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Celebrate

Life gives us many reasons to celebrate.

Christmas. A marriage.

The birth of a child.

But there are little celebrations too.

A first tooth. First steps.

Are they any less of a celebration?

Not to the child who gleefully plunges
their fingers into their first birthday cake.

Or to the mother who hears the
first gasping cry of her baby.

Or to the family of someone who overcomes illness.

Because the real celebration is life itself.

On the 4th of January 2006,

Mater celebrated a birthday.

Our 100th birthday.

Join us as we take a look at the year we
achieved 100 years of exceptional care.

And celebrated.

2006. The year Mater celebrated 100 years of exceptional care.

Our Mission

In the spirit of the Sisters of Mercy, Mater Hospitals offer compassionate service to the sick and needy, promote an holistic approach to health care in response to changing community needs and foster high standards in health-related education and research.

Following the example of Christ the Healer, we commit ourselves to offering these services to all without discrimination.

Our Values

Mater staff are dedicated to providing the highest quality health care services through a sincere commitment to Mater's core values of Mercy, Dignity, Care, Commitment and Quality. These values are a guide for our interactions with our patients and their families, each other, and our business partners. Through these values Mater staff promote the professionalism and care that has been a part of the Mater since its beginnings.

Mercy – The spirit of responding to one another.

Dignity – The spirit of humanity, respecting the worth of each person.

Care – The spirit of compassion.

Commitment – The spirit of integrity.

Quality – The spirit of professionalism.

Our Vision

In the Mercy tradition, the Mater will be renowned as a leader in the delivery of exceptional health care and experienced by all as a community of compassion.



*One year old Ayham Nasser with his mother, Najat moments after his cochlear implant is turned on and he has heard his mother's voice for the first time.
Photo courtesy of Jamie Hansen/The Sunday Mail*



Congregational Leader's message

The development of Mater Misericordiae Health Services in Brisbane from a 20-bed private hospital to a world-class group of seven hospitals and a research institute is a remarkable story. It is a story of faith, courage and innovation from its beginning in 1906, to the present day.

The centenary year has provided us with opportunity to honour and remember the great women and men who, with giant leaps of faith and trust in Divine Providence, pioneered the Mater hospitals in Brisbane.

The celebrations throughout this year have recalled 100 years of courage, conviction, dedication and selfless service. A century where risk-taking, strong leadership, administrative skill, professional expertise and sound financial planning have led to significant developments in medical, scientific and clinical practice.

A centenary year enables us to look back with pride and to look to the future with hope. The challenge of today is to continue to build on the tradition of 100 years of Mercy mission and to forge ahead developing new ways for compassionate care to be achieved.

As the Mater moves forward into the next century, we are called to be people who are committed to assuring the integrity of this ministry as we respond to change; to be people who are committed to a shared vision and common core values; to be people who are ready to engage in rigorous ethical discernment about resource allocation and strategic opportunities; to be people with a passionate concern for the poor and marginalised in our society.

In this way we will remain grounded in fidelity to the heritage of the Sisters of Mercy and the Mission of the Mater.



Sister Sandra Lupi RSM

Congregational Leader, Sisters of Mercy, Brisbane

Chairman of the Board's message

What makes an organisation great?

There are, of course, the vital ingredients like an effective business plan, capable and dedicated staff, a well-developed corporate vision, a strong mission and set of core values. Each of these elements are integral to the achievement of organisational greatness.

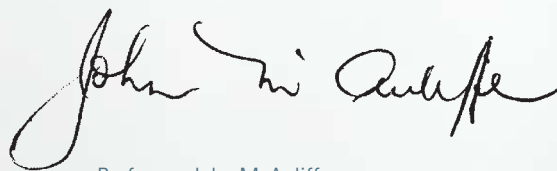
But there is something else – an indefinable ingredient that only a few organisations possess, and it is this quality that sets Mater apart from the rest. To me, that ingredient is faith in God and the charism of the Sisters of Mercy.

For the past 100 years, Mater has made its mark as a 'whole of health care' provider – pursuing innovation and excellence in every service it delivers and striving to address unmet needs.

During our centenary year it has been exceptionally rewarding to reflect on and celebrate Mater's countless achievements.

But time never stands still at Mater and while the centenary celebrations flowed, the excellence and innovation for which Mater Health Services is famous continued. A host of significant milestones were achieved at Mater this year in a range of fields, from research and clinical service delivery, through to systems management and safety and quality.

2006 has been a truly exceptional year.



Professor John McAuliffe

Chair, Mater Health Services Board

CEO's message

This year Mater's Annual Review is a centenary keepsake as well as a document showcasing our achievements during the past 12 months. It pays tribute to a 'vision' conjured more than a century ago that became a reality – a reality that touches the lives of the sick and needy every day.

In 2006 Mater turned 100 – and what a successful year it was.

What I find most compelling about the Mater – as a unique health care provider and the milestone we reached this year – is that the spirit of innovation that was characterised by the Sisters of Mercy continues to burn just as brightly today as it did in 1906.

Throughout this time, change and development has not occurred at the expense of Mater's original Mission and values – it has occurred in concert with them.

In 2006 we continued to create a strong future for the Mater, while at all times remaining committed to our Mission through:

Continued advocacy for services targeting the poor and disadvantaged;

Expansion of services in which the Mater has unique expertise, such as the \$55m commitment to rebuild the Mater Mothers' Private Hospital;

Expansion of Mater's staff training and development to emphasise values based leadership and care in conjunction with outstanding professional and technical skills;

Continued commitment to be Australia's safest hospitals for patients and staff alike;

Improved access to services by developing more services closer to areas of need;

Supporting the expansion of research with the Mater Medical Research Institute in clinically relevant areas.

The next century for Mater has the potential to be as exceptional as the first hundred years. We will grow, change, focus on our strengths in clinical service provision and will be relevant as long as we continue to adapt to the changing health care needs in our community, and deliver those services to all with mercy and compassion. The opportunity is there for us to accept and we couldn't wish for a stronger foundation for our journey.



Dr John O'Donnell

CEO, Mater Health Services



From little things big things grow

On 4 January, 1906 the Sisters of Mercy opened their first 20-bed private hospital, 'Aubigny', in a former residential home in Brisbane's North Quay.

The Sisters of Mercy, founded by Irish woman Catherine McAuley, first arrived in Brisbane in 1861 led by Mother Mary Vincent Whitty and found themselves in a society in desperate need of community services. Although the Sisters were immediately busy with education and visiting the sick, Mother Vincent's main ambition was to build a hospital dedicated to caring for the poor.

Mother Mary Patrick Potter succeeded Mother Vincent in 1892, and within the first year of her appointment this long-held dream was starting to take shape. The Sisters purchased 10 acres of land at South Brisbane for £7,000 with a view to building a hospital in the future. However, due to a lack of funds, the Sisters could not afford to build a new hospital and instead opened 'Aubigny', a temporary private hospital.

It was this small fee-paying private hospital, caring for 141 patients in its first year of operation, which provided the much needed funds to help the Sisters realise their vision and provide free public health care.

Thanks to community fundraising and the funds generated by the Mater Private Hospital, the Sisters of Mercy were able to build a new private hospital (opened in 1910) and a public hospital (opened in 1911) at the South Brisbane site.

According to history, with no other health facility located in South Brisbane, the Bishop of the day felt certain that the medical fraternity would not cross the Brisbane River in their sulkies to tend to the sick. However, this theory was quickly proved wrong as the hospitals thrived and the Sisters' desire to provide service and compassion to the poor and afflicted had become a reality.

As the population of Brisbane continued to grow, the Sisters recognised the need for a children's hospital (opened in 1931) and later a maternity hospital (opened in 1960).

The ambitious maternity hospital proposal enabled the Mater to provide care throughout every stage of life, from birth to old age. However, given it was the sole responsibility of the Sisters of Mercy to finance the project, it took 14 years to raise enough money before building could commence.

The addition of the Mater Mothers' Hospital elevated the Mater campus into a large and complex system.

In 2001, the Mater was formally incorporated as Mater Misericordiae Health Services Brisbane, and the everyday running of the hospitals was passed from the Sisters of Mercy to a Board of Directors.

Today, Mater Health Services is a world-class group of three public (Mater Adult Hospital, Mater Mothers' Hospital and Mater Children's Hospital) and four private (Mater Private Hospital Brisbane, Mater Mothers' Private Hospital, Mater Children's Private Hospital and Mater Private Hospital Redland) hospitals plus the Mater Medical Research Institute.

Currently staffed by more than 6,000 people, Mater treats around 500,000 people a year and provides more than half of all obstetrics in South East Queensland; more than half of all children's emergency services; two thirds of all neonatal retrievals; more than 30% of all cancer services; and nearly 20% of all elective surgery in the state.

This 100 year success story, characterised by hardship, adversity, triumph and compassion, was celebrated on a hot summer's day at the front of the first Mater Private Hospital at South Brisbane on 4 January 2006. This was indeed the beginning of an incredible journey in 2006.

It's the first celebration of your life and it's all about you. The birth of a child is a celebration of life, family, and the start of a long and unpredictable journey.

The Mater Hospital was born 100 years ago when the Sisters of Mercy opened a 20-bed private hospital in a former residential home in Brisbane's North Quay.



Although it was small, the Sisters' commitment to exceptional care helped to meet the needs of the community.

"This, I hope is the beginning of a big work that will do much good" said Mother Patrick Potter in 1906.

The Mater today is a testament to her vision.

The year 2006 was one of celebration.

After all, after 100 years, *our centenary* was a great opportunity to share our journey with the community.



Celebrating our centenary

How do you celebrate 100 years of history-making health care? You reflect on the journey that made up those 100 special years, you recognise the people who made it happen, and you rejoice in the wonder achieved. 2006 has been a year of celebration for Mater Health Services.



Blow out the candles and make a wish

On Wednesday 4 January, as the candles were blown out on the centenary birthday cake, the only fitting thing to wish for was another 100 years of magical Mater moments – where lives are touched by the skill and dedication of this unique health care provider.

From its beginnings as a 20-bed hospital established by the Sisters of Mercy in 1906, to the seven-hospital group it is today, Mater's 100 year milestone could not pass without fanfare.

A special birthday ceremony was held in front of Aubigny Place (the site of one of Mater's first hospitals), attended by hundreds of well-wishers including the Acting Premier, Ms Anna Bligh, various Sisters of Mercy, Mater staff, and past patients.

Speeches from Congregational Leader Sr Sandra Lupi, Professor John McAuliffe, Chairman Mater Health Services Board, and Mater CEO Dr John O'Donnell gave an insight into Mater's remarkable history and its exciting future.

Dr O'Donnell said the birthday celebrations were Mater's way of paying tribute to the commitment shown by the Sisters of Mercy to improving health care in Queensland.

"The Sisters were faced with a tough assignment, but their foresight and aspirations overcame many obstacles to ensure that Mater has grown to be a world-class group of three public and four private hospitals plus the Mater Medical Research Institute," he said.

"We are proud of our heritage and look forward to continuing our journey in the footsteps of the Sisters of Mercy as we grow and provide an innovative health care service to those who need it."

CEO, Dr John O'Donnell and one of Mater's oldest patients 101 year old Letitia Wood cut the birthday cake in celebration of Mater's centenary on 4 January 2006.



Above: The Nunukul Yuggera Aboriginal Dance Troupe performed at the indigenous ceremony.

Land connection

As part of Mater's centenary celebrations a special indigenous ceremony was held on Wednesday 29 March to acknowledge the traditional keepers of Mater Hill – the Jagera Tribe.

More than 100 guests, including the Sisters of Mercy, Mater staff, Jagera Elders, and community leaders gathered for the ceremony, which began with a stirring didgeridoo performance.

Jagera elder Shirley Davidson then led a traditional Welcome to Country. A warm and funny speech by Sr Nora Fitzgibbon gave an insight into Mater's history with the local indigenous community and her own personal connection working with indigenous people throughout Brisbane.

Eroll Maurice a Spirit Man also from the Jagera Tribe performed a customary smoking ceremony to acknowledge and pay tribute to the spirit of the ancestors who once lived and cared for the land surrounding Mater Hill, and to celebrate Mater's centenary year.

The ceremony ended with a lively performance by the Nunukul Yuggera Aboriginal Dance Troupe who performed a number of traditional Jagera dances and songs.

A fascinating read

Writing the story of the Mater Hospitals was a task that left Historian Helen Gregory both inspired and humbled. "I was amazed at the personal strength and astute business minds of the Sisters of Mercy," Gregory says.

The author's account of Mater's growth over 100 years was released on Friday 17 February in a special event held at the Mater campus.

Entitled 'Expressions of Mercy', the book paints a colourful picture of the individual nuns who have worked tirelessly for the people of Queensland and are etched in the memories of the patients they have cared for.

'Expressions of Mercy' is told against a backdrop of social, political and medical changes as well as changes in the Church and among the Sisters of Mercy.

With one in six Queenslanders born at the Mater, 'Expressions of Mercy' will bring back memories to hundreds of thousands of patients, nurses, and doctors touched by the Mater's special approach to health care.

A great Queenslander

Mater Health Services is undeniably a Queensland institution.

Its status as one of Queensland's oldest and most respected health care providers was made official on Tuesday 30 May, when Premier Peter Beattie named Mater a 'Queensland Great'.

The annual 'Queensland Great' awards are usually reserved for a small number of individuals who have made a significant contribution to the Queensland community, but 2006 was different.

For the first time an institution – Mater – was honoured with one of the awards.

Mater's Chairman of the Board, Professor John McAuliffe accepted the award on behalf of Mater, paying tribute to the Sisters of Mercy and acknowledging all Mater staff, volunteers and supporters for their invaluable work and contribution.

"Mater has grown from one small private hospital to a world-class group of hospitals, which have achieved many outstanding milestones over the last 100 years," he said.

"Being named as a Queensland Great is another one of Mater's wonderful achievements and one which we should all be proud of, as we would not have been able to achieve

this without the support and dedication of all Mater staff and volunteers."

A special plaque was presented to Mater during the ceremony, which now sits alongside other Queensland Greats in a pathway at Roma Street Parklands.

Liturgical celebration

St Stephen's Cathedral in the heart of Brisbane was at capacity on Wednesday 10 May as the extended Mater family gathered for a special Centenary Liturgical Celebration.

