



MEDIA RELEASE

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FREE MESSAGES FOR CANCER PATIENTS

Patients at the Macarthur Cancer Therapy Centre, at Campbelltown Hospital, and their carers, are full of praise for a recent innovation that is reducing stress and generally lifting morale.

Every Monday they are treated to free massages, pedicures or hand treatments. Or, they can have an eyelash and brow tint if they would prefer.

“I’m not aware of any other hospital in and around Sydney that offers all of this, absolutely free of charge,” said Denise Burns, Nurse Unit Manager of the Centre.

The service was first introduced as a massage service to nurses and others working at the Centre, who paid for half hour sessions as a way of relaxing and unwinding, said Ms Burns.

A Thirlmere woman, Carrie-Anne Warn, who runs a business locally, visited the hospital a couple of times a week to carry out the treatment.

She soon decided that she’d like to extend the massages and add the other treatments to the patients and carers, free of charge.

“Both my grandfathers died from cancer, and I know how hard it can be not just on the patients, but also the carers,” said Ms Warn. “This is one way I can make a contribution to a very difficult situation.”

All of the 150 or so patients at the Centre are Outpatients, who visit the Centre regularly for treatment. “A lot of them now come in specially on Mondays because they enjoy being pampered a little,” said Ms Burns.

Patients using the Centre come from a wide region, including Campbelltown and Camden and areas within the shires of Wollondilly and Wingecarribee, including Bowral.

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