

Child Health Career Day a resounding success

CLOSE to 150 students from high schools across Sydney made their way to Sydney Children's Hospital (SCH) on Monday, 11 May for a one-of-a kind child health Careers Day.

With Australia experiencing a critical shortage of nursing, medical and allied health professionals, SCH hoped the Careers Day would educate and excite students into considering a future in paediatric health.

The Career's Day certainly succeeded in its aim, with overwhelmingly positive feedback received from most students and teachers.

Dr Michael Brydon, Director of Clinical Operations says it is imperative that students be given the opportunity to explore their career options and meet and hear from experts at the frontline.

"Improving the health outcomes of every child in our care is our passion, and what drives us to come to work each day.

"It is important that we continue to support, educate and train the health professionals of the future, so that every ill child continues to receive access to the highest level of care."

Information stands, educational sessions and tours were run by staff from 20 departments, which included nursing, surgical, medical, radiology, sleep medicine, ophthalmology, genetic counselling and play and recreational therapy.

Students were given the opportunity to see a live operation via video streaming, visit medical laboratories, take a tour of the sleep laboratory and see a real example of a sleep study.

Congratulations to the Health Education team – Georgina Papaioannou and Monica Sharma for organising an outstanding event and to all participating departments for making the day a success.

Right: Students learn from the best

Drilling down the numbers...*

- 87 per cent of students learned about a career that they had not previously considered.
- 51 per cent of students said their favourite part of the day was the mini tours
- 39 per cent of students said their favourite part of the day was the stalls and meeting the professionals

Other 'favourites' were: the challenges, the live surgery and Q&A panel.

* Figures are based on 82 respondents from a possible 136.



Stop the Press: Another very positive report from the EQUIP surveyors

CONGRATULATIONS to the SCH team for some outstanding initial results from the Evaluation and Quality Improvement Program (EQUIP) periodical review.

Preliminary results are in, with the surveyors congratulating SCH for clearly and thoroughly addressing all previous recommendations and for scoring at least an MA (or higher) in all areas of review.

New recommendations (but no high priority concerns regarding clinical services) will give staff the opportunity to improve over the next two years.

The Australian Council on Health Care Standards is responsible for EQUIP, a program which ensures patients receive the most safe, high quality health care.

More details will be distributed once the final report is received.

Well done team, great work.

Dr Michael Brydon

Director of Clinical Operations



Congratulations to SCH colleagues honoured during this year's Queen's Birthday celebrations. Turn to page three for details.

This month....

Welcome Adam Seifman3

Swine Flu update5

Employee of the Month6

Editor's Notes

WITH the winter season officially upon us and human swine flu dominating the airwaves infection control is top of mind. Page five of this month's edition provides all staff with the latest on the human swine flu outbreak and acknowledges the efforts of various colleagues in communicating the latest information to hospital staff, patients and families.

Many changes have taken place in our staffing profile, with Dr Andrew Day farewelled in April (page three) and, Dr Nick Pigott taking over the Trauma Director reigns from Dr Anthony Dilley (page seven). Also we get an insight into medical training on page six as we congratulate surgical fellow Dr Ashish Jiwane on passing his exams.

Our remarkable nurses were again duly recognised during this year's International Nurses day celebrations with one of our nurses receiving a very big prize (page five).

With *The Way Forward* (TWF) now a quarterly edition, it can be difficult fitting three months' worth of news into one edition. Please remember that the fortnightly edition of TWF is a great way of getting information out to colleagues, on a more regular basis.

Story ideas, submissions, profiles and photos for inclusion in the fortnightly and quarterly edition of TWF are always welcome.

Jessica Jaramillo

Deadline

THE deadline for contributions for the **September 2009** issue is **Monday, 17 August 2009**. Please forward articles and photos to:

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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 reasons.

From the Executive

DEAR Colleagues,

As you know, the Government response to the Report of the Special Commission of Inquiry into Acute Care Services in NSW Public Hospitals, by the Hon Peter Garling SC, included support in principle to the establishment of a children's and young people's health authority, to be known as NSW Kids. You will remember that the recommendations relating to NSW Kids are among the most contentious and hotly debated of the multiple recommendations of the Commission. Accordingly, an additional six months was allocated to further explore options for implementation and a NSW Kids Transition Governance Group was established by the Director General, chaired by Mr John Newbery. Terry Clout, Chief Executive South East Sydney Illawarra Area Health Service (SESIAHS) and I are members of this Governance Group and have met on several occasions.



