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MEDIA RELEASE

JOHANSEN AND WAJSZEL RECEIVE LIFE GOVERNORSHIPS

Life governorships were awarded to Bruce Johansen and Pawel Wajszel at Wimmera Health Care Group's annual general meeting last week.

President Bonnie Thompson said that Bruce and Pawel had made substantial contributions to the strategic direction of the organisation over many years.

Ms Thompson said that Bruce Johansen first joined the Board in 1991 and was president from 1995 to 2002. "There were many achievements during his time as President including the completion of major capital works projects such as the Arapiles and Federation buildings, the Dimboola redevelopment and construction of Kurrajong Lodge hostel" she said.

Ms Thompson said that Pawel Wajszel had contributed enormously to the organisation during his 12 year reign on the Board. "Pawel was president for three consecutive terms. Highlights during this time were the achievement of best performing base hospital in September 2006, establishment of a Community Advisory Committee and 30 years of accreditation for the organisation" she said.

At the meeting, acknowledgment was also made to long term Hospice Auxiliary members Melba McGlynn and Lyn Taylor, who received letters of recognition from the Board. Ms Thompson said that both ladies had worked tirelessly over the past eight years to raise funds to purchase much needed equipment for hospice care.

Volunteer, Wenda Netherway was awarded with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of her services to the Wimmera Nursing Home. Ms Thompson said that Wenda visits the nursing home regularly to play to the residents. "She has carried out this role for 14 years and her contribution is valued enormously" she said.

Ms Thompson said that more than 100 people attended the annual general meeting in the Community Centre at Sunnyside Lutheran Retirement Village. "During 2007/08, the health care group treated an unprecedented 10,200 inpatients. This is a significant achievement for Wimmera Health Care Group.

It highlights the importance that the organisation plays in our community” she said.

Ms Thompson expressed her appreciation for the significant level of community support and public acknowledgment of the importance Wimmera Health Care Group in the local area.



Chief Executive Chris Scott (left) and President Bonnie Thompson (right) congratulate award recipients Melba McGlynn, Bruce Johansen, Pawel Wajszel and Wenda Netherway at the health care group’s annual general meeting last week. Absent – Lyn Taylor

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