

Auricle

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF BARWON HEALTH | EDITION 4 2017



Barwon
Health

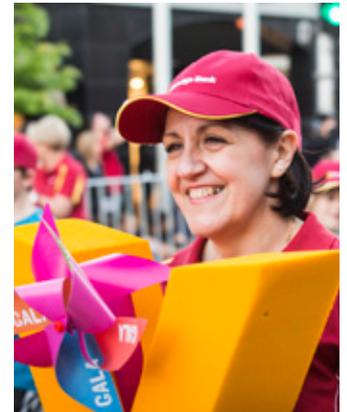


GEELONG
CONNECTED
COMMUNITIES
GALA 101

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Telehealth access in
specialist clinics

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Deafness Foundation lends
an ear to Aboriginal health

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Run Geelong



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Fun facts

BARWON HEALTH'S TELEHEALTH PROGRAM SINCE MAY 2017:

- 13,571** patient kilometres saved
- 161** patient travel time saved
- 113** Barwon Health staff trained
- 63** New Telehealth Service Providers
- 49** Active Telehealth Service Providers



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Message from the CEO

As we approach the festive season and the end of another year, I'd like to wish you a happy holiday. I certainly acknowledge some of our staff will be working hard through the holiday period and I sincerely thank you.

We have seen a significant increase in activity coming through our Emergency Department and flowing on to the wards and other areas. Thank you all for your hard work. For those having a break, it is no doubt well-deserved. I hope you also have some time to reflect on Barwon Health's and your own achievements over the past year.

The 101st Barwon Health Foundation twilight Gala Parade on 11 November was a fun way to involve the community in our fundraising efforts, and will be particularly memorable to the many families across Geelong who came out to celebrate the festivities. I'd like to thank our amazing volunteers who donated time and energy to be the voice and hearts of Barwon Health at the Gala – it simply wouldn't have happened without you.

It was encouraging to see the culmination of so much great work highlighted at Research Week, including the release of Barwon Health's 2017 Research Report.

Professor Frances Quirk and the Research Directorate team should be commended for all their work to support research capability and capacity growth at Barwon Health.

Run Geelong was yet another highlight on our calendar and I was thrilled to take part for the first time with my husband. It was a testament to our strength as an organisation to see the community join so many staff and volunteers raising money for a children's rehabilitation centre. This investment in Geelong's future will go a long way and we are grateful to continue such an effective partnership with the Cotton On Foundation.

I would also like to thank everyone who attended our Annual General Meeting on 30 November. The event was well attended and represented an important opportunity for us to have a discussion with our community on the voluntary assisted dying legislation and end-of-life care.

I look forward to 2018 as an exciting year to see through some of the important work planned and initiated over the past 12 months. Thank you all for your passion and caring - your work makes a real difference to people's lives.

Professor Ruth Salom
CEO

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE ACTIVITY UPDATE

Thanks to staff feedback, over the next three months you will see the return of a bank ATM to the University Hospital Geelong site and upgrades to the main entry area of the hospital, together with the cafeteria and podium.

The front entrance has often been mentioned by many staff as needing improvement. To make this a more inviting space, we will be undertaking renovations that will include a gift shop. Completion is anticipated in late March / April.

The podium and cafeteria upgrade will result in a more contemporary space that takes advantage of the views, providing a space that is accessible and attractive.

In response to comments received, the café sitting area will also be upgraded to include sections for staff and consumers and as such we will be facilitating that in the upgrade. Completion is anticipated in April. ♥

Pictured: An artist's impression of the proposed entrance kiosk.



The podium and cafeteria upgrade will result in a more contemporary space that takes advantage of the views, providing a space that is accessible and attractive.



Telehealth access in specialist clinics

Technology is enabling Barwon Health patients to seek expert advice and care from the comfort of their homes.

The Barwon South West region covers 40,000 square kilometres, leaving some patients with long distances to travel for specialist outpatient appointments. However, telehealth video consultations are bringing these appointments to the home and improving healthcare access in south-west Victoria.

Orthopaedic Registrar Brett Moreria has provided outpatient consultations via telehealth regularly since May and has noted a number of benefits, including accessibility for patients, removing the logistical issues of travel time and distance, while still allowing face-to-face contact within normal clinic workflow.

"I would promote telehealth as a new way to offer outpatient consultations to improve waiting times, maintain face-to-

face contact and reduce the burden of travel distance and time," he said.

The project has enabled Barwon Health to expand telehealth access to a range of specialist outpatient clinics. For most review appointments, this means the patient can choose to have their appointment face-to-face, in their own home, or at their local GP clinic or regional health service.

The benefits for patients are becoming more evident, with improved accessibility of specialist care and substantial savings in travel expenses as key advantages for telehealth appointments.

