

The Westerly

“Te Hauauru”

March (Poutu-Te-Rangi) 2006

New era in health services for Buller gets underway in March

On Monday March 6 Gareth Rees takes over as interim manager of Buller Health

Gareth Rees has been seconded from Buller Reap to take up the challenge of managing the new Buller Health service for the next six months and of developing a health plan specific to the region. Chief Executive Kevin Hague said the appointment of a Westport based manager meant health services in Buller would from March 6 report directly to Gareth

“We believe that Buller Health is an excellent and exciting development for the region and that Mr Rees is the right person to see it through this crucial development stage.”

Gareth is already familiar with Buller Health having been a member of the steering group.

Buller Health will operate as a separate business unit within the DHB with the appointment of a manager giving the service greater autonomy.

Recruitment for a permanent manager will begin shortly with a view to having someone ready to step in once Gareth’s secondment has finished.

Gareth will report directly to the General Manager of Primary Care Hecta Williams but he will have responsibility for the day-to-day running and decision making of

Full copies of the Buller Health report are available on the West Coast District Health Board website.

West Coast medical books excite Vanuatu doctors

Text books donated by the West Coast District Health Board could make a big difference in the lives of doctors working on the tiny island of Vanuatu.

Late last year the West Coast DHB library, via RMO Tom Pasley, donated a large number of older medical and nursing text books to Vanuatu.

Just over half a tonne of books were donated by the West Coast DHB and other DHBs around the country.

Tom reports the books will make a big difference to a place with few medical books. “Thank you very much for helping organise those donations. “The doctors there (Vanuatu) were very excited with all the new texts.”



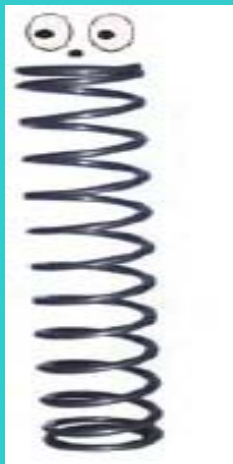
Books from the West Coast District Health Board library are making a big difference in Vanuatu. The books were donated via RMO Tom Pasley. (Photos Tom Pasley)



Contact Vikki Carter, Editor, on Phone 03 768 0499 ext 2665 or email: vikki.carter@westcoastdhb.org.nz.

Spring into Action

Spring into Action is back and it's bigger and better than ever! For the third time in as many years, West Coasters have the chance to sign up for this free and fun physical activity challenge. Spring into Action is a team-based event – each member of the team aims to be active as often as possible, earning points for continuous physical activity over 15 minutes in duration. For the first time this year, team members also earn points for eating five or more servings of fruit and vegetables... an easy and yummy way to earn points! When teams enter, they receive a pack with all the information they need to complete the challenge and other goodies. Spot prizes will be awarded throughout the six weeks Spring into Action runs – starting 6th March. Spring into Action has been very popular in past years, and this year it should get even more Coaster's moving. Spring into Action is a finalist in the NZ Health Innovation Awards; fitting acknowledgement of its effective simplicity. Entry forms can be collected from Sport West Coast, Community and Public Health or the Disability Information Service. Any questions should be directed to Rosie McGrath: phone (03) 768 1160 ext 716, email rosie.mcgrath@cph.co.nz



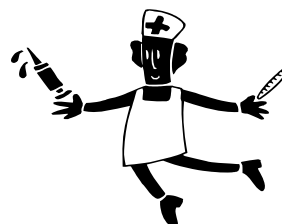
Health and Safety + Infection Control
Monthly Message

INFLUENZA

BE WISE AND IMMUNISE



PROTECTION



TIME NOW FOR ANNUAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION

IT Update

iSOFT

The project is moving along well due to the continuing hard work and efforts of Lonnie and Deb. My name is Tony Reeve. I joined the team as Project Manager for the iSOFT project on February 7 and am enjoying my new environment and getting to meet hospital staff.

Super User training was completed in January on schedule. It has given us a firsthand look at the iSOFT software and how it will move us forward by providing real time recording of patient activities and viewing of Clinical Information.

We have been looking at new hardware requirements necessary for the successful implementation in Reefton, Buller and Hokitika and have visited the departments and spoken with staff regarding their preferences for placement of additional terminals and printers.

We are currently looking closely at the Reporting functions and working towards completion of the data migration processes for current and historic information from IBA.

We are continuing to liaise with Southland DHB in preparation for End User Training. We look forward to seeing you all in the near future.

PACS Project

IT and radiology are still working hard on introducing a digital Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS). As mentioned last time this will allow x-ray images to be stored digitally and electronically shared with other DHBs. This will enable West Coast clinicians to share x-ray images and seek advice about complex cases from counterparts at other DHBs.

