

COMMUNITY UPDATE ACROSS THE TRACK



Community Update #57 May 20, 2021

COVID-19 vaccination reminder: In accordance with the Australian Government's COVID-19 vaccination program guidelines, the Pfizer vaccine will be prioritised for people under 50 years of age across all phases of the vaccine roll out. The AstraZeneca vaccine will be prioritised for people aged 50 years and over. To learn more about the vaccination program and the vaccines available, visit www.health.gov.au

Flu vaccinations: If you haven't had your flu vaccination, please make an appointment with your local medical clinic as soon as possible. Remember, you need to allow 14 days between your COVID-19 vaccination and your flu shot, so keep this in mind when booking your appointments.



Our amazing volunteers: Enid (pictured left, with Joyce) has been baking beautiful homemade goods and sharing her stories with the residents at the Ouyen Nursing Home for 26 years. What an amazing achievement! On behalf of MTHCS, the families and residents, we sincerely thank all our volunteers, we are so grateful to have you supporting our community.

Face masks: In line with current health directions, face masks must still be worn in our aged care facilities. It also remains a requirement that when you leave your home, you must have a face mask with you at all times. The rules requiring face masks to be worn apply to everyone entering a MTHCS site, no one is exempt. The rules are set by the Department of Health, not MTHCS, and it is essential these rules are followed.

Puppy love: MTHCS speech pathologist Lucy Joyce brought in her gorgeous puppy, Alby, to visit our residents at the Ouyen Nursing Home (pictured right). A little cuteness overload from the puppy therapy brought smiles all round!



Great partnership: MTHCS recently hosted a visit from Mildura Base Public Hospital (MBPH) Chief Executive Officer Terry Welch and his executive team (pictured below with the MTHCS leadership team). The visit gave both organisations the chance to discuss ways to work together to improve health outcomes for the community.



Recognising our fantastic nurses: Last week we celebrated International Nurses Day with a hot breakfast that was enjoyed by everyone. Our nurses do an amazing job every day, so it was wonderful to take the time to thank them for everything they do to look after our communities. A big shout out to the hotel staff (Ouyen and Sea Lake) who helped to organise the food, as well as our nurses, volunteers, maintenance and admin staff who helped organise the day and cook breakfast. It was great to continue to hold simple celebrations like this during what has been such a long COVID-19 response. Pictured left (L-R): volunteers Juanita Flanner and Peter McCarthy cooking



up a storm; MTHCS nurses Olivia Cheema and Bec Richardson enjoying breakfast; and MTHCS staff appreciating the hot breakfast.

Pictured (clockwise from top left): 1. On Friday 7 May, the residents at Pattinson House Hostel enjoyed a birthday celebration for Sheila Bennett's 89th Birthday, with Sheila's daughter Cathy, granddaughter Danielle, great grandson Hamish, and granddaughter Tamika also joining in on the celebrations; 2. Sheila's birthday celebration was combined with a special Mother's Day morning tea; 3. the Mother's Day morning tea enjoyed by our residents at the Ouyen Nursing Home; and 4. MTHCS staff member Sandra Monaghan leading music and movement activities for residents during the morning tea.



Lois O'Callaghan, Chief Executive Officer, Mallee Track Health & Community Service

Contact us

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serving breakfast to nurse Deb Watson; MTHCS nurse Sophie Noonan enjoying a bite to eat; some of the Sea Lake staff taking a moment to enjoy breakfast in the sunshine; and the chef of the morning, CEO Lois O'Callaghan.

Celebrating a special birthday: On Mother's Day (9 May), Sea Lake resident **Lorna Goldsworthy** (pictured right, main image) celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends. The following day, this was followed up with a special shared afternoon tea with **Lorna and the residents** (pictured centre right). Congratulations Lorna and we hope you had a fabulous day!



And pictured (bottom left), members of the Culgoa PAG met recently, catching up for a cuppa and making pet-safe mouse traps to deal with increasing mice numbers.



Lois O'Callaghan, Chief Executive Officer,
Mallee Track Health & Community Service

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