At the same time, colleagues throughout the health system and, in particular, those involved in paediatrics and child health have continued to explore and debate the subject in numerous forums. The debate has identified the key issues and has considered a range of potential solutions.

It has been acknowledged that complete separation and centralised operational responsibility for all services provided to children and young people may be challenging and problematic in what is a highly complex and interactive environment. However, there is strong consensus in support of a comprehensive entity with the authority to plan, co-ordinate, protect and monitor the delivery of all services to children in both the community and hospital settings. These responsibilities include not only advocating for adequate resources but ensuring that those resources are fairly and transparently distributed within these services, with particular emphasis on the needs of community child health.

The most difficult aspects relate to the capacity to achieve an improved coordination of the tertiary paediatric sector while at the same time ensuring an integrated system across all child health and paediatric services. Although many colleagues have agreed that their current arrangements for the three NSW Children's Hospitals can benefit from improvement, there is considerable diversity of views when it comes to identifying the solutions. If the new entity were to be a statutory authority then it could employ clinicians and potentially encompass the workforce of all three children's hospitals.

Alternatively, NSW Kids could work as a co-ordinating entity with substantial authority but no direct line management in operational terms. Both variations require considerable good will and collaboration between parties.

The Area Health Services remain pivotal parts of any future system and would be key partners in achieving the objectives of NSW Kids. The challenge there is to ensure horizontal integration at a regional level while achieving improved state-wide co-ordination and collaboration.

There are still opportunities for our colleagues in the workforce or indeed members of the community to comment and contribute to this debate. You can do so online by accessing the Health Action Plan website at www.healthactionplan.nsw.gov.au. Although it is clear that any solution will carry some potential risk and will need to identify some boundaries, it is critical that we come up with the most cohesive and collegiate approach that meets the needs of the children of NSW and engages the workforce in its implementation.

Best wishes

Les White (Prof)
Executive Director

Pat on the back

“ POSITIVE feedback is always welcome, with the Hospital's on-line virtual tour continuing to receive well deserved praise from the public.

This month's 'Pat on the back' provides readers with a snapshot of positive feedback received via the Internet:

"Fantastic job on the virtual tour of a theatre. This is so necessary to ease the stress from children. Great work."

"Wonderful materials to prepare children for an operation."

"This virtual tour was just brilliant!! Congratulations!!"

"It was exciting virtual tour of your hospital and also beautiful hospital."

"Thank you so much for this virtual tour it is fantastic!!!! The only suggestion I have is a printable version for kids (like mine) who like to read what is going to happen over and over again. Thanks again."

"Wow, I was so impressed by this virtual tour. I was showing my 12 year old brother (as he had never seen an operating theatre) and I learnt something myself. Well done, great idea!!!"

"This is an excellent tour, very interactive for the clients, good clear information, one of the best virtual tours I have seen."

"What a fantastic virtual tour!!! => I can only imagine how much more comfortable children visiting the hospital will feel after viewing the Virtual Tour. A very useful tool to provide! Potential volunteers will also find it easier to find their way around the hospital and familiarise with the new surroundings. Keep up the good work team!"

Thanks in part to constructive public feedback, staff at SCH are in talks to expand the virtual tour, another of SCH's many success stories.



Farewell Andrew Day



AFTER close to 10 years at SCH, gastroenterologist Dr Andrew Day left his post as department head in April, to take on a new role in his hometown of New Zealand.

Farewelled at a number of small and hospital wide events, Andrew is a respected colleague who is sorely missed.

Dr Avi Lemberg is acting Head of Gastroenterology until a formal appointment is made.

Andrew will continue to retain an appointment at SCH, visiting the Hospital on occasion to complete research and hold an outpatient clinic.

Thank you Andrew for your many years of service and valued contribution to paediatric health. No doubt we will see you walking the corridors in no time!

Left: Dr Andrew Day

Welcome (back)...Adam Seifman



Above: Adam Seifman

SYDNEY Children's Hospital warmly welcomes Acting Manager of the Executive Unit, Adam Seifman, who has replaced Jane Jennings while she is away on maternity leave.

Adam may be a familiar face to many of you, having worked in the health system for quite some time.

