



# infocus

FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

MARCH 2010



## A PROUD HISTORY OF FOSH

The Friends of Sydney Hospital (FOSH) have been providing patients with the highest standards of care for 48 years now. And as we enter a new year, we thought we'd take this opportunity to look back at the proud history of FOSH and all that it's achieved.

The Friends of Sydney Hospital (FOSH) was formed in the year of 1962 under the leadership of Mrs Margaret Davenport, MBE. As the President, she started a fire burning which in turn imbued the volunteers with the right spirit and laid a foundation so strong and vast that nothing will replace it.



**1962:** Sir Kenneth Coles was President of the Board of Sydney Hospital, Australia's longest serving Hospital –

known in its first years in Macquarie Street, Sydney as the 'Rum Hospital'.

It served the city well and was growing. Lady Noad, wife of Board Member Sir Kenneth Noad approached the President about the need for a Voluntary Group whose function it was to help patients and Staff in the various Departments of the Hospital in a friendly 'ease the load' way and also to raise charitable funds.

The importance of this conception turned into reality when Mrs Margaret Davenport was invited to join a fundraising group...

and so on 15th May 1962 **FRIENDS OF SYDNEY HOSPITAL** was founded.

**1964:** The "Little Shop" commenced under the steps of Sydney Hospital.

(It then moved in 1987 to Northern Gatehouse of the Sydney Hospital )

**1965:** FOSH, together with Apex Clubs and the Chaplains, refurbished the Chapel, painted it and the pews and added the Marble Transept.

**1976:** Beginning of the Eye Hospital Kiosk at the old hospital in Woolloomooloo.

**1980:** Resignation of Mrs M Davenport due to ill health.

**1983:** First donation to the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation for \$5,000.

## OVERVIEW

- What do FOSH do?
- Historical Tours
- Volunteers
- Our Foundation
- Where there's a Will



# OUR VOLUNTEERS



Over the years there have been many Volunteers who have donated their time, money and creative talent in working on the 'trolleys' or in the Little Shop and/or providing hand made toys and garments of exceptional quality at unbelievable prices. Babywear, cards and tea cosy's to name but a few of their specialities.

The Little Shop is located on Macquarie Street, beside the 'Il Porcellino' – the Boar at the front of the Hospital. Working with the motto **“Whatever the Hospital wants, we will give it a go”**, FOSH have provided the Hospital with over 48 years of dedicated service, and are regularly called on to assist in special capacities within the Hospital.

**FOSH is presently staffed by over 30 volunteers and has contributed in excess of \$2,000,000 in donations and services to the Hospital since being formed in 1962.** Despite their excellent fundraising record, they are first and foremost a service group dedicated to the care and well-being of both patients and staff of the Hospital.

All garments in the Little Shop have been hand knitted by a team of willing volunteers from FOSH. The knitters do a beautiful job, and their prices are very reasonable, particularly when you consider the amount of time and effort devoted to each garment.

## **FOSH is a Major Benefactor of Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation.**

The Foundation was launched in 1981 and FOSH made its first donation of \$5,000 on 10th February 1983. They have not missed including the Foundation in each yearly and half yearly funding ever since – first as Governor status, then moving to Benefactor, (\$50,000 in donations) and finally to Major Benefactor with donations totalling \$100,000 plus.



FOSH has had a representative on the Foundation Board of Management for a long time, with the current representative being Caroline Wilkinson.

Current President, Mrs Fay Skuthorpe would like to invite anyone interested in volunteering to work in the Sydney Eye Hospital, serving on the trolleys or providing tea and coffee, working in the Little Shop or making handicraft works - you would be most welcome.

***Please contact Kevin Gardner from the Foundation Office on (02) 9382 7408 and any information will be forwarded to the President.***



## What do FOSH do?

FOSH regularly assist the Hospital in the following ways:

- Sale of tea, coffee and sandwiches in the foyer of the Hospital
- Food and toiletry trolley service throughout the wards
- Provision of a 'needy cupboard' to ensure that no patient leaves the Hospital with inadequate clothing
- Volunteer help in many Hospital departments, including the medical library and hand unit
- Provision of medical equipment, computer equipment, and library books

# HISTORICAL TOURS

Historical tours of the hospital site, which have been offered to the public since 1989, have proven overwhelmingly popular with the community.

