



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Sunday, 13th October 2024

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Sunday Age](#)** (page 1) reports illegal tobacco is believed to be behind a \$25 billion reduction in tobacco excise since 2019, prompting calls to reduce taxes on tobacco and allow retail sale of vapes with similar taxes imposed on them. Health Minister Mark Butler has pointed out similar taxes on vapes in New York have failed to raise significant revenue. *Also reported by: [Sun Herald](#)*
- **[The Sunday Mail Brisbane](#)** (page 3) reports smoking among young Australians has been increasing since the end of the Covid-19 pandemic, with 13 per cent of people aged above 16 reported to be smoking daily. *Also reported by: [Sunday Mail Adelaide](#), [Sunday Herald Sun](#)*
- **[The Sunday Canberra Times](#)** (page 4) reports ACT Labor has pledged to increase access to free period products if re-elected, with products set to be available at sports pavilions, libraries and other government facilities following the legislation of free period products in 2023.
- **[The Sunday Age](#)** (page 5) reports FOI documents have revealed the Victorian Department of Health has failed to pay almost half of all invoices below \$3 million within the required 10 day threshold, despite a 25 per cent improvement in on-time payments since the end of the pandemic.

- [The Sunday Tasmanian](#) (page 6) reports the Council of the Ageing Tasmania is calling for societal shifts in attitudes towards an increasingly ageing population, saying issues such as transportation, infrastructure and housing should be addressed to enable more dignified options for elderly Australians who don't want to be viewed as infirm based simply on age.
- [The Sun Herald](#) (page 7) reports Assistant Minister for Health Ged Kearney has said she is "seriously concerned" with the unregulated labelling of infant and toddler foods as healthy despite having poor nutritional content. "As a nurse, mum and grandmother, I want to make sure Aussie kids have the best start ... Kids' food is high in sugar and covered in misleading claims. It's not good enough", Minister Kearney said.
- [The Sunday Mail Brisbane](#) (page 7) reports the AMAQ has said Qld Premier Steven Miles' plan for creating 50 new bulk-billed GP clinics by offering them free rent in government-owned clinics fails to address the underlying problems of low Medicare rebates and staffing shortages, saying an increase to the rebate is required to help doctors combat rising overheads.

MINISTER BUTLER

Black market sends budget bottom line up in smoke

Sunday Age, General News, 13/10/2024, Shane Wright, Page 1

A \$25 billion hole has been blown in the federal budget since 2019 due to a collapse in tobacco excise, prompting calls for the federal government to reverse years of ever-increasing taxes on cigarettes or risk driving more people into buying from the black market. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler has cited evidence from New York where despite vapes being brought into the tax system, little revenue had been raised while vaping rates have increased.

Also reported by: [Sun Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#), [The Age \(Online\)](#).

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MINISTER WELLS

Investment boost set to improve quality of care for older Australians in aged care

Starts at 60, Other, 12/10/2024

Better quality and person-centered aged care will become a reality for more Australians after the Federal Government committed an extra \$13 million dollars to research and training in the sector. [...] Minister for Aged Care, Anika Wells said the investment will transform aged care from an institutional to a more patient-centric model.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Snacks fail on labels, nutrients

Sun Herald, General News, 13/10/2024, Angus Thomson, Page 7

The vast majority of infant and toddler foods found on supermarket shelves are failing to meet

international nutrition standards as the federal government investigates options to crack down on misleading marketing claims. [...] Federal Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney said she was "seriously concerned" by the figures and was working with the states and territories to improve the composition, nutritional profile and labelling of foods.

Also reported by: [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [WA Today \(Online\)](#), [The Age \(Online\)](#).

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ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

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DEPARTMENT

Snacks fail on labels, nutrients

Sun Herald, General News, 13/10/2024, Angus Thomson, Page 7

The vast majority of infant and toddler foods found on supermarket shelves are failing to meet international nutrition standards as the federal government investigates options to crack down on misleading marketing claims. [...] Federal Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney said she was "seriously concerned" by the figures and was working with the states and territories to improve the composition, nutritional profile and labelling of foods.

Also reported by: [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [WA Today \(Online\)](#), [The Age \(Online\)](#).

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Australia's hay fever blindspot that no agency has offered to fix yet

SBS, Other, 12/10/2024, Aleisha Orr

It is peak itchy throat, sneezing and runny nose season in Australia right now. [...] SBS News asked the federal Health Department about the lack of a national pollen monitoring system but didn't receive a reply.

