



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS / SUMMER EDITION

Inside this issue:

- Season's greetings to all staff
- Starship's 21st birthday celebrations
- Bumper Christmas quiz

CEO Column

Staying connected



Ailsa Claire
Chief Executive

As we draw to the end of a busy year, it's appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the service Auckland DHB has provided to the community throughout 2012.

On balance, I think we're entitled to be very proud of the work we do and the commitment we demonstrate to our patients.

Although I've only been here a short while, I've been impressed by many of the services I've visited and the obvious passion that people have for improving patient outcomes and making the treatment journey less daunting.

The commitment to excellence that is all around us is to be applauded.

There are certain things we can and must do better, like any large organisation, but overall our services are built on some very good foundations.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your hard work throughout the year, regardless of your role.

Each of us makes a commitment to this place that binds us together in pursuit of the common good.

We may, at times, have different views about how to achieve different objectives but ultimately we are all here in service of the public.

Please take a moment to look at some of the patient feedback featured on this page for evidence that your work is valued by the community.

We can all make a difference, whether it's through a smile, a kind word, thoughtfulness or clinical work.

In 2013, we will ensure the contributions of individual staff at all levels who are delivering wonderful service are properly-recognised through our new Local Heroes Awards.

Realistically, the challenges we will confront in 2013 are many: demand for our services will keep growing, pressures will continue to build, funding will remain tight and, more than ever, we will need to innovate and eliminate waste.

It will be our job to steer a way through and to deliver for people in need. I have no doubt we will do just that.

I hope you have a chance to take a break over the 'holiday' period. For those who can't, thank you in advance.

To those celebrating Christmas, I wish you well.

To all, I wish you a happy and prosperous 2013 and thank you again for your diligence throughout 2012.



Patients' applause



Every year, we receive many compliments from the people whose lives we touch. We can't publish them all but here are just some of the things people say about our team here at Auckland DHB.

I was recently a patient on the gynaecology ward for a cancer operation. I would like to pass on my thanks and appreciation for the excellent care and attention I received from the doctors and all the staff on ward 97.

Ward 97
patient

Please pass on my sincere thanks and appreciation to the nursing and medical staff who took such tender care of my elderly mother during her admission to the Remuera Ward.

Daughter of a
patient on the
Remuera Ward

Her discharge home was possible due to the special care from Clodagh the physiotherapist, Marjorie the Occupational Therapist. Also Trish was instrumental in my mother's discharge care. I appreciate the patience of these three ladies during our family meetings.

I wanted to express how impressed I was with the helpful, pleasant and empathetic service we received.

Initially, we were greeted by the department clerk at the front desk and then the clerk in administration. Both were friendly and helpful. Then we saw the triage nurse, who did a great job. She asked sensible, relevant questions and was lovely with my daughter who was upset and scared. She assessed the situation quickly and tried her hardest to be helpful. We then saw the doctor, who again was incredibly nice. She did a wonderful job extremely efficiently.

I know from my own experience how demanding emergency work is and I think the staff that helped us in your department were brilliant.

A parent of
a patient in
the Children's
Emergency
Department



Christmas tree a beacon for Auckland City Mission collection

Customer services representative Maureen Dernie and Level 5 ACH receptionist Colleen Gibbs decorate the tree that will be the beacon for staff who want to donate to the Auckland City Mission Christmas Appeal.

If you want to give, please bring a wrapped Christmas gift, or a toy or a non-perishable food item to the level 5 reception. Staff there will give you a wrapped box to put under the tree and put your gift into the box that the City Mission staff will collect each day.

You can also leave a gift at the Greenlane Volunteers desk.

Did you know?

- 25** the number of years heart transplants have been taking place at Auckland DHB
- 450** the number of volunteers giving up their time to help patients and families here at Auckland DHB
- 1.7** the number, in millions, of patient encounters at Starship Children's Hospital in its first 21 years
- 2** the minimum number of tablespoons of sunscreen required to provide adequate short-term protection for an average-sized adult
- 8** the number of operating rooms at Greenlane Surgical Unit, all of which were simultaneously in use for the first time in November
- 9** the number of days a cockroach can live without its head before it starves to death – yuck!

Happy Christmas from the Nova team

We hope you enjoy your bumper 16-page holiday edition of Nova – and happy Christmas to all from the Communications team.

Be sure to check out page 14 for season's greetings sent in by Auckland DHB staff and our special Christmas quiz on page 15.

Thanks to all for your support in 2012 and please keep sending in your Nova story ideas via novan@adhb.govt.nz. Nova will be back in early February, see you then!



More patients having surgery at Greenlane

Two major milestones were achieved at the Greenlane Surgical Unit (GSU) last month.

