

THE PULSE

ISSUE 5


easternhealth
GREAT HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Keeping you up to date with developments at Healesville & District Hospital and Yarra Valley Community Health



ALAN'S WELCOME

Welcome to the first edition of *The Pulse* for 2015.

In this edition you will find an update on the \$7.8 million redevelopment of Healesville & District Hospital and Yarra Valley Community Health, which will accommodate new and expanded services for the Healesville and Yarra Ranges communities.

Eastern Health currently offers a range of health services in the local area. In this edition of *The Pulse*, we focus on the maternity support services available for mothers and babies in Healesville and surrounds. We also introduce our new gynaecologist Dr Nicola Fitzgerald, who started at Healesville & District Hospital in January 2015.

I would also like to acknowledge the success of Eastern Health's annual Closing the Gap Sports Day, which was held in March at the Don Road Sporting Complex in Healesville. This event is part of our commitment to close the health gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and non-indigenous Australians. With a strong health promotion focus, centred around a football and netball competition, the event was a lot of fun and a great way to celebrate in the spirit of reconciliation. I would like to sincerely thank all involved in the planning and delivery of the event and extend particular thanks to members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community who helped make the day such a great success.

Kind regards



Alan Lilly, Eastern Health Chief Executive

REDEVELOPMENT NEWS



Healesville & District Hospital and Yarra Valley Community Health's redevelopment is currently in the tender evaluation stage. This \$7.8 million project is set to deliver a new operating theatre and renal dialysis unit, as well as a redeveloped community health centre, including expanded consulting suites for clinical consultation.

Eastern Health's Executive Director of Corporate Projects & Sustainability Zoltan Kokai said the immediate priority was to work with the builders to ensure the project met the desired outcomes, within the budget.

"This is a fantastic opportunity to enhance services in the local area. These discussions are vital to ensure the process is carried out in a way that gives us the best result for our staff, patients and the community," Mr Kokai said.

"We are working through the detail as quickly as possible to ensure we can commence early works as soon as the tender process is finalised."

Updates on the redevelopment can be found on the Eastern Health website at www.easternhealth.org.au/healesvilleredevelopment

Searching for historical photos

Do you have an old photograph of Healesville or the surrounding area? Do you have any old photos of the hospital? If so, then we want to hear from you!

 Photo submissions will be considered for use in the new main entrance following completion of the redevelopment. If you would like to submit a photo, please call Tanya Hendry on 5969 9951 or email healesvillefeedback@easternhealth.org.au

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2013 & 2014 Premier's Health Service of the Year



SUPPORT FOR YARRA RANGES MOTHERS AND BABIES

Mothers and babies living in the Yarra Ranges can benefit from a number of maternity support services in Healesville and the surrounding area.

Eastern Health provides midwife home visits following discharge from hospital, giving new mums additional support without the need to travel. Eligible women are also able to use Eastern Health's antenatal clinic at Healesville & District Hospital from 20 to 40 weeks of their pregnancy.

"Following initial consultation with a doctor and midwife at Yarra Ranges Health in Lilydale, eligible women living in Healesville and surrounds will then have access to services even closer to home," Yarra Ranges Maternity Services Manager Pauline Hamilton said.

"This means that women can have regular antenatal appointments during pregnancy and following the birth of their baby closer to where they live.

"While Yarra Ranges Health's antenatal clinic in Lilydale is currently very busy, the clinic in Healesville is under-utilised, so it's important that women and families living in the Yarra Ranges are aware of this service in their own backyard."

Eastern Health also offers pregnancy and post-natal exercise classes, a Mums Day Out program where women can receive health information while taking some time out, support programs for vulnerable pregnant women, allied health services for babies and children, supported playgroups and counselling services in the Yarra Ranges.



Jessi-Lee Rollfink with baby Hunter and midwife Christine Hoare. Jessi-Lee attended antenatal clinics at Healesville & District Hospital during her pregnancy and enjoyed home visits in Healesville following Hunter's birth at Box Hill Hospital.

HOSPITAL WELCOMES GYNAECOLOGIST



Healesville & District Hospital has welcomed a new gynaecologist. Dr Nicola Fitzgerald commenced in January, performing surgery every fortnight.

"I am really enjoying the role and the community feel of the hospital. All the staff have been extremely lovely and welcoming." - Dr Fitzgerald.




Members of the Healesville & District Hospital surgical team. L-R: Bill Ter Haar, Jan Worley, Ted Groenewegen, Dr Nicola Fitzgerald, Alison Ryan and Cathy Saint.


YARRA VALLEY COMMUNITY HEALTH

Services and programs include:

- › Counselling
- › Allied health
- › Clinics to help you quit smoking
- › Aboriginal health
- › Wellness programs
- › District nursing
- › GP clinic

 For a full list of services visit www.easternhealth.org.au and click on Yarra Valley Community Health or call **1300 130 381**.

 If you would like more information about any of our services, please visit our website at www.easternhealth.org.au

 If you would like to provide feedback on *The Pulse*, please email us at communications@easternhealth.org.au