Palliative Care
New South Wales

2026 STATE CONFERENCE







Shaping the Future Together







19–21 October
Sydney Masonic Centre



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Shaping the Future Together

Welcome to Sydney for the Palliative Care NSW 2026 State Conference.

For the first time in twelve years we are meeting on the land of the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation. This conference brings together individuals, organisations and government from across NSW and Australia who are commited to delivering quality palliative and end of life care. A special welcome to the palliative care Volunteer Managers joining us for the first time, with their conference running concurrently to the State Conference.

This years program is one of our largest, reflecting the diversity that is palliative care, and a changing palliative care landscape: rapidly growing demand, an ageing population with shifting expectations for care, a rise in chronic diseases and multimorbidity, new legislations, frameworks and aged care acts, advances in models of care, among many other relevant topics and themes. This changing landscape invites us to consider how we might do things differently, address system challenges, seize opportunities and positively shape the future of palliative care together.

We invite everyone to embrace the spirit of collaboration and innovation that the Palliative Care NSW State Conference represents. To share knowledge and inspire one another. To use the conference as an opportunity for new connections, collaborations, and ideas that will enhance the way we care for those who need it most. Together, we can create a future where palliative care is understood, valued, and accessible to all.

Enjoy your time in Sydney and thank you for attending and supporting the Palliative Care NSW 2026 State Conference.

Kirsty Blades
CEO

Felicity Burns
President

Sandra Sullivan
Conference Chair
& Vice President



Culturally Safe Care
Cultural illustration by Lauren Henry
@Yirra Miya

Palliative Care NSW acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land and pay our respects to First Nations culture, peoples and Elders, past and present. We commit to the journey of walking with, and learning from First Nations communities to advocate for, and support culturally safe palliative care.

COMMITTEES

Program Planning Committee

Thank you for your time and commitment in the development of the 2026 State Conference program. Have a question or need some assistance during the conference? The committee are wearing orange lanyards and would love to help.

- **Sandra Sullivan**, Palliative Care District Nurse Coordinator, South Western Sydney LHD (Committee Chair)
- **Sally Connell**, Allied Health Educator, Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD
- **Bronwen Hewitt**, Senior Physiotherapist Specialist Palliative Care, South Western Sydney LHD
- **Leesa Hoystead**, District Nurse Educator Palliative Care Services, Mid North Coast LHD
- **Cathy McDonnell**, CNC, Supportive and Palliative Care Blacktown Hospital, Western Sydney LHD
- **Kate McEwan**, Palliative and End of Life Care Nurse Educator, Hunter New England LHD
- **Maree Montgomery**, Palliative Care NCN Redesign & Innovation - Integrated Care & Partnerships, Murrumbidgee LHD
- **Scott Read**, CNC, Bankstown Community Palliative Care, South Western Sydney LHD
- **Joan Ryan OAM**, CNC, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
- **Carmen Sanchez**, Nurse Practitioner in Palliative Care, Northern Sydney Home Nursing Service
- **Megan Asbury**, Deputy CEO, Palliative Care NSW
- **Kirsty Blades**, CEO, Palliative Care NSW

Palliative Care NSW (PCNSW) Team & Management Committee

Come say hi during the conference and find out more about PCNSW and being a part of the management committee. The team have staff lanyards on for easy identification.

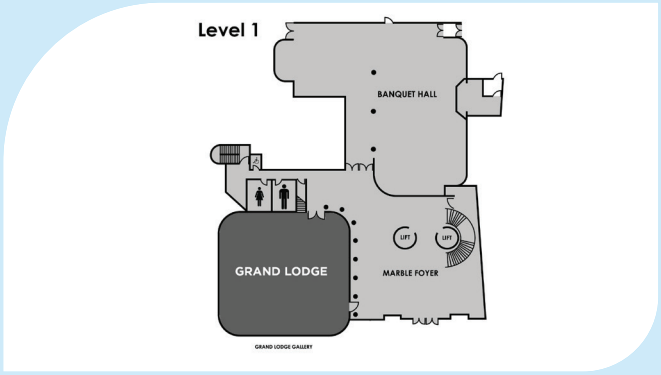
PCNSW Staff

- **Kirsty Blades**, CEO
- **Megan Asbury**, Deputy CEO
- **Kate Bowman**, Volunteer Services Support Program Manager
- **Dr Peta McVey**, Palliative Care Guidance Manager
- **Emma Scott-Stevenson**, Project & Research Coordinator
- **Maria Lopez**, Membership & Digital Engagement Coordinator
- **Anthony Bui**, Community Engagement & Program Coordinator

Management Committee

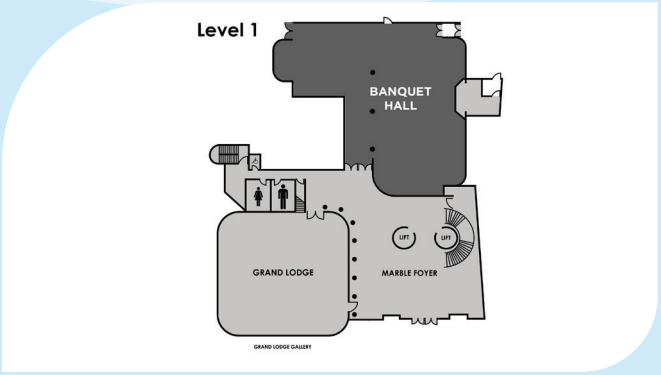
- **Felicity Burns**, HammondCare (President)
- **Sandra Sullivan**, South Western Sydney LHD (Vice-President)
- **Joan Ryan OAM**, Sydney LHD (Secretary)
- **A/Prof. Nicole Sutton**, UTS (Treasurer)
- **Prof. Deb Parker AM**, UTS
- **Josh Cohen**, Flinders University
- **Lara Johnson**, South Eastern Sydney LHD
- **Julie Mecham**, Murrumbidgee PHN
- **Scott Read**, South Western Sydney LHD
- **Carmen Sanchez**, Northern Sydney LHD

