Partnering with our Community
Cover photo: Hospital volunteers pictured with MNCLHD Governing Board Chair Warren Grimshaw AM on National Volunteers Day.
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Welcome to the 2013-2014 Annual Public Meeting of the Mid North Coast Local Health District (MNCLHD).

Community involvement is a key element of the Board’s approach and the Annual Public Meeting represents a further opportunity for community feedback to Health Service provision.

I hope you will find the information contained in this booklet and shared at the Annual Public Meeting to be of interest and would encourage you to share these great stories with your communities.

In April 2014 the MNCLHD underwent a District-wide accreditation process. The result has been that MNCLHD is the first Local Health District in NSW to be awarded District-wide accreditation.

Accreditation is a necessary and valuable process for the Health District and will assist us in ensuring safe and timely treatment continues to be provided to the Mid North Coast community. The accreditation review process involved a considerable amount of work by a large number of staff and I commend all staff for this body of work.

I am extremely pleased to have this opportunity to celebrate the many partnerships we have with our local communities.

Today we recognise a variety of activities which have been largely coordinated by volunteers and community representatives. These include fundraising across all our facilities and working in collaboration with the Clinical Governance Unit to improve and strengthen our engagement processes.

This ongoing collaboration with communities is vital to the future wellbeing of the Mid North Coast population.

The Annual Public Meeting is also an opportunity to celebrate the excellent work undertaken throughout the year by staff from across the District and across all areas of healthcare delivery. On behalf of the Board members I would like to thank the staff of the MNCLHD for their support of the community. I want to thank you and congratulate you on your dedication and commitment to improving patient care and outcomes.

I congratulate the Executive and staff on their continued efforts to maintain and deliver Quality and Excellence in Regional Healthcare.

Warren Grimshaw AM
Chair - MNCLHD Governing Board
MNCLHD Governing Board Members

Warren Grimshaw AM

Mr Grimshaw was appointed Chair of the MNCLHD’s Governing Board from 1 July 2011. He has had extensive senior experience in public administration as Executive Director/CEO of the NSW Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs for 15 years where he demonstrated leadership and strategic vision in the formulation and implementation of Government Policy and was responsible for the co-ordination of strategic policy across schools, TAFE and higher education. He also served as Executive Director Coffs Harbour Education Campus from April 1995 to December 2005.

Mr Grimshaw has an extensive knowledge of health issues and has had a long association with health on the Mid North Coast being a member of the former Mid North Coast Area Health Service Board (2002-2004) and a member of the North Coast Area Health Service’s Advisory Council (2004-2010).

Mr Grimshaw is a Deputy Chair of the NSW TAFE Commission Board, Chair of the North Coast TAFE Institute Advisory Council and Chair Coffs Harbour Technology Park Ltd Board.

He is Honorary Fellow of the Australian Council of Education Leaders and Honorary Fellow Southern Cross University. He was made a member of The Order of Australia (AM) in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List in June 1994.

Reverend Canon Dr John Barrett OAM

Ph C MPS USyd Pharmacy; MACPP; MAIPM; BA Macq. Uni, MA, PhD, USA Bus. Admin.

Dr Barrett has had a long association with the Hastings Community as a pharmacist, a former Mayor of Port Macquarie Hastings Council, Member of the Port Macquarie Chamber of Commerce, and Camden Haven Chamber of Commerce (President 7 years) and a Committee member of the Pastoral Care Services Port Macquarie Base Hospital 2010.

Dr Barrett is the Chair of the St Columba Anglican School Council, and Chair of Columbia Cottage Early Learning Centre, member of the Grafton Diocese Anglican Schools Network, and a Corporate Trustee of the Anglican Diocese of Grafton.

In 2009, Dr Barrett was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his service to the community through local government organisations and to the Anglican Church of Australia. He has also received an AR Bluet Memorial Award which recognises local government councils for their progress, a Paul Harris Fellow from Rotary and the Centenary Medal from the Australian Government.
Dr Richard Buss
Dr Buss has a conjoint appointment as a Senior Lecturer, University of Newcastle - Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health and is the Northern New South Wales Local Health District (NNSWLHD) Director of Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Services.

He has a particular interest in Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Services across NSW and is involved in a number of State-wide planning and clinical service delivery committees that aim to provide services for consumer groups within the health setting, the Non Government Sector and private industry.

