



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Saturday, 26th April 2025

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **9News** reports that the Australian New Zealand Gynaecological Oncology Group, Ovarian Cancer Australia and the Ovarian Cancer Research Foundation, have called on the federal government to provide \$100 million over four years towards funding gynaecological cancer research, with a spokesperson for Health Minister Mark Butler saying he would continue discussions with the ANZGOG about the proposal.
- The **Daily Telegraph** (page 5) reports that RMIT concussion expert and co-founder of the Concussion Legacy Foundation, Alan Pearce, has raised concerns over a new combat sport where "the objective is to knock out your opponent," and comes amid increasing diagnoses of CTE in several high-profile former athletes.
- The **Hobart Mercury** (page 8) reports that a new pet program from Monash University is looking to boost the health of aged care residents in Melbourne by enabling them to bond with animals, in a trial aimed at combating social isolation and loneliness.
- The **Herald Sun** (page 6) reports that health authorities have urged people in Victoria to be alert for measles symptoms, amid newly confirmed cases of the highly infectious illness in Greater Melbourne and Kilmore, and comes in the wake of declining vaccination rates across Australia.

- The [**West Australian**](#) (page 18) reports that Breast Cancer Network Australia has welcomed a move to list a vital medicine to treat early breast cancer on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), with the BCNA's Vicki Durston saying that making the drug more affordable ensures women can "focus on their recovery, not on bills".
- The [**West Australian**](#) (page 26) reports that Associate Professor Lukas Parker from RMIT University has said the public are often confused when reading date labels on food, and follows a 2023 study by Food Standards Australia and New Zealand, which showed only a third of Australians fully understood how food labels worked.
- The [**Weekend Post**](#) (page 1) reports that the Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service (TCHHS) has confirmed it is still struggling to fill multiple positions to enable the reopening of the hospital's birthing suite, with expectant mothers from the region forced to travel 300km south to access birthing services.
- [**9News**](#) reports that a new study by researchers at Monash University have conducted a trial which could see a commonly used medication to treat people with diabetes, be repurposed to manage pain for sufferers of knee arthritis.

MINISTER BUTLER

Move that saved son

Daily Telegraph, General News, 26/04/2025, Eilidh Sproul-Mellis, Page 13

The Children's Hospital at Westmead after Dallas twice stopped breathing and turned blue. [...] "We were very happy to launch those standards of care in February 2024 with (Health) Minister Mark Butler," HeartKids CEO Marcus Sandmann said.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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The gaping hole in health policies

Canberra Times, General News, 26/04/2025, Carla Mascarenhas, Page 30

Neither major party is prepared to commit to significant dental policy as recommended by Australia's peak dental body amid lengthening wait times and more Australians suffering from painful dental diseases. [...] Federal health minister Mark Butler told ACM Labor's focus was on "strengthening Medicare".

Also reported by: [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#).

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COUCH plans financial road ahead

Cairns Local News, General News, 24/04/2025, Page 3

A roadmap turbocharging clinical services at Cairns' cancer centre in a bid to become a self-sustaining care hub has been released. The business plan was requested by the Labor Party and LNP and has been sent to the Federal Minister for Health Mark Butler and key stakeholders.

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'She knew something was wrong': Mum's warning as survival rates for certain cancers stagnate

9News, Other, 25/04/2025, Emily McPherson

The mother of a NSW woman who died of cervical cancer has told how her daughter spent more than a year trying to get doctors to listen to her concerns. [...] A spokesperson for Health Minister Mark Butler said he would continue discussions with the ANZGOG about their proposal.

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MINISTER WELLS

Facilities, tournaments, flares: Football's \$3b funding request

Sydney Morning Herald, Sport, 26/04/2025, Vince Rugari, Page 44

On the eve of the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup, not long after Sam Kerr made a preemptive call for better funding to support the legacy the Matildas were about to create, federal Sports Minister Anika Wells provided something of an explanation as to why to some football seemed to get a raw deal from government. Despite being Australia's most popular sport at a community level, and despite the wild popularity of the Matildas and Socceroos, Wells argued the game's splintered governance and administrative model a national body, nine state and territory bodies and, since 2020, a separate professional league created confusion and competing interests.