A jack of all trades, Adam may have once fixed your work computer as he was employed more than ten years ago at SCH in the IT department!

Looking for a career change, Adam decided to train and work as a paramedic, a role he held for five years.

While finding the life of a paramedic fulfilling, he decided to take on a new challenge, working at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital as an Executive Officer and later as Ambulatory Care Manager of the Hospital's Sydney Cancer Centre.

"I've made a few career changes but I have often thought about coming back to Sydney Children's Hospital," said Adam.

"It's been more than 10 years since I've worked here, but there are still a lot of familiar faces, from clinical to executive staff.

"It's obvious people love working at Sydney Kids and I am happy to have re-joined the team."

When not at SCH, Adam is busy playing with his two young sons aged two and four.

Welcome back Adam.

Queen's Birthday honour list

DURING this month's Queens Birthday celebrations, two of our very own received Australia's highest honours:

- Associate Professor **John Ziegler**, SCH Head of Immunology and Infectious Diseases was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his outstanding service to paediatric medicine in the areas of infectious disease, HIV/AIDS, and immunology and allergy as a practitioner, researcher and educator.
- **Margaret Bresnahan**, SCH Paediatric Intensive Care nurse received a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for her outstanding service to paediatric nursing, and to the community through a range of children's charities and overseas humanitarian aid programs.

Other notable award recipients who have contributed to vital SCH fundraising were **Paul Francis**, Chairman of the Humpty Dumpty Foundation (received an OAM) and **Bill Little** and **Robert Ritchie Bruce**, members of the Rotary Club of Sydney Cove (both received OAM's).

We all know how tirelessly our staff and supporters work for the benefit of our patients and their families. To have their work acknowledged in such a prestigious and public way is testament to their character, skill and dedication to health.

Congratulations.



Silver Party – 'A Night in Capri'

TRUE to the theme 'A Night in Capri', 500 guests at the 18th annual Silver Party were transported to the Italian Riviera as they enjoyed the picturesque harbour side venue, Otto Ristorante. Thanks to the generosity of guests and patrons more than \$190,000 was raised for the Emergency Department (ED).

Five of Sydney's most renowned chefs (James Kidman, Sean Connolly, Giovanni Pilu, Michael Moore and Danny Russo) teamed up to provide the rustic Italian flavours for the night. Thank you to the 2009 Silver Party Diamond Patron Moët & Chandon, Platinum Patrons Ryan's Hotels and Garry Rothwell and the 2009 Silver Party Committee.

Below: Silver Party 2009



New Fast Track System for the ED

THANKS to the generosity of the community, the Hospital's ED has undergone an upgrade to two of its busy areas to better accommodate and provide quality care to our young patients.

On 1 May the Hon. Michael Daley, Minister for Maroubra officially opened the new Fast Track System and upgrade in front of invited guests and sponsors. Many of the Hospital's valued supporters; Rotary Club of Sydney Cove, St Spyridon, Coogee Family Fun Day and Comedy For Kids, attended the opening to see how generous donations from the community can help enhance the Hospital's services.

Below: Minister for Maroubra, the Hon. Michael Daley, opens the Fast Track Area



Kids with Cancer Foundation's Continued Generosity

WE are thrilled to once again be a beneficiary of the Kids with Cancer Foundation (KWCF). This year KWCF made a generous donation of \$337,000 to the Centre for Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders (CCC&BD) in support of vital cancer research and essential positions in the Centre. KWCF's long standing partnership with CCC&BD is making an enormous difference in the lives of the many patients, families and staff at our hospital.

Our deepest thanks to the Kids with Cancer Foundation for their ongoing commitment and generous support.

Comedy for Kids

FOR the third successful year, Comedy for Kids was held on 1 May at the University of New South Wales Roundhouse. The night featured one of Australia's most loved comedians Julia Morris, popular up and coming comedian Chris Radburn and Aussie favourite Chris Franklin. The night raised more than \$50,000 for the Hospital.

Thank you to the Comedy for Kids Committee and event sponsors the Australian Jockey Club, BetChoice and Australian Gourmet Meats.

Rotary Club of Sydney Cove Reach \$1 million

THE Rotary Club of Sydney Cove recently presented the Hospital with a very generous cheque for \$90,000, the proceeds of another hugely successful Rotary Charity Regatta. This year's cheque brings the Club's total donations to an impressive \$1 million!

