

Talk-About

The official newsletter for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit

July/August 2018

Metro North Hospital and Health Service *Putting people first*



Reconciliation Action Plan launched to build stronger relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Australia's largest and most diverse public health service, Metro North Hospital and Health Service, has officially launched a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) for its community-based health care and support services across the north side of Brisbane.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, patients, community and staff all gathered at Brighton Health Campus on June 4 to witness the launch of the 'Community, Indigenous and Subacute Services Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan May 2018 – May 2020' as part of National Reconciliation Week (27 May – 3 June) celebrations.

Metro North Hospital and Health Service Chief Executive Shaun Drummond said the RAP provided a blueprint to enhance the

health journey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and improve employment and economic outcomes.

"The plan provides a framework for building stronger and more respectful relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities to progress reconciliation in Australia, both within the workplace and the community that we serve," he said.

Mr Drummond said Metro North had recently committed to developing an Indigenous

Workforce Strategy and has already welcomed six Indigenous school-based trainees to the organisation.

Director of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit Paul Drahm, who co-chaired the development of the RAP alongside Community, Indigenous and Subacute Services (CISS) Director of Allied Health Jo Walters, said both Indigenous and non-Indigenous clinical and administrative staff were integral to shaping the actions.

Story continues next page



Give us feedback

Talk-About

We welcome your feedback, contributions, story ideas and details on any upcoming events. Please contact Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit Communications Manager Renee Simon at Renee.Simon@health.qld.gov.au or phone (07) 3139 3231.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit

If you have any feedback regarding the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit services, programs and initiatives, you can contact the following:

Mail to:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit, Building 26, Chermide Community Health Centre, 490 Hamilton Road, Chermide QLD 4032.

Email to:

A_TSIHU_MNHHS@health.qld.gov.au

Alternatively, call and ask for our Safety and Quality Officer on 3647 9531.

Contact information

Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

Indigenous Hospital Liaison Officer Ph: 3646 4154 or 3646 1696

Indigenous Patient Journey Officer Ph: 3646 5612 or 0428 861 888

Team Leader Ph: 3647 4183 or 0408 472 385

The Prince Charles Hospital

Indigenous Hospital Liaison Officer Ph: 3139 5165 or 3139 5062

Indigenous Patient Journey Officer Ph: 3139 6622 or 0409 583 967

Team Leader Ph: 3139 6300 or 0439 082 908

Redcliffe Hospital

Indigenous Hospital Liaison Officer Ph: 3049 6791

Team Leader Ph: 3139 6300 or 0439 082 908

Caboolture Hospital

Indigenous Hospital Liaison Officer Ph: 5433 8249 or 5433 8708

Team Leader Ph: 3139 6300 or 0439 082 908

After Hours Team

Friday and Monday 12pm to 8.30pm

Saturday and Sunday 10am to 6:30pm Ph: 5433 8249

Indigenous Hospital Liaison Officer Ph: 3647 4183

Indigenous Patient Journey Officer Ph: 0409 583 967

Indigenous Acute and Primary Care / Sexual Health Team

Manager: Robyn Chilcott Ph: 3492 1823

A&TSIHU Safety & Quality – Pine Rivers CHC

Tracy Grant – Indigenous Safety & Quality Coordinator Ph: 3492 1818 or Mob: 0417 027 642

Caley Malezer – Project Officer Safety & Quality Ph: 3492 1820 or Mob: 0417 270 854

Continued from previous page

“CISS will continue to be seen as a leader in the provision of culturally appropriate, and culturally safe healthcare for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities, while also being viewed as an employer of choice for Indigenous Australians,” he said.

“CISS is proud to employ 70 Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders.

“We plan to nurture our existing staff by providing opportunities for further training and qualifications, and improving the relationships and respect of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people and cultural needs, and cultural governance arrangements across the service.”

Staff and community members were treated to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dancing and presentations by staff and Elders at the event at Brighton.

Aunty Brenda Kanofski and Uncle George Wano both had powerful words to share

with the audience about the journey towards reconciliation.

“Reconciliation begins at home,” they said.

Committee member Leeana Barby presented artwork painted by CISS staff during Reconciliation Week which represents the CISS reconciliation journey.

The RAP provided a blueprint to enhance the health journey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and improve employment and economic outcomes.

The plan is the first step in the reconciliation journey for Metro North, with Caboolture and Redcliffe Hospitals expected to commence planning their own Reconciliation Action Plans over the next 12 months.

View the [Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan](#)

View the [video](#).

INNOVATE RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

KEY ACTIONS

- Commit to establishing at least two formal partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to improve our services to Indigenous Australians by May 2019.
- Establish an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural governance committee to review the cultural appropriateness of CISS policies and programs by September 2018.
- Increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff representation levels from five per cent, by one per cent per year until 2020.
- Provide scholarships to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees to access further training and qualifications by September 2018/2019.
- Ensure all staff have attended a face-to-face cultural practice program training session by May 2020.



Paul Drahm

A/Director, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit

A word from the Director

I am proud to be the joint sponsor of the CISS Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). The plan, launched during Reconciliation Week, was a significant moment for our community-based services at Metro North Hospital and Health Service.

The plan provides a framework for building stronger and more respectful relationships with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It also allows us to nurture and support the 70 plus identified staff working within our health unit and ensure they have access to further training and qualifications.

I would like to personally thank the CISS Reconciliation Action Plan committee, which includes a mixture of Indigenous and non-Indigenous clinical and non-clinical staff for their commitment to developing the RAP and for overseeing the actions for the duration of the plan through to 2020.

Our unit will also be leading the development of the Metro North wide Reconciliation Action Plan with the support of Health Service Planning and Strategy. Jackie Hansen will be the sponsor and the working group will include representation from operations and performance teams.

Acting Executive Director of CISS, Tami Photinos recently announced our directorate will be merging with Oral Health services. While we will now be known as the 'Community and Oral Health Directorate', we are exploring options with the traditional custodians of the land to identify a suitable name that reflects the oral health and community services that we provide. If you

have any suggestions for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander name, please email your feedback to our Unit A_TSIHU_MNHHS@health.qld.gov.au

Recently, I had the opportunity to attend the first sod turning for the Herston Quarter Development with recognised Elders from the Turrbal and Yaggera Tribes, along with the Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk, Minister for State Development Cameron Dick and Member for McConnel Grace Grace MP. The \$340 million public health facility will deliver specialist rehabilitation, surgery and care. The facility is expected to be completed by the end of 2020 and will support approximately 900 clinical and non-clinical jobs. I have been working closely with the project leads to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture is recognised and discussed the opportunity of support services for our mob once the facility is opened.

