

Executive Director Caboolture, Kilcoy and Woodford Clinical Directorate

Jamie Spencer



Summary:

- Acute Cognitive Care Unit fundraiser
- Beyond Diversity Workshop registrations
- Have your say—Future Metro North: Reimagining Healthcare 2027–2042
- Farewell Gail Chandler and thanks Geoffrey Grima
- Care and Connect Caboolture Kids event kicks off
- National Week of Deaf People
- Accreditation Readiness: Accessing, Sharing and Protecting Information
- World Pharmacist Day today
- World Sepsis Day

Message feedback



Audience: All staff



Read time: 5+ min



For: Information

Dear CKW team,

I'm excited to update you on the great work across CKW this week. From fundraising and community events, to raising awareness about important health topics, and more bittersweet farewells, there's plenty to share.

Acute Cognitive Care Unit fundraiser to support dementia patients

The Common Good has **three days left** to raise funds to upgrade Caboolture Hospital's Acute Cognitive Care Unit (ACCU), to include a village-like space that supports the needs of people living with dementia.

The Common Good already raised \$80K for the Caboolture Village project but need another \$37K to fully fund the project.

[Click here to donate](#) and learn more about the Caboolture Village project.

Registrations open—Beyond Diversity Workshop (14–15 October)

Registrations are open for the Metro North Beyond Diversity Workshop. This two-day learning experience is designed to strengthen your understanding of racism, unconscious bias, privilege, and inclusion, while building the skills and confidence you need to engage in meaningful conversations about race.

The program also includes a one-and-a-half hour online 'Unpack and Coaching' session, held two to three weeks following the workshop. This provides you with an opportunity to reflect on your learning and explore practical application in your workplace.

Workshop details

When: Wednesday 14 October (8.00 am – 3.30 pm) and Thursday 15 October (8.30am – 4.00pm)

Where: Norths Leagues Club, Functions and Events, 1347 Anzac Ave, Kallangur

To register: Search "Beyond Diversity" in TMS or [click here](#).

For more information

Please email ATSILT_CapacityBuilding@health.qld.gov.au

Have your say— Future Metro North: Reimagining Healthcare 2027–2042

The Future Metro North: Reimagining Healthcare 2027–2042 draft report is open for broad consultation until **Tuesday, 6 October 2026**.

In addition to [the Vidcast led by Chief Executive Nick Steele](#) earlier this week, there will be various opportunities for staff to provide feedback, including a feedback survey and targeted consultation sessions.

Useful links and resources

- [Draft Future Metro North: Reimagining Healthcare 2027–2042 report](#)
- [Feedback survey link](#)
- [Flyer/poster with a QR code linking to the survey](#) (to share/display among teams).

Thank you for your involvement in driving and shaping the strategic direction for Metro North—particularly Clinical Councils and their members who have supported its development with thoughtful feedback provided to date. Broad participation will help ensure Future Metro North reflects the experiences, priorities and aspirations of the people we serve and provides a strong foundation for the future.

For more information

[Click here](#) to visit the staff extranet page and learn more.



Farewell Gail Chandler and thanks Geoffrey Grima!

Gail Chandler, CKW's Senior Health Information Manager, officially retired yesterday after almost 35 years working in Health Information Management with Queensland Health.

Gail's favourite part of the role—and what she'll miss most—was working with all her colleagues; and while she's very sad to go, she's ready for the next chapter. We were sad to say goodbye, but we wish Gail all the best!

Geoffrey Grima, Acting Deputy Executive Director CKW is also leaving CKW as he returns to TPCH. Thank you, Geoff, for your leadership and camaraderie—you'll be missed!



Care and Connect Caboolture Kids event kicks off

Caboolture Hospital hosted its first 'Care and Connect' event—a local event bringing together families of Caboolture Hospital, with local support and community services.

Held yesterday at the Morayfield Sport and Events Centre, the event featured nearly 20 informational stalls, plus interactive activities and a sausage sizzle. It was great to have Chief Executive **Nick Steele** and Board Chair **Bernard Curran** attend and engage with service providers, community members and staff.

The Health Alliance (Brisbane North PHN) worked with Caboolture Hospital staff and Metro North support to establish the Caboolture Kids Collective. The Care and Connect initiative was led by **Dr Charlotte Spilsbury**, Paediatric Consultant at Caboolture Hospital and steering committee member, and Caboolture Hospital Social Worker **Ni Koegelenberg**, who worked with their support to organise the Care and Connect event.

The Health Alliance was formed to address community challenges in paediatric care, by connecting families with hospital and community care providers, for children with complex needs.

A shout out to **Parker Michaels** for helping with the event planning and coordination.

After a successful event this week—with a great turnout and positive sentiment from the community—there are plans to hold more Caboolture Hospital Care and Connect events in future.



National Week of Deaf People

This week, Metro North joins communities across Australia in recognising National Week of Deaf People (NWDP), celebrating the rich culture, language, history and contributions of Deaf Australians.

In recognition, Metro North staff participated in a highly interactive Auslan, Deaf Culture and Deaf Awareness Workshop hosted by CKW Consumer, Cody Skinner on Wednesday 23 September (International Day of Sign Languages).

The session provided valuable insights into Deaf culture, communication preferences and the importance of accessible interactions, while giving participants practical experience in using Auslan and understanding the lived experiences of Deaf people.

About 150 people attended the training online and in person, at the Caboolture Hospital Lecture Theatre, with lots of positive feedback received from participants:

"Thank you Cody!!! That was a great session with some fun."

"Great session thanks Cody - I now want to learn Auslan!"

We thank Cody for sharing his expertise, lived experience and passion for advancing awareness and inclusion across our organisation.

