

What's On!

Pilates Mat Classes for Staff

SUITABLE for all fitness levels – beginners welcome.

- Improve your strength and core stability.
- Target your abdominals.
- Run by an experienced physiotherapist.
- All equipment provided.
- All staff welcome.

Where: Sydney Children's Hospital
Physiotherapy Gym, Level 0

When: Every Tuesday and Thursday 5.15pm – 6.15pm

Cost: \$10 per session or \$90 for 10 sessions in any 3-month period

Contact: Sue Sims on 0418 667 153 or email suesims216@hotmail.com

Unigym – University of NSW

UNIGYM is now offering student discounts to all SCH staff. If you would like to take advantage of this offer, please show your staff ID when you next visit the gym.

Grand Rounds

CONVENED by Associate Professor John Ziegler

Where: The John Beveridge Lecture Theatre
Level 1, SCH

When: 1.00pm every Wednesday

Patient services activity comparison

	December 2007	December 2006
Admissions	1086	1127
Discharges	1122	1167
Day only cases	486	518
Hospital Average Length of Stay, days	3.1 days	3.0 days
Hospital Average Length of Stay (excl Day Only)	4.6 days	4.8 days
Occupancy	100%	96.6%
Non admitted patients	21624	23193

Parenting Workshops

Tips Parenting Group (2-10yrs)

When Friday 8,15,22 & 29, 10am to 11:30pm
Where Karitane, 146 Avoca St RANDWICK
Bookings Open 14/01/08 Ph: 9399 6999
Childcare No, unfortunately children may not attend
Cost \$25 for 4 workshops and handouts payable at first workshop

Dealing with Challenging Behaviours (2-12yrs)

Presenter Gordana Kokanovic, Clinical Nurse Specialist
When Monday 11th, 10am to 12:30pm
Where Eastgardens Library, Westfield Shopping Centre PAGEWOOD
Bookings Open 29/01/08 Ph: 9382 0926
Childcare No, unfortunately children may not attend
Cost Free

CPR for Children (0-10yrs)

Presenter Dr. Debbie Perkins, Sydney Childrens Hospital
When Wednesday 13th, 12:30pm to 2pm
Where The Benevolent Society, 24a Ocean St BONDI
Bookings Open 14/01/08 Ph: 9130 7336
Childcare No, unfortunately children may not attend
Cost \$2 for refreshments (pay on the day)

Dealing with Tantrums (2-5yrs)

Presenter Gordana Kokanovic, Clinical Nurse Specialist
When Monday 18th, 10am to 12:30pm
Where Eastgardens Library, Westfield Shopping Centre PAGEWOOD
Bookings Open 29/01/08 Ph: 9382 0926
Childcare No, unfortunately children may not attend
Cost Free

First Aid for Children (all ages)

Presenter Dr. Debbie Perkins, Sydney Childrens Hospital
When Wednesday 20th, 12:30pm to 2pm
Where The Benevolent Society, 24a Ocean St BONDI
Bookings Open 14/01/08 Ph: 9130 7336
Childcare No, unfortunately children may not attend
Cost \$2 for refreshments (pay on the day)

Managing Behaviour (4-8yrs)

Presenter Janet Harris, Clinical Nurse Specialist
When Thursday 28th, 10am to 12:15pm
Where Malabar Community Library, 1203 Anzac Pde MATRIVILLE
Bookings Open 28/01/08 Ph: 9399 0823 or Email: Avril.Jeans@randwick.nsw.gov.au
Childcare No, unfortunately children may not attend
Cost Free

March

Three Play Workshops (various age groups, see below)

When Friday 7th, 10:30am to 12pm for 6-12mths
When Friday 14th, 10:30am to 12pm for 12-18mths
When Friday 28th, 10:30am to 12pm for 18-24mths
Bookings Essential on 9314 4888 for members or in person for pre-payment
Childcare Bring your child with you
Cost Free for Toy Library members, \$12:10 for non-members

Positive Parenting Program Group (2-12yrs)

Presenter Gordana Kokanovic, Clinical Nurse Specialist
When Monday 10, 17, 24 & 31, 10am to 12:30pm
Where Eastgardens Library, Westfield Shopping Centre PAGEWOOD
Bookings Open 29/01/08 Ph: 9382 0926
Childcare No, unfortunately children may not attend
Cost \$35 for 4 workshops and workbook, payable at first workshop

Bullying- What to Do

Presenter Ari Badaines
When Wednesday 12, 6pm to 8pm
Where Bowen Library, 669-673 Anzac Pde MAROUBRA
Bookings Open 28/01/08 Ph: 9399 0823 or Email: Avril.Jeans@randwick.nsw.gov.au
Childcare No, unfortunately children may not attend
Cost Free

Farewell to a nursing great, Jan Hardy

AFTER more than 20 years at Sydney Children's Hospital (SCH), well respected SCH Clinical Nurse Consultant Jan Hardy, has retired.

