

Auricle

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Fun facts

WISE (Written Information Simply Explained) Committee

11 members on the committee (one vacancy)

336 consumer information document reviews conducted in 2023

24 review sessions each year

576 hours volunteered each year

558 consumer information documents available to the public in the Barwon Health Patient Resource Library

636 consumer information documents available on PROMPT for Barwon Health staff to use with patients and consumers

Read more about the WISE Committee on page 4.

Cover image: Bree Hutchinson



www.facebook.com/barwonhealth



www.x.com/barwonhealth



www.instagram.com/barwon_health



www.linkedin.com/company/barwon-health

Auricle is edited and produced by Barwon Health's Public Affairs and Communications Department.

Message from the Chief Executive



*Dear colleagues,
It's shaping up to be another very big year at Barwon Health. 2024 will be particularly busy with some exciting building projects due for completion, which will allow us to offer new and expanded services to our community.*

The Barwon Early Parenting Centre at the McKellar precinct is scheduled to open soon and our Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub in central Geelong will also open its doors. Our dental service relocation from Corio Community Health to a new facility at Barwon Health North took place in April, which is fantastic for the people in the northern suburbs. Our new specialist dementia service at Blakiston Lodge has opened in May and the Children's Emergency Department is well underway and will also open later in 2024.

Every bit of news surrounding Barwon Women's and Children's is cause for excitement, and we were recently delighted to reveal a key concept design render and announce Built Pty Ltd as the appointed builder, with construction to begin later this year.

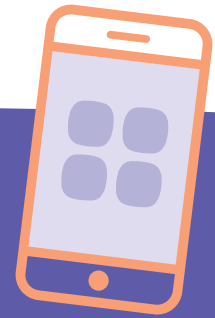
The beginning of each year at Barwon Health means welcoming new staff to the organisation. We're pleased to be joined by 65 graduate nurses and midwives who commenced in February, with another 45 starting in May. We also welcomed 15 nurses who are commencing their specialist mental health post-graduate year, as well as 54 mental health graduates, working across nursing, occupational therapy, social work and psychology. We have also had 45 interns and 150 junior medical staff join us and we are grateful to have them working here to begin their medical careers.

It was a privilege to be involved in Barwon Health's staff celebration event at The Pier in February, honouring those who achieved a length of service milestone in 2023, as well as recipients of the latest Barwon Best Care Awards. I'd like to acknowledge our long-serving staff once again, and acknowledge the winners of each award category. Thank you for the work you do and your ongoing commitment to excellence and patient care.

Congratulations to the Barwon Health Foundation on another successful Geelong's Longest Lunch, raising money to help fund purchases for various departments. Barwon Health Board chair the Hon. Lisa Neville had a chance to speak at the event and reflected on the role of the Foundation and the generosity of our local community.

Thank you to all of our staff for your continued hard work and dedication to keeping our community healthy and well.

Frances Diver | Chief Executive



NEW APPS ENABLE MORE MOBILE ACCESS

A new suite of software applications were released to staff when Microsoft 365 (M365) was launched organisation-wide on 26 February, improving communication and collaboration amongst staff.

Over 350 Barwon Health staff volunteered their time as Change Champions during the migration to support the project and were instrumental in supporting their peers to transition to M365, providing access to the secure platform to communicate and collaborate more effectively through accessible emails, online meetings and shared documents.

With phase one of the project now complete, planning is underway to consider a second phase of the project, including additional applications and features.

SHARED GRIEF BRINGS CHOIR TOGETHER FOR A JOYFUL NOISE

A local choir is bringing the joy of song to others in the memory of loved ones who can no longer share those moments together.

The McKellar Singing Group formed last year and quickly grew as a supportive space for carers and family or friends of people who have died or are part of Barwon Health's Palliative Care program.

Palliative Care program volunteer coordinator Annie Chatham said singer-songwriter Sarah Carroll leads the group of up to 21 people, with the assistance of volunteers from the program, performing so far at Wallace Lodge and on Room 64 | A Palliative Care Podcast.

"Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with participants given the opportunity to have fun in a relaxed environment where they can connect with others with shared experiences," she said.

"Being able to participate with others that share life experience puts the choir members on common ground, and they always get to have a laugh together.

"Some have said the social experience distracts them from the effects of grief, so it plays a part in their healing journey.

Funded by Hospice Foundation Geelong, the group meets fortnightly at the McKellar Centre chapel.

Their next performance will take place at the McKellar Centre courtyard on Friday 24 May, celebrating National Palliative Care Week.

Pictured: Members of the McKellar Singing Group.



THE WISE COMMITTEE TURNS 10

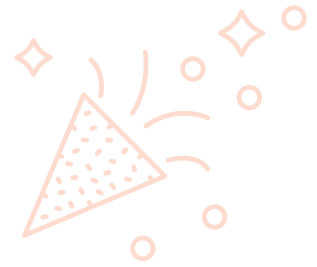
The Written Information Simply Explained (WISE) Committee has celebrated 10 years of improving the health literacy environment for consumers at Barwon Health.



The committee of consumer advisors use their unique and individual healthcare experiences to share their views on what makes consumer information easier to understand. Once a fortnight, members provide consumer reviews of patient and family information, improving readability and accessibility with the support of the Safety, Quality and Improvement Unit.

The WISE Committee's achievements in 2023 included creating the Patient Resource Library on the Barwon Health website, co-designing Patient Communication Boards for University Hospital Geelong wards, and innovating to offer staff rapid reviews during peaks periods. The committee conducted a total of 330 reviews last year, with 185 completed during May and June in preparation for accreditation.

The WISE Committee celebrated 10 years. Pictured left to right: Quality systems support officer Alia Spark, consumer advisors Bruce Butler, Carole Witana, Simone Stevens, Deb Wynd, Murray Macdonald, consumer engagement manager Kim Henshaw, and consumer advisor Elizabeth Thomas.



FESTIVE FUN FOR STAFF ACTIVITIES CLUB

Families enjoyed a sunny day out for the Barwon Health Staff Activities Club Annual Children's Christmas Party at the Geelong Showgrounds in December.

The event included carnival rides, with face painting and an animal farm, fire brigade barbecue, coffee van and presents for the children.

Attendance to the 2024 party and any Staff Activities Club events is open to all staff who become members, with application forms on One Point.



Allie, a relative of a staff member, enjoys the bungee trampoline ride.



Alan David Lodge resident Ron Pettifer enjoys a VR session.

A NEW study in residential aged care at Barwon Health is investigating the social benefits of virtual reality (VR) experiences for people living with mild dementia.

The collaboration between Barwon Health, Deakin University and SilVR Adventures aims to address the loneliness and social isolation that challenges many people living in residential aged care, particularly since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Deakin researcher Dr Vanessa Watkins said the VR experiences had been selected specifically for older people, offering residents at Barwon Health's Alan David Lodge and Wallace Lodge a wide variety of virtual tours to places that would be difficult to visit, such as Ireland's countryside, the Eiffel Tower, or familiar Australian landmarks.

