



# **Kyabram & District Health Services**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

15<sup>th</sup> September 2011

### **Loretta Lilford-Winner of 2011 Anne Ryall Excellence in Nursing Award**

Anne Ryall worked at KDHS from 1977-2004, unfortunately passing away from a terminal illness. Anne is remembered by staff as a skilled and compassionate nurse who strongly believed in improving the care and outcome for all patients. Throughout Anne's career she continued to build her skills and promote lifelong learning to her colleagues. A bequest from Anne's estate has allowed nursing staff who demonstrate excellence in nursing the opportunity to receive the annual award.

The 2011 'Anne Ryall Nursing Excellence Award' was presented to well known District Nurse, Loretta Lilford. Loretta says it was a tremendous honour to receive the award as Anne was an amazing nurse and mentor.

Breast care is Loretta's passion and she proudly promotes community awareness around issues of breast cancer. Loretta identified 11 years ago that people diagnosed with breast cancer in our community needed to travel to the city to access support services.

Concerned by this, she undertook training and introduced a Breast Cancer Service in our town.

Loretta continually strives in her commitment to gain knowledge in all treatments available for breast cancer. Loretta ensures that people diagnosed with breast cancer and their family are continually supported throughout their journey. Her knowledge of treatments and support services has been of great benefit to our community.

Loretta has also sought donations from Community Groups that have enabled community members the opportunity to attend various activities involving breast cancer awareness including organising the opportunity for locals to participate in events locally and in Melbourne; such as the "Field of Women" at the MCG and to attend the Wellbeing Program.