

SPRING 2021

Butterfly Bulletin



Albany Community Hospice Newsletter

Welcome from the New Chairperson

It is an honour and privilege to have been asked to chair the hospice Board of Management. May I publicly thank the outgoing chair Jane Mouritz for her outstanding service and leadership over 6 years, during 2 years of which I was able to observe and learn from her as a Board Member.

Let me tell you a little about myself. I grew up in Albany. My physician father's surgery (which opened the year I was born) was in the front half of a large house (formerly the home of the legendary Brierley sisters) on the site currently occupied by Southern Regional Medical Practice. (We lived in the back half.) My Mum worked as an anaesthetist. I went to kindy in what is still the community kindy on Serpentine Road and to school in what is now the Dome and then in what is now the new student accommodation in York St. We rented the house behind O'Keefe's Paint shop in the late '60's while my parent's built a house on the Yakamia hill when it was all still bush, when North Road ended at Sandford Road and the playing fields area was a dairy farm. Albany was heaven to a kid growing up. My two brothers and I learned to do everything in the rain! Though I moved to Perth for further education and then work, the 'pull' of Albany got to me again when I spent two months here when my widowed Mum was dying, lovingly cared for in the previous Hospice building. The seed was planted then for a move back which finally happened in 2019. I still work in Perth four days a month on the State Administrative Tribunal in the Guardianship jurisdiction but my partner Alison and I now live on a small acreage up off Gull Rock Road with three horses and three dogs.

Thank you to all those employed at or otherwise involved in ACH for making me feel so welcome in the new role. It is lovely to get a smile and a greeting every time I turn up at Hospice and to receive such willing assistance whenever I need it.

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As an Albany gal who has 'come home', it is also a delight to me to have people who knew my family share their stories and reminiscences of my medical parents and late brother, and even some stories of the three l'il Leslies growing up. I had my first job as a waitress at the old Esplanade Hotel under the watchful eye of one of our volunteers Olive Walker... (who is doubtless still keeping an eye on me 😊).

The recent months have been challenging times for us all with the ongoing necessary COVID measures, the introduction of Voluntary Assisted Dying, the high occupancy rates and high levels of patient acuity, to say nothing of the administrative requirements of national accreditation! On behalf of the Board, I would like to publicly thank all of our staff, volunteers and participating doctors for their commitment and their seemingly inexhaustible care and compassion. My strong view is that Hospice's greatest asset is its people and I want to assure them all that, as Chair, I have 'got their back' (individually and collectively) and will do all in my power to ensure that ACH is a safe and caring workplace, and that they have the resources and support they need to continue the great service traditions of this organisation. We have incredible community support and a strong and committed Board with whom I look forward to working into the future.

Flourishing together is what has been done. We must now find an appropriately aspirational title for the next part of the journey. I look forward to sharing in it.

Best regards,
Hannah Leslie



Open Gardens 2021

Preparations for the Open Garden Festival are in full-swing, with gardeners busy planting, fertilising, weeding and pruning, the gardens will be bloomin' spectacular by the end of October!

Everyone is excited to welcome the community into their private gardens to raise money for Hospice! This year is shaping up to be quite a huge event- over two weekends- 30th & 31st October, as well as the 6th & 7th November- we even have some gardening groups from across the state planning to be inspired by our local gardeners.

Entry to each of the gardens is \$5- with all of these funds going directly to Albany Community Hospice. This year, on the door, the 2022 Albany Community Hospice Calendar will be available for sale. Lovingly put together by the Fundraising Committee, the calendars will feature images of some of Albany's most beautiful gardens. The revenue raised from these calendars will also go to ACH, and are only \$20 each.

There will be seven gardens open to the public this festival, final days and times of opening will be announced soon. You can follow the Open Gardens Festival on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/achopengardens>

*Thank
you!*

It is the aim of Albany Community Hospice that our guests are not out of pocket from their stay with us and thanks to the ongoing generosity of our community, this has continuously been achieved.



What's been happening at Hospice?

Over the past 3 months we have cared for 52 patients and their families. It has been a busy time and the clinical team have pulled together (as we always do) and worked hard to deliver Hospice's recognised compassionate care with the patient always at the centre of care. This involves meeting the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of the patient and their family/carer. We have ensured that all of our patients are supported in their end of life choices, with respect, ensuring their comfort and dignity.

We have had some of these patients stay for a longer timeframe than usual which has meant we have gotten to know them and their families and supported them in our many ways. It has been hard to say goodbye, and some of these patients went home to continue care there and others have gone into residential care to support their increased care needs.

We have been very lucky to see some sunny days and patients have been able to enjoy the sunshine from their bed or chair out in our lovely gardens feeling the breeze on their skin. Families have come together to share a favourite meal and make memories in the Jack Family Trust family room.

Our catering team enjoy making special treats requested by our patients. One of our patients (pictured right) asked for pavlova every day and finally got her wish!!