For the first time, all eight operating rooms were simultaneously in use. The other first was additional paediatric lists – with paediatric orthopaedic and ORL surgery being delivered.

This means more patients can be treated with less risk of cancellation for urgent acute cases. It means we can transfer elective procedures from ACH to GSU and deliver more procedures at lower cost. While there is still more work to do to realise the full potential of these operating rooms, this was a significant step forward. Thanks to all involved.

\$6 million refurbishment underway at Starship

Level 6 of Starship Children's Hospital closed on 10 December. It is getting a \$6 million upgrade thanks to the generosity of the many Starship Foundation donors who collectively raised \$5 million to fund the Level 6 project. Auckland DHB will provide \$1 million.

The upgrade will result in a modern, family-centred environment that incorporates improvements built on feedback from a wide range of people, including staff, children and families. The new-look wards will include: more single rooms for children and their accompanying parent, larger rooms, better playroom facilities and improved kitchen, lounge and bathrooms for parents.

A comprehensive decant plan will ensure clinical safety and standards are maintained and staff can continue to provide high quality healthcare. Level 6 reopens in mid 2013.

TAKE CARE IN THE HOT SUN THIS SUMMER

The 'slip, slop, slap' messages drilled into us in the 1980s and '90s may have resonated and raised awareness but Mike has some simple tips that can help us all to avoid nasty consequences down the track:

- covering-up while in the sun is a more effective melanoma prevention than any sunblock
- choose a 'broad spectrum' sunblock that guards against both UVA and UVB rays
- an average-sized adult should use at least two tablespoons of sunblock in a single application
- avoid spending time in the sun during the most damaging periods – two hours either side of noon
- be aware that cloudy days can also result in sunburn and take appropriate precautions
- retreat to the shade or put long clothes back on immediately after short periods in the full sun.



Enjoying time in the summer sun is as much a part of Kiwi culture as supporting the All Blacks and breaking out your best jandals at the first hint of mild weather.

But that sun exposure can come at a high price, as Auckland DHB Medical Oncologist Dr Mike McCrystal knows all too well.

He and colleague Dr George Laking are the region's experts in treating advanced melanoma – usually seeing 150 to 200 new cases-a-year referred by surgeons.

By the time patients come to them, it's usually about control rather than cure, sadly.

"Incidents of blistering sunburn as children can set-up melanoma in later life," Mike says.

"This is often the critical factor, even with patients who have every appearance of having looked after themselves for many years.

"The fairness of skin and family history are also factors with melanoma but sun exposure is usually a critical part of the story."

Helen goes the distance

Helen O'Shaunessy, Nurse Specialist from Cardiac Rehabilitation, proudly represented New Zealand at the Triathlon World Championships in Auckland. The conditions were cold and windy that day but Helen still landed an impressive 11th place in the 50-54 age group category. It was the biggest age-group field ever at a world championships event, so Helen's placing was not an easy feat.

"It felt terrific to wear the black singlet for NZ in my home town. The crowd was amazing! I heard my name being called all the time and that was a great feeling," said Helen.

Helen trained for one to three hours a day, five days-a-week, with sessions ranging from easy to hard for the Auckland World Champs. She has a strict diet of the right carbs and avoids unhealthy food but admits that giving away the occasional glass of wine is the hardest part!

Helen's been to so many triathlons that she's lost count of how many. But those that stand out were the four Ironmen, including the Hawaii World Champs in 1996.

"Ironman was great for my self-esteem. It gave me the idea that I could do anything I wanted if I put my mind to it. This has given me the courage to do many things, including my Masters in Nursing."

"I think having a goal is very motivating. I like what being fit allows me to do. I also find it quite spiritual. My health is a gift and I believe I should treasure and take care of it."

Helen plans to travel with her partner to Europe next year to go cycling. She also wants to share her love for triathlon by coaching future triathletes. So, if you want to be one of Helen's guinea pigs and are committed to doing an 8-12 week triathlon programme with her, drop her a line!



United for our children

Although our line of work is about providing health care, we sometimes need the help of others to ensure that our children are thoroughly looked after. Puawaitahi is a shining example of how people with different expertise come together for a common cause – to give holistic healing for abused children.

Puawaitahi is celebrating 10 years of providing joined-up front-line services for children and families affected by child abuse. In 2002, health services, the New Zealand Police and Child Youth and Family moved into 99 Grafton Road (just across from the Auckland City Hospital), to work together in a way never before seen in New Zealand. The name Puawaitahi ("blossoming in unity") was gifted to the team by Ngati Whatua. It was a superb descriptor of the group's shared purpose, and long ago became an essential part of their identity.

