

WIMMERA BASE HOSPITAL

Annual Report



1988

THE WIMMERA BASE HOSPITAL was established in 1874 as the Horsham Hospital and was incorporated by authority of the Hospitals and Charities Act (No. 5300) on 27th August, 1877. The name was changed in 1950 to Wimmera Base Hospital with the approval of the Hospitals and Charities Commission of Victoria.

Philosophy and Objectives . . .

PHILOSOPHY

Community

The Wimmera Base Hospital is concerned with achieving the most efficient use of resources allocated to it in fulfilling the needs of the community for high quality health care services.

Patients

The Wimmera Base Hospital believes that, at all times, every patient is entitled to receive high quality health care and to be accorded full recognition of his or her dignity, integrity and rights.

Staff

The Wimmera Base Hospital recognises the importance of members of staff as the primary strength in the achievement of hospital goals. It, therefore, needs to attract and retain staff of the highest quality. The hospital acknowledges the need for teamwork and the development of a working environment which enables each individual to reach full potential. The hospital seeks constructive participation of all staff in achieving the common goal to provide high quality health care to the community.

Government

The Wimmera Base Hospital is accountable to the government for the efficient use of the resources provided. The hospital has an obligation to work with and through the government to satisfy community needs.

Other Health Care Providers

The Wimmera Base Hospital will foster co-operation with other health care providers. When appropriate, the hospital will rationalise its activities to complement rather than duplicate services.

OBJECTIVES

Consistent with the Philosophy, the following objectives will be implemented to the extent of the resources of the Hospital.

1. Patient Care

1.1 To provide the highest standard of individual health care in accordance with recognised health practices and ethical standards.

1.2 To manage and maintain nursing home facilities so as to provide nursing home care accommodation for all persons falling within these categories defined under the Commonwealth Aged or Disabled Persons Act 1954 and who are assessed as being in need of such care and accommodation.

2. Community Health

To promote, provide and assist with health education for the community.

3. Staffing

3.1 To select staff so that the hospital can maintain the highest standard of health care.

3.2 To work together in promoting an atmosphere of co-operation and support.

4. Education and Training

4.1 To promote educational and training opportunities for all staff to assist them in the future development of patient care.

4.2 To provide for the education and training of such persons associated with hospitals as may be approved.

5. Facilities

5.1 To ensure that adequate and well maintained facilities, equipment and supplies are available.

5.2 To maintain a safe and healthy environment.

6. Evaluation and Research

To engage in programmes of evaluation and research for the improvement of health services.

7. Public Relations

To promote an awareness of the philosophy and objectives of the hospital within the community.

Wimmera Base Hospital Management . . .

B O A R D OF MANAGEMENT

President

Mr. Graeme Lind

Senior Vice-President

Rev. J. Allan Thompson, B.A., B.D.

Junior Vice-President

Mr. Euan Thompson, B.Jur., L.L.B.

Treasurer

Mr. Keith Lovett, F.A.S.A., F.I.M.A., L.M.A., J.P.

Members

Dr. Peter Haslau, M.B.B.S., F.R.A.C.G.P.

Mrs. Margaret Martin, Grad. Dip. (Ed. Admin.)

Mr. David McFarlane

Cr. Bob Mibus

Dr. Eric T. Miller, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.O.G., F.A.A.C.O.G., F.R.C.O.G.

Mrs. Joy Murch

Mrs. Dolores Orchard

Mr. Ron Shepherd, J.P.

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Chief Executive

Mr. R.N. Royle, B.A. (NSW), M.H.A. (UNSW), A.H.A. (Prov).

Medical Administrator

Dr. A.M. Wolff, M.B.B.S., Dip. R.A.C.O.G.

Director of Nursing

Mrs. G.M. Curran, Dip. Theatre Man., F.C.N.A., A.H.A.

Deputy Chief Executive

Ms. I.H. Jurk, BHA (NSW), A.H.A.

Bankers

National Australia Bank Limited

Auditors

Green, Taylor, Ainsworth and Ryan

Solicitors

Power and Bennett

The Board of Management. . .



Mr. Graeme Lind
President,
Manager-Community
Industry,
Appointed 1975



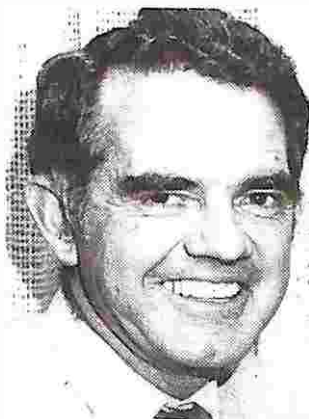
Rev. Allan Thompson
Senior Vice-President
B.A., B.D.
Executive Director-
Wimmera Community
Care
Appointed 1983



Mr. Euan Thompson
Junior Vice-President
B. Jur., L.L.B.
Solicitor
Appointed 1983



Mr. Keith Lovett
Treasurer
F.A.S.A., F.I.M.A.,
L.M.A., J.P.
Retired.
Appointed 1949



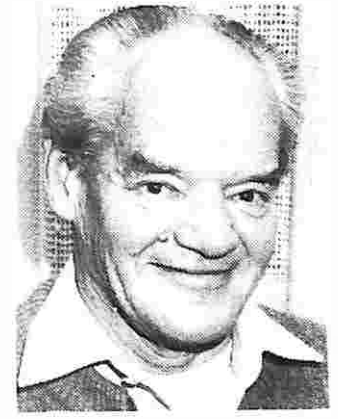
Mr. David McFarlane
Businessman
Appointed 1967



Mrs. Margaret Martin
Registrar
Grad. Dip.
(Ed. Admin.).
Appointed 1988



Dr. Peter Haslau
Medical practitioner
M.B.B.S.,
F.R.A.C.G.P.
Appointed 1985



Mr. Ron Shepherd
J.P.
Businessman
Appointed 1950



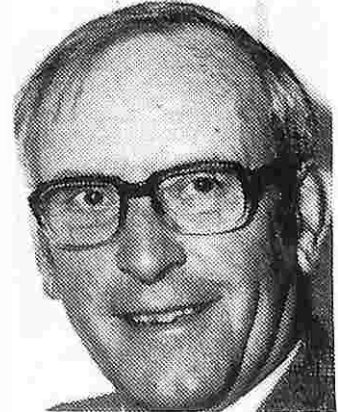
Mrs. Dolores Orchard
Home duties
Appointed 1984



Dr. Eric Miller,
M.B.B.S., F.R.C.O.G.,
F.R.A.C.O.G.,
Medical Practitioner,
Appointed 1986



Mrs. Joy Murch,
Home Duties,
Appointed 1986



Cr. Bob Mibus
Farmer,
Appointed 1986

Your Board Reports to its Community . . .

The Board of Management of Wimmera Base Hospital has pleasure in presenting to you a summary of hospital activities for the year ended June 30, 1988.

HOSPITAL ACTIVITY

Last year we reported that hospital patient throughput had increased to a record high level. This year, however, inpatient activity increased a further 12.5%, resulting predominantly from an increase in the range of specialist medical services that the hospital now provides. New or expanded services such as cardiac pacemaker insertions, urological surgery and a visiting oncology service have meant that members of the Wimmera community can obtain these specialist services in Horsham without having to travel to Ballarat or Melbourne. It is very pleasing to see the development of these services as it ensures the future viability of the Wimmera Base Hospital as a sub-regional referral centre for the Wimmera.

This substantial increase in hospital activity resulted in a significant increase in expenditure. During the year the senior management staff formulated a detailed submission to the Health Department which resulted in an additional \$200,000 being granted to the hospital to fund the increased activity. Thanks must go to the Regional Director of Health, Mr. Andrejs Zamurs, and his staff for their assistance in obtaining the approval for this additional funding.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

During the year there was one change to the Board of Management. Ms. Marion Matthews resigned from the Board, having served for four years. Her experience in the social welfare area was of great benefit, and the board expresses its appreciation for her contribution. Her position has been taken by Mrs. Margaret Martin who brings to the board a background in educational administration. Members re-appointed in 1987 were Mr. Graeme Lind, Mr. David McFarlane and Mr. Ron Shepherd.

HEALTH PROMOTION

The Board of Management is conscious of the need to look beyond the hospital's physical boundaries to provide health services for the community, and has therefore over the years devoted resources to developing a comprehensive community outreach programme. It was therefore very pleasing to achieve the development of a health promotion unit based at the



Chief executive Mr Richard Royle and hospital president Mr Graeme Lind discussing the agenda for a Board of Management meeting.

hospital. The unit is staffed by a psychologist as head of the team, together with a community health nurse and an occupational health nurse. A number of very successful programs have been organised by the unit, including regular one hour radio programs on station 3WM and we thank them for their support in this vital area of community health education.

PHYSICAL FACILITIES

Previous annual reports have referred to the need for improved facilities for patients and staff in our general ward areas, as well as our operating theatres, kitchen and other service areas. Successive governments have failed to recognise that a minimum level of facilities must be provided to meet the expectations of the community. It is continually frustrating that no major injection of funds has been forthcoming from the Health Department to upgrade what are well regarded as sub-standard facilities. The board is continuing to press strongly for these facilities which have potential savings in operating costs and very real benefits in terms of patient care.

A highlight of the year was the official opening

of Matron Arthur House, a new 30 bed nursing home. Whilst this is referred to in detail under the annual report of the Committee of Matron Arthur House, it is important to note here of the spirit of co-operation which exists between the various departments of the hospital which not only saw the furnishing and equipping of the new unit achieved with great success, but also the ongoing running of the home which has fitted in extremely well with the existing services offered to the community from the hospital.

During the year, the Wimmera Hospitals Group Linen Service, located on the hospital site and servicing a total of thirty seven institutions around the Wimmera, underwent an extensive upgrading program. A total of nearly \$300,000 was required to upgrade a number of pieces of equipment, and recognition must be made of all the laundry staff who so ably co-operated during this upgrading program. As the Group Linen Service is a self funding division, all money had to be provided from its own resources, and the recent changes now sees the linen service as one of the most up to date and efficient services of its size in the state.

In April 1988, the hospital's deputy chief executive, Ms. Imas Jurk, accepted the offer of a secondment to the Health Department Victoria as principal nursing adviser. Congratulations go to Imas for being offered this secondment, and thanks must go to Dr. Alan Wolff, our medical administrator, who has so ably performed the dual role of acting deputy chief executive and medical administrator, which has required a substantial extra commitment to the hospital.

REGIONAL ORGANISATION

Our regional director, Mr. Andrejs Zamurs, has shown himself to be a person of considerable empathy and intellect. In his regional responsibilities, Mr. Zamurs has frequently visited Horsham and other parts of the Wimmera, and has demonstrated a keen awareness of the needs of the health services. This has led to a much closer association between the hospital and the Health Department, and it is hoped that this liaison can continue to develop further over the coming years, as it can only be beneficial to the hospital and the community for the Health Department to have a better appreciation of local issues and concerns.