Finally, thank you to the local community for once again supporting our Metro North NAIDOC Caboolture Family Fun Day on July 10 at St Columban's College. We had over 70 stallholders take part and over 2,000 guests attend the four-hour celebration. I was particularly humbled to sit next to my mother for a special film celebrating the theme – *Because of her, we can!* Make sure you read on for a full wrap up of the event and to see all of the photographs. I also encourage you to visit our website to view the video from the day. We look forward to seeing you again next year for the annual celebration.

Our vision for reconciliation

Our vision for reconciliation is for a health care system that embraces unity between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians by valuing the culture, experiences, and rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, via the delivery of services in culturally appropriate and culturally safe ways, the representation of equality and equity, historical acceptance of our shared history, and promotion of positive race relations.



Members from the CISS Executive and RAP Committee pictured outside the Cherbourg Ration Shed with Uncle Marshall Saunders and Uncle Robert West.

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Indigenous Hospital Services

with Natasha White, Program Manager

Over the past 6 months, our team has provided services to over 5,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and their families.

Our information is also highlighting Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays as our peak days for service delivery, with 20% of our patients presenting with heart concerns. This information will help with service improvements and delivering appropriate services to our community. Therefore, Indigenous Identification is so important, if you haven't identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin at Emergency or Admissions our team will not know that that you are in the hospital.

The team receive a list every morning which identifies Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients in the hospital, but this only happens if you are asked the Question "if you identify of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin". If you are not asked the question please let the administration staff know so we can come and support you while you are in hospital.

We have also extended our After Hours Indigenous Hospital Liaison services into The Prince Charles Hospital, Redcliffe and Caboolture Hospitals.

Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital
Phone: (07) 3646 4154

The Prince Charles Hospital
Phone: (07) 3139 5165

Redcliffe Hospital
Phone: (07) 3049 6791

Caboolture / Kilcoy Hospital
Phone: (07) 5433 8249

IN THE NEWS

It's time to 'big note' Indigenous health leaders

Indigenous Australians need to 'name and claim' their leadership roles and recognise their valuable contributions to improving communities' health.

<https://pursuit.unimelb.edu.au/articles/it-s-time-to-big-note-indigenous-health-leaders>

'I was told I couldn't do it because I was Aboriginal': Erika Chapman-Burgess's journey to becoming a doctor

Erika Chapman-Burgess is becoming a leader in Indigenous health, but it has not been easy as she has tackled racism, discrimination and prejudice throughout her journey in becoming a doctor.

Dr Chapman-Burgess is a quintuplet and grew up in the small country town of Glen Innes in northern New South Wales.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-05-30/indigenous-womans-journey-to-becoming-a-doctor/9810718>

Kids' inspiring tales win recognition

When Jacob, 13, from Darug land in Western Sydney, was invited to share a story about making a positive choice, he didn't have to look any further than his school yard. Jacob told of how he looked up to Ricky, a Kamilaroi Year 12 student in his school who had brought together Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students by teaching them about Indigenous culture.

<https://nit.com.au/kids-inspiring-tales-win-recognition/>

Tailored care for pregnant Indigenous women improving outcomes

In a non-descript health clinic in Sydney's south-east, Stacey Foster-Rampant nuzzles her newborn as they wait for his first health check. She holds little Tyler with a sense of strength and confidence that she has never felt before.

As an Aboriginal woman she has defied the shocking statistics - Indigenous women are dying from pregnancy and childbirth complications at nearly triple the rate, and Indigenous babies are dying at twice the rate, of their non-Indigenous counterparts.

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/tailored-care-for-pregnant-indigenous-women-improving-outcomes-20180531-p4zikx.html>

Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation boss receives prestigious award

Every day Darryl Wright gets up to go to work is a good day.

The chief executive of Macarthur's Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation loves nothing more than chatting with his staff, meeting local Indigenous people and helping build strong community bonds.

It is this tireless and passionate work that has earned the Airds resident one of Australia's highest honours.

Mr Wright was today named as a Member of the Order of Australia and can add two shiny new letters to the end of his name: 'AM'.

<https://www.wollondillyadvertiser.com.au/story/5457747/tharawal-aboriginal-corporation-boss-receives-prestigious-award/>

Elsie's deadly example has island on the hop

Four years ago Elsie Seriat sparked a running revolution on tiny Thursday Island in the Torres Strait four that is still going strong. Many of her aunts who hadn't run since their school days were among the first to join her group, Deadly Runners.

The concept caught on and today a significant number of Thursday Island's 2600 residents can be seen pounding its scenic Esplanade.

<https://nit.com.au/elsies-deadly-example-has-island-on-the-hop/>

Indigenous rangers: good for culture, conservation and wellbeing

Their work around Australia in caring for our country is a little known but inspiring story. Pat Anderson, chairman of the Lowitja Institute for Aboriginal health, is talking about the role of Indigenous women rangers.

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/indigenous-rangers-women-country-aboriginal-country-20180516-p4zfzfly.html>

Traditional Aboriginal healers should work alongside doctors to help close the gap

The wellbeing of Indigenous people is based around having the freedom and resources to practise cultural ways of being. While some of these can seem removed from those in the West – such as the lack of materialism, primacy of kin and a close relationship to the natural world – including them in mainstream culture can contribute to everyone's wellbeing.

One way Aboriginal culture differs from the West's is in its healing practices. These involve mindfulness and attention to relationships with all living things, as well as seeking the advice and treatments of traditional healers.

<http://theconversation.com/traditional-aboriginal-healers-should-work-alongside-doctors-to-help-close-the-gap-93660>

Joining the big data dots on Indigenous health policy

Big data analysis is providing a stark focus for boosting health outcomes for Indigenous Australians, whether it's mental distress, rates of chronic disease or just getting a birth certificate

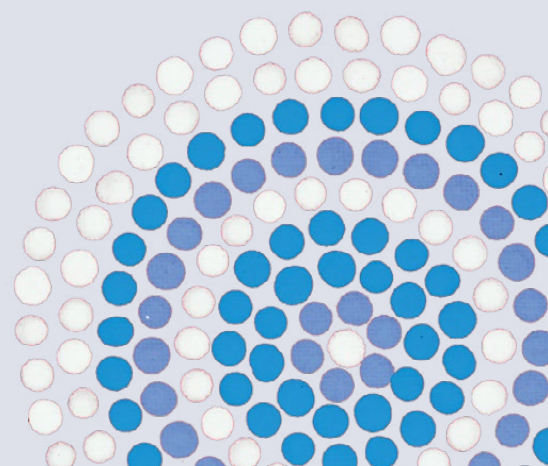
Indigenous Australians aged 45 and up report high levels of psychological distress at more than twice the rate of other Australians. A staggering 20 per cent of middle aged and older Indigenous Australians are in high psychological distress compared to 7.5 per cent broadly.

<https://pursuit.unimelb.edu.au/articles/joining-the-big-data-dots-on-indigenous-health-policy>

The disease affecting Australians that should have disappeared by now

Rheumatic heart disease is a disease which shouldn't exist anymore. Caused by an abnormal immune reaction to Strep A infection of the skin and throat, it's an entirely preventable condition which, left untreated, can spiral into deadly or debilitating complications including stroke, heart rhythm abnormalities, and heart failure.