When opened, Puawaitahi was the first service of its kind in Australasia, and it remains a unique example of what we can achieve when we work together. The building continues to provide a multitude of services to children, young people and their families from all three Auckland DHBs (and many outside Auckland), as well as every police district and every Child Youth and Family site office in greater Auckland.

Over the past 10 years, the relationship between the agencies have strengthened and blossomed. Many from around New Zealand and overseas express a close interest in the positive results of their collaborative approach. Since it opened, other multi-agency centres have developed which have drawn from the experiences and successes of Puawaitahi.

The 10 year anniversary was marked with the Minister of Police, Anne Tolley, unveiling a plaque to commemorate this milestone. Our CE, Starship GM, senior staff, founding members and representatives from Crown Law were also at the event.

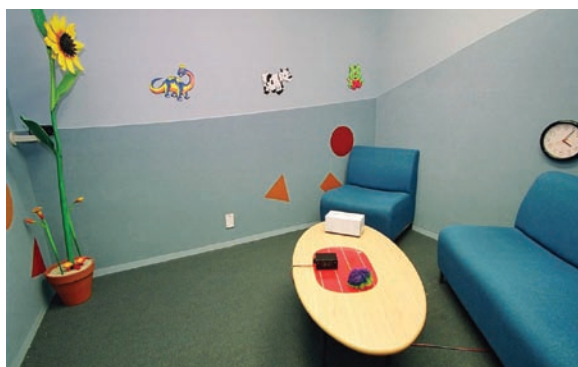
"In the 10 years Puawaitahi has been operating, we have collectively come a long way with regards to how we investigate and manage issues of child abuse and neglect, but there is always room for improvement," said Mike Clement, Auckland City District Commander, NZ Police.

"We strive to provide the best service to those in need and to continue to work closely with all our partners to reiterate the message that violence or abuse of any kind is not OK and, when we know about it, it is dealt with sensitively and appropriately."

Puawaitahi children are welcomed to a colourful haven.



L-R: Dr Patrick Kelly Clinical Director, Te Puaruruhau; Anne Tolley, Minister of Police; Sue Jarvis, Operations Manager, Child Youth and Family; Mike Clement, Auckland City District Commander, NZ Police.



One of the counselling rooms at Puawaitahi.

ADHB STAFF TAKE UP CALL FOR DONATIONS TO AUCKLAND CITY MISSION



L-R Debbie O'Regan; Dr Joe McDermott; Andrew Westmacott; Elaine McGrath; Satele Brown and Fahimeh Rahnama

A group of Auckland DHB staff are volunteering their time on Christmas Day at the annual Auckland City Mission Christmas Day lunch. They are helping out as the Mission does its thing in supporting thousands of people who have no-one else to turn to.

Throughout December, the Mission expects to provide 2,000 emergency food parcels, distribute approximately 20,000 Christmas presents and host around 2,500 people at New Zealand's largest community Christmas Lunch. This work is only made possible thanks to the generosity of their donors.

That includes those who volunteer time and in this edition Nova acknowledges six of our volunteering colleagues, pictured left. We suspect we haven't acknowledged everyone who's involved, but please don't let that hold you back from giving if you can. Consider a gift, some groceries or perhaps, some of your time. The Christmas tree is up at ACH as a place for depositing gifts and if you are interested in volunteering as one of 'Santa's Little Helpers' at the event or elsewhere, phone the Mission on 09 303 9305 or email Sunni at sunni.s@aucklandcitymission.org.nz.

Auckland District Health Board



healthcare
eXcellence
Awards
2012

A night of celebrations

The winners and finalists came together for a night of celebration at the annual Healthcare Excellence Awards last month. The Awards showcase innovation and change at Auckland DHB and the evening is an opportunity to celebrate the commitment and dedication of those who are making a big difference to our patients.

Awards were presented by CE Ailsa Claire along with the generous sponsors of these Awards: Dr Richard Frith, Chair of A+ Trust; Starship Foundation CEO, Brad Clark; and Tim Garrett, Director of Quality Hub Ltd.

The Clinical Excellence Award deservedly went to Ian d'Young and team for introducing a new physiotherapy service to patients with haemophilia. The project has led to a 20% reduction in the use of clotting factors and a zero waiting list for access to services. On receiving the Award, Ian d'Young said, "We're obviously delighted to be acknowledged by the Healthcare Excellence Awards. It's a reflection of the work of the whole team from the haematologists, nurse team and laboratory staff. We think that our interdisciplinary model of care is very promising and can be used for various conditions and in other disciplines."

In the research category it was just too close to call for the judging panel with two of the finalists being announced winner and the third highly commended.

