

Newsfeed No. 55

February 2024



New video celebrates cultural connection and rich history of site

During 2023, Prince of Wales Hospital's Acute Services Building (ASB) forecourt became home to a significant piece of Aboriginal history.

A collection of 8,000-year-old hearth stones, symbols of welcoming, healing and shared knowledge, were returned to site as part of a carefully and respectfully curated display, honouring the land's cultural heritage.

One of two sets of hearth stones discovered during excavations on site in the 1990s and more recently in 2019, the stones represent one of the most important excavations in NSW Health history.

The Randwick Campus Redevelopment (RCR) project team worked closely with the La Perouse

Local Aboriginal Land Council and Gujaga Foundation to return the artefacts, which stand as testament to the thousands of generations of Aboriginal people who lived in the area, specifically the Bidiagal people of the Dharawal Nation.

The hearth stones were dehydrated for almost a year in a deep freeze to assist their preservation, and are now protected under a reinforced glass dome, ensuring their longevity.

The display is designed as a space for reflection and engagement, and tells the story of the stones' traditional use, as well as featuring local Aboriginal language.

Watch the video to learn more about the significance of the hearth stones from La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council CEO, Chris Ingrey, and Prince of Wales Hospital General Manager, Jennie Barry.



SCAN HERE to view the RCR playlist on YouTube, featuring videos highlighting the ASB arts projects and much more!

In case you missed it...

Be sure to check out our [Community Update 2024](#), which celebrates progress to date and includes a sneak peek of upcoming milestones for each of the Randwick Campus Redevelopment projects.



Also in this edition:

- ✓ Stroke research set to scale up
- ✓ Inside the future SCH1/MCCCC building
- ✓ Spotlight on new children's cancer centre
- ✓ Planning supports enhanced patient care
- ✓ Out and about with the project team
- ✓ The Future of Healthcare event recap

For more information:



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UNSW stroke and telehealth research set to scale up in new space

In 2024, UNSW will open research space focused on stroke and telehealth research alongside clinical units within the Prince of Wales Hospital Acute Services Building (ASB).

In the integrated eastern extension of the ASB which will open from mid-2024, UNSW will house state-of-the-art research, clinical innovation, biomedical teaching and research facilities, across 10 floors and approximately 5,000 square metres.

On Level 8 of the extension, UNSW will offer a range of education and research activities aligned to Clinical Neurosciences and Acute Stroke units, as well as a future laboratory.



Professor Ken Butcher

UNSW Professor Ken Butcher's stroke and telehealth research program will be one activity benefitting from the new space, as they scale up work in neurosciences, stroke and stroke imaging.

Researchers will be able to access a hyperfine low-field MRI and students will learn and collaborate.

Being attached to the Clinical Neurosciences and Acute stroke floor of the ASB means that researchers can closely assess and discuss clinical research and interventions more efficiently - benefiting patient's health outcomes.

"By co-locating our research program alongside the hospital's Clinical Neurosciences and Acute Stroke units, we'll be able to work together to enhance care. We will embed data collection, monitoring and analysis in an acute clinical environment," Professor Butcher said.

"Together, we'll develop new models of care and our clinicians can deliver better outcomes for patients by harnessing cutting edge technology like the hyperfine MRI. Even more excitingly, we will amplify our findings and deliver better outcomes for patients, irrespective of location, through the NSW Telestroke Service."

Ken is also Medical Director of NSW Telestroke Service and Director Clinical Neuroscience at UNSW's School of Clinical Medicine. His research as part of a \$21.7 million NSW Telestroke Service has made a huge difference for more than 3,000 patients who suffered a stroke in rural and regional NSW.

The NSW Telestroke Service partners with 23 rural and regional hospitals by bringing expert medical care more quickly to people who suffer strokes. It provides 24/7 access to life-saving stroke diagnosis and treatment, connecting patients and local doctors with a network of specialist stroke physicians via video consultation, managed by Prince of Wales Hospital.