Dr Buss has been involved in Health for most of his working life, beginning as a Psychologist and is aware that there are many specialised areas of health that have an important part to play in the health and wellbeing of the communities throughout the Local Health District.

Dr Buss believes it is important to provide a range of health services and facilities across the District to ensure that all groups are represented. The role of clinical and support staff, as well as the input of the local communities, is paramount to the success of the Mid North Coast Local Health District.
David Kennedy

Mr Kennedy’s background is in human and community services and he has worked in a number of roles relating to aged and disability care, social services and health.

Mr Kennedy was a co-recipient of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners’ (RACGP) 2010 Standing Strong Together Award in recognition of achievement in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, awarded for work with ‘Give Up The Smokes’, an intensive smoking cessation program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

The Program was specifically designed to assist people identifying as Aboriginal to quit smoking. Initial program development commenced in 2005 with Dr Gillian Gould and Mr David Kennedy engaging extensive community and Aboriginal Health Worker input, and with the assistance of Galambila Aboriginal Health Service, the University of New South Wales Rural Clinical School and the Mid North Coast Division of General Practice.

He holds an Aboriginal Heritage Officer Certificate II. He has participated in the Aboriginal Management Development Program at the University of New England.

Neville Parsons

BEc LLB

Mr Parsons is currently the Chief Executive Officer and Director of Holiday Coast Credit Union Ltd, having been CEO since February 1988. Mr Parsons has served the credit union movement as a Director of Cuscal Ltd, Chairman of Credit Union Foundation Australia and Director on the World Council of Credit Unions.

Since 1981 Mr Parsons has been a member of the Rotary Club of Wauchope. He has served Rotary both at the Club and District level on many committees as well as being District Governor District 9650 in 2009-2010, and a director of RDU Pty Ltd and Rotary Down Under Inc since 1 July 2014.

He is currently Chairman Greater Taree City Council Audit Committee, a member of the New South Wales Life Education Board and a member of the Mid North Coast Local Health District’s Governing Board.
MNCLHD Governing Board Members

Neil Porter

Mr Porter has enjoyed a long career in local government, starting at Lake Macquarie City Council in 1981 before relocating with his family to Port Macquarie in 1986 to take up the position of Administration Manager with the then Hastings Council.

During his 24 years with the Council Mr Porter also served as Director of Corporate Services, Manager of Governance and Acting General Manager. In April 2011 he was appointed as Administrator of Port Macquarie-Hastings Council until the September 2012 local government elections.

Mr Porter brings to the role of Governing Board Member extensive experience in the public sector, particularly in the areas of governance, risk management and continuous improvement. He has strong connections with the local community through local business, the Rotary club and other community groups such as Lifeline and sports organisations.

Janine Reed

From a background in administration Janine Reed re-located to the Mid North Coast more than 30 years ago to establish their family businesses. Mrs Reed has been a Director of the Nursery and Garden Industry Association of New South Wales, working very closely within that industry from Taree to Woolgoolga. She has also served as a member of Mid North Coast, State and Regional Development Board.

As a member of NSW Farmers, Mrs Reed has been involved in resource management issues and is currently a member of the North Coast Local Land Services Board. She holds the position of Chairman of the Utungun Community Centre and is Treasurer of the Macksville and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry and has been an advocate for all these organisations.

Mrs Reed is the Chairman of the Board of Nambucca Valley Care Ltd, an organisation that provides care for many aged residents and the largest employer in the Nambucca Shire. For her work with this not for profit organisation Mrs Reed received a Paul Harris Fellow Award.
Jan Ryan

Prior to moving to North Coast Jan Ryan had a long involvement working with people with disabilities, initially as a teacher and ongoing through a range of services for people with disabilities.

In 1986, following lengthy community consultations, Mrs Ryan established Coffs Harbour, Bellingen and Nambucca Community Transport, and continued to develop and manage the service until retiring in 2011. She received the NSW Premier’s Award for Community Service in 2008.

Between 2002 and 2010 Mrs Ryan was also the primary carer for three family members, which she describes as a huge learning experience, and during this period relinquished most other community activities.