<https://www.smh.com.au/lifestyle/health-and-wellness/the-disease-affecting-australians-that-should-have-disappeared-by-now-20180601-p4ziy0.html>



Indigenous Sexual Health

Council's 21st Homeless Connect event was held on Thursday 28 June 2018.

Homeless Connect brings together businesses and community groups at a one-day event to give free services to people experiencing homelessness or those at risk of homelessness. The project has helped more than 15,950 people as part of Brisbane City Council's commitment to improve quality of life for all residents and to work with local communities to create a safe, prosperous and friendly city. Council held Australia's first Homeless Connect event in November 2006. Similar events are now held in Perth, Hobart and Adelaide, and on the Gold Coast.



Ronald Abala, Indigenous Sexual Health Program Manager.



Homeless Connect events provide the following:

- *Volunteer medical and allied health care professionals including doctors, dentists, optometrists, podiatrists and massage therapists*
- *Housing support*
- *Haircuts by volunteer barbers and hairdressers*
- *Immunisation delivered by Council's immunisation team*
- *Personal grooming items such as towels and face washers, toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo and deodorant*
- *Clothing for adults, children and babies, including shoes*
- *Bedding*
- *Non-perishable food items.*

The Indigenous Sexual Health Team (ISHT) participated on the day by providing a Health Promotion (HP) and information stall. The ISHT engaged with 116+ guests

accessing for education, service referrals, Men's and Women's business, treatment information, Cultural supports and condom distribution. The Team also handed out HP bags and Dental Hygiene packs and engaged guests with the "Sexual Health Wheel of Fortune" which produced lots of fun and interaction.

This year the ISHT also volunteered to oversee the Institute of Urban Indigenous Health (IUIH) stall as there were no staff available to attend. The 2 IUIH staff who delivered resources were providing clinical care at the podiatrist's service stall (on the day). So ISHT manned the stall and engaged with an extra 38 guests, providing information and referrals on behalf of IUIH.

ISHT Stall	Guest
Female guest	50
Male guest	63
Family	3

IUIH Stall	Guest
Female guest	18
Male guest	16
Family	4



Detail	Number
Guests	More than 580
Volunteers	More than 640
Meals	More than 1300
Health checks	More than 460 health checks by medical and allied health care professionals
Service providers	More than 3000 visits to 51 service providers
Donations	14 pallets of food and toiletries, 17 pallets of clothes and 3 pallets of shoes





Indigenous Acute & Primary Care Immunisation Outreach 2018

Indigenous adults experience greater mortality and morbidity from pneumonia and invasive pneumococcal disease than any other Australian adults (NHMRC2009). Given the morbidity profile of this population, vaccinating against influenza and pneumococcal disease is a cost effective public health measure which has the potential to have major impact on improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities' health status.

Robyn Chilcott, Program Manager, Indigenous Acute & Primary Care Team



Chloe Marshall, Jarrod Parter, Sandra Markwell and Jenna English.



Shane Larson, Peter Skeen, Dennis Rodgers, Don Vincent



Above: James Smith (PHU); Karen Beaumont (Infect Control); Chloe Marshall, Dene Campbell, Jenna English (PHU) and Jarrod Parter.

This year the Indigenous Acute and Primary Care Team will seek to develop and deliver a community-based influenza and pneumococcal immunisation program across Metro North Hospital and Health Services and surrounding areas.

The team worked in partnership with the Metro North Public Health Unit to provide

the Adult (15+) Immunisation Outreach Program recently. Kurbingui Youth Development at Zillmere also partnered with our team.

The program was well received by the community with 40+ vaccinations provided to the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members. The feedback

from the participants was very positive and they requested further programs.

For further information, please do not hesitate to call:

Robyn Chilcott: Manager Indigenous Acute and Primary Care and Sexual Health Team: (07) 3492 1823.

New banner welcomes patients to Caboolture Emergency Department

A new acknowledgement to country banner proudly sits out the front of the Caboolture Emergency Department.

The banner was a commitment from the Nurse Unit Manager Nerys Brackman, with Cultural Capability Officer Elwyn Henaway, to welcome all patients to the hospital and to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land, the Kabi Kabi people.

The Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) recently highlighted the importance of providing culturally appropriate spaces for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

PHAA Vice-President Carmen Parter said all health care providers needed to consider the cultural dimension of the services they were providing, and embrace culturally safe care which was determined to be safe by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and their families.

"This includes making hospital waiting rooms a welcoming and supportive

environment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, which will help to build trust between them and their healthcare providers and enhance cultural sensitivity in medical treatment," she said.

Metro North Hospital and Health Service is proud to be leading the way in Queensland, ensuring all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have equitable access to health services that are culturally appropriate and culturally safe.



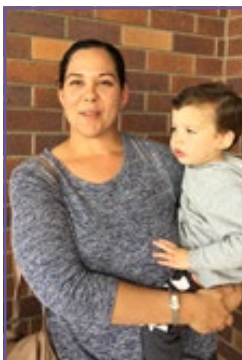
L-R: Indigenous Hospital Liaison Robert Brown, Caboolture ED Nurse Unit Manager Nerys Brackman, Indigenous Hospital Liaison Stella Laidlaw and Tyler Lea and Caboolture Hospital Executive Director Dr Lance Le Ray.

Identification:

It's your right to a healthier life

The Accurate Indigenous Identification campaign is designed to highlight the importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients identifying when accessing Metro North Hospital and Health Service hospitals and facilities.

Guests were asked to share why they are proud to identify at the recent Caboolture NAIDOC Week celebration.



Laurissa Moody

"My grandparents are Torres Strait Islanders born on Thursday Island. I'm proud to be Indigenous as we have such a beautiful culture and it's so important to know about where we come from and our children to know that as well."



Juanita Johnson

"I'm from the Birri Gubba clan in Central Queensland and Normanton and Cowen in North Queensland. I'm very proud to be Aboriginal and from these communities. We have a very proud history that Australia needs to know and learn about."



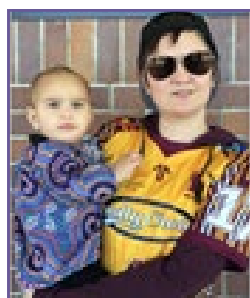
Erica Girvan

"I'm from Woorabinda, I love celebrating NAIDOC Week every year. I'm a Gooreng Gooreng women on my mother's side and Punthamara on my father's side."



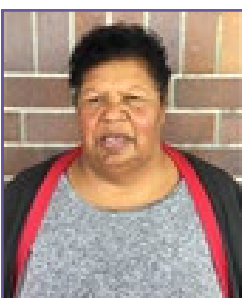
Holly Johnson

"I'm a proud Gooreng Gooreng woman. I'm proud to identify as an Aboriginal woman as it means I get to be part of a big strong community and for me it's also important to be a really deadly role model to our younger mob."



