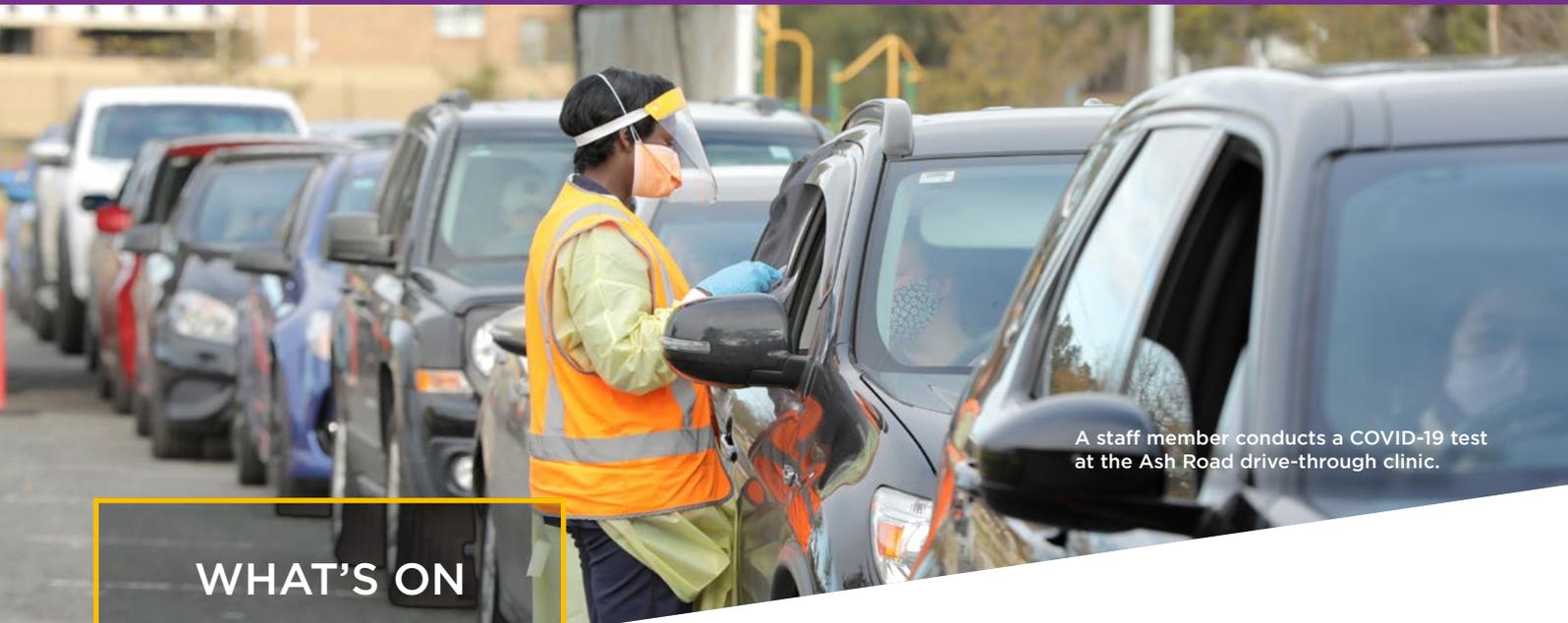


DISTRICT NEWS

Leading care, healthier communities



A staff member conducts a COVID-19 test at the Ash Road drive-through clinic.

WHAT'S ON

- » **1 July**
Dry July
Eye Health Awareness Month
- » **4 July**
NAIDOC Week
- » **11 July**
National Diabetes Week
- » **22 July**
National Pain Week
- » **25 July**
DonateLife Week
- » **28 July**
World Hepatitis Day

New centre offers more protection

An exciting flurry of activity at Glenquarie Town Centre will soon result in the opening of the South Western Sydney Vaccination Centre.

South Western Sydney Local Health District Chief Executive Amanda Larkin said the vaccination centre at Macquarie Fields will offer up to 20,000 Pfizer vaccinations a week and play a vital role in the nation's vaccination roll-out.

