

# Auricle

EDITION 2 / 2024



## *Barwon Early Parenting Centre supporting families with young children*

06

*ICU celebrates 10-year  
anniversary*

10

*Specialist dementia support  
for aged care residents*



13

*Enhanced dental care  
for people of the north*

19

*Podcast explores health in  
pregnancy and post birth*

# CONTENTS

- 02 Message from the Chief Executive
- 03 **WHAT'S NEW**
  - Delta Dogs bring canine comfort to cancer treatment
  - Student artwork a boost to hand hygiene compliance
- 04 People Plus Recruitment launched
  - Colourful display marks National Palliative Care Week
- 05 Barwon Early Parenting Centre opens at McKellar Centre
- 06 ICU celebrates 10-year anniversary
- 07 Enhanced dental care for people of the north
- 08 Expanded women's pain clinic
  - Barwon Health joins Geelong IDAHOBIT event
- 09 Ivy thriving thanks to paediatric diabetes care
- 10 Specialist dementia support for aged care residents
- 11 Deakin graduates now call Geelong region home
- 12 Women in Community Life Award for Leadership in Women's Health
- 12 Strategic partnership targeting sexual discrimination in workplace
- 13 **DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT**
  - Mental Health, Drugs and Alcohol Dietetics
- 15 Barwon Health celebrates sustainable dishwashing solution
- 16 Training course attracts international emergency trainees
- 17 New model of care for patients with gestational diabetes
- 18 Project works to improve diabetic outcomes for fasting patients
- 19 Podcast explores health in pregnancy and post-birth
- 20 Barwon Health benefits from Good Friday Appeal Regional Funding Initiative
- 21 Walk on Country provides team with richer understanding
- 22 First Nations consumers and youth leaders provide feedback to shape project
- 22 Community gathers to launch public health plan

## News in Research

- 23 Barwon Health to lead life-changing cancer clinical trials
- 24 Art captures spirit of discovery in trial research
- 24 Dr Renée Sheedy Scholarship ceremony celebrates allied health research
- 25 FlashGM trial partners with Wathaurong
- 26 Training program to boost local women's health specialists
- 26 Prompt delivers document solutions to remote services
- 27 Planning and partnerships key to surgical success
- 27 Event shines light on mental health stigma

## Barwon Health Foundation

- 28 House4Health charity auction
- 28 A lasting legacy of hope and healing

- 29 Length of Service

*Cover image: Delilah, seven months, and Barwon Health paediatrician Dr Brooke Doherty at the Barwon Early Parenting Centre launch.*



[www.facebook.com/barwonhealth](https://www.facebook.com/barwonhealth)



[www.x.com/barwonhealth](https://www.x.com/barwonhealth)



[www.instagram.com/barwon\\_health](https://www.instagram.com/barwon_health)



[www.linkedin.com/company/barwon-health](https://www.linkedin.com/company/barwon-health)

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

## Fun facts

Barwon Health's  
Central Processing  
Unit at the  
McKellar Centre:

Produces around  
**2600 meals** per day  
(or 950,000 per year)

Washes more than  
**7.5 million** individual  
items of cutlery and  
crocery per year

Uses approximately  
**1 million** litres of  
water a month

Requires **six staff** to  
effectively operate  
dishwashing units

Read more about the  
new, state-of-the-art  
dishwashing units on page 15.

## Message from the Chief Executive



*Dear colleagues,*

*I'm happy to say we've made it through a very busy winter and flu season, which naturally impacts the demand on many of our services, including people seeking care through our urgent and emergency care centres. I'd like to thank everyone who has worked hard to help maintain our excellent standard of care throughout this period.*

It's been an exciting few months for capital works at Barwon Health, with various key projects launching after a lot of work in the planning and construction phases. We've recently accomplished some remarkable milestones thanks to government investments and community support, including the relocation of our dental service to Barwon Health North, our Specialist Dementia Care Program at Blakiston Lodge, the Barwon Early Parenting Centre, and most recently our Central Geelong Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub on Moorabool Street. It's been pleasing to see how these new facilities have improved and expanded the excellent services we provide to our community in a time when demand only seems to grow.

Mental Health, Drugs and Alcohol Services recently celebrated the beginning of construction at our YPARC (Youth Prevention and Recovery Care) site in South Geelong, which will be a fantastic service to support young people in their recovery goals.

We have made enormous progress to reduce our planned surgery waiting list, ensuring almost all patients who need surgery are treated in the clinically recommended time. This has been a team effort with close collaboration across services, as well as with GPs and our health partners in the community.

We've been navigating a period of careful budgeting, and while we remain prudent and resourceful, I want to give an assurance that our commitment to providing exceptional care remains the unchanged. Your unwavering dedication to patient care is the reason Barwon Health is in a such strong position and you have my sincere appreciation for your resilience through any challenges that come our way.

Let's continue to work together as a team to ensure Barwon Health remains a leader in delivering exceptional care to the community.

Thank you for all that you do.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frances Diver'.

**Frances Diver | Chief Executive**





# DELTA DOGS BRING CANINE COMFORT TO CANCER TREATMENT

*In June, Barwon Health welcomed a special four-legged visitor to help raise spirits.*

Willow the golden retriever and her owner Hilary from Delta Therapy Dogs stopped by the Andrew Love Cancer Centre and the Baxter 6 oncology unit, bringing smiles and joy to patients and staff.

Delta Therapy Dogs is a national non-profit organisation that helps animals and people bring joy to each other. Willow's tail didn't stop wagging as she made new friends and got plenty of pats and belly rubs.

These visits are part of the Wellness Lounge's activity program. The Wellness Lounge is a supportive and welcoming space within the Andrew Love Cancer Centre that offers extra support for patients during difficult times. The inclusive space has a garden, quiet rooms and weekly activities such as arts and crafts and mindfulness exercises.



*Pictured: Hilary Bouma from Delta Dogs with Willow.*

## STUDENT ARTWORK A BOOST TO HAND HYGIENE COMPLIANCE

*The creative works of Grade 3 and 4 students at Montpellier Primary School are giving a friendly hand hygiene reminder to Emergency Department staff.*

Emergency medicine consultant Dr Mark Henderson championed the project and involved school students as a colourful and innovative way to remind staff of the importance of hand hygiene.

"Students came up with some very clever taglines and have brightened up the department with their artwork," Mark said.

A pre and post implementation audit was conducted to determine if the campaign improves hand hygiene rates amongst staff.



*Pictured: Clinical support nurse Rhoda Jamieson and emergency medicine consultant Dr Mark Henderson.*

## PEOPLE PLUS LAUNCHED

*Barwon Health has launched a new Human Resources Information System (HRIS), People Plus.*

This marks a significant milestone towards digital systems and efficient human resources processes for our organisation. People Plus is a contemporary, cloud-based, and integrated system modernises the way Barwon Health manages workforce data and people-related processes.

People Plus Recruitment module was implemented in April 2024 at Barwon

Health, replacing Mercury eRecruit as the recruitment platform. This implementation has improved candidate and employee experience, supporting Barwon Health's work towards building a modern way of supporting our skilled workforce.

