

# The STORK



ABN 36 629 812 819  
C/- 374 BAGOT ROAD  
SUBIACO WA 6008

## KEMH Alumni Inc Newsletter

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### President's Message

This is the Nyoongar season of Dyerin when the cooler weather begins and is also known as the season of adulthood. Whilst I enjoy summer – mostly – I am also enjoying the cooler nights and milder days.

The Alumni committee have been busy – see Anne's report of the Symposium held in March at KEMH.

I am very pleased to announce that the Alumni now has a new Secretary – Jo Edwards. Many thanks for volunteering your time Jo.

Don't forget that the **KEMH Alumni web page** is a way of keeping in touch with coming events, as well as being able to catch up on past events - <https://www.kemhalumni.com.au/>



Jenny and Anne at KEMH Symposium

On 21st March KEMH staff who received financial support from the inaugural Edith Cowan Award were invited to speak at a Symposium. The event aimed to promote collegiality through sharing advances in care from diverse disciplines. We were also keen to demonstrate KEMH Alumni's commitment to support staff and give back to the organisation. Over the two hour program, a number of staff, and some alumni, enjoyed a light lunch while listening to six short very interesting presentations.

The four talks from EC Award recipients showcased how Alumni funding has provided access to some enhanced learning and skill development across four disciplines. Myra Kildune, BFCWA, revealed that the majority of midwives from the Breastfeeding Centre have achieved online qualification in paediatric feeding and swallowing using a newly purchased program. Physiotherapists now have a validated tool for neonatal neurological assessment, as reported by Jessica Morris, Physiotherapist. Each of these two learning experiences have been available to all staff in each of the departments. New roles for midwives in preterm birth prevention was reported by Jenni Leverington, Midwife, who attended a national conference and Orla Peoples, Social Worker attending the same conference was able to expand her knowledge and practice of sensitive perinatal mental health care [report read by Bev Thornton].

Aware of some significant advances in both SARC and Fetal Imaging services, we invited representatives from these areas to speak also. Kylie Laughton revealed that SARC had developed a tool enabling people with a history of adverse behavioural reactions in the health care system to articulate their triggers. SARC also now offers a short trial counselling session for people unsure of a desire to engage with the service.

Fyona Liadow represented Fetal Imaging and astounded us with the huge advances in fetal anatomy ultrasound over the past ten years. The enhanced definition facilitates much greater diagnosis and management of intrauterine physiology.

Feedback from presenters and attendees was very positive:

“It was a really lovely collaboration of many disciplines and we don’t often get the opportunity to hear what they are up to. I think you are on to a winner with the symposium and hope it is repeated next year. Lunch was delicious and much appreciated.”

“I hear that the symposium went well – congratulations!”

Report by **Anne Rae**

## FUNDRAISING

The ALUMNI will be running a Mothers Day stall on Wed 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May from 10 am to 2pm.

We will be selling colourful socks which are always very popular, home made marmalade, cook books, tea towels and succulents.

The cookbook and tea towels are also always available on-line through our web site - <https://www.kemhalumni.com.au/>



### Excerpts from the NORTH METROPOLITAN HEALTH SERVICE Facebook page



After an amazing career spanning 58 years, inspirational nurse and midwife, Judy Ferridge, retired earlier this year.

Judy's career started out in 1975 where she gained experience across many different hospitals before commencing midwifery at King Edward Memorial Hospital in 1980.

Judy's connection to staff, alongside her professional expertise, underpins the enduring legacy that Judy has left behind at NMHS.

Thank you for your service Judy and all the best in retirement!



Celebrations and activities were held today across our sites to celebrate International Women's Day.

Hannah, a Dietitian at our Woman and Newborn Health Service (WNHS), was awarded Woman of the Year. The award recognises WNHS women who make a significant and positive difference to the wellbeing of patients, colleagues and community.



KEMH Gynaecological Oncologist Dr Chloe Ayres made national news last week when she spoke about a recent breakthrough for ovarian cancer treatment.

Olaparib, is helping decrease the chance of ovarian cancer reoccurring. This innovative treatment helps stop an enzyme from cancer cells reforming and is now part of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme making it more affordable for cancer patients.



Western Australia Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards (WANMEA) - including Brianna Glasson – King Edward Memorial Hospital

☀️ Excellence in Midwifery

Myra Kildunne – King Edward Memorial Hospital

☀️ Excellence in Aboriginal Health

Melissa Lynch – King Edward Memorial Hospital.



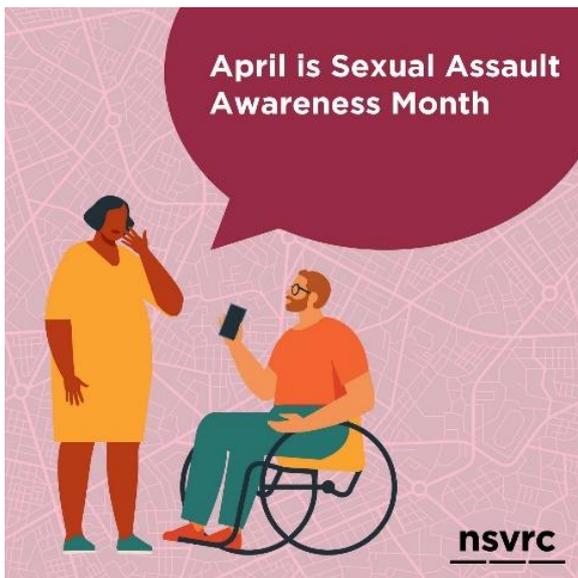
Congratulations to the Diabetes team at King Edward Memorial Hospital, who were nominated as a finalist in the WA Multicultural Awards Premier's Public Sector Award. ❤️

This dedicated team provides a comprehensive statewide service for pre-conception and pregnancy care for women with diabetes, stretching as far as Christmas and the Cocos Islands.

It places great focus on multicultural diversity and always strive to meet the needs of women and their families.



Congratulations to Marie who has been awarded the Women and Newborn Health Service Employee of the Season. Marie, a Midwife at King Edward Memorial Hospital (KEMH), was nominated in recognition of providing exceptional patient centred care. This year marks 28 years of service for Marie at KEMH and she is well known for continually inspiring others to deliver the best possible service for our patients and their families.



April marks Sexual Assault Awareness Month and it is a timely reminder of how we can contribute to reducing sexual violence. Talking about consent and sexual assault matters, and it can help to raise awareness and prevent sexual violence.