

Monash Children's Hospital

NEW HOSPITAL
DEVELOPMENT

MonashHealth



02 issue

October 2014

From little things big things grow

Construction begins on the new
Monash Children's Hospital



02

From the
Premier and
Health Minister

03

First sod
turned at new
hospital site

05

Meet the patron of
the new Monash
Children's Hospital

06

Starlight Room to
shine in new hospital
development

07

World-leading
children's
research

The Premier's and Health Minister's message



On Tuesday 15 July 2014, we marked the beginning of a new era in paediatric care in Victoria by officially turning the first sod for the new Monash Children's Hospital.

The new Monash Children's Hospital fulfils the Victorian Coalition Government's election commitment to build a second, new paediatric hospital to meet the needs of a growing Victoria.

During 2012-13, 76,790 babies were born in Victorian hospitals. That's a growth of three per cent on the previous year.

Given Victoria's booming birth rate, this investment could not be more timely.

When complete, this \$250 million hospital will help meet demand from Melbourne's growing south-eastern suburbs, delivering an extra 60,000 outpatient treatments for children every year.

It will be one of only two dedicated tertiary paediatric facilities for Victorian children and their families and the only location in Victoria which provides fetal surgery, thalassemia services and paediatric cardiac electro-physiology.

Construction of the new Monash Children's Hospital is one of the largest and most complex infrastructure projects under way in Australia today and is expected to generate more than 700 construction-related jobs.

A record \$14.9 billion of this year's State Budget is invested in health, with \$4.5 billion worth of health infrastructure projects already underway across Victoria.

We are also planning for the future of health care, working to build health precincts like the Monash Health Translation Precinct, to bring together researchers and clinicians in a range of specialties.

Our investment in health infrastructure will be pivotal in addressing the increasing demand for services and improving access to state of the art, quality healthcare services in the right place, at the right time.

The Hon Dr Denis Napthine MP
Premier of Victoria

The Hon David Davis MP
Minister for Health and Ageing



Welcome to the Monash Children's Hospital

Welcome to the second edition of the Monash Children's Hospital Project newsletter.

In this edition, we celebrate a momentous occasion for Monash Health and our Monash Children's Hospital service.

On Tuesday 15 July 2014, the Victorian Government helped us get one step closer to our wish for a 230-bed purpose built hospital for children and their families, by officially turning the first sod.

Monash Health is committed to healing the children of Victoria and has held onto a wish for a dedicated children's hospital for a long time.

It is incredibly rewarding to receive the Victorian Government's support and recognition, and to mark the start of construction for our new hospital in such a momentous way.

We are also thrilled that the extraordinary Lady Marigold Southey AC has bestowed her warmth upon our new Monash Children's Hospital by becoming its Founding Patron.

Lady Southey has dedicated a lifetime of service to the community of Victoria. She has inspired many people with her leadership, dignity and unwavering commitment to the community. Her passion and encouragement will inspire us to build new relationships and develop vital philanthropy in support of our precious children.

This is truly the start of something special for Victorian children and their families and we look forward to celebrating many more project milestones with you in the months and years ahead.

To keep informed about the Monash Children's Hospital Project, please visit www.newchildrenshospital.org

Shelly Park
Chief Executive, Monash Health

First sod turned at new children's hospital site

The Monash Children's Hospital celebrated the turning of the sod, a historic event to officially commemorate the start of building works on the new hospital site on Tuesday 15 July 2014.

To celebrate the occasion, we were joined by the Honourable Dr Denis Napthine MP, Premier of Victoria, the Honourable David Davis MP, Minister for Health and Ageing, the Honourable Mary Wooldridge MP, Minister for Mental Health, Community Services, Disability Services and Reform, and the Honourable Michael O'Brien, Treasurer of Victoria.

The new Monash Children's Hospital is the biggest capital infrastructure project under way to date for Monash Health.

The Honourable Dr Denis Napthine said: "It's terrific to be here today to mark the commencement of construction. This exciting development means that the Monash Children's Hospital will be one of only two dedicated tertiary paediatric facilities for Victorian children and their families."

Monash Health Chief Executive Shelly Park said: "Our vision for a holistic tertiary service for all Victorian children will soon become a reality. We are grateful for the Victorian Government's unwavering support which shows a strong understanding of the needs of our community."