In the ASB, students will continue to develop Artificial Intelligence algorithms designed to automatically quantify brain imaging changes in Telestroke patients, which in turn can be used to guide clinical decision making for regional stroke patients.

Pictured: Artificial Intelligence based automated measurement of a haemorrhagic stroke seen on brain CT scan.



Inside the future SCH1/MCCCC...

The new Sydney Children's Hospital Stage 1 and Minderoo Children's Comprehensive Cancer Centre (SCH1/MCCCC) building now towers over the Randwick Hospitals Campus and is quickly approaching full height!

Suspended slabs are now complete up to Level 8 and works have commenced on Level 9. If you've passed the construction site in recent weeks, you may have noticed the commencement of the colourful exterior façade panel installation. Staged works for the future link bridges between the new building, the existing hospital and Acute Services Building have also started.

In this edition of Newsfeed, we're taking a closer look at the remaining MCCCC levels. You can check out [previous editions](#) for information about what will be housed on lower levels of the building...

Level 4:

This floor is dedicated entirely to the MCCCC, bringing clinicians and researchers together in one space to accelerate innovation and support bench-to-bedside treatment.

Within Level 4, staff and students will have access to laboratories, workspaces and a communal room called 'The Heart' – a dedicated kitchen/common area for the MCCCC, including an outdoor terrace.

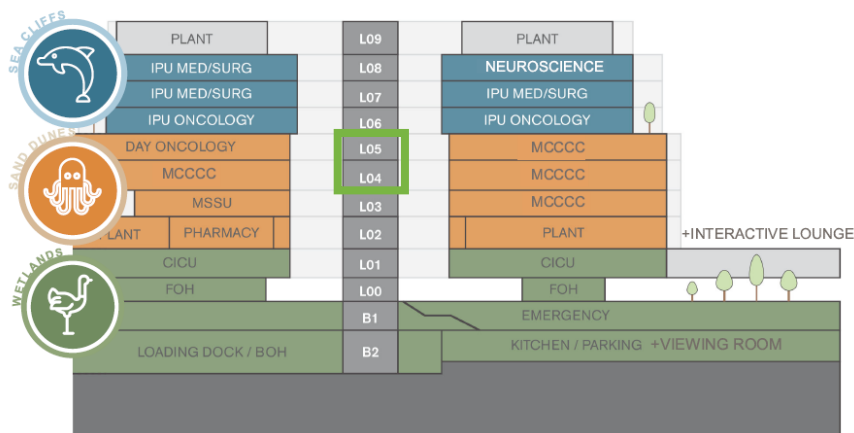
A direct connection to the MCCCC workspace in the Health Translation Hub will also be available via a link bridge from this level.

Level 5:

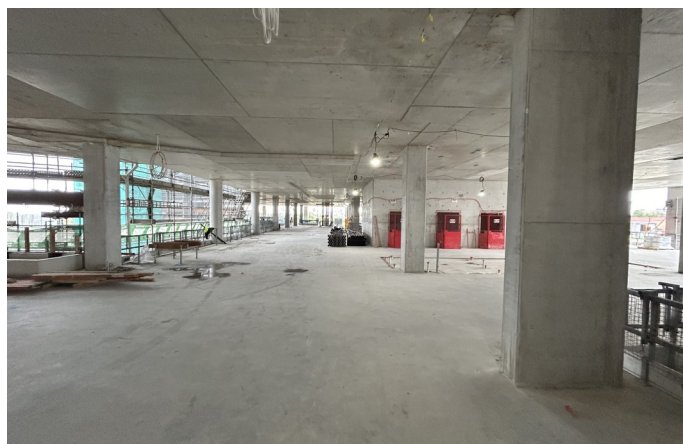
This level of the building will be home to another MCCCC research laboratory, along with shared multi-disciplinary workspaces, and specialist and open laboratories.

Day Oncology will also be on this floor, including open and enclosed treatment spaces, consulting rooms, procedure rooms and a dedicated apheresis zone.

The oncology unit will also be supported by playrooms, waiting areas and a parent lounge to enhance the patient and family experience.