"We have multiple headsets that can be used simultaneously, so these sessions can be undertaken as a group, enabling social interaction in a shared experience," she said.

"Reminiscing and story sharing activities have been shown to have a positive impact on those living with mild dementia, so this project is implementing VR experiences and evaluating benefits for residential aged care residents."

Alan David Lodge lifestyle officer Janette Purcell said residents enjoyed using the sessions to engage socially, as well as venture into virtual worlds for unique experiences.

"The technology shows residents what the world has to offer now, while also allowing them to have visual experiences from the world they remember when they were younger," she said.

"It's taken some adjusting as far as the sensation and immersion of VR in a 3D space, but having that ability to look around and see these places has become something residents look forward to.

"We're working with Deakin University researchers from the School of Nursing and Midwifery and the School of Engineering to assist and learn enough that we can implement it into the weekly program here, after the research program has finished."

Alan David Lodge resident Ron Pettifer said he was impressed with the technology since learning to use it.

"You feel as if you're there," he said.

"It's really good the way it tricks your senses. I thought it was astounding the first time I did it, seeing sights around the world."

With funding support from Aged Care Research and Industry Innovation Australia (ARIIA), the research will be completed and evaluated later this year, including a post-participation survey, and interviews that explore residents' experiences and perceptions of VR technology use.

Midwives and parademics collaborate to launch homebirth service

Barwon Health has launched the region's first publicly funded homebirth maternity care option for local women who aim to give birth in the comfort of their own home.

Midwifery, obstetric and paediatric staff, Ambulance Victoria, and other key stakeholders have worked closely since April 2022 to plan the new service, including consideration for when a transfer to hospital is required.

The homebirth service is modelled on Western Health's successful program and is an extension of Barwon Health's Midwifery Group Practice (MGP), which provides safe and sustainable maternity care.

MGP manager Kylie Cole said there had been interest from consumers in a local homebirth service being offered in the Geelong community, with formal bookings taken from January this year. The new service is available to women who meet agreed clinical criteria and live within 30 minutes of University Hospital Geelong.

"The choice of a planned home birth appeals to some women and their families, so we're pleased to offer this service through Barwon Health," she said.

"The process of accepting women into the homebirth program includes an assessment of suitability, taking into account the clinical criteria and their proximity to the hospital.

"We have so far seen seven women birth successfully at home for December through February, with plenty of interest for the following months."

Information on the homebirth program and planning a homebirth with Barwon Health MGP midwives is available online. Anyone needing more information can email the team on MGP.homebirth.enquiries@barwonhealth.org.au.

Dom and Olivia Spiller (centre), the first patient to use the new homebirth service, with Clementine, 2, newborn Rafferty and midwives Lynne Pyke and Jenny Jackman. Picture: Alan Barber, Geelong Advertiser.





Film screening promotes campaign against family violence

THE award-winning film Shayda was screened in Geelong on 30 November as part of a campaign against gender-based violence.

Hosted by Barwon Health's Social Work department, the screening at the Pivotonian Cinema coincided with the United Nations (UN) Women 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, and was attended by the film's director Noora Niasari.

Shayda is Niasari's debut feature and won the top prize at this year's Australian Directors' Guild (ADG) Awards.

The campaign to end violence against women is a multiyear effort that calls on

governments, women's organisations, the private sector, media, the UN system and the public to work together to address the global pandemic of violence against women and girls.

The Barwon region has the second highest number of police call-outs for family violence in Victoria (4865 per 100,000 population in 2022/23 financial year), according to crime statistics.

Barwon Health Social Work manager Karen said the health service provided essential services for people experiencing family violence in our community.

"All Barwon Health social workers support consumers experiencing family violence, with a daily social work service established in the Emergency Department two years ago," she said.

"Our social workers work with many people experiencing family violence, sometimes receiving up to six referrals a day."

"We estimate that social workers across our services respond to more than 1000 family violence cases each year."

Pictured: Sarah Hall (social work), Yazdaneh Galt (subject of the story Shayda), Noora Niasari (writer/co-director)-daughter of Yazdaneh; Alexandra Cowie (Organisational Development), Karen (Manager Social Work), Vida Luimaite (Regional Family Violence Coordinator-SHRFV project).

Nurses reunite and reflect



Barwon Health cardiac nurse Ann Steele, former assistant director of nursing personnel Joan St John, and Geelong Hospital Nurses League president Joan Lapetina.

The Geelong Hospital Nurses League celebrated 90 years of camaraderie with its annual reunion event on 16 March.

The group was formed in January 1934 to cement the link between nurses and their training school. Until Victorian universities introduced nursing degrees in 1987, training for local nurses was provided through the hospital with Kitchener House serving as living quarters.

League president Joan Lapetina said there were 184 active members.

"We previously did three years learning at the hospital before a year of post-grad, and there was such camaraderie because we had to live in the nurses' home with our colleagues as we were going through those four years together," she said.

"We still have members who were trained in the 1940s, so we're looking forward to swapping stories and hearing from old friends."

While most members are retired from nursing, Ann Steele still works shifts as a cardiac nurse at Barwon Health and is able to offer a window into the modern world of nursing.

"I relate to the way they all trained and what nursing used to be, but I've seen the new technology come in," she said.

"When I started here, there were no cardiologists and angiograms were only done for research for clot-busting drugs."

The group's oldest member, Joan St John, aged 92, began training at the hospital in 1949 and looks forward to the reunions each year.

"I've always loved going to these events and sharing stories," she said.

"I could never see the hospital growing the way it has since then," she said. "It's phenomenal what can be done now. It's all magic."

Nurses with 12 months of experience are eligible to join the Geelong Hospital Nurses League.

Anyone interested in joining the group can contact membership officer Ann Steel at jast1985@bigpond.net.au.





CONNECTED CARE

The Connected Care team brings together HARP (Hospital Admission Risk Program), Healthlinks, and Remote Patient Monitoring programs to care for patients in their homes and help keep them out of hospital.

The Connected Care program, with sites at Belmont and now in the northern suburbs, incorporates the care coordination model of these previous services, as well as specialist pathways of care for the management of patients with chronic and complex care needs.

Manager Jacqui White said the program had continued to maintain a focus on care coordination for people with complex needs, and was now able to provide access to a broader range of flexible and responsive services to people based on their needs rather than geographical location.

“The evolution of the Connected Care service is an exciting initiative for people living with chronic disease(s) and complex needs within our community,” she said.



The Connected Care team at Belmont.

“Our overarching goal is to keep people well at home, which we achieve through working closely with people with complex needs who present frequently or are at imminent risk of presenting to hospital.

“By offering comprehensive assessments, care coordination and timely responsive specialist care in the community setting, bringing together various hospital avoidance models of care can assist in processes

that reduce emergency and hospital presentations, while supporting complex discharge planning from bed-based services in a timely and responsive manner.”