"Our capacity to offer vaccination to our community will be significantly increased with the new clinic which will open six days a week," Ms Larkin said.

"The vaccination centre is an important part of our COVID-19 response, which also includes our testing clinics, health screening stations, Liverpool Vaccination Clinic and all our other work.

"I thank everyone involved in so many roles in our response to the evolving COVID-19 situation. You have stepped up once again with dedication and commitment and I am so proud of you all."

Ms Larkin said staff were conducting hundreds of COVID-19 tests every day at drive-through, pop-up and hospital testing clinics, including the pop-up clinic at Narellan Community Health Centre which has re-opened, as well as more than 1000 vaccinations a day at the Liverpool Vaccination Clinic.

The South Western Sydney Vaccination Centre will employ more than 150 staff and will open on 26 July.

More information on COVID-19 is available at the NSW Health website.



Chief Executive Message



Ms Amanda Larkin, Chief Executive, South Western Sydney Local Health District.

The return of our facilities and services to Red Alert has highlighted your resilience and strength as we work to keep our community safe from COVID-19.

When the news of new cases in our District came through, you stepped into action, wearing masks in our facilities and services, increasing the hours at testing clinics and, where necessary, rearranging operations to protect our

community. Your efforts do not go unnoticed. I am proud of all of you.

Most of you are now vaccinated and that gives me great comfort.

I urge any of you who are unvaccinated, or yet to receive your second dose to do so as a matter of urgency.

The South Western Sydney Vaccination Centre we are opening at Macquarie Fields will significantly increase our capacity to offer COVID-19 vaccination to our community, extending protection from this virus as far as possible. To stand up a centre as big as this in such a short time frame takes dedication – a quality which has never been in short supply at our District.

60 seconds with...

Marianne Babcock



What is your role?

Pharmacy Director at Bowral & District Hospital

How did you end up working in this particular field?

I love working in Hospital Pharmacy because of my interest in the effects of medications. Patients are often admitted to hospital as a result of a medication adverse effect or in need of a medication to assist with their symptoms. As a pharmacist we get to solve these situations.

What do you love about your role?

I love my role because in a small hospital you get to know your team and patients really well and feel you can contribute to the local community. Some families have been involved with the hospital for generations. Many patients are frequent flyers and you do feel you are helping them understand their treatment.

What is one thing you wish people knew about your role?

I wish people knew more about the role pharmacists play in the health team, without pharmacists ensuring just the right amount and type of medications are available other health practitioners could not do their job. Pharmacists are medication experts.

Thrive out now!

In the Winter edition of Thrive, we celebrate the District's strong tradition as a world leader in research and innovation and the bright and inquiring health professionals who work among us.

The work of many of our researchers is nationally and internationally recognised and we salute their commitment and drive to deliver high-quality and cutting-edge health care.

Click [here](#) for your copy online.



Team huddles

Bowral & District Hospital's Emergency Department has introduced risk huddles three times a day, involving a multidisciplinary team.



The huddles allow the team to collaborate to mitigate risks as well as ensuring key information is shared quickly.

Staff can share what is working well and raise ideas and concerns, using the collective expertise to find solutions.

Congratulations to cancer leader

Macarthur Cancer Therapy Centre Clinical Director, Associate Professor Stephen Della-Fiorentina, has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the Queen's Birthday honours list for service to oncology.



The District's Chief Executive Amanda Larkin congratulated Associate Professor Della-Fiorentina on receiving one of Australia's most prestigious honours.

"Under Stephen's leadership, the centre at Campbelltown Hospital has become the leading cancer therapy centre in NSW for delivering

high-quality patient care and treatment to the community," Ms Larkin said.

"Stephen is devoted to his patients and his team and leads with compassion and dedication.

"On behalf of the District, I congratulate Stephen on this wonderful and well-deserved honour."

