125 Birrell Street, Waverley 2024 and can be contacted on telephone (02) 9369023 or fax (02) 93690444.

Congratulations to Dr Owen Miller who has recently been appointed to the position of part-time Staff Specialist in Paediatric Cardiology.

Congratulations to Maria Craig, Endocrinologist and Richard who are the proud parents of a young baby boy, born a month early at the Royal Hospital for Women. His name is Miles and he weighs in at 2.55kg.

Congratulations to all those people from SCH, Randwick who competed in the recent InterHospital Olympics. The Hospital had a total of 12 competitors participating in netball, tennis and swimming and our team's final medal tally was: Gold - 0, Silver - 3 and Bronze - 6. Special mention to Fiona Thornton, who competed in the swimming and who brought back a swag of medals including two silver and four bronzes.

Congratulations to Brad Martin for his success in the clinical section of the TOW prize this year. This is an important and prestigious award for campus staff to highlight the academic pursuits of our combined services.



RUGBY UNION VISITORS

Patients at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick were delighted to recently meet players from both the Scottish and Fijian Rugby Union teams.

The Scottish and Fijian rugby union teams meeting patients



general information

SALARY PACKAGER OF THE MONTH



Reuben Jackson

This month we are talking with Dr Reuben Jackson, Staff Specialist, Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick about salary packaging and the benefits it has brought him.

Why did you salary package? To allow a better gross income.

What did you salary package? My rent for our duplex.

How much extra do you get in your pay packet? Five hundred and fifty dollars per fortnight.

What would you say to others thinking about salary packaging? Do it immediately.

As salary packager of the month, Reuben will receive one of the new stylish Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick T-shirts that are now available!



Participants at a cycling skills course

CYCLING SKILLS COURSES FOR STAFF

During September and October, beginner and an intermediate Cycling Skills Courses were held on Randwick campus for staff. Organised by the Health Promotion Service as another strategy of their Active Transport project, the courses were run by On Ya Bike consultant Tanya Bosch. Members from local Bicycle User Groups BIKEast and MASSBUG were also involved.

The courses were a great success and enabled staff to develop their cycling

proficiency so that they could get more enjoyment out of riding their bike. The two-hour long sessions covered a range of skills such as road riding, bike maintenance, efficient use of gears and breaks, as well as basic maneuvering.

The Health Promotion Service plans to run more cycling courses early next year. Contact Nick Knowles on telephone number 9382 8155 for details.

CHANGES TO THE IPTAAS SCHEME

There have been some changes to the IPTAAS scheme that will benefit some of our families. Up until now families had to be living 200km or further away from a specialist hospital (eg SCH, Randwick) to get assistance with travel and accommodation costs for the patient and carer for trips related to medical treatment. Now the government has expanded the scheme to allow applications from financially disadvantaged families who live 150 km from the Hospital who have a patient who has a complex and serious requiring regular (weekly or daily) trips for treatment. Social workers are available to help families with these applications and can be contacted on telephone number (02) 9382 1021.



FESTIVE AND HOLIDAY SEASON

As another year draws to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. We look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year. If you are taking time off, enjoy, and take care during all the festivities!

welcome to foundation news

COOGEE FAMILY FUN DAY

On Saturday, 6 December 2003, Coogee Family Fun Day will hit Coogee Beach again for the ninth year in a row to help raise funds for the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick.

With an aim of raising \$10,000 to benefit the Hospital, Coogee Family Fun Day, running from 9.00 am to 6.00 pm at Goldstein Reserve, Coogee, is a great day out for all the family.

The fun day will feature over 60 market stalls, including Mexican, African and Indian Crafts, kids clothes, old time photographs, furniture, jewellery and temporary tattoos, hand spun clothing, giftware, old wares, toys, towels, sunglasses and bags.

Face painting, the infamous dunking machine, children's rides and an all day concert will also add more excitement for fun-goers - so why not come down and see for yourself! Entry is free.

SECOND ANNUAL

FITKIDS4SICKKIDS IN 2004

The second annual FITKIDS4SICKKIDS, an innovative, fun and dynamic healthy lifestyle campaign will take place again in May 2004, inviting all schools, the community and families to participate and help raise funds for the Sydney Children's Hospital (in NSW).

