

December 2019 – January 2020

TOOWOOMBA HOSPICE NEWS



Toowoomba Hospice Management Committee, Staff and Volunteers would like to wish you all sincere best wishes for the New Year and thank you for your continued support of the Toowoomba Hospice.



Season's Greetings

**Graham Barron OAM
Chairman**



Each year as we enter into the Festive Season I like to stop and think of the many positive things that have happened at the Toowoomba Hospice over the past 12 months. The first thing that comes to mind is the very professional care we continue to provide to our clients and their families. Also the Hospice has received a great Christmas gift with new carpet that has been laid throughout the building. This has given the Hospice a fresh feel and ensures that the maintenance of the building is at a high standard ensuring we are entering 2020 on a positive note. As I always say, in most cases the Hospice is our clients' last home; more the need to keep the presentation of the building at a high standard. I thank the community for their support in the raising of funds to enable us to carry out this work.

On Sunday 24th November we celebrated the start of the Season at the Toowoomba Hospice when we held our annual Christmas Carols evening. Our good friends from the Toowoomba Municipal Band and High Altitude Harmony once again led us in the carol singing. Sincere thanks to both groups for their involvement and support, and also to Pat and Chris Dwan for providing the transport that brought Santa to visit. Sincere thanks as well to our valued friends who provided food, drink and stalls for the evening.

This event continues to be popular with many families, friends and supporters joining in the singing of traditional carols. A great evening was had by all and I thank Mark Munro and the team of staff, volunteers and supporters who helped make this evening a success. I am sure all who were in attendance would agree with me that we left the Hospice Christmas Carols with a great feeling and enthusiasm for the Festive Season.

It is always very pleasing to receive many positive accolades for the Toowoomba Hospice and we value the new friends we have made throughout 2019. I am very proud to be Chairman of a very professional health care facility with the support of a great team.

On behalf of the Management Committee, I wish to acknowledge and thank Eugenie, Mark, our nursing and administration staff, volunteers, supporters and friends for their dedication and support throughout 2019 which has been greatly appreciated.

In conclusion, I hope you can spend quality time with your family over the festive season. This time of the year is very special and Marlene and I are looking forward to enjoying our Christmas with our Grandsons, Hayden and William, and our family. Very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. Until next time.

Graham

**Barron family enjoying some quality time together at the recent Hospice Carols.
Back row: David, William, Christina, Kylie, Graham and Santa
Front row: Marlene and Hayden**



Mark Munro
Administration and Fundraising Manager




Welcome to the Festive Season!

We kicked off the Christmas season with our 17th annual Hospice Carols on Sunday 24th November with over 200 people attending. It was very enjoyable! Our thanks to everyone who helped in any way from making goodies for the craft stall, putting out 200 chairs, printing carol booklets to running food stalls. A special thank you to High Altitude Harmony and the Toowoomba Municipal band for leading the sing-a-long of carols, and of course we must not forget Santa and his sleigh driver who delivered him to the carols safelyThank you Dwan Family.

I would like to encourage you to attend Toowoomba's Christmas Wonderland proudly presented by the Lions Club of Toowoomba West Inc. This is a wonderful community event and many hours have been spent prior, during and after the event by 100s of volunteers.

THANK YOU TO ALL INVOLVED!

Dear Santa,
I've been good
all year.
Most of the time.
Once in a while.
Never mind,
I'll buy my own stuff.

 The Lions Club of
Toowoomba West Inc
Proudly presents

TOOWOOMBA'S
*Christmas
Wonderland*

7-24 DECEMBER 2019
Queen's Park Botanic Gardens
Enter from Lindsay, Godsall & Campbell Streets

**From 7:00pm
to 10:00pm
NIGHTLY**


HOPE

ENTERTAINERS

Ben's Brass Quintet	JE Dancehouse	TCS Choral Youth
Brendon Walmsley	Jim Miller Big Band	TCS Contemporary Choral
Choirbolic	Kangatraining Toowoomba	Toowoomba Concert Band
Con Brio	Maplewood	Toowoomba Gospel Choir
Dance Central	McGrath Studio of Highland Dancing	Toowoomba Municipal Band
Dancing Stars	Monday Nights	Toowoomba Philharmonic Choir
David Gwynne	Mostly Standing Theatre Co	Toowoomba Regional Youth Orchestra
Eberhard Duet	National Conservatoire Ballet Co	Ukulele for Fun (U3A)
Evedance Studio	PCYC Dance Academy	Women in Harmony
FAD Fitness and Dance	Phlash Ent. Mascot Hire	501st Legion - Redback Garrison
Garden City Baptist Choir	Radiance Dance Academy	
Graeme Schulz	Rhythm Nation Academy of Dance	
Harlaxton RSL Brass Band	RIGG'D Dance Crew	
High Altitude Harmony	Sing Australia	
High Country Community Band	Sunny Side Up	

