

The Westerly

“Te Hauauru”

December 2007

Opening of *He Oranga Kahurangi* Heralds the End of an Era at Seaview

November 30, 2007 marks the end of an era as Ruru villa at Seaview closes and Dementia services and patients are transferred to the new He Oranga Kahurangi facility at Grey Base Hospital.

The site at Seaview has been used as a mental health facility in one guise or another since 1872. At its peak over 500 patients were treated there.

On Tuesday 20 November, Associ-



ate Minister of Health and West Coast MP Damien O'Connor officially opened a new purpose built, 22 bed facility on the Grey Base Hospital site.

In front of a large audience of invited guests, staff and the public, Damien, WCDHB Chair Gregor Coster and Dementia Services Manager Peter Ryan all paid tribute



Associate Min. of Health Damien O'Connor watches as the tree he has just planted to commemorate the opening of the new Dementia Services facility *He Oranga Kahurangi*, is blessed by the Venerable Richard Wallace.

to the staff of the WCDHB, particularly those of Seaview, and the Trades Department and all of the contractors for all the many hours of hard work that were put in to ensure that the building was completed on time and within budget. Much recognition was also given to the great quality of care that patients have received in facilities that by modern standards were well past their 'use by' date.

A lot of time and thought has

gone into the planning of the new facility with clinical and nursing staff all involved.

Built by Evan Jones Construction, the new unit was completed within the \$3.82m budget. Construction was started in March 2007 and completed in November.



Increasing Diabetes Awareness

On the West Coast, diabetes affects 1 in 30 people; the numbers are higher for Māori affecting 1 person in 20. For every person diagnosed with diabetes there may be another whose diabetes has not been recognised. There may be an extra 300 West Coasters may have undiagnosed diabetes.

A key focus of this year's Diabetes hui was to raise awareness of the high risk of developing heart disease if you have diabetes. Good management of diabetes will help to lower the risk and help the person with diabetes and their whānau/family stay well.

Everyone with diabetes in New Zealand is entitled to a free diabetes check with their GP or practice nurse once a year. Unfortunately West Coasters with diabetes do not take advantage of these checks. Only 60% of non-Māori and 30% of Maori accessed this free service in 2006.

Good management of diabetes care is very important to the hauora or well being of a person with this condition.

This includes eating low-fat, wholesome foods, keeping active,

staying smokefree, receiving regular checks from your health care team and taking your medications as recommended.

If you have any doubt, Get Checked!



Marg Foster, Mangu Johnston, Tony Kokshoorn and Josh Baxter all prepared a healthy meal on a budget in 20 min at the Greymouth hui.

Infection Prevention and Control Week

Julie Ritchie, CNS Infection Control toured the hospital with Charlotte Jackson of J & J and the "Glow Bug" to promote good hand hygiene. After using a special disclosing liquid and then washing their hands, staff were able to see any areas still holding bacteria due to weaknesses in their washing technique. The winner of the raffle supplied by Johnson & Johnson was Sandra Signal of OCS.



Chris Black, nursing educator, examines her hands watched over by Charlotte Jackson of Johnson & Johnson and Julie Ritchie of Infection Control.

Congratulations

- Kim Sinclair, HEHA Project Manager on being selected by Netball NZ to make the National B Squad of Netball umpires.
- Joanne Paterson, who does rural nursing cover in South Westland, on achieving Nurse Practitioner status
- The "Buller Bullets", an indoor netball team mainly comprising of staff members from Dunsford and Foote Wards were successful in winning their section 2 of the Sport Buller business house competition in Westport. The team had one loss and one draw, winning the rest of their games.



IT HELP

We provide help
not hammers!

Currently there are
a number of ways
you can get help:

1. **(Most Preferred)**
**Go to the IT Services page on the
WCDHB intranet**

To log a new issue simply click on **Issues
Lookup Tool** then any one of the three links
under **Your Work Order Requests** and fill in
the details of your issue. You can even
submit attachments. Don't forget to click the
submit button once all details have been
entered on that form.

2. **Email IT Help:**
ithelp@westcoastdhd.org.nz, or
3. **Call IT Help:** Ext. 2911

IT Training

The first port of call if you need IT training is the
IT Section of the WCDHB intranet.