Research to standardise diagnosis of rheumatic heart disease was the first of the winners to be announced. This international research was carried out across six continents. Nigel Wilson who collected the award on behalf of the team said, "I'm very proud for Bo [Dr Bo Remenyi, lead investigator] and the whole team of 19 international investigators and experts at the Starship Cardiology Unit."

The second award was presented for research into drug resistant strains of tuberculosis. This research was carried out entirely at Auckland DHB. "Our department is incredibly proud to win this award. Although we're a small department, we work hard and a lot of what we do is behind the scenes" said Dr Deborah Williamson, the lead researcher. "This research is particularly important because it has been recognised nationally and internationally. We just want to reiterate that this work is totally homegrown. It's an example of how different departments working together can produce world class research."

The winner of the Education Award was a team led by Dr Barry Snow who put together a training programme to help health professionals talk about end of life care. Unfortunately Barry was unable to be there but Leigh Manson was delighted to accept the award on behalf of the team.

"The Process and Systems category was a tough one to choose", said Greg Balla, lead judge for this category. "At least ten of the applicants could have won this award. The judges chose Patient Transit for the cross-organisational work and for the rapid improvement in results with on-time arrivals to radiology appointments increasing by 40% in just a few weeks." Feroz Buksh, winner of the category said, "We feel privileged and honoured! It was a great team effort from everybody and we feel that our contribution will have a huge impact on the whole of the organisation."

Full details of all our winners and finalists are available on the intranet <http://excellence.adhb.govt.nz/default.aspx>.

Applications for next year's awards open in July 2013, so make sure you share your achievements with the ADHB team and submit an application.

The Awards Ceremony was kindly sponsored by:



The Winners 2012

Clinical Excellence 2012



Establishing and embedding a regional and national physiotherapy service to adult patients with haemophilia in New Zealand

Ian d'Young;
Kristine Nicol and Shelley Solomon

Education Excellence 2012



Advance care planning level two practitioner training

Dr Barry Snow; *Leigh Manson; Shona Muir and Cathy Heaven*

Process and Systems Excellence 2012



Improving patient transit

Feroz Buksh; *Mary Tahiwi; Leigh Anderson; Gill Martin; Ashita Ashita; Jo Cormack; Mary MacKenzie; Lynne Belz; Tim Winstone and David Simpkins*

Research Excellence 2012



Standardisation of echocardiographic diagnosis of rheumatic heart disease

Dr Bo Remenyi; *Dr Nigel Wilson; Dr John Stirling and 19 international co-investigators*

Research Excellence 2012



Clinical failures associated with *rpoB* mutations in phenotypically occult multidrug-resistant *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

Dr Deborah Williamson; *Dr Sally Roberts; Dr Christopher Lewis; Dr Joshua Freeman; Dr Indira Basu; Dr James Bower; Ross Vaughan; Sandie Newton and Odette Lowe*

Starship Children's Hospital officially turned 21 on November 18 – and a large group of current and former staff and campaigners came together to mark the coming of age.

A special afternoon tea in the Atrium saw past and present members of the Starship team reunited to celebrate the estimated 1.7 million episodes of patient care provided since the doors opened.

Amid humorous recollections about the early days of Starship and the move from the former Princess Mary Hospital, the 250-strong gathering was reminded of the political battle to establish Starship as a national children's hospital and to protect its separate identity.

Chair Dr Lester Levy saluted the quality of care provided by Starship staff and said the focus must remain on the hospital's VIPs – 'Very Important Patients'.

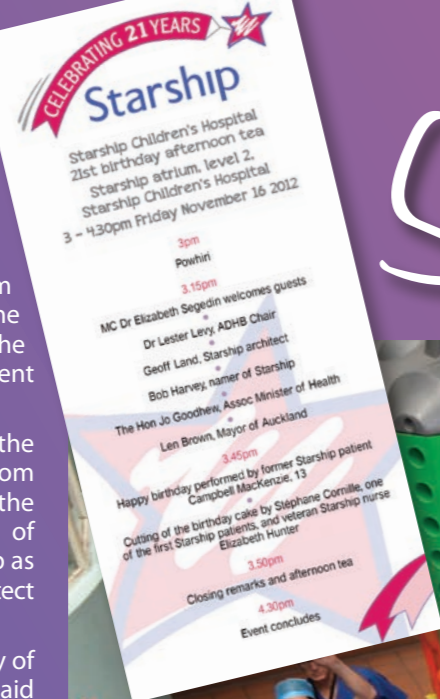
There was also recognition from Associate Minister of Health Jo Goodhew and Auckland Mayor Len Brown of the pivotal role Starship has played in delivering healthcare services to the children of Auckland and the rest of the country.

A total of 75 Starship 'veterans' who were working at Starship when it opened and who have 'gone the distance', completing 21 years of unbroken service, were recognised for their outstanding contribution.

