
DATE 9 May 2008

Media Release

Celebrating our Nurses

Anyone who has been a patient in hospital will have experienced the care and dedication of nurses – qualities that have made them one of the most respected professions in the world.

Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Health Service (HKHS) will celebrate International Nurses' and Midwives Week every day next week to recognise the significant contribution nurses make to quality patient care.

International Nurses' Day is an annual celebration of nursing held across the globe on 12th May - Florence Nightingale's birthday.

The week of celebrations at the hospital will include a barbeque lunch, presentations and awards ceremonies, culminating at week's end in what promises to be a lively and humorous debate posing the question "Nursing – the Choice with a Future".

HKHS Acting Director of Nursing and Midwifery, Kathleen Thorpe, said the aim of the celebrations is to show the hospital's nursing staff how much they are appreciated.

"Day in, day out, a nurse's job is to focus on their patients, so it's a nice change to focus on them and show our appreciation for their hard work and commitment to patient care."

Ms Thorpe said nursing is a valued profession that offers great rewards.

"Nursing is not just a job - it's a rewarding career," she said. "It offers credentials that mean you can work anywhere in the world in a variety of fields including clinical, management, education, research and health promotion.

"Most importantly, in nursing you have the chance to make a difference to the quality of someone's life," Ms Thorpe said.

Photo opportunities

Monday 12th May – 12 noon – 2pm – Lunch BBQ

Tuesday 13th May – 3 pm – 5 pm - Awards ceremony

Wednesday 14th May – 1.30 – 3.00 pm – Nursing Presentations

Thursday 15th May – 2 pm – 3.30pm - IN&M Awards

Friday 16th May – 2pm – 3pm – Debate

Media Contact: Debbie Eldridge 9477 9155 : 0404 020 330