This year saw the board of management enter into a health service agreement with the Health Department for the first time. This statewide initiative utilises the principal of increased delegated authority from the Health Department to the hospital's board of management to achieve an agreed level of clinical activity, with an agreed quantum of money for the twelve month period. As already reported, the hospital's ac-

tivity increased substantially during the year, and it was pleasing to see this increased activity recognised by the Health Department in the form of an additional grant. The health service agreement process is a sound management principle, and the hospital was able to achieve a number of targets that it set itself during the year. It is hoped that this process can continue to develop in the future, and that the process of discussions and negotiations with the Health Department remains an open and frank one.

AUXILIARIES

The board has once again been gratified by the generous support it receives by the auxiliaries. The Wimmera Base Hospital Ladies Auxiliary has been most active in its fundraising activities, and by the end of the financial year has completed their five year pledge of a \$50,000 donation towards the construction of Matron Arthur House in four years. Thanks go to the president, Mrs. Heather Scott, and to all members of the auxiliary for another tremendous year.

The year was significant for two of our employees. Mrs. Shirley Cameron and Mrs. Betty Muller completed 25 years service to the hospital. We thank them sincerely for their dedication.

Mention should also be made of radio stations 3WM and 3WV, the Wimmera Mail-Times and BTV6 for their assistance in enabling us to get our message across to the community.

At Wimmera Base Hospital, we provide a range of services which enables us to cater for most of the health needs of our community. We have a caring and professional staff which, despite the pressures being placed upon it, have responded extremely well to continue the high quality of care for which we have developed a fine reputation.






















Graeme Lind
President

Richard Royle
Chief Executive



Pictured at the opening of the health promotion unit, left to right, Professor Peter Phelan, the professor of paediatrics at the University of Melbourne, with Mr Richard Royle, Dr Alan Wolff and Mr Graeme Lind.

Activity Levels

	1987-88	1986-87	1985-86
 ADMISSIONS	4,324	3,831	3,620
 AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY Days	5.4	6.2	6.7
 BIRTHS	320	324	318
 ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY Attendances	7,731	8,374	7,313
 DISTRICT NURSING Visits	19,700	19,573	19,875
 DAY CENTRE Attendances	6,677	6,266	5,278
 PATHOLOGY Attendances	27,320	25,169	23,648
 X-RAY Examinations	8,213	8,116	7,349
 THEATRE Operations	2,393	2,031	1,693
 MEALS Prepared	266,260	245,703	215,178
 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY Treatments	14,940	13,141	13,919
 PHYSIOTHERAPY attendances	*15,515	4,367	3,816
 PODIATRY attendances	303	3,434	3,410
 SPEECH PATHOLOGY attendances	6,433	2,590	1,904
 SOCIAL WORK Consultations	5,154	3,007	1,994
 AUDIOLOGY Attendances	1,362	721	843
 DENTAL CLINIC Attendances	4,697	4,313	3,897
 DIETETICS Consultations	3,008	3,114	3,733
 PHARMACY ITEMS Supplied	179,143	160,526	130,933
 HAIRDRESSING	1,563	1,528	
 FAMILY PLANNING	301	150	

*Different method of counting.

The Medical Division . . .

All departments in the medical division continued to progress towards their major objectives in the past year. In what has become a regular process, each department again defined their major half dozen objectives for the year. I am pleased to report that in most cases the majority of objectives were achieved.

A major event was the establishment of a full-time Health Promotion Unit. This has been established in conjunction with the Cairnmiller Institute in Melbourne. I am pleased to welcome Marie Aitken, Psychologist, as head of the unit. Marie brings a wide range of experience to Wimmera Base. The programs of this Unit are detailed elsewhere in this report. As well as establishing the Unit, Marie has provided valuable psychological counselling to the people of the Wimmera and has assisted the hospital in establishing a number of in-house management courses.

The profile of the hospital has been increased with the advent of a regular one hour radio program on station 3WM during the year. This was organised through the Health Promotion Unit.

I am pleased to report that, after an extensive search, we have been able to find a replacement Consultant Physician, Dr. Gillian Park. Dr. Park has worked in a number of health systems throughout the world and we welcome her to Wimmera Base. Dr. Park has a particular interest in respiratory medicine.

The division is still working toward the setting up of a rehabilitation unit and the development of a new Accident and Emergency Department. Both these items have high priority in Wimmera Base's hospital agreement with the Health Department.

A number of new clinical services are now available. These including visiting Oncology and Urology services, cardiac exercising testing, Holter monitoring and pacemaker insertion.

As was mentioned in the last report, the hospital has been successful in gaining a full three year Accreditation from the Australian Council on Hospital Standards. To make the preparation for the next survey less arduous, it has been decided that Accreditation Standards will be reviewed at committee level on an ongoing basis. A number of departments will also be undertaking independent reviews by relevant experts over the next three years.

It is heartening to see the majority of medical and paramedical positions in the hospital have been filled consistently. Unfortunately one persistent vacancy has been in the area of podiatry where our previous Podiatrist, Claire Binns, decided not to return to Wimmera Base after maternity leave. We thank Claire for all the hard work that she has put in to her department and



Dr Alan Wolff, Medical Administrator.

the services that she has provided to the people of the Wimmera. We wish her well for the future in Melbourne.

AUDIOLOGY

In January 1988 the vacancy created by Therese Kelly's departure was quickly filled by Cathy Magree.

Two illuminated puppet boxes have been purchased and will be tested for visual reinforcement audiometry. This means that comprehensive testing of children below the age of two and a half years is now possible.

The waiting period has been reduced to two weeks for all patients, including babies. Regional services to Stawell and Nhill are continuing on a fortnightly and monthly basis respectively.

DENTAL CLINIC

The Dental Clinic again had a busy year. The waiting list for conservative work has been reduced from 3 months to 1½ months, but the denture waiting list still remains at approximately 6 months.

The clinic now has a greater regional role with an increase in patients from Warracknabeal, Donald, St. Arnaud, Stawell and Edenhope. At the moment approximately 37% of the clinic's patients live outside the Horsham area.

The only change of staff is the inclusion of a part-time Dental Technician, Donna Ryan, to

help reduce the denture waiting time.

The dental laboratory is being upgraded at the moment with upgrading of the second surgery on the way. A dust extraction system has been installed.

Jeff Umbers is about to commence his course to become an Advanced Dental Technician. This will take 2 years, after which Jeff will be able to see denture patients directly. Wimmera Base will be one of the first hospitals in Victoria to utilise an Advanced Dental Technician.

DIETETICS

The Dietetic Department has continued to provide a service to inpatients and outpatients who need to change their food intake. A regular regional service is provided to Stawell, Warracknabeal and Dimboola and to other areas as required. The department has also been involved with the Health Promotion Show presented on radio 3WM.

Talks on healthy eating have been presented at many local groups and most of us are now more aware of the need to have good habits with food selection for our well-being. The department will be expanding its service to the older members of the community in the next year.

HEALTH PROMOTION UNIT

The 1987-88 financial year was the first year of operation for the Health Promotion Unit. The establishment of the unit represented the culmination of 5 years planning by the hospital. The unit is staffed by an Occupational Health Nurse, a Community Health Nurse and a Psychologist.

Number 77 Baillie Street was refurbished for the Health Promotion Unit. It was completed in August 1987 and the Unit commenced operation. The Social Work Department relocated to 77 Baillie Street in September 1987 and the house is now fully occupied.

The first year of operation has seen the establishment of community and hospital networks which assist in the delivery of a range of promotional activities. Clinical services were also established by the staff of the Unit. Establishing networks has been achieved by the Unit, conducting a range of educational programs — counselling skills training, the psychology of peak performance, taking the stress out of Year 12, The Cinderella complex, the Wellness Co-operative, Fresh Start, Learn to Relax and Mammacheck training; and undertaking a range of promotional activities — health displays at Horsham Show and Wimmera Field Days; a slogan and logo competition, an official opening function, Health Week at Horsham Plaza, Quit Week at Horsham Plaza and in Firebrace Street, Heart Week, Arthritis Week, Community Health Screening, weekly radio show on 3WM 'The Health Promotion Show' and

regular articles in the Wimmera Mail-Times.

Rather than only responding to requests and opportunities, for 1988-89 the Unit has selected one major topic for the year. The Health Promotion Unit will be conducting an asthma education program which will probably be offered through the school system.

LIBRARY

In March 1988 Judy Sheldon, the Librarian for the past twelve years retired. Judy's contribution in catering for the information needs of the staff and the development of the library service in this hospital has been invaluable and we wish her well for a very happy retirement.

Our new Librarian is Shirley Mewett, previously a Librarian with the Wimmera Regional Library Service.

Library usage is increasing with a greater number of staff making use of the wider distribution of journal contents pages and current awareness bulletins. Regular loans of videos and audio-visual programs from the Adelaide Children's Hospital have been arranged and 194 items added to the library catalogue. There has been a huge increase in the number of inter-library loan requests to other libraries. Over 320 items have been received from libraries in every Australian State and Territory, whilst three articles are currently being sought overseas. Most of the requests have been in response to the study needs of staff, but many were generated by the wide range of programs conducted by various hospital departments both within the hospital and the community.

A Library survey conducted early in 1988 revealed the need for a library service during lunch times. This is currently undergoing a trial period. The survey also prompted awareness of several less known Library services and indicated future directions for the library.

During the next year it is hoped the collections, services and organisation of the Library will be adapted to further serve the needs of the hospital staff and those in health related occupations throughout the region.

MEDICAL RECORDS

The year has been an extremely busy year for the Medical Record Department. The Regional M.R.A., Anne Tester, left in February to take up a position at Peter MacCallum Clinic. She was replaced in March by Elizabeth Feeny. The Medical Record Departments of regional hospitals now include Nursing Homes and Community Health records, which provide a variety of developmental tasks for this regional position.

This year the main project of the Medical Record Department has been the development of an efficient and accurate statistical collection system. This has taken up a great deal of time but now appears to be complete and functioning effectively.

Another major task has been in the updating of medical record forms. The majority of forms have been, or are presently being, reviewed. This is an ongoing task which will result in more efficient documentation.

The department has also been involved in history review, microfilming and quality assurance activities.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

During the year the department welcomed Karyl Nichols and Diane Johnston and bid farewell to Bronwyn Glover and Donna Schultz.

There has been a significant increase in demand for home visits and assessments and prescription of aids, and Edenhope has now been included in our home visiting area. O.T. services are now provided every week to Minyip and surrounding districts.

The department has been involved in Arthritis workshops and Arthritis Week (May 1st-6th, 1988) run in conjunction with physiotherapy and community health. Stress management workshops have also been conducted in Horsham and outlying districts.

PATHOLOGY

The year has been a busy one with the number of tests performed having its biggest ever annual increase of 17%.

The highlight of the year was the completion of NATA inspection of the laboratory. All the staff are to be congratulated on their efforts which drew praise from the examiners.

Another highlight, for those concerned with its maintenance, was the replacement of the IL 313 blood gas analyser, which was the only one of its vintage still operating in Australia.

Lynne Macrae and Simone Hobbs left during the year to become mothers, Helen O'Dea has left and is expecting her first child; we wish them well. New staff are Andrea Wynne, Peter Wells and Lydia Hamam.

A major reorganisation of office and laboratory space has taken place resulting in an improvement in efficiency and working conditions.

PHARMACY

The past year has seen a consolidation of our past planning in the areas of renovations and computerisation.

