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Another year has flown by with Christmas and the New Year sneaking up to surprise us as it always seems to.

Sometimes it seems so long ago that we commissioned the new Whakatāne Hospital, saw the end of construction and commissioning of the new Kathleen Kilgour Radiation Therapy Centre in Tauranga and started work on the new Pathlab premises both in Whakatāne and Tauranga.

But these are just some of the physical manifestations of a growing DHB.

We’ve also increased the number of students gaining work experience here during their academic journey, welcomed more nursing, allied health and medical post graduates and increased the range and visibility of our learning opportunities.

We tested ourselves on our implementation of Health Excellence and were the first DHB to have met the standard for a Bronze Award. Our Research Trust also gained an Achievement Award at the same time – another first for New Zealand.

We again finished the June financial year in a healthy state having bettered our $500,000 surplus target by a small amount and at the same time delivered more access to services for the people of the Bay of Plenty than we had planned.

Work on identifying and supporting our vulnerable children has started with the Child Action Team being initiated in October 2014 combining the power of the Ministry of Social Development, Police, education and Iwi together with the DHB to address this key problem.

It’s been a year of progress that I could continue to describe for pages and pages.

Suffice to say I’m extremely proud of all of you and the work you put in, which often exceeds what could be reasonably expected of you.

So as we approach Christmas, take some time to relax with friends and family, and make sure that as you do, you remember that things done in moderation have better outcomes for all of us.

To you and your families and whānau have a great Christmas and prosperous New Year.
**Christmas at Silver Birch House**

By Ara Moore-Tuwhangai, Regional Māori Health Services Administration Support.

Do you know where Silver Birch House (SBH) is situated at Tauranga Hospital? If not, we can be found on Loop Road of the hospital or on the one-way lane left from the main roundabout.

SBH houses several services including Regional Māori Health Services (RMHS), HIA Community Response Services, Chronic Pain Services, NTA (National Travel Assistance) Team, Smoking Cessation Coordinator, Practise Development Coordinator, Part of Inpatient OT team, Social Work Team Leader, Manager of CCYHS and also the PA to Manager of CCYHS Service.

Some of these teams service Eastern and Western BOP, inpatients, outpatients, community patients and also the wider community.

“*The response was overwhelming with all services joining RMHS to take time from busy schedules to celebrate Christmas.*”

SBH was known as Ward 17, subsequently the building was Building 17 of Tauranga Hospital. SBH has also housed a few wards, departments and services over the years. I understand this building was once the TB/Polio Ward before Ward 17, also housing ACC, IT Training to name a few.

Staff working in SBH use common facilities but rarely have the chance to communicate with each other, so it was decided to have a building Christmas celebration. RMHS hosted the first Christmas festivity shared luncheon and sent out the invite to all services within SBH. The response was overwhelming with all services joining RMHS to take time from busy schedules to celebrate Christmas.

The teams of SBH enjoyed the company and networking with our colleagues, sung waiata (songs), had an awesome spread, gifts from the Secret Santa and many expressed what their wishes were for Christmas. I just hope everyone’s wishes are forefilled. *Meri Kirihimete kia pai te Tau Hou hoki kia ora tātou.*

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**Recycled Art Competition Wows**

By Linda Watson, Registered Nurse Rehab Therapy Team Whakatāne.

The annual Recycle Art Competition was held recently at Whakatāne Hospital. It has been going for at least six years and is open to staff from the Te Koru Department, which includes the Physiotherapy Team, Community Therapy Team, Child Development Team and the Rehab Therapy Team.

This year there were approximately 15 entries and the criteria was for an art piece to be made in at least 80% recycled or found material.

There were the following categories; Wearable Art, Hanging Art, 3-D Art, Most Humorous and Viewer’s Choice.

*Owls for Towels* by Tracie Mackey won two awards, Most Humorous and Viewer’s Choice.
50 Years’ Service

Community Physiotherapist Lois Watson celebrated 50 years working as a Physiotherapist on 12 November. Congratulations from all the staff in Te Koru Therapy and Rehab Services who think this is very special.

