



TOOWOOMBA
HOSPITAL
foundation

YEAR IN **REVIEW**

2021 / 2022

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**TOOWOOMBA
HOSPITAL
foundation**
—
SUPPORTING
DARLING DOWNS
HEALTH

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR **CHAIR**



It is with great delight that I present my first Year in Review as the Chair of Toowoomba Hospital Foundation. I feel incredibly privileged to follow in the footsteps of Ray Taylor who has left behind a wonderful legacy for our health service and community.

What an honour it is to have the opportunity to Chair an organisation that gives so much back to the community through supporting the work of Darling Downs Health. Despite this past year testing the resilience of our community, through the impacts and disruptions of COVID-19, adverse weather and the current economic challenges – we are so grateful to the individuals, organisations, and businesses who are helping us achieve our mission. In the 2021-2022 Financial Year, the Board had the great privilege of approving \$1,306,117.27 in grants to go towards the purchase of medical equipment, resources, patient programs, development and training, scholarships, and research in aid of the lifesaving and life-changing work of our health service.

We're proud to say that our support, and that of our community, goes beyond fundraising and into the hearts and lives of the patients who receive care across the 29 public hospitals and health service facilities in the Darling Downs. From rural patients and their loved ones travelling to stay with us at our volunteer-run Clive Berghofer Toowoomba Hospital Accommodation Units through to

the distribution of Dignity packs and soft toys throughout our hospitals – we're making being in hospital a little bit easier.

Connecting with our communities is vitally important to the work of the Foundation. So, this year we took the time to revisit our Strategic Plan and create the new direction and goals for our organisation over the next four years.

We have taken a very deliberate and considered approach to ensure that our goals and future growth provides a benefit not only across our organisation, but most importantly our impact within Darling Downs Health and the communities we support.

We wouldn't be able to have the impact we do within our health service without the continued support and wonderful relationship we have with Darling Downs Health. Thank you to DDH Board Chair Mike Horan AM and Chief Executive Annette Scott for your care, enthusiasm, and guidance in the work that we do.

Most importantly, the Board joins me in thanking our CEO Alison Kennedy and the hardworking THF team for an incredible year. Your drive and compassion in support of assisting patients and staff of our health service is truly valuable.

John Debenham
Chair

A MESSAGE FROM OUR **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



Over the last year, our community has played an incredible part in helping the Foundation and Darling Downs Health make a difference in the lives of thousands of people who received care at any of the 29 hospitals and health service facilities across the region.

We've been incredibly humbled by the support our community of donors, sponsors, volunteers, health service staff and first-time friends have shown us. You've stayed with us through the challenges of COVID-19, adverse weather, and economic hardship, allowing us to proudly approve \$1,306,117.27 in grants to deliver support to vital services, patient care and treatment programs throughout the health service.

What you've helped us achieve in the last year has been phenomenal, and the impact of your support is being felt by patients and their families and the staff who care for them across hospital wards, treatment rooms, community outreach programs and beyond. You've helped us fund new equipment, medical resources, training and education, research, and state-of-the-art facility upgrades. Thank you so much for your incredible support.

This year also saw the Foundation receive its largest ever in-kind donation in our history – totalling \$375,000 for our Clive Berghofer Toowoomba Hospital Accommodation Refurbishment project! This was achieved through considerable support from The Order of Saint John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitaller Priory of the Darling Downs, Hutchinson

Builders, and more than 20 local businesses and trades gifting goods, services, materials, and labour. To everyone involved in this life-changing project, we can't thank you enough for transforming our accommodation for rural patients and their loved ones.

Our Darling Downs Health Museum project is also moving along nicely having successfully achieved our tick of approval from Toowoomba Regional Council. In the new year our community can expect to see the restoration works begin at the Medical Superintendent's House at Baillie Henderson Hospital. We are beyond thrilled to bring our collection and the stories they hold to life. Watch this space!

A big welcome to our new Chair, John Debenham, who joined us at the start of 2022. And an even bigger thank you to Ray Taylor, whose 30 years of service on our Board and as our Chair has left a remarkable legacy throughout our health service and community.

At the heart of everything we do is a group of exceptional, dedicated, and passionate individuals I have the privilege of calling my team. Thank you for continuing to deliver outstanding results for our health service through the highs and lows of the past year, I know how proud you are in the work you do in supporting Darling Downs Health.