[Read More](#)

Combating the mental health crisis

Stanthorpe Today, Other, 12/10/2024, Jin Hui

This World Mental Health Day (10 October), advocates from the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program are emphasising the need for parents and carers to support their children's wellbeing along with their own, to help combat Australia's growing mental health crisis. [...] Delivery of the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program to parents and carers of children in Australia is supported by funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care under the Parenting Education and Support Program.

Also reported by: [Warwick Today \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Goldilocks and the three healthcare AI regulation reviews

The Medical Republic, Other, 11/10/2024, Jeremy Knibbs

Submissions to the Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR) Consultation on Safe and responsible AI in Australia from the AMA and the MSIA this week demonstrate just how confusing and problematic the regulation of AI in healthcare might become over the next couple of years. [...] Both are doing their best in what must be a pretty confusing and demanding period where key healthcare stakeholder groups are having to provide rapid fire input into three concurrent AI consultation processes from three different government departments – this week the DISR (as above) and next

week the Department of Health and Aged Care (Safe and Responsible Artificial Intelligence in Health Care Legislation and Regulation Review) and the TGA with Clarifying and strengthening the regulation of Artificial Intelligence.

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VACCINES

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Unpicking the tax rules for pension phase

Sunday Telegraph, Business News, 13/10/2024, Brenton Miegel, Page 95

Can you please tell me the maximum amount I can have in my pension phase account before I have to pay 30 per cent tax above the limit? Any super that you roll over from accumulation phase to pension phase would result in there being no tax implications at all.

Also reported by: [Sunday Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#).

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Break down barriers for seniors

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 13/10/2024, Eleanor de Jong, Page 6

Older Tasmanians are getting fed up with being treated as fragile and elderly before their time, and want to see societal shifts that recognise and cater to the lengthening human lifespan. "Ageism is rife," says Brigid Wilkinson, the CEO of Council on the Ageing Tasmania.

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Groundbreaking plan to transform dementia care in Australia to be unveiled

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 12/10/2024, Rowan Cowley

It takes a village to raise a child, and a village to support the elderly in decline, according to a groundbreaking new plan that's been 10 years in the making. Dementia-friendly public spaces and services, and training for first responders are among the key recommendations from the new National Dementia Action Plan set to be released by the federal government by the end of the year.

Also reported by: [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

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POPULATION HEALTH

Younger Aussies light up

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 13/10/2024, Page 3

There's been a worrying spike in the number of young Australians taking up smoking since Covid, according to a new national health snapshot. The "disturbing trend" shows smoking is most prevalent among Gen Z and younger Millennials aged 20 to 34.

Also reported by: [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#).

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Illegal tobacco found in walls

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 13/10/2024, Leah Smith, Page 5

Almost \$1m in illicit tobacco has been seized in the past two weeks following government raids on seven locations finding product hidden in walls and cars. On Saturday, footage compiled from seven raids across the CBD and southern suburbs showed Consumer and Business Services task force officers searching various locations for illicit goods.

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We all need to learn about menopause

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 13/10/2024, Amanda Blair, Page 71

Four minutes and 24 seconds was all it took to infuriate me. I don't usually listen to breakfast radio too triggering, bringing back longburied memories of my time behind the early morning microphone involving Gotcha Calls, Battle of the Sexes and my personal favourite No Undie Mondays.

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Health smokes 'em out

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 13/10/2024, Tayla Couacaud, Page 9

Queensland Health is investigating the supply of illegal tobacco products at more than 350 retailers, including tobacconists, convenience stores, gift shops and petrol stations. As police crack down on crimes linked to tobacco shops, Queensland Health has revealed it has issued 460 fines totalling \$5.5m since July 2023.

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Blow to vaping, cigs fight

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 13/10/2024, Mikaela Mulveney, Page 11

Decades of campaigning by health organisations to reduce the devastating impact nicotine, cannabis and alcohol has on young people is being derailed by social media platforms, researchers say. A team of Queensland academics has exposed the alarming numbers of posts across TikTok, Instagram and Facebook flaunting vapes, weed and alcohol consumption as "desirable" and "humorous", as well as advertisements for "door-todoor" delivery of illegal and banned substances.

