MEDIA RELEASE

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Minister visits Bowral Hospital

Minister for Mental Health and Assistant Minister for Health, Jai Rowell, today visited Bowral and District Hospital for a tour and to meet with staff.

Minister Rowell met with staff in the paediatric, maternity and Milton Park wards as well as the emergency department and the high dependency and outpatients units.

“It was wonderful to receive such a warm welcome from the staff and learn more about the Hospital’s long history of providing healthcare to the Southern Highlands community,” Mr Rowell said.

“I was particularly impressed with the Hospital’s emergency department which has recently undergone refurbishment works.

“The emergency department looks great with a new resuscitation area - which will mainly be used for paediatric emergencies - a new pharmacy and also an emergency short stay area,” he said.

Minister Rowell also congratulated staff on the Hospital’s 125 year anniversary celebrations being held this year.

“The Hospital has come a long way from its humble beginnings as a cottage hospital, able to treat six patients at the one time,” Mr Rowell said.

“Today the Hospital’s emergency department treats more than 17,500 patients, staff deliver around 450 babies and more than 2,700 surgeries are performed here each year.

“It was nice to hear staff and volunteers speak about their hospital and its history with such pride.

“Everyone was very excited about the celebrations that have already been held and those that are planned for the rest of the year,” he said.