

Blessing and Opening of Hand Therapy and Photography at MSC

November 3rd was a special day for the Hand Therapy team and Clinical Photography, with the formal opening and blessing of their new departments at the Manukau SuperClinic (MSC).

Therapists, plastics nurses, receptionists, surgeons and photography all joined in to celebrate the co-location of the Hand Therapy service with Module 9 (Plastics) and the opening of Clinical Photography's new department, down the corridor from Module 9.

"The co-location of Hand Therapy and Module 9 will offer patients a 'one-stop-shop' to access specialist care for their hand injuries or conditions," says Alieke van Middelaar, Section Head of Hand Therapy. "Where previously the services were divided by an entire level in the SuperClinic, the departments are now strategically placed next to one another. This will enable clinicians to work together in a multi-disciplinary setting, improving rehabilitation planning and enhancing the patient experience," says Alieke.

The Hand Therapy Department includes 8 treatment stations in an open plan design, 2 private treatment areas and an area for small group exercise sessions. The design has improved patient privacy, created more clinical space and has even helped to reduce noise levels within the department. Additionally Hand Therapy now shares Module 9's reception which creates a central point of welcome for all hand patients.



Whitiara (Kaumatua) leads the way for the Blessing of Hand Therapy and Clinical Photography

Maryann Duffy, Medical Photographer from MSC is also delighted with her new area, which has a larger studio.

"It's great having the extra space as we get a lot of patients coming into the studio for clinical photographs," says Maryann.

"The lighting is a lot better and I'm able to get back far enough to take full body photos with a standard lens. In my old area I had to use a wide angle lens, which can sometimes result in slighted distorted images.

"It's also good having a changing area for the patients to make them feel more comfortable when they have to get undressed."

Alieke and Maryann would like to thank everyone involved with the design and building of the new facilities.

The end of an era for Ward 22A

On 25 November 2009 Ward 22A is moving to Ward 5 AT&R on Level 2 of the AMC.

Planning is well underway - the boxes are packed, the patient journey planned and orientation and training is in full swing. Some of the staff have even begun to count the number of sleeps before they move.

“The move for all of the staff is filled with excitement, apprehension and a little tinge of sadness,” says Veronica Cherrett, Charge Nurse Ward 22A.

“Some of our staff, including our General Manager Jenni Coles have been associated with Ward 22A for many years so it’s understandable that some people are a little apprehensive in making the move.

“One or two of our nurses (who wish to remain anonymous) also remember the ‘good times’ when AT&R was the nurses home. This just shows the connection some of the staff have with the building,” says Veronica.

“There is also some sadness in having to say goodbye to our neighbours, colleagues and friends from Ward 22 Mental Health Services for Older People (MHSOP), who have supported us through the years. We will also miss our healing garden opened in 2005 by former nurse Pat Turton, which allowed our patients to have some fresh air in the warmer months.

“Saying that there are exciting times ahead. Our new location will result in warm winters and cool summers and we’ll have space for stores along with our own Gym and OT assessment area. Pyxis will also be place to help improve medication safety and most importantly we will continue to have our loyal and dedicated staff to deliver excellent care.

“This move could not have been completed without the following staff who used their expertise to minimise the risk and stress of moving. So thank you to the Ward 22A team for your patience and understanding. The 20/20 Team, Robyn Hughes and Natalie Pointon, Andrea Seymour, Suzy Wakim, Sally Arrowsmith, and Vicki Rawiri for all the coffee.”



New reception



Corridor leading to patient dining room/Lounge



Patient dining room/lounge

Construction Photos - Edmund Hillary Block (Stage 2)



Basement: Staff locker area



Basement: East wing corridor



Level 2: Framing of bedrooms

Construction is progressing:

Basement: Biomed Equipment store, Allied Health Equipment store, Orthotics workroom, staff changing area and showers/toilets

Ground: Allied Health and Staff Café

Level 1: Cardiac Investigation Unit (CIU) and Haematology

Level 2: Medicine and Gastroenterology

Level 5: Plastics and Mental Health Services for Older People (MHSOP)



Level 2: Gastro recovery area



Level 2: East wing corridor



Level 5: MHSOP



Level 5 Bedroom

Update: New AMC Links and Lifts



New link



New patient lift lobbies

There is a hive of activity taking place at the back of the Adult Medical Centre (AMC). The photo on the left shows structural steel columns being erected along the link between the AMC and Edmund Hillary Buildings. To refresh your memory the link will be accessible via the Ground for public and Level 1 for patients and staff.

The photo on the right shows construction of the patient lift lobbies. This amazing steel structure will rise from the Ground Floor to Level 5.

This phase of construction was a logistical challenge and involved the lifting (by crane) of structural steel over the top of the AMC building and down into the construction zone.

Thanks to everyone for your patience during this time.

Radiology Offices on the MOVE

It's the home stretch for the new Radiology Offices, with just finishing touches to go.

The new offices located on the Ground Floor of Building 2 (old Delivery Suite) will be up and running from Wednesday 18 November 2009.

Contact numbers will remain the same.



One of the new Radiology Offices

Building 2: Construction Update



The new garage

The new Bereavement Care facility on the Ground Floor of Building 2 will open on **Wednesday 2 December 2009.**

Bereavement Care Services are currently located in two separate buildings. Whanau or Viewing Rooms can be found in Emergency Care, while the mortuary is located outside the main Hospital block in Building 18.

The move to Building 2 will bring these two areas together, resulting in a more user friendly and accessible service for staff and visitors.



