

Friendly Life

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Giving Angels
a helping hand



 **Friendly Society
Private Hospital**
Leading Healthcare for the Wide Bay

thefriendlies.org.au
 [friendlysocietyprivatehospital](https://www.facebook.com/friendlysocietyprivatehospital)



New Emergency Department to Open

The Friendly Society Private Hospital is planning to open a new Emergency Department.

The Friendlies CEO Alan Cooper said the decision to open this exciting new service came from patient feedback.

"For more than 14 years The Friendlies has operated the After Hours as a service to the community. However in the past few years we have been hearing increasing requests from our patients to open a more comprehensive service," Mr Cooper said.

The Friendlies Emergency Department will be located where the former After Hours and Wide Bay Anaesthesia Specialists rooms were, with access via the Woondooma Street entrance.

The new emergency department will be open seven days a week from 7am to 11pm and will be available to all patients, as no private health will be required, however a gap fee will be payable.

"Once The Friendlies emergency department is open, patients requiring an ambulance may be able to be brought to The Friendlies directly, simply by indicating their choice of hospital to the Queensland Ambulance Service," Mr Cooper said.

To help patients express their choice of hospital, The Friendlies have developed a VIP Card.



For more information about the card and to request a card online, visit thefriendlies.org.au/vipcard.

For more information about the new Emergency Department and to be kept updated about the service, visit our website

thefriendlies.org.au/emergency

\$6000 IN DONATIONS RECEIVED FROM HOSPITAL LODGES



The Friendlies played host to a morning tea for hospital lodges Manchester Unity (MU) and Prince Arthur (PA), where guests were given an update on the hospital's future plans.

At the morning tea the lodges presented The Friendlies Foundation with a combined donation of \$6000.



KITCHEN ITEMS GIVE ANGELS A HELPING HAND

A recent upgrade in kitchen equipment at The Friendlies has turned into a much-needed donation for a local charity helping struggling families in the Bundaberg Community.

Sue Tasker from Angels Community Group gratefully accepted an electric oven, soup tureen as well as some reusable food containers and cups from Friendly Society Private Hospital Hotel Services Manager Yari Ottoboni.

"We no longer needed these items, but they are still in working order, so it is good to be able to pass them to a group that really needs them,"

Mr Ottoboni said.

"As a community-owned organisation we are always looking for ways to help other community groups."

Ms Tasker said all the items would be put to use straight away.

"There is such a huge need in the community for this service, we are seeing more than 100 people a day," she said.

"We provide emergency hampers, low-cost grocery items, second hand clothes, blankets and cardigans, as well as our community cupboard."

Bundaberg Community Angels started as a not-for-profit business in 2015 and became a charity in 2017.

To become involved or help the organisation, visit their website at:

angelscommgroup.org.au



Join Our Team of

WARM HEARTS AND BRIGHT MINDS



At the Friendly Society Private Hospital, we provide total quality care to not only our patients, but to our staff as well. This has enabled The Friendlies to become a leading employer of choice.

Due to the planned opening of the Emergency Department, we are currently recruiting for positions across the hospital to support this service.

Our friendly and open culture, as well as an ongoing commitment to staff development and training, make The Friendlies a great place to work.

Other benefits our staff enjoy include competitive wage rates, salary packaging for permanent employees, ongoing professional development, flexible working hours, family-friendly rostering and modern facilities.

Some of our job vacancies include permanent and casual registered and enrolled nurses, clinical nurses and nurse unit managers.

To find out more about job vacancies and to apply online, please visit our website at thefriendlies.org.au/careers/current-roles

BIGGEST MORNING TEA

The Friendlies staff didn't disappoint with baked goods for Australia's biggest morning tea, raising \$1222 for a great cause.





MAKE A LASTING LEGACY TO THE HEALTH OF THE BUNDABERG & WIDE BAY COMMUNITY



The Friendlies Foundation is the charitable fundraising arm of the Friendly Society Private Hospital, with all donations directly benefiting our patients.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 4321 1024
You can donate online at
thefriendlies.org.au/foundation



Savings in full swing from SOLAR ELECTRICITY

The Friendly Society Private Hospital began installing solar electricity and hot water in September last year. Installation was completed earlier this year, saving \$53,000 on the first two month's electricity bills.

The Friendlies solar panels total 575kw and were put on all available roof space.



See the video:
thefriendlies.org.au/news/solaraerialview

TRACING BACK THE YEARS OF THE FRIENDLIES

Bundaberg 1919. Only a couple of years a city, a settlement of about nine thousand people, and its medical facilities stretched by the needs of men returning from the Great War with both physical and psychological injuries.

That was the context for the creation of one of Bundaberg's health icons, the Friendly Society Private Hospital and Friendly Society Pharmacy. It was in October 1919 that a group of like-minded men, mostly representing the then flourishing lodges, met to try to make much-needed improvements to the city's health facilities. Their idea was to pool the resources available to the lodges to create new facilities, and thus the Bundaberg Friendly Society Medical Institute was born. It began with the princely sum of 10 pounds and 10 shillings plus an annual levy of two shillings and sixpence per member.

And it began to make improvements straight away – by the following year in 1920 the first Friendly Society Pharmacy was established in Bourbong Street. The pharmacy has served the community ever since, and is still flourishing today.

In 1946 the Institute purchased St Vincent's Hospital in Crofton Street, which has grown into the important and still-expanding Friendly Society Private Hospital we know today.

But if you stand in the right place in Crofton Street and know what to look for, you can still see the roofline of the old Queenslander that housed St Vincent's. The history of The Friendlies lives on.

And now, to mark the centenary of the pharmacy in 2020, and the 75th anniversary of the hospital in 2021, The Friendlies has embarked on a project to research, locate and display its history as a vital part of the Bundaberg community.

There are hundreds of people in Bundaberg and surrounding communities who have memories of The Friendlies and stories to tell, and we're on a quest to find them and record them for posterity.

Oral historian Ross Peddlesden is looking for everyone with a Friendlies story to tell, or perhaps some old photographs to share, to begin to flesh out and bring alive the story of this vibrant Bundaberg not-for-profit organisation. Every story, no matter how brief or seemingly trivial, is important to bringing the detail and colour of the Friendlies story to life.

If you have a story to tell or any information to share, contact Ross directly on 07 4331 1026, 0417 603 110 or email ross@fieldofdreamsmedia.com.au or alternatively contact the hospital marketing coordinator Nikki Sorbello on 4331 1036 or nsorbello@f sph.org.au



Can You Help?

We are looking for any historical photos of the hospital we can find.

Please email ross@fieldofdreamsmedia.com.au or call 0417 603 110



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Friendly Society Pharmacy

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