

# Registered Nurse Graduate Program 2018

Incorporating Hamilton Base Hospital, Coleraine District Health Service and Penshurst & District Health Service



Graduate Nurse Program Coordinator  
Leah Swainston  
Phone: (03) 55518544  
Email: [leah.swainston@wdhs.net](mailto:leah.swainston@wdhs.net)



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# Our Vision

Creating healthier communities.

# Our Mission

To support our community's physical, mental and social wellbeing by;

- Providing high quality and innovative services;
- Building enduring partnerships; and
- Delivering customer service excellence.

# Our Values

We value:

- **Integrity** - we will be open and honest and will do the right thing for the right reason
- **Innovation** - we will be an industry leader by breaking new ground and improving the way things are done
- **Collaboration** - we will actively work together in teams and partnerships
- **Accountability** - we will take personal responsibility for our decisions and actions
- **Respect** - we will value all peoples' opinions and contributions
- **Empathy** - we will endeavour to understand other peoples' feelings and perspectives

# Location & Distances



Distances (kms)	Hamilton	Coleraine	Dunkeld	Penshurst	Cavendish	Balmoral	G'thompson	Horsham	Halls Gap	Port Fairy	Portland	Ballarat	Geelong	Warmambool	Melbourne	Mt Gambier	Connawarra	Adelaide
Hamilton		34	32	33	26	65	50	130	96	84	85	180	236	110	295	132	135	499
Coleraine	34		66	64	53	46	84	124	130	117	98	213	267	140	326	97	101	465
Dunkeld	32	66		28	31	70	18	135	64	93	117	147	205	105	261	156	166	519
Penshurst	33	64	28		54	93	47	158	93	64	104	179	203	75	278	154	165	530
Cavendish	26	53	31	54		38	50	104	82	109	110	179	236	130	293	147	154	487
Balmoral	65	46	70	93	38		89	76	96	148	145	217	275	168	332	141	122	449
G'thompson	50	84	18	47	50	89		154	65	111	136	129	186	93	242	174	185	538
Horsham	130	124	135	158	104	76	154		71	213	218	187	277	228	299	261	154	430
Halls Gap	96	130	64	93	82	96	65	71		157	181	137	228	165	249	233	229	522
Port Fairy	84	117	93	64	109	148	111	213	157		75	200	224	29	293	156	216	605
Portland	85	98	117	104	110	145	136	218	181	75		268	297	102	366	118	175	566
Ballarat	180	213	147	179	179	217	129	187	137	200	268		90	174	112	311	314	614
Geelong	236	267	205	203	236	275	186	277	228	224	297	90		198	75	369	368	704
Warmambool	110	140	105	75	130	168	93	228	165	29	102	174	198		261	185	243	652
Melbourne	295	326	261	278	293	332	242	299	249	293	366	112	75	261		425	428	730
Mt Gambier	132	97	156	154	147	141	174	261	233	156	118	311	369	185	425		61	455
Connawarra	135	101	166	165	154	122	185	154	229	216	175	314	368	243	428	61		373
Adelaide	499	465	519	530	487	449	538	430	522	605	566	614	704	652	730	455	373	

# Program Information Open Day



## *RN Graduate Nurse Program Open Day*

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July  
2.30pm – 5.00pm**

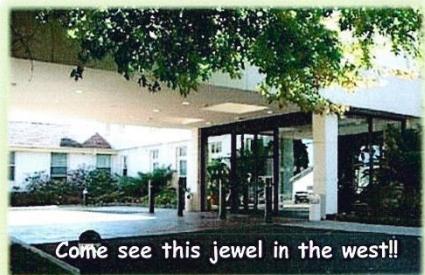
**Hamilton Base  
Hospital  
20 Foster Street  
Hamilton Vic 3300**

*Information and Hospital  
Tour for Prospective  
RN Graduate Nurses 2018*

**Contact:**

Leah Swainston  
Graduate Nurse Program Coordinator  
(03) 55518544  
[leah.swainston@wdhs.net](mailto:leah.swainston@wdhs.net)

*Bookings encouraged for catering purposes*



# Western District Health Service

Western District Health Service is a multi-campus facility providing a broad range of hospital and community-based health services to the Western District of Victoria. Based in Hamilton, with outlying campuses in Coleraine, Peshurst and Merino. The entity provides the following facilities; 91 acute and subacute beds, 175 high and low level extended care and residential aged care beds, 35 independent living units, primary care, youth, community and allied health services and the National Centre for Farmer Health.

