

SUMMER 2015

Private Health Newsletter

# Echo

**Introducing**  
Brisbane Waters  
Private Hospital

**Gosford Private  
Hospital's** pioneering  
cardiothoracic surgeon

New **Goings On** section

**Giving back** in 2014

**Love Your Work**  
2014 national winner

healthcare

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## CEO message

Welcome to 2015 and a very happy new year to everyone. I trust you have all had a great festive season and that you are enjoying these long and sunny summer days that are upon us. 2014 was an extremely busy and successful year for Healthe Care and I am confident and excited that 2015 will bring more of the same, with many opportunities for success across the Group.

Through the course of the year we saw the closure of our hospital at La Trobe, and the additions of Brisbane Waters Private and the Marian Centre to our ever growing hospital portfolio. A major undertaking for Healthe Care has been the extensive redevelopment works at Hurstville Private Hospital, which are on track for completion in the early part of this year. We are really looking forward to seeing the hospital's transformation into a state of the art facility which will offer (among other things): a purpose-built oncology day unit comprising 10 chairs; Hurstville Private Cardiology, a cardiac diagnostic unit with sessional rooms for VMOs; a new 8-bed intensive care unit; and a brand new and modern maternity unit offering sweeping vistas to Sydney city.

Later in 2015 we will also see the opening of Healthe Care's Townsville Private Clinic, a new 60-bed mental health hospital in the heart of the Townsville CBD. The facility will provide much needed services and will create over 70 new jobs for the region, something we and the local community are really excited about.

We hope you enjoy this summer edition of Echo, which has a big focus on Healthe Care people and engagement. As well as articles from HR on our staff survey and recognition programs, you'll see we have also introduced a new Goings On section, where we aim to feature picture montages of interesting happenings from across the Group, from hospital fundraising initiatives to events. Please let us know if you have any such activities we might like to showcase here – and take lots of photos!



# Brisbane Waters Private now part of HCA Group

Since 21 July, residents on the New South Wales' Central Coast have been experiencing Healthe Care's high quality of patient care at Brisbane Waters Private Hospital.

Healthe Care took over operations of the 90-bed surgical, medical and mental health hospital at Woy Woy on the Central Coast from Healthscope. Brisbane Waters Private Hospital was established in 1978.

The Hospital is also home to the Central Coast's only private mental health facility – The Central Coast Clinic. The Clinic offers inpatient programs and a range of outpatient programs to meet patients' diagnostic and recovery needs. There are several on site psychiatrists in the 30-bed facility that was refurbished in 2011.

In mid November, Brisbane Waters welcomed a new CEO Kathy Beverley, after former CEO Annette Czerkesow relocated to Rockhampton in Queensland.

Kathy brings to the Hospital extensive hospital and rehabilitation management experience. Recently, she headed up Healthe Work and prior to that was Acting CEO at Ramsay Healthcare's Mt Wilga Private Hospital for six years. She will lead Brisbane Waters through its next stage of growth and development.

Brisbane Waters also specialises in providing comprehensive geriatric medicine services for frail, elderly patients who have multiple, complex medical, physical and functional problems. The Hospital takes a holistic care approach to help patients maintain their independence and wellbeing for as long as possible.

Brisbane Waters offers a wide range of specialties including: ear, nose and throat; dental; obesity surgery; plastic and reconstructive surgery; gynaecology; orthopaedics; urology; ophthalmology; podiatry; speech pathology; dietetics; pathology and physiotherapy.



*Kathy Beverley, new CEO,  
Brisbane Waters Private Hospital*

# New faces at Healthe Care

Healthe Care continues to attract new talent with the number of people employed within the Group now exceeding 4500. New appointees last year included a new CEO for the Group's Community Care business, and three newcomers to Sussex Street.

## Tony Maher takes over Community Care

In July, Healthe Care appointed Tony Maher the new CEO of its \*Community Care business.

Tony has more than 30 years' health industry experience in managing state- and federally-funded primary, secondary, and tertiary level services. Since June 2008, Tony has been the Executive Manager of Hunter Medicare Local, responsible for the Primary Care Integration directorate. This involved managing their chronic disease care coordination programs (CCP and CCSS), Health Planning unit, Aboriginal Health and Closing-the-Gap initiatives, and the Health Pathways unit responsible for the design, development and implementation of clinical pathways. He also managed key stakeholder relationships with Hunter New England Local Health District, non-government organisations, the University of Newcastle, and the Hunter Medical Research Institute.

