

Submission

No 12

INQUIRY INTO THE ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL

Organisation:

Name: Mrs Marion Scott

Telephone:

Date Received: 2/11/2007

Theme:

Summary

Dear Hon., Fed Nile MP,

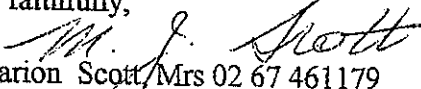
Please find my photocopies, all sent to Hon., Peter Draper, who will be on your investigating committee into Royal North Shore Hospital. As a former country patient on 14/2/1992, again in Aug/Sept 1994, under Mr William Sears, neurosurgeon, now Proff., William Sears, who specialises in spinal surgery. I saw him interviewed on Sunrise, Channel 7 & his frustration was he had to wait 10 days to perform spinal surgery at R.N.S.H. His surgery is now at Chatswood.

Enclosed is my R.N.S.H no. & all my MRIs' are stored there, my last 1998. I had my ray at The Mater, Cross Nest under Dr Phillip Yuille in Jan/Feb 1995. I have no complaints re the Drs or Nurses, just the severe shortage of them. We have an ever increasing population & constant bed & ward closures???

The AMA Study announced 25/10/07 stated we have 60% less beds than 20 yrs ago. Alas, both state & federal governments will have to do more to alleviate this Australia Wide Health Crisis. I believe that the federal government will have to take over, whether it be John Howard or Kevin Rudd.

Remember R.N.S.H. is for both city & country patients.

Yours faithfully,


Marion Scott Mrs 02 67 461179

Acknowledged 2/11/07
Joy



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PETER DRAPER MP
Independent
Member for Tamworth



15 October 2007.

Dear Mrs Scott

Thank you for your further correspondence received today, concerning the closure of maternity wards and staffing of country hospitals.

I have again made representations to the Minister for Health, the Hon Reba Meagher MP, on your behalf regarding the issues raised and will contact you again on receipt of her response.

If I can be of any assistance in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Yours sincerely

PETER DRAPER MP
Member for Tamworth

PD:km

Local Boards for Australia's Medical Crises.

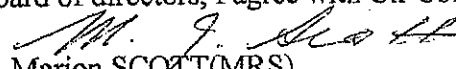
Firstly congratulations to Liverpool Plains Shire Council for buying Dr Bouke's surgery & for obtaining the services of Dr George Andrews & soon his wife Vivianne.

I would also like to thank Mr Peter Darper MP & George Souris MP for passing on my letter to Proff., Debora Picone AM & Hon Reba Meagher MP who have acknowledged my "letter of concern" only.

This is a result of me being asked to fill in a survey re my 3 days in Quirindi's Hospital in Feb., 07. I wrote a letter which was sent to the NSW Dept of Health & also a copy then sent to Mr Draper & Mr Souris. It speaks for itself as all Drs here give excellent services as do out nurses & hospital. I'm only enclosing this letter to prove that I do more than write letters to the paper. Alas I've received no reply as to how the problem will be solved & after watching the young mum losing her living fetus when Royal North Shore Hospital Emergency Dept refused her treatment, I was horried.

Then on the 25/9/07 a young mother drove herself from Narrabri to Moree to have her baby delivered. On the 26/9/07 the state gov., said they are building a new hospital for Narrabri. Don't our politicians use "common sense" anymore? What's the point of building this new hospital when it has a maternity ward like Qdi, that cannot deliver babies because of lack of drs & nurses?

As a 4th generation to live in this district & remembering clearly when our local hospital had a voluntery board of directors, I agree with Clr Colleen Wills that this would be best.


Marion SCOTT(MRS)

(see over)

Dear Mr Draper,

Thank you for sending on my "letter of concern" & for the acknowledgement by Hon Reba Meagher MP & Professor Debora Picone AM. Even though I feel it of little use, I am enclosing my letter, printed in the Quirindi Advocate, 10/10/07. It probably won't be answered, if you wish to pass it on, as this problem is so great now across NSW & Australia. Noting the interview on Prime Local TV, 10/10/07, the residents of Grafton Hospital, including the retired mayor, are so "fed up", that they have written to our Federal Minister for Health, Tony Abbott, asking that they take over Grafton Hospital & set up a local board. Why have 2 local Drs been suspended & a locum put in their place? What are the accusations of bullying?

Local Boards did work & the last Chairman of Quirindi Hospital local board, the late Albert Allan, means his photo is proudly displayed in our hospital. I'm a grandma now, but know that at any time a pregnant woman can go into labour. I experienced this myself when at 12 weeks, in 1969, I went into full labour. My husband drove me the 11 mile to Quirindi District Hospital Emergency & I was admitted & the Dr called giving me an injection, with labour pains only 3 minutes apart. This prevented a miscarriage.

Then I needed an emergency cesarean as my placenta came away, I blacked out as I lay on the delivery table, & had a huge blood loss. Thanks to the quick action of the Quirindi nursing staff & the Drs both my daughter's & my life were saved in Quirindi District Hospital. She is now 38, very healthy & has 2 daughter's of her own.

In 2007, why wasn't the young mother laid on a bed in a corridor of Royal North Shore Hospital & a Dr called & an injection given? The saving of this baby's life would have been so simple. It seems more important to fill in forms, not save lives.

However, I feel that the only solution to this "health crises" is either now in John Howard's hands, or if elected, Kevin Rudd's. The problem is so large it can only be solved by our Federal Politicians.