Hamilton is in the Western District of Victoria, mainly a farming area 3 ½ hours from Melbourne. There is a wide variety of local and "chain" stores, as well as banks, supermarkets, a performing arts centre and cinema. Hamilton has an excellent range of primary and secondary schools, both private and state, as well as a campus of South West TAFE.

Hamilton is ideally placed to access the Coonawarra wine district, the Grampians National Parks and is less than one hour from the coastal cities of Warrnambool, Port Fairy and Portland and is one and a half hours from South Australia.

Hamilton Base Hospital is a modern hospital servicing a sub-regional population of 40,000 and has affiliation with St Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne and Barwon Health in Geelong. The medical unit includes sixteen acute medical beds, seven sub-acute rehabilitation beds, a four bed critical care unit and a four bed accident and emergency department. The surgical unit encompasses forty four beds including twenty seven general surgical beds, three complex care beds, five midwifery beds, four paediatric beds, three renal dialysis chairs and eight day procedure chairs. Other facilities at the Hamilton Hospital include two operating theatres, a chemotherapy unit and a sleep studies laboratory. There is a clinical skills room with simulation manikins and models, a library with online services, extensive on site medical imaging and pathology services, and a state of the art learning and development centre with video conferencing. Last year Hamilton Base Hospital managed 6,967 admissions, 2,911 operations, 193 births and 7,018 emergency department presentations.

Western District Health Service operates six aged care facilities in Hamilton, Penshurst and Coleraine, offering a holistic Montessori care model that supports clients to maintain their independence and special interests and offers comprehensive lifestyle programs. Throughout 2016 the aged care facilities accommodated 244 high and low care residents, provided respite accommodation to 214 clients and managed 36 Community Aged Care Package clients.

Western District Health Service has a vision of creating healthier communities, with the mission to support our community's physical, mental and social wellbeing, provide high quality and innovative services, building enduring partnerships and delivering customer service excellence.

Our organisational values are the foundation for the way we do things and define who we are. The values, Integrity, Innovation, Collaboration, Accountability, Respect and Empathy, underpin our culture, support our direction and effectiveness. These core values guide staff in their behaviours and interactions on behalf of the organisation.



# WDHS Campuses

## Hamilton Base Hospital

Hamilton Base Hospital, the largest entity and lead agency within the Western District Health Service, has 74 acute and 95 aged care beds providing a wide range of acute and aged care services. It provides services to communities within the Shire boundaries of Southern Grampians, Glenelg and Moyne Shires, the cities of Ararat, Horsham and Warrnambool and the south east of South Australia. It is located within the Department of Human Services Region One – the Barwon and South Western Region.

The Acute Hospital and the Aged Care Services are both ACHS accredited with the Aged Care Services also being accredited with the Aged Care Standards Agency.

The service has been completely refurbished and is noted for its state of the art facilities especially the Education Centre with up to date equipment and latest technology, supported by well-trained and highly skilled staff.

The Operating Suite has two theatres that deal with a wide range of general and speciality surgical procedures; it is supported by direct admission to Theatre and Peri-Operative Services.



## Coleraine District Health Service

The township of Coleraine is approximately 30 kilometres to the west of Hamilton. This facility consists of 10 acute beds, 53 residential aged care beds including both high and low care residents at the Valley View Nursing Home, Wannan Court, Mackie Court Hostel and 25 Independent Living Units.



## Penshurst and District Health Service

Penshurst is approximately 30 kilometres to the south east of Hamilton. This health service provides 6 acute care medical beds, 17 high and 10 low residential aged care beds, 10 Independent Living Units (4 at Penshurst and 6 at Dunkeld) with day support, health promotion, health education and health maintenance services provided through the Sheppard Centre.



# Graduate Nurse Program

The Registered Nurse Graduate Nurse Program operates across all facilities of Western District Health Service and is a carefully planned and integrated twelve month program designed to consolidate nursing skills and increase professional awareness under the supervision and guidance of experienced and competent nurses.

Western District Health Service offers a program that provides a broad range of clinical experience with rotations in the acute wards and a rural hospital or an aged care facility.

