

# The Westerly

*“Te Hauauru”*

September (Mahuru) 2006

## Going, going, nearly gone!

If you want to take one last look at the former nurses hostel at Grey Base Hospital you will need to be quick.

Workers at the site have taken just a few weeks to wipe away nearly 90 years of history.

The hostel which was home to many nurses still working at Grey Base and around the West Coast has now been almost completely demolished.

When talking to some of those who have lived at the home, its clear to them that it was more than a place to stay. For many it was their first taste of life away from home and family and many life long friendships were formed by those who walked its corridors.

While many nurses talk of the strict and rules that those training today could never hope to understand, others thought of the rules as merely a challenge to see what they could get away with.

Stories about the hostel and how to sneak boys and booze into it abound and it seems like many people had a close call when it came to getting caught.

It has been a sad time for many of those who spent time at the former nurses hostel at Grey Base. However, the removal of the building is now almost complete.



## CEO FORUMS – OCTOBER 2006



WHERE	DATE	TIME	CONTACT
Greymouth – Lecture Theatre	Thursday, 2 November 2006	2.30 pm - 4.00 pm	Raewyn Stuart
Buller – Meeting Room	Tuesday, 17 October 2006	2.00 pm - 3.30 pm	Diana Menzies
Reefton - Meeting Room	Tuesday, 24 October 2006	2.30 pm - 4.00 pm	Trisha Loughnan
Hokitika – Group Room 1	Thursday, 12 October 2006	2.30 pm - 4.00 pm	Nola Rochford
South Westland – Fox Glacier Clinic	Friday, 27 October 2006	1.00 pm - 2.00 pm	Janet Hogan

## Hope T.E.A.M.\* Arrives on the Coast

Launched in August 2006, Hope TEAM is the brain child of two local women. Both share a drive to use creativity, enthusiasm and encouragement for participation in marking out easier pathways for those who experience mental illness and for those who stand alongside. Actively involved in the Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention Collaborative, Debbie Cogger-Griffin and Helyn Beveridge announce the arrival of Hope TEAM. (\*Together Everyone Achieves More)

Bringing people together in creative, new ways and celebrating the benefits of community- wide teamwork is the overall aim. Hope TEAM embraces the Maori concept of Whakawhangaungatanga in the same way the work of the Collaborative does and it is this that helps set the scene for enthusiastic and lively approaches in improving mental health services on the Coast and seeing our community moving forward together.

Hope TEAM's initiatives have support from the West Coast District Health Board, Mental Health Services, Workbridge, Grey Activity Centre and the Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention Collaborative.

Hope TEAM is new in town, but will be unlikely to stay a stranger for long if its founders and supporters have anything to do with it. Coasters are invited to keep an eye out for Hope TEAM and get ready to be invited to join a positive, affirming and fresh new initiative.

## Peter Singer Restraint Co-ordinator

In January this year the West Coast District Health Board appointed a full time Restraint Co-ordinator. Peter Singer is tasked with aligning the DHBs practices and policies regarding restraint of patients; with the aim of reducing the amount of restraints and ensuring that if it is necessary safety is paramount.

The Health and Disabilities Services [safety] Act 2001 requires certain standards to be met. These standards govern how we provide health care. The main standard governing restraint of patients is the Restraint Minimization and Safe Practice Standard [2001]. The departments with-in the West Coast District Health Board and Specialist Services providing health care services have each been audited against the Restraint Minimization and Safe Practice Standard [a requirement for cer-

tification by the Ministry of Health]. The next surveillance audit will be in February 2007.

Recent education and introduction of monitoring charts DHB wide; aims to monitor and look at ways of reducing the amounts of restraints used in hospitals, but say Peter it means a change in the culture. "Practices such as placing mentally ill patients in seclusion [a specially designed lock room] or pulling up bedrails on the bed of confused elderly patients often seems like the right option and may have been used for a long time but there are now alternatives"

Key tasks are informing the patients and nursing staff on the alternatives and finding a better, safe and less restrictive way of managing situations where restraint might normally have been used.