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

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Election opinion: Gomeroi health advocate Cameron Manning raises concerns on housing and identity fraud

National Indigenous Times, Other, 25/04/2025, Victoria Grieves Williams

Cameron Manning, a Tobacco Control Specialist at the Cancer Council of NSW, works with Aboriginal communities around smoking and vaping education, prevention and staff training. [...] He lives in the electorate of Dobell, a key seat, currently held by Emma McBride for Labor, who in 2022 finished roughly 7000 primary votes ahead of Liberal Michael Feneley and ultimately secured 58.3 per cent of the two party preferred vote.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

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ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

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DEPARTMENT

At the loo, take note of the hands

Daily Liberal, General News, 26/04/2025, Jenna Price, Page 56

What happened? We used to take pride in not being sickos. [...] The report, published this year by the federal Department of Health and Aged Care and the Australian Centre for Disease Control, says half the surveyed guests in 2022 had gastro symptoms.

Also reported by: [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Tasmanian Examiner \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#).

[Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [The Advocate \(Burnie\) \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Cessnock Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [St George & Sutherland Shire Leader \(Online\)](#).

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Honouring the service of nurses

Gippsland Times & Maffra Spectator, General News, 24/04/2025, Page 9

Federation University staff and students honoured the nurses that have provided lifesaving care in times of war, at the Australian Nursing Memorial Centre's Anzac Day Memorial Service. [...] Professor Alison McMillan, Commonwealth Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer at Australian Department of Health and Aged Care, also spoke at the service.

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VACCINES

No relevant coverage

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Lower risk of dementia

Courier Mail, General News, 26/04/2025, Page 15

The risk of dementia could be lowered by as much as 15 per cent when high blood pressure is reduced, a new clinical trial has found. Dementia, a brain condition that affects memory, speech, thinking and behaviour, is the second leading cause of death in Australia.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [The West Australian \(Saturday edition\) \(Perth\)](#).

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The 60-minute program helping aged care residents

Hobart Mercury, General News, 26/04/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 8

Aged care homes have opened their doors to animals under a unique pet program boosting residents' health in Melbourne. Dogs, a guinea pig, a robotic cat and even a small parrot were among the animals that helped residents bond with visitors in a trial to combat social isolation and loneliness.

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Friendships win

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 26/04/2025, Page 17

Catherine McAuley College students have joined aged care residents for a day at the races. The special outing with residents of Mercy Health Bethlehem Home for the Aged and Golden Rise Bendigo was part of the iGen program, which connects generations through shared experiences and learning.

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'Step up' to help elderly: petition's plea

Newcastle Herald, General News, 26/04/2025, Alanna Tomazin, Page 26

A petition to save Merriwa's only aged care facility has called on the federal government to "step up". The future of Gummun Place is bleak with significant upgrades required at the site, compliance issues, loss of money and difficulty in attracting and retaining "appropriately qualified" staff.

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'Adam, Adam': Bandt spins out young voters with influencer Abbie Chatfield

The minor party says it has "unfinished business" on the issue after securing free dental for kids under 18 in 2010. In 2021, the aged care royal commission recommended the federal government establish a seniors dental scheme come 2023.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#).

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Woman charged with sexual abuse of seven Sydney aged care residents

The Guardian, Other, 25/04/2025

A woman has been charged after allegedly sexually abusing residents at the aged care facility where she worked, recording the assaults and sharing the videos with her partner, a 54-year-old man who was also arrested for possessing and disseminating bestiality material. The 46-year-old will face a New South Wales court after an investigation into alleged sexual violence against residents at the home in Grasmere in Sydney's Macarthur region.

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Sydney aged care worker allegedly sexually abused patients

NEWS.com.au, Other, 25/04/2025, Heath Parkes-Hupton

A Sydney aged care worker allegedly sexually abused elderly residents and shared recordings of the acts with her partner. Police allege Tracy Leah Salmon assaulted seven patients at the aged care facility in Grasmere, southwest Sydney, after finding videos on her phone.

[Read More](#)

Revolutionary hospital trial slashes elder occupancy by half?—find out how

Your Life Choices, Other, 25/04/2025, Don Turrobia

The Australian Medical Association (AMA) has been vocal about the need for long-term funding agreements to better support older Australians. The number of older Australians presenting to emergency departments is on the rise, so the AMA's call to action is timely.

