

Message from the Chief Executive

Welcome to another edition of Connect. How quickly the year is passing by. Perhaps it seems even quicker as we keep ourselves occupied with so much going on in our community.

With the particularly high number of patients presenting to the Emergency Department and many staff off sick over the past couple of months due to the late onset of the flu this winter, August and September have been the busiest months for the hospital so far this year.

Out in the community, our providers and the schools have also been tremendously busy as evidenced by the fabulous results being achieved in the MeNZB Immunisation Programme. As we head into week 14 of the campaign I am delighted to report the results that have been achieved so far. 75 percent of Counties Manukau children aged under five years have received their first vaccination and to date, 67 percent of Maori children aged from one to five years, 92 percent of Pacific Island children aged from one to five years, and 75 percent of children of other ethnicities aged from one to five years, have received their first vaccination.

These results are outstanding, and I have to emphasise that these could not have been achieved without the tremendous support from the community. In particular, I would like to thank the local schools, General Practice and the public health nursing teams who have all worked so hard not only over the past three months, but also in the preparations leading up to the launch three months ago.

It is because of these people and their ongoing work that has ensured that the vital follow-up

vaccination rate has also been high. This is great news as it is essential that all three vaccinations are received a few weeks apart in order for children to be protected against meningococcal disease.

With so much activity going on around us, we need to be confident that we will be in a position to continue to support the growing needs of our community over the next 15-20 years. For this reason, we are currently developing a master plan for all of the DHB's sites - undertaking detailed clinical services planning and looking at the full spectrum of services including primary care and community needs in conjunction with the projected population growth for the area.

As this development work is undertaken, a number of urgent initiatives have already been identified for an almost immediate start. These include:

- Relocation of further elective surgery to the Manukau Surgery Centre to be completed by January 2005
- Relocation and complete refurbishment of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit to be operational by July 2005
- Establishment of the National Burns Centre with the initial stage complete by August 2005
- Development of a Catheter Lab to be operational by June 2005
- Fit-out of an existing floor within the Adult Medical Centre to be complete by end of September 2005
- Construction of two further floors to the Adult Medical Centre

In addition, we are also currently implementing significant upgrades to all of our Mental Health community facilities.

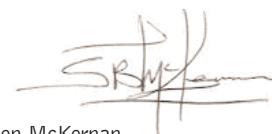
The anticipated time-frames for all of these initial projects are very tight and challenging, but must be achieved to meet clinical pressures and community needs.

I look forward, with your support, to improving the services we can offer our community.

Whilst I am unable to advise you of our new Board due to the incomplete counting of votes at the time that this goes to print, we have however been advised by the Minister's office of the appointments to the positions of Chair and Deputy Chair.

Mr Pat Sneddon has been appointed as our new Chair. Many of you will know Pat from his work within our Community, and of his interest and significant input within the health sector in general. We are delighted with his appointment and look forward to his leadership. Mr Ross Keenan, our current Chair has been appointed to the position of Deputy Chair for Auckland, Waitemata and Counties Manukau DHBs. While there are many collaborative initiatives already underway across the region, this is a positive move for all of the DHBs to continue to promote greater Auckland region collaboration. I look forward to continuing to work with Ross as our Deputy Chair in this regard.

Once again, thank you to all our providers, the schools and our colleagues in intersectoral agencies for your ongoing support in the work we do in our community.



Stephen McKernan

Spring dine and dance

Left: Jenni Coles samples the culinary delights on offer at the dance.

Centre: Million dollar smiles: Delilah Hutcherson, Avis Lamkan and Maria Samuela

Right: Bhavanni Peddinti and partner show dance floor onlookers how it's done



If you have a story you would like included in Connect please contact the Editor via e-mail: laureny@xtra.co.nz

Botany and Pukekohe maternity units achieve 'baby friendly' status

Counties Manukau District Health Board is delighted to announce that its Botany and Pukekohe maternity units are the first public maternity units in Auckland to have been awarded the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI).

The BFHI is a joint UNICEF and WHO project that was launched in 1991 and aims to increase breastfeeding rates and encourage a global breastfeeding standard for maternity services.

"I am so proud of both units for achieving this accreditation," says Ann Hanson, Service Manager Primary Maternity Care. "It is a rigorous process and gaining accreditation demonstrates the willingness of all staff to promote breastfeeding and ensure that women intending to breastfeed receive consistent information and support."

'Baby Friendly' means promoting, protecting and supporting breastfeeding. Maternity hospitals are recognised as baby friendly when they have implemented the BFHI's 10 steps to successful breastfeeding (see below). The benefits of supporting breastfeeding mothers include:

- Improving the health of babies through the known protective and immunological properties of breast milk;
- Reducing paediatric admission rates into hospitals;



Helenmary Walker accepts the award from Julie Stufkens

- Reducing the cost of sterilisers, bottles, teats, and artificial milk into maternity facilities.

