Tuesday 19 November 2013

Donation breathes life into seriously ill babies

Seriously ill babies at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital will be able to breathe easier thanks to a $21,000 donation from Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL.

The money will fund a video laryngoscope for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, which will enable doctors to intubate babies (place a tube down a baby’s trachea to facilitate breathing) more safely and accurately.

NICU Nursing Unit Manager Lyndy Dixon said the state-of-the-art equipment would greatly improve the quality of care the medical team could provide to critically ill babies.

“The video laryngoscope will provide clinicians with a clear view of the intubation process ensuring greater procedural accuracy. It will also be a vital teaching tool for junior clinicians,”

“We are truly grateful to Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL for their generous donation. The club has long been a supporter of the unit having donated in excess of $76,000 over the past few years for vital medical equipment,’ Ms Dixon said.

Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL Club Chief Executive Officer Dean Thomas said they were thrilled to have the opportunity to provide another piece of equipment which would help critically ill babies and their families at RPA.

“Each year we commit 20 per cent of our profits to benefit the community and in 2013 we’ve allocated $935,738 – the highest amount yet. Being able to give back is the foundation of what RSLs are built upon and something we are very proud of,” Mr Thomas said.

A thank you morning tea will be held on Thursday, 21 November with NICU staff and the Chief Executive of Canterbury Hurlstone RSL Dean Thomas.