

A note from Professor William Walters Executive Clinical Director Royal Hospital for Women

Looking back over the last eleven months, I am pleased to note that the Hospital has progressed in a number of areas while simultaneously dealing with a significant increase in clinical activity in all areas, but particularly in Obstetrics. Total births in the Hospital have increased by 433 births from 3914 (in 2005-2006) to 4347 (2006-2007). In Newborn Care Centre the occupancy has increased to an average of 82 per cent with peaks of 90 + per cent compared with average occupancy in the previous year of 77 per cent and highest peak 86 per cent.

In benign gynaecology, endogynaecology and gynaecology oncology, combined clinical activity has increased significantly by approximately 10 per cent.

The Malabar Midwifery Service was opened by the Minister for Health in February 2007 and is providing a much needed antenatal service particularly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people but also for other women from a variety of different cultural backgrounds. The midwives also attend the women in labour and at delivery in RHW.

In addition a team midwifery practice has commenced at Mascot where continuity of antenatal care is provided. Once again the midwives involved attend the women in labour and at delivery in the RHW.

The ACHS review of the Hospital occurred in April 2007 and resulted in the maximum period of accreditation – 4 years. The surveyors, one of whom was an Obstetrician/Gynaecologist from Melbourne, made special reference to the excellence in clinical services provided.

Four key hospital clinical positions have been filled with the appointment of Dr Paul Garvey as Director of Clinical Services, Dr Daniel Challis as Director of Obstetrics & Maternal Fetal Medicine, Dr Alec Welsh as Professor of Maternal Fetal Medicine and Dr Sally Tracy as Professor Women's Health Nursing and Midwifery. Congratulations to all four appointees.

I would like to acknowledge the excellent fundraising work of the RHW Foundation which makes a major financial contribution to the clinical, educational and research activities within the Hospital.

Do you have time to Volunteer for the Royal Hospital for Women ?

The Royal Hospital for Women Foundation is seeking the support of the community by way of volunteers during our Mother's Day Royal Celebrations.

The RHW Foundation will be holding several events, including the Mother's Day Royal Picnic and community activities in which the assistance of volunteers is very much needed.

For further information, please contact Elise Deayton on 9382 6723 or elise.deayton@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au.

Helen Reddy gives guests a special evening at the 'Cafe Royal'



RHW Foundation Director, and renowned international performance artist, Helen Reddy hosted an intimate fundraising dinner on Wednesday 17th October, at the Stamford Plaza Double Bay and provided guests with an amazing surprise on the evening!

To the guests delight, Helen Reddy performed a medley of songs composed by Mel Torme, 'melodies in counterpoint'. Ms Reddy was also accompanied by Mr Ted Hamilton, who was the evening's Master of Ceremonies.

This was a very special one-off performance for the RHW Foundation. The guests gave recognition to the incredible voice of Helen Reddy with a standing ovation. Today, Ms Reddy is a practicing Clinical Hypnotherapist.

Funds raised from this evening will support a new research laboratory for the Maternal Fetal Medicine Department, and guests were provided with an insightful overview by incoming Professor Alec Welsh.