

KOOWEE CONNECT Newsletter

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September/ October 2025



Kooweerup
REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE



Honouring Culture and Community

KRHS proudly celebrates the opening of the Koo Wee Rup Aboriginal Meeting Place & Bush School, a space for learning, connection, and cultural celebration.

This landmark community-led project reflects our commitment to inclusivity and strengthening ties with the local Aboriginal community.

Please see pages 19 & 20 for the full story.

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Messages from Management



Aileen Thoms

Interim Chief Executive Officer

Can you believe there are only a few weeks left of the year! It has certainly been a big year of planning for change, with the merger into our new entity, Bayside Health. The merger with Bayside Health will mark a significant milestone for Kooweerup Regional Health Service, one that brings lasting benefits to our local community.

Through this partnership, we will gain access to broader clinical expertise, enhanced resources, and more integrated care pathways. Our patients are already seeing the difference: being linked into "care at home" models, and we will see improved continuity of care. Importantly, we've retained our voice and local identity while gaining the strength of a larger network.

This merger is more than an administrative change — it's a commitment to better health outcomes for every person in our region. And while we've made great progress in working through lots of "behind the scenes" settings, there's still much to do. The coming months will focus on deepening our integration, listening to community feedback, and continuing to build a health service that is responsive, inclusive, and future-ready.

With the appointment of the new board, we are pleased to announce that the current KRHS Board Chair, Mr. Kushal Shah, will be able to represent Bayside Health, representing Kooweerup Regional Health Service. We are also thankful for our CAC reps, Gary Oats and Tina Kendall, for presenting their views and experiences to the wider Bayside co-design community advisory workshop that was held in the Koo Wee Rup Bowls Club and wonderfully catered for by our Men's Shed. The food was delicious, I am told!

We will continue to be bold in our efforts to strengthen care close to home and be a strong voice for our community. This has also been a busy time for our teams, expanding their knowledge and keeping up to date with the many changes our industry is facing. Staff have attended conferences, and you will see some of the updates in this newsletter.

We are also celebrating the launch of the Aboriginal meeting place in the community garden and the establishment of a small bush school that will bring to life lots of cultural learning. You can see the beautiful photos and read the article in this edition.

In November, we celebrate World Kindness Day, something that is very important to reflect on and practise in our busy lives, and even more important as health professionals, as kindness improves the practice and experience of care. So a big thank you to our staff, partners, and community members for your support and trust throughout this journey. Together, we're shaping a stronger, healthier future for Koo Wee Rup.



Welcome Onboard!

Barbara Nicol (Deputy Director of Nursing)



I've recently joined Kooweerup Regional Health Service as the Deputy Director of Nursing. In this role, I'm responsible for supporting our nursing teams and ensuring the delivery of high-quality, patient-focused care across the service.

I've been working in healthcare for over 20 years, with the past eight years spent in senior leadership roles. Throughout my career, I've been passionate about creating environments where patients receive the best care and where strong community connections are at the heart of everything we do.

Having recently relocated from Queensland, I'm excited to return to my Victorian roots and contribute to the local area while supporting our team to deliver exceptional outcomes for our patients and their families.

Outside of work, I love exploring new places with my family in our caravan, training my border collie, and enjoying good food.

Sherin Baby (Registered Nurse)



I've joined KRHS as a Registered Nurse at Killara. My responsibilities include performing comprehensive patient assessments, administering medications, ensuring infection control practices are followed, and maintaining accurate documentation to support the best outcomes for our residents.

I bring over 20 years of experience as a Registered Nurse across both clinical and aged care settings, including time spent as a Grade 5 RN at another aged care facility.

Throughout my career, I've been dedicated to delivering compassionate, person-centred care and supporting residents to live with dignity and comfort.

Outside of work, I enjoy watching movies and spending time with my kids — these moments help me unwind and stay connected to what matters most.



Staff Updates

Celebrating 40 Years of Service

After an incredible 40 years of dedicated service, we bid a heartfelt farewell to **Debra St. Paul**, one of our much-loved members of the Patient Services team.

