



craig's corner

I want to take the opportunity to say thank you for your all your efforts during the year. Our DHB is characterised by very good people - hard working, committed and responsive.

You succeed despite the tools – the systems and processes – with which you work. My number one focus for Health Waikato in 2009 will continue to be quality improvement and my immediate objective is to liberate surgical capacity. Beyond that, it is to improve the hospital experience for both the public and staff.

I have attended a number of quality awards and continue to be very impressed by the innovation occurring in the health sector in Waikato. We are right up there with the rest of New Zealand, but I'm keen to do more to support quality initiatives and its showcasing.

The Round the Bridges fun run/walk was in mid November with 780 of us registered, though fewer participated on the day. After the event, I'd like to have our own area in Garden Place with light refreshments so we can relax for a while and share the tall stories of our feats.

The redevelopment review finished earlier this month. The proposed additional programme called "Toward 2020" is the subject of a separate article on the intranet

Again, thank you for all you've done in 2008, and I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I hope it is enjoyable and safe, as I want to see you in the New Year.

• Craig Climo is Waikato DHB's chief executive.

A huge thank you!

Following an article in the Waikato Times last week about empty cupboards at Hamilton's foodbank, Waikato DHB staff can feel pretty pleased with themselves after a huge pile of food and clothing was carted away by The Salvation Army on Wednesday.

Filling The Nest's van to the brim, your donations were greatly appreciated by Pam Waugh, director of The Nest.

"To receive something like this at this time of the year is amazing – it's brilliant," she said.

"The demand on food parcels is up 100 from last month, and it's just been climbing since July.

"We are really, really grateful to the staff who donated, for their support."

Other departments and services outside



GRATEFULLY RECEIVED: More than 30 departments donated food the Salvation Army.

of Waikato Hospital campus have already donated food and presents in their communities – including the Tokoroa Hospital administration team, who donated presents to a single mother and her four children, all aged under six.

Brand new cots and plinths for Health Waikato

We have 54 brand spanking electric cots and 31 plinths (examination couches/beds) which were prepared and cleaned for dispatch to the rural hospitals and Waikato Hospital wards.

The cots are currently being rolled out to the wards.

In addition to the fact the new cots are bright and child-friendly in colour, they also feature convenient electric features for users, such as:

- electrically operated two way tilting mattress platforms
- electrically operated height adjustment
- drop down telescopic side rails
- removable head and foot ends; and
- fold away shelf storage.



BRIGHT COTS FOR TOTS: New equipment arrives.

Te Kuiti, Tokoroa, Taumarunui and Thames hospitals have also each received a new cot and plinth.

Gifts of 2009 diaries for staff

By the time you get this edition of Our Korero you should each have a black pocket diary as a gift from chief executive Craig Climo and Health Waikato chief operating officer Jan Adams. The message from them is: "We really appreciate your efforts in 2008 and wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please accept the diary as a token of our appreciation for all you do for Waikato District Health Board and Health Waikato."

Biking opportunities over summer

If you are getting into biking and would like to link up with other staff, the Bicycle Users Group (BUG) is the Waikato DHB network for that. Information on road cycling and mountain biking events has just been posted up on the BUG intranet pages (Workplace Wellness>BUG) - and you can find out how to join BUG and get on their email network.

PACS project update

The PACS/RIS project is coming to our hospitals next year and will change the face of radiology, according to programme manager Mike Bakker. A joint initiative between Waikato and BOP DHBs, PACS (Picture Archive Communication System) replaces film-based radiology with digital images that can be archived and viewed in more than one place at a time. RIS (Radiology Information System) allows radiology referrals to be processed automatically, from receiving the request and scheduling the appointment to archiving the radiology examination report.

The project team comprises people from both DHBs, working collaboratively on both sides of the Kaimais and will start training staff at Waikato DHB in August next year, ready for the RIS implementation in September, followed by the PACS in early November.

Moving radiology into the digital world also means no film, chemicals, fumes, hazards or lost files. Staff will log onto the clinical workstation to see the results and images.

To boldly map where no map has gone before!

Waikato DHB's records specialists are building an information map and they're looking for contributors who like chocolate!

Pulling together the map will be a big job, so if you work regularly with records and know your systems well then the records specialists want to hear from you! Read more about the information map – including what it is and how you can help – on the Public Records Act record keeping project intranet page.