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Sydney aged care employee charged with sexual assault of seven residents

Your Life Choices, Other, 25/04/2025

An aged care worker has been charged with sexually abusing seven elderly residents at a facility in Sydney's south-west and sending recordings of the assaults to her partner. NSW Police Sex Crimes Squad officers began an investigation in March, after a 46-year-old woman was accused of sexual assaulting multiple people.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC National News, 25/04/2025, Melissa Mackay

Australia's ageing population is one of the most difficult challenges faced by hospitals. Emergency visits by the elderly are increasing, with over 65 making up almost half the people occupying hospital beds around the country.

[Play Now](#)

ABC News, ABC Nightly News, 25/04/2025, Girish Sawlani

Compere Hospital data shows that more than 100 older patients have been diverted from wards like this one to either home rehabilitation or aged care over a one year period, and more than 900 days of in-hospital care have been avoided. On any given day, 3 or 4 patient beds are available for other patients upstairs.

[Play Now](#)

POPULATION HEALTH

With the system on the brink, it's time for transparency

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/04/2025, Natasha Robinson, Page 8

Australia is often described as having a world-class health system. There's no doubt that we do. But in our public hospitals, the pursuit of excellence comes at a price. That price is often invisible to patients; though sometimes the cracks in the system are bleedingly obvious.

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Secretive world MDMA therapy

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/04/2025, Penny Timms, Page 21

In Australia it is legal to use MDMA as a treatment tool for PTSD. Psilocybin, the psychedelic compound found in magic mushrooms, can be used for treatment-resistant depression. However, both drugs must be used only in combination with psychotherapy under tight restrictions and only a selection of trained and approved psychiatrists can prescribe them.

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

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'Cultural safety' just another weapon in ideology arsenal

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/04/2025, Janet Albrechtsen, Page 23

In August 2023 the Australian Medical Council released a joint statement along with other medical groups including the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association, Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand and the Medical Board of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency announcing a significant change to the medical school standards to include "a strong focus on cultural safety in all aspects of medical education".

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The hunger games

Sydney Morning Herald, Good Weekend Magazine, 26/04/2025, Jacqueline Maley, Page 18

I was about halfway through writing my new novel, Lonely Mouth, when first reports of the new drugs began trickling out the magic new drugs that stopped hunger. As it happens, my book is about hunger, and eating, and food; about the inconvenient inability of human beings to switch off their desires.

Also reported by: [The Saturday Age \(Melbourne\)](#).

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Time to weigh up jabs

Daily Telegraph, Weekend, 26/04/2025, Jack Mosley, Page 14

The new generation of injectable weight loss drugs has been hailed as a silver bullet in the obesity fight but caution is advised, writes Dr Jack Mosley son of the late Michael Mosley My dad, Michael Mosley, was an inspiration to millions of people worldwide particularly those living with obesity or type 2 diabetes. In the afternoon of June 5, 2024 he suddenly disappeared on the beautiful Greek island of Symi.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#).

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Illegal tobacco's peddlers must pay highest price

Adelaide Advertiser, Editorials, 26/04/2025, Page 60

Smoking is undeniably bad for human health, but the addictive nature of nicotine keeps many Australians stuck in the habit. It is becoming an increasingly costly craving, as the federal government steadily raises its tobacco tax in a bid to keep pressure off the public health system.

Is that coffee good for you? It depends on how you make it

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 25/04/2025, Miranda Levy

Coffee lovers rejoice: your beverage of choice is now recognised as a health-promoting staple. Theories that coffee raised the risk of coronary heart disease have been debunked: a 2022 study by the European Journal of Preventive Cardiology found that people who sipped two to three cups a day had a lower risk of cardiovascular disease and early death than those who didn't.

