

Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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MOUNT DRUITT HOSPITAL CELEBRATES 30 YEARS OF CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY

The Minster for Health, Jillian Skinner, today visited Mount Druitt Hospital to celebrate an important milestone - 30 years of caring for the community.

Mrs Skinner was joined at the celebration by the Member for Londonderry, Bart Bassett, and the Member for Mulgoa, Tanya Davies.

Minister Skinner said that it is an exciting time for Mt Druitt Hospital with major investment from the NSW Government helping to make sure the next 30 years are even better for patients.

"The expansion will see a new entrance, a new urgent care centre, extra rehabilitation beds, expanded oral health services and greater capacity for elective surgery," Mrs Skinner said.

"Patients will have access to better facilities and it will make conditions for staff easier to provide world class care," she said.

Mr Bassett said the reconfiguration and extension of services at Mount Druitt was a great way to help celebrate 30 years of proud service to community.

"Like the Mount Druitt community, Mount Druitt Hospital has grown and changed over the past 30 years, and it is an exciting time as it continues to grow during the redevelopment.

Mrs Davies said the Mt Druitt Hospital provides an important service to locals and congratulated the hardworking staff for their dedication to patients.

"Having worked as a physiotherapist, I know the care, dedication and support the nurses, doctors and allied health staff provide patients who need their help."

To mark the occasion a range of activities and events have been planned, such as the Faces of Mount Druitt photo exhibition - showcasing a display of historic and current photographs.

It highlights some of the changes seen in medical equipment, nurses' uniforms and cultural diversity throughout the last 30 years.

General Manager, Andrew Newton, said the Hospital has had a rich and interesting history.

"Mount Druitt has achieved excellence in health care delivery and has established a reputation for its high standard of patient care," Mr Newton said.

"Throughout its 30 year history, Mount Druitt campus has received strong community support and continues to enjoy this today from various groups within the local area.

"An example of this support is seen in the tireless work of its many volunteers," he said.

Volunteer and Children's Ambassador Fairy Sparkle, is one of those volunteers who has dedicated her time over many years to the paediatric ward.

Fairy Sparkle's latest project is the Path of Art, a colourful creative project that gives inspiration to unwell children and to their siblings and friends who come to our facility.

Mr Newton said the Path of Art is a fantastic initiative that allows unwell children to express their creativity and forget that they are in hospital.

"I'm very proud of the staff here at Mount Druitt, and it's a pleasure to be part of these celebrations.

"I feel privileged to be General Manager of the facility during such an important time in its history."

For more information on upcoming events for the 30th Birthday Celebrations at Mount Druitt Campus, please call the Western Sydney Local Health District on 9845 8258.