Alison Kennedy
Chief Executive Officer

OUR BOARD

GOVERNED BY PROFESSIONALS WHO GIVE THEIR
TIME FREELY AND WITHOUT REMUNERATION



John Debenham
Chair



Jacqui Armstrong
Deputy Chair



Karen Gordon
Board Member



Mike Horan AM
Board Member



Dr. Uma Kumar
Board Member



Peter Sedl
Board Member

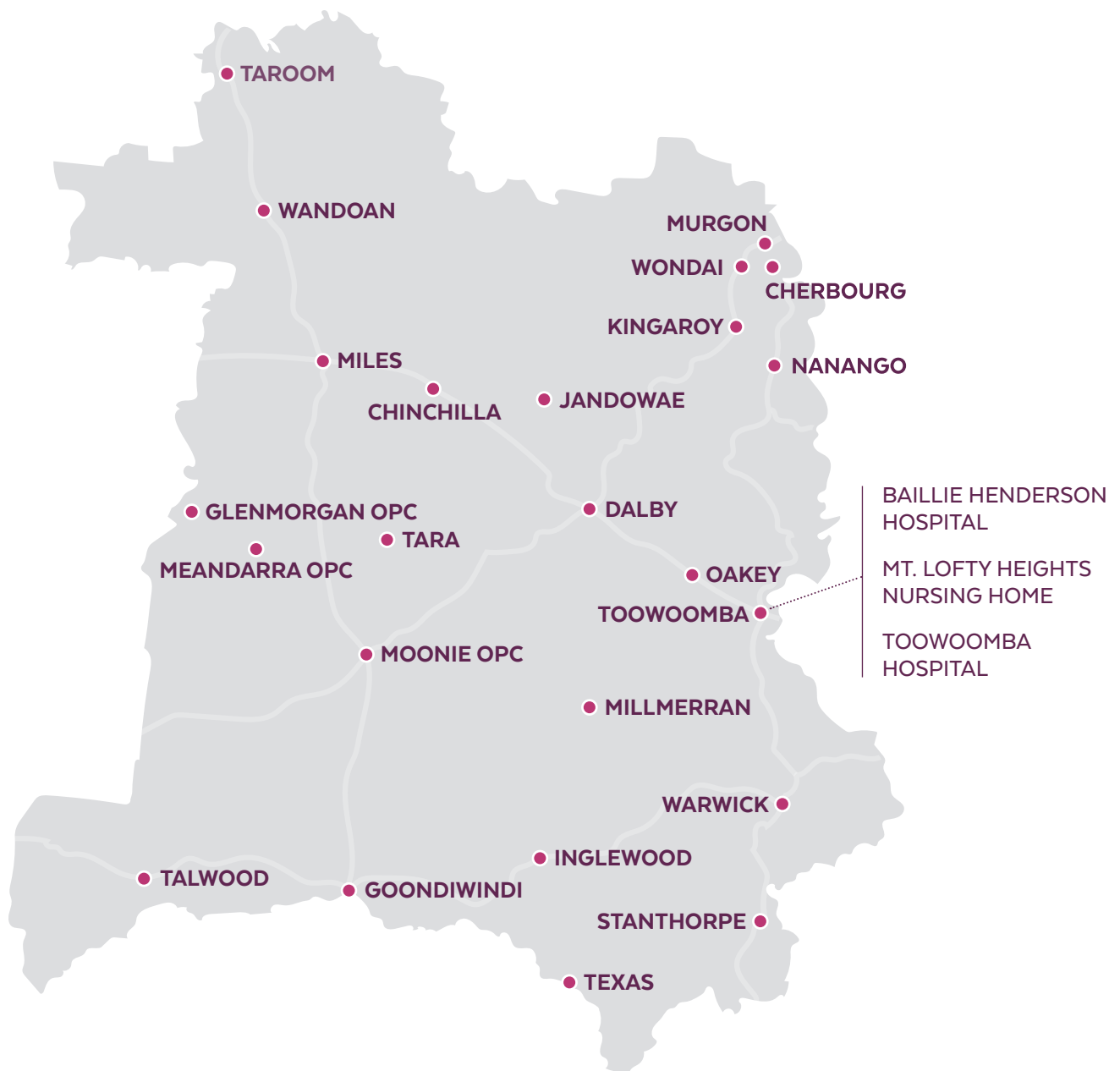


Harold Shelton
Board Member



Julie Stewart
Board Member

OUR REGION



Toowoomba Hospital Foundation supports our community by funding medical equipment, services, facility enhancements, and programs for patients, as well as staff development, research and scholarships for Darling Downs Health across 29 hospitals and health service facilities.

