

From the CEO's Desk, 23 September 2009

## **CELEBRATING OUR SUCCESSES**

Dear Colleagues

I would like to acknowledge some of the very recent events and achievements at Royal Rehab.

Firstly, well done to everyone involved in the many and varied activities relating to last week's Brain Injury Awareness Week, and the Stroke Awareness Week. Again, I thought all of these activities presented Royal Rehab and the things we do here, in a most professional, positive and inspiring manner.

The public educational aspects of these events were excellent, and the Wall of Fame in particular is a truly very moving and celebratory event that is obviously most meaningful to our Brain Injury Unit clients and their families, and the many staff who have shared a part of the journey with them.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank the many members of staff who participated in the Ducati Day promotion on Sunday.

It was great to again see clients from Weemala, the Brain Injury Unit and our Spinal Injury Unit enjoying the glorious weather and the terrific atmosphere - thank you to the staff who assisted them so ably, and to our great Recreational Therapy team who were demonstrating our own "Ducati-like" hand cycles and beach chairs!

The Ducati Owners Club have been supporting Royal Rehab for 27 years, and AMP have in more recent years been matching their fund raising efforts dollar for dollar - it really does reinforce the value of their on-going support when we have such active participation from our clients and staff, so thank you again.

Our Catering Team did a fantastic job, together with some very happy volunteers, to feed the hungry throng throughout a very long and very hot day with a terrific smile and great attitude.

Congratulations to our hard working team at the Royal Rehabilitation College! The quality of the College's work has been recognised by it being made a finalist in the National "Accolades for Excellence" Awards held by the Australian Industry Skills Council. This is an inaugural and highly prestigious award and the College has been up against many major (and much larger) training organisations across Australia. As a finalist the College is now entitled to free promotions by a national public relations / advertising agency engaged by the Council and will be able to advertise its status as a finalist on all its publications. The winners will be announced on Sept 30th.

The College's tender to the Federal Government's Productivity Places Program has also been successful. This is a most competitive area and we have been granted a total of 78 Government-subsidised training places for 2009- 2010, for our Certificate III and IV Allied Health Assistance courses. NSW Health have already indicated that they will take 50 places, which is great news for Royal Rehab and for our College.

There are many other positive achievements that are made at Royal Rehab every week of the year, at an individual and a team level. Each of the events and achievements above continue to reinforce Royal Rehab's valuable position in the public communities in which we operate, and which are so important to our future community role.

Well done and thank you.

**Stephen Lowndes**

Chief Executive Officer

Royal Rehabilitation Centre Sydney