



Servionews

An official publication produced by Royal Perth Hospital

October/November 2011

New MRI for Royal Perth Hospital

Health Minister Kim Hames visited Royal Perth Hospital (RPH) in October to officially commission a new MRI scanner for the hospital.

The \$2.2million scanner will significantly increase the number of MRI scans possible each day, and the doubling of equipment has resulted in improved imaging capacity for inpatients and outpatients.

Dr Hames said the additional resources and investment reflected the State Government's commitment to invest in the future of this hospital and enhance the first-class radiology service already being provided at RPH.

"This new scanner will provide clinical improvement in the quality and comfort for patients with an accompanying increased throughput of patients," he said.

"The demand for MRI scans continues to increase and this additional scanner will assist in reducing waiting times for patients and a reliance on private practices."

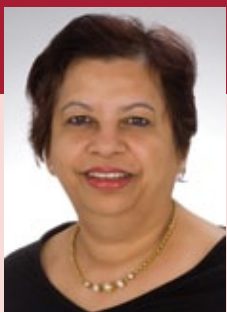
In addition to the new scanner, the radiology department has undergone a \$1.5million refurbishment including a major redesign, improving access and work flow for staff.

The Minister said the RPH radiology department saw about 180,000 inpatients and outpatients last year.



Minister Kim Hames with RPH A/Executive Director Maha Rajagopal, Deputy Head of Radiology Department Dr Swithin Song, Supervising MRI Medical Imaging Technologist Barry Tanian and Chief Medical Imaging Technologist Chris Whennan

A/Executive Director Maha Rajagopal said the Imaging Services division has always been a service leader (see page 3 for new innovations co-developed by RPH) and this investment will contribute in a positive way to the patient journey here at RPH.



Maha Rajagopal

Greetings from the A/Executive Director

As we start to experience the first taste of summer, I'm sure all staff are looking forward to the warmer climate.

This year with better planning, I am pleased to say that we managed the increased bed demand over the winter period. Thank you to all staff who

demonstrated their commitment to patient care during this period of high demand on our health care service.

I would like to reinforce that hand hygiene should continue to remain a focus all year round. I encourage all staff to foster good clinical practice by following the *Five Moments for Hand Hygiene* as endorsed by Hand Hygiene Australia and the World Health Organisation. As well as keeping patients safe, it is your opportunity to actively promote the importance of good hand hygiene practice to patients, carers and visitors too.

Story continued on page 2 >



Our program to improve the patient journey is an ongoing priority. We have made some achievements, but there continues to be opportunities for improvement – both in clinical and back-of-house functions. However, our improvements are impacting positively on our patients' hospital experience and helping to reinforce the message that the Four Hour Rule Program is a whole of hospital focus, not solely a target for our Emergency Department.

We can all take an active role to impact positively on the patient experience, by making your opinions heard and understanding how we are achieving our current targets and measures.

Find a few moments to talk with colleagues, review the weekly data presentation (run on the monitors near MRF and on the bridge) to find out

what achievements we have made so far in the safety and quality of patient care.

At a SMAHS area level, activities around reconfiguration are underway and we have staff involved in these initiatives. Clinical Clusters are working hard and have been engaging with staff at recent workshops. Staff had the opportunity to ask questions and find out more at the CE roadshows.

More recently however, we have celebrated the departmental refurbishment and installation of a second MRI scanner for the hospital's imaging services division with Health Minister Kim Hames officially commissioning the scanner in October. In further capital works news, the renovations of Ward 2 at Shenton Park Campus have been completed and

the patients and staff have returned to their newly enhanced surroundings.

In closing, I wish to thank each and every member of staff for their support during my tenure as acting Executive Director.

I have immensely enjoyed my time in this role, which has provided its challenges, but has reinforced that there is a committed team of people working towards a common goal and who make this hospital such a special place. We will continue to face reforms and challenges, and I feel confident that we are well placed to succeed with your continued support.

With best wishes,

Maha Rajagopal

Consumer award recognises outstanding staff

Royal Perth Hospital's Home Cancer Care Service (HCCS) team, Zelda Haskins, Stacy McGreal and Daniel Berk were awarded the prestigious Consumer Appreciation Award at the this year's WA Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards.

