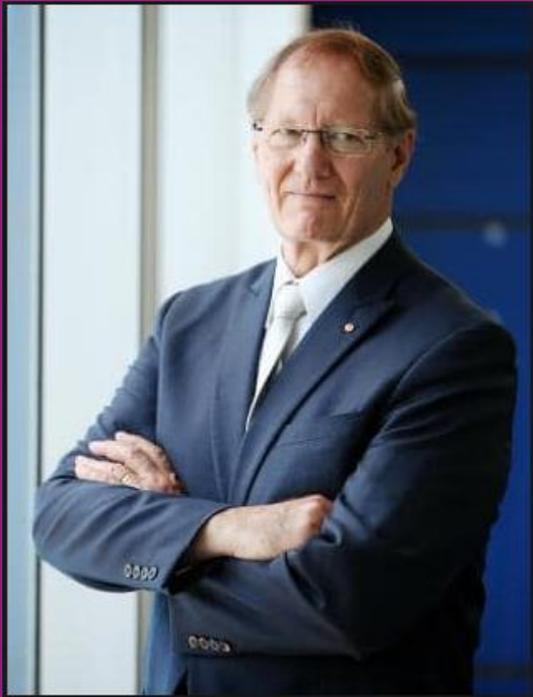




HUMANS OF THE ROYAL

Dr Daryl Wall AM



Picture taken by Tara Croser

Dr Daryl Wall is a Queensland surgeon and former Director of Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital Trauma Service.

Daryl grew up in country NSW and learnt about trauma at a young age from near accidents on the farm. At the age of 10, his family moved to Melbourne where he distinctly remembers the amazing colour of the ocean. He graduated from Monash University in Melbourne and then travelled to England to study surgery where he became interested in transplantation.

In 1974 he worked at the Royal as a Junior Surgeon and "liked the character of the Hospital". However, Daryl moved to the Princess Alexandra Hospital where he was a dedicated staff member for 34 years in trauma, cancer care and transplantations - particularly in major liver & pancreas operations.

He "came across the river" in 2012 to become the Director of the RBWH Trauma Service. The reason why was very interesting... "From 2000 onwards, I was striving to convince the Australian Defence Force to pick a Hospital to train their doctors and nurses in first response. However, in 2009, my deeply respected friend and advisor for forty years, Cliff Pollard, amongst several others, won the focus for military training within the Royal. It was then I thought *..Well if you can't beat them - join them!*"

As the RBWH is Australia's only "red blanket" Hospital, Daryl, as Director, was responsible for this amazing system. It is literally a red blanket held in the trauma bay in the emergency department and if things were not going well, they throw the red blanket over the patient and run them to the operating room. It allows a patient who is dying through blood loss to be immediately transferred to the operating room without a patient property checklist, because there is no time. Introduced by Wall's predecessor, Professor Michael Muller, it is internationally recognised system.

Despite the amazing lifesaving work Daryl has undertaken he is a very humble man, stating the invaluable support his wife Jan (née Henderson) gave to him and his two children. "Jan supported me and kept me health enough to work for over 50 years and now our two children are specialists in trauma care, intensive care and emergency care".

In 2006 Daryl received an Order of Australia for his for service in the field of transplant surgery, to specialist training and support for transplant recipients to resume normal lifestyles.

He has also been a member of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons' trauma committee for 25 years. The College has a long history of political advocacy credited with saving lives - from the push for compulsory seat belts to random breath-testing and mandatory helmets for motorbike riders and cyclists.

Daryl's mantra is one borrowed from the Bible: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Wise words indeed.



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