

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING CARE



Wolper marks its 60th anniversary

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President's Message

Dear Friends,

When Wolper Jewish Hospital was founded in August 1961 it was the realisation of its founders' vision – to establish a Jewish hospital that cared for the wellbeing of all, irrespective of religion, race, background or beliefs.

However, most people are not aware of the *shidduch* that gave birth to Wolper. In 1948, in Point Piper, the *NSW Jewish Hospital* opened and provided services to the community under the leadership of its Chairman Sam Karpin; its Vice President was Dr Fanny Reading (remember these names!). In time it became clear that it would not be possible to raise the necessary community funds to build the required operating theatre and outpatients department and the hospital ultimately closed in 1954, its properties being sold. As a result, the *NSW Jewish Hospital* no longer existed physically but the entity was in a sound financial position.

Almost in parallel another community story was unfolding. The *NSW Division of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW)* had set up a *Hospital Visiting Committee* to visit ill community members in hospital. One of their Committee members – Mrs Becky Lake – took particular care of a Mrs Gertie Stone taking her into her own home and nursing her. When Gertie Stone died in 1949 she bequeathed her home in Coogee to the *Hospital Visiting Committee*, to be used as a convalescent home or hospital for Jewish patients. She asked that it be known as the *Aaron and Gertie Wolper Convalescent Home*; Aaron Wolper was her first husband (her second marriage to Montefiore Stone was short-lived).

However the home in Coogee was not suitable and a more appropriate building at 8 Trelawney St, Woollahra was purchased in 1953, and became the *Wolper Convalescent Home*. By 1956 it too was experiencing trading difficulties and its Trustees (including Dr Fanny Reading) were concerned for its viability. And thus the *shidduch*. In 1959 the *NSW Jewish Hospital* (which had funds but no building) and the *Wolper Convalescent Home* (which had a building but no funds) merged and the resultant *Wolper Jewish Hospital* was officially opened on 20th August 1961 with its first President being Sam Karpin.

This wonderful example of Jewish organisations working together was further demonstrated in May 1982. When *Wolper Jewish Hospital* was seeking a bank loan to fund its expansion the title deed for its land – still in the name of the Trustees of the *NCJW Hospital Visiting Committee* graciously transferred the title to *Wolper* enabling bank funding to be secured. And the rest is history.

When Wolper Jewish Hospital was founded in August 1961 it was the realisation of its founders' vision – to establish a Jewish hospital that cared for the wellbeing of all, irrespective of religion, race, background or beliefs.

Over time the path to fulfilling the founders' vision has continually evolved and the Hospital has thrived. It has not been without its highs and lows, and some tough decisions have been made over the years. I would particularly like to pay tribute to the dynamic Presidents and CEOs who have contributed so much to Wolper's success: Presidents [Sam Karpin OAM (1961 -1986), Lynne Davies AM (1986 – 1999), Murray Landis (1999 -2004), Graham Einfeld OAM (2004 - 2009), Dr David Golovsky AM (2009 - 2014) and Daniel Goulburn OAM (2015 - 2019)] and CEOs [Harry Aizenberg (1981 - 2014) and John Tucker (from 2014). However, the 'secret sauce' throughout the life of the Hospital has been 'the Wolper team', passionate staff committed to providing the caring, professional and thoughtful service that is the unique 'Wolper experience' patients enjoy. In providing such care, guided by our Jewish values and ethos, they are also making an important contribution to the non-Jewish community's greater understanding of – and empathy for – all things Jewish.

Never has the commitment of our staff been more evident than during the current pandemic. For 18 months

now our people have come to work each day knowing that there is the ever-present risk of infection. As I write, *Wolper* has not had any patients or staff with COVID-19 and I am extremely proud that 100% of *Wolper's* staff (whether they be nursing, allied health, kitchen, cleaning or administration staff) are fully vaccinated; I don't believe there is any other hospital in Australia that can make that claim. Given the reduced occupancy due to the suspension of elective surgery many of our staff are now assisting *NSW Health* in a number of capacities including contact tracing, vaccinations and other front line roles. In doing so, they are writing yet another chapter in *Wolper's* commitment to caring for the community.

Our ability to celebrate our 60th anniversary as planned has been attenuated by the pandemic restrictions but that takes nothing away from *Wolper's* many achievements over the last 60 years. I hope you enjoy the articles in this issue of *Pulse* and we look forward to celebrating more fulsomely once the pandemic is behind us.

Take care and – if you haven't already – please get vaccinated to protect yourself, your loved ones, your friends and work mates.



