

THE PULSE

ISSUE 8


easternhealth
GREAT HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Keeping you up to date with developments at Healesville & District Hospital and Yarra Valley Community Health

CEO'S WELCOME

Welcome to the latest edition of *The Pulse*, a newsletter that keeps the Healesville and Yarra Ranges communities up to date with the latest information about Eastern Health services in the region.

If you have recently passed by the Healesville & District Hospital and Yarra Valley Community Health site, you would have seen how quickly work on the redevelopment has progressed.

It is amazing how much has been achieved in a few months and I would like to thank the construction team for their hard work.

Despite the redevelopment works, Eastern Health's commitment to providing quality healthcare in the region has continued, with an after-hours GP clinic now located on the hospital site and support services for mothers and babies still available.

During the redevelopment, staff and the community have asked Eastern Health whether there is an opportunity to consider a name that best represents the future of the site. Using a company that has expertise in community engagement, we consulted our staff and the community. More than 100 people provided feedback, either online or in person, and I would like to thank everyone who participated.

Eastern Health will now carefully consider the feedback, in particular what you told us was important to consider in the name.

Finally, I would like to thank our staff as well as local residents for their continued support during the construction period. We are confident your patience will be rewarded with the project set to be completed in early 2017.

Kind regards

David Plunkett
Acting Chief Executive, Eastern Health



NEW HOME, SAME OUTSTANDING CARE AT GP CLINIC

The Eastern Ranges After Hours Medical Service GP Clinic, which has been run by Eastern Melbourne PHN, is now located at Eastern Health's Yarra Valley Community Medical Service.

Its new location is alongside Healesville & District Hospital, just two minutes along the Maroondah Highway from where it was previously located.

The move means Yarra Valley Community Medical Service will not only be able to offer a high-quality GP clinic during business hours but also at night, weekends and public holidays.



Yarra Valley Community Medical Service is located at **377 Maroondah Highway, Healesville**. Phone **1300 793 622**.



SUPPORT SESSIONS FOR NEW MUMS

A Lactation Support Service is available for breastfeeding mothers living in the Yarra Ranges.

The service pairs women who experience difficulties during breastfeeding with a qualified lactation consultant. Sessions are held three days a week at Yarra Ranges Health in Lilydale, with phone support available to women who are unable to attend in person.

"It is not uncommon for new mothers to experience difficulties during breastfeeding, such as attachment and supply issues," Yarra Ranges Maternity Services Manager Pauline Hamilton said.

Continued overleaf >>

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2013 & 2014 Premier's Health
Service of the Year



Midwife Christine Hoare visits Jessi-Lee Rollfink and her son Hunter Hume.



HELPING HAND FOR MOTHERS AND BABIES

From postnatal exercise classes to home visits with a midwife, Eastern Health continues to deliver quality maternity support services for mothers and babies in Healesville and surrounding areas.

Yarra Ranges Acting Chief of Clinical & Site Operations and Women and Children Program Director Paul Leyden said Eastern Health was pleased it could offer residents a diverse program in their own backyard.

"Among the services are home visits with a midwife following discharge from hospital. This gives mums some important extra support without having to travel," he said.

Mr Leyden said that following an initial consultation with a doctor and midwife at Yarra Ranges Health in Lilydale, eligible women could be referred to Healesville & District Hospital's pregnancy care clinic for their antenatal care.

"This means women in Healesville and surrounding areas with a low-risk pregnancy have access to regular appointments closer to where they live," he said.

In addition, Eastern Health also offers a Mums Day Out program where women can receive health information while taking some time out; supported playgroups and counselling programs.



For more information, phone **1300 342 255**.

SUPPORT SESSIONS FOR MUMS (CONTINUED)

"Appointments with our lactation consultants are available to women during pregnancy, all the way through to when they decide to discontinue breastfeeding and clients will usually see the same consultant for each session," she said.

In addition to learning breastfeeding techniques, mothers are encouraged to develop feeding plans with their lactation consultant and join breastfeeding support groups, which can be an invaluable resource for advice and comfort.



For a full list of services, visit www.easternhealth.org.au and click on Yarra Valley Community Health or call **1300 130 381**.



REDEVELOPMENT NEWS

The hard-working construction team behind the Healesville & District Hospital and Yarra Valley Community Health redevelopment is continuing to make outstanding progress on the \$8.8 million project.

The redevelopment will ensure local residents continue to have access to quality healthcare, with features including a new operating theatre and a new renal dialysis unit.

Everyone from plasterers and carpenters to electricians and plumbers have been busy ensuring the project is delivered on time and to the highest standard.

Recent progress has seen hand basins and light fittings being installed, and plastering and flooring works in the new dialysis unit completed. Fitting works are also being undertaken on the new operating theatre, as well as roofing works in the new reception area.

Eastern Health Capital Projects Manager Mark Hoffman said he was delighted with how well the redevelopment was progressing.

"The project is really starting to take shape. The construction team should be congratulated on the outstanding job they have done so far and we look forward to seeing the finished building in the months ahead."



The new entry canopy is currently under construction.



An artist's impression of the completed entry canopy at the redevelopment.