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A NOTE FROM TIM YEOH

Welcome to the final edition of Acute News for 2020. As we come to the end of an unprecedented, challenging year I would like to take the opportunity to formally acknowledge the efforts of our hospital management teams, clinicians and support staff for their exceptional commitment and flexibility in dealing with this ever changing landscape.

Coinciding with the World Health Organisation's 'International Year of the Nurse and Midwife', the pandemic has thrust

healthcare and the role of our sector into the spotlight now more than ever, and our dedicated teams have risen to the challenge each and every step of the way.

On behalf of Healthe Care I want to wish you all the very best for a restful and safe Christmas with your families, and a prosperous and Healthe New Year in 2021.

Tim Yeoh, CEO Acute Services



HEALTHE CARE JOINS APHA BOARD

Healthe Care Australia - Acute Services CEO, Tim Yeoh, has recently joined the Board of the Australian Private Hospitals Association (APHA) as the peak body continues to advocate for the role and importance of private hospitals in the Australian healthcare landscape.

With rising private healthcare costs and the ongoing impact of COVID-19 placing enormous stress on Australian families and the healthcare sector as a whole, Mr Yeoh's appointment provides a strong platform for Healthe Care to advocate for the positive role our staff and services play in delivering positive patient experiences and outcomes, while reducing the strain on the public health system.

Learn more at www.medianet.com.au/releases/193239/

SELF PAY INTRODUCES ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

Healthe Care's groundbreaking Self Pay Surgery service has recently introduced Orthopaedic surgery packages at Hurstville Private Hospital and Shellharbour Private Hospital.

The Self Pay Surgery packages currently on offer include Hip, Knee and Shoulder Replacement surgeries, along with ACL Reconstruction.

Each of the packages includes all pre-admission assessments and testing, hospital charges, Surgeon and Anaesthetist fees, the prosthesis, medications and an individualised recovery plan, providing patients with an alternative to increasingly lengthy public health waitlists and private health insurance.

Learn more at selfpaysurgery.com.au/self-pay-surgeries/

\$32M REDEVELOPMENT TOPS OUT AT GOSFORD PRIVATE HOSPITAL

The \$32 million redevelopment of Gosford Private Hospital has recently reached its peak, with the topping out and completion of Level 3.

Incorporating additional car parking, a brand new Day Surgery, additional theatres, office space, a new purpose-built Maternity Ward and space for a brand new ward, the new facility is due for completion in the first quarter of 2021.

Take a sneak peak inside the redevelopment at
<https://tinyurl.com/ya5dnla6>



PRESTIGIOUS AWARD FOR ACCLAIMED ENT SURGEON AT LINGARD AND MAITLAND PRIVATE HOSPITALS

Australia's first Aboriginal surgeon, the highly acclaimed Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, Associate Professor Kelvin Kong, has been awarded the prestigious Menzies Medallion.



A Worimi man from Port Stephens, the breadth and depth of Associate Professor Kong's work over the years is far reaching and includes his role as chief investigator for the Menzies-led Centre for Research Excellence in Ear and Hearing Health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Associate Professor Kong was presented with the award – the highest offered by the Darwin-based Menzies School of Health Research – in recognition of his leadership in Aboriginal health service delivery, advocacy, and research.

He currently practices in Newcastle (Awabakal Country) as a surgeon, specialising in paediatric and adult otolaryngology, head and neck surgery (ear, nose and throat surgery) at John Hunter Hospital, Lingard Private Hospital and Maitland Private Hospital, and lectures in allied health at the University of Newcastle.

Associate Professor Kong also participates in a project group at the Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI). Earlier this year, Associate Professor Kong also received a five-year, \$1.12 million Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) grant to explore a telehealth ear, nose and throat (ENT) model, based in metropolitan, rural and regional Aboriginal community controlled health services. The Indigenous-led telehealth research would improve Aboriginal children's access to specialist ENT care and reduce the waiting time for treatment during the vital years of early childhood ear and hearing health.

Associate Professor Kong was also profiled in the prestigious international medical publication – *The Lancet* – last month as a trail blazer for Indigenous health in Australia.

Love Your Work – Associate Professor Kong!

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FORSTER PRIVATE CELEBRATES 50TH JUBILEE AT FORSTER PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Staff and patients, past and present, joined members of the Cape Hawke Community Hospital and Health Association recently to celebrate the 50th Anniversary Jubilee of Forster Private Hospital on its current site at South Street, Forster on the NSW Mid North Coast.