*Thank you to our entertainers
who add that extra bit of
'sparkle' to the event!*

For more information visit:
www.christmaswonderland.com.au

 Find us on
Facebook

**Finally, I would like to wish you all a
memorable and safe Festive Season
and 2020! - Mark**



Eugenie Corbett
Director of Nursing

Did you know that there is no Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander name for Palliative Care? I was privileged to attend the Dying to Yarn, Palliative Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities, Conference in Brisbane. I was once again inspired by the great work being done within Australia to educate Palliative Care Health Professionals. I gained insightful and practical knowledge to assist us to provide culturally respectful and appropriate care. The Toowoomba Hospice provides cultural competency training to all our staff and we continually strive to network and educate ourselves within our multicultural and multifaith community so that people of all diverse cultures, ethnicity and faith, feel respected, welcomed, and appropriately cared for physically, spiritually and emotionally.

Christmas is a time which has different meanings for people within their own cultural heritage and family traditions. However, many share the common goal of Christmas being a time where loved ones can stop for a short time and gather around each other. This may be family and/or friends.

At the Toowoomba Hospice, the Christmas Season commences with our Christmas Carol Evening; a time for the community to gather and celebrate in singing Christmas Carols. For our clients and their families, it is a difficult time with many unknowns, fears, and expectations, all wrapped up together in a big bow of hope.

The Toowoomba staff make every effort to make it as special as possible, being mindful and respectful of what matters most to our clients and their loved ones. No assumptions can be made. Cultural and individual needs and preferences are considered, framing care goals around client and family perspectives.

We have many memories of times shared with clients and their loved ones, where words cannot express what a privilege it has been to be with them. One of our clients who passed away years ago is remembered by staff who cared for him. His loved one annually donates a new Christmas tree ornament in memory of him.

We would love to invite families to share some of their special stories, of times spent at the hospice, no matter how long ago, in honour of their loved ones. With their permission, we would be honoured to place their stories on our hospice website. Names and some detail will be omitted to provide privacy and respect.

Merry Christmas
Eugenie

Sharene Gosley Volunteer Coordinator



Hello everyone,

We extend a big welcome to the following people who have joined our team recently, Tim, Robyn and Jan – welcome to the team!! We trust you will enjoy your time with us.

Thanks to everyone involved in our very successful Carols Night. Thanks to everyone who made or baked items for our craft stall. To those who sold raffle tickets, helped with the set-up or pack down, those who hung the Christmas lights and those who assisted with flicking on the lights on the night or who worked on the craft stall – we give you our huge thanks. Special mention must be made of Ann Fullerton and Cheryl Morrish who worked many hours behind the scenes to ensure the craft stall was looking fab and had a range of wonderful Christmas Gifts on offer. Thank you ladies. Once again, you did a fantastic job and raised \$1,000 in just 2 hours; that's pretty impressive.

Thank you to everyone who donated items for our Christmas multi-draw raffle. The wheelbarrow is absolutely packed to overflowing and there are several hampers prizes as well. Be sure to grab your tickets in the coming weeks. Tickets are \$1 each and will be drawn on 20th December. Once again, we thank Barb Bissett, also known as "Raffle Barb", for expertly wrapping all the raffle prizes.

We recently held our last volunteer information session for 2019. More will be planned for the New Year. If you know anyone who may be interested in jumping on-board the

volunteer train, please encourage them to get in touch with me as I would love the opportunity to chat with them about how they can get involved.

As this is the last Hospice News for 2019, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the very best for Christmas and the coming year and thank you for your valuable contribution and support of the Hospice, and I look forward to working with you all again in 2020.

Until next year.
Bye for now.

Sharene

We said farewell to Judy who has volunteered for 12 years helping with administration. Best wishes & good luck with your new adventure. xo



Celebrating Birthdays in ...

December: Jodie S, Alexis, Lyn N, Cathey, John D, Gabrielle, Joe, Ray P, Sue T, Judy A

January: Les, Mark, Desley, Will, Joyce, Dave C, Bev H, Brian W, Jan J

Happy Birthday to you all from all of us at the Hospice.



Sue Thönell Pastoral Care Coordinator

Dear reader. On behalf of our Pastoral Care Team here at Toowoomba Hospice we wish you and your loved ones the Blessings of Christmas and a New Year full of opportunities and new beginnings.

Special thoughts go to all those who are grieving the death of a loved one. Christmas can be a difficult time for them as it is a confronting reminder of their loss. The shops full of Christmas cheer, families planning holidays away, the build up and excitement of presents to buy, meals to prepare and traditions to keep can be hard to engage when there is a loved one missing. If you know of someone or are someone who is spending their Christmas without a loved one, especially for the

first time, appreciate the significance of that person and find a way to honour them. Family and friends with good intention will try to include you in the festivities. If you feel uncomfortable, acknowledge their concern and take time to find your own way of honouring your loved one and participate at a level that you feel brings meaning for you.