As well as care co-ordination, the Connected Care program has access to medical specialists in addition to specialist roles including psychiatry, Pharmacy, Psychology (clinical and neuro) and other allied health disciplines. Connected Care will continue to

provide patient monitoring as a component of service delivery, with some changes anticipated to the IT platform currently used. Existing specialist streams of care such as Chronic Heart Failure will continue with further consideration of other streams as the service evolves.

ALISTAIR MCKINNON, NURSE PRACTITIONER - CONNECTED CARE



“My training as a nurse practitioner allows me to have a greater level of autonomy to intervene earlier or escalate care rapidly, instead of waiting for a doctor.”

“I have been a nurse for around 38 years and started at Barwon Health in 2000. I initially worked in cardiac services in Bellerine Centre 5 and cardiac care, then moved to the Hospital Admission Risk Program (HARP) in 2004. I worked with HARP as a care coordinator and team leader until late 2019. My HARP role involved working with clients with chronic disease and complex issues, primarily people with a diagnosis of chronic heart failure.

Nursing was familiar to me with nurses in the family, so it seemed like a good career choice with lots of possible directions. As time progressed, I went down the path of studying for a Master of Nursing

Practice (NP) in 2018 and was endorsed as a nurse practitioner last year. Coming back to studying as an older person was challenging but rewarding. It took a lot of work but I’ve been supported well by the community team and mentored by cardiologists and a nurse practitioner at Barwon Health.

I started with the HealthLinks heart failure team as a nurse practitioner candidate when it commenced in 2020, which is now the Connected Care team that identifies issues, provides clinical review and intervention, care coordination, specialist support and remote patient monitoring.

My training as a nurse practitioner allows me to have a greater level of autonomy to intervene earlier or escalate care rapidly, instead of waiting for a doctor. I enjoy seeing patients in their home environment and making a difference in how they work towards an improved lifestyle. It’s good to provide support to clients to help them understand how they can stay healthy, manage their conditions and understand the treatments and interventions that are used. It’s valuable work that we do in supporting clients in their home environment. The work done at the hospital is vital, but we continue that work to ensure patients can get back to living their lives.”



Cadetships open pathways for Aboriginal nurses

Barwon Health's new Aboriginal Nursing Cadetship Program is combining on-the-job training with cultural mentorship and support.

The Victorian Government has allocated 20 places for Aboriginal Nursing Cadetships throughout the state, with funding for two at Barwon Health in 2024.

As part of their cadetship, Deakin University nursing students Bree Hutchinson and Stephi Murphy are working shifts as RUSONs (Registered Undergraduate Student of Nursing) at University Hospital Geelong.

Bree said their work involved helping nurses on various wards twice a fortnight, with tasks including restocking and supervising patients.

"Even after a handful of shifts, I already feel like I've learnt so much and then going back into uni, I think it's going to really help with studies," she said.

"It's a really good opportunity that a lot of other people don't get, to experience the work environment at Barwon Health and figure out the wards we are most drawn towards."

Bree said it felt special to be part of Barwon Health's effort to improve healthcare for First Nations people.

"Working towards improving Aboriginal health is definitely something that's important to me and even through high school, learning a lot about Indigenous health really made me want to make a difference and help out as much as I can."

Aboriginal workforce officer Bec Quinn said it was exciting to welcome the cadets to Barwon Health for the year.

"Due to many systemic and/or cultural factors it is an unfortunate fact that many First Nations students don't complete their studies," she said.

"We anticipate that this cultural support will be a positive protective factor for our cadets, assisting students to juggle studies, work and cultural responsibilities.

"Barwon Health's Aboriginal Employment Plan 2023-2025 specifically mentions the inclusion of an Aboriginal Nursing Cadetship, which will support and enhance Barwon Health's Aboriginal health workforce representation.

"It's just one of the ways we are working to form supportive career pathways for Aboriginal staff, while building an organisation that enables a strong, skilled and growing Aboriginal health workforce."

Pictured: Deakin University student and RUSON Bree Hutchinson.



Mobaraka Yaqobi from the local Hazara community.



Communities help shape health communications

Recently the Barwon South West Public Health Unit partnered with Cultura at the Northern Community Hub for a health pop-up event aimed at multicultural communities.

The event aimed to gather community feedback and thoughts on how they want to receive information about health issues, along with feedback on local health projects.

Communities were registered and gathered in small groups and were asked a series of questions about accessing health information and the biggest health issues that they felt were affecting their community.

Participants that attended were from Karen, Karenni, Dari, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish and Swahili speaking communities.

The findings will then be used by Cultura and the Barwon South West Public Health Unit to tailor future communications and health messaging to multicultural communities. It will also provide Barwon Health with guidance on what health issues these communities are facing day-to-day.

When asked how they felt about being consulted on these issues, Rita from the local Iraqi community was pleased that their voice was being heard.

"I felt that my opinion is respected," she said.

Mobaraka Yaqobi from the local Hazara community said, "I felt that I was part of Geelong community."

The event included lunch, dancing and a pop-up vaccination session offering flu, COVID-19 and HPV vaccinations and was attended by approximately 60 community members.

"I felt that I was part of Geelong community."

– Mobaraka Yaqobi



Barwon Women's and Children's another step closer

The new Barwon Women's and Children's is another step closer, with a builder appointed and the first designs of the women's health and paediatric facilities revealed.

Built Pty Ltd has been appointed to construct the more than \$500 million project, which will deliver expanded women's and children's facilities within the University Hospital Geelong precinct.

The announcement included a first look at the early design, revealing the exterior, facade and how the flagship project will integrate within the University Hospital Geelong precinct (see artist's impression above).

With contemporary, purpose-built spaces for children and families, the new facility will grow Barwon Health's capacity to provide maternity and paediatric care by delivering multi-day beds, birthing suites, operating theatres and specialist clinic rooms.

As the biggest health infrastructure investment in Geelong's history, the Barwon Women's and Children's project will also deliver a new neonatal and parent care unit, expanding the capacity and function of the

existing special care nursery that provides care for sick and preterm babies in the first few weeks and months of life, so families can stay close to their families and loved ones after birth.

Enabling works will relocate the Endoscopy and Day Procedure Unit from the Gretta Volum Centre to the Youang Surgery Centre, clearing the way for main works construction to start.

Built Pty Ltd will commence main works construction in late 2024. Delivered by the Victorian Health Building Authority (VHBA) in partnership with Barwon Health, construction on the new Barwon Women's and Children's is expected to be complete in 2029.

New sexual health clinic opens in Geelong's north



BRaSH clinic GP Dr Kit Rojanbenjawong and nurse Teagan Simms.

Geelong's newest sexual health clinic opened at Barwon Health North in December.

The new sexual health clinic offers easier access to specialist care, including HIV support and testing, complementing the services provided at the clinic located at University Hospital Geelong.