The renovations have been very successful, and this has provided the Pharmacy with desperately needed space. Cytotoxic drugs are now being reconstituted regularly in the cytotoxic cabinet area, and since October 1987 total parenteral nutrition solutions are routinely prepared as required. These procedures can now be carried out in a sterile environment.

The opening of the Matron Arthur Wing required another Pharmacy service; personalised dispensing and imprest services were available from the outset in November 1987.

This year has again been very busy for all staff members as all services to Wimmera Base and the region have been maintained, with an increase in lines issued from 149,819 to 163,335.

Andrew Tooms, a Pharmacist from England, was a very welcome addition to our staff in April 1988. This position had been vacant for over 12 months and this has allowed extra activities to be carried out, including the introduction of a Pharmacy Bulletin and Drug Information Service.

PHYSIOTHERAPY

Two English physiotherapists, Elissa Hall and Laura Scott, temporarily filled vacant positions from October 1987 until January 1988 when we gained a full complement of staff with the addition of Craig Bosworth, Julie Barron and Anita Hudson.

Jenny Petering and Peter Lo Iocono successfully completed their Allied Health Assistance course at the Queen Elizabeth Geriatric Centre, and since have become a valuable part of the paramedical team. Debra Smith has successfully completed the first six months of her two year Post Graduate Diploma of Gerontology at Lincoln Institute of Health Sciences. The Physiotherapy Department in conjunction with the Australian Physiotherapy Association held seminars on occupational Health and Ergonomics and Amputees. Both proved to be most worthwhile. Staff members have attended courses on Pelvic Floor Muscles, McConnell Strapping, Manipulative Therapy and Communications Disorders.

Many information sessions have been given to the public by attending Wimmera Machinery Field Days, Jeparit Community Health Group, Jardwa Apex Club, Goolum Goolum, Longerenong College, Murtoa Elderly Citizens Club, Horsham CWA, Jeparit Football Club, Horsham schools and also speaking on the 3WM Health Promotion Show.

A weekly arthritis class was commenced in March and has continued with both enthusiastic staff and patients. Other paramedical staff members attend as required.

New equipment purchased includes a Biofeedback Machine, Wax Bath, T.E.N.S. Machine, Ultra Sound Machine, Hydraulic Couch and Exercise Bike.

In January the department commenced servicing the Dunmunkle Shire four afternoons per week. This comprises visiting the Minyip Community Health Centre, Murtoa Hospital and Rupanyup Nursing Home.

RADIOLOGY

During the year the new mobile image intensifier came into operation. The performance of the unit has come up to expectation and the image quality has proved to be excellent. The image holding facility has reduced screening times

down to a minimum, resulting in less radiation dose to the patient.

Members of the staff attended an Ultrasound Seminar in Geelong and gained knowledge of current ultrasound practice and the capabilities of the newer sector scanners.

The department was also represented at the regional radiographers meeting at Hamilton.

SOCIAL WORK

The department has been operating with a staff of four who have been expanding existing services and providing new ones to cope with the needs of the hospital and community.

A move from No. 90 to No. 77 Baillie Street has proved to be beneficial to both workers and clients. Good working relationships with other staff in the building, especially the Psychologist, have broadened and improved our service.

A marked increase in our attendances have been due to the increase of people requiring counselling, particularly in the areas of marriage guidance, single mothers and sexual assault; an increase in migrants using hospital services due to education and awareness; and increased attendance of aboriginals at medical consultations, family planning, occupational therapy and child immunisation.

The goal for 1987 to have a Social Work student supervised by this department has been achieved and future placements are anticipated.

There has been an increase in community involvement with the staff of this department being instrumental in initiating, or involved in, a number of self help groups. Many public speaking invitations have been accepted by the department from community groups and radio.

SPEECH PATHOLOGY

Speech Pathology activity is at its highest level to date. Month-by-month comparison of 1988 statistics with those of 1987 shows an almost two-fold increase. This has been achieved largely through the addition of Gillian Sach in December and the increased effectiveness of clinicians' time made possible through materials prepared by our part-time Allied Health Assistant, Lyn Spencer.

Demand for services continues to grow noticeably every year. Many new types of problems are being referred due to increasing awareness of Speech Pathology's role with, for example, swallowing disorders, Parkinson's Disease and ear, nose and throat disorders.

Regional work now extends to Dunmunkle Health Service, Jeparit, Rainbow and Edenhope. A Wimmera-wide screening and management program for children of preschool age is conducted, with requests coming from further away every year. The department is now involved not only with school-aged intellectually disabled clients from Horsham Special Development School, but also with adults from Karkana Day

Training Centre and the Wimmera Wool Factory. Involvement is face-to-face with clients and consultative with staff.

Co-operation with people such as pre-school directors, teachers and integration aids is also becoming an important part of the department's services and has been facilitated by stable staffing within the department. Government policy whereby disabled students are 'mainstreamed' in normal community services has necessitated a greater consultative role for hospital Speech Pathologists.

Domiciliary follow-up for rehabilitation and geriatric assessment patients is another new area of service. This has been made possible by the appointment of Peter Lo Iacono and Jenny Petering as Allied Health Assistants — Extended Care working under direction from Speech Pathology, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy. A number of remarkable clinical results have been possible due to more intensive and complete management.

Two papers by Stephen Hill have been published this year. These were 'Modular management: An alternative to traditional waiting lists' in the Australian Clinical Review and 'Effect of speaking over background noise on normal voice in adult females' in the Australian Journal of Human Communication Disorders. Two papers were also presented at the Australian Medical Association multi-disciplinary quality assurance committee 1987 annual conference in Melbourne.

VISITING MEDICAL STAFF

There have been a number of changes to the Visiting Medical Staff during the year. Mr Andrew Wallis was appointed as Visiting E.N.T. Surgeon in August. He has taken over the busy clinical role of Mr. Robert Thomas. We thank Mr. Thomas for the excellent service that he provided over 8 years. The E.N.T. service continues as a consulting and operating one on a monthly basis.

Dr. Christina Drummond continued as Locum Physician until December, providing a very valuable service as Consultant Physician. We thank Chris for the hard work that she put into this position and welcome Dr. Gillian Park, our new Visiting Physician. Dr. Park also takes over from Dr. Rex Bennett as Director of Intensive Care, and we thank Dr. Bennett for the work that he has done in the Unit since its inception.

In an attempt to prevent the difficulties we have experienced in obtaining a Physician from occurring again, the hospital is actively pursuing a second Physician. It is hoped that this position will be filled before the end of the year.

Stephen Siebert, Visiting Ophthalmologist, resigned from the 1st August, and Dr. Peter Novakovic, a Visiting Ophthalmologist from Ballarat very kindly stepped in at short notice and provided a bridging service until the middle of January. We thank Dr. Novakovic for his

assistance in providing a much needed service and also for assisting with the appointment of Dr. Peter Chau, a Visiting Ophthalmologist from Melbourne, to provide a continuing monthly service.

In September a Visiting Urologist, Mr. Daryl Stephens, was appointed. He is providing both a consulting and operating service on a monthly basis from Ballarat.

In addition, Dr. Richard Bell has held the position of Visiting Oncologist from September. Dr. Bell provides a consulting service on a monthly basis from Ballarat.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the hospital staff for the support they have provided to enable the hospital to provide a first class clinical service. I look forward to further expansion and improvement in the coming year.

DR. ALAN WOLFF,
Medical Administrator.



Director of Intensive Care Dr Gillian Park explains functions of the ventilator to RN Barbara Ball.



Dentist Ross Barnes at work in the hospital's dental clinic. Assisting is dental nurse Vicki Tyler.

MEDICAL STAFF

Medical Administrator/Director of Accident and Emergency Department.

A.M. Wolff, M.B., B.S., Dip. R.A.C.O.G.,
F.R.A.C.G.P.

Director of Pathology

G. Humpries, M.A., B.M., Ch.B., D.T.M. & H.,
D.R.C. Path., M.R.C. Path.

Director of Radiology

L. Wong Shee, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.A.C.R.

Director of Anaesthesia

R.C. Bennett, M.B., B.S., D.A. (Lond.),
M.F.A.R.C.S.

Director of Intensive Care

G.J. Park, M.B., BCh., F.C.P. (S.A.)

PARAMEDICAL STAFF

Chief Pharmacist

Mr. I. Gerlach, Ph.C., M.P.S., F.S.H.P.

Chief Radiographer

Mr. H. Kortman, M.I.R., A.R.M.I.T.

Chief Physiotherapist

Miss R. Ormsby, B.App.Sc. (Phyt).

Chief Speech Pathologist

Mr. S. D. Hill, B.App.Sc. (Sp.Path'y),
M.A.A.S.H.

Chief Medical Records Administrator

Mrs. C. Dooling, Assoc. Dip. (Medical Records
Administration).

Medical Librarian

Mrs. J. Sheldon, B.A. (Retired 31-3-1988)

Mrs S. Mewett, A.L.A.A.

Chief Occupational Therapist

Mr. N. Simitsis, B.App.Sc. (O.T.).

Dietitian

Mrs. P. Marshman, B.Sc. (Monash), Grad.
Dip. Diet.

Audiologist

Miss T. Kelly, B.Sc. Dip.Aud. (Resigned
January 1988)

Miss C. Magree, B.Sc. Dip.Aud.

Laboratory Manager

Mr. R. Starr, B.Sc., M.A.A.C.B.

Chief Social Welfare Worker

Mrs. M. Hughan, Ass. Dip. Welfare Studies.

Psychologist/Head Health Promotion Unit

Mrs M. Aitken, B.A., Grad.Dip.Voc.Couns.

VISITING MEDICAL STAFF

Consulting Staff

R.A.M. Taylor, M.B., B.S., (Lond.), L.M.S.S.A.

Obstetrician and Gynaecologist

E.T. Miller, M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.O.G.,
F.R.C.O.G.

Ophthalmologists

P. Novakovic, M.B., B.S., B.Med.Sc (Hons),
F.R.A.C.S., F.R.A.C.O. (Resigned January
1988)

P. Chau, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P. (U.K.),
F.R.A.C.S., F.R.A.C.O.

Oral Surgeon

P. Bowker, M.D.Sc. F.D.S.R.C.S. (Eng.),
B.D.Sc.

Orthopaedic Surgeons

J. Bourke, B.Med.Sci., M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.S.
W. Carter, M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.S.

Paediatrician

M. Brown, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., F.R.A.C.P.

Physician

G.J. Park, M.B. BCh., F.C.P. (S.A.)

Locum Physician

C.M. Drummond, M.B., B.S., Dip. O&G.,
D.T.M.&H. (Lond.), F.R.A.C.P. (Resigned
December 1987)

Psychiatrist

I.V. Jackson, M.B., B.S., D.P.M., M.R.C.Psych.
F.R.A.N.Z.C.P., Dip.American Boards of
Neurology & Psychiatry

Otolaryngologist

A.A. Wallis, M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.S.

Surgeons

G.S.R. Kitchen, M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.S.

I.A. Campbell, M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.S.

Vascular Surgeon

I.A. Ferguson, M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.S. F.R.C.S.
(Lond.)