Sheree with daughter Jayleiyha

"My daughter Jaylee is proud to identify, to be part of the longest living culture. I'm trying to get her involved as she grows and she really loves the dancing."



Elaine Dorman

"I'm born and bred in Rockhampton. I'm proud to be an Aboriginal, my father comes from up the gulf."



Marina Dyson

"I really think NAIDOC Week is a great celebration for the community. I love the culture and I like to help people."

OUT&ABOUT

NAIDOC Week

Metro North NAIDOC Week Caboolture Family Fun Day

A family fun day was held at St Columban's College in Caboolture as part of Metro North Hospital and Health Service NAIDOC Week Celebrations (8-15 July 2018).

The event featured a Welcome to Country, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dancing, art and cultural workshops and health promotional stalls.

Metro North Hospital and Health Service Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit Director Paul Drahm said NAIDOC Week was an important time of the year to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements.

"NAIDOC Week provides an important opportunity for our staff, community members, local elders, patients and visitors to all come together to recognise the contributions that Indigenous Australians make to our country and our society," Mr Drahm said.

"This year the event was better than ever with 2,000 people coming together from across Caboolture and the surrounding districts to enjoy the event.

"The Fun Day provided an opportunity to enjoy some food and family fun, and join together as one to celebrate our unique and diverse Indigenous culture in Queensland."

The event featured a consumer engagement session 'Conversations with Metro North' allowing patients and families to provide service feedback and suggestions to Metro North Board Members and Hospital Executives.

A free community BBQ lunch was held and plenty of activities were enjoyed by children including face and rock painting, an animal farm, jumping castle, sports and rock climbing.

The event also saw local community groups coming together and a special visit from players from the Queensland Reds Rugby Union team.



Aboriginal Dance group the Gubbi Gubbi dancers



Torres Strait Islander Basket Weaver John Monaei with players from the Queensland Reds



Zierra, Bridie-Lee, Maiya and Amira enjoyed face painting and the outdoor activities.



Torres Strait Islander dancers Malu Kiai Mura Buai



Below: Gibba Gunya Dance Group



CISS Executive Director Tami Photinos, A&TSIHU Director Paul Drahm and Metro North Board Members Professor Dr Cliff Pollard and Bonny Barry.



Deadly Hearing staff Heidi Jorgensen, Nuala Beahan and Caboolture Hospital Paediatric Audiologist Clive Holloway.



The Ngarrama Family Team



St Columban's Principal Ann Rebgetz with players from the Queensland Reds

Redcliffe Art Unveiling

Redcliffe Hospital unveiled three poles as part of NAIDOC Week celebrations.

The project was coordinated by Indigenous Hospital Liaison Officer, Rox-anne Currie with artist Ronald John Abala - Wurragantha – “little spirit man” donating the three poles in recognition of closing the gap and reconciliation.

Redcliffe Hospital Executive Director, Louise Oriti joined staff in placing their fingerprints on the poles, which will be on permanent display in the staff courtyard.

“Ron spent over 100 hours of his own time, creating these beautiful pieces to proudly be displayed on our grounds. Thank you to Ron for your contribution to our hospital, I’m sure both staff and patients will enjoy these powerful pieces for many years to come,” Louise said.

Louise told the audience the hospital is committed to developing a Reconciliation Action Plan over the next 12 months.



Redcliffe Hospital Executive Director Louise Oriti, Director of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit Paul Drahm with Artist Ron Abala

“Redcliffe Hospital is committed to our reconciliation journey and closing the gap on health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples that access our services,” Louise said.

Koobara Family Fun Day at Zillmere

The annual Koobara Family Fun Day attracted a large crowd, with the celebration showcasing the 2018 NAIDOC theme

– *Because of her, we can!*

Aunty Ruth Hegarty joined her children on stage, discussing her life and sharing stories about their strong cultural upbringing and education influences.

Metro North Board Chair, Dr Robert Stable AM congratulated the organisers on a well put together event and highlighted the important message that – Indigenous Health is everyone’s business.

“I thank Aunty Ruth for sharing the message about good health and education. The main determinates of health are education,” Dr Stable said.



L-R; Indigenous Hospital Liaison Team Leader and Chair of the Koobara NAIDOC Event Committee Pat Kennedy, Director of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit Paul Drahm and Chair of the Metro North Board Dr Robert Stable AM.



Staff from Australian Catholic University with Elder Lionel Watego

Education gives you better jobs, housing and nutrition.

“The family unit is also important. It’s important to say my health is my business and my families’ business.”



Artist Anita Hogan with one of her creations



Aunty Ruth Hegarty (far right) with members from her family.



Staff from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit



Grace Hegarty picture with Indigenous community liaison officer Andrew Williams

Guruman Dancers perform as part of Gold Coast Commonwealth Games festivities

Guruman dancers had the opportunity to perform at the “Big Bang” Surfers Paradise, which was part of the Festival 2018 celebrations.

The night was an “explosion” of beats, drums and rhythms from various cultures within the Commonwealth.

Metro North Cultural Capability Officer Elwyn Henaway played Yiggy Yiggy as the Traditional Welcome was delivered before playing for the Guruman Dancers as they opened the night.

Guruman dancers told the story of the mullet run (along the coast), reading the environment for signs to start hunting mullet and hunting mullet. If hunting starts too early and the lead school of mullet is attacked, they will turn away from the beach. If the lead school of mullet turns away, all the schools of mullet behind them will turn away too. The elders tell us that if this happens then the mullet may not return for three or four seasons. Not only will you miss out for three or four seasons but your neighbours will miss out too. This may cause friction between you and your neighbours.

The troupe was well received as people cheered and whistled during the performance.

“The stage and the sound system was the biggest and loudest I have ever been on,” Elwyn said.

“Sitting on stage I could see for kilometres down the beach. When I started to play I could see people turn their heads and start moving down onto the beach.

“It was overwhelming to see the thousands of people move at the one time as they responded to the sound of Yiggy Yiggy.”

“Over all it was wonderful cultural experience and exchange.”



Health Benefits of Mullet

Key Nutrients

Mullet provides a high amount of omega fatty acids, a positive source of triglycerides. High in vitamin and mineral content, it is also an excellent source of essential amino acids including Histidine, Isoleucine, Leucine, Lysine, Methionine, Phenylalanine, Threonine, Tryptophan and Valine.

