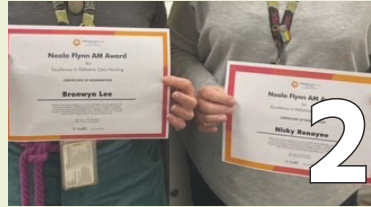


Donations from Freemasons Gratefully Received



How to Donate to EPC's Equipment for Home Appeal



Our Noala Flynn AM Award Nominees



Meet Bron Lee and Nicky Ronayne

## You're invited to POUND THE PAVEMENT 4 EPC!

You are invited to come and enjoy the celebration of all things EPC on Sunday 8 October at Lillydale Lake at POUND THE PAVEMENT 4 EPC. We'd love to see you there. Cheer and wave to those walking or jogging 2 laps to raise funds for EPC's Equipment for Home Appeal. Chat with EPC staff, meet our CEO, relish a sausage from Maroondah Rotary's BBQ or a delicious treat from EPC's first ever fundraising Cake Stall. Chairs and tables provided or bring a picnic rug. Grab your family, friends and pooches and come along to an enjoyable day at **POUND THE PAVEMENT 4 EPC!**



### Message from Gaylene

Hello my friends. As you read this newsletter I will be on annual leave, celebrating my first year as EPC's Chief Executive. I can't believe how quickly time has flown by since I commenced in August 2022, overwhelmed by the passion and dedication shown by the EPC staffing team and volunteers. It still impresses me and makes me so proud of the work we do in the community.

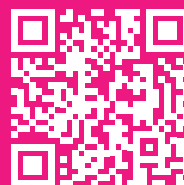
The way the nursing, allied health and medical teams pull together to go an extra mile for a client and their family, the way the clinicians support each other when one has a particularly difficult day, the way our Volunteer Coordinators are always on the end of the phone for a volunteer needing support (they sit outside my office so I hear lots of their conversations), the way our Corporate Support team work tirelessly in the background to support our frontline team – I am so proud of every one of them and wish to acknowledge their efforts publicly with you, in this our 25th year of serving the Eastern Melbourne community.

I would also like to acknowledge the tireless dedicated efforts of our volunteers who support EPC. Many have been volunteering with us since the beginning 25 years ago. In particular the volunteer members of our Committee of Management and subcommittees who do the hard yards in governance and oversight of EPC's strategy. Unseen, but so incredibly valuable to EPC. Please enjoy this edition of our newsletter and some sunshine and warmth outside!

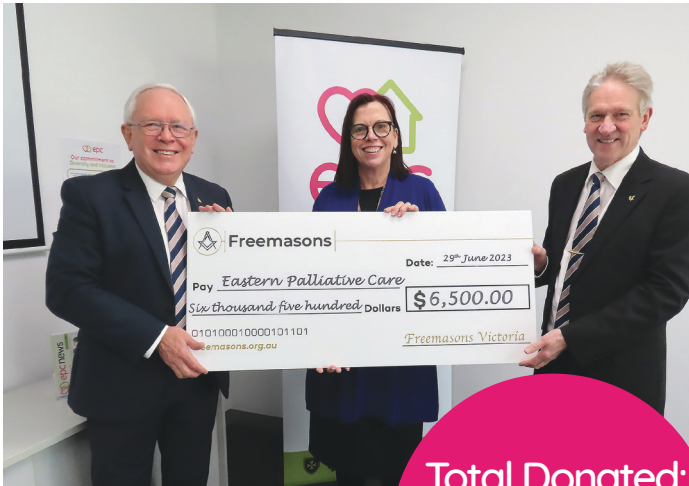
Gaylene Coulton  
CEO, EPC

Register, Donate or Share the fun of PTP4EPC here:

[epc.grassrootz.com/ptp4epc2023](http://epc.grassrootz.com/ptp4epc2023)



## Donations from Freemasons Gratefully Received



Total Donated:

\$12,000

Thank you!