Jan describes her nursing career as 'blessed' and whilst she will greatly miss her colleagues, she is looking forward to relaxing with family in New Zealand.

Having started her nursing career at St Vincent's Hospital, Jan reluctantly undertook her compulsory paediatric training, at the then Prince of Wales (POW) Children's Hospital.

"I was not so keen to go to POW, but I

learned to love it!" Jan said.

Jan worked in the old C1 from 1985 to 1988 before her Nursing Manager encouraged her to take on a new challenge – oncology.

"There was just such a huge difference between general paediatrics and oncology.

"In general paediatrics, children were sick, got better and went home in a relatively short period of time. In the Oncology ward, children are in for extended periods of time, allowing you to become a constant in their young lives," Jan said.

Jan soon became a stalwart in the Oncology Unit, and in 1993 took on the challenge of visiting patients in rural areas. For 14 years, Jan travelled far and wide, supporting families who were returning home after extended periods of time at SCH.

Jan's extensive experience also enabled her to provide the regional health care workers she supervised with additional skills and training.

Professor Glenn Marshall, Head of the Centre for Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders has nothing but praise for Jan, who will be sorely missed by the Centre staff as well as families and clinicians right throughout NSW.

"Jan's role in caring for all of our patients, particularly our regional patients has been nothing short of outstanding," Professor Marshall said.

"She has been a quiet achiever, always humble in her approach to her work. She is a rare find whose warm nature and exceptional skills has endeared her to all who meet her. She will be missed."

Jan sums up her time at SCH as 'amazing,' and after having worked at various hospitals around the world, says without hesitation, "for me, SCH has always operated like a family, and I believe, is simply the best hospital to work in".

SCH certainly won't be the same without Jan.

Farewell Jan, good luck on your new adventure.



Order of Australia honour goes to our very own, Monica Wilkinson.
Read the full story on page 5.

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Editor's Notes

IN this month's edition of The Way Forward we pay a fond farewell to Jan Hardy, a nursing great who has been with SCH in various roles for more than 20 years. Her contribution to the care of paediatric patients, particularly her work with regional oncology patients, is simply extraordinary.

We warmly welcome Helen Said who joined the SCH team late last year following a 20 year post at St George Hospital.

Saving Kids, the television series filmed at SCH has hit our TV screens. The series aims to give the public an insight into the important work undertaken by our team every day. Make sure to tune in to this series, which encourages the public to support our Hospital by donating to the Hospital Foundation.

Congratulations to Monica Wilkinson for her Order of Australia honour, which has been awarded in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the field of audiology.

From Saturday 1 March SCH will officially be a smoke free workplace. For the well being of the Hospitals patients and families, we encourage all staff to support this important initiative.

Deadline

THE deadline for contributions for the March 2008 issue is 20 February 2008. Please forward articles and photos to:

Editor: Jessica Jaramillo

Phone: (02) 9382 3578

Fax: (02) 9382 3577

Email:

Jessica.jaramillo@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au

SCH website: www.sch.edu.au

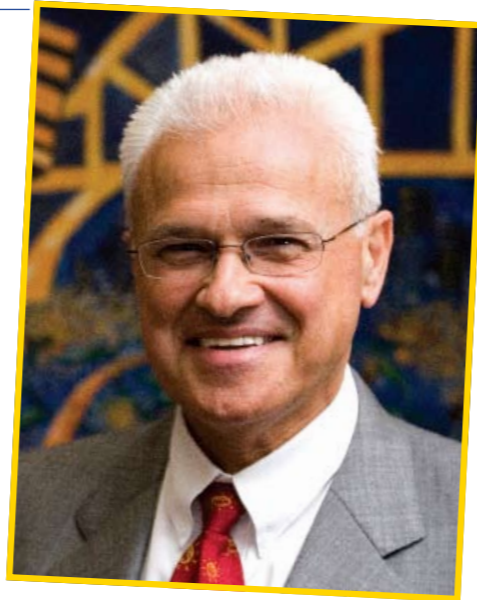
We want your input

IDEAL publishing length is 250 words. By contributing to The Way Forward you agree that your article may be edited for space, readability and/or other reasonable reasons.

