Expanding clinical education at Epworth

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Thanks a million
The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Minister for Health, officially opened our newest Clinical Education and Simulation Centre at Epworth Richmond on Wednesday 8 May.

Our vision of becoming a nationally-recognized, academic, private not-for-profit, teaching organisation has moved another step closer. It is one of several successful initiatives in partnership with Victoria’s leading academic institutions that supports the expansion of clinical education at Epworth.

This new centre offers high-level training to doctors, nurses, allied health students and staff through the provision of a state-of-the-art facility.

I would like to thank all of those who have made a significant contribution to the project since 2010, particularly Susan Wardle and Lisa Smith for developing the idea, preparing the funding submission and overseeing the planning and development of the centre through to its completion.

I am confident that this centre will realise benefits for the health workforce and its many professional areas for decades to come.

On Monday 3 June, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional and Rural Development, the Hon Peter Ryan MLA announced a contribution of $2.85 million towards the infrastructure development of Epworth Geelong.

We are delighted to receive a funding boost that contributes half the costs of establishing necessary amenities such as a signal-controlled intersection, power, gas, water and sewerage.

We are very pleased with the progression and hand over of new clinical facilities at Richmond, Hawthorn and Camberwell. These facilities are state of the art, providing high quality infrastructure that will exceed consumer expectations and enhance the ability of our staff and doctors to provide excellent care.

Our third Epworth Research Week was held from 27-31 May. A central component of the week is the poster display, which gives our researchers the opportunity to showcase their investigations and achievements, and our community the chance to view the many and varied studies being undertaken across the organisation.

Epworth’s vision is to be a nationally and internationally recognised research institute, participating in high quality clinically relevant health-related research. The week culminated with a dinner and awards night. These awards encourage our staff and doctors to develop their research potential.

I congratulate Megan Robertson and her team for their effort in making Epworth Research Week such a great success.

This financial year has been very successful for Epworth and its people. We have significantly improved our quality processes, enhanced patient satisfaction, delivered new services, expanded teaching and research and delivered a new development program for our people. I would like to thank everyone for your contribution to Epworth’s success.

Alan R Kinkade
Group Chief Executive
Following the Victorian Cabinet regional sitting in Geelong on 3 June 2013, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional and Rural Development, the Hon Peter Ryan MLA announced a contribution of $2.85 million towards the infrastructure development of the new Epworth Geelong site.

The Epworth Geelong project – planned in partnership with Deakin University – will create a healthier local community and a healthier economy for the people of Geelong.

Epworth Geelong combines a comprehensive acute and rehabilitation private hospital with purpose-designed training and education programs for medical, nursing and allied health students and staff.

Epworth is delighted to receive a funding boost that contributes half the costs of establishing necessary infrastructure such as a signal-controlled intersection, power, gas, water and sewerage. Epworth is also proud to support Geelong’s position as a leading university city with an innovative approach to healthcare, teaching and research, in partnership with Deakin University.

The Epworth Geelong project will bring increased economic benefits to the region, providing more employment opportunities in the order of 780 full time equivalent (FTE) staff following the full commissioning of Stage 1. Construction of the new hospital is estimated to employ 899 FTE direct construction jobs for Stage 1 and Epworth is committed to using local firms, suppliers and contractors where possible for the development.

Around 120 people travel daily from Geelong to work at one of Epworth’s Melbourne-based hospitals. We are planning to increase the number to around 400 during the construction so that we have an opportunity to offer existing staff to work in our brand new facility.

Epworth is continuing to work with the Federal and State Government to secure further support for the project.
The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Minister for Health, officially opened Epworth HealthCare’s newest Clinical Education and Simulation Centre at Epworth Richmond on Wednesday 8 May.

Minister Plibersek said the new centre was made possible through funding of $7.33 million, made available through Health Workforce Australia (HWA), an Australian Government initiative.

Group CEO of Epworth HealthCare Alan Kinkade welcomed the Minister, saying that Epworth’s vision of becoming a nationally-recognized, academic, private not-for-profit, teaching organisation moved another step closer today.

This is one of several successful initiatives in partnership with Victoria’s leading academic institutions that supports the expansion of clinical education at Epworth. Epworth has already provided clinical education to approximately 2000 undergraduate students from 14 universities and across 11 disciplines.