Held on the same day Mother Mary Vincent Whitty had stepped off the boat from Ireland to establish the Sisters of Mercy in Queensland 145 years before, the celebration also marked Foundation Day for the Brisbane Congregation of the Sisters.

Brisbane Archbishop John Bathersby, along with Mater Chaplains Fr Cassian Double and Fr John Barlow presided over the service and the recessional hymn 'Come and Heal Us', composed by Fr Christopher Wilcock in honour of Mater's centenary was sung for the first time by the All Hallows Girls' School Choir.

Below left: Premier Peter Beattie presents Mater's Chairman of the Board, Professor John McAuliffe with a hand blown vase after Mater was named a Queensland Great. Below right: Hundreds gather to celebrate Mater's centenary on 4 January 2006.



Scientific focus

Since its very beginnings, a drive for excellence and innovation has helped characterise Mater as a world leader in health care delivery.

Because the science behind Mater's medicine is of fundamental importance, research is carefully nurtured – at present more than 300 research projects are underway on the Mater campus.

To celebrate this focus on medical discovery, from 24-25 August a special Centenary Scientific Meeting was held at Mater.

The meeting took attendees on a historical journey of medical advances that began 100 years ago. It reflected on Mater's rich history, placed a spotlight on the group's current endeavours in treatment, surgery, patient services, teaching, and research, and it mapped out a vision for the future.

A number of former Mater movers and shakers, including Mr Pat Maguire (CEO from 1987 to 1993), Dr Michael O'Rourke (Director of Surgery of the Mater Adult Hospital), Dr Kevin Hourigan (Gastroenterologist), and Dr Lawrence Brunello (Obstetrician and Gynecologist) were in attendance to share their experiences and ideas with current Mater specialists and researchers.

Staff gala

A health care provider is nothing without dedicated staff.

In celebration of the essential contribution made to the Mater by its dedicated staff members a special gala event was held on Friday 22 September.

Against a 'stars and cityscape' backdrop at the RNA Showgrounds, more than a thousand staff members and their guests celebrated Mater's history and its exciting future, as an array of fine food and beverages were served. The swinging sounds of Brisbane musical group Odyssey also entertained as Mater staff kicked up their heels in celebration.

And they're racing

A century of exceptional care has got to bode well for some good odds and that is exactly what thousands of race-goers were banking on when they attended the Mater Centenary Race Day at Doomben Race Course on Saturday 30 September.

The eight event races rated highly in the glamour stakes, with Sarah Way, Sarah Laidlaw, and Jessica O'Reilly named winners of the hotly contested Fashions on the Field competition.

Below: More than 1,000 staff members attended the Staff Centenary Gala.



Creating a Mater Alumni

To celebrate the contribution of Queensland's medical professionals to Mater's centenary of exceptional care, the hospitals hosted past and present doctors at an inaugural Mater Doctor's Alumni Dinner in March.

Some 300 guests, including a veritable who's who of Queensland medicine gathered at Brisbane's Carlton Crest for an evening of fine food and entertainment and a little reminiscing about medicine at Mater through the years.

"The event was a great opportunity to honour the partnership between the Mater and Queensland's medical community who have worked together for exceptional results," Mater CEO, Dr John O'Donnell said.

My story is about...

Thousands of Queenslanders have their own special Mater story.

From experiences of nursing days under the Sisters of Mercy, to being on the receiving end of a special brand of care in one of the hospitals' wards and everything in-between, Mater has a page in so many people's lives.

It was perfect, therefore, as part of Mater's centenary celebrations to invite people to share their Mater stories.

100 stories were chosen from hundreds of submissions to appear in the commemorative Mater's 100 Stories book.

The Mater 100 Stories book was launched in November and is available from the Mater Foundation.



So, we took John home and he was overwhelmed at being given the opportunity to spend his final days there. He called us his 'Mater Angels of Mercy'. One thing that stood out clearly in this situation was the nurses' commitment to help John achieve his wish to be at home: what started out as 'a few days to live' spilled over into one week, then two weeks, then three weeks...



First steps are always a cause for celebration.
From first tentative steps, huge strides
forward can follow.

After only a few years operation as the Mater
Private Hospital at North Quay, sufficient
funds were raised to allow the Sisters of
Mercy to take steps of their own.

In 1910 they crossed the river to a
10 acre site in South Brisbane and
established a free public hospital for
the city of Brisbane.



This move was a precursor
to many of *our milestones*
that were achieved in 2006, our 100th year.

Celebrating our milestones

2006 has been a year of growth for Mater Health Services. In the same year it celebrated its centenary, Mater added a comprehensive list of new services, it achieved various medical breakthroughs in a diverse group of specialty areas, and it continued to update and refine the way it delivers its health care. These are just some of the highlights of 2006 for Mater.

Diabetes breakthrough

In an Australian-first, a rare form of diabetes that often goes undetected in sufferers is now being tested for at Mater Health Services.

In November Mater Pathology launched its new genetic screening service for Mature Onset Diabetes in the Young (MODY), a condition that currently affects around 7,000 Australians.

MODY is caused by single gene disorders that interfere with the way Beta Cells produce insulin. It is different to Type 1 Diabetes (where Beta Cells are destroyed) and Type II Diabetes (which is combined insulin deficiency and insulin resistance).

Mater Children's Hospital Paediatric Endocrinologist, Dr Mark Harris explains that correctly diagnosing MODY is of great benefit for sufferers, because the condition can be controlled by taking a simple tablet as opposed to injections.

"The majority of young people with diabetes really struggle to get used to the act of having daily insulin injections, so to go from this to not having injections anymore, is a huge improvement in their quality of life," Dr Harris says.

"The tablet stimulates the Beta cells to produce insulin which replaces the need for injections, particularly if the condition is picked up early enough," he says.

According to Dr Harris, if there is a history of diabetes extending over three generations in a family there is a possibility that the condition is MODY.

"The condition is inherited in an autosomal dominant fashion (one altered copy of the gene is sufficient to cause the disease) so 50% of the patient's siblings are likely to develop the same type of diabetes," he explains.

"Once you have accurately diagnosed a patient with MODY, then you can trace through the family tree and identify other family members with the condition. Confirming the diagnosis with genetic testing also has important implications for future children."

With the genetic screening service for MODY previously only available overseas, Dr Harris and the endocrinology team at the Mater Children's Hospital, along with Mater Pathologist Dr David Cowley saw the need to develop the test in Australia to ensure that clinicians at a local level could readily access the service and in turn help families with whom the exact type of diabetes is unclear.



Above: The new Mater Private Hospital CardioVascular Unit.

Mater's a pace maker

In September 2006, Mater launched its latest line of defence against Australia's leading killer; heart disease.

Mater Private Hospital is now equipped with a state-of-the-art interventional catheter lab.

Known as the Mater Private CardioVascular Unit, the lab offers patients the best in cardiac care. Mater Private Hospitals Executive Director Don Murray says the new addition was a response to patient need.

"With an increasing number of people suffering from heart, stroke and vascular conditions each year, the new unit will help meet the growing need for cardiac and vascular based services in our community," Mr Murray says.

Procedures performed by Mater clinicians in the lab include coronary angiography, coronary angioplasty, permanent pacemaker insertion, diagnostic vascular angiography, and stents.

It is equipped with the latest GE Healthcare technology, a unique software package that has been incorporated to assist clinicians to record and retrieve patient data.

"The expertise of our clinicians together with the latest health care technology ensures that patients with cardiovascular disease are now be able to receive expert diagnosis and treatment at Mater Private Hospital," Mr Murray says.

A second catheter lab at Mater Private Hospital will be commissioned in 2007, where paediatric and complex cerebral studies will be performed.

Leading the way on cell therapy

Mater is maximising safety for patients receiving blood stem cells as part of their treatment (such as haematological malignancy and tumour patients) through its recently formed Cell Therapy Production and Quality Unit.

The unit is responsible for ensuring the safe manufacture of Peripheral Blood Stem Cells (PBSC). It also provides support, through its unique Quality System, to clinical research projects based upon high level cell manipulation, such as use of dendritic cells in immune therapy, and ex-vivo expansion of mesenchymal stem cells (research which is currently being undertaken by scientists at Mater Medical Research Institute).



What women want

A new Mater midwifery program is responding to women's changing expectations from maternity care.

The Mater Mothers' Hospital Midwifery Group Practice program, which began in October, establishes one-on-one partnerships between midwives and soon-to-be new mothers to support women through the stages of prenatal care, labour and birthing care, and postnatal care.

The program was established following the release of various research into maternity services, including a review of maternity services in Queensland.

The research revealed that women were frustrated and dissatisfied with the fragmented care they received during pregnancy, birth and postnatally, and that they desired greater choice and stability from maternity services.

In response Mater Mothers' Hospital began developing the Midwifery Group Practice program with key stakeholders including consumers, focusing on the desire to achieve a high level of continuity in the support it provides to women.

Five Mater midwives were recruited to the program (a number which will grow to eight in 2007) to care for an intake of 40 pregnant women per midwife each year.

Midwife Jo Costello, who is part of the program, says this works out to each midwife managing roughly four women per month.

Women who join the program are allocated a midwife as early as 12 weeks into their pregnancy. From here until the birth they have regular contact with their midwife through group meetings, one-on-one consults and telephone calls.

Their midwife is then present in the birthing suite and following the birth. Early discharge from hospital is a key aspect of the program, with many of the new mums keen to return to the comfortable and familiar surrounds of home. Daily visits from their midwife and telephone contact at any time of the day make this transition an easy one.

"Because we are seeing the women from an early point in their pregnancy they have the opportunity to develop a rapport with just one person (at most three) – they get to feel comfortable with us and they don't have the confusion of having to deal with 20 different midwives," Midwife Jo Costello explains.

"Our contact is regular right the way through the pregnancy and the program is built around flexibility so it can adapt to the needs of the women – for example, a first-time mum will have different needs to a second or third-time mum," Jo says.

The Mater Midwifery Group Practice is tailored to women experiencing low-risk pregnancies.

Reducing waiting lists

Mater Adult Hospital's new 23 Hour Unit, launched in September 2006 is reducing waiting lists and delivering patients concentrated care post-surgery, helping to speed their recovery and see them leave hospital sooner.

The unit caters for patients who have undergone minor surgical procedures such as laparoscopic hernia, simple hernia, varicose vein surgery, cataract surgery, corneal transplant or minor eye surgery.

Post surgery, patients are transferred to the unit which is equipped with an assessment area, six beds with ensuites, and 12 recliner chairs (used for eye patients and day procedures such as infusions).

Patients are then monitored closely for a period of 23 hours before they are given the option of returning home.

As Mater Adult Hospital Day Unit Manager June Adams explains, the 23 Hour Unit's benefits are two-fold.

"Through this new concept of care, patients who are relatively well but need to undergo a non-complex surgical procedure will be able to recover in the comfort of their own homes," Ms Adams says.

"The other benefit is that we are helping to reduce waiting times for procedures, with more patients being treated in day surgery rather than having to wait for available hospital beds," she says.

"Our aim is to achieve the highest standards of access, efficiency, and patient satisfaction."

The unit is only the second of its kind to be introduced in a Queensland hospital.

To be eligible for the 23 Hour Unit, patients must be referred by their specialist, must be undergoing procedures that will be suitable for discharge within 23 hours of admission, and have a family member or friend look after them when they are discharged.

The 23 Hour Unit compliments Mater Adult Hospital's existing Day Surgery Unit.

That's satisfaction

Mater Private Hospital Redland is a national leader in patient satisfaction.

Results from an Australia-wide survey of private hospital patients undertaken this year gave Mater's Redland facility the tick of approval in two key specialty areas.

Of the 54 private hospitals included in the survey, Redland was named the national leader for patient satisfaction in relation to surgery and orthopaedics. The second highest ranked facility in orthopaedics was Mater Private Hospital Brisbane.

Mater Private Executive Director Don Murray says the results are a testament to Mater's commitment to patients.





Above: Premier Peter Beattie with Mater CEO, Dr John O'Donnell at the launch of the new MRI at the Mater Adult Radiology Department.

World leading imaging equipment

Mater Health Services has obtained the most advanced medical imaging equipment currently available with the Philips MRI Achieva 3.0T machine and the Philips Brilliance 64 CT scanner, thanks to a \$10 million grant from the Smart State Research Facilities Fund.

The grant was awarded to the Mater Medical Research Institute and was used to purchase the equipment for the Mater Adult Hospital Radiology Department. The grant also covered the funding of a new Philips PET CT Scanner.

The equipment was officially launched in March by the Premier of Queensland, The Honourable Peter Beattie MP and the Queensland Health Minister, The Honourable Stephen Robertson MP.

Both machines offer superior technology and generate more detailed images in a faster time, while maximising patient comfort.

The MRI Achieva is the world's first compact high field MRI system, complete with technology that increases operator efficiency by 30% and reduces 85% of patient-perceived noise. The Mater complex is the only public facility in Queensland with a 3.0T MRI.

The Brilliance 64 Slice CT scanner is also the latest in scanning equipment, providing 40mm of coverage of 64 simultaneous slices, compared to current technology's offer of 32 slices. This allows radiologists to scan a larger area of patients' bodies in greater detail.

Uncovering the mystery

About six babies die every day in Australia from stillbirth, but it remains an area in maternity care that we know little about.

A third of stillbirths are classified as 'unexplained'. Unexplained stillbirth occurs 10 times more frequently than Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

Mater researchers are searching for the answers.

In the 2005-2006 financial year Mater was awarded a prestigious grant by the National Health and Medical Research Council to help fund its investigation into the factors that predict unexplained stillbirth.

Centre for Clinical Studies Deputy Director Vicki Flenady, who is leading the research project, says the aim is to be able to better determine women at risk of delivering a stillborn baby.

"We are looking at the characteristics of women who have endured unexplained stillbirth – the age at which fetal death occurs and other maternal and fetal characteristics – and then we are marrying all of these facets together to try and develop a picture of what is happening," Vicki explains.

Mater is the home of the Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand Perinatal Mortality Group. In September 2005 Vicki, a midwife and perinatal researcher, was asked to join the International Stillbirth Alliance – a coalition created to enhance and increase the effectiveness of individuals and groups already working to promote stillbirth research, education, and awareness.