Dr Joanna Sutherland

MBBS (Hons); FANZCA MHPol (Syd)

Dr Sutherland is a Visiting Medical Officer (VMO) Anaesthetist and the Director, Pre-Vocational Education and Training at Coffs Harbour Health Campus and a Conjoint Senior Lecturer, University of New South Wales Rural Clinical School.

Dr Sutherland is a member of the Anaesthesia and Perioperative Care Network Executive Committee for the NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation.

Dr Sutherland also holds membership to a number of State and Federal Government Advisory Committees including the Australian Government Advisory Committee for Medical Devices and the Australian Government Advisory Committee on the Safety of Medical Devices.
Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

This Register records the Declaration of Pecuniary Interest, Conflict of Interest and Director Related Transactions of the Governing Board Members for the Mid North Coast Local Health District. Information includes all memberships of bodies or organisations external to the Governing Board. Listing is current as at 1 November 2014.

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| **Warren Grimshaw AM Chair** | Chair                                                      | **Business/Professional**  
Deputy Chair NSW TAFE Commission Board  
Chair – TAFE NSW, North Coast Institute, Advisory Council  
Chair – Coffs Harbour Technology Park Ltd  
Member – Governing Council, TAFE NSW, Higher Education                                                                                                                                               |
| Appointed to: 31 Dec 2016   |                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| **Dr John Barrett OAM**     | Chair – Medical and Dental Appointments Advisory Committee | **Business/Professional**  
Chair, St Columba Anglican School Council and Columba Cottage Early Learning Centre Management Committee  
Corporate Trustee of the Anglican Diocese of Grafton  
Member: Australian Institute of Pharmacy Management, Australian College of Pharmacy Practice, Grafton Diocesan Anglican Schools Network  
| Appointed to: 31 Dec 2014   | Member - Finance & Performance Committee                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| **Dr Stephen Begbie**       | Chair – Health Service Development & Innovation Committee  | **Business/Professional**  
VMO physician Port Macquarie Base Hospital and Port Macquarie Private Hospital  
Director Clinical Cancer Research - MNCLHD  
Medical Advisor- Novotech Clinical Research Organisation  
Multiple memberships of professional organisations  
Community Organisations  
Chairman Hastings Cancer Trust  
Board member St Columba Anglican School  
Member Point Community Church  
Involvement as Coach with junior Rugby and Touch Football Clubs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Appointed to: 31 Dec 2016   |                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| **Dr Richard Buss**         | Member – Medical Dental Appointments Advisory Committee   | **Business/Professional**  
Director Mental Health & Drug and Alcohol Services, NNSWLHD  
Management Committee Centre for Rural & Remote Mental Health  
Executive of Northern NSW Local Health District  
Senior Lecturer – conjoint appointment University of Newcastle                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Appointed to: 31 Dec 2014   |                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| **David Kennedy**           | Chair – Closing the Gap Committee                          | Nil to declare                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Appointed to: 31 Dec 2016   |                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| **Neville Parsons**         | Chair – Finance and Performance Committee                 | **Business/Professional**  
CEO & Director of Holiday Coast Credit Union Ltd  
Independent Member & Chairman Greater Taree City Council Audit Committee (Term: 1 Sep 2010 to September 2016).  
Member Port Macquarie Regional Consultative Committee Charles Sturt University  
Advisory Committee member Hastings Business Enterprise Network  
Director Life Education NSW since Feb 2012  
Community Organisations  
Rotary involvements: Director RDU Pty Ltd and Rotary Down Under Inc (from 1 July 2014), Member Rotary District 9650 Finance Committee (from 1 July 14), Since 1 July 14 Membership Director Wauchope Rotary Club |
## Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