Hospital Curtains Find New Homes

The Eastern Bay Curtain Bank has a stockpile of curtains for distribution next year, thanks to a sizable donation from Whakatāne Hospital.

Curtains from the soon-to-be-demolished Santon Block have been given to the Curtain Bank for recycling and allocation to needy families. “The building is going to be demolished so it made sense as good corporate responsibility,” Whakatāne Hospital Facilities Manager Neil Mower said.

The 50-plus pairs of curtains were gratefully accepted by Eastern Bay Curtain Bank Coordinator Karen Lewell. “It’s wonderful. Being a volunteer organisation we rely on donations.”

Now operating under the umbrella of New Zealand Red Cross, via the aid organisation’s Rotorua service centre, the Curtain Bank provides recycled curtains free of charge to tenants or home owners living in damp or cold homes with no, or insufficient, curtaining.

Mrs Lewell said this year the Curtain Bank had given out between 800 and 900 curtains to 95 households, including one recently at Cape Runaway. Working from rooms provided by the Eastern Bay

“it’s wonderful. Being a volunteer organisation we rely on donations.”

Energy Trust in Richardson Street, a dedicated team of volunteers mend, re-string and re-line donated curtains, and sort them as best they can, according to individual requirements.
More than 30 senior managers and staff at Tauranga Hospital spent Friday 14 November 2014 with their buddies.

Buddy Day is the nationwide event when people carry cardboard cut-outs of children (known as ‘buddies’) around with them throughout their working day as a way of highlighting the message of keeping children safe.

BOPDHB staff and management - including CEO Phil Cammish, Chief Operating Officer Pete Chandler and Director of Nursing Julie Robinson – took the message on enthusiastically.

“One of the key themes of Buddy Day is that it’s up to all of us to look out for our children, to be ever mindful of child welfare and that it takes a community to raise a child,” said Pete. “The hospital is a focal point of our community and we take that message very seriously.

“It’s also about starting conversations around child welfare and this is a great way of doing it, carrying a buddy with you naturally does that, people are interested in what you’re doing.”

Pete adopted for the day his buddy ‘Mikey’ from its creator Brodie Hunter, a 13-year-old Tauranga Hospital Children’s Ward patient. As part of the creative process, children are asked to make up a back-story for their buddy which they then recorded in a diary and accompanied the buddy.

Brodie said ‘Mikey’ is originally from Italy, that he came to live in New Zealand after visiting his grandmother here, and that his favourite game is Trivial Pursuit.

Paediatrics Play Specialist Debbie McDougall said the act of creating the buddies had been very beneficial. “Creating a backstory for their ‘Buddy’ has been really rewarding, it’s a very creative process and the children have been really enthusiastic about it. It’s also opened the way for conversations that can sometimes be difficult. For example children talking about their feelings about being in hospital, they can do it in the third person through their buddy. It’s a safe way of doing that.”

Tauranga Hospital Social Work Acting Team Leader Richard Brown was the DHB’s Buddy Day organiser. “From a hospital perspective we used Buddy Day as a way to stress the importance of getting children to their health appointments. We can help parents and guardians if they’re having problems attending. We can work together to get the kids here, which is the important thing at the end of the day,” he said.
Nearly $96k Raised for Bay Children

Sick Bay of Plenty children have been given a $95,884 boost thanks to the annual Countdown Kids Hospital Appeal.

BOPDHB and Countdown has partnered in the appeal for the last seven years. CEO Phil Cammish said - during the cheque presentation at the newly-opened Bureta Park Countdown, Tauranga - that Countdown’s support was truly valued.

“These tremendous fundraising efforts allow the DHB to purchase those items that can add either extra clinical capability or, just as importantly, items which make a child’s stay in hospital more pleasant,” he said.

The appeal sees fundraising events and initiatives held over a three-month period, as well as food companies donating a percentage of their profits from products sold in local stores.

This year’s donation from Countdown is $18,500 more than last year’s final figure of $77,407.

This year’s money will go towards a broad range of equipment said BOPDHB Midwifery Leader Margret Norris.

