

Initial Construction Underway for Mortuary and Stores



Sterile Stores and Mortuary Refurbishment underway

The initial construction for the Mortuary and Stores commenced this month after a dawn blessing led by DHB Kaumatua Graeme Grennell and Wairau Chaplain Kevin Gwynne on Monday the 26th of May. District Managers, Board members, Project Team, local iwi, Wairau Staff,

Construction contractors and media witnessed the dawn blessing and celebrated the new beginning for one of the Wairau Hospital's oldest buildings.

What will happen in the Mortuary?

The Mortuary will receive a 'moderate refurbishment' with some walls being

removed, painting and carpeting. The Mortuary will also receive 4 new body hold units.

The refurbishment will allow for more comfortable surroundings for families when visiting the facility, modernise the body hold and improve access for funeral directors and pathologist.

What will happen in the Stores?

The stores area will undertake a refurbishment and an extension to accommodate a new sterile stores. Co-locating the sterile stores with the general stores will allow for greater efficiencies in restocking and monitoring.

The refurbishment of the Mortuary and Stores marks the unofficial commencement of the Wairau hospital redevelopment Project. The refurbishment is expected to take 3 months and will be ready to be opened on the 28th of July in conjunction with the Turning of the Sod Ceremony for the main construction works.

'Decanting' and Staging plan for Construction Phasing

A draft 'decanting' and staging plan has been developed by the Project Manager, David Hobern in conjunction with the Project Team, District Managers and User Group co-leaders.

The plan outlines the estimated timeframes for the stages and transfer of departments. The new staging plan identifies some departments that, due to the 'new build on top of existing build' planning, will be required to move twice. The project team acknowledges that this is a disruptive phase of the build but if planned well, can be managed effectively with the least impact on staff, patients and visitors.

The departments required to move twice include HDU, Surgical & Medical Outpatients, Day Stay Unit, Medical Secretaries, Health Educators, ECG and Oncology.

Temporary covered access into the current Emergency Department from the car park will also need to be developed during the first phase of construction.

Staff will be fully briefed by their Heads of Departments, District Managers or the Project Team over the next couple of months. Please contact these people if you have any concerns or questions.

Hawkins Construction move into Site Huts

The construction team leading the initial works for the Wairau Hospital have moved into their 'Site huts' this month.

The huts are strategically placed to overview the new build construction site to the west of the current facility.

Martin Edwards commented that the 'Hawkins team are very excited to be involved in this challenging hospital project, it is clear that this redevelopment means a lot to both the community and hospital staff.

"A small village of site offices will grow over the coming months and it is from here that Hawkins and a family of skilled tradesman will meet the challenge face on. Hawkins are in awe of the work that hospital staff undertake everyday and know that at times construction will impact on hospital activities. We hope to make the redevelopment journey as seamless as we can".

The initial phase of construction commenced in May with the refurbishment of the Mortuary and the Stores.

Count down to beginning of Construction – 2 months!

Hoist Systems Presented

Rehab Equipment visited Wairau Hospital and presented their hoist systems to staff this month. New hoist systems are planned to be in the two Bariatric rooms in the inpatient departments and in other areas across the new facility.



Simon Langford and Marion Rowe test the hoist System

Staff Focus: Radiology Team

Phillip Thomas, Radiology Team Leader and Lindsay McCallum, Sonographer, have lead the Radiology team through the hospital redevelopment project. Both Lindsay and Phillip have attended regular user group meetings and have been key linkages for information from the radiology staff to the architects.

Phillip Thomas commented that for Radiology 'for the first time, a majority of the modalities will be under the same roof, with Ultrasound, CT, Mammography and X-ray all joining together. Nuclear Medicine is also brought closer to the department, remaining in the basement but being directly adjacent to Radiology. This alone has the potential to increase efficiency of the department and teamwork within Radiology'

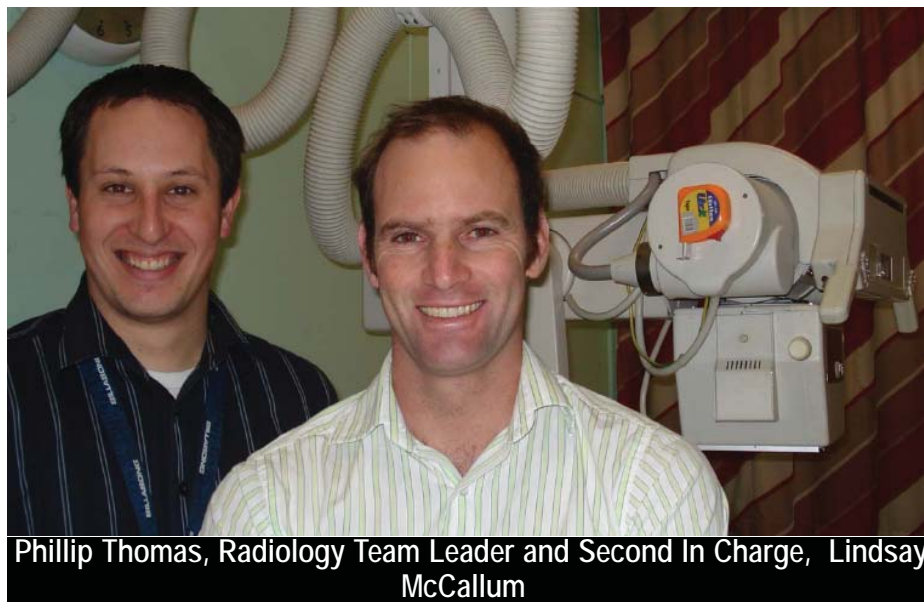
Other benefits for the future radiology department include possibilities of expansion - for whatever direction technology will take Radiology in the future and eliminating confusion for patients as they will only have to find one location for Radiology services. The

ability to link services within Radiology will benefit patients who may need multiple modalities. With the new design, there will be an increased chance we can do it all in one visit rather than multiple visits

In working through issues and getting to the stage that the Radiology user group have reached, Phillip commented that 'the process of getting to the current Radiology design has been difficult with many challenges along the way. Most Radiology staff have had input into the design throughout the project, to the

current plan. I would be lying if I said the process wasn't frustrating at times, but without the frustration I feel we would have a facility of less quality as any issues would have been realised too late'.

When asked what Phillip was looking forward to the most in regards to the new hospital, he noted that 'having a facility Marlborough can be proud of and staff enjoy working in. For a long time patients have said that the staff are wonderful - be a nice change if we can add "as is the hospital" to the end of their comments'



Phillip Thomas, Radiology Team Leader and Second In Charge, Lindsay McCallum

Official Construction Commencement Planned

The construction works for the new buildings at Wairau Hospital will commence with an official 'turning of the sod' ceremony at the end of July. It is proposed that the ceremony will be held on the 23rd of July; however this is subject to final confirmation from the Ministry of Health.

'Testing' Systems Interface for Future Patient Journey Workshop

The project and user groups have spent the previous year focusing on current patient, clerical and staff flows throughout their departments. It was considered that it was now timely to look forward and begin mapping how the future flows may work.

A large group of User group co-leaders, District Managers, Infrastructure, Communication, Orderly & Transport representatives met for a day workshop last month to review some future scenarios of patients coming through their departments.

The interface with technology and communication methods was raised as one of the key area for further investigation. Commencement of discharge planning and communication between the wards regarding bed management and coordination of patient treatment were also other areas discussed.

Further workshops will be held to focus on Outpatient, Child & Youth and Maternity patient, process and staff flows.