



Northern Newsflash

January 2010

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At the start of this new year, the Foundation and the Trust Directors would like to take this opportunity to thank all the supporters, friends and donors of the Foundation for their continuing interest and support throughout 2009.

Bit by bit we are making changes to the environment at North Shore Hospital, improving the facilities and comforts for the patients and staff.

The major campaign to provide an additional incubator with extra specifications is drawing close to its goal, as well as the establishment of an insulin pump loan service for young adult type 1 insulin dependant diabetics.

Home Care 4 Kids service is also creating a medical & comfort equipment loan service to assist families of the 350 children cared for in their homes while they are recovering after serious illness, injury and discharge from Special Care Baby Units.

This Paediatric service cares for all children in our health region requiring assistance after discharge from Starship, KidZ First and all other secondary care facilities.

We are still working hard towards the following major special projects to provide:

- A Transportation unit for critically ill and injured patients
- CT Angiography Radiological component to speed definitive diagnosis for those presenting with chest pain

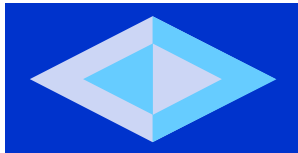
Magnetic Resonance Imaging software (MRI coil) to rapidly & definitively identify early breast cancer growth(North Shore would then be the first public hospital to provide this service for women

There is a raft of other current projects that keep the motivation of the Foundation high to engage the community and business in investing in their health assets.

The recent large fireworks Display presented by **WESTFIELD ALBANY CENTRE** benefitted the incubator project and the **NORTH SHORE TAXI. "DRIVE 4 LIFE"** charity golf day presented by **East Coast Bays Rotary** provided a further \$10,000 to the Home Care 4 Kids project.

These are two outstanding displays of corporate and service club commitment to help the health of their own community.

We salute and thank both these contributors for their community spirit.



The North Shore Hospital Foundation

presents a news column

THE FOUNDATION

FOCUS

in the North Shore Times every second Friday of the month.

Each quarter the

HEALTH REPORT

is published , a health themed insert carrying news from Health Foundations in the North ,South and West

CHECK IT OUT

KEEP UP WITH THE NEWS FROM YOUR

REGION

DONATIONS DELIGHT AT NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL

Even the toughest economic times haven't stopped Waitemata's community showing the depth of its generosity, with a series of items being donated to North Shore Hospital's Kingsley Mortimer Unit.

The unit, home to the hospital's elderly mental health patients, has been given a greenhouse, exercycle, and set of furniture, all of which will significantly improve the patients' experience.

The greenhouse, already erected in a sunny grassed spot outside the ward, is now just waiting for a few final touches before being planted in time for summer.

KMU occupational therapist Denise de Groot says the greenhouse, donated by the HECTOR Trust (which runs the hospital's Thursday market) and erected by City Impact Church volunteers, will add real value to the lives of the unit's patients.

"Gardening is something the older generation is very familiar with, and it's a really therapeutic activity. There's something very rewarding about seeing seeds that you've planted begin to sprout. It's so good for their self-esteem, because it's tapping into their own wisdom and knowledge. And that gives them a real sense of achievement."

The unit's new exercycle, also donated by the HECTOR Trust, is already making a similar positive impact. Sitting proudly in the patient lounge, the machine is being used to help patients get back to a better level of fitness, Denise says.

A new set of arm chairs and coffee table, donated by North Shore Hospital Auxiliary's Bev Pearson Trust, have been added to the unit's meeting room, adding a touch of classy comfort for the patients and their families who use it.

Such donations, alongside more frequent gifts like home-knitted blankets and Christmas goodie-boxes for KMU patients, are a constant source of wonder and gratitude to the unit's staff, Denise says.

"We're absolutely delighted, we really are. That our community gives so much, it constantly overwhelms us. We're just entirely grateful."



Denise says all the donations have been made possible through the tireless work of the hospital's fundraising arm, the North Shore Hospital Foundation. Anyone interested in finding out how they can help the hospital can contact the foundation on **486 8954**.

GROWING GIFTS: KMU occupational therapist Denise de Groot says the Waitemata community's continued giving, including this greenhouse, constantly amazes the ward.

Little Teds Bring a Smile

A swarm of woolly multicoloured bears have been spotted entering North Shore Hospital. Milford resident Jean Goodhew has been bringing the colourful hand-knitted bears into the hospital every Christmas since 2005.



Faces light up when the bears are received by parents in

the maternity ward and the children looked after by Homecare for kids. Children admitted to the hospital's emergency care centre also receive a bear.

"I had my hip done five years ago at the hospital and I said to the nurses: 'Would you like some teddy bears for the hospital?' They said they would and it just went from there," she says.

Some bears are knitted in matching patterns for twins or triplets. There is a Richie McCaw bear, some from various North Harbour rugby clubs, all of them waiting for a home.

"I do it because it's nice to give, to make other people happy. You get a charge out of it, it gives you a buzz.

"I see people doing lots for people overseas but I believe charity begins at home and everyone knows what it's like to be without," says Ms Goodhew.

She plans to continue making the bears to put smiles on people's faces for as long as she can.

"While I can keep on doing this, I will. There's no stopping my now."

International Medical Aid Shipment To Vanuatu



Medical aid unloading in Vanuatu.

A large shipment of medical equipment and consumables was shipped to the island of Vanuatu in the South Pacific with the assistance of Rotary International World Community Service Committee. Medical monitors, mobility equipment, and a large amount of boxed syringes and needles were included in the shipment. It will be distributed from Port Vila to hospitals and clinics across the many islands in Vanuatu.

Entertainment Book Sales Boost The Foundation

The Foundation has been selling Entertainment Books on an annual basis since 2002. The support from the community and the staff who purchase these great value voucher books for dining, entertainment, travel, and many other offers have this year benefited special project for the foundation by three thousand and twenty-nine dollars. We hope that the 2010 edition will also enjoy support as each purchase brings \$13 into the coffers. Inquiries for ordering the 2010 edition contact Jane Hunter jane.hunter@waitematadhb.govt.nz

We are on the web
www.northshorehospitalfoundation.com