A national campaign, the aim of FITKIDS4SICKKIDS 2004 is to promote an ongoing healthy lifestyle for school aged children through education and addressing serious childhood health issues such as obesity - providing school children with the skills and knowledge to maintain healthy living attitudes for life.

There will be two components to the 2004 FITKIDS4SICKKIDS program - the FITKIDS4SICKKIDS lifestyle program and the FITKIDS4SICKKIDS-a-thon, an optional fundraising campaign.

An interactive program run over four weeks, the focus of FITKIDS4SICKKIDS will be on making a difference in the lives of both fit kids and sick kids. The Internet, sponsor resources and other material for students and teachers will enable the program to be innovative, fun and educational.

Each week in May will focus on a different component of health/nutrition and movement including topics such as: Food and You and a Fit Body, and Fuelling the body and how to get active.

The FITKIDS4SICKKIDS-a-thon involves children and schools registering to raise further funds to benefit sick kids.

For further information on FITKIDS4SICKKIDS or to find out how you can register, please contact Di Murphy at the Foundation on extension 21188.



CELLO LULLABY LAUNCH

Following the success of sales in Victoria and an extraordinary number of enquiries from around Australia, Cello Lullaby, a recording of soothing classical music, is now available to all Australians.

Dr Catherine Crock produced cello Lullaby, performed by leading Australian classical artists, Alfred Hornung and Niall Brown and recorded by Rowland Productions, at the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne, initially to play for children as part of their treatment for cancer.

The selection of works including master-pieces by Handel, Bach, Vivaldi, Haydn, Brahms and Couperin, was also developed to assist in the management of unsettled and crying babies and to help infants, children and adults relax and sleep.

Now available to all Australians, the sale of Cello Lullaby will also benefit all Pain Management Units in all Children's Hospitals around Australia, including the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick.

For only \$24.95 (with \$16.00 from each CD donated to the Children's Hospitals), Cello Lullaby is available in all Dymocks Bookstores around Australia, on all Virgin Blue flights and online at: www.cellolullaby.org.au and will make the perfect Christmas present this year - for young and old.

'WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS...'

From all the staff at the Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation, we wish you a happy and safe Christmas and look forward to working with you again in the New Year!

Christmas Closures:

- The Foundation will be closed from noon on Wednesday, 24 December, re-opening on Wednesday, 7 January 2004.
- The Star Café and the SCH Gift Shop (Barker St entrance) will be closed from Wednesday, 24 December 2003, reopening on Monday, 12 January 2004.

pat on the back COMMENDATION FOR STAFF CARE

To the Public Relations Manager
My son Reuben had an upper GI endoscopy by Dr Bohane. This was done through the Ambulatory Care Unit. I wish to commend your staff, from reception at Ambulatory Care through to the nurses in the Unit and in Recovery. Also the orderlies, despite their busyness were friendly, caring and professional.

On the way home, I asked Reuben how he found the experience. "Perfect!" he replied. I agree. What a wonderful introduction for a child to the hospital experience. Thankyou.

Fiona

THANKS FOR YOUR KINDNESS

Dear Libbi (Libbi Lumb recently received this letter of thanks from a patient she nursed back in 1974).

You were such a great nurse and as I said made my visit more enjoyable. Just the chats, and I seem to remember lots of hand holding when the painful things were happening helped so much - when two weeks was a loooong time in hospital. Even though I really only knew you for a few weeks, you seem like a long lost friend, and your niceness and personality have made some impact on my life and I thank you heaps, even though you were doing your job, you didn't make it seem as though you were just going through the motions.

Take care, Dave.

casemix information

	OCTOBER 2003	OCTOBER 2002
Admissions	1,313	1,165
Discharges	1,327	1,159
Day only cases	614	521
Hospital Average Length of Stay	2.8 days	2.8 days
Hospital Average Length of Stay (excl Day Only)	4.4 days	4.2 days
Occupancy	91.80%	87.30%
Non admitted patients	22,812	23,243

important dates

The Way Forward Deadline
TUESDAY, 13 JANUARY 2004.

Employee of the Month Nomination Deadline
TUESDAY, 13 JANUARY 2004.