From the Executive

DEAR Colleagues,

As we begin 2008 we have occasion to look back at our 46 years of history. In the next few weeks we will be saying farewell to three of our most outstanding senior medical / surgical colleagues, namely Drs Barry Duffy, Tim Bohane and Eddie Shi; as well as an inspirational nurse, Jan Hardy. Over the last few decades these four wonderful individuals have exemplified the spirit and philosophy of Sydney Children's Hospital. Their contributions and influence in their respective fields is legendary. There have been and will be a number of events, some individual and some joint, to celebrate and honour the work and achievements of Drs Barry Duffy, Tim Bohane, Eddie Shi and Jan Hardy.



Our history has also been marked by continuous growth, with particular emphasis on the last 15 years. Our services have expanded to be not only of the highest quality but also comprehensive, covering all aspects of care from the most urgent and essential to the most complex and technologically advanced. To better accommodate these expanded services there are plans afoot to address a variety of building and / or refurbishment opportunities including the Emergency Department, Eye Clinic, CCC&BD and our new Clinical Services building, incorporating the Inpatient Mental Health Unit.

Importantly, our commitment to care is highly appreciated by the families we serve - as evidenced by regular feedback, accolades and expressions of gratitude. As you all know, we are also acknowledged as the industry leader in documented performance and we received the top prize in the 2007 NSW Health Awards. Our initiatives in clinical networking and partnerships, with particular emphasis on rural NSW, are unparalleled.

Our historic and more recent achievements have only been made possible by the exemplary dedication and hard work of all our colleagues. I must say it has been nice to have a couple of weeks of less intense and demanding times to recharge our batteries for the new year. It has also been a period when our celebrity supporters have shown their commitment to Sydney Children's Hospital. We had the special showing of The Golden Compass with Nicole Kidman, a prolonged Christmas Day visit from The Wiggles and a tour by a new friend, Kylie Minogue. Undoubtedly, these visits, along with the wonderful financial support of our many friends, are reflections of our community profile and a product of our dedicated service to the children and families of NSW. Finally, I should point out Adam Check, the new Chief Executive of the Hospital's Foundation, commenced in January, and I am sure he is looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

May I wish you all a healthy, happy and productive 2008 and may I again thank you for your amazing work!

Best wishes,

Les White

Welcome Helen Said

SCH warmly welcomes Helen Said, Nurse Manager, Patient Flow.

Helen joined SCH late last year after spending more than 20 years in various roles at St George Hospital.

Currently completing her Masters in Management, Helen has joined a busy patient flow team, working closely together with Tony Yee, Hala Katf and Pam Kreka to implement new models of care which will streamline patient flow with minimal disruption to patients, families and staff.

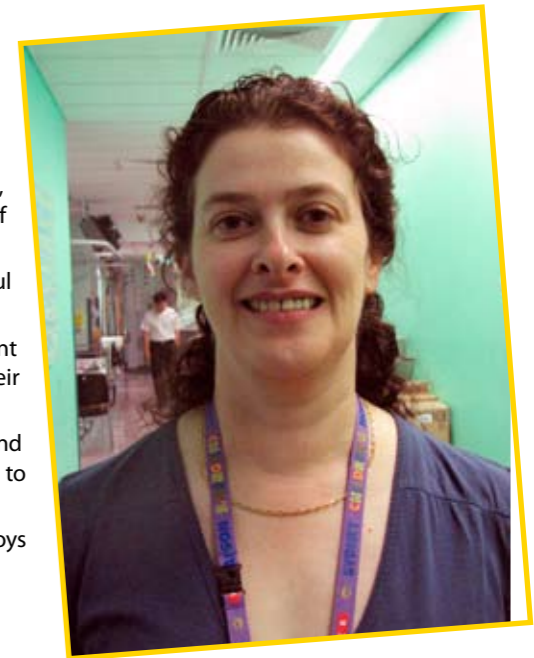
Accustomed to working in an adult hospital, Helen has found the colourful and playful environment of a children's hospital a welcome change.