Understanding young minds

A research project developed at Mater's innovative Kids in Mind Research Unit (which is an integral part of the Mater Child and Youth Mental Health Service) is breaking down barriers for young people with behavioural problems.

In just 12 months, the project, which is focussed on managing aggressive behaviour in youths attending the Child and Youth Mental Health Service's hospital-based programs is reaping significant rewards.

Research Fellow Dr Angela Dean describes the project as 'coalface' problem-solving.

"There is a strong emphasis on doing research here that stems from existing clinical problems within our services, and that aims to improve outcomes for our patients," Dr Dean explains.

"With this project we wanted to address the problem of managing aggressive behaviour in inpatients. Many young people who come to Mater Child Youth Mental Health Service (CYMHS) as inpatients have problems controlling behaviours and emotions, but there is little evidence available to inform us about the best way to manage this," she says.

Mater CYMHS Inpatient Unit Director Dr James Scott developed a behavioural management program for the project. The program emphasises prevention and teaching young people appropriate behaviours. If severe behaviour emerges during admission, acute management techniques have now been developed that aim to be more therapeutic for young people than techniques traditionally used in an adult environment.

Nurses and other clinical staff have been involved in implementing the program and have participated in monitoring a range of outcomes.

"We found that behavioural management was associated with significant reductions in aggressive behaviour, reductions in injuries to staff or patients and reductions in the need to call security," Dr Dean says.

"Most importantly, these outcomes were able to be achieved without changing the number or type of patients admitted to the ward, and without increasing staffing costs or increasing the use of medication," she says.

Unique clinic helps families

For children who suffer from Velo Cardio Facial Syndrome (VCFS) – the second most common genetic disorder in Australia after Downs Syndrome – monitoring by a team of medical specialists is part of day-to-day life.

VCFS results from the deletion of a small part of chromosome 22. It can cause significant abnormalities in child development, which typically relate to the face, palate and heart, but can also include learning and behavioural difficulties.

From appointments with a speech pathologist and a physiotherapist one day, to a session with a child psychologist the next – the treatment schedule for this disorder is exhausting, both for the child and for their family.

That is why, in May 2006, Mater opened a unique outpatient service tailored specifically to supporting families with children suffering from VCFS.

The Mater VCFS Clinic, opened on 15 May, provides VCFS patients and their families with a holistic service that coordinates the child's medical treatments in consultation with clinical specialists from Mater Children's Hospital at one location. It is in essence, a 'one-stop-shop' that relieves some of the pressure placed on families who have to visit a range of different specialists at a range of locations on a regular basis.

The Mater VCFS Clinic is the first of its kind in Australia. It is a joint initiative between Mater and Queensland's VCFS Foundation.



Speaking up for safety

Mater is proactively minimising the risk of harm to patients through a new initiative that encourages staff at all levels to 'speak up for safety'.

In May educators from Australia's Cognitive Institute – the country's largest provider of communication skills and risk management to health care professionals – undertook an extensive 'train the trainer' program with 12 key nursing, medical, and pharmacy staff. The program was tailored specifically to Mater Health Services and armed the 12 'trainers' with the skills to then conduct special 'Speaking up for safety' seminars throughout the Mater campus.

Through the seminars, Mater staff are being educated on specific words and actions to use in situations where unintended patient harm may be about to occur.

Mater CEO Dr John O'Donnell says the 'Speaking up for safety' initiative is about recognising that risk is present in health care and every person working in this environment has a role to play in minimising it.

"While it goes almost without saying that there is never an intention by such a colleague to cause any harm, examples of these situations might include administering the incorrect medication or the wrong dose of the correct medication, or not recognising the moment when more experienced help is required," Dr O'Donnell explains.

"If the person observing such actions is the senior or more experienced of the two, then it may be relatively easy for that person to 'speak up', but if the observer is the junior or less experienced of the two then there are often barriers to that person 'speaking up'."

"These seminars are about arming all clinical staff with the skills to voice their concerns," Dr O'Donnell says.

To date 400 Mater staff have attended the 'Speaking up for safety' seminars, which will continue in 2007.

Healthy hearing priority

Mater Private Hospital Redland is helping the Queensland Government roll out a new \$22 million initiative to improve detection of hearing problems in newborn babies.

In August, Mater Private Hospital Redland implemented the Government's Healthy Hearing Program and began screening all babies born at the hospital for hearing difficulties.

The Program is aimed at improving the state's screening efforts for newborn hearing impairment. Before its introduction the average age of detection of a hearing problem in babies was 30 months.

Every year in Queensland as many as 300 babies are born with serious hearing problems, and without the use of screening it can be very difficult to tell if a baby has a hearing impairment.

Research shows that early detection is vital in order to



Above: Mater Private Redland Midwife Karen Pavicic carries out a hearing test on baby Grayson Pearce with mother, Nicole.

achieve the best outcomes for a child in terms of language development and their success in education.

Through its involvement in the Healthy Hearing Program, Mater Private Hospital Redland now provides free hearing screens to babies before they reach three months of age, as well as ensuring the delivery of early intervention with those babies found to have a hearing impairment.

The Healthy Hearing Program began in 2004 at four Queensland hospitals, of which the Mater Mother's Public and Private Hospitals in South Brisbane were two. By mid-2007 all babies born in Queensland will have access to screening through the Program.

New era in safety

In November, Mater Private Hospital achieved a new level of excellence in safe health care delivery.

Mater Private is the first Queensland hospital to implement a new generation surgical instrument tracking suite that eliminates sterilisation risk.

The revolutionary software package, known as SurgiDat, was developed by Australian company Medical Systems Designs (MSD). Through the use of infrared scanners, it allows hospitals to track individual instruments from the sterilisation unit to the theatre and establish whether the sterilisation process has been compromised at any stage of the process.

Scanners read a barcode on a tiny square of porcelain laser-bonded to each instrument. An inventory of all equipment is accessed via touch screens in the sterilising unit and each operating theatre.

But the software's capabilities go even further – it can record a patient's position during a procedure, whether or not a warming blanket was used, the nurse present, and even the rebate codes for insurance purposes. It can also track consumption of items to integrate with the supply chain to automate the ordering of supplies.

Mater Private Hospital Executive Director Don Murray says SurgiDat eclipses any other tracking systems available, delivering the highest level of safety to patients.

"In the past, sterility of instruments could only be confirmed at tray level and with a large degree of manual checking. With SurgiDat, we can trace the entire journey of the instrument to confirm that the process was complete and effective," Mr Murray says.

"It streamlines the tracking process, is more cost effective and it provides a number of benefits to the surgeon, theatre staff and the patient," he says.

The use of SurgiDat will be introduced at Mater Private Hospital Redland in early 2007.

Highlights

Imaging advances

2006 saw the latest advances in diagnostic imaging introduced at Mater via the Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS). The system facilitates the digital storage and retrieval of diagnostic imaging. During the next two years Mater will progressively move all diagnostic imaging to digital storage, replacing the need to work with and store images on film.

Award winning blooms

The Mater Florist won the Quest City South news 2006 Business Achiever Awards (Specialty Retailer and Services Category) initiated by Quest Newspapers.

Expanding service

In 2006 Mater Pathology grew its reach to patients, opening three more fully licensed collection centres in Springwood, Ipswich and Russell Island.

Best breastfeeding advice

For many women breastfeeding doesn't just come naturally, as much as they would like it to. In 2006 the Mater Mothers' Hospital Lactation Support Service launched its Breastfeeding Resource and Competency Package for maternity nursing staff. The resource contains the latest evidence and research on assisting new mothers learning to breastfeed, guiding nurses on how to create a positive breastfeeding environment.

Supporting Veterans

Veterans can now access specialised medical care at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane and Mater Private Hospital Redland, thanks to a new partnership with the Department of Veterans' Affairs. The partnership, signed in July 2006 makes Gold Card and White Card Veterans and their families eligible for most medical and surgical procedures at the two hospitals.

Smooth operation

An electronic patient discharge summary developed by Mater Health Services is helping to build stronger links between its seven hospitals and various community-based General Practitioners (GPs).

Known as the Mater Electronic Health Referral Summary (MEHRS), the system was developed in 2001 to ensure that important patient clinical information was delivered to GPs and other community-based health care providers with timeliness and in a legible format.

In 2006, MEHRS generated its 40,000th electronic patient discharge summary and has received plaudits for its efficiency, particularly among GPs.

Dr Ian Williams, President of the South East Alliance of General Practitioners, says the "timely, relevant clinical information" delivered to GPs via the MEHRS is vitally important to local GPs.

"Being able to receive a clear, legible summary, outlining medication and follow up plans for patients was invaluable," Dr Williams says.

One of the designers of the MEHRS, Mater Health Services Director of Medicine Dr Simon Bowler says the system has significantly improved the flow of information between community health practitioners and the Mater hospitals and was another step towards minimising the risk of adverse events.

"This marks a national best-practice milestone in safe, high quality care between the hospital and the community," Dr Bowler said.

"Working with patients, their GPs and other key providers we have been able to ensure that key patient information is available to the patients and their carers when patients leave our hospital, often still needing follow-up care in the community."

"It is a unique system in the way important information for GPs and other community practitioners is collated automatically from a number of hospital systems allowing the semi automatic generation of the discharge summary."

"This process allows hospital staff to create the summary with a minimum of effort, expediting its generation and promoting timely distribution, with two thirds of Mater's discharge summaries across all of Mater's seven hospitals being sent within 48 hours of patient discharge from hospital," he said.

On discharge the information is transmitted to their GP and their community health care team located anywhere across the state.

A small milestone it may be, but growing a centimetre taller is a celebration for the child who can mark a new height on the wall. From birth to maturity, our growth is marked by the things we are able to achieve along the way.

A spirit of innovation has characterised the history of the Mater since the first Sisters broke with convention by taking their mission out of the convent to people in need. Throughout its history, Mater's endeavours in clinical medicine, patient services, teaching and research have turned frontiers into familiar ground.

The completion of the Mater Children's Hospital in 1931 and the Mater Mothers' Hospital in 1960 were just the start of many great innovations to come.



Our Diversity bears testament to our 100 years of innovation and underscores the groundbreaking services we can now provide to our ever-growing community.



Celebrating our diversity

Mater Health Services is Queensland's biggest and most comprehensive not-for-profit hospital group. It is made up of three public and four private hospital facilities, which together employ more than 6,000 staff. Mater's hospitals boast clinical outcomes that are among the best in the world.

Mater Children's Hospital

Operating the busiest paediatric emergency department in Queensland, the Mater Children's Hospital leads the way in specialist paediatric health care.

The hospital is a major tertiary referral centre providing an Intensive Care Unit, Theatres, Inpatient and Outpatient Services and a 24-hour Emergency Department.

Each year, more than 15,000 children are cared for as inpatients by the Mater Children's Hospitals. More than 120,000 children are seen in the outpatient departments and more than 32,000 children receive care in the Emergency Department.

In 2006, the Mater Children's Hospital celebrated its 75th Birthday – when it was opened in 1931 its 80 beds were occupied immediately and the hospital hasn't looked back. Today, housed in a purpose built facility completed in 2001, the hospital is at the forefront of paediatric medicine and research.



Right: Past Mater Children's Hospital patient Maragret Newson with Kayla Murphy at the Mater Children's Hospital 75th Birthday celebrations.



Mater Adult Hospital

Mater Adult Hospital is a 262-bed facility that is funded by a combination of Queensland Health grants and revenue generated by Mater Private Hospitals.

The hospital features a 24-hour Emergency Department, Intensive and Coronary Care, Day Surgery, Day Oncology, Day Hospice Respite and busy Medical, Cancer and Surgical Units.

Its Division of Medicine offers specialist services in respiratory medicine, endocrinology, gastroenterology, nephrology, neurology, cardiology, infectious diseases, dermatology, rheumatology, general surgery and medicine.

The best in modern facilities accommodate inpatients, outpatients, and day-only patients.

Mater Adult Hospital's general surgery is complemented by recognised surgical expertise in women's health, orthopaedics, urology, ophthalmology, vascular surgery, oral/faciomaxillary, surgical dermatology and ear, nose, and throat.

The hospital prides itself on the fact that its services are delivered as a 'continuum of care', through inpatient systems, outpatient clinics, and community outreach services.

Mater Adult Hospital has a reputation for initiating leading medical research and innovative programs to improve patient care management.

It is a lead hospital in the National Demonstration Hospitals Program and its pioneering work in post acute early discharge programs has been introduced in hospitals across Queensland and nationally.

Mater Mothers' Hospital

Mater Mothers' Hospital is one of the largest and busiest maternity facilities in Australia

The 126-bed facility provides care for mothers and babies during antenatal, labour, birth and postnatal periods.

Mater Mothers' Hospital is a tertiary referral hospital for women and newborn infants from South-East Queensland, northern NSW, and the Pacific region – more than 4,800 women experience childbirth at the hospital every year.

Care is provided through innovative midwifery programs and the hospital caters for severe complications in pregnancy, as well as newborn disorders. Its New Life Centre birthing facilities are unique, housing the neonatal intensive care needs of the hospital on a single floor. The Birthing Suites and Intensive and Special Care nurseries are located seconds away from operating theatres and emergency services.

Many women require high-risk specialist care through the Mater Centre for Maternal Fetal Medicine, which is at the forefront in the development of innovative techniques such as ultrasound via telemedicine, first trimester ultrasound screening, and laser therapy.

Mater Mothers' is also home to the Queensland Cord Blood Bank, which collects blood from babies of various ethnic and indigenous origins for research into a life-saving treatment for cancer.

Above: Mater Mothers' Hospital midwife, Caren Bennetts with her mother Megan who is a midwife in the Mater Mothers' Private Hospital pictured with some of Mater's newest arrivals. Photo courtesy of The Courier-Mail.

Mater Mothers' Private Hospital

The Mater Mothers' Private Hospital is an 84-bed hospital providing care for mothers and babies during antenatal, labour, birth and postnatal periods.

The hospital was established to provide for the maternity and neonatal care needs of privately insured expectant mothers and their families throughout Queensland.

Mater Mothers' Private Hospital assists in the birth of more than 3,000 babies each year.

The hospital offers a comprehensive pre-admission service, including streamlined bookings and admissions, antenatal education programs, and gentle exercise in pregnancy classes designed and conducted by physiotherapists.