The community event included the launch of a historical book 'Built on Roast Beef & Apple Pie' which has been compiled and written by Cape Hawke Health's President, Roger Lynch. The book which recounts the origins of the Hospital and its storied past over the last 70 years, took centre stage alongside a special History Wall which was unveiled at the Hospital.

In attendance at the celebration were Mayor David West, former Mayor John Chadban, Worimi Elder Janice Paulson, past staff, doctors, CEO's, supporters and community members, all celebrating their connection with the region's local hospital. Watch the celebratory video to learn more about the Hospital's history at <https://tinyurl.com/ybwpu5mr>



CARING THROUGH COLOUR AT DUBBO PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Dubbo Private turned itself yellow back in October to show its support for the new local initiative 'Dubbo Cares Day'. The day was designed to raise awareness around mental health, and to get people talking.

Staff got involved by decorating their areas of the hospital in yellow, wearing yellow accessories, and enjoying a delicious yellow cake made by the kitchen. The kitchen food trolleys and cleaning trolleys didn't escape the yellow wave, with staff decking them out with balloons and streamers!

Everyone looked amazing, and the local founder of the organisation thought that their effort was 'Amazing'.

Well done to everyone involved in coordinating this important community awareness event.



NEW ILLAWARRA RESPIRATORY CLINIC OPENS AT SHELLHARBOUR PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Shellharbour Private Hospital has recently launched a new service, a Specialist Respiratory and Sleep Medicine Clinic. This comprehensive service will provide assessment, investigation and treatment of all respiratory and sleep conditions.

This includes the assessment of patients with COPD, Asthma, Lung Cancer, Pleural Disease, Interstitial Lung Disease, Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Bronchiectasis, Respiratory Tract Infections, Pulmonary Hypertension and Sleep Disorders.

Complementing the clinic, we will be operating an exciting new outpatient pulmonary rehabilitation program for patients with Chronic Respiratory Disease. They will be supervised through an extensive eight-week program of outpatient pulmonary rehabilitation to improve their fitness, and optimise their respiratory function. This program will be co-ordinated by a team of Respiratory Specialists, Physiotherapists, Exercise Physiologists, Nursing staff and other Allied Health team members.

Demand for Respiratory Specialists and testing facilities in the area is high, we anticipate that our new service will provide much needed support for the Illawarra.

To find out more information, contact Louise at louise.turner@healthcare.com.au



NEW LOOK 'SAFARI' PAEDIATRIC PROGRAM AT BRISBANE WATERS PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Brisbane Waters Private Hospital's "Caring for Kids" program has a new look Safari theme. The program is committed to making what can be a anxious time into something welcoming and friendly. Children admitted to Brisbane Water Private Hospital will not only experience a warm, personal and professional stay but have an interactive "special" children's admission. Often first time visitors to the hospital, we want to ensure the memory is pleasant and as anxious free as possible for the child and their family.



"The interactive program commences on admission, where the children will notice our new Jungle Safari theme. Children and families are greeted by staff dressed in Jungle themed attire and children are given their 'Welcome Safari Backpack', 'Safari Hat', 'Binoculars' and 'Safari Map' ready to hop into a Safari Jeep and drive themselves to theatre. On their way to Theatres, the children can look for the animals and mark them off their 'Safari Map'. The children will have to look out for; Buffalo's, Giraffes, Monkeys, Parrots, Zebras and Tigers just to name a few," said Brisbane Waters Private Hospital CEO, Debra Ritter.

Children staying overnight have a private room and their very own 'Jungle' menu to choose from, with a never ending supply of ice cream, jelly, custard and zooper doopers in every possible flavour. Parents staying overnight with their children will be provided complimentary meals. Bravery awards, along with the 'Safari Backpack' are also given to each child to they can show family and friends all about their hospital experience. Learn more at <https://brisbanewatersprivate.com.au/specialties/surgical/caring-for-kids>

SUPPORTING BREAST CANCER AWARENESS AT WOLLONGONG DAY SURGERY

October was Breast Cancer Awareness month, and Wollongong Day Surgery registered to host a Pink Ribbon Brunch. Staff brought in food to share and raffled off prizes, with a "guess how many smarties in the jar" game thrown in for good measure.

Overall the team raised \$518 for the National Breast Cancer Foundation.



In a show of positivity and good luck, whilst one of the staff was purchasing some of the prizes for the raffle a member of the public asked if she was throwing a party, she explained to him about the fundraiser for breast cancer awareness and the pensioner, Julian, kindly donated \$20 to the cause. His name was duly entered into the raffle and with good karma, he won the \$100 restaurant voucher first prize!