While the BFHI is designed to help mothers who wish to breastfeed, those mothers choosing not to breastfeed will continue to be supported in their decision.

For the CMDHB Charge Midwives and the Lactation Consultant Service, achieving accreditation has been a long-term strategy. The rigorous standards which the BFHI set has required total dedication by all staff at both units and within Middlemore Hospital, including clerical and ancillary staff. Accreditation is attained through standards assessed by the New Zealand Breastfeeding Authority, part of the Ministry of Health.

The BFHI Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding

- 1 Have a written breastfeeding policy that is routinely communicated to all health care staff
- 2 Train all health care staff in skills necessary to implement this policy
- 3 Inform all pregnant women about the benefits and management of breastfeeding
- 4 Help mothers initiate breastfeeding within a half hour of birth
- 5 Show mothers how to breastfeed and maintain lactation even if they should be separated from their infants
- 6 Give newborn no other food or drink other than breast milk unless medically indicated
- 7 Practice rooming-in
- 8 Encourage breastfeeding on demand
- 9 Give no artificial teats or pacifiers
- 10 Foster the establishment of breastfeeding support groups and refer mothers to them on discharge from the hospital or clinic.

For further information please contact Ann Hanson, Service Manager Primary Maternity Care on (09) 276 0000 or AHANSON@middlemore.co.nz



Ann Hansen (Midwife Manager Community Units), Ngaronoa Kimura (Lactation Consultant Turuki Healthcare) and Julie Stufkens (NZ Breastfeeding Authority).



Stephen McKernan (CEO), Paul Cressey (Deputy Chair of the Counties Manukau DHB) and Nettie Knetsch (GM Women's Health and Kidz First).

First ear workshop for primary care nurses

In early September the Department of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery at Manukau SuperClinic organised an Ear Workshop for primary care nurses. The aim of the workshop was to provide those community nurses in ear healthcare with more in-depth knowledge of diagnoses and treatment of ear diseases, specifically ear problems in children.

The current high incidence of middle ear disease in South Auckland prompted the workshop. Between 2002-2003 the overall hearing failure rate for school entrants in CMDHB was 14.2% compared to the national overall target of 5%. The failing rate for Maori children was 20.8% and for Pacific children 20.3 %.

The workshop was a success with a total of 34 practice, school and plunket nurses attending. The workshop included presentations on hearing tests including tympanometry, ear problems in syndromic children, otoscopy training, DNA processes and referrals to specialist care.

Another important part of the workshop was

the presentation of cases and subsequent active discussion of the case scenarios with the course participants. The workshop concluded with a panel discussion, questions and answers, and a self assessment quiz.

The Ear Workshop gave the nurses experience in assessing ears and monitoring the hearing failure rate in Counties Manukau and brought primary and secondary care closer together. There is a plan to run this workshop again next year.

A big thank you to Rima Bennett and Nini Knight, Ear Nurse Specialists, and Wouter Ten Cate, ORL Specialist, who convened the workshop. Appreciation must also be extended to the ORL management team who, apart from facilitating the workshop, were also extremely supportive.

Thank you also to the rest of the presenters: Jo Wallace and Nitasha Chand from the Audiology Department, Helen Officer from Scheduling and ORL Specialists Andrew Gordon, Zahoor Ahmad, Lesley Salkeld, and Randall Morton.

New starters

Welcome to the following Nurses who have joined the Women's Health Team on B Floor: Veena Valhothil, Vijay Krishna, Chandra Sudhaker, Bronwen Jones and Solita Honorio.

Farewell

Best wishes to Midwives Gabi England and Mahia Winder who have left for new pastures. Thank you both for your contribution to B Floor, Women's Health.

Associate Professorship announcement

Dr Wouter ten Cate, Consultant Otolaryngologist, has recently been made a Clinical Associate Professor in Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery, at the South Auckland Clinical School, University of Auckland. This is in recognition to his outstanding contribution to academia and Otolaryngology research over the past 18 months.

Counties Manukau DHB smokefree support programme

Counties Manukau DHB has now been smokefree for 3 months. Thank you to all staff for your support in making this change. Again, well done to the 220 staff who have taken this chance to quit or manage their smoking - keep up with your good work!

It has now come time for the Occupational Health and Safety Team to take over the role of supporting staff to quit and to manage their smoking. If you would like support please contact Janice Tucker on Ext. 8551 or Paula McNamara on Ext. 2171.

If you have any questions or issues relating to the Smokefree Policy please contact Grant Hocking, the Smokefree Project Manager, on Ext. 2406.



Workshop participants at the first Ear Workshop held in September.

