

EVENTIDINGS

WINTER 2022 ISSUE 32

WELCOME TO THE WINTER EDITION OF EVENTIDINGS



Hello residents, and your family and friends,

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. I hope you all had an enjoyable and peaceful Easter, as the year now reaches the half-way mark to Christmas!

The winds of change are blowing at Eventide Homes. We are in the early stages of setting ourselves up to trial a new model of care, which we anticipate will deliver for our residents a unique experience more closely aligned with living-at-home.

Residents will continue to receive quality of care with their nursing and other needs, but some of the changes we are pursuing include:

- Creating living spaces in our respective Houses that enables access to cooking and baking for residents, whenever they wish (under supervision of staff, of course). In addition to normal 'dining room times', we want to create an ability for residents, if they choose to do so, to cook, bake or snack whenever they like – just like if they were at home if they feel peckish late at night, or just want to bake a cake;
- Potential renovations so that we better use floor space for residents and create simulated living-at-home environments;
- Developing sensory surroundings for residents, that are visually and physically appealing, and more identifiable;

- Growing our pool of volunteers, who will be re-branded as 'Friends of Eventide', so that we open ourselves up further to the community becoming involved;
- Restructuring ourselves so that we optimise staff-to-resident ratios; and
- Key staff of ours will be visiting other aged care facilities to learn about successfully bringing about change.

Our Manager Residential, Rachael Muckleston, will outline more detail in her report of some of the exciting new things we are doing, or going to do.

Last month, I had the pleasure of attending a luncheon for our wonderful volunteers, to thank them for their fantastic contributions to Eventide Homes. It was an enjoyable afternoon of camaraderie and regaling with stories – a lot of people certainly have great history with Eventide Homes.

I am pleased to report that at this stage (touch wood!), Eventide Homes is one of the very few facilities that has not had a COVID-19 case amongst residents. We will do our best to keep it that way for as long as we can.

We have recently removed the need for people to book visits at 10am or 2pm timeslots during weekdays, and have returned to open visits at any time Monday-to-Friday.

We will also be speaking to residents, or their family, to identify a key person who will still be able to visit the resident face-to-face, even if the resident is COVID-positive and isolated in their room. I think this is a great move for the dignity and choice of residents, instead of going into harsh lockdowns where residents cannot have personal visits by a loved one.

Thank you for choosing to live at Eventide Homes, Stawell. My door is always open to residents or their family and friends, if you want to speak with me about anything.

Kind Regards,

Gary Simpson – Chief Executive Officer

CLINICAL CARE UPDATE



Eventide Homes will be moving our model of care towards a “smaller group homes” model with a Montessori care approach.

Montessori as it relates to older people, is about true person centred care where we look at enabling people to be independent, make true choices, have high self-esteem and to be able to make meaningful contributions to their community. ”

Montessori for Aged Care

What is the Montessori approach in aged care?

Montessori for Dementia and Ageing is a model of care based on best aged and dementia care practices and the development of an expertly prepared environment. Implementing a Montessori model is a paradigm shift and requires us to change all we thought we knew about dementia and provision of support services.



Eventide Homes will be trialling the small housing model in Warne House initially; although when you visit you may notice bright yellow restroom doors and signage in the main home. Better wayfinding is the beginning of our changes and this includes making restrooms and residents bedroom doors easier to find.

Warne will have some beautiful mural transfers which residents will be able to choose to put on their doors. They will certainly make the home brighter and more colourful.

Improved facilities in Warne kitchenette will encourage residents to participate in cooking activities using the new utensils with staff support.



Dementia Essentials education starts this month with ten staff members participating in a mix of online and face to face education over the month. Over the five homes we have many resident’s living with dementia so all of our staff will be attending the education as it affects the majority of our residents. The Dementia Essentials education will teach staff the skills required to ensure our residents live their best life.

Eventide Homes has two staff trained in “No Lift” manual handling which is important for staff and resident safety. They will be able to teach and assess staff in the safe use of equipment for annual competencies. The “Simply” wound care program is up and running and making wound care simple and effective for staff and residents. Care staff have received education on the Simply wound care system and the SMART care continence system.



CLINICAL CARE UPDATE

Eventide Homes welcomes some fabulous new staff members to our care team. As part of our “New Ways” direction I am developing a comprehensive orientation program which will ensure new care staff follow Eventide Home’s values and resident focussed approach to care.

Covid-19 Update - Eventide Homes staff have been vigilant with following precautions and we have remained Covid-19 free. Rules have been relaxed at visitors and volunteers have been welcomed back. All residents that wish to be vaccinated against Covid-19 and Influenza have attended our vaccination clinics.



Volunteers are back at Eventide and we welcome them. A fabulous lunch was enjoyed at Magdala on Lake Restaurant to thank our volunteers for their services. Every month a morning tea will be held at Eventide Homes to plan and network with our volunteers for future events and activities that our residents will enjoy.

Eventide Homes welcomes three work experience students who are with us until October. It is great for our residents to share their stories with the younger generation.

We are delighted to welcome Satish our new Food Supervisor who I am sure will bring stability and some exciting changes to our catering department.



The 12th May was International Nurses day; Eventide Homes used the day as an opportunity to thank all our staff for their continued hard work and enthusiasm over the year with a morning tea.