Richard Glass
President, Wolper Jewish Hospital

CEO Report

It is an honour to report as CEO as we celebrate together the 60th anniversary of Wolper Jewish Hospital. I have had the pleasure of working here for just seven of these years but can attest first hand that the strong culture and commitment to safety and quality for those in our care continues to flourish at Wolper under our great team.

That said, we still have a few curly twists and turns to navigate as the COVID pandemic nears its peak in Greater Sydney in the latter half of 2021! In late August, the NSW Ministry of Health ordered that most major private surgical hospitals in Greater Sydney cease non-urgent, elective surgery. That order immediately impacted all orthopaedic surgeons who refer their post joint replacement patients to Wolper Jewish Hospital for rehabilitation. As a result, by mid-September, Wolper's 35 bed Rehabilitation Ward was sitting idle and our physiotherapy services were winding down in short order. To step up and serve the priority needs of the NSW community during the pandemic, and to keep our highly trained clinical and administration staff engaged and gainfully employed, Wolper recommitted to

a partnership with the NSW Ministry of Health that sees many of our staff temporarily deployed to provide COVID support services, be that providing telehealth advice, contact tracing or vaccination services on behalf of NSW Health. Meanwhile, our 22 bed ground floor Medical Ward remains fully occupied.

At the time of writing, it is not clear when normal services will resume, for our patients, for referring surgeons and other specialists, and for our deployed staff. But it is safe to say that we all look forward to the return of 'business as usual' and to doing all that we do so well as early as possible in 2022. We can then look back proudly and reflect on these services and experiences that are all part of community engagement and care.

Until then, travel safely.



John Tucker
Chief Executive Officer, Wolper Jewish Hospital



COVID-19 Management at Wolper

Our 60 Year anniversary is not the only milestone reached lately. We are very pleased to report that our other achievement is 100% of our current staff are fully vaccinated!

As a precautionary measure, staff who are from the 12 areas of concern are Rapid Antigen Tested (RAT) twice a week. We have a number of staff who have been trained in the RAT procedure. The results take 15 minutes from the time of the test and it is a great way to ensure we prevent staff from bring COVID-19 into the Hospital.

We continue to restrict visitors into Wolper with the exception of those coming to see palliative care patients. Everyone has been very understanding of the restrictions which is appreciated greatly by our staff. We continue to revise our policies and procedures in line with latest health advice.

Pictured: Registered nurse Liz is fully trained to conduct rapid antigen testing for Wolper staff

Membership renewal time

We would appreciate those Friends who have not yet renewed their membership to consider doing so.

For just \$30 annually you are showing your support of Wolper and will also continue to receive this very informative Pulse newsletter, notice of Wolper's well respected and popular Wellbeing webinars and invitations to other events at special pricing.

You can renew your membership at wolper.com.au/membership



A Wolper legend – HARRY AIZENBERG



Harry Aizenberg on the occasion of his retirement and the launch of the Wolper Jewish Hospital Health Foundation in 2014. With then Hospital President, Dr David Golovsky AM (left)

Harry Aizenberg was Wolper's CEO for an extraordinary 32 years.

Back in 1981 Harry would regularly run into Charlie Rosenberg in a Woollahra hardware store. Charlie was a Wolper board member and he suggested that Harry take up a position at the Hospital. He did so, starting in the role of Office Manager. Very soon after that, he became Wolper's CEO.

Harry took on the role knowing that the Hospital was about to embark on a major redevelopment. So large in fact, that the Hospital was closed for 18 months and for the duration, Harry was its sole employee. The works resulted in the addition of 20 beds, totalling 51, and the building of a new operating theatre, totalling two.

The Hospital re-opened in 1983. A few key staff came back but it was up to Harry to recruit the bulk of the Hospital's employees. At the same time, the Hospital's governance was taking a great leap forward with the establishment of a Medical Board and updated by-laws to govern the accreditation of medical practitioners. With this came the enhancement of already strict infection control, and licences for use of the operating theatre even though State requirements for accreditation were not to come into force until the end of the decade.

Harry described the Medical Board as "critical, as it strengthened the acuity with which the Hospital provided

its clinical services and it formally defined the relationship between the Hospital and the doctors working there". Dr Victor Bear was the first elected Chairman of the Medical Board. Today, the Medical Board is known at the Medical Advisory Committee.

These renovations also brought in the KA approved kosher kitchens. Previously kosher food had been prepared in the Hospital, but it was not supervised and accredited. Now, *mashgiachs* are always present, enabling any Rabbi or observant member of the Jewish community to be able to eat the wonderful food prepared in Wolper's kitchen.