“Little things actually mount up to big things and this is how all this started. It’s for sick children and babies in the hospital and also for our children in the community,” she said. “The extra funding allows us to buy more and cover a larger range of children.”

“For example, last year we invested in an alarm for children that have problems with bed wetting. It’s an embarrassing thing for children but the alarms help get their continence trained up.”
Students get back to Grassroots at Whakatāne Hospital

A group of trainee health professionals have discovered the potential of a provincial medical career after a weekend of fun and learning in the Eastern Bay.

The 23 students - from medical, nursing, pharmacy, physiotherapy and optometry disciplines - were hosted by the Whakatāne Hospital Clinical School for the Grassroots Weekend organised by the Auckland University Grassroots Rural Health Club.

"Everyone involved went above and beyond to make us feel welcome and share their stories and parts to convince us how fantastic rural life can be," Coordinator Chelsea Eckersley said.

The event is a scaled down version of the BOPDHB’s own six-week Rural Health Interprofessional Immersion Programme (RHIIP).

"The accident scenario created was ‘amazing’ and left all the students marvelling at rescue operations,” Coordinator Chelsea Eckersley said.

On the RHIIP, eight students from wide-ranging healthcare backgrounds live together and work together in a rural setting near Whakatāne, again with the goal of promoting the possibilities of a medical career outside the major centres. The next intake is in February 2015.

The Grassroots Weekend included a tour of the hospital, a fire-ambulance scenario with St John Ambulance and the Ohope Volunteer Fire Brigade, and a skills session at the Clinical School.

The accident scenario created was ‘amazing’ and left all the students marvelling at rescue operations, Miss Eckersley said.

They also benefited from the expertise of Dr Michael Klaassen, Dr Matt Valentine, WorkWell Advisor Megan Ruha and Speciality Nurse Jo Garner, who took them through suturing, airways, health literacy and sexual health consulting skills.

A social event at the Whakatāne Surf Lifesaving Club on Saturday night included ‘speed dating’, where the students sat down to discuss health issues and opportunities. The students also visited Te Manuka Tutahi Marae and enjoyed surf and paddle boarding lessons.

Surfing was one of the activities enjoyed by trainee health professionals involved in the recent Grassroots Programme in Whakatāne.
Staff Christmas Lunch Whakatane
It’s Three in a Row for SWEAT

By Marcus Vercoe, Manager, Staff Wellness Exercise and Training (SWEAT)

For a third consecutive year SWEAT entered the annual Bay of Plenty Dragon Boat Club - Super 12 Corporate Regatta.

After successfully taking the title of Supreme Winner for the last two years, three SWEAT crews were primed and ready to defend the title once again. All three SWEAT teams endured the expected challenge from 24 other teams from around the Bay of Plenty, throughout a tough day of competitive heats. Two teams from SWEAT successfully qualified for the grand final, going head-to-head with two other crews with impressive heat times. After yet another courageous effort SWEAT managed 1st and 4th places to retain the title of Super 12 Supreme Winner for a third consecutive year.

The regatta, held at The Lakes (Tauriko) Saturday 29 November, concludes the annual SWEAT Dragon Boat 8 Week Challenge.

“SWEAT managed 1st and 4th places to retain the title of Super 12 Supreme Winner for a third consecutive year.”

Get Moving!

By Talia Theobald, Physiotherapist.

Physiotherapists initiated an exercise class recently in the Medical Wards in Tauranga Hospital designed to improve mobility and independence. Exercise is one of the main proven effective strategies for preventing falls in the community and increasing participation in life. The group environment is a fun and interactive way to promote and motivate people into physical exercise. Feedback from patients and their families has been positive to date. All patients on the medical floor who fit the inclusion criteria are welcome - just ask your Physiotherapist.