One of the original Starship nurses, Elizabeth Hunter (aka 'Tizzle') cut the birthday cake along with Stéphane Cornille, one of the very first patients ever operated on at Starship in November, 1991.

Another feature of the event was musician and former Starship patient Campbell MacKenzie, 13, performing a special Starship version of 'Happy Birthday'.

The afternoon tea was followed by a staff-organised evening function where Starship anecdotes continued late into the night.



Starship comes of age in style



Looking back - looking forward



Dr Lester Levy, Board Chair

This time last year I wrote that we need to celebrate our progress, but temper it with a reality check - there was much more work to be done to be a leading District Health Board. One year later and there is no doubt that there is a rich and varied array of exciting and innovative developments at our DHB of which we should be very proud. However, they still sit alongside some elements of performance that do not reach the expected standards – what remains unaltered is that there is still a lot more work for us to do.

The new momentum for the change required for our organisation to reach and meet all standards will come from the significant renewal of our senior executive leadership team, which occurred during this year. With a new Chief Executive, a new Chief Financial Officer, a new Director of Nursing, a new Director of Allied Health and Technical and a new General Manager of the Mental Health service along with key new appointments in the executive and clinical management of flagship services such as Starship and Children's Health and National Women's Health, it is expected that our performance will lift.

I anticipate that this will particularly be in the areas of quality, patient (and family) care and consideration, productivity and innovation. We also simply need to take our rightful place as a leading performer with respect to the key national health targets.

Comparing our national health target performance for the first quarter (July to September 2012) this year to last year:

- shorter stays in emergency departments (target 95%) – 92% last year and 92% this year
- improved access to elective surgery (target 100%) – 101% last year and 99% this year
- shorter waits for cancer treatment (target 100% - this year includes chemotherapy and radiotherapy) – 100% last year and 100% this year. This is an excellent result
- increased immunisation (target 85% - this year the target has changed to eight-month olds) – 89%. This is an excellent result
- better help for smokers to quit (target 95%) – 81% last year and 93% this year. This is an excellent improvement
- more heart and diabetes checks (target 75% - this target has altered) – 53%.

We have achieved two of the six targets and come very close in another three. We should feel energised and very optimistic, as with just a little bit more effort, we will be able to join the four District Health Boards that have achieved five of the six targets (no District Health Board achieved all six) – next year we need to be in that group, and we can! Perhaps, we can be the first to achieve all six national health targets.

Our sublimely talented people, our wonderful concentration of intellectual capital, our brilliant assets, our partnerships and relationships as well as our financial resources leaves me feeling confident that if we properly confront the reality of where we currently are – we will be able to get to where we need to be.

Best wishes for the festive season to all of you and a sincere thank you for the role that you have played in providing care for our patients and population. Please remember though, that our work is far from finished.

Health Innovation Hub road show event at ACH

Sir Ray Avery, Chair Dr Lester Levy, Chief Executive Ailsa Clair and Chief Medical Officer Dr Margaret Wilsher spoke at the Auckland City Hospital launch of the New Zealand Health Innovation Hub. The Hub has been set up to:

- support our endeavours to design the innovative health solutions we need
- help our experts to assess, develop, and realise their great ideas right through to adoption in New Zealand and beyond, which will generate shared income that we can all reinvest into New Zealand healthcare
- streamline industry access to clinical expertise that helps to develop and validate new products and services
- develop relationships with New Zealand and global firms that wish to collaborate with the New Zealand public health sector.

The four foundation DHBs are Auckland, Counties Manukau, Waitemata and Canterbury District Health Boards. It also has the backing of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Auckland Tourism Events Economic Development and the Canterbury Development Corporation.

For more information see <http://innovation.health.nz/>.



CE Ailsa Claire,
Sir Ray Avery and
ADHB Chair Dr Levy.



Dr Wilsher
speaking at
the event.

Sir Ray Avery



Celebrating 25 years of heart transplants

On 2 December 1987, our Cardiology Unit in Greenlane Hospital was the first to perform a heart transplant in New Zealand. 253 heart transplants and 25 years later, it is now considered the third largest Heart Transplant Unit in Australasia after St Vincents in Sydney and The Alfred in Melbourne.

The Heart Transplant Unit, located in Auckland City Hospital, performs an average of 10-14 heart transplants a year, with dilated cardiomyopathy, or the weakening of the heart, as the primary reason for conducting the complex surgical procedure.

There are currently 15 patients on the heart transplant waiting list and in each case it could take up to two years for a suitable donor to become available.

"We are deeply indebted to the donor families who have been able to offer organs for donation at a time of intense grief as a result of a sudden and tragic event," said Dr Peter Ruygrok, Director of the Cardiovascular Unit at Auckland City Hospital.