This year, we are also proud to acknowledge **Annie Adamson** and **Jan Masters**, who have each reached the remarkable milestone of 40 years with KRHS. Although their honours were celebrated earlier, their contributions remain an important part of our history and are equally recognised with gratitude.

Debra, Annie, and Jan have been integral to Kooweerup Regional Health Service (KRHS), contributing their warmth, professionalism, and care to both patients and colleagues alike. Their loyalty and hard work have helped shape the welcoming and supportive environment that defines KRHS today.



KRHS Interim CEO, Aileen Thoms, presents a special souvenir to Debra St. Paul in recognition of her 40 years of dedicated service.

To celebrate these remarkable achievements, the Executive Team and staff gathered to honour Debra with a special farewell event and keepsake, and we sincerely acknowledge the outstanding service of Annie and Jan.

We wish them all every happiness in this new chapter and thank them for 40 wonderful years of service and commitment to our community.

KRHS Annual General Meeting – You're Invited

Kooweerup Regional Health Service will hold its **Annual General Meeting** to present the **2024/2025 Annual Report** on:



Tuesday, 16 December 2025



3:00pm–4:00pm



Eco House Community Room (215, Rossiter Rd, Koo Wee Rup)

All KRHS staff and community members are warmly welcome to attend.

Please register your interest with **Sharyn Gregory** on **0359 979 761** by **Friday, 12 December 2025**.



Reshaping Hospital Care: Insights from the New Models of Care Conference

Earlier last month, our CEO **Aileen Thoms** attended the **New Models of Care Conference** in Sydney — an event that brought together healthcare leaders, innovators, and policymakers to explore how hospitals are evolving beyond their traditional walls.

Aileen shared that “the conference provided a strategic lens into the transformation of future health care. The spotlight was on how care is shifting beyond hospital walls into homes, communities, and virtual spaces.”

One of the key speakers was **Dr Loren Sher**, Director of the **Victorian Virtual Emergency Department (VVED)**. Dr Sher’s presentation challenged the conventional view of hospitals as physical spaces, instead encouraging participants to see them as **networks of care**. She highlighted how the VVED provides real-time emergency care via telehealth, reducing unnecessary hospital visits and easing pressure on emergency departments.

“Virtual care isn’t just a tech solution — it’s a reimagining of how and where we deliver care,” Dr Sher said. “We need to stop thinking of hospitals as buildings and start thinking of them as networks.”

The conference brought together representatives from **Healthdirect, CSIRO, eHealth NSW, Sane, Consultmed Telecare, Nous Group, Grampians Health, Amplat Health**, and **St Vincent’s Health**, who all shared a common vision: the future of healthcare lies in **collaboration, technology integration, and community engagement**.

Breaking Down Barriers

Discussions focused on the key challenges that must be addressed to scale virtual and community-based care, including:

- Funding models that favour hospital-based activity over preventative approaches.
- Fragmented digital systems make seamless care transitions difficult.
- Workforce challenges, including the need for training and cultural change to support a “virtual-first” mindset.

Opportunities for the Future

Speakers called for policy reform and flexible funding that prioritise patient outcomes and experiences over volume. International case studies showcased successful examples of community-based and virtual care, demonstrating that large-scale transformation is achievable.

Aileen noted that “a cultural shift within healthcare organisations is essential to embrace innovation — strong leadership and change management are key to success.”

Models of Care in Action

Spotlight sessions also showcased real-world examples of virtual hospitals, community hubs, and telehealth programs, reinforcing those new models of care are not just concepts — they’re already making a real impact.

These insights highlight the importance of continued innovation, investment, and collaboration to ensure healthcare systems like ours remain adaptable, inclusive, and patient-centred well into the future.



KRHS Updates

KRHS Welcomes the Victorian Minister for Health

We were honoured to welcome the Victorian Health Minister, Mary-Anne Thomas, to KRHS recently, where she toured our facilities, met staff and patients, and learned more about the care we provide.