The cost of the new centre - including construction, furniture, fittings, equipment and project management costs - was fully covered by HWA funding, which was provided through Monash University and the University of Melbourne.

This new centre at Epworth offers high-level training to doctors, nurses, allied health, students and staff through the provision of a state-of-the-art facility. The simulation rooms include an operating theatre, a patient room and a multipurpose treatment room – each with high-fidelity manikins and viewing and control rooms that employ live audio-visual and video debriefing tools for instant feedback.

There are also nine tutorial rooms; a marvelous library which is second to none with student lounge and study area; as well as office accommodation and video conferencing areas for education and library staff.

The Clinical Education and Simulation Centre at Epworth was designed by architects, Silver Thomas Hanley and includes a newly fitted-out auditorium and three video-conferencing tutorial rooms on a different level at the Bridge Road hospital - ideal for weekly Grand Rounds and the regular GP Education sessions.

The Minister was very interactive in discussing with the students how our simulation centre would enhance their learning experience.

Minister Plibersek opens impressive new Clinical Education and Simulation Centre

“This new centre at Epworth offers high-level training to doctors, nurses and allied health students through the provision of a state-of-the-art facility.”

Left Group Chief Executive Epworth HealthCare Alan Kinkade with The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP Federal Minister for Health at the official opening of the Clinical Education and Simulation Centre Above The Hon Tanya Plibersek listens to the manikin’s heart beat. Below Director of Clinical Education Tess Vawser shows The Hon Tanya Plibersek how the clinical education centre is used to teach students in a supportive environment.
The Hon Tanya Plibersek takes a turn using the neo-natal manikin.

Mid Executive Director of Medical Services Professor John Catford, Director of Clinical Education and Simulation Tess Vawser, Group Chief Executive Alan Kirkdale, Director of Medical Education Professor Geoffrey Metz, President Epworth Healthcare Board of Management Mrs Janet Latchford, Dean of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences Monash University Professor Christina Mitchell, Deputy Dean Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences and Director Medical Education Unit, University of Melbourne Professor Geoff McColl, Federal Minister for Health The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Mayor City of Yarra Councillor Jackie Fristacky, Executive Director, Clinical Training, Health Workforce Australia Mr George Beltchev

Below Left Deputy Director Emergency Department Dr Bill Nimmo demonstrates how the manikins can be used in different scenarios.

Below Right Epworth Richmond nurses demonstrate how to check a pulse on the paediatric manikin.


Salient messages delivered at Men’s Health Lunch

The very first Epworth Men’s Health Lunch was held on 9 May in the Members Dining Room of the MCG delivering some salient messages to the 470 guests who attended.

The expert panel including Associate Professor Ron Dick, Chair of Cardiac Sciences, cardiologists Dr Tony Walton and Dr Nick Cox and Sports and Exercise Physician Dr Peter Larkins emphasised the importance for men to take control of their health in an effort to improve their overall performance and increase their longevity.

Radio 3AW’s John Burns led the discussion which concluded that although men may not be able to control their family history for certain diseases, they can control other risk factors such as their behaviour and environment. By improving diet, limiting alcohol intake and scheduling exercise into their daily routine, both men and women are more likely to lead a healthier longer life.

The physicians also shared simple advice on the symptoms of cardiac disease, the salient survival statistics of cardiac arrest and what to do in the event of a cardiac arrest to increase the chances of survival.

Master of Ceremonies, former ABC broadcaster Peter Couchman navigated the event through a tight two-hour schedule sharing his own cardiac experience, together with Geelong Football Club’s doctor, Dr Geoff Allen who – despite being young and fit – suffered a match-stopping cardiac arrest at AAMI Park three years ago.

The event was sponsored by Philips Healthcare, Abbott Vascular, Health Super, Melbourne Pathology, Slade Pharmacy, WTC Wharf and Zouki with some fabulous auction prizes provided by the AFL, The Big Group, Three Degrees Marketing and Jayco.

Thanks to the Special Events Committee headed by Robyn Beddison OAM, the inaugural event raised $110,000 towards the purchase of critical care patient monitoring equipment for the Cardiac Ward at Epworth Richmond.