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Authorities have raided nearly 400 premises in their pursuit of the illegal tobacco trade

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/04/2025, Dasha Havrilenko

Authorities have raided nearly 400 premises in their pursuit of the illegal tobacco trade in the past 10 months as sales of the illicit products continues to soar. New data obtained by The Advertiser reveals Consumer and Business Services have conducted 394 raids across 152 suburbs across SA since July last year.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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The Australians hardwired to be up through the night

ABC Online, Other, 25/04/2025, Geraden Cann

Shantha Rajaratnam, who heads the School of Psychological Sciences at Monash University, said Mr Shrivastava's sleep pattern was not that unusual. Best estimates suggest roughly 16 per cent of the population sleep extremely late, nodding off between 2:30am and 7am.

[Read More](#)

Federal Labor pledges to address paid parental leave gap for grieving parents

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 24/04/2025, Natalie Dragon

A re-elected Albanese Labor Government will legislate to guarantee that working parents dealing with stillbirth and early infant death can continue to access their employer-paid paid parental leave (PPL). The action comes off the back of advocacy from Priya's parents who brought attention to an issue not adequately addressed in existing workplace laws.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Two of us

Sydney Morning Herald, Good Weekend Magazine, 26/04/2025, Katie Cunningham, Page 7

Both Emma Tinkler, 49, a former travel agent, and Martin Ostrowski, 50, a former marine scientist, have early-onset Parkinson's disease. They met doing advocacy work and have been dating for almost a year.

Also reported by: [The Saturday Age \(Melbourne\)](#).

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When the party's over

Herald Sun, General News, 26/04/2025, Page 27

When people are young and feel invincible, they seem to get away night after night with smoking and binge drinking. But research shows a party lifestyle takes its toll on your health by the age of 36 and not just because hangovers get worse as you get older.

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Giving cancer the boot

Adelaide Advertiser, Weekend, 26/04/2025, Paul Ashenden, Page 8

The doctors told Jill MacDonald there was nothing more they could do. After bouts of chemotherapy, radiotherapy and even steroids, they had run out of options. The treatment was not working. The cancer that had started in her lung had spread and was causing significant fluid build-up. She had undergone two operations to remove the fluid but could still hardly breathe

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War refugee family celebrates freedom

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 26/04/2025, Karen Grace Prince, Page 21

Phan Nguyen leads the thoracic medicine department at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. A clinical professor at just 47, he is working with the state government to introduce a national lung cancer screening program. But he says his achievements and sacrifices are nothing compared with what his parents went through to flee communist Vietnam more than 40 years ago.

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Life-saving cancer drug added to the PBS

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 26/04/2025, Page 18

Aussies with an aggressive type of breast cancer will soon be able to access vital medicine without the massive cost. A medicine to treat HER2-positive early breast cancer which is typically aggressive and fast-growing is slated to be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, meaning patients will be able to access treatment without forking out up-front.

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Call to pump funds into diabetes treatment

Newcastle Herald, General News, 26/04/2025, Jessica Belzycki, Page 27

When James Ashman got an insulin pump to manage type 1 diabetes two months ago, it was "life-changing". [...] In the lead-up to the federal election, Diabetes Australia is calling for bipartisan support for subsidised access to glucose monitoring devices for people with type 2 and subsidised insulin pumps for people with type 1.

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Gut disease in kids link to cancer surge later

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 26/04/2025, McKenzie Beard, Page 12

A surge in early-onset cases of colorectal cancer may be caused by a bacteria in the gut in childhood, according to a groundbreaking study. The cancer may be caused by colibactin, a toxin produced by certain strains of E. coli that thrive in the colon and rectum.

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Cure in need of funding

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 26/04/2025, Page 9

An Australian-made vaccine that is a proven cure of advanced melanoma is now saving terminal lung cancer patients but risks falling into a developmental valley of death without financial support. Adelaide-based surgeon and researcher Professor Brendon Coventry will present the lung cancer success of his vaccine at an Asia-Pacific conference in Brisbane next month.

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50 years after Vietnam War, the Nguyen family open up about their terrifying escape and new SA life

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/04/2025, Karen Grace Prince

Phan Nguyen leads the thoracic medicine department at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. A clinical

professor at just 47, he is working with the state government to introduce a national lung cancer screening program. But he says his achievements and sacrifices are nothing compared with what his parents went through to flee communist Vietnam more than 40 years ago.

