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Community catering pays for high-tech beds for Maleny Soldiers Memorial Hospital

How do scones with jam and a cup of tea lead to a donation of $65,000 worth of high-tech patient beds at Maleny Soldiers Memorial Hospital?

Just ask the dedicated members of the Maleny Hospital Auxiliary, who have been busy catering at community functions, raising funds to purchase five state-of-the-art beds worth $13,000 each.

Their catering efforts, together with donations from various community organisations and generous benefactors, have also enabled the purchase of other equipment required by the hospital.

Maleny Hospital Auxiliary President Glennis Manning said the donation was all thanks to the commitment and efforts of the auxiliary members.

“Over some five or six years we have provided five of these VersaCare beds,” Ms Manning said.

The VersaCare beds enable high quality care by supporting patient safety, patient mobilisation and skin care. The bed also assists nursing staff with daily care making their job safer.

“This is a great example of how our community here in Maleny is helping each other. Through our catering efforts and donations, we’re able to give back to our community by donating to our local hospital. This also supports the patients and staff at the hospital,” she said.

Director of Nursing Nicole White said the VersaCare beds provided increased comfort and safety for patients.

“They really are the Rolls Royce of palliative and pressure care beds,” Ms White said.

“They adjust automatically to relieve pressure for patients; have easy-to-use controls for patients to adjust their own position; they have built in scales so our nurses can weigh the patient without having to move them from their bed; and include safety alarms to alert staff of any fall risks,” she explained.

“The beds are used for acute stroke patients, rehabilitation patients and palliative patients.”
“Being able to provide that extra comfort for our elderly patients or those compromised in their physical abilities is another way of committing to improving our exceptional level of patient care. We’re extremely grateful to the auxiliary for this generous donation.”

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