

Metro North Health

Message from the

## Executive Director The Prince Charles Hospital

Tami Photinos



### Summary:

- Multi-storey car park progress
- The Common Good Research Awards
- DonateLife Week
- Schwartz Rounds
- Special recognition – Margie Morton 50 years of nursing
- Staff profile – Darcy Smith, Dietitian
- Shout out – Medical Education Accreditation

Message feedback



Audience: All staff



Read time: 4 min



For: Information

Dear team,

We've seen great momentum this past week with progress on the new multi-storey car park and some well-earned recognition for our teams.

The new car park has been open for almost two weeks and has welcomed thousands of vehicles through. There's still work underway and we're on track to having a fully integrated parking system across the campus.

In the coming weeks, the express ramp will open, the refurbished existing multi-storey car park will reopen from Monday 11 August and additional wayfinding signage will be added. Work will soon start to install parking technology across at-grade car parks, ahead of site wide tariffing expected from late September. As part of these changes, some temporary parking areas will return to their original use. We'll continue to keep you informed as the rollout progresses.

### Executive update

This week, I attended The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation's annual Research Awards. The Foundation awarded 40 grants across eight categories including New Investigators, Research Fellowships, PhD Scholarships and Collaboration grants. In total, these grants represent \$2.4M in research funding – all made possible through the generous support of

the community, corporate partners and philanthropic donors.

A special highlight was hearing from Professor Greg Scalia, Clinical Director Echocardiography, who shared reflections on 25 years of research at TPC's Echo Lab. What began under the leadership of Dr Mark O'Brien has developed into a leading centre of innovation, known for its work in advanced 3D imaging and minimally invasive therapies.



As Greg shared, it's been a privilege to see the evolution in echocardiography and the Echo Lab remains a place of discovery, learning and excellence in cardiac ultrasound.

### DonateLife Week

This DonateLife Week (27 July – 3 August), we're supporting the national call to register as an organ and tissue donor. Every one donor can save up to seven lives and transform many more through eye and tissue donation.

Despite strong support for donation, only one in three Australians are currently registered. It takes less than a minute to register through Medicare or at [donatelife.gov.au](https://donatelife.gov.au). You could one day be the reason someone gets a second chance at life.



Metro North Health

# Schwartz Rounds

**Compassionate conversations about being human in healthcare**

Multidisciplinary sessions where all healthcare workers (clinical and non-clinical) can listen, discuss and reflect on the emotional and social aspects of providing care.

For more information or to register [Click here](#)

All staff, both clinical and non-clinical, are invited to the next Schwartz Round – '*The consumer I will never forget.*'

**Date:** Tuesday 29 July

**Time:** 1–2pm (doors open 12:30pm)

**Location:** TPCH Education Centre

Hosted by the Metro North Mental Health Psychiatry Consultation Liaison Team, Schwartz Rounds is a chance to reflect on the emotional and social aspects of working in healthcare. For more information visit the [Schwartz Rounds](#) page on QHEPS.

### Special recognition for 50 years of nursing – Margaret Morton

This week, we celebrated Margie's remarkable 50 years in nursing. Margie began her nursing career in 1975 as a student nurse at Princess Alexandra Hospital. Since then, she's cared for countless Queenslanders across various wards, bringing compassionate care, leadership and advocacy to every role. For the past 23 years, she has called TPCH home, where she now works as Senior Clinical Trials Coordinator in the Internal Medicine Dementia Research Unit.

Her dedication to supporting people with dementia continues to inspire her work and is a key factor in the unit's success.

Reflecting on her career, she shared:

*"We have a unique opportunity to support people in their most vulnerable moments and help them make it through the day with respect and dignity."*

Congratulations Margie and thank you for five special decades of care.



### Staff profile – Darcy Smith

Darcy is one of TPCH's newest dietitians, joining earlier this year through the New Graduate program after working as a Dietitian Assistant at RBWH. She now provides specialised care to inpatients across Rehab and Acute Stroke, Orthopaedics and Geriatrics, supporting their recovery through tailoring nutrition plans to each patient's individual needs. Darcy sees nutrition as a vital part of recovery and values the strong, supportive relationships she builds with her patients.

Outside the hospital, you'll likely find her on a run, experimenting with new recipes or reading a good book. She's also training for the Sunshine Coast Half Marathon!



### Shout out

Well done to Mel Rule and the Medical Education team for the successful accreditation of our Medical Education and Simulation Special Skills Placement by the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM) Accreditation Committee.

This is a fantastic result following the routine five year review, commending the program for its structure, comprehensive training and continued quality since 2011. The 12-month program is a valuable learning journey for ACEM trainees and it's great to see this work formally recognised.

Kind regards

**Tami Photinos**  
Executive Director  
The Prince Charles Hospital

**Metro North Health**



We uphold our commitment to health equity through our Values in Action  
Respect | Integrity | Compassion | High Performance | Teamwork



Metro North Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Land upon which we live, work and walk, and pay our respects to Elders both past and present.

**Metro North Health's vision**  
Creating healthier futures together—where innovation and research meets compassionate care and community voices shape our services.



**Queensland  
Government**

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