Oncologist

R. Bell, M.B., B.S., M.R.A.C.P., F.R.A.C.P.,
F.R.C.P.A.

Urologist

D.A. Stephens, M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.S.

Regional Geriatrician (Sessional)

A.C. McBain, M.B., B.S.

Regional Supervisor for Graduate Medical Education

D.W. Leembruggen, M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.G.P.

Area Medical Co-ordinator - Regional Displan

A.M. Wolff, M.B., B.S., Dip. R.A.C.O.G.,
F.R.A.C.G.P.

Deputy Area Medical Co-ordinators - Regional Displan

D.W. Leembruggen, M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.G.P.

P.P. Haslau, M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.G.P.

Family Planning Clinic

Y.P. Cymbalist, M.B., B.S., Dip. R.A.C.O.G.

Medical Officers

C.H. Foord, M.B., B.S., Dip.Obst., R.C.O.G.

P. P. Haslau, M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.G.P.

A. K. Horwood, M.B., B.S., Dip.Obst.,
R.A.C.O.G. F.R.A.C.G.P.

G. M. Jenkinson, M.B., B.S.

J. J. Jenkinson, M.B., B.S.

D. A. McG. Jinks, M.B., B.S., Dip. R.A.C.O.G.

D. W. Leembruggen, M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.G.P.

R. M. Lloyd, M.B., B.S., Dip. R.A.C.O.G.

A. C. McBain, M.B., B.S.

G. A. O'Brien, M.B., B.S., Dip.Obst., R.C.O.G.

J. R. Williams, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., D.A.,

D.R.C.O.G., F.R.A.C.G.P.

Y. P. Cymbalist, M.B., B.S., Dip. R.A.C.O.G.

Dental Surgeons

B. Bourke, B.D.Sc., L.D.S.

D. Lye, B.D.Sc., L.D.S.

M. Monk, B.D.S.(Lond.), L.D.S.

C. Pearson, B.D.Sc., L.D.S.

R. Barnes, B.D.Sc.

RESIDENT MEDICAL STAFF

Interns:

M. Paine	13-07-87 — 11-10-87
M. Robertson	13-07-87 — 11-10-87
S. Swain	13-07-87 — 11-10-87
P. Larsen-Disney	12-10-87 — 10-01-88
G. Flanagan	12-10-87 — 10-01-88
M. Tang	12-10-87 — 10-01-88
S.K. Chang	11-01-88 — 10-04-88
P.S. Goh	11-01-88 — 10-04-88
M. Jackson	11-01-88 — 10-04-88
N. Adams	11-04-88 — 10-07-88
F. Brown	11-04-88 — 10-07-88
C. Lodge	11-04-88 — 10-07-88

Surgical Registrars:

K. Macgill	28-09-87 — 31-01-88
N. Redgrave	01-02-88 — 29-05-88
C. Murphy	30-05-88 — 25-09-88

Victorian Academy of General Practice

Fellows:

S. Barker	25-01-88 — 29-01-89
P. Peyton	28-01-88 — 29-01-89

The Administrative Division . . .

During the year there has been an attempt to focus on the output of the division as well as communication between and within departments. Each member of the division has been given an opportunity to comment on their quality of work experience and it is hoped to spend much of the next year focusing on the issues raised. In the interim, communication between all aspects of the division in the hospital have been improved with the advent of department and division meetings at all levels.

The major objectives detailed in the hospital agreement includes the requirement for a new kitchen and cafeteria complex and improving the ground floor admission and reception area. It is hoped that a complete review of energy management within the hospital will also be carried out in the next year.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

As in past years, there has been an ever increasing demand for building repairs and renovations throughout the hospital. This work has been carried out in addition to the routine repairs and maintenance. Some of the projects undertaken in the past year include —

Dental Clinic: Upgrade of dental laboratory and installation of dust extractor system which was manufactured in the hospital's workshop.

Health Promotion Unit: Conversion of the residence at 77 Baillie Street to provide offices for the Health Promotion and Social Work staff.

Kitchen extensions: Installation of relocatable building and associated works to provide more working area for kitchen staff.

Clinical room: Fitting out of the large room in 90 Baillie Street as a clinical room for visiting specialists.

Fourth floor sunroom: Old style wooden framed windows replaced with aluminium frames.

The gardeners are again to be commended for the standard of the hospital grounds and in particular, the newly established gardens around Matron Arthur House.

During the year two apprentices completed their apprenticeships. They were Peter Frecker, carpentry; and Claire Herson, gardening.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance Department completed another year of successfully meeting work deadlines with prompt completion of all internal and external requirements. The department can justifiably say that it has reacted in a timely manner to requirements placed upon it. However, the time has arrived when it is just not good enough to be reactive, but rather we must work towards a more positive environment by predicting and responding to future financial trends in the field. This will include updating of computerisation techniques and general knowledge within the department. It will mean

the development and co-ordination of internal systems and the application and analysis of information generated, which hopefully will protect the hospital's financial base. An example of this may be spreadsheets of interhospital comparisons and Diagnosis Related Group analysis. We can be confident that the department has the potential to successfully move in a direction which we know and accept is expected of us.

The department was unfortunate to lose the services of Amanda Lind to the Royal Women's Hospital, and we wish her every success in her new career. Amanda proved to be an extremely dedicated and efficient worker in her time at this hospital.

Another notable event for staff was the birth of Lyn and Damian Schaefer's first child and congratulations are extended.

Congratulations must also go to Susan Surridge who, after years of toil, has completed her Bachelor of Business degree. Susan proved to be a notable scholar and collected awards of achievement along the way.

We welcome Jenny Boyd to our ranks and her main task will be the processing of all creditors, an extremely time consuming job.

FOOD SERVICES

During the year we were pleased to welcome Mrs. Kathy Higgins as Food Services Manager. She was previously employed at the Freemasons Hospital and comes to us with a wealth of experience.

The kitchen reconstruction continues to be the hospital's number one priority. In an effort to improve the working conditions in the department, a portable building was erected adjoining the kitchen in January. This has greatly improved both the workflow and staff morale of the area.

During the year the department purchased a Convection-Steamer which will replace the old Steamer and also enable roasting and many other forms of cooking. It is planned that this piece of equipment will become an integral part of our future food services system.

In May, we welcomed Emma Bethell who commenced as an Apprentice Chef. Congratulations to Rhonda Sampey who successfully completed the trade school section of her apprenticeship and to Kerry Walter who continues to achieve high standards in her training.

GENERAL SERVICES

Once again this year the General Services team, consisting of domestics, orderlies, cleaners and junior domestics, have continued to operate in an efficient manner.

This group goes about their tasks in a quiet manner and are responsible for the extremely high standard of cleanliness throughout the hospital.

Staff turnover for the year has been minimal with some new additions on the opening of Matron Arthur House.

The staff are to be complimented on their pleasant, courteous and friendly manner with patients, visitors, other staff members and each other.

PERSONNEL AND PAYROLL

In this financial year the department has seen new technology with the introduction of the Peers Payroll System. Peers enables direct on-line employee enquiries, long service and annual leave enquiries and has the ability to calculate manual payments. Manual payments used to take 15 minutes to do, now with Peers the time is 30 seconds. Another plus is that Peers calculates termination pays which prevents any mistakes occurring. Two other packages, being creditors and patient reporting, have been established on Peers which makes information accessible much faster.

The 4% review which was conducted in the department has been successful. Nursing pay slips are now collected in the cafeteria and casual staff now complete their own time cards.

September saw the introduction of staff photo identification badges.

The past financial year has been successful and 1988-89 is looked forward to in providing further information through the purchase of extra packages to enhance the Peers system.

QUALITY ASSURANCE/ACCREDITATION

The hospital is committed to providing quality health care to the community.

Quality Assurance activities that have occurred in the hospital include patient surveys, nursing care plans, drug utilisation and surveys in our high dependency areas such as Accident and Emergency Department and the Intensive Care Unit.

Quality Assurance is an integral part of the hospital's continuing involvement in the Australian Council on Health Care Standards accreditation program. The hospital was last accredited in 1987 by this Council and this acknowledges that the hospital cares about the quality of services that are provided and is committed to evaluate and improve them.

The Quality Assurance program of the hospital is going to be expanded further to include independent reviews of areas of the hospital by health care professionals from other hospitals. We envisage that this will assist the program immensely. The education and training of our staff in Quality Assurance is of utmost importance, subsequently workshops and seminars will be held in the region to ensure that staff are continually educated in this area.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

This department has continued its high standard in maintaining the imprest of stock throughout the Wimmera Base and Annexe hospitals.

It has not been an easy year for maintaining general stock levels. Our major supplier, Victorian Hospitals Association, has experienced great problems with the introduction of an updated computer system. Over the last few months supplies have greatly improved and we have returned to near normal operation.

Activity has increased due to the opening of Matron Arthur House, but the extra workload has been absorbed with present staff levels.

WIMMERA HOSPITALS GROUP LINEN SERVICE

In the latter half of the year the Group Linen Service underwent an extensive equipment upgrading program.

Two new Passat Dryers were imported from Germany, a new feeder, folder and folder and stacker was fitted to the ironer and complementary conveyor equipment was installed.

As the Group Linen Service is a self-funding division all money had to be provided from its own sources. With the addition of this new equipment the Linen Service is recognised as one of the most up to date and efficient for its size in the state.

Many thanks must go to the staff who put up with adverse conditions during the refurbishment and high praise must go to the hospital's Engineering Department who did an excellent job of installing all the equipment.

As most of the equipment not replaced this year is well over ten years old, a continuing asset replacement program will go ahead over the next few years.

The high quality of linen presentation continues and it appears that all thirty-seven institutions using the service are happy with the end product.

DR. ALAN WOLFF,
Acting Deputy Chief Executive.

Deputy Chief Executive

Ms. I.H. Jurk, R.N., R.M., B.H.A.(UNSW),
A.H.A. (Seconded to Health Department Vic-
toria, April 1988)

Acting Deputy Chief Executive

Dr. A.M. Wolff, M.B., B.S., Dip. R.A.C.O.G.,
F.R.A.C.G.P.

Finance Manager

Mr. J.M. Airey, B.Bus., A.A.S.A., C.P.A.
(MGT.ACCT), A.C.I.S., M.I.A.A.

Chief Engineer

Mr. T.R. Martin, M.I.H.E., M.A.I.R.A.H.

General Services Manager

Mr. M.J. Toone

Food Services Manager

Mrs. K.M. Higgins, Dip.App.Sc (Food
Services), M.I.H.C.

Personnel Manager

Mr. D.H. Pinyon, I.P.M.A.I.

Administrative Officers

Mr. B.N. Waixel, B.Bus (WIAE) A.S.A. (Prov.)

