



Dear Friends and Supporters,

Your support continues to have incredible impact for vulnerable women and babies in East Africa. We hope you enjoy reading this news update from Barbara May Foundation.

Andrew in Africa!

This month Dr Andrew Browning AM is back in Africa. He has, as always, a very busy schedule while on the ground. Dr Browning is looking forward to checking in on some of his fistula patients and their healing progress, as well as gearing up to do many more intensive fistula operation camps.

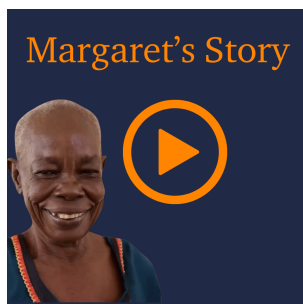
During this trip, Dr Browning will be operating on women with fistula injuries in South Sudan, Ethiopia and Tanzania. [Find out more](#) about each of the hospitals we have in these locations.

So far Dr Browning reports he's had some very difficult surgeries, with serious challenges he hasn't seen for a number of years. We look forward to sharing more of Dr Browning's updates with you when he returns.



Thank you for your donations, as these trips are made possible by your ongoing support.

Margaret's Story



Margaret was living – and suffering – with a fistula for over 50 years before she came to be treated at the Reconciliation Hospital in South Sudan. Dr Browning is hoping to check up on Margaret's healing and recovery on this current trip.

[Hear Margaret's full story in this recording.](#)

Medical Evening Event Success!

In February, medical and healthcare professionals shared an insightful evening with Dr Browning, who is one of the most highly regarded fistula surgeons globally. Guests heard stories and learned about maternal healthcare in Africa, including the more gory details of surgical work! There were even a few conditions that the medial audience couldn't recognise, as they are just not seen here in Australia. The evening was hosted by our Deputy-Chair, Dr Samantha Hargreaves, and was a wonderful opportunity for Victorian-based medical supporters to connect in person.



1. Dr Browning sharing about his work with fistula patients



2. A delicious meal ready to be enjoyed



3. Barbara May Foundation's Karen Baker, General Manager, Dr Samantha Hargreaves, Deputy Chair, and Dr Browning, Medical Director

Thanks to everyone who attended or helped spread the word about this event. All proceeds from the evening will go towards eradicating and preventing these devastating birthing injuries and the resulting conditions which we no longer see here in Australia.

Don't miss our next events!

We are pleased to announce two more upcoming events, where you'll have the opportunity to hear Dr Andrew Browning AM share updates from his latest trips to Africa in 2025. Plus you'll be among the first to hear about our two new maternal hospitals being built!



Professor Jonathan Morris AM, Chair of the Barbara May Foundation, cordially invites you to

An Afternoon with Dr Andrew Browning AM

17 MAY | DRINKS & GRAZING BOARD | 2 PM
TICKETS \$60

DE SALIS WINES, ORANGE NSW

Join us to enjoy the rustic charm of the Winemakers' Shed while hearing Dr Browning's latest stories and updates about the state of maternal healthcare, including fistula repairs and prevention, in East Africa. Plus we'll share about our two new maternity hospitals!



Purchase your
tickets today!



Orange NSW: [View Details and Purchase Tickets here](#)

PLUS...Save the date for Brisbane!

5pm, Thursday 18 September 2025.

[More details to come!](#)

P.S Our events often sell-out quickly. Please purchase your tickets early to ensure you don't miss out.

Volunteer Spotlight!



Nathan, Pat and Darcy spent their summer holiday, after graduating university, volunteering at the Kivulini Maternity Centre in Arusha, Tanzania. They were able to contribute immensely by updating the medical records system at the hospital.

[We hope you enjoy these photos from their trip on our Facebook page.](#)

