



**HOPE
HEALTHCARE**

media release

For immediate use

Local Club's donation for beds at Braeside Hospital

The Leo McCarthy Memorial Smithfield RSL Club has donated \$10,000 to go towards specialised electric hi-lo adjustable beds at Braeside Hospital. President Brian Marsh and Senior Vice President Mick Lightowler presented their cheque to Hope Healthcare Chief Executive Officer, Bill McLaren at Braeside on 15 July 2005..

What makes these beds special is a fully adjustable height from 240 to 640 mm with adjustable backrest – all changeable from a handset readily used by the patient and staff.

The benefits of the beds are many. For people in rehabilitation following a stroke, limb injury or amputation or perhaps with multiple sclerosis, for people with a terminal illness dealing with end of life issues, the bed you are in can be a quality of life matter. Being able to adjust your own bed when relatively immobile creates independence when you may be losing control of your life. Setting the height so you are able to more readily manoeuvre out of bed is another advantage. For staff there are many occupational health pluses; reduction of bending and manual lifting for nurses, for example.

Bill McLaren, Chief Executive Officer, Hope Healthcare, expressed his thanks to the club. "The Smithfield RSL have been regular major supporters of our work at Braeside Hospital since we opened in 1996. Their donation promises better outcomes for patients dealing with a range of disabling illnesses or injuries. We are very grateful for their help."

Sydney 16 July 2005

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