VENUES AND ROOM LOCATIONS



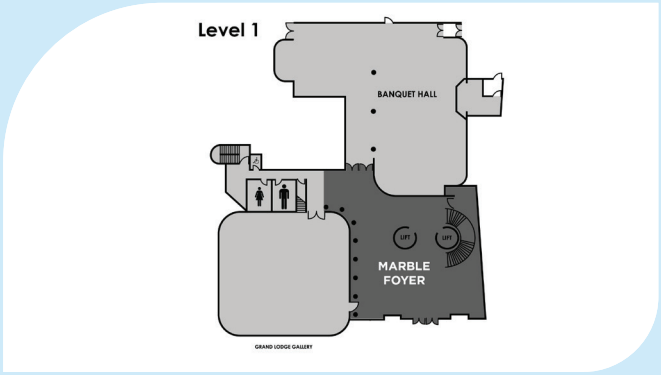
Grand Lodge
Level One

Plenary | Keynote Sessions



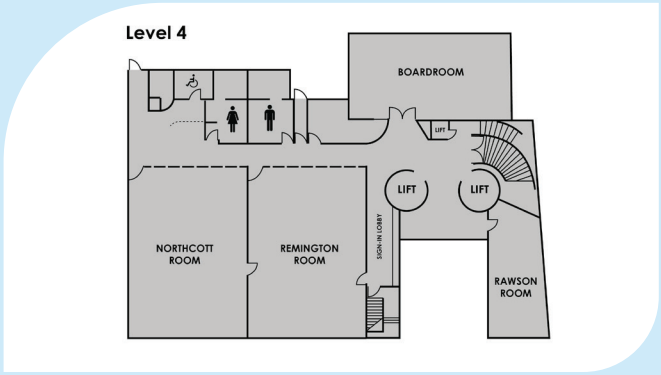
Banquet Hall
Level One

All Breaks | Exhibition Hall | Poster Display



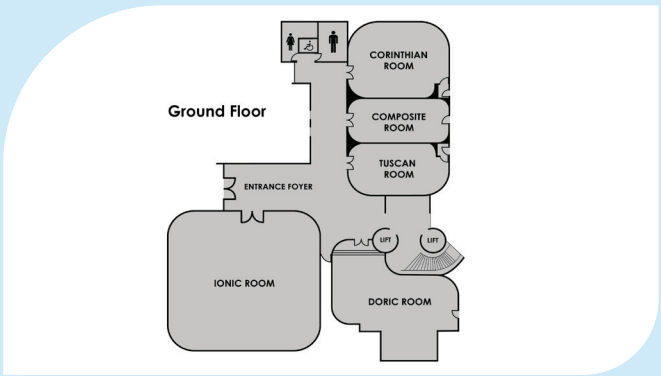
Marble Foyer
Level One

Welcome Reception | Information Desk



Boardroom
Level Four

Volunteer Managers Conference



Ionic | Doric | Tuscan | Corinthian
Ground Floor

Workshops | Concurrent Streams | Learning Labs



Watersedge
25 Hickson Road, The Rocks

Celebration Dinner **Tuesday 20th October 6:30pm – 10:00pm (Pre-registration required)**

Note: You can enter the venue from the harbour side between Como Restaurant and Bar Lulu, or from Hickson Road.

PROGRAM

MONDAY 19 OCTOBER

Pre-Conference Workshops / Panels / Welcome Reception

1:00pm	**REGISTRATION OPENS** Ground Floor Foyer, Sydney Masonic Centre		
1:15pm	**PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS / PANELS COMMENCE**		
1:15 – 2:45pm	**WORKSHOP 1** Corinthian Room **FROM STANDARDS TO PRACTICE: EXPLORING THE NATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE STANDARDS WITH PACSA** **Led by Kate Ritchie and Chelsea Menchin** Palliative Care Australia		**PANEL 1** Doric Room **WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT THIS ENOUGH: COMMUNITY VOICES ON DEATH, GRIEF AND CARE** **Led by Danni Petkovic** Liminal Being **Jill Nash** Community Advocate and Volunteer, Ageing and Dying Well Advocate **Sally Douglas** Good Mourning **Richard Boele** Father, Bereaved Parent and Lived Experience Advocate **John Milham** Men's Wellbeing Advocate, Compassionate Connector, Men's Coach, Suicide Prevention Trainer
2:45pm	**AFTERNOON TEA BREAK** Ground Floor Foyer		
3:15 – 5:15pm	**WORKSHOP 2** Corinthian Room **JUST INCLUDE ME: SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY WITH PALLIATIVE CARE, DYING AND GRIEF** **Led by Rana Karakus and Robert Lewis** Council for Intellectual Disability	**WORKSHOP 3** Doric Room **WHEN WORDS MATTER MOST: COMMUNICATION AND CULTURAL SAFETY IN PALLIATIVE CARE** **Led by Una Turalic** Northern Sydney Local Health District & NSW Transcultural Mental Health Centre **David Gillet** and **Emma Dixon** Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District	**WORKSHOP 4** Ionic Room **EVIDENCE-BASED THERAPIES FOR BREATHLESSNESS ARE ALL NON-PHARMACOLOGICAL – HERE'S HOW YOU USE THEM** **Led by Mary Roberts** Westmead Hospital **Dr Ester Klimkeit** Westmead Hospital **Heather Stephenson** Westmead Hospital **Muneeba Chaudhry** IMPACCT, University of Technology Sydney **Dr Tracy Smith** Westmead Hospital **Bronwen Hewitt** Liverpool Hospital
5:15pm	**WELCOME RECEPTION COMMENCES** Marble Foyer, Sydney Masonic Centre		
7:00pm	**WELCOME RECEPTION CONCLUDES**		

