

January 2017

Welcome back everyone to 2017 and I am sure another eventful year for health in Hawke's Bay. Having spent the last few weeks away with my family to visit friends and our families in the UK, it has given me a chance to catch-up and think about another busy year ahead for 2017. It has also offered me the opportunity to be thankful for the healthcare system we experience here in New Zealand, and as employees of a DHB. We are very fortunate to have a stable system whereby management and governance work cohesively together to ensure the best possible outcomes for those in our care, where we champion professional development to ensure we continually improve and advance as best we can and where management structures remain fairly consistent. In the UK my former colleagues have reminded me that things are much different and fragmented, with structural changes every few years, causing uncertainty and instability, and where pay scales no longer reflect those of counterparts abroad.

Industrial action

First-up the year began with the challenging junior doctors strike affecting 18 district health boards including Hawke's Bay. The event kept many of our staff busy over the Christmas and New Year holiday period contingency planning and prevented many from taking annual leave or having to rearrange it.

The 73 hours of strike action from 17 January until 20 January was again well-managed. The contingency planning meant that even with many of our junior doctor workforce on strike, the senior doctors and nurses were able to cover shifts so we could maintain life preserving services. However a number of outpatient clinics and elective surgeries were postponed and have had to be rescheduled. This has affected many in our community. To those people I can only apologise. We are doing our best to reschedule and get everyone back on a list as soon as we can. I understand that this will have been enormously frustrating and upsetting for those who were preparing themselves for surgery or preparing to have an outpatient clinic only to have it postponed. I hope the issues can be resolved with no further action.

Corporate restructure

At the end of last year I released my final decision on the corporate services restructure (insert link to nettie). We have begun advertising for the new positions of Executive Director of Strategy & Health and Executive Director of Primary Care and have received internal expressions of interest for the two new positions of Executive Director of People and Quality and Executive Director of Corporate Services. These people will be interviewed before we consider whether we need to advertise externally. The changes to Corporate Services will come into effect from 20 February.

Te Matatini National Kapa Haka Festival 22-26 February

Forty eight teams from 12 regions throughout New Zealand will converge in Hawke's Bay for this hugely popular bi-annual Kapa haka competition at the Hawke's Bay Sports Park, Hastings. The four- day event is hosted by Ngati Kahungunu and will be a cultural festival and a pinnacle event for Māori performing arts. Thousands of people from all around the country attend the event which this year will be a chance for Ngati Kahungunu to showcase Hawke's Bay. Our public health teams will be there in force promoting various health messages and services. This whanau friendly, smoke and alcohol free event, I expect, will be more of an opportunity for us all to witness kapa haka excellence.



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Endoscopy Unit

This year we will begin building our new \$11.8 million Endoscopy Unit that will help give us the ability to be able to provide bowel screening services for our community next year. The building will adjoin the main entrance to Hawke's Bay Hospital and work will begin early this year with the unit due for completion by August next year

Waioha low risk birthing centre

On 1 March we will officially open Waioha, our low risk natural birthing centre which is midwifery-led and delivering on expectations from staff, Lead Maternity Carers and, most importantly, women and whanau. While it has been operating for a number of months now, we have been unable to officially open it because of the business of last year – particularly the Havelock North gastro event. We did not want to squeeze this very important event into already full calendars.

Bronwen Pelvin the Senior Maternity Advisor for the Ministry of Health will officiate at the event. Further details to follow and all are welcome.

The passing of Angela Fleming

It was with sadness that I learned about the passing of Angela Fleming in December. Angela was commissioned in 2003 as a Volunteer Catholic Chaplaincy Assistant and became a long serving and valued member of the chaplaincy team until her retirement in 2016.

Angela was well known around the hospital and in the wider community especially in both Hastings and Waipawa, Central Hawke's Bay. Angela and her husband Dr Fleming and their family previously lived in Waipawa where they faithfully served that community for a number of years.

Angela's funeral was held on 21 December.

Physiotherapy Spine Clinic recognition

It is always pleasing to receive thank you letters from patients. Recently I was copied into an acknowledgement letter by a patient under physiotherapist Barbara Mawson who was thrilled with the care and treatment plan she was receiving.

"I spent an hour with Barbara yesterday and have been pain-free since then," the patient said. "It has been such a relief to get a thorough assessment and no-nonsense treatment plan that is easy to follow at home."

The patient went on to say that after several months of constant pain, she was thrilled with the results which meant no need for further treatment, such as surgery. Well done Barbara and the team at large. You do a fantastic job.