The Minister visited the Allied Health team, Westernport Unit, Acute Ward, and the Early Parenting Unit, where she spoke about the importance of giving families the best start in life. She praised KRHS for our compassionate, community-focused approach to care.

The Minister said, "As someone who represents a regional electorate, I deeply understand the unique strengths and challenges of small country towns. KRHS exemplifies the kind of connected, compassionate care that makes a real difference in people's lives."



Health Minister met with our Executive Team



Minister met with one of our consumers



Minister visited our EPU and acknowledged their service



Minister explored our Health Service



Health Minister with our Executive Team

KRHS Interim CEO, Aileen Thoms, Director of Nursing, Brenda Birch and Board Director, Shelly Crowther, joined the Minister during the tour, sharing stories of our 100-year history of care and the deep connections we have with our local community.

Aileen said, "Our Community Advisory Committee plays an active role in shaping our services. Their engagement ensures the local voice is not only heard but embedded in everything we do."

The Minister also discussed the Bayside Health merger and expressed her support for strengthening regional healthcare while keeping KRHS's unique local identity.

Strengthened Aged Care Quality Standards: Why They Matter to Us?

The Strengthened Aged Care Quality Standards represent a renewed national commitment to ensuring that every older person receives safe, compassionate, and person-centred care. They set the benchmark for how aged care services like KRHS deliver quality and uphold dignity, safety, and wellbeing for each individual.

What the Strengthened Standards Mean

The Strengthened Standards, launched by the Australian Government, build on the original Aged Care Quality Standards by adding clearer expectations, stronger clinical governance, and greater accountability across all levels of care. They are designed to make quality and safety visible in everyday practice.

Why They Matter to Us at KRHS

At Kooweerup Regional Health Service, these Standards are not just a regulatory requirement—they guide our values, training, and daily care delivery. They remind us that aged care is about people: their stories, choices, and wellbeing. The Standards empower every staff member—from nurses and care workers to hospitality and administration teams—to play an active role in creating a safe, respectful, and connected environment for every individual we support.



The Seven Strengthened Aged Care Quality Standards

- 1. The Person** – Every individual is valued, respected, and empowered to make decisions about their care and life.
- 2. The Organisation** – Leaders and systems ensure care is safe, effective, and aligned with best practice.
- 3. Care and Services** – Care is holistic and coordinated to meet physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs.
- 4. The Environment** – The setting is safe, clean, and comfortable, supporting independence and well-being.
- 5. Clinical Care** – Care is evidence-based, continuously monitored, and focused on quality and safety outcomes.
- 6. Food and Nutrition** – Every person receives enjoyable, nutritious food and hydration that meets their preferences, health needs, and cultural requirements.
- 7. The Residential Community** – The service fosters belonging, inclusion, and purpose for every individual.

Our Commitment

KRHS is actively embedding the Strengthened Standards through staff education, policy updates, and visible reminders across the organisation. We are working to ensure that every team member understands how their role contributes to safe, person-centred, and high-quality aged care.

Together, we are shaping an aged care environment where safety, dignity, and quality are not just standards—but our everyday culture.



KRHS Joins National Health Sector Initiative to Accelerate Towards Net Zero

Kooweerup Regional Health Service (KRHS) is proud to have joined the national effort to reduce emissions in Australia's health system. On 17 October 2025, the "Accelerating Towards Net Zero: A Guide for the Australian Health System" was officially launched at Alfred Health, Melbourne, by the Transitions to Sustainable Healthcare Consortium, convened by the Monash Sustainable Development Institute (MSDI).

The event was opened by John Thwaites, Chair of MSDI and the Transitions to Sustainable Healthcare Consortium, and The Hon Martin Foley, Chair of Alfred Health. Both spoke of the urgent need for the health sector to embed sustainability in its operations and planning.

"This is core to the health system, and it's not about cost, it's about benefits to patients. The challenge is now to translate this great work into action," Mr Thwaites said.

