



# ACUTE NEWS

NOVEMBER -  
DECEMBER 2020

healthcare™



## A NOTE FROM TIM YEOH

Welcome to the final edition of Acute News for 2020. As we come to the end of an unprecedented, challenging year I would like to take the opportunity to formally acknowledge the efforts of our hospital management teams, clinicians and support staff for their exceptional commitment and flexibility in dealing with this ever changing landscape.

Coinciding with the World Health Organisation's 'International Year of the Nurse and Midwife', the pandemic has thrust

healthcare and the role of our sector into the spotlight now more than ever, and our dedicated teams have risen to the challenge each and every step of the way.

On behalf of Healthe Care I want to wish you all the very best for a restful and safe Christmas with your families, and a prosperous and Healthe New Year in 2021.

Tim Yeoh, CEO Acute Services



## HEALTHE CARE JOINS APHA BOARD

Healthe Care Australia - Acute Services CEO, Tim Yeoh, has recently joined the Board of the Australian Private Hospitals Association (APHA) as the peak body continues to advocate for the role and importance of private hospitals in the Australian healthcare landscape.

With rising private healthcare costs and the ongoing impact of COVID-19 placing enormous stress on Australian families and the healthcare sector as a whole, Mr Yeoh's appointment provides a strong platform for Healthe Care to advocate for the positive role our staff and services play in delivering positive patient experiences and outcomes, while reducing the strain on the public health system.

Learn more at [www.medianet.com.au/releases/193239/](http://www.medianet.com.au/releases/193239/)

## SELF PAY INTRODUCES ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

Healthe Care's groundbreaking Self Pay Surgery service has recently introduced Orthopaedic surgery packages at Hurstville Private Hospital and Shellharbour Private Hospital.

The Self Pay Surgery packages currently on offer include Hip, Knee and Shoulder Replacement surgeries, along with ACL Reconstruction.

Each of the packages includes all pre-admission assessments and testing, hospital charges, Surgeon and Anaesthetist fees, the prosthesis, medications and an individualised recovery plan, providing patients with an alternative to increasingly lengthy public health waitlists and private health insurance.

Learn more at [selfpaysurgery.com.au/self-pay-surgeries/](http://selfpaysurgery.com.au/self-pay-surgeries/)

## \$32M REDEVELOPMENT TOPS OUT

### AT GOSFORD PRIVATE HOSPITAL

The \$32 million redevelopment of Gosford Private Hospital has recently reached its peak, with the topping out and completion of Level 3.

Incorporating additional car parking, a brand new Day Surgery, additional theatres, office space, a new purpose-built Maternity Ward and space for a brand new ward, the new facility is due for completion in the first quarter of 2021.

Take a sneak peak inside the redevelopment at <https://tinyurl.com/ya5dnla6>



# PRESTIGIOUS AWARD FOR ACCLAIMED ENT SURGEON AT LINGARD AND MAITLAND PRIVATE HOSPITALS

Australia's first Aboriginal surgeon, the highly acclaimed Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, Associate Professor Kelvin Kong, has been awarded the prestigious Menzies Medallion.



A Worimi man from Port Stephens, the breadth and depth of Associate Professor Kong's work over the years is far reaching and includes his role as chief investigator for the Menzies-led Centre for Research Excellence in Ear and Hearing Health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Associate Professor Kong was presented with the award – the highest offered by the Darwin-based Menzies School of Health Research – in recognition of his leadership in Aboriginal health service delivery, advocacy, and research.

He currently practices in Newcastle (Awabakal Country) as a surgeon, specialising in paediatric and adult otolaryngology, head and neck surgery (ear, nose and throat surgery) at John Hunter Hospital, Lingard Private Hospital and Maitland Private Hospital, and lectures in allied health at the University of Newcastle.

Associate Professor Kong also participates in a project group at the Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI). Earlier this year, Associate Professor Kong also received a five-year, \$1.12 million Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) grant to explore a telehealth ear, nose and throat (ENT) model, based in metropolitan, rural and regional Aboriginal community controlled health services. The Indigenous-led telehealth research would improve Aboriginal children's access to specialist ENT care and reduce the waiting time for treatment during the vital years of early childhood ear and hearing health.

Associate Professor Kong was also profiled in the prestigious international medical publication – The Lancet – last month as a trail blazer for Indigenous health in Australia.

Love Your Work - Associate Professor Kong!

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## FORSTER PRIVATE CELEBRATES 50TH JUBILEE AT FORSTER PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Staff and patients, past and present, joined members of the Cape Hawke Community Hospital and Health Association recently to celebrate the 50th Anniversary Jubilee of Forster Private Hospital on its current site at South Street, Forster on the NSW Mid North Coast.

The community event included the launch of a historical book 'Built on Roast Beef & Apple Pie' which has been compiled and written by Cape Hawke Health's President, Roger Lynch. The book which recounts the origins of the Hospital and its storied past over the last 70 years, took centre stage alongside a special History Wall which was unveiled at the Hospital.

In attendance at the celebration were Mayor David West, former Mayor John Chadban, Worimi Elder Janice Paulson, past staff, doctors, CEO's, supporters and community members, all celebrating their connection with the region's local hospital. Watch the celebratory video to learn more about the Hospital's history at <https://tinyurl.com/ybupu5mr>



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## CARING THROUGH COLOUR AT DUBBO PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Dubbo Private turned itself yellow back in October to show its support for the new local initiative 'Dubbo Cares Day'. The day was designed to raise awareness around mental health, and to get people talking.