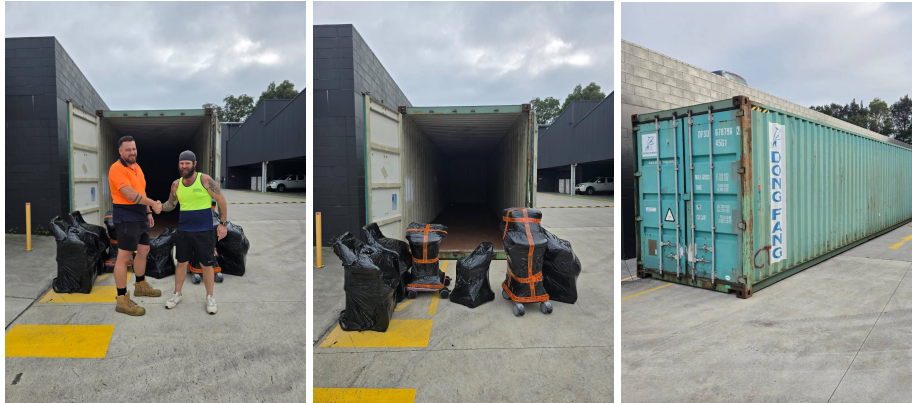
Tanzania Volunteers



Medical Equipment on Its Way to Africa

Thank you to Dr Cathy Lee, obstetrician and gynaecologist, who recently donated high-quality medical equipment and furniture from her Sydney-based practice to be used in East Africa. It was packed onto a shipping container, courtesy of our partner Sonic Healthcare Foundation, and is on its way - as we speak! - to be of great use at the new northern Uganda hospital (the Kworo Sonic Healthcare Foundation Hospital, which is due to open in a few months) and also to Kivulini Maternity Centre in Tanzania.

Additionally, we want to thank our Chair, Professor Jonathan Morris AM, who also donated some equipment to go to both hospitals in this shipment. Plus a shout out to the wonderful crew at Double J Removals who did a magnificent job of wrapping, packing and moving this valuable cargo down to the container in Wollongong!



Multi-Million Dollar Workplace Giving Program

The staff at the Sydney Local Health District have collectively donated **over \$2 million, across fifteen years of giving**, to support the incredible work of Valerie Browning AM in the Afar region. Their donations have directly funded the [Barbara May Maternity Hospital](#) in Mille, Ethiopia.

We are deeply grateful to all staff who signed up to donate at least \$1 a week from their salaries. What an incredible achievement!

It goes to show that small consistent donations, combined together, do make a huge difference. Through your faithful commitment we are able to keep doing this important work.



The Barbara May Foundation Chair, Professor Jonathan Morris AM, presents this portrait of Valerie Browning AM to the Sydney Local Health District CEO Deb Willcox and Committee members to thank them for their incredible long-term support through the Workplace Giving Program.

Care Packages for New Mums

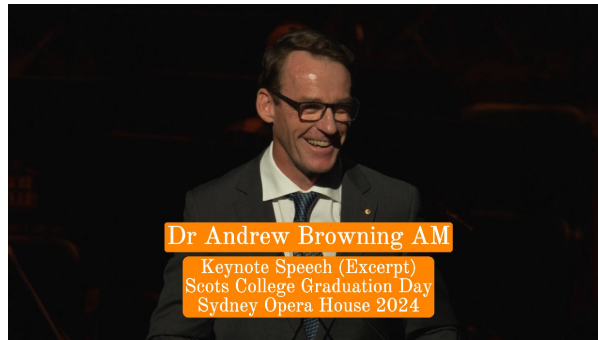
We'd love to highlight Noela, Bill and their families, and friends at Rotary Brisbane High-Rise. A group visited Arusha recently to share care packs for mothers and donations for the Kivulini Maternity Centre.



Every lady in hospital was gifted a tote bag hand made with love by Alison Day. Each bag contained soap, a biscuit treat, a wrap and a crocheted beanie. As well as these gifts, newborn supplies were purchased locally in Arusha with donated funds.

Thank you to this wonderful team and all who contributed to these gifts. We are so humbled by your compassion and faithful support.

We leave you with this video of Dr Andrew Browning AM, who shares how significant small, caring gestures can be.



[\(click to watch\)](#)

We warmly welcome your support of our hospitals in Africa. Please get in touch if you'd like to organise something through your group, school, workplace or church.

International Women's Day: Accelerate Action in 2025

Around the world, approximately 800 women die from pregnancy or childbirth-related complications every day. More than half of these deaths occur in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly for women living in rural and remote areas.

Skilled maternal healthcare before, during and after childbirth, saves the lives of women and their newborn babies. The Barbara May Foundation is dedicated to relieving these high incidences of death and injury during childbirth, because we believe every woman should be able to give birth safely.

If you agree, please take action with us in honour of International Women's Day and donate the gift of quality maternal healthcare for women living in Africa.

[Donate today](#)

With gratitude,

Dr Andrew Browning AM, Valerie Browning AM, Karen Baker and the team at Barbara May Foundation

Keep up to date with us on social media!

If you love hearing our updates, make sure you're following us online to see what's happening in between our quarterly newsletters.



[Facebook](#)
[Instagram](#)
[LinkedIn](#)

Thank you for your generosity and support

Every donation received is greatly appreciated by the Foundation and will be used to deliver high quality maternal healthcare to women in the communities where we serve. If you would like to donate to us, please do so at [Barbara May Foundation](#)

All donations AUD\$2 and more are fully tax-deductible.
For further information please email: info@barbaramayfoundation.com

Please consider us in your Will.

Your gift will make a difference to the next generation of mothers and children in East Africa.

