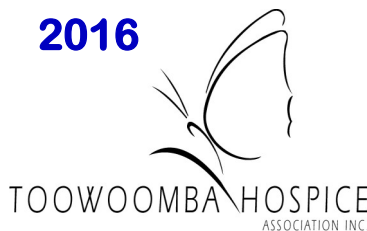


November  
2016



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(Administration and Fundraising)  
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and Pastoral Care Coordinator  
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**Spring  
again!**

## Contributors:

- Graham Barron OAM  
Chairman
- Allison Leech, Director of  
Nursing
- Sharene Gosley, Volunteer  
Coordinator
- Mark Munro, Administration  
and Fundraising Manager
- Sue Thönnell, Pastoral Care  
Coordinator

Editor Janice Swannell

## Toowoomba Hospice



## Chairman - Graham Barron

Firstly, I make mention of the recent Organisation Wide Survey carried out by ACHS where we received an excellent outcome with no recommendations, only suggestions. I wish to acknowledge Allison, Mark, Eugenie, staff and volunteers, as well as Lindy Fentiman and Robyn Boxsell from *tog* Consulting who assisted in making this outstanding outcome possible.



The last two weeks of October have been very positive and I was fortunate to be able to attend several functions including the launch of the Toowoomba Christmas Wonderland in City Hall where Deputy Mayor, Carol Taylor, officiated. The Lions Club of Toowoomba West has been working hard to ensure another spectacular, successful event will be held.

A very well attended Remembrance Service was conducted by our Pastoral Care Coordinator, Sue Thönnell, and her team of pastoral care workers. These events are very much appreciated by families and friends of past clients.

Marlene and I attended the annual High Altitude Harmony Singing Restaurant where we enjoyed this talented group's performances. It was great to receive their yearly donation of \$500.00 to the Hospice. Their ongoing support is very much appreciated.

Our annual Jazz Breakfast was held on the last Sunday of the month where we enjoyed a very hearty breakfast prepared by the volunteers at DownsSteam Tourist Railway & Museum. This event continues to be well supported and the ongoing partnership with DownsSteam is much appreciated. A big thank you to Alison Bryant and Camillo Lanzafame for providing the music. I also thank Mark Munro for his efforts planning this event.

Our Melbourne Cup Lunch at Café Valetta was once again very successful. I have attended many functions for the Hospice over the years, but this was the first time I was able to attend this lunch! I can assure you that we all had a very enjoyable time. I acknowledge Café Valetta for their ongoing support.

I remind everyone of our Christmas Carols to be held on Sunday 27th November where the Toowoomba Municipal Band and High Altitude Harmony will lead us in the singing of traditional Christmas Carols, ready for the commencement of the Festive Season.

There is always plenty happening at the Toowoomba Hospice, and I encourage everyone to support events if possible.



## PUTTING THE FUN IN FUNdraising

### Coming Events

**November 12th** Musical Morning Tea at Oak Tree Retirement Village in Baker St.

**November 19th** Wine Tour

**November 27th** Hospice Carols

**December 3rd - 24th** Toowoomba's Christmas Wonderland

#### 2017

Toowoomba Hospice will be launching a new fundraising initiative so stay tuned for more information on how you can participate.

*More details and later events can be found on the Hospice website or by contacting us... (07) 4659 8500*

**NB** If you would like to host a fundraiser for the Hospice please let us know so we can try to help promote it or offer some behind the scenes support.



## Administration and Fundraising

**Mark Munro**

### ***Cheers!***

As I have mentioned in the past we are blessed to have great friendships with many community organisations who continually choose the Toowoomba Hospice as a beneficiary of their events. In the last couple of months we have been honoured to be beneficiaries of some local concerts and art shows.

The Grammar Art Show committee again donated a whopping \$3,000 from their Annual Art Show, Centenary Heights State High School gave us \$4000 for Adopt-a-Room, the Toowoomba Bridge Club donated over \$2,500 and Alvia and her wonderful team of volunteers at Drayton Villas raised over \$3,000 during their morning tea. All these wonderful organisations and community groups are just a few of the many we rely on so we can continue our mission to provide quality care in partnership with the community for those with a terminal illness.

High Altitude Harmony, along with our friends from the Toowoomba Municipal Band, will be at our Christmas Carols on Sunday 27th November, 5pm to 7pm. Bring your chairs, blankets and sing to your heart's content. Food and drinks will be on sale, as well as a visit from the Big Fella himself, **NO.....Not me! - Santa!**

We have agreed to help run the Glow Products stall again for this Toowoomba's Christmas Wonderland from 3rd–24th December. Please contact Sharene if you would like to help.