Talia Theobald, Physiotherapist takes a group of patients through their paces at one of the exercise classes that began recently in the Medical Wards at Tauranga Hospital.
Midlands Leadership

By Penny Horton, Education Manager, Clinical School

The 2014 Health Leaders Advanced Programme concluded in October 2104. The programme is highly regarded across the Midland DHBs as is evident in the feedback from participants:
“...This was a great opportunity to focus on leadership and what that actually means. The course is well designed; informative and interactive. There’s lots of support, coaching and mentoring. I would definitely recommend this programme.”

Paediatrician Tracy Momsen

“This leadership programme is different to others for a number of reasons, perhaps it’s because it’s a regular facilitated session with readings and home-work in between or that you are mixing with other DHB leaders from around the region. Either way, the formula/format seems to work! Peter Blyde is a very approachable and knowledgeable facilitator, which makes the day go fast. It certainly is a juggle with work and other commitments, but it’s important to commit to the entire programme to get the maximum benefits. I’d recommend it to others who want to push themselves a bit further in the leadership realm – you’d be surprised what extra tools are out there to make you more effective and to improve outcomes.”

Sarah Strong, Clinical School, Business Leader

Golden Gumboot Award

By Lyndell Jones, Whakatāne Clinical School Coordinator

The Grassroots Club Golden Gumboot Award is made each year by the Auckland Interprofessional Rural Undergraduate Student Club known as ‘Grassroots’, to a person who they feel has made an outstanding contribution to rural health in New Zealand.

This year they awarded it to Dr Jo Scott-Jones who is one of the coordinators of the Whakatāne Rural Health Interprofessional Immersion Programme (RHIIP).

“I am inordinately proud of this award - teaching has been an important part of my professional life for 20 years and for students to show appreciation in this way is incredibly humbling. I think it reflects recognition by students of the importance of programmes like the RHIP and exposure of undergraduates to rural areas: with their high needs, and special appreciation of the impact of Te Ao Māori on wellbeing.”

“...The award will sit proudly on my bedside cabinet for a while, but will probably make its way into my surgery once my wife tells me to shift it and my head has stopped swelling!”

From left: Opotiki GP Dr Jo Scott-Jones, Whakatāne Clinical School Coordinator Lyndel Jones, Academic Coordinator Yvonne Boyes and Academic Coordinator Carley Jones with the Golden Gumboot Award.
Basketball Court Brings Health Benefits at Hospital

Lay-ups, block outs, bank shots, rebounds and dunks are set to become familiar terms at Whakatāne Hospital as a homemade basketball court brings health benefits to many.

A basketball court and hoop, which cost less than $3000 to build, has opened next to the Whakatāne Hospital’s Mental Health Ward, to the delight of clients.

“The idea came from our clients,” said Gaye Brandford, Occupational Therapist. “We have a lot of young people come through the ward and some of them raised the idea of having a basketball hoop. That was the starting point. I put a proposal together which was approved by the Regional Clinical Coordinator Karl Christoffersen. Then Neil Mower and Alan Brown from our Property Services Department really ran with it.”

Gaye said the benefits of physical exercise are well-known. “We felt this would provide a fun physical opportunity for them with all the health benefits that go with it.”

“There’s the movement, coordination, teamwork and just the fact of getting outside and interacting with one another which provides that mental stimulus. We’ve already had a lot of very positive comments from people saying how good it was to work up a sweat.”

From left Cassandra Phillips, Registered Nurse looks on as Te Pou Kōkiri’s Paora Morrunga shoots for the hoop and Gaye Brandford, Occupational Therapist awaits the rebound.

Who knows one day there may be a future NBA Star who has used our hoop,” she joked.

Whakatāne Hospital Facilities Manager Neil Mower said his team had enjoyed the challenge of creating the basketball square and hoop. “The staff on the ward had looked into buying one but we said ‘hang on a minute we can make one’. So we researched it all, taking into account all the associated safety considerations, and ended up making it out of material we had in stock, such as tube out of an old boiler.”

Mental Health Ward Clinical Nurse Team Leader Jo Olsen said she appreciated everyone’s efforts in bringing the project to fruition. “I would just like to say how much I appreciate everyone’s hard work, our team, our clients, and Property Services for making this happen. It should bring a lot of benefits and fun to our clients for a long time to come.”

