

DISTRICT NEWS

Leading care, healthier communities



Liverpool Hospital Department of Diagnostic Radiology's radiographers Shakun Kishore, James Souksamlane, Arbin Kumar and Shoma Sammy display the colourful scrub caps they received from their counterparts at The Royal Melbourne Hospital.

CLINIC DETAILS

- » Catherine Park Vaccination Clinic
- » Bankstown PCYC Clinic
- » Prairiewood Vaccination Clinic
- » Liverpool Vaccination Clinic
- » South Western Sydney Vaccination Centre
- » Mobile Vaccination Clinics:
 - » Chipping Norton Community Centre
 - » Wattle Grove Community Centre
 - » Lao Cultural Centre, Edensor Park
 - » Michael Wenden Aquatic Leisure Centre, Miller
 - » Michael Clarke Recreation Centre, Carnes Hill
 - » Vietnamese Community Cultural Centre, Bonnyrigg

Sweet ways to say thank you

Staff have been overwhelmed with beautiful messages of support and sweet treats from the community and across Australia in recognition of their wonderful work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

South Western Sydney Local Health District Chief Executive Amanda Larkin said the many kind messages to staff were well deserved.

“Our staff are doing amazing work caring for their patients and our community and I thank them for their dedication and commitment,” Ms Larkin said.

“From providing care in our hospitals to vaccinating thousands of people in our clinics, everyone in so many varied roles is stepping up and making wonderful contributions.”

Messages of support included a surprise care package, including scrub caps with special messages and cookies, from the Department of Radiology at The Royal Melbourne Hospital to their counterparts at Liverpool Hospital.

Helensburgh Lions Club teamed up with mobile coffee van The Morning Brew to create gift boxes for Liverpool Hospital staff. Students from Santa Sabina College sent colourful messages to our healthcare staff and contact tracers.

“Please know you are the real heroes and role models getting us through this lockdown, and we appreciate you greatly,” wrote Steph, from Year 10.

Donations in pictures: page 4



Health
South Western Sydney
Local Health District

Chief Executive Message



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

The messages and gestures of thanks coming in from our community are a wonderful indication of the gratitude for your work.

We are facing circumstances more difficult than we ever have in the past, but we are facing them together and looking after each other as we care for our community.

Our vaccination program continues at a pace that few would have thought possible just a few short months ago.

So many of our community now have protection against COVID-19 thanks to your tireless efforts and that is a wonderful thought.

In light of the situation with the COVID-19 outbreak and the extremely contagious nature of the Delta variant, NSW Health staff are now required to be vaccinated.

The majority of our staff are already vaccinated, but those who are not must have their first dose by 30 September and their second by 30 November.

The value of the work you are all doing is immeasurable. Thank you.

Wellness focus

The TYE team and Staff Wellbeing Service are focusing on staff wellness and have conducted 2397 individual staff wellness rounds since June.

Staff wellness sessions are available face-to-face or on virtual platforms, and help staff to access managers, TYE coaches or the Staff Support Wellbeing Service.

Based on staff feedback, the Staff Support Wellbeing Service team is running a weekly online wellness series over Skype. Topics include mindfulness, caring during COVID and parenting.

For information on how to join the sessions, contact SWSLHD-PeopleandCulture@health.nsw.gov.au



60 seconds with...



Melissa Keegan,
Nurse Unit Manager 1 at
South Western Sydney
Vaccination Centre

What is your role?

I help coordinate and supervise the vaccination process, pre-vaccination screening and post-vaccination monitoring. Preserving public safety is paramount in my role and ensuring the community's experience is 5-star!

How did you end up working in this particular field?

I started working at the Liverpool Vaccination Clinic when it opened on 22 February. I wanted to contribute and help in some form to fight against the pandemic.

What do you love about your role?

It is an honour and privilege to work in such an historic time in health. Everyday our vaccinated community is growing and that is really inspiring.

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

We work alongside and supervise staff from a variety of health disciplines such as dentists, dental technicians, physiotherapists, nursing students and radiographers. We also liaise with the SES, Australian Defence Force and the NSW Police. We are all in this together and we will get through this pandemic.

Have your say

The People Matters Employee Survey is your chance to shape the future of our organisation.

Last year PMES was paused because of the COVID-19 pandemic. While we realise we are still very much in this situation, we did not want to go another year without giving you a chance to have your say.

Your feedback is important to us and helps us plan for the future, but we do recognise that you may not be in a position to respond this year.

Visit the [People Matter Employee Survey](#) to have your say TODAY!