"The feel is certainly very different here, it is nice and bright, the atmosphere is different and the culture is different. The multidisciplinary approach and passion all staff have for their patients is clearly evident." Helen said.

While Helen is learning new things, one thing she may need help with is finding her way around the campus. "I still get lost! I have started incorporating extra time into my schedule in order to find my way - especially when I am heading to Prince of Wales!"

Helen is one of nine children and lives in the Southern suburbs. In her spare time she enjoys cooking, eating out and playing netball.

Welcome to the team Helen!



Helen Said

Pat on the Back

DEAR Professor White,

I am writing you to express how impressed I was with the service that I received on 16th September 2007.

My son was not well so I drove straight to the Emergency Department, upon arrival it only took about 15 minutes to be seen by the Triage Nurse. I actually remarked on her service to the lady that took all our Medicare details, I think her name was Judy or Julie. She was so professional but also great with my son and the other children she saw while we were there.

Then we were asked to be seated which only took about half an hour to one hour to be seen by the doctor - I found him to be very good as well. My son Jordan has type 1 diabetes and is cared for by Dr Charles Verge. As Jordan was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at the Hospital, I found the staff to know exactly what was happening with Jordan. I found the doctor listened, even though he was a bit unfamiliar with the Insulin Pump that Jordan uses. He explained everything to us and took an interest in Jordan. He also got in touch with the endocrinologist on call to double-check the levels.

He came up with the right medication and Jordan improved in about 48 hours.

I was hoping that the people who saw Jordan could be thanked, as it is a credit to the Hospital to have such dedicated staff on board. Thanks also the diabetes team, from Dr Charles Verge to the other team members who are always there for us. Without them, Jordan and I would not be able to cope, as this is a very difficult disease to manage.

Yours sincerely,

Marie

Theft at SCH

STAFF are encouraged to be extra vigilant with their belongings, following a recent increase in theft on campus. Please do not leave any personal belongings unattended, and make sure to secure your valuables in lockers.

If any of your belongings are missing, please contact campus security immediately on extension 22847.

Tune in to Saving Kids

SAVING Kids, the television series filmed at Sydney Children's Hospital, has hit TV screens across Australia, airing every Thursday at 8pm on Network Ten.

Each half hour episode features patients treated for health conditions such as asthma, kidney stones, cancer, major trauma and craniofacial malformations.

At the end of each episode, the public are encouraged to log on to the Saving Kids website for more information on how to support SCH.

Hosted by former Australian Idol winner, Damien Leith, the series could not have been made without the support of Hospital staff, families and patients.

Thank you for your ongoing support in the making of the series, which will hopefully provide the public with an insight into the amazing team at SCH, who work tirelessly in their goal of 'saving kids'.



Lewis features in Saving Kids

Nicole Kidman Hosts Special Screening of Golden Compass

ON 18 December, Sydney Children's Hospital Ambassador, Nicole Kidman treated patients, their families and staff to a private screening of her new film The Golden Compass. Five long-term patients spent private time with Nicole before she met patients, their families and staff in the full cinema. Nicole spent time signing autographs, posing for photos and putting smiles on everyone's faces. Thank you to Nicole Kidman, Hoyts Cinemas and Roadshow Films for hosting the screening, providing gift bags and giving patients and staff such a special treat enjoyed by all.



Nicole Kidman receives a special thank you presentation from Cooper Smeaton.

New Look Star Café sponsored by BigPond

THERE have been some exciting changes to the Star Café over the Christmas closure. BigPond, the new sponsor of the Star Café, have created a fresh new look with internet terminals set up for general use. Thank you to BigPond for their support of the Star Café and helping it become such a special place for families, visitors and staff to meet.



The 'new look' Star Café sponsored by BigPond

Coogee Dolphins Sportsman's Lunch raises more than \$23,000

ON 6 November 2007, Patrick Byrne, President of the Coogee Dolphins Club and major sponsors Lindsay Egan from the Palace Hotel and Sandy Olsen from P&O Cruises Australia visited SCH and presented Dr Michael Brydon and Phyllis Moran with a cheque for \$23,700 – the proceeds from this year's annual Sportsman's Lunch which was held at the Beach Palace Hotel, Coogee on 10 August.

