



## New Wellington Regional Children's Hospital update

We're nearly at the end of the beginning! Your new children's hospital is underway!

It is with great excitement that we bring you this update on the progress of our New Wellington Regional Children's Hospital! Construction work is now well underway, the site has been blessed, the crane is up, 900 piles have been drilled into the ground, Riddiford House has been demolished, and the concrete foundations are almost ready to be laid. With your help we are growing this building from the ground up!

Next time you're passing, be sure to stop and take a look at the exciting work going on.



**NOVEMBER 18:** Mauri stone laying ceremony marks the start of the build



**DECEMBER 18:** The crane goes up!



**MARCH 19:** 900 piles are drilled into the ground

A massive thank you for your support of our "All Brand New" Children's Hospital appeal so far. Our vision for the modern new children's hospital is a bold one, but together we can make the dream a reality. Along with a stunning new building, with your help we can make sure that it is equipped with cutting edge medical equipment and family and outdoor spaces that are welcoming, well-appointed and world class - all of which will help sick kids recover more quickly. Our new hospital will serve our children well for many years to come!



# Thank you

Dear Supporter,

2018 was a challenging year for our hospitals and patients and 2019 will also be challenging. But with our wonderful supporters, and our communities' help, the Foundation can continue to make a considerable difference for hospital patients.

In this newsletter you will read about just some of the amazing things the Foundation has been able to do, on your behalf, that will make our patients and their family's lives a little bit easier as they go on their medical journey. So thank you so much.

These are wonderful stories and we at the Foundation consider it a privilege to work on your behalf to support our patients, our doctors and nurses.

Our exciting New Regional Children's Hospital is beginning to take shape with the building foundations almost completed. The old Riddiford nurses home has been pulled down to make way for car-parking and over 900 wooden 'lampposts' (piles) have been driven into the ground as part of the foundations of the new hospital.

By the time you have received this newsletter the huge concrete foundations will be ready to be laid.

Mr Dunajtschik (who is building and donating \$50million towards the hospital) and the CCDHB are very pleased with progress. It is hard to believe that it was only 30 months ago that the Foundation made the suggestion to Mr Dunajtschik about supporting Wellington Children's Hospital; and now plans, meetings, concepts, consents have been finalised and building is underway.

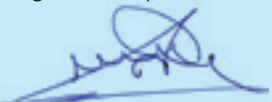
The Foundation has been asked to seek \$6million in community donations to fit-out and equip the new hospital to a world standard.

Support for our "All Brand New" fundraising campaign at this early stage is very encouraging and we hope you will come on this journey with us and make our New Regional Children's Hospital a truly community owned hospital.

If you want to know more please visit our website [www.whf.org.nz](http://www.whf.org.nz)

We look forward to bringing you further progress updates regularly.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support of our doctors, nurses, patients and all the services provided at our Wellington Regional Hospital.



Bill Day MNZM, JP  
Chair.

## Memories of Riddiford House

It is with a nostalgic nod to a bygone era that we say goodbye to Riddiford House – the last of Wellington Regional Hospital's former Nurses Home.

In 1883, Wellington Hospital established the first formal nursing training programme in New Zealand. For the next 90 years, supervised Nurses Homes would be built on hospital grounds throughout the country in order to attract 'respectable' young women to the profession.

Opened on 6 November 1958, and named after Daniel Riddiford one of Wellington's earliest settlers, Riddiford House was one of three dedicated Nurses Homes built on the Wellington Hospital complex. It was better known as 'Residence No.3' by the thousands of students and nurses that passed through its dormitories throughout the late 1950s - 1970s.

In the 1990s, the building would become home to men working aboard the Cook Strait Ferry, and would also serve as accommodation for staff, medical students, families visiting from out of town and for a while, social housing tenants.

With engineering reports highlighting significant concerns for its seismic safety, the building has been empty for some years, and construction of the New Wellington Regional Children's Hospital has now allowed it to be safely removed to allow for much needed car parking.



With the building coming down, many people have shared some colourful memories from inside its walls...

*"I have many fond memories of the parties that*

*were held every night on one floor or another, sneaking boys in through the fire escape doors and much much more."*

*"I have great memories of nurses in white uniforms, caps and red capes looking like butter wouldn't melt!"*

*"I recall sneaking back into the nurses home after a night out so late that we would have been locked out had it not been for the nice supervisor who let us in!"*

Thank you,  
you have made a  
**huge impact**  
on patient's lives

## Your knitting, sewing and quilting goes a long way

Every year, you help create over 9000 knitted, sewn and quilted items! These items are primarily given to new babies born at Wellington Hospital, Kenepuru Maternity Unit and Kapiti Birthing Unit, as well as those who spend time in the Wellington Children's Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). One NICU mum shares that, "I remember going to NICU on Christmas morning, when our baby boy was two days old (born at 24 weeks). We were given such a special gift for our little man which included a quilt and hat and bootie set... it without a doubt put a smile on our faces. Thank you so much for the special memories that are made for our babies that are in NICU on Christmas Day, it really helps brighten our day."

