**NURSE PRACTITIONER to commence providing services to Murrayville and Underbool.**

Di Thornton has been nursing since 1973 in many varying nursing roles and countries. Di has found a renewed passion for hands on nursing care as a Nurse Practitioner (NP). Di completed her Masters of NP – Rural & Remote through the University of Queensland in 2012, and was endorsed soon after.

Di piloted a NP role in General Practice and including Aged Care for CHSA, between August 2012 and June 2013 with very positive evaluations. Di continued to work in this role - employed by Loxton Medical Practice in Pinnaroo, up until December 2015.

Di has now opened her own NP Practice & Health Centre, and is looking forward to the growth of her new business with a variety of other Health practitioners. Di will liaise closely with the local GP’s in the Mallee and will be able to access your health records if you give permission.

**What is a nurse practitioner?are**

A nurse practitioner is a registered nurse with experience and expertise to diagnose and treat people of all ages with a variety of acute or chronic health conditions. Nurse practitioners have completed university study at Master’s degree level. They are capable in clinical research, education and leadership as applied to clinical care and health service development.

**Did you know?**

* Nurse practitioners provide health care in all states and territories in Australia
* Can provide patient rebates through the Medicare Benefits Schedule
* Provide prescriptions and access to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme
* Nurse practitioners are registered health care providers with the Australian Health Practitioner
* Regulation Agency Nurse practitioners have been working across Australia for over 15 years.

**Why choose a nurse practitioner?**

* Nurse practitioners work directly with you and provide comprehensive services including: assessment and diagnosis of your health problems
* referral for necessary x-rays and blood tests
* minor procedures
* prescription of medications
* referrals to other health practitioners
* education, counselling and wellness support

Appointments can be made either via the online booking on the website [www.malleeborderhealth.com.au](http://www.malleeborderhealth.com.au) (up and running at the end of September), or via mobile number 0419 889 394. Please leave a message for Di as she won’t answer the phone whilst seeing clients.

Anyone who has a Medicare card is eligible to see the nurse practitioner. Cost is bulk billed with a gap of $25 for those who are not a pensioner, HCC or under 16.

Service to commence on Tuesday October 3rd & 4th in Murrayville and Thursday 5th in Underbool . Nurse practitioner will then be available for appointments on Tuesday and Wednesdays will be in Murrayville and Underbool on Thursday.

Community is welcome to come along for morning tea from 10 – 11am and meet Di in Murrayville on Tuesday 3rd and in Underbool from 10 – 11am on Thursday 5th. Morning teas are an opportunity for the community to come along and meet Di and ask her questions about her service.

MTHCS is supportive of a private Nurse Practitioner working within the catchment to provide place based medical services to the community.