Harry remembers his next challenge being the closure of Wolper's operating theatres. In the late 1980s, the nature of surgery changed. Laparoscopic (minimally invasive) surgery was introduced, resulting in day surgery or reduced length of stay in hospital. This also resulted in reduced revenue, affecting the Hospital's bottom line.



Harry (left) with Dr Peter Arnold, Chair of the Building Committee, in 1992

Wolper marks its 60th anniversary

In 1988 the Scottish Hospital in Paddington closed and its ENT surgical unit and its rehabilitation unit were relocated to Wolper. Before that, rehabilitation was not a service provided at Wolper.

The operating theatres were subsequently leased to an ophthalmology group who undertook eye procedures. These measures improved the viability of retaining the operating theatres for a time but eventually it became clear the theatres needed to close.

"That was the biggest risk taken during my time at Wolper," reflects Harry, "but the decision has been vindicated by the strong position of the Hospital in the community today."

Harry went on to lead the Hospital while it grew its rehabilitation expertise, established a palliative care service, underwent further renovations and launched the community genetics testing service.

Additionally, during this period the Wolper Jewish Hospital Health Foundation was established.

"The Hospital was never stagnant – it strove to meet the needs of the community. There was always a focus on planning and strategy development which meant the Hospital was always developing and there was never a dull day."

He believes the Hospital's unique work-place culture is evident in the number of long standing staff members. "The staff enjoyed being together, coming to work and providing the best in care together. It was a really happy place to work for everyone."



Professor Leslie Burnett & Harry Aizenberg (right): co-founders of the Community Genetics Program, at Wolper's 50th Anniversary celebration at Sydney Jewish Museum in 2011

Remarkably, Harry has worked with every Wolper President – from the very first, Sam Karpin, through to the current President, Richard Glass.

Harry announced his retirement in 2014. He went on to complete a fine arts degree and now spends his time painting, walking the dog, listening to music, reading and being "very happy [he] doesn't have to run a hospital in a pandemic".



Celebrations at the relaunching of the newly renovated Hospital in 2010.
Left – Right: Sir Nicholas Shehadie, AC, OBE, Her Excellency Prof. Marie Bashir AC CVO with Harry Aizenberg

Reminiscences of DR FANNY READING MBE

Dr Fanny Reading MBE was instrumental in the establishment of Wolper Jewish Hospital. Born in Russia in 1884, her family immigrated to Melbourne while she was a child. She obtained her medical degree from Melbourne University in 1922 and dedicated her life to improving the health and social welfare of the community. She worked with her brother Abraham in general practices in Bondi and Kings Cross and was an honorary medical officer at three hospitals, including Wolper.

Dr Reading believed Jewish women should act to improve both their own community and Australian society in general. She founded the Council of Jewish Women in New South Wales in 1923 to focus on four ideals: Judaism, Israel, Jewish education and philanthropy. She was the organisation's President from 1923 until 1931.

