

## \$15,000 DONATION MAKES IT EASIER ON PATIENTS

Convenient for nurses and easier on patients, a new Bladder Scanner was delivered to Unit 3 of the Friendly Society Private Hospital, made possible by a grant from the St John's Grace Fund.

Unit 3 Nurse Unit Manager Donna Stallan said before bladder scanners, the only way nurses could check what was left in a patient's bladder was to put in a catheter – an invasive and uncomfortable procedure.

"These bladder scanners are great for patients, as they are not invasive and are so accurate, as they can give you how many millilitres accurate to 20ml,"

Mrs Stallan said.

"We use this machine for those patients with continence issues, or for our post-operative patients, most commonly after prostate or gynaecological surgeries."

Mrs Stallan thanked the generosity of the St John's Grace Fund for donating \$15,400 which fully funded the scanner.

"It means we can have a scanner dedicated to our unit now, and one that is the most up-to-date in terms of technology," she said.

St John's Grace Fund Chairman Ross Ridge said the fund had been donating funds to the local Bundaberg community since 2001 and had donated a total of about \$1.2M in its 16 years.

PHOTO ABOVE: Friendly Society Private Hospital Business Development Manager Stuart Bonnett, St John's Grace Fund's Ross Ridge and Lyn Duldig with Nurse Unit Manager Donna Stallan.

**Hospital Curtains recycled thanks to Boomerang Bags** 

With Plastic Bags being banned in Queensland in 2018, the Friendly Society Private Hospital is doing its part to be environmentally conscious by recycling some unused fabrics, donating it to the Bundaberg Boomerang Bag project.

Boomerang Bags take donations of fabric and recycles it to create shopping bags which are then given to shops for customers to take and keep, to encourage people to stop and think about their decision to use plastic bags when shopping.

The Friendlies Environmental Services Manager Yari Ottoboni said while the hospital's seamstress recycle fabric into items sold by The Friendlies Foundation, the hospital had more fabric than was needed.

"We have been able to donate six good quality curtains and privacy screens that are no longer used, and we are happy to be able to donate them to such a worthwhile, environmental cause," Mr Ottoboni said.

Boomerang Bags' Carmen McEneany thanked The Friendlies and said the donation would be put to good use.

"We have made and donated about 1700 bags so far, but we always need more sewers,"

Mrs McEneany said.

"We have sewing bees once a month at Bundaberg Christian College, but people are welcome to sew in their own homes. We also have jobs for people who can't sew as well."

FOR MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT THE PROJECT OR
TO HELP OUT, CONTACT THEM ON
THE FACEBOOK PAGE AT





### WIN A NEW CAR FOR JUST \$5

The Friendlies Foundation is running its second Art Union and will be raffling a new Mazda 2, thanks to Ross Gray Mazda.

Tickets are available for purchase at the Friendly Society Private Hospital and Friendly Society Pharmacy for \$5 a ticket.

Winners will have their choice of standard colour, with the prize valued at \$20,140 drive away. Prize also includes 12-months registration.

The prize winner will be drawn at a luncheon on May 9. For more information, or to purchase tickets over the phone, telephone

The Friendlies Foundation on 4331 1024.



ENTRY TICKET

#### **RESTORING SIGHT IN CAMBODIA**

Dr David Merefield, from Coral Coast Anaesthesia, has recently returned from Cambodia, as part of the Cambodia Vision team who travel to the country annually to restore and treat sight and help return hundreds of Cambodians to work.

The team consulted with more than 3600 patients, including children and performed 397 cataract, pterygium and other surgeries, provided 503 pairs of prescription glasses, donated more than 1000 pairs of reading glasses and 3500 pairs of sunglasses, as well as donating five tonnes of rice to post-op patients and those staying in all wards in Pursat Referral Hospital and local temples.

While in Cambodia the team also provided training to 40 local medical and High School students and donated medical supplies and medicines to Pursat Referral Hospital, Sihanouk Hospital Centre of Hope and the National













In just a few weeks, the Friendly Society Private Hospital will complete its Solar Electricity Project and switch on the solar electricity for the remaining panels to be generating 575kW.

The project began in September with Gem Energy Australia and SolarArk completing the solar electricity and solar hot water project, which will see a saving of \$3.1M in the first 10 years and \$6.9M by year 20.

The Friendlies announced the project in May, with the first panel going down on the roof in September, and the solar hot water switch over being completed at the same time. In Mid-December, 250kW of solar power was switched on.

The project is believed to be the largest system on any hospital in Australia, covers 75% of the hospital's roof space and will generate 28% of the hospitals electricity needs.



#### FRIENDLIES STAFF HAVE GIVING "In The Bag"

Staff at The Friendlies took part in the Share the Dignity Christmas Campaign "It's In The Bag" for a second year.

Staff donated loved handbags, toiletries and other items to the campaign, which are then distributed to women's shelters for homeless, at-risk and women experiencing domestic violence.

About 50 bags filled with personal care products for women were donated at The Friendlies collection point.



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