Staff got involved by decorating their areas of the hospital in yellow, wearing yellow accessories, and enjoying a delicious yellow cake made by the kitchen. The kitchen food trolleys and cleaning trolleys didn't escape the yellow wave, with staff decking them out with balloons and streamers!

Everyone looked amazing, and the local founder of the organisation thought that their effort was 'Amazing'.

Well done to everyone involved in coordinating this important community awareness event.







# SHOWCASE HIGHLIGHTS ONGOING IMPROVEMENTS AT LINGARD PRIVATE HOSPITAL

In celebration of the 'Year of the Nurse' Lingard Private Hospital wanted to recognise and showcase the fabulous work undertaken everyday by their employees. As such, the Lingard Quality Showcase was launched earlier in the year and encouraged staff in both clinical and non-clinical spaces to develop and implement a quality project. Staff were welcomed to submit these projects as an entry in the Lingard Quality Showcase with the projects being unveiled in poster form recently.

The project was led by Rebecca Swan, Performance Improvement and Risk Manager at Lingard Private. "We are extremely proud of our staff and their commitment to quality improvement. We were hoping for a handful of entries but have been pleasantly surprised by the 14 high quality entries we have seen from across all departments in the hospital."

The project required staff to outline their project aims, method, results and conclusion, with three prizes awarded including best clinical project, best non-clinical project and people's choice award, with voting from all Lingard Private staff.

Some of the entries included Preventing Sharps Injuries; Use of Oral Syringes for Liquid Medication; After Hours Procedural Manuals; Development of Pre-Admissions Clinic Pathway; Proposed Records Storage Plan and Relocation of Office; Intravenous Access Device Documentation; Wound Care Discharge; Fire Training Program; Infection Control – Contact Precautions in Perioperative Nursing; Prevention of Skin Injury and Paediatric Perioperative IV Therapy.

Lingard Private Hospital CEO Warwick Crosby is proud of his team's achievements. "I reviewed the entries and I'm inspired by the effort that our staff have gone to, to identify areas of improvement and actively seek solutions to problems. These projects demonstrate the commitment of our staff to creating a patient-centred hospital and I thank everyone who has taken the time to be involved."



## HEALTH CARE FORUM LEADS WAY ON NSW MID NORTH COAST

Tuesday 8 December saw the first of a series of Mid North Coast Regional Clinical Network Meetings aimed at enhancing health service delivery and access in the region. Requested of Health Care's Regional CEO Ben Uprichard by a key local GP, the meeting brought together GPs and representatives from the Local Health District and Primary Health Network.

Discussions highlighted some GP areas of concern that Manning Public and Mayo and Forster Private Hospitals could help address. Attendee feedback supported continuation of the meetings on a regular basis.

"Excellent. Great to have those stakeholders around the table. Showed Ben's genuine motivation for system improvement," one GP commented. Another agreed that it is "vital for us all to be talking and brainstorming."

The meetings cement Forster and Mayo Private Hospitals' roles as key Mid North Coast health service providers, with the next meeting scheduled for early February 2021.

## COLLABORATION AND SUPPORT IN TIME OF NEED AT DUBBO PRIVATE HOSPITAL



Recently the team at Dubbo Private Hospital put out a call for help from staff at other Health Care Acute Services hospitals.

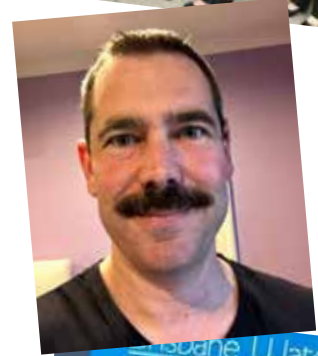
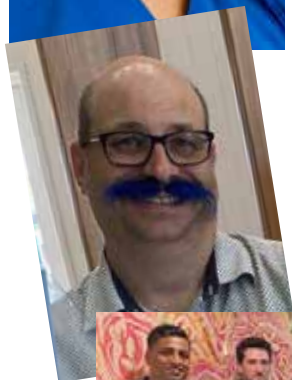
The call was answered by keen 'tree changers' Caroline and Fred from Gosford Private Hospital.

The pair drove the 5 hours to help support the Dubbo Private Theatre team, sharing their experience and expertise team and learning more about Dubbo Private.

It's hoped that more opportunities arise over the coming months, as Health Care staff take up opportunities to support each other, visit other sites and share their expertise with other teams.

Learn more about Dubbo Private Hospital at <https://dubboprivate.com.au/>

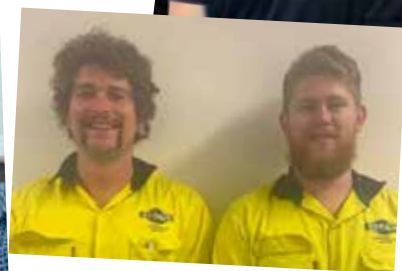




# MOVEMBER<sup>®</sup> \$6508

Thank you to all the MOBros and MOSistas who grew and MOved in support of Men's Health this MOvember. With your support we helped raise awareness for men's mental health, prostate and testicular cancers, plus the wide range of men's health services available across our Healthe Care sites.

#ItsPersonal #Respect #PositiveEnergy



Thank you for helping to put a smile on a child's face this Christmas.

By supporting Healthe Care Australia and The Smith Family Christmas Toy & Book Appeal





We wish all of our staff, Doctors, suppliers, patients and local communities a safe and happy holiday period.