Since 2000, the Coogee Dolphins have supported the Hospital by holding a fundraising lunch for members and supporters. Over the past eight lunches, an impressive \$92,000 has been raised for the Hospital. Many thanks for your continued support.

Randwick Ladies Golf Day

THE annual Randwick Ladies Golf Day was held on 19 August at the Randwick Golf Club. More than 150 ladies enjoyed a round of golf and a lunch, raising more than \$19,000. Thank you for supporting Sydney Children's Hospital.

Clovelly Public School's Bake Off

WELL done to Clovelly Public School for holding a bake-off. The funds raised went towards the new beautiful murals in the treatment rooms of C1N and C2S, painted by Jane Reiseger. Thank you to all who got behind this fabulous fundraiser.



Patrick Byrne, Lindsay Egan and Sandy Olsen present to Dr Michael Brydon and Phyllis Moran.

Thank you, Fred P Archer Charitable Trust

THE Fred P Archer Charitable Trust recently made a generous donation to the SCH Patient and Parent Support Fund. Thank you for your support.

J&J O'Brien Christmas Breakfast Helps Allied Health

LONG time supporters, hotel group J&J O'Brien held their annual Christmas breakfast, raising \$3200 for Allied Health. Virginia Binns attended and spoke at the breakfast held at Jordon's Restaurant. Many thanks to J&J O'Brien for their help.

Peter Wilson's Trifecta of Hope

IN June 2007, triathlete Peter Wilson ran 250km over seven days across the Gobi Desert in China, raising more than \$60,000 for the Emergency Department. He is now determined to build on his commitment to the Hospital and has set himself a new challenge – the Trifecta of Hope.

Peter will run three competitive races in the space of seven weeks, beginning with the 45km Sixfoot Track in the Blue Mountains on 8 March. Three weeks later, Peter will compete in the Atacama Crossing, a 250km race in the Atacama Desert in Chile – the driest place on Earth. On 10 May, Peter will be back in Australia to complete the Trifecta of Hope in the North Face 100km Race in the Blue Mountains.

Many thanks to major sponsors, Royal Randwick, Powerade and NG Farah Randwick, who have all made generous donations to the Hospital in support of Peter's challenge. We wish Peter the best of luck.

Order of Australia honour goes to our very own, Monica Wilkinson



Monica will be officially presented with her award later in the year.

Congratulation Monica, this award is well deserved.

SCH Audiologist, Monica Wilkinson has been awarded the Order of Australia Award for her service to medicine, particularly her contribution to the field of paediatric audiology.

"I'm surprised but very excited!" Monica said.

"I'm just doing my job like everyone else that works here. I guess I'm just lucky to have such a great team beside me, motivating me along the way."

Monica has been head of the SCH Audiology department since 1980, was actively involved in the development of the Statewide Infant Screening-Hearing (SWISH) program and has been an honorary adviser at Macquarie University since the 1990's.

"Throughout the years, a lot of advances in technology have been made in the assessment and treatment of young patients with hearing problems," Monica said.

"I have been fortunate to have witnessed these medical advances and the joy that it has brought to many children across Australia. I feel honoured to have contributed in any way."

Sydney Children's Hospital goes smoke free

SATURDAY, 1 March 2008 will be the start of a new, fresh era for Sydney Children's Hospital when it goes smoke free, along with all other facilities within the South East Sydney Illawarra Area Health Service.

This means that smoking will be banned on SCH premises – including outdoors, for staff, patients and visitors.

'No smoking' posters and signs have already been placed around the Hospital communicating that SCH will soon be a smoke-free Hospital.

Current designated smoking areas on the Randwick campus will also be removed to help reduce the temptation to light up outside.



This is the final phase in the progressive introduction to ban cigarette smoking at hospital sites over the last few years. It is something our Chief Executive, Terry Clout strongly supports.

"The initiative is important because it protects staff, patients and visitors from the harmful effects of environmental tobacco smoke (passive smoking)," Mr Clout said.

"I can't think of a more important place to actively demonstrate this than a children's hospital, where we should be trying to set a responsible example of not allowing any smoking."

Steve Towarnicki, Chair of the Area Smoke Free Workplace Policy Implementation Group Chair, said Hospital staff will be offered help to quit smoking.

"Hospital staff will be entitled to free Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) if they wish to take this opportunity to give up, or alternatively require assistance to abstain from smoking while at their workplace," he said.

