



Servionews

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION PRODUCED BY ROYAL PERTH HOSPITAL

JUNE 2010

Celebrating Nurses at RPH

Delicious muffins were enjoyed by all the nurses at Royal Perth Hospital in celebration of International Nurses Day.

International Nurses Day is enjoyed annually around the world on May 12, which is also the anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale.

Around 1500 muffins were handed out to all the nurses across both the Wellington Street and Shenton Park Campus.

Acting Director of Nursing at RPH Linda Brearley, said the muffins were a way of showing our appreciation to all the hard working and dedicated nurses at RPH.

"Without the commitment of our nurses, RPH wouldn't be the leading hospital that it is today," Linda said.

"We have nurses of all ages from all different backgrounds and they are all committed to looking after the most vulnerable and sickest people in our society."

RPH and Rotary Club of Perth Nurse of the Year for 2010, Gail King, said that she enjoyed the family like atmosphere at RPH.

"I have been at RPH for over 30 years and I love working with and helping people from all different backgrounds," said Gail.

"I feel like I am making a real difference to people's lives everyday."



Nurses ready to enjoy their delicious muffins courtesy of RPH Director of Nursing.



Geraldine Carlton

Greetings from the A/Executive Director

Dear All
As winter is fast approaching we are finalising our winter bed management

plan. Our aim is to continue the excellent patient flow improvements during the peak winter activity period. I encourage you therefore to consider getting your free flu vaccine as soon as possible to ensure that sick leave is minimal.

I feel it is also important to let you know that a significant amount of work is occurring in regards to the clinical service planning for Royal Perth once Fiona Stanley Hospital opens in 2014. It is anticipated that this plan will be available within the next few months and it will be widely distributed.

During this time of change it is pivotal that we get our communication channels working well and as such the public relations department are working on a framework to enable key messages to get to you in as timely and effective manner as possible. In the last SERVIO the staff

forums were discussed. These will be one key forum of communication and I encourage you to put them in your diary.

These forums will be repeated for clinical and corporate staff at 2.15pm, after handover period, so that staffs involved in direct patient care services are able to attend. We will also develop a plan for night staff in the near future. If you have any ideas or suggestions in how we can communicate better please contact A/Public Relations Manager, Les Faulds on les.faulds@health.wa.gov.au or on extension 42209.

Employees of the Month



Shenton Park campus

Dedicated, understanding and professional are just some words used to describe Shenton Park campus Employee of the Month, Spinal Urology Nurse Carly Philp.

As the only for Spinal Urology Nurse, Carly has outstanding knowledge and expertise in her area. She is an exceptionally valuable resource to staff, patients and relatives. Carly is

always open to sharing her knowledge and assisting others.

She plays a pivotal role in the rehabilitation of spinal patients and is active on many committees within RPH and Fiona Stanley.

Carly's knowledge, commitment and dedication are a reflection of the outstanding nurse she is and she is an asset to RPH.

Wellington Street Campus.

High Dependency Area Registered Nurse Anna Kusec is Employee of the Month for Wellington Street Campus.

Anna never hesitates to put in the extra effort to ensure that her patient's stay on the ward is more pleasant. Her personalised attention and empathy towards patients is always appreciated by the patients.

Anna is always willing to help out her colleagues and assist doctors in whatever way possible and this reflects her dedication to patient care and team work.

Anna's constant compassion toward not only the patients but their families is a testament to her commitment to the nursing profession and its inherent service values.

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

P.A.R.T.Y for RPH Staff

It's not everyday that teenagers get an eye-opening look inside an emergency department to see what really happens.

Royal Perth Hospital P.A.R.T.Y (Prevent Alcohol Risk Related Trauma in Youth) Program is a dynamic interactive health promotion program for youths aged 15 -20 years. It is usually only offered to schools, who bring groups of up to 30 students through the hospital to experience first hand the consequences of risky behaviour.

On July 14 (school holidays) we are offering to run the program for relatives of staff that are in this age group that have not had the opportunity to attend through their high school.

The day will start at 9 am at Wellington Street campus where the attendees will receive presentations from various trauma experts and then visit the emergency department, ICU and ward areas. If possible they will also meet selected patients who will discuss their hospital stay.

After lunch the program is run from Shenton Park campus where they will have further presentations, including a talk from an injury survivor from the Paraplegia Benefit Fund and take part in a wheelchair obstacle course.

The attendees will be returned to Victoria Square at 3:20pm. The cost of the program is \$25.