BIRTHDAYS AT HOSPICE

When it is one of our Guest's day of birth, or the birthday of their loved ones, we do our best to help make those memories a happy event to recall. Several of our Guests or their partners have had birthdays at Hospice recently. This beautiful creation was brought in for one of our guests and their family came in to enjoy it all together, having a lovely afternoon tea at Hospice.



NEW CLEANING TROLLEY

Hospice was lucky enough to be the recipient of Australia Post's 'People of Post' grant, which allowed us to purchase a new cleaning trolley. Thanks to Australia Post, we now look extra professional whilst keeping our Hospice spotlessly clean as always!



AWARD WINNING BOARD MEMBER

We say many congratulations to Palliative Care GP and Hospice Board Member, Dr Jonathan Ramachenderan who recently won the Palliative Care Australia award for Excellence in Generalist Palliative Care. We are very lucky and privileged to have such a dedicated GP in the Great Southern providing expert palliative care to our community. Well done Jonathan!

Did you know?

On average, 50% of our patients are discharged from Hospice to continue their end of life journey.

Hospice Supporter Focus

MOSS CONVEYANCING

Moss Conveyancing is a property settlement agency that was established in 2005. Handling property settlements for your house, block or farm anywhere within Western Australia, whether you are buying or selling. They have a fantastic team on hand to ensure your settlement occurs with ease, whilst providing professional, prompt and friendly service.

"After visiting a client recently at Albany Community Hospice and seeing the level of care, support and attention provided to her and her family I was motivated to become a platinum sponsor." Says owner, Davynka Moss. "I have heard first hand accounts from friends of how the Albany Community Hospice has touched themselves and their families. The dignity that was allowed to the patient, the support provided to family members, as well as the assistance in helping young children understand what might be happening to their loved one has really touched me.

I would encourage other local business's that might be considering a donation or sponsorship with Albany Community Hospice to go and have a look at their facilities if they haven't done so already, to meet the amazing staff and volunteers and to find out more about the services that they are providing to our local community."



Thank you Davynka for your kind words and for supporting Albany Community Hospice!

Thank you to our generous business supporters of Albany Community Hospice



Rebecca Stephens MLA



Spencer Park



GREAT SOUTHERN BINGO



ORANA



You can sign up for the Butterfly Bulletin straight to your inbox at www.albanyhospice.org.au

Only 6% of your donation goes to administrative costs. 94% keeps Hospice operational!

Did you know? ?

Fundraising & Events

2021 has seen some fabulous fundraisers so far, with the help of our generous community, we have been able to raise much-needed funds for Hospice.



- We've closed our Chairing Is Caring campaign, having raised the required \$21,200 needed for the medical-grade recliners for guests. Thank you to everyone who contributed, including Great Southern Bingo, who donated 5 chairs in total!
- Thank you to Wade Morrison and family for organising Davestock- in memory of Dave, a former guest of Hospice. The sell-out concert raised \$3677 for Hospice.
- Brent Offer and his family were hoping to raise \$5000 with their Hobbits 1200 Hike for Hospice, but have managed to surpass this goal by so far raising over \$8000.
- Richard Goyder came to Albany to have a chat about business and philanthropy, another successful event put together by our Fundraising Committee, raising \$6585!

Supporter Packages

Have you heard about our Supporter Packages for local businesses wanting to help out Albany Community Hospice?

We offer mutually beneficial packages for businesses wanting to show their support for ACH, starting at \$250 per annum.

For more information, head to: <https://albanyhospice.org.au/partnerships-program/>

Our supporter packages				
	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum
<i>Partnership Benefits</i>	\$250 / year	\$500 / year	\$1,000 / year	\$2,000+ / year
Thank you card on sign-up with tax receipt	✓	✓	✓	✓
Subscription renewal and tax invoice provided each year	✓	✓	✓	✓
Named on Hospice Partnership webpage	✓	✓	✓	✓
Newsletter subscription	✓	✓	✓	✓
Supporter logo (digital format)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Supporter sticker for display		✓	✓	✓
Social media posts highlighting partnership		1	2	3
Logo placement in one edition of the Hospice newsletter			✓	✓
Permanent logo position in Hospice newsletter				✓
A feature highlighting partnership in the Hospice newsletter				✓
Scrolling logo on the bottom of the website homepage				✓

*All donations made to Albany Community Hospice are tax deductible.



Add these dates to your calendar!

1st-3rd Oct 2021
Albany International Folk 'n Shanty Festival



9th Oct
World Hospice and Palliative Care Day



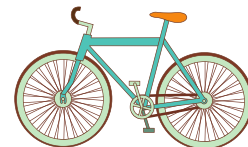
30th- 31st Oct
6-7th Nov 2021
Open Gardens Festival



13th Nov 2021
Bob & Friends Shave it off for Hospice!



19th- 20th Feb 22
Tentative date for 2022 Spinathon





Open Garden Festival 2021

Your invitation to view Albany's secret gardens...

30th -31st October & 6th-7th November

albanyhospice.org.au/event/spring-garden-festival-2021