Spring dine & dance photos

The Spring Dine & Dance was a real success. Thank you to everyone who attended and added to the spirit of the evening. Photos of the event are now on SouthNET. If you are interested in copies please contact Photography department. Link: <http://southnet/>

Midwives biennial national conference

A group of Midwives from Middlemore Hospital and AUT attended the New Zealand College of Midwives Biennial National Conference held in Wellington on 16-18 September.

It was a great opportunity for New Zealand Midwives to get together and share their knowledge, inspiration and celebrate their profession.

The conference was titled "The Past: Our Gateway to the Future" and marked the first 100 years of Midwifery regulation in New Zealand since the Midwives Act was passed in 1904.

Along with the establishment of the Midwifery Council earlier this year, the conference had much to celebrate.

Midwives from AUT and Middlemore Hospital were well represented at this year's conference with outstanding presentations from: Trish Isa (Charge Midwife Delivery Unit) and Debra Fenton (Charge Midwife of Pukekohe Maternity) who received an award for her innovative presentation of an audit carried out on water births at Pukekohe Maternity.

Presentations were also given by AUT Lecturers Judith McAra-Couper, Nimisha Waller, Stephanie Vague, Marion Hunter and Joyce Cowen and third year Midwifery Students.

The major theme of this year's conference was focused around keeping birth normal.

As midwives we work as professional autonomous practitioners committed to seeing women have a choice and control over their childbirth experience.

There was much debate and lively discussion



Debra Earl, Trish Isa, and Julie Payne.

about many Midwifery issues. For myself, being a UK trained Midwife, I was enriched by the experience of learning about New Zealand Midwifery, its roots and its future. One of the highlights for me was the opening Ceremony which saw Her Excellency Dame Silvia Cartright open the conference and the Rt Hon Helen Clark give the official welcome.

The first session I attended was presented by the 3rd year Midwifery students from AUT. The title was: Te Tiriti O Waitangi and its meaning and challenge for midwifery students. I chose this session because I wanted to increase my knowledge of the unique issues related to Maori in relation to colonisation and health and I found this session particularly moving.

One of the presentations performed was a

narrative over six generations of Maori women. It was a beautiful depiction of how the traditional Maori birthing practices over the generations became lost due to colonisation, and the deep impact this has had on Maori women. From this session I was able to understand more clearly the principles of participation, protection and partnership. Overall the conference revealed to me the incredible amount of expertise we have in Midwifery across New Zealand and what an honour it is for me to be part of this profession.

I would like to thank CMDHB for giving me this opportunity to attend. I believe that it has enhanced my Midwifery practice by enabling me to meet the unique needs of the population of South Auckland.

Fiona Tomlinson

A plea from the SuperClinic re urgent referrals

Many of our urgent referrals from GPs come with incorrect phone numbers.

Manukau SuperClinic has a policy of updating patients' details on arrival and it would be helpful if GPs and Emergency Departments could also follow the same procedure.



The conference venue The Micael Fowler Centre and the Wellington Town Hall.

Healthy food choices at Aviary Café

The quality of what you eat makes a difference! CMDHB believes that the food offered through the Aviary Café can significantly affect your health which is why they supported the Spotless Services 'your CHOICE' initiative - a healthy eating programme which was launched at the end of August.

The aim of 'your CHOICE' is to highlight healthy foods and bring to everyone's attention how easy it is to eat for health while enjoying delicious flavours.

Foods bearing a 'your CHOICE' food sticker have been identified as meeting the healthy eating criteria because they have a low fat, low sugar, high fibre content.

And eating healthy can save you money in the long run! When you purchase foods with the black tick 'your CHOICE' sticker you are eligible for a reward card. The reward card will be stamped each time you purchase a healthy food choice and after ten purchases you will receive a credit of \$5.00 off your next healthy food purchase. NB. This offer is for staff only and does not include those who sign for their meals.

The Aviary Café is committed to providing healthy foods throughout the Middlemore site and will be adjusting the menus over the next few weeks. Your feedback is welcome. The café would be pleased to receive comments or general feedback which can be posted via the suggestion box located at the cash till.



Brad Healey General Manager of Medicine and Clinical Support Services sampling the fare at the 'your CHOICE' launch.

New staff childcare centre

The Middlemore Hospital Staff Childcare Centre Inc has moved into new purpose built facilities and has a new name – The Tree House.

The centre is operational from 6.45 am to 6.00 pm Monday to Friday. The centre currently has vacancies for the over two age. To go onto the waiting list please visit the centre and fill out the form.

"We have excellent staff to child ratios. Feel free to come over and see our new centre and meet the staff," says Tsana.

The Tree House would like to thank those people and organisations who have helped them with the new building – the ASB Trust, South Auckland Health Foundation, Tasman Trust, Papatoetoe Cosmopolitan Club, South Auckland Charitable Trust, Lion Foundation and CMDHB itself.

An official opening of The Tree House took place on the 17th of October.

For more information please contact The Tree House on extension 8805 or 8838.



Staff and children at their new childcare centre.