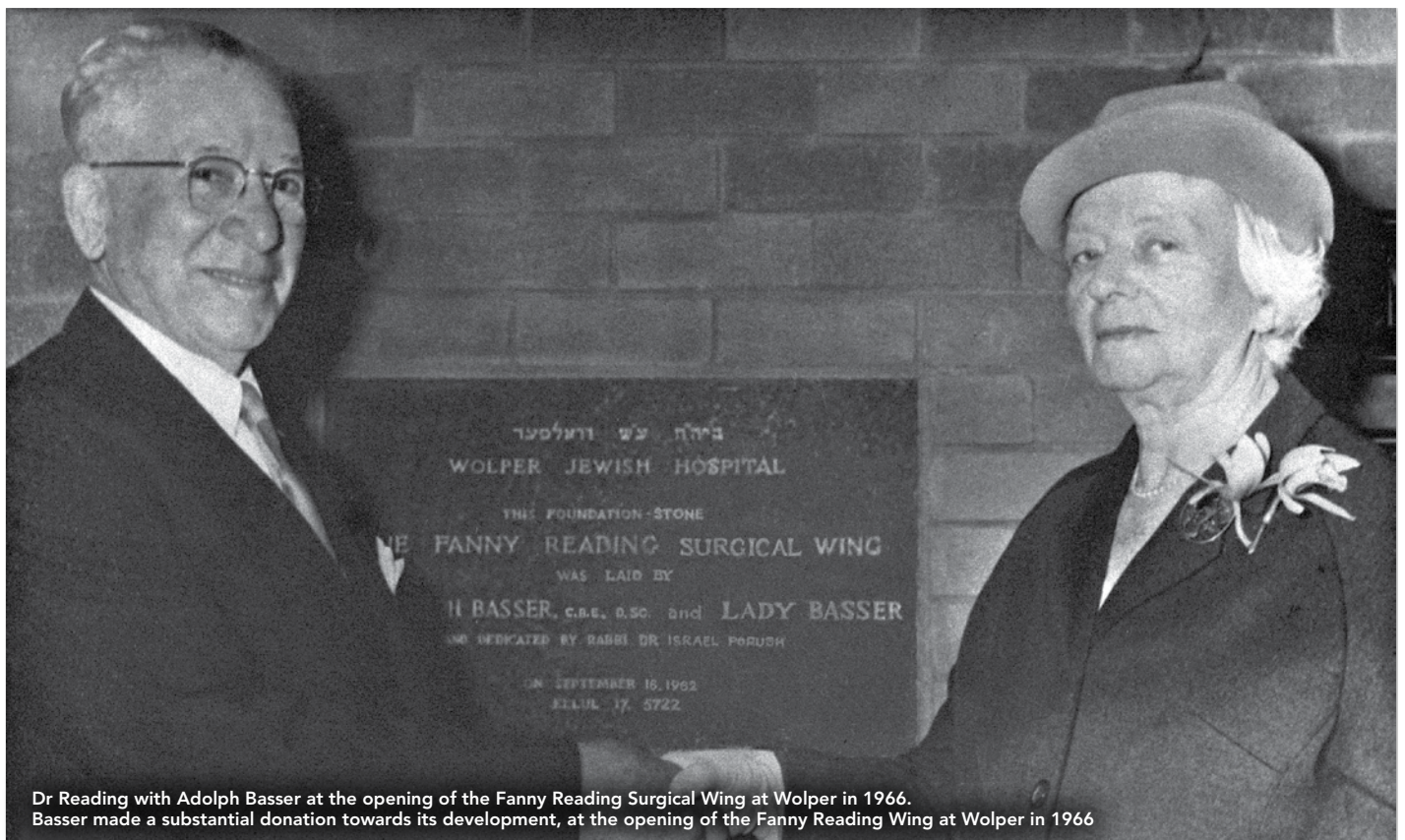
Through her influence, branches opened in other States and when the National Council of Jewish Woman (NCJW) was formed in 1929 she became its President and then Life President from 1955.

The Wolper Convalescent Home was established by the NCJW Hospital Visiting Committee during Dr Reading's Presidency. In the ensuing period, she was actively involved in discussions on the amalgamation of the Wolper Convalescent Home and the NSW Jewish Hospital. These discussions lead to the eventual establishment of Wolper Jewish Hospital in 1961.

While researching Dr Reading in preparation for Wolper's 60th anniversary, the reverence that people express while speaking or writing about her is striking. Zara Young OAM is a former NCJWA NSW President and Board member of Wolper. She knew Dr Reading, whom she calls Dr Fanny (as did everyone who came to know her), and her impact has stayed with her.

Zara Young started her involvement with NCJW in 1941, when she was just 15 years old. She used to meet with the Young Men's Hebrew Association on a Sunday. This was a social group that was connected to NCJW. They would meet at Young Street Circular Quay, where the office of NCJW was also located. Zara first met Dr Reading here, as she used to attend the group to update them on NCJW news.

After Zara got married, she joined the NCJW Young Marrieds group in 1954. They had monthly meetings and Dr Reading would often attend (by this time she was no longer President).



Dr Reading with Adolph Basser at the opening of the Fanny Reading Surgical Wing at Wolper in 1966. Basser made a substantial donation towards its development, at the opening of the Fanny Reading Wing at Wolper in 1966

Zara recalls, "Dr Fanny dedicated her life to helping others in a totally selfless manner. She had a self-determination, quiet authority and commitment to everything she did, including NCJWA, her patients, and family – her brother.

"She was worshipped by all the women who were privileged to work with her. She inspired them to work hard to fulfil the ideals they all commonly held – to support Israel, support the local Jewish community, and support the wider community. She wanted the people that followed her to continue with that dream. She was unique, there was and never has been since anyone like her."

Dr Reading has always been Zara's inspiration, even though she was too young to have served at the NCJW or on the Board of Wolper alongside her. She considers herself lucky to have learned from her. She recalls, "Dr Fanny had a 'saying' for every occasion. These sayings have stayed with me all these years, influencing my decisions. One was 'never cancel a function' and the other was 'never mail a letter written in anger'.

Towards the end of her life, Dr Reading lived in what is now the CEO's office at Wolper. Zara frequently visited her there because she admired her so much. She can still picture her sitting up in her bed. Zara always found Dr Reading to be very quiet, very gentle, yet very firm. "You would ALWAYS do what she asked" Zara said, "You would never refuse".

