



QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL COMMUNITY TRUST

For immediate release

1 March 2010

QE TRUST RECEIVES GENEROUS DONATION

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital Community Trust has received a generous donation from first time visitors, Australian author, Joy Chambers and her husband, Dr Reg Grundy AC OBE, the Australian and international television icon.

Chairman of the Trust, Paul Sampson said the benefactors had recently received private treatment at QE Hospital Limited (trading as QE Health) and had made a very generous gift of \$25,000 to the Trust.

“They were very impressed and could not speak highly enough of the staff and the treatment they received, and would like to return on a regular basis,” he said.

“The Grundy’s said they had been to “all manner of health centres round the world and felt that the ‘spirit’ of the staff, and the treatment at QE was wonderful”.”

“Nothing came close to QE;” it is unique, a real one-of-its kind; don’t change it; just give it a coat of paint, its lovely the way it is”, they said.”

Mr Sampson said this is a comment that is often made by people visiting the hospital for treatment, many of whom are from overseas.

“It’s clearly not about bricks and mortar but more importantly about the people who work there and the very high quality professional services that are consistently delivered to all patients.”

QE Health is recognised both nationally and internationally as a centre of excellence for rheumatology and rehabilitation services, and receives a number of regular private paying patients from overseas each year.

“This is a market the Trust would like to see promoted especially given the new trans-Tasman flights to and from Sydney.”

Mr Sampson said QE Health clearly adds value to the local tourism sector and to the country’s health system.

One of the Trust’s key objectives is to promote the development of Rotorua as a health and spa city.

“QE’s holistic approach to rehabilitation is so successful that it could be used to benefit the needs of the wider community, such as helping people experiencing other health challenges, to remain independent.”

“There will, of course, always be a place for rheumatology services at QE.”

Staff also received an enormous amount of food and other goodies from the Grundy’s following their week-long visit as a special thank you.

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Mr Sampson said trustees are very grateful for this very generous gesture and unanimously agreed to make the donation a formal bequest, if the Grundy's agree.

"We hope in this small way to acknowledge the enormity of the donation and the very charitable spirit in which it was given."

One of Rotorua's icons, Queen Elizabeth Hospital has played a pivotal role in the medical history of New Zealand for more than 60 years.

QE Health specialises in the treatment of all forms of arthritis, chronic pain and disorders involving bones, muscles and joints and offers a full range of specialised rheumatology and rehabilitation services at its lakefront site.

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital Community Trust is the sole shareholder of QE Health.

Ends

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