# NEWS ABOUT NEIGHBOURHOOD NURSES

The Neighbourhood Nurse project is in the evaluation phase

Nine out of eleven Primary Health Care Nursing Innovations funded for three years by the Ministry of Health have ended. Most are continuing the services and innovations that were trialled with the funding. An independent evaluation of all the innovations is being completed and reported to the Ministry.

WCDHB's innovation has involved trialling a new primary health care nurse role - the Neighbourhood Nurse - in Reefton, Dobson and Hokitika. As the project ends in December this year, we are in our own evaluation phase. Evaluation will look at project processes and the role of the nurses. The findings will be useful in DHB planning for primary health care services.

## Client and colleague feedback is being sought

Two key groups to give feedback are clients and colleagues. We looked at the tool last used to measure consumer satisfaction with community nursing services, and also the sort of information received. A new tool, which asked clients for more detail about their experience of the service, has been piloted. The finalised questions include one asking clients for any suggestions for improvement of the service.

Focus groups will be run in each location in October. This is a way for the Neighbourhood Nurses' colleagues to give feedback and advice about the project and the role. Community representatives will also be involved.

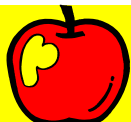
The Steering Group for the project will review the evaluation findings, which will be presented in December.

## Learning and networking with colleagues

We were able to call on great local resource people for updates in August on primary mental health care and in September on maternal/child/family. An open invitation saw attendance by Public Health Nurses, District and Practice Nurses, Neighbourhood Nurses, a Lead Maternity Carer, Rural Nurse Specialist and hospital-based nurse. The updates were well received as they were a wonderful opportunity not only to update, but also to make contacts with staff in specialist services and learn what they could offer clients.

## Neighbourhood Nurse webpage updated

We've been really pleased to work with Dana Burnett from IT to tidy up the Neighbourhood Nurse webpage as it had got out-of-date. We hope to upload more news soon.



## An apple a day to keep the doctor away

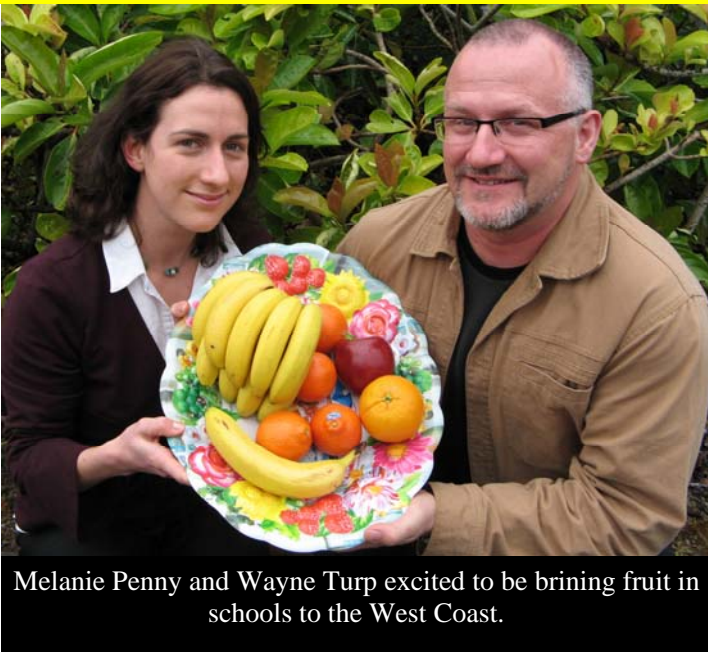
Healthy bodies equals healthy minds that's the theory behind the Fruits in School initiative that will be rolled out to eight West Coast schools in October.

