

David Koch

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Letter to the Editor

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Casterton Memorial Hospital

I was delighted to recently attend the 100th Annual General meeting of the Casterton Memorial Hospital and as the Koch family has had a long association with the hospital in the capacity of nursing staff, board membership and in supporting the many fund raising activities held over the years, it was an absolute pleasure to be present at this special meeting.

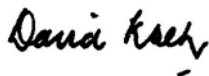
After 100 years of service, the Casterton community is justly proud of its hospital and in recognising this major milestone. Many in the community and beyond keenly supported centenary celebrations that were held during the week 6th to 12th of October 2008.

The Board of Management, ably lead by President Roger Dalby, with a budget exceeding \$6.25 million, continues to maintain the hospital's financial sustainability by recording an operating surplus in excess of \$182,000 over the last financial year. This is something many larger hospitals have failed to achieve.

For a smaller country hospital serving a district of 4,000 residents and the travelling public, a remarkably wide range of services are available, including inpatient treatment, residential care, district nursing, community health, meals on wheels, allied health and IVF services provided through Monash IVF.

I extend my congratulations to the dedicated staff and management team under the leadership of CEO Owen Stephens, and to the many volunteers in the community who freely give of their time, energy and money in supporting the on-going delivery of first-class health care at the Casterton Memorial Hospital.

Yours sincerely



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