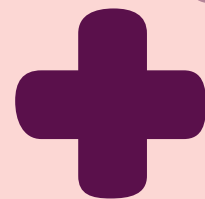
People Plus Professional Development Review module was also launched in July 2024 as the Mercury ePerformance system also became obsolete.

People Plus project sponsor Tracy Gilligan said the new Professional Development Review process is crucial to supporting Barwon Health's commitment to investing in staff learning and development.

"This change will give our staff more opportunity to create goals to contribute to personal, team and Barwon Health success," she said.

"We're already seeing some changes thanks to the benefits of People Plus, and we're looking forward to its full implementation over the coming months."

The new PDR module creates a seamless online process that promotes employee development through setting defined goals and positive employee-manager conversations.



## COLOURFUL DISPLAY MARKS NATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE WEEK

*People visiting the McKellar Centre or the University Hospital Geelong cafeteria may have noticed some cosy, colourful trees, park benches and walls between 19 – 25 May in recognition of National Palliative Care Week.*

To raise awareness, the palliative care team, volunteers and community members created a series of yarn bombings. Through these bright and colourful displays, the goal was to encourage conversations, or 'yarns', about palliative care.

Palliative care is specialised care that helps people live well with a life-limiting illness, aiming to improve quality of life, reduce pain and distress, and provide comfort and care for patients. It is a holistic approach to care, including the patient and families and a huge team of medical, nursing and allied health professionals, administration staff and volunteers.

Palliative Care clinical nurse consultant Ruth Morrison said the team wants to help patients focus on the things that bring them calm and joy within the chaos of a terminal diagnosis.



*"We want people to see that palliative care is not darkness as many people see it," she said.*

*"It can be a time of positivity when the team work together for those in the final stages of their lives."*

*Pictured: Palliative Care staff and volunteers after yarn bombing the space outside the Community Palliative Care Unit.*

# Barwon Early Parenting Centre opens at McKellar Centre



Pictured L-R: Grovedale parents Blair Taylor and Courtney Asser with seven-month-old daughter Delilah and Barwon Health paediatrician Dr Brooke Doherty.

*The Barwon Early Parenting Centre (EPC) welcomed the first families in May, offering support for parents of young children in the Barwon South West region.*

The multi-disciplinary team at the Barwon EPC, including maternal child health nurses, allied health staff and doctors, offers care for parents and carers of children aged 0-4 with additional needs, such as feeding, sleeping and developmental behaviours.

The new service, located in North Geelong at the McKellar Centre, will help provide early intervention when families need it, with support during the vulnerable period of a child's early years.

The service aims to enhance the parent-child relationship and equip families with the tools they need to thrive.

Clinical director for Women, Children and Families directorate Associate Professor Dave Fuller said there was a growing demand for the vital support services Barwon Health provides to families of young children.

**“The early years of parenting can be some of the most memorable and cherished times in our lives, but it’s common for this period to come with new challenges and unique difficulties,” he said.**

“This expansion provides access to help that hasn’t been available without travelling to Melbourne, which is an added difficulty for families experiencing challenges with their infants.

“The Barwon EPC will link with existing child and family services available at University Hospital Geelong, as well as the services available at Barwon Health North and Bendigo Bank House, home to McKellar Kids’ Rehab.”

The Barwon EPC provides a residential program for 10 families each week, as well as day stay programs and specialist clinics.

**For more information, please call 4215 5920 or visit [barwonhealth.org.au/services-departments/barwon-early-parenting-centre](https://barwonhealth.org.au/services-departments/barwon-early-parenting-centre).**







# ICU celebrates 10-year anniversary

*Staff from Barwon Health's Intensive Care Unit (ICU) celebrated their 10-year anniversary on 13 June, marking the date the new ICU was officially opened.*

In 2014, the new ICU doubled the physical size of the existing unit, with ICU staff being consulted in the design phase to influence the layout of their new workspace.

Admitting around 1500 patients a year, the ICU at University Hospital Geelong is a 24-bed medical, surgical and cardiothoracic unit that treats adults and children. The unit also has an ECMO (extracorporeal membranous oxygenation) service to treat patients with heart and lung failure.

ICU director Claire Cattigan said more than 16,000 critically ill patients had received care over the past 10 years.

"The opening of our new ICU in 2014 introduced more extensive support for critical patients at Barwon Health, including a paediatric service that has treated more than 1200 patients, the evolution of our nurse-led ECMO program, and the ability to attend almost 22,000 rapid response calls to the inpatient wards through our outreach service," Dr Cattigan said.

"More modern technology and facilities has been a huge improvement, while patient care has become much more a shared decision-making process, where the patient or their family is given much more information about their illness and treatment options.

**"We rely on high quality research trials, many that we have participated in, that help inform patients. We continue to see improvements in life support technologies that are available, allowing critically ill patients to be supported and even undergo surgery or other procedures as needed."**

*Pictured: ICU staff indulged in an afternoon of treats and reminisced on memories and achievements over the past 10 years.*

# ENHANCED DENTAL CARE FOR PEOPLE IN THE NORTH

*A new dental facility has officially opened at Barwon Health North, relocating the service from Corio Community Health Centre to a modern, purpose-built space.*

This move was made possible by a \$5.3 million investment, backed by the Victorian State Government and a multi-million dollar contribution from donors to Project North, the Barwon Health Foundation's community fundraising campaign.

Since its relocation to Norlane, staff and patients have welcomed the modern, spacious setting, brighter ambience and improved accessibility for families, interpreters, and caregivers.

Barwon Health oral health director A/Prof Michael Smith said locating the dental service at Barwon Health North was helping connect patients to other services, such as the Urgent Care Centre and specialist clinics at the facility.

"Corio was one of the first community health centres and has served the local community very well for 50 years, but it was time for this service to move to a clinic that is better equipped to meet contemporary standards for dental care," he said.

"We know poor oral health is associated with many other health conditions, so improving access to dental care for people in the northern suburbs is an important step towards enhancing the health and wellbeing of our community.

**"We're grateful for the support of the donors, and government funding, which has enabled us to realise this vision of modernised dental care that meets contemporary standards and addresses the evolving needs of our community."**

Barwon Health Foundation acting executive director Francis Trainor said he was proud to see the fundraising efforts of the community, supporters and partners come to fruition for the Project North Appeal.

"This campaign was all about providing that extra level of support to the people of Geelong's northern suburbs, who deserve the very best health and wellbeing," he said.

"Our \$2 million contribution to the new Barwon Health North dental facility is a prime example of the value of philanthropy and how co-funding can help significant projects for the community be established quickly.

"We're so thankful for all who donated to this appeal, in support of healthier futures for our community."



*Pictured: Team leader/dental prosthetist Sonya Howard, dentist Dr Shirley Chong and dental assistants Sima Hussein and Lulu Yohel*



## EXPANDED WOMEN'S PAIN CLINIC

*Women in our region will benefit from an expanded pelvic pain clinic at Barwon Health.*

Women's health clinics are being expanded and established across the state, following the Victorian Government's announcement of \$3.5 million in funding over the next four years.

The pelvic pain clinic at Barwon Health treats several women's health conditions, such as pelvic pain, polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), endometriosis and menopause.