Webhealth: coming soon to Counties

An innovative concept that started in the Waikato will soon be available to both providers and to the general Counties Manukau community. Webhealth is a concept that has grown from the belief that people have the ability to find solutions to issues in their lives when they have access to good information and resources.

The Counties Manukau District Health Board has sponsored a team to implement the Webhealth initiative in our local community with the launch of a website. It is envisaged that all providers of social services, medical services, support services – in fact all groups who have a community function will register. What are the benefits of Webhealth?

- Free
- available 24/7
- users remain anonymous

• being online means Webhealth can be used by everyone, anywhere, at anytime

So once launched, how will Webhealth assist our community? You will have access to:

- A Health or Social Service - connect yourself (or your patients or clients) to health and social services in your local area. Print off current directory listings.
- Resource Information - useful and relevant information relating to health and wellbeing. This section is in continual development and has a range of topics covering issues at a local and national level.
- Community Notice Board - browse the Notice Board to keep up with events, workshops, training, news and conferences happening in our area. Promote events by posting a notice with ease.

- Register your Details - Health and Social Service providers can register their details in the directory. A pin number is automatically issued to providers to enable them to maintain and update their own information, ensuring the site is always current.

Keeping our community connected

The District Health Board has provided information about its services for inclusion on the site. If you want to be a part of this exciting new development register your service today. It's free and sponsored by the Counties Manukau DHB so come on board. Go to: www.webhealth.co.nz/countiesmanukau Or check out www.webhealth.co.nz to get up to speed before Webhealth is launched soon.

Chaplains on the move

After several years holding Sunday services in the radiology waiting room, Middlemore Hospital's chaplains are on the move again!

Services will now be held at 9.30am in the foyer outside the academic lecture theatre. All staff, patients and families are welcome to come along.

Middlemore chaplains Reverend Irene Brodie and Sister Mary Keane in transit to their new home.



Support + determination = weight loss!

The phrase "power in numbers" is nowhere more applicable than in the case of a group of Middlemore staff members who banded together late last year with the aim of losing some weight.

Nearly a year on, and more than 70 kilograms lighter, the "Skinny Support Group" are celebrating their fantastic achievement.

"We've all been on a variety of diets so this time we really are patting ourselves on the back," says group member, Jill Leonard.

The group - a mixture of nurses, secretaries, clerical staff, service managers, typists and

clinical coders - got together after a weight loss franchise visited the hospital.

"We all knew that we wanted to do something to change our lives but we didn't think that what was on offer was quite for us. So we decided to do it ourselves!"

"The support from within the group has been fantastic, I don't think we could have done it without one another. Although I think all of our wills were tested over the Christmas period!" says Jill.

The 'Skinny Support Group' meet weekly and try to organise a guest speaker from within

the hospital, such as a dietician or a psychologist, to come and speak each month.

The group are willing to help if any like-minded staff members want to set up a group of their own. Over the year they have amassed a great deal of information and are more than happy to share what they have learnt.

For more information please contact:

Jill Leonard

DDI: 276 0299

JLeonard@middlemore.co.nz

A brave little soul

A beautiful young girl's remarkable story of survival has helped to raise over \$200,000 for the National Burn Centre.

Three-year-old Sophie Delezio was injured in a freak accident last December when a car careered through the wall of her Sydney-based childcare centre.

With full thickness burns to 90 percent of her body Sophie's chances of survival were slim. But in what has been hailed a medical miracle the young girl lived and is now on her journey of recovery.

While every day is a lengthy process of dressing changes and physiotherapy, Sophie's courageous spirit and wonderful personality help make things easier.

Sophie's parents, Ron and Carolyn (a Kiwi), shared their phenomenal story with the New Zealand public on the Holmes show in August. As a result over 10,000 people donated via the 0900 line, raising in excess of \$200,000 for the South Auckland Health Foundation's fundraising campaign for the National Burn Centre.

Ron says they're delighted to be able to help and thrilled with the public's response.

"It's so incredibly heartening – it means people really do care," he says.

Clinical leader of the National Burn Centre, Stephen Mills, featured on the programme and highlighted the need for the new facility.

"Without the new Centre it would be hard for us to cope with burns as major as Sophie's," he says. "And where there's life there's hope."

Sophie is progressing well and continually amazes those around her with the strength of her spirit.

"Daytime comes and she's full of smiles and laughter – it's her attitude and inspiration that keeps us going," says her father Ron.



Three-year-old Sophie Delezio has helped to raise thousands of dollars for the National Burn Centre.

National Burn Centre

Burns milestone

The South Auckland Health Foundation is now half way towards its \$1.5 million fundraising target for the National Burn Centre.

Foundation executive director, Pam Tregonning, says it's wonderful to reach this milestone.

"We're thrilled with the public support and extremely thankful to everyone who's donated," she says. "There's still a long way to go so please continue to help us."