Barwon Health Infectious Diseases Fellow Alex Tai said telehealth was an invaluable tool to give his clinic's regional Victorian clients medical reviews in a timely manner.

"We recently had a gentleman in our infectious diseases clinic who was struggling to attend his follow-up appointments, due to living 90 minutes away from our hospital," he said.

"The combination of tumultuous social circumstances and a complicated medical history effectively meant that he did not manage to turn up to numerous scheduled clinic appointments.

"After opportunistically turning up to a different clinic in an attempt to see our team, we managed to accommodate one ad hoc on site review, and then scheduled his subsequent appointments with telehealth assistance.

"The patient was immensely grateful for the opportunity to receive his ongoing reviews with less travel and has expressed a more positive outlook to his medical follow-up, having recently been weighed down by travel stress." ♦

Pictured: Orthopaedist Dr Brett Moreria takes part in an appointment via conference call with a patient in regional Victoria.

Bright idea shines through

Dr Robert Pereira's HARP colleagues reaped the benefit of his Message in a Bottle suggestion, which won an afternoon tea for his department.

CEO Professor Ruth Salom acknowledged Dr Pereira as September's "Best Bright Idea of the Month" for suggesting to re-introduce the 'About Me' initiative as a way to excel consumer-centred care.

The 'About Me' process ensures staff have a discussion with patients, and carers/family, in order to personalise care.

The concept also recognises that consumers are experts in managing their own life, and that Barwon Health's role is to support them.



Knowing what is most important to patients will assist staff to understand their needs and provide care in a way that is most appropriate. 💎

Pictured: (L-R) Dr Toni Hogg, Dr Robert Pereira and Prof Ruth Salom at the HARP morning tea held in October.

Emergency staff support Geelong Mums



On 2 November, about 20 Barwon Health Emergency Department staff volunteered their personal time with Geelong Mums - a group that re-homes used baby and children's goods to local families in need.

Emergency Department Equipment Nurse Russeen Norman said the session left staff feeling very humbled, as fellow parents and health professionals who often work with similar clients to those supported by Geelong Mums.

"Whilst carrying out some of the roles, and hearing some of the stories others were sharing, I was able to reflect on the fact that the families supported by Geelong Mums could really be anyone from any walk of life - hardship and unimaginable circumstances don't discriminate."

"Our team looks forward to returning again in January and on a regular basis from then on. Each and every person who volunteered left with a sense of pride and satisfaction and cannot wait to return."

Geelong Mums last year helped more than 5000 children and re-homed more than 12,500 items, including linen, clothing, car seats, cots, prams, baths, and toy bags. 💎

Pictured: (L-R) Emergency nurses Rhoda Jamieson and Russeen Norman volunteering with Geelong Mums.



Communication is key

The medicine directorate recently held a shift-and-share-style event on communication with doctors and nurses across Barwon Health.

Barwon Health Emergency & Medicine Program Director Andrew Hughes said the event was organised to improve communication between and within departments at Barwon Health.

“Staff get to share ideas and solutions for how to improve communication and engage with the problem in ways that relate to their particular areas,” he said.

“It was great to see so many engaged team members representing their respective wards/departments and taking the opportunity to learn from each other.

“Each ward provided a presentation to roving teams on how they had improved their methods of communicating, not only with patients and their families, but also with other Barwon Health staff.” ♦

Pictured: Staff share their approaches to communication at the St Mary’s event.



PUBLISHING WORK IN PODIATRY

Podiatrist Tina Loxley has been inspired to publish her work after presenting a poster at the 12th National Allied Health Conference in Sydney in August.

Tina first submitted an abstract on her topic, *Testing the reliability of the Foot-Care Abilities Questionnaire (F-CAQ)*, two years ago at the same conference, which was recognised in the top six out of almost 200 poster presentations.

“We have a responsibility to publish work we have completed and share the outcomes,” she said.

“With the final results from this project available, I thought the National Allied Health conferences continued to be the best forum for the dissemination of these outcomes, reaching a national audience of allied health professionals who work in

multi-disciplinary teams, in both private and public sector settings.

“I received direct feedback from a judge from the poster competition about two articles that could be published from the data in my poster presentation.”

This work has been occurring in the Barwon Health Podiatry department under the supervision of the Centre for Allied Health and Nursing Research and the Research and Ethics committee, over the past five years. ♦

Pictured: Tina Loxley presents her poster in Sydney at the 12th National Allied Health Conference in August.

Bring the pressure down

A Grand Round session on pressure injuries provided Barwon Health staff a unique opportunity to discuss a client's journey through the health system.

