

## **Yorke Peninsula Health Advisory News January to June 2018**

The end of financial year always proves to be a busy time for the HAC with the tidying up of expenditure to comply with ATO requirements. The ATO has put in a requirement that each HAC needs to spend a set percentage of their holdings to ensure that money is not simply hoarded against a rainy day, but is spent to improve the quality of health facilities in the immediate future.

The HAC owns all the properties of the health service, and has been able to approve the sale of a block of land at Yorketown which was surplus to needs, with money going towards the repairs to the roof of the hospital totalling approximately \$16,000.

This sale has also enabled Yorketown to upgrade their side and rear gardens at a cost of \$26000, but with huge benefits to those patients whose rooms now look out on beautifully developed gardens.

Money raised from a sale of this nature has been designated to the upgrade of the Yorketown facility.

This year Maitland has continued with the upgrade to their garden area at the front of the hospital and long with the work done by the council regarding the footpath, has improved the general appearance of the whole hospital.

A major project undertaken has been the painting of the Chappell Wing which will certainly make a big difference to the appearance of the hospital.

As usual there have been ongoing upgrades to Yorketown and Maitland Hospitals and Melaleuca Court equipment in particular beds and mattresses – all very important to keep at the highest standard.

With changes in the government, there will be significant changes made to governance of Health with Regional Boards taking a new role. Much of the discussions around how this will take place are still very much in their infancy, but it is the aim of the Yorke Peninsula HAC to keep the community informed of not just the changes, but the impact on local health service delivery.

We continue to run forums in Maitland, Minlaton and Yorketown on an annual basis, and we are very appreciative of the support given to us by the YP Country Times in covering the work of the HAC in the local media.

All members of the HAC are keen to hear from members of the community not just in times when the health system is in crisis, but regarding forward planning and how we can best develop a sustainable health service in our district, into the future.