

Message from the

Acting ED Caboolture, Kilcoy and Woodford

Dr Ted Chamberlain



Summary:

- Severe weather
- November Star of Service and Values Awards
- Join the CKW Falls Working Group
- Key appointments - Facility Services Director
- CKW Pet of the Week

[Message feedback](#)



Audience: All staff



Read time: 4 min



For: Information

Dear CKW team,

This week's weather brought rain, hail and shine to the Moreton Bay community, including some of our staff, who have been without power for most of the week due to impacts from the storm. CKW was the most affected directorate across Metro North, and we also operated under a temporary Tier 3 response due to increased patient demand. Despite this, our teams once again stepped up with incredible resilience. Thank you to everyone who has gone above and beyond to support our patients and community. If you've been personally impacted, please touch base with your line manager so we can make sure you have the support you need.

On Tuesday, Metro North Health activated the [Heatwave Response Sub-Plan](#), and I'd like to remind everyone the Metro North extranet site designed to keep everyone across our [emergency and disaster response activities](#).

Thank you for continuing to look out for each other, prioritise safety, and show kindness to our patients, families and colleagues. Your dedication to the Caboolture, Kilcoy and Woodford communities is truly appreciated.

CKW November Star of Service and Values Awards

Unfortunately, we had to cancel the Staff Forum on Wednesday due to competing Tier 3 priorities, but I am pleased to announce the **CKW Star of Service winners for November** are **Rosie, Kamlesh, Arti, Harjinder and Lauren** from ward 3A and 3C for their work in putting



the Diwali Celebrations together.

Rosie, Kamlesh, Arti, Harjinder and Lauren lit up Caboolture with a wonderful Diwali celebration — and wow, did they do an incredible job! The team prepared delicious food, brought in special cultural items to share, and, with the help of Parker, Kirby and many of their colleagues, created a truly memorable event. It was a joyful afternoon full of colour, connection, great food and even some dancing!

I also want to acknowledge a few more individuals/teams for Values in Action awards for November:

- Leonie Porter – High Performance
- Nicky Cartwright – Teamwork
- Hayley Renouf – Compassion
- Erika Kovacs - Teamwork
- Sophie Wallace – Teamwork
- Tim McMahon – High Performance

Congratulations to the recipients for this month. Keep an eye out for your certificate which will be sent out via the appropriate service lines.



Farwell (for now) to Dr Iain Borthwick

Dr Iain Borthwick, who has been a valued MOPS consultant at Caboolture Hospital since February 2013, is taking a well-earned year of long service leave to spend time with his family.

Throughout his time with us, Iain has made significant contributions as both a general physician and geriatrician. He has played a central role in establishing and leading the

Caboolture Stroke Service, as well as the Geriatrics MDT with Kilcoy Hospital, alongside countless hours dedicated to ward rounds and outpatient clinics.

Iain has also been an outstanding teacher and mentor, supervising, training, and examining many junior doctors - several of whom have since joined the department as consultant colleagues.

We will miss him greatly and wish him all the very best for a wonderful and refreshing year ahead.

Join the CKW Falls Working Group

Falls are one of the most common and serious safety risks in healthcare. Even a single fall can impact a patient's recovery, confidence, and independence, leading to longer hospital

stays and delayed rehabilitation. Strengthening our falls prevention strategies is one of the most effective ways we can protect patients and support safer, high-quality care.

The CKW Falls Working Group is a chance to collaborate with colleagues, share expertise, and develop practical initiatives that reduce falls across our facility. The commitment is just one hour per month. If you are interested, please contact DON-Caboolture@health.gov.au or david.thompson2@health.qld.gov.au.

Please ensure you have your line manager's approval before applying. Your contribution will make a meaningful difference to patient safety.

Key appointments

Facility Services Director - Janelle Chin

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Janelle Chin as Facilities Director, effective immediately.

Janelle is a well-known and respected leader within the Facilities team and CKW Executive. Since stepping in to backfill the role following Bevan Marks' retirement, she has demonstrated strong leadership, deep operational knowledge, and a calm, solutions-focused approach.

Janelle has overseen several major initiatives and helped prevent and resolve complex challenges across the directorate. In her new role, Janelle will continue to lead efforts to create safe, efficient, and welcoming environments for our staff, patients, and visitors.

Her priorities include modernising key processes, strengthening sustainability initiatives, and enhancing support across all sites. Please join me in congratulating Janelle on this well-deserved appointment and thanking her for her ongoing contribution.

I look forward to her continued positive impact.



2026 CKW Research Grants - now open

I am pleased to announce that the 2026 CKW Research Grants are **NOW OPEN**. These grants are proudly sponsored by The Common Good.



The portal to apply can be found [here](#), where you will find the [guidelines](#), FAQs and other details.

This is a great opportunity for research funding and I am looking forward to seeing what 2026 brings CKW in the research space.



Have Your Say Survey

Now that we are aware of the strengths that CKW needs to build on, areas that we need to prioritise - all teams and departments should be in the midst of developing their action plans. The action plan made up of co-designed solutions created by teams, goal setting based on feedback, and providing visibility on actions taken.

Recently, Metro North Acting Chief Executive Nick Steele tasked all facility directors to set three personal commitments, based off the Have Your Say Survey results.

I would like to share my three commitments with you today:

1. I will commit to listen to you
2. I will fix what I can
3. I will be honest about what is possible.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health - Cultural Practice Program and Indigenous Identification sessions 2026

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Services provide essential cultural support and guidance to ensure our healthcare practices are culturally safe, appropriate, and responsive. This work supports our commitment to addressing health inequities and achieving better health outcomes for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities, and organisations.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Program is a mandatory, four-hour training facilitated across Metro North Hospital and Health Service by our Cultural Capability Officers. This interactive program offers staff practical advice, tools, and resources to help embed the four guiding principles of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural capability into everyday practice.

[All 2026 sessions are now available](#) on TMS, and staff are encouraged to register.



What's On - December

DECEMBER

‘25

WHAT'S ON

- ★ **WORLD AIDS DAY - MON 1 DEC**
- ★ **INT DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY - WED 3 DEC**
- ★ **INT VOLUNTEER DAY - FRI 5 DEC**
- ★ **HUMAN RIGHTS DAY - WED 10 DEC**



CKW EVENTS

- **CONSUMER XMAS MORNING TEA - TUES 2ND**
- **LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS - WED 3RD**
- **BURANGA WIDJUNG YARNING CIRCLE CSHC - FRI 5TH**
- **XMAS DECORATING JUDGING - WED 17TH**
- **CKW STAFF FORUM - THURS 18TH**
- **CHAPEL XMAS CAROLS - THURS 18TH**



CKW Pet of the Week

This week's CKW Pet of the Week belongs to Katherine Carey, Director of Finance.

Name: Bella and Benji

Breed: Common ringtail possum

Scientific name: *Pseudocheirus peregrinus*

About us: Bella and Benji are rescue possums who were in my care as babies after mum was killed.

They came to me for soft release on my property once they were strong enough. They love almonds and since their release, Benji spends most nights coming into the house and wanting to get into the bed for a cuddle. I usually find them snuggled up together somewhere in the morning - the laundry basket was one of their favourite spots. In recent weeks, they have found a good hollow somewhere nearby, as they only pop in for a nightly visit for almonds now.

To have your pet featured, please send a photo and the above details [here](#).

Quote of the day

“It is much more important to know what sort of patient has a disease than what sort of disease a patient has.”

William Osler, Physician.

Kind Regards

Dr Ted Chamberlain
Acting Executive Director,
Caboolture, Kilcoy and Woodford

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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