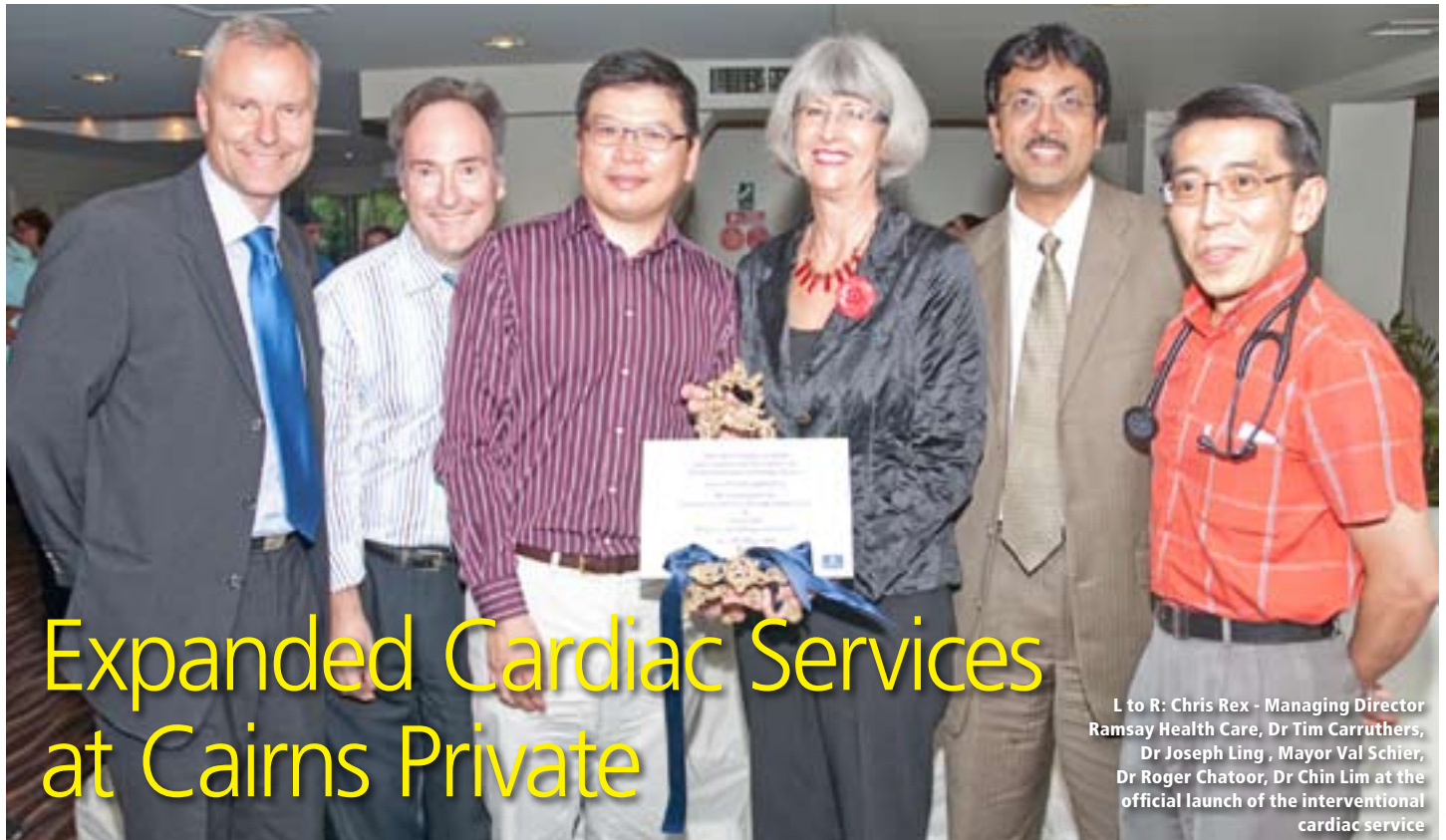


# Ramsay Cairns

Cairns Private Hospital & Cairns Day Surgery Newsletter

Winter 2009



## Expanded Cardiac Services at Cairns Private

L to R: Chris Rex - Managing Director Ramsay Health Care, Dr Tim Carruthers, Dr Joseph Ling, Mayor Val Schier, Dr Roger Chatoor, Dr Chin Lim at the official launch of the interventional cardiac service

Far North Queensland residents requiring interventional cardiac treatment will no longer need to travel to southern cities for this service after Cairns Private Hospital announced the commencement of interventional cardiac services available at the hospital from 12 May.

Interventional cardiology involves opening up blockages or narrowings in coronary arteries with tiny balloons and leaving a stent to keep the artery open thereby improving the blood supply to the heart muscle.

Cairns Private Hospital has been providing cardiac services to Cairns patients since 1999 but with a new, experienced UK cardiologist in town, and the purchase of some state-of-the-art equipment, the hospital can now extend this treatment to include angioplasty and stent implantation. It is expected that several hundred Far North Queensland patients every year will benefit by having this service locally based.

