

SPRING NEWSLETTER

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RACGP ***PRACTICE OF THE YEAR*** 2026 AWARD WINNER

SA RACGP Practice of the Year

We are very happy to announce that we have been named the 2026 RACGP South Australian General Practice of the Year.

This award from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners recognises the teamwork and commitment of our entire practice team.

A big thank you to our docs, nurses and admin team for their contribution to this achievement. Most importantly, we thank our patients and community for their continued trust, encouragement and support. This award belongs to all of us.

Registrars & Students

Goolwa Medical Centre is proud to be actively involved in training the next generation of doctors through registrar and medical student programs. We'd like to thank our patients for understanding the importance of providing medical training in rural practices. At times, this may mean that our supervising doctors are briefly interrupted to provide guidance or support. We greatly appreciate your patience and cooperation, which play an important part in developing skilled and confident rural doctors for the future.

Updating Details

Accurate patient records are important. Please help our reception team by checking your details are correct. Please advise us of any changes to your address, phone number, email address, Medicare card or emergency contact. Thank you for helping us keep your medical records accurate and up to date.

Not Attending Appointments

Approximately 550 patients this year have missed appointments without notifying us of their cancellation. With extended waiting times to see a doctor, every available appointment is important. Therefore, we cannot offer that time to another patient- including someone who may need urgent medical care. While we do not like issuing non-attendance fees, the high number of missed appointments has made this necessary. A \$50 late cancellation or non-attendance fee may apply if adequate notice is not provided.

Mallee Girl GMC Puppy

We are delighted to introduce the newest—and possibly cutest—member of the Goolwa Medical Centre team! Mallee is currently being trained as an emotional support dog for our staff and patients. She is full of beans, has plenty to learn and is already bringing lots of smiles to the team. Once her training is complete and she is ready, Mallee will begin venturing into patient areas to meet our patients and offer some four-legged comfort and support.



Welcome DR Kate Johnson

We recently welcomed Dr Kate Johnson as a registrar to GMC. Kate is a long term Fleurieu resident with a young family. Kate has a special interest in supporting new parents, developmental years and education.

Drawing on firsthand farming experience and marrying a builder, Kate understands the unique health challenges facing those in agriculture and with physically demanding lifestyles.



LyerBird AI Note Taker

Some of our doctors are now using Lyrebird AI, a secure digital note-taking tool that assists with preparing clinical notes during consultations. This allows your doctor to spend less time typing and more time focused on you. Your consent will always be requested before Lyrebird is used, and you may decline without affecting your care. Patient information is processed and stored within Australia in accordance with Australian privacy requirements.

Dangerously Well non-fiction book

We would like to recognise our patient, Roger Rees, and his book '*Dangerously Well*'. Roger is an accomplished author, among many other accolades, and his latest work is another engaging and thought-provoking read.

