

## Donation of recliner chairs to Ward 20

Burn Support Group Charitable Trust has given two recliner chairs to Ward 20 to provide some extra comfort to patients and their families going through intensive treatment and rehabilitation from burn injuries.

Ward 20 is the Regional Burn Unit for the South Island, except for patients at Nelson Marlborough DHB.

Trust Administrator, Michele Henry, says last year she was fortunate to meet with a contact from Harvey Norman, which led to six recliner chairs being given to the charity.

Four had already been donated to other hospitals.

"It was decided that Christchurch Hospital would be the next recipient."

Ward 20 was chosen as most burn injuries will be assisted and cared for in this sector of the hospital.

"I am very pleased the charity has been able to donate two wonderful recliner chairs, which will be a great asset for patients and their families," she says.

Ward 20 Charge Nurse Manager, Sharon Minchington, says Ward 20 would like to thank the Burn Support Group, along with Harvey Norman, for the generous gift.

"Our burn patients understandably welcome any comfortable seating that they can use in between what can be a very intensive rehabilitation journey for them.

"I am sure our patients will get a lot of use from these chairs, and the recliner and raised leg rest function of these chairs will be beneficial and most welcomed."

### ABOUT THE BURN SUPPORT GROUP

The Burn Support Group is a non-profit charitable organisation founded in 1987 by Delwyn Tait, whose eight-year-old son had three years earlier sustained burns to 40 per cent of his body.

Burns are traumatic injuries both for patients and their families, Michele says.

"They can be faced with many losses - their physical appearance, sometimes their home, income, or perhaps grieving the loss of a family member or colleague involved in a fire."

The trust aims to support people with burn injuries by visiting them in hospital; funding equipment to help burn patients, fostering the sharing of information between burn survivors, their families, health professionals and other interested parties; and offering to accompany and support children who have burn injuries when they return to school.

They provide opportunities for mutual support for burn survivors, such as workshops and the annual Burn Support Children's Camp for 7-17 year olds. The camp provides an ideal opportunity for children to safely share their experiences and learn how to cope with taunting, staring and teasing.

The trust also provides a Women's Burn Survivor Retreat Weekend and educates people about burn prevention by holding educational seminars and providing free resources.

For more information visit [www.burns.org.nz](http://www.burns.org.nz) or contact the office on 09 270 0640.



Rear, from left, Ward 20 Charge Nurse Manager, Sharon Minchington, Harvey Norman Furniture Proprietor, Mike Morgan, and Burns Support Group Charitable Trust Administrator, Michele Henry. Front, from left, sitting on the donated chairs, registered nurses, Nicole Vletts and Hannah Thiele