

Media Release



Modern living for much needed service

8 October 2009

For immediate release

Today's re-opening of the McAuley Lodge, an accommodation facility for people undergoing cancer treatment at Calvary Mater Newcastle, has been a huge community effort according to General Manager Colin Osborne.

"The modern make-over of the McAuley Lodge accommodation facility is of great support to the people of country and regional NSW who are undergoing prolonged periods of cancer treatment at our hospital and who require a comfortable home away from home during a difficult time.

"We are enormously grateful to the Hospital's Auxiliary, The Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation, The Gloucester Villa Units Trust Group and the Radiation Oncology Trust Fund at the hospital – without these contributions this project would not have been possible," said Mr Osborne.

"The hospital can now provide this much needed service to those in the community requiring this support.....it alleviates the burden of accommodation and travelling costs for those who must undergo cancer treatment.

"Not only does the facility provide benefit for the patient but also for their families and carers. Feedback from current residents of the facility is overwhelmingly positive and the facility has a very homely and relaxing atmosphere," said Mr Osborne.

A re-opening and afternoon tea will be held today 8 October at 2pm to recognise and thank all involved for their generous support and involvement.

Note: Media are invited to attend the afternoon tea and cheque presentation at Calvary Mater Newcastle on **Thursday 8 October at 2pm** in the Lecture Theatre, Main Foyer.

Margaret Mason a former Mater patient and fundraiser from Gloucester will be available for interview. Colin Osborne Calvary Mater Newcastle, Michael Slater Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation and Kay Fordham Calvary Mater Newcastle Hospital Auxiliary will also be available for interview.

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