Viewing room



Waiting room

New ambulance bay for Pukekohe Maternity

A long awaited ambulance bay is underway at Pukekohe Maternity. This will make a huge difference to the women who arrive via ambulance to delivery their babies.

In the past these women had to come through the front door and make their way down the main corridor, to the delivery rooms.

“This can feel like a long way when you’re in labour,” says Melissa McCarron, Acting Charge Midwife. “There’s also no privacy along the way.”

“The new ambulance bay means these women can come through the back entrance, which is right next to the Birthing Rooms. This means



The new Ambulance Bay will be complete in the next couple of weeks

quick and easy access into the building with improved privacy. We are also able to see them arrive and meet them as they come through the doors,” says Melissa.

New deck for Spinal Unit

Pupils from Howick College and Aorere College in Papatoetoe are joining forces with the CMDHB Engineering Department to build an outside deck for patients at the Auckland Spinal Unit in Otara. It is part of the schools' Pathways Trust initiative which links students and employers and puts them in real-life working situations. The project also counts towards the students NCEA qualifications.

Howick students are designing the new deck while Orere students, with the help of CMDHB Engineers will be building the deck. They have finished the final designs and both schools are now fundraising for materials to start the building.



Photo courtesy of Eastern Courier

Howick College students, from left: Blair Stephenson, 18, Sunit Patel, 18, Alex Rallis, 15, and Patricia Balbas, 18.

“The deck will be invaluable to patients and their families as they don’t have a nice outdoor area,” says Spinal Unit Charge Nurse Michelle Ede. “It will provide patients with a place they can go with their families and it won’t feel like they are stuck in a hospital. Sometimes families have gatherings here, so it will be good to have a bigger area, and the view is really nice out there,” says Michelle.

The deck will be purpose built for patients in wheelchairs and with other disabilities.

Operations Manager Marianne Cox says designing the deck has been a positive experience for both staff and students.

“It’s given us an opportunity to talk to the students about disabilities, and they have been excellent, treating us as if we were real clients,” says Marianne.

“We’ve also been really lucky to have Nathan Linton (CMDHB Engineer) as part of the team. Nathan has taken the students under his wing and has shared his knowledge, support and guidance. He’s really gone that extra mile.”

To make a donation towards the project, contact Stewart Thompson at Pathways on 0273064576 or email pathways@ema.co.nz

The beginnings of Middlemore Hospital – this information was provided by Middlemore Memories – the first 50 years of Middlemore Hospital

The first Medical Superintendent was **John Colvin** (1897-1974), a clever man with an exceptional memory for detail.

After schooling at Otago Bay's High he went through the Otago Medical School and secured posts at Dunedin Hospital. He travelled to London to train as a surgeon at Middlesex and St Thomas Hospitals and after awhile returned back to New Zealand.

He was 50 years old when he was appointed to Middlemore and was in place some months before the Hospital opened.

Stuart Brown, who was a House Surgeon at the time recalls going out to meet Dr Colvin with colleagues Peter Kidd, Leo Phillips and Robin Topping. They found him at the end of the Hospital's main corridor and for two hours Dr Colvin shared with them all his hopes and plans for the new hospital.

The first winter in the Junior doctors residence above casualty was extremely cold, however one of the junior doctors, in exploring the roof through a trap door, found a plentiful store of off-cuts to have some roaring fires. In fact, one night several years later this wing caught alight, the fire starting in the laboratory.

Lin and Helen Saunders living across the railway line, awoke to hear the crackling. Thinking they might be needed they threw on some clothes but ahead of them was John Colvin, neat in his suit and shaved.

John Colvin had a keen interest in the surgeons and their work. He would go down to the cafeteria early for morning tea, always sitting in the same chair. There he would talk to each member of staff as they came through the doors.

In this way, he had his finger on the pulse of the hospital, praising staff and nipping any problems in the bud.



Dr H John A Colvin was the first medical superintendent



Clarrie Newman, the first house manager, ran a tight ship

Clarrie Newman served in both World Wars with distinction, achieving the rank of colonel and a Distinguished Service Order (DSO). For a period he was aide-de-camp to the Governor General.

Between the wars he worked for the Auckland Hospital Board, being appointed in 1923 as the relieving officer in charge of assessing the needs and making financial payments to ill and poor people.

This background made him an ideal House Manager for Middlemore. Clarrie Newman had a natural affinity with the ex-serviceman patients and ran a tidy ship. The Canteen Association which he established has provided, over the years, large sums of money for hospital and staff amenities.



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Towards 20/20 Web Site

Access from 'Projects' website on SouthNet or under 'P' in the Services Directory.

The Towards 20/20 web site has been designed to inform staff about the modernisation and redevelopment projects occurring across the CMDHB sites.

You'll find background information and regular updates on the various projects, along with updated photographs of construction activities, floor plans, copies of Towards 20/20 NEWS and much more.

Temporary Carparks available

Did you know that Middlemore Hospital has an emergency hardstanding/response area at the back of Tiaho Mai?

What this means is that in the event of a major disaster this space has been designated as an emergency storage area.

While this area is currently not being used for its intended purpose (and hopefully never will be) staff may use it as a temporary carpark from 7am to 8pm Monday – Friday.

Please note outside these hours the gates will be locked and not re-opened until the next working day.

As this is an Emergency Response area, all cars MUST be registered on the Security Data Base.

Please remember to have your ID with you as a security guard will need to see it upon entry.

The carpark will be available for use from Wednesday 18 November 2009.



The temporary carpark

Directions

Access to the temporary carpark is via Gate 2.

Just before you get to Tiaho Mai you will notice some carpark signs on your right.

If you go past Tiaho Mai you've gone too far.