The August presentation, titled *Bringing the Pressure Down, brought to you by Whispering Jack and Targeting Zero*, focused on pressure injury prevention with an interprofessional team exploring the experience of consumer "Mr H" via video, starting with audit data related to a hospital-acquired stage 3 and 4 pressure injury.

The audit highlighted a common theme – all clients were long term non-ambulatory and had significant comorbidities and/or disability. The next staging of pressure injuries and referral pathways were highlighted, followed by the consumer story of Mr H and his journey at Barwon Health.

The unique opportunity of a consumer telling their story via video added a new

element to case study presentations, with pertinent quotes from Mr H including: "Anybody that walks in with a smile on their face, lifts a patient, because you know that nurse is confident, she's got things under her control. When I see somebody walk in with a smile, you have to smile back and you cooperate with one another and you try to work as a team."

Mr H's son added: "The attitude of the staff makes a big difference. It affects the patient directly. It's all about customer service."

Each Allied Health discipline defined their role, including how they collaborate within the health team and referral processes.

All professions agreed that early referral and interprofessional collaboration were essential in complex care cases.

The conclusion was that pressure injury prevention "is everybody's business."

The "Mr H" consumer video is available to view on GROW. ♦



Pictured: Allied Health teams collaborated to demonstrate their roles in preventing pressure injuries at Barwon Health.

"When I see somebody walk in with a smile, you have to smile back and you cooperate with one another and you try to work as a team."

KINDER KIDS TOUR HOSPITAL

Throughout October, more than 30 kindergartens from Geelong and the Surf Coast toured University Hospital Geelong for a friendly introduction to healthcare and hospitals.

The tours, which included visits to Barwon Medical Imaging (BMI) and the children's ward, are designed to take the fear out of hospital visits and assist children to be more confident and relaxed in a medical setting.

Torquay Kindergarten was one of the centres that visited the hospital, also donating toys and art supplies for patients on the children's ward.

The hospital tour program runs every year from 21-29 October to celebrate National Children's Week. ♦

Pictured: Torquay Kindergarten students Eve and Dex test some hospital equipment on their tour.





EMERGO TRAIN MASS CASUALTY EXERCISE

Barwon Health held a Mass Casualty Exercise on 14 September to test response systems in the event of a Code Brown.

In collaboration with the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services, the exercise simulated a train crash, with a hypothetical 100 casualties arriving at the University Hospital Geelong Emergency Department.

About 70 staff members participated in the exercise to test Barwon Health's response systems in the Emergency Department, BMI, ICU, theatre and the incident management centre.

Workforce Safety Director James Tamblyn said there was terrific participation and commitment from all involved in the exercise.

"The challenging simulation incident was handled extremely well by all areas and we identified some opportunities for improvement," he said.

"Overall, the exercise showed that Barwon Health's emergency management systems are well equipped to deal with demanding Code Brown scenarios.

"Well done to everyone involved." ♦

Pictured: Barwon Health Nurse Kylie in action during the mass casualty exercise in September.

Tablet devices make patient information easier to swallow

The nursing team on Heath Wing 6 (HW6) is educating patients in their ward through a series of videos on four newly-acquired Lenovo tablet devices.

The concept was the brainchild of HW6 nurse Wayne Barnes, who recognised the need to better educate patients on preventing pressure injuries and falls in the hospital.

Written by Wayne and fellow HW6 nurse Keisha Guilmartin, the videos were filmed on site with the assistance of Andrew Ward and Chris Morton who brought their video production skills from the BMI "What to Expect" patient videos, which won Barwon Health's Project of the Year award in 2016.

Now complete, the videos have been loaded to four tablet devices for patients on the ward identified as being a falls risk, or at greater risk of developing pressure injuries.

Heath Wing 6 Nurse Unit Manager Vicki Wall said patients had an overwhelmingly positive response to the initiative.

"We've found the videos have opened many conversations between patients and staff on topics that can often be sensitive," she said.

"The cost of video production and tablet technology is now cheaper than ever.

"Presenting patients with a video at their bedside on a portable device is such a hassle-free way to educate them on risk factors they may not be aware of."

Falls are one of the largest causes of harm whilst a person is in hospital and can happen to any patient regardless of their age, health, gender, or normal mobility status. Falls can have extremely serious consequences, including significant disability, prolonging a patient's stay in hospital.

A study conducted by Animoto in 2015 found four times as many people would rather watch a video on a subject than read about it.

Project videographer Andrew Ward said video presentations were powerful educational tools.

"This is because, for most of us, vision trumps all other senses," he said.

"Combined with a voice over, we are able to both show and tell patients essential information and explain why that information is so important."

