



We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which our facilities are built. We also pay respect and acknowledge Elders past, present and the future.

Kia Ora CKW team,

Caboolture Hospital proudly unveiled a traditional Torres Strait Islander Dhoeri Headdress on Wednesday 11 June, as a powerful symbol of respect, recognition and commitment to cultural safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Tracy Grant Manager of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Services, Janita Adams Cultural Capability Officer, Sherry Holzapfel Executive Director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and I, welcomed staff, Elders and community members from across Southeast Queensland. I was blown away with how many people were in attendance, which only affirmed for me how special this momentous occasion was for Caboolture Hospital.

The Torres Strait Islander Headdress, or Dhoeri, was originally displayed in a Cairns Art Gallery in 2022. The Headdress was made by artist Mr Thomas Pedro in honour of the 30th Anniversary of the Mabo Decision - this year marks the 33rd Anniversary of the Mabo Decision. Mr Pedro, a Torres Strait Islander artist – makes headdresses and no two headdresses are alike. We are fortunate to have secured this unique headdress. The Caboolture Hospital Redevelopment Project team, namely Jordan Duncan, was instrumental in procuring this beautiful artefact.

The Dhoeri now has a permanent home in a display cabinet by the main front door of the hospital and was officially unveiled by two Torres Strait Islander men from the community. I invite you all to take some time to view the Dhoeri and other artworks in the foyer.

This installation is an invitation to deepen our understanding and reaffirm our shared responsibility to foster a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for all. This moment marks another step forward in our commitment to listening, learning and walking alongside our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and colleagues.

A big thank you to our special guests, Dr Peter Aitken Metro North Board Member and Dr Liz Rushbrook Acting Chief Executive, Metro North Health and Sherry Holzapfel Executive Director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health for attending this event. I also want to acknowledge Janita Adams, Parker Michaels and Kirby Harwood for their hard work in putting this wonderful event together.



National Blood Donor Week

This week is National Blood Donor Week which aims to raise awareness about the critical need for blood and plasma donations and the importance of effective blood management.

The CKW Blood Management Committee held an information stall in the main foyer this week and facilitated multiple in-services covering a range of blood management topics.

I was sorry to miss the Grand Round presentation by Dr Steven Hocken on Thursday on post-partum haemorrhage, I heard it was great. I hope many of you got to tune in.

If you're keen to join the blood donor community and help save lives, please visit lifeblood.com.au, or download the Donate Blood app. Lifeblood are in particular need of O- type blood at the moment so please if you are an O-type (or anyone else) consider donating.



OUR FUTURE WORKFORCE

Congratulations to school-based trainee Zoe McTaggart

Congratulations to Zoe McTaggart who was successful in obtaining a School-Based Traineeship



with Caboolture Hospital, completing a Certificate III Business Administration.

Zoe started in January 2024 and completed in April 2025. Zoe was nominated for the 2025 Queensland Training Awards – North Coast Region and - out of more than 500 applicants, was chosen as one of the top three finalists in our region!

Zoe will represent herself, Caboolture Hospital and our School-Based Traineeship program at the North Coast Region awards night in Maroochydore in late July.

Best of luck, Zoe.

Metro North mentoring program



A great addition to our learning and development offering, and off the back of Have Your Say feedback in 2023, the Metro North Mentoring Program has launched.

A structured, yet flexible initiative designed to foster meaningful mentoring relationships—empowering mentees to take the lead in choosing their mentor through a ‘self-service’ approach but offering support and resources for both parties to get the most out of the experience.

I encourage you to visit the new [Mentoring QHEPS pages](#) and take advantage of all the information on offer. You will find the mentor bio platform where 50 Metro North mentors have already introduced themselves, allowing potential mentees to connect directly. If you're interested in joining the mentor pool, fill out the [expression of interest](#).

Men's Health Week



As a female, I am often focused on women's health, however, the men in our circle, professional and personal are so important and this week is **Men's Health Week**.

The key theme this year is to encourage men to **'See Your GP'** and have regular check-ups not just when feeling unwell.

Early identification can reduce long term risks as well as improve mental wellbeing by building relationships with a healthcare provider.

Around two thirds of Australian men don't see a doctor straight away when they notice a problem, which can ultimately make it worse.