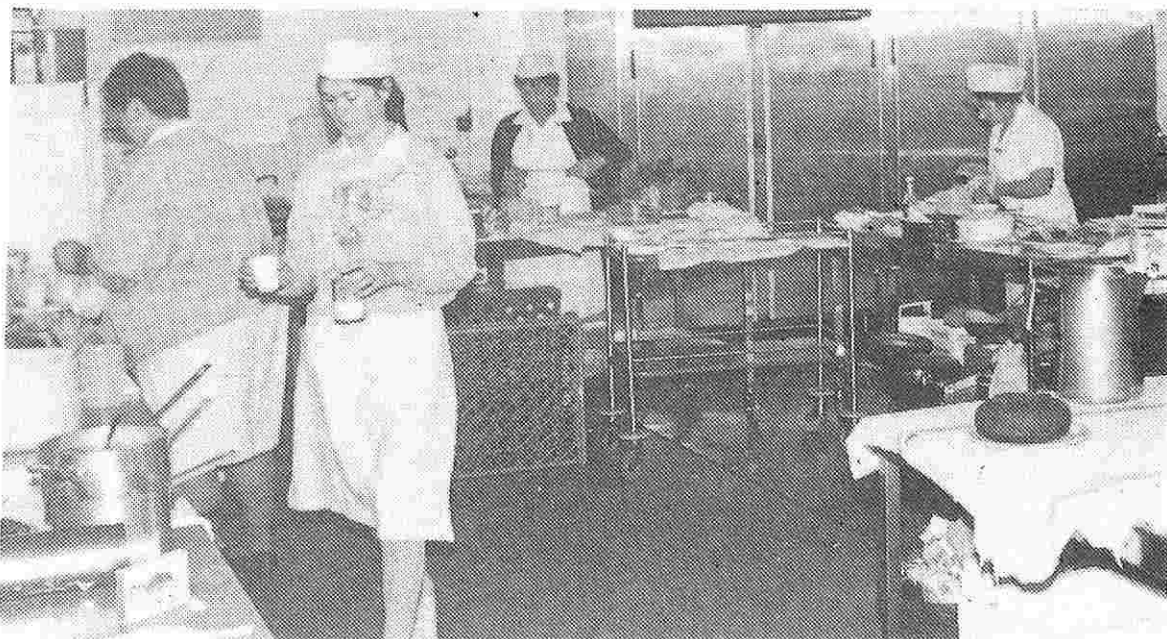
Mr. P.T. O'Connor, Cert.Bus.St.(Hosp.Admin.)

Purchasing Officer

Mr. M.J. O'Connor, J.P.



Richard Royle and safety officer Phillip O'Connor proudly display an Australian Fire Protection Association Award. The award was presented to the hospital for significant contribution to fire protection.



Staff at work in the new portable kitchen area are, left to right, Linda Plunkett, Fiona Werner, Helen Short and Anne Ward.



Operating theatre activity increased 18% in 1987/88 compared to the previous year.

HEALTH SERVICES AGREEMENT PROGRAM 1987-88

A key feature of the Health Service Agreement Program has been a commitment to increased accountability to Parliament and the general public.

The following information details a few of the specific targets set at the commencement of the year, and the results achieved by the end of the year.

GOAL

ACHIEVEMENT

Staff Training

To develop a staff hospital training program to improve the skills and job performance of staff.

Achieved and ongoing.

Nursing Education

Continue the development of Post Basic Nursing Courses

4 post basic nursing courses undertaken plus numerous regional nursing education programs.

Rehabilitation

Assess the requirements and long term rehabilitation strategy for patients in the Wimmera sub-region.

Rehabilitation team established.

Care for the Aged

To appoint an extended care co-ordinator to oversee and co-ordinate extended care services within the hospital and community.

Achieved 30-9-87

Productivity

No. of inpatients treated
Average length of stay

Estimated	Actual
4.070	4.387
6.2 days	5.4 days

The Nursing Division . . .

1987-88 will be remembered as the first year of our involvement with a Health Service Agreement, an initiative introduced by the Health Department Victoria in 1986. The process has many positive aspects and has received a strong commitment from all staff in order to identify short and long term goals and objectives, with respect to patient care and services, staff development and education, increased throughput, reduced length of patient stay; all within a very constrained budget.

The dream of the nursing staff; the replacement of sub-standard patient accommodation, operating theatres, delivery suites and an inadequate Accident and Emergency Department, appears to fade further into obscurity with every passing year. Notwithstanding this disappointment, the nursing staff have again co-operated to improve productivity and have sustained increased workloads in order to achieve the targets. A marked increase in the number of surgical day cases has also created further demands on finite resources. The maintenance of high standards of nursing care has been achieved only by the dedication and commitment of the nurses, I take this opportunity to congratulate and thank them for their continued contribution to patient care.

A highlight of the year was the opening of Matron Arthur House. Mrs. Beth Flack is the Charge Nurse who leads her team of registered and state enrolled nurses, to care for the thirty residents.

Several other Charge Nurse appointments have been made during the year, Mrs. Christine Giles has replaced Mrs. Nanette Freckleton on Ward One; Mr. David Leach replaced Mrs. Pat Craig in Ward Five; Mrs. Karen Robinson replaced Mrs. Dawn Buffham in Sir Robert Menzies Nursing Home; Miss Lauryn Smith replaced Mrs. Beryl Moloney in the Day Centre; Mrs. Mary Smith replaced Mrs. Margaret Facchin in Central Sterilising and Supply Department; and Miss Denise Wickham replaced Miss Billie Hill in Ward Four. Mrs. Pauline Keyte resigned from the staff of the School of Nursing to take up a position at the Nhill Hospital.

Mrs. Joan Amos has tendered her resignation as Charge Nurse of Ward Seven, a position she has carried out with distinction for ten years. Joan has given twenty-two years valuable and dedicated service to the hospital and the esteem in which she is held by all hospital staff was proven by the number who gathered to say farewell to her recently. We wish you a long, happy and healthy retirement Joan, and take this opportunity to say thank you for your example, professionalism and your friendship and support over a long and dedicated career.

The student nurse numbers have declined to



The Director of Nursing, Mrs Gillian Curran.

twenty-one, as the transfer of nurse education to the tertiary sector proceeds. Two groups of students successfully completed their training during the year —

Susan Gaye BARNES
Julie Maree CULHANE
Lisa Christine DART
Leanne Joy FLAVEL
Ivor Thomas McLEAN
Maree Gayle MARKBY
Susan Mary O'DAY
Amanda-Jane Louise KELLY
Janine Elizabeth RODGERS
Jan Catherine SMITH
Clare SWABY

Lisa-Jane WOODMAN
Philip Anthony SMITH
Robin James CRAWFORD
Anne-Maree BOLAND
Graeme Charles COX
Margaret Anne McDONALD
Donna Maree MULRANEY
Bruce William RENTSCH
Claire Catherine SHARRY
Roxanne Joy TUCKER

Graduation was held on March 4, 1988, when Professor Alan Pearson, Dean of the Faculty of Nursing at Deakin University, Geelong was guest speaker. Professor Pearson presented certificates to these graduates.

The T.F. Ryan Nursing Prize was awarded to Roxanne Tucker, the Past Trainees Prize was awarded to Lisa Dart, and Tom McLean received the Award for Academic Excellence.

Plans to mark the closure of the nurse training school at Wimmera Base Hospital are underway. A special graduation ceremony and ball will be held on Friday, March 10, 1989.

The hospital has accepted the challenge to become involved with nurse training conducted in tertiary institutions. We have been pleased to welcome students from Ballarat and Warrnambool Colleges of Advanced Education for clinical nursing experience and look forward to their first nursing graduates joining our staff in 1989.

The Graduate Nurse Program has continued and has successfully assisted the transition of student nurses to their new role as registered nurses. The following participants graduated at a ceremony held at the hospital on April 27, 1988:

Birgit BROWN
Terry-Anne HOWARD
Melissa GARTH
Leonie KEANE
Robyn LEVITZKE

Kaylene LUTZE
Therese SHARRY
Shirley STODDART
Wendy STRONACH
Jennine ROOKE

Miss Wendy Stronach received the Course Co-ordinator's Award.

Ten participants commenced a subsequent Graduate Nursing Program in May 1988, included in their number are our first graduates from a nurse training course conducted in a tertiary institution.

The first High Dependency Nursing Course completed in September 1987, when the following nurses graduated —

Jana BOS
Heather ELLIS
Helen FAY
Christine LYONS

Pamela MUSZKIETA
Pauline STANBROOK
Sharron SWABY

Ms. Dianne Thornton has been appointed as clinical teacher for the second High Dependency Nursing Course which commenced in March 1988 with eight participants.

A three month re-entry course for registered nurses was completed in June 1988 with eight participants returning to the workforce in Regions 1 and 2, Mrs. Nola Kroschel was co-ordinator for the course.

Study days and seminars have been held regularly at Wimmera Base Hospital and throughout the region, special in-hospital short courses have been conducted in District Nursing, Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation, Diabetes Education and Gerontological Nursing practices. Special funding grants from the Health Department Victoria, and planning by the Post Registration Education Advisory Committee have made these initiatives possible. We hope that funding will continue to be made available so that post basic nursing education can continue. The provision of education is essential if nurses are to keep pace with advances in nursing, medicine and technology.

Several members of staff are undertaking post graduate nursing studies through Colleges of Advanced Education both in Victoria and interstate and have achieved very high standards.

The acute ward areas have been provided with computer terminals, these are used to access different sources of information related to patients and staff. Mrs. Judy Pymer is presently undertaking a research project in patient dependency studies to ascertain staffing requirements.

A Diabetic Outpatient Clinic is conducted at Wimmera Base Hospital by Frank Blake on a weekly basis. The aims of the clinic are to provide education and advice to outpatients and also to newly diagnosed inpatients. A weekly clinic has also been conducted at Stawell Hospital

since April 1988, with a steady increase in the number of clients as people become aware of the service.

The nursing staff continue to display innovative approaches to improving standards of care for their patients. Nurses have raised funds to purchase medical equipment and items for patient comfort by holding cake stalls, a film night, study days, raffles, etc. The Intensive Care Unit has purchased special intra-arterial monitoring equipment with a donation of \$3,000 from Horsham Lions Club supplemented with \$5,939 raised by the nurses. The hospital has also purchased a mechanical volume cycle ventilator at a cost of \$34,000 for patients with respiratory problems, this equipment enables many patients to remain in Horsham rather than be transferred to Melbourne.

The following nurses have been recognised by the Board of Management for long and dedicated service to the hospital —

Ten years: Helen Hemley, Helen Batty, Shirley Heard, Ailsa Kinnerly, Aileen Purches, Dianne Thornton, Shirley Wines.

Twenty years: Mavis Lowe, Margery Pannan, Margaret Atkins, Vonda Hamilton.

Twenty-five years: Shirley Cameron.

The hospital staff would not be able to meet its objectives without the interest and the support of the community, especially the ladies auxiliary, the Red Cross and the service clubs, we sincerely thank all who have given so generously to their hospital.

I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to the president and members of the Board of Management, the Manager, the staff of all departments, and all nurses for continuing the team effort that enables us to care for our community.

GILLIAN M. CURRAN,
Director of Nursing.

NURSING STAFF

Director of Nursing

Mrs. G.M. Curran, Dip.Th.Man.,
Cert.Bus.St (Hosp.Admin.), F.C.N.A., A.H.A.

Deputy Director of Nursing

Mrs. J.I. Waixel, Assoc.Dip.H.Admin.

Assistant Directors of Nursing

Miss J. Lade, Dip.App.Sc. (N.Admin.)

