

MEDIA STATEMENT

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For Tima Halloum, Star Weekly (Wyndham)

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Werribee Mercy Hospital says thanks!

The Werribee Mercy Hospital Paediatric Ward has again been the beneficiary of some colourful and creative craftsmanship which has emerged from the Wyndham Brickfest LEGO building competition held earlier this year.

Wyndham Brickfest President Andrew Elsbury yesterday handed over both a cheque for \$3000 — made from LEGO, of course — and a 1.2-metre-high LEGO artwork of a colourful lion, which he hopes will entertain and inspire some of the Paediatric Ward's young patients.

“Given that the lion is a symbol of strength and bravery, we hope the design might adorn a wall within the ward at some stage,” Andrew says.

The donation will be put to good use on the Paediatric Ward, which cares for about 1,500 patients a year, ranging from 0 to 18 years old. At the younger end of the spectrum are patients like 12-week-old twins Etuate and Leilani, who spent five nights in the Paediatric Ward last month receiving treatment for a respiratory infection.

Parents Paula Nasovasova and Alice Taylor — who is also an Associate Nurse Unit Manager on the ward — praised the exceptional care.

“I have worked on the Paediatric Ward since it opened, but this was my first experience on the patient's side,” Alice says.

“The staff were amazing, they were so patient and compassionate, they explained everything. We didn't feel rushed or pressured.”

Werribee Mercy Hospital General Manager Maree Pane says the public hospital is always extremely grateful for community support.

“Werribee Mercy Hospital is located in one of Australia's biggest growth corridors,” Maree says.

“Over almost three decades, we have built a trusted relationship with community members, as illustrated by this type of generous support.

“We look forward to a new Emergency Department and additional upgraded health services which will only enhance the healthcare of the communities we serve in coming years.”

According to Andrew: “LEGO continues to interest both young and not so young people, not just in Wyndham but around the world while the paediatric ward and its staff at WMH play such a vital role in the care of a number of our unwell youngsters,”

Andrew says Wyndham Brickfest will continue to support both Werribee Mercy Hospital and the Mercy Health Foundation, with another LEGO building competition slated for next year.

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