Media Release

Ambos return to the scene of baby delivery

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ACT Ambulance Service (ACTAS) Intensive Care paramedics have today returned to visit a mother and the newest addition to her family following a baby delivery at a Florey home last month.

“It is a special moment for any ambulance officer when they are called to assist in an imminent birth in the pre-hospital environment,” ACTAS Chief Officer David Foot said.

At 10.44am on Sunday 26 May, 2013, the ACTAS received an Emergency Triple Zero (000) call after a 30-year-old female had gone into labour. An ACTAS Intensive Care crew was immediately dispatched arriving a few minutes later to deliver a baby girl, before transporting the mother and baby to The Calvary Hospital.

“The great outcome was supported by a number of factors including the interim management of the E000 call by our communications officers, the clinical training and experience of the attending officers and of course mum, who played the most important role of all," ACTAS Chief Officer David Foot said.

“Another member who will not forget the experience in a hurry was the undergraduate nursing/paramedic student from the Australian Catholic University (ACU) who was undertaking a clinical placement with the crew,” he said.

“Under national educational arrangements, undergraduate students from the ACU undertaking degree studies in Paramedical Science, participate in clinical placements with the ACTAS to observe and learn about clinical practice undertaken by paramedics in the community.”

Dr Jefford, Assistant Head of School ACU Canberra said that “the ACU and ACTAS work collaboratively to ensure the nursing/paramedics students experience all aspects of clinical practice which is underpinned by theory, thus facilitating students to gain an understanding and provide opportunities to integrate the theory and the reality of clinical practice within the ACTAS.”

“The four year double degree program equips students to gain a degree in the Bachelor of Paramedicine and Bachelor of Nursing. Commencing last year, the ACU is the only local university that currently offer this program.”

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