Mrs. S. Wines

Supervisory Sisters

Miss C. Lamenta

Mrs. J. Pymer

Principal Nurse Teacher

Mrs. M. Pannan, Assoc.Dip.N.Ed.,
Grad.Dip.Ed.Admin. (Hawth.)

Grad.Dip.Student Welfare

F.C.N.A., M.A.C.E.A.

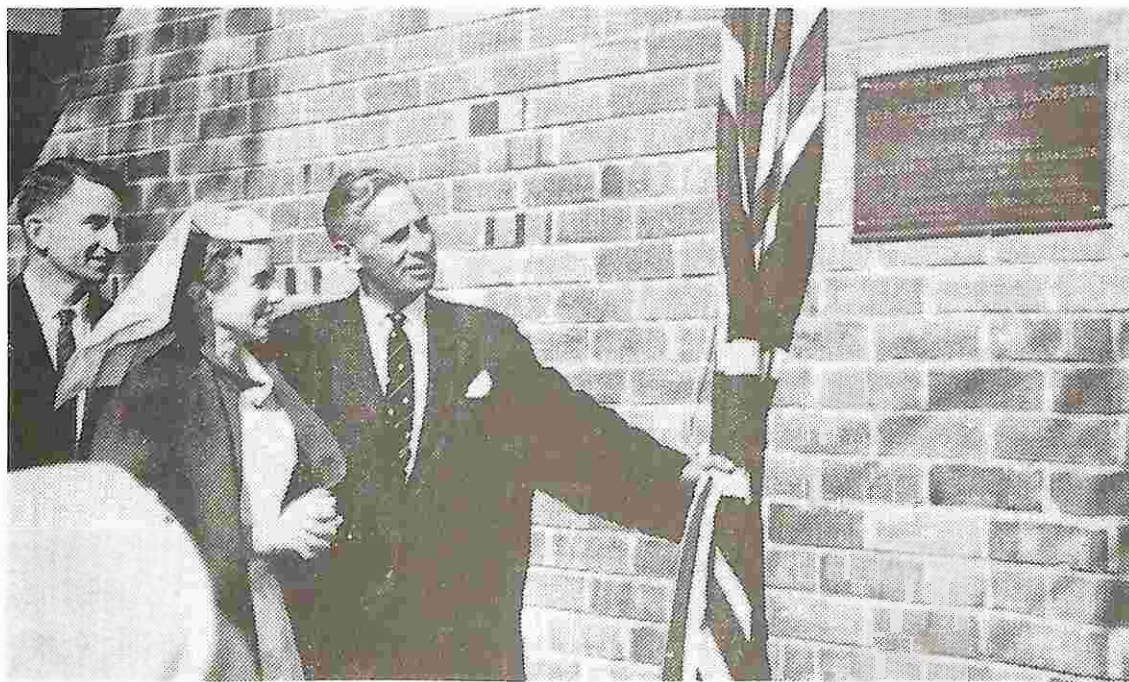
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OVER THE YEARS . . .



Top: Sir William Slim and Mr H.J. Randall at the opening of the nurses homes in 1957.



Mr Graeme Lind and Mr Peter Fisher, M.P. at the opening of Matron Arthur House in 1987.



Dr John Tindle unveils the commemorative plaque at the Genaric Units in 1962 watched by Dr Ross Webster and Matron Lesley Woolley

Financial Statements . . .

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1988

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR HOSPITAL AND NURSING HOME SECTIONS AND HOSTEL SECTIONS

1986-87	Revenue	1987-88
	Operating Account	
10,175,982	Government grants (1)	11,743,875
829,112	Inpatient fees (2)	856,144
583,371	Non-inpatient fees	663,325
88,041	Meals and accommodation	93,525
29,600	Meals on wheels	28,558
31,760	Other revenue and recoveries	46,365
<u>\$11,737,866</u>		<u>\$13,431,792</u>
	Nursing Home and Hostel Revenue	
3,034,091	Government grants (3)	3,201,503
444,643	Patient fees	584,525
<u>\$3,478,734</u>	Total Nursing Home and Hostel Revenue	<u>\$3,786,028</u>
\$15,216,600	Combined total	\$17,217,820
1,004,754	Deficit for year (4)	882,630
<u>\$16,221,354</u>		<u>\$18,100,450</u>
	Expenditure (5)	
11,796,040	Salaries and wages	12,991,420
531,752	Payment to visiting medical officers	773,110
129,499	Superannuation	132,783
387,263	Food supplies	406,978
352,969	Medical and surgical supplies	397,703
244,309	Special services department	285,119
240,098	Drug supplies	297,183
367,526	Fuel, light and power	433,007
583,825	Domestic and laundry charges	604,664
321,105	Repairs and maintenance	280,932
466,118	Administrative expenses	506,877
800,850	Other (6)	990,674
<u>\$16,221,354</u>		<u>\$18,100,450</u>

Financial Statements . . .

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AT JUNE 30, 1988

1986-87			1987-88	
\$	\$		\$	\$
	5,271,246	Balance of funds at start of year		5,206,876
	435,748	Prior year adjustments (7)		740,105
		Revaluation (8)		4,838,418
		Asset adjustment		(2,360)
(1,004,754)		Result for year — operating deficit	(882,630)	
504,636	(500,118)	other funds surplus	297,529	(585,101)
	<u>\$5,206,876</u>	Balance of funds at end of year		<u>\$10,197,938</u>
		Represented by:		
		Current assets		
	7,976	Prepayments		
	1,193,047	Investments (9)		963,875
451,601		Patient fees outstanding	524,091	
73,747		Other debtors	348,164	
<u>525,348</u>			<u>872,255</u>	
11,137	514,211	Less provision for bad debts	22,479	849,776
	139,611	Stores		<u>143,626</u>
	<u>1,854,845</u>	Total current assets		<u>1,957,277</u>
		Fixed assets		
		Land	200,000	
4,887,332		Buildings	9,583,427	
<u>2,465,318</u>		Plant, equipment and motor vehicles	<u>2,872,252</u>	
<u>7,352,650</u>			<u>12,655,679</u>	
821,147		Less provision for depreciation	1,024,703	
	6,531,503	Total fixed assets		11,630,976
	<u>8,386,348</u>	Total assets		<u>13,588,253</u>
		Less current liabilities		
720,909		Bank overdraft	485,194	
435,982		Creditors	615,177	
259,282		Accrued salaries and wages	334,412	
1,051,673		Accrued annual leave	1,164,636	
63,171		Accrued days off	67,293	
<u>648,455</u>		Provision for long service leave	<u>723,603</u>	
	3,179,472	Total liabilities		3,390,315
	<u>\$5,206,876</u>	Nett assets		<u>\$10,197,938</u>

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF OPERATING REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE 1983-84 to 1987-88

REVENUE	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
Government Grants	\$9,658,286	\$11,425,090	\$12,062,678	\$13,210,073	\$14,945,378
Patient Fees	2,254,518	1,713,472	1,652,531	1,857,126	2,103,994
Other	192,180	136,535	148,255	149,401	168,448
TOTAL REVENUE	<u>\$12,104,984</u>	<u>\$13,275,097</u>	<u>\$13,863,464</u>	<u>\$15,216,600</u>	<u>\$17,217,820</u>
EXPENDITURE					
Salaries and Wages	\$8,754,569	\$9,638,277	\$10,511,939	\$11,796,040	\$12,991,420
Other Expenditure	3,701,362	3,780,663	4,136,180	4,425,311	5,109,030
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>12,455,931</u>	<u>13,418,940</u>	<u>14,648,119</u>	<u>16,221,354</u>	<u>18,100,450</u>
Operating Deficit	(350,947)	(143,843)	(784,655)	(1,004,754)	(882,630)
	<u>\$12,104,984</u>	<u>\$13,275,097</u>	<u>\$13,863,464</u>	<u>\$15,216,600</u>	<u>\$17,217,820*</u>

*Includes Matron Arthur House — November 1987-June 1988

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

<p>(1) Grants received were:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Ordinary</td><td style="text-align: right;">10,847,100</td></tr> <tr><td>Specific Purposes</td><td style="text-align: right;">42,615</td></tr> <tr><td>Works and services</td><td style="text-align: right;">71,687</td></tr> <tr><td>Visiting nurses</td><td style="text-align: right;">143,557</td></tr> <tr><td>PADP</td><td style="text-align: right;">118,114</td></tr> <tr><td>Employment</td><td style="text-align: right;">76,020</td></tr> <tr><td>WorkCare</td><td style="text-align: right;">290,700</td></tr> <tr><td>Costs met by Health Department</td><td style="text-align: right;">154,082</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$11,743,875</u></td></tr> </table>	Ordinary	10,847,100	Specific Purposes	42,615	Works and services	71,687	Visiting nurses	143,557	PADP	118,114	Employment	76,020	WorkCare	290,700	Costs met by Health Department	154,082		<u>\$11,743,875</u>		<p>(2) Inpatient fees</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Private</td><td style="text-align: right;">581,780</td></tr> <tr><td>Transport Accident Commission</td><td style="text-align: right;">80,233</td></tr> <tr><td>Workers compensation</td><td style="text-align: right;">45,985</td></tr> <tr><td>Repatriation</td><td style="text-align: right;">120,983</td></tr> <tr><td>Nursing home type</td><td style="text-align: right;">27,163</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$856,144</u></td></tr> </table>	Private	581,780	Transport Accident Commission	80,233	Workers compensation	45,985	Repatriation	120,983	Nursing home type	27,163		<u>\$856,144</u>
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<p>(3) Nursing Home revenue including Matron Arthur House grants received were:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Ordinary</td><td style="text-align: right;">1,844,000</td></tr> <tr><td>Department of Health</td><td style="text-align: right;">1,221,012</td></tr> <tr><td>Pharmaceutical benefits</td><td style="text-align: right;">39,411</td></tr> <tr><td>Hostel Subsidy</td><td style="text-align: right;">97,080</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$3,201,503</u></td></tr> </table>	Ordinary	1,844,000	Department of Health	1,221,012	Pharmaceutical benefits	39,411	Hostel Subsidy	97,080		<u>\$3,201,503</u>		<p>(4) Health Department funds on a cash basis therefore considerable expenditure is brought to account without corresponding revenue. These amounts are:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Provision for long service leave</td><td style="text-align: right;">309,504</td></tr> <tr><td>Provision for annual leave</td><td style="text-align: right;">112,964</td></tr> <tr><td>Provision for accrued days off</td><td style="text-align: right;">4,122</td></tr> <tr><td>Depreciation</td><td style="text-align: right;">226,244</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>652,834</u></td></tr> </table> <p>A shortfall in ordinary operating grants from the Health Department was incurred of</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">400,000</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>1,052,834</u></td></tr> </table> <p>Deficit as reported</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">882,630</td></tr> <tr><td>Surplus if funded on accrual basis</td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$170,204</u></td></tr> </table>	Provision for long service leave	309,504	Provision for annual leave	112,964	Provision for accrued days off	4,122	Depreciation	226,244		<u>652,834</u>		400,000		<u>1,052,834</u>		882,630	Surplus if funded on accrual basis	<u>\$170,204</u>		
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<p>(5) Expenditure for current year includes Matron Arthur House cost components which distorts comparisons against prior year.</p>																																
<p>(7) Prior year adjustments</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Prior year Deficit Payment</td><td style="text-align: right;">740,400</td></tr> <tr><td>Transfer to Nursing Home Society</td><td style="text-align: right;">(295)</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$740,105</u></td></tr> </table>	Prior year Deficit Payment	740,400	Transfer to Nursing Home Society	(295)		<u>\$740,105</u>		<p>(6) Other expenses:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Depreciation</td><td style="text-align: right;">226,244</td></tr> <tr><td>Costs met by Health Department</td><td style="text-align: right;">154,082</td></tr> <tr><td>WorkCare</td><td style="text-align: right;">331,752</td></tr> <tr><td>Ambulance</td><td style="text-align: right;">175,947</td></tr> <tr><td>PADP</td><td style="text-align: right;">106,665</td></tr> <tr><td>Increase stock</td><td style="text-align: right;">(4,016)</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$990,674</u></td></tr> </table>	Depreciation	226,244	Costs met by Health Department	154,082	WorkCare	331,752	Ambulance	175,947	PADP	106,665	Increase stock	(4,016)		<u>\$990,674</u>										
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<p>(9) Investments:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Capital</td><td style="text-align: right;">319,299</td></tr> <tr><td>Special purposes medical</td><td style="text-align: right;">498,812</td></tr> <tr><td>Specific purposes fund</td><td style="text-align: right;">145,764</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$963,875</u></td></tr> </table>	Capital	319,299	Special purposes medical	498,812	Specific purposes fund	145,764		<u>\$963,875</u>		<p>(8) The historical costs held in the capital fund have been recast to reflect more appropriate values. The new costs are based upon municipal rating values where appropriate.</p>																						
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Financial Statements . . .