**HOWEVER** – If you are happy to help ANYWHERE, jump online ([www.christmaswonderland.com.au](http://www.christmaswonderland.com.au)), register under the Volunteers section and mark that you are part of the 'Toowoomba Hospice Team. This year we are also looking for people with their First Aid Certificate to help out or if you are a nurse and would like to help out in our First Aid section, please let me know. This is another partnership in the community we have which helps to raise money for the Toowoomba Hospice. *Thank you to the Lions Club of Toowoomba West!*

Have you heard about our 'Adopt A Room' campaign, which helps us maintain a fresh and comfortable homelike environment for those who need it? If you know of an individual, family, club or a business that would like to donate \$4,000 to 'Adopt A Room', please let me know or get them to contact me and I can explain the wonderful benefits of being part of our Adoption Family!

## *Mark*

I see this tree as a symbol of how our community supports the Toowoomba Hospice in its mission

***'To provide quality care in partnership with the community for those with a terminal illness'***





## Director of Nursing

Allison Leech

### Accreditation 11-12 October!!!!!!

I want to say a HUGE THANK YOU to ALL of our wonderful staff and volunteers, for all of your help and support in the lead up to, and during, the two-day Accreditation Survey.

The surveyors were very impressed with all aspects of the Hospice and the wonderful care that we deliver. We met all of the Standards and Actions required, with no Recommendations for immediate attention, - just some constructive suggestions for ways that we can continue to improve the quality service that we provide. They have indicated that they will recommend that we be given another four years of Accreditation by the ACHS.

We can all be very proud of this fantastic achievement, which wouldn't have happened without all of the wonderful support that each and every one of you brings to the Hospice, every day.

I am very proud to be a part of this exceptional team – and am looking forward to the continuing journey.

Thanks Again, Everyone

*Allison*



## Pastoral Care

Sue Thönell

Thank you to our dedicated Pastoral Care team for keeping things going while I was away for a month on annual leave.

Having moved to Toowoomba four years ago my husband and I were ready to go back to South Africa and relive the incredible natural beauty of the country, the generosity of the people, the resilience of the wild life and the smell, taste and feel of the land.

We made a special trip to Maropeng, 'the Cradle of Humankind,' to catch up on the latest archaeological finds. Fascinating and informative. Africa is considered the birthplace of man. Our upright ancestors appeared there 6 -7 million years ago with migration from the region to Australia, Europe, America and Asia dated at 60,000 – 50,000 years ago. Some of the oldest finds in the area are animal remains dated well before African Homo Sapiens,



*Sue*

*One of the displays at Maropeng.*

*Don't laugh! This is highly likely to be one of your ancestors!*

*Editor*

## Volunteer Coordinator

Sharene Gosley



What a busy time of year for us all at the Hospice!

With our Wine Trip, Carols Night, Oaktree Village musical concert, Toowoomba's Christmas Wonderland and, of course, our Staff & Volunteers Christmas Party, there is still lots to do before the end of the year.

A note about goodies for the **Christmas Carols craft stall**, items can be delivered to the Hospice in the week prior to the Carols, that is, from 21<sup>st</sup> November onwards. This will allow time for wrapping and labelling if needed. Thank you to everyone who has offered to make items.

The roster for **Toowoomba's Christmas Wonderland** is on display in reception. We are once again manning the Glow Products stall from Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December until Christmas Eve. We require six people each night to man the stall. It's a happy, frantic time, and lots of fun is had. Volunteers must be over the age of 16 and you will be on your feet for a good few hours. If you can help please get in touch and I will put you on the roster.

One of our lovely volunteers has kindly offered to hold a **garage sale in aid of the Toowoomba Hospice** at her home on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> and Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> of November in Wyalla Street, near Wyalla Plaza. If you have any saleable items you would like to donate to the cause, please get in touch with me before then.

Some of our Hospice volunteers have not yet done their training updates for 2016. Please make the effort to catch up with me as the packages for fire safety and safe manual handling, and safe food hygiene (for kitchen volunteers) are now due. If you are a weekend or evening volunteer, please see the Registered Nurse on duty who will be able to take you through the handwash and manual handling audit. It will only take a few minutes. If you need assistance in filling out the training packages please let me know as I am happy to set aside some time to go through the training with you.

We have recently welcomed two new volunteers to our team. Leanne will be helping in the kitchen and Stephen will be recording 'life stories' for our clients, staff and volunteers. If you would like more information about what Stephen will be doing, please get in touch with our Pastoral Care Coordinator, Sue, and she will be able to give you all the details. We trust both Leanne and Stephen will enjoy their time with us, and we thank them for being a part of our team.

Until next time, thank you all for the wonderful work that you do.

*Sharene*

***Editorial note. You will notice from this newsletter that the period from now until Christmas is bubbling with a large variety of activities. Come along and join us! Especially if you haven't tried it before!***