Health Benefits

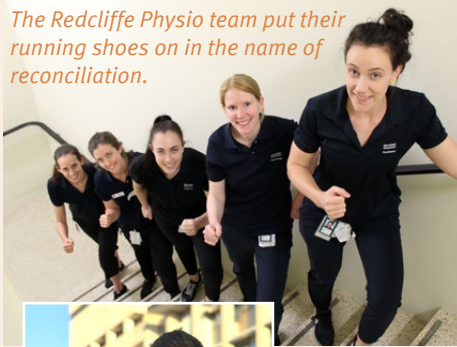
Essential amino acids provide the necessary building blocks for protein growth and development. This tends to promote healthy tissues and reduces the risk of certain cancers.



Elwyn Henaway pictured far right with the Guruman dance troupe

RECONCILIATION WEEK CELEBRATIONS

The Redcliffe Physio team put their running shoes on in the name of reconciliation.



Redcliffe Physiotherapist Scott McGufficke with the winning shield.

Race to the Roof for Reconciliation

It's a race to the top of Redcliffe Hospital, and it's all in the name of Reconciliation Week.

Redcliffe Hospital has again embraced Reconciliation Week with the Race to the Roof event, which challenges hospital workers to climb the 10 flights of stairs from the ground floor to level six as quickly as possible.

Last year the inaugural race was won by Dominic Clarke with a time of 25.25 seconds. This year, Scott McGufficke from Physiotherapy won with an impressive time of 24.0 seconds.

Indigenous Hospital Liaison Officer, Rox-anne Currie, said the event was a fun and healthy way to raise awareness about the significance of the week with two major milestones in Australia's reconciliation journey.

"The success of last year's inaugural race made this year's event bigger and better," Rox-anne said.

"Events like Reconciliation Week are essential to bridging the gap between our Indigenous and non-Indigenous staff. I am pleased to see our hospital staff jump on board with the race and to walk towards the path of reconciliation together."

North Lakes staff create Reconciliation Artwork

North Lakes staff created a massive piece of wall art to be displayed proudly at the precinct as part of Reconciliation Week celebrations.



TPCH celebrates Reconciliation Week



L-R Neressa Johnston, Peter Malouf, Aleacha Hopkins and Garth Fry.



Michelle Pieper and Jonathan Tapau.



Caley Malezer, Tahlia McNeight, Natasha White and Rayna Cowburn.



L-R Amarney Gould, Anthony Williams, Paul Drahm, Cherie Franks, Darsha Beetson and Natasha White.

Staff at The Prince Charles Hospital (TPCH) celebrated Reconciliation Week with a staff BBQ and planting a sea of hands outside Breeze Café.

The event, organised by Indigenous Hospital Liaison Team Leader Neressa Johnston and Lighthouse Project Clinical Nurse Consultant Darsha Beetson, brought together staff from across the hospital in recognition of reconciliation.

TPCH Executive Director Anthony Williams spoke to staff about initiatives at the hospital that aim to improve the care of Indigenous patients.

The Lighthouse Project is commissioning a mural and healing garden outside the Breeze Café for patients and staff to enjoy.



Meghan Jewell, Debbie Ranson and Carlie Lamont.

ACROSS METRO NORTH

Market Day success at RBWH

Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH) held their annual Reconciliation Market Day and art exhibition featuring local Indigenous stall holders and artists.

RBWH is also working with A&TSIHU to make the hospital a more comfortable and culturally welcoming environment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients by moving their extensive collection of Indigenous artworks to wards and clinical areas that are frequently visited including Medical Imaging and Cancer Care Services.

Culture sharing at Cooinda House

Horace Nona, Elwyn Henaway and Ronald Abala from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit visited residents at Cooinda and Brighton Health Campus as part of Mabo Day and Reconciliation Week.

Organised by Gannet House resident, Uncle George Wano, the residents and staff were treated to an afternoon of music, stories and artwork.

R: Indigenous Sexual Health Program Manager, Ronald Abala, took along some of his artwork for the event and explained the inspiration for his work.



A: Darrell Fisher with Uncle George Wano.



Reconciliation Morning Tea Pine Rivers

This year for National Reconciliation Week Pine Rivers Centre Manager Karen Mann and community health staff worked with Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) working group members Robyn Chilcott and Jarrod Parter to hold a morning tea to celebrate National Reconciliation Week.

The RAP identifies that all employees share responsibility and have a role in addressing health inequities experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It's a big and important step for CISS and for Metro

North to acknowledge this and plan out the work that needs to be done to achieve the goals set out in the RAP.

Thank you and congratulations to the teams at Pine Rivers Community Health Centre who participated in the morning tea and quiz that was led by Dr Kerryn Harvey from the CISS Executive team. It was great to see our workers and Elders from the community spending time with centre staff. A great time was had by all.

R: Staff from the Pine Rivers Community Health Centre.



L: Indigenous student trainees Charlize Anderson (left) and Talia Penny (right) with Dr Kerryn Harvey.

Darkness to Daylight Challenge 2018

Queensland Health teams participated in the Darkness to Daylight run as a way to highlight the ongoing issue of domestic and family violence. Last year, over 120 Queensland Health employees from across the state participated in the run.

As part of our ongoing commitment to raising awareness about domestic and family violence a Queensland Health teams registered for 2018. Pam Lenoy, Delma Dorman and Chloe Marshall from the Indigenous Acute and Primary Care Team participated in the event in May to show support and raise awareness about domestic violence. The walk went from Southbank to Kangaroo Point (110 km). Our staff walked a total of 70kms combined in a relay style to complete the course.

DFV is a community issue, and it is a workplace issue.

Your individual actions make a difference to the community we serve and contribute to a safe, inclusive and supportive workplace.

For further information contact DFVHRSupport@health.qld.gov.au





Aspley State High School students.

Cardiovascular disease is the leading driver in the health gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians in Queensland.

The purpose of the program is to raise awareness about cardiovascular disease amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youths in secondary schools within Metro North Hospital and Health Service. The program aims to empower youths with the knowledge and skills needed, in order to make healthy lifestyle choices.

This in turn, would assist in working towards prevention of heart disease and ultimately, closing the gap in life expectancy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in Queensland.

The Indigenous Acute and Primary Care team held another Healthy Heart Program at Aspley State High School recently.

The feedback from the students and school was extremely positive. In particular, the group enjoyed the Zumba activity as well as information that was delivered on cardiac care from Cecelia Boyd Oxford (CISS).



Aspley State High Students – Zumba activity.



Renee Parter
(Teachers Aid) and
William Campbell.



Aunty Brenda Kanofski
and William Campbell.

All staff were involved in the program and speaking with students on issues of concern. In addition, the students enjoyed the speech from Elder Aunty Brenda Kanofski. The students, school principal and Teachers Aid were very supportive of our program and have invited the team to return in the near future to provide a program to other students.

Nalingu Respite Centre Open Day

Staff from the Acute and Primary Care service and Ngarrama Family attended an open day at Nalingu Respite Centre.

The Nalingu Respite Centre opened in 1998. Nalingu means “You and Me”. Their Logo is the possum which is associated with the Gungurri tribe originally from Mitchell area in Western Queensland.

