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Dear colleagues

Last Friday night, more than 600 staff from across Metro North came together for the Staff Excellence Awards at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

I'm thrilled that the following Redcliffe Hospital staff were among the winners on the night.

Emerging Leader	Donna Ryan, Director of Occupational Therapy
First Nations Staff	Elwyn Henaway, Cultural Capability Officer
Chief Executive's Award	Ann Whitaker, Pharmacist Director

Donna was in attendance to collect her award and is pictured below, while Elwyn and Ann's trophies and certificates were delivered to them during the week.

Congratulations to all of our winners. I'd also like to give a big shout-out to our nominees. You should be proud that your achievements are among the best in Metro North this year - well done!

As well as awarding excellence, the night was also an occasion to socialise and celebrate a successful year. Some of the Redcliffe contingent present made good use of the photo booth to capture some of the fun we had!



SET Staff Forum

Next Thursday, Metro North Chief Executive Jackie Hanson and some of her Senior Executive Team colleagues will be hosting a Staff Forum at Redcliffe Hospital. This is your opportunity to ask questions of senior leaders about what's happening across Metro North. You can join the session at 11.30am in the Education Centre or on Teams. I encourage you to attend and hear more about Metro North's priorities from our CE and executive team.

Safe disposal of sharps

The Department of Health has issued a safety notice following an increase in linen services staff finding clinical sharps, such as surgical needles, blood filled syringes, IV cannulas, scalpels and catheters in soiled linen. Sending items for laundering with clinical sharps poses a safety risk. All staff working in clinical settings are reminded to dispose of sharps appropriately and safely and to carefully check all bed sheets, blankets, scrubs and mop heads before they are sent to linen services. Please read the [safety notice](#) or speak to your Health and Safety Representative for more information.

Stroke care workshops

Over the last few weeks, clinicians providing care for patients affected by strokes have attended workshops hosted by StrokeLink. The workshops provided medical, nursing and allied health staff (pictured below) with expert support to review stroke management against national guidelines and standards and to develop action plans to optimise stroke care. In the coming weeks, we will receive a report to help us progress our action plans and StrokeLink will continue to work with clinicians over the coming year as we implement and monitor the plans. Thanks to the staff who took part in the workshops for your active participation as we seek to enhance the care we provide in this area



A community celebration

On Wednesday night, I attended a Raise it for Redcliffe Hospital celebration event to recognise the generosity of donors. I had the opportunity to talk about our expansion and the difference it will make for our patients, staff and the wider community. Over the course of the night, I received a lot of positive feedback and support from former patients, partners and others about the great work we all do. In particular one former patient expressed her gratitude to Dr Alan Yan and the Emergency Department team for their work and the difference it made to her care.

Paediatric Nurse Unit Manager, Anne Tin and Clinical Nurse Alyssa Kemp (pictured, right), also talked at the event about how donations have made a difference to the experience kids have when they're in our care.

At the end of the night, it was announced that since it launched in 2021, the Raise if For Redcliffe Hospital initiative has raised more



than **\$1 million** to improve the patient and staff experience. This is a fantastic milestone! Thanks to everyone who has supported Raise it for Redcliffe to date.

Santa and dolphin visits

Other Raise it for Redcliffe Hospital events this week saw Santa and the Dolphins NRL team presenting gifts, which were provided by generous donors and grateful members of the Dolphins NRL team touring the hospital. The team was bringing smiles to the faces of patients and staff alike. The hospital through charity raffles at their matches.



Patient compliment

Patient compliments are a regular feature of my weekly message. However, it's a compliment with a difference today thanks to Dolphins' halfback, Sean O'Sullivan.

During his visit to the hospital this week, Sean was enthusiastic in his praise of the maternity experience he and his partner had at Redcliffe Hospital earlier this year on the birth of their daughter, Sadie!

You can click the image on the left to watch a special message from Sean.

Well done to the maternity team on their fantastic work!

Emerging Leader Profile

Carmel Harvey – Food Services Coordinator

Earlier this week, Metro North's new meal management system, CBORD launched at Redcliffe Hospital.

Following the successful implementation, I'm pleased to stick with the food service theme and introduce Food Services Coordinator, Carmel Harvey as this week's emerging leader.

Carmel was introduced to the importance of good nutrition at a young age, thanks to her mum – a Menu Monitor at The Prince Charles Hospital.

A chef by trade, Carmel has now worked in healthcare food services for more than 20 years, with the last 10 years at Redcliffe Hospital.

Carmel understands that nutrition plays an important role in a patient's recovery. To support this, along with her team, she works closely with hospital dietitians and nutrition assistants to ensure that the right meal gets to the right patients at the right time.

As Redcliffe Hospital expands in the years ahead, so to will our food service operations. This will see the workforce double in size.

As the expansion progresses, the way we manage food services will evolve from the current model to a 'Room Service' approach, where patients will be able to order meals on demand through an app on their smart devices.

Carmel is excited for what lies ahead and is confident that she and her team will successfully manage the opportunities and challenges the hospital's growth will bring.

Outside of work, Carmel is a keen postcard collector, with several folders full of them from all corners of the globe.

Next time you're travelling somewhere off the beaten track, be sure and grab a postcard to add to Carmel's collection!



Awarding the winning Mo-bro!

It's been a month of gradually increasing facial hair growth around the hospital, as staff take part in friendly competition to grow the most magnificent 'mo' for Movember 2024.

This morning, Ben Holmes from engineering (pictured, left) was crowned the winner, as staff came together to support and raise funds for men's health charities. Well done to everyone who took part. You can enjoy some other moustache pictures below.

On the more serious side, Movember has

been raising money for men's health initiatives since 2003 and has funded more than 1,250 projects. These cover all aspects of men's health including suicide prevention, prostate cancer, testicular cancer much more. It's an important cause, and one I'm glad to see being supported so well at Redcliffe Hospital.



Christmas decorating kick-off

The annual Redcliffe Hospital Christmas Decorating Competition starts on Monday. If you haven't already, now is the time to bring some festive flourish to your work areas. To keep everyone safe, please ensure you stick to the [guidelines](#) when decorating. Judging will take place on Monday 16 December.

Acting arrangements

Finally, I start three weeks leave after today. During this time, Sally Taranec will be Acting Executive Director. Keith Von Dohren will step into the Director of Nursing and Midwifery Services role. I will return to work on Monday 23 December. If you've already started leave for the festive season before I return, I'd like to take the opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year. To those who are working through the holiday period, thank you for your ongoing hard work and commitment to caring for our patients.

Kind regards,

Cang Dang
Executive Director,
Redcliffe Hospital

If you'd like to let others know what's happening in your work area or have a good news story to share, email [Redcliffe communications](#) to discuss including it in my message or Staff Bulletin.

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which our facilities are built. We also pay respect and acknowledge Elders past, present and the future.



Produced by the Metro North Communication Directorate