



Media Statement

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New volunteers at Fremantle Hospital all heart

CANNING Vale resident Trevor Patten and Attadale resident Dan Brown made their first visit to Fremantle Hospital today as trainee volunteers.

They will join six other former heart patients for training at Fremantle Hospital on April 17 to become the latest recruits in a team of Fremantle Heart Patient Support Group volunteers. (FHPSG)

The volunteers spend time with cardiac patients before and after operations and procedures at the hospital.

Their personal experiences put them in prime position to reassure patients and families and answer their questions in the cardiac catheter theatre and on the hospital's cardiac ward.

Both gentlemen have retired and both want to give something back to their local community.

Mr Brown had quadruple bypass heart surgery and Mr Patten had a valve and a hole in his heart repaired.

FHPSG President Joyce Mynett welcomed all the new volunteers.

"There is nothing as reassuring for patients as the confidence of a former patient who has experienced the procedure or the operation," My Mynett said.

Our volunteers simply sit by the bed with patients and chat about what to expect. This reassures them and can help reduce anxiety levels as well.

"If you would like to become a volunteer you must be a former patient and have experienced a cardiac procedure or an operation."

Fremantle Hospital provides a training course for all prospective volunteers.

Former cardiac patients interested in volunteering can contact Joyce on 9259 4569 for more information.

Dan Brown, Joyce Mynett and Trevor Patten in the Cardiac Catheter Theatre at Fremantle Hospital.

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