Mr Foley highlighted the growing risks climate change poses to health services and the importance of collaboration across jurisdictions to meet net-zero goals.

Keynote speaker Blair Comley, Secretary of the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, reinforced the Australian Government's commitment to supporting health services through the transition, noting that sustainability must be built into everyday decision-making.

"When I've often thought about climate policy, it has been that we need to move, part of the conversation at least, out of the sustainability office's room into the CFO's room or the COO's room to make it really sustainable," Mr Comley said.

Australia's health system contributes around 7% of the nation's total emissions, and this new guide provides a practical roadmap to help the sector cut emissions, reduce costs, and improve patient care.

The guide was developed with input from over 130 health professionals across 54 organisations, and includes nine collaborative priorities, practical case studies, and resources to support action across the health sector.

KRHS's participation in this initiative demonstrates our ongoing commitment to building a sustainable, low-emission health system for our community. By taking part in this important work, KRHS continues to lead the way in environmental responsibility while ensuring quality healthcare for our patients.

For more information and to explore the guide, visit: <https://www.monash.edu/msdi/tshs-guide>



KRHS Updates

KRHS Introduces New Beds and Mattresses for Our Consumers

Kooweerup Regional Health Service (KRHS) is pleased to announce the arrival of 19 new beds along with new mattresses, enhancing comfort, safety, and care for our consumers.

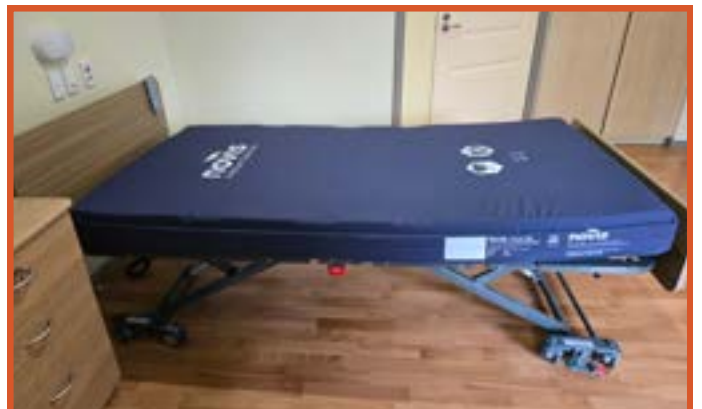
Enterprise Beds – Westernport Unit

These beds are designed to support consumers with higher care needs in our Medical Ward. One of the beds even features a built-in weight scale. They include hybrid mattresses, offering higher pressure care than standard foam mattresses, and the flexibility to add an alternating air mattress for those needing extra pressure relief. The beds can also be extended for taller consumers, ensuring comfort for all.



Newport Floorline Beds – Westernport Unit and Killara

These beds have replaced older models across our Residential Care and Transitional Care programs. Designed for enhanced safety and comfort, they are King Single size and include features such as Floorline technology for those at high risk of falls, underbed lighting for better visibility, and the ability to extend for taller consumers.



Also, new air pressure mattresses help prevent and treat skin breakdown and pressure injuries, providing optimum support for consumers at high to very high risk.

These improvements demonstrate KRHS's ongoing commitment to delivering high-quality, safe, and comfortable care for our community.



Major Updates

A New Era Begins:

Bayside Health Appoints Board and Chair

Bayside Health has taken another important step toward its establishment, with the Victorian Minister for Health announcing the organisation's inaugural Board and Board Chair. This marks a significant milestone ahead of the formal commencement date on 1 January 2026.

The newly appointed Board brings together Directors from each of the five health services (Kooweerup Regional Health, Alfred Health, Bass Coast Health, Gippsland Southern Health Service, and Peninsula Health) involved in the merger. Their combined expertise will play a key role in unifying cultures, strengthening partnerships, and supporting a smooth transition as the new entity takes shape.

The Board also reflects strong regional and First Nations representation, along with a wide range of skills spanning governance, health, community and finance.