Above Left 3AW’s John Burns with Billy Brownless and David Parkin
Below Left John Burns, Peter Couchman, AProf Ron Dick & Dr Philip Williams
Above Right Sponsor Slade Pharmacy at the Men’s Health Lunch
Mid Right 3AW’s John Burns interviews Dr Peter Larkins
Below Right Epworth Group Chief Executive Alan Kinkade with Dr Tony Walton and Dianné Rule
Honoured and humbled to receive Jenny Bentley Award

On Friday 10 May a ceremony was held to award the Jenny Bentley Medal. Jenny was a much loved member of the Epworth team who sadly lost her short battle with cancer in October last year. To acknowledge the significant contribution she made to Epworth, the Jenny Bentley Medal was established.

The recipient of the $10,000 scholarship, Nurse and Paediatric Quality Facilitator Caroline Capell, shares what receiving the medal means to her:

“The Jenny Bentley Medal is a testament to an inspirational woman. I first met Jenny when she commenced her employment in the Emergency Department. She was a lady blessed with many remarkable attributes, someone I aspire to be like.

I was honoured and humbled to receive the Jenny Bentley Medal, especially in the presence of her family and friends. I have always been very passionate about nursing, especially ongoing education, as it is imperative in our profession to continue to improve patient care and quality in our workplace and therefore provide clinical excellence.

This award is the greatest achievement of my professional career; I feel very fortunate to have been given this opportunity to further my studies. The scholarship funding will allow me to complete my Masters of Nursing Practice without the constraints of financial pressure.

I endeavour to make Jenny Bentley’s family and Epworth HealthCare proud and hope to support others in pursuing their future aspirations towards their professional development.”

Device Technologies generously donated $10,000 in perpetuity to fund the scholarship to go towards further training or research in the area of emergency medicine or critical care.

Prestigious prize awarded for thesis

Jo Ryan, a Registered Nurse working in the Catheter Laboratory at Epworth Richmond, has been awarded a prestigious Deakin University Faculty of Health Prize for her outstanding Bachelor of Nursing (Honours) thesis.

Jo was presented with the Marjory Walkowski Award for her demonstration of Excellence in Clinical Nursing Research at a ceremony at Deakin University on 9 May 2013.

Jo was supervised by staff at the Epworth-Deakin Centre for Clinical Nursing Research to complete her thesis titled: “Patient quality of life outcomes after open and minimally invasive surgery for prostate cancer”.

Her project has contributed to a larger program of research being conducted by the centre to follow the outcomes of patients for two years after robotic and non-robotic surgery for prostate cancer.

Congratulations Jo on your tremendous work – well done!

Above Senior Research Fellow at the Epworth/Deakin Centre for Clinical Nursing Research at Epworth Dr Bernice Redley presents Jo Ryan with her award

“JO RYAN … HAS BEEN AWARDED A PRESTIGIOUS DEAKIN UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF HEALTH PRIZE.”
Fun, fashion and friends at race day

400 guests attended the Friends of Epworth Race Day held at Moonee Valley Racing Club on Saturday 6 April. Guests enjoyed a great day of fashion and racing stakes as well as hearing from some very inspiring jockeys.

Master of Ceremonies and guest tipster Rob Gaylard led the proceedings interviewing guest jockeys, Leigh Woodgate and Peter Hutchison. Each shared their personal, brave and inspiring journey of recovery at Epworth Rehabilitation following falls from racing.

Group Chief Executive Alan Kinkade thanked the Friends of Epworth for hosting the event which has grown substantially over the last few years. Special mention was made of major sponsors Construction Engineering, Device Technologies, Silver Thomas Hanley, Medownick Laser Surgery and Zouki.

2013 marks the 25^th^ anniversary for the auxiliary. To celebrate the milestone, Alan Kinkade announced the establishment of a trust, established in perpetuity with the interest used to fund a scholarship each year in the name of the Friends of Epworth. He also declared that the race of the day was named in honor of the auxiliary.

Mrs Jenny Henderson, President of the Friends of Epworth, expressed her appreciation for the acknowledgements on behalf of auxiliary members.

