



TOOWOOMBA HOSPICE

# Newsletter



@toowoombahospice

## Winter Edition

*June 2025*



## From the Chairman's desk Graham Barron OAM

Hi, and welcome to our Winter Newsletter.

I hope you are well prepared for the cold weather.

There have been plenty of positive things happening at the Toowoomba Hospice. We recently held our Mother's Day High Tea at Gip's which was successful with everyone enjoying themselves and at the same time raising funds towards our operating costs. It was very pleasing to see many new faces in attendance. Also noticeable, was that Mark and I were the only males in attendance. A big thanks to Claire for arranging this event.

Also, we recently held a BBQ lunch in the beautiful grounds of the Hospice to celebrate National Volunteers Week. At this event, certificates and pins were presented to volunteers, acknowledging their length of service. Marlene and I very much appreciated the acknowledgement of our 28 years of volunteering. As I mentioned on the day, we have met wonderful people who offer their time and skills volunteering at our much-appreciated healthcare facility. I would like to thank Judy, our Volunteer Coordinator, for planning this very successful event.

As the year progresses, we are looking forward to holding two of our major fundraising events, **Hang Your Boss Out To Dry** and our **Race Day**. As well as raising the much needed funds required to operate our healthcare facility, they are very popular social events where we network with people from all walks of life.

Over the years, I have noticed that any Hospice event held is thoroughly enjoyed by those attending. With people expressing their appreciation of the very professional end-of-life care that we continue to provide. I often think of how proud Sr. Frances would feel to see how successful the Toowoomba Hospice has been over the years. Those of us who worked with her would appreciate my views.

In conclusion, I offer my sincere thanks to the community for their ongoing support, commitment, and friendship, all of which are of great assistance to us.

*Regards - Graham*



## Director of Nursing Eugenie Corbett



The Toowoomba Hospice celebrated significant National and International events during the month of May. The first one was World Hygiene Day on the 5th of May, followed by the National Palliative Care Week from the 11th to the 17th of May. The aim of National Palliative Care Week is to raise awareness about palliative care and its benefits. This year's theme was "What's your plan?" This is an invitation to reflect and start a conversation about what matters most to you and to commence advanced care planning.

To coincide with Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration's (PCOC) 20th year anniversary, PCOC ran a mini promotional series during Palliative Care Week showcasing diverse insights from key members of the sector. The campaign highlighted the ways in which the national palliative care landscape has evolved over the last 20 years.

I extend gratitude to all the nurses working for or collaboratively working with the Toowoomba Hospice in recognition of International Nurses Day on the 12th of May. As nurses, we encounter many challenges, "physical, mental, emotional, and ethical," as stated by Dr Cipriano, President of the International Council of Nurses. As a team we know we can face these challenges together, supporting each other to ensure the future of professional nursing.

I personally extend my gratitude to all our volunteers in celebration of National Volunteers Week from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> of May.

From the 27th of May to the 3rd of June the Toowoomba Hospice will be celebrating National Reconciliation Week, "a time for Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia" (Reconciliation Australia - [www.reconciliation.org.au](http://www.reconciliation.org.au)). In this spirit of reconciliation, one of our previous consumers has kindly donated 20 of 180 porcelain tea sets. His artwork is captured on repurposed recycled porcelain tea seats reflecting a piece of history from 1846 called "Fractures and Renewal".

In conclusion, it is with gratitude, and sadness that we say farewell to Dr John Gillett, Palliative Care Physician. He has been a member of our Medical Advisory and Credentialing Committee and a valued credentialled admitting practitioner since 2007. He recently resigned from this position at the recent Medical Advisory Committee meeting. We wish him and his family all the best for the future.

*With care - Eugenie*



## Business Manager Mark Munro

Celebrating 22 Years of 'Boundless Love Dedicated Care' at Toowoomba Hospice, the 1st of July marks a very special milestone – the Toowoomba Hospice turns 22! What an incredible journey it has been. Since opening our doors in 2003, we've had the privilege of caring for over 2,300 clients and, supporting their families during one of the most emotional and challenging times in their lives.

We are confident that Sr Frances Flint OAM csb, our beloved founder, would be so proud of how far the Hospice has come. She would also be deeply touched by the dedication of our Hospice Team and the unwavering support from our community. It's thanks to you – our donors, sponsors, volunteers, and friends – that we've been able to continue offering this vital service.

