



Government of Western Australia
North Metropolitan Health Service

BreastScreen WA

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BUNURU
Keeping abreast of BSWA News

Update from the Medical Director



On International Women's Day the service celebrated 35 years of screening in Western Australia. It was a great opportunity to launch the new Aboriginal artwork that inspired the sarongs for Aboriginal women screening with the service. Over the last 35 years, some of us old enough to remember, have seen a myriad of changes, from film screen imaging to digital imaging, online bookings, electronic results messaging. As imaging technology and interpretation rapidly improve, with tools such as advanced computer assisted diagnosis algorithms, automated density instruments, and a move towards risk-based screening protocols. I am sure the next decade will bring even more rapid change. Have a great Easter break.

Dr Liz Wylie



New painting being introduced by Noongar Elder Aunty Dot at 35 Year Anniversary morning tea

Congratulations Chief MIT Julie Wilkes



Julie Wilkes, Chief MIT

Congratulations to Julie Wilkes who has now been successfully appointed to the position of Chief Medical Imaging Technologist.

Julie joined BSWA in October 2019, and has been acting in the Chief MIT position since August last year.

BreastScreen WA Celebrates 35 Years



Dr Julia Feutrill, Dr Shirley Bowen, Dr George Eskander, and Dannielle Orifici with new artwork

Last Friday, on International Women's Day, BreastScreen WA held a morning tea at the Cannington clinic to celebrate the service's 35th year of providing free screening mammograms to WA women. In 1989, the first BreastScreen WA screening clinic opened in

Cannington operating one X-ray machine and screening 4687 women in the first year. After its third relocation, the Cannington clinic now screens 14,115 women a year with three X-ray machines. Since opening in 1989 the BSWA Cannington Clinic has completed a total of 384,502 mammography screens. Across the state, BreastScreen WA now has 12 permanent clinic sites, and four mobile screening units, screening nearly 130,000 women a year. Thank you to all who attended, including Angela Kelly, Deputy Director-General Department of Health, Dr Shirley Bowen, Chief Executive North Metropolitan Health Service, Clinical Prof David Forbes, North Metropolitan Health Service Board Chair, Dr George Eskander, Executive Director, Women and Newborn Health Service and Terresa Lynes, City of Gosnells Mayor. Special mentions to Aunty Dot Bagshaw for the Welcome to Country, and the Hon Kate Doust, Member for the South Metropolitan Region for her introductory address and for sharing her touching personal story. The event also included the reveal of a new Aboriginal artwork, painted by Pinjarup-Whadjuk Noongar artist Chloe Calyon, to be displayed in the clinic.



BSWA staff Matthew, Sha, Kaylene, Hayley, Loola, and Susan

Staff Updates



Alice Marie Nash

Farewell to Alice Marie Nash, who has worked at BreastScreen WA for the last three years, after working at Fiona Stanley Breast Clinic working with women as they embarked on their treatment for breast cancer. "Working here has helped me to understand their need for information and support as they await assessment or are newly diagnosed. I feel that working at Breastscreen has enhanced my skills as a Special Breast Care Nurse."

I would like to thank everyone at BSWA for the support and care I have received while working her for the last three years. I am amazed at the high standard of care and support that the ladies receive at all points of contact with BreastScreen and everyone who works here should be very proud of themselves and the service provided, ladies constantly tell me this in the assessment clinics. My fellow nurses are the most amazing knowledgeable women and they are all passionate about the service we provide, feel privileged to have been part of the Nursing Team."

All the best on your next adventure Marie!



Julie-Ann Pegden

BreastScreen WA would like to welcome Julie-Ann Pegden, the new Quality Assurance Officer to the Data Team. Julie-Ann is a former Curtin University employee of 23 years, where she worked as a data analyst involved with student feedback and staff satisfaction surveys as well as other reporting. Julie-Ann is very excited to be working at BreastScreen WA, an organisation she says is "making such a strong, positive and important impact on lives." In her spare time, Julie-Ann enjoys hiking, travel, gardening, and dining-out.

Please make Julie-Ann feel welcome.

BreastScreen Australia Conference



Sonya Schultz with poster presentation on Screening Saves Lives project

The BreastScreen Australia Conference was held early March, attended by some BSWA staff. Sonya Schultz of the Health Promotion team had a poster presentation at the conference, which discussed the Screening Saves Lives project. Attending also was radiography and radiology staff including Dr Liz Wylie, Dr Ravinder Dhillon, Dr Fiona Bettenay, Dr Glen Lo, Dr Suzie Kichen and Natalie Nuttall.