Professor Eugene Athan OAM, said whilst people with HIV can now manage the disease by seeking support to take medication and live a healthy lifestyle; it is important that those at risk get tested to ensure that they can get access to the latest treatments available.

"We now have medications and treatment that mean people with HIV can live a relatively normal life. However, without a diagnosis, patients are unable to start these treatments," he said.

Clinical nurse consultant Rochelle Hamilton said it is important to reduce stigma around sexually transmitted diseases to allow a more open conversation around testing, treatment and ultimately reducing the risk of transmission.

"Our team at the Barwon South West Public Health Unit and the Barwon Reproductive and Sexual Health (BRaSH) clinic can support people across the region to manage their sexual health and wellbeing," she said.

"We aim to ensure people feel comfortable accessing services related to their sexual health."

"Our team at our two BRaSH clinics, Barwon Health North and University Hospital Geelong, are here to provide care and support to the community."



The theme for World AIDS Day on 1 December was "Inclusion. Respect. Equity". In Australia, it is a day for the community to:

- show their support for people living with HIV
- raise awareness about prevention, treatment and care

- eliminate stigma and discrimination around HIV
- remember people who have died of AIDS-related illnesses.

The team at Geelong's BRaSH clinics showed their support by wearing red ribbons on the day.

BARWON SOUTH WEST PUBLIC
HEALTH UNIT CELEBRATE

International Women's Day

WITH HEALTH POP-UP

Organisations across the region celebrated International Women's Day on 8 March with events and activations, including many teams within Barwon Health.

The Barwon South West Public Health Unit was invited to a very special event at the Cultura Northern Community Hub, which celebrated women across the diverse communities in the Geelong region. The team provided COVID-19 and HPV vaccinations to those attending the event.

Dancing, singing along with sharing of traditional food brought together women from across many communities, age groups and suburbs.

Photo supplied by Cultura/Hadeel Al-Badran



How Carer Support is making a difference in the lives of carers



Geelong resident Faten, originally from Bangladesh, cares for her mum Nurun, aged 87, who has a physical disability and requires ongoing care. Her caring responsibilities include helping Nurun with personal care, dressing, rehabilitation exercises, and social activities.

Faten felt it was her responsibility as a daughter to help her mother as she aged, but thought she was ineligible to seek help with her caring role since she isn't an Australian citizen. After one of her friends suggested she contact the Carer Gateway team, she received immediate help in the form of a tailored support package and access to respite care, as well as advice and later assistance to move Nurun into a residential aged care facility.

"Carer Gateway was wonderful," she said. "Not only did they help me understand the system and provide advice about nursing homes, they rang me every month to check how I was coping.

"I was overwhelmed with gratitude. I did not know how I would be able to afford a nursing home. I was so unfamiliar with the social security system here in Australia."

Faten still cares for her mother but in a more supported way, making it much easier.

"I visit my mother every day to interpret for her as she does not speak English, to help with her medications, and to feed her which can take up to an hour, but it is so much better for me now.

"I know Carer Gateway is there to help me when I need it. It is such a caring service and I always felt people cared about my health and well-being. The practical help and support were the best, especially the information about respite care."

Faten said she was particularly impressed by the level of cultural sensitivity displayed by Carer Gateway.

"Danielle from Barwon Health Carer Support Carer Gateway knew everything about our culture so was able to really help me in ways that showed understanding. It was very, very nice to be respected in this way.

"I am always talking to my friends about Carer Gateway and how wonderful it is. I still use them and it is such a comfort to know they are always there."

We encourage anyone who is in a caring role to call 1800 422 737 or visit carergateway.gov.au to get support that is right for you. Emergency respite is available 24/7 on the same number. And if you know a carer, let them know it's OK to ask for support and tell them about Carer Gateway.

You can also contact Barwon Health Carer Support, Monday - Friday 8:30am - 5pm by calling 4215 7600 or emailing carersupport@barwonhealth.org.au.



*"If not for you,
do it for them."*

*Sam, Geelong prostate
cancer survivor.*

Campaign tackles prostate cancer awareness

Image supplied by Barwon South Western Regional Integrated Cancer Service

A new strategic partnership has united regional support groups with a clinical service to roll out a robust, prostate cancer awareness campaign.

Geelong and Warrnambool Prostate Support Groups have joined Barwon South West Regional Integrated Cancer Service (BSWRICS) for a "union of purpose", thanks to grants from PCFA.

Project lead Warren Flatt said prostate cancer remained a significant threat in Australia, with the Barwon South West region witnessing a mortality risk that is a staggering 50-60 per cent above the national average (Cancer Atlas, 2012-2016).

"This emotive initiative passionately encourages men to proactively consult with their GPs concerning their prostate health," he said.

"The shared objective is to magnify a crucial, life-preserving message across our communities - 'Early detection unequivocally saves lives'."

He said the project team was using thought-provoking posters and a vibrant, geographically targeted social media campaign to advocate for men's health, promote awareness, ensure early detection of prostate cancer, and safeguard the health of men in the communities of south-west Victoria.

Poetry offers new voice in a post-cancer world

Dr Heather Cameron's cancer diagnosis knocked her for six, and saw her turn to poetry to express the new world she found herself in.



Pictured: Dr Heather Cameron.

The former Barwon Health bereavement counsellor and researcher has published her book *A Random Caller: Cancer Poetry* to convey her experience of finding her voice and coming to terms with her changing sense of identity.

"For me, poetry became a way to take a step back and write about the unpleasant details, and work towards discovering who I was post-cancer," she said.

"I discovered that cancer poetry is a powerful literary form that addresses the challenging issues of disease, illness, death, dying, and bereavement, as well as the conundrums of living with cancer and surviving.

"It helped me find a voice in a changed world."

Dr Cameron said her experience of cancer treatment was helped by the care she received from Barwon Health staff.

"I am eternally grateful to the staff at the Andrew Love Cancer Centre and Barwon Health for the care and expert treatment I received when diagnosed with cancer," she said.

"Being a staff member at Barwon Health for over 25 years, it was wonderful to be on the receiving end of the service as a consumer and see how individuals and teams work hard, with such passion and care."



Feel-good food for health and the planet

Barwon Health's Healthy Communities Unit has partnered with Champions IGA to launch a new healthy retail initiative promoting foods that are healthy and environmentally-friendly.

Using in-store promotional materials such as shelf tags, posters and complementary recipe cards, this innovative campaign at IGA Grovedale East and IGA Grovedale Central stores aims to encourage customers to buy a range of healthy items, including fresh, frozen, canned fruits and vegetables and various plant-based packaged items.

Barwon South West Public Health Unit Professor Eugene Athan said it was well-known that food we eat has major impacts on human health and environmental sustainability.

"Good nutrition is vital to maintain a healthy weight, optimise mental and physical health, and protect against infections and chronic disease," he said.

"Opportunities to work with food retailers on initiatives that promote better health and raise climate awareness are ways that the preventive health system can support communities to enjoy quality food that is accessible while highlighting the impact food production has on our planet."