Lions backing for burns

There's a roar coming from Lions service clubs as they begin a major fundraising drive for the National Burn Centre.

Clubs from Taupo to Kaitaia have chosen the project for their organisation's 50th Anniversary, to be held next April.

Past District Governor, Roger Robinson, says it seems an appropriate way to celebrate their Jubilee year.

"A burn can affect any one of us. It's a significant project and very worthy of Lions' support," he says.

One of the major fundraising events planned is the Papakura Field Days, which will be held next February 26th – 27th. Diary this now – it will be a fantastic day out.

'Tight five' boost burns campaign

Rugby's famous 'tight five' combined with South Auckland Zonta to raise \$77,000 for the National Burn Centre.

The funds were raised through Zonta's mid winter Christmas dinner and a 'tight five' luncheon hosted by Phil Kingsley-Jones.

Thanks to the success of both events the Middlemore burn team will soon enjoy the benefits of a new tilt table – which is used for patient rehabilitation – and 3 therapulse mattresses.

South Auckland Health Foundation executive director, Pam Tregonning, says she's delighted with Zonta's contribution.

"Both events were a fantastic success and we're extremely thankful for the fundraising support," she says.

Dr Gareth Morgan speaks for burns

He's often controversial and always interesting. Come and hear Dr Gareth Morgan, New Zealand's leading economist and investment strategist, talk about issues affecting your retirement savings.

This is no dry lecture – there will be plenty of humour and all for a great cause – the National Burn Centre.

Proceeds from the event will support the fundraising campaign for the new facility.

The evening shows run from 8 – 11 November at either the Dorothy Winstone Centre - Auckland Girls Grammar School, or the North Harbour Stadium Function Centre. This is an opportunity not to be missed and will be the best entertainment for \$10 you will ever get.

For more details visit

www.garethmorgan.com to register, or contact the South Auckland Health Foundation's community relations officer, Nicki Winn, xt 2074.



Investment guru, Dr Gareth Morgan, will take time out from the road to fundraise for the National Burn Centre.

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Countdown to adidas Auckland marathon

Auckland's harbour bridge will soon get a pounding from some 14,000 feet belonging to runners in the adidas Auckland Marathon. Up to 150 of these feet will be those of CMDHB staff who will be out there to help the National Burn Centre.

The marathon, to be held on Sunday 31st October, is supporting the new facility with some of the funds raised from the event being donated to the South Auckland Health Foundation's fundraising campaign.

75 staff from across the DHB will participate in the 10km, half and full marathon and they'd love your support.

Theatre charge nurse for burns and plastics, Raewyn Champness, says she's looking forward to the event.

"It's going to be a full-on few weeks of training but worth it in the end I'm sure. I hope that staff will come along to get behind our runners," she says.

Why not join the cheer-team on the sidelines or come to the finish at Victoria Park and watch the participants put through their final paces?

The DHB will have a tent at the park and all staff are welcome to join in the celebrations. After the official prizegiving there will be a post-event party, featuring leading New Zealand bands playing throughout the afternoon.

We look forward to seeing you on race-day!

Volunteers needed

If running is not your style there's still a chance to get involved in the adidas Auckland Marathon and help support the National Burn Centre.

The Foundation is holding a bucket collection at Victoria Park and needs a team of willing penny-hunters to collect donations throughout the morning.

Please contact the Foundation's community relations officer, Nicki Winn, xt 2074, to offer your time.

We'd love your support.



Foundation

SKYCITY 'Smile' campaign tackles dental health

A new service is bringing a healthy smile to Counties Manukau.

Preschoolers in the Counties Manukau region have some of the poorest dental health in the country.

Every year 555 children are admitted to hospital to have badly decayed teeth removed and 350 of those children are under the age of five.

Dr Alan Simpson, community paediatrician and clinical head of Kidz First Community Health, says the problem is the failure to prevent decay.

"There seems to be a perception that dental health isn't as important as other aspects of health and there is a lot of misinformation about what you need to do to prevent decay," he says.

A group of health providers – Kidz First Community Health, the Auckland Regional Dental Service and local primary health organisations Procure Manukau, Total Health Otara and Ta Pasifica – have started a project to raise awareness of the importance of good oral health for children. SKYCITY Auckland and its community trust, major supporters of the South

Auckland Health Foundation, are contributing to the project.

The organisations have launched a dental health awareness campaign – the SKYCITY 'Smile' campaign – and have also funded a new mobile dental caravan.

The caravan was officially launched at Otara's Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate in early September.

With the number of dental clinics declining in recent years and many families not having access to a clinic, the DHB's first mobile dental caravan will be a boost to the local community.

The van will be based at the Otara school for over a month and will then move onto other pre and primary schools across the region.

Foundation executive director, Pam Tregonning, says it's wonderful to have the ongoing support of SKYCITY.