The program is designed to provide the graduate with:

- A structured and challenging clinical experience in a supportive environment
- Increased career satisfaction and better patient care by assisting participants with a smooth transition from student to graduate
- Opportunities to gain exposure and experience in a variety of health care settings to broaden clinical skills for future career pathways
- Consolidation of knowledge and skills with successful integration into clinical practice
- Organisational and prioritisation skills
- An understanding of clinical risk management in the workplace and preventative strategies associated with risk management
- Regular progress feedback throughout the twelve months with formal appraisals

The Western District Health Service Graduate Nurse Program offers:

- Outstanding clinical support and guidance by Practice Development Nurses in each clinical area
- Extensive preceptorship/mentor support foundations in all clinical rotation
- Diversity of nursing practice and clinical skills
- A comprehensive one week orientation program
- Access to an outstanding clinical skills laboratory
- Numerous paid professional study days and sessions throughout the year
- Six weeks annual leave plus a paid ADO every month for full time participants
- Formal appraisals reflecting on your development as a nurse in each clinical area
- Possibility of ongoing employment

## Benefits of participating in the Graduate Nurse Program at Western District Health Service:

- Safe and friendly working environment
- Salary Packaging - with the option of Rural and Remote Housing benefits
- Free onsite parking
- Personal email account
- Corporate discount rates for gym membership at HILAC
- Access to Western District Health Service Social Club Membership – excellent for establishing social networks with monthly Happy Hour, regular evening and day gatherings and an exceptional Christmas function. Frequent access to a range of cash vouchers with all year round discounts available at numerous businesses throughout the district. Access to low-priced annual hospital gym membership
- Certificate on completion of the program
- Opportunity for participation in the Second Year Graduate Program the following year. During the Second Year Program there will be the possibility of rotations to specialty areas such as the Intensive Care Unit and Operating Theatre.
- Credit points towards further studies at Flinders University in Graduate Diploma and Master Courses

## Application Process:

Applications are to be submitted through the Postgraduate Medical Council of Victoria Computer Matching Online Service by following the Graduate Nurse Computer Match link [www.computermatching.pmcv.com.au](http://www.computermatching.pmcv.com.au)

Following registration through the computer match system, formal applications for the Western District Health Service Graduate Nurse Program including; Curriculum Vitae, Three Referees, Academic Transcript and three most recent clinical placement reports, are to be forwarded to:

Leah Swainston  
Graduate Nurse Program Coordinator  
Learning and Development Centre  
Western District Health Service  
PO Box 283  
Hamilton Vic 3300  
Phone: 03 55518544  
[leah.swainston@wdhs.net](mailto:leah.swainston@wdhs.net)

All applications to Western District Health Service are appreciated and it is assured that each application received is given the time and consideration it deserves. Candidates who are successfully shortlisted through the selection process will be invited to attend a formal discussion.



# Helpful Hints for Interview

## Preparation:

Research background information in regard to Western District Health Service, this will give you a feel for the organization. Work this information into the discussion to show how serious you are about the position.

Prepare several questions that you can ask during the interview to prove interest in the position.

Be well groomed and dress appropriately - clean, smart and tidy.

## The discussion:

- Be early.
- Learn the name of your interviewers and greet them with a firm handshake.
- Use good manners with everyone you meet.
- Relax and answer each question concisely.
- Use proper English - avoid slang.
- Be cooperative and enthusiastic.
- Use body language to show interest—use eye contact and don't slouch.
- Ask questions about the position and the organization,
- Thank the interviewer when you leave and shake hands.

## Some questions you may be asked during the formal discussion:

- Tell me about yourself?
- What do you know about our graduate program?
- How would your colleagues describe you? / How would you describe yourself?
- What were the most significant accomplishments throughout your nursing training?
- Why would you like a graduate position at Western District Health Service?
- What do you know about our organisational values?
- What are your career goals? / What position do you expect to have in 2 to 5 years?
- What are your strong points? What are your weaknesses? Make a list of your strengths and weaknesses in relation to working as a nurse in the graduate nurse program.
- What would you like to accomplish in your graduate year?
  - Do you have any questions for us?