We are passionate about what we do, and every donation makes a difference to our patients, their families, and the staff of our hospitals. That's why we're proud to say that 100% of all donations go to Darling Downs Health.

OUR VALUES

COLLABORATION

We connect with our community, our sponsors, donors and partners to respond to the needs of our hospitals.

EMPATHY

We are compassionate and we inspire compassion in others through the stories of the people in our community and the accomplishments of our hospitals.

ENERGY

We are active, enthusiastic and accountable. We make things happen and take pride in our contribution to the community.

COLIN WILCOX

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Volunteering in pre-admission at Toowoomba Hospital since 2019, Colin assists with any of the following tasks:

- Guiding patients and visitors around the hospital when requiring assistance
- Retrieving and transporting documents throughout the hospital
- Delivering mail to the Endoscopy and Paediatric Units
- Prepares pre-admission and day surgery packs in readiness for use by medical staff
- Provides comfort and care to patients waiting to be seen by medical staff

After being diagnosed with MS in 1994, Colin believes that we should all strive to give a little back in our lifetime.

His favourite part of volunteering is the social interaction at the hospital with staff, visitors, and patients.





YOU DON'T PLAN FOR AN EMERGENCY, **BUT WE DO**

Each year in April we launch our Tax Appeal to help raise funds for an area or unit of Darling Downs Health most in need, whether it be life-saving medical equipment, upgrades to a current facility or service, or to bring extra comfort to patients.

This year, our goal was to raise \$200,000 by June 30 to help purchase medical equipment, resources, and staff training so that you and your loved ones continue to receive the best possible care from the Toowoomba Hospital Emergency Department.

In 2021, the Toowoomba Hospital Emergency Department had over 63,000 presentations. That's more than half of the total Toowoomba population, and equal to 173 people through the Emergency doors every single day, around the clock.

To help spread our message, we invited some amazing local ambassadors to share their real-life emergency stories with us.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, we smashed our \$200K goal and raised an unbelievable \$215,969.51! 100% of these funds will go towards supporting the life-saving work of the Toowoomba Hospital Emergency Department.

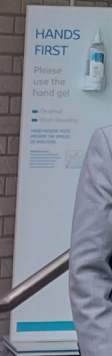
This wouldn't have been possible without the help of every single person who donated, came along to an event, raised funds on our behalf, and spread the word about our Tax Appeal. A special shout out to our Appeal Partner Harvey Norman Toowoomba and Media Partner 7NEWS Toowoomba for their generous support.

TAX
APPEAL '22 

WITH THE SUPPORT OF OUR
AMAZING COMMUNITY, WE
RAISED AN ASTOUNDING

—
\$215,969.51

RETURN OF PRIMARY HEALTH CLINIC FOR MILLMERRAN



Following news of the sudden closure of the Millmerran Medical Centre, under the advice of our Chair Ray Taylor, the Foundation was keen to help a community who've given so much back to our health service.

The closure of the centre left residents and surrounding areas without access to primary health care services. At the time, Darling Downs Health stepped in and established a clinic at their health care facility in Millmerran.

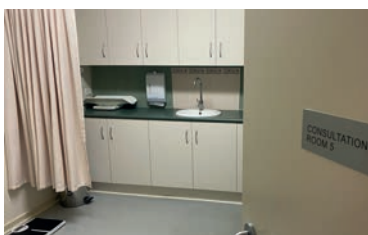
While, behind the scenes, we set plans into action to purchase the existing centre in Campbell Street, with the goal to provide this vital service once again from a fit-for-purpose

building located next to the pharmacy in the centre of town.

The building was renovated to meet current standards and to ensure the comfort of locals visiting the clinic for care.

And in October this year the clinic started seeing its first patients thanks to the wonderful work of Darling Downs Health and Queensland Country Practice.

Through this partnership we are proud to have been a part of this project to ensure Millmerran and surrounding areas continue to have access to primary health care and the support they need.



DID YOU KNOW?

Over the last 12 months the Millmerran Quilters Association has donated over 100 handmade quilts for the comfort of patients of Darling Downs Health. These donations include special baby cot quilts that are gifted to new babies born across our maternity wards as part of our Baby Book Bag initiative.