PROGRAM

TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER
Day 1 Conference Sessions / Celebration Dinner

8:30am	**REGISTRATION OPENS** Marble Foyer, Sydney Masonic Centre **ARRIVAL TEA & COFFEE** Banquet & Exhibition Hall
9:00am	**CONFERENCE DAY 1 COMMENCES** **OFFICIAL OPENING KEYNOTE** **CULTURE, CONNECTION AND VOICE** Grand Lodge **Chair: Felicity Burns** President, Palliative Care NSW **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY** **Lauren Henry** Yirra Miya **CULTURE, CONNECTION AND VOICE** Storytellers **Allison McLaughlin** Nurse Practitioner, Palliative Care, Mid North Coast Local Health District **Cynthia Younie** Senior Aboriginal Health Worker, Palliative Care, Mid North Coast Local Health District **Aunty Jacqueline Smith (Ben's aunty), Kristy Fernando (Ben's sister), and Renshaya Sines (Ben's daughter)** South West Rocks Figtree descendants.
10:30am	**MORNING TEA** Banquet & Exhibition Hall
11:00am	**KEYNOTE SESSION: SHAPING THE FUTURE TOGETHER** Grand Lodge **Chair: Kirsty Blades** CEO, Palliative Care NSW **SHAPING THE FUTURE OF PALLIATIVE CARE: WHAT THE DATA TELLS US AND WHERE TO NEXT** **Associate Professor Chris Schilling** Health Economist and Palliative Care Economics Lead, University of Melbourne **BUILDING END OF LIFE AND PALLIATIVE CARE CAPABILITY IN THE NSW HEALTH WORKFORCE** **Dr Kate Kennett** Senior Policy Officer, End of Life and Palliative Care, Priority Populations Unit, NSW Health **EXPLORING THE IMPACT OF PALLIATIVE CARE VOLUNTEERING IN NSW** **Dr Patricia Mackey** Senior Lecturer and Researcher, Charles Sturt University **PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACHES TO PALLIATIVE CARE: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES AND BUILDING DEATH LITERACY** **Dr Kerrie Noonan** Senior Research Fellow and Adjunct Associate Professor, Public Health Palliative Care Unit, La Trobe University and Director of Research, Western NSW Local Health District **EXPERT PANEL** **Dr Meera Agar** End of Life and Palliative Care Senior Clinical Advisor, NSW Health **Sabina Clapham** Director, Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration (PCOC+) **Professor Deb Parker AM** Co-Director, UTS Ageing Research Collaborative **Charlotte Brown** Clinical Nurse Consultant, Dementia Australia
12:30pm	**LUNCH** Banquet & Exhibition Hall

TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER
(continued)

	CONCURRENT SESSIONS Ground Floor			
	STREAM 1 Ionic Room	**STREAM 2** Doric Room	**STREAM 3** Tuscan Room	**STREAM 4** Corinthian Room
1:30pm	**SUPPORTIVE CARE: BEYOND THE HOSPITAL** Stream Chair: **Cathy McDonnell**	**PALLIATIVE CARE IN AGED CARE** Stream Chair: **Bronwen Hewitt**	**CONNECTED CARE: MODELS & PARTNERSHIPS** Stream Chair: **Scott Read**	**COMPLEX MINDS, COMPASSIONATE CARE** Stream Chair: **Sandra Sullivan**
1:30pm (Poster Pitch)	**THE MISSING PIECE – THE VALUE OF PALLIATIVE CARE VOLUNTEERS (01)** **Janet Pearce** Far West Local Health District	**RESPONDING TO AN AGEING POPULATION: SYSTEM-LEVEL REDESIGN OF PALLIATIVE CARE IN RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE HOMES (02)** **Susan Jenkins** Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District	**REDEFINING END-OF-LIFE CARE: A CLINICALLY SUPPORTED RELATIONAL CARE MODEL FOR INTEGRATED COMMUNITY-BASED SYSTEMS (03)** **Anne Kubiak** Full Circle – End of Life Matters	**BRIDGING MIND AND BODY AT THE END OF LIFE: EMBEDDED PSYCHIATRY WITHIN AN AUSTRALIAN PALLIATIVE CARE PROGRAM (04)** **Shalini Rajan** Supportive Care for Chronic Disease, Hunter New England Local Health District
1:35pm	**'FIXING THE FIXABLES'. SUPPORTIVE CARE AND HOSPITAL-IN-THE-HOME (HITH) SERVICES, WORKING TOGETHER (05)** **Dr Clare Jones and Monita Mesuria** St George Hospital	**IMPLEMENTING PACOP TO IMPROVE PALLIATIVE CARE OUTCOMES IN RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE (06)** **Renee Millen** Palliative Aged Care Outcomes Program (PACOP) – University of Wollongong	**CO-DESIGNING AN INNOVATIVE ORAL HEALTH MODEL OF CARE FOR PALLIATIVE CARE NURSES: AN AUSTRALIAN FIRST (07)** **Vipin Jain** Western Sydney University	**HOLDING COMPLEXITY: TRAUMA, ILLNESS AND CONTINUITY IN CARE AT THE END OF LIFE (08)** **Sarah Pullen** Hunter New England Local Health District
2:00pm	**TICKING OFF THE BUCKET LIST – MANAGING CHRONIC ILLNESS IN THE COMMUNITY (09)** **Val Maynes, Rebecca Thornley and Jacqui Burgess** St George Hospital	**WHEN DYING ISN'T DYING: REASSESSING DECLINE IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE IN AGED CARE (10)** **Natividad Miles** Royal Prince Alfred Hospital	**'FROM PALM BEACH TO EDEN' A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP ENABLING AFTER-HOURS TELEHEALTH SUPPORT IN SOUTHERN NSW (11)** **Sevi Russell-Williams** HammondCare **Brigid White** Southern NSW Local Health District	**PERSON-CENTRED CARE IN A SILOED HEALTH SYSTEM: COMPLEXITY OF MENTAL HEALTH (12)** **Donna Waters** Community Palliative Care, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District
2:25pm	**WHAT MATTERS MOST? TRANSFORMING CARE IN ADVANCED NON-MALIGNANT CHRONIC DISEASE (13)** **Sarah Pullen** Hunter New England Local Health District	**COLLABORATIVE MULTIDISCIPLINARY CARE ENABLING END OF LIFE CARE FOR A PATIENT WITH MND IN RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE (14)** **Donna Berry** Calvary Hospital Kogarah Will be presented by Usha Gurung & Michelle Leung-Cheng	**IMPROVING PALLIATIVE CARE IN AGED CARE SETTINGS: IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIALIST PALLIATIVE CARE NEEDS ROUNDING ON THE CENTRAL COAST - A CPCIAC INITIATIVE (15)** **Megan Whittington and Janice Spinley** Central Coast Local Health District	**EXPLORING ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN PAIN BURDEN AND PSYCHOSOCIAL DISTRESS IN A RURAL NSW PALLIATIVE CARE POPULATION (16)** **Felicity Bates** Mid North Coast Local Health District

TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER
(continued)

	STREAM 1 Ionic Room	STREAM 2 Doric Room	STREAM 3 Tuscan Room	STREAM 4 Corinthian Room
2:50pm (Poster Pitch)	**INTEGRATING PALLIATIVE CARE INTO NEPHROLOGY: A 10-YEAR KIDNEY SUPPORTIVE CARE EXPERIENCE (17)** **Natividad Miles** Royal Prince Alfred Hospital	**SYRINGE DRIVERS IN RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE FACILITIES FOR PALLIATIVE PATIENTS (18)** **Juan IX Cabredo** Prince of Wales Hospital		**STORYTELLING AT END OF LIFE: EVALUATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF VOLUNTEER-LED BIOGRAPHY PROGRAMS IN PALLIATIVE CARE (19)** **Professor Megan Best** University of Notre Dame
2:55pm	**AFTERNOON TEA** Banquet & Exhibition Hall			
3:30pm	**CONCURRENT SESSIONS** Ground Floor			
	STREAM 1 Ionic Room **MANAGING COMPLEXITY** Stream Chair: **Sandra Sullivan**	**STREAM 2** Doric Room **COMPREHENSIVE CARE AT END OF LIFE** Stream Chair: **Bronwen Hewitt**	**STREAM 3** Tuscan Room **CARE MODELS & OUTCOMES** Stream Chair: **Lara Johnson**	**STREAM 4** Corinthian Room **PERSON CENTRED DEMENTIA CARE** Stream Chair: **Julie Mecham**
3:30pm (Poster Pitch)	**FEASIBILITY-TESTING A CO-DESIGNED BREATHLESSNESS EPISODE RECOVERY PLAN FOR PEOPLE WITH COPD AND THEIR SUPPORT PERSONS (20)** **Tim Luckett** University of Technology Sydney Will be presented by Mary Roberts	**OFF-SITE PLANNING: STRENGTHENING CONTINUITY AND SERVICE DEVELOPMENT IN PALLIATIVE CARE (21)** **Liliana D'Agostino** Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital	**'SAFER AT HOME': NURSE PRACTITIONER-LED MODEL STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY NURSING PARTNERSHIPS IN AFTER HOURS PALLIATIVE CARE (22)** **Carmen Sanchez** Northern Sydney Home Nursing Service	**DEMENTIA ... THROUGH A DIFFERENT LENS (23)** **Tatjana Jokic** JK Corporate Resourcing
3:35pm	**LOCAL ERROR TO STATEWIDE CHANGE: TRANSFORMING CLONAZEPAM SAFETY (24)** **Joey Chan** Adolescent and Young Adult Hospice (AYAH)	**SOWING SEEDS OF HEALING: EVALUATION OF A BEREAVED PARENT PEER MENTOR PROGRAM (25)** **Naomi Mason** LadyBird Care Foundation	**PCOC VERSION 4: STRENGTHENING MEASUREMENT IN PALLIATIVE CARE TO ADVANCE EQUITY AND ACCESS (26)** **Le-Tisha Kable** Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration	**UNEQUAL BURDENS: SOCIOECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE IN DEMENTIA CARE AND CAREGIVING (27)** **Joanne Lewis** Avondale University and University of Technology Sydney **Deborah Parker** University of Technology Sydney **Kristin Bindley** University of NSW and University of Technology Sydney
4:00pm	**DELIRIUM-RELATED DISTRESS IN PALLIATIVE CARE PATIENTS, FAMILY CARERS AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS: A QUALITATIVE CONCEPT ANALYSIS (28)** **Kimberley Campbell** University of Technology Sydney	**REFRAMING WHAT MATTERS: THE EVIDENCE FOR PALLIATIVE REHABILITATION (29)** **Deidre Morgan** Flinders University	**THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SPECIALIST COMMUNITY PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICE (30)** **Trish Sutton and Charlene Casey** Prince of Wales Hospital	**THE ART OF BEING WITH: PATIENT AND FAMILY CENTRED CARE IN AN ADOLESCENT AND YOUNG ADULT HOSPICE (31)** **Anna Blechinger and Sophia Melocco Hill** Adolescent and Young Adult Hospice (AYAH)

TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER
(continued)

	STREAM 1 Ionic Room	STREAM 2 Doric Room	STREAM 3 Tuscan Room	STREAM 4 Corinthian Room
4:25pm	**WHEN CRISIS MEETS COMPASSION: PALLIATIVE CARE-EMERGENCY SERVICES PARTNERSHIP IN AN UNPREDICTABLE CASE (32)** **Dr Alexandra Fletcher and Julie Howard** HammondCare	**BRIDGING REFLEXIVE RESEARCH AND PRACTICE: CONSIDERATIONS FOR CULTURAL HUMILITY IN PALLIATIVE AND BEREAVEMENT CARE IN WESTERN SYDNEY (33)** **Nicole Winters and Jessie Phibbs** Supportive and Palliative Care, Western Sydney Local Health District	**EVALUATING A TAILORED MODEL OF PALLIATIVE CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY (34)** **Dr Tawanwart Thipayawat** University of NSW Sydney	**EXPERIENCES AND BENEFITS OF ELDER CLOWNING FOR FAMILIES OF PERSONS WITH DEMENTIA IN LONG-TERM CARE (35)** **Sara-Jane Roberts** University of Technology Sydney
4:50pm (Poster Pitch)	**HOSPITAL IN THE HOME FOR PALLIATIVE CARE IN RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE FACILITIES (36)** **Michelle Leung-Cheng** Calvary Healthcare Kogarah	**ENHANCING NUTRITION CARE IN RURAL PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICES: A VIRTUAL MODEL FOR EQUITABLE DIETETIC SUPPORT (37)** **Leanne Baulch** Murrumbidgee Local Health District	**PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA NATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE PROJECT SERVICE MODEL PILOTS (38)** **Megan Tremlett** Pharmaceutical Society of Australia	**A QUASI-EXPERIMENTAL STUDY OF SUPPORTED DECISION-MAKING TRAINING FOR THE AUSTRALIAN AGED CARE WORKFORCE (39)** **Leila Zhu** University of New South Wales
4:55pm	**CONFERENCE DAY 1 CONCLUDES**			
6:30pm	**'HARBOUR LIGHTS & A GOLDEN NIGHT' CELEBRATION DINNER COMMENCES** **WATERSEDGE AT CAMPBELL'S STORES** 25 Hickson Road, The Rocks You can enter the venue from the harbour side between Como Restaurant and Bar Lulu, or from Hickson Road. Look out for the orange heart to guide you to the entry. Celebration Dinner proudly sponsored by HammondCare Note: Pre-registration for the dinner was required. Please check with the PCNSW team if you are unsure.			
10:00pm	**CELEBRATION DINNER CONCLUDES**			

WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER

Day 2 Conference Sessions

8:30am

REGISTRATION OPENS
Marble Foyer, Sydney Masonic Centre

ARRIVAL TEA & COFFEE
Banquet & Exhibition Hall

9:00am

CONFERENCE DAY 2 COMMENCES

KEYNOTE SESSION: CARING FOR CARERS
Grand Lodge

Chair: Sandra Sullivan
Vice President and Program Planning Committee Chair, Palliative Care NSW

PARTNERS IN CARE: RECOGNISING, SUPPORTING AND PARTNERING WITH CARERS
Dr Lukas Hofstaetter
Manager Research & Development, Carers NSW

COMING OF AGE IN PALLIATIVE CARE: BURDENS AND BLESSINGS OF CARING FOR PREMATURELY ILL PARENTS
Kelly Chan

OUR PALLIATIVE CARE STORY: FAMILY, COMPASSION, COMMUNITY
The Hughes Family in conversation with **Kirsty Blades**, CEO, Palliative Care NSW

10:15am

MORNING TEA
Banquet & Exhibition Hall

10:45am

CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Ground Floor

STREAM 1	STREAM 2	STREAM 3	STREAM 4
Ionic Room	Doric Room	Tuscan Room	Corinthian Room
INNOVATIONS IN SYSTEMS AND SUPPORTS **Proudly sponsored by the NSW Ministry of Health** Stream Chair: **Rachel Nash**	**BETTER ACCESS, BETTER EXPERIENCE** Stream Chair: **Megan Asbury**	**GROWING & SUPPORTING THE WORKFORCE** Stream Chair: **Scott Read**	**DEATH LITERACY & ADVANCE CARE PLANNING** Stream Chair: **Leesa Hoysted**

10:45am

PRELIMINARY DATA REGARDING EQUIPMENT SUPPORTING PALLIATIVE PATIENTS TO LIVE SAFELY AT HOME (40) **Greg Foreman** HealthShare NSW / EnableNSW	**CARING TOGETHER: CO-DESIGNING A CULTURALLY SAFE PAEDIATRIC PALLIATIVE CARE RESOURCE (41)** **Annette Vickery** Palliative Care Australia	**LEARNING EXPERIENCES OF NURSING STUDENTS IN PALLIATIVE AND END OF LIFE CARE (42)** **Lisa Wong** Western Sydney University (Paramatta South Campus)	**WORKING TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN DEATH LITERACY & EDUCATION IN REGIONAL AND RURAL COMMUNITIES (43)** **Maria Cambitzi** HammondCare **Shannon Elwell** Hunter New England and Central Coast Primary Health Network