IGA Grovedale East store manager George Giles said Champions IGA was focused on supporting health promotion programs.

"As the major provider of food for our local community, supermarkets play a huge role in promoting products that benefit good health and wellbeing for our customers," he said.

"That's why it's important for IGA to work with local health promotion professionals to keep our community informed and reduce the barriers to making healthier choices."

Partnerships with local health services and retail providers provide an opportunity to raise awareness, educate and support our community to make more health, and climate-conscious decisions around the foods they purchase.



Pictured: IGA staff member Jenna and Barwon Health Healthy Communities Unit staff member Liz Dando give a smoothie bike demo at IGA Grovedale East.

Food Services survey to shape new menu



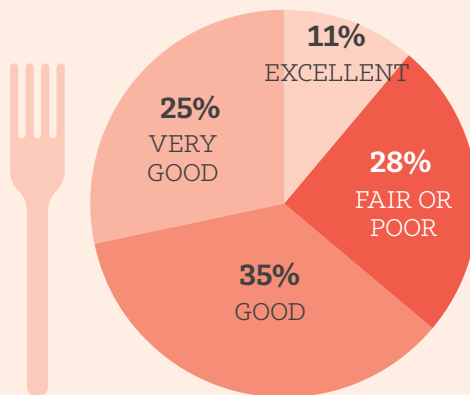
Pictured: Dietitian Kate Fox, Food Services manager Den Stirling, Environmental Services director Andrew Gibson, and executive chef Peter Fleet, receive their Barwon Best Care Award from chief medical officer Ajai Verma.

Almost 600 responses to Barwon Health's Patient and Resident Food Services Survey are being used to design a new menu.

The survey, which won a Barwon Best Care Award for Connected Care: Consumer Engagement, polled staff, patients, residents and social support groups with a simple ranking of the food for variety, presentation, flavour, temperature and portion sizes.

Food Services dietitian and project team member Kate Fox said the overwhelming response had exceeded expectations.

“We’re grateful to everyone who shared their perspectives, and the staff that helped get the surveys in the hands of patients and residents,” she said.



“Winning a Barwon Best Care Award was exciting for the team and good recognition for a project that we hope will make a real difference to resident and patient experiences at Barwon Health.”

Overall, consumers (patients, residents and social support groups) rated food service positively, with 35 per cent of consumers describing the food as good, 25 per cent as very good, and 11 per cent as excellent, while 28 per cent of consumers rated the food services as fair or poor.

Other results included:

- 50 per cent of consumers reporting that there is always, or often, enough variety;

- Consumers noted overall that they would like to see more variety overall, more vegetarian and diabetic options, plus more options for sandwiches and snacks;

- 60 per cent of consumers reported the meals are always, or often well presented;

- 68 per cent of consumers felt the food was always or often served at the right temperature;

- 70 per cent of consumers felt the portion sizes were just right; and

- 75 per cent of staff indicated sizes are either too small, too big or patients should be able to choose.

Considerations, challenges, limitations and opportunities of the current food service model are now being considered to design a new menu, which will be culturally appropriate and meet the needs of all Barwon Health consumers.

This new menu is in the design phase, with recipe development, recipe modification, fortification, taste testing and consumer feedback underway. Each menu item is also being nutritionally analysed and compared to the banding recommendations in both the Victorian Adult and Paediatric Standards.

Length of Service Awards 2023

A staff celebration event was held at The Pier Geelong on 29 February in honour of those who achieved a length of service milestone in 2023, also celebrating the Barwon Best Care Awards.

With TV personality Catriona Rowntree as the energetic MC and Barwon Health Board chair of The Hon. Lisa Neville as guest speaker, this was a fantastic opportunity to recognise the long-serving staff who have become such valued leaders in our organisation.

In particular, we took time to celebrate eight staff members who have dedicated 40 years of service to Barwon Health and our community:

Lynne Brown

Jennifer Casey

Jennifer Cogan

Karen Irvine

Mary Kanellos

Christine Mahoney

Bev Marshall

Karen Smith

There were 90 people who reached 20 years of service and 31 people who reached 30 years of service in 2023.

LYNNE BROWN, REGISTERED NURSE



Pictured: Barwon Health chief executive Frances Diver presenting Lynne with her certificate at the Length of Service Awards.

"My 40 years at Barwon Health have certainly seen many great changes and I have made many lifelong friends along the way. One of the things that has kept me working at Barwon Health for all these years are these friendships and connections with people from all walks of life. Also, the community feeling of Geelong and the hospital.

Barwon Health has enabled me to meet similarly minded people that I joined in taking our skills and knowledge to Vietnam, to educate and learn from the amazing hospital staff in less fortunate countries than ours. This includes being guests and touring a remote leper colony and watching parents hand-ventilate their babies 24/7, as ventilators were being fixed or just not available. These memories would never have been possible without the connections made at Barwon Health.

One of the biggest changes that I have seen happen over the years is the connections between all staff becoming more relaxed and friendly, which adds positively to the experience of working at Barwon Health."



JENNIFER COGAN, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST



Pictured: Barwon Health chief executive Frances Diver presenting Jennifer with her certificate at the Length of Service Awards.

"My original plan was to work at "Gracies" (the McKellar Centre) for two years and then return to family, friends and work in Melbourne. Now it's 40 years and it seems unbelievable. We got a "state-of-the-art" Apple 2E computer to use in rehabilitation with our clients (first manufactured in 1983) and felt very innovative! Now I'm learning about Microsoft 365.

I have worked in lots of different areas over the years, and it's the dedicated staff and lots of interesting clients and patients that have kept me in the same organisation through that time. During the pandemic, I worked in Contact Tracing and the COVID monitoring team. Whilst this was challenging at times, it was an opportunity to reconnect with some staff I had worked with in the past.

In 1988, Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip came to visit the McKellar Centre. In preparation, the painters walked the route that they would take and only painted the walls that they would see. Leading up to the day, most of our rehabilitation patients didn't attend OT sessions because they had hairdressing appointments and wanted to look good for the royals. In those days, we had a hairdresser on-site at "Gracies". I spoke with Prince Philip and demonstrated some OT aids and equipment. It was a bit surreal.

I've done a lot of work with OT students over the years, particularly from Deakin University. I hope that there will be some trained OTs to look after me in my old age. Most students these days tell me they want to work in paediatrics. Before I retire, I hope to persuade a few to consider adult rehab!"

JENNI CASEY, ENROLLED NURSE



Pictured: Barwon Health chief executive Frances Diver presenting Jenni with her certificate at the Length of Service Awards.

"As an enrolled nurse, I remember my first shift at Grace McKellar, now McKellar Centre in 1983. It was an evening shift in ward 9. I had trained at St Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne and was so happy to secure a job upon completion of my training. When I entered ward 9, dressed in my supplied uniform, cap in situ with my fob watch and red and blue pen at the ready, I introduced myself and asked what I needed to do. To my surprise, the staff suggested that I could go into the kitchen and butter 16 pieces of brown bread and 16 pieces of white. I thought 'Geez, this is different!' But that's how it was, nurses did it all.