The storage space on tablet devices will allow the Heath Wing 6 team to create additional video content on other important topics to add to their growing library of digital resources. ♥

Pictured: A still image from the Heath Wing 6 video helping patients prevent pressure sores.





Deafness Foundation lends an ear to Aboriginal health

Barwon Health's Aboriginal Health and Audiology departments launched the Wandarra Yarning audiology resource booklet in September and encouraged indigenous families to have their hearing checked.

Using a grant from the Deafness Foundation, the teams implemented the culturally safe audiology tool, which can be used in hearing assessment consultations for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children at Barwon Health and the Wathaurong Aboriginal Health Service.

The booklet is fitted with a sound clip that shares culturally appropriate messages from Aboriginal elders, along with Aboriginal artwork, images of the outer and inner ear, and easy-to-read ear health information.

Elders from Merri Community Health, who originally developed the tool, were pleased to be able to share the resource and celebrated the launch.

Aboriginal Health Policy and Projects Officer Casey Ritchie said hearing loss was a significant issue for Aboriginal children.

"The World Health Organisation found that Aboriginal children have a higher rate of otitis media, a middle ear infection that causes hearing loss, than any other people in the world," he said.

"Tragically, almost all Aboriginal children have some form of otitis media.

"Fifty per cent have glue ear, 30 per cent have acute otitis media, and around 15 per cent have runny ears.

"During the eight-year period studied, indigenous children saw the GP for discharge in their ear 40 times more than non-indigenous children." ♦

Pictured : (L-R) Rachael Hyder, Jennifer Coburn, Aunty Sharon Slater, Aunty Gloria Norry, Liz Phillips, Naomi Surtees and Casey Ritchie at the Wandarra Yarning launch.

"The World Health Organisation found that Aboriginal children have a higher rate of otitis media, a middle ear infection that causes hearing loss, than any other people in the world,"

– Casey Ritchie

OT STUDENT FACILITATED REFLECTIVE PRACTICE PROGRAM

A new occupational therapy (OT) program is challenging perspectives and preparing students for reflective practice.

In 2014, the OT Student Coordinators introduced peer group facilitated reflective practice for all third and fourth year students on long block placements.

The Reflective Practice Program involves students presenting a practice related case in detail. They are then asked a series of open-ended questions by the group to assist the presenter in explore and analysing the experience.

Often the presenter's assumptions and values are challenged, granting them new perspectives and learning.

A unique element of the program involves the invitation of a guest OT clinician to participate in the group, presenting a clinical case in the first session, which enables students to observe.

As part of current research evaluating the OT practice education program, data was collected relating to the Reflective Practice element of the program.

Overall, the majority of the students find the group structured facilitated reflection they undertook as part of placement:

- Increased their understanding of what happened and why things happened;
- Assisted them to view some events from a different perspective; and
- Would influence their use of reflective practice in the future.

Research evaluating the key elements of the Barwon Health OT Student Program has been provisionally accepted for publication. ♥



Cuddle cots provide comfort to bereaved parents

Three years after it was fundraised, the Cuddle Cot at University Hospital Geelong continues to provide comfort to bereaved parents.

The cot, used to keep deceased babies cool while staying with the parents in hospital, was made possible thanks to funds raised by local bereaved families.

In late 2013, Hope Bereavement Care's 'Empty Arms Support Group' put forward the idea of raising funds for a Cuddle Cot for University Hospital Geelong.

Led by McKellar Centre nurse Erica Manser, the fundraising campaign raised more than \$1600 for the cot in 2014, which was supplemented by a donation from Powercor South West Vic and Hope Bereavement Care.

"Dealing with the death of a baby is an incredibly difficult time for parents," Erica said.

"Often families wish to remain close to their baby for a few days before feeling

able to say goodbye - the Cuddle Cot enables families to do this.

"Spending time with the baby is an important part of the grieving process.

"One of the driving forces for me is to give people the ability to spend time with their babies, because that's the only time to create memories with their children that they'll take for life."

Corio resident Kayla Jones said after losing her son two years ago, the cuddle cot made an incredible difference in a difficult time.

"It meant a lot to me, to my husband and our family to have access to the cot because it gave us time with him we wouldn't have been able to have otherwise," she said. ♥

Pictured: (L-R) Bereaved mothers Erica Manser and Kayla Jones, with midwife Cindy Bishop, reflect on the difference made by Barwon Health's cuddle cot.

Staff acknowledgements

Congratulations to **Fiona Scott**, who the Australian Diabetes Educators Association awarded as Victoria's Credentialed Diabetes Educator of the Year. Fiona helped establish a Paediatric Diabetes Service at Barwon Health in 2010, which has grown to include an insulin pump, Continuous Glucose Monitoring clinic, and the annual Dream Achieve Succeed event. She has worked with Diabetes Camps Victoria and in private practice to further inspire people with diabetes and their families to view the condition as no obstacle.

