

# Western Wellbeing

A NEWSLETTER FROM  
**Western District Health Service**

## Watermark Charity House Sold



Celebrating the sale of the Watermark Charity House after the auction  
 L-R: Auctioneer Craig Pertzel, Project Managers Max Murray and Rod Papworth with Committee Chair Hugh Macdonald and Committee Member Vicki Whyte.



Auctioneer Craig Pertzel in action on auction day.

Photographs supplied by Hamilton Spectator

When the hammer fell at the Watermark Charity House site on auction day, it was the culmination of many years of planning and hard work by a dedicated committee assisted by countless trades, material suppliers, volunteers and other businesses.

A large crowd gathered at the edge of Lake Hamilton in blustery conditions to see auctioneer Craig Pertzel knock the house down to a local Hamilton family for \$881,000.

WDHS Chief Executive, Rohan Fitzgerald said it was a great result, with the sale of the home raising a very substantial \$600,000 to fund Hamilton Base Hospital Operating Theatre, Intensive Care and Emergency Department equipment.

"It has been an extraordinary project, in terms of the very significant funds raised, and the incredible support that's been received, not only from the local community, but from businesses further afield.

As a newcomer to Hamilton, I am amazed by the level of enthusiasm for the project in the town and I think the result says a lot about the strength and generosity of the local community," Mr Fitzgerald said.

Over 350 tradies, volunteers and WDHS staff contributed an astonishing total of 10,000 hours to build the Watermark Charity House and they were supported in their efforts by many other businesses who provided materials, fixtures, fittings and services.

Watermark Charity House Committee Chair, Hugh Macdonald agreed that the community backing for the project was phenomenal.

"I can't thank everyone enough for their efforts, from those who helped with the construction, the businesses and individuals who donated items for the house and garden and hospitality for the workers, right through to the agents who assisted with the sale.

We received great support from donors such as Geoff Handbury and Bob Templeton and without their help it would have been very difficult to get the project off the ground.

Our Committee, especially project and site managers, Rod Papworth, Max Murray and WDHS' Peter Smith worked very hard to bring it all together, putting in an enormous number of voluntary hours.

Everyone concerned can be very proud of this iconic project, not only for the high quality workmanship and finish, but the considerable funds raised to support our hospital's equipment needs into the future," Mr Macdonald said.

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# From the CEO

Well it has been an action packed first four months since commencing at Western District Health Service.

Our surgical activity increased, we reported on our progress against the National Standards, the Watermark Charity House was sold, we've run for farmer health and focused on delivering more aged care services across the region.

In only a short time, I have observed the wonderful work of our highly skilled and committed workforce, and have been overwhelmed by the generosity and support that is provided by the community for the Health Service.

As with any continuous improvement process we take a systematic approach to reviewing our practices. This year we received feedback on our progress against each of the recommendations from accreditation. The report noted that we had made very good progress on completing the recommendations and that good governance systems were in place to support the organisation. The accreditation process ensures that we deliver safe, appropriate and quality services to our community.

During August this year the Health Service received \$2M to fund additional acute hospital based services for our community. We increased our level of activity across a number of surgical areas in response to the additional funding.

In October over 130 runners ran for farmer health in one of the many events at the Melbourne Marathon festival, with over 40 travelling from the Western District. Individual runners raised \$15,400 and a further \$7,000 was donated by the Murray Goulburn team resulting in us finishing 6th on the fundraising leader board. The National Centre for Farmer Health also received a teaching excellence award from Deakin University.

In response to increasing demand for aged care services we opened more aged care beds at The Birches and the Grange in Hamilton. Our focus is to support greater occupancy across our entire service including at Coleraine and Penshurst. As a leader in the provision of aged care services we are mindful of our responsibility to support our community to access quality services. You can find out more about the range of aged care services we provide by calling Saskia Dickeson, Aged Care Placement Coordinator on (03) 5551 8306.

After 10,000 labour hours and nearly 18 months under construction the Watermark Charity House sold for \$881,000. This is an outstanding result for WDHS and the local community. Thank you to the many generous individuals and businesses helped to raise \$600,000 for our Health Service. A special



WDHS Chief Executive, Rohan Fitzgerald.

thanks to the committee who showed great commitment and dedication by supporting this amazing community project.