Zara was President of NCJWA for many years and served on the Board of Wolper (1986 – 1995). She became Chair of Wolper's Public Relations Committee, and she is proud to have introduced the patient information folder. She loved working with the CEO Harry Aizenberg (1981–2014) and Bill Berman (1979–1994), who was the Treasurer.



Zara Young OAM



Dr Fanny Reading MBE

Messages received on our 60th anniversary

"Congratulations Richard to you, John and the team at Wolper - such an important part of our community"

Gary Groves, CEO, JewishCare

"A big mazel tov to Wolper Jewish Hospital on your 60th anniversary – what an incredible milestone for what is one of our cornerstone community assets and of course, a founding JCA member. The care you have given to your patients over the years has been exemplary and your reputation as one of the best rehabilitation hospitals in Sydney is well known. It is a place with real heart. Congratulations on 60 years of excellence".

Ian Sandler, President, JCA

"We can all be very proud of theimportant institution that Wolper has become over the last 60 years. Wherever we go we only hear good things about Wolper from past and present patients as well as past and present leaders in the Community."

Graham Einfeld OAM, President Wolper Jewish Hospital 2004 – 2009 and Honorary Life Governor

"Mazel tov to the Wolper Family. You can justly be proud of the status the Hospital has achieved.

Dr David Golovsky AM, President Wolper Jewish Hospital 2009 - 2014 and Honorary Life Governor

"On behalf of the Team at the Burger Centre, mazel tov on Wolper's 60 years. The community is blessed to have such an outstanding Hospital that celebrates Jewish values and welcomes all."

Bronwyn Elbourne, Senior Manager, Burger Centre

"The Hospital has stood the test of time where many others have not. That is a tribute to its staff, management, doctors and allied health professionals, members, our community and to those of us who have had the privilege of serving in leadership roles on the Board. I remember Sam Karpin OAM and Lynne Davies AM particularly at this time for their heroic long terms as Presidents during the formative years of the great Hospital we have today. The quality of the Board members and leaders we have will ensure the Hospital continues to prosper and bring healing to the sick and needy."

Murray Landis, President Wolper Jewish Hospital 1999 - 2004 and Honorary Life Governor

In gratitude for the care they gave to her late in life, Gertie Wolper Stone in 1949 bequeathed her home in Coogee to the Hospital Visiting Committee of the National Council of Jewish Women (NSW) to be used as a convalescent home or hospital for Jewish people. The house was not suitable for this use and was sold. The monies realised helped to fund the purchase of Wolper's current property at 8 Trelawney Street, Woollahra in 1953. The Wolper Convalescent Home opened later that year, fulfilling her wishes.

To read about the journey from Convalescent Home to Hospital, please see wolper.com.au/our-history/



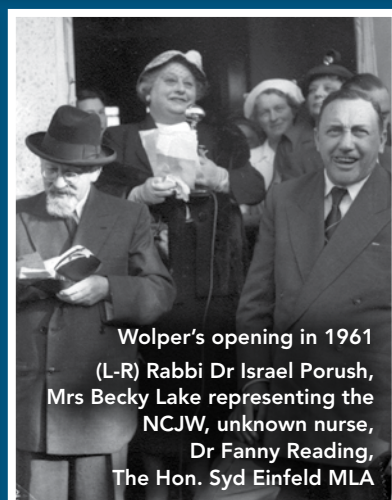
Gertie Wolper with husband Aaron Wolper in Sydney c1899.



Wolper Convalescent Home in 1953



Sam Karpin addresses attendees at the opening of the Hospital



Wolper's opening in 1961
(L-R) Rabbi Dr Israel Porush, Mrs Becky Lake representing the NCJW, unknown nurse, Dr Fanny Reading, The Hon. Syd Einfeld MLA

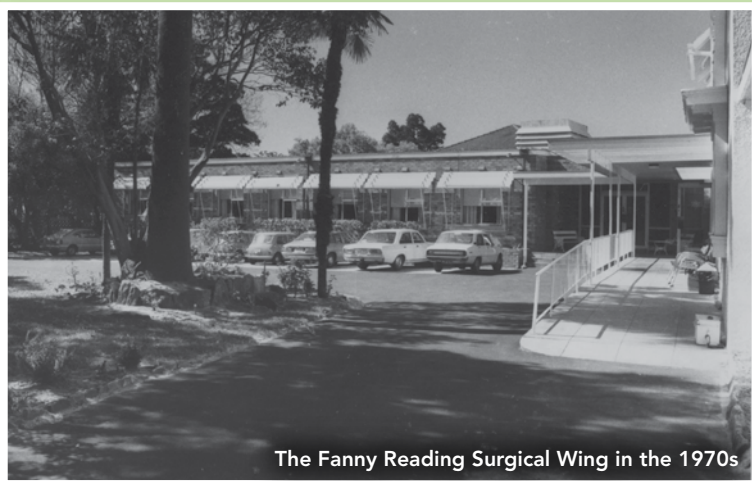


A shared patient room in the 1970s. Today Wolper only offers private rooms.