Ann Baxter from Ngarrama Family said the open day gave the centre the opportunity for community to be involved and connected.

“It was a very welcoming, caring and inviting environment. The centre supports clients and the person who cares for them to live the life they want,” Ann said.

“We were very privileged to listen to a presentation from Elder Aunty Ruth Hegarty who played an important role in establishing the service many years ago.”



L-R; Aleacha Hopkins, Rayna Cowburn, Jenny MacDonald (back row), William Campbell, Sandra Markwell and Ann Baxter (front row).

Celebrating our wonderful nurses and midwives

Metro North celebrated two special milestones during May, the International Day of the Midwife (5 May) and International Nurses' Day (12 May). Meet some of our wonderful staff making a difference in the lives of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients.



Ngarrama Midwife Maddy with new mum Skye and baby Achilles at Caboolture Hospital.



Ngarrama Royal midwives with Evelyn and baby.



Above and Left: Nurses at Aspley Community Health Centre celebrated International Nursing Day with a special morning tea.



“We love working as Child Health Nurses because we have a passion for promoting a nurturing and supportive environment in which children can have a healthy start to life, and continue to thrive and grow.” – Ngarrama Family Child Health Nurses Ann Baxter and Jenny MacDonald.

Values in Action Film

Metro North recently launched a ‘Values in Action’ campaign for the 18,000 plus staff working across the organisation.

Chief Executive, Shaun Drummond said values in action means feeling proud of where you work.

“This means right from when we recruit and choose the people we want on our team, we’re looking out for the people who are ready to put our values into action,” he said.

“Values in action is an extension of our Putting people first strategy, focusing on improving

our systems, culture and engagement to create a more inviting environment for everyone.

“Our new values based orientation inducts new staff into our culture and provides examples of how living our values can make a real difference to the people we care for and their families. We are also integrating values-based principles into our recruitment and performance management.”

Staff from the Indigenous Hospital Services after hours team had the opportunity to take part in the



L-R; Robert Brown, Cessa O'Reilly, Janet Layton and Alintia Williams from the After Hours Service.

Values in Action film, highlighting their role and commitment to improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health outcomes.

To view the video visit <https://metronorth.health.qld.gov.au/about-us/values-in-action>

What are Metro North Values?



RESPECT • INTEGRITY • COMPASSION • HIGH PERFORMANCE • TEAMWORK

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker Course

In March 2018 Cancer Council Queensland provided two workshops for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers in the Greater Brisbane region. The two-day courses included information on cancer and cancer treatment, the prevention, screening and early detection of cancer, and end-of-life care.



Caring for our Community – Brisbane course participants.

Songwoman Maroochy provided a very moving Welcome to Country to open the first course held in Fortitude Valley. Uncle Wally Renouf shared his connections to the land in a warm Welcome to Country for the second course held in Springfield.

Twenty-three Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers from a variety of health, liaison and nursing roles participated in the two courses. They were actively engaged and contributed much to the sharing and learning.

Guest speakers from the Queensland Health Screening Unit, PEPA (Program of Experience in the Palliative Approach), IUIH (Institute of Urban Indigenous Health), Mater Cancer Care and Cancer Council Queensland provided excellent presentations and the feedback from

“I learnt more information about Aboriginal health in these two days than I did in my entire undergraduate course” Tanya Grant, radiologist.

participants highlighted how relevant they found the topics.

The staff at the Radiation Oncology Unit at Princess Alexandra Hospital Raymond Terrace provided a tour that gave participants a behind the scenes look at how the equipment worked and an insight into the experience of patients receiving radiation therapy. The team at Mater Springfield Cancer Care also provided a tour of their radiation and chemotherapy facilities which participants said was invaluable.

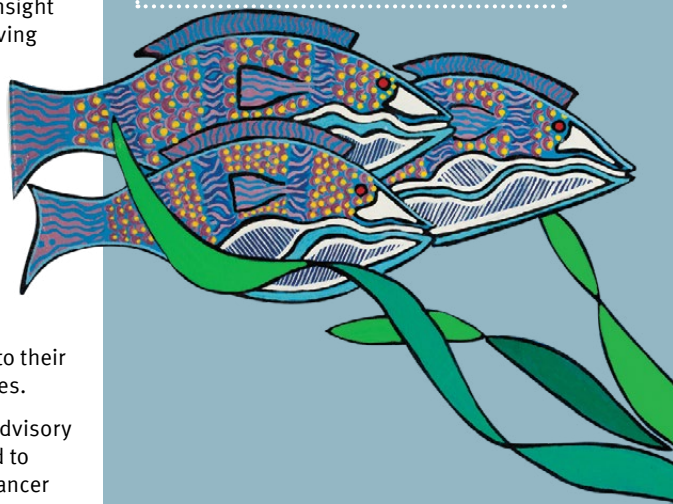
While the course contained content that was challenging, facilitators handled the material with sensitivity and engaged participants in meaningful discussions that they will take back to their families, workplaces and communities.

We thank the members of the local advisory group and everyone who contributed to these workshops. This project is a Cancer Australia Supporting people with cancer Grant initiative, funded by the Australian Government.

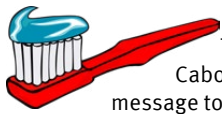
Word of
the Month:

“Molum”

Molum (Mow-Lum) means child from the Yugara language. Yugara is the name of one of the Aboriginal languages spoken in the Brisbane area west to Ipswich and the Lockyer Valley. The language was spoken and understood by Aboriginal groups in the Greater Brisbane area, including neighbouring groups of Turubul, Yugambeh and Yugarabul.



Brush your teeth so you're looking good!



The young mob from Tullawong schools in Caboolture have a simple message to their peers – Brush your teeth so you're looking good!

The Tullawong State School dental van staff had noticed a significant drop in the number of Indigenous children coming to dental appointments and knew something

different had to be done that would help get attendance back on track.

The young Indigenous students joined with community Elder Gene Blow to produce a hip-hop video that tells a unique story about the importance of good oral health and proper strong teeth for a deadly smile. The local students also performed the 'Strong Teeth' theme song.

The video was shot at several locations including Mary Cairncross Park in Maleny, Centenary Lakes in Caboolture and Tullawong State School's dental van.

To view the video, visit the Metro North website - <https://metronorth.health.qld.gov.au/news/brush-teeth-youre-looking-good>

Improving maternity outcomes for Indigenous families



L-R: IBUS Research Officer Dr Sophie Hickey, Aboriginal Community Research Assistants Sarah-Jade Maidment and Kayla Heinemann, Dr Yvette Roe with members from the Ngarrama Midwifery team Indigenous Health Worker Janet Dunn, Midwives Sonita Guidice, Karen Bennett and Rynae Ruddell.

them the opportunity to reflect on their birthing experience," Sarah said.