At the Annual General Meeting we recognised the contribution of our staff to the Health Service. Jim Fletcher, Janet Kelsh and Pat Turnbull were all presented with Life Governor Awards. The excellence awards went to the National Standards Clinical Teams and WDHS Personal Services Assistants and Food Domestic Services Assistants. Julian Gardner took out the Above and Beyond Award. Congratulations also go to all our staff and volunteers that were recipients of 10, 15, 20, 30, 35 and 65 year badges.

I am optimistic about the future at WDHS and am determined to continue to deliver excellence in healthcare and put our patients first.

We know that challenges await us over the next 12 months but are confident that with the support from our outstanding staff and our community we will meet each one with energy and enthusiasm.

## First marathon for Hamilton

History was made at this year's Vitality Fun Run when 13 brave runners took part in the first marathon event ever held in Hamilton.

In hot and windy conditions, Patrick Kenny from Bendigo and local girl Sally Beggs took line honours in 3 hours 3 minutes and 4 hours 11 minutes respectively.

Overall nearly 280 runners and walkers took part on the day entering in not only the marathon but the 21, 10 and 4.2 kilometre events as well as the ever popular children's races.

Vitality Health and Fitness Manager, Mardi Gill said:

"I am so proud that we have finally been able to hold the marathon in Hamilton. The atmosphere was fantastic and I know the event can only get bigger and better from here."

Participants came from as far away as Perth, Wangaratta, Mt Helen, Mt Gambier and the event was well supported locally.

The Hamilton Fun Run has become a widely recognised event and is a significant part of the South West Games each year.

Winner of the women's marathon Sally Beggs said that holding the marathon was 'wonderful for Hamilton'.

Funds raised from the Fun Run will go towards Western District Health Service and will be used to purchase important medical, surgical and theatre equipment.



L-R: Vitality Health & Fitness Manager Mardi Gill with Men's Marathon winner Patrick Kenny and Women's Marathon winner Sally Beggs.



L-R: Back row: Student Enrolled Nurses Pawandeep Kaur, Nancy Tu Nuong Lam, Steven Lin, Sue Hillier Undergraduate Clinical Coordinator at WDHS, Kayela Nicolosi  
Front row: Brooke Morabito, Claire Tucker, Sharnelle Hamilton, Sandeep Kaur.

The October group of eight students said they found living in Hamilton and training at the Hamilton Base Hospital quite a different experience compared to their recent placements in large metropolitan hospitals.

"We found staff at the Hamilton Base Hospital seemed to have more time to spend with us and explain things. They've been really helpful," said Claire Tucker, Student Enrolled Nurse from Sydney.

"We also found the Hamilton people so welcoming," said Claire. "It was great to have total strangers say hello down the street, that doesn't happen where I live," she said.

Ms Hillier said it was important that WDHS provide the nurses with a good experience to encourage them to perhaps return one day.

"Some do return here to live and work as a direct result of having had a positive experience while on placement," said Ms Hillier.

During the last week of the October placement the Clinical Placement Manager from Careers Australia, Yuka Nishihara visited the Hamilton Base Hospital and greeted a happy group of students who enjoyed their stay.

"We are very pleased with the training our students have received at the Hamilton Base Hospital this year. They were very fortunate to obtain experience in a wide range of specialty services. Placement experience in metropolitan hospitals is usually much more limited."

Because the placements at WDHS have been such a success this year we have already booked students there for 2015. We look forward to continuing our good working relationship with the Health Service," said Ms Nishihara.

## Metro nurses enjoy WDHS and Hamilton

WDHS has this year hosted for the first time enrolled nurses who are studying with Melbourne based training provider, Careers Australia. The final group for 2014 completed their placement at the Hamilton Base Hospital in October.

According to the group's supervisor Sue Hillier, the students really enjoyed their four week 'block' at the hospital.

"This was a good outcome for Careers Australia, as they usually place nurses in 'metro' hospitals. We welcomed the students in a number of clinical areas including sub-acute, acute and aged care placements," said Ms Hillier.

Generally WDHS draws its student nurses from South West TAFE and Deakin University. Ms Hillier said it was good to be involved with a training provider from Melbourne. WDHS hosts around 133 registered and enrolled nurses each year across the organisation.

## Theatre goes green with blue Kimguard

As hospitals across the country look for ways to reduce their environmental impact, WDHS is also doing its bit to embrace the sustainability challenge.

Hamilton Base Hospital Theatre Nurse, Amanda Smith attended a conference about sustainable nursing practices and came up with the concept of recycling 'Kimguard' blue wrap. Kimguard is used for wrapping surgical instruments and other equipment before they are sterilised.