Prior to this, Tony held various senior management positions with Hunter New England Health over a period of 26 years. For the last five of these years he was Director of Community Health Services responsible for the operational and strategic

management of all community-based services (HACC and State-funded) within the Newcastle, Lake Macquarie and Port Stephens local government areas. Services included community nursing, specialist nursing services, counselling services, dietetics, OT home modifications program, podiatry, speech pathology, rehabilitation services, day care centres and the Community Stroke Service. Tony also has experience in managing public hospitals in Newcastle, including Maitland and Dungog Hospitals.

\*Since 2009, the Group's Community Care business has been providing quality home nursing and domestic services to clients in the comfort of their own home throughout the region from New South Wales' Central Coast to Port Macquarie.

New head office staff began work at Sussex Street within three weeks of each other

L-R: Zoe Gilbert, Louisa Cairns and Kate Swaffield



## *Sussex Street appointments*

**Kate Swaffield,**  
**Executive Assistant to HCA CEO, Steve Atkins**

Kate joined Healthe Care in June as Steve's assistant. She has more than 10 years experience in executive administration duties, office support and customer service. For five years, Kate worked at KPMG as personal assistant to a number of partners. Prior to joining Healthe Care last year, Kate worked for Australand as Executive Assistant to the New South Wales General Manager and Legal General Manager within the Commercial and Industrial Division. She holds a Certificate IV in Business Administration.

A former Group Fitness Bodystep instructor, Kate still loves to exercise and go to the gym.

Originally from the New South Wales Central Coast, she now lives in Sydney's northern beaches' area.

**Zoe Gilbert,**  
**Receptionist**

The first voice most people hear when they ring Healthe Care's main number or the first face they see when they visit Sussex Street is usually Zoe. The reception position is Sydney-born Zoe's first full time job. Before joining Healthe Care, Zoe studied exercise and health science.

Away from work, she loves to exercise and walk her dog. Next year Zoe plans to move to Sydney's northern beaches area.

**Louisa Cairns,**  
**Marketing & Communications Specialist**

New Zealand-born Louisa joined Healthe Care May 2014. With a double degree in Law and Arts, she began work as an editor for a legal and business publishing company after university. Louisa later moved into marketing communications as the variety of work proved more interesting and fun, and while in London, she and her husband took the opportunity to travel as much as possible.

Six years ago she and her husband moved to Sydney. Louisa had been working with the surgical division of Alcon (part of Novartis), until last year's appointment to Healthe Care.

When not working, she loves being at the beach, enjoying nice restaurants, and doing Pilates. She's been trying to master surfing since she moved to Sydney.

Like Kate (and soon Zoe), Louisa lives in Sydney's northern beaches' area.

# GOINGS ON:



Team Optical Phenomenon L to R front:  
Darshanii Farnsworth, Leslie Spale,  
Jordan Langford, George Chilvers, L to R back  
James Farnsworth, Winnie Tsang.



## Colour Run Sydney

In late August a team from Health Care Sussex Street, Sydney ran the five kilometre Colour Run to celebrate health, happiness and individuality. Colour Run participants wear white and are splashed with colour at the end.

## Mayo and Belmont go 'elephants' during Mental Health Week

Patients and staff could be forgiven for thinking they had a new problem when elephants started appearing at Mayo Private and Belmont Private Hospitals during Mental Health Week in October. As part of the Australian Private Hospitals Association's Mental Health Week campaign, private hospitals were encouraged to confront the stigma of talking about mental health head on by having an "Elephant in the Room". Fact cards, stickers and elephant stress balls were also handed out during the week.



Elephant at  
Mayo Private Hospital



From back L-R: Jacinta Stanton, Patrick McGurrin, Rachel Stark, Kay Anderson, Gail Masters, Sue Carroll

## Record Belmont Private team runs Bridge to Brisbane

Health Care again sponsored staff from Belmont Private Hospital to run or walk 10km in the annual Bridge to Brisbane fun run on Father's Day, 7 September. This year 23 staff, the largest number yet, participated in Queensland's largest fun run in their Health Care caps and T-shirts.



## Mayo 'steps out' in Global Corporate Challenge

Seven Mayo Private Hospital staff are feeling healthier and fitter, having made some serious lifestyle changes and having lost a combined 32kg from walking nearly seven million steps as a team in the 2014 Global Corporate Challenge (GCC).

The GCC is a workplace health and fitness program involving more than 40,500 teams of seven across the world competing in a mixed step, activity, nutrition and fitness challenge that runs from the end of May to Christmas.

