

A project by Northern Rivers Community Cancer Foundation & Our Kids

Our House 2 plans

The Our House Board and General Manager, Ruth Harrison, have been working closely with architect Andrew Armstrong from Armstrong & Co on the design plans and are excited by the progress so far. Our House 2 will continue the organisation's commitment to providing exceptional service and a therapeutic environment for guests.

The first meeting with Lismore City Council was very positive, with the next step being progression towards the Development Application.

Our House 2 is a response to the growing demand for medical accommodation in the region. Over recent years, guest numbers have increased from around 1,000 annually to now welcoming more than 1,500 people each year. Guests travel to Lismore to access medical

treatment for themselves or to support loved ones receiving care at Lismore Base Hospital, St Vincent's Hospital Lismore, and local specialist services.

In response to this growing need, Our House purchased the neighbouring property and is planning an expansion that includes an additional 30 purpose-built units. This



development will enable Our House to support even more families during challenging times.

Currently, Our House is seeking community support to strengthen lobbying efforts for government funding. If you would like to provide a letter of support, Ruth would love to hear from you.

To learn more about the plans for Our House 2, please contact us at manager@ourhouse.org.au.

The inaugural Casino Charity Golf Day



Angela and Scott Johnston from Casino Engineering.

The inaugural Casino Charity Golf Day was a tremendous success, raising more than

\$15,000 to support local families through Our Kids and Our House.

Proudly presented by the M.J. Smith Group and Casino Engineering & Industry Supplies, the event brought together golfers, sponsors and community supporters for a day of fun with a powerful purpose.

Funds raised will contribute to the purchase of a vital ventilator for the Special Care Nursery at Lismore Base Hospital, and Our House to assist those coming to Lismore for medical treatment.

Our Kids Fundraising Coordinator, Rebekka Battista, expressed her sincere thanks to



Simon Tuff's team from Tuff Property Solutions, the winning Team

everyone who contributed to the day's success.

Congratulations to the

winning team – Simon Tuff's team from Tuff Property Solutions. Well done, Simon!





The Regional Accommodation Providers Group head to NSW Parliament House

Our House started the Regional Accommodation Providers Group (RAPG) in 2014, bringing together organisations across regional NSW that provide

accommodation for people travelling for medical treatment. The first conference included six sites, and today RAPG has grown to 13 sites and is considered a highly

valuable contributor to the provision of health services across NSW.

Our recent conference was hosted at NSW Parliament House, by Janelle Saffin and

Dr Joe McGirr, providing a valuable opportunity to connect, collaborate, and spend time with the NSW Health Minister, Ryan Park.

Wear a Tutu Day



Our sister charity, Our Kids, held 'Wear a Tutu Day' for the first time – and of course, the team at Our House couldn't resist joining in and donning a tutu!

The fun event raised over \$11,000 to help purchase paediatric equipment. A huge thank you to Ballina RSL and Cherry Street Sports for partnering with the Our Kids team to create such an inclusive and enjoyable event for everyone.

Going the extra mile at Our House

Part of the culture at Our House is going the extra mile for our guests – and we rely on the support of our community to help make that possible.

One special touch is the Welcome Box placed in each room, filled with thoughtful goodies to help guests feel comfortable and cared for during their stay.

The Rotary Club of Lismore has proudly sponsored these boxes for more than seven years. Their ongoing support has made a meaningful difference to so many families.

Pictured: Mary Bell (Secretary), Chris Bell (President), and Rod Sproule (Treasurer).

Thank you for your years of generous support.





A massive thank you to the Lismore Workers Sport Bowls Club for all they do for our community throughout the year.



At the Alstonville Seventh-day Adventist Village Christmas Lunch, Our House received a donation of \$2,190 from the residents and Adventist Senior Living. Thank you to all involved. Pictured: Andrew Tucker (General Manager North Coast) Rebekka Battista and Robyn Moore (Resident).



Residents from Evans Head Riverside Village recently visited Our House to see firsthand how their donation is making a difference for families travelling to Lismore for medical treatment. A heartfelt thank you to Corliss Wagstaff who led the charge in the Christmas raffle raising over \$6,750 for the Our House Financial Hardship Fund.



Meet wonderful donors John and Pam Murphy from Casino. John and Pam have generously supported Our House on many occasions. They raise funds in creative ways, from sponsored walks to choosing donations instead of gifts for John's 80th birthday.



A huge thank you to all our Dinner Teams who volunteer to cook for our guests at Our House every Tuesday and Thursday night.

Special recognition goes to St Mary's Primary School, who have been generously volunteering on the roster for many years – we are so grateful for your ongoing support!

The Our House family is proud of Rebekka Battista and Dr Chris Ingall for their recognition at the 2026 Australia Day Awards.

- Rebekka Battista – Lismore Citizen of the Year (Picture with Mayor Steve Krieg)
- Dr Chris Ingall – Academic Excellence Award.



Meet Geoff and Jan McKay from Coffs Harbour

Meet Geoff and Jan McKay from Dirty Creek, just half an hour from Coffs Harbour. When Geoff was diagnosed with prostate cancer, they were given a choice for treatment – Coffs Harbour or Lismore. They chose Lismore and are incredibly grateful they did.

By travelling to Lismore, Geoff and Jan were eligible for IPTAAS, a government subsidy that supports patients needing to travel for medical care.

“It was wonderful to have our own room. We stayed for a month – it was like a beautiful motel,” Jan said. “We would drive home on Friday and come back Monday. It was so good to be around people in a place that was so supportive.”

“Our House is a beautiful facility, and the staff were just lovely,” Geoff said.

The Tuesday and Thursday community dinners became a highlight of their stay, with Geoff and Jan bringing along their guitar and microphone to create a singalong for everyone to enjoy.

Today, Geoff and Jan are actively involved in the South Grafton Prostate Cancer Support Group, supporting other men and raising awareness in their community.

Pictured is Geoff and Jan McKay with Staff, Chris Harries (L) and Theresa Rositto (R).



Leaving a Legacy to Our House

When you're considering your Will and how you want your estate to be distributed, you may like to include a bequest to Our House. A bequest can be a specific amount or a percentage of your estate. If you're considering a bequest, contact one of the team today and we'll discuss your unique options on 6629 4350.

If you're considering leaving a gift in your Will, there are a few options:

For simpler Wills, there is a free service with Our House partners - Gathered Here. Click here to proceed with your online Will.

www.wills.gatheredhere.com.au/c/ourhouse

For more complicated Wills we invite you to visit one of our local solicitors who are part of the Far North Coast Law Society and who support Our House.

www.farnorthcoastlaw.com.au/find-a-solicitor



Yes I want to help our House



I enclose cheque/money order for \$
made payable to:

Our House, or please charge my credit card.

☐ Bankcard ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card No.

Expiry date / Signature

Name

Address

Postcode Email

Phone

Organisation

My donation to go to: ☐ Our House Financial Hardship Fund

☐ Keep Our House Beautiful Projects

Send to: Our House
145 Laurel Avenue, Lismore, NSW 2480
Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible.
We will post a receipt to you.