

# Impact

news from

San Foundation

Autumn 2022



Our first group of new graduates for this year with more on the way

## Thank you from our new graduate nurses!

Last Spring the San made a bold plan to more than double the annual intake of newly graduated nurses to help alleviate the growing shortage of nurses due to the pandemic. You rallied to this important call and, thanks to your support, we have just welcomed the first group of bright young nurses – more will join in coming weeks.

Photographed here with some of our nurse educators, this eager crew will undergo orientation and onboarding training before joining the wards on the first of their three rotations. Each rotation means that our graduates experience different opportunities across the hospital to help them find the specialty area where they'd like to focus.

Nursing Unit Manager of the San Emergency Care team, Kevin Churchill, said "these graduates are so vital to keeping our workforce strong and well and able to cope through the still tough times ahead. While Covid 19 is starting to settle, we are still

dealing with very unwell patients every day... it will really help reduce the pressure on our nursing teams and help us give every patient the care and attention they need. We're thrilled to have our new graduates on board and we send our heartfelt thanks to our loyal donors who made this possible."

Speaking about the first intake, Kay Leatherland, San Education Manager, added "the graduates themselves are also really happy to be here – they're so keen to get to work and start making a difference for their teams and their patients... we are so appreciative of our supporters who saw the value of this program."

While the work has just begun in helping our new graduates become the best they can be, we hope you look with pride on this smiling group of faces, knowing there are more to come, and they are dedicated to becoming an integral part of the San's great nursing team because of you.

proudly supporting





**Welcome** to your Autumn newsletter. It is a great privilege to be serving the Sydney Adventist Hospital community as the Managing Director of San Foundation. The role of San Foundation is crucial

to the ongoing support of the hospital, to ensure that our community continues to benefit from the latest advancements in medical research and facilities. I am looking forward to the time when we can meet face to face, so that I can learn more about your valued contributions to the hospital, and how San Foundation can best facilitate your support in the future.

It is important to acknowledge the transformational work undertaken by Karen Gair during her four year term as Managing Director of San Foundation. Karen's vision and professionalism greatly increased our supporters' understanding of the significant impact their donations would have for the hospital. Her dedication to the role also enabled an increased understanding by hospital staff as to the role of the Foundation in funding special projects that fall outside of budgeted hospital expenditure. Karen will be missed, and I will be dedicating my full attention to continuing the valued relationships Karen established on behalf of the Foundation over the past four years.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest team member, Lucette Harper. Lucette will be serving as our Philanthropy Manager, continuing the important work of keeping our supporters informed and engaged with the special projects at the hospital that are in need of philanthropic support. Lucette brings to the role years of experience facilitating transformational gifts, and she is looking forward to meeting donors face to face when health restrictions allow.

The generosity of our community is inspiring and in this newsletter we will be sharing just a few of the stories of impact that your donations have supported. I am sure you will enjoy reading about the improvements in patient care, as well as the timely increase in graduate nurses that will serve our community for years to come.

Please feel free to contact me at any time, and I look forward to meeting as many supporters as possible in the months ahead. I am interested in learning more about the projects that you have supported in the past, and the projects that you are passionate about for the future of the San and our community.

My warmest regards,

Judy Tanna  
Managing Director

Tel 9480 9450

## Meet the team keeping us safe

The San's Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) team has been extremely busy for the last two years as they support the whole hospital in ensuring patients, staff, doctors and visitors are as safe as possible. Led by Jayne O'Connor, this determined team of two have had their work cut out for them during the pandemic. Working hand in hand with the hospital Executive team, as well as ward and department managers, Jayne and Tracey have been facing the ever-changing challenges with a cheeky smile and a steadfast attitude. Every day they work with the hospital to understand the unique infection control requirements of every patient – safely accommodating the patient, what procedures to follow to ensure the patient is safe and cared for, and managing protocols to ensure the staff, other patients and visitors in the hospital are all protected.

Talking with us about the pandemic, Jayne said "it's been an extremely busy time for those of us who specialise in controlling bugs – the viral & bacterial kind" she clarified with a smile... "it's been really challenging, exhausting at times, but it has also given us a lot of opportunity to work closer with clinical staff - I guess, we've always done so, but not with such an obvious and widespread need." A lot of Jayne and Tracey's work is in education – ensuring clinical staff, as well as patients and visitors, understand how easy it is to pass on a tiny bug and how we can keep the hospital at peak safety. "If there is any good that could come of a pandemic, it's the community education and awareness now about how critically important hand hygiene is." Tracey shared.

*San Foundation supports the San's Infection Prevention & Control by funding important patient & visitor information leaflets which are available throughout the hospital.*



Jayne left, Tracey right



Helena demonstrates the new vein finder

## One supporter's generosity helps so many

With thanks to a caring San Foundation donor, the Poon Day Infusion Centre now has a new Accuvein vein finding device that will make a difference to thousands of patients undergoing chemotherapy at the San. Nursing Unit Manager, Helena, expressed her heartfelt gratitude for this insightful gift. "Sometimes veins collapse and become unusable after prolonged treatment and this wonderful device will enable the nursing team to more easily locate their patients' stronger veins to use, reducing discomfort and stress" she said.

Michelle Shimakage from the Foundation team said "San Foundation is very thankful to a very special donor for this much needed item. It's an honour to be able to facilitate such a selfless gift that will help patients during an already difficult treatment."

## Community spirit was alive and strong for Christmas 2021

As our community braced for another Covid restricted Christmas in 2021, we were so heartened to witness the warm-hearted care and goodwill that was still so strong among us.

For the second year in a row, Yiota and her husband Jethro provided patients in the Poon Day Infusion centre and the Poon ward beautiful gift bags making them feel loved and supported at Christmas time. No stranger to health struggles herself, Yiota collated and donated an amazing number of thoughtful and caring gifts for San patients who were dealing with cancer treatment during the Christmas period.



Yiota with her generous gifts



The new piano in the hospital foyer with the beautiful Davar Giving Tree

## A donor's wonderful gift of music

Thanks to the vision of a very generous San Foundation supporter, the hospital was able to celebrate the installation of a wonderful electric baby grand piano just in time for Christmas. Dedicated to a beautiful soul who cared deeply for others, Lillian Moroney was honoured by her husband Reg and family, as well as a small, socially distanced, representation of hospital staff.

## Remembering together

*They are forever in our hearts.*

Our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of John Almgren, Michael North Ash, John Bradwell, Orfeo Calacoci, Derrick Heywood, Barry Lathlean, David Larking, Josephine Lee, John Le Mottee, Colin Orr, Hazel Ross and John Stillone.



The fearless San team supporting San Foundation

## Dragon Boat racing to raise awareness for San Breast Care

An adventurous team of San Radiology and Nuclear Medicine staff, along with our own MD Judy Tanna, competed in the Chinese Lunar New Year Dragon Boat Regatta at Darling Harbour on February 6, 2022. Dressed up in 'Where's Wally' costumes, the team had a lot of fun, with a bit of fitness thrown in, to raise awareness and funds for the new San Breast Care facility.

Members of the team have participated in this event for many years now and always support a charitable cause. They chose San Foundation this year because of the commitment our wonderful supporters gave to setting up San Breast Care. San Breast Care provides an innovative and comprehensive service for patients all within the one facility. The centre aims to make patients feel comfortable, supported and reassured that they are receiving the best care possible.

The team raised over \$4,000 which will help San Foundation continue to support such life-changing new initiatives.

## Your help puts cardiac vital signs on the big screen

Some very big-hearted supporters have helped our Coronary Care Unit by funding two new large cardiac monitoring screens for the ward.

With data supplied directly from the patient monitoring system in real time, these screens enable the teams of specialist doctors and nurses to quickly and easily see their patients' vital information and react to any issues rapidly.

Nursing Unit Manager, Rebecca, told us "it's tremendous when you're busy to be able to look up and in a quick glance identify any potentially dangerous heart rhythm problems from anywhere in the ward, it's such a great help!"



New Coronary Care Unit monitoring screens



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