In 1997, we formed an important partnership with the Rotary Club of Sydney Cove, and the Hospital has been the major beneficiary of funds raised from the Rotary Charity Regatta ever since.

This year's donation will help the Emergency Department to purchase new Spacelab Monitors and provide funds for an Emergency Fellowship – a vital training position for paediatric emergency specialists.

We thank all the Rotarians involved in organising this great event!

Below: Rotary Club of Sydney Cove



Upcoming Events

- **Worldriderz** – Three dedicated guys are riding their motor bikes from Sydney to Paris over three months, to raise awareness and vital funds to support research and development in childhood kidney conditions. Fundraising events to support this ride include the Winter Festival (18 June – 22 June) and the Vaucluse Tennis Club Tournament in July. For more details visit www.worldriderz.com.
- **City to Surf** – Held on Sunday 9 August. Take part in The Sun Herald City2Surf Charity Challenge in support of Sydney Children's Hospital. Visit city2surf.sunherald.com.au to register and for more information.

Art News

THE word 'prodigy' is often used but is readily apparent in the new exhibition "Wonders of Nature" by six year old Jesslyn Wijaya. Running from 18 May to 23 of July in Artspace 0, the exhibition features work by Jesslyn, created from three years of age to now.

Jesslyn's first group exhibition was at South Maroubra Village Green Art Show in 2007. At this event, she won the first prize in the Kids Category and first prize for the People's Choice Award.

Jesslyn's choices of colour are always brilliant, unique and creative. Most of her paintings portray the Australian landscape and its beautiful gardens.

This is her very first solo exhibition, and features high quality reproductions of her original paintings.

Below: Dancing Flowers



Thank you

- 2DayFM
- Amalgamated Holdings
- Bakers Delight
- Eastgardens Pty Ltd
- Israel Smith Photographers
- Mallesons Stephen Jaques
- Terine Ahmet
- The Grain
- Rotary Club of Sydney Cove
- Victor Grynberg and the Grynberg Family



International Nurses Day, 12 May 2009



INTERNATIONAL Nurses Day was again celebrated in style, with a week of activities held to acknowledge the valuable work of our nurses.

The week's highlights included an afternoon barbeque and a very special night duty visit at 3am from SCH Director of Nursing, Phyllis Moran, who arrived carrying food and roses for each nurse.

Thanks once again to all our generous supporters, who donated many prizes for the nursing raffles throughout the week which included bridge climbs and beauty and hotel accommodation packages.

Inset: SCH nurses come together to celebrate International Nurses Day

Budding filmmaker in our midst



A big surprise during the week's celebrations was the announcement by the NSW Nurses Association that our very own Francis Usherwood, Clinical Nurse Specialist in C1 South, received first prize in the Association's inaugural Short Film Festival competition.

With the assistance of the National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA), Frances entered her very own short film, *Robo Nurse*, into the Festival – one of 16 short films written and produced by nurses across the state.

Robo Nurse – a fantasy story centred around robotic nurses replacing human nurses in the year 2020 – was screened for all nursing staff at various times during the week.

Congratulations to Frances and the team behind the making of this creative short film.

Inset: Frances Usherwood

Graduates celebrate major milestone



Above: Long term patient Nakcoma Back celebrates his graduation to adult services

THE first Graduation Ceremony for the year was a celebration of shared experiences, with eleven long term patients transitioning to adult services.

Former paralympian Peter Brooks inspired, with Damien Leith entertaining the full Lecture Theatre with his beautiful rendition of 'Hallelujah'.

Thank you to the Hospital Foundation, the Graduation Ceremony Committee and our other supporters for helping make this ceremony yet another wonderful event.

A unique celebration

Recently, a paper second authored in 1985 by one of our own anaesthetists, Stephen Gatt, was promoted to the most cited paper in anaesthesia of all time.

The paper, known internationally as the 'Mallampati Score' is titled *Clinical Sign to Predict Difficult Tracheal Intubation: A Prospective Study*.

It took this scientific paper 24 years to get to pole position and is still as fresh and as quoted as it was in 1985. The classification is still used universally as the premier technique for predicting difficult intubation by examining the upper airway. It has proved to be an enduring, reliable and simple predictor of intubation difficulty.