Alastair Mah has left Barwon Health after three years as Chief Medical Officer. Alastair plans to spend some time with his family and one-year-old daughter, before rejoining the health workforce after a break.

On 17 November, clinical trials pharmacist **Paul Muir** retired after 39 years with Barwon Health. The Geelong Hospital pharmacy department was one of the first adopters in Australia of clinical pharmacy and in his early years Paul rounded with the medical teams, supporting decision making and counselling patients on their medication. After time as an outpatient pharmacy manager, Paul has held the position of senior clinical trials pharmacist since 2008, contributing to the management of over 100 clinical trials and participating in the work of the Barwon Health Research and Ethics Committee. Paul is a Fellow of SHPA and in his spare time completed a BA in journalism and

literary studies. His knowledge, wit and humour will be greatly missed by pharmacy and clinical trials staff.

VALE SHIRLEY LAMBART (OCTOBER 02, 1948 – SEPTEMBER 27, 2017)

It is with great sadness we announce the death of **Shirley Lambart**, a volunteer with the Palliative Care Program for 15 years. She was recently awarded Life Membership – the highest honour awarded to a volunteer at Barwon Health. Her name is etched on the Honour Board at the entrance at University Hospital Geelong, offering a reminder of the many years of service she gave to our organisation.

Professor **Philip Campbell** has been appointed Director of Cancer Services at Barwon Health, replacing Dr Graham Pitson who served as Acting Director

for six months. Professor Campbell is a general haematologist with broad training and experience in malignant and non-malignant haematology. His main clinical interests are malignant haematology (leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma and autologous stem cell transplantation) and clinical research.

Dr William Kingswell took up the position of Clinical Director, Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Services (MHDAS) in September, bringing significant senior executive experience. With over 30 years in healthcare, specialising in psychiatry, Dr Kingswell is a respected and results-orientated leader. ♥

Pictured below left: Paul Muir. Right: Shirley Lambart (centre) with former Barwon Health Board Chair Dr John Stekelenburg and then Interim CEO Alex Cockram.



NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY

On 11 October, Barwon Health's GLBTIQ Inclusive Practice and Workplace Culture Committee and a representative from GASP Geelong, hosted a pop-up stall in the University Hospital Geelong Cafeteria in recognition of National Coming Out Day.

The stall was an opportunity for committee members to promote the work they are doing with respect to inclusive practice, as well as provide important resources about GLBTIQ support services in our region.

The cafeteria added a sweet touch to the event with rainbow cupcakes and rainbow lollipops.

For more information about the GLBTIQ Inclusive Practice and Workplace Culture Committee, email glbtqi@barwonhealth.org.au. ♥

Pictured: Members of Barwon Health's GLBTIQ Inclusive Practice and Workplace Culture Committee.



HELIPAD HELPS SAVE LIVES ACROSS VICTORIA

Barwon Health's \$11.5 million helipad is helping save lives across Victoria, averaging almost three air ambulance transfers a week.

Since opening in June last year, the helipad at University Hospital Geelong was used for 196 flights by this September – including 143 in its first 12 months. On average, there have been 2.9 flights each week, with about 59 per cent of transfers coming from the HEMS4 air ambulance based in Warrnambool.

Emergency Department Director Dr Michael Sheridan estimated the average was an increase of about 50 per cent compared to the previous helipad, which has been turned into a staff parking area.

"There's been significant growth in treating people who are critical unwell in the region, particularly in the cath lab (catheterisation laboratory), where we perform procedures on people who have had heart attacks or myocardial infarctions.

"The new helipad and lift system can make a 15 minute difference in getting someone to a cath lab because of the seamless transition between Ambulance Victoria, the helipad and the receiving units." ♦

Pictured: The University Hospital Geelong helipad has been used for about three flights a week.

Cycling for Love

In October, five teams conquered the two-hour Cycle for Love tag team challenge to raise more than \$300 for Barwon Health's Andrew Love Cancer Centre.

The second annual challenge was hosted at the McKellar Centre's Café 45 and brought out more enthusiastic teams, with costumes and props adding to the competition.

Hosted by Work Wellness and Barwon Bicycle Users Group (BUG), with support from indoor cycling studio Crank and Grind, the event encourages staff to have fun, get active and raise funds for patient comfort and care items.

Departments interested in running a similar event can contact

welnessevents@barwonhealth.org.au. For more cycling news and information search 'Barwon BUG' on One Point. ♦

Pictured above: Rob Jane (Team BRACAS), Debbie Zonneveld (North Stars), and Mel Marshall (Team Food Services) face off at Café 45. Below: Bridget Lang (Wheelness Warriors) and David Tytherleigh (McKellar Raptors) dressed for high visibility in the Cycle For Love challenge.



