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Local Rotary helps the Royal give breath of life

The Rotary Club of Bondi Junction has donated an advanced high frequency ventilator to the Royal Hospital for Women Foundation (RHWF) for its Newborn Care Centre.

The equipment, valued at \$70 000 and housed in the Newborn Care Centre at the Royal Hospital for Women, helps develop the breathing muscles of premature babies who would otherwise be unable to breath without assistance.

Conventional ventilators can damage the lungs of premature babies who require extended periods of ventilation, whereas the high frequency ventilator is much more gentle on their delicate airways.

The ventilator was presented by Russell Paine of The Rotary Club of Bondi Junction to RHWF Chief Executive Penelope Hess last week.

RHWF Chief Executive

Penelope Hess said the equipment enables staff to provide life saving treatment for many of the 1000 premature babies cared for at the Centre each year.

“The babies in the Newborn Care Centre require the most contemporary equipment.

“With generous donations such as these we are able to offer premium care to the most exposed of our patients,” Ms Hess said.

A plaque above the ventilator reads: “The Members of the Rotary Club of Bondi Junction support the wonderful work and dedication of the staff at the Newborn Intensive Care Unit, Royal

Hospital for Women (Randwick). We therefore donate a high frequency ventilator to help you nurse

back to health the most precious and vulnerable of patients — the babies in your care.”



• Photo: (L-R) Rotary Club of Bondi Junction Member Russell Paine, Rotary Director of Community Service, Cristina Gutierrez and RHWF Researcher, Dr Kei Lui.