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Queenslanders desperate for mental health help amid workforce shortage

Cairns Post, Other, 12/10/2024, Jackie Sinnerton & Rachel Riley

The state's mental-health levy needs to be boosted by another \$300m a year to help save lives, as the suicides of two young Queenslanders in the past six weeks expose the desperate need for more investment in support services. [...] New national data released by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for 2022-23 shows the need for greater investment in the mental health workforce as demand within the community increases.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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Cairns residents are still divided on a decade long oral health decision, to fluoride or not fluoride

Northern Territory News, Other, 12/10/2024, Emma Cam

Almost half of residents surveyed believe flouride should be added to Cairns' water supply. But Cairns Regional Council Mayor Amy Eden said there was no "overwhelming community support either for or against".

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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Princes Hill Secondary College student attacked at school during dodgy lunchtime vape sale

The Mercury, Other, 12/10/2024, Rebecca Borg & Susie O'Brien

Brazen school students are dealing vapes on-campus during broad daylight in a bid to skirt around , resulting in violent schoolyard clashes and mass confiscations. The Saturday Herald Sun can reveal a Princes Hill Secondary College student was violently attacked by two teenage girls last month following an alleged dodgy lunchtime vape sale.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#).

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Finding strength in community

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 13/10/2024, Shannon Deery, Page 37

When Sarah Anderson was diagnosed with PURA syndrome in 2014, she was the only child in Australia known to have the rare genetic disorder. A decade on and the 16-year-old is now one of just 26 children known to have the neurodevelopmental condition.

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Dementia deaths up

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 13/10/2024, Rebecca Whitfield-Baker, Page 64

Ischaemic heart disease was still the nation's leading cause of death in 2023 but was closely followed by dementia-related deaths, according to data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. ABS head of mortality statistics Lauren Moran said: "We've seen a drop in heart disease mortality and a rise in dementia deaths over time associated with both improvements in medical treatment and health care, and an ageing population.

Also reported by: [Australian Seniors News \(Online\)](#).

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Sophie's choice a winner

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 13/10/2024, Antimo Iannella, Page 23

Bowel cancer survivor Sophie Edwards had finally reached breaking point. For more than two years she'd battled the disease, enduring rounds of chemotherapy and major surgeries.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).

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How Todd won his cancer battle

Sunday Territorian, General News, 13/10/2024, Darcy Jennings & Pema Tamang Pakhrin, Page 1

In 2022, Todd McManus appeared to be a picture of health and good fortune, having just won a first grade premiership in Canberra. But that couldn't have been further from the truth.

Also reported by: [Sunday Territorian \(Darwin\)](#).

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Breast cancer battlers 'blindsided' by divorce

Canberra Times, Other, 13/10/2024, Katelyn Catanzariti

An Australian woman who has gone through breast cancer is a staggering 53 times more likely than average to see her relationship fall apart. The shocking statistic - part of Compare Club's research to uncover the true cost of breast cancer - indicates the battle a woman must face when diagnosed may only really begin after treatment finishes.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#).

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PRIMARY CARE

Department struggles to pay its bills on time

Sunday Age, General News, 13/10/2024, Rachel Eddie, Page 5

Victoria's budget-troubled Department of Health is making late payments to suppliers more than half the time, breaches that should result in financial penalties under state government policy. Government departments and agencies are required to pay invoices within 10 business days for contracts valued below \$3 million, but the Department of Health has paid just 46.29 per cent on time since the requirement was tightened in 2021.

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Labor to expand free access to period products

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 13/10/2024, Tim Piccione, Page 4

Free period products are set to be available in more places around the ACT under a re-elected Labor government, the party has promised. ACT Labor has announced it plans to expand access to essential period products if it wins Saturday's election.

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Albo promises 'ambitious' second-term policies

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 13/10/2024, Angira Bharadwaj, Page 7

Childcare and Medicare reforms will be a part of the "ambitious" policies Anthony Albanese will take to the election as the Prime Minister kicks into election mode. Mr Albanese told his caucus last week that the government was preparing for an "ambitious second-term agenda" with an election due no later than in seven months' time.

Also reported by: [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#), [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#).

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Demand to nullify health buildout

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 13/10/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 9

Soaring demand threatens to soak up much of the state government's expansion of the health system, its own reasons for record ramping indicate. From its election pledge to "fix" ramping, the government has switched to its heavily advertised "Building a Bigger Health System" strategy.

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Making a SWIFT improvement

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 13/10/2024, Lynn Cameron, Page 43

Investment in SA hospitals to help free up more beds The State Government is investing in the health of South Australians by increasing the number of hospital beds, upgrading existing hospitals and improving facilities across the board to ease pressure on hospitals, staff and patients. As part of its major expansion of the health system, more than 600 new beds will be opened across the state, including 112 at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, 72 at Modbury Hospital, 56 at the new Women's and Children's Hospital and 228 in the south of Adelaide at Flinders Medical Centre, Noarlunga and the Repat Health Precinct.

