

Auricle

EDITION 1 / 2022



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University Hospital Geelong
Switchboard



TEAM OF **14** STAFF,
WORKING **24/7**

UP TO **7000** PHONE CALLS
A DAY

30 HOSPITAL CODES
CALLED A DAY

MORE THAN **4000**
BARWON HEALTH
PHONE EXTENSIONS

Cover: Mercy, 7, received her COVID-19 vaccination at the Barwon Health Community Vaccination Hub in January 2022. Photographer: Hadeel Al-badran, Diversitat.



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



Message from the Chief Executive

It is a privilege to lead Barwon Health and to work with so many people who care so passionately for our community. We can all be proud that our organisation has responded swiftly and effectively to the challenges put to us by the pandemic.

As Omicron became the dominant COVID variant and our vaccination levels across the Barwon South West Region increased, I'm pleased to say that we successfully navigated our way through the second half of last year with patient-centred care at the forefront. Thanks to everyone for their commitment and hard work, especially to staff who were redeployed to new roles with both a positive mindset and a continued commitment to helping your colleagues and your community.

The Barwon South West Public Health Unit (PHU) is now a permanent feature of our organisation and we look forward to expanding its role to address broader public health challenges in our region.

As we move into 2022, there are many projects and initiatives underway, in varying levels of completion, each one bringing us another step closer to improving services in our region. We've seen great progress with the completion of Bendigo Bank House, home to McKellar Kids' Rehab, which will provide a service-specific environment for children to receive rehabilitation. Also, the McKellar Mental Health and Wellbeing Unit is excitingly close to completion. The facility will provide our community with 16 acute beds that will support in excess of 355 consumers with acute care each year.

We have continued with the planning for our new Barwon Women's and Children Services and hope to secure funding for this important development in the near future. It's also an exciting time with the CBD mental health

hub, Early Parenting Centre at McKellar, and Youth PARC projects at various stages of development.

The expansion of Surgical Services will see the opening of additional inpatient surgical beds in Building B to support increased elective surgery. The 24-bed ward, located on level 2, will cater for patients from all surgical specialties who need to stay in hospital for up to 48 hours.

New worker wellbeing initiatives will be rolled out in the coming months, including improvements to the University Hospital Geelong and McKellar Centre cafeterias, and an audit of the 60+ tea rooms and break facilities. Where needed, fresh paint, new furniture, food preparation and food storage amenities may be provided. The aim is to make these spaces more appealing for our staff to refresh during their shifts. Additionally, our StaffCare clinic will have a well-deserved refresh and a new secure bike storage facility will be established at University Hospital Geelong.

There is so much to look forward to and I'd like to thank you all again, both staff and community members, for being part of our effort to keep Geelong safe and healthy.

Frances Diver | Chief Executive

EVERYONE IS WELCOME – SHARING HEALTH INFORMATION TO NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

Barwon Health's Healthy Communities team has partnered with Diversitat in a project called "Everyone is Welcome" to develop a series of health information videos for non-English speakers.

The Healthy Communities team aims to ensure all the information provided is accessible to our community, monitoring it against health literacy standards and engaging partner agencies and community representatives in everything they do.

Healthy Communities health promotion officer Susan Parker said the Everyone is Welcome video series had been translated into five languages.

"When Diversitat sought our support to produce two of a series of videos they are placing online, in language, with community representatives, it was an ideal partnership," she said.

"Working with representatives from five different language communities, we examined the material that was already available, modifying this to meet their needs,

producing a video that was then translated into the five main languages of newly-arrived non-English speaking people in Geelong.

"These videos have utilised the skills and services that Barwon Health provides. The first video series was built around the presentation our refugee health team developed and presented annually, while the second series was developed with the support of our community dietitians."



Vaccination efforts leave no one behind

Hazara leader Muhammad Mir Norozi, community member Noorjan Muhammad Juma Ā Hazara; and Karenni community leader Augustino Moedu stand together after being vaccinated in Norlane.

Vaccination has been a pivotal part of Barwon Health’s response to COVID-19 and in 2021 the focus turned to third doses and adolescents.

As of February 1 2022, more than 157,000 people across the Barwon South West had received boosted immunity from their third dose, while about half of eligible children in the region aged 5-11 had their first dose before the return of school. More than 17,000 children had been vaccinated by January 10, according to Public Health Unit director Professor Eugene Athan.

“Getting vaccinated is the best thing you can do to help protect your family and friends, and it has been encouraging to see so many people from our community coming forward to get vaccinated.”

“Throughout 2021, we were able to vaccinate the vast majority of people in the Barwon South West region, working alongside our rural healthcare and aged care partners, GPs and pharmacies.”

The rollout was strengthened by specialist clinics setup to address high-risk groups in the community, including collaborations with Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative for Indigenous peoples, with Diversitat to assist people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, and with disability services to help facilitate vaccination for people living with a disability.

Wathaurong clinician and immuniser Dr Kevin Chang said the clinic was a culturally safe space for Aboriginal people in the area receiving their vaccination.

“Aboriginal people need a safe way to access vaccination centres, as the large sites can be an

overwhelming experience,” he said.

“This isn’t a case of ‘one size fits all’, as the most vulnerable members of community don’t always make it to the front of the queue.”

The Diversitat collaboration also developed tools aimed at encouraging people to get the COVID-19 vaccine, including a video translated into eight languages explaining how to book a vaccination and what happens during an appointment, as well as information sessions hosted by public health experts and supported by interpreters for newly-arrived and culturally diverse groups within the region.

Carmel Carroll from Diversitat said the partnership had helped ensure people from multicultural communities living in Geelong received important information about the COVID vaccinations in their own language.

“The partnership has allowed us to develop tools and information that will be used to provide community members with the information they need and give them the confidence to attend the Barwon Health community vaccination hub to receive their vaccination,” Carmel said.

Dr Therese Clark, a clinical neuropsychologist and co-ordinator of Barwon Health’s Disability Liaison Unit, said the clinic supporting people with a disability was a very important step.



Disability Vaccination Clinic Tristan with nurse immuniser Katrina Gurrie.
Image: Geelong Advertiser

ACCELERATING THE PACE OF THE COVID-19 VACCINE ROLLOUT

An innovative vaccine management system was rapidly developed and launched when Barwon Health partnered with Circle T to support the COVID-19 vaccination rollout for the Geelong region and south-west Victoria.

In February 2021, before the vaccination roll-out was due to commence for frontline workers and aged care residents, Melbourne-based IT company and Microsoft partner Circle T was able to work with Barwon Health to deliver an online vaccine booking and administration solution - CoVaxApp.

The platform supported the on-site vaccination processes, reporting of patient outcomes and online bookings for the Geelong region and all of south-west Victoria.

Barwon Health information and analytics director Matt Morris said without the quick development of CoVaxApp, the vaccination program would have been limited by relying on a paper-based system.

"We had a clear view of what was needed to deliver an efficient vaccination program across the region and by leveraging standard cloud platforms, we knew we could have the system up and running to support the vaccine rollout within days," he said.

"More than 140,000 doses were booked through the CoVaxApp system, with 10,000 booked in the first two days.

"At peak times, this has allowed us to vaccinate up to 3000 each day and we've even had feedback from clinicians that they wished other systems were this easy to use. It has also supported our Vaccination centres and teams to be as efficient as possible."

Circle T founder and managing director Hamish Toll credits the success of CoVaxApp's quick deployment to the combination of Barwon Health's fast, informed decision-making with Circle T's technical expertise.

"We couldn't be prouder of what we achieved with Barwon Health in accelerating the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine," he said.

"We were acutely aware when we were making a hard commitment when accepting this challenge, with its short timeframe and real public health outcomes.

"As a Microsoft partner, we have tremendous respect for the role of technology in addressing this historic challenge and we couldn't be more grateful for the opportunity to do our part.

The CoVaxApp was phased out in late-July to integrate Barwon Health into the state-based vaccination booking system, along with the rest of Victoria's health services.

"The specialised clinic takes some of the fear and stress out of the vaccination process for carers, families and people with a disability," she said.

"Whilst our Community Vaccination Hub is suitable for many people with a disability, this specialised clinic offers a supportive and safe space for those people with additional needs. It provides a calm setting with our specialised disability staff on-hand to assist families with the process."

High Risk Accommodation Response (HRAR) has also provided support to BSWPHU Contact Tracers in communicating and supporting vulnerable people with COVID-19 and those at risk.

Sue Harmann, HRAR Lead, believes the work of the HRAR and BSWPHU vaccination teams have helped to ensure vulnerable people are vaccinated and protected.

"Our months of working to ensure vulnerable people had access to vaccination with low barriers has meant many people we support have been vaccinated. This made a huge difference to some outbreaks in our region," she said.

"Having these residents fully vaccinated provided protection to vulnerable people and it has been comforting knowing we've been able to support them and care for them."

The Barwon South West Public Health Unit and The Geelong Salvos outreach team has also taken the COVID-19 Vaccination Program to the streets, offering rough sleepers and those requiring food relief the opportunity to receive a vaccination at their mobile outreach van.

Brad Ogle from Geelong Salvos outreach van team believes making the COVID-19 vaccine accessible to everyone, including their friends, helped minimise barriers to vaccination and ensured they are protected.

"We started the mobile vaccination clinics with a Barwon Health immuniser joining our evening outreach team, who were providing meals and support to those in need. Offering vaccination helps protect people in need who often find it difficult to lockdown and isolate during outbreaks. We hope a higher uptake in vaccination amongst the homeless will help protect their health and keep them safe."

Our team has also worked with other support agencies including Lazarus, Christ church, Bethany, Genu and many more.

Staff also provide in-home vaccinations with our most vulnerable community members who are unable to leave their home and attend a vaccination site.

Local GPs join tracers to help fight COVID-19

Barwon Health's COVID-19 Contact Tracing team.

During the COVID-19 response, the Barwon South West Public Health Unit (BSWPHU) has been responsible for contacting all confirmed cases in the region to undertake contact tracing, medical risk assessment and referral to the COVID Remote Patient monitoring program.