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| Neil Porter        | Member - Workforce, Health and Safety Committee | Business/Professional  
Member Mid Coast Lifeline Board  
Member Charles Sturt Regional Advisory Committee  
Community Organisations  
Member: Port Macquarie Rotary Club, Port Macquarie Race Club, Port Macquarie Panthers Club; Member and Secretary of Port Macquarie Beatles Festival Committee (Committee has received sponsorship from King and Campbell P/L, Bugden and Partners, Andrew Meidecke Motors, Radio 2MC, PMHC)  
Playing Member Port Macquarie Golf Club, Non-Playing Member Port City Bowling Club |
| Janine Reed        | Member – Health Service Development and Innovation Committee, Member – Closing the Gap Sub Committee, Member – Community Engagement Sub Committee | Business/Professional  
Partner – Macksville Mower Centre  
Member, Governing Board North Coast Local Land Services  
Community Organisations  
Chairman – Director, Nambucca Valley Care Limited (Autumn Lodge and Riverside Gardens)  
Member & Treasurer - Macksville & District Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc  
Member of Health Consumers NSW |
| Elizabeth Ruthnam  | Member – Closing the Gap Sub Committee, Member - Workforce, Health and Safety Committee | Business/Professional  
CEO of Baringa Private Hospital and Coffs Harbour Day Surgery  
Shareholder of Ramsay Health Care  
Director of Palm Tree Medical Centre, Coffs Harbour  
Fellow of Australian College of Nursing  
Council Member, Southern Cross University |
| Jan Ryan           | Member – Health Care Quality Committee, Chair - Community Reference Group & Community Engagement Committee | Business/Professional, Community Organisations and Other  
Nil to declare |
| Dr Joanna Sutherland | Chair – Health Care Quality Committee, Member – Health Service Development and Innovation Committee | Business/Professional  
Visiting Medical Officer (contracted) Coffs Harbour Health Campus  
Director, Prevocational Education and Training CHHC  
Accredited Anaesthetist, Baringa Private Hospital  
Member: Australian Medical Association, Australian Society of Anaesthetists, Australian Government Advisory Committee for Medical Devices, Australian Government Advisory Committee on the Safety of Medical Devices. |
Over the past 12 months Mid North Coast Local Health District (MNCLHD) has continued to deliver high quality public health services to Mid North Coast residents.

The MNCLHD covers an area of 11,335 square kilometres which extends from Port Macquarie Hastings LGA in the south to Coffs Harbour LGA in the north. The Mid North Coast is an ageing population with 23 per cent of residents in the region over 65 years of age. The MNCLHD provides health services regionally to around 300,000 people.

This year our facilities performed in excess of 21,000 operations, treated more than 86,000 people at our Emergency Departments and admitted 69,000 patients to our Hospitals.

In our efforts to improve the coordination of care for patients and community across a range of health services, we have also commenced work on the implementation of Integrated Care. Our vision is to work in partnership with the community to deliver truly Integrated Care with the right service, at the right time and in the right place as close to home as possible.

This early work, conducted in collaboration with our partner organisations, will assist in developing medium and longer term strategies to build a sustainable platform for the future.

As a result, we have also further developed the important partnerships with North Coast Medicare Local, Aboriginal Medical Services, community and volunteer organisations and other health related service providers.

I would like to thank the many volunteers who deliver exceptional services to the local hospitals, Community Health Centres and health programs across the Mid North Coast. On behalf of the Executive I would like to extend my sincere thanks for the time, effort and enthusiasm they bring to the workplace.

I acknowledge and extend thanks to the Medical, Hospital, Community Health and Administration staff at our many facilities who continue to provide quality care in support of better health and quality of life for the community. The recent achievement of full accreditation to the District is worthy of celebration by the many staff who participated in the process.

Finally I would like to acknowledge our local communities who are committed to ensuring ever improving health outcomes for future generations.

Stewart Dowrick
MNCLHD Chief Executive
MNCLHD Senior Executive Team

Dr Theresa Beswick
Coordinator
Coffs Clinical Network

Bronwyn Chalker
Director Allied Health and
Integrated Care

Paul Corben
Director
Public Health

John Leary
Director
Mental Health and
Drug & Alcohol

Robyn Martin
Director
Aboriginal Health and
Primary Partnerships

Dr Robert Pegram
Coordinator
Hastings Macleay
Clinical Network

Kathleen Ryan
Executive Director
Clinical Governance and
Information Services

Stephen Rodwell
Executive Director
Nursing, Midwifery and
Workforce

Nick de Groot
Executive Director
Financial Operations and
Asset Management
The Mid North Coast Local Health District (MNCLHD) recognises the important contribution our community partners make to our hospitals and Community Health Centres.

The strength of these partnerships has helped fund state-of-the-art clinical equipment, supported patients and their families during treatment and recovery and furnished facilities such as Wauchope District Hospital’s new Palliative Care Unit.

The Local Health District and the Wauchope community is very proud of the Palliative Care Unit, which received $120,000 in public donations during a six-month fundraising campaign led by the local newspaper, the Wauchope Gazette.