The Hon Martin Foley, current Chair of Alfred Health, has been appointed as the Chair of the Bayside Health Board. His leadership is set to guide this new chapter for the region.

We are also pleased to share that Kushal Shah, current KRHS Board Chair, has been appointed as a Board Member of Bayside Health. This is a positive outcome for KRHS and our community, ensuring his experience and knowledge continue to contribute to the future of local healthcare.

Bayside Health Board Appointments

- Hon Martin Foley, Board Chair, Alfred Health
- Ms Karen Corry, Board Chair, Peninsula Health
- Ms Athina Georgiou, Board Chair, Gippsland Southern Health Service
- Mr Peter Joyce, Director, Peninsula Health
- Ms Kirsten Mander, Director, Peninsula Health
- Ms Linda McCrorey, Deputy Chair, Gippsland Southern Health Service
- Prof Christina Mitchell AO, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Science, Monash University; Director, Alfred Health
- Mr Kushal Shah, Board Chair, Kooweerup Regional Health Service
- Ms Chloe Shorten, Deputy Chair, Alfred Health
- Ms Karinda Taylor, CEO, First Peoples' Health and Wellbeing
- Mr Ian Thompson, Board Chair, Bass Coast Health

KRHS extends its sincere thanks to our outgoing Board for their guidance, service and commitment throughout this period of change. Their leadership has helped lay the foundation for a strong and collaborative future for rural health within the new Bayside Health structure.



Health Promotion

Practical Skills Empower Health Professionals: Southeast Public Health Unit- Health Literacy Program

The Southeast Public Health Unit (SEPHU) recently ran a highly successful Health Literacy session, focusing on enhancing the skills of health professionals as part of its Community Engagement Programs.

The session successfully equipped attendees, including our Grad nurse- Krystle Segwaben, with essential, practical skills to better engage with patients

who have low health literacy recipients effectively.

KRHS Grad nurse- Krystle Segwaben with the team during the session.



Key Program Outcomes:

Destigmatisation focus: training emphasised that low health literacy affects nearly half of the population and should be approached with empathy and universal precaution, rather than judgment.

Plain Language Expertise: Participants gained confidence in delivering clear, jargon-free health information and were trained in techniques for respectful and effective communication.

Enhanced Engagement: Training focused on techniques for better communication, ensuring patients fully understand care instructions and health information.

Capacity Building: The program directly reinforces the delivery of health-literate services across the SEPHU community, improving understanding and health outcomes

This education model is vital for reducing communication barriers and promoting equity in healthcare across the region.

Interested in upcoming SEPHU health workshops?

Please get in touch with the **KRHS Health Promotion Coordinator, Dr. Osman Ali**, for more information on the Community Engagement Programs.

Dr. Osman Ali (Health Promotion Coordinator)



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11/20

Health Promotion

Kooweerup Regional Health Service hosted three Forget Me Not Café sessions across September and October, including two pop-up events, welcoming people living with dementia, their carers, and families.

The September café had a "Sport" theme, with team colours, word searches, music, and sensory toys from Cardinia Shire Council. The October pop-up at Blind Bight Community Centre featured musical bingo, sensory games, and morning tea, with Care Connect sharing support resources. Plans for a regular dementia support group at the centre are being explored.

The final café at Hewitt Eco House celebrated "Spring", with participants repotting seedlings to take home, enjoying themed music and morning tea, and voting to name the robotic dog "Rocky." New faces were welcomed, including families referred by Care Connect.



Forget Me
Not Café



Health Promotion

Thanks to volunteers, students, KRHS staff, and local partners, all cafés provided a fun, engaging, and supportive space for connection and social participation.

Save the date! The **next Forget Me Not Café** will be held on **25 November 2025**.

For more information, please contact **Cassie Thomson** at Cassandra.Thomson@krhs.net.au or call **03 5997 9655**.