This year the event raised $57,000 enabling improved patient care across Epworth HealthCare.

Above Alan and Denise Kinkade celebrate with staff from Epworth Radiation Oncology
Left Race Sponsor Zouki in the Winners Circle
Right Race Sponsor Construction Engineering in the Winner Circle
Above Left James Piplios, David Stade, Bill Nimo, Stuart Moore
Above Right Michael Evans shares his fashion secrets
Below Left Nicole Waldron wins fashions on the field
Below Right Keen supporters Aileen & Ken Hyden and Joan & Geoffrey Dumbrell
Left Guest jockey Leigh Woodgate with MC Rob Gaylard

"THE EVENT RAISED $57,000 ENABLING IMPROVED PATIENT CARE ACROSS THE EPWORTH HEALTHCARE GROUP."
Near perfect conditions at corporate golf day raises $70,000

The Epworth HealthCare Corporate Charity Golf Day was held in near perfect conditions at Yarra Yarra Golf Club on Monday 25 March 2013. A record field of 124 players took part in an 18 hole, 4 ball Ambrose event followed by an informal barbeque and presentations in the Member’s Bar. The day was well supported by sponsors, several Epworth specialists and members of Epworth Executive. It proved to be a great day of good sport, camaraderie, networking and fun.

Outright winners were UBS (Epworth’s Dean Alex and Pat McKenna’s magnificent golf contributing to the win!), followed by Lehr and Brookfield Multiplex. Prizes were awarded for: nearest the pin, longest and straightest drive. Grant Flanagan won the “Beat the Pro” award.

The Golf Committee and the EMF team are to be congratulated on an outstanding day, raising close to $70,000 to support Hip Arthroscopy at Epworth Eastern.

Above Yarra Yarra Golf Club
Below Sponsors enjoy the day
On Friday 10 May a celebration was held to thank our more than 200 Epworth volunteers, as part of National Volunteers Week. The event included a high tea to honour those who have given their time to Epworth for 5, 10 and 15 years. An award was also presented for the best dressed ‘High Tea Male and Female’. Congratulations to volunteers Bruce Dudon and Joan Hathway!

Each of our volunteers has a selfless commitment to helping others. They play a vital role in our hospitals by providing support to a wide range of services including: patient interaction; wayfinding; meal companions; volunteer drivers; and administration projects.

The Volunteer Services Program is always growing and looking for new opportunities to expand its service. If you have a volunteer opportunity, an idea for support, or would like to find out how the Volunteer Services Program can benefit your ward or department, please contact Frances Yucedag, Volunteer Services Co-ordinator via email frances.yucedag@epworth.org.au.

On Sunday 21 April the Victorian Nursing Expo was held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

More than 4,500 people streamed through the doors to learn about the Registered Nurse and Enrolled Nurse Graduate programs, Post Graduate programs and general employment opportunities.

The Epworth HealthCare stand had a constant stream of visitors who took the time to talk with both education staff and current graduates to get a feel for what is offered through the Epworth Graduate Nurse programs. The success of the day would not be possible without the tremendous work of the education teams and graduates from across all divisions, who generously gave their time to proudly promote Epworth HealthCare – well done!
Epworth’s success in medical tourism

Epworth treats more than 2000 patients per year from around the world and interstate. The patients come to Epworth because of our expertise in delivering excellent healthcare with great outcomes. Many of these patients come as tourists; others specifically travel from the Pacific region and the Middle East.

In a wonderful email from Qatar, an Epworth Freemasons patient has expressed enormous gratitude to his Melbourne surgeon for the procedure he underwent after experiencing nine months of urinary incontinence, following an earlier prostatectomy to remove an aggressive cancer.

The patient’s quality of life had been severely affected, so he travelled from Doha to see Urologist Mr Justin Chee who had recommended the insertion of an artificial urinary sphincter. The artificial sphincter, or synthetic male sling, works by a compression and release system of the urethra which is controlled by the patient when he feels the bladder is full.

Mr Chee said it is very rewarding to hear directly from the patient that he can now drink real coffee and half a litre of water, as well as sneeze or cough without suffering involuntary leakage. Mr Chee also attributed the patient’s positive attitude and careful attention to detail to the successful outcome.

