



Hi to all our wonderful Tree Hutt Supporters

It is getting close to Christmas 2018 and staff at the Emergency Department would like to fill you in as to what has been happening and all the latest updates for the Tree Hutt

Let us go back to last Christmas which was amazing because of your contributions. A Christmas tree in the main waiting room with a vast array of Christmas present sitting underneath, gave a feeling of welcome and comfort to children and adults alike.

The lead up to Christmas was a very busy one, Benjamin from Wellington Free Ambulance arrived with beautifully wrapped presents which he and his family had organised. These were kindly donated by Wellington Free Ambulance staff with the help of Craig Sheppaerd a valued volunteer there. Craig's generous yearly donations not only help sick or injured children from the Hutt ED but also children who visited the Wellington ED. Staff in both departments were excited to be able to give presents at Christmas. The happy faces of the children receiving present was a positive experience for all involved.



The Tree Hutt also received a supply of presents from Lower Hutt Rotary which were distributed to children in need through the Salvation Army. The presents were donated by many Hutt Valley Christmas shoppers including family and friends. Staff who worked over the Christmas period said that it was amazing to see the priceless look on children's faces, this brought a big smile to many. Your generous support over the last three years has been amazing, thank you so much. Our staff would like you to know that your generous support has



positively impacted on children and families at what is often been a difficult time for all This experience has brought the magic of Christmas to our ED.

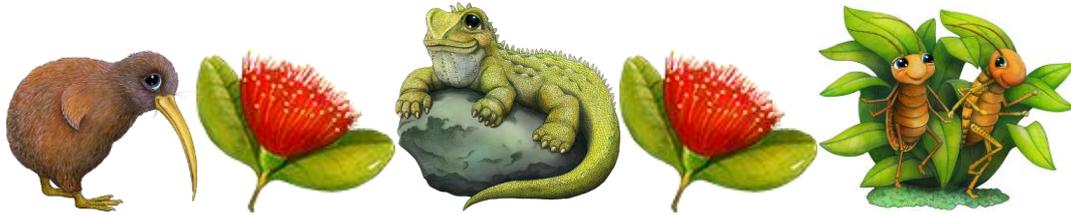


Moving forward with what is new to the Tree Hutt. We have another Airvo 2 high flow machine for our paediatric patients who present with breathing problems. Money was raised and kindly donated by Isaacs Financial Planning to purchase a third machine. This specialised treatment helps supports children when they come into our ED with moderate to severe respiratory distress. This has without doubt saved lives and enabled children to be home with their families much sooner than if these machine had not been here.

A 950 Fisher & Paykel Healthcare humidifier has also been purchased. This machine caters especially for our babies 5kg and under who present with respiratory distress. Due to limited hospital funds we organised to raise money from our community supporters. Luckily for us, one of our Friends of the Emergency Department volunteers (FEDS) Steve Wilkinson heard about this request and mobilised his business associates, who came up with the funds to purchase this specialised breathing equipment. Steve, an AMP advisor sought the help of his fellow advisors around the country who support Centrus Trust approved and supported this essential project. This machine has been in use a number of times over the winter period to assist our wee patients with their breathing with great effect.



Another addition to the Tree Hutt is our new little teddy bear friends which have been kindly donated by Tony Mansfield and his team from the Freemasons of NZ. The bears have been very well received by children who visit the ED in the Tree Hutt. The bears were originally given out in many emergency department in England to help alleviate distress and trauma often associated with a hospital visit. To date we have given out hundreds of teddy bears and



we must say they are such a hit with the children. Thanks to Colin (Wellington Freemasons)



one phone call when we are getting low in the bears and magically appear.

New to our Tree Hutt has been the development of illustrated Tree Hutt clinical gowns for the Wellington Regional Dental Service. This will take the Tree Hutt concept of distraction therapy to the wider Hutt Valley population. They felt it would offer over 78,000 children a more



positive and child friendly experience of going to the dentist. At present we are in the manufacturing stage of the dental gowns which is very exciting. We are in the process of raising \$26,000 so staff will be able to wear these awesome gowns also. In the near future we will work with the dental service to bring some of the Tree Hutt imagery into dental



departments to continue to promote a child friendly environment.

One of our Emergency nurses Angela Campbell has got another group of supporters to help with the Tree Hutt. They are called The Community Unity Project Aoteraroa. They have donated hand knitted woollies to be given out to patients in need, this includes our paediatric patients. We would like to thank them for giving up their free time and making such a positive difference to all. This community group are based in Lower Hutt and are out there helping many of the Lower Hutt community. They are doing a great job and have been nominated for a Business Excellence Award, we wish them good luck with that. Their motto is together we all do better.





The women's Institute of Epuni again over the past year continue to provide the ED with personal care packages (e.g toothpaste, soap, shavers etc). These packages have been well received by patients and their families as many come to hospital with nothing. Being able to brush your teeth or have a shower can help make you feel just a little better.

The ladies from the Silverstream Lions have again been busy hand knitting teddy bears to give out to children, this provides comfort and support while they receive treatment in our Emergency Service

Last but not least, Silverstream Lions which have generously supported the Tree Hutt from the very beginning over eight years now have offered a large Christmas tree for the Emergency Department waiting room. The tree will be a wonderful focal point to all that come in for emergency treatment over the holiday period.

Well what a busy year it has been and look at what the Tree Hutt has achieved with your generous support. We are all looking forward to Christmas 2018. Thanks again for your support in own emergency service and for making a positive difference for all paediatric patients and their families who live in our community. For more stories on the Tree Hutt go to the Hutt Hospital Foundation Trust website www.hhft.org.nz

We all wish you the compliments of the Season and look forward to 2019

Stephanie Beddis