In 2019, the Weengallon Pink Ladies Day committee celebrated 20 years of their incredible breast cancer fundraising event. In 2020, the Foundation was honoured to have the opportunity to bring this event to Talwood as The Diamond Hunter Talwood Pink Ladies Day, raising funds for rural women's health services. But sadly, COVID-19 put a halt on all our event plans, including Talwood, and we made the tough decision to postpone the event until safer times. In 2021 we had to postpone again, thanks to continued border closures and travel restrictions, as well as extreme weather which caused flooding in the region.

Finally, on 24th August, 2022 the sun shone bright and we headed four hours west to Talwood, a tiny town with a huge heart.

Celebrating local creatives and artisans with market stalls and live entertainment, as well as inspiring local guest speakers, we welcomed over 500 women to the Talwood Oval for a fabulous day of shopping, lunching, and fundraising. And it was definitely worth the (very long) wait, as our wonderful guests, sponsors, partners, and the Talwood community raised an unbelievable \$68,132.05!

100% of these funds will go towards supporting Darling Downs Health Rural Women's Health Services across the region, including the BreastScreen Mobile Bus Service, Goondiwindi Hospital Maternity Ward, Kingaroy Hospital Gynaecology and Theatre Services, and Toowoomba Hospital Physiotherapy Service.



DARLING DOWNS HEALTH MUSEUM

REACHES PIVOTAL MILESTONE

After many months, meetings, and amendments, Stage 1 of our Darling Downs Health Museum project hit its first big milestone achieving Development Approval from Toowoomba Regional Council.

With the project now going out to tender, the excitement and anticipation of finally starting on the restoration and refurbishment of the Medical Superintendent's House is now just round the corner.

Our community will start to see some movement on site from early 2023 as local contractors and heritage specialists begin the process of preserving the residence.

Stage 1 of the Darling Downs Health Museum, which includes the restoration of the Heritage-

listed house, the development of an outdoor grassed amphitheatre, and landscaping incorporating the protected trees, will be completed by January 2024.

Our vision for the Darling Downs Health Museum is that it not only becomes a place to preserve our history but a place of learning and innovation. Where our community can see and hear the stories of health and medicine from across cultures and practices and how this has shaped our hospitals and health services today.

As part of the Development Application, Stages 2 and 3 were also submitted to Council for approval. These Stages include an on-site café and offices; however, these will remain on hold until the Foundation can receive further funding to move forward.



The Darling Downs Health Museum Stage 1 Project is funded by the Australian Government Building Better Regions Fund.

THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT'S HOUSE

The Foundation is fortunate to have been gifted the opportunity to restore and preserve the Heritage-listed Medical Superintendent's House on the grounds of Baillie Henderson Hospital.

This 19th century residence was built in 1888, coinciding with the construction of the main hospital site, for first Medical Superintendent Dr James Hogg and still retains many of its original features.

Located along Hogg Street, the residence will be carefully restored and refurbished to house our museum collection for our community and visitors alike to enjoy, ensuring this chapter of our medical history and the significance of this building lives on for future generations.

PURCHASE A PAVER

Celebrate our region's rich history of medicine and health by dedicating a paver to your family or loved one, your business, organisation, or even yourself.

Your paver will be placed along the landscaped paths of the Darling Downs Health Museum. By dedicating a paver, you are showing your support, recognising the contributions so many have made

to healthcare in the Darling Downs, and leaving a legacy on our path in our region's history.

Your dedication may show your personal support (such as your name or family name), celebrate a loved one who shares a connection with our health service's history (such as a past or current patient or staff member), your business, organisation, or community group.



CLICK OR SCAN



WELLBEAN SPROUTS

IN NEW LOCATION



Our Wellbean Co family has grown a latte since we first started pouring coffees at Toowoomba Hospital in 2019! We opened our second café at Baillie Henderson Hospital in 2020, and in August this year we officially launched Wellbean Co at the brand-new Kingaroy Hospital.

Open Monday to Friday from 7am till 2.30pm, Wellbean Co Kingaroy is serving up barista-made coffees and drinks, as well as fresh salads,

sandwiches, and wraps and a daily selection of muffins and slices. If you're visiting Kingaroy Hospital, you can find the café near the hospital entrance and even pre-order your coffee by phoning ahead on 4162 0170.

100% of profits from Wellbean Co Kingaroy will support the Kingaroy Hospital through Darling Downs Health.

LET US CATER

YOUR NEXT TEAM LUNCH

CLICK OR SCAN



As well as providing delicious coffees, meals and snacks to the staff, patients and visitors of our hospitals, Wellbean Co also offers fresh, healthy, and tasty catering to the Toowoomba and Kingaroy health service, and local businesses. With qualified chefs creating everything from individual snack boxes to gourmet grazing platters, we have your next team meeting or corporate function covered.