In nominating the team, consumers were asked to describe how the nurses promoted health, safety and well being within the community. Consumers overwhelmingly highlighted the care and dedication provided by the clinical nursing team, citing heartfelt thanks for the work they do and the way in which they do it.

HCCS, under the leadership of Julie Wilkes (Home Cancer Service coordinator), is a hospital based domiciliary service which provides chemotherapy and other supportive care to cancer patients in the comfort of their home.

Zelda and Julie were instrumental in establishing the service over ten years ago. In this time HCCS has become recognised as an innovative, world-leading service, with the presentation of research papers at multiple national and international medical and nursing meetings.



Home Cancer Care Service Team: Stacy McGreal, Julie Wilkes, Zelda Haskins, and Daniel Berk

Congratulations to the HCCS team and all RPH nurses who were finalists or nominees. Your dedication and commitment to improving patient care is outstanding.

Embracing Apps for medical imaging

The development of a new and unique Medical Imaging App for iPads is helping to ensure patients who need a diagnostic imaging examination will receive one that is most appropriate for them.

The world-first app has been developed by Royal Perth Hospital and the University of Western Australia's Centre for Software Practice.

Royal Perth Hospital radiologist and principal clinical lead behind the development Professor Richard Mendelson, said although the Diagnostic Imaging Pathway (DIP) tool, which helps referring doctors request the best diagnostic imaging for patients, had been available for sometime on the internet, the new iPad app meant the information was accessible anywhere and at any time.

"The new DIP application for iPads allows doctors to have the benefit of the online program 'on the run' wherever they are practicing, whether in a GP office or busy emergency department," Professor Mendelson said.

"Once the iPad app is downloaded, the doctor does not need Internet access to take advantage of the information the tool contains."

The new app allows doctors to access information on over 140 imaging pathways for treatment covering all major organ systems and common clinical scenarios.

This means rather than first requesting a series of scans, such as an MRI or CT, which may not be suitable, the clinician is able to use DIP to match a patient's symptoms with the most appropriate test.

This is better for the patient as diagnosis is more efficient and treatment more effective and it does not waste valuable resources.

In addition, the tool also assists in limiting a patient's exposure to ionising radiation which is often present with some procedures such as x-rays and CT scans but not others, for example ultrasound and MRI.

With continual review and revision, the DIP tool also provides information on the latest diagnostic practices according to medical research and best practice across the world.



Phillip Bairstow and Professor Richard Mendelson demonstrating the iPad application

"This is a vital feature of the DIP program because there are continual changes to diagnostic practice, which is often difficult for those in the field to follow let alone non-imaging specialists," Professor Mendelson said.

"Keeping this program current gives doctors peace of mind that they are doing the best for their patients."

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists has endorsed the DIP program and several Australian medical schools have adopted the program into their curricula.

While the online program (www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au) is free to access, the DIP application is available for purchase from the Apple Store as an iPad application for \$US30. The proceeds go to ongoing development and software support.

City to Surf achievement for heart patients



Exercise Physiologist Fiona Beeck encouraging Michele Jones and other patients whilst training for the City to Surf

A year ago it didn't take much to make Michele Jones breathless but thanks to "a second chance at life" she was able to take part in this year's City to Surf.

"This is an important achievement for the patients while they are going through a difficult time in their lives. It allowed them to set goals, stay motivated and achieve something great."

Finishing City to Surf is hard enough for the fit and healthy but for a group of patients from the Advanced Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplant Unit at Royal Perth Hospital completing the 4km walk is a true achievement.

Michele, along with seven other patients, all fitted with Ventricular Assist Devices (VAD) - a mechanical pump that helps the heart to pump blood around the body, trained up to three times a week in the months leading up to the event. This device keeps the patients alive whilst waiting for a heart transplant.

RPH Exercise Physiologist Fiona Beeck said exercise is a very important part of the Heart Failure and Transplant program at RPH.

"It is important that they are as fit and strong as possible because it contributes to a better outcome post transplant," Fiona said.

Conversations with people facing death

An Australian DVD produced by Royal Perth Hospital's (RPH) Palliative Care Service is not only helping health care workers in Australia but also improving palliative care internationally.