Amanda joined forces with Debra King, Coordinator at Hamilton Community House and arranged for clean, used Kimguard to be collected, bagged and delivered each week to Hamilton Community House for recycling.



Ms King and several of her creative members and volunteers have made many functional items from the recycled Kimguard.

"To date shopping bags, knitting bags, painting sheets and weed mats have been made."

Kimguard is a tough and durable material perfect for recycling.

The main aim of Hamilton House is to encourage community development, social connection and skill development. The Kimguard project has been a great way of engaging our members with each other, staff from the hospital and with the wider community," said Ms King.

So far the Kimguard bags have been used for several purposes. Reverend Peter Cook from the Uniting Church currently uses them for food distribution.

WDHS is also looking at uses for the bags. Staff in the Pre-Admission Clinic are considering using them as patient information bags.

The Kimguard bags can be purchased for a small fee from Hamilton Community House. Sale proceeds contribute towards manufacturing costs.

For further information contact Debra King at Hamilton Community House, 19 Sedgewick Street Hamilton, Tel: 5571 9780 or Email: hamnh@bigpond.com

Hamilton Community House volunteers Carol Fennell, Joy Hedley, Co-ordinator Debra King, Vanetta Harries and Justine Kenny busy recycling used Kimguard from the WDHS Operating Theatre.

# Guardrails system makes IV safer

During November WDHS replaced all the intravenous (IV) pumps at the Hamilton Base Hospital.

"The new IV pumps are operated by computer software known as 'Guardrails', which is a safety system designed to prevent mistakes being made by staff when delivering medication intravenously to patients.

It will help protect our patients," said Lyn Christie, Director of Pharmacy at WDHS.

"Installing the system is part of the Health Service's commitment to best practice and compliance with 'Medication Safety' under Standard 4 of the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards," she said.

Suzy Staude, Clinical Pharmacist at WDHS who is helping to install the new system said:

"Although the Guardrails system has many applications, our main use will be delivering medication intravenously to patients. The software contains information about each

medication we use, including dose limits and delivery rates. If a pump is incorrectly set at potentially harmful levels, the system automatically prevents it from operating, setting off an alarm. The operator would then reset the machine enabling the medication to be delivered," she said.

"Moving to Guardrails has been a significant program which is part of our aim to continually improve the quality of the health services we deliver. Part of that is ensuring we improve the safety aspects of our care, which this new technology will help us achieve," said Rohan Fitzgerald Chief Executive of WDHS.



L-R: WDHS Chief Executive Rohan Fitzgerald, Clinical Pharmacist Suzy Staude, Associate Nurse Unit Manager, Medical Unit Chemotherapy Rowena Farquharson, with Medication Safety Manager Amy Finch from 'Carefusion' supplier of the Guardrails system.



Brothers Vipin Joseph and Vinu George are both nurses at Hamilton Base Hospital who emigrated from India.

## Brothers call Australia home

Working for WDHS and living in Hamilton provides people from overseas with great career opportunities and a wonderful lifestyle, according to two brothers from India, Vipin Joseph and Vinu George.

"After completing my nursing training in India I realised my career prospects were very limited there," said Vipin.

"My brother and I have always aspired to the Australian lifestyle and job opportunities in the health sector here. Fortunately I found a position advertised by WDHS on the internet and applied. I was so happy to be offered the job!" he said.

Good news travelled fast. After Vipin had settled into nursing in the Emergency Department at Hamilton Base Hospital it was only a year later before his younger brother Vinu, also a trained nurse followed in his footsteps. Vinu now works as a surgical nurse at the hospital.

"My situation after training in India was similar to my brother's, so I did not hesitate to apply for a job at WDHS when it arose."

He told me so many great things about working at the hospital and how welcoming and friendly the people of Hamilton have been. He was right. We couldn't have asked for more," said Vinu.

"Both our careers have continued to develop at WDHS as we've had more training and expanded our skills. Of course we are not the first to make this journey. We know WDHS has been welcoming people from all over the world for many years, which is great," said Vipin.

Both young men are now married and said their families are enjoying the lifestyle of Hamilton and the outdoor recreation the region offers; they are both keen fishermen. Vipin met his Indian wife Tissa, at WDHS. Tissa works as a personal care assistant at The Birches. Vinu's wife Priya is employed by Mulleraterong Centre as a disability support worker.

Vinu and Vipin and their families are thoroughly enjoying being part of the local community and said they are very grateful for the 'amazing hospitality' shown towards them by Hamilton people.