To date, Far North Queensland residents requiring interventional cardiology services have had to travel to Townsville, Brisbane and other such southern centres to receive this care.

Cairns Private Hospital CEO Mark Page said the equipment purchased for the Catheter Laboratory was the first Cardiac Dedicated Lab of its kind in the southern hemisphere.

"In preparation for the commencement of the interventional cardiology

*"several hundred FNQ patients every year will benefit by having this service locally based."*

service, Cairns Private Hospital has invested close to \$2 million to replace all equipment within the Cardiac Catheter Laboratory and to expand its Coronary Care Unit," Mr Page said.

The interventional cardiac procedures will be performed by Dr Roger Chatoor, an experienced UK trained cardiologist who has recently relocated to Cairns.

"Dr Chatoor in conjunction with existing cardiologists - Drs Tim Carruthers, Chin Lim and Joseph Ling - enable Cairns Private Hospital to now provide care for the vast majority of any cardiology needs of local residents right here in Cairns."

Cairns Private Hospital has performed over 7000 cardiac procedures since the Catheter Laboratory was initially opened in 1999. These procedures have encompassed diagnostic angiography, pacemakers and cardiac resynchronisation therapy - a very specialist type of pacemaker and implantable defibrillator.

The official launch of the Interventional Cardiology Service at Cairns Private Hospital and the opening of a new Cardiac Catheterisation Lab by Christopher Rex, Managing Director Ramsay Health Care and Cairns Mayor Val Schier, was held at the Hospital in May.

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DAY SURGERY

**contact us:**

## From the CEO's Desk



I'd like to welcome you to this first edition of 'Ramsay Cairns', the newsletter of Cairns Private Hospital and Cairns Day Surgery.

We intend to publish this newsletter a couple times a year for distribution primarily to GPs, Specialists and all other interested health care professionals.

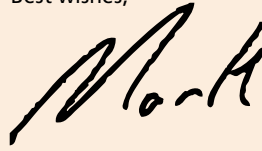
Through this newsletter we hope to provide you with information pertaining to:

- Developments and projects we are undertaking
- Community initiatives
- New specialists
- Education opportunities
- Other general information of interest.

We hope that you will find this newsletter informative and maybe even helpful!

Please contact us via ([searlerebecca@ramsayhealth.com.au](mailto:searlerebecca@ramsayhealth.com.au)) if there are any particular regular items of information you would like included in future editions or for any one-off articles you believe will suit this forum.

Best wishes,



**Mark Page**  
Chief Executive Officer

# Cairns Private Receives a Facelift

In 2008 Cairns Private Hospital commenced a major two stage refurbishment program.

Stage 1 included refurbishment of various common areas including the foyer, various hallways and the creation of visitor areas on each floor which includes lounges and coffee making facilities.

Stage 2 works involved the total refurbishment of more than 33 single rooms and the development of entirely new ensuite facilities for each room. We have incorporated a lovely and warm dark wood decor for all rooms as well as greatly improved lighting, air conditioning and flat screen TVs.

Despite some noise and disruption during these building works, our patients, staff and Doctors have all been very understanding, we thank them for this and believe that the final outcome was well worth it!



## Cairns Day Surgery part of the Ramsay Health Care Family

As you may already be aware, from 1st November 2007 Cairns Day Surgery (CDS) has come under the ownership of Ramsay Health Care.

Since CDS joined the Ramsay family we have seen significant benefits arising from CDS and Cairns Private Hospital (CPH) working together. This has included staff moving temporarily and permanently between the two sites and providing Surgeons with additional operating theatre time to help to meet ever-increasing demand.

In the past months further initiatives which we believe will serve to enhance CDS from an already great facility to an even better one have been undertaken. These included:

- Upgrading the IT systems
- Purchasing vital capital equipment
- Bringing CDS into line with Ramsay's broad and excellent clinical governance and risk management framework, policies and processes





# Dr Roger Chatoor

## New Consultant Cardiologist in Cairns

Following my undergraduate training, I moved to Guy's & St Thomas' Hospital in London where I completed my training as a Cardiologist. I have now been a Consultant Cardiologist for 9 years and continue to practise as a General and Interventional Cardiologist.

### Clinical Interests

I have expertise in many aspects of cardiology including the management of heart failure, hypertension, cardiac arrhythmias, valvular heart disease and grown up congenital heart disease. My special interest is the invasive assessment and treatment of coronary artery disease. This includes coronary angiography, coronary angioplasty and coronary artery stenting.

### Procedures

I undertake a wide range of cardiological procedures which include pacemaker and ICD implantation and interrogation, transthoracic and transoesophageal echocardiography, diagnostic electrophysiology as well as external and internal cardioversion. I however dedicate a large part of my clinical practice to coronary intervention.

### Academic Background

I spent two years conducting research at Guy's & St Thomas' looking at the role of cardiac resynchronisation therapy in heart failure management. As a research group we implanted the first biventricular pacemaker in the United Kingdom. That patient continues to derive benefit from device therapy to date.

