MEDIA RELEASE

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Doctor calls time with local hospital

Dr Rob Brodribb brought down the curtain on a long association with Toowoomba Hospital when he retired from his position as Senior Staff Physician at the Toowoomba Hospital last month.

The highly respected general physician’s first tenure at Toowoomba Hospital started almost 40 years ago.

“It was back in 1977, when I was a resident here for two years, post-graduation,” Dr Brodribb said.

“I then returned as a consultant physician in 1993 and I’ve been a staff physician since then.

“A highlight has been seeing the department grow, as when I arrived there was one other full-time physician and four visiting medical officers and that was the whole senior medical staff compliment of the Department of Medicine.

“You can see what it’s like these days so as I leave I’m actually quite proud to pass on the baton to the excellent specialist staff we have now.”

Dr Brodribb said other notable achievements included his involvement with oncology and palliative care services.

“I was very lucky to have been involved in the initiation of medical oncology services here, along with nurse June Swales and pharmacist Peter Gilbar,” he said.

“Then palliative care services, and as part of oncology we started an outreach service and that included Goondiwindi and Roma for more than ten years, and for the last 12 months that’s included Kingaroy. Being able to provide general medicine, oncology and palliative care services to those areas has also been very satisfying.

“I feel very lucky to have had an extremely interesting and varied medical career based here in Toowoomba.”

Dr Brodribb said while he may be stepping away from full-time work he is not leaving medicine altogether.

“The last few years since my wife completed her PhD she has been working three days a week as an academic GP in Brisbane and I’ve been working at Logan Hospital for a day-and-a-half per week so that will continue,” he said.
“I’m going to work a half-day a week for the University (UQ) teaching and I’m also going to Carbal, the Indigenous Health Service, to provide some specialist support there half-a-day a week, so I’ll be busy enough.”

Ends

Photo caption: Dr Rob Brodribb has retired from his position as Senior Staff Physician at the Toowoomba Hospital.

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