With a pinch of luck, it will be another 24 years before this paper is toppled from No. 1 in the anaesthesia citation index chart.

Congratulations Stephen on this excellent achievement.

Swine Flu update

AT the time of publication, 227 individuals in New South Wales have a confirmed case of the Influenza H1N1 virus, otherwise known as human swine flu.

The team in the SCH ED are to be commended for their continued efforts, with their services in demand as more and more children present with flu like symptoms.

Efforts are being made nationwide to contain the spread of the disease, with precautionary measures taken by SCH evident when entering the ED.

Thank you to the SCH Swine Flu Management Committee, who have been working behind the scenes to ensure all precautions are taken and that staff, patients and families receive the most up to date information.

The NSW Health website is updated regularly with clinical information, updated figures and regular media announcements made by the Department of Health and the Minister for Health, John Della Bosca: www.health.nsw.gov.au

As we enter the peak winter season, as always, please adhere to infection control practices, obtain your influenza vaccination (if you haven't already) and remain home if you are unwell to prevent the spread of the disease.

SCH green corner



THE following green tip was submitted by public affairs staff members Jenni Corbett and Bernadine O'Donovan.

In your kitchen at work and at home use environmentally friendly cleaning products for both washing up and cleaning kitchen areas.

Fill up the sink to wash your dishes and don't wash up under a running tap. Make sure you turn off the tap after using it, as one dripping tap can waste at least 5,500 litres of water a year.

Use a microwave to heat and defrost food as it is more energy efficient than a conventional oven.

Use 'real' cups, mugs, glasses, plates and cutlery that can be washed, rather than plastic disposable option and if you need paper towels – buy recycled!

Do you have a 'green' idea, plan or suggestion? Please email Jessica Jaramillo, SCH Public Affairs:

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

Congratulations Ashish Jiwane



OUR very own surgical fellow, Ashish Jiwane, recently passed his fellowship examination – the only one of four candidates in Australasia to pass. This absolutely outstanding achievement is no small feat, with Ashish undergoing two very tough years of supervised training at SCH.

Identified early on by the Department of General Paediatric Surgery as a talented, intuitive doctor, his dedication and hard work is exemplified in his results and in the world class care he provides to every single patient.

Congratulations Ashish!

Inset: Ashish Jiwane

So what does it take to become a paediatric surgeon?

Training in Paediatric Surgery is a five year program. Registrars spend no more than two years in one place and must travel interstate for at least one year. In addition, overseas fellowships often round off the training.

The programme includes rigorous competency based assessment, a schedule each year of two directed online discussions, two critical appraisal tasks, many Measures of Understanding and Surgical Expertise i.e. assessment of operating skills and attendance at the Registrars Annual Training Session.

In addition, there are compulsory training courses in trauma management, care of the critically ill, advanced paediatric life support, literature review and statistics. We are ever on the look out for more acronyms to add to our menagerie!

The training is all rounded off by anatomy and pathology exams in mid training and a final clinical exam over three days in general surgery, neonatal surgery, urology and operative surgery.

Paediatric surgery remains a very popular specialty. Sydney Children's Hospital is one of the most sought after training posts, in no small way due to the commitment of the surgeons to providing a rigorous yet supportive teaching environment as well as the exemplary way paediatricians, anaesthetists, surgeons, nurses and allied health professionals work together to provide a standard of care for sick children that is second to none.

Parent and Consumer Council's meet

FOR the first time ever, the Sydney Children's Hospital Parent and Consumer Council and the Children's Hospital at Westmead Family Advisory Council came together to share ideas and discuss how both Councils can work together to address common issues affecting hospitalised patients and their families.

Considered a great success, plans are under way to hold another meeting in November and make this joint meeting a regular calendar event for both hospitals.

Over the past 12 months, SCH's Parent and Consumer Council has discussed more than 30 issues pertaining to the delivery of hospital services. Advice provided by the Council has proven crucial in driving and supporting positive changes to the Hospital, including the opening of a breastfeeding room, changes to food services available on site, installation of more baby change tables and changes to information available on the SCH website.

The Council is comprised of parents, hospital management, and clinicians, providing valuable opportunities for appropriate consultation with consumers and community groups regarding the development, delivery and review of health services provided by SCH.

SCH would like to extend its gratitude to the members of the Parent and Consumer Council in particular the parents who volunteer their time and encourage staff to submit items for discussion and consumer feedback at upcoming Council meetings.

