

Springfield Scoop

Healthcare for the people of Greater Springfield

Issue 8 December 2025



Mater Education's Rosie Russell, Mickey Knezevic, Nimmy Mathew and Ana Finau at the Careers Expo.

Future healthcare workers flock to Mater expo

More than 700 job seekers and career changers attended Mater's Careers Expo last month to learn about work opportunities at the new Mater Hospital Springfield, set to open from April 2026.

From nursing and midwifery roles to administration and food services positions, the event provided people with a chance to explore the wide variety of jobs on offer as Mater prepares to open the new hospital.

Mater Hospital Springfield General Manager, Suzanne Hawksley, said the new hospital would

create a healthcare precinct for both public and private patients in the heart of Springfield.

"It will be an incredible milestone for our community," Ms Hawksley said.

"Once fully operational, the facility will increase local employment by more than eight per cent and deliver new healthcare services to the Greater Springfield community for the first time.

"There will be an Emergency Department, Mater Mothers' maternity services, paediatric care and more."

Up to 1,000 job opportunities are available at Mater Hospital Springfield.



Scan here to view current roles available or visit: mater.li/SpringfieldRoles



Scan here to hear more about Mater Hospital Springfield from our leadership team or visit: youtu.be/n7WG9wHsr54

Welcome

As Christmas trees light up our homes, scaffolding is coming down at Mater Hospital Springfield – a clear sign that we're on track to begin delivering healthcare services from April 2026.

I'm thrilled to share that the first members of our leadership team have now been appointed. Please join me in welcoming:

- Lisa Clark – Director of Clinical Services
- Tilana Van Deventer – Assistant Director Clinical Services, Perioperative, Outpatients and Cancer Care
- Ali Broderick – Assistant Director Clinical Services, Maternity and Paediatrics
- Lorette Jubilius – Assistant Director Clinical Services, Emergency Department and Outpatients

Recruitment is now underway across a wide range of roles, and I look forward to meeting many of our future Mater People in the months ahead.

This December also marks a special milestone: the first mothers have begun attending antenatal clinics at Mater Health Hub, Springfield. These women will be the very first to give birth at our new hospital from May next year – ensuring they receive the care they need, close to home.

I'm equally excited to announce that a clinical trials service will be embedded within Mater Hospital Springfield. This means local patients will have access to additional and alternative treatments without the need to travel.

The countdown is truly on for the expansion of our integrated public and private healthcare precinct in the heart of Greater Springfield. Our Mater People are proud to share this journey with you – so if you see us out and about over the summer holidays, please stop and say hello.

From my family to yours, I wish you a happy, healthy Christmas.

Until next year.

Suzanne Hawksley

General Manager
Mater Private
Hospital
Springfield and
Mater Hospital
Springfield



Now and then: Patient Brett Deaves (above, centre) reunites with his care team at Mater Private Hospital Springfield a decade after being the first patient (below, centre) to have surgery at the hospital when it opened in 2015.



Celebrating a decade of care in Springfield

Forest Lake's Brett Deaves was the first inpatient at Mater Private Hospital Springfield when the facility opened its doors 10 years ago.

Admitted for minimally-invasive surgery to remove bilateral kidney stones, Mr Deaves was treated by Mater Urologist Dr Stuart Philip.

Mr Deaves and Dr Philip recently reunited to help celebrate Mater Private Hospital Springfield's 10-year anniversary.

"We both look 10 years older – and in my case, a lot greyer!" Dr Philip said.

"My main memory of the hospital opening was how keen and excited the team were to get started.

"So much planning and preparation went into those first few weeks, and it was great to see such a smooth start to the opening of a new hospital."

Mr Deaves said it was a 'real honour' to be the first inpatient.

"I had excellent treatment and care and it's exciting to know that Mater is expanding once again in Springfield," he said.

"It's crazy to reflect on how far the entire region has come over the past 10 years.

Dr Philip said he has now completed thousands of procedures and surgeries at Mater Private Hospital Springfield and is looking forward to seeing healthcare services continue to expand in the community.

"Greater Springfield has gone from strength to strength over the past decade. When my family initially built a house here, things like a shopping centre, hospital, train line and AFL stadium were all just dreams," he said.

"There's an incredible group of very dedicated local GPs and allied health professionals, but we now also have multiple radiology providers and, of course, a new public hospital that will open very soon."

Mater Private Hospital Springfield employs 320 staff and has performed almost 75,000 procedures in the past decade.



Jan Mundt with her grandson Thomas (4).

Clinical trials to launch in Springfield next year

A clinical trials service will be embedded in the new Mater Hospital Springfield to provide Greater Springfield patients with additional or alternative treatments.

Yamanto grandmother Jan Mundt said participating in a Mater clinical trial has given her the chance to watch her grandchildren grow.

Diagnosed in 2018 with stage 4 metastatic lung cancer and given less than a year to live, Ms Mundt was offered a place on a clinical trial at South Brisbane – but says the opportunity to access trials close to home would be a gamechanger.