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE INCORPORATING CAPITAL, SPECIAL PURPOSES MEDICAL AND SPECIFIC PURPOSES FUND

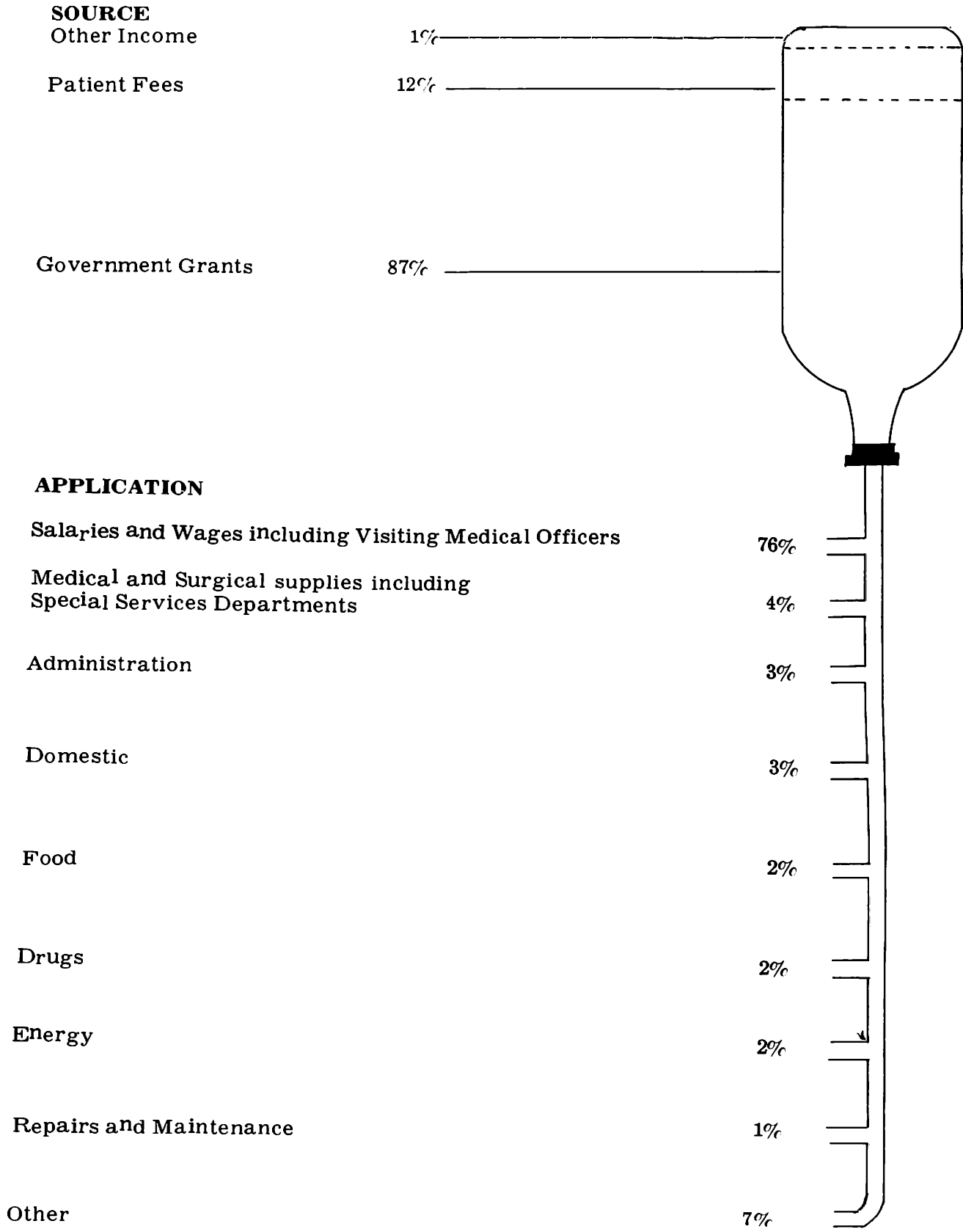
Revenue	Capital	Special Purposes	Specific Purposes	TOTAL
Patient fees		253,790		253,790
Interest	44,968	59,381	24,111	128,460
Government grants	49,300			49,300
Donations	8,193		20,745	28,938
Rent			22,571	22,571
Gain on sale of assets	29,121			29,121
Sundry		1,340	3,314	4,654
TOTAL	131,582	314,511	70,741	\$516,834
Expenditure				
Equipment and maintenance	34,650	5,315	12,505	52,470
Computer expenses		60,720		60,720
Professional services			27,117	27,117
Travelling and vehicles		8,848	4,964	13,812
Bonuses		34,273		34,273
Sundry	307	10,990	19,616	30,913
	34,957	120,146	64,202	\$219,305
Surplus	<u>96,625</u>	<u>194,365</u>	<u>6,539</u>	<u>\$297,529</u>

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A summary of significant accounting policies and principles followed by the Wimmera Base Hospital is given below to assist in evaluating the financial statements and other data in this report.

- (a) The financial statements for the year ended June 30, 1988 have been prepared on the accrual basis and, in accordance with the requirements of the Health Department Victoria and normally accepted accounting principles, with exceptions being:
 - (i) No provision has been made for the depreciation or further revaluation of buildings. Buildings are recorded at 1987 municipal rating values. Comparatively recent building additions and asset capitalisations (ie. in the last 10 years) continue to be based on the historical cost convention. Land is now separated and has a 1987 municipal rating value assigned.
- (b) Income and investments
 - (i) Income from capital investments has been credited directly to the capital account
 - (ii) Income from investment of specific purposes funds have been credited directly to the relevant trust fund.
- (c) Stock on hand
Stocks on hand include all stores in the General Store and Pharmacy.
Stocks on hand are valued at latest purchase price, which is consistent with prior years.
- (d) Preference has been given to producing a consolidated balance sheet, and revenue and expenditure statements. This is consistent with the Health Department's preferred policy, as they follow modern conventional accounting practices.
- (e) Depreciation of plant and equipment is determined on the basis of the straight-line method, taking into consideration the anticipated economic usefulness of the assets.
- (f) Provision for long service leave has been calculated at employees current rate of pay. Entitlements, calculated with reference to relevant awards, recognise the liability from the date of legal entitlement, which is generally after 10 years of service.

SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS TO FINANCE HOSPITAL OPERATIONS



WIMMERA HOSPITALS' GROUP LINEN SERVICE
Operating Statement for the year ending June 30, 1988

1986/87		INCOME		1987/88
893,285				963,532
		Less Direct Expenses		
	638,290	Laundry and linen	671,763	
	36,566	Manufacture and mending	33,636	
<u>\$714,708</u>	<u>39,852</u>	Maintenance	<u>77,246</u>	<u>\$782,645</u>
5183,577		Gross Operating Margin		\$180,887
		Less Indirect Expenses		
	71,458	Transport	75,391	
	98,871	Administration	98,050	
<u>\$197,223</u>	<u>26,894</u>	Cleaning	<u>18,922</u>	<u>\$192,363</u>
(\$13,646)		Net Operating Margin		(\$11,476)
54,493		Non Operating Income		52,122
36,000		Net Operating Expenditure		\$30,000
\$4,847		Net Profit (Loss)		\$10,646

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1988**

(1) The movement in the Capital Account is explained as follows:

Balance at beginning of year	\$513,170
Capital purchases for year	170,409
Adjustment for Annual Leave Provision	12,902
	<u>\$696,481</u>

The movement in the Operating Fund is explained as follows:

Balance at beginning of year	(\$21,168)
Operating Fund Surplus 1987-88	10,646
	<u>(\$10,522)</u>

The movement in the Asset Replacement Reserve is explained as follows:

Balance at beginning of year	\$272,303
Appropriation for year 1987-88	30,001
	<u>\$302,304</u>
Purchases for year	170,409
	<u>\$131,895</u>

(2) Stores on Hand include:

Bulk Linen	\$131,125
Bulk Chemicals	4,098
	<u>\$135,223</u>

(3) Investments are recorded at cost and are held as follows:

Pyramid Building Society	<u>\$231,006</u>
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(4) No provision has been made for depreciation of buildings which are included at cost price in accordance with Health Department Victoria policy guidelines.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT JUNE 30, 1988

1986-87	Capital Fund	1987-88
513,170	Laundry Capital	691,481
272,303	Asset Replacement Reserve (1)	131,875
(21,168)	Operating Fund	(10,522)
\$764,305		\$817,854
	These funds are represented by:	
	Current Assets	
3,949	Cash in Bank	
50	Cash on Hand	50
81,241	Debtors	95,918
110,405	Stores on Hand (2)	135,223
15,465	Other Debtors	
\$211,110		\$231,191
347,040	Investments (3)	231,006
	Fixed Assets	
323,363	Buildings (4)	323,363
77,659	Plant & Equipment	560,428
401,022	Less Provision for Depreciation	337,304
		223,124
\$959,172		546,487
	Less Current Liabilities — Provisions	\$1,008,684
4,400	Bank Overdraft	31
29,979	Accrued Expenses — Salaries and Wages	6,000
51,891	Accrued Expenses — Fuel (Transport)	600
105,274	Creditors	31,700
2,424	Provision for Annual Leave	38,989
899	Provision for Long Service Leave	110,790
\$194,867	Provision for Accrued Days Off	2,720
	Other Creditors	190,830
\$764,305	Net Assets	\$817,854

Auditors' Report

We report that we have examined:

- (a) the accounts of the Wimmera Base Hospital, Sir Robert Menzies Nursing Home and Matron Arthur House for the year ended 30th June, 1988.