Barwon Health's COVID-19 Contact Tracing team.

With an increase of COVID-19 cases across the Barwon South West region in September 2021, the medical team needed to be scaled up to respond to the increased demand.

The BSWPHU decided to bring on a group of GPs to join the team, as their expertise in taking a medical history and conducting a clinical risk assessment and referral was ideally suited to the work.

As of March 2022, eight GPs have been working in the team, as well as a number of medical specialists from around Barwon Health including Anaesthetists, Geriatricians, Rehab physicians and Endocrinologists.

To further support the team, a group of eight fourth year Deakin University medical students were brought on in late 2021 and have proven to be highly enthusiastic, adaptable and skilled at carrying out the work.

One local medical student who joined the tracing team, Melinda Zsori, found working as part of the team a valuable experience.

"I found it so rewarding to be a part of the team and making a real difference in the fight against COVID-19. It was a real learning experience that I think will benefit my career and has really helped improve my knowledge around COVID-19 and the impacts on patients."

"I have spoken to so many patients during my time at the Public Health Unit, and it has been satisfying knowing that I have been able to help patients, many who were often frightened and needed support after contracting COVID-19."

As a result, the team has been extremely successful in providing a timely and coordinated response across all seven days of the week, to ensure confirmed COVID-19 cases are promptly contacted, screened, and referred to an appropriate remote monitoring pathway.

The team has also been involved in assisting with outbreak and exposure site management, and clinical escalation of confirmed cases, including referring for admission to hospital or for antibody therapies.

The success of this team is due to the great collaboration of different clinical expertise, and the well-proven ability across the group to provide adaptable and compassionate care.



REMOTE PATIENT MONITORING

Remotely monitoring COVID-19 patients has been a vital part of Barwon Health's response to the pandemic, ensuring at-risk patients receive regular advice and care as they recover at home.

Barwon Health's Remote Patient Monitoring started as a pilot program in 2016, using technology to allow clients to enter data such as blood pressure, pulse, weight and symptoms into an application/platform via phone, tablet or computer.

Primarily used to monitor clients with chronic diseases such as heart failure, airways disease and diabetes, the program aims to decrease unnecessary hospital admission, improve quality of life and client outcomes by supporting and educating clients and using technology to assist with client assessments.

Medication titrations, unstable clients, and newly diagnosed chronic disease clients are ideal candidates for remote patient monitoring. Nurses monitor data changes such as blood pressure and symptoms of altering medications and liaise with the prescribing doctors to ensure patient safety and maximising medication potential.

RPM co-ordinator Michelle Wilson said health professionals can monitor data and make assessments about prioritising care, which offers insights to health professionals without having to visit the patient's home.

"This capability makes the program ideal to monitor COVID positive patients, as clients can continue to isolate at home with their families, and be monitored by the Remote Patient Monitoring team," she said.

"Pulse oximeters, equipment for measuring oxygen levels in the blood are used as well to assess the clients, as questions about symptoms.

"Nursing and allied health staff monitor the COVID data and make contact with the clients to support them in management of their symptoms and required escalations of care. The team also includes a doctor to assist with client care.

"Clients have found the program to be comforting and supportive, and having regular contact with the health professionals provides reassurance for clients and their carers."

The monitoring program focuses on those clients with other medical conditions which increase their risk of having complications or severe symptoms.

The team also has a GP and community services line to support GP and offer access to community services.

The service is 24 hours, with a nurse on-call overnight to assist clients if they have issues with their symptoms overnight.

The Remote Patient Monitoring team works closely with the Public Health Unit and the acute services at University Hospital to ensure smooth transitions of care when hospitalisation is required.



The service is 24 hours, with a nurse on-call overnight to assist clients if they have issues with their symptoms overnight.

Helping and healing OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL

Despite the high demand on healthcare workers, some Barwon Health staff have been using their free time to extend their care with extracurricular endeavours. Here are three staff members who have created resources to help people.

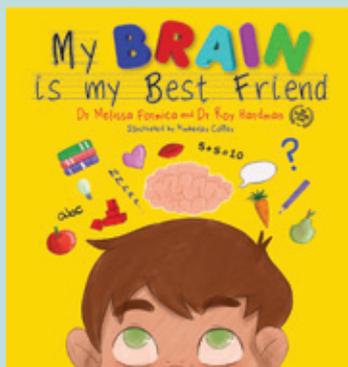
DOCTOR ENTERS PUBLISHING WORLD

Congratulations to **Dr Melissa Formica** from the Barwon Health Anaesthetics Research Team, who has recently co-authored a children's book.

'*My Brain is my Best Friend*' is designed to teach children the importance of maintaining a healthy brain while still getting to enjoy all the great things of being a child.

We know that healthy brain development is key to optimal cognitive functioning later in life. This book teaches children ways they can help keep their brain healthy.

You can purchase '*My Brain is my Best Friend*' from Shawline Publishing.



INSIGHTS ON IMMUNO-PSYCHIATRY

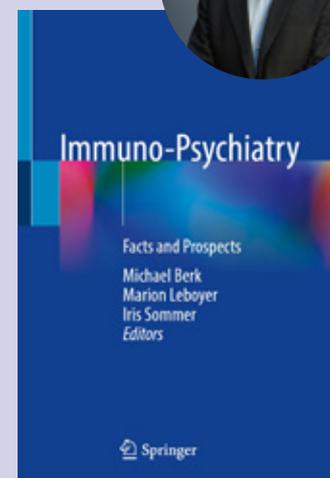
Renowned Barwon Health researcher Dr Michael Berk has a new book presenting a thorough and critical review of current knowledge on the role of immunology in major psychiatric disorders and its potential applications.

Dr Berk co-authored the text with Marion Leboyer and Iris E. Sommer to discuss the innovative immune-therapies that may result from the discovery of immune system biomarkers and their associated mechanisms.

Offering general information on the immune influence of the brain to provide readers with a better understanding of the end of immune privilege, the book also examines possible underlying mechanisms leading to psychiatric disorders, from early infections to pro-inflammatory markers, stress, and immune genetic background, linking etiology and psychiatry.

This book will provide value to clinicians, mental health professionals, mental health researchers, immunologists, industry practitioners, and various stakeholders in the mental health field.

Available for purchase on the Springer Link website.





Dr Hayden Richards - now a YouTuber.

LIFE IN THE COMMSLAB

Barwon Health Emergency Department deputy director Dr Hayden Richards has taken lessons learnt from his studies in communication, leadership, and hundreds of difficult conversations over the years, and now shares them in short videos, as part of his own YouTube channel.

The channel Comms Lab with Dr Hayden Richards presents videos focused around engaging with people, from having difficult conversations to managing people's emotions.

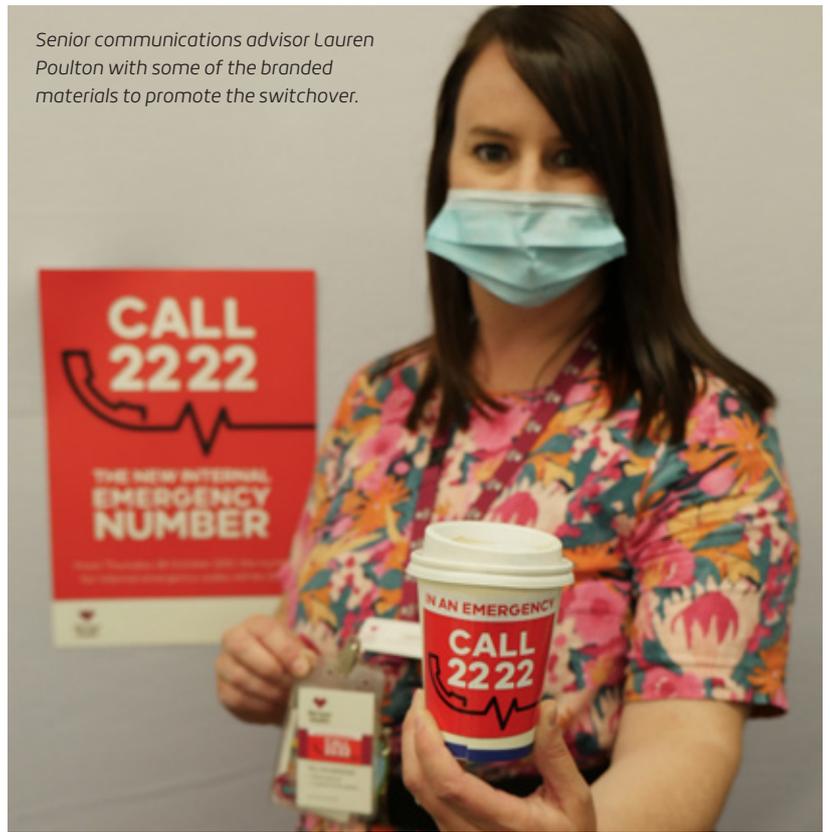
Dr Richards said his experience in medicine with both patients and colleagues had inspired the lessons, with an aim to present each video in fun, relatable and engaging format.

"It's been really wonderful having so many people watch the videos. We've ticked over 400 subscribers and only just recently, for the first time since starting the channel six months ago, one of the videos has reached 1,000 views."

See his videos on YouTube by searching 'Comms Lab with Dr Hayden Richards'. A new video is uploaded each Sunday.

"We've ticked over 400 subscribers and only just recently, for the first time since starting the channel six months ago, one of the videos has reached 1,000 views."

Senior communications advisor Lauren Poulton with some of the branded materials to promote the switchover.



SMOOTH SWITCH FOR NEW EMERGENCY NUMBER

The internal phone numbers for emergencies have been standardised in hospitals across Victoria.

For Barwon Health, this means the emergency number has changed from 444 to 2222 at University Hospital Geelong and the McKellar Centre, including medical emergencies and personal or hospital threats requiring immediate action.

It is widely acknowledged that having a single in-hospital emergency number improves staff awareness and reduces the likelihood of a time delay.

The standardisation of the in-hospital emergency number is an important change, initiated by clinicians and endorsed by the Department of Health and Human Services and Safer Care Victoria.

