**MOTIVATION FOR BEING A DIRECTOR**

As a young lad, interested in becoming a medical student I spent most Wednesday afternoons visiting with the only grandparent I knew. They were special times and she always had time (and a two- shilling coin!) for each of her 8 grandsons. She was, for the last years of her life, a resident of Bethel in Strathfield NSW as she dealt with terminal cancer. I was in first year Med when the Lord called her home. That relationship instilled enormous respect for the elderly. At the same time, I was even jealous of my mates who often talked about the good times with “Poppa”. My career went in another acute care direction until I put the scalpel aside for Clinical Governance and the Clinical Excellence Commission where I began a new calling, “teaching clinicians how to care for people while treating their disease”. We could not cure Grandma’s cancer but we could bring joy into her life.

Some years later, as a busy intern, I met another great lady of faith, my Mother in Law. She too had an aggressive cancer and died far too early. But one day I thanked our Pastor for visiting her so regularly to which he replied. “But Cliff when I come to visit Mary, it is she who ministers to me!” Need I say more? God has called me to this role if for no other reason but to repay the debt I owe Him and those two great ladies of faith.

**BOARD ROLE**

Director

Chair of the Care & Clinical Governance Committee.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Cliff Hughes AO is an Honorary Professor, Patient Safety and Clinical Quality at the Australian Institute of Health Innovation in the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences at Macquarie University. He is a Past President of the International Society for Quality in Health Care (ISQua) and was chair of the Board Accreditation Council for ISQua.

As a young and enthusiastic surgeon Prof Hughes studied overseas in Auckland and USA but chose to bring his family home to Sydney. After a long Career in Cardiothoracic Surgery at Royal Prince Alfred, Concord, and Liverpool hospitals, he served as Chair of the Therapeutic Device Evaluation Committee for the Federal Government for 13 years and in 2005 was appointed Chief Executive of the NSW Clinical Excellence Commission a post he held for ten years. He then joined the staff of several UK hospitals, notably Guy’s and St Thomas’ and Medway NHS Foundation hospitals before returning to teaching medicine Macquarie University. The “tag line” for his course is “showing clinicians, and others, how to care for our clients while treating their illnesses.

He has published widely on cardiothoracic surgery, quality and safety and compassionate care while mentoring many clinicians from other overseas post such as India, Bangladesh, Malaysia and China He has been a board member in Baptist Care since October 2020. He is no stranger to the challenges of Aged Care, having walked with family and friends along this difficult path and to the pain and joy of those I entrusted to our care.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Clifford is a member of Gordon Baptist Church. Previously, he served and worshipped at NorthSide Baptist Church where he was trained as a teacher, youth leader, deacon and elder. He served as President of the Baptist Churches of NSW and the ACT in 1996-97 and was Chairman of the Board of Hope Street Urban Compassion 1998-2003.

**FAMILY & HOBBIES**

Cliff is married to Elizabeth and they have with three married children and ten grandchildren. His hobby is railways of all sizes and he is a “qualified” full size steam train on the Bluebell Railway in Sussex, UK.

**Clifford**

**Hughes**



**QUALIFICATIONS**

D.sc, MBBS, Ad DipMgt, FRACS, FACS, FACC, FIACS (hon), FCSANZ, FAAQHC, FISQua, FRACMA(hon)