All agenda items can be forwarded to Michelle Honan, SCH Patient Friend via email: michelle.honan@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au

Thank you the SCH committee members:

Parent representatives:

Melinda Pickard (Co-Chair); **Fay Chiotis**; **Minn Simpson**; **Vanessa Costa**; **Lisa Wellington**; **Stacey Gerritsen**; **Merron Howard**; **Rita Chater**.

Staff representatives:

Phyllis Moran, Co-Chair; **Les White**, Executive Director; **Michelle Honan**, Patient Friend; **Hala Katf**, Paediatrician; **Lif O'Connor**, The Greater Metropolitan Clinical Taskforce (Transition Care Program) Representative; **Anne Cutler**, Association for the Wellbeing of Children in Healthcare (AWCH); **Jennifer Mirto**, Nursing Unit Manager C2 South; **Toni Stewart**, Aboriginal Coordinator of Service Integration; **Deidre Kennedy**, SESIH Community Partnerships Officer; **Sara Burrett**, Head Social Work Department.

Employee of the Month



Above: Kirsty Johnson

CONGRATULATIONS to the June Employee of the Month, Kirsty Johnson, Clinical Nurse Specialist, SCH Operating Theatres.

Nominated by the Department of General Paediatric Surgery for her outstanding commitment to nursing, Kirsty is considered an invaluable employee who can always be relied on to support the work of the team.

"Kirsty is 100 per cent committed to SCH and the patients and families in her care," said Dr Susan Adams, on behalf of the surgical team.

"She can always be relied on to offer assistance, without even having to ask for it.

"Kirsty makes our job as surgeons that little bit easier and is an indispensable member of our team."

With a senior general surgeon on call 24 hours a day, having a highly capable nurse like Kirsty on hand for support can make all the difference.

"Our surgical lists can be delayed due to emergency cases that present during the day, with members of our team often staying back to ensure all patients are attended to," said Dr Adams.

"Kirsty will often provide us with nursing support after hours, even at short notice.

"She always goes beyond what is expected and for that we sincerely thank her."

Remember Me?

BY looking at her smiling face, no one could ever imagine young Teresa was ever shy or withdrawn. However, just a few years ago Teresa was unwilling to interact with other children for fear of ridicule.

A large unsightly haemangioma began growing on one of Teresa's eye lids, threatening to seriously affect her sight.

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC) and SCH, Teresa flew to Sydney from her home in the Philippines, undergoing a successful series of surgeries and procedures under the care of SCH Ophthalmologist Dr Geoff Wilcsek.

Now a happy and healthy child, Teresa recently graduated top of her school.

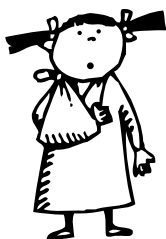
Teresa's story illustrates the important role both SCH and aid organisations like ROMAC play in providing children overseas with access to exceptional health care.

Congratulations to the team at SCH and ROMAC for giving Teresa such amazing care.

Above: Academic whiz Teresa with her nine medals.



Changes to the SCH Trauma team



DR Nick Pigott, Staff Specialist, ICU was recently appointed to the role of trauma service director, a post previously undertaken extremely well by Dr Anthony Dilley.

While Anthony remains a valued member of the team, Nick has been asked to take on the challenging role of Director and fill some very big shoes. With the support of a passionate and highly skilled trauma team, we have no doubt Nick will succeed in his new role.

Thank you to Anthony for his many years of valued service in the Director's role and congratulations to Nick on this excellent achievement.

Look out for coverage of the Patching Kids Trauma Seminar in the next fortnightly edition of *The Way Forward*.

Sorry Day

NATIONAL Sorry Day was commemorated on 26 May, with staff, patients and families coming together in the Hospital School to celebrate the Aboriginal culture and remember those children who were forcibly removed from their homes many years ago.

Thank you to the social work team and the Hospital School for co-ordinating and hosting a wonderful day of events.

Below: Aboriginal dancers perform in the Hospital school



Tune in to... Saving Babies II

THE second Series of Saving Babies – featuring staff and patients from the Royal Hospital for Women and Sydney Children's Hospital – will air in a matter of months.

The series was placed on hold for some time however will soon have a home on an Australian pay television network.