Also reported by: [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#),

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Common diabetes drug could spark knee-pain breakthrough, study finds

9News, Other, 25/04/2025

A new study has uncovered another benefit of one of the country's most commonly prescribed medications for diabetes - joint pain relief. More than six million scripts for metformin are written each year, mainly to treat type 2 diabetes.

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PRIMARY CARE

Doctors in despair as crisis costs lives

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/04/2025, Natasha Robinson, Page 1

Against all of her instincts, Deborah Yates last year walked away from the public hospital she adored. The senior physician felt she could no longer work in a crumbling system. [...] A spokesperson for St Vincent's said that many of the senior executives, including the CEO, had changed since the time of Dr Yates' dispute with management.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#)

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Going out on their own terms

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/04/2025, Caroline Overington, Page 4

Retired nurse Sue Parker drew a red heart on her wall calendar. "That's my used-by date," she told people, meaning the date on which she had decided to end her battle with motor neurone disease, in the process becoming one of 2467 Australians who, according to the most recent data, have now taken advantage of legislation that allows for assisted dying in every state.

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PM dominates Dutton on cost of living

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/04/2025, Geoff Chambers, Page 6

SEC Newgate managing partner Angus Trigg said the survey indicated "a lot is going the government's way in this campaign". "Labor remains the strong frontrunner ... Labor's policies around urgent care clinics, reducing PBS medicines and electricity rebates have the strongest support, while the proposed reduction of fuel excise has been the policy for the Coalition that has resonated most strongly," Mr Trigg said.

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"He was there, and then he was gone"

Weekend Australian, Magazine, 26/04/2025, Caroline Overington, Page 14

It may seem counterintuitive for a photographer with deep anxiety about death to travel the country documenting voluntary assisted dying candidates but that's what Julian Kingma did. The result is an astonishingly intimate book that measures the agony and relief of "choice" Photography by Julian Kingma e was a great big bear of a man.

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Assisted dying laws around Australia: An evolution

When Victoria became the first jurisdiction to introduce voluntary assisted dying laws, it did so with a series of strict legislative restrictions: for example, the onus is on the patient to request information about end-of-life procedures, while doctors have a right to conscientiously object to providing that information. Also, only doctors can administer VAD, not nurses.

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Bush voters looking past major parties

Canberra Times, General News, 26/04/2025, Page 11

National Rural Health Alliance chief executive Susi Tegen pointed out regional industries like agriculture, mining and forestry bring in two-thirds of the nation's export income. Whoever holds the balance of power needs to commit to strengthening rural health in return, Ms Tegen said. Financial modelling commissioned by the alliance shows there is a \$6.55 billion annual underspend on rural health.

Also reported by: [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#), [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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What you won't see on Instagram

Canberra Times, General News, 26/04/2025, Dana Daniel, Page 20

The Prime Minister is upstairs with the local member, meeting with the clinic GP and nurse for a staged media moment that's being captured by a select few journalists and cameramen. In what's called a pool arrangement, they have been chosen to attend and share their content with the whole group. Before too long, Mr Albanese sweeps into the room as stands in front of a green-and-yellow Medicare backdrop to take our questions, flanked by Ms Phillips and his Finance Minister Katy Gallagher.

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The collapse in general practice has been obvious for years, yet governments have deepened the crisis

Hobart Mercury, General News, 26/04/2025, Graeme Alexander, Page 50

It is no secret that despite this fact, after years of neglect general practice is in trouble. I, like many others, recently discovered that my excellent young GP was no longer working in general practice. The pleasant receptionist was obviously under pressure and advised me that I would need to wait some weeks for an appointment. My replacement GP was excellent but I couldn't help noticing many empty consulting rooms.

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Polling reveals one critical issue

Ballarat Courier, General News, 26/04/2025, Nieve Walton, Page 7

Exclusive polling conducted by YouGov for ACM and AAP asked Ballarat voters which was more important when considering their vote: housing, local general practice services, or cost of living. Of the 187 respondents, 66 per cent said cost-of-living relief would be more important. When it comes to the other suggested issues, 14 per cent said none of them were a factor in voting, 12 per cent said housing, and 8 per cent said local GP services.

