

Turool Kunta – Healing Place Story

Turool Kunta shares the story and history of Belmont Hospital and its ongoing connection to community from past, present and into the future, bringing an acknowledgement to traditional custodians, the Awabakal people through traditional symbolism in contemporary design that celebrates culture and country.

Central to the design a large gathering circle embraced by traditional people symbolism is reflective of Belmont Hospital, as a gathering and learning place of healing, understanding and holistic medical care. People symbols flow inwards highlighting patient pathways to healthcare, partnerships across community and the teams that work within this place of healing. This imagery sits upon faint gathering circles undergirding the pathway and these are representative of all tribal groups living upon Awabakal lands and all communities, highlighting Belmont hospital as a place of inclusion that welcomes all.



The totem of the Awabakal people, the Eagle reflective of strength and protection, soars high above the scenery and this totem, along with the Elders symbol at the top of the central design, acknowledges the peoples and lands of the Awabakal, on which the hospital operates. Three people symbols sit on top of the Elders representing Biami – God creator and the spiritual journey we each take from birth to passing on.

Belmont Mission and the work of Rev Threlkeld in Lake Macquarie, beginning in Belmont is represented by the building, cross and gathering circle made up of people symbolism at the bottom centre of the artwork, while the dreamtime story 'When the Moon Cried' is represented by the moon's tears creating Belmont Lagoon at the bottom right corner of the artwork.

Bush tucker imagery is interwoven within the design, capturing the valuable healing powers of native plants and the wonderful array of native resources utilised in traditional times, to be found across the area. Two blue Elders and people symbols

A backdrop of songlines on country highlights the beautiful 'land by the sea', celebrating the cultural of Aboriginal people and depicting this unique strip of country that sits between the coastline and the lake. Organic lines reflect the Awabakal people as the people of the hills and plains, while imagery symbolic of the sun and stars is seen across the top of the design, highlighting night and day, reflective of the 24-hour service the hospital brings to community within this Turool Kunta.

Design Explanation

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A backdrop of songlines on country highlights the beautiful ‘land by the sea’, with blue waves at the top and bottom of the artwork, celebrating the cultural of Aboriginal people and depicting this unique strip of country that sits between the coastline and the lake. Organic lines reflect the Awabakal people as the people of the hills and plains, while imagery symbolic of the sun and stars is seen across the top of the design, highlighting night and day, reflective of the 24-hour service the hospital brings to community within this Turool Kunta.

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