Focus on elder abuse

A large billboard funded by South Western Sydney Local Health District has been unveiled at Macarthur Train Station to raise awareness of elder abuse.



District Chief Executive Amanda Larkin joined guests including Ageing and Disability Commissioner of NSW Robert Fitzgerald AM and Clinical Director of Aged Care and Rehabilitation Professor Friedbert Kohler OAM at the launch of the billboard.

Aged Care and Rehabilitation Clinical Manager Bradley Warner said the billboard was designed to start conversations and protect some of the most vulnerable members of the community.

"The billboard is also a great example of the work of the South Western Sydney Elder Abuse Collaborative, which brings together individuals and organisations with the shared vision to raise awareness about elder abuse," Mr Warner said.

Caring haven

A new service designed to offer compassionate support for people who are experiencing thoughts of suicide has opened at Ambarvale.



The District's Mental Health Services opened SafeHaven to offer another option to visiting Emergency Departments for people who are experiencing suicidal thoughts.

"SafeHaven is a friendly, compassionate café space offering a different kind of support," Mental Health Services Director Dr Claire Jones said.

"People can just walk in, no appointment is necessary, and our peer support team offers support, care and understanding."

SafeHaven at 80 Woodhouse Drive is open from Fridays to Mondays from 2pm to 9pm.

Sorry Business

The District's Aboriginal Health and Palliative Care staff have helped develop a new easy-to-read booklet and video resource to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to yarn about their end-of-life wishes.



Chief Executive Amanda Larkin launched the A Journey into Sorry Business Booklet and Yarning Our Wishes digital story, thanking project partners South Western Sydney Primary Health Network and the Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council as well as Aboriginal elders.

"This resource will support Indigenous people and their carers and help them share their end-of-life care preferences through 'sorry business' – the cultural protocols associated with death," she said.

The free booklet is available [online](#).

A wheel-y wonderful donation

A new x-ray machine has been donated to Camden Hospital's Imaging Department from Wakeling Automotive's 'Wheels for Life' program.

The RADspeed Pro machine provides high-definition imaging and allows clinicians to detect fine fractures. It has the ability to move the ceiling mounted x-ray tube to the desired position with the press of a button, enabling the operator to focus on patient care.

The adjustable 4-way floating table is able to support up to 295kg, making the x-ray machine suitable to perform examinations from paediatrics through to bariatric patients.

Camden-Campbelltown Hospitals Acting General Manager



Associate Professor Sellappa Prahalath thanked Wakeling Automotive for its Wheels for Life program, which has donated more than \$1.62 million to the hospitals over the past 30 years.

"This is a wonderful partnership and we really appreciate Wakeling Automotive's generous donation and continued support," Associate Professor Prahalath said.

PARTY program has serious message for youth

Students from Ashcroft High School have joined the PARTY (Prevent Alcohol and Risk-related Trauma in Youth) Program run by Liverpool Hospital's Trauma Department.

The students met nurses,

surgeons, police and allied health staff.

They also learned how to do CPR and use an Automated External Defibrillator as part of the program, which is designed to reduce risk-taking behaviour.



Zoom into showcase

World leaders in pancreatic cancer research will talk about their work and the latest breakthroughs at the Health Beyond Research & Innovation Showcase online seminar on Wednesday 21 July from 12pm to 1pm.

Professor Minoti Apte, from the Ingham Institute for Applied Medical Research, will chair the virtual event. She will be joined by her Ingham Institute colleague Dr Zhihong Xu (pictured), and Associate Professor Vikas Dudeja, from

the University of Alabama at Birmingham, in the United States.

Resident Christine Goodman cared for her husband Peter during his cancer treatment and will give a carer's perspective.



The showcase is being held live and online every month this year. You can register at www.healthbeyondshowcase.org.au

Contact us

To submit a story, event or provide images contact us on 8738 6848 or email SWSLHD-communications@health.nsw.gov.au. Don't forget to follow us and share our posts on social media@ South Western Sydney Local Health District.

