



# MEDIA RELEASE

from the office of... **TROY GRANT MP**  
MEMBER FOR DUBBO ELECTORATE

**October 29, 2018**

## **Momentous day for hospital project**

Member for Dubbo Troy Grant joined with family members of two well-known medical identities and hospital staff at a special ceremony at Dubbo Hospital on Monday

The important contributions of Dr Ian Locke and Mr George Hatch were recognised at an official naming ceremony for the new administration and education building (previously the old Maternity Unit).

Both Dr Locke and Mr Hatch's families were on hand to celebrate the lives and achievements of two people who had a hugely positive impact on the community and the staff they worked with.

The refurbished maternity building has been officially named the Ian Locke Building in recognition of Dubbo's first paediatrician, Dr Ian Locke who worked at the hospital for 14 years until he died in 1992 aged 46.

The medical library within the Ian Locke building has also been officially named the George Hatch Medical Library. Mr Hatch was the first male nurse in NSW and worked as a nurse and nurse educator at Dubbo Hospital for 44 years, retiring in 1984. Mr Hatch died in 2003 aged 83.

"This hospital project is one the NSW Government is extremely proud of, and to honour two stalwarts of medicine and care is a terrific thing," Mr Grant said.

"Both Ian Locke and George Hatch made significant contributions to the health and wellbeing of people in Dubbo, and I know their families are proud that their legacies will live on through this building and library."

Dubbo Hospital general manager Debbie Bickerton said both men made significant contributions to improving health outcomes in the region and were highly respected by their peers.

"Dr Locke spent much of his time in the Maternity Unit looking after new born babies, and staff were very keen to name the refurbished building after him," she said.



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“We’re also thrilled to name the medical library after George Hatch who assisted in the training of hundreds nursing students at Dubbo Hospital.”

The George Hatch building, which was used for staff accommodation, administration and education purposes, was demolished earlier this year to make way for a major expansion and upgrade of hospital services as part of the \$150M Dubbo Hospital Redevelopment Stages 3 and 4.

A wall graphic depicting the history of George Hatch’s involvement with Dubbo Hospital was also unveiled alongside the original plaque from the old George Hatch building.