

Monday, 6 March 2017

Coledale Hospital celebrates 100 year anniversary

Coledale Hospital is calling on past and present staff, friends, family and the local community to join together in celebration of the Hospital's 100th year milestone.

Coledale Hospital Director of Nursing, Anne Gilholme said tickets are still available for the *Coledale Hospital 100 Year Anniversary Dinner*, which is being held on Friday 17 March - 100 years to the date since the Hospital's official opening in 1917.

The idea to build a hospital at Coledale came about in 1910 when members of the thriving local mining community highlighted the need for miners and the general public to have access to medical treatment close to home and work. Following seven years of planning, fundraising, construction and fit out, the facility was officially opened as the *Illawarra Cottage Hospital* with 15 beds and 4 cots.

"Since its inception the local community has proudly supported Coledale Hospital. In fact, historic records show that employees of the surrounding mines contributed a day's pay to help fund the building," Mrs Gilholme said.

Fast forward a century, Coledale Hospital now provides inpatient and community based health services to Illawarra patients, specialising in rehabilitation and aged care services. The purpose-built 18 bed aged care unit accommodates patients with dementia and awaiting nursing home placement and the 20 bed inpatient rehabilitation unit provides multidisciplinary care to patients recovering from a range of illnesses and injuries.

"Over the years, the local area, transportation and public health services all evolved, and so too did Coledale Hospital, which now provides specialist care as part of the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District's network of hospitals.

"The Anniversary dinner is a chance to celebrate the Hospital's significant milestone and look back on an eventful 100 years and the people that have been part of that journey," Mrs Gilholme said.

Coledale Hospital 100 Year Anniversary Dinner

Date: Friday, 17 March from 6.30pm until late
Event: Three course meal, music, dancing, trivia and prizes
Venue: City Beach Function Centre, Wollongong
Tickets: \$80 per person
Dress: Evening
RSVP: Book by Wednesday, 8 March by contacting Melinda on 4267 1047 or melinda.greening@health.nsw.gov.au

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District

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