



**HOPE
HEALTHCARE**

media release

For immediate use

Palliative Care options on the Northern Beaches Function marks commencement of new clinic and work on a garden retreat.

Members of the local community, local politicians, members of the ladies auxiliary and staff from Mona Vale Hospital joined with volunteers and staff of the Northern Beaches Palliative Care Service at the Cottage on 3 May.

The occasion was to mark the commencement of a medical clinic at the Cottage providing an alternative to home visits, and to also acknowledge the generous volunteer help in the planning and assisting with the building of the Cottage garden.

The John Doran Clinic will give palliative care patients the option of an appointment with their palliative care specialist at the Cottage, rather than a visit being made to their own home.

A local Landscape Designer, Vicki Bowden, undertook design for the garden area and she has generously continued to volunteer her time and energy by assisting with the building of the Cottage garden. Vicki had earlier collaborated with Design Consultant Amanda Walsh and Colour Consultant Michelle McCallum to produce a project plan for the makeover of the Cottage.

The naming of the clinic pays tribute to Dr John Doran who worked tirelessly to establish palliative care services on the Northern Beaches. He became well known in the local community for his bereavement and grief counselling skills. Dr Doran was instrumental in the foundation of the Palliative Care Cottage and the bereavement and outpatient services. He believed in a holistic approach to palliation, and worked towards giving patients a choice in how their care was managed. He was a strong advocate for the right of patients to die at home with appropriate support systems in place.

Sydney 3 May 2007

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