



PCAC December 2021 Newsletter

From the CEO

Welcome to the festive season! We hope this finds you enjoying the opportunity to gather with family and friends unlike the previous year when COVID restrictions really did mean we could not celebrate in the ways we would really like!

Our facility is looking very festive, and our wonderful Lifestyle and Leisure team have certainly been sprinkling Christmas cheer throughout the building and grounds. You cannot help but get into the spirit!

It has been great to welcome back visitors even with the restrictions still in place and our residents are enjoying outings a lot more with business getting back to a little more like the 'good old days'.

Staff changes

We have recently appointed Jenny Bonell to our Business Manager role. Jenny manages our finance team. You may have already met Victoria Truscott who is our finance officer looking after our resident billing and general accounts.

We also recently appointed Marianne Wigg to the Senior Registered Nurse role. Marianne works Monday to Friday and has replaced Megan Cooper and Susie Radke who shared the role. Megan and Suzie are now part of our casual workforce so you will still see them from time to time.

Sign in Kiosk Coming

We are moving to an automated system to sign our residents, visitors and staff both in and out of the facility. The kiosk will be installed in the next few weeks and will enable visitors to be remembered on the device, take temperatures and allow us to monitor the number of visitors in the centre in line with changing COVID-19 guidelines. The Service Victoria app will be on the device as well – so only one place to log in!

Our friendly reception team, Nicole and Stephanie will be able to assist you to login the first time so that future sign ins / outs will be a lot quicker.

With thanks to our generous Donors

We have had a couple of donations to PCAC to enable us to improve the facility for residents. More recently Rotary have offered \$2000 towards some window treatments in our Blue Wing dining room which gets very hot in the summer. We want to reduce the heat but not the view to the garden, so we are working to enable that.

We also received a donation from VIATEK who installed our photocopier recently. They have given \$350 in vouchers to our residents to purchase items for our Men's Shed (The Men's Shed is yet to be purchased and located – but we are well on the way to being able to get some tools!)

Sam from Sam's Patch in Foster rallied the local patchwork community and her suppliers to have a number of beautiful quilts made for our residents. We have had about 10 donated so far and our residents absolutely love them – they brighten the room and are all individually designed.

We are very grateful for such practical support from our Donors. Our Resident Council Meeting is developing a list of things we could use or add to the home, so if we do get an offer of a donation we will know exactly where to direct these generous gifts. Thanks everyone for your support.

Prom Country Op Shop – 78 Main Street, Foster

Some of you will already be familiar with our opportunity shop located opposite the police station in Foster at the garage site. The op-shop raises funds for Linton Court Independent Living Units and PCAC. The Board of the Op-Shop recently made the decision to close the op shop at 18 Main Street and combine with the shop at 78 Main Street (opposite the Police Station).

We have many volunteers who donate their time to help raise funds for PCAC. The funds are used to replace equipment and other items to improve our resident's home and lifestyle. Call into the op-shop sometime if you haven't already - some treasures to be found for sure. And if you are looking for an opportunity to Volunteer – they are always looking for willing hands. Contact Di, the Volunteer Coordinator on 0417 303 505 if you are interested.

Donations of items are always welcome from clothing through to household items too – so give them a thought if you are having a cleanout or want to recycle items that are too good to be thrown out and could be well loved by someone else.

Have a wonderful Christmas and festive season!

Warm regards,

Tracey

Tracey.gibson@promcountryagedcare.com.au

VISITING PCAC

As we continue to move towards living with COVID and with the new Omicron variant and with concerns in the community, PCAC will continue to follow the regulated guidelines when accepting visitors. The guidelines and restrictions will be

in place for a reason, so we thank all visitors for being mindful and respectful of the protocols in place.

We would like to remind everyone to follow the screening process that is in place, to have washed your hands before and after visiting a resident and to remember social distancing. As the use of facial masks is still a requirement, please ensure your mask is clean and worn appropriately. A clean mask can be provided if needed, just ask at reception. However, ensure you keep a mask on until a new one has been provided. Staff may need to approach you at times regarding this, please do not be offended – it is simply ensuring best practice is being maintained.

While inside PCAC and if you are bringing children with you, please ensure you keep an eye on them to reduce wandering into multiple areas and touching other surfaces. Please do not visit if you are experiencing any symptoms such as cough, fever and if in doubt, please do not visit and undertake the required testing. A video call or phone call could be arranged as an alternative.

Finally, thank you again for your consideration and cooperation during difficult times.

Infection Control Lead – Michelle Denman

THINGS TO PONDER

With the pending election next year, you may want to take the opportunity to talk with your loved one about voting. Persons in the early stages of Dementia, who are still capable of understanding the nature and significance of enrolment and voting, may be able to continue to enrol and vote. If you are unsure, please consult with your doctor.

Where someone may require additional support to enrol and vote, the AEC provides a range of information written in easy English. Persons of unsound mind and who are incapable of understanding the nature and significance of voting are not required to enrol or vote. If your loved one is one of these persons, then you will be required to complete a form to remove their name from the electoral role. This will ensure elimination of undue political influence exerted on them and to help them avoid a penalty for failing to vote. The medical certificate **MUST** be completed and signed by a registered **MEDICAL PRACTITIONER**. Once the form is completed, please return it to the AEC. Forms can be downloaded from the AEC website (Objection claim that an elector should not be enrolled) or from the main reception at PCAC during normal business hours.