Stacking diagram of SCH1/MCCCC building



Left:
Level 4
construction
progress



Right:
Level 5
construction
progress

Spotlight on the MCCCC ('M quad C')

The NSW and Federal Governments have partnered with Children's Cancer Institute (CCI), Sydney Children's Hospitals Network (SCHN) including the Kids Cancer Centre (KCC), and UNSW Sydney to plan and deliver an Australian first – the Minderoo Children's Comprehensive Cancer Centre (MCCCC).

Construction is now well underway on the two new buildings that will house the future MCCCC, sparking curiosity among staff and students across campus who are keen to learn more about the future of children's cancer research and treatment at Randwick.

Keep an eye on upcoming editions of Newsfeed for answers to more **frequently asked questions...**

What is the MCCCC?

The MCCCC is a collaborative partnership that will bring together clinicians and clinical staff, researchers and academics into a new, integrated facility spanning 20,000 square metres across both the UNSW Health Translation Hub and Sydney Children's Hospital buildings currently under construction.

MCCCC will combine research with clinical care, and support training and education opportunities for researchers, clinicians and the wider community. The facility presents a significant opportunity to revolutionise the models of research and care and treatments we provide to children and young people with cancer, and position Australia at the global forefront of paediatric cancer.

Comprehensive Cancer Centres are considered the gold standard for researching and treating cancer. As designated by the United States National Cancer Institute, Comprehensive Cancer Centres are world-leading facilities dedicated to researching more effective approaches to the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer.



Artist impression of future MCCCC lab space

What makes the MCCCC so important?

Although survival rates have improved tremendously, cancer is still the leading cause of death by disease among children. Research in the new facility will span the entire spectrum – from laboratory research into prevention and treatment, through to research on the impact of cancer on families – rapidly integrating research breakthroughs into improved models of care and research. This seamless integration of doctors and scientists will allow the centre to use patient data from the bedside more effectively, to drive new research discoveries at the lab bench and to take these back to the bedside in real-time. With its world-leading facilities, MCCCC will provide an amazing opportunity to bring together scientists and clinicians, without boundaries or silos, to undertake world-class research focused on achieving the best outcomes for children and young people with cancer by accelerating innovation to intervention.

The potential benefits and positive health outcomes also extend beyond children, cancer and Australia to other diseases and disciplines and to child cancer globally, with other countries seeking to emulate and learn from MCCCC.

This is a generational opportunity to reimagine the way care and research are delivered and will have a lasting impact on children worldwide.

CCI staff can access detailed FAQs on The Hub (CCI intranet).

Preparedness and planning contributes to enhanced patient care

With almost 12 months having passed since Prince of Wales Hospital (PoWH) services began moving into the Acute Services Building (ASB), the positive impact of comprehensive planning is being acknowledged and celebrated.

Multi-disciplinary teams have worked alongside each ward in the ASB to develop a model of care document. Models of care outline how a service will ensure the delivery of person-centred care.

Through developing their model of care, the Haematology and Medical Oncology team was able to determine how they were going to work in their new ward. The team developed their new ways of working such as when and where ward meetings would occur, and how all staff members would work across the two staff stations and clinical workroom.

The model of care helped plan the team's move into the new ward, supported by existing external relationships in the community, which helped identify the complementary services that needed to be informed of the move.

Superuser for the Haematology Medical Oncology ward, Karly Bevan said "having our model of care documented ensured we were ready as a team to amalgamate and relocate our services into the ASB. The team continues to update the model of care based on lessons learned in the new ward."



Epilepsy team members with their Australian-first equipment

The PoWH Comprehensive Epilepsy Service provides inpatient and outpatient care to local and remote NSW patients experiencing seizures or blackouts. Previously located on Parkes 8, the service moved to a purpose-built space on Level 8 of the ASB in March 2023.