If you have any further queries or would like an application package please contact Jenni on 41429 or Nadeera on 42061, or email RPH,Party@health.wa.gov.au. Closing date for applications is June 25.

Spotlight on Men's Health

Thoughts of prostate checks and testicular cancer will make any grown man wince.

With International Men's Health Week being held from the June 14-20 health representatives across Royal Perth Hospital and Derbarl Yerrigan Aboriginal Health Service are collaborating to increase awareness of men's health issues.

The week will provide an opportunity to educate the public about what can be done to heighten awareness of preventable health problems, improve the state of men's health and provide information on health services and support groups that are available to men.

Gregory Bock, Clinical Nurse Coordinator from WA Cancer and Palliative Care Network said the week also highlights that men don't need to 'tough it out' or 'go it alone'.

"It's important that men understand that prevention is better than any cure - a simple check-up at the doctor can save your life," said Greg.

A display on the RPH bridge each day will highlight a particular men's health topic and include appearances from health professionals from Drug & Alcohol, Mental



RPH Clinical Nurse Specialists Callum Ross and Gregory Bock getting ready for Men's Health Week.

Health, Continence, Physiotherapy, and the WA Cancer & Palliative Care Network.

A secondary display will be located in Goderich St Outpatient's clinic.

For further information on the event please contact Gregory Bock on global email or 0447853516.

Nurse of the Year 2010



Nurse of the Year Gail King with runner up Cardiology Clinical Nurse Ted Dowling.

RPH Nurse Gail King's 30 years of dedication to nursing and her community was recognised when she received the 2010 RPH and Rotary Club of Perth Nurse of the Year Award.

When Nurse Gail King isn't busy helping elderly patients at Royal Perth Hospital, you'll find her working hard at her local surf club.

Gail, Clinical Nurse Coordinator RPH Residential Care Line (RCL), said it was an honour to be nominated for this award.

"I'm truly grateful to have been nominated among other great nurses from RPH and I'm thrilled to have won this award," said Gail.

"To be nominated by your peers is a great feeling."

As a part of Gail's role in the RCL she provides support to 71 residential aged care facilities.

"The main goal of the RCL is to provide patients with timely access to a tertiary based hospital service and prevent inappropriate emergency department presentations and hospitalisations."

Despite the challenges, Gail always finds time to be actively involved in her local community and has been a member of Floreat Surf Life Saving Club for almost 40 years.

"I volunteer as a trainer and assessor for SLSWA and I also work with junior surf lifesavers in education and training."

Gail said that she enjoys working with people and enjoys the "family" environment at RPH and at the Floreat Surf Club.

"I feel like I am making a real difference to people's lives both as a nurse and through my work with Surf Life Saving."

Gail said that she's looking forward to putting the prize money to good use when she sets off on a European holiday next month.

Congratulations also to the runner up Ted Dowling and other finalists Louise Waters, Beverly Ballantyne, Abel Bhebhe, Lilly Lee, Doreen Foo, David Hughes, Jessica Lang, Julie Ward.

Accreditation for Trauma Registry Staff



*Mia Zic (PMH); Jenni Leslie (RPH); Kate French (FH); Jane Welsh (SCGH); Amanda Essen (PMH)
Middle row: Sandra Spensley (SCGH); Jane Scurr (FH); Gillian Murray (RPH)
Front row: Maxine Burrell (RPH); Christine Allsopp (Trauma Review Coordinator, Institute of Trauma and Injury Management, NSW); Glynis Porter (Joondalup Health Campus).
Missing from the photo: Jan Neilson (RPH).*

Royal Perth Hospital recently hosted a two day Abbreviated Injury Scale Course for all WA Trauma Registry Staff.

Developed by the Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine (AAAM), the Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS) is an internationally recognised and standardised classification system for the type and severity of individual traumatic injuries.

This consensus-derived injury scale has been developed by an international panel of very experienced trauma authorities and is constantly monitored and revised to provide the most up-to-date clinical scoring system for traumatic injuries.

Thanks to the generous support of SMAHS Chief Executive, Nicole Feely, all WA Trauma Registry Research Staff from across the metropolitan area were recently able to undergo and maintain their formal AIS Accreditation, thus ensuring a professional and credible component of the WA Trauma Service.

The course was presented by Christine Allsopp, an Australasian certified representative for the AAAM.

Under the Microscope: Predicting Health Problems in Men

Four doctors from Royal Perth Hospital have received funding for research into what makes successful aging in men.

