

SHOP PROVES GREAT DONATION OP-PORTUNITY

BY SARAH DEAN

WODONGA Hospital's op-shop has made its first major donation to the hospital since re-opening in South Street in August last year.

The shop, which is run by volunteers, donated \$52,000 to the hospital to purchase two birthing beds for the maternity ward at the Wodonga Hospital.

Volunteer and fund-raising co-ordinator Elaine Hill said the money was raised from the items sold at the shop in the past year.

"Our new location has made a big difference," she said.

"Previously we have made about a \$30,000 profit, so we are up on that.

"We also have some loyal customers and people like to see money going back into the community and to a local service."

Each year the hospital allows the volunteers at the op-shop to choose the equipment purchased.

"They have a list of equipment needed and the volunteers are mothers and grandmothers so they saw value in helping our the maternity ward," Mrs Hill said.

The shop officially reopened in South Street 14 months ago after being forced to leave its Home of more than 30 years in Thomas Mitchell Drive.



● Nurse unit manager Julie Wright (left) with Marie Nash, Nola Davies, Sandra Holmes, April Brewel, Gemma Ross, Jo Reade, Marlene Tobin and Sue Martin.

Albury Wodonga Health infrastructure director Greg Pearl commended the volunteers for a fantastic job since taking up its new residence.

"The group of volunteers works every day providing cheap garments and household goods to the community. and all funds raised go back to Albury Wodonga Health," he said.

Meanwhile, volunteer April Breewel was recognised for her 18 years of service with the opportunity shop at its annual general meeting last week.

Mrs Breewel was presented with flowers for her contribution over the years.