Our examination included auditing procedures and tests of the records which we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In preparing the financial statements, the hospital has not provided for depreciation of buildings (refer to accounting policies). This is a departure from a statement of accounting standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and Australian Society of Accountants.

Subject to the above, in our opinion, the accounts are properly drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Health Department Victoria so as to give a true and fair view of the institution's financial affairs as at 30th June 1988 and of the results of its operations for the year ended on that date.

The accounting and other records examined by us have been properly maintained in accordance with the provisions of the Health Department Victoria's Cost Centre Accounting and Budgeting Systems Procedures Manual.

- (b) the accounts of the Wimmera Hospitals' Group Linen Service for the year ended 30th June, 1988.

Our examination included such auditing procedures and tests of the records which we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In preparing the financial statements, the organisation has not provided for depreciation of buildings. This is a departure from the statement of accounting standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and the Australian Society of Accountants.

Subject to the above, in our opinion, the accounts are properly drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the organisation's financial affairs at the 30th June, 1988 and of the results of its operations for the year ended on that date.

GREEN, TAYLOR, AINSWORTH AND RYAN,
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
M. W. RYAN, F.C.A.
PARTNER

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

I, John Maxwell AIREY, being the officer responsible for the preparation of the accompanying accounts of Wimmera Base Hospital, comprising:

- (a) The attached consolidated balance sheet of hospital funds and consolidated statement of revenue and expenditure for hospital and nursing homes together with notes to and forming part of those accounts for the year ended June 1988;
- (b) The attached balance sheet and statement of revenue and expenditure of the Wimmera Hospitals' Group Linen Service for the year ended 30th June, 1988;

and state that to the best of my knowledge and belief such accounts have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Health Department Victoria so as to give a true and fair view of the Institutions financial affairs as at 30th June 1988 and of the results of its financial operations for the year ended at that date.

JOHN M. AIREY, A.A.S.A., C.P.A.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The consolidated balance sheet, statement of revenue and expenditure, explanatory notes and supplementary information of Wimmera Base Hospital, Sir Robert Menzies Nursing Home, Matron Arthur House and Wimmera Hospitals' Group Linen Service to the best of our knowledge and belief, have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Health Department of Victoria so as to give a true and fair view of the Institution's financial affairs as at the 30th June 1988 and of the results of its financial operations for the year ended at that date.

R. N. Royle
Chief Executive

K. H. Lovett
Honorary Treasurer

G. B. Lind
President

RED CROSS LIBRARY

It is my pleasure to present the Annual Report of the Red Cross Library situated at the Wimmera Base Hospital.

This year has been a busy year delivering books and magazines to the patients and every three months changing our prints from the picture library. These prints have been hung in Sir Robert Menzies Nursing Home, the Geriatric Unit, and the Day Centre. These prints are greatly admired by the patients and visitors.

In October of last year the Matron Arthur Home was officially opened by the Member for Mallee Mr Peter Fisher. A very enjoyable afternoon was spent by the many visitors, afternoon tea was served on the lawns. The home is now included in our visits. At Christmas our usual party was held at the Geriatric Unit. The patients were entertained by the children from Horsham 298 School. Afternoon tea was served by the members of the unit, gifts were given. These are bought from the money from our stall held at our monthly meetings. Gifts are also given to RSL patients. These are wrapped and sent from head-quarters.

Our services at the hospital certainly give a lot of pleasure to the patients as they get much happiness and assistance from our Red Cross visits and is certainly rewarding to us.

Firstly I would like to thank Miss Crafter for her help at all times, to Mr Royle for his kindness and help when needed, to Matron and sisters and nursing staff for kindness and co-operation and to the members of the staff, to Miss Maureen White, Manager of Hospital and Community Services and not forgetting the people of the Horsham district for magazines for our library.

Thank you.

MRS THELMA CAIN,
Librarian.

LADIES AUXILIARY

During the last financial year, the auxiliary raised the sum of \$13,057.42. Of this \$2,714.60 came through raffles, donations and social functions.

A Christmas hamper was raffled in December, and a Mother's Day cake and linen stall in April, Coles having given permission for the kiosk to be parked near their supermarket.

In October and April two very successful coffee mornings were held, and a luncheon was held in June. Auxiliary members are grateful to hostesses who have lent their homes for such occasions.

The Opportunity Shop brought in \$10,342.82. Much of this money comes through the efforts of church guilds, social clubs and school mothers' clubs who help us to stock the shop. The general public also assist with donations of clothing and goods. We feel that as well as raising money, the Opportunity Shop also provides a useful public service in supplying clothing and articles at very moderate prices.

The object of our money raising was to help Matron Arthur House (which members were able to inspect before and after completion). We aimed to give \$50,000 over five years. However, we have managed to do this in four years, so, with the approval of hospital management, our new ambition is to help with the purchase of replacement furniture for the hospital wards.

Because so many of our members are becoming frail, we regretfully had to decline to help with Meals-on-Wheels earlier this year. The situation will be reviewed later.

Last year, because of family commitments, our long-time Treasurer, Miss Mamie Smith resigned. I wish to pay tribute to the wonderful work Miss Smith has done for us so competently and cheerfully for so many years. We were indeed most fortunate to have had her as an office bearer.

Mrs. Joyce Stevens took Miss Smith's place as Treasurer, but unfortunately was obliged to resign because of ill-health. Our Secretary, Mrs. Murch has also resigned, and her help will be missed greatly.

I cannot conclude this report without expressing my appreciation of the co-operation of the hospital staff, especially office and management, kitchen, engineering and stores departments.

My thanks go too, to the auxiliary members who have supported me, and who have worked so hard in the interests of the Wimmera Base Hospital.

HEATHER SCOTT,
President, W.B.H.L.A.

GOVERNORS AND DONATIONS . . .

Donations . . .

Alcoholics Anonymous	50.00
Anonymous	10,000.00
Anonymous	1,000.00
Ballinger, Mrs. E.	5.00
Collier Charitable Fund	3,000.00
Conn, J.	5.00
Dickins, J.M.	100.00
Dumesny, Mrs.	50.00
Estate of E.M.E. Elbourne	50.00
Estate of F. Schumann	1,137.56
Faux, H.A. & U.J.	20.00
Halleday, Mr. F.	100.00
Harris, Mr. & Mrs. R.	20.00
Horsham Lotteries	32.00
Horsham Technical School	97.75
Horwood, A.K. & L.C.	300.00
Kemp, E.O.	50.00
Muhlnickel, M.E.L.	500.00
Peters, A.	5.00
Pethard Tarax Charitable Trust	1,000.00
Puls, Mr. & Mrs. W.	40.00
Rotary Club of Horsham	100.00
Russell, M.	40.00
Rutter, Mr. A.	50.00
Smith, L.F.	200.00
Snibson, Mr. H.C.	300.00
Speakeasy Association Horsham Group	200.00
Steven, P.	2,000.00
St. Michaels School	10.00
Taylor, Mrs. A.E.	195.00
Total Abstinence Society	3,950.00
Troeth, P.	390.28
Van Dyk, J.A.C. & H.W.F.	2,000.00
Whiting, A.M. Sympathy Fund	1,900.00
Woodhart, L.L.E.	35.00
Yole, Mrs. N.R.	5.00

These donations do not include those given to the Horsham and District Nursing Home Society.

CENTENARY GOVERNORS

Bethell, Mr. R.	John, Mr. M.D.
Brownstein, Mr. E.G.	Lind, Mr. G.B.
Chisholm, Mr. G.	Matuschka, Mr. E.
Coutts, Mr. P.A.	Moore, Mr. L.G.
Crellin, Mrs. E.	Muhlnickel, Mr. V.F.
Cuddihy, Mr. M.W.	O'Brien, Dr. M.M.
Edwards, Mr. R.G.	Patterson, Mr. R.
Eldridge, Mr. E.	Rodda, Mrs. H.
Finch, Mr. A.	Rogers, Mr. B.
Francis, Mr. S.	Smith, Miss M.A.R.
Grant, Mr. R.G.	Taylor, Mr. M.H.
Heard, Mr. G.B.	Vandyk, Mr. J.A.
Hill, Mrs. D.	

LIFE GOVERNORS

Abud, Dr. R.E.
 Aumann, Mr. R.E.
 Beynon, Mr. J.H.
 Boehm, Mrs. G.E.
 Boyd, Miss B.
 Brownbill, Mrs. K.
 Brownstein, Dr. E.G.
 Burgess, Mr. R.
 Butler, Mr. L.H.
 Cain, Mrs. T.
 Carter, Mrs. J.K.
 Carter, Mrs. V.A.
 Castelluccio, Mr. M.
 Cathcart, Miss D.
 Corner, Mrs. P.
 Courtney, Miss A.R.
 Craig, Miss M.E.
 Cuddihy, Mr. M.W.
 Draffin, Mr. I.
 Garth, Mr. D.J.
 Gill, Mr. W.
 Hanna, Mr. W.T.
 Harfield, Mrs. D.
 Healey, Miss N.
 Hill, Miss B.
 Hoffman, Miss L.
 Hopkins, Miss E.V.
 Johns, Rev. A.A.
 Kroker, Mrs. C.O.
 Leith, Mr. C.
 Leivesley, Mr. A.G.
 Leyton, Dr. G.B.
 Lovett, Mr. K.H.
 McFarlane, Mr. D.J.
 McIntyre, Miss V.C.
 Montgomery, Mrs. L.
 Moore, Mr. L.G.
 O'Brien, Dr. M.M.
 O'Connor, Mr. K.J.
 Pascall, Mrs. L.G.
 Phillips, Mr. A.W.
 Pietsch, Mr. E.B.
 Powell, Mrs. J.
 Preuss, Miss E.
 Robertson, Mr. P.
 Russell, Mrs. E.W.
 Russell, Mr. M.S.
 Schultz, Mr. F.P.
 Schurmann, Miss N.J.
 Shepherd, Mr. R.W.
 Smith, Miss M.A.R.
 Stenhouse, Miss L.
 Tippett, Mrs. A.M.
 Troeth, Mr. P.
 Walpole, Dr. T.V.
 Webster, Prof. R.W.
 Wik, Mrs. W.M.

25 YEARS SERVICE . . .



Pictured are staff who have completed 25 years service at Wimmera Base Hospital. Left to right, standing, Gill Curran, Shirley Cameron, Wilma Bennett, Laurie Hirst; seated, left to right, Barry McCouri, Loris Amor, Betty Muller, Maria Cericola, Michael Castelluccio. Other staff who have completed 25 years service are Margaret Jobe, Joyce Golan and Jack Neighbour.



Theatre Technician Christine Umbers does a final check on the anaesthetic machine prior to use.



Sharing a quiet moment. SEN Deryl Poulton chatting with residents of Matron Arthur House Mrs Flo Clough, Mrs Eileen Ryan and Mrs Mary Young.



A happy group pictured at the opening of Matron Arthur House. Left to right, Regional Director Andiejs Zamats, Member for Mallee Mr Peter Fisher, Mrs Judy Fisher, Chief Executive Mr Richard Royle, Director of Rural Health Ms Elizabeth Kelly and Senior Vice-President Rev. Allan Thompson.