

Greetings from the DON –Rebecca Gale

It's hard to believe summer is nearly over, although I am not sure we will be seeing an end to the heat and humidity just yet! Autumn is a lovely season, particularly the gorgeous colour as the leaves change colour.

The team at Macleay Valley House are so proud of the results of our recent accreditation performance assessment. As you know, 3 assessors spent 3 days with us, speaking with residents, relatives and staff as well as observing our practices and reviewing our documentation. We received overwhelmingly positive feedback on the improvements made over the last 6 months. We remain committed to making further improvements to the quality of the care and services we provide to the residents at Macleay Valley House. Please let us know of any concerns or suggestions. There are feedback boxes at the nurses' stations and at reception, or feel free to ask to speak to a member of the team.

It is with sadness that our Deputy DON (Grevillea and Red Cedar), Rene made the decision to leave us for personal reasons. We farewelled Rene on Friday 23rd February with a resident's and staff morning tea. We wish Rene all the best with her future endeavours and thank her for all her work over the past 6 months at Macleay Valley House. We are delighted to announce that Jo Pierce has stepped up into the position of Deputy Director of Nursing for the whole home and we are recruiting a Clinical Nurse Specialist to support our clinical and care team.

During March we will be celebrating World Hearing Day and World Oral Health Day. We will be running education sessions for staff and hoping to make it a bit of fun as well. We have a representative from Hearing Australia coming to share information with our staff on how to help care for hearing aids on Wednesday 6th March. As part of the World Oral Health Day campaign, we will be inviting any residents who would like to be involved to join staff with Brush and Boogie! Toothie the Beaver, as ambassador for World Oral Health Day has issued the challenge for everyone to get out your toothbrush, play your favourite song and brush while you boogie

like no-one is watching (and video yourself while doing so!) I look forward to seeing how this goes!



Monday April 1st is April Falls Day. This is a great opportunity to promote falls prevention. Residents are encouraged to join staff in falls prevention activities planned for this day. The Theme for 2024 is "Better balance for Falls Prevention". Details of the activities planned will be released closer to the date.

Kind Regards

Bec

Activity Highlights

Residents Christmas Party

Early December saw all our residents gather together to celebrate Christmas with a party with a wonderful spread put on by the amazing staff in the kitchen. There was lovely food, entertainment by some of our amazingly talented staff and Santa also dropped in for a visit.



Humanitarian Clowns

We have been given the opportunity to have some members from the Humanitarian Clowns

organisation visit to spread joy throughout the facility. These wonderful people are lighting up everyone's faces and there is lots of laughter when they are around.



Australia Day

We all celebrated our wonderful country and all it has to offer with a beautiful concert with performances by Trevor and Cath, two of our wonderfully talented staff members. There was lots of songs by Australian artists that were enjoyed by all the residents and staff alike. Many that everyone knows so well that they all get to sing along as well.



Residents Birthday Party

Each month we have a birthday party for all the residents that have celebrated their birthday in that month. We have music by Max Saul and Ian Sanbrook and a cake for everyone to share.



Upcoming events

As we start the autumn season, we are planning on a multicultural day during March where we will be able to celebrate the many people we have here, both residents and staff that come from all parts of the world. We are looking forward to being able to try lots of different international foods as well as experiencing some of the talents of our wonderful international staff.



March also sees the start of the football seasons again in both NRL and AFL. The residents are looking forward to the fun of the footy tipping competitions. This year we have also introduced a staff competition. It will be interesting to see how everyone goes and who will win come the end of the season.



We also have Easter fast approaching which means all our diets go out the window while we enjoy a feast of hot cross buns and chocolate eggs and bunnies. I'm sure it will be a fun time for everyone.

