

The Board of Directors

welcomes you to

The Fifth Annual General Meeting
of the
CENTRAL COAST AREA HEALTH SERVICE

and

The Thirty-seventh Annual General Meeting
of
GOSFORD DISTRICT HOSPITAL

Monday, 16th November, 1981 at 8.00 p.m.

WELCOME	Chairman of the Board, Mr. L. E. Hannell
APOLOGIES	
MINUTES	Presentation, for adoption of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held November 17, 1980
REPORTS	Presentation of Annual Report by Chairman Presentation of Financial Report by Treasurer
INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER	
GUEST SPEAKER	Miss Janette R. Noble, B.A. (Hons.I), F.C.N., Commissioner, Health Commission of New South Wales
VOTE OF THANKS	

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Supper will be served in the High School Auditorium,
following the meeting

Minutes of the Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Central Coast Area Health Service and the Thirty-sixth Annual General Meeting of the Gosford District Hospital, held in the auditorium of the Gosford High School on Monday, 17th November, 1980 at 8.00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Dr. J. S. Lawson, Regional Director of Health, Northern Metropolitan Region; Mr. H. R. Beer, Deputy Regional Director of Health, and Mrs. Beer; Director L. Hannell, Chairman of the Board, and Mrs. Hannell; Director L. Fenton, Vice-Chairman of the Board, and Mrs. Fenton; Director N. A. Byrnes, Treasurer, and Mrs. Byrnes; Director M. Westerweller; Director and Mrs. N. Wallwork, Director and Mrs. R. Eddy, Director and Mrs. R. S. Newton; Director and Mrs. R. Dibben; Dr. T. Vandeleur, Chairman of the Honorary Medical Board, and Mrs. Vandeleur; Mrs. A. Findlay, Retired Board Member; Miss I. Inskip, Past Matron; Mr. B. O'Donoghue, Auditor, and Mrs. O'Donoghue; Mr. M. Brown, President Wyong Hospital Committee, and Mrs. Brown; Mr. P. Smith, Stipendiary Magistrate, and Mrs. Smith; Inspector Yates, Gosford Police, and Mrs. Yates; Mr. and Mrs. H. Mattocks; Miss M. L. Lowndes, Director of Nursing; Dr. R. J. Kennedy, Medical Superintendent, and Mrs. Kennedy; Mr. K. Herd, Ambulance Superintendent, and Mrs. Herd; Mr. N. R. Boyce, Chief Executive Officer, and Mrs. Boyce; together with representatives of the Honorary Medical Board, the Hospitals' Auxiliaries, Voluntary Services, Local Service Clubs, Organisations and Government Departments, staff of the various departments of the hospital and health services and an assembly of some 150 local residents.

APOLOGIES:

Among apologies received were those from the Hon. K. J. Stewart, M.P., Minister for Health; Dr. R. McEwin, Chairman of the Health Commission; Health Commissioners Mr. K. Clark, Dr. J. Harley, Miss J. Noble and Mr. K. Boylan; Mr. K. O'Connell, M.P., Member for Peats, Mr. B. Cohen, M.P., Member for Gosford, Mr. H. Jensen, M.P., Member for Munmorah; Mayor and Mayoress, Councillor and Mrs. D. Leggett, Councillor F. N. Farrell, Wyong Shire President; Councillor D. Small, Wyong Councillor, Miss D. Davidson, President of the Institute of Nursing Administrators.

MINUTES: Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on November 17 1980 were confirmed on the motion of Directors N. A. Byrnes and L. Fenton.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

The Chairman of the Central Coast Area Health Board, Mr. L. E. Hannell, welcomed guests to the Meeting.

Mr. Hannell reported a year of progress, commencing with the opening of Stage 1 of Gosford Hospital, which provided 120 surgical beds, an operating theatre complex, extended accident and emergency department and improved intensive care facilities, These were badly needed.

In considering the continued growth in population, in industry and in commercial development, in the City and in the Shire there seems, obviously, to be a need for further facilities. Recently the Minister for Health announced that preliminary planning is to proceed for a further stage at Gosford District Hospital.

Wyong Hospital commenced accepting patients in September, and this is Stage 1 of what will ultimately become a 400 bed development. The Accident and Emergency section of Wyong is very active; in the past eleven weeks 2,500 people have passed through the Wyong Hospital.

A year of progress was also seen in the community-based services. There has been an expansion in the community and family health service, mental health rehabilitation and in the community nursing services. New and improved facilities have opened at Toukley, Long Jetty and Wyong. The Health Education Service has also expanded due to the Lifestyle Programme, and also to the Cancer Awareness Programme. Planning is going ahead for the construction of an eight-car ambulance station at Toukley, and for improved facilities at both Long Jetty and Ettalong Ambulance Stations.

Rotary Lodge is another new facility which opened at the same time as Stage 1 of Gosford District Hospital. The Lodge was provided by money raised by the Rotary Clubs of the District. Rotary Lodge provides accommodation for the relatives of seriously ill patients.

The Chairman pointed out that in the year 1979-1980 two thousand babies were born at Gosford District Hospital. In the first four months of the current financial year there has been a proportionate increase of twenty percent. If this trend continues, by the end of the financial year there will be up to two thousand four hundred births.