Where possible, the IT department prefers to
train users in bulk. This is more efficient than
individual one-on-one training. The maximum
amount of users the IT department can take at
any one time however is 4.

Individual training appointments are also
available by request. Please contact ext 2644 to
discuss your training requirements.

The following times have been pre-booked to
allow for bulk training.

Mon 9 am - Health Views and/ Log in training
repeated again at 10.30am

- Please have staff coordinate to these
times. System training (iPM) please
coordinate multiple staff so they can receive
training together.
- For Patient Administration System training
(iPM) please coordinate multiple staff so they
can receive training together.

New Chair Appointed

Recently appointed Minister of Health, David Cunliffe has
announced the appointment of Mr Rex Williams of Christ-
church as Chair of the incoming West Coast District
Health Board.

Rex Williams has recently retired as the CEO of Holcim
(New Zealand) Ltd and has significant governance and
management experience, both locally and abroad. He is a
Council Member of the University of Canterbury, a Direc-
tor of MainPower New Zealand Ltd, an Advisor to HW
Richardson Group Ltd, and a Trustee of the Water Rights
Trust and the Styx Living Laboratory Trust.

Rex has family connections to Greymouth and Oira going
back three generations and his Holcim role led to many
visits to Westport over 25 years. The Buller half marathon
is also a particular drawcard.

Living in Christchurch for most of their lives, Rex and his
wife have three adult children who all live overseas.

His pastimes include jogging, bike riding, fishing, skiing,
golf and reading history along with some work in a few
advisory/trustee/director roles.



Newly appointed WCDHB Chair, Rex Williams, flanked by CEO
Kevin Hague and outgoing chair Prof Gregor Coster.

Have a question or comment?
**Go to the forum page on the WCDHB
intranet**

2008 Health Scholarships

The following students have been awarded WCDHB 2008 Health Scholarships.

Joanne Durkin	Westport
Emma Knudson	Westport
Beth Wiechern	Westport
Helen Martyn	Westport
Leah Russ	Christchurch
Rachel Whitcombe	Greymouth
Jo Slater	Hokitika
Emma Cochrane	Cobden
Lauren Smith	Hokitika
Sarah Bushby	Greymouth
Elizabeth Ward	Greymouth
Candace McGirr	Greymouth
Sophie Ferguson	Blackball
Leah Jones	Runanga
Natasha Bergin	Christchurch
Jessica Overweg	Hokitika
Philip Daniel	Hokitika
Bryce Jackson	Dunedin
Morgana Woolhouse-Williams	Runanga



Happenings



- December 10 sees the announcement of the winners of the inaugural WCDHB Health Excellence and Innovation Awards.
- November 28 saw the 2nd anniversary of the National Immunisation Register on the West Coast marked by a party for those 2 year olds born in the same week.
- Congratulations to the recently elected members of the WCDHB Board - Kevin Brown, Helen Gillespie, Sharon Pugh, Mohammed Shadahat, Elinor Stratford, David Tranter and John Vaile
- December 12 marks the leaving of Dr Malcolm Stuart from his position as HOD Anaesthetics. Malcolm has been here for 10 years and during that time served two terms as a board member of the WCDHB.
- Nothing will be more stressful for those working over the Christmas period than having to care for work colleagues, so be careful out there. We all perform valuable tasks in our organisation so we want to see you back after the holiday period.

What is in our water?



Something is definitely up amongst

the nurses that work for Urology Associates at Grey Hospital.

These ladies, better than most, should know the importance of drinking plenty of water, but given the condition of both, one wonders if there is a problem with the water here.

It is great to see Andrea and Jenny doing their bit to maintain the need for health services on the West Coast well into the future!



Andrea Smith and Jenny Harris. Confirmation that working in urology must be good for you.



Hi from Bryan

I'm Bryan Jamieson ,the new Community Liaison Officer .

Hailing from Dunedin originally, (and still a Highlander's fan) I moved to Greymouth over 20 years ago when I took up a position as a teacher at Greymouth High School.

During that time I have also been involved with St John as a volunteer ambulance officer and paramedic. I met my wife, Janet, through a mutual involvement in the local ambulance service.

One of my roles is to produce "The Westerly" so I need to have plenty of articles and photos made available to keep it coming out regularly. This newsletter should be something that all staff look forward to arriving. Your input can help me immensely in achieving that.