Epworth is looking to see how we gain a greater share of the multibillion dollar medical tourism market.

Precise radiosurgery – another first for epworth

Access to the world’s most advanced radiosurgery treatment is now able to be offered to Epworth patients with inoperable brain cancer.

Epworth HealthCare is the first private hospital in Australia to install the Novalis® Tx™, which is recognised globally as a better way to treat cancer with precise, less-invasive treatment.

Combining the accuracy of a ‘sat nav’ like targeting system with powerful treatment beams, the Novalis Tx can give higher doses of radiation in shorter treatment times – destroying cancerous cells while minimizing exposure to the healthy tissues nearby.

Treatment is also made more patient-friendly by delivering ‘frameless’ radiosurgery for brain tumours – an alternative to techniques that require immobilisation with an invasive head ring that is screwed into the skull.

Cancer specialists are increasingly looking at stereotactic radiosurgery to eradicate and reduce tumours.

Because of its accuracy, the Novalis® Tx™ gives the chance of a cure to those with inoperable tumours and for many patients, offers the possibility of painless treatment in a single visit. For example, radiosurgery is currently being used for brain, lung and renal cancers with surgical precision. While in a palliative (non-curative) setting, the same level of accuracy is being used to treat small metastases in the brain and spine, avoiding traditionally large radiation fields, therefore reducing negative side effects for the patients.
This year’s gala ball, titled Epworth Fever will be held on Saturday 3 August 2013 from 7.00pm in the Palladium ballroom at Crown.

Staff, doctors and their partners are invited to don their black tie, ball gown and bling and enjoy a fabulous night of disco fever! Included in the entertainment is a tribute to ABBA and dance band Déjà Vu.

Tickets are available at the discounted price for staff of $170 per person (normally $245) with additional tax savings made through payroll deduction.

The table booking form can be downloaded from the intranet so that you can start recruiting your table of ten for the event.

To reserve a table please contact Kathryn Johnston in the Epworth Medical Foundation on telephone 03 9426 6359 or email kathryn.johnson@epworth.org.au.

Educating the next generation of healthcare professionals

On Thursday 2 May, Epworth Richmond Nurses were involved in their first Paediatric Simulation Session conducted in the new Clinical Education and Simulation Centre at Richmond.

The session involved Clinical Skill Station rotations and Immersive Paediatric Basic Life Support Scenarios, covering principles of crisis resource management and role delegation in effective team resuscitation.

The nursing participants from various departments within Epworth Richmond rated the session very highly, valuing the modality of learning.

Thank you to Director Clinical Education, Tess Vawser and Simulation Centre Coordinator, Tom Hallahan for their efforts in supporting this amazing opportunity. We are looking forward to implementing further interactive Basic Paediatric Simulation sessions in the near future.

Caroline Capell
Paediatric Quality Facilitator

“THE NURSING PARTICIPANTS ... RATED THE SESSION VERY HIGHLY, VALUING THE MODALITY OF LEARNING.”
Below is an account of an extraordinary achievement made by a man who, just twelve weeks after coronary artery bypass surgery at Epworth, managed to achieve something most could only ever dream of doing – completing an ironman. Policeman and Epworth patient, Wayne Ball shares his story.

It was 5 April 2012 when it happened; just a small pain in my chest while I was out running. I ran through the pain but four days later I was in surgery at Epworth Richmond receiving three coronary artery bypass grafts. At the age of 50 and as a father of four daughters, it was a shock to think that I may have died doing what I love – triathlons.

In May 2012 I sat with my wife in a HeartSmart class at Epworth Richmond feeling like my life had changed forever. The classes were very important for me as they answered lots of my questions and hearing other people’s stories helped me in my recovery. The information sessions and handouts gave me direction and comfort; they were very empowering. I could now be proactive in my heart health and not just wait for another heart event.

HeartSmart Sport Physician Jane Fitzpatrick and Cardiologist Dr Chris Goods all assisted me in continuing to exercise and 12 weeks after bypass surgery, I ran a 21km half marathon with my family. I then set my sights on an ironman triathlon, swim 3.8 km; ride 180 km; run 42.2 km. It was 11 months after graduating from HeartSmart when I took up a position on the start line of The Australian Ironman.