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Major parties on the nose

Border Mail, General News, 26/04/2025, Page 1

National Rural Health Alliance chief executive Susi Tegen pointed out regional industries like agriculture, mining and forestry bring in two-thirds of the nation's export income. Whoever holds the balance of power needs to commit to strengthening rural health in return, Ms Tegen said. Financial modelling commissioned by the alliance shows there is a \$6.55 billion annual underspend on rural health.

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Hundreds to walk for better healthcare

Border Mail, General News, 26/04/2025, Beau Greenway, Page 18

More than 500 people are tipped to front up to a health rally calling for investment in the Corowa region. Corowa Rutherglen Wahgunyah Health Action Group will stage a gathering tomorrow to ask state and federal governments to come to the table with more funding.

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Candidates answer the tough questions

Burnie Advocate, General News, 26/04/2025, Sarah Fittock , Page 4

Anne Urquhart: Healthcare. Labor is protecting and strengthening Medicare to make doctor visits free again. We've opened a Medicare Urgent Care Clinic in Devonport and will open one in Burnie, we are opening two free Medicare Mental Health Centres in Braddon, we're making medicines cheaper and funding a new Health Hub in Burnie.

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Major parties on the nose Bush voters looking past major parties

Daily Advertiser, General News, 26/04/2025, Page 1

National Rural Health Alliance chief executive Susi Tegen pointed out regional industries like agriculture, mining and forestry bring in two-thirds of the nation's export income. Whoever holds the balance of power needs to commit to strengthening rural health in return, Ms Tegen said. Financial modelling commissioned by the alliance shows there is a \$6.55 billion annual underspend on rural health.

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Push to deliver promise

Weekend Post, General News, 26/04/2025, Samuel Davis, Page 1

Premier David Crisafulli's commitment to deliver "world-class" health services is facing a major test as expectant mothers in southern Cape York are still being forced to relocate to Cairns and beyond to give birth. The LNP matched Labor's \$200m investment to build a new hospital in Cooktown last year with the then opposition leader also pledging to reopen the community birthing suite, which has been shut since early 2022.

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Public health systems are on the brink, and it's time for transparency

The Australian, Other, 25/04/2025, Natasha Robinson

The Australian this week launched an investigative series, which we have dubbed Life Support, to explore what is driving the huge pressures on Australian public hospitals. What is at stake is not only clinicians' welfare as public health systems teeter on the brink. Also at stake is patients' health – and their lives too.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Simmering tensions on Footscray streets

The Saturday Age, General News, 26/04/2025, Melissa Cunningham, Page 1

Last Thursday Abdifatah Ahmed, a rough sleeper who had mental health problems, was shot dead by two police officers after he allegedly lunged at them, wielding a knife. [...] The not-for-profit organisation provides crucial support to the African-Australian community in Melbourne, tackling a wide spectrum of social challenges, from homelessness to mental health and addiction.

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The uncommon leave more and more workers are taking

ComPsych Corp, a provider of employee mental health programs and absence management services, encourages its business clients to make the wellbeing of workers a priority before individuals get to a breaking point while also having processes in place for those who require leaves of absence. "Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, collectively we've just been in this constant state of turmoil," Jennifer Birdsall, the senior clinical director at ComPysch, said. "We just have had this barrage of change and uncertainty."

Also reported by: [The Saturday Age \(Melbourne\)](#).

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Campaign promises from your candidates

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 26/04/2025, Katrina Lovell & Sophia Baker, Page 4

Healthcare Independent candidate Alex Dyson said he would fight to secure a \$2 billion Building Rural Hospitals Fund, a \$1 billion National Rural Health Fund, increased medical training to create a regional workforce from the region, and increased rebates for long consults in regional areas.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Calls for recognition of 'isolated' rural challenges as GP quits

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 25/04/2025, Morgan Liotta

The owner of the only GP clinic in a rural Queensland town has made the difficult decision to leave his practice as years of a work-life juggle takes its toll. Dr Cameron Hoare purchased the Ramsey Street General Practice in 2022, but an overworked and under-resourced work-life imbalance has taken its toll.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Former medico in court

Hobart Mercury, General News, 26/04/2025, Duncan Abey, Page 26

A 64-year-old former medical practitioner has appeared in a special sitting of the Hobart Magistrate Court, after being extradited from New South Wales on historical sex charges, including child sexual

abuse. Michael Antony Welch did not apply for bail when he appeared before a Justice of the Peace in court on Friday's Anzac Day public holiday, and was remanded in custody.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

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Former Tassie pharmacist hit with ban

Burnie Advocate, General News, 26/04/2025, Matt Maloney, Page 8

A former Tasmanian pharmacist cannot apply for registration to work as a health professional for two years after being convicted of stealing drugs from her workplace and money from her co-workers. The Pharmacy Board of Australia recently took action against Charley Rose Clark to prevent her from working as a pharmacist after she misappropriated medication and stock at a Tasmanian Chemist Warehouse store in 2021.

