



**BSWRICS**

Barwon South Western Regional  
Integrated Cancer Service

# Barwon South Western Cancer Support Groups

This brochure provides information on support groups in the region, grouped by area and type of cancer. The groups are run independently.

We encourage you to access support, whether via these groups, other supports listed on our website ([www.bswrics.org.au](http://www.bswrics.org.au)) or beyond.

## GEELONG, SURFCOAST & BELLARINE PENINSULA

### ALL CANCERS

#### [Cancer After Care Group Geelong](#)

Contact: Libby Bate (Ph. 5282 1936)  
Group Secretary (Ph. 5229 1567)  
Thelma Evans (Ph. 5255 1806) -  
Bellarine Branch

Service: Raise funds to provide equipment for the Andrew Love Cancer Centre. Assist and support people affected by cancer and their families.

When: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 1.30pm.

Venue: The Andrew Love Cancer Centre  
Wellness Lounge, 70 Swanston Street,  
Geelong.  
Bellarine Branch - Contact Thelma for  
details.



### ALL CANCERS / BOWEL CANCER

#### [Geelong Bowel & General Cancer Support Group](#)

Contact: Marilyn Dolling (Ph. 0419 525 353)  
Max Gladman (Ph. 0447 614 783)

Service: The group is informal and provides support and information for people and their carers dealing with a diagnosis of bowel or general cancer.

When: 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month from 1.00pm  
- 3.00pm (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in Apr & Dec).

Venue: The Andrew Love Cancer Centre  
Wellness Lounge, 70 Swanston Street,  
Geelong.

### BLOOD CANCER

#### [Geelong Myeloma Information & Support Group](#)

Contact: Emma-Jane Furphy (Ph. 0436 684 497)

Service: The group offers an opportunity for discussion, social activities and education sessions.

When: Visit [www.myeloma.org.au](http://www.myeloma.org.au) or contact the number above for meeting dates.

Venue: The Andrew Love Cancer Centre  
Wellness Lounge, 70 Swanston Street,  
Geelong.

For general information or copies of this brochure please contact:

Barwon South Western Regional Integrated Cancer Service  
c/o Andrew Love Cancer Centre  
70 Swanston Street, Geelong 3220

[www.bswrics.org.au](http://www.bswrics.org.au)

03 4215 0459

## Geelong Blood Cancer Social Breakfast Group

**Contact:** Carolyn Rogers (Ph. 0438 695 127)  
**Service:** This is a friendly, social group for people affected by blood cancer, carers and survivors.  
**When:** Breakfast meetings are held on the last Sunday of each month at 9.00am.  
**Venue:** Café RnR,  
Barrabool Road, Belmont.

## Barwon Blood Cancer Support Group

**Contact:** Linda Saunders (Ph. 0466 508 664)  
**Service:** This is a peer group for people, and their family and friends, living with leukaemias, lymphomas, myeloma and related blood disorders to come together to share coping strategies, feel more empowered and find a sense of community.  
**When:** Meetings are held on a Tuesday from 10.00am - 11.30am on a bimonthly basis - contact Linda for meeting dates.  
**Venue:** Vines Road Community Centre,  
37-61 Vines Road, Hamlyn Heights.

## **BRAIN CANCER**

### Geelong Brain Cancer Support Group

**Contact:** Bec Picone (Ph. 0411 382 457)  
**Service:** Hosted by the Peace of Mind Foundation, this group provides an opportunity to connect with other people affected by brain cancer and their families.  
**When:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month. Contact Bec for meeting dates and times.  
**Venue:** The Andrew Love Cancer Centre Wellness Lounge, 70 Swanston Street, Geelong.

## **BREAST/GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER**

### Geelong Region Activity Care and Education (G.R.A.C.E)

**Contact:** McGrath Breast Care Nurse,  
Andrew Love Cancer Centre.  
(Ph. 0409 780 296)  
Breast Care Nurse,  
St John of God Geelong Hospital.  
(Ph. 5215 8702)  
**Service:** Activities and support for those affected by breast and gynaecological cancers. Group meets monthly for morning tea with events in between.  
**When:** Morning Tea - 1st Friday of each month at 11am. Events - 12 Feb, 13 May, 12 Aug, 14 Oct & 9 Dec. A flyer is available with more information.  
**Venue:** Morning tea - Eastern Hub Geelong,  
285A McKillop Street, East Geelong.  
Events alternate between the Andrew Love Cancer Centre and St. John of God Geelong Hospital. Contact the Breast Care Nurses on the numbers above for details and/or flyer.

### Ocean Grove/Barwon Heads Breast Cancer Support Group

**Contact:** Julie Rodger (Ph. 0435 362 573)  
Lyn Hunter (Ph. 0412 373 182)  
**Service:** A group of ladies, touched by breast cancer, meet in a relaxed atmosphere to chat, support & encourage each other.  
**When:** Last Friday of each month (excl. Dec) from 1.00pm - 3.00pm. All welcome.  
**Venue:** Ocean Grove Bowling Club,  
18 The Terrace, Ocean Grove.  
  
Group also meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at a rotating venue for coffee - contact Julie/Lyn for details.

