Westmead Hospital Library closes for refurbishment

After more than 10 months of consultation, planning and packing, Westmead Hospital Library has temporarily closed for refurbishment.

“The library first opened in late 1978 and even though we’re very proud of it, it’s definitely time for an upgrade!” said library manager Linda Mulheron.

“All of this is now coming to fruition but it would not have occurred without all the hard work and background research over the past two years by my wonderful library team and the support of our manager, Helene Abouyanni.”

“We’ve been working hard with the University of Sydney and library users to come up with a design that will best serve our students, staff and visitors and we can’t wait to see the end result.”

What you want

In March this year, Westmead Hospital Library surveyed its users to find out what they want to see in the new library design. The main things were:

- Better WiFi
- More power points and charging facilities for devices
- Better spaces for group and individual study
- Better furniture
- More bookable study and meeting rooms
- Better temperature control and lighting
- Better access to online journals and other resources

“We’ve taken into consideration many recommendations received from our user survey and I’m sure everyone will be pleasantly surprised at how much has been achieved in the new design to address their suggestions,” said Linda.

Westmead Hospital Library will be upgraded to a highly engaging teaching and learning environment. It will offer technology-enabled individual and group study spaces, purpose-built rooms for student and medical staff examinations and facilities for education, training and research activities.

Themes that guided the design of the library include harmony and warmth, flexibility, creativity and collaboration, and health and wellness. Plans also include green, natural elements to create a welcoming and calming space.

On top of all the physical changes, the library is also adopting activity-based working (ABW). ABW allows people to choose the type of space they need, based on the type of work they’re doing.

Library manager Linda Mulheron said: “activity-based working has certainly provided a challenge for library staff, and we hope to realise some of its benefits when the library re-opens next year. It has already helped us rethink how we work, and particularly, to differentiate between focused and collaborative work.”

Linda says there is also potential for increased efficiencies:

“We hope that moving to an ABW environment will mean that library staff can spend less time on transactional tasks like administration and processing books, and more time supporting staff and students in education, training and research.”
Library services during refurbishment

Library staff have moved to tutorial room F in the clinical sciences corridor, located on level two of Westmead Hospital near the Westmead Clinical School. Signage is in place.

Some library services will be available during the refurbishment by appointment. Staff and students can contact the library on WSLHD-WestmeadLibrary@health.nsw.gov.au or 02 8890 6266 to make an appointment. More information about services during the library’s refurbishment is available here (visit the factsheets section of our website for an overview and FAQ). If you have any questions, please contact library manager Linda Mulheron: Linda.Mulheron@health.nsw.gov.au.

Working with the University of Sydney

More recently, the library staff at Westmead have welcomed the contribution to planning from University of Sydney library staff.

“We will continue to work together and strengthen our relationships to benefit and improve services,” said Westmead Hospital library manager Linda Mulheron.

“The future library and improved technology will allow us to assist users beyond the physical library space. We look forward to contributing further to improving the availability of clinical information, training users for lifelong learning and strengthening our role in education, training and research to provide a great service to all Western Sydney Local Health District and University of Sydney staff, students and visitors.”
Local Aboriginal Elders came to a BBQ last week hosted by the Westmead Redevelopment at The Children’s Hospital at Westmead. It was a chance to discuss the project and a cultural gathering space, which will be connected to the new hospital building.

The yet-to-be-named gathering place will include both an indoor and outdoor area. These spaces will be accessed from the landscaped areas of the plaza (the landscaped zones between Hawkesbury Road and in front of the new building) and near level one (near the entry to the adult’s emergency department).

The outside landscaped area will be a place where community members can come together in small or large groups to reflect, think, grieve or celebrate. Landscaped areas could feature local native species and incorporate sculpture or other forms of outdoor art from local artists.

The indoor space will look onto the landscaped area. Elders and project team members discussed possible design, colours and features of this space, including the ability to display digital artwork and images.

Community consultation continues as designs and options are considered. If you would like to get involved with the design of this area, please contact us using the details below.
Westmead Hospital food services staff were among the many groups of people that we talked with during the Arts and Culture Strategy development process.

A big thank you to the hundreds of staff members, patients, carers, families, visitors and community members who have shared their vision for the Westmead Redevelopment Arts and Culture Strategy. We have captured what we heard over cups of tea, during workshops and meetings, visits to your workplaces and community centres, and through our online survey. You have been generous, enthusiastic and very creative.

A draft strategy will be reviewed by hospital executives at Western Sydney Local Health District (WSLHD), the Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network (SCHN) and the University of Sydney. The finalised strategy will be released next year.