One-to-one personal birth suite care is provided with midwives supporting the woman's individual birthing plan. All rooms and facilities are designed to provide comfort and privacy.

While in hospital, women also have access to allied health specialists, parenting education services, as well as pharmacy, hairdressing, and chaplaincy services.

The majority of Mater Mothers' Private Hospital midwives are internationally qualified lactation consultants who can help mothers maximise breast feeding success and make informed choices about feeding options.

Mater Private Hospital Brisbane

The largest of Mater Health Services' private facilities, Mater Private Hospital Brisbane is a flagship for the level of care and facilities the organisation strives to provide.

Mater Private Hospital Brisbane is a tertiary, acute facility built on a foundation of clinical excellence and a commitment to safe, compassionate care that is quality focused, technologically advanced, and customised to patient needs and lifestyles.

With a total of 323 patient beds, 10 operating theatres, a 24-hour private emergency service, comprehensive ICU facilities, a new CardioVascular Unit, short and long-term ventilation, haemodynamic monitoring, metabolic monitoring and dialysis, Mater Private Hospital Brisbane is an outstanding health care provider.

All rooms and facilities are designed to offer comfort and privacy.

While in hospital, patients also have access to allied health specialists such as dieticians and physiotherapists, as well as pharmacy, hairdressing, and chaplaincy services.





Mater Children's Private Hospital

With the expertise of leading Queensland surgeons and nursing staff, Mater Children's Private Hospital has earned a reputation for providing the best of hospital care for the next generation.

Ranging from children with cancer, asthma, and diabetes, tonsillitis, through to children suffering from sporting injuries and bouts of chicken pox, staff and doctors at the Mater Children's Private Hospital see more than 3,000 patients each year.

The hospital offers 26 inpatient beds in 20 private rooms and a six-bed 'high observation' area for acute care patients. Mater Children's Private Hospital also includes 15 day surgery beds.

Accommodation and recreational facilities are bright, family oriented, and live up to their claim of changing childhood memories of hospital forever.





Highlights

Success story

Mater Private Hospitals Brisbane and Redland were named the Press Ganey Success Story in 2006.

The prestigious award recognises dedication to quality service.

Mater's win followed a review and assessment process undertaken by the hospitals and the subsequent implementation of new service initiatives.

Celebrating 75 years of paediatric care

Mater Children's Hospital celebrated its 75th birthday during the year on 6 July. The celebrations signified an important day in Mater's history, when the Sisters of Mercy opened the first children's public hospital south of the Brisbane River. In a year of milestones, the Mater Children's Hospital paediatric intensive care unit also celebrated its 25th birthday on 17 November.

Happy 30th Birthday

The Mater Mothers' Hospital neonatology unit celebrated its 30th Birthday on 21 December. The unit has cared for approximately 39,000 babies in its three decades including some of Australia's smallest surviving babies and it continues to provide the best in neonatal care through its state-of-the-art facilities and exceptional clinical and nursing staff.

Mater Private Hospital Redland

Mater Private Hospital Redland was established in September 2000 as an extension of the mission of the Sisters of Mercy to provide the highest quality health care services for the people of the Bayside region.

With a growing community in the Bayside districts, Mater Private Hospital Redland offers patients exceptional care close to their families and friends.

The four-level main hospital building incorporates patient wards, operating theatres, a day procedure unit, chapel, kitchens, reception area and utility rooms. This is combined with a single-level building housing a specialist medical centre, radiology, and pathology services.

Building on Mater's reputation for clinical excellence, Mater Private Hospital Redland provides a range of specialised surgical and medical services to support the needs of the Redland community.

With visiting specialists and highly trained nursing staff dedicated to exceptional care, the hospital is capable of providing clinical outcomes among the best in the world across a variety of specialty areas.

Mater Clinical Support Services

Mater's large and diverse group of clinical services are supported by a range of administrative and allied health departments, which include:

Pathology – providing public and private laboratory services, community based collection centres, and external phlebotomy training.

Pharmacy Services – providing hospital and community based clinical pharmacy and dispensing services, production, externally focused education and information services through a national medicines contact centre and a developing practice research portfolio.

Clinical Safety and Quality Unit (CSQU) – providing integrated clinical risk management and quality improvement including claims management, legal counsel, infection control, care path, Trendcare and policy co-ordination, and patient advocacy.

Research Support Centre – providing support and advice to research activities across Mater; implementing and coordinating epidemiological and clinical studies for Mater researchers.

Centre for General Practice – providing linkages with general practice and community services.

Learning is a life long activity, but you can stop and celebrate certain milestones along the way. A celebration of achievement, your graduation is reward and recognition of years of study and scrutiny as to if you will make the grade.

It marks the completion of study, and the beginning of learning, as the real test is still ahead of you. What can you do with your skills and knowledge? How can you use them to make your mark on the world?



Since the establishment of the first formal training school for nurses in 1912, Mater has been a provider of training in leading edge health care, and it remains a major focus for us today.

We value *our collaboration* with universities, research organisations, industries and government and continue to foster an environment of continued learning and improvement, to ensure we provide health care that is second to none.



Celebrating our collaboration

Mater Health Services has a long history of working together with other like-minded organisations to ensure high quality and accessible health care services are delivered to the community.

Mater and UQ renew partnership

Mater and The University of Queensland renewed their special research partnership in August 2006, when Professor John Hay, Vice-Chancellor of The University of Queensland and Dr John O'Donnell, CEO Mater Health Services signed a Memorandum of Understanding and Strategic Alliance.

The university and Mater acknowledged through the memorandum the continuation of their relationship, which began in 1948 when Mater was appointed by the Government in Council as a 'training school in medicine'.

The memorandum marks the continuation of a teaching, clinical service and research alliance which has been in place for 57 years; as well as in the centenary year recognising Mater as a key provider of tertiary clinical education, research and clinical services delivery.

The first meeting of the newly created Mater – University of Queensland Liaison Committee occurred in October 2006 reaffirming Mater and The University of Queensland's commitment as leading providers of health education and vocational training in Brisbane.

A committee of Mater and The University of Queensland representatives will review the alliance in five years.

Mater and ACU partner to improve Student Nurse Education

Mater Private Hospital has partnered with the Australian Catholic University (ACU) to develop and implement an innovative clinical practice model that is now being heralded as a perfect preparation for Registered Nurses entering the acute workforce.

Known as the ACU/MP3 Model, the model is now set to be implemented in several Brisbane private and public hospitals in 2007.

The key difference to previous clinical practice models is that students are fully integrated into the ward team and undertake all their clinical practice, with the exception of mental health, at the Mater Private Hospital until their graduation. They follow all Mater Private protocols as if they were employed staff.

The students work all shifts, including weekends and night duty, after being given the opportunity to discuss their preferred shift options with the relevant Nurse Manager.

A Clinical Facilitator, who works a variety of shifts, is employed on site as a support for the students.

Students are also offered employment as Assistants in Nursing outside their clinical placement responsibilities.

The evaluation of the clinical practice model has revealed many benefits. The model promotes a learning environment where the students are viewed as future colleagues, rather than a burden and students have also felt that their learning needs were personalised and better addressed.



Above: Prof John McAuliffe Chairman Mater Health Services Board, Prof John Hay Vice Chancellor UQ, Prof Elizabeth Davies UQ, Dr John O'Donnell Mater CEO, Prof Peter Brooks Executive Dean Faculty of Health Sciences UQ and Prof Ken Donald Head of School of Medicine UQ.

Mater Private's Director of Nursing, Associate Professor Pat Snowden says the model is giving students a challenging but rewarding entrée to what a career in nursing is really about.

"In recent years many new graduates have left the profession often due to their unreal expectations of nursing as a career," Associate Professor Snowden explains.

"With this clinical practice model we are better preparing the student for work after graduation," she says.

Working towards safer communities

Each year in Queensland, approximately 175,000 people are injured, which equates to 480 people each day. Many more feel unsafe and at risk within their own community.

Advocating injury prevention and a culture of safety, the Queensland Injury Surveillance Unit (QISU) and Queensland Safe Communities Support Centre (QSCSC) are both located and supported by Mater Health Services.

QISU collects injury data from 16 hospitals across Queensland on behalf of Queensland Health while Safe Communities is a World Health Organisation supported program that assists communities to address injury and risk at a local level.

The QISU data is a rich local source of information which can be used to profile a community's injury pattern and provide baseline injury data and post intervention analysis.

While QISU has been collecting data for 20 years, the QSCSC was established in 2005 and throughout 2006 has continued to partner with organisations throughout Queensland to realise their Safe Communities potential.

According to the Manager of the QSCSC, Dawn Spinks, the Safe Communities model recognises that communities are best placed to develop and implement local solutions for local injury risks.

"The reality is we are all partners in our own safety and risk management. The aim of the QSCSC is to identify potential partners in safety who can help communities improve their well being and prevent injuries."

"We all want to know that when we leave our families to go to work, we will return safely and that our families are safe at home," Ms Spinks said.

Highlights

Marketing healthy partnerships

In October the Mater Marketing Department was awarded an Australian Marketing Institute National Award for Excellence. The department's 'Healthy Partnerships' program tackled the challenging issue of integrating innovative products and services, at both a clinical and business level.

Ronald McDonald refreshed

A \$2.5 million refurbishment of Mater's Ronald McDonald House, unveiled in May, has doubled the number of families the house can accommodate. 18 families at a time can now take refuge at the house as their 'home away from home' while their child receives care at the Mater Children's Hospital. Funds for the redevelopment were raised through activities such as McHappy Day, the Ronald McDonald House Charities Queensland Ball, and generous donations by McDonald's customers and licensees.

Education excellence

In October the Mater Hospital Special School was announced as a State Finalist in the Queensland University of Technology Showcase Award for Excellence in Leadership. The school's innovative approach to education in a health care setting won it plaudits from the competition's judges. The award winning initiative, 'Blackboards and Band-aids', featured an original suite of programs to help the wider community support children with health related issues.

Campus-wide research projects

Because Mater recognises the value of research as an integral part of quality health care, every year in clinical departments throughout Mater's seven hospitals exciting new research projects are taking place. Mater's commitment to research spans the areas of basic science, health services, preventative and clinical medicine, and population health research.

Currently, 191 Mater researchers and 268 Mater research projects are registered on the Mater Research Register. In 2006, 96 new projects were undertaken by Mater researchers, indicating a growth of more than 40%.

In the past two years, Mater researchers have published more than 200 articles in peer reviewed journals, with just under half of these being published in the top 20% of journals by discipline.

Projects are underway in the following disciplines:

- Obstetrics and Midwifery (including Fetal diagnosis and therapy; Fetal growth; Stillbirth prevention)

- Neonatology and Neonatal nursing (including neonatal infection; respiratory function in ventilated infants; preterm infant feeding)

- Paediatrics (including long-term outcomes for high risk newborn; endocrinology and diabetes; respiratory function; and cancer)

- Child and Youth Mental Health (including international collaboration in child abuse interventions trials)

- Adult Cancer (including breast and prostate cancer; multiple myeloma)

- Nursing (Mater's Nursing Research Centre undertakes and supervises an increasing amount of high quality research studies in collaboration with nurses across clinical areas).

A thinking hospital

In an Australian health sector first, Mater has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with IBM Australia and Intel Corporation to collaborate on the implementation of a number of Smart Hospital technologies, which will ultimately lead to safer and more efficient delivery of health care services.

"We recognise that the road for hospital patients can be very bumpy, so a cornerstone of our Smart Hospital strategy is to use technology to significantly improve that experience," Mater Health Services Chief Information Officer Malcolm Thatcher explains.

"We also aim to adopt innovative technologies to strengthen clinical practice, thereby improving patient outcomes," he says.

As part of the collaboration IBM will coordinate visits by Mater delegates to IBM facilities around the world, providing access to its industry-leading technology and expertise and aligning the two organisations' research teams. IBM will give Mater access to its health care and life sciences tools such as Discovery Link and Genomic Modelling and provide resources to support joint initiatives. The company will also brief Mater delegates on the latest advances in health care and life sciences technology.

An important provision of the MOU allows new members to join the Smart Hospital Consortium if they will contribute positively to its overall vision.



Mater Medical Research Institute

The Mater Medical Research Institute (MMRI) is a state-of-the-art research facility at the forefront of medical discovery.

Two key projects that have enjoyed significant breakthroughs in 2006 are MMRI's prostate cancer vaccine and its breast cancer research.

In February 2006 MMRI began a phase 1 clinical trial of its treatment for prostate cancer. The 12 month trial, which involves 12 patients, uses commercial antibodies in a two step procedure. It involves extracting the patient's dendritic cells (specialised white blood cells responsible for controlling the body's immune response), and essentially 'training' them in the laboratory to identify cancerous matter and instruct T-cells to destroy it.

Simultaneously, MMRI scientists are working on an additional prostate cancer trial, made possible by a \$1.3 million grant from the US Army. The grant is funding a clinical trial using a similar immunotherapy vaccine, but in this trial a novel monoclonal antibody is implemented in a single step procedure.

The results of both trials will be finalised in early 2008.

Meanwhile, a novel technique being developed at the Institute is enabling its researchers to find proteins critical to breast cancer immunotherapy more quickly, testing up to 2,000 genes in a matter of weeks.

Lead researcher on the breast cancer project, Dr Kristen Radford said using this faster screening technique to find new immunotherapy targets meant a treatment for the disease could be available sooner.

"Immunotherapy for breast cancer relies on identifying cancer-specific proteins but very few of these proteins have been identified because it can take many years to test just one protein," Dr Radford said.

"We have a library of 2,000 breast cancer genes ready to screen simultaneously once our technique is refined and we have reason to be hopeful that some of these show great promise as immunotherapy targets."

MMRI will use new proteins they discover to develop a dendritic cell vaccine for breast cancer.



Paul Roots, Plantation Homes (far left) and Paul Cochrane, Delfin Lend Lease (far right) present the deed for the land for the Mater House for Life to Mater Foundation Executive Director Nigel Harris (middle) at the launch of the Mater Mothers' Hospital capital campaign.

Mater Foundation

The Mater of today stands as a testament to the generosity and support of the Queensland community during the past 100 years. In 2006, Mater's centenary year, this support showed no sign of diminishing, with record results achieved by the Mater Foundation, the philanthropic and community arm of Mater.

