

PETITION LAUNCHED

From Therese Mackay

The Strategy May 2008

We launched our petition outside NSW Parliament House to request that the NSW State Premier and Health Minister begin a full, independent and open investigation into the surgery, treatment, care and subsequent death of Donald William Mackay, as a result of the five weeks he spent in Royal North Shore Hospital between 11th April 2007 and 17th May 2007 (the day he died). We ask that



those responsible if found culpable then be subject to disciplinary action. Our reasons are briefly — A RNSH Internal Investigation into Donald Mackay's hospitalisation and death, signed by RNSH's Dr Hoyle who in writing, admitted many failures in Donald Mackay's care; such failures, which we believe led directly to his death after five weeks of unimaginable suffering.

The four of us came away from the visit outside NSW Parliament House feeling very positive. The feedback from people was 99% positive with many expressing their wishes to know more.

We took a thousand leaflets and petitions with us, and returned with only fifty. Not a bad effort for only four of us. We were amazed at people's knowledge on the problems within the NSW Health system and we had many people express their unhappiness and in some cases their bitterness as quite a few had lost relatives and friends through bad outcomes in the hospital system.



Our posters were strung out and fitted right along the front fence of the Parliament. Security (to our surprise) allowed us to attach them to the railings with cable ties, which the police said they normally never do. They were very sympathetic and helpful.

We were there from 8.30am till 3pm in the afternoon and were able to hand out our leaflets and petitions to many of the politicians who came into Parliament.

Towards the end of the day, realising that not one Labour Party politician had come out the front to speak to us, although we were very visible, we asked the Duty Sergeant at Arms to take our material and petition to Ms Reba Meagher and give it to her and seek acknowledgment. This is something that is now her Parliamentary duty to do.

Mr Andrew Stoner came outside and joined us a couple of times and showed us his support, also Melinda Palvey National Party MLC.

Mr Andrew Constance the Member for Bega spoke to me about the problem alerting the NSW Government to the problem with Dr Reeves (Bega Doctor) which he had raised in Parliament six months

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