Thanks to all our volunteers who generously gift their time and talent to help our hospital and its patients.

Help for  
young children  
visiting the  
Wellington  
Hospital Eye  
Clinic



The Kerr-Straight Family girls, Lucia and Abi, had a difficult start to life. Within a few weeks of their birth, Mum Hana and Dad Chris were handing their precious daughters to the medical team at Wellington Regional Children's Hospital so that they could undergo vital surgery to preserve their vision. Both Lucia and Abi were born with Bilateral Congenital Cataracts (BCC). Without early medical intervention, children with BCC face early and progressive loss of sight which can profoundly impact on their ability to learn and ultimately affect a child's entire life. "These children require frequent visits for contact lens fittings as well eye and pressure checks - all of which can be hard to explain to a toddler or older child," explains Paediatric Ophthalmic Nurse, Louise Cavanagh.

Thanks to you we have been able to help make the whole experience a little less frightening for children like Lucia and Abi, by buying books that describe

## Heart Walk helps improve patient lounge

On 17th November, over 100 patients, staff and supporters walked through the heart of Wellington city, to raise funds for Wellington Regional Hospitals' Heart and Lung Unit. Funds raised from this event are being used to buy televisions for ward lounges, as well as much needed artwork to enhance the environment for patients, many of who have a long period of recovery and



**9000**  
knitted, sewn and quilted  
items

their treatment in a fun, bold and child friendly way. Hanna Straight says, "Our daughters keep asking us to read them. It's lovely to be able to read them a story that normalises their eye condition, just like reading a book about baking or going to the park." The clinic is now also a little more child friendly thanks to some bright Hospi decals on the walls, toys and portable DVD players. These additions help to ease a child's anxiety or wait-time especially when there can be up to 150-200 patients in total come through the eye clinic in one day. With your support we are very fortunate to be able to fund items that improve our youngest patient's care and experience at Wellington Hospital.

**150-200**  
**PATIENTS IN TOTAL**  
COME THROUGH THE EYE  
CLINIC IN ONE DAY

rehabilitation. Leanne Havill, Nurse Educator on the ward told us, "We desperately need a new TV because some of our patients are in the ward for weeks with heart and lung operations or medical problems and they can't leave the ward because they need heart monitoring." Thank you to all those who took part in the walk or have supported the Heart and Lung Unit by making a donation.

→ You can continue to support the Heart and Lung Unit by donating online at [whf.org.nz](http://whf.org.nz)

## Thank you for spreading Christmas cheer!

Thank you to all the individuals and organisations who kindly donated toys, games, art supplies, care packs and many other thoughtful items to the children's hospital over the Christmas period. Your generosity made a big difference and brought a lot of festive joy to the children, patients and families in hospital over Christmas.

Thanks to many of you, we were also again able to 'deck the hospital halls' and atrium with 60 beautiful sponsored Christmas Trees. Another highlight was the visit from members of the NZ Police, who arrived with an exciting collection of cars, motorbikes, an especially friendly drug squad dog and Christmas gifts for our young patients.

Santa and Hospi were also able to take a little time out of their crazy Christmas schedules to visit children on the wards and in the hospital's Santa grotto.



# The Wellington Community makes a difference...

## Rotary club helps find veins at Wellington Regional Children's Hospital!

Children's tiny veins will now be a lot easier to find at Wellington Regional Children's Hospital thanks to the Rotary Club of Mount Victoria. The club has provided our children's hospital with a brand new AccuVein Vein Finder Device. The AccuVein device will greatly reduce the stress for young children who require the insertion of an Intravenous (IV) line or an injection. "Finding a vein to administer medication or IV fluid to babies and children can prove difficult. The AccuVein device digitally lights up and displays a map of blood vessels, including veins, arteries, the aorta and capillaries on the surface of the skin in real time. This technology enables medical staff to locate often hard-to-find veins in young patients", explains Charlotte Stanczuk, Clinical Nurse Specialist at Wellington Children's Hospital.

Thanks Rotary Club Mount Victoria.



Charlotte Stanczuk (Clinical Nurse Specialist, Wellington Regional Children's Hospital) shows Mark Chiu and Patricia Cooper (Rotary Club of Mt Victoria members) how the AccuVein Device works.

## A donation with a difference

Anabel uses her birthday to help our New Wellington Regional Children's Hospital!

*Countdown and Wellington Children's Hospital staff celebrate the funding of the first of the beds for the new children's hospital!*



## Countdown steps up to fund all the beds for our new children's hospital

Countdown have been supporters of Wellington Regional Children's Hospital, with their annual Countdown Kids Hospital Appeal, for over 12 years. We are thrilled that they are funding all the high-tech, electronic beds for the new children's hospital! Chair of the Foundation, Bill Day said, "Countdown staff and customers are making a real

difference to our children's health and we are delighted they are supporting us with the "All Brand New" Medical Equipment Fund for Wellington's new children's hospital. This donation, takes us all one step closer to ensuring that we have the best and most modern equipment for our young patients in the new hospital."

## The House that Wellington Rugby Built

Have you heard? Wellington Regional Children's Hospital's long term charity partner, Wellington Rugby, are building a house to support Junior Rugby and the New Wellington Regional Children's Hospital! The brand new four bedroom family home, located in Upper Hutt, will be auctioned off at its completion. The build is well underway with the foundations complete and framing up. Make sure to like 'Wellington Hospitals Foundation' on Facebook to stay up to date with this exciting project.



Last month, Anabel Jamieson celebrated her 15th birthday! She made a special visit to Wellington Hospital on the day to present a donation to our New Wellington Regional Children's Hospital Equipment Fund. Anabel chose to donate her birthday money, instead of spending it on herself, which we think makes her an extra special donor. Thank you so much Anabel for your amazing generosity and kindness!

*Anabel presents her donation to Bill Day (Chair of Wellington Hospitals Foundation) on her birthday!*

## Jumbo Tennis – a big hit for Wellington Children’s Hospital!



The competition heated up on the 1st March, when Wellington Rotary Club hosted their annual Jumbo Tennis tournament. Over 40 teams took part in the tournament, including staff from Wellington Children’s Hospital, playing tennis with oversized, jumbo tennis rackets. Funds raised from the tournament will go towards state-of-the-art medical equipment for our new children’s hospital. Thank you Rotary for your ongoing support!

## Hikoi iti, Hikoi nui fitness project improves outcomes for mental health patients

The Foundation, together with support from Wellington Community Trust and New Zealand Community Trust, has funded a number of fitness trackers for the Mental Health Directorate in Kenepuru. This equipment is part of a fitness project called “Hikoi iti, Hilo nui” (Little steps, Big steps) to help support the social, mental and physical benefits of exercise for people living in long-term hospital care, particularly those with a serious mental illness.



Staff with the new fitness trackers

## Additional community thanks...

Over the past three months, the Foundation, with the support of our donors and charity partners, have funded the following items:

- C-Arm portable x-ray machine for Theatres – funded by the **Lion Foundation**
- Portable x-ray machine for Vascular Access Service – funded by **Pub Charity**
- Videolaryngoscope for Emergency Department – funded by **One Foundation**
- Mural for Older Adult, Rehabilitation and Allied Health Therapies, Kenepuru – funded by the **Trust House Foundation**
- Therapeutic Equipment for Child Development Service – funded by the **Margaret Neave Charitable Trust**
- Portable DVD players for Wellington Children’s Hospital – funded by the **Winton & Margaret Bear Charitable Trust**
- Wool for Volunteer Service – funded by the **Pelorus Trust, The Southern Trust and The Four Winds Foundation**
- TVs & iPads for the Simulation Suite – funded by **your generous donations**
- Sports Equipment & TVs for Mental Health – funded by **your generous donations**

## → How you can help your hospitals

**Become a Well Wisher** (regular giver) and regularly support the: New Children’s Hospital Medical Equipment Fund, Cancer Unit, Heart Unit or area of greatest need.

Or DONATE online now at [whf.org.nz](http://whf.org.nz). You can donate to an area of choice within your hospital, and your donation will help ensure we can provide the best health care possible for everyone.

Contact us on **04 806 2332** to find out more

P.S. Make sure to follow us on Facebook to stay up to date with news and stories from your hospital. Search [www.facebook.com/wellingtonhospitalsfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/wellingtonhospitalsfoundation) and like our page.



### Thank you to all our Charity Partners/Major Funders:

- Buddle Findlay Child Health Foundation ■ Capital City Motors ■ Child’s Play Charity ■ Countdown Kids Hospital Appeal
- DLA Piper ■ Dominion Post ■ Four Winds Foundation ■ Infinity Foundation ■ Jack Jeffs Charitable Trust ■ Lions Clubs
- New Zealand Community Trust ■ One Foundation ■ Pelorus Trust ■ ProMed Technologies Ltd ■ Pub Charity Ltd ■ Rotary
- The Lion Foundation ■ The Southern Trust ■ TG Macarthy Trust ■ Trust House Foundation ■ Wellington Community Trust
- Wellington Lions Rugby ■ Weta Workshop ■ and all our supporters