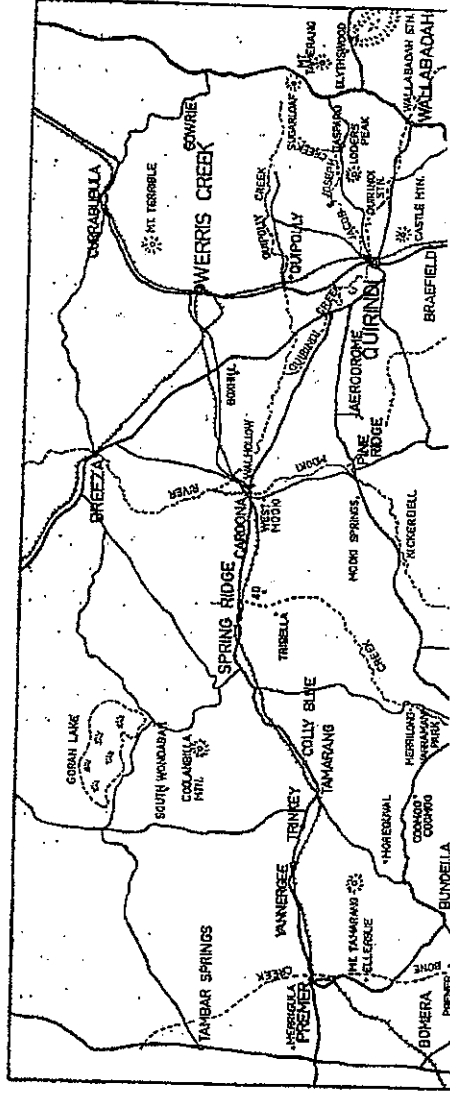
You have my permission to pass on this letter, if you feel it worthwhile.

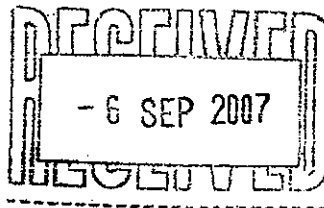
Special thanks,

M. J. Scott
Marion J Scott (Mrs)

P.S. Sorry I'm tired from my own medical problems, including 8 lots of major surgery. My last 2 lots of surgery at Royal North Shore Hospital 1) 1992 - 1st pituitary tumor. 2) 1994 - 2nd pituitary tumor (1994), then 5 weeks rest at "The Water", Crows Nest to "kill off" the 3rd tumor - 1995. My dad had both brain (& weeks) & pituitary tumor surgery in 1940.

Note that my Dr Luis ad Murrumbidgee, spends 1/2 a day seeing patients there, it's has pitel a. waster & then drives 1/2 an hr to Quivindi & 1/2 a day seeing patients, it's hospital, waster & murrumbidgee home. live pool Plains shire east an Indian Dr & thank fully now Dr George Andrews & his wife Wedge that is the Area they cover.





M07/9195
31 August 2007

Mr P Draper MP
Member for Tamworth
PO Box 1740
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Dear Mr Draper

The Minister for Health, the Hon Reba Meagher MP, has received your representations on behalf of Mrs Marion Scott, of

The Minister has asked me to advise you that the matters raised are being considered and a reply will be sent to you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debora Picone". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Professor Debora Picone AM
Director-General

Katherine McGrath
Chair
Project Governance Committee
NSW DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Dear Ms McGrath,

Please note from my letter & the filling in of this NSW Health Survey that Quirindi Hospital is excellent. What isn't good is the lack of Doctors. Our Drs are excellent too, but we need more. How would you like to be on duty 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week for an increasing population??

We used to have 5 Drs here in Quirindi which serves The Liverpool Plains Shire, with a radius of about 70 miles, now we have 1 1/2.

Now the small town of Barraba is losing it's only Doctor. My 2nd cousin has been waiting a year & a half for a hip replacement. He is now booked into Armidale Hospital 20/7/07. When my neighbour across the road fell in the street, she had to be taken to Armidale two & half hrs away as Tamworth Base Hospital, (being only 1 hr away), as there were no spare beds in Tamworth. Dr Krishnan had to read the exray here himself & then send her by ambulance to Armidale. The Dr there operated on the Saturday morning. An excellent Dr. but a severe shortage of them.

Note that both Tamworth City & Armidale City are growth centres.

It now seems that rural & regional Australia are 2nd class citizens when it comes to the lack of Drs & Nurses & Dentists. Please do something about it.

Alas it is now a problem in our larger cities. How many people will die before the federal & state governments do something? I'm a 4th generation on my father's side to live here & now a grandma & this is the worst Quirindi & District has been in my lifetime. Note that most of our nurses are in their 50s & 60s!

When my late husband had bowel cancer surgery in Royal Prince Henry in 1987, the poor nurses had to rush from men's ward to women's ward to get through the heavy workload. Later the wards had to be combined. Now that Prince Henry has been sold off what has been done with this money?

Having had 2 lots of pituitry tumor surgery in Royal North Shore Hospital, again it wasn't any problem with the Drs or nurses, it was the shortage of them & the constant closing of beds.

One feels that we are becoming "a banana republic" due to this terrible shortage. Why not re-introduce the training in hospitals of nurses, & continue to have the sisters trained at University for the complicated surgery?

Marion J. Scott
Marion Scott (Mrs)

Posted
4/7/07

Send b.i

N.S.W. Health Patient Survey
c/o Ipsos Australia
Reply Paid 84 599
HAWTHORN Vic 3122