

# SPASM MUSEUM

## Newsletter June 2019

Spasm HealthCare Museum Building 6 Victoria Rd Gladesville  
No 1 gate house at the Crown Street bus stop on Victoria Road Gladesville



Our AGM is being held on **Saturday 17th August** this year we do hope you have put that in your calendar and will be joining us for lunch this year. Please feel free to bring a friend (or friends) or partner, the more the merrier. Just please RSVP so we can cater appropriately.

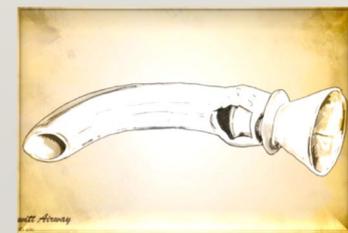
The luncheon in May for Narelle Hines was a sad but lovely occasion. Attended by some of her colleagues from OTA, RPA and SPASM. Special thanks also to those who sent their best wishes and apologies.

Our membership continues to grow, at the recent OTA conference Jasmin Bransgrove joined us as a member. Rebecca Fox won the guessing competition and so becomes a member of SPASM. Rebecca is a Nurse Consultant at RNSH. So we welcome these two (2) new members. Thank you to those who entered the competition. Most of you guessed the function of that lovely "tea service" look alike object. You can learn more about it on the next page.

Welcome also to new members Kathy Holland, Trish Reed, Menna Davies and John Stuart.

We discovered last fortnight that Michael Kelly, who joined us last month, is a talented painter and so we plan to have a Saturday "painting day" at the museum later on in the year. Let me know if you are interested in this idea and would like to join us.

### June 2019



## Visiting the HealthCare Museum in real time or online.

Opening hours for the Museum is 11 am – 3pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month - February to November. Prior arrangements for Group visits may also be arranged on these days, or other days - depending on volunteer availability.

Contact SPASM by- Phone 0414 993 138

### Executive Members :

President Sandra Solarz

Secretary Treasurer Ros Berryman

**Volunteer Guides:** Val Corcoran, Kate Paton, Margaret Warby, Gary Klopfer, Peter Hartigan & Michael Kelly.

Email : [spasm@netspace.net.au](mailto:spasm@netspace.net.au)

SPASM web sites at [www.spasmmuseum.org.au](http://www.spasmmuseum.org.au)

<https://ehive.com/account/5547>

[www.discoverhuntershill.com.au/whats-on](http://www.discoverhuntershill.com.au/whats-on)

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**THE MUSEUM WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2019; IT WILL BE OPEN ON SAT 13<sup>TH</sup> MON 22<sup>ND</sup> & TUES 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2019.**

## Entry to the Museum takes you to another era:

Room 1 takes us to a 1911 Consulting room: "**The consulting room of Dr. John Sand Smyth**" who practiced in Warwick Queensland. We have added items from the Five Dock GP Dr. Menzies collection to this room in a new display case.

Room 2. The surgical "pick room" contains instrument cupboards with a large display of surgical instruments, blood collecting apparatus and interesting items. We have added a selection of orthopaedic instruments.

The corridor to the library area takes you past a display of hearing trumpets, tracheostomy tubes a display of **early syringes** and other historical equipment.

The pharmacy room shows beautiful jars, household remedies and also have some early dispensing records.

The diathermy room is also home to: a collection of knives with ebony handles, a collection of laryngoscopes of various designs; and an impressive display of diathermy units.

The St Thomas Hospital Operating Theatre Room hosts an evolutionary display of receptacles used in the operating theatres. An early operating table, as well as ether anaesthetic equipment is in this area.

The Gladesville Room has ECT machines, straight jackets, mittens and photographs and a "new" TMS machine.

The sterilizing area We have added the portable operating table, and world war instruments to this area. The small formaldehyde cupboards and dental equipment are still on display as well as the small sterilizing water baths.

The Anaesthetic Room. which showcases the changes in anaesthetic apparatus used by surgeons, dentists and anaesthetists over the years has had a total change in the display to allow better visualization of the improvements in safety and monitoring of the anaesthetised patients over the years.

**The Hewitt Wide Bore Inhaler** that you may have seen at the NSW OTA Conference was donated to The SPASM Health Care Museum by Marion O'Farrell, for which we are very grateful.

Sir Frederick William Hewitt (1857-1916), an accomplished English anaesthesiologist, wrote one of the earliest comprehensive textbooks on anesthesia, he designed several pieces of anesthesia equipment including the Hewitt Oral airway pictured on the front page.

In 1901, he described his wide-bore ether inhaler, a modification of the **Clover Ether Inhaler**. Unlike the Clover, it can be refilled with ether while still in use, and the mask is screwed into place so that it "cannot be unexpectedly detached." Most importantly, it admitted a larger volume of air, making it easier for the patient to breathe. That, in turn, speeded induction. An example of the wide-bore inhaler was made by the original manufacturer, Barth & Co. of London.

Throughout his career, Dr. Hewitt called attention to the need for adequate ventilation and oxygenation of the patient. His **oral airway**, introduced in 1908, led the way to making control of the airway a routine part of the anaesthesiologist's work. He had a reputation as a outstanding sound and careful anaesthetist, he was so highly respected that he was appointed the official Anaesthetist to King Edward VII in 1901 and later to King George V.

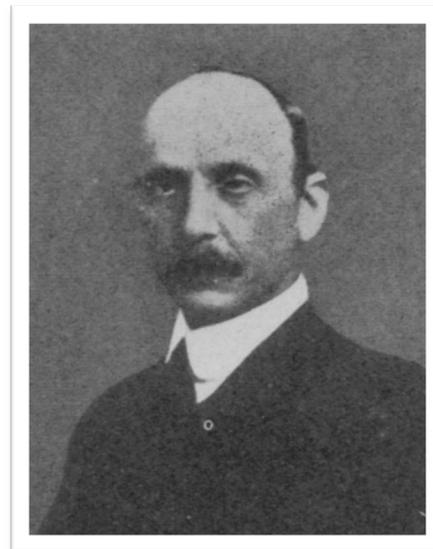
**Frederick William Hewitt** was born in London on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1857.

In 1884 he was appointed anaesthetist at *Charing Cross Hospital*. In 1885 he was appointed to the National Dental hospital, In 1886 he was elected to the staff of the London Hospital.

In 1902 he was appointed Physician –Anaesthetist at *St Georges Hospital*. In 1885 he wrote an article in the *Lancet* : "A new method of Administering and Economising Nitrous Oxide Gas"

He published two text books, a small one in 1888 and a much larger 332 page book in 1893 :-

"*Anaesthetics and their Administration a Manual for Medical and Dental Practitioners and Students.*" He died at Brighton on 6<sup>th</sup> January 1916.



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