



Government of Western Australia  
North Metropolitan Health Service

*BreastScreen WA*

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**DJILBA**  
Keeping abreast of BSWA News

## Update from the Medical Director



2023, is rapidly drawing to a close and we have been prematurely exposed to the first heat wave and fires of the summer. The Pink Ribbon Breakfast as a culmination of the October breast cancer awareness activities was another resounding success. Again, it was a pleasure and a privilege to hear stories of such inspirational speakers, Prof Samar Aoun, and Theresa Kwok introduced by the Hon Ayor Makur Chuot who has shown herself to be a loyal friend of the program.

It is wonderful to introduce such vibrant new staff to BreastScreen WA as Vicki Farrell, as Clinical Nurse Manager, and Marcela Orellana as Data Manager, and is refreshing evidence of the renewal of the BreastScreen WA Senior Management team as we approach our 35th year as a Statewide Service.

*Dr Liz Wylie*

## Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Visit



Kaylene and DYHS staff with the truck

Derbarl Yerrigan is the Wadjuk Noongar name for the Swan River, it encapsulates the ties to the Swan River and surrounding Noongar Country. The

Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service (DYHS) is an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation established in 1974 that continues to provide culturally responsive primary health care for the Aboriginal population across 4 Perth Clinics. From 6-10 November 2023, BreastScreen WA had the honour of providing the breast screening service at DYHS in East Perth. After a very successful week of screening, 126 women had a mammogram. Throughout the week, the Health Promotion team was set up with an information stall to provide awareness of breast screening, while engaging with the community.

## Pink Ribbon Breakfast



Professor Samar Aoun, Hon Ayor Makur Chuot and Theresa Kwok

On Monday 23 October, BreastScreen WA held the Annual Pink Ribbon Breakfast. One hundred and forty guests met for a delicious breakfast at Fraser's Restaurant in King's Park and enjoyed inspiring talks from two distinguished guest speakers. Professor Samar

Aoun, WA Australian of the Year, spoke of her life journey and her research into palliative care and bereavement care. Theresa Kwok, WA Senior Australian of the Year, spoke about her journey moving to Australia and establishing Chung Wah Community and Aged Care with the goal of assisting migrants settle in Australia. Auntie Dot Bagshaw provided a Welcome to Country before the Hon Ayor Makur Chuot, proxy for the Minister for Health, introduced all to the event.

Thank you to all who volunteered their time to speak at the event, and to all who assisted in the organisation of the event.



Kaylene and Auntie Dot Bagshaw



Julie Wilkes, Dr Liz Wylie, Scott Goder, Dr Theresa Marshall, Hon Ayor Makur Chuot, Matthew Shand, Dannielle Orifici, Dr Sarah Paton, Dr Eric Khong, Auntie Dot Bagshaw, Professor Samar Aoun, Rebecca Strom, Theresa Kwok, Angela Kelly, Dr Julia Feutrill, Gillian Ennis, Nicole Flendt.



## Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month, resulting in over 10000 online bookings made, the highest amount since online booking was introduced. This also was a busy time for the Health Promotion Team who attended 30 events and made over 100 bookings across October. These included:

- Hospital displays
- TAFE presentations
- Workplace presentations
- Prisoner education
- Murray St Mall display
- Breast Cancer Awareness events
- Ladies Bowls Gala Days



Kaylene and Tracy at Murray St Mall display



Dancers at Chung WA Community and Aged Care event



Health Promotion team Hayley and Lauren at Chung WA Community and Aged Care event

## Jodi Joyce Book Success

When Jo Joyce was forty-six years old, life was good. She was super fit and very happy, a dedicated teacher and loving mum and wife. Then a routine breast cancer screening turned her world upside down. Jo Joyce, now a BreastScreen WA Consumer Reference Group member, and breast cancer advocate, is sharing her story as a published author, with a raw and honest account

## Jodi Joyce Book Success continued

of the diagnosis and treatment that saved her life. It is delivered with the pragmatism, determination, and humour that helped Jo survive, and which led her to found the national Can at 40. Do at 45 campaign. Jo's campaign has had a successful year with currently close to 5000 followers on Facebook and 28 new women pledging their story for future publication in November. Can at 40 shares a story of an Australian woman aged 40-49 diagnosed with breast cancer each Sunday night, plus other important breast cancer information and statistics. You can find the campaign on Facebook @Can40Do45. In the spirit of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Jo participated in 3 separate radio interviews, and spoke highly of BreastScreen WA. Jo's book, "Show Us Your Tits-Baring All and Beating Breast Cancer" which launched in August of this year, has already sold close to 500 copies. Sales have enabled Jo to cover her costs and she has accrued \$1000 profit for Breast Cancer Care



Jo Joyce, author and advocate [www.jojoyceauthor.com](http://www.jojoyceauthor.com)

WA. 100% profits from all books sold from here on, will continue to go to this amazing local charity, helping West Australians and their families navigate through breast cancer. and has raised around \$1000 for Breast Cancer Care WA. The radio interviews and book can be found at

## Vale Faith Lawton

It was with deep sadness that we acknowledge the passing of our work colleague Faith Lawton. Faith worked for BreastScreen WA for over 11 years and played an integral role in the Support Services area of our organisation. Faith's work ethic was exemplary as was her support of her colleagues, she was always approachable and ready to help



Call centre team with Faith (far right) Christmas 2018

in anyway. Faith was a well-known and respected colleague of many BreastScreen WA staff and will be fondly remembered. We offer our sincere condolences to Faith's family.