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## Beyond Pink Metastatic (Advanced) Breast Cancer Support Group

Contact: Judy Margolis (Ph. 0427 052 815)  
Service: Support, information and resources for people with metastatic (advanced) breast cancer. Share experiences and encouragement in a friendly, private setting or participate via email [support@beyondpink.org.au](mailto:support@beyondpink.org.au)  
When: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 10.00am.  
Venue: Contact Judy for venue details.

## PROSTATE CANCER

### Geelong Prostate Support Group

Contact: Bill Rebula - Secretary  
(Ph. 0414 524 155)  
Alan Barlee - Mentor  
(Ph. 0429 438 673)  
Service: Provides the opportunity for people affected by prostate issues to meet for discussion, support and to hear guest speakers. Partners welcome.  
When: Last Friday of each month (excl. Dec) at 9.45am for 10.00am.  
Venue: Education Room, St John of God Geelong Hospital, 80 Myers Street, Geelong.

## COLAC REGION

### Colac Cancer Support Group

Contact: Lorraine Mahoney (Ph. 5231 5001)  
Service: Friendship, information and support for people coping with cancer as well as their family and friends.  
When: Every Tuesday from 1.00pm - 3.00pm.  
Venue: Colac Area Health (next to cafeteria), 2-28 Connor Street, Colac.

Disclaimer: BSWRICS do not facilitate these support groups. Each individual member will be expected to cover their own travel costs.



## HAMILTON REGION

### Hamilton Support Group

Contact: (Ph. 5551 8450)  
Service: This group is open to people with cancer and their families. It offers support and understanding and the opportunity to discuss feelings and concerns.  
When: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 2.00pm - 4.00pm.  
Venue: Frances Hewett Community Centre, 2 Roberts Street, Hamilton.

## PORTLAND REGION

### Portland Cancer Support Group

Contact: Cancer Support Nurse,  
Portland District Health  
(Ph. 5522 1185)  
Service: It is an informal gathering to have coffee and a chat with others who are on a cancer journey.  
When: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 2.00pm.  
Venue: Contact the Cancer Support Nurse on the above number for further details.

## WARRNAMBOOL REGION

### Warrnambool Prostate Support Group

Contact: Sheryl Murray (Ph. 5561 5524)  
Bruce Beal (Ph. 0428 577 835)  
Service: This is a group of interested people who meet informally to discuss issues of interest resulting from their involvement with a prostate cancer diagnosis.  
When: 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm.  
Venue: The Cally Hotel,  
112 Fairy Street, Warrnambool.

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### Warrnambool & South West Blood Cancer Support Group

Contact: Linda Saunders (Ph. 0466 508 664)  
Sharna Purcell, South West Healthcare  
(Ph. 5564 4186)

Service: This is a peer group for people, and their family & friends, living with leukaemias, lymphomas, myeloma and related blood disorders to come together to share coping strategies, feel more empowered and find a sense of community.

When: Meetings are held on a Wednesday from 10.00am - 11.30am on a quarterly basis - contact Linda/Sharna for meeting dates.

Venue: South West Regional Cancer Centre, Ryot Street, Warrnambool.

### Southwest Young Women's Cancer Support Group

Contact: Rebecca Hay, South West Healthcare  
(Ph. 0458 833 584)  
Sharna Purcell, South West Healthcare  
(Ph. 5564 4186)

Service: A friendly, welcoming peer support group for women aged approx. 18-50 years who have, or continue to experience, a cancer diagnosis. Group meets for lunch and a chat to share thoughts and experiences, respecting privacy and confidentiality.

When: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 12pm.

Venue: Various venues around Warrnambool - contact Rebecca/Sharna for details.

## BREAST CANCER

### Warrnambool & District Breast Cancer Support Group

Contact: Phyllis McLeish (Ph. 5562 2049)  
Marilyn Spikin (Ph. 5562 2321)

Service: Support and information for those affected by breast cancer.

When: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 12.00pm.

Venue: Warrnambool Bowls Club,  
75 Timor Street, Warrnambool.

### Warrnambool Social Breast Cancer Support Group

Contact: Jan Kennedy (Ph. 0467 840 745)

Service: Group meets for lunch and offers support for women with breast cancer and survivors.

When: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month.

Venue: Various venues around Warrnambool - contact Jan for details (text or leave message on number above - all enquiries will be answered).

### Warrnambool South C Dragons

Contact: Judy Conn (Ph. 0435 739 370)

Service: The dragon boat racing team is for women (and their friends) who have experienced cancer.

Venue: Contact Judy for details.

## MOUNT GAMBIER (SA)

### Mt. Gambier Cancer Support Group

Contact: Lorraine Musgrove (Ph. 0419 826 559)

Service: This group provides support to people living with cancer and their families.

When: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 1:30pm.

Venue: Naval Association Clubrooms,  
Birdwood Avenue, Mount Gambier.

### Limestone Coast Prostate Cancer Support Group

Contact: Richard Harry (Ph. 0427 978 898)

Service: Group meets for discussion, support, information & to hear guest speakers.

When: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:30pm.

Venue: District Council of Grant (old council chambers), 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier.

Group also meets for informal coffee at 2pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at Mt. Gambier RSL. Partners meeting takes place at same time.

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