The expansion of this service means that more local women in our community can receive treatment closer to home and the clinic will have more specialists, physiotherapists, nurses, psychologists and allied health staff.

Barwon Health gynaecologist and Pelvic Pain Victoria president Dr Marilla Druitt said a third of referrals to see a gynaecologist were for pelvic pain.

*Pictured: Dr Marilla Druitt.*

*"This funding will allow more females to receive free public healthcare for their pain," Dr Druitt said.*



## Barwon Health joins Geelong IDAHOBIT event

*On 17 May, Barwon Health collaborated with the City of Greater Geelong and other local organisations to host the annual Geelong IDAHOBIT Day event at the Geelong Arts Centre.*

IDAHOBIT Day (International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia) coordinates international events to raise awareness of LGBTIQ+ rights and violations and stimulate interest in LGBTIQ+ rights work worldwide.

Keynote speaker Beyond Blue chief executive officer Georgie Harman shared her story and delved into the intersection of mental health and the LGBTIQ+ community, offering insights, strategies and support to promote wellbeing and inclusivity.



*Pictured: Barwon Health staff at the IDAHOBIT Day event.*



## Ivy thriving thanks to paediatric diabetes care



*Pictured: Ivy, now 19 months, and mum Maisie Tegelhuter, pictured with Barwon Health paediatric nurses Jackie King and Drew Aitkens, and emergency registrar Dr Anna Mysliborski.*

*Following comprehensive care from staff at Barwon Health, 15-month-old Ivy Tegelhuter was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes and is now thriving.*

Ivy's mother Maisie knew something was wrong with her daughter in March when she started soaking through her overnight nappies, became irritable, fatigued, thirsty, and lost some of her motor skills and appetite.

After blood tests confirmed Ivy's type 1 diabetes, staff in Barwon Health's Emergency Department (ED) and Children's Ward were able to swiftly intervene, stabilising her blood sugar levels and providing her parents with invaluable support and education.

Grovedale resident Maisie said ED staff promptly treated Ivy and began the process that would see her return to her usual active self.

"Once Ivy was stable, we were sent to the kids ward for about five days where we could find the therapeutic range for her insulin and install the CGM (continuous glucose monitor) on her arm," she said.

"The level of care, consideration and thoughtfulness for both my husband, myself and Ivy was second to none."

Maisie said Ivy's spirits remained high throughout their hospital stay, transforming the medical environment into a familiar and comforting space.

**"Ivy loved being here on the kids ward. There's a really nice feeling and it's great that kids don't have to think of it as a scary place."**

"We were able to spend time with the diabetes educators and paediatricians to make sure everything was understood and there wouldn't be any issues managing Ivy's insulin at home.

"It was a lot to take in, but we never felt like we were left alone. We had a lot of support and the nurses were absolutely amazing.

"We cannot thank the team at Barwon Health enough – they saved Ivy's life."

While genetic factors contributed to Ivy's diagnosis, there were early warning signs that helped her GP make the call to order blood tests.

Senior emergency registrar Dr Anna Mysliborski treated Ivy at University Hospital Geelong and said early detection was crucial

to both manage type 1 diabetes and prevent its potentially life-threatening complications.

"It made a big difference that Ivy's GP made a referral for blood tests, which started her diagnosis and treatment journey," Dr Mysliborski said.

"Some of the common signs to look out for in children include increased thirst and urination, weight loss, fatigue and weakness, irritability, and behavioural change.

"If you notice any of these symptoms in your child, it's important to seek medical advice from your GP."

While adjusting to life with a diabetic toddler has its challenges, Maisie said Ivy, now 19-months-old, was enjoying her return to daycare and had made progress since improving her health and wellbeing.

"There's a lot of meal prep and you have to count carbs to make sure you're organised, so it is a lot of work and you don't get days off, but it's worth every bit of effort when you see how healthy and happy she is now.

"Rather than having these energetic swings, she's stable, healthy, and flourishing. Since the diagnosis, she's able to grow and play and catch up to other kids."





# Specialist dementia support for aged care residents

*Barwon Health's new aged care dementia service is offering specialised residential care to people with severe behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia.*

The new service at Blakiston Lodge, based at the McKellar Centre in North Geelong, has nine beds dedicated to transitional care, funded through the Commonwealth Government's Specialist Dementia Care Program (SDCP).

Residents will stay for up to 12 months, receiving specialist support and a purpose-built environment to help manage their symptoms, with the aim to return to their usual aged care residence.

This new service is one of 10 across Australia, and is Victoria's first public SDCP, as well as the first one based in a regional area in Victoria.

Blakiston Lodge facility manager Roz Nolan said specialised care improved quality of life for people living with dementia who find mainstream aged care difficult.

"Severe dementia doesn't have to lead to being isolated and restricted, so like any chronic illness, we want to see people achieve the best possible outcomes," she said.

"Our specialist team can care for residents in a conducive home-like environment that will support their transition, both in and out of this new facility over a period that can take between three and 12 months."

*"We are committed to collaborating with Dementia Support Australia to ensure comprehensive support for individuals living with severe dementia."*

*Pictured: Barwon Health chief executive Frances Diver, HammondCare Dementia Centre national projects team leader Miranda Gretgix, Blakiston Lodge facility manager Roz Nolan, Shane Thomas from Federal Department of Health and Aged Care, and State Member for Lara Ella George.*







*Pictured: Deakin graduates Rosie Neville-Jones holding baby Imogen and Claire Emson.*

## Deakin graduates now call Geelong region home

*Opportunities to study health degrees in Geelong are improving the region's retention of healthcare professionals.*

Claire Emson moved to Geelong from New Zealand five years ago and recently graduated with a Master of Philosophy from the School of Medicine.

She plans to continue her studies to PhD level with the same supervisor and virologist Professor John Stambas, citing Barwon Health and Deakin University's research partnership as a factor in her decision.

**“Geelong has a massive research culture, strengthened by the University's partnership with Barwon Health,” Claire said.**

“My main area of research is viral immunology, where I specifically focus on understanding how our body's proteins can be harnessed to improve outcomes for influenza patients.

“Our aim is to add a new intervention to current available therapies that are focused solely on the virus.”

Two years ago, Rosie Neville-Jones moved to Geelong from Melbourne to study psychology at Deakin University.

Now, with a Master of Psychology (Clinical), a partner and a new baby, she has no plans to leave.

“There are great career opportunities in the Geelong region and it's a lovely place to raise a family so I'm planning to make Geelong and the Surf Coast my permanent home,” Rosie said.

In June, Claire and Rosie joined more than 270 other graduates from Deakin's Faculty of Health to officially receive their degrees, including doctors, nurses, midwives, psychologists, social workers, sports scientists, nutritionists and optometrists.

For Rosie, graduating from Deakin opens the door to a new career in clinical psychology after earlier completing degrees in Arts and Marketing when she left school.

“I started studying psychology to support my work in marketing but decided that clinical psychology offers a rewarding career that gives me a sense of purpose,” Rosie said.

“While studying at Deakin, I also had the opportunity to complete two placements at Barwon Health, which I really enjoyed.