With my family supporting my every step, I finished the Ironman in 14.35 hours, a long day but a truly glorious one which would not have been possible without the support of family and Epworth’s HeartSmart.
Nilmini – One of the top 2000 outstanding intellectuals of the 21st century

Epworth HealthCare Chair of Health Informatics, Professor Nilmini Wickramasinghe, was recently named one of 2000 Outstanding Intellectuals of the 21st Century by the International Biographical Centre, and as recognition was honoured with a medal and certificate.

Nilmini is indeed an intellectual in the area of Health Informatics. She is well published with more than 200 referred scholarly articles, more than 10 books, numerous book chapters, an encyclopaedia and a well established funded research track record.

Nilmini is very committed to research and teaching within the information systems domain, particularly IS/IT solutions to effect superior, patient centric healthcare delivery.

Epworth is extremely fortunate to be working with someone of Nilmini’s expertise and we congratulate her on this extraordinary achievement – well done!

Continuing to provide excellence in patient care

Epworth HealthCare remains focussed on providing excellence in patient care and clinical services. The Australian Private Hospitals Association recently conducted a survey on patients’ perceptions of service provisions in the private and public hospital arena.

Of note, the private system provides patients with timely access to services and doctor choice which is a key area of concern as the demand on services increases across the industry.

In the area of patient safety and privacy, a quarter to a third of respondents believed that the private system provided a better job in this area with only a minority believing the public system do so.

From an overall standard of care perspective 49% of respondents believed the private system alone provides a superior standard of care, with 45% responding that they were both the same and only 7% of respondents believing the public system to be superior in care standards.

Strategies such as Epworth Excellence (in particular hourly rounding) are pivotal in our continued success in this area to ensure the provision of excellence in patient care addressing quality, safety, risk in an environment of trust, care and compassion.
On Monday 25 March Epworth Hawthorn welcomed its first trauma rehabilitation patients.

Twenty-two patients who had previously been receiving treatment at Epworth Rehabilitation Richmond were welcomed to luxury private rooms. Two more patients were transferred from trauma hospitals – Western General and Royal Melbourne Hospital.

The new space comprises an updated layout of patient rooms, doctors’ suites, corporate offices and exercise areas with all patients admitted to single rooms, each with an ensuite and spacious area for family and friends.

In total, Epworth Hawthorn can accommodate 30 rehabilitation in-patients, most of whom need significant rehabilitation for complex multi-trauma, orthopaedic injuries.

Two gymnasiums and a treatment therapy area designed from the ground up will provide our patients and therapists with spacious, naturally-lit spaces that provide an optimum environment for the complex rehabilitation needs of patients recovering from serious accidents.

In addition, there are three new well equipped operating theatres with eight overnight beds.

Box Hill Tafe students donate art to Epworth Oncology

Nine beautiful pieces of textile art have been hung on the walls of the oncology ward at Epworth Eastern, thanks to a collaboration between second-year Diploma of Textiles students at Box Hill Institute and Epworth Eastern.

The artworks were especially created for the oncology ward – firstly to be on display there and secondly to raise money for the oncology service at an auction later in the year.

The project was the idea of Box Hill Institute’s Creative Industries teacher Dawn Duncan-Smith. When her relative, Aileen, was a patient on the oncology ward, Dawn brought in a piece of textile art which became a talking point for Aileen, her visitors and other patients. After Aileen’s death in November 2011, Dawn wanted a way to bring art to the ward.

This display provided a brilliant opportunity for students to create beautiful artworks for a specific purpose. To have their work exhibited is a great outcome for both students and staff, as well as for the patients, visitors and staff at Epworth.

The pieces will be auctioned off at the Epworth Gala Ball in August with all proceeds going to Epworth.
Epworth Victory

On Friday 3 May Epworth’s soccer team, Epworth Victory, took part in the Football Development Australia Soccer World Cup, a corporate charity event which this year raised money for the Australian Red Cross. Epworth joined other organisations including Westfield, BMW and Qantas taking part in the truly unique team-building event. Epworth Victory was made up of ten players from across all sites. In true Epworth style, the team displayed many moments of excellence on the pitch and illustrated good sportsmanship. Although Epworth Victory didn’t make it to the final, their performance was very admirable.

