

**San Foundation
Annual Thankyou Luncheon
Miramare Gardens
Friday 24th November**

Extract of Speech to the San Foundation Luncheons donors and supporters

by

His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (ret'd) Governor of New South Wales

In my time as Governor, a lady said to me, 'You're the Governor of NSW - you are the 'Chief Carer' in NSW'.

Now that is sort of an odd title to give an old general – Chief Carer – but I think it's quite true in the sense of we were discussing at the table here (this morning) that there is so much strength and goodness in our community that we don't see and hear about it often enough...and that (strength and goodness) needs to be reflected back to the community.

So when Sir William Deane was Governor General he said he was like a mirror that reflected Australia back to Australians.

That's my job. To reflect you back to yourselves and to say look at what you have done...

So we saw that partly in that video today about what's happened in the Integrated Cancer Treatment Centre. (The San Integrated Cancer Centre funded by the San Foundation)

These are ground breaking treatments, the nature of the treatments, different techniques, different technologies that are bringing people together. ...To see that woman with her children say to you directly, personally, 'thank you for saving my life', and for them to be saying ' thank you for saving my mum'... what more could you ask for?

If you gained your grey (by) knowing that's what you have done in your life, then you have done something really important.

So thank you for doing that. ...and that's the Governor doing his job.

I think there is another side to consider to this...

Some of you may have heard me use this framework before but I think it's very apt that in my first Anzac Day as Governor I gave a speech and I talked about (its) legacy.

(As we try) to sum up this torrid event we normally refer to four words Courage, Mateship, Endurance and Sacrifice.

And if you climbed through the Kokoda track to Kokoda village you will see those words sculpted into four pillarsCourage, Endurance, Mateship, Sacrifice.

Lovely words, very powerful, very emotive.

I tried to distil those four words into three descriptions and those three are:

If you give us a job to do we will do it to our best ability, whether we fail or succeed.

When we do that job we will do it in a way that will make you proud.

Thirdly, while we're doing that job we will look after each other and more importantly when we finish the job we will continue to look after each other.

I think that sums up the Anzac Spirit (of) Australians quite well.

When I apply that framework to what you have done here I think you see exactly the same approach.

You have been given a job to do. The Foundation and its predecessors in supporting the Hospital have done that job to the best of their ability... and we heard from your CEO you have to do a bit more. There's still more work out there, it never ends does it?

But you have done it to the best of your ability, and again that video shows that the best of your ability is an outstanding outcome, supporting outstanding work. And you have done it in a way that will make people proud. The outcomes speak for themselves. There is no doubt about that.

The reputation of this Hospital around Sydney, around the state, around the country, stands with some of the best if not the best in the country.

We are proud of what you have done.

And you have looked after each other, you've looked after your 'mates', in that really essential Australian term and those 'mates' are your fellow citizens.

You have reached out and provided the means by which their illnesses can be addressed.

But we know it's more than that, for every person that is ill, families are affected, communities are affected, and we are all at loss when that happens.

So today's lunch, as we sit here enjoying each other's company, is a celebration, it's a reflection, it's a regirding of the loins because you have been asked to do more, they'll be asking you to continue in that Australian or Anzac spirit.

(So)Do the job to the best of your ability, do it in a way that will make people proud of what you produce, look after yourselves and your fellow citizens while you are doing it.

As Governor I couldn't ask for more of a group, thank you for your leadership, your leaders here, your team for stacking up, all those that complete the organisation past and present here today, you have done an outstanding job it's a real pleasure and privilege to be with you today, to continue the very proud history of this Hospital.

And to make sure the Foundation does the work it was established to do, drive it forward, create an environment for the best care that can be provided for our people. And do it in a way with a loving Godly heart.

Thank you