Wolper Jewish Hospital operating theatre, 1967

In 1966 Wolper opened its Dr Fanny Reading Surgical Wing where general, eye, urological, ENT, orthopaedic, gynaecological and cosmetic surgery took place. The theatres were in operation until 2002.



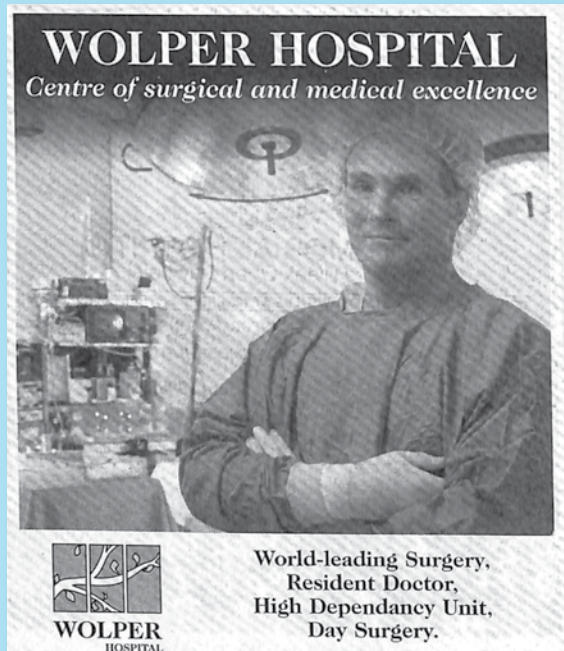
The Fanny Reading Surgical Wing in the 1970s



In 1982 Wolper closed for extensive renovations. This included the addition of a floor above the Dr Fanny Reading Surgical Wing.



Front page of the Sunday News, New Zealand, 22 March 1987, reporting ground-breaking surgery by Dr Lyon Robinson at Wolper



Advertising of expanded surgical capability when 'Jewish' was dropped from the Hospital's branding for a short period c 1999



Wolper's larger hydrotherapy pool opened in 2010



Left to right: Dr David Golovsky AM, Wolper President; Her Excellency Prof Marie Bashir AC CVO; Murray Landis, Life Governor and Graham Einfeld OAM, Life Governor; at the reopening in 2010

Renovations in 2008 saw the Hospital redeveloped to its current format. The refurbished Hospital was officially opened in 2010.



Dr David Golovsky AM at Wolper's 50th anniversary celebrations in 2011

Quality Update

Communicating for safety

Safe handover of care with accurate exchange of information is critically important to ensuring optimal care. Every 24 hours a bedside handover includes the patient (and their carer if possible).

In a recent questionnaire circulated over both wards at Wolper participants reported 94% satisfaction overall with their daily bedside clinical handover. 97% felt included, 95% felt all relevant areas were covered and 100% reported they felt reassured that staff are up to date with their current condition and aware of all their specific needs. Additionally, participants reported feeling 100% comfortable to ask for help from our clinical staff if they had concerns about how they felt or their treatment.



Patient satisfaction survey

This year patient satisfaction remains high at 96% overall. 100% of patients reported the environment felt safe, signage is helpful, assistance was gained in a reasonable time-frame and they are satisfied with the information they received about their treatment.

Some recent comments include:

- "I have never met such caring nurses, who listen and can't do enough for you".
- "There is not one meal that I had and was disappointed. It was excellent. Great menu".
- "On my arrival staff were so welcoming and caring so I knew I was going to enjoy my stay at Wolper, they set a great impression".

100% of participants agreed they would recommend the Hospital and that their stay here met their expectations.

COVID-19 VACCINATION: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

JOIN US FOR THIS IMPORTANT COMMUNITY CONVERSATION



The community coming together

From the early days of the pandemic, the NSW Jewish community has banded together to support and protect our vulnerable people. Organisations such as JewishCare, COA and Jewish House have diligently worked to identify and support those in the community most at risk of physical, social, mental or financial distress due to the pandemic.

In parallel, the leadership of key Jewish organisations CSG, JCA, ECAJ, Wolper and the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies has met on a regular basis for the past 18 months to co-ordinate engagement across community organisations and liaise with Government.

