

# SELINA SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL

## BRINGING MORE SURGICAL SERVICES TO THE WAIRARAPA

Established in 1996 - Selina Sutherland Private Hospital in Masterton - has a dedicated, professional team, some of whom, have passed the 20-year mark of service – a testament to their loyalty, and a happy, supportive workplace,

where caring for patients is paramount. With an exciting new standalone private hospital being planned - on a site opposite the public hospital - the team is growing in anticipation of future development, and actively recruiting

more clinicians to deliver a wider range of services to the people of the Wairarapa. Working collaboratively with the public health system, they hope bold initiatives will future-proof surgical healthcare in this fast-growing region.

### Vicki Bulmer, the newly-appointed Hospital Manager



Vicki is part of the dynamic change. Since she qualified as a registered nurse in 2001, she has worked in a variety of healthcare roles in the Hutt Valley and Wairarapa. Her experience in frontline acute and planned care services, as well as patient flow, quality and hospital management, made her the ideal candidate to lead the changes. Having moved to Masterton in mid-2022 to take up the Charge Nurse role at Selina Sutherland Hospital, she and her husband and four young children are thriving, and loving their relocation. For her, the move has been “a way to achieve a better life work balance in an industry where there is ever-increasing pressure on healthcare workers.”

Vicki is ably assisted by a team of one health care assistant, and eleven registered nurses. Adele Cairns has been with the hospital for twenty-eight years, and Clare Roche and Joleen Wakeling have each been part of the team for eighteen years. The three administrative staff members include, **Lorraine Kennedy, Jo Day and Gabrielle Coulston** who has also been a long-serving employee at twenty-two years. Accounting has been handled by **Jennie Mitchell**.



Without this strong team of nurses and admin staff, the surgeons would not be able to focus on their work. “Knowing that our patients are in the hands of dedicated nurses and staff, is a great advantage. We are a small hospital, but we can be flexible and really give our patients our full attention”, says Konrad Schwanecke, Orthopaedic Surgeon.

### Surgical Services offered at Selina Sutherland Hospital:

#### Orthopaedic Services

Having been at Selina Sutherland Hospital for over twenty years himself, **Konrad Schwanecke** has many years of experience as a general Orthopaedic surgeon, but he specializes in hips and knees. He was delighted to welcome a new Orthopaedic colleague, **Nicholas de Giorgio-Miller**, who is also the local clinical lead at the public hospital in Masterton – as a member of the Wellington Orthopaedic Department. He is keen to “ensure top quality medical care for the local community”. Once he completed his orthopaedic training in New Zealand, he undertook fellowships in hand and wrist surgery, as well as shoulder and knee surgery, and he has introduced innovative techniques with the utilisation of a robot for knee replacements and personalised surgery for osteotomy. He too is enjoying the freedom of living on a lifestyle block in the Wairarapa, with his wife – a plastic surgeon-in-training – and their three small children.

#### Ophthalmology (eyes)



Another long-serving clinician at Selina Sutherland is **Dr Keith Maslin, Ophthalmologist**, who has cared for many Wairarapa eye patients over the past twenty-five years. He played a significant role in setting up the current Ophthalmology services in both the public and private hospitals, and his special interests are medical retinal conditions such as macular degeneration and diabetes, as well as glaucoma care and eyelid problems.

Two years ago, he was joined by **Dr Anne Marie Yardley** whose speciality lies in cataract surgery, but who also has wide experience in treating all eye conditions, and



has done fellowships in Western Australia and Canada. Both work as Ophthalmologists for Te Whatu Ora/Health NZ at Wairarapa and Wellington Hospital, as well as having private practices in both centres as does their colleague, **Dr Kolin Foo**, who also consults at Selina Sutherland Hospital, and specializes in cataract operations too.

Keith and his family have enjoyed their family farm here in Gladstone for many years. He and Anne Marie, and Kolin aim to deliver the highest standard of eye care in the Wairarapa, and are looking forward to the new hospital development.

Shortly, the Ophthalmology team will be bolstered further when Ophthalmologists - **Dr Alistair Papali'i Curtin** and **Dr Keith Small** – join the team.

#### Gynaecology

**Dr Gian Luca Ventresca** is a visiting Gynaecologist, based at Taranaki Base Hospital. He offers monthly clinic consultations, and procedures such as hysterectomies, endometrial ablation, mirena insertions and vaginal repairs. In time we expect that he will increase the frequency of his visits to Selina Sutherland Hospital.



#### Cardiac Sonography and Physiology



**Will Robinson**, the Director of **Cardio Labs**, is an experienced Cardiac Sonographer and Physiologist, and does echocardiograms, ECG's, Holter monitoring and 24-hour blood pressure monitoring. He runs other satellite clinics in Wellington and the Kapiti Coast, and investigations are reviewed by **Dr Susan Plunkett**, a Specialist Cardiologist. This service reduces the need for patients to travel to bigger centres, making cardiac care more accessible, timely, and offering a comprehensive and efficient cardiac care experience.

#### Urology (bladder, prostate, general urology)

**Mr Grant Russell** is a visiting consultant Urologist whose scope of practice includes general urology, prostate disease and overactive bladders or bladder obstruction.



#### Vasectomies

**The Snip Clinic** has a number of visiting doctors who perform scalpel-free vasectomies that ensure an effective method of permanent contraception.



#### Spinal Injuries

For those with spinal injuries, **The Burwood Spinal Unit** offers satellite clinics at Selina Sutherland Hospital.

#### Gastroenterology, General Surgery

From late September, **Dr John Wyeth**, a Gastroenterologist, will be consulting and doing endoscopies, (gastroscopies and colonoscopies), and investigations for other bowel-related conditions. **Sarah Rennie**, a local General Surgeon, has also shown interest in working at Selina Sutherland Hospital.



#### Anaesthetists

No operations can take place without the skills of the five anaesthetists who serve both the public and the private hospitals. We are fortunate to have a strong team in Stephen Pearce, Francois van der Leek, Ken Nip, Jo Burkhan and Chris Smith who has been in the Wairarapa since 1994 – the longest serving clinician at thirty years.

#### Additional Specialties... coming soon!

The Selina Sutherland Hospital team are actively engaging with specialists from complementary specialties, and encouraging them to consider either relocating to the Wairarapa, or at least committing to visiting practices with the hospital.

Offering a great Wairarapa lifestyle, and with plans to build a modern private hospital to attract and retain specialists in the region, the surgical services on offer, locally, at Selina Sutherland Hospital will only grow. Keep an eye on our website – [www.selinasutherland.co.nz](http://www.selinasutherland.co.nz) - for the latest developments.



## CONTACT DETAILS

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