A small working party for Sydney Children's Hospital will be announced shortly, and will take on the responsibility of helping to ensure the children's hospital is a leader in this important next phase.

"Staff will also be given Quitline referral forms and fact sheets to pass on to parents



Edward and Peter Wilson

Australia Day nominations

CONGRATULATIONS to SCH volunteer, Edward Wilson, and SCH fundraiser, Peter Wilson for their Randwick City Council Australia Day nominations.

Both Edward and Peter were nominated by the Hospital and Hospital Foundation.

Edward was nominated for the 'outstanding volunteer' award, in recognition of his ongoing work in the BigPond Star Café.

Peter was nominated for the 'Outstanding Contribution to the Community' award, a nomination supported by his workplace, the Royal Randwick Racecourse.

Dr Michael Brydon, Director of Clinical Operations at SCH commends Edward and Peter for their well-deserved nominations.

"It is incredible to see Eddie and Peter's ongoing commitment to SCH publicly acknowledged," Dr Brydon said.

"Our volunteers and fundraisers are invaluable to us as an organisation and integral to our role as a paediatric centre of excellence. Without the support of amazing individuals like Ed and Peter our job at SCH would be all the more difficult.

"Thank you for your incredible contribution."

The award ceremony was held at Coogee Beach on Australia Day.

and carers. Staff, parents and carers are encouraged to call the Quitline on: 137 848 for advice and assistance on quitting smoking," he said.

"We understand that smoking is a personal choice but, as a health care facility, we want to support our staff and the parents and carers of patients by making the healthier choice the easier one," Mr Towarnicki said.

Further updates on the smoking ban across SCH, and information on NRT and Quitline support for staff, parents and carers will be issued throughout the lead up to the ban on 1 March.

Employee of the Month

CONGRATULATIONS to the employee of the month for February, Maria Pareto, Patient Services Assistant.

Maria was nominated by Wendy Dickinson, Nurse Unit Manager, C3S.

As part of the Hospital's Domestic Services team, Maria is responsible for ensuring the wards are neat, presentable and in line with occupational health and safety standards.

A gem in the domestic services team, Maria is meticulous with a strong attention to detail.

"Maria is an incredibly hard worker and an asset to our team," said Wendy Dickinson.

"I always know when Maria has been through the ward as everything is in its place, from the tissue box neatly placed in the middle of the coffee table, the magazines carefully stacked, to the adhesive marks scrubbed off the walls.

"She always does everything she can to make our job so much easier.

According to Wendy, Maria takes pride in her work, completing all her tasks with a smile.

"She is such an incredible individual who never needs to be asked to do anything twice.

"She always does those little things that no one ever thinks of. We are just so lucky to have her."

A well-liked and respected team player, Maria's sense of initiative and dedication are admirable qualities and deserving of the February employee of the month.

The Employee of the Month wins dinner at Mamma Theresa's Restaurant, a bouquet of flowers from Clementine's Florist and \$100 from Metro Parking.

Pop superstar Kylie Minogue visits SCH

PATIENTS, families and staff at SCH received a special surprise visit from international recording artist and performer, Kylie Minogue.

Ms Minogue took time out from her busy schedule to visit and provide encouragement to many of the Hospital's patients.

SCH Executive Director, Professor Les White was extremely grateful and delighted at Ms Minogue's decision to spend an afternoon visiting the Hospital's patients.

"Ms Minogue's visit to the Hospital was a huge morale boost for patients and their families. The delight on the patients' faces after meeting Kylie, one of their idols, was simply fantastic," Professor White said.

We wish Ms Minogue every success for her upcoming world tour, and hope to have her visit the Hospital again very soon!



Kylie Minogue with patients

Photo credit: David Anderson Photography, courtesy Warner Music

Prof Terry Kishikawa takes us on a trip down memory lane

FORMER visiting SCH surgical registrar, Professor Terry Kishikawa spoke of his time at SCH to a crowd of past and present SCH staff, at a reunion reception held in his honour.

Formally welcomed by Professor Les White, Professor Kishikawa and his family were honoured with special presentations by Professor Toby Bowring and Dr Eddie Shi.

"It was an honour to formally welcome back such an accomplished former colleague," said Professor Les White, SCH Executive Director.

"Terry's outstanding contribution to paediatric care in Australia and Japan is very admirable."