Produced in conjunction with the University of Western Australia, the DVD "Conversations with People Facing Death" features honest and very raw interviews with six RPH patients from different cultural backgrounds who are in the final stages of their life.

Although initially intended for medical students who struggled when faced with a dying patient, it is also helping other health care workers particularly those in Asia, where the Hospice Foundation of Taiwan is reproducing the DVD with Chinese subtitles.

RPH Palliative Care Physician Dr Doug Bridge said the DVD will be particularly useful for Chinese health care workers as culturally they do not talk about dying.

"We had an opportunity to interview an Aboriginal patient, who gave us

permission to use the footage after he passed away. Culturally, names and images of deceased Aboriginal people are not normally shown, as death is considered taboo."

The other patients included an Iraqi Moslem migrant, a man who required continuous oxygen via a mask, and a man with a tracheostomy, who could only communicate using a writing board," Dr Bridge said.

Dr Bridge is in the process of compiling support material to accompany the DVD.

New Stroke Service at Bentley Hospital

Residents living in the Bentley area will now have access to specialised stroke rehabilitative care closer to home thanks to a new service at Bentley Hospital.

The 10-bed service, located within the existing rehabilitation ward, will offer specialised stroke care in a multidisciplinary setting providing patients with best practice care.

Acting Executive Director Maree Thomter said the new service will make a real difference for Bentley Hospital patients and is a tremendous asset for our health service

“We can now provide intensive and appropriate care for our stroke patients resulting in faster recovery and therefore shorter hospital stay.”

“Receiving care closer to home also means patients can concentrate on their rehabilitation with the support of families and carers.”

The new service will also provide outpatient stroke rehabilitation services allowing for specialised ongoing care once patients have been discharged from hospital.

Patients requiring such services would have previously travelled to Royal Perth, Sir Charles Gairdner or Fremantle Hospital.

A Commonwealth grant worth \$1.3 million was used to fund the additional positions required for this new service, which enhances Bentley Hospital’s ability to extend rehabilitation care over the next few years.



Stroke rehab patient Lorna Toopi with Nurse Pauline Suryane

PARTY farewells coordinator

The PARTY program has said goodbye to their long standing colleague and coordinator of the program Angela McDowall.

Angela made a significant contribution to the program, particularly in regards to increasing the outreach component in order to target more youth. She will also be remembered for her role in establishing the PARTY program in Bunbury earlier this year.

Angela will be greatly missed and we wish her well.

School donations buys wheelchair

Thanks to the generosity of more than 20 schools that have attended the PARTY (Prevention of Alcohol and Risk-related Trauma in Youth) Program this year; the hospital has been able to purchase a wheelchair for use in the Spinal gym session by future students attending the Program.

Schools participating in the PARTY Program are required to pay a \$50 deposit to reserve their booking, with most schools deciding to donate the money towards the Program rather than have it sent back to the school.

PARTY Program Coordinator Angela McDowall said “the students attending the program had been using wheelchairs in the Physiotherapy Department to get a real understanding of what it is like for those that live with this everyday.”

Long serving staff recognised

Congratulations to all the staff members who received badges and certificates of merit at the Royal Perth Hospital Long Service Awards.

This year 245 staff members were eligible for the awards with a total of 3670 years of dedicated service to the hospital.

A/Executive Director Maha Rajagopal said RPH has only been able to become the leading the health provider it is today due to the commitment of its staff.

Special congratulations are extended to the seven staff members who were recognised for 40 years of dedicated service to RPH - John Blennerhassett, John Epis, Sylvie Favory, Giuseppe Gullotti, Helen Harvey, Dulcie King, and Graeme Wilkinson.

In addition, 17 thirty-year, 67 twenty-year and 154 ten-year badges and 39 certificates of merit were awarded.



40-year award recipient John Blennerhassett with A/ED Maha Rajagopal

Top award for Pharmacists



Penny and Julie – recipients of prestigious pharmacy awards.

Royal Perth Hospital Pharmacists and long time friends Penny Tuffin and Julie Wilkes have many things in common, and recently both were awarded with prestigious pharmacy awards.

Julie, Clinical Haematology Pharmacist and Coordinator of the Home Cancer Care Service, was awarded the WA Society of Hospital Pharmacists 2010 Achievement Award. This award celebrates the outstanding contribution made to the pharmacy profession by a hospital-based pharmacist.

