



Mercy Mail

22 November 2019



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ACUTE FACILITIES:

Mater Rockhampton
(07) 4931 3313

Mater Mackay
(07) 4965 5666

Mater Bundaberg
(07) 4153 9539

Mater Gladstone
(07) 4971 3713

AGED CARE FACILITIES:

Mercy Aged Care
(07) 4999 1400

Bethany
(07) 4999 2700

Leinster Place
(07) 4926 6688

McAuley Place
(07) 4921 3867

Mercy Day Therapy
(07) 4928 0227

Mercy Day Respite
(07) 4926 7789

GROUP SERVICES:

Mercy Food Service
(07) 4922 3233

Mercy Linen Service
(07) 4927 6005

www.mercycq.com

Good morning friends in Mercy

Do you know what significant event happened on 14 November 1915? I am sure everyone at the Mater Rockhampton would know the answer for it was on that day 104 years ago that the fourth Bishop of Rockhampton, Bishop Joseph Shiel blessed and opened the Mater Hospital in Rockhampton. That day is known as Foundation Day and is celebrated at the Hospital each and every year.

Before sharing with you some of the highlights of the Foundation Day celebrations held earlier this week, it is worthwhile for a moment to reflect on how challenging it must have been for the Sisters of Mercy to open a new Hospital in Rockhampton in 1915 against a back drop of a World War and a prolonged drought. In the book *For God and the sick* written by Helen Gregory, an excerpt from the local paper of the day chronicles those challenges:

"One striking instance of reliance of the Sisters of Mercy in their own powers was to acquire, amidst the conditions consequent upon the colossal struggle between nations and the severity of a very prolonged drought, the very fine residence known as Kenmore mansion for use as a hospital ---- Nursing is, of course, no new profession for the Sisters of Mercy ---- but the departure was a new one so far as the diocese of Rockhampton was concerned, and, like the private and public hospitals conducted by the Sisters of Mercy in Brisbane, the same measure of success in proportion to the operations have attended the efforts of the nuns in Rockhampton".

So as you can see challenges and opportunities have always been a part of the story of Mater in Queensland and today as the Maters from all parts of the State transition towards a single Mater organization, we have a very exciting opportunity to best meet the healthcare challenges of 2019 and beyond just as the Sisters met those challenges here in Central Queensland 100 plus years ago by founding the Mater Rockhampton.

Now back to Mater Rockhampton Foundation Day this year. A lovely Foundation Day Prayer Ritual led beautifully by Mission and Pastoral Care Coordinator, Sr Maria Jean Rhule was held in the Chapel followed by a lunch held under the tamarind tree in the grounds of the Mater.

During the Prayer Ritual, Mater staff members were recognised for their long service to the Hospital with recipients acknowledged for 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years of service. A highlight of the event was Donella McFarlane and John Hustler receiving the 2019 *Catherine McAuley Award* presented by Hospital Finance Officer, Amanda Houston whilst Hospital Executive Officer Sue Thurbon announced Jo Cass as the recipient of the *Sister Colette Award* with Glen Tarlington accepting the Award on Jo's behalf.

Congratulations to Donella, John and Jo on their respective Awards and congratulations to all who received Long Service Badges for their years of loyal and highly valued service at the Rockhampton Mater. A list of these Recipients can be found below with **Photos from the event on the next page.**

Badge Recipients for 10 Years of Service: Anne Miller, Pamela Keyworth, Sonia Horstman, Jeffery Bellert, Erin Perry, Kylie Brooke, Maria Pernes, Veronika Chadwick, Tarnie Russell (Absent: Deidre Beath, Timothy Harkin, Donna Wellington, Leony Read, Ian Sotelo and Talia Rienecker)

Badge Recipients for 15 Years of Services: Gregory Peacock, Vanessa Richmond, Anna Haller and Deb Munster. (Absent: Mandy Dobson).

Badge Recipients for 20 Years of Service: Jennifer Lynch, Diana Fox, Kym Row, Jennifer Black and Veronica Lasek.

Badge Recipients for 25 Years of Service: Penny Duffy and 30 years of Service: Beverley Freeman and Christine Gardner (Absent)

On behalf of everyone associated with our Healthcare Ministry, I offer to all Award winners and all Long Service Badge recipients, sincere appreciation and warm congratulations on the significant contribution they have made over many years to life at the Mater Rockhampton.

Take care and best wishes


Phillip Bauman
Mission Coordinator



Sr Colette Award Winner Jo Cass
accepted by Glen Tarlington



Catherine McAuley Award recipients
John Hustler & Donella McFarlane



25 years of service -
Bev Freeman & Penny Duffy



20 Years of Service – Veronica Lasek, Jenny Black, Kym Row, Diana Fox and Jenny Lynch



15 Years of Service – Anna Haller, Deb Munster, Gregory Peacock and Vanessa Richmond



10 Years of Service – Tarnie Russell, Maria Pernes, Kylie Brooke, Erin Perry, Jeffery Bellert, Sonia Horstman, Anne Miller,
Pam Keyworth, Veronika Chadwick