“There is a good variety of work available for clinical psychologists in the corporate sector, healthcare settings or private practice, so I'm really looking forward to taking that next step professionally.”

## WOMEN IN COMMUNITY LIFE AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

*Barwon Health Social Work manager Karen Todd has received recognition for her work in women's health at the 2024 Women in Community Life Awards.*

The event held on International Women's Day was run by the City of Greater Geelong and the Women in Community Life Advisory Committee.

Karen is a passionate advocate for protecting women and children from family violence and has trained hundreds of health professionals to effectively recognise and respond to patients experiencing family violence.

Her work has led to a significant shift in the way health professionals and health services throughout the Greater Geelong region respond to victims of family violence.

*Pictured: Award recipient, Barwon Health Social Work manager Karen Todd, pictured with her niece.*



## Strategic partnership targeting sexual discrimination in workplace

*Two of Geelong's largest employers Deakin University and Barwon Health welcomed former Sex Discrimination Commissioner Kate Jenkins AO to a briefing of senior staff as part of their shared commitment to safe, respectful, diverse and inclusive workplaces.*

In addition to her unique insights into the nature and prevalence of sexual harassment in the workplace, Ms Jenkins discussed the implications of new legislation, requirements for compliance with the positive duty laws outlined in the Sex Discrimination Act and the collective responsibility we all share in fostering secure, respectful and inclusive environments across industries and sectors.

Barwon Health chief executive Frances Diver said Deakin and Barwon Health had forged a strategic partnership over more than two decades of education and research collaboration.

"That partnership includes a shared commitment to improve health and wellbeing that begins with our workforce – our clinicians, academics, researchers and students," Ms Diver said.

"Barwon Health is deeply committed to learning from Ms Jenkins' expertise, wisdom and experience, as we strive to respond to and prevent sexual harassment in our workplaces, improve gender equality and healthcare more broadly."

*Pictured: Deakin Vice-Chancellor Professor Iain Martin, Kate Jenkins AO and Barwon Health Chief Executive Frances Diver.*





# MENTAL HEALTH, DRUGS AND ALCOHOL DIETETICS

*Dietitians at Barwon Health contribute to a variety of healthcare disciplines, informing nutrition that helps support patient recovery and rehabilitation from various injuries and illnesses – including mental health.*

In April, Barwon Health acknowledged Dietitian's Week and the key role they have in nourishing the mind, body and brain.

On top of physical benefits, studies show that seeking mental health support from a dietitian can lead to reduced symptoms of anxiety, stress, depression, sleep disorders, OCD, PTSD and ADHD, and reduced side effects from medications.

McKellar Mental Health and Wellbeing Unit clinical dietitian Shay Bertino said mental illness and substance use often impact negatively on food intake and nutrition support forms part of the core treatment for mental health illness.

"I'm part of a multi-disciplinary team at the McKellar Mental Health and Wellbeing Centre, a 16-bed acute mental health service, providing intensive mental health support and treatment for people over 50 years of age," Shay said.



**"Our team is dedicated to their work. You can see the hours that everyone puts into caring for their clients and community."**

"My role is to work with consumers to assess and monitor their individual nutrition needs throughout their stay. As well as providing targeted nutrition education, I work with consumers to tailor the menu meet their needs or to provide additional nutrition support products."

*Pictured: Shay Bertino.*



## LISA STAFFORD, MHDAS THERAPY SERVICES DIETITIAN

*"To be able to support people through their journey to renourishing their bodies, provide self-care through food and nutrition and see their outcomes improve is rewarding."*

*Pictured: Lisa Stafford*

"I am a part of the mental health therapies team in a newly created role as the dietitian. As part of my role, I do a lot of service development work, so we look at gaps and look at what the community needs in terms of support from dietitians for consumers who are experiencing mental health challenges.

I've been working as a dietitian for seven years and worked across different areas and services. I started in rural public health in Stawell then moved to other public health services. I've also worked as a sports dietitian at the elite level in AFL, so I got to work with professional athletes.

The common theme I've seen throughout my work is how people's mental health plays into their abilities to make nutrition decisions, access different foods and create routines around eating and their relationship with their body and eating. This led me to specialise in working with people who have eating disorders and mental health conditions.

It's fulfilling working in this industry. When we see people, they might be going through some of the hardest moments in their lives. To be able to support people through their journey to renourishing their bodies, provide self-care through food and nutrition and see their outcomes improve is rewarding.

The theme of Dietitian's Week this year is 'Nourish the Mind, Body and Brain', so we're trying to spotlight the work that dietitians can do in the mental health space. For a long time, people have thought of mental health as just talking therapy or medication. Whilst they are valuable services, with the new mental health reform and research, we're continuing to learn how diet and nutrition can play into overall health."

# BARWON HEALTH CELEBRATES

# *Sustainable dishwashing solution.*

*Barwon Health recently unveiled its new state-of-the-art dishwashing system at the McKellar Centre Central Production Kitchen.*

The installation of this advanced flight-type dishwasher marks a significant milestone in the organisation's commitment to sustainability and operational efficiency.

The new dishwasher replaces the original machines, offering a continuous cleaning process that can handle the high volume of 15,000 items, including crockery, trays, and cutlery, washed daily at the Central Production Kitchen.

This upgrade not only ensures compliance with food safety and council regulations but also incorporates ergonomic principles and adheres to current Environment Protection Agency standards.

Environmental Services director Andrew Gibson said the new system had the advantage of improved water and energy efficiency, thanks to its reduced power requirements and lower wash cycles.

"It aligns perfectly with our sustainability goals while simultaneously enhancing our operational capabilities to meet the ever-growing food services demands across Barwon Health," he said.

"By ensuring a consistent supply of clean and sanitised crockery, trays, and cutlery, this system will contribute to an improved patient experience by maintaining the highest standards of food safety and hygiene throughout our facilities."

*"It aligns perfectly with our sustainability goals while simultaneously enhancing our operational capabilities..."*



*Pictured: Food Services attendant Jo Bone working with the new dishwasher system at the McKellar Centre's Central Production Kitchen.*





## TRAINING COURSE ATTRACTS INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY TRAINEES

*Barwon Health recently held a course to help senior emergency medicine trainees boost performance and communication in high-stakes situations.*

The course focused on practical application and interactive learning, providing participants with strategies to implement in their practice and during the final Objective Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE).

Developed and coordinated by emergency medicine physicians Dr Rubina Bunwaree and Dr Laura Berkeley, the two-day course received glowing feedback for its comprehensive curriculum and engaging delivery.

Dr Bunwaree said the course attracted participants from Victoria, ACT, Northern Territory, and New Zealand.

**“The overwhelmingly positive feedback underscores the course’s success and its impact on personal and professional development,” she said.**

“Some participants said this was exactly what was needed and they were pleased with the detailed sessions and exercises we offered on the psychology aspect of the upcoming exam.

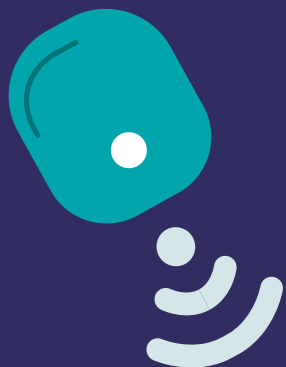
“There are lots of courses on exam techniques but nothing has focused on the psychology behind it.