"Such a donation allows another person to live and provides the donor family some solace in that a part of their loved one lives on," Dr Ruygrok added.

The transplant programme's 25th anniversary is also marked by the continuous service of cardiologist Dr Arthur Coverdale, who was involved in the care of the very first heart transplant patient at the Greenlane Hospital.

The Cardiology Unit also operated on the country's longest-surviving heart transplant recipient, Edwin Telle, who received a new heart 23 years ago when he was 17 years old. Mr Telle, a father of two young children and litigation lawyer, said that prior to being diagnosed with a heart condition he was fit and healthy.



"Then my life changed overnight. My heart deteriorated. I went into heart failure and was diagnosed with dilated viral cardiomyopathy," Mr Telle explained.

His then cardiologist, Dr Trevor Agnew, provided care leading up to the transplant and care post-transplant until he retired. The two have formed a close bond as result of the doctor-patient relationship and still keep in touch.

"My heart transplant has brought me close to many people, some of whom I otherwise may never have met and have probably made my life fuller than it ever could have been. I feel lucky to have had a heart transplant and blessed to still be around and enjoying life to its fullest," said Mr Telle.

Edwin Telle (left) received a new heart when he was 17 years old. 23 years later, he is now New Zealand's longest surviving heart transplant patient, pictured here with his Cardiologist and the Director of our Cardiovascular Services, Dr Peter Ruygrok.

Back left to right: Helen Gibbs, Colleen Stewart, Denise Reddy, Josephine Power.
Front left to right: Iris Fontanilla, Petra Fowler, Liz Painter.





Allied Health
Award Winners.

Blue Coat
Volunteers
Edith Ng,
Irene Davies,
Shelagh Coop,
Lily Tsang and
Alicia Han.



Volunteer Trevor
Anderson sets
the mood.

Clinical Transcription
Service celebrating
their achievements
at Greenlane.



Thank you from
Concord leads
Andrew Old and
Leigh Manson.

What are your thoughts on Celebration Week?

Let us know the good, the bad and what you think we could do differently next year. Email the Communications Team on ADHBcommunications@adhb.govt.nz

The last week in November provided an opportunity to reflect on some of the great achievements made by our people throughout the year.

At the annual Nursing Awards Ceremony new graduate nurses and nurses who have achieved level four status (expert nurses) received certificates of achievements from CE Ailsa Claire.

The latest group of Green Belts were presented with their certificates. The group of doctors, nurses, allied health and non clinical staff received their awards following ten days of intensive training and completing an improvement project back in the workplace.

At the Concord Candy Stall, a little chocolate treat was on offer for some of the 282 staff who have been involved in Concord. Dallas Goldie from Pharmacy, said "the Concord Team supporting us to reduce waste in pharmacy has been a real driving force to help us make change happen and is resulting in significant savings."

The Lab Plus and Concord Teams celebrated their win at the recent HQSC National Quality Improvement with a morning tea. The Concord project to reduce unnecessary lab tests won the 'Smell of an Oily Rag' category and has resulted in ongoing savings of over \$150,000 per year.

Research is a huge part of Auckland DHB's strength and the judges had a difficult job this year selecting winners from the 50 plus posters on display at Auckland City Hospital. After much deliberation Reuben Broom won the medical poster, Stella Lai took the prize in Allied Health and Nancy Naea won the nursing poster. Young investigator was Matthew Boyle, with Mary De Almeida taking the runner up prize.

At the Allied Health Grand Round, certificates were presented to the Paediatric Respiratory Physiotherapy Team for outstanding team of the year, new practitioner of the year was awarded to Kaitlin Fahy and David Semp was awarded outstanding achievement by an individual.

The week ended with a thank you to the unsung heroes – our volunteers. Their invaluable contribution was acknowledged at a morning tea attended by Deputy Chair of the Board, Dr Lee Mathias.

Thank you to the teams who used the week to celebrate their achievements in the workplace.



Award winners
(L-R)
Anna McRae,
Rita Kale,
Kathy Dryden,
Yvonne Kaeppli,
Jo Mack,
Pamela Hewlett,
Wendy Hoskin,
Anna Thorburn,
Sandi Millner,
Andrew Coe.

**CELEBRATION
WEEK 2012**

A week of celebrations

Our Award Winners

Young doctor of the year

Dr Jared Noel has been named by the Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils (CPMEC) as New Zealand's 2012 Junior Doctor. He was honoured with the distinction because of the unique contribution he has made to the education of medical students and health officers at Auckland DHB.