The change at Barwon Health was overseen by Work Health and Safety,

working alongside staff from SWARH, Public Affairs and Communications, Emergency Management, Clinical Education and Training, and Prompt.

Work Health and Safety director James Tamblyn said the changeover to 2222 had been a smooth transition at Barwon Health.

"It was a great team effort between all the departments involved and there were quite a lot of elements that needed consideration and updating, such as emergency posters and evacuation maps at all sites, staff ID badges, Prompt procedures, some clinical documents and a number of training materials," he said.

"The team did a great job in effectively communicating the change to the organisation, and we have received good feedback from the Department of Health about the way Barwon Health managed the transition, which is pleasing."



THE HEART OF THE MATTER



TACKLING CARE [] GAPS IN MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health has been a topic of much discussion in our community, with high demand for services accentuated during the pandemic. There is a wave of hope across the sector in response to the increased investment in mental health services recently.

RENAE CAROLIN | INTERIM DIRECTOR OF CHIME (CHANGE TO IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH) CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

As we embark on these reforms, it will be critical to listen to the community and understand what people are seeking and to treat consumers with dignity and respect and work together to fulfill mental health care needs across the community.

At Barwon Health, there are multiple major projects underway to improve mental health care provision for the Geelong region. As the Interim Director of CHIME, I'm pleased to be in a position to establish this new research partnership that will help drive evidence that will change treatments and services for our community. With the Royal Commission's focus on continuous improvement, there

is so much that can be accomplished by working alongside experts in the research field to benefit our healthcare systems.

Barwon Health is working hard to improve healthcare outcomes for mental health consumers and carers, with a focus on learning and growth now guiding much of our planning. The Change to Improve Mental Health Translational Research Partnership (CHIME) with Deakin University combines the clinical work in our community with the University's established research credentials and international reach. This joint approach will focus on innovations that improve mental healthcare for consumers and carers

in rural and regional Victoria. The trusted connections we have with consumers will be vital to finding research outcomes that make a true difference. The partnership will allow our staff to rapidly respond to trial results and implement changes in clinical treatments, ensuring we continuously improve services and options for recovery, based on proven research evidence.

Research starts with the idea that we can improve care, which can then be tested, improved, and applied to our services directly, shortening the time that it might normally take for new discoveries and innovations to benefit our consumers and carers.

“As we embark on these reforms, it will be critical to listen to the community and understand what people are seeking and to treat consumers with dignity and respect and work together.”

A great example of this is the CALM research trial, funded by the Medical Research Future Fund. This study is led by Associate Professor Adrienne O’Neil from Deakin University’s Institute for Mental and Physical Health and Clinical Translation (IMPACT) with partners at Barwon Health, GMHBA, Diabetes Victoria and the Australasian Society of Lifestyle Medicine. The CALM study is being delivered in partnership with CHIME, as one of its first major projects with the Barwon community. The premise of the study is that the benefits of lifestyle factors such as diet and exercise are widely understood when it comes to physical health and wellbeing, but there is less known about how nutrition and active lifestyle can be used to complement mental health care. The CALM study will build evidence and introduce these adjunctive, innovative therapies alongside traditional therapies, including medication, that are typically used to treat mental health disorders such as depression and anxiety. Researchers and clinicians working together through this study will help us implement the findings with more confidence, determining the long-term need for this type of approach to be provided within routine care, and the funding of the specialised workforce to enact this type of care. While most people know that you feel better after exercise and by eating well, we expect that embedding evidence-based therapies into our clinical



Renae Carolin, interim director of CHIME (Change to Improve Mental Health).

practice will improve mental health outcomes to the same extent as established therapies, such as psychotherapy, after the completion of this trial to enhance recovery and long-term wellbeing.

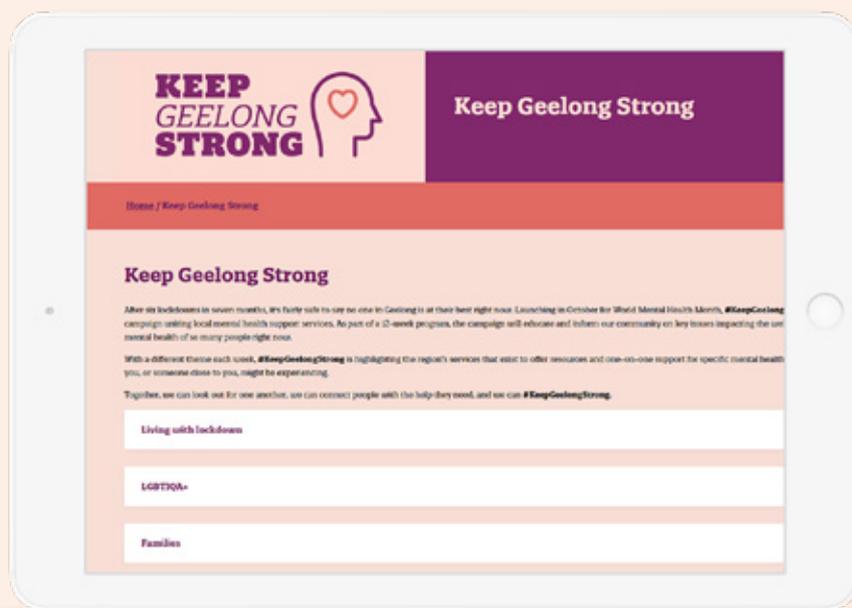
As we acknowledge and address the gaps in treatment and care, it will become increasingly important to open up more opportunities to develop evidence for better treatments, services and diagnostic methods around mental health. CHIME will not only help us build up research capability in these key areas, but it will also aid our efforts to

attract and retain the best mental health clinicians and researchers to our region.

There is much to be excited about at Barwon Health, with new programs and capital works, including the Central Geelong Mental Health Hub, that show a true commitment to improving mental health, and CHIME is a key part of this effort to improve outcomes and opportunities that will enable people in our community experiencing mental ill health to live their best lives.

Mental health services unite to Keep Geelong Strong

Geelong's leading mental health services have combined efforts in a social media campaign to help address the growing concerns for impacts of COVID-19.



Barwon Health led a meeting between 17 services to discuss emerging mental health risks and identify collective actions that can be taken to minimise the effects of isolation in the community. One of the outcomes was #KeepGeelongStrong, a 12-week campaign to highlight the region's mental health services, while offering education, resources and support for issues that are known to rise from the isolation and uncertainty of the pandemic.

The campaign also resulted in a web page at barwonhealth.org.au/keepgeelongstrong where information and resources could be collated for the community. Concluding in December, the campaign had a social media reach of more than 328,000.

Barwon Health Mental Health, Drugs and Alcohol Services clinical director Associate

Professor Steve Moylan said the agencies discussed how the region's mental health services could work together and coordinate resources to support people during such a difficult time.

"We all acknowledge that this is a tough time for our community and our services work better when we work together," A/Prof Moylan said.

"It's encouraging that all these services are committed to working together with government and other agencies to support the mental health of our community.

"We can achieve more as a cohesive unit than we can separately, so it was very helpful to get together and highlight the issues we're all observing."

The alliance includes:

- Wathaurong Health Service
- GenU
- Salvation Army
- Odyssey House
- Headspace
- Barwon Child Youth and Family
- Bethany Family Services
- Drummond Street Services
- General Practice and Primary Care
- City of Greater Geelong
- ermha365
- Mind
- Neami
- Bellarine Community Health
- Wellways

CONSTRUCTION COMMENCES ON MCKELLAR MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING CENTRE



People in the Barwon South West region will soon have more mental health support closer to home, with construction underway on the new McKellar Mental Health and Wellbeing Centre.

The Geelong facility will provide 16 acute mental health beds and community-based care from a contemporary, safe and high-quality hospital setting.

The McKellar Centre site provides a new opportunity for adults who need complementary access to rehabilitation and other healthcare services to support their care.

This project is scheduled for completion in late 2022 and is part of the Victorian Government's commitment to deliver four new acute mental health facilities in Melbourne and Geelong.



Research targets pregnant women to protect babies from RSV

Bree Smith with her son Hudson.

Pregnant women have been invited to join a clinical trial aiming to protect newborn babies against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

RSV is a common virus that can cause bronchiolitis, a potentially severe lung disease, among young babies and people aged 60 and over.

Along with multiple healthcare centres around Australia, Barwon Health is involved in a phase 3 clinical trial to test a vaccine with pregnant mothers, with hopes of passing on antibodies in utero that will protect newborns while they are at the greatest risk of experiencing the most severe effects of RSV.

Each month, there are several babies with bronchiolitis admitted at University Hospital Geelong, with up to two or three babies admitted each day in the peak season in winter. Admitted babies often require several days of care. Adults in good health typically have no severe symptoms from RSV.

Barwon Health paediatric nurse Bree Smith is encouraging pregnant mothers to join the trial, with raw memories of her five-year-old son Hudson admitted to hospital several times as a baby, due to RSV complications.

"He was in the kids ward multiple times, and once in intensive care, from respiratory issues - three times it was caused by RSV," she said.

"Hudson was seven-months-old the first time he got unwell, and he was so sick that I didn't even feel like I had time to call an ambulance.

"He was in hospital for five days and treatments could only reduce the severity of his symptoms. It was confronting to be on the other side of the bed and seeing him with nasogastric tubes, breathing on oxygen, and spending nights in hospital.

"He's thriving now, but he was so unwell at the time that he developed an oral aversion and didn't eat or drink right for a long time."

Bree said she wanted to encourage people to strongly consider joining the trial for peace of mind that they were doing everything they could to protect their babies from RSV.

"I think this clinical trial is a great reassurance to hopefully develop antibodies in utero that will protect children as infants, especially if they have siblings who can bring bugs and germs home from daycare," she said.

"If they can develop antibodies early, they'll be in the best place to thrive and develop normally without the physical and emotional trauma that goes hand-in-hand with a medical illness like bronchiolitis.

"I think parents should ask questions and advocate for their child, and make sure they are comfortable and confident in the knowledge that trials like this are safe and ethically researched."