Also reported by: [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#).

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Virtual help the real deal for women

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 13/10/2024, Page 48

It's always reassuring to know help is at hand and particularly so for women in the early stages of pregnancy. That's why the Virtual Women's Assessment Service has proved so invaluable since it launched a little more than a year ago.

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Hi-tech key to better health

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 13/10/2024, David Goldsmith, Page 48

South Australia's virtual care services are playing a crucial role in improving access to health care and easing the demand for acute hospital beds. Virtual care services are part of a suite of alternative care options – also including Priority Care Centres, Medicare Urgent Care Clinics, and designated 24/7 pharmacies – that are designed to provide South Australians with greater access to healthcare when it is needed most.

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GP clinic plan 'set to fail'

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 13/10/2024, Taylah Fellows & Madura McCormack, Page 7

The government's \$365m plan to build 50 state-owned GP clinics has come under fire, with critics slamming it as financially doomed due to low Medicare rebates and crippling workforce shortages. The plan, which would see GPs offered free rent in government-owned clinics on the condition they commit to providing bulk-billed services, was criticised by the Australian Medical Association Queensland (AMAQ) for failing to address the real issues affecting general practice.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

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Another urgent centre gets nod

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 13/10/2024, Genevieve Holding, Page 4

A provider for a new seven-day-a-week, free, walk-in urgent care clinic in Hobart's northern suburbs has been chosen, enabling extended hours care for an area troubled by medical centre closures. Bridgewater's Jordan River Health will house the new Bridgewater Medicare Urgent Care Clinic from November, after a tender process by the Tasmanian government and healthcare network provider Primary Health Tasmania.

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Queensland Labor promises 50 new bulk-billing GP clinics if Miles government is re-elected

ABC Online, Other, 12/10/2024, Alex Brewster

A re-elected Miles government would fund 50 new bulk-billing GP clinics somewhere in Queensland, the ALP has announced. The \$365 million pledge would be funded from additional borrowing and aimed at alleviating pressures on household budgets and hospitals, according to a Labor media release.

[Read More](#)

At half-time in Queensland's election campaign, Labor and the LNP have been thrown a curveball

ABC Online, Other, 12/10/2024, Matt Eaton

The orange segments are being handed out as the siren sounds half-time in the Queensland election campaign. Both ALP and LNP teams have pretty well stuck to pre-match game plans — but there was an intruder on the pitch this week.

Allan government staff wages cost taxpayers more than \$1m a week

Cairns Post, Other, 12/10/2024, Carly Douglas

Taxpayers are being slugged more than \$1 million each week to pay the wages of ministerial staffers under the Allan government, new figures have forecast. New numbers released to the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee by the Department of Premier and Cabinet have revealed ministerial staffing costs as of March 31 were on track to hit \$55 million — \$5 million more than last financial year.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#).

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A new SEQ dam and more bulk-billing GPs: Party pitches go big

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 12/10/2024, Matt Dennien

Queensland Premier Steven Miles has promised to foot the \$365 million bill to deliver 50 new bulk-billing GP clinics, as the LNP conceded plans for a new south-east water supply dam. The high-profile election pitches land with early voting set to open Monday, and opposition efforts to maintain polled support over the third-term government to gain only its third term in 35 years.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

TikTok researchers knew it posed mental health risks to children

Sunday Age, General News, 13/10/2024, Cristiano Lima-Strong, Drew Harwell & Julian Mark, Page 16

TikTok's political woes deepened after an inadvertent legal disclosure detailed how aware the app's managers apparently were of its potential risks to children, airing explosive revelations as the Chinese-owned company tries to fend off a US ban. The popular video-sharing platform's internal research showed that children were particularly susceptible to its powerful algorithmic feeds and that excessive use of the site could lead to mental health issues, according to a lawsuit filed by the state of Kentucky earlier this week, redacted portions of which were unintentionally left readable.

Also reported by: [Sun Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#).

