

## **Morisset members make a stand for safety and security**

Dear Member,

At the sub branch meeting held on 28 February, members at Morisset Hospital took the courageous step to take a stand for WHS and security in their workplace.

The issue around gate security has been an ongoing temporary arrangement which gets reviewed on average every 1-2 weeks by Hunter New England LHD. On Monday 25 February, the HSU received correspondence from HNELHD that the current arrangement of security at Morisset would be discontinued on 1 March and replaced by a new arrangement of providing security at the gate on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays only. As a result, HSU members passed the following resolution at the sub branch meeting:

*“The HSU sub branch of Morisset Hospital condemns the decision by senior management of HNELHD to remove the security officer from the gate on Silky Oak Rd at the Morisset Campus by reducing the number of days from seven days a week 0900-1800hrs to Friday, Saturday and Sunday only.*”

*Recent incidents which have occurred when the gate was not covered, and the numerous occasions when tourists and the general public have tailgated staff, illustrate the importance of security coverage seven days a week.*

*The sub branch calls upon senior management to commit to keeping security on the gate in place until the new gate on Acacia Ave is operational and the pedestrian access on Silky Oak Rd is closed off. Shift starting times should be altered to 0600-1800 to align with starting times of the staff members working at the site.”*

The HSU is pleased to announce that HNELHD agreed to keep the current arrangement continuing until 18 March. Our resolution still stands calling upon HNELHD to commit to the arrangement for the long term.

There have also been concerns regarding WHS issues at Morisset including air conditioning, toileting facilities etc. The sub branch meeting also passed the following motion:

*“We the members of the HSU sub branch at Morisset Hospital hereby give management 14 days’ notice to rectify and/or repair the numerous issues currently plaguing Lorikeet Lodge. There are problems with plumbing that require toilets to be flushed with jugs of water by the staff. We believe urgent attention should be*

*given to this issue, as the hygiene and health & safety issues affect the staff working daily in this building.”*

*“In addition, we hereby give 14 days notice to management to commit to a date of fitting an air conditioner in the Willaroo pantry area. The temperatures in this building are unbearably hot and make for a very uncomfortable workplace.”*

Members at Morisset Hospital should be applauded for standing up for your rights in the work place. You all truly exhibit the spirit of **‘Stand Up, Fight Back’**.

Once a response to the resolutions has been received from HNELHD, we will inform members and seek feedback.

In unity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerard Hayes', with a long, sweeping underline.

Gerard Hayes  
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD