



Ballarat **Health Services**  
Putting your health first

# Volunteer News

## No 3 June/July 2012

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## National Volunteer Week 2012



Jennie Seels represents all BHS volunteers at the National Volunteer Week Flag Raising ceremony, hosted by the City Council and United Way. She is pictured receiving a certificate from Judy Verlin.

## Morning tea at Lederman Hall



Volunteers gathered at Lederman Hall on May 17<sup>th</sup> to celebrate National Volunteer Week.

### Flu Shots

Don't forget your flu shot! To make an appointment, phone the clinic on 5320 4211

## Second hand books now available for sale to patients



You may have seen Thea and Jane (pictured here with Sue) going around the hospital on a Tuesday afternoon- they have been making second hand books available for sale to patients who are looking for something to read.

This new initiative is a joint project between the BHS Foundation and the Ballarat East Rotary Club, set up, not only as a service to patients, but also as a fundraiser. All proceeds are shared between the Rotary Club and the Foundation. And of course, all Foundation funds go right back into BHS!

Thanks go to Jenny Palmer and Geoff Millar, who were instrumental in getting this project happening, Lyn in the cafeteria for her cooperation, and volunteers, Thea, Jane, Yvonne and Trish.

By the way, these books are also for sale in the cafeteria- \$4 each.



## Exciting new developments are on track

Plans for new developments including the helipad and multi-deck car park at Ballarat Health Services (BHS) are progressing well. BHS executive staff this week attended a planning meeting with the Department of Health to commence work on details of each project. At the recent State Government budget BHS received \$46.4 million for planning and construction of a helipad, multi-deck car park and a new ambulatory care centre. It received a further \$3 million for a new five-bed, mother-baby mental health unit

“The projects are progressing well,” Chief Executive Officer Andrew Rowe said. “Expressions of interest have been sought from consultants to work on the new developments which, when completed, will greatly enhance the service we can provide to the people of the Ballarat and Grampians regions. We have hit the ground running in terms of getting these projects moving but it is important that we undertake the appropriate planning processes and get the detail right to ensure our communities get the best and most appropriate facilities. The helipad will create a swift connection to Ballarat hospitals and also mean that patients from across Western Victoria can be brought to BHS in quick time. It has been a much-discussed and much-anticipated addition to our services.

“Similarly the improved car park facilities will improve connections and accessibility for those being treated at the Base Hospital. Visitors and staff will also benefit from the multi-deck car park. We plan to provide regular updates to the community as the projects start to take shape.”

Source: *Ballarat Health Services Website* [www.bhs.org.au](http://www.bhs.org.au)

### Current Volunteer Vacancies- June

- ‘Pool Pals’ needed for Midlands Activity Group- Tuesdays and Thursdays
- James Thomas- activities assistants required for Tuesday and Friday afternoons
- QE Ladies Auxiliary would love some new members- fundraising, knitting etc

*And a word from Sue...*

### *Tribute to Queen Elizabeth Friends and Relatives Association*

While it is very exciting to start new programs and develop new ways of raising funds for Ballarat Health Services, this year we have seen the closure of one of our longest standing support groups at BHS- the QE Friends and Relatives Association have made the decision, neither easily nor quickly to close their operations. I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to this group, most ably led by Joyce Rollasen and to thank them for their many years of dedicated services to the QE and BHS. Originally established as an advocacy group of people with family in residential care, the group moved quickly to providing gifts for residents of the QE and fundraising, raising thousands of dollars over a many years. Most notable was their work in advocating for a community bus.

I believe this group was part of the beginnings of what is now a very vibrant, diverse and immensely dedicated volunteer workforce and I can only humbly thank them for their contributions, and for their inspiration. They are already noticeable by their absence.