New services help people with a lived experience of trauma



Dr Carolyn Coulson.

People accessing mental health services will now have access to gold-standard care to treat post-traumatic stress disorder and complex post-traumatic stress disorder.

Experiencing a traumatic event is unfortunately a common experience. Within the Australian population, 57 per cent of people report a history of trauma and this is even higher (88 per cent) amongst consumers receiving support from public mental health services, according to research.

The Mental Health Therapy Service delivers a six-week Body-Brain Connection program for people with symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Sara Young, an Occupational Therapist who co-designed the program, said it was developed to help people better understand the impacts of trauma on their daily lives and to develop a range of skills to manage symptoms including managing strong emotions.

“Facing traumatic memories can be difficult, but this program can be a first step for people to consider further treatment,” she said.

“Feedback has been positive. When asked what advice they would give to another consumer considering the program, one consumer said they had learnt so much about how trauma has shaped their adult life. Another reported feeling the program had helped them develop strategies to help them cope.”

The Mental Health Therapy Service is now expanding services to include direct treatment of PTSD, offering two treatment options; Eye Movement Desensitisation Reprocessing, (known as EMDR) and cognitive processing therapy (CPT).

Dr Carolyn Coulson, senior clinical psychologist and certified EMDR therapist, said that even though trauma is a common experience it is not always assessed or treated when people access supports from public mental health services.

“For the first time, consumers of Barwon Health Mental Health Services will be able to access EMDR to treat their trauma symptoms,” Dr Coulson said.

“EMDR has been shown to be very helpful as a trauma treatment in public mental health services overseas and Barwon Health is leading the way in delivering it within Australian public mental health services.”

Amy Langbein, manager of the mental health therapy service, said improving trauma services for people was identified as a key area for improvement in the recent Royal Commission into the Victorian Mental Health System.

“EMDR and CPT are gold standard treatments for PTSD. We’re really excited to be able to offer this to people in the Geelong community who might otherwise be unable to access this help,” she said.

YEAR OF UPGRADES FOR MEDICAL IMAGING

The pandemic has brought many challenges to medical imaging, including COVID lockdowns and the restriction on external contractors visiting regional Victoria.

Despite these limitations, 2021 was one of Barwon Medical Imaging’s (BMI) most successful years in new equipment installations, including new:

- Philips CT scanner – University Hospital Geelong
- X-Ray Room in the Emergency Department
- image intensifier for theatre
- interventional radiology system

Chief Radiographer Philip Brough said the total value for the equipment was more than \$4 million and BMI was grateful for the contribution from the State Government through the Medical Equipment Replacement Program (MERP).

“The new X-Ray room is allowing us to provide the high-quality diagnostic imaging equipment that helps meet the needs of University Hospital Geelong’s busy Emergency Department,” he said.



BMI staff with the new interventional radiology system.

“The interventional radiology upgrade means we can provide a wide range of procedures, including angiography (stents, angioplasties etc), drainage, biopsies, Selective Internal Radiation Therapy (SIRT) and Transarterial chemoembolisation (TACE) procedures.

“In November, we celebrated the launch of our latest new equipment – the Philips Azurion 7 C20 Flex Arm interventional radiology (IR) system, which has helped facilitate a paradigm shift to reduce patient morbidity, risk and surgery cost among treatments with acute haemorrhage, pulmonary thromboembolism and oncology.”

TELEHEALTH: Access to Care Everywhere

Telehealth not only improves healthcare access - by reducing the distance that consumers travel to receive care, it lowers their travel costs and also the carbon emissions produced.

Telehealth and Climate Research

Research suggests that telehealth reduces our carbon footprint by up to 70 per cent compared to in-person visits. This is not only by the use of video to replace onsite visits, but also moving care to in-home settings where appropriate, with technology used for clinical access and support. Use of Barwon

Health's remote patient monitoring systems has the opportunity to further decrease the carbon footprint in healthcare.

Telehealth Support

Consumers and clinicians continue to be well supported by a dedicated and growing team that support our region's telehealth needs.

Telehealth support officers, coordinators and project lead are based in Dartmoor, Hamilton, Warrnambool, Colac, Mortlake and Geelong.

The staff work closely with clinicians and consumers at local hospitals, community health and bush nursing services, as well as providing support to consumers at home, to enable health care delivery using technology such as video and remote monitoring.

Telehealth ambassadors continue to step up within our region's health workforce by adopting technology to deliver care.

Rachael Hyder's Audiology team demonstrate this continuously, with the most recent service including the use of video call technology to link consumers living in Colac with ENT specialists and audiologists based in Geelong. The visiting Colac Audiology team video call with the Geelong based specialists, ensuring timely assessment and diagnosis of hearing loss.

By using telehealth as part of newborn hearing assessments, the Audiology team is reporting positive parent feedback, expressing gratitude for the timeliness of such consultations that also save time and costs.

TELEHEALTH (VIDEO) DATA

NUMBER OF VIDEO CONSULTATIONS



2016-2017



2017-2018



2018-2019



2019-2020



2020-2021

SAVING APPROXIMATELY:



1,146,000 KM IN PATIENT TRAVEL



AND **167,319 KG CO₂** - EQUIVALENT TO:



2767 TREE SEEDLINGS GROWN FOR 10 YEARS, OR



6342 INCANDESCENT LIGHTS SWITCHED TO LEDS



JUL TO DEC 2021

SAVING APPROXIMATELY:



773,390 KM IN PATIENT TRAVEL



AND **112,916 KG CO₂** - EQUIVALENT TO:



1867 TREE SEEDLINGS GROWN FOR 10 YEARS, OR



4280 INCANDESCENT LIGHTS SWITCHED TO LEDS



BRINGING INCLUSIVITY TO PALLIATIVE CARE

Barwon Health has proudly “come out” with a new LGBTIQ+ specific role that is helping improve life for rainbow families who are receiving palliative care in the region. In a Barwon Health first, this role is specifically focused on improving care for LGBTIQ+ people and their families.

JEN WALSH | BARWON HEALTH PROJECT OFFICER – LGBTIQ+ INCLUSIVE PRACTICE

Palliative Care teams have a unique emphasis on “treating the person” rather than “treating the disease”, and we strive to make sure that patients have every opportunity to live their best life. That’s why this project focused on LGBTIQ+ specific needs is such a good fit in our Palliative Care program. We want patients to feel “seen” as a whole person at the end of their life, and this includes acknowledging, accepting and celebrating their gender identity, sexuality and family.

Palliative Care is available for people of all ages, but it’s true to say that many of our patients are older. For LGBTIQ+ people, being older can bring with it decades of feeling marginalised and they may have mistrust

towards health and mental health services. We want to acknowledge people’s experience so far in their lives, and we want to help them feel safe in our care so they can optimise the time they have remaining with loved ones.

As a member of the LGBTIQ+ community myself, I am listening to every story from LGBTIQ+ elders and every new idea from LGBTIQ+ young people to create an environment of safety and hope. I’ve experienced the frustration of having someone use the wrong pronouns when describing me. It’s also not uncommon for people to assume I have a husband, rather than a same-sex partner. As challenging as these moments are, I have resilience to deal

with them but I know not everyone has that capacity. I want to ensure every LGBTIQ+ person and their loved ones who comes into our care doesn’t have to negotiate the mental gymnastics of constantly coming out or explaining their gender identity.

There is a belief in parts of the community that you need to go to Melbourne to receive good quality inclusive care as an LGBTIQ+ person. Barwon Health wants to change that narrative and it’s really exciting for me to be surrounded by a team of allies who want to be a part of that change. People who live in our region deserve to comfortably die in our region, instead of a long drive away from loved ones.



“It’s great to see some momentum building around inclusivity in healthcare, and as Barwon Health’s palliative care project continues, anyone with lived experience is welcome at the table.”

There is exciting collaborative work happening in this space already. The Hospice Foundation Geelong has funded Barwon Health for this LGBTQI+ project, while we’ve also partnered with LGBTQI+ Health Australia as part of a national project around inclusive palliative care, with the impact already being felt in Geelong. Through their research we are identifying what makes our community feel safe in our services. Things like ensuring our staff have undergone LGBTQI+ cultural safety training, that our language is inclusive, that we use diverse images on our resources, and even things as simple as wearing a rainbow badge.

It’s great to see some momentum building around inclusivity in healthcare, and as Barwon Health’s palliative care project continues, anyone with lived experience is welcome at the table. We are keen to ensure that the entire LGBTQI+ community feels their voice has been heard and that their experience informs how we deliver care more broadly at Barwon Health. We encourage people to contact us if they are interested in contributing to this work. This project is already changing hearts and minds, and it’s an exciting journey to be on.

Barwon Health Surf Coast

Mid-2021, Barwon Health welcomed the State Government announcement of a site for the Torquay Community Hospital, to be known locally as Barwon Health Surf Coast.

Barwon Health Surf Coast will provide a range of community-based healthcare services, responsive to the needs of the local population.

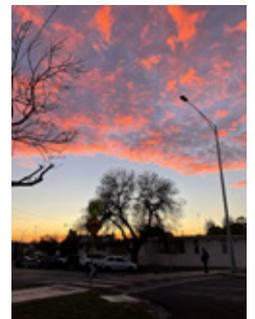
With the region experiencing strong population growth, Chief Executive Officer, Frances Diver says the new service would help address the growing demand for care and provide the local community with the care they need closer to home.

“Barwon Health Surf Coast will improve access to community based services and provide a convenient alternative for many residents currently needing to travel into Geelong for care.

“We look forward to working with the local community to develop this new Facility and deliver health services closer to home”

The service profile will include a range of service types, including specialist clinics, mental health care, community health services and imaging services.

Construction is expected to commence at 110 South Beach Road in Torquay in 2022 and be completed in 2024.



SNAPPED AT UHG

Some lovely early morning photos taken by Dr Margaret Rogers, BSWRICS on her way to work in 2021.



Bendigo Bank House, home to McKellar Kids' Rehab

The Barwon Health Foundation and community-funded Bendigo Bank House, home to McKellar Kids' Rehab, helping local children in need reach their full potential.

