



Wagga Wagga Rural Referral Hospital's Expanded Renal Unit – takes first patients

On May 20, an official opening was held for the new and expanded renal unit. The official proceedings were kicked-off by Jill Ludford, Murrumbidgee Local Health District Chief Executive, who acknowledged the influence Wagga Wagga resident, Roger Southwood, has had on the process of designing the expanded unit.

"When I first started working for the MLHD a number of years ago Roger Southwood was a community representative," she said. "Roger's dear wife was a consumer with us and it was Roger who actually opened my eyes as to what was happening in the Renal Unit at the time."

"Roger, along with many other residents, has helped us to make sure we got it right," Ms Ludford said. "They have all been on the dream with me and helping us plan for future services. The most important thing about the new building we have here today is the new treatment opportunities for people in our region."

MLHD Chair Gayle Murphy described the expanded Renal Unit as "exemplifying what's best practice in health care."

Health Infrastructure Chief Executive Sam Sangster said the expanded service was just an entrée into what's going to happen in the next six to nine months. "When the scaffolding comes down and we can see all of the façade of the new hospital, I hope it's going to be treasured by the community" Mr Sangster said.

Member for Wagga Wagga Daryl Maguire described the expanded Renal Unit as another step forward in the provision of services for the region.

Above: Health Infrastructure Chief Executive Sam Sangster, MLHD Board Chair Gayle Murphy, Member for Wagga Wagga Daryl Maguire, MLHD Chief Executive Jill Ludford and WWBH Nurse Unit Manager, Renal Unit Catherine Hanrahan.



Above: Long time Wagga Wagga Base Hospital Renal Campaigner, Roger Southwood inspects the new facilities and gives it the thumbs-up.



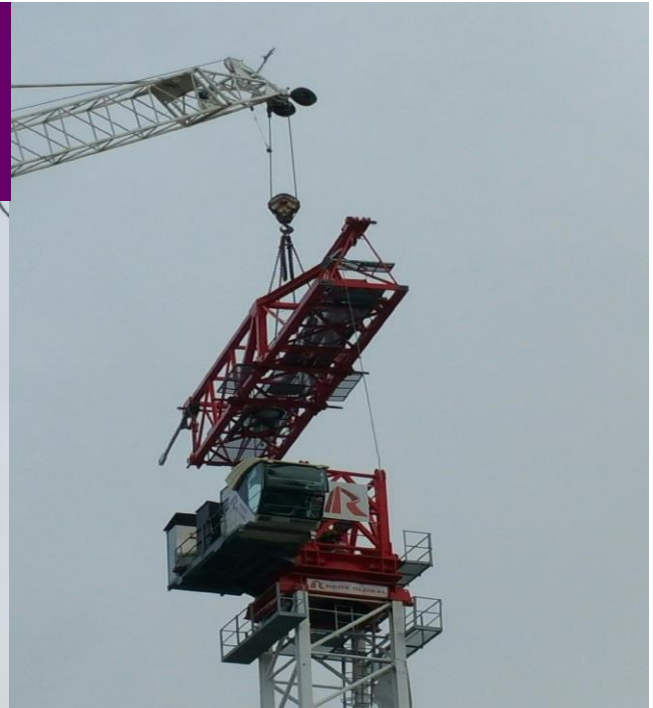
Above: The official ceremony to mark the expansion of the WWBH Renal Unit.



Goodbye and thank you Hercules



Above: Wagga's skyline reverts as Hercules comes down.



Above: The moment Hercules was undone.

The Wagga Wagga Base Hospital Redevelopment reached yet another milestone recently with the dismantling of Hercules the crane. Hercules had become a very familiar and much loved structure on the Wagga Wagga skyline. It captured the hearts and minds of all those who saw it. A 300 tonne crane was brought in from Sydney to dismantle Hercules piece by piece.

The removal of Hercules signals that the end of the project is in sight, Executive Manager Redevelopment Wagga Wagga Health Service Irene Hing said. "Hercules has done a great job."

Visit our project website:

www.wwhsredev.health.nsw.gov.au



For more information:

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Above: Hansen Yuncken's Site Manager Shaun Hooper and his daughter Ryleigh watch as Hercules is dismantled.