Sincere apologies to Ray Seton for the misprint of the Footy Tipping results in the last Newsletter. Ray was our 3rd place winner! Congratulations again Ray.

Grand Final Day Tipping Winner -Stephen Fowler (46 points)

Father's Day in house raffle

The majority of the amazing prizes were made by our very talented residents. Winners: Charmaine, Trevor, Nola, Reg, Veronica, Tracey C. \$245-proceeds assisted us in purchasing a Bluetooth speaker for the red section residents.

Cup Day 2021 Winners

- Elegant Woman Alison B
- Dapper gentleman Eric B
- Most colourful hat Christine W

- Most unusual hat Isobel M

PCAC promotes and strives for inclusion not exclusion. Thus, all residents had bets on horses regardless of their financial situation, funded by Lifestyle and Leisure program (L&L).

- 1st place winners-Robin M, Bluey, Bill
- 2nd place winners-Rita, Evie, Don
- 3rd place winners-Heather, Olga, Lionel
- Last place-Christine, Marg C, Jacky

Regular in-house church services and our ever so talented entertainers have been welcomed back again with open arms. It is an essential and effective means in connecting our facility with the broader community. Our equally valuable volunteers are back. A huge thank you to all of you who have returned after such long interval between visits.

On behalf of staff and residents, I would like to welcome our new volunteers and anticipate their lives will be just as enriched by their experiences here as the residents they encounter.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or know of someone who might want to enrich not only the residents' lives, but their own, please contact myself via email: twila.cecil@promcountryagedcare.com.au or alternatively call the main reception during business hours on 5682 0800.

- The end of the September, both residents and staff alike shared their special photography and 'olden day' items in what was yet another successful exhibition. It's the resident's ambition to have a 'garden' exhibition in January. Family and friends are most welcome to have their items on display. More details to follow.
- An 'extraordinary' delicious high tea was well received by all residents in October. Amazing effort by our dedicated kitchen staff. Thank you.
- Remembrance Day was acknowledged a little differently this year due to Covid 19 restrictions. Well received by all who attended.
- Monthly themed Resident birthday parties continue to be a huge success. As to is the Men's discussion group and 'Virtual Tours' to various places over the world.
- A very big thank you to all those who have donated various items to our fabulous facility. Not only for our Christmas raffle but just in general. Proceeds from this year's Christmas Raffle will be used to beautify the outside area of the café for the residents who like to sit and gaze out the window. Tickets are now on sale and available from reception during business hours With over 30 fabulous prizes to be won, it's a raffle not to be missed!!! Draw will take place on 23/12/21 during the residents Christmas Party. Thank you to our Donors:
 - knitting residents
 - Veronica P
 - Heather Curtis
 - Gwen C
 - Alison B
 - Julianne K
 - Tracey C
 - Trish Moon
 - Trevor and Pearl W
 - Leongatha Mitre 10

- Michelle H
- Revelations
- Rhonda Bland
- Marg Grumley
- Dulcie M
- South Gippsland Hospital bus
- Janette E
- Foodworks
- Exchange Hotel
- Edna D
- Brian H

Thank you to ALL OTHERS who KINDLY left DONATED ITEMS at reception for the Christmas Raffle

A naming of PCAC's Christmas cow recently took place. Some of you may have noticed her around the building pulling a sled? The sled was specially designed by Douglas Hanks. Not only to suit mobile residents but those in a wheelchair of any sorts for 'special photos'. 'Magpie' submitted by Ray Seton won majority of the votes. Congratulations Ray.

A huge thank you to the 'pink ladies' (Lifestyle and Leisure) for an amazing job with the Christmas decorating. Not only is the inside breathtaking, each resident has Christmas lights outside their window. In house Christmas festivities started at the beginning of the month and will continue right through the festive period. There are copies of the monthly Activity Program at reception or available from L & L staff.

PCAC Annual Christmas Light tour on 15/12/21, was yet another success with 29 residents getting out and about. This could not have been possible without the generosity of time from Cheyenne, Julianne, Kelisha, Janette, Andrea, Nicole, Elise, Siri, Antoinette, Chris, Sandy, Bus Driver Terry Dessent and the loan of SGH bus. You are all truly Santa's little helpers.

- IMPORTANT-If you are planning on giving your loved one any article of clothing this Christmas, PLEASE ensure you have clearly marked their name on each article with a permanent marker OR alternatively, place all items in a plastic bag with the residents name clearly visible on the bag. You may then ask reception or any care staff member to take this to the laundry for labelling.

We are now able to re-welcome guest speakers. Please speak to Twila to set a date and topic!

Birthdays: Happy Birthday to ! :

Robin McKenzie, Jennifer Blamey, Don Youl, Betty Parragreen, Irma Van Der Steen, Dulcie Brewer, John Gilder, Rita Lear, Alison Bentley, Isobel Dean, Edna Deuchar, Evie Rath, Eric Bonyhady, Margaret Roe, Boo Shackleton and upcoming birthdays later in December: Gwen Truscott, Ray Seton, Joan Vanson.

Condolences:

Our thoughts and wishes go out to the family and friends of Raymond Christensen, John Garvey, Laurie Oates, Beryl Bradford and Lorna Clarke.