The Foundation first launched the Kids Appeal in August 2017 with an aim to raise \$3.6 million to fund the establishment of the state-of-the-art facility and now the dream has been brought to life.

What started as a therapy garden with an initial contribution from Our Women Our Children (OWOC) volunteers has grown to what we have today: the fabulous facility will support hundreds of kids each year including those with traumatic brain injuries, neurological illnesses, spinal injuries, brain tumours, and other conditions such as cerebral palsy.

Until now, children had been conducting their rehabilitation alongside adults in shared spaces and areas not suitable for young people.

These brave and resilient kids, who are working hard every day to achieve their recovery goals, now have a facility just for them.

A special message of thanks must go to the following major contributors:

- **Bendigo Bank**
- Community Bank Lara District
- Community Bank Anglesea, Winchelsea and Lorne
- Community Bank Portarlington and Drysdale
- Community Bank Barwon Heads
- Community Bank Leopold
- Torquay Community Enterprises

- Cotton On
- Gwyneth Raymond Trust
- Eric Young Memorial Golf Day
- Our Women Our Women Volunteers
- TAC

- Fiona & Peter Robertson
- Geelong Advertiser
- G-Force
- NAB Business Banking Centre
- Southern Star Windows
- Tuckers Funeral & Bereavement Service
- Vic Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Winslow Constructors

A full list of special contributors will be celebrated within Bendigo Bank House however we would like to thank the more than 5000 people who have collectively donated the \$3.6m needed to make this dream a reality.

DRY JULY WRAP

The Geelong region toasted its most successful Dry July ever in 2021, generating a record breaking \$165,000 for Barwon Health's cancer services.

Barwon Health Foundation Dry July ambassador Billy Brownless' 'Frothy Fund' finished as the number one fundraising team in Australia, generating a collective \$81,000.

Brownless, an AFL legend and local publican, not only brought energy and enthusiasm to the campaign, but also a lot of heart having lost his own mother to cancer.

Community ambassador Rory Costelloe of Villawood Properties, a board member of the Barwon Health Foundation, notched up an impressive \$31,000 of solo fundraising, \$13,000 of which he donated himself.

A total of 238 people – including Geelong business leaders, past patients and those fundraising in honour of loved ones lost to cancer – gave up alcohol for the month of July to fundraise for their local cancer service.

A huge thank you to our own Kim Evans, Shelley Nielson, and Georgina Hodges of Andrew Love Cancer Centre who raised \$2587, \$2345, and \$1195 respectively along with the Sunrise Superstars team from the rehabilitation centre that raised \$3778.

Funds raised will help to improve the comfort and care of patients accessing cancer care now and in the future through wellness programs such as oncology massage therapy, exercise therapy and art therapy.

It's never too early to start thinking about signing up for 2022! We'd love you to join us for the challenge this July. Keep an eye on the Barwon Health Foundation Facebook page for details.



Dry July ambassador and Geelong football legend Billy Brownless. Photo credit Monika Berry

WISH UPON A STAR CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Maternity services at Barwon Health is now home to a state-of-the-art fetal ultrasound monitor purchased entirely through community support.

The Barwon Health Foundation Wish Upon A Star Christmas Appeal achieved the goal of raising \$250,000 thanks to an overwhelming amount of donations from individuals, businesses and events at the end of 2021.

Generous local organisations came on board as matching partners, doubling the donations made during, and in the 36-hour lead up to, the live-streamed Geelong Connected Communities Gala Christmas Concert.

A donation of \$100,000 from the Geelong Building and Construction Industry Group - which comprises members of the Construction, Forestry, Maritime, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU), the Electrical Trades Union of Australia (ETU), the Plumbing and Pipe Trades Employees Union (PPTU), builders and local and non-local subcontractors - during the broadcast saw the tally soar above the goal to the delight of all those watching on Channel 31 and via Facebook.

The monitor will help the one in 10 women with high risk pregnancies to get the extra scans and expertise they need at Barwon Health, meaning parents will no longer have



The Geelong Building and Construction Industry Group - which comprises members of the CFMEU, the ETU, the PPTU, builders and local and non-local subcontractors - donated \$100,000 to the Wish Upon A Star Christmas Appeal, helping reach the \$250,000 target.

to pay for expensive out of pocket scans or travel to Melbourne for the same care.

It will make a world of difference in many different situations, including those carrying twins, like local new mum and Christmas Appeal ambassador Jade Walker, who need to be more closely monitored.

Also to our regional neighbours in communities like Warrnambool, Portland and Colac who will be able to access their scans and care at Barwon Health rather than also travelling the distance to Melbourne.

This increased access, and in turn the timeliness of care provided, is a game changer for families.

This new technology can also be used to reduce the risk of pre-term birth in women who have a history of premature delivery.

Currently, Barwon Health's neonatal unit is able to care for babies born after 31 weeks, so if we can help get a pregnant mum safely past this gestational milestone, it will mean she can deliver at her local health service closer to home and their all-important support systems.

RUN4GEELONG RETURNS IN 2021

Red Run4Geelong t-shirts could be seen right across the region on Sunday November 13, 2021 when Geelong's favourite community event returns for another year.

The fundraising event, sponsored by the Geelong Advertiser, was a great success despite being in a virtual format for a second year due to the pandemic with \$116,451 raised for the health service, topping the 2020 result.

Fresh from her impressive result at the Tokyo Olympics, local marathon runner Ellie Pashley signed on as an event ambassador alongside former Geelong Cats footballer Tom Longergan, his wife Kim and their three children.

Pashley was the second Australian across the line in the women's marathon in a time of 2:33:39, finishing 23rd overall.

"I actually did the first Run4Geelong, all those years ago when I first moved here," she said.

As well as running professionally, Pashley also works as a physiotherapist and completed a number of her placements at Barwon Health while studying several years ago.

"My sister works at Barwon Health as a physio and lots of my friends are physios there too so I feel like I have a strong connection to the Barwon Health service."

Tom was also personally drawn to the cause, motivated by his own life-saving experience

- the removal of a kidney after an on-field collision - 15 years ago.

There were 1546 participants who took place in the classic 1km, 5km and 10km distances as well as the new 'choose your own challenge option'.

Plus, for the first time ever, the Barwon Health Foundation launched a fun new activation titled RunPawGeelong, encouraging pet owners to register their furry friends in the virtual event with 171 four legged friends getting in on the action.

The Foundation is excited to announce that the event will be returning on Sunday November 13, 2022.



Head chef Adam Peterson, health promotion dietitian Aleksandra Warzel, cafeteria manager Rosa Marino and health promotion officer Rowena Rittinger.

THANK YOUR CLEANER DAY 2021

October 20 was Thank Your Cleaner Day, an international day to acknowledge cleaners and their important work, often done out of sight and out of hours.

The past two years has brought our cleaners into the spotlight, playing a critical role to keep our staff, patients and visitors safe at our facilities.

In October, we said a big thank you to each and every one of our cleaners and let the community know about their behind-the-scenes work that keeps our health service going with a social media post that generated almost 1000 likes.

Environmental Services manager Matthew Elkins said cleaning staff had continuously worked hard throughout the pandemic, particularly with the increased need for infection control.

“The dedication of our Environmental Service staff has ensured the hospital and critical areas are kept clean and safe for staff, visitors and patients,” he said.

“Our Environmental Services team has risen to the challenge during the pandemic and expanded services into additional spaces to keep patients, staff and visitors safe. Our Housekeeping Team has doubled in size and continued to provide a prompt and effective service to all.”

Our journey to zero sugar

Barwon Health is continuing its initiative to remove sugary drinks from the health service, with a plan more than five years in the making.

In 2016, Barwon Health retail outlets and vending machines sold 37,728 sugar sweetened beverages (SSBs) during the year, which was drastically reduced in 2017 as the drinks were removed from its retail outlets and vending machines.

The joint effort from the Food Services team and Healthy Communities Unit has resulted in a healthier workplace, with the majority of drinks in the cafeteria fridges and vending machines remaining non-SSB, meeting the Victorian Department of Health Healthy Choice guidelines.

The Victorian Government has subsequently made the important decision to mandate the removal of SSBs from all Victorian public health services, recently announcing the Healthy Choices: policy directive for public services.

Barwon Health plans to further align our food and drinks supply with the policy directive this year, with Healthy Communities Unit health promotion dietitian Aleksandra Warzel working closely with the Healthy Eating Advisory Service and Food Services teams to increase the offerings of healthy food and drinks, and create a healthier eating environment for all staff, visitors, patients and volunteers.

The joint effort from the Food Services team and Healthy Communities Unit has resulted in a healthier workplace.



Barwon Health cleaning staff.

Shining a spotlight on a crucial cultural workforce

Barwon Health has welcomed a registered Aboriginal health practitioner James Jose to the role of Aboriginal Health liaison officer at University Hospital Geelong.

James joins the Aboriginal Health Team with a deep understanding of the local Aboriginal community where prior to joining Barwon Health James worked at Wathaurong where he actively participated in the COVID-19 vaccine program for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

“We know that better health outcomes are achieved when Aboriginal people are involved in Aboriginal people’s healthcare,” James said.

Barwon Health is proud to continue supporting the value of a culturally strong workforce, recently providing an opportunity for a young Aboriginal midwifery student to complete her first year practical placement.

A local community woman, Kirralee Hogema is also a registered Aboriginal health practitioner who is continuing her journey and passion for Aboriginal Women’s and Children’s Health enrolling in a Bachelor of Midwifery at the Australian Catholic University.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners are the only nationally recognised and regulated Indigenous-based health profession in the world.

This workforce is critical to the delivery of safe and effective health services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities.

The Inaugural National Day of Recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners was celebrated on August 7 2021.



Aboriginal Health liaison officer James Jose.

It was the first time that these important roles have been acknowledged nationally, as a vital, valued and professional component of Australia’s health care system.

Evidence directly connects the roles of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers and health practitioners to improved health outcomes for First Nations People across the life course.

“We know that better health outcomes are achieved when Aboriginal people are involved in Aboriginal people’s healthcare.”