Thank You to Trident Pharmacy for the gift packs kindly donated to our nurses in recognition of International Nurses Day



Sadly, Leisure & Lifestyle Co-ordinator Pamela Wheeler has moved on from Eventide Homes and we wish her all the best with her ventures. In the meantime our activities calendar continues as normal with fabulous events enjoyed by all.

Eventide Homes continues to prepare for our 3 yearly reaccreditation visit from the Aged Care Quality & Safety commission. Assessors will arrive un-announced one morning to begin the process. This time around assessors will spend more time talking with our residents to gain a better of understanding of the care and services they receive. When the assessors visit we will ensure that residents and families are informed and be given the opportunity to speak to assessors.

Accreditation seeks to assess the quality and care of services delivered by approved providers against the Quality Standards and contributes to improved safety, quality and continuous improvement of services.

We view this process as a time for improvement, an opportunity to improve on our care and services we provide to our residents.

Rachael Muckleston – Residential Manager

LEISURE & LIFESTYLE

There has been plenty of action in the Hall with Special Events such as Easter, Mother's Day and a Mobile Zoo visit, as well as our regular activity programs that continue to be enjoyed with Indoor golf and sing alongs with Nat during Happy Hour being firm favourites.

We have some exciting events happening in the coming months:

Monday 18th July	Parker's Mini Circus
Thursday 21st July	Farewell Afternoon Tea for Dr Cunningham
Monday 25th July	Country & Western Extravaganza
Tuesday 23rd August	Senior Citizen's Appreciation Day Celebrations
Friday 26th August	Daffodil Day raffle & Afternoon Tea
Tuesday 30th August	3 Monthly Birthday Celebrations
Sunday 4th September	Father's Day Lunch
Saturday 25th September	AFL Grand Final - LIVE on the Big Screen & BBQ Lunch

Any changes to events will be published on the Weekly Activity Calendars which can be located at front reception, notice boards throughout Eventide & Eventide facebook page.

MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS



OUT & ABOUT - WEEKLY BUS TRIPS



ACTIVITIES

Residents took a walk on the wild side when Jamie & Kim's Mobile Zoo recently made a visit to Eventide Homes. Jamie and Kim enjoy sharing their love and knowledge of Australian wildlife, to make people aware of just how precious and endangered our Australian native animals are. Residents enjoyed the whole experience and some were eager to get up close and personal with the various mix of native animals.



RETIREMENT VILLAGE NEWS

Eventide Homes retirement village residents recently enjoyed each other's company over a chinese lunch at the Kingston Community Centre. There was a real buzz of excitement to being connected with others once again.



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

“National Volunteer Week” was celebrated during May and was an opportunity for all of us to celebrate and recognise our volunteers who selflessly give their time to enrich the lives of residents at Eventide Homes.

In appreciation to our many volunteers, resident Sharyn kindly made beautiful handcrafted cards for each Eventide volunteer. The Thank You cards adorned tables at the volunteer luncheon where we celebrated our team of volunteers over a delicious lunch

Thank You for all that you do for the residents of Eventide Homes



FRIENDS OF EVENTIDES

We are happy to announce the introduction of “Friends of Eventide”.

Volunteers have long been an essential part of Eventide Homes and will continue to play an important role in providing assistance, companionship and support to our residents, essential to the wellbeing of older people. Our newly branded volunteer program “Friends of Eventide” seeks to compliment, not replicate, or replace the paid workforce.

Our “Friends of Eventide” may assist with:

- leisure activities (e.g. reading, music)
- access to and supervision in outdoor spaces or the community; visiting a local cafe or special event, a drive to Halls Gap.
- physical activity and exercise
- companionship, conversation and social engagement
- culturally specific and individually appropriate support to enhance residents’ wellbeing
- administration support such as typing of newsletters, photographs of activities, restocking personal protective equipment (PPE) and the list goes on.

Your time and dedication to this role will reduce the social isolation and loneliness that many residents may be experiencing as a result of COVID-19. The impact your contribution will make to the lives of aged care residents and the Eventide workforce is immeasurable. **You can make a real difference.** Regular visits from volunteers can help improve our resident’s quality of life and reduce isolation, improve self-esteem and wellbeing and develop social connections.

Our ‘Friends of Eventide’ meet on the last Friday of the month at 10.30am for morning tea in the Kingston Community Centre.

The Australian Government Department of Health has established an initiative to re-engage Volunteers into Residential Aged Care Facilities such as Eventide Homes. The program has been established nationwide to provide non-clinical social and emotional support to older people living in Residential Aged Care Facilities. The program matches volunteers with local aged care providers. The program will provide training for volunteers in Personal Protective Equipment, Infection Control and Aged Care specific orientation training and undergo a Police Check prior to commencing with Eventide Homes.

Please contact our Volunteer Co-ordinator today on (03) 5358 2027 or visit the Australian Government website for volunteering in Aged Care - <https://www.agedcarevolunteering.org.au/>

Reach out and make a difference.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AT EVENTIDE HOMES

A career path in aged care is one that is fulfilling and can truly change the lives of others for the better. Not only that, but with Australia’s ageing population, an aged care career also has excellent job prospects.

We currently have career opportunities in the following areas:

Enrolled Nurse - Full time positions

Registered Nurse - Part time position

Food & Domestic Services Assistant - Part time position

Leisure & Lifestyle Assistant - Part time position

Personal Care Worker - Part time position

For further information please contact People & Culture Manager - Nicola Powell
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