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Big names pledge to switch off

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 13/10/2024, Julie Cross, Page 11

Big names from the world of entertainment, sport, politics and business have pledged support for a new national initiative to switch off their social media for 24 hours. Singer Jessica Mauboy, former Australian cricket captain Adam Gilchrist, TV personality and fitness trainer Michelle Bridges, rugby league legend Corey Parker, Opals Alice Kunkin and Bec Cole, Home and Away star Juliet Godwin, and politicians Jacqui Lambie and Andrew Charlton, Labor's special envoy for cyber security, are just a few of the names who will forgo those addictive apps on October 24.

Also reported by: [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#).

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Switched-on dad

Sunday Herald Sun, Editorials, 13/10/2024, Page 66

The Sunday Herald Sun admires the actions of Victorian father Wayne Holdsworth, who is urging people to boycott social media for 24 hours on October 24. Mr Holdsworth's son Mac took his life at just 17 after being terrorised online by an evil predator who blackmailed him over sexual photographs.

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Young patients to benefit from mental health support

Despite major improvements in the level of care in recent decades, mental health remains a "significant issue in our community". That's the opinion of the Chief Psychiatrist of South Australia, Dr John Brayley, who says that with one in five people experiencing a mental health problem in the past 12 months, moves by SA Health to expand and improve its facilities and services is welcome.

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Richo's demons

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 13/10/2024, Rebecca Whitfield-Baker, Page 1

One of Tasmanian football's finest exports, Matthew "Richo" Richardson, has revealed he silently battled bouts of depression after career setbacks. The Tigers great tells of his anguish after the death by suicide of key mentors, his struggle to stay mentally strong in the face of season-ending injuries and his passion to now help men of all ages "talk when they're feeling down".

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Ivan's demons

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 13/10/2024, David Riccio, Page 1

Ivan Cleary is the Penrith coach you see on TV hugging his famous son Nathan and flashing four NRL premiership rings. An undisputed champion leader of young men, Cleary steered the Panthers to a historic fourth consecutive title last Sunday night.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Health in safe hands

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 13/10/2024, Lynn Cameron, Page 47

Significant investment in the health sector is creating new employment opportunities for South Australians and a strong workforce equipped to meet the growing demand for services. Since 2022, the State Government has recruited more than 1400 additional health workers across nursing, doctors, ambulance and allied health roles.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

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SPORT

After accusations of toxic culture and Indigenous representation issues, Australian netball aims to turn the tide

ABC Online, Other, 12/10/2024, Kasey Symons

2024 was a record-breaking year for Suncorp Super Netball as 366,222 fans made it the most attended season across all codes in the history of Australian women's sport. It signals a turning tide for a code that has been in the spotlight over the last few years for financial woes, painful player relations that were exposed during the 2023 collective bargaining process, and criticisms of the game's governing body that saw the departure of CEO Kelly Ryan.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

A 'yes' to helping our First Nations peoples

Sunday Territorian, General News, 13/10/2024, Malarndirri Mccarthy, Page 14

"Mum, why would Australia say no to us having a voice?" my nine-year-old daughter asked. It was referendum night, and the No votes were coming in across the country.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

A billion reasons to boost vaccines

Sunday Times, General News, 13/10/2024, Page 26

Increasing Australia's adult vaccination rate to the same level as children could unlock a billion-dollar economic frontier. A new report reveals the cost-benefit analysis of funding that would address gaps in vaccine access to deliver a range of economic and health benefits.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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ABC News, Weekend Breakfast, 12/10/2024, Johanna Nicholson & Fauziah Ibrahim

NSW Health is encouraging parents to be on alert for symptoms of gastroenteritis after cases surged in recent weeks. Dr Rebekah Hoffman, NSW Chair, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, says the importance of good hand hygiene is paramount to prevent children from getting sick.

Similar content in: [ABC News \(Sydney\)](#).

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

'This is the end of WeightWatchers'

Sunday Times, General News, 13/10/2024, Laura Newell, Page 28

For the past six decades members of WeightWatchers have lined up at community centres and town halls around the world to face the scales and share diet tips. [...] Juniper turned to compounding, using a loophole in TGA rules, while Australia struggled to secure regular supplies of branded semaglutide, losing out to larger markets, such as the US.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Sunday Times \(Perth\)](#).

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

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Bullsbrook residents living off bottled water due to PFAS contamination to get new water supply by March 2026

ABC Online, Other, 12/10/2024, Keane Bourke

There's been mixed reaction from residents of the semi-rural suburb of Bullsbrook, north of Perth, to an announcement that they will finally get access to safe drinking water from early 2026. The suburb has been engulfed in an almost decade-long contamination saga which rendered the water at a number of houses and businesses undrinkable.

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