We're excited to announce that sponsorship packages for our annual Race Day (Saturday, 6th September) have now been finalised. As a gesture of appreciation, we'll be offering these packages first to our generous sponsors from last year, giving them the opportunity to continue their support.

We are incredibly grateful to our local business community. In fact, 95% of the funds we raise are spent locally, with only 5% allocated to specialised medical equipment we can't source in the region. Now that's what we call being 'In Partnership with the Community!'

If you or your business would like to donate a prize for Race Day or any of our events, we'd love to hear from you.

Please contact Claire on (07) 4659 8500 or email [events@toowoombahospice.org.au](mailto:events@toowoombahospice.org.au).

Thank you for being part of our journey – here's to continuing this amazing work, together.

Stay warm and keep smiling!

*Yours in partnership with the community Mark*



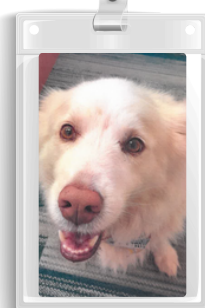


MY CHILDREN TWEET, CLUCK & PURR



## Volunteer Coordinator Judy Maker-Field

*The most important thing is to enjoy life - be happy - it's all that matters*



As it is time again to put pen to paper, it can be hard to believe how fast time is flying by. One minute I have just started, the next I feel I have been here for years. We have had some wonderful new volunteers start, some going through the initial process of joining. We have expanded our horizons to include a fabulous, furry, four-legged trooper named Jasper, who melts everyone's hearts when he comes to visit our clients and staff.

We have celebrated National Volunteer's Week with a lovely BBQ and small ceremony to present certificates for some very special milestones. Our lovely kitchen volunteer, Perry, was a finalist at the recent Business disABILITY Awards; she didn't win on the night, but will always be a winner in our eyes. I will always be grateful for the wonderful work all the volunteers do for the Hospice and the many friendships that are made.

We are always taking Volunteer enquiries! If you have an interest in: cooking, cleaning, flowers or reception we'd love to hear from you! **(07) 4659 8500**

*Cheers for now Judy*



## Pastoral Care Coordinator Louise Buttsworth

As we head towards mid 2025, I wish you peace as we embrace another Toowoomba winter. I especially enjoy wearing warmer clothes, appreciating the brisk walks in the morning and experiencing the warmth of our fire in the evenings. A change from heat and humidity is also very welcome. My husband is also very pleased to not have to mow so often!

Our pastoral care team continues to be present for all at the Hospice and the extended families. We have acknowledged a couple of days during May – Mother's Day (11th) and International Nurse's Day (12th). *Thank you to all the wonderful mums and nurses in our lives – their contributions are invaluable.*

In March, I was able to attend the Wellbeing Symposium hosted by the Pure Land Learning College; in collaboration with Momentum Mental Health. This was a fascinating day as I learned more about numerous initiatives that we have in the Toowoomba community which look after many people – there were stalls representing at least 25 organisations. We also participated in discussions about different ways we can look after our own well-being. *Five excellent ways are through: connection, activity, learning, being aware, and helping others.* I encourage all of us to consider these worthwhile activities to be proactive in looking after our own well-being.

*Blessings Louise*



## Fundraising & Events Coordinator Claire Roselio

Thank goodness for metaphors, because in reality I'm not a strong swimmer!

It seems like only last week that I was writing my first newsletter article and holding my breath as my first edition was being thoroughly proof-read so that it would be ready for others to hold, read and enjoy. I feel so lucky to be able to show the success of the humble, listen to the stories of the community, and share the gift that the Toowoomba Hospice is to those who are ready to listen.

Since stepping into the role of Fundraising & Events Coordinator, I've had the privilege of engaging with the community in meaningful ways. In just a few months, I've successfully organised and held my first event, forged new connections, and introduced myself to our loyal supporters. I've also begun laying the groundwork for an exciting 2026 events calendar, ensuring that our initiatives continue to grow and evolve. Additionally, I've had the honour of being invited as a guest speaker at several morning teas, where I've shared insights on our mission, the impact of our work, and the importance of community involvement. All that in just 3 months - knowing what else is coming up in the second half of the year has me so excited for everything that I am yet to experience.

