



**HOPE
HEALTHCARE**

media release

100 Years of Hope
a Century of Care

For immediate use

Our thanks for decades of support A tribute to former Ryde resident Joan Laird

St Anne's Ryde will be acknowledging the community contribution by parishioner Mrs Joan Laird on Sunday 24 February.

Former Ryde resident Mrs Laird has been a wonderful supporter of Hope Healthcare over many decades through her involvement in the Ryde Circle and St Anne's Ryde Day Fellowship. In this time she has helped raise more than fifty thousand dollars for Hope Healthcare.

An inspired idea to organise coach trips to fundraise for Hope Healthcare and, as Joan put it in an interview in 1999, "Provide a means of socialising and seeing God's creations," first came to her in 1985. She had nursed her husband Jim during his 30-year battle with arthritis and had raised a family of four. She came to realise she needed to make a life for herself.

Joan then took the initiative that enabled her to see quite a lot that she had been prevented from seeing because of her commitments to her family. "Trips to the Northern Territory and Western Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand had been real highlights," she had said.

Hope Healthcare Chief Executive Officer Mark Newton has extended his thanks to Mrs Laird, "Through her inspired efforts, the money Joan Laird has raised over these past decades, has very effectively helped us bring comfort and dignity to many others in need of our healthcare services. On behalf of Hope Healthcare and our many patients who have benefited from Mrs Laird's support, my heartfelt thanks."

Sydney 21 February 2008

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