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The ambassadors include: (Back row L-R) Wendy Farrow, Daniel Treacy, Simone Hammerman. (Middle Row L-R) Fabian Heaton, Chantelle Santone, Kathryn Francis, Keith Donnelly. (Centre Front) Doug Thomas. Photo: Julian Andrews.

SOUTHERN COURIER

# Community ambassadors embark on fundraising adventure for Prince of Wales Hospital Foundation

David Barwell, Southern Courier  
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A SCHOOL principal, busy mum and keen surfer are among seven southeast Sydney locals hitting the fundraising trail to raise vital funds and support for the Prince of Wales Hospital.

Chasing ambitious targets of \$10,000, the dedicated residents will hold trivia nights, raffles and other donation drives in the coming months with the aim of lending a helping hand towards the Prince of Wales Hospital Foundation



The funds will provide support for services at the hospital.

The unique initiative - a partnership between the foundation and Charity TV Global - will then involve participants jetting off on a life-changing adventure, to be filmed and aired nationally on Channel Seven.

Chantelle Santone - a busy mum and pharmacist at the hospital - is one of seven southeast locals taking part.



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Portraits of the new participants in an ambassador program. Photo: Julian Andrews.

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The Randwick resident said while juggling home, work and fundraising commitments has been a challenge, her experiences of working at the hospital had given her extra motivation.

She has already exceeded her \$10,000 goal, largely through donations from family and friends,

"I initially hadn't heard about (the initiative) until one of my colleagues said 'you should put your hand up, you'll be on TV'," she said.

"I hadn't raised funds on this scale before but I thought it was quite an amazing thing to do.

"Most people have been touched by a loved one needing to go to hospital and working in paediatric oncology I see patients and their families going through really difficult, traumatic experiences.

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Foundation chief executive Leanne Zalapa said the initiative was a unique opportunity to raise awareness for the foundation.

"You want to do what you can to help."

Also selected for the initiative from the southeast are Doug Thomas (the principal of Claremont College), Kathryn Francis (a radiographer at the hospital and member of Coogee Life Saving Club) and Fabian Heaton (founder of Prince of Wales Hospital Foundation's heartbreakers team).

There is also Simonne Hammerman (a passionate social worker in the community health team at the hospital), Daniel Treacy (the head of the hospital's physiotherapy department) and Gulliver Thomas (a keen surfer and the youngest ambassador).

Prince of Wales Hospital Foundation chief executive Leanne Zalapa said the fundraising concept was a unique way of raising awareness for the foundation.

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She said the trip would also be a "fantastic reward" for each ambassador – there are 12 in total - who will find out which adventure they will embark on in July.

"(The trip) is going to be an incredible few days - all documented for the rest of the country to experience," she said.

There will be various fundraising events across the southeast in the coming months, including [a trivia night on March 31](#) organised by Ms Hammerman.

For more details or to donate visit [www.powhf.org.au/charity-tv](http://www.powhf.org.au/charity-tv)



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