

Media Release

Jane Butcher recognised with national nursing award

15 May 2017

Perth nurse Jane Butcher who has been acknowledged for her substantial long-term achievement and contribution to primary health care nursing, receiving the Rosemary Bryant Award.

Part of the 2017 Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association (APNA) Nurse Awards, the Rosemary Bryant Award was established in acknowledgment of the significant and long-term contribution the first Commonwealth Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer and APNA Patron Dr Bryant has made to the nursing profession, and her dedication and advocacy of nurses working in primary health care.

In a ceremony held during APNA's National Conference State of the Art, Jane was presented her award by the Minister for Indigenous Affairs and Minister for Aged Care, Mr Ken Wyatt MP AO, Dr Rosemary Bryant AO, and APNA President Karen Booth.



From a young age, Jane aspired to be a nurse and completed her training in Western Australia and became involved and committed to nursing and primary health care when she and her GP husband, Michael, set up a solo GP practice in Kalbarri.

As well as working in general practice, Jane became interested and active in supporting general practice nurses generally – including improving pay rates, CPD and recognition of the role.



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Jane moved on to roles within the Divisions of General Practice/Medicare Locals and eventually became the State Program Manager for the Nursing in General Practice Program, funded by the Commonwealth Government.

Most recently, Jane was Nurse Liaison Officer with WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA).

WAPHA chief executive officer Learne Durrington said Jane's contribution to primary health care made her a deserving recipient of the Rosemary Bryant Award.

"Jane is known and respected in primary health care at all levels – from grassroots nurses on the ground in primary health care services, to high level Department of Health and other advisory committees," Ms Durrington said.

"She is passionate about improving primary health care nursing and working towards better health care for the community, locally and nationally.

"Jane has also contributed significantly to APNA, serving as a board member between 2011 and 2014 and on numerous committees and undertaken various projects as a nurse representative."

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About WAPHA

WAPHA oversees the strategic commissioning functions of the Perth North, Perth South and Country WA Primary Health Networks (PHNs). The WA PHNs are three of 31 PHNs established by the Australian Government nationally to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of medical services for the community. We work across the WA healthcare system with doctors, allied health professionals, Area Health Services and service providers to improve the coordination of care for people who are at risk of poor health outcomes. Visit www.wapha.org.au for more information.

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