# Western District Lifestyle

The Western District offers a relaxing rural lifestyle for 17,000 people with 10,500 being in the City of Hamilton. Hamilton offers an amazing array of experiences and embodies a strong community spirit. The wealth of natural assest, education and health facilites in the area are the envy of other cities of similar population.



Style and quality oozes in Hamilton having excellent shopping facilities ranging from boutique clothing and gift stores to chain store retail outlets. Various cafes and fine dining opportunities are aplenty with local gourmet produce on the menu.

The position of Hamilton makes the perfect launching pad for many day trips around the area on those well deserved days off. The choice is endless, bushwalking at the Grampians, a fascinating trek around the volcanic trail, sightseeing at the peaceful waterfalls, a picnic in the beautiful botanic gardens, or just a wee tippie at the local wineries. Some of the nearby towns that offer plenty include Port Fairy, Warrnambool, Mount Gambier, Penola and Portland.



For those feeling energetic and health conscious or for those who wish to enjoy the great outdoors many options are available. A round of golf on the tree-lined fairways and the well bunkered greens, waterskiing, sailing, rowing, canoeing or a stroll around Lake Hamilton are just a few outdoor alternatives on offer.

An array of magnificent sporting facilities is available throughout the township. The Hamilton Indoor Leisure and Aquatic Centre cater for swimming, basketball, indoor netball, squash, table tennis and the gym enthusiast. Team sports are aplenty throughout the district with football, soccer, hockey, cricket, lawn tennis, lawn bowls and baseball. For those who dare to be different there is archery and clay target shooting clubs for you to try.

When looking for something to fill a quiet moment, the local art gallery has world renowned collections and offers regular and diverse exhibitions. Close by is the library with a wonderful selection of books and if you are unable to find that special book the staff will source it for you. The local refurbished cinema offers the latest in new releases while the performing arts centre has a great calender of events that run throughout the year, offering both local and national talent for your entertainment.

The well known events of Sheepvention and the Dunkeld Races are annual highlights that should not be missed. Sheepvention showcases everthing that the region has to offer and is a huge gathering of the townsfolk. The Dunkeld Races are a must, the Melbourne Cup of the bush, run in November each year, you will be sorry if you miss it.

Wanting something a little special then why not try some of the multi-award-winning restaurants and cellars in the area. The Royal Mail Hotel offers dining that focuses on seasonal, local sourced produce, much of which is collected daily from the hotel's own kitchen gardens, orchards and olive grove.

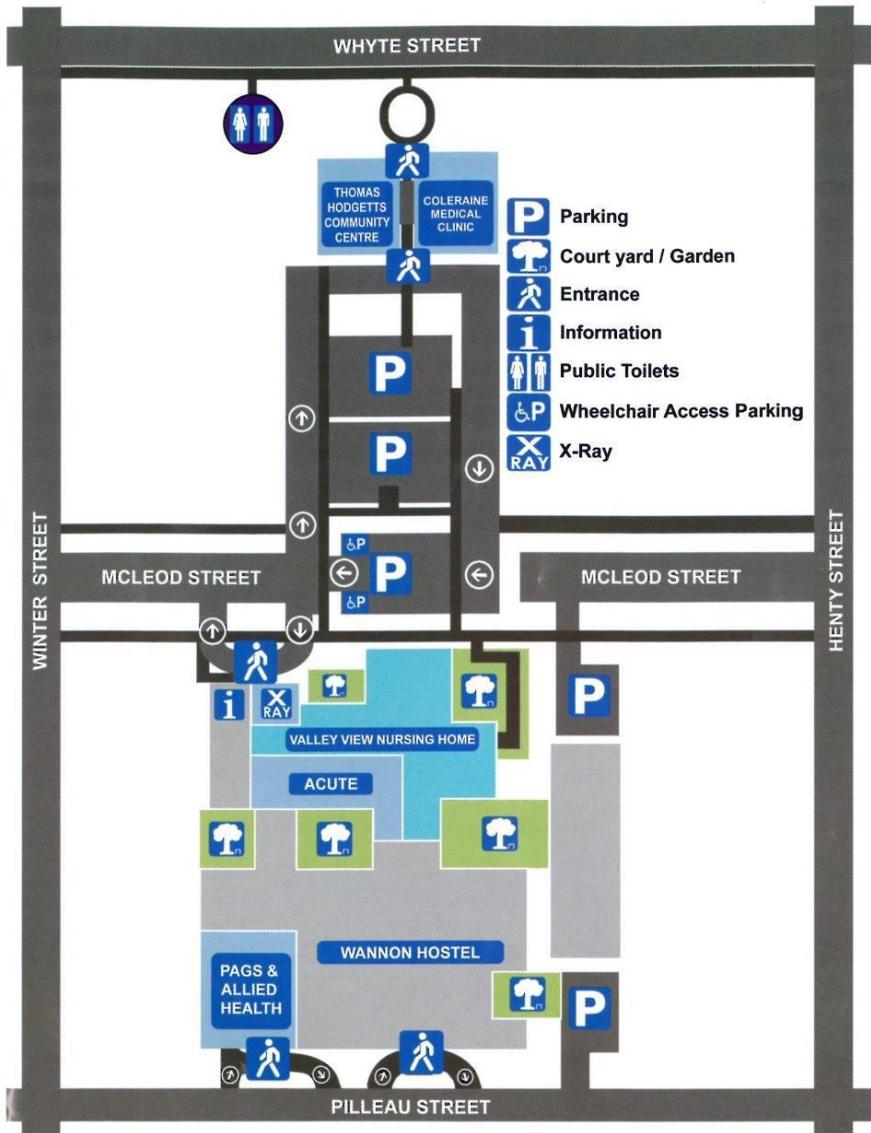
The hotel is also home to one of Australia's most awarded wine collections. Gilly's café, restaurant and bar is renowned for it's great food, friendly service and a beer list of 60 local, national and international beer. Darriwill Farm features contemporary cuisines, incorporating both local produce and produce from the store in the menu. At Darriwill they pride themselves on serving gourmet, high quality exquisite food and high standard customer service in a casual, relaxed atmospere.



