



MARCH  
2019

# Foundation News

## Remembering Lives by Saving Others



Neil Francis Clinch, VA  
Constable 24654 of Broadmeadows Police



In December last year, Victoria Police Blue Ribbon Foundation dedicated the Northern Hospital Paediatric Emergency High Acuity Unit in memory of Constable Neil Clinch, who at 22 years of age died in the line of duty.

For many years now the work of the Blue Ribbon Foundation has been a collaboration between our community's protectors and its healers, and Northern Health is honoured to have the first Victoria Police Blue Ribbon dedication in Melbourne's northern suburbs.

In honour of Constable Neil Clinch, Victoria Police Blue Ribbon Foundation donated \$150,000 to the Northern Health Foundation, to support the Paediatric Emergency High Acuity Unit.

The police memorial dedication and awards ceremony, held at Northern Hospital Epping, welcomed representatives from the Blue Ribbon Foundation, members of Victoria Police, local community representatives, Northern Health staff and Clinch family members.

Commemorative plaques in Neil's honour were revealed during the ceremony and the Clinch family had the opportunity to visit the Paediatric Emergency Department, with the High Acuity Unit now named in memory of Constable Neil Clinch.

"This project will greatly benefit children who require resuscitation with a dedicated space in the paediatric emergency department," said Northern Health Board and Foundation Board Director Peter McWilliam.

"We thank Victoria Police Blue Ribbon Foundation and the Northern Metro Branch for their generous donation and for choosing Northern Health to honour the memory of Constable Neil Francis Clinch."

The project includes state of the art monitoring capability to four cubicles, allowing clinicians to manage high acuity presentations, high flow oxygen equipment to support management of asthma and bronchitis patients who require respiratory support and neonatal resuscitator for the monitoring and management of unwell newborns and infants.



## Message from the Chair

I am delighted to be sharing with you an update on the achievements of the Northern Health Foundation over the last year and as we look to 2019, we know we have a busy year ahead.

The success of our events including the Kim Kennedy Dinner, Josie Minniti Dinner Dance, Northern Health Race Day, Bev Carmen Oaks Day and the Trudi Hay High Tea, have raised over \$50,000 in support of research and the purchase of new equipment for our oncology and dialysis wards. Thank you to all involved in staging these events and bringing the community together in support of our patients and their care.

Our Emergency Accommodation will be handed over to Northern Health in March of this year. We look forward to opening the doors to families from regional Victoria who need emergency accommodation whilst their loved ones are in hospital. Our Annual Research Dinner and Northern Health Dinner were also successful having raised over \$85,000 for our research program and for medical equipment for the Children's and Neonatal Wards here at Northern Hospital.

As we look to 2019, we see growth in the North continuing at a rapid pace with new businesses and industries moving into the area and demand for our health service higher than

ever before. This presents the Foundation with an exciting opportunity to empower the Northern community to support the Foundation and get behind our mission of building a healthier Northern Community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Yvonne Amos who commenced as Foundation Director in September last year. Yvonne brings with her a wealth of experience in the sector and is inspired by the depth of health services provided by Northern Health and looks forward to working with our donors and supporters to increase the level of support for the Foundation and to help build a healthier community here in the North.

If you'd like more information on supporting the Foundation, I encourage you to contact us on (03) 8405 2313 or visit [nhfoundation.org.au](http://nhfoundation.org.au) to learn more.

**John Molnar**  
Foundation Chair

## Melbourne Victory take time out to support sick kids

During December, Melbourne Victory players Lawrence Thomas and Kosta Barbarouses, paid a visit to the Northern Hospital Children's Ward to surprise passionate soccer fans.

Visits like these bring smiles and joy to the sick children at Northern Hospital Epping. The kids and players exchanged soccer tips and laughs, and received signed posters, Melbourne Victory scarfs and photos. The staff and visitors also enjoyed the opportunity for a photo and a chat with their favourite soccer team.

Katrina Burke, Nurse Unit Manager of the Children's Ward, thanked the players for donating their time.

