Being Santa is a dream job

Tiny Tazz among patients helped by hospital auxiliary

DRESSED in his mini Santa suit, tiny Tazz White, of Victoria Point, is most likely dreaming of Christmas at home. Although sound asleep when Santa (aka, Redland Hospital volunteer Jim Lightton, of Ormiston) visited last week, Tazz did not miss out on a present. Just 10 weeks old, Tazz, who has difficulty swallowing, will be in hospital for a little while longer.

After seven weeks in the special care unit, he is now in the children’s ward. His mother another Shaylee McDermott is hopeful he will make it home to spend a few hours with her and dad Tim and big brother Kota, 2, on Christmas Day.

They are grateful for all the support of the doctors and nurses. For the 10th year in a row, Redland Hospital Auxiliary members have bought and wrapped Christmas presents to distribute to patients.

Continued page 8
Tiny Tazz among patients helped by auxiliary

From page 1.

ACCOMPANIED by Santa and the USA choir, they visited hospital wards on Thursday last week to distribute the gifts and spread some festive cheer.

Redland Hospital has a team of more than 100 volunteers and auxiliary members, ready to lend a supportive hand to patients, visitors and staff when they need it.

The volunteers assist in many different areas of the hospital, including emergency, renal unit, medical and surgical wards, Women and Birthing and administration.

Auxiliary members run the hospital’s Koala Kiosk and various craft stalls, which are an important source of fundraising.

THANKS ... Redland Hospital Emergency Department (ED) Nurse Manager Kym Bates (centre) with ED volunteers Gayle Graham (left) and Julie Hunter (right) at a Christmas morning tea to thank volunteers.

Nursing Director Surgical, Mellissa Knox, said that over the past two years the Redland Hospital Auxiliary had raised more than $111,000 for the hospital.

Equipment purchased with the donated funds includes: a vital signs monitor; two neonatal resuscitation units; bariatric equipment; an automatic slide stainer; five hi-lo beds and an inflatable hoist mattress.

“Our auxiliary and volunteers play a significant role in supporting staff to provide the best care patient available,” Ms Knox said.

“It’s not easy to find words to thank them adequately. They do so much for us and we are extremely grateful.”

Volunteers and auxiliary members attended a morning tea at the hospital on Friday, December 11, where staff and executive thanked them for their support during the year.

“Our annual Christmas morning tea gives staff a chance to thank them for their commitment,” Ms Knox said.

“We would also like to thank the many community groups and local organisations that have chosen to support Redland Hospital over the past year.

“Our heartfelt thanks go to you all,” Ms Knox said.

Volunteers are placed according to their skills, experience and interests and all volunteers receive training to ensure they have the confidence and skills to work in the hospital.

JOIN VOLUNTEERS

People wanting more information should contact Volunteer Services on 3488 3113 between 8am and noon, Monday to Friday.