On-going Learning Leads to Career Change

By Penny Horton, Education Manager, Clinical School

“I started my learning journey at age 50!”

Carmel Maxwell is a clinical coder with the Tauranga Hospital Coding Team; it’s a job she loves. Carmel’s first role at BOPDHB was on a WINZ Return to Work Programme sorting health records ‘in the basement’. After two years in medical records she secured a job with the Referral Centre. It was in the context of her annual performance review that Carmel’s manager at the time, Penny Sanderson, discussed with her the options for undertaking study which might take her into some other health-related area.

Carmel applied for a BOP Learning Scholarship and in 2012 successfully completed the Auckland University of Technology Certificate in Medical Terminology. She enjoyed the learning so much that she finished the one year course in six months. “The hardest part was waiting for each assignment to come back so I could get on with the next one.”

The hardest part was waiting for each assignment to come back so I could get on with the next one.

Carmel next undertook the nine week ACE ( Accelerated Coding Education) course, which involved one week classroom-based teaching, assignments, case studies and a three hour exam. On completion of this course she was ready to apply for a job as a trainee coder. An opportunity came up in 2013 and, after a year in the job, Carmel is considering further study; her next objective is to do the intermediate level coding course. Carmel says that with the encouragement and support of the organisation she’s now in a role that she really enjoys. “It’s a great job, I love it because it’s challenging, changing. I work with a supportive team and there’s opportunity for on-going learning.”
WORLD STOP Pressure Injury day

By Jane Edwards, Tissue Viability Acting Clinical Nurse Specialist

The WORLD STOP Pressure Injury Day was held on 20 November.

There are no accurate up-to-date figures from New Zealand on pressure injuries/ulcers (terms are interchangeable) but the latest research from the United Kingdom shows that to heal pressure damage the approximate costs are:

- Stage 1 – Nonblanchable erythema = $2,428
- Stage 2 – Partial thickness skin loss = $10,482
- Stage 3 – Full thickness skin loss = $18,240
- Stage 4 – Full thickness tissue loss = $28,216

The latest international guidelines have just been published; Prevention and Treatment of Pressure Ulcers: Clinical Practice Guideline 2014 - a worldwide collaboration between experts in the field of tissue viability. This document can be found at www.nzwcs.org.nz / WORLD STOP Pressure Injury day started in 2012 following a meeting of Spanish-speaking wound care organisations that agreed and signed the Declaration of Rio. This initiative aims to increase awareness of pressure injuries amongst the public, medical professionals and politicians.

Pressure Injuries are avoidable using SKINS:

- S = Surface: Make sure you are on a supportive surface
- K = Keep Moving: Change your position often
- I = Incontinence: Keep dry and clean
- N = Nutrition: Eat healthily and drink frequently
- S = Skin Inspection: Check for discolouration and soreness including under or around medical devices.

From left Pamela Barke, District Nursing Services Clinical Nurse Manager, and Jane Edwards Tissue Viability Acting Clinical Nurse Specialist. Pamela and Jane promote WORLD STOP Pressure Injury Day. Both were involved in producing and developing the new Wound Care Pathway for Bay Navigator.

The Bay Navigator Wound Care Pathway has been developed under the guidance of key clinicians in BOPDH and Primary Care. The pathway incorporates international guidelines to ensure consistency of wound management, interactive e-learning modules and relevant articles. These have been included to provide a standard level of skill amongst clinicians caring for patients with wounds. Starting with clinical assessment the resources provided include a wound assessment proforma, wound decision framework and a guide on what dressing to use. Red Flags are shown for patients who should be directed immediately to ED or GP.

Wound management utilises established and credited guidelines while further information regarding specific types of wound is also available. The Wound Care Pathway on Bay Navigator is now live and can be accessed via Pacentral under Useful Links.

Our 2014 Quality Account is Out Now

By Lorraine Wilson, Quality and Patient Safety Coordinator

A couple of years ago DHBs were invited to begin publishing annual quality accounts to sit alongside other annual reports such as financial accounts. This brings New Zealand in line with many other countries who also routinely publish quality accounts.