We deliver to businesses in the Toowoomba CBD, and all profits from Wellbean Co go directly back into supporting the work of Toowoomba Hospital Foundation and Darling Downs Health.

If you'd like more information on how we can cater for you, email catering@wellbeanco.com.au or view our catering menu by scanning above.

STAFF WELLNESS



Each month, the Foundation hosts wellness activities that are free for all Darling Downs Health staff to attend. This year, we generously had nlc come on board as naming sponsors of the Staff Wellness Calendar, meaning we were able to offer more sessions at more locations, and help more staff take a moment to relax and recharge!

We hosted massages, DIY workshops, facials and more at Toowoomba Hospital, Mt Lofty

Heights Nursing Home, Baillie Henderson Hospital, BreastScreen Toowoomba Service, and the Child Youth and Family Health Centre.

The aim of the Staff Wellness Calendar is to promote the importance of taking a break at work and offer staff the chance to refresh their minds, bodies, and creativity. If your business is interested in participating in the Staff Wellness Calendar in 2023, please email emma@toowoombahospitalfoundation.org.au

Make your own AROMADOUGH

FOLLOW THIS METHOD

Place water, salt and cream of tartar into saucepan and heat over medium heat until salt has dissolved. Allow to cool slightly and pour into mixing bowl.

To liquid mixture, add flour and oil and mix until combined.

Tip dough onto the bench and knead until the texture is consistent – soft and pliable.

Add essential oils and knead into the dough.

If using colouring, add a few drops of food colouring to the dough and knead the colour through.

Store in an airtight container to keep playdough from hardening.



Ingredients:

250g water
100g sea salt
1 tbsp cream of tartar
250g plain flour
20g olive oil
10 - 15 drops of essential oils
Colouring (optional)

RECIPE KINDLY
PROVIDED BY

THE Sandalwood CONNECTION

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

FOR RURAL PATIENTS

FAST FACT

In the 2021/22 Financial Year our Clive Berghofer Toowoomba Hospital Accommodation units provided a place to stay for **302 rural patients**.

In August, over 20 local trades, businesses, and contractors came together over 8 weeks to deliver what is now the Foundation's largest ever in-kind donation – the transformation of our Clive Berghofer Toowoomba Hospital Accommodation units.

Championed by the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitaller Priory of the Darling Downs, the project was managed by Hutchinson Builders who took on the mammoth task of bringing our local community on board.

Originally opened in 1998, the six self-contained units provide little to no-cost emergency, short and long-stay accommodation for rural patients of Darling Downs Health needing to travel more than 50kms for treatment and care at Toowoomba Hospital.

Over the past two decades the units have been greatly valued by patients and their loved ones

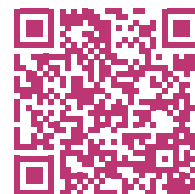
and well-looked after by the volunteers who give their time to help run the accommodation. But they were in much-need of some TLC.

The Foundation was absolutely blown away by the outpouring of support from local businesses who gifted us their goods, services, materials, and labour totalling an incredible \$375,000!

Completely transforming the outdated units to modern, bright, and welcoming spaces with newly renovated kitchens, bathrooms, bedrooms and floors, including new paint, electrical, and furniture and white goods.

Thank you also to the CommBank Staff Foundation for their generous donation towards creating a welcoming place to stay for our patients.

CHECK OUT THE BEFORE AND AFTER HERE →





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2022 RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS

As part of our commitment to supporting and enhancing the lifesaving and life-changing work of Darling Downs Health, each year we have the privilege of gifting grants to both novice (up to the value of \$10,000) and experienced (up to the value of \$50,000) researchers.

These grants are awarded to research projects that are of major significance to the health outcomes of the Darling Downs community and the treatment practices of health professionals.

Our research program is fortunate to have the support of Pure Land Learning College who

gift a generous donation towards making new research, discoveries, and treatments for our patients a reality.

In 2022, we awarded 10 grants across a wide variety of disciplines (see below).

If you're an employee or visiting appointee of Darling Downs Health and would like to know more about our Toowoomba Hospital Foundation / Pure Land Learning College Research Grant Program, please contact the Research Grants Coordinator at ddhhs-research@health.qld.gov.au.

NOVICE RESEARCHERS '22

Berneice Fitzpatrick – Rural and regional consumer recommendations for models of care in gestational diabetes and gestational weight gain.