Mater Research's Midwifery Research Unit Senior Research Fellow Dr Yvette Roe said since the study commenced there had been a higher referral rate into BIOC.

"If we don't do anything to change how maternity services are delivered to Indigenous mothers, we are not going to close the gap in child mortality and improve birthing outcomes," Dr Roe said.

"We know that if you have a culturally competent workforce it can result in better outcomes.

"If women have access to services, transport, Indigenous liaison officers in hospital and a timely and quality service, that makes a difference."

"If you engage with women early in their pregnancy, ensure that the service is mother-and baby-centred and has Indigenous-led community governance, it makes a difference to reducing pre-term birth rates."

The long-term aim of the study is to push for testing the birthing on country model, an Indigenous-led midwifery service with its own midwifery group practice and holistic wrap around service that meets the social and cultural needs of the women.

"The next step for us is having a community birthing service. The Indigenous community will decide what that looks like and it has to be done in partnership with tertiary hospitals," Dr Roe said.

A five year study is providing evidence to improve maternity outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in South East Queensland.

The Indigenous Birthing in an Urban Setting (IBUS) study is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council in partnership with the Mater Mothers Hospital, the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health, and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service Brisbane Ltd.

Pregnant women are recruited at the Ngarrama maternity service at Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH) as the comparison site and the Birthing in our Community (BIOC) program at Mater Mothers Hospital as the intervention site.

IBUS Research Officer Dr Sophie Hickey said by the end of this year over 600 women would have been recruited to the study with two surveys conducted pre and post-childbirth.

"We have two Aboriginal community research assistants, Kayla Heinemann and Sarah-Jade Maidment, undertaking recruitment and data collection according to Good Clinical Practice Guidelines and in a culturally safe and supportive manner," she said.

Sarah, an Arrernte woman from Alice Springs, attends the Ngarrama clinics at RBWH and Zillmere Community Health Centre each week.

"What interested me in this role was being able to talk to women and hear their stories. As a mother I feel like I can relate to these women and I like that I can give

IN FOCUS

CISS Volunteers committed to delivering culturally appropriate care

Our Volunteers will proudly wear Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Australian Flag pins as part of the commitment to deliver culturally appropriate service across Community, Indigenous and Subacute Services (CISS).



Cultural Capability Officer Horace Nona presented the volunteers with the new pins and acknowledgement cards as part of National Volunteers Week celebrations held at Brighton Health Campus.

He told the volunteers they play an important role to delivering culturally appropriate care, as they are often the first point of contact for Indigenous patients and clients entering CISS facilities.

Torres Strait Islander resident at Gannet House Uncle George Wano recently highlighted this during National Close the Gap Day celebrations.

“When I see the Indigenous shirts, artefacts and the flags it makes me feel at home. I am much more easily treated when I feel at home,” Uncle George said.

What do the flags represent?

Aboriginal



The Australian Aboriginal Flag was designed in 1971 by Aboriginal artist Harold Thomas, who is descended from the Luritja people of Central Australia and holds intellectual property rights to the flag's design. The flag was originally designed for the land rights movement, and it became a symbol of the Aboriginal people of Australia.

The symbolic meaning of the flag colours is:

- Black – represents the Aboriginal people of Australia
- Yellow circle – represents the Sun, the giver of life and protector
- Red – represents the red earth, the red ochre used in ceremonies and Aboriginal peoples' spiritual relation to the land.

Torres Strait Islander



The Torres Strait Islander Flag was designed in 1992 by Bernard Namok. It won a local competition held by the Islands Coordinating Council, and was recognised by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission in June 1992.

The symbolic meaning of the flag colours is:

- Green – panels at the top and the bottom of the flag symbolise the land, while the blue panel in the centre represents the waters of the Torres Strait.
- Black stripes - between the green and blue panels signify the Torres Strait Islanders themselves.
- The white five-pointed star - at the centre of the flag represents the five major island groups.
- The white dhari (dancer's headdress) around it also symbolises the Torres Strait Islands people. White symbolises peace, while the star is a symbol for navigation.



Identification: It's your right to a healthier life

“It assists with providing better health outcomes. If you don't identify who you are as a person you may not get the care you need. If you identify as Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander our healthcare system can provide a service specific to what you need. That's why it's important to identify. For me as a health care professional if I know if someone identifies as Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander, I will make sure I go above and beyond to provide a specific person for their needs. I hope all health services across the board feel that way.”

Joshua Riggs, Physiotherapist



A Day in the Life of Joshua Rigg



1. What does your current role involve?

I'm a new graduate physiotherapist. My first rotation is with the Community Based Rehabilitation Team. The program is for clients who are medically stable, but still have functional goals to be achieved within the 8-12 week period post a hospital stay.

We have a broad range of conditions we see, from stroke to orthopaedics, anything that has affected their mobility, strength and balance. We also refer on after the 12-week period to our services such as the Complex Chronic Disease team or to a nurse navigator. We also work closely with speech therapists, occupational therapists and social workers.

I use the philosophy of keeping it functional. It's meaningful for people if you're doing what they want to do. You get better results that way.

2. Did you always want to be a physiotherapist?

I grew up with a sporting fanatic family. That's what started it.

When I was 10 years old, my nan and dad both suffered an aneurysm. They both had to undergo extensive rehabilitation. That gave me insight into the role of a physiotherapist, a different side to the sporting element.

I actually went to university for maths and PE teaching, I only did half a year as I didn't like it and wasn't ready for university. I left and got a job as a personal trainer after completing my certificate. I found myself wanting more and more, after talking with mum and dad they said 'why don't you just be a physio'. I didn't have the marks at school; I didn't know anything about university courses as no one in my family had been before.

I had to do a year of exercise science and transfer into physiotherapy. I've never looked back!

3. You mentioned you were the first in your family to graduate university, what advice do you have for others wanting to follow a similar career path to you?

Firstly, be open to new experiences. I was lucky to attend Nudgee College and have the experience of living in a city. Be open to change, it's not home, but you can make do and there are people to help you.

Secondly, don't be afraid to ask for help. Don't limit yourself or think you are not smart enough. If you don't have the grades, it doesn't mean you're not smart enough and don't be afraid to make changes, you don't have to finish the degree you can change, modify or take different career paths.

Finally, dream and achieve. We put so much emphasis on getting good marks I think we forget what you want to be achieving out of school. I didn't get the marks to be a physio, but I still got there in the end.

4. You recently started shadowing our Indigenous Community Health Workers one day a week, how have you found the experience?

One of my passions is to work in Indigenous Health. CISS Director of Physiotherapy, Stephen Cameron was able to organise for me to shadow the Indigenous Acute and Primary Care team each Wednesday to understand their roles and to further enhance my experience as a new graduate.

I feel very blessed to be able to sit with the team once a week. I admire their work; they do a lot of cultural training for clinicians as well. We all say we want patient-centred care; this team brings back the philosophy of patient-centred care.