"We have been treated as family by Hamilton people. It was great that in return some even travelled to India for our weddings," said Vipin.

# Sub Acute Unit helps stroke recovery

As he recovers from his second stroke, Julian Sheahan said he fully appreciates the high quality care and excellent rehabilitation facilities provided by the WDHS Sub Acute Unit at the Hamilton Base Hospital. His case illustrates that good family support is also vital for successful stroke recovery.

Julian is a science teacher at Casterton Secondary College and lives on a cattle farm near Coleraine which he runs during his spare time with his wife Vanessa and children Paddy, (14) Liam (13) and Maisie (10).

Before he suffered a stroke in September this year, Julian kept fit by working his farm and umpiring for the Western Border Football League during winter. However since the stroke, his teaching career, active lifestyle and the ability to drive have all been put on hold as he focuses on recovery.

"I know I'll be able to do all those things again. I also know it requires not only support by the 'rehab' staff, but I also have to do the hard work. The more I do the faster I'll recover," said Julian.

Julian's journey began with scans in the Warrnambool Base Hospital followed by a rehabilitation assessment at the Geelong Hospital. The assessment concluded that the Hamilton Base Hospital could provide a rehabilitation program that would meet his needs. He then spent four weeks in the Sub Acute Ward at the Hamilton Base Hospital.

"The rehab staff were fantastic. They put me through my program in a very caring and considerate way and have always kept me focused on making progress, which is a great help towards achieving goals. I found the rehab gym equipment ideal for my condition. The program improved my strength and helped me walk again," said Julian.

Julian's next step involves following a Transition Care Program

which enables him to live during the week at his sister's home in Hamilton, where physiotherapists and occupational therapists provide daily treatment.

"It's great because on weekends I can return home to my family and try and do what I can on the farm," he said.

Julian said his recovery from his first stroke in 2002 was much faster and did not require the rehabilitation program he is now undergoing.

"I just have to be patient this time," he said, impressing hospital staff with his effort to recover.

"Julian is an inspiration to anyone recovering from stroke. His determination and patience has certainly helped his recovery. Importantly his family support has been excellent," said Lauren Davies, Physiotherapist at the Hamilton Base Hospital.

Stroke and the treatment of its effects are completely foreign to many of us. Julian's story not only reminds us that stroke can affect people of all ages in varying states of health, but shows that with good support and some determination, recovery is possible.

For more information about stroke recovery contact the National Stroke Foundation at [strokeconnect@strokefoundation.com.au](mailto:strokeconnect@strokefoundation.com.au) and obtain a copy of the 'My Stroke Journey' information pack designed to support care planning and the transition from hospital to home.



Julian Sheahan doing stroke rehabilitation exercises on the walking hoist at the Hamilton Base Hospital with Physiotherapist, Lauren Davies.

## Lucy helps residents at Coleraine Campus

Local secondary school student Lucy Bunge hopes that her regular time spent with aged care residents of Wannon Court at Coleraine has been as beneficial for them as it has for her.

Lucy said the Leisure and Lifestyle Coordinator at Wannon Court, Marlene Lee invited her to do the community work component of her Duke of Edinburgh Silver Level Award by helping at Wannon Court.

Each fortnight Lucy has been assisting staff with various activities for the residents including board games, quizzes, scrap booking and craft.

"It's very satisfying to be able to help the residents and it's been a great learning experience for me, not only by running some sessions but also just by talking to the residents. For example I often look over photos with them and they share their fantastic knowledge of our local history," said Lucy.

Mrs Lee praised Lucy for her contribution at Wannon Court and said:

"It's been a win-win situation really for the residents and Lucy. The residents thoroughly enjoy being with a young person like Lucy. Lucy has really grown in confidence and not only helps



L-R: Wannon Court residents Min Flood, Dawn Hobbs and Hazel Harriott making cards with Lucy Bunge, Year 11 Hamilton & Alexandra College student.

them with various activities, but has introduced some new ones herself. Lucy now runs some of the activities under our supervision."

Youth Development Officer at WDHS, Briana Picken also recognised the benefits of having young people involved with the Health Service:

"Direct involvement by young people like Lucy with the Health Service sets a positive example for others to do likewise, while giving direct benefits to our clients and residents," she said.



Sue Brumby, Director of the National Centre for Farmer Health with Mary Stinchcombe, Colac Branch Manager of GMHBA.