Penny, Clinical Palliative Care and Pain Service Pharmacist, was recognised as the 2010 Caregiver Pharmacist by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA). This award recognises a pharmacist who provides high-quality caring services, integrated and continuous with the health care system. Penny is also the 2011 recipient of the PSA Award for Quality Use of Medication in Pain Management. This is awarded to pharmacists who make an exceptional and outstanding contribution to the quality use of medicines through direct clinical care of consumers suffering from persistent pain.

Both Julie and Penny are highly regarded pharmacists within WA and considered leaders in their profession. They have both had a positive impact on the quality of care received by patients treated at RPH over the years.

“Our friendship and professional support of each other has inspired and encouraged each of us to reach higher and keep aiming for the best care possible for every person we care for”, Penny said.

“Penny and I have participated in many clinical initiatives, professional committees and education programs over the years. It has really helped to have a friend and colleague with similar aims to talk through various ideas with”, Julie said.

Congratulations to Penny and Julie.

Ward Leaders stand out

As part of the Ward Leadership Project a new look for Senior Registered Nurses in charge of each ward/unit was commenced in 2011, with the introduction of a purple scrub top.

The change to the uniform was intended to increase visibility, enabling other staff to easily identify the 'Ward Leader' to improve communication and related ward/unit based patient management.

Acting Director of Nursing, Donn John said that it was important that staff could easily recognise who was responsible for ward/unit leadership and management at the direct patient care level.

"The Ward Leaders have a multi-faceted role overseeing and providing clinical expertise, patient advocacy, patient safety, patient flow, coordination of health care professionals and support for ward/unit staff. The new uniform provides a clear, visual prompt for all staff as to who is responsible for leading care delivery on the ward or unit," Donn said.

Ward/Unit Leaders at Shenton Park campus are progressing towards the transition to the new purple scrub tops.



Ward Leaders stand out in their purple scrubs

Working together to improve PATS

Patients using the Patient Assisted Travel Scheme (PATS) will benefit from the collaborative effort of staff across WA Health.

Six staff members from Royal Perth Hospital joined colleagues from the WA Country Health Service and other metropolitan tertiary hospitals to discuss issues relating the Scheme at the recently held WA Health PATS Improvement Forum.

PATS, which provides financial assistance to patients who need to travel long distances to and from required medical care, allows for patients living in country WA to access specialised care provided by metropolitan hospitals.

The Improvement Forum aimed to improve collaboration between sites involved with PATS, highlight issues associated with the processes and suggest ideas for improvement.

As part of the Four Hour Rule Program, it was identified that country patients at RPH are likely to have an extended stay in hospital in comparison with their metro counterparts. The PATS Improvement Forum highlighted the importance of multidisciplinary and proactive



RPH PATS working group - Brodene Straw, Kelli Birch, Glenda Jacoby, Christine Minors, Karen Lim, Kerry Leitans. Absent: Sam Jenaway, Kate Fatovich.

discharge planning as the processes involved with arranging PATS are multifaceted, often requiring input from numerous disciplines within the hospital, and across the country and metro health areas.

At the Forum each of the hospital sites delivered presentations on individual PATS improvement projects that have been undertaken to date. Participants also received some training in the

use of the Lean service improvement methodology, and worked together to generate ideas for improvements to the PATS processes that could be implemented at each site and a system-wide strategic level.

A working group has been established at RPH to implement ideas from the Forum.

The PATS Improvement Forum was sponsored by The Institute for Health Leadership.

Nurse Practitioners sharing knowledge



Over the past six months the Royal Perth Hospital Nurse Practitioner group have been working on creating a dedicated site on Servio Online to promote their group and its function within the hospital.

A Nurse Practitioner is a registered nurse educated and authorised to function autonomously and collaboratively in an advanced and extended clinical role.

The Nurse Practitioner role includes assessment and management of clients using nursing knowledge and skills and may include but is not limited to the direct referral of patients to other health care professionals, prescribing medications and ordering diagnostic investigations.

The group has formed over the past two years and the new site has been created as a useful resource for promoting the Nurse Practitioner roles and material available for other nurses.