I also remember back in the day, the calibre of the nurse was determined on how she cleaned the pan room, shiny stainless steel pans, stacked neatly with the smell of metho overpowering from cleaning the surrounding benches!

I have thoroughly enjoyed my career and have worked with some amazing people. I've had the pleasure of enjoying some wonderful connections with people I've cared for, as well as many memorable conversations with their family and friends. I can only be appreciative of the opportunity to enjoy a rewarding career at Barwon Health and I am thankful for that."



Barwon Best Care Awards 2023

The Barwon Best Care Awards recognise teams and individuals who go above and beyond to innovate and improve care for our community.

Work Health and Safety Awards

- Excellence and Innovation: **Belinda Carne**
- HSR of the Year: **Helen Wadsworth**
- Smart Lift Trainer: **Cameron White**
- WHS Leader: **Joanne Durdy**

Living Our Values Awards

- Respect: **Sophie Klein**
- Compassion: **Ruth Fleming**
- Commitment: **Kate Cohen**
- Accountability: **Infection Prevention Services Team**
- Innovation: **Christine Brooks (volunteer)**

Clinical Education and Training Awards

- Point of care education: **Brooke Gostelow**
- Education, innovation and creative learning: **Mental Health, Drugs and Alcohol Services education and training team**
- Education leadership: **Sarah Hall**

Safety, Quality and Improvements Awards

- Safe Care: **Penicillin Check Again Project**
- Personal Care: **Working Towards Work-Life Balance in General Surgery**
- Effective Care: **Implementation of Flexible Insulin Delivery for Paediatric Patients Living with Type 1 Diabetes**
- Connected Care: **Consumer Engagement in the Barwon Health Menu Review**

Special Awards

- Consumer Advisor Award: **Alison Lewis-Nicholson**
- Barwon Health Leader of the Year: **Debra Schulz**
- Chief Executive Award: **Elective Surgery Access Unit**



Paediatric diabetes project team.



Mental Health, Drugs and Alcohol Services education and training team.



Elective Surgery Access Unit manager Julie Mitchell and Frances Diver.

Senior Medical Staff Group presents annual awards

Barwon Health's Senior Medical Staff Group (SMSG) presented its annual awards on 5 December as part of the Barwon Health Grand Round series, along with the Medical Education and Training team.

The group of senior medical staff supports medical education, training and research, advocating for service quality and the development of professional relationships within the organisation. The SMSG supports

medical education and research by funding awards and prizes via Barwon Health's collaborative work with Deakin University.

Each year, the SMSG celebrates the memory of Dr Hasan Al-Khayyat with an award for a staff member who displays his same honourable values. In 2023, this prize was given to Director of General Surgery, Dr Sonal Nagra, who also was awarded the Richard C. Hallowes Prize for the best senior medical staff teacher and mentor.

Other notable winners include Dr Tia Smith for the Research HMO Prize, Barwon Health Intern of the Year Dr Emma Whittington, and Charitable Fund Award recipients, the Children's Emergency Department at University Hospital Geelong.



Richard Hallowes prize winner and Hasan Al-Khayyat Award winner for 2023
SMSG secretary Dr Andrew Wilkinson and recipient Dr Sonal Nagra.



1st Prize HMO/Registrar Research award
Dr Tia Smith.



2nd Prize HMO/Registrar Research award
SMSG secretary Dr Andrew Wilkinson and recipient Dr Ellen Kelsey.



Geelong hearts in good hands

For more than 20 years, the Barwon Health Cardiology Research Unit (CRU) has led and participated in clinical trials into new medications, treatments and techniques for all aspects of heart health. But what makes this highly regarded Unit tick?

Barwon Health Director of Cardiology A/ Prof John Amerena established the unit in 2000 when he recognised the benefits that clinical cardiovascular research could bring to the Geelong community. Thanks to John's knowledge and commitment, as well as the skilled operational work of colleague Donna Campbell, the Unit was established with the expertise, structures and processes that see it continue to thrive and grow even today.

The CRU team consists of two research managers, seven study coordinators and one research medical officer. Many are longstanding team members of up to

20 years' service, who have personally seen the transition of medicines tested in CRU trials becoming part of standard clinical practice.



The Barwon Health Cardiology Research Unit (CRU) has led and participated in clinical trials into new medications, treatments and techniques for all aspects of heart health.

CRU trials have contributed to notable medical breakthroughs including:

- Alternatives to warfarin for atrial fibrillation that are safer and more effective in preventing stroke.
- A new marker for cholesterol, Lipoprotein A, and testing of a new medication to target the molecule.
- Establishment of semaglutide as a treatment in patients with cardiovascular disease and obesity or with heart failure.
- New medications for diabetes that have been shown to improve outcomes in patients with heart failure with and without diabetes.

New trials commencing soon will include testing of a new six-monthly cholesterol lowering injection that will be an alternative

to the current fortnightly - monthly administration of the agent that is currently available.

The CRU prides itself on developing longstanding relationships with participants, with a high proportion of repeat participants who value and enjoy the experience.

CRU manager Karen Fogarty said CRU team members kept participants as the highest priority for choosing to volunteer for such an important cause.

“Every CRU team member is passionate and focused on achieving better outcomes for the health of the community,” she said.

“One of the known benefits to participants in clinical trials is the health monitoring and care that is provided during the trial.

“This is certainly true at CRU, with our high-calibre research nurses, doctors and close links to other Barwon Health departments.”

One CRU participant has described the experience as having their own “pit crew”, with the full resources of Barwon Health on hand should they need it. Another has described their relief at being able to “see that I am going to get old”, as a result of taking part in CRU trials.

During routine checkups throughout the course of trials the CRU team have been able to detect and address other health issues in participants at a much earlier stage that would have otherwise been possible, including cancer, unsafe use of medicines, blockages and other cardiovascular issues.

In 2024, CRU will continue to go from strength to strength, with seven new trials commencing and another 12 trials underway. The dedication and expertise of A/Prof Amerena and the team, along with the robust processes and structure of the unit, will ensure that Geelong remains at the forefront of new advances in heart health for our community and beyond.

QPS success in seed funding for labour induction study

An exciting evaluation project aiming to better understand the outcomes of labour inductions has been funded by the Centre for Quality and Patient Safety within the Institute for Health Transformation (Deakin University).

Dr Susan Perlen, from the Centre for Quality and Patient Safety Research – Barwon Health Partnership, will lead the research, which evaluates the impact of the 2022 induction of labour decision-making intervention at Barwon Health.

The study will examine how the intervention changed outcomes for women and their babies, aiming to better understand clinicians' views of clinical decision-making and the acceptability, feasibility, and usability of the guidelines, tools and processes.