## News from the National Centre for Farmer Health

In a new initiative for Australia, health insurer GMHBA has partnered with the National Centre for Farmer Health. GMHBA has provided \$5,000 to fund a pilot program enabling the company to provide farmer clients with free health checks at its Warrnambool, Colac, Portland and Hamilton branches.

According to Dr Jacquie Cotton, Researcher at the Centre, the program ran during the winter and was a great success.

"The pilot program was the first time a health insurer has directly supported the Centre by helping us provide our unique service of health checks for farmers. It was another way for us to reach farmers and talk to them about their personal health as well as health and safety issues on their farms," said Dr Cotton.

The program had two positive outcomes. Firstly Dr Cotton said that the National Centre for Farmer Health was well promoted by GMHBA and able to connect with farmers by providing health checks to the insurer's clients.

Secondly, no longer were the four GMHBA branch offices only performing an administrative function by processing client's claims and queries. Amy Gillett, Community Relations & Partnerships Manager for GMHBA said that by holding the health checks at its offices the organisation was able to demonstrate its commitment to improving the health and wellbeing of the farming community.

"This has been very beneficial for our clients and the business by showing that we're not just about health insurance claims. This was an original and effective way for us to directly help improve the health of our clients, and ultimately help minimise their insurance claims. It was great to be 'hands on,'" said Ms Gillett.

Dr Cotton said that the National Centre for Farmer Health was reviewing the pilot program with GMHBA with the aim of continuing a relationship with the regional branches in 2015.



L-R: Professor Geoffrey Quail, Surgical Unit, Monash University with Dr Madonna Grehan, LaTrobe Fellow State Library of Victoria at the 2014 Medical History Society Country Conference held at the Hamilton Base Hospital.

## Medical History Society meets at Hamilton

This year the Medical History Society held its biannual Country Conference at the Hamilton Base Hospital. WDHS historian and conference organiser, Elizabeth Arthur was pleased to report that it was a 'resounding success'.

"The main event was a series of lectures on many aspects of medical history which were very well received. They covered Australian, European, ancient and modern medical history," said Ms Arthur.

One particularly fascinating lecture was delivered by retired forensic scientist Dr Elizabeth Pittman, about the discovery in Italy in 1991 of a male corpse which had been perfectly preserved in ice for 5,300 years. Over 100 scientists were able to uncover the man's life including his diet, illnesses, injuries and where he lived.

Local Ear Nose and Throat Specialist Laurie Ryan captivated the audience with the story of British and European doctors being divided about the management of a throat tumour suffered by Archduke Ferdinand of Austria, which led to major political upheaval before World War 1.

"There were also tours of the hospital buildings, particularly the older ones such as McKellar House and the Chalet which people found very interesting. Our visitors were amazed at the wonderful facilities we have; indeed the entire hospital impressed them all," Ms Arthur said.

According to Ms Arthur the weekend was considered 'a triumph with the hospital being at the core of events'.

"We had the largest attendance recorded at a Medical History Society Country Conference and even the weather was blissful," she said.

# An unexpected health career

When Zelda Wagenaar arrived in Australia from the state of East London in South Africa aged 22 in 2010, the very last thing she imagined herself doing was working in a hospital, and certainly not in the Hamilton Base Hospital. Four years later she has worked her way up to become team leader of the hospital's Central Sterile Service Department (CSSD).

"It's amazing how a career can take you to totally unexpected places and jobs. I was trained in South Africa to work in 'admin' and never thought I could work in hospitals. I probably had a fear of the unknown," said Zelda.



However it was a friend who had also moved from South Africa and was working at the hospital who suggested Zelda apply for a part time position in the CSSD. Zelda applied and was offered the position.

Zelda Wagenaar, Team Leader of the Central Sterile Service Department at the Hamilton Base Hospital prepares instruments for theatre.

## A call for volunteers!

If you are looking for an exciting and fulfilling way to help your local community, then look no further than becoming a volunteer at WDHS. According to Jeanette Ryan, Volunteer Coordinator for the Health Service, more volunteers are needed to help the organisation continue to deliver quality health services.

"Our volunteers play a vital role in helping the organisation serve the community. We welcome new volunteers across the organisation, however our current priority is to find people to help our 'Buddy for You' Program and the Hamilton Community Transport Service," said Ms Ryan.

The Buddy for You Program is a joint initiative between WDHS and the Southern Grampians Shire which involves volunteers supporting isolated and lonely senior residents.