Jane York said being a Nurse Practitioner allows nurses to work collaboratively with medical colleagues to provide best practice for our patients and provides the opportunity to practice as a highly specialised nurse.

“The Nurse Practitioner role is a relatively new position in nursing and there are different roles and scopes depending on the specialist area. This page provides information such as contact details, education opportunities and referral pathways for other RPH.”

To contact or find out more about the Nurse Practitioners group, see Servio Online under Department and Services, Nursing Practitioners.

The HEAT was on during Sustainable September

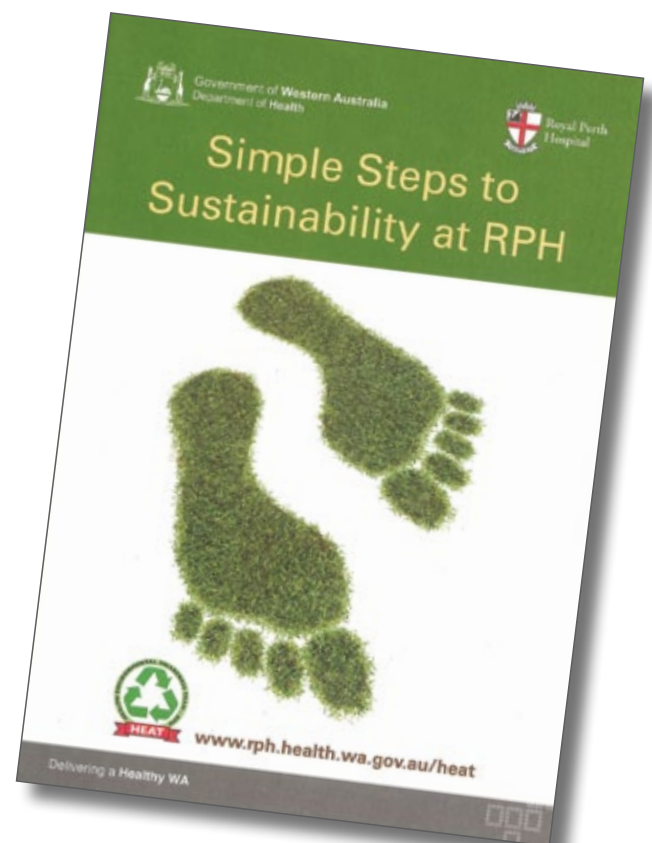
The Royal Perth Hospital’s (RPH) Health Environmental Awareness Team (HEAT) was in their element during September – promoting sustainable practices and new initiatives at the hospital.

The annual bridge display was an opportunity to meet the HEAT members and special guests showcasing the latest ‘green’ news and products including kits for converting bikes to power-assist and a range of sustainable products – from light bulbs to heirloom seeds.

Being green however, doesn’t have to entail doing anything dramatic and there are a range of RPH departments who are already making a difference:

- Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine take it in turns to collect milk cartons and plastic bottles to take home for recycling
- Surgical Division are recycling printer cartridges through Planet Ark
- Division of Imaging Services are recycling mobile phones and have set their printers to default to duplex printing.

The HEAT meet monthly to develop and implement environmental initiatives across our hospital. If you would like to get involved, share news about your ‘reduce, re-use and recycle’ initiative or for more information visit www.rph.health.wa.gov.au/heat.



Recognising early clinical deterioration

Recognising early clinical deterioration is vital in providing safe, quality and timely patient care. A new pilot study at Royal Perth Hospital (RPH) is looking to improve patient outcomes and reduce length of hospital admissions through the early identification of clinical deterioration.

The Recognising and Responding Clinical Deterioration (RRCD) project aims to identify and appropriately manage clinical deterioration as early as possible, minimising the occurrence of adverse events and stabilising the patient with a lower level of intervention. Failure to recognise and appropriately manage clinical deterioration can lead to delays in admission to ICU, unexpected referrals and increased length of hospital admission.

As well as educating staff on recognising the signs of early deterioration, the project has also introduced a new Observation and Response Chart to monitor patients' vital signs. The colour coded chart provides a clear indication of the trends of the patient's vital signs and provide direction for timely escalation of care.

