

Biographical Note- Pauline Venn

Pauline is a 42 year old single mother who lives in the tiny rural town of Benambra in the far North East of Victoria in the magnificent High Country. Pauline was diagnosed with breast cancer two weeks prior to Xmas in 2004. Surgery, chemotherapy and radio therapy followed.

The lack of complete cancer treatment services in Gippsland meant Melbourne was to become the base for treatment and is six hours from home. Pauline has a son with Autism Spectrum Disorder that needed to be considered and endure the breast cancer journey with mum where ever she went.

Many avenues of accommodation were ruled out because of Pauline's need for "family" style accommodation. Not being able to readily find housing for both Pauline and her son meant additional stress to what was already an extremely stressful time.

Pauline now serves as a B.C.N.A. Rural and Remote Working Party Member who together with other working party members from around Australia, work towards providing better treatment opportunities for women in Rural and Remote areas of Australia.