

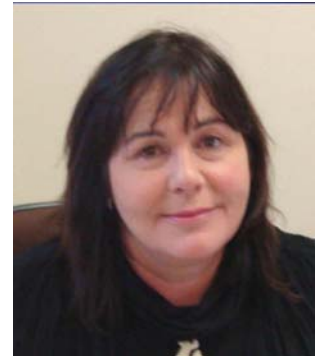
# Mersey Messenger

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## CEO's Message –

I am very pleased to be able to contribute a comment in this Edition. I commenced as Chief Executive Officer of the Mersey Community Hospital on 1st September. I have spent the first week working with the Personnel Department to ensure the transition of staff is smooth, well apart from some wording regarding probation that I have now amended, I think it has been. I have also spent some time working with the Clinical Leaders from both the Mersey Community Hospital and the North West Regional Hospital to identify what, if any urgent issues there might be for both hospitals and how does each service wish to move forward. I was really pleased



that clearly some thought has gone into this and not surprisingly the solutions are different for different areas. Next week I'll be getting around the hospital more. I intend to spend 3 days one week and 2 days the next at the Mersey Community Hospital alternating with the North West Regional Hospital until I have appointed the General Manager. I believe that Mersey Community Hospital is integral to the success of an integrated North West Health Services network and am delighted to be in a position to create the potentially ground breaking service alignment to the benefit of all people who reside here.

**Jane Holden**  
Chief Executive Officer



## High Dependency Unit Course

**16 week  
HDU  
Course  
Commencing  
6 Oct 08**

The High Dependency Unit (HDU) is running a 16week HDU Course commencing the 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2008.

The program aims to:

- Increase participant's knowledge and skills in the nursing care of High Dependency patients within HDU Unit.
- Facilitate the early recognition of patient problems and prompt appropriate intervention by nursing staff caring for them.
- Facilitate and encourage interest in developing skills and knowledge in critical care nursing.

This will be achieved through a structured competency based program that will

develop the skills, knowledge and attitudes of staff contracted to the HDU over a 4 month period. During this period the participants will be involved in practical bedside education, educational workshop sessions and self-directed learning packages.

We would like to congratulate Gerri Hunter, Michael Hayes, Kathryn Maguire and Tammie Richards for being successful applicants for the course and we wish them well.

They have a lot of work a head of them but I'm sure the knowledge, skills and professional development they gain will be invaluable in their careers.

**Kerry Harvey**  
Clinical Nurse Educator

## Women and Children's Health Unit It's baby season

**Ante natal checks can help to make sure you have a healthy child**



It's baby season on the North West Coast of Tasmania.

During August this year over 50 babies came into the world at the Women's and Children's Health Unit of the Mersey Community Hospital.

The Unit is a 26-bed unit comprising of four self-contained birthing suites and a dedicated four-bed Children's Ward.

Exceptional nursing midwifery care is delivered by a dedicated team of experienced midwives and lactation consultants.

An Extended Care Midwifery & Lactation Service (ECM) is offered 7 days a week.

All women birthing at this facility are offered ECM follow up on discharge. The frequency and number of visits varies depending on the clients individual needs, circumstances and locality. Visits are generally offered within a 40-50k radius of Devonport.

Women who have booked in at the Mersey can access the lactation service for advice and support both antenatally and postnatally;

as an inpatient or outpatient. Referrals are accepted from the antenatal and Outpatient Clinics, CHAPS, GP's and clients are also able to self refer. Clients referred post-natally with lactation issues will be contacted and assessed within 24 hours of referral.

Our Ante Natal Clinics (ANC) provide an opportunity to ask questions about your pregnancy and as a chance to monitor the health and well-being of baby.

ANC Classes run over a six (6) week period every Monday and Tuesday evening.

Clinical Nurse Educator (Midwifery), Di McArthur's role is to implement and evaluate staff development, educational programs and support Midwifery Students from UTAS Launceston and Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga.

### Medical Team

Dr John Ives, Obstetrician and Gynaecologist.

Dr Michael Saunders, Obstetrician and Gynaecologist

Dr Mirna Markovic, Registrar O&G

Dr Jyoti Sharma, Registrar O&G



Dr Markovic and Registered Midwife Jeanette Lander with newborn Zali Jopson (daughter of Kylie Jopson).

## Father's Day Raffle

**FATHER'S DAY—7th September, 2008.**

The lucky winner of the Father's Day Raffle organised by our "Relay for Life" Team "Mersey Maidens" was a Mrs M Jarman. Congratulations!

"Thank you" is extended to all visitors and staff for their participation in contributing towards such a worthwhile cause.