Our Board and Executive Team have a strong commitment to patient safety and quality of care and endorse the publication. Content for the Quality Account is decided on and developed by the Quality Account Working Group which is made up of senior management and staff from the Quality and Patient Safety team.

Feedback is also sought from our Patient Advisory Committee.

The Quality Account is an opportunity to showcase some wonderful activities and achievements. This year’s Quality Account features a great range of patient safety and quality of care initiatives as well as feedback from patients received during the year. You can find the 2014 Quality Account on our website at www.bopdhb.govt.nz/Your-DHB/A-Z-Publications

We encourage you to read through this year’s publication and would also love to know what you think of it. If you have comments or suggestions please email the Quality and Patient Safety team at qualityandpatientsafety@bopdhb.nz
Tauranga Hospital EMERGO Exercise 2014

By Stuart Taylor, Operations Coordinator

The culmination of over two years’ planning played out in the form of the BOPDHB 2014 Emergo Exercise on 12 November 2014. The event was attended by more than 80 clinicians, orderlies, administration staff and managers at the Tauranga Hospital Education Centre.

The Emergo system replicates a patient journey through the hospital through the use of magnetised small plastic people on different magnetic whiteboards. Each whiteboard represents a different ward or department within the hospital. In order to move from place to place the patient must spend time with the orderlies on the ‘delay board’, to replicate the length of time it takes to get from place to place.

“The scenario involved a fire on a cruise ship berthing at the Port of Tauranga.”

Planning and Intelligence Incident Management Team member Ros Jackson discusses strategy with Ward 3C CNM Asa Evans while General Surgeon Mr Barnaby Smith inspects the theatre and ICU boards with Intensivist Dr Vicki Higson.

Staffing and resources replicate what is available within the hospital on any given day in order to give a greater sense of realism to the exercise.

The scenario involved a fire on a cruise ship berthing at the Port of Tauranga. In the panic that ensued, the disembarkation gangway collapsed. At the scene there were 25-30 deceased, 70 seriously unwell trauma patients and 40 walking wounded.

All teams met the challenge admirably, thinking on their feet, preparing inpatients for rapid discharge, re-arranging patients between wards and generally preparing and supporting ED, radiology, theatre and the ICU to be able to cope with the influx.

The exercise was designed to highlight potential areas for improvement in planning and process. Plenty of improvement opportunities were noted and discussed on the day. These discussions will continue until such time as new plans are developed, finalised and tested.

Hunters and Collectors Reminded about Wild Food Safety

By Toi Te Ora Health Protection Officer Trieste Ngawhika

With summer here, Toi Te Ora - Public Health Service is reminding hunters and collectors to keep safe as the number one priority when catching, storing and eating wild foods.

Hunting, collecting and fishing for wild food is a traditional part of New Zealand culture and we are fortunate to have a wide variety of these types of foods available.

“This provides us with the opportunity to supplement our table with foods such as wild pork, venison, duck, shellfish, fish and plants,” says Health Protection Officer Trieste Ngawhika.

Wild animals, birds, fish, shellfish and plants hunted or harvested for personal consumption (or use by family and friends) are classed as non-commercial.

“Caution is advised when eating food that has been gathered by yourself, family or friends. There are no guarantees that wild food is safe to eat,” say Ms Ngawhika.

“To help keep wild food safe and to prevent illness, it’s really important that steps are taken to minimise risks when catching, storing and eating these foods,” says Ms Ngawhika.

To learn more about reducing the risk and keeping collected wild foods safe, visit the Toi Te Ora - Public Health Service website at www.ttophs.govt.nz.
Hand Hygiene Initiative

By Paddy Ashton and Kirsten Godfery

Six healthcare workers from the Medical Wards of Tauranga Hospital (2A: Kaupapa: Kara Ngamoki and Gesi Sisson), (2B: Paddy Ashton and Kirsten Godfery) and (2C: Rachelle Smith and Ann Ward) attended a Hand Hygiene Study Day within the hospital. The purpose was to brain storm hand hygiene barriers and to develop initiatives for creating additional awareness of the Five Moments. The target group for this initial project was healthcare and allied workers across these floors.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) identifies that each year hundreds of millions of patients’ globally are affected by healthcare associated infections. The Five Moments of Hand Hygiene emerged from WHO Guidelines and define the key moments for hand sanitisation.

