

## **Renal Unit**

Following the NSW Government's commitment of \$150 million for the next stages of the redevelopment, the Renal Unit has now been incorporated into Stages 3 and 4 of the project.

Including the Renal Unit works in Stages 3 and 4 means that it can now be delivered as a new build instead of a refurbishment, which is a great outcome for patients and staff. It also means the Renal Unit will be better located with relevant services such as the new Emergency Department and Ambulatory Care Centre.

We recently asked Nurse Manager, Dubbo Dialysis and Renal Outreach, Gail O'Brien what the new Unit will mean to local and remote patients.

### **What are some of the challenges faced by Renal patients in rural and remote areas?**

The biggest challenges they face are being away from their community and family as well as the travel and accommodation costs.

### **What will be the new benefits of the new Renal Unit?**

It will allow me and the team to meet best practice. The unit will be less crowded, and there will be better isolation of infectious patients. We'll have more space, security and privacy for staff and patients. There will also be a proper reception area and staff will have duress alarms, portable phones and more storage. We also won't be isolated from the rest of the hospital which will improve the flow of information between our unit and other areas of the hospital.

### **How will Telehealth Services be improved by the new Unit?**

Telehealth is currently going well for patients but it will become more accessible in the new unit and there will be better privacy for patients who are having a Telehealth consultation from remote areas.

## What are you and your team looking forward to when the redevelopment is complete?

We are looking forward to more space and a modern, purpose-built Renal Dialysis Unit with proper staff areas and separate staff and patient access points.

## Will your unit benefit from being more closely connected to the rest of the hospital?

Being better co-located to the acute areas of the hospital will mean we can respond more timely to emergencies and won't feel isolated from the rest of the hospital. We will have improved security and it will be easier for hospital inpatients to access our unit.

## Do you have any other comments about the benefits of the new Renal Unit?

We are all really looking forward to working in a better, safer, cleaner and more modern environment with big windows, more space and dedicated patient and staff areas.

## Meet the Redevelopment team..

**Name:** Mary McCarthy

**Position:** FF&E Project Officer, Dubbo Health Service Redevelopment - works along side Kerrie O'Neill and Bonita Jameson.

**Responsibilities:** To co-ordinate the selection, purchasing and delivery of furniture, fittings and equipment for Stages 3 & 4 of the Dubbo Redevelopment.

**Where are you from?** I was born in Amsterdam, The Netherlands and grew up in Tasmania. I lived in Queensland for 12 years before moving to Dubbo in 1985. I have worked at Dubbo Hospital for 30 years - 28 years as a Nursing Unit Manager and 23 of those years at S Block.

**Favourite colour:** Red

**Favourite food:** My Mum's Broodjes (little Dutch meat pies).

**Are you a cat or a dog person?** Definitely DOG.

**What do you like doing when you're not at work?** Walking, gardening, coffee with friends.