We were honoured to recently receive donations from two Freemason Lodges for EPC's Equipment for Home Appeal. Two members of the Lodge of Quest in Ringwood, Steve and Wayne, attended our offices to meet with Gaylene, our CEO.

They learnt about our services and the Equipment for Home Appeal which will help us to assist clients with medical equipment for their home, so they can remain being cared for in familiar surroundings.

Steve and Wayne then presented a cheque to Gaylene to the value of \$6,500. This was made up of funds from the Ringwood Lodge and the Freemasons Foundation. This donation will contribute to the Appeal and will also be used to purchase a specialised hospital bed for very tall people that can be lowered to the floor.

We thank the Lodge Blackburn branch who also facilitated a large donation of \$5,500, again with a contribution from the Freemasons Foundation. This will allow EPC to purchase a 'Sara Steady - Sit to stand aid' and two Bath lifts so clients can use their bath at home. We look forward to a continuing relationship with the Lodges of Quest Ringwood and Blackburn, plus the Freemasons Foundation, and we thank them for their generosity.

### How to Donate to EPC's Equipment for Home Appeal

EPC is raising funds to purchase specialised equipment for clients to use at home. We aim to assist all our clients to have the best possible quality of life and for many that means staying at home rather than going to a hospice or hospital. EPC staff assist families to locate and secure the required equipment which is often urgent and vital. Some of the items needed are quite hard to source, especially on short notice, therefore EPC is looking to purchase equipment so we have it on hand to meet this critical need. We also need to maintain, repair and clean all items we own.

To donate to this Appeal please give to [epc.grassrootz.com/ptp4epc2023](https://epc.grassrootz.com/ptp4epc2023) or scan the QR Code or call 1300 130 813.



## Our Noala Flynn AM Award Nominees

Two of our wonderful nurses, Bron Lee and Nicky Ronayne, were nominated for the prestigious Noala Flynn AM Award for Excellence in Palliative Care Nursing.

This esteemed award recognises the outstanding achievements of specialist palliative care nurses and pays tribute to the memory of Noala Flynn AM, a pioneering palliative care nurse and leader in Victoria.

The Noala Flynn AM Award for Excellence in Palliative Care Nursing recognises the profound impact that palliative care nurses have on the lives of patients and their families during times of vulnerability and need. It highlights the invaluable role they play in providing comfort, dignity, and support throughout the end-of-life journey.



## Meet Bron Lee and Nicky Ronayne



**Bron Lee** started working in palliative care in 1989. She cared for patients at the Caritas Christie Hospice in Kew before moving into community palliative care nursing at the Yarra Valley Community Health Service. Bron has worked in community palliative care for the last 13 years.

Bron commenced with EPC in 2010 and has been instrumental in building EPC's intake team, providing excellent clinical expertise, care and support to our potential clients. Bron has also assisted carers and other health professionals in navigating the health system to ensure the right person is receiving the right care at the right time.

Bron has an extensive understanding of the palliative care landscape, with her work at the Palliative Care Advice Service providing a high-level understanding of EPC's place within the Victorian healthcare system. This has made Bron a valued member of EPC's Clinical Council.

Bron is energetic and passionate, yet calm under stress. She is able to manage crises with professionalism and a keen focus on reducing risk. Bron has mentored a variety of staff and is always willing to question how care is provided to ensure we are always striving for the highest standard of evidence-based care. She frequently goes above and beyond not only for clients and carers, but to support her team.

Bron is a huge asset to the intake team, to EPC and to the greater palliative care community. She is well deserving of her nomination for the Nola Flynn AM Award.

**Nicky Ronayne** began her nursing career in Middlesex Hospital London. After leaving London she worked at an inpatient hospice. It was here that Nicky was mentored by some amazing, experienced palliative care nurses and knew this was the area of work she wanted to continue.

Eventually Nicky joined the community palliative care team of nurses (Macmillan Nurses) attached to the hospice. It was here she found her niche and felt the area of palliative care nursing to be the most rewarding.