Understanding these Five Moments is crucial for implementing effective infection control.

With guidance from Nurse Educator Lou Fowler and Infection Control Nurse Specialist Robyn Boyne plus the creative input from the Communications Team several initiatives were hatched, including a variety of wall signs for placement by gel and glove stations promoting gel use, a sign suspended from a ceiling and hands for medication folder fronts. These are intended to act as prompts and gentle reminders about hand hygiene.

These initiatives were launched across the Medical Wards on 12 November and were presented by staff, to staff, at a ward in-service session. Working in partnership with the Five Moments is the acronym FLO (Front Line Ownership) which translates to: own your actions. Overall, the day was a success with staff and patients taking a keen interest in the topic, even prompting some patients to monitor their health care provider’s hand hygiene practice.

Quilts Donated

By Michelle Kirk, Hospital Support Services Administration Support.

In early November 2014 I had the pleasure of taking members of the Tauranga Patchwork and Quilters Group around three departments within Tauranga Hospital to donate quilts the group had made. Quilts were donated to the Oncology Centre, SCUBU and HIA.

SCBU Registered Nurse Anna Moore with Muriel Brown and Elizabeth Rathlou of the Tauranga Patchwork and Quilters Group donating a quilt to SCUBU.
Westpac Business Awards 2014

By Ted Harper, Health and Safety Manager

The BOPDHB was one of four finalists in the Workplace Health and Safety category of the Westpac Business Awards for 2014.

This award recognises organisation excellence following an extensive audit in the management of health and safety.

On the 14 November at the Westpac Business Award evening BOPDHB gained second place in this category for recognition for the following health and safety initiatives:

- The BOPDHB extensive Healthy Living Programme for its employees.
- The BOPDHB having obtained Tertiary Level rating in the ACC Partnership Programme and maintain this for the past five years.
- Managing a proactive Return to Work Programme to ensure all employees are effectively returned to work from work and non-work injuries and/or illness.
- Having an extensive online training programme.

“The auditors were impressed with the significant reduction in our accident rates.”

On the 14 November at the Westpac Business Award evening BOPDHB gained second place in this category for recognition for the following health and safety initiatives:

- The local ACC team.
- WorkAON our third party provider.
- Toi Te Ora our Public Health Wellness team.
- SWEAT, our staff-funded gym team.
- 89 of the DHB’s employees Health and Safety representatives. …and most importantly
- Over 3000 staff who use, take part in and benefit from the Health and Safety Programmes.

The auditors were impressed with the significant reduction in our accident rates, sick leave and (indirectly) reduced staff turnover. They also gave credit to the improvement gained across staff positive engagement measures and the ongoing drive to ensure a healthy and safe work place for everyone, not just our employees, but also our clients, patients, visitors and contractors.

Workwell Silver Awards

By Ted Harper, Health and Safety Manager

The BOPDHB’s Healthy Living Programme was audited this year by auditors from the BOPDHB Public Health Toi Te Ora team and was awarded the silver level under this three-tier programme of awards.

This award demonstrated the BOPDHB’s commitment to providing effective healthy living programmes for its employees.

- Annual Influenza vaccinations for its employees.
- Free smoking cessation programmes.
- Worksite occupational assessments.
- A modern onsite gym.
- Breastfeeding friendly workplace, nutrition and physical activity initiatives.
- Healthy Living Education Programmes.

Without the extensive support from many people within the BOPDHB, these awards would not be possible and neither would the benefits for BOPDHB employees.

Contribute to Checkup

If you would like to contribute articles to Checkup, or want to suggest a story, email Communications Advisor Kate McCarthy at kate.mccarthy@bopdhb.govt.nz

Checkup
Bay of Plenty District Health Board staff news

July 2014

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