"This is a brilliant initiative. The provision of a mobile dental caravan has the potential to improve the dental health of many children with benefits that will last a lifetime," she says.



Nine-year-old Junior Kalapu, of Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate, is one of the first to jump into the treatment chair of CMDHB's new mobile dental caravan. Junior is pictured with dental therapist Moka Toimata.



Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate pupils (from left to right) Siataga Manuele, Joy Puepuemaj, Herman Tumanuvao, Andrew Vine and Junior Kalapu are all smiles as CMDHB's new mobile dental caravan opens for business.

Health scholarships on offer

The South Auckland Health Foundation is seeking applicants from the local community for its 2005 health scholarships.

The scholarships are for undergraduate study in a health related course.

They are open to Counties Manukau residents – from recent school leavers to those wanting to return to the workforce. People will be considered based on their academic record, financial need and community involvement. The Health Scholarship Programme was launched by the South Auckland Health Foundation and Counties Manukau District Health Board last year. Seven recipients are currently studying in a range of health fields including dentistry, medicine, nursing and mental health.

Counties Manukau District Health Board chief executive, Stephen McKernan, says the scholarships are a positive step towards developing a workforce that better reflects the diversity of the Counties Manukau community. "There are a lot of talented people in our community, but it's often not realised because of the difficulties people have getting financial support to study," he says. "The scholarships help these people realise their potential and to work in health."

Thanks to support from Auckland-wide businesses and institutions the Foundation is thrilled to offer eight scholarships for next year.

These include the Manukau Institute of Technology Scholarship, Hawkins Construction Scholarship, Bob and Kerry McMillan Scholarship, Noel and Sue Robinson Scholarship and four Auckland University of Technology Scholarships, two of which are specifically for dental therapy. Progressive Enterprises and Meredith Connell will also continue to support the recipients of their 2004 health scholarships.

Chairman of the South Auckland Health Foundation, John Maasland, says it's wonderful to have the ongoing commitment of these sponsors, all of whom are involved for the second year running.

"It's extremely heartening that these organisations have chosen to support the scheme once again," he says. "This year's students have impressed us with their progress and we're beginning to anticipate the long term benefits."

Applications for 2005 health scholarships close on 5 November 2004. For an

application pack or further information, please contact the South Auckland Health Foundation, xt 8400 or Ph 09 270 8808.

The Lion Foundation confirms support

Premature newborn Paul Marshall received a visit from one of the Kidz First Neonatal Intensive Care Unit's biggest fans in August. The Lion Foundation's new Chief Executive Officer, David Conroy, visited and reconfirmed his organisation's support for the facility. As the largest contributor to the fundraising campaign for a new Neonatal Unit, the Lion Foundation has donated a phenomenal \$1.3 million over the past few years.

The Unit, which will be four times larger than the existing one, is expected to open late 2005.

David says it's great to contribute towards the development of such an important facility. "It's heart-wrenching to hear some of the stories but wonderful to be able to help in some small way. I admire the dedication of the staff and their ability to cope in such a cramped work environment," he says.

The Lion Foundation has been a valued supporter of the South Auckland Health Foundation since 2000 and this is set to continue, with a recent grant to cover 100 percent of the Foundation's operating costs. This means that every cent of every donation directly funds the projects.



Two-week-old Paul Marshall receives a visit from Lion Foundation CEO, David Conroy (right) and neonatal clinical leader, Dr Lindsay Mildenhall (left.)

South Auckland
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Flight Centre funds a bonus

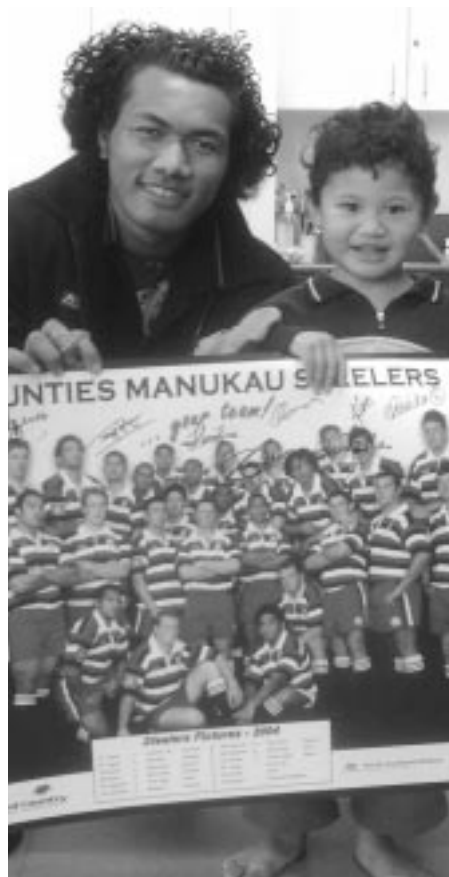
Patients have reaped the benefits from other people's overseas travel, with Middlemore Hospital Flight Centre donating \$5 from every international flight booked to various health services within CMDHB.

