

# Health Happenings

Mid West Health - Elliston

## Palliative Care Equipment Program

### Vicki Atkinson Community Health Nurse

In November 2011 the Palliative Care Council of South Australia assisted Palliative Care Australia and the commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing to implement the Palliative Care Equipment Program.

Mid West Community Health has successfully applied for funding under the Palliative Care Equipment Program 2011. An application was made for a portable oxygen concentrator and a transportable electric bed

The portable oxygen concentrator will be available for palliative clients on home oxygen to use when travelling to appointments or visiting family or friends. The portable oxygen concentrator is a light weight compact unit on wheels with a telescopic handle. For stationary or portable use it is powered using AC, battery or vehicle DC power. It can be used on air flights or when travelling by road and will be of great benefit for clients as it negates the need to transport gas cylinders.

The transportable electric bed has all the features of a hospital bed but has been designed for use in the home. It can be transported, assembled and disassembled easily and the design complements furniture in the home. It will enhance the level of comfort for clients who are being cared for in their own home.

Mid West Health would like to thank Palliative Care Council of South Australia, Palliative Care Australia and the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing for accepting our application and granting the funding. Locally available equipment will benefit clients in the Mid West region.

## New Home and Community Care Coordinator



Hello, my name is Patrick Mercer, I am the new Home and Community Care Coordinator in Wudinna and surrounding communities. I am dividing my time between Wudinna & Haslam having relocated from Port Lincoln.

I live with my partner at Haslam over the weekends and work in Wudinna during the week. I am really enjoying the lifestyle change living in a positive community and am appreciating the beauty of the coast.

I have previously worked in Administration, Finance and Aged care prior to taking the position with Mid West Health. I have been training as an enrolled nurse and completing placement here over the last twelve months.

I look forward to the many opportunities, meeting people in the local communities and working with the senior members of this community.

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### For further information:

**Mid West Community Health  
Elliston**

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**[www.sahealth.sa.gov.au](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au)**