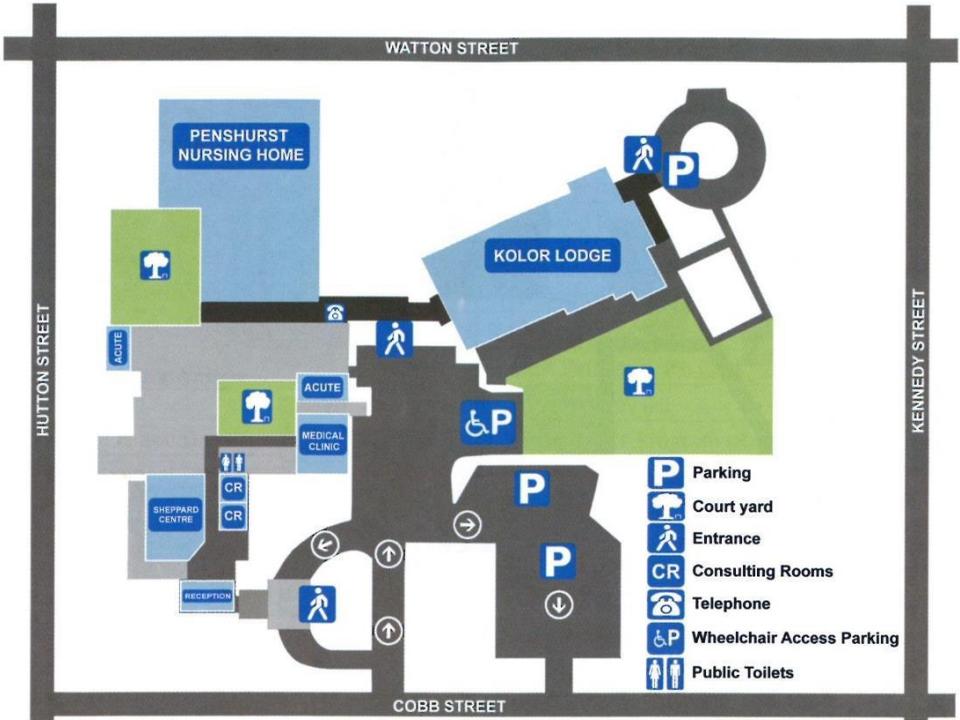
# Hamilton Base Hospital Map



# Coleraine District Health Service Map



# Penshurst & District Health Service Map





**wdhs**

**Western District  
Health Service**

**Creating healthier communities**