"We appreciate the players taking time out of their busy schedules to bring smiles to so many faces today at our hospital," she said.

"Having the players here provides a welcome boost to our youngest patients. We extend our gratitude to Northern Health supporter, La Ionica, and Melbourne Victory FC for making this visit possible," she said.

Melbourne Victory FC spokesperson said, "We would like to thank La Ionica and Northern Hospital, who both made this wonderful day possible – a rewarding experience for all involved."



*Melbourne Victory players Lawrence Thomas and Kosta Barbarouses*





## Northern Pathology Victoria Opens

Victoria's first public in-house laboratory service established in 40 years has recently opened at the Northern Hospital Epping. After two years of teamwork and collaboration, Northern Health is proud to have an in-house pathology laboratory which marks a significant milestone in our growth and development.

Dr Brian Beer, Director of Pathology, said "the launch of the new service went extremely well and minor challenges were overcome quickly."

Dr Prahlad Ho, Director of Haematology, would like to thank all departments and Northern Pathology staff for contributing to the successful launch. The in-house service will reduce the wait time for test results for our patients and improve their care experience.



## Students raise funds & community spirit



We welcomed over 15 students from the Employment Pathways Program at Melbourne Polytechnic College to Northern Hospital Epping to thank them for raising funds for the Foundation.

Students from the college who are learning English as a second language, come into Northern Hospital Epping to practice their speaking and listening skills.

Their annual fundraiser raised \$900, which was collected at a morning tea earlier this month. The students made delicious treats and received a gold coin donation from all attendees. Northern Health has been in partnership with Melbourne Polytechnic College since 2013 and during that time, have raised over \$5,000 for the Foundation.

Northern Health Foundation Director, Yvonne Amos, expressed her appreciation for their ongoing support to our commitment of providing trusted care to our community.

# Josie Minniti's Dinner Dance

Josie Minniti OAM and her Fun Group have been long term supporters of Northern Hospital's Day Oncology Unit. Their fundraising efforts have enabled the purchase of chemotherapy chairs and medical equipment to ensure our patients receive the best possible care.

In June last year, their Annual Dinner Dance held at Ferraro Reception was a tremendous success, with guests being entertained by Mary-Anne Pantano and the Velvet Band with all ages out on the dance floor. The dinner raised \$20,000 for the Oncology Unit.

Josie Minniti OAM, her husband Reno and the Fun Group, are generous supporters of Northern Health's Cancer Services and we thank them for their energy, commitment and dedication to this major fundraising event.



Northern Health Chief Executive Siva Sivarajah, Patron Josie Minniti OAM and Northern Health Executive Director Public Affairs and Foundation Andrew Williamson



## Oncology Patients to Benefit

The annual Trudi Hay High Tea was held in October last year at Trudi's rural property and hosted over 60 guests. The High Tea raised \$9000 for the Foundation and will support the purchase of new treatment chairs and privacy screens for the Northern Hospital Oncology Unit. The Honourable Maria Vamvaninkou, the Federal Member for Calwell was also in attendance. Our sincere thanks to Trudi as this support will have a positive impact on patients and assist our Oncology team to improve our patients' care experience.

## Events Calendar

**Research Dinner**  
**Wednesday, 12 June 2019**

**Josie Minniti Fun Group Dinner Dance**  
**Saturday, 29 June 2019**

**Corporate Breakfast**  
**Thursday, 18 July 2019**

**Annual Dinner**  
**Saturday, 26 October 2019**

**Corporate Breakfast**  
**Thursday, 14 November 2019**

**Learn more by visiting our website or giving us a call.**

# Racing for Research

## Northern Health Foundation Race Day

On Saturday, 8 September, Northern Health Foundation Patron Bev Carman, hosted the annual Northern Health Foundation Race Day at the Kilmore Racing Club.

As a long standing supporter of Northern Health, Bev is passionate about improving the health of her community and has dedicated supporters who assist in setting up the event.

Together we welcomed over 140 guests on what was perfect spring weather for a day at the races.

