



Media Release

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For immediate release

Laying the foundations for good mental health

Swan Mental Health Service, Salisbury Home and Midland Brick are teaming up to highlight Schizophrenia Awareness Week. Located in Swan, Salisbury is a residential care centre for people living with and recovering from mental illness. Recently, the hostel was the winner of a competition run by Midland Brick to recognize local community organizations. The prize was \$1500 worth of bricks that Salisbury has used to create an attractive outdoor area for residents.

Nick Upton, the owner of Salisbury, said he wanted to formally thank Midland Brick and also to take the opportunity to raise public awareness about schizophrenia. "Schizophrenia affects many of our residents - past and present. It can be a very difficult condition to live with and those who are affected should be treated with compassion and understanding. We're grateful to Midland Brick for donating this prize - our residents are really enjoying the new outdoor area."

Midland Brick Marketing Manager Penny Carroll said the company was delighted to be able to donate the prize in recognition of the vital work done by Salisbury Home in the community. "This is our way of giving back to the local community. Salisbury helps so many people, so we're honoured to be able to help them in this modest way."

Salisbury Home will hold a morning tea during Schizophrenia Awareness Week to thank Midland Brick and increase public awareness about the illness. City of Swan councillors will be in attendance, as will hostel residents and staff from the Swan Mental Health Service. All are welcome to attend from 10am at Salisbury Home, 19-21 James Street, Guildford.

Schizophrenia Awareness Week runs from 20th to the 26th of May 2007. The illness affects one in 100 Australians. Schizophrenia interferes with a person's thought patterns and may sometimes result in difficulty determining what is real and what is not real. Symptoms may include false beliefs, changes in behaviour and feelings, thought disorder, hallucinations, withdrawal, loss of motivation, energy and initiative. A broad range of research is being conducted locally and worldwide into the causes of and effective treatments for schizophrenia. Every person with schizophrenia should have the best opportunity for achieving recovery goals.

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