“I think a standout feature was the emphasis on hands-on learning, allowing participants to apply theoretical knowledge through practical exercises, reinforcing learning and developing real-world skills.

“We look forward to offering similar enriching courses in the future, continuing our commitment to high-quality education and lifelong learning and attracting high-quality trainees to our region.”

*Pictured: Senior emergency medicine trainees participated in a two-day training course, run by Barwon Health staff.*





# NEW MODEL OF CARE FOR PATIENTS WITH

# gestational diabetes

*Barwon Health has launched an innovative, patient-centred model of care for patients diagnosed with diabetes during pregnancy.*

GDM is the fastest growing type of diabetes, affecting up to 15 percent of women in pregnancy, though it is generally resolved after the baby is born.

Diabetes and Endocrinology director Dr Kimberly Cukier said patients with gestational diabetes have healthy babies, but it was important to manage gestational diabetes to reduce the risk of developing complications during a pregnancy.

"This new service allows patients improved access to dietitian support, including group education both in person or virtually," Dr Cukier said.

**"A secure smart-phone app provides responsive advice and messaging to their clinical care team and secure storage of blood glucose levels."**

Senior diabetes dietitian Kate Van Berkel said it was fantastic to see health technology providing flexible support in a way that can fit around mothers and birthing parent's other priorities.

"The real-time health data helps us work collaboratively with our patients on managing blood glucose levels and holistic pregnancy nutrition," she said.

Diabetes nurse practitioner Leanne Hume said timely, flexible and individualised care could be accessed when requiring insulin, with options for education including telehealth consultations or face-to-face appointments.



*Pictured: Dietitian Kate van Berkel, nurse practitioner Leanne Hume, GDM administrative assistant Annabel Meek, credentialed diabetes educator Nicole Duggan, and Endocrinology and Diabetes director Dr Kimberly Cukier.*



# Project works to improve diabetic outcomes for fasting patients

*A Barwon Health project to improve care for people with diabetes fasting during Ramadan has been presented at a state Australian Diabetes Educators Association conference.*

Registered nurse and credentialed diabetes educator (CDE) Anitha Ritchie and dietitian CDE Louise Bolger presented their project 'Improving Client Care in People with Diabetes during Ramadan' on 31 May at the Melbourne Cricket Ground event.

The work aims to improve the care provided to the local Muslim population with diabetes, while educating them on how to minimise risks associated with fasting for Ramadan.

Anitha said there was a high population of Muslim residents in Corio and Norlane who are refugees from Afghanistan with low health literacy.

"Education in previous years was provided on an 'ad hoc' basis to those who mentioned they were fasting," she said.

"Evidence suggests that people with diabetes choose to fast without seeking medical advice."

The structured program included 10 participants and consisted of group education around dispelling myths regarding fasting and nutrition education, consults with the CDE around medical management pre- and post-Ramadan, CDE and NP consultation and GP correspondence.

Those who used insulin were also able to wear a Libre glucose sensor during the fasting period to provide 24-hour data of blood glucose levels. At the end of the program, all participants reported they "felt supported by their health care team" and "would participate in a similar project next year".

The project was developed by two Corio Community Health CDEs Robyn Barber and Anitha Ritchie, as a collaborative effort across disciplines involving Louise Bolger, nurse practitioner Leanne Hume, bicultural worker Maryam Esghaei and Dari/Hazaragi interpreter Saeideh Yaghmaei.

*At the end of the program, all participants reported they "felt supported by their health care team" and "would participate in a similar project next year".*



*Pictured: Dietitian CDE Louise Bolger and CDE Anitha Ritchie at the ADEA conference.*

In May, the Barwon Health Healthy Communities team launched **Healthy You. Healthy Baby** - a podcast about keeping active during pregnancy and beyond.

Targeting birthing parents and their supporting network of partners, friends and carers, the podcast aims to:

- Build knowledge and confidence about how to stay active during pregnancy and how to resume activity after the birth of baby.
- Highlight the physical and mental wellbeing benefits of keeping active during this life stage transition into parenthood.
- Increase awareness of when and how to seek help, and some of the services available to support them.

Health promotion officer Rowena Rittinger said the podcast came from an understanding that the physical activity levels of birthing parents drop significantly during such a busy stage of life.

"We wanted to create a way for people to feel confident and able to make decisions about how they can keep active during and after their pregnancy, to help them feel physically and mentally healthy as they move into parenthood," she said.

"With so many messages out there, it was important that this information came from a trusted source such as our clinical experts here at Barwon Health."

The podcasts cover topics including the importance of being active during pregnancy and after birth, when and how to return to activity, and how much activity is too much.

With three episodes already available on podcasting platforms, there are plans to expand the series to explore more topics.



For more information, contact Healthy Communities on [healthycommunities@barwonhealth.org.au](mailto:healthycommunities@barwonhealth.org.au).





## Barwon Health benefits from Good Friday Appeal Regional Funding Initiative

*The Good Friday Appeal has launched the Regional Funding Initiative, which stream funding into regional paediatric health services, including Barwon Health.*

Barwon Health will utilise these funds to help support and sustain our workforce by providing opportunities to upskill staff with the knowledge and skills needed to deliver ongoing expert care to children.

Barwon Health is working in partnership with the Royal Children's Hospital and we are pleased to now be partnering with the Good Friday Appeal which will help us support more families to access care closer to home.



*Pictured: Special Care Nursery nurse unit manager Alyson Smith, Barwon Health chief executive Frances Diver, and Women's and Children's directorate clinical director A/Prof David Fuller. Photo: Times News Group*





## Walk on Country provides team with richer understanding land connection

*A series of Walk on Country sessions with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners has given the Barwon Women's and Children's project team a deeper understanding of the site's history and significance.*

Barwon Health arranged two events with the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners as custodians of Wadawurrung Country, decision-makers and knowledge-holders responsible for looking after the land, including sharing cultural heritage.

Ash, Wadawurrung man and Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation Ngarrwa Officer, spoke about the past and current lived experience of Wadawurrung Traditional Owners and shared information on the use of native flora and fauna.

The experience provided the team with a better awareness of how to shape the project to be culturally safe and complementary to the landscape, and how early engagement can improve the project's connection to the land we live and work on.

*Pictured: Ash, Wadawurrung Traditional Owner, led the Barwon Women's and Children's project team through two Walk on Country events in June.*



# First Nations consumers and youth leaders provide feedback to shape project

*The Barwon Women's and Children's project has continued its dedication to representing the community by hosting feedback sessions with the City of Greater Geelong Youth Council and First Nations consumers.*

Recently the Youth Council met with Barwon Health staff and the Lyons Architects team to take input about youth specific issues, while the Aboriginal Health Unit joined a session with First Nations consumers who shared their ideas on building a safe and welcoming space.

The Youth Council is made up of 12 young people aged between 12 and 17 years old, and provides opportunities for young people to participate and learn about civic and democratic processes.