Forget Me
Not Café



03 5997 9679



info@krhs.net.au

13/20

Health Promotion

Youth in Action: Building Connection Through Culture

Over the past few months, staff at KRHS may have noticed exciting developments at the front of the Community Garden. New gardens and pathways have begun to take shape as part of a meaningful project led by eight Year 11 and 12 students from Kooweerup Secondary College.

In collaboration with local Aboriginal community members, the students have been creating a space to celebrate and share Indigenous culture through native plants, traditional foods, and storytelling. At the heart of the design is a large circular gathering area symbolising community and connection, featuring a raised fire pit for cultural practices such as smoking ceremonies.



This project reflects the dedication of our youth and the wisdom of the local Aboriginal community, fostering learning, respect, and meaningful connection for all.

- Brian Harlow (Youth & Community Development Officer)

Leisure and Lifestyle

Scrapbooking Club Sparks Creativity

Over the past two months, residents have enjoyed participating in our Scrapbooking Club, where they've been creating personalised books with a new theme each week. Using old magazines and a range of craft materials, residents have explored their creativity—cutting, designing, and adding their own special touches to each page.

This activity has been a wonderful way to express individuality, share memories, and enjoy time together.



Music & Laughter with Frankie Powell

As part of Ageing Well Month, Cardinia Shire arranged a special visit from entertainer Frankie Powell – and he certainly brought the fun! Residents and staff enjoyed an energising afternoon of music, laughter, and great entertainment. The performance created a lively atmosphere throughout the facility and was a highlight of the month.



Leisure and Lifestyle

AFL Grand Final Celebration

Footy fever hit KRHS on Grand Final Day as residents came together to celebrate with themed food and a group viewing of the big game. The atmosphere was full of excitement and team spirit, with plenty of cheering, friendly banter, and shared memories of past football seasons. It was a great day of connection, sport, and community.



A Day of Smiles and Creativity

To celebrate World Smile Day, residents took part in cheerful craft activities while sharing plenty of smiles and a few laughs with one another. The day was all about positivity, creativity, and spreading joy across the facility. A simple activity that brought big smiles to many faces.



Volunteers Voice

Celebrating Kindness and Connection

Another newsletter already—and let's not even mention how close we are to the silly season! I hope everyone is enjoying the unpredictability of Spring weather, and that my fellow hayfever sufferers are coping.

These past couple of months have been busy as always, but I wanted to highlight how well we work together to create such a caring environment at KRHS.

This month, two exceptional teams—our Volunteers, Leisure and Lifestyle staff, and local Koo Wee Rup Secondary College students—came together with our wonderful residents. With Kindness Week approaching, we used our intergenerational program as a platform to collaborate on a special art project and reflect on kindness in general.

The students and residents thoroughly enjoyed the experience, with some students even asking their teacher to return on an additional day to complete the project.

A big thank you to everyone involved, and a special shoutout to the enthusiastic and caring students of KWRSC for their kindness and support of our residents. We look forward to working with you again next year.



Take care of yourselves in the lead-up to 'you know what,' and thank you for all that you do!

-Jenny Bayliss (Manager - Volunteers and Leisure and Lifestyle)



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17/20

Victorian Senior Festival: Connect Create Celebrate

Kooweerup Men's Shed, Cardinia Shire's Ageing Well team, and local partners successfully hosted a fantastic and fully inclusive event for Men's Mental Health Month as part of celebrating Victorian Senior Festival 2025.

The goal was simple: provide an accessible, friendly space for men of all abilities to connect, relax, and discuss wellbeing.

Highlights of the Day:

Food and Friends: A communal spit roast created a relaxed, festive atmosphere, perfect for forging connections and encouraging conversation.



Unique Support: A local barber offered free trims, providing a "shoulder-to-shoulder" space for confidential chats about mental health.

Holistic Focus: Attendees accessed local support services and wellness information, underscoring the focus on both physical and mental health.

Collaboration Works: The event showcased the power of collaboration between Men's Sheds, local government, and businesses to address isolation effectively.