SES lends a hand

The NSW SES volunteers have joined the teams at our vaccination clinics to help the community receive life-saving vaccination.

Volunteers are normally faced with flood and storm emergencies but now are stepping up to provide logistical support at the clinics.

The District's COVID-19 Incident Controller Sonia Marshall said the SES volunteers were doing a terrific job supporting staff so they could continue to focus on vaccination.

"The SES is assisting with check-ins, crowd management and coordinating the queues safely. I thank them very much for their great help and support," Ms Marshall says.



Prestigious honour

Professor Michael Barton OAM, Clinical Academic Specialist for Radiation Oncology at Liverpool Hospital, Cancer Therapy Centre, has been awarded the prestigious 2021 Tom Reeve Award for outstanding contributions to cancer care.



The Clinical Oncology Society of Australia described Professor Barton as a pioneer of academic radiation oncology in Australia who continues to make significant contributions to clinical care and research.

The District's Cancer Services Director Professor Geoff Delaney congratulated Professor Barton on receiving the honour.

"Professor Barton has dedicated his lifetime's work to the improvement and innovation in the field of radiation oncology and cancer care," Professor Delaney said. "The award is wonderful recognition of his outstanding work."

Nursing milestone

Fairfield Hospital End-of-Life Care Nurse Specialist Pippa Richards (right) is celebrating her 50th year in nursing and her colleagues could not be more proud of her achievement.



The hospital's Director of Nursing and Midwifery Services Sharon May said Pippa was an inspiration to the nursing profession.

"Each day she supports patients and families through the emotionally challenging aspects of end-of-life care using her exceptional skills in kindness, compassion and advocacy. We are so proud of Pippa," Ms May said.

Pippa left Kenya, Africa, in 1971 before nursing at the Hospital for Sick Children in London and migrating to Australia in 1981. She has worked across Sydney, including 28 years in community health in Fairfield.

Pippa said she loved her interaction with people, the life-long friendships she had made and making a difference in her patients' lives.

Vaccination focus

An astronomical effort from a multidisciplinary team throughout August has led to a dramatic increase in vaccination opportunities.

The District is now operating four Pfizer clinics - Liverpool Vaccination Clinic, South Western Sydney Vaccination Centre, Prairiewood Vaccination Clinic and the Bankstown PCYC Vaccination Centre.

District Vaccination Team Leader Loretta Andersen said the District also ran a mobile vaccination van. "This van is particularly important for our CALD communities. Our mobile vaccination clinic visits the Lao Cultural Centre in Edensor Park, the Vietnamese Community and Cultural Centre in Bonnyrigg," she said.



HELP US

#Protectsouthwest

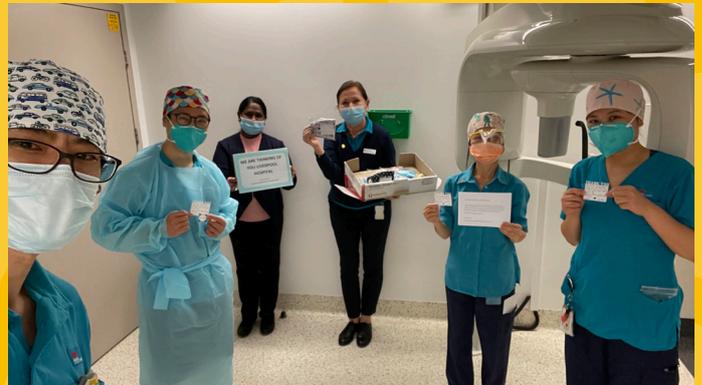
Support our campaign to increase vaccinations.

Click the image on the left to accessorise your Facebook profile picture with our unique frame.

Messages and thanks pour in for our staff

The District's staff have been touched and overwhelmed by the kind messages of support from the community.

Telstra and Samsung donated Samsung Galaxy tablets to help patients communicate with their loved ones, while Domino's donated some tasty pizzas.



Join the Research Showcase

15 SEPTEMBER, 12PM-1PM
HPV & Oesophageal Cancer

Find out about breakthroughs in the treatment of oesophageal cancer at the Health Beyond Research & Innovation Showcase on Wednesday 15 September from 12pm to 1pm.

Join Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital gastroenterologist Dr Kostas Brooks (pictured) and Professor Krish Ragunath, from Curtin University, at this live and online event.

Register now at healthbeyondshowcase.org.au



Health Beyond
Research & Innovation
Showcase
2021

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.