It provides multiple mechanisms for council members to seek and receive advice and input from young people about youth specific issues.

These meetings were part of the wider consultation undertaken by Barwon Health and the Victorian Health Building Authority in planning the project, ensuring people across the region have a say in shaping the Barwon Women's and Children's.

*Pictured above: The First Nations consumer feedback session.*



*Pictured: The City of Greater Geelong Youth Council feedback session.*

## COMMUNITY GATHERS TO LAUNCH PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN

*In March, key stakeholders came together in Camperdown to launch the inaugural Public Health Strategy for the Barwon South West Region.*

The Strategy has been shaped by consultations with major public health stakeholders including local governments, rural and regional health services, Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, tertiary institutes, Western Victoria Primary Health Network and non-government organisations.

The Strategy has been informed by detailed data and analysis of the region's patterns of diseases and health status. A key feature of the strategy is addressing health inequities and bringing a health equity lens to planning and implementation of public health interventions.

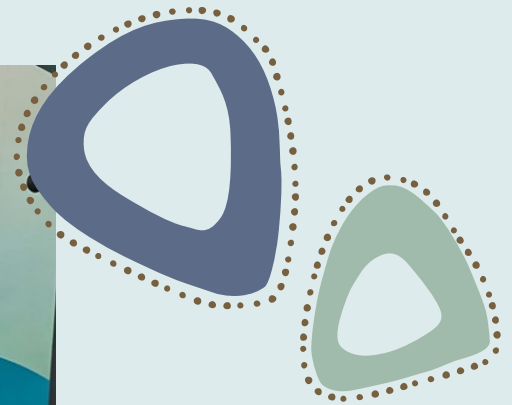


*Pictured: Barwon South West Public Health Unit co-director Deborah Kay and director Professor Eugene Athan OAM.*





Pictured: Senior physiotherapist Erika Kotowicz and project lead Catherine Williams.



## Barwon Health to lead life-changing cancer clinical trials

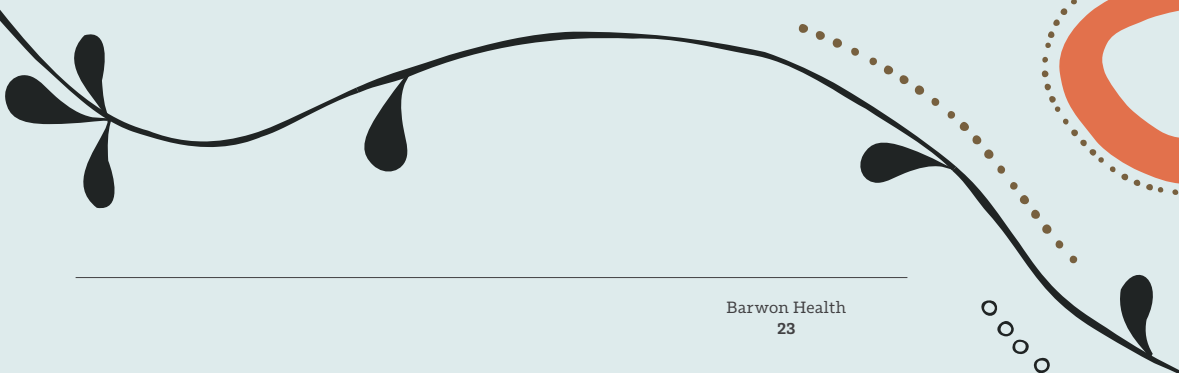
*People living with cancer in regional and rural communities will soon have access to two life-changing clinical trials at Barwon Health.*

Cancer Council Victoria has paved the way for developing two crucial clinical trials at Barwon Health with support from the Victorian Government.

The 2021 Clinical Trials Management Scheme competitive grant has supported the development of the first regional Allied Health Clinical Trials Unit, based at the Adrian Costa Clinical Trials Centre.

The unit, led by oncology physiotherapist Catherine Williams, is working with allied health clinicians, research and industry partners and consumers of cancer care, to develop resources and build capacity in the allied health workforce to lead more clinical trials.

The first trial is to help monitor the exercise of people diagnosed with multiple myeloma who are doing prehabilitation in preparation for a stem cell transplant. The second trial is to investigate the impact of different exercise programs using a new device for the prevention of a condition known as trismus in people diagnosed with head and neck cancer.



## ART CAPTURES SPIRIT OF DISCOVERY IN TRIAL RESEARCH

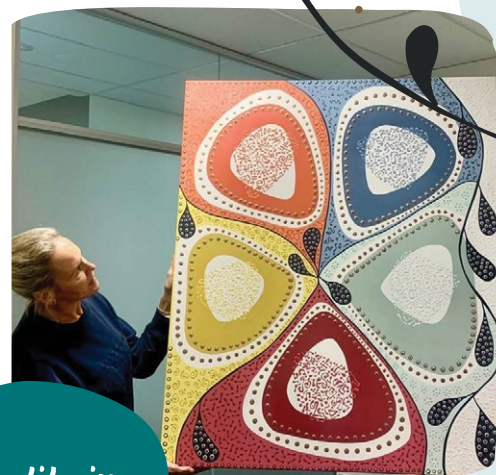
*Barwon Health's Research Directorate has commissioned First Nations artist leni to create a unique artwork for the Adrian Costa Clinical Trials Centre.*

The artwork *Duality in Discovery* pays respect to Traditional Owners and acknowledges the ongoing strength and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in sustaining the world's oldest living culture.

The art symbolises wellbeing, healing, culture and connection, with imagery representing knowledge and the untapped capacity for a duality in discovery when working within the process of research.

Barwon Health is proud to display this artwork as a demonstration of our commitment to enabling culturally safe and sensitive research that promotes positive health outcomes for First Nations people.

*Pictured: First Nations artist leni with the piece she created for the Adrian Costa Clinical Trials Centre.*



*Duality in  
Discovery  
by leni*

## Dr Renée Sheedy Scholarship ceremony celebrates allied health research

*Allied Health clinicians, friends and family recently celebrated the awarding of the Dr Renée Sheedy Scholarship to two projects.*

The Speech Pathology team will use funding from the award to move forward with a risk-feeding policy and education program led by speech pathologist Chloe Brown, while Allied Health Clinical Trials co-ordinator and dietitian Beth Davidson received funding to support her attendance at the World Indigenous Cancer Conference.

The scholarship fund was established in 2017 to honour the memory of Renee and her contribution to Barwon Health as a clinician-researcher and senior neurological physiotherapist.

Renée's son Harry assisted allied health director Paula Harding presenting the awards and paid an eloquent tribute to Renée and the passion that underlies the award.



*Pictured: Renée's husband Dan, son Harry, with Rebecca Hart (speech pathology recipient) and Catherine Williams, accepting on behalf of winning recipient Allied Health Clinical Trials co-ordinator and dietitian Beth Davidson.*





# New antibiotic trial aims to improve Buruli ulcer treatment

*Barwon Health's Adrian Costa Clinical Trials Centre and Infectious Diseases Unit is leading a world-first clinical trial to test how effectively a new antibiotic can treat Buruli ulcer.*

Buruli ulcer is a skin disease that destroys skin cells, small blood vessels and the fat under the skin, and is affecting an increasing number of people in our community, as the disease continues to spread within the suburbs of Geelong, the Bellarine Peninsula and the Surf Coast.