The conference had a range of interesting speakers and debates. Kate McBride won a prize for her presentation based on her Women in Larger Bodies research study in collaboration with BSWA.

Much of the conference content was based on evaluation with software programs. But the conference wasn't all serious business, with many getting up for a dance at the conference dinner.



Dinner table at the conference with Sonya and Julie

New equipment for assessment clinics



Kim and Angela with model participant on prone table

After 16 months of assessment at the BSWA Joondalup Assessment centre, a second day of Assessment clinics were started on Thursdays. The aim to install a prone biopsy table once that second day was funded was realised in January this year.

A new Hologic Affirm Prone Biopsy system was installed in the middle room at Joondalup and is now operational. The layout of the room and the available space allows for providing best practice service for the client and the staff. Training for the assessment MITs kicked off on Thursday 25th January with Chief MIT Julie Wilkes as the very excited tutor and three very enthusiastic MITs as the students- Angeliki, Angela and Kim. The above picture is of the inaugural client positioned on the table and ready to go.

The table will allow the assessment team to biopsy a more comprehensive range of Lesions. It allows for access to lesions from any direction in either breast with ease. Biopsy for lesions in breasts with implants, medial, axillary and very inferior lesions, which is limited on the upright unit, is now possible.



New steps for prone room at RPH

Another great benefit of this system is that lesions can be biopsied in very thinly compressed breasts using the lateral arm method which is not possible on the upright system. This is a more comfortable and safer method for clients when doing these procedures. Pictured left are the new steps given to RPH assessment clinic for the prone table there.

Congratulations Professor Lesley Cala



Prof Lesley Cala (centre), with UWA Chancellor, Hon Robert French AC, Emeritus Prof Jenny Gregory

Congratulations to Clinical Professor Lesley Cala for being awarded the prestigious Chancellor's Medal from University of Western Australia (UWA). Pioneering neuroradiologist, educator, champion of women's rights and enduring

presence at UWA, Professor Lesley Cala, has been recognised for her unwavering commitment to medicine, education and the community. Professor Cala plays an important role at BreastScreen WA, providing invaluable insight as a member of the Consumer Reference Group.

New artwork reveal and sarongs

BSWA Health Promotion team introduces new sarongs with new Aboriginal artwork from Noongar artist Chloe Calyon. These sarongs will be distributed to Aboriginal women who screen with BSWA and have engaged with the HP team at community events. This Project was inspired by The Beautiful Shawl Project, an initiative developed by BSVic. The purpose of the shawl is to increase the cultural safety and comfort of Aboriginal women participating in breast screening, and subsequently, breast screening participation rates of Aboriginal women.



Kaylene looking at test prints of the artwork

International Women's Day



Sonya at Westerly Family Centre

International Women's Day (IWD), held 8 March every year, is a busy time for the Health Promotion team. The team attended multiple IWD events throughout the week, including:

- Presentation for City of South Perth,
- Murray St Mall display,
- Westerly Family Centre IWD event, where 6 bookings were made,
- Naari Festival which is hosted by the Indian Society of WA, where 20 bookings were made,
- BSWA 35 Year Celebration Morning Tea held at Cannington clinic.

BreastScreen WA also had a spot in The West Australian newspaper's International Women's Day feature, with a story on BSWA's inclusivity and accessibility for WA women.



Naari festival attendees and performers



Naari festival attendees and performers



Lauren and Sonya at Naari Festival with dancers



Lauren and Tracy at Murray St Mall display

Health and Wellness

As part of BSWA's committee to staff wellness strategy, staff at Eastpoint Plaza celebrated Harmony Day and Easter with a small bring your own plate celebration. The staff showed imagination and ingenuity in their Easter Bonnets. Staff contributed donations to the raffles for the event for the best hat and the winner was Jodie Blanchard for her gorgeous Bonnet. The winner of the door prize was Vicki Farrell.



Jodie's winning hat



Admin team- Meenal, Thuy, Jodie, Laureen



Jodie with her winning hat and prize



Jodie and Vicki with Easter hat entries



Jane and Linda Lee



Jane, Linda Lee, and Julie-Ann