

Message from the
**Acting ED Caboolture,
Kilcoy and Woodford**

Dr Ted Chamberlain



Summary:

- Wish come true for Mitchell
- Dr Steven Hocken on the Metro North socials
- CKW Staff BBQ
- Celebrating local innovation and inviting new ideas
- CKW Pet of the Week

[Message feedback](#)



Audience: All staff



Read time: 4 min



For: Information

Dear CKW team,

As we close out another busy week, I want to acknowledge the incredible effort of our teams across Caboolture, Kilcoy and Woodford.

For yet another week, our service has spent significant time operating at Tier 3 in response to sustained patient presentations and increasing demand from our community. While these periods place additional pressure on our people and systems, I continue to be impressed by the professionalism, teamwork and commitment shown across every part of the organisation.

I would also like to give a special thank you to our Kitchen Services team. As patient numbers continue to grow, so too does the demand placed on our catering services. Behind the scenes, this dedicated team has been working tirelessly to ensure our patients receive nutritious meals and refreshments every day. Their contribution is often unseen, but it is an essential part of the care we provide and deeply appreciated.

Thank you all for your continued resilience, compassion and commitment to delivering safe, high-quality care for our community.

Wish come true for Mitchell

This week, Caboolture Hospital had the privilege of helping create a special memory for 29-year-old Mitchell and his family.

Mitchell is unfortunately facing a second cancer diagnosis. After successfully overcoming bowel cancer in his early twenties, he was diagnosed with a different form of cancer



earlier this year. Following a difficult journey and after treatment was no longer effective, Mitchell recently made the decision to stop chemotherapy and focus on spending quality time with his family.

A lifelong V8 Supercars fan and passionate Ford supporter, one of Mitchell's final wishes was to attend the V8 Supercars at Willowbank in August. With his condition rapidly declining, his family were uncertain whether he would be well enough to attend. Instead, Ford driver Todd Hazelwood came to meet Mitchell this week, creating a moment that will be cherished by the family for years to come.

Thank you to Colleen Hermann NUM Ward 2A for bringing this opportunity to our attention, and to Parker Michaels for helping coordinate

the visit and providing a welcoming space for Mitchell, his family and Todd to spend time together. It was a powerful reminder of the difference small acts of kindness can make during life's most challenging moments.

Dr Steven Hocken on the Metro North socials

Last weekend, Metro North Health featured a very special story on Dr Steven Hocken, Caboolture Hospital Anaesthetist.

As a young and healthy anaesthetic registrar preparing for his final specialist exams, Dr Steven never imagined he would soon become a patient.

Unexpectedly, a colonoscopy revealed a large tumour and he was diagnosed with metastatic bowel cancer, which resulted in a year of intensive chemotherapy, surgery and significant complications.

Despite being given a prognosis of only a few years, Steven achieved the impossible and is now cancer free and a full-time anaesthetic consultant at Caboolture Hospital.

The post attracted a whopping 7.8k likes and 253 comments, making it the top performing post for Metro North Health this year so far.

Thank you to Steven for sharing his story with us and bringing awareness to bowel cancer, especially in young people.

Check out the [Facebook](#) post or read more on Steven's story on the [Metro North Newsroom](#).



Metro North Health



7.8K 253 57

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Despite being given a prognosis of only a few years, Steven achieved the impossible is now cancer free and a full-time anaesthetic consultant at Caboolture Hospital. 🙌

"My journey as the patient has taught me innumerable practice-changing lessons, from how I manage a pain crisis to advice I give before major surgery, it grants a level of empathy few can match," Steven said.

"Of the seven hospitals I rotated through, the Caboolture team were so friendly, collegiate and caring. My plan is to work as an anaesthetist in Caboolture for the foreseeable future.

"The threat of my cancer coming back is always present, but I am living as much of my life now and really appreciating my wife and kids." 🙌 See less

You are an inspiration Steve!!

Sharing lived experience is so valuable

Wonderful story. I recently had a colonoscopy & endoscopy at Caboolture Hospital & the care, empathy & professionalism I received from the time I walked in the door until the time I walked out was just fabulous. Thanks again to everyone at Caboolture Hospital.