Ongoing community support will continue to be an important part of the Palliative Care Unit’s future, as it will be for all MNCLHD health facilities from Coffs Harbour to Laurieton.
The volunteers of the United Hospital Auxiliaries on the Mid North Coast have raised almost $309,000 in the past year and given more than 81,000 hours of their time to the region’s hospitals. The amazing efforts of the UHA volunteers are greatly appreciated by the Mid North Coast Local Health District, especially the staff members who see the benefits of the generous donations every day.

United Hospital Auxiliaries of NSW North Eastern Region Zone Representative Phillipa Passfield said the team of volunteers from Bellingen, Bowraville, the Camden Haven, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo, Kempsey, Macksville, Nambucca, Port Macquarie and Wauchope worked hard for their local hospitals and should be proud of their efforts.

“I congratulate all of our volunteers. Where would our hospitals be without them?” Mrs Passfield said.
Partnering with Our Community

It’s Your Health

The Mid North Coast Local Health District is committed to community engagement and consumer participation. The MNCLHD Governing Board is leading the way by engaging with and bringing together consumers, communities, clinicians and the workforce.

Community engagement and consumer participation plays an important role in supporting better health outcomes for users and improving the overall performance of the health system. Input from consumers, their families and carers, the wider community and health consumer organisations, provides valuable knowledge and perspectives to shape policies, programs and services.

Engagement is about involving consumers and the community in key decision-making processes and effective engagement involves communicating, listening and responding.

The It’s Your Health brochure, launched at the MNCLHD Governing Board’s Annual Public Meeting, is an invitation to community members, consumers and carers to get involved in local health committees and forums where they can discuss local community health needs and issues with health service staff and senior management, and participate in the planning, development and evaluation of health services.
Mid North Coast Local Health District
P.O. Box 126
Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Telephone: 1800 726 997
Website: www.mnclhd.health.nsw.gov.au

Business Hours: 8.30am – 5.00pm (Mon-Fri)

Public Hospitals

Bellinger River District Hospital
1 Church St
Bellingen NSW 2454
(02) 6659 5800

Coffs Harbour Health Campus
345 Pacific Highway
Coffs Harbour NSW 2450
(02) 6656 7000

Dorrigo Multi Purpose Service
Beech Street
Dorrigo NSW 2453
(02) 6692 7700

Kempsey District Hospital
119 River Street
Kempsey NSW 2440
(02) 6562 6155

Macksville Health Campus
Boundary Street
Macksville NSW 2447
(02) 6568 0666

Port Macquarie Base Hospital
Wrights Rd
Port Macquarie NSW 2444
(02) 6581 2000

Wauchope District Memorial Hospital
69 High Street
Wauchope NSW 2446
(02) 6580 8000

North Coast Cancer Institute
Port Macquarie Base Hospital
Wrights Road
Port Macquarie NSW 2444
(02) 6580 1807

Coffs Harbour Health Campus
Pacific Highway
Coffs Harbour NSW 2450
(02) 6656 5737

Freecall: 1800 209 187

Community Health Centres

Bellingen Community Health Centre
1 Church St
Bellingen NSW 2454
(02) 6659 5800

Camden Haven Community Health Centre
Laurie Street
Laurieton NSW 2443
(02) 6559 9003

Coffs Harbour Community Health Centre
Locked Bag 812 or 345 Pacific Hwy
Coffs Harbour NSW 2540
(02) 6656 7000

Dorrigo Community Health Centre
Beech Street
Dorrigo NSW 2453
(02) 6692 7700

Kempsey Community Health Centre
Polwood Street
Kempsey NSW 2440
(02) 6562 6066

Macksville Community Health Centre
Boundary Street
Macksville NSW 2447
(02) 6568 2677

Port Macquarie Community Health Centre
Morton Street
PO Box 126
Port Macquarie NSW 2444
(02) 6588 2750

South West Rocks Community Health Centre
7-9 Steve Eagleton Drive
South West Rocks NSW 2431
(02) 6565 9611

Wauchope Community Health Centre
69 High Street
Wauchope NSW 2446
(02) 6580 8060

Woolgoolga Community Health Centre
29 Beach Street
Woolgoolga NSW 2456
(02) 6654 1111
Partnering with our Community  

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