It can be decorating an empty chair at the dinner table, sharing some memories with those gathered from Christmases past. Think of a new tradition or activity you can introduce and keep into the future. Reach out to someone you trust. Find new meaning. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time of year as our PC Team honour your journey.

Sue

2020



UPCOMING EVENTS

NOT TO BE MISSED

February 26th - Theatre Night - Tmba Rep

March/April (DTBA) - Hang Ya Boss Out To Dry

April (DTBA) - Mt Tamborine Bus Trip

May 6th - Mother's Day High Tea – Gip's

May 24th - National Palliative Care Week
Breakfast – Gip's

June/July (DTBA) - Trivia Night – Toowoomba
City Bowls Club

2019 (DTBA) - Municipal Band Charity Concert @
USQ Arts Theatre

June, July & August - 17th Birthday Fundraiser

July 6th - 10th - Toowoomba Hospice Week

July 18th & 19th - Camellia Show

September 5th - Hospice Annual Race Day

October 25th - Jazz Breakfast at the Downs
Steam Railway

November 3rd - Melbourne Cup Lunch – Café
Valetta

November 14th - Hospice Wine Tour

November 29th - Hospice Carols

December 5th - 24th - Toowoomba's Christmas
Wonderland

PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE ABOVE EVENTS
AND OTHER EVENTS AS THEY ARISE.

www.toowoombahospice.org.au

OR CONTACT 07 4659 8500. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
RUN AN EVENT FOR THE TOOWOOMBA HOSPICE:

events@toowoombahospice.org.au



Melbourne Cup!



**Katrina, Sharene, Dorothy & Christine
from Toowoomba**



Trish & Eileen from Clifton



Some of the Multi-Draw Raffle Prizes

Yes Please

CHRISTMAS ANGELS

The Toowoomba Hospice would like to invite you to purchase a 'Christmas Angel' in memory of someone special. Angels can be purchased by completing this form and returning it to Toowoomba Hospice PO Box 6463 Clifford Gardens, QLD 4350 OR call: 07 46598500 OR email: events@toowoombahospice.org.au *Angels will be placed on the Hospice Christmas Tree*

\$15.00 each (fully tax deductible)

In Memory Of:

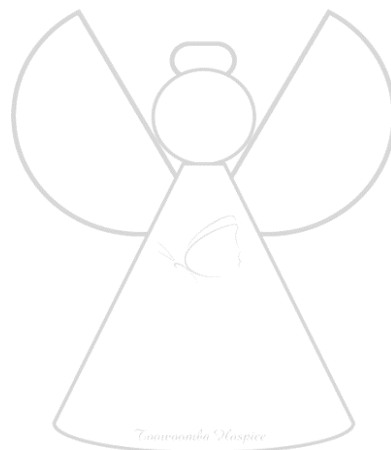
Your Name:

Address:

Ph Number:

(Please print clearly)

- ☐ *Please tick if you would like the angel sent to you after Christmas, together with our tax-deductible receipt.*



On behalf of Management, Staff and Volunteers we wish you all a peaceful and safe Festive Season.





The fun of Fundraising

PICTURE PAGE



Guests from Newlands Construction – Charlotte Purcell, Cooper Bowyer, Ash Milner, Megan Milner, Jo Byrnes, Glen Byrnes, Pauline Campbell and Grant Campbell



Pre-dinner drinks on the lawn outside the Empire Theatre

Our Chairman Graham and his wife Marlene had the pleasure of attending the 'Newlands Group Winning with Dignity' dinner in support of the Toowoomba Hospice. The special guest for the evening was author, ambassador and survivor, Sam Bloom, who shared her amazing story of the devastating lows of injury to the highs of competing for Australia, and how her unexpected saviour was a frail, injured magpie chick.

Graham and the Management Committee sincerely thank the Order of Saint John Knights Hospitaller for organising the dinner and also thank the many companies for their generous support - this exciting project was realised by the wonderful companies and businesses including Newlands Construction, Hogan Family Homes, Mary & Henry Wagner, pbAgrifood, Griffiths Concrete & Construction, WPM Metal Works, Prestige Patios & Outdoors, Chris Hadfield Painting, Wellcamp Airport, Clive Berghofer Group, Lysaght Toowoomba, Bunnings, Westside Timbers Toowoomba, Kelly Group, McClelland Concrete Pumping, Trueline Concrete Cutting, K&R Plumbing Supplies, Commplast, Ezali Hydro Excavation, Bradmans, QPDB, Wiedman Electrical, Toowoomba Plant Hire, Action Pipe Cam, Reece Plumbing, Sullivan & Nicolaides Pathology, Burstows Funeral Care, McConachie Stedman, Reid Consulting Engineers, and Eco Blueprints. Construction commenced in early October and is expected to be completed by the end of the year.



Chevalier Joe Wagner, Mrs Helen Wagner, Mrs Sam Bloom and Mr Cam Bloom

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