### Fellowship

In 2004 I undertook an Interventional Fellowship at The Royal Columbian Hospital in Vancouver where I gained further expertise in the field of coronary intervention.

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# Cairns Private Hospital's new Coronary Angiography System

Cairns Private Hospital's new Toshiba Infinix CFI -Type S Coronary Angiography System is the first of its kind to be installed in Australia.

Complete with the latest digital technology the system comprises a 20 x 20cm Flat Panel Detector, allows unique full body coverage, unprecedented patient access, and comprises the latest Image Quality technology.

This advanced angiographic suite has been designed to provide Coronary angiography services without compromise.

The full body coverage allows operators to easily image the entire body without having to move the patient or examination table as required with other systems. Clinical specialists now have the ability to image from finger tip to tip, or head to toe by manipulating the imaging equipment; this reduces the risk of contaminating sterile fields, dislodging patient IV lines and moving ancillary equipment.

The advanced patient access will allow physicians to comfortably access their patient without having to lean around bulky imaging equipment. This is particularly important for examinations that

require head end access to the patient, and will allow cases to be performed more safely and efficiently.

One of the most intelligent advancements in Toshiba's latest technology is the leaps made in digital image quality. The image quality provided by the Toshiba Infinix I- Type S has seen a significant reduction in image noise and blurring compared to other systems, this means that doctors can visualise blood vessels and devices more clearly, increasing their confidence in diagnose and allowing them to perform more accurate intervention.



## New Structure at CDS

Recently we undertook a restructure at Cairns Day Surgery to ensure that the management structure was aligned to our major goals of the provision of excellent care and patient outcomes.

As such, Sally White (RN) was appointed to the position of Clinical Services Manager at Cairns Day Surgery. Sally has overall responsibility for the day to day management of CDS.

Further to Sally's appointment we have also appointed a range of Level 2 RNs to head up the teams across a range of specialties. We congratulate each of these new level 2's:

- Denise Garner - Anaesthetics
- Pauline Schoenemann - Facio Maxillary, Ortho & Dental
- Pam Carrette - IVF, Gynae, Plastics & Urology
- Heather Anderson - Ophthalmology
- Mary Orth (Level 3) - Admissions, CSSD, Endo & Infection Control

## VMO Directory

We expect to have an updated version of the Ramsay Cairns VMO Directory out to all GPs some time in late June. Our web site [www.cairnsph.com.au](http://www.cairnsph.com.au) also contains an updated list of our specialists at Cairns Private.

## Upcoming GP Education Events

### Women's Health Education Evening (Obstetrics, Gynae & IVF)

Tentatively Wednesday 22nd July (GPs only)

## Community Support

Over the past twelve months Ramsay Cairns has provided support to many worthwhile community events and fundraisers, these include:

- Major sponsor of the Cairns Legacy Bowls Tournament
  - Funds raised go to assisting the valuable work the Cairns Legacy Branch does to support War Widows
- Various fundraising drives for cancer research
- Sponsorship of a scholarship through the Far North Queensland Youth Assistance Fund
  - This year our scholarship contribution will assist two local FNQ Medical students with costs associated with undertaking their studies.

## Cairns Private Digs Deep

In response to the recent floods in North Queensland and the bushfires in Victoria, Cairns Private Hospital, in conjunction with campus neighbours Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology, Cairns Diagnostic Imaging and Medtek Medical Engineering held a major fundraising effort in February.

A generous \$4191.90 was raised and the hospital further topped this up to a neat \$4500 with 50% going to the Red Cross Victorian Bushfire Appeal and 50% to the North Queensland Flood Relief Appeal.

CEO Mark Page said the significant donations of \$650 from Medtek and its staff as well as \$500 from the rooms of Dr Natalie Kiesey-Calding should be recognised.

"I'd like to sincerely thank those who generously donated the many prizes for our monster raffle and silent auction. Additionally, thanks so much to all staff and doctors who contributed so generously to our fundraiser by baking cakes for our cake stall, donating money & prizes or simply coming down and joining us for the BBQ lunch" Mark said.

**Jan Defferard, Karen Watts and Fiona Smith at Cairns Private Hospital's fundraiser, which raised more than \$4000. Photo courtesy Cairns Post.**



## Experience Counts

Queensland Fertility Group (QFG) Cairns is a fulltime, fully equipped and accredited IVF and infertility clinic located in the Cairns Medical Specialist Centre and has been operating in Cairns since 2002. Gynaecologist, Dr Robert Miller and his team of nurses, embryologist and psychologist now help more than 300 women in Cairns each year to undergo IVF treatments. They also assist many other couples in the Far North who need other types of help or advice in order to conceive such as ovulation monitoring and inductions, artificial inseminations, gynaecological investigations, lifestyle advice and counselling. QFG Cairns has an experienced local team, which ensures that women do not need to travel to Brisbane or Sydney for infertility investigations and treatment.

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