

Seacliff History Hall unveiled at Wakari Hospital

A record of the important role Seacliff Hospital made to the development of mental health care in Otago and Southland is now on permanent display at Wakari Hospital.

After over eight years of planning by a group of enthusiastic Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand and former Seacliff staff, a Seacliff History Hall was officially opened on Wednesday 2 November.

On permanent display are photographs, narratives and memorabilia giving a snapshot of the significant role Seacliff played in the early development of mental health care.

Director of Nursing – Mental Health, Addictions and Intellectual Disability Services, Te Whatu Ora Southern, Heather Casey says the idea of a

Seacliff History Hall came about in 2012 at a staff reunion held to coincide with the 40th anniversary of the closure of Seacliff Hospital and marking 130 years since Seacliff opened.

"We're really pleased to be able to showcase the history of Seacliff Hospital. It is also important to acknowledge that the care and treatment provided there was the best available at the time based on best evidence," says Ms Casey.

"The History Hall has been a labour of love and I'm very proud of everyone involved and those who have supported us to make it happen."

The History Hall is located in the ground floor corridor, to the left of the main entrance of the main Wakari Hospital Building.



The Seacliff planning group with Director of Nursing – Mental Health, Addictions and Intellectual Disability Services, Te Whatu ora Southern, Heather Casey (centre)

Paediatric Outpatients team celebrate Gumboot Friday



There were gumboots galore as the Dunedin Hospital Paediatric Outpatients team celebrated Gumboot Friday on November 4. Gumboot Friday gives young Kiwis free and fast access to qualified counselling. This service relies on the continued generosity of many New Zealanders.

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Mental health champion retires after 30 years



Heather Casey, Director of Nursing, Mental Health Addictions and Intellectual Disability has retired after 30 years in health care

Heather Casey, Director of Nursing, Mental Health Addictions and Intellectual Disability, has retired from Te Whatu Ora Southern after working for 30 years in health care.

Heather was a Nurse for over 30 years, with the last 20 years mainly in professional leadership roles at Te Whatu Ora Southern and its predecessors.

"Heather has worked tirelessly in mental health, addiction and intellectual disability (MHAID) services," says Te Whatu Ora Southern Chief Nursing Officer, Jane Wilson.

"She has been instrumental in growing Nurse Practitioners (NP) across the Southern district having set up and chaired the inaugural Nurse Practitioner Steering Group and supporting many nurses to reach NP status."

Heather's advocacy and support for advancing nursing practice and career development has also resulted in her work being recognised at a national level having received two significant awards in recent years.

In 2018 Heather received an Otago Polytechnic Distinguished Alumni Award and in 2019 an award for 'exceptional contribution to Mental Health Services in NZ' at the Mental Health Awards of Australia and New Zealand.

"I have had an amazing career as a registered nurse and despite practising in an area that is very much viewed within the social and political context of the time and facing many challenges, I have never had a dull day in all these years. I always encourage nurses to practice in mental health as it is hugely rewarding and always interesting."

New community-based drug and alcohol service launching in Otago

Community based alcohol and drugs services in Otago will soon be expanding with an innovative new service to be run by Te Kāika.

Te Kāika provide a range of health and social services, that includes general practice within a Te Ao Māori framework in South Dunedin, and deliver contracts by a Te Whatu Ora, Oranga Tamaki, Ministry of Social Development and other government agencies.

The new community alcohol and drug services will be integrated into these services, clients already using Te Kāika's services will be proactively connected to the new service, while others will be able to access it directly. Similarly, those that access the service directly will be able to engage with other Te Kāika services including their general practice and social services if they require further support.

Toni Gutschlag, Executive Director of Mental Health, Addictions and Intellectual Disabilities for Te Whatu Ora Southern says, "We're very excited about this new service – it's an opportunity for Te Whatu Ora – Southern to embrace a different way of working that is responsive to community needs and can deliver comprehensive outcomes for Māori and other whānau in the community.

"Te Kāika will be able to provide an integrated wraparound service for tangata whaiora and whānau and help them access the health and social services they need, as well



Relationship Manager, Planning & Funding ED Mental Health Addictions and Intellectual Disability Kylie McKay with Chief Executive Officer for Te Kāika Matt Matahaere

as high quality specialist alcohol and other drug services. This is an innovative approach in the way mental health and addiction services are provided."

Matt Matahaere, Chief Executive Officer for Te Kāika says, "We are excited about providing new services and extending on our current ecosystem and infrastructure of Te Kāika."