Nicky migrated to Australia in 1991 and was out for a bit of adventure. She was offered a job at Caritas Christi Kew as their first CNS and started work there 7 days after arriving in the country!

In 1993, Nicky joined a small multidisciplinary team to establish the first community palliative care team, based at Caritas Christi, a joint initiative of The Order of Malta and Caritas Christi. On day one they had just one client and so Nicky and another nurse set about visiting GP's to tell them about our service. The rest is history and this team is now EPC inner team, still based at Caritas Christi but in rather nicer offices!

Nicky continues to be an integral part of the EPC Outer team, clients and carers often speak of the support and education she provides in assisting them in navigating such a challenging time. Nicky is a valued team member who readily extends her knowledge and expertise in mentoring of new staff, clinical leadership and teaching and we congratulate her on this nomination.

## In Lieu of Flowers



Thank you to the families of the following people, who arranged for donations to EPC in lieu of flowers at their memorial service. We are most grateful that you thought of EPC during such a difficult time.

**Robert 'Bob' Magee**

**John Kuhn**

**Eunice Egan**

**Bozena Stacherska-Kleszcz**

Planning a service or memorial is a difficult time. You may not wish to receive flowers or you may wish to thank EPC publicly. Requesting donations to EPC in lieu of flowers is a way to do this and also provides a way for others to express their condolences and honour their memory. If you wish to receive both flowers and donations to EPC, instead of the term "in lieu of flowers", simply ask people to "consider donations to EPC in X's honour". For more information visit [www.epc.asn.au/in-lieu-of-flowers](http://www.epc.asn.au/in-lieu-of-flowers)

## In Memoriam

Thank you to the below families who arranged In Memoriam pages on [www.epc.asn.au/in-memoriam](http://www.epc.asn.au/in-memoriam):

**George Wright**

**Rose Stafford**

**Keith Oliver**

## EPC is going green

From December this year, all those who receive this newsletter, and have an email address registered with EPC, will receive the newsletter via email. If you don't have a registered email address, you will still receive a hard copy in the mail.

If you wish to receive a hard copy instead of an email, or wish to register an email address with us, please let us know by calling 1300 130 813 or email us at [epccip@epc.asn.au](mailto:epccip@epc.asn.au)

## 2023 Key Dates

**October 8** Fundraiser: POUND THE PAVEMENT 4 EPC  
**November 16** EPC Annual General Meeting

**Telephone** 1300 130 813  
**Address** PO Box 2110, Rangeview, Victoria 3132  
**E-mail** [contactus@epc.asn.au](mailto:contactus@epc.asn.au)  
**Website** [epc.asn.au](http://epc.asn.au)

Visit our website [epc.asn.au](http://epc.asn.au) to receive our newsletter by e-mail. Email [contactus@epc.asn.au](mailto:contactus@epc.asn.au) to unsubscribe

## Join our Subcommittee

EPC values community voices and we are looking for more volunteers to join our **Consumer Advisory Subcommittee**.

If you have an interest in improving palliative care services in our community, have provided care for someone, or have a personal interest in governance or quality improvement, this may be for you.

Members communicate via email and meet 4 times a year to share ideas, advice and opinions that will help improve our service to our clients.

For more information, please call us on **1300 130 813** or email [QualityandRisk@epc.asn.au](mailto:QualityandRisk@epc.asn.au)

If this newsletter has arrived at a difficult time, we sincerely apologise. We understand the difficulty in moving on after experiencing a loss. If you would like bereavement support, please contact us on 1300 130 813. Although the majority of our funding comes from Government sources, EPC also relies on community fundraising, bequests and donations to maintain the wide array of services and programs we provide. All donors are added to EPC's quarterly newsletter mailing list. To receive this via email instead of your postal address, or to opt out, simply call us or email [fundraising@epc.asn.au](mailto:fundraising@epc.asn.au)

Stay up to date with EPC by following us on social media:



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Eastern Palliative Care acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government