Congratulations are extended to volunteer tour guide Caroline Wilkinson, whose extensive knowledge of the history of Sydney Hospital means that participants are treated to a thoroughly informative and interesting visit.

*Should you wish to book a tour, please contact Kevin Gardner on (02) 9382 7408 and he will forward the details on for you.*



## OUR FOUNDATION

The Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation is an independent body dedicated to funding The Sydney Eye Hospital in the areas of research, education and special equipment needs. Its goal is to raise funds to benefit both today's community and tomorrow's generations.

By supporting the Foundation you will help the Sydney Eye Hospital to provide the best possible eye care to the people of NSW and beyond. This could make a difference to the life of a loved one or someone within your community.

### MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE

The Foundation is always overwhelmed by the generosity of its donors. Every contribution, whatever its size, is most gratefully accepted and very well used.

Funds from past donations have made a real difference to the ongoing care of our patients, enabling many recent purchases such as:

Ocular Coherence Tomography (OCT), Confocal Microscope, Digital Retinal Imaging System, Espion Electrophysiology System, Miyake Apple Unit, Video Indirect Ophthalmoscope, HRA2 Retinal Camera & HRT3, Orbscan Anterior Segment Analysis System, Cirrus HD-OCT.

**By helping us, you can make a real difference to the Sydney Eye Hospital.**



## Help those who are always there for you...

For most of us, Eye Doctors become our unexpected heroes. We never think about them until we really need them. Like most doctors you will rarely hear them speak about the long hours, the emotional drain of their roles...they are usually made of stronger stuff than that. Sometimes, however, you will hear them hoping for a new piece of equipment or some better facilities. They are not thinking of themselves, they only see what a difference it would make.

Some equipment can make diagnosis easier, therefore catching problems before they develop. Other equipment can make emergency procedures more effective and therefore save lives. While other facilities or equipment assist to make patients more comfortable or more at ease and therefore aid recovery.

However, keeping up with the latest technological advancements in medicine or even to replace some equipment requires funds and, unfortunately, specialist technology does not get any cheaper.

A donation you make today can be the helping hand for the future.

## Where there's a WILL there is a way...

*Giving through your Will is a way to recognise people and causes that have touched your life.*

Giving a gift to the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation through your Will is a wonderful way to make a difference to unborn children and families who may need the Sydney Eye Hospital's support in the future. The benefits of giving are twofold:

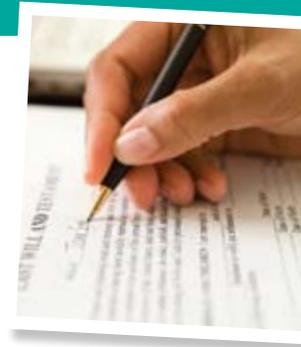
- You get peace of mind that your life earnings are left as you desire, helping to fight disease and suffering long after you've gone
- The Foundation can plan ahead for Research, Education and Equipment knowing with certainty that financial support will be available

There are many ways you can help the Foundation through your Will:

- Providing a specific amount
- Providing a percentage of your estate
- Leaving the residue of your estate to the Foundation
- Leaving the Foundation a particular item or items
- Taking out a life insurance or endowment policy, with the Foundation the sole beneficiary
- Setting up a charitable trust or nominating the Foundation as a beneficiary of such a trust

By giving a gift through your Will, you become a Friend of the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation. This means visiting the hospital for a tour and being kept up-to-date with its activities through the Foundation's Newsletters.

**Please contact your solicitor for a more detailed discussion or call Kevin Gardner at the Foundation Office (02) 9382 7408 for further information.**



## Consider a Monthly Donation



Monthly giving can make a significant difference to our fundraising capabilities and planning for future projects as we know we have these pre-committed funds. By giving up a cup of coffee or tea once a week or even monthly, you could contribute \$5 to \$10 a month.

It may only be small but the accumulation makes a significant difference to what we as a Foundation can do for eye disease and research.

**If you would like to become a Monthly Donor, please tick the appropriate box on the enclosed coupon. Alternatively, for more information please contact the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation on (02) 9382 7408.**

*Please help us to continue to develop Sydney Eye Hospital as a centre of ophthalmic excellence – your donation might just save your sight or a relative.*



Sydney eye  
HOSPITAL FOUNDATION