The transfer of state-of-the-art equipment and installation of a new video electroencephalogram (VEEG) system meant high-level consultation with various IT teams. After several months of working with IT on the installation of cameras and recording systems, and moving years of data onto new servers, PoWH was the first hospital in Australia to install and use the new VEEG system, which records continuous video data of epilepsy patients undergoing surgical or diagnostic assessments, facilitating specialised identification of the causes of their seizures or blackouts.

The team's ability to have dedicated beds to monitor booked VEEG admissions has simplified the planning of patient admissions and allows streamlined booking of all the tests required during the admission. The new technology also enables patients to make a single trip to PoWH.

Patients have embraced the move to the new building, delighted to have access to comprehensive patient-centred care, as well as ensuite bathrooms. Mr Frangikos Kochinos, who travelled from outside Sydney with his brother who required the assistance of the service, said he could not be happier with the support provided, scoring the service a "100 out of 100."



Members of the Haematology and Medical Oncology team

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Out and about with the redevelopment project teams and stakeholders

There's always something happening across our projects – from site visits to selection of fittings and fixtures, check out what some of the team has been up to recently...



Regular tours of the UNSW Eastern Extension are providing university staff an opportunity to see their new spaces as fit-out progresses. UNSW Medicine & Health's Clinical Education support and finance team members (pictured) recently visited to see the new spaces and visualise the education and research activities planned.

UNSW teams are also busy finalising furniture, fixtures and equipment for the new research and innovation spaces in preparation for opening later this year.



Health Infrastructure Trainee Daniel Martin received a *Recognition of Growth* award at a NSW Infrastructure Traineeship workshop in January.

Daniel joined the RCR project team in June 2023 as part of a rotational program of practical learning across a variety of infrastructure projects, alongside formal TAFE training.

Working across the various redevelopment projects, Daniel obtained first-hand experience through participation in site visits and reporting back on observations and learnings, joining a range of meetings – from communications working groups to cost reviews – and exposure to procurement and tendering processes.

Having made his mark at Randwick, Daniel now moves on to another state infrastructure project to further his skills and experience.



Daniel (right) with Health Infrastructure Executive Director Bruno Zinghini



Minderoo Children's Comprehensive Cancer Centre project stakeholders, including representatives from Children's Cancer Institute and Sydney Children's Hospitals Network, along with project builder John Holland Group, recently visited an off-site facility to view laboratory joinery prototypes.

The visit, an important step in the design quality assurance process, provided an opportunity for future users of the spaces to review general lab joinery and fixtures, and inspect quality and functionality prior to installation in the new building.

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Recap: The Future of Healthcare

On Wednesday 14 February, the [Randwick Health & Innovation Precinct \(RHIP\)](#) hosted *The Future of Healthcare* event at UNSW's Leighton Hall, led by Dr [Stephen Palmer](#), RHIP's Industry & Innovation Lead.

The event brought together some of the brightest minds from across health services, government, industry and academia to discuss healthcare innovation and the role of health and innovation precincts as an agency of collaboration and sustainable development.

Senior leaders from the RHIP partnership affirmed the importance of the precinct to their strategic aims and discussed the types of innovation they believe will transform future health and their role in delivering that future.

Throughout the seminar, our experts discussed the significant challenges our health system is facing, notably, the acute pressures on the healthcare workforce and the capability of our aged care facilities to manage future pandemics.

They also shed light on some of the new treatments that promise to revolutionise contemporary medicine, such as precision oncology and RNA therapeutics, and the critical future role of digital health.

During the panel discussion, some of the complexities of healthcare innovation were examined. The importance of more dynamic policy settings and a whole-of-government approach was highlighted to ensure that the pipeline for new medical product development is supported consistently. Improved collaboration between industry, public research institutions and the health services was seen as essential, and precincts like RHIP are providing a critical platform for enabling such collaboration.

The panel also agreed that competition between health precincts must be avoided, with a 'Team Australia' approach imperative to achieving a complementary and unified voice.

Missed the event? [View the recording here.](#)

Learn more about RHIP's partners, purpose and impact at rhip.org.au, and if you haven't already, follow RHIP on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#) to keep up to date with what's happening across the Precinct.

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