Jared also represented New Zealand at the Prevocational Medical Education Conference in Perth, November 2012. Although the Australasian award went to a candidate from South Australia, Auckland DHB is proud to have been represented by a young doctor who embodies integrity and compassion for our patients.



2013 Winston Churchill Fellows announced

Hilary Boyd from the Concord team at Auckland DHB has been named as a Winston Churchill Fellow for 2013.

The funding from the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust will allow Hilary to investigate how international healthcare organisations use experience-based co-design. This is an emerging methodology, to improve patient experiences of health care and overall health services.

Congratulations to Hilary!



The HAI Watchdog Awards

The Healthcare-Associated Infection Watchdog Online Community has awarded Mohammad Alshadiefat from Sterile Supply Services, for his paper 'CSSD Fight Against A Creeping Contamination Incident'. The article addresses Clinical Sterile Supplies Dept (CSSD) Root Cause Study pathways against an incident that requires CSSD's Quality Team to react systemically. His paper has resulted in annual savings of \$10,000 in detergents, minimising incidents to an acceptable level, as well as reducing the rework/rejection rate significantly.

Mohammad Alshadiefat (second from left) is flanked by our CE, senior officers at CSSD and representatives from Kimberly Clark.



Mata Forbes honoured

Former Auckland DHB Maori Health Advisor Whaea Mata Forbes recently received the Akenahi Hei Memorial Award. She was involved with the nursing care of the very first kidney transplant patient and worked in the general medical, surgical and neuroservices departments at Auckland City Hospital and Princess Mary Children's Hospital.

Mata then transferred to Maori Health Services at Auckland City Hospital where she was a pioneer, initiating Te Whanau Atawhai service through the DCCM and acute Adult Services.

She worked in the Department of Critical Care Medicine (DCCM) for well over 30 years. Mata retired in April of this year.

We wish Nova readers a merry Christmas. New Year season and look forward to bringing you more staff stories and NOB-wide information in the new year. We could not do it without your ideas and regular willingness to 'play to the camera'. We thank you and encourage more of the same.
The Communications Team

ADHB STAFF CHRISTMAS WISHES

Wishing the ADHB Contact Centre Staff at GCC a Merry Christmas and Happy Prosperous New Year.
Clarissa, Faiana, Mawadda, Verita and Vicky

The SHIVERS Research team would like to thank all staff from Auckland City Hospital and Starship Children's Health for their enthusiasm and dedication with the SHIVERS Project. Best wishes to you all for flu free Christmas.
Debbie, Kathryn, Pamela and Bhamita

To the Adult HSG staff, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and sincerely thank you for your hard work and dedication to our patients. Each year comes with challenges, but as a team we can be proud of the achievements we've made.
Andrew Davies, Barry Snow, Ian Civil, Jane Lees

A blessed Christmas and a bright and prosperous 2013 to all my friends, colleagues and all at Auckland DHB. Special wishes to Raewyn, Harietta, Jasna, Greta, Angelina, Kathy, Praveena, NZLTU Team, Teresa, Lorraine, Julie, Shelley, Christine, Selena, Ravella, Arca, Suzie, Julie, Vimath, Angela, Luisa, Anjala, Nazreen, Roweena, Amber, Catherine, Patricia, Rachael, Karuna, Margaret, Marissa, TL Kim and Leigh.
Rose Fernandes

A very Happy Christmas to all of the community mental health staff. The work you do in supporting our clients in the journey of recovery is often unseen but it is not unrecognised. I know that whilst some of you enjoy leave over the holidays, others will be working hard to cover your caseloads so a huge thanks to them!
Dawn Bannister

Hooray for another great year in PACU level 4! A big thank you to our awesome charge nurse Joyce Pereira for her never ending support and generosity.
Ute Haas

Christmas greetings to the wonderful acute Allied Health Team, who have worked hard this year through great difficulties. Sincere Christmas wishes, lots of happy feasting and hope Father Christmas doesn't get stuck in the chimney as he delivers your gifts! Best wishes and thanks.
Sue Harvey

The Operating Rooms and Anaesthesia Management Team would like to wish all staff a warm and happy Christmas and New Year. We'd like to take this opportunity to say thank you and wish you and your families the very best for the festive season.
Leigh Anderson

Cardiac Ultrasound would like to give a big grateful thanks to those who are so important to us in helping getting our work done. Particular thanks to all the orderlies, transit care nurses and ward clerks - we would be lost without you. Merry Christmas and have a safe New Year.
The Cardiac Ultrasound Team

Special Christmas wishes to all the staff in the Child and Family Unit on Level 1, Starship. Thank you for your hard work and contributions you give each day that make a difference to the lives of children and their families.
Pauline McKay

To all the LabPLUS team members (especially my Mum), we wish you a Merry Christmas. Thank you for being the diagnostic backbone of the hospital and working so hard all year. We couldn't have done it without you.
Love Becky Meffin - on behalf of doctors everywhere



CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Test your Christmas knowledge and be in to win a \$50 Westfield Voucher.