– James Jose

Safewards improves care with therapeutic response

A Safewards pilot program is underway at Barwon Health to minimise behaviours of concern and conflict within medical and mental health wards.



The Bellerine Centre 6 North team heading the Safewards program rollout.

The evidence-based model of practice improvement is currently supported by the Victorian Department of Health and there is a push for the program to be introduced and trialled in Emergency Departments and acute medical wards across the state.

As part of Barwon Health's ongoing commitment to staff and patient safety, the Safewards pilot project is being trialled on Bellerine Centre 6 North (BC6N), with regular staff education and supporting marketing materials provided by the Clinical Education & Training team.

This project has been supported by consumer representative Kymm, who has a keen interest in improving the healthcare environment to support positive outcomes for consumers and their families.

"At the heart of any hospital ward is people – dynamic and diverse, consumer and staff alike, with a mutual goal of improving health outcomes," Kymm said. "Safewards fundamentally empowers all involved to take responsibility for fostering a positive environment and working relationship through collaboration, understanding,

empathy and compassion which ultimately enhances safety for everyone and promotes recovery – it's a win-win."

Sustainability processes have been embedded into the program as well, including the appointment of six "Safewards Champions" and access to ongoing Safewards resources and support materials for staff.

A number of methods will be used to measure the success of the program, including a validated confidence tool to use with staff both pre and post the education roll out.

Addiction Support Specialist Program

Barwon Health's Drug and Alcohol Services have extended the support provided to people seeking medication assisted treatment for opioid dependence (MATOD) through the newly established Addiction Support Specialist Program (ASSP).

The ASSP team consists of an addiction specialist, pharmacotherapy nurse, harm reduction coordinator and an addiction project officer.

The service aims to support consumers in relation to their MATOD treatment and mental health through consultations with an addiction specialist and support GPs to become more confident and competent in treatment consumers with opioid dependence.

The ASSP connects with consumers who might be considering or are currently receiving MATOD, to ensure the program aligns with community and clinician's expectations and

needs and ensure GPs, addiction specialists, drug and alcohol clinicians and workers understand the pathways to treatment.

The ASSP connects with consumers who might be considering or are currently receiving MATOD, to ensure the program aligns with community and clinician's expectations and needs.

GenV launches at Barwon Health

Murdoch Children's Research Institute's innovative GenV research project, one of the world's largest-ever birth and parent cohort studies, commenced at Barwon Health in mid-2021.



GenV has developed a Focus Area Framework comprising six defined areas that frequently impact on children, parents, families and the community.

The first project of its kind in Australia, GenV will give Victoria's research community access to a more complete picture of the health and wellbeing of a generation, providing the insight and information needed across some of the most complex problems faced by families.

The opt-in project uses routinely collected data to follow babies and their parents to help solve problems such as asthma, food allergies, obesity and mental illness.

Barwon Health joins other birthing hospitals across Victoria in offering local families the opportunity to take part in GenV.

Barwon Health Research director, Professor Peter Vuillermin, said Barwon Health was delighted to be part of the project.

"GenV is a once in a generation study that will create an internationally unique resource for understanding the genetic and environmental factors that give kids a health start to life."

BARWON BEST CARE AWARDS 2021

COVID-19 wasn't a barrier for innovation and improvement last year with an impressive number of submissions entered in the annual Barwon Best Care Awards.

The awards recognise effort by individuals and teams to deliver projects and innovative initiatives aligned with the Barwon Best Care principles. With COVID-19 restrictions in place, the award ceremony was celebrated through a series of mini events in December. Congratulations to each of the winners and we acknowledge all the high-quality submissions for 2021.

Day 1: Work Health and Safety & Clinical Education and Training

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY AWARDS

Smart Moves / Smart Lift Trainer of the year award – **Jodie Wilson**

Health and Safety Representative of the year – **Simone Devlin**

Work Health and Safety Leader of the Year – **Kelly Lestrang**

Work Health and Safety Excellence and Innovation award – **Supply Department**

CLINICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING AWARDS

Point of Care Education – **Jane Dalton**

Creativity in Education – **Barwon Health Pharmacy Team**

Education Leadership – **Dr Claudine Banal**

Day 2: Living our Values & Barwon Health Leader of the Year

PEOPLE AND CULTURE LIVING OUR VALUES AWARDS

Respect – **Mikah Broadfoot**

Compassion – **Katrina Gurrie**

Commitment – **Kylie Johnson**

Accountability – **Jessica Talbot**

Innovation – **Harel Marten**

BARWON HEALTH LEADERS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Barwon Health Leader of the Year (1) – **Leesa Ollis**

Barwon Health Leader of the Year (2) – **Rhiannan Parry**

Barwon Health Leader of the Year (3) – **Claire Cattigan**

Day 3: Safety and Quality, People's Choice, Consumer Advisor, Chief Executive Awards

SAFETY AND QUALITY AWARDS

Safe Care (highly commended) – **Specialist Immunisation Service**

Safe Care (winner) **Barwon South West Regional Vaccination: The Light at the End of the Tunnel**

Personal Care (highly commended) – **Vaccinating the Vulnerable: Leave No One Behind**

Personal Care (winner) – **Adult Autism Consultation, Education and Advocacy Project**

Connected Care (highly commended) – **The Peer Personality Program**

Connected Care (winner) – **AAPS: Accommodation and Psychosocial Supports Initiative**

Effective Care (highly commended) – **Remote Patient Monitoring: A Rapid Response, Innovation & Adaptation to the COVID 19 Crisis**

Effective Care (winner) **Barwon South West Public Health Unit Testing Response**

People's Choice Award – **Respiratory Protection Program: Fit Testing for Patient-Facing Staff**

Consumer Advisor Award – **Alison Lewis-Nicholson**

Chief Executive Award – **Public Affairs and Communication Team, special mention to Sara Bonnici**



THE HEART OF THE MATTER

CREATING A PLACE OF SAFETY FOR VICTIM- SURVIVORS

When someone experiences family violence, research tells us the first port of call is family or friends, and the second is a healthcare worker. Healthcare workers are seen as safe and trusted.

KAREN TODD | BARWON HEALTH SOCIAL WORK MANAGER AND STRENGTHENING HEALTH-HOSPITAL RESPONSES TO FAMILY VIOLENCE (SHRFV) LEAD.

Through the work Barwon Health has done to strengthen our response to family violence, people in the community are understanding more and more that we are here for support. There have been a range of improvements within our health service as part of Victoria's key initiative in this field, Strengthening Hospital Responses to Family Violence (SHRFV); an initiative that has been running for three years and was recently extended for an additional year. Regardless of which area of our health service people are accessing, we want everyone to feel supported and cared for their entire healthcare journey.

For Barwon Health, this initiative is about making sure our staff, patients, residents, and consumers experiencing family violence are better cared for. We've run more than 300 education workshops in the past three years in the Barwon South West region, training about 5000 healthcare workers. To better respond to the needs of people impacted by family violence, managers are also working on integrating training into specific areas, such as antenatal/maternity services, which will give our staff greater confidence to ask questions and discuss topics that could highlight cases of family violence.

In addition, training has also been created for staff working in paediatrics to recognise family violence, and we've trained Emergency Department staff in identifying all forms of family violence, including what is known as elder abuse. Since these education programs were launched, we've had feedback that staff feel more empowered to take action when they are concerned, whether that's because they hear things or see signs that may indicate an abusive relationship between a patient and their partner or relative. This means sensitively inquiring whether we can help.

HELP is here

Barwon Health has been changing the culture among our staff, and we will continue to refine our processes to help staff feel more and more comfortable responding to family violence and being able to do it early, not just once it becomes obvious. We're helping staff understand the signs of family violence and elder abuse, and we're linking people with social services and offering support. Healthcare workers ask people about their medical conditions, pain levels, their risk of falling, their medications, and we need to normalise asking about the safety of relationships too.

Recommendations from the 2016 Victoria Royal Commission into Family Violence have changed the way our laws operate, allowing for greater protection over the victim-survivors and their families. Services that care for people can now share information about known incidents or suspicions of family violence, with consent from the victim-survivors. This works both ways – agencies can share information with us, which ultimately helps us keep people safer and link people with the right support services, while respecting the privacy of their health records. Through these changes, we've seen a major difference to our staff's ability to care for patients, particularly with children and vulnerable people experiencing family violence.

As we look ahead, our challenge is to embed these new systems in the health service to sustain what we have achieved over the past three years. By improving this side of healthcare, we can help prevent and better support people affected by family violence, creating a healthier and safer community. If you are attending any of Barwon Health's services and need support for family violence, please let us know.

For information about supports for people experiencing family violence, you can also contact 1800 RESPECT.



Karen Todd and Geordie Stapleton.

Barwon Health is proud to be part of the newly established Health Justice Partnership (HJP) in the Geelong region, aimed at breaking down the barriers between health and legal services.

The partnership, formed between Barwon Health and the Barwon Community Legal Service, launched in July last year with generous funding support from the Anthony Costa Foundation to roll out the Health Enhancing Legal Pathways (HELP) program.

This national model embeds legal help into healthcare services and teams to improve health outcomes for vulnerable people, providing an early intervention point to improve wellbeing by addressing their legal needs.

Health Justice Partnership project co-ordinator Peter Kelly believes there is a real need for this service.

"The HELP program provides an important opportunity for Barwon Health to continue building its capacity to recognise and respond to people experiencing family violence through the specialist legal support provided by Barwon Community Legal Service," he said.

"With the HELP program in place, social workers at Barwon Health will be able to refer clients directly to an onsite lawyer for that specialised legal advice.

"The 12-month pilot program will provide free on-site legal support within the University Hospital Geelong for women experiencing or at risk of family violence, as well as utilise telehealth options to connect patients to legal help.

"Initially the program will be offered to women coming through Barwon Health's Maternity and Paediatric Services with the intention to scale up to other Barwon Health services, as well as other public health services in the Barwon region into the future."

The HELP program could involve providing assistance with Family Violence Intervention Orders and advice on related legal issues such as parenting arrangements, child support, housing issues arising out of family violence, Centrelink, fines or debts, separation or divorce.