The service will be stood up over the coming weeks and is

expected to be fully operational by February 2023. It will include wānanga, whānau ora approaches, therapeutic interventions and peer support all delivered within a Māori framework. It will be available to all adults with moderate to severe and/or complex addiction issues, with a specific focus on connecting with Māori.

The new community-based alcohol and drug service meets an area of need identified through the 2021 Time for Change – Te

Hurihanga review. It is part of a larger programme of mental health reforms underway to bring mental health and wellbeing care closer to home and make it easier to access for everyone. For more information visit: www.southernhealth.nz/timeforchange

REMINDER: Please return your loan equipment

Have you had an injury or surgery recently? You may be one of the hundreds of people in our community who have used our short-term loan equipment service.

The Short-Term Loan Services team at Te Whatu Ora Southern would like to remind people to return any loan equipment no longer needed, so they can help other people in need.

Did you know that nearly 600 loan equipment items were delivered in Dunedin in October? Unfortunately, the return rate is low.

Common loan equipment includes walking frames, walking sticks, crutches, hoists, patient beds, raised toilet frames, shower stools, and wheelchairs.

Ina Farrelly, Te Whatu Ora Southern Service Manager, asks that people check if they have any of these loan equipment lying around at home.

"The short-term loan equipment service is made of a small hard-working team, who frequently go

above and beyond to make sure that people get what they need with a smile," Ina says.

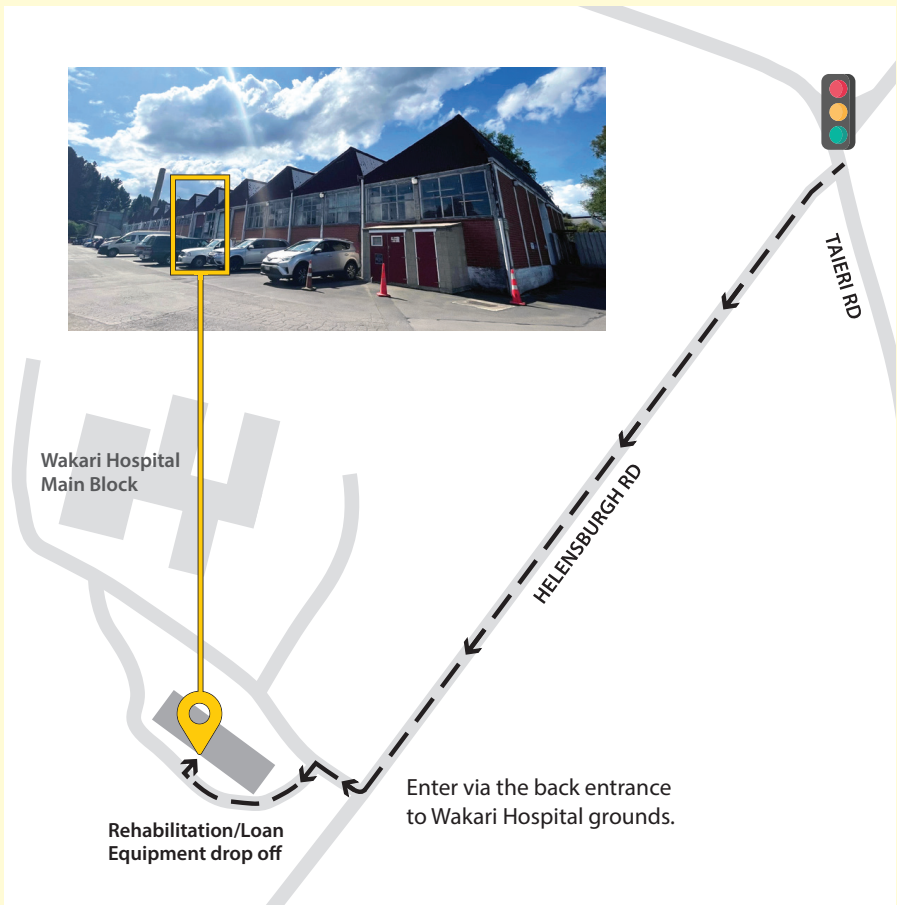
The Team has provided some easy ways for people to drop off the loan equipment or call to collect, at no cost.

Drop-off locations:

- Wakari Hospital: Helensburgh Road entrance, Dunedin. Monday – Friday before 4.00pm (see map for directions)
- Mosgiel: Plain Health Shop: 100B Gordon Road, Monday – Thursday, mornings only

Call to collect:

Call (03) 476-9424 if you are unable to return or need more information



Enter the Wakari Hospital grounds through the back entrance off Helensburgh Road. Take a hard left just inside the entrance way. Follow this road about 50 metres and find Rehabilitation/Loan Equipment drop-off on the right-hand side.