Admiration for your courage and determination from another bowel cancer survivor who is here because of our National Bowel Screening Program.

How good is he I would want him as my anaesthetist. Listening to a patient and empathy, many surgeons lack this.

CKW Staff BBQ

Thank you to everyone who joined us for a classic sausage sizzle in the sunshine yesterday. While it was a small gesture, it was one way of saying thank you for the extraordinary commitment and care you show our patients, colleagues and community every day.

The staff BBQ was proudly funded by QSuper and hosted by Clinical Council. Events like these are only possible thanks to the generosity and hard work of many people. A special thank you to Parker Michaels, Kirby Harwood and our wonderful volunteers, who gave their time to prepare and cook for everyone.

Your efforts helped create a great opportunity for staff to take a well-earned break, connect with colleagues and enjoy a moment together. Thank you to everyone who made it happen.



Well done to the Patient Support Services team

I'd like to recognise and thank everyone who contributed to the Patient Support Services Breast Cancer Bake Sale last Wednesday.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our staff across Caboolture Hospital, over \$2,500 was raised at the sale which all goes towards breast cancer research and support services.

Whether baking, donating, volunteering, or purchasing items, every contribution helped make the day a wonderful success and reflects the strong sense of kindness and community across our workplace.



Caboolture, Kilcoy and Woodford

CELEBRATE NAIDOC 50 YEARS DEADLY

Tuesday 7th July 2026 | 10am - 12pm

Caboolture Hospital, Main Foyer Courtyard



**NAIDOC
WEEK**
**50 YEARS
DEADLY**
5-12 JULY 2026

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

Celebrating local innovation and inviting new ideas

Congratulations to the staff who presented at the recent Metro North Innovation Showcase. Their work highlighted the insight, creativity and commitment of teams working close to the challenges that matter most to our patients, services and communities.

We are working in an increasingly complex environment, where improving care is rarely straightforward and progressing change can be challenging. The people who understand these challenges best are those working closest to them every day. That insight is critical, not only in identifying what needs to change, but in ensuring solutions are practical, relevant and able to make a real difference.

The HELIX Innovation and Implementation Program is here to support that work.

Expressions of Interest are now open, with the next assessment round commencing 21 July. Submissions should be in before 20 July. You do not need a fully formed solution. Start with the problem, and HELIX will support you to move it forward.

For more details visit [HELIX Innovation and Implementation Program | Queensland Health Intranet](#)

JUNE

'26

WHAT'S ON

- ★ PRIDE MONTH
- ★ BOWEL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH
- ★ NATIONAL BURNS AWARENESS MONTH
- ★ MABO DAY - 3 JUNE
- ★ QUEENSLAND DAY - 6 JUNE
- ★ MENS HEALTH WEEK - 15-21 JUNE
- ★ LIFEBLOOD NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR WEEK 8-14 JUNE
- ★ MND DAY - 21 JUNE
- ★ NATIONAL STOMAL THERAPY WEEK - 22-28 JUNE

CKW EVENTS

- CRAZY SOCKS 4 DOCS - FRI 5 JUNE 2PM
- YARNING TABLE - WED 24 JUNE
- STAFF BBQ - THURS 25 JUNE 11AM
- JUNE STAFF FORUM - TUES 30 JUNE
- WEDNESDAY FOOD TRUCKS FROM 5PM



CKW Pet of the Week

This week's CKW Pet of the Week belongs to Donna Lammie Administration Officer , MNMH- Alcohol & Drug Service.

Name: Romeo

Age: 14 years old

Breed: Maltese x Mini Fox Terrier

About me:

Romeo has had a life full of adventure. He has moved countries twice, terrorised other dogs on walks and given his family a whole lot of love and amusement.

He is an old man now, who sleeps most of the time, and enjoys cuddles most of all.

We are chasing more pets! To have your pet featured, please send a photo and the above details [here](#).

Quote of the day

"Life does not have to be perfect to be wonderful."

— Annette Funicello

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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