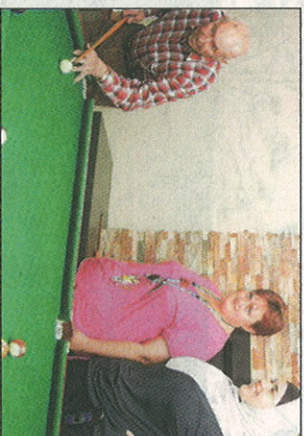


# Have mercy on our women



**ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY...**

From left, Mercy Health resident Ted Watts plays a game of pool with Mercy Health Acting Clinical Care Coordinator, Tania Osborne and Personal Care Worker, Lutfiye Elmaz. Photo by Kelly Lucas

WOMEN who want to return to work are sometimes faced with hurdles involving families and the commitments that having one brings. One employer takes those hurdles and turns them into opportunities. Mercy Health continues to lead by example as an employer of choice recognised as the 'Leading Organisation' for the advancement of women recently at the Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Business Achievement Awards. Mercy Health Shepparton Service Manager, Jan Brown said, "Mercy has policies in place to assist women in the workforce and acknowledge the fact that they wear multiple hats through their life. They're not always in the workforce, they are usually carers of children, then care for school age kids, then adolescence and so on." She says Mercy realises this and runs their operation accordingly. Jan said that they also nurture staff's ambitions and encourage them to re-enter the workplace and further educate and train. Acting as Clinical Care Coordinator, Tania Osborne is a Division 2 Nurse who became a Division 1 nurse and is now doing a Masters in Health and Ageing. "I find working for Mercy to be quite flexible, if I need time off to attend to things, it's easily arranged." Lutfiye Elmaz is a personal care worker who has undertaken her Division 2 nursing since being with Mercy. "I love it here, the residents, staff members and Mercy's policies, it's a great place to work," Lutfiye said that coming from a different cultural background was not an issue, "I thought, what's going to happen because I am different, the clothes I wear, but they are very understanding and I'm treated no differently." If you are planning on applying for a job with Mercy, don't expect it to be Tania's or Lutfiye's, they are not going to be leaving their post in a hurry.

# Make a date to save your life



**ON SALE NOW...** Lovell's Newsagency Sales Assistant, Kerryanne Reddip with the Australian Women's Health Diary which is also available online at [www.bcia.org.au](http://www.bcia.org.au) or by calling 1800 423 444. Photo by Kelly Lucas

EACH day as we go about our business, 35 women in Australia are diagnosed with breast cancer. While we have recently celebrated different events relating to the disease, now is the time to make sure that in 2010, you are kept free from being a statistic. The 2010 Australian Women's Health Diary is now available to purchase with each one sold raising money for the Breast Cancer Institute of Australia (BCIA). Since the first diary was sold in 1999, 5.1 million dollars has been raised to help the BCIA become closer to their goal of 'a world without breast cancer'. The funds raised go toward clinical trials research for the treatment, cure and prevention of breast cancer. Diary ambassador, Seven News anchor, Chris Bath said, "The diary has become 'hope in a book' because it's now a vital tool in the ongoing research effort to find a cure and improve the lives of people diagnosed with breast cancer." The diary is an essential item for women of all ages, containing up-to-date information to enhance general health and wellbeing, and contains all the features to keep busy lives on track. The 2010 Australian Women's Health Diary is available now for just \$14.95 from newsagents and selected Safeway's and Commonwealth Bank branches.

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