"My initial goal when starting the clinical trial was to see my grandson, then aged two months, start primary school," she said.

"Not only did I walk him into school on his first day, but I've also seen the arrival of my second grandson, Thomas, now aged four."

Scan here to watch Jan's story or visit: youtu.be/1YNAy8DjUCo



Grand finalist kicking goals off the field

As a teenager Jade Ellenger had no idea she would become a professional AFLW player or even a nurse, but now she finds herself juggling both.

Jade has completed her first shifts as a theatre nurse at Mater Private Hospital Springfield, after also competing with the Brisbane Lions in the AFLW Grand Final against North Melbourne last month.

"I always knew that I would end up in healthcare, I really like helping people when they're at their most vulnerable and in their time of need," she said.

"As a theatre nurse, I enjoy being in the recovery unit and getting to know patients and providing one on one care."



The Brisbane Lions' Jade Ellenger is enjoying working just a five minute drive from where she trains.

First Springfield babies around the corner

Mater Mothers' Springfield will start delivering babies from May next year – and the first mums are already attending their antenatal clinics at Mater Health Hub, Springfield.

The new hospital will provide Springfield families with access to Australia's leading Mater Mothers' maternity services, with 1,700 babies expected to be delivered at the facility annually.

Mater Hospital Springfield's Assistant Director Clinical Services for Maternity and Paediatrics, Ali Broderick, said there would be a 16-bed maternity ward, 6 birthing suites and a 16-cot Neonatal Critical Care Unit (NCCU) to deliver world-class, contemporary care to mothers, babies and families when the new facility was fully operational.

"Our first Mater Mothers' patients are now able to access their antenatal care close to home ahead of our first births

in May next year," Ms Broderick said.

"Referrals are now open for families who wish to have their babies in Springfield, and we are excited to say we have already had a lot of referrals come through for our first patients!"

Mater Mothers' Springfield will also include a Pregnancy Assessment Centre – a dedicated 24/7 emergency care unit for women who experience difficulties during their pregnancies.

Springfield mother Jess Cragg said having maternity and paediatric services close to home would provide peace of mind for local families.

"My first daughter Issy (5) was born prematurely, so we still travel into Brisbane for specialist appointments regularly – having access to local maternity and paediatric healthcare will be a gamechanger," Ms Cragg said.



Mater Mothers' Springfield midwives Melissa Topping and Nicole Peno with Assistant Director Clinical Services Maternity and Paediatrics, Ali Broderick.



For information on Mater Mothers' Springfield services, visit: mater.li/SpringfieldMothers

Festive feast

Christmas feasts are often full of juicy roasts and decadent desserts – but this year, Mater Health Hub, Springfield dietitian Martin Nurka is helping you add a pop of colour and extra nutrients to your dining table.

These pastries are packed with vitamin-rich beetroot and spinach, boosting folate and manganese intake – both known for brain and heart health as well as improving nutrient metabolism.

For further nutritional support or advice on meal planning, contact Mater Health Hub, Springfield on 07 3163 3760.



Prancer's pastry parcels

Serves: 6
Preparation: 25 minutes
Cooking: 60 minutes

Ingredients:

- 4 whole beetroot, sliced into wedges
- 200g baby leaf spinach, washed
- 200g feta or goats cheese, crumbled
- 1 brown onion, diced
- 2 tbsp dried cranberries
- Filo pastry
- 1 egg, beaten
- Rosemary sprigs, for garnish

Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C.
2. Spread the beetroot wedges out in a baking dish – drizzle with olive oil and salt, and roast in the oven, tossing occasionally, until soft.
3. Add the onion to a pan and fry until translucent. Add the spinach to this and cook for a further two or three minutes until wilted – drain any excess liquid following this.
4. In a large bowl, mix the beetroot, spinach, onion, cheese and cranberries. Season to your liking.
5. Slice your filo pastry into 20cm squares and distribute your filling evenly among them. Fold the corners over to meet in the middle and cover the filling, pressing firmly to seal. Grease a muffin tin to hold the parcels' shape as they bake.
6. Brush each with beaten egg and bake until golden brown.

Serving suggestion:

Sprinkle with poppy seeds prior to baking – then to serve, add flaky sea salt and sprigs of rosemary.



Tis the season

Mater is proud to be a sponsor of the 2025 Springfield Carols, to be held on Saturday 13 December at Robelle Domain.

This year's event is expected to be the biggest yet, with Dami Im headlining performances on the night and a special appearance by Santa Claus himself.

Young families will find a safe space for breastfeeding and nappy changing at the Mater Mothers' breastfeeding tent – featuring armchairs, change tables, and in-person support provided by some of our Mater team.

Scan here to learn more or visit:
<https://mater.li/SpringfieldCarols>



Our phased *opening.*

Mater Hospital Springfield will open in stages to ensure the highest quality of care for every patient.

