

Media Statement

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Media Release

Rare glimpse into operating theatres

Operating theatres are normally reserved for highly trained medical staff and their patients but Royal Perth Hospital is opening the doors to all comers this month.

The public is invited to a theatres open day this month, on Saturday, July 21.

For those who want a close-up view of the modern side of Hospital life, the theatres will be open from 1pm to 4pm and simulated operations will take place in an operating theatre.

Visitors will be able to handle the instruments, experienced staff will provide guided tours and there will be hands-on displays of specialised equipment.

This is only the second time in six years the Hospital has allowed people into the theatre environment.

Theatre Nurse Carol Day, of Wandi, said working in theatres was stimulating and challenging.

"I love working in theatres because of the variety - every day is different," she said.

"I love the adrenalin rush of working in a really acute environment in a major trauma centre.

"I trained here at RPH and came back to theatres after travelling because I love the intensity of the work here, it's heavy work and a real challenge."

At RPH, the theatres department comprises of 14 operating theatres at Wellington Street Campus (WSC) and three at Shenton Park Campus (SPC).

The theatres cover the following specialties: Orthopaedics (includes elective and emergency spinal and trauma surgery), Urology, Vascular, General, Plastics, Burns, Maxillo-facial, Ophthalmology, Ear, Nose and Throat, Emergency Neurosurgery, Cardio-thoracic and Trauma surgery.

The Royal Perth Hospital museum will also be open on July 21 from 1pm-4pm.

The museum is packed with artefacts and each object has a unique story to tell about the history of health and medicine in WA.