



Northern Health



May 2018

# Community Connect

Monthly Newsletter

[www.nh.org.au](http://www.nh.org.au)

## Outstanding health care for our community

Welcome to the May edition of Northern Health Community Connect, Northern Health's monthly community newsletter.

I am pleased to greet you as Northern Health's Acting Chief Executive while Siva Sivarajah is on leave. April was an eventful month that saw a number of our programs reach commendable milestones, as well as the beginnings of some exciting projects.

The Minister for Health and Ambulance Services recently released the March Quarter figures demonstrate the Northern Hospital Epping's Emergency Department remains the busiest in the state with the highest attendances.

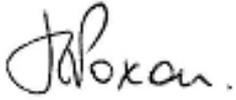
Despite this, our dedicated staff are still meeting the state benchmark, treating 80% of emergency patients within time. An admirable achievement for our teams working tirelessly, providing outstanding health care to our community.

As we launch our flu vaccination campaign for the year with free vaccinations for the community, it is important to remember that anyone can be affected by the flu and the best defence is the flu vaccination.



There are groups in our community that are more vulnerable to the virus, they include pregnant women, people aged over 65, children below five, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people 15 years and over, and those with chronic medical conditions or weakened immune systems.

In the coming weeks we encourage anyone experiencing flu like symptoms to visit their GP.



**Jane Poxon**  
Acting Chief Executive  
Northern Health

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## Our patients at Northern Health in April

Number of Births **311**  
Emergency Attendances **8,166**  
Outpatients Appointments **17,710**  
Inpatient Admissions **8,067**  
Ambulance Arrivals **2,249**  
Emergency Procedures **569**

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## What's happening at your local health service?

### Look Good Feel Better

On Monday, 9 April 2018, the Look Good Feel Better cancer support workshop at the Northern Hospital Epping celebrated a decade of providing valued support to the local community.

Look Good Feel Better is a free national community service program run by the Cancer Patients Foundation, helping to improve the wellbeing and confidence of people undergoing treatment for cancer.



[Read More](#)

## Patient Experience Week

The week 23-27 April is recognised and celebrated as Patient Experience Week at Northern Health.

Patients are the centre of all we do, and all staff and services across Northern Health impact the patient experience.

[Read More](#)



## Pet Therapy Anniversary

On Monday, 16 April, pet therapy services at Northern Health Bundoora achieved the milestone of 30 years, or 210 dog years of service.

The trained gentle dogs and their owners have provided over 1,800 visits to patients, helping deter feelings of anxiety and loneliness.

[Read More](#)



## Tower Stage 2 Sod Turning

On Tuesday, 24 April, the Hon. Jill Hennessy MP, Minister for Health, paid a visit to the construction site of our tower.

Turning the sod to officially kick off stage two Early Works of the Northern Hospital Epping Tower.

The construction follows last year's State Budget announcement of a \$162.7m investment in the north.

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## 2018 Flu Vaccinations

Northern Health is providing free influenza vaccinations for the community.

The most important method in preventing influenza and related complications is an annual vaccination.

The influenza vaccination Campaign launched on Wednesday, 2 May, vaccinating over 530 members of our community in the first day.

[Read More](#)

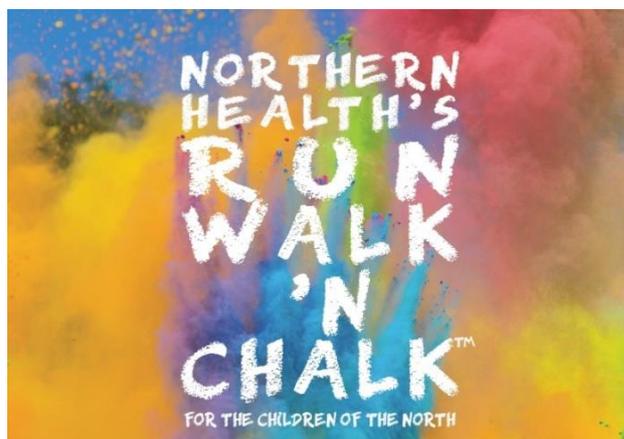


## 2018 Run Walk 'n Chalk

There's less than three weeks until the Run Walk 'n Chalk on Sunday, 20 May!

Promoting healthiness and happiness by bringing together the local community of all ages and abilities to participate in a 3km run or walk along Cooper Street.

The start and finishing line will be at the Northern Hospital Epping. Click below to learn more and register now.



[Register](#)

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## Join us on social media



For more information or to provide feedback please contact [corporatecommunications@nh.org.au](mailto:corporatecommunications@nh.org.au) or call (03) 8405 2888

[Click here](#) to find out how you can support your local health service.