Prof. Leon Flicker, Prof. Osvaldo Almeida, Prof. Graeme Hankey and A/Prof. Kieran McCaul received project funding from the National Health and Medical Research Council for research into predicting health and disease in Australian men over the age of 80 years.

Prof. Flicker said old age is associated with increased vulnerability and susceptibility to disease and disability.

"This greater susceptibility is a critical issue for older people, researchers and those involved in health policy," Prof. Flicker said.

"It's important to identify ways to combine increased longevity with the avoidance of disability and maintenance of quality of life throughout the life course."

As a part of the study, the researchers will be looking at data collected from a previous well established study called the Health in Men Study (HIMS).



A new study at RPH will be looking into health problems in men over the age of 80.

"We will also carry out follow-up research on the same group of men to update information on their health status," Prof. Flicker said.

The combination of the two sets of data will be able to provide the researchers with valuable information that can be used for planning for appropriate health resources.

The Award Goes To...

It's not an Emmy or a Logie but congratulations to Samantha Perryman, Staff Development Educator - Clinical Audit, on receiving the 2010 Outstanding Student Award - External Studies from the School of Business and Management at Central Institute of Technology.

Sam was among a group of staff from RPH Clinical Services to take part in a Project Management course late last year.

Sam has gone onto complete Certificate IV and Diploma in Project Management and is hoping to attain Project Management Professional accreditation this year.

Congratulations Sam.



Sam Perryman with her award from Central Institute of Technology.

The Hot Spot

The RPH Health Environment Awareness Team presents Professor Paul Hardisty for World Environment Day.

Professor Hardisty will present on 'Why sustainability makes environmental, social and economic sense' with a focus on the health sector.

When: Friday June 4 2010 12-1pm.

Where: Anaesthesia Seminar Room (Level 4 North Block).

Professor Hardisty is Executive Director of Sustainability and EcoNomics™ for Worley Parsons, one of the world's largest engineering and project delivery companies. EcoNomics™ is a service which includes profitable sustainability into all aspects of the project delivery life cycle. Paul has over 20 years of experience in the environmental field, focusing on large multi-disciplinary projects, especially in the resources and industrial sectors, and advising corporations and government on environmental and social sustainability.

He is the author of over 100 publications, including a recent book on the economics of groundwater remediation and protection. His newest book "Environmental and Economic Sustainability" will soon be published by CRC Press in New York. Paul is also a Director of Green Cross Australia, an international environmental NGO, a contributor to President Gorbachev's Climate Change Task Force, and a Member of the Waste Authority of Western Australia, directly advising the Minister for Environment.

State rehabilitation design underway

Detailed design of the new State rehabilitation service at Fiona Stanley Hospital is now underway as part of an extensive consultation process.

The new \$255.7 million, 140-bed facility will be funded by the Australian Government and have access to services in the main hospital such as operating theatres and pathology. Developing the service as part of Fiona Stanley Hospital also means excellent access to hospital, public transport and on-site conservation areas.

Staff from the Shenton Park rehabilitation campus, as well as current and former patients, their families and non-government organisations have been



Artist's impression of new State rehabilitation centre

involved in the design of the new State rehabilitation service since July 2009.

The new facility will care for people with spinal injuries, acquired brain injuries and those who require care after strokes, neurological disease and amputations.

To find out more, log onto www.fionastanley.wa.gov.au.

2009 Best Research Paper Award

The Royal Perth Hospital Medical Research Foundation is offering a cash prize to the value of \$2,000 to a researcher for the best publication in the 2009 calendar year.

This prize is open to researchers in the field of medical/health science at the Royal Perth Hospital campus who have been awarded their doctoral degree or other professional qualification (e.g. MBBS, BSc, PhD) within the past seven years. The publication can cover medical research in any area.

Closing date for applications is Wednesday 30th June, 2010.

Conditions and application forms can be downloaded from Servio Online - Research Administration and Governance page.

Please contact Emily Cook at Medical Research Foundation for any further information.

This initiative is proudly sponsored by the Royal Perth Hospital Medical Research Foundation Incorporated

HEAT tip of the month : Now is a great time to start your herb and vegetable garden!

The allocation of two hours per month during work time has been endorsed for staff to develop and implement environmental initiatives. For more information on assisting HEAT projects, payroll deductions and upcoming events please contact Dayna Montgomery on email or 6477 5152 or just come along to our next meeting Wednesday June 30 at 3.30pm in the Bruce Hunt Seminar Room 4. www.rph.health.wa.gov.au/heat/

RPH.PublicRelations@health.wa.gov.au - email subscription.

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