Attendees included the Chairman, several members of the Foundation Board, our Chief Executive, Siva Sivarajah and Executive Director of Public Affairs and Foundation, Andrew Williamson.

This year, Race Day raised over \$7,500 towards the Northern Health Medical Research program.

Thank you to major sponsors Epping Plaza Hotel, A Little Birdie Told Me and John Molnar Legal Services. Another big thank you to Bev Carman and our volunteers and all who attended the event.

## Bev Carman and Can-Do Oaks Day Luncheon

Kilmore Trackside was a sea of florals and fascinators for the Annual Oaks Day Luncheon.

The stylish ladies of Kilmore put on their best frocks for a day of delicious food, great company and fundraising for a good cause, with all proceeds supporting medical research.

Executive Director Public Affairs & Foundation, Andrew Williamson, was delighted to see such colourful support and thanked both Bev Carman and Denisse Grech from A Little Birdie Told Me, for their wonderful fundraising efforts.

"The support the Northern Health Foundation receives from events such as this is essential for continuous innovative research at Northern Health," he said.

"By supporting the Foundation, our patrons contribute to the trusted care we provide to our community. I would like to thank Bev, Denisse, sponsors and guests for their dedication and generosity."

The action packed afternoon featured entertainment, a best dressed and best hat competition, balloon raffle and sweepstakes.



**KILMORE**  
RACING CLUB

EPHING PLAZA  
HOTEL

a little  
birdie  
told me



Patron Beverley Carman and Northern Health Foundation Board Chair John Molnar



# Northern Health Annual Dinner

The Northern Health Annual Dinner was held at the Casa D'Abruzzo Club and was in support of the Northern Hospital Neonatal Ward who cares for our most vulnerable patients.

Raising over \$80,000 to fund the purchase of medical equipment and chairs that convert to beds so families can stay close to their loved ones during their hospital stay.

Yvonne Amos, Northern Health Foundation Director, expressed her gratitude to all that attended.

"Thank you to our sponsors, supporters, volunteers and Northern Health staff for getting behind our 2018 Annual Dinner in support of the Children's Ward at Northern Hospital Epping," she said.

"We've all been working together to raise these funds and make a difference in the care we provide to our youngest patients and the support available for their families," Yvonne said.



## PLATINUM SPONSORS



## GOLD SPONSORS



## SILVER SPONSOR



## Kim Kennedy Truly Inspiring



Kim Kennedy, a patient at Broadmeadows Hospital Dialysis Unit has a truly inspiring story. She first connected with Northern Health when she learnt she had kidney disease and would in the long term require a kidney transplant. The diagnosis was completely unexpected for Kim with little or no warning signs. Kim spent four years as a dialysis patient with her life centering on her treatment, being there for her family and waiting for a kidney donor match. During that time she faced many challenges and without fail maintained a positive outlook throughout her journey. After Kim received her transplant she wanted to give back to the Dialysis Unit that cared for her so she rallied her family, friends and local businesses to fundraise for Northern Health Foundation.

Kim and her supporters raised over \$9,000 which has purchased a new treatment chair for the Dialysis Unit. Kim is proud to have been able to give back in such a tangible way and encourages everyone in the community to find out more about kidney disease and how to reduce the risks. *Learn more at [www.kidney.org.au](http://www.kidney.org.au).*

# Brian Hoctor: Along for the journey



Lynda Williams and Brian Hoctor

The smiling faces of our volunteers are the first people you see as you enter the hospital. Our volunteers form an integral part of how the hospital operates and help us to provide trusted care to our community.

Brian Hoctor is a volunteer driver who has been with Northern Health for five years, and is a wonderful example of true community spirit.

A humble man, Brian says, "I'm not here for pats on the back, I'm here to help."

His role is to drive patients receiving chemotherapy or dialysis to and from their appointments at the hospital, and to make sure they are settled, comfortable and feel safe.

Brian feels he is very much on a journey with the patients he brings in, providing comfort and an ear to listen. He refers to the front passenger seat of his car as a 'confessional', as the people he drives around tend to open up to him.

