

## Dr Stella McGinn MB BCH BAO FRACP FRCP PHD Renal Physician & Director of Renal Transplantation, RNSH

Dr Stella McGinn is a renal physician at Royal North Shore Hospital who is Director of Renal Transplantation at the hospital.

She was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland and graduated from Queen's University of Belfast in 1989. She worked as a junior doctor in Ireland for 4 years and obtained her Membership of the Royal College of Physicians 1992 (UK). She came to Sydney in 1993, where she worked at Royal North Shore in Nephrology. She subsequently worked at Statewide Renal Services (Concord and Royal Prince Alfred Hospitals) and obtained her FRACP in 1998.

Dr McGinn worked in London in 1998 and returned to Australia in 1999. She completed her PhD in Renal Medicine at the Kolling Institute, Royal North Shore Hospital in 2002. From 2003-2004 she worked in Ireland as a renal physician, but returned to Royal North Shore Hospital at the end of 2004. She has been working at Royal North Shore Hospital ever since.



Her patients have a life-long commitment to the hospital with respect to its delivery of services for dialysis and transplantation. Hence Dr McGinn appreciates the needs of the chronically ill. As the population continues to grow, the need for the provision of adequate renal replacement services will rise, which translates to a need for adequate acute bed numbers, rehabilitation services dialysis and transplant service provision. As numbers increase, should the hospital really be retracting in size?

Dr McGinn met her husband, Dr Justin Bowra (Emergency Department specialist) at Royal North Shore Hospital when both were junior doctors. Their daughter was born at Royal North Shore Hospital in 2007. So she has been both a patient and a doctor at the hospital. Her family was involved in the campaign in 2011, with her husband and daughter aged 4.5 years attending campaign meetings, petition signing and ultimately the march on Parliament.

How disappointed is her family to discover the land is up for divestment again!

### Dr McGinn's thoughts on the proposed land divestment

I have a daughter and I have a responsibility to her. The proposed land divestment affects her generation most. The lifetime of a newly developed hospital is limited. This current new building will not be adequate in 30-to-40 years. If we divest land, there will be no room for a rebuild or expansion. Can I really face my daughter and say I did nothing?

As Shakespeare says:

*I would give a thousand furlongs of sea for an acre of barren ground.*

Let's keep our land for the future.

**ends#**

---

To coordinate an interview with Dr Stella McGinn, please call Kirsten Bruce or Ruby Archis from VIVA! Communications on 0401 717 566 / 0413 834 906.