



Update from the Medical Director

August and September have been busy periods for the program with the visit to Christmas and Cocos Island and the logistic problems of providing a contemporary, digital technology intensive service, on small remote tropical islands. Andrew Waddell (IT Manager), Jan Pickering (Co-ordinator Support Services) and their able and willing teams improvised to provide innovative solutions to the very serious IT issues.

With October being Pink Ribbon month we can expect to be very busy from now until the festive season at the end of the year.

Dr Liz Wylie

Client Results Portal launch

The Client Results Portal was officially launched on Daffodil Day at Perth City Clinic. Dignatories included Dr Jodi Graham, Executive Director, WNHS. Ms. Alanna Clohesy, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health officially launch the portal. Andrew Waddell walked us through the very simple process of retrieving results.

The portal provides women with the opportunity to receive results letters electronically via an 'opt in' system, so only those who indicate they wish to receive their results online are included. The portal provides secure delivery of the result letter. Women receive an SMS with an embedded link to their result letter within the Client Results Portal. To date 76% of clients have opted in to receive their results online.



From left.... Dr Liz Wylie, Dr Jodi Graham, Ms Alanna Clohesy, Andrew Waddell and Kath O'Connor.

Christmas and Cocos Island visit



Carol Ann Ballack, radiographer, has returned from the Christmas and Cocos Island visit and provided this report...



"6 hour flight from Perth. Fuel in Learmonth on to Cocos Islands. 4 hours change flight after refuel – Cocos Island 1.5hrs to Christmas Island. Christmas Island is a volcanic land mass – no food produced – no meat/veg/fruit staples... all must be shipped flown in / as with refuse same way out.

Nature beautiful, no technology, as "entertainment" people talked to each other – children played LOUDLY. Most of the clients were Government workers i.e. medical, teaching. Police and local Malay/Chinese were employees, shop keepers, business owners.

I lived on West Island ferried over to Home Island to Clinic a ½ hour trip. Rode around on a golf cart – on cobbled roads with the ocean all around. Colours incredible.

Computer connectivity depended on Satellite time – sometimes it went walk about – big universe out there and trade winds etc. etc.

Despite technological issues, I would not have missed this opportunity for quids".

Women's Health Week

MOU between BSWA and Jean Hailes

BreastScreen WA and Jean Hailes established a formal partnership for the first time during 2019 Women's Health Week. Throughout Women's Health Week a total of 2139 women attended a BreastScreen WA clinic for a free screening mammogram, and each of these women were given a Jean Hailes goodie bag.

WA Women's Health Conference



Women's Health Week kicked off with the Health Promotion team attending the WA Women's Health Conference. Sonya Schultz and Kelly Cameron co-presented 'Increasing breast screening participation among Aboriginal and Multicultural women in WA' (pictured left). Coby Pearson and Angela Hellewell each

presented a poster showcasing innovative BreastScreen WA projects to reduce the barriers to breast screening for women including the mobile in the suburbs initiative and the recent Facebook campaign.

The conference provided an ideal opportunity for Minister for Health, Roger Cook to launch the Western Australian Women's Health and Wellbeing Policy.

Rockingham Women's Health and Wellbeing Morning

For the second year BreastScreen WA partnered with Westerly Family Centre to host a free Women's Health Week event in Rockingham. Other key partners and supporters for this year's event included Warnbro Family and Community Centre, South Coastal Health and Community Services, the City of Rockingham and Jean Hailes.

Ishar Multicultural Women's Health Expo

For more than ten years BreastScreen WA has teamed up with Ishar Multicultural Women's Health Centre to organise Women's Health and Wellbeing events. This year North Metropolitan TAFE joined the team to celebrate Women's Health Week.

More than 45 stall holders from services that support some of the major health and wellbeing issues experienced by multicultural women attended the event this year. The aim of the event in Balga was to facilitate contact with a range of services in the community, increasing participants' knowledge and awareness of the services, facilities and programs available in the community.

More than 500 participants attending the event, it was a huge success.



Rockingham event



Balga event

BSWA donates medical equipment

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Community news



Volunteers loading donated medical equipment into a container heading for Cambodia.

Medical machines find new home

Senior radiologist Anita Bourke has come up with the goods once again.

Anita, who works at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, is well known for her charity work and has been coordinating donations from WA hospitals and services to support Cambodia's Nokor Tep Foundation.

The foundation's mission is to develop improved health programs, facilities and services for the women of Cambodia.

BreastScreen WA recently

answered the call by donating a decommissioned mammogram machine that had to be replaced under Australian guidelines.

BreastScreen WA medical director Liz Wylie said: "The opportunity to re-purpose the machine for overseas mammography programs seemed a wonderful opportunity to help other women benefit from regular screening."

"Breast cancer is the second-most common cancer in Cambodian women and the machine will be a major asset

for the Nokor Tep Women's Hospital in Phnom Penh."

In addition to the mammogram machine and with help from Dalkeith Rotary Club, Anita amassed a container-load of equipment including consumables and dressings to be shipped to Cambodia.

Anita said the equipment and consumables were no longer required by Perth hospitals, and donating them was an effective way to recycle equipment where it was desperately needed.

Farewells to long term staff members



Providing quality service
WA women over 30

Katy Grace is stepping down from her role as Senior Medical Imaging Technologist at BSWA after 7 years in that position to retire.