As part of this work, West Coast DHB is now connected to the South Island DHB One Office network. This network allows several DHBs to share electronic information with each other. West Coast DHB can now send electronic images directly to Christchurch public and with greater reliability to Christchurch Radiology Group. The shared network has also allowed one of the PACS software vendors access from Canada to the West Coast DHB computer system.

Further infrastructure work as been done and the computer servers have now been installed and ready for the PACS software to be installed. The two main software vendors who will enable PACS are now preparing project plans for the installation of the PACS system.

Pandemic Planning

The West Coast District Health Board like all DHBs around the country is involved in planning for a possible pandemic.

The West Coast DHB is now part of a South Island wide group planning for a possible influenza pandemic.

Joining with other DHBs will mean in the event of an outbreak any planning in this region will be consistent with planning all around the South Island. A steering group has also been established on the West Coast to co-ordinate a health sector wide response and this has now met twice.

The Ministry of Health will also be undertaking an information programme to let people know what they can do to ensure they are ready in the event of an emergency.

In the event of an outbreak the DHB would not only be looking at treatment options but would be actively promoting the messages that can prevent the spread of disease. These messages are not only to prevent the spread of a possible influenza pandemic but could also help to keep you and your family well during the winter

Tips to help stop the spread of germs are.

☞ Influenza vaccinations are a good way to prevent sickness. However, you need to have one each year as the viruses can change.

☞ If you do get sick stay at home.

☞ Wash your hands before preparing food and eating

☞ Wash your hands after blowing your nose or coughing.

CEO forums are on in March

Do you have any suggestions for the CEO?

Have you any questions for the CEO?

Do you have any ideas on improving our services?

Have you suggestions on improving your workplace?

Do you want to know:-

- Key achievements so far this year.
- How progress on our annual objectives are going.



Dates will be advertised closer to the time

First nurse to complete the Professional Development and Recognition Programme recognised

Sonya Neil might laugh at the suggestion but here at the West Coast DHB she is considered a trail-blazer. Sonya was the first nurse to put her hand up to take part in the programme and while she has now completed the PDRP she is still keen to do more study and is going to be studying some university papers next semester. Sonya's achievements were recently recognised with a special afternoon and presentation of flowers from Director of Nursing Jane O'Malley.



Michelle Barber and Jane O'Malley present Sonya with a bouquet to recognise her achievement.

The Cancer Experience

Symptom Management & Control

to be held in Greymouth on 28th and 29th April 2006

The focus of this study day is the assessment, management and control of symptoms in the cancer patient

Registration

You are invited to register by email to
danielle@canty.cancernz.org.nz or
glynnis.james@westcoastdhub.org.nz

By post to Cancer Society PO Box 81 Greymouth

By Phone 03 768 9557 or fax 03 768 9587

by March 17, 2006

Cost \$25.00 for two day \$15.00 one day

Please pass this flyer on to others who may be interested.



West Coast District Health Board



Disability Awareness Day and Expo

A Disability Awareness day will be held at **Hokitika on Thursday 4th May 2006 at the Senior Citizens Rooms, 136 Revell Street**. This day has been organised by a combined committee of the 'not for profit' disability sector and is intended to identify/reduce the barriers in our community for people with disabilities of all ages, their families etc. It will be an interactive day and we hope as many people as possible take the opportunity to attend, particularly those who are the decision makers in our communities. Registration will be required so we can cater for the day. While the training is offered free there is a cost to the day and any contribution from people/organisations attending will be appreciated. **Registration required by the 1st April 2006.**

We will require support people from the sector so please contact us if you are able to assist.

To Register:

Phone: 03 7684600 or if outside the Grey District 0800 100 946

Fax: 03 7684605

Email: wcds2@minidata.co.nz

If further information is required contact Doreen Hay-Stanger at the above contact details.

EXPO

A **Community Expo** is planned for **23rd May 2006** to be held at the **Regent Theatre and Trowbridge Room, Mackay Street, Greymouth**. This day will include the Disability/Health/WINZ/ community sector. We hope to make this a day of information as to who does what in our communities, how to access services, equipment suppliers, holistic services etc. There will be a \$10 charge to 'not for profit' groups to display. Businesses can contact us for further information. If you are interested in displaying, assisting or supporting this day please contact Lyn Heine, Coordinator, at the Disability Information Service. **Registration required by 17th March 2006.**

Contact details:

Phone: 03 7684600 or if outside the Grey District 0800 100 946

Fax: 03 7684605

Email: wcds2@minidata.co.nz

or Lyn Heine at home 03 762 5553

We acknowledge sponsorship from:

- The West Coast DHB for the Disability Awareness day and the Expo
- West Coast Community Trust for the Disability Awareness Day.
- Independent Living Centre for Disability Awareness Day and Expo.