Most Buruli Ulcers currently require up to eight weeks of treatment with a combination of dual antibiotic therapy. If proved successful, this clinical trial for Telacebec will reduce recovery to 2-4 weeks, requiring only one antibiotic, resulting in a safer treatment with significantly shorter lesion healing times.

The trial is the culmination of hard work and collaboration between Barwon Health clinical trials and infectious disease teams, including Bree Sarah, Kate Ellis and Natasha Savvides, as well as clinical expertise of the TB Alliance, a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to producing and delivering affordable medicines.

Clinical Trials Unit manager Kate Ellis said the trial would help Barwon Health continue to a world leader in the battle against Buruli ulcer.

**“Our research and clinical expertise has changed the way it is prevented, diagnosed and treated,” she said.**

“It is hoped through our study that the use of Telacebec treatment will become the world recognised standard of care for Buruli ulcer, and also lead to improvements in treatment for tuberculosis and leprosy.”

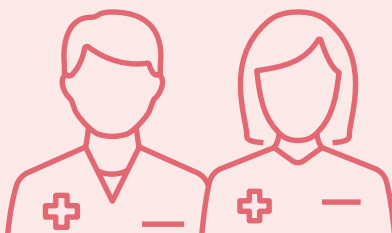
*Pictured: The TB Alliance team, featuring Prof Eugene Athan and Prof Dan O'Brien from Barwon Health's Public Health Unit.*



## TRAINING PROGRAM TO BOOST LOCAL WOMEN'S HEALTH SPECIALISTS

*University Hospital Geelong has been approved for FRANZCOG (Fellow of Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists) training, which will increase the number of specialists in the Barwon South West region.*

Starting in 2025, the Western Victoria Integrated Training Program, which also includes Grampians Health Ballarat and Warrnambool Base Hospital, will train two specialist obstetrician gynaecologists each year for the first four years of the existing six-year program.



Previously, doctors were rotated to regional hospitals for up to six months from metropolitan areas, with no long-term local training program available. This new initiative marks a substantial shift, allowing doctors to remain in the region for both pre-vocational and specialist training.

The program is expected to significantly boost the recruitment and retention of the specialist doctors in the Barwon South West region.

## Prompt delivers document solutions to remote services

*Barwon Health-owned Prompt Documents is empowering remote health services with improved collaboration and patient care.*

The initiative, which has been in place for two years, has gathered momentum with many remote health services now regularly using Prompt, including eight bush nursing centres.

By allowing access for eligible remote health services, Prompt aims to facilitate collaboration, enhance patient safety, and drive the adoption of best practices for even the most remote health providers.

Mallacoota District Health and Support Service in eastern Victoria is one recent example with great success in rolling out the platform, according to the service's CEO Anne Mwagiru.

She said staff were grateful to have access to Prompt as a "groundbreaking tool that transcends geographical boundaries and empowers healthcare providers regardless of their location."

"Mallacoota District Health and Support Service is remote and isolated with limited resources, so the Prompt system's comprehensive document repository and intuitive interface have empowered our team to access crucial information swiftly and efficiently," she said.

**"As a remote health service, we use Prompt to streamline workflows and facilitate informed decision-making across their teams."**

**"Prompt has become an invaluable asset in our governance and quest for quality and safety."**

The initiative aims to expand its reach and impact, providing vital resources and tools to more remote and underserved health services across the country.

By leveraging technology and supporting these communities, Barwon Health and Prompt Documents are making significant strides in improving healthcare delivery and outcomes across Australia.



*Pictured: Mallacoota District Health and Support Service CEO Anne Mwagiru.*

# Planning and partnerships key to surgery success

*Each year, Barwon Health performs almost 22,000 operations across 20 different specialties, including some of the most complex cardiac surgery and the more routine day surgery procedures.*

Our teams include surgeons, anaesthetists, junior medical staff, nurses, allied health staff and many other support staff who collaborate with our patients across their healthcare journey to ensure they get the treatment and support they need.

This complex system requires the precise coordination of teams of specialist staff, operating theatres, equipment and beds to match patient needs. Hospitals everywhere have the challenge of prioritising care for those who need surgery the most. This is a daily logistical task where we balance emergency patients and planned surgery patients across our 10 main operating theatres, the three-day theatres at the Gretta Volum Centre and our four new theatres at the Youang Surgery Centre.

As you can imagine, this finely balanced system was significantly disrupted during the pandemic when we needed to prioritise care for patients who had COVID and we deferred care wherever possible to reduce potential exposure to COVID.

As the pandemic faded, we knew we had to shift gears and plan for the inevitable 'catch-up' surgery. The commissioning of the four new theatres in the Youang Surgery Centre has allowed us to treat more patients, and we've also successfully partnered with St John of God Geelong Hospital and Epworth Geelong for selected specialties.

I am pleased to say this planning, investment and hard work has really paid off, with Barwon Health treating almost 14 per cent more planned surgery patients in 2023-24 compared to the previous year, while halving the average waiting time for surgery from 88 days to 40 days. Once assessed as requiring surgery, nearly all of our patients (98 per cent) are being treated in the clinically recommended times. We know we have more work to do to improve access to our specialist clinics, and our recent investment in expanded ENT, general surgery and ophthalmology clinics will make a significant difference.

I would like to acknowledge everyone at Barwon Health and our partners, including the GPs, who have contributed to this success – it truly has resulted in positive outcomes for our community.

The challenges of the pandemic have made us more resilient, strengthening great partnerships with primary care, neighbouring hospitals, and the private sector. Our focus remains on providing the very best care to our patients, embedding innovative practices into daily operations, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement. With this mindset, we feel optimistic and well-prepared to meet the healthcare needs of our community in the years ahead.



**A/Prof Sonal Nagra,**  
**Director of General Surgery**

## EVENT SHINES LIGHT ON MENTAL HEALTH STIGMA

*Barwon Health's Lived Experience Network hosted a World Bipolar Day event in March to advance understanding and support for mental health issues within the community.*



The impactful "Start the Conversation: End the Stigma" Mental Health Education Day brought together a diverse range of voices and celebrated the contributions of various speaking panellists, including peer workers, mental health leaders with lived experience, and Deakin University researchers who presented new research findings.

Lived Experience consultant James Bell said the group's discipline lead and peer workers had been an invaluable bridge between professional services and individuals with lived experience, played a central role in the event.

*Pictured: Lived Experience consultant James Bell.*

"Their unique perspectives and firsthand knowledge contributed to the development of practical solutions and highlighted the importance of peer support in promoting recovery and well-being for both people with lived experience and their family/carers," he said.

"This event is a testament to the power of shared experiences and collaborative efforts in breaking down the barriers of mental health stigma.

"By amplifying the voices of lived experience, empowering peer workers, and leveraging research insights, the event exemplified a collective commitment to building a more inclusive and supportive mental health landscape in our region."