11:10am

NANGA MAI – END OF LIFE CARE IN CAMPBELLTOWN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT (44) **Dr Katie Maclean and Kayla Gloss** Campbelltown Hospital	**ANALYSIS OF PATIENTS' EXPERIENCES IN COMMUNITY PALLIATIVE CARE USING THE CONSIDERATE TOOL (45)** **Maree Montgomery** Murrumbidgee Local Health District – Palliative Care	**EMPOWERING AGED CARE NURSES TO DELIVER HIGH QUALITY PALLIATIVE AND END OF LIFE CARE (46)** **Nikita Cunningham** NSW Health – South Western Sydney Local Health District Palliative Care Service	**FROM AWARENESS TO ACTION: ADVANCING CARE PLANNING IN PRACTICE (47)** **Debra Clark** Sydney North Health Network **Kelly Arthurs** ANDCare

WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER
(continued)

	STREAM 1 Ionic Room	STREAM 2 Doric Room	STREAM 3 Tuscan Room	STREAM 4 Corinthian Room
11:35am	**THE SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT & GERIATRIC FLYING SQUAD PATHWAY – THE RIGHT CARE, AT THE RIGHT PLACE, AT THE RIGHT TIME, FOR THE RIGHT PERSON (48)** **Sandhya Chand** Sutherland Hospital, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District	**LISTEN TO ME. VOICES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IMPACTING ON PALLIATIVE CARE (49)** **Joan Ryan** Royal Prince Alfred Hospital	**THE LIVED EXPERIENCE OF REGISTERED NURSES PROVIDING PALLIATIVE CARE IN THE COMMUNITY: A PHENOMENOLOGICAL STUDY (50)** **Emily Weston** Australian Catholic University / Western Sydney University	**PLANNING FOR A DEATH WITH AN ADDICTION (51)** **Sarah Blakemore and Dr Aarti Ganapathi** Drug and Alcohol Services, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District
12:00pm	**BUT WILL THEY COME BACK TO US: DISCHARGING SAFELY FROM SPECIALIST PALLIATIVE CARE (52)** **Nicola Farrer** Murrumbidgee Local Health District	**CO-DEVELOPING THE CALD-PC NAVIGATOR PROGRAM FOR NSW PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICES (53)** **Dr Jessica Lee** Concord Centre for Palliative Care, Concord Hospital **Dr Rayan Saleh Moussa** University of Technology Sydney	**THE POWER OF STORYTELLING: CONNECTION AND GROWTH THROUGH SCHWARTS ROUNDS (54)** **Lara Johnson** The Sutherland Hospital	**WHO GETS A SAY AT THE END? LGBTQ+ VOICES IN COMMUNITY END-OF-LIFE CARE (55)** **Zoe Hinton** ACON
12:25pm	**LUNCH** Banquet & Exhibition Hall Last chance to connect with the exhibitors			
1:15pm	**LEARNING LABS (overviews on page 13)** Ground Floor			
	STREAM 1 Ionic Room	**STREAM 2** Doric Room	**STREAM 3** Tuscan Room	**STREAM 4** Corinthian Room
	IMPROVING RECOGNITION AND END OF LIFE PLANNING IN DEMENTIA: INTEGRATING THE FUNCTIONAL ASSESSMENT STAGING TOOL (FAST) WITH THE END OF LIFE CARE ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR DEMENTIA (EOLC ATD) IN AGED CARE SETTINGS (56) **Dr Carolyn Bourke** Palliative Aged Care Network (PACN) **Jon San Martin** University of Technology Sydney **Lara McIntyre** Catholic Healthcare	**ADVANCING END OF LIFE COMMUNICATION AT CAMPBELLTOWN AND SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT – SHAPES EOL COMMUNICATION (57)** **Dr Katie Maclean, Kayla Gloss and Richard Cracknell** Campbelltown Hospital **Daniela Quiroz and Rachael Williams** South Western Sydney Local Health District	**SUPPORTING PERSON- AND FAMILY-CENTERED QUALITY OF LIFE ACROSS THE PAEDIATRIC PALLIATIVE CARE JOURNEY (58)** **Natalie Hudson and Dr Maggie Mei Ki Winters** Sydney Children's Hospitals Network, The Children's Hospital at Westmead	**CARING WITHOUT BARRIERS: REDUCING INEQUITIES IN PALLIATIVE CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY (59)** **Maria Heaton** South Eastern Sydney Local Health District **Meredith Laina and Usha Gurung** Calvary Health Care Kogarah
2:10pm	Make your way back to the Grand Lodge on level one for our **Special Guest & Closing Keynote Speaker**			

PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER (continued)	
2:15pm	**CLOSING KEYNOTE SPEAKER: 10 SECONDS OF COURAGE** **NADINE CHAMPION** Grand Lodge Nadine Champion is an inspiring speaker, author and awarded martial artist who truly knows what it means to use "10 Seconds of Courage" to overcome obstacles and reach her potential. An energetic, dynamic and uplifting presentation, the perfect way to conclude our conference and to leave equipped with some new tools. *Nadine is exclusively represented by Saxton.*
3:00pm	**FAREWELL AFTERNOON TEA WITH NADINE CHAMPION** Marble Foyer
3:30pm	**CONFERENCE CONCLUDES** Coach transfer to Sydney Domestic Airport Terminals. Please see the PCNSW team to book your spot on the coach. The coach will depart at 3:30pm sharp, expecting to get to the airport between 4:00pm and 4:30pm, subject to traffic.

LEARNING LABS SESSION OVERVIEWS

A new addition to the State Conference. Learning Labs are presented by experts in their field and provide an opportunity for new or deeper learning on a particular topic. Choose your session on the day.