Until then, we are starting to map the creative skills across the Westmead precinct and local community. We would like to hear if you have any hidden artistic talents. Are you an artist, photographer, sculptor or do you have another creative skill? Please contact us at WSLHD-WestmeadProject@health.nsw.gov.au.
Site visits to other hospitals continue to be an important step in the planning of the new hospital building. The visits are a chance to challenge our thinking and learn from others.

Last week, Westmead Redevelopment consumer representative Nitin Chitre and members of the project team travelled to Royal North Shore Hospital for a guided tour of the intensive care unit to hear how patient input affected designs. The group visited the main waiting area and reception, interview rooms, wards and ‘back of house’ areas including storage zones.

Nitin and other consumer representatives are involved in an intensive care unit (ICU) project user group (PUG). PUG members are meeting on a regular basis as they work with clinicians, health planners and architects to improve the experience of carers, families and visitors in Westmead Hospital ICU waiting areas. The work they are undertaking will inform the design of waiting areas in refurbished areas within Westmead Hospital, as well as in the new hospital building, which opens in 2020.
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This section of Institute Road will re-open in mid-November, 2017.

Emergency Department

Westmead Hospital
Main Entry

Areas under construction

Car parks currently available for Westmead Hospital staff

Multi-Storey car park opening

Mons Road temporary car park opening

The Children’s Hospital at Westmead oval car park

REMINDER: Mons Road and Oval Car Park Changes

- The Mons Road temporary car park will close for staff on the evening of Friday, 8 December, 2017.
- There will be no access to the oval car park for Westmead Hospital staff from the evening of Wednesday, 6 December, 2017.
- On Thursday, 7 December, 2017, Westmead Hospital staff who normally park in the Mons Road temporary car park and the oval car park should park in other available car parks, including the new multi-storey car park. Parking is also available in the staff car parks accessed via Dragonfly Drive and car park P6 (behind ICPMR).
- Detailed information on the multi-storey car park is available on the WSLHD staff intranet.
- The Westmead Redevelopment has committed to no net loss of car parking spaces during the project. We thank staff for their patience during the construction of the multi-storey car park and ongoing works to improve car parking at Westmead.
- Secure Parking manages all car park operations at Westmead Hospital. For any car parking enquiries, please contact Secure on: 8890 3793.
To undertake the refurbishment of the inpatient unit (IPU) B6, the wards and clinics on B5 will be temporarily relocated.

Phone numbers remain the same during the relocation.

Please take care in and around the area and follow the directions of workers. Your health and safety is important to us.

**Medical High Dependency Unit (B5b)**

NEW LOCATION: D3a/D3b (Block D, level 3).

RELOCATION PERIOD: From 8 November 2017 — early January 2018 (date to be confirmed). After this they return to their original position in B5b.

**Respiratory Wards (B5a)**

NEW LOCATION: B5b (Block B, level 5).

RELOCATION PERIOD: Respiratory Wards from 13 November 2017 — 6 December 2017. After this they return to their original position in B5a.

**Respiratory Clinics (Respiratory Comprehensive Care Centre in B5c)**

NEW LOCATION: D3a/D3b (Block D, level 3).

RELOCATION PERIOD: 10 November — early January 2018. After this they return to their original position in B5c.

**Sleep Clinic (B5a)**

NEW LOCATION: B5c (Block B, level 5)

RELOCATION PERIOD: From 13 November 2017 - 6 December 2017. After this they return to their original position in B5a.

Questions?
Contact the Westmead Redevelopment via email or phone. Details below.

Patient moving dates are the first and last dates of the relocation periods (listed above) for each ward/clinic. We will advise you if dates change.
Precinct Works

Areas under construction

Car parks currently available* for Westmead Hospital staff

The Mons Road car park will close on Friday, 8 December 2017.

Emergency Department
Westmead Hospital
Main Entry

Institute Road closure on weekends due to ongoing work.

Traffic condition changes continuing in this location. Please allow extra time coming to and from the precinct.

Stormwater boring works ongoing in this location.

Disruptions to Labyrinth Way ongoing due to footpath works. Vehicle access will be maintained.

Westmead Hospital Library has temporarily closed for refurbishment.

While the library is closed for refurbishment, some library services will be available in the clinical sciences corridor, tutorial room F. See page 2 for more information.

WECC level 2 is being refurbished. There will be some disruption and alternative access routes between now and the end of November 2017.

Traffic conditions have changed in this location. Periodic truck movements will take place until 2019.

*Major changes to parking will continue throughout 2017. We will provide information about future changes in the weekly Westmead Redevelopment project update.