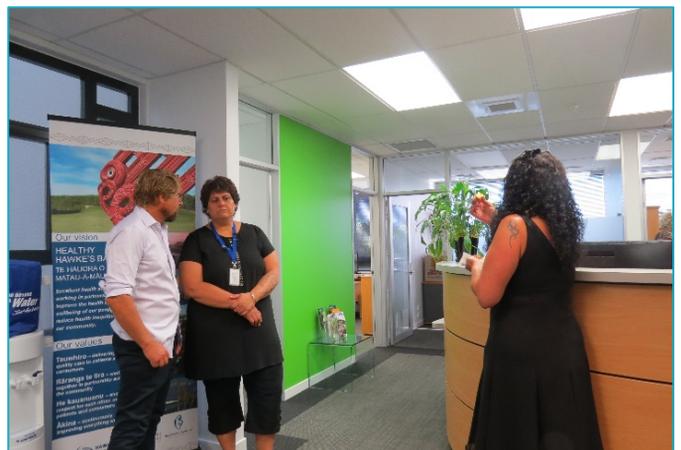
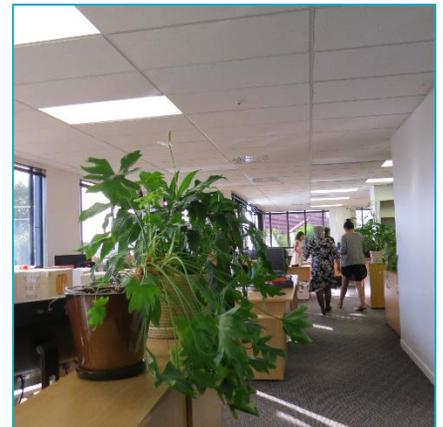
Napier Health Update

Plenty of activity is happening at Napier Health with Alexander Construction on site to carry out improvements/upkeep to the exterior of the building and space being booked by our Security Team for security training sessions, assisted by local police. The training, for all DHB staff, gives advice on dealing with inappropriate or aggressive behavior.

Also, future planning of 'virtual oncology clinics' is also underway between Napier Outpatients and Mid Central DHB. This videoconferencing link is often known as 'Telemedicine', brings health care access to different locations by enabling health practitioners to evaluate, diagnose and treat patients remotely using the latest telecommunications technology. The benefits of this technology allows many patients that find it difficult to travel to clinics, to still get access to care.

Opening of Health HB

An early morning welcome on Monday 30 January was given to Health Hawke's Bay staff as they started working from their new offices on the first floor of the DHB corporate office building. The blessing by DHB Kaumātua, Māori Health and Chaplaincy services saw staff from Health Hawke's Bay and the district health board celebrate the move and acknowledge the benefits of developing even closer working relationships.



New intranet work progressing

Work on developing a new intranet is progressing. Many of you will be looking forward to the new Nettie, which is expected to be up by the end of April. As there is a huge amount of content that will need to be changed over can all services please look at the content they currently have on Nettie to make sure it is up-to-date.

If there are changes and updates can you please email comms@hbdhb.govt.nz. The communications team will also be sending out updates to individual services as content changes take place to make sure information that is needed and up-to-date is included in the new intranet.



**However you choose to get here,
we want to make it easier.**

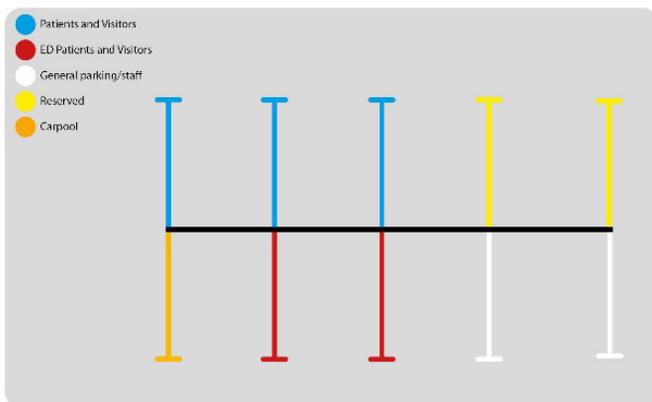
We've heard your feedback about parking issues at Hawke's Bay Hospital and we've listened!

Our Go Well Travel Plan is taking shape and in 2016 we introduced some great new initiatives such as:

- The introduction of express bus services timed to meet the needs of shift workers.
- The launch of new commuter services linking Napier, Taradale, Hawke's Bay Hospital and Hastings.
- From 1 January, free GoBay bus transport for outpatients and their caregiver/support person to attend appointments at Hawke's Bay Hospital and Napier Health.
- Walking and biking maps went online – with bike racks available at several locations within hospital grounds near to most common entrances.