Expired \$1.50 concession parking tickets

All \$1.50 concession parking tickets issued to Waikato Hospital departments before September 2008 for the carpark building have expired. The tickets automatically expire after 92 days.

If your department is holding these expired tickets, please do not issue them to patients or visitors as they are resulting in the person being charged a large amount of money for parking. Visit the Parking Control Office (outside the Hockin Building) to have your expired tickets exchanged for new follow-up tickets.

Free quit cards for staff until March

Do you want to quit smoking?

If you do, it is usually easier if you replace the nicotine you would have got from cigarettes with clean nicotine, instead of going cold turkey.

To get your quit cards for nicotine replacement therapies (NRT) such as lozenges, gum or patches, please complete the form on the intranet and return it to Kate Dallas in internal mail or by email.

You will be sent quit cards and a pharmacy voucher, which you will then need to take to a community pharmacy, showing your staff ID so you don't get charged.

For more information, please call Kate on ext 2037 or email dallask@waikatodhb.govt.nz

Announcing Mr Movember

Congratulations to physiotherapist Stephen Derrick, who has taken out the title of Waikato DHB's 2008 Mr Movember!

As judged by Health Waikato chief operating officer Jan Adams, Media and Communications director Mary Anne Gill and medical photographer Mark Forster-King, Stephen suitably impressed with his 'fiery' facial hair to take out first place.

Closely following in the runner-up positions were lab scientist Matthew Abraham in second place and in third, Mental Health Service co-ordinator John Graham.

Taking out the "Nice Try – But" award is Trevor Ecclestone from Population Health's Emergency Management Service.

Thanks so much to all 18 competitors - if every time your faces appeared, at least someone thought about the catalysts for Movember – men's mental health and prostate cancer, it was a job well done/mo well grown.

Stephen, Matthew, John and Trevor all receive prizes for their efforts.



GO THE MO BRO: Stephen Derrick sports a winner.

Annual Report 2007/08 now online

The latest Annual Report 2007/2008 is now available online on our website.

Thames Hospital Inpatient Unit now open

Thames Hospital's new Inpatient Unit opened on Wednesday, 17 December.

The 54-bed unit houses the hospital wards and a high acuity unit. The unit's facilities include four-bed, double and single rooms, each with their own ensuite and courtyard view.

A rehabilitation courtyard is also a special feature along with two negative pressure rooms for patient isolation and separate whanau and procedure rooms.

As with the Thames Clinical Centre, a special time was set for the public to view inside the Inpatient Unit before it opens.

More than 100 people turned up and all were suitably impressed with the improvements and brand new facilities.

SCR: Towards 2020

In his latest EG blog chief executive Craig Climo referred to the Towards 2020 report tabled at last week's board meeting.

There has been a lot of work done to this point and a lot more yet to do. Consultation begins now with key stakeholders including staff.

Key features of the site master plan for the Towards 2020 programme:

- consolidates development to an underlying framework that supports clinical service delivery
- allows future development to reinforce the direction established by the current planned developments
- supports co-locations of services by acuity and volumes
- resolves fundamental site circulation issues by effectively separating "public" from "hospital" traffic, including patients, staff and support
- clarifies emergency and non-emergency access to the hospital
- addresses levels within the buildings and on the site, providing for enhanced access to all parts of the campus
- provides for enhanced public indoor and outdoor spaces consistent with a significant public facility, along with ongoing "greening" of the site
- makes provision for clinical and non-clinical support services to be located at a consistent lower level of all new development (Level B1) with direct vertical access to all departments
- begins to address long term asset management issues such as replacement of buildings and site services infrastructure
- makes space available for future development
- achieves the goals of the clinical services plan and addresses issues raised by Durrow Review
- the creation of clinical precincts such as Emergency Care Hub, Rehab Hub, Women's Precinct, Paediatric Precinct etc
- demolition of the Menzies Building over time and replacement with new inpatient accommodation
- demolition of the Smith Building
- creation of an additional Education Centre
- creation of a central circulation spine courtyard/atrium which links key buildings onsite
- creates a new main entry for pick up and drop off and provides additional visitor parking off Pembroke Street adjacent to the Rehabilitation Hub.

For further information: <http://www.waikatodhb.govt.nz/file/fileid/11547>

our **korero** is a selection of stories published on the Waikato DHB intranet. If you have news to tell email: expresso@waikatodhb.govt.nz or ring ext: 8780

