

Date: Thursday, 5 November 2015

## **A ROYAL DOSE OF LOCAL MEDICAL HISTORY**

Did you know Royal North Shore Hospital (RNSH) recently celebrated its Foundation Day?

Anyone can explore the hospital's vivid 127 year old history by visiting the RNSH Museum.

The museum takes visitors on a journey through the vibrant history of the hospital from its opening in 1888, right through to the present day.

Featured in the museum is a fascinating collection of historical artefacts including medical equipment, uniforms, photos, books, and memorabilia.

Popular items include an iron lung respirator that was used to treat polio victims in the 1930s, a three bed casualty department that was used until 1964 that had ambulances coming and going, and the many military artefacts including nurse's kits, clothing and medals.

Eileen Henderson, curator of RNSH Museum, says the historical items illustrate the dedication and calibre of the hospital's staff over time.

"The collections of badges are very precious and symbolise the historical strength of training at Royal North Shore Hospital.

"Visitors will also be astonished by the comparison between modern medical equipment and the tools from a century ago.

"Visitors will also learn about the social history of the lower north shore," said Eileen.

RNSH Museum is run by volunteers and is open every Thursday from 10am to 2pm. Group bookings can be organised by contacting the Museum on 9426 9290.

The museum is located in the beautiful heritage listed Vanderfield Building (Building 31), a two minute walk from the main entrance of the hospital, or St Leonards station.

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