Thanks need to go to so many people for supporting me for our **Mother's Day High Tea** held at Gip's on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May. Starting with the support of Gip's who donated use of their function space and complimentary first drinks, to our last minute Butterfly Sponsor, Heidi, from Architexture Hair & Brows I couldn't have pulled off the great event without you. Those in attendance were greeted by the sounds of the Glennie School Chamber Strings Ensemble and vocal performances as well. I would like to thank Mrs Jayne Davidson from Glennie for her patience coordinating the fantastic start of event entertainment. After checking all of the numbers, I believe that funds raised from the Mother's Day High Tea event total **\$3437.93**. Thanks of course to Marlene who donates, not only her time and crafting gifts, but the resources that go into making the favours for everyone in attendance. Lastly, the ongoing feedback and support that I have received from Mark, Jodie, and Judy have been invaluable. They help keep me on track, moving forward and focused on the upcoming events.

**Hang Ya Boss Out To Dry** has had everyone helping with recruiting and spreading the word, due to rescheduling the event, which will now take place on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June** at **Harvey Norman**. Throughout May, we have been pitching to new bosses and are looking forward to seeing a couple of them join us on the new date. I think Lee from Triple M will be keen to get feedback from new businesses jumping on board. We appreciate their support of this FUNdraiser and are so excited to have a 95FT Boom lift for them to experience, all thanks to our supporters, Master Hire.

*Now let's put the fun back in fundraising - Claire*

# HANG YA BOSS OUT TO DRY 2025!!



JEANETTE



DOM



KELLIE



MARK



GUS



VICKY



RUSSEL



MUNCH



EUGENIE



SUNNI



BARTON



JOIN US!





# DATE CLAIMERS

## 2025



Saturday 3:30pm

### *Charity Race Day*

Join us for an evening filled with excitement and entertainment including live racing, raffles, fashions on the field, and much more!

Sept  
6  
2025



Sunday 3:00pm

### *Sunset Sunday*

Watch the sun set with us at The Blue Mountain Hotel and enjoy some afternoon tunes, nibbles, and a cold one or two.

Oct  
12  
2025



Tuesday 11am

### *Melbourne Cup Luncheon*

Join us at Café Valetta for the race that stops the nation. Sweeps, raffle prizes, and a great time - we'll have it all - you've got to be in it to win it!

Nov  
4  
2025



Sunday 5pm

### *Hospice Carols*

Bring the family and kick off the festive season with Toowoomba Hospice; bring money for food, drinks, and raffle tickets.

Nov  
30  
2025

To purchase tickets for these or other upcoming events please go to our website

[www.toowoombahospice.org.au/events](http://www.toowoombahospice.org.au/events)

For more information please email or phone [events@toowoombahospice.org.au](mailto:events@toowoombahospice.org.au) OR 07 4659 8500



Putting the fun back into  
Fundraising



Thank You

For your support in 2025



@toowoombahospice



# What's Happening?



*The Groovy Grannies Jumpers & Jazz Breakfast*  
*The Granary, Dairy Precinct, 145 Victoria Street Warwick Qld*  
*Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025* *6.30am for 7am start*

*Guest Speaker*

*Lucky Door Prize*

*Money Boards*

*Multi Draw Prizes Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5*



*Proceeds to*



**TICKETS \$40**

*Catering by Frankie Lo Giudice*

*It's Cool  
To Talk  
Grief*

**LONG  
LUNCH 25**

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE:**

30 AUGUST 2025  
BERGEN

LIVE MUSIC.  
GREAT FOOD.  
REAL TALK.

RAISING FUNDS FOR



SPONSORED BY



**STATE OF ORIGIN  
DOUBLES TICKETS**

Find out more from our Fundraising & Events Coordinator, Claire

Thank You for all you do!



*Boundless Love, Dedicated Care*

Congratulations  
Eugenie

Congratulations  
Perry



**BDAA 2025** FINALIST







*Together with the community,  
Toowoomba Hospice provides  
boundless love and dedicated  
care when it is needed most.*



A huge thank-you to Heidi at **Architexture Hair & Brows** for coming on board as the *Butterfly Sponsor* for our Mother's Day High Tea. We appreciate your support of our event at Gip's on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

Thanks to the "Green Thumb Garden Club" for your continued fundraising contributions.

Thank you to all the supportive community groups who hold various fundraisers for us throughout the year.



*Yours in partnership*

Have you heard about our Partnership Program? Toowoomba Hospice is required to generate \$964k from the community in the 2024-2025 financial year to continue to provide fee free speciality palliative care to individuals in our community with a life limiting illness at the end of life stage. To help the Hospice provide this care, we are encouraging any individual or business to join our Partnership Program.

*On behalf of the Toowoomba Hospice Family we appreciate your continued support!*