## Medical Education Advisor Ms Kerry Harvey

I have been fortunate to have the role of Medical Education Adviser. (MEO)

I have found this to be a very rewarding role enabling me to work with a group of people that truly appreciate the efforts you make to accommodate their educational needs.

An extensive education and orientation program has been developed for the new Resident Medical Officers (RMO's) at Mersey Community Hospital.

The RMOs have been granted protected study time for 1 hr every Thursday afternoon.

This time is spent orientating the Drs to services available at Mersey.

They are updated on the latest management in Advanced Life Support.

They are given the opportunity to experience cultural differences in medical practice in Australia.

Many Specialists are only too happy to share their knowledge with our new RMO's.

Next week Dr P. Dunn from Pallia-

tive care is coming to speak about pain relief in the Palliative Care patient.

Dr Kan, Specialist Anaesthetist, Dr Ives, Specialist Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, Dr Suneet Kohli, Medical Registrar, Dr J Shulman from Radiography and Dr F. Wallace, Director Emergency Dept are just a few who have given informative education sessions to enhance RMO practice.

Feed back from the RMO's has been very positive. They are all studying hard for their exams and we wish them all the best.

Kerry Harvey



Dr Masih Ashrafy and Dr Sunil Pandey practicing ALS.

Resident  
Medical  
Officers  
Participate  
in  
Advanced  
Life  
Support  
Skills

## In Acknowledgement:-

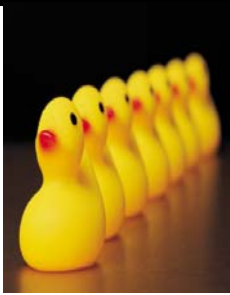
A BBQ Lunch was held for staff on Tuesday, 2nd September, 2008.

It was an opportunity for management to acknowledge the understanding and dedication of staff during the periods of substantial organisational change that occurred over the last year.

After Monday's heavy rain, the event was looking a little "touch and go". Thankfully the sun shone and staff were able to sit, relax and enjoy a delicious lunch.

Special "thanks" to Nanette and her Catering Team.





QUALITY  
STORYBOARDS:

- ✓ Team meeting to decide "story" and display tool
- ✓ Data-graphs, flowcharts, pictures
- ✓ Analysis
- ✓ Plan
- ✓ Action
- ✓ Results
- ✓ Future

**QUALITY HOTLINE:**

Julie Ext. 5468  
 Debbie Ext. 5612  
 Heather Ext. 5519  
 John Ext. 5665

**NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS:**

Please email your Newsletter Contributions to:  
[jan.carr@mersey.health.gov.au](mailto:jan.carr@mersey.health.gov.au)

Next Edition  
 Deadline 26 Sept 08

Many thanks to all staff who contributed to this issue



The Australian Council on Healthcare Standards

ACCREDITATION UPDATE

**SIX WEEKS TO GO!! ARE YOU READY??**  
**OCTOBER 28,29,30<sup>TH</sup>**

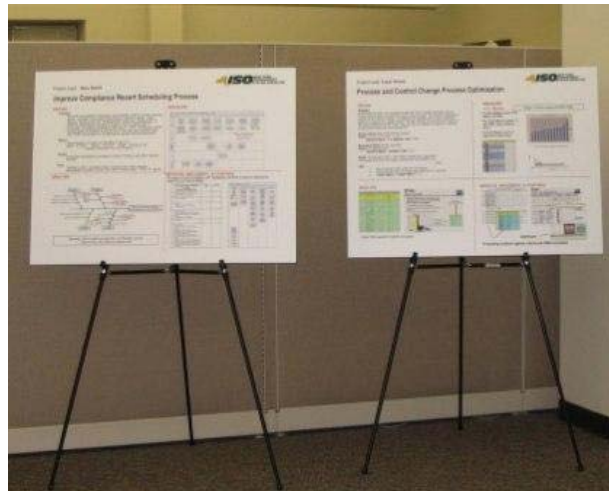
STORYBOARD COMPETITION

WIN \$500

The Executive team have approved a \$500 prize to be spent on items that will benefit either patients and/or staff within their department.

All you have to do is display a storyboard demonstrating an improvement in your area that you would like to share with the organisation.

Storyboards are graphic organisers such as a series of illustrations or images displayed in sequence to demonstrate changes, actions, results and overall improvements in your service delivery.



COMPETITION CLOSING FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Julie Duff  
 Assistant Director of Nursing

**Introducing New Employees and Acknowledging Staff Appointments:**

**New Employees for September include:**

Dr Sunil Kumar PANDEY, Resident Medical Officer

Dr Zubair AL-SAMARRAE, Career Medical Officer, Emergency Department