This model is a strong reminder of our community's commitment to supporting men's mental health in a welcoming, non-clinical environment.

Want to get involved? Contact KWR Men's Shed 03 5997 9687.

Supporting First Nations

A Historic Milestone for KRHS: Opening of the Koo Wee Rup Aboriginal Meeting Place & Bush School

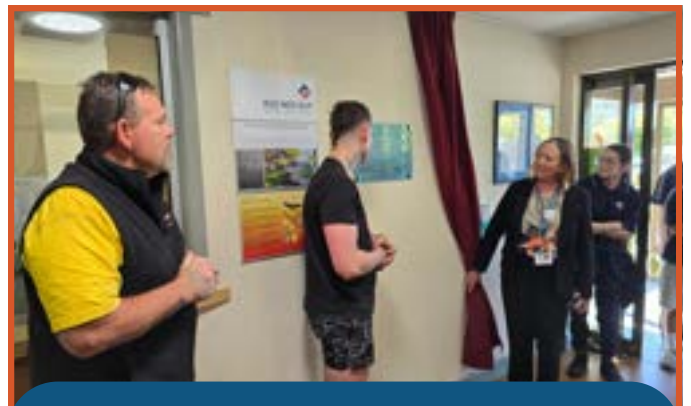
Kooweerup Regional Health Service (KRHS) proudly celebrated a significant and heartfelt milestone with the official opening of the Koo Wee Rup Aboriginal Meeting Place & Bush School, held in our beautiful Community Garden on Thursday, 30 October 2025.

This landmark initiative is the first Aboriginal Meeting Place and Bush School in the Cardinia Shire, reflecting KRHS's deep commitment to cultural inclusion and contributing to our ongoing efforts to create an Aboriginal-inclusive health service and support Closing the Gap initiatives.

The event also included the unveiling of our Acknowledgment of Country Plaque, which stands as a reminder that KRHS is a place where everyone is warmly welcomed and where the Indigenous community can feel culturally safe and respected.



Koo Wee Rup Aboriginal Meeting Place & Bush School



Unveiling of our Acknowledgment of Country Plaque

The ceremony began with a moving Welcome to Country and Smoke Ceremony delivered by Josh West, a proud Bunurong and Palawa man from the Bunurong Land Council. We were honoured to have Cr. Jack Kowarzik (Mayor, Cardinia Shire Council) and Nadia Douglas (Community Strengthening Facilitator – Aboriginal Engagement, Cardinia Shire Council) as our special guests.



Welcome to Country and Smoke Ceremony delivered by Josh West



Cardinia Shire Mayor, Jack Kowarzik with Nadia Douglas



Supporting First Nations

KRHS CEO Aileen Thoms addressed the gathering, expressing heartfelt gratitude to Brian Harlow, KRHS Youth & Community Development Officer, who led the project with passion, dedication, and countless hours of hard work, and to everyone involved in bringing this meaningful project to life.

"I really feel privileged. Today is a special day, a special place where we can walk together and learn from each other. I have learned so much already in the Welcome to Country. As we go on, we'll learn about the plants and how to work together in this fantastic space. I think the work of the mums — creating and bringing this really joyful idea of a bush school, where we combine ideas, knowledge, and skills to create something for the community — is a truly wonderful thing," Aileen said.



KRHS CEO Aileen Thoms addressed the gathering



Brian Harlow, KRHS Youth & Community Development Officer, who led the project

During his speech, Mayor Cr. Jack Kowarzik added:

"This is a special day for our local municipality — the first Indigenous meeting place and Yarning Circle in our council area. This is about increasing respect for our First Nations people, and it's an amazing example of a community-led project."

This community-led project was proudly supported by Cardinia Shire Council, Orrcon and BlueScope Steel, Bunnings, and the Kooweerup Bendigo Bank.

The celebration was attended by KRHS staff, the Executive Team, volunteers, residents, and local community members.

A big thank you to all who supported this initiative — the parents and families, the volunteers, our amazing staff, and our partners.