The selected schools are Runanga, Blaketown, Cobden, Reefton Area, Granity, Waimangaroa, Paparoa Range and Westport South. The students at these schools will each begin receiving one piece of fresh fruit daily. General Manager of Planning and Funding Wayne Turp said children's health was one of the DHB's top priorities and the establishment of the Fruit in Schools programme in the region was an exciting development.

"Fruit in schools is about more than just eating right it's a whole programme focussed on children's health," Wayne said.

Participation in the Fruit in Schools programme requires schools to build a

Health Promoting Schools framework, focusing on four priority areas: healthy eating, physical activity, being sun smart and smokefree. Community and Public Health Nutrition Advisor Melanie Penny said she was excited to how children on the West Coast would respond to the programme. Evidence had shown that improved nutrition resulted in better learning outcomes.



Melanie Penny and Wayne Turp excited to be bringing fruit in schools to the West Coast.

"Good nutrition is one of the best things we can do for children - it improves not only their bodies but

# Obituary

Former Acting Chief Executive and board member Glenys Baldick passed away last month after a long illness.

Glenys, was the Chief Executive Officer of the Nelson Marlborough DHB up until 2004.

She retired in 2004 due to ill health after a long career in the health sector. At the time of her retirement Glenys was the longest serving DHB CEO in the country.

From her early days as a nurse at Wairau Hospital to her CEO position with NMDHB, she contributed an enormous amount to this district. Her contribution, of course, went much wider than Nelson Marlborough. She served on many national committees over the years, and in fact chaired a ministerial committee up until earlier this year. Her contribution to the health sector also went wider than NZ. She spent six months in Mongolia on behalf of the World Health Organisation in 1997 and accompanied the Minister of Health to Geneva for the World Health Congress in 2003.

Glenys will be missed by everyone who knew her. Among so many other things, we will remember her quiet assured demeanour and quick wit.



The wit, intelligence and experience that Glenys Baldick brought to her roles with the West Coast DHB will be greatly missed. Here she is pictured with Melanie Penny during her time as Acting Chief Executive.



## iSOFT update



HealthViews the next step in the West Coast District Health Boards (WCDHB) technology upgrade has gone live.

The system will provide significant improvements to the way clinical information is accessed, leading to improved patient care and better health outcomes.

HealthViews follows on from the implementation of iSOFT's Patient Administration Solution i.PM and gives those using the system increased access to patient information from a number of different DHB systems.

The HealthViews solution gives staff involved in patient care access to clinical messaging and memo's, a single repository for outpatient and discharge letters, operation notes, and clinical images and reports, the ability to create an electronic discharge summary that can be used as a working document throughout a pa-

tient's treatment and can be automatically dispatched to GPs.

WCDHB's Project Manager, Tony Reeve said HealthViews provides a single point of access for clinicians, allowing access to patient records from any location.

HealthViews includes a number of security features to ensure that only authorised users are able to access the information, ensuring that all patient notes remain confidential.

Chief Information Officer, Wayne Champion said "HealthViews had the potential to revolutionise patient care, pulling data from a number of different systems together and presenting it in an integrated format that can be tailored to meet the needs of multiple clinicians.

"There was also the potential to share access to the system with other clinical staff thought the West Coast and further a field so that a GP could see details of a patient's hospital stay, or information about a patient who is being transferred to another hospital

could be shared with the hospital that they are going to", Mr Champion said.

For most of the DHB's staff, iSOFT's i.PM is a new patient administration solution that replaces the legacy product that has been in use for the past ten years. iPM offers enhanced functionality and a high level of integration with the new HealthViews Clinical solution. "Change is often daunting however; the implementation of HealthViews makes all the effort worthwhile as staff will now begin to experience real benefits from the new system." "With HealthViews going live the benefits promised by the iSOFT solution will be realised, and also represents a major step towards the introduction of a complete electronic health record for West Coasters."

User training for HealthViews will begin on September 25 and will start with Resident Medical Officers and senior clinicians.