The project will build clinical and organisational capacity in the evaluation of induction of labour decision making processes, practice and support, allow benchmarking with Western Health, and have strong potential for replication in other regional maternity facilities.





Winners of the 2024 Barwon Health Deakin University Research Prizes receiving their awards from chief executive Frances Diver: Dr Bridgette McNamara, Dr Luba Sominsky, Dr Bruna Pannizutti Parry (for Trang Truong), Dr Tia Smith, A/Prof Neil Orford (for Allison Bone), Jacob Harland, and Dr Samantha Dawson.

2023 Barwon Health Research Symposium celebrates top researchers

The 2023 Barwon Health Research Symposium celebrated a year in research, reinforcing a united vision to contribute to better health and wellbeing outcomes.

Barwon Health chief executive Frances Diver presented the 2023 Research Prizes to the following winners:

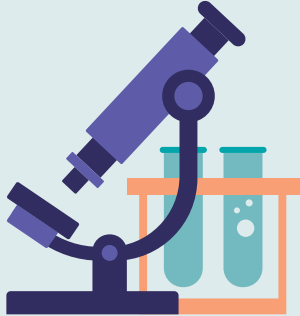
• **Best Paper of the Year Award (Clinician researcher):** Dr Bridgette McNamara, Barwon South West Public Health Unit: Comprehensive case-control study of protective and risk factors for Buruli Ulcer, southeastern Australia

• **Best Paper of the Year Award (Scientist):** Dr Luba Sominsky, IMPACT and ChERUB: Pre-pregnancy obesity is associated with greater systemic inflammation and increased risk of antenatal depression

CLINICIAN SCIENTIST PATHWAY

The Barwon Health and Deakin University Clinician Scientist Pathway will feature 10 clinician PhDs across medicine, nursing, midwifery and allied health. The pathway will:

- Support researchers to complete clinical training or maintain clinical roles and work flexibly with their training body to meet requirements, such as specific clinical competencies and rotations.
- Provide employees with excellent opportunities to build their research track record, positioning them for future funding success and clinical and research leadership.
- Provide improved career prospects for allied health, nursing, midwifery and medical clinicians with PhD qualifications.



Research Poster Awards:

- **Basic Science:** Trang Truong, IMPACT, Deakin University: Network-based drug repurposing for schizophrenia
- **Clinical Registry/ Data Analysis:** Dr Tia Smith, Aged Care, Barwon Health: Evaluation of the utilisation and clinical outcomes of an afterhours emergency telehealth service to residential aged care facilities
- **Clinical Trials:** Allison Bone, ICU Research, Barwon Health: A pilot feasibility randomised controlled trial of bone anti-resorptive agents on bone turnover markers in critically ill women
- **Cohort/ Population Studies:** Jacob Harland, IMPACT, Deakin University: Bone mineral density and trabecular bone score values in novel subgroups of adult-onset Diabetes
- **Research:** Erin Parker, Social Work, Barwon Health & Maryam Esghaei: Healthcare gaps and barriers to service utilisation within Geelong refugee communities: a co-designed research and service improvement project
- **Translational Research:** Dr Samantha Dawson, Food and Mood Centre, Deakin University: The Pregnancy Research and Translation Ecosystem: Improving the proportion of women meeting the dietary guidelines in pregnancy



Research Directorate co-director Erica Grundell and clinical director Prof Pete Vuillermin.

To register your interest or find out more about the Clinician Scientist Pathway, contact research@barwonhealth.org.au.

Expressions of Interest for the current round close on 30 August 2024.

Delivering impact

Here's a small snapshot of the impact delivered by recent Barwon Health Foundation projects, backed by a supportive community, corporate partners, community groups, businesses and more.

WISH UPON A STAR APPEAL

Every charitable act makes a difference and thanks to our community our December Wish Upon A Star Appeal certainly made a big difference. The impact included the funding of six state-of-the-art birthing beds, five paediatric CPAP ventilators, more than 2000 Christmas presents wrapped by volunteers, plus 350 Christmas presents and 125 knitted goods delivered to sick children at the hospital.

VITAL EQUIPMENT

Thanks to generous community philanthropy, Barwon Health has now added a new robotic surgery ultrasound device to its cancer fighting and treatment resources.

This equipment works in conjunction with a robotic surgery machine and is used mostly for robotic kidney surgery but also for liver and pancreatic surgery and is a minimally invasive device that can allow for more precise cancerous tumour removal, carrying substantial benefits for patients.

The funding of the \$175,000 robotic surgery ultrasound device was courtesy of incredibly generous giving from The Estate of William Rickard, Rosemary Norman Foundation, Gentleman of Geelong, and support of the Barwon Health Foundation.

Thank you to every member of our community who has helped make these recent achievements possible in support of Barwon Health.

Colour brings festive spirit to Child and Family Health Services

A children's colouring contest and festive decorations brought some Christmas joy to Child and Family Health Services during the often-stressful holiday period.

Staff at Barwon Health North held a colouring contest for children using the service, after receiving \$200 from the Barwon Health Foundation for prizes.

Tess O'Brien, a paediatric occupational therapist at the Child and Family Health Services, said it could be overwhelming for families to access care during a holiday period that already comes with high pressure.

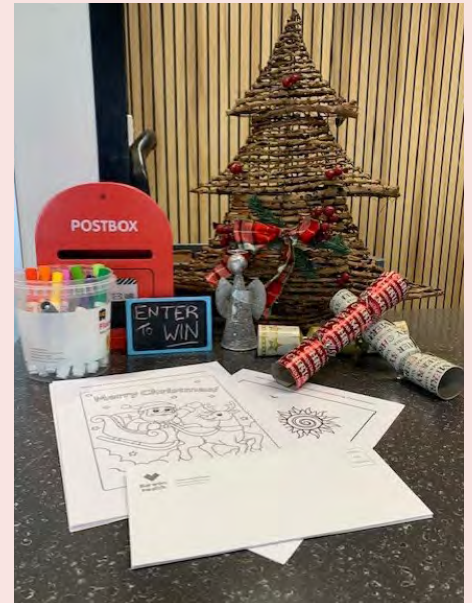
"We thought we would lighten the mood this summer and get involved in the community during our assessments," she said.

"We strive for community togetherness and strongly believe that bringing joy and play to our clinic promotes a comforting and relaxed approach to assessment and therapeutic service.

"We had a wholesome set up with a Santa PO Box, colouring pages as well as culturally appropriate holiday colourings too.

"We benefited greatly from the funding packs we received from the Barwon Health Foundation, including household necessities that were delivered to those in need earlier in the year.

"We are so grateful to have witnessed the excitement on our clients' faces at the prospects of showing off their talent and positionally winning a prize."



Child and Family Health Services staff held a Christmas-themed colouring contest at Barwon Health North.



THE NEW HOME OF GIVING

The Barwon Health Foundation office is now located at 192 Myers Street, corner of Myers and Bellerine Streets, diagonally opposite University Hospital Geelong.