TEAM	DISTANCE
McKellar Raptors: David Tytherleigh (Captain), Natasha Selenitsch, Chris Clarke, Connie Lombardo, Chris Lindner, Ray James.	67.1 kms
BRACAS Dynamos: Rob Jane (Captain), Irene Long, Janette Anderson, Fran Crozier-Durham.	62.1 kms
Team Food Services: Melanie Marshall (Captain), Scott Hughes, Narelle Cameron, Jodie Smith.	52.6 kms
Wheelness Warriors: Lydia Thomsen (Captain), Bridget Lang, Georgina Connoley, Rudi Gasser, Fiona Landgren, Max Allen.	49.7 kms
North Stars: Debbie Zonneveld (Captain), Kim Burge, Carol Finley, Steve Smith, Lizzie Smith, Portia (student nurse), Annette Richards, Amandeep (student nurse).	49.1 kms
TOTAL	280.6 kms





Healthlinks program empowers patient self-care

The Healthlinks initiative is giving Barwon Health a more flexible funding approach to providing services to regular patients with chronic and complex health needs at University Hospital Geelong.

In March 2017, Barwon Health entered into the collaborative pilot project with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Barwon Health receives a portion of activity-based funding as a separate grant, allowing flexibility and innovation in providing new models of care to this group of patients.

Chronic and Complex Care Manager Jo Stevens said Barwon Health had focused on being able to identify Healthlinks patients in real-time when they first arrived to the health service.

“Working with DHHS and Barwon Health’s Decision Support team, we are now in a position where, in real-time, we can

identify patients at high-risk of repeated presentations when they first present to University Hospital Geelong,” she said.

“Once identified, there is an opportunity to more actively work with patients to ensure the care that they require can be delivered in a more personalised and tailored approach to support them in their healthcare management.

“Success in the Healthlinks approach will see patients able to better self-manage their health conditions, reducing their reliance on the health system.

“This will allow Barwon Health to reinvest in enhanced service delivery options for our patients in the community setting, supporting a further reduction in hospital admissions.

In the first phase of the Healthlinks pilot, a redesign of some community services has taken place, aiming to meet the care needs of this patient group in a timely way, while ensuring flexibility to provide a creative approach to patient care.

The Healthlinks pilot aims to capitalise on the previous work completed by Personalised Health Care, using technology to support patients with airways disease, heart failure and diabetes.

Other services involved with the redesign are the Hospital Admission Risk Program (HARP), Belmont Community Rehabilitation Centre, Belmont Community Health and Belmont Community Nursing.

The DHHS has engaged the CSIRO to evaluate the Healthlinks interventions at each health service. ♥

Pictured: Timothy Brown, Janette Byrnes and Robert Pereira from the HARP team, which is implementing a community health and rehabilitation approach to healthcare.

Victorian Public Healthcare Awards

Two Barwon Health teams were awarded with Highly Commended honours for their entries in the Victorian Public Healthcare Awards in Melbourne on 26 October.

The Wide Smiles program was recognised in the improving children's health award, while the volunteer-based Dignity Therapy program was recognised in the Safer Care Victoria compassionate care award.

Now in their 13th year, the annual awards are a celebration of excellence, dedication and innovation in public health, health services and service initiatives that deliver informed and effective healthcare.

Barwon Health was also named a finalist in the category for supporting healthy populations, with a nomination titled *A novel setting for screening diabetes*. ♦



Pictured: Barwon Health's Dignity Therapy and Oral Health teams each left the Victorian Public Healthcare Awards with highly commended recognition.



Training gives OTs upper hand

Barwon Health Occupational therapists specialising in hand therapy have had additional training in wound care to improve patient outcomes.

Six occupational therapists, two undergraduate students and two occupational therapists from external organisations attended the course, which was run by Jan Rice, president of the Victoria Wound Management Association.

The training detailed principles and factors influencing wound healing, specifics to consider in hand surgery, modern wound care products in line with best practice for hand wounds, and tips and tricks in hand wound care.

Senior staff plan to use this training to justify competency in the advanced practice area of wound care for the hand.

Barwon Health's hand therapy department treats post-operative wounds as part of its overall rehabilitation post-surgery and trauma. Senior staff treat patients for their first post-operative appointment in an early intervention role, with the aim to improve patient experiences, outcomes and reduce workload in outpatient clinics. ♦

Pictured: Occupational Therapist Annie Clapham demonstrates a dressing change, following a wound care course for the hand therapy department.



