

Past Student Spotlight

Cousins Sophie & Jade Morris (2004)



Sophie Morris and Jade Vickers nee Morris

Both Sophie and Jade grew up in St George. Both attended St Patrick's Primary School and then completed their high school years at the St George State High School. Both girls graduated in 2004 and in 2005 they started their tertiary education, studying a Bachelor of Nursing at the University of Southern Queensland in Toowoomba. They graduated in 2007 and commenced working as Registered Nurses in 2008.

Jade - Completed her graduate year in the South West Hospital and Health Service facilities of Dirranbandi, Westhaven- Roma,

Surat and St George. Jade went on to complete a Post graduate certificate in Rural & Remote Studies through USQ in Toowoomba.

After completing her post graduate year, Jade was lucky enough to secure a permanent role at the St George Hospital, which then led into the role of Clinical Facilitator with students and graduates. Jade also left St George for a short period of time to experience working in a larger hospital. This time was spent working at the Toowoomba Hospital in many different wards. At this time, Jade realised that working in her own community was what her passion was. Moving back to St George, she continued general nursing until 2020 (Covid year). At this time Jade and other colleagues recognised the importance of transferring the care of patients with chronic wounds out of the Emergency Department and into its own Outpatient Clinic. Jade was given the task of setting this clinic up, which still continues to operate today. At the end of 2020 Jade was the recipient of the South West Hospital and Health Services Quality Award for striving for excellence and delivering person-centred care. Jade currently holds the position of Nurse Navigator/Wound Care at the St George Hospital. These two roles enable Jade to work closely with the most vulnerable in her community in which she grew up as well as the outlying Balonne District.

Sophie - After completing her Post Graduate year in Bundaberg, Sophie continued general nursing there. After a few years Sophie returned to Toowoomba and was fortunate to become

a part of the Renal Unit team at Toowoomba Hospital. She remained working with the Renal team for nine years. While in this position Sophie co-ordinated and educated renal patients in home dialysis. This was crucial treatment for renal patients who struggled to access treatment in Toowoomba due to distance.

Eventually Sophie felt she needed to return to St George and she got a position in general nursing at the St George Hospital. From there she moved into community nursing working for Indigicare Connect as their Community Nurse. An opportunity arose for a new position, Clinical Nurse, Cardiac Services at the St George Hospital. Sophie loved assisting surviving Cardiac patients and educating people about good cardiac care. At present Sophie is the Community Health Nurse for St George, Mungindi and at times Dirranbandi.

Both Jade and Sophie have a passion for health care in their local community. They work closely with and show great care for their indigenous and non-indigenous patients. Rewarded for their care and effort in health in 2022, Jade, Sophie and Bre Whiting, the Nurse Navigator Team at the St George Hospital were presented with the Jim and Jill Baker Award for leading the way in rural and remote health care as well as supporting a culture of excellence.

Please email admin@stgeorgeshs.eq.edu.au with past student's stories and images – attention Nichole Taylor.