Caleb Leitmanis, the Health Justice Partnership lawyer, is working alongside the Social Work team and Aboriginal Health Unit at Barwon Health to offer his expertise.

"Providing a responsive, flexible legal service within the health setting has the ability to increase women's safety in accessing family violence legal support," he said.

"With the HELP program in place, social workers at Barwon Health will be able to refer clients directly to an onsite lawyer for that specialised legal advice."

"The earlier that advice can be provided the better the legal and health outcomes."

For information on the Barwon Health Justice Partnership, contact Social Work manager Karen Todd at karen.todd@barwonhealth.org.au.

Barwon Health researchers to establish Allied Health Cancer Care Clinical Trial Unit



Paul Lightfoot, Philip Campbell and Catherine Williams.

Barwon Health clinician researchers have been awarded over \$500,000 from Cancer Council Victoria, The Victorian Cancer Agency and Western Alliance to build the first regional Allied Health Clinical Trials Unit specialising in Cancer Supportive Care and Survivorship.

This three-year project will bring together cancer care consumers and leaders from three of Barwon Health's most highly regarded clinical and research areas; Allied Health, Cancer Services and Clinical Trials, to design and develop a unique Allied Health Clinical Trials Unit based at the Adrian Costa Clinical Trials Centre.

Catherine Williams, Chief Investigator of the project, is a physiotherapist and Barwon Health's Oncology Rehabilitation Care Coordinator. Catherine recognised that as allied health professionals are important providers of clinical care to people diagnosed with cancer, they are well-placed to identify and investigate potential areas for improvement.

The project team will work with local partnering organisations such as Western Alliance Academic Health Science Centre, Deakin University and Barwon South West Regional Integrated Cancer Service, as well as connecting with the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre Alliance and the Victorian Clinical Trials Education Centre. Milestones will

include the design of a customised clinical trials education and training package for the allied health cancer workforce, and identification of the best strategies for delivery of interventions using virtual care tools and teletrials, to support relationships between metro, regional and rural cancer care providers.

Once allied health clinical trial activity starts, the Allied Health Clinical Trials Unit will support and conduct trials that are initiated by allied health clinician researchers within Barwon Health and across the region, and will build partnerships with other providers of cancer supportive care and survivorship throughout Australia and internationally.

Catherine said clinical trials had typically been associated with new medications and medical interventions.

"We're excited to bring the rigour and support of a Clinical Trials Unit to examine interventions delivered by allied health professionals," she said.

"Our field works closely with people diagnosed with cancer, especially in the areas of supportive care and survivorship, which address the physical, functional, practical, psychological, emotional and spiritual needs of people across all phases of their cancer experience.

"Consumers will be able to access clinical trials in areas such as exercise and cancer, prehabilitation, psycho-oncology, fear of cancer recurrence, chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy, malnutrition and sarcopenia and many more, independent of where they live or where they access their cancer care.

"The project will also support a cultural shift, where skilled allied health professionals such as physiotherapists, exercise physiologists, psychologists, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, dieticians and social workers can see themselves as part of the clinical trials workforce."



BARWON HEALTH THANKS COVID VACCINE RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS

To celebrate International Clinical Trials Day, the Barwon Health Clinical Trials Unit invited their 68 COVID vaccine participants to University Hospital Geelong to celebrate and thank them for their participation.

These participants, aged between 18 and 84, committed to attending regular site visits for vaccinations, blood tests and nasal swabs, contributing to research into a COVID vaccine.

Barwon Health has been running clinical trials successfully for over 25 years, and now with the establishment of the Adrian Costa Clinical Trials Centre, our clinical teams and researchers can better collaborate to strive for improved outcomes.

Clinical trials participant Greg Smith was part of a COVID vaccine trial for the past year. "I got involved in the COVID vaccine clinical trial last year during one of the lockdowns," Greg said.

"I heard the call-out for participants on the radio and thought it would be a good way to contribute to the COVID-19 situation. I would strongly encourage anyone to get involved in clinical trials; it was a great experience and I was well looked after."

Most of modern medicine is a direct result of clinical trials. New interventions for most diseases and conditions, such as cancer, heart disease, high blood pressure and asthma, have been developed through clinical research. Clinical trials often lead to new treatments becoming available that help people to live longer and improve the management of a condition or disease.

If you're interested in participating in a clinical trial, visit the Barwon Health research website [clinical trials page](#).

Barwon Health and Deakin University 2021 Research Awards

Barwon Health and Deakin University are committed to recognising and supporting the next generation of clinician researchers and scientists through the 2021 Barwon Health and Deakin University (BH DU) Research Awards.

BH DU Best Research Paper of the Year

These Awards recognise a research paper of outstanding quality by a Barwon Health and Deakin University scientist and clinician researcher, accepted or published during 2020 and 2021.

Research papers published in peer-reviewed journals are the primary means of sharing scientific findings and advancing knowledge across the international research community, and are an excellent vehicle to view the wide breadth of research being undertaken across Barwon Health and Deakin University.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2021 BH DU Research Paper of the Year:

Ms Kara Anderson, IMPACT & BH Dept of Diabetes & Endocrinology: *Normative data for peripheral quantitative computed tomography (pQCT) bone parameters in Australian men*

Ms Sharyn Milnes, Centre for Quality and Patient Safety Research & BH Intensive Care Unit: *Values, preferences, and goals identified during shared decision-making between*

critically ill patients and their doctors

BH DU Best Research Poster Awards

Posters have long been a valuable opportunity to recognise researcher achievements, communicate findings and stimulate discussion, networking and the exchange of ideas between researchers and their colleagues. Current restrictions prevented us from holding a physical poster exhibition, so we adapted to a virtual poster exhibition format this year.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2021 BH DU Best Research Poster Awards:

ALLIED HEALTH/PHARMACY

Mr Matthew Thackeray: *Lean mass as a risk factor for Intensive Care Unit admission: an observational study*

BASIC SCIENCE

Dr Richard Williams: *Tissue Programmed Hydrogels Functionalized with GDNF Improve Human Neural Grafts in Parkinson's Disease*

IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE

Dr Mary Lou Chatterton: *Telehealth service delivery in an Australian regional mental health service during Covid-19*

MEDICAL

Dr Anand Ganes: *Early revascularization in NonSTEMI*

NURSING

A/Prof Debra Kerr: *Responding to Nurses' Communication Challenges*

POPULATION HEALTH

Ms Behnaz Azimi Manavi: *Is there any association between antipsychotic medications use and bone quality?*

SURGERY

Dr Angela Holmes: *Intravesical OnabotulinumtoxinA. A wonderful tool but are we underestimating urinary retention?*

Barwon Health Senior Medical Staff Group HMO/Registrar Research Prize

Our clinical departments have established research links and programs, and many of our research groups are genuinely world class. Our programs leverage Barwon Health's unique position in providing of whole-of-system and whole-of-life care to a large, diverse and engaged population. This award acknowledges the best research projects conducted by clinical staff at Barwon Health.

Congratulations to the winner of the Barwon Health Senior Medical Staff Group HMO/Registrar Research Prize, **Dr Julia Lim** for her research into Long-term Renal Outcome Post Multimodal Computed Tomography in Stroke Evaluation.

IMPACT TO LEAD NEW NATIONAL NETWORK IN MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH

A new national collaboration to transform the way mental health treatment is developed and tested will be led by IMPACT, with \$12 million support from the Federal Government's Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF).

The Mental Health Australia General Clinical Trial Network (MAGNET) will start as a five-year project that will build Australia's research capacity in adult mental health

Project lead, Professor Michael Berk, Director of the Institute for Mental and Physical Health and Clinical Translation (IMPACT), a Deakin University and Barwon Health collaboration, said "MAGNET will bring together more than 100 of Australia's lead

research institutions, health services and lived experience experts to develop much needed new treatments.

"By creating lasting forums of knowledge and expertise, MAGNET will drive prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment and recovery in mental health and also provide the very costly, specialised resources needed to run the most ambitious, diverse clinical trials.

"Our goal is to improve mental health in Australia and around the world," Professor Berk said.

MAGNET includes researchers, consumer and carer groups, practitioner Colleges, research



Professor
Michael Berk.

peak bodies, health systems and industry partners, insurers and Government agencies across all mental health conditions, from psychosis to eating disorders to addiction.

To take care of others, start by taking care of yourself



Dr Margaret Somerville.

Sarah wasn't aware stress was impacting her health until she noticed she rarely felt refreshed after a full night's sleep and her jaw felt tight and clenched when she woke up each day.*

As a healthcare worker, she had been weathering the storm of COVID-19 with a stoicism typical of her colleagues. Coming home exhausted after a long day at work, Sarah had started to prioritise the couch over her regular exercise routine and take-away food over the effort of a healthy meal. The pandemic had made it hard to catch up with friends and debriefing with her team mates outside of work was nearly impossible.

"I was keeping it all inside," she said.

"My head was above water but my legs were pedalling like mad just to keep me there. I didn't have access to my usual stress outlets like talking and relaxing with my friends."

What Sarah hadn't realised, was the impact that external stressors had on her ability to handle her usual stress levels. From adapting to constant change within her workplace, the constant stream of pandemic related media and social media and the underlying, ongoing worry about the health of her family and

friends; Sarah's usual strategies to cope with stress just weren't enough.

Barwon Health StaffCare GP Dr Margaret Somerville said this was a common theme with her patients over the past year.

"Healthcare workers are notoriously bad at putting their own health first," she said.

"They are extremely resilient and stoic, which is usually an admirable trait. However, when you place a pandemic on top of the usual stressors of working in health care, the consequences can be mental health issues such as burnout, depression, anxiety and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)."

Fortunately, Sarah took a simple step to look after her own health before it progressed to a crisis point.

"I'd already downloaded the EAP app on my phone to show a colleague, never thinking I would have to use it myself. But that morning when I woke up with the sore jaw from subconsciously clenching my teeth while I slept, I knew it was time to do something."