Monash Children's Hospital Medical Director, Professor Nick Freezer said:

"This is the culmination of many years of planning and hard work by our staff. We are thrilled that this project is underway."

The event was also an opportunity to introduce the Founding Patron of the Monash Children's Hospital, Lady Marigold Southey AC.

While philanthropy and fundraising has always been important to Monash Health, the opportunity to partner with such a pillar of the philanthropic community is new for us and we feel extremely privileged to have her support. Lady Southey was delighted to meet some current Monash Children's Hospital patients who made their way from the wards with their families to join in the celebration.

The project's managing contractor, Lend Lease, architects Silver Thomas Hanley, project partners' the Starlight Foundation, Ronald McDonald House, KidSafe, Hoyts, Radio Lollipop and Healesville Sanctuary, and our many generous philanthropic supporters, terrific volunteers and auxiliaries were also there to show their fantastic support at the beginning of this exciting phase of the project.

Over two years, 35,000 cubic metres of dirt will be removed, 14,000 cubic metres of concrete will be poured, 1,500 tonnes of reinforcement will be installed, 35,000 square metres of plasterboard will be used, 1,000 doors will be installed, and 35,000 square metres of floor finishes will be laid.

Dr Denis Napthine MP, Premier of Victoria, turns the first sod with Monash Children's Hospital patient Cody and his brother Lachlan.



Dr Denis Napthine MP, Premier of Victoria sits with a Monash Children's Hospital patient.



The official cutting of the cake.



Lady Marigold Southey AC receives flowers from Monash Children's Hospital patient, 11-year-old Christina.



OUR STORY

Looking for Sonny days ahead

From the very beginning, life for Heidi and Kane Millier's little boy wasn't what it should be.

Born slightly premature at 36 weeks, Sonny Millier was diagnosed with an abnormally severe case of Hyaline Membrane Disease (HMD).

In the first 24 hours of life his lungs collapsed, moving his heart to the right side of his chest and he experienced bleeding on the brain.

With Sonny at just five days old, Heidi and Kane were living every parent's worst nightmare when they were told their son's chance of survival was extremely slim.

An emotional two weeks passed and they were finally able to have their first hold and see Sonny's eyes open for the first time.

Inspiringly, now one-year-old Sonny and his family are still fighting the odds and refusing to give in.

"We will do whatever it takes to give Sonny the best chance at living a normal life," Heidi said.

Sonny now spends his days attached to an oxygen machine. Sleep studies at Monash Children's Hospital Sleep Centre discovered he experiences midline apnoea episodes where he stops breathing 17 times every hour during sleep.

Cause of the apnoea episodes is unknown and terrifying for Heidi and Kane who rush to their son's cot at all hours of the night to jiggle his tummy and rouse him from sleep.

Sonny continues to require 24 hour care and regular visits to the Monash Children's Hospital with his respiratory, cardiology and neurology teams.

However long the journey ahead may be, Heidi, Kane and big sister Isla are just grateful to have the forever-smiling Sonny in their life.

Sonny Millier is still smiling.



Our story - From Heidi Field-Millier

It's hard to believe it is 12 months ago that we became one of 'those' families my heart used to break for.

As a parent I honestly don't think you could think of anything worse than having a sick child. If only we could trade places with them.

I used to think how do those poor parents do it? And then 12 months ago what should have been one of the happiest times of our life everything changed. We were hanging on with every single part of hope we possibly could to keep our baby boy with us.

I have always respected doctors, nurses and all other medical professionals but since spending 50 per cent of the past 12 months in hospital no words can explain how much we appreciate, respect, and are

forever grateful to the Monash Children's Hospital.

It feels like one of the loneliest places in your life but with these beautiful doctors and nurses around, you really feel at home.

We have been lucky enough to have not only wonderful nurses but Dr Rob Roseby looking after Sonny on a regular basis.

We can't thank them enough for everything they have done and continue to do for us.

Monash Children's Hospital has been amazing.

From every little piece of our heart, we would like to thank every person that has cared and continues to care for our little Sonny.

Extraordinary support

Bringing together the philanthropic community to make wishes come true for children and their families.

We are thrilled to announce the extraordinary Lady Marigold Southey AC as the Founding Patron for the new Monash Children's Hospital.

