

# The Caring South

## SOUTHERN CHARITY HOSPITAL NEWSLETTER

August 2025

CNM - ANDREW DE GUZMAN

### Latest Updates:

#### Welcoming New Volunteers

Southern Charity Hospital continues to grow, and we're looking for more amazing people to join our volunteer team. Every role makes a difference — whether you're providing care, supporting patients, or keeping our hospital running smoothly.

We are especially seeking endoscopists, endoscopy nurses, admitting and PACU nurses, dentists and dental assistants, as well as members of our admin team, reception, and cleaning staff.

Volunteering with us means being part of a passionate team, helping patients who face long waits elsewhere, and sharing in the unique spirit of a hospital built by the community, for the community.

If you'd like to get involved, please contact Andrew De Guzman, Clinical Nurse Manager at 0273200168 or email: [clinical@sch.nz](mailto:clinical@sch.nz).

Together, we're not just providing healthcare — we're building hope.



Southern Charity Hospital Dental Team (from left to right) Kate Tiriaere and Hannah Arnold. Preparing for our first dental patient.

## A New Smile for Southern: Launching Our First Dental List

Southern Charity Hospital is proud to celebrate a major milestone – our very first Dental Pioneer List. This special morning was filled with teamwork, patient care, and the beginning of a service that will bring lasting benefits to our community.

#### How the Day Unfolded:

The team gathered at reception where introductions were made, safety roles confirmed, and scrubs and fob keys were distributed. From there, everyone moved into the Dental Suite for a briefing, covering the session plan and patient cases.

The suite was set up and prepared before our patients arrived. After assessment, procedures were completed with care and compassion.

A tea break gave the team a moment to recharge, before continuing with the next patient's assessment and procedure.

The morning closed with a shared lunch and a reflective debrief on this pioneer dental session.

#### Our Amazing Team:

This first list was made possible thanks to the dedication of an outstanding group of dental volunteers!

- Dr Kate Tiriaere – Dentist
- Janine Dougherty – Dental Coordinator
- Hannah Arnold – Dental Assistant

#### A New Chapter:

We are so fortunate to have these wonderful people lead the way in establishing dental services at Southern Charity Hospital. This is just the beginning – with your continued support, we look forward to helping many more patients receive the dental care they need.

Ngā mihi nui to all who made this day possible. Together, we are creating brighter smiles.

### Stay Connected

Keep up to date with Southern Charity Hospital by following us on social media <https://facebook.com/southlandcharityhospital>. See the impact of our dental and endoscopy services, volunteer efforts, and community milestones. We welcome you to visit, meet our team, and discover how your time, skills, or support helps expand services and reach more patients in need. Together, we're building brighter futures, healthier lives, and a hospital that truly belongs to the community.



Southern Charity Hospital is equipped with a MyRay panoramic dental X-ray (OPG) machine, providing clear and accurate imaging of teeth and jaws.

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Southern Charity Hospital Team (from left to right)  
Katrina Kingsford-Smith, Sim Brar, Maree Mathews, Gerry Morris  
Karen Gower, Mary Smyth, George Gower, Jackie Knight, Bill  
Potter, Pamela Williams, Maree Jones and Andrew De Guzman

## Southern Charity Hospital Expands Endoscopy Services with Two Major Milestones

We recently completed our very first colonoscopy list under conscious sedation—a step in expanding access to safe, patient-focused procedures. The day ran smoothly thanks to the dedication and expertise of our incredible team. Dr Frank Frizelle (Endoscopist) led the procedures with care and precision, supported by Fiona Smith (Scope Technician) and Kirk Davison (Nurse) who ensured patients were comfortable throughout. Behind the scenes, Vicki Clark (Admin Coordinator) and Wendy Hewitt (Admin) managed scheduling and patient flow while also bringing patients tea and a warm welcome. Gillian Perica (PACU Nurse) monitored patients in recovery, and Jackie Knight (Admitting Nurse) prepared and reassured patients before their procedures. This successful list demonstrates the power of teamwork and dedication, setting the stage for expanded services for more patients in need.

Hot on the heels of this achievement, we proudly completed our second colonoscopy list, providing care for 14 patients over two days—including a busy Saturday. This list was led by Avinash Kumar, surgeon from Tauranga, supported by a highly skilled clinical team drawn from across New Zealand. Jackie Knight, Katrina Kingsford-Smith, and Pamela Williams from Invercargill; Karen and George Gower joined from Christchurch; and Gerry Morris and Mary Smyth came from Hawke's Bay. Together, they worked seamlessly to provide safe, compassionate care for every patient. After two intensive days, the team shared dinner and reflected on the camaraderie and commitment that underpin Southern Charity Hospital's mission. These milestones highlight how every procedure, every volunteer, and every staff member helps build a hospital that truly belongs to the community.

Enjoy this newsletter!

*Southern Charity Hospital Team x*

### Community Support Making it Possible

At Southern Charity Hospital, our community is at the heart of everything we do. From donated meals that keep our staff nourished during busy days, to the countless hours volunteers give, and generous gifts of equipment, skills, and resources — every contribution matters.

Your support allows us to provide vital services, pioneer programs, and care for patients who might go without. It's not just help; it's a partnership.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who stands with us — our volunteers, donors, and supporters. Together, we're not just delivering healthcare; we're creating brighter futures, healthier communities, and a hospital that truly belongs to the people it serves. Thank you for being part of this journey with us.



From left to right: Avinash Kumar (Endoscopist) and John McCall (Clinical Committee Member) Enjoying a donated lunch from The Malabar Kitchen.



From Left to Right: Brett Davidson, Facility Coordinator, and Andrew De Guzman, Clinical Nurse Manager, enjoying a delicious pavlova from Helen.