New Surgery Hub opens at hospital

Barwon Health's Day of Surgery Admissions area has a new home and fresh new look, following the opening of the Surgery Hub in mid-October.

The 22-month project in the old Intensive Care Unit space on level four of University Hospital Geelong was made possible with funding from the Department of Health and Human Services and the combined efforts of the Operating Services and Capital Works teams.

The new Surgery Hub accommodates multiple functions, including Day of Surgery Admissions and second stage recovery, which currently see around 50 patients a day.

There are 12 pre-surgery bays and 12 recovery bays, as well as an admission and discharge lounge, and a dedicated paediatric bay for our youngest patients. The paediatric area has been named the Tree House and includes bright colours with a fun non-clinical feel.

Operating Services sees around 21,000 patients a year and this important new facility will provide a much-improved patient experience from admission to discharge. ♦

Pictured: The new Surgery Hub on level four of University Hospital Geelong.

The paediatric area has been named the Tree House and includes bright colours with a fun non-clinical feel.





Celebrating our research culture

Barwon Health's vibrant medical and health research culture was again on display at this year's Research Week, which attracted more than 400 attendees.

The annual event, held in partnership with Deakin University, showcased a diverse array of research activities from 13 – 17 November, including the hotly contested poster competition, guest lectures by prominent Geelong researchers, various presentations and free education sessions aimed at early career or novice researchers.

The free workshops for researchers covered topics such as how to get a research grant, fundamental concepts of research design and opportunities for postgraduate training.

Corangamite MP Sarah Henderson and Corio MP Richard Marles gave brief addresses at the Opening Session on Monday night, followed by keynote speaker A/Prof Helen Abud from Monash University, whose research areas include intestinal disease and bowel cancer.

Public forums throughout the week covered topics including childhood obesity and doctor-patient communication skills.

Professor Trisha Dunning delivered an insightful, creative and entertaining address for her 10th consecutive World Diabetes Day lecture entitled *Old Age... Ancient Wisdom, Modern Science, Do the Twain Meet?*, which was well attended by nursing, medical and allied health professionals as well as nursing students.

Friday's panel discussion on physician-assisted dying enabled the nearly 100 attendees to hear firsthand both sides of the assisted dying debate. The emotive and engaging discussion was also live-streamed on Facebook, and has been viewed more than 1400 times.

AWARD WINNERS

Poster competition

- Basic Science: Anthony Chamings "Characterisation of coronaviruses in wild birds"
- Clinical Research: Benson Nardino "Preoperative anaemia in Cardiothoracic surgery"
- Population Health: Kara Anderson "Spinal artefacts elevate Lumbar Spine BMD but not Trabecular Bone Score in Australian men"

- Service Delivery: Dominic Bagguley and Andrew Fordyce "Procedures under the Three Delays Framework at Hospital Nacional Guido Valadares"
- Clinical Practice: Julie Pasco "Sarcopenia and Estimates of Fracture Risk"
- Early Career: Anthony Chamings "Characterisation of coronaviruses in wild birds"

Audience Choice

- Amanda Wade "Aiming for elimination: outcomes of a consultation pathway for general practitioners in regional Australia to increase hepatitis C direct acting antiviral treatment"

Scientist's Prize

- Natalie Hyde "Is there an independent association of muscle mass and strength on bone measures in school-aged children? The vitamin D in pregnancy study." ♦

Pictured: Infectious diseases physician Dr Amanda Wade gives her Research Week presentation Aiming for elimination: Pathway to increase Hepatitis C antiviral treatment.

Barwon Health nominated for a 2017 WorkSafe Victoria Award

Earlier this year, staff from Biomedical Engineering and Workforce Safety collaborated to design a lifting platform to eliminate hazardous manual handling associated with working on renal dialysis units.

On 25 August, the innovative solution was announced as one of four finalists in the 2017 WorkSafe Victoria Awards in the 'Best Solution to a Manual Handling Issue' category. WorkSafe Victoria received more than 160 submissions across all categories for the 2017 awards.

Before the lifting platform was developed, Biomedical Engineering staff were at risk of injury due to repetitive and prolonged bending, leaning and reaching postures while carrying out maintenance and repair tasks on renal dialysis units. Unable to find a suitable device "off the shelf," Biomedical Engineering worked with manufacturer



Liftaide to create a unique, portable lifting device so the units could be raised to a suitable height where they can be worked on safely.

Congratulations to Hiab Australia and Miglas Windows on taking out this year's award. ♦

Pictured: Representatives from Barwon Health's Workforce Safety and Biomedical Engineering teams.



INTERPROFESSIONAL TWILIGHT CHALLENGE

The Interprofessional Twilight Challenge was held on 30 October, with 12 teams competing in a number of team-based activities to showcase skills in collaborative practice.

