



*Merry Christmas
to you and your
families
Buon Natale*

Welcome to the December edition of;

“ On the Grapevine”

The Myrtleford Lodge Residents and Representatives
Monthly Newsletter

BentleyWood Management and Staff wish you all a safe
and happy Christmas, may you enjoy the festive season,
we look forward to working with you all in 2021

This month, I thought I would provide you with an update on visiting our facilities in the new Covid 19 – ‘normal’.

Visits are now allowed at all Victorian residential aged care facilities.

However, there are still measures in place to prevent the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in an aged care facility.

Please be aware that individual facilities may implement additional safety measures regarding visitations.

Bookings will still be required.

From 23 November 2020, there are no restrictions on visits to residential aged care facilities. However, to keep visits safe, there are some general rules you must follow.

Visitors must:

wear a fitted face mask (this includes anyone aged 12 and older) **AT ALL TIMES DURING THE VISIT.**

visit only the resident and follow instructions from staff regarding what areas of the facility you can access

keep at least 1.5 metres away from everyone at the facility, including the resident, while visiting

follow staff instructions to prevent crowding and ensure physical distancing.

wash or sanitise your hands regularly and as directed by staff.

Visitors are encouraged to have an up-to-date influenza vaccination.



Declarations

All visitors must make a declaration that they:

do not have any coronavirus symptoms

are not a close contact of someone who has coronavirus

are not currently required to quarantine or isolate.

You must not visit the facility if you:

- are unwell or have even the mildest symptoms of coronavirus such as:
 - fever or temperature over 37.5 degrees
 - loss or change in sense of smell or taste, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, and/or runny nose
- have coronavirus and you are currently required to isolate
- have been in close contact with someone who has coronavirus within the last 14 days and you are currently required to quarantine
- have been tested for coronavirus and have not yet received your result
- arrived in Australia from overseas in the last 14 days.
-

What if I can't visit in person?

Aged care facilities must take reasonable steps to help residents use alternative contact methods to communicate with people who cannot visit them, like phone and video calls. Skype, face time and phone calls are still facilitated at our facilities

Areas with higher restrictions

If there is an active coronavirus outbreak in the area or in the facility itself, there might be stricter rules based on public health advice. This is hard for residents and families, but it helps keep everyone safe.

Residents can leave facilities

Under current restriction levels, residents can leave their facilities for any reason, provided they comply with [current restrictions](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/) <<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/>> in Victoria

When residents leave the facility, they should be reminded of the current restrictions and public health advice, including:

- physical distancing (maintaining 1.5m distance from others)
- wearing a fitted face mask when indoors, and when you cannot maintain 1.5m distance outdoors. This means carrying a mask with you at all times.
- observing limits on private and public gatherings
- not seeing or visit people who are unwell
- not visiting people who are in quarantine or isolation.

Returning to the facility

Residents will be screened upon their return to their facility, for example by having their temperature checked, just like any other person entering the facility.

Assistance for residents and visitors

Facilities are required account residents' emotional and wellbeing when infection prevention measures to protect limit the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).



to take into physical, psychological implementing and control residents and

In the first instance, concerns should be raised with the management of the facility. We will continue to provide flexibility for all visitors and residents and ask you to remain patient and communicate any concerns you have with management.

For aged care services, operating in a 'COVID normal' world means remaining alert and ready, exercising constant vigilance in relation to infection prevention and control measures that is now part of our everyday routines.

We thank you for your patience during this very challenging year and ask you to please stay away if unwell with any illness as the vulnerability to residents is so high.

We hope for a more relaxed 2021 and wish you all a very happy and safe festive season.

Marita Seamer

Director of Nursing

December Birthdays

Olga Feltrin ~ 12th December

Richard Richter ~ 19th December

Paola Castagna ~ 25th December

Myrtleford Lodge Staff and Residents
wish you all a very Happy Birthday, may
you enjoy your special day.