Some of the things I've learnt is to have a conversation with the client before talking clinical. If you ask how they are doing and are sincere about it, you'll find out if they have been walking or doing their exercises as they will actually tell you in a more approachable way. As busy clinicians we can get caught up and sometimes miss valuable parts of information. I think that's what the team achieves, they get the more important information - the general wellbeing, mental health aspects, and their concerns, what they want out of therapy - rather than just doing therapy.

I'm currently working with Steve Cameron to look at ways to deliver a culturally specific physiotherapy program. I'd love to make a program that prevents chronic illness with Indigenous people.

5. You would like to work in a rural and remote community to help Indigenous people living with Machado Joseph disease. Can you tell me more about the condition?

My final placement at Groote Eylandt (50 km from the Northern Territory mainland) started my understanding of culturally specific client-centred care. You had to do it up there otherwise you will get nowhere.

I worked with the mines and also in community health. The community role was with the Machado Joseph Disease Foundation. Nick Kenny who I worked with has a good relationship with the community. They trust him and he is able to do more clinical work from the foundations he has established.

Machado-Joseph Disease (MJD) is a hereditary neuro degenerative condition. MJD occurs because of a fault in a

chromosome that results in the production of an abnormal protein. This protein causes nerve cells to die prematurely in a part of the brain called the cerebellum. The damage to the cerebellum initially causes muscular weakness and progresses over time to a total lack of voluntary control and very significant permanent physical disability.

There's no cure and you get progressively worse which is quite sad. MJD foundation is doing fantastic work advocating for these people.

We did a lot of 'on country days'. On the outside it looks like we were just going to the beach with four people but the amount of physiotherapy we got done was great. We were walking on sand, uneven surfaces, holding hands to squat, walking in the water. We just did what was fun and functional.

6. How does physiotherapy help with those suffering MJD?

We can't reverse the disease or stop people from deteriorating, however observational studies show physiotherapy can help. By providing functional exercises, it can help with the patients' mental health, to feel stronger and more balanced. We're enabling them to keep functioning, even though the disease is progressing.

7. Where do you come from and what's your family history?

I've got ancestry back to Walwin Country in Comboyne in northwest New South Wales. I grew up in Wiradjuri Country in Cowra.

I've also got English, Scottish and Irish and Italian heritage. A blend of cultures!

8. Finally, why are you proud to identify as Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander?

I am proud because it's who I am. We are very lucky to have this country all to ourselves. It's something to be embraced. I also embrace my English, Scottish and Italian heritage. It's who I am as a person. I think everyone should be proud, we all have a story and we should tell it and people should be open to share it.

TPCH Garden/Mural Opening

Lighthouse Project

Thursday August 9, 2018

12 Noon

TPCH Healing Garden
outside the Common
Good Café

Staff, patients
and community
members are invited
to attend the official
opening of The Prince
Charles Hospital healing
garden and mural.

The event coincides with the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples.
The celebration will feature a Welcome to Country, traditional dancing and a sausage sizzle.
Mural will be unveiled and garden named. An Elders film will also be presented for the audience.



Vision

To ensure that all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within the Metro North Hospital and Health Service catchment and beyond, have equitable access to health services that are culturally appropriate and culturally safe.

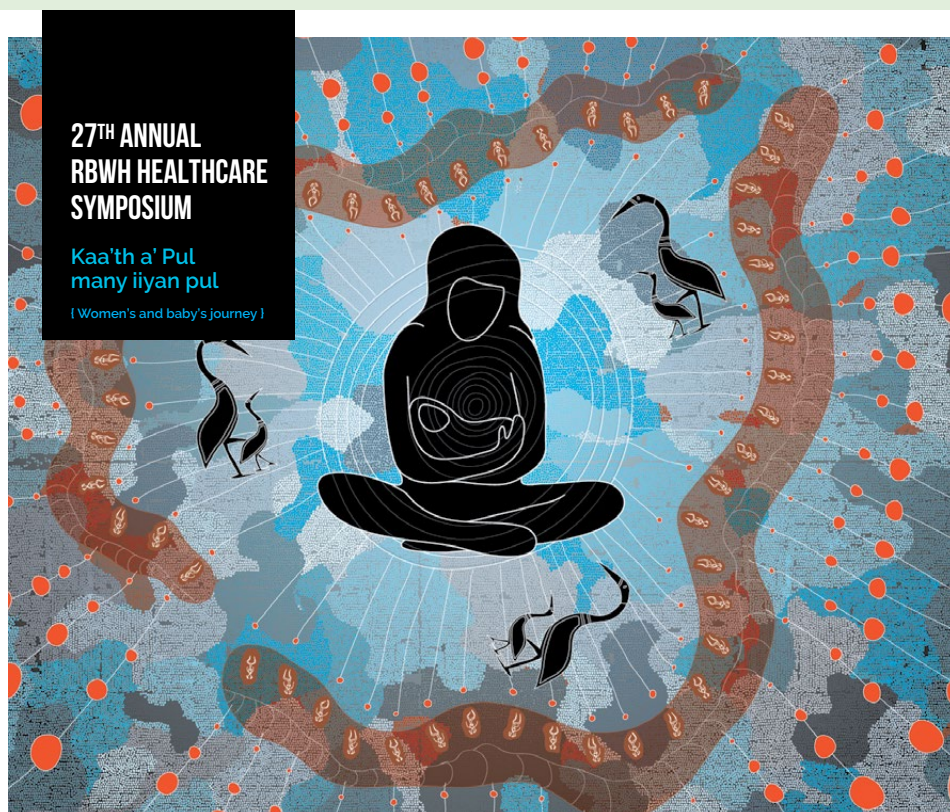
Mission

To increase health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within the MNHHS area and to urban, and rural and remote communities across Queensland in order to improve health outcomes and contribute to the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) Close the Gap initiatives.

We will do so by delivering high quality and culturally safe holistic health care to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients, families and their communities accessing our hospitals and facilities.

Core Values

- To be committed, honest and work together for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- To advocate for positive health outcomes
- To display respect and dignity to our patients and their communities
- To respect our patients cultural beliefs and understand their needs



27TH ANNUAL
RBWH HEALTHCARE
SYMPOSIUM

Kaa'th a' Pul
many iyan pul

[Women's and baby's journey]

11-13 SEPTEMBER 2018

RBWH Education Centre
Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital
Butterfield Street, Herston, Brisbane

For more information visit <https://metronorth.health.qld.gov.au/events/rbwh-healthcare-symposium> or contact the events office on 07 3646 1525

Motherhood by David Williams of Giliimbaa

80
YEARS OF
WOMEN'S
HEALTH

ROYAL BRISBANE AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL



We welcome your feedback, contributions, story ideas and details on any upcoming events.

Please contact Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit Communications Manager Renee Simon at Renee.Simon@health.qld.gov.au or phone (07) 3139 3233.



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