Lady Southey has dedicated a lifetime of service to the community of Victoria, serving as Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria from 2001 to 2006, President of Philanthropy Australia from 2000 to 2006 and President of the Myer Foundation in 2004.

"We feel truly honoured and humbled to have Lady Southey as our founding patron. She is an extraordinary lady and a philanthropic icon. Her support will be invaluable in our campaign to raise funds for the new Monash Children's Hospital," said Debbie Shiell, Director, Monash Health Foundation.

"I am delighted to be a part of a great children's hospital that will do so much to help so many. It's always exciting to be a part of a dream coming true," Lady Southey said.

Continuing the tremendous support

for the new hospital, on Friday 13 June 2014 the Melbourne Grand Hyatt played host to one of the biggest fundraising events in Australia, the inaugural Celebrate Life Ball.

"THERE IS NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT IN LIFE THAN THE GOOD HEALTH AND HAPPINESS OF YOUR CHILD."

Nicole Kidman

Nicole Kidman was the guest of honour at the Celebrate Life Ball which raised \$350,000 to support the new Monash Children's Hospital.

Earlier that day, Nicole and husband Keith Urban, undertook a surprise visit of the Monash Children's Hospital. They toured the neonatal intensive care unit and the children's wards, visiting kids with cancer, sitting and chatting; much to the appreciation of the children, their families and staff.

"As a mum, and as any parent would agree, there is nothing more important in life than the good health and happiness of your child," Ms Kidman said.

**MonashHealth
Foundation**

**Support the new Monash
Children's Hospital
by donating to the
MonashHealth Foundation.**

**Call (03) 9594 2700 or visit
www.monashhealth.org**



Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban visit Monash Children's Hospital ahead of the Celebrate Life Ball. Pictured here with patient, 11-year-old Christina.



Lady Marigold Southey AC, Founding Patron of the Monash Children's Hospital.

Spotlight on the Starlight Express Room

Starlight Children's Foundation partners with Monash Children's Hospital to provide a welcome retreat for children and their families.

The Starlight Children's Foundation is excited to deliver a new Starlight Express Room as part of the Monash Children's Hospital Project.

This new room will create a 'treatment-free' space where children and their families can find respite and escape the boredom, pain and stress of hospitalisation.

The Starlight Express Room, managed by Captain Starlight, will give children opportunities to participate in activities such as arts and crafts, watch the latest movies, meet a sports star or celebrity, create performances and music videos with Captain Starlight or simply take time out to play computer games.

It will truly be a place where children can, quite simply, be children.

At night, the Starlight Express Room will transform into an adolescent-specific space for the Livewire program. Livewire is a program for hospitalised adolescents. It provides meaningful activities that enhance personal development and facilitates peer-to-peer connections.

Starlight Children's Foundation CEO Louise Baxter said: "While the dedicated health professionals at Monash Children's Hospital focus on treating the illness, Captain Starlight and the Starlight Express Room will be there to lift the spirits of children and their families and



Captain Starlights bring fun and music to Monash Children's Hospital patient 4-year-old Chase Charles, and his sister Belle.

provide them with fun, joy and laughter."

"We are very excited to have this wonderful opportunity to build a new Starlight Express Room at what will be a wonderful children's hospital."

Captain Starlight already delivers an

engaging and fun program throughout the paediatric and adolescent wards, and to outpatient clinics at Monash Medical Centre. This service will relocate to the new Monash Children's Hospital and will be open to inpatients and outpatients seven days a week.

Stay up-to-date with the new children's hospital website

To keep informed about the Monash Children's Hospital Project, please visit www.newchildrenshospital.org

The new website contains the latest news and information about the project, construction updates and timelines, the latest plans, designs and photos of the new hospital, media coverage about the development and contact information for project enquiries.

Through the new website, you are also able to subscribe to our newsletter and find out how the community can get involved and support the project.



Leading the way in children's research

The Ritchie Centre is Australia's leading Fetal and Neonatal Research Centre and the principal research centre of Monash University's Departments of Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

The centre's mission is to improve the health of women, infants and children through innovative research.

Centre Director Professor Euan Wallace is proud of its achievements.

"The Ritchie Centre has made some outstanding discoveries in many key research areas including fetal and neonatal health, infant and child health, cell therapy and regenerative medicine, and women's health," he said.