Changes to Car Parks

Remarking of our car parks took place in late December, early January in preparation of our next Go Well phase which will see the introduction of paid parking in the future. There aren't any changes at this stage, other than you will notice there are different coloured parks which will soon be allocated to particular patrons – for example: visitors, staff and staff who carpool.



Signs are being installed and once everything is in place, the paid parking programme will be introduced. This is to further encourage people to consider alternative forms of transport to our hospital.

A nominal fee of \$1/day for staff and \$1/3.5 hours for patients and visitors will go back into the Go Well budget to supplement future initiatives and facilities to encourage people to bike, walk and ride the bus. Those registered as car poolers may park for free.

Please note: Plenty of notice will be given to staff and visitors before paid parking is introduced.

However, the Go Well Team is preparing some Frequently Asked Questions for staff and these will be available soon.

Staff who are interested in registering to carpool (limited spaces), or if you have any other questions about our Go Well Travel Plan, please contact our friendly team by email: gowell@hbdhb.govt.nz.

Karen Molloy farewell

Karen Molloy, senior HR advisor, finished with the DHB early January, after a brief holiday break came back in late January for a formal farewell. It was an opportunity to catch up with many of the people she had worked with over the more than 11 years she had been with us. Karen's valued HR advice and support, and enviable shoe collection, was acknowledged.



GP Under 18-year-old Scheme

Since the board made its historic decision in November last year to extend free GP visits from the Government-funded 13 years and under to those aged under 18 years here in Hawke's Bay, our people have been consulting with all general practices to gauge interest in signing up to the scheme. We are aiming to have a list of GP practices confirmed for the scheme by the end of March 2017.



Orderlies Awarded

Nine Care Associates took to the podium in December to receive their level three graduation certificates. What a great effort, your work makes a difference to the lives of patients every day. On behalf of the wider DHB, thank you for your work and ongoing commitment to learn more.

Care Associate Graduates:

Jennifer Quinn, Linda Puriri, Simone Ditters, Erin Harris, Janice Marley, Sue Campbell, Mere Brown, Frances Boyle, Rachel Hungahunga.



Cath Hellyer's 50 Years recognition

50 years of service and still going strong! Cath Hellyer, who is a much loved nurse and great negotiator, celebrated 50 years of Service in December – a significant achievement that saw a special celebration take place at Hawke's Bay Hospital on 15 December, with media present. We uploaded the newspaper article onto our Facebook Page about Cath's 50 Years of service and it had a staggering reach - 7,696 people in fact! Well done Cath, what outstanding service you have provided our patients and staff. Thank you. deliver better business solutions for everyone.



Moving ceremony of thanks

On Christmas Eve, our Emergency Department was busy following the tragic bus crash near Gisborne carrying 45 people from the Tongan Mailefih Siulikutapu College brass band team who were on their way to Gisborne's Tongan Methodist Parish to perform on Christmas Day for a fundraising event. Three lives were lost.

We cared for two crash survivors, Tevita Lokotui, 18, who lost a leg and Scott Taufa'ao, 32, who had a serious eye injury.

My thanks to all staff involved in the care of these patients during Christmas Eve and thereafter. It was evident upon my return how touched these patients and their families were from the care they received.

Sharron Mason and Tim Evans, who was Acting CE at the time, attended a very moving ceremony in early January – a request by the patients, their supporters and families, to thank HBDHB for its amazing care and support during these tragic circumstances. HBDHB received two very special gifts, pictured, which will be treasured and placed somewhere appropriate to remember them.



Sculpture gifted

A very special Remembrance Service was held at Hawke's Bay Hospital on 23 December as former hospital physician John Kerr's family gifted a sculpture by Martin Selman titled "Loving Family" to the hospital in John's memory. John sadly passed away last year. It was a lovely service with two beautiful solos from Amy Hefferman and as always aptly led by Barbara Walker and her team of Hospital Chaplains. Our thanks to the Kerr family for this very special donation to the hospital grounds.



Disney Characters visited Children's Ward

Our children's ward had some very special Disney characters pay a surprise visit five days before Christmas. Tinkerbell, Cinderella, Snow White and Sleeping Beauty helped to spread some Christmas cheer and the children were so excited! Check out these wonderful photos.



HBDHB Board members make up Avanti Plus Team Tag Tri



L to R: Heather Skipworth, Helen Francis and ex DHB employee Waiora Rogers in the Avanti Plus Team Tag Tri December 18

Zorb Crazy!

One way to get rid of busy Christmas stress was a game of Zorb for some district health board staff. With 16 teams entered it was always going to be a battle of the Titans but the Intercity Rollers, with some swift foot play, took out the winning prize. Congratulations and well done to all those teams that entered and played under the hot sun after a hard day's work.