Also reported by: [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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Plastic surgeon can continue practising

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 26/04/2025, Natalie Croxon, Page 6

A plastic surgeon who failed to provide proper care and treatment to patients in Wollongong can continue practising, but must abide by numerous conditions. The NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) found Dr Mahyar Amjadi guilty in 2024 of professional misconduct and unsatisfactory professional conduct regarding six patients, three of whom he saw at a Wollongong clinic between 2017 and 2019.

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Former Tasmanian GP extradited from NSW to face historical sexual abuse charges in Hobart

ABC Online, Other, 25/04/2025

A former Tasmanian medical practitioner has been extradited from New South Wales for sexual offences that occurred in the 1990s, police say. The 64-year-old man will appear in the Hobart Magistrates Court on Friday morning, after being charged with three counts of rape and three counts of indecent assault.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

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SPORT

Cancer, bribes, feuds: Games get serious

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/04/2025, Andrew Webste & Jessica Halloran, Page 1

We're here at John Coates's favourite restaurant on Sydney Harbour to address his very private battle with cancer and, if we're being brutally honest, whether he'll be around for the final act of his career in sports administration: the 2032 Brisbane Olympics. "You think about your mortality, yeah," the 74-year-old says quietly in his first public comments about seeing off bowel, lung and thyroid cancer at separate times in the past seven years.

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Afghanistan's women back on world stage

How good can they be as cricketers? And can they qualify for world cups and Olympic Games? For Mel Jones, the former Australian cricketer and Cricket Australia director who worked tirelessly alongside Emma Staples and Dr Catherine Ordway to get the players out of Afghanistan and then help them establish new lives in exile, the chance to dwell on those cricket questions is a huge relief.

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Head-on competition concern

Daily Telegraph, General News, 26/04/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 5

A concussion expert has raised the alarm about a new combat game in which competitors simply charge at one another. Swinburne University neurophysiologist and Concussion Legacy Foundation co-founder Alan Pearce slammed a coming tournament for RUNIT, to be staged in Melbourne.

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

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'No evidence' for our bans

Herald Sun, General News, 26/04/2025, Athos Sirianos, Page 6

Victory supporters claim unfair treatment Members of Melbourne Victory's active supporter group have cried foul over bans handed to several fans for alleged homophobic slurs and the lighting of two flares. The A-League club's official supporter group "North Terrace" has announced that Football Australia issued two year bans to a "core group" of members which it says were for using allegedly offensive language and letting off flares.

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ORIA rises in key location

Courier Mail, Home, 26/04/2025, Sophie Foster, Page 4

Keylin managing director Louis Cheung is thrilled with the ArtDeco inspired Oria development at 447 Gregory Tce, saying residents would have front row seats to the Games from the site's elevated position. [...] "This will be felt not only in terms of the green spaces and world-class sports infrastructure at Victoria Park and the Centenary Aquatic Centre, but also the RNA Showgrounds and future Athletes Village, which are an easy two-minute walk. It will be an extraordinary backyard for the future residents of Oria."

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Sleep device sector wakes up

Weekend Australian, Business News, 26/04/2025, Eddy Sunarto, Page 33

ResMed Melbourne-based biotech Avecho has just pulled off a big move, and it could change how Australians tackle sleepless nights. After years of plugging away on its own, this little biotech just landed a multimillion-dollar investment from Swiss pharma company Sandoz.

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Drug stems spread of virus

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 26/04/2025, Page 35

Just one dose of an antiviral drug could help reduce the spread of influenza to your immediate circle, new research suggests. University of Michigan researchers found a single dose of baloxavir which is sold in Australia as Xofluza can both treat flu symptoms and slow the spread of the virus.