The RPH project group is led by Anaesthetist Dr Wim Smithies, and Senior Project Officer Judith See, with input from medical, nursing and allied health representatives. Wards involved in the pilot study include eight medical and surgical wards at Wellington Street Campus and Ward 11 at Shenton Park Campus.



RRCD Project Officer Judy See and nursing and medical staff from Ward 5G reviewing a patient's Observation and Response Chart

Upon completion and evaluation of the pilot, the RRCD concept will be rolled-out across the hospital.

For any questions or feedback about the Recognising and Responding Clinical Deterioration Project please contact Judy See on rph.clinicaldet@health.wa.gov.au

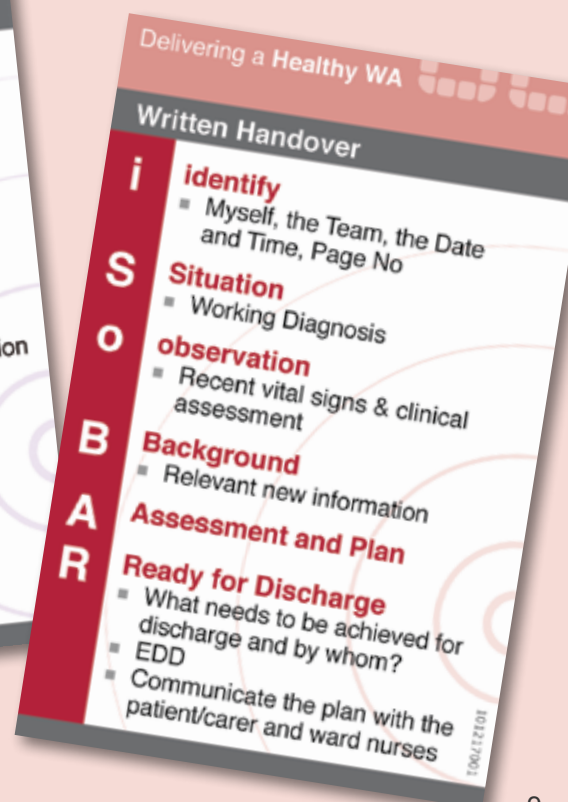
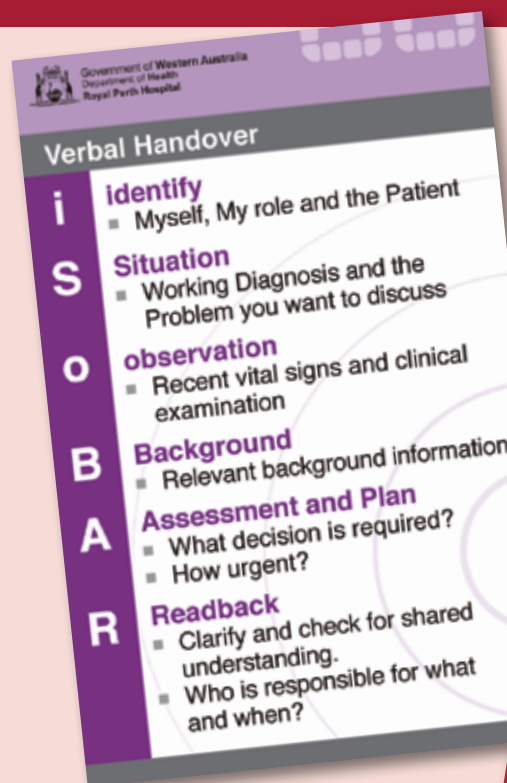
iSoBAR to standardise handover

Handover is vital in providing quality, safe and timely care and helps us to reduce adverse outcomes and ensure timely discharge. Royal Perth Hospital introduced the iSoBAR method earlier this year to help implement clear, concise and standardise patient handover between clinical, nursing and allied health staff.

iSoBAR, previously used by WACHS sites for the safe transfer of patients to metropolitan hospitals, provides a step-by-step guide on how to conduct an effective handover.

The second phase of iSoBAR is now being-rolled out throughout the hospital with a particular focus on verbal handover.

Over the coming months a number of new initiatives will be introduced to complement the iSoBAR method including new ward transfer forms and training sessions on iSoBAR and improving handover skills.