Wolper President Richard Glass is Chair of the Medical Sub-Committee which comprises medical specialists, GPs and the Wolper Medical Advisory Committee. The Sub-Committee has facilitated community communications

related to the pandemic encouraging COVID-safe behaviour – in particular being vaccinated and avoiding complacency - and has organised a number of forums to provide general advice and ask questions of leading experts.

The most recent of these took place in August 2021, entitled COVID-19 Vaccination: What you need to know. The speaker panel included experts in the field, Dr Ginni Mansberg, Professor Mary-Louise McLaws, Associate Professor Jason Tangen, as well as community members who are recovering from COVID-19 sharing their experiences. This was a collaboration between Wolper, ECAJ, the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies and JCA.

If you would like to watch the recording of this important seminar, please see [Wolper.com.au/videos](https://wolper.com.au/videos)

WOLPER
Wellbeing
PROGRAM

BUILDING TEEN RESILIENCE IN A PANDEMIC

Our most recent Wellbeing was both compelling and enlightening. Our professional speaker panel included Ashley de Silva, CEO of ReachOut, Dr Paula Robinson, CEO and Executive Director of APPLI and the Positive Psychology Institute and Professor Patrick McGorry AO, Professor of Youth Mental Health at the University of Melbourne and Executive Director of Orygen Youth Health.

Our panel included 3 teenagers who spoke about their struggles and how they are managing the lockdown in Sydney. Our teen panel talked about feelings of uncertainty and loss but also spoke about the ways they have found to cope with these feelings. These included staying connected with friends and family (most often online), setting smaller realistic goals for themselves in the absence of the usual goals provided by the regular school year, talking about their feelings with parents and friends, finding ways to stay active and generally trying to stay positive about the future.

It really is worth watching the video recording of this Wellbeing webinar just to see how the mental health professionals responded to the very insightful teens.

The professional speakers spoke about the importance for parents and carers to validate the feelings that teens are experiencing, and to normalise conversations about mental health.

Dr Robinson spoke about the concept of mental fitness, which is can be defined as having and maintaining a state of wellbeing and cultivating an awareness of how we think, behave and feel. Her steps towards mental fitness include staying active and getting out and about as safely as you can, maintaining a healthy digital diet, eating meals around the dinner table, talking and interacting, and trusting that teenagers do have solutions to the problems they are facing. She reminds parents and carers that listening is crucial. They should ask questions to clarify understanding but avoid adding judgement.

There was a lot more advice given regarding supporting teenagers as well as steps to take when parents or carers feel that a teen is in need of professional help.

The webinar was recorded and is available on the Wolper web site.

While you are there you can watch previous Wellbeing sessions.

See wolper.com.au/wellbeing



WELLBEING SCHEDULE

All seminars via Zoom at 7.30pm • Register at wolper.com.au/wellbeing

WEDNESDAY 3 NOVEMBER

Healthy retirement: mental and physical aspects

WEDNESDAY 8 DECEMBER

Microbiome medicine

For more information call 9328 6077 or visit www.wolper.com.au



Supporting our staff during COVID

At Wolper, the wellbeing of our staff is one of our highest priorities.

Given the stress and uncertainty we face during the pandemic, our staff have been provided with access, free of charge, to an Employee Assistance Program where they can access counselling and other forms of support. Managers have also been encouraged to complete a Black Dog Institute 'Managing Team Wellbeing' course.

Additionally, an innovative new app called "@one Pause & Reset" has been made available to all staff. It was developed by senior clinical psychologist Renee Mill who is well known

for her practical skills and clinical experience. The app was designed to be used when users are feeling out of sorts or unsettled by something that has occurred. The app will guide them through teaching them how to pause, reset and retain their equilibrium.

Without our wonderful staff, we cannot do the important work that we do. Self-care is a must and Wolper will continue to prioritise staff wellbeing through these challenging times.

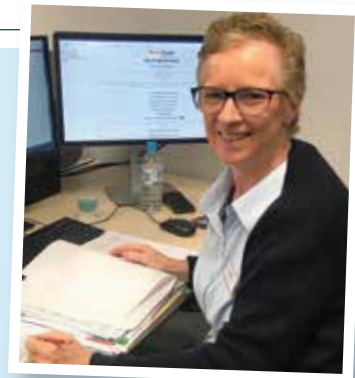


Beth and Darsh in one of our MoveWell At Home videos

MoveWell At Home

As this lockdown drags on, it's important to keep moving! Don't forget our library of MoveWell At home videos are always accessible if you need a little inspiration.

