

St George's Hospital and the St George's Cancer Care Centre



Media Release

24 August 2010

St George's Hospital is another step closer to achieving its vision today (Thursday 02 September 2010) with the official opening by The Governor General of New Zealand of the new state of the art St George's Cancer Care Centre.

St George's Hospital is one of the largest private hospitals in New Zealand and one of the most modern in terms of its equipment and technology and on-site facilities. Over the last 12 years, in particular, St George's Hospital has invested significant money and effort back into the St George's Medical Centre site to redevelop the site to ensure it meets the needs of the next generation of Cantabrians.

"Planning for the South Island's only private comprehensive Cancer Care service commenced some six years ago. After two year's construction and at a cost of \$17 million, the facility was fully commissioned in late-March 2010", says St George's Hospital Chief Executive Officer, Tony Hunter.

The Centre provides a cancer care service that includes oncology consultations; chemotherapy; 3D digital image CT scanning; radiation treatment, using the latest Elekta Synergy Linear Accelerator machines, and other allied cancer care services.

"In addition to all the latest technology and equipment together with our team of expert, dedicated and supportive staff, the purpose-built facility has some unique features to provide a comfortable and relaxing environment for patients and friends, including bird sounds to complement the native New Zealand theme, special effect lighting, a salt water aquarium and a 9-screen LCD matrix TV to name a few" says Mr Hunter.

The land and building was provided by St George's Hospital, however that still left over \$7 million for the funding of the linear accelerators and associated computer software. To meet this cost the Hospital established a charitable trust, the St George's Cancer Institute to raise the funds and lease the linear accelerators back to the St George's Cancer Care Centre. The St George's Cancer Institute has raised over \$4 million towards its \$7 million target thanks to donations from Corporate Trusts, some major individual and Company donors and many contributions from benefactors across the South Island, either with a personal association with cancer or passionate about providing additional capacity for the treatment of cancer.

The attached document entitled 'Key Information' provides more detailed information on the St George's Cancer Care Centre and the St George's Cancer Institute, together with brochures on the St George's Cancer Care Centre and the St George's Cancer Institute for your information.

For further information please contact:

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