

Nurses go beyond the call of duty

By David McCowen

HURSTVILLE Private hospital nurses Tressa Tuxford and Colleen Mendes were initially “overwhelmed” by peer nominations for a regional nursing award.

Ms Mendes is a stomal therapist and Mrs Tuxford works in operating rooms and with specialist theatre nursing students.

Greg Inglis, president of the Rotary Club of Georges River and Riverwood, said they jointly won the club's annual nursing award because of their professionalism and dedication.

“Many of the nurses go beyond the expectations of their employer to serve and support people of our area and, we thought, exemplified Rotary's basis for service in the community, that is ‘service beyond self,’” he said.

Hurstville Private CEO Louise Dodd said Mrs Tuxford was “conscientious, reliable and 100 per cent dedicated to the medical and nursing profession” while ensuring Hurstville Private delivered “the best care in a safe and compassionate environment”.

“[And] Colleen is never too busy to assist a gradu-



Prize pair: Hurstville Private hospital nurses Tressa Tuxford and Colleen Mendes have received the Georges River/Riverwood Rotary Annual Nurses Award. **Picture:** Jane Dyson

ate student, a fellow staff member or a patient, even if it's after her shift. Thanks to her efforts, Hurstville Private is now able to offer a more comprehensive

colorectal surgery service,” she said.

Ms Mendes said she enjoyed her work.

“The hospital is just a wonderful environment

that's conducive to coming in and working towards excellence,” she said.

“It's a lovely place to work. I know absolutely everybody here.”