

# MEDIA RELEASE



## Speech Pathology Week

**For Release: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2006**

Speech Pathology Week is the annual promotional week for Speech Pathology Australia.

This year, Speech Pathology Week will be held from 23rd – 29th July and the theme for the week will be “Language for Life”. This theme was decided by Speech Pathology Australia as it is felt that language and communication skills are essential across the life span.

Speech Pathologists are trained to assess and treat individuals (both adults and children) with communication and/or swallowing disorders. Many people in the community have difficulty speaking and listening or eating and drinking. Speech Pathology Week presents the opportunity for Speech Pathologist's to remind the community of how speech pathology plays a vital role in the community's health care.

During Speech Pathology Week, there will be display boards in the hospital's main foyer which will exhibit the different types of communication and swallowing disorders that occur in the adult and paediatric population.

The Speech Pathology Department at Northeast Health Wangaratta consists of Emma Beer, Donna Prentice, Tammy Phelps and Jennifer Greasley. We encourage both staff and visitors to take the opportunity to view the display boards and not hesitate to ask us any questions about Speech Pathology. NHW's Speech Pathology Department can be contacted on (03) 5722 0283.