"It was an incredible opportunity for clinicians past and present to discuss how much our Hospital has evolved in the past 30 years."

In the 1970's, Professor Kishikawa worked as a paediatric surgical registrar at the then Prince of Wales Children's Hospital, working alongside SCH surgeon, Dr Eddie Shi and nurse and Clinical Products Advisor, Libbi Lumb.

Professor Kishikawa recently retired from his role as paediatric surgeon and Director of Clinical Operations at Fujita Health University, Japan.



Professor Kishikawa at his reunion reception

Christmas Wrap up

Wiggly Christmas

CHRISTMAS Day at Sydney Children's Hospital was all the more colourful, with a special visit from The Wiggles.

Members of The Wiggles played Santa Claus and spread the Christmas cheer, handing out presents to patients who were spending Christmas in Hospital.

For many years, members of The Wiggles have taken the time out of their own Christmas day celebrations to visit patients and families at SCH.

Dr Jonny Taitz, Assistant Director of Clinical Operations at SCH has been the Wiggles 'tour guide' during their annual visits, and continues to be amazed by their generosity of spirit.

"The support The Wiggles have given SCH patients over the years is simply incredible," Dr Taitz said.

"These colourful entertainers come early on Christmas day and do not leave until they have seen every patient in every ward."

"I am often tired by the end of their visit, but they just power on, unwilling to leave until they put a smile on every patient's face.

"We are indebted to The Wiggles, who make spending Christmas in hospital just that little bit brighter."

A big 'thank you' to The Wiggles. SCH patients, family and staff certainly appreciate their ongoing support and generosity.



The Wiggles drop by on Christmas day.

SCH patients were special guests at the Governor General's Christmas Party



Hospital Christmas Party

THE Hospital Staff & Volunteers Christmas Party was held last December to great success, with many children joining in the celebration of Christmas.

Santa Claus was as popular as ever, dropping by the courtyard to deliver presents to all the children.

The clown magician and jukebox provided the entertainment, while staff and children feasted on delicious Christmas -themed party food.

The Christmas Party is an event that dates back decades for SCH and is funded by the Senior Medical Staff Council.

Many thanks must go to Patient Friend, Michelle Honan who did an enormous amount of work organising the event and was then unable to attend herself. Michelle you are definitely 'our friend' too. Thanks also to Cordelia Roswell and Chris Webber from the Emergency Department for all their fantastic efforts to ensure the Party was a complete success.



Michael Buckley receives Marie Curie Fellowship

MICHAEL Buckley, Head of the SEALS Genetics Laboratories, has been awarded a Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowship to work on clinical applications of next generation DNA sequencing.

Marie Curie Fellowships, offered by the European Commission, are open to professionals within and outside the European Union to work at centres of excellence both within Europe and internationally in any scientific or technological field.

This year there were 120 funded Fellows in Medicine, Biological Sciences, Physics & Chemistry, Earth & Environmental Sciences, and in Engineering. Michael is one of ten Fellows in the biomedical sciences from a field of 116 applicants worldwide.

The Fellows are supported for two years at a major research institution in Europe. Michael will be working at the Department of Human Genetics at Radboud University, Nijmegen Medical Centre in The Netherlands.

Congratulations Michael on this outstanding achievement.

Senior Medical Staff Travelling Scholarship recipients announced

CONGRATULATIONS to Keith Ooi and Nick Smith, who were the lucky recipients of the SCH Travelling Scholarship for 2007.

As the standard of both applications was so high, the Executive of the Staff Council decided to divide the \$3,000 scholarship between the two of them.

The Scholarship is in recognition of their clinical and personal contribution to the Hospital, which was well above the call of duty.

Keith is continuing his training in paediatric gastroenterology as a Fellow at the Hospital for Sick Kids, Toronto, Canada.

Nick will continue his training in paediatric neurology, subspecialising in neurometabolic disease, at several centres around the world including Johns Hopkins University, USA and the Cambridge University, England.

Good luck Keith and Nick, we wish you well in your professional endeavours.

Advanced trainees, medical and surgical, can review the criteria for application for this scholarship on the SCH intranet (See "Jobs" then "Staff Support").

Look out for the next edition of The Way Forward, as we farewell three greats: Dr Tim Bohane, Dr Barry Duffy and Dr Eddie Shi.