During the financial year 2005/2006, the Foundation achieved its largest ever net result – \$6.9 million for Mater Health Services and MMRI. The result included several extremely significant gestures of support including a \$1.4 million gift to purchase equipment for the Mater Children's Hospital and a pledge of \$1.5 million to the new Mater Mothers' Hospital by Plantation Homes and Delfin Springfield Lakes.

Other highlights of the fundraising calendar included the Mater Little Miracles Easter Appeal, many other Mater Little Miracles fundraising activities, and continued growth in the Lotteries department, including the addition of a new lottery.

While this fundraising success is very welcome, the Foundation's success is ultimately measured by the impact funds raised have on Mater patients and on research. In 2006, Mater Foundation funded more than 300 projects – from home care for children with cancer, to equipment for the care of premature babies, to palliative care research – that enhanced Mater's ability to deliver exceptional care, and MMRI's ability to deliver exceptional research.

A significant new program for 2006 is the Foundation's Mission Fund. This fund provides assistance to Mater patients who are suffering financial hardship as a result of a medical condition. The relatively small amounts distributed to families through the fund have made an incredible impact and demonstrated just how important a resource of this kind can be.

Another highlight of 2006 was the launch of MMRI's first clinical trial into a potential vaccine for prostate cancer. In 2003, a donation from the Siganto family gave this vital research its start. Since then, Mater Foundation has continued fundraising to propel this research to its current exciting stage. Generating further support for this research will be a key project for Mater Foundation in 2007.

During 2006, Mater Foundation was also privileged to collaborate with the Mater Marketing Department and Mission Services, in the delivery of a year-long calendar of celebrations to mark the Mater's Centenary year.

The end of 2006 also marked the retirement of Frank Clair, Mater Foundation Chairman for the last six years, and the appointment of Phil Hennessy as the Foundation's new Chairman.

It's your 21st birthday. The celebration that marks your official passage into adulthood. You've lived so much already, yet somehow it seems like it's all just beginning.

Helping you celebrate are those who are most important to you. Friends. Family. Loved ones. You owe a lot to these people. They've helped shape the person you are, and will become.



Mater has been shaped by *our people.* Exceptional people, who provide exceptional care. People who love what they do and know that they make a real difference to the lives of others every day.

Celebrating our people

Generations of dedicated men and women have played an integral role in Mater's 100 year history. Beginning with Mater's founders, the Sisters of Mercy, Mater people have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to delivering a core set of Mission and values, which put simply is to provide compassionate care to the sick and needy.

In 2006, Mater staff and volunteers continued to follow in the footsteps of the Sisters of Mercy – the pioneering spirit and innovative thinking that makes Mater so unique.

Thank you to all of Mater's unsung heroes, the staff and volunteers, who made 2006 a truly exceptional year.

"I hope the next 100 years are as successful as the last, and excellence in clinical care and financial performance can allow us to continue with our Mission, that is providing care to those who may otherwise not be able to receive it." Dr Peter Cook,
Critical Care Services



"What I enjoy most about the Mater Private Hospital Redland is being a member of a great team that strives to make a difference to the lives and stay of our patients. I have always felt valued as a Mater employee." Cheryl McWilliams,
Education Co-ordinator.





Yin Kong, Eustinah McFadyen, Simon McDonald and Irina Cuneo Tirado celebrating International Nurses Day at Mater Private Hospital. Courtesy of The Courier-Mail, picture by Darren England.

Recognising excellence

Every day Mater staff and volunteers touch the lives of many people, whether it's through our exceptional medical care, providing information and support over the phone or simply helping a person find their way around the vast Mater campus.

In 2006 the 'Mater Touch' program was introduced to recognise staff members and volunteers who have received written appreciation from patients, clients, visitors, and the general public for their work. Those acknowledged are presented with a Mater Touch Certificate and if the same person is acknowledged on multiple occasions, they are awarded a Mater Touch badge.

Staff members have responded well to the program with a large number already receiving a badge. Sandra Warden, a Urology Practice Nurse at Mater Private Hospital was the first staff member to achieve a Mater Touch badge and was very excited to be acknowledged through the program.

Warm welcome

An aptly titled 'Welcome Program' developed by Mater Private Hospital in 2006 was awarded second place in the prestigious Private Hospital Association of Queensland and HESTA Super Fund Innovation Practice in the Private Sector Awards.

The program has introduced an innovative approach to engaging new staff members and aligning them with existing staff to make for a happier, more productive workplace.

The initiative takes new staff members through a week-long introduction to Mater's heritage, Mission, Values, and business goals. As part of the program, new staff members are given the opportunity to meet and interact one-on-one with staff specialists, executive members, allied health professionals, and other co-workers. There is also an opportunity for existing staff members to take part in the sessions to help them re-align with Mater's Mission and Values.

The Innovation Practice in the Private Sector Awards are held annually and were established to recognise outstanding innovation in the private hospital sector, as well as provide a platform where new initiatives can be shared amongst industry colleagues.



“It makes me proud to work at the Mater because there’s such a feeling of community – there’s a real bond between the staff, and there’s always someone around if you need help or support.”
Jennifer Ralph, Administration.

“Working in Mater’s Maternal Fetal Medicine Unit means a high level of professional satisfaction. As sonographers, we not only get to scan a lot of high risk and tertiary pregnancies, but also get to follow them up and know their outcomes. We also get to work with some of the best doctors in their field, I have learnt so much since working here.”
Sinh Le, Sonographer.



“I love working at the Mater. Each staff member has the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others, whether by a kind word, a smile or an action. That is quite powerful.”
Barbara A. Kennedy,
Terrace and Functions Supervisor.

“Throughout the development of my career I have always been encouraged to strive for greatness, to achieve the best outcomes for our patients and their families. Now in my new role I am able to continue the culture of support that I have always received whilst working at the Mater and give back to a place that has given me so much.”
Judi Gonzalez, Support Coordinator.



Exceptional education

The pursuit of new skills and ongoing professional development is now recognised as a key element in maintaining job satisfaction. At Mater this recognition was given extra impetus in 2006 through a number of new initiatives developed by the Mater Education Centre.

The Mater Education Centre is a nationally recognised education centre and remains the only hospital-based education facility of its kind in Queensland that is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) offering nationally accredited courses.

Providing a wide variety of clinical and non-clinical courses free-of-charge for all staff, the Mater Education Centre delivers courses to suit a range of disciplines.

Kaye Blackburn, Director of Learning & Development at the Centre, says programs at the Mater Education Centre are tailored to suit the needs of health workers, such as the Midwifery Refresher Program. This program was specifically designed to bring midwives back into the profession, both in the public and private sectors.

"This is a collaborative program, run in conjunction with the Australian Catholic University, and it provides midwives with the unique opportunity to update their knowledge, skills, and confidence so that they can return to midwifery practice," Ms Blackburn explains.

Other new courses conducted at the Mater Education Centre in 2006 include:

A nationally accredited Certificate 3 Course for Nutrition Assistants

An Advanced Nursing Praxis Program (Clinical Transition Program at MPH) which is deemed credit worthy for one subject towards Graduate Certificate of Clinical Nursing at Australian Catholic University (ACU)

A Clinical Leadership Program – 101 nursing staff completed the program. The program was deemed credit worthy for one subject towards Masters of Nursing Leadership/Management or Midwifery at ACU

An Acute Care Program (Graduate Nurse program at MAH) which is deemed credit worthy for two subjects towards Graduate Certificate of Clinical Nursing at the Australian Catholic University

An Advanced Praxis Program. Participants are awarded one subject of credit toward Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing at ACU.

In 2006 the Mater Education Centre was named one of three finalists for the Queensland Training Awards and it was successful in attracting significant funding from the Australian College for Rural and Remote Medicine for the placement of interns and junior doctors at various rural Queensland general practices.



"Working at the Mater is about the people. The people that you work with, that give support and inspiration. They let you laugh and cry with them. It's often what makes you keep coming back. It's the people that make this place great."
Patricia Barfield, Midwife.

Highlights

Special service

This year Mater Health Services scooped up three awards at the inaugural Hospitality in Healthcare Awards for Industry Excellence. From an impressive 12 nominations, Mater was awarded first place in the Food Service category (Galina Glybovithc), the Support Services Officer category (Carol Moore), and the Orderly Services category (Warren George).

National recognition

Sister Eileen Pollard rsm was presented with the Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division for services to nursing, nursing education and to the community as a fundraiser for cancer research.

Mater's woman of peace

On 8 March, to celebrate International Women's Day, the Office for Women named Phuong Nguyen a Woman of Peace at a special ceremony in the Queen St Mall. Phuong is Mater's only full-time interpreter and liaison officer for Vietnamese patients and their families. When she's not working, Phuong volunteers her time to a number of community-based organisations and is a strong advocate for Vietnamese people living in Brisbane.

Record employment

In 2006 Mater Health Records forged a successful partnership with the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations through the 'Work for the Dole' scheme. 13 'Work for the Dole' participants were recruited to join the Health Records team for three months to assist with the huge task of sequencing warehouse files. The project led to a nomination for the Prime Minister's Work for the Dole Achievement Awards.



“Some years ago I was a patient here and experienced the tender care and kindness so willingly given by the nuns, doctors and nurses. I am now very privileged to be a Mater Volunteer.”
Jean Brooks, Mater Volunteer.

Helping hand

In 2006 Mater Volunteers spent more than 61,000 hours assisting patients, visitors, and staff across the Mater complex.

Through a number of innovative programs, Mater Volunteers have continued to play a vital role in the hospitals by contributing their time and energy to helping people.

During the year, two new volunteer services were introduced in the Mater Private Hospitals where volunteers were given access into the operating theatres to provide companionship to patients and a new support role was also implemented to provide assistance to patients staying in the wards.

Mater's successful Patient Buddy Program, established in 2004, also grew significantly in 2006. The program sees volunteers provide organised and supervised play activities for children in hospital. This year the program's volunteer-base grew from 52 to 80 volunteers, delivering buddies to more than 8,000 sick children.

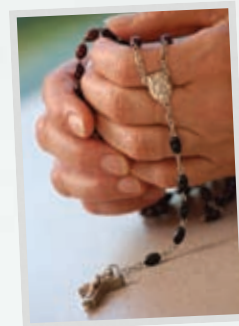
Mater Volunteer Services can now boast the largest Animal Assisted Therapy Program in Australia, with 14 teams (pet and owner) visiting the wards each week, providing a welcome distraction to patients and their families.

Ben Temby-Nichols, Manager of Volunteer Services couldn't be prouder of the achievements made by the 520-strong contingent of Mater volunteers in 2006.

“Our volunteers are dedicated people who contribute to our organisation in a number of different ways, they are truly exceptional,” he says.

Marriage. It's possibly the most important celebration of your life. It certainly comes with the most fanfare.

But for all its ceremony, a wedding is all about a simple promise, a commitment that will guide two people for the rest of their life together.



Mater is guided by our dedication to *our mission* and core values of Mercy, Dignity, Care, Commitment and Quality. This commitment will ensure that we will continue to provide exceptional care and compassion to all, in the enduring spirit of the Sisters of Mercy.



Celebrating our mission

There are numerous examples of Mater reaching out to the community in times of need. The Sisters of Mercy themselves became known as the 'walking nuns' for their pioneering spirit of actively seeking to support individuals and families in the community who were disadvantaged by health or social circumstances.

In 2006 Mater continued its tradition of providing 'Mission' driven health care.

Reaching out internationally

Although a not-for-profit organisation, Mater is very privileged to be able to easily access basic medical supplies, such as linen, beds and medical equipment. There are many other Mercy organisations throughout the world that do not have access to such supplies. This year, Mater was able to donate essential medical supplies to the following organisations:

Mater Hospital in Kenya

In March, Mater received a request for medical equipment and supplies from the Mater Hospital in Nairobi Kenya, which relies heavily on donations from around the world.

The Mater Hospital in Nairobi was founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1962 to provide both public and private medical care for the sick and needy in Kenya.

Mater partnered with shipping company DHL to transport a large container of donated items such as beds, linen, medical equipment and other general supplies.

Vanuatu

Mater Pharmacy Services donated a tablet counter machine to the Ministry of Health in the Republic of Vanuatu after receiving a request from past Mater employee Amanda Sanburg.

Through this donation, Mater has been able to make a significant difference to pharmacy services in Vanuatu.

Wewak, Papua New Guinea

For 50 years, the Sisters of Mercy have been providing health care services in the Sepik areas of Papua New Guinea.

This year, Mater received an urgent request for donation of items from the Sisters for their hospital located in Wewak. Mater quickly responded and organised with TOLL International to send another container full of linen and medical supplies to our closest neighbour.

The container of supplies will help improve the provision of health care in Wewak and Aitape which would have otherwise been unachievable.



Above: Mater staff load a container of supplies bound for Wewak.

Training doctors

In 1998, Mater established an exchange program for specialists in women's health with its sister hospital in China, the Zhejiang University Women's Hospital. Each year, Mater accepts two clinicians from this hospital, who come to work and learn in the area of Neonatology, Maternal Fetal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Mater Mothers' Hospital.

Earlier this year, Mater partnered with Holy Spirit Northside Hospital and the Princess Alexandra Hospital to extend this program to include Cardiology, Neurology, Radiography, Orthopaedics, and Cancer Services. The visiting doctors worked between the three hospitals to develop their skills in these speciality areas.

Since its establishment, this program has become very successful, as it gives the guest clinicians a wonderful opportunity to observe our techniques first hand with the intention of implementing them in their own hospital when they return home. For Mater clinicians, it is also a great opportunity to appreciate diversity of practise and working in a cross-cultural environment.

Highlights

Honouring Mater's heritage

In 2006 Mater established the Archives and Heritage Centre Advisory Committee. Ms Jackie Chamberlin has been appointed as a part-time Archivist to assist Sr Josephine Crawford rsm in the Mater Archives and Heritage Centre.

International relationships

Building on strong relationships with international hospitals, Mater hosted a delegation of six doctors from Dr Kariadi Hospital in Semarang Central Java. In addition, Mater hosted an inaugural delegation of 15 medical and surgical doctors from Zhejiang province and a Mater delegation went to Zhejiang University Women's Hospital.