Activities on the night included developing an acute careplan, discharge planning, and multiple choice questions.

The Barwon Health Clinical Education and Training and Deakin Faculty of Health would like to congratulate Team Newcomb, which was crowned winners on the night, with special mention going to Deakin Navy student team on finishing second and Belmont CRC on third.

Director of Clinical Education and Training Yvonne Hewitt said the event showcased the partnership between Barwon Health and Deakin University.

"The fun, collaboration and great sense of team spirit within and across teams illustrated why Barwon Health can stand proudly as a training site of choice, and provider of quality healthcare.

"We hope to run similar events in the future and look forward to seeing all these competitors and more, as we seek to engage our staff in more opportunities for interprofessional learning and collaborative practice." ♦

Pictured: Team Newcomb were the proud winners of the 2017 Interprofessional Twilight Challenge.

Staff celebrate Sid's century

Barwon Health's oldest volunteer Sid McGibbon celebrated his 100th birthday in style with residents and staff at McKellar Centre's Percy Baxter Lodge.

Sid started volunteering with residents after his wife June passed away and he decided he wanted to "sing to the oldies."



"I didn't have much in front of me and decided I'd come over here to sing and play my mouth organ," he said.

"I've had a couple of close calls so I'm very glad to make it this far and still be able to come out here.

"It gives me purpose in life. Being here every Friday morning for so long and seeing everyone happy makes me feel very satisfied."

The grandfather of 20 turned 100 on 14 November and still lives independently in a North Geelong unit, next door to his former family home. ♦

Pictured: Barwon Health volunteer Sid McGibbon was thrilled to celebrate his 100th birthday with Percy Baxter Lodge staff and residents in November.



Run Geelong

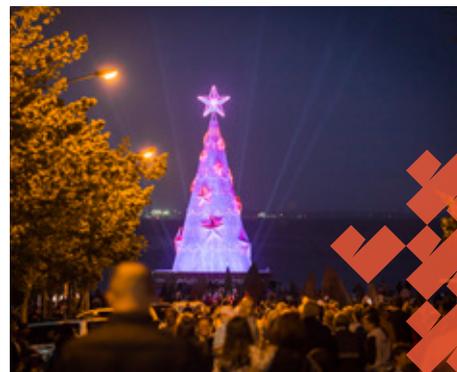
Over 10,000 people pounded the pavement of Geelong to mark the ninth annual Cotton On Run Geelong event on 19 November, with an estimated total of more than \$340,000 raised.

Perfect weather allowed for a seamless event, culminating in a performance from Casey Donovan in Eastern Gardens.

After the race, activities and rides provided by TAC, GMHBA, WorkSafe and Cotton On made the Run Geelong Village the place to be.

All funds from Cotton On Run Geelong registrations will go toward the Kids Appeal, raising funds for a brand new rehabilitation centre for Geelong children and youth. ♦





Geelong Connected Communities Gala 101

The Barwon Health Foundation presented another incredible twilight Gala parade on 11 November.

About 15,000 people lined the streets to show their appreciation to Barwon Health, many purchasing a pinwheel or throwing coins in sheets carried by medical staff to help fundraising efforts for the Kids Appeal.

In its 101st year, the Gala Parade travelled down Malop Street, showcasing the

floats, walking bands, dance groups and classic cars.

The parade concluded with Market Square's stunning Santa and Mrs Claus float and the light up Lismore Lanterns.

The 2017 Geelong Connected Communities Gala Parade succeeded in connecting Geelong Communities and bringing joy to hundreds of Geelong families. ♦



Barwon Health Locations

University Hospital Geelong™	Bellerine Street, Geelong T 4215 0000
Corio Community Health Centre	Gellibrand Street, Corio T 1300 715 673
Belmont Community Health Centre	1-17 Reynolds Road, Belmont T 1300 715 673
Torquay Community Health Centre	100 Surfcoast Highway, Torquay T 1300 715 673
McKellar Centre	45-95 Ballarat Road, North Geelong T 4215 5200
Newcomb Community Health Centre	104-108 Bellarine Highway, Newcomb T 1300 715 673
Belmont Community Rehabilitation Centre	1-17 Reynolds Road, Belmont T 1300 715 673
Anglesea Community Health Centre	McMillan Street, Anglesea T 1300 715 673
Mental Health, Drugs and Alcohol Services	Swanston Street, Geelong T 1300 094 187

Please note: this is not a complete listing of Barwon Health sites.

www.barwonhealth.org.au



OUR VALUES
RESPECT
COMPASSION
COMMITMENT
ACCOUNTABILITY
INNOVATION