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Lung study could help us breathe easy

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 26/04/2025, Page 37

Proteins found in birds could be key in combating avian flu and respiratory infections in humans, new research has found. Proteins (CL-10 and CL-11) found in bird lungs could play a "crucial role in lung immunity", and may compensate for the loss of a protein (SP-D) that helps protect the lungs of humans from airborne pathogens.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Indigenous advocate aims to be Australia's Senate voice of change for all

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/04/2025, Paige Taylor, Page 7

Upper house Megan Krakouer's work with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sex Abuse took her to remote communities and prisons where she witnessed pain and stigma. She saw the Indigenous suicide crisis through her work with a federal taskforce supporting grieving families. Now she runs a suicide prevention project with mentor Gerry Georgatos.

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

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So many questions over death so senseless

Northern Territory News, General News, 26/04/2025, Matt Cunningham, Page 20

Chief Justice Michael Grant outlined the factors judges must consider when assessing the granting of bail for a youth. These include "the need to consider all other options before remanding a youth in custody", "the need to strengthen and preserve the relationship between the youth and the youth's family", "the cognitive capacity, health and developmental needs of the youth", and, if the youth is Aboriginal, "any issues that arise due to the youth's Aboriginality including cultural background, ties to extended family or place and any other relevant cultural issues or obligation".

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Unwelcome sentiment: Anzac disruptions raise debate on recognition

The Nightly, General News, 25/04/2025, Aaron Patrick, Page 14

Protests against Indigenous ceremonies at Dawn Services were condemned by political leaders but have drawn support from some members of the public. [...] The ceremonies became common at public events over the past decades as Australians became more aware of the plight of Aboriginal people, who are generally poorer, less healthy and die younger than other Australians.

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Breaking a cycle of crime and abuse, how Cherbourg's next generation are taking up the fight

SBS, Other, 25/04/2025, Dan Rennie

Young people from the Queensland Indigenous community are fighting for a brighter future. The Wakka Wakka people, traditional owners of Cherbourg, located approximately 170 kilometres northwest of Brisbane, are calling on political leaders to engage with communities like theirs. [...] For 19 year old Koby Douglas, substance abuse is an everyday part of life but one that he hopes won't plague the Aboriginal community forever.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

More measles outbreak sites

Herald Sun, Edition Changes - 3rd Edition, 26/04/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 6

Victoria's measles outbreak is growing after several new cases visited sites in Greater Melbourne and Kilmore while infectious. Authorities have urged the public to be alert for symptoms of the highly infectious illness and warned of a "growing number" of locally transmitted cases across the state.

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

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Reducing isolation, empowering people

Newcastle Herald, General News, 26/04/2025, Page 32

Last year we posed the question: Why an asbestos and silicosis support group in Newcastle? Because it is needed. We are pleased to inform you, there is now an Asbestos and Silica Dust Diseases Support Group in the Newcastle area. We held our Asbestos and Silicosis Summit on 29 April 2024 and 49 people attended.

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Pork industry waits for JEV vaccine three years after viral outbreak

ABC Online, Other, 25/04/2025, Dan McCray & Brandon Long

Australia's \$6 billion pork industry has been waiting for a vaccine against the Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) for three years since its outbreak. [...] A vaccine exists for humans, but two separate pig vaccines are yet to clear federal approval processes.

[Read More](#)

All urged to get vaccinated

Sunraysia Daily, Other, 25/04/2025, Allan Murphy

Sunraysia residents have been urged to take action to protect their health this autumn as flu and measles infections soar. Cases of preventable infections, such as influenza and measles, have continued to rise – despite vaccinations offering an effective way to protect from potentially serious illness.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

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FOOD STANDARDS

Our \$36.6b food waste shame

The West Australian (Saturday edition), Edition Changes, 26/04/2025, Angela Pownall, Page 26

A third of all food in Australia is wasted, with a shocking 7.6 million tonnes of it ending up in the bin. [...] Research conducted by Food Standards Australia and New Zealand in 2023 revealed a third of people did not understand the date labels on food, and a further third of people understood them but then reported behaviour inconsistent with their understanding.

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AICIS

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