You can browse through the videos on offer at wolper.com.au/videos



REMEMBERING Cathy

This newsletter is dedicated to our work colleague Cathy Ewing who passed away in August after bravely battling cancer. She was a highly valued member of the medical records team.

Cathy's loss was deeply felt by those who knew her at Wolper.

Everyone at Wolper wishes her four children, grandchild and all her family a long life.



A helping hand to complete a morning ritual

Norman Lieber was transferred to Wolper to continue his recovery after being admitted to intensive care at another hospital. There was one thing he was determined to do on arrival. He wanted to put on tefillin. Tefillin or phylacteries, are a set of small black leather boxes containing scrolls of parchment inscribed with verses from the Torah (the first five books of the Hebrew Bible). Tefillin are worn by observant adult Jews during weekday morning prayers.

Wolper's barista, Daniel Barukh, took him a set of tefillin and helped Norman put them on and say the blessings. Norman was extremely emotional and very grateful to be able to do this.

Mary Doyle – past staff member becomes a patient

Mary Doyle was a social worker at Wolper for nearly 11 years. At that time she also ran a private practice, which she continues to do. She also now does locums at Montefiore Homes in Randwick, Woollahra and Maroubra when social work staff go on leave.

Mary was often asked why she was going to Wolper after her surgery for a hip replacement instead of just going home. Mary says, "The information I got from doctors was that you recover faster and you end up with a greater range of movement having rehab as an inpatient. Also, having had a few medical problems as a result of the anaesthetic and medications I am glad I was here as it would be very difficult for me to identify and manage the problems if I was at home. Being at Wolper is much more than just having rehab".

Even though Mary worked at Wolper for so long, as a patient she gained greater insight into just how organised Wolper is. She used to see people doing their jobs but didn't realise till she was a patient how coordinated everything is. And it was interesting for her to see the extent to which patients talk to each other and it became evident to her that the staff can only do so much and then it's up to the patient. The impact of the patients' different personalities were evident. It was clear a patient's outlook affects their experience and possibly even their outcome.

Mary commented very favourably on both the delicious, healthy food and the caring staff (in that order!). Everyone, from the nursing staff, physios, cleaners, to the kitchen staff were very considerate. She also loved seeing familiar faces as well as meeting the new staff. The refurbishment has impressed her – both her room and its outlook over the newly landscaped gardens. She thinks it has all been done beautifully.

Mary's return to Wolper has been a positive experience, exceeding the high expectations she had already.



Two cats have recently been visiting our gardens

They are homeless and have stolen our hearts.

Wolper has undertaken to get the cats wormed, microchipped and desexed, and ultimately to get them re-homed.

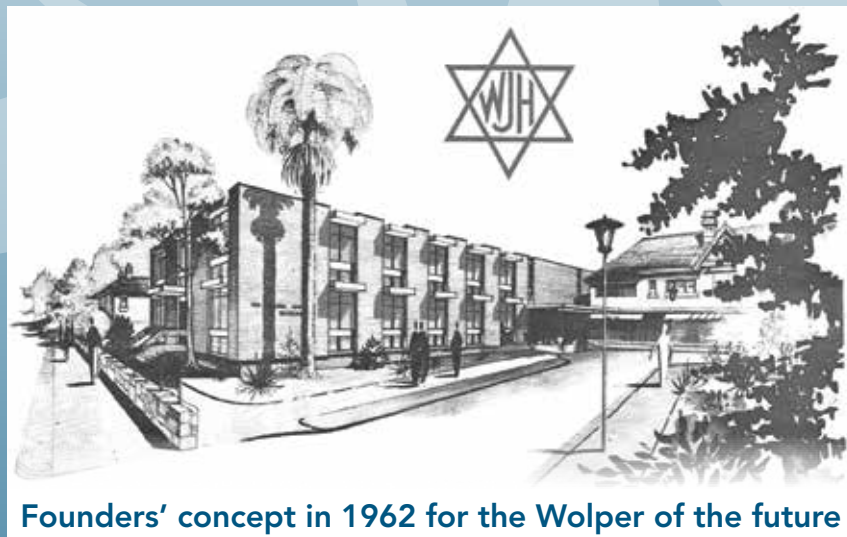
One of the cats has already had one trip to the vet. Melissa Catt of the Paddington Cat Hospital not only gave her a clean bill of health but also gave her a name – Malka – the Hebrew word for Queen.



A DREAM REALISED



Wolper when it opened in 1961



Founders' concept in 1962 for the Wolper of the future



Wolper Jewish Hospital today

Over 60 years, in planned stages of development,
Wolper Jewish Hospital has realised its founders' vision