The scheme ran for 1-year and during this time over \$6000 was donated to the South Auckland Health Foundation for the benefit of numerous DHB services.

THANK YOU Flight Centre – your contribution is hugely appreciated.

To find out more about Flight Centre's latest travel deals visit Shop 104 beside Middlemore's Main Entrance or Ph 09 259 4168.

Steelers visit a stormin success



Zebon Crivellaro was one of many Kidz First patients to enjoy a visit from Counties Manukau Steelers player, Tai Tuifua, when the team visited the hospital in August.

Earlier this year the Steelers ran a half-marathon and donated \$1555 to the Kidz First Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

First 100,000 vaccinated in Meningococcal B immunisation programme

New Zealand's Meningococcal B Immunisation Programme celebrated the first 100,000 people vaccinated on 23 September.

The immunisation programme aims to stop New Zealand's devastating epidemic of the fast-moving and potentially deadly meningococcal B disease.

The Ministry of Health's Meningococcal Vaccine Strategy director Jane O'Hallahan said the first 100,000 people represented a significant milestone.

"We are delighted with the response from the public, health professionals and schools. "People know this disease kills and maims and they want their children vaccinated," Dr O'Hallahan said.

"The most frequently asked question asked on our free phone is: 'When can my child get vaccinated?'"

"Pacific parents have been especially quick to respond to the availability of the vaccine in the Counties Manukau region.

"Of all the Pacific children aged one to five years, 90 percent have received their first dose."

"This is an amazing result and a credit to everyone involved," Dr O'Hallahan said.

"There has been media coverage of the slower up-take of the vaccine by Maori but already this has started to turn.

"Of all the Maori children aged one to five years, 53 percent have now received their first dose. Maori and Pacific children are at increased risk of the disease and it is vital we reach these children. Initiatives to reach Maori have started and I believe we will continue to see a rise in the numbers of Maori children and young people vaccinated.

"For all other children aged one to five years, 73 percent have received their first dose.

"These figures do not include the children and young people vaccinated in schools, where there has been a tremendous response across all communities.

"Schools have been incredibly supportive and have gone to extraordinary lengths to make the vaccinations run smoothly. One school principal even bought the nurses morning tea last week as he was so concerned they were working so hard," Dr O'Hallahan said.

"As well as vaccinating 100,000 people the programme has also administered 108,424 doses as some people are already on to their second dose.

"Immunisation started in July in the Counties Manukau region, the area with the greatest risk of the disease.

Immunisation is free and available to those aged up to and including 19 years. Three doses of the vaccine are needed, with each dose about six weeks apart.

"With parental consent, school students are immunised in schools. Pre-schoolers and those who have left school receive the vaccine at their doctor's.

"The programme is being delivered in a staggered roll out throughout the country, as far as possible according to the risk of meningococcal disease in each district health board. The next areas to receive the vaccine will be the rest of Auckland and Northland. Next year the vaccine will be available in other district health boards from Auckland south to Wellington and then from Southland up to Nelson Marlborough," Dr O'Hallahan said.

Payroll and HR information now available online

Counties Manukau staff now have the option of checking their payroll and Human Resources information online with the launch of the new Employee Kiosk system.

Employee Kiosk can be accessed by any staff member at any DHB computer as long as it is connected to the network.

Staff with payroll/HR queries can access their details on the password-protected Employee Kiosk 24 hours a day/seven days a week. This means that staff will be able to obtain information about themselves and their entitlements outside of the normal business hours currently supported by the healthAlliance Staff Service Centre.

healthAlliance Business Solutions manager Kathy Frame says that staff will now be able to check their leave balance, fortnightly pay, year-to-date payments and edit their personal details online.

"Because staff maintain their own information the new system will hold accurate and up-to-date information about our employees. This will allow us to have a better understanding of how the workforce is made up and what is important to them, enabling Counties Manukau to be a better employer."

"Even those who usually shy away from computer technology will be able to navigate Employee Kiosk as every user has access to simple online training to boost their confidence when they first log on," says Kathy.

As an introduction to the system, spot rewards based on individual usage will be given out between now and Christmas. All staff that log onto Employee Kiosk will be eligible for the rewards which include movie passes and family trips to Waiheke Island and Kelly Tarltons.

For further details please email hire2retire@healthAlliance.co.nz.

CMDHB workforce census

In September 2003, with follow up earlier this year, CMDHB staff were asked to take part in a Workforce Census, the purpose of which was to obtain a more accurate overall picture of our workforce demographics.

The response rate was phenomenal! As at 16 August a total of 5435 forms had been returned which equates to a 96.3% response rate. A big thank you to all staff who took the time to complete and return the census forms. It is you, the workforce, who enable CMDHB to work in partnership with our communities to improve the health status of all.