At Metro North, we are committed to creating a health service that is inclusive, accessible and responsive to the needs of people with disability, as per the Metro North Disability Services Action Plan 2024-2029.



the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) standards, a key focus of assessors is how we access and use information to deliver safe, high-quality care.

All staff should be familiar with how to access policies and procedures on QHEPS and understand the importance of **not** having printed uncontrolled documents in work areas. These documents could undergo significant changes or updates, so it's important you only refer to the version on QHEPS, which is version controlled and most up to date.

Questions assessors may ask:

- How do you access the latest policies and procedures?
- How do you know a procedure is current?
- How do you access information about what is going on in the organisation?
- How does your line manager communicate important information to you?

It's also a timely reminder to ensure we protect patient privacy and confidentiality. This includes not leaving Workstations on Wheels (WOWs) with patient information visible and walking away. Lock your workstations!

Assessors aren't looking for rehearsed answers, but rather evidence that staff understand local processes, can access information when needed, consistently apply policies and procedures in practice, and work to protect patient privacy.

For further information or support, please reach out to the Clinical Governance Unit.

World Pharmacist Day today

Today is World Pharmacist Day, held annually on 25 September.

To celebrate World Pharmacist Day, **share your words of appreciation** for CKW's pharmacists via [this online form](#)—these will be presented to the CKW pharmacist team today.

World Sepsis Day

Did you know sepsis kills more Australians each year than road traffic accidents or stroke?

World Sepsis Day is held every year in September, uniting people from across the world to raise awareness about sepsis and the impact of this deadly condition. Each year, more than 55,000 Australians get sepsis—8,700 of these will sadly not survive.

What is sepsis?



Sepsis is when the body is fighting an infection but starts to attack and overwhelm itself. The disease can spread rapidly, causing organ failure and possibly death.

Sepsis is a medical emergency. For adults who survive sepsis, half will be left with a permanent disability. Sepsis is a leading cause of death and disability in children. More than 50 per cent of sepsis-related deaths in children occur within 24 hours. The best chance at recovering from sepsis is treating it quickly. Early treatment can save lives.

Very few people know about sepsis, let alone the signs and symptoms to watch out for. Test your knowledge with a short quiz (links below) and learn more about sepsis [here](#).

[Clinical staff sepsis quiz](#)

[Non-clinical staff sepsis quiz](#)

Pictured above: Celine Hill, Sepsis Clinical Nurse Consultant; Melanie Coates, CNC Safety and Quality; and Sophie Wallace, CNC Safety and Quality; at the World Sepsis Day information display in Caboolture Hospital.

Culture and connection

Continuing with the theme of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's seasonal calendars, this week we feature the Erub Island Seasonal Calendar.

The Erub Island calendar has four main seasons. Three of the seasons – Sager Kerker, Ziai and Naiger – are described in detail [on this page](#).

Do you have something to share in Culture and Connection? [Let me know!](#)

SEPTEMBER

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WHAT'S ON

- ★ PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS WEEK
- ★ WORLD ALZHEIMER'S MONTH
- ★ CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 6-12 SEPT
- ★ WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY 10 SEPT
- ★ RU OK? DAY 10 SEPT
- ★ WORLD PATIENT SAFETY DAY 17 SEPT
- ★ DEMENTIA ACTION WEEK 21-27 SEPT
- ★ WORLD HEART DAY 29 SEPT

CKW EVENTS

- CKW SET FORUM 3 SEPT
- COFFEE WITH COUNCIL 9 SEPT
- GRAND ROUNDS R U OK DAY? 10 SEPT
- CKW STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARDS 16 SEPT
- CKW STAFF FORUM 22 SEPT
- METRO NORTH BOARD MEETING 29 SEPT
- FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAYS

Question of the week

Last week's question was: *Approximately how many staff work across the CKW Directorate?*

Answer: 2,868.



Congratulations to this week's winner, Caboolture Hospital Systems Administrator (Security Profiling) Jarrod Clarke (pictured next to Jamie, receiving a free coffee voucher).

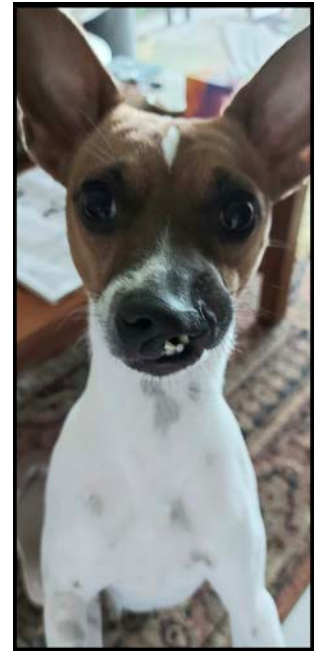
Pet of the Week

This week's pet belongs to Monica King, Registered Nurse, Perioperative Department.

Name and age: Auggie, 5.

Breed: Mini fox terrier.

About me: My mum picked me up as a rescue dog when I was nine months old. I was born with a cleft palate and lip deformity, so I had surgery to fix the defect to my palate about two months before I found my forever home. I absolutely love squeaky toys and my ball and always greet my mum with a toy whenever she comes home. I am a loving and affectionate guy and my mum tells me that she is so happy that we found each other.



Kind regards,
Jamie

FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAYS

2 SEPTEMBER - HAWKERS EATS

9 SEPTEMBER - FRITZ'S WIENERS

16 SEPTEMBER - THE PIZZA VIKING

23 SEPTEMBER - IT'S A WING THING

30 SEPTEMBER - NONNA MAKES



5-8PM MAIN ENTRANCE, CABOOLTURE 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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