1. What is the name of the tree sometimes called the Kiwi Christmas tree?
2. In the Christmas song – the '12 days of Christmas', how many gifts are given in total?
3. What is Father Christmas known as in France?
4. Who are the four ghosts in Charles Dickens 'A Christmas Carol'?
5. When Kevin is left home alone for the first time, where is the family's destination for their Christmas vacation?
6. Whose is the first voice to be heard on the original recording of Band Aid's Do they know it's Christmas?
7. Name Santa's reindeers (nine in total)?
8. What is Merry Christmas in Spanish?
9. What year was the first Farmer's Grand Santa Parade held in Auckland?
10. Who is rumoured to have stolen Christmas?
11. If you were born on Christmas Day what Star sign would you be?
12. Did Robert Scott set out to the South Pole or the North Pole on Christmas Day 2011?
13. What Christmas carol asks for figgy pudding?
14. What colour is Christmas in the 1950's Elvis Presley song?
15. What's the name of the shop in Queens Street with the Giant Santa outside?
16. What was the date of the Grand Santa parade in 2012?
17. Who is the main sponsor of Auckland's Christmas in the Park?
18. The film Miracle on 34th Street is in which city?
19. What's the last posting date in 2012 for standard post in New Zealand to guarantee Christmas delivery?
20. Which popular eighties band sung 'Last Christmas'?

Email your answers to novan@adhb.govt.nz or post to The Communication Team, Level 2, Building 16, Greenlane Clinical Centre by 20 December 2012. Please include a mailing address. Good luck!

The answers will be published on the Intranet on 21 December – so you can test your friends and family Christmas knowledge at home.



From Starship to Samoa

It seems like Starship nurse Lisa Hall is the poster girl for lucky. She was last year's Nova grand prize winner and won a trip for two to Samoa. Her holiday experience was so memorable that Lisa wrote in to share her fabulous holiday experience.

"My partner and I left Auckland's grey, rainy sky for Samoa's warm sun last September. And we surely got what we bargained for – the intense heat and humidity hit us as soon as we stepped off the plane,"

"While in Samoa we watched some traditional cultural displays, like climbing for coconuts, carving Kava bowls and preparing traditional Samoan medicine.

"We went snorkeling at the Palolo Deep Marine Reserve, visited Papaseea Sliding Rocks and did some shopping at the local food market.

"We really enjoyed Samoa's beautiful coastline and spent a lot of time escaping from the heat by swimming and relaxing in the water. We loved trying the different food and particularly enjoyed the fresh sweet pineapples, papaya and refreshing coconut water. We had such an amazing week and we will definitely return to Samoa.

"It was a fantastic, unforgettable holiday - thanks Nova Magazine and Air New Zealand for our awesome trip to paradise!"

Why not try your luck and enter this year's grand prize competition below.



NOVA GRAND PRIZE

We're offering one lucky Nova reader the chance to win a \$500 travel voucher, courtesy of Orbit Corporate Travel, the DHB's preferred travel management supplier. Email your entry to novan@adhb.govt.nz with 'Nova grand prize' in the subject line by COB Friday January 11. The winner will be randomly-selected and announced in the February edition of Nova. Unfortunately, Air New Zealand has discontinued its sponsorship of the annual Nova grand prize. We are reviewing this so if you have any ideas about what our grand prize should be in future, please email the Communications Team at novan@adhb.govt.nz.

Orbit **Welcome to the travel remedy**



Monthly Competition

The winner of this month's competition will receive one night's accommodation in St Martins Waldorf Hotel, Auckland.



St. Martins Waldorf Apartments Hotel provides luxurious 4.5 star residential, hotel and serviced apartments accommodation options in a magnificent new high-rise complex.



Congratulations to Staff Nurse, Nik Adams, winner of the October travel remedy competition.

Question:

What year was the first heart transplant performed in New Zealand?

To enter, simply answer this month's question and send your entry to novan@adhb.govt.nz, subject line 'monthly competition', or mail to the Communications Department, Level 2, Building 16, Greenlane Clinical Centre. Entries must be received by 31 January 2013. One entry per person.



Nova is the official newsletter of the Auckland District Health Board. It is published by the Communications Department, located in Level 2, Building 16, Greenlane Clinical Centre.

If your department has something to share please contact Nova by phone, extension 26556 or by email adhbcommunications@adhb.govt.nz

ISSN 1178-5373 (print) ISSN 1178-5381 (online)