If you would like to be part of the 2014 Epworth Victory team, please email david.white@epworth.org.au

The Epworth Medical Foundation is offering two great opportunities to assist cancer patients at Epworth and anyone can take part.

Either walk along the Great Ocean Road in Victoria or hike along the Great Wall of China! All you need to do is lock in the date and ask your friends and family to support you!

The Hike for Health is scheduled from 18 – 28 October, 2013 and includes an unforgettable six-day hike along the historic Great Wall of China. Participants are asked to raise $6,000 by asking friends and family to support them.

The Walk for Wellness is scheduled from 11 – 13 October, 2013 and includes a three-day walk along the spectacular Great Ocean Road coastline. Participants are asked to raise $2,500 by asking friends and family to support them.

Proceeds from both these events will be used to provide support and assistance to cancer patients at Epworth.

For further information please contact Kathryn Johnston on 9426 6359 or email kathryn.johnston@epworth.org.au
Epworth Richmond

The redevelopment at Epworth Richmond is an exciting project that will keep Epworth at the forefront of medical treatment. It is designed to maximise the opportunities presented by the advancements in technology, communications and equipment which will ultimately improve the experience for our patients.

Throughout the month of May, a number of important works were completed, including the extension of the Day Surgery waiting area and the opening of the new Transit Lounge. The feature stairs – which will run from level 1 to level 3 Day Surgery waiting area – are making good progress and are expected to be completed by July 2013.

A number of other works are scheduled to be completed over the coming months.

Stage three and four of the theatre works – which will provide a new 32-cubic recovery area and two Endoscopy Theatres – is due for completion in July.

The infill works to levels 1 and 2 of the Bridge Road Tower, which will provide additional seating and floor space adjacent to the Main Reception area, are expected to finish in August. Also due to be completed in August is the new space for the florist, Ingenious Floriade, which is currently being built at the front entrance of the hospital.

Kane Construction has been awarded management for the demolition of the 62 Erin Street building to make way for Pod 4 works. It is expected to commence in July and take twelve months to complete.

All of these works form part of the delivery of enhanced and expanded services for our patients, doctors, visitors and staff.

Epworth Rehabilitation Camberwell

Stage 3 of the redevelopment of Epworth Rehabilitation Camberwell is due to be completed in mid-late July. These works will provide a new kitchen, consulting space retail tenancies, Epworth Radiology, Epworth Pathology, new and refurbished rehabilitation units, a Mental Health Unit, two levels of basement car parking and an Education Centre.

Stage 4 works, which will provide a Sleep Unit and patient dining area, will be completed in August with anticipation that the redeveloped hospital will be fully operational by September 2013. Once complete, Epworth Rehabilitation Camberwell will provide an additional 73 beds (with 68 being in-patient private rooms), resulting in a total of 153 beds for both psychiatry and rehabilitation.

Epworth Hawthorn

Stage 1 of the Epworth Hawthorn refurbishment is complete, which has provided two new rehabilitation gymnasiums, a new ‘activities of daily living’ (ADL) kitchen, therapy rooms and a living skills therapy area.
As part of Epworth’s Wellbeing Program, the Health and Safety team in the coming months will be organising free workplace healthchecks which are completed by the Royal District Nursing Services. They have been completed for corporate staff at Pelaco in April/May and commenced at Richmond acute on 26 June 2013.

What is a WorkHealth Check?
– You’ll fill out a short survey about your lifestyle habits, such as eating, exercise and family history of health issues
– A trained health professional will measure your blood pressure, blood glucose, cholesterol levels, and waist circumference
– Your private results will be given to you on the spot, including your level of risk for developing type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease
– You will also receive advice on the healthy lifestyle changes that can help you reduce your risk of these chronic illnesses
– You may also be invited to participate in a free, confidential program called WorkHealth Coach, which provides telephone support and advice for making positive health changes

The Health and Safety team in each division will advise staff when these are being completed via emails or posters.

Improving staff services

My Epworth, our new Employee and Manager Self Service, is nearing the completion of its roll-out across all Epworth divisions. The service provides 24/7 online access, allowing staff to:
– View personal information and make changes to contact details;
– View HR/payroll details;
– View leave balances, leave history and project leave balances;
– View payslips, pay history and the latest payment summary.