The Hamilton Community Transport Service provides volunteer drivers to transport people to medical appointments out of Hamilton who have no other means of transport and who are geographically isolated. Vehicles owned by WDHS are used and clients are asked to make a contribution towards the running costs.

Other areas in which WDHS seeks volunteers include:

- The Grange & The Birches (aged care)
- PAGS (Planned Activity Group Service)
- Hamilton Base Hospital wards
- Hospital Opportunity Shop
- Community Transport - Coleraine & Merino
- Merino Community Health Centre
- Coleraine District Health Service
- Penshurst & District Health Service

"I couldn't believe it. It was totally new to me but I was prepared to learn. Luckily I was a fast learner, and needed to be, as we were short staffed at the time," she said.

Zelda said because of staff shortages she soon 'had to step up' and take on new responsibilities and roles. Her preconceived ideas about hospitals disappeared as she developed new skills and slotted into the role with gusto. As team leader Zelda is now also responsible for the stock and supply management of the hospital's vast array of instruments as well as the essential washing, sterilisation and preparation process.

"WDHS helped my development by enabling me to obtain a Certificate III in Sterilisation which soon resulted in me being employed full time as a qualified sterilisation instrument technician. Preparation of the instruments is such a vital process for this health service," she said.

"I really enjoy working at the hospital. It's the theatre team I work with who make my job so enjoyable. There has always been someone to support and teach me. I'm sure this is why I've been able to take on the challenges I have," Zelda said.

According to Zelda the theatre staff have 'become my family'. Likewise the WDHS staff and Hamilton community have made her feel very welcome.

"I feel completely at home living in Hamilton and Australia. Not having to worry about things like security around our place gives me freedom I didn't have in South Africa. I'm expecting to obtain Australian Citizenship at the end of this year which is very exciting," she said.

Zelda's message is 'never be afraid of working in hospitals or the health industry no matter how foreign it may feel at first'.

"You may just end up loving it like me," she said.



L-R: WDHS Chief Executive Rohan Fitzgerald with volunteer Leanne Sherrin, patient Mrs Ruth Hines and volunteer Rose Howard at the Hamilton Base Hospital.

- Youth Services
- Palliative Care
- Delta Dogs Program
- Fundraising & Auxiliaries

Leanne Sherrin recently became a ward volunteer at the Hamilton Base Hospital.

"You make a solid contribution to people's lives by enhancing their wellbeing while making new friends. There are lots of fulfilling roles to choose from," she said.

If you would like to become a WDHS volunteer or would like more information about the various roles available please call Jeanette Ryan, Volunteer Coordinator on 5551 8284.

# Employee of the Month



April – Chantelle Lottering  
Nurse Emergency Department



May – Heather McHenry  
Administration Assistant  
Penshurst Campus



June – Lise Lowe  
Allied Health Receptionist

Susie Stevenson  
Home Referral Team Leader



July – Lauren Davies  
Physiotherapist



August – Richard Casey  
Handyman Penshurst Campus



September – Kelly Nottle  
Ward Clerk Medical Unit



October – Jess Nobes  
Acting Chief Dietitian

## Charlie Watt Volunteer of the Month



April – Ron Somerville  
Murray to Moyne Cycle Relay  
Team volunteer



May – Dot Donaldson  
Grange Residential Aged Care  
Facility & Op Shop volunteer



June – Joy Darroch  
Annual Door Knock Appeal  
volunteer



July – Aileen Broadbent  
The Birches Residential Aged  
Care volunteer



August – Myra Pohl  
Penshurst Campus volunteer



September – Peter &  
Jean Humphries  
Planned Activity Group  
volunteers



## Annual WDHS Christmas Appeal

Over the years the community's generosity towards the WDHS Christmas Appeal has contributed significantly to the organisation's ability to provide high quality service through the purchase of essential equipment. The Health Service's 2014 Christmas Appeal is now underway and we are seeking your support.

This year we aim to raise \$12,000 from the Appeal to purchase new patient recovery chairs for the Day Procedure Unit.

"This vital equipment will be used to help patients recover from surgery and other day procedures," said Ruth Ikobe, Surgical Unit Manager.

In the spirit of Christmas, please consider making a donation to help fund this important equipment. Donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible.

You may make a donation by:

- Visiting the WDHS website at [www.wdhs.net/donation-bequests/donate now](http://www.wdhs.net/donation-bequests/donate-now)
- Sending a cheque to WDHS, Community Liaison Department, PO Box 283 Hamilton Vic 3300