

## HLCT Chairman's Report

Dear Stakeholders,

As the chairperson of the Hawkesbury Living Cancer Trust, I am pleased to present to you the audited Financial Report for the Trust for the year ended 30 June 2014.

As in previous years, we have published these reports with the Richmond Club Group Annual Report to ensure that the public is fully aware of how and where the funds that they have raised for the oncology unit in the Hawkesbury have been allocated. Transparency and community consultation are central to the Trust's goals and have been since its inception in 2010. Since progress in 2013-14 on the unit has been largely conducted behind the scenes, it is also increasingly important to document our progress to our stakeholders.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our benefactors from this year and previous years for their ongoing support. This is a project that cannot be completed without the assistance of the Hawkesbury community. The Trust has had to overcome some significant challenges to be in the position it is today, and without the knowledge that the outcome of our work would be greatly appreciated by the residents of this region, we may not have continued. As you will see in the financial report, support has come from a wide range of individuals and groups, all with the common interest of improving health care infrastructure in this area.

2013-14 saw a significant shift in the Trust's vision and work as Catholic Healthcare announced their interest in establishing an oncology unit in conjunction with the existing Hawkesbury District Hospital. At this stage, the Trust's plan was to develop the unit at the Old Hospital Building in Windsor, which was shelved when this news came to light.

Our focus then shifted significantly as we worked with the executive of Nepean and Blue Mountains District Health to ensure that any oncology and chemotherapy unit in the Hawkesbury had our support.

The first part of this support is to use the funds raised by the Trust to pay for the fit out and equipment of the unit. We have conditionally committed \$550,000 to Nepean Blue Mountains Health District (State Health) for this purpose.

The next stage is to work with the area health service to assist in funding the provision of ancillary services for patients in the District, such as health workers, counsellors and other Allied Health Professionals.

There is still much more that needs to be done in order to deliver these services to the Hawkesbury, and although the circumstances have changed, we are committed to working with the relevant parties to ensure that the original vision of the service is met. As 2015 begins, we have negotiated the final plans for the unit to be developed, with recognition for the Trust and the fundraising they have completed on behalf of the community.

Once again, I would like to thank all of our stakeholders for their support, passion and patience for this project. We strongly believe that we are on the road towards completing our goal. I would also like to thank my fellow Trustees for their continued hard work, which is completely voluntary and not remunerated. Finally, my appreciation also goes to the Richmond Club Executive and Board of Directors, whose support has been integral to the Trust's ongoing efforts.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Duncan Guy  
Chairman  
Hawkesbury Living Cancer Trust