LEARNING LAB 1
Ionic Room

IMPROVING RECOGNITION AND END OF LIFE PLANNING IN DEMENTIA: INTEGRATING THE FUNCTIONAL ASSESSMENT STAGING TOOL (FAST) WITH THE END OF LIFE CARE ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR DEMENTIA (EOLC ATD) IN AGED CARE SETTINGS

By the end of this learning lab, participants will be able to recognise the older person with dementia's functional level using the FAST staging tool, apply FAST level to prompt/support application of the EoLC ATD, and use the guidance document to identify the persons holistic end of life needs. Key learning outcomes include being able to recognise and support personhood through person centred care planning and communication and building confidence to engage older people with dementia, their families/carers and decision makers in care discussions.

LEARNING LAB 2
Doric Room

ADVANCING END OF LIFE COMMUNICATION AT CAMPBELLTOWN AND SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT – SHAPES EOL COMMUNICATION

Breaking bad news and discussing goals of care are core clinical responsibilities, yet many clinicians receive limited formal training in end of life communication. In 2021, Campbelltown Hospital, introduced a 2-hour end of life communication workshop which allowed a safe place to begin to explore how and when to have these conversations, allowed opportunities to practice these conversations and afforded time to explore possible barriers. These workshops have been extremely well received and have now been rolled out across SWS. In this learning lab we will review the program we have introduced, explore the logistics and discuss future goals and ideas, with lots of interactive moments along the way.

LEARNING LAB 3
Tuscan Room

SUPPORTING PERSON- AND FAMILY-CENTERED QUALITY OF LIFE ACROSS THE PAEDIATRIC PALLIATIVE CARE JOURNEY

A unique opportunity to improve your understanding of paediatric palliative care and to enhance your skills in caring for a child and their family. This learning lab will cover the definition of paediatric palliative care, quality of life care along the patient's journey: home, hospice, hospital, and decision-making in advance care planning. By the end of this session, you will be able understand the distinguishing features of paediatric palliative care, the role of the multidisciplinary team approach in a child's palliative care journey, and the clinical and ethical considerations in advance care planning in children and young people.

LEARNING LAB 4
Corinthian Room

CARING WITHOUT BARRIERS: REDUCING INEQUITIES IN PALLIATIVE CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

This learning lab explores the unique palliative care needs of people with intellectual disability and examines practical strategies to promote equitable, person-centred care across health, disability, and community services. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of systemic barriers, supported decision-making principles, inclusive communication approaches, and the importance of collaborative care planning. Through case studies and discussion, the workshop highlights opportunities to improve access, quality, and outcomes for people with intellectual disability and their families throughout their palliative care journey.

MEET OUR EXHIBITORS

Australian Government, Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing supports older Australians by shaping aged care policy, funding services, delivering national reforms, and working with the sector to improve access, quality and outcomes for people receiving aged care.

health.gov.au

caring@home

caring@home aims to increase access to quality and timely end-of-life care for home-based patients by developing practical and evidence-based resources and providing associated education for health professionals. caring@home is a National Palliative Care Project, funded by the Australian Government and led by the Brisbane South Palliative Care Collaborative.

caringathomeproject.com.au

Catholic Healthcare

Catholic Healthcare is a leading not-for-profit provider of residential care, home care and retirement living across NSW and South East QLD. For over 30 years, we have supported older people of all backgrounds to live with dignity, purpose and connection through personalised, relationship-centred care that nurtures body, mind and spirit.

catholichealthcare.com.au

HammondCare

Covering everything from dementia and palliative care foundations to advanced practice and mental health first aid, HammondCare provides expert-led training and programs that equip your teams to deliver effective and safe palliative and dementia care.

hammond.com.au

Northern Suburbs Memorial Gardens

Since 1933, Northern Suburbs Memorial Gardens has supported families across Sydney's North Shore with remembrance and reflection. Set within peaceful parkland surrounds, we provide a tranquil place to honour loved ones and assist families with pre-arranging their future memorial needs. Proudly part of InvoCare, Australia's leading provider of memorial and funeral services.

northernsuburbscrem.com.au

NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association

The NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association is the registered union for all nurses and midwives in NSW. We represent professional and industrial interests, including legal representation, WHS advice, workers compensation, and more. We work together to campaign for better patient care, better working conditions and better wages for all nurses and midwives.

nswnma.asn.au

PalCare

PalCare helps healthcare organisations access real-time patient information, support multidisciplinary care planning, and make confident clinical decisions through a connected platform designed for palliative care. Improve outcomes, streamline care coordination, and empower clinicians with timely insights. Book a demo today.

palcare.com.au

Palliative Care Australia

As the peak body for palliative care, Palliative Care Australia represents those working to deliver high-quality palliative care for all Australians who need it. We work with consumers, Member Organisations, health stakeholders and the palliative care workforce to improve access, raise awareness and promote the importance of palliative care nationwide.

palliativecare.org.au

Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration (PCOC)

PCOC is a national program funded by the Australian Government, Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, aiming to improve palliative care outcomes through standardised clinical assessments and benchmarking. By supporting a common clinical language, symptom management, and tailored support, PCOC helps services deliver evidence-based, patient-centred care.

uow.edu.au/australasian-health-outcomes-consortium/pcoc

Quality Use of Community Palliative Care Medicines Project

A national initiative to improve timely access to essential medicines for people receiving end-of-life care at home. Delivered through a national consortium, the project supports health professionals, services and carers through education, practical tools and system alignment supporting people receive quality end-of-life care in their place of choice.

caringathomeproject.com.au/about/qum-project

Taste Safe

Taste Safe is a new Australian product for people with dysphagia or for those on nil by mouth. Taste Safe flavoured strips dissolve on the tongue leaving only an enjoyable flavour experience. Taste Safe brings the joy of taste to people who can't swallow while minimising the risk of aspiration.