The hospital's aim must continue to be to keep people healthy and out of hospital. This means people will be happy because they are healthy, but it will also help to contain the numerous costs of hospitalisation. In the last financial year, operating costs were over 22 million dollars. Seventy-five percent of these costs were "salaries and wages".

The Australian Hospital Association, at a recent conference, made an Award for the hospital with the most innovative community health programme. The winner was announced at the conference in Canberra, and Gosford District Hospital was awarded second place, with the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital winning this award. There were thirty-seven entrants in the Community Outreach Award.

At this same conference talks were given by the Jamison Commission, a body of men appointed by the Federal Government to investigate the efficiency of hospitals. The Commission is concerned mostly with the financial aspect. The Australian Hospitals Association made its attitude plain at this conference that it resents most strongly any effort to turn patient care into a "dollar sign".

With regard to the investigation on the possible building of a nursing home on hospital grounds, Mr. Hannell advised that if any nursing home is to be built, a sufficient amount of money will have to be raised locally to allow us to attract a Commonwealth Subsidy. It could be anticipated that for an eightybed nursing home at least \$500,000 would have to be subscribed.

Mr. Hannell spoke of the recent retirement of Mrs. Anne Findlay, MBE, and of how sorry the Board of Directors was to lose her services after her twelve years of excellent service on the Board. He spoke of how the people of the Central Coast are indebted, as a community, to certain people. Firstly, to the Minister for Health, for understanding the problems in this area, and to Messrs. O'Connell, McGowan and Jensen, Local Members, for their support. To Dr. Lawson and Mr. Beer for their assistance and encouragement while, at the same time, allowing people to "get on with their work".

The Chairman asked that Dr. Vandeleur convey thanks to the Honorary Medical Board, and he drew the meeting's attention to the list of donors, thanking them for their generosity. He also thanked the auxiliary members and voluntary workers whose participation extends to various facets of health care, and ties the community closer to the health care system.

Mr. Hannell expressed appreciation to Mr. Boyce, Dr. Kennedy, Miss Lowndes, Mr. Herd and all the heads of the various departments and their staff, who make the health care system work so well. He thanked the Directors for their participation in activities and in the regular meetings, and he thanked all others for attending the meeting, and for their interest in the health care system.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, Mr. N. A. Byrnes, thanked members of the community for attending the Annual General Meeting, and the Honorary Medical Officers and the Medical Appointments Committee for their excellent service, and achievements over the past twelve months.

Mr. Byrnes expressed appreciation to the other Board members for helping the Finance Committee to function, to the nursing and medical staff and the Area Health senior staff, and to Mr. Boyce, Mr. Briggs and Mr. Cowdery who must liaise on financial matters, tenders and Finance Meeting business. He also thanked Messrs. Kinnaird, Brown, Wright, Verhagen and Warwick for their help with the financial aspect of the running of the hospital.

The main object is patient care, but Mr. Byrnes pointed out that without funds the necessary services could not be supplied. Through careful budgeting and wise spending the year finished with approximately 6,800 dollars over income which is very good when compared with operation expenses of 21 million dollars.

Mr. Byrnes expressed appreciation to Mr. B. O'Donoghue and staff for the wonderful job done as Auditors for the hospital.

The Treasurer moved the adoption of his Report and this was seconded by Director Wallwork, and carried.

GUEST SPEAKER

In introducing Dr. James S. Lawson, M.D., Regional Director of Health, Northern Metropolitan Region, Health Commission of New South Wales, the Chairman outlined to the Meeting Dr. Lawson's wide experience in the hospital field.

Dr. Lawson spoke of the fact that the Health Services and health problems are becoming increasingly complex and, at the same time, very interesting. He showed a film to the meeting which demonstrated the range of activities with which health is involved in these times. With only a few exceptions, all of the services shown are provided here on the Central Coast.

One of the purposes of the film was to demonstrate the complexity of activities in modern health service. Four of the problems shown are important to the people of the Central Coast:

1. The problem of the age of the population in relation to the establishment of nursing home beds. Dr. Lawson advised that over the next ten years there will be a fifteen to twenty percent increase in the number of persons over sixty-five years of age living on the Central Coast.

2. Accidents are a large problem on the Central Coast, particularly those associated with high speeds and drinking and driving. Drinking patterns are higher on the Central Coast than the other areas of the Northern Metropolitan Region as this is a semi-rural area, and for that same reason people tend to drive at high speeds, causing a much higher fatality rate.
3. Cancer and heart diseases associated with alcohol and cigarettes.
4. Mental Health.

Dr. Lawson concluded by passing on the Commission's gratitude to those people who worked so hard during the year to help the hospital, and to the Area Health and Hospital Boards who have worked with such dedication for very many years, some Board members having worked for the hospital for twenty years.

He also thanked the staff, the auxiliaries, members of the Honorary Medical Board and all associated with the health services in Gosford and Wyong.

VOTE OF THANKS

The Vice-Chairman of the Area Health Board, Mr. L. Fenton, moved a vote of thanks, on behalf of all people in attendance, to Dr. Lawson for his address, and added that thought should be given to Dr. Lawson's task of trying to provide facilities for all those needs in the film. The community should be made aware of the tasks that beset Dr. Lawson and his staff.

In conclusion, the Chairman stated that he hoped the coming year will be successful, and that the hospital will progress to provide for the health care needs of both the community of the Central Coast, and the visitors.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.