Katy's first position with BSWA was for 13 years as a supervising radiographer from 1996-2009. During her appointments at BSWA, Katy has made an outstanding contribution to mentoring and training radiographers. There is a generation of breast imaging Medical imaging technologists in WA and the UK who owe Katy a debt of gratitude for her training and professional mentoring. Katy made a major contribution to BSWA in her role as an inaugural PACs administrator, during the implementation of our digital transition. Katy has had a rich and varied career, and in addition to her broad experience in the UK and Australia as a breast imaging radiographer, Katy has been a police constable, promoted to sergeant in London and a Coast Guard in Hampshire.

Katy has worked tirelessly on helping BSWA meet National Accreditation Standards, and in recording and investigating our clinical incidents. Katy is one of the most compassionate and caring professionals you could ever hope to meet. The program will be poorer for Katy's departure and any successor will be challenged to meet the level of care and consideration Katy showed for the women of WA screening with the program and the support she showed her colleagues and co-workers.



We are all sad to see **Megan Green** retire from BSWA after 19 years of wonderful service to women, both in the assessment centres and through Megan's compassionate interactions in the Eastpoint Plaza nurse's office.

Megan qualified as a registered nurse in 1979 and worked in a variety of health care positions in both England and Australia. Prior to joining BSWA Megan undertook a number of roles as a palliative care nurse and community nurse. Megan joined BSWA

in 2000, and during her time with the service was recognised as a team leader and took on the role of Occupational Safety and Health representative.

In addition to Megan's work for the program as a breast assessment nurse, she found time for varied community projects. In 2006-2007 Megan was Senior volunteer Co-ordinator for RSPCA WA. In this role Megan initiated and ran the volunteer program for seniors, to contribute to animal welfare.

Megan has been a real asset to BSWA and has served the women of Western Australia with compassionate and highly competent care. Megan is sorely needed by her family and while we understand that this is a vital time for her to be available for her family, we will miss her kindness, her thoughtfulness and her wisdom. We all wish her well for the future.

No shame for BSWA in WNHS Quiz Night

BSWA fielded two teams in the annual WNHS Quiz night in July. The theme was Christmas in July and we came a respectable 3rd and 4th!



Booby Bunch (above) Screening Jets (below)



Meet new CRG member Jane Armstrong



Jane is a passionate advocate and community activist on mental health, social justice (and animal justice issues), diversity and equity issues, with a strong belief in inclusion for all people.

She has over 25 years of experience in nursing, and over 15 years in leadership in health, education and community organisational development across the private, public, and community sectors. This has included social change work and advocacy for people at risk of social isolation / exclusion, and various organisational transformation projects. Her diverse experience in strategic planning, project management and leadership development has resulted in innovative approaches to improving outcomes for disaffected and homeless individuals.

She works with mental health clients in helping them to identify and engage with activities and experiences that enhance their lives and develop their mental wealth. Working in partnership with industry, clients, and the multidisciplinary team, Janes' work spans professional, academic, and community spaces, taking a multidimensional strategic approach to embedding mental health.

Jane is a strong and visible leader and ambassador for the LGBTI community and is an integral member of the LGBTI Working Group within RPBG Service 3. Jane has assisted in spearheading cultural change across their operations through her efforts to make the workplace more inclusive.

Jane is the Director for a Charity for the homeless and marginalized (and their Pets), and has ongoing involvement with a number of not-for-profits and charities, and is also a frequent guest presenter on RTRfm's Fitter Happier.



Government of Western Australia
North Metropolitan Health Service



BreastScreen WA presents Pink Ribbon Breakfast 2019 30th (pearl) anniversary special!

LAST CHANCE - BOOK NOW!



Monday 21 October 2019

Dust off your pearls and come and enjoy a delicious breakfast at Fraser's as BreastScreen WA celebrates its 30th "pearl" anniversary at the 2019 Pink Ribbon Breakfast.

Our guest speakers....



**Pip Brennan,
Executive Director,
Health Consumers'
Council (WA) Inc**

Pip Brennan has worked in the community sector for the last 19 years. Inspired by her own experiences of the confusing maternity care system, Pip initially volunteered as a maternity consumer representative in a range of roles. She began her paid health career as an Advocate working at the Health Consumers' Council (HCC) from 2006. She has been a conciliator of health complaints, a health NGO professional and always a firm believer in the value of consumers being at the table. She took on the role of Executive Director of the Health Consumers Council in WA from 2015.



**Professor Moira Sim,
Executive Dean, School
of Medical and Health
Sciences at Edith Cowan
University**

Professor Moira Sim leads the ECU School of Medical and Health Sciences, which is home to teaching and research in Medical and Biomedical Sciences, Allied Health, and Exercise and Sports Sciences, as well as in Public, Occupational and Environmental Health. She is also a GP and a specialist addiction medicine physician with over 30 years in clinical practice in the community. Moira is passionate about improving communication in healthcare and has published on a wide range of topics. Moira has worked to increase access to quality care through professional education, advocacy and the establishment of system change through many roles in the healthcare system.

Registration: From 7am
Event: 7:30 - 9am

Fraser's Function Centre
Fraser Avenue, Kings Park

\$40.00 including GST

RSVP by 15 October 2019

No table reservations

Register and pay online at
[EventBrite](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/breastscreen-wa-2019-pink-ribbon-breakfast-tickets-69841376437) (click here)

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