

COMMUNITY UPDATE ACROSS THE TRACK



Community Update #40 December 17, 2020

COVID-Safe Christmas: To keep yourself and your loved ones safe this Christmas, remember to keep following the COVID-Safe Summer regulations. In summary:

- You must carry a face mask with you when you leave home.
- Wearing a face mask is only mandatory while in taxis or ride share vehicles, on public transport, or when going to large retail venues, including shopping centres, supermarkets and department stores.
- Wearing a face mask is strongly recommended indoors and outdoors when you can't keep 1.5 metres distance from other people.

The COVID-Safe Summer restrictions are detailed in full online at:

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/how-we-live>

New travel advice: Travellers from South Australia are no longer required to get a permit to enter Victoria. However, if you are travelling into South Australia, by road or via the Adelaide airport, you need to complete the cross border pre-approval form three days prior to your arrival. Pre-approval will speed up the border crossing process and provide certainty for you about any restrictions that may apply before reaching the border. The pre-approval form can be lodged online at <https://www.police.sa.gov.au/online-services/cross-border-travel-application>

Kindness goes a long way: Thank you to everyone who continues to be kind and courteous to MTHCS staff members as they apply the COVID-19 safety regulations. Our staff members do a wonderful job of understanding and following the COVID-19 safety measures, which change often. MTHCS staff members will continue to ensure these safety measures are followed to protect the health of our communities and our aged care residents, so please understand their responsibilities and continue to support them. Aggressive or violent behaviour toward healthcare workers is never acceptable and will not be tolerated at any MTHCS facility.

Keeping an eye on Ouyen: After many months of lockdown due to COVID-19, it's been wonderful to see our Pattinson House residents finally able to enjoy sitting out the front of the facility, chatting, and watching the world go by. Residents are now able to use the new outdoor furniture we received earlier in the year and they've been enjoying the chance to sit outside and enjoy the fresh air. *Pictured (below left) is Kath Healy, Doris Reitzel and Thelma Clarke; and (below right) Roma Mitchell and Maurie Nunn.*



Christmas is coming: The countdown to Christmas is underway and the celebrations are beginning to swing into action!

Pictured left (top far left) is Culgoa PAG members enjoying a Christmas luncheon; and (the remainder of the photos from the top right) Ouyen social support group members enjoying a Christmas lunch at the Ouyen Club.

And Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without MTHCS decorating one of the Ouyen's beautiful trees in Oke Street. Pictured right are MTHCS staff members getting into the Christmas spirit.



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

Contact us

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Visit our website
www.mthcs.com.au

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Keep an eye out for Sea Lake's Roaming Santa! This fabulous initiative by the Sea Lake Neighbourhood House is all about spreading some Christmas cheer in the community, which is so important after the challenges we have all faced during 2020.

Each week, there's \$50 cash up for grabs thanks to the Sea Lake Youth Group. All the pictures taken during the week are written down, put into a hat and the winner randomly selected. The draws will take place each Monday and the winner announced on Facebook and in the paper.

Sea Lake's Roaming Santa started taking photos around town at the start of December.

The winners in the first week were **Teale Mott, Keniesha Ryan, Sophie Martin and Regan Kelly, who had their photo snapped at the Royal Hotel Sea Lake (see the main picture above).** Felix Warne drew the winning photo out.



Santa has been run off his feet, roaming around town and stopping in at the Post Office, Farmyard Flowers, Haeusler's, Foodworks, the Op Shop, kindergarten, hardware store, Tyrrell College and Berriwillock. On Friday night (18/12/2020), Santa will be stopping for a hard-earned break at the Nandaly Community Hotel.

Make sure you like Sea Lake Neighbourhood House's Facebook page to stay up to date with Roaming Santa's whereabouts and see some of the photos being taken.

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