Each team's results are monitored online with team rankings mapped globally. Participants are given a pedometer to track the number of steps per day from late May to early September and are then required to complete a nutrition awareness program till the end of October. The final phase of the challenge is a three-week pre-Christmas get fit program which starts in November.

The Mayo Private team was among four Healthe Care teams that competed in the 2014 GCC. Feedback from the program

has been so positive, Healthe Care hopes to participate in the 2015 challenge and the Mayo team not only wants to participate again but they're challenging others to come on board.

The Mayo team said the competitive nature of the challenge encouraged them to stay motivated and made them more aware of the amount of daily activity they did. They were encouraged to increase their amount of daily activity and were also provided with nutritional support and education, and weight monitoring. The program also included virtual trophies to reward success and mini challenges to keep things "interesting".

By the end of the challenge the Mayo team had walked more than 4450km.



## Healthe Care National Health Information Management and Clinical Coding Conference

The Group held its 2014 conference and dinner from 11-12 September at Crowne Plaza, Newcastle. Featuring a number of guest speakers and one from the Privacy Commission, the conference enabled participants to share ideas and practices to improve the quality of documentation, clinical coding and data to meet legal and contracting requirements, and also maximise hospital revenue.

## UK nurses drive

Throughout Healthe Care there are over 150 registered nurse positions that remain unfilled. In November, Deb Ritter and Geoff Sam led a Healthe Care team to London to recruit

British-based registered nurses to the Group. Over two days the team presented to large groups of nurses and their partners about making the move to Australia to work for Healthe Care. Mandy Harris, Principal of AJ Harris & Associates Migration Matters, assisted with skilled work visa applications and queries. Juan and Hiyasmin Facundo (from Gosford Private Hospital) helped ensure the seminars ran smoothly, with Juan talking

about his personal experience in migrating to work for Healthe Care in Australia.

We are now processing the many registrations of interest received. If you know of any registered nurses that may be interested in working for Healthe Care, please do put them in touch.



# Melissa l'Anson named Love Your Work 2014 winner



Last year there were more than 150 CEO-endorsed nominations for Health Care's Love Your Work awards for people recognised by their peers for going above and beyond the call of duty.

The Love Your Work Program provides formal recognition for those who do great work through dedication, resourcefulness and maintaining and fostering a positive attitude in the workplace, often under difficult circumstances.



*Melissa l'Anson receiving her award*

Maitland Private Hospital receptionist Melissa l'Anson has been named Health Care's 2014 Love Your Work program national winner, due to her "exceptional customer service and problem solving abilities under often difficult and confrontational situations".

However, had it not been for the forced closure of the Port Macquarie engineering firm she was working for a few years ago, Melissa may have never entered the health sector.

Fate led her to work for Port Macquarie Base Hospital which Melissa said she "really loved".

Soon after moving into the health care sector she married her Maitland-born husband James and relocated to Maitland Private Hospital where she has been working since December 2011 in her current role of Front Reception Administration.

Undoubtedly, it is Melissa's unique approach to work, level-headedness, adaptability and consistent positive outlook that has led to her winning the award.

While she acknowledges that "large volumes of people come in and out of the hospital each day", it's how she treats them that makes the difference.

"I like to take pride in making patients feel like individuals, rather than the 'next on the list'," Melissa said.

"Hospitals are what communities rely on. If locals feel well-cared for and welcome, then it can only benefit them and the community even more."

"Some days things don't happen as smoothly as you would like – that's where being able to constantly smile and stay level-headed comes in handy – especially when snakes and echidnas come rolling in the front door!"

She said her work at the front desk, usually most people's first contact with Maitland Private, provides her with valuable feedback on how people feel about the Hospital.

"I continually hear first hand people raving about not just individuals but about how our hospital works as a great team - working at their highest level to give patients a great overall experience," Melissa said.

"It's exciting knowing that you belong to a company that not only recognises but celebrates the extra effort that so many individual employees go to every day, to do their part."

Not surprisingly, winning the Love Your Work award isn't Melissa's first recognition for customer service.

After high school, she worked for Port Macquarie real estate firm Laing +Simmons for a few years and while employed with them she received their National Customer Service award which she said was "quite humbling for me as a young teenager".

She attributes her dedication to customer service and commitment to hard work to her father, who as her first boss reminded her to "keep those hands out of your pockets and get them doing something" – a mantra which she repeats to herself usually on Mondays!