"These people are scared, they don't know what they're in for, they're going to chemo or they're going to dialysis, so the front seat of my car is very much like a confessional. It's very honest and it's like the chair that tells the truth," Brian says.

Lynda Williams is one of those passengers, and is very grateful to Northern Hospital for the opportunity of meeting Brian.

"Brian is genuine and caring. He's always listened to me, but never given advice, just listened. He's stopped many tears and he's made me laugh," Lynda says.

"Because I don't drive, I'd have to catch buses, so being picked up and dropped off removes a lot of stress. When Brian started picking me up, I was really freaked out about my hair, but his smiling face has helped me through it."

A cancer sufferer himself, Brian forms close bonds with his passengers, as he can relate to the hardships they are facing. He says that sometimes he does struggle with emotional attachment.

"When you're picking up the same person for two or three years, you get pretty close to them and you feel you are part of their lives. It's a struggle to let go, but you have to let go and let them rest in peace," Brian says.

Brian brings a lot to the lives of the people he drives around, but says volunteering at Northern Health has also brought a lot to his life.

"I've learnt to be more humble, I've learnt to smile on the outside and I've learnt to be compassionate," he says.

"I'll be here until I can't do it anymore."

## Fast Facts: how are we supporting a healthier community?

OVER **\$750,000** INVESTED IN  
RESEARCH TO DATE

In the last 12 months alone over -

**30**

**NEW RESEARCH  
PROJECTS FUNDED**

**99,446**

**EMERGENCY  
PRESENTATIONS**

**93,913**

**HOSPITAL  
ADMISSIONS**

**3,798**

**BABIES  
DELIVERED**

**6,766**

**CHILDREN  
ADMITTED**

**28,889**

**AMBULANCE  
ARRIVALS**

**10,098**

**ELECTIVE SURGICAL  
OPERATIONS**

# Yes, I would like to support the Northern Health Foundation!

## My Details

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## My Donation

☐ \$25 ☐ \$30 ☐ \$40 ☐ My choice \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OR

☐ I would like to make a regular donation of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that this will be deducted from my credit card each month until I advise otherwise.

☐ Monthly ☐ Every 6 Months ☐ Yearly

## My payment details

**Option 1:** I have enclosed a cheque/money order made payable to Northern Health Foundation

**Option 2:** Please debit this card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Card No.:

Cardholder's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ CVV number (3 digits): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Providing your date of birth protects your privacy and helps distinguish you from other supporters.

☐ Please send me more information about leaving a gift in my Will to Northern Health Foundation.

☐ I do not require a receipt.

All donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible. A receipt will be sent to you shortly.

Personal information is collected to process donations, issue tax receipts and to send you updates. For these, servants and agents, either in Australia or overseas.

Northern Health Foundation respects your privacy. For information on how we protect your personal information, how to access and change your details and how we receive and handle privacy complaints, please go to our Privacy Policy [www.nhfoundation.org.au](http://www.nhfoundation.org.au) or phone (03) 8405 2897.

## Anne wins the Audi

Our prestige annual Car Raffle was drawn in November, with our lucky winner Anne Gravette a proud supporter of the Foundation and Northern Health team member. Anne, a Program Manager of Transition Care at Northern Health Bundoora whose role is to support patients in staying well at home, said "I didn't buy a ticket thinking I would win, as I never win anything, I bought the ticket because I wanted to support the work of the Foundation in improving services for my community," she said.

The car raffle has raised \$47,000, which will be used to purchase much-needed medical equipment for the Paediatric High Dependency Unit at Northern Hospital Epping. Freemasons Victoria have pledged to dollar match the funds raised with Maxxia generously donating the car to the Foundation.

The new Paediatric Unit will allow Northern Health to provide comprehensive care to the most vulnerable young patients. This will save vital travel time for patients and enable us to treat children locally at Northern Hospital.



Foundation Director Yvonne Amos, Maxxia Relationship Manager Timothy Bond, Raffle Winner Anne Gravette and Northern Health Executive Director Public Affairs and Foundation Andrew Williamson

Maxxia



Audi | ZAGAME

Northern Health  
Foundation



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