Barwon Health offers in-house healthcare services for staff at the StaffCare clinic. But following feedback from staff, has recently expanded the service by engaging Converge International to provide a free Employee

Assistance Program (EAP). Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week the confidential service offers three free counselling sessions with a qualified and experienced counsellor. Using the EAP Connect app, Sarah made her booking while she was still in bed.

"I wasn't sure what to expect so I sent an enquiry, put in the day and time I preferred and asked that they email me. I wanted time to think it through. They replied quickly and helped choose the right counsellor for me."

"Healthcare workers are notoriously bad at putting their own health first."

Over the next few months, Sarah met her counsellor virtually on video calls. Using solutions-focussed counselling, Sarah felt supported

and empowered to start to resolve both personal and work-based issues and explored helpful strategies that worked for her.

"I learnt a lot about the best coping strategies for me and how to maintain my resilience. I realised that if I want to look after others, then I need to look after myself first."

The EAP is available for free to all Barwon Health staff. Find out more about the **EAP on the StaffCare One Point page** or head to **Converge International**. GP appointments are also available onsite at the StaffCare clinic.

**Name changed to maintain privacy.*

Staff acknowledgements



Dr Daniel Henry.

IMPACT researchers excel

Congratulations to Barwon Health researchers Professor Michael Berk, A/Professor Olivia Dean, Professor Felice Jacka and Professor Alison Yung, who have been named on Clarivate's annual Highly Cited Researchers list, along with their Deakin IMPACT partners Dr Andre Carvalho and Dr Michael Maes. Clarivate is a global leader in providing trusted insights and analytics and this list recognises the true pioneers in their research field.

Senior Medical Staff Group awards annual honours

The Barwon Health Senior Medical Staff Group (SMSG) supports medical education and research by funding awards and prizes via Barwon Health's collaborative work with Deakin University. In late-2021, the group awarded Emergency Department director Dr Belinda Hibble and interventional radiologist Dr Andrew Owen with the Hasan Al-Kayyat award.

Dr Cameron Jeremiah and Dr Tom Read received the Richard Hallowes prize for excellence in postgraduate clinical teaching, awarded by junior medical staff to the senior medical staff who they deem to be the best teacher throughout the year.

The HMO/Registrar Research award was presented to Dr Julia Lim for her research into *Long-term Renal Outcome Post Multimodal Computed Tomography in Stroke Evaluation*. In second place was Dr Kirk Underwood for his research into the alcohol withdrawal scale's use with post-operative patients.

In 2021, the SMSG also donated \$10,000 to ANZGITA – supporting improved health in the people of developing Asia-Pacific nations by enhancing the standards of practice of gastroenterology, and building capacity to treat digestive diseases by developing and implementing a remote mentoring endoscopy project in Palau.

Barwon Health Medical Education & Training Prizes

INTERN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Presented at the recent Barwon Health Grand Round and Research Webinar finale, December 7.

Awarded to the intern who has upheld the Barwon Health values and recognises outstanding clinical acumen, diligence, high work ethic, innovative ideas, excellent communication and professionalism demonstrated throughout the first year of practice.

- Dr Daniel Henry

CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION

Awarded to the following Interns for an outstanding first year of practice:

- Dr Bridey Roddis
- Dr Sharon Del Vecchio
- Dr Tumi Yusuf
- Dr Anna Burger
- Dr Kylie Yan
- Dr Joe Kilby
- Dr Rory Fairbairn
- Dr Hugh Fleet
- Dr Larissa Kasian

Below: SMSG chair Dr Andrew Whan with joint winners of the Richard Hallowes prize for 2021, Dr Cameron Jeremiah and Dr Tom Reade.



Length of Service

Congratulations to the following staff who celebrated Length of Service milestones between *January and May 2021!*

10

years

Sue Streat	Coll Morrison	Chris Woollard	Gwenda Gaffney	Diane Millard	Alice Halliwell
Ellen McGann	Maria Fernandes	Lisa Charlton	Lucy Paunga	Debbie Kearney	Roz Bensted
Irene Long	Kerri Tascas	Connie Lombardo	Maria Bozinovska	Peter Bampfield	Jessica Morgan
Merryn Philpott	Ann Saddington	Narelle Faulkner	Mylf McKenzie	Peta Pocock	Loida Deocampo
Katie Jones	Tonia Doyle	Libby Ocasic	Louise Hall	Clare Robinson	Jodie Benson
Meghan Jenkins	Maree Booth	Amy King	Zac Janev	Michaela Gregory	Dijana Dessanti
Terri Hayden	Craig Jones	Donna Woolfson	Daniel Moorfoot	Sarah Fuller	Stef Tripodi
David de Been	Sabina Thomas	Belinda Wakefield	Justin Ludowyk	Danni Flowers	Shae Thewlis
Angela Petrovic	Heather Ellis	Nicola Young	Maddison Crabbe	Sarah Durran	Dannii Cox
Laura Shawcross	Lisa Rankin	Laura McIntosh	Denise Donaldson	Andrew Scott	Meg Gallagher
Trudi Duckett	Ruth Peterson	Zeta Henderson	Simone Connolly	Pene Nevett	Melissa Judd
Murray Hilder	Ange Williams	Jaimie Simpson	Kimberley Barry	Lucy Range	Erlia Tandiono
Jacqui Gray	Sam Watts	Ellie Shirfield	Kirsty Liddle	Margaret Rogers	Cindy Dhull
Susannah Mahar	Georgia Duffy	Tammy Bubb	Sanja Zilavec	Ben Harrison	Mari-anne McMaster
Sheryl Horton	Sophia Katsenos	Jo Read	Michelle Johns	Erandi Jayawickrama	Annie John
Donna Killeen	Daniel Borenstein	Tiffany Hodgson	Jodi Parke	Ed Miller	Carla Jabornik
Danielle Carse	Rebecca Poje	Megan Lee	Julie Parsons	Amy Wark	Rhiannon Dent
Belen Castro - Wallbridge	Cheng-hon Yap	Phillip Allen	Johannah Menzies	Natalie Meggs	Jessica Lewis
Angela Langsford	Marlene Stapper	Louise Skeen	Marie Ellis-Bird	Brigid Roberts	Laura Jolly
Sam Bobbiligama	Claire Taprell	Katrina Sinfield	Yvonne Farmer	Roschelle Brown	Chris Morton
Donna Soraghan	Paul Dodemaide	Benjamin Goodfellow	Sandra Sharp	Saul Culican	Peter Eastman
John Regalado	Rachel McCoy	Rachel Wilson	Judy-ann Gardner	Lucy Nelson	Carol Spivey
Dianne Hutchins	Jean Moller	Lee Pereira	Maree Coulson	Megan Van Zyl	Hannah Pohl
Lynda Bennett	Shelley Nielson	Suzie Lazovic	Dianne Langdon	Caroline Ashton	Michael Buckingham
Hayley Carruthers	Susan Bodger	Melanie Jackson	Susie Wood	Annette Hanns	Mervyn Ferdinands
Anna Richardson	Carly Delmenico	Peter Davis	Jennifer Buchanan	James Willett	Hon Yew Leong
Lauren Smids	Russell Fox	David Bridson	Bruno Marafioti	Kylie Wilkinson	Laura Eastwood
Katherine Ryan	Michael Sheridan	Ian Garratt	Jason Gioffre	Lisa Woodmason	Ashleigh Farquharson
Nichola White	Angie Smith	Eden Koch	Karen McQuitty	Keisha Guilmartin	Teagan Simms



years

Lauren Langley
Britt Gavin
Tamara Gugger
Michelle Alford
Annie De Beer
Jess Gerada
Emily Starkey
Karina Horne
Alice King
Laura Macleod
Cherry O'Toole
Sarah McKeegan
Jessica Ollis
Emily Olschowka

Tess Bradley
Catherine Foss
Bettina Brinfield
Michelle Edwards
Lynne Greskie
Melissa Gething
Peter Fleet
Theresa Britt
Karen Roberts
Sieglinde Williamson
Christine Hansen
James Hadden
Sean Kearns
Phillip Wallbridge
Stephen Lunn
Mark Cheel
Kate Doyle
Kylie Milward
Anthena Dowd
Shanelle Templeton
Anthea Stahl
Donna Laurents
Maureen Harmer
Belinda Picak
Helen Bosevski
Carolyn Dreher
Heather Chiller
Rachel Driscoll
Laura Rutherford

Jodie Long
Heather McSparron
Colleen Sullivan
Carol Ploeger
Brooke Bufton
Belinda Cambridge
Kate McMaster
Ann-Maree Redden
Shirley Grundy
Wendy Doppler
Joy Chamberlain
Leonie Neal-Dawson
Michelle Whittaker
Nadine Tomlins
Teresa Arico
Karyn Folwell
Rosina Wilson
Inge Jolly
Tina Ough
Jennifer McCully
Veronica Kelly
Anne Hilber-Gallina
Alison Guida
Anthony McDonald
Kate Cranny
Jackie Williams
Lisa O'Keefe
Tracy Lanyon
Debbie Grundell

Leanne Hume
Sarah Huntly
Mary Patterson
Karina Mutsaerts
Merle Wallis
Christine McGill
Malcolm Ross
Lynette Boyd
Karen Ralph
Leanne Parker
Debra Torrance
Jenny Luck
Paula Kilinski
Tara Kimberley
Brooke Gostelow
Sarah Brooks
Kerrie Jenkin
Steven Ball
Sonya Howard
Chaya Lewry
Diana Bortoletto
Naomi Davis- Smith
Brooke Wauchope
Yvonne McNeel
Benjamin Jubb
Gillian Powell



years

Irene Sady
Emily Prewett
Claire King
Debbie Horoba
Maria Prestas
Kerry Lane
Andrea Collins
Deborah Smink
Lisa Royce
Tanny Ooi
Monica Miller
Ana Banovac
Cheryl Church
Margaret Bradshaw
Tim O'Keefe
Henriette Mair
Gail Silaev
Katrina Meesen



years

Martin Avery
Carol Kenworthy
Rafael Kucic

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



**Barwon Health
Foundation**

\$5.31 million
total funds raised in 2021