Cairns-born and bred, Melissa loves tropical weather and having re-located to Port Macquarie with her family, she's been lucky to live no more than five minutes from either the ocean or a river which explains why she counts down to summer and why she and husband James are never too far from the water's edge "any chance we can get".

In her spare time, this energetic and inspiring young woman mentors young people along with her husband as youth pastors, working closely with high school students and other young adults from across the Maitland area. Naturally, the highlight of her year is the church's annual camp – summer camp!

Over her past three years with Maitland Private, Melissa has obtained a Cert IV in Business Administration while the Hospital had grown immensely.

She said working with constant construction sites all around is "an achievement in itself" and predicted exciting times ahead.

"I'm looking forward to the projects that lie ahead with all the new buildings and constant expansion at Maitland Private and seeing how our administration team grows," Melissa said.



Caps on sale across the HCA Group

L to R: Peter Johnson CEO Mayo Private with Steve Atkins CEO Healthe Care Group

# Funds raised through Healthe Care in 2014

Every couple of years Healthe Care chooses a charity to support through a national fundraising drive. In 2014, the Cancer Assistance Network – Can Assist - was the charity selected.

Can Assist provides accommodation, financial assistance and practical support to rural families struggling with the challenges of a cancer diagnosis and distance.

In 2012-2013, Can Assist directly helped 3187 people receive the cancer treatment they needed, provided \$1.9 million in financial assistance and accommodated 911 people. As Can Assist receives only 4 percent government funding, the organisation relies heavily on its supporters, corporate partners and volunteers to help fund their community effort.

Throughout November and December Can Assist and Healthe Care purple branded caps went on sale from

hospital counters and hospital staff also held morning teas and raffles to try to boost sales.

To date, Gosford Private and Mayo Private Hospitals have sold 130 caps and 131 caps respectively, with all facilities making a sound contribution. (At the time of going to print caps were still for sale, with more than 700 sold.)

Mayo Private Hospital also supported Can Assist with its own local campaign last year by taking two tables at Can Assist's annual fundraising ball night (valued at \$1700) and also donating \$10,000.

For more information about Can Assist visit [www.canassist.com.au](http://www.canassist.com.au)

Healthe Care would also like to acknowledge the kind \$2000 donation from Abbott Vascular, to help the Group to support Can Assist.

# About Abbott



# Individual efforts

Abbott is a global health care company devoted to improving life through the development of products and technologies that span the breadth of health care. With a portfolio of leading, science-based offerings in diagnostics, medical devices, nutritionals and branded generic pharmaceuticals, Abbott serves people in more than 150 countries and employs approximately 69,000 people. In Australia and New Zealand, Abbott employs approximately 500 people and has offices located in Sydney, Melbourne, Auckland and Christchurch.

Visit [www.abbottaustralasia.com.au](http://www.abbottaustralasia.com.au) or [www.abbott.com](http://www.abbott.com) to learn more.

Staff across the Group often participate in their own individual fundraising efforts as well.

Just one example is Jo Gallagher, Patient Accounts/ Receptionist at The Marian Centre in Perth, who is participating in 'The World's Greatest Shave'. Jo was diagnosed with cancer as a teenager and lost her hair for a year. Now fully recovered, Jo will be shaving her head in order to raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation. The Foundation supports families facing blood cancer as well as paying for research into cures for leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma.

If you would like to sponsor Jo in this great cause, please visit: [www.my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/jogallagher](http://www.my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/jogallagher)

## Other 2014 fundraising efforts

Health Care staff consistently support various charities and throw themselves selflessly into fundraising activities to support those in need.

Hospital staff supported charities in many different ways throughout 2014 for large well-known campaigns all the way through to small community charities, desperately seeking help.

These include hosting 'Australia's Biggest Morning Tea' events, 'Daffodil Days' and going pink for breast cancer promotions, to raising

funds for the Cancer Council. Funds through sponsorship were also raised for Relay for Life by many staff. Movember (supporting men's health issues including prostate cancer and depression) is another initiative hospital staff have participated in, contributing \$3000 toward the two charities. Staff have also fundraised for (among others) at national and local level charities Beyond Blue, The McGrath Foundation, Jet and Amy Foundation (two children with severe disabilities), Harry's House and The Men's Shed.

Health Care also actively supported doctors and staff who travelled to third world countries to assist with surgery (e.g. by providing them with supplies or donating old instruments).