Please feel free to visit us to chat about all things fundraising and support, and to check out the community rooms and facilities available to our supporters.

Staff acknowledgements

WorkSafe recognises Barwon Health staff

Congratulations to anaesthetic and recovery nurses Jen Gamble and Gaye Coles who have been named as WorkSafe Health and Safety Representatives of the Year.

Jen and Gaye demonstrated outstanding commitment, representing a designated work group of more than 200 Barwon Health staff. By raising OHS concerns and encouraging safety in their unit, they were instrumental in several key improvements.



Pictured: Jen Gamble and Gaye Coles.

The WorkSafe Awards annually celebrate excellence in workplace health and safety, with Jen and Gaye shortlisted from more than 100 nominees celebrated in Melbourne on 29 February.

They were joint winners along with Jason Learnmouth from Ambulance Victoria.

Retiring heads of unit

During our staff celebration awards event on 29 February, we took the opportunity to recognise retiring heads of unit, general and vascular surgeon Mr David North and endocrinologist Professor Mark Kotowicz.

Mr North retired from Barwon Health after more than 37 years of service, first joining as General Surgeon before he was key in the establishment of the hospital's Vascular Surgical Unit. He was appointed head of the unit at University Hospital Geelong in 2013 and held this position until his retirement.



Mr North was generous with his time, training junior surgeons and making Geelong a popular rotation.

Professor Kotowicz retired from his position of head of endocrinology after a long career with Barwon Health spanning more than 32 years. He will be missed by colleagues and remembered for the role he played in establishing the first regional academic department in Victoria. His role in securing funding for the world-renowned Geelong Osteoporosis Study firmly positioned Barwon Health as a centre of excellence in research.



Pictured: Mr David North and Professor Mark Kotowicz.

FINDING INTERNAL JOB VACANCIES AT BARWON HEALTH



The process to view and apply for internal job vacancies at Barwon Health has changed.

How to view internal job vacancies:

On a Barwon Health computer or device

- ▶ From the start menu , select the People Plus application or use the search tool and type 'people plus'.

On a personal computer or device

- ▶ Scan the QR code or visit the following website:
<https://performancemanager10.successfactors.com/login?company=barwonheal>

Log in using your Barwon Health email and password. You will be prompted to use Multi-Factor Authentication to verify your account.



If you require assistance email
talent.acquisition@barwonhealth.org.au



Barwon
Health

Healthy You. Healthy Baby. podcast



Are you pregnant?
Have you recently given birth?
Are you a parent?
Do you work with pre or post
natal people?

The Healthy Communities Unit presents the Healthy You Healthy Baby podcast. This podcast is about how to keep active and stay healthy during pregnancy and beyond.

Hear from the Barwon Health experts for trusted and practical health advice during your pregnancy.

Scan the QR code below to listen to the podcast.





Length of Service

Congratulations to the following staff who celebrated Length of Service milestones between January and April 2024!



- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Clare Spiden | Kristy Bruni | Sophie Gilsenan |
| Jo Adams | Madeleine Leith | Eva Koo |
| Erin Bloye | Robyn Aristides | Stefany Guala |
| Derek Chai | Grace Brown | Mohit Kundra |
| Kuan-Ting Hou | Sonja Gauci | Gavin Page |
| Laura Isherwood | Jodie Kostrevc | Matthew Mercadante |
| Nikki Lyons | Kate Maddocks | Thao Nguyen |
| Cheryl Vanderkaay | Monique Mirabile | Liz Patton |
| James Cole | Jane Swift | Jasmine Stevenson |
| Harry Hill | Anne-maree Bartlett-Corry | Caitlin Walker |
| Joyce Ma | Fi Cherry | Stef Carruthers |
| Meisha Bate | Amy Hogben | Katie Baldwin |
| Michaela Buchanan | Michelle Horton | Emily Bennett |
| Jessica Lea Butteriss | Lauren Phillips | Deb Boseley |
| Jenna Carter | Marli Sharp | Cara Brouwer |
| Russ Dempsey | Alli Spokes | Emily Collins |
| Sandra Dempsey | Danmei Lin | Erin Cooper |
| Alice Engstrom | Jane Callanan | Melissa de Vries |
| Kate Gliszczynski | James Peplow | Stephen Giggins |
| Diana Harrop | Claire Brown | Alex Helmer |
| Georgia Hicks | Chatar Goyal | Hannah Kyne |
| Alex Hommelhoff | Elle Lee | Fiona Macaulay |
| Renee Johnson | James Lindstrom | Cobey Matthews |
| Brittany Lobb | Amy Linklater | Laura McConachy |
| Kailyn Marie | Lilly Pollock | Jayde O'Reilly |
| Mary Matthews | Anish Sachdev | Lynne Richards |
| Elise O'Callaghan | Jo Sheedy | Trent Roydhouse |
| Tamieka O'Toole | Rachel Stack | Georgia Turner |
| Narelle Place | Gary Tjipto | Elise Vo |
| Kirby Spencer | Tharindu Uyanage | Sarah Bartholomeusz |
| Jessie Sutherland | Rosie Vasquez | Laura Robertson |
| Jenny Turnbull | Fran Zygmunt | Kerryn Wilson |
| | | Lauren Lauder |

Please note, names and employment commencement dates are taken from official Barwon Health records. Please contact People and Culture to check or update your details - workforcedata@barwonhealth.org.au



Colleen Manson
 Ange Cowburn
 Stephanie Tan
 Bree McPhee
 Ruby Phillips
 Aerial Le Busque
 Daniel Moreno Gutierrez
 Balvinder Narula

Erica Quisay
 Kasey Rayner
 Rachel Smith
 Teresa Williams
 Catherine McNulty
 Brittany Partington
 Omar Youssef
 Gulwinder Brar

Katy Germon
 Emma Honner
 Leela Krishnaleela
 Kathleen Westin
 Bec Baxter
 Jason Hildebrandt
 Casey MacInnes
 Robyn Neilson

20
 years

George Kantianis
 Renee Leibhardt
 Mark Lycett
 Chris Powers
 Erin Mieszkowski
 Michelle Sawers

Jen Gamble
 Gemma Rossiter
 Christine Wallis
 Mandy Abbs
 Fiona Neil
 Linda Randall

30
 years

Mara Cosic
 Simone Meara
 Carolyn Fleeton
 Judy McMahon

Janet Allden
 Toni Shanahan
 Helen Hill

40
 years

Kim Shields
 Deanne Stevens
 Lisa Couzens

How do I begin to say **THANK YOU?**



Many patients and their families choose to give thanks for the wonderful care they have received by making a donation to the Barwon Health Foundation, supporting patient comfort and care now and into the future.

Scan the
QR code to
donate now



Or call 4215 8900
barwonhealthfoundation.org.au



Our Patients



Our Heroes



**Barwon Health
Foundation**

proudly supporting