### HOUSE4HEALTH CHARITY AUCTION

*Barwon Health Foundation's House4Health charity house will see a beautiful new four-bedroom home auctioned off to one lucky buyer, with the end goal of supporting better health outcomes for our community in the north of Geelong.*

*Pictured: House4Health Advisory Committee chair Libby Bate, Barwon Health Foundation acting executive director Francis Trainor, and Peter Van Der Heyden of Hamlan Homes at the House4Health property in Lara Lakes.*

The project began after a donation of land from Lara Lakes Estate. Bisinella Developments director Lino Bisinella was inspired to gift the property, located on O'Halloran's Rd, as a means of giving back to the community.

The auction is anticipated to be Barwon Health Foundation's biggest fundraiser in its proud 22-year history and is set to take place on Saturday 14 September alongside a family day full of fun.

This ambitious project wouldn't be possible without the support of generous local partners and supporters, including Lara Lakes, Hamlan Homes, Bendigo Bank and Ray White Lara.

### AUCTION DATE

**Saturday 14  
September**



## A lasting legacy of hope and healing



*Pictured: The late Leslie "Les" Dawber.*

***Leaving a charitable gift in a will can be one of the most impactful acts an individual can do to support their community and ensure their legacy lives on.***

Leslie 'Les' Dawber is one such Leopold local, whose legacy will live on because of an incredible bequest he left in his will.

Mr Dawber never shied away from giving back to the community he loved.

Born and bred in Geelong, Mr Dawber was a volunteer of the local CFA for over 43 years.

Mr Dawber was described as a salt-of-the-earth person, who lived simply and was well-loved by his small circle of friends. Eight years ago, due to health complications, he underwent a leg amputation and spent a lengthy period as a patient at Barwon Health's University Hospital Geelong and the McKellar Centre.

It was through this period, and during regular home visits from Barwon Health staff, that Mr Dawber developed an appreciation for the health service that cared for him.

In a final act of generosity, Mr Dawber left a significant portion of the proceeds from his Leopold home to the Barwon Health Foundation.

Barwon Health Foundation acting executive director Francis Trainor said Mr Dawber's donation was made to recognise Barwon Health's care and to support the remarkable services of the McKellar Centre.

"Mr Dawber's extraordinary generosity is inspiring and just one example of a local community member giving back to the local health service that has supported them during their lifetime," he said.

**For further details on gifts in wills and leaving a legacy, please contact Francis for a confidential discussion on 4215 8900 or [francis.trainor@barwonhealth.org.au](mailto:francis.trainor@barwonhealth.org.au).**





# Length of Service

*Congratulations to the following staff who celebrated Length of Service milestones between May and September 2024!*



Melanie Daniels  
Jarek Bochenski  
Lisa Clarey  
Rita Grech  
Teresa Iannucci  
Mel Samakowidic  
Shirley Vernimmen  
Jacqui Parry  
Adrianne Burke  
Cora Gerardo-Upward  
Darren O'Mullane  
Sudeshna Ram  
Lilian Atieno  
Senka Church  
Glenice Coverdale  
Kellie Turner  
Jenny Pattathil  
Kavita Bhasin  
Libby Amersek  
Merlin Bobby  
La Principia Jones  
Lorna McKane  
Erin Strong  
Krystle Wilson  
Sarah Hall  
Alex Beard  
Sue Carracher  
Chris Hergstrom  
Kylie Johnson

Claudia Licht  
Londa Smith  
Jess Linke  
Denise Henry  
Danielle McLean  
Lisa Danaher  
Sal Newman  
Anne Mwangi  
Leanne Murphy  
Carly Veldhuis  
Deirdre Martin  
Donna Robertson  
Sara Turner  
Ben Galpin  
Katrina Hosking  
Chloe Lawless  
Chris Meier  
Peter Tallentyre  
Peter Thomson  
Jamie Wall  
Michael Wheat  
Nina Edmonds  
Sree Sreekumar  
Abel Negewo  
Louisa Caccamo  
Fiona Chipperfield  
Vanessa Kristinof  
Emily Hamilton  
Dannielle  
Van Den Nouwelant

Shilly Skaria  
Vin Stokes  
Olivia Verlaan  
Catherine Farrington  
Hayley Stokes  
Colleen McCutcheon  
Angela Shelley  
Erin Cottrill  
Grace Seow  
Sharon Matthews  
Rachael Hyder  
Flavio Nelli  
Maree O'Sullivan  
Natalie Morgan  
Ash Kappen  
Fiona Allen  
Sharyn Milnes  
Rob Martin  
Prue Johnstone  
Ebony Del Rio  
Kerri Doyle  
Lynne Finnigan  
Maggie Sapunar  
Ramson Dsilva  
Sally Hunt  
Kim McCashen  
Sharee Creece

*Please note, names and employment commencement dates are taken from official Barwon Health records. Please contact People and Culture to check or update your details - [workforcerelations@barwonhealth.org.au](mailto:workforcerelations@barwonhealth.org.au).*



Melissah Harrington  
Keith Kallie  
Caroline Watson  
Theresa Bauer  
Karen Knight  
Suzanne Harman  
Diarmuid McCoy  
Susan Conte

Julie Mitchell  
Jackie King  
Daryl Ridley  
Jelena Arandjelovic  
Meg Harrison  
Daniela Micheletto  
Colleen Bourke  
Lauren Farnsworth

Alison Fisher  
Josephine Gibson  
Maryanne Parker  
Jill Payne  
Mandy Ross  
Linda Richardson



Margaret Mahony  
Mara Cosic  
Lisa Parsons  
Maria Mikota  
Gayle Peter  
Leanne Meehan  
Jason Farrow

Rosa Jankulovski  
Michael Shembrey  
Kathryn Sanders  
Simon Tomlinson  
Lisa Durran  
Nicola Clarke  
Marija Balint



Catherine Stapleton  
Gayle Seidel  
Gaile Norvydas  
Ian Whittaker  
Heather Hart  
Cheryl Ditchburn

Geelong  
**Advertiser**

# RUN4 GEE LONG 2024



Barwon Health  
Foundation

**A RACE FOR  
BETTER HEALTH**

## SUNDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2024

**100% OF YOUR REGISTRATION FEE DIRECTLY  
SUPPORTS BARWON HEALTH. THE BEST  
PART IS YOU CAN CHOOSE TO FUNDRAISE  
DIRECTLY FOR YOUR DEPARTMENT!**

Join us for Geelong's favourite fun run.  
Courses available for all ages and abilities  
including the Hanlon Industries 10km,  
Geelong Advertiser 5km, GMHBA 3km  
and Villawood Properties 1km kids course.

**SET UP YOUR TEAM TODAY.**

SCAN THE QR  
CODE OR CALL  
BARWON HEALTH  
FOUNDATION ON  
4215 8900.



**RUN4GEE LONG.COM.AU**

Geelong  
**Advertiser**

**HANLON**  
INDUSTRIES

**GMHBA**

villawood  
properties

ProFeet

**Harcourts**



**WAURN**  
PONDS  
SHOPPING CENTRE



**aidacare**  
HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT

**gawk**  
OUTDOOR

**GO TRAFFIC**

**Leisure Networks**