## In Profile:

*Dr Peter Lipski*

MB BS MD (Syd) FRACF FANZSGM  
Geriatrician

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Director of Geriatric Medicine  
Conjoint Associate Professor,  
Newcastle University

Geriatrician Dr Peter Lipski has been looking after elderly residents from the New South Wales' Central Coast for more than 20 years and has raised the profile of Geriatric Medicine.

He has been affiliated with Brisbane Waters Private Hospital since March 2009.

Dr Lipski's career has focussed on older people and nutrition since he was awarded the post-graduate degree of MD from Sydney University in 1992. His enthusiasm and dedication towards older people and nutrition issues is reflected in his clinical research, interests, publications and presentations in malnutrition in the elderly and the impaired older driver.

Dr Lipski's other special interests include adverse drug reactions in the elderly, falls, gait and balance disorders, delirium, and Alzheimer's disease.

He performs acute inpatient care of the elderly, consultation, elderly rehabilitation, and home visit consultations. Dr Lipski has private rooms adjacent to Brisbane Waters Private Hospital.

## Health Care nursing scholarships

Since 2013, Health Care has been a collaborative partner to the University of Tasmania, offering scholarships to its nursing staff enabling them to undertake a Bachelor of Nursing Professional Honours (Specialisation) (H4F). When they complete the four specialty units they are awarded a Graduate Certificate in Nursing. For those who complete an additional year's study, they receive either a Graduate Diploma of Nursing or BN Professional Honours qualification.

To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must be Health Care nurses working in the ward/area in which they want to specialise and must provide proof of APHRA registration.

**Applications for 2015 closed in mid January 2015.**

Since the establishment of the scholarship program, eight staff have studied in their chosen field in 2013, with 56 studying under scholarships in 2014.

For further information about 2016 scholarships, Health Care staff should visit the scholarship page under the human resources department on LOTI.

## *New Service Recognition Program*

Last year, Health Care launched a new program to recognise years of service across the Group especially to acknowledge the loyalty and commitment of long-term employees. This was in response to feedback from the 2013 staff survey where recognition was one of the key areas identified for improvement.

The Group's success depends on the dedication, professional integrity and passion of its people. The new Service Recognition Program enables Health Care Australia to recognise individuals who've reached certain milestones in their career.

Historically, different facilities have celebrated service milestones in their own way by providing gifts and morning teas for staff, for example.

The new program complements the Love Your Work initiative and ensures all employees across the group are rewarded consistently.

From five years service to 10, 15, 20 and beyond, Health Care staff are now celebrated through a formal process. Each Service Recognition recipient receives a certificate recognising their milestone and can choose from a wide array of gifts to select something commemorative that holds special value for them.



the Forum included a thought-provoking panel session featuring Australian Health Service Alliance's Senior Health Information Manager Nicolle Predl as well as Healthe Care's Bruce Levy and Lynn McDonald

## *Inaugural Rehabilitation Forum*

More than 50 people attended Healthe Care's inaugural Rehabilitation Forum to share ideas and experience and hear from guest presenters about emerging rehab trends and future challenges for rehab in private hospitals.

Hosted by Brunswick Private Hospital in Brunswick, Victoria on 28 October, the Forum included a thought-provoking panel session featuring Australian Health Service Alliance's Senior Health Information Manager Nicolle Predl as well as Healthe Care's Bruce Levy and Lynn McDonald.

Delegates also heard from Healthe Care Australia's experts about: cost effective group service delivery; cost models across allied health, nursing and medical; alternative care

models in the community; marketing innovations; assessor models; and health fund perspectives on current and future rehab service delivery.

The Forum also featured sessions on evidenced-based pain management programs, trauma rehabilitation, and art therapy.

Many delegates said they would be particularly interested in establishing a Healthe Care Australia Rehabilitation Committee to lead rehabilitation into the future.

According to the CEOs, Directors of Nursing, Directors of Clinical Services, Nurse Unit Managers and allied health staff who attended the Forum, it was an "immense success".



## Watch this Space! Coming soon...

In 2015 Healthe Care will be introducing an exciting new publication, the Healthe Care – Quality of Care community magazine, which will be distributed to local communities, GP practices, specialists and our staff.

The magazine will be a platform to inform local hospital communities about Healthe Care Group quality information, such as benchmarking and quality score cards. It will also reference national health and safety standards and will include a safety section (incorporating great stories from Healthe Care facilities outlining successes and improvements).

The Quality of Care magazine will also be a fantastic forum for local/regionalised content, enabling hospitals to provide updates and promote key themes (e.g. mental health) and to generate some good news stories for community engagement.