Carolyn Meredith – Exploring factors associated with port-a-cath failure: a retrospective case-control study.

Dr Emma Stehr – Multimodal stone education in the non-English speaking (Kurdish Kurmanji) population: a prospective pilot study.

Sue Williams – The Darling Downs Rural Hand Therapy Project

Danielle Edgar – Clinical scaphoid fracture management: evaluating a change in practice.

EXPERIENCED RESEARCHERS '22

Dr Chris Wall – Perception of risk for patients undergoing hip or knee replacement: a survey of Australian general practitioners.

Dr Ans Van Erp – Should I stay or should I go? Benchmarking and identification of health workforce retention patterns in Darling Downs and South West Hospital and Health Services.

Dr Nisal Gange – Do fatigue and stress levels affect the quality of life among stroke survivors (FaSt-Quality study)?

Dr Aiyapa Ajikuttira – Augmented reality assistance for percutaneous nephrolithotomy access: a scoping study.

Dr Anna Tynan – Finding the right fit: using artificial intelligence to assist with recruitment, selection, and retention of health workers at a regional public health service.

MUSICAL MELODIES BRING SMILES

TO SICK KIDS IN HOSPITAL

In September 2021, we launched our very first #100Kin100days campaign as part of our overarching Christmas Appeal. Inspired by Karlie and Ellie Ross and The Ellie Project, we fundraised to upgrade the Toowoomba Hospital Paediatric Oncology services and help our region's littlest and bravest patients have a more welcoming, child-focused environment to receive care.

While this upgrade included the purchase of physical things like medical equipment, and child-specific items like change tables, it also included funding for bringing joy to the kids and

families undergoing long hospital stays. Being able to facilitate music therapy to the Paediatric Unit was a huge priority of Karlie's and we're thrilled to have been able to make this happen!

Now, the wonderful team from Maggie Moo Music Toowoomba visit the unit each fortnight with a treasure trove of musical instruments and fun, filling the ward with smiles, giggles and plenty of music. Thank you to everyone who donated towards our campaign to help bring these magical moments to patients, their families, and the staff of the Paediatric Unit.





FOR OUR LITTLEST OF **SUPERHEROES BATTLING CANCER**

Last year, we set our sights on raising \$100,000 to upgrade the Toowoomba Hospital Paediatric Oncology services in support of our littlest of patients fighting cancer and their families. As part of the #100Kin100days campaign and with the wonderful support of The Ellie Project and

their community we raised \$130,978.79 between September 16th and Christmas Day. The money raised from this campaign contributed to an unbelievable total of \$264,409.85 for our 2021 Toowoomba Hospital Christmas Appeal.



**100K IN
DAYS**

96 97 98 99 

WITH THE SUPPORT OF OUR
AMAZING COMMUNITY, WE
RAISED AN ASTOUNDING

—
\$130,978.79

FOOTY FUNDAMENTALS AND **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WITH GREG**



In November, local kids from across the Darling Downs were treated to a special visit from rugby league legend Greg Inglis who was in the region delivering his Goanna Academy MindEd program with thanks to funds raised by the Foundation and our mates.

Bringing the Goanna Academy to Queensland for the very first time, Greg visited Murgon State High, Warwick State High, and Stanthorpe State High schools and finished the tour with a footy workshop and mental health clinic at Kingaroy.

Through their schools program and community clinics, Greg is helping young people and their parents, carers and communities start

conversations with someone about mental health and equipping them with coping tools and tips should they find themselves struggling. Most importantly, the clinics are aimed at reducing the stigma in asking for help.

We are incredibly proud to have been able to support Greg and his Goanna Academy on their first tour of Queensland, right here in the Darling Downs. This wouldn't have been possible without our mates Fitzy's raising funds at their Fitzys Feast with Greg Inglis or our wonderful sponsors and guests at the Mort & Co Dinner with Greg Inglis in Dalby.



OVER 2 IN 5
AUSTRALIANS AGED BETWEEN 16
AND 85 EXPERIENCE A MENTAL
HEALTH DISORDER AT SOME
POINT IN THEIR LIFETIME.



Images Credit: Goanna Academy



CLICK OR
SCAN TO VIEW
OUR EVENTS



HOW YOU CAN **HELP US**

BECOME A
FUNDRAISER

SUPPORT
OUR EVENTS

VOLUNTEER
WITH US

PURCHASE
FROM OUR CAFE

DONATE!



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