#### HELPING CANTABRIANS IN NEED

The Canterbury Charity Hospital provides a vital free service for Cantabrians in need who have been turned down by the public health system.

To be eligible patients also do not have medical insurance or the means to pay for their treatment privately along with a referral from their general practitioner or dentist.

The hospital's services are frequently updated depending on need and currently include colonoscopy (acute and screening), gynaecology and women's health, general surgery (abdominal, rectal), oral surgery and dentistry, counselling (self-referral), orthopaedics (upper and lower limb), cataracts, urology.

The Canterbury Charity Hospital also provides professional training, development and education for clinicians and work experience for student nurses and other health professionals. Interactive technology in the general surgery theatre enables communication with people in the hospital's education room. Their interactive

technology in both the general surgery theatre and the Colonoscopy theatre enables them to run educational seminars.

The hospital's three buildings include a community room which is available for like-minded community groups to use for free including first aid and resuscitation courses.

The Canterbury Charity Hospital Trust does not receive any Government funding and relies on fundraising events, donations, charitable organisations and bequests to raise the \$800,000 a year required to run its free services. Without their 300 volunteers this cost could be more like \$2.6 million. The hospital's volunteers include surgeons, dentists, anaesthetists, nurses, technicians, denture makers, gardeners, administration and other support staff who all give generously of their time.

To donate, find out more about the current services on offer or to enquire about gifting your skills then please visit the hospital website at www. charityhospital.org.nz or email us at reception@ charityhospital.org.nz.



Healing Hands

SPRING / SUMMER 2019

t: 03 360 2266 f: 03 360 2616 e: reception@charityhospital.org.nz

## **VOLUNTEERS HEART OF CHARITY HOSPITAL**

Without volunteers like Jaana Aramowicz the Canterbury Charity Hospital would not be able to provide free services to the people of Canterbury.

Jaana is a volunteer nurse in the hospital's busy Endoscopy theatre while completing a post-graduate nursing qualification at Ara.

"I've always thought about being a volunteer and the Charity Hospital gives me the perfect opportunity to give back as a nurse, which I love," says Jaana.

"I get to work with lovely people and super experienced nurses and also get to experience a different kind of nursing – and the patients are so grateful."



Jaana Aramowicz in the Charity Hospital theatre.

# **HOW TO HELP**

Please help us to help Cantabrians in need by completing the form on this page and posting it to us at PO Box 20409, Christchurch 8543. You can also donate online, find out more about our services or volunteer at www.charityhospital.org.nz.

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## By the community – for the community

to help Cantabrians in need.	oury Charty Hospital	www.charityhospital.org.nz
MY DETAILS	I am paying by: Cheque encl	<b>OSEC</b> (payable to Canterbury Charity Hospital Trust)
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#### **ENDOSCOPY BUILDING TO BE EXTENDED NEXT YEAR**

The addition of a new service to investigate Cantabrians aged under 50 with rectal bleeding has led to next year's expansion of the Charity Hospital's endoscopy service to meet demand.

Rectal bleeding is one of the main symptoms of colorectal cancer and, to date this year, the hospital has seen over 1650 patients with the service running three days a week. The Charity Hospital also provides other endoscopy services for a wider age range with a referral from the patient's GP.

The extensions to Patricia Mauger House which is home to the hospital's counselling and endoscopy services will include a larger reception area and increased privacy for patients along with a new area for cleaning the equipment as required by new legislation. The original conversion of the residential property included a small dental clinic which has now been relocated.

The Charity Hospital has been providing endoscopy services since 2012.



#### **HELP IS AT HAND**

Charity Hospital staff and trustees have always welcomed anyone from around New Zealand who want to establish a similar type of organisation such as the Auckland Regional Charity Hospital which operates out of private facilities whereas the Canterbury Charity Hospital has dedicated staff in Bishopdale, Christchurch.

In Southland Blair and Melissa Vining have been campaigning to start a community charity hospital after Blair's diagnosis with bowel cancer. Sadly Blair died recently, but Melissa will continue the battle to ensure other Southlanders get timely access to, initially, bowel cancer diagnosis to improve their chances of survival.

Melissa says the initial plan for a Southland community charity hospital service is to firstly provide colonoscopies to Southland patients left languishing on waiting lists.

"We [Southland] have got the highest rate of bowel cancer in New Zealand and the lowest number of colonoscopies being performed."

Canterbury Charity Hospital chairman Philip Bagshaw and Executive Officer Carl Shaw flew to Invercargill to attend the initial community meeting about getting a Southland version off the ground.

"We've recommended that they start by purchasing a building and convert it into an endoscopy unit. By putting the priority on something important, they could be operating there in six months to a year."

The hope would be to then expand the service



Melissa Vining with Charity Hospital chairman Phil Bagshaw in Invercargill.

to include diagnosis and treatment for other conditions.

"It's regrettable that entities such as charity hospitals need to be considered at all, but while health resources are underfunded nationwide in general, it's clear that people in the regions, like Southland, are suffering badly," Bagshaw says.

He co-authored a report commissioned by the Southland District Health Board (SDHB) that looked into perceived issues with their endoscopy service which concluded that the SDHB area has one of the highest rates of colorectal cancer in NZ; one of the highest rates of cancer spreading beyond the bowel at diagnosis; one of the highest emergency surgery rates for bowel cancer; and one of the lowest colonoscopy rates.

# Thank you...

The Trustees of the Canterbury Charity Hospital would personally like to thank the following for their generous and much-needed support: Air Rescue and Community Services, Bishopdale-Burnside Rotary, Christchurch City Council's Strengthening Communities Fund, Z Good in the Hood, JI Urquhart Family Trust, J and M Ferrier Trust, Lois McFarlane Charitable Foundation, Mainland Foundation, Manchester Unity, Pub Charity, Robert and Barbara Stewart Charitable Trust, SJ Charitable Trust, St Joans Trust and Tait Foundation.

And to our local community, our volunteers and everyone else who supports us by making donations, bequests and helping us out with fundraising events.

#### **NEW SKIN CHECK DAY SCHEDULED**

A third skin check clinic organised by SkinCanNZ in conjunction with the Charity Hospital will be held in November.

With eight dermatologists volunteering this year the clinic will target people aged over 50 years who do not have medical insurance and do not have any means of paying for a skin check privately.

Clinics will also be run by SkinCanNZ at Ashburton's outpatients department and at Lower Hutt's Boulcott Hospital in Wellington.

SkinCanNZ was established by Cantabrian Leeann Marriott after she lost her brother Andrew to melanoma.

"New Zealand has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world and the demand for skin checks



Volunteers at a previous Skin Check day.

can't be met through the public health system due to a lack of dermatologists," says Leeann.

At previous clinics potential melanomas were discovered.



#### **SUE BAGSHAW RECOGNISED**



Sue Bagshaw (above left) pictured with Governor General Dame Patsy Reddy.

Charity Hospital trustee Sue Bagshaw has been named as a Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit as a well-known youth health advocate.

Her idea of providing young people with doctor's appointments, counselling and addiction support services all under one roof has gained traction throughout the country.

After several different locations within the central city, Sue's dream is to raise \$10 million to establish a permanent Youth Health Hub on land in Salisbury Street.

Both Sue and her husband Charity Hospital Chairman and co-founder Phil Bagshaw have a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

Donate online now at



www.charityhospital.org.nz

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