In Profile:

*Associate Professor  
Kumud Dhital*

BSc, BMBCh (Oxon), FRCS (Eng),  
FRCS-CTh (UK), PhD, FRACS

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Cardiothoracic and Transplant  
Surgeon  
Clinical Director for Cardiothoracic  
Surgery, Gosford Private Hospital

According to Associate Professor Kumud Dhital, the surgeon who recently performed the world's first DCD (donation after circulatory death) heart transplant, and who also happens to head Gosford Private's cardiothoracic surgical unit, it could have been a very different outcome if he had stuck with his original dream of becoming a neurosurgeon.

Thankfully A/Prof Dhital's aspirations changed when he saw cardiothoracic surgery for the first time in 1994 and from that moment on his passion for cardiovascular physiology and anatomy soared.

After completing his initial medical training at Oxford University in England in 1991, he undertook junior postings in cardiothoracic surgery at The Royal Brompton Hospital, St George's Hospital and John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford.

A/Prof Dhital's cardiothoracic training rotation was undertaken at St Guy's and St Thomas Hospitals after which he moved into a transplant fellowship at Cambridge's Papworth Hospital.

He then moved to Palermo, Italy to work for the United States' University of Pittsburgh to help them to set up a new cardiothoracic surgical service in that city, developing and initiating its heart and lung transplant service.

Following this, A/Prof Dhital returned to Papworth Hospital in Cambridge to take up a permanent role as cardiothoracic consultant and was later appointed Director of Papworth's Lung Transplant Service.

In 2009, he moved to Sydney to work at St Vincent's Hospital Clinical School, where he is currently a conjoint Associate Professor for the University of New South Wales and has won awards for research and teaching.

For Gosford Private patients, A/Prof Dhital provides a comprehensive adult cardiac and thoracic surgical practice.

He is particularly interested in high risk vascularisation, valvular surgery (with minimal access where appropriate), aortic surgery, pulmonary endarterectomy and procedures for end-stage heart and lung failure (which include implanting mechanical assist devices and heart and lung transplantation).

While many in the industry believe the need for cardiothoracic specialists is diminishing, A/Prof Dhital sees a different future.

“Contrary to popular belief, I think cardiothoracic surgery has a very positive future,” he said.

“However, this requires continuous dedication to be familiar with the many game-changing advanced medical therapies and novel technologies that are introduced at such a fast pace. I expect increasing use of less invasive surgical strategies.”

A/Prof Dhital is a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and Royal College of Surgeons (England, UK) and a member of the International Society of Heart and Lung Transplantation, Transplant Society of Australia and New Zealand and the AMA.

He said that since the cardiac surgery program had started at Gosford Private, he has had good feedback.

“I have had had overwhelmingly positive feedback from all my patients about the hospital and in particular, with regard to the care delivered by all nurses, staff and allied health staff.”

Acknowledged as an ‘international Nepali’, A/Prof Dhitali was born in Rome and spent his childhood in Rome and in Kathmandu, Nepal before he moved to the UK with his parents when he was 13.

Married with two children, one of whom is about to start medicine in Newcastle, A/Prof Dhital is hoping to resurrect his love of sabre-fencing in the near future. In the meantime, he spends his spare time cooking and “chasing new recipes”, (sometimes from patients) and walking Obi, the family’s Airedale terrier.

## *Pink Ribbon breakfast*

One of the Group’s most tireless breast cancer fundraising supporters, Lee Alexander, a breast care nurse and clinic coordinator from South Eastern Private Hospital, has lifted the bar even higher in 2014.

Already honoured with an Australia Day Local Hero award and with two research grants named after her (The Lee Alexander Research Award), Lee hosted 250 people at a Pink Ribbon Breakfast in late 2014, which was sponsored by The Valley Private Hospital.

This year Lee, along with The Valley Private, raised more than \$31,438 in total

and after expenses, funds raised will go to support The Cancer Council of Victoria’s Lee Alexander Research Grant, Canteen - a program for young people whose parents have been diagnosed with cancer, Breast Cancer Network Australia, and the Otis Foundation, which offers places where cancer patients can go on retreat with family and friends to assist healing.



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Echo is a Health Care Group publication which is distributed to staff, visiting medical professionals and executive management.

Accessible to download at [www.healthcare.com.au](http://www.healthcare.com.au), the publication is also available for public readership.

### **Next issue release – Autumn 2015**

To advertise please contact Louisa Cairns on 02 9215 8200 or by email at [louisa.cairns@healthcare.com.au](mailto:louisa.cairns@healthcare.com.au)

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