Managers have additional access providing them with the ability to:
– View and maintain information for staff who report to them including;
– View and print a staff planner including requested and approved leave;
– Generate staff reports including leave balances, employee length of service, etc.

Employee Information and Manager Training Sessions have been well attended at each division in preparation to go live and a comprehensive User Manual is available for referencing. Staff who don’t use a computer on a daily basis are able to access My Epworth using one of the recently installed privacy kiosks installed at each division.

Further information regarding My Epworth can be found on the My Epworth intranet page or by emailing the Project Team at: EC.MyEpworth@epworth.org.au
To Whom It May Concern,

This evening my aunt passed away at 6:59pm in ICU. I would like to let Senior Management know the staff were outstanding in our family’s grief. To Lee, the staff member who looked after my Aunt, he was an outstanding man, who respected her, looked after her and displayed great empathy towards my family. We were truly lucky to have him and the other staff look after our Aunt in her last moments in life.

Please pass on our thanks to Lee and the other staff who looked after her. She will be greatly missed, but her last hours will be never forgotten due to the friendly natured staff.

Thank you. They do an amazing job.

Regards,

Epworth Freemasons

I was an inpatient this week, the care I received was excellent. The nurses were very professional and empathic. I am happy to be contacted by the hospital to elaborate if required.

Epworth Eastern

I was an inpatient under the care of Dr Andrew Troy, admitted to Epworth Freemasons for a “Green Light Laser” procedure. I am writing to you to ask you to convey my thanks to all the members of your staff for the efficient, kind and considerate care given to me during my stay of two nights.

The procedure was most non-threatening and I was most agreeably surprised as I have had some experience with hospital patients and procedures in the past.

I should like to thank, through you, the various members of the nursing staff who cared for me.

Thank you and your staff. I am most grateful for the wonderful standard of surgery care.

Yours sincerely,

Epworth Freelmasons

I don’t know how you recruit or train your staff, but it is working! They treated me with patient, kind respect and dignity which made everything very easy for me.

Epworth Rehabilitation

Dear Mr Kinkade,

My elderly sister was recently a patient at Epworth Richmond for three weeks, having a hip replacement followed by rehabilitation.

I was in and out of the hospital many times during that period and I wanted you to know how very impressed we were by the service provided.

The staff at all levels, including the orderlies and meal providers, the staff on the front desk, the nurses both in the general ward and rehabilitation, were all thoughtful, caring, sensitive, and often with a good sense of humour as well.

We were particularly grateful for the attention given by the Chaplain. Tom Rose was on in-service when we arrived but he arranged for Nerida to care for my Sister. Nerida met us at Admissions and then continued to care for her in a most helpful way.

I thank and commend you for all that Epworth did for us.

Your sincerely,

Epworth Rehabilitation

To Whom It May Concern,

This evening my aunt passed away at 6:59pm in ICU. I would like to let Senior Management know the staff were outstanding in our family’s grief. To Lee, the staff member who looked after my Aunt, he was an outstanding man, who respected her, looked after her and displayed great empathy towards my family. We were truly lucky to have him and the other staff look after our Aunt in her last moments in life.

Please pass on our thanks to Lee and the other staff who looked after her. She will be greatly missed, but her last hours will be never forgotten due to the friendly natured staff.

Thank you. They do an amazing job.

Regards,

Epworth Freemasons

I was an inpatient this week, the care I received was excellent. The nurses were very professional and empathic. I am happy to be contacted by the hospital to elaborate if required.

Epworth Eastern

I was an inpatient under the care of Dr Andrew Troy, admitted to Epworth Freemasons for a “Green Light Laser” procedure. I am writing to you to ask you to convey my thanks to all the members of your staff for the efficient, kind and considerate care given to me during my stay of two nights.

The procedure was most non-threatening and I was most agreeably surprised as I have had some experience with hospital patients and procedures in the past.

I should like to thank, through you, the various members of the nursing staff who cared for me.

Thank you and your staff. I am most grateful for the wonderful standard of surgery care.

Yours sincerely,