Not content with that, when Julian returned to collect his prize he wouldn't accept it. Instead wanting to re-ralle the prize and raise more money! He even gave another \$20!

Love your work Julian and all the team at Wollongong Day Surgery!

Learn more about the important research and work of the National Breast Cancer Foundation at <https://nbcf.org.au/research/>

PINK RIBBON
BREAKFAST

It's simple. It's social. It saves lives.

Let's raise funds for research into the effective prevention, detection and treatment of breast cancer.

When: 15th & 16th October – WDS tearoom

Bring along a plate of deliciousness (waffles and donuts welcome) and donate a pink \$5 note if you wish to participate.

National Breast Cancer Foundation

SHOWCASE HIGHLIGHTS ONGOING IMPROVEMENTS AT LINGARD PRIVATE HOSPITAL

In celebration of the 'Year of the Nurse' Lingard Private Hospital wanted to recognise and showcase the fabulous work undertaken everyday by their employees. As such, the Lingard Quality Showcase was launched earlier in the year and encouraged staff in both clinical and non-clinical spaces to develop and implement a quality project. Staff were welcomed to submit these projects as an entry in the Lingard Quality Showcase with the projects being unveiled in poster form recently.

The project was led by Rebecca Swan, Performance Improvement and Risk Manager at Lingard Private. "We are extremely proud of our staff and their commitment to quality improvement. We were hoping for a handful of entries but have been pleasantly surprised by the 14 high quality entries we have seen from across all departments in the hospital."

The project required staff to outline their project aims, method, results and conclusion, with three prizes awarded including best clinical project, best non-clinical project and people's choice award, with voting from all Lingard Private staff.

Some of the entries included Preventing Sharps Injuries; Use of Oral Syringes for Liquid Medication; After Hours Procedural Manuals; Development of Pre-Admissions Clinic Pathway; Proposed Records Storage Plan and Relocation of Office; Intravenous Access Device Documentation; Wound Care Discharge; Fire Training Program; Infection Control – Contact Precautions in Perioperative Nursing; Prevention of Skin Injury and Paediatric Perioperative IV Therapy.

Lingard Private Hospital CEO Warwick Crosby is proud of his team's achievements. "I reviewed the entries and I'm inspired by the effort that our staff have gone to, to identify areas of improvement and actively seek solutions to problems. These projects demonstrate the commitment of our staff to creating a patient-centred hospital and I thank everyone who has taken the time to be involved."



HEALTHE CARE FORUM LEADS WAY ON NSW MID NORTH COAST

Tuesday 8 December saw the first of a series of Mid North Coast Regional Clinical Network Meetings aimed at enhancing health service delivery and access in the region. Requested of Healthe Care's Regional CEO Ben Uprichard by a key local GP, the meeting brought together GPs and representatives from the Local Health District and Primary Health Network.

Discussions highlighted some GP areas of concern that Manning Public and Mayo and Forster Private Hospitals could help address. Attendee feedback supported continuation of the meetings on a regular basis:

"Excellent. Great to have those stakeholders around the table. Showed Ben's genuine motivation for system improvement," one GP commented. Another agreed that it is "vital for us all to be talking and brainstorming."

The meetings cement Forster and Mayo Private Hospitals' roles as key Mid North Coast health service providers, with the next meeting scheduled for early February 2021.

COLLABORATION AND SUPPORT IN TIME OF NEED AT DUBBO PRIVATE HOSPITAL



Recently the team at Dubbo Private Hospital put out a call for help from staff at other Healthe Care Acute Services hospitals.

The call was answered by keen 'tree changers' Caroline and Fred from Gosford Private Hospital.

The pair drove the 5 hours to help support the Dubbo Private Theatre team, sharing their experience and expertise team and learning more about Dubbo Private.

It's hoped that more opportunities arise over the coming months, as Healthe Care staff take up opportunities to support each other, visit other sites and share their expertise with other teams.

Learn more about Dubbo Private Hospital at
<https://dubboprivate.com.au/>



MOVEMBER® \$6508



Thank you to all the MOBros and MOSistas who grew and MOved in support of Men's Health this MOvember. With your support we helped raise awareness for men's mental health, prostate and testicular cancers, plus the wide range of men's health services available across our Healthe Care sites.

#ItsPersonal #Respect #PositiveEnergy



Thank you for helping to put a smile on a child's face this Christmas.

By supporting Healthe Care Australia and

The Smith Family Christmas Toy & Book Appeal

 

We wish all of our staff, Doctors, suppliers, patients and local communities a safe and happy holiday period.