

Joseph McBride

Compassionate nursing inspires donation

Central Coast students studying a degree in nursing at the University of Newcastle's Ourimbah Campus are now benefitting from the establishment of a new scholarship.

The Edith and Joseph McBride Scholarship in Nursing was established with a \$30,000 donation to the University from Joe McBride, a cattle farmer from Bega.

Mr McBride was touched by the professional yet caring nursing his wife Pat received in hospital in her final days battling cancer.

It was Mr McBride's wife's idea to establish the scholarship for students in Nursing at the University of Newcastle, Ourimbah Campus, at the same time, honour his beloved parents Edith and Joseph McBride (Snr).

The scholarship supports one fulltime student studying their first year of a Bachelor of Nursing degree. The student will receive \$1,000 per year for the three-year duration of their course.

According to Mr McBride's niece and Central Coast resident Anne Freestone the scholarship also honours Edith and Joseph McBride (Snr), former residents of the Central Coast.

"Joseph (Snr) taught science at Gosford High School from 1936 until he retired in 1958 as deputy science master. Edith was the mother of their 15 children."

"I was a student at Ourimbah campus and encouraged my uncle to support the local education facility," Mrs Freestone said.

Last year Joe and Anne visited the University's Clinical ward and met with the Dr Jenny Dempsey, Director of Clinical Education for the School of Nursing.

University of Newcastle Foundation CEO Louise O'Connell thanked Mr McBride for his donation.

“This donation will support students studying nursing on the Central Coast for the next 14 years. The University is very grateful for assisting our students realise their dreams.”



Donor Joe McBride and scholarship winner Dane Chambers.