tastesafe.com.au

UTS: IMPACCT

UTS is advancing palliative care through IMPACCT (Improving Palliative, Aged and Chronic Care through Clinical Research and Translation), a leading research centre delivering clinical trials, real-world evidence and translational research. Our postgraduate palliative care courses connect learners with renowned researchers and clinicians, equipping graduates with the knowledge, confidence and leadership skills to improve care and outcomes.

uts.edu.au/research/centres/impacct

Vitalis Health

Vitalis is an NSQHS-accredited, nurse-led organisation with extensive experience delivering palliative and end-of-life care in the home. We provide clinical expertise, responsive support, care coordination, and an understanding of the challenges facing clients and families. We help hospitals address bed-availability challenges and deliver an exceptional patient experience.

vitalis.health

NSW Ministry of Health NGO Grant Program: Resource Table

Pick up dedicated resources and program information from the NSW Ministry of Health and NGO grant recipients including ACON, Council for Intellectual Disability and Palliative Care NSW.

health.nsw.gov.au/palliativecare/Pages/ngo-grants-program.aspx

POSTERS & LEAD AUTHORS

1	**The Missing Piece – The Value of Palliative Care Volunteers**	**Janet Pearce**	Far West LHD
2	**Supportive Care for Patients with High Grade Gliomas**	**Clare Jones**	St George Hospital
3	**Bridging Mind and Body at the End of Life: Embedding Psychiatry within an Australian Palliative Care Program**	**Shalini Rajan**	Supportive Care for Chronic Disease, Hunter New England LHD
4	**Responding to An Ageing Population: System-Level Redesign of Palliative Care in Residential Aged Care Homes**	**Susan Jenkins**	Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD
5	**Storytelling at End of Life: Evaluating the Establishment of Volunteer-Led Biography Programs in Palliative Care**	**Megan Best**	University of Notre Dame
6	**Redefining End-of-Life Care: A Clinically Supported Relational Care Model for Integrated Community-Based Systems**	**Anne Kubiak**	Full Circle – End of Life Matters
7	**Syringe Drivers in Residential Aged Care Facilities for Palliative Patients**	**Juan IX Cabredo**	Prince of Wales Hospital
8	**Integrating Palliative Care into Nephrology: A 10-Year Kidney Supportive Care Experience**	**Natividad Miles**	Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
9	**'Safer at Home': Nurse Practitioner-Led Model Strengthening Community Nursing Partnerships in After Hours Palliative Care**	**Carmen Sanchez**	Northern Sydney Home Nursing Service
10	**Off-Site Planning: Strengthening Continuity and Service Development in Palliative Care**	**Liliana D'Agostino**	Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital
11	**Dementia ... Through a Different Lens**	**Tatjana Jokic**	JK Corporate Resourcing
12	**Hospital in the Home for Palliative Care in Residential Aged Care Facilities**	**Michelle Leung-Cheng**	Calvary Healthcare Kogarah
13	**Pharmaceutical Society of Australia National Palliative Care Project Service Model Pilots**	**Megan Tremlett**	Pharmaceutical Society of Australia
14	**Enhancing Nutrition Care in Rural Palliative Care Services: A Virtual Model for Equitable Dietetic Support**	**Leanne Baulch**	Murrumbidgee LHD
15	**Carer-Led Ascites Drainage: Empowering Families, Improving Quality of Life**	**Andrea Firgau**	Northern Sydney Home Nursing Service
16	**Blankets at the End of Life – A Small Gift with a Big Impact**	**Lara Johnson**	The Sutherland Hospital
17	**Development of a Guide to End of Life, Death and Bereavement for Patients, Families and Friends**	**Sarah Shaw**	Southern NSW LHD
18	**Two Lives, One Journey: Embedding Carer Support into Care for Advanced Non-Malignant Chronic Disease**	**Sarah Pullen**	Supportive Care for Chronic Disease, Hunter New England LHD
19	**Strengthening Paramedic Capability in Palliative and End-of-Life Care: A Statewide NSW Ambulance Initiative**	**Caroline Belfanti**	NSW Ambulance
20	**A Picture on the Wall**	**Helen Napthali**	HammondCare
21	**All Hands on Deck – Managing Chronic Illness in the Community**	**Clare Jones**	St George Hospital
22	**Inclusive and Equitable Palliative Care: A Case Study Highlighting Cultural Safety for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Communities (Nepali)**	**Usha Gurung**	Calvary Healthcare Kogarah
23	**Reducing Residential Aged Care Hospitalisation at End-of-Life: Implementing a Palliative Approach**	**Melanie Correia**	South Eastern Sydney LHD
24	**A Quasi-Experimental Study of Supported Decision-Making Training for the Australian Aged Care Workforce**	**Leila Zhu**	University of New South Wales
25	**Feasibility-Testing a Co-Designed Breathlessness Episode Recovery Plan for People with COPD and their Support Persons**	**Tim Luckett**	University of Technology Sydney

Palliative Care NSW is the peak body and leading voice for our members, the sector and the community. Our vision is that palliative care is understood, valued and accessible to all, with equity at its heart. Our purpose is to lead, support and advocate for the development and provision of quality palliative care across NSW.





Partner with Palliative Care NSW

Speak to the PCNSW team about our range of professional and volunteer education, and community engagement programs. We love to partner with like-minded organisations to support your goals and objectives.





Membership

Become an Individual Professional or Organisation Member and join one of our Professional Networks.

- Palliative Aged Care Professional Network
- CALD Communities and Palliative Care Professional Network

Palliativecarensw.org.au/members-registration

Help shape the future of Palliative Care NSW

Nominate for our Management Committee 2026 – 2028
Nominations open now and close Friday 13th November.

Palliative Care
New South Wales

palliativecarensw.org.au
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