Activities at Myrtleford Lodge

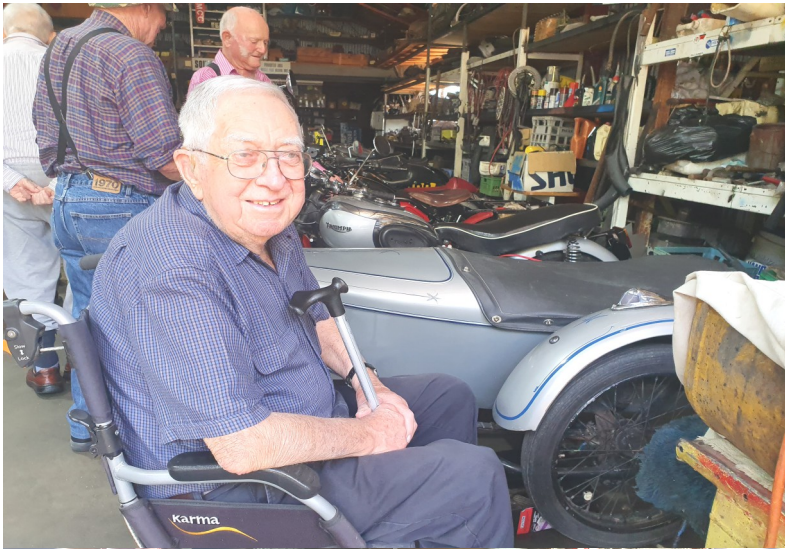
Our gentleman enjoyed a wonderful day out together recently, they boarded the Myrtleford Lodge bus and travelled to Wangaratta where they enjoyed looking through what they described as a museum for motorbikes. Mr Lukey has over 60 bikes on his property, he was delighted to share his stories of the history of each of his bikes and how they came to be in his keeping. The stories were very much enjoyed, with our Residents reminiscing on their younger days with many having been keen bike enthusiasts themselves.



On the journey back to Myrtleford, the bus pulled in to the Everton Hotel to enjoy some cold refreshments.

As COVID restrictions continue to ease, further trips will be added to the calendar for everyone's enjoyment.

Activities at Myrtleford Lodge



Denis Garoni, Richard Richter, Arthur Quonoey, David Draper and Ivan Jelinic were all pictured with some of the bikes. It certainly looks like they all had a great day out.



Activities at Myrtleford Lodge

Myrtleford Lodge have reconnected with our friends from the local Prep-12 College recently. With much thought put into how we could return to enjoying the company of the children from the College, their co-ordinator, Rosemary Bunge walks the children down to the lodge, through the side gates and into the courtyard where we can enjoy seeing the children through the big glass windows, we have certainly missed them all as they have missed us as well.



Thanks to the school librarian Kath Morgan who found a beautiful book called Windows. It is about the times we are experiencing and how we can only visit through the window. The book was read to each class before their visit, and the school donated a copy to the residents so we can also read and cherish it too. Prep L also made some amazing cards for us which we have been really enjoying.

Activities at Myrtleford Lodge



Pictured are a sea of delighted Residents who are thoroughly enjoying the visits from the children from the local P-12 College

Quote from the Author of Windows.

“But just for now I’ll keep away, until the lovely, happy day. When all the world can dance and kiss... And hug the ones we really miss. Patrick Guest and Jonathan Bentley



Activities at Myrtleford Lodge



Many of our Residents took the opportunity to have their photo taken dressed in the Christmas theme which was a beautiful idea by our Diversional Therapy team who every year put many hours into ensuring that each and every Resident enjoys the season.



Activities at Myrtleford Lodge



Cecelia, Paola, Tony and Dawn are pictured on page 10, with Zena, Stella and Beth also pictured, we look forward to sharing photos from our Residents Christmas Party in the January 2021 edition of our Newsletter.



Thankyou to the many families who have returned the Christmas planning form, this will assist the staff to ensure that each resident that is going out on Social Leave will be ready to attend the planned family functions.

