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# Royal Rehab gets helping hand from benefactors

**MELISSA DAVEY**

NARELLAN Rotary has made a \$25,000 donation to the Royal Rehabilitation Centre in Ryde, with the money to go towards brain injury research.

The cheque presentation was made as part of Brain Injury Awareness Week recently at the centre's Wall of Fame celebrations.

Rob Bryden, from Brydens Compensation Lawyers, also made a \$20,000 donation to Royal Rehab during a recent charity auction.

"Having worked across compensation and personal injury over many years, I know only too well the devastation that serious injury can wreak on individuals and families," Mr Bryden said.

"This will help people who have suffered stroke, brain injury, burns, amputation and spinal cord injury."

The donations come after the Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service cut its funding to the hospital by 8 per cent, bringing the total cuts to \$12 million in the past two years.

NSW Health provides \$2.75 million a year for the Weemala extended residents' care ward, but the unit costs Royal Rehab almost \$7 million a year.

The hospital is facing staff, program and service cuts because of the lack of ongoing funding.