Helping families

Mater is dedicated to supporting families while their loved ones are in hospital. In 2006, Mater established emergency overnight accommodation for families of patients.



Above: Mercy Award winners pictured from the left, Vanda Lupi (representing Mater Volunteers), Deirdre Cook, Peter Hill, Tracey Duke (representing Mater Respite Centre) and Vicki Adams.

2006 Mercy Awards

On Thursday 28 September the annual Mercy Awards were held to recognise exceptional individuals, and hospital departments and units who perform 'over and above' the expectations of their job, to deliver a standard of service that reflects Mater Health Services' Mission and Values.

At this year's ceremony, 47 nominations from across the complex were honoured for their contribution to the organisation during the past year.

The 2006 winner of the 'Mater Living Treasure Award' was the Mater Volunteers department. The Mater Volunteers kindly donate their time and skills daily to deliver services across the entire Mater hospital complex. They provide both direct and indirect support to patients, relatives and staff. More than 450 volunteers contribute over 55,000 hours to the Mater each year. Volunteers work in approximately 40 different roles in over 90 different areas and departments across the Mater hospitals. They are true living treasures in the Mater community.

This year's 'Clinical Award' was won by Occupational Therapist Deirdre Cooke. In her role as Occupational Therapist and Rehabilitation Co-ordinator for the Mater Private Hospital Rehabilitation Unit, Deirdre is responsible for ensuring that each patient's rehabilitation needs are individually catered for. She is proactive in gathering feedback from patients to improve treatment programs. As part of her PhD, Deirdre has also successfully developed

and launched an assessment tool for perceptual screening of stroke patients. Her expertise is also sought internationally.

The 2006 'Support Services Award' was awarded to Vicki Adams from Mater's Multi Media Services. Vicki is the hospital's official photographer and her job requires her to be not only professional but compassionate in photographing children and patients with various conditions. Vicki has a vast knowledge of photography and is always learning new techniques to advance her skills.

A new award was introduced in this year's ceremony; the 'Team Award'. This award highlights the exceptional contribution of the many staff teams that work within the wards and departments of Mater.

The staff at the Mater Respite Centre were named the inaugural winners of this award. Staff at the Respite Centre care for patients with the highest level of professionalism – they live the Mater values and demonstrate great pride in their work through the delivery of exceptional service. They are all well-versed in caring for the disabled and the elderly and do so with great compassion and understanding. The centre also actively involves carers and loved ones wherever possible, as well as any necessary external help to care for the patient.

The work of all finalists and recipients reflects the spirit of mercy, as they each provide kindness, compassion and hope to the Mater community.

Respite for refugees

Refugees often have complex health needs that require immediate and specialist attention.

Mater recently employed Refugee Community Worker Jenny Ryan to offer a more focussed service to Brisbane's growing refugee community.

Brisbane's refugee community is growing steadily. Under the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs' Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Scheme, the city has committed to accepting 1,200 humanitarian refugees a year.

As Mater Executive Director of Mission and Leadership Peter Hill explains, of the 1,200 people arriving, approximately 75 per cent are from east and west Africa and represent very new communities to Queensland,

with new and complex health care needs not usually encountered by health care workers in Australia.

"As well as these new communities, there are also more established communities in Brisbane which require specialist support, such as a large population of Sudanese who bring their own cultural, settlement and health issues," Peter says.

Jenny is a welcome new member to the Mater Mothers' Hospital Social Work Department and the Queensland Integrated Refugee Community Health (QIRCH) Clinic. Her role will offer coordination, advisory, liaison, education and mentoring services relating to the African refugee community, as well as specific projects.





Above: Mater staff members, Greg Benic and Kerry Grant with Sister Josephine Crawford rsm at the morning tea in the Mater Convent.

A Centenary of Mercy

Thousands of representatives from the Mater community helped celebrate Mercy Week this year from 24 – 30 September.

The week was filled with celebratory activities including a staff barbeque, a special morning tea for the Sisters of Mercy hosted by Mater Pathology, a Mercy Mass held in the Mater Convent Chapel, and an Open Day held at the Archives and Heritage Centre.

The highlight of the Mercy Week calendar for many staff and volunteers was the opportunity to attend the final morning tea in the Mater Convent hosted by the Sisters of Mercy. The Sisters of Mercy provided tea and scones as staff enjoyed meeting the Sisters and listening to their stories.

Mission in action

The Mater's Mission of providing health care to the sick and needy is still as relevant today as it was 100 years ago despite medical, political and social change that ensures individuals have access to fundamental medical care.

The Mater Foundation Mission Fund was established in 2006 to help meet the needs of Mater patients and/or families of patients in areas directly associated with patient care and treatment, plus assist Mission projects stewarded by Mater Health Services.

Thanks to this new initiative Mater Health Services was able to assist a patient with terminal cancer return home to New Zealand to be with family.

The patient, a Samoan lady, who moved from New Zealand to Australia a few years ago was hospitalised at the Mater Adult Hospital in April 2006 with T-cell Lymphoma. After spending more than seven months in hospital after

a series of complications, the patient was becoming very frail and was not able to eat well or continue therapy.

However, when the patient's sister flew over from New Zealand to visit, the patient's spirits lifted instantly and began eating the meals her sister culturally prepared for her. During this visit, the patient became very keen to return to her homeland.

The cost of a nurse to care for her during the flight home and the airfares for both her and her young daughter made this trip impossible for the family to afford. But with the support of the hospital staff, the assistance of the Mission Fund and also the Leukaemia Foundation, this patients' wish became a reality. She arrived home safely on 17 November 2006, much to the delight of the patient and her family and friends.

The news that you're about to become a parent is a celebration that is initially yours alone. It's a celebration that's a mixture of joy, nervousness, excitement, apprehension and fear as you realise that your life is about to change forever.

Life has come full circle, you're now starting a family of your own and your future suddenly becomes clearer than you've ever seen it before.

As we look beyond 2007, as a provider of the highest quality health care services is also clear.

our future

With the construction of a new Mater Mothers' Hospital and the announcement of a single children's hospital for Queensland, we confirm our commitment to deliver exceptional health care and to remain a community of compassion.



Celebrating our future

Time doesn't stand still and neither does life at Mater Health Services. Two of Mater's seven hospitals are currently undergoing significant redevelopment.

In February 2004 the State Government joined forces with Mater to begin building a new Mater Mothers' Hospital (public and private) and to undertake an extensive refurbishment of the Mater Adult Hospital (MAH).

Due for completion in March 2008, the redevelopment project will cost a total of \$187.8 million.



The next generation of maternity care

Currently the busiest obstetric facility in Australia, the Mater Mothers' Public and Private Hospitals have delivered more than 260,000 babies since their doors opened in December 1960. The hospitals have become an integral part of Queensland's heritage and one in six Queenslanders are now born at the Mater Mothers'.

So, it is with this powerful legacy behind it that Mater prepares to enter the next phase in its maternity services history.

In March 2006, Premier Peter Beattie and the Health Minister, The Honorable Mr Stephen Robertson, MP turned the sod at the entry way of the new Mater Mothers' Hospital, signifying the start of the redevelopment project.

Set to open in March 2008, the new Mater Mothers' Hospital will be a much larger facility than the existing Mothers' Hospital. Standing eight storeys high, it will be equipped with 88 public and 90 private maternity beds, with all rooms having access to external views and natural light with baby bathing facilities and ensuites attached, along with five larger single rooms to meet special needs including disability access.



Architect's impression of the new Mater Mothers' Hospital

The new Mater Mothers' will provide integrated services for women including, Tertiary Obstetrics, Tertiary Gynaecology, Tertiary Neonatal Services, Maternal Fetal Medicine, Obstetric Medicine, Perinatal Outreach Education and Midwifery Practice.

An expanded Neonatology Unit will provide 71 cot spaces, including 25 Intensive Care cots, 12 High Dependency cots and 34 Special Care cots, making it the biggest neonatology unit in the Southern Hemisphere.

In addition, the hospital will run a new Pregnancy Assessment and Observation Unit, which will be collocated within the Birthing Suite. Managed by Mater midwives, this unit will enable women with concerns relating to their pregnancy to be reviewed in a setting that is comfortable and inviting. Patients will also have the ability to access the support of obstetric, medical, and allied health professionals as required.

The new Mater Mothers' Hospital will be located in closer proximity to the Mater Adult Hospital Critical Care Units, ensuring speedy transfer of critically ill patients.

Atkinson Project Management Pty Ltd is working as Project Manager, with Abigroup Pty Ltd selected as the builder on both the redevelopment project and the refurbishment. Bligh Voller Nield are the chosen architects for the project.

Facelift for Mater Adult Hospital

An extensive refurbishment of the Mater Adult Hospital will make way for Mater to significantly grow the services it delivers to public patients.

Upon completion of the project, Mater Adult Hospital will deliver new and improved services in a broad range of clinical specialities, with a particular emphasis on gynaecology and gynae-oncology services, medical oncology, and chemotherapy care.



An extension on level 3 of the hospital will make way for new outpatient clinics and a medical record storage facility, while work on the hospital's Emergency Department will increase its short-stay capacity by eight beds.

Inpatient wards on levels 7, 8 and 9 of the hospital are being reinvigorated. A completed expansion of the Day Unit, and Intensive Care, and Coronary Care services has delivered seven additional intensive/coronary care beds. An additional 56 inpatient and day unit beds will be available at the completion of the project.

A complete refit of all operating theatres is underway with the building of two new operating theatres, two procedural theatres, two endoscopy suites at the Mater Adult Hospital and an additional theatre at the Mater Children's Hospital.

The hospital's kitchen area and staff cafeteria facilities are also receiving a makeover.

The pedestrian bridge that links Mater Adult Hospital with Mater Private Hospital is also currently being replaced, due for completion in April 2007.

A new state of the art expanded helipad on the roof of the Mater Adult Hospital has also been included in the project. The facility will cater for the 300 helicopter retrievals the Mater receives each year.

Single children's hospital for Queensland

By 2014, a single purpose-built Queensland Children's Hospital will provide for the state's paediatric health care needs and it will be located at Mater's South Brisbane campus.

In August, Premier Peter Beattie announced his Government's decision to build the single facility.

This decision followed a comprehensive review of paediatric cardiac services in Queensland, which found there was fragmentation of paediatric tertiary services, staff shortages, and inefficiencies that the development of a purpose-built single facility will help to overcome.

Mater Health Services CEO Dr John O'Donnell commended the Government's decision to build the single facility.

"The Mater Health Services Board and staff are very supportive of a single children's hospital and we are delighted to be working with the government to develop the very best paediatric health care service for the children of Queensland," Dr O'Donnell said.

"The new children's hospital also offers a number of opportunities to fill areas of needs that in the past have been limited such as developing adolescent health care services and paediatric research.

"It is a very exciting process and, in conjunction with the government, we are looking forward to shaping this new hospital into the most advanced children's hospital in Australia," he said.

The first step in this process is the amalgamation of paediatric cardiac services from the Prince Charles Hospital to the Mater Children's Hospital by early 2008.

New look Mater logo

For more than a century, Mater Health Services has been an icon of compassion and mercy throughout Queensland and Australia. Over that time, Mater has earned its place in the hearts of many people and has become a much loved part of the community.

It is the depth of feeling for and about Mater which has prompted us to implement a new logo that better represents what people feel when they think about Mater. After a great deal of consultation, we have developed a logo which helps to tell the story of our exceptional organisation, our heritage and our commitment to the future.

For many organisations, their logo is purely a means of identifying their products in a crowded marketplace. But Mater's logo is more than just a stamp on a piece of paper or a business card. It is more than just a glib saying to increase sales.

The Mater Cross symbolises our unique heritage, the commitment of the Sisters of Mercy and the desire to follow the example of Christ the healer. Emphasising our Irish origin, the Mater Cross is derived from the Celtic Cross which is featured on the crest of the Order of Mercy. The Latin inscription Pro Deo et Humanitate on the scroll of the cross reminds us that everything we do, we do 'For God and Humanity'.

Rooted in ochre, the position of the cross highlights Mater's foundation in Brisbane and the organisation's respectful links with the traditional keepers of the land.

The word 'Mater' identifies the organisation and engenders the values it has come to represent within the medical and general communities. Mater is the shortened version of 'Mater Misericordiae' which literally translated means Mother of Mercy. Today, we take this to mean building a community of compassion.

The upward curling line denotes our vision for the future; a positive onward and upward trend to improve the quality of health care and to meet unmet needs.

Underpinning the story through the Mater logo is a statement of aspiration and intent. 'Exceptional People. Exceptional Care'. acknowledging the commitment of our founders to build an organisation on a values-driven culture which attracts quality people to conduct outstanding work for the benefit of the community.

As we move forward into the next century, our logo will stand as a symbol of Mater's commitment to delivering exceptional care.

Our logo is an emblem
for what we believe
as an organisation.

It is a direct tangible link
to our heritage.

And perhaps most importantly,
it is a symbol of hope
to those in need.



Mater Board



Mater Health Services Board of Directors are a diverse and experienced group of business professionals who bring strong leadership and direction to the organisation. Through their wealth of knowledge and expertise, each member plays an essential role to ensure Mater fulfils its Mission and continues to be a leader in health care.

*Professor John McAuliffe
LFAPI, FAIB, Chartered
Builder, ACTCB
Chairman*

John is Chairman of the Board, the Planning and Strategy Committee and the Patient Outcomes Committee. He is a member of the Finance Committee, the Research Support Committee and the Audit/Compliance Committee.

He is Chairman of the Brisbane Housing Company, President of Multicap and a current divisional councillor of the Institute in Queensland.

John was a past president of the Australian Property Institute and was Regional General Manager of the Commonwealth Department of Administrative Services.

He has held the positions of Director and Chairman since May 2001.

*Mr Brian Flannery
BE (mining)
Deputy Chair*

Brian is Deputy Chairman of the Board, Chairman of the Finance Committee, and a member of the Planning and Strategy Committee and the Research Support Committee.

He has 30 years experience in the construction and mining sectors and is currently the Managing Director of Felix Resources Ltd.

He has held the position of Director since July 2001.

*Sr Anne O'Farrell rsm
B Music (Ed), Dip Theol,
M Ed. Admin BA, FTCL
Director*

Sr Anne is a member of the Mission and Ethics Committee and the Employment Relations Committee.