Should you have not as yet returned the form, please let us know of your plans as soon as possible.

Activities at Myrtleford Lodge



Our market days continue to be very popular with many purchases made. This past month there has been many Christmas items available for sale.

Please don't hesitate to speak to one of the Diversional Therapy team should you have any requests for items not available.



In loving Memory

John Blaxall

19/6/1934 ~ 10/10/2020

&

Brian Jordan

8/5/1930 ~ 16/11/2020

Myrtleford Lodge Residents, Staff & Management extend sincere condolences to both families during this sad time of the passing of John and Brian

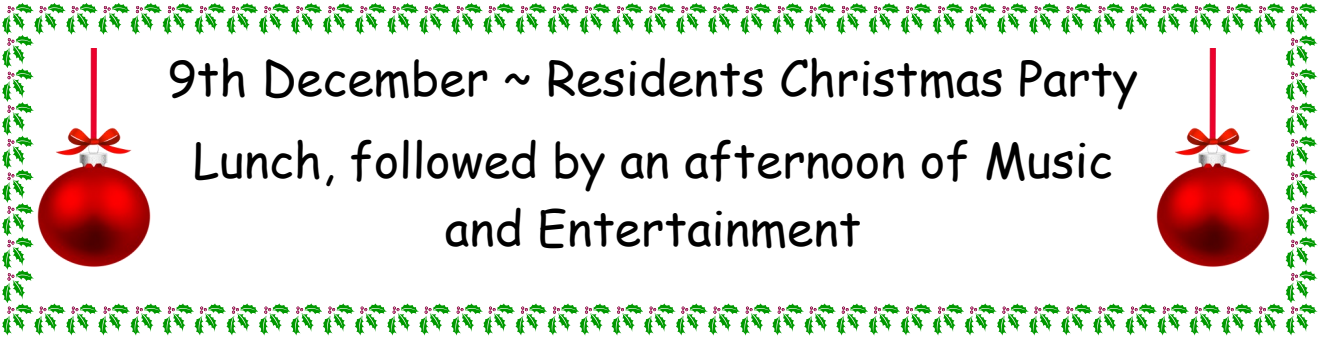
May they rest in eternal peace.

December Special Events Calendar

1st December ~ First day of Summer

4th December ~ Happy Hour

8th December ~ Residents Meeting



9th December ~ Residents Christmas Party
Lunch, followed by an afternoon of Music
and Entertainment

10th December ~ Pampering afternoon

16th December ~ Birthday Breakfast

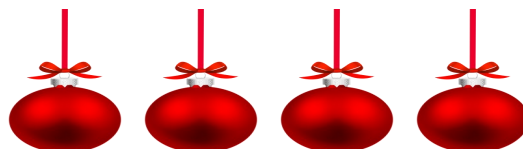
24th December ~ Christmas Eve

25th December ~ Christmas Day

26th December ~ Boxing Day

31st December ~ New Years Eve

Additional activities are listed daily including, bus drives, walking groups, bingo, cards, movie afternoons, virtual church services, Residents are encouraged to attend any of the activities, your ideas for additional activities are also most welcome.

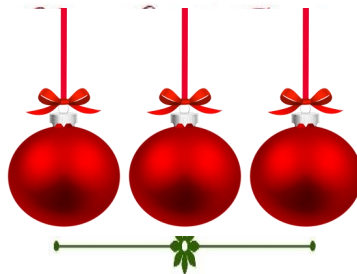


Let Every Day Be Christmas

Christmas is forever, not for just one day,
for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away
like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf.
The good you do for others is good you do yourself.

Peace on Earth, good will to men,
kind thoughts and words of cheer,
are things we should use often
and not just once a year.

Remember too the Christ-child, grew up to be a man;
to hide him in a cradle, is not our dear Lord's plan.
So keep the Christmas spirit, share it with others far and near,
from week to week and month to month, throughout the entire year!



Seasons Greetings
Until next month, take care