## Staff updates



Lisa Ginbey

**Please welcome Lisa Ginbey** to the Support Services Officer role. Lisa comes to BreastScreen WA with a depth of experience across WA Health and has worked at FSH, RPH, and SCGH. Lisa came to us from RPH working in Medical Workforce managing payroll for over 150 doctors. Lisa trained as a Nurse in her home country of New Zealand and has worked in health since arriving in WA. When Lisa is not working she loves to go camping with her husband and spending quality time with grandchildren, family and friends. We are very excited to have Lisa in this role and look forward to utilising her varied skill set. Please make her feel welcome.

**Welcome to Vicki Farrell** who is now in the position of Clinical Nurse Manager. "I am a registered Nurse of 26 years and a registered Midwife of 17 years. I have a long-standing career and passion for Women's health. "I feel strongly about advocating for women's health, assisting them to navigate the health system and ensure they receive equitable, safe, high quality evidence based care.



Vicki Farrell

I have come across from KEMH hospital having worked there for over 16 years in various roles. My last role was a Clinical Nurse Consultant-Gynaecology Services and Ward 6 for over 5 years. Our biggest cohort of patients were women attending KEMH for gynaecology related issues, we met them at various stages of their cancer journey. It was a great role and so diverse as it allowed me to work with so many women across the lifespan from 12yrs- 98 yrs of age along with working with a wonderful multidisciplinary team.

Prior to my CNC role, I have always remained in a clinical position in addition to availing opportunities to gain experience in other areas that have all assisted with developing my knowledge, skills, experience of systems within health.

I am originally from Ireland but Australian citizen. I have 3 kids (16, 14, 8), husband, dog & a bee hive. My interests when not working; spending time with family, field hockey and have a love for walking amongst nature but not so much the heat or sun.

I am so grateful for this opportunity to come into

BreastScreen WA and embrace the learning ahead."



Denise Ness

**Welcome to Denise Ness.** Denise is originally from Melbourne but has been in WA for the last 24 years, her background has always been in providing administration assistance in a medical environment, for the last 16 years she has been employed as a Practice Manager, in her spare time Denise likes golf, gardening and reading and loathes housework of any kind.

I am looking forward to my new role within BSWA so far I am loving it and the people I have met, thankyou so much for making me feel so welcomed.

**Welcome Marcela Orellana** to the role of Manager, Data and Information Service. Marcela comes from NSW and has worked for BreastScreen NSW and the Breast Cancer Institute for the last 17 years. Marcela has previously worked in Health Information for various Public and Private Hospitals in NSW and QLD. Outside of work, she and her partner enjoy spending time in Bunbury with their daughter and grandchildren as well as exploring their new city and beaches. Marcela says, "I'm excited to join BreastScreen WA, learn new skills and share my knowledge."



Marcela Orellana

**Welcome to Donna Prefumo.** "I started working at BreastScreen WA on 6 November 2023. I work part-time in Medical Administration providing administrative support to Rose Bryant, who is the Executive Assistant to Dr Liz Wylie.

I have previously worked for medical specialists and general practitioners in private practice. I am very happy to have the opportunity to work at BSWA, which I know is such an essential and successful service. All the staff have been so welcoming and helpful.



## Staff updates continued



Michelle Mitchley

**Farewell to Michelle Mitchley** who worked at BreastScreen WA for an incredible 20 years. BreastScreen WA would like to acknowledge her long-service to the organisation as she has recently taken a permanent role with the Single Point of Referral Team at SCGH. Michelle was employed by BreastScreen WA as part of the RTA team who were responsible for the hanging films on mammo viewers, working in the dark room developing films and managing clinic paperwork. Michelle has seen and been a part of many changes in this area and we would like to thank Michelle for over 20 years continuous service and wish her all the very best in her new role. "Thank you for giving me the most memorable 20 years of my working life at BSWA. I am beyond grateful that I got to work so closely with such an amazing team and becoming like a part of the family to most of you... seeing all your friendly faces every day and sharing a story or two... even watching your children growing into awesome young adults. You all made it all so worthwhile and rewarding and I won't forget it. I will miss you all very much! Thank you for everything! Goodbye!"

## Mobiles in the Suburbs



Lauren Treanor and Roger Cook

The service aims to make screening as accessible as possible for WA women. Part of this is the Mobile in the Suburbs project, which brings the truck to suburbs across the Perth Metro area. Pictured left is Health Promotion Officer Lauren Treanor with Premier Roger Cook while promoting the truck's presence at Parliament House in mid-October. Prior to this, the truck was located at KEMH, which quickly booked out with hospital staff and workers nearby. Health Promotion Coordinator Angela Hellewell, and Business Operations Manager Matthew Shand, met with WNHS Nurse Co-Director Dannielle Orifici

## Mobiles in the Suburbs continued

and WNHS Medical Co-director Dr Julia Feutrill for a photo opportunity with the truck.



Angela Hellewell, Dannielle Orifici, Julie Feutrill, Matthew Shand

## Health Promotion in the Practice

For the 22nd year in a row, BreastScreen WA encouraged General Practices to "be in the pink" for breast cancer awareness month. The entries are in and this year there are two winners. Congratulations to...

**Mandurah Medical Centre and Ravenswood Family Practice!**



Mandurah Medical Centre



Ravenswood Medical Centre