She has a background in the management of major educational institutions, including 10 years as principal of All Hallows School. Current roles include the Minister's appointment to and deputy chair of the Funding Eligibility for Non State Schools Committee and member of Stewardship Board of Catholic Health Australia and member of CHA Education Committee.

She has held the position of Director since July 2001.

*Professor Elizabeth Davies
RN, B.Sc, Dip Ap Sc (N
Ed.) M Ed. PhD, FRCNA
Director*

Elizabeth is Chairperson of the Research Support Committee and Member of the Patient Outcomes Committee.

She is the foundation Professor and Head of the School of Nursing at The University of Queensland and has more than 30 years of nursing experience. She has worked in tertiary nurse education since 1990 and sits on the Queensland Nursing Tribunal and the Anit-Cancer Council of Queensland.

Elizabeth has held the position of Director since July 2001.

*Ms Elizabeth McDade
T Dip Com, T Cert, B Ed
St, M Acc
Director*

Elizabeth is a member of the Finance Committee and Chairperson of the Audit and Compliance Committee.

She has been a Director of QUT International College since 2001 and is a teacher, administrator, and business manager. Between 1970 and 1997, she held lecturing and co-ordinating positions with QUT Faculty of Business (and its predecessor institutions). From 1997 to 2000 she was the faculty's Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Elizabeth has held the position of Director since August 2002.



*Mr Peter Pearce
FAICD
Director*

Peter Pearce is the General Manager Direction and Development with Spiritus, the care services arm of the Anglican Church in Brisbane. Peter is responsible for corporate planning; risk management, compliance assurance, quality and improvement; business development, research and policy, and strategic asset management.

Prior to joining Spiritus Peter held executive and senior management positions in the energy industry, state and local government, politics and the health industry. He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a Member of the Australasian Institute of Risk Management.

He has held the position of Director since November 2003.

*Mr John Reynolds
B.Sc (Hons) B.Bus Dip Ed.
FAIM
Director*

John is Chairperson of the Employment Relations Committee. He has in excess of 30 years experience with management at the CEO level in Top 100 companies both nationally and internationally. He is currently Chairman of Arrow Energy, Queensland Cotton and Sunnybank Paper as well as being a Director of the Bank of Queensland and Brisbane Powerhouse Pty Ltd. John is an Adjunct Professor at Bond University, a visiting fellow at Queensland University of Technology and a strategic advisor to University of Southern Queensland. He is a corporate advisor to a number of companies and sits on the board of the Brisbane Institute and Queensland Private Enterprise Council.

He has held the position of Director since July 2004.

*Sr Mary Tinney rsm
B.A., Dip Teaching. M.
Bus. M. ED
(Religious Studies)
Director*

Sr Mary is a member of the Mission and Ethics Committee and the Planning and Strategy Committee.

From 1968 until 1985 she was involved in secondary school education as a teacher, deputy principal, principal and religious education co-ordinator.

Sr Mary has served as a member of the Congregation Leadership Team of the Sisters of Mercy Brisbane Congregation, and as the Vice President of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of Australia, and is the instigator and director of a community based program Earth Link and its establishment at Four Winds, Ocean View.

She has held the position of Director since September 2005.

*Professor Russell Walker
Strong AC, CMG, RFD
BDS, MBBS, MRCS, LRCP,
FRACS, FRCS, FRACS,
FACS, HON FRCS (ED)
Director*

Russell is a member of the Patient Outcomes Committee.

A professor of surgery, he has had a distinguished career as a medical practitioner and surgeon in Australia and the United Kingdom. He was Director of Surgery at Princess Alexandra Hospital from 1980 until 2003 and was a Professor of Surgery with The University of Queensland from 1992 until 2003.

Russell established the first liver transplant program in Australia and performed a number of ground-breaking liver related surgeries. He has trained more than 75 surgeons in hepatobiliary and liver transplant surgery.

He has held the position since January 2006.

*Mr Laurence Rogencamp
BA., LL.B., GAICD
Company Secretary*

Laurence is a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Queensland, having been admitted in 1987. He has practised principally in the corporate and commercial areas of law. He is a Board Member of Mater Misericordiae Hospital Townsville Ltd and Chairman of Villa Maria Aged Care Services Advisory Board. He is a Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

He has held the position of Company Secretary since July 2001.

Mater leaders



Mater's Executive team is made up of 11 leaders who bring innovation, experience, and foresight to the workings of our exceptional hospital group. They each play a key role in navigating this unique health care provider's path to excellence in everything it does.

*John O'Donnell
Chief Executive Officer*

John was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Mater Health Services in November 2001.

A medical graduate of the University of Adelaide, he has been managing public and private hospitals since 1984. Since becoming CEO of Mater Health Services, John has been instrumental in achieving a harmonious balance between Mater's public and private arms. He has steered Mater onto a course of innovation in health care, whilst ensuring that its core values remain inherent in every service it delivers.

*Peter Hill
Executive Director of
Mission and Leadership*

Peter Hill commenced his role as Mater's Executive Director of Mission and Leadership in 2005.

He is responsible for integrating the Mater Mission across the Mater campuses and ultimately, building a 'Mater culture' which is aligned with the tradition and values of the organisation.

His hope is that Mater will continue to offer a community of compassion well in to the next century where care is offered without discrimination in ways that are relevant to our changing community.

*Caroline Hudson
Executive Director
– People and Learning*

Stepping into a newly-created role at Mater in 2005, Caroline is instrumental in the effective management of Mater's 6,000 plus staff members.

Caroline brings with her a keen passion and significant experience in building sustainable businesses through people. Since joining Mater she has begun looking at how to meet the challenges the Mater faces as a complex business and employer in a fast changing, highly competitive global market.

*Julie Hudson
Executive Director
Clinical Support
Services*

Julie has been the Mater's Executive Director Clinical Support Services for the past four years. She had previously held the position of Director of Medical Services at Mater Private Hospital.

As Executive Director Clinical Support Services she is responsible for clinical safety and quality, including clinical risk management, pharmacy services, pathology services, hotel services, research support and medical staff governance, across the Mater.

*Ieuan Hyde
Chief Marketing Officer*

Ieuan was appointed as the Chief Marketing Officer in 2006 and he believes that the strength of the Mater brand and the organisation's commitment to its values is a crucial part of its differentiation in the marketplace.

He recognises the necessity to delineate between public and private hospital markets whilst maximising brand value and his team's efforts in this area were recognised nationally this year. In October the Mater Marketing Department was awarded an Australian Marketing Institute National Award for Excellence.



*Debra Moen
Director of Nursing and
Midwifery Services*

In January 2006 Debra was called upon to fill the role of Director of Nursing and Midwifery Services at Mater Adult, Women's and Children's Health Services which soon became a permanent appointment in March.

A key focus since beginning her new role has been lifting the profile of the nursing division both internally and externally, and supporting the Nursing Directors in their roles. Debra has also been building closer links with educational facilities, both universities and vocational education providers.

*Don Murray
Executive Director –
Mater Private Hospital
(Brisbane & Redland)*

Since 2002, Don has developed and grown the Mater Private's services significantly. Through his effective management style, he instils a culture of patient focussed, outcomes driven service delivery while promoting an ethos centred on holistic health care.

This year has been one of particular note for the Mater Private Hospital, with the official opening of the new Mater CardioVascular Unit, expanded Endoscopy Unit and new Conference Centre.

*Patricia Snowden
Director of Nursing –
Mater Private Hospital*

Patricia is an Associate Professor of Nursing, who has spent the past 25 years working in hospital management and leadership roles. Appointed Director of Nursing, Mater Private Hospital in 1997, Patricia is deeply committed to Mater's mission and values.

Under her leadership, Patricia forged a partnership between Mater Private Hospital and the Australian Catholic University, to introduce a new model of clinical practice for nursing students, which has proven very successful.

*Mal Thatcher
Chief Information
Officer*

Mal joined the Mater team as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) in 2004. His role involves strategic stewardship of the Mater's IT resources, with a focus on delivering high quality, value based information technology services across campus.

Since his arrival, Mal has overseen significant upgrades of Mater's various IT systems and this year his sector achieved a major coup – the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with IBM, Intel and Cisco that will see Mater collaborate with these technology giants on a range of Smart Hospital strategies.

*Christopher Townend
Chief Financial Officer*

Chris has been managing Mater's financial functions in the role of Chief Finance Officer since 2001. He is an MBA qualified, commercially astute senior finance executive who has significant experience working in a range of business sectors, including retail, transport, local government, and telecommunications.

Chris' strong people skills and in-depth Information Technology experience have brought significant benefits to the operation of Mater's finance department.

*Mark Waters
Executive Director –
Mater Adult, Women's and
Children's Health Services*

Initially joining the Mater as Director of Medical Services, Mark was called upon to fill the role of Executive Director, Mater Adult, Women's and Children's Health Services, which became his permanent position in August 2006.

Mark brings to the role more than 25 years of clinical and management experience. Since his appointment, he has been instrumental in planning for the new Queensland Children's Hospital and the Queensland Paediatric Cardiac Service at Mater Children's Hospital.



The Mater Story 1906 – 2006



1831 Irish woman Catherine McAuley founded the Sisters of Mercy – a group of ‘walking nuns’ dedicated to the care of the sick and needy

10 May 1861 The first Sisters of Mercy arrived in Brisbane – then a rough, sparsely populated colonial town

1893 The Sisters of Mercy secured the site at South Brisbane now known as ‘Mater Hill,’ at a cost of £7,000, with a view to building a hospital in the future

1903 William Naughton, a grazier from Gin Gin, donated £500 to the Sisters to establish their own hospital

4 Jan 1906

A private house, named ‘Aubigny’, in North Quay, Brisbane, was converted into a 20-bed private hospital. In its first year, the hospital treated 141 patients

24 May 1908 Cardinal Moran of Sydney laid the Foundation Stone for the Mater Private Hospital at South Brisbane, at a ceremony attended by 12,000 people. The resulting 50 bed hospital still stands on the top of Mater Hill



Aug 1910

Mater Private Hospital at South Brisbane, named Aubigny Place after the first hospital at North Quay, is blessed by Cardinal Moran and opened by Queensland Governor, Sir William MacGregor

Feb 1911

The new 40 bed Mater Public Hospital opened, supported by fundraising and the proceeds generated by the Mater Private Hospital



July 1912 Mater’s public outpatients’ department opened, treating 1,440 people in its first six months

1912 To ensure an adequate supply of nurses with appropriate qualifications, the Mater Public Hospital established a formal training school for lay nurses



July 1931

- 1914 Sisters of Mercy nurses were trained separately at the Mater Private Hospital
- 1919 Queensland's first hospital laboratory was established at the Mater
- 1920 The Labor Government announced that the Mater Public will receive part proceeds from the government's Golden Casket Art Union on the same basis as other public hospitals
- 1925/1926 A new chapel and convent building was attached to the western end of the Mater Private Hospital
- 1928 Mater Public Hospital installed Queensland's first deep X-ray therapy machine to treat cancer patients. In 1930, the new unit treated 94 cancer patients by radiation therapy and a further 122 by deep X-ray

The 80 bed Mater Children's Hospital, named after Mother Patrick Potter, opened

- 1938 Brisbane Lawyer, John P Kelly, was appointed as Chairman of the newly established Mater Medical Board

- 1940's During the acute phase of World War II, a blood transfusion service was established at the Mater Children's Hospital, a first for Brisbane. Blood collected at the Mater was flown to New Guinea that same night and administered to the wounded



May 1948

- 1948 Mater Mothers' Hospital Foundation Stone was blessed by Cardinal Spellman of New York and Archbishop Duhig of Brisbane

- 1949 Mater was recognised as a teaching hospital for doctors and becomes a clinical school for The University of Queensland's new Faculty of Medicine

- 1954 Queensland's first Neurological Department was established at the Mater, and eastern Australia's first 'Eye Bank' also opened at the Mater

- 1954 Queensland's first real estate art union, Mater Prize Home, was established

- Dec 1960 Mater Mothers' Hospital, accommodating 140 mothers, officially opened

Feb 1961

- 1961 Mater Mothers' Hospital welcomed its first babies. A further 2,996 babies were born in the hospital's first year of operation

- 1961 First intake of midwifery students

- 1967 John Cuskelly makes history by being the first baby in Queensland to receive three blood transfusions in utero. John and his mother were Rh incompatible (when a baby's Rhesus positive blood conflicts with the mother's negative blood)

- 1968 Teaching research unit built for Mater Mothers' Hospital



1975

Health Minister, Sir Llewellyn Edwards, announced \$18M in government funding to rebuild the Mater Adult Public Hospital

1976 Mater's Intensive and Special Care Nurseries opened

1977 First retrieval in Queensland using former Queensland Premier, Sir Joh Bjelke-Peterson's plane. A baby, Brad Treadwell was retrieved from Charleville weighing just 1100 grams

April 1978 The Neonatal Emergency Transport Service, NETS, was formally inaugurated when twins were transported from Toowoomba

1978 The Multidisciplinary Growth & Development Clinic opened. The Clinic evaluates the progress of infants born weighing less than 1,500 grams and babies whose lives depended on a respirator

1979 Reg Leonard House, an accommodation facility for regional and rural patients and their families, opened

1981 New Mater Adult Public Hospital opened

1981 The Mater Children's Hospital Development Clinic opened, to care for children with long term developmental problems

Oct 1981

Mother Theresa visited the Mater

1982 John P Kelly Research Foundation was established

1985 Mater Hospitals appointed official hospital for World Expo 88

1986 Mater commenced provision of social and medical services for HIV/AIDS patients

1987 Queensland's first paediatric sleep unit was established at Mater Children's Hospital

1987 The Mater Health Services Governing Board, empowered to develop policy and make decisions for the hospitals, replaced the Advisory Board. In response to the changing roles of the Sisters, and to develop succession planning, the first lay Chief Executive Officer, Mr Pat McGuire, was appointed

1988 The Queensland Radium Institute at the Mater was built

1988 Plans for a new Mater Private Hospital were announced

April 1989 Mater Hospitals' Trust (now called the Mater Foundation) launched to raise community support to fund research projects, capital works and medical and research equipment

Sept 1989 Mater Private Priority Emergency Centre opened, the first in any QLD private hospital

