



## Update from the Medical Director



The week of the 18th April BreastScreen WA underwent accreditation. I would like to thank everyone for the work they put into the preparation for accreditation. I would particularly like to acknowledge the astounding amount of wonderful work and leadership undertaken by Helen Lund, so aptly assisted by Rosa Cameron. While our very poor timeline issues and poor participation rates dominated much of the discussions with the visitors, all the visitors never failed to whole heartedly acknowledge the excellent culture of staff in relation to customer service and high levels of professional proficiency.

*Dr Liz Wylie*

## Trip to WA's North

Senior Aboriginal Health Program Officer, Kaylene Bowes-Smith, travelled up North mid-March to support the screening of women in Bidyadanga. Bidyadanga Aboriginal Community (La Grange) is located on the Kimberley coast of WA, 1590km from Perth and 180km from Broome. The Aboriginal traditional owners of the land are the Karajarri people. Bidyadanga is the largest remote Aboriginal community in Western Australia and is home to the Karajarri, Juwalinny, Mangala, Nyungamarta and Yulpartja language groups. The word Bidyadanga comes from a word for "emu watering hole" (pijarta or bidyada). Kaylene had the honour of being invited into Bidyadanga Aboriginal Community to maintain and strengthen Aboriginal engagement between community and BSWA whilst promoting the importance of breast screening with the ladies



Kaylene painting pink nails on community member

in community before the BSWA mobile truck arrived for screening. Bidyadanga community engagement involved a Women's Centre morning tea with pink fingernail painting, pink cupcakes,

pink cookies and women's business yarning time. This ended with two full days of screening and 54 ladies in total being screened. Many of the ladies from Bidyadanga community expressed they are happy BreastScreen WA visits their community, giving us the name "Big Pink Bus". Kaylene enjoyed engaging with the women and hearing their stories. Radiographer Kerri had a wonderful time exploring the area after travelling through Newman, Bidyadanga and then on to Lombadina to work alongside Kaylene and screen the women of these remote towns. Kerri even tried her hand at 4-wheel driving

across flooded roads to reach the next town.



BSWA car versus HaulPak mining truck



Community staff using wheelchair lift with client on the mobile unit



Kaylene, screening staff Chris and Kerri, and community staff





Kaylene providing information to Bidyadanga community

## Accreditation

Accreditation is here, starting on 17-21 April and BSWA needs to provide evidence of how the service performs against national standards. This year, the accreditation is to occur virtually with the surveyors scattered across multiple Eastern states. Providing the information has been a logistical challenge, however, the BSWA IT team has managed to extract, anonymise and present this information in self contained workstations that are to be sent to the accreditors in various other states. The Annual Report has also been completed and professionally printed in a hardcopy format.



Individual workstations to be sent to accreditors



Annual Report fresh from the printer

## Harmony Week



Meenal, Linda, and Thuy for Harmony Day

BreastScreen WA is proud to employ staff from diverse cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds. Harmony Day is about celebrating this diversity and bringing together people from different backgrounds to share their unique cultures and traditions. This year, EPP staff held a morning tea to celebrate the day, with staff dressing in orange or

## Harmony Week

their traditional cultural dress. March also marks the beginning of Ramadan, from 22 March-21 April this year.



EPP staff celebrating Harmony Day

## International Women's Day

International Women's Day (IWD) on March 8 wasn't short of activities and celebration. The theme this year was: *Innovation and technology for gender equality*. With the majority of staff and consumers of BSWA being women, IWD is an important day for our service, to recognise the contribution of women in a variety of fields collaborating and innovating to provide the best service possible to BSWA clientele. Staff at EPP got together to celebrate the day with a morning tea and Health Promotion staff attended multiple events across Perth to promote the service. This included informational presentations and staffed displays at Kwinana Library, Maylands Library, then KEMH for a staff Health Expo, and a display at RPH bridge. In total, over 20 bookings were made and many more women learned about the service.



EPP staff celebrating International Women's Day



## International Women's Day



Community members at Naari IWD festival

Included in the International Women's Day Festivities was Naari Festival on Sunday March 12, an event hosted by the Indian Society of WA. The day aimed to celebrate community, family and innovation to support those in the community making a difference to multicultural women's health, wellbeing, and

career guidance. The festival included art, culture, business stalls, workshops, motivational speakers and food. BreastScreen will be attending each year to discuss breast health, screening and all things pink with the women from this welcoming and vibrant community. There were many women dressed in traditional dress and it was a colourful and fun day. At the end of the day, BreastScreen WA made 10 bookings.



BSWA staff Jodie with community member

## Staff updates

The recruitment pool for Medical Imaging Technologists is still open. If you know any radiographers who may be interested in joining the BSWA team, with opportunities to travel WA, please share the job ad with them! You can find it on



Radiographer positions still open

the BSWA website at [www.breastscreen.health.wa.gov.au/About-Us/Careers](http://www.breastscreen.health.wa.gov.au/About-Us/Careers)

## Staff updates



Kaylene with her farewell gift

Kaylene Jones, the "Cancellation Queen", will be retiring after a long 10 years of service with BreastScreen WA. Support Services staff held a farewell morning tea on Friday and presented a gift to Kaylene to thank her for her time with the service.

"It has been great for the last 10 years, the best decision I made was to leave my other job to come here", Kaylene said in her farewell speech, "Thank you all for making my time here wonderful, I'm going to miss you all very much." Thank you Kaylene for your wonderful work at BreastScreen WA, and as you were reminded at the morning tea, you are welcome back any time!

Angela Kitching has joined BSWA in Support Services.

"Hi! My background is in insurance and I worked for many years at RAC. I was also a consultant for an apprenticeship and traineeship service and travelled the state to enrol people into various studies. I have 2 young sons



Angela Kitching

who keep me busy with their various hobbies and antics and we have recently returned from living in Singapore for 5 years where we were based for my husbands work. Whilst there we were lucky enough to travel around south east asia which was great as I love to travel! While in Singapore I decided to get my certification as a personal trainer and worked in a gym - slightly different from the world of insurance and apprenticeships! In my spare time I enjoy travelling and spending time with my family. So much so that I am now colleagues with my mother in law!

I'm really enjoying my time at BreastScreen WA so far and meeting all the wonderful staff who have been so friendly and helpful." Welcome to the team Angela, we hope you enjoy your time with BSWA.



Government of Western Australia  
North Metropolitan Health Service



# BREASTSCREEN WA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