Employees of the month

Employee of the Month – July

Wellington Street Campus

Isaac Thyer

Registrar

Urology Department

Isaac is a kind and approachable staff member. He displays great respect towards all patients and colleagues which creates a pleasant working environment in the urology clinic.

He is punctual and has excellent time management skills. Isaac not only attends to patients allocated on his clinic list but also takes the time to see patients under review by junior medical staff.

He is committed to providing quality care to all patients and often stays behind until all patients are seen.

Isaac demonstrates strong knowledge of his profession and does not hesitate to help nursing staff with any queries they may have.



Shenton Park Campus

Ying Huang

Registered Nurse

Theatres

Ying is a loyal, friendly and dedicated staff member who never shies away from a challenging task. Ying is a happy person who always treats patients and staff members with respect and dignity.

She always listens to colleagues and acts on any relevant suggestions. She encourages other staff to their best by setting a high standard.

Ying is committed to providing patients with best possible care and is always looking for ways to improve the service we provide. She attends training sessions and shares her knowledge with colleagues.

Ying's nominator said she is an asset to RPH and a more consistent and conscientious worker would be hard to find.



Employee of the Month – August

Wellington Street Campus

Rebecca King

Staff Development Educator

Theatres

Rebecca is consistently genuine and warm to everyone without prejudice, and is the best ambassador for her profession and the hospital. She continually displays pride in her work and the workplace.

Rebecca's interactions with others seems to be motivated to deliver service of the highest level. She is consistently role-modelling the best possible leadership behaviours to others. Rebecca is a true educator - she appears to live for the opportunity to inspire and motivate others.



Shenton Park Campus

Kaye Johnson

Registered Nurse

Ward 2

Kaye goes out of her way to help anyone and make sure everyone is well looked after. She is always friendly and warm and has a way of making you feel like you're the most important patient or person when she is talking to you.

If Kaye isn't sure of something, she will seek help from her colleagues to ensure the patient receives the best care.

In turn, Kaye will always help her colleagues when they need assistance, especially helping agency staff.

She is hardworking and continuously goes the extra mile.



A special thanks goes to our valued sponsors - Police and Nurses Credit Society, Hesta Super Fund and Bunnings Warehouse - who provide prizes to the winners each month.

New facilities for General Surgery patients

Renovations to General Surgery wards 7A and 7B have commenced and when complete the two co-located wards will contain many improvements with benefits to both staff and patients.

The ward was relocated to South Block as a part of the Ward Based Team strategy. Ward 7A and B will provide approximately 30 per cent more bed capacity to cohort this large speciality into one location to improve overall patient management and assist achieve Four Hour Rule targets.

The renovations will include new patient bathrooms including facilities for bariatric and rehabilitation patients, introduction of a ward based waiting area to be used as a discharge lounge for improved patient flow, and dedicated staff room, meeting room and education room for efficacy and improved teamwork.

The renovations are expected to be completed in early 2012.

Upgrades to Shents

Patients and staff on Ward 1 and 2 at Shenton Park Campus are benefiting from recent upgrades to existing facilities. The refurbishments provide appropriate facilities for patients until relocation of State Rehabilitation Service to the new Fiona Stanley Hospital in 2014.

Ward 1 underwent a \$4 million full refurbishment with major changes to the ward including larger patient rooms, a dedicated family room, and swipe card access for enhanced security.

Other improvements to the ward include a store room for hospital equipment and a patient kitchen which allows patients to practice their independence with household tasks.

Ward 1 Clinical Nurse Manager Sandy Denison said the refurbishment has positive impact on patients, families and staff.

“The improved facilities allow for staff to carry out their duties in a safe and work friendly environment. For example, the larger patient rooms it easier to provide medical and nursing care. As most of our patients are long-term the new facilities improve their stay on the ward.

Most recently, Ward 2 has also undergone a partial upgrade with fresh paint, new patient bathroom facilities and improvements to the physiotherapy area.

One of the significant changes for the ward is a new multifunctional space which can be used for family meeting and interactive patient treatment.

As a part of the rejuvenation of the ward, patients will also have better access to the outdoor garden area.

Ward 2 Clinical Nurse Manager Bev Hardcastle said the new multifunctional space and the better access to the garden area will provides a better hospital environment for the patients.