.....
Researchers, doctors and nurses work hand in hand to develop the treatments of tomorrow.
.....

Professor Wallace leads a team of more than 150 research staff and students, including fetal physiologists, immunologists, stem cell biologists, neonatologists, paediatricians, obstetricians, gynaecologists, and radiologists.

The Ritchie Centre is at Monash Medical Centre and has translational research partnerships with Monash Health, through Monash Children's Hospital, Monash Women's, Monash Newborn, and the Melbourne Children's Sleep Centre.

"The Ritchie Centre offers a unique setting where research advances can be rapidly applied for the benefit of women, seriously ill infants and children. Its location and research partnerships create an incubator for new ideas, new therapies and new equipment. It's an environment where researchers, doctors and nurses work hand in hand to improve clinical care and develop the treatments of tomorrow," Professor Wallace said.



Professor Euan Wallace,
Director of the Ritchie Centre.



Dr Flora Wong, Consultant Neonatologist
at Monash Newborn, is leading a
research study on optimal sleeping
positions for preterm babies.



Studying sleeping positions of preterm babies

Research by The Ritchie Centre and Monash Newborn seeks to determine if prone sleeping (on the tummy) is safe for the developing brains of preterm babies.

The study, led by consultant neonatologist Dr Flora Wong, is being conducted in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at the Monash Children's Hospital. It will provide recommendations on the best sleeping position for preterm infants, potentially changing current clinical practice and public health advice to parents.

"In NICU, preterm babies are often slept in the prone position on the

understanding that this improves their lung function.

"However there is little scientific evidence that this produces any long-term benefit, and it may cause harm," Dr Wong said.

"Our recent study shows that healthy term babies which sleep in the prone position have lower brain oxygen levels. Preterm babies are particularly vulnerable to brain injury due to low brain oxygenation.

"We will determine whether the current practice of prone sleeping in preterm babies is compromising their developing brains."



Discussing interiors: The Monash Children's Hospital Project Team seeks the input of members of the Consumer Advisory Panel regarding interior bedroom designs, and (below) Alexandra Little, Associate Head of Interiors at Silver Thomas Hanley, presents the garden plans for the new Monash Children's Hospital.

Working together with the community

Monash Health is committed to engaging patients, families, carers and the community in planning for the new Monash Children's Hospital.

Through a Consumer Advisory Panel, past and current patients, families, carers and the community are working together to make the new Monash Children's Hospital a truly exceptional place for children and their families.

"We really value the input and feedback of our Consumer Advisory Panel at all levels because, ultimately, it assists in ensuring that our decisions lead to improved outcomes and quality of care for our young patients. It also ensures accountability back to the community," said Kym Forrest, Director, Monash Children's Hospital Project.

"Each member of the Consumer Advisory Panel offers an insight based on their own experiences, expectations and needs for the new hospital."

Recently, the group was invited to provide feedback on the garden plans and interior design for the new hospital.

"Gardens and interior design are essential to providing spaces and surroundings that promote wellness, hope and recovery for children and their families," said Alexandra Little, Associate Head of

Interiors at Silver Thomas Hanley.

The Consumer Advisory Panel has also been consulted on the new hospital's food service model and model of care principles, to ensure that they are child and family-friendly.

"Right from the start, we felt welcomed. I feel very free to express my point of view and always feel listened to. It's also one way I can give back to the hospital," says Gill, whose five-month-old grandson was treated at Monash Children's Hospital in 2012.

"I feel like I've been able to share insights about my experiences in ways that the project team can learn from," says Fiona, a Consumer Advisory Panel member and mum to 14-year-old Ryan, a past long-term patient of the Monash Children's Hospital.

"Ryan is so proud that his mum is involved with the project and he's certainly excited about it, saying 'Mum, I think it's really great for the kids that they are building a new hospital' and I certainly think so too."

For more information on consumer focus groups, contact our Consumer Participation Coordinator at consumerparticipation@monashhealth.org

Donate now

Together we can improve the health of our community.

The Monash Health Foundation supports the wonderful work of the Monash Children's Hospital.

We ask you to consider a donation to help us provide exceptional healthcare to our patients and their families.

Donations to the Monash Health Foundation are tax deductible.

To donate or for more information, please contact the Monash Health Foundation on 9594 2700 or visit www.monashhealth.org