Background to Census

The background to the census stemmed from the realisation that in order for a large organisation like CMDHB to plan effectively, it needs quality data. The HR and Payroll data that was previously captured and stored was unreliable and not comprehensive enough for managers to reliably make business and workforce decisions.

It was recognised that there was a strong need to have access to quality workforce data internally, as well as an increasing requirement to contribute quality data for regional and national workforce reporting and planning. For these reasons the HR and Payroll data clean-up project (including the Workforce Census) was initiated.

So what did the census reveal?

- 74% of the workforce are female
- 43% of Doctors are female
- 93% of Nurses are female
- 83% of Allied Health staff are female
- 59% of Manager/Executives are female

Overall Ethnicity Breakdown

The census revealed that CMDHB is made up of the following ethnic groups:

Ethnicity	Numbers	% Disclosed
NZ European	2111	55.3%
Maori	323	8.5%
Samoan	172	4.5%
Cook Island Maori	49	1.3%
Tongan	56	1.5%
Niuean	33	0.9%
Chinese	127	3.3%
Indian	339	8.9%
Other	607	15.9%

Data can be broken down for specific occupational groupings, for example Medical staff, Nursing staff, Clerical staff. Currently, it is a manual process to do this analysis, until the reports are written early next year. However, an example of the breakdown for Medical staff is shown below.

Doctor Ethnicity Breakdown

The census revealed that CMDHB Doctors come from the following ethnic groups:

Ethnicity	Numbers	% Disclosed
NZ European	180	57.1%
Maori	7	2.2%
Samoan	4	1.3%
Cook Island Maori	0	0%
Tongan	1	0.3%
Niuean	1	0.3%
Chinese	25	7.9%
Indian	37	11.8%
Other	60	19.1%
Not disclosed	591	65%

Changing Staff Details

Currently, staff can advise of their change of details by filling in a form online on the Staff Service Centre (SSC) website (through the healthAlliance website or through the Services Directory on SouthNet). A 'Personal Information Update' form can be found under 'Forms and Processes' which can be completed electronically and submitted online, or printed out and posted to the SSC.

Once the Staff Kiosk component is operational, staff will be able to make changes to their personal data themselves e.g. change their personal address, ethnicity data, emergency contacts, and languages spoken. Next year, managers will be able to access reports on ethnicity data (ethnicity, highest qualifications, languages spoken etc.) via the Management Kiosk.

If you have any questions about the Workforce Census or the information collected, please contact Tsana Coffin, HR Projects Consultant, ext 9891.

CMDHB consultant awarded the Colin McRae medal

The New Zealand National Board of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons has nominated Randall Morton, Professor of Otolaryngology and Surgeon at CMDHB, for the coveted Colin McRae Medal. The award was presented to Professor Morton on 8 September 2004 at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in Auckland. Prof Morton is the second recipient of the honour.

Professor Morton described as a "surgical leader in New Zealand," was cited for outstanding work in the field of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery. He has received numerous awards and honours in New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom, South Africa and the United States.

In presenting the nomination, retiring RACS Chairman Phil Bagshaw said Professor Morton "trained in otolaryngology in Auckland and gained post fellowship experience in Auckland, Liverpool and Cape Town. His academic career culminated in his being awarded a Chair in Otolaryngology at Auckland University in 2001."

The Colin McRae Medal commemorates the life and work of the late Colin McRae, an outstanding New Zealand surgeon, and former President of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. The award recognises and promotes the art and science of surgery and surgical leadership in New Zealand and honours those who have made outstanding contributions in this field.



Move outside the square you work in

Ever wondered what it would be like to work out "in the field"? Well, here's your chance. Volunteer to be a part of the St John Medical and Nursing Team at major events and mass gatherings.



St John operates state-of-the-art mobile medical clinics and field hospitals equipped with full resuscitation facilities at many large-scale events. You'll work with other doctors and nurses, and the responders and paramedics that make up our Events team.



We'll give you a full orientation so you don't feel you've been "thrown in the deep end". You get to choose which events you want to go to based upon your availability and interest. And there are regular opportunities to learn new skills such as IV cannulation, suturing, patient assessment, and plastering, or to hone up your ACLS or triage skills.



By joining our specialist Medical and Nursing Team, you'll meet great people, engage in a whole set of new experiences, and get to be a part of the ambulance and medical operation that provides free medical services to the public at major events across the country.

So if you'd like to part of a the team that gives aid to thousands of New Zealanders at public events each year, give us a call. We'll be only too pleased to tell you more!

For further information, call:

Natalie Anderson, Staff Nurse, ED, MMH extn 7535
Greg Stevens, Emergency Medicine Specialist, ED, MMH extn 7535
Adam Johnston, Regional Events Manager, St John, 0800 ST JOHN



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