Another successful year for Friends



Director General Kim Snowball awarding Mrs Jessie Smith her 50-year service badge

Raising over \$62,000 and serving over 11,000 cups of tea and coffee, Friends of Royal Perth Hospital celebrated what has been a busy but successful year at the 2011 Annual General Meeting.

Long serving Friends were presented with service badges and, special congratulations go to this year's longest serving volunteer, Mrs Jessie Smith who proudly received a service badge for 50 years of dedication to the hospital.

A/Executive Director Dr Mark Platell said over the past 52 years the Friends have provided constant and dependable service to patients, visitors and staff.

“The Friends of RPH are an important part of the culture and fabric of RPH and the hospital is privileged to have such a dedicated team of volunteers.”

Snippets

SHRAC Grant winners

Congratulations to **Rosemary French** and Clinical Associate Professor **Tomas Corcoran**, and their teams, for being successful in receiving State Health Research Advisory Council (SHRAC) Research Translation Project grants for 2011.

Heritage Society

Royal Perth Hospital Heritage Society is selling sets of five cards (blank inside) with matching envelopes for \$10. The cards are of staff member and artist Geoff Hillier's "Morning Glow, Kirkman House" painting. All proceeds go to RPH Heritage Society. Please email Fred Ordynski or Susan Reid (on global email) for enquiries or orders.

Simulations Achievement Award

Congratulations to Clinical **A/Prof Richard Riley** who was awarded the Simulation Achievement Award at the 2011 SimHealth Conference in Sydney in September. The award recognises Dr Riley's contribution to healthcare simulation over the past 20 years as teacher, leader, investigator, advocate, and author.

MRF raffle

Tickets are now on sale for the annual Medical Research Foundation Christmas raffle.

Prizes:

1st prize – trailer-load of goods (value over \$6,000)

2nd prize - \$1,000 cash

3rd prize – LCD TV valued at \$700

Tickets are \$2 with all proceeds going toward medical research at RPH.

The raffle will be drawn

Monday 19 December 2011.

December Staff Forums

The monthly Staff Forums will be held:

Wellington St Campus:

Tuesday 13 December

1.30 - 2.30pm

Bruce Hunt Lecture Theatre

Shenton Park Campus:

Wednesday 14 December

1.00 - 2.00pm

Thorburn House Lecture Theatre

New doctors internships in 2012

Minister for Health Dr Kim Hames has announced a record 280 domestic and international medical students graduating from Western Australian medical schools will be offered internships in WA's public hospitals next year.

100 interns will be appointment to Royal Perth Hospital, with placements at Shenton Park Campus and Bentley Hospital.

Christmas staff sausage sizzle

The RPH Executive invites all staff to our Christmas sausage sizzle where senior staff from various departments and wards will be cooking the barbeque as a token of thanks to all staff for your hard work during the year.

Sausages, buns, soft drinks and ice creams will be on offer.

Wellington Street Campus

Wednesday 14 December 2011

11.00am – 2.00pm

On the lawn behind Ainslie House

Shenton Park Campus

Thursday 15 December 2011

11.00am - 2.00pm

On the lawn near the pool area

Fiona Stanley Hospital build reaches halfway

Construction of the \$2billion Fiona Stanley Hospital project is now more than 50 per cent complete.

Construction is now under way for all of the hospital's eight buildings. The facades for both the main hospital building and State Rehabilitation Service will also be completed early in the new year.

The Fiona Stanley Hospital project aims to meet more key milestones in 2012, including the commissioning of the Central Plant and completion of the Mental Health Unit, administration building and two four-level car parks.

The project is on time and on budget to open in 2014.

Vale

Royal Perth Hospital expresses condolences to families, friends and colleagues of following staff members who passed away recently.

Regina Sundararaj – Senior Dietitian

Julia Reany - Operations Manager
Department of Psychiatry

Richard Davis – Haematologist

These staff members will be missed and their dedication to providing best possible care to patients forever remembered by their colleagues at RPH.

Retirement Farewell

Suzanne Ramsell, Theatres Nurse Manager, will be greatly missed following her retirement in September. Suzanne commenced at RPH in 1979 and retired after a total of 26.5 years service at RPH. Her commitment to the profession, and to RPH, is to be admired.