A recent survey by Mentoring Men Program showed:

- 47% of men aged 35-50 experience general stress and anxiety
- 36% struggle with maintaining relationships
- 24% are experiencing parenting-related stress

- 95% believe support would help but many don't access it

Other statistics include a lower life expectancy than women, higher rates of substance misuse and chronic illness and suicide rates three times higher than women.

Let's see if we can reduce those statistics by raising awareness starting with our own team, family, friends and patients that we encounter. The [Know your man facts](#) resource has some great information on men's health relevant for all.

For all our male team members out there – we can't do this without you – please take this week to look after yourselves and hear us as we tell you that we care and want you here with us in good health for the long journey.

Have Your Say next steps



Have Your Say staff survey closed on Sunday and the final participation rate for CKW was 43 per cent.

I sincerely thank all of you who took time to share feedback. Although we didn't reach our Metro North-wide goal of 52 per cent participation rate (or the 70 per cent we were aiming for here at CKW), we're proud to have seen the highest number of staff participate to date with 10,815 surveys accessed across Metro North.

The results are expected to be released in August and we will then start to plan, as a directorate, how we work with you to achieve improvements acknowledging your feedback.

If you're a manager, please stay up to date on the all the resources and information available to you on the [Managers Toolkit QHEPS page](#), so you feel prepared to communicate your results at a team level and get the most out of the survey. Please join the managers vidcast on 24 June – [Have Your Say: Goal setting and taking action](#) to learn more about the simplified way to take action as a team.

What's On - June

JUNE

'25

WHAT'S ON

- ★ PRIDE MONTH
- ★ BOWEL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH
- ★ INTERNATIONAL MENS HEALTH WEEK 9 - 15 JUNE
- ★ RECONCILIATION WEEK 27 MAY - 3 JUNE
- ★ NATIONAL BURNS AWARENESS MONTH

- ★ MABO DAY - TUESDAY 3 JUNE
- ★ CRAZY SOCKS 4 DOCS - FRIDAY 6 JUNE
- ★ QUEENSLAND DAY - FRIDAY 6 JUNE
- ★ WORLD BLOOD DONOR DAY - SATURDAY 14 JUNE
- ★ MND/ALS AWARENESS DAY - SATURDAY 21 JUNE

CKW EVENTS

- MABO DAY/TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEADRESS UNVEILING - WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE
- CKW STAFF FORUM - WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE

Occupational Violence and Aggression

We have seen an increase in OVP reports over the last month. It is concerning that our staff and patients have been exposed to this, however, I am glad to see people reporting these events.

Patients with inability to self-manage behaviours should have plans in place. For patients with competence, any aggression shown towards staff should not be tolerated.

If these situations should arise, a reminder to:

- Report all incidents through RiskMan so it ends up in right place for reporting
- Report all incidents to your line manager
- Contact the CKW OVP Advisor [Shane Turner](#)

As a clinical directorate, we plan to redo our OVAs in our clinical areas soon.

Reflection



Well, the weather has certainly chilled down this week in Queensland. I'm back in gloves and a beanie for my runs (I know I am a sook when it comes to cold), and on Tuesday, when I went to Kilcoy, it was that beautiful cold clear crisp country morning that makes your nose freeze as your senses become astute. I find the change of seasons and weather, a time to really stop and reflect on what we are grateful for and have achieved.

This week, I reflected on how big the roll out of ieMR was and how it truly changes every aspect of our professional work. As I moved around Caboolture and Kilcoy, it was great to hear from staff that they are starting to feel a bit more comfortable and settled.

A few key reminders though:

- Turn your screens off when you are not with your WOWs – we must protect the privacy of the patients.
- Speak to your patients not your computer/WOW when you are with your patient (it is so easy to forget this as we train our brains to work with a screen attached to us almost!)

Again, I just want to thank you all for the amazing job you all do and remind you all to reflect on our achievements over the last few months. Whether it was the role out of ieMR, managing big days through our emergency departments, or improvements in our Opioid Substitution (OST) program.

Please take some time to enjoy some downtime over the next few days to regenerate and refresh.

Quote of the day

"People who are truly strong lift others up. People who are truly powerful bring others together."

Michelle Obama



Got a question or suggestion for the CKW Executive Director?

EMAIL ASK KARLENE



Kind regards,

Karlene Willcocks

Executive Director,

Caboolture, Kilcoy and Woodford



**Metro North
Health**



**Queensland
Government**

Produced by the Metro North Communication Directorate