1990 Ronald McDonald House opened

1991 Mater Mothers' Hospital New Life Centre, comprising new operating theatres, labour wards, a birthing centre and new special care nurseries, opened





- 1992 A day care oncology centre for radiation therapy and chemotherapy opened in the old Mater Public Adult Hospital
- 1992 The redevelopment of the Mater Mothers' Private Hospital was completed
- 1992 The Mater came under pressure to move the Mater Children's Hospital to the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital at Mt Gravatt and the Sisters successfully fought to keep the Children's Hospital with the rest of the Mater family at South Brisbane
- 1993 The new Mater Private Hospital and Medical Centre officially opened
- 1995 Mater Mothers' Centre for Maternal Fetal Medicine was established, providing care for women and their babies before birth

1996

Queensland Cord Blood Bank was established at the Mater

- 1996 Cecilia McNally leaves a bequest of \$1.3 million to the Mater Children's Hospital
- 1998 Australia's first private paediatric facility, the Mater Children's Private Hospital, opened
- 1998 Paediatric Epilepsy Centre at the Mater opened and the Queensland Diabetes Centre at the Mater opened

1998

President of Ireland, Mary McAleese visited the Mater Hospitals



- 1999 Mater Medical Research Institute was opened by His Excellency, Sir William Deane, Governor-General of Australia
- 1999 Mater Children's Hospital became the transplant centre for Queensland, for adolescent and child renal transplants
- 1999 Australia's first structured Pets As Therapy Scheme (now called Animal Assisted Therapy) was launched at Mater
- 2000 Mater Private Hospital – Redland blessed by the Most Reverend John Bathersby, DD, Archbishop of Brisbane and officially opened by His Excellency Major-General Peter Arnison, AC, Governor of Queensland

July 2001 The Mater was formally incorporated as the Mater Misericordiae Health Services Brisbane, one of the last Catholic hospitals in Australia to be incorporated



2001 A new Mater Children's Hospital and Mater Children's Private Hospital was built in Stanley Street, South Brisbane and blessed by the Most Reverend John Bathersby, DD, Archbishop of Brisbane and officially opened by His Excellency Major-General Peter Amison, AC, Governor of Queensland

2001 Mater's Mucin research team discovered the MUC13 gene, important to colo-rectal cancer, which gained international recognition

2002 Australia's first in-utero surgery to correct Twin to Twin transfusion syndrome was performed at the Mater. To date, the Mater Mothers' Hospital has performed more than 50 Twin to Twin laser procedures (in utero) from patients throughout Australia including Tasmania, Victoria, NSW, Darwin and in NZ

2002 Sister Angela Mary Doyle visited Master Cheng Yen of the Tzu Chi Buddhist Compassion Relief Foundation. By 2002 Tzu Chi had donated \$1.2 million to the Mater

2002 Professor Brian Hills announced a new asthma treatment, with the potential to revolutionise asthma management

2002 The Queensland Integrated Refugee Community Health (QIRCH) Clinic, then the only clinic of its kind in Australia, opened at the Mater in conjunction with refugee advocacy groups



2003 Mater Private Hospital commissioned its ninth operating theatre. The theatre, which is the only one of its kind in Australia, is equipped with video technology that allows surgeons to watch operations performed by visiting international specialists. It also enables teleconference links to any teleconferencing venue in the world

2003 Queensland Premier, Peter Beattie, launched the Mater Prostate Cancer Research Centre, thanks to a \$1M donation by Brisbane businessman, Bill Siganto

2003 A mobile health service for homeless and indigenous people in South Brisbane, MOSH-PIT – (the Mobile Outreach Service for Health Provided by Integrated Teams) – was launched by Mater in conjunction with other service providers

2004 Mater Private Rehabilitation Unit was opened

2004 Mater Health Services announced its intention to build a new Mater Mothers' Hospital to provide for the maternity services required for Queensland's growing population. The Mater Adult Hospital will also be extensively refurbished



2004 The 250,000th baby, Thomas Gray, was delivered at the Mater Mothers' Hospital

2005 The Taiwan Takechi Foundation pledges \$1 million to the new Mater Mothers' Hospital



In memory

Sister Mary Colette Anderson R.S.M

01/12/1923 – 10/08/2006

Born Eileen Anderson, Sister Mary Colette Anderson R.S.M joined the Sisters of Mercy in 1948 after completing her three year training as a nurse at Mater. After entering the Congregation at All Hallows' and completing her Novitiate, Sr Colette returned to Mater in 1950.

She was appointed to the Mater Children's Hospital (MCH), where for the next 20 years she worked predominantly in the operating theatres. In 1971, she became Deputy Matron to Sister Mary Dorothea and for the following seven years she was the Clinical Teacher in the wards. Whatever her main duty, she always found time to be supportive of the staff and of new ventures, such as the expansion of the School, and the establishment of the Reg Leonard Accommodation Units.

In 1978, Sr Colette retired from nursing, but continued to work at the MCH in Pastoral Care. In this role, she was a pillar of strength for the nursing staff. Her knowledge and

experience, and her gentleness and understanding were a tremendous comfort to children, parents, and staff alike.

After eight years in Pastoral Care, Sr Colette resigned from the hospital to take care of the aged and sick Sisters in the Convent, which she did for 11 years, until she returned to live at the Mary Damian Cottage in Nudgee.

During her time at Mater she gave affection generously – the children in particular loved her and she loved them. She formed many friendships, which she treasured and maintained throughout her life. Those who knew her best will remember her for her dignity, integrity, and her beautiful simplicity. She was also known for her great sense of humour, her beautiful embroidery and crochet, as well as her legendary jams and fruit cake.

Sr Colette was a true Daughter of Catherine McAuley and she lived the advice of our Lord "Love one another, as I have loved you."

Dr John Ferguson

12/04/1927 – 25/11/2006

Dr John Ferguson was an extremely dedicated and well respected Physician both in Brisbane and overseas.

In his early medical career, Dr Ferguson was the Medical Registrar at the Gloucester Royal Hospital in the United Kingdom (1957-58) before being appointed the House Physician at the Hammersmith Postgraduate Hospital in London. He then became the Registrar in nervous studies at the Maida Vale Hospital, also based in London.

He returned to Brisbane in 1960 where he was assigned the role as Honorary Clinical Assistant Physician at the Mater Adult Hospital, as well as being appointed the Physician Repatriation at Greenslopes Hospital, and physician at the Military Hospital in Yeronga.

Dr Ferguson was elected the Medical Representative on the Advisory Board for the Mater Public Hospital, Honorary Medical Staff Association in 1963. A year later he became the Honorary Junior Physician at the Mater Mothers' Hospital.

In 1966 Dr Ferguson was appointed the Honorary Assistant Physician Mater Adult Hospital and Honorary Physician

for the Diabetic Clinic at the same hospital. He held this position for eight years, until 1974. However, during this time he was deployed to the Vietnam War for a period of three months between March and June in 1971.

In 1974, Dr Ferguson was a Visiting Obstetric Physician at the Mater Mothers' Hospital. He retired from this role two years later. During this time he was also a Junior Visiting Physician at the Mater Adult Hospital and then a Visiting Physician, a position he held until his retirement in 1980.

Dr Ferguson returned to Mater for two years (2000 to 2002) as a casual Visiting Medical Officer for the Division of Medicine.

For 25 years, Dr John Ferguson was a much loved Physician at the Mater. His smile was his distinctive characteristic, and his happy nature endeared him to staff and patients. His recent ill health did not diminish his good humour or his willingness to be available when needed. He will be remembered as an outstanding professional, a gracious gentleman, one who served and loved the Mater well.

Dr Peter James Landy OBE

30/04/1928 – 15/07/2006

Dr Peter Landy was Queensland's first neurophysician when he returned to Brisbane in 1954. Earlier Dr Arthur Meehan, a Mater senior orthopaedic surgeon, had convinced the Mater Hospital Board to establish a neurological department, well ahead of any such move by the State Health Department.

Dr Landy had undergone distinguished training with Lord Russell Brain at the Maidavale Hospital in London. He commenced neurology at the Mater Public Hospital in 1954 and was joined by Dr Geoff Toakley, neurosurgeon, in 1955.

He had earlier graduated in 1946 from The University of Queensland, having been educated at Nudgee. After graduating, he then became a resident at Mater from 1947 to 1949.

During his years at the Mater he was a notable teacher of

medical registrars, preparing them for their examinations. He retired from the Mater after 20 years of service in 1974.

Dr Landy went on to be a member of the Council of the Queensland Branch of the Australian Medical Association for six years and President from 1980 to 1981. He was also on the State Committee of the Royal Australian College of Physicians from 1974 to 1976. As a result of his contributions to medicine he was awarded national honours with an Order of the British Empire. He was working as a neurologist until his death.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-two years, Cecily and four sons, two of whom, Peter and Mark are medical specialists.

Dr Peter Landy was a quiet, understated neurologist who made a number of significant contributions to Queensland's medical community and served the Mater for 20 years.

Professor Brian Hills

19/03/1934 – 13/01/2006

Professor Brian Hills was the head of the Golden Casket Paediatric Research Laboratory at the Mater Medical Research Institute for 10 years, where he made a series of groundbreaking discoveries about the role of surfactant in the body.

An engineering graduate from Cambridge, Prof Hills turned his interests to biology after he became fascinated with the problem of bubbles for deep sea divers. He spent many years in Australia and then the US studying the behaviour of gases in the body leading to decompression sickness, or 'the bends'.

He discovered that bubbles formed throughout the body during decompression were coated by surfactant, which was similar to industrial surfactants. As surfactant had previously been thought to occur only in the lung, his engineering background prompted him to question the reason for surfactant elsewhere in the body.

A few years after returning to Australia in 1986, at the University of New England in New South Wales, he collaborated with Dr Brent Masters, who was then based at the Mater Children's Hospital. Together they demonstrated differences in lung surfactant between

healthy infants and those who experienced prolonged apnoeic (pause in breathing) episodes.

Prof Hills joined the Mater team in 1994 as head of the Golden Casket-funded Paediatric Research Laboratory. His discovery that infants who had died of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) had abnormal lung surfactant had potential as a test at birth for SIDS risk.

He also discovered that asthmatics suffer from a deficiency in a coating of surfactant that protects nerve endings in the airways from common asthma triggers. A clinical trial showed that surfactant inhaled as a dry powder replenishes the protective coating of surfactant in asthmatics. The same powder has also proved equally effective as grommets in treating 'glue ear' in children.

Regarding surfactant as the body's natural lubricant, Prof Hills saw the potential for surfactant as a treatment for many more health conditions, such as osteoarthritis and post-operative surgical adhesions.

Prof Hills was happiest when in the laboratory, extolling the virtues of surfactant. He will be remembered by his colleagues for his endless knowledge and passion for his research.

Art Wentland

28/06/1935 – 02/08/2006

For 17 years, Art Wentland was a dedicated member of the Mater Community and his gentle manner touched the lives of his co-workers and volunteers. Art worked in Mater's Haematology Lab for 14 years and after he retired three years ago, it only took him a couple of weeks to come back – he immediately became a volunteer.

Art was an extremely committed volunteer, helping out in Medical Records, Pathology, Haematology, Audiology, and Paediatric Radiology three to four days a week and he is credited with single-handedly sorting out the archives in the Haematology lab.

He is also famous for the 'runaway trolley' incident, which many staff may be aware of. Sometime ago, Art was pushing an empty trolley down the hill in Raymond Terrace

when it got away from him. In an effort to stop the trolley from running into traffic on Stanley Street and possibly causing a major accident, Art threw himself on the trolley and veered across Raymond Terrace into the taxi rank! For many weeks after this incident, Art endured the questions and good natured teasing from staff and volunteers alike.

Art led an amazing life and had a true spirit of adventure. It was this sense of adventure and positive attitude to life that endeared Art to many. He gave his whole self to every task, took great pride in his work and shared his achievements with those around him. Those who knew him best would describe Art as unique, one of a kind, caring, meticulous, charming, funny, a great story teller, kind, interesting and a true gentlemen.

Dr Morgan Windsor

20/11/1916 – 15/09/2006

Dr Morgan Francis Windsor was born on 20 November 1916 in Toowoomba. He grew up in Brisbane attending St Josephs College Gregory Terrace and then completing his senior year at Nudgee College. He undertook an Arts degree at The University of Queensland and subsequently went on to graduate from the Sydney University with a Bachelor of Medicine and a Bachelor of Surgery in 1941. He was awarded a full blue from the university for selection in the combined universities team in Rugby Union.

In 1943, after the start of World War II, Dr Windsor joined the Australian Imperial Forces as a surgeon and was deployed to New Guinea, Morotai, Borneo, and Japan.

After serving in the army for three years and completing his Masters in Surgery in Sydney, he travelled to England to undergo fellowship training at the Brompton Chest Hospital in London where he spent two years from 1946 to 1948. It was also during this time he became a member of the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons (F.R.A.C.S). He trained in thoracic surgery under the formidable Price –Thomas, travelling with him to Sweden to observe the first coarctation repairs which they subsequently performed in the U.K.

In 1949, Dr Windsor returned to Australia to work at the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne with C.J. Officer Brown. He then moved back to Brisbane in 1951 and was appointed

the Honorary Thoracic Surgeon for the Mater Public and Children's Hospitals. He was appointed Thoracic Surgeon to the Royal Brisbane Hospital and Royal Children's Hospitals and soon established the thoracic surgical unit at the newly built Prince Charles Hospital where surgery for tuberculosis was the focus. He performed many operations on neonates for the previously fatal tracheo-oesophageal fistula and diaphragmatic hernia. His results in these operations are the equal of anything achieved today.

His career at Mater spanned more than 30 years until he retired in 1983. However, this was not the end of his association with the Mater, as he returned in 1985 to become a Clinical Tutor in Surgery that incorporated Princess Alexandra Hospital as well. He held this position until 1993.

During his distinguished medical career, Dr Windsor was awarded the Queens Medal, he was made a Member of the British Empire, given the Australia Medal and a Doctorate of Surgery (Honoris Casusa) from The University of Queensland. He was also a member of the Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.

He was married to Annette (deceased) for 48 years. They had three children and four grandchildren.

Dr Windsor's dedication to the Mater and the rest of the medical community will long be remembered.



Exceptional People. Exceptional Care.

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