While no dates have been officially announced, the production company behind the series anticipates the series will air before the end of the year.

Thank you to the team of staff and families who graciously accommodated the filming of this excellent series, which showcases the work of two of Australia's leading women and children's hospitals.



OH&S Corner

Slips Trips and Falls – A Big Issue

WorkCover NSW report that almost 6,000 people in NSW suffered a serious injury last year because of a slip, trip or fall at work.

At SCH in the financial year 2008/2009 to date there have been 22 reported slips, trips or falls. The major causes of these incidents were wet floor surfaces (45 per cent) and uneven surfaces (23 per cent).

To reduce and ideally eliminate the risk of slips, trips and falls:

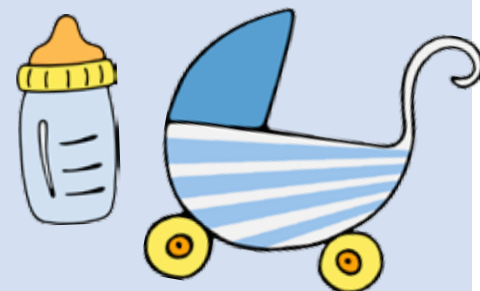
- wear non-slip footwear;
- clean up spills immediately;
- report all hazards to your manager and log the incident in the IIMS system;
- design out hazards by installing slip resistant flooring;
- limit access to high risk areas;
- improve lighting in work areas, stairwells and passageways;
- install handrails;
- maintain good housekeeping;
- ensure the appropriate signage for wet floors is erected, and;
- provide storage receptacles for umbrellas at key entrances.

Tracey Clay
OHS Consultant
SCH & RHW

Congratulations...

JANE Jennings, who gave birth to a healthy baby boy named Max in May.

SCH wishes Jane and her growing family all the best, and anticipates her return next year.



What's On!

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.

Pilates mat classes for staff

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

When: Every Tuesday and Thursday from 5.15pm – 6.15pm

Cost: \$10 per session

Contact: Sue Sims on 9382 1594, 0418 667 153 or email suesims216@hotmail.com

Employee Assistance Program

THE Employee Assistance Program provides free, confidential, professional counselling for any personal or work-related concerns. For a free brochure or to make an appointment phone **(02) 9382 3681** or **(02) 9382 6616**.

SCH Grand Rounds

CONVENED by Ass. Prof. John Ziegler

When/Where: 1.00pm every Wednesday

The John Beveridge Lecture Theatre, Level 1, SCH.

Movers and Shakers

- Jenni Corbett**, Community Liaison Officer will be on leave for six months, commencing Wednesday 17 June. Any matters pertaining to volunteers, special visits and requests should be directed to Andrea Veen on extension 23570.

Patient services activity comparison

	Feb 09	Feb 08
Admissions	1206	1284
Discharges	1196	1271
Day only cases	499	599
Hospital Average Length of Stay, days	3.0 days	3.1 days
Hospital Average Length of Stay (excl Day Only)	4.5 days	4.6 days
Occupancy	93.2%	94.2%
Non admitted patients	25,720	26,346

	Mar 09	Mar 08
Admissions	1428	1303
Discharges	1409	1292
Day only cases	591	550
Hospital Average Length of Stay, days	3.0 days	3.1 days
Hospital Average Length of Stay (excl Day Only)	4.5 days	4.6 days
Occupancy	91.9%	95.8%
Non admitted patients	27,356	24,668

	Apr 09	Apr 08
Admissions	1169	1294
Discharges	1178	1295
Day only cases	477	558
Hospital Average Length of Stay, days	3.0 days	3.0 days
Hospital Average Length of Stay (excl Day Only)	4.5 days	4.5 days
Occupancy	92.8%	94.6%
Non admitted patients	26,144	26,246

Thank you to our volunteers



AS a result of our volunteers' great fundraising efforts, it was with great pleasure that they were able to recently donate much needed strollers to wards C2 South and C3 West.

Left: Volunteers Annette and Pam with C3 West staff Margot and Lisa and patient Manu in one of the new strollers



During National Volunteers Week (11-15 May), a team from Bunnings Randwick kindly donated their time to repaint the volunteers' room.

Bunnings continued support and commitment to the Hospital is sincerely appreciated.

Left: The Bunnings Randwick team in the newly painted Volunteers' Room.